

Cultivating
Religious Freedom, Diversity,
Inquiry, and Community



The Weekly Expression

Newsletter February 4, 2009

Upcoming Services:

February 7: Mr. Dan Stegink- *State of the Church Address*

February 14: Dr. Brent A. Smith - *Standing On the Side of Love*

February 21: Dr. Brent A. Smith *The Jefferson Bible*

February 28: New Branches School, 256 Alger, SE *Community Celebration of Being Together*

2009 Pledges – it's not to late!

It may be to late for the IRS but it is not to late to fulfill your 2009 ASCC pledge commitment! Our annual budget is based on pledge commitments and 2009 pledges were \$110,000 and we collected just over \$95,000. This means we go into a very tight 2010 budget year already \$15,000 behind. So, as you begin fulfilling you 2010 pledge commitment, please consider also making up any short fall on your 2009 commitment. Year-end pledge statements were mail the end of January but if you have any questions, please contact Meribeth Nudelman at 682-0904.

Thank you for all your financial gifts to All Souls and a special thanks to everyone that fulfilled your pledge commitment for 2009.

FIRESTARTERS' FUND

Have you heard about the FireStarters' Fund? Watch your home mail for all the details.



Please also visit the website at www.allsoulscommunity.org and specifically the new calendar at <http://www.allsoulscommunity.org/Calendar/Calendar.htm> for this weekend's as well as important upcoming events. We also have a page on Face Book. Check it out!

Social Action Committee

Reminder that if you have any **Magic Tree House chapter books** your children are done with, please donate them to the Schools of Hope Classroom at Southwest Community Campus. You can bring them to me at Sunday services. Thanks!

The **UUA *Standing on the Side of Love* petition** will be in the lobby again this week. Please stop by and check it out. You can learn more at

<http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/take-a-stand/>

Jackie and Elgin circulated this petition last year; you may have already signed. Copies of these will be with the new copies. Check it and see if you have already signed it.

Love all Souls!

Also this Sunday, please check the Social Action table for information regarding **MUUSJN's *Health Care Reform Campaign***. Letters will be there for you to sign and information regarding the important points of the campaign.

Kind regards, Georgine

Feedback from *Beyond Categorical Thinking* Workshop

This workshop was indeed beyond my expectations. It not only highlighted areas of concern about our "blind spots" when it comes to considering candidates for our ministerial search, but it also looked at some case studies Keith brought along that had some really tough ethical concerns - "prickly points" which the Search Committee may have to deal with, and which we as a congregation may also have to deal with depending on the candidate, if any, recommended to us.

Keith Kron presented some rather surprising statistics from across the nation. Who would have guessed that Salt Lake City has a liberal pocket bigger than a sandwich bag? Not me.

He also showed us where we, as a congregation, are above/below/in line with other UU congregations in our search profile areas. Some were pretty much expected, others caught me off-guard.

But, I think the most encouraging thing Keith left with me from this workshop was that it will be perfectly OK if we do NOT find a suitable candidate this go-round of the search.

He emphasized that the match must really feel good and right, and that expecting the committee to recommend a candidate just because he/she "is the best of the bunch" but not quite what we are looking for is not acceptable.

Ms. Ramah Kidd

Music Notes

Dr. Monique Salinas-Stauffer

On March 21 we are planning a wonderful MUSIC SUNDAY here at ASCC centered around the spirit of JAZZ!! Our music that Sunday will consist of old and new examples of the great contribution that America has made to the vast supply we call musical repertoire: that original, finger snapping, mind enveloping, totally awesome style called JAZZ!! The choir will be performing some old standards including Unforgettable, Someone to Watch Over Me, and Don't Get Around Much Anymore--truly great numbers. This would be a perfect time to try singing with us on a short term basis- maybe February and March- just through the concert! We can guarantee you a wonderful time! Have any questions? Call Monique at 890-1164, or simply come to rehearsal on Thursdays from 7 pm - 9 pm at Ahavas! The more the merrier!



Unitarian Universalism 101

A one-session class is being offered for those interested in getting a brief overview of Unitarian Universalism lead by Dr. Brent Smith. The first 'Unitarian Universalism 101' will be held on February 14th after worship service. This is being offered as an alternative to the more in depth 4-session ROOTS classes. A light lunch will be served and if needed, child care will be provided. Please stop by the Newcomers Table to learn more about and sign up for this exciting opportunity or feel free to contact Barb Lafler at 616-902-3288 or wblafler@yahoo.com.

Help us apply your pledge

David Soet, treasurer for All Souls received a check that was designated as a pledge but he does not know who to apply the pledge to since it was from the account of C K Electrical Controls and Design. Please call David at 247-8933.

Have YOU Submitted A Picture?

Photography available February 7 and 14 before and after service.

A new All Souls picture directory will be electronically published on March 1, giving members and friends the opportunity to download or print it as desired. Pictures taken in October by Teri Davis will be included, as will new pictures submitted to Teri at jazzebloos@msn.com before the end of February. Any changes in address, telephone, or email address since the 2009 edition of the directory should be submitted to Teri as well.

Two or more All Souls photographers will be available to take a picture of you on both Feb 7 and 14, either before or after the 11AM service. In addition, Mary Blackwell is willing to schedule a picture taking session at another location for your convenience. You can reach her at 334-8811 if you would like this service.

Adult Education –Lenten Book Series

Now that our January thaw is gone and winter is back, let's think SPRING. The Easter and the Lenten season is only a few weeks away. The Adult Education Board has worked with Rev. Smith to select five books for this year's Lenten Book Series. To insure everyone has plenty of time to read this year's selections, below you will find the schedule for the series. For more details concerning the books, we will be posting additional information on the All Souls web site and Facebook page. In concert with the Lenten Series sermons, Adult Education is also scheduling a book/sermon discussion group immediately following the services during Lent. Please note that since the last book will be covered on Easter Sunday and the service scheduled for March 21 is a special music program, we will discuss the book "The Shack" two weeks before the sermon is delivered.

- February 21 – "The Jefferson Bible" by Thomas Jefferson – discussion group following service
- February 28 – Service held outside of Ahavas – no Lenten Series activities planned
- March 7 – "Two Old Women" by Velma Wallis – discussion group following service
- March 14 – "The Life of Pi" by Yann Martel – discussion group following service
- March 21 – Music Sunday – No Lenten Series sermon – discussion group following service will cover "The Shack", the book scheduled for Easter Sunday
- March 28 – "The Book Thief" by Marcus Zuzak - discussion group following service
- April 4 – Easter Sunday – "The Shack" by William P. Young – no discussion group scheduled

So click away to your favorite online retailer, stop by that local book store, or dust off the library card (all the books are available in the KDL catalog). Take advantage of the cold weather and that desire to cuddle up with a warm blanket and a good book. If you have any question, please contact Bob Stone at bbstone@aol.com.

ASCC's first official t-shirts and sweatshirts now available! **LAST CHANCE to order! Sunday February 7th**

The 9th Grade Coming of Age class has designed short-sleeved and long-sleeved t-shirts, as well as sweatshirts to sell as a fundraiser for Boston. Don't miss your chance to order yours' this Sunday. These are 100% preshrunk cotton t-shirts available in many sizes. These are pre-order pre-pay only.

These shirts are a great way to promote awareness of our church!

The short-sleeve shirts cost \$15, long-sleeve \$17, and sweatshirts \$25. You can fill out an order form at the RE table this Sunday. **Children's sizes are available!!**



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Visit Us Online!
www.allsoulscommunity.org

All Souls Community Church is a church dedicated to religion, but not to a creed. It is a liberal religious community of free individuals of all ages walking together in relationship to one another, to our larger community and to the transcending mystery of the universe. Our community is based on open communication, democratic process and a belief in the capacity for goodness in all people. Our spiritual health and our growth as a church community are intimately connected with the spiritual growth and development of our children. We pledge to develop our church community with this always in mind. This church aims at celebrating and cultivating community, a sense of inquiry, moral character and insight, religious freedom, and helpfulness to humanity. That is, it aims at liberating and cultivating the human spirit.

Upcoming Events

(ALL EVENTS HELD AT AHAVAS ISRAEL AT 2727 MICHIGAN AVE. NE, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

February 2010- Calendar

Sunday, February 7 9:45 am: RE Knitting Lessons, Ahavas Room 7 - RSVP to Lynn Shackelford 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 10 am: High School Youth Parent Meeting 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The State of the Church - Daniel Stegink

Tuesday, February 9 7:30 pm: Branches X Meeting

Thursday, February 11 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas 7 pm: BOT Executive Meeting

Sunday, February 14 - Valentine's Day - Bring a Bear for a Haitian Child 9:45 am: RE Knitting Lessons, Ahavas Room 7 - RSVP to Lynn Shackelford 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship (Intergenerational) - Standing on the Side of Love - Dr. Smith Children's Choir Sings RE Valentine Party 12:15 pm: Unitarian Universalism 101 - Dr. Brent Smith & Newcomers Program

Wednesday, February 17 6:30 - 7:30 pm: B2?! @ Kids Food Basket, 1203 Butterworth SW - Contact Jackie Vines for further information

Thursday, February 18 6:30 pm: BOT Meeting, Ahavas Meeting Room 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, February 21 9:45 am: RE Knitting Lessons, Ahavas Room 7 - RSVP to Lynn Shackelford 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The Jefferson Bible - Dr. Smith 11 am: RE Chalice Circle with Joseph Priestly and Charles Darwin, Ahavas Meeting Room 12:15 pm: Covenant Board Meeting, Ahavas 12:15 pm: Lenten Sermon Book Discussion, Ahavas Meeting Room 12:15 pm: Music Board Meeting, Ahavas

Tuesday, February 23 7 pm: Humanist Covenant Group

Wednesday, February 24 6:30 pm: Community Life Game Night (all ages welcome), Couturier home, RSVP to Carol or Matt

Thursday, February 25 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, February 28 - at New Branches School, 256 Alger St, SE 9:30 am: Program Board Meeting 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - Watch for Details 12:30 pm: "Old-Fashioned" Potluck Luncheon

Tuesday, March 2 7 pm: Adult Education Monthly Meeting, Walburn Home **Thursday, March 4** 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas **Sunday, March 7** 9:45 am: RE Knitting Lessons, Ahavas Room 7 - RSVP to Lynn Shackelford 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - Two Women - Dr. Smith Children's Choir Sings 12:15 pm: Lenten Sermon Book Discussion, Ahavas Meeting Room