



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

December 13, 2012

Worship Services

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2012

"What Is Spirituality?"

Rev. Tim Kutzmark

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

We talk a lot about spirituality. Some of us are hungry for spirituality. Many of us say we are on a spiritual journey. Others of us say we are spiritual but not religious. What is spirituality? Is it real? How can you find it? Music: 9:15-The Gail Page Recorder Ensemble; 11:00 AM-The UUCR Choir.

Also after today's services join us for Tidbits and Tour at 10:15 AM and 12:15 AM - Are you new to the church? Join Reverend Tim and Amy Burton for a quick tour of our church campus and chat about Unitarian Universalism. This twenty-minute mini-introduction will give you a chance to meet Rev. Tim and Amy and ask any questions you might have. No registration necessary! Meet Amy Burton at the front of the church after both services.

Click [HERE](#) to see a video invitation to this weekend's worship.

9:15 AM Service

Please volunteer:

[Click here to sign up for Altar Flowers](#)

[Click here to sign up for Busy Boxes](#)

[Click here to sign up for Coffee Maker\(s\)](#)

[Click here to sign up for Usher](#)

[Click here to sign up for Welcome Table](#)

Time	Role	Name
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09:15 AM	Usher	Kathleen Sheehan
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11:00 AM Service

Please volunteer:

[Click here to sign up for Coffee Maker\(s\)](#)

[Click here to sign up for Usher](#)

[Click here to sign up for Welcome Table](#)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2012 - 1:00 PM

"When The Holidays Hurt - A Service of Support"

Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Rev. Laura Cavicchio, and Rev. Maddie Sifantus

1:00 PM

Join Rev. Tim and members of our Pastoral Care Team for a gentle service of support for anyone who is grieving a loss, challenged, hurting, or struggling in any way during this holiday season. The holidays can be such a difficult time for many of us. Perhaps we've lost a loved one, or a job, or our sense of hope. Perhaps we struggle with depression or stress or anxiety. Perhaps someone we love is ill, or we are ill. Perhaps we feel alone. We are opening our doors to anyone who hurts in any way this holiday season, and offering a safe and healing place for comfort and support. Everyone from the community is welcome. Invite a friend. *(Please note special 1:00 PM time)*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012 - 7:30 PM

Earth Vespers: A Mid-week Spiritual Service

"Celebrating the Winter Solstice"

Wednesday, December 19, 7:30-8:30 PM

Fellowship Hall

Led by Rev. Tim Kutzmark and Rev. Maddie Sifantus with special musician Roald Wilson (Drums)

Join Rev. Tim for a nature-focused evening of spiritual reflection, ritual, and community connection. Music will be provided by Roald Wilson, with additional music and worship leadership from Rev. Maddie Sifantus from the UU church in Wakefield. This meditative service is a perfect way to explore earth-based spirituality and to connect to the wisdom of the natural world through readings, rhythm, and ritual. This service will explore the wisdom revealed in the Winter Solstice, and invite us to reflect on our own change of seasons. Youth and adults are invited. This service will be in Fellowship Hall, and we'll gather in a sacred circle to worship together.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays

9:15 and 11:00 AM

Nursery care, playschool and all children's Faith Development during 9:15 service only.

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

PLAN AHEAD FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012

Please plan to attend one of our beautiful Christmas Eve Services

At 5:30 PM we have a Family Service and at 7:15 PM we celebrate our Traditional Candlelight Service

The 5:30 PM service is an interactive child-friendly service suited to families and children who might need to wiggle a bit. The service will include the telling of the Nativity Story and our annual pageant. The UUCR Choir will sing. As an opportunity to help our children reach out beyond themselves on Christmas Eve, we are requesting that each child please bring a non-perishable food item to the 5:30 PM service for our special collection for local food pantry. And at 7:15 PM we celebrate our Traditional Candlelight Service - a reflective service of carols and readings, ending with the traditional candle lighting and passing of the flame. The UUCR Adult Choir will offer selections, including the long-standing choral benediction of the "Hallelujah Chorus."

JOIN US FOR TIDBITS AND TOUR!

Tidbits and Tour this Sunday at 10:15 AM and 12:15 AM

Are you new to the church? Join Reverend Tim and Amy Burton for a quick tour of our church campus and chat about Unitarian Universalism. This twenty-minute mini-introduction will give you a chance to meet Rev. Tim and Amy and ask any questions you might have. No registration necessary! Meet Amy Burton at the front of the church after both services.

THE FAITH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NEXT TERM



The Faith Development Committee is looking for a few more volunteers for the next term. Please click [HERE](#) for more details.

Worship Notes

POINSETTIAS/DEDICATIONS FOR OUR HOLIDAY SERVICES - DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL MONDAY DECEMBER 17

NEEDED: Dedications and Donations

Our Deadline Has Been Extended to Monday December 17 at 9 AM

Please Contribute for Holiday Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

This year the UUCR will be beautifying our sanctuary for the Christmas season and throughout the first week of January with poinsettias. As was done the past few years, plants will not be going home: Your donation will be purely a gift. We will be putting your dedication in the order of service and using *combined donations* to purchase a few large lush plants. Rosemary has seen these plants at the greenhouse and they are gorgeous! Please send your dedication to the church office, by printing and filling-out the form you can find [HERE](#) and attaching a check for \$ 12. Please either mail your form and check to 239 Woburn Street, Reading MA 01867, place it in the floor safe in the church mailroom, or place it in the offertory plate during worship services. Alternatively, please call the church office at 781-944-0494.



The Greenhouse deadline has been extended to Monday, December 17.

2012 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS CALENDAR

Please enjoy a preview of our 2012 Holiday events on campus. Plan to join us at one of the many festive or reflective offerings we have during this yuletide time. Please click [HERE](#) to review.



CARING AND SHARING COORDINATOR

The caring and sharing coordinator for the month of December is Sharlene Reynolds-Santo who can be reached at 781-942-1848 or click [HERE](#) to email her.

Director of Faith Development's Messages - Curious, wise and playful?

Our UUCR children and youth seeking teachers and leaders to join their Faith Development Explorations beginning in January!

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Website News - Please consider using Amazon.com for Holiday Shopping

The church is an Amazon.com affiliate and receives a commission on purchases made shortly after you go to Amazon.com from the link on the home page of our church website. If you're inclined to use Amazon.com for holiday purchases, would you please consider following our affiliate link, to support the church?

To have your purchase benefit the church, simply enter Amazon.com by clicking on the image below, then put the items you wish to purchase into your cart, and then complete your transaction.



You'll find this image on several pages on the website, so you'll be able to find it so your future purchases can benefit the church as well.

To help support the church when buying products from Amazon.com, please click the image above or click [HERE](#). For more information about the affiliate program, please click [HERE](#).

Adult Enrichment

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY RETREAT: A DAY OF SILENCE, LAUGHTER, CREATIVITY, SPIRIT



January 12: 8 AM to 4 PM

All women of the greater UUCR community are invited to partake in a day of reflection, exploration, and sharing. Anne Principe, Director of Faith Development, will facilitate this time to come together.

Sorry, no late arrivals, early departures.

\$ 20 for members; \$ 30 non-members (to cover the cost of refreshments, lunch, and materials).

Please sign up by January 8 by clicking [HERE](#).

NOURISHING A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH FOOD AND YOUR WEIGHT - BEGINNING JANUARY 9, 2013

10 Sessions on Wednesday evenings beginning January 9, 2013

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Loring 103

The purpose of this group is to offer education, skill development and coaching support to individuals seeking to create a healthier relationship with food and weight. The program includes weekly 60-90 minute group sessions for ten weeks. Mindfulness-based practices (meditation, informal mindfulness practices), complementary approaches to managing eating behaviors (emotional freedom techniques and hypnosis), group discussion and education regarding nutrition and exercise are the core components of the program.

A commitment to attending all sessions is requested, as well as a fee to cover expenses for the program. To learn more about this group contact contact Paula by phone (617-835-7087) or email by clicking [HERE](#).

Terry Courier is a personal trainer, hypnotherapist, Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) practitioner and yoga teacher. Paula Koppel is an integrated health coach and nurse practitioner who also facilitates mindfulness training.

Please register by signing up, by clicking [HERE](#); or by contacting Paula by phone (617-835-7087) or email by clicking [HERE](#).

UU BASICS - SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2013

Unitarian Universalist Basics

Sunday, January 27, 2013 from 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

What do Unitarian Universalists really believe? Would you like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism? Join other folks new to the church community for this interactive and informative introduction to our faith and church community. You'll get to spend time with Rev. Tim, Amy Burton, our Member Services and Volunteer Coordinator, and other special guests. Together we will learn, connect and maybe even have a little fun! We offer lunch and childcare as part of this condensed course. Registration is required so please click [HERE](#) to sign up for this session or you can also contact Amy Burton at 781-944-0494, ext. 104 or click email Amy [HERE](#) with any questions!

News

Faith Development Explorations News

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS FOR ALL AGES

Coming up for All Ages:

December 23rd:

9:15 AM Families begin in the Sanctuary and then children/youth (and parents if desired) are "sung out" to the Atrium. All present will then be a part of a "living pageant," meaning we will create it together.

December 24th:

5:30 PM Family Christmas Eve Service with Pageant

Green Sanctuary

NEW RECYCLING INITIATIVE BEGINS - RECYCLE THOSE OLD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

The Green Sanctuary Team will be collecting non-working Christmas light strings for recycling. They can be left on the porch of Loring House November 25th through January 6th. Please remove large light bulbs.

More News

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: LEADER FOR UUCR GARDEN GROUP

"A garden should make you feel you've entered privileged space -- a place not just set apart but reverberant -- and it seems to me that, to achieve this, the gardener must put some kind of twist on the existing landscape, turn its prose into something nearer poetry."

— Michael Pollan, *Second Nature: A Gardener's Education*

While our church may not have the nicest lawn in town, we are justifiably proud of the landscaping of our various planting areas. Look around our grounds some time and you'll see beautiful plantings adorning our pathways and border areas. As you can imagine, these did not just plant and grow themselves. They are there as a result of the efforts of several of our members who have worked often below the radar screen for years helping our campus to look as nice as it does. Most recently, our Garden Group has been led by Whitney Perkins who has had to step away due to other commitments. We now need someone interested in putting their own "twist" on our existing landscape...to come forward to pick up Whitney's pruning shears and coordinate this committee for us. While a complete job description is available, most of the responsibility entails organizing and coordinating the efforts of a small group of volunteers who can sustain what we have and use our much-too-small budget to make some gentle improvements each year.

If interested, please contact Mark Taitz and David Kay by clicking [HERE](#) and we can give you a better idea of what's entailed.



More News

SNOW CANCELLATIONS

Should it be necessary to cancel worship services/Faith Development at the UUCR due to inclement weather this winter, the cancellation announcement will be posted on the WBZ Storm Center. Please log on to www.wbz1030.com Cancellations will be broadcast via a scroll also on WBZ-TV and CBSBoston.com.

Upcoming Events

December 13, 2012 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

December 13, 2012 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
PFlag (Lor-101)

December 13, 2012 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

December 16, 2012 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

December 16, 2012 10:00 am - 11:00 am
"Tidbits & Tour" 10:15am & 12:15pm

December 16, 2012 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

December 16, 2012 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
"When the Holidays Hurt" (Sanctuary)

December 16, 2012 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
SHYP (Lor-103)

December 17, 2012 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Finance Council (Lor-101)

December 17, 2012 7:15 pm - 9:15 pm
Men's Spirituality Group (Lor-103)

December 17, 2012 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Buddhist Meditation (FH)

December 18, 2012 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Faith Development Comm. (Lor-205)

December 19, 2012 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Earth Vespers: Winter Solstice (FH)
(Sanctuary)

December 20, 2012 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

December 20, 2012 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

December 20, 2012 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Choir Party (FH)

December 23, 2012 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

December 23, 2012 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

December 24, 2012 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Family Christms Eve Service (Sanctuary)

December 24, 2012 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Traditional Christmas Eve Service
(Sanctuary)

For more upcoming events, visit our Calendar by clicking [HERE](#).

Ivy Chord Concerts

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 Heatons 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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