

# CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LVI, No. 9

February 23, 2010

## Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m.

**February 28, 2010**

### “A Season of Justice: Acts of Memory and Hope”

*Rev. Heather Janules*

In January Cedar Lane’s Social Justice Council invited our congregation to commit to volunteering in the wider community, sharing our values with the world beyond our doors. This service will celebrate the Campaign for Justice by lifting up two projects: Community Cupcakes and rebuilding homes in New Orleans with Rebuilding Together. We want to reflect on the spiritual lessons these “acts of memory and hope” offer. We will also share our offering with Equality Maryland, working for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights in our home state, as part of our regular 50/50 Split outreach.

**March 7, 2010**

### “From Ash Wednesday to Easter”

*Rev. Roger Fritts*

Unitarian roots are Puritan, and the Puritans believed that “giving up something for Lent” was a foolish practice, not explicitly commanded in the Bible. They believed Lent detracted from the importance of leading a moral and upright life all year round. But, have we really outgrown the need for repentance, prayer, self-denial and abstinence?

**March 14, 2010**

### “Fairness”

*Rev. Roger Fritts*

Paul and Vicky Strella were the high bidders on the offer to pick a sermon title at last year’s auction. The full title of the sermon is something like this: How Do You Decide When You Are Doing Enough Good and How Do You Deal with the Feeling That You Are a Chump When Other People Appear to be Cheating, Getting Rich, Cutting in Line, and Getting Away with it? (Every time I schedule this sermon it snows. We’ll see what happens this time.)

**March 21, 2010**

### “The Growth of No Religious Affiliation”

*Rev. Roger Fritts*

About every 10 years, a survey is taken asking people what their religion is. During the last 10 years, the fastest-growing category has been “No religious affiliation.” The sermon will look at this phenomenon. (This is teacher recognition Sunday. Children five years and older should attend the first part of the service.)

**March 28, 2010**

### “To Wander and To Find”

*Rev. Heather Janules*

In the Passover story, eternal themes of departure, wandering and arriving invite us to consider what it means to leave and discover home. This service will reflect on the shared experiences of wandering and arriving in life, on letting go of the familiar for something new and on the faith it requires to live in the desert for a time.

**Sunday Morning Forum meets 10:10 - 10:55 a.m. in the Chalice House. Coffee will be served.**

**February 28** *How Can Muslims and Unitarians Talk to Each Other?* with Zeyneb Salim

**March 7** *How to Minimize Potential Harms of Toxic Plastics and Chemicals*, with Lynn Goldman,

Pediatrician and Environmental Health Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**March 14** *Keeping Agriculture Local* with Chuck Schuster, Extension Educator, Horticulture, Montgomery County Extension Service.

**March 21** *Crossway Community: Providing Housing, Childcare and Education for Single-Parent Families* with Kathleen Guinan, Chief Executive Officer and Lifelong Community Activist, WETA Hometown Hero in November 2008.

*See Adult Programs section for further descriptions.*

## Notes from the Ministers

*Roger Fritts*

On Thursday, February 25 the President will hold a televised bipartisan meeting on health insurance reform. The White House has named 21 lawmakers the President wants to attend the event: top leaders in the House and Senate and of committees with jurisdiction over health legislation. The President has also invited the top four leaders to invite four more lawmakers each, for a total of 20 Democrats and 17 Republicans.

I hope to watch at least part of the meeting. I do not expect that they will agree on health insurance reform. Roger Fisher pointed out in his book *Getting to Yes* that public negotiations seldom succeed. "A good case can be made for changing Woodrow Wilson's appealing slogan 'Open covenants openly arrived at' to 'open covenants privately arrived at.' No matter how many people are involved in a negotiation, important decisions are typically made when no more than two people are in the room." Each speaker may restate his or her position and attack the other side. It could be a dull event. However, human beings are unpredictable. Genuine dialogue is always a possibility.

The health care debate is, fundamentally, a moral debate. I believe that everyone has a moral right to basic health care, proven treatments that make a difference in the length and quality of our lives. I believe that we all have a moral responsibility to help others when they are sick, to the best of our ability. In his book, *The Healing of America*, T.R. Reid quotes a French doctor: "When we get sick then everybody is equal." That is my view. It is a moral view, based on the best teachings of the great world religions.

I will be interested to see whether any of the speakers say this. I am hoping for more than a sentimental nod intended to placate the religious community. I am hoping for the recognition of the basic issue. Is it moral to let a person die because they have no money to pay for medical care? Do we believe we should help each other?

*Heather Janules*

It is common practice for ministers—Unitarian Universalist and otherwise—to take time away from their ministries for rest, exploration and continuing education, to replenish their emotional and intellectual reserves so they may better serve their community. Cedar Lane has a long tradition of granting their ministers this time, sabbatical time, recognizing the need for ministers to have this time apart and the ways that this reflection and renewal strengthen the congregation upon their return.

As I write, I am currently serving in my fifth year of ministry at Cedar Lane. Last Spring, I asked our Board of Trustees if I could schedule my first sabbatical from April to August of this year, and they have agreed to my request.

Although sabbaticals often occur after six years of service, ministers are eligible to begin using sabbatical time after four years. As I don't want to be away from Cedar Lane for too long and as shared wisdom in religious leadership suggests that shorter and more frequent sabbaticals help prevent the dreaded "burn out," I have opted to take this time after four years of service.

I have chosen this time frame—Spring and Summer—as I have learned that this is the time when things are the most quiet at Cedar Lane, when many others are taking their own time apart from church life. While I know that I will miss a lot when I am away, it is important to me that my temporary departure not disrupt my responsibilities too much.

Hence, from April 1 to August, I will not be at Cedar Lane. Roger and Susan have graciously agreed to step in to a number of liaison and facilitation roles I usually fill while I am away.

Many who have heard of my upcoming sabbatical have asked me about my plans. While on sabbatical, I plan to spend some time at home "nesting"—cleaning, organizing and upgrading the condo I bought two years ago. I plan to spend about a month at my family's cabin in northern New Hampshire, reconnecting with this beautiful place, writing, spending some time with my father and—I imagine—throwing countless tennis balls into the lake for my dog Luna. I plan to fly to the West Coast to officiate a friend's wedding while also visiting friends and relatives in Oregon, California, and Texas. My 20<sup>th</sup> high school reunion will take place while I am on sabbatical and I plan to attend. Another friend has invited me to join her on a ten-day tour of Iceland in July, and I plan to sign up. And I plan to attend a worship service at least once a week, experiencing the many different ways that Unitarian Universalists and other religious people gather in celebration and service.

But, as the saying goes, "when we make plans, God laughs." I have learned from colleagues that the great gift of sabbatical is allowing time and opportunity to unfold on its own, to have the space to be better present to what we are experiencing, which often invites us into opportunities we did not orchestrate.

Sabbaticals are also good opportunities for congregations. With a minister's temporary departure, sabbaticals offer a "ministry of absence," creating space for other church leaders to function in different ways. At their best, at the end of a minister's sabbatical, neither the minister nor the congregation are the same, with both having opportunities to explore new things and learn and grow.

I will miss you while I am away and am very appreciative of how our congregation supports its ministers in this way. I look forward to the adventures that lie before me—both planned and unplanned—and to sharing what I discover. When it is your time to temporarily step away from church life, I hope that it also nurtures your heart and mind. May it be so!

## We Care

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

Our love and care are with **the Rev. Archene Turner**, Cedar Lane's Coordinator of Youth Ministries, as she and her family mourn the death of her mother, Rufina, who died on February 12. A memorial service was held in Florida on February 20. (Those who wish to contribute to a memorial donation from Cedar Lane to a cause of the family's choice may write checks to CLUUC with "Archene" in the memo line and place them in Heather Janules' mailbox.)

Congratulations are with **Janet Cromer (Neighborhood 5)** as her book, *Professor Cromer Learns to Read: A Couple's New Life After Brain Injury* has been published!

Healing wishes are with **Mike Harris (N19)** as he recovers from knee replacement surgery.

Condolences are with **Bob and Helen Pechacek (N29)** with the loss of Bob's sister, Diane Sanderson, who died on February 6 after a long illness. (Due to the winter storms, Helen and Bob were not able to attend her memorial service in California.)

Best wishes are with **Mabel Miller (N27)** as she has sold her apartment and moved to North Carolina. Until she has a permanent address, friends may reach Mabel at [mabellmiller@gmail.com](mailto:mabellmiller@gmail.com).

Our sympathies are with **Betsy and David Devlin-Foltz (N19)** with the death of Betsy's beloved uncle. A Catholic priest, "Uncle Father Charles," in David's words, "had a very special relationship with all of us and with thou-

sands of parishioners, city officials, Archbishops and street kids over his decades of service. He was a funny, gregarious, socially engaged and deeply devout man. We will all miss him dearly."

Prayers are with UU minister **Marlin Lavenhar**, Senior Minister at All Souls in Tulsa, OK, as he travels to Uganda to stand in solidarity with their partner church in protesting the Ugandan movement calling for the execution of gay and lesbian people.

Update on **Wat Stewart (N4)**: Wat moved from Manor Care Rehab to Suburban Hospital. After a stay in ICU, he is in the less-intensive area of the hospital, receiving dialysis. Cards of concern and support may be sent to Mary and Betsy at their home address.

Our love goes out to Cedar Lane friend, **Bill Shoemaker**, with the death of his sister Peggy after a three-month battle with brain cancer.

Wishes for strength: After a stay in Suburban Hospital, **Phoebe Pfaehler (N6)** is now receiving rehab care at Manor Care in Chevy Chase.

Should you know of a member of our community in personal need, you are encouraged to reach out to them. If you learn that this person wishes to receive a response from the church, please contact Heather Janules at x204 or [hjanules@cedarlane.org](mailto:hjanules@cedarlane.org). All ministers offer pastoral care to our members, so you are also encouraged to contact any member of the ministerial team.

And, as shared in our electronic newsletter, we offer:

Condolences to:

**Barbara and Bill Gressman (N6)** with the death of Bill's father, Eugene Gressman.

**Fred and Chris Guenther (N3)** with the sudden death of Fred's mother, Ella Guenther.

The friends and family of **Marianne Gottschalk**, who died on January 25. (Marianne and her husband **Chuck** raised their family at Cedar Lane.)

Congratulations to

**Helen Worth (N32)** with the publication of her book *Transit to Tomorrow: Fifty Years of Space Research at The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*.

**Burke Peterson (N10)** as he has left rehab care and returned home.

Healing wishes to

**Earlene Green (N17)** as she recovers from hip replacement surgery.

**Cathy Knapper (N14)** as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.

On a last note, **Muriel Davies**, wife of Cedar Lane's founding minister A. Powell Davies and religious leader in her own right, has died. Muriel passed peacefully on December 20, 2009, at her home in Derwood, MD, at the age of 103. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the River Road Endowment Fund or the Davies Scholarship at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

## Music Notes from the Director of Music

**What's in a "Prelude?"** Musical preludes are intended to prepare us for worship through a few moments of undisturbed reflection prior to the beginning of the service. The music is chosen to compliment the theme of the morning, and our musicians work diligently to prepare their selections. So that all may enjoy the music, please create a quiet environment of reflection once the music begins. Thank you.

**Feb. 28** - Gruppo Piccolo and our Intergenerational Handbell Choir will lead the musical worship as Rev. Heather Janules reflects on the recent service of Cedar Lane members in New Orleans. The IG Handbell Choir will ring the familiar theme from Jean Sibelius' tone poem *Finlandia*, (which we will also sing during the morning reflection). The Call to Worship will be Chris Massa's contemporary setting of text by the poet Christina Rossetti, *All Flesh is Grass*. During the Offertory, the ensemble will sing *Breaths*, a song written by local composer, Ysaye Barnwell, of the popular group, Sweet Honey and the Rock. Our Anthem, *Hold Me, Rock Me*, was composed in 2004, by Vancouver-based composer Brian Tate. The song, in four part harmony, combines the texts of several popular spirituals in a captivating melody that rocks gently while assuring us that we *do* have a place, on the other side.

**March 7** - Midway in the season of Lent we feature the cello music of J.S. Bach and the sacred vocal music of Pablo Casals. Cellist Loren Westbrook-Fritts performs the meditative sounds of J.S. Bach's suites for solo cello during the early portion of our services. As the Call to Worship he will offer the Prelude from *Suite No. 1*. During the Offertory he will perform Bourees No. 1 and 2 from *Suite No. 3*. The Adult Choir will sing Casals' moving *O Vos Omnes* (O Ye People), which he composed in 1942 while in exile from his native Spain, for the monks of the Benedictine Monastery of Santa Maria de Montserrat in the Carribean Sea.

**March 14** - During this service, we celebrate the coming of St. Patrick's Day and sing the music of Puccini! The Adult Choir leads our musical worship, singing Antonio Lotti's motet *Miserere Mei* (Grant Us Thy Mercy) as the Call to Worship. The Choir will sing *O Danny Boy* in

four part harmony during the Offertory. The morning's Anthem will be a portion of *Gloria* from Giacomo Puccini's grand *Messa di Gloria*.

**Ad Hoc Choir will meet on Sunday, March 7** at 12:30 in the Chapel. Bring your voices and your good cheer. See you there!

## Education for All Ages

### Religious Education Notes

Parents, it has been a rough few weeks apart, with many activities and experiences cancelled that were lovingly planned for by teachers, ministers, and youth leaders. By the time you read this, we will have dived in once more, welcoming you and your children back into what we expect will be meaningful and enjoyable experiences here. We have missed you and your children and youth! Please peruse the information here and various updates you will be receiving to know if missed activities are re-scheduled and what new ones are coming!

#### Chapel Schedule:

February 28: Gr. K-6 Chinese New Year brought to us by our Festivals classes  
March 7: Gr. K-6 TBA  
March 14: Gr. K-6 Burning Wishes at Luke's Circle  
March 21: No Chapel; Intergenerational start for all.  
March 28: Gr. K-6 Passover  
April 4: No RE; Easter Services (11 a.m. best for children, egg hunt immediately following this service only)  
April 11: Gr. K-4 TBA (Gr. 6 Growing-Up Year Presentation in sanctuary; Gr. 5 classes may want to attend; others welcome)  
April 18: Gr. K-6 Stepping-Stone Year Ceremony

**Chapel Donations:** By the time you receive this, we will have voted on where we want our chapel money to go this year! Based on input from children, the ballot includes: homeless people, hungry people, education for all, endangered species, Haiti, and animal shelters. We will let you know the results soon!

#### Teacher Appreciation Donations

We are still collecting from parents for our Teacher Appreciation Dinner, which is Friday, February 26. If you haven't already, please return your contribution to the RE office as soon as possible. Your donation supports the cost of the dinner and enables us to celebrate our teachers, assistants and other RE leaders in the most joyous way we can! If you have a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, please let us know if they can help as a server at the dinner by returning the form you received in the mail. Thank you for helping to make this dinner a memorable one through your support.

## Save the Date!



### June 11-13, 2010 ALL-CHURCH RETREAT at Camp Tockwogh!

Young adults, families with children, couples, elders, EVERY-

BODY welcome! A time for Cedar Laners of all ages to be together in an informal, relaxed atmosphere. Details and registration materials coming!

## Youth Notes

**Money Matters** workshop (Sunday, March 21, 2-4 p.m.) for teens and parents on ethical and practical money management, with Janet Bodnar, editor of *Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine* and author of award-winning book, *Raising Money-SmartKids*. There is no cost, but please register through Adult Programs. While this workshop is targeted to teens and parents, parents of younger children, grandparents and teachers may find the information useful. Invite your friends!

**Youth Activity Group (Grades 7 and 8)** The Youth Activity Group is open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Cedar Lane. If you have any questions about the group or its activities, contact John Daniel (301-946-5509), Kim Clarkson (301-587-3051) or Susan Archer.

**The Senior High Youth Group (SHYG)** has managed to get in two events in spite of the snow. On January 23, a group of youth and adults enjoyed the Mystery Theater at River Road UU church. And on Friday, February 18, a group gathered in the Chalice House for AI, pizza, a movie, and friends. AI (appreciative inquiry) is a process the Break Force Task Force is using for long-range planning for the church. It was nice to get input from the teens! For information on SHYG (grades 9-12) and SHAG (including parents) contact Archene Turner at 301-493-8300 x205, aturner@cedarlane.org or [archene@gmail.com](mailto:archene@gmail.com). Details of activities and permission forms are on our website at [www.cedarlane.org](http://www.cedarlane.org).

### Upcoming Events:

**February 26-28** Ski trip at Seven Springs

### March

**12 (Not 13!)** Coming of age lock-in for the 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.

**14** SHAG meeting

**19** Hang-out and pizza

**27-29** Boston trip for 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.

## 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 the schedule of upcoming events. For resources and information on Joseph Priestly District (JPD) Young Adult events, visit the JPD Young Adult Network at [www.jpduuyan.org](http://www.jpduuyan.org).

## Adult Programs Notes

**Register for Spring 2010 programs NOW!** Many classes are starting later due to snow cancellations. Please call the RE office for updates. Detailed descriptions and fees are in the Adult Programs Spring 2010 brochure, which is available on our website at [www.cedarlane.org](http://www.cedarlane.org).

**Two Additional Programs** have been scheduled. **Just Sitting**, a time for silent meditation will take place on Tuesdays, 10 to 11a.m., in the chapel. Cedar Lane reserves this time and space for anyone who desires a time for silent meditation with others. At 10:45 a bell will be rung and those who wish can stay for 15 minutes of either sharing or listening to a speaker. You are invited to sit in the pews (which are padded and have good lower back support) or on a zafu or other meditation cushion (bring your own). A basket will be available for donations to the church. Drop-in. Registration not required.

Sunday, March 21, 2 - 4 p.m., plan to join us for **Money Matters** #H39 with Janet Bodnar, editor of *Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine*. This is a workshop on how to handle money responsibly. Older teens and those going off to college should find this session especially useful. Bodnar's column "Money-Smart Kids," was listed as a top online financial advice column by [moneysmartz.com](http://moneysmartz.com). Her book, *Raising Money-Smart Kids*, received a variety of awards. This free workshop is presented by Cedar Lane's Kiplinger Committee. Everyone welcome. Register through Adult Programs.

## !! Brochure Correction!!

- **Olive Oil Tasting** is May 21 (not May 7).

### Classes Beginning Soon:

**Retreat for Women-Mid-Winter Exploration** Saturday, February 27, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Explore through readings, guided meditation, sharing into the silence and being witnessed. Judith Duerk has led retreats for over 1400 women.

**Meditation** This ongoing class for beginners and more experienced students draws a crowd! Students deepen their meditation and mindfulness practices through instruction in sitting and walking meditation, gentle yoga, short talks and discussion. Ten Monday evenings, 7:30 to 9 p.m., beginning March 1.

**Act for the Best: An Appreciation of the Moral Philosophy of William James** The class will read two of his essays to see if his moral outlook is relevant today. Two Monday evenings, 7:30 to 9 p.m., March 1 and 8.

**Voluntary Simplicity** This course offered by the Northwest Earth Institute, recently revised, addresses the difficult problem of gearing down in a busy world. Six Thursday evenings, 7:30 to 9 p.m., beginning March 4.

**Ikebana for Beginners** This is an amazing opportunity to explore the art of Japanese flower arranging with master teacher Sheila Advani! She may be willing to offer more classes if we generate enough interest. Join us in the evening, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 9, in the lounge.

**The Philosophy Club** will discuss several philosophers, Aristotle included. Six sessions on Tuesday evenings, 7:30 to 9 p.m.. Delayed start due to snow, the first class will be Tuesday, March 9.

**The Book Discussion Group** meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 7:15 to 9 p.m., to discuss fiction and non-fiction books, in the library. Join them on March 16.

**Protecting the Earth from Asteroids and Comets** Although the probability of devastating effects is low during our lifetime, they represent the greatest natural threat to our existence. Join Dr. Rob Gold, from Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, for one Wednesday evening, March 17 at 7:30 p.m., and find out the relationship between the size of the impactor and possible fatalities, what have we learned about these objects, and what can we do to mitigate the threat.

**Welcome Workshop** What is Unitarian Universalism and how do I engage with the CL community! This Saturday morning class and lunch is open to anyone interested in discovering what our community is about. March 20.

**Labyrinth** The next Cedar Lane labyrinth walk will be held Sunday, March 7, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium to celebrate the spring equinox.

### **Sunday Morning Forum**

**February 28** *How Can Muslims and Unitarians Talk to each Other?* Our speaker is Zeyneb Salim, a graduate student of Religious Pluralism in the Department of Theology at Georgetown University. Ms. Salim will share her deep interest in interfaith dialogue and building bridges among religious groups. Her basic introduction to the Muslim faith will include the Islamic understanding of God, the core ideas of the faith, its tenets and practices, and the role of the Qur'an as scripture in the Muslim community.

**March 7:** *How to Minimize Potential Harms of Toxic Plastics and Chemicals.* Our speaker is Lynn Goldman, Pediatrician and Professor in the Environmental Health Sciences Department of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Lynn is also a member of Cedar Lane.

**March 14:** *Keeping Agriculture Local.* Montgomery County produces more than \$120 million annually in commercial horticulture, including: landscape, nursery, greenhouse, turf and garden center industries, as well as commercial fruit and vegetable production. Chuck Schuster, Extension Service educator, and horticulturist, will talk about why it is important for us to maintain this growing industry.

**March 21:** *Crossway Community, Inc.* with Kathleen Guinan, CEO (and husband Ed, November 2008 WETA Hometown Heroes) will discuss this organization created in 1990 to provide low-income mothers with educational opportunities and child-care options. Crossway acts to combine the best aspects of homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters and transitional housing programs to create an environment that fosters community learning. The organization is a model of how public/private partnerships can support the creation of innovative and community-serving initiatives.

## Leadership, Development, and Nominations Committee

**Report from the 2009-2010 Leadership Development and Nominations Committee** The Leadership Development and Nominations Committee is required, by its charter, to announce the candidates for next year's Board of Trustees and new members of the nominating committee by March 1. We are pleased to present the following slate of candidates. The election will take place at the Annual Meeting in April.

Candidates for the Board of Trustees

### **Assistant Secretary**

*William (Bill) Zellmer* has served CL as member, treasurer, and co-chair of the Partner Church Committee; he and his family accompanied Rev. Roger Fritts on Cedar Lane's first official visit to its partner church in Dicsöszentmárton, Transylvania, Romania, in 1996. Bill has also been a member and secretary of the Kiplinger Lecture Committee and has served for many years as a building-security supervisor.

Bill and his wife, Charlene, who live in Bethesda, have been members of CL for more than 35 years. Their two children are graduates of the CL RE program. Bill recently retired after nearly 40 years on the staff of an association of hospital pharmacists where he worked in health policy, communications, strategic planning, and organizational development; he now serves as a consultant in those areas. He holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin (pharmacy) and Johns Hopkins University

(public health). His interests include hiking, bicycling, travel, reading, and enjoying the Washington area's cultural events.

#### **Assistant Treasurer**

*Michael Lentz* has served as treasurer on the CL Religious Education Council for five years. This is his second year as a member of the CL auction committee. He has also served in the past as a Holiday Craft Day craft leader and a volunteer for other RE activities.

Michael has been involved in an executive capacity with several area and national non-profits for many years. He was the founding president of the Atlantic States Gay Rodeo Association and represented that organization as trustee to the International Gay Rodeo Association including two years as chairman of the IGRA Board of Trustees. He has been a certified rodeo judge since 1998 and is currently chairman of the IGRA rodeo judges.

Michael received a B.A. in mathematics and economics from the University of North Carolina and returned to Chapel Hill for three years of graduate study in applied statistics. He is the president of an economics and public policy consulting firm that he founded in 1998. He lives in North Bethesda with his partner, Rob Larew, and their son Zachary. They began attending CL in 2002 and joined the church in April 2004.

#### **At-Large Candidates**

*Betsy Devlin-Foltz* joined CL in 1987. She has been a member of the Social Justice Council (SJC) since 2007 and co-chair since November of 2008, and, as such, has enjoyed working with other SJC members to inspire Cedar Laners' involvement in social justice work through the Social Justice Empowerment workshop in January 2009, the Social Justice Fair in 2010, and other strategies. She is a member of the CLARITY, CL's new anti-racism task force and has taught the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and senior high Our Whole Lives curriculum in the RE program.

Betsy lives in Silver Spring with her husband, David, their two cats, and their sons, Sebi (19) and Zack (23) when they are in town. Her other volunteer experiences include being PTSA President at Einstein High School as well as co-chair of the school's gift wrap fundraiser booth at the Wheaton mall. After a number of years running a small foundation that promotes global education in US schools, she recently started a new job with the State Department's Teacher Exchange Program.

*Sandy Shaw* has served on the Social Justice Council and ten years earlier on its predecessor, the Board of Social Concerns, having terms as Co-Chair and Chair both times. He has coordinated the Community Based Shelter for almost twenty years. In the early 1990s, he served on the Renovation Committee that led to the current Office/Lounge arrangement. He is a regular at both the

Forum and Science & Religion. He has also been participating in the CLARITY group and getting increasingly enthusiastic about participating in the efforts of Action in Montgomery (AIM). He and his wife, Betsy, have been members since December of 1987. They participate in the best Dinner Discussion Group at the church.

Sandy and Betsy live on Chelsea Lane across Wisconsin Ave. from NIH. Their son, Nathan, is a sophomore at Towson University and daughter, Carrie, a member of CL, has just returned to the area after graduating from the University of Florida; she is working for the Girl Scouts. Sandy has been retired for about three years, after a 30-year architectural career working on a wide range of research issues related to buildings, first at the American Institute of Architects and then at the National Institute of Building Sciences.

*Vicky Strella* has attended Cedar Lane since the mid-nineties with her family, husband Paul, and sons, Brian (24), Mark (20) and Joey (16). The boys are the fourth generation in Vicky's family to be UUs! Vicky's parents, Joseph and Mary Harian, have been active in several Unitarian or Universalist congregations, originally in Haverhill, Mass, and now in Vero Beach, Florida.

With husband, Paul, Vicky chaired the 2008 and 2009 CL auctions. Previously Vicky co-chaired the RE Council (2006-7). She and Paul have taught 8<sup>th</sup> graders/Our Whole Lives for the past two years.

Vicky's educational background is in journalism (Indiana University B.A. '76) and social work (Catholic University M.S.W. '97) She has worked as a press aide on Capitol Hill, manager of the Presidential Debates (1984-88), director of the Council on Foundations' Office of the President, director of Montgomery County's Project Family Outreach, and coordinator of the Maryland Parent Leadership Institute. For the past two years she has been PTSA co-president at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda.

#### *Leadership Development and Nominations Committee*

*Marge Dimond (three-year term)*  
*Duncan Ferguson (one-year term, BOT chair)*  
*Cathy Knapper (three-year term)*

## Around the Church

### Deadline to Order Name Plates for Memory Wall

Do you have a loved one whom you would like to memorialize with a name plate on the Memory Wall of the beautiful garden outside the Chalice House? He or she need not have been a member of the church. Orders for name plates to be dedicated this spring need to be in the church office no later than Monday, March 1. For applications or information, contact Lyn Peters, Chair of the Memory Garden and History Committee, at 301-881-2872 or [lyneters@verizon.net](mailto:lyneters@verizon.net). A dedication of the newest name plates on the Memory Wall will take place on Sunday, May 30, after the single church service.

## Auction Committee

### Swing Into Spring!

**Cedar Lane Auction, Saturday, March 13, 6 p.m.**

**Come, do come!** Cedar Lane's annual auction is the social event of our church year. Dress for a party! Advance tickets are on sale now through March 7 after Sunday services and from Bruce Marquette in the office. The admission price of \$30 includes a scrumptious gourmet buffet and all activities. Need childcare? Call or e-mail Mary Farrar (301-929-9048) or [maryefarrar@verizon.net](mailto:maryefarrar@verizon.net) to reserve a supervised, safe, fun evening for the kids in the Chalice House.

**Spurge on Raffle tickets!** Only \$10 each this year. Multiply your chances to take home a stunning, lovingly pieced and hand-stitched quilt, called "Unitarian Labyrinth" because David Yano, its designer and CL Quilters' guiding light, says, "This is the name the quilt had to have." Its vibrant reds, greens, purples and bursts of varied patterns reflect the many paths available to all of us. Your winning 50-50 raffle ticket (half the proceeds to you, half to CL) could net you a sizable pot of cash.

**Give- your time, talents, treasures!** Find donation forms in your recent mailing, at the auction table in the lounge, or at [www.cedarlane.org](http://www.cedarlane.org). Duplicate at will! Donation forms are due by February 26. What can you donate? A dinner? Services? Please also ask your favorite business to donate something or place an ad in the auction program (corporate forms available on the church website), but check with Lisa Chernikoff, 301-587-5992 or [lisa.chernikoff@verizon.net](mailto:lisa.chernikoff@verizon.net), before doing so in case someone else has already contacted that business. Volunteers are still needed for a number of tasks. You can sign up at the auction table in the lounge after services.

**Go Nifty Thrifty!** The chapel will again house our upscale cash-and-carry sale of new or gently used items priced from \$5 to \$25. This is your perfect opportunity to "re-gift" those second-thoughts earrings, incompatible knick-knacks, idle housewares. Bring Nifty-Thrifty donations to the chapel on Friday, March 12, 1-8 pm, and Saturday, March 13, 9 am-noon. No donation form needed, just show up with the stuff. Regular silent auction items will be accepted during the same time periods, but in the lounge.

**Bid, Win, Eat, Enjoy, Rejoice at helping Cedar Lane. Be there for us and the wider world. Proceeds in excess of our goal will go to support the Manna Food Center.**

**Questions?** Ask Brian Belanger, Auction Chair, 301-258-0708, [radiobelanger@comcast.net](mailto:radiobelanger@comcast.net). Brian will also arrange a ride if you need one.

## Social Justice Council

**International Concerns Coalition** Please join us for an International Concerns Coalition meeting Sunday, February 28, at 12:20 in room 15. Newcomers are welcome! For more information, contact Annette Scarpitta ([annettecedarlane@spamex.com](mailto:annettecedarlane@spamex.com)).

**Afghan Dinner** Thank you to everyone who attended the Afghan dinner on January 23; we enjoyed having so many Cedar Laners present. Enormous thanks to Nancy Janssen for working her miracles before, during, and after the dinner, always with a smile. Thanks also to Kay Gottesman for playing a major role at all stages. Thanks also go to Molly Hauck for her work and for spearheading the dish washing and ensuring we had nothing but glass dishes and no plastics (no small feat with such a large crowd). Ernie Carlson saved the day several times before the dinner. Other volunteers to whom we are grateful were Bob Grafton, Marion Carlson, Don Cleary, Becky White, Helen Strang, Frank Adler, Kay Scott, Tillman Neuner, Carol Edwards, and Lesego Saohatse. Last but by no means least, Mickey Sigsbee was our superhero to whom we remain grateful.

**Cedar Lane News is published monthly. Send submissions to [newsletter@cedarlane.org](mailto:newsletter@cedarlane.org) by March 17 for the April issue.**

Editor this Issue: Corinne Woodward  
Proofreader: Nancy Derr

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

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
KENSINGTON, MD  
PERMIT NO. 26

---

***RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED***

---

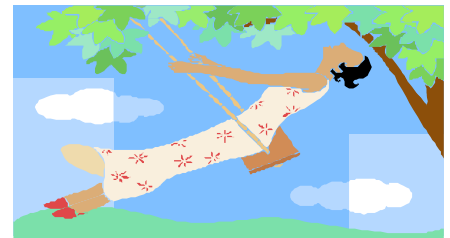
**The Rev. Roger Fritts** *Senior Minister*  
**The Rev. Susan Archer** *Minister of Religious Education*  
**The Rev. Heather Janules** *Associate Minister*  
**The Rev. Archene Turner** *Coordinator of Senior High Youth Ministry*  
**The Rev. Leslie Westbrook** *Community Minister in Pastoral Counseling*  
**The Rev. Kenneth Torquil MacLean** *Minister Emeritus*  
**The Rev. Roberta M. Nelson** *Minister Emerita*  
**Dr. Henry Sgrecci** *Director of Music*  
**Thomas Guthrie**, *Organist/Accompanist*  
**Duncan Ferguson** *Chair, Board of Trustees*  
**Sara Deshler** *Church Administrator*

---

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL**

**Participate in the Cedar Lane Auction — Even if You Cannot Attend!**

Are you hankering for that irresistible week at the beach or tantalizing gourmet dinner offered by your favorite Cedar Lane chefs but know you cannot make it on March 13? Try our absentee bidder system, new this year for live-auction items.



Just write or e-mail Sara Deshler (9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda 20814 or [sdeshler@cedarlane.org](mailto:sdeshler@cedarlane.org)) stating your name, address, phone number, the number and title of your desired item(s), and the maximum amount you are willing to pay for each. Make sure your message gets to the church by March 10 to ensure adequate time for processing. A surrogate will be assigned to bid on your behalf. Similar to how eBay works, the surrogate will bid the minimum amount necessary at each increment to make you the high bidder, continuing until either you gain the item or some other bidder overtakes your maximum. You will be notified if you're a winner.

Review the auction catalog, which will be posted at [www.cedarlane.org](http://www.cedarlane.org) by March 5 (with updates as needed), or pick up a hard copy at the church. You can also obtain a more detailed description of the absentee bidding procedure at either site. Direct questions to Brian Belanger, at 301-258-0708 or [radiobelanger@comcast.net](mailto:radiobelanger@comcast.net).

If you cannot join the fun, you can create excitement vicariously-and support the church we love!