

This Week at UUCD
Thursday, February 16, 2012



The preschool RE children's social action project this month is collecting toiletries for people who do not have homes. Their greatest needs are: Trial-sized shampoo and conditioner, Hand lotion, Deodorant, Pocket- or purse-sized packs of tissues, Shaving cream and Baby wipes. The items will be given to ARC to distribute. Please leave them in the box that the preschoolers have decorated in the foyer. Please bring items by February 26th, so the children can package them up and send them to ARC! Thanks!

We are *Standing On the Side of Love* with Cupid this month! **Please bring in a package of disposable diapers in size 4 or 5** and place it in the diaper box in the foyer. We will distribute Cupid's diapers at the ARC Food Pantry.

This Week at a Glance

Thursday, February 16th

5:15 p.m. **Zumba**, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. **Chalice Circle**, second floor Conference Room
7:00 p.m. **Events Committee**, Conference Room
7:30 p.m. **Choir**, Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 17th

March 2012 *Comment* Deadline

Saturday, February 18th

10:00 a.m. **Newcomer's Gathering**
12:00 p.m. **Memorial Service for Kunio Owaki, husband of UUCD member Mary Ann Kulla**,
Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 19th

9:00 a.m. & **Sunday Service** – Social Responsibility Towards our Community from the Islamic Perspective,
11:00 a.m. Shazeeda Khan

Tuesday, February 21st

10:00 a.m. **Knitting Ministry**, Conference Room
4:30 p.m. **Chalice Circle**, second floor Conference Room
7:15 p.m. **Zumba**, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 22nd

6:00 p.m. **Yoga**, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. **Discussion Group on Focusing**, second floor Conference Room
7:30 p.m. **Committee on Ministry**, Conference Room

Thursday, February 23rd

5:15 p.m. **Zumba**, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. **Chalice Circle**, second floor Conference Room

Saturday, February 24th

6:00 p.m. **Round Robin Dinner**

Sunday, February 26th

9:00 a.m. & **Sunday Service – Abolishing the Death Penalty** led by the Social Action Committee
11:00 a.m.

(see below for details)

Barbara's Wastepaper Record

This week was Valentine's Day. I enjoyed reading these headlines that reflect *the power of love to counter oppression* this past week:

February 7: Federal Appeals Court Rules California's Ban on Gay Marriage Is Unconstitutional all but ensuring that the case will proceed to the United States Supreme Court.

February 13: The New Jersey State Senate voted on Monday to legalize [same-sex marriage](#), a significant shift in support from two years ago, when a similar measure failed. The legislation faces a vote today in the State Assembly, but it is expected, Gov. [Chris Christie](#), will veto it.

February 14: Washington State's Governor Christine Gregoire signed legislation on Monday to bestow marriage rights on gay and lesbian couples. It is expected that repeal advocates will put the issue before the electorate as a referendum.

I am glad to be part of a community that has lived a message of equality as a Welcoming Congregation and continually strives to learn how to *harness the power of love* to counter oppression in our community and world.

Be well,
Barbara

Friday, February 17th

- The **Deadline for the March Comment** is Friday, February 17th. Please submit your articles to the office by 9:00 a.m. for inclusion.

Saturday, February 18th

- You are invited to a **Newcomers Gathering** on **Saturday, February 18th at 10:00 a.m.** Please join us for a Newcomer's Gathering sponsored by the Membership Committee. Please RSVP to Sherry at SherryUUCD@gmail.com. Be sure to let us know if you need childcare.
- **A memorial service for Kunio Owaki, husband of UUCD member Mary Ann Kulla, will be celebrated at UUCD this Saturday, February 18 at Noon.** Fellowship Hall will be open at 11:00 a.m. when the family will be available to receive personal condolences before the service.

Sunday, February 19th

- **Two Services – 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**
- We warmly welcome Shazeeda Khan back to the UUCD pulpit. She will be speaking about **Social Responsibility Towards our Community from the Islamic Perspective.** *The Islamic tradition is deeply rooted in social justice and it is our responsibility towards God. These Divine principles must be manifested in our actions in order to positively affect our community.* Rev. Barbara Fast will be leading worship.

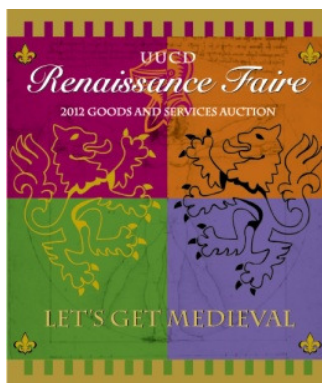
Saturday, February 25th

- The next **Round Robin Dinner** is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, February 25th**. If you would like to host the dinner in your home, please contact **Donna Lawrence** at donna.dcl2@att.net or [203-438-0276](tel:203-438-0276) for details. If you are interested but are unable to do it in February, the next one will take place on Saturday, April 28th, and we'll be looking for a host then too.

Sunday, February 26th

- **Two Services – 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**
- **Abolishing the Death Penalty** - The Social Action Committee will present a service on capital punishment. The guest speaker is Dr. George Kain, an Associate Professor in the Division of Justice and Law Administration at Western Connecticut State University. He will discuss current efforts to abolish the death penalty in Connecticut and describe the prospects for Connecticut to become the 16th state to abolish the death penalty in this session of the legislature. Dr. Kain is on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Pray ye –
oh, what to wear to the most splendid UUCD event of the year?
Saturday, March 24th – 6:00 p.m.

Are you worried about what you will wear to the Annual Goods & Services Auction on Saturday, March 24, at 6:00pm? The Auction Committee's very own Val Cochrane may have your answer with her handmade garb. These moderately priced accessories will add a Renaissance flair to your everyday wardrobe. Add cuffs, ruffs, hats, helmets, vests or bodices to your basic wardrobe and you will be in Renaissance fashion.

All gross proceeds directly benefit the auction.

Trunk shows will be held during coffee hours February 26 through March 18th. Custom orders will be considered through March 11. Please contact Val at valc1@att.net.

1,600 Volunteers Needed

The **Connecticut Mission of Mercy 2012** is being conducted on Friday, March 23rd, and Saturday, March 24th at the O'Neill Center at the West Side Campus of WestConn State University.

This is a **free dental clinic** for area residents who may have trouble getting dental care through the standard medical system. Volunteers are needed for both days, plus set-up days March 21st and 22nd, and take down on March 25th. There will be hundreds of medical people working at this clinic. Logistical support, bilingual volunteers, food services support and many other tasks need man/woman power.

VERY IMPORTANT - Volunteers must sign up by **February 29, 2012**, online. Start with Google, enter CT Mission of Mercy 2012. Once you go to the website, click on Information. Click on Volunteer Registration is Open and then complete application.

It is our understanding that a team leader will contact you and talk about scheduling times that work for everyone.

Thanks in advance to all who can help.

The 2012 Women's Retreat will be held May 4th – 6th, at the Guest House Conference Center in Chester CT. We have already filled all the rooms we have reserved and are starting a waiting list for anyone who would like to register now as there are always some changes in the number who can attend before the retreat. If you

would like to be placed on the waiting list please send in your registration form with a deposit check (totally refundable) as soon as possible to **Barbara Myers**, or just place it in the collection plate during Sunday services. A \$50.00 deposit is due with your registration form and the balance is due when we confirm that you have a room. The room rates are: double - \$275.00, and triple - \$240.00. Scholarship funds are available to assist with the cost of the retreat, and if you are interested please contact **Rev. Barbara Fast** at uurevbarbara@gmail.com, or **Sue Tarshis**. We are also offering a day-trip option for the retreat at a cost of \$85.00 and will be taking reservations for that option as we get closer to the date of the event. Get ready to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, build community, enjoy many workshop options and activities, and have fun!

A Gentle Reminder: If you arrive late to Sunday services, please be sure to enter quietly so as not to disrupt the service or distract those already in attendance. Those who arrive early can help by sitting toward the front, leaving space at the back for latecomers to slip into a back row. Thank you!

