

Unitarian Universalist Reading Group

Mondays, 7:00 PM, beginning May 4th in the Stage Right Room

The UU Reading Group will be continuing their readings in May. New members are invited to join! The next book the group will be reading and sharing is *The End of Faith: Religion, Terror, and the Future of Reason* by Sam Harris. The book draws on the insights of neuroscience, philosophy, and eastern mysticism to explore the clash between reason and religion today. The book is available from amazon.com for \$9.86.

To sign up, send an email to Richard Mattoli in care of Office@ASCBoston.org or visit the Membership Table during Coffee Hour.

The Wednesdays: Chekhov Short Stories

Wednesdays, May 13th and 27th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Frothingham Library

Professor Alan Helms writes, “Though Chekhov was celebrated as a major playwright for most of the last century, in the past 25 years or so his fame has rested increasingly on his short stories. He began writing them as a young medical student in Moscow to make money for his down-and-out family, and he soon found himself so popular that writing fiction became as absorbing an activity as his medical career. ‘Medicine is my wife but literature is my mistress.’ By the time he died at the early age of 44, he had produced over 200 short stories — a body of work that permanently almost altered the form and profoundly influenced all of the writers who followed him: Joyce, Woolf, Faulkner, you name ‘em. His fiction is celebrated for its economy, penetrating psychology, and amazing empathy. He is, in short, the Shakespeare of short fiction. If I could take only two writers to a desert island, I would choose Shakespeare and Chekhov without a moment’s hesitation.”

We’ll be using the Norton Critical Edition of Chekhov’s short stories which you’ll find for sale at Amazon & abebooks.com.

The first meeting on May 13th the readings will be “Vanka” (read first and then the others in order for this week), “The Man in a Case”, “Gooseberries”, “About Love” and “The Lady with the Dog”.

For the May 27th meeting, “Misery”, “The Student” (Chekhov’s favorite of his more than 200 stories), “Agatha”, “The Darling” and “The Bishop”.

Join Professor Alan and Rev. Kim for Chekhov; all are welcome, no shipwreck necessary!

Women’s Spirituality Group

Sunday, May 17th 1:00 PM, the Perkins Room

Join the Women’s Spirituality Group as we complete our discussion of *Conversations with God: An Uncommon Dialogue (Book 1)* by Neale Donald Walsch. We will also be soliciting ideas for future meetings and welcome your input! For information, or to join the email discussion and receive the study guide, contact wsg@ASCBoston.org.

Our Principles and Sources

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations is considering updating and refining the wording for the principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism. To learn more, please visit uuworld.org/news/articles/128147.shtml

Young Adult Luncheon

Every Sunday, 12:15 PM, after the service, in the Stage Right Room.

Join the Arlington Street Church’s Young Adult Group (ages 18–35) for lunch after the service every Sunday. Get food at coffee hour, somewhere around Boston, or bring your own food and meet in the Stage Right Room. The Stage Right Room is the first room on your left after going down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary. Meet welcoming and social folks, check in about your week, and enjoy good company.

The Young Adult Group also meets two Fridays per month at 7pm in the Perkins Room (downstairs next to the kitchen) for activities, food, and worship.



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Suggestion Box

The staff and leadership of Arlington Street Church welcome your ideas, comments, and suggestions. If you have a thought to share about what works well or what could be improved, please send a message to Comments@ASCBoston.org or leave a note in the suggestion box outside the Church Office. Your message will be received by the Church’s administrative assistant so it can find its way to the appropriate people. Please speak your “truths in love” and include your name and contact information so we can follow-up. Thanks! For emergencies, please see “Our Caring Community” to the right.

Inside Submission Guidelines

Please deliver all Sunday announcements before Tuesday at 3:00 PM by e-mail to communications@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 Arlington Street events or the wider Unitarian Universalist community.

Scheduling Events at Arlington Street Church

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 Arlington Street member, please inform the church office. Our staff and ministers, will be in touch to lend support.

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!

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*
351 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116-3399

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Phone: 617-536-7050 • Fax: 617-536-7051
E-mail: office@ASCBoston.org • Web: www.ASCBoston.org

INSIDE ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

NEWS FROM THE SOUL OF SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD, 2009

Today’s Events

Coffee Hour

Immediately following the service in the Parish Hall

Let’s gather downstairs for coffee, comestibles, and community! If you’re visiting Arlington Street Church, or would like more information about Unitarian Universalism, please visit the Welcome Table. The children are in the Perkins Room, right off the Parish Hall; stop by to see what they have been up to this morning. And there’s always something going on at the Social Action Table. All are welcome. Enjoy!

Covenant Renewal

Covenant Renewal Sunday is when Arlington Street Church members and supporting friends pledge their financial support for the upcoming church year, July 2009 through June 2010.

To include your commitment in the total announced during today’s worship service, you must pledge today — if you have not already done so.

Brochures and pledge sheets can be found in the pews. They will also be available at the Welcome Table during Coffee Hour, online at www.ASCBoston.org, and in the church office.

Today, as part of Covenant Sunday, there will be special musical performances from the choir and a luncheon provided by volunteers from the Friday Night Supper Program.

Children’s Religious Education

This morning Erick DuPree, religious educator, will teach a lesson about the importance of giving. Children will be sung out to the Perkins Room with the *Children’s Blessing* and will return after the sermon to present the Ark of the Covenant and remain for the remainder of worship. All are welcome!



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Congregational Announcements

Humpday Brown Bag Lunch

Wednesdays, starting April 29th, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, in the Perkins Room

Are you unemployed, working from home, or just longing for connection in the middle of the week? If so, join Rev. Dan and other church folks for brown bag lunches on Wednesdays, commencing April 29th and throughout the month of May. We'll eat, chat and share some dessert. Bring your own lunch and we'll provide the dessert. Hope to see you on humpday!

Vote Early! Vote Often! Vote to Save the Bell Tower of United First Parish Church in Quincy!

Today and once a day through May 17th (on your computer!)

United First Parish Church (Unitarian Universalist) in Quincy, the "Church of the Presidents," is one of 25 finalists for grants totaling \$1,000,000 in the "2009 Boston Partners in Preservation" program. Awards will be made through an online voting contest now being conducted by a partnership of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and American Express.

The winner receives a grant (maximum \$100,000), and other awards will be made on the basis of project merit and efforts at community outreach. Your vote will help Unitarian Universalists in Quincy to restore the bell tower and improve the public corridor to the tombs of President John Adams, Abigail Adams, President John Quincy Adams, and Louisa Catherine.

The competition is fierce! Every vote is needed ... often! Each person can vote once a day, through May 17th. Please go to <http://www.partnersinpreservation.com>. Thank you!

Music At Arlington Street Church

Eli Epstein and "Inside Out" Win National Entrepreneur the Arts Competition

For the past three years, Arlington Street Church has been hosting Eli Epstein's "Inside Out" Concert Series, featuring his innovative, interactive, and informal approach to classical music, encouraging listeners to tap into the emotional essence and universal human experience that's inherent in every work of art.

Eli has just been honored by winning the National Entrepreneur the Arts Competition. Visit the Arlington Street homepage (<http://www.ascboston.org>) to read more!

Eli and "Inside Out" will be returning to Arlington Street Church for their 2009 – 2010 season. Stay tuned for more information on next year's concerts!

Coming Up...

Sunday, May 3rd, 2009

9:30 AM	Choir Warm-Up - Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Sunday Morning Worship - Sanctuary
12:00 PM	Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
12:30 PM	Young Adults Lunch - Stage Right Room
1:00 PM	Sunday Connections Group - Hunnewell Chapel
1:00 PM	Leadership Workshop - Clarke Room
6:00 PM	Building Your Own Theology - Hunnewell Chapel

Monday, May 4th, 2009

10:30 AM	Monday Connections Group - Perkins Room
7:00 PM	UU Reading Group - Stage Right Room

Tuesday, May 5th, 2009

3:00 PM	Dan Moore Music Lessons - Clarke Room
6:00 PM	Worship Committee - Perkins Room
7:00 PM	G.A. Committee - Stage Right Room
7:30 PM	*Spiritual Practice for Professional Caregivers (Closed Group) - Frothingham Library

Wednesday, May 6th, 2009

11:30 AM	Humpday Brown Bag Lunch - Perkins Room and Kitchen
3:30 PM	*Staff Meeting - Perkins Room
6:00 PM	Kundalini Yoga - Hunnewell Chapel

Thursday, May 7th, 2009

7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal - Clarke Room
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Friday, May 8th, 2009

5:00 PM	Friday Night Supper Program - Parish Hall and Kitchen
7:00 PM	Young Adult Group - Perkins Room

Sunday, May 10th, 2009

9:30 AM	Choir Warm-Up - Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Social Action Committee - Archives Room
11:00 AM	Sunday Morning Worship - Sanctuary
12:00 PM	Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
12:30 PM	Nominating Committee - Clarke Room
12:30 PM	Young Adults Lunch - Stage Right Room
1:00 PM	Children's Religious Education Committee Meeting - Archives Room
1:00 PM	Sunday Connections Group - Perkins Room
6:00 PM	Building Your Own Theology - Hunnewell Chapel

*Closed 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.

Calling all Singers!

The Arlington Street Church Choir performs an array of challenging, evocative repertoire spanning dozens of cultures, and centuries of musical and liturgical history. We find that making music with and for our community here at Arlington Street is a central and beautiful part of our spiritual practice as Unitarian Universalists. Will you join us? Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 7-9 in the Clarke Room. Feel free to stop by or speak to Director of Music, Mark David Buckles, after the Sunday morning service to find out more about our choir and about music and worship.

ASCenter

The Leadership Journey at Arlington Street Church: Exploring the Gifts Among Us

Today!, May 3rd, 1:00 – 4:00 PM, in the Clarke Room

Workshop Leader: Rev. Dr. Teresa G. Cooley, UU Mass Bay District Executive

Unitarian Universalists pride ourselves on our congregational polity, the idea that it is the members and leaders of each congregation — not any denominational authority — who define the mission and purpose of each congregation. Congregations struggle to find ways of developing and equipping leaders to help bring their mission into being. This workshop will help us develop the truly spiritual discipline of developing our leadership.

If you are a Prudential Committee member, committee chair, past Prudential Committee member, Nominating Committee member or an emerging leader — please plan to attend this important event.

Converge: Incomer and Homegrown Unitarian Universalists in Dialogue

Sunday May 17th, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM, in the Hunnewell Chapel Room

What was church like when you were a kid? Care to explore your own perspective and hear about others'? Here's your chance.

Join us for Converge: Incomer and Homegrown UUs in Dialogue. Converge will include stories from incomers (folks who were not raised UU) and homegrown (folks who were raised UU) panelists. There will also be plenty of time for you to ask questions and share your own insight and experience.

Some questions we will explore include:

- What was the most influential aspects of the faith you were raised in as a child and/or adult?
- What about Unitarian Universalism excites, frustrates, or perplexes you?
- What rituals and practices in Unitarian Universalism speak to you today?
- Any other pertinent questions that you might choose to ask

Join Liz Weber and Rev. Dan Kane for this opportunity to listen and learn from each other. All are welcome!



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