



CEDAR LANE NEWS

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church
9601 Cedar Lane • Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Volume LV III, No. 6

December 20, 2011

December 24, 2011

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services in the Sanctuary

4:30 p.m. This 45-minute service is ideal for young children and everyone who loves to feel excitement of Christmas in young children. Our Children's, Youth and Handbell Choirs will provide music for the service.

6:00 p.m. An hour service for older children and adults. We will light candles for the children born or adopted this year. Our, Children's, Youth and Handbell Choirs will provide music for the service.

10:00 p.m. Join us for a candlelight service of Lessons and Carols, with an abundance of musical riches from our Adult Choir, Organist and Brass Ensemble. Music will begin at **10 p.m.**, with worship to start at **10:30 p.m.**

December 25, 2011, 10 a.m. in the Chapel

"Our Stories Beneath the Silence"

The Rev. Heather Janules and Nancy Pellegrini

Children are welcome but there are no religious education classes or child care.

With the joyous sights and sounds of Christmas Eve worship still fresh in our memory, we will gather this Christmas Day for a quiet, reflective service. In the spirit of a Quaker meeting, we will gather in both song and silence to reflect on how the symbols of this day—the beckoning star, an arrival, a celebration—speak to our lives and the life we share together.

January 1, 2011, 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

"High Resolve"

The Rev. Evan Keely

Lots of us make new year's resolutions. What if we lived our lives with resolve all 12 months of the year?

January 8, 2011, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The Rev. Mark Kiyimba

The Rev. Mark Kiyimba, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kampala, Uganda, will be our guest.

January 15, 2011, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

"A Stone of Hope"

The Rev. Evan Keely

This intergenerational worship service will explore the struggle for freedom and dignity for all people, as exemplified in the lives and works of heroes like Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 22, 2011, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

"Over All"

The Rev. Evan Keely

Many things must be present for communal religious life to be meaningful, empowering and liberating, but perhaps most important is a shared sense of purpose.

January 29, 2011, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

"To Explore the Eternal"

The Rev. Heather Janules

The mission of Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church is "to explore the eternal, to nurture community, to build a more just world." This service—the first of a three-part series—will reflect on the first part of our mission. What does it mean "to explore the eternal?" How do we focus our intentions, energy and resources in service to this mission?

The **Sunday Morning Forum** meets from 10:10 – 10:55 a.m. in the Chalice House. Coffee is served in 100% compostable hot cups.

December 25 and January 1: There will be no forum.

January 8: Matthew Crawford, Volunteer Coordinator for HandsOn Greater DC Cares, will discuss volunteer opportunities.

January 15. *Being Alive and Having to Die: The Spiritual Odyssey Forrest Church*, with biographer Dan Dryer.

January 22. *The Political Schism Regarding Marriage Equality: How to Put It in Perspective.*
Speaker to be announced.

January 29. *Montgomery College*, with Dr. DeRionne Pollard, College President.

Notes from the Ministers

Evan Keely

I'm often asked why I chose interim ministry as a career path. It would be more honest to say that it chose me, but at the same time I hope it's apparent that I thoroughly enjoy this work and that I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to serve in this special kind of ministry. There are a lot of things about interim ministry that are meaningful and satisfying, one of which is experiencing the excitement and the possibilities inherent in new beginnings.

January represents a new beginning in our culture. It's kind of an odd custom, if you think about it. What's new about what happens on January 1? It's not a change of seasons—even the winter solstice is almost two weeks earlier. It's not the obvious beginning of any particular human enterprise, like a new school year—in fact, most of us take the day off on New Year's Day, and then, here in this corner of the world, we can look forward to a few months of cold weather, barren trees and occasionally having to shovel snow and avoid slipping on the ice. Really, it's just the change of a number on a calendar, a totally human-made phenomenon that has many arbitrary qualities (why is it that "thirty days hath September," anyway?). Yet, in the collective psyche of our culture, January, a new year, is a new beginning, and new beginnings always carry with them possibility, hope, perhaps even a sense of renewal. Whether or not the changing of a calendar year really ought to carry such spiritual weight, isn't it just as well that we have this annual ritual of an invitation to take stock of our lives, to renew our commitments to what matters most to us and to try yet again to be who we truly yearn to be?

Susan Davison Archer

The last hymn we sang before the children arrived into the service last Sunday was "O Life that Maketh All Things News" by Samuel Longfellow. The celebration on Sunday echoed just that sentiment, when the kids and youth came in and "made chapel" right in the middle of the sanctuary, within the adult worship service! It was an amazing way of saying goodbye and of celebrating life that goes on all around us, even in the midst of leave-taking!

I want to thank from my depths the many people who made all of Sunday happen. The organizing committee, led by John Daniel, also included Jean Bergey, Linda Daniel, Sara Deshler, Mary Farrar, Naomi Manzella, Carolyn Morrissey, Holly Parker, Carole Richardson, Kate Simon, Vanessa Steck, Diana Thompson, Marion

Torchia, and Susannah Vesey. But I know this was a gathering that had very many hands on it—of people of all ages—and reflected that we are one community, one which I love and will miss. Longfellow's second verse says it all:

*From hand to hand the greeting flows, from eye to eye
the signals run, from heart to heart the bright hope
glows, the seekers of the light are one.*

I will be among you yet for our many December activities, and will leave for North Carolina around the 28th. You are an amazing congregation, and I will follow from a distance your many "next steps" with interest and affection. One parent reported after the service that her daughter had reminded her, from one of the verses from the chapel song they used as a processional, "Don't be afraid of some change." I say "amen." The future is bright, I know you will fully and lovingly be part of its making.

From the Board of Trustees Chair

Bonnie Beavers

Board of Trustees Chair 2011-12

We need your help in selecting a Senior Minister Search Committee as our first step in hiring a new Senior Minister. The Board is working with the Leadership Development and Nominations Committee (LDNC) to solicit Search Committee nominations from the entire congregation. You will receive a phone call reminding you to be on the lookout for an email linking to a nominations form. The form will list considerations for Search Committee candidates and provide space for you to offer up to five names (one of which can be your own). For those who prefer paper to email, forms will also be available at the back of the sanctuary under the name tags. One completed form is requested from each adult person in your household. Please be sure to put your name on the form so your nominations can be considered. Your nominations are important; we want the best Search Committee possible. The Board and the LDNC will collect the data and present a slate of seven Search Committee candidates for election at the Annual Meeting next April.

The Board and the LDNC also seek your involvement in ALL areas of church life. The Rev. Evan Keely's sermon on December 11 encouraged us not to wait, not to sit on the sidelines while Cedar Lane changes, but to be an active and joyous participant. So if you also get a call from the LDNC asking you to consider taking a leadership position on the Board or on a Committee,

please say yes! And if you've thought of joining a committee, now is the time. We know everyone in our community is busy and stretched thin, and you may feel that you cannot possibly take on any more responsibility. But the decision to have more involvement in your faith community can have the greatest long-term dividends in terms of relationships and what is most important and rewarding. Please offer your talents. We nurture our community by working together.

Happy Holidays!

From the Temporary RE Coordinator

Linda Gianessi

I am thrilled to serve as the Temporary RE Coordinator, affectionately known at TREC. I know it is impossible to fill in completely behind Susan's incredible 10 years of service, but with our expert RE Administrators, Gale Luce and Jeannette Wilson, we will do our best to plan and execute all of the RE and AP events and activities for the coming 6 months. I also look forward to working with Vanessa Steck on youth activities, as well as with the rest of the church staff. Susan Clark will work with me and handle the chapel services over the next six months.

I know many of the children, youth, and their parents from my years of teaching, and look forward to getting to know many more of you. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss with me, I can be reached at lgianessi@cedarlane.org, or as of January 1, by calling the church, ext 206.

We Care

The **We Care program** is a network led by volunteers who reach out to address short-term needs—food deliveries, rides to doctor's appointments, a listening ear in the event of a loss. The Cedar Lane congregation is organized geographically by "neighborhoods"; each neighborhood has at least one chairperson to coordinate support. Look at your nametag or the map in the church office to find your neighborhood.

Our hearts go out to **George and Erika Williams Carter (Neighborhood 24)** with the death of Erika's father, shortly after thanksgiving.

We celebrate with **Megan Flaherty (N3)** who was one of several Walter Johnson High School students who sang during a tribute to Yo Yo Ma at the Kennedy Center Honors. They sang with Mr. James Taylor and

were conducted by Mr. John Williams. (The Kennedy Center Honors will be televised on December 27.)

Our love is with **Mimi Grimm (N10)**, who is at Suburban Hospital, receiving treatment for pneumonia and other medical challenges.

Congratulations to **Kay Gottesman and Bob Grafton (N7)** who welcomed their eighth grandchild. Theodore (or "Theo") Berry Gottesman was born to Brian Gottesman and Megan Berry on December 8. Hooray!

Healing wishes are with **Nancy Janssen (N23)** who is recovering from hip replacement surgery. She will soon be transferred to a local rehabilitation center. (Nancy welcomes visitors but requests that well-wishers wait until she is transferred home, likely mid- to late next week.)

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Carolyn Stelle (N29)** and her son, Jim, who has been hospitalized to treat a lung ailment.

Update on **John Massey (N12)**: John has been transferred from Holy Cross Hospital to the Layhill Genesis Rehab Center in Silver Spring to continue his recovery from a leg wound.

And, as shared in our Enews, we send our...

Condolences to...

Amanda, Gabriela, Sofia and Itati Garzon (N20) with the unexpected death of Amanda's sister, Kathy Waters. A memorial service was held at Cedar Lane on November 30.

The loved ones of long-time member **Ellen Frommer (N16)**, who died after a long illness shortly after Thanksgiving. A Service in Celebration of Her Life will be held at Cedar Lane on Saturday, January 7 at 1pm. All are welcome.

Dot Koltnow (N27) and her daughters, **Nan Chase and Nina Koltnow (N18)**, with the death of Dot's husband and Nan and Nina's father, Pete Koltnow. A memorial service was held on Saturday, December 10 at Cedar Lane.

The many friends of former member **John Hilke** (the elder) who died on November 26 at the age of 91. Services will be held in the future near the Hilke's home in Washington state. Condolences may be sent to John Hilke Jr. at 17250 NE 156th Court, Woodinville, WA 98072.

Healing wishes to...

Hilary Smith (N16) who is recovering at home from rotator cuff surgery.

Love and support to...

Laurie Richardson and Ken and Emily Maddox (N23) The week of Thanksgiving, Ken's mother, Sue Maddox, was hospitalized and the family learned that Laurie's aunt, Anne Richardson Burdett, died in her sleep on November 25. (Thankfully, Sue Maddox's health is improving.)

Frederick Biggs (N5) who has entered the compassionate care of hospice.

Congratulations to...

Dan Lednicer (N7), whose art was featured in an article in the most recent issue of Bethesda Magazine (page 44.) Check it out!

Should you know of a member of our community in personal need, you are encouraged to reach out to them. If you learn that this person wishes to receive a response from the church, please contact Heather Janules at hjanules@cedarlane.org. All ministers offer pastoral care to our members, so you are also encouraged to contact any member of the ministerial team.

From the Music Director

**Music Notes from Dr. Henry Sgrecci -
Director of Music, hsgrecci@cedarlane.org**

Benefit Concert is fast approaching:

7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, 2012!

Henry Sgrecci is bringing together some of the area's finest brass players to create a 14-piece ensemble that will raise the rafters with glorious antiphonal sounds of Giovanni Gabrieli and Henry Purcell along with popular music from Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim and even some Dixieland. The finale of the performance features Cedar Lane's Adult and Youth Choirs with guest singers from the area in Mack Wilberg's Anthem of Peace. CLUUC's Music Ministry and Social Justice Council are collaborating for the third year in a row in offering great music and an opportunity to help a worthy cause. The concert is free with all donations benefitting "Rebuilding Together Montgomery County." Put the date on your calendar and tell your friends about the best concert of the year! See you there.

December 24: The choirs will be out in full force for the Christmas Eve services. The Children's, Youth, and Youth Handbell Choirs will lead the musical worship in both the 4:30 and 6 p.m. services. Plan on hearing and singing many of your favorite songs (word is the Dr. S might even bring out his trumpet...). The late night Ceremony of Lessons and Carols will begin at 10 p.m., with instrumental and choral prelude music interspersed with carol singing. The featured work during the service will be Daniel Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata" for choir, organ and brass ensemble.

December 25: Thomas Guthrie will perform seasonal songs during the 10 a.m. Christmas Day service.

January 1: Henry Sgrecci and members of his family will provide music during the 10 a.m. New Year's Day service.

January 8: In honor of our guest, Rev. Mark Kiyimba, Minister of the UU church in Kampala, Uganda, the Choir will sing Paul Halley's "Freedom Trilogy" and lead the Congregation in singing the hymn "Freedom is Coming."

January 15: In commemorating MLK Sunday, we sing of peace, good will and empowerment. The Youth Handbell Choir will ring "A Joyful Song," the Children's Choir will sing "One Earth, One Sky," and the Youth Choir will sing the song "Make them Hear You" from the Broadway show, "Ragtime." The Adult Choir will reprise one of its favorites, "I Hear a Prophet Callin'."

From the Church Administrator

Sara Deshler

New Coffee System? Finally

Thanks to the gift of a generous benefactor we will be installing a Bunn airpot coffee system that will provide us with better tasting coffee, still fair-trade. This will require improvements to the electrical service in the kitchen as well as renovations so look to the changes happening in January. Finally!

EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Susan Archer, Minister of Religious Education
Vanessa Steck, Coordinator of Senior High Youth Ministry
Gale Ginther Luce and Jeannette Wilson, Administrators
For information and to register for classes and programs
call 301-493-8300 x207 or email RE@cedarlane.org.

Upcoming RE

Saturday Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Services at 4:30, 6, and 10 p.m.

Sundays Dec. 25 & Jan 1: Worship 10 a.m.; no RE, no childcare.

Sunday, Jan. 8: Re Classes Resume

Guest at Your Table Boxes

Please continue collecting money through the holidays, and return your box by January 8, 2012. Boxes can be returned on Sundays to the RE Admin desk in the downstairs lobby, or to the RE office anytime during the week. Help the UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) support those in need around the world! If you'd rather write a check, please make it payable to 'UUSC' and return to the RE office.

Holiday Craft Day

What a wonderful day it was! Lots of adults and kids, families and singles, all working together to make one-of-a-kind crafts for giving to those they love! Thanks go to our RE Council Craft Day co-chairs, Chris Black and Katie Spurlock, the entire REC and to all the many, many volunteers who gave of their time and effort for set-up, manning craft rooms and clean-up on Saturday! The plates and tumblers that some of you made are in the mail to be processed—they should be back in early January for pick-up.

Susan's Quilt

While our RE classes were busy designing quilt blocks, Connie Nissley and Herma Dupre were busy deciding on colors and patterns for the a quilt to present to Susan for her retirement. The blocks are all in, the colors are decided on, layout and piecing are done, and the quilt has been delivered to a professional quilter to be finished! It is absolutely beautiful, and each teacher, child and family in the RE program and beyond have put their touch on it! A picture of the quilt top was placed in each class folder on December 18 for teachers to share with their students. If you haven't yet seen the quilt, ask your child's teacher to see the picture! The quilter believes that it will be complete before Susan leaves so she will have it with her when the first cold snap hits!

RE in the New Year

When RE classes and programs start up again on January 8, 2012, our beloved Susan Archer will be in Greensboro, NC, with her family. While she starts her much-deserved retirement, our own Linda Gianessi will have taken the reins of the RE program. Linda will be our Temporary RE Coordinator until the BOT finds a suitable Interim MRE/DRE, who will likely start during the summer of 2012. Linda has been busy meeting with

Susan and the rest of the RE team and getting up to speed with all the activities coming down the pike this winter and spring. Her email address will be LGianessi@cedarlane.org, and she (and we) welcome your input to her or us at any time! The talented Susan Clark will be taking over Sunday morning chapel responsibilities and will be working closely with Linda. Susan Clark's email will be SClark@cedarlane.org. Please welcome both Linda and Susan when you see them!

Youth Notes

Youth Activity Group (YAG, for grades 7-8)

Our full schedule is on our website at, www.cedarlane.org/rep/YouthActivityGroupSchedule.htm. Watch your email and snail mail for additional information on events and permission forms. If you have questions about the group or its activities, contact John Daniel (301-946-5509), or the Rev. Susan Archer.

December 24: Ushering at Christmas Eve Services

January 20-22: Ski Trip

Senior High Youth Group (SHYG, grades 9-12)

For information about the SHYG contact Vanessa Steck, Coordinator of Senior High Youth Ministry, at vsteck@cedarlane.org. Please visit our web link at <http://www.cedarlane.org/srhigh.htm>

January 20-22: Ski Trip

Young Adults (Ages 18-35)

The UU Young Adults of Maryland (UUYAM) group plans activities for local UU Young Adults. Visit <http://groups.google.com/group/uuyam> to join the UUYAM e-mail list and view schedule of upcoming events. For resources and information on Joseph Priestly District (JPD) Young Adult events, visit the JPD Young Adult Network at www.jpduuyan.org.

Adult Programs

Register in the RE office for the following new classes beginning in January.

Meditation Winter session is eight Mondays, beginning January 9, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Pledgers: \$62; non pledgers: \$72; \$10/ single class

Yoga for Beginners: This class is for those new to yoga and those who have been taking the Beginning Yoga classes with Rebecca! The classes will run for ten Tuesdays, January 3 through March 6, from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in the Chalice House. You can register for all ten for \$120 or any eight for \$100. This class is not listed in the AP brochure. Register in the RE office. We are also trying to start a Friday class around noon. Please let the RE office know if you are interested.

LGBT in Film and Media: Watch for details on our upcoming filmfest Saturday, December 14!

New Connection Circle: Get A Life: What will you do with your life when your children go off to college? The focus of the group will be life changes in connection with becoming empty nesters. Please join if you are eagerly and/or anxiously anticipating the changes that will happen in your own life as your nest changes! We will meet on the 4th Sunday of the month through June, beginning January 22, 12:30 to 2 p.m. \$15.

Ongoing Weekly Classes:

Mondays: Science and Religion, 10 a.m. in the library.
Tuesdays: Just Sitting, 10 a.m. in the chapel.

Watch for our Spring Brochure Due Mid January!

Sunday Morning Forum

Everyone is invited to participate on Sunday mornings between services, 10:10 to 10:55 a.m., in the Chalice House. Just drop in, there is no registration, and coffee is served! January topics:

January 8: With 22 years of experience, *HandsOn Greater DC Cares* (HGDCC) is the leading and largest coordinator of volunteerism in the region. HGDCC mobilizes volunteers and strengthens non-profits to better affect communities and the key issues in the Greater DC region. HGDCC works with a network of more than 860 non-profits, 43,000 volunteers and a host of corporate and foundation partners to positively affect the region. The speaker is Matthew Crawford, Volunteer Coordinator.

January 15: *Being Alive and Having to Die: The Spiritual Odyssey of Forrest Church.* The late Rev. Forrest Church, pastor of All Souls Unitarian in New York City, was a leading national spokesperson on behalf of liberal religious values. His biographer, Dan Cryer, will discuss Church's personal struggles and contribution as a public intellectual.

January 22: *The Political Schism Regarding Marriage Equality: How to Put It in Perspective.* The "Respect for Marriage Act" would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and end federal discrimination against legally married same-sex couples. Governor O'Malley has stated his support for marriage equality in Maryland, while US House Republicans have moved to defend DOMA and three Republican presidential candidates have pledged to overturn gay marriage. Our speaker (TBA) will discuss where we are headed.

January 29: *Montgomery College.* College President Dr. DeRionne Pollard will discuss how the college provides an educated workforce that contributes to the

economy of the county, how the college can be a stepping stone to a 4-year degree and courses you might want to take in your retirement. The college has three campuses (Rockville—science & engineering; Germantown—biotechnology; and Takoma Park—health sciences & the arts), more than 60,000 students and 130 majors and programs.

Labyrinth Walks

New Year's Eve Candlelight Labyrinth Walk is on Saturday, December 31, 6 to 9 p.m. in the sanctuary. No registration. There is no charge, but donations are appreciated. For information contact Chris Mauro at chris.mauro42@gmail.com.

This year's **Winter Silent Retreat** is Friday to Saturday, January 20 and 21. Join us for a reflective January post-holiday and New Year renewal. The retreat begins on Friday evening with an ingathering service to set an intention for a time of inner reflection, and ends with shared thoughts and refreshments. In between, we read, write, walk, nap, meditate, and walk our labyrinth as the spirit moves each of us. Some of us sleep over at the church; others return in the morning. Some take the opportunity to fast; others bring their own food. Please join us! Register in the RE office. Pledgers: \$15; non-pledgers: \$20.

Connection Circles (CC) Want You

For a full description of all our Connection Circles, please refer to the *Adult Programs Fall 2011* brochure. There is a group for everyone! Questions can be sent to the RE office, or referred to the Rev. Heather Janules, hjanules@cedarlane.org.

To register: complete an Adult Programs Registration card and send it to the RE office. All CC participants register and pay a fee, Pledgers \$15; non pledgers \$20, one time per year.

Around the Church

Candles for New Babies/Children

Once again we will be lighting candles for the newly arrived children or grandchildren (born or adopted since December 24, 2009) of members of our congregation, during the December 24, 6 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Please let Susan Archer or the church office know of children born or adopted. You need not be present for us to celebrate your babe!

SAVE THOSE HOLIDAY CARDS!

Please save the cards that your family receives this holiday season and bring them to church in January.

They will be used for next year's Holiday Craft Day, particularly the Holiday Placemats, which were very popular this year. Look for the collection boxes in the lounge and at the admin table downstairs and drop them there. Thanks!

Are you interested in losing weight after the holidays? If so, why not join 15,000 others on the January Kickstart program. It starts Jan 2 and is completed by Jan 23. It is sponsored by the Physicians Committee For Responsible Medicine (PCRM) and is a free, 21-day plant-based weight loss program. You will receive weekly grocery lists, menus and recipes as well as daily emails with support and information on nutrition, research and correlation between diet and chronic disease including diabetes and heart disease. I followed this program in September with employees at a national nursing organization, and 86% reported a weight loss and the average drop in cholesterol was 24 points with three participants dropping 42, 49 and 59 points respectively. As you know there is a high correlation between cholesterol and heart disease. There are 2 books that are particularly helpful with this program: The 21 day Kickstart program (\$26) by Dr. Neal Barnard and the Food for Life Journal (12), which I co-authored with staff at PCRM. I am able to get both books for you for \$20 for those that are interested. If you would like more information about this program, I can meet with you after the service on Jan 1 in the Library. There is also information on the PCRM website at www.pcrm.org. For additional information about this program, please email me at joanneevans@verizon.net

There's still time to recognize a special friend or relative with a meaningful gift this holiday season through Alternative Giving: instead of buying another present, give a charitable contribution in someone's honor to one of the 11 organizations selected by Cedar Lane's International Concerns Committee. We have chosen a variety of causes that provide much needed and appreciated assistance to people in many different regions of the world. Contributions of any amount are welcome.

You can download this year's Alternative Giving catalogue and order form from the website. Just print out the order form, and bring it to the church office or mail it in with your check made out to CLUUC with "Alternative Giving" in the memo line. Questions? Please contact Annette Scarpitta (annette419@verizon.net) or Carol Bertaut (carol.bertaut@frb.gov) for more information. We can also email you a giftee enclosure if you do a mail-in order. Thank you for your generosity!

**Auction 2012 is a Passport to Adventure—
Help Make It a Success with Your Donation!**



Ready to set sail? Fly away? Hit the road? Look no further than the Cedar Lane Passport to Adventure auction on March 24, 2012. We will soon reveal the countries and cuisines that will be featured—and some of the vacation getaways you can bid on.

March 24 may seem far away, but it isn't too soon to think about what you would like to donate. All donations are welcome, but consider something that reflects the theme: hosting a dinner with an ethnic cuisine, a gift certificate from your favorite restaurant, a getaway at your vacation home, or taxi service to the airport. Donor forms are available on the Cedar Lane website. Just click on "Auction."

If you have questions, or would like to volunteer to be on the auction committee, contact auction co-chairs Mary Beth Nowinski at mnowin@aol.com or 301-949-9410, or Kate Harrison at 301-652-5018 or katekathie@gmail.com.

Social Justice Council

Presented by the *International Concerns Coalition* of the Social Justice Council...

**A Fundraiser and Silent Auction to fund couples literacy classes and orphanages in Afghanistan
January 13, 6:30 p.m., Cedar Lane Sanctuary**
Tickets are available in the lounge or by phoning Eleanor de Paola at 301-299-6236.

For the past 10 years, Cedar Lane volunteers have enabled hundreds of illiterate Afghan husbands and wives to gain literacy training in and around Kabul, through Kabultec. They do this by staging Kabultec's only full-fledged fundraising event, consisting of an authentic Afghan dinner and a lounge full of silent auction handmade items acquired from bazaars and women's cooperatives throughout Afghanistan.

The International Concerns Coalition is now seeking new volunteers to lead this exciting event into its second

decade. Interested in taking your Cedar Lane involvement to a leadership level for a very rewarding cause? We invite interested individuals to step forward and take over the management of this special annual event. If you are interested, please contact Annette Scarpitta at annettecedarlane@spamex.com or find her in the lounge. Mentor training will be provided during this year's event. Please help make sure January 13 is not the finale of this annual Cedar Lane tradition.

Introducing the 2011-2012 Maurer Scholarship Student

The Judi Maurer Scholarship Program provides tuition and fees for two semesters at Montgomery College for a student with financial need from Rockville High School.

The following personal statement was written by the current scholarship recipient:

“Hi. I'm Ayuasti Mursidi. I was born in a small country, Indonesia. I'm blessed by having a loving dad and mom who brought me here to the United States two years ago. By that short period of time, I've gained so many experiences. Good friends, good education through high school, has changed the introvert me into an outgoing person right now. I used to always think that going to the U.S., moreover to stay a long period of time will always be an endless adversity for me. However, I keep praying to God so that he would at least help my parents work and made it less painful for them to work on their ages. Yes, I'm blessed. Yes, God's work in us who believe in him is real. He made a way to help me with my education through the scholarship I got. I'm thankful that through the scholarship I don't really have to work that many times in my leisure times. God knows not only what I want but what I need.”

Environmental Task Force

Please visit our website for updated [GREEN TIPS!](#)

Beyond the Church

Immigration Issues: Arrest, Detention & Deportation

Saturday, January 28 9:30am - 3:30pm

*Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax
2709 Hunter Mill Rd. Oakton, VA 22124-1614*

Confused about the facts on immigration? No matter where you stand on immigration, much of what you believe may be wrong and almost certainly is incomplete. Unitarian-Universalists for Social Justice presents an all day workshop on Immigration Issues.

Church Administrator Position: The Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville (MD) is seeking an organized and energetic person to manage the administrative, facility, financial and information technology operations of the church. For more information, visit www.uucr.org

Cedar Lane News is printed monthly.
The next deadline is Wednesday, January 18 at noon.
Please submit to newsletter@cedarlane.org.

Editor: Sara Davidson Proofreader this issue: Nancy Derr

Cedar Lane Calendar for December 2011/January 2012

One-Time Events - All are welcome!

- December 24** Christmas Eve Services, 4:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m., Sanctuary
- December 25** Christmas Day Service, 10 a.m., Chapel
- December 31** New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk, 6 p.m., Sanctuary
- January 1** New Year's Day Service, 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- January 5** Auction Committee Potluck, 6 p.m., Chalice House Main Room
- January 13** Annual Afghan Dinner, 6 p.m., Sanctuary
- January 14** LGBT in Popular Media, 2 p.m., Library
- January 16** Action in Montgomery MLK, Jr. Retreat, 9:30 a.m., Chalice House
- January 20-21** Labyrinth Silent Retreat, 6 p.m., Sanctuary and Chalice House
- January 21-22** Youth Group Ski Trip, 9 a.m., Offsite
- January 26** Alliance Film Series, 10:30 a.m., Library
- January 28** Cedar Lane Brass Ensemble Benefit Concert, 6 p.m., Sanctuary

Regular Activities

- SUN:** Attitudes Toward Living: 2nd and 4th Sun 8:30 a.m. Chalice House Covenant Room
Worship Service: 9 a.m. Sanctuary
Religious Education: 9 a.m.
Cedar Lane in 6 Minutes: 10 a.m. Sanctuary
Second Sunday Signing: 2nd Sun after services Library
Sunday Morning Forum: 10:10 a.m. Chalice House Main Room
Senior Seminar 10:45 a.m. Chalice House Covenant Rm
Worship Service: 11 a.m. Sanctuary
Religious Education: 11 a.m.
Journey Women: 3rd Sunday 11 a.m. Room 7
Second Sunday Signing: 2nd Sun 12 p.m. Library
Community Lunch: 1st Sun 12:30 p.m. Chalice House Main Room
Grieving a Loved One Through the Holidays: 2nd Sunday 12:30 p.m. Chapel
- MON:** Science and Religion: 10 a.m. Library
Continuing Yoga: 5 p.m. Chalice House Main Room
Meditation: 7:30 p.m. Chalice House Main Room
Alliance Jewelry: 1st Mon 9:15 a.m. Room 30-31
Martha's Table Prep: 2nd Mon 7 p.m. Kitchen
Writing Memoirs: 1st and 3rd Mon 1 p.m. Room 1-2
Sharing Covenant Group: 3rd Mon 7:15 p.m. Chalice House Covenant Room

- TUE:** Just Sitting: 10 a.m. Chapel
Quilting: 10 a.m. Quilter's Room
Bridge: 10 a.m. Library
Heart to Heart: 2nd and 4th Tue 2 p.m. Chalice House Covenant Room
Beginning Yoga: 7 p.m. Chalice House Main Room
Gruppo Piccolo: 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary
Partner Church: 1st Tue 7:30 p.m. Library
Personnel: 1st Tue 7:30 p.m. Room 1-2
Facilities: 1st Tue 7:30 p.m. Room 30-31
Finance: 2nd Tue 7:30 p.m. Library
AP Book Discussion: 3rd Tue 7:15 p.m. Library
Board of Trustees: 3rd Tue 7:30 p.m. Room 1-2
Raised Catholic: 3rd Tue 7:15 p.m. Chalice House Covenant Room
Philosophy Club: 1st and 2nd Tue 7:30 p.m. Room 12
- WED:** Martha's Table Prep: 2nd Wed 8:30 a.m. Kitchen
Pastoral Visitors: 2nd Wed 12:30 p.m. Library
Aging Support: 1st & 3rd Wed 1:15 p.m. Room 1-2
Adult Choir: 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary
RE Council: 1st Wed 7:30 p.m. Room 1-2
Member Services: 2nd Wed 7:30 p.m. Room 1-2
Adult Programs Committee: 3rd Wed 7:30 p.m. Room 1-2
- THU:** T'ai Chi: 10:30 Chalice House Main Room
Meaning of Ministry: 7 p.m. Library
A is for Aging: 2nd Thu 9:30 a.m. Library
Alliance Board Meeting: 3rd Thu 10 a.m. Rm 1-2
Alliance Film Series: 4th Thu 10:30 a.m. Library
Alliance Luncheon: 2nd Thu 11:30 a.m. Sanctuary
Cancer Support Group: 2nd and 4th Thu 2 p.m. Library
Children's Choir: 6 p.m. Sanctuary
Youth Choir: 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary
Connection Circles Steering Committee: 4th Thu 7 p.m. Room 1-2
Youth Handbell Choir: 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary
Stewardship: 2nd Thu 7:15 p.m. Room 1-2
SJC: 1st Thu 7:30 p.m. Library
Kiplinger: 1st Thu 7:30 p.m. Room 4
CLARITY: 2nd Thu 7:30 p.m. Chalice House Covenant Rm
Bell Canto: 8 p.m. Sanctuary
- FRI:** Library Committee: 10 a.m. Library
Alliance Book Group: 1st Fri 11 a.m. Room 1-2
Living with Mental Illness: 1st and 3rd Fri 1 p.m. Library
Friday Friends: 2nd and 4th Fri 1:30 p.m. Library
Racism: Then and Now: 3rd Friday 7:30 p.m. Library
- SAT:** Living by Rhyme and Reason: 2nd and 4th Sat 8 a.m. Chalice House Covenant Room
Men's Group: 2nd and 4th Sat 8 a.m. Library
Grounds: 2nd Sat 9 a.m. Room 30-31

NOTE: Please refer to the calendar on our website, <http://calendar.cedarlane.org>, for changes and updates to the church calendar.

CEDAR LANE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
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web site: www.cedarlane.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Rev. Evan Keely *Interim Senior Minister*
The Rev. Heather Janules *Associate Minister*
The Rev. Kenneth Torquil MacLean *Minister Emeritus*
The Rev. Roberta M. Nelson *Minister Emerita*
Dr. Henry Sgrecci *Director of Music*
Thomas Guthrie *Organist/Accompanist*
Bonnie Beavers *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Sara Deshler *Church Administrator*
Nancy Pellegrini *Intern Minister*

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

**Celebrate the Crafts of Afghanistan and Support Afghan Literacy and Orphanages
Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction**

Friday, January 13th, 2012 – 6:00 pm
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church
9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814
Tickets, \$50 per person

Featuring:

- Authentic Afghan dinner
- Keynote speaker Mr. Philip Poullada, who will report on his trip to Afghanistan and his work with orphanages and building of democracy
- Kabultec founder Nasrine Gross, 2011 activities
- Raffle of unique Afghan handicrafts (tickets, \$10)

Silent Auction to include:

- Afghan cooking class with Nasrine
- Hand-crafted items from large and small textiles to jewelry, pottery, woodcarving, and metal work-all from bazaars and women's groups throughout Afghanistan

Proceeds will support couples literacy classes and several orphanages in Afghanistan through Kabultec. Nasrine has been working on Afghan women's rights since 1996.

Reservation deadline is Wednesday, January 11, 2012, but tickets may sell out sooner.

Mail checks made out to "Kabultec" (a 501(c)3 organization) to:

Eleanor DePaola
7941 Inverness Ridge Rd.
Potomac, MD 20854-4010