

Winter/Spring Adult Programming at Old Ship 2009

In harmony with Unitarian Universalist principles and sources of inspiration, learning opportunities at Old Ship serve our community by encouraging spiritual growth and the free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

Gatherings are in the Parish House parlor unless otherwise noted.

Older youth may find many of these programs of interest, and are encouraged and welcome to attend.

This year we are asking participants to contribute \$35 for the first course they attend (sliding scale according to need). There is no fee for the drop-in ongoing groups listed on the back of this flyer, or if otherwise noted.

Winter/Spring

Who Was Jesus? Who Was Buddha? – five sessions, Wed. 1:00 / 7:30, Jan 7 – Feb. 11 (no session on Feb. 4)

We will look comparatively at Jesus and Buddha, using parallel texts and other brief readings. Our primary text will be *Jesus and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings*, edited by Marcus Borg and Jack Kornfeld and available in paperback. I will also be making available selections of the sayings week by week for those who don't have the book.

Please register for the class or ask questions by contacting Ken Read-Brown, 781-749-1679 or oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

Nature Reading Group – five sessions, Wed. 7-8:30 p.m., Feb. 18 – March 18 – Jeanette Eberhardy

Back by popular demand is the nature reading group! We will be reading from a wonderful new anthology edited by Bill McKibben: *American Earth: Environmental Writing since Thoreau*. We are asking all participants to purchase the book, if possible. Old Ship will hold one in the library. (Approx. \$25.00 through Amazon.com) Join us for lively conversation responding to great literature focused on nature and us. Reading for the first meeting will be announced in advance. Let us know if you plan to participate by contacting Jeanette (781-749-1827; jle@jluise.com) or the office.

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven – five sessions, Thurs., 7:30, March 19 – April 16 – Abby & Mary Diamond-Kissiday

Recently updated as “In Ancient Times” this curriculum introduces women to ancient Goddesses, weaving their stories together with major concerns of women today. The themes covered sessions are: The Sacred Female, In the Name of the Mother and the Daughter, Womanpower, The First Turning-From Goddess to God, and Reclaiming Women's Heritage of Peace. For more information or to sign up, please call Abby or Mary at (781) 925-1305.

Spring Poetry – five sessions, Wed., 1:00 / 7:00, April 1 – April 29 – Elizabeth Torrey and Ken Read-Brown

Once again we celebrate National Poetry Month by exploring the life and work of a poet or two. This year we will be exploring the work of two African American poets: Langston Hughes and Gwendolyn Brooks.

For more info contact Elizabeth, 781-749-0543, elizabethtorrey@hotmail.com or Ken, oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

Menu for the Future – six sessions, Wed., 7:00, May 6 – June 10 – Ken Read-Brown

This Northwest Earth Institute class explores the connection between food and sustainability. The class looks at both individual practices as well as at national and global food systems. We'll probably eat along the way!

For further information or to sign up contact Ken Read-Brown, 781-749-1679 or oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

All Year Long!

The Way of the Bodhisattva – first and third (new) Sunday mornings, 8:30 (no mtgs. in summer)

We begin with half an hour of sitting meditation, followed by an hour conversation based on a Buddhist text.

Newcomers are warmly welcomed to join us – you need have no previous experience with Buddhism. This year we are reading *The Heart of the Buddha's Teaching* by Thich Nhat Hanh.

For more information contact Ken Read-Brown at 781-749-1679 or oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

Three Congregations Seeking Justice – Fridays, three times during the year (no fee for these programs)

Three Friday evening film showings on themes of racism, classism, and justice, each starting with potluck dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by film and discussion at 7 pm, ending at 8:30 pm. Schedule for winter/spring:

Friday, January 30, First Parish UU Cohasset – “The Power of Illusion: The House We Live In”

Friday, April 24, Second Parish Hingham -- Making Whiteness Visible

“Three Congregations...” will also include activities in cooperation with the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury, and other actions that might emerge during the year. For further info, Eva Marx at 781-749-0485 or tomneva@supportlab.com.

Small Group Ministry – led by trained Old Ship facilitators, each group meets once or twice a month to explore a

variety of spiritual, religious, and ethical issues in ways that encourage attentive listening and caring. Groups are ongoing, but newcomers are always welcome. For more info contact Peggy Ulrich-Nims, 781-987-1912, eowyn18@aol.com or Ken Read-Brown, 781-749-1679, oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

As always, watch the newsletter for additions, changes, updates...

2008 - Ongoing Groups and Gatherings - 2009

Old Ship Forum – occasional Sundays 12:15 – 1:00; various topics; see newsletter for details

This year our Old Ship Forums will include a second Sunday program titled “Life Works” a forum in which Old Ship members talk about the meanings of their career or volunteer work. Winter/spring forums will feature Laura Burns (1/11/09), Chuck Malme (2/8), Chuck McDermott (3/8), and Jane Malme (5/3).

Men’s Breakfast – second Sunday mornings, 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall (*no meetings in summer*)

An ongoing opportunity to get together in a safe, nurturing environment where we can speak freely and listen deeply to each other. We do this as a form of spiritual practice. We also seek to have fun together and rekindle our playful souls. Contacts are Ralph Brown (ralph.e.brown@comcast.net), Rich Elliott (richelliott@aol.com), and Everett Leonard (BrownLeonard@verizon.net).

Living Simply in a Complex, Consumer Oriented Society – Sundays, 7 - 9 p.m. (*no meetings in summer*)

Members of this group share support and ideas for how we might live more simply on the planet. Generally meets on the third Sunday of the month; first meeting in the fall on October 19. The jump off point for our discussions will continue to be readings and questions from *Simplicity Lessons: A 12 Step Guide to Living Simply* by Linda Breen Pierce, available in bookstores and online. This is a drop-in group, and all are invited.

For more information, contact Davalene Cooper at 781-749-0790, (davalenecooper@comcast.net)

Living By Heart – first Monday evenings, 7:30; at Elizabeth Torrey’s, 34 Ship St., Hingham

A group that uses the memorization of poetry as a form of meditation and spiritual practice. Poetry, good company, laughter too – powerfully good medicine! This group is currently full, but with enough interest a new group might form. Questions or further information? Call Elizabeth Torrey, 781-749-0543.

Ceilidh (“kay-lee”) – monthly, first Tuesday evenings, 7:30

Sharing of songs, stories, poems... and an old-fashioned good time. Bring an instrument if you have one or just bring yourself to listen and maybe sing along. Everyone is welcome. For more information call Robbie Walsh, 781-749-3108.

Labyrinth Walks – monthly, second Tuesday evenings, Fellowship Hall, 7:30

An opportunity to experience with others a contemplative walk on our labyrinth – yet another way to nurture our spiritual growth in the spirit of the UU third principle. These evenings are open to the public.

The labyrinth is also open to members of Old Ship on Monday and Tuesday mornings, from 9-noon.

Book Group – monthly, third Tuesday evenings (*no meetings in summer*)

The group gathers in participants’ homes to discuss shared reading and enjoy one another’s company and conversation. All are welcome! For more information call Shirley Brown, 781-749-9358 or Edith Howard, 781-749-4547.

Peace and Justice Seminar – once a month, various days (watch newsletter), 7:00 (*no mtgs. in summer*)

We are adding “justice” to the name of this ongoing seminar, realizing that if we want to harvest peace, we must plant seeds of justice. Conversations on peace, justice, and non-violence, using selected readings, films, and speakers, so that we might all be better peacemakers in our lives and in the world. All are invited, newcomers are always welcome.

For more information contact Ken Read-Brown at 781-749-1679 or oldshipkrb@comcast.net.

Crossing Time Poetry Circles – at the turning of each season; see newsletter for dates

We begin our 13th year! Come join the ongoing poetry renaissance in America – Northeast Branch, Old Ship affiliate! Bring and read or speak a favorite poem – an opportunity to share and perhaps deepen our appreciation of poetry, and reinforce our connection with natural cycles of life. All welcome! For more info call Elizabeth Torrey, 781-749-0543. *Only be willing to search for poetry, / and there will be poetry. / My soul, a tiny speck, is my tutor. – Yuan Hei*

Seasonal Bird Walks – leaving from the Parish House, occasional Saturday mornings

Commune with nature, enrich the soul, experience our UU seventh principle of “respect for the interdependent web of existence...” and learn about local birds. All are welcome, regardless of experience. Come listen to a different type of music in the natural world of which we are a part! Watch the newsletter for details.

For more information, call Charlie Nims, 781-987-1912.

All the World’s a Stage – occasional play readings and talks, led by Pat Bianco

If all the world’s a stage, please join us as a reader or listener. Together we’ll create stage magic.

For more information, contact Pat Bianco at 617-774-7474; bianco@pitt.edu.

Have an idea... for a class, workshop, or gathering you’d like to see or lead at Old Ship?

Please contact a member of the Adult Programs Committee and we will help you make it happen!

Donna Ekstrand (781-331-6532), Everett Leonard (781-749-9358), Judy Sneath (781-749-7617),

Elizabeth Torrey (781-749-0543), Ding Wilding-Smith (781-925-4483),

Ken Read-Brown, convener (781-749-1679)