



Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

May 1, 2011 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

The Force that Through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower

It's time to dance around the Maypole in Channing Hall, time to celebrate fertility and the Spirit of Life. We will talk about the Beltane fires and how we might light them in our hearts for good energy, passion and purpose.

Worship Leader: **Rev. Meg Barnhouse** Worship Associate: **Patricia Hennigan**

Music: **Buzz Herman—recorder, Beth Ertz—piano, Marjorie Herman**

May 8, 2011 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Afri-Kin

This service is created from a concept by UUCP Composer-in-Residence Kiya Heartwood, with music she composed (some of which will be debuted by the Adult Choir on the afternoon of May 1). Meg Barnhouse wrote the sermon and collaborated with Kiya on the readings.

Science is showing us that we are all related to an African woman we call "Mitochondrial Eve," and we can trace each person's ancestry through their mother's (mitochondrial) DNA, tracing from mother to mother, all the way back to one of 26 "Daughters of Eve." In honor of Mothers Day, we honor the first mothers who gave us all life.

Worship Leader: **Rev. Meg Barnhouse** Worship Associate: **Marjorie Herman**

Music: **Adult Choir, Music by Kiya Heartwood, Beth Ertz—piano, Marjorie Herman**

May 15, 2011 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Woven Together

A vibrant, loving, and joyful spirit marks the culture of every strong congregation. In this service, the first of our Candidate Week together, we'll explore how our ties with each other create the strength and beauty of our religious homes.

Guest Worship Leader: **Rev. Bill Neely** Worship Associate: **Stephanie Hanzel Cohen**

Music: **Bell Choir, Beth Ertz—piano, Marjorie Herman**

May 22, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Reaching Beyond

Our faith speaks best in acts of service, justice, and compassion. As we conclude our Candidate Week, this service will speak to our desire to build the beloved community, again and again. Children are invited to the first part of the service for some time with Rev. Bill.

Guest Worship Leader: **Rev. Bill Neely** Worship Associate: **Bridgette Heller**

Music: **Adult Choir, Beth Ertz—Piano, Marjorie Herman**

After the service: Congregational Meeting to Vote on Our Candidate, Rev. Bill Neely

May 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

In Honor of Service

Today we honor our fellow UUs and their family members who lived out their commitment to community and service by serving in the armed forces and in other ways. We will also examine the commitments we have made in our lives.

Guest Worship Leaders: **Drake Baer, Patricia Hennigan, Buzz Herman, and others**

Music: **Ieva Binderyte—violin, Jeffrey Fadden—guitar**

Reflection

Reverends Chris Reed & Meg Barnhouse

For this month's columns from the ministers, Meg asked Chris if she could interview her about her years of ministry at UUCP.

What brought you to UUCP in the first place?

Going through some personal healing, and I wanted a community that would affirm that kind of growth -- spiritual/emotional growth.

And JD and I knew that our children were really ignorant about religions and reading the Bible and anything like that.

Raj and Elaine Nigam (our daughters were best friends – still are) mentioned the Unitarian Church of Princeton, saying we could study world religions, and didn't have to have a particular creed, and people were so loving and kind to each other. Raj said if I tried it one time I would be completely sold, and I was. I knew nothing about UUism. Nothing. Cause a friend told me it worked for his family, and I knew his family.

How did you come to be the DRE here?

I was teaching a pre-K class with Elizabeth Silverman. We had grown that class to about 26 children. We were putting our hearts into it. The church was going through a period of having no DRE or a DRE that would last for three months – while we were in a search for an MRE, for two ministers, in 1989. I was asked by Jim Johnson if I would be interested in a six month part time paid position while the congregation was in search. I said yes. The search fell through. I had already fallen in love with DRE work, and assuming the congregation would get a minister, I had accepted a job at the Plainfield UU church. The next year the search fell through again and Princeton asked me to come back full time. It was nine minutes from my house!

What are some of your favorite parts of ministry here?

I loved working with youth, mostly in the early days when I often served as co-

advisor.

Doing the many memorial services has been very meaningful.

In my first decade here – working with the women and the spirituality groups. There was great energy around affirming the feminine divine in our lives and within the institution.

I loved the Ulysses course, reading Joyce with 14 people who came to every session. It was a caring community with a pure sense of learning and joy. Spiritual community. Another favorite thing was the Bible class. I absolutely loved doing that 12 year Bible class. A highlight. I would think "Oh today's the Bible class, I'm so happy!"

Another aspect of ministry I loved was working with Jr High and writing a Jr High curriculum. They are so rebellious and iconoclastic and justice-driven. Their process is beautifully life-affirming and joyful.

I have loved the learnings I've experienced as executive team. Learning about staff and personnel, budget preparation, insurance. I've learned so much about structures within the institution. I loved the two years with Robert Latham partly because we put together so many things: Covenant Groups, Pastoral Associates, Worship Associates. The Committee on Ministry was revamped.

I have learned a lot working with the last two Interim Ministers we've had here.

Thank you. What would you say "ministry" is to you?

Ministry is being present to myself and others as an affirming presence and a healing presence in times of

crisis, growth, exploration, in times of just simply living. It's a commitment to that kind of presence. It gets much more complicated because within an institution you also help build structures to facilitate that presence. And as a minister you are affirming and enhancing other people's being present. You are being part of valuing and enhancing people being present with each other day to day.

In my years here, I witnessed two powerful changes. This congregation went through a sea-change which came from many sources, becoming more spiritual and caring. It had been more business-like, more in the head, much more intellectual. It became more spiritual with the Pastoral Associates, the Covenant Circles, more caring, more connected. That has been one of the most satisfying aspects of my ministry—being part of that change.

In the area of social justice, the congregation for years wanted to do something significant, more than just giving away money, wanted to be active in the world. I am awed by and

(Reflection continued on page 3)

2011-2012
Budget Forum
between services
May 1
At 10:30 a.m.
in Channing Hall



(Reflection continued from page 2)

proud of this congregation and its discernment and selection processes of choosing three things to put itself into as part of helping to repair the world, and the year or two it took to really get started with them. Habitat and the UU Legislative ministry came out of that process. I didn't have much personally to do with it, I just was proud watching the congregation.

What made you decide to become a minister, go to seminary and do all that?

Fred ward, Carol Haag and I would drive to RE leadership meetings together. I had only been a DRE for four months. The kinds of things I was exploring on the car rides, prompted Fred to ask whether I had considered becoming a minister. We talked about healing, about redemptive love, about mutual respect and the justice issues I came to this religion with... I came in with a lot of justice issues. I went toward ministry with children and youth; that was not so much about justice but about wholeness. Fred had a vision that not only could I be a minister but it would end up being a really good fit for me. I loved the classes at Meadville-Lombard and at Drew. I loved learning about church history, Bible, theology, development. He ended up being a wonderful mentor for me.

What have been some of the hardest elements in ministry to learn or to do?

One of the two that come to mind immediately is that I am the kind of person, the kind of personality that makes the assumption that what I'm interested in is what everyone is interested in. Ministry, of course, is about the opposite, so it's been a natural corrective for me. Although I pride myself on listening skills, on hearing others, I still tend to make assumptions about what's interesting or exciting to others. One of the things I've learned in ministry is that it's totally ok if things don't go my way.

Things like follow up and timeliness are not my natural skills. I'm very

present. The thing is that I may not be present to what I said five minutes ago or what happened a day ago. When that's hurtful to someone and doesn't respect the work they are doing and they make me aware of that, I see it as a gift. If I do interim ministry in years to come, that's something I'll have to take with me. It boils down to the fact that something about me needs constant vigilance. Writing follow up emails instead of going on to the next thing, that's something I'm learning.

One of your skills that I've heard you talk about and that I've admired is your ability to get a group going. How do you do that?

I can tell you what that is, even though I'm feeling guilty because there are so many groups I've wanted to start this past year that I haven't been able to get done. I think what I do and what I encourage teachers and other groups leaders to do that helps make groups work is that I enjoy the people. I take joy in the coming together of the group. I come into ministry having had experience in 12-step groups. When people share who they really are, I have a joyful response. When I start a group I immediately love that group, and I'm interested in the people, and that helps energize the group. When I was asked to do the Ulysses group I said I would lead it if this other person would do the administration. What it takes is the emails before and afterward. You write about what happened in the group and show what you're looking forward to in the next meeting. You not only keep the thread going for the group, but you value them.

There's always something pulling them

Yes, and when someone shares

authentically it is a gift to the group. Whether it was in the campus group where someone may have come out for the first time, or when a woman broke silence in a Cakes group about her abuse, these things are gifts. The groups are not therapy groups, but small groups in churches, when they are done with that kind of attention and affirmation, invite mutual respect and even transformation. You don't know who is in the circle and what they are going to say, but you are always receiving that gift.

Are there questions you would like me to ask that I'm not asking?

No, but I would like to say one other thing. Except for the one year in Plainfield, I've been here for the whole of my ministry. The lay leaders have done such excellent ministry-- I've learned from them so much and I'm so glad that is the case. And I'm so thankful for having been able to walk this path together with all who have been a part of UUCP.

And... I'm writing a novel called "The Minister."

I'm looking forward to reading that!



Religious Education for Children and Youth

We are happy that **Shelle Sumners** is recovering from the stroke she had right after Christmas. Recovering is slow and unpredictable, but the prognosis is that she will be fine. Chris, Meg and Sara are in touch with her regularly. Both Shelle and Lee want to convey their thanks to the people of UUCP for their support these past several months.

The RE Council, Chris Reed, and other congregational leaders are planning the best ways to manage the transition to an Acting DRE as Bill Neely comes and UUCP begins its new structure: Lead Minister, Acting DRE, and Congregational Administrator.

Many heartfelt thanks to **Liz Warrior**, who has stepped in to cover many of the RE Coordinator functions while Shelle is recuperating.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Save the Date:
 Last Youth CON of the Year: June 10 - 12, in Danbury, CT

MAY 2011 YOUTH		
Just about Every Sunday Morning	Morning Youth Group in Room 15	11:00—12:30p
5/1	Youth Group	11:00—12:30p
5/8	Youth Group	11:00—12:30p
5/15	Youth Group	11:00—12:30p
5/15	Private Brunch with Rev. Bill Neely	12:45- 1:45p
5/22	Youth Group—last day of RE	11:00—12:30p
5/29	No Youth Group—Memorial Day Weekend	No YG

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

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

Sunday, May 1, 12:30-1:45 in the John Murray Room.

Drop-in Newcomers' Circles meet on the first Sunday of each month after the second service. Newcomers and relative newcomers are all invited. The group is part getting acquainted, part questions you may have, and part discussion on a theme. We cover various topics, including theology, worship and prayer and UU history. We also cover UUCP, our own congregation, how it works and how you can get better connected into the various ministries and the religious community in general.

Please help yourself to brunch and/or coffee after the service and join us in the Murray Room (beyond the brunch room). Childcare is available in room 3 or 9. Please sign up at the Welcome Circle in Robinson Hall on Sundays or contact **Rev. Chris Reed** at reed@uuprinceton.org. You can also just join us that day.

Saturday "Exploring UU" Class for Newcomers

Place: UUCP—Founders Room

Date: **May 7, 2011** Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 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. Class will be led by Rev. Meg Barnhouse.

You can RSVP, no later than October 27, for this event either by phone to **Marty Akers** at (609) 737-3948 or e-mail to welcome@uuprinceton.org. We hope you can make it!

Signing the Membership Book Ceremony

This ceremony of becoming a member is for those who have previously taken the "Exploring UU" 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 **Chris Reed** at reed@uuprinceton.org, 609-924-1604, ext. 12 if you are interested in joining a Covenant Circle.

NEW PROGRAMS

A Little Known Civil Rights Issue:

Adoptee Rights

Tuesday, May 31 at 7:30—8:30 in Fahs Theatre

This presentation will include a 35 minute power point explaining the issue of the denial of equal human rights for some seven million American citizens – those who are adopted as children, the consequences, it's connection

(Adult Programs continued on page 6)

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 **Rev. Chris Reed**, reed@uuprinceton.org.

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to UU principles, and what we each of us can do as citizens and as UUs. We will also view 7 minute DVD mini documentary entitled "The Right to Know: the fight for adoptee access" by Jean Strauss that puts a personal face on the issue. Ample time will be allotted for Q & A.

This program is open to all members of the congregation, friends, guests, and the general public. It is being presented by UUCP member **Mirah Riben**, author of two books and numerous articles on adoption based on her 30+ years research in this area.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Buddhist Meditation Group

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays, May 1, 15, and 29 at 1:00 in Room 1

Have you been excited by Meg's sermons on Buddhism?

Would you like to explore how to actually use this way of thinking in our day-to-day living?

How about meditation? Those of us who have had even a taste of this practice know that the simple act of sitting quietly together can create a greater sense of peace. And yet, even knowing its benefits, many of us struggle to make this practice a part of our lives.

Does the idea of meeting together to experiment with these ideas appeal to you?

Our UUCP Buddhist meditation group has been meeting since October. Our meetings combine a period of meditation with a time to explore how to incorporate a more Buddhist approach into our lives drawing on readings to inspire our quest. If you want to listen to Meg's sermons on Buddhism to help you decide, the tapes are available in the bookshelf in the lounge-- September 6 2009 (Right Livelihood), January 3, 2010 (Right Understanding), March 28, 2010 (Right Speech) and July 25, 2010 (Right Action).

Questions? Contact: **Michele Ochsner** mochsner@work.rutgers.edu 609-924-1166; **Dana Powsner** danapowsner@comcast.net 609-924-5891; **Henry Powsner** powsner@comcast.net 609-924-5891.

Yoga for health, well-being and peace of mind

Thursdays 9:15—10:30 a.m. in Founders Room—Restarts April 14

Cost: Donation to UUCP Yoga Fund accepted

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

Young Adult Circle

Ages 20-35(ish)

TBD May date

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 Vollmer** datura1207@aol.com

Sages

Usually meet the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, but this month will meet only on 3rd Wednesday, May 18 10:30a-Noon, in the John Murray Room.

NEEDS OF OLDER, RETIRED PERSONS AT UUCP

The SAGES group is planning to survey the needs of older, retired persons at UUCP and resources to meet them. SAGES is the new name of the Aging and Saging group. Created by Rev. Chris Reed, SAGES continues as a self-led group meeting twice a month. Anyone who has a comment to add to this informal needs and resources survey is welcome to attend the next meeting on Wednesday, April 27 at 10:30 AM in the Murray Room. Comments can also be emailed to carolkallen@msn.com. On Wednesday morning, May 18, SAGES will meet with the Rev. Bill Neely.

(Adult Programs continued from page 6)

~Carol Allen

Community Building

CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) Evergreen Chapter

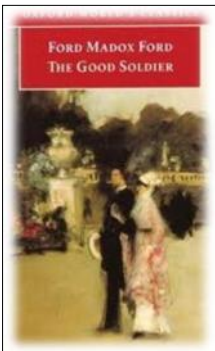
Friday near the Full Moon, 7:00-9:30 pm, Memorial Garden in fine weather, Classroom 1 otherwise.

For more information about us and our activities, contact Eva (likelystories@yahoo.com) or Elissa (atsilvgvhe@gmail.com).

Great Books Reading Circle

Sunday, May 15 at 1 p.m. in Room 7

“The Good Soldier” by Ford Madox Ford



Composed in deliberate emulation of the 19th century French novel. An exploration of the theme of sexual betrayal and its poisonous after-effects with a psychological

intimacy as yet unknown in the English novel. This 1915 novel set in the decades just before World War I is a literary classic and must read!

Join in anytime - all are welcome.

Contact for more info: **Karen**

Siracusa (kn.siracusa@att.net) / 609-912-1016)

A Course in Miracles

Sundays 11:15 am—12:30 pm in Room 8

Throughout the month of May we will continue to study the workbook for students.

We will continue to meet in room 8 from 11:15 till 12:30.

May 1 - “I want the peace of God. To say these words is nothing. To mean these words is everything. Minds can only join in truth.”

(Adult Programs continued on page 8)

WOMEN’S ALLIANCE

Thursday, May 19

Luncheon Meeting – Everyone Welcome!



Strawberry Festival, our

annual business

meeting and election of officers for next year. Join us for the last meeting of the season and enjoy luscious strawberry shortcake.

Luncheons are held in the Founders Room at 11:45 a.m.

Please bring a salad to share.

Beverages and dessert will be

provided. Programs begin at 1:00 PM Everyone is Welcome!

Please contact **Carol Haag** if you would like to come:

RevCarolH@verizon.net or 609-924-5857

MEN’S CLUB

We will meet again in the fall.

Bob Flora at 908-874-0789 or robertf481@aol.com

UU CONNECTIONS

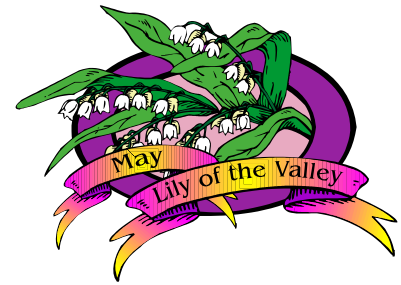
UUCP Delegation Forming for GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2011

UUCP now has several people committed to attending the 2011 UUA General Assembly (GA) in Charlotte, North Carolina, from June 22-26. Now is the time to sign up to be a delegate or an alternate. Church leaders derive a great deal of encouragement from swapping stories with delegates from all over North America. Workshops encourage discussion of best practices in all phases of church life. Social Justice issues are aired democratically. Spiritual opportunities are many and memorable.

Charlotte is the closest GA has been to New Jersey for over a decade. Reasonable flights are available from Philadelphia. Anyone who has never been to a

GA is especially encouraged to explore the possibility of going this year. Go to www.uua.org and link to General Assembly for basic information; then ask for any further information from UUCPers who have been to GAs. Send a note to office@uuprinceton.org to say you are interested in attending GA.

Carol Allen
UU Connections



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.



Ministerial Search Committee

It's All Up to You!

We can feel the excitement building as we come to the end of our congregation's two-year search for a new minister. The Search Committee believes it has chosen well in selecting Rev. Bill Neely as the candidate for UUCP's next settled minister. It is now up to the congregation to confirm that choice and call Bill as our lead minister. All members in good standing are eligible to vote at the congregational meeting on Sunday, May 22. Child care will be provided.

Bill, his wife Shannon, and their daughter Rachel will stop by the Spring Fair on Saturday, May 14, to say hello; the official "Candidating Week" starts the next day, Sunday, May 15, with Bill's first worship services in our pulpit.

An abbreviated schedule for the candidating week meetings appears below. The full schedule is available at the Search Committee table in Robinson Lounge between services, will be sent as an email blast, and will be included in the letter announcing the congregational meeting and vote.

A NOTE FROM OUR CANDIDATE: I received the nicest package in the mail yesterday! Shannon and I spent last night reading dozens of notes, many from younger UUCP'ers, welcoming us to the congregation. It was so thoughtful, kind, and uplifting. Please send our deepest gratitude to the writers and coordinators of that wonderful gift. We can't wait to thank the congregation in person.

Warmly,
Bill

Candidating Week Schedule: May 14 – 22, 2011

Rev. Bill Neely will be attending the following events:

Saturday, May 14

Spring Sale

Sunday, May 15

9:15 Worship Service

11:15 Worship Service

12:45 Youth Group brunch

Monday, May 16

6:30 Potluck with Social Justice Committee

Tuesday, May 17

1:00 Staff luncheon

7:00 LifeSpan Religious Education

Wednesday, May 18

10:30 Sages

UUCP Board dinner

Thursday, May 19

10:00 UU NJ Clergy

welcome coffee

12:00 Women's Alliance lunch

5:30 Leadership Council

7:00 Worship Associates/
Music Committee

Friday, May 20

6:30 Membership/
Stewardship/Finance

7:30 CUUPS

Saturday, May 21

8:30 Program Council

10:00 Pastoral Associates

11:00 Committee on
Ministry

5:30 Potluck Supper

Sunday, May 22

10:00 Worship Service

11:30 Congregational
meeting/vote

CELEBRATION!!!

We hope you will take advantage of these events to get to know Bill and his family and help welcome them to Princeton.

~Kathy, Carl, Linda, Pete, Sharon, and Susan

The UUCP
BOOKSTORE
is open every
Sunday between
services.

Contact Alice
Harper:
aharper67 @
comcast.net



Interested in Adult Programs?

For more information about any of the classes described on pages 5-7, visit the Adult Program table in Robinson Lounge.

(Adult Programs continued from page 7)

May 8 - "Salvation of the world depends on me. It unites all wills on earth in Heaven's plan to save the world restoring it to Heaven's peace."

May 15 - "I bless the world because I bless myself. Ideas must first belong to you, before you give them."

May 22 - "The Peace of God is shining in me now. This light can not be lost."

May 29 - "I feel the love of God within me now. A world in which forgiveness shines on everything, and peace offers its gentle light to everyone, is inconceivable to those who see a world of hatred rising from attack, poised to avenge, to murder and destroy."

Join us to discuss these provocative teachings. We welcome your ideas and input.

~Hil Anderson

SPRING SALE

MAY 14

Social Justice and Social Action

It's here! UUCP SPRING SALE – MAY 14

Saturday, 9 am–2 pm

All proceeds go to our **Social Justice Activities**.

Delicious food, live entertainment, fun & FELLOWSHIP.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Many hands make light work – Booth Chairs need help sorting & selling their treasure troves. **Please join the fun making our Spring Sale a success, building community and making new UUCP friends!** Busy May 14th? Help an evening or two during set-up week!

SIGN UP at the SPRING SALE TABLE or contact **Amanda Gillum** (609-737-9163, gillumam@verizon.net) or **Carol Haag** (609-924-5857, RevCarolH@verizon.net).

DONATE to the SPRING SALE: Dust off your stored-away clothes, furniture and household goods!

Please bring only items in good, working condition -- things someone else could really use. (Please, NO tires, mattresses, TVs, damaged furniture, encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks). Have a "**HIGH-END Donation**" such as fine furniture, art piece, jewelry, antique or collectible? On the "High-End Donation" form, you specify a "minimum price" and provide key selling points. If the item isn't sold on May 14, we may offer on eBAY or Craigslist. If we can't get your minimum price, the item can be returned to you. A great way to make a **significant contribution** to our Social Justice Ministries!

MAY 8 (after 2nd service) – Thur, May 12 – Bring donated items to UUCP

FRIDAY 6pm – Volunteer Supper & Final BOOTH SET-UP

SATURDAY, MAY 14 at 9am – DOORS OPEN

-- 2011 Spring Sale Co-Chairs:
Amanda Gillum & Carol Haag

Some SILENT AUCTION "HIGH-END" donations: Indian screen, Kettler air tire pedal car, Jan Kagie, Jr, "Pines on the Dunes" framed print, Ozark wall hanging, etc. Please phone **Lenore Danielson, 609-921-8416**, if you have any interesting, intriguing or valuable items that you would like to donate to the Spring Sale for raising social justice funds. We would like key information, also minimum price or estimated value. You may request return of the item if we don't make the minimum bid.

Spring Sale PICK- UP Service:

We will provide pick-up service for people not able to bring heavy or bulky items to UUCP. Especially large/heavy items, such as breakfronts or large appliances, can be effectively offered by displaying photos at the Sale. All electronics, mechanical or electrical equipment must be in good working condition. **Ask yourself, would you buy this item?** Remember, items not sold must be disposed of and that cuts into funds we raise for social outreach. Pick-ups will be scheduled Sunday, May 8 through Thursday, May 12. **Don't wait until the last minute** to call Bill Gillum (609-737-9163) to schedule your pick-up time.

Habitat for Humanity - Trenton Area is sponsoring a fundraising event, "No Place Like Home" on Friday, May 6 from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Arts Council of Princeton. In addition to Cocktails/Hor d'oeuvres and a silent auction, the American Boychoir will be performing at the event. The cost per person is \$85.00 and tickets may be purchased online at www.habitatta.org

The social justice committee would like to thank all those who participated in Loaves and Fishes. We had many volunteers this year baking brownies, making sandwiches and helping out at the event where 800 meals were served and 800 bag lunches were passed out. A special thanks to the **Youth Group** who came down and put in a full day on Saturday and to **Nancy McCormack** who coordinated the event. As always many hands made light work.

~Pat Radtke

SPRING SALE DONATIONS RECEIVING TIMES AT UUCP:

1 – 6 pm, Sunday, May 8
4 – 7 pm, Mon–Thu, May 9-12
(No donations on Friday)

SPRING SALE
MAY 14

Legislative Ministry

UUCP Receives Award from Metro District

UUCP will be recognized by the UU Metro NY District with the Mendon W. Smith Award on May 7, 2011. The Mendon Smith Award is for dedication to UU principles, strengthening our faith, leadership development, community outreach, creative programming and participation in denominational affairs. Princeton is being honored for:

- UU Legislative Ministry of NJ (UULMNJ) vision, funding, leadership and continued participation
- Contributing 3 District presidents and many other leaders
- Becoming a green sanctuary including installation of solar panels and lighting fixtures, as well as raising awareness of environmental responsibility
- Initiating the Leadership Leaves sabbatical program for ministers and religious educators
- Spring Sale which supports over 50 years of community outreach through an all-church fundraising efforts
- Supporting Trenton Habitat building work and partnering with and mentoring a family
- Development of the Habitat East Trenton Learning Center and ongoing support, tutoring and family support
- Sponsoring Joan Waite's one-woman concert series to support local groups
- Generous response to Chalice Lighters and other emergency plate collections
- Support of Partner Church in Transylvania

A delegation from UUCP will accept the award at the mid day district meeting on May 7 in Morristown, NJ. Typically there is a large delegation from congregations who receive this prestigious award. **If you would like to join this delegation, please contact Elaine Nigam (elaine@nigamfamily.org) about car pooling arrangements.** The ongoing UUCP social justice programs are available at <http://www.uuprinceton.org/get-involved/social-justice-ministry.html>. The Metro NY District has 51 congregations in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

~Frances Prestianni

HONE YOUR HR SKILLS AS A HOSPITALITY RECRUITER

Remember How Tom Sawyer got the picket fence white washed? He was unhappy to be required to paint the fence on a beautiful summer day, but he told his friends it was fun painting and he might let them have a turn. Similarly, you can help with Sunday morning coffee service without ever going to the kitchen by becoming a Coffee Recruiter. Sign up other people (two per week) to do coffee service (or summer cold drinks) for just one month starting in May. Send an email to carolkallen@msn.com if interested in this volunteer task. After-service Hospitality is a small task compared to many volunteer jobs in the church, but it provides a great service enjoyed by many. The tasks can be shared by recruiting a large number of people to help out once or twice a year.

~Carol Allen



Stewardship

A few thoughts on this year's campaign. Where are we? As of today (April 15th) we have about \$520,000 pledged for next year's budget. While we had very much hoped to be closer to our goal we are grateful to the generous support offered by many of our members and friends. Our leader donors offered more than \$21,000 to create a matching fund pool to induce others to increase their pledges. We are happy to report that other members have raised their pledges by about \$26,000! Thanks to one and all.

So, it would seem we should be \$47,000 ahead of last year's pace. Alas, this is not the case. We have had about a dozen members resign and/or move away. This year several of those moving on were families who were among our larger donors. As a result, as of mid-April we are only \$15,000 ahead of last year's pace. While we are happy to be doing better, please keep in mind that last year was the lowest pledge year in about a decade – and more than \$150,000 below where we were at our peak. This year highlights the fragility of our donor base. Just a few families retiring, moving to a new city, etc. has a dramatic impact on our budget.

We still have a large number of members who have not pledged for the 2011-12 year. If you are one of them, please help us make our goal of \$600,000. Call the UUCP office today (609.924.1604) or email Sara Oderwald at office@uuprinceton.org with your pledge.

With great appreciation for all the work, generosity and effort of the UUCP community.

~Bill Gilmore and Tom Prusa
2011-12 Stewardship Co-Chairs

Board of Trustees

...a few things the Board of Trustees would like you to know.

We had wonderful news in April from the leadership at the Metro New York District of the UUA. Our congregation was chosen to receive the Mendon W. Smith award at the Annual Meeting of our District in Morristown, NJ on May 7th. The family of the late Mendon W. Smith, a former District Treasurer and Finance Chair, sponsors the annual award to a District congregation that has shown outstanding dedication to our UU purposes and principles and to the strengthening of our liberal religious faith. Activities that demonstrate such dedication include leadership development, community outreach, creative programming, and participation in denominational affairs, among others. All congregants are encouraged to attend the award presentation that will take place during the luncheon at the District Meeting. If you wish to attend, please contact Carol Haag for more information.

Calling all members!!!! There will be two Congregational Meetings in coming weeks. Please mark your calendars for these important events. First, a Special Meeting of the Congregation will be held on the final day of the Rev. William Neely's Candidating Week, Sunday, May 22nd, 2011 to follow the single service. This important event is held to hold a congregational vote on calling Rev. Neely as our next Lead Minister. The second meeting will occur two weeks later on Sunday, June 5th, 2011, also immediately following our single worship service. That is our Annual Congregational Meeting. Important agenda items will include approval of our 2011-2012 budget, approval of new Trustees and members of the Nominating Committee, and minor Bylaws revisions. More information will be mailed to all congregants at least two weeks in advance of each of those meetings.

Please also mark you calendars for other important dates coming up soon. There will be an evening of fun and appreciation to honor the service and ministry of the Rev. Chris Reed who retires at the conclusion of

this congregational year. Please plan to attend this festive event on June 4th from 5 to 7 PM at UUCP. More assistance is still needed bring this event about. If you available to lend a hand, please contact Carol Haag. There will also be a festive event to say thank you and good-bye to our Interim Minister, Rev. Meg Barnhouse. This will likely take place on Sunday, July 10th after the service. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

The Board would also like you to know that the leadership of the congregation is focusing strongly right now on issues of transition: the minister and our staff, the RE program, and the budget.

~Jonathan Sachs



SUNDAY MORNING FORUM

Adoptee Rights: A LITTLE KNOWN CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE

WHAT: Congregational Forum about the denial of equal human rights of some seven million American citizens – those who are adopted as children.

- Learn about the discrimination and injustices facing adopted persons in New Jersey and elsewhere in the nation, and What YOU can do to help NJ adoptees!

WHEN: May 8, 2011 from 10:20am – 11:10am

WHERE: John Murray Room

This forum will be presented by UUCP member Mirah Riben who has been researching, writing and speaking about adoption for nearly 40 years. Mirah is author of two books and many articles on adoption and adoptee rights and is preparing a Congregational Study/Action Issue on the issue of equal rights for adopted persons.

~Mirah Riben



SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, June 4
5:00-7:00 p.m.
For Rev. Chris Reed's
Retirement Celebration in
Channing Hall at UUCP
Children are invited!

Green Sanctuary

UUCP Submits Green Sanctuary Application to UUA Ministry for Earth

The Green Sanctuary Committee is pleased to announce an important milestone in UUCP's four-year journey toward Green Sanctuary status. Our application has been submitted to the UUA Ministry for Earth and we are awaiting official accreditation. This is a tribute to the efforts of the committee and a host of other congregation members.

After the congregation approved our pursuit of Green Sanctuary status in April 2008, the committee began to intensify efforts, already under way, to emphasize earth awareness and sustainability in UUCP's services and religious education programs; to address environmental justice issues; and to take steps to reduce our use of energy, water, and other resources in our building and our behaviors.

What We Have Done. Visible signs of the congregation's passion for "green" practices are everywhere, from the solar panels on our roof – which have trimmed our electric bill by about \$7,000 a year – to the energy-saving reminders posted near light switches and air conditioners. During Sunday brunches and other church events, you may have noticed the consistent use of permanent, rather than disposable, dishware and utensils, and the frequent offerings of vegetarian and vegan fare.

In addition, we replaced our old water cooler (which used water delivered by truck in big plastic bottles) with a dispenser that cools and filters local tap water,

relieving the environment of a significant air- and water-pollution burden. An all-volunteer team of congregants upgraded all of the church's 142 fluorescent light fixtures from the old "T-12" type lamps with mechanical ballasts to "T-8" lamps with electronic ballasts, resulting in a big energy and cost savings. And, one of our RE students planted a "rain garden" by our lower parking lot. A sign there explains that the garden captures and treats storm-water runoff from the pavement.

Important Green Sanctuary Committee goals have been to raise awareness of environmental issues and to encourage appropriate lifestyle changes. Between 2008 and 2011, we offered three Earth Day services, including an interfaith service conducted with two other Princeton churches. We held a "Sense of Place" class and sold Fair Trade coffee, reusable gift bags and compact fluorescent bulbs from our Green Sanctuary table in Robinson Lounge. We encouraged congregants to sign up for New Jersey's Clean Power program and to obtain free energy audits from their local utilities. We presented several dozen environmental films in Fahs Theater, and just this March, showed a film to congregants and community members entitled "Gasland," which exposes the pollution associated with natural gas "fracking" near the Delaware River.

We also donated work and money to several ongoing environmental justice activities in a low-income area of Trenton. We helped build homes there with Habitat for Humanity and encouraged the use of energy-conservation devices in those homes.

When Rev. Bill McKibben – now known for his Washington-based nonprofit www.350.org – called for nationwide, and then worldwide, demonstrations to urge legislators to take action against the rising

concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, we participated with "350" demonstrations of our own. Many congregants are now members of the Citizens Climate Lobby and the Million Letter March, and we continue to collect letters for this effort every Sunday at our table in Robinson Lounge.

Our congregation's "Ends" policies now include a focus on sustainability.

Our application to the UUA asserts that we are an increasingly environmentally aware congregation, and that we are continuing to evolve in that direction. We have told the UUA: "Even while we await accreditation, we affirm that we already are a Green Sanctuary."

What's Next. Going forward, we intend to make our building even more energy efficient, and to investigate the possibility of creating a "green roof" on the flat roof above our downstairs classrooms. We are also considering additional educational programs in the areas of ethical eating and environmental justice.

We will let you know when we receive official Green Sanctuary accreditation and hope that we can all celebrate together. In the meantime, wish us luck!

- Ellie Whitney, Henry Powsner, Ray Nichols, and
Rev. Chris Reed



Grace Notes

Sunday Serenades

Sunday, May 1, 3:00pm *Voices of the Feminine**

UUCP Music Ministry Spring Concert

Our combined UUCP ensembles and special guests will present music by female composers of all ages and styles. Included will be music by such composers as Hildegard von Bingen, Fanny Mendelssohn, and Lili Boulanger, and contemporary composers Alice Parker and Joan Szymko. Our Composer-in-Residence Kiya Heartwood will present a new 3-movement work commissioned for this event entitled "A Balance of Earth and Sky." This evocative piece uses ancient and contemporary chant elements woven into a haunting and uplifting tapestry of sound.

*This concert will be a benefit for **Womanspace, Inc.**, a nonprofit agency in Mercer County that provides a comprehensive array of services to individuals and families impacted by domestic and sexual violence and dedicated to improving the quality of life for women and their families. Representatives from the organization will join us for this inspiring salute to women in music.

NEW!! Tickets can now be ordered online. Go to www.ticketriver.com and search for the title of the event, Tickets will also be available at the door, or can be reserved by calling Marjorie at 609-924-1604, ext. 16. \$15 General Admission; \$12 for students.

Music Ministry Ensembles Encourage Your Participation

Adult Choir. There's always room for *your* voice. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm til 9:00pm. Singers of all stripes are welcome. Come try it some Wednesday evening – no obligation!

Bell Choir. Our new third octave means that more ringers are needed. Rehearsals are generally every other Thursday. Previous ringing experience and rudimentary knowledge of music reading are pluses, but not essential.

Kids Chorale. We'd love to welcome your child(ren) to the ranks of the Kids' Chorale this season. Please contact Marjorie to determine when in the calendar would be best for your child to get on board.

For all information on joining our ensembles, contact **Marjorie Herman** at marjmime@optonline.net, or call Marjorie at 609-924-1604, ext. 16.

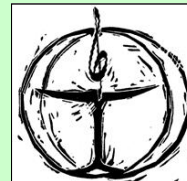
Wanted: Recorder players to form a small ensemble to play for one service every 6 months. If interested, contact **Buzz Herman** at: maestro2@optonline.net, or 609-273-6869.

MAY HYMN OF THE MONTH

Our "Hymn of the Month," is No. 83: *Winds Be Still*. Composer Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876) was the grandson of Charles Wesley, a British Methodist evangelist and prolific hymn. This tune was written as part of a longer anthem. The text is by Richard S. Kimball, (b. 1934), a writer, editor, photographer, teacher, and a congregant at the Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church in Portland, Maine.

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.



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.

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. All items will be reviewed by the Pastoral Associate leadership team before publishing (Jon Krejci, Elizabeth Silverman, and Rev. Chris Reed)

Pat Lange wants everyone to know that she has had her last treatment, is in remission and is on the mend. She especially wants to thank everyone for the care and love extended to her during her treatment. She misses the companionship of the congregation, so would welcome a visit or call.

Many thanks to **Melissa Harris-Perry** and **Diana Grey, Forrest and Jill Gilmore!** Melissa and Diana donated a Paul Sargent painting to the Spring Sale a few years ago. Forrest took it to Jill's dad, Stephen Miller, who arranged for a gallery in Bloomington to show it. The painting sold for \$1490, benefitting UUCP social outreach.

Congratulations to **Forrest Gilmore** for his recent appointment as the Director of the Shalom Community Center in Bloomington, Indiana. We send out best wishes to Forrest, Jill, Hannah and Noah.



SPRING SALE
May 14



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
<p>MAY 1—TWO Services—9:15 & 11:15 Brunch: Partner Church RE Sunday and Passages 10:30a-11:10a Budget Forum—Channing 10:35a-11:10a Kids' Chorale—Room 2 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:30p Newcomers' Circle—Murray 1:00p Meditation & Discussion Group—Room 1 3:00p Sunday Serenades "Voices of the Feminine"—Channing Hall</p>	<p>MAY 2 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders 7:00p-9:00p Immigration Study Group—Room 7 7:30p Covenant Circle (1st Mon) - Murray</p>	<p>MAY 3 Spring Sale Preparation Donations Accepted from 4—7 p.m. 7:00p-10:00p Board of Trustees meeting—Rev. Barnhouse's Office</p>	<p>MAY 4 7:00p-9:00p Covenant Circle (1st Wed) - Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>MAY 5 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 7:00p-9:00p Covenant Circle (1st Thur) - Murray</p>	<p>MAY 6 10:00a Women's Alliance Board Mtg—Founders</p>	<p>MAY 7 9:00a Exploring UU for Newcomers—Founders</p>
<p>MAY 8—TWO Services—9:15 & 11:15 10:20a-11:10a Forum: Adoptee Rights—Murray 10:35a-11:10a Kids' Chorale—Room 2 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:30p RE Council Meeting—Rev. Reed's office 1:00p Meditation & Discussion Group—Room 1</p> <p>Spring Sale Preparation begins after second service—Donations Accepted from 1-6 p.m.</p>	<p>MAY 9 Spring Sale Preparation Donations Accepted from 4—7 p.m.</p>	<p>MAY 10 Spring Sale Preparation Donations Accepted from 4—7 p.m.</p>	<p>MAY 11 Spring Sale Preparation Donations Accepted from 4—7 p.m.</p>	<p>MAY 12 Spring Sale Preparation Donations Accepted from 4-7 p.m.</p>	<p>MAY 13 Spring Sale Preparation No Donations Accepted Today</p>	<p>MAY 14 9:00a— 2:00p SPRING SALE</p>
<p>MAY 15—TWO Services—9:15 & 11:15 Candidating Week 10:35a-11:10a Kids' Chorale—Room 2 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8 1:00p Great Books Circle—Room 7 1:00p Meditation & Discussion Group—Room 1</p>	<p>MAY 16 Candidating Week 5:00p Skylights JUNE 2011 ISSUE DEADLINE skylights@uuprinceton.org</p>	<p>MAY 17 Candidating Week 1:00p-2:30p OFFICE STAFF MEETING—Office closed from 1:00-2:30pm 7:00p-9:00p Committee on Ministry (3rd Tue) - Murray Room</p>	<p>MAY 18 Candidating Week 10:30a Sages—Murray 7:15p-9:00p Membership Committee (3rd Wed)—Murray 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>MAY 19 Candidating Week 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 11:45a Women's Alliance Luncheon Meeting—Founders 7:00-9:00p Circle Leaders' Meeting—Murray</p>	<p>MAY 20 Candidating Week 7:00p—CUUPS Full Moon Circle—Room 1 & Outside</p>	<p>MAY 21 8:30a Program Council—Murray 5:30p All Congregation Candidate Celebration!! - Channing</p>
<p>MAY 22—ONE Service—10:00 Last Day of RE Classes 10:30p-Congregational Vote for Candidate Rev. Bill Neely—Channing 10:35a-11:10a Kids' Chorale—Room 2 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8</p>	<p>MAY 23 7:00p-9:00p Ministerial Search Committee—Founders</p>	<p>MAY 24 7:00p-9:00p Leadership Council (4th Tues) - Murray Room 7:30p-9:00p Gender Bias Book Discussion Group—Founders</p>	<p>MAY 25 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>MAY 26 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 7:30-9:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>MAY 27</p>	<p>MAY 28</p>
<p>MAY 29—ONE Service—10:00 10:35a-11:05a Kids' Chorale—Room 2 11:15a -12:20p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 1:00p Meditation & Discussion Group—Room 1</p>	<p>MAY 30 Office Closed in observance of Memorial Day </p>	<p>MAY 31 7:30p-8:30p Adoptee Rights Presentation—Fabs Theatre</p>	<p>JUN 1 7:00p-9:00p Covenant Circle (1st Wed) - Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>JUN 2 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 7:00p-9:00p Covenant Circle (1st Thur) - Murray 7:30-9:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal—Channing Hall</p>	<p>JUN 3</p>	<p>JUN 4 4:00p—Rev. Chris Reed's Retirement Celebration—Channing</p>

View the current calendar online at:

www.uuprinceton.org

MAY 2011

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Skylights
 Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton
 50 Cherry Hill Road
 Princeton, NJ 08540-7626



Names & Numbers

Rev. Christine F. Reed
[reed @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:reed@uuprinceton.org)
 Co-minister ext. **12**

Rev. Meg Barnhouse
[barnhouse @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:barnhouse@uuprinceton.org)
 Interim Minister ext. **11**

Marjorie Herman
[marjmuse @ optonline.net](mailto:marjmuse@optonline.net)
 Music Director ext. **16**

Shelle Sumners
[sumners @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:sumners@uuprinceton.org)
 RE Coordinator ext. **14**

Pia O'Loughlin
[ypc @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:ypc@uuprinceton.org)
 Youth Programs Coordinator
 ext. **18**

Pia O'Loughlin
[officeassistant @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:officeassistant@uuprinceton.org)
 Office Assistant ext. **15**

Jorge Garcia Salas
[garcia @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:garcia@uuprinceton.org)
 Sexton ext. **19**

Sara Oderwald
[office @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:office@uuprinceton.org)
 Administrator ext. **10**

Office Hours:
 Monday - Friday,
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Phone: **609-924-1604**
 FAX: 609-924-0533

e-mail:
[office @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:office@uuprinceton.org)

Web page:
<http://www.uuprinceton.org>

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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.

Ministers' Schedules

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

~ **Meg** ~

Noon – 5:00 p.m.

Tues through Thurs

Day off: Monday

Study day: Friday

~ **Chris** ~

Mon Noon – 5:00 p.m.
Tues & Thurs 10:30 a.m.
—3:30 p.m.

Day off: WEDNESDAY

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)

**Next Skylights
 deadline:
 JUNE ISSUE
 SUBMISSIONS DUE
 MAY 16**
[skylights @ uuprinceton.org](mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org)