



Skylights newsletter

All-
Congregation
Seder
April 10

Upcoming Sunday Worship Services

Spring
Sale
May 2

April 5, 2009 at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Saying Goodbye

There are times in our lives when we must part with another... in death, in divorce, in departure. How do we say farewell in our lives? How do we end things well?

Worship Leader: **Rev. Forrest Gilmore** Worship Associate: **Jeffrey Bock**

Music: **Melissa Bohl—oboe, Beth Ertz, Marjorie Herman**

April 12, 2009 at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Celebrating Easter—A Service for All Ages

Join us as we celebrate, in our own unique Unitarian Universalist way, the holy day of Easter. As part of the service, we will be offering a children's blessing for any family who wishes it as well as dedicating our offering to benefit the UU Legislative Ministry of New Jersey. The service will be for all ages and honor the connections between Easter, Passover and Spring!

Worship Leader: **Revs . Chris Reed & Forrest Gilmore** Worship Associate: **Sharon Copeland**

Music: **Adult Choir, Kids' Chorale, Beth Ertz, Marjorie Herman**

April 19, 2009 at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Thank God for Evolution

Until evolution is preached from the pulpit and taught in religious education classes, we will never see an end to the science and religion war in America — nor will religion reach its potential to serve humanity and the interdependent web of life in the 21st century. "Evolutionary evangelist" Michael Dowd shares the good news of a mainstream evolutionary worldview, as presented in his book, *Thank God for Evolution*, which has been endorsed by 5 Nobel laureates, other scientists, and by religious leaders across the theological spectrum.

Guest Worship Leader: **Michael Dowd** Worship Associate: **Ted Fetter**

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

April 26, 2009 at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

A Language of Reverence

As a religious community, what terms do we use to speak of our reverence? This question comes up around the holidays of Easter and Passover, and in Newcomers' Circles, and recently in the Scriptures Circle. How do we use the terms God and Spirit? What do you revere and how do you speak that reverence?

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

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



Reflection ***Reverend Forrest Gilmore***

Author and theologian Frederick Buechner wrote, “To find one’s calling is to find the intersection between the world’s deep hunger and your own deep gladness.”

Many of us struggle to find our life’s calling. We go about our day, doing the things that we do, trying to make a living, trying to put food on the table and a roof over our heads, trying to take care of our children or parents, trying to simply get by. Yet for many of us, we, too, may feel inside this drive, this longing – what is my purpose? Why am I here? What meaning is there in this life?

But what if we don’t actually have a calling? What if we don’t have a purpose?

I’ve come to believe that we actually don’t have an individual purpose, and our endless search for purpose is another way that the ego grasps us, keeping us small, keeping us safe, keeping us confined.

I know some of you will disagree with me but I do believe, however, that the Spirit, the Universe, God does have a purpose. And it becomes our job not find our own purpose but to uncover its purpose... to live a life listening to the promptings of Spirit.

Finding our calling is ultimately about transcending our selves.

Holocaust survivor and psychotherapist Viktor Frankl writes, “The more one forgets himself - by giving himself to a cause to serve or another person to love - the more human he is and the more he actualizes himself... Self-actualization is possible only as a side-effect of self-transcendence.”

The perennial philosophy tells us that as we give up our individualized egos and come into connection with the oneness of all that is, we naturally begin to live lives of love, justice and harmony. We also begin to experience a joy beyond what we have ever known.

May we dedicate ourselves, each and all, to that sacred journey of awakening and service. And may our congregation be a place that supports each of us in that journey.



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.

Reflection
Reverend Chris Reed

Spring this year is bringing the usual milder weather, the bulbs and robins, the rites of Easter and Passover and the Equinox. But it also brings some changes for us as a religious community.

One of the changes lies at the heart of our congregation. In February the Board of Trustees finished writing several Ends Policies. Last month they accepted the Interpretations that start to shape the direction that we will take as a congregation for the next 3-5 years. Much of this direction reflects the priorities that currently guide our ministries. And some of the emphasis is new. This spring the various committees and ministries of the congregation will be creating plans to implement these visions.

You can see these Ends Policies and the Interpretations on our congregation's website.

Another change is related to the general national economy. April is the month in which we create a budget that will determine how we fund the many ministries of our congregation. Like so many other businesses this year, we may have to make changes to programs, staffing, or salaries. As of this writing we are waiting to see the results of our stewardship campaign. But while it is still premature to know exactly what we will need to do, we have already started these discussions. And I am reminded of what some members of President Obama's administration said in the first few weeks of February. Every difficulty is an opportunity. For us as a congregation, to grow the effectiveness and meaningfulness of our various ministries, on fewer funds, is an opportunity for a renewal of vitality and creativity, for reevaluation, and for recommitting ourselves to the work of wholeness in our lives and in our world.

May the road rise up to meet us.



**Children's Dedication on
Easter Sunday**

Religious traditions throughout the world honor the birth of a new child with ritual and celebration. As Unitarian Universalists, we celebrate by offering our dedication to that child as she or he grows. We'll be having a children's dedication on **Easter Sunday, April 12**. Children of all ages are welcome to participate.

If you would like your child to participate, please contact **Rev. Chris Reed** or **Rev. Forrest Gilmore** by Wednesday, **April 8**.



Religious Education for Children and Youth



New RE Parent Orientation is coming up May 3
10:30-11:10, John Murray Room
 Parents who are new to our RE program are asked to participate in this orientation, where they will become acquainted with the goals and methods of our learning program. If you have not been to an orientation yet this year, please come to this one! Childcare available in Room 9. ~ Shelle Summers

Reinforcing UU RE at Home
 By Tom Prusa
 Like most of you, I did not grow up with Unitarian Universalism. My relative inexperience with UUism has created challenges for me. For many years I wondered “how am I supposed to teach an RE class when I don’t know UUism?” Truthfully, I am learning along the way. I still stumble on reciting all seven principles. Who again were John Murray and Sophia Fahs? (Side note: learning about UUism is one of the pleasures I get out of teaching.) If this sounds like you, don’t worry, be happy. Facts, figures, dates, and memorizing scripture is not what Sunday at UUCP is really about. I spent countless hours in my youth learning Catholic facts and trivia, most of which I no longer have any memory. How about you? If so, did those exercises really shape who you are?
 This is not to say Children’s RE does not have content. We teach about our faith – roots and identity, world religions, life’s experiences, questions and mysteries –

(Reinforcing continued on page 5)

Children’s Worship & Religious Education Schedule

Sunday, April 5
Sacred Story: Passover
 9:15 & 11:15 Fahs Theatre

Sunday April 12
Easter Intergenerational Services
 9:15 & 11:15 Channing Hall

Sunday, April 19
No Children’s Worship— Kids start in Channing
 The adult service will begin with a children’s story by guest preacher Michael Dowd; kids then go to RE classes.
 (see p. [] in Skylights for more information about this special service)
 9:15 & 11:15 Channing Hall, then RE Classrooms

Sunday, April 26
Sacred Story: Greek Creation Myth
 9:15 & 11:15 Fahs Theatre

If you have any questions, call Shelle Summers (609/924-1604, ext. 14) summers@uuprinceton.org



YOUTH MINISTRY

- Save the Date**
- 5/2 Spring Sale!
 - 5/17 Youth Brunch!!
 - 6/7 Youth Sunday!!!

MARCH EVENTS

Every Sunday Morning	Morning Youth Group	11:00a-12:30p
1st & 3rd Sunday Evenings	Evening Youth Group	7:00p - 9:00p
4/11 (Sat)	Spring Day of Service	Trenton
4/12	Easter—No Youth Group	No Youth Group
4/19	RE Woods Cleanup!!	10:30 & 12:30
4/24 (Fri)	9th Grade Mentor Program: “Dinner & Credo Practice”	TBD
4/25 (Sat)	Communi-versity!!	TBD

Contact **Pia** for more info:
YPC@uuprinceton.org or
 609.924.1604 x18

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and how we can live out our faith in the world. But, we are not about dogma. When I look at the overall K-8 curriculum I am envious of my kids. They are getting much more “real” faith development than I did as a child.

There is a lot you can do to reinforce UU principles and faith development at home. If you are looking for some suggestions let me point you to www.uua.org. I encourage you to spend some time reading the online material. Tons of great ideas.

You should also go to www.uuabookstore.org and check out some of the great books available. Want some non-Christian parables? Try “A Bucketful Dreams: Contemporary Parables for All Ages.” Want to think about diversity? Try “Different Just Like Me.” Want something more explicitly UU? Try “A Lamp in Every Corner: A Unitarian Universalist Storybook.” Looking for something to talk about at dinner? Try “Kids’ Daily Dilemmas in a Jar”. A great way to make dinner conversation fun. And... you don’t necessarily have to buy the books. Get book ideas and then search your local library. UUCP also has many great resource books in our library in the basement. You are your kids’ main teachers.

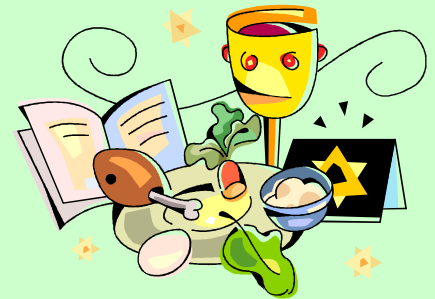
P.S. Don’t forget the Passover Seder on Friday April 10 at 6:30pm (prompt). Passover Seder and Hanging of the Greens are my two favorite UUCP events. Whether or not you are Jewish, come celebrate your freedom. Families with younger kids should plan in advance that “real food” will not be served until about 7:30 (the very fun seder takes about an hour). Consider giving your kids a nice pre-event snack so they don’t melt down. This is a very popular and extremely kid friendly gathering.

Donate BOOKS to a Very Good Cause

Can you imagine never having read books as a child? Books open the world to us, and expand our horizons, education, and hope – yet their simple pleasures are denied to many children who

Join us for an All-Congregation Seder Friday April 10 at 6:30 in Channing Hall

Hear the retelling of the story of how the Jewish people were redeemed from slavery in the land of Egypt while we share a Seder style potluck dinner. Foods symbolic of springtime and freedom will be shared, along with a good amount of wine or grape juice



Children will participate with songs and fun surprises and they will hunt for the afikomen (matzoh) after a kosher-style potluck dinner. A prize will be awarded to every child who finds one!

To Attend:

Call or email Cathy Bauer-Koggan

609/799-4336 cbkoggan@comcast.net

or e-mail events@uuprinceton.org by **April 6th**



To sign up and let her know what kosher-style dish you will share, and how you would be willing to help (set-up, clean-up, etc.). She has lots of easy recipes so contact her if you are unsure what to bring.

are alone in the world. Help get more books to needy kids in Africa when you donate books to our **11:15 4th-5th Grade RE class Book Drive!** Books will go to the Lubuto Library Project (<http://www.lubuto.org>) to build libraries in Zambia so that street kids, AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children have access to reading. The Dow Jones Corporation will ship the books to Africa. Drop books off in the church lobby donation box (by the Crisis Ministry Food Pantry, near the coat rack) by **April 5, 2009**. Our goal is to collect 250 books. **Questions? Contact** Louse Senior (609 688 8847,

Louise.senior@verizon.net) or Monica Slyuter (609-627-2358, monica.slyuter@dowjones.com)

GUIDELINES FOR BOOK DONATIONS:

Needed are picture books, fiction and non-fiction, but especially informational books with lots of illustrations or photographs along with simple explanations and definitions.

Books should be in **very good condition**, not outdated, and in English.

Reference books should be current and in complete sets.

Hardcover is preferred but sturdy

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Adult Programs

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

NEWCOMERS' CIRCLES

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

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

Newcomers' Circles meet for three months, twice a month for a total of seven meetings.

If you would like to join our next Newcomers' Circle, please sign up at the Welcome Circle in Robinson Hall on Sundays or contact **Rick Baker**, rick.baker1@att.net, or **Rev. Chris Reed** at reed@uuprinceton.org or 924-1604, ext 12.

As we go forward to create new circles, please let us know which days or times work for you by filling out one of the grids at the Welcome Circle in Robinson Lounge or by contacting Rick. Our hope is to include all newcomers in circles and to have no one wait more than a few weeks.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!!!

You're invited to a four-hour introductory class for Newcomers to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton. The Rev. Forrest Gilmore will be leading this class scheduled for Saturday, **April 4** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be an opportunity to meet other Newcomers and will include information about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, a tour of the building, and sharing a light lunch.

We hope you'll join us. Please R.S.V.P. by **April 1** to welcome@uuprinceton.org or **Marty Akers** 609-737-3948.

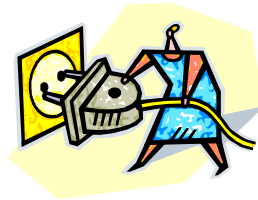


Signing the Membership Book Ceremony

This ceremony is for those who have previously taken the Introduction to Membership Class or have been in a Newcomer Circle and want to become members. Please sign-up at the Welcome Circle or contact Rev. Chris Reed or Rev. Forrest Gilmore at 609-924-1604 to arrange a time.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY—

“Get Plugged In” Join a Covenant Circle



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

- There is time for discussion, questions, and socializing for the last 20 to 30 minutes of each Circle. (The previous format did not give enough opportunity for this.)
- Each Circle is encouraged to get together socially a few times and/or work together on a social justice or service project.
- We grow new groups as needed, so that we hopefully turn no one away.
- Circles meet from year to year.

Please sign up at the Adult Program table in Robinson Lounge or contact **Shelle Sumners** at sumners@uuprinceton.org, 609-924-1604, ext. 14 or **Chris Reed** at reed@uuprinceton.org, 609-924-1604, ext. 12 if you are interested in joining a Covenant Circle.

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DO YOU HAVE A PROGRAM IDEA?

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

The proposal should contain

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

All proposals will be reviewed by the Adult Program Committee and the ministers. Final scheduling and publicizing of the course will be the responsibility of the Adult Program Committee and the facilitators). Please submit any proposals to Adult Program Committee co-chairs **Linda Benson** (lindabenson5@gmail.com) and **Alice Harper** (aharper67@comcast.net)

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NEW PROGRAMS

Scriptures Circle

**2nd and 4th Thursdays: April 9 & 23
7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Founders Room**

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

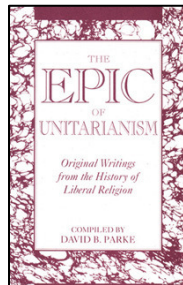
The daytime Bible group, also led by Chris, lasted for twelve years, with participants reading the Bible aloud, cover to cover. This will be a bit different and more selective, with a much shorter time frame. Please bring a Bible. You can use any version as the diversity makes for a richer discussion. If you are buying a Bible you may want to use the NRSV.

Sign up at events@uuprinceton.org or at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays or attend the next meeting.

UU History Through Books

**Tuesdays—April 14 and May 5 at 2:00 p.m. in the John Murray Room
Thursdays—April 16 and May 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Founders Room**

UU History Through Books will be starting the second book in the series -- *The Epic of Unitarianism* by David B. Parke. This is a compilation of landmark writings in our religious history from the 16th to 20th centuries. Included are documents written by Francis David, Joseph Priestly, John Murray, Theodore Parker and William Ellery Channing among others. Copies of the book are available in the UUCP Bookstore for \$14. The bookstore is currently open every Sunday between services. You can sign up at the Adult Programs Table in the lounge on Sundays or through events@uuprinceton.org.



Transitions: Support Group for Those Affected by the Current Economy

**2nd and 4th Mondays: April 13 & 27
7:00-8:15 p.m. in the John Murray Room**

In this economically difficult time for many and for our

country, several people in our congregation have experienced job loss or a decrease in income or housing difficulties, or a significant loss in their retirement funds. This group is for any who are feeling the stress of these times. It is part support group, part networking and part resources. We are also creating a list of those looking for jobs and those who know of work opportunities.

You can sign up at the Adult Programs table in the lounge on Sundays or through events@uuprinceton.org. If you have any questions or concerns please contact **Rev. Chris Reed** reed@uuprinceton.org.

Spring into Step with a Plant-Based Diet

Saturday, April 11, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Founders Room and kitchen

Lara Heimann will teach us to prepare a menu that is appropriate for spring—light and energizing—perhaps an appetizer, main dish, and dessert. This will be an experiential learning experience with Lara as she instructs us in adding more healthful items to our daily vittles. Limited to 16 participants. Sign-ups to begin shortly.

Nonviolent Communication

Sunday Afternoons, April 19, May 17, 1:00–3:00 p.m. in the John Murray Room

If you participated in the “You Just Don’t Listen” workshop **Eliane Geren** presented last spring, you know how powerful the communication tools she teaches are. Elaine has offered to continue this work with a series of monthly workshops to be held on Sunday afternoons.

As Eliane tells us, “Nonviolent communication is a language of compassion that has the intention of valuing everybody’s needs. It is a life-transforming communication process. It has taught me to be aware of my language and thinking so that I can stay fully connected to the worth and value in myself and others, no matter what we are saying or doing. It also has offered me practical, specific simple steps to help this happen.”

Sign up at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge or at events@uuprinceton.org

The Gospel According to Science:

Evolutionary Good News

Sunday, April 19 at 7 pm in the John Murray Room

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In this richly illustrated talk, Rev. Michael Dowd will cover the major themes of his 2008 book, *Thank God for Evolution: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World*, which received endorsements from five Nobel Prize-winning scientists, as well as religious leaders across the spectrum. Come learn how our modern understanding of this 14 billion year old Universe, as given by mainstream science, builds bridges, provides guidance, and restores realistic hope for individuals and families, for humanity, and for the body of life as a whole.

POSSIBLE FUTURE PROGRAMS

Let us know if you would be interested in participating in or facilitating any of the following groups (we'll have a place to indicate interest at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays or email events@uuprinceton.org):

Postelection Affinity Group: Where Do We Go From Here?

Women's Spirituality Group

Meditation Group

Nonviolent Communication Practice Group

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Young Adult Group!!! New!!!

Ages 20-35

Sunday, March 1, 12:30-1:45

After the second service, in Channing Hall

Come and join us on Sunday as we create a new group for our congregation. We have not had a Young Adult ministry for several months. Many of the people in the "old" group got "too old", and moved on to other areas of congregational life or joined various congregational ministries.

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.

The group will decide on the types of get-togethers to have and the schedule and will ultimately be self-led. Our last group had a monthly 12:30 meeting, a monthly dinner at someone's home, created a social action project and a book group. So please come and help shape this vital ministry to all who walk through our doors looking for such a community of peers. Sign up through events@uuprinceton.org or at the Adult Program Table in Robinson Lounge on Sundays.

Aging and Saging

**2nd and 4th Wednesdays: April & 22
10:30 a.m.—Noon in the John Murray Room
Always open to new participants
Led by Rev. Chris Reed and participants**

A new program for all over 60 years old. Or anyone who feels over 60. We'll be using the UUA program "From Aging to Saging" as a resource along with several other resources, including participants' interests in various topics. This will be primarily a sharing of experiences, stories, feelings and information.

We no longer have a daytime covenant circle and rather, we offer this affinity circle for those who would like to meet during the day to create a community of loving, supporting, learning individuals who find it exciting to explore the terrain of getting older with each other.

"Sage" is apparently only a noun and an adjective, but for you purists out there, please consider that it resonates with both "age" and, as someone over 60 just said, also with "sag", both respected verbs.

Sign up by sending e-mail to events@uuprinceton.org or on Sundays in Robinson Lounge at the Adult Program table.

Speaking Spanish—Hablando Español

**Tuesdays 11:00 a.m.—Noon in the
John Murray Room**

**Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. in the
John Murray Room**

**Come to either or both sessions! The two groups
are being led by Jorge Garcia Salas.**

This group is still taking a spring break, please watch for the restart date in future *Skylights*.

Eckhart Tolle Reading Group

***The Power of Now: A Small Group Discussion
and Personal Exploration***

**1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. in
the Founders Room**

"At the deepest level of Being, you are one with all that is"

In 2008 our discussion group explored Eckhart Tolle's book *A New Earth* and how we could apply the ideas to live in the present and simply practice stillness in our lives. In January, we will begin walking through *The Power of Now* to discover the insights and "ah ha" moments we may have missed before. Emphasis will be placed on using the readings as signposts to the underlying experience of presence and spiritual development.

• The first meeting was Wednesday, January 21
Participants will need a copy of *The Power of Now*

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(approximately \$15).

Ron Campbell, Bill Wymer, and Shelle Sumners will serve as co-facilitators.

Please email sumners@uuprinceton.org to let us know if you are interested in joining this group.

C UUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)

Friday near the Full Moon, 7:00-9:30 pm, Memorial Garden in fine weather, Classroom 11 otherwise.

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

All are welcome; we keep our content child-friendly.

Contact **Elissa Hoeger** (609) 683-4409, hoeger@princeton.edu.

Watch the bulletin board and your e-mail for announcements of our plans for Ostara, the Spring Equinox!

Questions? Ask Elissa (hoeger@princeton.edu) or Eva (likelystories@yahoo.com).

Great Books Reading Circle

Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 7

Join the Great books Reading Circle on April 19 at 1 PM in Room 7 for *Crossing to Safety* by William Stegner

Writes the NY Times: “A superb book.... Stegner's success with this story lies precisely in the absence of all these currently popular subject

matters and the presence of quiet reexamination of what, close to the end, seems to have made life not only worth living but happy and almost fulfilled. Stegner has built a convincing narrative, has made survival a grace rather than a grim necessity, and enduring, tried love the test and proof of a good life. Nothing in these lives is lost or wasted, suffering becomes an enriching benediction, and life itself a luminous experience.”

Cookies provided – just bring a cup of joe, a book, and thou! All welcome. More info? Contact **Karen Siracusa** (kn.siracusa@att.net or 896-1016.)



Creative Journaling

Third Monday of the month—March 16 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. in the Founders Room

Creative Journaling has **MOVED!**

We now meet the third Monday of the month, in the Founders Room, so if you have a hankering to try something completely different, join us.

We come with blank books; we play with paper, glue, color and juicy markers, and we share a bit about this process.

(All materials are provided, all you need is yourself and a blank journal.) No experience needed; writers, artists, poets, thinkers, be-ers, do-ers, it's all good.

Do e-mail **Emily Townsend** if you are interested in joining us, so we know who to expect.

emtheartist@yahoo.com

Gentle Yoga Class

Saturdays 10:00 a.m.—11:15 a.m. in Founders Room or Channing Hall

All levels welcome!

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

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

Contact **Autumn Fiester** to R.S.V.P. for childcare fiester@mail.med.upenn.edu 215-573-2607.

UUCP Adult Singles

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

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

To JOIN, just send email to:

uucpsingles@googlegroups.com

Visit the group at

<http://groups.google.com/group/uucpsingles>

~Mirah Riben

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Interested in Adult Programs?

For more information about any of these classes, visit the Adult Program table in Robinson Lounge or contact **Alice Harper** (aharper67@comcast.net, 609-737-3046) or **Linda Benson** (lindabenson5@gmail.com, 609-497-1866).

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A Course in Miracles

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Room 8

A Course in Miracles study group will be continuing with the course workbook in April. The thirty lessons will be from 40 through 70. Examples of some of the lessons are: "God goes with me wherever I go." "Deep within you is everything that is perfect, ready to radiate through you and out into the world."

"God is my strength, Vision is His gift."

"God is my source. I cannot see apart from Him."

"God is the light in which I see. In order to see, you must recognize that light is within, not without."

"My real thoughts are in my mind. I would like to find them."

"There is nothing to fear." The presence of fear is a sure sign that you are trusting in your own strength." (The ego)

Join us in room 8 to discuss these concepts. We meet at 11:15 Sunday morning. ~Hil Anderson

UU BIRD WATCHING

If you are a birder, or would like to learn about bird watching in the company of other Unitarians, this announcement is for you. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore is having their 10th annual "Birding B&B", where they provide beds, meals, and guided birding tours for their guests. There is an abundance of woodland and shore birds in this area. The weekend is May 15-17. You can get more information from their website, www.uucsjs.org, by email betsysearight@comcast.net, or by calling (609) 645-2869.



The new and improved UUCP BOOKSTORE will be open every Sunday between services. Contact Alice Harper (aharper67@comcast.net, 609 737-3046.)

2009 Spring Fair UUCP - May 2, 2008

PLANT SALE PRE-ORDER

Are you thinking about buying plants at the Spring Fair? Did you know you'll receive a **10% discount** if you pre-order? Plus, you get exactly what you want! Help us ensure a profit and order now! How to do it? Order form is available at the Spring Fair table on Sunday mornings, and at: <http://www.uuprinceton.org>. Fill out the order form, tally up your totals, **deduct 10%**, and write a check to UUCP. Then, 1.Mail or bring form with payment to church office, clearly labeled as plant order form, or 2.Drop off in Robinson Lounge on Sunday mornings, in box labeled **Plant Orders**.



The final **deadline** for pre-orders is **Sunday, April 12**. Don't delay! Your order will be ready for pickup in the downstairs courtyard late Friday afternoon, May 1, or Saturday, May 2, the day of the Spring Fair. (And remember, Mother's Day is May 10!)

ORDER FORM AVAILABLE in Robinson Lounge or ONLINE

<http://www.uuprinceton.org>

or contact the office and ask to have one mailed to you

Questions? Contact **Peggy Matthews** (609) 688-8474 or mmatthew@princeton.edu, or **Lorette Pruden** (908) 359-4130

ANNUALS @ \$2.00 per 4-pack or \$18 per flat of 48

10" HANGING BASKETS @ \$16

VEGETABLES @ \$2 per 4 pack



Spring Sale, Saturday, May 2, 9:00—2:00

FROM THE SPRING SALE CHAIRS

This is the **50th anniversary of the first Auction**, chaired by Doreen Spitzer in February, 1959, which raised \$800.

The spirit of this Spring Sale is the long-standing commitment of this congregation to reach out to promote social service and social justice in the larger community. It is happening this year because of the commitment of dozens of people who have stepped up to volunteer responsibilities.

The spirit of this Spring Sale is BRIGHT GREEN, Some of us are Deep Green and some of us are Dark Green. The rest of us realize that it is OK to have some cake and eat some cake provided that we share the cake, maintain the bakeries and look into the flour supply.

The spirit of this Spring Sale is our newly adopted Relational Covenant. Let us show respect and appreciation for one another, assume good will, and support one another in this particular time of joy, need and struggle.

Be part of the Fun! *Rick Smith and Carol Haag, Co-chairs*

Carol Haag (609-924-5857 or RevCarolH@verizon.net) or **Rick Smith** (541-514-2927) or SingCP@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATE! May 2, 2009 Think GREEN— Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle!

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

Dust off those stored-away household goods and DONATE them to the Sale. Share your treasures – not your junk.

Please make sure the items you donate are in good, working condition. Removing trash is our largest expense and takes away from the funds we raise for Social Justice!

You will be thrilled (stunned, more likely) by the sheer volume, quantity, and variety of goods available. But, please, no tires, mattresses, TV's, damaged furniture, encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks.

All donations are tax deductible; receipts provided on the spot.

DONATION DROP OFF TIMES:

1 – 7 pm, Sunday, April 26

4 – 7 pm, Monday–Thurs, April 25-30

4 – 6 pm, Friday, May 1

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

It is well-known that those who work at the Spring Sale realize the most benefit, buy the most, have the most **fun**, and feel GREAT about the sense of community they share.

Please say **“Yes!”** when a booth chair calls to ask for your help sorting the treasure trove and staffing the booths.

Or sign up at the Spring Sale table on Sundays or by going to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uucpSpringSale> or

All ages can help:

- on the day of the sale
- for set-up the week before
- for clean-up afterwards

FRIDAY 6pm -- SUPPER & BOOTH SET-UP

Still needed: “Sports and Outdoor Equipment” Chair!

PLANT SALE PRE-ORDER

You'll receive a **10% discount** if you **pre-order**. Use the Order form available at the Spring Sale table on Sunday mornings, or at: <http://www.uuprinceton.org>.

Fill out the order form, tally up your totals, **deduct 10%**, and write a check to UUCP. Then, mail or bring your form with payment to church office, clearly labeled as Spring Sale plant order, or to Robinson Lounge on Sunday mornings, in the box labeled **Plant Orders**.

The final **deadline** for pre-orders is **Sunday, April 12**. (For additional information see Box on Page 10)

PICK-UP SERVICE

Arrange for pick-up of bulky items, if you cannot manage them, with **Bill Gillum** (609-737-9163) beginning Sunday afternoon, April 26, and evenings Monday through Thursday, April 30. Since we need to schedule pick-ups, please, **don't wait until the last minute** to call.

CLEAN-UP AFTER THE SALE

After we get done selling as much as we possibly can, we always find that we still have lots of great stuff that no one has purchased. We like to give that stuff to other organizations who can re-use that "stuff" These organizations have included libraries, Good Will, the Rescue Mission, Homefront, and several others.

We also find we have other "stuff" that no one is likely to want and that we need to send to a landfill.

If you know of any organization that would appreciate our "left-overs" and that could see that they are re-used by someone who needs or wants some of our stuff, please let Ray Nichols know of that group and how to contact their "Re-Use Coordinator"

Ray Nichols (609) 737-7442 or Acer-Nichols@verizon.net

Community Building

Women's Alliance

The Women's Alliance luncheon speaker on April 16, 2009 will be **Cindy Saperstein**, expert on Women's History. Her topic will be "Women in the Civil War." Ms. Saperstein will discuss the important roles women played, in both north and south, during this conflict. We'll learn a little bit about how they dressed, too.

The program will begin at one o'clock. Everyone is welcome. Bring salads to share for the noon luncheon. Dessert and beverages will be provided by our Alliance committee. The program will begin at one o'clock. Everyone is welcome!
Emma Forehand, (609)921-6146.

Dinner Discussion

At the next Dinner Discussion, Tuesday, April 21, the topic will be **The International Court of Justice, The League of Nations, and The United Nations**. The speaker will be **Geg Buttenheim**. By serving in combat as an artillery officer in World War II, called back to serve in the Korean War, and working for the UN speakers Bureau, Geg has acquired a unique perspective on the need for world peace. A Princeton graduate, his professional career has included teaching at the prep school level and later at Pace University, and publishing a trade magazine for city and county governments. But his life-long interest has been in The United Nations, which he sees as our only chance to avoid wars. Come prepared with questions! Geg and his wife live in East Windsor. They have four daughters and ten grandchildren. — **Where?** Robinson Lounge. Sign up with **Mal Durbin** between services Mar. 8 and 15, or by calling her (before 9 PM Sunday Mar. 15) on 609 759-3351, or e-mail mal302@yahoo.com. Dinner is \$10. Late-comers \$12, if food is available. Arrive 7 PM for snacks, beverages and dinner. Talk is at 8:10 PM. You can skip dinner and the fee by arriving just for the talk. ~George Schindler, Jr.

Men's Club

The next Men's Club luncheon will be on Tuesday, **April 14** at 12 noon in the congregation kitchen. After a social half hour with beer and wine we will sit down to one of **Roger Hoff's** home-cooked tasty lunches. If you would like to attend reserve a place by calling **Bill Barnard** at 609-430-4305.

Denominational Connections

TIME TO REGISTER FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Unitarian Universalist General Assembly (GA) will be held June 24-28 in Salt Lake City at the Salt Palace Convention Center. UUCP will be represented by nine delegates; if you are interested in being a delegate, leave a message at the church office.

We want a good Princeton representation this year because the distinguished Ware Lecturer will be Princeton University Professor Melissa Harris-Lacewell whose family is active at UUCP. Early-bird registration (cut rate) ends April 30 and good housing reservations go fast; they are available online. Go to www.uua.org to register, to get more information about housing, and to learn about the many exciting programs at GA 2009.

~Carol Allen



Social Action

Global Zero Campaign Leader to Speak - Save the date Ambassador Thomas Pickering who has served in Russia, India, the United Nations, Israel, Jordan, El Salvador, and Nigeria, and who is now working on global abolition of nuclear weapons will speak on Sunday afternoon, May 17 at Princeton

Theological Seminary for the Coalition for Peace Action's annual dinner and meeting. For details or reservations, go to www.peacecoalition.org. ~Carol Allen

Introduction to Afghanistan

The Coalition for Peace Action is sponsoring an educational forum on Afghanistan to be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton on Sunday, March 29 from 2:30 to 4:30 PM. Speakers and displays will focus on politics, culture, geography, history, arts, and culture. ~Carol Allen

Beyond War, A New Economy is Possible

The anti-war movement is not waiting 18 months for the end of the costly Iraq War. United for Peace and Justice is organizing a demonstration in New York City for Saturday, April 4. The Coalition for Peace Action will have a rally at the Trenton Train station at 9:30 AM to depart on a train at 10:02 AM (stopping minutes later at Hamilton and Princeton Junction). April 4 is the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous speech on the Vietnam War. Carpool from the Princeton Shopping Center at 8:45 AM (near Rite-Aid). ~Carol Allen

UU United Nations Organization Spring Seminar on Human Rights

The Intergenerational Spring Seminar of UU-UNO will be held in New York City April 16-18 (with a youth meeting on April 15). The theme is "All in the Name of Faith: Rights, Religion, and Responsibility." There will be speakers on human rights and the role of religion in preserving them. UUCP is a member of UU-UNO. For more information, contact springseminar@uu-uno.org.

~Carol Allen

Social Justice

The Social Justice Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 15. All are welcome to attend. ~Pat Radtke

UUCP Social Outreach Committee – Report to the Congregation

The 2009 Social Outreach Committee (Vicky Campbell, Lauren Foss, Amanda Gillum, chair, Diana Gray, Cindy Jenison) reviewed 21 Social Outreach Grant applications, including two proposals from new agencies. We awarded \$20,200, from proceeds raised at our annual Spring Fair and Fellowship Auction, to the following 18 community organizations. Approximately 60% of the funds support economic justice in the Trenton area.

Poverty, Homelessness, and Hunger (36%)

Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton: \$2,200 to help provide fresh produce to needy families.

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

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen: \$2,400 to purchase food for TASK, providing 3,000 meals weekly, as well as training and social services, for people in need in greater Trenton.

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

Independent Living (8%)

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

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

Environmental Education & Sustainability (17%)

(Outreach continued on page 16)

Mobilization to End Poverty Conference

April 26-29, 2009
Washington D.C.

“The Mobilization to End Poverty will be a history-making gathering. Christians from across the country will come together in a powerful movement committed to the biblical imperative of reducing domestic and global poverty.”

Guest Speakers Include:
Jim Wallis, John Lewis, Tavis Smiley, Sharon Watkins, John Perkins, Jeffrey Sachs, Donald Miller, Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, Tony Hall, Angela Glover Blackwell, Rich Stearns, Alexia Kelley, Brian McLaren, Alexie Torres-Fleming, Wes Granberg Michaelson, Mark S. Hanson, Freddie Haynes, and music by Vicky Beeching .

Visit: www.sojo.net to learn how to register ~Stephanie Cohen

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) call to action:

Visit the Social Justice Table between services and after second service to write letters to President Obama to support the decision to close Guantanamo Bay detention center and to Secretary Clinton and/or Ambassador Susan Rice to ensure that the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) fulfills its mandate to protect women and girls in Darfur.

~Stephanie Cohen

Solar Cooker Project: Protecting and Empowering the Women of Darfur

“Women and girls are often beaten and raped by Janjaweed and local militia when we are out in the bush to get firewood, but we take the risk because we need

firewood to cook for our families.”- a female refugee at the Iridimi Camp in Chad

Through the Jewish World Watch, “the goal of the Solar Cooker Project is to diminish abhorrent crimes committed against women and girls through alternative cooking methods, which in turn reduces tensions with local Chadians and rebels.”

A solar cooker uses heat from the sun in order to cook food. A \$30 donation provides two cookers for 1 family.

If you are interested in reading more info or making a donation, please visit: www.SolarCookerProject.org

~Stephanie Cohen



April 11 - UUCP Day of Service!

3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Park Clean Up, Sandwich making and Habitat for Humanity work day !!

Volunteers needed for 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Habitat for Humanity’s East Trenton Center. This event coincides with our monthly Habitat work day- so it’s a chance to bring the whole family down for community building. We will also have sandwich making for Habitat workers at UUCP at 10am and park clean up at 12:00am before setting up the egg hunt. Help needed for all events.

Date: Saturday, April 11th, 2009

Where: Hetzel Park (a block from East Trenton Center, Lawrence and N. Clinton.)

Time: Egg Hunt starts at 2pm

Park clean up starts at 12:00pm

Sandwich making for Habitat work crew: 10am

There will be a candy-filled Easter egg collection starting mid march- stay tuned for further information and donations needed for food and drink.

Adults, Youth Group and RE classes needed to make this day a success!

Contact: **Stephanie Cohen** 609-323-7552 or socialjustice@uuprinceton.org if you’d like to help!



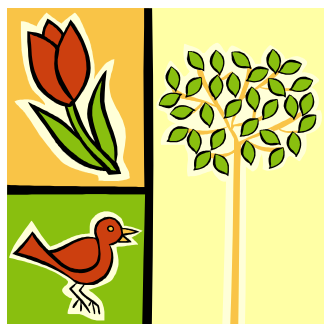
Workshop on White Privilege to Begin at Library

By Ted Fetter

Not In Our Town is a Princeton interfaith, interracial social action group, and our congregation has been a steady supporter for more than ten years. Starting on April 13, Not In Our Town is presenting a four-part program in conjunction with the Princeton Public Library on white privilege, and all are invited to participate. The program is free and open to the public.

Titled “Engaging Together to Explore White Privilege,” the sessions will be from **7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** on Mondays – **April 13, 20, 27, and May 11.** The first session will focus on ideas of identity and privilege. The second and third will consider how white privilege hurts all, both people of color and white people. And the final session will engage us in how we can incorporate an active confrontation of racism into our lives. **All sessions will be at the Princeton Public Library in the Community Room.**

This will be an open, friendly, and inviting program, not seeking to find blame or lay guilt. Instead it will seek to open our eyes and strengthen our resolve. Please consider attending as many of the four sessions as you can. To preregister or for more information contact: niot.princeton@gmail.com



Spring Chalice Lighter Appeal for UULMNJ

The 2009 Spring Chalice Lighter Appeal will be presented by Doug Rhodes and Elaine Nigam on Sunday, April 12, 2009. The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of New Jersey, A Public Policy Network (UULMNJ) has received the spring grant from the NY Metro District Chalice Lighter Program. The purpose of this network of the 21 New Jersey UU congregations is to provide a comprehensive structure, network and resources to empower the moral voice and actions of our Unitarian Universalist principles and values in the public arena. UULMNJ will directly engage in impacting social justice and public policy issues important to the state through Education, Research, Advocacy, Witness, and Service. After surveying NJ’s UU congregations, the network has chosen the issues of Economic Justice, Health Care, Environment, and Emerging Issues of UU interest as this year’s focus of our advocacy program.

Another expected outcome is that the work of the network will raise awareness of Unitarian Universalism and the social justice work of UU congregations. We also believe that it will promote UU membership, one of the criteria of the Chalice Lighter grant, and strengthen congregational social justice programs.

The main thrust of this appeal will be the hiring of a part time staff person to oversee our administration, congregational outreach, and the coordinating of our advocacy program. This will be an important step in the evolution of our organization.

We hope you will give generously to this appeal to support the advocacy of UU values and principles in the public arena through this exciting new network. We would also welcome your participation in the network.

~Elaine Nigam

First Board of Directors Meeting Held for UULMNJ

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry, A Public Policy Network held its first Board of Directors meeting on March 8 in East Brunswick. Officers were elected—Chair, Rohn Hein of Cherry Hill, Vice Chair, Rev. Susan Rak of East Brunswick, Secretary, Lynne Quinto of Washington Crossing and Treasurer, **Elaine Nigam** of Princeton.

Some of the actions the Board took were appointing members to do the following:

- Research and apply for 501c3 & 4 non-profit status
- Hire a staff person to help with administration and the advocacy program
- Follow up with the campaign of UULMNJ visitors to congregations for the Chalice Lighter appeals for the grant received from the NY Metro District
- Oversight of issues advocacy by a Public Policy Committee.

The next Board meeting will be April 5 and May 3. ~Elaine Nigam

HomeFront’s Week of Hope Volunteer opportunities

HomeFront’s Week of Hope is an opportunity for people of all ages to become a positive change in the lives of local families who are homeless or in the crisis of poverty and to advocate for the right of every child to a safe, stable home and a chance to work toward a better life. We invite you to join us!

5K Run/Walk for Hope, May 9 11 a.m.

We kick off the weeklong campaign with this single event bringing together schools, businesses and individuals who support HomeFront and its mission. We encourage individuals and teams of all ages from Central Jersey to run/walk for a purpose.

~Stephanie Cohen

Leadership Council – What’s That?

By Ted Fetter

Some more observant folks may have seen references in our congregation’s governing structure to the Leadership Council. Even though the Leadership Council has been in existence for a while now, we haven’t really presented it or described it to the congregation as a whole. Well, we want to change that.

Under the Policy Governance structure, Forrest Gilmore and Chris Reed as the Executive Team are accountable to the Board. But how do the two of them organize and connect with the committees and councils, made up of volunteers from the congregation, and how do they assure that those groups have the leadership that they need to be effective? Part of the answer is they work hard and attend lots of meetings, but they don’t do these things alone. They have the help of the Leadership Council, which can be seen as the link between them and the various committees that supply the help to make sure things are happening.

Right now, in addition to the two ministers, the members of the Leadership Council are Sharon Copeland, Kathy Fedorko, Ted Fetter, and Jim Marks. We’ve been working for several months on ways to best use the talents and gifts that exist in the congregation. We’re developing a process to identify the skills and passions that all of us have and match the work that needs to be done in the congregation – that is, match the ministry that all of us do – with those passions and talents that all of us have. A match means that people who really enjoy small group processes will find satisfaction in, for example, Covenant Group leadership; while those who have a passion for social justice will participate in, say, a Habitat for Humanity project or the legislative ministry. In short, we’re trying to identify what gifts each of us brings and what jobs are available that take advantage of those gifts.

We invite everyone in the congregation to think about their interests and needs in the congregation and how they might be met through

involvement in one or another of the ministries we carry out. It’s a much more satisfying way to get our work done than to recruit volunteers simply to fill slots. The congregation can get much more energy in the work, and we as individuals can receive more satisfaction and pleasure. The Leadership Council will stay in touch with you as we continue in this effort.

Grace Notes

Buy a Bell program: We are happy to report good progress in our efforts to raise funds for an additional 12 bells: To date we have raised enough for 7 of the 12 bells. (Note: In order to get a significantly reduced price on the bells, we need to order a set of 12!) You will hear our Bell Choir grace the April 19 service, and if you are so inspired, please consider making a contribution toward this effort. Remember, each bell will be engraved with a short dedication of your choosing.

SAVE THE DATE:

CONCERT: UU Music Ministry presents: "Sources," a Unitarian-Universalist Cantata written by Rev. Jason Shelton and Rev. Kendall Gibbons.

DATE: Friday evening, **May 8**

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Channing Hall

TICKETS: \$15.

This work is the first of its kind in the UU repertoire, and is based upon the six sources of Unitarian Universalism. These sources, as adopted by the UUA General Assembly in 1984 are:

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery.
2. Words and deeds of prophetic women and men.
3. Wisdom from the world's religions.
4. Jewish and Christian teachings that inspire loving our neighbors as

ourselves.

5. Humanist teachings which heed the guidance of reason and science.

6. Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions celebrating the sacred circle of life.

Rev. Jason Shelton served as the music director of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville when he collaborated with Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons, minister of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis, who provided the inspiring texts. Says Shelton: "We have this marvelous statement about theological diversity in the Sources, but it largely gets ignored. Most of our folks can talk about the Principles in glowing terms, but they're a statement of covenant among congregations and how we will be in the world. The statement about what we believe is a statement about diversity, and that's the Sources....If we don't engage with what it means to be a Christian in a UU setting, or humanist in a pluralist setting, then we are lacking the tools to be in community with one another....Sometimes there will be things that express your theology and make me feel uncomfortable, but I will grow spiritually by being in community with you, who sees things differently." For Dr. Shelton, the way to make this real was through his cantata.

Our performance on May 8 will include our Adult Choir, guest singers from the UU of Washington



Crossing, and chamber orchestra. For a night that leaves you inspired for a long time to come, be with us as we sing and reaffirm our "Sources."

~Marjorie Herman, Music Director

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 printing (Rev. Forrest Gilmore, Jon Krejci, Rev. Chris Reed, and Carol Haag).

Melissa Harris-Lacewell, Diana Gray's daughter, received one of 13 tributes from the Princeton YWCA to outstanding women leaders of Mercer County. Melissa was honored for her academic contributions in African American political thought, black religious ideas and practices, research on Hurricane Katrina and advocacy in its aftermath, and expert political commentary.

The honorary chair for this lovely event was our own **Bridgett Heller** (just back from Mumbai), global president for Johnson and Johnson's baby business unit. Her daughter **Sara** and Melissa's son **Parker** enjoyed the evening and each other, and were proud of their mothers.

Diana writes: Though I am new to this community, I am so proud of these woman and their wonderful work. The other two "big things" are (1) **Melissa** will be delivering the W.E.B. DuBois lectures at Harvard University March 31-April 2. She has titled the

lecture series: "Of the meaning of Progress: Measuring Black Citizenship" and (2) the Ware Lecture at the UU General Assembly in June.

Eudie Mason's mother, Elizabeth Clouser, broke her hip in February. She lives by herself and still drives and Eudie is worried about her. Notes and calls to Eudie would be appreciated.

Congratulations to **Sid Willis** who is serving as the Unitarian Universalist representative on the Stonebridge Spiritual Life Committee.

Joannie Picard – is still in the Princeton Care Center and loves calls and visitors to break up the monotony. The address is 728 Bunn drive, Princeton, 609-651-6487.

Fund for Nicole Lynne - Nicole is thriving! **Betty Ashwood** has returned to work at Princeton University, with support of food and babysitting from friends. We would like to express the love and care of UUCP, Betty and Nicole's village, by establishing a fund for Nicole to put away for her education, to help with extraordinary expenses, or to provide something special for her as she grows up.

programs, specifically addressing low self-esteem and literacy skills among prison re-entry populations.

Mental Wellness Support (11%)
Hyacinth Foundation: \$700 for Wellness Community in Trenton providing support & education services to people affected by HIV/AIDS and their families.

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

Princeton Hub: \$500 for mentally and emotionally disabled adults in Mercer County, providing Saturday evening gatherings with music, games and companionship.

Crisis Pastoral Support (12%)
Committee on Religious Ministries (Hospital Chaplaincy): \$1,000 toward chaplain salaries, supporting patients, families & staff at University Medical Center at Princeton, Merwick and hospice units.

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

Community Sex Education (9%)
HiTOPS: \$750 for "First & Third" support group for GLBTQ teens, with meetings in Princeton & Trenton.

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



(Outreach continued from page 13)

ISLES: \$1,250 to support eight Garden Classrooms in Trenton schools.

Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed: \$1,200 toward bus transportation for Trenton students' field trips.

Your ReSource, Inc: \$1,000 for 2 portable scanners & hard drives for inventory management, to collect & refurbish used medical/rehab equip-

ment to make available, especially for those with limited resources.

Social Justice (7%)

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

People & Stories: \$500 to buy books and binders for reading and discussion

Green Sanctuary

My Energy Story

By Pat Ramirez

Tom Prusa started something last month with his Skylights article One Man's Story: An easy way to reduce your energy consumption.

I had been dreamily contemplating an energy audit for my 100 year old Four Square and finally picked up the phone and dialed the number he passed on---1-866-NJSMART. Now I am on the waiting list, which I was told is very long. The good news, however, is that there are new incentives, including a lower audit price and up to \$1000 in grant money to follow through on tightening up your house. They're getting serious.

While waiting for the real-time audit to roll around, I decided to do the on-line audit at the NJ Clean Energy website that that Tom mentioned. The questionnaire is detailed enough—square footage of house; number, age, and kind of appliances; use habits (turn lights off?, turn down thermostat?) to give you a reasonable estimate of your energy consumption. After all that, I carefully entered a year's worth of monthly watts, therms and fuel oil gallons used and hit the enter button.....

SHOCK.

I really thought I was a low-end carbon polluter/user. Small house, modest appliances, cfb's everywhere, new furnace. And in fact my watts and therms use is low. But apparently my old house really does leak like a sieve because my oil use is well, embarrassing.

My next project is a close look at my carbon footprint. Stay tuned.

And what's YOUR energy story? We would love to hear it.

UUCWC Sponsors Seminars on Saving Our Planet

The Green Sanctuary Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing is sponsoring a series of seminars on saving our planet. The Sustainability and Regeneration series runs through June. All seminars are at 7:30pm on a Wednesday, unless otherwise noted, are free of charge, and open

to the public. Upcoming seminars in the series are:

- **April 15** – *Greening your Buildings: Considering Technologies, Audits, and Options for your Home*; Presenter panel to be announced
- **May 20** – *In your Own Backyard – Natural Lifestyles: Natural Landscaping, Attracting Wildlife, Composting, and Organic Gardening* by Al Johnson, organic inspector and Laura Brandt, landscape designer
- **June 17** – *Water Resources: the Other 21st Century Environmental Issue: Sustainable Watershed Management* by Pamela V'Combe, Watershed Planner, Delaware River Basin Commission
- **Saturday, June 27** – *No Child Left Inside: Rediscovering a Sense of Place*. Nature activities for your child and for you. By Philo Elmer, experiential educator.

For more info go to <http://www.uucwc.org/2009/02/26/sustainability-and-regeneration-seminars/> ~Ray Nichols

(Books continued from page 5)

paperback books are accepted Books are for children from early childhood through about age 18.

Books about or set in Africa are particularly desired.

Some books written for an African-American audience will make very good additions to Lubuto Collections

Subjects relevant only to the U.S. should be limited in number.

Biographies are particularly desired.

The Lubuto Project cannot use:

- Pop-up books
- Magazines
- Textbooks
- Instruction manuals

(Continued on page 18)

A HUGE **THANK-YOU** TO ALL THE CREATORS OF THE MURRAY MURAL – SEE IT IN ALL ITS GLORY IN THE JOHN MURRAY ROOM

Visionary – **Carol Haag**
 Chief Artist – **Elizabeth Peck**
 Supporting Artists – **Ted Peck, Pat Lange, Nancy McCormack, Betty Reed, Marie Sturken, Artworks Trenton Artists**
 Builder – **David Kyle**
 Technical Expert – **Rick Baker**
 Outline drawers – **Amanda and Bill Gillum, Eva Foster, Carl Haag, Jen Ping Wang**
 Auxiliary Supporters – **Bob Van Schaick, Shelle Sumners, Sara Oderwald, Jorge Garcia Salas, Ken Haag**
 Brunch Makers – **Nancy Fiedler, Grace Gambino, Pat Radtke, Ray Nichols, Maggie Beaumont, Frances Prestiani, Ted Fetter, Emily Townsend, Ethel Mae Theriault, Carol Allen, Aaron Torrance, Alice Deanin Thomas Potter**, Builder of the Chapel – **Michael Masters Mike** at *Morris Maple paint store* for generosity above and beyond the call
 The Painters - **Chris Reed, George Easter, Betty Reed, Kathy Lehmann, Ruth Tomlinson, Nancy McCormack, Sally Easter, Michael Masters, Eva Liane Foster, Liz Peck, Ted Peck, Pat Lange, Carl Haag, Carol Haag, Alec Warrier, Ryan Warrier, Liz Warrier, Ted Fetter, Ava Doty, Andrew Doty**
 ~Carol Haag



Chris painted this section

Membership

Visitors to Get More Coordinated Welcome

Over the past year, the Membership Committee has been developing a more coordinated and more comprehensive way to welcome newcomers to our congregation. The newest element of that welcome is just now becoming evident on Sunday mornings. There is now a progression of three gift bags that newcomers will be offered on their first, second, and third visit.



We have been seeking ways to show visitors who are considering a new spiritual home that we really want them to come back – that we are glad they are visiting and we want them to visit over several weeks to get a good idea of who we are. As part of this effort, the gift bags will be both informative and fun, with an item or two that describes who we are and a couple that might be useful for them.

On a first visit, a new visitor will receive a brunch ticket, a short DVD produced by the UUA that introduces Unitarian Universalism, a pen with UUCP on the body, and four candies with UUCP on the wrappers. There is also a note inviting them back to see us again.

When they return a second time, we'll offer them a UUCP mug and four more candies. When the intrepid visitor comes back to worship a third time with us, we'll offer them a UUCP bookmark, a short UUA book that serves as a primer to our faith, and, yes, four more candies! By the time the visitors have had all this candy, they'll be ready for anything!

We hope, of course, that these sweets, together with the sweet things they received from our offerings of friendship and fellowship, will convince them that we really do extend a hearty welcome and a hope that they will become part of our congregation and our community.

Candus Hedberg has helped to coordinate this new system. Helping Candus on the project are other Membership Committee members, **Marty Akers, Ted Fetter, Cindy Funka-Lea, Lisa Roche, Thaine Shetter, Sam Warmate,** and **Gena Whitney**, along with **Forrest Gilmore**, who has provided much leadership.

-Ted Fetter, Membership Committee Chair

JOIN US FOR BRUNCH April 5

The April 5 Brunch in Founders Room, 10:15 am till 1:15pm will benefit LOVE146; their goal is the abolition of child sex slavery and exploitation. Nothing less.



They combat child sex slavery & exploitation through Prevention and Aftercare. Children are being trafficked and raped daily. Slavery is one of the darkest stories on our planet. This physical, mental and emotional trauma can leave children broken and scarred for life. ***This is why Love146 exists.*** *I have been deeply moved by my experience of this organization. Please contact **Lauren O'Neil** if you can help with the brunch (loneil7@juno.com, 609.921.8541). Go to <http://www.love146newsroom.org/> for more information about the many thousands enslaved worldwide, including in the US.*

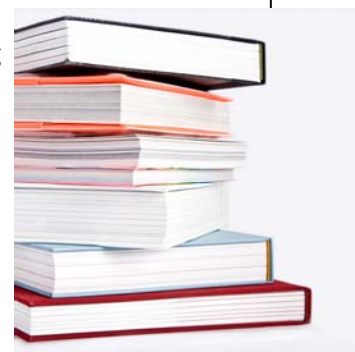
Love146 is a registered public charity and a 501c3 non-profit organization.

(Books continued from page 17)

Pamphlets, study guides, school readers
Publishers' advance reading copies
Single volumes from an incomplete set
Movie and television tie-ins (for example, Disney books)
Books that strongly seek to promote a particular cause or religious or ideological point of view.

Books containing scribbling, torn or discolored pages or broken spines will not be accepted.

Please omit books that reflect a very affluent lifestyle (big houses, cars, lots of electronic equipment and other possessions.) *-Louise Senior*



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



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
<p>APR 5—TWO SERVICES—9:15 & 11:15 BRUNCH TO SUPPORT LOVE! 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:00a Morning Youth Group 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 12:30p-1:45p Young Adult Group—Channing Theatre 1:00p-3:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 5:00p-7:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 7:00-9:00p Evening Youth Group Social (1st Sun)</p>	<p>APR 6</p>	<p>APR 7</p> <p>7:00p-9:00p RE Council (1st Tue) — Founders Room 7:30-9:00p Green Sanctuary Committee—Murray Room 7:30-9:00p Coalition for Peace Action meeting—Room 7</p>	<p>APR 8</p> <p>10:30-Noon Aging & Saging (2nd Wed)—Murray 7:00p-9:00p Adult Program Committee (2nd Wed) — Founders Room 7:00p-9:00p E2 Covenant Circle (2nd Wed) - Murray 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Practice—Channing Hall</p>	<p>APR 9</p> <p>Full Moon ☉ 6:30p-9:00p Credo Study Group—Room 15 7:00p-8:30p Scriptures Circle (2nd Thu) - Founders 7:15p-9:15p Covenant Circle (2nd Thu PM) - Murray</p>	<p>APR 10</p> <p>5:30p Passover Seder—ALL-CONGREGATION—Upstairs 7:00p CUUPS Full Moon Circle—Room 11</p>	<p>APR 11</p> <p>8:30a-3:00p Trenton-Habitat Work Day (2nd Sat) 8:30a-10:30a Pastoral Associates (2nd Sat) — Murray 10:00a Yoga Class—Founders Room 10:00a-1:00p Spring into Step with a Plant-Based Diet—Founders</p>
<p>APR 12—TWO SERVICES—9:15 & 11:15 Easter Intergenerational Services 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:00a Morning Youth Group 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 1:00p-3:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 5:00p-7:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre</p>	<p>APR 13</p> <p>7:00-8:30p Transitions (2nd Mon) - Murray</p>	<p>APR 14</p> <p>Noon-2:00 Men's Club Luncheon—Founders, Kitchen 2:00p-4:00p UU History Through Books—Murray 7:00p—10:00p Board of Trustees meeting (2nd Tue) - Founders 7:00p-9:00p Newcomer Circle (2nd Tues) - Founders 7:00p-9:00p UU History Through Books—Murray 7:30p-9:00p Storytelling Circle (2nd Tue) - Room 7</p>	<p>APR 15</p> <p>1:00p-3:00p OFFICE STAFF MEETING 7:15p-8:45p Eckhart Tolle Reading Group (3rd Wed) - Fabs Theatre 7:15p Newcomer Circle (3rd Wed) — Murray Room 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Practice—Channing Hall 7:30p Membership Committee Meeting—Forrest's Office</p>	<p>APR 16</p> <p>Noon—1:00p Women's Alliance Luncheon (3rd Thurs) - Founders 6:30p-9:00p Credo Study Group—Room 15 7:00-9:00p Small Group Ministry Leaders Meeting—Murray 7:00-8:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal—Channing</p>	<p>APR 17</p> <p>6:00p RE 7th Grade—Founders, Fabs</p>	<p>APR 18</p> <p>10:00a Yoga Class—Founders Room 4:00p-6:00p Environmental Film Series for Kids—Fabs Theatre</p>
<p>APR 19—TWO SERVICES—9:15 & 11:15 BRUNCH SPONSORED BY WOMEN'S ALLIANCE 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:00a Morning Youth Group 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 1:00p-3:00p Great Books Reading Group "Crossing to Safety" by Stegner—Room 7 1:00p-3:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 1:00p-3:00p Nonviolent Communication—Murray 5:00p-7:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 7:00p-9:00p Evening Youth Group (3rd Sun) - Room 15</p>	<p>APR 20</p> <p>7:00p-9:00p Creative Journaling (3rd Mon) —Founders 7:30p-9:30p Covenant Circle—Murray 5:00p Skylights APRCH 2008 ISSUE DEADLINE skylights@uuprinceton.org</p>	<p>APR 21</p> <p>7:00p-9:00p Dinner Discussion—Robinson 7:00p-9:00p Committee on Ministry (3rd Tue) - Murray 7:00p-9:00p Blessed Bounty (3rd Tues) - Room 15</p>	<p>APR 22</p> <p>Earth Day 10:30-Noon Aging & Saging (4th Wed)—Murray 7:00p-9:00p E2 Covenant Circle (4th Wed) - Murray 7:30-9:00p Adult Choir Practice—Channing Hall</p>	<p>APR 23</p> <p>7:00p-8:30p Scriptures Circle (4th Thu) - Founders</p>	<p>APR 24</p>	<p>APR 25</p> <p>10:00a Yoga Class—Founders Room</p>
<p>APR 26—TWO SERVICES—9:15 & 11:15 BRUNCH SPONSORED BY A COVENANT CIRCLE 10:35a Kids' Chorale Rehearsal—Room 2 11:00a Morning Youth Group 11:15a-12:30p A Course in Miracles—Room 8 1:00p-3:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre 5:00p-7:00p Environmental Film Series—Fabs Theatre SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 1:00p-7:00p</p>	<p>APR 27</p> <p>SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 4:00p-7:00p Preparation for Spring Fair—No Meetings Please check with meeting leader for alternate location</p>	<p>APR 28</p> <p>SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 4:00p-7:00p Preparation for Spring Fair—No Meetings Please check with meeting leader for alternate location</p>	<p>APR 29</p> <p>SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 4:00p-7:00p Preparation for Spring Fair—No Meetings Please check with meeting leader for alternate location</p>	<p>APR 30</p> <p>SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 4:00p-7:00p Preparation for Spring Fair—No Meetings Please check with meeting leader for alternate location</p>	<p>MAY 1</p> <p>SPRING FAIR DROP OFF 4:00p-6:00p Preparation for Spring Fair—No Meetings Please check with meeting leader for alternate location</p>	<p>MAY 2</p> <p>9:00a-2:00p SPRING SALE</p>

Ministers' Schedules



Rev. Reed and Rev. Gilmore observe the following office hours:

Rev. Chris Reed
11:00a.m. — 4:00p.m.
Tues through Thurs
Day off: Monday
Study day: Friday

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

Office hours indicate when ministers are in the church building. However, ministry is not confined to specific hours, and our ministers may be attending meetings at any hour of the day. In the event of emergencies needing the attention of our ministers, please contact either of them first, irrespective of time or day. If necessary, contact Jeanne Carsten, President of the Board of Trustees.

Names & Numbers

Rev. Christine F. Reed
 reed@uuprinceton.org
 Co-Minister ext. **12**

Rev. Forrest Gilmore
 gilmore@uuprinceton.org
 Co-Minister ext. **11**

Marjorie Herman
 marjmuse@optonline.net
 Music Director ext. **16**

Shelle Sumners
 sumners@uuprinceton.org
 RE Coordinator ext. **14**

Pia O'Loughlin
 ypc@uuprinceton.org
 Youth Programs Coord ext. **18**

Stephanie Hanzel Cohen
 socialjustice@uuprinceton.org
 Social Justice Coordinator ext. **13**

Michelle Kapushy
 kapushy@uuprinceton.org
 Office Assistant ext. **15**

Jorge Garcia Salas
 garcia@uuprinceton.org
 Sexton ext. **19**

Sara Oderwald
 office@uuprinceton.org
 Administrator ext. **10**

Office Hours:
 Monday - Friday,
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Phone: **609-924-1604**
 FAX: 609-924-0533

e-mail:
office@uuprinceton.org

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

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**Next Skylights
 deadline:
 MAY ISSUE
 SUBMISSIONS DUE
 APR 20**
 skylights@uuprinceton.org

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