



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

February 21, 2013

Worship Services

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2013

"Finding True Identity"

New Member Sunday

Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Minister

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

Who are we? Why are we here? Does our life matter? These are big questions, and we'll explore them as we take a fresh look at the life of Jesus of Nazareth, a human being who wrestled with just these same questions.

Music: 9:15-Ron Cavicchio, vocals; 11:00 AM- 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 Usher](#)

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

Time	Role	Name
09:15 AM	Coffee Maker(s)	Membership Team

11:00 AM Service

Please volunteer:

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

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

Time	Role	Name
11:00 AM	Coffee Maker(s)	Membership Team

SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2013

"A Letter From Satan: Skepticism and Prayer"

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Minister

10:00 AM

Let's all get together! Today, for something special, we are going to offer just one service (at 10 AM). We'll bring together all the folks from the 9:15 and 11:00 am services so we can meet each other and celebrate together. Rev. Tim will offer a sermon entitled "A Letter From Satan: Skepticism and Prayer." Faith Development classes for children will be offered. The choir will sing, and Rose McAuley will bring some additional gospel vocals to the service. The sanctuary will be full. Come and join us and see who you've been missing. The annual budget drive committee will be hosting a gathering afterwards with discussion and reflective discussion about the church. Refreshments will be served

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2013

"To You Much Has Been Given"

Commitment Sunday

Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Minister

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

We are not self-created. We exist because of those who came before us, and the decisions they made to pass on the legacy of life to future generations. Today we'll explore the spiritual concept of 'stewardship'—taking care of this present moment so there will be a future for those who come after us. Music: 9:15 – Lorraine Dennis, Liz Lovell, and Molly Smith (vocal trio); 11:00 AM- UUCR Choir. *Today is Commitment Sunday, the day we make our pledge for the church year starting July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.*

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

ANNUAL BUDGET DRIVE GATHERINGS

On Commitment Sunday (March 17) the UUCR congregation will come together to pledge our annual financial support for our church. In preparation for Commitment Sunday, the church is sponsoring four gatherings to share food, drink and discussion about the challenges and hopes for UUCR. Please come to one of the events and join a thought provoking discussion about our roles in the past, present and future of UUCR.

Friday, March 1, 7:30 PM - The Home of George Marinakis and Molly Smith, 417 Summer Avenue, Reading. Food and drinks.

[Please signup for this gathering by clicking here.](#)

Sunday, March 3, 11:30 AM - Fellowship Hall, lunch will be served.

[Please signup for this gathering by clicking here.](#)

Friday, March 8, 7:30 PM - The home of Tracy and Jim Sopchak, 642 Haverhill Street, Reading. Food and drinks.

[Please signup for this gathering by clicking here.](#)

Sunday, March 10, 10:30 AM - Fellowship Hall, brunch will be served.

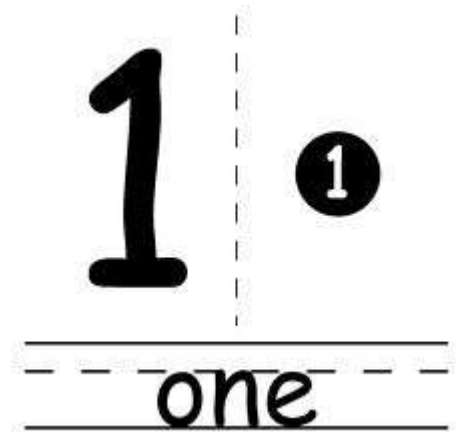
[Please signup for this gathering by clicking here.](#)

HAVE YOU NOTED YOUR CALENDAR? - WE ARE HAVING A ONE SERVICE SUNDAY ON MARCH 3

Let's all get together!

Our special one service date of Sunday, March 3 is fast approaching! On this day we will have only ONE worship service at a special time of 10:00 AM. We recommend that you note your electronic and home calendars and remind all family members.

We'll bring together all the folks from the 9:15 and 11:00 am services so we can meet each other and celebrate together. Faith Development classes for children will be offered. The choir will sing. The sanctuary will have room for all.



STARLIGHT SOIREE AND AUCTION RESCHEDULED TO SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23



The Starlight Soiree is THIS Saturday!

You won't want to miss the Starlight Soiree and Auction, rescheduled for this Saturday, February 23rd. We will have all the expected UUCR delicacies, entertainment and fabulous auction offerings. We just need YOU to make the evening a complete success. It will begin at 6:00 with food, music and silent auction, and the live auction will begin at 7:00.

Unfortunately there will be no childcare provided. However, we hope you will make your own arrangements so that you can still join in all the fun and community the evening offers.

The Soiree is our major winter fundraiser to help support the ongoing life of our church. You can think of it as a jazzed-up coffee hour!

THE DOORS OPEN at 6:00 pm with a generous preprandial. Enjoy the musical talents of our church members and friends while you feast on sumptuous appetizers, mouth-watering desserts, and fine wine. Silent auction and sign-ups are available as soon as you arrive, and the live auction starts at 7:00. The suggested donation for this evening is \$ 10. Come with your partner, some friends or solo. However you arrive, this is a perfect place to enjoy an entertaining evening while at the same time supporting our church.

READ ON FOR A SAMPLING of the items which will be offered.

We have the ever-popular sign-ups, including the International Dinner, UUCR Hike of the Month, Girls' Night...In, Take a Walk in the Woods, and Ladies' Tea Party. New this year is the March Madness Chili Cook-off. Some of the goods and services featured are piano lessons with

our very own and incredibly talented Jennifer Maxwell, Wedgewood china, a personalized altar arrangement, handmade jewelry, Ivy Chord tickets, or a sermon by Rev. Tim.



We will also be offering delicious dinners, such as a South American dinner with the Villarroyels, a poolside dinner at the Sopchaks and a dinner of Afghan specialties at the Wood-Beckwiths. If you want to get away, you can bid on the Kittery waterfront. Ann and Tony Fisher are bringing back their walk through Boston, a favorite in years past. This is just an idea of what is to come.

[The Auction Booklet can be downloaded by clicking here.](#)

Once again, we'll be offering a Raffle with a Twist! Tickets are \$ 50 each and good for any item at the auction. That's right...anything! A dinner, a service, a vacation home. Plus, you may buy as many chances as you like.

To make the auction a huge success, we need both your donations and your help. If you like to cook, please [contact Fran Sansalone](#) to make an appetizer or dessert. We can also use assistance for both set-up and cleanup. For donations or to volunteer, please [contact Dru Wood-Beckwith](#) at 781.944.5030 or [by email](#), or [contact Liz Lovell](#) at 978-887-9898 or [by email](#). The most important ingredient for a successful event is YOU! It is a fun evening for a great cause. We look forward to seeing you on February 23rd.

It Can't Be a Party Without the Food

Only 1 week until the Starlight Soiree - our annual UUCR auction. You can help by contributing either an appetizer or dessert to share. Your contribution can be a family favorite or a cutting-edge delicacy. All we ask is that you make sure it requires no more than a fork or spoon to eat. Please let one of the food coordinators know if you can help out by [contacting Fran Sansalone](#) at 781-944-2444 [or by email](#), or [by contacting Ann Fisher](#) at 781-942-1634 [or by email](#).

Worship Notes

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. The outgoing church message will also be changed to indicate the cancellation of services at 7:00 AM on Sunday morning. Please call the main church number at 781 944 0494 and listen to the outgoing message. Finally a church newsblast will be issued with the same alert. Please listen or watch WBZ, call the church, and check your incoming email.

BE A STAR - USHER ON SUNDAY!

Ushers are integral to the success of Sunday morning service, having the key duties of welcoming people as they enter and taking the collection. All of us who enjoy Sunday services are encouraged to usher four times per year. If each of us did that, then we could easily fill this important need. Please see our upcoming worship services page to see when you can contribute next in this meaningful and essential area.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A TRADITIONAL PASSOVER SEDER SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2013

Rabbi Bart Perlman will hold a traditional Passover Seder at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 30, 2013 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Doors will open at 5:30 PM. This event will include a full Passover meal. To RSVP and receive information on the cost of meal donation please contact Lou Damelin by Wednesday March 20th. You can [contact Lou by clicking here](#). This RSVP deadline is necessary in order to prepare for the purchase of the full Passover meal. All are welcome to share in this festive holiday.

FINAL CALL: OUR NEXT NEW MEMBER SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 24, 2013

If you want to become an official member of UUCR, our next New Member Sunday is February 24. We'll share in our ritual of welcome and membership during the service, and then all new members are invited to a special coffee hour. Please let Rosemary Fiori, our church administrator know as soon as possible if you are considering membership at 781.944.0494 or [contact Rosemary by email](#).

ORDER SPRING PLANTS FOR OUR EASTER SERVICES SUNDAY MARCH 31, 2013

We are asking UUCR members and friends to help beautify Our Sanctuary for the Easter Services on Sunday March 31. Order Tulip or Daffodil or Lily or Azaleas Plant(s) – you choose! The flowers will decorate the Sanctuary for both the 9:15 AM and the 11:00 AM Easter Services. We are also asking for plant dedications, in memory of or in celebration of a loved one. Please indicate your dedication on the attached form, where requested. If this dedication part of the order form is left blank, Rosemary will assume that there is no dedication.



These plants are lovingly grown at a Massachusetts greenhouse and stunning every year. The hardy azaleas as well as bulbs can eventually be transported to your yard. (Please take only the plant(s) type(s) that you ordered and prepaid home after the second service on Sunday March 31. Any plants remaining after the second service will be delivered to those who are home bound the next day.)

Please use the attached form and attach a check made out to UUCR for \$ 15.00 per plant, and leave the form and check in our grey safe in our copy room, or drop into the collection plate on Sunday, or mail the form to Rosemary Fiori, Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, 239 Woburn Street, Reading, MA 01867. All orders must be called in to the greenhouse on the morning of Monday March 18th. This gives the greenhouse adequate time to reserve our plants. Please call Rosemary at 781-944-0404 if you have any questions!

[Click here to open the form for donating spring plants for Easter Services.](#)

Minister's Messages - February 21, 2013



Dear Friends:

At about 6:30 AM on Thursday morning I was out at the reservoir at the Wilmington/Woburn line, where I walk the dogs most mornings. The wind was brisk, the temperature was in the 20s, the ice on the water was hard enough to walk upon, and the sun rising was simply breathtaking. As one who was never a big fan of winter in the past, I've learned to cherish each winter morning because, rather than curse the cold and ice, I have decided to step fully into what they have to offer. Perhaps there is a greater life lesson in that practice.

Three quick reminders for us:

- The blizzard of two weeks ago delayed our Starlight Soiree and auction. The new date is this Saturday evening in Fellowship Hall. Let's keep our fingers and toes crossed that snow doesn't interfere once more. I'm planning on being there to enjoy the music, the food, the friendly faces and conversations. Yes, the Soiree is a big fundraiser for the church, but it is more importantly an evening of community. I hope to see you there, beginning at 6:00 pm.
- We are moving fully into our Annual Operating Budget Drive season, that time when we consider the importance this church and its liberal faith tradition play in our lives. We ask each other to decide how we will each help sustain the church for another year, both with time and talent, and also with financial support. Our hard working Operating Budget Drive team has scheduled four different social opportunities to come together to talk about the church and what it means to us, and what it means for us to become stewards of all that it is so that we can pass it on to future generations (just as others in the past once did for us). There are two cocktail parties scheduled (Friday nights March 1 and 8th at church leaders' homes) and two after church luncheons/gatherings (March 3 and March 10). [Please click here for more information and to sign up to attend a Operating Budget Drive event.](#) We really are hoping that most folks will choose and attend one gathering. Look for the letter in the mail detailing more about these social events. And remember, Commitment Sunday is March 17th at the 9:15 and 11:00 am services.
- NEXT Sunday, MARCH 3rd is ONE SERVICE SUNDAY, with ONE service only at 10:00 AM. We thought it would be fun to gather all our ages together and worship together in one place and time, for something special. With two services, we don't see each other or mix our ages as much as we used to. So, come on and join us NEXT Sunday MARCH 23rd at 10:00 AM ONE SERVICE SUNDAY.

See you on the path (and at church),

Tim

President's Messages - Pilot Communications Team



UUCR is so fortunate to have a vibrant and active congregation with so many people running so many programs, events and initiatives. We do our best to keep each other informed about our work but it seems that our communication tools, or at least our usage of them, might need some tweaking. Program and other lay leaders struggle to get the word out about their initiatives and needs; the board struggles to get the word out about our activities and decisions. Technology is a constantly changing reality. We have a collection of communication tools but no clear policies or procedures in place for everyone to understand their usage. Some communications need to reach those congregants who are intensely involved in the functioning/leadership of the church and other communications need to reach people who have just walked in the door for the first time.

Recognizing these existing and unresolved communication issues, and at the request of our webmasters who currently receive any and all communication related feedback, the board has recently formed a pilot Communications Team to receive feedback and help make communications related decisions. We've asked this team to function as a pilot for a year and return to us with any recommendations for changes needed for their team to function on a permanent basis.

The board is starting to develop job descriptions for all committees, teams and positions for which we are responsible for staffing. We provided our pilot Communications Team with a job description with the following mission: "Periodically assess the effectiveness of UUCR's communication tools in reaching the community, prospective members and existing members/friends ... and make recommendations for needed changes to best support the mission of the church. Determine the relative importance of and appropriateness of communications for each communication mechanism. Receive feedback from the congregation and staff on communication issues on an ongoing basis. Communicate all decisions and changes to the board, staff and congregation". [For the full job description: Click here.](#)

Steve Osten has agreed to serve in one of the pilot team's at-large positions and to lead the team. Judy Riley has agreed to fill the second at-large position. The team also includes our webmasters, Brian and Robbie Kohn, and our new Member Services Coordinator. I will be assigning a board liaison shortly. Some members of this team are very busy with the Operating Budget Drive, so this team won't really get off the ground until April.

So stay tuned and be ready to share your feedback and ideas with our pilot team.

Best Regards,

Tracy

Member Services Corner - Please Welcome our New Member Services Coordinator

Meet Lisa on Sunday, March 24th at 9:15 and 11:00 am services

We are pleased to welcome Lisa Luongo Treadwell to our staff team, as our newly hired Member Services Coordinator. Our search committee received many resumes and identified several strong candidates. We narrowed it down to three finalists, but the search committee's overwhelming and unanimous choice was Lisa. We think you'll see why when you read her biography, and then meet her.

Lisa Luongo Treadwell born and raised in Arlington, Massachusetts. She attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where she studied Political Science and received her undergraduate degree. During her sophomore year, she took a break from her political science studies and traveled to Siena, Italy where she was enrolled in L'Universita da Lingua e Cultura per I Stranieri and received a certificate of completion of International Exchange. It was an easy choice for Lisa to travel to Italy, since both of her parents emigrated from Italy, there is a very large extended family living throughout Europe and she visited the country several times throughout her youth. After college she worked in a residential facility for special needs adults and decided she wanted to further her education in the area of Counseling Psychology, attending Cambridge College and getting her Master's in Education.

It didn't take long after receiving her graduate degree for Lisa to decide she wanted to travel and experience life on the West Coast, another place she visited and thoroughly enjoyed. While living in San Diego she worked as a Social Worker with children in group homes and in foster care. It was in San Diego where she met her husband Greg and learned how to 'stop and smell the roses' (or in her case, the salt and sea of the Pacific Ocean).

After 10 years of living in Southern California and not long after the birth of their twins, Reena and Roman, they decided to move back to the East Coast to be closer to their extended family. For the first few years Lisa worked as a Personal Caretaker for a retired professor, gaining an even greater appreciation of the elder population through their many conversations/oral history by a woman who experienced great change and broke many barriers in her 101 year of life.

Lisa comes to UUCR with her background and work history of caring for and connecting/case managing children, youth and families as well as a passion for travel and experiencing new cultures, foods and people and a sense of love and connectedness she enjoys daily as a mother of young children.

We are so excited to welcome Lisa to our staff team. Come meet her this Sunday, March 24th at the 9:15 and 11:00 am services.

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 for What Do I Want To Do With The Rest of My Life? - February 23, 2012 - 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 5:30 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 for the Intergenerational Book Club discussion of the book "Rules" by clicking here.

For further information, please contact Diane Chapin by clicking here or contact Beth Brauer by clicking here.

MEETING JESUS FOR THE FIRST TIME

Meeting Jesus Again For The First Time

A Unitarian Universalist Perspective

Wednesday Morning Class: March 6, 13, and 27 - 10:00 AM-Noon (no class March 20)

Wednesday Evening Class: March 6, 13, and 27 - 7:00-9:00 PM (no class March 20)

Led by Rev. Tim Kutzmark

Loring House Room 103

Far too many Unitarian Universalists carry emotional and spiritual baggage about Jesus of Nazareth. Join us and explore Jesus, his life, and teachings through a liberating and affirming light. Our conversation will be informed by scholarly research and new contemporary images of Jesus.

It would be helpful to get a copy of Marcus Borg's book "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time", available at libraries or on Amazon.com ([paperback](#)) ([Kindle edition](#)).

Class size is NOT limited and registration is ongoing!

Please register for the **morning** class of Meeting Jesus for the First Time by [clicking here](#).

Please register for the **evening** class of Meeting Jesus for the First Time by [clicking here](#).

If you prefer, you can also sign up for the class on the signup sheet in the Atrium on Sunday; by calling the church office at 781-944-0494; or [by emailing the Church Administrator, Rosemary Fiori, by clicking here](#).

UU BASICS - MARCH 16, 2013

Saturday, March 16, 2013

8:30 AM-12:45 PM

Would 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? Do you want to feel more connected and involved? Then UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BASICS is just the thing for you. Join Rev. Tim and our UU Basics Teaching Team for this engaging introduction to our faith and this church.

NOTE: The Saturday morning option includes bagels and coffee.

Registration is required so [please click here to sign up for this UU Basics session](#), or contact our Church Administrator, Rosemary, by telephone, at 781-944-0494.

AGE-ING TO SAGE-ING: A DAY LONG RETREAT TO EXPLORE CHALLENGES AND GIFTS ASSOCIATED WITH GROWING OLDER - APRIL 20, 2013

Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Day Long Retreat to Explore Challenges and Gifts Associated with Growing Older

April 20th 10am-4pm (please bring a bag lunch) Community Hall

Ruth Goldberg, Laura Cavicchio & Paula Koppel, Facilitators

This experiential based program will allow participants to explore the gifts and challenges of aging in a safe and sacred space created over a day long retreat. By connecting and listening closely to our mind, body and spirit, remaining open and receptive, the group will explore what it means to age. Journaling and mindfulness based exercises will facilitate life review and life repair, providing an opportunity to further synthesize and integrate life's wisdom. We will also explore memorial services in the UU tradition and practical preparations related to funeral arrangements. We hope men and women of all ages will consider joining us on this meaningful journey certain to be filled with surprising gifts and insight. If you participated in last winter's program, we'd love to have your presence and trust that you will find new things to learn and explore.

[Please sign up for Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Day Long Retreat to Explore Challenges and Gifts Associated with Growing Older - April 20, 2013 - by clicking here.](#)

News

Last Tuesday of the Month Book Club

LTOM BOOK CLUB - FEBRUARY 26, 2013

Hi Fellow Readers, The Feb. book discussion will be held at the home of Ruth Goldberg, 11 Bond Street Reading, on February 26th at 1:30 pm. We will be discussing the novel, *Faith* by Jennifer Haigh. On February 27th, at the Reading Library, Jennifer will be the featured speaker at their Book Group Night. If you can't make it on the 26th, please call Ruth. See you then! - Janet



Membership

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Bruce Bacon

I grew up in a suburb of Los Angeles, in a house that, upon reflection, was alarmingly similar to the home seen on the Brady Bunch. My prior company relocated me to Atlanta, then back to Los Angeles and finally to the Boston suburbs. I currently manage the human resources function for Hood (the dairy processor) and do my best to keep away from the free ice cream that is occasionally stocked in the break room freezer. I have two children. Sam is twenty three years old and just graduated from the University of South Carolina. He is currently applying to graduate schools and hopes to follow his old man in the field of human resources. Elle is nineteen and attends Auburn University. She is a Spanish major with plans to teach at the high school level. Unfortunately, after twenty six years of marriage, my wife and I are going through an amicable divorce. The separation resulted in my move from Wayland to Reading this past December. When I can't finagle a trip down South to see my kids, I spend my time walking my beloved dog, Ballou. I also have played guitar, at an amateur level, in various bands since I was fourteen years old.

Marcia Kent

I have been coming to the UUCR for the past five years as a member of the Mayflower Chapter of Rug Hooking and the Reading Society of Craftsmen. I have always found church members to be helpful and friendly. So it became easy for me to begin attending Sunday services and to consider becoming a member. My husband and I live in Wilmington and I recently retired from a long career in nursing. I am enjoying retirement filled with time to hook rugs, knit, needle felt, garden and read books. I grew up attending the Episcopal Church and for the past 25 years I have been following a path of meditation. This fall I joined the Buddhist Meditation group at UUCR and enjoyed the recent day long retreat. I look forward to becoming a member and participating in a community with those who share my values.

Erica Lakin

I am excited to become a member of UUCR. My children, Matthew (8) and Ali (6), are excited to be standing by my side, holding my hands, on New Member Sunday. Over the past 2 years, I discovered that UUCR is a great place for my blended Jewish/Catholic family. I enjoy the variety of topics presented during Sunday services and my kids look forward to their Faith Development classes. As for my background, I grew up in Reading, attended the University of Connecticut (go Huskies!), and returned in 1999 when myself and husband, Peter, bought a house in town. Presently I work part time as a pharmacist for Mass General Hospital. If I am



not working or taking Matthew and Ali to basketball/gymnastics/jujitsu classes, you can find me in running sneakers hitting the streets of Reading, competing in a triathlon, or hiking locally or in the White Mountains.



Pat McGovern

I have been a follower all my life since high school. All my friends were Catholic so I went to church with them and when I was 18 I joined the church. I didn't go through religious education, I became a Catholic in name only. I did marry a Catholic boy and brought up my children Catholic. I took many courses and was very active in the Church, but there was always something missing. I even knew when I used to say the Apostle's

Creed, I could never say I believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, I knew I believed in something more meaningful. So here I'm taking this journey to this amazing place, the UU church of Reading. I so identify with the song "Come, Come who ever you are wonderer, worshiper, lover of leaving, our's is no caravan of despair." I found a place that takes me as I am. The UU Principles are who I try to be. I live in a family with diverse religious beliefs. My husband, my daughter and her family are Catholic. My son and his family whom we live with, are Jehovah Witnesses. Because I believe in the UU Principles I accept and encourage them to take their journey to their spiritual growth and to take a free and responsible search for their truth and meaning. So on this day, I'm free to be Me and follow no one. For today I'm a Unitarian Universalist.

Megan McQueeney and Jared Bly

Megan recently moved into the area and began attending the UUCR this past spring. She and her fiance just became engaged over the Christmas holiday and they live in Haverhill with their two cats. She joined the church choir for the holiday concert and stayed on for the regular services and is excited to continuing to become involved with church activities. For fun, Megan enjoys listening to music, painting, and road trips. Jared just moved to Haverhill in October and is having fun getting to know the area. He enjoys cooking and learning new techniques in the kitchen as well as hiking in the summer. Jared grew up near the beach in Rye, NH and is planning his upcoming wedding and, more importantly, a honeymoon on Cape Cod.



Melissa Plowman

I am, first and foremost, a mother of two beautiful and curious daughters - Kylie age 5 and Natalie age 2. My husband Nate and I, with our girls, travel frequently to our home states of Maine and Vermont to be with our families whom we are very close to. While family is extremely important to who I am, I also really embrace my life as a career woman. I received a master's degree in counseling psychology from Boston College in 2003 and have been practicing as a

licensed mental health counselor at the Triumph Center, here in Reading. I love to cook and spend time boating on the lake during summers.

Janée Tichy and Derek Puff

We live in Reading with our two children, Astrid (6) and Zalen (4). Before moving to Massachusetts in 2004 we lived in southern California and were married in 2003 in Maine. We are both originally from the East coast. Derek has a doctorate in Biomedical Engineering and works as a software developer at a startup biotech company. Janée has a master's degree in Social Work and is currently in a post-master's program in School Adjustment Counseling. While we live in an old home where Derek works on projects and Janée likes to cook and garden, mostly we take pleasure in spending time with our creative and energetic children. At the UUCR, we have enjoyed meeting like-minded members, taking time to reflect and learn, and are looking forward to making a deeper commitment to the community.

Social Action

ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN YOUTH MUSICIANS OF HEARTBEAT EMBARK ON DEBUT US TOUR TO PROMOTE COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING

Heartbeat is the Israeli-Palestinian youth music community of young Arab and Jewish artists (ages 17-21) performing from Boston to Washington, DC for 15 shows at universities, music venues, and congregations. Based in Jerusalem, Heartbeat is an international non-profit organization uniting musicians, educators, and students to build mutual understanding and transform conflict through the power of music. Heartbeat creates opportunities and spaces for young Israeli and Palestinian musicians to work together, hear each other, and amplify their



voices to influence the world around them. Heartbeat youth develop creative nonviolent tools to express themselves and become a voice for their communities. This current tour program will feature uplifting performances interweaving traditional and modern Eastern and Western music and engage audience members through interactive workshops in which youth will share

their experiences of growing up amidst the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Heartbeat message inspires people of all backgrounds to work together to be the change we seek. All tour performances are free to the public and open to all ages. Please note that Heartbeat will perform locally on February 24th at Clark University in Worcester and on February 25th at Boston University and on February 26th at Brandeis University. For the full schedule with performance times and venues [please visit www.heartbeat.fm/US tour](http://www.heartbeat.fm/US tour).

More News

NINTH ANNUAL FORUM ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY MARCH 3

The Adverse Effects of Housing Insecurity on the Overall Development of Young Children Ninth Annual Forum on Family Homelessness

Sunday, March 3, 2013, 3:00-5:00 PM

First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Rd., Concord Center.

Family homelessness remains at record levels in Massachusetts due to the economic recession with record foreclosures. While the state seeks more low cost housing, 43% more families are in shelter or motels than in 2008 and families who have overflowed into motels have tripled. Now over 2000 families are in shelters nightly and over 1700 families are in motels, with great risk to health of families and children.

This year's Forum focuses on the effects of homelessness on the overall development of a child. Across the nation the average age of a homeless person is 8. Homeless children are 4 times more likely than their peers to show delayed development. Among school-age children who are homeless, 47% experience anxiety, depression and withdrawal compared with 18% of other school-age children.

The Keynote Speaker, Christina Murphy of the Campaign to End Child Homelessness at the National Center on Family Homelessness, will speak on the effects of homelessness and severe housing insecurity on the health, mental health, and early childhood development of children. LizBeth Heyer, Associate Director, Division of Public Housing and Rental Assistance, Mass. Department of Housing and Community Development, will discuss the state's homeless prevention program, including HomeBASE and the shelter system. A formerly homeless woman will testify on the needs of her homeless teen age children.

For more information about the Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness, contact Carl Miller, Coordinator, at 978-369-3755.

BOSTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS TO PERFORM MARCH 2 AT THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF HAVERHILL



The Universalist Unitarian Church of Haverhill is proud to present the Boston Gay Men's Chorus in concert on Saturday, March 2, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$ 30 each and available by calling the church office, 978-372-5173.

The church is located at 15 Kenoza Avenue, Haverhill, and doors open at 7:15 pm.

Please join us for what will be a great evening!

[For more information, see the event information posted on the UU Haverhill church website.](#)

Unitarian Universalist News

ALL ABOUT THE DISTRICT

What is the Clara Barton and Massachusetts Bay Districts of Unitarian Universalist Congregations?

The Massachusetts Bay District is the organization of 55 Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Greater Boston area. The Clara Barton district is the organization of 64 Unitarian Universalist Congregations in the central and western Massachusetts and southwest corner of Connecticut areas.

How Does the Clara Barton and Massachusetts Bay Districts Serve our Congregation?

The CB/MBD assesses the needs of and provides resources for UUCR congregational leaders to help them become agents of transformation in our congregation. The district brings an outside perspective for UUCR to learn from broader religious, cultural, and academic contexts. The CB/MBD activates the capacity and potential of the UUCR to become communities where individuals may grow spiritually throughout their lives and learn how to live in respectful covenantal relationship with one another. The CB/MBD offers support, training, lectures, collegiality, to lay leaders, ministers, Faith Development educators, church staff and all UUCR members.

Upcoming CB/MBD Events of Note:

Breakfast for Presidents on Sat, 02/16/2013 - 8:45 AM - 11:00 AM - A chance to tell all what is going on at UUCR! Leadership and President-Elects invited also.

Pastoral Care for Youth - Saturday March 16th - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM - First Unitarian Universalist Church of Providence

Navigating Differences In Our Beloved Community - Navigating Difference in the Beloved Community - Sat, 04/06/2013 - 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM at the First Parish Church UU, Northborough with Presenter: Meck Groot, Justice Ministries Coordinator. In this workshop for religious professionals, congregational leaders and social justice teams, participants will consider what differences matter to them and to their congregation identify the ways they evaluate and react to difference explore attitudes and practices that promote authenticity, connection and inclusion across difference outline strategies they can use to bring this learning into their work as congregational leaders.

Hold That Date! CBD/MBD - Annual Meetings/Districts Assembly on Sat, 04/27/2013 - 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Join hundreds of Unitarian Universalists at the United Congregational Church of Worcester for an afternoon of celebratory worship, vigorous conversation, and rampant optimism about the future of our faith. This experience will be centered around worship featuring live music,

multimedia inspiration, and preaching from two of our districts' most respected ministers. Revs. Carolyn Patierno and John Gibbons will bring stories about how their congregations broke through common barriers to achieve real and lasting growth in soulfulness, spiritual practice, justice-making and size.

Evaluating Congregational Ministries on Sat, 05/11/2013 - 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM with Rev. Sue Phillips, District Executive

This workshop will explore mission-centered models of staff evaluation in the context of a congregation's shared ministry. This learning experience is designed for Committees on Ministry, Boards (and other lay leaders directly involved in staff supervision), and Ministers who supervise church staff.

Unitarian Universalist News

FIVE WISHES

Rev. Maddie Sifantus of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Wakefield will offer an evening workshop on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:15 PM on the document Five Wishes published by the organization Aging With Dignity. The meeting will take place in the Social Hall of the church, located at 326 Main Street in Wakefield. Five Wishes is an advance directive combining a Living Will and assigning a Health Care Agent, which is user friendly, written in lay persons' terms. We will explore end of life issues and look at how to fill out the document, which will be available to each participant. The workshop is open to all and will be held in the Social Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend, since we are ALL aging and we never know what can happen in the blink of an eye. Having your family know what your wishes are at the end of life or in an emergency is one of the greatest gifts you can give them. A \$ 2 donation to the church is asked to help defray the cost of materials. For more information, call Maddie Sifantus at 508-733-8860 (mobile) or email minister@wakefielduu.org.

Upcoming Events

February 21, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Mothering Connection (Lor-205)

February 21, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

February 23, 2013 8:00 am - 10:00 am
Men's Group (CH)

February 23, 2013 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
"What Do I Do With the Rest of my Life?" (FH)

February 23, 2013 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Starlight Soiree/Auction (FH)

February 24, 2013 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

February 24, 2013 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

February 24, 2013 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm
OWL Class (CH)

February 24, 2013 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
SHYP (Lor-103)

February 24, 2013 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
"COA Meet & Greet". (FH)

February 25, 2013 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Handicraft Group (Loring-101)

February 25, 2013 7:15 pm - 9:15 pm
Men' Spirituality Group (Lor-103)

February 25, 2013 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Buddhist Meditation(CH)

February 25, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Intern comm. (Lor-101)

February 26, 2013 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
LTOM Book Club (Home of Ruth Goldberg)

February 26, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Rounds of Creativity, Conversation & Spirituality (RoCCs) (CH)

February 27, 2013 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Intergenerational; Book Group (Lor-101)

February 28, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Choir (Sanctuary)

March 1, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
"Social Gathering"- @home of Geo. Marinakis

March 3, 2013 10:00 am - 11:00 am
One Morning Service (Sanctuary)

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

Ivy Chord Concerts

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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(Only items put into your cart soon after clicking on the image above, and purchased soon thereafter, will support the church.)

Click the image below to see specially-selected UU- and UUCR programs-related Amazon.com products.

