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UU Urban Ministry e-News

A monthly electronic newsletter of your UU Urban Ministry



Dear Linda,

On Saturday our summer teens will host a Community Fair on the grounds of historic First Church in Roxbury. Neighbors and friends will gather for games, food, and discussion of community concerns. Promoting civic engagement and building connections, the teens will have a voter registration table and will present the findings of their community youth survey.

Please stop by if you are in the area between noon and four to see the culmination of a summer of hard work for our young organizers!



Rev. Kate Wilkinson
Coordinator of Congregational Outreach and
Volunteers

If you have questions or want to respond to any of the announcements in the e-newsletter below, please contact Rev. Kate Wilkinson at 617-318-6010 x214 or kwilkinson@uum.org.

Issue: # 34

August/2011

"In every community there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart there is the power to do it."

-- Marianne Williamson

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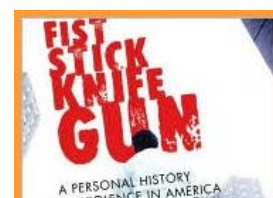


The Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry has a NEW fan page on Facebook!

Visit us today at www.facebook.com/UUUrbanMinistry and click on the "like" button to keep track of all of our latest news, photos, and upcoming events.

Mark Your Calendars!

Book Discussion



Put your values to work with a tax-deductible contribution to the UU Urban Ministry

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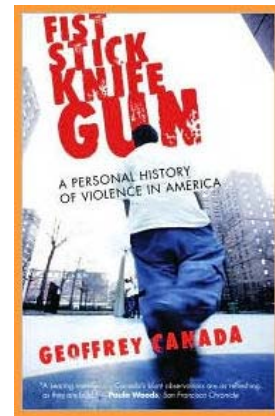
Join Us Online

[UUUM on Facebook](#)

Thursday, September 29

6pm

Join the men of United Souls who are hosting our next book discussion. Teens from Roxbury Youth Programs, UUUM staff and volunteers will gather for conversation about the chosen book. We are returning to one of our favorite authors, Geoffrey Canada, to read his compelling book *Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun: A Personal History of Violence in America*. All are welcome! A light supper will be served.



Candlelight Vigil

Thursday, October 27

6:30-7:30pm at the UU Urban Ministry

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In years past we have hosted a vigil honoring those whose lives were lost due to domestic violence in MA. This year we are pleased to invite you to join us for a collaborative vigil honoring the lives of those who have been lost due to violence in our community and across the state. Led by RH staff, RYP youth and men from the United Souls group, this event is sure to be emotional and uplifting - highlighting the various experiences of the individuals and families we serve.

Spark: The Fire Within

A Performance to Benefit Renewal House

Saturday October 29th

7-9 pm at First Church in Boston

We are celebrating the voices of domestic violence survivors in "Spark: The Fires Within," an exciting evening of performance, poetry, dance and art to raise money for the work of Renewal House. You can show your support to domestic violence survivors, and our work providing support, education, and community awareness, by becoming an event sponsor or taking out a program ad with a message of support (For details check our [UUUM website](#)). Tickets to the event are \$30, and may be purchased by contacting Ruth Crocker at rcrocker@uum.org.

***Prophetic Encounters* Book Release Celebration**

A Jack Mendelsohn Forum special event

with scholar and author Dan McKanan

Sunday afternoon, November 13, 3-5pm

Due to be released on November 1st by Beacon Press, *Prophetic Encounters* is the first comprehensive history of the intimate relationship between religion and the Left in the United States. Come learn how Unitarians and Universalists have worked alongside Jews, Catholics, Freethinkers, Spiritualists, mainline and evangelical Protestants, and so many others in extending liberty, equality, and solidarity to all people.

RENEWAL HOUSE

an emergency domestic violence shelter

Volunteer Opportunities:

Food and Tie-Dye Supplies

Needed for September Beyond

Shelter Gathering

Saturday, September 24

1-3 p.m.

Our Beyond Shelter gatherings are an incredible opportunity to provide ongoing support to both current and former Renewal House residents and their children. It is a big and wonderful reunion as families reconnect and share stories and support. In September former residents will be leading a tie-dyeing workshop and we need your help! Can you or your congregation help with donations of food or tie-dyeing materials?

-sandwiches
-drinks
-paper goods
-dessert

-white kids' and adult size T-shirts
-fabric markers
-buckets
-tie-dyeing kits



Auditions!

Renewal House invites you to audition for SPARK: the fire within - an original performance piece with music, dance and drama highlighting the reality of intimate partner abuse in all its complexities.

Auditions will be held Saturday, September 10 from 1pm-4pm at the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry. Performance will be on Saturday, October 29. For more information contact Susan Chorley or Maria Rose at 617-277-4194.

Renewal House Fall Volunteer Training

Thursdays 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 6-9pm and

Saturday, 10/15, 9am-5pm

This fall we will be offering a 25 hour volunteer training for all those interested in volunteering at Renewal House. If you are interested in going through this required training, please fill out our [online volunteer application](#).

Other Needs:

Renewal House is in need of full size toiletries (please no hotel sizes) including shampoo, conditioner, soap, body cream, deodorant, razors, tooth paste, and tooth brushes. Also helpful would be additional copies of the text books we use in our ESL classes...[Side By Side](#) and [Ventures 2](#). For a current list of other helpful donations, please visit our [Renewal House Needs](#) page. Thank you!

ROXBURY YOUTH PROGRAMS

after-school programming serving middle and high

school youth

Volunteer Opportunities:

Roxbury Youth Programs

Volunteer Training

Thursday, September 8,

6:00-8:30 p.m. and

Saturday, September 10,

9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Are you interested in volunteering with our after-school program next year? We need volunteers to tutor, lead

middle school Math and ELA (English Language Arts) Circles, help with game-nights, and lend a hand with SAT prep and College Access work. A once-a-week commitment is ideal.

Please plan to attend our volunteer trainings in the fall (RSVP to kwilkinson@uum.org) and if you have not already done so, please fill out our [online volunteer application](#). Returning volunteers should also plan to attend these trainings.



Please note that we have added a Thursday evening (6:30-7:30pm) tutoring session for high school students so that tutors can come after work.

College Coaches Needed

Would you like to help a high school junior or senior navigate the college application process? We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in developing a one-on-one relationship with a RYP student. Together you and the student would explore college options, develop a timeline for applying to schools, complete & submit applications, find available scholarships and possibly visit some colleges. College coaches would work under the umbrella of the RYP after-school College Readiness Program. College coaches will work with and be supported by Rev. Kate Wilkinson, Ashley Platt (RYP Staff) and Karen Erikson (College Readiness Lead Volunteer.) The time commitment would be one hour weekly or bi-weekly meetings with your student (to be scheduled during afternoons 4-6pm or evenings 6:30-7:30pm.)

STAND HIGH / STAND UNITED

a weekend and summer enrichment program for elementary and middle school children

Volunteer Opportunities:

Lead/Sponsor an

Explorer's Club

10 a.m. - 12 noon on any of the following Saturdays:





**9/17, 11/19, 12/10, 1/14,
2/11, 3/10, 4/14, and 5/12**

Think about the kind of fun enrichment activities your congregation, youth group, committee, or small group ministry could offer a group of 25-30 elementary school aged children! We welcome your ideas. In particular, we would love to have science-, craft-, and health-related Explorer's Clubs. And maybe a fun field day next spring! Want to do something, but not sure what? Contact Rev. Kate Wilkinson for suggestions. kwilkinson@uum.org or 617-318-6010 x214.

Become a Mentor

A critical and meaningful component of Stand High / Stand United is mentoring...and we need more mentors! If you are interested in mentoring, please fill out our [online application](#). Please also plan to regularly attend Explorer's Clubs, which are held one Saturday a month. It's very important for you to get to know the program, staff, and, of course, children (and for us to get to know you) before becoming a mentor. Our next volunteer training is on Saturday, September 10.

UNITED SOULS

a support group and network for men in transition

On-going Event:

Weekly Meetings

Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.

All men are welcome to attend.

If interested, please contact:

Sam Williams

swilliams@uum.org

617-318-6010 x205



Sincerely,

Rev. Kate Wilkinson

Coordinator of Congregational Outreach and Volunteers

Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

10 Putnam Street, John Eliot Square

Roxbury, MA 02119

617-318-6010 x214

kwilkinson@uum.org

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