

The Edmonton Unitarian

Unitarian Church of Edmonton

10804 119 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 3P2

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Volume 50 Number 2 February 2009

Services for February

Services Begin at 10:30 a.m.

February 1, 2009 "Atheism III- Conversations"

Brian Kiely, Gilbert Bouchard, Suzette Chan...and you

In this conclusion to our look at Atheism, I will be joined by Gilbert and Suzette for a formally informal conversation which we will then open up to a congregational chat. We have booked the Sanctuary for a post service continuation of the conversation for any who wish to keep at it.

Anthony Burbidge, Singer/songwriter from Calgary will be our guest musician this morning. Russ and Helen Smith are sponsoring his performance.

February 8, 2009 "Darwin, Lincoln, and some Pythons: 200 years of irreverent humanism"

Greg Henkelman

This year is the 150th anniversary of Charles Darwin's *The Origin of Species* by Means of Natural Selection. It would also have been Chuck's 200th birthday on February 12.....this is also Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday: two great emancipators of humanity born on the same day, same year. I will look at the influences of Darwin particularly, with a bit of Lincoln and perhaps a bit of Monty Python thrown in.

Chorealis will be singing this morning.

February 15, 2009 "Bountiful's Challenge for UU's"

Rev. Brian J. Kiely

The recent arrests of the Mormon fundamentalists in Bountiful, B.C. on charges of polygamy pose challenges for us social liberals. I suspect that many here support the arrests, but we have always been on the cutting edge of redefining marriage. We were among the first to support same sex marriage, and there is a minority within our continental UU ranks who believe in polyamory. So how do we stand in regards to the events in Bountiful?

February 22, 2009 "Membership" Rev. Brian J. Kiely

What do you expect from church? What are you prepared to give? Why do you come? Do you volunteer? Why or why not? What does it mean to be member here? What do we need to do next? Lots of questions. Perhaps we'll find some answers today.

Ministerial Musings

Tuesday, January 20th, 2009

Hope. That's the story of this day. I have not yet heard the inauguration speech of President Obama, but I already know the bottom line. He was elected on a platform of change, but the real story is the renewal of hope in the face of fear.

Our Vision

The Unitarian
Church of

Edmonton— a liberal
religious, multi-
generational

congregation. We
celebrate a rich
mosaic of free-
thinking, spiritually-
questing individuals
joined in common
support and action.

We welcome
diversity, pursue the
common good, and
work for justice. We

believe in the
compassion of the
individual heart, the
warmth of community,
and the search for
meaning in our lives.



Perhaps that will shape his words this day. Perhaps he will find the phrases that will echo through time like, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself," or "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." I sure hope he delivered, for he is a fine speaker with a wonderful rhetorical flourish, but it probably won't matter. Even before he took the oath he had succeeded in this culminating moment of his ascent to the presidency.

They estimate that some two million people or more attended the inauguration; common people far outnumbering the great and near great. There were far more people who arrived by bus than by private jet. Perhaps most hopeful, the crowd is swarming with young people coming witness a moment of history that will echo for the rest of their lives. With luck it will change a generation for the better.

They want that change, they want a world where things matter again, where they can feel that they are part of something greater than themselves. For far too long the United States has only offered that feeling to people willing to carry a weapon into war. The people on the Mall this day desperately want something different. They are hopeful that this man Obama can give it to them.

I have been amazed in these past few days as I have watched the images of the celebrations. This smiling man, standing tall like he has not a care in the world has impressed me. He is taking on a difficult task. As the satirical website The Onion headlined it on the day after the election, "Black Man Elected to the Worst Job in the World." I am amazed that he is not already bending under the weight of expectation.

He has been clear that he cannot live up to that expectation. The crises facing the U.S. are too great. He has clearly stated that he will make mistakes. There will be failures. But then Roosevelt and Kennedy had failures too. Yet they are remembered mostly with fondness for the excitement they created. They rose above the failures and managed to keep the optimism alive. You see, they too, brought hope to a nation desperately needing to have hope renewed. Obama is bringing hope to every corner of the world.

And the world, and the citizens of the U.S. must give him a chance to fulfil at least some of that hopeful expectation.

Hope is such a fragile thing. In the face of harsh realities we must choose to be hopeful. Nothing concrete will change between Monday and Wednesday. The financial difficulties will still be there. The wars will still be there. The handcuffs of international and domestic political realities will still bind the president's hands. But at least we can choose to join in the wave of hope that is renewing the U.S. and the globe. We can choose to give ourselves over to making change. We can choose to



step up in his "New era of responsibility." You see hope only becomes reality when all the hopeful people make it so.

I plan to do my part. I hope you will, too. Sure he's not MY president, but hey, grab hope where you find it. It's the only way this new era will come into being.

See you in church!

Brian

p.s. Please see civil rights veteran Rev. Orloff Miller's letter "Audacious Hope" on page 6

A Guide to Planned Giving

Most of us would like to think our lives have touched the world in a positive way, that we will leave behind us something greater than ourselves. There are many ways you can make a charitable contribution to our Unitarian Church of Edmonton. Whether it's a gift of cash, securities, life insurance, or a charitable will bequest, you can design a gift that honours your philanthropic intentions while at the same time achieving your

financial and tax-planning objectives. Simple click on the "Administration" tab on the UCE Website (www.uce.ca) to view our comprehensive Guide to Planned Giving, or contact Maurice Bourgoin (780-434-3071) or Paul Burnell (780-919-9147) of the Endowment Committee for assistance.

Treasurer's Report

December is always a good month for UCE financially, and so it was this year. As of Dec. 31 we are actually in the black for the fiscal year - yippee! However, dangers still lurk out there. We have two tenants whose rent money is crucial to our bottom line. One of them, Design 21, still owes us money it hasn't begun to repay us. Design 21's lease expires March 31, so its future tenancy is uncertain. The other tenant, the Alberta NDP, is reportedly looking for cheaper office space than ours. The NDP has no lease, just rents month to month.

We have made good progress preparing an application for a provincial matching grant to help us build a proper kitchen. Both our ward councillors, Jane Batty and Ben Henderson, have promised letters of support, as has our Edmonton Centre MLA, Laurie Blakeman. We also have some terrific letters of support from some of our regular renters, like the yoga group. Next step: getting a letter of support from the Queen Mary Park Community League.

Susan Ruttan, Treasurer

Campus Ministry



The discussion group that met at Beth Shalom synagogue for five weeks, concluded a series of interfaith dialogues based on the books on atheism by Christopher Hitchens and Richard Dawkins. David Kunin who calls his congregation, "egalitarian," hosted chaplains from the Evangelical Lutheran, Christian Reformed, Anglican and Unitarian churches, with representation from the Department of Religious Studies from the U of A. Our input was lively, informed, and participatory, in that members of Beth Shalom asked questions of us all.

In December, I represented the Chaplain's Association by hosting the Nine Lessons and Carols, at the Winspear Centre, with the U of A Mixed Chorus, and the Dept. of Education Handbell Players.

I served at the Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, for Christmas dinner, on behalf of the Chaplains, and will be preparing and serving food for the Mustard Seed Church in early February. Other tasks included meetings with Student Services, individual contacts with students and staff at the U, and planning for Unitarian campus ministry events. On Friday Jan 16, I will be presenting a Unitarian church service for the retired members of SAGE.

Rev. Audrey Brooks

Green Sanctuary

In October 2008, the Green Sanctuary (GS) Committee developed a survey with two main purposes:

- * to find out how well the congregation of the Unitarian Church of Edmonton reflects positive action for the environment
- * to provide a baseline assessment of the congregations' actions and policies before proceeding with a Green Sanctuary Action Plan.

The survey questions focused on four key areas identified in the Green

Sanctuary Manual.

- * Worship and Spiritual Practice
- * Religious Education/Lifespan Learning
- * Environmental Justice
- * Resource Use and Management

The GS Committee is now compiling and analyzing the responses from the Worship,

Membership, Adult Religious Education, Social Action, Property Management, Landscaping, Aesthetics and Kitchen Planning committees as well as the staff associated with these key areas: Minister Brian Kiely, Director of Religious Education Michelle Van Der Molen and Church Administrator Linda Stolee.

The questions were open-ended, so there's a lot of information to compile, but already we can see many ways in which the committees, the staff and the congregation are taking action in the areas of Resource Use and Management:

- During the week, staff and volunteers choose to leave hallway and foyer lights off and turn off lights as they leave rooms

- Computers are turned off at night

- Office heat is on program and is generally kept low; space heaters are used minimally

- Classrooms and sanctuary are on separate thermostats and programmed for conservation

- By e-mailing the newsletter we have significantly reduced photocopying and paper use

- Bathrooms and two storage rooms are on automatic switches. Lighting is fluorescent.

- Light bulbs and batteries are taken to the Eco-center

- We take paper from the church recycling bin for use on the second side before recycling.

- We sell gently used items in the church Garage Sale.

- We donate gently used items (e.g. winter clothing) to local charities.

- We donate unsold used book to the shingle manufacturer.

- We have three people hauling donated beverage containers to the bottle depot.

This means families that are already coming to church do not create additional carbon footprints by making another trip to the bottle depot.

- Holding committee meetings after church saves duplicate trips.

The Adult Religious Education Committee has offered the following programs:

- * "Spirit of Life" - Workshop #4: Spirituality in Nature

- * "Practical Spirituality - Flower Arranging"

- * "Sustaining Wonder" (an exploration of environmental issues with a focus on the Seventh Principle of respect for the interdependent web of life)

As we continue to delve into the responses we will be able to see what we currently offer in Worship and in programs for children and youth, and where we can become even more intentional in our resource use and sustainability practices.

Beth Jenkins

First Annual UCE Bottle Drive

Do you have bottles and cans cluttering up your space? No time to take them into a recycling depot? Want to participate in something huge? Well UCE wants to help you out! Bring in your bottle, cans, and juice boxes and lets see how big of a pile we can make in the social hall!

Mike Keast

Entertainment Books

By selling the Entertainment Books we raised \$700.00 for the church. If you want one next year, please remember to buy from the church. A big thanks to Shirley Edgar, Florence Campbell and Jennifer Hinchcliffe for working on this!

The Annual Fellowship Dinner: "The Church of Our Lives"

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 7th for our annual Fellowship dinner. This year we will add a new feature. In conjunction with the History Project, we will celebrate the lives of some of our original and long time members. Why? Because they created the church we have inherited. They laid foundations and shaped the good healthy supports that make this the welcoming and friendly community it is today.

We will enjoy a terrific dinner again provided by Flavourbudzzz, enjoy the jazz vocal stylings of Erin VanDerMolen Pater during cocktail hour and dance to the tunes of DeeJay Teilya Kiely. There will also be the presentation of the W.H. Alexander award for distinguished service.

Tickets are \$30 each with children under 10 getting in for free.

Cocktail hour starts at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6.

Get your tickets in church on Sundays or reserve through the office.

W.H. Alexander Award

The objective of the annual W.H. Alexander Award is to allow the Unitarian Church of Edmonton to honour a person or persons for extraordinary services provided to benefit the Church community.

RULES:

- 1 Nominations must be made in writing by members of the Unitarian Church of Edmonton and must include reasons for nominating the person or persons.
- 2 Members of the board may not submit nominations.
- 3 Persons who have been staff members or members of the board within the preceding year are not eligible to receive the award.
- 4 Past staff members and members of the board are eligible if the services for which they are recommended were not performed during the period when they held these special positions.
- 5 Members of the board will select the winner of the award from among the nominees at a regular board meeting. The final decision must be supported by a majority of the board members.
- 6 There is no limit on the number of times a person may be nominated for, or win, the award.

Please note date of submissions has changed. **Nominations must be submitted to the Board by March 1, 2008.** Nominations may be put in the President's mailbox.

Art for Fun and Meaning

Come Play! You are invited to experience art making for fun and meaning in a safe, welcoming environment. NO art experience is necessary. Art materials are provided for a \$20 fee for the four sessions. FOUR Monday afternoons - February 23, March 2, 9, 16 from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. -- 12 participants (sign-up sheet on the credenza in the foyer) OR FOUR Monday evenings -- February 23, March 2, 9, 16 from 7 until 9:30 p.m. -- 6 participants (sign-up sheet on the credenza in the foyer). For more information please contact Bonnie Kyle at 780-453-1331.

Chorealis High Notes

For those who have not yet purchased our recently released CD entitled "My Song", there are copies available for sale any Sunday morning or at the church office during the week for \$20. And for those who have the CD, be sure that you look carefully at the front cover that opens with names of all the singers and details of all the songs. As a start for our next album, Gordon has just composed a new Celtic song for Robbie Burns Day that was recently premiered by Chorealis at the January 25th service!

Chorealis welcomes new alto Lillias Cowper who recently moved here from Calgary. If you would like to join or re-join the choir, you are welcome anytime – no audition required! And singers are grateful for all the work done by Maurice Bourgoin for sorting and filing the mounds of music after all our Christmas and CD release party performances and to Dorothy Keeler who helped prepare new music copies for our upcoming gigs.

As well, several singers will go on a field trip to hear the Nathaniel Dette Chorale in February.



Our Neighbouring Faiths World Religion Course



If you are interested in learning more about the six major religions that shape our world, you may wish to set aside Tuesdays from February 17 through March 24. Brian Kiely will offer the Our Neighbouring Faiths course in both afternoon and evening sessions. You can choose 1- 3:30p.m. or 7 to 9:30 p.m. (you can attend either session). This will be a lecture and slide course with lots of time for questions and conversation.

The course is free, but we will accept donations of up to \$20 to help cover the cost of reading materials. Registration forms are in the foyer.

An Open Labyrinth

An Open Labyrinth will be held on January 31st between 12-4:00 and another open labyrinth will be held on February 28th. All are welcome to attend and if you have questions, contact Bonnie Kyle (780-453-1331).



Audacious Hope for 2009

UU Minister Orloff Miller marched with Dr. King in Selma. This Christmas he sent this inspiring letter to friends and family and was gracious enough to include me in its distribution list and gave me permission to share it with you. Brian
Dear Friends and Family,

Upon selection of Barack Obama to become 44th President of the USA, I received many joyful messages. Most were from you, my friends and family, recalling the March from Selma to Montgomery - and events before and after. You recognized that the election in 2008 of our first African-American president was made possible by an epic struggle for voting rights in and around Selma, Alabama in 1965.

I treasure especially this e-mail, from a loved one in our African-American extended family:

THANK YOU....for "walking" and believing in the struggle..so many years ago.....that walk of oh so many....has led to this historic moment.....

That struggle for voting rights cost three lives, black and white, male and female. Their names are all but forgotten today.* The historic March from Selma to Montgomery was first conceived as a protest following the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson - shot by a state trooper during a nighttime demonstration for voting rights in nearby Marion AL. The 50 mile trek from Selma to the state capitol, begun on March 7th, was inauspicious - until TV cameras caught the sheriff's posse on horseback - riding down and clubbing marchers - including women and children - at the foot of the Selma bridge. Scenes of "Bloody Sunday" were flashed across the world. I saw those scenes on TV in Boston.

Within two days clergy from across the US, responding to a call from Martin Luther King Jr, attempted to resume that march. They were turned back by the sheriff's posse backed by state troopers - but without violence. That night outside a soul-food restaurant in Selma, three of the clergy were attacked - including Unitarian minister, Jim Reeb who died two days later. President Johnson sent yellow roses to his hospital room and called him "that good man." I was one of the two survivors.

Two men named Jim had died, and both were eulogized by MLK. But whereas the first death was little noted outside Alabama, the second Jim was a white clergyman - and the world took notice. The march for voting rights was resumed - this time under federal protection, limited to 300 persons for most of the 50+ miles. But the march grew to 25,000 by the time we reached the capitol steps in Montgomery.

That night, having driven a load of marchers back to Selma, Viola Liuzzo, a white mother from Detroit was gunned down by Klansmen as she was returning to Montgomery for another load. A young Negro riding with her survived the attack - as did an FBI informant posing as one of the Klansmen. Viola died, but the demand for voting rights did not.

In Washington DC on August 6, 1965, seated in the same room off the Capitol Rotunda where 104 years earlier Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lyndon Johnson made the Voting Rights Act the law of the land. On January 20, 2009, forty-three years later, Barack Obama, an African-American will be inaugurated our 44th president. And I will be sobbing tears of joy.

For, truth to tell, I have come to believe that the March from Selma to Montgomery in 1965 was a series of very early ballots cast on behalf of Barack Obama - and the decisive votes were cast by Jimmie Lee Jackson, James Reeb, and Viola Liuzzo.

Peace, love, and audacious hope!
Orloff

Stories of the Spirit, Stories of the Heart

The 2009 Spiritual Retreat of the Unitarian Church of Calgary is fast approaching. Why not join us at Kamp Kiwanis the weekend of February 13-15 for some fun and relaxation in the company of friends old and new?

Workshops include: 100 Things to Do Before I Die; A Walking Meditation; Our Favourite Books; Telling Stories Through Music, A Time for Meditation; A Picture Tells a Thousand Words—Intro to Scrapbooking and many more!

Final Registration is February 5, 2009 (\$150.00 Adults, \$75.00 Students and Youths) Bursaries are available, contact Meg Roberts at 403-230-8938. For more information, contact Loralie Shupe Latour at shupelatour@yahoo.ca or 403-275-1651. To register, contact Mary Anna Louise Kovar at ron4kovar@telus.net. There are some handouts on the registration table in the foyer.

Kidstuff

Michelle Van Der Molen, DRE

Chalice Children (ages 4-7) meet in the large classroom, located in second hallway. They will be “Celebrating Me and My World” through song, movement, crafts, stories and other activities. February will find the Chalice children exploring the ways they develop empathy and learn to help – and celebrate Valentine’s Day on February 15th with the Pathfinders.

Pathfinders (ages 8-12) meet in the small classroom located at end of second hallway. February continues with “In Our Hands: A Peace and Social Justice Program” – Pathfinders will be exploring the concepts of Peace and Social Justice within themselves this month and celebrating Valentine’s Day with the Chalice Children. Also, they are invited to be part of the musical collaboration with Chorealis for March 1st.

The nursery is staffed by our able youth– Erin Vandermolen-Pater, Graeme Battigelli, Hannah Jackson and Chandra Smith. If YOU are 11 or older, and have taken the Babysitting course and have an S.I.N., you are invited to apply to be part of our Nursery staff for 2009. Also, we welcome adults who may want to volunteer very occasionally to join our youth in the Nursery. A Volunteer Registration form must be filled out by anyone wishing to volunteer (see Michelle). Please pass on any concerns or comments you might have about the Nursery to Michelle (780-454-5816 , dre@uce.ca)

Singing Circle Children and families are invited to join a singing circle on Sunday mornings before the church service – come learn a new song or two and stretch your singing muscles (in large classroom)! Look for more information and a sign up sheet in the foyer.



A new set of lessons for the Winter/Spring terms will be posted in the Foyer for sign-ups by teachers and helpers. If you are an adult interested in teaching or helping with the lessons, please sign up on the poster in the Foyer and/or talk to Michelle Van Der Molen, DRE. (dre@uce.ca ; 780-454-5816)

Thank you to all the teachers and helpers that make these lessons happen! If you are new to this program, please make sure to ask for an introduction packet, including registration forms. Registering means that we have some contact information about you; we can keep up to date only if you update that information! Whether you are returning to us or new to us, we’d sure like to make sure that we are informed.

There will be a large calendar of events in the second hallway as well, on the outside wall of the large classroom. Please check here if you’d like to see what is happening, as well as in the newsletter and the orders of service.





The youth have decided... youth ages 12-20 are invited to participate in Popcorn Theology...movies, snack, discussion. We'll be planning our Spring Talent Show (for April) . Please check with Michelle at 780-477-7576 or mavdmolen@shaw.ca if you have any questions.

OXFAM hungry4change fast On February 21st and 22nd the youth of UCE and Westwood will be fasting in a fund raiser for OXFAM Canada – and would like to invite you to donate to this worthy cause by sponsoring one or all of the teens, or by providing drinks or support at church on these days! Please see a youth group member or contact Michelle Van Der Molen (780-454-4816) if you'd like to sponsor us in any way!

It's almost time for Mystery Buddies –which will begin on February 8th. Sign up sheets for the Mystery Buddies Mail Exchange are in the foyer. Adults and children are needed to share mail and thoughts and fun from February to April.



U of A Campus Food Bank Donation

The February collection from UCE will be donated to the University of Alberta Campus Food Bank. The bank provides food hampers to any member of the university community who is facing financial difficulty. About 98% of Food Bank clients are students, who constantly struggle to make ends meet, because of inadequate funding coupled with rising living and educational expenses, or a sudden change in circumstances caused by job loss, illness, or change in family situations. Other services include advocacy referrals, public education about hunger, and poverty reduction. The Food Bank is a registered charity, and does issue tax receipts. Contacts: foodbank@su.alberta.ca and www.su.alberta.ca/foodbank.

Any UCE member who would like to donate non-perishable food items or toiletries to the Campus Food Bank can put them in a labelled bag, and give them to Audrey Brooks at church.

Enrich our Church Services

Sometimes, our church services feature guest musicians. Our very own Erin Van Der Molen sang at our January service and on Feb. 1st, Calgarian singer/songwriter Anthony Burbidge will perform. These live performances add a wonderful dimension to our services. Our regular budget does not allow for paying guest musicians on a regular basis. Russ and Helen Smith are sponsoring Anthony. I have several guest musicians who would like to come to our church, including a Namibian artist who has married one of the Kokopelli singers.

If you would like to contribute towards a guest musician, please contact Jan McMillan at 780-453-2097 or janjimmc@gmail.com. Your gift of just \$100 could be in memory of someone or to mark a birthday or an anniversary or just because you want to hear more live music.

Church Storytelling Fund Raiser

“Story Night In Canada” takes place at the church Saturday, February 21 starting 7:30 p.m. Tellers returning from last year are our minister Brian Kiely, Wendy Edey, and Vern Wishart. Tellers new this year are Pearl-Ann-Gooding, Caroline Stuart, and our church auditor David Haas. Come out and enjoy an evening of six Canuck tales about Canada and Canadians while supporting the church financially. Tickets \$25, available NOW from David at 780-940-9658 or Susan at 780-488-8141 or after services. Early bird book prizes for two tickets.

Missing

A small brass plaque commemorating Lois Hole which was to be secured to one of the garden benches. If anyone knows where it is, please contact Donna Hamar at 780-425-0728.

CUC Position Available

The Canadian Unitarian Council is seeking applicants for the position of Executive Director. The job description can be found at http://www.cuc.ca/whos_who/EDPositionDescription.pdf.

Applicants, please submit a letter of application and current resume to the Executive Director Selection Committee at careers@cuc.ca by January 31, 2009.

The CUC invites applications from all qualified individuals. The CUC is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace.

*Kalvin Drake
Vice President, Board of Trustees, CUC*

Are you a Closet Social Activist?

Did you know Unitarians are renowned as social activists? Do you harbour a secret desire to be playing a greater role in righting social injustices, but you just don't have the time? Or are you perhaps less aware than you'd like to be as to why there are so many homeless people in Canada, or why Canada has become an environmental pariah, or how we could obtain a sustainable socially just economy in our country?

If so, join Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice. CUSJ is the social justice arm of our denomination. It is affiliated with, but distinct from the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC), which allows CUSJ to lobby governments without jeopardizing the CUC's charitable status.

All CUSJ members receive JUSTnews, the organization's newsletter. From it you can learn what other Unitarians are doing for social justice from New Brunswick to B.C. Some articles may make your blood boil at the lack of compassion of some of our politicians and bureaucrats, but others will make you chuckle, and you will read occasional good news too.

For social activist-news junkies there's the CUSJ e-list, where you can pick up much of the news you'll never read in the mainstream press.

Membership fees are what you can afford, but as a guide, CUSJ's costs are about \$50 per membership household. For some members this is too much, but others willingly pay more and make up the difference. To join, pick up a copy of JUSTnews (every congregation receives several copies), and complete the membership form on the back page, or simply send a cheque (made out to CUSJ) with a request for membership and your name and mailing address to Bob Stavely, c/o CUSJ Membership, P.O. Box 40011, Ottawa, ON, K1V 0W8.

A Play with a Universalist Bent

Awards winning blarney productions presents

The Last Train to Nibroc

By Arlene Hutton

A remarkable play about two people who meet on a train and their lives change forever, It is after the Great Depression and the country is about to enter the War.

Nominated New York Critics Award for best play.

* "On the surface, their futures couldn't appear more certain: May will wear her white gloves to church and teach the Gospel, and the uniformed Raleigh will go to war. But America is changing, and so are their well-ordered plans." NY Times

* "I can think of nothing more satisfyingly human, more remarkably well-crafted, and more emotionally gratifying than this tiny show about two people who come into each other's lives and make a difference." London Independent

Where: Varscona Theatre

When: February 26th - March 8th

Directed by John Sproule (yes, Our John Sproule!)

Starring Kendra Connor and Adam Burgess

Tuesday to Saturday at 7:30 pm

2:00 pm Matinees

Tickets: 780-433-3399 or at Tiks on the Square

\$20.00 for Adults

\$15.00 for Students/Seniors/Actors Equity

2 for one Tuesdays

Groups welcome and talk-back can be arranged.

Just a Reminder

If you have a fund-raising idea for the church, please make sure to run it past the Ways and Means Committee to make sure that it fits the schedule and that is appropriate and supported! Please contact Michelle Van Der Molen, Acting chairperson at 780-477-7576 or mavdmolen@shaw.ca with your ideas.

Avgen Gift Card Fundraising

Thanks to all those who have participated in this ongoing fund raiser for UCE You've seen the notice board and the order forms....some of you now have collections of gift cards and certificates to spend or pass on....but did you know... This is a *year-round* opportunity for UCE– not just for the holidays. Even a small order every month can add up to money for the church. If you get into the habit of ordering for stores you are at regularly (like gas stations, or department stores, or grocery stores), we can see this grow! If you would like ideas for making this work for you, please talk to Barb Forbes. Please turn your order forms (found on credenza, in the foyer) in to Barb Forbes with a cheque made out to Barb.

"Rosa sat for Martin to walk, Martin walked for Obama to run, Obama runs so our children can fly." from The Edmonton Journal, January 22, 2009

International Week, University of Alberta Feb 2-4

"Hungry for Change - Transcending Feast, Famine and Frenzy" Program guides are now available at the University. Information at www.lweek.ualberta.ca

On Tuesday, Feb. 3rd, from 2 - 2:50 p.m., at the International House Meeting Room, Rev. Audrey Brooks will moderate an interfaith discussion on Perspectives on Social Responsibility, with Rabbi David Kunin, Dr. Bob McKeon and Sahar Swaid, to explore the roles of different religious traditions in sharing the resources and wealth of a few with all of God's children. Learn about historical precedence in sacred texts through modern interpretation of social responsibility to the poor. Come early, to ensure a place to sit. Last year's event was very well attended.

Fabulous Food

Food, food, fabulous food and a big problem in our kitchen. If you are involved in an event that includes food and there is some left over, please make sure that is removed from our tiny kitchen. If you wish it to be used for an event the following day you need to mark it clearly and to see that it is used at that time, including cleaning up. Public Health Regulations prohibit the storing of perishable food for more than one day. It is impossible for the wonderful coffee makers to handle more than coffee and tea on Sunday mornings.

Protecting Our Floors

When it is wet or snowy or muddy outside we really appreciate your taking time to change or clean your footwear just as you would in your home.

Property Management Committee

UCE is a welcoming congregation, which means our community is open to all, without regard to sexual orientation, race, gender, age, ability, or income. It's nice to have you with us.

**THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON
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Vol 50 No. 2

Deadline for the March newsletter is February 13, 2009

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minister@uce.ca 780-455-9797

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president@uce.ca 780-497-1303

Religious Education Director: Michelle Van Der Molen dre@uce.ca 780-454-5816

Canvass: Andrew Mills 780-987-2174

Campus Ministry: Rev. Audrey Brooks audbrook@telusplanet.net 780-489-8842

Chorealis: Karen Mills 780-432-0826

Gordon Ritchie 780-420-9018

Church Office: Linda Stolee

chadmin@uce.ca 780-454-8073

Donations Secretary: Marge Roche 780-464-3348

Head Teller: Edwina Madill 780-462-2089

Lay Chaplaincy: call office 780-454-8073

Denise Wenzel and Pam Willerton

Ministerial Relations:

Pastoral Care: vacant

Property Management: Bernie Keeler btkeeler@shaw.ca 780-458-1250

Social Justice Committee: Sylvia Krogh skrogh@shaw.ca 780-454-6216

Vision: Gilbert Bouchard 780-439-8149

Worship Committee: John Pater 780-477-7576

UCE Walking Friday Mornings

This group is open to everyone who likes to walk (and talk) and eat! Join us and bring your spouse and friends.

SCHEDULE - JAN 2 TO 2009

PLEASE NOTE: DURING JAN AND FEB WE WILL MEET AT UCE AT 10:30 AM
Leaders are assigned arbitrarily so exchanges are expected and possible.

1. We always meet at UCE and carpool from there to the walk of the day. A loonie in town and twoonie out of town for the driver is suggested. If you prefer to meet us at the start point of a walk please check with the leader and Dorothy or Helen.
2. We try to maintain a current email list and are in the process of preparing a phone tree so that we can alert you about significant arrangement changes. Call Dorothy or Helen if you would like to be on the lists. Live cell phones are handy.
3. Most walks finish by lunching together before returning to UCE. (Entertainment books are often useful for the lunch component of these walks)
4. Some walks are dog friendly. If you are unsure please check with the leader.
5. Let Helen or Dorothy know about your favourite walks for future inclusion.
6. Our walks are cancelled if the temperature and windchill combined is lower than -20. During nicer weather we often travel further and take more time.

Helen Ready 780-454-8054 and Dorothy Keeler 780-458-1250

Fri Jan 30 - Muttart and east on north side of river to the bridge and home again.
leader - Helen Ready

This is the week we book our annual sojourn to Wm Watson Lodge in Kananaskis (the first or second week of April). More details will be announced soon. Talk to Helen or Dorothy if you want to join us. The more the merrier.

Fri Feb 6 - (we'll make a decision about our start times for March and later)

Twin Brooks behind the residences

leader - Jan McMillan

Fri Feb 13 - Gold Bar to Rundle Park

leader - Abigail Smith

Fri Feb 20 - Terwillegar Park

leader - Inge Hess

Fri Feb 27 - Laurier Park

leader - Joan Davison

Fri Mar 6 - Queen Elizabeth Park to Kinsmen

leader - Shirley Edgar

Fri Mar 13 - Muttart to Riverdale

leader - Elin Logan

Fri Mar 20 - Royal Glenora Park to Legislature

leader - Kathy Stanley

Fri Mar 27 - Louise McKinney Park and look at Blodgett poetry

leader - Marlo Miles and/or ElinLogan

after may 24 go to grain elevators in St Albert Mountain Pleasant cemetery
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Child Haven International

7th Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

6:00 to 10:00 pm

Saturday, March 14, 2009

Maharajah Banquet Hall,

9257 - 34A Avenue, Edmonton

Delicious East Indian buffet

Auction and sales items, local & exotic

Child Haven slide show by Bonnie & Fred Cappuccino

Admission just \$30

(Reserve now as no tickets are sold at the door)

The "Child Haven" Story

(see www.childhaven.ca for details)

Bonnie and Fred Cappuccino first adopted nineteen orphans from around the world, then when they had grown, founded "Child Haven International" to provide homes, education, and vocational training for over seven hundred more in India, Nepal, Tibet, and Bangladesh! To be eligible, children must be orphans or from socially disadvantaged situations and destitute, i.e. not receiving even one good meal a day.

In the Child Haven homes, children live simply and receive full care through high school age, and then vocational training so that each child can become a self-sufficient adult. The children are raised according to the highest ideals of their own local cultures and religions, whether Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, secular, or other. Non-violence is taught and lived. Please note that Child Haven, a registered Canadian charity (118851922RR0001), is not a religious organization.

Child Haven also strives to improve the condition of women through training, direct employment, and occasionally legal and medical aid.

Bonnie and Fred have received several awards in recognition of their work, including the Order of Canada. You're invited to meet them Saturday, March 14 at our 7th annual Edmonton Child Haven Fundraising Event.

Thank you very much for your support.



Child Haven International

7th Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

6:00 to 10:00 pm

Saturday, March 14, 2009

Maharajah Banquet Hall,

9257 - 34A Avenue, Edmonton

Yes, I'd like _____ adult tickets at \$30 each = \$ _____,
(cheque payable to "Child Haven International")

And _____ free tickets for children under 10 years.

_____ Please reserve a block of seats for my party.

Please mail my tickets to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone number: _____
(thank-you)

e-mail: _____ (optional)

*Please note Child Haven does NOT lend,
rent, sell or share its mailing list.*

**Make cheque payable to Child Haven International and mail
this form and payment to:**

Marjorie Russell

Apt 105, 9725 - 106 street

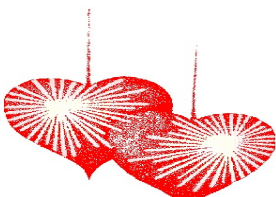
Edmonton, AB T5K 1B5

For more information or to purchase tickets,

Phone Marjorie at 780 - 238 - 6150

or email: marjay@shaw.ca

or Sylvia Krogh at 780 - 454 - 6216

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2009</h1> 						
1 "Atheism III -Conversations" noon: membership C1 7:00 renter S	2 7:00 renter S	3 9:30-11 renter S 5:30 Renter S	4 7:00 renter S 7:00 renter C1	5 11-2 renter S 6:30 renter C2 7:30 Chorealis S	6 7 renter C1	7 7 renter C2
8 "200 Years of Irreverant Humanism" noon, social justice cttee. 1-5 renter S	9 7:00 renter S 6:30 renter C2	10 9:30-11 renter S 5:30 Renter S	11 7:00 renter S 7:15 Board mtng.C1	12 11-2 renter S 6:30 renter C2 7:30 Chorealis S	13 Newsletter Deadline 7 renter C1	14 7 renter C2
15 "Bountiful's Challenge for UU's" noon, Parents' Group	16 Family Day Office Closed	17 9:30-11 Renter S 1-3:30; 7-9:30 Our Neighbouring Faiths C2 5:30 Renter S	18 7:00 renter S	19 11-2 renter S 6:30 renter C2 7:30 Chorealis S	20 7 renter C1	21 All Day in Social Hall Youth doing Oxfam 7 Storytelling S 7 renter C2
22 "Membership" noon Green Sanctuary, RE meeting. Youth doing Oxfam	23 1-4, C2; 7- 9:30 C1 Art for Fun 6:30 Renter C2 7:00 renter S	24 9:30-11 Renter S 1-3:30; 7-9:30 Our Neighbouring Faiths C2 5:30 Renter S	25 7:00 renter S	26 11-2 renter S 6:30 renter C2 7:30 Chorealis S	27 7 renter S 7 renter C1 and C2	28 9-4 renter C2 12-4 Open Labyrinth S 7 renter S 7 renter C2