

Cultivating
Religious Freedom, Diversity,
Inquiry, and Community



The Weekly Expression

Newsletter March 4, 2009

Upcoming Services:

March 7: Dr. Brent A. Smith
Two Women

March 14: Dr. Brent A. Smith *The Life of Pi and other Creatures*

March 21: Dr. Brent A. Smith *The Book Thief and the Thief*

March 28: The Ministerial Search Committee

Adult Education –Lenten Book Series

March 7-- Sermon: “Two Old Women and the Tribe” by Dr. Brent Smith

Book: “Two Old Women” by Velma Wallis - Paperback: 160 pages

Abandoned by their tribe during a brutal winter famine, two old women are left to perish on their own. Although they've grown used to complaining and letting others do for them, the two resolve not to wait passively for death but to fight against it. With trapping skills they haven't used for years and strengthened by their bond of friendship, the two women survive the winter to ultimately come face to face with the members of their tribe, none of whom has fared as well as they. Utterly convincing in its details and resolution, this will offer listeners vivid insight into a Native American culture. At the same time, it rises above the particulars of time and place to become a metaphor with a message or inspiration not only for women or the elderly, but for all members of the human race.

Discussion Group: Immediately following service

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!*

Religious Education News from Your RE Coordinator

Lynn Shackelford, Your Religious Education Coordinator

Famous UUs

Thank you, Keith Johnson, for coming into our Celebration Circle on Feb. 21st and sharing your Darwin knowledge. Pictures of the event will be in our next Children's Chalice, which will be available this week.

Our next Celebration Circle will be on March 21st (Celebration Circle, by the way, is our monthly children's worship time), and I am looking for someone (preferably a woman) to portray a famous UU woman, such as Susan B. Anthony, Clara Barton, etc. If you are interested, let me know!

Thank you Cindy Johnson for subbing for me on the 21st, and a thank you to Kathleen Johnson for taking pictures that morning!

Knitting Classes for Tweens and Teens

The knitting class is off and running! You should see what's going on in this class. Emma Wright created her first project – a fingerless glove! Awesome! Rita Petteys is bringing in lots of extra yarn, and we have lots of yarn in the garage at Ahavas, so come on in and join the group! We still have a couple of spots open if you'd like to join in. Please contact me (lynnshack@gmail.com) if you'd like to give it a try, or just come in. The class is in room 6 in the RE hallway, and meets on Sunday from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.



We Need YOU!

We are in need of helpers in the nursery/preschool room on Sundays.

Come play with us! There is no planning involved – helpers are just there to play (and perhaps read some books aloud). If you are willing to help on a Sunday or two, please let me know. You can e-mail me (lynnshack@gmail.com) or call (558-8781), or just stop by the RE table on Sunday.

9th Grade Youth Roots

Thank you to all of you who have supported the Youth Roots Boston Trip by purchasing a church t-shirt. The kids raised \$367.50! It was awesome to see so many people walking around wearing their shirts on Sunday. For those of you who missed out on the opportunity, we may have another sale in late spring, if there is enough interest.

News from the Social Action Committee

Georgine Linart Bello

Southwest Community Campus Free Market or Community Life Garage Sale?

Members of the Social Action e-mail group asked me for a way to get their unused, in-good-working-order stuff to people who could really use it. We came up with an idea of hosting a Free Market (similar to those held in EastTown) on a Saturday at Southwest Community Campus. People come and take what they want. In this case, the school could identify certain families and give them special previewing privileges.

However, I don't want to step on anyone's toes in regard to the annual Community Life Garage Sale. This is tentatively scheduled for April 24th, but no one has come forward to organize it. If someone wants to volunteer please do so to the Program Council and we can reconsider the Free Market. Otherwise, we can host the Free Market. Please let me know what you think. gibello@hotmail.com

Mentor Friendships at Southwest Community Campus

When I first met with SWCC staff last year to discuss building a partnership over time to meet their needs, the idea of a mentor program was high on the list for all those interviewed. The Principal envisions a big bro/big sis type mentor relationship. She'd like to pair interested individuals from ASCC with kids who need a caring adult other than parent(s) in their life. This is a mentorship where an ASCC adult would pair up with a child and commit to spending time with this child after school. The mentor might help with school work and/or provide enriching experiences for the child and show them a world outside their own.

All would have to fill out a volunteer form and go thru a background check with GRPS.

Right now I am seeing if there is interest while we work out details and parameters.

Please let me know if you would like to commit to something like this. It would be up to you to decide if you would like a long term mentorship or short term, i.e., over the summer or school year mentorship.

Another option is an afterschool program where we could help with homework and mentor in other ways as well during the program time. If you prefer this kind of scenario instead of the big bro/sis type let me know. If you have other ideas, comments, experience, etc. please share! thanks,
gibello@hotmail.com

Upcoming Adult Education Readings –Lenten Book Series

March 14-- “**Life of Pi**” by Yann Martel - Paperback: **326** pages (Note length of book)

March 21-- “**The Book Thief**” by Marcus Zuzak - Paperback: **576** pages (Note length of book)

March 28-- “**The Shack**” by William P. Young – Paperback: 256 pages

New Opportunity from Ahavas Israel: Future Farmers at Ahavas

A Sign up sheet for the Ahavas Israel Community Garden will be available at the Social Action Table. This is a great opportunity to connect kids to the land and to learn how and from where some of our food comes: veggies, beans, berries, etc. In my experience, they gobble up what they help grow!

What are we doing? We're creating a unique opportunity to help local food banks and raise fresh produce for your family. The synagogue will create a community garden on a portion of its land. The size of the garden and what we grow depends upon the number of volunteers who step forward to help. We're encouraging families to participate. All are welcome!

Why are we doing this? We've seen a growing demand on local food banks. We want to help local food banks by growing fresh produce that will be donated to the Temple Emanuel Food Bank and other local food banks.

There are rewards for you if you help. You'll be able to experience the joys of gardening and help local families. (Prior experience in gardening is not necessary.) You'll also be able to enjoy some of the harvest with your family. 50% of what is grown will be donated to the food banks. The other 50% will be divided among the volunteers for their own use. If you don't want to take anything home, your share will be donated to the food bank.

It's really very easy. If you volunteer, you will be expected to work about one hour per week on the garden. We hope to have work parties on Tuesday mornings, Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons. These times may change depending upon when you and our other volunteers are available.

We need your help. In addition to planting vegetables, we're also exploring bee keeping, wine making, and growing pumpkins for the kids. However, before we plow "the back 40," we're trying to determine the community's interest in working on this project. If you have an interest, please contact Rick Stevens at rste@aol.com or 956-9570. Thank you and please wipe the mud off your shoes.



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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)

March 2010- Calendar

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

Tuesday, March 9 7 pm: Branches X Meeting 7 pm: Covenant Board Meeting

Thursday, March 11 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, March 14 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The Life of Pi and Other Creatures - Dr. Smith 12:15 pm: Newcomers Board Meeting, Ahavas Classroom 12:15 pm: Community Life Green Day for All, Ahavas 12:15 pm: Lenten Sermon Book Discussion, Ahavas Meeting Room

Tuesday, March 16 6:30 - 9:00 pm: B2?! Meeting, Mary Blackwell's home

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

Thursday, March 18 6:30 - 8:30 pm: BOT Meeting, Ahavas Meeting Room 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, March 21 9:30 am: Adult Ed and Covenant Board Meeting, Ahavas Classroom #7 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The Book Thief - Dr. Smith 11:05 am: Chalice Circle for RE, Ahavas Meeting Room 12:15 pm: Lenten Sermon Book Discussion, Ahavas Meeting Room 12:15 pm: Music Board Meeting, Ahavas

Monday, March 22 7 pm: RE Meeting, Coffman's home

Tuesday, March 23 7 pm: Humanist Covenant Group

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

Sunday, March 28 9:15 am: Program Board Meeting 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The Ministerial Search 12:15 pm: Lenten Sermon Book Discussion, Ahavas Meeting Room

Thursday, April 1 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Friday, April 2 6:30 pm: Good Friday Games Night, Couturier's home

Sunday, April 4 11 am: Worship (Intergenerational) - The Shack and the Tomb - Dr. Smith

Tuesday, April 6 7 pm: Adult Ed Meeting, Walburn's home

Thursday, April 8 7 pm: BOT Executive Meeting, Ahavas Meeting Room