

# St. Paul's Church of Palmer



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Unitarian Universalist

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:  
Tues-Weds-Thurs 9am – 2pm



# February Newsletter

## One Minister's View

Wow! I'm not often astonished, and rarely ever dazzled. But, I must say the first edition of "Visions" has astonished and dazzled me! It is the most magnificent and creative email message I have ever seen from any church anywhere, and I've been around the block more than a few times. I'm so very excited and delighted that "Visions" was from St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Church Administrator, Tracie Shea, consistently does a beautiful and admirable job creating St. Paul's monthly newsletter, and our Sunday orders-of-service, and I thought nobody could develop a publication as attractive as Tracie always does! But I was wrong!

The first edition of "Visions", the newest innovation created and edited by none other than your own fellow member, Cathy Senecal, is for certain a masterpiece!

There is only one other word for it, and that is magnificent! St. Paul's members can be very proud of Tracie's consistent presentations, and Cathy's innovative "Visions" which will most certainly represent St. Paul's in a way that other UU churches will predictably envy, or at least their ministers will.

It seemed to me that, if it is at all possible to attract newcomers to St. Paul's to build this congregation for the future, "Visions" would

## CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday at 10:00 am

**February 5**

Rev. Jon Rehmus

**February 12**

Rev. Bill Baughan  
Dr. Kevin Albert, M.D.  
*How To Draw Circles*

**February 19**

Rev. Jon Rehmus

**February 26**

Rev. Bill Baughan  
*The Modern Messiah  
Who Quit*

**March 4**

Rev. Jon Rehmus



lead the way! Looking forward to next month's edition of "Visions", I am disheartened to learn that, for whatever reason, St. Paul's will not be publishing "Visions" again.

Speaking of attracting newcomers, in 1913, Edwin Markham published his book of poetry entitled *The Shoes Of Happiness* which included one of his most famous poems:

"He drew a circle that shut me out —  
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.  
But Love and I had the wit to win:  
We drew a circle that took him in."

On February 12, "How To Draw Circles" will be the title of the sermon presented by my good friend of many years, Dr. Kevin Albert, M.D. who personally and professionally draws universal circles including everyone on Planet Earth in his concerns.

You won't want to miss this one! Compassionate, daring adventurer, humorist, and brilliant medical doctor, Kevin Albert is a unique combination of the legendary Dr. "Patch" Adams, the fictional "Indiana Jones," the comedian John Candy, and the dedicated Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

A physician with his own practice, historian, interested in religious writings, a daring adventurer as a member and instructor of a Search And Rescue Team looking for people lost in the forests and the mountains of New York, and training Native American residents of the Havasupai Reservation in no less an exotic places than Arizona's Grand Canyon, Dr. Kevin Albert has also been known to write for the *Universalist Herald*.

Having been present for Kevin's sermons on two different topics at the Petersham and Bennington Unitarian Universalist churches, I am very much looking forward to his being with us on February 12. We are all in for a treat.

If you have ever considered bringing a neighbor or a friend to a St. Paul's service, February 12 will be a good day to do that! You can be assured that you and they will very much enjoy it.

Kevin, his good wife, Dr. Seema Chaudhari, and their young daughter, Victoria, beautifully exemplify the "Law of Expenditure." The "Law of Expenditure" has nothing to do with money. The "Law of Expenditure" tells us that we can find our greatest happiness, not in getting, but in helping others and in expressing who and what we are.



## Got News?

Submissions  
for the  
March  
Newsletter  
due:



**February 21<sup>rst</sup>**

## *Anniversaries & Birthdays*

### *February*

- 06- Eleanore Hodson
- 16- Barbara Windoloski
- 21- Robin Boulanger



## **COFFEE HOUR**

*Please join us  
each week  
after service  
for refreshments  
and fellowship!*



Just as tides in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans often bring in what goes out, tides in the ocean of life flow toward us, often bringing something in return for what we each give out to the world. Nature does not give anything to those who do not spend. Nature's gifts are only loaned to those who actually use them, such as when we exercise. As we become conscious of breathing in and breathing out during exercise, we realize that, within intelligent limits, the more we give to that exercise, the more we will receive from it.

It often seems to me that, in any February, people everywhere seem to smile less, some even become quite depressed and try to find something, anything, to be happy about. So, what is the secret of happiness? The secret of happiness is knowing that we often live by Nature's "Law of Expenditure." You and I know there are people out there in the world who seem to live for what money can buy, or for fleeting fame, or at least for recognition and honors. But, genuine joy is not found in getting and holding onto something. True happiness is most often found in our striving, building, writing, creating, organizing, singing, teaching, cooking, decorating, caring, loving, sharing, listening, fixing, improving, hiking, and doing, especially for others.

Many teachers, for example, know it is a much higher joy to teach than to be taught. It is good to get justice, and equally good to give it. Throughout life people search for happiness. Wrote John Dewey, "Such happiness as life is capable of comes from the full participation of all our powers in the endeavor to wrest from each changing situation of experience its own full and unique meaning."

While some say, "Success is getting what you want," and others say, "Happiness is wanting what you get," happiness is often the result of being too busy to think about such things.

*Rev. Bill Baughan*



## FOOD SHARE

Your continued support is appreciated. Non-perishable donations may be placed in the Food Share box on Sunday or delivered directly. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Palmer Food Share, 39 Walnut Street, Palmer 01069 If you'd like more information please see Harriot Henrichon or Barbara Stone.



**TAG SALE** is now closed, but will re-open April 14. There's a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall if you're able to help out next season. Please contact Gordon Christiansen or June Bacon with any questions.



**COMMUNITY MEALS** The next Community Meal will be held **SATURDAY, February 25** at 5pm. If you would like to help out with your time or contribution, please let Barbara Stone know.



## CHURCH GREETERS

Gordon & Irene Christiansen and Verna Besaw graciously serve as greeters on Sundays. If you'd also like to help greet, please see Gordon, Irene or Verna.

## A NOTE FROM THE MUSCIC DIRECTOR

Over the past several weeks, some of you have asked why I am using the piano rather than the organ. A few times the organ has just stopped during a service requiring us to run downstairs to the piano. We have had the Hammond representative work on the instrument on four separate occasions and his findings are: the generator is the problem and cannot be repaired or replaced. Therefore, the organ is no longer playable. The organ was installed in 1954 (assembled at a factory how many years before that). This is considered a very good life for a Hammond electronic organ. As mentioned above, the organ was installed & purchased by Esther Griswold when the sanctuary was remodeled and given in memory of her parents.



A committee of Joan Allen, Bob Faulkner, Sue King and Barbara Stone was formed to find a replacement for the organ as we do have options. Whether it be another instrument similar to what we now have, a keyboard, an electronic piano, etc. there are several questions to be answered. Another option would be a previously used and restored organ. We do have an Allen organ located in the Chapel, but that is just what it is – a chapel organ and not something suitable for the sanctuary.

We have investigated our options, and there will be a Special Meeting on Sunday, February 12 to discuss the matter and vote on purchasing the instrument recommended by the committee.

I will be happy to answer any questions you have concerning this matter.

*Barbara*



### HOLY TIMES

During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:



1. Muslims do not recognize Jews as God's Chosen People.
2. Jews do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah.
3. Protestants do not recognize the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.
4. Baptists do not recognize each other at the liquor store.

### THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the Microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

(SUBMITTED BY Joan Allen)

# February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Rev. Jon Rehmus	6 Eleanore Hodson	7	8	9	10 <b>Trustees 2pm</b>	11
12 Rev. Bill Baughan <b>SPECIAL MEETING</b>	13	14	15	16 Barb Windoloski	17	18
19 Rev. Jon Rehmus	20	21 Robin Boulanger	22	23	24	25 <b>Community Meal 5 pm</b>
26 Rev. Bill Baughan	27	28	29			

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF PALMER  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012**

You are hereby notified of the special meeting of the members of St. Paul's Church of Palmer to take place at Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 12, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. or as soon as possible thereafter to act on the following:

**Article I:**

**Vote to purchase an electronic piano/organ and bench.**

Your attendance is respectfully requested,

For the Board of Trustees,

June L. Bacon, Clerk