



TJMC Bulletin

Sunday Services

9:15 AM + 11:15 AM

April 3

I Have a Dream

Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman

As Dr. King expressed his dreams to the people of the U.S., I want to tell UUs about my dreams of ministry. I will limit myself to three of them in the hope that my dreams will help you articulate yours.

April 10

None of This Matters

Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom

Most congregations think that “the church” is the community that gathers together for worship on Sunday morning. What, though, if none of that mattered? What if it is, in fact, something very different that is at the heart of things? Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom, candidate for the position of TJMC’s next settled ministry, will try to turn things on their heads a bit and see what wisdom can be gleaned from this altered perspective.

April 17

Nothing Else Matters

Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom

After a week of meetings, and dinners, and hor d’oeuvres, and social hours, Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom will again offer reflections to the TJMC community – this time on the idea that nothing else matters as much as what we do together in religious community. (And not only religious community generally but also, specifically and particularly, in *this* religious community here in Charlottesville.)

April 24

So Much in Bud

Easter Sunday
Intergenerational

Rev. Dr. Janet Newman

Easter Sunday will be multigenerational, in accordance with your custom. My homily is titled, “So Much in Bud,” after a poem by Denise Levertov. Please bring flowers for our flower ceremony.

Get To Know Erik Wikstrom!

After many months of study and discernment, the TJMC-UU Ministerial Search Committee has invited Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom to be a candidate for settled ministry. He has accepted that invitation and will be with us for a full week, April 10 through 17, to get to know us and give us an opportunity to get to know him.

Rev. Wikstrom is currently Worship and Music Resources Director for the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in Boston. His previous experience includes parish ministries in Maine and Massachusetts, along with the publication of three highly regarded books, “Serving with Grace: The Spiritual Practice of Lay Leadership,” “Simply Pray: A Modern Spiritual Practice to Deepen Your Life” and “Teacher, Guide, Companion: Rediscovering Jesus in a Secular World.”

A graduate of SUNY Binghamton and Harvard Divinity School, Rev. Wikstrom’s successful performances are not limited to pen and pulpit. He is at home on any stage and actually began his ministry as a magician, juggler, and clown.

Members of the TJMC-UU congregation will have ample time to get to know Rev. Wikstrom before the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 17, when the congregation will be asked to vote on calling him as our settled minister.

Rev. Wikstrom will present the sermons and lead both services on Sunday, April 10, and on Sunday, April 17. We will welcome him with a reception after services on Sunday, April 10, and at the Coming of Age Fundraiser Lunch on Sunday, April 17, before the Congregational Meeting.

In addition, there will be five focused opportunities for dialogue with Rev. Wikstrom, all of which are open to the entire congregation (though you may want to choose just one or two of your most fervent interests).

Sunday through Wednesday evenings of that week will each feature a brief presentation by leaders of the TJMC Council or Committee who are involved in a particular topic area. Rev. Wikstrom will give a presentation in response, followed by an open question and answer session. The schedule includes:

- ⊕ Sunday – Social Justice
- ⊕ Monday – Administration
- ⊕ Tuesday – Community Life
- ⊕ Wednesday – Worship and AFD
- ⊕ Friday – A special RE family potluck (child care provided)

In the packet Rev. Wikstrom offered the search committee, he says, “I am very much looking forward to an opportunity to meet with you in person, so that we might talk with each other about our visions for your future and how my gifts and skills might help move that vision forward.” Copies of the full packet are available in the Church Office.

Rev. Wikstrom maintains a blog, where he describes himself as “a one-time juggler, clown, magician, fire-eater, escape-artist, mask-maker who now is the father of two beautiful boys, the partner of a wonderful woman, and (after nearly fifteen years as a parish minister) is the Worship and Music Resources Director for the UUA of Congregations.” Check it out at <http://a-ministers-musings.blogspot.com/> and prepare to be inspired.



“We are one human family, on one fragile planet, in one miraculous universe, bound by love.”
~ Erik Walker Wikstrom



It is wonderful to experience the resurgence of energy and enthusiasm these days. The Ministerial Search Committee's offer to the Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom to be the candidate for the called ministry at TJMC-UU, and his acceptance, has refreshed hope for many congregants. So congratulations to all of you, especially the Ministerial Search Committee.

Candidating Week offers you a multitude of opportunities to meet Rev. Erik, to ask him questions and listen carefully to his answers, to answer his questions of you, and to see if there is a good fit between him and the congregation. "Fit" is hard to define, but I believe you have made great strides

this year toward knowing yourselves better as a church through the tasks of the Interim Ministry.

Now I want to quote from a member of a search committee of a church I served not long ago:

"The congregational vote by secret ballot on April 17 is the final step in a carefully constructed system of checks and balances. ...we started this process together as a congregation, and now it is together that we will all vote on calling a settled minister.

"Usually, ministers will accept a call when the vote in favor is over 95%. How in the world, you may

ask, can UUs be expected to be near-unanimous about anything? ... Statistically, some 98% of candidating weeks end in a positive vote.

"Votes under 95% tend to indicate that a ministry would not be long-term. This vote is not about whether a minister is perfect – most persons will promise not to be perfect – but rather whether he is right for this congregation, to help us minister to each other, lead us into the future, and bring out the best in us."

In the faith,
Janet Newman
Interim Minister 2010-11

A Blessing for a Church after a Search

- Alexandra McGee, Transition Ministry Associate

*We know we are the church of the open mind,
The loving heart,
And the helping hands.*

And we know that we are part of something greater than ourselves.

*But recently, sometimes,
It has been hard to remember.*

*Sometimes, during a "search process,"
We can feel nervous, shy, perhaps even unwanted.
Three years is a long time.*

*Sure, waiting is supposed to be a sacred thing
(all the world religions say so)
but sometimes it is just plain hard.*

And, now, we have received good news.

Now, we have a hope of a certain person whom we will call to serve us.

Now, we are like the hinge of a door swinging open to something new.

*Now, we are ready to present ourselves, to say,
"HELLO!"*

May we give thanks for all that has come before.

*May we give thanks for the hard, patient work of every hand, heart,
and dollar which has sustained our church.*

*May we give thanks for believing in ourselves,
in our mission,
in our value,
in our values.*

*And as we step forward,
may we notice what past hurts might be holding us back.
If now is a time for forgiveness,
Let us forgive boldly.*

*And we reaffirm again,
That no matter whom we call "minister" or "Reverend,"*

*That we are:
The church of the open mind,
The loving heart,
And the helping hands.*

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.

April Fool's Day, Tax Day, Candidating Week!

Lots of things are happening in April! And yes, I did mention candidating week - which you will be reading a lot about very shortly. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire congregation of TJMC-UU, I want to thank the Ministerial Search Committee for presenting us with such a wonderful candidate in Reverend Erik Walker Wikstrom, WAMR. This year's Ministerial Search Committee includes Ann Salamini (Co-Chair), Don Landis (Co-Chair), Kathy Philhour, Bob Gross, Shannon Redmond, Jim Rotherham, and Deborah Rose. Please thank them personally when you see them for all of their time and hard work.

We know the name of our ministerial candidate. What do we do now? I encourage you to participate fully in Candidating Week this month. Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom will present sermons at both services April 10 and April 17. In between these Sundays there will be several opportunities for you to meet him.

Once we officially call our new minister the next steps in our journey begins. In our work with the transition team and Rev. Dr. Janet Newman, we are looking at a new covenant and our mission. When this work is done, how will you put these words into action with our new minister?

Bob Gross describes a new minister as a spark for the congregation. How will you be the fuel that helps shape TJMC over the next few years? Are you the tinder that helps turn the spark into the flame? Are you the kindling that transfers the flame to the logs? Or are you in it for the long haul - the logs that will keep the fire burning for a long time? Whatever your role in the next few years - we need all of you. We need your ideas to flow, your hands to work, and your participation to flourish. We need you to support the church we love as we grow into the future.

In Peace,
Donna Baker, Board President

Treasurer Report



In February, 2011, after eight months or 66.7% of the fiscal year, we have received \$409,114 in revenue receipts from all sources, which equals about 76% of the revenue receipts budgeted for the year. Total revenues after eight months are about 4.5% higher than at the same time last year.

Also, after eight months, we have received a total of \$295,548 in pledge payments or 74% of the amount budgeted for pledges. Total current year pledge payments after eight months are also about 4.5% higher than at the same time last year. We have also received 91% of the amount budgeted for building user fees.

With respect to other revenue sources, we have now received a total of \$9,824 in unpledged donations, which is

about 123% of the amount budgeted for the year.

After eight months, our total expenses are \$343,279, which is about 64% of the amount budgeted for expenses. After eight months, our total expenses are about 6% lower than at the same time last year. As a result, for the year so far, our net income stands at \$65,835. This is about two and a half times as high as our net income after eight months last year. However, for just the month of February this year, our expenses exceeded our revenues by \$13,994.

We have now received \$4,851 in pledge payments for the next fiscal year that starts of July 1. Our remaining loan obligation to the UUA is now below \$50,000 and our remaining building loan

total has been reduced from \$160,000 to \$145,000 which reflects the \$15,000 in member bonds that were recently redeemed.

There will likely be some significant maintenance and repair expenses in the next several months. Nevertheless, overall our church continues to be in good financial shape after the first eight months of the year. If we look at our revenue receipt and expenditure records for the last four months of the previous fiscal year and if our receipts continue this year at or above the levels of last year, we could end up this fiscal year with a surplus, after having ended the last several years with a deficit.

Doug Webbink, Treasurer
Treasurer@uucharlottesville.org

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!



Covenant Groups Name Change

Covenant Groups are changing their name! Beginning next fall the small group ministry program at TJMC-UU will be called *Chalice Circles*. Many other UU churches have made this name change at the request of those for whom the term “covenant” has associations with their previous fundamentalist faiths. Chalice Circles, on the other hand, are purely UU. We hope many of you will sign up next fall for a Chalice Circle and share your values, beliefs and spiritual explorations with a small group of fellow UUs under the leadership of a trained facilitator at twice a month meetings. To comment or to get more information contact Sally Taylor at sallytaylor411@gmail.com, or any covenant group facilitator.

Chalice Lighter News:

Help provide funding for UU congregations in our district and you will be a “Chalice Lighter.” The Thomas Jefferson District has sent Call #154 for funds to help the UU Fellowship of Beaufort, SC. They are known as a congregation with a conscience because they decided to sell land back to a Gullah community rather than build their first home. They have now found and purchased an acre of land with two buildings. They are repairing one of the buildings for temporary worship and RE, but during 2012 they expect to outgrow it. They plan to use the proceeds of the Chalice Lighter grant to modify the other building for offices and social space. Closing date for Call #154 is Wednesday, March 30. The UU Congregation of Columbia, SC (Call #153) would like to thank the 1,160 Chalice Lighters from the TJ District who sent them \$27,000. They are starting Phase 1 of their renovation. Thanks to all at TJMC-UU who contributed to their expansion. Updated Chalice Lighter information may be found table in the foyer and on Sunday Edith Good has them in the Social Hall at the cold drinks counter.

Seeking Artists for May

Our art show for May will be a call to area artists to honor Mental Health Month by submitting works which celebrate that “Art is Healing.” All two-dimensional, framed work submitted will be hung. Bring artwork to the Social Hall after each service or 2–4 PM on

Sunday, April 24. Information: Elizabeth Breeden at brs@cstone.net.

Lay Ministry Offered

No member of our congregation needs to feel alone when experiencing crisis or stressful transitions. The Pastoral Visitors Program has been designed to complement the roles of the Ministers and the CareNet program. It is a lay ministry of support and hope, offered by trained volunteers who maintain a sustained caring presence for those who are members of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church community (and their primary caregivers). If you feel the need of a good listener, please call Shirley Paul at 297-3934 or Nancy Lewis at 979-2358 for more information, or pick up a brochure on the Community Life bulletin board or at the back of the Sanctuary.

bUUddy program at TJMC-UU

The Membership Committee has established a new program to help persons who have just become members of our church make a deeper connection with TJMC-UU. We have decided to call this welcoming process the bUUddy plan. Under the bUUddy plan, new members of the church will be given a long standing member of the church as a bUUddy. Right now members of the membership committee are acting as bUUddies to our newest members. The bUUddy coordinators will be gathering contact information of potential participants and asking church members to mentor these folks, particularly for their first three months as official members of the church. As a mentor bUUddy, you will be asked to make contact with the new member, determine the nature of the person’s interest in TJMC-UU and facilitate his/her connection with groups and events at TJMC-UU. You will also be asked to check in with the bUUddy coordinators at the end of the first month. The bUUddy program suggests ways of making one on one contact are to: phone, email, or drop a written note within a week, meet him/her at a Sunday service as soon as possible, help make the social hall an inviting experience, find out what he/she is seeking, tell him/her about small groups, committees, and individuals who share interests, introduce him/her to Ministers, staff and elected leaders, personally invite him/her

to church event and if at all possible attend this event with him/her, carpool with person, help person/s become a part of the RE program. The bUUddy program has request forms for both new members requesting a bUUddy and for long standing members to become a bUUddy available in our membership mailbox. For more information contact Gayle Floyd at 295-2672 or Patsy Swindler at 295-7630, program coordinators.

Spring Cleaning Alert!

Yes, it is that time of year, when your thoughts turn to cleaning out the garage, attic, basement, kitchen miscellaneous drawers, and over stuffed closets. As much fun as that is, it is also time to keep in mind the TJMC Back-to-School Yard Sale Extravaganza scheduled for Saturday, August 20. Please set aside those “treasures” of excess furniture, household items, toys, books, DVDs and CDs for our sale. Limited pre-sale storage space is available if needed. If you have any questions, please write to yardsale@uucharlottesville.org.

UUCF Celebrates Holy Week

Holy week will be celebrated by the UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF) with several activities. On Maundy Thursday, April 21, we will hold our annual Agape service, celebrating the Last Supper. Saturday, April 23, weather permitting, there will be an outdoor Labyrinth walk. Easter Sunday, April 24, there will be a 9:15 AM UUCF service in Summit House and after the service we invite those from the other service in the Sanctuary to the Remembrance Garden for our “sunrise” communion service. More info in Happenings this Month.

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 be \$12. 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.”



I was inspired by Rev. Bates' sermon to stir things up a bit and this month I would like to ask you what you would like to have in your music ministry at TJMC.

What do you think of adding some humorous music every so often? We are hoping to surprise you Sunday, March 27, and then we may know.

Would you like more call and response songs? Would you like participation from our children and youth? Would you like our adult choir (and you) to participate in some community outreach programs?

How would you respond if our adult choir sang about Jesus? I am not implying this would be on a regular basis, but perhaps once in a while. There is some great music written about this remarkable person.

If we had enough resources, would you like to have a "Circle of Friends" Concert Series? Each concert could feature different kinds of music: folk/rock; gospel; classical; children from our church and beyond; chamber music; country; etc. Our first concert with Louisa Wimberger, Wendy Repass, and friends was a great success and we raised almost \$600 for the church. I am especially thankful to those two fine musicians and to the 'Three dUUdes': Bill Gardner, Mike Ludwick, and Michael Manto; to Mike Dunn and Janet Muse; to Mike Cvantanovich and Penny Bowles, and to Liz Lindau – you all made it happen! Much appreciation goes to Bill, who worked the sound for all of us. Thank you, Mr. Soundman. We are glad so many of you could come on such short notice. You were a great audience and we thank you for your support.

Would you like to have a scheduled conversation so we can share visions of the music ministry in our church? Or would you prefer to send me an email or call me? I have many ideas, but they require more resources, including more of my time.

The anticipation of the arrival of our new minister is growing and the adult choir is working on a very special piece of music that we will share Sunday, April 17. We are so excited that we have no words to explain it! You will see and hear for yourself on that Sunday.

I am eagerly waiting to hear from you about your visions for the music ministry at TJMC. What do you see in your crystal ball?

All the best,
KaeRenae Mitchell
Director of Music

Reinvigorating Partner Church Relationships

TJMC is one of nearly 200 American UU churches with "Partner Church" relationships with Unitarian or UU churches in Transylvania (now part of Romania), Hungary, The Czech Republic, Poland, the Khasi Hills of India, or the Philippines. While various 'sister church' relationships between American congregations and churches in Transylvania can be traced back as far as the mid 1800's, the current Partner Church program was started twenty years ago. The program is coordinated, encouraged, and supported by the UU Partner Church Council (UUPCC, uupcc.org), a non-profit, independent affiliate of the UUA.

The TJMC Partner Church Committee has been rather quiescent in recent years. However, now there are specific plans to re-invigorate our long-standing relationships with our two Partner Churches (in Transylvania, the Unitarian Church of Oltheviz, Romania; in the Khasi Hills of India (the Unitarian Church in Nongkrem). The intent of this article is to alert the TJMC community about the planned resurgence of our own Partner Church Committee work, to provide some information about other area Partner Church activities, and to recruit additional members to our TJMC Partner Church Committee.

Current plans include:

- *Expansion of the Partner Church Committee;*
- *A Sunday luncheon meeting at TJMC in late spring to assure that interested TJMCers, new and old, have up-to-date information about the very vibrant Partner Church activities in other UU congregations, and an opportunity to discuss possible directions for our congregation's activities;*
- *A dinner meeting with Rev. Derrick Pariat and his wife Dani on Monday, June 20, at TJMC. Rev. Pariat is the president of the Unitarian Union of North East India (UUNEI), the region of our Indian Partner Church. The Pariats will be in the DC/Charlottesville area from June 12-21, meeting with various Virginia, Maryland, and DC churches before leaving for General Assembly in Charlotte, NC. Their presentation and discussion will focus on the Partner Church relationships and activities of American and Canadian congregations with their Indian partner congregations.*
- *Informational articles in the TJMC newsletter about the many social action, cultural exchange, and educational projects thriving under the auspices of the Partner Church Council (UUPCC);*

- ♦ *Plans to sponsor a visit of the minister of the Unitarian Church of Oltheviz, Romania, the Reverend Istvan Torok and his wife Melinda, to Charlottesville within the next twenty-four months.*

Several UU churches in Northern Virginia have vibrant and active Partner Church relationships. Activities include international travel and cultural exchange opportunities, individual and congregational communication (including email, Skype, and other electronically mediated methods), academic scholarship programs, minister exchanges, and various cooperative social action programs to improve economic conditions. We have joined the informal association of these Virginia, DC, and Maryland churches and will continue meeting with them on a quarterly basis to share information and ideas.

If you are interested in joining the Partner Church Committee, please contact Jean Sorrells-Jones at 296-3631. We would love to have you help re-invigorate this fascinating program, and create opportunities for TJMCers to experience these international relationships.

Happening this Month



April 1 **Food Pantry** **9 AM, Social Hall**

Volunteers are always welcome to help distribute food and help clients take bags of food to their cars.

April 2+May 7 **AFD: Building/Designing Altar Displays and Sacred Spaces** **10:30 AM, 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.



April 3+24 **Green Sanctuary** **After Services, Social Hall**

Stop by our table to check out our new "Green" Video Library or find a Carpooling Challenge Buddy who lives near you. The goal will be to reduce the number of cars in and around TJMC during both Sunday, May 15, services by 20% with the same attendance as last year. A drawing will be held on Sunday, May 15, for carpoolers to win prizes donated by Blue Ridge Mountain Sports and other local businesses. Make a friend, help the church and the planet!

April 3 **Artist Reception** **1 PM, Social Hall**

All of my oil paintings are done with a painting knife and rag. The oil pastels are done on rough watercolor paper. I use a single-edged razor blade to scratch the oil pastel off the paper. Once I get a piece started, I work obsessively until it feels resolved. My method of working is what I would call "responsive painting." I respond to the color, the value, the shape that is already on the surface. Every stroke I place on the canvas or paper changes all the internal relationships of the elements of the painting. What I hope people will enjoy and respond to in these works is the energy with which they were created, the internal music that color releases in all

of us, and the life force that will never cease trying to bring order and beauty from chaos!

April 3 **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.

April 5–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.

April 5 **UUpuppy Women** **7 PM, Social Hall+Offsite**

Watch the Friday and UUpuppies Emails for details about the Tuesday, April 5, meeting. On Tuesday, April 19, we will attend a free 8 PM concert by the Charlottesville Municipal Band at the Dickinson Theater at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC). Doors open at 7:30 PM. Seating is open and first-come-first-served, so plan to arrive early. Let us know if you plan to be with us so the first ones to arrive can try to save some seats. More information: email uuppities@uucharlotteville.org.

April 7+14+21+28 **Active Minds** **1 PM, Parlor**

Join us for stimulating discussions.

April 7+14+21+28 **Adult Choir Rehearsal** **6:45 PM, Parlor**



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

Dick Abrams will lead the group in study and discussion of the second four Beatitudes, continuing his earlier meeting. One does not have to have been at his first one to appreciate this one.

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.

April 13 **Wednesday** **AFD: Harvest the Power Workshop** **Module 9: Facing Danger** **7 PM, Social Hall**

Leadership is not without dangers. This workshop will explain some ways a leader can be marginalized, distracted, seduced, or attacked when leading an organization through adaptive change. Participants will examine approaches that help when they face danger in a leadership role. Facilitators: Walt Megonigal and Anne Clark. Register at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

April 17 **Congregational Meeting** **1 PM, Sanctuary**

Please mark your calendar and save the date for the Congregational Meeting where we will vote to call our new minister. It will be a short agenda!

April 17
Social Action Collection
Blue Ridge Abortion Assistance Fund
The Blue Ridge Abortion Assistance Fund is a non-profit service administered by local volunteers for over twenty years. Our donors believe a woman should not be forced to endure an unwanted pregnancy simply because she is poor. Early on, members of TJMC-UU kept this service going. We have assisted 145 women in twelve years throughout Charlottesville area. Every penny donated is used for assistance, and is tax-deductible. For more information: BRAAF, P.O. Box 5082, Charlottesville, VA 22905, or 434-963-0669.



Happening this Month (cont.)

April 21 UU Christian Fellowship 7 PM, Summit 1 or 2

On Maundy Thursday we will hold our annual Agape service, celebrating the Last Supper. The service, led by Dick Abrams, will be the one used for a number of years, adapted from "Hymns of the Spirit" by Paul Russell. Singing the folk song from India "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" by Albert Leroy Stevens will also be featured.

April 23 UU Christian Fellowship Labyrinth Walk

4 PM, Outdoor Labyrinth
There will be an outdoor Labyrinth walk weather permitting.



April 24 UU Christian Fellowship Easter Service 9:15 AM, Summit Room 1

Rev Tony Perrino will lead this service. His subject will be "My Encounters with The Risen Christ." At about 10:30 AM, after our service, we will be joined by those from the service in the Sanctuary in the Remembrance Garden for our "sunrise" communion service, with Tony leading. The communion set was given to TJMC by a member of the Richmond UU Church a few years ago and has been used for Communion Services since then.

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. Please feel free to contact Jean Newland with any questions or concerns at 962-9676 or kipandjean@gmail.com.

Save the Date

May 7 Labyrinth Walk 1-2 PM, Social Hall

Come help us celebrate World Labyrinth Day! People the world over will be

walking at 1 PM in their respective time zones to effect a "rolling" labyrinth walk around the globe. Our walk will be on the outdoor labyrinth if weather permits – otherwise it will be in the Social Hall. Please plan to join us!

May 8 Green Sanctuary Mother's Day Service & Mother Earth Brunch



The Green Sanctuary Task Force will offer a worship service and array of activities to celebrate both Mothers Day and Mother Earth in lieu of our Earth Day service, which is usually in April. (This year our ministerial candidate is scheduled to preach.) We will explore the delicious complexities inherent in the UUAs current congregational Study/Action Issue, "Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice" in a sermon called "What is the Story of Your Food?" The service will include a child dedication ceremony. Also, in celebration of Mother's Day and Earth Day, we will host a potluck brunch after each service in which families with young children need not bring a dish while others are asked to bring something with one ingredient from a locally-owned store or farm.

The Seventh Principle is May's focus for Religious Education, and Jenny Gaden, local Outreach Educator for the Virginia Museum of Natural History, will teach the RE children about trees Sunday, May 1, to prepare them for a tree activity.

Weather permitting, we will once again hold our "Sacred Trees" tour which was so popular last year between and after services. While you are outside, stop by the raised bed gardens for a demonstration and see Worm Crusader's demonstration of how to compost with worms.

This will also be your final chance to find a buddy for the "All Church Carpooling Challenge" for Sunday, May 15, at the Green Sanctuary carpooling table. Carpoolers can enter a drawing for prizes donated by local businesses like Blue Ridge Mountain Sports. Look for more information about all these events in the May Bulletin or



contact Sharon Baiocco at green@uucharlottesville.org.

May 17 Elders Dinner 6 PM, Social Hall

Members and supporters of TJMC aged seventy and above will be the dinner guests of the UUpity Women. Originally a way of honoring members of The Alliance, this annual event has evolved to include men and women and recognize their many contributions to our church community. Invitations will be mailed in late April. Email uuppities@uucharlottesville.org.

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.

June 22-26 General Assembly Charlotte, NC

Registration is now open for this year's General Assembly (GA) of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. Do consider attending it is only 300 miles away, a days drive! From plenary sessions to workshops to the Ware lecture given by well-known author, Karen Armstrong, there is something for every UU. Register between March 1 and May 1 for a discounted registration fee; after May 1, the registration fee increases. Or, apply by Thursday, March 31, for a reduced registration fee in exchange for twenty-four hours of volunteer service at GA. Come for the full five days, the weekend or even one day. Visit the UUA website at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml> to register and to book accommodations. For more information, contact Bev Thierwechter at 205-4087 or bevandjim5@comcast.net.

Religious Education Update



Walking the Spiral Path

Our church community is buzzing with the wonderful news that Erik Walker Wikstrom is our ministerial candidate. What an exciting time! Many opportunities are being planned for you to meet with Erik in both large and small group settings before we hold the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 17. At the congregational meeting, church members will vote on whether or not to call Erik as our settled minister.

I know Erik wants to meet as many of us as he can during the week he will be visiting and I particularly invite parents to bring their children to the family potluck dinner scheduled for Friday, April 15, in the Social Hall. This dinner will be a special opportunity for our church's children to meet and welcome Erik to our community. Along with spring, anticipation is in the air! My hope is that you find many ways at church and at home to celebrate this season of new life, renewal and growth.

With appreciation,
Leia Durland-Jones
Director of Religious Education

Donations Sought for RE Care Packages

As we study our sixth UU principle, "Insist on Peace and Justice," the children in our religious education program are learning what it means to be part of a global community. Our lesson's focus on peacemaking as well as conflict resolution skills. Part of our learning is about the men and women connected to our congregation who are working for a fair and peaceful world by serving in the US armed forces. The children will make care packages to send to service members in Afghanistan. Donations of any of the following items (travel size) for inclusion in our care packages is appreciated: baby wipes, single laundry soap or tablets, liquid or bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, body wash, hand sanitizer, sun block or aloe vera gel, roll-on or gel only deodorant, non-aerosol shaving cream, eye drops, saline spray/drops, q-tips, feminine hygiene products, disposable razors, moleskin, baby powder, foot powder, individual pack Kleenex, lip balm, dental floss, games, writing paper, pens, envelopes, DVDs and CDs, individual servings of powdered drinks (tea, coffee,

hot chocolate, apple cider, crystal light), magazines, tooth brushes, mouthwash, Pringles, crackers, cookies, beef jerky, comic books, gum, Lifesavers, hard candy, travel size games (chess, checkers), deck of cards, hand drawn pictures, thumb tacks (to hang the pictures), notebooks, fly paper (some areas where the soldiers live have lots of flies), crossword puzzles, word searches, Sudoku, jelly beans, Altoids or mints, nuts, long-distance phone cards, Little Debbie's snacks, Ziploc bags (for keeping things airtight, watertight, and fresher), jaw breakers candy, dice, inflatable pillows, spices (ex: crushed red and black pepper, salt), individually-wrapped licorice, microwave popcorn, ramen noodles, cereal bars, granola bars, koozies to keep water bottles and cans cool, air fresheners, stress relief squeeze balls, sewing kits, air activated heat wraps for sore muscles, foot massagers, foot powder. Please place items in the brown wooden box in the Edgewood Lane Hallway. We are collecting items through Sunday, April 24. Thank you for your support!

Peace Garden Stewards Needed

The Children's Peace Garden, located along the fence behind the Social Hall near the Buddha statue, is in need of attention. Would you or your family be willing to add a loving touch to this space? Perhaps you would be willing to spend a few minutes after church on Sunday collecting the leaves or planting some flowers. If you would be willing to help care for this special spot in our church's backyard, please contact Leia Durland-Jones at 293-8179 x 3# or leiadj@embarqmail.com or Thank you!

Sign Up for Weekly Electronic RE Updates

The weekly Children and Youth Religious Education Update, emailed Thursdays, connects you with information about what is happening in the children and youth program for the upcoming Sunday. Brief lesson descriptions and plans are shared as well as information about upcoming church events. To have your name added to the email list, contact our Director of Religious Education, Leia Durland-Jones, at leiadj@embarqmail.com. You can "unsubscribe" at anytime.

Child Dedication Ceremony May 8

A Ceremony of Child Dedication is a significant event honoring each child's life and importance. During the ceremony, members and friends of the church make promises to help raise the children of our congregation. We will be offering a Ceremony of Dedication on Sunday, May 8, during both services. Please contact Leia Durland-Jones by Sunday, May 1, if you would like your family to be included.



Rainbow Chalice

- ♦ *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.*
- ♦ *Violet – Value our interconnectedness to all living things.*

Save the dates:

- April 3 NO RE/Spring Break
- April 10 Start of Candidating Week/ NO RE/child care available
- April 15 RE Families Dinner with Rev. Erik
- April 17 Candidating Sunday/ COA lunch & Congregational Meeting
- April 24 Easter Sunday/NO RE/ Multigenerational Service
- April 27 Children's RE Committee Meeting

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

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Bulletin deadline for May is April 15.



TJMC Spring Auction Alert!

Saturday, April 30 6-9 PM

Appetizer and Dessert Party with Libations

Silent Auction Items + LIVE Auction Action

Friendly yet Competitive Bidding against your fellow TJMCers

One of the major social events of the year, so don't miss it!

*Now accepting donations of Antiques, Jewelry, Artwork, Gift Baskets,
Personal Services, Use of Vacation Homes through May 2012, and Dinners and
Events in all price ranges to be scheduled from May - October 2011.*

Online Donations at uucharlottesville.org/get-involved

Deadline: Sunday, April 10, at 1 PM

Questions? Want to help with auction production? Write

auction@uucharlottesville.org, or

Speak with Betty Warner or Trudy Rohm

at the Auction table in the Social Hall on Sundays.