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## UU Urban Ministry e-News

A monthly electronic newsletter of your UU Urban Ministry



**Dear Linda,**

Summer is in the air at the UU Urban Ministry. Outside our raised bed gardens are bursting with life as the peas, onions, carrots, and flowers planted by the middle school students push through the earth. Inside our students are bursting with excitement for summer camps, summer jobs, and heading off to college.



June 11 is our Roxbury Youth Programs End of Year Celebration. Our Renewal House ESL classes will also be taking a break before gearing up for a five week summer session, and UUUM staff is getting ready to host a dozen teens for our summer employment program.

At the same time we are all looking ahead to the fall, and to another successful year of empowering youth and adults to realize their full potential.



If you have been thinking about getting more involved at the UU Urban Ministry, now is a great time to learn more about opportunities for engagement in the fall. If you want to invite someone from the UU Urban Ministry to your pulpit next year, if you have an afternoon free during the week to tutor, if your family or church group would like to cook one night for our youth program, if you are interested in signing up for a training on domestic violence issues, or if you just want to learn more about other ways that you can help us live out this shared ministry, please get in touch.

I look forward to hearing from you!

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](mailto:kwilkinson@uum.org).

**Issue: # 32**

**June/2011**

"Summer afternoon - summer afternoon; to me those have always been the

two most beautiful words in the English language."

-- Henry James

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## Mark Your Calendars!

### **Roxbury Youth Programs End of Year Celebration Saturday, June 11**

**1-4pm**

All program participants and volunteers are invited to our End of Year Celebration/BBQ for the middle school, high school and weekend Explorer's Club programs of the Roxbury Youth Programs. Come help us celebrate at this "Steps to Success" event.



Congratulations to our graduating seniors who will be attending: Bunker Hill Community College, Dean College, Newbury College, Roxbury Community College, Salem State University, and Westfield State University!

### **Walking Tour of Fort Hill, Roxbury**

**Thursday, July 7**

**10:30 am**

Join our summer youth on a 90 minute walking tour of the historic neighborhood around the UU Urban Ministry. Led by Discover Roxbury, this tour will acquaint you with new and old sites important to the Fort Hill neighborhood. Spaces are limited so please contact Rev. Kate if you are interested in joining us.

### **Book Discussion**

**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!

[RENEWAL HOUSE](#)

an emergency domestic violence shelter

## Volunteer Opportunities:

ESL Teachers and  
Childcare Providers Needed  
for Summer Term

**Mondays and Wednesdays,  
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**July 18-August 17**

Our ESL (English as a Second Language) classes for Renewal House residents, former

residents, and community members will meet twice a week for a five week summer term. Some of our regular volunteers will be away, so we would love a few new members on the teaching and childcare volunteer teams. If interested, please fill out our [online volunteer application](#) and indicate your interest in ESL teaching or childcare.



## Renewal House Fall Volunteer Training

This fall we will be offering a 25 hour volunteer training for all those interested in volunteering at Renewal House. The training will take place during the month of October, dates tbd. 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:

Tutors for Fall 2011

Have you been thinking about tutoring at the Roxbury Youth Programs? We need tutors in all subjects for the 2011-12 school year. Some tutors help lead middle school learning circles in math, reading, and language arts. Others are

paired with middle school or high school students for one-on-one tutoring in a variety of subjects. Tutors commit to coming once a week in the afternoon (3:30-5pm) or evening



(5-6pm or 6:30-7:30pm). September training dates TBA. To find out more, contact Rev. Kate Wilkinson at [kwilkinson@uum.org](mailto:kwilkinson@uum.org).

### 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:

### 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.



### 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](mailto:swilliams@uum.org)

617-318-6010 x205



**Sincerely,**

Rev. Kate Wilkinson

Coordinator of Congregational Outreach and Volunteers

Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

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