



NEWS OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF READING

November 28, 2011

Worship Services

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011

"Who's That Knocking At The Door?"

Rev. Tim Kutzmark and Iris Hardin

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

The Christmas season is filled with stories of 'callings.' Sometimes 'callings' come from outside yourself, and some come from those internal gut feelings or promptings that tell you what to do or not do. Perhaps the most famous of the season is the story of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She heard a calling and her life was never the same again. Today, we'll explore the ways the universe calls to us to let it bless our lives. Note: Tidbits and Tour, a short introduction to Unitarian Universalism and this church, will take place after both services. Music: Alex Gordon, Jazz Piano variations of "Do You Hear What I Hear" and "Go Tell It On The Mountain"; 11:00 AM-the UUCR Choir

Children

Child care and playschool for infants through 1st grade.

Ushers

9:15 AM - Needed

11:00 AM - Needed

Welcome Table

9:15 AM - Needed

11:00 AM - Needed

Coffee Makers

Montserrat Michelman

Altar Flowers

Ruth Urell

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011

"Annual Holiday Choir Service"

Rev. Tim Kutzmark and The UUCR Adult Choir

9:15 AM and 11:00 AM

Come celebrate with the choir as we present our annual Holiday Choir Service featuring John Rutter's "Magnificat." Bring a friend for what promises to be a delightful hour of music and worship. Dr. Mark Bennett conducts the choir, and Alex Gordon will be at the keyboard. The choir will sing at both services.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays

9:15 and 11:00 AM

Children's Classes at 9:15 AM only; infant and toddler child care at both services.

Our full service schedule can be found on our [Upcoming Services](#) page.

Featured News

KRIS KRINGLE FAIR - THANK YOU!

We extend bountiful thanks to every friend and member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading who took part in any way in the 2011 Kris Kringle Fair.



At least 237 people devoted their precious time, energy, creativity, materials, planning, enthusiasm, and plain hard work to make the November 12 Kris Kringle Fair a record-breaking success. Together we earned more than ,500 in the span of six hours!

Raffle winners include a number of church members. Kitty Craig-Comin won the big quilt, and Nancy Bond the small one; Laura Hackel won the Kindle; Betsy Garrett (Shelby Woods's daughter) the case of wine; new member Robyn Matzke won the Playmobil toy church; and a young person named Nicole won the decorated Christmas tree.

Whether you donated, baked, volunteered on Fair Day or the week before, set up, cleaned up, oversaw a table or service, shopped, sang, or brought friends and family to join in the fun, we celebrate you for taking part in this UUCR tradition. We send a special round of applause to Rosemary Fiori for going above and beyond in every way imaginable.

As one table chair noted, "The Fair was community at its best." We couldn't agree more.

—Sharyn Taitz, Susanne Sullivan, Jasmine Hatzopoulos (Fair Co-Chairs); Ginny Beauregard (Coordinator of Volunteers); Lori Renn Parker (Internal Publicity)

Worship Notes

TIDBITS AND TOUR SUNDAY DECEMBER 11


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.

POINSETTIAS FOR OUR HOLIDAY SERVICES

This year the UUCR will be beautifying our sanctuary for the Christmas season and throughout the first week of January with Poinsettias.

As was done the past few years, plants will not be going home. Your donation will be purely a gift. We will be putting your dedication in the order of service and using *combined* donations to purchase a few large lush plants.

Your check should be for with a line item noted "Christmas dedication."

Please print this form, using this icon .

Poinsettias for UUCR

Name:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Dedication for Order of Service:

If no dedication is provided, the church office will assume there is no dedication.

Kindly staple your check to this order form and place in the offertory plate or mail to 239 Woburn Street, Reading MA 01867. Deadline Friday, December 9th.

For more information, please email the church office.

Caring and Sharing Coordinator

NOVEMBER 2011

Caring and Sharing Coordinator for Month



The Caring and Sharing coordinator for November will be Nancy Bond. Nancy can be reached by email or by telephone at 781-944-1105.

Looking ahead the caring and sharing coordinator for December will be Francesca Auciello. Francesca can be reached by email.

President's Messages - November 28, 2011 - Governing Board Goals Update



Hi Everyone,

I thought this might be a nice time to update you on some of the Governing Board goals that we set out to complete at our fall retreat back in September. A lot of our attention has been focused on preparing for Tim's sabbatical either directly, by making sure support structures are in place for those months, or indirectly by completing tasks before Tim leaves which might normally be done later in the year. So this year, so far for the Board has felt rather compressed, however that also means that we've already made significant progress on or completed many of our tasks for the year. Other areas have been set aside for the time being but will be picked up as we move forward.

Website ReLaunch Support: Well, here I am writing to you from our brand new, beautiful website! It's gorgeous and feels to me like such a wonderful reflection of all that is UUCR. Thank you again to Brian and Robbie Kohn, our fantastic new webmasters! A website redesign was not originally planned for this year, so it did not appear on our original list of goals. However, to help support our website redesign moving forward, I have formed a Website Task Force to help sort out some of the stickier issues regarding the website such as policies around posting of photographs, and personal contact information, determination of who and how people can generate website content and development of a UUCR-specific e-covenant. The Website Task Force consists of Jamie Maughan, our V.P. of Programs, Brian and Robbie Kohn, our webmasters, Lorraine Dennis, former Governing Board Chair, Christine Lusk, an At-Large Governing Board member who is also temporarily representing the Marketing Team and the Safe Congregation Committee, Roberto Olivardia representing the Safe Congregation Committee, myself and Tim.

Sabbatical Support: Jamie Maughan, our V.P. of Programs had a great suggestion that the key individuals and groups involved in managing UUCR during Rev. Tim's upcoming sabbatical meet ahead of time to ensure that we're all on the same page regarding who is responsible for which duty. So Jamie, Tim and I met with Sharyn Taitz from the Sabbatical Support Team, Al Murray, from the Worship Arts Committee, Liz Lovell, from the Intern Support Committee and Meg Soens, our Intern Minister. We reviewed the main areas that Tim is responsible for and outlined which group or individual would be covering for Tim during his absence. I was also able to ask a series of 'What if this happens?' questions to make sure the assignments were clear to me. We called this meeting the Sabbatical RRR for Roles, Responsibilities, and Relationships, following the lead of the Faith Development Committee's efforts of last year. Tim compiled a list of notes from the meeting which I submitted to the group for comment. We have the month of December to make sure all questions are answered and any confusion is clarified. The Sabbatical Support team has put together an informative booklet that should answer any questions you may have. If you have not yet received your copy, [email the Sabbatical Support Team](#).

Intern Minister: The Intern Search Committee, consisting of Tim, myself, Tammy Zambo, Bruce Cadarette and Ruth Goldberg, interviewed 5 candidates for our next Intern Minister who will be with us for the 2012-2014 church years after Meg's term is complete. The Search Committee will present our candidate to the Board for approval. Normally, this search would be completed in the spring time but we pushed up the interview cycle to ensure that Rev. Tim could be involved in the interviewing process.

Visitor Marketing Campaign: A Marketing Team is needed to launch a Visitor Marketing Campaign, however, instead of trying to form a Marketing Team and handing them a charter of tasks for this year, Christine Lusk, an At-Large Governing Board member, Rev. Tim and I have been meeting to plan a fun, informal and energizing Marketing Kick-off dinner scheduled for next week. We reached out to everyone whom we thought might have some marketing wisdom to share, particularly in regards to social media networking tools, and asked them to come to our dinner. The night will be a fun evening with great food, short presentations and workshop-style breakout groups of some sort designed to help us flesh out our marketing plan for this year and sketch out our plan for next year. We'd like to understand the best approaches to take and pitfalls to avoid and specifically address our need for social media marketing. We'll generate a Marketing Team from a subset of the evening's participants and/or from recommendations made for participants that evening. We'd also like to form a support group from amongst the remaining participants in case the Marketing Team needs to run ideas by others while they complete their work. Do you have an interest in the Marketing Team and we somehow missed you? Let me know! I'm sure there's an extra place at the table.

Covenant: Jamie Maughan, our V.P. of Programs and Christine Thomas, an At-Large member are spearheading our efforts to develop a church-wide behavioral covenant. One main area of focus for this year may be the e-covenant associated with our new website. In the next couple weeks, Jamie, Chris, myself and Tim will be attending a workshop entitled: "Covenant and Creating Community" with Doug Zelinski, Director of Leadership Development of the UUA. This workshop will help us to "appreciate covenant as an essential element of creating goodness, justice, and love in the world" and "understand how congregational life is shaped by the integrity of its members". We'll "explore how to create covenant and strengthen congregational accountability." In future weeks, I'll tell you about what I've learned.

New Member Engagement Campaign: Jean Hansen, an At-Large Governing Board member, has been heading up our efforts to understand how to better engage new and existing members at UUCR. She has been meeting with the

Membership Committee and Amy Burton, our new Member Services Coordinator, to understand what they're roles are, how they might like their roles to change and where Governing Board input and energy would be most helpful.

Community Engagement Task Force (CETF): Matt Wilson and Christine Thomas, At-Large Governing Board members, presented information at Program Council regarding the CETF topic for this year and next: namely Food. They encouraged UUCR committees to support the topic over the course of 2 years in whatever way made sense for their particular group. Additionally, Matt and Chris, along with The Green Sanctuary Committee and the Social Action Committee, hosted a Harvest Dinner this past month. We all brought a dish to share and a story to go along with it, explaining the meaning that dish had for us. Matt shared with us some lessons he picked up from a book called: "Food Rules: An Eater's Manual" by Michael Pollan to help us learn a bit more about the food that we eat. There was a great turnout of folks, young and old, new and long-time who came together for a warm night of fellowship.

Finance Challenges: Armando Villarroel, our V.P. of Finance, has been leading our Finance Council each month to inform the board's finance related decisions. This is an area where policy is needed to help the board best understand how to most effectively utilize and interact with Finance Council. We'll be working on this in the coming months.

DFD: There has been a lot of effort to address our need for a permanent Director of Faith Development which I have been spearheading and working on with the Faith Development Committee. I'll be filling you in more on as the year unfolds.

Policy Committee: I have been compiling a list of policy needs for the Policy Committee to consider. At some point, the board will prioritize our list, flush out those that are most important at this time and present that prioritized list to the Policy Committee for their further development.

Spiritually Focused Affinity Groups: This topic will be picked up in the coming months.

Best Regards,

Tracy

Adult Enrichment

AGE-ING TO SAGE-ING: DEALING WITH CHALLENGES AND FINDING GIFTS

THURSDAY MORNING: NOVEMBER 3RD & 17TH, DECEMBER 8TH: 10:30-NOON, DECEMBER 15TH: 10:00AM-11:30AM

**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 so please email the Church Office, call 781-944-0494, or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BASICS: AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR FAITH

ONE-DAY SATURDAY CLASS (SPECIAL CONDENSED CLASS)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2012, 8:45 AM - 12:30 PM

LORING HOUSE 103

FACILITATOR: REV. TIM KUTZMARK 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. Registration is required so please email the Church Office, call 781-944-0494, or sign up on Sunday at coffee hour.

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.

FILLING THE WELL IN WINTER - SATURDAY RETREAT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

FACILITATOR: MANDY NEFF AND MEG SOENS

Are you feeling sapped after the holiday rush? Join us for a rejuvenating retreat at UUCR. Join us to take time out to nurture our bodies and souls. In the morning, we will bake bread, and later share it in worship. We will spend time also in reflective practices, including guided meditation and creating an image of the Holy, or That Which Sustains You. Please dress comfortably and bring a vegetarian potluck item for lunch.

Get Involved News

Buddhist Meditation Group

BUDDHIST MEDITATION GROUP NOT MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

The Buddhist Meditation Group will not be meeting Monday, November 28, due to Thanksgiving.

Chalice Circles

CHALICE CIRCLES - OPEN CHAIR

Our Chalice circles have begun, and there is always an Open Chair for someone new!

Chalice Circles are small (8-10 participants) groups, led by trained facilitators, that meet twice monthly for 1 ½ hours. 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.

The Circles have started and will go to the end of the Church year in June.

There are lots of openings in the following Chalice Circles:

- Tuesday 4:30 – 6:00 PM
- Wednesday 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 PM (phone Chalice Circle for those unable to attend a meeting)
- Saturday 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

You can register online or by contacting Jean Hanson.

Chalice Circles

CALL TO READERS/WRITERS/THINKERS

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 email [Brian Kohn](mailto:Brian.Kohn@readingchurch.org) or call Jean Hanson (781-779-1382).

Chalice Circles

CHALICE CIRCLES

Our seventh year of Chalice Circles will begin in October and end in June 2012. We are excited to invite you to join us in this program of connection, community, deepening of spirituality and self discovery.

The groups meet twice a month and each group has 8 – 10 members facilitated by a trained leader. In a Chalice Circle you have an opportunity to slow down, check in with your self and acknowledge how you are feeling in the moment and be a witness to your circle members in a meaningful and satisfying way. As time goes on, relationships deepen and your ongoing participation is important. This is a great way to make new friends and strengthen connections. A Chalice Circle is a safe place to explore spiritual questions through everyday life experiences. There is an open chair in every circle to welcome new participants as the year progresses. Chalice Circles are also a way to maintain our sense of intimacy with each other as our church community grows and changes. It is also a great way for newer members of our church to find a place to belong.

One group will create their circle again this year "virtually" via a conference call on Thursday afternoons. A facilitator will provide each member with a special phone number so that they can call into the circle during the designated meeting time every two weeks. This is a perfect option for members who aren't able to be in Reading but want to stay connected; members who have difficulty getting to or sitting through a circle because of a life challenge, folks who travel or even new parents. The format and topics are the same as with the other circles. Members who participated last year felt the call offered them support and spiritual growth from the comfort of their own home! For more information regarding the Conference Calling Chalice Circle please contact Paula Koppel (617-835-7087)

There is always a chair for you!

Facilitator: Jean Hanson
Schedule: forthcoming.

Register online [here](#).

Creative Hands and Caring Hearts Group (CHACH)

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.

Yours in creativity, Sharyn Taitz, CHACH Facilitator.

[Contact Form](#)

Last Tuesday of the Month Book Club

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH BOOK CLUB

Last Tuesday of the Month Book Club will have its November meeting at the home of Janet Bringola, 9 Marla Lane, Wakefield, on November 29th at 1:30 PM. The book to be discussed is "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand.

Membership

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Bios for our new members can be found [HERE](#).

Mom's Group

MOM'S GROUP

The UUCR Mom's Group will have three different offerings this year for mothers of the church to get to know one another.

Mom's Circle (registration in September is required).

The Moms Circle is a group of women in a mothering role who meet on a regular basis in an atmosphere of safety and support for the purpose of engaging in facilitated discussions exploring issues of interest to the group and providing an avenue for personal growth, spiritual development, and community connections. Meetings are twice a month on Sunday evenings in the home of one of the members. Meetings are facilitated by members of the UUCR church community and meetings run similarly to Chalice Circle Meetings.

Social Events (open to all)

Throughout the year we will be organizing social events for all mothers to attend. Dates will be announced in advance.

Mother's Book Club (open to all)

Throughout the year we will be having at least three different book discussions. You are not required to attend all meetings. Books will be announced in advance.

If any of these offerings interest you, please contact Sara Ortins for more information (781-944-2740)

Coordinator: Sara Ortins

Sundays Twice a month, 7:30-9:00 PM

Here is the Mom's Group Schedule for the remainder of this Church Year. All meetings are 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM unless noted. Please contact Sara Ortins or Alison Friedman for the meeting location.

- 11/13: Book group, 101 Loring House, "The Sibling Effect"
- 11/20 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 12/2: Holiday party, home of Debbie Vince, Friday Evening
- 12/11 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 1/8 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 1/22 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting

- 2/3: Book group, 101 Loring House, Friday Evening
- 2/12 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 3/4 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 3/18 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 4/1 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 4/29 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 5/6: Book group, 101 Loring House
- 5/20 Chalice Circle Mom's Group Meeting
- 6/9: Family BBQ, home of Rebecca Higgins, Time to be determined

Social Action

LOUIS D. BROWN PEACE INSTITUTE: SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH

On Monday, November 21, from 10:30 AM to noon at the Massachusetts State House in Boston, the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute will kick off its 11th Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month to celebrate and recognize the amazing work taking place on behalf of survivors of homicide victims across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The event will feature city and state leaders who are striving toward improving victim services and reducing violence as well as survivors who are transforming their pain and anger into power and action. For more information, contact Maris Luse, Director of Survivors Outreach Services, 617-825-1917. For more about the Peace Institute and the Awareness Month, visit www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org

Social Action

UNDECORATE THE TREE

It's time to "Undecorate the Tree" again and help provide a wonderful Christmas for a child under the care of the Malden DCF office. For many years, the members of our church community have been providing Christmas gifts for nearly 100 children. Once again this year, we have 5 ways to help - all with different levels of contribution, so that everyone can participate in this very worthwhile project:

1. **Undecorate "classic"** – As always, you can choose to adopt a child and make his or her Christmas wishes come true. If you were not present at coffee hour on Sunday, November 20, to select a child then please call Linda King or Sharyn Taitz (phone numbers are below).
2. **Buy one or two items** – Choose one or two items to buy for a specific child.
3. **Adopt a family** – Want to adopt siblings, either by yourself or with some of your friends? Contact Linda King or Sharyn Taitz as soon as possible.
4. **Shopper/non-shopper pair** – Are you someone with limited funds who loves to shop? Are you someone with adequate funds who hates to shop? Contact Linda or Sharyn and they will pair a "shop 'til you drop" type with a "would rather die than shop but am happy to write a check" type.
5. **Join a group** – Would you prefer to adopt a child with another person or two? Email Linda or Sharyn and tell them the age range and sex of the child you'd like to adopt, and they will team you up with one or two others with a similar interest.

Contact Information:

Linda King

Sharyn

Please note: wrapped and bundled gifts need to be returned to the church on Sunday, Dec 4th.

Social Action

UU SERVICE COMMITTEE: GUEST AT YOUR TABLE AT THE UUCR



Each year at this time, our congregation participates in Guest at Your Table—a UU tradition. By bringing home a GAYT box, we learn about how the UU Service Committee puts our shared principles into action in the US and around the world; and by placing donations in the box, we support the UUSC and the people it serves.

If you didn't receive a box at the Thanksgiving services, you can pick one up on the community table near the parking lot door in Fellowship Hall or contact Anne Mark (Contact Form).

We'll return boxes and donations at Sunday services on January 8 and 15.

In 1940, a rescue mission of the new Unitarian Service Committee saved 29 children and 10 adults from Nazi persecution and brought them to the US.

Today, the UU Service Committee continues on that life-affirming path. Through advocacy, education, and partnerships with grassroots organizations, the UUSC (1) protects the rights of marginalized people in humanitarian crises, (2) works toward economic justice and defends workers' rights, (3) advances environmental justice (defending the human right to water), and (4) defends civil liberties.

Each year at this time, our congregation participates in Guest at Your Table—a UU tradition. By bringing home a GAYT box, we learn about how the UUSC puts our shared principles in to action the US and around the world. We'll receive our boxes at the Thanksgiving services (November 20) and return them in January.

With each box comes a copy of *Stories of Hope*, which tells more about how UUSC works to change our world for the better. The stories introduce human-rights champions like Carolina Lara, a youth leader of a movement in Ecuador that successfully lobbied to have the human right to water included in the country's new constitution. Some individuals and families make it a mealtime ritual to read one of the stories and think about how we can help. When we share our blessings with our "guests," we ensure that UUSC and people like Carolina can continue their important work. Some like to put coins and bills in their box throughout the holiday season; others prefer to write a check and put it in the box.

Thanks to the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y., gifts of \$100 or more are eligible to be matched, dollar for dollar, doubling our contributions.

(Thanks to www.uusc.org for some of these words.)

Our Larger Community

READING SYMPHONY-MESSIAH SING AT UUCR ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH AT 8 PM

The Reading Symphony invites you to come and join us for a sing-along of choral highlights from **Handel's Messiah** on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 8:00 PM.

The performance will be held at Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading (Woburn and Summer Street), Reading, MA.

Scores will be available to use at the event. Visit the RSO website at readingsymphonyorchestra.org. \$5.00 donation at the door. Refreshments served.

Our Larger Community

TREE OF LIGHTS CEREMONY AT WINCHESTER HOSPITAL, DECEMBER 4TH AT 4:00 PM

Once again, some members of the UUCR choir will be singing at the "Tree of Lights Ceremony" at Winchester Hospital on December 4th at 4 PM. Anyone wishing to join the informal singing is welcome to take part. The ceremony is followed by a reception, For more information, contact George or Ruth White.

Ivy Chord Concerts

AOIFE CLANCY & ROBBIE O'CONNELL ON FEBRUARY 25, 2012 AT 8:00 PM



Luscious Celtic music & harmonies!

Saturday, February 25, 2012
8:00 pm

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

Read what the press has to say about Aoife Clancy and Robbie O'Connell:

"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

"'There is Hope' by cousin Robbie O'Connell with soft violin guitar and flute are perfect for the gentleness of Aoife's clear delivery." — Sing Out!

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."*

The Springfield Union-News declares *"...he made it quite clear...that there is more to being Irish than filing stereotypes. And through his music, he's bringing an inspired vision and a new voice of Ireland to American audiences."*

ELLIS PAUL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012 AT 8:00PM



Charismatic performances, approachable style and beautifully rendered story-songs

Saturday, April 14, 2012
8:00 pm

[Buy tickets for this concert online.](#)

Read what the press has to say about Ellis Paul:

"There are artists who are good at their craft. There are artists who have developed and maximized their talent to a high degree. Then there are those fewer artists who seem simply to have been blessed with skills that outshine most others. Ellis Paul is one of those." — John Ziegler, Duluth News Tribune

"He's one of those few artists who can connect to the audience, making everyone in the crowd feel like he or she is actually being performed to. The sound was spot-on and the set list included some new songs from a forthcoming

children's album some of which showcased subtle political lyrics. However, even Paul's songs about dragonflies still managed to sound beautiful and utterly heartbreaking." —Adam Arrigo, Northeast Performer