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First Edition

Sermons

Sunday, May 10, "Troublemakers, Part III", Sam Teitel

Sam writes... "Sam will be giving us his own installment to Rev' Kendrick's "Troublemakers" series. This week we are going to be talking about the truly subversive and rebellious aspects of Mother's Day, and how parenting and other forms of loving and caring for our fellow human beings can be beautifully subversive acts."

Sunday, May 17, Annual Meeting

"People are Smart", Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "When I preach on Annual Meeting Sunday, there is often a quality of 'State of the Union' to the sermon occasion (though I don't expect you to applaud 60 times--once is enough!). And what is the State of the Church? Very healthy--but like every congregation in the country, facing increasing head-winds of secularism and distrust of organized religion. How we confront these challenges will determine not the health of the church this or next year, but a decade or a half century from now. So I thought I would come at this topic through a phrase I often use with our interns and with other young ministers I encounter--that people are smart, and instinctively know what they need, and are amazingly intuitive about every aspect of our common life. And how it is that we respond to each other's deepest emotional needs that will absolutely determine our future."

Sunday, May 21, "Not All Who Wander...", Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Stephen writes... "As we prepare for a delightful summer (and after a dreadful winter) ahead, many of us will be embarking on journeys large and small, and going out on treks into nature's allure. This is as it should be, but in an increasing age of GPS systems in our cars, on our phones, even on our watches now, it is getting increasingly hard to get productively lost in this world. In writing a recent book about Mt. Auburn Cemetery, I learned that its designers purposely made it confusing and easy to be lost in--because our forbears thought getting lost once in awhile was a good thing for us to do. And they were right. Wandering is an important spiritual discipline, and so is the experience of not being totally oriented all the time!"



Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Unitarian Universalist Association have partnered to create the Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund. This fund will go to helping the efforts after the devastating events that have occurred. Their statement reads:

“We’re assembling a crisis response team to conduct an initial assessment of the greatest threats survivors face. As always, our focus will be on those groups most likely to fall through the cracks of traditional rescue and relief efforts:

- Women and girls will be at grave risk of gender-based violence and discrimination, issues that are already prevalent in Nepal.
- The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities will be especially vulnerable to discrimination.
- Dalits and indigenous groups that are traditionally the target of appalling social discrimination are likely to be cast aside as relief supplies and services begin arriving in-country.
- Roughly 4 million people who live in Nepal without recognized citizenship will have difficulty getting the help they desperately need.
- The elderly and people living with disabilities and HIV/AIDS are also likely targets for discrimination and abuse.

These are the people counting on us today. And they are why I’m counting on you today.”

Please send whatever you can. Contact Zach to donate online or mail your check to the UUSC at P.O. Box 808, Newark, NJ 07101-0808. Please write “Nepal Relief” in the memo line to designate your gift to the UUSC-UUA joint fund.

Annual Meeting: May 17, 2015

All are welcome to join us for our Annual Meeting after the service on May 17th. We will discuss the upcoming year and the present state of the congregation. Please join us to vote and participate in this very important gathering.



Pride Marshalls Needed

First Church in Boston is looking for a group of people to march with our banner in the Boston Pride Parade on June 13th starting in Copley Square and ending at Boston City Hall Plaza. It promises to be an amazing day full of fun!