

INSIDE

ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 2006

Christmas Eve

Upcoming Special Events

Spiritual Passions

Sundays, beginning January 7th, after Worship

Each Sunday afternoon, from January 7th through April 15th, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM, different members of the congregation will introduce you to their spiritual passion. This year's offerings include cooking, meditation, Dhikr, live music, and more. Try something new! No registration necessary; all are welcome.

Jan. 7th: Introduction to Meditation

Don't just do something; sit there! And when you sit, just sit. Very simple directives... simple, but not easy! Join Arlington Street Church's senior minister, Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, and members of Arlington Street Zen Center for Meditation 101, including answers to burning questions such as, "Where do I put my legs?" and "How do I stop thinking (without going to sleep)?" This ancient spiritual practice will bring profound benefits not just to you, but to all whose life yours touches. Wear comfortable clothing (and yes, you can meditate in a chair!).

Jan. 14th: Introduction to Meditation

Mandala, a Sanskrit word that means "circle," is a sacred diagram most often created in sand or paint. It symbolizes the pure, perfected universe, and provides a visual framework for establishing feelings of peace, well-being and wholeness. Come join Megan Lynes in the spiritual practice of creating your own beautiful and unique mandala. No art expertise necessary. Bring any art materials you like for drawing, painting, or collaging, but enough materials will be provided for your use as well.

Friday Night at the Movies

Friday, January 12th, 7:00 PM

Gather for these films of social and political significance, shown on the big screen. The films are presented the second Friday of each month by the Arlington Street Church Social Action Committee. Admission is free but donations are accepted to support Arlington Street Church's Jubilee initiative. Each film is followed by discussion. January films are:

Water First

This short was filmed in Malawi and South Africa and aims to raise awareness of the magnitude of the global water crisis and pushes the question: What can we do today to assure that everyone everywhere has access to the most basic necessity of life?

Water Warriors

While corporations urge local governments to privatize municipal water systems, communities around the world are organizing to ensure affordable access to this life sustaining resource. Water Warriors is the story of one

community's determination to fight the seemingly inevitable path of water privatization. This six-minute video, is a shorter version of an hour-long piece that will premier in the winter of 2006 – 2007.

The Wednesdays Literary Salon Winter 2007: Poetry, of Course!

Wednesdays, January 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st;
February 7th, 14th, and 21st, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

What did Alexander the Great never travel without, Charles I carry to his beheading, and Jefferson prize more than his presidency? Poetry, of course! Until World War, II, it was always “poetry, of course,” but in recent years the art has fallen on hard times. What a shame, but lucky us!

The goal of this salon series is to demystify poetry by helping us become adept readers of different kinds of poems (sonnet, lyric, ballad, haiku, etc.) from different periods and cultures. We'll learn a basic critical vocabulary that will help in analyzing poems and talking about how they're made, hence why they're good or bad.

Occasional exercises will be designed to instruct with delight! An incidental reward of this salon will be our own enhanced mastery of the language.

Professor Alan Helms and Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie invite you to all seven Wednesday evenings or to as many as you can attend!

The text: *Introduction to Poetry*, X. J. Kennedy, any edition from the late 80s to the early 90s will suffice.

A Hot Night in January—Jazz and Jambalaya!

Saturday, January 27th, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Don't miss Jazz and Jambalaya, a fundraiser for Arlington Street Church's service work in New Orleans, Louisiana. Tickets are \$35 or \$25 for students and seniors. All proceeds will go to our partner church: First Church New Orleans. Tickets will be sold at Coffee Hour after every Sunday service until the event. You can also buy tickets by contacting Shea Mullaney and Peter Lowber via NewOrleans@ASCBoston.org.

Arlington Street's Partner Church Committee is also working on other projects related to our partnership with First Church New Orleans, including a trip planned in March. If you are interested in any of these projects please contact Peter Lowber.

Worship Highlights

Wednesday Gathering: Worship

Every Wednesday (except the first), 6:30 PM in the Clark Room

Vesper services are held at the close of day and give attendees an opportunity to be together in meditative music and word. Gather with other Arlington Street members and friends. (NB: The worship opportunity on the first Wednesday of every month is “Wednesday Gathering: First Wednesday”)

Wednesday Gathering: First Wednesday

Wednesday, January 3rd, 2007, 6:30 PM in the Chapel

Are you resolving again for New Year's to bring new experiences and ideas into your life? Make a resolution to join us at the **Wednesday Gathering:**

Coming Up...

Sunday, December 24th, 2006: Christmas Eve

- 9:30 AM Choir Warm-up - Sanctuary
11:00 AM **Worship Service - Sanctuary**
12:00 PM Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
3:30 PM Choir Warm-up - Sanctuary
5:00 PM **Christmas Eve by Candlelight - Sanctuary**
6:00 PM Boston Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Clarke Room
7:00 PM **Christmas Eve by Candlelight - Sanctuary**
9:00 PM **Christmas Eve by Candlelight - Sanctuary**

Monday, December 25th, 2006: Christmas

Office Closed
no congregation-related activities

Tuesday, December 26th, 2006

- 5:00 PM Architect Selection Task Force - Frothingham Library
5:15 PM Jubilee Committee - Archives Room

Wednesday, December 27th, 2006

- 6:00 PM Kundalini Yoga - Chapel
6:30 PM **Wednesday Gathering: Vespers - Clarke Room**
7:00 PM Building Your Own Thea/ologies

Thursday, December 28th, 2006

no congregation-related activities

Friday, December 29th, 2006

- 5:00 PM Friday Night Supper Program - Parish Hall & Kitchen

Saturday, December 30th, 2006

no congregation-related activities

Sunday, December 31st, 2006: New Year's Eve

- 11:00 AM **Worship Service - Sanctuary**
12:00 PM Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
10:00 PM AGO First Night Organ Concert - Sanctuary

* This program is currently closed. Check *Inside* for the next open meeting.

NOTE: This calendar is accurate as of noon the Wednesday before publication and only includes events directly related to the congregation. For complete, up-to-date calendar listings over the coming months, visit www.ASCBoston.org.

First Wednesday service where the theme will be "Telling Our Stories." Congregation members are invited to bring inspirational poems and stories to participate in an open mic format. Live music is provided, as always, by Joe Della Penna. If you plan to read, please contact Gathering@ASCBoston.org.

The First Wednesday service celebrates our divine creativity and takes place every First Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Chapel. You are welcome to come early to enjoy your supper in quiet fellowship with others. Refreshments follow the service at 7:30 PM or you may join Jean Stewart's Kundalini Yoga class, also in the Chapel.

2/4/6

Sunday, January 14th, 6:00 PM in the Chapel

Arlington Street's new **2/4/6** worship services meet on the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM. They are one-hour, contemporary services that provide a quieter, more intimate complement to our full Sunday morning services. The services are organized by our ministerial intern, Kelly Asprooth-Jackson, and our former Worship Committee Co-Chair, Shea

Mullaney. Contact Kelly at KAsprooth-Jackson@ASCBoston.org or 617-536-7050, ext. 42, for more info or if you have ideas for an evening service.

The January 14th service is a celebration of the life and legacy of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** The January 28th service welcomes Rev. Katherine Jesch, staff of the **Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth.**

Vera O'Brien's Ordination

Sunday, January 21st, 2:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Mark your calendars now for this big day in the life of our congregation when we ordain our lifespan religious educator, Vera O'Brien! Details will follow here in *Inside* and online.

Children's Religious Education

CRE Tonight and Next Week

Note that child care will not be offered during tonight's *Christmas Eve by Candlelight* services. Children are needed in the services!

Classes will resume on December 31st (since some families thought they might come to church and get an early start attending First Night festivities!).

Music

First Night Organ Concert

Sunday, December 31st, 2006, 10:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Once again, the Boston chapter of the American Guild of Organists participates in First Night Boston, to ring in the New Year of 2007, with 20-minute performances by chapter members.

The concert features our own Artist in Residence Rodger Vine. To learn more, visit the Boston AGO's website: www.BostonAGO.com.

Time to Join the Choir

Thursdays, 7:00 PM in the Clarke Room

The Arlington Street Church Choir now looks ahead to a month of beautiful, simple, fun, and heart-warming seasonal anthems to help our congregation celebrate the winter holidays. This is a great time to come join the choir—a perfect escape from the hurry of the holidays. Members and friends of all ability levels are invited to join us on Thursday evenings. If you have any questions, contact our director of music, Miguel Felipe, at MFelipe@ASCBoston.org.

ASC Community Announcements

MBTA Update

As part of the MBTA project to upgrade the Arlington Street Green Line Station there will be utility work along the sidewalk on Arlington Street involving trench work. Pedestrian foot traffic will be routed around the worksite. The church has been advised that the work will continue for a few more Sundays.

A Winter Warmth Thank You

Our friends from the Friday Night Supper Program thank everyone for their generosity and report that this was the warmest winter warmth collection ever! We collected 32 scarves, 77 hats, 86 pairs of gloves, 28 pairs of socks, two jackets, and a pair of boots plus almost \$300! Our thanks to Carol Fisher who built our giving tree twelve years ago and to everyone who helped create winter warmth this year.

Gay Men's Spirituality Group New Members' Orientation

Monday, January 8th, 7:00 PM, Chapel

This group, now in its 4th year, meets monthly for fellowship among the gay men of Arlington Street Church who seek spiritual community with one another beyond the Sunday worship. We open the group at three points in the year, including January. New members are welcome at this time! Come to the above Orientation evening to learn more.

Questions? E-mail GMS@ASCBoston.org for more information.

Other Notices

Snapshot, the E-Newsletter of Arlington Street Church

Inside, published weekly, provides the day to day of ASC. *THE WINDOW*, published quarterly, provides the big picture of our community. Finally, there is something in between. **Snapshot**, the e-newsletter of Arlington Street Church, is published about twice a month and provides a highlight of the major activities in our congregation. Based on the activities of our many committees and groups, program staff, and worship plans, this e-newsletter is always concise and a great way to keep up with your spiritual community.

To sign-up, just visit our website, www.ASCBoston.org, and add your name! Alternately, you can use the Welcome Coupon in the Order of Service and you'll be added before the next issue!

Privacy @ ASC: We take your privacy very seriously. Both Arlington Street Church and the third party that handles the e-mailing have very clear privacy policies. You can read them on our webpage.

Podcasting to a Computer Near You!

ASC's Sermons are "Live" in Cyberspace!

In an on-going outreach effort, ASC is proud to announce that our weekly sermons are available as a podcast. Each sermon will be made available mid-week and will stay online for at least two months. ASC's podcast is a new and really simple way of receiving an audio file of our weekly sermons on your home computer. The nice part is that you can choose the sermons you want to hear again, or the sermons you missed, and listen whenever you want, forever, for free! Despite the name, you don't need an iPod, nor will ASC actually broadcast anything. Follow the directions on ASC's website. All you need is a computer with audio software (like the popular and free program iTunes), and ASC will take care of the rest.



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Christmas Eve *by Candlelight*

with Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

5:00 PM – Special Children’s and Family Service

7:00 & 9:00 PM – Community Service
with the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus

ALL ARE WELCOME!

www.ASCBoston.org



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION OF
CONGREGATIONS

The ABCs of ASC

ASC: Arlington Street Church
ASOC: Arlington Street Outing Club
CRE: Children’s Religious Education
FNSP: Friday Night Supper Program
GBIO: Greater Boston Interfaith Organization
SAC: Social Action Committee
UU: Unitarian Universalism
UUA: Unitarian Universalist Association
UUSC: Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
UUUM: Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministries

Security Note

This is an urban church. Please do not leave your valuables unattended! Also, please be attentive when exiting the church into the alley. When walking in the alley avoid being alone, carry a cell phone, walk in the center of the road, and pay attention!

Scheduling Events at ASC

All issues dealing with building usage for both congregational usage and rentals, must be coordinated by Jeffrey Bouchard, facilities manager.

Jeffrey is able to help you Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. He can be reached by phone at 617-536-7050 ext. 14 or by e-mail at JBouchard@ASCBoston.org.

Our Caring Community

In the event of a disruption or major transition in the life of an ASC member, please inform the church office. The Parish Concerns committee and ASCares, our lay pastoral caregiving team, in conjunction with our staff and ministers, will be in touch to lend support.

Inside ASC Submission Guidelines

Please deliver all Sunday announcements (including flower dedications) before Tuesday at 10:00 pm by e-mail to inside@ASCBoston.org. Announcements will not be accepted by telephone. Materials must be legible, signed, and fully composed and may be edited, as space is limited. Please note that we only publish submissions related to ASC events or the wider UUA community

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