



January 2012 Vol. 58, Issue 1
www.uuclr.org



1818 Reservoir Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227

MISSION STATEMENT

*We are
a welcoming congregation
that is a beacon for
spiritual freedom and respect.*

*We offer opportunities for
lifelong education emphasizing
the Seven UU Principles,
for personal and
intellectual growth,
for worship, and for service
to the church and community.*

*Thereby, we work
to transform ourselves
and our world.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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President

Edith Bradberry edithb9155@sbcglobal.net

Congregational Meeting ~ January 29th

See Page 3 for Information



IIIUUmination Celebration January 21 & 22

Our annual celebration of IIIUUmination, our very own Unitarian Universalist holiday, will be celebrated Saturday, January 21st and Sunday January 22nd, 2012.

The Grande Banquet on Saturday will begin with a social hour from 5:30 to 6:30 pm and will be followed by our shared Dinner and a traditional IIIUUmination Program. Wear your favorite purple and silver apparel and bring chalices from home to adorn the hall. IIIUUmination continues on Sunday morning, January 22, when we gather for an intergenerational worship service at 11 am.

The suggested list for potluck items is: A-G Casseroles; H-L Desserts; M-R Vegetables and Salads; S-Z Bread, Pasta, and Rice. Donations will be accepted for the main course. Vegetarians and Vegans may volunteer an entree in lieu of donation.

Even if you cannot bring anything, please bring yourself and join the celebration of our UU Heritage, the Light of our Chalice, and our hopes and dreams for the future! As part of the program, we will Light our special IIIUUmination tree and toast famous UUs, near and far!

Please contact James Thomson (225-2891 or 680-2871 or arjazzman@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to help!

Please join us for this special winter holiday event! If this is your first time sharing IIIUUmination with us, find out more with this fact sheet on our web site: <http://www.uuclr.org/downloads/illumination.pdf>

January Sundays

The theme for this month is "Justice"...

"Justice is conscience...not a personal conscience but the conscience of the whole of humanity"

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

"Justice is the activity of truth, rather than a virtue in itself. Truth tells us what is due to others, and justice renders that due."

Horace Walpole

January 1

11:00am Re-Covenanting Service led by Sarah Prickett & Monica Robinson

January 8

11:00 am Justice and Standing on the Side of Love
Rev. Bob Klein

January 15

11:00 am Building the Beloved Community
John Adams

January 22

5:30 pm IIIUUmination: Celebrating Unitarian Universalism
Rev. Bob Klein

January 29

11:00 am The Spirituality of Compassion and Justice
Rev. Bob Klein

GREETINGS FROM OUR CHURCH LEADERS

From the Minister...

Justice is a fitting theme, not just for the month but for a year when our Unitarian Universalist General Assembly meets this coming June in Phoenix with focus on the response by Arizona and other states to undocumented workers (who are often referred to as illegal aliens). There are many untruths spread about such workers, many of whom have come from impoverished areas of Mexico and Central America to earn enough to support their families through hard work at poorly paying jobs that U.S. workers will not take.

On Jan. 8th we hope to have with us in Forum and the service some visitors who have benefited from our Prison Literacy Program. The Focus of the service will be on Justice in the penal system, in immigration, and in the United States in general.

This month we will also be exploring our beliefs and intentions as a congregation. After the service on Jan. 8th, there will be a Town Hall meeting to discuss proposals from the Board for new Vision and Mission statements to fit our Strategic Plan and for a series of resolutions on important issues of our time. We will vote on these matters at a called Congregational Meeting on Jan 29th.

As we begin 2012, we face many challenges as individuals, as families, and as a congregation. May we face these challenges courageously, supporting each other as we encourage each other's journeys, and ever seeking to build the beloved community of UUCLR!

So may it be! Rev. Bob



From the President...

Happy New Year! I am hoping this New Year will bring good things for all of us here at UUCLR.

The Board has worked hard for the past two months to develop our Mission and Vision statements and Statements of Conscience. We have a **Town Hall Meeting on January 8** to get your input on these. **A Congregational Meeting is scheduled January 29th at 1:00 pm.** Please plan to attend both of these.

But, also make as your personal resolution now that it is important to be involved. It is important to live our Covenant with each other and the world through our Strategic Plan. Each of us can bring this alive through action.

It is a Journey that starts with each of us, taking that first step and seeing where it takes us.

Edith Bradberry, President

Staff Appreciation

Christmas may be behind us, but the holiday season is far from over, and at UUCLR, the season of giving never ends! This goes for all of us living out our principles every day, but especially for our staff members.

All year our staff work to make our experiences as meaningful as possible, and to lighten the load of our volunteers so that UUCLR can offer us more as a church home. Let's give something back to show our appreciation.

Now is your opportunity to give a special gift to our hardworking staff. If you would like to contribute to this year's staff gift, please contact Joe Meehan at josmeehan@sbcglobal.net or Edith Bradberry at edithb9155@sbcglobal.net.

We will be giving the staff their holiday gifts at the IUUmination banquet on January 21, so please donate no later than Sunday, Jan. 15.

Sorry, donations to the staff gift are not tax deductible.

CHURCH MINISTRY

Building the Beloved Community

This is my second Outer Circle article leading up to UUCLR's Annual Budget Drive planned for next Spring. This month, I'm going to introduce you to the Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide.

The Guide is remarkably similar to the progressive income tax with which we are all familiar. There are three levels of giving within the Guide – Helping, Supporting, and Sustaining. Within each level, the suggested Fair Share is based on a percentage of one's income, with the percentage increasing as a person's income increases. For example, at the Supporting level, the suggested Fair Share percentage starts at 1.5% for someone with an adjusted annual income of \$10,000, and terminates with a recommended 7.5% pledge for someone with an adjusted income of \$500,000. The income is adjusted by the addition and subtraction of various financial items.

Much more information about the Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide will be available as we move forward with the 2012 Budget Drive. In the meantime, please begin to ponder which level fits with your finances.

Questions can be directed to Dave Rickard, Co-Chair of the Leadership Team, Co-Chair Bill Kimpel, or members Jan Bowen, Dan Chambers, or Cathy Jett. More next month.

Jan Bowen, member of Annual Budget Drive 2012 Leadership Team

Plan to Attend: Town Hall Meeting January 8

There will be a Town Hall meeting on January 8, 2012, at 1:00 pm to discuss the Vision and Mission Statements and Statements of Conscience proposed by the Board. A soup and salad potluck lunch will be served for participants. Please contact Liz Mackenzie if you can contribute to the potluck -- 562-6877.

The proposed Vision and Mission Statements are below and the Statements of Conscience are available [on the web site](#) or at the church. Both are developed based on our Strategic Plan.

A Congregational Meeting will be held on January 29, 2012, at 12:15 to vote on these proposals.

Proposed Vision Statement:

We are here to build the beloved community.

Proposed Mission Statement:

We strive to build the beloved community through shared worship, responsible spiritual freedom, exploration, and reverence. We embrace our interconnectedness, engaging with others by living our principles in our community and the world.

Current Mission Statement:

We are a welcoming congregation that is a beacon for spiritual freedom and respect. We offer opportunities for lifespan education emphasizing the Seven UU Principles, for personal and intellectual growth, for worship, and for service to the church and community. Thereby, we work to transform ourselves and our world.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



Birthdays in January



Alejandro Viscarra.....	Olga Skorapa	1/13
Summerhill.....	Mary Underwood.....	1/13
Emily Anne Carson.....	Fred Roberson	1/15
Marcia Zamora	Maggie Smith	1/19
Judith Rickard.....	Sarah Haman	1/21
Allan Ward.....	Katherine Reynolds.....	1/26
Amanda Jett	Marlena Crenshaw	1/29
Valerie Pearsall	Emily Jones	1/30
Alex Brandon	Bob Crick.....	1/31
Jack McFarlin	Kaye Lundgren	1/31
Mahogany Finley		1/12

Contact the church office at 225-1503 with corrections or additions or log into the Church database on the UUCLR web site and make your changes.

CAYRE Schedule

- Jan 1:** No Class: Children will worship with their families. Nursery will be open.
- Jan 8:** Class: Faith in Action Sunday
- Jan 15:** Class
- Jan 22:** IIIUUmination! No Class - Nursery will be open.
- Jan 29:** Class

FORUM

Sundays @ 10:00 am ~ Thomson Hall

- Jan 1** No Forum planned for this date
- Jan 8** Share the Plate Sunday:
Priscilla Pittman, Alzheimer's Arkansas
- Jan 15** THEME Sunday - Kevin Jones,
presenting on JUSTICE
- Jan 22** Johanna Miller-Lewis, PhD - "Japanese Internment Camps During WWII"
- Jan 29** Ray Clark, MD - "Dementia"

Expand Your Mind...
Read a Book!

Between the
Lines Book Club



January 2:
Cutting for Stone, by Abraham Verghese

More info? Contact Allan Ward, 664-5921 or e-mail alward@ualr.edu.

Young at Heart

Open to all who would like to attend, Young At Heart invites church members, friends, guests and associates to attend on the second Tuesday of the month. Our varied meals and programs have provided stimulation and lots of social interaction for participants, as well as opportunities to learn more about subjects we may have only casually considered. The essential value for many of us is getting to know and appreciate the wonderful talents, personalities, experiences and interests of people right here in our UU community.

Many thanks are extended to Shirley Herndon,

Jan Bowen, Elaine Gimblet, Valerie Pearsall, JoAnn Kriehn, Jean Pennucci and others in the kitchen, to Joan Crockett for her table decor and designs from the beginning until her retirement from that position in December, and to Jerry Blackburn, Rich Roy and James Thomson for help with setup, computers and tech support as needed.

Our next Young At Heart luncheon and program is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 11:30 am. As we begin our new year, we'll welcome Jo Stewart back from Mexico during January. We are fortunate to have her bring us her insights, stories, and observations about her big move from the states. She promises to share this exciting part of her life's journey, as we wonder what's next for her and for us!

GENERAL INFO



Big Bad Gina Returns Valentine Day Dance February 11, 2012

Jori Costello—singer/songbird, guitar groovin', percussion pounding Goddess...

Renee Janski of UU choir fame—amazing Amazon arias and multi-faceted musicianship....

Melodie Griffis of U of A Jazz Combo—with an angelic Cameroon croon, keeping it rockin' on the bass and jazzin' it up with her ultra fine guitar riffs...

Add a slew of instruments, some kickin' original tunes and select scintillating covers and you have Big Bad Gina, an all-womyn's band based out of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

They are ready to rock Little Rock with their award winning "Amazon Warrior Princess" Goddess Groove.

Put this date in your calendar and be sure not to miss these talented artists! See you there!

Sponsored by 



STAFF HOURS

Rev. Bob Klein - Walk-In Hours 2-4 pm T-W-Th
Additional hours vary Tuesday-Saturday
Rev. Bob's day off is Monday.

No Office Hours 12/27/2011 - 1/5/2012

Please call Rev. Bob's cell to make an appointment or for emergencies: 501-240-2957

Office Hours

Tues. - Fri. 10:00am - 2:00 pm

Phone 225-1503, e-mail uuclr@aristotle.net

CALENDAR

- 1 January, Sunday**
9:00am-12:00pm Recycle Sunday/Book Exchange
9:45am-11:00am Children and Adult Programming
10:30am-1:00pm Fair Trade Coffee Store (Thomson)
11:00am-12:00pm Worship
- 2 January, Monday**
7:00pm-9:00pm Between the Lines Book Club (Pehrson)
- 4 January, Wednesday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 5 January, Thursday**
6:30pm-8:30pm Teens and Tweens Youth Group (Pehrson)
7:00pm-8:30pm Strategic Planning Committee (Emerson)
- 6 January, Friday**
7:00pm-8:30pm Prison Literacy (Offsite)
- 7 January, Saturday**
12:00pm-1:00pm Hindi/Hindu Class (Barnum)
- 8 January, Sunday**
9:45am-11:00am Children and Adult Programming
11:00am-12:00pm Worship (Sanctuary)
1:00pm-2:00pm **Town Hall Meeting and Lunch (Thomson)**
- 10 January, Tuesday**
11:30am-1:00pm Young at Heart Luncheon (Thomson)
1:30pm-2:30pm Daytime Covenant Group (Emerson)
5:30pm-7:00pm Program Council (Pehrson Library)
7:00pm-8:00pm Stewardship / Finance Meeting (Library)
- 11 January, Wednesday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 12 January, Thursday**
6:30pm-8:30pm Teens and Tweens Youth Group (Pehrson)
- 13 January, Friday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Prison Literacy (Offsite)
- 14 January, Saturday**
12:00pm-1:00pm Small Group Dinners (Offsite)
1:00pm-6:00pm Hindi/Hindu class (Barnum)
Yoga Instructors Class (Alcott)
- 15 January, Sunday**
9:45am-11:00am Children and Adult Programming
11:00am-12:00pm Worship (Sanctuary)
10:30am-1:00pm Fair Trade Coffee Store (Thomson)
1:00pm-6:00pm Yoga Instructors Class
OUTER CIRCLE DEADLINE
- 17 January, Tuesday**
4:00pm Our House Meal Day (Offsite)
5:00pm-6:30pm Worship Arts Team (Emerson)
- 18 January, Wednesday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 19 January, Thursday**
6:00pm-8:00pm Committee on Ministry (Emerson)
6:30pm-8:30pm Teens and Tweens Youth Group (Pehrson)
- 20 January, Friday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Prison Literacy (Offsite)
- 21 January 21, Saturday**
12:00pm-1:00pm Hindi/Hindu Class (Barnum)
5:30pm IIIU Umination Grande Banquet (Thomson)
- 22 January, Sunday**
9:45am-11:00am Children and Adult Programming
11:00am-12:00pm IIIU Umination Service (Sanctuary)
- 24 January, Tuesday**
7:00pm-9:00pm Board Meeting (Thomson)
- 25 January, Wednesday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 26 January, Thursday**
6:30pm-8:30pm Teens and Tweens Youth Group (Pehrson)
- 27 January, Friday**
6:30pm-8:00pm Prison Literacy (Offsite)
- 28 January, Saturday**
12:00pm-1:00pm Hindi/Hindu Class (Barnum)
- 29 January, Sunday**
9:45am-11:00am Children and Adult Programming
11:00am-12:00pm Worship (Sanctuary)
12:15pm **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

FAITH IN ACTION

Share the Plate Schedule



Collections taken during the service on the upcoming Second Sunday will go to:

Alzheimer's Arkansas

Priscilla Pittman from that organization will speak at Forum on the same morning. If you want more information or have questions about this disease, please come and join in the discussion at Forum.

Faith in Action News

KROGER CARDS BENEFIT THE CHURCH!

Cards are great for gas, gifts cards, and groceries. 5% of all card re-loads come back to UUCLR, and that adds up! See Kay Danielson at Coffee Hour to get yours!

RECYCLE SUNDAY & BOOK EXCHANGE ~ January 8th

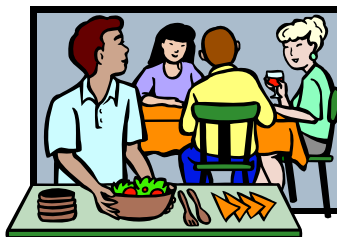
Bring your empty ink cartridges, used batteries and old electronic devices and the Recycle Team will responsibly dispose of these items for you. There have been a few changes concerning recycling of household hazardous waste recently. The drop-off hazardous waste centers now will only accept the following items: gasoline, oil, antifreeze, compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs), and 4' and 8' fluorescent tubes. Other household chemicals, such as pesticides and fertilizers, and other types of light bulbs, are to be disposed of in ordinary trash. Aerosol cans, including those containing spray paint, can be "trashed" after removing the spray button from the can. Therefore, your Recycling Team will only accept CFL and fluorescent tube light bulbs. Leave bulky items by the curb near the arbor for pickup **ONLY ON SUNDAY**. Bring your used books to swap and share. Also, bring your items for the TerraCycle team.

ALUMINUM CANS AND METAL RECYCLING...

Please bring your aluminum cans to church every Sunday and the cans will be carried by trailer to ABC's Recycle Center. **Please put bags of cans in back by the dumpster** so the front of the church will remain uncluttered. Lance Scott will bring the trailer each Sunday and pick up the cans. Lance is also expanding his efforts by offering to recycle of all types of other scrap metals. Please call Lance to schedule pickups with his trailer; don't leave scrap metal at the church, just cans. All money will come back to the church! Lance's phone number is 766-4172. Thank you, Lance, for your Faith in Action!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

New Vegetarian Potluck



Linda Van Blaricom's covenant group has decided to launch a vegetarian potluck on the first Sunday of each month immediately following the worship

service. The first potluck will be on February 5.

Linda says her group will help with set-up and clean-up and they will bring dishes to share. She invites others to do the same! Recipes will be provided if folks request them. In that way, she says we can begin to encourage better care of our planet, bodies and families.

Please plan to attend a potluck and share your favorite vegetarian dish!

Fair Trade Store

The UUSC Fair Trade Store is open on the first and third Sunday of the month before the 11:00 am service and after during coffee hour in Thomson Hall. We have added orange and mint chocolates plus hazelnut coffee for you to enjoy and share.

RE-Questors

Sunday Mornings 10:00 am ~ Pehrson Room

Topic: A Discussion of Humans, Robotics and Electronics

Reference Book:

Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Others
By Sherry Turkle

Part I: New Intimacies in Solitude

- Jan 1 No Meeting
- Jan 8 Introduction to *Alone Together*
- Jan 15 Chap 1: Nearest Neighbors
- Jan 22 Chap 2: Alive Enough
- Jan 29 Chap 3: True Companions

You do not have to read the book to join the discussion

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

What Stewardship for Our Church Means to Me Cathy Jett

Stewardship is love and support to our beloved community—financial commitment and so much more. What we cherish, we want to see grow, improve, and be its best. Stewardship is vital to that process. What we identify with, become a part of, and it a part of us, we care for as we do ourselves and our families.

Stewardship is a responsibility to a community it both builds and results from. A growing circle of care, it enriches us. What we love we tend; what we tend we love. A balance of give and take is created, erasing the burden felt if we were only to take. It prioritizes church welfare over conflicting personal agendas. Individual interests do not prevail if it is best they not. Yet, we don't lose our own values or goals; they entwine to become a whole, shaping it.

Stewardship is often a mutual joy, and sometimes a willing or not-so-willing sacrifice. We frequently do what we love for our church, yet also need to do what we don't prefer. Then, we do so without resentment, knowing it needs to be done. We share the burden consistently, giving even when not in the mood. It reflects our commitment; resources are devoted proportionately to what the church means to us, and giving a little more will result in greater rewards. Thus, for even the recurring visitor or casual member, stewardship applies. It costs time, money, and energy with the end result much more than the sum of the parts.

Stewardship is caring, financially and otherwise, for the people, community, building, books, furniture, programs, outreach, ideas, philosophies, dreams and goals that belong to us all. We give because we *are* this church and this church is us. Stewardship is making appropriate pledges and following through in donations. It is raking leaves, cleaning the kitchen, repairing the building and grounds. It is being a pulpit assistant, a greeter, a member of a committee. It is making music, planning events, contributing humor and thought, adding to a joyful, positive and contemplative atmosphere. It is caring for one another, including those whose ideas and needs are opposite our own. It is being aware of and refraining from divisive behaviors while forgiving the unintended missteps of others. Stewardship is patience, tolerance, kindness, compassion, generosity and a willingness to give in a myriad of ways, as these are the values that bolster our community and are embodied in our seven principles.



Exploring Unitarian Universalism

Newcomers, Members and Friends

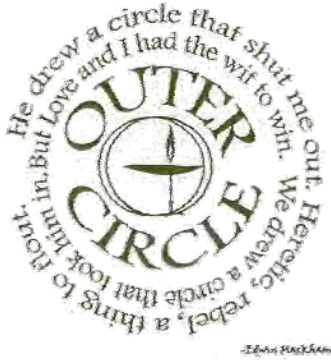
3-Part Series: January 29th, February 5th and 12th, 9:00-10:00 am
(Coffee and Pastries will be served)

The membership team will be holding several more *Exploring UU* classes in the upcoming months. These classes are a great refresher for members and friends who want to learn more, be reminded of some information about UUCLR that we might have forgotten, and to meet new folks and renew old acquaintances.

Child care will be provided if requested at least a week prior to the class. If you have questions, please call Sue McDonald, Membership Team Liaison, at 442-6623.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Little Rock
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Outer Circle Policy: The Church Office reserves the right to edit all Outer Circle articles for content and length. Deadline for publication usually falls on the **15th of the month** *unless holiday considerations apply*. No articles will be accepted by telephone or verbally. **Articles must be submitted in writing** in the church office by fax (423-6666) or via e-mail (uuclr@aristotle.net) by **5:00 pm** on the deadline date. Any articles received after the deadline may be omitted due to limitations of time and printable space.



Justice