



# THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2010



## February Services

SERVICES AND CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BEGIN AT 10 A.M.



### February 7

“Carpe Diem” – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

Many of us learned the expression “carpe diem” (“seize the day”) in the film *Dead Poets’ Society*. This short expression can change the course of a lifetime. Let’s explore.

### February 14

Standing on the Side of Love: Re-Imagining Valentine’s Day – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

Love is about much more than romance and greeting cards. We want to celebrate love’s power to transform communities and change the world!

### February 21

“Love is the spirit” – *Steve Harrison*

Each week we declare that love is the spirit of this congregation. What does that really mean? One member’s thoughts.



### February 28

‘Getting to Yes’ – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer*

As a lawyer and divorce mediator, Rev. Betty toiled in the fields of conflict.

When she began giving all her clients a copy of the book *Getting to Yes*, settlements started to unfold more easily. Our UU faith can help us all “get to yes” and experience greater freedom, peace and happiness. We’ll explore how this is so.



### March 7

Money Matters – *Rev. Betty Kornitzer and members of the UUCSC Finance Team*

As members and friends of UUCSC, we form a wonderful faith family, with a budget and with dreams.

We’ll explore where we are financially and spiritually where money is concerned.

This service will be both informative and inspirational.

*A Pot Luck Luncheon will follow the service.*

## PRESIDENTS’ DAY



OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R.I.



# THE SOUTH COUNTY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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DEADLINE: THE 20TH DAY OF EACH MONTH

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## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY

[www.uusouthcountyri.org](http://www.uusouthcountyri.org)

### **Rev. Betty Kornitzer, Minister**

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Office hours Wednesdays 3 to 6 and Thursdays & Fridays 9 to noon, by appointment

### **Debby Hedison, Religious Education Director**

### **Michael Galib, Music Director**

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**OUR HOME IS AT LILY PADS PROFESSIONAL CENTER, 27 NORTH ROAD, PEACE DALE, R. I.**

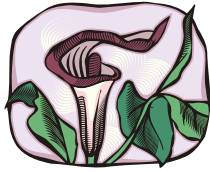
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WEBSITE: <http://www.uusouthcountyri.org/> • Webmaster: David Crockett

Services and Children's Religious Education on Sundays at 10 a.m.



*We welcome all individuals without regard to race, color, physical challenge,  
sexual orientation, age, or national origin.*



# *The Minister's Message*

By Rev. Betty Kornitzer

## Black History and our Faith

It's February, the month black history is highlighted and studied. In February, Americans are called to pay attention to a history we have largely ignored and even denied. May we keep our eyes open, may we listen to the voices of black history calling us to witness to the truth. For although Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States on January 20, 2009, we have only just begun to progress toward true civil rights for all.

This winter I was on vacation in mid-January, and I missed one of my favorite Sunday services. Every year in the past I prepared my spirit and my mind for Black History Month by creating a worship service honoring The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Early every January, I have gone to the library to check out an audio compilation of Dr. King's sermons and speeches, spoken in his own voice. Annually I have spent early January listening to those tapes, hour upon hour, sometimes moved to tears, often moved to reverence for one man's stunning courage and commanding love. The volume of tapes is entitled "A Call To Conscience." A call to conscience—that is precisely what our Unitarian Universalist principles are meant to be, a call to conscience and a call to action.

As a religious movement, Unitarian Universalism has stepped out in courage in the area of civil rights and race relations. In 1830, Unitarian minister William Ellery Channing, born in Newport, wrote:

*Should we not deem it wrong . . . were one of our children seized as property and driven by the whip to toil? And shall God's child . . . be thus degraded? Everything else may be owned in the universe, but a mortal rational being can not be property. Suns and stars may be owned, but not a human spirit. Touch anything but this.*

Fast forward with me now to 1965. Dr. King sent an urgent telegram around the country asking religious leaders to join him in Selma, Alabama, where African Americans marching for their right to vote had been brutally attacked by lawmen. About 500 Unitarian Universalists, including nearly one-fifth of all Unitarian Universalist ministers, went to Selma and Montgomery to participate in the civil rights campaign.

Two of the Unitarian Universalists who responded to King's appeal paid with their lives. The Rev. James Reeb had been in Alabama less than a day when white assailants attacked him and two other white Unitarian Universalist ministers on a Selma sidewalk, fatally injuring him with a blow to the head.

Reeb's death on March 11, 1965, inspired a wave of nationwide protests, memorial services, and calls for federal action, transforming Reeb into a martyr and creating the political groundswell President Lyndon Johnson needed to introduce new voting rights legislation. Four days after Reeb's death, Johnson invoked his memory—"that good man"—as he introduced the Voting Rights Act to a joint session of Congress.

In this Black History month, may we remember Dr. King's "Call to Conscience." For while Dr. King's words are beautiful and inspiring, they also sting with the intensity of unfettered truth. My friends, as a faith community, let us not be content to praise the man. Let us emulate his deeds. Let us be about the business of active justice-making. For the sake of racial justice, let us make noise and take risks. In the face of injustice, let us be civil and also disobedient. I pray for the courage and the wisdom to answer the Call to Conscience inherent in our faith.

Peace and Love,

*Betty*

# The President's Letter

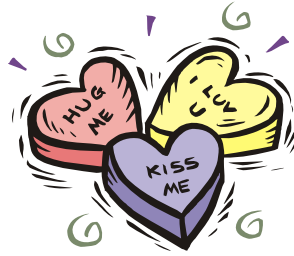
In my small group, we were recently sharing our feelings about our UUCSC experience, in preparation for the cottage meetings to evaluate ministry.

Personally, I love opportunities for communicating heartfelt "truths" (although how we experience yearnings for, and the satisfying of, spiritual nourishment is quite subjective). But that our input is invited—welcome—is fantastic!

The fact that we will share from within the safe container of UU principles makes me question the totality of separation of church and state. I would never want policy to be set according to religious doctrine, but can you imagine how much good could be done for citizens everywhere if all involved in the process of discussion and issue discernment had to abide by the Seven UU Principles? Talking while remembering the inherent worth and dignity of every person, seeking justice, equity and compassion in human relations . . . working toward the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all . . .

Well, we get to use this in our

own democratic process. I feel optimistic that our ability to honestly appraise UUCSC, offer constructive criticism, and use feedback to manifest change, will ripple into the world at large.



And related to the larger community, the Board of Directors has prioritized a goal for a strong, meaningful, and rewarding connection to it. To that aim, we are brainstorming on ways to support Welcome House, along with its new Peace Dale Congregational annex; provide public programs with a social justice perspective as well as just plain fun; and bring back our regular reminders of Sunday support for the Jonnycake Center. If you have any ideas for this goal, we would love to hear them.

The Board also has the goal of supporting an RE program where children feel safe and look forward to attending. Deb Hedison, RE Director, and volunteer teaching staff are developing programs and looking for stimulating ways to deepen our children's spirituality on an on-going basis. A way to evaluate the RE program was also considered.

So in this month of celebration—Black History, past Presidents, and LOVE—join me in a gratitude moment for being a part of a spiritual community that affirms and promotes a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

In Loving Service,

– Tracy

## ***A note about Coffee Hour***

*To preserve the meaning and significance of community fellowship, please set times for "business" talks after coffee hour. This will allow time for engaging new members and connection with old friends. Thank you!*

## If the weather is frightful . . .

Here's the plan in case of snow storms: The safety of our congregants is our first priority. Please take good care of yourselves, and stay at home on Sunday mornings if travel is unsafe for you. Tracy Hart and Betty will determine if Sunday services should be cancelled due to bad weather.

Cancellations will be publicized in three ways:

- A message will be sent out on the church e-mail list.
- A notice will be posted on the UUCSC web site.
- A message will be broadcast on Eyewitness News Pinpoint Network, TV Channels 12 and 64.

Radio Announcements will be made on AM WHJJ (920) and FM stations WWBB (B101), WHJY (94.1) and WSNE (93.3).

## *. . . enjoy a virtual worship service*

Sunday morning worship is an important part of our experience of Beloved Community . . . even in the midst of winter storms. If Sunday morning worship is cancelled due to bad weather, Betty will send a "Virtual Worship Service" over the UUCSC e-mail list. The idea is that at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, all who wish may read the service and participate, knowing we are all together in spirit.



# UUA and UUSC create fund to support Haiti relief efforts

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations have created a fund to support relief efforts following the January 12th earthquake that devastated Haiti.

The UUSC has updated fund information online at [www.uusc.org/haitiearthquake](http://www.uusc.org/haitiearthquake), including a secure link for credit card donations. Contributions may also be sent by mail to UUSC / UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, P.O. Box 844001, Boston, MA 02284-4001.

When you donate to the UUSC / UUA Joint Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, 92 cents of every dollar supports relief and recovery efforts on the ground. The remaining 8 cents covers essential administrative expenses such as

wire transfer fees to send funds to Haiti, calls between the UUSC office and its partners on the ground, and temporary hires to support rapid response.



American Express and Visa will waive transaction fees for credit card donations to UUSC until February 28, 2010.

As of late January, the death toll was estimated at 200,000, with thousands more injured and as many as a million homeless. Even before the earthquake, an estimated

80% of the country's eight million people lived in poverty. Dick Campbell, the UUSC's media and public affairs coordinator, noted that Haiti was in a humanitarian crisis even before the earthquake. "When we heard the first news reports and the enormity of the disaster became clear, then we knew we had to respond," he said.

Campbell said the UUSC will work in support of partner organizations, rather than being on the ground itself in Haiti. The UUSC last did work in Haiti during the 1980s.

More information about which organizations the UUSC will partner with, and how donations will be spent, will appear on the UUSC website when it becomes available.

## Thanks from Helene

In 1997, I retired after 24 years as Music Director at Westminster Unitarian Church in East Greenwich, and on January 17, 2010 I again retired— this time as Interim Pianist at UUCSC. I enjoyed both positions enormously. In both engagements I had the good fortune to work with Choir Director B J Whitehouse, who was so warmly received here. For the past three months or so, in addition to accompanying the choir, I was pleased to share our platform with several of our own talented musicians, whom I now wish to thank.

**SINGERS:** Jan Creamer, Amber Kelley, Susan Moreland, Mac Richardson, Ava Eving Rowe, and the UUCSC Quartet: Ann Seemann, Linda Hull (with substitute Sandra Ketrow), Nick Smith and Karl Seemann.

**INSTRUMENTALISTS:** Mary Ackroyd, piano; Susan Moreland, violin; Steve Robison, clarinet; Ila West, cello; Nick and Ligia Smith, guitar duo; Lynda Wells and Ying Sun, guitar duo.

It's been fun, but I anticipate our new musical era with Music Director Michael Galib with even greater pleasure.

— Helene Gersuny

## Can you help with the Welcome House meal?

Wednesday, Feb 10th is our day this month to provide a meal for the twenty or so residents and staff of Welcome House, our community's homeless shelter.



Volunteers from our congregation bring a salad, an entree, or a dessert to the house by 5 p.m. Would your children like to make cookies or decorate cupcakes to bring? You can make giving a fun activity for the whole family.

Please contact Gerre Alderwick if you would like to volunteer or if you would like more information.



## MONEY MATTERS

The monthly column from the Finance Committee

Since this is the season for State of the Union and State of the State addresses, I thought it would be a good time to give a “State of the Pledges” address.

Despite all of the economic difficulties we are facing as a nation, we are doing quite well with our operating pledge payments as a congregation. We are sure that there are some masterful maneuvers going on in many households just to keep up with the monthly bills. That fact makes these numbers even more amazing.

As of the January 10, 2010 collection, we have received \$63,172 in pledge payments. This represents 56.4% of the \$112,000 we budgeted for income from pledges. We are well on our way to achieving that \$112,000 goal and may even exceed it!

We also receive non-pledge donations in the form of cash and checks each week. They amount to \$6,137 to date.

How do our numbers compare with a year ago at this same time? We are up by \$11,905. This great news is due to your consistent generosity. You truly are AWESOME!

On another topic, several members have asked if they can pay their pledges with their online bank accounts. Yes, you can, and a few people have already begun to do so. It may be advisable to talk with your bank first, just in case they require a signature from you. The check should be made payable to:

UUCSC  
27 North Road  
Peace Dale, R.I. 02879

Memo line: Pledge (or Non Pledge)

Your name appears on the check, so the Collector will know it is from you when it arrives in the mail. The check can be set up as any other online payment—manual or automatic. The automatic payment method has been the attraction for a few people because they don't want to remember to write a check each month. A few people have had to do more traveling for their jobs, so this method is easier for them as well.

If you decide to move into this online payment system (manual or automatic), please let us know so that we can monitor how the first payment goes.

— Aline Couture, your grateful Finance Chair

## Are you dealing with health issues?

*If you are dealing with health issues, the UUCSC Wellness Ministry Team can help you to use mind- body -spirit techniques for healing.*

*We are members and friends of the congregation who have taken a two-day training course with Peggy Huddleston. We can now offer you a free, private workshop on the specific issue that concerns you. These techniques can help you to:*

- Prepare for surgery
- Lessen the side effects of chemotherapy
- Reduce chronic pain
- Sleep well if you have insomnia
- Stop headaches or migraines
- Reduce anxiety or depression

*Research shows that Huddleston's method of preparing for surgery helps people feel profoundly peaceful before surgery, use 23 to 50% less pain medication, and heal remarkably faster.*

*To arrange a one-hour workshop with someone on our team, please call Julie Hopkins-DeSantis.*

*We have all worked with this amazing technique ourselves and look forward to sharing it with you.*

— Lindsey Crowninshield



## Religious Education News and Events

By Debby Hedison, Director of Religious Education

“...go with Wisdom, go with Wonder...”

“A young child is, indeed, a true scientist, just one big question mark. What? Why? How? I never cease to marvel at the recurring miracle of growth, to be fascinated by the mystery and wonder of this brave enthusiasm.”

- Victoria Wagner

Bright Winter Blessings, Everyone!

Session 2 is under way with insightful and creative lessons being led by several talented volunteers. Thanks to the following folks for their help this session: Natalie Herbermann, Cindy West, Kitty Martin, Uli Brahmst, Alycia Metz, Pam Santos and Gene Santos.

The Religious Education Library “Adopt-A-Box” project will be starting up again. There are still tons of books to be cataloged, and boxes will be available to “adopt” starting in February on the RE table (by the Lily Pads banner). Each box holds about a dozen books and instructions telling you exactly what to do. The goal is to have our library books organized and a list given out to everyone so that all the books can be enjoyed.

This month’s RE Committee meeting will be on Friday, February 12 at 9:15 a.m. in the large classroom.

Finally, a special thank you to Deanna Camputaro for helping to lead the holiday program.

May your year be full of the wonder and joy a child experiences!

Much Love,  
Debby

\*\*\*\*\*

### Contact Information for Rev. Betty Kornitzer

*Regular Office Hours:*

Wednesdays: 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and other times, **all by appointment.**

*Days Off:* Monday and Tuesday.

Office Telephone (non-urgent):  
284-3321

Cell Phone (urgent calls): 932-1515

Email (very effective):  
bkornitzer@aol.com

Please be sure to call before dropping by the church during Betty's office hours. Sometimes she is called away on business away from her office, even during “office hours.”

### Ballou Channing District begins blog for young adults

Jen Shattuck, the BCD Young Adult Ministry Consultant, has a blog about and for young adults. The blog (and the BCD Young Adult Ministry) aim to educate individuals and congregations about the lives, concerns, and spiritual needs of young Unitarian Universalists.

The blog will feature information about programming, books, pamphlets and curricula resources focused on young adults and ministry to and with young adults; online links to audio and video resources; posts written by young adults; and links to organizations whose ongoing work provides insight into the lives of young adults.

Check out the blog at <http://www.bcd-ya.blogspot.com/>. Jen would like to hear from readers who have questions, comments or suggestions for resources to be included. Contact her at [jennytuck81@gmail.com](mailto:jennytuck81@gmail.com).

## Rev. Kornitzer is recipient of Westwood Grant

Rev. Betty Kornitzer has just learned that she is a recipient of the 2009 Westwood Grant. The Westwood Grant is given to "ministers who have brought an exceptional entrepreneurial spirit toward spreading our faith and nurturing our congregations."

The funds for the \$1,000 grant were donated in memory of three outstanding Unitarian Universalist ministers: Horace Westwood Sr., Horace Westwood Jr. and Arnold Westwood.

The Rev. Horace Westwood Sr. was born in 1884 in Wakefield, England. Ordained as a Methodist minister in 1906, he became a Unitarian in 1910. He served

congregations in Youngstown, Ohio; Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; Toledo, Ohio; and Berkeley, California. He was also well known for his studies and writings on parapsychology. He died in Florida in 1956.

The Rev. Dr. Horace F. Westwood Jr., born in Ohio, graduated from Tufts University in 1938. During World War II, he served as a chaplain for the Marine Corps in the Pacific, with the rank of lieutenant commander. He served congregations in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Texas, where he was known as the father of Unitarianism in Houston. He marched with the Rev. Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr. Rev. Dr. Westwood died in Fairhaven, Mass. in 2004 at the age of 93.

The Rev. Arnold F. Westwood, the youngest son of the Rev. Horace Westwood Sr., also was born Ohio, in 1921. After receiving his Master of Sacred Theology degree from Tufts University in 1948, he spent 40 years in the Unitarian Universalist ministry, serving seven congregations from Illinois to Cape Cod. Under his leadership, two of them built their first-ever buildings. He retired to the Berkshires in Massachusetts and died in Springfield, Mass. in August of 2009.

### *Spiritual Deepening: An Introductory Series for Unfolding a Soulful Life*

*This series, facilitated by Rev. Betty Kornitzer and Christine Phoenix-Green, meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to attend any of the programs; prior attendance is not required. Pre-registration is very helpful (though not required) for preparation. To pre-register e-mail Christine Phoenix-Green at [cphoenixrising@earthlink.net](mailto:cphoenixrising@earthlink.net). The tentative schedule of dates and topics:*

- February 17 – *Dark Nights of the Soul*
- April 21 – *A Practice: Prayer*
- March 17 – *The Feminine Face of God*
- May 19 – *Nature*



William Ellery Channing (1780-1842)

### ‘Path to Membership’ classes scheduled

Would you like to learn more about the history and theology of Unitarian Universalism? Then please come to our Path to Membership classes scheduled for three Sundays after church in March and April. The program is especially designed for newcomers and those interested in becoming members, but everyone is welcome.

All classes will run from 11:30 to 1:00. Child care will be provided if requested.

March 14 – The History of Unitarian Universalism

March 28 – Unitarian Universalist Theology

April 11 – Our Congregation

Participation in these classes is strongly encouraged for those wishing to become members.

A Newcomers’ Potluck Dinner will be held at Rev. Betty Kornitzer’s home on Friday, March 5 at 6:30 p.m.

– Val Follett for the Membership Committee



*Sunday, February 14th*

## “National Standing on the Side of Love Day”

Standing on the Side of Love, the UUA campaign launched last summer to harness love's power to stop oppression, has declared Sunday, February 14th as “National Standing on the Side of Love Day,” and is urging people to “celebrate Valentine’s Day re-imagined.”



“Love is about more than romance, greeting cards and chocolates. We want to celebrate love’s power to transform communities,” according to the website (<http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/>), which is urging congregations across the country to participate in worship and practice works of love on that day.

The UUA announced the national campaign at last summer’s General Assembly, describing it as an effort to “deliver the message that no one should be dehumanized through acts of exclusion, oppression or violence because of his or her identity.” The campaign aims to help shape public policy on issues that impact human dignity, particularly immigration reform, LGTB rights, and hate-crimes legislation, by rallying local leaders and clergy to publicly oppose violence and by mobilizing support on-line. The multi-faith campaign encourages participation by non-UUs.

## We welcome our new Music Director

*The UUCSC has a new music director!*

*Michael Galib is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music with a bachelor’s degree in music. He has worked as a church pianist, conductor and teacher and has performed in many choral groups. In addition, he directed a student concert series at New England Conservatory for three years. He’s a composer, a stellar pianist, and a wonderful baritone who has a great energy that we feel will be a true asset to our music program at the UUCSC. We’re very excited to welcome him into our church community!*

*Mike’s first service with our congregation was on Sunday, January 24th. Maybe you’ve been considering joining the choir. As Mike begins his journey with us, this may be the perfect opportunity to give it a whirl.*

*I’d like to thank the members of the search committee, Ali Buffum, Harry Buffum, Helene Gersuny, Linda Harrison, Carolyn Hurdis, Sandy Ketrow, Vikki LePree, Susan Pavlow, and Nick Smith, who put in many hours reading through resumes, interviewing candidates, and calling references.*

*Thanks also go to Rev. Betty Kornitzer, who was involved every step of the way and whose suggestions and positive energy were invaluable. Tracy Hart generously made herself available for questions and consultation, and Charlie Donnelly cheerfully fielded unending requests for meeting space for interviews. Dave Crockett posted the advertisement on our web site. Thanks to all of you.*

*– Susan Moreland,  
Music Director Search Committee Chair*



*Photo by Al Dussault*

## February is our Winter Small Group Ministry month

February is our Winter Small Group Ministry month, so we will be offering a Small Group experience on Sunday, February 14th from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you have been wondering what Small Group Ministry is all about, this is your chance to join in a short session after church.

Small Group Ministry is another way for people to build connections within our growing congregation. In these small groups, we make time for each of us to be heard and to practice the art of ministering to each other with intentional listening.

### *One Small Group's service project*

Our small group took part in a very successful service project in December, spurred on by Paulette Chamberas. We collected three large bags full of gifts for Rhode Island foster children, with the help of the congregation. When we brought them to Paulette's house, it looked as if we were having a party, not our usual meeting. Many thanks to all who helped make this a success. — Linda Hull

## Thanks to the painting volunteers

The East Coast Greenway Alliance, our upstairs tenant at Lilypads, recently vacated all but one room of their rental space. The rental income from this space is important to our congregation's fiscal health. More than a dozen volunteers spent a day prepping and painting the space so that Munroe Realtors, our rental agent, can begin to show it to potential tenants.

Under the generous and excellent organizational skills of Carolyn Hurdis, the following people offered loving service to accomplish this: Tom Blazejewski, Sally Barney, Jean Burke, Gail Burchard, Chris DePaola, Rich Evans, Val Follett, Tracy Hart, Debby Hedison, Jay Hedison, Lisa McHenry, Ann Nichols, and Clyde Scanley. Many, many thanks!

— Tracy Hart



## Ballou Channing District Winter Workshops

**Don't Hit Back: Responses to Button-Pushing Behaviors** – *A look at how congregations can handle behavior that blocks progress, that hurts others, or that escalates conflict, while still valuing freedom and the inherent worth and dignity of everyone.*

Saturday, **February 6**, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., First Parish Unitarian Universalist Canton, 1508 Washington St., Canton, Mass. The Presenter will be Rev. Dr. Ken Reeves, a clinical psychologist and UU minister. The registration fee is \$20 per person or three for \$50. To register, contact the Ballou Channing District Office at [BCDOffice@verizon.net](mailto:BCDOffice@verizon.net) or (508) 559-6650.

**Walking the Talk: Engaging a Congregation in Social Justice Work** – *Presentations and discussions to explore the spiritual roots of social action and our unique UU mission; organizational tools for a congregation and a practicum on planning for change.*

Saturday, **February 27**, 2010, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Channing Memorial Church, 135 Pelham Street, Newport, R.I. The Presenter is Rev. Dr. Richard Gilbert, UU minister and author. Registration is \$15.

**Thinking Outside the Pulpit: Beyond the Hymn-Sermon Sandwich Service** – *Presentations and discussion about opportunities to expand and enhance the "worship" experience in traditional and non-traditional settings; multigenerational worship experiences.*

Saturday, **March 6**, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., All Souls Church, 196 Elm Street, Braintree, Mass. The Presenter will be Rev. Dr. Judith Campbell, a UU minister, author, and retreat leader. The registration fee is \$20 per person or 3 for \$50.

## *Discussing the Seven Principles*

Every other Friday between January 8 and April 2 in the Community Room, Rev. Betty Kornitzer and members of the Adult Religious Education Committee (Al Dussault, Charlie Donnelly, and Peter Himmel) are leading a discussion on the Unitarian Universalist Seven Principles.

Information about each principle comes from the book *With Purpose and Principle: Essays about the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism*, Edward A. Frost, ed. The readings are available in advance and at the discussion. Many new members, and those interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, have found these discussions very helpful.

At the first meeting, on Friday, January 8 in the Community Room (photograph below by Al Dussault), the discussion was about the first principle, "The inherent worth and dignity of every person."

This group is open to everyone. Contributions toward the pizza and soft drinks are welcome. For those who don't recall them, here are the Seven Principles:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



### ***The UUCSC meditation group***

Our UUCSC Meditation Group meets in the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. We practice sitting and walking meditation and share a reading and a discussion time.

All are welcome; no meditation experience is necessary.



### ***The Agape Fund***

*The Agape Fund allows the minister to confidentially assist members and friends of UUCSC with basic sustenance needs such as food and shelter. The fund consists of the congregation's generous contributions at the Christmas Eve service. It is available to those who could use a little help to meet their basic needs. Please call Rev. Betty Kornitzer at the office (284-3321) if you'd like to talk about receiving assistance from the Agape Fund.*

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CONGREGATION OF SOUTH COUNTY  
P.O. Box 5473  
WAKEFIELD, RI 02880

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Permit No. 21

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“Something happened a long time ago in Haiti, and people might not want to talk about it. They were under the heel of the French . . . you know, Napoleon III, or whatever . . . and they got together and swore a pact to the devil. They said, ‘We will serve you if you'll get us free from the French.’ True story. And so, the devil said, okay it's a deal. The Haitians revolted . . . and ever since, they have been cursed by one thing after the other.”

– *Television evangelist Pat Robertson, speaking Jan. 13, 2010 on his show "The 700 Club," about the earthquake in Haiti on Jan. 11.*

“The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, but wiser people so full of doubts.”

– *Bertrand Russell (1872-1970), philosopher, mathematician, and political activist*

*A prolific writer on an extraordinary range of topics, Russell was raised in England as a Unitarian and later identified himself as an agnostic. He died forty years ago this month at the age of 98.*