



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

January 10, 2013

Worship Services

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2013

"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-Classical piano with Jennifer Maxwell; 11:00 AM-The UUCR Choir

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](#)

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](#)

Time	Role	Name
11:00 AM	Usher	Dakota Raine

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2012 - 5:00 PM SERVICE

"Second Sunday"

Rev. Tim Kutzmark and Anne Principe, Director of Faith Development

5:00 PM

Join us for our next "Second Sunday" on January 13, 2013 at 5:00 PM. Relax with others for a meal and then enjoy an circle of spirit and friendship, themed activity, and a great discussion. Sign up by January 10th (Thursday) [HERE](#), or through our Director of Faith Development, Anne Principe by clicking [HERE](#).

This time for all ages and stages is for singles, couples, families, children, youth...you! You are encouraged to bring a friend.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013

"Kids, Guns, Non-Violence and America"

Martin Luther King Sunday

Rev. Tim Kutzmark

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

Martin Luther King, Jr. taught non-violence. He was outspoken against the Vietnam War. What would he, a victim of gun violence, make of America's fascination with guns today? Rev. Tim revisits and re-evaluates a sermon he preached six years ago about the intersection of kids, guns, and our Unitarian Universalist values. Come and be part of the discussion. Music: 9:15-Roald Wilson, vocals; 11:00 AM-The UUCR Choir

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

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!

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UUCR AUCTION

Hold the date of Saturday, February 9, 2013, at 7:00 PM when the UUCR holds our Annual Soiree and Auction.

Worship Notes

NEXT SECOND SUNDAY IS JANUARY 13TH

Hello Folks!

Relax with others for a meal and then enjoy an circle of spirit and friendship, themed activity, and a great discussion. Sign up by January 10th (Thursday) [HERE](#), or through our Director of Faith Development, Anne Principe by clicking [HERE](#).

This time for all ages and stages is for singles, couples, families, children, youth...you! You are encouraged to bring a friend.

Minister's Messages - January 10, 2013

Dear Friends:



"I just can't wrap my head around it to figure it out," a friend said to me earlier this week. She was referring to, most specifically, a quandary she was facing. But she was also commenting upon life in general. The next day, I found a quote that seemed to speak to the challenge of living in this age of uncertainty, incivility and anxiety. Sunday's sermon will explore this more fully. Until then, enjoy the quote by Aart Van Der Leeuw:

The mystery of life
is not a problem to
be solved,
but a reality
to be experienced.

See you on the path (and at church),
Tim

Director of Faith Development's Messages - In Wintertime

As much as I deeply value the spiritual metaphors that mark the change of the seasons, as much as I love how snow makes everything beautiful, slower, quieter, I get achy and cranky in wintertime. I get cold. And so every year I try improve my attitude. I welcome my tiny, tiny successes. Over the December holidays, I made a commitment to walk to the stormy beach or wild woods as many days of the week that I could. After the initial resistance (day after day), each walk provided some small piece of progress. I was amazed on the walks when the waves rolled and roared and crashed with ferocity, only to defy their nature days a few days later when the sea was almost as placid as a lake in the morning. I followed dim paths in woods – obstructed by snow-topped trees – and was humbled by the number of footprints that when before mine. On New Year's Eve, I walked in the woods way past dusk and discovered my ability to easily find my way by moonlight. I counted my steps, I paced my steps. With headphones on, listened to 45 minutes of continuous chanting. I admired how warm a home can look at night. I wondered how it is that some homes are pieces of art in themselves while others are severely only built as shelter.

It was still cold though. Yet over the past two winters, I had been scribing bits of conversations with my partner about this topic – this daunting season. He talked about that cold as wonderful, the barrenness as beautiful, the non-lush landscape as potent. And his eyes smiled in gladness.

Last Sunday a few of you asked about the words I spoke for the Opening Words. The piece, "And So," is the collection of these bits of my meager learning. I have a long way to go and I know there are pathways and tides to welcome me.

And So

*so it is winter and you can see farther than most hopeful days the shock of our container now
whimsical and moody traditional and methodical
certain and humble obedient and beautiful
because it is winter you can see the contour of the land
the way we have etched ourselves on the stretch of the horizon icy breath, brash burn
a coma for a while until dirt spring
death crumbled greenery lulling into frozen stillness, bare
it is winter so all the creatures' fortresses are revealed to themselves brooks now named
a trickle of sweat dripping a mere incline
to no where in particular drying up before
it is winter and all the precious hovels are just a glance from the road now trees so well leafed
most of the time, defying
bushes paid to hide lies hoarding, pedestals,
bolted*

*in wintertime you can see what your pockets wouldn't hold pennies, dimes
discarded like a grain of sand on your finger where you could never look
would never look, only look away*



Coming up for All Ages:

January 13th:

9:15 AM Faith Development Explorations

5 - 7 PM Second Sunday for All Ages: Be a part of our chalice of community spirit, share a meal, a themed-activity and meaningful discussion. Sign up here!!

January 16th:

7 – 8:30 PM Third Wednesday session for COA Youth and COA Parents

January 20th:

9:15 AM Faith Development Exploration: Just/Us Multi-age Activity

January 27th:

9:15 AM Faith Development Explorations

Adult Enrichment

WHAT DO I WANT TO DO WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE? - FEBRUARY 23, 2012

What Do I Want To Do With The Rest of My Life?

Saturday, February 23, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Facilitated by Ann McClorey Fisher

Are you at that point in your life when you're stepping back – taking stock of where you've been and thinking about what lies ahead? Are there interests that you yearn to pursue? Are there changes – big or small – that you want to make? Is the life you're living in alignment with your passions and principles? Join with others for a morning of personal exploration. Using exercises involving private reflection and group conversations, we will clarify values, articulate dreams and make commitments aimed toward creating lives of passion and purpose.

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

For more information about this program, contact Ann McClorey Fisher by clicking [HERE](#).

INTERGENERATIONAL BOOK CLUB MEETS FEBRUARY 27, 2013 TO DISCUSS THE BOOK "RULES"

The next meeting of the Intergenerational Book Club takes place on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM in Loring House, Room 101. Our next book is "Rules" by Cynthia Lord.

What 12 year old child doesn't want to just have a *normal* family? Just what is normal? Catherine is dealing with just that in a family that revolves around the needs and often inappropriate behaviors of her younger autistic brother, whom she cares deeply about, yet is frequently embarrassed by. Catherine forms an unlikely friendship with a boy named Jason, who leads her take a close look at herself, her family, her brother, and almost anyone with disabilities in a whole new light.

Please Join us! Snacks will be served.

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

For further information, please contact Diane Chapin by clicking [HERE](#) or Beth Brauer by clicking [HERE](#).

News

Buddhist Meditation Group

HALF DAY RETREAT - WAKEFIELD

The Buddhist Meditation Group @ UUCR will be joining the Wakefield UU church's Sacred Pause meditation group for a half day retreat. Please join us on Saturday January 26th, from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM in Wakefield.

The retreat is one of the Wakefield Church's Bicentennial Year events and will be in the Social Hall. Join Rev. Maddie, Rev. Ralph Galen and Andrew Furst of the Buddhist Meditation @ UUCR for a day of spiritual practices including Qigong, walking meditation, singing meditation, Vipassana (Mindfulness) meditation and more.

We will share a potluck vegetarian lunch; please bring something to share. Free will offering.

Registration is required and FREE at the following website <http://wuu2013.eventbrite.com/>

Choir

NEWS FROM THE CHOIR

Dear Choir Members and Friends,

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! What great things we have accomplished and what great opportunities await us! Read on and tell us what you think!

Following our highly successful performance of Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" we are now excited to talk about singing Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. We're hoping for a performance date of May 19 in the afternoon, after the church service. For planning purposes, it would require a couple of Saturdays over the course of late winter/early spring (beginning in late January) to rehearse. In early spring - 8 weeks out - we would begin the longer rehearsals. To have the same kind of power and majesty we experienced Christmas Eve with the Hallelujah Chorus, it would be fabulous to have more folks join us, so we'll need your enthusiasm to invite friends, in and out of church, to join us.

Click on the link provided below and see what you think. There are online learning tools available to help you out. For those interested, there are solo and small ensemble opportunities.

So...give it a click and listen, [HERE](#).

Mark and the Music Committee

Ivy Chord Coffee House

CALLING ALL IVY CHORD BAKERS AND JOHN GORKA TICKETS FOR SALE AT UPCOMING COFFEE HOURS

The Ivy Chord Coffee House needs bakers for the John Gorka concert on January 26. Let Beth Murray know if you can contribute.

Perhaps you have extra treats at your house from all those extra holiday desserts? Would you consider freezing them and contributing them?

Contact Beth Murray by clicking [HERE](#) or by phone at 781-229-9394.

Ivy Chord tickets will also be sold for the John Gorka performance during our Social Hours on Sunday, January 6, January 13 and January 20th.

Finally, Ivy Chord tickets can be purchased online [HERE](#)

Social Action

READING FOOD PANTRY: HOW TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

On Christmas Eve, at the 5:30 church service, our congregation donated food for the Reading Food Pantry. **Indeed, we can donate paper goods and nonperishable food items year-round, to support the roughly 90 families--our church's neighbors--who turn to the pantry for help.** The donation basket is in the front foyer (Woburn St. entrance), under the coat rack. Ed Barbagallo kindly transports donations to Old South Methodist in Reading Square, where the pantry is located.

Some of the most requested items are juice, juice boxes, coffee, canned meats and fish, stew, hash, chili, canned fruits, rice (brown and white), boxed and canned potatoes, canned pasta, brownie and cake mix, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, unsweetened cereal, detergent, toilet tissue, shampoo, and toothpaste.

The pantry also needs cash donations to provide supermarket vouchers for perishable items. Checks (payable to Reading Food Pantry) can be sent to Reading Food Pantry, 6 Salem St., Reading, MA 01867-2697.

Social Action

IMMIGRATION REFORM - A FREE COMMUNITY PRESENTATION ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 11 AT BILLERICA FIRST PARISH

Please consider attending a discussion on Immigration Reform.

Legal Questions and Moral Issues - Free Community Presentation & Discussion on Friday, January 11, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Billerica First Parish, located at 7 Concord Road (on the common), Billerica, MA.

Billerica First Parish Social Justice Cte. is hosting a presentation by Jack and Linda Smith, who are members of Brookline UU Church and the Boston New Sanctuary Movement and will lead a discussion about the local and national issues of immigration reform. Immigration issues have been an important, often divisive and polarizing topic for many years, but now, more faith, law enforcement, and business leaders are working towards consensus on solutions to the pressing need for common-sense, comprehensive immigration reform. We invite business and community leaders, and members of all faith communities as well as the general public to come and learn more about what these issues mean not only as legal questions but also as a moral issue as we explore the important historical and recent events that help us understand the current local as well as national immigration situation, Massachusetts and U.S. policy affecting immigrants today and new legislation that will be introduced in the Massachusetts legislature in 2013. Personal stories will also be shared of undocumented immigrants, including Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas who answers one of the common questions in the immigration debate: "Why don't undocumented immigrants get in line and come to the U.S. legally?" We will also examine ways to be involved - individually, through a church, or with other immigrant rights groups - through advocacy, witness or direct service.

This is part of Billerica First Parish's monthly community series of social justice presentations that are free and open to the public. The Billerica First Parish is handicapped accessible and all are welcome. Light refreshments. For further information, please call 978-663-2293.

Social Action

SAVE THE DATE OF MONDAY JANUARY 21 FOR A MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CELEBRATION

Please plan to join the Town of Reading Human Relations Advisory Committee, and the Town of Reading at this important gathering. This event will take place on Monday, January 21 at the Reading Memorial High School Performing Arts Center. A continental breakfast will be available between 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The program will commence at 10:00 AM with entertainment from local Reading schools, as well as a featured speaker. All are welcome! For further information, please contact HRAC members Lori Hodin at 339-927-7121 or Monique Pillow Gnanaratnam at 781-944-5315.

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.

More News

MISSING TABLE

Have you borrowed or seen a small oak table that belongs in the narthex at church?

Bill and Carolyn Grace purchased and finished this little table specifically for a small area of our Woburn Street entryway several years ago when our elevator was installed. It was part of the refurbishing of the narthex and we would love to see it back in its place. We think that it went missing this past September.

If you have any information please call Bill and Carolyn Grace at 781-944-9353 or let the church office know [HERE](#)

More News

NEW HANDICRAFT GROUP

This group will be meeting every Monday afternoon, except when the office is closed on Monday holidays, in Loring 101 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, starting January 7th. We invite anyone interested in making items for next year's Kris Kringle Fair Boutique to join us. Also, if you just enjoy needlework and a social gathering, feel free to come. We have a large amount of donated yarn to share. And we have LOTS of ideas for projects. For further info, please call Devika/Ellen Hill at (781) 872-1332 or email her by clicking [HERE](#).

More News

SNOW SHOVELER WANTED!

The Sawyer Nursery School at 243 Woburn Street is looking for a responsible adult who would be willing to shovel and sand the front and back walkways to the school by 8:00 a.m. on weekdays when there is a light snowfall (4 inches or less). Shoveling is not needed for major snowstorms as a commercial service will handle that job then. The task is expected to take less than an hour, and Sawyer would pay \$ 30 to \$ 40 per snowfall, depending on the amount of snow. The ability to return to shovel again for 11:30 a.m. dismissal time in the case of ongoing snow would be desirable but not necessary.

If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact school Director Deb Harvey at the school at 781-944-9581, or by email by clicking [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

January 10, 2013 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
MBD Teachers' Mtng. (Loring-205)

January 10, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

January 10, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
PFlag (Lor-101)

January 13, 2013 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

January 13, 2013 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

January 13, 2013 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Music Comm. (Lor-103)

January 13, 2013 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Second Sundays (FH) (CH) (Sanctuary)
(Lor-103) (Lor-205)

January 13, 2013 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
SHYP (Lor-103)

January 14, 2013 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Handicraft Group (Loring-101)

January 14, 2013 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Buddhist Meditation (FH)

January 15, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Faith Development Comm. (Lor-205)

January 16, 2013 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Third Wednesday (FH) (Sanctuary)

January 17, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Mothering Connection (Lor-205)

January 17, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

January 18, 2013 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
"New to UUCR Potluck" (FH)

January 19, 2013 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Quilter's Group (FH)

January 20, 2013 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

January 20, 2013 10:00 am - 11:00 am
"Tidbits & Tour" 10:15am & 12:15pm

January 20, 2013 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

January 20, 2013 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
SHYP (Lor-103)

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.

Supported in part by a grant from the Reading Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



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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