

# TJMC Bulletin

## Sunday Services

**9:15 AM + 11:15 AM**

**March 6**

*Furnaces and Foot Warmers*  
Rev. Tony Perrino

Prompted by an anecdotal incident from UU history, Rev. Tony Perrino will present a reflection on the nature of religious community.

**March 13**

*Characters Welcome*  
Rev. Dr. Lehman Bates II

According to the USA Channel, in order to be “Character Approved” you need to possess these three qualities: the impact that you have (stirring it up), the legacy that you leave (storing it up) and the mark that you make (starting it up). Are you character approved? Our guest minister is the pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church. His choir will sing at the 11:15 AM service.

**March 20**

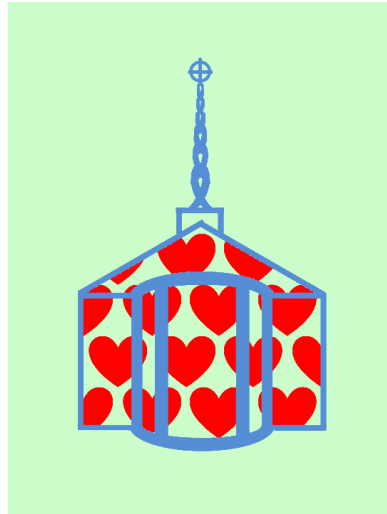
*As Fire Exists by Burning*  
Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman

The title of my sermon comes from a statement by Emil Bruner, “The church exists by mission as fire exists by burning.” I will examine the mission as it is expressed in TJMC-UUs mission statement and look at how it is lived—and can be lived.

**March 27**

*On Reverence and Reverends*  
Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman

As TJMC-UU gets closer to candidating week, I want to explore how clergy seek to lead congregations. Our own Ralph Waldo Emerson said it right in *The Divinity School Address* of 1838.



## What Do I Love About TJMC-UU?

This year’s Stewardship Campaign, “Taking Care of the Church We Love,” is in full swing. It is a time to contemplate our pledges of financial support for the coming year, and in doing so each of us may ask ourselves: What is it that I love about TJMC-UU? Our individual answers to that question will vary, but it is worthwhile to consider some of the ways in which each of us may be drawn to our congregation.

For some, the strength of connection may be through the spiritual practice of liberal religion. In this regard, TJMC-UU is a precious resource. Its ministry, worship services, Religious Education and Adult Faith Development programs, and such groups as the Labyrinth Ministry, UU Christian Fellowship, Buddhist Sangha, and NatureSpirit, offer keys with which to open doors on our paths of deep spiritual growth. Our efforts at moral development are furthermore put into action in examples of conscientious citizenship. Through such groups as PACEM, IMPACT, Green Sanctuary, and Undoing Racism, our congregation is engaged with the Charlottesville and Albemarle area, and beyond, in a dedicated pursuit of social justice.

For many, the church is above all a place of community. What we love about TJMC-UU may stand beyond its ideas, or its buildings and grounds, to the people and families who make it live and breathe. The history of our congregation is a human story, in which TJMC-UU has served as the (one and only) center of UU community in central Virginia. We have become friends at parties and social events, on the playground, when we have worked shoulder-to-shoulder at our volunteer efforts, and when we have sung together during our services. We are a network of people on which we rely for support. Our friendships are strengthened in Covenant Groups and at Circle Dinners; we take care of each other through the work of CareNet and the Pastoral Visitors; we find camaraderie in such groups as Active Minds, UUpity Women, UUGuys, Gay Straight Alliance, Twenties and Thirties (TnT), and the Forties and Fifties UU Network (FFUUN); those no longer with us are honored in our Remembrance Garden; and our hand of friendship extends far to our partner churches in Romania and India.

As UUs, we recite no common creed, our concept of faith is nuanced, and we know that our codified set of purposes and principles do not tell the whole story. Yet we love TJMC-UU deeply because of what it stands for, because it proudly holds the torch of liberal religion in an age where few such lights shine. We may recognize that stewardship of our church, by simply permitting TJMC-UU to exist, automatically translates to stewardship of the greater cause of free religious discourse.

We are a church whose gifts are put into action and given back. As you contemplate your pledge, please think about what *you* love about TJMC-UU. If in doing so your thoughts lead you to an interesting story to tell or sentiment to express, please let us know. Submit your thoughts to [stewardship@uucharlotteville.org](mailto:stewardship@uucharlotteville.org) and we will gladly post it on our “Stewardship Blog.”

# In the Interim



One of the developmental tasks that Interim Ministers guide the congregation through during transition time is to commit to new ministerial leadership. Sometimes congregants tell me that they are not sure exactly what ministers do! Sunday mornings seem pretty clear, they say, but what about the other days of the week? How do clergy practice their profession?

The following list of ten ministerial functions and roles was compiled by the Center for Career Development and Ministry, an interfaith counseling and research center. I have adapted the descriptive language so that it is useful to Unitarian Universalists, and I have arranged it in alphabetical order. I hope this list is helpful as you examine your expectations of ministry and the reality that ministers cannot be all things to all people.

And as you know, we Interim Ministers are responsible for guiding the congregation through additional tasks as well as the following ones expected of all clergy. Not sure what the additional tasks are? Please ask me.

1. Administrator: Helps manage an effective organization—planning, promoting, and executing programs; assists in committee work.
2. Evangelist: Outreach activities, effective use of media, spreading word of the faith.
3. Liturgist: Plans and participates in lay-led services, leads rites of passage, designs meaningful ceremonies.
4. Pastoral Caregiver: Includes bereavement visiting and care, crisis management, visits in home, hospital, and office.
5. Pastoral Listener: Pastoral conversations with congregants, including pre-marital couples.

6. Preacher: Prepares and delivers sermons.
7. Reformer: Speaking and participating in programs of community betterment.
8. Scholar: Scholarly research and writing that reaches the larger denomination or beyond.
9. Spiritual Guide: Helps members develop and deepen their faith and learn how to use various spiritual resources in their daily lives. Includes spiritual direction.
10. Teacher: Facilitates classes in the Adult Faith Development program.

Clearly, nobody can do all of these tasks perfectly. But I know you will trust your Ministerial Search Committee to find a good fit for TJMC-UU, not a perfect minister—because there are none!

Best regards, Janet Newman,  
Your Interim Minister 2010-11

## Transition Ministry Associate



As we reach the midpoint in the church year, I am reflecting on my service with you all so far. When the church year began, Rev. Dr. Janet Newman and I were getting to know each other and our roles in the congregation. As we settled into the fall, leading worship, especially co-leading with Janet and Leia Durland-Jones, was very meaningful. I love Sunday mornings as a way of meeting many people.

As the winter settled in, I have been spending more time in small groups, encouraging spiritual growth in the Adult Faith Development classes, the Twenties and Thirties, Women's Retreat committee, Harvest the Power, Coming of Age, and Neighboring Faiths. Within

these small groups, church members experience meaningful connection (so, if you are not part of a group, I encourage you to commit to one!) I also continue to spend time supporting the leaders of Pastoral Visitors and Covenant Groups (as best as I can with a quarter time role!) and I see their lay ministry rippling out to enrich many people in the congregation. I have also been present at regional Unitarian Universalist events, and participated in local community events, so that TJMC has a presence beyond our church walls.

All along, I have been keeping my radar up for people in need of support during life transitions such as job loss, marriage change, death, or change of church role. Sometimes we talk on the

phone, sometimes we meet one-on-one, sometimes we create a small ritual or rite of passage, sometimes I help them find another congregant for support. This type of pastoral care helps keep the fabric of a church community strong in the long run. I hope that you will reach out to me if you find yourself in need of this kind of support.

This year, in order to honor my ten-hours-per-week contract with the Board, I have had to make many strategic choices about how to steward my time in service to the church. I look forward to continuing to journey together in the covenant and mission of TJMC-UU.

Alexandra McGee  
Transitional Ministry Associate

## A Life in Faith



### Clear Spring Buddhist Fellowship Meditation

Wednesdays, 7 PM, Blue Room  
Info: meditation@uucharlottesville.org.

### CareNet

Year-Round Program

CareNet is our church's organized effort to help out with meals, rides, and other assistance for church members. Contact carenet@uucharlottesville.org.

### Pastoral Visitors

Year-Round Program

The Pastoral Visitors Program has been designed to complement the roles of the minister(s) and the CareNet program, in providing a comprehensive ministry of pastoral care. It is a lay ministry of support and hope, offered by trained volunteers who offer a sustained caring presence for those who are members of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church

community (and their primary caregivers) who are experiencing crisis or stressful transitions.

### UU Christian Fellowship

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. For more information: uucf@uucharlottesville.org.

# Reflections & Gratitude from the President Elect

Three years ago this weekend, I joined the church. Unless you count my short and less than enthusiastic attendance at a local Church of England Sunday School when I was eight-years old, I had never before been involved with anything religious, and had no idea how this decision might impact my life. Little did I know as I signed the book just how big and as important to me the church would become.

From the day I attended my first UUGuys retreat and formed strong and lasting friendships, I have become more

and more involved, and as my wife will tell you, TJMC has become a central component of my life and I love it. More importantly I love the people I meet on Sundays, at various social action events, at group gatherings, and at the various committee or task force meetings I have the pleasure to attend. I am simply amazed at the level of activity I see going on and want to express my gratitude to all our volunteers for their hard work and devotion to the well-being of this community, and frankly to my personal well-being as well.

In particular, I want to thank the Stewardship Committee. By the time you read this bulletin the campaign will be well underway and I hope you will find this years' program a positive and uplifting experience that goes way beyond the simple necessity of funding the church. As I reflect on the past three years, the theme, "Taking Care of the Church I love" says it all.

With faith,  
Ian Sole  
President Elect

## Treasurer Report



In January 2011, current year pledge receipts were \$49,053 and after seven months we have received 68% of the amount budgeted for pledge receipts for the year. Total current year pledge payments after seven months are also about 4% higher than at the same time last year.

With respect to other revenue sources, we have now received \$7,967 in unpledged donations, which is almost 100% of the amount budgeted for the year. Also, we have received a total of \$17,894 in prior year pledges, which is more than twice what was budgeted for this fiscal year.

Overall, after seven months or 58.3% of the fiscal year, we have received \$374,723 in revenues, which equals about 70% of the revenue receipts budgeted for the year. Total revenues after seven months are about 4% higher than at the same time last year.

After seven months, our total expenses are \$294,970, which is about 55% of the amount budgeted for expenses. After seven months, our total expenses are about 9% lower than at the same time last year. For just the month of January, our revenues exceeded our expenses by \$14,003. This may be compared to January last year when our

expenses exceeded our revenues by \$11,010.

For the year so far, our net income is \$79,754 which is more than twice as much as at the same time last year.

Overall, our church continues to be in good financial shape after the first seven months of the fiscal year. Nevertheless, in it important to remember that last year our expenses exceeded our revenues in four out of the five months between February and June.

Doug Webbink, Treasurer  
Treasurer@uucharlottesvill.org

## Music



Gratitude and excitement fill me as I write this article. With less than two weeks to go, plans for an impromptu benefit concert are rapidly falling into place. When I learned that Louisa Wimberger, one of our former members who happens to be a wonderful folk singer, was returning to town for a week, my first thought was to invite her to sing during our Sunday worship services. But plans had already been made for that Sunday. So the idea of a (mostly) folk concert with many of our talented members and friends came to mind. Moreover, proceeds would benefit the church and the music program. I quickly began contacting folks, who generously volunteered their time and talents.

Louisa will be sharing the concert with Wendy Repass, Scott DeVeaux,

Mike Cventanovich, Mike Dunn and Janet Muse, Liz Lindau, Penny Bowles, members from our Adult Choir, and others. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the "Three Duudes" (Bill Gardner, Mike Ludwick, and Michael Manto) will make their first appearance at TJMC! The concert will have already taken place by the time you read this, but due to the brief (and frantic) time-frame in which we are working, please know that we tried our best to spread the word electronically, with flyers, and by word-of-mouth.

Our Adult Choir makes me happy and gives me inspiration. We share a common goal of creating music that will strengthen and intensify our worship together on Sundays. Because we are unified in our purpose, we are a

wonderful and supportive community that works well together and brings humor and joy to our work along with an open attitude to new approaches. The upcoming music is exciting and inspiring. As always, new singers are welcome, even if schedules only allow a month of participation. Please contact me if you are interested in giving us a try so I can have music ready for you. And please note that there will be no rehearsal Thursday, March 10.

I thought you might enjoy this humorous quote that was found in a newsletter from a different church. "At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice."

KaeRenae Mitchell  
Director of Music

# Nuts and Bolts

## Communications News: Paper or Pixel?

When is the last time you visited the TJMC website? (Are you reading this online?) It is a great source of information and news, and you can even sign up to get email alerts when news is posted. In the last few months, we have added lots of content, including an area with important church documents, minutes, and a calendar. Many folks already read the TJMC Bulletin online. This saves us paper, ink, and the cost of mailing, and online users receive it up to a week earlier. Other advantages: you will never lose track of it, you can read it anywhere you have computer access, and we keep all the old copies handy.

For all these reasons, the Communications Committee has proposed that paper copies of the monthly bulletin be mailed only to folks who can neither access it online nor pick it up in church. We know there are a few folks who do not have easy computer access, and we will still have paper copies of the current month's Bulletin available at church. Over the next few months while this policy makes its way through the approval process, try reading the TJMC Bulletin online. See if you agree with the hundreds of folks who are already reading the Bulletin that way.

You may have already noticed a change in the Order of Service announcements. So many people confused the weekly "Bulletin Board" with the monthly "TJMC Bulletin" that we renamed the insert "This Sunday." We are now taking suggestions for a new name for the TJMC Bulletin. Send any ideas or suggestions to [communications@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:communications@uucharlottesville.org) or drop them in the Communications mailbox by Tuesday, March 15.

## Easter Memorial Lilies

As in prior years, the UU Christian Fellowship is arranging for the church to be decorated with lilies for Easter Sunday, April 24. The lilies are to be in memory of, or in honor of, a person or persons. The cost per lily will presumably be \$11.00 (this is not firmed up yet). Donations can be made to Jackie Olshefski or Jean Newland in the Social Hall after the services. If this is not convenient, please call Eleanor May at 295-7624. The names of the givers and those to be memorialized or honored should be specified on the check with the payment made out to "TJMC - Easter Lilies."

## General Assembly, Charlotte, NC June 22-26

If you have ever been to a General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, you know it is a wonderful experience! Come join in! Do consider attending this year's GA. Since Charlotte, NC is relatively close (about 300 miles away), this will be a very good opportunity for TJMC-UU members to attend. This GA will be particularly special, because it is the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist denominations (finalized in May 1961). There is always a lot of fun and excitement, but this celebration will make it even better! Even if you can only attend for a few days, it is very worthwhile.

Karen Armstrong, a worldwide expert in theology and well known author, will give the Ware lecture, which is the major guest presentation for the entire week. Karen is the author of numerous works on comparative religion, who first gained wide recognition in 1993 with her very successful, "A History of God." There will be many workshops on subjects, such as worship, music, church growth, financial planning, fundraising, programming, theology and social justice. Catch up on just about anything of importance to UUs, while connecting with other UUs and following your spiritual, theological and intellectual interests.

During early registration which opens on the UUA Website Tuesday, March 1, and runs to Sunday, May 1, the \$315 for adults and \$190 for youth rate covers the full five days of GA. After Sunday, May 1, the registration fee increases to \$360 for adults and \$215 for youth. One-day rates are also available. Registration by Thursday, March 31, is required if you are applying for a reduced registration fee in exchange for twenty-four hours or more of volunteer service at GA. Positions such as usher, greeter, information desk attendant, exhibit hall worker, children's programs and others are available. Visit the UUA website <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml> for more details.

You do not have to be a delegate to attend GA. However, if you are

interested in serving as a delegate to the UUA General Assembly on behalf of TJMC-UU, you can submit an application to the Board of Trustees outlining your church biography and why you are interested in serving as a delegate. Applications are due no later than Sunday, March 6, by email to [president@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:president@uucharlottesville.org) or may be placed in the Board President's mailbox at TJMC-UU by that date.

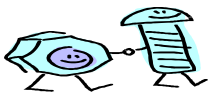
For more information on GA, contact Bev Thierwechter at 205-4087 or [bevandjim5@comcast.net](mailto:bevandjim5@comcast.net).

## Green Sanctuary Speakers Present at St. Paul's

Sharon Baiocco and Katie Corish (pictured below) presented an adult education workshop about Mountaintop Removal Coal Mining at St. Paul's Memorial Church on Sunday, February 13. About forty members of that church attended the first interfaith talk of the Green Sanctuary Task Force's eco-justice project "Go Tell it on the Mountain."



"We are natural partners," Sharon Baiocco told the audience, "because your church has led the 'green' faith movement." The Green Sanctuary project requires us to make presentations to other local churches and UU churches whose national denominations oppose mountaintop removal coal mining. Last year Laura Wallace and Sharon Baiocco presented to the Congregation of the Peninsula in Newport News, and Laura Wallace is scheduled to preach to the UU Congregation of Williamsburg in April. Together with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Episcopal Church, the United Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church of the USA, and the Religious Society of Friends, we argue that mountaintop removal coal mining and the resulting environmental devastation it brings ought to end immediately because it is immoral. Glenn Short, Mary Rose Curtis, and Dick Somer are also on the list of speakers'.



# Nuts and Bolts (cont.)

## Healthy Congregation

As our congregation prepares for the beginning of its next ministry, the TJMC Transitions Team has arranged a consultation with Rev. Dr. Ed Piper, minister of the UU Fellowship of Waynesboro and a member of the Thomas Jefferson District's Healthy Congregation Consulting Team. Ed served as an intern minister at TJMC in 1996 and has maintained contact with our church since then. He will be working with our congregational leaders to help create a climate of shared goals and mutual support as TJMC enters its next chapter.

## Organizational Membership at CNE Is for You!

Did you know that TJMC's Adult Faith Development (AFD) Committee purchased a one-year organizational membership with the Center for Nonprofit Excellence in Charlottesville? This means *you* now have access to CNE's website which includes job postings, professional development opportunities around the state and articles/resources that might be helpful to you in your church leadership and/or your professional life. In addition you can register at a reduced rate for workshops, trainings, and classes they offer. The CNE office has a library of materials available for members to borrow.

The AFD Committee encourages everyone to take advantage of the many resources available now to our congregation through the CNE. Call Kim Bassing, CNE's Membership Manager at 244-3330 or visit the CNE online at [theone.org](http://theone.org).

## Public Radio Is Music To Our Ears

If you listen to WVTF public radio, you have probably heard the public service announcements for area UU churches, including ours. Soon, you will hear a brand new announcement for TJMC, including the words "Coming together in love, reaching out in service."

Those announcements are paid for by UU listeners pooling their contributions and they are a great way to reach out to the community with our message. We hope you will join us this spring by making your check out to TJMC, with "public radio" in the memo

line. Drop it in the offertory plate or mail it.

Not convinced you want to give through the church? Do not want to give up the chance to win fabulous prizes in the online drawings? You can still enter the raffle – just call WVTF and say you have contributed through TJMC. They will even take you off their mailing list once they know you are donating through the church. Help TJMC get the word out, support public radio, and listen with a clear conscience.

## Social Action Council Actions

The TJMC Social Action Council is composed of chairpersons and representatives of the various social action groups active within our church community, and has primary responsibility for community outreach to promote social justice activities.

After several months of discussion and negotiation, the Social Action Council in January approved a new process by which local non-profit agencies can apply for free use of TJMC facilities for meetings. The process is based on a set of policies established earlier by the TJMC Board and included in the recently updated Policy Manual.

Organizations that have had approval for free use of space in the past will be notified of the new process and invited to submit new applications for the 2011-2012 Program Year. Decisions about approval will be made at the Council's meeting on Tuesday, May 24. Application forms are available from [socialaction@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:socialaction@uucharlottesville.org) or you can get one in the Church Office.

Applications for Social Action Collections for the Program Year 2011-2012 will be considered by the Council at the Tuesday, April 26, meeting. The criteria for approval of these applications will be similar to those established by the Council last year after a survey of the congregation. All applications must have the support of an established committee or group within the congregation, or the support of at least three individual congregants. The deadline for submission is Wednesday, April 20. Application forms will be sent to organizations that were selected for a collection this program year, and can also be obtained by sending a request to [socialaction@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:socialaction@uucharlottesville.org).

The Social Action Council continues to provide funds to support the Interfaith Humanitarian Sanctum (IHS) Food Bag Project begun last fall by Margaret Gorman and the TJMC Religious Education program. In early February the YRUU bought food for one hundred meals and delivered some of them during a site visit to the UVA Hospital. Margaret has been spreading the word and several additional groups in the area, including mothers at Murray Elementary School in Ivy and a Boy Scout Troop in Crozet, have begun preparing meal bags as well. Our investment in this project is truly a gift that keeps on giving. To keep up to date on Social Action Council activities, check out our Bulletin Board in the hallway by the Social Hall.

## Spring Auction Alert!

What will you donate to the Auction? Our 2011 Talents 'n' Treasures Auction is scheduled for Saturday, April 30, from 6–9 PM in the Social Hall. This auction will include a variety of silent auction offerings and feature a live auction presided over by the always entertaining Norman Dill.

Participating in our auctions is a wonderful way to support TJMC and to get to know your fellow church members better. We are looking for donations of dinners and events to take place between May and October 2011, use of vacation homes through May 2012, plus antiques, jewelry, artwork, gift baskets and personal services.

If the thought of putting on a dinner by yourself scares you, team up with someone else! And remember, we want dinners and events in all price ranges, from the simplest to the fanciest. The donation form is available on the TJMC website at [uucharlottesville.org/get-involved](http://uucharlottesville.org/get-involved) and at the auction table in the Social Hall Sundays starting Sunday, March 20. We would like all our dinner donations in and confirmed by Thursday, March 31, but the absolute donation deadline is 1 PM on Sunday, April 10.

Stuck for ideas? Have an idea but are not sure if your offering is appropriate for the auction? Want to get involved in auction production? Feel Free to contact your auction team at [auction@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:auction@uucharlottesville.org) or speak with Trudy Rohm or Betty Warner.

# Happening this Month

**March 1–May 17, Tuesdays**

**AFD: The Great Ideas of Psychology**  
**1 PM, Parlor**

We will discuss the history of psychology using a series of twenty-four DVD lectures by Professor Daniel Robinson of Oxford and Georgetown Universities. We will watch each thirty minute lecture presentation, follow each viewing with thirty minutes of group conversation, two lectures each class period. Fee: \$2 per class or \$20 for the entire series. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 1+8+29**

**AFD: Yes, You Can! Poetry & Writing**  
**2:30 PM, Parlor**

Join us as we share favorite lines, laugh (and maybe cry), write, share, constructively comment, and write some more! Come to as many sessions as you can. Holly Dilatush will guide writing sessions using ideas from several resources. Please note: No classes on Tuesdays, March 15 or 22. Fee: \$2 per class. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 1+15**

**Uppity Women**  
**7 PM, Parlor**

On Tuesday, March 1, TJMCs own Janice Walker, a gifted fabric artist, will bring some examples of her work, chat with us about the creative process, and answer our questions. If you do not know Janice's work (and even if you do), you are in for a special treat. On Tuesday, March 15, we will begin planning for the annual Elders' Dinner. Bring your menu ideas and suggestions for how to make this the special occasion we intend it to be. Contact: uppities@uucharlottesville.org.



**March 2**

**Green Sanctuary Task Force**  
**7 PM, Parlor**

We will be hearing updates from our action groups and preparing for a Green Sanctuary Sunday. All are welcome.

**March 3+17+24+31**

**Adult Choir Rehearsal**  
**6:45 PM, Parlor**

Contact KaeRenae Mitchell, Director of Music, at 293-8179 extension 4#.

**March 5 + 12 + 19**

**AFD: Who's Hanging Out in Your Family Tree?**

**10 AM, Social Hall**

Interested in learning about your ancestors – who they were, where they came from – but do not know where to start? We will be using the internet extensively, but you will also learn how to find primary sources from public records in courthouses and cemeteries. Come to class with whatever information you have about your family for as many generations back as you can go (names; dates of births, marriages, and deaths; where they lived). Useful tools to bring are a laptop computer equipped to connect wirelessly, and a local library card. There are wonderful resources you can access right from home, but you will need to join the library (free) to use them. Facilitators Dick and Natalie Somer have experienced the kindness of strangers many times on their journey, and see this class as one way to pay it forward. Fee: \$10. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 5 + April 2 + May 7**

**AFD: Building/Designing Altar Displays and Sacred Spaces**

**10:30 AM, Down Stairs Kitchen+Social Hall+Down Stairs Kitchen**

Would you like to see more and different altar decorations on Sundays? Would you like to share ideas for designing your own sacred spaces? Would you like to learn a bit about and practice floral design? Would you enjoy walking the grounds around TJMC to gather possible altar adornments? Would you like to share pleasurable time with other TJMC members while creating altar decorations for the following days' services? Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 9**

**AFD: Harvest the Power**  
**7 PM, Social Hall**

Module 7: Integrity

Facilitators: Bob Kiefer & Ian Sole

This workshop invites participants into challenging territory, exploring a deeper understanding of the chronically anxious society that surrounds and invades our congregational life and produces predictable, ineffective responses. Participants will become aware of leadership practices which commonly act as barriers to creativity and

imagination. Activities will help participants understand their own responses to challenge, crises, and opportunity, and demonstrate that a leader's personal grounding and spiritual well-being are crucial to his or her ability to lead. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 6**

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

Our Artist of the Month is our own Gayle Floyd. She would like to share artwork created by family and friends which she and her husband Dale have been blessed to receive over the years of their marriage. Many of the framed pictures are artwork designed by Dale's sister, Shirley Floyd Harbaugh of Ohio.

**March 10+24**

**UU Christian Fellowship**  
**7 PM, Summit Room 2**

On Thursday, March 10, our service will be led by Jean Newland. On Thursday, March 24, our service will be led by Sarah Bailey. Plans are being made for Holy Week to include Agape Service, Labyrinth Walk, Easter Sunday Service followed by Communion in the Remembrance Garden both led by Rev. Tony Perrino.

**March 13**

**AFD: Common Read: Immigration Stories**

**1 PM, Summit Room 2**

Have you heard about this year's designated UUA Common Read? The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands (Beacon Press, 2010). Copies of the book will be available for sale from the AFD table after services. Detailed information and study guides available at <http://www.uua.org/publications/commonread/>. Join facilitators Holly Dilatush and Pam Philips to discuss the book and possible further social action steps. Fee: cost of book. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

**March 13**

**FFUUN**  
**7 PM, Social Hall**

Are you ready for FFUUN? We are now starting the Forties and Fifties UU Network (FFUUN). If you have interest and energy in planning this and future events, please contact Raven at 960-7836 or ravenkwill@gmail.com.





# Happening this Month (cont.)

**March 18**

**Earth Friendly Fridays  
Zero Garbage Challenge Speaker  
7:30 PM, Social Hall**

The Green Sanctuary Task Force invites you to hear Rose Brown, local environmentalist, who had an idea in 2008. Would it be possible to live without producing garbage? Could she go for a year without throwing anything away? Learn how and why she did it! <http://zerogarbagechallenge.info/>

**March 20**

**New Member Recognition  
9:15+11:15 AM, Sanctuary**

This is a special time in our church year when our leadership and congregation honors our new members. For any questions, please contact Jean Newland at 962-9676 or [kipandjean@gmail.com](mailto:kipandjean@gmail.com).

**March 20**

**Social Action Collection  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
St. Kitts/Nevis Project**



Medical supplies are collected in Charlottesville from local donations and through purchases funded by community contributions. Supplies are inventoried and boxed for shipment to the Caribbean by EBC volunteers. A team of dentists, doctors, counselors, and EBC volunteers goes to St. Kitts in February each year. Patients come from around the island to one of the many Health Care Stations located in churches. Medical histories are taken, medication records are updated, diabetes and glucose testing is available, and education about hypertension and stroke is provided. Volunteers from EBC assist in all facets of this medical outreach program.

**March 20**

**AFD: New Harmonies on the Labyrinth  
1 PM, Summit Room 1**

Leia Durland-Jones and Stephanie Blackton will share insights and a slideshow of images from the Labyrinth Society Gathering that they both attended in New Harmony, Indiana last November. Light snacks will be served. Fee: \$2. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at [leiadj@embarqmail.com](mailto:leiadj@embarqmail.com).

**March 25-26**

**Sixth Annual Women Weaving  
Wisdom Retreat: Discovering the  
Sacred in the Ordinary**

Sign up *now* for our annual women's retreat taking place Friday and Saturday, March 25-26, at the Roslyn Retreat and

Conference Center near Richmond. We will bring women of our church community together to explore how we can experience the sacred or spiritual in our everyday lives by being fully aware. We gather together to strengthen our connections with each other, to celebrate and encourage our rich and diverse personal and spiritual paths, and to create a community that will continue long after this retreat. This year's activities will include a sunrise ritual, walking the labyrinth together, singing, small group activities, and sharing meals and memories. The cost is \$130 for a shared double room or \$165 for a single room. Both options include three meals. A limited number of scholarships are available upon request. Donations toward scholarships in any amount are greatly appreciated. Registration fees must be paid at the time of registration and are non-refundable after March 6, unless a replacement is found. For more information contact retreat registrar Natalie Somer at 296-4287 or [retreatregistrar@uucharlotteville.org](mailto:retreatregistrar@uucharlotteville.org).

**March 25**

**Labyrinth Walk  
5:30 PM, Social Hall**

Celebrate the arrival of spring, the season of rebirth and transition by walking the labyrinth! Starting at 5:30-7 PM an open, unstructured walk will be offered. Walk at your own pace in silence or with recorded music. Then from 7-8:30 PM, the walk will be accompanied by live music (American Indian singing and drumming as well as Celtic harp music). Friendly folks will be on hand the entire time to introduce you to this contemplative activity if you are new to it. This is the last time this church year that our beautiful eleven-course, Chartres-design labyrinth will be available for walking, so do not miss the opportunity!

## Save the Date

**April 9**

**AFD: Spiritual Practices  
10 AM, Parlor**

If you are looking for ways to integrate a daily spiritual practice into your life, please join us. We will share in silent prayer, spoken prayer, chanting, lectio divina, simple yoga movements. Register: Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at [leiadj@embarqmail.com](mailto:leiadj@embarqmail.com).

**April 30**

**Spring Newcomer Orientation  
9 AM, Summit Rooms 1+2**

We would like to welcome visitors to join our Membership Committee and other church leaders for our Spring Newcomer Orientation. This session is an opportunity to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and about our church. A light breakfast and snacks will be provided along with fellowship and coffee. The sign-up sheets are located on the Community Life Council bulletin board. Feel free to contact Jean Newland with any questions or concerns at 962-9676 or at [kipandjean@gmail.com](mailto:kipandjean@gmail.com).

**May 15**

**Green Sanctuary to Hold a Carpooling  
Challenge**

This will be the kickoff of the new TJMC Carpooling Challenge sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Task Force. The goal is to reduce the number of vehicles in TJMC parking lots and side streets by 20% on that date with the same number of congregants, measured against the Sunday, May 15, attendance. Starting Thursday, March 10, round-trip volunteer carpoolers should register at the Green Sanctuary Carpool Buddy Finder table in the Social Hall. The plan is to repeat this in the fall and challenge ourselves to a lower target. We invite you to try it at least this one time! By alternating driving with your neighbors you will cut back on growing parking problems, get to know other TJMCers better and reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in our atmosphere from vehicle emissions – a win-win UU solution. To those who are staunchly single-occupant independent drivers, let us not wait until gas hits \$5/gallon to realize our future implies sacrifice and cooperation. And it might even be fun! Stay tuned for news about prizes!

**May 20-22**

**Douthat State Park**

If you have the winter blues, here is how to get rid of them: Start thinking about the wonderful time you will have at Douthat State Park with an intergenerational bunch of other TJMC folks! Contact Stephanie Lowenhaupt at 979-2636, or Bonnie Sheppard or Bill Spurgin at 293-6977.



# Religious Education Update



## Sundays are Spirit Play Days!

Our four-year-olds through Kindergarten children enter the world of Spirit Play on Sundays upstairs in the main church building. Spirit Play is a Unitarian Universalist religious education experience modeled after the work of Maria Montessori. Each week the Spirit Play classes are told a story using props. The stories relate directly to our Unitarian Universalist beliefs, history or values. The children are then invited to reflect on the story as a group through “wondering questions.” Afterwards, each child engages in their own “work” with the story. Children may retell the morning’s story (or any of the previously told stories) using the basket of props or they may paint, work with clay, draw or play.

The classroom also has “special corners” where children practice church rituals such as lighting the chalice and sharing joys and concerns. Many thanks to our Spirit Play teaching teams: at 9:15 AM Dana Redick and Jen Smith, Marita Singer-Owens, Breck Gastinger and Margaret Manto and at 11:15 AM Jacqui and Michael Koenig, Debbie Lindbergh, Jenny Reid, Kelly Westen and Jen Edelson.

## Words for the Rainbow Chalice as used in Children’s Worship at TJMC

- Red: Respect for the inherent worth and dignity in every person.
- Orange: Offer fair and kind treatment to ourselves and others.
- Yellow: Yearn to learn!
- Green: Grow in our ongoing search for truth and meaning.
- Blue: Believe in our ideas and act on them.
- Indigo: Insist on peace and justice.

## Weekly Electronic RE Updates—A Great Way to Keep Informed!

The weekly Children and Youth Religious Education Update, emailed Thursdays, connects parents and non-parents alike with the information about what is happening in the RE program for the upcoming Sunday. Brief lesson descriptions are detailed and there is also information about upcoming church events. To have your name added to the email list, contact Leia Durland-Jones, Director of Religious Education, at leiadj@embarqmail.com. You can “unsubscribe” at anytime.

### Religious Education Contacts:

! Leia Durland-Jones, Director of Religious Education: 293-8179 x 3#  
leiadj@embarqmail.com.  
! Leia is usually in the office Sundays through Thursdays, and is available to meet by appointment.  
! Robyn Fogler, RE Assistant: 293-8179 x 6#  
robynf@embarqmail.com

## 5 Ways RE Families Can Show Their Financial Support Our Church

1. Pledge in the annual church stewardship campaign (fill out your pledge card and turn it in!)
2. Buy grocery scrip (Sunday mornings in the Social Hall or through the mail or electronically)
3. Pledge in the annual church stewardship campaign (fill out your pledge card and turn it in!)
4. Start thinking about what your family will offer at the Services Auction in April
5. Pledge in the annual stewardship campaign (did we mention how important it is to pledge!?)



## Save the dates:

- March 2 Youth Programs Committee Meeting
- March 5 Coming of Age Lock-in
- March 6 YRUU “OWL” Class
- March 12 Riddle & Mystery Class Lock-in
- March 13 UU Stars Story Sunday
- March 13 YRUU “OWL” Class
- March 23 Children’s RE Committee Meeting
- March 28 Adult Faith Development Committee
- March 30 Youth Programs Committee Meeting

# ATTENTION KROGER SHOPPERS!

When you buy groceries, pharmacy items or gasoline at Kroger, TJMC gets 5% of every dollar you spend. Just use a TJMC-linked Kroger GiftCard when you shop. You earn money to support TJMC and It Costs You Nothing! Last year our Kroger shoppers generated \$8,000, and this year, with your help, we hope to raise over \$20,000!

## How do I participate?

- ☞ Buy a \$50 starter card at the \$CRIP table on Sunday
- ☞ Refill the card at the customer service counter as needed
- ☞ And Yes! You can use your rewards credit card to refill your GiftCard

## Why should I participate?

Purchasing Scrip is as much a part of Stewardship as making your annual financial pledge to support *The Church We Love*. The revenue raised through your support will help pay our staff and fund our internal and outreach programs. There is no easier way to support TJMC and it is at no cost to you. We need this money and we need your support. Please, start today!

**Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church  
Unitarian Universalist**

717 Rugby Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Office Phone: 434-293-8179

Office Hours: M-F, 9 AM-12:30 PM  
& 1:30 PM-5 PM

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**Bulletin deadline for April is March 15.**

## **Have an IMPACT On Our Community**

**March 28 6:30 PM**

Unitarian Universalists affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person, promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and strive for justice for all. We do a fair job of mercy and charity, but doing **justice** demands fundamental changes in the usual way things are done. Demanding change from responsible officials can be successful when the power of organized people is brought to bear. That is what IMPACT is about.

An average of 1800 people have attended our Spring Nehemiah Action meetings. Together IMPACT's thirty-one faith communities in Charlottesville and Albemarle County have made important strides in the areas of affordable housing, dental care for poor adults, transportation, early childhood education, and improved translation services in the justice system for those whose first language is other than English.

This year we are focusing on inadequate mental health services for our lower-income neighbors. One in four of us experiences a mental health crisis in our lifetime, but acknowledging mental health difficulties is a problem we **all** share. Adequate services for those of us in need and of lower income are few and far between. We are called to show our personal and economic support for sufficient and appropriate services.

In an effort to describe the unmet mental health support needs in our community, IMPACT created an anonymous survey for congregational members to describe their experiences with services for both themselves or their loved ones, both within the community and the church itself. We would love to receive your input. Go to <http://impactville.blogspot.com/> and click on "Mental Health Survey."