

## Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

**May 2, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.**

### *Passages : A Coming of Age Service —A Service for All Ages*

We will celebrate all of our children and youth in this service that is in part our traditional “RE Sunday” service. In addition, we will highlight our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Coming of Age children who have participated in a rich and creative program of reflection and writing, music and art, and will be sharing their credos with us. The 11:15 service will include a bridging ceremony for our seniors. Let us celebrate all these young people who we love and respect, and thank them for being a part of our greater religious community.

Worship Leaders: **Rev. Chris Reed** Worship Associate: **Ron Campbell**

Music: **Kids’ Chorale, Marjorie Herman Beth Ertz**

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**May 9, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.**

### *Under Our Charge: The Utes and the Unitarians*

In a chapter of our Unitarian Universalist history, the Unitarians accepted responsibility in the 1870s to be the Indian Agents on the Ute Indian Reservation. In this service, we’ll tell the story of the interactions between the New England religious progressives who sought to carry out US government policy and the Ute Indians who sought to be left alone on their reservation.

Guest Worship Leader: **Ted Fetter** Worship Associate: **Jordan Corn**

Music: **Sharon Silverstein—drums and flute, Adult Choir, Marjorie Herman, Beth Ertz**

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**May 16, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.**

### *Adult Passages or as Dorothy Parker asked: “What fresh hell is this?”*

Thinking of the various passages of childhood and teenage years that we celebrate on our RE Sunday, I thought of the many passages that we make as adults. As we all know, adulthood is not a static state of being, nor is it a steady growth toward the light. It is made up of various acts of letting go, of welcoming horizons, of nursing brokenness, and doing what we can to be more open to love in our lives. Come and celebrate adult passages.

Worship Leader: **Rev. Chris Reed** Worship Associate: **Drake Baer**

Music: **Jeffrey Fadden—guitar, Beth Ertz, Marjorie Herman**

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**May 23, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.**

### *Blessing of the Animals—A Service for All Ages*

Our last Blessing of the Animals was three years ago, and some pets have changed and some just need blessing again. Bring your animals, pets of all kinds, photos of pets present and past, pictures or momentos. At St John the Divine, they bless the animals in the fall on the feast day of St. Francis. In that spirit we will bless these wonderful companions who bring us joy, healing, friendship and warmth. Unlike St. John the Divine, we are not expecting elephants or tigers, but bring pets in hand, in carriers, on leashes...

Worship Leader: **Rev. Chris Reed** Worship Associate: **Kate Henry**

Music: **Adult Choir, Beth Ertz**

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**May 30, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.**

### *A Day of Remembrance*

Formerly known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in military service to their country to include all Americans casualties of any war or Military action. We will take time to reflect on the losses we have encountered with in the state of New Jersey and the congregation at large.

Guest Worship Leader: **Worship Associates** Worship Associate: **Jeffrey Bock and WAs**

Music: **Marjorie Herman, Beth Ertz**

*(Beginning of Summer  
Worship Schedule)*

## Reflection Reverend Chris Reed

This is one of those months that I get to talk about the RE program!

There are some wonderful things happening in our RE program for children and youth. So in reverse chronological age...

Perhaps the most exciting is the Youth Service Trip to New Orleans at the end of June. We have 14 youth and 6 adults from our congregation who will be going on this week-long trip to volunteer their services with the New Orleans Rebirth Volunteer Program. The program is the corner stone of the Center for Ethical Living and Social Justice Renewal that was created by the three UU congregations of New Orleans.

The Center's mission is "to contribute to the holistic rebirth of Greater New Orleans and the Gulf Cost Region through programs and services that promote social, racial and economic justice. The Center strives to empower, inform and help rebuild a sustaining, equitable and inclusive community." This rebuilding addresses issues of racial and economic injustices that contributed to the horrific outcomes of the Katrina natural disaster.

You can read more about this volunteer work at [www.celsjr.org](http://www.celsjr.org).

Meanwhile thanks to the social justice committee for subsidizing our youth. Thanks to our youth programs coordinator and youth advisors for their efforts in making this

happen. Thanks to the adults who are going along as supervisors. And thanks to all of you for supporting our youth. They are still raising funds and will be at the Spring Fair on May 8, helping out in the BBQ Pit and Children's Games. They are also available through the "Youth for Hire" program. If you still have brush to clean up, or mulch to throw around, or digital pictures to download in a program that does not work (I admit these are my own three needs at the moment), call or email **Pia O'Loughlin**, [ypc@uuprinceton.org](mailto:ypc@uuprinceton.org), who can connect you with a youth.

Also this month, at the RE Sunday service on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, our Coming of Age 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be sharing their credos with us. This has been a very rich program that included spiritual practice and reflection. Thanks to the teachers who led this evening program and to the mentors and other adults who worked with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, in sharing experiences and tapping creativity through writing and music, art and ritual. Let us all come to the service to celebrate this important passage in the life of these children whom we love and respect.

In our younger classes we have introduced 3 new curricula this year and hear from the teachers and children that they're great. They have offered a rich range of spiritual practices and many different types of activities, such as building a labyrinth, that have greatly enriched the year.

And finally, our nursery is thriving! We often have a total of 7-9 babies and toddlers with both sessions and they are usually smiling!



### The Mission Covenant of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton

*We come together in a free and open search for meaning within the mysteries of life.*

*We draw inspiration from the wisdom of the ages, guided by reason, intuition, and experience.*

*Transformed through our shared explorations, we are compelled to build a better World in harmony with all existence.*

*We commit to love, respect, and nurture each other in our lifelong spiritual journeys.*

*We pledge our hearts and hands, our minds and means to this sacred bond.*

Welcome New  
Members!  
**Willow Ghoshal**  
**Trideep Ghoshal**

### Adult Forum on May 2 and 9: Town Halls on Proposed Budget for 2010-2011 10:30 a.m. John Murray Room

The ET and the Board will share the proposed budget for the upcoming year, based on projections of pledge income. They will share the considerations that went into the creation of this proposal and ask for feedback and suggestions that members might have about the budget. As we are wrestling with creating a balanced budget given our current economic realities, we need your best thinking and input.

## Reflection Reverend Meg Barnhouse

More than half of the UUA's congregations reported their membership declining this year. UUCP is one of those that has suffered in this way over the past several years. No one knows for sure why that is happening. How can we turn that around?

One church remarkable for its growth is Mt. Diablo UU Church in Walnut Creek, CA, a congregation very similar in size and demographics to UUCP. Its ministers have been there for about a year and a half. This is from the UU Interconnections publication:

"The Revs. Leslie and David Takahashi-Morris explain that the membership and attendance increases didn't just happen. Says Leslie: 'A number of factors came together to create an aura of excitement that is continuing.' Specifically, there were four factors—their new ministry, the congregation's commitment to social justice, a new building, and strong lay and professional leadership.

They began their ministry at 400-member Mt. Diablo in August 2008. Just prior to that the congregation had voted to oppose California's initiative (since passed) to ban same-sex marriage. 'The combination of a new ministry and engagement in the marriage issue helped create a strong first year,' says David. Adds Leslie, 'Mt. Diablo attracted people who saw our engagement with marriage equality. People in the community saw us taking the lead and they wanted to be involved.'

Mt. Diablo gained 20 members and its average Sunday attendance increased by 44.

Mt. Diablo's co ministers, the Revs. Leslie and David Takahashi-Morris, explain that the membership and attendance increases didn't just happen. Says Leslie: 'A number of factors came together to create an aura of excitement that is continuing.' Specifically, there were four factors—their new ministry, the congregation's commitment to social justice, a new building, and strong lay and professional leadership." <http://www.uua.org/publications/interconnections/>

UUCP has been involved in lobbying for Marriage Equality in our area. You all also have donated thousands of dollars to justice endeavors, and that seems to be an important part of this congregation's self-understanding. While you don't have new facilities, there is a lot that can be done to make what you have more welcoming and presentable. The new sound system that has just been installed makes it easier for people with some hearing loss to follow every word and note that makes up the worship service. The static on the listening-assist devices has been cleared up. This is a small thing, but it makes UUCP significantly more welcoming. John Best and the Building and Grounds group will be inviting participation in a clean-up day, where painting and patching will make the building show the pride this congregation takes in its distinctive elements.

Another thing you could do is to think of one person you know who would enjoy what we do here and invite them to come with you to worship or to a class. If you are on Facebook, send your friends in the area a link to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of

Princeton's new page!

Here are a couple of other interesting things Mt. Diablo has tried that you all may want to think about:

"Mt. Diablo had also just completed a new fellowship hall, causing social life at the church to 'blossom,' says David. Leaders also made sure members felt comfortable in coming to church even if they'd lost a job and couldn't contribute as much. They started a weekly community dinner and a midweek meditation service. And Leslie says they made sure members kept coming, even if some couldn't pledge. 'We emphasized our desire to be strong together and to not be afraid to bring our vulnerabilities to church,' she says. 'The economy has hit Mt. Diablo as hard as anywhere. The canvass is harder this year. More people lost jobs in the past year than in the previous one. Families are struggling to stay in their homes. Yet there has been a generosity of spirit and the material kind that has sustained us.' "

I know there are many people in this area who would love what UUCP has to offer. Let's reach out to them so they can find here what you have found, and let's make sure there is good will, quality, kindness and community for them when they come.

UUCP has a Facebook page! If you are on Facebook, just search Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton and you'll get there. Click on "Like" and it will give you a connection to the page so you can get the treats I post for you. It won't be mainly news of the congregation, as that is on the web site and in the newsletter. There is a discussion question there under "discussions" already, if you care to weigh in, and some links to interesting videos and articles. Come visit and make yourself at home.

Meg B

**Religious Education for Children and Youth**

**Summer RE Program Begins June 13**

2010 Summer Chalice Program Sundays at 10:00 a.m. June 13 – September 5 (Please note that we will not have a children's session on Sunday, July 4)

The UUCP Summer Religious Education (RE) Program offers two classes: one for 3-5 year olds, and one for 6-12 year olds. The Summer Chalice Program differs from the year-round program in some significant ways:

When you register for the summer, there is not an expectation that your child attend each Sunday when possible. It is fine during the summer to attend whenever your family would like to do so. Your child is not "taking up a spot in the class."

Rather than building a community composed of a small group that stays the same each week, the emphasis is on a less structured community that worships and works together.

While there is some continuity in content each week, such as an opening ritual, each Sunday has a different theme and activity.

In addition to stand-alone lessons with spiritual and nature themes, for several consecutive Sundays this summer the Summer Chalice Program will have a special focus on learning about Conflict Resolution and Peacemaking, through fun games and activities.

~Shelle Summers

**Children's Worship & Religious Education Schedule**

**Sunday, May 2**

**Intergenerational RE Sunday and Passages Service**

9:15 and 11:15 Channing Hall  
No RE Classes

**Sunday, May 9**

**Julia Ward Howe and Mother's Day**

9:15 and 11:15 Fahs Theatre

**Sunday, May 16**

**Celebrating our RE Year Together**

9:15 and 11:15 Fahs Theatre  
Last day of RE Classes

**Sunday, May 23**

**Intergenerational Blessing of the Animals**

10:00 Channing Hall  
(beginning of summer worship schedule)

**Sunday, May 30**

**Special Kids' Activity: Colors and Chakras**

10:00 Fahs Theatre

**Sunday, June 6**

**Intergenerational Flower Communion**

10:00 Channing Hall followed by  
11:30 Annual Meeting  
12:30 UUCP Picnic

**Sunday, June 13**

**Summer RE Begins: Meditation and the Community Harmony Circle**

10:00 Fahs Theatre

If you have any questions, call Shelle Summers (609-924-1604, ext. 14)

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Congratulations Bridging Seniors:**

**April Bernie, Will Curran Groome, Rachel Gittleman, Kate Henry, Mark Hopkins, Taryn Krietzman, Sarah Macholt, Ryan Warrior, Katie Welsh**

**MAY 2010 YOUTH**

Just about Every Sunday Morning	<b>Morning Youth Group in Room 15</b>	11:00a—12:30p
1 Evening a Month	<b>Evening Youth Group in Fahs, Kitchen, Founders</b>	5:00-8:00p
5/2	<b>Passages Service: Coming of Age Credo and Bridging Seniors!</b>	No Youth Group
5/2	<b>No Evening Youth Group</b>	No Evening YG
5/9	<b>Youth Group</b>	11:00a—12:30p
5/16	<b>Youth Group</b>	11:00a—12:30p
5/23	<b>Last Day of RE &amp; Youth Group</b>	11:00a-12:30p
5/30	<b>Memorial Day Weekend</b>	No Youth Group

**'10 -'11 RE Class Registration Begins**  
Next year's schedule of classes and online registration will be available by the third week of May.

Contact Pia O'Loughlin with questions!  
UUCP Youth Programs Coordinator  
YPC @ uuprinceton.org org  
732.421.7008

## 2010 Summer Chalice Themes:

June 13	Meditation and the Community Harmony Circle
June 20	Animal Yoga
June 27	Conflict Resolution: Talking and Listening
July 4	NO SUMMER CHALICE TODAY—Happy Holiday!
July 11	Conflict Resolution: Anger and Empathy
July 18	Conflict Resolution: Resolving Sticky Situations
July 25	Peacemaking: Peaceable Being
August 1	Peacemaking: When I'm Angry
August 8	Peacemaking: Appreciating our Differences
August 15	Nature Symphony
August 22	Air: Bubbles and Origami
August 29	Onondaga Creation Story: The Earth on Turtle's Back
September 5	Interdependent Web of Life: Owls

If you think your child may attend even one session during the summer, we encourage you to go ahead and register online at <http://www.uuprinceton.org/summerchalice/>

**If you have questions about the Summer Chalice Program, please call or email Shelle Sumners (609/924-1604, ext. 14, [sumners@uuprinceton.org](mailto:sumners@uuprinceton.org))**



She will be 20 or 25 feet tall and 14 feet wide, at most. She blooms in late spring and sporadically into the summer, though perhaps not this year. William Cullina writes in his excellent reference *Native Trees, Shrubs, & Vines*: "Though not as visually impressive as the large-flowered species, they are about the most heavenly sweet-smelling flowers you'll find in the genus."

This plant is a selection named 'Henry Hicks' and in spite of that I think of it as a female. Henry has the potential to hold onto her leaves in winter far more than the species, especially after becoming established in our landscape.

Thanks to all who helped to get her settled in her new home--some very enthusiastic children had a wonderful time with the shovels, rocks, and soil. Thanks also to Kiya Heartwood, whose idea it was, and to Meg for giving me the opportunity to choose this plant. Every time we see it, we might remember "All will be well, all will be well."

*~Ruth Tomlinson, grounds committee*

## ANNUAL MEETING of the Congregation of UUCP Sunday June 6, 2010 Channing Hall

**Immediately following the single service**

### GROUNDS GROUP WELCOMES GREEN THUMBS

The UUCP grounds are tended by a small group of folks who meet on Tuesday mornings from 10 to noon, about every two weeks. We will warmly welcome anyone interested in this to join us whenever you can—even once or twice is helpful and productive. Bring your favorite garden tools and come on over to lend a hand and enjoy the fine company of gardeners—we have a good time!

Let me know if you'd like to be notified by email of our schedule.

*~Ruth Tomlinson, chair grounds committee*



### SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA JOINS UUCP

Following the magnificent Gaia Psalms services on April 18, in honor of Earth Day, the congregation filed outdoors to a planting site near the office entrance. There awaiting them was a lovely young tree, *Magnolia virginiana*.

She is a NJ native, adapted to our climate, so-called soil, and climate; the only thing she won't abide is drought, so we will have to give her a drink in that case until she is well-established—a couple of years for a tree. Her common names are Sweetbay Magnolia, Swamp Magnolia, and Laurel Magnolia.



*Photo courtesy of Carl Haag*

## So, What IS the RE Council? *And what does it do?*

The Religious Education (RE) Council is (ideally) made up of 9 adult congregants, and oversees the rich RE Program offered by our congregation. The Council meets and works together with our paid RE staff members (Rev. Chris Reed, Shelle Sumners and Pia O'Loughlin). Most years, every RE Council member takes on a "portfolio" – that is, they supervise specific tasks for the RE program and Council itself. These portfolios change from year to year, depending on the interests and needs of the RE Program. We're very fortunate to have three paid staff members (Chris, Shelle and Pia) devote much of their time to the nuts and bolts of RE Programming. This leaves the Council to consider policies and larger issues.

This year, like many committees throughout our congregation, we chose to concentrate on the ENDS policies set out by our Executive Team and Board. As a Council, we have felt that the most pertinent ENDS statements to RE families concern **welcoming newcomers, retaining and nurturing all families, and helping RE families connect with the larger congregation.** We focused our time in meetings on brain-storming and problem solving for each of these topics. Here are a few things that we came up with:

### ***Bridging/Connecting to the larger Congregation***

Have RE children come into Channing for part of the service (1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month – this is started!)

Post or publish the Children's Worship topics so that parents, and other congregants, will know what has been covered. This may also promote better discussions between parents and children of RE activities. Non-RE congregants can always choose to attend Children's worship – some members already do on a regular basis!

Promote congregation-wide Social Justice activities/projects so that children and

congregation adults can get to know each other while working side-by-side

Promote more congregation-wide Social Events – build a social justice component into each festivity

Secret Friends – Pair willing RE children with congregants "pen pals", then have a party when they meet face to face

Create RE connections to all congregation committees

### ***Welcoming***

Have RE parents, or RE-familiar people, work with the Welcoming Committee so that visitors will get info directly from those with experience in RE

Offer a map to newcomers to show them where they will find their young children after the service

Place follow-up phone calls to families after they have visited to see how things went for their children in RE

### ***Retaining***

Encourage parents and RE children to socialize together – have sleepovers, lock-ins at church, pot lucks, etc.

Reintroduce a DUNS-like program for RE families – possibly based on scheduled walks in the woods together after church, possibly hold potluck picnics or meals together outdoors

Call families who have stopped attending – perhaps they've been out of town, but we should know about the situations.

## ***Who is on the RE Council, and what are the portfolios?***

Co-Chairperson (Meeting Convener/ Facilitator, also represents REC on Program Council): Louise Senior  
Co-Council Chairperson (Time keeper and Note-taker): Andrew Galbraith-Ryer

Outgoing/Previous Chair Person (Comments on how things have been done in previous years): Tom Prusa  
Bridges Coordinator (promotes interaction between RE families and larger congregation): Susan Griffin  
Welcoming New Families Chair: Andrew Galbraith-Ryer

Social Justice Chair (encourages RE classes to pursue Social Justice projects): Louise Senior  
Children's Worship Committee

Liaison: Sarina Prior

Committee on Youth Liaison: UN-filled

Social Events Chair: UN-filled

*Note that this year we have had to double-up on some tasks because we have been undersubscribed....*

## **YOU, too, could be a member of this dynamic, creative bunch of folks!**

For parents of RE children, this is a great way to fulfill your cooperative service with the RE program instead of serving as a teacher or class liaison! (When on RE Council you don't have to miss Sunday services, and you get to work with adults instead of children!) This year we have been under-staffed, so have been limited in the activities that we could host -- **We'd love to have your help next year** – let Louise Senior (Louise.senior@verizon.net, 609 240 6543), Shelle Sumners or Rev. Chris Reed know of your interest. **Please let us know by June 1 if you can serve next year.** The Council meets on the 1st Tuesday evening of the month (Sept-June) – and this year we have been (successfully!) dedicated to keeping our meetings to 90 minutes, 7-8:30 pm. We also include an additional late-August meeting, to get the ball rolling for the year.

### **One more note....**

We know that not everyone has time to commit to our Council, but you can ensure the health and well-being of our RE Program by FINANCIALLY PLEDGING to the congregation so that our terrific paid staff members will be supported (and retained!). Please get your pledges in if you have not already. Retention of our experienced staff will make our ministerial transition smoother.

*~Louise Senior, 2010 Co-Chair RE Council*

## 2010 Into the Woods Thank You!

Thanks to the 9:15 2-3<sup>rd</sup> grade class, as well as “upstairs” congregant Lauren O’Neil, who helped with our second “Into the Woods” Sunday, April 18! We pulled several big bags of garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), a pesky invasive plant, from the woods adjacent to our



congregation.

In addition, we enjoyed the beautiful weather and chance to check out lots

of fresh spring plants and share some stories about them. Thanks for your helping hands and loving hearts: Lauren O’Neil, and class members Anna Eaton, Olivia Heymann, Audry Ryer, Evan Corn and teachers Beth Behrend and Andrew Galbraith-Ryer! The class took this on as their social justice project, to help maintain our interconnected web of life (Principle #7). If you’d like to know more about garlic mustard, and especially about why it’s on the “Unwanted List” take a look at these sites: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alliaria\\_petiolata](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alliaria_petiolata) (be sure to look under the invasive section) and for great photos for identification: <http://www.nps.gov/plants/ALIEN/fact/alpe1.htm>

~Louise Senior, RE Council Co-Chair

## Adult Programs

The programs planned and presented by the Adult Program Committee seek to further the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton by building community; nurturing spiritual growth; and being an active force for building a more compassionate, sustainable, and just world.

### NEWCOMERS' CIRCLES

This six session program is an opportunity for newcomers to explore the central traditions and understandings of our faith. It is also a great opportunity to get to know 11 other people in a small group setting.

A Newcomers' Circle is part Covenant Circle and part discussion group for newcomers. The themes focus on the topics that are most compelling for those who are new to our faith and for those who are seeking religious community.

Newcomers' Circles meet for three months, every other week for a total of six meetings.

If you would like to join the next Newcomers' Circle please sign up at the Welcome Circle in Robinson Hall on Sundays or contact **Rev. Chris Reed** at [reed@uuprinceton.org](mailto:reed@uuprinceton.org) or 924-1604, ext 12 or [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org)

As we go forward to create new circles, please let us know which days or times work for you by filling out one of the grids at the Welcome Circle in Robinson Lounge or by contacting Rev. Reed. Our hope is to include all newcomers in circles.

### Saturday "Exploring UU and Membership" Class for Newcomers

Place: UUCP

Date: **May 15, 2010**

Time: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

A chance to learn about the UU faith, about the UUCP congregation, get a tour of the building, meet other newcomers and share in a light lunch.

You can RSVP, no later than May 12, for this event either by phone to **Marty Akers** at (609) 737-3948 or e-mail to [welcome@uuprinceton.org](mailto:welcome@uuprinceton.org)

### Signing the Membership Book Ceremony

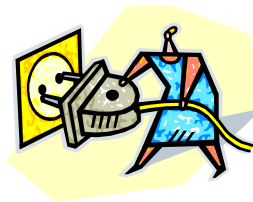
This ceremony of becoming a member is for those who have previously taken the Introduction to Membership Class or have been in a Newcomer Circle and want to become members. Please sign-up at the Welcome Circle or contact **Rev. Chris Reed** or **Rev. Meg Barnhouse** at 609-924-1604 to arrange a time. We will also have opportunities to sign the book in our worship services.

### SMALL GROUP MINISTRY—

#### "Get Plugged In" Join a Covenant Circle

Covenant Circles create community, encourage spiritual growth, and invite authentic connection with one another. After a check in and short meditation, participants reflect on and share responses to questions that evoke our individual sacred stories.

- There is time for discussion, questions, and socializing for the last 20 to 30 minutes of each Circle. (The previous format did not give enough opportunity for this.)



- Each Circle is encouraged to get together socially a few times and/or work together on a social justice or service project.
- We grow new groups as needed, so that we hopefully turn no one away.
- Circles meet from year to year.

Please sign up at the Adult Program table in Robinson Lounge or contact **Shelle Summers** at [summers@uuprinceton.org](mailto:summers@uuprinceton.org), 609-924-1604, ext. 14 or **Chris Reed** at [reed@uuprinceton.org](mailto:reed@uuprinceton.org), 609-924-1604, ext. 12 if you are interested in joining a Covenant Circle.

### NEW PROGRAMS



## Reshape Your Presence, and Shape Your

### Future Workshop

**May 10 & 11—10:00 a.m. –3:30 p.m. in Channing Hall**

Join Amy Castoro and Roz Kay for a two day workshop for leaders in transition who want to begin to understand the messages they are sending through their presence, and

*(Adult Programs continued on page 9)*

### DO YOU HAVE A PROGRAM IDEA?

Is there a program or group that you would like to see at UUCP? Let us know and we'll try to make it happen. Do you have an idea for a program or group you would like to facilitate? We invite anyone with an idea for an Adult Program to submit a proposal to the Adult Program Committee. The proposal should contain

- an outline of the content
- the target audience and maximum number of participants
- time line (how many weeks/hours the course will require)
- suggested dates and times
- any costs for materials associated with the course (no fees may be charged for presenting an adult program)

All proposals will be reviewed by the Adult Program Committee and the ministers. Final scheduling and publicizing of the course will be the responsibility of the Adult Program Committee and the facilitators). Please submit any proposals to Adult Program Committee chair **Alice Harper** ([aharper67@comcast.net](mailto:aharper67@comcast.net))

*(Adult Programs continued from page 8)*

their language. This workshop will help people build a stronger connection to the interviewer, and other people in their network. Workshop topics include how to build a stronger rapport with the interviewer, build trust, listen more deeply, and manage mood.

**Cost:** Brown bag, or pay \$15 per day to cover the cost of lunch/snacks/beverages.

**To register:** Please contact Amy Castoro at [amy@irimigroup.com](mailto:amy@irimigroup.com). Or call 609-716-6424. Additional information also available at the Adult Programs Table in Robinson Lounge.

## **Y**oga for health, well-being and peace of mind

**Thursdays 9:15—10:30 a.m. in Robinson Lounge—First Class: April 29**

All are welcome to a new gentle yoga class with Sharon Savage. Sharon's teaching style is based on ashtanga yoga, an 8-limb yoga system, with an emphasis on alignment with breath control, combining effort and surrender in a balanced union.

This yoga class is geared for those new to yoga, those with some experience, and for those who practice regularly. The classes will include pranayama, (breathing exercise), asanas (poses) for balance, strength, and flexibility, and will end with savasana (resting), for deep relaxation and rejuvenation of the mind. Yoga is practiced in bare feet, with clothing that allows free movement. Some mats are available at the church, or bring your own, along with any yoga props you use. (blocks, straps, pillows). Yoga – the Union of the Body, Mind, and Breath.

Sharon is certified through the Devalila Yoga Teacher Training program, (a 200 hour level registered yoga school with the Yoga Alliance)

For more information, see the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays or send an email to [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org)

## **B**uilding Your Own Theology I

**Tuesdays 7:00—9:00 p.m. in the John Murray Room—10 Sessions beginning April 13**

An adult RE curriculum by Rev. Richard S. Gilbert, uses study, reflection, group discussion, and credo-writing to guides participants in examining and articulating their own and the community's theology.

Goals for Participants:

- To determine their values and beliefs about God or ultimate reality, human nature, ethics, and the meaning and purpose of life
- To discover what other UUs believe about the great religious questions
- To articulate their beliefs in credo statements

- To meet the challenge of building their own theology.

Lead by Debbie Duncan, a UU since 1976, with many years of experience in leading adult and youth RE as well as educational programs in museum & community based settings on topics ranging from diversity to art and science to health education.

Sign-up at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays or e-mail [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org).

## **W**omen's Spirituality Circle

**Sunday May 16 at 6:30-8:00p.m. in Fahs Theatre**

Join us, as we connect with each other through our lives, our interests, challenges and joys as women. Part check-in, part ritual or spiritual practice, and part themes that reflect the challenges and joys and spirituality of our lives as women.

If you are interested in joining the Women's or a Men's Spirituality Circle, please fill out a Small Group Ministry Registration Form at the Adult Programs table on Sunday morning, or e-mail [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org). For more information, e-mail **Rev. Chris Reed** at [reed@uuprinceton.org](mailto:reed@uuprinceton.org)

## **W**riters' Circle

**Every Monday except First Monday  
May 10, 17, 24  
6:30—8:30 p.m. in Room 7**

The Writers' Circle will be revving up over the next two months with weekly sessions. The Circle is a non-intimidating, supportive group for adults who love to write. **The group will not meet on April 26 or Memorial Day.**

E-mail [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org) or sign up on Sundays in Robinson Lounge at the Adult Programs table. If you are even considering joining the Circle – even if you can't come every time – call or email **Teresa Stevens** at 609-538-0250 or [stevensteresa50@verizon.net](mailto:stevensteresa50@verizon.net).

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

### **T**elling Our Stories

The series of videotaped interviews with some of our amazing senior members who have lived fascinating, engaged and committed lives continues. In our youth-worshipping culture, we often forget to respect the elders in our midst and miss opportunities to learn from their wisdom. It is sad to experience the wonders of our Elders only from their eulogies.

We have heard from **David Todd, Adra Fairman,**

*(Adult Programs continued on page 10)*

(Adult Programs continued from page 9)

**Eva Foster, Ted Fetter, George Briggs and Barbara Pitcher, Marjorie Herman, Sara Walsh and Jen Ping Wang** so far. Watch Happenings for timing of other “Stories.”

Questions? please contact **Linda Benson** at [lindabenson5@gmail.com](mailto:lindabenson5@gmail.com), or **Carol Haag** at [revcarolh@verizon.net](mailto:revcarolh@verizon.net), or **Rev. Chris Reed** at [reed@uuprinceton.com](mailto:reed@uuprinceton.com).

## Scriptures Circle

**2nd and 4th Thursdays, May 13 & 27  
7:00-8:30 pm in the Founders Room**

We are currently doing a “historical Jesus” reading of the synoptic gospels. Join the twice monthly evening circle for those who would like to read the Hebrew Bible and the Christian New Testament from a Unitarian Universalist point of view, led by **Rev. Chris Reed**. You can join at any time. We bring many backgrounds and understandings to such a reading, including the historical and political contexts, the spiritual aspect of the writings, feminist theology, an exploration of the various traditions or writers, and our own individual experiences with the Bible.

Please bring a Bible. You can use any version as the diversity makes for a richer discussion. If you are buying a Bible you may want to use the NRSV.

Sign up at [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org) or at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays or attend the next meeting.

## Young Adult Circle

**Ages 20-35(ish)  
Sunday, May 2, 12:30-2:00 pm in Room 7**

Come and join us at our next meeting as we continue to form a new Young Adult circle for our congregation. This is a unique spiritual stage in our lives, and our spiritual growth and enjoyment during this time is enhanced by a loving, supportive and social community.

We meet on the first Sunday of each month for fellowship and spiritual discussion, and the third Saturday of each month for a social activity. Please come and help shape this vital ministry to all who walk through our doors looking for such a community of peers.

To find out more about us, look for the flyer at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays. You can sign up in the lounge or by contacting **Valentine Ortiz-Meyer** at [datura1207@aol.com](mailto:datura1207@aol.com)

## Aging and Saging

**2nd and 4th Wednesdays, May 12 & 26  
10:30 am—Noon in the John Murray Room  
Always open to new participants  
Led by Rev. Chris Reed and participants**

An ongoing program for all over 60 years old. Or anyone

who feels over 60. We share our experiences, stories, feelings and information with each other.

We offer this affinity circle for those who would like to meet during the day to create a community of loving, supporting, learning individuals who find it exciting to explore the terrain of getting older with one another. “Sage” is apparently only a noun and an adjective, but for you purists out there, please consider that it resonates with both —age and, as someone over 60 just said, also with sag, both respected verbs. Sign up by sending e-mail to [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org) or on Sundays in Robinson Lounge at the Adult Program table.

## CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)

**Friday near the Full Moon, 7:00-9:30 pm,  
Memorial Garden in fine weather, Classroom 15  
otherwise.**

All are welcome. The **Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans**, or **CUUPS** (pronounced *cups*), is an organization chartered by the UUA in 1987 to practice and share Earth-centered traditions within the larger denomination. We seek to build bridges between 21<sup>st</sup>-century pagans and those who embrace other religious traditions, while celebrating the “interdependent web of all existence” as recognized in the Seventh Principle of Unitarian Universalism.

*All are welcome; we keep our content child-friendly.*  
Contact **Elissa Hoeger** (609) 683-4409,  
[hoeger@princeton.edu](mailto:hoeger@princeton.edu).

## Great Books Reading Circle

**Sunday, May 16 at 1 pm, in Room 7**

Come and discuss *Utopia by Thomas More and Herland by Charlotte Perkins Gilman*. This is our utopian meeting as we reflect on a Renaissance 16<sup>th</sup> idealization of the perfect society and, skipping some 400 years, the feminist socialist vision of *Herland*. Join us for shared reflections and cookies. For more info: contact **Karen Siracusa** at [kn.siracusa@att.net](mailto:kn.siracusa@att.net) or 609-918-1016.

## Gentle Yoga Class

**Saturdays 10:00 am—11:15 a.m. in the  
Founders Room or Channing Hall  
All levels welcome!**

**There will be NO class on May 1 or 8. There  
WILL be class May 15, 22, and 29.**

**Childcare available in Room 9 (Please R.S.V.P.)**

Yoga comes from the Sanskrit word —yuj— meaning —to meditate deeply— or —to concentrate oneself. Yoga is meditation through motion, practice in calming the mind through a series of poses. It is physically energizing

(Adult Programs continued on page 11)

(Adult Programs continued from page 10)

and mentally restorative. Contact **Autumn Fiester** to R.S.V.P. for childcare [fiester@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:fiester@mail.med.upenn.edu) 215-573-2607.

## UUCP Adult Singles

The UUCP ADULT SINGLES is an INTERACTIVE, PARTICIPATORY social network. We have no upper or lower age limits. Our members are single, divorced and widowed.

Sign up to learn about and suggest activities and events of interest; request and find companionship to attend a film, lecture, hike, or...

To JOIN, just send email to: [uucpsingles@googlegroups.com](mailto:uucpsingles@googlegroups.com)

Visit the group at <http://groups.google.com/group/uucpsingles>

## A Course in Miracles

**Sundays 11:15 am—12:30 pm in the John Murray Room**

A Course in Miracles is continuing to study the Work Book for Students for the month of May.

**May 2** -The lesson is beyond this world there is a world I want. This is a world where losing is impossible, where love endures forever, hate cannot exist and vengeance has no meaning.

**May 9** – It is impossible to see two worlds. What you see reflects your thinking. Who would choose to see a world of which he is afraid?

**May 16** – No one can fail who seeks the truth. You can not find permanence in the impermanent, for love where there is none, safety in the midst of danger and immortality within the darkness of the dream of death.

**May 23** –I loose the world from all I thought it was. What keeps the world in chains is your beliefs.

**May 30**- I will not value what is valueless. You do not ask too much of life but far too little. Today we list the real criteria by which to test all things you think you want.

Join us in the Murray room from 11:15 to 12:30 for a spiritual journey. We are all on our separate paths yet somehow they are all the same. *~Hil Anderson*

## Interested in Adult Programs or working at the UUCP Bookstore?

For more information about any of the classes described on pages 6-9, visit the Adult Program table in Robinson Lounge or contact **Alice Harper** ([aharper67@comcast.net](mailto:aharper67@comcast.net), 609-737-3046)



The UUCP BOOKSTORE is open every Sunday between services. Contact **Alice Harper**: [aharper67@comcast.net](mailto:aharper67@comcast.net) 609 737-3046

## Community Building

### WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

The Women's Alliance welcomes ALL to its monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday lunches and programs. Gather at 11:45, lunch at 12, program at 1pm. Come one, come all – bring a salad; drinks and dessert provided.

Thursday, **May 20—Strawberry Festival**, our annual business meeting and election of officers.. Join us for the last meeting of the season and enjoy luscious strawberry shortcake. *~Carol Haag*



### MEN'S CLUB

Our next meeting will be in **October, if you have any questions** please contact **Bob Flora** at 908-874-0789 or [robertf481@aol.com](mailto:robertf481@aol.com)

### UU CONNECTIONS

#### UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GA 2010 will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from June 23-27. The UU Connections Committee urges you to talk with people who have attended in the past. A forum between services will be scheduled for a Sunday in May for more information about GA which is an exciting spiritual, intellectual, social, and community-building experience. (See Happenings, bulletin board, and Yahoo list serv for date and time of forum.)

Registration is at [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org). UUCP has nine delegate slots to fill. Tell Trustee Board President Jonathan Sachs if you are interested in being a delegate or leave a message for him at the church office.

As a congregation wanting to grow, seeking for meaning and expression as a faith group, and searching for a new UU minister, UUCP should be well represented there in Minneapolis so the wider UU community will know about us. Details are at the uua website. *~Carol Allen, UU Connections Committee*

## LOST & FOUND

The Spring Sale is nearly here and that means it's time for spring cleaning at UUCP. Please check the Lost & Found racks for something you may have left here during the past year. Anything left in Lost & Found as of May 3 will be donated to the Sale. The Lost & Found is located to the right of the main doors as you enter Robinson Lounge. *~Sara Oderwald*

## VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SPRING SALE!!!

**Saturday, May 8,  
9 am–2 pm  
Many hands  
make light work**

Please say “Yes!” when a Booth Chair calls to ask for your help sorting the treasure trove and staffing the booths. It is well-known that those who work at the Spring Sale realize the most benefit, buy

the most, have the most fun, and feel GREAT about the sense of community they share. There are plenty of opportunities to help out.

**We are still looking for someone to chair the “Clothing” Booth! Please consider helping – contact one of the co-chairs to volunteer.**

If you are busy on May 8, please consider coming for an evening during the week before to help set-

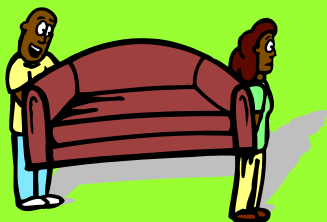
up.

To volunteer, SIGN UP AT THE SPRING SALE TABLE ON SUNDAYS or contact **Amanda Gillum** (609-737-9163, [gillumam@verizon.net](mailto:gillumam@verizon.net)), **Carol Haag** (609-924-5857, [RevCarolH@verizon.net](mailto:RevCarolH@verizon.net)) or **Rick Smith** (541-514-2927, [SingCP@yahoo.com](mailto:SingCP@yahoo.com)).

### Spring Sale Pick-Up Service:

We will provide pick-up service for people not able to deliver heavy or bulky items to church for the Spring Sale. We cannot sell bedding (legal restriction).

Especially large/heavy items, such as breakfronts or large appliances,



can be effectively offered by displaying photos at the Sale. All electronic and electrical equipment must be in working condition. **Ask yourself, would you buy this item?**

Remember, items not sold must be disposed of and that cuts into the dollars we raise for outreach.

Pick-ups will be scheduled for Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, May 6. Since we need to schedule pick-ups, please, don't wait until the last minute to call **Bill Gillum** (609-737-9163) to arrange your pick-up.

### SPRING SALE DONATION DROP OFF TIMES:

**1 – 6 pm, Sunday, May 2**

**4 – 7 pm, Monday–Thu, May 3-6**

**4 – 6 pm, Friday, May 7**

### Star Island Meditation Week

July 10-17, 2010

10 minutes off the Maine/New Hampshire coast



#### A Contemplative Community Gathering

Come spend a week devoted to "practicing presence", inspired by a community of kindred spirits, and enlivened by the beauty of nature. Our conference makes the most of this ideal island setting, in a retreat format that balances meditation practice, nature encounter and community building, for a week of insight, growth and renewal.

We will spend each morning together in silence, following a formal schedule of sitting and walking meditation sessions. Afternoon will be devoted to solitary nature-contemplation and free time. Evening will be a social time for some, while others may opt to remain silent. We will end the day with a candlelight chapel service and a return to silent contemplation.

This retreat is suitable for beginning to experienced meditators, from a variety of traditions and faith backgrounds. Our silent time together will be compatible with many forms of meditation, such as Buddhist calm-abiding, Christian centering prayer, and many other simple "be here now" styles.

For more information see [www.StarMeditation.org](http://www.StarMeditation.org)

Meditation Week is facilitated by **David Scheuneman**, an interfaith meditation teacher and spiritual director.

For more information see [www.starmeditation.org](http://www.starmeditation.org)

Website: [www.StudioZero.org](http://www.StudioZero.org)

Contact: David at 702-738-4477 or [Dave@StudioZero.org](mailto:Dave@StudioZero.org)

Please Inquire About Childcare

### Think GREEN

#### Reduce, Re-use, Re-SALE!

**Dust off those stored-away household goods and DONATE them to the UUCP Spring Sale!**

Please make sure the items you donate are in good, working condition.

(Please, no tires, mattresses, TVs, damaged furniture, encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks.) All donations are tax deductible. Receipts will be provided when you make your donation.

**You can bring donations to UUCP beginning Sunday, May 2.**

## Social Justice

### UUCP Social Outreach Committee – 2010 Report to the Congregation

The 2010 Social Outreach Committee (Mary Bryant, Stephanie Cohen, Nancy Gardner, Amanda Gillum, chair, Michelle Hunt, and Teresa Stevens) reviewed 21 Social Outreach Grant applications, including two proposals from new agencies. We awarded \$24,000, from proceeds raised at our annual Spring Sale and Fellowship Auction, to the following 20 community organizations. Approximately 55% of the funds address issues of poverty and support economic justice in the Trenton area.

#### Poverty, Homelessness, and Hunger (33%)

**Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton: \$2,300** to provide locally grown, fresh produce to needy families.

**Mercer Street Friends: \$500** for dishwasher and water/sand play unit for Trenton child development center.

**PCV Group: \$1,500** to provide \$100 scholarships for 15 students in Princeton Young Achievers after-school learning program (Princeton Community Housing).

**Trenton Area Soup Kitchen: \$2,500** to purchase food for TASK, providing 3,000 meals weekly, as well as training and social services, for people in need in greater Trenton.

**YWCA of Trenton: \$1,000** to support needy clients entering an 8-week Job Search & Placement Program.

#### Independent Living (11%)

**Enable: \$700** for mailings for annual Holiday Gift Appeal for people with disabilities and their families.

**Meals on Wheels: \$1,000** to subsidize cost of providing meals to homebound needy, ill and

elderly residents.

**Princeton Sr Resource Center: \$1,000** to support Homefriends & LINK programs

#### Environmental Education & Sustainability (19%)

**ISLES: \$1,500** to support Community Gardens and ten Garden Classrooms in Trenton schools.

**Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed: \$1,000** toward bus transportation for Trenton students' Links field trips.

**Trenton Environmental Education Field Trip Program: \$1,000** to sponsor walking field trips for 8 classes.

**Your ReSource, Inc: \$1,000** for marketing & advertizing of the CARE program that collects & refurbishes used medical/rehab equipment to make available again, especially for those with limited resources.

#### Social Justice (8%)

**Coalition for Peace Action: \$1,000** to help fund the annual Princeton Conference and Interfaith Service for Peace, and support the new NJ Students for Peace group.

**People & Stories: \$1,000** to buy books and binders for "Crossing Borders with Literature" reading & discussions, specifically addressing low self-esteem and literacy skills among prison re-entry populations.

#### Mental Wellness Support (8%)

**Hyacinth Foundation: \$1,000** for Wellness Community in Trenton providing support & education services to people affected by HIV/AIDS and their families.

**National Association for the Mentally Ill - Mercer County: \$1,000** will help fund congregational education and outreach "Sharing Hope" programs to increase public awareness and reduce stigma of mental illness.

#### Crisis Pastoral Support (10%)

**Committee on Religious Ministries (Hospital Chaplaincy): \$1,000** toward chaplain salaries, supporting

(Report continued on page 14)



## Ministerial Search Committee

### The Other Half of the Equation A Reality Check

The Survey has been completed and the results are available at our website, UUPrinceton.org. The Ministerial Search Committee is now turning its attention toward the completion of the congregational record, as well as designing and putting together our packet. UUCP will be very attractive to many prospective candidates. We have a great deal to offer and our packet and congregational record will reflect those assets. We have a good idea of what qualities the congregation wants the next minister to possess. We have also learned where the congregation wants to focus its attention in the next several years. We know what the congregation wants. Now for the other half of the equation – What are we willing to give in return to ensure excellent professional ministry? What are we willing to give so that we can reach toward our aspirations? We're talking about stewardship – pledging our hearts and hands, our minds and means toward the sacred bond that is our mission covenant.

Although our congregation has many positive, appealing assets, the Search Committee cannot overlook the challenges confronting the congregation. We intend to tell an honest, authentic story of our congregation. Potential candidates will learn the truth through their own information channels anyway. One look at our financial documents will raise serious questions about our willingness to match our aspirations with the means to get there. Will this keep some candidates away? Will they decide that our aspirations are merely empty words when we can't even responsibly fund our current operations?

The Search Committee has been

(Search continued on page 14)

*(Report continued from page 13)*

patients, families & staff at University Medical Center at Princeton, Merwick and hospice units.

**Womanspace: \$1,500** for chaplains who support women in crisis, including victims of domestic or sexual violence and their families.

**Community Sex Education (10%)**

**HiTOPS: \$1,500** for “First & Third” support group for GLBTQ teens, with meetings in Princeton & Trenton.

**Planned Parenthood Association of Mercer County: \$1,000** for purchase of condoms to be distributed through the Healthy Lifestyles and PEERS Education Programs. -- *Amanda Gillum, Chair*

*(Search continued from page 13)*

tasked, on behalf of the congregation, to search for the person who we believe will be the right match for our next settled minister. We feel a responsibility to share information with you, and to keep our process as transparent as possible. It is in that spirit that we feel compelled to honestly share our concern that a less than successful stewardship campaign may very well have consequences for our search. Each person’s fair share is all that is being asked. If you have not pledged, please do so immediately. The Ministerial Search Committee - *Carl, Diana, Kathy, Linda, Pete, Sharon, Susan*

**PEACE COALITION EVENTS  
ENGAGE NUCLEAR  
ABOLITION ISSUES**

Wednesday, April 28. "Countdown to Zero," a full-length documentary on the growing danger of a nuclear holocaust, will be shown from 8:00 to 10:00 at the Garden Theater on Nassau Street in Princeton. It features Princeton University scientist, Frank von Hippel. Reservations are needed. Sunday, May 2. Board the Peace Train at Princeton Junction at 12:44

PM to travel to New York City for a rally and march to the United Nations celebrating the opening of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review at the United Nations in early May. Saturday evening, May 1, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon will address peace activists at Riverside Church. Friday, June 4. Coalition for Peace Action annual membership dinner at Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Barry Blechman will speak on Nuclear Abolition. Reservations and information available at [www.peacecoalition.org](http://www.peacecoalition.org) or email [cfpa@peacecoalition.org](mailto:cfpa@peacecoalition.org).

~*Carol Allen*

**UNIQUE UU VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Do you have a passion for creating the beloved community on earth? Are you a deliberative soul who’d like to help others become a homeowner? Do you have 2 hours available, the 2nd Tuesday of the month? Habitat for Humanity Partner Family Relations Committee meets once a month to review applications of potential Habitat homeowners and is looking to grow the committee membership. Committee members review applications for financial eligibility, sweat equity appropriateness, and reported housing difficulties. Then, perspective Habitat Partners are invited to our meetings for a group interview and committee members may schedule a team home visit to assess housing needs. We would love 2 or 3 more volunteers from UUCP to help expand the committee’s functions.

A second opportunity is that we are also looking for individuals who would like to

become “coaches” or mentors to families that have been approved as partner families. Coaches can meet with their partner family and help them plan how they will meet their 500 hours of sweat equity, how they will save for their down payment, how to budget etc. Coaches may also assist in helping link families with other community resources to meet their needs so they can complete their goal of homeownership. And, the coach may assist in bridging the new family into the Habitat community, linking them with the various parties and events that UUCP and Habitat offer at the East Trenton Center. You can even share your coaching role with another UUCP member or family if that works better for you. We would love to hear from you and hear how you might like to become a partner with Habitat’s many programs. Please contact **Nancy Gardner** at 609-240-1978 or [wellnansee@yahoo.com](mailto:wellnansee@yahoo.com) if you are interested in either of these opportunities. If you’d like to swing a hammer or help in the construction in any way, please contact **Ray Nichols**, [acer-nichols@verizon.net](mailto:acer-nichols@verizon.net) or **Pete**

**COFFEE**

Sign-up for helping with coffee on the clipboard in Robinson Lounge. Also do the Coffee Hour Survey expressing your preference for coffee, tea, hot chocolate, natural or unnatural sweeteners, etc.

Do you know what it means to have Fair Trade coffee and tea? It is not only delicious to taste, but also carries our UU



values back to the indigenous coffee and tea growers of the world. Thanks to the UUCP staff for supplying these products. ~*Carol Allen, Ad Hoc Coffee Committee*

## Grace Notes

**Three Octaves of Bells** We're very excited about the June 13 service, when we will "roll out" our third octave. We'll have nine ringers for this special service, and we hope you'll be there for the "premier." Again, thanks to the largesse of individuals and groups alike who participated in this program. We hope you'll be at the **Sunday** service on **June 13** so that you can hear for yourself what a difference that new octave makes. We'll be on our summer schedule then, so there will be only one service, at 10:00am.

**Sunday Serenades 2009-10.** Our first year of *Sunday Serenades* has ended with the Music Ministry Spring Concert on April 25: ***Gospel Train***. (We'll have a full report on this concert in the next *Skylights*.) The *Sunday Serenades* series was conceived in part to help make up the shortfall of last year's 33% budget cut to the Music Ministry, affecting both the hiring of professional musicians, and the purchase of new music. We're glad to say that even in the first year of this effort, we did manage to raise more than \$1,000 through these concerts. An awesome achievement by any standard! Thanks to all who helped with, and attended these concerts.

### **Looking Ahead – Music Lovers, Awake!**

Perhaps you are a music lover, a supporter of what we're trying to accomplish, but you are not an active participant. Chances are there's something valuable you can contribute to our ministry. You can join our Music Ministry Committee, which meets for one hour one Wednesday evening per month, to share your ideas about enhancing the vibrancy of our Ministry, including helping us decide on next year's roster of concerts for our Sunday Serenades Concert Series. Or, you could volunteer in a number of other ways: helping with publicity for Sunday Serenades, or helping for a "Serenade" in exchange for free admission, to name only two. Read our Mission Statement below and if you're inspired to help in any capacity, contact **Jordan Corn** ([jcorn@meredithpoint.com](mailto:jcorn@meredithpoint.com)) or **Marjorie Herman** ([marjmuse@optonline.net](mailto:marjmuse@optonline.net)).

## **Music Ministry Mission Statement**

To provide, through the power of music, a dynamic ministry that will inspire transcendent personal experiences, draw the congregation into greater kinship, and bring inspiration to the wider community.



## **May Hymn of the Month**

We've chosen a familiar, beloved hymn this month, # 1064 – "Blue Boat Home." The tune is an old one, written by Welsh musician Roland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887). Prichard was well known for his gifted voice and as a choir director. His grandfather was the famous bard, Rowland Huw. Prichard wrote a number of good hymn tunes, many of which were included in Welsh periodicals. For the last seven years of his life, he became a loom-tenders' assistant at the Welsh Flannel Manufacturing Company's mills. Peter Mayer, the lyricist, is a singer-songwriter who, according to his website: "writes songs for a small planet—songs about interconnectedness and the human journey; about the beauty and the mystery of the world." The keyboard arrangement of this hymn that we use is by Jason Shelton, a well-known UU musician, and Associate Minister for Music at the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Nashville, Tennessee. Enjoy singing this beautiful and poignant hymn with us for the Sunday services in May. ~Marjorie Herman

## **Murray Grove Drum and Dance Retreat August 13 – 15, 2010**



The Murray Grove Drum and Dance Retreat is a fun, energetic weekend drumming and dancing – no experience necessary. Learn African dance, bellydancing, and various types of Latin and African drumming. Drums are available to rent very reasonably, the instructors are a ton of a fun, and the

participants are very friendly. There's even a freelance massage therapist who gives a great massage. If you haven't been there before, it's a relaxed, "rustic" environment. And there's a pool.

I went last summer for one day. This year I'm going for the weekend, and I'd love to get a group together to go this year. The cost this year is \$250 per person, double occupancy, for the entire weekend, including five meals; \$225 if you register before July 30. For Saturday only, it's \$50 per person. If you're interested, please contact me at [henniganp@comcast.net](mailto:henniganp@comcast.net), 732-422-9982 or on Sunday morning (11:15, if I'm not teaching). It's a good time and very low key and you get to meet some cool women (and men, too, although there are fewer of those).



~Patricia Hennigan

## Joys and Sorrows

To help nurture a beloved community here in this congregation, please remember to share significant events in members' lives with the Pastoral Associates, who are charged with extending the pastoral ministry. This column is a place to inform the larger community of major events in people's lives. Sometimes people want to have their news shared; sometimes privacy and confidentiality prevail. Items for this column should be sent to [skylights@uuprinceton.org](mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org). All items will be reviewed by the Pastoral Associate leadership team before printing (Jon Krejci, Rev. Chris Reed, and Carol Haag).

**Elizabeth Peck** has won a prize, Runner-up for Best Watercolor, for her painting, "The U.S. Senate", in the 28th Annual Open art exhibit at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum. The opening reception will be on Saturday, May 1, 5:00 - 9:00 p. m.

**Emma and Garlie Forehand** are home caring for their 52 year old son who has terminal cancer and is in hospice care. If you'd like to offer support, please contact their Pastoral Associate, Elizabeth Silverman at 609 -655-2507 or [esss144@aol.com](mailto:esss144@aol.com)

### The New Metropolis

New Jersey Regional Coalition (NJRC) film screening of the award-winning PBS documentary

**Thursday, May 6,  
7 PM to 9 PM**

**Rider University  
Science & Technology Center,  
Room 102**

**Donation: \$15/ticket**

The New Metropolis is a two-part documentary about America's first, and oldest suburbs, once home to the American Dream. Using compelling, personal stories, the film explores the challenges our older suburbs now face: a dwindling tax base, population and business loss, decaying infrastructure, increased racial tension, and white flight. The film features the town of Pennsauken, its leaders, and residents for their inspiring work toward a solution for the revitalization of an older suburb. Please join us for the screening, panel discussion, and refreshments. WE will also report on NJRC's issues agenda on affordable housing, transportation, criminal and juvenile justice, and immigration reform, and we'll focus on fellowship and relationship-building within our region.

For ticket information go to:

[www.njregionalequality.org](http://www.njregionalequality.org)

Or e-mail Capital District leaders at

[NJRC@nary.org](mailto:NJRC@nary.org)

Or call (609) 341-4701

**Don't Forget!**

**Spring Sale  
May 8**

### The UUCP Relational Covenant

Our covenant affirms a commitment to build loving, healthy and trusting relationships within our congregation. We make these promises in order to love better, relate more compassionately and feel the power of our human connections.

*Our Promises:*

- ◆ We warmly welcome all.
- ◆ We speak with honesty, respect and compassion.
- ◆ We listen attentively.
- ◆ We express gratitude for the service of others.
- ◆ We honor and support one another in our spiritual journeys and in times of joy, need and struggle.
- ◆ We embrace our diversity and the opportunity to share our different perspectives.
- ◆ We address our disagreements directly and openly and see conflict through to an authentic resolution.
- ◆ We serve our spiritual community with generosity and joy.
- ◆ We strive to keep these promises, but when we fall short, we forgive ourselves and others and begin again in love.

**New Members** - Have you found a home in our congregation? Do you feel connected here? We want to make sure you do. Come to a short program on Sunday, May 23, to identify connections and activities that call to you and can satisfy your needs. Meet with new members in 2009 and 2010 and other congregation members for a 75 minute program starting at 12:30. We will first have a quick lunch to satisfy our hunger! To sign up or for more information, contact **Candus Hedberg** at [ckhedberg@gmail.com](mailto:ckhedberg@gmail.com) or (609) 924-7062.

View the current calendar online at:  
<http://plus2.calendars.net/uuprinceton>



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
MAY 2— <b>TWO Services</b> —9:15 & 11:15 Child Dedication Ceremony 10:35a-11:30a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal-Room 2 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Murray 12:30p-2:00p Young Adults Circle—Room 7	MAY 3 Spring Sale Preparations	MAY 4 Spring Sale Preparations	MAY 5 Spring Sale Preparations	MAY 6 Spring Sale Preparations	MAY 7	MAY 8 9:00a-2:00p <b>Spring Sale</b> 
MAY 9— <b>TWO Services</b> —9:15 & 11:15 10:35a-11:30a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal-Room 2 11:00a-12:30p Morning Youth Group-Room 15 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Murray 12:30p-1:30p UUCP Multicultural Affinity Group—Murray Room 12:45p-3:45p Great Books Circle —Room 7	MAY 10 10:00a-4:00p Reshape Your Presence & Shape Your Future Workshop—Channing 6:30-9:00p Writers' Circle—Room 7 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders	MAY 11 10:00a-4:00p Reshape Your Presence & Shape Your Future Workshop—Channing 7:00p-10:00p Board of Trustees meeting—Founders 7:00p-9:00p Building Your Own Theology—Murray Room	MAY 12 10:30-Noon Aging & Saging (2nd Wed)—Murray 1:00p-2:30p OFFICE STAFF MEETING—Office closed from 1:00-2:30pm 7:00p-9:30p Adult Programs Committee (2nd Wed) — Founders 7:00p-9:00p c2 Covenant Circle (2nd Wed) - Murray 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall	MAY 13 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Robinson Lounge 7:00-8:30p Scriptures Circle (4th Thu)—Founders	MAY 14	MAY 15 9:30a—1:30 Exploring UU and Membership—Channing 10:00a Gentle Yoga Class—Founders Room
MAY 16— <b>TWO Services</b> —9:15 & 11:15 <b>Last day of RE Classes &amp; Children's Worship</b> 10:35a-11:30a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal-Room 2 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Murray 6:30p-8:00p Women's Spirituality Circle—Fahs	MAY 17 6:30-9:00p Writers' Circle—Room 7 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders	MAY 18 7:00p-9:00p Committee on Ministry (3rd Tue) - Murray Room 7:00p-9:00p Building Your Own Theology—Murray Room	MAY 19 7:00p-8:00p Music Committee—Robinson Lounge 7:15p-9:00p Membership Committee (3rd Wed)—Murray 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall	MAY 20 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Robinson Lounge 11:45a-2:00p Women's Alliance Luncheon Meeting—Robinson, Founders, Channing 7:00-8:30p Circle Leaders' Meeting—Murray	MAY 21	MAY 22 10:00a Gentle Yoga Class—Founders Room
MAY 23— <b>ONE Service</b> —10:00 11:00a-12:30p Morning Youth Group-Room 15 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Murray	MAY 24 6:30-9:00p Writers' Circle—Room 7 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders 5:00p <b>Skylights</b> JUNE 2010 issue <b>DEADLINE</b> <a href="mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org">skylights@uuprinceton.org</a>	MAY 25 7:00p-9:00p Leadership Council (4th Tues) - Minister's Office 7:00p-9:00p Building Your Own Theology—Murray Room	MAY 26 10:30-Noon Aging & Saging (4th Wed)—Murray 7:00p-9:00p c2 Covenant Circle (4th Wed) - Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall	MAY 27 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Robinson Lounge 7:00-8:30p Scriptures Circle (4th Thu)—Founders	MAY 28 7:00p—CUUPS Full Moon Circle—Founders & Outside	MAY 29 10:00a Gentle Yoga Class—Founders Room
MAY 30— <b>ONE Service</b> —10:00	MAY 31 <b>OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY</b> 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders	JUN 1 7:00p-9:00p RE Council (1st Tu) - Founders 7:00p-9:00p Building Your Own Theology—Murray Room	JUN 2 7:00p-9:00p Covenant Circle (1st Wed) - Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall	JUN 3 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Robinson Lounge	JUN 4 4:00-6:00p Music Ministry Congratulatory Dinner—Channing	JUN 5 10:00a Gentle Yoga Class—Founders Room

### Ministers' Schedules



**Rev. Meg Barnhouse** and  
**Rev. Chris Reed** observe the following office hours:

**Noon – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Tues through Thurs**  
**Day off: Monday**  
**Study day: Friday**

Office hours indicate when ministers are in the church building. However, ministry is not confined to specific hours, and our ministers may be attending meetings at any hour of the day. In the event of emergencies needing the attention of our ministers, please contact either of them first, irrespective of time or day. If necessary, contact Jonathan Sachs, President of the Board of Trustees,  
[president @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:president@uuprinceton.org)

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### About Skylights

*Skylights* is published monthly except August. Three additional special issues may be published in October, March, May.

*Skylights* is a publication of the:

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Princeton**  
50 Cherry Hill Rd.  
Princeton, N.J. 08540-7626

Submissions to be sent to  
**skylights @uuprinceton.org**

Please submit your article as an attachment in our preferred font, Times New Roman, 11 pt. Describe your submission in the subject line of your e-mail and tell us under which section it belongs.



**Next *Skylights***  
**deadline:**  
**JUNE ISSUE**  
**SUBMISSIONS DUE**  
**MAY 17**  
[skylights @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org)

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