



CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LV, No. 18

April 7, 2009

Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

April 12, 2009 Easter Sunday

The music will be the same at both Easter services.

9 a.m. Adult Service “Sacrificial Love”

Roger Fritts

For 9 a.m. we have designed a service for adults that will explore Adrienne Rich’s words “I cast my lot with those who age after age, perversely, with no extraordinary power, reconstitute the world.”

11 a.m. Family Service “Many Miracles”

The 11a.m. service will be for all ages, full of celebration, story and shared amazements about and gratitude for life. Childcare will be available for children ages 5 and younger.

**Beginning April 19: One Service at 10 a.m.,
Spring “B” at 11 a.m.**

April 19, 2009

“Senior High Service” 10 a.m.

Spring “B” Activities 11 a.m.

Annual Meeting 12:15 p.m.

April 26, 2009

“A Few Words from Transylvania” 10 a.m.

The Rev. Endre Nagy and Cedar Lane Ministers

Through words and pictures, children and adults will learn that Transylvania is not just the pretend home of a Muppet character on Sesame Street. It is a real and wonderful land. Today there are 175 Unitarian Churches in Transylvania. One of them is our partner church in Dicsöszentmárton (pronounced Dee-chaszent-marton) or in Romanian, Tîrnaveni. Our visiting partner church minister will tell us what life is like today for Unitarians in Transylvania.

Spring “B” Activities 11 a.m.

CIVILITY—A BOOMERANG?

Sure, says Sujata Massey, author of *The Samurai’s Daughter*—“Civility is like a wonderful boomerang: if you send it out, it’s bound to come back to you.”

Come to hear about how it’s being tried in one of our neighboring counties. Two Sundays, April 26 and May 3, 2–4 p.m., in the library. Reserve your spot now, register through Adult Programs: \$10, \$15. More info on our website.

Annual Plant Sale Reminder

Don’t forget! The Annual Grounds Committee Plant Sale is coming soon!

Donations accepted on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Plant sale is on Sunday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Donation suggestions: hostas, azaleas, ferns, bulbs, native plants, hydrangea, violets, bee balm, black-eyed susans, American holly seedlings, nandina, and all kinds of herbs. Please label your donations.

All-Church Potluck Dinner!

If you have never been to one, please consider coming to this one! It follows the Coming of Age Service recognizing our 9th graders, Saturday, April 25. Come and celebrate with our young people at 5 p.m. and stay to enjoy one another and shared food. Bring something to share for 8-12 people according to your last name: A-M brings main dish; N-Z brings salad or side dish. Beverages and dessert will be provided. **YOU NEED TO SIGN UP** so we will know how many to plan for. Call 301-493-8300, leave your name and number attending.

Graduation News?

Do you have someone graduating from high school, college, or anywhere else? Please let us in on the details and what comes next for them! We’re not really a nosy bunch at Cedar Lane, but we do thrive on good news from our faith community, and would like to share your’s in the newsletter! Send info to

[RE@cedarlane.org!](mailto:RE@cedarlane.org)

Notes from the Ministers

Roger Fritts

I want to start with thanks to Vicky and Paul Strella for chairing our March 21 auction. I was impressed in talking with Vicky to discover that besides co-chairing our auction, she is also co-president of the PTA at Walt Whitman High School this year. Her leadership skills are impressive. Each Sunday leading up to the auction I looked forward to Paul's announcements because I love Paul's great sense of humor. At the auction itself the food was excellent and the spirit of community was strong. Brian Belanger did good work again as the auctioneer. Virginia Rehbehn and others gave hours of volunteer work to make the event a success. Thank you to all of you!

As you can see on the front of the newsletter, April 12, instead of having the same service at both nine and eleven, we will aim the 9 a.m. Easter Service at adults and the 11 a.m. service at adults and children. Only the music will be the same at both Easter services. My hope is that this way we will meet the needs of adults who wish for a serious, intellectually stimulating and spiritually renewing worship service (9 a.m.), and of adults and children who want a service where people of all ages worship together celebrating the joy of spring (11 a.m.). Of course, if you long for both experiences, you can attend both services. Obviously, the risk is that everyone will pick 9, or everyone will pick 11, and we will be overcrowded at one service and have empty seats at the other. It is an experiment. Let's see what happens.

After Easter you will not need to choose between attending worship and attending a Spring "B" activity. We will have one worship service each Sunday starting at 10 a.m. These intergenerational services will be about forty-five minutes long. That will allow time for folks to move from worship to their Spring "B" activity, which will start at 11 a.m. This will make it possible for choir members and ministers to attend Spring "B" activities. This also is an experiment. We do not know for sure if this new schedule will meet the needs of the congregation. Again, let's see what happens.

Also, as you can see from the front page of the newsletter, between April 17 and May 1 we will be honored to host to visitors from our partner church in Transylvania. Three times I have visited the congregation in Dicsöszentmárton. They have always been wonderful, gracious hosts. I look forward to this opportunity to return their hospitality, and to show them our wonderful church, congregation and country.

Pamela Gehrke

Last week, I finished my 1000th origami crane. I began this project when I arrived here, as a pastime and a spiritual discipline, something to connect me with my childhood, keep my hands busy, and honor the memory of Sadako Sasaki. Sadako died of leukemia, a victim of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. In the hospital, she began a 1000-crane project in hopes it would bring good luck and restore her health. Through Sadako's story, the crane has become an international symbol of peace. It is also among the most popular figures in the origami zoo.

I learned how to make cranes as a child; I don't remember exactly when or from whom. Then last April, my interest in crane folding was rekindled on the Pilgrimage to Manzanar, in the desert of Southern California. This was a bus trip organized by the Pacific Asian North American Institute (PANA) at the Graduate Theological Union. Manzanar was the site of one of the "War Relocation Centers" where thousands of people of Japanese ancestry were imprisoned from 1942 to 1945.

The auditorium built at the camp by the internees has been made into a National Park Service interpretive center, full of historical records, personal stories, and artifacts from the internment. We toured the site with a park ranger, who told us a story about how people formed a baseball league as soon as they arrived at Manzanar, as a way of affording some sense of normalcy to their lives. At the camp cemetery we attended the annual interfaith memorial service, along with hundreds of other pilgrims, and participated in the "Bon Odori," a traditional Japanese festival dance.

It seems especially fitting that I'm finishing my project as the cherries come into bloom! In my last several weeks at Cedar Lane, I'll have the 1000 cranes hanging in my office at church, and I invite you to stop by and take a look. Crane folding will now embody memories for me not just of my childhood and of the Manzanar Pilgrimage, but also of the time I've spent here in Bethesda: conversations, Sunday mornings, meetings, potlucks, congregational life. I'll remember my time here with deep gratitude, for Cedar Lane's warm hospitality to me personally, as well for your commitment to serving Unitarian Universalism through the education of new ministers—thank you!

We Care

Our hearts go out to **Pat Kellogg (Neighborhood 26)** as she and her family mourn the sudden death of her son Jeffrey. A memorial service was held at Cedar Lane on Sunday, April 5.

Congratulations to **Ken and Diana Thompson (N15)** as they welcome their latest grandchild! Megan Renaghan was born March 31 at 11:30 a.m., weighing in at 8 lbs, 8 oz. Mom, baby Megan and the whole family are well.

Hopes for healing are with **Mary Feltenstein (N 8)** who is recovering from a stroke at the Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital in Rockville.

Our best wishes are with **Ann McLaughlin (N8)**, who is recovering at home after a brief stay in the hospital.

We are proud to announce that **Miranda Lingenfelter** and **Devin Luce**, both 8th graders, won awards at the annual Science Montgomery science fair held at the University of Maryland. Miranda's project was "Phyte Back: Plants Can Use Chemistry to Clean up a Mess" and Devin's project was titled "Determining the Efficiency of Structures."

We lend our care and support to **Maury Merkin (N11)** as he recovers from a lung infection at Holy Cross Hospital. As Maury is receiving many visitors and may be released soon, friends who wish to reach out may wish to call or write before stopping by.

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.

Update on Thefts at Cedar Lane

As noted in an e-mail to the congregation, members of the Cedar Lane community have experienced a number of thefts, including one on Sunday morning that led to the fraudulent use of a member's credit cards.

There has been some advancement in this case. Police have developed active leads and are currently pursuing them. Although the investigation is on-going, at this point it does not appear that the user of the cards is a member of the congregation.

Meanwhile, a short-term task force will soon convene to find ways that we can make our community less vulnerable to these kinds of crimes while continuing to be a welcoming and friendly place to visit, to learn, to worship.

Many thanks to all who work together to keep Cedar Lane a safe place for body, mind, soul and property!

CLARITY – Our Emerging Anti-Racism Task Force

Through a worship service at the beginning of this church year, the *Building the World We Dream About* class invited the congregation join them in considering how our church could become even more welcoming to people of all identities and ethnicities and even stronger in our public stance against racism. Since that Sunday, I have gathered the concerns, hopes and dreams of members of the community through a number of visioning sessions and through a small-group conversation during the Social Justice Empowerment Workshop in January.

Chair-Elect Duncan Ferguson and I then collaborated in recruiting members of the congregation to help lead us in making these hopes of our community a reality. Our goal was to create a task force of congregational leaders with a unique sensitivity and enthusiasm for multicultural welcome, representing many constituencies in the congregation. For now, the task force will be called CLARITY – "Cedar Laners Against Racism and Inspired by Togetherness – Y not?"

It is with excitement and gratitude that I announce the names of those who have agreed to help lead us in this work: Nancy Janssen, Betsy Devlin-Foltz, Sandy Shaw, Jack Welch, Mary Farrar, Pat Karlsen, Arlene Schneider, Lisa Chernikoff and Marge Dimond. In the late spring or the summer, the task force and I will undergo some training and team-building, most likely through the UUA's "Jubilee II" workshop.

In the fall of '09, the task force will begin its work in earnest, meeting twice a month – once for reflection, continuing education and team-building and once for the business of planning our activities and discussions with the congregation at large. (This is not to suggest that others are not welcome to contribute to the task force's work but more that the core leadership has been identified.)

Should you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please give me a call or send a note. I look forward to seeing our many hopes for Cedar Lane take root! – *Heather Janules*

On Board

Board action in March was relatively slim, but we did not lack for discussion items and there's much to share with you.

Teen member Hadrien Haber-Sage appeared with his father to explain his proposal to build a Fire Circle at Cedar Lane, with help from his Boy Scout troop, as his Eagle Scout project. Both impressed the board with the design and their thoroughness in seeking and accepting counsel and constraints for safety and security from all relevant authorities, both church and governmental. The board gave its go-ahead, and we anticipate fellowship over toasted marshmallows.

We have seen anew through our “My Story, Your Story, Our Story” 2009 Pledge Drive that Cedar Lane matters to us. Thank you for your swift and remarkable responses. Despite the challenging economy, 80 percent of our goal was quickly met. But if you have not yet pledged, please do so as soon and as generously as you can so we can budget realistically and function at our best. Thank you gifted Susan Clark, her great committee, and board members who helped make phone appeals.

Our large and lively “Swing into Spring” 2009 Auction has also demonstrated that we hold Cedar Lane dear. I hope you were there. It was great fun. Thank you imaginative Vicky and Paul Strella, their amazing committee, and all who donated. A full response on the few remaining items still available for you to purchase and enjoy will enable us to reach our ambitious goal of \$40,000 *and* offer a donation to Manna Food Center—a win/win twice over.

For example, for just \$15 per ticket, you could help us welcome the visitors from our Partner Church who will be here from Romania in a few weeks and partake of tea and goodies besides. Please do.

For all this hopeful news, there’s no escaping looming budget deficits and/or draconian cuts as we look ahead. So we had to pay attention when a surprise e-mail appeared in Rev. Roger’s mailbox offering Cedar Lane a significant, reliable revenue stream. T-Mobile proposes to pay us upfront costs plus rent to build and operate a cell-phone tower on our property. I’m forming a committee to consider all aspects of this offer. If you have, or know someone who has, expertise in relevant considerations—finance, business, policy, public health, environment, negotiation, or, especially, aesthetics—and would like to help in this important but short-term study, please let me know asap.

Finally, we have been shocked and troubled by a spate of thefts at Cedar Lane in recent weeks—first, Rev. Heather’s laptop, followed by several wallets. We are a trusting community and don’t want to be otherwise, but

let’s keep our eyes as well as our hearts open as each other’s keepers. Please wear your nametag, both as a friendly hello and an identifier. Engage strangers in conversation, to welcome and assist but also to be vigilant. Thank you. The Safety and Member Services committees are looking into additional steps we might take.

Please attend Cedar Lane’s Annual Meeting, on April 19, 2009, 12:15. After a light lunch we’ll review our eventful year, elect trustees and members of the Social Justice Council and Leadership Development and Nominations Committee; hear about the progress of our Breakthrough Task Force and how you can help chart our church’s future; consider the Environmental Task Force’s application to the UUA to name Cedar Lane a Green Sanctuary, and more. We need your vision, your voice. See you there!

*Dian Belanger, Chair, Board of Trustees,
dobelanger@comcast.net*

Music Notes From the Interim Director of Music

Did you know that **George Frideric Handel** was a first rate composer long before he ever wrote “**The Messiah?**” He was extremely successful as a Court composer in Germany and for King George in England. While living in London, Handel became fascinated with Italian opera, particularly the virtuosic singing style of the leading Italian opera singers, whom he imported to England to star in his works. Writing for these featured soloists Handel created several successful operas, the most noted being *Julius Caesar*, which he composed in the early 1700s. In time Londoners tired of paying to hear foreign singers perform acrobatic vocal feats that they couldn’t understand. Almost overnight they turned on the composer, rendering him an afterthought in London’s musical circles. He finally fled to Ireland in exile. There, while trying to determine his financial future, Handel stumbled across a new formula. He continued to write operatic-like music, but he based his themes upon biblical tales. These “oratorios” as they were called would be sung exclusively in English, without costumes, in local pubs or gathering places, by amateur singers. In other words, his new creations were written for and sung by the commoner. Not surprisingly the most successful of these oratorios was his musical depiction of the birth of Christ, “The Messiah.” On Easter morning you are invited to bring your Messiah scores, if you have them, and join in the singing of Handel’s majestic *Alleluia Chorus*. Even if you don’t own a score, or have been known to sing off key, come and enjoy as the CLUUC Congregation fills the Sanctuary with the glorious proclamation: “Alleluia!”

We will herald Easter morning with an intergenerational handbell choir performing *Easter Proclamation* by Lloyd Larson. The Adult Choir will sing Handel's *Hallelujah from Judas Maccabeus*, *Lacrymosa* from Mozart's Requiem, and William Byrd's Motet *Haec Dies (This is The Day!)*. Our hymns will be "Lo, the Earth Awakes Again" and "O Day of Light and Gladness." Thomas Guthrie's jubilant organ postlude will be *Toccata for the Morning of Easter* by Gilbert Martin.

On April 19 the morning's music will be provided by Gruppo Piccolo.

On April 26 Cedar Lane member Carol Rogentine will lead her recorder ensemble "Kokopelli" in selections during the Prelude and the Offertory.

Gruppo Piccolo wants to hear YOU! Our vocal chamber group has vacancies for both alto and bass singers. If you enjoy singing music ranging from Renaissance to Pop in a chamber setting, please consider auditioning. Auditions will be held in early May. For further information contact Dr. Henry Sgrecci at 301-493-8300 or hsgrecci@cedarlane.org.

Religious Education Notes

Can't believe RE is over? You don't have to! Jump right into spring by registering for Spring "B." There are fun and engaging activities and conversations for every age and for many ages together. Check it out at www.cedarlane.org or in the Spring "B" brochure at church! Call for more info at 301-493-8300 x207.

Speaking of RE being over. . . In order to evaluate our stock of materials for next year, we need teachers and assistants to return your curriculum and red Teacher Manual to the RE office. Thank you!

Hmm. . . Considered teaching next year?

TOP TEN REASONS TO TEACH YOUTH IN RE *from Bonnie Beavers*

(So sorry if you have read this before, but too good to pass up at this time of Teacher Recruitment!—*Susan*)

10. Brunch in the fall, dinner in the spring. (An entire church Council at your beck and call.)
9. Can't beat the parking.
8. Get parents to bring you a snack every Sunday.
7. Best excuse for turning down other volunteer jobs. (Just say, "I'm teaching RE." It's understood: What could possibly be as important?)
6. Membership in an elite corps—an excuse to hobnob

with Cedar Lane legends.

5. Stave off Alzheimer's by learning a new skill. (Please note: those who don't have kids - this applies to you, too!)
4. Bragging rights as a part of the finest RE program in the area. (Think of all the now-ordained youth who grew up here—and more to come—what does that say about what we're cooking downstairs?)
3. It's really not as much work as you think it is! (Want just to rely on a curriculum? It's there. Want to tap into the creative side of your brain? You can do that, too—you bring to the task who and what you are. Your co-teacher is there, you have amazing mentors, the parents are great—and the kids themselves do an amazing job of filling the hour.)
2. Giving back to the future. (Teaching is giving back to Cedar Lane and being a part of the future of Unitarian Universalism. The ideas you put forth to our young people connect them to our church and the world. Have you looked at the 7 UU principles lately? Just ask someone downstairs! I go so far as to say that as an RE teacher—you're part of the salvation of democracy.)

And the #1 reason - FUN! (I'll let you in on a secret: No offense intended but...the kids here are a lot more fun than the adults. I had absolutely no idea when I nervously signed on to teach 7th grade how great the kids would be—how much fun I would have—and how much it would mean to me. Contact Susan Archer.)

All-Church Retreat: May 29 - 31 By now you should have your brochure and registration form! They are also on our website. Secure your space before the deadline on April 24, 2009! Contact the RE office for more info.

Upcoming Events:

April 12 (Sunday) Easter services (11 a.m. especially good for children); **egg hunt at 12 noon.**

April 19 (Sunday) 10 a.m. church service by our Senior High School Graduates; Spring "B" begins at 11 a.m. for all ages

April 25 (Saturday) 5 p.m., service by our 9th graders as we honor their "Coming of Age." All-church pot luck dinner follows.

May 29-31 (Friday - Sunday) All-Church Retreat at Camp Tockwogh

YOUTH NOTES

Junior High Notes

Junior High Youth Group (JHYG) activities are open to young people in grades 7 and 8. Information is sent via e-mail and snail mail. Should you have any questions, call JHYG Coordinators John Daniel 301-946-5509 or Kimberly Clarkson 301-587-3051.

Upcoming Event:

April 18 (Saturday) is our second Old Rag Mountain Hike led by Chris Mauro. This is a great event combining hiking, rock scrambling and teamwork. Last year's hikers were champs. Be sure to join us next month.

May 16–17 New York City Trip. Always a highlight of our year! Information will be coming in the next few weeks.

SENIOR HIGH NOTES

Senior High Youth Group (SHYG) activities are open to young people in grades 9-12, and 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 x205 or aturner@cedarlane.org or archene@gmail.com.

April 5 Youth Hang out time after 2nd session from 12:15 p.m. til about 1 p.m. downstairs in the Chalice House. Eat pizza and hang out with your peers.

Planning for the Senior High Service 1–2 p.m. downstairs in the Chalice House. Seniors will meet face to face to plan the worship service.

April 14 LGBT & Ally Youth Summit planning meeting at 6 p.m. in Rooms 1-2.

April 18 LGBT & Ally Youth Summit “Breaking the Silence” from 10 a.m. til 9 p.m. Join 9-12th grade youth from four counties (Anne Arundel, Prince George’s, Howard, and Montgomery) to identify needs and make plans to provide support, services, safe spaces, community & connection for youth around sexual orientation & gender identity. There will be a dance in the evening!

April 19 Senior High Worship service at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

April 19 through May 17 Spring “B”. There are lots of fun sessions this year for senior highers, including a multigenerational worship session where we will plan to lead worship for the Cedar Lane community on July 12.

April 25 Maryland Day. We will travel to the University of Maryland for their open house to learn about colleges and universities.

9th Grade Coming of Age Service at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary. Followed by a potluck dinner.

April 26 Earth Day on the Mall. We will travel down to the Mall after Spring “B” classes via metro to participate in a local event for Earth Day.

May 29-31 All -Church retreat to Camp Tockwogh. Everyone is encouraged to attend with their families.

June 24-28 General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah. Every year Cedar Lane helps a youth go to General Assembly as a delegate. If interested please contact Archene.

Young Adults (Ages 18-35)

The UU Young Adults of Maryland (UUYAM) group plans activities for local UU Young Adults. Visit <http://groups.google.com/group/uuyam> to join the UUYAM e-mail list and view schedule of upcoming events, 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

Upcoming Adult Programs

There are many great programs coming up to finish out our Winter/Spring session:

April 26 *Choose Civility* (2 sessions) \$10/15

May 1 *Olive Oil Tasting* (1 session) \$5/10

May 9 *Spring Bird Walk* (1 session) \$5/10
Dinner Discussion Express B (potluck, 1 evening)

May 15 *Beyond the Beltway: Montreal* (1 session) \$5/10

May 16 *Hiking at Little Bennett Park* (1 session) \$5/10

May 21 *Planning and Leading a Worship Service* with the Rev. Roger Fritts. (4 sessions) \$15/20

For complete information on Adult Programs, please visit our website www.cedarlane.org.

To register for a class, complete a registration card, attach your check, and mail or bring it to the RE office. Use the registration card mailed with the brochure, pick one up at the church, or download one from our website. For additional information contact the RE office by calling 301-493-8300 x207, or e-mailing re@cedarlane.org.

Spring “B”

Adults, did you know . . . that **Spring “B”** this year offers more options for you than ever before? Hand drumming, “Race, Gender, and Orientation in the Age of Obama;” “Searching for Peace in the Middle East,” “Single Parenting,” bridge, short term “Connection Circle,” auto mechanics, intro to improvisation, quilting, yoga, worship-building, “Green Thinking,” softball, ultimate Frisbee, guitar; writing, and more. See the Spring “B” brochure (also on-line). Begins April 19. Send registration to the church office.

Connection Circles

A Connection Circle is a small group that meets regularly. It is led by a trained facilitator, includes an opening ritual, a check-in time, discussion of a topic, and a closing ritual.

During Spring “B” there will be a unique opportunity to try out a short-term Connection Circle! Spend 5 Sunday mornings connecting more personally with one another to build friendship and community. The group will explore simple topics with complex meanings: Friendship, Hope, Faith, Family, and Love. Register for Spring “B” through the RE office.

If you have questions about joining an on-going group, please contact Heather Janules at 301-493-8300x204, or hjanules@cedarlane.org. To join a group, register through Adult Programs.

Around the Church

* Did you miss the auction but want to contribute? A handful of items remain!

Go to www.cedarlane.org, click on auction on the left side of the home page, and then select “Auction Clearance Events” and find yourself a bargain!

* When you use your purchases:
Remember to thank donors – individuals, businesses and committees – for their support.
They’re listed on the online auction page and in the catalog.

Update from the Music Committee:

As the Search Committee moves toward finding us a permanent Music Director, the Music Committee has been taking a thorough look at the music program and its place in the congregational life at Cedar Lane. The Committee has surveyed the congregation and held meetings with the ministers, the Adult Choir, and the Youth and Bell Choirs. More than 200 people responded to the congregational survey taken after the service on February 22 (Thank you!), and gave the Mu-

sic Committee several important points to work with. Those who responded gave us the strong message that music is very important to them in worship, and that they like what we have had in the music program. However, they also told us very strongly that what they most like is variety, and more than half told us that they would like a wide variety of different kinds of music—not only different genres, but different types of performing groups or individuals: small groups, instrumentalists, more jazz or pop. We also see clearly that there is a desire to make the music program more inclusive. There are a couple of challenges facing a new music director, as well as the Music Committee: recruiting for the choirs, and for multiple groups, plus ways to make the program more inclusive. There will be more news to come as we move along; stay tuned!

For Social Justice “Newbies” and “Old-Hands”

Reclaim your political birthright! Action in Montgomery (AIM) offers training **right here at Cedar Lane** to sharpen your organizing skills! You’ll train once a week for three weeks. Week one: everyone meets together. Week two and three: choose if you know now.

Week One: Strategy Session by issue areas: Thursday, April 30, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Week Two: Tuesday, May 5, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. or Thursday, May 7, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Week Three: Tuesday, May 19, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. or Thursday, May 21, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Cedar Lane is a founding member of AIM. Please email aim@industrialareasfoundation.org to let us know your name, contact information and the dates you will attend. Thank you. ?s: nancyjanssen@peoplepc.com.

Hosting a Delegation of Chernobyl Center Staff

A delegation of professional staff from the five Chernobyl Centers for Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Development will be hosted by the Bethesda Group of Friends of Chernobyl Centers United States, Inc. from September 21 to September 27. **Host families and a few good support volunteers are needed.** The delegation of five center staff, a facilitator and an interpreter is funded by the Open World Leadership Center, Library of Congress, and is administered through the National Peace Foundation. The program theme is strengthening nonprofit organizations. The delegation will meet with and observe various local nonprofit organizations and local and state agencies. Home stays and participation in local social and cultural events will be an important part of the delegations experience. For further information contact Don Cleary 301-933-9442, dpcleary@aol.com.

Cedar Laners Swang Swung Swinged DID Swing Into Spring



By any measure the Swing Into Spring Auction was a success – an all-church event that is an *all-church and beyond* accomplishment. Consider the following:

- ***The auction will exceed its \$40,000 fundraising goal!***

With proceeds still coming in, projections are that a decent amount raised *over* the \$40,000 target will be available to donate to Manna Food Center. (Final numbers to come.)* (See previous page)

- ***Donors – individuals, committees, and local businesses*** - were incredibly generous in this lagging economy, with more than 300 donations received. When you attend an event hosted or donated by a Cedar Laner or committee, or visit one of the 65 businesses that donated services or goods, please thank them on behalf of Cedar Lane.* (See previous page)

- ***New community ties were forged and old ones strengthened.*** Attendance at the auction was higher than last year's, with more than 250 enthusiastic people taking part in the shopping, dining (My Thyme caterers), bargain hunting, and the live auction show in the festive, spring-flowery setting.

- ***The 18-member Cedar Lane Auction Committee members*** contributed to every aspect of the auction, seamlessly coordinating their formidable tasks: Frank Adler, Table Set-up • Bonnie Beavers, Publicity • Brian Belanger, Auctioneer • Lisa Chernikoff, BOT Liaison • Betty May Cleary, Intake • Mary Farrar, Child Care & Data Entry • Nancy Janssen, Committee Liaison • Michael Lentz, Item Pick-up • Peter Lowenthal, Clean-up Crew • Carrie Meyer, Silent Auction Display • Helen Pechacek, Nifty Thrifty Room • Bob Pechacek, Live Auction Display • Lyn Peters, Donations & Sales Manager • Gerry Peterson, Beverage Sales • Virginia Rehbehn, Volunteers and Ticket Sales • Jack Rodgers, Cashiers • Judy Rodgers, Greeters & Sign-in • Jean Schaible, Table Closers. **Yay, team!**

- ***All members of Cedar Lane's staff*** were instrumental in helping us pull the auction together. It simply wouldn't happen without the behind-the-scenes time and care of Sara Deshler and Mickey Sigsbee, and the assistance of Lucy Dubinsky, Pam Gehrke, Kristin Grassel, Gale

Luce, Bruce Marquette, Henry Sgrecci, Jeannette Wilson, Corinne Woodward, *and* the Call Girls.

- ***Ministers Roger Fritts, Susan Archer and Heather Janules*** kept our spirits up and graciously allowed the auction to temporarily take over the sacred spaces.

- ***The Board of Trustees'*** approval of the Manna Food Center donation from auction sales helped boost proceeds over the top. Adding this incentive is a strong affirmation of Cedar Lane's commitment to the wider community, as its donation will go towards helping Manna meet the 50 percent increase in demands for its services over last year.

- ***More than 75 Cedar Lane volunteers***, many of whom did multiple tasks or double shifts, assisted the committee. If we omitted your name, please let us know for the record: David Devlin-Foltz, Carol Bertaut, Connie Nissley, David Hawver, Wanda Van Goor, Linda and Leonard Gianessi, Michael Thoryn, Marlene Berg, Sue Hosford, Mary Ann Dillon, Elsie Durland, Gail Riley, Tom Nixon, Mary Gaskill, Dian Belanger, Liz Overstreet, Susan and Rich Clark, Martha Lisle, Christa Richards, Pat Phillips, Holly Eckard, Carolyn Morrissey, Carole Richardson, Val Carter, Laurie Richardson, Jo Ellen Bilanin, Peggy Jackson, Fred Gunther, Helen Strang, Susan Strang, Nancy Bliss, Mary Catherine O'Donnell, Tamara Meyer, Benjamin Laurenson, Barbara Ricketts, Warren Thompson, Terry Tretter, Edith Confehr, Peg and Burke Peterson, Carolyn Stelle, Barbara Gressman, Marilyn Hathaway, Mary Beth Nowinski, Kathie Bryant, Joyce Casso, Tod Chernikoff, Annette Scarpitta, Karen Schwartz, Alyson Krogh, Betsy and Dick Haddad, Sharon Bradley, Karen Lerner, Catherine Scott, Gale Luce, Betsy Sutherland, Dusty Kreisberg, Marilyn Hathaway, John Daniels, Dana Faullkner, Brian Fitzgerald, Jeanette and Andy Wilson, Sharon Adler, Ernie and Marion Carlson, Penny and Bruce Douglas, Karl and Debbie Goodwin, Alice Wahl, Nancy McKean, Jay Schneider, John Kelly, Jim Laurenson, Peter Mathers, Maria and Jed Dinger.

- ***David Yano and The Cedar Lane Quilters*** displayed their magic in designing and sewing the "priceless" Flights of Fancy quilt, which generated significant auction raffle income.

Cedar Laners have been liberal with their praise for this year's auction, and we've appreciated all your feedback. We've had a great time while on the two-year auction journey and have learned so many good things about Cedar Lane and the people who make it such a special place.

– Paul and Vicky Stella, *Swing Into Spring* Chairs



Breaking the Silence

LGBT and Allies Youth Summit
April 18th • Bethesda, Maryland

On **Saturday, April 18, from 10 am – 9 pm**, CLUUC will host a forum for LGBT High School for youth to meet, tell their stories, deal with their issues and try to create safe and supportive spaces. The day will include a large meeting, smaller breakout groups, and brainstorming/planning sessions and will end with dinner and a dance.

This event is in keeping with Cedar Lane's commitment to social justice and service to our community. The planning is well underway and the day is coming together, **but we are in need of additional help** and we are looking within our community for volunteers who can offer their time, talent or treasure to help make this day a success.

1. Adult facilitators and experts: The small breakout groups will each need two adult facilitators to guide discussions and one adult with expertise/education in each topic area as a resource. We have a list of anticipated topics, and we are working with the idea that the problems the kids are facing and will wish to discuss can be covered by people who have had experience working with teens, particularly LGBT teens, and/or who can share their own life experiences.

2. General adult help: Lunch, dinner, beverages and snacks will be served. Marge Dimond, leader of the Montgomery County PFLAG support group, and Stephanie Kreps, the founder of Rainbow Youth Alliance, are the food coordinators and will need prep, serving and clean-up help. Other adults will be needed to staff the registration table, assist the organizers on the day of the Summit, monitor various areas of the buildings, and serve as chaperones for the dance. There will be professional security personnel on the site. Any amount of time any of you can provide on April 18th will be greatly appreciated.

3. \$\$: There is no charge for this Summit and teens & volunteers are being provided lunch, dinner, snacks and beverages. The DJ is charging a reduced rate for his services, but he is renting equipment for the dance and needs to be paid. So far, 60+ teens have RSVP'd via

Facebook. Other costs will include information packets for the kids and the adult participants. You can contribute by making your check out to Cedar Lane UU Church, with "LGBT Youth Summit" in the memo line. Your contributions to help make a difference to our area youth are appreciated. For more information and to learn how you can help, please contact Rev. Archene Turner at x 205, or aturner@cedarlane.org, or BTSYS09@gmail.com.

Here are the nominees for Social Justice Council!

The Social Justice Council is proud to nominate these Cedar Lane members. The attendees at Cedar Lane's Congregational Meeting, April 19, will vote on this slate.

MIKE BURSKI: Born and raised in Chicago (Go Cubs), he has resided in the DC area for the past 30 years. Energized by the examples of Cedar Laners actually doing things to help real people, Mike is active in social justice projects dealing with helping individual home owners.

KAY GOTTESMAN: One of the things that attracted Kay to Cedar Lane is our very active social justice program. She has served as a bereavement volunteer for Montgomery Hospice, president and secretary of the Stoneybrook Homeowners Association, co-house captain for Rebuilding Together in DC, soup kitchen volunteer, and one-on-one counselor to cancer survivors.

ANN SUYDAM has a strong interest in social justice, particularly environmental, public school education and health care reform. Ann raises funds and does public relations for the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy.

ANNE THOMPSON has been very involved in RE, Connection Circles, and We Care. Her true love is social justice, particularly for families living in dire circumstances. She is a child psychologist and serves on the board of directors of a local non-profit, dedicated to ending poverty in our region.

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Spring "B"

Begins Sunday April 19!

10 – 10:45 a.m.: Worship together for all ages; childcare available for age 5 and younger.

April 19 – Seniors' Service: Our 12th graders will lead the service and share their unique perspectives on life and on their experiences here.

April 26 – Partner Church Sunday; discover that there is more to Transylvania than Count Dracula and learn a bit of Hungarian as well.

May 3 – Led by the Rev. Heather Janules and Kristin Grassel, who will share their respective experiences of helping to rebuild New Orleans and working with communities on the Pine Ridge (SD) Reservation. The offering will be shared with Rebuilding Together and the Lakota Fund.

May 10 – "A Mother's Day Hymn Sing," led by the Rev. Roger Fritts.

May 17 – "Looking for the Right Religion," led by Pam Gehrke.

11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.: Spring "B"

April 19 – May 17: classes

May 17 at 12:15 p.m.: Our Annual All-Church Picnic, complete with homemade ice cream, performances and demonstrations from several of our classes.

Registrations are coming in fast! You can still sign up by completing the registration form and returning it to the RE office. Classes are filling fast, so be sure to indicate a first and second choice.

Just show up and look for the classroom assignments posted downstairs by the Administration desk and in the Chalice House. See you there!

CEDAR LANE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
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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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