



# Skylights newsletter

## Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

**Jan 21  
Fellowship  
Auction**

**January 1, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.**

***Resolved (An All Ages Service)***

How shall we begin this year and live more fully during it? Through the ritual of making resolutions, we'll consider the spirit in which we'd like to live our days, the commitments we'd like to make and grow, and the communities we'd like to hold and bless.

Worship Leader: **Rev. Bill Neely**    Worship Associate: **Chris Sturm**

Music: **Brandon Waddles**

**January 8, 2012 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.**

***Whole and Holy***

How are we broken, and how are we whole? How do these experiences speak to each other? Reflecting on this month's spiritual theme of *wholeness*, this service will explore what it means to be whole and holy in our lives, congregation, and community.

Worship Leader: **Rev. Bill Neely**    Worship Associate: **Drake Baer**

Music: **Beth Ertz—piano, John Bachalis—clarinet, Marjorie Herman**

**January 15, 2012 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.**

***King's Living Challenge***

The King that comforts us is often the inspired orator of the 1963 *I Have a Dream* speech. But today's prophetic King challenges us about the realities of racism, classism, war, and poverty. On Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, let's not seek to be comforted by yesterday's dream, but challenged by today's demands.

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

Music: **Adult Choir, Brandon Waddles—piano, Marjorie Herman**

**January 22, 2012 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.**

***E Pluribus Unum***

The debate over immigration in America brings to the surface questions of privilege, class, and how we treat one another. Putting policy aside, how do we talk about immigration debate in honest, compassionate, and respectful ways?

Worship Leader: **Rev. Bill Neely**    Worship Associate: **Drake Baer**

Music: **Herb Foster—horn, Brandon Waddles—piano, Marjorie Herman**

**January 29, 2012 at 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.**

***Alleluia: All Music Sunday***

Our annual Music Sunday will include folk songs from all across the globe as well as Classical and Blues settings. Jazz singer Doris Spears will sing Leonard Cohen's poignant "Hallelujah," and former and current accompanists Beth Ertz and Brandon Waddles will play a surprise duet. The Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and Kids' Chorale will offer their contributions, and, of course, the congregation will raise its collective voice in song.

Guest Worship Leaders: **Marjorie Herman and the UU Princeton Music Ministry Program**

Worship Associate: **Stephanie Hanzel Cohen**

Music: **Adult Choir, Kids' Chorale, Bell Choir, Brandon Waddles, Marjorie Herman and special guests**

## *The Good News* *Reverend Bill Neely*

In a November 2011 column on UUWorld.org, Victoria Safford asks, “Are You a Wretch?” She is referring to the odd way in which we include the famous hymn *Amazing Grace* in our hymnal. The first line is traditionally, “Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!” Yet in our version, we’ve placed an asterisk by “wretch” that leads the singer to the footnote: \*or “soul.” When singing, one can be a “wretch” or a “soul.” One assumes that “wretch” is objectionable to some, and so an easier phrase, “soul,” is offered to make the hymn more palatable. Rev. Safford writes, “I know of no other hymnal in print that virtually stops the singing in mid-measure to poll the congregation, to call for a theological debate within the mind and heart of every singer.”

Victoria reminds me that engaging in a theological debate is the last thing that

I want to be doing in the middle of a hymn during a church service. I’d rather our words rise together and as one, knowing that in our hearts they mean something different to everyone present. Alfred North Whitehead, a great modern philosopher and theologian, once defined “beauty” as unity coming from diversity. That’s what happens when we sing together: our many voices find a state of unity, and the result, regardless of how it sounds, is beautiful. The words we sing are important, but not nearly as important as the sacramental act of our voices coming together to create the beauty of our shared worship experience.

But if I must choose, as our hymnal asks us, I’ll be honest: I’m a wretch. Yes, I have a soul, but I’m a wretch saved and held by a grace that is amazing every day. The greatest blessings of life often escape my notice. I can be impatient, judgmental, and

prideful. Driving on a beautiful day, I’ll curse the traffic instead of enjoying the clean air. I sometimes crave excess when sustenance is plenty. And yet here I am: blessed with life and love. Each day gives me the opportunity to move toward right relationship with the world. Each year helps me see a little more of the beloved community. Each breath gifts me with the chance to be, and to be among people I trust and love. And I did nothing to earn any of this.

Acknowledging my inner wretch only enhances my gratitude for how deep and wide the blessings of life really are. Acknowledging wretchedness allows me to move away from it.

I’m a wretch, and yet I’m loved, held, and sustained anyway by people I know and presences I’d like to. Grace is amazing, indeed.

**“Community of Gifts Workshop”** – UU congregations have been described as “communities of gifts.” In our congregation, we want to encourage everyone to explore and nurture their talents and passions, and to find ways of deepening and developing these gifts at the same time as they contribute to the life and energy of the whole community. We invite all members, friends and newcomers to attend a special workshop where participants will be able to identify their unique gifts and interests and find ways of living these out in the context of the congregation. What are the different volunteer, ministry and leadership opportunities at UUCP that call to you? How can you find ways of feeling more connected to this community? Please join us at our first “Community of Gifts” Workshop on Sunday, January 29, after the second service (12:45 – 1:45). Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP: by e-mail to **Diana Davies** at [dkalid64@gmail.com](mailto:dkalid64@gmail.com); or sign up in Robinson Lounge on Sundays.



## UU Princeton's January Theme

Each month in worship, music, small group ministry, and religious education, we explore a common spiritual theme with each other. We do this to grow together as a congregation that engages the important questions of life in respectful, diverse, and inspiring ways. We build community and deepen ourselves by considering, together, the central spiritual themes of our lives. This month's spiritual theme is *Wholeness*.

As you think about Wholeness, consider these quotations and reflective questions. Try building a daily spiritual practice around each set by returning to the quotations and questions for a few moments each day and letting them drift into your deeper self. With each set, each day, try this practice:

- \*Be still for a few moments,
- \*Read a quotation and question,
- \*Read them again,
- \*For a minute or two, close your eyes and notice the words and thoughts that come to you,
- \*Write those words and thoughts down. See how they change, or don't, from day to day.

### *Wholeness*

Week 1 - "I find I am constantly being encouraged to pluck out some one aspect of myself and present this as the meaningful whole, eclipsing or denying the other parts of self." Audre Lorde

Which part of my whole self do I often deny?

Week 2 - "A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. One experiences one's self, one's thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." Albert Einstein, adapted

For whom must my circle of compassion be widened?

Week 3 - "When we drop fear, we can draw nearer to people, we can draw nearer to the earth, we can draw nearer to all the heavenly creatures that surround us." bell hooks

What fear can I let go of, allowing me to draw nearer to larger life?

Week 4 - "I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I'm a human being, first and foremost, and as such I'm for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole" Malcolm X

In my life, who lived or lives in such a way as to benefit humanity as a whole?

*Rev. Neely*

# Religious Education for Children and Youth

**THE NEW YEAR**  
 Several major festivals are now behind us and, after all the joyful celebration, the next 10 weeks of slushy, icy winter can feel dark and dreary. But already, a few days after the Winter Solstice has passed, you may begin to notice that the days begin to lengthen bit by bit. Under their snowy blanket, the seeds and bulbs are waiting, waiting for that perfect moment to burst forth into colorful bloom.  
 The new year can be a time to reflect on what has been, but also look forward in anticipation of new possibilities. The ancient Roman god, Janus, was the god of gates and doorways. He had two faces, with an eye on past and future, beginnings and endings.  
 Take a moment now and consider: what can be new this year? What is possible? Is there one thing I'd like to do differently for my self, for my family? Not grand resolutions that are doomed to fail, but just one little thing, a positive change. Decide to sit down together for a family meal once a week. Decide to make room for a bedtime story and snuggle. Decide to listen, listen, listen without judgment to your teen who is going through the transition to adulthood. One little change, it matters. Can you feel it? The light is beginning to grow.....  
 ~Lorraine Shiarappa



## Children's Worship & Religious Education Schedule

**Sunday, January 1**  
*New Year's Day*  
**No RE Today**  
 Families are encouraged to worship together in Channing 10:00 a.m. Channing Hall

**Sunday, January 8**  
*Theme of the Month: Wholeness*  
 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Fahs Theatre

**Sunday, January 15**  
*Martin Luther King*  
 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Fahs Theatre

**Sunday, January 22**  
*Theme of the Month: Wholeness*  
 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Fahs Theatre

**Sunday, January 29**  
*Theme of the Month: Wholeness*  
 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Fahs Theatre

If you have any questions, call **Lorraine Shiarappa** (609-924-1604, ext. 14) [lorraine@uuprinceton.org](mailto:lorraine@uuprinceton.org)



## YOUTH MINISTRY

Happy New Year  
 Happy New Year  
 Happy New Year

## JANUARY 2012 YOUTH

Just about Every Sunday Morning	Morning Youth Group in Room 15, unless otherwise noted	11:15—12:30p
01/01	New Year's Day - No Youth Group	No YG
01/08	Youth Leadership &/or fundraising	10:15 – 11:00a
01/08	Youth Group	11:15 – 12:30p
01/15	Youth Leadership Meeting	10:15 – 11:00a
01/15	Youth Group	11:15 – 12:30p
01/22	Youth Leadership Meeting	10:15 – 11:00a
01/22	Youth Group	11:15 – 12:30p
01/29	Youth Leadership Meeting	10:15 – 11:00a
01/29	Youth Group	11:15 – 12:30p

Please contact **Pia O'Loughlin** via e-mail: [ypc@uuprinceton.org](mailto:ypc@uuprinceton.org)

## 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' EVENTS

#### Exploring Unitarian Universalism Workshop and Series

For those curious about Unitarian Universalism, or those considering membership in the congregation, we invite you to attend one of our newcomers' workshops, called Exploring Unitarian Universalism (UU). This workshop provides a basic introduction to our faith, beliefs, and congregation. There will also be a tour of the building and plenty of question and answer time. Best of all – you'll get to meet other people curious about Unitarian Universalism, as well as several of the people on our Welcoming Team. Most sessions are led by Rev. Bill.

#### Exploring UU comes in two formats:

On Saturday, **February 4** we will offer a *one-session workshop* from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. If interested please sign up at the Welcome Circle, or call **Marty Akers** at 609-737-3948, or e-mail [welcome@uuprinceton.org](mailto:welcome@uuprinceton.org)

We will offer *three 1-hour sessions* from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Sundays **February 19, 26, and March 4**. We invite participants to grab something to eat at the Sunday brunch and bring it to the session. More information is available at the Welcome Circle after worship each week.

**Wine\* and Cheese Open House for Newcomers** - On occasional Sundays from 4:00 to 6:00 pm (about once every other month). Children are welcome but there are no planned activities. **Next date: Sunday, January 22.** \*Non-alcoholic beverages will also be served. Sign up at the Welcome table or call **Marty Akers** at 609-737-3948.

#### 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. Bill Neely** at 609-924-1604 ext 11 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 **Rev. Bill Neely** at [bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org), 609-924-1604, ext. 11 if you are interested in joining a Covenant Circle.

### NEW PROGRAMS

#### SoulCollage® Workshop

**Sunday, January 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Founders Room**

An introductory SoulCollage® workshop will be held on Sunday, January 22, from 2-6pm in the Founders Room. If you've been curious about SoulCollage® and want to give it a try, this is your chance! SoulCollage® is a great way to learn about yourself, and to access the "still, small voice" Rev. Neely has talked about, in a supportive, creative environment. You'll create collage cards that reflect your unique personality, or Soul, and learn how

*(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. Bill Neely**, [bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org).

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these cards can help you unlock your own deep wisdom. SoulCollage® is a practice, not a one-time event, and there are ongoing opportunities to make and read cards together; you determine your own level of participation. SoulCollage® is offered through the Adult RE program and there is no cost; supplies will be provided, though magazine/calendar contributions are always welcome! For more information and to see sample cards, speak to Nancy Norbeck ([nancy@nancynorbeck.com](mailto:nancy@nancynorbeck.com)), or visit her website, [nancynorbeck.com](http://nancynorbeck.com). (Workshop size is limited, so please email Nancy if you would like to attend.)

## **Y**ounger Adults Core

### **Next Date To Be Announced**

Anyone 18-and-over who relates to the phrase “Younger Adults Core” is welcome! It will be what we make it: come be the WE. Child Care available upon request RSVP, so we know the number of folk for whom to plan brunch. [Craig@UUPrinceton.org](mailto:Craig@UUPrinceton.org)

## **Y**oga and the New year, Reflection on Wholeness

### **January 23, 6-8 pm in the John Murray Room**

The UUCP community is invited to set some time aside Monday evening, January 23, for a gentle yoga practice as we reflect on the New Year and Wholeness. No yoga experience is necessary. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, January 18, as a minimum of five people are needed for the class to take place – please e-mail **Shannon Neely** at [shannonneely@yahoo.com](mailto:shannonneely@yahoo.com) to sign up, or if you have any questions.

## **ONGOING PROGRAMS**

### **B**uddhist Meditation Group

#### **1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays: January 1, 15 & 29 at 1:00 in Room 1 (downstairs)**

When there are two services we meet at 1:00 pm. When there is one service, we meet at 11:30 am.

We are trying to incorporate meditation into our daily living. Those of us who have had even a taste of this practice know the simple act of sitting quietly together can create a greater sense of peace. Yet, even knowing its benefits, many of us struggle to make this practice part of our lives.

Our meetings combine a period of meditation with a time to examine and discuss our responses to Buddhist teachings.

Lately, we have drawn on short readings from Pema Chodrun's "Comfortable With Uncertainty" to learn more about Buddhist perspectives and to focus our discussion.

We do have copies of the Chodrun book to share, and it can also be found in the UUCP bookstore in Robinson Lounge.

If you are interested in exploring these ideas and practices, do join us. If you have questions about the group or want to be certain about the time of our meetings as the

congregation schedule changes, contact **Michele Ochsner** [mochsner@work.rutgers.edu](mailto:mochsner@work.rutgers.edu) 609-924-1166; **Dana Powsner** [danapowsner@comcast.net](mailto:danapowsner@comcast.net) 609-924-5891; or **Henry Powsner** [powsner@comcast.net](mailto:powsner@comcast.net) 609-924-5891.

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

**Thursdays 9:15—10:30 a.m. in the Founders Room**

**Cost: Donation to UUCP Yoga Fund accepted**

Yoga for health, well-being and peace of mind Thursdays 9:15—10:30 a.m. in the Founders Room (\*please note, the Tuesday morning sessions have been canceled\*)

Come join Sharon on Thursday mornings for Yoga and take time out of your hectic life to re-center, rejuvenate, and nourish your body, mind and soul. The class will be slightly more fluid, using the breath to take us through Sun Salutations as well as static poses to deepen our practice.

Please join us in class to supplement your home practice.

For more information, see the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays.

## **A**ging and Saging

**Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, January 11 & 25 at 10:30a-Noon, in the John Murray Room.**

The Aging and Saging Group will meet on Wednesday, November 30 at 10:30 AM in the Murray Room. All are welcome and new members are encouraged to join the group. We will continue discussion of contemporary Unitarian Universalism. A source of inspiration for this discussion is the current issue of UU WORLD, the cover article entitled "Faith in Our Future." The article contains six essays based on presentations by ministers at a UUA 50th anniversary symposium in Boston last year. The Aging and Saging group will also meet Wednesday, December 14.

~Carol Allen [carolkallen@msn.com](mailto:carolkallen@msn.com).

## **G**reat Books Reading Circle

**Second Sundays at 1:00 pm in Room 7  
Next date: January 8**

Come and discuss *The Alchemist* by Brazilian author Paul Coelho.

“Before the publication of *The Alchemist*, Paulo Coelho worked as a theater director, playwright, and songwriter for some of Brazil’s most popular singers. In 1986, he walked the Road of Santiago, an ancient

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**Community Building**

(Adult Programs continued from page 6)

Spanish pilgrimage, and this experience inspired *The Pilgrimage*, his first novel, and *The Alchemist*, whose protagonist takes his name from the road. When *The Alchemist* was published in 1988, it was an instant international bestseller, and reached the #1 slot on bestseller lists in 29 countries. Paulo Coelho became one of the most widely read contemporary authors.

*The Alchemist* tells the story of Santiago, the young Andalusian shepherd who dreams of buried treasure in Egypt and embarks upon a challenging and enlightening journey to find it. With all the simplicity and symbolic richness of a fable, Paulo Coelho's novel is both a hunt for buried treasure and a spiritual quest, with a hero who overcomes trials along the way with the help of disguised teachers who guide him." – from the publisher,

Intrigued by this novel of spirituality? Join us. For more information or questions, contact Karen Siracusa at [kn.siracusa@att.net](mailto:kn.siracusa@att.net) or 918-1016

**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](mailto:likelystories@yahoo.com)) or **Elissa** ([atsilvgvhe@gmail.com](mailto:atsilvgvhe@gmail.com)).

**A Course in Miracles**

**Sundays 11:15 am—12:30 pm in Room 8**

**January 1** The Course in Miracles study group will not meet today.

**January 8** We continue our review lessons in the Workbook for Students with lesson 217 which is a review of lesson 197. "It can be but gratitude I learn. Deny your strength, and

weakness becomes salvation to you. The world must thank you when you offer it release from your illusions."

**January 15** Review Lesson 218 "My condemnation keeps my vision dark," which is a review of lesson 198 "only my condemnation injures me."

**January 22** Review Lesson 218 "My condemnation keeps my vision dark," which reviews lesson 199 "I am not a body. I am free."

**January 29** We finish or reviews today with Review lesson 220 "Let me not wander from the way of peace," which is a review of lesson 200 "There is no peace except the peace of God."

All are welcome to join the group at any time and partake of our interesting and informative discussions.

~Hil Anderson

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 Interfaith Martin Luther King Day Community Worship Service sponsored by Princeton Pastors Association on Monday evening **January 16**, Mt. Pisgah AME Church at 7:00 p.m. ~Carol Allen



**WOMEN'S ALLIANCE**

**Women's Alliance** will meet Thursday, January 19, for luncheon and a program by **Hil Anderson** who will discuss "*Oneness*", the idea that science and religion, contrary to popular thought, are actually reconciling their differences.

Luncheon will be in the Founders Room at noon and the program will begin at 1:00. Please bring a sandwich to share. Soup, dessert and beverages are provided. All are welcome. ~Mary Ascher

**MEN'S CLUB**

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month, October through April. It is a luncheon and discussion format, beginning at noontime with a delicious meal prepared by long time chef and club sponsor, **Roger Hoff**, served at around 12:30. Contact **Bob Flora** for more information, 908-874-0789 or [robertf481@aol.com](mailto:robertf481@aol.com)

**UU CONNECTIONS**

Let us reorganize the UU Connections Committee. Meet in the brunch room between services Sunday, January 8 to plan our campaign for good 2012 participation in UUA General Assembly (Phoenix - late June) and Metro New York District meeting (Morristown - early May) and also in UU camps and conferences.

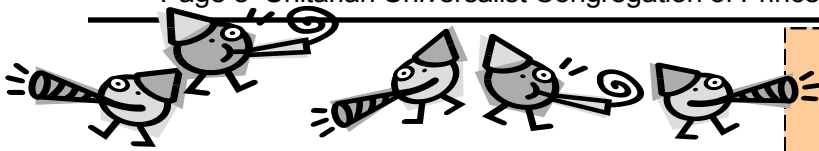
**TROOPS COMING HOME**

Celebrate the end of the Iraq War at a gathering at UUCP on Thursday, December 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. All are welcome.

**COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY SERVICES**

Join in a cherished UU tradition and enjoy a cup of your favorite hot beverage after each Sunday service. Volunteers to help with set up and clean up are appreciated.

~Carol Allen, UU Connections



### FELLOWSHIP AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 5:30 – 8:00 PM

Fun for Adults: Eat, drink, bid, eat, drink, bid – Win!

Fun for Children: Movies, Crafts, Face painting!

Sign up on Sundays in January in Robinson Lounge or email [events@uuprinton.org](mailto:events@uuprinton.org)

Please be sure to include the number of adults and ages of children attending

Suggested admission donation - \$5 adults, \$3 children

The Fellowship Auction is a fun, intergenerational, community-building event, where we share our services, talents, art and other goodies with each other through bidding. It's a fun way to get to know each other better, both at the auction and when you cash in on your winnings. During the evening we will have great food, wine and beer, music and, of course, FELLOWSHIP!

All the money raised goes to support the important activities of UUCP but we can only raise the money we need IF YOU COME TO THE AUCTION! We've scheduled it early and planned a great children's program, so bring them!

If you can't come, donate your admission and ask us to do some proxy bidding for you! Send a check to UUCP with "Fellowship Auction" in the memo.

For more info check out 'Events' at [www.uuprinceton.org](http://www.uuprinceton.org) or Laurie Powsner [lrpjak@gmail.com](mailto:lrpjak@gmail.com)

**The Fellowship Auction is for a great cause, and it's great fun!**

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



### 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.

### FELLOWSHIP AUCTION ITEM DONATION FORM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>,  
5:30 – 8:00 PM

Fun for Adults: Eat, drink, bid, eat, drink, bid – Win!  
Fun for Children: Movies, Crafts, Face painting!

We need your donations, check the ideas list below.  
**Please fill this in and put in auction mailbox or email to [lrpjak@gmail.com](mailto:lrpjak@gmail.com)**

WHAT \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOW MANY PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

DAY, DATE AND TIME \_\_\_\_\_

MINIMUM BID \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### Ideas:

- Pet sitting
- Themed dinner
- Ladies' night out
- Rides to the airport
- Host a pot-luck dinner
- Cooking or yoga lessons
- Bike ride and picnic lunch
- Take kids to a movie or bowling
- A handmade quilt or work of art
- Theatre tickets or museum passes
- A collection of theme-related DVDs
- A gift certificate to a store or restaurant
- Teach a group of kids to cook something
- Gift certificates to movies or theme parks
- Help in the garden or with household tasks
- Gift certificates to coffee or ice cream stores
- Bake a dessert to sell the night of the auction
- Invite a group over for swimming and a BB-Q
- Take another family camping or to a museum
- A tour of a local public garden or historical area
- Host a game night at your home or at the church
- A week or weekend in your vacation house/condo

## Grace Notes

**Call for Wind and Brass Players.** Our annual “Hanging of the Greens” service is Dec. 18, and we’d love to have new wind and brass players in our Oompah Band. The OB adds a decidedly festive flair of this service. If interested, contact Herb Foster, [Herb\\_foster@yahoo.com](mailto:Herb_foster@yahoo.com).

### **ALL MUSIC SUNDAY, new date**

Our annual service of music has been rescheduled for Sunday, Jan. 29. Called “Alleluia: A World of Expressions” the service will include this powerful word and its many incarnations in folk songs from all across the globe, as well as Classical and blues settings. Our friend, jazz singer Doris Spears will be our guest singing Leonard Cohen’s poignant “Hallelujah,” and our beloved Beth Ertz will return to join Brandon Waddles in a duet. The Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and Kids’ Chorale will offer their contributions, and, of course, the congregation will raise its collective voice in song.

### **Music Ministry Ensembles**

**Adult Choir.** There’s still room for all interested. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm til 9:00pm. *Singers of all stripes are welcome!* We’ll be working toward our Martin Luther King, Jr. services on Jan. 15, featuring a new composition by our own Brandon Waddles, AND our Jan. 29 ALL MUSIC SUNDAY, when all the ensembles will combine in “Alleluia: A World of Expressions,” featuring music from many styles and cultures.

**Kids Chorale.** We’d love to welcome your child(ren) to the ranks of the Kids’ Chorale. The Kids’ rehearse on Sundays between services in Room 2. If you think your child(ren) would be interested, you can bring them to our first rehearsal of the new year, Jan. 22.

For all information on joining our ensembles, contact Marjorie at [marjmuse@optonline.net](mailto:marjmuse@optonline.net), or call Marjorie at 609-924-1604, ext. 16.

**Sunday Serenades Spring 2012** Here’s our 2012 line-up. Mark your calendars NOW!! NEW!! You can now order tickets online at [www.ticketriver.com](http://www.ticketriver.com).

### **Sunday, February 19, 3:00pm *A Tale of Two Cities***

On the program will be music of Edward Elgar, Frank Bridge, and Claude Debussy. This enchanting concert will be performed by the Amabile String Quartet. Comprised of four of the area’s finest string players, Amabile will transport you to the music of London and Paris with beauty, relish and sophistication.

### **Saturday, March 24, 8:00pm *On a Song as a Prayer***

Poignantly illustrating the famous quote by St. Augustine, “To sing is to pray twice,” Craig Rubano and Beth Ertz come together again in a program called *On a Song as a Prayer*. The duo will gift us with songs that illuminate the

## JANUARY HYMN OF THE MONTH

For January I’ve chosen No. 1032, our first Arabic Hymn of the Month. The words are by Samir Badri, who was born in Baghdad, Iraq. He is Muslim and is married with four children. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and is currently a Software Engineer and Professor. He and his family currently reside in Arizona. Composer Ted Warmbrand. Ted is a Jew, has been singing writing and collecting songs since he was a child growing up in a multicultural center of the world, the Bronx, NY. After settling with his family in Tucson during the 70’s he participated in local efforts there as an organizer most visibly contributing original and collected music.

power of melody and word to affect healing. Note that this concert is on *Saturday* evening, Mar. 24.

### **Sunday, April 29, 3:00pm *The Prophets Speak***

This year’s UUCP Music Ministry Spring Concert will include settings of sages throughout history, including St. Francis of Assisi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Teresa, Hildegard of Bingen, and Julian of Norwich. The combined UUCP ensembles and special guests will present music that will lift your spirit, including a newly commissioned work by our **Composer-in-Residence**, Brandon Waddles.

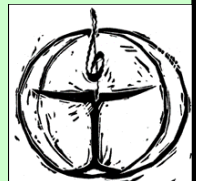
Don’t forget that you can order tickets by going to [www.ticketriver.com](http://www.ticketriver.com), and searching for the event. Or you can always buy tickets at the door.

### **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 for a “Serenade” in exchange for free admission, to name one. 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.



## Board of Trustees

### *What's Your Vision for UUCP?*

A Mission Statement is a simple and clear expression of a congregation's active ministries in the world. The Mission Statement answers the question: *for what purpose does our congregation exist?* Whether you have been part of this congregation for a few months or many decades, every congregant's thoughts are important as we revisit and brainstorm about our Mission Statement over the next few months.

Our current Mission Covenant was created in 2004, and the UUA recommends that congregations revisit their Mission every five to seven years. With the arrival of our new minister, Rev. Bill Neely, and the addition of many new friends and members to UUCP, it is time to come together to reflect on our current ministries and our aspirations about what we hope to accomplish as a community. Our new mission statement will be meaningful only to the extent that it reflects the goals that we commit to as a community. We hope to engage the entire congregation in shaping the next UUCP Mission.

We have extended our cottage (small group) meeting process into January:

❖ **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**, 11 Gulick Lane, Plainsboro, Rona & Rob Henry hosts (609-716-9557/rhenry@rwjf.org)

❖ **Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**, 12:45 – 2:45, Princeton (here at UUCP), Peter Macholdt host, (609-466-2127 - H, 609-439-3235-cell/ pmacholdt@schererclin.com)

❖ **Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**, 7-9 pm, 219 Greeley St., Hightstown, Bill Gilmore and Karen Kent hosts (609-443-8039/gilmorewb1@gmail.com)

❖ **Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, 63 Deer Path, Princeton, Michele Ochsner and Terry Lyons hosts (609-924-1166; mochsner@work.rutgers.edu)

Rev. Bill Neely will be facilitating these meetings. In addition to being a critical part of the Mission Statement creation process, cottage meetings are a great way to get to know fellow members of UUCP. *For more information about the Mission Statement process, see information below.*

Sign-up sheets are available in Robinson Lounge. To sign up by email, send a note to [events@uuprinceton.org](mailto:events@uuprinceton.org). If you are signing up at the last minute—please contact the host for that meeting directly.

*What does a Mission Statement look like?*

An effective Mission Statement should be short – something that captures a vision in one sentence or a few phrases so that it is easy to recite and integrate throughout the life of the congregation. You can find examples of Mission Statements from other UU congregations posted in the Lounge.

### *Why are we doing this now?*

UU congregations tend to re-evaluate their mission statements every 5 to 7 years to ensure that the Mission Statement fully reflects their priorities. Our mission covenant, which you can also find posted in the Lounge, has served us well. It will be a good basis from which to develop our future Mission Statement.

### *What is the process for creating a new Mission Statement?*

Sunday morning forums, Board Chats, and social media will all play an important role in this process, but one of the best ways to be sure that all voices can be heard is through cottage meetings. Our hope is to offer our new mission statement for a congregational vote in early 2012.

### *What is a "Cottage Meeting?"*

Cottage meetings are small group meetings held in congregants' homes. They are kept intentionally small (not more than 10 people) and informal so that everyone has a chance to share ideas and express concerns within a comfortable, friendly setting. Each of our meetings will be facilitated by Rev. Bill Neely and will be hosted by a member of the UUCP Board of Trustees.

*UUCP Board of Trustees*



### **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.*

3/2004

## Social Justice and Social Action



### Join our UUCP Social Justice Ministry!

The next meeting of the Social Justice Committee is scheduled for **January 11, 2012 at 7:30 pm in the**

**Founders Room.** Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. This committee serves as the umbrella organization for our congregation's Social Justice Ministry. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and learn more about how we work together to achieve social justice.

### Habitat for Humanity of Trenton

On December 10, 2011, UUCP Habitat volunteers continued work on the new "Bloomberg House" now under construction at 620 So. Clinton Avenue. Our volunteers were **Pete Gerster, Kathy O'Day, Kevin Curran, Norma and Darrell Veile.** Our Habitat workdays are the second Saturday of each month. The next workday is January 14, 2012.

Partner Family Committee: Volunteers are needed to serve on the Partner Family Committee, helping select new families for Habitat homes. Volunteers are also needed to serve as "family coaches" to Habitat families, before and after home construction and purchases.

Update on Habitat Manager Dan Santa Lucia: Dan's condition has improved and he is now recovering at home. We continue to send our love and prayers to Dan and his family.

### Reminder: Social Outreach Grant Applications Due 9 January 2012

UUCP donates funds raised at our annual Spring Sale to Mercer County charitable organizations. **Reminder to Sponsors:** Please ensure that your sponsored charity group is completing their grant application on time. All applications must be emailed to Amanda Gillum (Committee Chair) by **Monday, 9 January 2012.** Contact Amanda with questions (609-737-9163; [gillumam@verizon.net](mailto:gillumam@verizon.net)).

### Hunger Never Stops – Crisis Ministry

Please continue to support the Crisis Ministry through shelf-stable donations to our congregational food-drop in Robinson Lounge.

Crisis Ministry also needs *personal hygiene products* such as shampoo,

conditioner, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, lotions and all other products you'd like to give. Please place them, un-wrapped, inside the Crisis Ministry food cupboard in Robinson Hall. Any size product is welcome – regular, family sized, or even hotel minis.

### JOIN US FOR SUPPERS

The first meeting of "Suppers" was held on December 4, 2011, at the Habitat for Humanity East Trenton Center in Trenton. Thirteen family members and seven Suppers volunteers prepared and dined on a delicious and nutritious meal. This "kickoff" event was a great success.

**The next "Suppers" meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, 2012, at 4 pm, at the Habitat East Trenton Center. Families are welcome.**

Anyone in the Trenton area who would like practical solutions to:

- Stable Blood Sugar; Delicious Meals prepared with whole, healthy foods; Stable Mood Chemistry; Easy Stress Management; Setting goals around healthy living

### What is needed?

- Supportive Volunteers/Organizers; Scholarship Donations to Sponsor East Trenton Participants; Stainless Steel Pressure Cooker – Non-electric; Excellent Stainless Steel Kitchen Equipment; Serving Platters; Large Serving Bowls; Glass Storage with snap lids; Cast Iron Pots/Pans; Cloth Napkins – white; Table Cloth – Holiday or White; Organic Olive Oil; Organic Vinegar – White, Balsamic

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

Youth Group members **Nikki Ross** and **Alex Sandberg** attended the 2011 UUA General Assembly (GA) that was held June 22-26, 2011, in Charlotte, North Carolina. They both recently reported on their GA experiences to the Social Justice Committee who provided scholarship funds for the trip.

Nikki and Alex provided an enthusiastic report of their GA activities. Both described an exciting, fun and uplifting experience, both personally and spiritually. They brought back social justice project ideas for our youth. They also believed that the GA experience exposed them to fresh new ideas and leadership strategies. We are proud to share some highlights from their reports.

### Nikki

"It is hard to express in words how thankful I am for being able to experience General Assembly this past summer. The experience was truly unforgettable, and I am confident that it has profoundly changed me as a person. . . Through observing the effective cooperation of thousands of strangers to create an incredibly close-knit community... Observing how open and friendly these strangers were to one another convinced me that there is potential for friendship and support all around me."

Nikki has proposed an "Experiencing Homelessness" lock-in for our UUCP Youth Group. "Introduced to me at one of the GA workshops, this lock-in experience allows youth to take a walk in the shoes of a homeless person for one night. During the lock-in, youth would eat dinner soup kitchen style, play have/have not games, and sleep outside in cardboard boxes with minimal cover (no big blankets, pillows, etc.)"

### Alex

"My GA experience was life changing. The services and worships definitely strengthened my identity as a Unitarian Universalist . . . the atmosphere there, particularly in the Youth Caucus, was extraordinary . . . perfect examples of the idea of total inclusiveness. From this, our Youth Group has developed ideas such as volunteering at a mental institution, returning to New Orleans (where we first encountered the idea of "solidarity, not charity") and joining the Standing on the Side of Love campaign in its efforts."

"I am attempting to raise money for other members of our Youth Group to go as well . . . as the theme of the 2012 GA is . . . justice. I have . . . proposed that our Youth Group reach out to

(Social Justice continued on page 12)

(Social Justice continued from page 11)

Youth Groups of different faiths to work together on issues such as poverty and debt, misunderstanding between religions . . . . This interfaith effort could be much more powerful than just one Youth Group or just the UU's alone."

**Youth Group Social Justice Projects**

Our Youth have voted to focus their social justice efforts in four important areas:

1. Supporting UUCP & Habitat for Humanity efforts in East Trenton;
2. Attending General Assembly "in mass" in June 2012 (Social Justice is the theme) ;
3. Organizing a homelessness "Lock-Out" and then supporting our Loaves and Fishes efforts at the Trenton Area Soup kitchen;
4. Supporting LGBT advocacy and awareness through a video project with Drake Baer.

The youth have lent their hearts and hands to the East Trenton community through the Habitat Halloween party and baking pies for Thanksgiving. Ten youth are interested in attending the 2012 General Assembly. Jocelyn Dorgan has agreed to take the lead in organizing the Youth to attend in June. Youth are also planning to use the Youth Services Opportunities Project (YSOP) homelessness project model ([www.ysop.org/programs](http://www.ysop.org/programs)) as a resource to host our over-night Homelessness "Lock-Out" in the spring of 2012. Last, but not least, the LGBT video archive and advocacy project with Drake Baer is a long-term project that we hope to use as a resource for the UUA.

Many thanks go out to all our Youth Advisors and Friends who have given so much of their time and resources to support our *Amazingly Talented and Inspired* youth. ~Pia O'Loughlin, Youth Program Coordinator

For more information about our Social Justice Ministry and the Social Justice Committee, contact **Ray Nichols** 609-737-9163, [acer-nichols@verizon.net](mailto:acer-nichols@verizon.net) or **Amanda Gillum** 609-737-9163, [gillumam@verizon.net](mailto:gillumam@verizon.net) or **Norma Veile** 215-337-9997, [normaveile@yahoo.com](mailto:normaveile@yahoo.com).

**What's in a Name?**

On Sunday, January 29, the Music Ministry will present its ALL MUSIC SUNDAY, "*Alleluia* – A World of Expressions." The two services will focus upon the myriad musical settings of this powerful word from world-wide folk songs to Classical and blues settings. The roots of the Hebrew word "hallelu-jah" mean literally "praise God." As many UU's have at best an ambivalent response to the word "God," I thought I might offer some thoughts on the subject, both from a musical and spiritual point of view.

In the choral repertoire, at least 75 % of the repertoire sets texts that 'praise God' in one form or another, most of that being Christian-oriented. As I am not a Christian, or belong to anything recognizable as a formal theology for that matter, I dealt with this issue for many years before coming to UUCP and becoming a Unitarian-Universalist. Ironically, it has been my involvement with the UU principles and sources that has helped me find a more uplifting way of dealing with the "God" issue.

Since expressions of "God" are so prevalent in the world's great music of all types, perhaps we could, instead of rejecting the music out of hand, find our own personal meaning when we come across a trigger word. What if we could:

1. integrate the fourth of our seven UU principles here, the one that calls for a "...search for truth and meaning" and have the G-word represent our own personal search?
2. find words that mean the most sacred, important, governing forces to us as individuals, such as "nature," "community," or "love" and plug them in where they might help transform us as singers? In other words, broaden the word beyond that which we find offensive.
3. consider the re-envisioning of the word contained in Julia Cameron's extraordinary book *The Artist's Way*, when she suggests "Good Orderly Direction" as a way to reframe it?
4. commit to learning/singing about *someone else's* expression of the holy, even though it's not

our expression? There's real transformation in seeing, feeling and supporting our neighbor's way of greeting the divine.

We're UU's after all, and that means that no form of spiritual expression is excluded. We do indeed have more and more UU compositions to choose from that include all expressions of the divine. But for the great music that already exists, let's find a way to diffuse the psychological power that we give that word, and know that through a UU lens, all of us are included in each and every iteration of the sacred.

So, I extend to you a hearty invitation to our ALL MUSIC SUNDAY on January 29, where we'll revel in the many sound worlds of *Alleluia*. We hope to hear YOUR voice raised in song that day.

~ Marjorie Herman

**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.

## Legislative Ministry

### Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry Update

- The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey (UULMNJ) has taken positions recently related to pending NJ legislation and the Occupy Wall Street movement. To find more information on these positions, check the UULMNJ web site at [www.uulmnj.org](http://www.uulmnj.org).
- Pending NJ legislation would reduce corporate taxes in response for economic growth (S1885/A3667 and S1949/A2767). But analysis of the bills indicates that substantial economic development would not result from these bills. However, reducing tax revenue would limit state expenditures on social safety net programs. People are asked to contact their Assemblypersons quickly since there may be a vote in January before the end of the legislative session.
- UULMNJ has issued a statement in support of the Occupy Wall Street movement based on our values. "Unitarian Universalists believe in common decency and in the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and in the democratic process. We have been called upon to support these core values in our communities, resulting in activism throughout American history, from the abolitionist movements to civil rights, women's rights and gay rights."
- UULMNJ received a \$15,000 grant UUA to develop organization infrastructure. Craig Hirshberg, Executive Director, has indicated that the grant will enable UULMNJ to expand our presence in Trenton and our congregations. You will be hearing more information on how the funds will be used.
- UULM Princeton action team is working to prepare a Sunday Forum on Health Exchanges including both a description of the concept, some of the options for development and current status of NJ planning. Health Exchanges are part of the new federal health care legislation.
- For more information about these issues and UULMNJ in general, please check with UUCP Legislative Ministry liaisons **Karen Siracusa** and **Frances Prestianni** or visit [www.uulmnj.org](http://www.uulmnj.org).

### WHY UNITARIANISM APPEARED IN TRANSYLVANIA

Last month we told you how we found and bonded with our partner Unitarian Church in Transylvania. Did you wonder why the first Unitarians appeared in this small country of all places under the sun? It was a miracle that it happened at all and the way it happened was another miracle. To understand the forces against our faith, you need to know a bit of history.

Two specific historical events foreshadowed the development of Unitarianism and Universalism. In 325 AD the Council of Nicea established the dogma of the Trinity within the Nicene Creed. Then, in 544 AD, the belief in universal salvation was condemned as heresy by a church council under the Emperor Justinian's authority. The stage was set for those whose beliefs to the contrary were so powerful that they would express them despite the danger of death.

In Spain during the 16th century, a man was born who challenged the trinitarian doctrine of the church. Michael Servetus (b. 1511) did not follow in the footsteps of his brother, who became a priest. Michael became a physician, but his real interest was theology. It was a time of terror as the harsh, highly organized Spanish Inquisition hunted Jews and Moors to convert or execute them. Servetus believed that the doctrine of the Trinity kept Moslems and Jews from conversion, so he searched the scriptures to find convincing evidence to help them convert. Instead, he found no basis in the Bible for the Trinity. He published his findings in 1531 in a book, *On the Errors of the Trinity*, in which he boldly stated, "Your Trinity is the product of subtlety and madness. The Gospel knows nothing of it."

Orthodox church leaders were less than delighted with Servetus's discovery, and he was branded a "heretic." Servetus went into hiding under an assumed name for 20 years, trying to live the ethics of Christ by serving as a physician to a small community in southern France. He continued to write and in 1552 published his masterpiece, *The Restoration of Christianity*. A copy of this work was tied to his thigh when John Calvin had Servetus burned at the stake in Geneva on October 27, 1553.

Some say that Faustus Socinus (b. 1539) was the architect of modern Unitarianism. Born in Italy, he was influenced by his heretical uncle Laelius Socinus and concluded that Jesus was more man than God. At 40 he moved to Poland and became the spiritual leader of those who were called "The Polish Brethren."

At age 60 this quiet, scholarly man, plagued with chronic illness and with impaired sight and hearing, was dragged from his Cracow home at night by a mob of students. They threw his precious, carefully collected manuscripts and books out the window and burned them. While the mob argued about whether to burn or drown this heretic, a professor was able to rescue him.

Dr. Georgio Biandrata not only served Queen Bona in Poland but became the physician to her daughter, Isabella, when she married King John Zapolya of Transylvania (the "Land Beyond the Forest"). In Transylvania the doctor again pushed for religious reformation, and when Isabella's son, John Sigismund, assumed the Transylvanian throne, Biandrata recommended that

## 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 publishing (Jon Krejci, Elizabeth Silverman, and Rev. Bill Neely)

**Emma Forehand** is recovering from a recent surgery, and is now at Merwick Care and Rehabilitation Center in Plainsboro. She would welcome calls and visitors.

**Pat Lange** is doing well and recuperating slowly. She and Greg continue to be grateful for the love and support that they have received. They especially want to thank all of those who have brought meals, called and visited. They, too, welcome calls and visitors.

**Raj Nigam** is recovering from mitral valve repair surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. Elaine is with him in Cleveland. They expect to be back home by December 19, and would welcome calls at that time.

**Harry Tomlinson** has recovered from his bout with pneumonia and is back home and doing well.

## Pastoral Corner

A new feature of *Skylights* is a regular Q and A column

addressing pastoral issues of celebration and struggle in many of our lives. UU Princeton has an active Pastoral Associate Team that provides presence and support for members of the congregation who are experiencing times of particular joy or difficulty. This vibrant lay ministry is foundational in our congregation's ministry among each other. Please contact our Pastoral Associate co-Chairs, Jon Krejci or Elizabeth Silverman, through the church office, for more information.

This Month's Question: *When I visit someone who is sick in the hospital, what should I bring?*

The most important thing to bring is you. Your warm, open, and compassionate presence is the most important gift that you can offer someone who is struggling with health issues in general, and someone in the hospital in particular. Patients are attended to by medical professionals who are there to assess, treat, and hopefully heal various conditions, meaning that the simple presence of someone who is there to listen provides a different and much-needed kind of support. You can bring along a magazine to give to them, or some poetry or a church newsletter or, if you know the person, something else that they like. But the most important thing is to bring you. Your presence, love, and care, even for just a few moments, will nourish their spirit.

*(Partner Church continued from page 13)*

Francis David be made preacher to the court.

The Edict of Torda declared: "In every place the preachers shall preach and explain the Gospel, each according to his understanding of it." Further, no Transylvanian official would be allowed to "annoy or abuse" any persons on religious grounds because "faith is the gift of God," not the state's business.

Those holding Antitrinitarian beliefs were first called "Unitarians" in Transylvania, and it became one of the "received faiths." The tolerance ended when orthodox church officials gained power after King John's death; they condemned David for his innovations. David had begun to deny that Jesus was a deity and was questioning the doctrine of predestination. Dr. Biandrata was concerned enough that he called upon Faustus Socinus to come to Kolozsvár and reason with David. Socinus stayed in David's house for four months without effect. Religious leaders labeled David a "heretic" and had him cast into prison where he died on November 15, 1579.

*~Carl Haag for the UUCP PC group--the ones that create delicious Brunches for you every so often, who thank each of the over 70 church members who signed the Xmas cards that were sent to our sister congregation in Ferereghaza.*

## NEW YEARS ART EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION

Our annual Art Exhibit will open on Sunday, January 1, 2012. All members of the congregation are invited to contribute arts and crafts, such as paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, ceramics, etcetera. Please submit one or two works. All work must be suitably matted, framed, wired and ready to hang.

Please write the title, medium and price on the back of your work. Please bring your work to the Founders Room between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 31

We will need help in hanging the show. Please call Ted or Elizabeth if you would like to volunteer. The Fine Arts Committee is hosting the Grand Opening and Reception. It will be on Sunday, January 1, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

For information or other arrangements, call **Ted or Elizabeth Peck** at 609-452-2670.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
<p>JAN 1—<b>ONE Service</b>—10:00 <b>No RE Today</b></p> <p>10:00a Annual Art Show—Founders 1:00p Buddhist Meditation Group—Room 1</p>	<p>JAN 2 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:15p Covenant Circle 1st Monday—Murray</p>	<p>JAN 3</p>	<p>JAN 4 7:15p Covenant Circle (1st Wed) - Murray 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>JAN 5 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 10:00a Women's Alliance Board Meeting—Murray 7:00p Leadership Council—Minister's Office</p>	<p>JAN 6 7:00p CUUPS Full Moon Celebration—Room 1</p>	<p>JAN 7</p>
<p>JAN 8—<b>TWO Services</b>—9:15 &amp; 11:15 <b>Brunch: 11:15 K-3</b> 10:30a Coming of Age Parents Meeting—Murray 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:45p Adult Program Planning—Murray 1:00p Great Books Reading Circle—Room 7</p>	<p>JAN 9</p>	<p>JAN 10 11:30a—Men's Club Luncheon—Founders 7:00p-10:00p Board of Trustees meeting—Founders</p>	<p>JAN 11 10:30a Aging &amp; Saging—Murray 1:00p-2:30p <b>OFFICE STAFF MEETING—Office closed from 1:00-2:30pm</b> 7:00-9:00p Adult Program Meeting—Murray 7:30p Social Justice Committee—Founders 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>JAN 12 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders</p>	<p>JAN 13</p>	<p>JAN 14 8:30a Trenton Habitat Workday—offsite 8:30a Pastoral Associates—Murray</p>
<p>JAN 15—<b>TWO Services</b>—9:15 &amp; 11:15 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:30p RE Council Meeting—Murray 12:30p Worship Associates Mtg—Office Meeting Room 1:00p Buddhist Meditation Group—Room 1</p>	<p>JAN 16 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>DEADLINE</b> 5:00p <i>Skylights</i> <b>FEB 2012 ISSUE</b> <b>DEADLINE</b> <a href="mailto:skylights@uuprinceton.org">skylights@uuprinceton.org</a></p>	<p>JAN 17 7:00p-9:00p Committee on Ministry (3rd Tue) - Murray Room</p>	<p>JAN 18 7:15 Membership Committee—Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>JAN 19 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders 11:45a Women's Alliance Luncheon—Founders 7:00-9:00p Circle Leaders' Meeting—Murray 7:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>JAN 20</p>	<p>JAN 21 <b>5:30p FELLOWSHIP AUCTION—ALL CONGREGATION</b></p>
<p>JAN 22—<b>TWO Services</b>—9:15 &amp; 11:15 10:30a RE Grade 4/5 Owl Teacher Mtg—Fahs 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8 2:00p SoulCollage® Workshop—Founders 4:00p Wine &amp; Cheese for Newcomers - Off-Site</p>	<p>JAN 23 6:00p Yoga and the New Year, Reflections on Wholeness—Murray</p>	<p>JAN 24</p>	<p>JAN 25 10:30a Aging &amp; Saging—Murray 7:30p-9:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>JAN 26 9:15-10:30a Gentle Yoga—Founders</p>	<p>JAN 27</p>	<p>JAN 28</p>
<p>JAN 29—<b>TWO Services</b>—9:15 &amp; 11:15 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:15a A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:45p Community of Gifts Workshop—Founders 1:00p Buddhist Meditation Group—Room 1</p>	<p>JAN 30</p>	<p>JAN 31</p>				

View the current calendar online at:

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**JANUARY 2012**

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



*Minister's Schedule*

Rev. Bill Neely observes the following office hours:

**10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**  
**Tues—Wed—Thurs**  
**Friday: Study Day**  
**Monday: Day off**

**Please call Rev. Bill directly if you would like to schedule an appointment**

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

*Names & Numbers*

- Rev. Bill Neely**  
[bill@uuprinceton.org](mailto:bill@uuprinceton.org)  
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 Music Director ext. **16**

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 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.

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