



DON'T MISS...



**KARNIVAL
OF KENT**
Saturday, Nov. 2nd

The annual Thanks4Giving Auction of the UU Church of Kent will begin at 6:00 pm at the United Church of Christ on Horning Road. Tickets are available at the door for this big church fundraiser. Come and join in the fun; silent auction, live auction and food. See you there!

Monthly Musings from Rev. George Buchanan

Realizing the vision of The Beloved Earth

We face predictions of doom and gloom about future of our planet. In reflecting on this, it helps me to focus on the positive vision of a healthy planet. I envision a world where humanity can thrive while the planet thrives. I call this the Beloved Earth.

To understand the Beloved Earth, we turn first to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's vision of Beloved Community. He means a human community sustained by love and mutuality, a community built on respect and justice. This Beloved Community begins in our families and close relationships, and widens out to towns, cities, nations and the whole human family.

Sadly, we still have not fully realized this dream of Beloved Community. That said, the dream can still guide us. We can work each day to remove the legacies of racism and poverty. We can work to build a peaceful world of love and justice at all levels. With our present day understanding, we can include the elimination of

Sunday Services

9:45 and 11:30 am

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The 20th each month

other social ills such as sexism and homophobia in our sense of justice.

Now take this dream of Beloved Community, and wrap it up in a vision of a Beloved Earth. In this vision, we foresee a time when our planet has loving, healthy human communities enmeshed in a healthy natural world. We foresee thriving, sustainable human communities and thriving, sustainable ecosystems. Humanity and the natural world can both thrive.

You may think of this as unrealistic, as a pipe dream. Perhaps. We do, however, have counter-examples – steps we have already taken to realize the Beloved Earth. I recently watched the Ken Burns series about U.S. National Parks. We can understand these National Parks as attempts to realize this vision of the Beloved Earth.

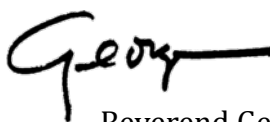
Here in Northeast Ohio, we have the recently created Cuyahoga Valley National Park. I know it is not perfect. But this National Park here is now real and thriving. It is staffed with dedicated people who strive to realize a creative balance between ecological preservation and human use. Staff, visitors, volunteers – all are called to what Lincoln described as “the better angels of our nature” in the Park enterprise.

I recognize we face a very difficult predicament in the short and medium term. Here in North America, we must realistically anticipate more extreme storms, rising sea levels, drought and other unwanted climate disruptions. Our hearts know much that we love is in danger, and much will be lost.

However, we can continue to protect and conserve what we can, and build resilient, loving human communities thriving in the face of the unwanted change and destruction around us. With the strength of these communities, we can work to do what is still possible, and continue to love our fragile planet. We can envision, and cultivate the Beloved Earth.

“ ... give us courage to change what must be altered,
serenity to accept what cannot be helped, and the
insight to know the one from the other.”

*--From 1937, an early version of
the well-known serenity prayer*



Reverend George Buchanan

UPCOMING SERVICES

9:45 and 11:30 am

November 3 - The Middle Truth

*Rev. Kathleen C. Rolenz
and Worship Associate Bonnie Harper*

We often live with close relationships that have become strained, distant or alienated. It takes a lot to risk telling the truth about the relationship, because we are uncertain about whether we can ever meet in the middle and start over. This sermon will explore the pitfalls and possibilities of when and how to speak the truth with the hopes of creating something new.

The Reverend Kathleen Rolenz is parish co-minister at the West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church since 2000. Prior to coming to West Shore, she served churches in Knoxville, TN and Glen Allen, VA. She discovered Unitarian Universalism, delivered her first sermon and was married at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent. She's looking forward to leading worship.

November 10 - Freedom House Veterans

Deb Biggins and Worship Associate Colleen Norris

This service will honor our veterans for their service, past and present.

November 17 - Gadgets and Gods

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke and Worship Associate Sophie Smith

Humanism is a core value and influence in Unitarian Universalism, yet we live in a time where our interfacing with technology is changing how our human brains function. How can we keep the best of human nature while adapting to new ways of sharing information?

November 24 - Grateful Sharing of the Bread

Rev. George Buchanan and Karen Lapidus, DRE

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Multigenerational Worship Service. For this bread communion, we ask you to bring a loaf of your household's favorite bread. We will have a central table where we gratefully share these wonderful breads with one another. This expresses the importance of "moving to the middle" in our lives with family and close friends - giving and taking with deep gratitude as we grow together and increase the common good.

COFFEE HOUSE

PERFORMANCES IN CANTON

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Greater Canton
2585 Easton St. NW, Canton, OH

UPRIVER MUSIC

November 17, 6 pm

The Upriver band collects and performs music of the Appalachian mountains, and they will take you beyond the mountains too, reaching back over centuries to offer up ancient tunes of the Irish and Scottish homelands, from whence the early mountain people came.

This special program spotlights the music of the Civil War, featuring performances of period songs from both sides of the conflict, very much as they were known and performed 150 years ago. From "Dixie" (the Southern anthem, written by a northerner) to "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" (a Northern adaptation of an old Irish folk tune) we use folk songs and folk instruments to bring the monumental tragedy of the Civil War clearly into focus. \$10 donation at the door, as able.

KRIS AND JEFF KIKO-COZY

November 30, 7 pm

What happens when a professional, classical clarinetist marries a blues harmonica-playing Peace Corps Volunteer? A whole lot of singing and dancing!

Since 1990, Kris and Jeff Kiko-Cozy have been leading groups of all ages in music and movement. On Saturday, November 30th, they will be bringing their music and energy to the UU Congregation of Greater Canton for an evening of Celtic harp, guitar, penny whistle, percussion and voice! \$10 donation at the door, as able.

Innovations in Religious Education Considered at Gathering of DREs

from Karen Lapidus

I write this as I travel home from the LREDA Fall Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota. This event, which I have attended every year since 2001 with the exception of one, is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalist professional religious educators from across the United States and Canada. Nearly 200 of us joined with district, regional and UUA staff for three days of learning, sharing and worship.

Nearly one quarter of the attendees are brand-new Directors of Religious Education, who are in the first year of their position. Many of these are young adults who bring shiny, new ideas and a willingness, along with the skills, to do things in new and innovative ways.

The program introduced us to the Fahs Collaborative, named in honor of the Reverend Sophia Lyon Fahs who was the first champion of liberal religious education in the 1940s and paved the way for the wonderful curriculum we have now. The Fahs Collaborative is housed at the Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. The five leaders of the collaborative are seeking innovative ways to support the faith formation of 21st century Unitarian Universalists. The culture is changing and the Fahs Collaborative will help us respond to these changes.

Community is being built and sustained via various social media platforms which are literally available at

our fingertips! We need to make sure we have a strong, meaningful and useful presence within these digital tools. You can look forward to me trying a few techniques this church year.



The most valuable take home

message for me this week was learning about the concept of Full Week Faith, which encourages us create links between home and church.

It is our tradition to honor an elder religious educator

at our banquet on Sunday evening.

We hear the story of their Odyssey and learn how they found their way to religious education leadership and how that experience influenced them and their congregations. I truly enjoy their telling of the arc of their journeys. The Odyssey presentation always reminds me that all the work we do is built on the work that came before us.

Thank you, dear members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent for supporting my attendance at the LREDA Fall Conference.

In faith and with love,

Karen Lapidus
Director of Religious Education

Words to Live By...

Life is a song - sing it. Life is a game - play it.
Life is a challenge - meet it. Life is a dream - realize it.
Life is a sacrifice - offer it. Life is love - enjoy it.

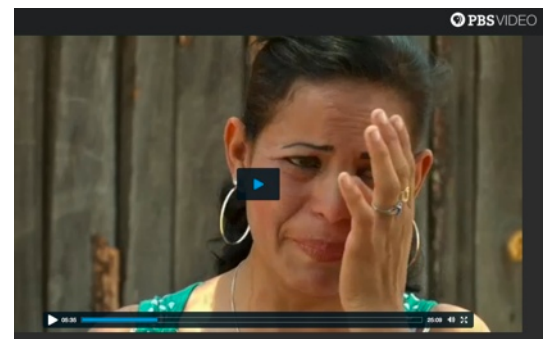
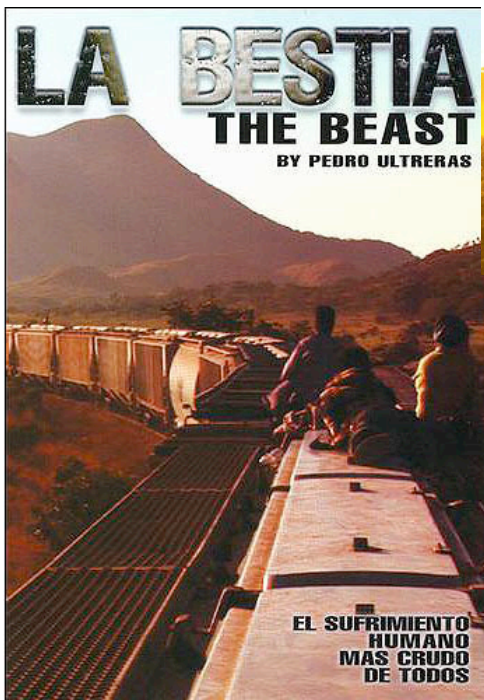
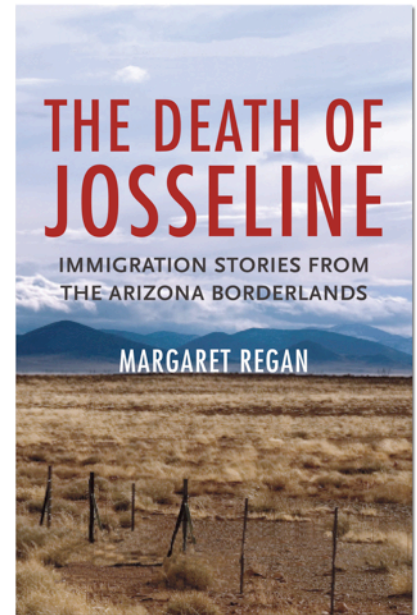
--Sai Baba

The Migrant Experience in Books and Film

Mike Kreyche, October 2013

Since I returned from Arizona in September some of you have expressed an interest in what I wrote about and even mentioned books you were reading about undocumented migrants. I was also happy to read in the Thread that the church library recently acquired a copy of *The Death of Josseline*, an excellent book I am currently reading. It contains many stories about migrants, representing a variety of viewpoints. If you're not sure you want to read an entire book on the subject I highly recommend the first thirty pages, which contain the Prologue (with the title story) and Introduction.

There is also a series of documentaries aired on the PBS show *Need to Know* that cover some of the human rights issues that migrants face and they can be viewed over the internet. First broadcast in April 2012, *Crossing the Line at the Border* investigates a case of apparent excessive violence by Border Patrol agents. An updated version from November of last year is at (video.pbs.org/video/2311675625). Another, *Crossing the Line at the Border: Inside the Border Patrol* (video.pbs.org/video/2258906760) focuses additional attention on Border Patrol abuse and includes footage of agents spilling water left in the Arizona desert by a humanitarian aid group. A third, *Dying to Get Back* (video.pbs.org/video/2365012816), illustrates how the number of migrants dying while crossing the border has remained fairly steady even as the number of people crossing has dropped steeply.



I'd also like to recommend a couple of full length films. The first is a fictional drama, *Sin Nombre*, which is available for streaming on Amazon. It's mostly set in Mexico and portrays the perils of Central Americans making their way through that country, especially in relation to the gang culture. Finally, I want to mention *La Bestia* (the Beast), whose title refers to the freight trains that Central Americans ride through Mexico to reach the U.S. Border. This documentary covers some of the same territory as *Sin Nombre* and its target audience is primarily the Spanish-speaking, but it has English subtitles and I think overall it's the best film portrayal of the migrant predicament. I've ordered a copy and will be glad to share it with anyone interested.

New UU Classes in November



Our New UU classes cover everything you wanted to know about the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent in particular and Unitarian Universalism in general, but were afraid to ask. Well, maybe not everything, but we try to give you an overview, a starting point. Some history of both, some organizational details. Come join the conversation. And, if you're curious about membership, this is the place to be.

Part 1 will be on Sunday, November 10, from 9-11 am. Part 2 will be on Sunday, November 17, from 9-11 am. You may attend one or both, although attendance at both is encouraged. Different topics will be covered in each. We will gather at the Annex, the yellow house next to the church.

If you have any questions, contact Claudia Miller or Marion Yeagler.

Learning/Service Trip to Haiti Saturday, February 22 Saturday, March 1, 2014 with Reverend Kathleen Rolenz

Join other Unitarian Universalists for a transformative experience of learning and serving in Haiti in 2014.

On this weeklong trip, participants will work with members of the Papaye Peasant Movement (MPP), a UUSC partner, on projects to help former Port-au-Prince residents build new lives in rural Haiti. Every day, you will work with Haitian peasants to build new homes, construct food gardens from old tires, or contribute to other sustainability projects.



For more information, contact Rev. Kathleen C. Rolenz at krolenz@wsuuc.org. Also visit the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice Website/Congregational Journey/Haiti.



Hogwarts Winter Session will be February 15-17, 2014

Hogwarts is a day camp for children currently in kindergarten and older. We'll be wizarding our way to Unitarian values with a Deathly Hallows theme this term. Applications will be mailed near the end of December. Space is limited and we fill up quickly.

If you would like to add your child to the mailing or are interested in joining our cast of volunteers, please let us know. Email us at registration@kenthogwarts.org or leave a message in the Hogwarts mailbox located in the Annex.



Ohio Meadville District

GRACE Team Visioning Summit

November 15 & 16, 2014

West Shore UU Church

20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio 44116

We know that the demographics of the country are shifting and we want to make sure Unitarian Universalism is ready to share the message of liberal religion with everyone who needs us. Are you passionate about helping your congregation and the District become more welcoming and inclusive of people of color and with different cultural backgrounds and expressions? Here in the Ohio Meadville District a group of lay and professional leaders have formed a GRACE Team (Growing Racial and Cultural Equity) and we want to help you share your passion and help build a common vision!

What might this look like? Some of our district leaders came up with the following possible outcomes of the work of the GRACE Team (to help seed the discussion at the November 16 Visioning Meeting):

- People of all races and cultures feel comfortable when they walk through the doors of a UU Congregation
- The members of our congregations get outside of their walls and develop relationships with oppressed communities, understand their challenges and build alliances
- Our congregations are more noticeably “inter-culturally competent” (i.e. are able to approach differences with a sense of curiosity rather than judgment)
 - A multigenerational approach
 - Includes not just leaders but all members
 - Religious Education and other volunteers are able to use their intercultural skills out in the community
 - Embedded institutionally in mission, vision and/or “ends statements
- Set goals and provide reports to create a consistent community of accountability that includes a high level of participation (and capacity building) of lay leaders
- Provide support/networking opportunities for families with children of color
- Help facilitate the formation of local chapters of DRUMM and Allies for Racial Equity
- Help to share ideas and applications of programs that are effective (e.g. many RE programs)
- Help facilitate cluster training opportunities that normalize multi/intercultural work (Greeter training, RE teacher training)



For a detailed event schedule, and lodging information, visit:

www.ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/676-grace13

To register, go to: ohiomeadville.wufoo.com/forms/mlrcupx1dy8prg

RadioLab and Pancakes!

Radiolab and Pancakes will meet in Fessenden Hall during second service, on Nov. 29th. This time we will take a break from Radiolab and listen to *On Being* with Kristina Tippet. Her guest is a young Lutheran Minister who created a church specifically for young transgender people. Seeking to avoid tradition, her church has a chocolate fountain rather than a baptismal font. The story of this inspiring church will start our monthly discussion.

Xmas Movie Night Returns...

It's never too early to start planning for Christmas-no, wait, yes it is! Even so, it is time to mark your calendars for our annual X-Mas movie night! Come to Fessenden Hall on Dec. 13 at 7:30 pm for the funniest Christmas movies and cartoons ever made. We will start with the classic film *Santa Claus Fights the Devil*. This is a pot luck affair, so bring your favorite holiday dishes. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Spoehr.



Options and Challenges in Maintaining Independence

How does a loved one know where the line is when someone they care for can no longer safely maintain their independence at home and how should they handle that? What options might there be if their loved one is resistant to receiving additional assistance? Do you have any advice for older adults when dealing with the concerns of their loved ones who are expressing worries or trying to encourage them to avail themselves of services. What financial considerations need to be taken into account for people of various income levels?

Have you or someone you care for asked these questions? Please join us for the answers on Sunday, November 10th, at 12:45 PM in Fessenden Hall.

The workshop *Options and Challenges in Maintaining Independence* will focus on the specific challenges to independence that we face as we age and will feature professionals from Family and

Community Services and the Area Agency on Aging. Both agencies will present information and take questions following their presentation.

All are welcome. Lunch will be provided.

This presentation is sponsored by our congregation's Care Team. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to MaryBeth in the church office by Monday November 4th.

Fracking Film Series

7pm Fridays, UUCK Fessenden Hall

November 8th, *Bidder 70*

Bidder 70 highlights the remarkable story of Tim DeChristopher who, on December 19, 2008 protested the leasing of thousands of acres of pristine Utah land to oil and gas companies.

Registered as bidder #70, and without corporate funding, Tim outbid industry giants on land parcels adjacent to national treasures like Canyonlands National Park. Unable to pay for these public lands, Tim DeChristopher was sentenced to serve 2 years in Federal Prison. He was released April 2013.

Movie to be followed by open discussion.



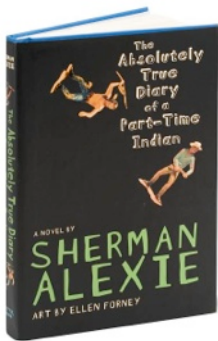
November 15th, *Gasland II*

Gasland II is a deeper look into the complexities of fracking. Director Josh Fox explores the gas industry and its portrayal of natural gas as a safe and clean alternative to oil. This film provides a comprehensive look at fracking and its impact on individual lives, environmental devastation, and political corruption.

Gasland II will be followed by a speaker presentation and discussion with Mary Greer from Concerned Citizens Ohio.



Literary Liner Notes



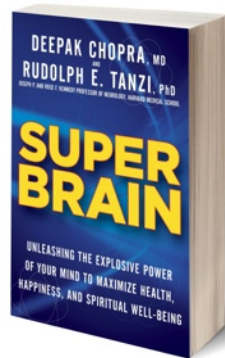
Diary of a Part Time Indian

The Patricia Pownall UU Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, November 12 at 7 pm in the Founder's Lounge at the church. Please bring a snack to share. This month we are reading *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian*. Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding

cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. In December we will be reading *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn and we are meeting at Kay Wind's house. If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper. All are welcome.

Last Chance to Unleash your Super Brain

Super Brain: Unleashing the Explosive Power of Your Mind to Maximize Health, Happiness, and Spiritual Well Being is a book by Deepak Chopra, M.D. and Rudolph E. Tanzi, Ph.D.; Joseph P. and Rose F. Kennedy Professor of Neurology, Harvard medical School. The discussion group will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Eldredge Annex on November 3 & 17.



Feel free to join us as you are able for an exciting examination of who we are as humans and as individuals. Questions? Call Mary Maske.

When Everything Changed

The Library Committee would like to thank all those who have participated in the Library Symposiums. Our last one was exceptionally well-attended and we had a very lively discussion. Bill Moyers interviews the writer, Salman Rushdie, for Symposium #3, our final event before the holidays. Because this interview takes 40 minutes, we will begin the Symposium at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 13th in Fessenden Hall. Imaginative and tasty refreshments will be served before the discussion. Bill Wilen will be the Moderator.

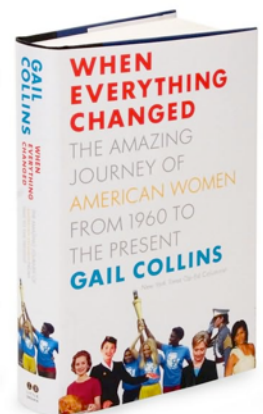
The new books have been cataloged and are ready for circulation. They are on top of the bookcase, along with books that Rev. Melissa has recommended. We urge you to see what is available, and there is always a Library committee member available to help you during coffee hour between services. As always, we are eager to have your suggestions for new titles to add to our collection.

Book Review

When Everything Changed: the Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present, by Gail Collins, New York (Back Bay Books) © 2009. This book was recently donated to the church library and may be found in the Women's Studies Category.

Beginning in 1960, it describes five decades of change in the lives of American women. The author is a renowned New York Times columnist. Topics covered are politics, fashion, popular culture, economics, sex, families and work. Older readers will be reminded of what their lives once were while younger readers will view their history in a new way.

Submitted by Martha Kluth



Words to Live By...

"Autumn is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower."

— Albert Camus



GIVING BACK

Simple Gifts received...

from Joel and Kathie Slater
in celebration of
Rylan Alexander Carvill-Ziemer

Our Simple Gifts program is designed to encourage everyday giving. If members and friends of the congregation continue to remember the church with regular gifts, we will be well on our way to building the kind of endowment that can help ensure our congregation's continuing health and vitality.

No gift is too small or too large. Donations can be made in celebration, in honor of someone or something, in appreciation or to note a special occasion. If you would like to participate, the blue Simple Gift envelopes can be found in the pews; please include your dedication and name so we can provide you with a donation credit. Thank you.

Don't Forget your ACME bucks!

Visit our table during coffee hour!



Ohio Meadville District News

Multicultural Training

The OMD is please to offer *Building Capacity for Authentic Diversity* on January 11 at the UU Fellowship of Wayne County with Rev. Renee Rutchotzke and Evin Ziemer. This training is for leaders to learn how to build relationships effectivity across differences including ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, gender and more. It is ideal for leaders of congregations who both have racial and ethnic diversity and those who do not. Details and registration available on the OMD website at www.ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/648-diversity

Looking for Youth Trainings?

There are several youth trainings on the calendar for this year - *Fundamentals of Health Youth Ministry* will be offered in Pittsburgh on November 22-24. *Becoming a Leader for Jr. High Youth* is happening in Rocky River on January 11-12. *Peer Chaplain Training* and a *Spirituality Development Conference* will be offered in Cleveland at the same time - January 31-February 2. For this one you must choose which training you want to participate in when you register. All these trainings are open to youth and their advisors. *Chaplain Training* is also open to young adults. For details and registration visit the OMD website events page at www.ohiomeadville.org/events/events

Fall Webinar Schedule Available

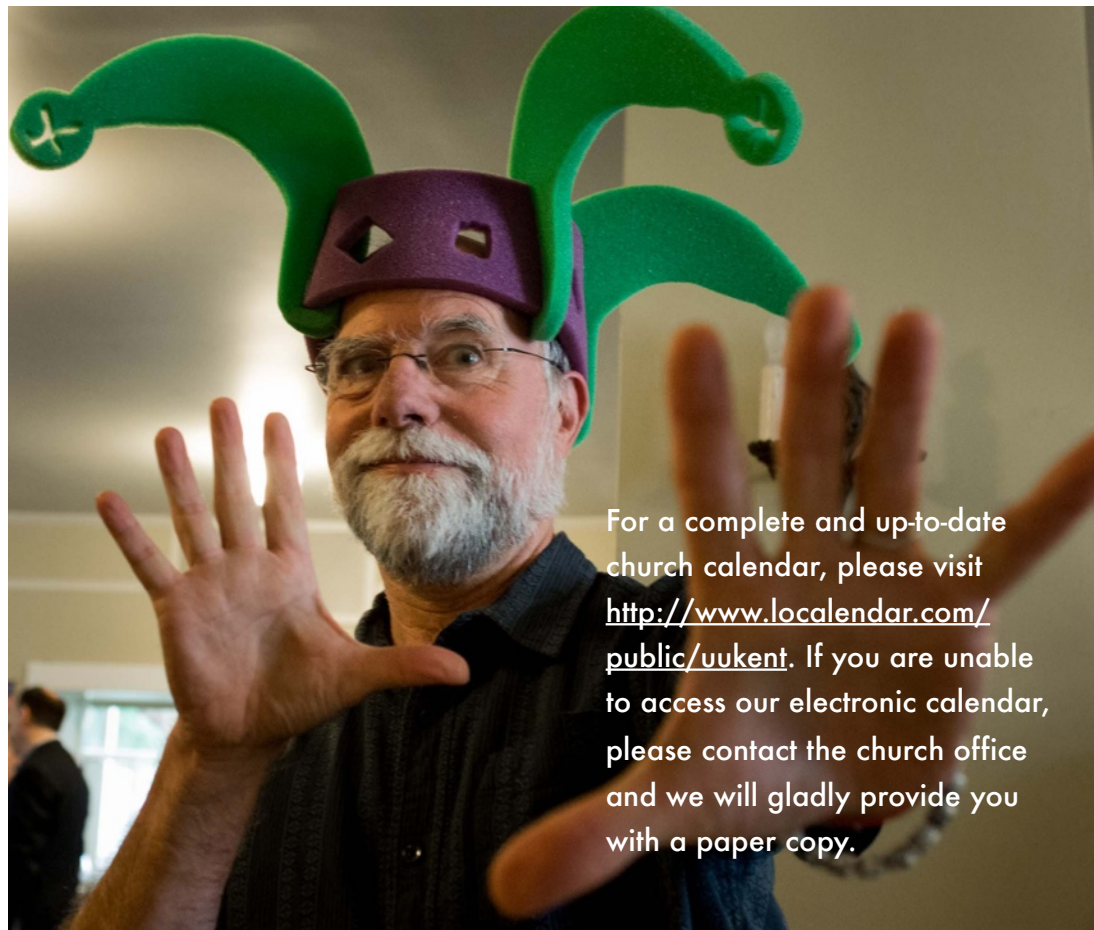
Webinar offerings for this fall are being posted on the CERG website. Among the webinars scheduled are ones focused on *Developing Healthy RE Committees*, *Creating an Anonymous Visitors Program*, *Managing Learning Differences in RE*, *Training Greeters* and *Team Building Activities for Boards, Committees and Congregations*. More to be added soon. Find details at www.cerguua.org/calendars/cergwebinars.html

CARNIVAL OF KENT



NOV. 2ND, 6PM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



For a complete and up-to-date church calendar, please visit <http://www.localendar.com/public/uukent>. If you are unable to access our electronic calendar, please contact the church office and we will gladly provide you with a paper copy.

the chalice flame

NOVEMBER
2013

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH
OF KENT

