



# First News

RichmondUU.org      Volume XVI Issue 11    October, 2011

**REV. JEANNE M. PUPKE  
THE FIGHT OF HER LIFE**      **SUNDAY WORSHIP &  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**10:00am and 11:30am**

It is exactly what you are *not* supposed to do. A diagnosis of Alzheimer's does not usually leave you doing what you are good at doing. No so for Pat. Coach Pat Summit, the all-time win leader of NCAA basketball and recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's, intends to keep on winning as long as she can. She will be on the sidelines this season rather than be sidelined.



The scourge of Alzheimer's, which robs so many of the life they have known long before it takes their lives, is typically diagnosed after a noticeable loss of function, and that is the case with Summit too. But what is different about Summit is that she is so driven and so expert that she could clearly tell she was not up to her usual game. She had trouble developing quick defenses responses that had previously been intuitive. She felt "off" somehow. Although she detected these changes in her ability, not many others could tell. The reason is her amazing leadership ability.

This is not the first time a basketball coach has shown us how to live. Coaches Jimmy Valvano and Kay Yow, both of NC State, were public in their struggles to fight disease. Valvano's "don't give up" speech in 1993 still is one of the most viewed YouTube videos. Great coaches, having learned how to focus their drive and determination, can channel themselves to fight illness too. The thought of Pat

*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

**October 2nd, Intern Minister Aija Simpson, "Opting In"** What does it mean to choose Unitarian Universalism? As we celebrate the 5th annual Association Sunday, come explore what it means to truly opt in to our religious community, tradition and association.

**October 9th, Rev. Jeanne Pupke, "The Meditations of Marcus"** Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius recorded his thoughts about life, its meaning and value in days long ago, but he has much to say to us today. Our sermon examines the great wisdom of his "Meditations" with an eye of the good life in the 21st century.

**October 16th, Rev. Jeanne Pupke, "Prayer Deconstructed"** What is prayer, why is it done, what effects does it have and would a Unitarian Universalist today ever want to pray?

**October 23rd, Pat Owen, "Articulating Your UU Faith"**

**October 30th, Intern Minister Aija Simpson, "Treats"** With Halloween approaching, children are getting ready to ask for treats from their neighbors. What would our communities look like if we followed their example year round? This Sunday we ask the question: Is it actually better to give than to receive?

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**First Unitarian Universalist  
Church**

**1000 Blanton Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221  
804-355-0777  
Fax: 804-358-7364  
www.richmondUU.org**

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**Staff**

**Senior Minister**  
Rev. Jeanne Pupke  
revpupke@richmondUU.org

**Intern Minister**  
**Aija Simpson**  
aija.simpson@richmondUU.org

**Minister Emeritus**  
Rev. David Hicks MacPherson

**Church Business Manager**  
Rev. Sherman Logan  
sherman.logan@richmondUU.org

**Administrative Assistant**  
Desiree Woodson  
desiree.woodson@richmondUU.org

**Director of Membership**  
Patricia Owen  
powen@richmondUU.org

**Director of Communications**  
**April Haynes**  
communications@richmondUU.org

**Director of Music**  
Diane Woodruff  
singers@richmondUU.org

**Acting Director of Religious Ed.**  
Rhonda Wingfield  
rhonda@richmondUU.org

**RE Assistants**  
Stephanie Fox and Dexter Ramey  
eassistant@richmondUU.org

Summit's steely blue eyes focused on fighting Alzheimer's will lend hope to others who fight to end the disease.

Summit has what every dementia patient needs – a team. She long ago built up a staff and coaching team who were clear on their role and able to take charge. Tennessee's assistant coaches handle major elements of practice and program. Any time out will show Summit consulting first with her assistant coaches, then with players.

Even with her systems in place, many people would have expected Summit to simply step away. With over 1000 wins and eight NCAA national Championships, she has no peer in her sport and few in any sport. Yet what she has chosen to do says three things to me: She is going to do her best to hold off this scourge; she is going to trust those around her to help her; and she is going to show us that we all can join her in fighting Alzheimer's and finding a way to prevent this deadly disease.

I have been a fan of Coach Summit, even when her teams defeated my favorites. Now I get to root for her in another arena, for a cause that needed a public champion. As she remains on the sideline and relies upon family and friends, we'll see a courageous human being showing us all how to live.

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**VESPERS**

Vespers is a shorter, contemplative service held every Wednesday at 5:30pm

October 5 - "Breaking Bread" Intern Minister Aija Simpson

October 12- "In a Time of Harvest" Intern Minister Aija Simpson

October 19 - "A Long Pause" Intern Minister Aija Simpson

October 26 - TBA

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**SHARING & CARING: CARE COMMITTEE NEWS**

Jim Blower's cousin, Peggy Merkley died recently

Laura Curtis would love to see some of her old friends. Call her daughter, Martha Curtis to see what would be the best times to visit.

We wish Walter Sheppe a speedy recovery from his recent surgery.

Carol David had recent cataract surgery and we wish her a speedy recovery.

DeAndra Beck's parents home was destroyed by fires in Texas, our thoughts go out to them during this difficult time.

## WHY WELCOMING STILL MATTERS

Hurricanes, earthquakes, and presidential elections remind me why declaring ourselves as a welcoming congregation matters.

When an earthquake and hurricane strike five days apart just as the primaries heat up, the barrage of headlines and sound bites about God's retribution against gays and those who dare to love them as fellow humans makes me hesitant even to launch my MSNBC app or tune in to NPR.

True, most zealots who blame natural disasters on gays rant to smaller congregations these days, but the media amplifies their fear-mongering as if they lead mainstream mega-churches.

And although stories blaming the earthquake on same-sex marriage garnered only brief attention, campaigns are a different story. As candidates clamor for the Oval Office, the news stretches like a field strewn with landmine headlines where it's all too easy to click your way to damnation.

I suppose I should be flattered by conservatives who ascribe such power to my lesbianism that it can call down natural disasters, or who consider my wife receiving my Social Security death benefits such a threat that they rank preventing her from receiving them right up there with creating jobs (as long as employers can still discriminate based on sexual orientation).

But some time between the second and seventeenth time I try to shrug off this rhetoric, the reality rises up that as long as LGBTQ Americans are the ones politicians name to rail against from the ramparts, they can build walls of hate in the public square-and crowds gather to cheer oppression and call it patriotic.

As a UU who works for human equality, I realize that many current and proposed government policies oppress other Americans too, particularly those living in poverty and people of color. The list of publicly palatable targets for campaign-endorsed hate has also expanded in recent years to include Muslim Americans and immigrants from Mexico and Central America.

For LGBTQ Americans, these persistent assaults are generations old, but tuning in to the radio to be damned to hell over my morning coffee hasn't stopped hurting. Barbed labels like animal and evil stick and bleed even while I celebrate the latest state to legalize same-sex marriage.

No, I don't want to move to New York or Massachusetts. I know that hate happens there too (I can picture the flushed, hate-spewing face of the man shaking his fist at me from a pick-up truck in Amherst just two summers ago). Despite all the bumper stickers that erase us from the definition of family, Richmond is my home. And in this city, it is here, at First Unitarian Universalist Church, that I've found a public sanctuary where I can let down my guard, hold my wife's hand, and worship with people passionate about building a more just and peaceful world for everyone, including me.

The next time you walk through our front door, take a moment to let the rainbow flag on the window reflect in your heart. Do not think that because one more state passed same-sex marriage this summer that the time for focusing on radical hospitality toward LGBTQ spiritual seekers has passed. Instead, like the chalice's flame, carry the rainbow flag in your heart as you leave this sacred place.

This faith, this church, saves lives. Regardless of their race, age, or employment status, Richmonders who face discrimination because of their sexual identity need to know that First UU exists and that we invite them to bring their whole selves here. Spread the word.

Thank you to Mike Recant, Chris Arnold, Ellen Shaver, Charlotte Lesure, and everyone else on the LGBTQ Straight Alliance. I am deeply grateful for all you do to keep the rainbow flag flying beside our door and in our hearts.

-- Wendy DeGroat

## BOARD NEWS (AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS)

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We'd like to keep you updated on the work that's been underway since the congregation approved the Capital Campaign at this year's annual meeting. While the campaign doesn't officially kick off until the weekend of January 14-15, 2012, there is plenty of enthusiasm as we:

- Fill positions on key committees (Steering, Communications, Financial Oversight, etc.)
- Meet with small groups pre-kickoff
- Outline the case for "Honoring Our Roots, Realizing Our Dreams" and
- Create a campaign brochure that highlights the church's history and the needs we'll fulfill with the revitalized building.

There is information available on the members section of the church's website regarding key committees, the architect's preliminary plans, and opportunities for volunteers. Look under the "Govern" tab for a link to the Capital Campaign page (<http://richmondUU.org/govern/capital-campaign/>).

Contact Louise Einolf or Joe Kent, campaign co-chairs, if you have questions.

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### SOUND BOOTH VOLUNTEERS

You've heard it before—we really need a few volunteers to run the sound booth during the Sunday morning worship services. But that's pretty vague—you want to know what you'd be getting yourself into, right? So here goes:

- o Come early, turn sound system on, set up mics, adjust sound levels for speakers and musicians. Ready at 9:30
- o Record the service
- o Put equipment away after second service
- o Power off equipment and finalize recordings

You'll receive training for all this and have checklists to follow to guide you along the way. It's easiest to do both services, but two people can share the duties on a Sunday (during the summer, there will be one service at 10:00am). Many hands make light work, so the more volunteers... you get the idea.

This is one of those "behind the scenes" jobs that is absolutely essential so folks in the congregation can hear and for us to minister to those who can't regularly attend. Pay is typical for a job of this nature—our endless gratitude and knowing that what you do matters. Now just let us know when you can start! Any staff will get your info to me, or contact me directly at [dwdropin@aol.com](mailto:dwdropin@aol.com) or call the church (355-0777) with your contact info and I'll be in touch. And thanks!

***Diane Woodruff, Music Director***

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Thoughts for the Journey: Some Reminders

It is not uncommon for me to be asked by church members and visitors alike *What do you do in religious education? What are you about?* As another church school year is newly underway, I thought it a fitting time for some reminders.



In our faith, we claim that every night a child is born is a holy night. For the youngest among us, we seek to create a physically safe, and emotionally inviting space to nurture exploration and discovery. At the elementary level, children in our faith learn to question and to be curious—expand on their sense of wonder, and to enjoy their discoveries. We hear stories from around the world, we learn of our heritage, our principles, and what makes our religion special. We have conversations about peace and how to be peace makers. All curriculum materials are developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Adolescents, as they come of age in a time of increasing independence and responsibility, begin to define who they are as Unitarian Universalists. They have classes about human sexuality, taught within the context of UU values, facilitated by certified, dedicated teachers, committed to their student's well-being.

High School Youth are encouraged to share responsibility for their learning and take part in leadership as they seek to grow deeper in defining their own faith and values. They appreciate a small group ministry model during Sunday morning classes, allowing for challenging conversation exploring the sources of our faith, UU principles, and rituals. They address timely topics, such as bullying in their school classrooms and competition. Through these Sunday morning classes and Youth Group activities, they are challenged to discern who they want to be in the world, how their moral compass will guide them. They find support and fun in being together.

Young adults are facing an exhilarating and challenging time—high school graduation, perhaps moving away from home, first job, voting. We are empowered by the sharing of their ideas.

As adults, we help each other on our journeys through worship, numerous classes, small groups, social justice and other volunteer opportunities. In our faith, we know that worship together is important, so we include multigenerational services. We seek to build a supportive, multigenerational, multicultural community.

The Religious Education program builds in another component of support—the joy in sharing meals and activities together at First UU FUUN Nights and during the summer, Wednesdays at the Grille. At these times, we celebrate our abundance together.

*All of this* is what we do in Religious Education at First UU. We are continually creating a place for you. Come! Take part! May you find what you are seeking.

**In hope,**

**Rhonda Wingfield, Acting Director of Religious Education**

**Rhonda@richmondUU.org**

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### GREENE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

First UU volunteers have a mission: "To work toward supporting the education and the nurture of the children of Greene School." Greene School is an elementary school in south Richmond with a large Hispanic and African American student body, many from underserved environments. For a number of years our members have volunteered to support the growth of these students in many ways. The following are examples of what we are doing this year. Contact a committee member (listed below) if you would like to be part of this effort. We need those who can help from time to time when coordinators are unavailable or who want to be engaged. Please help if you can!

**Gardening at Greene:** Kate Ruby is leading a project to help students learn how the web of life includes what we eat and how it is produced. Students plant and nurture seeds to maturity and learn about foods and nutrition. Kate would love to have volunteers join her in this effort.

**Meeting Teacher and Student Classroom Needs:** We distribute questionnaires to teachers to learn what school supplies they and their students need. We then purchase the items and deliver them to each teacher. Norma Doss and Laurel Lonnes coordinate this effort and can always use a helping hand. This primarily happens in September and October, however we provide special supplies in SOL season in the spring.

**Reading to Kindergartens:** Holly Corbett has been coordinating volunteers who would like to come and read to a kindergarten class once a week. With more volunteers we can share the commitment and not have to come every week.

**Mentoring and Tutoring:** While our mentoring program is on-hold for this year, some volunteers do help tutor students after school. This activity will start in October.

**"Winterize Your Kid":** This is an effort to provide cold weather clothing to students who need them. Many students are from immigrant families who came from warm climates and have never had winter clothing. Volunteers buy some coats and sweaters with money from our budget and solicit additional clothing donations from church members. This activity will occur in October and November.

In general there are many needs to be met. If you speak Spanish you can help in several ways.

Charlotte Lesure is our liaison to the PTA and the staff at Greene. Other members of the Greene School Committee are Louise Einolf, Norma Doss, Laurel Lonnes, Holly Corbet, Kate Ruby, and Joe Kent.

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### RAINBOW CORNER

The LGBTQ-Straight Alliance of FirstUU invites you to a Pizza Lunch / Lively Discussion on Sunday, October 16th, from 12:45pm to 2pm in the Great Hall at FirstUU. We will continue the conversation from our first pizza/discussion lunch with Guy Kinman from the Summer. This Discussion, led by Guy, will begin with these questions:

1. How would you describe changes in the gay-straight relationships in Richmond since the 1980's?
2. Gay and Straight: What do these words mean to you today? How do gays and straights differ? How are they the same?
3. How would you describe gay-straight relationships in FirstUU today? What can we do to improve them?
4. Your questions will be welcomed.

Guy, one of our eldest, has worked to improve affectional relationships in Richmond for years. He has an amazing perspective of the evolution of LGBTQ acceptance in society and wonderful stories to share. PLEASE RSVP as soon as possible - so we'll order enough Pizza! This can be done in any of the following ways:

- e-mail us at [LGBTQ@richmondUU.org](mailto:LGBTQ@richmondUU.org), call Mike Recant at 804-379-8097, or - sign up at our lobby table on 10/2 and 10/9

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### My Little Corner of the World

I love spices. I love to go to Penzey's on Cary Street just to sniff the jars. They have yet to ask me to leave. All the different spices, herbs and mixes are key ingredients to some yummy dishes!

In the spirit of yummy dishes and key ingredients here are some things I want you, dear reader to know and contemplate for the coming month: how may you get into the mix and spice up the dishes of First UU?



Not in any particular order, you may:

1. October 16 is MMMMM, MMMMMM Soup Sunday! The Central Virginia Food Bank desperately needs chunky soup!!! I know you run to the store for half and half and chips. Every time to you go, pick up a can of soup for someone who needs it!
2. October 22 is the Walk to the River – a 5K walk in support of the Neighborhood Resource Center. My long-legged partner, Chris, and I are challenging ALL of you to register and walk! Contact either of us for details – [powen@richmondUU.org](mailto:powen@richmondUU.org) or [tallgrl55@yahoo.com](mailto:tallgrl55@yahoo.com)
3. Consider cooking some soup for Simple Supper.
4. Sign up for a class. The programming catalog is now available. Registration is as simple as filling out a form or emailing the fabulous Rhonda Wingfield.
5. Come to Vespers.
6. Commit to two Sundays services a month.

I had the pleasure of hearing from a couple who will soon become members of First UU that we are the friendliest, most welcoming UU's they have met – in **more than 50 years of active memberships** in congregations across the country! Kudos to all of you, my welcoming friends. And in case you think your being here is unimportant – think again!

Peace, y'all...

Pat

Director of Membership

[powen@richmondUU.org](mailto:powen@richmondUU.org)

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### BUILD THE CONFIDENCE TO SPEAK UP IN WAYS THAT DISMANTLE

#### OPPRESSION

Do you find yourself at a loss for words when your coworker makes a sweeping statement about Muslims? Feel your internal temperature rising at your aunt's racist remarks at a family gathering? Smile awkwardly when your friend mistakes a fellow restaurant patron who's African American for a waitress and asks her to get him more hot sauce? (I witnessed this last situation at another table when I was eating dinner at Mama J's recently). Don't get down on yourself - find your own words for speaking up effectively against oppression by coming to a safe place to practice responding in such situations.

Join us for the shared learning segment of the next CREU meeting on **Monday, October 10th** (regular meeting agenda begins at 6:30pm; **shared learning at 7:30pm**) to discuss situations that leave you stalled in silence, explore what to say to turn those tense moments into opportunities to dismantle oppression, and engage in role plays to put words into action until you find the ones that fit for you.

### BUILDING THE WORLD WE DREAM ABOUT...

The Church is hosting an introduction to Building the World We Dream About. The program will run from 9-11:20 am on Sundays: Oct 2, 9, 16 & 23. This is a free adult religious education class. You can sign up for the class this Sunday or next Sunday at the CREU (Committee on Racial and Ethnic Unity) table.

Building the World We Dream About (BTWWDA) is designed to help UUs welcome, include, and build community with people of diverse ethnicities, races, and cultures, both in congregational life and when working in interfaith and community coalitions. This program explores how the story of race in our personal lives, our culture, and our national history and helps individual Unitarian Universalists and congregations identify ways the broader cultural narrative about race intersects with personal and congregational stories. Participants will understand more deeply the barriers racism poses to our goal of being a truly welcoming and inclusive faith, and practice together the skills of living into multicultural Beloved Community.

Through experiential learning, reflection, and community building, BTWWDA provides opportunities to share stories about how race shapes our identities and interactions with those we may consider "other." Participants will be able to define race and racism and how these operate in our individual, congregational, and community contexts; and identify how race and racism give privilege and power to people identified as "White," while oppressing People of Color and other people marginalized by race and ethnicity.

The program stimulates dialogue rather than debate about the complexity of racial identity-including multiracial identity-and the various ways people experience race. Because it is a faith development program, BTWWDA engages participants in spiritual reflection about how UU Principles and values support and undergird the work of becoming more racially and culturally welcoming, inclusive, and justice-centered.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come to the CREU table.

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DAY OF MINDFULNESS

Sat. Oct. 22, 9:15 AM to 4:30 PM, the Mindfulness Practice Group of Annapolis, a spirituality group of the UU Church of Annapolis, will offer the first ever anywhere melding of mindfulness practices in the arts with the Day of Mindfulness model for a one day meditative arts retreat with a choice of performing, visual, and writing arts in both of two workshop periods. We are asking for registration by Oct. 1 because of the supplies required, but payment is on scene Oct. 22. (Suggested donation \$40; \$20 student/underemployed; no one turned away—talk to us.) Profits to UUCA Capital Campaign.

This will be even more gentle and introductory than our usual Days of Mindfulness, because sitting meditation periods will be even shorter, and there will be walking meditation often, formally outdoors and indoors, as well as self-guided between events, plus an explicit, initial half hour long introduction to the mindfulness practices. Both morning and afternoon arts sessions offer a choice among visual, performing, and written arts, so that attendees may specialize over the Day or do two different arts. The performing arts center the practitioner in full awareness of breathing and the body in the present moment; the visual arts provide rigorous practice in 360 degree observation of the present moment; the writing arts require observation of one's mental reactions to experience and bringing them fully into mindful consciousness. The morning's choice is among haiku, watercolor, and dance. The afternoon presents digital pinhole photography plus the ability to print haiku on either photos or watercolors, vocal arts as singing and chanting, and mindful prose including memoir.

We are proud to offer you the depth of meditative experience and talent available at UUCA: such as Eva Gholson, Professor Emerita of Dance at Temple and choreographer in Athens, Berlin, Munich, Hong Kong, and Taiwan; she has done a self-designed retreat with Bikkhuni Sobhana of the Forest Monk tradition; and Jan Gary, winner of the Christine White Award, the Ames Award, and a featured writer in 2006 Emerging Voices, who often retreats at Zen Mountain Monastery. Two MPG Facilitators will lead workshops, Bob Ertman and Lou Coronas. Lou, a singer, will coordinate with local jazz vocalist Theresa Sise, Julie Roehm, and meditative drummer Jeff Wentworth in the voice workshop. Lou and Bob both practice with the Order of Interbeing at UU Fairfax, Lou also in Manhattan at Riverside Sangha; Bob has additionally received transmission of the precepts from Boundless Way Zen and has been accepted at selective haiku retreats at Zen Mountain Monastery as well as continuing his publication of haiku, which he is now integrating with his photography. Deb Boudra is a retired art teacher and ever more active crafts master.

The Mindfulness Practice Group of Annapolis is a Unitarian Universalist Buddhist Fellowship affiliate, proud to stand for the Seven Principles and for the Safe Congregation Covenant of UUCA, on which its own Covenant is modeled. For more information including a detailed schedule of the Day of Mindfulness in the Arts contact Phyllis Culham at [JaiHawk@live.com](mailto:JaiHawk@live.com).

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HAPPENING NOW!

**Adult Religious Education Classes are happening NOW!** A rich selection of classes is listed in the Fall Programming catalog on-line, under the heading Religious Education. Choose what you will become involved in today! Registration is easy! Email your class choices to [Rhonda@richmondUU.org](mailto:Rhonda@richmondUU.org), call the church at 355-0777, or drop your registration form in the Adult RE Registration box in the Middle Studio.

### COME PLAY WITH US

On Sunday, Oct. 9 First UU Presents will host a Theatre Playshop. There will be audience participation in theatre games, improvization, & play reading. Plus a couple of 10 minute plays presented in our own reader's theatre format. So, whether you want to try something new, or just watch, come join us at 7 p.m. in the Great Hall. No ticket needed but donations will be accepted. Don't forget to invite your friends.

### VOLUNTEER IN THE CLASSROOM! VOLUNTEER IN THE NURSERY!

Become a volunteer in a religious education classroom or in the Nursery. There is often a need for substitutes. This is a great opportunity to engage with children and enjoy exercising your sense of wonder and playfulness! Contact [Rhonda@richmondUU.org](mailto:Rhonda@richmondUU.org) or Stephanie Fox at [reassistant@richmondUU.org](mailto:reassistant@richmondUU.org).

### GROWING OUR COMPASSIONATE PRESENCE

Challenges come our way in life. Some are pretty manageable. Others leave us feeling very alone and overwhelmed, or demand great contemplation.

Lay Pastoral Care Associates meet weekly with members of our congregation who would like support while enduring grieving, illness, injury, disability, marital changes, unemployment, relocation, care giving, isolation, inability to attend church or other difficult life situations.

Our Senior Minister trains and supervises the Lay Pastoral Care Associates. This training is typically offered only once every 18 months - two years. If you would like to consider growing your compassionate presence through this program, Rev. Jeanne invites you to her office between services on Sunday, October 9th for an orientation. Call Carol Wayne, Chair, Lay Pastoral Care Program at 356-8450 or email her at [cwayne5@verizon.net](mailto:cwayne5@verizon.net) with your questions or for details of the training weekend October 28-29,

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### QUILTERS RAFFLE

Beginning September 4, a beautiful, intricate, king/queen-sized quilt will grace the lobby of First UU---the QUilters' raffle quilt! Tickets will be on sale in the lobby and from any members of the QUilters--look for a quilt block on the name tag. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. Proceeds will be donated to the church. Drawing will be December 4. You need not be present to win, but you can't win without a ticket! Stop by the table and give yourself a chance to own a wonderful quilt.

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BACK TO SCHOOL FOR READERS

Anyone who is interested in reading to children at Greene School for this school year, we have a place for you!

Please contact Holly Corbett at [emchbc@gmail.com](mailto:emchbc@gmail.com) or call at 741-0194

### EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY GROUP – INTERESTED?

We are interested in hearing from those of you who may be interested in the Earth-Centered Spirituality group! In an effort to re-group, re-plan and re-vision we need to hear from you! If you practice, are interested in practicing or just want to learn more about all the aspects of Earth-Centered Spirituality, please email one of the following: Maury Johnston @ [shadwynn@infionline.net](mailto:shadwynn@infionline.net) OR Pat Owen @ [powen@richmondUU.org](mailto:powen@richmondUU.org)

### HUMANIST MEETING AND MOVIE SCREENING: ALL WELCOME

Tuesday, October 11th, the Humanist group will meet at 7 p.m. We will be showing the movie "Letting Go of God", a very funny monologue by Julia Sweeney. She relates how she slowly explored many forms of spirituality through out her life and came up with an interesting conclusion. "Believers of all stripes and intensities, as well as non-believers who may scoff a little too facilely, will be challenged and disarmed with stick-in-your throat laughter by Sweeney's utterly uncynical, blisteringly honest testimony"-- Rob Kendt, Lost Angeles Times.

### ALCOTT BOOK GROUP

The Alcott Book Group will meet on Sunday, October 16, at 4:30 pm at the Positive Vibe Cafe, 2825 Hathaway Road, Richmond, VA 23225-1725 (804-560-9622) , just north of Forest Hill and south of the River.

**The group is enjoying its new members and invites others to join.**

The book for this month is "Brooklyn," by Colm Toibin.

### FIRST UU FUUN NIGHT

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

**5:30-7:30**

It's time for members, friends, and visitors of all ages to come together for **Fall Fright Night— an evening of storytelling and activities with a Halloween theme. Wear your Halloween costume!** Your age doesn't matter—wear one, and bring a bountiful pot luck dish to share (enough to serve 6). If you would like to assist the Religious Education Committee members with activities, please contact Melody Morton at: [the\\_mortons@verizon.net](mailto:the_mortons@verizon.net).

### DAYTIMERS (ALL WELCOME!)

The October meeting of the Daytimers will take place at 11 AM on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, in the Douglasdale Studio of First Church. A film on the German pastor and anti-Nazi, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, will be shown. Afterwards a discussion of the film and the life of Bonhoeffer will be led by our new ministerial intern, Aija Simpson. A pot luck will follow the discussion. Bring some food to share with your friends. If you can't bring food, you may leave a small contribution instead. Hope to see you then.

For this month's calendar, check out the calendar on the website by clicking here:

<http://richmondUU.org/about-2/rfuu-calendar/>

*November Newsletter submission deadline is October 13*

*Address Service Requested*



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