



TJMC Bulletin

Unitarian Universalist March 2014

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Alan & Aaron Hicks

Worship Services

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

Words of Wikstrom

It's been noted that within the Jewish and Christian traditions there are really only a few main themes:

- Death and Resurrection
- Exile and Return
- Sin and Forgiveness



March 2: Grace Happens

March 9: Go Down Moses

March 16: My Bondage and My Freedom

March 23: Submission Is Not A Dirty Word

March 30: Bondage to Freedom

[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. Contact: pastoral@uucharlottesville.org

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.

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. Contact: carenet@uucharlottesville.org

Christian Fellowship

UUCF is open to all, especially those wishing to meet with others who are

- Sin and Forgiveness
- Bondage and Freedom

This last one is perhaps most explicitly embodied in the story of the Jews' freedom - by God, through Moses - from their bondage in Egypt and their freedom both in the wilderness and, even more so, in their promised land. It could be said, it seems to me, that this theme of the movement from bondage to freedom might even be able to subsume the others. It might be the most important story of them all. After all, couldn't one say that "death," as used in its metaphoric sense, is a kind of bondage? And isn't the same true of both "exile" and "sin"? And aren't their opposites a kind of "freedom"? [Read more](#)

From The Board

by Amy Wissekerke

February's Board meeting brought a range of discussions to the table, many of which have far-reaching implications. Here are some of the highlights:

First, the Board accepted Walt Megonigal's resignation from the position of President-Elect and voted, at his request and with the blessing of Leadership Development, to assign Walt to the Member-at-Large position vacated at the death of our dear Jim Rotherham. In framing his decision for the Board, Walt stated that his sense of contribution and personal satisfaction drives his church work. He felt his personal style would not foster what he believes is needed in Board meetings, and he did not want the experience of serving as President to interfere with his spiritual connection to TJMC. In addition, he has other personal goals, like ski patrol, that require his time. He felt he would find more personal satisfaction as a Member-at-Large. Board members expressed gratitude for Walt for his willingness to continue as a leader in a Board role, as he will still be deeply involved in our Strategic Planning Process. Walt's resignation and the upcoming move to Pennsylvania of our Vice President, Betty Warner, leave significant roles to be filled by our Leadership Development team. [Read more](#)

Emergency Preparedness Planning

by Alexandra McGee, Ministry Associate

Many of you have been asking what we would do in case of an emergency. People have all sorts of different emergencies in mind: a hurricane, a snowstorm, a gun threat in church, a medical emergency in worship or religious education classes, a sexual predator...and the list goes on. Each of us, with our unique life experiences, has different fears. And, we each have different skills to bring to the solution.

The board of TJMC set a goal this year to improve the church's emergency preparedness plans. The research and policy crafting has been delegated to the staff. So, the staff is beginning to put together plans, brush off outdated plans, and then prepare for the ongoing work of always updating with new information and technology. Emergency preparedness is always a work in progress.

[Read more](#)

Canvass Has Positive Energy!

by Sheri Edgecomb, Canvass Committee Chair

The pledge drive is in full swing and doing well. As of the Wednesday tally we have reached \$258,844! This week we will begin phone banks. Please try to get your pledge in before then so we can maximize our efforts here. One interesting tidbit to share: Most of those who are increasing



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

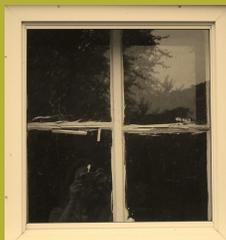
Midweek Worship Service

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 (redirector@uucharlottesville.org or 293-8179 Ext. 3#).

March Art Show

"World in Focus"

by Jennifer Jamison



I have been interested in art literally my whole life. I can't remember a time when the creative process didn't pique my interest. As I went through the process of putting these pieces together, it became a study of extremes, close-up or landscape, monochromatic or supersaturated, but always serenity in the spotlight. Even though this show is photography, for me, it is a spring board to another step in my creative process that will continue to evolve. That being said, I don't see myself as a photographer. For now, this is the medium that makes sense.

What is the UU Christian Fellowship (UUCF)?

by Mike Ludwick

As everyone knows, people who participate in the TJMC-UU Christian Fellowship are orthodox fundamentalists hell-bent on converting everyone to believing a defined set of beliefs about Jesus to the exclusion of all others.

NOT!

We're UUs after all, and we have differing views about the nature of God (or whether there is one) and the person of Jesus (who he was, what he did, and what he said). Those views continue to influence our lives today. We're interested in exploring the

their pledge amounts are also choosing to pay weekly or monthly. Thinking about your pledge in those terms can make it much easier to see what you really can afford. There is an option to make recurring monthly payments through our website, or you may want to use the electronic bill payment option your bank offers. Whatever your method, whatever your pledge amount, please accept a wholehearted THANK YOU from your pledge team. The enthusiasm and excitement in the church is palpable and it's making this pledge drive tons of fun!

To make your pledge now, click here: [Visit Our Website](#)

To make a Pledge Payment online, click [HERE](#).

Where Justice Meets Action

By Stephanie Jones, Social Justice Council Co-Chair

TJMC-UU is an explicitly social justice-oriented house of worship.

During worship, Justice is present as the ministers and worship weavers connect the sermon and the monthly theme to a salient issue from current events or history, particularly civil rights history. During the social hour, there are almost always two or three tables representing our social justice groups and the causes they diligently represent. In the past year alone, our social justice groups have circulated petitions, organized marches, hosted events, and otherwise mobilize like-minded members to take a stand on issues as diverse as climate policy, diplomacy in the Middle East, and marriage rights. Our IMPACT representatives schedule meetings for church members, giving them space to voice their concerns about social policy, in solidarity with Charlottesville's faith community. As seen through our church's activism outside of and during services, Justice-with a capital J-is abstract, something to be pursued and mourned. The companion to Justice, then, is Action.

Through my work with the Social Justice Council-an umbrella council of these groups-I hear directly about all the incredible progress these groups make in demanding for positive change from our local, national and global leaders. Many groups-Soup Kitchen, PACEM, and Food Pantry, to name a few-provide direct services like food, money, and shelter to our community and other communities in need. IHS Meal Packets engage our children in supporting families seeking medical care in local hospitals.

[Read more](#)

Spring Auction April 25, 6:30-8PM

By Lynn Heath, Spring Auction Committee

Eat, Pray, Love...and BID! at the spring auction. As sure as the snow comes (and comes and comes) in February, April brings us warm weather, dogwood blossoms, and the church auction. We hope you put those snow days to good use, doing an early spring cleaning and setting aside some treasures for the auction. We are looking for donations of art, jewelry, decorative items, and a few great toys in perfect condition. Don't worry: we won't tell Great Aunt Lucy that you have sent her pearl necklace on to another owner.)

In addition to these treasures, we are looking for donations of dinners, events, and services. Do you have a vacation home you're willing to give up for a week? Would you be the designated driver for a wine tasting? Maybe you have a business that could benefit from some publicity in our auction catalog. Do you make pies, photograph children, clean houses? Can you teach someone to knit or use excel? Are you a whiz at setting up (or disposing of) computers? What service could you offer to our community? Part of the fun of the auction is the great variety of talents available.

[Read more](#)

These articles explore the stories about Jesus (who wrote them, and how the time in which they were written and the intended audience affected what was written). We're interested in exploring spirituality in all its many forms. You may be, too.

[Read more](#)

March Social Action Collection

By Sally Bastian, Virginia Organizing

What happens in Virginia is critically important for the whole nation. We are a swing state for presidential elections and Virginia is a national testing ground for conservative legislation because we have off-year statewide elections. Virginia Organizing, being a strong, well connected statewide group, is positioned to counter the negative forces and raise the voices of people directly affected by the issues. We have addressed economic and social justice issues, like pushing for racial justice, LGBT rights, living wages and more in Virginia since 1995 and have recently hired two new Latina organizers.

We cannot thank TJMC members enough for supporting us through the years.

[Read more](#)

[MAKE A DONATION](#)

If You Talk, You Can Sing!

By Scott DeVeaux, Director of Music

Think about this: according to a recent study, people who sing in choirs are happier with their lives. "You don't have to be a wonderful singer to benefit," reports the Daily Mail (UK). "This is because improvements to health come from being part of a team, working in synchrony and exercising the lungs, diaphragm and other parts of the body."

Or think about this: as the Zimbabweans say, "if you can walk, you can dance; if you can talk, you can sing."

As director of the choir, I love providing beautiful, inspiring music for our Sunday services. But even better, I love getting people to participate. There's nothing like being part of a choir.

[Read more](#)

Called to a Vocation

By Alexandra McGee, Ministry Associate

One of the things that I love about working with the Young Adults is that they are perched and ready to follow their callings. In our discussions, they often find their new insights and values lead them to choose a new educational field or job change. Most of them are at a point in their journey where they can quickly change and follow new paths.

Many other church members have told me that they feel called to a new vocation, but can't quite make the change due to financial obligations, family commitments, illness, or other apparent obstacles. So, spiritual tools of patience and discernment are brought into play.

[Read more](#)

www.uucharlottesville.org

Please send submissions for the monthly bulletin to office@uucharlottesville.org by the 3rd Friday of the prior month.

