



CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LV, No. 11

December 23, 2008

Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

December 28, 2008 10 a.m. only “Headache Spells and High Resolve”

Pam Gehrke

Many people in our American culture would say belief in reward and punishment after death is necessary to maintaining morality. In contrast, Howard Thurman’s heart whispers, “keep fresh before me the moments of my high resolve.” Beginning with a story of a Chinese folk hero, the Monkey King, we will consider how religious tradition can guide us in making moral choices.

January 4, 2008 “Can We Make the New Year Happier?”

Roger Fritts

The research on happiness continues to fascinate me. For example, a review of 850 research papers concluded, “the majority of well-conducted studies found that higher levels of religious involvement are positively associated with indicators of psychological well-being.” In addition, Republicans are more likely than Democrats to state that they are “very happy.” The sermon will look at happiness in 2009.

January 11, 2008 “Setting Limits With Others”

Roger Fritts

Rev. Margaret Gooding wrote, “Unitarian Universalism bases its theology on two main premises. First, human beings have within themselves the potential ability to guide their own lives *within the limits* imposed by a sometime ordered, sometimes chaotic, world. Second, this world is one of interdependence. Ours is a religion that stresses individuality and

interaction. Reason and love come together here, moving us toward wholeness.”

The Sunday Morning Forum meets 10:10 to 10:55 a.m. in the Chalice House. Coffee is served.

- 1/4 *Peacemaking: A Draft Unitarian Universalist Statement of Conscience.* A discussion moderated by **David Devlin-Foltz** and sponsored by the Denominational Affairs Committee and Social Justice Council.
- 1/11 *Between the U.S. and China: Japan, Korea, and Taiwan in U.S.-China Relations,* with **Thomas McNaugher**, Senior Principal Researcher at the Rand Corporation
- 1/18 *Homosexuality and Islam* with **Brother Daayiee Abdullah**, former Board Member, Al-Fatiha, a progressive Muslim organization

You Are Cordially Invited

to a

Retirement Celebration

for

Glenis Bellais

Sunday, January 25, 2009

During and following the Worship Services
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church

Contributions towards a retirement gift and the receptions are encouraged. Please make checks out to **CLUUC**, with “Glenis” in the memo section, and send to the church.

Notes from the Ministers

Roger Fritts

“Burning bowl” ceremonies are popular around New Years. Participants write down regrets or negative thoughts and burn them as a way to let them go. It helps in the process of letting go of the past and starting over with a fresh vision.

If you want to try this, be sure the bowl that you use is fireproof. Put a candle in the bowl, making sure it is secure. After lighting the candle flame, take two sheets of paper - one sheet of paper is for writing down the old things you want to let go of and the second sheet of paper is for writing down your vision for your life in the coming year, your new year’s resolutions.

Burn the list of the things that you want to let go of, and keep the list of things that are your vision for 2009. I call this list my “new day” list of resolutions because I do better setting goals for the day instead of the year.

You can end this New Years ritual with a prayer. I like this one by the Rev. Joan Montagnes. On New Years day:

Above all else, take time to pray, think, and meditate.
Take time to realize that we are all connected,
The wealthy are connected to the poor,
The races are connected to each other,
And all of humanity is connected to the earth.
Take time to realize that we are responsible,
To be honest with ourselves,
To act justly in relations with others,
And to use only what we need.
The world is a beautiful, fragile jewel hanging in space,
Each one of us is a shining facet.
May we learn to appreciate this aspect of ourselves and
of others. So be it.
Blessed be and amen.

We Care

It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of long-time Cedar Lane member **Ellie Chrisman**, who died on December 8. Ellie had recently moved to Texas to be closer to her family. We will be sure to let the community know once a memorial service is scheduled.

We celebrate with Cedar Lane friends **Vanessa Jones** and **Michael Randel** as they welcome Felix Patrick Randel into the world. Felix was born November 21 and

is a younger brother to **Stella**. Hooray for the whole family!

Our hearts go out to **Tim** and **Barb Warman (N31)** and their family as they mourn the death of Tim’s father, Lynn Warman, who died on December 6 at the age of 80 after struggling with Alzheimer’s Disease.

Congratulations to **the Cedar Lane Memoir Group** for the publication of their 10-year anniversary anthology, “A Morning in February and Other Stories.”

Healing wishes are with **Pete Koltnow (N27)** as he recovers from intensive back surgery at Manor Care in Potomac. The surgery was a success, and Pete is due home in a couple weeks.

It is with joy that we announce that **Amanda Goodwin (N25)** is graduating from high school at Bromley Brook School in Manchester, Vermont.

We celebrate with **Catharine Kaufman (N11)** and **Harvey Edward** as Harvey and Catherine were married on December 13 before their immediate family in the Cedar Lane chapel. Many blessings on the years ahead!

We rejoice with **Mary Feltenstein (N8)** and her family as she celebrates her 90th birthday. Congratulations!

If you know of anyone in need of a pastoral visit, a call or a prayer, please contact Minister for Pastoral Care Heather Janules at x204 or hjanules@cedarlane.org.

Music Notes From the Interim Director of Music

What a fantastic musical feast we are enjoying during the days leading up to Christmas!

On December 21, Chris Mauro brought his African drum to church and assisted the Adult Choir in the Nigerian Carol, *Betelehemu*. What fun to see the choir moving in rhythm and singing of the birth of “Jesu.”

The Youth groups are front and center at the 4:30 and 6 p.m. worship services on Christmas eve. The Handbell Choir will ring the preludes “O Come, Little Children” and “Good King Wenceslas.” The Youth Choir will sing “Christmas is Here,” Gloria, Gloria, Hodie!” and a very catchy arrangement called “Rockin’ in Bethlehem” based on the traditional tune *O Happy Day*.

The 10:30 worship service offers the culmination of two months of preparation as the Adult Choir sings the Cedar Lane premier of Daniel Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata," with organ and brass ensembles. The loft will be ablaze in sound as the Choir, guest brass ensemble and Thom Guthrie at the console, present seasonal songs and carols for all to sing.

On December 28, Ken Kreider will perform preludes by Debussy on his clarinet and Susan Clark will sing *Gesu Bambino*. On January 4, the Choir will return with Gruppo Piccolo singing the New Year carol, *What Cheer? Good Cheer!*

From Henry, Thom, the Adult Choir, the Handbell Choir, the Youth Choir, and its accompanist, Susannah Vesey; we wish you a Joyful Christmas and a New Year of Peace and Good Will.

PS . . . is there a soprano, alto, tenor, bass, or child in your family who has untapped musical talent? Consider starting the New Year in fine fashion by joining one of our outstanding musical ensembles. Email Henry Sgrecci at hsgrecci@cedarlane.org or call 301/493-8300 to inquire.

Religious Education Notes

Martin Luther King Sunday: Sunday, January 18.

We are trying something different this year! Children and youth in grades 4 and up will attend the service with their families in the sanctuary, led by Heather Janules. Children grades K-3 will have a special chapel with Susan followed by related activities with her downstairs. Child care provided for babies and preschoolers.

Family Letter Coming: Watch the mail in early January for a letter to R. E. families with information about all the special events and activities for the remainder of the R. E. year.

Upcoming Dates

December 28: 10 a.m. – One service only; no R. E.; no child care

January 4: R. E. classes resume

January 18: Martin Luther King Sunday, no regular classes; children/youth grades 4 and up attend service; grades K-3 have a celebration and related activities with Susan.

May 29-31: Intergenerational family retreat at Camp Tockwogh

Youth Notes

The Ski Trip To WISP is January 9 to 11. We have

61 registered for the trip. Please make sure you have all your paperwork and payments submitted to the R. E. Office.

Junior High Notes

Junior High R. E. classes for grades 7 and 8 meet at 9 and 11 a.m. The Junior High Youth group is open to youth, grades 7 and 8. John Daniel and Kimberly Clarkson are the advisors.

Manna Food Packing is on Tuesday, December 30; usual routine: pizza in Kensington, packing at Manna, and return around 8:30. As you know, Manna's client count has gone up 40 percent over last year. So they really need our help in the holiday season. An announcement will be emailed.

Upcoming Events

December 30: Manna Food Packing

January 9, 10 and 11: Ski Trip to Wisp Resort

Questions? Call youth group coordinators John Daniel at 301-946-5509 or Kimberly Clarkson at 301-587-3051.

Senior High Notes

Senior High R. E. classes, grades 10 to 12, meet at 11 a.m. Sunday mornings. Grade 9 R. E. classes meet at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Senior High Youth Group activities are open to young people in grades 9 to 12. Activities happen at non-Sunday morning times as much as possible. Watch for information by e-mail and snail mail. If youth are not receiving e-mail notification and would like to, please send addresses to Archene Turner at 301-493-8300 x 205 or aturner@cedarlane.org or archene@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

January 2: **Home for the Holidays 7 to 9 p.m.** We will host recent graduates of the Senior High Youth Group in the library while they are home for the holidays – just to catch up with old friends.

January 4: **Hang out time after 2nd session. Noonish til about 1:30 p.m.** We will eat pizza and hang out.

January 9-10: **"Rekindling Social Justice at Cedar Lane: Moving from Concern to Action"**

Friday, January 9: 6 - 9 p.m. Dinner followed by Kick-off Plenary.

Saturday, January 10: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Large and small group workshops. Senior high youth not going on the ski trip are encouraged to participate.

January 9-11: Ski Trip at Wisp Resort. This annual junior and senior high youth group event will be as exciting as ever.

Young Adults (Ages 18 to 35)

The UU Young Adults of Maryland (UUYAM) group plans activities for local UU Young Adults. Visit <http://uuyam.uuyan.org> to join the UUYAM email list and view schedule of upcoming events, or call Tama Yarina with questions at 906-281-2537 or tryarina@gmail.com. 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: 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 and fellowship.

Adult Programs Notes

Register for the adult programs of your choice on your adult programs card; attach your check and mail or bring it to the R. E. office.

January Classes and Seminars

January 5: Introduction to Meditation Class with Carole Rogentine and Catherine Brousseau meets January 5, 12, 19, 26; and February 2, 7:30 to 9 p.m. The course will include instruction in meditation, mindfulness practice and gentle movement. Vipassana, or Insight, meditation emphasizes a calm, centered awareness of mind and body, leading to a fresh perspective on oneself, others and life.

FEE: Pledgers \$30; non-pledgers \$40

January 7: A History of Europe As Seen Through its Art with Ken Jones meets January 7, 14 and 21, 7 to 9 p.m. This class is based on Sir Kenneth Clark's video series on the history of European civilization as seen through its art. The class will review and discuss the first half of the series. After a brief introduction, the class will watch a chapter and share thoughts and experiences.

FEE: Pledgers \$15; non-pledgers \$20

January 10: Inside Prayer with Susan Archer meets January 10, 17, and 24, 10 a.m. to noon. For Unitarian Universalists the meaning of "prayer" is as diverse as our ideas about god and other theological beliefs. Practice of prayer includes meditation, mantras, explicit prayers of thanks and petition, and even no prayer at all. The group will explore some forms of prayer and the meaningfulness of prayer in our personal lives.

FEE: Pledgers \$15; non-pledgers \$20

January 23: Cedar Lane's Annual Silent Retreat with Heather Janules meets on Friday evening, January 23, 6:30 p.m. through Saturday, January 24 at 6 p.m. Join us for a reflective 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 reflections and refreshments on Saturday. In between, we read, write, nap, or meditate and walk our labyrinth as the spirit moves each of us. Some of us sleep over in the church; some of us fast; some of us choose not to. Please join us!

FEE: Pledgers \$15; non-pledgers \$20

If you have questions or would like to register for a class be in touch with Glenis Bellais at 301-493-8300 x207 or email her at gbellais@cedarlane.org.

The Sunday Morning Forum. meets in Chalice House on Sundays, 10:10 to 10:55 a.m.

January 4: Peacemaking: A Draft Unitarian Universalist statement of Conscience. A discussion moderated by **David Devlin-Foltz** and sponsored by the Denominational Affairs Committee and the Social Justice Council. The Unitarian Universalist Association is completing a 3-year process to help the denomination understand and act on the issue of peacemaking. Delegates to the next General Assembly in Salt Lake city in June will vote on whether to adopt a Statement of Conscience on this issue as UUA policy. Please join other Cedar Laners to discuss the draft statement. It is also available on the UUA and Cedar Lane Websites and at the SJC table in the lounge.

January 11: Between the US and China: Japan, Korea, and Taiwan in U.S.-China Relations. We think of the US-China relations largely in terms of the interaction between the two countries. Yet in many ways the relationship will be shaped by how these two large powers deal with key countries lying between them – Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. Each country presents its own set of challenges to U.S.-China relations, yet, in some ways they are linked to each other. The interactions get even more complicated in a period of sharp economic downturn like the one we face now. Starting with issues associated with each country, Our speaker, **Thomas McNaugher**, will draw out the links among them, and from there highlight challenges to U.S. policymakers. Dr. McNaugher is a Senior Principal Researcher at the RAND Corporation who many will remember gave an interesting talk at our Forum 2 years ago.

January 18. Islam and Homosexuality. Brother Daayiee Abdullah, former Board member and informal religious advisor to Al-Fatiha, an organization dedicated to Mus-

lims who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, those exploring or questioning their sexual orientation or gender, identity, and their allies, families and friends. Al-Fatiha promotes progressive Islamic notions of peace, equality, and justice, and it envisions a world that is free of prejudice, injustice and discrimination, where all people are fully embraced and accepted into their faith, their families and their communities.

Connection Circles (former covenant groups)

Connection circles provide spiritual inspiration that gives me energy to keep going.

Anonymous

Register for the groups listed below with Glenis Bellais at 301-493-8300 or Gbellais@cedarlane.org. These groups are open to new members:

Connections with Nancy Janssen meets on the first and third Sundays at 12:15 to 2 p.m. Nancy would like a few more members.

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 Mary Beth Nowsinski meets on the first and third Saturdays, 8 to 10 a.m.

Living By Heart II with Frances Dearman 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 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Gratitude, Wonder and Slumber with Heather Janules meets on the first and third Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m.

congregation. For the next several weeks the Member Services Committee will be in the lounge after Sunday services to schedule times for individuals and families to have their pictures taken at the church. Better yet, sign up online today to reserve an appointment time that best fits your schedule. Everyone is encouraged to participate (www.signup.olanmills.com)

Questions? Contact Kristin Grassel, Membership Coordinator, 301-493-8300 ext. 305. Also, please contact Kristin if you have any digital pictures of Cedar Lane events you would like to share with the directory design team. **The directory won't be complete without you!** (grassel@cedarlane.org)

Celebrating Glenis: We are planning a celebration on January 25 of the almost 4 decades Glenis Bellais has served the church as R. E. administrator. If you would like to write a note to be included in a memory book for Glenis, look for the note cards in a basket in the rear of the sanctuary and on the R. E. administration desk in the main office during the week. If you would like to make a monetary contribution towards a gift and reception, please send a check made out to CLUUC with "Glenis" in the memo section.

Where Will They Lay their heads follow up: In August, I preached a sermon entitled "Where Will They Lay their Heads?" about the plight of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) homeless youth. I said I'd like to convene a meeting in the fall to see what our Cedar Lane family can do. The fall has passed, but many in the surrounding area have been pondering the same question. It's always amazing to me how the universe works to answer prayers.

On December 15, Equality Maryland and Hearts & Homes For Youth, Inc. hosted a roundtable to discuss developing Maryland's first residential home for LGBT youth, and I and other Cedar Laners were there. Unitarian Universalists were the only voiced religious tradition in the house! I looked around the room and while my heart was elated with the response from adults, I was saddened that only a few youth were there.

It was clear to me there needs to be a forum where LGBT & ally youth can voice what they feel the critical areas are to their life. Cedar Lane will host a LGBT & ally youth summit on April 18 to give our young people an opportunity to have this discussion. Our first planning meeting for the event will take place January 6 at 6 p.m. in Room 1-2 and I hope to see you there!

Book Release Party

The Cedar Lane Memoir Group is pleased to announce the publication of their new anthology, "A Morning in

Around the Church

Blood Drive

Cedar Lane is again hosting a blood drive in the Sanctuary, Monday, January 5 from noon - 6 p.m. Please call **1-800-GIVE-LIFE** to schedule your appointment.

New Picture Directory

The Member Services Committee is excited to announce plans for the creation of a new Picture Directory of the

February and Other Stories." Copies are available on Sundays after church services for a \$5.00 donation.

The anthology celebrates the group's 10-year anniversary. Memoirs explore a range of authors' personal experiences, from car trips to depression-era cats, cooking oatmeal in secret in a concentration camp, having dinner with the Dalai Lama, bargaining for reduced prices in Vietnam, cattle judging in Wyoming, and surviving the Great Flood of 1937. The 15 contributing authors are: Coralie Adler, Dorothy Bothe, Nancy Dayhoff, Frances Vick Dearman, Jolande de Levie, Delilah Stokes Foster, Cathy Kalbacher, Janice Krause, Dick Menzer, Evelyn S. Myers, Neysa Ojalvo, Margaret (Peg) Hanna Peterson, Wilma Phillips, Phyllis Richter, and Cherry Wunderlich.

Everyone is invited to a Book Release Party! Please plan to join us on Sunday, January 18 at 12:30 in the Cedar Lane library for refreshments and to celebrate with the authors. The group, which meets twice a month on Monday afternoons, is currently seeking to add two new members. If interested, please see a current member for more information, or join us for the Book Release Party on January 18.

Can You Hear Me Now? Improvements to the Sanctuary sound system are now installed. There are 10 new loudspeakers—four in the main sitting area, two above the choir loft and four in the lobby below the choir. Two multi-directional microphones are on the lectern and improved cordless mikes have been acquired. The one main speaker in the Sanctuary, which was believed to be 50 years old, was suffering from paper fatigue, and directed toward the choir not the audience; one of the two choir loft speakers burned out; and the two speakers under the choir loft were discovered to be intended for office paging.

Designing a sound system has been tricky since the Sanctuary is acoustically very "alive" with many flat and smooth surfaces for sounds to bounce off. The new mikes should pick up soft voices of diminutive speakers, tall baritones, and speakers who tend to miss speaking into the old single microphone altogether. The improved placement of the loudspeakers also minimizes feedback, the unpleasant effect when a microphone picks up the sound from the loudspeaker. Our volunteer audio operators may need to tweak the controls over the next few Sundays to optimize the sound quality and attend to other expected issues. If you have questions about the new system, please speak to one of our operators—we can use your personal feedback.

Cedar Lane Stage

Cedar Lane Stage celebrated its 50th anniversary here at Cedar Lane UU Church in October with the production "The Vertical Hour" by David Hare. We are looking forward to our May 2009 production of Moliere's *Tartuffe*. Cedar Lane Stage is looking for a publicist to help increase our audiences. This is a contract position per show. If you are interested, please contact Dick Messalle at 301-681-5069.

"Dragged Kicking and Screaming into Heaven": Great sermon title! It should be a great sermon. Mark your calendar for **February 8**, when **Reverend Mark Morrison Reed** will deliver the pledge drive sermon. That Sunday promises great music and a great time to be had by all as we make our pledges and celebrate together with brunch after each service.

Join the Pledge Drive Committee for Stewardship Training: January 17

The most effective way to conduct a pledge drive is through personal conversations—short conversations that can be conducted in a variety of venues. It may take a different way of thinking about money, and it certainly takes a different way of asking for money. We at Cedar Lane are in the early phases of developing a comprehensive stewardship program. Stewardship is about more than raising money for the annual budget: it also includes good works, ministry, joyful giving, and stewardship education. We will begin stewardship education with a half day of training January 17, 9 a.m. to noon, and you are invited to stay for a great lunch! Members and friends may sign up for this free training in the lounge after services on Sundays, now through January 11. The training is based on *Beyond Fundraising, the Complete Guide to Congregational Stewardship*, by Wayne Clark, who writes, "Money is most meaningful when we can move from a mindset of needing it to pay the bills to a conversation about the importance of money to fulfill the ministry of the congregation." We hope that those who complete the training will agree to be visiting stewards, to have stewardship conversations with two other people at Cedar Lane, but there is no obligation to do so. We do ask that if you can spare the time to learn a new way of thinking about money, and a way to be more comfortable talking about it, that you will join us. If you have questions, please feel free to contact members of the Pledge Drive Committee: Susan Clark at songsue@aol.com, John Daniel at johndaniel@comcast.net, or Nancy Janssen at nancyjanssen@peoplepc.com.

Lend a Hand

I received an email from a friend who is a Unitarian Universalist (UU) and drives middle school youth to school in the area on a school bus. I met this friend when

we were both members of the board of Sojourner Truth Congregation years ago, created to be an intentionally diverse, multicultural UU congregation. The students that she drives go to Key Middle School, and a fair number of them are in the foster care system. Some of them have no winter jackets so she asked if Cedar Lane could help. She thought it would be nice if we could donate gently used or new coats this season as the temperatures fall. The boys and girls are 10 to 13 years of age and come in all sizes, so as you go out shopping to return a gift or pick up a new one, please consider picking up a jacket for those who have none.

Rev. Archene Turner

Cedar Lane New Orleans Work Trip Needs YOU!

Plans are in the works for a trip to New Orleans to help with on-going recovery efforts. Cedar Lane members are joining Rebuilding Together-Montgomery County to rehab homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Both skilled and un-skilled workers are welcome! The trip will run from Feb 8 to 14. Workers are only responsible for air fare as room and board are covered by a local charity. INTERESTED PEOPLE SHOULD SIGN UP SOON. For more information or to learn how to join us, please contact Heather Janules at x204 or hjanules@cedarlane.org or New Orleans veteran Mike Burski at mga1960@earthlink.net.

Save these Dates:

- December 31: New Year’s Eve Candle Labyrinth Walk
- January 9 to 10: Social Justice Empowerment Workshop
- February 8: Mark Morrison-Reed: Pledge Drive Speaker
- March 21: Auction

Social Justice Council

50/50 Collection for Christmas Eve

The Cedar Lane offering on Christmas Eve will be shared with Shepherd’s Table in Silver Spring, which has provided support to the homeless since 1983. They currently face a shortage of funds at a time when there is a 47 percent increase in demand for their services. Last November they served 3200 meals, this November they served 4700. They are seeing a lot of new faces coming through their doors. Please give generously.

✪GREEN TIPS✪

Environmental Task Force

THE DIRTY ALMOST DOZEN

Top 10 produce you should buy organic because non-organic types contain too many pesticide residues:

- 1. Peaches
- 2. Apples
- 6. Strawberries
- 7. Cherries

- 3. Bell Peppers
- 4. Celery
- 5. Nectarines
- 8. Lettuce
- 9. Grapes (imported)
- 10. Pears

<http://www.foodnews.org/walletguide.php>

LGBT Task Force News at CLUUC and Beyond

Save the Date: Equality Maryland's 2009 LGBT Lobby Day in Annapolis—Monday, February 2. The Cedar Lane LGBT Task Force is working on a plan to repeat last year's successful Cedar Lane Lobby Day Bus opportunity. Bus tickets will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings during January at the SJC table in the Lounge. For current Lobby Day information, visit www.equalitymaryland.org. LGBT-related issues in focus for the upcoming legislative session will be marriage equality for same-sex couples and the addition of gender identity and expression to the state's non-discrimination laws.

The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington

(LGCW) will be presenting its 25th Anniversary Concert at the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church on January 24 and 25. Visit www.lgcw.org for concert details. On Sunday, February 1, the LGCW will be coming to Cedar Lane to provide the music for our morning worship services.

Rekindle Social Justice at Cedar Lane

Register in the lounge or www.cedarlane.org or email betsy@devlin-foltz.com for our free workshop/lunch at Cedar Lane on Saturday, Jan. 10, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Come also, please, to the optional Friday night, Jan. 9 “warm-up” dinner briefing, if possible.

This wide-open discussion will be guided by two very professional UUA facilitators!

We need your freshness, your ideas and your

And Beyond Cedar Lane

Randy Pausch Named Beliefnet's "Most Inspiring Person of 2008"

December 11, 2008. Randy Pausch, the Unitarian Universalist computer science professor who authored "The Last Lecture," has been selected as Beliefnet's "Most Inspiring Person of 2008." Pausch, who taught at Carnegie Mellon University and was a member of the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh,

delivered "The Last Lecture," which became a video sensation and later, a best-selling book. Pausch died of pancreatic cancer in the summer of 2008, leaving his wife, Jai, and his three small children.

Beliefnet's editors said, "Pausch was selected because of his huge, far-reaching impact and because even after his death he continues to inspire legions of viewers. Pausch's lecture, delivered for a small audience at Carnegie Mellon University where he was a professor of computer science, became an internet phenomenon. He reached more people than he ever dreamed of. People uploaded his words of wisdom and inspiring tips for life and forwarded them to friends. By 2008, his inspiration had reached almost 20 million people. His message was simple and powerful: 'We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand.'"

Calling all DC-Area UU Poets- If you'd be interested in participating in a winter/spring, Saturday afternoon or evening DC-Area UU poets open reading in front of the fireplace at Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church in Camp Springs, MD, please let Hiram Larew know hlarew@juno.com or 301-627-0284. Depending on level of interest, further plans will be made.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church at 3215 Powder Mill Road in Adelphi, Maryland, is seeking a part-time bookkeeper, approximately 5 to 6 hours a week. If you are interested, please send an email to churchadmin@pbuuc.org, along with a copy of your resume in MS Word Format. Deadline for your resume is January 10, 2009. We will inform prospective candidates after January 10 of their interview date. For more details, please see the posting on the Cedar Lane bulletin board.

Middle Atlantic Large Church Conference

March 6 to 7, 2009

All Souls Church, Unitarian
Washington, DC

A Middle Atlantic Large Church Conference is planned for March 6 and 7, 2009, at All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC. Come be with other lay leaders and clergy and staff in the four district region that comprises the Joseph Priestley, Metro New York, St. Lawrence and Ohio Meadville Districts. A stunning keynote speaker, wonderful workshops and connections between large and large mid-size congregations are part of what you can expect. Those wishing to can stay over on Sunday for the moving worship service that All Souls is known for. Additional details as to schedule, housing and cost is forthcoming. Put this on your calendar and

plan on bringing a team to the Middle Atlantic Large Church Conference. For more details, contact the Joseph Priestley District of the UUA, 302-778-4564, or check out information online at www.jpduua.org.

Hear the roar! Feel the mist! See the mighty Falls! July 19 to 22, 2009. Come experience the wonder of Niagara Falls including some great educational opportunities while being taken care of like royalty. The UU Church of Niagara is conducting a 4-day UU Niagara Experience, which is a lifetime opportunity to encounter the Falls up close from every perspective, even safely riding beneath a tethered balloon. Spend 4 days with us exploring the rich historical and natural wonders around the Falls. For information visit our web site: www.uunex.net/ Email : uunex@yahoo.com Telephone : 716-745-7149 or 716-791-4453.

Murray Grove Programs for 2009

Announcing the exciting line-up of programs Murray Grove has on offer in the coming year. Save the dates!

- A Woman's Retreat: Honoring Your Path as a Woman, led by Margaret Moro, Ph.D. – January 23- 25, 2009
 - Self-Care: The Language of the Soul, with Rev. Nate Walker of the First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia Philadelphia and member of the Murray Grove Board – February 27-March 2, 2009
 - 2nd Annual Murray Grove Community Drum and Dance Retreat – August 14-16
 - Homecoming Weekend 2009 – September 25-27, 2009
- For more information, or to register, go to www.murraygrove.org, write us at murraygrove@murraygrove.org or give us a call at 609-693-5558! Murray Grove Retreat and Conference Center – where Universalism in America traditionally_began – in Lanoka Harbor, NJ.

The Cedar Lane News is published bimonthly from September to June and monthly in July and August by the
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church
9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda MD 20814
Tel 301-493-8300

We request copy be sent by e-mail to newsletter@cedarlane.org
Next deadline is noon, Wednesday, January 7, 2009
Proofreader: Nancy Derr

**Calling All Cedar Lane Members:
Be a Cedar Lane Inauguration
B&B Host !**

PLEASE volunteer to be a B&B host for UU visitors from across the country coming to crowded Washington for this historic Inauguration. Cedar Lane is offering space in the church and at members' homes for the nights of Monday and Tuesday, January 19 & 20. As host, your obligation would be to offer a spare bed, a continental breakfast, and directions, or a ride, to the nearest Metr stop. Cedar Lane will collect all lodging fees to benefit the church's social justice programs and operating budget. Call Rev. Heather Janules, 301-943-8300, ext. 204 or hjanules@cedarlane.org, or B&B Coordinator Arlene Schneider, 240-447-5361.

**Save the date!
Saturday, March 21, 2009**



**When we will "Swing Into Spring"
at Cedar Lane's 2009 Auction!**

CEDAR LANE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
9601 CEDAR LANE, BETHESDA, MD 20814-4099
301-493-8300 fax: 301-897-5713 e-mail: office@cedarlane.org
web site: www.cedarlane.org

The Rev. Roger Fritts *Senior Minister*
The Rev. Susan Archer *Minister of Religious Education*
The Rev. Heather Janules *Assistant Minister*
The Rev. Archene Turner *Coordinator of Senior High Youth Ministry*
The Rev. Leslie Westbrook *Community Minister in Pastoral Counseling*
The Rev. Kenneth Torquil MacLean *Minister Emeritus*
The Rev. Roberta M. Nelson *Minister Emerita*
Dian Belanger *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Sara Deshler *Church Administrator*
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