

**THE MEMPHIS
UNITARIAN**

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OF THE
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January 25, 2010
Administrative Assistant: Margaret Park

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER THE SERVICE TO APPROVE THE 2010 BUDGET

SERMON: “Where Paradise Dwells”

You may be surprised!

The Rev. Burton Carley will deliver the sermon at the eleven o'clock service

**Church of the River Calendar
Quotation of the Week**

“We must always have old memories and young hopes.”
— Arsene Houssaye

Wednesday, January 27

7:30 p. m. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary.

Thursday, January 28

7:00 p.m. River Readers will meet at the home of Tuck Dickerson, 461 N Mendenhall. We will be discussing *Duel* by Thomas Fleming.

Sunday, January 31

- 9:30 a.m. The Quest Group will meet in the Beacon Room to consider “The Bible—Down & Dirty”
- 10:00 a.m. Questions of Faith will discuss the airing of Pearl S. Buck’s segment heard last Sunday morning on the Bob Edwards Show, “This I Believe”
<http://thisibelieve.org/essays/16412>
High school Class will meet to prepare for youth Sunday.
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Childcare for infants and preschoolers
Middle School meets in their classroom.
River Explorers meet in the Chalice Room and go on to their workshops.
- Noon Congregational Meeting to approve the budget for 2010. Childcare available.
Coffee Hour in the Mississippi River Room.
- 12:30 p.m. The Lunch Bunch will meet at the Pyramid Grill, 6090 Macon Rd. 38134
- 2:30 p.m. Choir concert/lecture at Town Village at Audubon Park. All are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, February 2

7:30 p. m. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary.

**The Care Coordinator for January is Mary Jo Miller.
You can reach Mary Jo at 327-7930
The Care Coordinator for February is Audrey Kalbach.
You can reach Audrey at 757-2504**

Announcements from the Children’s Ministry

On Sunday, the YRUU will meet with Tim Wheat and Lisa Nezwaszky at 10 o'clock to continue planning for Youth Sunday.

At 11 o'clock, church school for infants through 8th grade youth continues with childcare in the nursery and pre-school with Mary Park and Elizabeth Turner, *Treasure Hunting* in the kindergarten with Julie Wood, Chalice Service for grades 1-5 with Holly and Buss McCormick, *Tool-box of Faith* workshops with Kristi Bauer and Taryn Spake, and *Neighboring Faiths* for grades 6-8 with Martine Starck.

The *Neighboring Faiths* class has a field trip planned in conjunction with their study of Hinduism. On Sunday, January 31, the class will go together to the Hindu Temple for a guided tour. Parents, please have your child at the Church of the River by 10:45 so that we can leave promptly to drive to the Temple. Contact Cindy Sakaan or Martine Starck for more information. Adults are welcome to accompany our Middle School class on these visits.

MIFA’s “Souper” Bowl of Caring is February 7. Look for Middle School Adventure Club members on the first Sunday in February selling t-shirts and collecting cash in football helmets to benefit the Metropolitan Interfaith Association food bank.

ECO—Expo II

Sunday, January 31 from 11 a.m.—4 p.m. at Temple Israel, 1376 East Massey Rd. Memphis, TN

Free family fun. Door prizes galore. Free drinks if you bring your own cup. Lunch available for purchase from Whole Foods.

55+ exhibitors with “green products or services” If you bring your recycling bin, you can buy wheel kits for \$10 and they will be installed free.

“As God planted trees for us, so shall we plant trees for our children”





Another January has come around. This year I feel Janus, that Roman god, mocking me with his face turned in two directions. My attention seems to be riveting back and forth too quickly from last year's memories to this year's promise. Even the weather is a co-conspirator abruptly changing the landscape from frozen pipes to budding trees and greening grass and back again in two weeks' time.

Shall I concentrate on the beginning of our church year, with its fresh start last September? We enjoyed meeting new friends and reconnecting with old friends at our Open Houses and potlucks. We revived our Green Sundays with more attention to our mighty Mississippi River. Our Chalice Services,

Object Lessons, Trunk or Treat, Stone Soup, Nifty Gifty, Twelve Days of Christmas with Shady Grove Elementary, and Santa Lucia both comforted us with tradition and offered renewal with each fresh re-creation. Or shall I concentrate on the year to come between now and our Summer of Faith? Our children cheering us on each Sunday morning: babies and toddlers in the nursery growing before our very eyes; young preschoolers discovering the treasures of friendship, learning, and feelings in the kindergarten; children exploring their toolbox of faith, testing their developing ideas about flexibility, reflection, direction, and rules with duct tape, mirrors, compasses, and rulers; adolescents surveying the faiths of their neighbors in temples, mosques, synagogues, and churches; and Young Religious Unitarian Universalists sharing their wisdom and their joy on Youth Sunday, making it impossible to ignore the future of our faith.

At yesterday's Prayer for Peace our Buddhist teacher reminded us of the peace that may come from living in the present moment, neither consumed with the past nor anxious about the future. "Memory and the Pull of the Future" was eloquently preached at the Church of the River as well. And falling from my pocket this morning I find the words of Kathleen McTigue used from time to time in our liturgy:

We come together...to rest for a moment on the forming edge of our lives, to resist the headlong tumble into the next moment, until we claim for ourselves awareness and gratitude, taking the time to look into one another's faces and see there communion: the reflection of our own eyes....

Goodbye January. Take that, Janus. I'm resting.

Cindy

Auction Party Reprise

If you missed the opportunity to bid on the party offered by Roy Bell, Walid Sakaan and Jim Spake at last year's auction, it's not too late to enjoy an evening of eclectic art, food, libations and music.

On Friday, January 29, the fun begins at 6 p.m. at 820 South Willet which is just South of Central Ave.

You will be treated to a tour of a cavernous studio housing art and antiques, a poetry reading, interesting and delicious food and beverage tastings and special music. Contact Roy at roy.bell@earthlink.net to get on the guest list. It will be an unforgettable evening! Admission is a contribution to the COR in the amount that you feel comfortable giving.

WhaleCoast Alaska 2010: Five Alaskan UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program this summer in our 14th year! See *REAL* Alaska, with UU homestays in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka. UU's host events and lead tours. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Observe wildlife, including bears, moose, caribou, whales, sea otters and bald eagles. Visit Denali National Park. Dave Frey, a 29-year Alaska resident, leads the programs. Visit www.whalecoastak.org. Don't delay, reservation deadline is March 10. Email dfrey@whalecoastak.org for information, or call 907-322-4966. The tours usually fill quickly. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

Choir Outreach

The Awesome Little Choir of the Church of the River will be performing a concert/lecture at 2:30 p.m. on January 31 at Town Village at Audubon Park.

Town Village is doing a January series of concerts on "Music in Church Services". We will be doing "Spirituals and Their Hidden Meaning" All are welcome. Town Village is on the corner of Park & Cherry Road in front of Harding Academy.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 AT NOON TO APPROVE THE 2010 BUDGET

"Any member eighteen years of age or older contributing at least ten dollars, of record, to the support of the church within fifteen months of, and more than sixty days prior to, any congregational meeting shall have the right to vote at that meeting." — Constitution of the First Unitarian Church of Memphis, Tennessee

The relevant dates for this congregational meeting are that the \$10 of record should have been given between November 30, 2008 and November 30, 2009. Non-voting members of the congregation and friends of the church are welcome to attend the meeting and make comments but may not vote.



UU're HOME

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