



TJMC Bulletin

Unitarian Universalist November 2015

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2015**

November we explore:
ANCESTRY



To whom do you belong?

Religious Education & Worship
Sundays ~ 9:15 & 11:15 am

Join us!

Worship Services

Words of Wikstrom

What does it mean to be a person of Ancestry? That is the question we'll be examining throughout the month of November.



Two services: 9:15 & 11:15AM



- Nov. 1** Ancestor's Sunday
- Nov. 8** Ancestry as Comfort
- Nov. 15** Love Will Find a Way
- Nov. 22** Multi-Bread Communion
- Nov. 29** Giving Thanks After Thanksgiving

Click [HERE](#) for 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

When I was involved in the Men's Movement a few years back, one of the things we did at each meeting was identify ourselves as part of a lineage: "I am Erik, father of Theo and Lester, husband of Mary, son of Nancy and Wik, grandson of ..." you get the idea. This is a practice that was prevalent in many indigenous cultures, and still is today. Rewwik

In contrast with the Eurocentric model of the world - a model based on the myth of the "rugged individual" who pulls herself or himself up by the bootstraps and charts their own course - communities of color frequently emphasis a person's role in a family or community group as the basis of their identity. One of the gifts of a movement from monocultural norms to multicultural ones is this awareness, this foundational insistence that we do not exist alone. In fact, it can fairly and truthfully be said that we do not exist except as we exist in relationship to others.

[Read more](#)

From The Board

By Laura Horn

Hi friends,

First, thanks to all of you who communicated to Wik and to me about our October bulletin articles. One-way communications have their limits and I am always the better for hearing back from you. And in that spirit, I will formalize the invitation to you, to let me know what you'd like to hear more about in this column. Consider it an "Ask the Prez Question Box." If you send me a question of general interest (and I know or can find the answer) I'll try to answer it here. president@uucharlottesville.org

Also in the spirit of good communication, Ann Salamini has begun publishing monthly a quick synopsis of Board activity, and a preview of the agenda for the upcoming meeting. It is just for those of us who like to know what's going on and don't like to read the minutes. Maybe that's most

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@uucharlottesville.org

UUCF is a welcoming place to explore your spirituality within a liberal Christian context. Gatherings may include, music, sermons, discussion, readings from the Bible, meditation, movement, sharing of joys and sorrows, food and drink, and they always include compassionate fellowship. All are welcome!

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, leia@uucharlottesville.org or 293-8179 Ext. 3#).

Resources for Ancestry Theme

By RevWik

Each month the folks involved in the Soul Matters program create a packet of resources to support both individual and congregation engagement with the month's theme question beyond the Sunday services. As part of that packet they generate a number of questions, which individuals are encouraged to read through to see if there are any with which they particularly resonate. These questions can be used as a focus in Covenant Groups, family dinner table conversation, and even in Coffee Hour! Here are this month's:

of us.

Reflections on October:

October has been a construction month, in my own life and certainly at church. Later this month, my husband and I will decamp from our little nest above the downtown mall, and move to our very own condo in the Belmont Lofts. We've been spending October trying to get things painted, making repairs that seemed minor at the time, and packing. And, as happy as I am to be moving, my life was comfortably full without adding the work of a move.

So if you amplify my personal story several times, you get a feel for what it's been like at church, especially for our staff. They have lived and worked in a construction zone for weeks now. Here's what that looked like:

[Read more](#)

Stewards of Our Ship

By RevWik

You hear the term is used all the time, but just what is meant by "stewardship"? According to the dictionary, it's this:

1. The position and duties of a steward, a person who acts as the surrogate of another or others, especially by managing property, financial affairs, an estate, etc.
2. The responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving.

Often we use the word "stewardship" in churches as if it is synonymous with the annual pledge drive or fundraising campaign, but these definitions tell us that there's something more involved here. Our beloved community needs more than money to keep it afloat, and there's more to its life than the annual budget.

I once heard a sermon in which the preacher - a UU - said that church isn't like a fast food restaurant where you drive through asking for

As always, don't treat these questions like "homework." Instead, simply pick the one that "hooks" you most and let it lead you where you need to go.

[Read more](#)

November Art Show

Artist: Donna Redmond



Click [HERE](#) for Artist Statement

More information:

Donna.Redmond@yahoo.com

BlueHighwayGallery.com

November Social Action Collection

On Our Own

By Stephanie Jones & Carol Saliba

On Our Own of Charlottesville is Virginia's oldest consumer-run/consumer-directed mental health program. In July 2015 they celebrated their 25th Anniversary in operation as a recovery resource center. Their staff and many volunteers include highly trained mental health consumers with backgrounds and experience in social work, adult learning, family systems, group dynamics, behavioral medicine,

some spiritual growth with a side of social justice. Instead, she said, it's like "your mamma's kitchen" where, if you want something, you can go to the fridge and get it yourself. (And while you're there, could you get me an ice tea?)

Many of us - hopefully the vast majority of us - think that TJMC is something "worth caring for and preserving." But it doesn't work for us to just sit back and assume that someone else is going to take care of it. That's our job ... you and me ... all of us.

[Read more](#)

Connie Cheetham Award

By Ann Salamini

There are many in the church these days who have never met Connie Cheetham. She came to our community as the wife of our third minister, Henry Cheetham. They moved on to another position at the Unitarian headquarters in Boston, but Connie returned after Henry's death and graced this community for many years.

She was a stalwart member of the Alliance, which did a lot of fundraising in its original format, always making items to sell in the church holiday bazaar and undertaking to furnish the sanctuary after its initial construction. She naturally gravitated to the position of church host and caretaker, fulfilling roles in coffee hour, where she knew everyone's name (and kept track of how many cookies they were taking), guiding memorial receptions and watering the Social Hall plants. She and Henry were English and Connie, with her white bun, sensible shoes and cheery attitude, was affectionately known as "Queen Mum."

[Read more](#)

You may send your nomination in the form of an email to cheethamaward@uucharlottesville.org

Paper nomination forms can be found on the Board bulletin board and given to Sally Taylor, Ann Salamini or Walt Megonigal. Nominations are due by Dec. 1st.

From The Committee on the

Ministry (CoM)

By Revwik, in collaboration with the CoM

Sometimes in a congregation as large and active as ours things happen about which we need to talk with someone. Sometimes it's an encounter with a staff person that leaves us dissatisfied or distressed. Sometimes it's a program that we felt could have been done better ... or shouldn't have been done at all. Sometimes it's just a feeling we have that we want "the church" to know about. And sometimes we want to sing the praises of something or someone.

Your Committee on the Ministry exists to provide an answer to the question, "where do I go with this?" In general it is always best to bring your feedback directly to the person or committee it involves - direct, personal contact is almost always the healthiest way of addressing any issue, and the one most in keeping with our covenant. When that doesn't seem possible, however, the Committee on the Ministry always available to you.

[Read more](#)

homelessness, jail, hospitalization, prostitution and addiction. However, they carefully limit interventions to non-clinical support, warmly connecting members to community partners for psychotherapy, medical care, housing, job placement and other resources. The welcoming, safe, relaxed environment of the Center is undergirded with a continuously improving structure that assures individual attention for the diverse membership they attract.

[Read more](#)



Committee on the Ministry

Lisa Shutt, Doug Webbink, Beth Jaeger-Landis, Ruth Douglas, Cathey Polly, Katharine Maus
com@uucharlottesville.org

(RevWik is an ex officio member of the Committee but does not receive email that goes to that address.)

2015 Thanksgiving Baskets

By Elizabeth Breeden

This year we are engaged in TWO Thanksgiving endeavors. First, a Community Thanksgiving Basket effort (Nov. 1 to 15) and second, providing our own members with Thanksgiving feast supplies (Nov.

Governance Task Force

By Sally Taylor

Our policy manual requires that the Board direct a review of our policies and general governance structure every 7 years. During its April, 2015 meeting the TJMC Board approved the creation of a Governance Task Force with the following charge:

- Analyze present committee and council structure and propose alternatives which would function more effectively
- Gather information from the UUA and from churches of our size about possible governance structures
- Review the responsibilities of the Board, Councils, Committees, Groups, congregation and staff for decision making

[Read more](#)

22).

We are helping Ebenezer Baptist Church and the African American Pastors Council with their Community Thanksgiving Basket effort. The plan is for the community of congregations to provide 300 families with food for the Thanksgiving dinner.

The food for this community effort is very specific so that each basket is nearly the same and we multiply some amounts to be appropriate for family size. All money donated will go to buy the turkeys in bulk or to make sure our baskets are completed with all the items needed. You can provide everything for a basket or just buy individual items. Here are the items needed:

[Read more](#)

www.shopwithscrip.com



You are the bows
from which your
children as living
arrows are sent
forth.

~Kahlil Gibran

TJMC Hosts PACEM

By Elizabeth Breeden

PACEM organizes congregations throughout our community to host homeless guests overnight in churches and synagogues and meeting houses during the cold winter months assuring that no one freezes on the streets of our town. Congregations partner with each other to provide dinner each night and to host the guests overnight. PACEM provides the organizational structure, cots and bedclothes, and a staff to provide intake of guests, help connecting guests to services that secure permanent housing and provide staff for the time guests are engaged with the congregations. Men and women are housed in different congregational homes. Our church has been doing this outreach for about 10 years. The direct involvement with those in our community who we would rarely meet otherwise allows us to understand the full arc of the people in our town and engage in social justice with real people whom we have met at the core of our actions.



TJMC hosts the homeless men of PACEM from November 28th to December 4th this year. Sign-up sheets asking for your volunteer effort to provide food, to host our guests during dinner and to host them overnight will go up in the Social Hall after every service in November.

[Read more](#)

Being Prepared

By RevWik

Have you ever wondered what would happen if

there was a fire in our building during a worship service? What if someone was seriously injured or suddenly sick? What if someone entered the sanctuary on a Sunday determined to disrupt things, or inflict harm?

Several years ago we developed a plan to respond to "disruptive behavior" by congregants, and also one regarding "Church Participation of Persons Convicted of or Formally Charged With Criminal Sex Charges." It is unpleasant and, perhaps, disturbing to have to think about such things, yet it is far better to have a plan for response in place before something happens rather than have to react in the moment. (If you're interested, these policies can be found on pp. 79-91 of our Policy Manual, which can be accessed on our website under the "Members Area.")

[Read more](#)

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



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