



TJMC Bulletin

Unitarian Universalist September 2014

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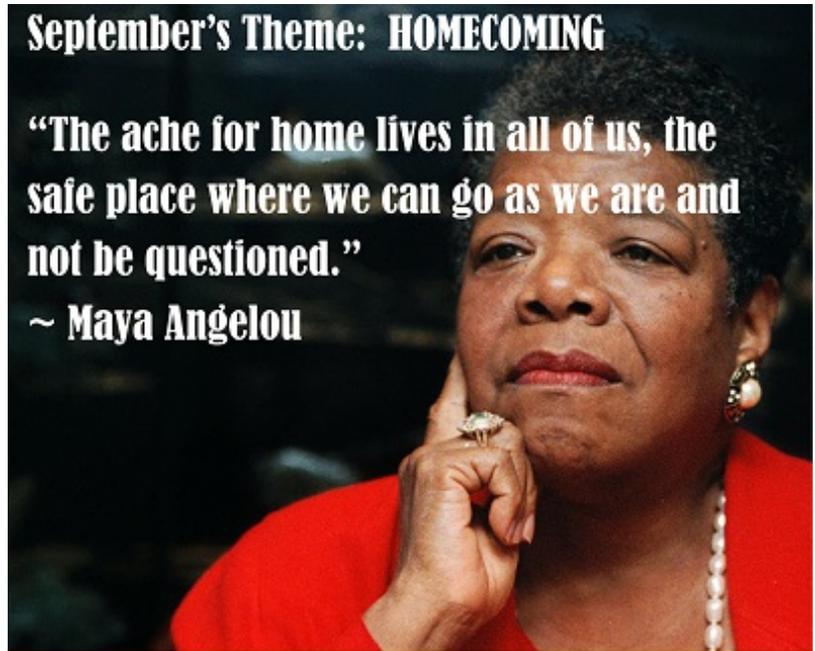
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September's Theme: HOMECOMING

"The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned."

~ Maya Angelou



Religious Education & Worship
Sundays ~ 9:15 & 11:15 am (beginning 9/14)



Worship Services

Sundays 9:15 & 11:15 AM
Sept. 7th-One Service@10AM



Words of Wikstrom

The theme of September is "homecoming." It's kind of an odd thing, really. After all, TJMC is not one of those congregations that closes down over the summer. We're a full-service congregation 52 weeks out of the year. There are congregations that shut down between June and September, but we're not one of them.

One example? Our monthly food pantry. On the first Friday of every month a group of volunteers gathers at the church and unloads a ton of food - an actual ton of food! - from a truck parked on Edgewood Lane, and brings it into the Social Hall where it is divided up among long lines of brown grocery bags. While this is happening, more people are gathering - over 100 individuals and families come each month for the food assistance we offer. It is a



- Sept. 7 **Balloon Sunday**
- Sept. 14 **What Makes a Place Home?**
- Sept. 21 **Holy Land Homecoming**
- Sept. 28 **So...Can We or Can't We?**

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

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

sobering reality. [Read more](#)



From The Board

President's Report by Sally Taylor

I realize that being involved in the yard sale is not part of the President's job description, but I have spent many hours in the past few months thinking about why I needed there to be a yard sale this year. I was concerned because this year we would be without key yard sale volunteers who finally after 10 years had decided to retire or move on to other activities.

The yard sale is a good example of how things work in a church community. Volunteers did show up to price and sort and transport donations and set up displays. The work got done and the volunteers bonded with one another. Some newcomers to the church became part of the "crew" and made connections that I suspect will endure as long as they are part of TJMC. We joked about what turned up in the boxes and guessed at the function of some of the donations. I looked forward each time to seeing whoever was there and hearing their stories. And our tireless leader, Jean Newland, always made it fun, even when it was exhausting.

Yes, the yard sale is a fund raiser for the church but it is so much more than that. It is a service to our community members who are moving or downsizing or just ready to give away things that they no longer need. It is a service to the community who shop and get great bargains. It is a service to the IRC community who come at the end of the yard sale to take what they need for their new homes in Charlottesville. But most of all it builds connections within

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

September Artist



Reception Sept. 7@TJMC@11:30am

Sara Gondwe

Sara Gondwe, mixed media artist, uses shaved crayons and a hot iron as a paint brush – to experiment in color. Throw in some gold or silver metallic fabric paint, or some glow in the dark paint, black ink, markers or nail polish and the imagination is given full reign. The creative process is the priority. The end result is often a surprise and thus we have titles, such as, "Dancers in the Storm", "Three Buddhas under the Tree of Enlightenment" and "Beautiful Weeds". [Read more](#)

September Social

Charlottesville. But most of all it builds connections within our church community. That is what it is all about.....but it is nice to have the money too (\$8,306!!!!) at the time I am writing this article.

[Read more](#)

Reflections on Welcome

By Alex McGee, Ministerial Associate



Every Sunday morning someone in Charlottesville is wishing they could be in a sanctuary, could be with people who would accept them the way they are. Every Sunday morning someone is aching for good news, needing a balm for their hearts. Every Sunday morning, someone is finally reaching stable ground and is ready to join with others in singing and meditation.

Please look for opportunities to invite people to TJMC. Tell them that you've found a place that is meaningful to you, and tell them why. Let them know if you can give them a ride, or show them the bus stop, or ride your bikes together. Let them know that you'll meet them at the front door and walk in so that they don't have to walk in alone.

I learned this lesson on an August afternoon when, after a year of wanting to go visit the Thursday evening worship at the Baptist church across the street from my house, I finally went in. Why?

[Read more](#)

TJMCUU Treasury Update



By Jamie McReynolds, Treasurer

September 2014

We are off starting this fiscal year with \$84,419 in fair share gifts [also known as pledge payments] for July 2014, 21% of our \$410,000 fair share gift goal. This compares with fair share gifts of \$62,941 in July 2013. It is hard to know whether this trend will continue, given that we had a very successful canvass this year, compared to a minimal canvass effort the previous year. The yard sale has already raised \$5,313 in July and we received an

Action Collection

By Susan Bremer

Literacy Volunteers

Did you read or write anything today? Maybe you read the newspaper with your coffee this morning or scribbled a grocery list on the back of a receipt. You may have stretched your creative muscles and wrote a short poem in a birthday card or indulged in reading a trashy novel before bed last night. But, chances are, you barely thought about the process of reading and writing, let alone the hours and years it took for you to learn not only the shapes of letters but how to string them together into words, sentences, and stories. Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle helps over 300 adults each year learn to read, write, and speak English.

[Read more](#)

www.shopwithscrip.com



already raised \$2,000 in July and we received an additional \$3,000 in August.

The books are now closed for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 and I'm happy to report a surplus of \$14,092. This is a bit lower than my \$20,000 estimate last month, due to reclassification of more pledge payments than I anticipated. As I said last month, but it bears repeating, ending with any surplus at all is pretty amazing, given that we were looking at a potential deficit of close to \$40,000 last October. Our very successful spring auction, strong pledge revenue and aggressive cost reduction efforts by staff, all contributed to this surplus. Thank you to all of you who made this possible.

[Read more](#)

International Day of Peace

By Al Reynolds

TJMC's Peace Action-United Nations and Environmental Action Groups have been working with the Charlottesville Center for Peace and Justice (CCPJ), the local chapter of the United Nations Association (UNA) and the area's Interfaith Cooperation Circle to bring three events to TJMC on Sunday afternoon, September 21. The three events include meditation, a presentation on Climate Change, and a potluck dinner featuring Pete Seeger's songs. The events are part of the celebration of the United Nations "International Day of Peace". [Read more](#)

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

