



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

A REGIONAL CHURCH SERVING COMMUNITIES NORTH OF BOSTON - WELCOMING PEOPLE OF ALL AGES,
RELIGIOUS BACKGROUNDS, CULTURAL ORIGINS, DIFFERING ABILITIES, POLITICAL VIEWS, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS

REV. TIM KUTZMARK, MINISTER 239 WOBURN STREET, READING, MA 01867 PHONE: 781- 944-0494
WEB PAGE: [HTTP://WWW.UUREADING.ORG](http://www.uureading.org) E-MAIL: UUCR@UUREADING.ORG

WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Sunday, October 16, 2011 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM	Sunday, October 23, 2011 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM
Sermon	“Can You Forgive Yourself?” Rev. Tim Kutzmark	“Love, Loss and Longings” Rev. Rona Tyndall
Children	Both services offer child care and playschool for infants through 1st grade.	Both services offer child care and playschool for infants through 1st grade.
Ushers	9:15 AM Eric Gaffen 11:00 AM Jeff Everson	9:15 AM Steve Frechette 11:00 AM Paula DiGiovine
Welcome Table	9:15 AM Needed 11:00 AM Needed	9:15 AM Needed 11:00 AM Needed
Coffeemakers	9:15 AM Needed 11:00 AM Needed	9:15 AM Needed 11:00 AM Needed
Altar Flowers	Lisa Cashins	Needed

Sunday, October 16, 2011 – 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

“Can You Forgive Yourself?”

Rev. Tim Kutzmark

How do we, as Unitarian Universalists, understand forgiveness? How do we, as human beings, learn to forgive ourselves for the unskillful choices we make? Marie Brennan Taylor, who purchased this opportunity at our annual Auction, selected the sermon topic. Today is also a Special Offering for Gathering Change. Music: 11:00 AM - Singers from the UUCR Choir. *On this day we have a second offering, Gathering Change, a local volunteer nonprofit that helps others by collecting donors' spare change and distributing it back into neighborhood food pantries. GCI gratefully receives bills and checks as well as change. Your donation will help food pantries in Reading, Wilmington, Stoneham, and Woburn. If you'd like to donate by check, please make it out to Gathering Change, Inc.*

Sunday, October 23, 2011 – 9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

“Love, Loss and Longings”

Rev. Rona Tyndall

Love, Loss and Longing are life-long themes. On Sunday, October 23, we will explore these themes within the context of grief, drawing on several poems for inspiration. *Our Guest Minister, The Rev. Rona Tyndall serves as Coordinator of Spiritual Care at Hospice of the North Shore and Greater Boston. In addition to community outreach, program development and administration, she ministers to patients and families at the Kaplan Family Hospice House, two days a week. Prior to coming to Hospice of the North Shore, Rev.*

Tyndall was a parish minister, serving churches in Vermont and Massachusetts. She received her Masters Degree in Divinity from Andover Newton Theological School, and is an ordained United Church of Christ minister. She has two spectacular grown daughters, a darling son-in-law and a huge dog.

Music: 9:15 AM Lisa Wright, vocalist with Alex Gordon, Accompanist. 11:00 AM - UUCR Adult Choir.

WORSHIP NOTES

EARTH VESPERS: A MID-WEEK SPIRITUAL SERVICE

Wednesday, October 19

7:30-8:30 PM

Led by Rev. Tim Kutzmark, Rose McAuley, and Roald Wilson

Join Rev. Tim for a nature-focused evening of spiritual reflection, ritual, and community connection. This meditative service is a perfect way to explore earth-based spirituality and to connect to the wisdom of the natural world through readings, music, meditation, and silences. Music will be provided by Rose McAuley, blues vocals, and Roald Wilson, piano. This service will explore the wisdom revealed in autumn, and invite us to reflect on our own change of seasons. This service will be in Fellowship Hall, and we'll gather in a sacred circle to worship together

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6th

If you want to become an official member of UUCR, our next NEW MEMBER SUNDAY is November 6th. 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 Rev. Tim or Amy Burton, our Member Services and Volunteer Coordinator, know if you are considering membership, as they try to schedule a time to meet with all new members in the days before the service. Contact Tim at revtim@uureading.org and contact Amy at msc@uureading.org


TIDBITS AND TOUR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13


Are you new to the church? Join Rev. Tim and Amy Burton, our Member Services and Volunteer Coordinator, for a short introduction to Unitarian Universalism and a quick tour of our church campus. This thirty-minute mini-introduction will give you a chance to meet Rev. Tim and Amy and ask any questions you might have. No registration necessary. We meet at the front of the church after each service.

SABBATICAL SUPPORT TEAM

The Sabbatical Support Team (SST) recently met with our Intern Minister Meg Soens to begin planning a "Sabbatical Handbook. This booklet will include a "how to" section identifying who will be taking on which of Rev. Tim's many duties until he returns. It will also include the worship schedule, letters from our lay and ministerial leaders – and, a gentle challenge to think of the ways each of you might support our mission during the sabbatical! Address-labeled copies will be available for pickup on Sunday 30 October. You'll be hearing from us regularly via our online and print media. Also, please check the Sabbatical bulletin board in the atrium for updated information. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact any member of the SST: Sharyn Taitz, Chair SharT8z@gmail.com, Ron Cavicchio RCavicchio@NEPC.com, Molly Smith marin smith@verizon.net, Don Pearson Don.Pearson@draeger.com and Dru Wood-Beckwith woodbeckwith@comcast.net

SERMONS - All sermons are online in podcast, audio, and some are in video format!! Visit

www.uureading.org and click on the word "sermon" on the left green colored vertical toolbar.  If this

picture is next to a sermon, that indicates it is available in audio.  If this picture is next to a sermon, the sermon is also available in video. While you are online note that our sermons are available in a printable format if you desire a hard copy. On church campus our sermons are available in printed booklet form in both the atrium and front foyer of the church. Visit our website address <http://www.uureading.org/sermonlist.htm>

WATCH OUR SERVICES ON YOUR LOCAL CABLE ACCESS TELEVISION – Reading MA

residents: <http://rctv.org/schedule.pdf> for a weekly listing of programming on channels 9 Comcast and 31 Verizon. A special thank you to John Surette for coordinating worship service copies to RCTV weekly.

Woburn MA residents: <http://www.woburnpublicmediacenter.org/programming.html> for a weekly listing of programming on channels: Comcast: Channels 9, 10, 22 and Verizon: Channels 43, 45, 47 and RCN: Channels 3, 13. A special thank you to Jennifer Conrad-Proulx for coordinating worship service copies to the Woburn Public TV station weekly.

North Reading MA residents: <http://www.norcam.org/programs.php> for a weekly listing of programming on channels: Channel 22 Comcast and Channel 24 Verizon. A special thank you to Judy Riley for coordinating worship service copies to NORCAM weekly.

Wilmington MA residents: <http://www.wctv.org/wctv-programming.html> for a weekly listing of programming on channel 9 Comcast and Channel 37 Verizon. A special thank you to John Surette for coordinating worship service copies to WCTV weekly.

Burlington MA residents: <http://www.bcattv.org/#> for a weekly listing of programming on channels 9, 22, 10 Comcast, RCN 3, 13 and 15 and Verizon 39, 40, 41. A special thank you to Al Murray for coordinating worship service copies to BCAT weekly.

Stoneham, Ma residents: <http://www.stonehamtv.org/> for a weekly listing of programming on channels Comcast Channel 22, RCN Channel 15, and Verizon Channel 36. A special thank you to Judy Bousquin for coordinating worship copies to Stoneham Cable Access Television weekly.

MEMBER SERVICES CORNER

I have regular office hours on campus, during which I will be available to respond to your calls/emails. My hours are Sunday, Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM. I will also have some availability by appointment outside of these hours. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or just to say hello! Please contact me at (781) 944-0494 ext. 103 and email me at msc@uureading.org Thank you, Amy Burton.

MINISTER'S COLUMN

Dear Friends:



I hope you were here last Sunday when we dedicated our beautiful new chalice, designed and created by Erin Mahoney Patterson, an artist and cherished young adult member of our congregation. A skilled craftsperson, she created a chalice that evokes the earth and the Tree of Life, with roots holding close to the foundations of our faith and the past, with branches reaching toward future possibility and freedom of spirit.

On Sunday, October 16th, the Worship Arts Team will introduce another new element to our worship services—a table where we can light a candle in recognition of a joy, sorrow, transition, or anniversary of an important moment in our life. It will allow a place and space for us to silently acknowledge what is in our hearts and mind (a quiet and personal counterpart to our spoken sharing of Joys and Sorrows). We will be able to light candles before and after the service. Wood artist Jeff Mottl, who also built our chancel furniture two years ago, crafted the beautiful candle table at the request of the Worship Arts Team. Erin Mahoney Patterson has created miniature earth-tone chalices to hold the candles, connecting this personal candle lighting ritual to our larger community chalice.

One of the Governing Board goals this year is to assist in looking for ways to help us deepen our spirituality, and express it in meaningful ways. The Worship Arts Team hopes this new dimension in our worship service will help us do just that.

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

PS: New Member Sunday is fast approaching, on November 6th. Membership at UUCR is a meaningful and beautiful step into deeper relationship with the church and our Unitarian Universalist Faith. If you are interested, or would like more information, just email Amy Burton, our Member Services Coordinator at msc@uureading.org

PPS: Are you a longer-term member, but would like a refresher on UU History, or the foundations of our faith? Do you want to remember why you are UU? Please join me this Saturday, October 15 for our Unitarian Universalist Basics Class from 8:30 AM to 12:45 PM. You'll meet some folks who are new to the church, and will also re-engage with your faith and the church in a new way. Childcare and breakfast will be provided. If you would like to join us, please email Amy Burton, our Member Services Coordinator at msc@uureading.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone,

At our recent retreat, the Governing Board prioritized our full list of goals for the year, paring them down to a manageable workload. I've included that list for you below. If a goal didn't make our cut, it's not because we didn't deem it important. It is just that the reality of our finite capacity mandates that we only commit to those items that are crucial this year.

2011-2012 Governing Board Goals (Governing Board Point Person)

1. Visitor Marketing Campaign (Christine Lusk): Form a Task Force charged with scoping out a campaign to attract more visitors to our Sunday Services and other activities. Identify ways in which our social media avenues can be used or enlivened to ensure that outreach efforts are both affordable and effective.
2. New Member Engagement Campaign (Jean Hanson): Form a Task Force charged with scoping out how to help new members, during their first 2 years, become fully involved in the life of the church in ways that deepen their spirituality, get them involved in social outreach and service and enable them to have fun and share their time and talents through meaningful volunteering. Coordinate efforts with the Membership Committee (Kitty Craig-Comin, Chair) and our Member & Volunteer Services Coordinator (Amy Burton).
3. Finance Challenges (Armando Villarroel and David Oakes): Utilize the Finance Council to recommend to the Governing Board ways to address our \$12,100 budget deficit this year.
4. Sabbatical Support (Tracy): Support congregational continuity during a sabbatical year. Work with our Minister (Reverend Tim), the Sabbatical Support Team (Sharyn Taitz, Chair), our Intern Minister (Meg Soens), Worship Arts Committee (Al Murray, Chair) and Vice President of Programs (Jamie Maughan) to define the Roles, Relationships and Responsibilities of all parties standing in for Tim during his absence, to ensure that these are clear before the sabbatical begins. During the sabbatical months, check in with all parties to ensure smooth operation and provide regular communication to the congregation and sharing what to expect from week to week.
5. DFD (Tracy): Address our need for a permanent Director of Faith Development. We currently have an interim Director of Faith Development and need to work toward our placement of a permanent person.
6. Covenant (Jamie Maughan, Chris Thomas): Lead the Governing Board through a process of revisiting and revising our Covenant, as needed, to best support our group cohesion and purpose moving

forward. Also, lead the Governing Board through a conversation about the possibility of introducing a similar UUCR-wide covenant.

7. Spiritually Focused Affinity Groups (Jay Schwartz): Scope out ways in which more small congregational groups could be coordinated to provide additional avenues for shared spiritual journeys.
8. Community Engagement Task Force (Chris Thomas, Matt Wilson): Continue to encourage, support and coordinate the efforts of UUCR committees as they begin their 2-year 'Food' projects.
9. Intern Minister (Tracy): Form an Intern Minister Search Committee to interview candidates and make an intern recommendation for September 2012 – June 2014, to the Governing Board for approval. The Intern Search Committee consists of Rev. Tim, Tracy Sopchak, Ruth Goldberg, Tammy Zambo and Bruce Cadarette.
10. Policy Committee (Tracy): Facilitate the Governing Board's interaction with the Policy Committee (Geoff Beckwith, Clyde Hardin) as they develop our Policy Book this year.

Best Regards,
Tracy

ANNUAL MEETING

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING WARRANT

ANNUAL OCTOBER MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Sunday, October 30, 2011

In the Sanctuary at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading in Reading, MA
at 12:30 PM

The Members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading are hereby called to the Annual October Meeting of the Church on Sunday, October 30, 2011 in the Sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading at 12:30 PM

AGENDA

1. To approve minutes of the Annual Spring Membership Meeting of May 22, 2011.
2. To receive the Treasurer's final report of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.
3. To receive the announcement and update on the 12 kW Photo-voltaic Solar System on the south roof of Fellowship Hall (Woburn Street side) scheduled for installation by the end of the year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Jolkovski
Clerk

OUR 2011/2012 GOVERNING BOARD

At the Annual Meeting on May 22, 2011, Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading members elected Governing Board officers for 2011-2012 (7/1/2011 through 6/30/2012) as follows:

President: Tracy Sopchak, 781-944-5264, tsopchak@comcast.net

Vice-President for Programs: Jamie Maughan, 781-779-1049, jmaughan@ch2m.com

Vice President for Finance: Armando Villarroel, 781-944-7979 armandovillarroel@yahoo.com

Vice President for Planning: Jay Schwartz, 978-474-0208, jay.schwartz@1-3com.com

Treasurer: Chad DaGraca, 781-750-8070, cdagraca@dgccpa.com

Clerk: Jane Jolkovski, 781-779-1914, Jolkovski@verizon.net

At Large Member: (term ends 2012) Jean Hanson, 781-779-1382, sullivanhanson@verizon.net

At Large Member: (term ends 2013) Christine Lusk, 781-779-1559, christine_tighe@yahoo.com

At Large Member: (term ends 2013) David Oakes, 781-942-2559, oakes@psicorp.com

At Large Member: (term ends 2012) Christine Thomas, 781-942-1346, christine.b.thomas@lahey.org

At Large Member: (term ends 2013) Matt Wilson, 781-942-7544, wilson2958@hotmail.com

Additional officers (not on the Board) elected at the meeting are:

Auditor (term ends 2013) Lorraine Dennis, ldennis@uua.org

Moderator (term ends 2013) Geoff Beckwith, woodbeckwith@comcast.net

Nominating Committee (term ends 2014) Dru Wood-Beckwith, woodbeckwith@comcast.net

ALL THOSE DEADLINES

- Our next newsletter deadline is Thursday, October 20, at 2:00 PM.
- Order of service information deadline is every Wednesday at 9:00 AM. If you have an attribution, dedication, or celebration for altar flowers please email uucr@uureading.org by Wednesday morning.

A note from the Administrator: No more Sunday News deadlines!

Last month we debuted a one-page Sunday news as an interim Sunday communication tool. This is a bridge before we implement an electronic weekly type “Sunday” news that can be emailed in advance on Friday afternoons to our members, friends, and visitors starting sometime in November.

The Sunday News will until November be a very small one page *hard copy* snapshot of items occurring on the Sunday in question and current and one-week forward worship and a calendar to peruse with the website address clearly delineated. Eventually in November it will be the same type tool, *just electronic versus paper*. As always, our main communication vehicle is our newsletter. If you have feedback about the process, Rosemary would welcome it. Contact her at uucr@uureading.org or call 781.944.9484

VOLUNTEERING – COFFEEMAKERS AND SUPPLIES

OUR SUPPLIES - Coffee hour supplies are completely depleted. Can you help us replenish?

The following items can be dropped off in the UUCR kitchen on the stainless steel counter and labeled "Coffee Hour": 100 percent apple juice, hot chocolate packets, packaged (generic is fine) “Nilla” wafers and packaged generic “graham crackers”. Thank you!

COFFEEMAKERS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES - Can you sign up to be a coffeemaker or help with coffee hour for a Sunday service? Our coffee hours sign up sheets have remain devoid of little to no sign ups since Labor Day. We offer generous training and assistance, all the early bird coffee you can drink, and plenty of smiles and laughter in the kitchen. This is one small task that you will both enjoy and that will be appreciated by so many who enjoy coffee hour. We Need YOU! Thank you.

HELPING HANDS NEEDS YOU

The Helping Hands Outreach Program is a unique and important part of our church community allowing us to reach out beyond our walls and put our faith into action. An anonymous donor makes a yearly gift of \$10,000 for the purpose of involving our kids and teens in social justice work and to allow them to experience the joy of sharing money and time with the world around us. As we kick off the program’s fourth year, we are in need of some new viewpoints, energy, and skills. If you possess organization or project management skills

and a desire to contribute your support to a “food related” partner this year, the Helping Hands Steering Committee would like to invite you to our first partner meeting to see if you can add depth and breadth to our partnership for the year. If this sounds like you, or if people have told you that it sounds like you, please contact Laura Hackel at 781 820 1654 or laurahackel@gmail.com

PLANNED GIVING

The newly formed Planned Giving committee is looking for volunteers with a financial background. Members who are interested in helping inform and educate our congregation on financial options around plan giving please contact Evan Hackel at evanhackel@gmail.com or 781 820 7609.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR COMFORT SHAWL MINISTRY?

Some of you may not be aware the UUCR has a Comfort Shawl Ministry. Here's a little information about us:

We have been in existence for about five years. We are a group of about twenty people from UUCR who knit, crochet or sew shawls or lap robes, or who like to deliver the aforementioned garments to folks in need. We wrap the finished garments and include a card of explanation, so that they are always ready to be delivered to someone who is sick or having difficulty in life for whatever reason. The comfort garments are intended to be kept by the recipients. We make and deliver approximately 20 - 25 shawls or lapghans per year.

While we are creating the garments, we embed them with positive thoughts and healing prayers and sometimes we say mantras for healing. Sometimes we even place a bead within the stitches to represent each time we intentionally stopped to say one of those prayers or mantras. Sometimes we pass the finished garment around and many different people add some fringe to represent their particular good wishes for the recipient. This ministry is different from and in addition to the wonderful shared ministry calls, cards and check-ins that are done by the Pastoral Care Team (formerly called "Shared Ministry"). The shawls/lap robes are also often delivered in addition to the all-church Comfort Quilt, which is intended to be used and then returned so that its well-wishes can be sent along to other people. This is also separate from Sharing and Caring, which provides meals, rides and other forms of assistance when there is a need for those services. With this abundance of outreach and caring support that is offered at UUCR, it may seem redundant to have a Comfort Shawl Ministry. But those of us who work hard to create the garments and those who enjoy making the visitations that go along with the deliveries still know that our efforts are very much appreciated. We often hear from former recipients that they still gain comfort from their shawls or lap robes months and years after they have been delivered.

If you would like to become a part of this ministry - either as a garment creator or as a visitor - please get in touch with the CSM facilitator, Sharyn Taitz, at 781-942-7011 or at SharT8z@gmail.com. We have shawl/lap robe kits ready to go, with all the necessary materials already purchased. And especially importantly - if you know of someone connected to UUCR who would appreciate receiving a comfort garment, please also contact the facilitator at the above addresses. Please always be sure that Rev. Tim knows of the person's needs, as well. Thank you, Sharyn Taitz

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Are you interested in getting involved with the Chalice Circle Program? - Are you one of those people who love to read and think about meaningful topics, but you never find the time to do so? Do you also manage to get to things only when you are meeting with a small group? Then please consider joining the writer's group for the upcoming year of Chalice Circles. Brian Kohn will be coordinating the group that prepares the sessions for our Chalice Circles. Most of the work is done on your own time, and then the group

reviews the proposed sessions to make sure it works for the Circles. If you want more information about participating in the writer's group, feel free to call Brian Kohn (781-272-5176) or Jean Hanson (781-779-1382) to talk more about it.

Chalice Circles are small (8-10) groups, led by trained facilitators, that meet twice monthly from November to June. The format of the group consists of a brief reading, a check in among the members, a longer reading, and a discussion of members reactions/reflections/thoughts about the readings. Topics over the years have ranged from world religions to more personal topics such as friendship, community, nature, etc. The Chalice Circle is a more intimate place to get to know one another at the same time as providing the opportunity to explore meaningful topics with other members of our community. **Feel free to contact Jean Hanson (781-779-1382) if you have questions about this program.**

Unitarian Universalist Basics:

An Introduction To Our Faith

October 15 (Saturday, 8:30 AM-12:45 PM)

Reverend Tim Kutzmark, Meg Soens, and Guest Facilitators

Are you new to the church? Would you like to meet other folks who are new as well? Would you 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? Then UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BASICS is just the thing for you. Join Rev. Tim, Meg and members of the Teaching Team for this engaging introduction to our faith. *Note: This condensed one-day Saturday class will include kid-friendly breakfast, bagels and coffee for adults, and CHILD CARE to make it easier for parents with young children to attend the UU Basics class. This condensed class is also perfect for those who cannot make four evening classes but would like a basic introduction to our faith and this church. Registration is required, please call or email the church office (781-944-0494; uucr@uureading.org) or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.*

Women and Islam

A Lecture, Discussion, and Field Trip

Dr. Sepi Gilani, guest speaker, with Rev. Tim Kutzmark

Sunday Oct 16, 12:30 PM

Join us for a visit to the Islamic Center of Boston (nearby in Wayland) for a tour of the Mosque, followed by a fascinating presentation and discussion on "Women and Islam." What does modern Islam say about the role and place of women in society and in Islamic faith? Come to see, dispel myths, and learn together. Dr. Sepi Gilani is a physician, a mother and wife, and a Muslim from Iran. We'll gather after church in Fellowship Hall for a quick bite to eat (bring your own bag lunch), then we'll carpool to Wayland to the Islamic Center of Boston. At 1:30 pm, we'll tour the Mosque, and then Dr. Sepi will lead our discussion. At 3:30 PM, we'll leave to return to UUCR. *Registration is requested, please call or email the church office (781-944-0494; uucr@uureading.org) or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.*

A SPIRITUAL RETREAT: Nature and the Language of the Soul

Saturday, November 5, 2011

9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Led by Rev. Tim Kutzmark

Enter the autumn season by connecting to your spirit at this daylong retreat. Using a different format from Tim's previous retreats, this will be a chance to refresh yourself and deepen your spirituality. We'll use the theme of nature as our starting point, and explore how nature soothes and speaks to our soul. This will not be a silent retreat, but rather we'll use the power of our small group of spiritual seekers to learn from each other as we listen to the wisdom within. Please bring a bag lunch. *Registration is required, please call the church office at 781-944-0494, email at uucr@uureading.org or sign up on Sunday on the registration sheet in the atrium. Limit 12 people.*

The Gift of Time - documentary film, followed by a discussion facilitated by Meg Soens

Sunday, October 23, 2011, 12:15 PM - 2:15 PM in Loring Room 103

light lunch will be served: bagels and cream cheese

Come explore the possibilities for healing that a terminal diagnosis can bring to our relationships. We will watch and discuss The Gift of Time, a short film that captures the varied perspectives and relationships that develop in one family over the fifteen years between the mother's initial cancer diagnosis and her death following metastasis. Some of the topics raised in the movie include healing relationships through forgiveness, addiction and abuse as barriers to healing relationships, and when forgiveness isn't possible. The 50 minute documentary film has won standing ovations at National Hospice and Palliative Care Organizations conferences. *Full disclosure*: the film-maker, Francis James, is intern minister Meg Soens' brother, and the family documented is their family.

Age-ing to Sage-ing: *Dealing with Challenges and Finding Gifts*

Thursday Morning: November 3rd & 17th, December 1st & 8th: 10:30-noon

Ruth Goldberg, Tony Fisher & Paula Koppel, Facilitators

Loring 103

This experience-based program will allow participants to explore the gifts and challenges of aging in a safe and sacred space created over four weeks. By connecting and listening closely to our minds, bodies and spirits, remaining open and receptive, the group will explore what it means to age. Life review, journaling and mindfulness-based exercises will facilitate life review and life repair providing an opportunity to further synthesize and integrate life's wisdom. 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. *Registration is required, please call or email the church office (781-944-0494; uucr@uureading.org) or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.*

Unitarian Universalist Theology

Tuesday Evening Class: November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29;

7:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

Meg Soens, Intern Minister, Facilitator

Loring House, Room 103

Come equip yourself for living as a UU person of faith! This is a stand alone course. We will be reading and discussing works by theologians that focus on moments that caused them to have a change of heart, a new direction, new hope, and a deeper understanding of their own liberal faith. You will bring your experiences to bear on the same questions explored by each theologian. This class does NOT repeat the spring class of a similar name and it is not necessary to have taken that class to participate. Note: There will be a short reading assignment each week. *A \$10.00 materials fee is requested to cover the cost of various handouts and class materials, payable at first class. This fee can be waived upon request. Registration is required. Limit 12 people. Please plan to attend all five sessions if possible.*

KRIS KRINGLE FAIR – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 – 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Kris Kringle Fair will turn the UUCR campus into a bustling, lively hub of activity on Saturday, November 12—and you can be part of the fun. Fair setup will start Sunday afternoon, November 6, and continue through Friday, November 11. This year the day before the Kris Kringle Fair is a holiday—Veterans Day—which is very convenient if you have the day off and want to help get ready for the Fair. Mark your calendars now. We're going to have a great time!

WHAT IS THE KRIS KRINGLE FAIR?

The Kris Kringle Fair is the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading's annual church fair. Each November we come together as a community, welcoming people of all ages to join in the merriment, while raising money for our wonderful programs, campus, and staff.

SIGN UP NOW!

Watch for sign-up opportunities Sundays in the Atrium during coffee hours in October. Friendly faces will be happy to greet you and answer your questions. Watch Sunday morning order of service inserts for up-to-date information about how you can help make this the best Kris Kringle Fair ever.

FAIR CO-CHAIRS

If you have questions large or small or are interested in hearing about leadership opportunities, please contact one of the Kris Kringle Fair co-chairs today:

- Sharyn Taitz SharT8z@gmail.com (781-942-7011)
- Susanne Sullivan mom4times99@yahoo.com (781-942-0479)
- Jasmine Hatzopoulos jasminehatz@comcast.net (617-942-7402)

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer for an hour or two at any of the Kris Kringle Fair tables or services listed below. Start gathering items you wish to donate to the November 12 Fair. *Except for jewelry items, which are needed now*, plan to hold onto your things until the week starting November 6 when your donations will be welcomed with open arms at the UUCR campus. And don't forget to plan time to browse, visit with friends, shop, and enjoy yourself in amongst all that donating and volunteering.

ATTIC TREASURES

Attic Treasures is back! On November 12 Community Hall will be full of nicely organized goods you no longer need but that other people will love to buy. If you have anything at home, in the basement, attic, or garage that makes you think white elephant or garage sale, donate it to the Kris Kringle Fair.

BAKED GOODS: Special recipe for a holiday treat?

The Baked Goods table would love your delicious pies, scrumptious cakes, brownies, fancy breads, plain breads, and mouth-watering cookies and bars of all kinds. Bake them a few days before the Fair or bake them now and freeze them until drop-off on Friday, November 11. Keep a list of ingredients, per Town of Reading health regulations, to attach to your baked goods when you leave them at the church.

BOOKS AND MEDIA: Donate used books...

...DVDs, CDs, books on tape, and computer programs. Please, no floppy disks, old textbooks, and music audiotapes. We'd love to help you clean out your closets and bookshelves, give buyers the chance to get some good deals, and make money for the church. Thank you!

BOUTIQUE: Calling all crafty folk and artisans

Do you knit, crochet, do ceramics, sew, create jewelry, needlepoint, or do photography or woodworking? Pottery, notecards, pet toys, baby bibs, and home goods like placemats have always been big sellers at the Kris Kringle Boutique. Please think about what you might like to make and donate. Contact Bev and John McAleer, Shelby Woods, and Ellen Hill if you have questions.

CLEAN UP: Post-Fair clean up!

Ever wonder how we could have as much clutter and confusion as we have on Fair Saturday, and then be cleaned up and ready for a church service on Sunday morning? Well, now's your chance not only to find out, but also to be a part of this amazing process. It only takes a couple of hours (really), and it's a lot of fun (really, really!).

COUNTRY STORE: Workers, food, and donations warmly accepted

The Country Store can sell your jams, jellies, pickles, chutneys, rubs, sauce mixes, baking mixes, and other creations. We could use donations to help pay for materials for the gift baskets we sell. If you would like to work at the Country Store, just sign up on Ginny's Fair sign-up sheets in the Atrium on Sundays. We also love old hand tools, hand-worked linens, gourds, and new country-style ornaments.

DECK THE HALLS: Spread holiday cheer!

With a special focus on the winter holidays, Deck The Halls needs your generous contributions of gently used and no-longer-needed Christmas, seasonal, and Hanukkah decorations. Go through your stash now and set aside any of the following items: hanging ornaments of all kinds, garlands, working light sets, holiday candles and holders, nutcrackers, Byers' Choice dolls, music boxes, tree skirts, artificial trees, window candles, extra bulbs, Christmas dishes, bowls, and serving pieces, greeting cards, gift boxes, wrapping paper,

ribbons, and bows. Box up your treasures and bring them to church November 6–11. NOTE: *Brand-new* holiday items should go to Potpourri and new *handmade* holiday offerings to Boutique. Deck The Halls is for gently used items. Thank you!

GREEN TEAM: Three cheers for the blue marble!

When you hear “remember the three R’s,” do you say to yourself, “I don’t need no schoolin’—it’s Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!”? Put what you know is the right thing for the planet into action! Join the Green Team to help make the Fair the greenest it’s ever been. All ages welcome.

GREETERS: Would you like to be a greeter at the Fair?

Greeters hand out programs and maps and welcome our guests. It’s a great job for adult/child pairs. Chairs can be provided for those not wanting to stand for a long time. Be that friendly person who beams that smile and helps people feel at home at the Fair.

JEWELRY: What treasures do you have?

Please go through your drawers and jewelry boxes to see if there are earrings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, or pins that no longer suit your fancy. UUCR elves will make them shine—but need time to sort, clean, and card for enticing display. There is no time like the present! Please drop off your jewelry donations *as soon as possible* in the clearly marked basket in the Atrium. Thank you.

KIDS-ONLY STORE: The perfect place to shop

Welcome to the Kids-Only Store—the best place for kid-friendly prices that won’t break the allowance! No item will be over \$1. Kids 16 and under are invited to come and do all their holiday shopping in one place. The Kids-Only Store is looking for donations of items that would make great gifts for parents, grandparents, and other special people in a kid’s life. Also, the Kids-Only Store would especially love contributions of gift bags of any size—used is fine. Our donation box will be in the Atrium outside Fellowship Hall starting November 6.

LIVE MUSIC: Calling all musicians!

Would you be interested in providing background music to contribute to the festive mood at the Fair? You could play an instrument, sing, join a group of carolers...it could be a solo act, duet, or a group number...you could have a 15-minute slot, half an hour, 45 minutes, or possibly longer. We will have a sound system set up so your music will carry over the buzz of the shoppers.

PARKING/SHUTTLE: Vans, minivans, and drivers needed

The Kris Kringle Fair shuttle service provides rides between the church and Parker Middle School, one block from the church. We encourage both volunteers and fairgoers to park away from the church. If you own a van or minivan, and can give us as little as an hour of driving time, it really helps to spread the load of this valuable service. It is a lot of fun, and you’ll enjoy talking with folks who are going to or leaving the Fair.

POTPOURRI: Never-used items suitable for gifting

Unused wedding presents in your attic? Unopened Christmas or birthday gifts occupying closets? All unloved and unwanted presents are welcome at our table—as long as they can be recycled as “new” gifts. Original wrapping and/or pricing information always appreciated. Reduce the clutter in your home and give someone the chance to enjoy something that no longer tickles your fancy while making money for the church.

RAFFLES: Two star quilts, a Kindle, a wonderful toy, and fine wines

Tickets are on sale for Kris Kringle Fair raffles at both coffee hours October 16, 23, 30, and November 6! Winning tickets will be drawn at 2:30 PM on Saturday, November 12. This year UUCR quilters got carried away with a traditional star pattern block done up in shades of black and white, and ended up with a large quilt that will cover a twin bed or serve as a generous lap robe, and a smaller one sized just right to hang on a wall.

Other enticing raffle items include

- A Kindle
- A hand-picked selection of fine wines
- A wonderful children's toy specially selected by the Mom's Group

SANTA'S ELVES: Parents and grandparents take note!

Would your child or grandchild love a personalized letter from that special someone? Plan to stop by the Santa's Elves table and spread holiday magic! Contact Eileen Cummings with questions.

SET UP: After services, Sunday, November 6

The Kris Kringle Fair set-up crew is looking for volunteers from 12:30 to 3 PM Sunday, November 6. The sign-up sheet is in the Atrium Sundays during both coffee hours. This job involves some lifting (tables, chairs, boxes, etc.), and you may get a little dirty.

SILENT AUCTION: Spark some lively bids!

Do you have a valuable or high-interest item that would create spirited bidding in the Silent Auction? Celtics, Bruins, or theater tickets...a fun and sought-after collectible...a special doll...an extraordinary piece of jewelry...art glass...a fancy handbag or scarf...? Donated holiday gift baskets and gift certificates for your professional services are also welcome. And, don't forget to place your bids on Fair Day!

SNACK BAR: May we borrow your soup pot?

The Snack Bar needs you! We need your large stock pots so we can make those savory soups for everyone to enjoy. Pots (soup pots only, smaller ones are not suitable) need to be dropped off *by Friday night November 11* in Fellowship Hall kitchen—*not* on Saturday, so we can get those stocks, chowders, and chili simmering before dawn (well, almost) the day of the Fair. Cash donations for ingredients are also gratefully accepted. If you like working elbow-to-elbow in a friendly, fast-paced environment, this job is for you. Phone or e-mail Denise Conry or Paul Sulloway for more information.

TOYS & KIDS' BOOKS: Outgrown toys and books?

We'd love to find them new homes on Fair Day. Want to join us? Sign up on the Toys & Kids' Books sheet in the Atrium during coffee hours in October. Hold onto those donations until the week starting November 6, when we will be happy to receive, sort, and price your toys and children's books. Thanks so much.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

SOCIAL ACTION

Second Offering Oct. 16 to benefit local food pantries through GATHERING CHANGE

Four times each year, our congregation has the chance to learn about and financially support a local, regional, or national organization that reflects our Unitarian Universalist principles and values. Usually nominated by a member of the congregation and then designated by the Social Action Committee, the group is introduced at a Sunday service, and then we give a Second Offering to further its social action/social justice work.

The Social Action Committee is delighted to present GATHERING CHANGE, INC., as the Second Offering recipient on October 16. GCI (www.gatheringchangeinc.org) is a local, completely volunteer-run, 501(c)3 nonprofit. Its way of helping others is simple and effective: it collects donors' spare change and distributes it back into neighborhood food pantries and social programs. Since its first collection in October 2008, GCI has donated food or funds to over 35 Massachusetts food pantries. GCI's mission is inspired by Mother Theresa's words: "We can do no great things—only small things with great love."

Of course, GCI gratefully receives bills and checks as well as change! Money that we donate on October 16 will help food pantries in Reading, Wilmington, Stoneham, and Woburn—communities where many of our church members live.

If you'd like to donate by check, please make it out to Gathering Change, Inc.

“Faithful Witness—Faithful Budget”: UU Mass Action/Promise the Children vigil at Sen. Kerry’s office 10/26 to support maintaining US programs to help those in need

From UU Mass Action and Promise the Children: “...as the debate...about the US debt has raged on..., the focus has been on cutting programs that serve the poorest in our community. Programs like WIC and food stamps [which connect with our UUCR social outreach focus on food], unemployment assistance, and housing assistance could...face dramatic cutbacks.

We know this is morally wrong and there is something we can do about it! Massachusetts Senator John Kerry has an important spot on the so-called Super Committee...charged with dealing with the debt issue. UU Mass Action and Promise the Children are partnering to organize a meeting with Sen. Kerry's staff and a statewide vigil outside of Sen. Kerry's offices on Wed., October 26, to tell him that the US debt cannot be balanced on the backs of the poor. “So this is what you can do. (1) Come out Oct. 26 at 5 PM for a vigil at Sen. Kerry’s Boston office, as we Stand on the Side of Love with the poor. (2) If you have a powerful story of how the economic downturn has affected our communities and how cuts in aid will affect the poor, and if you can attend the meeting with Sen. Kerry on Oct. 26, contact Jesse Jaeger (617-971-8731, jjjaeger@uumassaction.org). We want to make sure Sen. Kerry’s staff hears the voices of UUs who are on the ground serving those most in need.” (www.uumassaction.org, www.promisethechildreनुu.org)

Would you like to exercise your web development skills to help a charity?

Jericho Road Lawrence is looking for a volunteer to help a nonprofit in Lawrence implement a web site using a content management system (e.g., Drupal or Wordpress). The web site has been designed by a volunteer professional designer, and now it needs to be implemented. The nonprofit seeking help is a middle school for girls, all of whom come from families living below the poverty line. To learn more, contact Joan Kulash (978-604-8803, jkulash@jerichoroadlawrence.org). To learn more about JRL, visit www.jerichoroadlawrence.org.

To speak with UUCR members who've already volunteered with Jericho Road of Lawrence, contact Gretchen Latowsky at 781.944.9463 gretchen_latowsky@jsi.com, Tracy Sopchak at 781.944.5264, tsopchak@comast.net and Matt Wilson at 781.942.7544 wilson2958@hotmail.com.

Lawrence is one of the poorest cities in Massachusetts and the need continues to rise. The 10/6/11 Boston Globe reports that in 2010, 240 people a week received food aid from Lazarus House. Last week the number was 843. JRL helps nonprofits in Lawrence reach out to people in need, by recruiting volunteers with professional skills to do specific, short-term projects the nonprofits otherwise can't afford in areas such as web design, grant writing, strategic planning, and Board development. For several years, the UUCR has partnered with JRL to (1) encourage volunteers to work with JRL, (2) support JRL's own governance (Matt Wilson is on the JRL Board), and (3) support JRL financially.

Volunteer help and household items needed by Iraqi refugee families in Lowell

About 35 refugee families from Iraq now live in Lowell. Volunteers from Merrimack Valley People for Peace and area churches including ours are helping them get settled in their new country.

Person-to-person needs are (1) a conversation partner for a woman preparing to take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), (2) individuals or families to partner with Iraqi families--contact them on a regular basis to see how they're doing and generally help them adjust to life in the US, and (3) tutors for children. If you can help, contact Mary Todd at MVPP (mtodd75@comcast.net). Household items needed include rugs (living room, kitchen, bathroom, children's bedroom), dressers, toaster ovens, vacuums, food processors, clothes-drying racks, folding chairs. If you have these items and can transport them to Lowell, e-mail Mary Todd (mtodd75@comcast.net). We may be able to pool UUCR items and transport them to Lowell after the church Fair 11/12; contact Anne Mark (781-944-8769; amark@mit.edu).

UUCR CONTACT LIST

- Minister - [Rev. Tim Kutzmark](#) , 781-944-0494, extension 101 pastoral emergencies:781-718-8378
- Interim Faith Development Director Anne Principe 781-944-0494, extension 108
fdd@uureading.org
- Administrator – Rosemary Fiori, 781-944-0494, extension 100, uucr@uureading.org
- Intern Minister – Meg Soens, direct line: 781-850-3307, mmjsoens@yahoo.com
- Member Services and Volunteer Coordinator, Amy Burton, 781-944-0494, extension 103,
msc@uureading.org
- Choir Director - Dr. Mark Bennett, 781-944-0494, extension 161
- Bookkeeper, Cindy Salloway, bookkeeper@uureading.org
- Treasurer, Chad DaGraca, treasurer@uureading.org
- Organist – Alex Gordon, 781-944-0494, organist@uureading.org
- Facility Manager - Marc Evans, 781-944-0494, extension 104, facilitymanager@uureading.org
- Playschool Teacher - Karyn Carmichael, 781-944-0494, extension 108
- Infant Care Provider – Lynne Flammia, 781-944-0494, extension 108
- Substitute Playschool Teacher– Terry Hill, 781-944-0494, extension 108
- Governing Board President, Tracy Sopchak, 781-944-4426, tsopchak@comcast.net

UUCR MOM'S GROUP FIRST BOOK GROUP MEETING NOVEMBER 13 AT 7:30 PM

The UUCR Mom's group will kick off its first book group meeting of the year on November 13, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in Loring Room 101. Please join us for refreshments and a discussion of *The Sibling Effect: What the bonds between brothers and sisters reveal about us*, by Jeffrey Kluger, a new book that was recently featured on NPR. Questions? Please contact Alison Friedmann at afriedmann@partners.org

CARING AND SHARING



The caring and sharing coordinator for October is Samantha. Samantha can be reached at sstampa@comcast.net

BUDDHIST MEDITATION GROUP

Please join us on Monday evenings at 7:15 for an hour of peace and mindful community. All are welcome. For more information on the group, please visit our website <http://readingsangha.wordpress.com/>

THE BUDDHIST MEDITATION GROUP AT UUCR FALL RETREAT

Our Fall half day meditation retreat will be held on Saturday October 22nd from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. The retreat will consist of a combination of chanting, silent meditation and walking meditation. It is recommended you wear loose comfortable clothing. Please bring a meditation cushion if you prefer one over a chair. The retreat will be followed by a pot luck vegetarian lunch. Please follow the link to eventbrite to register - <http://meditationretreatfall2011.eventbrite.com/>

THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH BOOK CLUB

Yes! The Last Tuesday of the Month Book Club will continue! We had a lively group of nine core members attend the September meeting. The list of books that were recommended is long and worthwhile. The next meeting will be held at Loring House on October 25 at 1:30 PM. The hostess will be Judy Riley. The book

that we will be reading for October is *"The Postmistress"* by Sarah Blake. If you can't make it to this meeting, please notify Judy. New people are welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING IVY CHORD CONCERTS

Patty Larkin on November 19, 2011 AT 8:00 PM - Acoustic Guitar hails her "soundscape experiments." Rolling Stone praises her "evocative sonic shading." She has been described as "riveting" (Chicago Tribune), "hypnotic" (Entertainment Weekly) and a "drop-dead brilliant" performer (Performing Songwriter). Patty Larkin is part of the urban-folk/pop music phenomenon that spun off of the singer/songwriter explosion of the seventies, reinterpreting traditional folk melodies, rock, pop, bossa nova, drawing on anything from Dylan (Bob) to Dylan (Thomas). A self-described "guitar driven songwriter," Larkin has wound her way through soundscapes of evocative vocals, inventive guitar wizardry and imaginative lyrics. Her songs run from impressionistic poetry to witty wordplay.

Aoife Clancy & Robbie O'Connell on February 25, 2012 at 8:00 PM - "Whether she's delivering an ancient Irish ballad, an American folk classic, or an urgent contemporary song, Aoife sings with the same gorgeous naturalism as if she were experiencing the emotions in the songs for the first time." -- Scott Alarik, Boston Globe. The Boston Globe describes Robbie O'Connell as "a writer of timeless-sounding, emotionally powerful and often hilarious songs" and places him "among the most respected guitarists, singer and songwriters in Celtic music." Aoife and Robbie are cousins. Come join the family harmony!

Ellis Paul on April 14, 2012 at 8:00 PM - "A singer songwriter is only as good as the times he reflects. In times like these, when so many nuts are running the show, it's comforting to know that Ellis Paul is actually holding our sanity on his own stage! Wise, tender, brilliant and biting, Ellis is one of our best human compasses, marking in melodies and poems where we've been and where we might go if we so choose to. Personally Ellis, I'm goin' where you're goin'! --Nora Guthrie (Woody Guthrie's daughter)

Contact us at ivychoord@uureading.org or Beth Murray, Ivy Chord Coffee House Coordinator at 781-229-9394. Purchase tickets online at <http://uureading.org/ivychoord.htm>

CREATIVE HANDS AND CARING HEARTS GROUP (CHACH)

The **CHACH** (Creative Hands And Caring Hearts) We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of each month. Our starting time is still 7:30 and we end around 9:30. We will continue to meet at the home of Sharyn Taitz at 1443 Main St. in Reading. We are an open and welcoming multi-generational group of women who love to create with our hands. Any craft, art or skill that can be toted to a meeting is welcomed. If you are interested in joining us, please contact facilitator Sharyn Taitz or simply drop in to any scheduled meeting. Please contact Sharyn Taitz for more information at SharT8z@gmail.com or 781-942-7011. Yours in creativity, Sharyn Taitz, CHACH Facilitator.

NIA JOY AT UUCR

Nia is a fitness class that is unlike anything else! It is an energetic combination of dance, martial arts and yoga that offers a whole body and mind experience. Nia is uses great music and easy to learn moves -- and encourages students of all ages and fitness abilities to find ways of moving that are perfect for their own body. The result is that you learn how to move properly, and to use your body to its fullest potential. The hour-long class uses a variety of music, and movement that blends the moves from dance, martial arts and healing arts. Nia motivates people to get fit and healthy by making them feel good about their bodies and their own natural movement. And most of all, it is fun! You will leave feeling invigorated and relaxed. Learn more about Nia and this class at: www.NiaJoy.com September Special: For those who are new to Nia (or the class at the UU Church), attend both the 9/22 & 9/29 class for \$16.00! Drop-in for everyone is \$10.00 (for September). Fall Class Cards available for as low as \$8.00 a class. Learn more at: www.NiaJoy.com Or email Rosanne at: niajoy@me.com

UNICEF HALLOWEEN DRIVE

Katie Wheeler is organizing a Halloween drive for Unicef. She will be distributing Unicef boxes to UUCR children so that as they are celebrating Halloween--whether by trick or treating, hosting a party, or raising awareness in school—they can help solicit money for this worthy cause. Unicef works internationally for the rights, survival, education, health, and protection of children. This is a great way to promote social activism in our youth and remind our kids that many children around the world lack basic necessities like food, shelter, health, and education. Boxes will be available at the UUCR Halloween party on Saturday, October 22 and at the church services on Sunday, October 23 and Sunday, October 30. Or you can get them directly through Katie. Help yourself to extra boxes if you know other kids who might want to participate. Money will be collected in church on Sunday November 6 and Sunday November 13. You can also drop boxes off at Katie's house, if needed. Contact Katie for boxes, directions, or questions at: kawheeler@verizon.net or 781.942.3809.

UUCR RENTER: READING SOCIETY OF CRAFTSMEN EXHIBIT ON OCTOBER 29

The Reading Society of Craftsmen, renter at the UUCR, will have a Craft Exhibit and Sale on Saturday, October 29 from 9 AM to 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Unique Handcrafted Items for sale such as jewelry, decorative painting, quilts, dolls, purses, scarves, holiday decorations and more. Admission and door prizes.