



# The COMMUNITY News

Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Plano

## January 2010

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### Typical Sunday

• **9:15 a.m.**

Inquirer's Class  
(1st Sunday of each month)

• **10:30 - 11:45 a.m.**

Worship  
Religious Education for Youth; Nursery Childcare

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**Church office will be closed Tuesday, January 19th**

### When Music Goes to Church by Dawn Graham, Contributing Editor

*This wonderful piece was first published last summer when many of you were lollygagging in the surf at Padre or scaling the face of El Capitan. For those of you whose life was just too hectic in June, here's another chance to enjoy some excellent writing. Ed*

It can raise us up on eagle's wings, dip us low over troubled waters, sweep us to our feet in jubilation and bring us to our knees in reverence.

Older than history, perhaps older even than humankind, music has a profound, unique influence on the human experience.

When we listen to speech, the language centers in the cerebral cortex—the midsection of the brain next to the ears—go to work identifying and decoding the words. When we listen to music, that same mental machinery lights up . . . in addition to many other areas of the brain, from the emotion centers to the complex modern-brain frontal lobes to the ancient, survival-encoded brain stem. From a neurological standpoint, music literally enlightens the listener.

Some would say that, since music evokes such a powerful response in the primitive part of our brains which we share with animals (including those that create music, like whales and birds), music is literally etched into our deepest selves as the voice of God.

There is no question that music intensifies worship. Spiritual leaders have known this for millennia. If the purpose of religion is to seek truths beyond the physical realm, music is the ideal catalyst. It reaches past the information-toting utility of speech, to “name the unnamable and communicate the unknowable,” as composer Leonard Bernstein said.

Music possesses the power not only to uplift, but to unite. When a congregation listens to music, each member shares a common spiritual journey. When the congregation makes the music, as when singing hymns, music builds an instant bond of community in a way no other form of communication can.

For all its grandeur, music has a functional side, providing the framework for many a church service. Preludes and postludes transition us from the jangle of everyday life to

**(continued on page 2)**

### January Sunday Services

**January 3, 2010 - “Accessing the Point of Self Empowerment, Phil “Shiva” Jones.**

**January 10, 2010 - “A Question Box Sermon”, Rev. Patrick Price (See Minister's Column). Collection of Guest at Your Table Boxes and Donations for UU Service Committee**

**January 17, 2010 - “Exploring the Way of Creativity (Via Creativa)”, Rev. Patrick Price**

**January 24, 2010 - “Widening the Community: A Celebration of Partnership with UU Hong Kong”, Pamela Wat, ministerial intern**

**January 31, 2010 - "Reflections from General Assembly 2009 - "It's only Life", Leslie Harper**

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**Special Email Addresses****Board of Trustees**

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**Strategic Planning Committee**

planning@  
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**Patrick's Ponderings ..... "Ooh, Ooh! What is a Question Box Sermon?"**

I am glad you asked. A Question Box Sermon is part of a long tradition extending back to the mists of time, say at least twenty or thirty years, or whenever it was things start to get foggy for most of us. Some say it started when clergy didn't have time to prepare really good sermons after just coming home from holiday vacations. But we know that this is a silly story told by those who suppose ministers only work on Sundays, live in their offices, and show up to pot luck suppers just to eat the last slice of chocolate cake, which the suppose-er had been eyeing all evening.

In truth, the purpose of a Question Box Sermon is to create an intentional dialogue between the preacher and the congregation. You get to ask questions of the minister and I get to try to reasonably answer as many as possible in the time allotted. This works out well for everyone, (most of the time) because you get to share what is on your mind (rated PG) as to what makes the universe the way it is, and I (the preacher) get a better sense of what is on your minds regarding what makes the universe the way it is. This is great way to kick off the New Year and refresh our relationship. Also, it is of invaluable assistance later on when getting the title of a sermon title in to the church secretary, who has the patience of Job, and said sermon will actually be interesting to the aforementioned congregation (that would be you). So your participation is very important to the types and quality of future sermons you will get (probably).

So, some of you are saying, "Great! More stuff I have to think about." However, this is not the case. It is preferred that you do not over think your theological or cosmic inquiries, so that they more accurately reflect what *is* on your mind, and not what you think *should* be on your mind. For all this advance warning, I mean, information, it is a fairly simple event. In fact, there isn't even really a "box." Now-a-days, you will write your brief questions down during the service January 10th, on paper provided, hand them in, and I will have a whole five minutes, or however long the anthem is, (note to self: speak with choir director) to prepare to answer them. So now you know everything, except, that is, what you will hear in the question box sermon.

I hope you have a wonderful, joyous and fulfilling New Year. See you in church. Blessings, Patrick

**When Music Goes to Church (continued from front page)** reflective quietude and back again. Hymns unite us in sound as well as intention. Anthems and countless other musical offerings reinforce, expand or even lighten the service's central message.

Music doesn't have to be polished or professional to hit its mark, either. A homespun group or single quavering voice can sometimes bring a soulful message home most poignantly.

Music can create a sacred space anytime, anywhere. Chances are you won't remember the sermon word-for-word once you leave the church, but that line from a favorite hymn or melody from a haunting anthem can stick with you, opening a spiritual window for reflection or comfort at an unexpected moment that's miles away from Sunday morning.

Imagine a church service without music. It would be like watching a movie with the sound turned off: we could get the idea, but it would expend a lot of energy. With those transcendent sounds included, however, the meaning soars, and our souls along with it.

As author Thomas Mann said, "... music is energy itself . . . almost the definition of God. Imitato Dei—I am surprised it is not forbidden."

**The President's Corner**

**Sarah Reiling**

On a recent cold drizzly day, I overheard this in Community Church's parking lot; I am ready for winter to be over! We are often ready for the winter to be over. The cold wind, the freezing rain, the early darkness all seem to conspire to make us feel isolated and alone. After the excitement and frenetic activity of the December holidays, January seems like a letdown.

The two faced Roman god, Janus, source of the name for January, looks back at what was and forward to what will be. No wonder this is the time for resolutions! We can use the short days and long nights of winter for reflection, to take stock of what we have accomplished over the past year and what we want to work on this year. It is not a coincidence that seed catalogs arrive at this time.

Take advantage of the natural slower rhythm of winter to decide what you want to grow in your life. The harvest begins with planning what seeds you want to plant. In the words of reading number 544 in our hymnal, "The new year can be new ground for the seeds of our dreams".

I wish you a bountiful harvest in the new year.

Peace and justice, Sarah

**Is It Harder To Receive Than To Give?**

We have been told since childhood that it is better to give than to receive. Does that mean it should be less blessed to receive? How many of us have difficulty accepting an unexpected gift, a spontaneous favor or even a compliment graciously? We feel uncomfortable (You shouldn't have). We feel obligated (I owe you one). We self-deprecate (I'm not that good). Why is it so often hard to accept a gift with genuine pleasure and simply say thank you?

It is important to receive gifts unapologetically and with gratitude. In doing so, we let others experience the joy of giving. Think of the happiness you felt this past holiday season bestowing gifts and goodies on friends, loved ones and those in need. Their uninhibited pleasure in receiving something special is surely a gift in itself. So let us encourage one another to be gracious receivers. In doing so, we also allow ourselves to become joyful givers as we share our time, talent and treasure in support of this community. Feel the joy!

The Stewardship Committee

*Elected Officers*

**President**

Sarah Reiling ('11)  
president@communityuuchurch.org

**Vice President Programs**

Denise Dittmar ('10)

**Treasurer**

Grace Morrison ('10)

**Acting Secretary**

Donna Bening

**Facilities**

Dick Hildenbrand ('11)  
facilities@communityuuchurch.org

**Communications**

Ian Rule ('10)

**Personnel**

Sandy Farlow ('10)

**Past President**

Leslie Harper ('10)

**E-mail entire Board**

board@CommunityUUChurch.org

Community UU Board of Trustees meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Founders Hall. Members, friends and visitors are always welcome.

**North Texas Association of Unitarian Universalist Societies (NTAUUS)**

**CUUC Representatives**

Anne Smith

**Worship Programs**

worship@  
communityuuchurch.org  
Tom Reid

**Sunday Services**

Elena Westbrook

**Ushers Coordinator**

Jerry Fleming

**Interior Arts**

Sandy Farlow

**Caring Committee**

Caring  
@communityuuchurch.org

Cyn Blanco

**Pam's Page**

*"The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all. There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice.*

*It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done. Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed."*

Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed (#580 in *Singing the Living Tradition*)

I had the privilege and challenge of growing up in a white, upper-middle income, suburban neighborhood in Wilmington, Delaware. I had the privilege and challenge of twelve years of private, Catholic school education and a clear path to college. Part of my life's work is recognizing the privileges and the challenges of my life so that I might learn to use my privilege for good and to overcome my challenges with integrity. I come from a Chinese American father from Hawai'i (with roots in Hawai'i for just over a century) and a European American mother from Philadelphia suburbs (with roots in this country since 1774). As a "mixed race" woman I have learned to see just some of the deep complexities of culture, ethnicity and this thing we call "race."

January begins with the African American season of Kwanzaa. The month includes a celebration of the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is also our winter season, a time of looking inward and preparing for the rebirth of spring. In January we will learn more about our church's partnership with Unitarian Universalists Hong Kong which recently has been officially recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council. In this month I will also be facilitating an adult (youth are most welcome too!) religious education series featuring the very provocative three-part PBS video program "Race: the Power of an Illusion."

With all of this going on, now is a great time to reflect on these words by Unitarian Universalist minister and author Mark Morrison-Reed who, in the quote above, reminds us that we are bound together and urges us to fulfill the task of unveiling the interconnectedness that we share as members of a shared race: the *human race*.

In the month of January, we might listen to one of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speeches or sermons. We might read about him on the internet or think about what he did for our country. But don't let it stop there. How do we bring the work of King into our communities? How does what he did change what we will do?

In our time of winter reflection let us creatively imagine what we need to be doing to widen the vision and renew the strength. It is challenging work. Sometimes the wider vision is hard on the eyes. Sometimes the justice-seeking activists are tired and losing hope. Let us use the momentum of this season to listen deeply to one another's stories (especially those whose stories are different from our own) and to imagine our part in the struggle for justice using our own positions of privilege and challenge. Let us work together in love and in peace to answer the call to be in this radical Community.

**Pamela Wat**

**Faith in Action – Community UU in the community**

- As this newsletter goes to press, the response to our toy drive for **Children’s Medical Center** has been fantastic (and we still have one week to go). Thanks to all of you who so generously donated stuffed animals for patients at Children’s!
- Your Thanksgiving contribution to **God’s Food Pantry** was also extremely generous. We delivered a carload of groceries to the pantry just before Thanksgiving.
- An anonymous donor gave 75 articles of women’s clothing in December; these items were given to **Hope’s Door**.
- Please continue to bring canned goods to restock the food pantries after the holidays.

Save these dates:

Saturday, January 16	MLK Day Walk for Non-Violence and program This year’s theme: “Leadership Through Service”
Sunday, February 14	UUA Standing on the Side of Love observance
Saturday, February 22	Oak Point Park Cleanup
Sunday, May 16	Collin County CROP Walk

**Simple Living Chalice Circle**

**Meeting time and place** – The next meeting will be Saturday morning January 9, at 11:00, at Ona Tannehill’s home.

**Theme/topic** – Learning together to live deliberately. We are currently reading Voices of Insight, edited by Sharon Salzberg.

**Service project** – We sent a care package to Josh Sweet, who is currently serving in Afghanistan.

**Facilitator** – Ona Tannehill. Email [simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org).

**Literary Ladies Book Club**

Poems, favorites or those you’ve just found, will be the focus of our next meeting on **Tuesday, January 12** meeting at **7 p.m.** at the home of Deb Bliss. Bring several poems to read and share. **Contact Deb by Jan. 8 at [bookclub@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:bookclub@communityuuchurch.org) if you plan to attend.**

This group meets the second Tuesday of each month and welcomes women members and friends of Community UU Church. February’s selection is the French best seller *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery.

**Faith in Action Programs**

[UUInAction@communityUChurch.org](mailto:UUInAction@communityUChurch.org)

Dan Dodd  
Linda Frank  
Co-Chairs

Community Harvest Garden

Samaritan Inn (Monthly dinner)

Plano Make a Difference Day

Plano Food Pantries

CROP Walk

MLK Celebration

Hong Kong Partner Church

Dallas Area Interfaith

**Chalice Circle Facilitator**

**Simple Living**  
[simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:simpleliving@communityuuchurch.org)  
Ona Tannehill

**Religious Education****Interim Director of  
Religious Education****Carla Leslie**

dre@

CommunityUUChurch.org

**Religious Education  
Board**

reboard@

CommunityUUChurch.org

**Chairperson**

Amy Dessert (11)

John Gallant

Anne Smith

Alex Coulonge

Wendy Hanenburg

**Young Religious  
Unitarian Universalists**

yruu@

communityuuchurch.org

**Coordinator**

Alex and Robin Coulonge

Cindy Erhart

**REactions!!****Updates - Announcements - News  
What's Going On For Children & Youth****RE Teacher & Advisor Events – Plan & Party, Feast & Fun**

We'll be holding two events for Religious Education teachers and advisors in January. The first is our winter **Dessert Party & Planning Session, which will be held at Community UU on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 PM.** This will be a fun session when teachers enjoy desserts while planning their teaching dates and agendas. Then on **Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, teachers and advisors are invited to a NATUURES sponsored Teacher Appreciation Dinner at First Unitarian Church of Dallas.** We will enjoy an evening with Meg Barnhouse entertaining and inspiring us while we enjoy a great meal from Cantina Lareda. NATUURES is the North Texas Area UU Religious Educators group. **Teachers and advisors, look for your invitation in the mail and be sure to RSVP for both events by January 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Wrapping Up the Guest at Your Table Program**

Did you know **you can easily double your contribution to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)?** The UU Congregation of Shelter Rock (New York) will match donations of \$100 or more dollar for dollar! If you have not yet picked up your donation box, you can find one in the foyer. **Please make it easy to count your donation by making it in the form of a check made out to UUSC and putting it in an additional collection on January 10<sup>th</sup>.** The UUSC puts UU principles into action in the U.S. and around the world through your generous donations.

**YRUU Gulf Coast Rally January 15-17**

**YRUU will be holding a rally at Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church in Houston on the weekend of January 15th through 17th.** Youth Advisors Robin Coulonge and Karen Wales are available to transport and attend this rally with our youth. Those who would like to attend must be registered in our Religious Education program and have the permission of youth advisors and Director of Religious Education. Registration forms are available in the High School room, or you may reserve a space online and download the registration form at <http://swuuc.org/pages/lifespan-faith-development/youth-ministry.php>. **Registration is not complete until the signed forms have been returned to Emerson.**

**Gifts that Grow**

**Please visit the Giving Tree in Founders Hall. Our 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders have created ornaments to be exchanged for donations to Heifer International.** The class is enthused about Heifer International after reading and watching the story of a 9-year old Ugandan girl, Beatrice, oldest of 6 children whose father had left them. Beatrice and her family received a goat from Heifer International. The goat provided nourishing milk for the family and they had extra milk to sell. The milk money provided the funds needed to allow Beatrice to attend school! And when the goat had kids, they were donated to neighbors, extending the gift to the community. Heifer International provides living gifts of seedlings, chickens, goats, pigs, and more. A gift to Heifer International is a gift that grows!

**Children's Chapel**

Our children participate in **Children's Chapel** once a month (usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) instead of beginning the day in the sanctuary. **Our next Children's Chapel takes place on January 19<sup>th</sup>.**

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**REactions!!** *(continued from page 6)*

**DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

**Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Deadline to RSVP for RE Teacher & Advisor events

**Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>** – Teacher Planning and Dessert Party in Founders Hall 7 to 9 pm

**Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>** – Deadline to register for YRUU Gulf Coast Rally

**Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>:** YRUU Gulf Coast Rally at Emerson UU in Houston

**Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>:** Teacher Training and Planning at Community UU 3:30 – 5:30 followed by a Fiesta Appreciation Dinner for Religious Educators and their guests at First Unitarian Church of Dallas

**Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>** – Children’s Chapel in Founders Hall

For more information about any Religious Education activities, please contact Carla Leslie or an RE board member: Carla Leslie: email [dre@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:dre@communityuuchurch.org) phone 972-424-8989, ext. 223: RE Board: email [reboard@communityuuchurch.org](mailto:reboard@communityuuchurch.org) and having fun!

**Above and Beyond Campaign Wrapup**

Your donations to our recently completed Above and Beyond Campaign totaled **\$14,310** to fund important projects that were not a part of our operating budget. The funds were allotted as follows:

Three donations were targeted:

\$5,000 for our Ministerial Intern to be used to (hopefully) leverage matching funds.

\$1,000 to supplement the budget for childcare for both Sundays and church events during the week.

\$500 for a second dishwasher for the kitchen.

The Board of Trustees has approved the Finance Committee's recommendations for the use of the remaining funds.

\$700 to support the work of the Search Committee for a new Director of Religious Education

In response to the recommendation of the Safe Congregations Committee, \$3200 too replace the back door to the Annex, the door from the sanctuary to the Memory Garden and to put a Dutch door in the Nursery

An additional \$100 from the Women's Alliance for the installation of the new dishwasher (which will require the removal of the auxiliary sink)

An additional \$3,810 for the Childcare fund.

Thank you for your support.

**Social Interest Committees**

**Bridge Group**  
*bridge@communityuuchurch.org*  
Denise Dittmar

**Circle Suppers**  
*circlesuppers@communityuuchurch.org*  
Sandra Brackmann

**Friday Flicks**  
*flicks@communityuuchurch.org*  
Alice Mayo

**First Friday Folksingers**  
*folksingers@communityuuchurch.org*  
Charlie Battista

**Friends and Family**  
*friendsfamily@communityuuchurch.org*  
Julie Hlad

**Outdoor Adventure**  
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Dick Hildenbrand

**Program Board**

*programs@  
communityuuchurch.org*

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Programs**

Denise Dittmar (10)

**Religious Education**

Amy Dessert (11)

**Membership**

Anita VanOuwkerk  
(11)

**Worship**

Tom Reid (11)

**Faith in Action**

Dan Dodd (10)  
Linda Frank

**Fellowship**

Alison Holland (10)

**Adult Enrichment**

Clifton Rule (10)

**Adult Enrichment****Adult Education**

*adultre@  
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Celeste Kennedy

**EarthSpirit**

*earthspirit@  
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Cheri Remily  
Nancy Steed

**Men's Fellowship**

*men@  
communityuuchurch.org*  
Michael Holland

**Women's Alliance**

*women@  
communityuuchurch.org*  
Arlene Burleson

**Friday Flicks:** Films start at 7:00 pm in founders hall.

**January 8th - Bucket List**

A fun night at the movies: two of our most talented and enjoyable movie stars Having a heckuva good time. Jack Nicholson has beaucoup bucks, meets Morgan Freeman, who has been told when he will most likely die and says, "let's make a list of the things we want to do before we die, and then do them." And so they do. You'll smile in remembrance of many hilarious or poignant moments. Recommended!

**January 22 - The Taken**

This is a hold onto your seat, full-tilt adrenaline movie. When kidnappers, phoning from another continent, call their victim's father, highly trained CIA Agent Liam Neeson, he tells them that they've made a huge mistake and, if they just let her go, they'll be OK. Otherwise their health and well-being are in serious jeopardy. They, of course, scoff at him and hang up, whereupon he proceeds to make good on his threat. Fun to watch? I enjoyed it. Violent? Yep. A critic said there wasn't much introspection. No time! An engaging, if a bit formulaic, thriller.

Synopsis by Ian Rule

**Upcoming Women event**

2010 Southwest UU Women's Conference **In the Name of Love** is **Feb. 26th thru noon Feb. 28th**. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, Dallas, TX. **Registration is \$165 before 1/15/2010**, \$180 after, this includes three meals and unlimited beverage service-non-alcoholic on Sat. and breakfast on Sunday.

Keynote speaker is Gina Courter, moderator of the UUA. Join us for a weekend for women, we will explore women's issues while having fun with music, art and dance.

Details, registration instructions, workshop and vender applications are available at [www.swuuw.org](http://www.swuuw.org). or contact Mary Overton at [mover100@aol.com](mailto:mover100@aol.com) or Kathy Calhoun at [kathywcalhoun@gmail.com](mailto:kathywcalhoun@gmail.com)

**Women's Alliance Event**

**Games Night! Snacks and games, Saturday, January 16, 7:00 p.m.**

Please bring a snack to share. Location: Pam Reinke Walter's house,

RSVP: Pam Reinke Walter

**ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The "winter" term begins on January 4th and continues for four weeks.

ALL CLASSES BEGIN AT 7 P.M. CHILDCARE is available for all classes.

Monday Evenings

**Meditation - Clifton Rule (ongoing)**

Clifton says, "Vipassana means insight into the nature of reality. It is a way of self-transformation through self-observation and introspection. Vipassana meditation is often referred to simply as "insight meditation." This is the backbone of our studies in Meditation on Monday nights. We invite you, as a beginner or as a practiced meditator, to join us on our exploration. We view Buddhism not as a religion but rather as learning the process of meditation to reduce the suffering in our lives and in the world around us. We explore through readings, dharma talks, questions and answers, group discussions and meditation. Join us and explore this process as we all grow together."

**Hume, Kant and Peirce - Jay Dowling: January 4, 11 and 18**

A follow-up to last summer's successful series on Montaigne, Descartes and Spinoza. The three evenings will be devoted to the three people, Hume in the early 18th century, Kant in the late 18th century, and C. S. Peirce in the late 19th century. They provide a coherent story that continues the story line of Montaigne, Descartes, and Spinoza in the previous course. Hume crystallized the formulation of the problem of induction, which Kant says awakened him "from his dogmatic slumber." Kant proceeded to formulate the modern framework for the philosophy of science. This was refined by Peirce in the light of Darwin's evolutionary perspective: the evolution of organisms and of science weeds out wrong guesses as to the nature of the universe, but provides no guarantee concerning the truth of hypotheses that haven't yet failed. However, the latter are better than what we had before.

These are three philosophers who not only have influenced Western thought and action, but whose insights still resonate today.

Wednesday Evenings

**A four-session Writing Workshop with Ashby Clark**

Need a job? These sessions could help you get one. Got a job? These sessions could help you keep it. But these are useful skills for just about anyone. Topics include:

- Session 1 (January 6): Basics of emails for business
- Session 2 (January 13): Writing Basics
- Session 3 (January 20): Resume Writing
- Session 4 (January 27): Interview Skills

**Race: the Power of an Illusion, presented by Pamela Wat, our Ministerial Intern (January 6, 13 and 20).**

This class is a provocative three-hour video series that questions the very idea of race as biology. Scientists tell us that believing in biological races is no more sound than believing the sun revolves around the earth. So if race is a biological myth, where did the idea come from? And why should it matter today? RACE—The Power of an Illusion provides

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**Committee on Ministry**

- Chet Smith  
Chair (10)
- Gail Battista
- Ona Tannehill

**Nominating Committee**

*nomcom@communityuuchurch.org*

- Bill Snell - Chair (10)
- Karen Roggenkamp (11)
- Celeste Kennedy(11)
- Robin Gary (10)
- Carlisle Walters (11)

**UU Website Links**

**Community Unitarian  
Universalist Church**  
*CommunityUU-  
Church.org*

**UUA—Unitarian  
Universalist  
Association**  
*www.uua.org*

**UUSC—Unitarian  
Universalist Service  
Committee**  
*www.uusc.org*

**SWUUC—Southwest  
District**  
*www.swuuc.org*

**NTAUUS**  
*www.ntauus.org*

**Community Website  
Links**

**Collin County  
Interfaith**  
*www.setonparish.org/  
Outreach/pai.htm*

**Habitat for Humanity  
South Collin County TX  
(Habitat for Humanity  
SCCTX)**

*www.Habitat-scc.org*

**Habitat ReStore of  
SCCTX**

*www.restore.habitat-  
scc.org*

**ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued from page 9)**

an eye-opening discussion tool to help people examine their beliefs about race, privilege, policy, and justice. Each session will begin with one-on-one or small group partnering to respond to some “before viewing” questions. Then the whole group will watch the video. Afterward there will be full group discussion and, if time permits, an activity.

**Laws and Loopholes: 2009 IRS Regs Demystified by Dick Moren, H&R Block Tax Consultant - January 27**

The IRS works in strange ways and it's brave soul who will venture into the wilderness of the 2009 tax forms without a GPS. At this very moment, Dick is being brought up to date on the latest perverse twists and turns of our Tax Laws. This is a session that just might save you a buck or two.

**Get to Know Your Church Website - Ian Rule and Nelah McComsey - January 27**

Yes, our website is designed to attract visitors, and it seems to be doing a pretty good job of that. However, it is also the only source of detailed information about the goings on at Community Church and that information is for church members as well as inquirers. On January 27, our webmasters will explain what they're up to and show you some information you probably didn't know was there. They also will explain the Members Portal and show you how to get there and to navigate the whole site most effectively. Finally, they will preview some changes that are in the works and ask what else you might like to see on the site.

**Tracy Rosipal's Yoga (Course Fee - \$5 per class) Ongoing**

Tracy says, "In general, my yoga style is Hatha, which incorporates physical postures that work the body and, in turn, work the mind. A typical hour class flows as follows: breathing and warm up, sun salutations, twisting poses, a series of standing flowing poses, balancing postures, seated postures, stretches, and final relaxation. Each class offers various components of physical fitness, such as building muscular strength, increasing muscular endurance, improving cardiovascular endurance, increasing flexibility, and improving body composition.

Participant reviews are enthusiastic!

There are a few more details on the website. Go to Education>Adults

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

Please do not bring any food or beverages into the sanctuary except for special occasions.

Thank you Community! With your support, our financial position is looking up. As you can see below, we received more than we spent by \$8,160.04 (including Service Auction receipts) in November. For this, we rejoice! To keep up our momentum, do your part by letting **Albertson's, Kroger, and Tom Thumb** know you want to participate in their "Community Partners/Reward" programs with your points going to Community Unitarian Universalist Church. These programs essentially provide "free money" to the church and all you have to do is sign up. The financial information below does not include any of the "Above & Beyond" contributions.

Offering Income	Actual	Budgeted
Pledged Offering	\$19,991.49	\$18,000.00
Loose Offerings/Basket	1,477.68	1,333.33
New Pledges	690.00	343.75
<b>Total Offerings Income</b>	<b>\$22,159.17</b>	<b>\$19,677.08</b>

Every member who has **outstanding reimbursement requests** is asked to turn them in now. Seriously, we need to know ALL OUR EXPENSES outstanding to plot our realistic budget for 2010-2011. We are planning ZERO-BASED BUDGETING where every expenditure is built on a zero starting point. None of this "adding to last year's budget" as the starting point – we need to examine our bottom line expenses.

Please check the **End-Of-Year** statement (mailed out for your tax purposes) that you will be receiving soon. We want to be sure it accurately reflects your generosity in 2009.

Our focus has turned to the Spring Southwest Conference we are hosting. Make your plans to attend and to welcome participants from near and far

Grace Morrison, Treasurer

**Finance**

- Finance Committee**  
*finance@communityuuchurch.org*  
 Grace Morrison - Chair  
 Linda Frank  
 June Bruns  
 Clifton Rule  
 Linda Frank  
 Gail Battista

- Stewardship Committee**  
*\$\$@communityuuchurch.org*  
 June Bruns, Chair  
 Charlie Battista  
 Paul Gandy  
 Gay Grauke  
 Judith Boyle  
 Rebecca Timmons

- Investment Committee**  
*investment@communityuuchurch.org*  
 Carol Wise ('10)  
 Grace Morrison ('11)  
 Nelah McComsey

**Income and Expense Report for November, 2009**

	Income	YTD
Offering Income	\$ 22,159.17	\$ 103,593.49
Fund Raisers	\$ 10,577.00	\$ 14,856.20
Building Usage	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 9,746.70
Misc. Income	\$ 110.00	\$ 3,287.35
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 35,423.45</b>	<b>\$ 132,301.02</b>

**Expense**

Administration	\$ 3,459.06	\$ 21,320.09
Programs/Worship	\$ 2,713.43	\$ 14,186.33
Religious Education	\$ 2,799.80	\$ 18,840.64
Facilities	\$ 7,781.10	\$ 36,591.06
Ministry	\$ 6,720.83	\$ 44,457.06
Denomination	\$ 1,423.00	\$ 7,473.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 27,263.41</b>	<b>\$ 145,659.13</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 8,160.04</b>	<b>\$ (13,358.11)</b>

**Staff Office Hours**• **Minister - *The Rev. Patrick Price***

Monday is the Minister's Sabbath (renewal time) available for emergencies only.

Tuesday — Thursday 12:00 Noon – 4:00 PM

Friday is for reflection, study and writing. Other times by appointment. Please contact Rev. Price for appointments and scheduling information.

• **Ministerial Intern - *Pamela Wat***

Tuesday—Thursday 12:00 Noon—4:00 PM

• **Interim Director of Religious Education - *Carla Leslie***

Monday Home Office

Tuesday 11am - 4pm

Wednesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm

• **Music Director - *Kelley Poché Rodriguez***• **Church Secretary - *Connie Meints* (Out of the office Jan. 4th thru Jan. 8th)**

[Church office closed on Monday]

Tuesday 9am - 3pm

Wednesday 9am - 2:30pm

Thursday 9am - 2:30pm

Friday 9am - Noon

WEBSITE  
**CommunityUUChurch.org**

**Deadline for the February newsletter submissions: January 15th, 2010.  
Submit to [newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org](mailto:newsletter@CommunityUUChurch.org).**

**The Community News**

*The Community News* is distributed to Members and Friends of this church. Visitors who complete a visitor card receive issues for three months. To continue receiving issues, sign the "Welcome Back" book on each visit. Others may subscribe for an annual donation of \$25.00.

The editor encourages and appreciates submissions and on-time submissions are especially delightful. The Community News is published once a month.

Email articles to  
*newsletter@*  
*CommunityUUChurch.org*

Please include your name on any news item submitted for The Community News.

Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.

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Church of Plano

