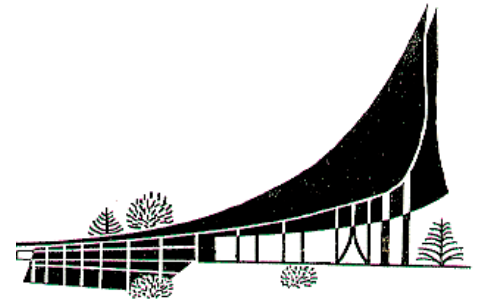


SOUNDINGS

The Unitarian Church in Westport
 10 Lyons Plains Road
 Westport, Connecticut 06880
 203 227-7205
 uuchurch@uuwestport.org
 www.uuwestport.org



A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

THE NEXT SOUNDINGS DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, JAN. 28

Jan. 23 - Feb. 12, 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan. 23 Worship Service: 9 & 11 am BOT Coffee Chat 10:15am & 12:15 pm Jan's Office OWL Parent Group, Library ... 12:30 pm	24 Health Care Task Force, Library, ... 7:30 pm	25 Environmental Action, East Wing, ... 7:30 pm	26 Chant & Meditation, M.H. ... 7:00 pm Men's Choir, ... 8:00 pm	27 Youth Choir - 5 pm Teen Choir - 6 pm Bell Choir - 6:45pm Women's Choir, - 7:45 pm	28 SOUNDINGS Deadline: 12 Noon Shawl Ministry, M.H....12:30 pm UU Movie Group, Meeting Hse., ... 7:30 pm	29 Sight-singing for Beginners ... 9:30 am Family Worship Service, Sanctuary, ... 5:00 pm
30 Service: 9 & 11 am BOT Coffee Chat 10:15 am & 12:15 pm Jan's Office Small Gr. Minist. DEMO E.W. ...10:15am & 12:15 pm OWL Parent Gr., Library, ... 12:30 pm Women of the Bible, Lib. - 4:00 pm	31 O&AF Rehearsal, ... 7:45 pm	Feb. 1 Cabaret Rehearsal, Sanct. ...3 pm Microfinance Fellow. Rm., ... 7:30 pm Chamber Choir, ... 7:45 pm	2 SOUNDINGS Mailing - 9:30 am Chant & Mditation M.H. ... 7:00 pm Men's Choir ... 8:00 pm	3 Youth Choir - 5 pm Teen Choir - 6 pm Bell Choir - 6:45pm Women's Choir, - 7:45 pm	4	5 Chowda Fest, Bedford Middle School, 11am - 4:00 pm Sight-singing for Beginner ... 9:30 am Newcomer Orientation, E.W. ... 9:30 am Care Circle Facilitators, M.H., ... 10:00 am REEL Justice Film Sanct. ... 7:30 pm
6 Worship Service: 9 & 11 am K-6 Start in Sanctuary Valentine Boutique, E.W., - 10:15 - 12:15 pm OWL Parent Group, Library ... 12:30 pm UN Committee, Chapel, ... 12:30 pm	7 O&AF Rehearsal, Sanctuary, ... 7:45 pm	8 SeniorLunch, East Wing, ... 11:00 am Social Justice, Council, E.W., . 7:30 pm Chamber Choir, ... 7:45 pm	9 Chant & Meditation, M.H. ... 7:00 pm Men's Choir, ... 8:00 pm	10 Youth Choir - 5 pm Finance Com. M.H., .. 5:30 pm Teen Choir - 6 pm Bell Choir - 6:45pm Women's Choir, - 7:45 pm	11 Dore Memorial Service ... 11 am SOUNDINGS Deadline - 12 pm Shawl Ministry, M.H., 12:30 pm REEL Justice, Laramie Project, Sanct. - 7:30 pm	12 Sight-singing for Beginners ... 9:30 am Newcomer Orientation, Chapel - 9:30 am Bingo & Pizza, Foyer ... 5:30 pm

SERMONS

- January 23 ... 9 & 11 am **"So Much More..."** Terry Sweetser
To celebrate Association Sunday we welcome The Rev. Terry Sweetser, Vice President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. About his sermon he writes: "Things aren't what they seem," and conclude, "they are so much less." The teachings of both our Unitarian and Universalist forebears are exactly the opposite. In fact, to live the lives we wish we could, our faith challenges us to find fullness in the wonders of life.
- January 30... 9 & 11 am **Used Books**..... Frank Hall
We put books to many uses: they entertain us and become our close companions; they inform, inspire, encourage, console and challenge us. How have you used books?
- February 6... 9 & 11 am **"Between the Pulpit and the Pew** Frank Hall
The old proverb says, "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip." Between the time I decide a sermon top and the time I write it and deliver it, things change – and in the process of delivering it some things go wrong. Better luck next time...

Explore Your Whole Wuurld!

Any questions? Send an email to mcmillane@yahoo.com

Mark Morrison-Reed

Did you hear The Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed's sermon Dec. 5 and wish you had attended the seminar the day before? Or maybe you missed the entire weekend (attended by more than 80 UUs from NY, NJ, and CT) and heard how amazing it was. And kicked yourself.



Well, the Metro NY District Board (who attended the entire weekend's events) thought that more folks should have the opportunity to hear him, so he will be the keynote speaker at the 2011 District Annual Meeting, May 6-7 at the Morristown Hyatt. Put it on your calendar now, so you don't miss out this time!!

Attendees of the seminar were stirred by the words and images demonstrating the failed attempts of UUs to come to terms with race and racism. "This workshop opened my eyes in unexpected ways," said Cheryl Dixon Paul, member of our Racial Justice Task Force. "I had no idea the UUA has this history of turning its back on racial justice." Frank Hall, reflecting on the weekend said, "The word that comes readily to mind is 'moving'. He stirred our emotions, challenged our thinking, and encouraged us in our work." Rev. Morrison-Reed is a prominent African-American scholar and author of *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination* and *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby*.

Arm-chair Learning

Webinars, offered by staff of our regional group, are open to all UUs in the Metro NY District (that's us!). Consider these upcoming webinars:

- "To Dwell Together in Peace: Behavioral Covenants" by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke on January 27 at 7:00 pm.
- Being Prepared When the Unthinkable Happens by Beth Casebolt on March 31 at 7:00 pm.

To learn more and find links to register, go to www.cergu-ua.org/webinars.html

You're interested but aren't sure what is involved or if you have everything you need? This video walks you through everything you need to know.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8IDn7LsrHo.

Happy Birthday to UU!

The UUA turns 50 this year and planning for that milestone is well underway. The anniversary of the consolidation of the Universalist Church of America and the American Unitarian Association is actually May 15, 2011, but the real festivities start a month later at General

Assembly 2011 in Charlotte, NC, June 22-26. Plan to attend; you won't regret it!

GA Guest Lecturer Announced

One much anticipated feature at each GA (General Assembly of our congregations) is the Ware Lecture, given each year by a prominent speaker who educates and challenges us in unanticipated ways. This year's lecturer is Karen Armstrong. She is one of the world's leading commentators on religious affairs and a best-selling author.

Her books include: *A History of God*; *Jerusalem: One City, Three Faiths*; *Islam, A Short History*; *Muhammad: A Prophet for our Time*; and *The Bible: A Biography*. Her latest book is *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*

Karen Armstrong has become known for her work on Islam and Fundamentalism, particularly in the US. She has addressed members of Congress and the Senate, has spoken at study days at the UN, and has increasingly been invited to address audiences in the Muslim world. In 2007, she was invited by the Malaysian government to speak in Kuala Lumpur (even though her books are banned there!).

In 2009, Armstrong and other leading thinkers in Judaism, Christianity and Islam completed work on a major international project: a Charter for Compassion. For more on the Charter, go to: <http://charterforcompassion.org/site/>.

Look for more on GA each month in this space. AND, purchase that plane ticket while it's cheap!

National Standing on the Side of Love Day



Feb. 14 is the 2nd Annual National Standing on the Side of Love Day, when the very heart of the Standing on the Side of Love campaign comes to life. We re-imagine Valentine's Day as a holiday of love and acceptance for everyone. It's an opportunity "to honor courageous love, and recognize those whose words and deeds exemplify the values of inclusion, diversity, community, and equality." To read more, go to:

www.standingonthesideoflove.org/national-standing-on-the-side-of-love-day-2011/.

January 17, 2011

Dear Friends,

Theologians call it grace, a gift from God. The word itself is from the Latin *gratia*, *gratus* – it is pleasing. My son Jonathan's name means 'gift from God.' He and my daughter Susan were the first gifts that came to me as a real, immediate and lasting kind of grace.

Then I was graced with grandchildren, Alex, 23, and Hannah, 20, now young adults. Each stage of their lives has been a remarkable gift I've treasured. What a blessing!

Last year Alex surprised me with a hand-made gift – he had learned how to knit and he made me a nice warm woolen stocking hat, which has gotten a lot of use on cold-morning walks at Compo Beach.

This year Alex, who will graduate from college this spring, bowled me over with a hooded sweater and a pair of mittens he knitted for me. The warmth of the hat, mittens and sweater is a perfect metaphor.

Hannah, who is a dance major in her junior year of college, graced me with a DVD she made for me, which she titled, 'Winter moving thoughts for Papa.'

She filmed herself doing a dance she choreographed and performed as her interpretation of Robert Frost's poem, *Looking for a Sunset Bird in Winter*, which begins:

The west was getting out of gold,
The breath of air had died of cold,
When shoeing home across the white,
I thought I saw a bird alight.

She went into the snow-covered woods in back of her home, set up a camera, and recorded the delicate dance, much of it on a snow-covered log on which she moved ever so carefully in delicate dance patterns.

To complete the three and a half minute piece she wove Frost's poem into the sequence of graceful movements on the log and around the bare trees.

She wrote out Frost's poem on a card with a note, saying, "Thanks for inspiring the poet in me, whether written or moving."

Yes, 'it is pleasing.' Theologians call it Grace. I know.

Yours,



Looking for a Sunset Bird in Winter *Robert Frost*

The west was getting out of gold,
The breath of air had died of cold,
When shoeing home across the white,
I thought I saw a bird alight.

In summer when I passed the place
I had to stop and lift my face;
A bird with an angelic gift
Was singing in it sweet and swift.

No bird was singing in it now.
A single leaf was on a bough,
And that was all there was to see
In going twice around the tree.

From my advantage on a hill
I judged that such a crystal chill
Was only adding frost to snow
As gilt to gold that wouldn't show.

A brush had left a crooked stroke
Of what was either cloud or smoke
From north to south across the blue;
A piercing little star was through.

.....
Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening *Robert Frost*

Whose woods these are I think I know. / His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here / To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer / To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake / The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Perry's Ponderings ...

My nephew, Elijah, and I were shoveling piles of snow when he remarked, "I can't believe each snowflake is unique. Do you know how many snowflakes are just in this area?" I responded, "It is amazing but think about how many people there are in the world and each one of them is unique." As Unitarian Universalists we embrace that uniqueness and each person's inner beauty.

Jim Francek recently shared a video about vulnerability (http://www.ted.com/talks/brene_brown_on_vulnerability.html). Brene Brown presents humorous insightful revelations on what inhibits connection. Brene highlights shame and the fear of not being worthy of connection as the preventative wall, while the wholehearted courage to authentically share ourselves with others is the path to fulfilling connection which is "what gives purpose and meaning to our lives." Our ability to let go of who we think we should be and know that we can be accepted with our imperfections is the key to joy and creativity.

In reference to our children, Brene says, "Our job is to look and say, 'You know what? You're imperfect, and you're wired for struggle, but you are worthy of love and belonging.' That's our job. Show me a generation of kids raised like that, and we'll end the problems I think that we see today." Part of Religious Education is creating a place where children can feel supported as they move through the struggles of life and know they are still accepted.

Finding inner peace and bringing that feeling into the world is part of our current K-4 theme. One child in the story *What does Peace feel like?* describes the sound of peace "like a growling bear of war who gets shot by a love arrow and the fighting stops." Caden, a third grader in RE hearing this, picked up one of the candles and swooping it through the space inside the Tibetan singing bowl said, "If this was the arrow with the flame it could go into the sound of bowl and get all of that peace, then when it hits someone it would give all that peace and push out the pain." If we feel the flame of Caden's peace arrow and touch the place that says "I'm enough," then we can allow ourselves to be deeply seen so we may live wholeheartedly in connection.

RE CALENDAR

Sunday, Jan. 23...

12:30pm OWL Parent Group - Library

Saturday, Jan. 29...

5pm Family Worship & Potluck

Sunday, Jan 30...

12:30pm OWL Parent Group - Library

Sunday, Feb. 6...

K-6 Start in Sanctuary

Friday, Feb. 11

Laramie Project



Family Worship & Potluck

Saturday, January 29
at 5pm

- A Time to Connect in our UU Identity
- Worship, Activity, Sharing,
 - Potluck

Bring a Hearty Dish to Share

RSVP to
ucwevents@gmail.com or
227-7205 x20



"College or Not" Reunion 2010

YOUTH OUTREACH/ Jamie Forbes

Right before Christmas, 26 young adults between the ages of 18 and 22 gathered in the youth room for our 'College or Not Reunion'. The energy in the room was palpable and would accelerate each time someone would enter the glass door into the warmth of the refurbished youth room. Ryan Leddy was literally tackled by Heilyn and others who had traveled to New Orleans together two years ago. The noise level was high...lots of catching up to do for the former UUWestport youth.

With the help of Ed, Lily and Carl, I tried to move them towards the couches and some semblance of a circle. Once we started sharing (name, where you are now, a UU memory, a UU moment or a time you felt the influence of your home faith), the room became quiet.

Confirming the impact of shared experiences, adventures and real hands-on work, the memories were expressed as the following: New Orleans, Camp Jewell, the COA trip to Boston, lock-ins, firewalk, Neighboring Faiths, Kenya. As to the UU moment, the answers were varied and all very heartfelt. Here is a very short recap: interesting conversations which start with explaining UUism, working with a non-profit, having a UU roommate or friend who is a 'kindred spirit', being an outspoken ally to GLBT youth, volunteering in the South Bronx, on community service board at college, visiting familiar spots in Boston, comfortable with addressing the sacred, taking a leadership role in college to address diversity, safety, and tolerance, being a good mellow person, found a college with a mission to 'work for the common good', understanding the culture of social

justice, referring to the first principle (worth and dignity of every person) every day in dealing with friends and social situations, and amid the stresses of freshman year, leaning on those UU values to stay true to who she is.

I wish you could have been there. It was a proud moment for all of us! The evening ended with Ed leading us in a hugely enthusiastic singing of Christmas carols!

ADVOCACY 2011



Three years ago our Social Justice Council voted to make health care a legislative priority. We began our Health Care Task Force, now the Interfaith Health Care Task Force, and affiliated with the state-wide Health Care for Everyone Coalition. Director of Social Justice David Vita has spoken on the issue locally at

other churches and community organizations.

Last year the Social Justice Council added abolishing the death penalty in Connecticut and supporting Paid Sick Days legislation to our legislative agenda.

The Committee to Abolish the Death Penalty began meeting and is working in conjunction with the Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole.

David Vita represents our church at the Everybody Benefits from Paid Sick Days Campaign – a statewide coalition of labor, women's organizations, health and community groups, and the Working Families Party that meets in Hartford.

Gun control has always been on our legislative list and will continue to be.

As legislation on these issues move through the Connecticut Legislature we will keep you informed and offer ways to participate in our ongoing efforts for social justice.

If you would like to know more about what you can do about health care, the death penalty, paid sick days, or gun control, please contact David vita: david@uuwestport.org or 203.227.7205 x14.

Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed Stirs Westport Congregation

The Unitarian Church in Westport hosted prominent African-American scholar and author, the Reverend Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed, over the weekend of December 3-5. Members of the congregation and friends from eight other congregations, as far away as New Jersey, were stirred by the words and images demonstrating the failed attempts of Unitarian-Universalists to come to terms with race and racism.

More than 80 people were present for the all day workshop. In the morning, Mark talked about the history of UU's and race. He told stories of Afro-American clergy who sought but received no support from the Unitarian leadership. He touched on several major events in the UUA when race issues triggered division and mistrust. "This workshop opened my eyes in unexpected ways," said Cheryl Dixon Paul, member of the Unitarian Church in Westport's Racial Justice Task Force. "I had no idea the UUA has this history of turning its back on racial justice."

The afternoon session looked at congregations that have been successful in becoming multi-cultural and multi-racial. Unitarian-Universalism is bound by culture and class, Morrison-Reed told the participants. Our movement can become more diverse if we are clearly welcoming to people who are similar to us in demographics but different in race.

Denny Davidoff co-chaired the weekend events with Catherine Onyemelukwe, chair of the Racial Justice Task Force. This was a transformative experience for our congregation, they said. Frank Hall, senior minister of the Unitarian Church in Westport, agreed. Reflecting on the weekend with Mark Morrison-Reed he said, "The word that comes readily to mind is moving. He stirred our emotions, challenged our thinking and encouraged us in our work." In addition to the Saturday workshop, there was a Friday evening film, the story of an unlikely valiant heroine of the Civil Rights struggle in Mississippi, *Never Turn Back: The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer*. The well-known film makers, Tracy Sugarman, author, illustrator, and chronicler of the Civil Rights Movement, and Bill Buckley, producer of award-winning documentary films for over 35 years, discussed their film with Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed and the audience.

Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed gave the sermon, *Led Kicking and Screaming into Heaven*, at services on Sunday morning. The final event was a book reading from Morrison-Reed's autobiography, *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby*, on Sunday afternoon. The Unitarian Church in Westport has a very active Social Justice program, including a Racial Justice Task Force which holds frequent book discussions on issues of racial justice. It was during the discussion of Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed's book in the Spring of 2010 that the decision to invite him was made. The early December weekend of focus on racial justice with Dr. Morrison-Reed was the result. In the Spring 2011 Odyssey program there will be another book discussion on the same book for those who hadn't joined before and for those who want to look more deeply into the twilight zone between the races or, what the Reverend Dr. Lee Barker, president of Meadville Lombard Theological School, refers to as, "Nothing less than the clearing in the spiritual forest of race and ethnicity."

Please contact Catherine Onyemelukwe (conyemelukwe@gmail.com) about our ongoing racial justice activities.

Guest At Your Table

It's Time To....

Bring Back the Boxes



to the front foyer table but first please...

Convert Cash into a Check

consider rounding up the total from your box to one of the Membership Levels listed on the box - checks are made

out to UUSC

Your donation in the form of a Membership is the most powerful way to give to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee!

Laptop Needed:

One of my son's classmates staying with me for the winter break. He has been financially independent since he was 15. He's now 19. He defected from the Mormon church when he was 15. He is an exceptionally talented french horn musician attending Suny-Purchase. He has no family support and is in need of a laptop computer. Macbooks seem to be the best choice for musicians, but I'm sure any laptop would be appreciated. Jean Wescott, 203 918-0099.

Wanted to buy:

reliable used car for commuting to work locally. Please contact Jan at 203-227-7205 ex:10 or Jan@uwestport.org

Greetings From UCW Member Marjorie Partch in NYC

Experienced writer looking to do work from apartment. Articles, publications, web site content, etc. Telephone 212.420.9187 or email, mapartch@yahoo.com. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Curious about Small Group Ministry?

Come to a 30 minute 'demo' session after each service on Sunday, Jan. 30 in the East Wing. We'll take you through a short version of these monthly discussion groups, focused around a common topic. Books will be the topic of these sample sessions, led by our Small Group Facilitators. The mission of SGM is spiritual growth through personal connections. A great way for newcomers and regulars to get to know one another. Give it a try!



**"Boutique"
Valentine
Special
Feb. 6th**
After each service
(proceeds to help the
Church General Fund)"

Business Matters

Stop the Snow!

Well, it is Thursday the 12th of January and I am writing my Business Matters article. What a snow storm we had Wednesday! What if it had come on Christmas Eve? Remember that wonderful Christmas, Let it Snow, by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne. It was written 65 years ago and in need of updating. Thanks to Joann Coviello, here is the new version:

*Oh, the weather outside's delightful
But the cost to plow is frightful
And our budget is getting low
Stop the snow! Stop the snow!
Stop the snow!*

*It doesn't show signs of stopping
And my brow's in need of mopping
With so many months to go
Please! no more snow, no more
snow, no more snow*

*Oh, I hate to be so on edge
'Cause I worry 'bout how we'll pay
But if everyone made their pledge
I'd relax, as it snowed all day*

*No one likes to beg or grovel
But this stuff is hard to shovel
We could sing if we had more
dough
Let It Snow! Let It Snow!
Let It Snow!*

So, just to let you know, 2010 giving statements for tax purposes are going out this week along with your pledge statement for the first half of fiscal year 2011 (July 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010). If you are behind, please bring your account current.

Not a pledging household? You can still make a pledge for the second half of this fiscal year and it will help the church make its budget.

John Carroll,
Business Manager

Join us for Darwin Day Friday, February 11

with cocktail hour, full course dinner, fascinating conversation, a science quiz, and a talk by Yale's Paul Turner, PhD.



The popular Darwin Day Dinner is co-sponsored again this year by the Unitarian Church in Westport, the Congregation for Humanistic Judaism of Fairfield County, the Wilton Monthly Meeting of Friends (Quakers), and the Norwalk Public School's Science Department.

Lauren Stephens, a member of the Unitarian Church, won the poster contest which was held last year, for best picture to be used as a poster for this year's event.
(See flyer on last page)

For a YouTube video and more, visit
www.darwindayct.org

A memorial service for
Rhoda K. Burnham,
who died on Jan. 7 at age 93,
will be held at the church on
Saturday, Jan. 22 at 2:30.
Randy and Linda welcome all
who wish to attend.
Rhoda cherished the friends
she made here though Small
Group Ministry, Circles of
Care, and her book group.



SOUNDINGS

Newsletter of the Unitarian Church in Westport

Phone: (203) 227-7205
Fax: (203) 221-7979
E-mail: uuchurch@uuwestport.org

Church Staff

- Frank Hall Senior Minister
frank@uuwestport.org
- EdWard Thompson Minister of Music
ed@uuwestport.org
- John Carroll..... Church Administrator/
Business Manager
john@uuwestport.org
- Jan Braunle Administrative Associate
jan@uuwestport.org
- Perry Montrose..... RE Director
perry@uuwestport.org
- Jamie Forbes Youth Outreach Dir.
jamie@uuwestport.org
- Lily Rappaport Youth Program Dir.
lily@uuwestport.org
- David Vita Social Justice Director
david@uuwestport.org
- Robert Santiago Sexton
bobby@uuwestport.org

Endorsed Community Minister

Rev. Debra Haffner ...debra@uuwestport.org

Board of Trustees

- Chuck Colletti Chair
- Randy Burnham Vice Chair
- Ken Vogel Treasurer
- Denny Davidoff Clerk
- Steve Axthelm
- Lyn Hamilton
- Sherry Jagerson
- Kristen Leddy
- John Mason
- Sal Mollica
- Jane Sherman

SOUNDINGS Staff

Carol Porter Editor/Design

visit our website at
www.uuwestport.org

The next SOUNDINGS deadline is Friday, Jan. 28, at noon (or before). Please e-mail your copy to: carpo@optonline.net

It was an interesting week. I was teaching a class called “Music as the Doorway” at Meadville Theological School in Chicago. There were six graduate students in the class and all of them wanted to know more about the powerful tool called music, both for personal and professional reasons.

We all had made the observation that there were some ‘holes’ in the Hymnal, i.e., there is a lack of hymns for certain topics. One day we composed the lyrics for a hymn on the topic of “Coming of Age”. The idea of writing hymn lyrics was completely new to these students. To be sure, it was challenging; however, it was also fun and exciting. As an assignment, I asked them to compose a new set of lyrics on their own for the next day. The following morning we looked at them. The results were interesting, except for one student who seemed to have a problem. He looked dejected and said that he could not get anything. I gave him some suggestions and urged him to try again. On the last morning, he walked into class looking very excited. He came up with an unusual rhyme scheme for a piece that could be used at chalice lighting. Not only that, but he composed some music for it! We shared his enthusiasm, the defeat of his writer’s block, and his passion for the possible. It was a great lesson for us all. We each have the possibility for doing better and doing things we’ve never tried before.

He gave me permission to share it with you. We will sing it one of these Sundays. I hope you will hear it. The words are these.

Kindle the warm heart,
feel with the stranger.

Kindle the warm heart,
love thy neighbor.

Kindle the warm heart,
sit with the aging.

Kindle the warm heart,
nourish the hungry.

Kindle the warm heart,
embrace the myst'ry.

Jerrod

HOT MUSIC FOR A COLD NIGHT

Join your fellow congregants for an all-musical Cabaret on Saturday,
January 22, starting at 7:30



Featured will be singers Morgan Melville, Richard Leslie, Patrice Fitzgerald, Ruth Ahler, Jack Raineault, Michael and Elizabeth Field in a special father-daughter duet, David Emberling, Joann Coviello, and Liz Caplan, plus a special appearance by none other than our own John Carroll! We may throw in some opera, with Patrice singing the

"Habanera" from Carmen. There may be more... You never know what will happen at a cabaret!

You'll also hear Ruth on sax, Richard on trumpet, Derek Leslie on bass, and a drummer to be named later...

All making jazzy sounds in a grand finale. Delicious munchies will be available -- bring some of your own!

Soda is provided, and we're bound to have some wine.

A \$15 donation is suggested at the door to reimburse our accompanists,

but you can pay whatever works for you. Or just come and enjoy yourself.

Anything extra is donated to UCW. For more info, email PatriceFitzgerald@gmail.com.

PHOTO BY M.J. CROSS

Veni, Vidi, Slurpi – In the lead up to the 3rd Annual Chowdafest Competition, participating restaurants and volunteers from The Unitarian Church in Westport staged a soup sampling at the Westport Center for Senior Activities. Seniors were invited to try chowders and soups from DaPietros in Westport, Tavern on Main in Westport and Rory's of Darien. Chowdafest takes place on Saturday, February 5 from 11 am – 4 pm at Bedford Middle School in Westport. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children under 12 with proceeds benefitting the CT Food Bank and The Unitarian Church in Westport. Seen in photo (L-R): Chief Chowdahead Jim Keenan, Chef Pietro Scotti of DaPietro's, volunteer Casey Keenan, senior Sam Brody, Dave Limon and Hector Maniero of Tavern on Main, Lisa Marriott program specialist for the center, Jose DeSantiago of Rory's, volunteer Rainy Broomfield and senior Don Snook.



The 3rd annual Chowdafest competition will be held on Saturday, February 5, From 11 am – 4 pm at Bedford Middle School, 88 North Avenue, Westport. The event raises money for The CT Food Bank and The Unitarian Church in Westport. Adult admission is \$6, reduced to \$5 for bringing a canned food item that will also be donated to the food bank. Admission for children under 12 is \$2.

Chowdafest is a fun, flavorful competition that invites each participant to vote

for his or her favorite traditional New England clam chowder, favorite creative chowder and favorite soup or bisque. More than 20 different chowders and soups will be available for sampling.

Restaurants participating in this year's event include: Ash Creak Saloon (Norwalk / Fairfield), Chef's Table (Fairfield) DaPietro's (Westport), Ginger Man (Norwalk), Health in a Hurry (Fairfield), Italian Corner Deli (Norwalk), Liquid Lunch (Shelton / Milford), Los Cabos (Norwalk), MacKenzie's (Fairfield), Mansion Clam House (Westport), O'Neils (Norwalk), Restaurant at Rowayton (Rowayton), River House (Westport), Rory's (Darien), Savin Rock (Norwalk), Splash (Westport) Southport Brewing (Stamford/Fairfield), Tavern on Main (Westport) and Tuckers (Fairfield). Event sponsors include Cablevision, 95.9 The Fox radio and Success Printing and Mailing.

For additional information about Chowdafest, please visit www.chowdafest.org or email event chairperson Jim Keenan at chowdafest@optonline.net.

Join us for Darwin Day

Friday, February 11, 2011,

with cocktail hour, full course dinner, fascinating conversation, a science quiz, and a talk by Yale's Paul Turner, PhD.



Lauren Stephens, a member of the Unitarian Church, won the poster contest which was held last year, for best picture to be used as a poster for this year's event.

The evening will be a memorable event for all, and everyone is guaranteed to go home smarter, or at least knowing more than when they arrived!

For more information

visit darwindayct.org or contact the Southern Connecticut Darwin Day Committee: call John Levin at (646)371-9280 or email: jlevin@tfm-llc.com, or Craig Tomarkin at ctomarkin@aol.com.

This event is sponsored by

The Congregation for Humanistic Judaism of Fairfield County, The Wilton Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), the Unitarian Church in Westport and the Norwalk Public Schools Science Department.

Date: Friday, Feb 11, 2011

Time: 7 pm Cocktail Hour,
8 pm Full Course Dinner

At: The Continental Manor, 112 Main St., Norwalk

Price: \$55 per person

DARWIN DAY is an international celebration of science and humanity held around Charles Darwin's February 12th birthday. Specifically, the event celebrates the discoveries and life of the man, born in 1809, who first described biological evolution via natural selection with scientific rigor. More generally, DARWIN DAY expresses gratitude for the enormous benefits that scientific knowledge, acquired through human curiosity and ingenuity, has contributed to the advancement of humanity.

Dr. Turner's talk on "Viruses – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" offers new information on viruses, evolution and what it means for us.

For reservations fill in and return the bottom portion of this flyer before February 3rd, 2011

.....

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>
<u>Address</u>	<u>E-mail address</u>
<u>City, State, Zip Code</u>	<u>Number of people you are paying for</u>
<u>Names of your guests</u>	

Indicate each attendee's menu selection:

New York Angus Sirloin(N) Chicken Marsala(C) Pan Seared Salmon(P) Eggplant Parmesan(E)

Enclose a check for \$55. per person (\$60. after February 1) made payable to CT Darwin Day Comittee

Mail to 249 Chestnut Hill Road, Norwalk CT 06851- 1412