



CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LV, No. 12

January 13, 2009

Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

January 18, 2009

“A Litany of ‘Bending Towards Justice’”

Archene Turner and Heather Janules

This year’s celebration of the life and ministry of Martin Luther King Jr. will reflect on the events and leaders who challenged oppression in all its guises – before, during and after the time of MLK – and the need for this prophetic call in today’s world. A service with lots of singing, come join us in looking toward the future with hopeful hearts. In the words of the great folk song and hymn, “We *shall* overcome some day...”

January 25, 2009

“So Great a Cloud of Witnesses”

Susan Davison Archer

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses . . . let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.” Thus it says in the Christian book of Hebrews. We Unitarian Universalists may well take the passage to encourage us to pay attention to all those around us in our faith community who witness to the values of our faith. It also calls us to pay attention to the power that comes from having those who care about us witness to our own strengths, our becoming, our changing and our growing. This morning we will be talking about the power of community, especially a community of faith.

Part of this service will also be used to celebrate Glenis Bellais of our RE Staff as she retires after almost four decades of witnessing to the growing of our Cedar Lane Church! **Children attend the beginning of the service before going to classes.** There will be special receptions after each service, so be sure to plan to stay for some

wonderful refreshments and words by a few honored guests!

February 1, 2009

“A Heterosexual Tries to Understand People who are Not”

Roger Fritts

Equality Maryland has set Monday, February 2 as Lobby Day in Annapolis. It will focus on two issues: ending marriage discrimination against same-sex couples and adding gender identity and expression to the state’s nondiscrimination laws. The day before Lobby Day, the service will explore these issues.

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

- 1/18 *Homosexuality and Islam* with **Brother Daayiee Abdullah**, former Board Member, Al-Fatiha, a progressive Muslim organization.
- 1/25 There is no forum. We encourage you to attend Glenis’ retirement celebration after the service.
- 2/1 *New Ideas for Old Nursing Homes* with **Beth Baker**, journalist and author of “Old Age in a New Age.”

The Inauguration at Cedar Lane: If you do not want to deal with the cold or the crowds January 20, but you would like to gather with others on this historic occasion, we will be showing the inauguration on the big screen at the church from 11:30 until the speeches are over, or we’ve had enough. Susan Archer and Roger Fritts may provide occasional commentary. (“So Susan what did you think of the invocation by Rick Warren?”) We will order pizza, based on who arrives by 11:25, or you can bring your own bag lunch. January 20, is also Roger’s 58th birthday, so he will bring a cake.

Notes from the Ministers

Roger Fritts

January 2009 is a historic time for our church because of the retirement of our Religious Education Administrator, **Glenis Bellais** after 38 years of service. A few passages in our church history give a small sample of the work Glenis has done:

In the 1970s Glenis started editing RE News/Views, a bulletin published several times during the year, bringing the congregation inspirational and informational articles about the Religious Education department. Our Director of Religious Education, Elizabeth “Betty” Anastos went on sabbatical leave beginning in January 1976, returning in the fall. In her absence, Glenis ably carried on our Religious Education programs. That year adult programs involved 793 persons in 33 activities compared with 100 persons in 9 activities in 1969!

In 1987, for the first time, more adults than children registered for our spring program called “Spring B.” The total registration was 514. Glenis was the registrar. She said that year “parents are actively seeking ways to spend time with their children in a stimulating situation, learning something new, or just having fun.”

In 1992, the success of the church’s religious education continued under the capable leadership of Roberta M. Nelson and Glenis. The work and goals of the Religious Education Department were exemplified by the classroom covenant: “I have a right to be happy, and to be treated with kindness in this room; This means that no one will laugh at me, ignore me, or hurt my feelings. I have a right to be myself in this room: this means that no one will treat me unfairly because I am fat or thin, fast or slow, boy or girl. I have a right to be safe in this room: this means that no one will hit me, kick me, push me, or pinch me.”

Glenis has nurtured these values in our children for 38 years. On behalf of the three senior ministers who had the honor of working with her: “Thank you Glenis.”

Susan Archer

I am writing this column on New Year’s Day. It is for me, as it is for many around the world, a time of reflection. This is as challenging a world as I have known. Because I have the privilege of working with our Cedar Lane children and youth, I also know it is a hopeful world. They never fail to remind me of that.

As for me, this is a day to make my own wish list, my hopes, for 2009. I expect some of you are doing the same! For myself, I hope that I will –

- Stay in touch with a deep sense of gratitude, for that which is good in life, for that which is good in my life, even in the face of loss and concern. Thanks-giving is the fuel for my soul.
- Walk outside every day. I remember what a guide in Scotland told me: there is no bad weather, just not dressing for the weather there is! And he was right. When I spend time outside, even just to go around the block, I know my connection to a much bigger universe and I know that I have a home in it. And, my brain works better and my body rejoices.

For our children and youth, I hope that they will –

- Continue to experience life, and all it brings, up close and personal with family, friends and a community of faith nearby; to know that what is good and satisfying in life comes from within and is nurtured by the connections we maintain with one another and with the earth. I hope that whatever challenges – personal loss and disappointment, the economy, a violent world, environmental fears, and more – that our families encounter will serve to bring into focus that which is fundamentally important to living a happy and meaningful life. May we honor our need of and love for one another in ever deepening ways.
- Continue to learn the joy and meaning of serving a cause larger than themselves. May we all do this in partnership, for that is how our kids learn and sustain this kind of commitment.

For our congregation, I hope that we all will –

- Hold before us our Unitarian Universalist values as we set our vision for the future.
- Reach out to our neighbors and strangers to share the treasure we find in our faith.
- Care deeply for one another, as we each traverse the challenges of our lives.

For our world, I hope that we will –

- Pray . . .
- And then work like crazy, to bring about that world we dream about, in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our country, and in the world. This new year brings unimaginable challenges. May we attend carefully to the horizon before us.

I would love to hear some of the hopes you have articulated for yourselves for the year to come! I thank each of you for the many blessings and inspiration you give to me by your presence, your spirit, your commitment, and your good will.

Heather Janules

In 2004, a local man, Frank Warren, tried a unique experiment. He approached strangers in downtown D.C., gave them a blank postcard with his address printed on it and invited them to “send him a secret.”

He soon received hundreds of post cards back with people’s secrets on them. These secrets came in all sorts of media – collage secrets, painted secrets, printed secrets, secrets illustrated with family photographs, typewritten secrets.

But then something remarkable happened. After the experiment ended, the postcards kept coming, sometimes from places as far away as Texas and Detroit and even other countries. Word had gotten out that Frank Warren was a gatherer of secrets and his fellow citizens responded by continuing to share their secrets with him.

Since then, Frank has published four collections of secrets and has begun an on-line “Post Secret Community” (<http://www.postsecretcommunity.com/books>). The Community includes a blog that he updates weekly with new secrets (<http://postsecret.blogspot.com/>).

On March 1, I will lead a worship service, reflecting on what I have learned from the Post Secret project. After the second service, Frank Warren will be with us for a program about Post Secret. As he is currently compiling secrets for his next book, an anthology of spiritual secrets, our faith community may be helpful to him in his work.

In your newsletter, you will find a blank postcard with our address printed on it. As Frank did with the people of Washington D.C., I invite you to mail me a secret.

By the nature of this endeavor, you are invited to submit something anonymously. However, if you share something with your ministers that you would like us to respond to, please be sure to let us know who you are.

If you do not want your card shared with the congregation on March 1, please indicate your wishes near the address block. If you don’t mind having your secret lifted up during the service but want to obscure the fact that your secret is a Cedar Lane secret, just be sure to keep all your “secret information” on the side of the post card that does not have the address so it blends in with the secrets Frank has collected.

If you are not sure what a Post Secret card would look like or you are just curious about the Post Secret project, I will make the four Post Secret anthologies available to Cedar Lane through our Library. You are also encouraged to look at some of the secrets in Frank’s collection at <http://postsecret.blogspot.com/>.

“The truth shall set you free.” While I take this biblical quote out of context, there can be something healing about taking an unspoken truth about ourselves and giving it a

voice. There is also something meaningful in experiencing the secrets of others.

As a minister and a Post Secret follower, I have developed greater appreciation for the pain that people carry with them every day and the grace with which we live our lives together. Please join me in this exploration of human nature and experience.

We Care

Healing wishes are with **Evelyn Myers (Neighborhood 27)** as she recovers at the Wilson Health Care Center at Asbury Village from bruising sustained in a fall.

We celebrate with **Kristin Grassel** as she was chosen by the Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Church to serve as their Intern Minister for the 2009-10 church year. Kristin was also accepted by Goodwin House to serve as a Chaplain Intern this summer. For two weeks in January, Kristin will be working and living with the Pine Ridge American Indian reservation community. We send her best wishes for all her remarkable endeavors this year.

Congratulations go to **Don and Betty May Cleary (N1)** as they welcome a new granddaughter into the world. Anisha Joy Cleary was born on December 22 to Kima Taylor and Reed Cleary. All are well!

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.

From the Administrator

Cedar Lane’s Christmas Gift to Shepherds Table

This year, our Board of Trustees voted to share our Christmas Eve service collections with Shepherds Table, an agency serving the homeless in Silver Spring which has been hit hard with increased demand and dwindling resources. Out of your generosity, we will send them a check for \$1,777.24. Thank you!

RE Staff Changes: As you probably know by now, Glenis Bellais has retired. See information elsewhere in this newsletter about our celebration of Glenis on January 25. We are so very pleased to **welcome our two new, job-sharing RE Administrators, Gale Luce and Jeannette Wilson.** Susan Archer, our Minister of RE, and Archene Turner, our Coordinator of Youth Ministry, are looking forward to adding them to the RE team. Both Gale and Jeannette can receive your inquiries and respond to your needs about Religious Education for children and youth and adults. However, Gale will be lead administrative staff

for our ministry for children and youth and Jeannette will be lead administrative staff for Adult Programs. You can contact Gale and Jeannette at RE@cedarlane.org; 301-493-8300, x207.

Guest at Your Table boxes which were distributed just before Thanksgiving should be returned ASAP to either the RE Office (any day) or to the Administration Table (on Sundays). We would like to get this money off to our Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to support their good works!

Music Notes From the Interim Director of Music

Happy New Year to all from the Music Ministry.

We had a short but much appreciated break over the New Year holiday. Special thanks to Ken Kreider, Susan Clark, Kathie Bryant, and Ann Meyer for their contributions to the January 4 Worship Service.

Now on to preparing worthy music for several upcoming services. On January 18 we will honor the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. with two special anthems. Kevin Miller will be the soloist as the Choir sings *I Hear The Prophet Calling* (a reprise from November 30!) and Susan Clark and Ariel Mora will be soloists in Ysaye Barnwell's song *We Are...* from Sweet Honey and the Rock. The congregation will be singing the hymns *My Life Flows on in Endless Song* and *We Shall Overcome*.

On January 25 we will be singing music from the heart as we bid farewell to our colleague, friend, and fellow congregation member, Glenis Bellais. The children will sing *From You I Receive to You I Give*, and the Choir will have some special Maori music for the special lady from New Zealand.

On February 1 the Washington Gay Men's Chorus will return to provide music for worship, featuring special arrangements and the Chorus' unique blend of sonorities and colors for the men's choir.

Do you have musical talents; sing, play an instrument, want to ring handbells? Musicians are welcome to join the CLUUC music ministry at any time. E-mail Henry Sgrecci at hsgrecci@cedarlane.org or call 301-493-8300 to inquire.

Religious Education Notes

RE MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Martin Luther King, Jr. 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. Childcare provided for babies and preschoolers. No regular RE classes.

Watch your snail-mail for a letter to all RE families with information about all the special events, opportunities and activities for the next few months.

Don't miss the sock hop! Saturday, February 7 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Kick off your shoes, and come to Cedar Lane's Third Annual Sock Hop for all ages, a Vivacious Valentine Venue!!!! \$5/person, \$15 max/family. This fee pays for the DJ, baked goods and beverages. Brought to you lovingly by your RE Council! This is a family event, so kids should be accompanied by an adult.

Watch for RE Ministry and Curriculum Survey: Help the RE Council envision future programming for children and youth! A survey will be sent to parents by e-mail. This will ask for your input and for input from your younger children. A separate survey will be distributed to teachers and advisors. A third survey will be given to older children and teens in their classes. Thanks for your participation! The Council will use all of this at our upcoming retreat.

Many thanks to Jenna Lordo and her several elves (including children, teens and adults) who made the holiday potluck a gracious success on December 20. And kudos to the 15 children who took a chance on being "thespians" with only a 45 minute group rehearsal and did a fantastic job on the holiday play for that night! Well done, one and all.

Upcoming Dates:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| January 18 (Sunday) | Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday, no regular classes; children/youth grades 4 and up attend service; grades K-3 will have a celebration and related activities with Susan. They should gather in the chapel. |
| January 25 (Sunday) | 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Inter-generational beginning of service, to celebrate Glenis Bellais, then to RE classes. Each service will be followed by a reception for all in the lounge. |
| January 25, 5-7 p.m. | Teacher Renewal, for all teachers, advisors, teaching assistants, of children and youth. Invitations are in the mail! |
| February 7 (Saturday) | Intergenerational Sock Hop |
| May 29-31 | Intergenerational family retreat at Camp Tockwogh. |

Youth Notes

JUNIOR HIGH NOTES

Junior High RE classes for grades 7 and 8 meet at 9 and 11 a.m. The Junior High Youth group is open to youth in grades 7 and 8.

The Ski Trip to WISP Resort was another great success. Sixty-three Cedar Laners – youth and chaperones – made the journey to Western Maryland to ski and enjoy winter fellowship. As always, Maggie Brodnick was the planner extraordinaire – we couldn't make this event happen without her. And the chaperones– veterans and first-timers – are really appreciated. Archene and John thank all the chaperones, parents, and Church staff who support this youth activity.

Winter/Spring Schedule (Flyers will be mailed before events):

February 1 (Sunday): Youth Groups-sponsored Super Bowl Party at Church

February 20 (Friday): Movie/Pizza at Church

March 13 (Friday): Movie@Mall with dinner

March 31 (Tuesday): Manna Food Packing

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

SENIOR HIGH NOTES

Senior High RE classes, grades 10-12, meet at 11 a.m. Sunday mornings. Grade 9 RE classes meet at 9 or 11 a.m.

We still need new or gently used coats for girls ages 10-13 to go to children at Key Middle School that have none.

Senior High Youth Group (SHYG) activities are open to young people in grades 9-12. Activities happen at non-Sunday morning times as much as possible. **Note this is different from last year's scheduling.** 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 include:

January 25 Retirement celebration for Glenis. The church will host a retirement celebration for Glenis during and following both worship services.

February 1 Superbowl Party in the Auditorium, 6 p.m. Once again the Junior & Senior High Youth Groups will host a multigenerational gathering to watch football.

February 2 Lobby Day with Equality Maryland. Senior High Youth will join other social justice advocates in Annapolis to lobby for lesbian, gay, bisexual and

transgender (LGBT) rights. We will travel by bus like last year.

February 3 Youth Summit planning meeting, 6-8 p.m in Room 1-2. All are welcomed to help plan an all day summit for LGBT & all youth on April 18.

Young Adults (Ages 18-35)

The UU Young Adults of Maryland (UUYAM) group plans activities for local UU Young Adults. Visit <http://uuyam.uuyan.org> to join the UUYAM e-mail 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 RE office.

Adult Program Brochures should be in your mailbox **THIS WEEK!!** We have lots of wonderful classes coming up this first semester of 2009. There will be registration in the church lounge between and after services on January 18 and February 1.

January Classes and Seminars

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, walk or nap, 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 the RE office at 301-493-8300 x207 or e-mail at re@cedarlane.org.

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

January 18. Islam and Homosexuality. Brother Daayiee Abdullah former Board member and informal religious advisor to Al-Fatiha, an organization dedicated to Muslims 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 from prejudice, injustice and discrimination where all people are fully embraced and accepted into their faith, their families, and their communities.

January 25: There will be no Forum. We urge you to attend Glenis's retirement celebration after first or second service.

February 1: New Ideas for Nursing Homes. Beth Baker, journalist and a free lance writer, tells of a new generation of visionary advocates and practitioners, who are transforming both the culture of nursing homes and the way we view aging. What changes are being made for residents of nursing homes? Beth reports her findings and reads from her book, "Old Age in a New Age."

Connection Circles (former Covenant Groups)

Connection circles provide spiritual inspiration which gives me energy to keep going. -Anonymous

Register for the groups listed below with the RE office at 301-493-8300 x 207 or re@cedarlane.org.

The continuing groups below are open to new members also:

Connections with Nancy Janssen meets on the first and third Sundays, 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.

LABYRINTH NEWS:

(**Chris Mauro**, chair of the Labyrinth Committee, shared this report about their New Year's Eve walk. Here are some highlights from Chris' account. – *Susan Archer*)

I arrived and discovered that the power was out due to the high winds. After a discussion with **Sara Deshler**, we decided to do the walk regardless of the circumstances.

We had approximately 30 people show up in the first 90 minutes, a few in the middle of the walk, and a group of 10 or so in the last hour. A record number. I was impressed with the number of people who parked in the dark and came in anyway. A number of people who lived close by came with flashlights.

Meg Baker was willing to play piano and harp for the three hours in spite of the nippy conditions in the sanctuary. It was wonderful. A number of people wore their coats while walking.

Most of the people who attended expressed gratitude for our holding the walk in spite of the conditions and some even thought we turned to the power off on purpose to enhance the "candlelit" experience.

A number of people came from **Goodloe Unitarian Church** in response to the flyers we sent out (Thank you, **Dorothy Britt!**) to local UU Churches. A lady who works on the Community Calendar for the Gazette came out of curiosity. A good number of Cedar Laners attended.

The walk itself was nicer due to all the extra candles in the sanctuary. It was interesting hearing the wax falling on the paper during the walk. I noticed people looking around trying to figure out what was going on.

I want to say a big thanks to everyone who helped with this walk: **Herb and Carolyn Grassel, Isabel and Claire Mauro, and Ellen Cosgrove.**

In closing, I can't help but think of a few additional ways to characterize this walk:

- Cedar Lane's first green, carbon-neutral Labyrinth Walk
- What a way to pull the plug on 2008
- We brought people in from the dark to the light
- If you hold it, they will walk it.

Around the Church

Audio Services

Our weekly services are available on CD to borrow from the Library. There is a simple form to fill out with the date you borrowed the CD, the date of the service you are borrowing, your name, and a box to check when you

return it. We are missing many CDs that cannot be accounted for. If you borrow a CD, please fill out the form. If you have a CD lying around at home, please return it to the Library.

Join us for the Annual Afghan Benefit Dinner For Women's Rights and Literacy in Afghanistan on Saturday, January 31, 2009 – 6 p.m. at CLUUC.

FEATURING: Authentic Afghan Dinner, Silent Auction of Afghan and Indian Crafts, Nasrine Gross: Report of Activities.

Dinner Tickets — \$50.00 per person; Raffle Tickets — \$10.00 each. PROCEEDS will support couples literacy classes in Afghanistan.

NASRINE GROSS: Winner of the 2008 Purpose Prize for Americans starting socially important projects after age 60. www.purposeprize.org

Eight out of 10 people in Afghanistan today are illiterate, with women having virtually no access to education.

This was not the case when Nasrine Gross grew up in Kabul. She had books, attended school and her mother was a member of Parliament. To be a voice for the same freedoms she knew as a girl, Gross became an advocate for women's rights in the face of oppression from Taliban rulers.

After the fall of the Taliban, she started teaching literacy classes in tents and homes in a socially acceptable format: couples were her students. Since women require their husband's permission or presence to do most things, men are invited to learn to read as well. Nasrine Gross now lives nine months of the year in a small village outside Kabul and has graduated nearly 500 students ages 15 to 82. Visit: www.kabultec.org.

The 2008 Dinner was SOLD OUT — please order your tickets early. Make checks out to "Kabultec", a 501(c)(3) organization.

Mail checks to: Eleanor De Paola, 7941 Inverness Ridge Rd., Potomac, MD 20854-4010 Questions? Call Eleanor at 301-299-6236.

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.



Swing Into Spring

Cedar Lane's Auction is Saturday, March 21!

The Auction Committee is gearing up for all the tasks that go into making Cedar Lane's annual auction a social and financial success! Here are some preliminary tasks we could use your help with:

Save the date! You will receive an invitation and ticket order form next month.

Hold on to those new or slightly used items that make great \$25 and under bargains for the Nifty Thrifty Room! They can be brought to church on March 20.

Think about what you'd like to donate – a service, a gift certificate, your vacation home, a homemade meal! Donation forms will be available soon.

Ask your favorite restaurant, theater or place of business to consider making a donation. Or let us know who you think is a good prospect and we can follow up.

Questions, comments, suggestions? Contact auction co-chairs Vicky and Paul Strella, at strella@att.net, or 301-365-4559. The committee appreciates your participation in this critical annual effort to support the good work of Cedar Lane.

New Picture Directory

The Picture Directory is off to a good start. There are still dates to have your picture taken on Thursday, January 29, Friday, January 30, and Saturday, January 31. You may sign up in the Lounge on Sundays or you may sign up online today at www.signup.olanmills.com to reserve an appointment time that best fits your schedule. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Also, please contact Kristin after January 18 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!**

Save these Dates:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| January 17 | Pledge Drive Committee Stewardship Training |
| January 18 | Memoir Group Book Release Party |
| January 20 | Inauguration Viewing in Sanctuary |
| February 1 | Superbowl Viewing Party |

February 8 Mark Morrison-Reed: Pledge Drive
Speaker

March 21 Auction

Social Justice Council

✽GREEN TIPS✽

Environmental Task Force

The box that holds florescent long and compact bulbs to be recycled is placed beside the Environmental Task Force's table in the lounge following Sunday church services. You know, where Charlotte Jarvis sits. During the week it is placed in the closet on the way to the bathrooms. So bring in your burnt out florescent bulbs and we will help you recycle them to protect us all from their mercury content.

LGBT Task Force News

Save the Date: Equality Maryland's 2009 LGBT Lobby Day in Annapolis – Monday, February 2. The Cedar Lane LGBT Task Force has chartered a bus to transport Lobby Day participants between Cedar Lane and Annapolis. Bus tickets (at \$20 each) will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings during January at the SJC table in the Lounge. The ticket cost will cover bus expenses, food for the ride, and a contribution to The Rainbow Youth Alliance (RYA) – a support group for LGBTQ teens and their allies sponsored by the UU Church of Rockville. The RYA has been awarded a challenge grant by the UUA, which will match all donations to the group this year. Cedar Laners not able to join the bus excursion but wanting to support RYA are encouraged to purchase “spiritual tickets” at the SJC table. The bus will be departing from Cedar Lane at 4 p.m. and departing from Annapolis at 7:30 p.m.. 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 Maryland non-discrimination laws.

MLK Weekend of Service

A generous donor has made a \$100,000 challenge grant to support emergency needs in Montgomery County. County Executive Ike Leggett and the Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships is recruiting 1,000 volunteers to go door knocking on January 17 & 18. Volunteers will collect food to refill the shelves at Manna Food Center and ask for money to meet the challenge grant. Volunteer at volunteer@yesmontgomerycan.org.

(Questions: e-mail nancyjanssen@peoplepc.com).

And Beyond Cedar Lane

Human Rights Expert Speaks

The Board of Directors of the UU-United Nations Office invites you to a reception and special presentation by Ambassador E. Michael Southwick on “The Daunting Challenge of Human Rights Today” in the new Fellowship Hall.

*River Road UU Congregation
6301 River Road, Bethesda MD 20817
Saturday, February 7, 2009 at 7 p.m.*

This session is sponsored by the UU-United Nations Office and is open to all. Ambassador Southwick is a lecturer and consultant on global issues. He was U.S. Ambassador to Uganda 1994-97 and has special expertise in conflict prevention and humanitarian relief.

Money, Values and Impact: A Conference on Ethical Investing for UU Congregations

*Saturday, May 9, 2009
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

*All Souls Church, Unitarian
Washington, D.C.*

Let's take advantage of the political and economic moment and our shared desire to grow our faith. Join nationally prominent experts in an exploration of investment vehicles, exemplary practices and policies, and strategy options in lively skill-building sessions. Hear inspiring case studies of individual congregations that have made a major positive impact in their community and learn about opportunities to help build a more green and just economy. Workshops will be geared to meet the needs of participants who want to know the basics as well as to those who want more intermediate-to-advanced discussion and information.

- Registration information coming soon

The Cedar Lane News is published bimonthly from September to June and monthly in July and August by the
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9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda MD 20814
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We request copy be sent by e-mail to
newsletter@cedarlane.org
Next deadline is noon, Wednesday, January 21, 2009
Editor this issue: Robin Larkin

You are invited to join in a
Retirement Celebration

in honor of

Glenis Bellaís

for 38 Years of service.

Sunday, January 25, 2009
9 and 11 a.m.

During and following the worship services.

Come to celebrate with Glenis, each other, and Cedar Lane's history. Together we will thank Glenis for her hard work and dedication to our Religious Education program for the last 38 years. The celebration begins during the worship services. After the 1st service there will be honored guest speakers and cake and punch in the lounge. Following the 2nd service, the sanctuary will be quickly transformed into a reception space. There will be music, more speakers and festive fare.

Cards will be available if you would still like a personal note to be included in a memory book for Glenis.

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 *Associate 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*
Dr. Henry Sgrecci *Interim Director of Music*
Dian Belanger *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Sara Deshler *Church Administrator*
Kristin Grassel *Membership Coordinator*
Pamela Gehrke *Intern Minister*

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