

INSIDE

ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2008

Today's Events

Coffee Hour

Immediately following the service in the Parish Hall

Gather with Arlington Street Church's congregation in this lively and social environment. To find the Parish Hall, head downstairs at the rear of the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Today's Spiritual Passion: Introduction to Meditation

Sunday, February 24th

Don't just do something; sit there! And when you sit, just sit. Very simple directives...simply, 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 such 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 may meditate in a chair!).

Boston Choral Ensemble

Today's music is provided by the Boston Choral Ensemble, one of Arlington Street's Artists in Residence. They are presenting selections from Orlande de Lassus's *Lagrima di San Pietro*. *Lagrima*, a spiritual madrigal, consists of a set of Italian poems centering on St. Peter after his denial of Jesus. It represents a culmination of de Lassus's compositional language and is considered one of the most remarkable artistic testaments in the history of music.

The Boston Choral Ensemble, conducted by Miguel Felipe, presents the work in its entirety Friday, March 7th, 8:00 PM at First Church Cambridge in Harvard Square and Sunday, March 9th, 2:00 PM at the Church of St. John the Evangelist on Bowdoin Street in Boston. Our friends at Arlington Street Church can receive a 50% discount on tickets by ordering in advance online (www.BostonChoral.org) and using the special offer code "BCE Insider".

At the Social Action Table

Please come to the Social Action Table during coffee hour to sign a postcard to the Governor requesting a reform of the MCAS testing system that is now forcing dropouts, narrowing curriculum, and denying students the right to graduate. Please come and sign on!

Children's Religious Education

Celebrate the inherent worth and dignity of all with STELLALUNA! Using Jane Cannon's masterful children's story as this curriculum's foundation, the children will explore the first Unitarian Universalist principle. Guest teaching is Arlington Street Church member and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Emily Dunn.

Note: There is a new Yahoo group forming for the Arlington Street Church Children's Religious Education Committee. Please see children's religious educator Erick DuPree for details.

Worship at Arlington Street Church

Wednesday Gathering: First Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5th, 6:30 pm in the Hunnewell Chapel

Poetry Open Mic

Celebrate the way the written and spoken word moves you by bringing your favorite poem to read!

Congregational Announcements

Study Circles with Bethel Pentecostal

Mondays, February 25th and March 3rd

Neighborhoods have changed in many ways over the years, but one basic fact remains: strong neighborhoods are places where we feel at home, whether in cities, suburbs, or rural areas. At the study circles with members of the congregation at Bethel Pentecostal, we will talk about the challenges facing neighborhoods: crime, economic problems, and tensions between different groups of people. Study circles are small-group, democratic discussions where a neutral facilitator helps participants to consider all sides of a neighborhood issue and share views. A growing number of local organizers around the country are using study circles to bring more people to the table to look for new solutions. The upcoming study circles are sponsored by the Social Action committee and Jubilee, Arlington Street Church's Work in the World. If you are interested in attending, e-mail SocialAction@ASCBston.org. We need a few more people especially for the March 3rd gathering, which will be held at Arlington Street Church at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served!

Coming Up...

Sunday, February 24th, 2008

- 9:30 AM Choir Warm-up - Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM **Worship Service - Sanctuary**
- 12:00 PM Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
- 12:30 PM Santuario Para Todas - Archives Room
- 1:00 PM Spiritual Passions - Hunnewell Chapel

Monday, February 25th, 2008

No congregation related events at this time

Tuesday, February 26th, 2008

- 6:00 PM Buddha's Belly - Hunnewell Chapel
- 7:00 PM Arlington Street Zen Center - Hunnewell Chapel

Wednesday, February 27th, 2008

- 3:00 PM *Staff Meeting
- 6:00 PM Kundalini Yoga - Clarke Room

Thursday, February 28th, 2008

- 6:00 PM Arlington Street TB Initiative - Perkins Room
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Clarke Room

Friday, February 29th, 2008

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

Saturday, March 1st, 2008

No congregation related events at this time

Sunday, March 2nd, 2008

- 9:30 AM Choir Warm-up - Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM Social Action Committee - Archives Room
- 11:00 AM **Worship Service - Sanctuary**
- 12:00 PM Coffee Hour - Parish Hall
- 12:30 PM Congregational Conversation Master Plan Update - Clarke Room
- 12:30 PM Green Sanctuary Committee - Stage Right Room
- 12:30 PM Santuario Para Todas - Archives Room
- 1:00 PM Spiritual Passions - Hunnewell Chapel

* 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.

Friday Night Supper Volunteers Needed

As a congregation, we have taken great pride in hosting the Friday Night Supper for our hungry and homeless neighbors since 1984, never missing a Friday night. When we began with a much simpler meal, in partnership with Dignity, the Catholic gay and lesbian group, we had many Arlington Street Church volunteers. Now we have 2 part-time paid staff, but the delivery each Friday of full and nutritious meals relies mainly on volunteers, many of whom come from other churches and organizations. Arlington Street supporters are always most welcome on Friday after 2:00 PM for meal preparation, or after 5:00 PM for bringing these wonderful meals to our guests. For more information, e-mail Info@FridayNightSupper.org or call 617-536-7050 x22.

Sandwich Board Volunteers Needed

Coffee Hour, as you know, is much more than coffee. Volunteers make soup and sandwiches, cookies, cake, etc for sale at reasonable prices. Net proceeds help sustain church programs. Volunteers are always welcome to help prepare and serve. Please join us!

E-mail Jon Ellertson or Maria Cole through the church office at Office@ASCBoston.org

Upcoming Spiritual Passions

Arlington Street Zen Center Retreat

Sunday, March 2nd, 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Periods of sitting, walking, and dharma talks (teachings from the Buddha) will be followed by dinner at a local Japanese restaurant (BYO \$). Come join like-hearted seekers to savor a quiet evening together. This “passion” is led by Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie and members of Arlington Street Zen Center.

The Message Within the Messenger’s Words: Empowering ourselves to empower others through Jesus’ most intimate teaching

Sunday, March 9th, 1:00 pm

This Spiritual Passion, led by Erick DuPree, our children’s religious educator, explores Jesus’ overlooked but arguably most valued testament. Through examining the Gospels, we will identify what his greatest message is, unlock the deepest spiritual meanings, and discover how to be an embodiment of his living message.

Erick has his BA in Religious Education from Lubbock Christian University in Texas, and an MA from Queen’s University in Kingston Ontario in Literature. Travelling the country building Fundamentalist Christian communities with his father, an evangelical minister, Erick has found renewed and affirmed spirit through Unitarian Universalism’s distinct blending of diverse faith traditions. Deeply moved by faith and an educator at heart, Erick has made it his passion to make theologies accessible to all who seek to be spiritually nourished and edified. Erick is a published essayist, successful grant writer, and early education curriculum developer.

Sacred Eros: Embodying the Divine in Our Sexualities

Sundays, March 9th and 16th, 1:00 PM

Building from his First Wednesday presentation, Arlington Street Church member Desmond Ravenstone looks at the ways we can overcome traditional divisions between the spiritual and the sexual. How do we rethink the erotic and the divine, and create a new way of looking at these powerful forces in our lives? Can we create a safe space to talk about sexuality, and from that an ethic and theology/theology of sexual justice? Desmond will draw on his own study and experience of this issue to lead this discussion in two sessions.

Prison Education

Sunday, March 16, 2008, 1:00 pm Frothingham Library

Partakers is a faith-based organization that matches congregations with state prisoners who are participants in the Boston University Prison Education Program. A number of U.U. congregations already have Partakers groups. People from those congregations serve as mentors to the prisoners, who report that this means a great deal to them and helps them to complete their degrees. The Partakers mentors give moral support to the students, many of whom are uncertain about their ability to do college work – although most of them do succeed, especially with the encouragement of the mentors. This is important as a social justice issue, since recidivism among ex-offenders who have participated in higher education programs is almost zero! Arlington Street member Madeleine Cousineau says, “Since I have taught in three prisons, I have learned directly from the students how much Partakers means to them.” Please join us in welcoming Lanny Kutakoff, a Unitarian Universalist and executive director of Partakers.

Other Notices

Fitness and Friendship:

Incorporating Activity into Volunteer Companionship

Wednesday, February 27th, 2008, 5:30 pm in the Hunnewell Chapel

This seminar features Alice Bonner, RN, GNP, Massachusetts Fall Prevention Coalition and BA Harris, PT, DPT, MS, Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. You are invited to join MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers for an evening workshop dedicated to answering common volunteer questions about activity and aging. Local practitioners of yoga, tai chi, walking, and other fitness programs will be on hand to explain their work and demonstrate simple exercises, and two local experts on fall prevention and physical therapy will help us understand the importance of exercise for older adults. Light refreshments will be served.

The event is free to attend, but space is limited. Please RSVP by February 22nd by calling 617-482-1510 or by e-mailing KGrimes@MatchElder.org.

Parking at Arlington Street Church

On Sunday mornings discount parking is available at the Back Bay Garage now at the rate of \$5 for the first three hours. Regular weekend rates apply thereafter. Back Bay Garage is accessible on Clarendon between Boylston and St. James streets. Present your parking ticket to an usher or at the Welcome Table during coffee hour to obtain the discount sticker.

Please note: Parking spaces in the alley are rented to private, non-Arlington Street Church members Monday through Saturday until 6:00 PM. **Spaces #1 and #2 are for our senior minister and business administrator and must be kept available at all times.** Violators will be towed at the owner's expense without warning.

Building Issues

Ed Thomas, our business administrator, is on vacation. Please direct all building related issues to Jeffrey Bouchard, facilities manager. All other church matters should be directed to Corey Spence, administrative assistant. Both Jeffrey and Corey can be reached at 617-536-7050.

Planning for Pride

Tuesday, March 4th, 5:00 pm– 6:00 pm in the Perkins Room

Every year, Arlington Street Church hosts Unitarian Universalists and friends from all over New England for a celebratory worship service prior to the start of the Boston Pride parade. After the service, we also march together in the parade. Historically, we have had one of the largest groups marching in the parade, and the crowd enthusiastically recognizes us for our historic role in the fight for equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. This year's Pride parade is Saturday June 14th.

If you are interested in offering suggestion to the Worship Committee for the worship service, or if you are interested in joining one of the organizational teams, please come to an open meeting Tuesday March 4 from 5-6 p.m. in the Perkins Room. If you cannot come to the meeting, but want to provide input or volunteer to be on a team, please e-mail worship@ascboston.org or give your name to Rev. Kim.

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 ASC Submission Guidelines

Please deliver all Sunday announcements 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 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. 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.

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!

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