

# Calling All Souls

Durham  
North Carolina  
Nov/Dec 2011



We want to take "community" to a new level . . . Love your neighbor—no exceptions

## **A Racially Diverse Spiritual Community**

**And member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations**

### **Worship Schedule**

Sunday Worship Service is held at 11:00 A.M. at Walltown Children's Theatre, 1225 Berkeley Street, Durham, NC 27705

**November 6**

#### **End-of-Life Planning as a Spiritual Practice – Nancy Mayer**

A complete end-of-life plan is a gift you leave to the people about whom you care the most – children, spouse, or significant other. End-of-life planning is also a gift you give to yourself—taking time for reflection, connecting more deeply with family and friends, and putting your values into practice. The practical and the spiritual aspects of planning can merge into a deeply moving experience. We'll identify the key elements for you to consider in establishing or reviewing your end-of-life plan, note some consequences when an end-of-life plan is not in place and share personal experiences of the process. David McMullen will be the worship coordinator.

**November 13**

#### **Why Do We Suffer?**

**Rev. Dick Weston-Jones**

No one wants to suffer, and yet Henry Nelson Wieman, our most prominent UU philosopher of religion of the last century, suggested there is good in it. He said "Suffering, even more than happiness, leads to that kind of communication whereby creativity increases the good of life." Dick will explain his answer to the ages- old questions about suffering that have

### **Worship Schedule**

bothered many people. Dan Crotty will be worship coordinator.

**November 20**

#### **Finding Joy amid Sorrows**

**Neal Shepherd**

This will be a shortened service to give time for a meeting of the Committee of the Whole afterward.

**November 27 - David McMullen**

**December 4 - Leslie Williams**

**December 11**

#### **Solstice Longings & Blue**

**Christmases - Holly Lux-Sullivan**

As the winter solstice and Christmas approach, many people struggle with holiday sadness. The Rev. Holly Lux-Sullivan asks us to walk with her into the cold and dwell where we are often uncomfortable: a dark, bleak, quiet place that often feels quite solitary. Neal Shepherd will be worship coordinator.

**December 18**

#### **"Who do UU's Say That I Am?"**

**Rev. Dick Weston-Jones**

That service, just before Christmas, will provide data on a random sample of UU's in the US as well as All Souls, and of course more in the service of relevance to Christmas. David McMullen will be worship coordinator

**December 25 – Singing for the joy of living, for love and friendship and for peace everywhere.**

### **Regular Events**

#### **Board, All-Committee meeting**

The Board and All-Committee meetings will be on Wed. Sept. 14 and October 12 at 7:00 pm. The meetings will be at Sue Battle's: #102, Carolina House, 4434 Ben Franklin Blvd.

#### **Men's Group Meeting**

The All Souls Men's Group meets on the second Saturday of each month. The November meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> will be at a Habitat for Humanity construction site, and everyone is invited to join us. You do not have to be a men's group member or male to join in this worthy and fun project. We will know which shift we will be working a few days before. If you are interested, tell Neal Shepherd at 286-3380 or [neal.shepherd@gmail.com](mailto:neal.shepherd@gmail.com). Next month's meeting is on December 10 at 10:30 at Guglhupf.

#### **Pot luck**

At the retreat we decided to begin having regular potluck lunches after the first service of the month. This month (Nov 6) and next (Dec 4), everyone is urged to invite their friends to attend services and share the hospitality and good cheer afterward as well.

## UU Service Committee

It was a bright, beautiful Sunday afternoon that brought me to Zuccotti Park here in New York. I answered the call of my own curiosity as well as the summons for clergy of every faith to bear witness to an extraordinary grassroots movement for democratic process and economic justice. Walking along lower Broadway with my sisters and brothers of faith, being cheered by passersby — and even being joined by a few — energized me in a way I haven't felt for some time.

The Occupy movement is a growing moral and political force that has the potential to change our nation and our world. It gives productive voice to the fear and frustration of ordinary people who know something is wrong with this country that we love — something deeper than party or political position.

And even though there are other voices that seek to target the most vulnerable among us as the cause of our current malaise, the determined people of Occupy Wall Street and Occupy sites throughout the country — people of every race, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and immigration status — have chosen to end the silence about the economic and spiritual nightmare that threatens the future of us all.

We Unitarian Universalists have long echoed in our own General Assembly (GA) the outcry that has arisen in the General Assembly here in Zuccotti Park (also known as Liberty Park). In 1964, our GA general resolution described “poverty in the midst of plenty” as “intolerable to the religious conscience and incompatible with our principles of economic justice.” The threat to our common lives has only intensified since that GA resolution, and it is increasingly clear that we are approaching a state of emergency.

If you feel as I do, please [join me in voicing your support](#) for the work and witness of the Occupy movement, for though it started in New York City, it has spread to thousands of cities and towns around the world. [Please sign UUSC's open letter supporting the Occupy movement.](#)

[http://actnow.uusc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=occupy\\_open\\_letter](http://actnow.uusc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=occupy_open_letter)

In partnership with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, we can [join our liberal religious voices](#) with those of thousands of other people who recognize this nation's current economic crisis as one symptom of a larger human-rights issue that affects us all.

*Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt, senior minister of the Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York.*

## Community

### *Food Distribution*

Please remember that the food program in Walltown is always in need of both food and volunteers. Food needs include **canned tuna, canned or dry beans, pasta, tomato sauce, rice, breakfast cereals, peanut butter, canned green vegetables, and other non-perishable items.** Donations are picked up from the church on the second to last Sunday of the month. For more information, contact Stacey: 951-8139 or [stacey.craig@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.craig@gmail.com)

### *Sacrificial Poets*

Sacrificial Poets Performance at Flyleaf Books on first Weds of the month@ 6:30pm! These young people make the core of social justice and humanity come alive in verse. *Seriously.* Thank you!! Stacey

<http://sacrificialpoets.com/>

### *Books for the Recreation Center*

The Recreation Center is in need of book donations for its library. If you have relatively new and gently used books to donate, drop off books at the Rec center or contact Neal Shepherd at [neal.shepherd1@gmail.com](mailto:neal.shepherd1@gmail.com).

### *Tutoring*

Hello Neighbors!

I am the coordinator of an ESL/ Tutoring Program serving Hispanic youth (grades 1-8) in downtown Durham. We meet on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7-8:30 and tutor struggling readers in the basement of El Buen Pastor (1852 Liberty Street). We are currently looking for tutors, and I thought some of you might be interested. To tutor, you choose one night -Tuesday or Thursday - or pair up with someone else and come every other week. Tutor training is available and no training is required. No Spanish is necessary!

Most of the kids who attend are struggling readers who suffer from learning disabilities and/or ADHD. Despite their struggles, they are always excited to be at tutoring and have the chance to do better in school. They are an incredibly fun and joyful group of kids!

Reading is required in all parts of our lives, from reading for fun to reading recipes to understanding directions, so being taught how to read is a priceless gift. Come join us and share the joy of reading! I promise you that these kids will touch your heart. Kess Ballentine <[kess.ballentine@gmail.com](mailto:kess.ballentine@gmail.com)>

**CAN**

Hello, All

Last Thursday, 10/27, 6 of us attended Durham CAN's Delegate's Assembly and 10th Anniversary Celebration. It was a great meeting with many politicians and other decision makers (CEO of the Chamber of Commerce, for example) present, all of whom promised to partner with Durham CAN to support its platform if/while they were in office.

The highlights of CAN's platform are below, but first of all I want to let you all know that CAN has a SENIOR COMMITTEE that many of you may be interested in getting involved with. The next meeting of the Senior Committee is THIS THURSDAY, November 3rd at 6:30pm at ERUUF. I will send more information including an agenda when I have it. In the mean time, if you have questions about the committee, contact Bobi Gallagher at [mikeandbobi@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandbobi@gmail.com). Bobi is super nice and happy to answer any questions.

Another important issue impacting seniors and all of us is TRANSPORTATION. CAN wanted to remind us all that on the ballot in Durham on November 8 (next Tuesday!), there will be an option to vote FOR or AGAINST "local sales and use tax at the rate of one-half percent in addition to all other state and local and sales use taxes," and another citing a .25% increase. Not explicitly stated on the ballot is that this 1/2 cent tax is to expand PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION in Durham, the 1/4 will go toward SUPPORTING EDUCATION. CAN asks us

**December At A Glance**

- 4 – Worship 11 am, Leslie Williams  
Potluck after the service
- 10 – Men's Group (p. 1)
- 11 – Worship 11 am, Holly Lux-Sullivan
- 14 – All-Committee meeting, 7:00 pm (p. 1)
- 18 – Worship 11 am, Bick Weston-Jones
- 25 – Worship 11 am, Seasonal Song-fest

**CAN**

all to vote "for" these increases to help us get through these economic times while still supporting our most vulnerable -- children, seniors, and poor/working class members.

Also on CAN's agenda for the coming year with support promised from Durham's most influential:

- \* An audit of all foreclosure documents to identify bank forgeries and prosecute banks which have been illegally putting Durham residents out of their homes.
- \* Stronger housing regulations that incentivize and/or require the building of more affordable housing
- \* An employment training and placement program which will graduate at least 25 low-wealth residents
- \* The development of a Latino Parent Advisory Council which will advise the Durham School Board
- \* A comprehensive assessment of Durham's school system to determine the quality and effectiveness of its services regarding its Latino students
- \* Creating a Transit Plan to expand local and regional public transit.

Thanks for all your continued support for the Social Justice Committee and Durham CAN.

If you have any questions regarding CAN, the committee, or how to get involved, please contact myself ([stacey.craig@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.craig@gmail.com), 919-951-8139), or Leah at [leah.oster.katz@gmail.com](mailto:leah.oster.katz@gmail.com)).

Stacey

**All Souls****All Souls Archives**

Sue Battle and Garrie Kingsbury are assembling an All Souls archive. Samantha said that she would be happy to bring a scanner to church one day and make digitizing the archive a group effort, perhaps a potluck with members taking shifts at the scanner. Good food and the good old days. Does it get any better? So dig out the photos and other records you have squirreled away and look for a date in the next newsletter.

**November At A Glance**

- 6 – Worship 11 am, Nancy Mayer  
Potluck after the service
- 12 – Men’s Group (p. 1), Habitat project
- 13 – Worship 11 am, Dick Weston-Jones
- 14 – Board meeting, 7:00 pm (p. 1)
- 20 – Worship 11 am, Neal Shepherd  
COW meeting after the service
- 27 – Worship 11 am, David McMullen

**Who’s Doing What****ASCUU Board of Directors and  
Committee Chairs**

Lesley Williams, Moderator  
Samantha Earp, Treasurer  
Stacey Riberdy, Secretary

***Support Walltown!***

Don’t forget your donations for the Walltown Neighborhood Ministries food collection. Donations are distributed to those in need in the Walltown neighborhood.

**Calling All Souls** is published monthly free of charge to members and friends of the All Souls Church Unitarian Universalist. Contact the editor to request a subscription or give a change of address.

Newsletter submissions **are due by the 20th of the month to the editor.**

Newsletter editor: Neal Shepherd  
neal.shepherd1@gmail.com

Email: [info@allsoulsdurham.org](mailto:info@allsoulsdurham.org)

Website: [www.allsoulsdurham.org](http://www.allsoulsdurham.org)

Services and other events will be announced via our e-mail listserv. Please email Rayna Rowell if you would like to receive e-mail announcements ([veggiegirl42@gmail.com](mailto:veggiegirl42@gmail.com)).

Mailing address:

**PO Box 3506 Durham, NC  
27702-3506**

All Souls Church, Unitarian Universalist  
P.O. Box 3506  
Durham, NC 27702-3506