



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

Monday, April 9, 2012

## Worship Services

April 15, 2012

### **"The Long Goodbye"**

**Meg Soens, Acting Minister**

**9:15 and 11:00 AM**

Like a hard-boiled detective, sometimes we just want to slip away and avoid those hard good-byes, perhaps when someone we care about is dying, or we must leave old friends in a cross country move. Other times, we take advantage of the gift of time to honor the importance of saying good-bye, to the benefit of ourselves and the other people involved. Still other times, such as when a loved one dies suddenly, we have no choice, and it seems like the possibility of saying goodbye at all is stolen from our grasp. Ultimately though, perhaps all good-byes are long. We'll explore these ideas together in Meg Soens' last sermon at UUCR, both as acting and as intern minister. Music: 9:15 AM Tony Fisher, vocalist; 11:00 AM UUCR Choir

### **Coffee Hour:**

9:15 AM Needed

11:00 AM Needed

### **Welcome Table:**

9:15 AM Needed

11:00 AM Dru Wood-Beckwith

### **Ushers:**

9:15 AM Needed

11:00 AM Needed

### **Altar Flowers:**

Needed

April 22, 2012

### **"The Welcome Table"**

**Rev. John Gibb Millspaugh, Guest Minister**

**9:15 and 11:00 AM**

In a service featuring magic, humor, personal stories, and two statistics, the chair of the UUA President's Advisory Committee on Food (!) brings a message of inspiration and inclusion to our congregation. Food matters for personal, public, and planetary well-being. What food adventure are you up for? Music: 9:15 AM Molly Smith, Vocalist; 11:00 AM UUCR Choir

John Gibb Millspaugh is Co-Minister of the Winchester Unitarian Society, where he serves with his spouse and Co-Minister Sarah Gibb Millspaugh, with whom he parents their four-month old son. As a 2001 graduate of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Harvard Divinity School, justice concerns are central to his ministry; he served for three years as the UUA President's Assistant for Social Justice, focusing on such areas as women's rights, nuclear proliferation, and modern slavery. He currently serves as a consultant and coach to clergy and laypeople on "Adaptive Leadership," as Faith Community Representative on the Town of Winchester's Climate Action Task Force, and as Chair of the UUA President's Advisory Committee on "Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice." He is editor of the 2009 book on UU theologies and ministries of justice, *A People So Bold*. He is an avid hiker, a not-so-disciplined meditator, a self-taught and thoroughly mediocre guitar player, and a skilled magician.

**Coffee Hour:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Welcome Table:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Ushers:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Altar Flowers:**

Needed

[April 29, 2012](#)

**"Welcome Home"**

**Tony Fisher**

**9:15 AM Service Only**

To many of us who call UUCR our spiritual home, immigration may feel like a political hot potato being played out in other, more distant places. Yet, concerns over immigration rights touch on many of the core principles we espouse as Unitarian Universalists. Hoping to bring the conversation closer to home, Tony Fisher will explore the human side of a divisive issue. Music: Joan Marshman, vocalist.

**"Coming of Age"**

**Meg Soens, Acting Minister; Anne Principe, Interim Director of Faith Development and Coming of Age Program Youth**  
**11:00 AM Only**

Our Unitarian Universalist community has a long commitment to the journey of youth to articulate what they have given their heart to. This ceremony culminates years of faith development explorations, experiential learning, peer and mentor spiritual discussion with youth sharing credos of personal expressions for their congregation. Music: The UUCR Choir.

**Coffee Hour:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Welcome Table:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Ushers:**

9:15 AM Needed  
11:00 AM Needed

**Altar Flowers:**

Eileen Cummings in honor and celebration of our COA2 youth

## Schedule of Worship Services

Sundays  
9:15 and 11:00 AM

Children's Classes at 9:15 AM only; infant and toddler child care at both services.

Our full service schedule can be found on our [Upcoming Services page](#).

## Featured News

### Join Us on Sunday, April 22, at 1:30 PM - Gospel Mass

On Sunday, April 22 at 1:30 PM, the choir at UUCR will perform Robert Ray's Gospel Mass for the general public. The Gospel Mass revitalizes the 2000 year liturgy of the Catholic church in a contemporary, gospel style setting. The gospel style is, at once, vital, boisterous and joyful and incorporates the tradition of African American musical culture in an easy, soulful manner. Come hear the UUCR choir and soloists joined by Alex Gordon, keyboard, Aaron Clark, electric bass, and David Gould, drums perform this marvelous work! Admission is free to all!

Robert Ray's Gospel Mass, composed in 1978, was premiered at the University of Illinois and performed by the University's Black Chorus. This work was written while Ray was a liturgy team leader for the National Office of Black Catholics. The Gospel Mass was created out of a need from these workshops.

The composer states: "It is my desire to combine centuries of old traditions of Mass settings with sounds of the contemporary Black Church. The move from Latin to English created new opportunities for composers to express their feelings about the texts of the Ordinary of the Mass. I wanted everyone to experience the sense of joy and celebration that is generally felt in true African-American worship".

### Start of Adult Enrichment "Hungry For Change" Delayed One Week - Seeking Students!

The start of the following adult enrichment has been delayed one week to April 19. Currently there is not a sufficient enrollment to begin this class. However, the facilitator, Tricia Schwartz, has delayed the start of this compelling enrichment one more week to ascertain if any additional registrants will be stepping forward. If you have been thinking of joining this class, please let us know as soon as possible.

**Registration remains open one more week for this compelling adult enrichment now scheduled to begin April 19**

**Overview**

Hungry for Change explores the true meaning of the phrase "you are what you eat." This 6-week discussion course challenges participants to examine their roles, not only as consumers of food, but also as creators -- of food, of systems, and of the world we all live in. Each session includes readings, short assignments and accompanying discussion questions that address the impact of individual food choices on a range of issues, including ecosystem health, the treatment of factory and farm workers, and the global economy. Hungry for Change helps participants commit to lasting change by developing and sharing personal Action Plans with each session.

**Purpose:**

- To explore the interconnected nature of food systems and our relationships to them.
- To examine the impact our food choices have on our health, the health of others and the health of our planet.
- To consider the ethical and political implications of our current food system and our personal food choices.

**Length:** Six sessions

**Dates:**

Thursday evenings  
7:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
April 19 - May 24

**Capacity:** Space is limited to 12 participants.

**Fees:** fee for the course covers the discussion book.

**Facilitator:** Tricia Schwartz

[Got Pride? UUCR T-Shirt and Sweatshirt Sale This Sunday at Coffee Hour!](#)



**Got Pride? UUCR T-Shirt and Sweatshirt Sale on this Sunday at Coffee Hour:** Don't forget your checkbook at church this Sunday. We will be selling fabulous UUCR T-Shirts and UUCR Zippered and hooded sweatshirts that both have our windows logo and church name on the front with a chalice and the words "we celebrate diversity" on the back. These items can be worn to do weekend warrior work or you can wear them to walk in Boston Pride this year!

Samples will be available to try on for sizing. We are offering these items in your choice of orange, blue, yellow, red, purple, green, or blue and any size you could want: sizes small through 3XL. Variety is the spice of life. Order forms and samples will be available in the atrium after each church service. Don't miss out.

### **Time to mark your calendar for the 4th Annual UUCR walks Boston Pride**

UUCR marches with Boston Gay/Lesbian/Transgendered/Bisexual Pride on Saturday, June 9. This is our 4th year. Some marchers are planning carpools from UUCR. See the sign up sheet in the atrium to contact other marchers. The parade route kicks off at 12 Noon after a short service at the Arlington Street UU Church at 11 AM. You may join us at the Arlington Street Church in Boston located at 351 Boylston Street website at [www.ascboston.org](http://www.ascboston.org) at 11 AM. Or join us in our place in line by 12 Noon. The rear of the parade route is on Tremont Street. The "U's" line up at the very end. (They save the best for last). Buy a shirt (see above) be part of a human rainbow line of color! Show up early to carpool in the UUCR parking lot and we'll paint some UU Principles on your arms or jeans! Play an instrument? Call the church office, we are hoping to make as much noise about UUCR as possible. New this year! When the parade ends and we recess into City Hall Plaza, our UUCR will be represented with a literature table! We hope to sticker the crowd with UUCR Pride! Come join in on the fun.

### Second Offering for Louis D. Brown Peace Institute: Sunday, April 15

On April 15, we'll once again have the chance to support the vital work of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute in Dorchester ([www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org](http://www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org)) through a Second Offering, and to hear the inspiring voice and message of the Peace Institute's founder, Clementina Chery.

"Transforming Pain into Power and Action": The staff and many volunteers of the Peace Institute assist and support families of homicide victims and nurture the spirit of nonviolence through school and community programs. Affirming and promoting seven principles of peace (love, unity, faith, hope, courage, justice, and forgiveness), the Institute offers services and emotional shelter to families in the most difficult times of their lives and engages with youth to forgo violence and embrace peace.

The UUCR and the Peace Institute are already warmly connected: Tina preached and held a workshop at the church in 2008; we gave a Second Offering then; and in 2009, 2010, and 2011, congregation members have marched in the Mother's Day Walk for Peace (remember Rev. Tim's call-in to our Sunday service from last year's Walk?).

**Giving to the Second Offering on April 15 as we are willing and able, we will help ensure that the Institute's work, vision, and message continue.** (If you'd like to donate by check to this final Second Offering of the 2011-2012 church year, please make the check out to the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute.)

### All Those Acronyms...Supporting Community Sponsored Agriculture Right Here at UUCR! April 2, 2012

**PEAS** = "People Enhancing Agricultural Sustainability"

**NESFP** = "New England Sustainable Farming Project"

**CSA** = "COMMUNITY SPONSORED AGRICULTURE"

**UUCR** = US!

### **SUPPORT COMMUNITY SPONSORED AGRICULTURE RIGHT HERE AT UUCR!!**

You are invited to join the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading World PEAS (People Enhancing Agricultural Sustainability) CSA (Community Sponsored Agriculture). You are invited to sign up for shares of produce comes from

organic sustainable Lowell based farms. This agricultural program is sponsored and managed by Tufts University. Rosemary Fiori is the on-site coordinator. Fresh vegetables and fruits will be dropped off at the UUCR Loring Porch for pick up by YOU every TUESDAY by 8 PM from June through October. There will be 18 deliveries to the UUCR campus. The once a week delivery will be Tuesday at our church! There will be 70 locally grown vegetables, berries, melons, tree fruit and more! Also, there will be an extended 3 delivery season from October through November for an extra subscription price. To learn more visit [www.nesfp.org](http://www.nesfp.org) or email Rosemary Fiori, Tom Mottl, or Ellen Hill.

~A large share costs \$ 710.00 for 18 deliveries.

~A small share costs \$ 470.00 for 18 deliveries.

~The extended season costs \$ 130 for 3 extra deliveries at the end of the season. Subscription must be done online [www.nesfp.org](http://www.nesfp.org)

~Subscriptions can and do sell out, so do not delay.

## Worship Notes

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### Rev. Tim Currently on Sabbatical through May 6, 2012

Rev. Tim is currently on his sabbatical through May 6, 2012. He will return to the office on May 7, 2012. During this time Meg Soens is our Acting Minister and can be reached at 781.944.0494, extension 101 for non-emergencies. Meg's emergency pastoral phone line is 781.850.3307.

## Caring and Sharing Coordinator

April 2012

Caring and Sharing Coordinator for Month



The caring and sharing coordinator for the month of April 2012 is Ann Mottl. Ann can be reached [HERE](#) or by phone at 781-942-0345

## President's Messages - Spending Policy



At our April meeting, the Governing Board approved a Committee and Staff Budget Line-Item Spending Policy which I'd like to introduce to you. The initiative originated at Finance Council over the course of the year. It was reviewed by the board at our February and March Board meetings and also reviewed, revised and standardized by the Policy Committee.

The purpose of the policy is to best ensure that UUCR spending stays within our pre-approved budget within a given fiscal year. When we were a smaller church, committee and staff spending could be done more informally. Now that we're a bigger church with a bigger annual budget, it's important to put in place policies and procedures that will enable better communication between all parties.

The cycle to determine our budget for the coming fiscal year (July 1st through June 30th), begins every year around January when staff members and church committees are asked to propose their budget. These requests are considered alongside available funds raised during the Annual Budget Drive. At the May Governing Board meeting, the board finalizes the budget including those of all staff and committees. Church members approve the budget at the May Bi-Annual Congregational Business Meeting.

Once the fiscal year begins, staff and committees can begin to spend against their specific budget line item. Reimbursements will be provided for all requests made that are within budget. Reimbursement requests which exceed a budget line item must be pre-approved. The policy itself provides all related detail.

After next year's budget is approved at the Spring Annual Business Meeting we'll disseminate the meeting minutes. Rev. Tim will inform staff members about their budgets and the V.P. of Programs will inform Committee Chairs about theirs. Every month an updated budget status report will be posted on the website in the Members-Only section. This will enable committee chairs and other interested folks to get frequent and convenient budget status updates. To minimize the possibility of personal information being made available on the internet, staff salaries will be consolidated into a single budget line item.

In the coming weeks, our webmasters will be posting this policy as well as all of our other officially adopted policies on our website in a member-only section so that we can all have access to them.

Your feedback on any church policy is always welcome.

Best Regards,

Tracy Sopchak

## Adult Enrichment

May 6, 2012 - Register Today!

### **Afternoon Workshop "Following Our Callings"**

**1:00 PM in UUCR Community Hall**

**With Special Guest Speaker, Gregg Levoy**



On Sunday, May 6, 2012 Gregg Levoy will be our guest speaker at both morning services followed by an afternoon workshop on "Following our Callings". This dynamic, humorous workshop will take a creative approach to the challenges of listening and responding to your callings. Space is limited for the afternoon workshop, but you can register ahead of time by calling the church at 781-944-0494 or emailing [HERE](#) and providing your name and phone number. The fee for the workshop is \$ 30.00 payable to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading line item note: "Lavoy Workshop." You may mail your workshop payment to UUCR, 239 Woburn Street, Reading MA 01867 or place it in the collection plate. You may also sign up on Sunday during coffee hour on the sign up sheet in the atrium. Please join us to find your calling and "make your life come true"!

## Unitarian Universalist Basics: An Introduction to Our Faith - May 19, 2012

### **Overview**

Are you new to the church? Would you like to meet other folks who are new as well? Would you like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism? Do you have questions about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist? Are you thinking about becoming a member of UUCR? Then UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BASICS is just the thing for you. Join our minister Rev. Tim for this engaging introduction to our faith. Registration is required, please call or [email the church office](#) (781-944-0494) or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.

**Facilitator:** Rev. Tim Kutzmark

**Date:** Saturday, May 19 – 8:30 AM-12:45 PM

This condensed one-day Saturday class will include kid-friendly breakfast, bagels and coffee for adults, and CHILD CARE to make it easier for parents with young children to attend the UU Basics class. This class will be led by Rev. Tim Kutzmark, our minister.

## Get Involved News

### Creative Hands and Caring Hearts Group (CHACH)

#### Creative Hands and Caring Hearts Group (CHACH)

The **CHACH** (Creative Hands And Caring Hearts) We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of each month. Our starting time is still 7:30 and we end around 9:30. We will continue to meet at the home of Sharyn Taitz at 1443 Main St. in Reading. We are an open and welcoming multi-generational group of women who love to create with our hands. Any craft, art or skill that can be toted to a meeting is welcomed. If you are interested in joining us, please contact facilitator Sharyn Taitz or simply drop in to any scheduled meeting. Please contact Sharyn Taitz for more information.

Yours in creativity, Sharyn Taitz, CHACH Facilitator.

#### Contact Form

### Ivy Chord Coffee House

#### Ellis Paul will be performing at UUCR's Ivy Chord Coffee House on Saturday, April 14

Doors open at 7:15 pm for the 8:00 pm concert.

What can you do to help? Well, thanks for asking!

1. Offer to bake (yummy treats to be sold at intermission) -- ONLY 2 more bakers needed
2. Offer to volunteer. ONLY one more volunteer needed for post concert clean up crew (not a lot to do, but the regular volunteers who have been there since 4:00 are tired, so we need late evening reinforcements).
3. Buy lots of tickets online (<http://www.uureading.org/get-involved/programs-teams-and-committees/ivy-chord/upcoming-concerts>) or from Beth Murray during social hour on April 1st.
4. Offer to put up flyers, link your Facebook page to UUCR's Facebook events page, email 84 of your closest friends!



Who is Ellis Paul? I thought you might enjoy this quote from Nora Guthrie (Woody Guthrie's daughter):

"A singer songwriter is only as good as the times he reflects. In times like these, when so many nuts are running the show, it's comforting to know that Ellis Paul is actually holding our sanity on his own stage! Wise, tender, brilliant and biting, Ellis is one of our best human compasses, marking in melodies and poems where we've been and where we might go if we so choose to. Personally Ellis, I'm goin' where you're goin'!"

Questions? Contact Beth:

Beth Murray

[Click to send email](#)

Phone: 781-229-9394

## Kris Kringle Fair

### Kris Kringle Fair Changes Ahead!

Please note that there have been some significant changes to our traditional fall fair structure. After much contemplation and creative thinking, we have had to make a change that will hopefully benefit UUCR's budget and will create a safer environment for our fair(s).

Starting this November (2012) we will have our usual annual Kris Kringle Fair (on Saturday, Nov. 10) and we will also begin having an annual Spring Fling fair in the spring of 2013 (date to be announced). The Spring Fling will be timed so that it is a distance from the Auction/Soiree that typically happens in late January or early February. The Nov fair will be a little different in that some of the customary tables/areas will not occur in Nov. but will be moved to the spring event. But please note that all tables that are fall/winter seasonal will be kept in the fall fair. The spring fair will feature Attic Treasures, Used Books, a food cafe, probably a recurrence of the Baked Goods Table, and several other tables, including the resurrection of the old Plants Table.

The decision to make these changes was based upon several factors, but mainly upon the following three reasons:

1. Our fair has grown so large that we have outgrown our available campus space and we were inadvertently causing some safety issues with our overcrowding - crowding rooms/hallways and blocking fire exits. Those who coordinated the various tables had difficulty effectively displaying their wares because the space was so limited. Spreading out our fair offerings to two annual fairs will help us use our space more effectively, both for safety issues and for better display space.
2. Because we needed the space, we were disrupting our sanctuary by unscrewing and moving pews. This practice causes damage to our new flooring and puts undue stress on our aging pews, (not to mention on our aging set-up and clean-up crew members!) The new "two fair" structure will eliminate the need to move/remove pews in the sanctuary.
3. Historically, in the years when we have had two fairs, for various reasons, we have always generated more income than we do when we only have the fall fair.

As the only remaining K K Fair Chairperson, I consulted the retired fair chair people and some other leaders in the church. I then brought my decision to the Governing Board, along with my research and facts, for their approval. They wholeheartedly approved my decision.

Hopefully, there will be two different teams of leaders for the two fairs. Currently, for the Kris Kringle Fair, the co-chairs are myself and Shanna Weston (Thank you for stepping up, Shanna!). We are in serious need of two more people who would be willing to help us coordinate the K K Fair this fall and then allow me to step down from the leadership position after that. We will also be seeking a leadership team for the 2013 Spring Fling fair.

There will soon be an announcement about a planning meeting so we can make final decisions about which tables/areas will appear at which fair and how to optimize our available space. We hope that you will join us at that planning meeting if you customarily chair a table/service/area at the fair or even if you just have a vested interest in the fair. We value your input. Please watch for the announcement of that meeting, which will likely happen in early May.

If you have good leadership skills and enjoy working with people, please contact Sharyn Taitz or Shanna Weston to volunteer to join our management team. Since our fair income is the second largest source of income next to the annual pledges, it's very important that we get this leadership team in place now.

Thank you sincerely,  
Sharyn Taitz, co-chair of the Kris Kringle Fair

## Last Tuesday of the Month Book Club

### LTOM Book Club Meets April 24, 2012

Join Us!

The next meeting of the Last Tuesday of the Month Book Group (LTOM) will be held at the home of Ruth Goldberg, 11 Bond St. Reading, on April 24th at 1:30 PM. The book to be discussed is "*Caleb's Crossing*" by Geraldine Brooks. See you then!

## Mom's Group

### Mom's Group

The UUCR Mom's Group will have three different offerings this year for mothers of the church to get to know one another.

**Mom's Circle** (registration in September is required).

The Moms Circle is a group of women in a mothering role who meet on a regular basis in an atmosphere of safety and support for the purpose of engaging in facilitated discussions exploring issues of interest to the group and providing an avenue for personal growth, spiritual development, and community connections. Meetings are twice a month on Sunday evenings in the home of one of the members. Meetings are facilitated by members of the UUCR church community and meetings run similarly to Chalice Circle Meetings.

**Social Events** (open to all)

Throughout the year we will be organizing social events for all mothers to attend. Dates will be announced in advance.

**Mother's Book Club** (open to all)

Throughout the year we will be having at least three different book discussions. You are not required to attend all meetings. Books will be announced in advance.

If any of these offerings interest you, please contact Sara Ortins for more information (781-944-2740)

Coordinator: Sara Ortins

Sundays Twice a month, 7:30-9:00 PM

Here is the Mom's Group Schedule for the remainder of this Church Year. All meetings are 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM unless noted. Please contact Sara Ortins or Alison Friedman for the meeting location.

- 4/29 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 5/6: Book group, 101 Loring House
- 5/20 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 6/9: Family BBQ, home of Rebecca Higgins, Time to be determined

## Social Action

### I've Got a Hammer: Build with Habitat in Bedford

Volunteers are needed to build a Habitat for Humanity house in Bedford, MA, weekdays and Saturdays. Long-time Habitat volunteer and UUCR member Jamie Maughan reports that more hands would be greatly welcome at the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell site. Here's a chance for our church to get actively involved with HFHGL again and to work with a family in need on building a safe, decent, affordable home. To volunteer, visit [www.lowellhabitat.org](http://www.lowellhabitat.org). For more information, contact Jamie ( [james.maughan@ch2m.com](mailto:james.maughan@ch2m.com)).

## Social Action

### Running for Your Rights: UUCR Marathon Runner Supports UUSC



From Mark Cronin-Golomb: I am excited that I will be participating in the **116th running of the Boston Marathon** on behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) on April 16, 2012. This is my second year running the marathon, and my first year running in support of UUSC!

**UUSC is a human-rights and social-justice organization** working in more than 20 countries around the world, including right here in the United States. To learn more about this organization and its vital work, visit [uuscs.org](http://uuscs.org). I am sure you will see why I have chosen to support this wonderful cause.

**I have a fundraising goal of \$ 2,500. If just 25 people support me at \$ 100 each, I will meet my goal! And if you donate \$ 100 or more, I will list your name on the back of my marathon shirt as a mile sponsor.** Of course, your contribution of any amount will be greatly appreciated.

To support me, please visit

<http://www.crowdrise.com/runforjustice/fundraiser/markcroningolomb>

and make your gift today. Or if you prefer, you can give me cash or a check made out to UUSC.

Consider your sponsorship a proxy for running the Boston Marathon. **I will run the 26.2 miles, suffer the blisters and the anguish of Heartbreak Hill, and you get to provide compassionate support to the people being oppressed around the world.** That's a pretty good deal!

Thanks in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Mark

## Social Action

### The Food Drive Continues: April 15, 22, 29



We're at 69 pounds of food donated so far, and counting! Thanks to those who brought food on April 1 and 8.

UUCR is hosting a **Spring Food Drive** for the Reading Food Pantry. **There will be a large box at each of our sanctuary entrances on April 15, 22, and 29**, to receive donations of paper goods and nonperishable foods for those in our church's community who rely on the pantry.

This event is being coordinated by Gathering Change, Inc., a local 501c3 nonprofit organization that raises awareness and funds for food pantries. Once again, GCI has partnered with the **Feinstein Foundation's Million Giveaway to Fight**

**Hunger**. The Feinstein Foundation, based in Cranston, RI, will match a percentage of every pound of food or dollar collected in the months of March and April by participating organizations. This is an opportunity to increase the funds we can pass on to the Reading pantry.

Monetary donations are also welcome!

For more information, call Judy Bousquin at 781-438-8960 or check out the websites [www.gatheringchangeinc.org](http://www.gatheringchangeinc.org) and [www.feinsteinfoundation.org](http://www.feinsteinfoundation.org). Thank you for your support!

## Social Action

[Walking the Walk: Join us for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's 15th Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace \(Sunday, May 13\)](#)



The Social Action Team and Rev. Meg invite and encourage everyone--young and old and in-between--to join in the annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace on Sunday, May 13, to benefit and support the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute in Dorchester.

(Yes, this will be Rev. Tim's first Sunday back from sabbatical--but the Walk is early, and getting home for the 11 a.m. service should be doable.)

Hundreds of people walking side by side 3.5 miles through Dorchester: urban and suburban; young and old; those for whom neighborhood violence is far away, and those for whom it is all too near, having torn their families apart; raising voices in affirmation and hope...This is the Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace, which raises awareness and much-needed money for the Institute's programs and services:

- peace education curriculum for elementary, middle, and high school students
- crisis management for families impacted by violence
- Survivors Leadership Academy
- training for professionals dealing with families impacted by violence

For info or to sign up with the UUCR Walk team, see Social Action Team members at coffee hours on April 15.

## Social Action

### Learn about the UU Urban Ministry: Annual Meeting, Thurs., May 17



Exciting things are happening at the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury. If you'd like to know more about this unique UU social justice ministry in Roxbury, please come to the 177th Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 17 (daytime)!

Our church is entitled to three official delegates at the meeting, and of course others are welcome to attend as well. If you'd like to attend as a delegate, please contact Anne Mark.

At the UUUM:

- Roxbury Youth Programs Afterschool provides a safe, enriching environment for young people during out-of-school hours.
- RYP Weekend is an exploration and mentoring program for elementary-school-age children.
- RYP Summer offers an "earn and learn" employment program for up to 15 neighborhood teens and fully paid summer camp adventures for more than 30 urban elementary-school-age children.
- Renewal House provides support and extensive services for individuals and families escaping from abusive living situations.
- United Souls is a support group and network for men in transition, struggling with urban life's most difficult challenges.

Fellow UUUR members are tutoring in the UUUM's English-as-a-Second-Language and RYP afterschool programs and helping RYP students with mock college interviews. More volunteers are always needed, in these and other areas. Contact Rev. Kate Wilkinson, [kwilkinson@uum.org](mailto:kwilkinson@uum.org), 617-318-6010.

## Social Action

### UU Mass Action 6th Annual Advocacy Day: Wed., Apr. 25

Join UUs from across MA for UU Mass Action Advocacy Day on Beacon Hill (Wed., Apr. 25). Together, call on legislators to

- secure more funding for housing for the homeless (Housing First program)
- stop the Anti-Immigrant SB 2061 bill
- continue the fight against the Three Strikes bill

Start with the Acts of Faith Breakfast (9 a.m., UUA Headquarters, 25 Beacon St., Boston). Hear Dr. Dan McKanan of Harvard Divinity School talk about his new book *Prophetic Encounters: Religion and the American Radical Tradition*. Proceeds to support the UU Mass Action Acts of Faith Blog that tells the story of UU churches in MA living their faith in the world. ( individual; group of 4)



Advocacy Day follows (10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., start at UUA Headquarters). Keynote speaker State Senator (and UU) Will Brownsberger (one of only four white legislators in MA to vote against the Three Strikes bill). Other speakers will brief the group on the legislative issues; then attendees will visit with their legislators. ( individual, youth, group of 4 (lunch provided)).

Details and registration: [uumassaction.org/advocacyday](http://uumassaction.org/advocacyday). If you plan to attend, please contact Anne Mark to coordinate transportation and group registration rates.

## More News

### [Registration for Ferry Beach Retreat Weekend Begins on Sunday April 22](#)

Our church has traditionally spends a weekend at Ferry Beach Park Assoc., the UUA conference center in Saco, Maine, and this year the dates are June 1, 2 and 3, 2012. The conference center has three dormitory buildings where families are housed together, and a brand new kitchen and dining room building. The weekend includes two nights accommodations, five meals and a light pizza supper on Friday, and all activities. Kids of all ages look forward to the sandcastle competition where everyone wins, rock painting, and the Talent/No Talent Show on Saturday night. In the past we have nature walks, kite flying, volleyball, a pick game of softball, campfire. If there is an activity you would like to offer talk to Susan Delaney. There is a beautiful Chapel in the Grove where we can have a service on Sunday. Cost is 0 per adult, 0, kids 14-17, and ages 3-13. Registration will begin on Sunday, April 22 after the first coffee hour. If you have questions or want a registration form emailed to you, you can contact Susan Delaney, [delaneys5@verizon.net](mailto:delaneys5@verizon.net)

## Our Larger Community

### Sawyer Nursery School Benefit Fundraiser on April 26, 2012

#### **Eat at Fuddruckers on April 26 and support Sawyer Nursery School**

The Fuddruckers Restaurant on Walker's Brook Drive in Reading (in the Jordan's Furniture complex) will host a fundraiser to benefit UUCR's own Sawyer Nursery School on Thursday evening, April 26 from 5 to 8 p.m. Twenty percent of all purchases made at that time by Sawyer supporters who bring in a voucher from the attached flyer will go directly to Sawyer to support enrichment activities. Enjoy a meal out and make a lot of preschoolers happy! You can print out as many copies of the flyer and voucher as you like. See you on the 26th!

## Our Larger Community

### Time To Register For Sawyer Nursery School



Spring is the time of year when families of preschoolers begin making plans for nursery school in the fall. If you or someone you know (friend, neighbor, relative, acquaintance) has a child who will be at least 2.9 years old by August 31, 2012, do urge them to consider UUCR's own Sawyer Nursery School. Sawyer is a flourishing little operation that celebrated its 50th anniversary last March. It offers a Tuesday/Thursday morning program for 3 year olds, a Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning program for 4 and 5 year olds, and the option of a weekly 'Lunch Bunch' extended day for all. It is a happy place for children, led by experienced, well-trained and loving staff members.

To schedule a tour, contact school Director Deb Harvey at 781-944-9581 or [sawyer\\_nursery\\_school@verizon.net](mailto:sawyer_nursery_school@verizon.net).

## Ivy Chord Concerts

Ellis Paul on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at 8:00PM



***Charismatic performances, approachable style and beautifully rendered story-songs***

Saturday, April 14, 2012  
8:00 pm

Tickets:

\$ 25 general admission  
\$ 23 students/seniors

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

Read what the press has to say about Ellis Paul:

*"There are artists who are good at their craft. There are artists who have developed and maximized their talent to a high degree. Then there are those fewer artists who seem simply to have been blessed with skills that outshine most others. Ellis Paul is one of those."* —John Ziegler, Duluth News Tribune

*"He's one of those few artists who can connect to the audience, making everyone in the crowd feel like he or she is actually being performed to. The sound was spot-on and the set list included some new songs from a forthcoming children's album some of which showcased subtle political lyrics. However, even Paul's songs about dragonflies still managed to sound beautiful and utterly heartbreaking."* —Adam Arrigo, Northeast Performer

[Lori McKenna: October 6, 2012](#)



***"Poignant and profound poetry. She has an uncanny ability to paint stories of the human condition in a way that reminds us all that we are not alone." ~ Keith Urban***

Saturday, October 6, 2012

8:00 pm

Tickets:

\$ 22 general admission  
\$ 20 students/seniors

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

Lori is the winner of **2011 Boston Music Awards Folk Artist of the Year.**

From Good Day LA:

*Lori McKenna is one of the most respected songwriters in country music. Her songs have been recorded by other artists including Faith Hill, Tim McGraw, and Mandy Moore.*

[John Gorka on Saturday, January 26, 2013](#)



***Energetic, acoustic folk***

***"Listening to him sing, one can get goose bumps all over. There are many reasons—fresh lyrics, a stunning emotional baritone, his twisted humor ..."*** *New York Times*

Saturday, January 26, 2013  
8:00 pm

Tickets:  
\$ 25 general admission  
\$ 23 students/seniors

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

From Ben Wakeman, Take Me To the Bridge:

*There are few contemporary songwriters that come anywhere close to the talent of John Gorka. His songs have a way of working on you long after you thought you had it all figured out. I will listen to a song that I know all the words to and can sing along with and then one day sitting at a traffic light I realize that there was a whole other layer of meaning that I had missed.*

*In 1984 John Gorka won the prestigious Kerrville New Folk competition. He has over ten albums to his credit. John is a songwriter's songwriter and his songs are championed by an amazing circle of artists including Nanci Griffith, Mary Chapin Carpenter, David Wilcox and many more.*

[Matt & Shannon Heaton on Saturday, April 13, 2013](#)



***"Their playing is masterful and inventive, their arrangements city-smart and spacious. Still, they never forget that Irish music is, at its heart, a neighborly form meant for sharing, not showing off."*—Scott Alarik, Boston Globe**

Saturday, April 13, 2013  
8:00 pm

Tickets:  
\$ 16 general admission  
\$ 14 students/seniors

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

Musically speaking, the Heaton's play the heck out of their instruments (Irish wood flute/accordion, guitar/bouzouki). After years of study in Chicago, and many nights of music in Clare, Galway, and their adopted home of Boston, Irish Music Magazine's John O'Regan wrote, "their duet playing is tight, sweet, and tasteful, lacking nothing on either technical expertise or instrumental virtuosity."

As for their singing, when Matt and Shannon perform centuries-old songs, it feels current, conversational. They make traditional music relevant to American audiences. O'Regan wrote "songwise [there are] hints an older domestic sound, the familiar down home harmonies of The Carter Family and Tim and Mollie O'Brien."

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