



# TJMC Bulletin

Unitarian Universalist January 2014

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## Religious Education & Worship

9:15 and 11:15

## January's Theme: The Heroic Journey



FMI: <http://www.uucharlottesville.org>

## Worship Services

Sunday 9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

January 5th: *The Mythic Journey*

January 12: *The Mythic Journey on Mars and Venus*

January 19: *The Mythic Journey of Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## Words of Wikstrom

Without doubt one of the strongest influences on my religious development was the five-part PBS series called *The Power of Myth*. It was an incredibly fascinating series of conversations between the journalist Bill Moyers and the scholar Joseph Campbell in which Campbell expounded on his theory of the monomyth. Campbell argues that although the various myths we humans have created over time have local variations, they often fall into recognizable patterns. One overarching pattern - a monomyth - is "the hero's journey." In his book *The Hero With A Thousand Faces*, Campbell summarizes the hero's journey in this way:

*"A hero ventures forth from the world of common day into a region of supernatural wonder: fabulous forces are there encountered and a decisive victory is won: the hero comes back from this mysterious adventure with the power to bestow boons on his fellow man."*

[Read more](#)

January 26: *Our Lives As Mythic Journey*

[Click to read worship descriptions](#)

## A Life in Faith

### 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.

### NatureSpirit - Second Sundays

Exploring Nature in spirituality. We are an open group, drop-ins are welcome. Check the Weekly Email and the This Sunday insert for updates. For more information:

[naturespirit@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:naturespirit@uucharlottesville.org).

### Clear Spring Buddhist Fellowship Meditation

Wednesdays, 7 PM, Blue Room  
[meditation@uucharlottesville.org](mailto: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](mailto:carenet@uucharlottesville.org)

### 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](mailto:uucf@uucharlottesville.org)

### Midweek Worship Service

Wednesdays at 11:45 AM to 12:30 PM led by Leia Durland-Jones. This is a simple, contemplative time incorporating our monthly ministry theme. Please join us and let your soul be nourished. We meet on the outdoor labyrinth (weather permitting) or in the sanctuary. All are welcome. For more information, contact Leia

## From The Board

by Amy Wissekerke

### New Location for Molly Michie Preschool!

Sheila Chrobak, Co-President of the Molly Michie Preschool (MMP), shared with us that the school has found a new home at the Wesley Memorial Church on Thomson Road. MMP will finish out their school year here at TJMC-UU and open in their new location in fall 2014. [Read more](#)

## Hosting PACEM

by Elizabeth Breeden

On January 11-18 (Men) and Feb 1-8 (Women) we will be hosting our homeless guests from PACEM. They will sleep on cots, provided by PACEM, in Summit House. We usually have about 45 men and 10 women for the week. We give them dinner, a cot in a warm house, snacks, TV, perhaps some activities like Bingo, and a cup of coffee as they leave in the morning. Guests arrive, via Jaunt Bus (donated by Jaunt) from the intake process at The Haven. PACEM staff assures that everyone goes through this process, understands the expectations, and receives help exploring housing opportunities and the way to access them. In the morning at 6:30AM all guests leave, walking down the hill to get the bus in front of the University. (Breakfast is provided at The Haven). [Read More](#)

## Putting the Theme Into Practice

Each month we've been including in the bulletin "hints" for taking the themes that are being explored in religious education and in worship and deepening your engagement with them at home. In other words, we've been offering suggestions for putting the theme into practice (our new name for this column). It is hoped that you will feel encouraged and supported in living out your Unitarian Universalism not just on Sundays, but on the other six days of the week as well; not just at church, but everywhere you go. To dive more deeply into "The Heroic Journey" you might:

- Watch Bill Moyer's famous interview with Joseph Campbell, *The Power of Myth*. You might be able to find this at your local library, you can certainly order a copy from any number of sources, and you can even watch it in sections on YouTube by Googleing "Joseph Campbell" + "Bill Moyers."

[Read more](#)

## Divestment in Fossil Fuels

by Nick Laiacona and Sharon Baiocco  
*Environmental Action Co-Chairs*

As you may know, the Environmental Action group at Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church UU is working on the idea of divestment from fossil fuel corporations for our local church endowment. At the same time, Co-chair Nick Laiacona is active in the national UUA effort to do the same with the Common Endowment. Part of our effort includes obtaining support from you and from area UU congregations for a business resolution to consider divestment at the next General Assembly. In recent months, the UUA treasurer and staff have withdrawn their objections to divestment, and, in fact, have begun divesting from the simplest fossil fuel stocks. [Read more](#)

## The Wi\$dom Path: Money, Spirit and Life

### January Art Show

January's Artists of the Month are participants from our congregation's annual Women's Dream Quest. Artists featured are: Marissa Minnerly, Patty Wallens, Leia Durland-Jones, Sara Gondwe, Bonnie Hansen and others. Photos of the creation of our Chartres-style canvas labyrinth including journal quotes from labyrinth walkers are also part of the show. We hope you enjoy these varied and beautiful expressions inspired by the labyrinth and Dream Quest.

### Mental Health Association and TJMC Working Together

by Shirley Paul

Recently, I've become grateful to discover that the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has been working toward increased inclusivity in our congregations for people with disabilities, both physical and mental. While we've been working here at TJMC with Alice Anderson of the local affiliate of Mental Health America, putting on a series of workshops for the entire congregation, the UUA has been creating helpful resources that we can use to educate ourselves about these issues and help us guide our congregation toward more compassion, understanding and inclusiveness.

[Read more](#)

by Don Landis

TJMC-UU has been among those chosen congregations to receive an opportunity to learn about money and how it intersects with our personal, spiritual, and community lives. The UUA Tapestry of Faith Lifespan Curriculum has developed a program they would like us to "test drive." A twelve part program has been developed that will "help participants understand how decisions and attitudes about money can be a more effective force for living lives of meaning and value, and for creating positive change in themselves, their congregations and groups, our society and the world." The end result aimed for is - through focusing on exploring money from many angles and perspectives - to open the way for money to become less troublesome and more useful as a practical, life-giving tool. [Read more](#)

## Food Pantry

by Elizabeth Breeden

The Social Action Collection for this month is collected on January 19 for our own Food Pantry. On the first Friday of each month at 9AM, a group of TJMC-UU volunteers welcomes those who need food to assure that their households are fed. The food for our distribution is purchased at the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. The first wave of volunteers records guests' USDA intake information about family size and income. Another group unloads the food from the truck and divides it into 108 bag units so folks receive food according to family size. At 11AM another team of volunteers hands out the food to families. Many of our "customers" help us with intake, hauling the cases of food from the truck to the social hall, dividing it into the bags, and tearing down boxes.

[Read more](#)

## Remembering Gordon McKeeman

Our church was very lucky to have Rev. Gordon McKeeman as a member during his retirement years. Our congregation grieved in 2011, when he and his wife, Phyllis, left Charlottesville to be nearer their children. We learned recently that he died on December 18, and a memorial was held at their church in Minnesota.

Born and raised a Universalist, Gordon served in many leadership roles in our national association, including during the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist groups in 1962. He has been described as "a soulful Universalist, beloved teacher, gifted writer and preacher, and cherished colleague."

[Read more](#)

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Please send submissions for the monthly bulletin to [office@uucharlottesville.org](mailto:office@uucharlottesville.org) by the 3rd Friday of the prior month.

