



CEDAR LANE NEWS

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

Volume LVII, No. 6

December 14, 2010

Sunday Services 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

December 19, 2010

“The Joy of Santa”

The Rev. Roger Fritts

How did Nicholas, the 3rd century Bishop of Myra, Asia Minor, get to be a prime symbol of our December culture? Does our love of the Santa story have a spiritual element? (This sermon was originally set for December 2009, but was postponed for a year due to 17 inches of snow.) The service includes the procession of our Haunting House children with their animals. Please bring sweaters, mittens, scarves, or other new warm clothing for children and teens at Beacon House.

December 24, 2010

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

4:30, 6, and 10 p.m.

Note the time change for the late service - 10 p.m.

See descriptions in Roger’s column.

December 26, 2010: 10 a.m. only

“What Are Unitarian Universalist Views on Spirituality?”

The Rev. Roger Fritts

This is a sermon that only a few of you heard because of heavy snow on a Sunday last winter. The sermon will explore spirituality, and we will sing Christmas carols one last time before entering the new year.

January 2, 2011: 10 a.m. only

“How is This Church Organized?”

The Rev. Roger Fritts

Power, who gets it and why, has been an ongoing theme in Unitarian Universalist churches. We will look at *The Cambridge Platform* of 1648, Robert’s *Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies*, published in 1876, and *Boards That Make a Difference*, first published in 1990.

January 9, 2011

“By the Content of Their Character” - One Person’s Reflections on White Identity and Privilege

The Rev. Heather Janules

Next Sunday, our congregation will celebrate the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In preparation for this celebration, this service will explore the spiritual dimensions of the unfinished business in regard to racism in our culture through a personal journey into what it means to be white in America.

January 16, 2011

“Martin Luther King Sunday - A Service for All Ages”

The Revs. Susan Archer, Roger Fritts, Heather Janules, and Archene Turner

Dr. King’s life and message lifts up the quest for justice and the hope for peace that is also at the heart of Unitarian Universalism. Join with all ages as we celebrate and reflect together as a community of faith. All ages are encouraged to participate. There will be childcare for 5 years and younger. **NO RE CLASSES.**

January 23, 2011

“Roger’s Annual Auction Service”

The Rev. Roger Fritts

Each year at our auction, Roger offers the chance to pick a sermon topic. Last March our highest bidder was Jeffrey Leonard. Jeff has asked Roger and Archene to talk with our high school youth and create a worship service that reflects a topic our youth would like to see addressed. We hope to have participation from the youth.

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

December 19: *Montgomery County’s Fiscal Challenges* with Nancy Floreen, Former Montgomery County Council President. Nancy is a member of Cedar Lane.

January 2: *The Dignity of Difference* video of public radio interview with Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, Lord Jonathan Sacks by “Krista Tippett on Being.” (11 a.m. this week)

January 9: *Guantanamo, the Red Cross, and Humanitarian Law* with Jamie Williamson, Legal Advisor for the Washington Delegation of the International Committee for the Red Cross.

January 16: *What Do the 2010 Elections Portend: Gridlock or Compromise?* with Peter Fenn, Fenn Communications Group, media consulting firm.

January 23: *One Out of Every 100 of Us Goes to Jail. Why?* with Julie Stewart, President of Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM).

Please see the Adult Programs section for longer descriptions.

Notes from the Ministers

Roger Fritts

Our Friday, December 24, 2010, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Schedule:

4:30 p.m.. We enter the church in daylight and leave in darkness after the sunlight is gone. It will be a 45-minute service, ideal for young children and everyone who loves to feel the excitement of Christmas in young children. Our Youth and Handbell Choirs will provide music for the service.

6 p.m. This is a one hour service for older children and adults. We will light candles for children born or adopted this year. Our Youth and Handbell Choirs will provide music for the service.

10 p.m.. We will have our traditional "high church" worship for adults, with music from our adult choir. We will sing carols with organ and string and woodwind quartet accompaniment; have short readings, a short sermon and light candles.

The tradition of everyone getting to hold and light a candle on Christmas Eve is recent. Looking back at newspapers, in the 19th and early 20th century many churches had weekly Sunday evening vesper services. However, they held evening worship on Christmas Eve only in years that December 24 fell on a Sunday. The old newspapers do not describe members of the congregation holding lighted candles.

When I search The Washington Post for “Christmas Candlelight Service” the first reference is December 22, 1929, 4 p.m. at the YWCA. A 1931 newspaper article includes this description of a church service: “From the

rear of the church the vested choir approaches, each bearing a tall candle. The whole church is then lighted only by the rays of the candles in the candelabra on the altar, those in each window and the ones carried by the choir.”

When and where was the first Christmas Eve service where everyone in the congregation got to hold and light a candle? I do not know. My guess is that it was sometime in the 1930s or 1940s. In 1954, our church appears in the Post: “MONTGOMERY COUNTY UNITARIAN 11:30 Candlelight Service ‘The Spirit of Christmas’ told through music and poetry.”

Join us December 24 for this 56-year-old tradition.

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 nametag or the map in the church office to find your neighborhood.

Our condolences are with two Cedar Lane members who have lost a brother this week. **Barbara Gressman (Neighborhood 6)** and her husband **Bill** mourn the death of Barbara's brother, David Altimier, who died after a year long struggle with Familial Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (FALS). And our hearts go out to **Fred Peters (N19)**, whose brother, Rob, died after a struggle with lung cancer.

For those who like to watch the television game show “Jeopardy,” Thomas Nissley, the son of **Connie and Peter Nissley (N5)**, will be on the show starting Tuesday, Dec. 14. Thomas is a graduate of CLUUC's RE Program, from the earliest classes to Senior High, so it is no surprise that he would be so knowledgeable!

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 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 Enews, we send our...

Condolences to
Condolences are with **Mimi Grimm (N10)** and her children **Michael, Mina** and **Tim** as they mourn the death

of their husband and father, **Karl Grimm** after a long illness. A Service in Celebration of Karl's life will be held at Cedar Lane on Saturday, December 18 at 11:00 am.

Congratulations to

Ruth Pritchard-Kelly (N23) as she prepares to start a new job in the Hague with an international company in January.

Healing wishes to

Martha Smith (N14) as she was recently discharged from the hospital after suffering a minor stroke.

Weston King-Leatham (N17) after receiving a difficult course of chemotherapy to treat his leukemia.

Zach Turner (N31), after spinal surgery last week.

Music Notes from the Director of Music

Music Notes from Dr. Henry Sgrecci - Director of Music hsGRECCI@cedarlane.org

Dec. 19 - On this Intergenerational Sunday before Christmas we welcome our Children and Youth to lead us in song. The Youth Handbell Choir will unveil a lively arrangement of the traditional French carol, "Il Est Né." During the Call to Worship the Children's Choir will be grooving with the West Indian carol, "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy," while the Youth Choir sings the three part Christmas song "Pin a Star On a Twinkling Tree" by Lois Myers Emig. The Adult Choir will loosen up for the holiday with a swinging version of the traditional spiritual "Go Tell it On the Mountain." The congregation will sing favorite songs of the season.

Dec. 24 - On Christmas Eve our choirs will lead us in the celebration of Christmas. At the 4:30 and 6 p.m. services the Children's Choir, Youth Choir, and Youth Handbell Choir will repeat the songs they presented on Dec. 19 and add a couple of surprises too (Dr. S might even bring out his trumpet...). At the 10 p.m. service, the Adult Choir will sing from J. S. Bach's Cantata 142, "Uns ist ein kind geboren" (For Us a Child is Born). Prelude music will begin at 10 p.m. with solos from the orchestra, the organ, and the Choir. Come early to hear this wonderful prelude music.

Dec. 26 - Thomas Guthrie will provide songs of the season for organ and soloists during this single service at 10:00 a.m. on the day after Christmas.

Jan. 2 - Soprano Susan Clark and pianist Kathie Bryant will help sing in the new year during this single service at 10 a.m.

Jan. 9 - The Adult Choir will return to sing sections from Vivaldi's "Gloria" as a reminder for all to attend the benefit concert later in the week.

Jan. 15 - Make sure to reserve this Saturday evening date now. Dr. Henry Sgrecci leads the Cedar Lane Chamber Orchestra, the Adult Choir, and both instrumental and vocal soloists in an all-Vivaldi benefit concert for the Judi Maurer Scholarship Program. Admission is free with all donations going to the Scholarship Program, which provides financial assistance to a student in his/her first year at Montgomery College. Come early to get a seat. See flyers in the lounge for more information or contact hsGRECCI@cedarlane.org.

Jan. 16 - The Youth Handbell, Children's and Youth Choirs, and the Adult Choir will be on hand to lead the congregation in music to celebrate Martin Luther King Sunday.

Jan. 23 - Several of our young musicians will be contributing selections during this service in which Senior Minister Roger Fritts will be assisted by the youth of the congregation.

From the Administrator

The season of giving is upon us, and on Sunday, December 19, we will have an opportunity to give from the heart at Cedar Lane. A Red Cross Bloodmobile will be on site from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments are appreciated although walk-ins will be welcome. All participants that donate will receive a special *Cooking for Heroes* cookbook! The cookbook contains recipes from local blood donors and your favorite celebrities, including **First Lady Michelle Obama, Miss America, Alex Trebek, Bob Barker, Dolly Parton, Chef Emeril** and more!

EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Susan Archer, Minister of Religious Education
Archene Turner, Coordinator of Senior High Youth Ministry
Gale Ginther Luce and Jeannette Wilson, Administrators
For information and to register for classes and programs
call 301-493-8300 x207 or email RE@cedarlane.org.

Religious Education for Children (RE)

Lighting Candles for New Babies on Christmas Eve

Once again we will be lighting candles for children or grandchildren of members of our congregation during the 6 p.m. service only. Please, by **December 22**, let Susan Archer or the church office know of children born or adopted since December 25, 2009.

Worship Services

Christmas Eve Services Friday, December 24

4:30 and 6 p.m.: These two early services are especially good for families with children. The 4:30 p.m. service will be about 45 minutes long. The 6 p.m. will be about an hour. There will be music by our children's and youth choirs, and youth bell choir, much singing by all, a Christmas story, and, of course, the congregational candle-lighting. The two services will be alike, except for the lighting of candles for children born or adopted into Cedar Lane families (in the previous 12 months) which will happen only at the 6 p.m. service. You must contact the RE office if you have a child for whom you would like a candle lit.

10 p.m. This longer service is aimed at adults and will be enjoyed by teens. The choir will sing and there will be amazing special music.

Sunday, December 26: There will be one service at 10 a.m. NO RE classes. Childcare for children 5 and younger is available.

Sunday, January 2: There will be one service at 10 a.m. NO RE classes. Childcare for children 5 and younger is available.

All-Ages Service for Martin Luther King Sunday, January 16

We do not have RE classes on this Sunday so that all ages may worship together and witness to the values this congregation celebrates. It is an opportunity for the young ones to be part of what we stand for, for elders to see the hope in our younger generations, and for families to be together to acknowledge what is important and worthy in life. Please plan to come. Child care available for those 5 years and younger.

RE Calendar 2010/11

- December 24 (Fri) 4:30, 6, and 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Services
December 26 (Sun) 10 a.m. One service only; no RE; childcare for ages 5 and under
January 2 (Sun) 10 a.m. One service only; no RE; childcare for ages 5 and under
January 9 (Sun) Smart Sacks (date change!)
January 16 (Sun) 9 and 11 a.m. MLK services; no RE classes, childcare for 5 and younger
January 23 (Sun) Youth led worship services

Beacon House Gifts for Children and Youth: Bring new, unwrapped gifts to church for children and teens (ages 5-18) at Beacon House. These are kids who will likely not receive much else during the holidays. It is great to involve your young ones in this process. Let them shop with you and imagine what someone else might want! Toys, books, or whatever you know youth of a particular age might like are welcome, as well as sweaters, hats, gloves. Donations of gift wrap are also welcome. There will be donation sites both upstairs by the front door and downstairs in the Administration area until the morning of Sunday, December 19, which will be the **LAST day** to bring them.

7th Graders Rock!

Both sessions did very successful fundraising at Holiday Craft Day. Session I baked their hearts out and raised \$500 to support SMILE, helping to provide surgeries for children born with cleft palates and other facial deformities. In Session II, Colin Young and Sarah Becker raffled their amazing handmade gingerbread house and tree. Others offered warm drinks, alternative gifts, scarves made by Sarah Becker, and more from their paper-to-pearls project, to aid Congolese women and their children. Many Kudos to both groups who are compassionately determined to make changes in this world.

Child dedications, February 13

What is a child dedication? Most faith traditions have a way to welcome young ones into the community. In Christian circles the rite of Baptism cleanses the child of sin and purifies. UU ceremonies affirm that a baby arrives without sin or shame, as a whole and good person. Our service is a promise, from parents, family, friends and the congregation, to the child and to each other, that we will love and nurture her or him, and that we will teach the best of what we know. If you are interested in this ceremony for your baby or child, please contact Susan Archer.

Youth Notes

Youth Activity Group (YAG)

The Youth Activity Group is open to 7th and 8th graders at Cedar Lane. Watch your email and snail mail for information on events and for permission slips. If you have questions about the group or its activities, contact John Daniel at johndaniel@comcast.net, Kim Clarkson, or Susan Archer.

Dec 24 (Fr) Ushering at Christmas Eve Services

Jan 9 (Su) Orienteering at Wheaton Regional Park

Jan 15 (Sa) Pizza and Movie

Jan 28-30 (Fr-Su) Youth Group Ski Trip

Senior High Youth Group

Watch your emails for important information and permission forms for upcoming events:

Dec 19 (Su) Brookside Holiday Lights at 6 p.m.

Jan 16 (Su) MLK worship services

Jan 17 (Mo) MLK Service Day

Jan 21 (Fr) Hang-Out 6-10 p.m.

Jan 22 (Sa) Youth Service Rehearsal

Jan 23 (Su) Youth Led Worship Service

Jan 28-30 (Fr-Su) Youth Group Ski Trip

Drivers and chaperones are needed for all of our events, please contact the RE office if you can help.

For information about the SHYG (grades 9-12) and the Senior High Activity Group (SHAG, including parents) contact Archene Turner at 301-493-8300 x205, aturner@cedarlane.org or archene@gmail.com.

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. For resources and information on Joseph Priestly District (JPD) Young Adult events, visit the JPD Young Adult Network at www.jpduuyan.org.

Adult Programs

Watch for the Adult Programs Spring 2011 brochure, and Sunday morning registration in January!

We are wrapping up our fall semester with: What Moves Us? Ideas and Inspiration in UU Theology with Susan Archer: Course participants will use materials from a curriculum by the Rev. Dr. Thandeka, a UU professor of theology. As a group we will explore our own life experiences by reflecting on the theology of two historical UUs. Hosea Ballou, the most

important Universalist preacher of the 19th century, believed that happiness is a mandate for us all. Do we all have the right to be happy? Margaret Fuller, Unitarian intellectual and activist of the 19th century, sought and found integrity of heart and reason and used that integrity to transform faith into action. Does she have guidance for our own faith today? Two Saturdays: January 8 and 22, 10 a.m. to noon, Pledgers \$10; non-pledgers \$15. (A similar program will be offered in the spring semester with a focus on two more contemporary UUs: Sophia Fahs and Forrest Church).

Film Series: Religious Creed and Sexual Orientation meets on the second Friday of the month through January. The last one is on January 14, "For the Bible Tells Me So," a documentary about the contemporary face of an old conflict between Christian fundamentalists and gay and lesbian people. Begins at 7:30 p.m.; \$5/session.

Most classes welcome new participants, even if they have already started. Class and leader descriptions, number of sessions, and costs are all detailed in the brochure; copies can be picked up at the church and are available online at <http://www.cedarlane.org/ap/fall2010-APBrochure.pdf>. Registration cards were included in mailed brochures and are available at the church and ready to download from our website. Registrations should be sent to the RE office. Classes are open to all Cedar Laners, and most welcome those from the larger community.

Sunday Morning Forum

The Sunday Morning Forum meets in the Chalice House on Sundays, 10:10 to 10:55 a.m. Everyone is welcome, no registration required. Coffee is served.

December 19: *Montgomery County's Fiscal Challenges* with Nancy Floreen, Former Montgomery County Council President. Nancy is a member of Cedar Lane.

January 2: *"The Dignity of Difference"* presents in video an interview heard on the public radio program, "Krista Tippett on Being," with Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, Lord Jonathan Sacks. Quoting American Public Media, the Rabbi "is one of the world's greatest thinkers on the promises and perils of religion, and senses that a core imperative of the 21st century is we must cultivate strong identities as a way to honor what he evocatively calls the 'dignity of difference'." Join the Forum audience for this interview on diversity and inclusion, and discussion afterwards led by Tracey Stein.

January 9: *Guantanamo, the Red Cross, and Humanitarian Law*. Today's armed conflicts bring new and complex challenges to International Humanitarian Law, a body of law developed by many nations over many years. Jamie Williamson, Legal Adviser for the Washington delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, explains the crucial role it plays, from

Solferino to Guantanamo, in ensuring that humanitarian principles are respected by all parties in a conflict.

January 16: *What Do the 2010 Elections Portend: Gridlock or Compromise?* Peter Fenn, owner of Fenn Communications Group, political strategist, consultant, and TV commentator, will explore the meaning of last November's elections and look ahead to this session of Congress. What should President Obama and the Democrats do? How will the Republicans react, especially the new Tea Party members? Will this be a year of tackling tough problems or political posturing? How mad are voters and will 2012 be another "change" election?

January 23: *One Out of Every 100 of Us Goes to Jail. Why?* Julie Stewart, President of Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM) describes how sentencing policies over the last two decades have pushed the U.S. prison population to record highs, bankrupted states, and morally crippled our nation. A national expert on mandatory minimums, Stewart explains the reasons behind them and recites their impacts, not just on prisoners and their families, but on all of us.

Labyrinth

Celebrate the Turning of the Year

Our annual New Year's Eve Candlelight labyrinth walk will be held on Friday, December 31, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the sanctuary. There will be live piano and harp music by Meg Baker. Please wear socks to walk the labyrinth. There is no charge, but donations are appreciated. For more information contact Chris Mauro at chris.mauro@baesystems.com.

Winter Silent Retreat

Join us for a reflective January post-holiday and New Year renewal. No BlackBerrys allowed! The retreat begins on Friday evening with an ingathering service to set an intention for a time of inner reflection, and ends with shared thoughts and refreshments. In between, we read, write, walk, nap, meditate, and walk our labyrinth as the spirit moves each of us. Some of us sleep over at the church; others return in the morning. Some take the opportunity to fast; others bring their own food. Please join us. The Rev. Heather Janules will lead the ceremonies. Call Miriam Pemberton with questions. January 7-8, 2011 (7 p.m. - 6 p.m.), Pledgers \$15; non-pledgers \$20. Register in the RE office.

Around the Church

Grieving a Loved One Through the Holidays

At their best, the winter holidays are joyous times with family and other companions. However, the death of a loved one can make the holiday season a difficult time of grief and renewed sadness. As is our annual tradition, on **December 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel**, there will be a gathering of those who wish to share their thoughts and feelings about those they miss this holiday season. Perhaps the loss was recent, perhaps it happened long ago but is still a source of difficulty. All are invited to share their stories and to hold the stories of others. Contact Heather Janules at hjanules@cedarlane.org or x204 with any questions.

Winter Solstice Vespers Service

December 19, 5 p.m. (Snow date: January 2, 2011) Organized by the members of the Journeywomen and Heart to Heart Connection Circles. Music Provided by: Duo Atlantica, with Carol Ireland, Harpsichord; and Margaret Turner, Baroque Blockflote; along with Zachary Saraf, guitar. The winter solstice marks the longest night of the year and the start of the lengthening days. Come join a vespers celebration with music, accompanied by readings of the mystery of darkness and the joy of light. Following the service, seasonal refreshments will be served. (No dinner). Optional donations for Beacon House will be accepted: hats, scarves, mittens, unwrapped toys, or cash.

Candles for New Babies/Children

Once again we will be lighting candles for the newly arrived children or grandchildren born or adopted (since December 24, 2009) of members of our congregation, during the 6 p.m. service only, on Christmas Eve. Please contact Susan Archer or the RE office by Sunday, December 19, and include the child's name, birth date, name of siblings, and parent's/grandparent's names.

Finding Work and Meaning - A Program for the Mid-career Un(der)employed

This challenging economy has forced many good employees out of work and has prevented those looking for full-time work from leaving part-time positions. For those in their late 40s and 50s, it is especially difficult to find a new job. This program is geared towards people in this situation.

The group will begin with a four-session series of intentional conversations over eight weeks, geared towards giving participants a safe space to articulate their fears, frustrations and hopes. Members will also read *Let*

Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation by Parker Palmer together so the deeper, spiritual dimensions of work may be considered. There will also be opportunities to meet one-on-one with an experienced business leader, skilled at helping individuals discern the direction they should seek. The program culminates in a companion program, the Mature Job Seekers Workshop so, as participants discover where they are called to bring their gifts, they will receive support in finding the most effective ways to connect with opportunities.

This program is for individuals who are not earning enough to sustain themselves and their families so individuals who are currently employed full-time and seeking a change are ineligible. However, all are welcome to enroll in the Mature Job Seekers Workshop.

Presenters: Robert Werner, Tracey Stein and Heather Janules

Dates: The group will begin in early January; contact Heather Janules for more information

Fee: No charge

Chalice Lighters Program

Ever hear of "church-in-a-box"? That is what small UU congregations take to a rented sanctuary each Sunday. They struggle with overwhelming organizational and financial challenges and are not able to offer the benefits large congregations take for granted, like a full-time minister or vibrant Religious Education. It is a huge financial and organizational stretch for small congregations to move from rental spaces using "church-in-a-box" to having their own home and staff.

Chalice Lighters give a small amount (most, \$20) 3 times a year to support grants to help them make the financial part of the stretch! Grants are to organize new congregations, to help congregations buy land and buildings, and to help congregations afford their first minister or other staff on their way to becoming full-service. There are currently 3 of these grant-giving sessions a year, currently making approximately 2 grants of \$20 thousand at each session. Over the last 23 years more than \$2 million has been granted to 50 different congregations. New congregations are currently organizing in Sperryville, VA and Dover, DE. Many other congregations are actively trying to grow to afford their own building, full-time ministers, RE, and music programs.

Please consider enrolling as a Chalice Lighter today. Enrollment and pledge are valid for as long as you continue to donate. You can fill an enrollment form online (online go to www.jpduua.org, look for the quick links column on the left of the web page, click on

"Chalice Lighters" and then "Online Chalice Lighters Enrollment" below it, and then follow directions to fill in the form). Call John Gubbings with any questions (see church directory for his phone number).

You Can Help with the 2011 Cedar Lane Auction!

Save the date for Cedar Lane's annual Swing into Spring Auction: Saturday, April 2. This would be a great time to be thinking about what you might donate. Right now the auction committee is concentrating on corporate donations. Letters are being mailed to many local businesses, asking them to donate a gift certificate or merchandise, or to purchase an ad in the program. If there is a business (e.g., restaurant, car repair place, hair salon) with which you have a good relationship, consider approaching the manager about a donation or an ad purchase. Forms for corporate donations and ad orders can be found on the church website (www.cedarlane.org), in the church office, or ask, and we will mail you a package. If you are shy and would prefer to have someone else approach the business, contact:

Brian Belanger, 301-258-0708,
radiobelanger@comcast.net, or
Lisa Chernikoff, 301-587-5992,
lisa.chernikoff@verizon.net

We will arrange for follow-up and mention your name to the business. (Contact us, too, if you would like to volunteer to be one of those follow-uppers!)

Social Justice Council

Alternative Giving Continues Through the Holidays

Please visit the Alternative Giving Table in the lounge after each service in December to make your purchases. The selection this year is very exciting, and winter cards with Roger Fritts's wonderful winter photos are also available. Donation options this year include:

- *AMCAV*: Provides counseling, rehabilitation, and social reintegration of injured, outcast women in the Democratic Republic of Congo (proposed by second session 7th grade RE class)
- *The Enhanced Food Production Capacity Project*: Of Ayiti Gouvenans and local Haitian organizations, promoting good health and nutrition to address the chronic food shortage in Haiti
- *Friends of Chernobyl Centers, U.S. (FOCCUS)*: Provides badly needed services to Chernobyl-affected populations
- *Kabultec*: Supports literacy classes for couples in Kabul, Afghanistan
- *Kakenya Center for Excellence*: Provides primary education to underprivileged girls in Maasai Kenya

- *Operation Smile*: Supports surgeries for children born with cleft palates and other facial deformities (proposed by the first session 7th grade RE class)
- *Partner Church Community*: Provides financial support to the elderly in Dicsöszentmárten, Romania
- *Pueblo a Pueblo*: Supports indigenous Maya children in the highlands of Guatemala
- *SEEDTREE*: Works with rural communities in Nepal to restore forests
- *Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)*: Helps and organizes working women in India, with the goal of self-reliance

♻️GREEN TIPS♻️ Environmental Task Force

Cleaning Your Silver? It Just Takes the Basics.

by Annie B. Bond

This is the time of year we get out our silver; sparkling clean silver is a delight on any table. The secrets of silver cleaning using household basics may surprise you, but the techniques are easy, tried, and true! For a small job, use white toothpaste. Just dab some on your finger, and rub it onto the tarnished area. For the big jobs, use baking soda and a clean, damp sponge. First make a paste of the baking soda and water. Scoop the paste onto the sponge and rub the paste onto the silver. A rinse with hot water and a wipe with a soft clean cloth finishes the job. If you have badly tarnished silver, leave the baking soda paste on for an hour or so before rinsing and drying. For more ideas on cleaning, check out the following:
<http://www.care2.com/greenliving/make-your-own-non-toxic-cleaning-kit.html>

Around the Denomination

A World of Color: Fabric Art

January 3 to 30, 2010

**Opening Reception Sunday, January 9, 3-5 p.m.
River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation
6301 River Road (access from Whittier Blvd.)
Bethesda, Maryland**

This show by Cloth and Conversation exhibits the work of ten quilters who demonstrate the wide range of contemporary techniques used in making art quilts. The quilts vary in size, texture, and style to give a flavor of what is being done in the art quilt world today.

In recent years, and in a more affluent society, quilting has changed dramatically. The patterns have moved away from blocks to more free form and pictorial ideas, using both shapes and the fabric print to create designs.

Hand sewing has been largely replaced by machine sewing, both for joining the pieces and for quilting to hold the layers together. Fabric possibilities have expanded to include a vast array of commercially produced fabric as well as personally created hand-dyed fabric. Many kinds of embellishments are in use: beads, sequins, embroidery, found objects, paint, glitter, etc. Fusible webs, designed to glue fabrics together instead of stitching them, have further freed artists to engage in ever more creative work. Specialized tools and sewing machines have also been developed to help the artist. Thus a new genre of quilts has developed: the Art Quilt. These quilts are designed to be hung on the wall and have lost the original utilitarian purpose. However, the traditional three layers (top, batting, backing) have been retained and distinguish quilts from other fabric art.

The Artists

Cloth and Conversation began in 1994. Participating artists: Marilyn Barth, Jacqueline Callahan, Connie Condrell, Elizabeth Davison, Barbara Eisenstein, Floris Flam, Dayle Ginsburg, Elke Jordan, Gwen Lewis, Susan Walen.

UU Bed and Breakfast Directory

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed and breakfast directory, UU're Home, can fulfill your dream. For thirty years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people. You can also become a host and be listed in the directory. Contact us at info@uurehome.com, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

Host listings on the UU're Home website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The last paper edition will be published in April 2011, since most members now use the website exclusively, at a cost of only \$10 for a year's access to the current listings. For a copy of the 2011 paper directory plus a year's access to the website listings, please click on "become a member" to pay by credit card or send a check for \$25 and your e-mail address to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

Cedar Lane News is printed monthly. The next deadline is
Wednesday, January 19 at 12 noon. Please submit to
newsletter@cedarlane.org.

Editor: Corinne Woodward Proofreader: Nancy Derr

Cedar Lane Calendar for Dec. 2010/Jan. 2011

One-Time Events

- December 19:** Blood Mobile 10 am Upper Parking Lot
Grieving a Loved One Through the Holidays 12:30 pm Chapel
Journey Women Winter's Solstice 5 pm Chapel
- December 24:** Christmas Eve Services 4:30 pm, 6 pm, 10 pm Sanctuary
- December 26:** One service at 10 a.m., no RE
- December 31:** New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk 6 pm Sanctuary
- January 7-8:** Labyrinth Silent Retreat 7 pm Chalice House, Sanctuary
- January 8:** Stewardship Retreat 10 am Chalice House
- January 9:** Senior High Youth Service Planning Meeting 12:15 pm Chalice House Lower Level
Auction Committee 12:30 pm Library
- January 15:** LGBT Task Force Training Session 8 am Chalice House Main Room
Cedar Lane "Viva Vivaldi" Benefit Concert 8 pm Sanctuary
- January 20:** Endowment Committee 7:30 pm Room 4
- January 22:** Connection Circles Facilitators in Training 10 am Chalice House Main Room
Senior High Youth Service Rehearsal 12 pm Sanctuary
- January 29:** Afghan Benefit Dinner 5 pm Sanctuary
- January 30:** Teacher Renewal 4 pm Chapel, Lounge, Sanctuary
- January 31:** Denominational Affairs 7:30 pm Room 1-2

The church will be closed December 25, January 1, and January 17.

Regular Activities

- SUN:** Attitudes Toward Living: 2nd and 4th Sun 8:30 am Chalice House Covenant Room
Worship Services: 9 am Sanctuary
Religious Education: 9 am Chapel (not 12/26 or 1/2)
Cedar Lane in 6 Minutes: 10 am Sanctuary
Coffee Hour: 10 am Lounge
Sunday Morning Forum: 10:10 am Chalice House Main Rm (not 12/26, 11 am on 1/2)
Worship Services: 11 am Sanctuary
Religious Education: 11 am Chapel (not 12/26 or 1/2)
Journey Women: 11 am 1st and 3rd Sun Room 7
Cedar Lane in 6 Minutes: 12 pm Sanctuary
Coffee Hour: 12 pm Lounge
Forum Committee: 2nd Sun 12:15 pm Chalice House Main
Community Lunch: 1st Sun 12:30 pm Chalice House Main
Community Hour: 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sun 12:30 pm Chalice House Covenant Room
Senior High Action Group: 2nd Sun 12:30 pm Chalice House Lower Level
Music Committee: 4th Sun 12:30 pm Chalice House Main (Jan. only)
Connection Circles Facilitators: 1st Sun 12:30 pm Room 1-2
Environmental Task Force: 4th Sun 12:45 pm Room 5-6
- MON:** Science and Religion: 10 am Library
Alliance Jewelry: 1st Mon 10 am Room 1-2
Writing Memoirs: 3rd Mon 1 pm Room 1-2
Continuing Yoga: 6:30 pm Room 32-35
Martha's Table Prep: 2nd Mon 7 pm Kitchen
Sharing Covenant Group: 3rd Mon 7:15 pm Chalice House Covenant Room
Meditation Group: 7:30 pm Chalice House Main Room
Facilities Committee: 1st Mon 7:30 pm Room 1-2
Well Spouse: 1st Mon 7:30 pm Chalice House Covenant Rm
Leadership, Development, and Nominations Committee: 2nd

Mon 7:30 pm Room 1-2

- TUE:** Newsletter Preparation: 4th Tue 8 am Room 1-2
Tuesday Travelers: 2nd Tue 9:30 am Chalice House Covenant Room
Quilting: 10 am Bride's Room
Bridge: 10 am Library
Just Sitting: 10 am Chapel
Staff Meeting: 12:30 pm Room 1-2
Heart to Heart: 2nd and 4th Tue 2 pm Chalice House Covenant Room
Gruppo Piccolo: 7:30 pm Sanctuary
Partner Church: 1st Tue 7:30 pm Library
Personnel: 1st Tue 7:30 pm Room 1-2
Finance: 2nd Tue 7:30 pm Room 30-31
Church Security Issues: 2nd Tue 7:30 pm Library
Board of Trustees: 3rd Tue 7:30 pm Room 1-2
AP Book Discussion: 3rd Tue 7:30 pm Library
Committee on Ministry: 4th Tue 7:30 pm Library
Worship Committee: 4th Tue 7:30 pm Room 1-2
- WED:** Martha's Table Prep: 2nd Wed 8:30 am Kitchen
Pastoral Visitors: 2nd Wed 12:30 pm Library
Aging Support: 1st and 3rd Wed 1:15 pm Room 1-2
R.E. Executive Council: 1st Wed 5:30 pm Library
T'ai Chi- Evening: 5:45 pm Room 32-35
Caring Circle: 1st Tue 7:15 pm Library
Quilting: 7:30 pm Bride's Room
Adult Choir: 7:30 pm Sanctuary
R.E. Council: 1st Wed 7:30 pm Room 1-2
Member Services: 2nd Wed 7:30 pm Room 1-2
Adult Programs Committee: 3rd Wed 7:30 pm Room 1-2
- THU:** Alliance Board Meeting: 3rd Thu 10 am Room 1-2
Alliance Film Series: 4th Thu 10:30 am Library
Alliance Luncheon: 2nd Thu 11:30 am Sanctuary
Cancer Support Group: 2nd and 4th Tue 2 pm Library
Children's Choir: 6 pm Sanctuary
Youth Choir: 6:30 pm Sanctuary
Stewardship: 2nd Thu 6:30 pm Room 1-2
Just Sitting: 7 pm Chapel
Connection Circles Steering Committee: 4th Thu 7 pm Room 1-2
Youth Handbell Choir: 7:15 pm Sanctuary
Short-Term Connection Circle: 2nd Thu 7:15 pm Rm 30-31
Kiplinger: 1st Thu 7:30 pm Room 4
Social Justice Council: 1st Thu 7:30 pm Library
Breakthrough Task Force: 2nd Thu 7:30 pm Library
CLARITY: 2nd Thu 7:30 pm Chalice House Covenant Rm
Bell Canto of Cedar Lane: 8 pm Sanctuary
- FRI:** Library Committee: 10 am Library
Alliance Book Group: 1st Fri 11 am Room 1-2
Living with Mental Illness: 1st and 3rd Fri 1 pm Library
Friday Friends: 2nd Fri 1:30 pm Library
Senior High Hang Out: 3rd Fri 6 pm Chalice House
Raising the Spirit: 3rd Fri 6:30 pm Rm 12 & 28-29
Film Series: 2nd Fri 7:30 pm Library
- SAT:** Living by the Heart 1: 3rd Sat 8 am Chalice House Covenant Room
Living by Rhyme and Reason: 2nd Sat 8 am Chalice House Covenant Room
Men's Group: 2nd Sat 8 am Library
Grounds: 2nd Sat 9 am Room 30-31
UU Theology: 2nd and 4th Sat 10 am Library

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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*
Mary Karimi *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Sara Deshler *Church Administrator*

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Two Annual Events on December 19

12:30 p.m. "Grieving a Loved One Through the Holidays"

At their best, the winter holidays are joyous times with family and other companions. However, the death of a loved one can make the holiday season a difficult time of grief and renewed sadness. As is our annual tradition, on **December 19 at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel**, there will be a gathering of those who wish to share their thoughts and feelings about those they miss this holiday season. Perhaps the loss was recent, perhaps it happened long ago but is still a source of difficulty. All are invited to share their stories and to hold the stories of others. Contact Heather Janules at hjanules@cedarlane.org or x204 with any questions.

5 p.m. Journey Women's Winter Solstice Vespers Service (Snow date: January 2)

Organized by the members of the Journeywomen and Heart to Heart Connection Circles.

Music Provided by: Duo Atlantica, with Carol Ireland, Harpsichord; and Margaret Turner, Baroque Blockflute; along with Zachary Saraf, guitar.

The winter solstice marks the longest night of the year and the start of the lengthening days. Come join a vespers celebration with music, accompanied by readings of the mystery of darkness and the joy of light.

Following the service, seasonal refreshments will be served. (No dinner).

Optional donations for Beacon House will be accepted: hats, scarves, mittens, unwrapped toys, or cash.