



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

March 28, 2013

## Worship Services

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2013

#### "Easter Sunday Service"

**Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Minister**

**7:00 AM, 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM**

Join us as we celebrate the renewing power of resurrection in many forms, as celebrated in Easter and other springtime festivals. Come for connection, come for community, come to claim the promise of this new day. Our 7:00 AM "Sun Rising Service" will be a short 25 minutes outdoor service (rain or shine). Our 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM services will feature The UUCR Adult Choir, an interactive "Time For All Ages", and a short sermon from Rev. Tim. Our traditional Easter Egg Hunt will take place after the 9:15 service.

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

#### 9:15 AM Service

Please volunteer:

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

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

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

Time	Role	Name
09:15 AM	Altar Flowers	Easter Plants From Our Members and Friends
09:15 AM	Usher	Aaron Clark
09:15 AM	Usher	Donna Dudley

#### 11:00 AM Service

Please volunteer:

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

Time	Role	Name
11:00 AM	Coffee Maker(s)	Donna Dudley
11:00 AM	Usher	Julia Dudley-Kramer
11:00 AM	Usher	Anne Mark

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2013**

**"What's Your Story?"**

**Anne Principe**

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

It's not what happens to us that makes us who we are, it's the story we choose to tell about it. Each of us carries with us a lifetime of experience, only some of them put into words. Consider how the practice of storytelling helps us to convert the raw data and feelings into creative and powerful personal stories. 9:15 AM - Special Musician: Al Murray; 11:00 AM - UUCR Adult Choir

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2013**

**"TBD"**

***Jericho Road Service***

**TBD**

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

9:15 AM - Special Musician: Aaron Clark; 11:00 AM - UUCR Adult Choir

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**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](#).

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## **Featured**

### **SOMETHING NEW FOR EASTER - 7:00 AM SUN RISING SERVICE!**

This Easter Sunday, March 31, we have a new service at 7:00 AM! Rise and Shine for our "Sun Rising Service" - a short 25 minutes outdoor service (rain or shine).

Make a note of this new service for Easter. The Sunday forecast is showing a balmy high in the 50's and a mere low of 43. Come enjoy Spring air and community.

### **HEAR YE! HEAR YE!**



Calling any and all who would like to give a little to help UUCR gain a lot. We are in need of volunteers that can aid in Ushering, Greeting and Coffee making/serving. What better way to give back than knowing your time contribution can help a new visitor enjoy our wonderful Sunday services? What better way to give back than knowing both services will continue to flow as smoothly as they do?

Please consider taking a little bit of time out of your Sunday morning to make a difference in our church community. It is so easy to volunteer!

[Just follow this link to volunteer for an upcoming Sunday.](#)

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**SPRING FLING YARD SALE, SATURDAY, MAY 4 - VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED!**

It's time for Spring... UUCR's Spring Fling that is!

Mark your calendars! UUCR's Giant Yard Sale will be Saturday, May 4 from 9 am to 3 pm.

There are lots of Volunteers and Donations needed to make this a successful fundraiser for our church!



**Please click here for important information about volunteering for and donating to the Spring Fling.**

For further information please contact Co-chairs, Rebecca Higgins and Ginny Beauregard by clicking here.



## **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](http://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.

### **A REAL CUP OF JAVA**

#### **Calling All Folks Who Enjoy Their Coffee Hour Every Sunday!**

Our resident Barista and front line Sous Chef of all things crackers, Bill Grace, reports that the kitchen coffers are up to speed cracker and apple juice wise. We do however need coffee cans, caffeinated only, (non-caffeine not needed). Please drop off your "hi-test" coffee in the kitchen this Sunday. Thank you!

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## **MARCH 2013**

Caring and Sharing Coordinator for Month



The caring and sharing coordinator for the month of March 2013 is Sue Wondolowski. Sue can be reached at 781-872-1274 or [by email by clicking here](#).

## **Minister's Messages - March 29, 2013**



Dear Friends:

I am looking forward to celebrating Easter Sunday with you. We have three services that morning, 7:00 am (Sun Rising Service, held outside), 9:15 am and 11:00.

On April 6th (a week from Saturday), I will be departing for Iraq, where I will spend 18 days on the ground assessing the current situation ten years after the US invasion, visiting key Sunni and Shiite Islamic holy sites, and visiting Babylonian, Assyrian and Sumerian archeological sites. I'll have an opportunity to meet and talk with ordinary Iraqis, and come to understand what life is like in that volatile region. As you may know, I have developed a deep interest in the Middle East, and after my travels to the Palestinian West Bank (twice) and Afghanistan, the war-torn country Iraq seemed an important next place to view first hand. We will be traveling with armed security under the auspices of the Iraqi Government. Our guide is experienced in navigating throughout the country. I am especially excited to visit Ur, which is the oldest city in the world and the (mythological) home of the biblical patriarch Abraham.

I've arranged for strong pastoral presence in my absence. Betsy Tabor, our Intern Minister, will be the key pastoral care contact in case of an emergency (603-521-2844 cell phone). If the situation involves serious illness or death, the Rev. Maddie Sifantus (from our sister church in Wakefield) is also on standby to provide experienced pastoral care. Our Pastoral Care Team will also continue their visits and calls to members of the congregation who have asked for pastoral support. Iris Hardin, a member of our congregation who is finishing up her intensive pastoral care and chaplaincy training will also be able to provide resources and advice to Betsy and the Pastoral Care Team. If you are facing a pastoral emergency, illness, impending death, or are having a personal crisis and would like ministerial support, call Betsy Tabor, our Intern Minister at (603-521-2844 cell phone).

I will miss you while I'm gone, and look forward to returning with stories and experiences from Iraq.

Tim

## Intern Minister's Messages - March 28, 2013 - Once a Fortnight



### **Rocks and Sand**

One day this week an Andover Newton classmate and I got together to work on a school project. We began talking about old "Sunday School" stories. I wonder if any readers remember this one? The storyteller starts with a 1-gallon jar, ten to twelve large fist-sized rocks, some gravel-sized rocks and a big zip-lock bag of sand. The task is to put everything in the jar. First, the sand gets poured in. It takes up a lot of room. Then the small rocks go in. Finally, the storyteller tries to fit the big rocks into the jar, but by now the jar is full, and there is not enough room for them.

Do you know this one? After failing the first time, you realize that you have put everything in backwards, and you start again. This time the big rocks go in first. They all fit. Next come the gravel-sized rocks—they scoot around the big ones, no problem. Finally, the big zip-lock bag of sand gets poured in. The sand fills in all the cracks and everything fits nicely into the jar. There's even room to pour a pitcher of water on top of it all. A powerful visual.

What was the point of the story? We tried to remember! "Maybe it's about priorities. How we first need to take care of the big things first and everything else, the small stuff, comes later," I ventured. "What you put in first is what really matters most."

"Well, of course," my friend said. "You put God in first."

"God?!" said I. "That story is about God?"

"Why, yes. What else would it be about, but God?" she said, wide-eyed.

"Wow, I had no idea that story was about God!" I said. "I'm pretty sure it wasn't when I heard it years ago at my UU church." That was a hilarious moment. We laughed and laughed.

My friend, a good Christian of the United Church of Christ, was amazed. "But what WAS the first thing at your church?" she wondered.

It had been a long time. It was easier to remember the unforgettable picture than the message, like like when we recall a great advertisement but can't remember what it was for! I knew, though, that the Unitarian Universalist story was about how we choose to live our faith. The big rocks might have been love or purpose or making the world a better place. They might have been the worth and dignity of every person, fairness, equality, don't you suppose?

Once upon a time my friend and I each saw a memorable picture of rocks and sand not fitting, then fitting beautifully into a jar. We came away with a similar message that some

things are worth putting first, that we need to put in what matters first. How we expressed "what matters" differed....

I invite you to consider what rocks you would put in the jar first? What matters the most to you? What would you like to think of first when you get up in the morning? Our heads swirl with millions of thoughts all day long, like grains of sand in the wind. What are your deep, abiding touch points?

*Betsy Tabor is UUCR's Intern Minister.*

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## **Adult Enrichment**

### **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.

### **UU BASICS - MAY 18, 2013**

**Saturday, May 18, 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 child care for little ones and breakfast of bagels and coffee.

Registration is required so please click here to sign up for this UU Basics session; or contact our member services and volunteer coordinator, Lisa Treadwell, by telephone, at 781-944-0494, extension 104; or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.

## News

### **Choir**

#### **MARCH CHOIR SCHEDULE**

##### **March**

**31 Rev. Tim Easter Sunday (9:15 & 11:00)**

Anthem I: Festival Sanctus, John Leavitt

Anthem II: Jesus Christ is Risen Today (#268)

**All invited to sing!**

### **Communications**

#### **Website News - Logging into the Website**

If you are having trouble logging into the website using the small login drop-down form, you get from clicking "Login" at the top of the page, then [please let us know by clicking here](#). Also, please try logging in from the form you can find under the Caring and Sharing Coordinator box on [the online newsletter page](#), or the form you reach by following this link: <http://uureading.org/user-profile/profile>

### **Green Sanctuary**

#### **"THERE'S NO TOMORROW" - FILM AND DISCUSSION - SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

"There's No Tomorrow" - Film and Discussion - Sunday, April 21 at 12:30 pm hosted by the Green Sanctuary Committee. Please join us to recognize Earth Day with this 35 minute movie followed by discussion. Light lunch included.

### **Social Action**

#### **POT LUCK DINNER FOR IRAQI FAMILIES FIRST PARISH BILLERICA SATURDAY APRIL 6 AT 4:00 PM**

You are invited to a Pot Luck Dinner for Iraqi families in Lowell, to be held at First Parish Church, Billerica, MA on Saturday, April 6, at 4:00 PM. Please come, and bring your favorite dish if you'd like, and meet families who have re-settled in Lowell, MA, in the past year and other families who came before them. Children are welcome.

The First Parish Church - Unitarian Universalist, 7 Concord Road (On the Common) Billerica, MA 01821 <http://www.uubillerica.org>

(Parking nearby behind the Public Library)

For information call: 978-663-4680

## **Pledge Drive**

### **STEWARDSHIP OF THE PRESENT**

Dialogue between Dakota Raine and Steve Oston  
Commitment Sunday, March 17, 2013

What of the present? We are the stewards of our church this day, this month, this year.  
There is no one else!

*Our ancestors in the pews worked hard and led us to where we are now. We applaud them, we revere them, but they are no longer here. It is up to us, to us alone, to steer this precious church of ours, through good and bad times, to the best of our ability.*

We love our church and its values. Values are the core of who we are and what we stand for.  
We live our values:

*Respect and Concern for others, Community, Diversity, Spirituality, Justice, Generosity*

We may ask how we protect our values. As a church, what are our strengths and our weaknesses, our gifts and our challenges, our joys and our concerns?

*We have a first-class minister and the most marvelous worship services that are truly inclusive and inspiring. We have a caring and highly professional staff.*

We need to pay fair salaries to the staff. Our minister, for example, is currently paid \$ 8,500 below the level recommended by the Unitarian Universalist Association.

*We have truly beautiful and highly functional campus buildings and grounds.*

However, maintenance for our campus is severely underfunded. We badly need to effect structural repairs to the roof, chimney and front façade areas of our church and upgrade our lawn and gardens. We know this work will be expensive! Our Property Committee has estimated we will need \$ 100,000 to make these repairs, or face more significant ones in the future.

*We have a growing and wonderful Faith Development Program for children and youth.*

In the budget for the current year we experienced cuts to the Faith Development budget and the services provided.

*This church has traditionally been a proud supporter of both our national Unitarian Universalist Organization and our local Mass Bay District, which promote the larger fellowship of the denomination and provide a public voice and face for Unitarian Universalism in the Boston area and throughout the nation.*

Unfortunately, in recent years, we have had to reduce our financial commitment to these organizations and to attendance at national events. Our cuts in financial support to the larger movement impact others. It lessens our denomination's ability to share the powerful message of love that is at the center of our faith, and to speak with a liberal religious voice on national issues that matter.

*We have a magnificent choir and music program which stirs us deeply with beautiful music. We also have a superb adult enrichment program and meaningful and extensive social outreach programs.*

On the other hand, the level budget under which we operate prevents us from keeping up with the growth in membership and in the increased demand for programs and services.

*Yes, we are a church of many treasures, and, luckily, we possess a visionary Board and dedicated church committees that have worked exceptionally hard and successfully to reduce any negative budget impacts. Many of our church members have been very generous in their financial support, and giving increases every year.*

Yet despite much progress, our mortgage debt is still high; repayment annually consumes \$ 64,000, or approximately 12% of the operating budget. Additionally, the church's endowment fund is only a small fraction of what it was some years ago. The Unitarian Universalist Organization recommends the endowment of a member church be large enough to cover two years operating expenses. Our endowment currently amounts to less than 2 months. The debt must be reduced further; the endowment must be replenished.

*We, the stewards of the present, with your help, will pass on a growing, flowering and secure church to the stewards of the future.*

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## **Unitarian Universalist News**

### **YOUTH TRAINING FROM THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The UU College of Social Justice (UUCSJ) is advancing the mission to engage the next generation of Unitarian Universalists! Your gifts to the UUA have helped to create amazing service learning trips and trainings for youth, including this summer's National Youth Justice Training (NYJT) program. This year's NYJT builds on the success of the summer 2012 youth training. NYJT is a transformative three-week experience for high-school-aged youth that will take place in Boston, MA from June 30–July 21, 2013. The program will include interactive social justice education and real-world internships, grounded in Unitarian Universalist values and practices. Interested? Apply now or forward this information to a young person in your life who is committed to justice! Visit [UUCSJ.ORG](http://UUCSJ.ORG) to apply

## **Unitarian Universalist News**

### **PRESENTATION UUAC SHERBORN WITH KAY MONTGOMERY - APRIL 2, 2013**

#### **UUA's Kay Montgomery to speak at UUAC Sherborn**

"Life in the Midst of Unitarian Universalism" is the name of the lecture to be given by UUA's Executive Vice-President Kay Montgomery on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 7:30 PM at Unity Hall UUAC Sherborn, MA. There will be a special reception preceding at 7:00 PM. This lecture will highlight:

- What It's Like to be "The President's Right Hand Man"
- 30 Years of Experiences in the Movement We Love
- Her Imagination about the Future of Our Faith

Montgomery at The Helm...Montgomery joined the UUA staff in 1983. She has held the position of Executive Vice President since 1985, and has worked alongside five UUA presidents: the Rev. Eugene Pickett, the Rev. Dr. William F. Schulz, the Rev. John Buehrens, the Rev. William Sinkford, and the Rev. Peter Morales. After 30 years of service to the Unitarian Universalist Association, Executive Vice President Kay Montgomery will retire in June. All are welcome.

## **Unitarian Universalist News**

### **NAVIGATING DIFFERENCES IN OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY - APRIL 6, 2013**

#### **From the Clara Barton and Massachusetts Bay Districts of Unitarian Universalist Congregations:**

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.

## Upcoming Events

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

March 30, 2013 8:00 am - 10:00 am  
Men's Group (FH)

March 31, 2013  
EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2013 9:15 am - 10:15 am  
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

March 31, 2013 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

March 31, 2013 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
COA Class (Lor-205)

April 1, 2013 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm  
Zumba (FH)

April 1, 2013 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm  
Buddhist Meditation(CH)

April 1, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Property Comm. (Lor-103)

April 1, 2013 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm  
Governing Board (Lor-101)

April 3, 2013 8:30 am - 11:30 am  
Sanctuary Reserved

April 4, 2013 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Mothering Connection (Lor-205)

April 4, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Choir (Sanctuary)

April 4, 2013 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Mom's Book Group (Lor-101)

April 6, 2013 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Communications Team Meeting (Lor-101)

April 7, 2013 9:15 am - 10:15 am  
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

April 7, 2013 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Worship Service (Sanctuary)

April 7, 2013 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
COA Credo Cafe (FH)

April 7, 2013 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
SHYP (Lor-103)

April 8, 2013 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm  
Zumba (FH)

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

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## 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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