

Announcements for Sunday, February 2, 2014

New Announcements

Faith's Adult Series and this year's Faith and Life Lectures at Baldwin Wallace University: Dr. Paul Knitter, Paul Tillich Professor Emeritus at Union Theological Seminary in New York will be lecturing on the topic "Without Buddha I Could Not Be a Christian" on Wednesday, Feb. 19th, at 7:30 p.m. in Lindsay-Crossman Chapel (56 Seminary St., Berea). This lecture may be of particular interest to folks who have participated in Jim Christensen's recent adult study on Buddhism and Christianity. Dr. Knitter will also be lecturing on interreligious dialogue at 10 am on Thursday, Feb. 20th, followed by a panel discussion on religious pluralism at 2 pm. More information is available on line at <http://www.bw.edu/academics/rel/event/> or by phoning the University at 440-826-2193. The lectures are free and open to the public, but registration is required.

The Faith Reading Group, this Wednesday, February 5th, will discuss *Benediction* by Kent Haruf (272 pages), starting with refreshments in the kitchen at 7:00 p.m. then discussion at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Please note that there will be no discussions in March due to Ash Wednesday and in April due to the Easter Lenten series.

Previous Announcements

Faith Seniors will be meeting on Tuesday, February 11th, at 1:00 p.m. at the church. It is a Show and Tell Day. Please find a photo of yourself as a child and give it to either Ray or Lou Hein no later than today, Sunday, February 2nd. There will be a contest for the photo and memorabilia. All are welcome. Please come.

Hurrah for Women of Faith! Join us on Friday, February 7th, at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. We'll have a planning meeting with a valentine theme. Please sign up across from the kitchen. A donation of a salad or a dessert is requested. If you are unable to attend, please give your ideas to Karen Wagner (staff) or email her at ffdiretor@faithucrhoh.org. Women of Faith meets six times per year.

Love is Love is coming on Friday, February 7th, in the Chapel of Plymouth Church UCC at 8:00 p.m. Plymouth UCC is located at 2860 Coventry Road in Shaker Heights. Love is Love is a Valentine-Themed Concert and Mixer to Benefit LGBT Equality in Ohio. It is sponsored by Embody: A Community of Faith, together with many partners. It will feature The Coastliners ensemble of the North Coast Men's Chorus, Samba Joia afro-cuban drumming, the voices of NEOVocE, and the jazzy rhythms of The Gateway Band. Tickets are \$15.00 (includes fees and light refreshments) and are available online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/love-is-love-concert-mixer-tickets-10134062253>. Half of all ticket sales will go to the Equality Ohio Education Fund. Equality Ohio's education efforts include Why Marriage Matters Ohio and other education initiatives to end employment and housing discrimination of LGBTQ people. Embody, a new faith community of the United Church of Christ in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is committed to seeing and being the Love that shows up in flesh in our world.

Update from Bread for the World. The economic crisis that began in 2008 has increased hunger and poverty. Over the last three years, Washington has been preoccupied with deficit reduction, with some members of Congress pushing for deep cuts in programs focused on hunger and poverty. "Lots of people are struggling economically, and they voted in the last election," said the Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread. "That has encouraged leaders in both parties to explain how they propose to provide help and opportunity for families that struggle to buy groceries." Bread for the World Institute outlined its own plan to ending hunger in America in its 2014 Hunger Report, which stresses policies to reduce unemployment and improve the quality of jobs. It also urges a strong safety net, investments in people (human capital), and partnerships between community organizations and government programs. See the Bread bulletin board across from the entrance to the church offices for more on Bread's four-part plan.