

**THE MEMPHIS
UNITARIAN**

**THE
CHURCH
OF THE
RIVER**

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November 3, 2009
Administrative Assistant: Margaret Park

SERMON: “How to Get Into Heaven”

Is there a 21st century Unitarian heaven?

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

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

“Silently time passes. The only life I have submits to its power.”
—Hatsui Shizue

Wednesday, November 4

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

Saturday November 7

8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 8th Annual Environmental Justice Conference of the Sierra Club will meet at the Church of the River. Everyone is invited. Registration forms are on the Welcoming Table or you can call 901 324-7757 to register.

Sunday, November 8

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 have continue discussion of *The Evolution of God* by Robert Wright.
11:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Childcare for infants and preschoolers
Kindergarten will go to their classroom after the Object Lesson. River Explorers (1-6) will go to their workshops after the Object Lesson.
Noon Coffee Hour in the Mississippi River Room
12:30 The Lunch Bunch will meet at the Pyramid Grill, 6090 Macon Rd. 38134

Tuesday, November 10

10:30 a. m. The Alliance will meet in the Chalice Room for a program presented by member artists Kristi Bauer and Dennis Eleogram to be followed by lunch. All are invited. If you have questions, call the church office or contact Rachell Anderson at Rander5022@aol.com

Wednesday, November 11

7:00 p.m. The Board of Trustees will meet in the Beacon Room.
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary.

Saturday, November 14

3:30 p.m. St. John's Soup Kitchen at St. John's Methodist Church, Bellevue at Peabody. Contact: Dan Bing — 763-2384.

Announcements from the Children's Ministry

Mary Park and Elizabeth Turner welcome infants and preschoolers to their classroom on Sunday mornings. Child-care is available 10-12:00. *Treasure Hunting* for four and five year olds, at 11:00, is open in the kindergarten classroom led by Kathy and Jerry Moore. This week the treasure is the ability to make peace with our worries.

River Explorers, children in grades 1-6, begin their Sunday morning in the Chalice Room at 11:00 for worship led by Buss and Holly McCormick. Following the Chalice Service, *Toolbox of Faith* workshops resume led by Christi and Norm Shaw, and Richard Lewis.

Thanks to The Alliance for their donation of new “hymnals” for our Chalice Service. *Come Sing a Song With Me* will help our children learn hymns they hear in the sanctuary on first Sundays and “family worship” Sundays, adding another layer to their worship experience. And thank you, Buss and Holly, for teaching the children to add their voices to ours in song.

Our Whole Lives continues for our middle school. Parents, please send lunch or pizza money for your hungry students.

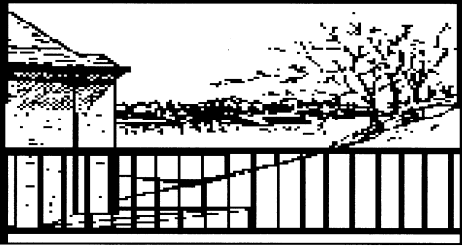
The YRUU will meet at 10:00 o'clock this week to finalize plans for the New Orleans trip Nov. 12-15.

Thanks to everyone who “made Halloween count” for UNICEF. Next Sunday is the last day to turn in UNICEF boxes for this year's donation. Our 2009 total gift to UNICEF will be announced in next week's newsletter.

Volunteers Needed to Judge Art Show

The Fall Art Exhibition is coming up on November 12 at Shady Grove Elementary! We need 3 or 4 volunteers to serve as jurors to judge student art for the exhibit. Please contact Juliet Wischmeyer at 219-5817 or julietwischmeyer@bellsouth.net





The cool, crisp days of the fall season with the luminous blue sky above infuses energy into my day. This past Sunday was one of wonderful fall days that gave added meaning to our Covenant Sunday, a time when we pilgrim to the front of the church to make our financial pledge for the coming year. The board of trustees and our ministry team chairs have an enthusiasm that reminds me of these glorious fall days. At our church leadership retreat this August, we made it our goal for the year to be more intentional in our relationships with our church visitors and new members. The Welcoming Ministry has expanded and new teams within this Ministry are charged with developing a framework that will better engage our visitors and new members as they learn about UUism and our

church community. We have many who walk through our doors seeking the sanctuary of liberal religion and for a place where they can call home. It is our intention to be more active in growing UUism in Memphis, TN by being in right relationship with others.

In addition, we are honoring long-term ministry by using the remaining monies from the late Rev. Dr. Barr's retirement funds to create the Barr Enrichment Fund. This fund is now an option for us to contribute toward programs or events that will add to the enrichment of our congregation and community, such as in part funding our summer worship series and other noted speakers or events that would enrich our lives in significant ways. If you would like to contribute to the Barr Enrichment Fund as a memorial to Dr. Barr or make other memorials, honorariums or donations to the fund, please note on your check or donation that it be designated to the Barr Enrichment Fund. The board of trustees will be responsible for authorizing the use of these funds. This is an exciting opportunity for us to expand our programming and events at our church.

In closing, let me say how terrific it is to see everyone on Sunday morning. This past Sunday's responsive reading keeps coming back to me – we are a pilgrim church, we are a servant church and many possibilities lie before us as we come together in our covenant to search for the Truth with Love.

Lisa

Covenant Sunday was a wonderful celebration of giving and fellowship. Many thanks from the Canvass Team to all who participated and made their pledge for 2010. We are grateful for our members Rachell Anderson, Bryce Ashby, Ellen Klyce and Lisa Jennings who shared their personal stories of the importance of the Church of the River.

Special thanks to the following: Dee Billmeier for putting together a lovely reception, Nancy Walton for decorations and set-up, Ellen Hornyak for delicious hummus, Rick Crenshaw and Buss McCormick for providing great music.

For those who were unable to attend Covenant Sunday, pledge cards will be available next Sunday or you may contact Margaret Park by phone at 526-8631 or email—UURiver@aol.com to make your pledge.

Outreach

Help keep our adopted school students toasty warm this Fall and Winter with your donation of new or gently used children's sized coats and jackets. Please leave them in or near the Shady Grove Elementary bin in the Mississippi River Room.



OUTREACH NEWS Donations for our Soup Kitchen are needed and appreciated. Make checks out to the church and note it is for the "soup kitchen".

Among Our Members

Healing thoughts go out to Bob Myers who is recovering from last week's surgery.

A Warm Welcome to our newest member, Susan Roakes who signed the membership book on November 1, 2009.

Susan is a professor at U of Memphis whose area of learning is City Planning. She is interested in parks, schools, the environment and likes to get out and walk in the woods.

Thanks

to Jerry Moore for donating a computer to the Children's Ministry and to Lisa Nezwazky for donating books to the Children's Ministry.

The Care Coordinator for November is Alice Fleming. You can reach Alice at 755-3418 or Fleming.Alice@gmail.com

GREEN NOTICE

Just outside the door to the Mississippi River Room (hall side) there is a container for aluminum cans and another container for glass or plastic bottles.

Green Tip for November Recycle all your plastic bottles and reduce your greenhouse gas emissions by 16.7 pounds per year!

THANK YOU — THE GREEN TEAM

Rhodes College and Diversity Memphis Faith Matters Invites everyone to attend their annual multi-faith service on Sunday, November 15. This service of prayer, music, dance and song begins at 3 o'clock in the Bryan Campus Life Center at Rhodes. Multicultural refreshments will be available after the service. Free and open to all, this event honors the diversity of our faith community in Memphis.

The 13th Annual Race for Grace one mile run/walk which benefits the Church Health Center will happen on November 7th at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church at the corner of Shady Grove and Yates.

This year's race committee anticipates over 1,000 participants. Come and join in the family activities: live entertainment, refreshments, ice cream, popcorn, face painting, 18 ft. side and more. Grab some friends and register on line at www.raceforgrace.racesonline.com Entry fees: \$20 pre-registration; \$25 on race day. Race day registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

Can't be there? Consider donating a registration for someone who might otherwise be unable to participate. This is a great way to support the mission of the Church Health Center.

The CHC provides affordable healthcare for the working uninsured, elderly, children and the homeless and promotes healthy bodies and spirits for all.

Anyone interested in learning conversational Italian?

Gale Mason 726-7924 and Charles "Moon" Mullins 605-2073 would like to know if there is enough interest to get up a class in conversational Italian down here at the Church of the River. Many of our members have been to Italy and wish to go back. Some others may wish to go for the first time.

If you would be interested in participating in the class please let Gale or Moon know.