

THE SUNDAY FORUM

The Sunday Forum group is going to be watching a DVD college lecture series entitled "The Early Years of Christianity: from Jesus to Constantinople" for the next several months. The lecturer is Bart Ehrman, a renowned author and professor of religion at UNC-Chapel Hill. Once monthly, on the first Sunday of each month at 9 am downstairs, we'll watch a 30 minute lecture followed by a group discussion. Everyone's invited and there's no charge. This is basically a college history course about the early development of the Christian religion from a non-evangelical perspective, so all amateur history buffs and theologians are invited!

FUNDRAISER for UUCB

Karen Bentley-Pollick, a Unitarian and wife of Birmingham Southern College President, Dr. David Pollick, generously donated a concert for our fundraiser last year. A group of members purchased this concert (named below) and along with Artburst present Ms. Pollick & Dr. Grant Dalton in recital this Sunday afternoon at 3 pm. Please come and support the artists as well as our church.

The concert will consist of contemporary music written for violin and percussion.

Ms. Pollick performs on the violin, viola and hardangerfele, a Norwegian instrument. Dr. Dalton is a percussionist who performs on drums and is an endorser of Innovative Percussion Sticks and Mallets.

COME and bring friends to our FUNDRAISER! SUNDAY at 3pm in our church SANCTUARY. RECEPTION following.

SUGGESTED donation \$8, general admission; \$4 for seniors and students.

Sponsored by: Artburst, Janice Williams, Ginny Loggins, Juanzetta Flowers, Gerda Carmichael, Angela & Ken Pruitt, Susan Markovits, Andy Duxbury & Tommy Thompson, Debra Burrell, David Baker & Lois Gaeta, Genesis Pittman, Dorothea & Jack Throp

HELP US COLLECT CANNED FOOD ITEMS

FOR GREATER BIRMINGHAM MINISTRIES FOR A TRULY MEANINGFUL MOTHER'S DAY GIFT--Mother's Day food items will be collected in the narthex in the baskets under the Justice table through **May 11, 2008**--Contact Darryl Hunt, Chair of the GBM Direct Service Workgroup, if any questions.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham Order of Service: May 4, 2008

UNMASKING MORAL VALUES

*Moral values are not just particular opinions on 'hot bottom' topics
in a divisive election year.*

*Moral values grow out of our calling as a religious people
to work to create the Beloved Community.*

*Moral values instruct us to 'love our neighbors as ourselves'
and always to ask the question, "Who is my neighbor?"*

*They are fundamentally inclusive rather than exclusive,
and they call on **generosity of spirit** rather than **mean spiritedness**...*
--Rev. Bill Sinkford, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association

*The intuition of the moral sentiment is an insight
of the perfection of the laws of the soul.*

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

GATHERING

RINGING OF BELL

PRELUDE Prelude in B flat minor J.S. Bach Dr. Cynthia Jones, Accompanist

OPENING WORDS Rev. Bill Leggett, Minister

*CHALICE LIGHTING WORDS (in unison) Lea Davis, Service Leader

Spirit of life, be present with us this hour.

*Join us today as we gather in a wider search for truth and purpose.
In this quest, may we greet one another with open hearts and minds;
may we inspire each other to consider new questions and seek deeper meaning;
and may we cultivate wisdom and compassion. Let all who enter this sanctuary see a
welcome face, hear a kind word, and find comfort in this community.
And may all that is done and said here today be in service to love and justice.*

-- Kathy A. Huff

*OPENING HYMN #370 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" Accompanist

TIME FOR ALL AGES

STORY Linda Barnes

SONG "Go Now in Peace" (Words and music inside back of hymnal)

COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Service Leader

CIRCLE OF LIGHTS

Service Leader

(We invite members and friends to light a candle and, in one or two sentences, to name major milestones/transitions in your personal life and in the lives of those you love.)

CENTERING

MEDITATION/PRAYER

Minister

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERTORY

WORDS

MUSIC Theme and variation in A Major W.A. Mozart

Accompanist

*DOXOLOGY Hymn # "From You I Receive" (Repeat twice)

*From you I receive, to you I give,
together we share, and from this we live.*

MESSAGE

SERMON

Unmasking Moral Values

Minister

GOING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN # 276 "O Young and Fearless Prophet"

Accompanist

*EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE (in unison)

Service Leader

*May we never rest until every child of earth in every generation
is free from all prisons of the mind and of the body and of the spirit;
until the earth and the hills and the seas shall dance,
and the universe itself resound with the joyful cry: "Behold! I am!"*

--John Cummins

POSTLUDE

Scarlatti Sonata in C Major

Accompanist

CLOSING WORDS

Minister

(*Please rise in body and/or spirit)

The flowers in the sanctuary today are donated and arranged by Gerda Carmichael.

HOSPITALITY AND CONNECTING

Welcome to guests and newcomers! We invite you to gather for coffee and conversation following the service. Copies of our most recent church newsletter (dated March, 2008) are available on the display table near the sanctuary entrance. Please fill out a Guest Card on the round table near the church entrance, and indicate if you would like to be on our weekly e-mail distribution list, and on our monthly newsletter distribution list.

The Pickett Room, across from the Sanctuary, serves as a Crying Room for families with young babies who wish to hear the service. The church has Hearing Aid Devices for your use during the worship service. Please see the usher for assistance. Please switch phones & beepers to silent mode.

Flower Arranging Class

A Flower Arranging Class will be held at 9 AM until noon on Saturday, May 10. Details and sign-up form in SEEC notebook in the sanctuary, or contact Debra Burrell for more information. Please register by May 7.

Notes on Today's Service

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m *Unmasking Moral Values*, sermon by Rev. Leggett

Worship Leader: Lea Davis

Time for All Ages: Linda Barnes

Greeters: John & Pam Powell and Bob Taylor.

Music: Dr. Cynthia Jones

Logistics Coordinator:

Offering Coordinator: Barbara Koehler and Gerry Garrick

Flowers: Gerda Carmichael

Coffee Hosts:

What's Happening in Religious Education?, Sunday, May 4, 2008

Sunday Supervisor: Kristin Laus-Hunt

Childcare from 9-1:30 in Nursery / Toddler Room: Eve Markovitz, Lauren Lanehart

Preschool: We are Many, We are One ~ We must care for our plants. . . ~ Laurie Hicks, Kara Harrison, Arden Craft

Lower Elementary: Stories About God ~ Changing Woman/Changing World ~ Linda Frost, Peggy Gordon, Ivy York-Curtis

Upper Elementary: We Believe ~ Who Owns the Earth? Steve Gilbert, Suzanne Ashe

Middle School: It Starts with Me! Back to the Planet ~ Patti Steelman, Susan Silvernail

High School: Life Issues for Teens (LIFT) ~ Is there life after high school? Dave Anderson, Jerri Gilbert

On Wednesday, May 7, two events are happening:

- the first is **Woo Hoo Wednesday's End of the Year Picnic from 6-7:30 pm**. Families & friends, please come and bring your favorite picnic foods to share!
- Following the Picnic, **SEEC (The Spiritual and Ethical Enrichment Committee) will meet downstairs in the Middle School Room**, childcare provided.

Wednesday, May 8, there's a **Curriculum Planning Meeting** at the Church. Noon, lunch provided. Interested? Contact Sharron Mendel at dre@uucbham.org or 945-8109.

