



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

June 11, 2012

Worship Services

Sunday, June 17, 2012

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

“Flower Communion Service”

Rev. Tim Kutzmark

Join Rev. Tim, Anne Principe, Meg Soens, and the UUCR Adult Choir for our Annual Flower Communion. Each adult and child attending the service is asked to bring a flower blossom (from garden or shop) to the service. If this is your first Flower Communion, you'll experience a truly inclusive religious ritual rich in tradition and alive with new meaning for this day and age. At this service we'll also bid a loving farewell to Meg Soens (our Intern Minister, who has completed her two year internship with us) and Alex Gordon (who is leaving as our accompanist).

NOTE: This is the final service of our regular church year. (A full program of Summer Services will begin on June 24th at 10:00 AM). This will be Rev. Tim's final service with us before his usual summer vacation and study leave.

PLANNING AHEAD—Water Communion Service on September 9th

— *Save some water* from any place you visit this summer (far or near or backyard or kitchen sink) for our Annual Water Communion and Mingling of the Waters on September 9. A few drops in a bottle or vial will allow you to participate in this meaningful and ongoing ritual of connection and community.

Worship Volunteers

Time	Role	Name
09:15 AM	Altar Flowers	Becky, Callie and Kate O'Neill In memory of Kevin O'Neill (click here to cancel)
09:15 AM	Busy Boxes	(click here to sign up)
09:15 AM	Coffee Maker(s)	(click here to sign up)
09:15 AM	Usher	(click here to sign up)
09:15 AM	Usher	(click here to sign up)
09:15 AM	Welcome Table	(click here to sign up)
11:00 AM	Coffee Maker(s)	(click here to sign up)
11:00 AM	Usher	(click here to sign up)
11:00 AM	Usher	(click here to sign up)
11:00 AM	Welcome Table	(click here to sign up)

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](#).

Please consider volunteering to help out at a worship service on our [Volunteer Signup page](#).

Featured News

Join UUCR volunteers at Food Project Farm 6/16



Want to make a difference for those who lack healthy affordable food in the Greater Boston area?

Come participate in educational games and discussion about the food system; cultivate and maintain the land; plant, tend, or harvest fresh vegetables; have fun outside; all while making a difference!

The Food Project
Saturday, June 16th
9:30am to 12:30pm
at their site in Lynn

Call or email Laura Hackel to obtain more information and to reserve your spot now.

781-820-1654 or [click to email](#)

Worship Notes

All Things Summer

SPECIAL SUMMER SERVICE TIME OF 10:00 AM STARTS ON JUNE 24

Please note your calendars that starting on Sunday, June 24, 2012 worship services will be at one time only, 10:00 AM, every Sunday through Labor Day. During our summer service months we recess after worship for fellowship and enjoy cold delightful lemonade and conversation. Please join us Sundays in the summer. Details for each of our summer worship services will be communicated shortly.

PLANNING AHEAD – WATER COMMUNION SERVICE ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9

Save some water from any place you visit this summer (far or near or backyard or kitchen sink) for our Annual Water Communion and Mingling of the Waters on September 9. A few drops in a bottle or vial will allow you to participate in this meaningful and ongoing ritual of connection and community.

OUR SUMMER WORSHIP

Our summer worship schedule begins on Sunday, June 24th. From June 24th through September 2, please join us every Sunday at 10:00 AM. During the summer we have one summer worship service time of 10:00 AM.

REV. TIM'S SUMMER SCHEDULE

Rev. Tim will begin his summer vacation on July 1st. (four weeks), followed by four weeks of study leave (intensive reading, preparation for the new church year). Rev Tim will return to the office Monday, August 27. If you would like to make an appointment to speak to Rev. Tim before the summer break, please contact Tim now at revtim@uureading.org so something can be set up before July 1st.

PASTORAL COVERAGE OVER THE SUMMER

In case of a pastoral emergency this summer, Rev. Tim can be reached by contacting a member of our Shared Ministry Team. The Shared Ministry Team Representative will know how to reach Rev. Tim if necessary. From July 1st through July 31st: Call Iris Hardin at 781-608-5416 and from August 1-26: Call Sharyn Taitz at 781-439-5836.

Caring and Sharing Coordinator

The caring and sharing coordinator is Ann Mottl. Ann can be reached [HERE](#)

President's Messages - FY13 Budget Status



Greetings,

I'd like to share with you the FY13 budget that board passed at our meeting on June 4th. This is the budget that we will present for vote to church members at the special meeting we have called for this purpose on Sunday, June 17th at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

First however I'd like to share, by way of background, the results of the Annual Budget Drive which drove our budgetary decisions. In order to pay for the minimum required church expenses, (including staff, program and property needs), the Budget Committee set the FY13 Annual Budget Drive goal to \$450,000. This amount is equivalent to our FY12 budget with the addition of expense increases that are beyond our control, such that it is a flat or "level services" budget. At our May board meeting, when the budget is typically approved, the projected total pledges raised was only \$ 417,000, a \$ 33,000 deficit. Instead of making very severe budget cuts, the board decided to send home a follow-up appeal letter to the congregation in order to inform people about the large short-fall and proposed measures that would be necessary to close the gap and to provide people with an opportunity to make an increased pledge. This appeal brought in an additional \$ 17,000. The board also raised Sawyer Nursery School rent by \$ 3,400. Yet even with an updated projected pledge total, a budget deficit still remained.

Most of the time spent at our May and June board meetings was dedicated to deliberations on how to balance the FY13 budget. Many options were considered including staff cuts, staff furloughs and charging a fee for Adult Enrichment and Faith Development classes. Input regarding staff was provided by Rev. Tim and information regarding Faith Development was provided by Anne Principe.

With all the information we brought into bear, these are the decisions we have made listed in order of their budget impact:

- 1) \$ 6,260: Eliminate UUA and MBD dues.
- 2) \$ 2,000: Eliminate funding for 11:00 Sunday service child care providers (which is only being utilized 50% of the time).

- 3) \$ 1,285: Reduce Youth Adult Committee, Coming of Age and Our Whole Lives program budgets.
- 4) \$ 1,500: Stop accepting credit card payments.
- 5) \$ 1,000: Reduce Computer Repair.
- 6) \$ 632: Reduce payroll expenses.
- 7) \$ 500: Reduce Postage expense.
- 8) \$ 500: Reduce by 50% the Faith Development Committee materials budget.

While I wish that no cuts were required, I am very pleased that we have saved staff positions and incorporated all available input to the best of our ability. In the coming year the board will be evaluating strategies to enhance the financial sustainability of the UUCR.

In the years to come, as we determine measures we can take to improve our fiscal health, we will be able to address additional items that even our goal of \$ 450,000 could not fund. We will be able to pay all staff members fair wage rate as recommended by the UUA, including our minister. We will be able to address the critical property repairs that have been delayed for many years and support an adequate property budget. We will be able to replenish our financial reserves which we have depleted over the last decade. In so doing, we will better be able to live our mission through worship, program and outreach. We will better be able to nurture our spirits and help heal our world.

I would like to thank everyone who has made a pledge to our church this year and especially to those who answered the call for an increased pledge. If you have not turned in your pledge card or your additional pledge card, please do so right away. With increased pledges, we will be able to add back into the budget some of the items that we eliminated.

Best Regards,

Tracy

Leadership News - Warrant - Special June Meeting of the
UUCR on Sunday, June 17, 2012

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING
WARRANT
SPECIAL JUNE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Sunday, June 17, 2012 In the Sanctuary at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading
in Reading, MA at 12:30 p.m.

The Members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading are hereby called to a
Special Meeting of the Church on Sunday, June 17, 2012, in the Sanctuary of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, Reading Massachusetts, at 12:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. To adopt the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Jolkovski
Clerk

Member Services Corner - June 10 , 2012 - Please Welcome Our Newest Members

Leslie Lemerise

Leslie is very excited to be joining the UUCR family. She was raised by a single mother in Peabody, MA and graduated from Salem State College with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. Leslie currently works with adults with Intellectual Disabilities. She and her husband, Robert met through MATCH.COM and have been married for 5 years. They currently live in Chelsea, MA, and share our home with three "fuzzy kids" Austin, Midnight and Daisy. In her spare time, she likes to sing and perform with local theatre companies and volunteer at local animal shelters.

Jenny Mack

Jenny grew up in Connecticut and moved to Massachusetts after attending Stonehill College. She lives in Woburn with her husband, David, and her son, Owen. Jenny worked in the field of advertising for several years before attending Lesley University for her Master's in elementary education. She has been a first grade teacher for 10 years and has been coming to UU Reading for the past two years. Jenny is looking forward to getting involved in the faith development program at UUCR, as well as participating in more community-based activities. She is grateful to her friend Sara Ortins for introducing her to this wonderful community!

Laurie Mullin

The first thing Laurie Mullin wants you to know about her is that she is so thrilled about becoming a member of UUCR. She has been looking for "her people" for a long time and here you are--only a few miles away from her home! She grew up in Wilbraham (out west near Springfield), spent her twenties working in NYC, then moved to the Boston area where she has lived in Winchester, Arlington, Reading and now Lynnfield. She and her husband Jeff have a thing for old houses and before they had kids, spent lots of time renovating. Now they spend lots of time watching sports (currently tee ball and soccer for Owen, age 6, and baseball for Ben, age 8). You will probably see Ben and Owen with her most of the time, and sometimes Jeff (when he isn't worshipping at the football field). The kids love the Faith Development Program--almost as much as they love the coffee hour snacks! Laurie is amazed by the family participation in the church and can't wait to get more involved.

Gail Page & Bob Rowlands

Gail and Bob moved to Woburn from Andover in August, 2010. They are lucky to have their grown children (they are a blended family) living nearby and still happy to share in favorite family pursuits, such as hiking, biking, boating, and games like ping pong, Catchphrase, Seven Wonders, and Laser Tag. Gail's two are Chris (31) in Cambridge and Alie (27) in Andover. Bob's two are Becky (30) in Lowell with her husband, Pete, and Sarah (25) in Haverhill. Gail grew up in Brooklyn, New York and attended Northwestern University. She has had an eclectic professional life, from teacher to software engineer to technical writer and back now to special education teaching at Stoneham High School. Bob moved around a lot growing up, and has lived in upstate New York, Virginia, Illinois, and New Hampshire as well as Massachusetts. He went to UMass Amherst and majored in Math. He's been a software engineer for a long time, and is ready for something new; he's not sure what yet. Bob and Gail met contra dancing and share a love of music. They both play recorder and Bob plays guitar as well. They have been UUs for many years. In Andover, they attended the North Parish of North Andover; Bob attended First Parish in Chelmsford before that. They had intended to visit a number of UU churches when they moved to Woburn but UUCR felt right from the start. They are very sad to be losing Meg Soens and Alex Gordon so soon after their arrival, but feel very blessed by Reverend Tim, the rest of the staff, and the church community.

Norma Richard

Norma Richard of North Reading has been attending UUCR for about 8 years. She was previously a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Wakefield. Norma is the mother of Laura Hinds, a recent graduate of the University of Vermont, and Kristen Hinds, a student at Massachusetts College of Art and Design. In her spare time, Norma enjoys hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing and long walks with her dog Dewey.

Carin Bennett Rizzo & Eric Rizzo

Carin and Eric are new to Wilmington and to the joy of owning an antique home. They purchased the Jonathan Buck House, circa 1794, and moved in August 2011. They grew up on the North Shore, Carin in Lynn and Eric in Saugus. They met in 1998, when they both worked part-time at the Colonial Club in Lynnfield (now the Boston Sports Club). Carin works as a Nurse Practitioner at Brigham and Women's Hospital, after completing her degrees at Northeastern University. Eric works as the GIS Administrator for the City of Waltham, after completing his degrees at Salem State University and the University of Maryland. They both enjoy kayaking, outdoor activities and travel. Eric is an avid runner

and just added running the Grand Canyon to his list of accomplishments. Carin and Eric have decided to join the UU because of the welcoming community, inclusive congregation; they look forward to sharing opportunities to volunteer and give back to the UUCR and surrounding community.

Ralph Rubenstein

Ralph Rubenstein was born and attended college in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ralph's earlier years were marked by the somewhat nomadic experience of a military life. He was commissioned into the US Navy and moved twelve times over the course of 24 years! Having lived in so many places, it was Reading, MA that truly captured the hearts of him and his wife. They vowed to return to the area and, after retiring from the Navy in 1980, did finally settle here. Ralph's first experience with a Unitarian Universalist congregation was at his daughter Deb's church in Washington State. He was amazed by the warmth and welcoming spirit of the community. It was several year later, after his wife's passing in 2011, that he decided to seek out a UU community of his own. He found UUCR! A few Sundays and a cup of coffee with Reverend Tim was all it took for him to feel a strong connection to the warmth of this community. He is thrilled to become a member here.

Website News - Programs, Teams and Committees Leaders - How can we help you get started?

As the church year comes to an end, please think about what, if any, online assistance you may like to avail yourself of, in getting the programs, teams and committees you lead started in the autumn.

- Please let us know if the leadership or composition of your group has changed, so we can make the appropriate changes to the group mailing lists and contact forms on the website.
- If your group has a page in the Get Involved portion of the website, please review the summary page and let us know if you need to make changes to the text. Also let us know if you'd like to add any news feeds related to the work of your group to the right margin of your summary page.
 - If your group does not have a page in the Get Involved portion of the website but would like one, please provide us the content you'd like to see posted and we'll create a summary page for your group.
- Please let us know if you need an online questionnaire for your group on the website. (In any of these cases, we can arrange for submissions to be emailed to group leaders, stored as data in a database (providing you a report at suitable times), or both.) For example:
 - If you would like to gather feedback on the past year and/or solicit input for the new year, please provide us the questions.
 - If you would like to setup an interest form, to solicit interest for participants in your group for next year, please provide us the questions.
 - If you need some sort of sign-up/enrollment capability (such as the new Worship Volunteers service), that can be arranged as well.
- Please consider including the webmasters on the distribution for meeting minutes and other internal records that you want posted on the website so members and friends can access them. (These "journal" articles will not be publicly accessible.)

The beginning of the church year is always quite frenetic, so please let us know about any of these needs as early in the summer as possible. Thanks!

[Contact Form](#)

Get Involved News

Buddhist Meditation Group

Half Day Meditation Retreat

The Buddhist Meditation Group @ UUCR invites you to a half day meditation retreat on

Saturday June 30th from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The retreat will consist of a combination of chanting, silent meditation and walking meditation. It is recommended you wear loose comfortable clothing. Please bring a meditation cushion if you prefer one over a chair.

The retreat will be followed by a pot luck vegetarian lunch.

Registration is required and free here: <http://bmgjuneretreat.eventbrite.com/>

Choir

UUCR Pianist/Organist 2012 Job Posting

Part-Time Pianist/Organist: Diverse, liberal/progressive religious church (Unitarian Universalist) seeks versatile accompanist/pianist/organist to work Thursday evening rehearsals, Sunday morning rehearsals and two Sunday morning worship services for a vibrant, mid-sized Boston North congregation. Job requires proficiency at both piano and organ and at accompanying both choir and vocal or instrumental soloists. Salary will be commensurate with education, experience and skill.

Hours: 14 hrs/week, with Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings a requirement.

Work year: 40-week work year, September – June.

Please see detailed job description [HERE](#).

Cover letters and resumes may be submitted to orgsearch@uureading.org.

Membership

The Membership Team Cordially Invites You! June 23, 2012

Please join us for a casual breakfast, socializing, and a brief highlight of our activities for next year. This event, open to all, will be held on Saturday, June 23 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall at UUCR.

The Membership Team wholeheartedly supports visitors, friends and members through a variety of activities, many needing only a small time commitment. If any one of our activities sounds interesting to you, then please join us to find out more! Your level of participation is dictated by your availability.

Our goal is to gather a team of people to represent the uniqueness of UUCR to help in any of the following areas:

- Welcome others by occasionally staffing the welcome table (less than once per month).
- Celebrate New Members by assisting with induction and refreshments on New Member Sundays.
- Greet participants and arrange refreshments at the start of UU Basics classes.
- Help us create an Ambassador Program to continue building & maintaining a welcoming, inclusive and dynamic community.
- Help determine congregant engagement in and satisfaction with our UUCR community.
- Organize a few fellowship activities, possibly a brown bag lunch, a potluck, a book reading, etc. (in coordination with other teams).

RSVP: Amy Burton, Member Services & Volunteer Coordinator, [by email \(Contact Form\)](#), or Michele Catalano, Membership Team Chairperson, [by email \(Contact Form\)](#).
[Invitation \(PDF file\)](#)

Ivy Chord Concerts

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."