



The Unitarian Church of Harrisburg is an inclusive, gloriously diverse, deeply connected spiritual community dedicated to the practice of radical service.

Minister's Message



It is remarkable how quickly UCH has increased its social justice work simply by buying the Market Street church and opening it up as often as possible to people. Though "social justice" is not my ministerial specialty, I am thrilled that UCH is finding places to be of service to those less fortunate. The numbers of people served by UCH has risen exponentially in the last three years. We are engaged in the City of Harrisburg like never before

UCH has gone from talking about social justice to actually working with and for people. This would not have happened without the Market Street purchase—or something equally radical. Our congregation struggled for decades to figure out what its mission might be. Now we have an opportunity to strengthen our clear mission and truly make a difference.

My work at our Market Street church grounds the rest of my ministry. In getting to know more and more people through our efforts there, I can see how our congregation can truly enrich a struggling neighborhood. My regular presence at community hours and the Saturday breakfasts has enabled people to get to know me better and for me to get to know them. I am proud to lead a church that is as active and caring as UCH.

UCH continues to do a whole variety of things for our community and the world beyond our Market Street church. We staffed the homeless shelter for the ninth year in a row (page 9). Our forums and lectures bring people to both churches for a variety of learning opportunities. And our members do hundreds of good things each week simply because they believe in living out their faith in the world. I am most proud of the courageous work our congregation is doing to confront its own racism and classism. Our engagement, especially in Allison Hill, with people of other races and classes is beginning to change the face of the congregation for the better. No longer can we pretend not to see the direct effects of poverty and discrimination. Now it is our neighbors who are adversely affected. Now it matters more.

We have good partners in The Shared Ministry and other churches and agencies in Allison Hill to deepen our social justice engagement. More of our members must come forward to fund and staff our volunteer efforts. I will work wherever I can to get UCH to participate in the ongoing justice work readily available to us. I hope you will join me.

See you in church.
Love, Howard

January Services
 Jan. 1 – Joint service with Shared Ministry, 11:00 a.m.
 Jan 8 – 9:00 a.m. Forum at Clover Lane (page 3),
 11:00 a.m. worship at Market Street
 All other Sundays: two services weekly, 9:00 a.m. at Clover Lane, then 11:00 a.m. at Market Street

Unitarian Church of Harrisburg
January 2012 At-a-Glance

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Sun 1	11:00	Joint service with Shared Ministry
Tue 3	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation, Chuck Daley
Wed 4	6:00	Queen Spirit, Kandy Melillo
Sun 8	9:00	Moral Issues Forum, David Spear
	11:00	Sunday Worship, Rev. Howard Dana: "Standing on the Side of Love"
	6:30	Philosophy & Literature Group, Dick Hoke
Mon 9	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Ed Sykes
Tue 10	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation, Daley
Wed 11	7:00	Board Meeting, Judy Linder
Sat 14	9:00	"UCH Listens" training, Jim Cavanaugh
	9:00	Community Café, Clay Lambert
	4:00	Families with young children, Pete Trufahnestock
Sun 15	9:00	Sunday Worship Service, Rev. Dana, "To Build the Common Good"
	11:00	
Mon 16	11:00	MLK Open House
	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 17	7:00	Silent Mindfulness Meditation, Daley
Wed 18	5:30	Getting Ahead, Session I, Sparkie Radcliffe
	6:30	Clover Grove, Ed Hazell
Fri 20	7:30	Coffee House, Bart Carpenter
Sun 22	9:00	Sunday Worship Service, Rev. Dana, "Oh, Freedom"
	11:00	
	3:00	Roe vs. Wade Commemoration
Mon 23	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 24	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation, Daley
Wed 25	6:00	Getting Ahead, Session II, Radcliffe
	7:00	Harrisburg Area Humanists, David Spear
Sat 28	9:00	Community Café, Lambert
Sun 29	9:00	Sunday Worship, Rabbi Carl Choper, "Tikkun Olam: To Heal, Repair and Transform the World"
	11:00	
Mon 30	6:30	Amrit Yoga, Sykes
Tue 31	7:00	Mindfulness Meditation, Daley

Market Street Event

President's Message



The holiday season has passed and we have a new calendar year ahead of us. The church's calendar for December brimmed with events for us to savor, ponder, or just enjoy. Bhante Sujatha led a meditation seminar and a discussion on dealing with the difficulties of holiday gift giving; Second Sunday had a pageant depicting the three birth legends (Buddha, Confucius, and Jesus) complete with costumes and a beautiful baby; Winter Solstice celebrated the exit of the Crone and entrance of the Maiden, bonfire, and refreshments. There was a contemplative service at Clover Lane and two Christmas Eve services.

AS A CONGREGATION, we provided Thanksgiving food baskets to our neighbors in Allison Hill using half the plate donations for the first three weeks in November (totaling about \$900). There were two Giving Trees decorated with mittens, hats, and books. Trish Brandon and Tracy Richards also used monetary donations to purchase additional books. These items, along with half the December plate and the plate from the final Sunday of November, will be donated to our local Head Start program. The Christmas Eve offering (nearly \$2,400) is going to the Community Breakfasts. As Howard noted at Christmas Eve, one dollar buys about 10 pounds of food, and this will fund seven months' of breakfasts. At the Winter Solstice Service two baskets were filled with donated CFL bulbs that will be distributed in the Harrisburg community. Socks were collected for the homeless shelter. We can all be so proud of our generous congregation.

HALF THE PLATE COLLECTION for January will be donated to the homeless shelter at Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven. This is the one we staffed from Dec. 16-31. The homeless shelter has a budget of roughly \$5,000 a year and raises that money from collections taken by many area churches. Don't let the plate pass you by!

ONE OF THE STRATEGIC GOALS voted on at the last congregational meeting was Strategy 6: "Co-create, share, and implement a comprehensive communication plan." One of the ways that we are implementing this strategy is through a "Listening to UCH" campaign spearheaded by Jim Cavanaugh (page 4). The goal is to improve communication within our community. Policy Governance is a democratic form of government with decisions made by the majority of the vote of "Active Members." That means that the minority agrees to accept the decision of the majority. Prior to a vote there is time set aside for discussion, with the purpose of hearing facts and opinions concerning the issue. The goal to implement a comprehensive communication plan encompasses both a way to present the facts of an issue, and then listen to the discussion with an open heart and mind. Listening is the most difficult part for all of us. Often prejudices, negative past experiences, and aversion become barriers to effective listening and analysis. Listening is also an essential element of the Covenant of Right Relations, which we will be voting on at our Annual Meeting. The Listening Campaign is a way to practice the ideals of that covenant.

JIM'S GROUP WILL CONSIST OF trained interviewers. They will conduct structured one-on-one interviews of up to 30 minutes with randomly selected friends and members of UCH. Its primary goal is to gather information about issues at UCH. This is not a stealth stewardship campaign; interviews will not include asking for money. Jim still needs some people for interviewers, so if you would like to meet other UUs, learn about their interests, help our church move toward better communication, and practice your listening skills, please contact him at 561-0634 or nanjim65@verizon.net. Training dates are January 14 at Clover Lane, with a make-up date (if necessary) on January 15 at Market Street.

There are also other opportunities to give your time and talent to our church. Following are just a few of them:

- There will be several open seats on the board at the end of this year. If interested, contact Andrea McDonald histrcpln@aol.com.
- Bi-monthly community breakfasts at Market Street: we need wait staff, kitchen staff, clean-up. Contact Clay Lambert, clay.jh.lambert@gmail.com
- Usher/greeters at Sunday services, once a month, contact Leta Beam, leta@vantage-inter.com
- Gardens at Clover Lane (tools provided), contact Ron Skrabut, ronskrabut@hotmail.com
- Market Street community hours Mon/Wed/Fri mornings, contact Brian Kahler, goatskinboy@comcast.net
- Green Sanctuary, urban gardens, etc., contact Rachel Mark, rachelmark@paonline.com
- Getting Ahead/Bridges Out of Poverty (page 5), contact Sparkie Radcliffe, sparkier@comcast.net
- Market St. 501(c)3: we need four more people to form a board, contact me, jlinder09@gmail.com

WE SHOULD THANK OUR MEMBERS who do volunteer their time, living their UU principles. A special "thank you" this month for the volunteers who staffed Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven. There are many more ways to be involved in the life of the church. It is up to you to take advantage of them. May we all be well, happy, and peaceful! Judy

Coordinate your calendars for these UCH events.

Tue 3 7:00 Mindfulness Meditation (weekly)

Two 25-minute periods of meditation with a short reading, discussion and rest between. Coordinated by Chuck Daley, MMG@harrisburguu.org. Repeats every Tuesday. Third Tuesday (Jan. 17) is silent meditation.

Wed 4 6:00 Queen Spirit: New Beginnings

QueenSpirit is a co-created women's spirituality circle. Bring a favorite dish, dessert or beverage to share, and bring your place setting and serving spoons and plates. This month, Deb Page and Lisa Acri facilitate a circle on the topic of the new year and new beginnings. Join us as we start the year anew with reflections on the past year and our visions for the coming times. As always, we cherish this time together to share our stories, be nourished and affirmed in our journeys, and provide and receive spiritual enrichment.

Potluck at 6:00, followed by the circle. Contact Kandy Melillo, KandyUU@aol.com.

Thur 5 6:45 New Unisingers Night

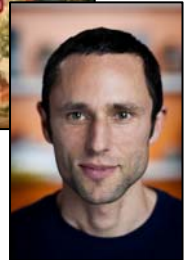
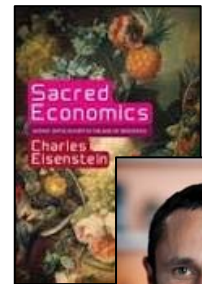


If you would like to join the Unisingers, our adult choir, please come to New Unisingers Night! Join Sparkie Radcliffe and Jim Haines at 6:45, then plan to stay for rehearsal! If you just want to learn more about Unisingers or try us on for size, you are welcome to stop by a rehearsal any Thursday evening in January. For further information please contact Sparkie Radcliffe, music@harrisburguu.org, or Jim Haines, hainesjl@etown.edu. Repeats every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Sun 8 9:00 Moral Issues Forum: Sacred Economics

The Second-Sunday Forum meets monthly to discuss moral and ethical issues from a non-religious viewpoint and without ritual. They are planned and conducted by the Humanism Lay-Led Ministry. A speaker presents his/her views on a topic with ethical and moral implications for approximately 30 minutes. After the presentation, the floor is open for discussion and questions. People in attendance share their views on the day's topic so that we learn, not only from our speaker, but from each other.

This month, author/scholar Charles Eisenstein talks about "Sacred Economics," his theory that our money system has contributed to alienation, competition, and scarcity, destroyed community, and necessitated endless growth – and how we are now in transition to a more connected, ecological, and sustainable way of being. His book, published in 2011, is a broadly integrated synthesis of theory, policy, and practice. *Sacred Economics* also considers the personal dimensions of this transition, speaking to those concerned with "right livelihood" and how to live according to their ideals in a world seemingly ruled by money. Tapping into a rich lineage of conventional and unconventional economic thought, *Sacred Economics* presents a vision that is original yet commonsense, radical yet gentle, and increasingly relevant as the crises of our civilization deepen. For details, please contact David Spear, spear130@gmail.com.

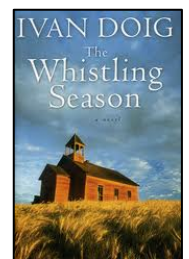


Mon 9 6:30 Amrit Yoga (weekly)

Amrit yoga is a form of hatha yoga developed by Yogi Amrit Desai. The entire process moves and stretches every part of your body for an energetic workout and includes a calming, meditative relaxation at the end. Two one-hour sessions, led by Ed Sykes, esykes@state.pa.us. No experience necessary! Repeats every Monday.

Sun 8 7:00 Philosophy & Literature Group

The Philosophy & Literature Group meets each month on the second Sunday, except in May when it moves to the third Sunday to avoid Mother's Day. The group meets at Clover Lane this month. The host is Bob Coleman, discussing *The Whistling Season*, a novel by Ivan Doig. The book is a coming-of-age novel set in the dry Montana prairie of 1910. The book begins in 1950 when Paul, now Montana State Superintendent of Public Instruction, travels to his hometown with the unpleasant task of closing its one and only one-room schoolhouse. The story is told through his memories looking back to the year he was 13. At the January meeting, the group will also decide on the order for discussion the remaining 10 books. Contact Dick Hoke, Rrhoke@aol.com.



Wed 11 7:00 UCH Board Meeting

Board meetings are open to members. For an agenda, please contact Judy Linder, jclinder09@gmail.com.

Sat 14 9:00 Breakfast at Market Street

Experience community in action – no experience necessary! UCH operates our own Common Ground Café, beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Repeats Jan. 28.**



Drop-ins welcome. To join the e-list of volunteers, please contact Clay Lambert, clay.jh.lambert@gmail.com.

Sat 14 9:00 "UCH Listens" (Kickoff)

Ed. Note: the Board of Trustees voted in November to support a new "listening campaign" spearheaded by Jim Cavanaugh; this was first noted in the December REPORTER. Jim has formed a committee to begin the new endeavor and has scheduled orientation/training sessions for a new group of "listeners." All are encouraged to participate. His report on the committee's work to date:

Part 1 will consist of structured one-on-one listening interviews of up to 30 minutes by trained listeners with other UCH members. Its primary goals are improving community and gathering useful information. And since listening well to each other is fundamental to living out our Covenant of Right Relations (developed by the team, approved by the Board, to be approved at our next Congregational meeting), this will help us to "walk our talk."

We think "UCH Listens" is a better name than "Listening Campaign," the title you saw in the December REPORTER.

BECOME A UCH LISTENER! TRAINING/ORIENTATION Working with Leta Beam and others, we came to realize that "campaign" implies a one-time event. In point of fact, we are building on the work of the Healthy Congregations team, the communications component of the *UCH Strategic Plan*, and the future Covenant of Right Relations, i.e., this is another step in an ongoing process.

Why get involved? Two powerful reasons: (1) Meet some interesting UUs and learn what you have in common with them. We UUs are some of the most interesting people around – here is a chance to meet a few you might not know; and (2) Give and receive the gift of presence. Both listening and being heard include an engaged listener, and being fully present with another is an important gift – sometimes more valuable than a tangible one.

What will I do? Attend a workshop/training session; interview five (or more) UCH members in one-on-one sessions (est. 30 minutes) at a mutually agreeable location; then report back to the committee on what you heard using a simple form, with no identifying information.

What is the training? The training will be presented by Leta Beam and Jim Cavanaugh. It will include practice and offer some ways to keep the listening interviews to 30 minutes. This is important since we are all busy and time is at a premium.

When is the training? Training is from 9:00-noon on Saturday, Jan. 14 at Clover Lane. We will schedule a makeup at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 15, at Market Street if there is interest. Please RSVP to Jim (email Nanjim65@verizon.net or call 561-0634) by Jan. 10, so that we have enough materials and (for Jan 15) enough light lunches.

Questions? If you have questions or want to RSVP, please contact any team member: Jim Cavanaugh at 561-0634 or Nanjim65@verizon.net; Cathy Montes at 599-0915 or cathy.montes@gmail.com; Andrea MacDonald at 421-5545 or histrpln@aol.com; or Dennis Darling at 566-3649 or dennyandlila@comcast.net.

Mon 16 11:00 MLK Open House

The UCH celebrates the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at our Market Street campus. Community event: open house, with cake, coffee and more. There will also be an activities table where people of all ages can make a card for a terminally ill child as part of "Hugs and Hope."



Wed 18

5:30 Getting Ahead: A Pathway to Prosperity, Session 1

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ed. note: this text was compiled from information provided by Sparkie Radcliffe, Dauphin County Human Services, and the program description at the website, www.gettingaheadnetwork.com.

The UCH is pleased to help host Dauphin County's second implementation of a new program designed to help people lift themselves from poverty, entitled Getting Ahead: A Pathway to Prosperity. Based on theory and practices articulated in *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-by-World* (Philip DeVol, 2004) and *Bridges Out of Poverty* (Ruby Payne, Philip DeVol, 1999), the ground-breaking program is a structured means of showing participants how to use the hidden rules of class to build up financial, emotional, social, and other resources to create the initial steps to build self-sufficiency. **Every Wednesday**, from January 18 through May 2. As reported by Randie Yeager-Market (Dauphin County Human Services):

**GETTING AHEAD: A PATHWAY TO PROSPERITY
16-WEEK SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM**

Getting Ahead is a practice that provides a way to examine the impact that poverty has on individuals, families and their communities. It is based on evidence and practices written and developed from people in poverty. This practice provides a safe and a self-developed free learning environment where adults can reflect on and examine their lives based on a proactive perspective and an open mind to investigate information, analyze resources, assess their own assets, make plans for their own future stories and offer ideas for building a prosperous community. There are 13 separate workshops over a 16-week period, with two outcomes: Participants conduct a critical analysis of their own resources and identify specific strategies to address areas of improvement. With the information they now have, they will gain power in their own lives and power in their community. They will end the series with a plan to make change – moving toward prosperity and a way to check on how they're doing.

Dauphin County first executed the program in Steelton in mid-year 2011, with great success. It had 15 enrollees, with 90% attendance. Due to transportation difficulties by participants, the classes are held where participants are located. In collaboration with Shared Ministry, Colonial Park United Church of Christ (UCC), and several other Christian churches, the UCH is hosting second Dauphin County implementation, at our Market Street campus. We are providing space, and all participating churches will provide food, support, and childcare.

Beginning Jan. 1, we will start circulating sign-up sheets for the following tasks, for one or more Wednesdays:

- Dinner preparation, food contributions, and/or cash donations for food; dinner is at 5:30 p.m.
Note: can be cooked at home or on-site; you can donate the food or cook donated food, or both.
- Post-dinner cleanup, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Childcare support, 6:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.

– Submitted by Sparkie Radcliffe

Wed 18

7:00 Clover Grove: Our Pagan Ancestry

Clover Grove is a chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) and is group of earth-centered and pagan spiritualists. This group meets monthly to discuss spiritual issues related to those of a similar path and celebrates with ritual the phases of the Earth and Moon. All are welcome.

This month we focus on our pagan ancestry. People will discuss their ancestry and then research the pre-Christian belief systems of the culture(s) of their ancestors. As the wheel of the year turns, we will honor our ancestors by incorporating into our ritual the beliefs and practices that we learn about. Clover Grove encourages attendees to bring a laptop and any topical books that they would like to share. Wifi connectivity available.

Fri 20

7:30 Clover Lane Coffee House, \$10 donation

Clover Lane Coffee House occurs monthly, normally on the third Friday, normally at Clover Lane. It provides a convivial environment to hear local and itinerant singer-songwriters. \$10 donation at the door; all are welcome.

This month, Clover Lane Coffee House is pleased to present Herr Street, a quartet expanded from the former Womack & Lowery duo. Herr Street brings a variety of musical styles from folk and country to blues and acoustic rock, along with a relaxed and often humorous atmosphere to every gig they play. Since forming in mid-year 2011, they have performed at multiple venues across Central Pennsylvania. Led by singer/songwriter Janie Womack, the group comprises (from left) Dani Fiore, guitar, percussions; Marianne McKenna, vocals, guitar; Janie Womack - vocals, guitar; and Julie Lowery, vocals, keyboard. Contact Bart Carpenter, a.bart.carpenter@gmail.com.



Sun 22 3:00 p.m. Roe vs. Wade Commemoration

The annual Roe v. Wade Commemoration focuses on reproductive justice. Speakers this year include the Rev. Susan Minasian, a UCC minister who serves as chaplain at Franklin and Marshall; Fritz Williams, a religious humanist; Osho Andrea Minnick Rudolph, a Buddhist priest with the Blue Mountain Lotus Society; Rabbi Eric Cytryn of Beth El Temple, Harrisburg; and James Cavanaugh. Catholics for Free Choice (CFC) will be represented by a statement to be read during the service. Representatives of the Planned Parenthood of Northeast and Mid-Penn Fund for Choice will speak and will receive the offering, which will support the Fund for Choice. A reception follows the ceremony.

For further information, please contact Barb Pearce, barbpearce@verizon.net (697-4114 before 9 p.m.), or Jim Cavanaugh, nanjim65@verizon.net, 561-0634.

Mon 23 7:00 p.m. What Every Church Member Should Know About Poverty OPEN ADMISSION

Mondays, January 23, 30, February 6, and 13 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Colonial Park UCC, 5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg. A special adult RGL, co-sponsored by the UCH, Shared Ministry, and Colonial Park UCC, facilitated by "our own" Sparkie

COLLABORATIVE RGL ON POVERTY

Radcliffe, who co-taught the course with Rev. Howard Dana last fall. Sparkie will lead this interactive class based on the book with the same name by Bill Ehlig and Ruby K. Payne. Together we will explore poverty, cycles and cultures of poverty, and classism. A quote from What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty

As churches engage in urban ministries and invite the poor into their congregations, many issues arise. This book attempts to address some of the issues that churches face in dealing with individuals from poverty. The book also is intended to continue the conversation about how your congregation can better serve the poor.

Bring an open mind and prepare to learn about yourself and others. All are welcome. Contact Sparkie Radcliffe at 439-8617 or sparkier@comcast.net.

Wed 25 7:00 p.m. Harrisburg Area Humanists

Jesus' teachings focused on how we are to treat our fellow human beings, yet present-day Christianity is frequently about doctrines and creeds. How did the church lose sight of Christianity's founding tenets? And how would Christianity be practiced today if people were more guided by Jesus' own teachings, rather than focusing on the metaphysical doctrines and creeds of the church? Our speaker tonight is David Messner, a humanistic Episcopalian and frequent attendee at humanist events at the UCH. His academic background is in Anglo-American analytical philosophy.

Sun 29 9:00 & 11:00 Guest Minister

We welcome a guest speaker to the pulpit, Rabbi Carl Choper, executive director of the Religion and Society Center, a Harrisburg-based nonprofit organization that fosters the exploration and development of religiously-based social teachings as they can apply to today's multi-cultural and multi-faith society. Rabbi Choper is speaking today on תיקון עולם (*Tikkun olam*, "repairing the world.") The expression *tikkun olam* is used in the phrase *mip'nei tikkun ha-olam* ("for the sake of *tikkun* of the world") to indicate that a practice should be followed not because it is required by Biblical law, but because it helps avoid social chaos. Subtitled "To Heal, Repair and Transform the World," Rabbi Choper's sermon will address the relationship between religion and social justice.



GED Tutors Needed (January for sure)

Formerly known as the PROGRAM for Female Offenders, The PROGRAM "It's about Change" is a nonprofit organization that helps women and children previously involved with the criminal justice system to lead productive, crime-free lives. For GED tutoring, it also accepts male family members and partners.

For a number of years, UCH members have assisted with tutoring at The PROGRAM (1515 Derry Street), including stalwart volunteers Joe Heefner, Michael Mark, Ron Skrabut, Ann Sitrin, and George and Joan Hellmann. More volunteers are needed, especially in January. This is extremely basic academic material: rudimentary math (Mon/Wed) and language arts (Thur), generally from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

If you are available on a temporary or long-term basis, please contact Michael Mark, michaelmark@paonline.com.

— submitted by Michael Mark

Other Events of Interest

Jan. 8: Concert at UUCY

In collaboration with the UU Congregation of York (UUCY), Susquehanna Folk Music Society (SFMS) is pleased to present the Pride of New York in concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, at UUCY, 925 S. George St., York. Pride of New York is an Irish-American super group comprising New York-based musicians who focus on Irish music. The local group, Irish Blessing, will open.

Details available at www.sfmsfolk.org/concerts/PrideOfNewYork.html.

Feb. 17: Benefit Performance, Food Pantry

Help support the Ecumenical Food Pantry as we celebrate 40 years of service to the greater Harrisburg community. Enjoy Theatre Harrisburg's production of this timeless favorite for audiences of all ages with its delightful score by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

8:00 p.m. Friday February 17th
Sunoco Performance Theater, Whitaker Center
222 Market St, Harrisburg
Tickets – \$25
Parking Available - Walnut Street Garage

Benefit performance; proceeds benefit the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Each week, members bring non-perishable food donations to church. We take them to the Ecumenical Food Pantry, which serves 2,700 needy residents per month. For tickets and information contact Michael Mark, michaelmark@paonline.com.



April 21-29: LaGrone Scholarship "Book Shuffle"

Supporters of the LaGrone Scholarship Fund have "booked" a new fund-raiser in the form of a book-related rummage sale the last two weekends of April. UCH members and friends are encouraged to start gathering up anything related to reading to donate to the sale:

- **Print media**
Novels, mysteries, histories, children's books, young adult books, collector magazines;
- **Electronic media**
Books on tape or CD, filmed performance of books on video or DVD
- **Support Devices**
Reading lights, media players, bookends, bookcases
- **Baked Goods**
Don't you like to nibble while you read?



In-take will occur at our Clover Lane campus beginning Sunday, Apr 15, then Monday-Friday evening April 16-20. The sale itself is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. April 21-22 and April 28-29. – Submitted by Cordell Affeldt

July 23-28 Chalice Camp

Save the date! Clover Lane becomes "Camp Hogwarts" this year, with a Harry Potter theme. "Our own" Wendy Shaver returns as headmaster, with curriculum designed for students entering 1st through 7th grade.



HOGWARTS: THE SUMMER SESSION

– Submitted by Wendy Shaver

Rainbow Delegation

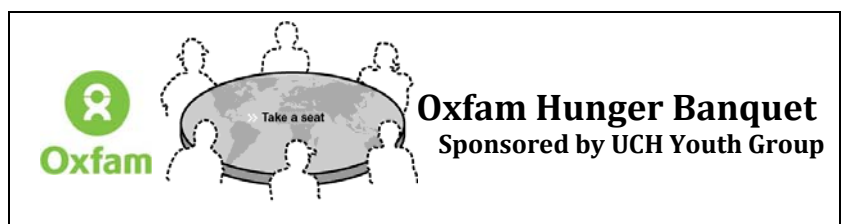
After watching the video "Bullied" at a church overnight, the UCH youth discussed how they could do something to support LGBT youth. They decided to support Rainbow Delegation (www.rainbowdelegation.org), an organization started by a college student in California that has distributed more than 75,000 wristbands in 66 countries since September 2010. Youth Group obtained rainbow wristbands and gave them to people who agree to wear them regularly to show that they are safe and supportive for people who are LGBT. UCH wear the wristbands and have distributed 300 of them to friends, family, and the UCH congregation.



At the request of the Rainbow Delegation, Youth Group made a video, filmed by “our own” Enoch Cincotta, that will be posted on the delegation's website. It is a 1:42 minute film of our youth affirming their support for LGBT youth and their intentions to wear their rainbow bracelets with pride. You can get a sneak peek of the video at the following link:
<http://vimeo.com/34050880>

Oxfam Report

Thanks to all members and their families who participated in the Oxfam Hunger Banquet in November. The youth raised \$250 for Oxfam, collected lots of healthy food for the local food bank, and served about 70 people at the banquet.



Kudos to Homeless Shelter Volunteers

Many thanks to our dedicated UCH members for staffing the winter homeless shelter for the past nine years! This year's team was organized by **Tracy Richards** and overseen each night by either **Rev. Howard Dana** or **Denise Scotland**. If you see one of these volunteer "overnighters," please acknowledge their effort:

Alex MacDonald	Jeff Wallitsch x2	Graeme Laws	Ron Skrabut	Backups:
Sean Brandon	Jen Wallitsch	Nick Wilson	Josh Hooper	Cordell Affeldt x5
Mark Malarich	John Hargraves	Wendy Shaver	Chris Dutton	Jen Wallitsch
David Platt	Bob Johnson	Mike McCullough x2	Joe Roth	Steve Todd
Tom Conners	Dave Forster	Steve Todd	Nancy Stump	Jim Cavanaugh x4
Meg Conners	Diane Dusman	Dan Myers	Jason Strunk	
Bart Carpenter	Dennis Hursh	Josh Cysyk	Chandra Hill	

With special thanks to Mike McCullough and Josh Cysyk for serving solo duty on Dec. 24 and 26, respectively!

Financial News

A Message from our Treasurer

Extracted from Reports Submitted by Tom Winner, Treasurer, UCH Board of Trustees

As most members know, the UCH substantially used up cash reserves over the past two years, and cash flow continues to be a concern. Year to date (YTD) income is roughly on par with last year, as shown in the accompanying chart, and expenses are roughly within budget. Nonetheless we have very little margin for error.

Per Tom Winner:

I remain very concerned about depleting our Operating Asset reserve (\$15,385). This is far below the minimum Operating Asset reserve (\$52,497) required by policy. As a result, we are delaying the payment of bills until their due date rather than paying as the bills arrive, as we must ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover their cost. I expect income from the auction will give us a temporary reprieve, but I believe the church will exhaust its Operating Asset reserve by the end of January 2012, leaving us unable to pay our bills by their due dates.

The full report is available at this link: www.harrisburguu.org/DocUpload/Documents/2011_11_Treasurer_Report.pdf

Tom Winner

Auction Update: Auction income this year is around \$12K, approximately \$500 higher than last year – but short of the \$16K anticipated in the current budget. If you are interested in attending one of the open events, please contact a.bart.carpenter@gmail.com. And if you haven't paid your invoice yet, please do so as soon as possible.

– Submitted by Bart Carpenter

From the UUA

The Board of Trustees has received the following letter, dated Nov. 8, 2011, from the Rev. Harlan Limpert, UUA Vice President of Ministries and Congregational Support:

My grateful support to the board of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg for supporting Howard's many contributions to the larger UU faith. Most recently he participated in a three-day event to discuss the duties and tasks of all ministers. It is part of a project that will benefit all ministers and all congregations long into the future. Also, may I share my opinion of how blessed you are to have Howard as your minister. He is one of our very, very best!

Warmly,

Harlan Limpert V.P., UUA

