

TJMC Bulletin

Sunday Services

Theme for November: Gratitude

The Christian mystic Meister Eckhart famously said, “If you can only manage one prayer in your life, and it is ‘thank you,’ it will suffice.”



9:15 AM + 11:15 AM Services

November 6

The Practice of Gratitude

Most of us were taught to say “thank you” at least as often as we say “please.” The spiritual practice of gratitude can be daunting, but oh so rewarding, work. Scott DeVeaux, Leia Durland-Jones, Wendy Repass, and Erik Wikstrom will weave our worship. This is a STARS story Sunday, and the choir will sing.

November 13

But What if Life is Hard?

Sometimes life seems to give us little to be grateful for. Can we still say “thank you”? Thomas Collier, Scott DeVeaux, and Erik Wikstrom will weave our worship.

November 20

Gratitude in a Complex Context

For some, Thanksgiving Day is a day of celebration. For others, it is a day of mourning for the genocide Native Americans have endured since that first contact. What can we do – what should we do – with this contradiction? Scott DeVeaux, Bob Kiefer, and Erik Wikstrom will weave our worship. We will celebrate our bread communion, and the choir will sing.

November 27

Gratitude – What Comes Next?

What is the end result of cultivating “an attitude of gratitude”? What happens when “thank you” becomes not just our continuous prayer but also our way of life? Scott DeVeaux, Pam Philips, and Erik Wikstrom will weave our worship.



Are You Grateful for Unitarian Universalism?

If your answer is “yes,” you are invited to do something tangible with your gratitude that will have a lasting impact. You can make a difference in the lives of the children of our church by spending four Sundays serving as a UU Stars Studio Leader. Think you do not know enough about Unitarian Universalism or religious education to serve as a leader? Think you do not have what it takes? Think again! Serving as a Studio Leader is a great way to learn more about and deepen your understanding of our faith – whether you are a long time member or you just recently discovered UU.

Excellent lesson plans, resources and leader orientation are provided as well as lots of love and support from Children’s Religious Education Committee members, the Religious Education Assistant and the Director of Religious Education. Serving as a Studio Leader gives you an opportunity to begin creating lasting relationships with other RE volunteers as well as the young people of our congregation.

Did you know that in one of our sister UU congregations in Virginia there are so many non-parents and parents of grown children volunteering in the RE program that people who are currently parenting do not serve as RE teachers? Instead, the parents are given the gift of attending worship and a break from their parenting responsibilities for an hour of the week. That is pretty amazing.

At TJMC, the majority of religious education volunteers are parents of children participating in the program. It would be wonderful if we could increase the number of non-parents and parents of grown children volunteering in our religious education program. To those of you who have already come forward and have volunteered, thank you very much! To those of you who have not yet answered the call, we need you. We really do! Please speak with Leia Durland-Jones today at 293-8179 or leiadj@embarqmail.com.

Upcoming UU Stars Leadership needs:

November 6, 13 and 20, at the 11:15 AM service (a three Sunday commitment)

December 4, 11 (a two Sunday commitment)

January 8, 15, 22, 29 (a four Sunday commitment)



I thought I would dedicate my column this month to some of the changes in our Sunday morning worship that you may have noticed and been wondering about. So far the feedback I have been receiving has been tremendously positive, and I am gratified by that.

In conversations at both the recent Board and Worship Weavers meetings we agreed that there is a redundancy to reading announcements that are already printed in the bulletin. And so the Board Representative – as a representative of the governing committee of the church – is now the person to welcome newcomers and members alike to each week's worshipping community.

This removal of spoken announcements is not intended, however, to encourage people to step up to the microphone during the sharing of Joys and Sorrows to speak about their joy that... there is going to be a bake sale after church this Sunday! (Or whatever the announcement one wants to sneak in.) Let us trust that people can find out the information they need to know about the church through the various existing channels, and allow our time of Joys and Sorrows to be focused on those things that are truly "uppermost in our minds and deepest in our hearts."

Slowly our prayer time is changing, too. The beautiful practice of lighting Candles of Hope and Remembrance has

been joined by the new Sands of Forgiveness and Atonement. We are developing what might be called "prayer stations," recognizing that we come with a variety of needs and that no one ritual act can speak to them all. No one should feel that they must go to each and every station each and every week, yet it enriches our service for there to be more options to address differing needs.

Worship is, and should be, an evolving practice. The Worship Weavers, among whom I am honored to count myself, are always open to your feedback.

In Gassho,
Rev. Erik

Ministry Associate

Recently I mentioned to someone at our church how much I love seeing church members take care of each other. This person paused. And then suggested that I might share that perspective in a bulletin article. Because maybe you do not see it that way.

In my role as Ministry Associate, I often hear of church members going through a difficult time: for example, navigating the medical system, adjusting to a new family member, letting go when a loved one dies.

Being a mid-sized church, we do have systems in place to provide basic help and listening during such occasions: CareNet, Pastoral Visitors.

But a church is more than just systems. The unique nature of churches in our society is that they blend the strength of systems and the grace of love. So, when I hear of congregation members going through a hard time, I sometimes also hear in the same breath about how other church members are already bringing food, helping with moving, organizing logistics, and listening. For example, Liz Evans (who gave me permission to share this) told me that when her husband, John, recently moved to assisted living, that he seemed comforted by the fact that the people who came to move the furniture were from the church.

What gives this sense of connection and reaching out? This might be due to long years of membership and working together, or to a long affinity with Unitarian Universalism. I observe that these are a result of long term and regular reaching beyond oneself – reaching both to serve others and connect spiritually.

If you have not yet settled into relationships at TJMC, consider what allows you to foster a natural connection. A covenant group? Work parties? Participating in a group such as UUppity Women, UUGuys, Active Minds, Twenties and Thirties (TnT), or a committee? Make regular time to be with a group of people doing something meaningful beyond the group itself. In these environments, we see each other's vulnerabilities and strengths. We might not share these any other places. Then, when we have built strong church relationships, we naturally reach out to each other.

Chaplain Alexandra McGee, MDiv.
Ministry Associate



A Life in Faith

Clear Spring Buddhist Fellowship Meditation

Wednesdays, 7 PM, Blue Room
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.

carenet@uucharlottesville.org.

Pastoral Visitors

Year-Round Program

The Pastoral Visitors Program has been designed to complement the roles of the minister 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 TJMC 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.

Treasurer Report



After three months or 25% of the fiscal year, we have received total revenues of \$183,356 which represents 32% of the revenue budgeted for the year. Total revenues for the first three months of this fiscal year were approximately 6% higher than the amount received in the same period last year.

Our current year pledges after three months equal 27% of the amount budgeted for the year, but nevertheless they are about 12% lower than in the same period last year. After three months, we have also received 57% of the amount budgeted for the year for unpledged donations. In September we recorded another \$7,020 in fundraising income from the yard sale so that overall we have now received \$16,458 which represents 72% of the annual amount budgeted for fundraising. For just the month of September, our total revenues were \$45,998.

After three months our total expenses were \$151,771 which represents 27% of our annual budgeted expenses. For just the month of September, our expenses were \$42,915 so our revenues exceeded our expenses by \$3,083. For the three months combined, our revenues exceeded expenses by \$31,585.

With respect to expenses, Lay Leadership Training costs in September were \$1,148 to cover food and refreshments and materials at the Saturday, September 10, church meeting on Cultivating Connections. This amount represents 177% of the amount budgeted for the year. \$383 was spent on office expenses, most of which represents the cost of a new church telephone system. \$1,164 was spent on computer maintenance, most of which was for wiring for internet access and for new or upgraded software. 556 was spent on church grounds maintenance,

the majority of which was for trimming tree branches.

With respect to our balance sheet, \$10,000 was moved from the cumulative operating fund to the building reserve account.

After three months we still appear to be in a reasonable overall financial position. While our revenues are about 6% higher than at this time last year, our expenses are about 31% higher than they were at this time last year. Also, as noted above, our pledge revenue receipts are below the amount received last year. Nevertheless, I believe it is appropriate to be cautiously optimistic about our financial condition.

Doug Webbink, Treasurer
treasurer@uucharlotteville.org

Calling All Artists!

In front of the church there is a signboard technically known as a Wayside Pulpit. The original idea behind these signs is that they would provide a "pulpit" beside the throughways that people passed; they would provide a way of taking our message out into the world. Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom would like to invite any of our visual artists to consider creating an original work of art, related to our monthly themes, which can serve in this way.

The space is roughly 33" x 33". Rain *can* leak in, so that should be

considered. Words, images, abstract work... anything is possible. (It would be great if at least the name of the month's theme could be included.) If you are interested – even if you are just interested in learning more – please contact Rev. Erik. This could be a project undertaken by individuals, covenant groups, AFD classes, families... The themes for the rest of this year are (beginning with December): Incarnation, Death, Justice, Grace, Creation, Faith, Letting Go, Freedom, and Peace.

Let us rise up and be thankful,
for if we didn't learn a lot today,
at least we learned a little,
and if we didn't learn a little,
at least we didn't get sick,
and if we got sick,
at least we didn't die;
so, let us all be thankful.

~ Buddha

Kroger Shoppers!

When you buy gas, groceries, or pharmacy items, TJMC-UU gets five percent of every dollar you spend! Just use a TJMC-linked Kroger Gift Card (aka \$CRIP) when you shop. You earn money for TJMC – and it costs you nothing! Last year our Kroger Gift Card users generated \$8000 for TJMC – and this year we are aiming for over \$20,000.

How do I participate?

- Buy a \$50 starter Kroger Gift 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 Gift Card

Why should I do this? Using \$CRIP is a part of Stewardship along with making your annual financial pledge to support our church community. The revenue helps pay our staff and fund our programs. There is no easier way to support TJMC ... and at no cost to you.

Happening this Month



TJMC-UU Calendar

Be sure to check our online calendar for more information about our events and classes at www.uucharlottesville.org/calendar. You can register for AFD classes at our website at www.uucharlottesville.org/news-and-events/upcoming-adult-faith-development-courses.



November 1–January 31 (Tuesdays) AFD: Why Evil Exists 1–3 PM, Parlor

Leader: Rev. Tony Perrino. Fee: \$20 for series or \$2/class. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

November 1–Ongoing Tuesdays AFD: Poetry: Reading, Writing, Sharing, Caring 1–2:30 PM, Summit Room 1

Leader: Holly Dilatash. Fee: free of charge. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

November 1–Ongoing Tuesdays AFD: Caring Correspondence & Cards: A Spiritual Practice 3:15–4:15 PM, Summit Room 1

Leader: Holly Dilatash. Fee: free of charge. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

November 1 UUpity Women 7 PM, Parlor

Book Swap. Bring a books you want to share or swap and tell us why you made this choice.

November 2–Ongoing Wednesdays Weekly Lunchtime Labyrinth Walk 11:45 AM, Outdoor Labyrinth

Leader: Leia Durland-Jones. Fee: free of charge. Drop-ins welcome.

November 2–Ongoing Wednesdays AFD: Wednesday Wonderings 12:15–1:15 PM, Summit Room 1

Leader: Erik Walker Wikstrom. Fee: free of charge. Register online at leiadj@embarqmail.com.



November 2 Green Sanctuary Task Force/Environmental Action 7 PM, Parlor

We are wrapping up our projects and gathering feedback from the congregation in preparation for drafting a final application for accreditation by the UUA. Anyone interested in leading a “Soup Group?” This could be an ongoing way to learn about and practice ethical eating, and lots of fun, too. Y’all come!

November 3+10+17 Active Minds 1 PM, Parlor

Join us for community and conversation.

November 5+12 AFD: Bringing it Home: Creating a Rich Home Environment for the Young Child 10 AM–12PM, Parlor

Leaders: Cynthia Jordan Fisher & Dianne Beringer. Fee: \$10. To register go online or at leia@embarqmail.com.



November 5 TJMC Community Celebration Dance & Dinner 5 PM, Social Hall

Rob Craighurst will call dances and Al Reynolds, Mike Ludwick, and Mike Dunn agree to provide music. Intergenerational, all ages welcome. You do not need to bring a partner to dance, but you do need to bring a dish to share. We need three or four volunteers to help us set up and clean up. For more information or to volunteer call Gayle Floyd 295-2672 or May Guenin 295-8844.

November 6 UU Christian Fellowship Worship 9:15 AM, Summit Room 1

The Lords Prayer: Past and Present. Dick Abrams will lead a service on the Prayer, who wrote it, what did it mean originally, and what does it say to us today? All are welcome.



November 12 Fall Clean Up Work Day 9 AM–12:30 PM, Outside

Come join us for our fall workday to spruce up our church grounds before winter. Lunch and snacks will be provided! Your help with raking and trimming will help our beautiful grounds be ready to bed down for a long winter’s nap before glorious spring. Do not miss this opportunity for fresh air, fellowship, and an easy way to serve the needs of your church while having fun too. Young ‘workers’ are also most welcome. Please sign up on Administrative bulletin board so we can plan for lunch. For more information contact Holly Hintz at 242-6665 or hollyhg1@yahoo.com. Thank you in advance for your help.

November 12 AFD: Microwave Cooking Made Easy! 11–1 PM, Social Hall Kitchen

Leader: Johanna Woodchild. Fee: \$5. Register at leiadj@embarqmail.com or go online.

November 13 NatureSpirit 6:30 PM, Social Hall

Come join us as we continue our discussion on the direction of our group. Potluck at 6:30 PM followed by a discussion “TBD.” Questions: email us at nature@uucharlottesville.org.

November 14 AFD: Let’s Have a Conversation... Incarnation

7–9 PM, Sanctuary
Leaders: Rev. Erik Wikstrom & Leia Durland-Jones, DRE. Fee: free of charge. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

November 15 UUpity Women 7 PM, Parlor

Recipe Swap. Do you have recipes for the holiday season you would like to share? Bring copies of your recipes and optionally some samples for everyone to taste! Let us share the stories behind the recipes! Cannot attend, email us your recipes and stories and we will share them for you!

Bulletin Submissions deadline for December is November 10.



Happening this Month

November 16

AFD: Simply Pray

7-9 PM, Sanctuary

Leader: Erik Walker Wikstrom. Fee: free of charge. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.



November 19

AFD: Estate Planning for Unitarian Universalists

10-11:30 AM, Social Hall

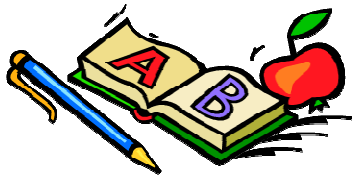
Leaders: Rosalie Simari, Stephanie Lowenhaupt & Art Sherwood. Fee: \$5. Register at leiadj@embarqmail.com or go online.

November 19

AFD: Pre-Holiday Renewal for Body & Spirit

1-3 PM, Sanctuary

Leader: Chaplain Alexandra McGee, MDiv. Fee: free of charge. *Please register no later than November 15 so that we can plan accordingly.* Register at leiadj@embarqmail.com or go online.



November 20

Social Action Collection

African American Teaching Fellows

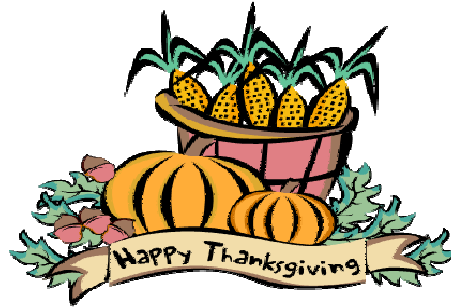
The African American Teaching Fellows (AATF) is a local non-profit organization that provides forgivable loans for tuition, fees, and books to African Americans preparing to teach who commit to teaching in Charlottesville and Albemarle public schools. The AATF mission is to recruit, support, develop, and retain a cadre of African American teachers to serve in local schools, a goal strongly supported by both local school divisions. This year we doubled the number of AATF Fellows teaching locally, from five to ten, and we have seven Fellows in preparation programs. Our twenty by 2012 Campaign seeks to raise \$100,000 by the end of 2012 to support twenty Fellows. TJMC has been a strong

supporter of AATF since it began six years ago.

November 20

All Church Art Show Submissions Season of Light

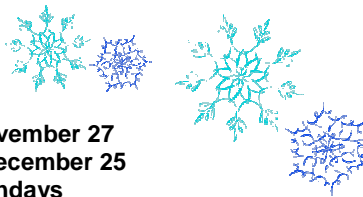
All members of the church, young and old, are invited to submit work for the December Art Show: December 3-January 15. Artwork framed and ready for hanging will be received in the Social Hall after both services. Questions: Elizabeth Breeden brs@cstone.net.



November 26-December 3

Men's PACEM, Summit House

We welcome the homeless men who are guests of PACEM during the week of November 26 to December 2. We partner with Ebenezer Baptist Church in this outreach. Sign up sheets to help with food, hosting, Summit House set up and clean up, overnight hosting will be in the Social Hall after every service. Questions: Elizabeth Breeden.



November 27

-December 25

Sundays

Crafters Invited

Traditionally, church members who sell crafts during the winter Season of Light may display and sell their wares in the Social Hall after both services. For information please contact Elizabeth Breeden brs@cstone.net.

November 30

UUGuys

7 PM, Parlor

For more information contact uuguy@uucharlottesville.org.

Save the Date

December 12

AFD: Let's Have a Conversation...

Death

7-9 PM, Sanctuary

Leaders: Rev. Erik Wikstrom & Leia Durland-Jones, DRE. Fee: free of charge. Register online or at leiadj@embarqmail.com.

December 31

Labyrinth Walk

Twelfth Annual

5-7 PM, Social Hall

Make your plans now to walk our beautiful Chartres-design canvas labyrinth. Live music by Suzanne Morris on hammered dulcimer. Refreshments in the Parlor. Plenty of time for your New Year's Eve festivities afterward. Help with set-up and take-down would be greatly appreciated. Info: labyrinth@uucharlottesville.org.



Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church

Unitarian Universalist

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& 1:30 PM-5 PM

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2012 Auction Scheduled For February 25

Who moved my ChiliFest? And what about the Fall Auction, with all those fabulous donations and dinners? You may be on your own for chili this fall, but plan on a spectacular auction for February 25, 2012, with dinners and other special events, vacations, one-of-a-kind items, services, and lots of surprises. The Fundraising Committee has decided to go all out for one auction, so put the date on your calendar now, you will not want to miss it. We would love to get started on the dinner donations so we can put them up for bid in early February. If you would like assistance planning an event, contact our Dinner Diva, Lynn Heath, who can help you pick a date, a partner for hosting, or even a kitchen to cook in. Write auction@uucharlottesville.org for more information.

Carpooling Sundays Were a Success

We averaged nearly two persons per car during our September Green Sanctuary Carpooling Challenge, a significant improvement from two people every fifth car in the spring. Johanna Woodchild and Glenn Short, coordinators of the event, believe that more than fifty individuals participated, with many carpooling more than once. They reported, "Everyone loved winning a prize, even if it was relatively small. Many people expressed their feeling of enjoyment over the whole carpool initiative." Each Sunday on September 4, 11, and 18, carpoolers received tickets at the door for a raffle that was held after church Sunday, September 18. Thirty-five prizes including items donated by local businesses and purchased at the UUA General Assembly in June were awarded.

Composting 101 - Composting Kitchen Waste Begins

Soon our kitchen will be graced with a beautiful, big white plastic compost receptacle, according to Green Sanctuary members Deborah Judson-Ebbets and Jean Botts, who are planning signs and education for users of our kitchen. Until recently, we had no proper place to dump the food waste. But this month, under the watchful eyes of Sallie Kate Park, Grounds Chair, Bill Gardner and his son constructed two beautiful new compost bins which have been placed

behind Summit House. Directions will be posted in the kitchen about which food scraps to compost and where to put them.

Green Sanctuary Task Force Hopes to Seek UUA Accreditation in January

After three years spent getting organized and two years as a candidate for Green Sanctuary accreditation, the Green Sanctuary Task Force believes our congregation is ready to apply for accreditation. The process will require a final report and assessment that they will present for approval by the congregation, perhaps as early as December. With a positive vote they will submit their final accreditation application. During the past two years, the group, led by Chair Sharon Baiocco, and Steering Committee members Katie Corish, Deborah Judson-Ebbets, Glenn Short, and Ruth Douglas, has completed fourteen action projects, two more than are required. To read a summary of our achievements, go to this link on our web: <http://www.uucharlottesville.org/announcements/green-sanctuary-task-force-begins-preparation-for-accreditation>. Sharon Baiocco reports that we now have to invite feedback from the congregation about benefits the program has brought, challenges that remain, and any positive changes in the congregation's culture as a result of our efforts.

Members of the Task Force are attending council meetings and key committee meetings in November to invite discussion about Green Sanctuary initiatives. Green Sanctuary is a program of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) that has the following five goals:

- Build awareness of the significance and complexity of environmental issues.
- Encourage personal lifestyle changes.
- Engage in community action on environmental issues.
- Strengthen the connection between spiritual practice and Earth consciousness.
- Work to heal environmental injustices.

One of the most important projects, our Sustainability Covenant approved by the Board in June 2010, will be a main focus of discussion. On behalf of the

congregation, the Board agreed to reduce and reuse, recycle, and rethink purchasing with the support of the Green Sanctuary Task Force.

Social Action Council

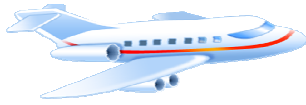
Council chairs have been asked to keep congregants updated on happenings within their council at least twice a year. The Social Action Council year runs August through July. Thus far, we have had three collections for the various causes TJMC supports each year (a total of twelve). Donations totalling \$1879 went to the Virginia Organizing Project in August; \$1489 to On our Own in September; and, \$4339 to the Food Pantry in October. There was also a special collection coordinated by Greta Dershimer for Somalia on behalf of the UU Service Committee that netted \$4145. Thank you for your generous support of these important organizations. Additionally, Edith Good is hard at work getting signatures for her churchwide Holiday Card; and, Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, is getting the children ready to support Guest at Your Table during the holidays. Both of these wonderful efforts support the work of the UU Service Committee. This month's social action collection will be taken on behalf of the African American Teaching Fellows at both services on Sunday, November 20.

TJMC Holiday Card

Send a TJMC Holiday card to members and friends and contribute to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) at the same time. Edith Good is collecting on Sundays in the Social Hall for the card that TJMC distributes during the end-of-year holidays to benefit UUSC. UUSC is a social justice affiliate organization of the UUA. See their website at volunteerservices@uuscs.org. The card will be distributed electronically with the December issue of the monthly Bulletin. Hard copies will be available. Donations are tax deductible as are memberships (\$20 for seniors 65 and over, \$40 for adults, \$75 for adult couples, \$10 for youth). Make checks out to UUSC. Your name will appear on the card if you donate before Sunday, November 13. Lorie Craddock has again agreed to design this year's card.



Religious Education Update



Walking the Spiral Path

As I write these words, I am flying to the LREDA (Liberal Religious Educator's Association) annual conference. LREDA, a Unitarian Universalist entity, is a membership organization made up of professional religious educators, ministers, seminarians, youth advisors and others engaged in the work of UU faith development.

The theme of this year's conference is "Don't Just Do It, Think About It: Sustainability – A Framework for Action." There are a variety of workshops, speakers and learning opportunities exploring the concept of sustainability, particularly in congregational life. This year we are meeting in Portland, Oregon and I am delighted to attend!

As many of you know, our church's budget shortfall last year resulted in all professional expense monies being cut from the budget. Therefore, my attendance at last year's conference was not possible. So, it is with gratitude that I join my colleagues for a long weekend of learning, reflection, worship, sharing, and more. What an enriching time!

For me, one of the highlights of Fall Conference is always the "Odyssey" when an esteemed colleague, no longer serving a congregation, shares her or his life story with particular emphasis on her or his work as a religious educator. I always leave this talk inspired and full of gratitude for those who have devoted their lives to the work of religious education. I also will have the opportunity to attend Sunday morning worship at the First Unitarian Church of Portland and hear their minister, the Rev. Bill Sinkford, preach. It will be nice to worship with this large urban congregation.

And I thank you! Thank you for generously supporting our church and helping provide the funds for me to attend LREDA Fall Conference. Thank you for supporting me in my continued development as a religious educator. And special thanks to the Children's Religious Education Committee

members, especially Cathey Polly (RE Committee Chair) for providing leadership in our RE program during my time at the conference. I look forward to sharing more with you about my experience when I am home.

With appreciation,
Leia Durland-Jones,
Director of Religious Education

Guest at Your Table Boxes Support the UUSC

You are encouraged and invited to support the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and their efforts around the globe to provide aid to those in need. We will distribute Guest at Your Table boxes at church on Sunday, November 20.

The idea is to "host" an imaginary guest or guests at your dining table by adding money to your box at each meal. Putting money in your box instead of the actual food you are eating is a lot more practical, not to mention less messy!

Boxes will be collected at church on Sunday, December 18, and our church's contribution sent to the UUSC. Thanks in advance for your generous support of this important UU organization.

Adult Faith Development How May We Best Serve You?

The Adult Faith Development Committee is seeking ideas for classes for the 2012 winter/spring semester. If you have a class you would like to suggest or if you are interested in leading a class, please contact AFD Committee Chair, Holly Dilatush at 295-9716 or holly@dilatush.com. Deadline for proposals is Sunday, November 20.

All Church Holiday Party December 17, 2-5 PM

Save the date! Fun for all! We will have tables and tables of holiday craft activities for all ages (candle decorating, wreath making, beading, ornament decorating, holiday cards, wrapping paper stations and more!) Come decorate the church's holiday tree in the Sanctuary and join in caroling at Martha Jefferson House. If you have a craft idea or would like to help, contact Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, at 293-8179 or leiadj@embarqmail.com.

Subscribe to the Weekly Lifespan Faith Development Update

This free email update is full of the latest information about children and youth RE classes and events as well as announcements and information particularly of interest to parents. Contact leiadj@emabarmail.com to subscribe.

A Conversation About Incarnation

Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom and Leia Durland-Jones, DRE, invite you to explore the idea of incarnation, our worship and faith development theme during the month of December.

What does incarnation mean to and for us as Unitarian Universalists? How can this theme enrich our spiritual lives particularly during the holiday season? How might we explain incarnation to our friends and family members, especially our children? Come take advantage of this opportunity to deepen your knowledge and understanding. Monday, November 14, from 7-9 PM in the Sanctuary.

RE Wish List

- Help with repairing a broken rolling dry erase board
- Rolls of blue "painters" tape
- Fun sticky note pads

Save the Dates!

November Theme: Gratitude

- 2 Wed Youth Programs Committee meeting 7 PM, S1
- 6 Sun RE Classes, **Stars Story Sunday**, Stars Studio 2, week 1
- 12 Sat Riddle & Mystery Class party 4 PM, at church
- 13 Sun RE Classes, Stars Studio 2, week 2
- 14 Mon Conversation on Incarnation, 7-9 PM, Sanctuary
- 16 Wed Children's RE Committee Meeting 7-9 PM, S1
- 19 Sat OWL Lock-In
- 20 Sun RE Classes, Stars Studio 2, week 3
- 27 Sun NO RE (Thanksgiving & PACEM)

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