



CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LIV, No. 12

February 5, 2008

Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

February 10, 2008

“Patriotism: A Call for a New Public Morality”

Leslie Kee

In their book, “The True Patriot,” Eric Liu and Nick Hanauer make the case for a common sense reclamation of American patriotism. Today’s sermon will explore this idea along with their call for a *language of purpose* so liberals can once again speak from their hearts about the greatness of our nation.

February 17, 2008

“The Unitarian Presidents”

Roger Fritts

Children five years old and up attend the first part of the service. We will look at Adams, Jefferson, Adams, Fillmore and Taft and ask the question “Could a Unitarian Universalist Become President in the United States Today?”

February 24, 2008

“The Gifts of Spiritual Companionship: Unitarian Universalist Pastoral Care and ‘Non-Anxious Presence’”

Heather Janules

Sunday Forum at 10:10 to 10:55 at the Chalice House

2/10 *One Nation Under the Constitution: Morality, Faith, and Politics in American Life* with Maryland State Senator Jamie Raskin.

2/17 *Unraveling the Family Farm: An Historical Perspective* with Cedar Lane Carrie Meyer, Ph.D., Author and Associate Professor of Economics, George Mason University.

2/24 *How Art Can Help in the Prevention of HIV/AIDS* with Franck DeRose, Director, The Condom Project

Let It Shine!

Cedar Lane's Auction is **Saturday, March 8**

What will YOU donate??

Please tell us! www.cedarlane.org/announce.html
Or pick up a form in the lounge on Sunday - we need you!

6 p.m. - Doors open for silent auction, buffet reception, wine and beer cash bar
8:30 p.m. - Live auction begins

Tickets \$30 - on sale in the lobby Sunday after each service, or call the CLUUC office.
Free childcare in the Chalice House by reservation only; contact maryefarrar@verizon.net

RAFFLE TICKETS \$15 each:

- Raffle 1: High Definition Large Screen TV! All the highly-coveted features for your entertainment needs! Value: \$1,200
- Raffle 2: 6 months of local organic produce from Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) - see www.spiritualfoodcsa.org. Your raffle ticket helps support Cedar Lane, organic farmers, and redemption of the planet! Value: \$850.
- Raffle 3: "50-50 CLUUC Bucks\$" - Split the pot with the church, and everyone goes home happy. Value: As high as you help make it!

All are welcome to join us for **Newcomer Talks** every Sunday after worship services.

Become a member of Cedar Lane UU Church at a Second Sunday Signing after services or by calling Kristin Grassel, Membership Coordinator, at 301-493-8300 ext. 205.

NOTES FROM THE MINISTERS

From Rev. Leslie Westbrook, Ph.D., LCPC

Notes from the Community Minister for Pastoral Counseling

Professional Unitarian Universalist ministry comes in three forms: some ministers primarily preach, some teach and some provide services to the community outside the walls of one particular congregation. I am an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister who specializes in providing pastoral counseling and psychotherapy to individuals and couples from around the Beltway. My work is called a Community Ministry. People consult with me when they are facing a rough patch in their lives, or when they are facing more difficult, ongoing emotional distress. I also supervise doctoral social work students and teach ministerial students at Meadville Theological School, a Unitarian Universalist seminary in Chicago. My credentials include a doctorate in clinical social work and a license as a clinical professional counselor in the State of Maryland. Cedar Lane endorses my work.

In January I taught a 30-hour graduate level course entitled "Human and Faith Development" to a class of 15 students, aged 28 to 66, at Meadville Theological School. In the Modified Residency Program, students come to Chicago for several weeks in January and take one to three courses. This enables them to keep their paying jobs back home while studying for the new ministerial vocation that beckons them in the future. Here at Cedar Lane, the Modified Residency Program enabled Archene Turner to become a minister.

The class studied human development from infancy through the last years of life. We talked about faith development and how it emerges and changes shape and content throughout the life cycle. Students brought in videotaped interviews of children, adolescents, adults and the elderly, all being interviewed about their life experiences, values and religious beliefs. The class talked about their own life experiences. The goal was to develop a reverence for the life journey of every human being.

I was impressed with the caliber of the students that Meadville is attracting. The students were bright, compassionate and engaged in their learning process. I think this bodes well for the future of our denomination and, even more important, for the service these ministers will provide to the members of our congregations. I was especially proud to do this as an endorsed community minister of Cedar Lane. Thank you, Cedar Lane.

From Susan Archer

Even in this cold, blustery and sometimes dreary mid-winter, there seems to be a continuing eruption of energy

throughout the halls and niches of Cedar Lane! The auction prelude is in full swing, we're gathering a busload for Lobby Day in Annapolis, our many social justice initiatives seem to be moving right along, there is a new array of great adult program choices listed for this new semester, the Boston Trip for our doughnut and fair trade coffee sellers (9th graders) is almost ready for launch, the Teacher Appreciation Dinner plans are nearing completion, some of our youth leaders have put together a Super Bowl Party at the church, there's a choir cabaret coming and oh, so much more!

So, it's not that easy to leave with so many good things happening, but I am indeed off on my sabbatical. It will be a time of renewal of mind, body and spirit. I admit that I am ready for it. And, I will miss the particular energy of this faith community, born of good will, good humor, commitment to justice, and a love of living. This is an amazing place!

During my time away I expect to visit Italy, Costa Rica and the Maritime Provinces of Canada, as well as to make a deeper acquaintance with local parks, preserves and the Chesapeake Bay. I will be reading and thinking about nature and the faith development of children. I will finish up my 4-year term (and a few uncompleted projects) as President of LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association), our continental professional organization. I will visit with my children and a number of old friends, too long neglected. But I also will be looking forward to coming back on August 1 and finding out all that has happened here, at home, at Cedar Lane! In the meantime, I send much love to each of you!

WE CARE

It is with sadness that we share the news that former Cedar Laner, **Betty Leibovici**, aged 94, died on January 3 at the Vantage House retirement community in Columbia, MD. There was a Service in Celebration of her Life on February 2 at Vantage House.

Good news! The three Cedar Laners who were receiving care at the Hebrew Home in Rockville – **Margy Wright (N21)**, **Millie Mader (N11)** and **Eric Metzger (N30)** – have all been discharged. We wish them continued healing as they return to their homes and loved ones.

A message from the Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association: One of our colleagues, **the Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt** has joined a three-person humanitarian delegation to Kenya. We ask that you hold Rev. McNatt, the entire [Unitarian Universalist Association-Unitarian

Universalist Service Committee] delegation and the people of Kenya in your prayers and meditations.

At the January 27 worship service, two Cedar Lane visitors were **Carol** and **Dave Covin**. Carol writes, "We were married in the Cedar Lane church [by the] Rev. William Moors on January 24, 1968, two days before my husband had to report for Basic Training... Because of the Army, we did not celebrate an anniversary together until we'd been married for three years... After 40 years of marriage, it seemed like a good way to mark the occasion by returning for a service at Cedar Lane."

Phoebe Pfaehler has permanently settled at Sunrise Asst. and Independent Living. Her new address is 19310 Club House Rd, Montgomery Village, MD, 20886-3029, part of **N45**. Phoebe can be reached at 301-330-5391 or 240-750-8935 (cell.)

If you know of someone in need of care, a visit, a phone call, good thoughts or a prayer, please notify Heather Janules, Assistant Minister, at ext. 204 or hjanules@cedarlane.org.

Child Dedications on Easter Sunday

In the Unitarian Universalist tradition, we welcome and celebrate the arrival of children into the world through a Ceremony of Dedication. This ceremony is a time for parents and loved ones to publicly declare their love and care for the child and for the congregation to affirm their participation in the child's growth into its unique personality. As we affirm that all are born without sin, this ceremony is not a baptism, but more a recognition of the sacred potential in all people and the responsibility of all to nurture the youngest in our community with the best we have to give.

As part of a celebration of new life, there will be a time to dedicate our community's children in our Easter service (March 23). If there is a little one in your family that has yet to be recognized and welcomed in this way and if you would like to have your child dedicated on Easter Sunday, please contact Assistant Minister Heather Janules at hjanules@cedarlane.org or at x204.

Thank You from the Capital Area Food Bank

In response to our donation of \$4,022 from our Christmas Eve collections, the Capital Area Food Bank sent us a letter. They write, "On behalf of the CAFB Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, I would like to thank the Cedar Lane UU Church for [your] recent, generous donation... Your commitment to our community enables us to continue serving the residents of the Metro Washington Area who are at risk of hunger. The CAFB serves more

than 700 non-profit partner agencies including food pantries, daycare and recreation centers, senior centers, faith-based organizations and homeless shelters... The CAFB helps feed over 385,000 people annually... It is a privilege to work with partners like Cedar Lane."

The complete letter is posted in the church office. Our community should feel proud of its long tradition of generosity!

BOARD STEPS

Notes from the January 15, 2008, meeting, by Nancy Janssen, chair (nancyjanssen@peoplepc.com; 301-588-1488)

Rev. Fritts has interviewed a potential ministerial intern for the 2008/2009 church year. The Board toasted Rev. Archer with best wishes for her sabbatical beginning in February. Congratulations to Rev. Turner who has received a grant to conduct the OWL program at Beacon House with Cedar Lane Stephen Colgan. Rev. Janules is giving a workshop at the JPD conference in March and continues to organize Cedar Lane's Denominational Affairs Committee.

Carol Bertaut, Chair, Finance Committee, reviewed our budget priorities for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. Top of the list is \$15,000 for phase 2 of 3 to close the gap on staff salaries. The Board approved the Finance Committee's recommendation for a 50/50 split with outside charitable organizations of the receipts from one Sunday a month's collection plate (excluding pledge donations). This 50/50 split will be on each 4th Sunday, now through June. The selected charity will be publicized in the preceding newsletter so that all anticipate it. The program will be evaluated in July.

What's your idea for a name more dynamic than "long-range" or "strategic" plan for envisioning Cedar Lane five years from now? The prize for the best suggestion may be yours! Meanwhile ... Cedar Lane pulsates with activity.

Please read the full minutes on the bulletin board in the lounge; prior minutes are in the library. Board meetings are open — do come — third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. in rooms 1&2.

AROUND THE CHURCH

“Save a Tree”; Copy from Tray 3!

Tray 3 of the copier in the church's Volunteer Room is now stocked with 8 ½ x 11 scrap paper. As a way to reduce our paper consumption, copy from Tray 3 when you are duplicating something that doesn't have to look fancy. Instructions for using Tray 3 are posted by the copier, and a box has been reserved to collect scrap paper for future use. (Hit '30' instead of '3' on the copier? Put the extra copies in the scrap paper box!)

A Day of Service and Celebration

Save the Date...and Help Make it Happen!

On May 18, Cedar Lane will celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of our building with a special service, including the performance of a musical piece commissioned in recognition of Dick Darne's 40 years of service to the congregation.

But the fun begins the day before, on May 17! A movement is afoot to organize a **Day of Service and Celebration** for that Saturday as a way to give back to the community that has hosted our spiritual home at the corner of Beach Drive and Cedar Lane and to draw attention to our vibrant community. The Day of Service would begin with a brief worship service. From there, Cedar Lane groups – either existing groups like covenant groups or We Care neighborhood groups or folks who haven't met before but want to work together – will go to pre-arranged project sites and give of their time and energy. We will then come back to Cedar Lane for a celebratory dinner and, perhaps, to hear an inspirational speaker to help us keep our momentum with this work.

Even before May 17 arrives, we need your help to...

Let us know if you have connections to any local agencies (schools, shelters, nursing homes, etc.) and suggestions for projects we could do with these organizations. Contact Heather Janules at hjanules@cedarlane.org or x204.

Volunteer to help cook the closing dinner. If you are a better cook than a fence painter, envelop stuffer or creek cleaner, contact Dinner Coordinator Leslie Kee (lkee@cedarlane.org; x301)

Join the planning committee for the celebration and reception on Sunday morning. If interested, contact Doug Mader at dmaderaia@aol.com.

Help raise seed money for this endeavor. If you can't serve on that day or wish to give both talent and treasure, please contact Heather Janules about how to donate.

There is much to celebrate about our fifty years at 9601

Cedar Lane. Thank you for all you do to keep our legacy of social justice, community service and liberal religious values alive!

Heather Janules, Assistant Minister

Deadline to Order Nameplates for Memory Wall

Do you have a loved one whom you would like to memorialize with a nameplate on the Memory Wall of the beautiful garden outside the Chalice House? He or she need not have been a member of the church. Orders for nameplates to be dedicated this spring need to be in the church office no later than Thursday, March 1.

For applications or information, contact Lyn Peters, Chair of the Memory Garden and History Committee, at 301-881-2872 or lyneters@verizon.net. The dedication of the newest nameplates on the Memory Wall will take place on Sunday, May 27, after the single church service.

Afghan Benefit Dinner

For Women's Rights and Literacy in Afghanistan, Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Featuring:

Authentic Afghan dinner

Silent auction of Afghan and Indian crafts

Tracy Wessler's Afghanistan through a slide show

Nasrine Gross: Report of Activities

Dinner tickets - \$ 40 per person

Raffle tickets - \$10 each

Proceeds will support couples literacy classes in Afghanistan. Nasrine is an Afghan-American woman who has been working on Afghan women's rights since 1996 and has been living in Afghanistan since 2001. Tracy Wessler is an engaged American who spent two weeks traveling around Afghanistan last year.

Deadline for reservations: Thursday, February 14, 2008

Make checks out to "Kabultec" (a tax-exempt, non-profit, 501 (3) (c) US organization)

Mail checks to: Eleanor DePaola

7941 Inverness Ridge Rd.

Potomac, MD 20854-4010

Questions? Call Eleanor at 301- 299- 6236

OpenDoor Housing Fund

OpenDoor is a tax-exempt, nonprofit Washington D.C. corporation organized for the purpose of raising money to finance affordable housing preservation and construction in the Washington metropolitan region.

OpenDoor accepts loans and grants from individuals and more than 300 banks, churches, foundations, and government entities. OpenDoor uses these grants and loans to create a pool of capital available to affordable housing developers at favorable terms.

OpenDoor Housing Fund was created in 2007 through the merger of the Unitarian Universalist Affordable Housing Corporation (UUAHC) and the Washington Area Housing Trust Fund (WAHTF). The merger of these two regional, established loan funds was effectuated to increase the impact and effectiveness of these organizations.

With \$17 million in assets, OpenDoor is the largest locally based revolving loan fund in the Washington metropolitan region. Through the fund, OpenDoor provides short-term loans to tenant associations, nonprofit, and for profit local housing providers. When the completed homes are sold or rented, OpenDoor's loan is repaid and the funds are available to be loaned out again. This operation is professionally run by a small group of dedicated people with very low overhead costs.

Two members of Cedar Lane, Linda Collyer and Perry Seiffert, have long been active with UUAHC and now OpenDoor and presently serve on their Board of Directors. The Cedar Lane Endowment Fund Committee has made a significant loan to OpenDoor and several of our members have made contributions or loans to the organization.

If you would like more information on OpenDoor Housing Fund and how you can make a contribution or a loan to this worthy organization, please contact Jay Schneider at 301-530-3575 or schneiderjay@verizon.net.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Notes

About 40 teachers and other Cedar Laners came to the **"Beyond Right and Wrong: Communicating Compassionately"** workshop on the nonviolent communication process. Teachers stayed for good conversation with one another and a cozy dinner. Thanks to Nancy Manning and her assistants for great food and preparing our dining space.

Remember our Awesome Sock Hop? *Slippin' and a-Slidin'* away with friends and family of all ages, great DJ, and fun music. Ages 1 to 99 are welcome! Saturday, February 9, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person; \$15 per family (to cover the cost of the DJ). Baked goods and beverages will be provided by the R. E. Council.

Susan's Sabbatical began on February 1. R. E. families

will receive a letter from her about upcoming R. E. opportunities as well as where to turn if you have questions about your children's religious education or any other questions you might normally bring to her.

Youth Notes

JUNIOR HIGH NOTES

This group is open to youth in grades 7 and 8. John Daniel and Megan Renner are the advisors.

New Junior High Activities: JH youth group activities this year so far have included the ski trip, a weekend caving trip, our annual retreat at Camp Tockwogh, rafting on the Shenandoah River, hiking on the Billy Goat Trail, movies at the mall and Manna food packing.

The Upcoming Winter/Spring Schedule will include a sleep-over with the sharks at the Baltimore Aquarium, the annual New York City sightseeing trip, another evening of Manna food packing, and possibly a spring fling at Camp Tockwogh. If you have ideas for future Junior High youth group activities, call one of the youth coordinators: John Daniel at 301-946-5509 or Megan Renner at 301-807-4963.

SENIOR HIGH NOTES

Senior High Youth Group activities are open to young people in grades 9 to 12 and meet the second session during R. E. time in Chalice House on the second Sunday of the month. Special Senior High Youth Group activities happen at non-Sunday morning times. Watch for information by email and snail mail. If youth are not receiving email notification and would like to, please send addresses to Archene Turner at 301-493-8300 x 205. On other Sundays, second session 11th and 12th grade youth continue senior high "Our Whole Lives," 10th graders with "Change the World" and 9th graders with "Coming-of-Age."

Upcoming events include

February 11: Senior High Youth Group has been invited to join other Maryland UUs to go to Lobby Day for Marriage Equality in Annapolis. We will meet in the Cedar Lane parking lot at 3:45 p.m. and travel by bus. This is an off-site excursion; we need signed permission forms. There is a small fee to cover the cost of the bus trip: \$15 per youth.

Opportunities for Youth in the Wider World:

April 3-5: *New York City:* See the UU-UN Office notice elsewhere in this newsletter.

June 26-July 13: *El Salvador:* For ages 16 (by June 1) and older with International Partners. Cedar

Laner Emma Vawter vouches for this as a wonderful opportunity to join other youth to help others in El Salvador. Although the deadline has passed, there are still some openings. For more information about this and later trips, go to www.InternationalPartners.org.

Cedar Lane and its Youth Packed a Quarter Million Food Items for Manna Food

Last week, the Junior High Youth Group packed 22 different items of non-perishable food in boxes to enable 144 needy Montgomery County families to fill their pantries with a few days' supply of groceries. Cedar Lane has a long tenure as a volunteer group at Manna Food Center, 20 years in fact, with the last 15 years being performed solely by the Junior High Youth Group. In that time our church has packed over 253,000 food items in more than 11,500 boxes, most by the hands of a hardy group of wonderful Junior High students. When you see these young people at church (some are now in Senior High or beyond), give them a pat on the back for their work that continues to be done so well. Our regular volunteer night is the fifth Tuesday in those months with five Tuesdays; since 2008 is a leap year, we have five packing dates and the next one is April 29th. Manna Food Center sees an increasing demand for food items to put in those boxes, so please remember to bring non-perishable food items from your home for the Blue Box by the Chapel door. Each week those items are taken to Manna to serve hard working people who find themselves in need of assistance despite their best efforts.

Young Adults (Ages 18-35)

The UU Young Adults of Maryland (UUYAM) group plans activities for local UU Young Adults. Visit to join the UUYAM email list and view schedule of upcoming events, or call Megan Renner with questions at 301-807-4963. For resources and information on Joseph Priestly District (JPD), Young Adult events, visit the JPD Young Adult Network at www.jpduuyan.org.

Join other Young Adults for Brunch on the second Sunday of each month. Meet in the vestibule at the back of the sanctuary 15 minutes after the end of the 11 a.m. service. We will car-pool to a local restaurant for lunch or brunch food and fellowship.

Adult Programs Notes

The Sunday Morning Forum meets from 10:10 to 10:55 a.m. in Chalice House.

February 10: *One Nation Under the Constitution: Morality, Faith and Politics in American Life.* Maryland State senator Jamie Raskin, a constitutional law professor at American University, will analyze the com-

plex inter-play of religion, politics and government in the United States today. Focusing on Gov. Romney's recent address, Senator Raskin will try to recover the true meaning of the separation of church and state. A member of the Senate's Judicial Proceedings Committee, he has written several books, including the bestseller *Overruling Democracy: The Supreme Court Versus the American People* and *We the Students*.

February 17: Cedar Laner, Carrie Meyer, will discuss her book, *Days on the Family Farm: From the Golden Age Through the Great Depression*, based on a set of farm diaries and ledgers from 1901 to 1944. Carrie's book provides a history of early twentieth century American agriculture, tracing the evolution of agriculture from horses to automobiles and tractors and presenting the business of commercial farming in the context of family and community life. In doing so, it unravels some of the mythology of the family farm. Carrie grew up on a farm in Illinois, completed her PhD. in economics at the University of Illinois and now teaches economics at George Mason University.

February 24 *Art Can Help in the Prevention of HIV/AIDS* with Franck DeRose, Director, The Condom Project. Government funding for condoms, the first line of defense against HIV/AIDS, dried up the first year of the Bush Administration (because they also prevent conception). Franck DeRose partners with local organizations around the world to make condoms accessible and to destigmatize their use through art and humorous videos. Stay after-wards to make a condom art pin!

The Adult Programs Committee is looking for new members! Come and share your life experience, avocations, and interests with this dynamic group of Cedar Laners. The APC offers 30 to 40 classes and seminars in the Fall and Winter/Spring sessions covering the topics of spiritual search; social, economic and political issues; personal development; and arts, literature, and hobbies. Look over the new Winter/Spring 2008 brochure and consider becoming part of this important and very enriching activity of Cedar lane. Course participation extends beyond the immediate congregation helping us reach out to the greater community. The committee meets once a month to share ideas and camaraderie. If you are interested in joining the Adult Programs Committee, contact Julie Offner at 301-562-8281.

The Winter/Spring Bright Pink Adult Programs Brochure was mailed to the congregation in early January. Additional copies are available on the church literature table and in the R. E. Office. You can also access the brochure from the Cedar Lane Web site. Register for classes in the R. E. office by mail or in person. Questions? Call Glenis Bellais at 301-493-8300 x207.

Classes Beginning Soon:

Thursday, January 7

Daytime T'ai Chi with Judith Duerk meets for nine Thursdays. Beginners: 10 to 10:55 a.m. Advanced Students: 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
FEE: Pledgers \$70; non-pledgers \$80

Saturday, February 16

Spiritual Cinema: Is it Ever Too Late to Follow a Dream? with Len Adler in the library, 7 to 9 p.m.
FEE: Pledgers \$2; non-pledgers \$5

Monday, February 18

Meditation Class with Carole Rogentine meets for eleven Mondays, 7:30 to 8:45 p.m.
FEE: Pledgers \$66; non-pledgers \$76

Tuesday, February 19

The Book Discussion Group with Marilynn Smith meets in the library on the third Tuesday of each month, 7:15 to 9 p.m.
FEE: Pledgers \$15; non-pledgers \$20

Saturday, February 23

Feng Shui with Jody Shapiro meets 10 a.m. to noon. Learn how to arrange your home and office spaces in a way that increases harmony and balance in your personal environment.

Covenant Groups meet regularly to share experiences, reflect upon them, and support one another in developing meaningful lives.

“Covenant Groups build friendships, one meeting at a time.”

What's Going On Here? What Calls You to Action? with Kathleen Reedy meets on alternate Wednesdays 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Connections with Nancy Janssen meets on the first and third Sundays at 12:15 to 2 p.m.

Attitudes Towards Living with John Gubbings and Pat Karlsen meets on the second and fourth Sundays, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Journeywomen with Barbara Gressman meets on the first and third Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Crones with Coralie Adler meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Living By Heart I with Perry Seiffert meets on the first and third Saturdays, 8 to 10 a.m.

Living By Heart II with Frances Dearman and Ellie Goodwin meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m.

Living By Heart III with Bob Harrison meets on the second and fourth Saturdays, 8 to 10 a.m.

The Sharing Group with Len Adler meets monthly on the third Mondays, 7:15 to 9 p.m.

Living Alone, Living with Loss with Catharine Kaufman, Maury Merkin and Heather Janules meets on the first and third Sundays, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Register for all the above classes and Covenant Groups with Glenis Bellais in the R. E. Office at 301-493-8300 x207 or gbellais@cedarlane.org.

New Member Welcome!

During Both services on Sunday, February 10, 2008

Thinking about becoming a member of Cedar Lane? Longtime friends and newcomers alike who wish to sign the book are invited to participate in the New Member Welcome. This is a joyous occasion in the life of the church when the congregation and ministers recognize new members of Cedar Lane during worship. Participants will be invited to come forward, light a candle, and receive a chalice pin. The welcome will occur towards the beginning of each service so that children can be welcomed with their parents and still attend most of the R. E. classes. A reception for new members will directly follow each service in the library.

Contact Kristin at kgrassel@cedarlane.org, or 301-493-8300 ext. 305 with any questions, and please indicate which service you plan to attend.

Important Opportunity for Adults and Teenagers:

UU United Nations Office invites you to the Annual Intergenerational Spring Seminar, April 3 to 5, 2008, UN Headquarters, New York City, to address international efforts to achieve sustainable peace and discuss the importance of peace in our UU faith. Keynoters will include the former ambassador to Kenya and Guatemala, UUA President Bill Sinkford and others. Participants will look at case studies for peace building and will develop action plans. There is a competitive application for youth and youth advisors; adults are first come, first served.

Ninth Graders are selling fair trade coffee and chocolate on Sunday mornings! Please stop by the doughnut table. Purchases help to improve the economy for small-scale farmers in Asia, Latin America, Africa and the U.S. They also help our kids raise money to get to Boston to learn about their UU roots! A real win-win! (And the youth truly need your support as their departure date of March 28 draws closer!

Join other Young Adults for Brunch on the second Sunday of each month - meet in the vestibule at the back of the sanctuary 15 minutes after the end of the 11:00 a.m. service. We will carpool to a local restaurant for lunch or brunch food and fellowship.

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Next Book Club Meeting February 19, 7:15 p.m. in the library. We will discuss the non-fiction book, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace*, by Mortenson & Relin. All are welcome. For more information, call Marilynn Smith (301-530-4746).

LGBT Task Force Activities at CLUUC

The SJC and the LGBT Task Force have chartered a **bus for LGBT Lobby Day in Annapolis on Monday, February 11.** The bus will leave the Cedar Lane parking lot promptly at 4 p.m. We are planning to participate in a rally at Thurgood Marshall Square, visit with our elected representatives, and return to Cedar Lane by 9 p.m. Bus tickets can be purchased at the SJC Sunday morning lounge table. For those Cedar Laners not able to join Lobby Day in person, Equality Maryland "Civil Marriage is a Civil Right" post cards will be available for signing at the lounge table. Information about Lobby Day issues and activities is available at www.equalitymaryland.org.

Partner Church Scholarship Donors: Come to a Party in Your Honor on Sunday, February 23, from 3 - 5 p.m. in the Lounge.

Enjoy dessert and coffee with us and learn more about our current scholars in Transylvania and about how they are faring this year. You will learn what Rev. Nagy tells us about the costs and procedures of getting an education in Transylvania. All interested people are welcome.

Spring calendar information

Sunday afternoon, April 6, the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington will present a family concert at Cedar Lane. Specific information will be available soon., we invite you to save the date for this special musical opportunity.

LGBT Related Events Beyond Cedar Lane

Just Desserts 2008. Join Equality Montgomery County for their third annual evening of free fun, food, and friendship at Glenview Mansion in Rockville, MD on Saturday, February 9 (8-11 PM). For directions call 240-314-5004. For additional information about Equality Montgomery County visit www.emcq.org.

Reminder from the Administrator

For those of you interested in earning miles while paying your pledge, we are now able to accept contributions made by credit card. You may contribute to Cedar Lane by going to www.networkforgood.org.

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, March 8, 6 p.m.

Cedar Lane Auction

Tickets \$30 - on sale in the lobby Sunday after each service, or call the CLUUC office. Free childcare in the Chalice House by reservation only; contact maryefarrar@verizon.net

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- Raffle 2: 6 months of local organic produce from Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) - see www.spiritualfoodcsa.org. Your raffle ticket helps support Cedar Lane, organic farmers, and redemption of the planet! Value: \$850.
- Raffle 3: "50-50 CLUUC Bucks\$" - Split the pot with the church, and everyone goes home happy.

Cedar Lane News is published biweekly, September through June and monthly in July and August by Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church.
9601 Cedar Lane Bethesda, MD 20814.
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www.cedarlane.org

We request copy be sent via e-mail to newsletter@cedarlane.org.
The next deadline is **noon, Wednesday, February 13, 2008.** Editor this issue: Nancy Derr.

Value: As high as you help make it!

Afghan Benefit Dinner

For Women's Rights and Literacy in Afghanistan Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008,

6:30 p.m., Cedar Lane UU Church

Dinner tickets \$40 per person; Raffle tickets \$10 each

* *Authentic Afghan dinner* * *Silent auction of Afghan and Indian crafts* * *Tracy Wessler's Afghanistan through a slide show* * *Nasrine Gross: Report of activities*

Proceeds will support couples literacy classes in Afghanistan. Nasrine is an Afghan-American woman who has been working on Afghan women's rights since 1996 and has been living in Afghanistan since 2001. Nasrine will update everyone on how Afghan women are faring. Deadline for reservations: Thursday, February 14, 2008

_ Make checks out to "Kabultec" (a 501(3)(c) organization)

_ Mail checks to: Eleanor De Paola, 7941 Inverness Ridge Rd., Potomac, MD 20854-4010

_ Questions? Call Eleanor at 301-299-6236

Please bring a packet/packets of vegetable seeds for the widows' gardens in Afghanistan, if possible.

CEDAR LANE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

9601 CEDAR LANE, BETHESDA, MD 20814-4099

301-493-8300 fax: 301-897-5713 e-mail: office@cedarlane.org

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