

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
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**THE MEMPHIS
UNITARIAN**

**THE
CHURCH
OF THE
RIVER**

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June 1, 2010

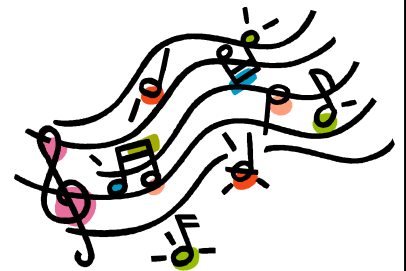
Administrative Assistant: Margaret Park

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SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

"The Poetry of Music"

*Our Awsome Little Choir under the direction of Dr. Charles Schultz
will perform*



Church of the River Calendar Quotation of the Week

"The fog of war is not just a phrase describing the confusion of the battlefield. It also expresses the complexity of Memorial Day." —bc

Wednesday, June 2

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

Saturday, June 5

10:30 a.m. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, June 6

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 be discussing Questions for the Soul, subtitled "If You're Searching for the Answers, Here Are the Questions." For further information, contact Josie Crane @ 572-7337.

Childcare for infants and preschoolers.

11:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Childcare for Infants and Preschoolers.

noon Coffee Hour in the Mississippi River Room.

12:30 p.m. The Lunch Bunch will meet at the Grand Pacific, 6105 Stage Rd. 38134

Tuesday, June 8

10:30 a.m. The Alliance will have their June picnic at the home of Holly McCormick 208 W Viking Dr. Cordova. It's a pot-luck picnic and all are invited.

Wednesday, June 9

2:00 p.m. The Shakespeare Readers will meet at the main library to read The Taming of the Shrew. For additional information call Gale Mason at 725-7924.

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

Thursday, June 10

6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper and Meeting of the Board of Trustees at the home of Lisa & David Jennings, 5039 Cole Rd. 38117. Also invited are staff, past, current and new trustees, 2010 Nominating Committee and 2011 Nominating Committee and spouses or significant others.

Announcements from the Children's Ministry

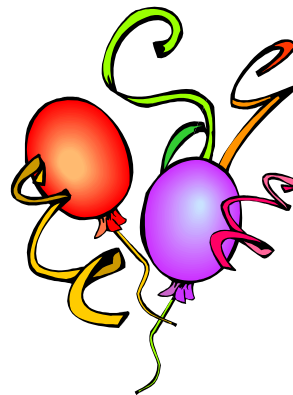
On Sunday, June 6, childcare will be available beginning at 10 o'clock in the nursery and pre-school with Mary Park and Elizabeth Turner.

There will be no religious education classes on June 6 so that everyone can enjoy the annual spring music festival of poetry and song in the sanctuary at 11:00.

Our June Service Project for grades 1-12 begins June 13.

Childcare for nursery and pre-school and Summer of Faith programming for children in grades K-5 will be offered beginning July 11.

Look for details in next week's newsletter.



A Warm Thank You to everyone who participated in my birthday party. The food was delicious, the company superior, the setting unparalleled! Now we know who the brave souls are who are willing to square dance (you know who you are)! A special thank you to my daughters Addie, Hannah and Julie McGowan for making the Mississippi River Room especially festive and elegant.

With love,

Lisa Nezwazky

To All Newsletter Contributors:

The last weekly newsletter before the summer months will be published June 21. It will cover events from June 23 through July 27.

The Midsummer Newsletter will be published July 26 and will cover events between July 28 and August 31.

The first weekly newsletter of the fall will be published August 30.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RIVER



The Spring Music Festival theme next Sunday is "The Poetry of Music." Even as biblical narratives have inspired so many works of art, poetry is a muse for music. I once said that if God appeared to us and began to speak, it would be notes and not words that would flow forth. Music, poetry, and narrative all point to what is essential to the human spirit. For have you not felt it, this deep urge, this stretching desire, for the capacity to express appreciative awareness that moves beyond the biological impulse of instinct? Without the WORD there is no way to capture the way of knowing that escapes the mere measurement of things, that sees the world myopically as weight and size and function.

Sometimes Unitarians are very sensitive to language because of the petulant need to make exact what by its very nature lies at the edges of factual knowledge. Like the spirit that is real but is not a thing, language is the vehicle by which we travel between heart and mind, and grasp outward to comprehend mystery as well as measurement, and to give voice to our responding aspirations. Fire is thought to be the first gift of the gods to humanity, and the wheel a most advantageous invention. But greater than these is the miracle of utterance--that I can speak and you can understand, that dreams and hopes and wisdom and love find a way outward and can even bond a people through covenant.

So I give you the offering of a poem by Robert A. Neimeyer, a Memphian, author, and practicing psychotherapist whose artful expertise explores the nature of loss, grief and human resilience. It is also a fitting salute to this day, Memorial Day, on which I write.

Why We Need Language

We need language
like we need a key,
to escape the confines
of a literal world
that clamps tight like the iron cage
of moments merely lived
and not known.

We need the lift of words
like birds need the air,
to transport us on the clouds of sense
above the dark stone
of earth and death
to glimpse the perilous purity
of the sun.

We need the fragile illusion
of continuity with ourselves—
the fiction of a past that was our own,
the audacious oracle
of a dreamy fruition
in a time unknown to the stars
or to the soft muscles of tongue and hand
that bring forth words.

bc

Thanks

for a gift to the soup kitchen from Art and Carol Straughn in honor of Lisa Nezwazky's birthday.

Thanks also to Vivien Weeks for a

gift to the soup kitchen in honor of Buss & Holly McCormick.

Writer's Workshop

Turning Memories into Memoirs:
Publishing and Distributing
Saturday, June 18th, 2010
1-3:30 p.m.

It's Free. It's fun

Tunica Museum

Tunica, MS 38676

COME WRITE WITH US!

Contact Dr. Rachell Anderson

Rander5022@wildblue.net

Help the RE Department (aka Children's Ministry) and the church by obtaining and using Krogers and Schnucks cards.

You can obtain cards that give a % of your grocery bill to the church from Cindy Sakaan, our Director of Religious Education.

These cards do not add to your grocery bill. The Schnucks card not only sends \$ to the church but gives you a discount on Schnuck's gas.

Katy Spurlock will be the Care Coordinator in June. You can reach Katy at 276-9502

Among Our Members

A warm welcome to our newest members Ron Bolen & Gail Mathes.

Ron and Gail signed the membership book on May 30, 2010. Ron is self employed and Gail is an Attorney. She likes movies, reading and travel and is a Board Member of MCIV.



Ron Bolen and Gail Mathes 5/30/2010

Keys, Keys, Keys

If you are holding a set of church keys and you are no longer using them would you please return them to the office.

I have need of more sets of keys to a) give on a temporary basis or b) someone new to a job, now needs a set of keys.

Margaret Park

As we travel this spring and summer, please remember to save hotel toiletries for the Manna House guests. Also needed are jeans and pants, t-shirts, tennis shoes, tube socks, towels and blankets. Manna House serves both men and women. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Nancy Walton