

# TJMC Bulletin

## Ministerial Search Committee

The Leadership Development and Nominating Committee (LED-DEV) has been working on the selection of a ministerial search committee (MSC) since September. In addition to our own discussions and consultations with both current church leaders and members of the last ministerial search committee we have sent nomination forms to four hundred local church members. In response to that mailing, eighty-one responded, of whom sixty were not willing to participate in the pool, four were non-committal and seventeen were willing to serve. Thirty-one respondents nominated other church members, and seventy-five members were nominated by one or more other members. Twenty additional potential nominees were initially considered by LED-DEV but did not respond affirmatively. Nine current Board members, LED-DEV members, staff members or non-church members were nominated but were deemed characteristically ineligible to serve on the MSR. That left the committee with a final selection pool of seventeen members.

LED-DEV had the task of nominating a MSC that would represent the variation in the congregation with regard to demographic diversity and participation/interest in the varied major areas of church life. We feel that the slate of nominees we are presenting to the congregation does indeed represent our congregational diversity. The nominated members are varied by sex, age, and length of membership. They include three men and six women. One person has been a member of TJMC-UU for more than twenty years, four have been members from six to twelve years, and four have been members from one to five years. There are members who are under forty years of age, members who are forty to fifty-five years of age and members who are over fifty-five.

The nominated committee members are varied in terms of past/present active participation in the major areas of church life as represented by the current TJMC Councils. One or more have served the congregation in each of the six council areas. Most have served on several over time.

LED-DEV is confident that the nominated individuals are known and respected by those in the congregation with whom they have worked, and in carrying out this task they will be more strongly committed to the congregation as a whole than to any subgroup in which they may have participated. We expect that as they work together they will maintain confidentiality, seek consensus, be self-assertive at times and be able to compromise when necessary. In short, we expect them to work well together as a team as they fulfill their responsibility to conduct a successful search and recommend a candidate for settled ministry.

The nine church members nominated to serve on the Ministerial Search Committee are Carrie Berger, Anne Clark, Dave Dawson, Kirstin Fritz, Bob Gross, Lynn Heath, Marlene Jones, Nick Laiacona, and Ann Salamini.

We sincerely hope that you will support this slate and join us at the January 25 Congregational Meeting at 1PM in the Sanctuary to vote to confirm their nomination.



## Congregational Meeting Lunch

Lunch will be available for purchase before the Congregational Meeting January 25. The Challenge Group will again be preparing delicious lunches to sell and raise money for their trip to Boston in June. Help us meet our fundraising goal for our Boston Heritage Trip! Child care will also be available during the meeting.

## Sunday Services

9:15 + 11:15 AM Services

December 28

One Service 10 AM

January 4

Stars Story

*Journey to Israel and Palestine:*

*What I Saw, What I Heard, What I Felt*

Join Rev. Dr. George Kimmich Beach for his talk about a study tour organized by UUJME, Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East, in which he took part last year. What he saw and heard from Palestinian and Israeli activists is no less relevant now, but in fact more urgent in view of the coming of the Barack Obama administration. (See Pg. 2, *Faith Notes* for bio info.)

January 11

*The Way of Reconciliation*

As Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins has said many times, "Wherever I go, the Ministry of Reconciliation seems to follow me." In this sermon he will discuss how this has happened and why. The story begins with the racial division he experienced as a child, the Civil Rights Movement of the '60's, and his experiences within the UUA. Both services will celebrate this ministry and explore what we can do here.

January 18

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday*

*The Beatitudes: Part II - Blessed Are the Persecuted & the Peacemakers*

This is the second sermon in a series on the Beatitudes. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived the values proclaimed by Jesus in the Fourth Century. He was also influenced by Gandhi and Thoreau. Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins' sermon will affirm those values and remember King's life and what he did for our nation and the world.

January 25

*A Closer Walk*

Rev. Alane Cameron Miles and Worship Associate Scott DeVaux will collaborate on this service about contemplative practices and spiritual discipline. (See Pg. 2, *Faith Notes* for bio info.)

# Faith Notes

## January 4

### Rev. Dr. Kimmich Beach Speaks

Kim Beach served as Interim Minister of TJMC-UU in 2000-2001, after eighteen years as Senior Minister of the UU Church of Arlington, Virginia. Now retired from full-time ministry, Kim and Barbara are members of our church. They live in Madison County, where Kim grows grapes at their country home, and in Falls Church, where Barbara is employed by Management Concepts training company. Kim is author of *Transforming Liberalism: The Theology of James Luther Adams* (Skinner House Books). He is a Madison County representative on the five-county Community Services Board.

## January 11

### UU Christian Fellowship Worship Service

9:15 AM, Summit Rm 1

Join us as Mary Anna Dunn presents her homily on *Universalist Roots and Wings* with Dave Dawson as Worship Associate. What are we claiming when we call ourselves Universalists? Do we still be-

lieve everything John Murray and the Ballou's held sacred? What have we kept and what has been transformed by modern Christians and post Christian Universalism? Mike Dunn and friends will provide special music.

## January 18

### Social Action Collection Partner Church Committee

TJMC-UU Partner Church Committee maintains an on going, mutually beneficial relationship with our partner churches. There are over ten thousand Unitarians, thirty-two Unitarian churches and six fellowships in the Khasi Hills, northeast India.

They describe their faith as a faith of one God; a faith that considers training its children paramount, that recognizes their "Duty to God," "Duty to fellow humans," and "Duty to ourselves."

Our Nongkrem partner church continues expansion of the new Hendrick English Primary School. Participation in a UUPCC Community Assessment workshop this spring will enable the

Nongkrem community groups to work together to solve their priority needs. Their Annie Margaret Barr Children's Village is scheduled to open and accept orphans in February 2009.

Learn about the works of our Khasi Hills partner and a recent UUPCC pilgrimage by attending a photo exploration of "Three Cups of Khasi Tea!" on Monday, January 19 at 7 PM in the Parlor.

## January 25

### Rev. Alane Cameron Miles Speaks

Alane Cameron Miles grew up as a Unitarian Universalist in Richmond. She is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and UVA. She was active in TJMC-UU while a student in Charlottesville. For the last four years she has been one of the ministers at First UU Church of Richmond. As Interim Minister at First UU, Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins worked with Alane and found her to be a creative, intelligent and compassionate minister. You will enjoy Alane's return to Charlottesville.

# A Life in Faith

## CareNet

Year-Round Program

CareNet is our church's organized effort to help out with meals, rides, and other assistance for church members. Contact Debbie Eggleston at 823-1857 or dse3c@intelos.net, or Shelly Canterbury at 296-3263 or scanterb@gmu.edu.

## Clear Spring Buddhist Fellowship Meditation

Wednesdays, 7 PM, Blue Room

All welcome! For more information, contact Marian Morgan at mdm5f@yahoo.com.

## Labyrinth

Certain Fridays & Saturdays,  
Social Hall

The labyrinth can be a simple tool to help you rest, relieve stress, shift gears, or retreat. TJMC-UU is blessed with two labyrinths. A permanent outdoor seven-circuit Santa Rosa style labyrinth is available during daylight hours, and the indoor eleven-circuit Chartres labyrinth is available one weekend per month, usually the fourth. All are welcome. No experience necessary. See *Happening*

*this Month* for the dates. Currently, we have openings on two labyrinth teams—the commitment is just a few hours, four times a year. For more information visit [uucharlotteville.org/labyrinth](http://uucharlotteville.org/labyrinth).

## NatureSpirit

First Sunday, 5 PM, Summit Room 1

NatureSpirit is a co-creative group for people who feel Nature is a vital part of their spirituality. Each month is devoted to exploring and honoring a different form of Nature. We invite you to bring an object, story, poem, song, chant, gesture, dance, musical instrument, passage from a book, etc., that represents the Element of the month. For more information, contact [naturespirit@uucharlotteville.org](mailto:naturespirit@uucharlotteville.org).

College students, contact Veronica at [naturespirit-info@virginia.edu](mailto:naturespirit-info@virginia.edu).

## Pastoral Visitors

Year-Round Program

Pastoral Visitors is a church program that serves members of TJMC in these ways: visiting the sick at home or in a hospital; supporting those going through a crisis or stressful transition; maintain-

ing contact with those unable to attend church due to illness or disability; supporting friends and family involved in care giving; and comforting the bereaved. If you are a TJMC member in need of what Pastoral Visitors has to offer, please call Shirley Paul at 297-3934.

## UU Christian Fellowship

TJMC UUCF is open to all, especially those wishing to meet with others who are interested in exploring their faith within a liberal Christian context, and to learn from each other. Services include reading and discussing the seasonal lectionary readings from the Bible, hymn singing, joys and concerns, and other selections at leader's discretion.

For more information about exploring Christianity in a distinctively UU context, e-mail [uucf@uucharlotteville.org](mailto:uucf@uucharlotteville.org) or visit [uuchristian.org](http://uuchristian.org).

## Vespers

Vespers is held on Wednesdays with quiet gathering at 5:15 PM, the service at 5:30 PM and ending at 6 PM.





This Area Intentionally Deleted

## Sounds of Music



Community, celebration, connection, intention, reflection, service... are you looking for any of these? If so, the music program at TJMC-UU can offer you these and more. Whether it is by singing in a choir, offering your talents during a worship service, raising your voice in song during our times of singing together or being an active listener, music can unite us, inspire us and lift our spirits. During these challenging times of external financial pressures and discouraging world news, it is important to find things that can nourish and sustain us. Music does that for me and I will do my best to bring that inspiration to you.

The church I grew up in had a wonderful music program that had choirs for every age. There were pianos in every classroom and we sang during our Sunday school classes. We rehearsed every week. By the time I was twelve we had a youth choir that sang four-part harmony a cappella (unaccompanied). The friends I sang with then are still my close friends. We had and continue to have a strong community that is supportive. But the reason I chose music

for a professional career is because I had many transcending experiences while singing as a youth. When I was thirteen, I had one peak spiritual experience that changed me forever. We never know when these experiences will occur, or through what form, but music is definitely the way I feel connected to that which is greater than I am – to the source of all being. And it is through music ministry, whatever form that takes, that I feel I am living my life's purpose.

With this new year, I encourage you to find at least one activity that nourishes your spirit (and I hope that for some of you that will be music!). The Adult Choir, *Voices of Community*, is open to all who carry a tune and can keep up with the pace of rehearsals. We do a variety of music, and for the more challenging selections I often provide tapes of single voice-parts or recordings of the entire song. We have another choir for older youth and adults who want to sing difficult music and who dedicate time outside of rehearsal for learning the music. This is the auditioned ensemble, the *Chalice*

*Chamber Singers*. If you are interested in either of these choirs, please feel free to contact me.

We also have two children's choirs which meet regularly between services from 10:35—11:05 AM. The younger ones (grades K – 2 or 3) meet in Summit House Room 7 and the older ones meet in the Parlor. We are so fortunate to have teams of superb musicians and instrumentalists for both of these choirs. I help with the choice of music and run back and forth between rehearsals as much as possible, but these choirs couldn't function without the ongoing support of Karen Michie, John Voss, John Freeman and Bruce Gehle for the older children, and Trevor Przyuski, Michael Manto, Frank Dukes, Beth Jaeger-Landis, and Michelle Hilgart for the younger ones. Bouquets of thanks to all of you!!

Please keep an eye out for the upcoming schedules in your Friday Email, the Bulletin Board and music bulletin board in the hallway.

KaeRenae Mitchell, Director of Music  
293-8179 ext 4#  
music@uucharlottesville.org

# Nuts and Bolts



## “Building All Our Dreams” 2009/2010 Canvass

The Canvass Committee has begun planning for this Spring’s annual canvass. In the coming weeks and months keep an eye out for information about how our church is working towards a vision for its future, and how best to fund that vision. You’ll also start hearing about the canvass calendar, events, and how you can contribute to its success.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to help us develop canvass materials, keep the congregation up-to-date about canvass happenings, plan and execute several events, and generally reach out to educate our congregation about all the wonderful programs offered by TJMC-UU.

2009 is such an important year as we begin our transition together, and so our goal is to reach out and include all members and friends in this year’s program. Please give one of us a call or send us an e-mail to offer your time and/or skills, or make suggestions about the canvass. We’re excited and looking forward to talking and working with each of you to help build the foundation for TJMC-UU’s future! For more information or to volunteer contact either Co-Chair Ian Sole at 540-327-1617 or thesoles@ntelos.net, or Co-Chair Adam Slate at 760-1346 or adam@igotbunch.com.

## Treasurer’s November Update

We have now gone through five months or about 42% of our Fiscal Year. For that period our total revenues were \$238,703 or about 42% of our budget, and our expenses were \$197,421, or 35% of our budget. For the first four months we have a net income of \$41,282. That is good news.

We are all aware that our economy is officially in a recession. A few church members have requested that their annual pledge be reduced. We hope that most members will be able to pay their pledges. However, if you need to reduce your pledge because of your financial situation then please notify us. That way we will be able to do budget planning to determine if any adjustments are necessary in our budget for the current year. You may notify Trudy Rohm, who is our church pledge tracker, or Doug Webbink, your Treasurer.

Concerning our annual budget of \$562,183, do you know where the money goes? About 61.4% of the budget pays for salary and other benefits for our Interim Minister and other church staff. About 10.2% goes to community and denomination outreach, including our payments to the UUA, the Thomas Jefferson District and Social Action Disbursements; 8.9% goes to buildings and grounds expenses; 8.5% goes to servicing our church debt; 6.2% goes to our various program activities; and, 4.8% goes to office and fund raising expenses.

The following are two examples of our recent expenses: this summer we spent about \$24,700 to replace the non-working heating system in the basement with a new heating and cooling system; this summer and fall we spent about \$3,000 for roof and gutter repairs to prevent further leaks in the church.

Each month the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees receive income statements and a balance sheet. Copies of those reports are available upon request for treasurer@uucharlottesville.org.

## 2008 Yard Sale Update

Many thanks to Norman Dill of Harlowe-Powell Auction for his assistance in selling the last of our yard sale treasures. His contribution brings our final total for this year’s sale to over \$12,000. Our 2009 sale is scheduled for August 15, so continue to set aside your unwanted items so that this year’s sale will be equally successful. Pre-sale storage space is available if needed. For ongoing yard sale assistance, write yardsale@uucharlottesville.org.

## Molly Michie Preschool News

Molly Michie Preschool, a parent-run cooperative preschool with a play-based curriculum and professional teachers that has been operating since 1967, is offering tours to families seeking a preschool for the next school year. Interested parents may visit the school’s website at avenue.org/mmp or request a tour by calling the school at 977-7406 or e-mailing the registrar at mmp.registrar@gmail.org.

## 2009 Bodacious Book Sale

Calling all bookies! Our annual book sale is scheduled for March 13-14 and NOW is the time to go through your book collection, cull your excess to share with others, and make room to buy new treasures. Donations may be left on the front porch of Summit House anytime through Sunday, March 8.

Want to volunteer to help or assume a leadership role for this event? Need to schedule a pickup for a large amount of books? Contact booksale@uucharlottesville.org or speak with Cathey Polly or Trudy Rohm. Let’s make this annual fundraiser a whopping success!



Rev. Morris Hudgins’ office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 AM until 1 PM. Other times can be arranged by appointment.

## Church Contacts

Office Phone: 434-293-8179  
Office Hours: M-F, 9 AM–12:30 PM & 1:30 PM–5 PM  
E-mail: office@uucharlottesville.org  
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# All in the Family

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A gentle kind of madness  
comes with the end of December  
A winter solstice spell perhaps,  
when people forget to remember

the drab realities of fact  
the cherished hurt of ancient wrongs,  
the lonely comfort of being deaf  
to human sighs and angels' songs.

Suddenly they lose their minds  
to heart's demands and  
beauty's grace:  
and deeds extravagant with love  
give glory to the commonplace.

Armies halt their marching.  
Hatreds pause in strange regard  
for the sweet and gentle madness born  
when a wintry sky was starred.

Rev. Tony Perrino  
Minister of Pastoral Care  
293-8179 extension 5#

## Volunteer Corner

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Recipe for social action: take 40 men, cold, hungry and homeless, mix with 100 volunteers and copious amounts of food, drink and friendship. Stir in a small number of paid staff and some generous corporate donations. For flavor, add in a second or third faith community (Ebenezer Baptist Church and the Muslim Women's Society.) Turn up the heat! Resulting hospitality lasts for a week. Warms the most stalwart soul.

You need to keep a watchful eye on this one, and it's Elizabeth Breeden who ensures PACEM's success by holding all of the details together. Over the years since PACEM was instituted in Charlottesville, Elizabeth has developed a no-fail recipe for success: ask many people to each give something small and specific. From the volunteers staffing the

sign-up tables a month before our guests come, to the last load of laundry delivered to the next hosting church, there is a job small enough that YOU can happily do it. The crew for PACEM includes our youngest community members who set and decorate our tables, our youth members who bring dinner or play cards afterwards, our casserole bakers, the few folks who can figure out the garbage disposal in the kitchen, and the one person who can make a morning's job out of cleaning the bathrooms. It includes people who drop off bags of peas as well as those who bake desserts for 24.

It takes a tremendous amount of organizing, and we owe Elizabeth a great big thank you for that. We also owe her thanks for showing us the way to break down a huge undertaking into

manageable pieces and for involving the whole TJMC-UU community.

Recipe will again occur when the PACEM women come to visit us in February. Our partners then will be the Islamic Society and the Muslim Women's Society. Be sure you get a taste!



# Happening this Month



**January 1 + 2**  
**Church Office Closed**

**January 2**  
**Food Pantry**  
**9:30 AM, Social Hall**

Come join us and help collect and distribute food, and then clean up after our TJMC-UU Food Pantry. Contact Edith Good at 293-4044 for more information.

**January 3**  
**Newcomer Orientation**  
**9:30 AM, Summit Rm 1**



We welcome visitors and new members to join our minister and our Membership Committee in this session to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and our church. A light breakfast and snacks will be provided. The sign-up sheet is located on the Membership bulletin board across from the Church Office. You may also sign-up or get more information by contacting Jean Newland at 971-4996 or kipandjean@gmail.com. Please let us know if you will need childcare.

**January 4**  
**No First Sunday Potluck**

**January 4**  
**NatureSpirit**  
**5 PM, Summit Rm 1**

See Page 2, *A Life in Faith*. Our topic this month will be Native Teachings and crafts.

**January 6 + 20, 7 PM, Parlor**  
**UUppity Women**

Both our meetings this month fall on holidays, and we will use them as a jumping off place for our discussion. January 6 is Epiphany, the end of the Christmas season, and the time when the Christ child is revealed. More generally, an epiphany is a revelation, a moment of insight. What is your epiphany? January 20 is Inauguration Day. Bring your hopes for change (political or otherwise) as we go into the new year. All are welcome to our meetings. Write [UUppities@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:UUppities@uucharlottesville.org) to be added to the mailing list.

**January 9**  
**Social Justice Movie Series**  
**7 PM, Social Hall**

Environmental Action Committee will sponsor this month's movie *WALL-E*. Viewers of all ages, including young

families, are invited to a video presentation and discussion of *WALL-E*, a Pixar animated film that's "both breathtakingly majestic and heartbreakingly intimate, . . . starring "a sweet, lonely robot who, aside from his cockroach pet, is the closest thing to the last living being on earth."

**January 11**  
**UU Christian Fellowship**  
**9:15 AM, Summit Rm 1**  
See Page 2, *Faith Notes*.

**January 11**  
**Artist Reception**  
**1 PM, Social Hall**

Our Artist this month is Pete Meyers. He has often traveled to distant lands, photographing exotic animals and remote landscapes. A few years ago he began to focus closer to home. He takes inspiration from Georgia O'Keeffe's genius to look at common things differently, close up, and find uncommon views that reveal beauty in form and insight into nature's idiosyncrasies.

**January 12**  
**Undoing Racism**  
**7 PM, Parlor**

Join us for our monthly meeting. All are welcome. For more information contact Johanna Woodchild 293-8808 or [woodchild@va.net](mailto:woodchild@va.net).

**January 16**  
**Earth Friendly Friday**  
**7 PM, Social Hall**



Environmental Action Committee presents *How Perfumes, Paints, and Pesticides Can Make You Sick and What You Can Do* which tells how everyday products are sickening us in our home and work environment. We will see the short video *Contaminated without Consent* and discussion will follow. Free and open to the public. Presenters will be Barbara Cruickshank, Environmental Nurse, and Deborah Judson-Ebbets, Ecological Horticulturalist and Holistic Health Practitioner.

**January 17**  
**UU Christian Fellowship Retreat**  
**9 AM, Summit Rm 2**

Join us for our Quarterly Retreat led by Jean Newland. For more information or to sign-up contact [uucf@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:uucf@uucharlottesville.org).

**January 17**  
**Game Night**  
**6:30 PM, Social Hall**

You are invited to an intergenerational evening of games and fun. Bring snacks and/or drinks to share. We have a wide variety of games for you to try out, but everyone is encouraged to bring along favorites. For more information contact [volunteers@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:volunteers@uucharlottesville.org) or Sally Taylor.

**January 19**  
**Partner Church**  
**7 PM, Parlor**  
See Page 2, *Faith Notes*.

**January 22**  
**UU Christian Fellowship**  
**7 PM, Summit Rm 2**

All are welcome to our evening gathering led by George Jones and Jean Sorrells Jones.

**January 23, 7 PM, Social Hall**  
**January 24, 9 AM, Social Hall**  
**Labyrinth**

A labyrinth offers a time and space for rest, reflection, renewal, and retreat. There is no charge and all are welcome. No experience necessary. Come and go as you please. Interested in learning more or becoming part of a labyrinth team? Get more information at 979-3049 or [uucharlottesville.org/labyrinth](http://uucharlottesville.org/labyrinth). Also available during daylight hours is our permanent outdoor labyrinth located behind the Social Hall.

**January 25**  
**Challenge Lunch**  
**12:30 PM, Social Hall**  
See Page 1 for details.

**January 25**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**1 PM, Sanctuary**

At this meeting we will elect our Ministerial Search Committee. Voting members need to have signed the membership book by December 26. Challenge will serve lunch to benefit their trip to Boston. Childcare will be provided.

**January 30**  
**PJs & Pancakes**  
**6 PM, Social Hall**



The Children's Religious Education Committee is excited to invite you to PJs & Pancakes! We will have a dinner of pancakes and sausage (veggie also), served from 6—7 PM. Music and story



# Happening this Month (cont.)

telling in the Sanctuary from 6:30—7:30 PM. Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket, and bring your favorite pancake condiments (chocolate chips, fruit syrup, whipped cream, etc.) We will provide pancakes, syrup, sausages, and drinks. Small donations are requested to cover expenses. If you can help or have questions, please contact the Children’s Religious Education Committee Chair Lorie Craddock at 971-3026 or Lorie1963@aol.com. Hope to see you there!

## Save the Date February 14—21 Women’s PACEM



The Women of PACEM will be our guests from February 14—21. We will have sign up sheets for volunteers in the Social Hall after the services from the middle of January to the first week of February. Many hands make more fun and lighten the work.

## March 20 + 21 Women Weaving Wisdom Retreat

Finding Balance is the theme of this year’s Women Weaving Wisdom Retreat which will take place at Roslyn Conference and Retreat Center in Richmond on March 20-21.



The cost (including 3 meals) is \$160 for a single room or \$120 for a shared double. You can reserve your place through Adult Faith Development or by filling out the form at our registration table in the Social Hall after the services. Registration fees must be paid upon registration and are nonrefundable after March 1. Partial scholarships are available upon request. For more information contact Retreat Registrar Sally Taylor at 295-8083 or [retreatregistrar@uucharlotteville.org](mailto:retreatregistrar@uucharlotteville.org).

## May 1-3 Douthat State Park Trip

If you’ve got the winter blues, here’s how to get rid of ‘em: Start thinking about the wonderful time you’ll have at Douthat State Park with a bunch of other TJMCers. The roster is filling fast, but as of now there are still a few rooms in the gorgeous mountain-top lodge, plus one-and-a-half two-bedroom cottages. Prices for the weekend: \$46.19 per person in the lodge, \$97.55 for a double bedroom in the cottages. Food will be around \$20 per adult, less for kids.

Douthat State Park – with its lake, hiking trails and comfortable accommodations – is about two hours from Charlottesville – car-pooling is encouraged. Dogs are allowed in the cottages. Call Stephanie Lowenhaupt at 979-2636, or Bonnie Sheppard/Bill Spurgin at 293-6977, for more information and reservations.

# IMPACT

As more than two dozen area congregations prepare for our city/county Nehemiah Action meeting on March 30, three research sub-groups are focusing on specific initiatives in dental care, housing, and education.

## Dental Care

Lead Organizer Brian Plum reports that as a direct result of IMPACT’s continuing efforts, the Charlottesville Free Clinic dental program recently treated forty adults in one month as compared to twenty people all last year. The list of those waiting for care was eight hundred last March, however, since the July addition of a full-time paid dentist devoted to treating adults, the list has been reduced to four hundred. Adults requiring emergency dental treatment formerly needed to wait twelve months. Now some are seen the same day and all others are seen within a week or two.

The Charlottesville Free Clinic, the Jefferson Area Public Health Department, the Charlottesville-Albemarle Dental Society, and the Children’s Dental Clinic have all fulfilled the commitments they made at

the Nehemiah meeting last March. Martha Jefferson Hospital has agreed to increase its financial support. IMPACT continues its conversations with the UVA Medical Center with the intent of obtaining additional dollars for the Free Clinic.

## Housing

The joint City/County/UVA Task Force on Affordable Housing met on December 9 to complete the final draft of its recommendations for action. As eight IMPACT members looked on (three from TJMC-UU), the Task Force discovered that further revisions were required in order to insure endorsement of the report by all three institutions. The final report will be made public shortly – and will include specific recommended steps to be taken by the City, the County, and by the University of Virginia. You will be asked to vigorously support those steps in the near future.

## Education (new area of focus)

In order to determine how IMPACT could be most effective in helping address the educational deficits of our children, the research team met with

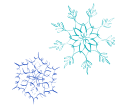
eight educational leaders from the city and county public systems and private, non-profits. All the informants agreed that if children are not brought up to grade level in reading and math by the third grade, it is very difficult to save them later.

Those leaders engaged with Pre-Kindergarten programs all emphasized the need to strengthen and expand: social work aid to families; after-school programs; summer school programs; all-day Pre-K; training and compensation for child-care workers; and making Pre-K available to all children.

Other experts were most concerned with bullying, dropout rates and the loss of interest by both parents and students at the Fifth and Sixth grade levels. Susan Erno, of the Adult Learning Center, focused on the hurdles faced by immigrants and citizens with limited language skills.

The all-important tasks of gaining deeper understanding and then determining where and how IMPACT can effect meaningful improvement will be on-going in the coming months.

# Religious Education Update



## Walking the Spiral Path

As we welcome the New Year, there are many changes in the works in the religious education program. It is with gratitude that we say farewell to Verna Gastesi as our RE Assistant. Verna worked hard over the past year and a half to support our church's religious education program. I appreciate her warm smile, big heart and amazing sense of humor. I hope to she'll be back among us to join in worship and community life as her schedule allows (she is now employed fulltime at her other job.)

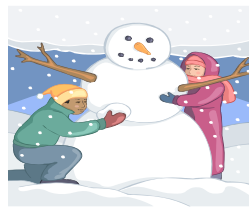
As this newsletter goes to press, the RE Assistant Search Committee is in the process of reviewing the abundance of applications we received for the position with the hopes of hiring a new assistant by January 1. Watch the Friday Email and Bulletin Board for updates and announcements. The Children's RE Committee, Youth Programs Committee and I will be working hard to fill the gaps as our new assistant gets up to speed.

At its December meeting, the TJMC Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations from the Personnel Committee to hire Cindy Shepard and Margaret Gorman as Sabbatical Staff. Cindy, who was the RE Council Chairperson for four years, will work fifteen hours a week to provide support and leadership to the children and adult religious education programs. Margaret, a long time church member currently serving on the Youth Programs Committee, will work five hours a week to provide support and leadership to the youth programs (Seventh through Twelfth Grades). Both Cindy and Margaret will be on board February 15 through May 15 which allows a bit of overlap with me before I leave on the first part of my sabbatical (March 1 through May 31.) I offer my heartfelt thanks to Cindy and Margaret. Their willingness to be our Sabbatical Staff is a truly a gift, both to me and to the church.

I continue to be filled with appreciation for this congregation's generosity in allowing me to step away from the daily demands of serving as your religious educator in order to take time for study and reflection. I want to lift up Lorie Craddock (RE Committee

Chair) and Pam McIntire (Youth Programs Committee Chair) as well as the other members of the Children RE Committee, the Youth Programs Committee and the church staff for their willingness to shoulder the extra responsibilities that will inevitably fall on them during my time away.

With appreciation,  
Leia Durland-Jones  
Director of Religious Education



## Winter/Spring Adult Faith Development

Watch the church website as well as your mailbox for the winter/spring Adult Faith Development class listings. The AFD Prospectus course offerings will be posted and mailed mid-January with classes beginning in February. Registration is available on-line, by calling the Church Office, by mail or by registering in person in the Social Hall after church on Sundays.

The Adult Faith Development Committee is always on the lookout for new committee members as well as ideas for courses. Contact AFD Committee Chair Reba Camp at reba48@embarqmail.com or Leia Durland-Jones, RE Director, at 293-8179 or redirector@uucharlottesville.org.

## Challenge Marketplace - Helping Our Youth Get to Boston!

Stop by the Social Hall after services on Sunday and get in on these great deals while supporting our Ninth Grade coming of age class as they raise funds for their June "Heritage Trip" to Boston:

- Attractions Coupon Books - more than just restaurants, and
- UU coffee mugs and aprons

Our youth (and their parents) thank you for your support!

## UU Stars Shine on Confucianism/Daoism in January

This year, our First through Sixth Grades are learning about our third UU source "Wisdom from the world's

religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life." We're exploring Islam, Native American Spirituality, Christianity, Confucianism/Daoism, Hinduism, Judaism and Buddhism. Studios will teach our children about the beliefs, traditions and customs of these faiths and we'll compare them to our own Unitarian Universalist beliefs. Adults are needed to make four week commitments as Studio Leaders at both the 9:15 and 11:15 AM sessions. Lessons and materials are provided and Leaders attend a Wednesday evening class prior to the start of their Studio in order to be fully prepared. For more information or to sign up as a Studio Leader, contact Leia Durland-Jones at 293-8179 or redirector@uucharlottesville.org

We are currently in need of one more person at the 11:15 AM service to help with our exploration of Hinduism February 1, 8, 22 and March 1. The class for Hinduism UU Stars leaders is Wednesday, January 14 at 7 PM in Summit House.

## Save the dates:

- Jan. 4 RE Classes Resume
- Jan. 7 Youth Programs Committee Meeting 7 PM
- Jan. 14 UU Stars Studio Leaders' Class 7 PM
- Jan. 24 YRUU Lock-in
- Jan. 25 Congregational Meeting (childcare provided) Challenge luncheon

## Save the dates:

- Mar. 6-8 District Worship Workshop (Spirit Play, Contemplative Youth Ministry, Worship Renaissance Module)
- May 8-10 District Annual Meeting "A Celebration of Family Values"

## Contacting our Religious Education Staff

Leia Durland-Jones, Director of Religious Education, is available by appointment at the church on Monday, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Fridays and Saturdays are her days off.




She can be contacted at:  
293-8179 ext. 3#  
redirector@uucharlottesville.org.



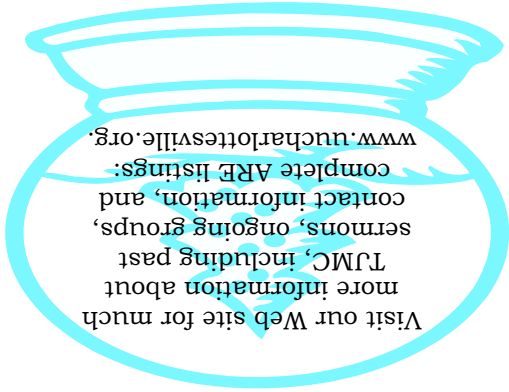
# TJMC-UU

# January 2009

CP Church Parlor CBD Basement Kitchen Summit House  
 SH Social Hall CBB Blue Room S1 Room on left (1<sup>st</sup> floor)  
 S Sanctuary CBG Green Room S2 Room on right (1<sup>st</sup> floor)

1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3
<p>8 915 Faith in Action/SH 1030 Active Minds/CP 4 TJMC Choir/CP+S 7 Back Page Writers/CBG 7 MMP/MMP 715 Volunteer Coord/S1 730 Finance/S2</p>	<p>9 630 Social Action Movie/CP</p>	<p>9 Newcomer's Seminar/S1+2 11-6 Renter/SH 4 Family Covenant/CBD +MMP</p>
<p>7 10 Pastoral Visitors/CP 1245 UUStars/CBG 530 Vespers/CP 7 Meditation/CBB 7 YPC/S1</p>	<p>8 915 Faith in Action/SH 1030 Active Minds/CP 4 TJMC Choir/CP+S 7 Back Page Writers/CBG 7 MMP/MMP 715 Volunteer Coord/S1 730 Finance/S2</p>	<p>10 Pastoral Visitors/SH 930-1130 Shape Note/S</p>
<p>6 7 Gambler's Anon/CBD 7 UUppity Women/CP 730 Worship Assoc/CBG</p>	<p>15 1030 Active Minds/SP 1230 Renter/SH 2 Pastoral Visitors/CP 4 TJMC Choir/CP+S 7 Board/SH</p>	<p>17 8-5 Renter/SH 9-11 UUFC Retreat/S2 6-11 Game Night/SH </p>
<p>12 8-1 Renter/S1 230 Enrichment All/S1 6 Women's Choir/S 7 Covenant Group/S2 7 Undoing Racism/S1 730 TrT Worship/CP 8 Emotions Anon/CBD</p>	<p>16 7 Environmental Action/SH</p>	<p>24 8-1 Renter/CP+Up 9 Labyrinth/SH 4 Family Covenant/CBD +MMP 4 Lock In/All</p>
<p>19 Office Closed 8-1 Renter/S1 230 Enrichment All/S1 6 Women's Choir/S 630 BGLTCG/CBG 630 Journey/S1 630 Partner Church/CP 8 Emotions Anon/CBD</p>	<p>23 7 Labyrinth/SH</p>	<p>31</p>
<p>26 8-1 Renter/S1 1130-1 CWCG/CP 1-330 CWCG/SH 230 Enrichment All/S1 6 Women's Choir/S 7 Covenant Group/S2 8 Emotions Anon/CBD</p>	<p>29 6 PJ's &amp; Pancakes/All </p>	
<p>27 830-1 Renter/S1 5 Social Action/CP 7 Gambler's Anon/CBD 730 Leadership Dev/S1 730 Gay/Straight Alliance/CP</p>	<p>28 830-1 Renter/S1 530 Vespers/CP 7 Children's RE/S2 7 Meditation/CBB 7 UUGuys/S1</p>	
<p>28 830-1 Renter/S1 530 Vespers/CP 7 Children's RE/S2 7 Meditation/CBB 7 UUGuys/S1</p>	<p>29 830-1 Renter/S1 9 Bulletin Folders/SH 4 TJMC Choir/CP+S 7 Exec Comm/SH</p>	
<p>29 830-1 Renter/S1 9 Bulletin Folders/SH 4 TJMC Choir/CP+S 7 Exec Comm/SH</p>		
<p>30 6 PJ's &amp; Pancakes/All </p>		
<p>31</p>		

**Bulletin deadline for February is January 15.**



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**Environmental Action Committee Proposes Green Sanctuary for TJMC-UU**

TJMC UU is about to become a Green Sanctuary Candidate, beginning a two-year process with a goal of full accreditation by the UUA. At its November 13 meeting, the TJMC-UU Board approved a motion from the Environmental Action Committee to support its application to become a Green Sanctuary Candidate. A Green Sanctuary is a congregation that lives out its commitment to the Earth by promoting a sustainable life style for its members as individuals and as a faith community.

To launch the new initiative, a newly expanded Environmental Action Committee will meet with representatives from various church councils January 14 at 7 PM in the Parlor to convene the Green Sanctuary Committee. Anyone who would like to learn more and/or join us is welcome to attend.

According to the EPA, on its web area targeting faith communities, the impact of changing individual and congregational behaviors and policies can be dramatic. If, for example, each of the 300,000 congregations in the US were to reduce energy consumption by 10%, a modest goal, then the savings would be over \$200 million, and more than 2 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions of about 400,000 cars, or to planting over a half million acres of trees.

According to Sharon Baiocco, Chair of the Environmental Action Committee, "This is a most exciting time for our church. With the backing of the Board and the Social Action Council, we are eager to begin the major work that aligns us more perfectly with our Seventh Principle, "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

During the past two years, the TJMC Environmental Concerns Committee has launched a series of educational initiatives to lead our congregation towards joining over one hundred and forty-five UU congregations who were officially enrolled as candidates or certified Green Sanctuaries.

A certified church offers ongoing programs and participates in eco-justice practices, living out the Seventh Principle in word and deed. It conducts an environmental audit regularly and adopts and enforces policies that promote sustainability. To receive accreditation, a congregation must complete twelve projects over a period of a year or two in four action areas:

- 1. Worship and Celebration,
- 2. Religious Education,
- 3. Environmental Justice, and
- 4. Sustainable Living.

One of the first tasks of the Green Sanctuary Committee will be to conduct an environmental audit. Having updated an original audit in September 2007, the Committee will establish a baseline from which to assess future programs and practices.