

Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church

2001 California Lane
 Arlington, Texas 76015
 817-460-6481
 arlington-tx-uu.org

Kaleidoscope

January 2009

Sunday	Jan 4	10:00 a.m.	The Sunday School Gang continues the series <i>No Excuses: Existentialism and the Meaning of Life</i> , with Professor Robert Solomon's lecture, "Heidegger on Authenticity," led by Naren Jackson
		11:00 a.m.	Steve Bush speaks
		12:30 p.m.	Finance Committee led by Larry Heath
Monday	Jan 5	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Jan 11	10:00 a.m.	Daniel Melendez speaks on "My Happy Life as One of Jehovah's Witnesses"
		11:00 a.m.	TBA
		12:30 p.m.	Board Meeting led by John Blair
Monday	Jan 12	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Jan 18	10:00 a.m.	"Sunday School Gang" - David Tripp continues to lead a study of Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay, "The American Scholar"
		11:00 a.m.	David Tripp speaks on "New Horizons"
Monday	Jan 19	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Jan 25	10:00 a.m.	Gregory Ellis speaks on "Spectrum of Consciousness (and Broadening It)"
		11:00 a.m.	Psychologist Philip Roos speaks
		12:30 p.m.	Monthly Potluck - all are invited
		1:00 p.m.	Midwinter Meeting
Monday	Jan 26	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed

Nursery provided at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday.

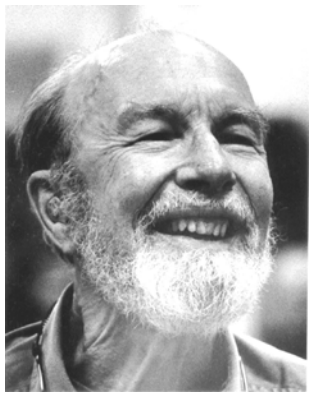
Our Annual Midwinter Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25, following the monthly Potluck Luncheon. The main business of this meeting is the election of a three-member Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of nominees for the Board of Trustees to be elected by voting members at the Annual Meeting on the last Sunday in May. According to our By-Laws, Active (voting) members must make a financial contribution of record during the year prior to, and be on the membership roster at least 60 days prior to, any congregational business meeting at which they wish to vote.

AUUC Mission Statement -- Our mission is to provide a nourishing environment:

- In which liberal religious thought and spiritual growth are encouraged; where doubt is welcome and free choice is the rule
- In which we will be motivated to contribute to the betterment of all life
- In which we will teach and promote all of the other Unitarian Universalist values, embodied in the Seven Principles

Pledging: It costs in excess of \$55 per pledging unit per month to sustain the Arlington UU Church. Please give what you can. If you choose to make your contribution using the collection basket, use a special envelope or indicate "Pledge" on your check. Thank you for your support.

Meet Pete Seeger

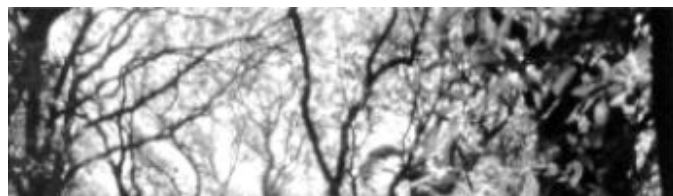


Pete Seeger, a member of the Community Church of New York, was born in 1919 to a musicologist and a music teacher. Music and activism blended naturally for Seeger, who at sixteen saw a performance that has since directed his life. As Seeger recalled: "That summer I visited a square

dance festival in Asheville, North Carolina, and fell in love with the old-fashioned five-string banjo, rippling out a rhythm to one fascinating song after another." These songs seemed frank, straightforward, honest. "I liked the rhythms," Seeger said. "I liked the melodies, time-tested by generations of singers. Above all, I liked the words." Seeger entered Harvard in 1936 but it proved a weaker attraction than the life of a traveling musician; he left in his sophomore year, setting out to absorb American folk music straight from its roots in communities across the country. Swapping watercolor paintings for food and shelter, Seeger traveled all around the U.S., learning "a little something from everybody" as he sought to master the five-string banjo and internalize the folk traditions he'd come to love. On the road he met Woody Guthrie and Huddie Ledbetter, who both became strong influences and collaborators in Seeger's early career. In addition to churches, migrant camps, and everything between, he made his way to the Library of Congress, where he fortified his background in folk music as an assistant in the Archive of American Folk Song. Seeger, Guthrie, and others formed Seeger's first group, the Almanac Singers, in 1940. Seeger and Guthrie traveled throughout the U.S. and Mexico as singer-activists, bolstering labor movements with song as they blended activism and folk music. In 1942, Seeger joined the Army, performing for his fellow soldiers and picking up "soldier songs." Discharged a corporal in 1945, Seeger founded People's Songs, Inc., a musicians' union through which he hoped to bind labor movements and folk music in a relationship that would advance both. People's Songs eventually grew to 3,000 members, and Seeger remained involved in politics, campaigning for 1948 Progressive candidate

Henry A. Wallace and helping to establish the musical side of labor organizing. In 1948 Seeger co-founded The Weavers, a folksinging quartet with which he recorded such classics as "If I Had a Hammer," "Kisses Sweeter than Wine," and "On Top of Old Smoky." He also toured extensively on his own, helping to establish the Newport (Rhode Island) Folk Festival and selling out such venues as Carnegie Hall. His position in mainstream music was stifled by blacklisting, however, as controversy surrounding his ties to the Communist Party led major television networks to keep him off the air. The House Committee on Un-American Activities called Seeger to hearings in 1955; instead of citing the Fifth Amendment as grounds for silence, Seeger cited the First, a move for which he was sentenced to a year in jail for contempt of court. Citing his unconditional willingness to share his music regardless of supposed political alliances, Seeger even offered to play a song for the court. Although his sentence for contempt was soon overturned, Seeger remained blacklisted by many organizations. Nonetheless, he remained firm in his love of sharing music. "I'd sing for the John Birch Society or the American Legion, if they asked," he said. "So far they haven't." Seeger continued playing in spite of political controversy, recording such hits as "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" and "Turn, Turn, Turn." His clear and catchy singing and his mastery of the five-string banjo -- as well as steel drums and several other instruments -- won him tremendous popularity. His work has since extended to environmentalism and folklorist studies of America's music. Whether in songwriting, musicology, or activism, Seeger has enjoyed a life dedicated to music and to humanity, winning thousands of admirers and greatly influencing folk music and activism alike.

Adapted from an article by Thomas Blair posted at <http://www.harvardsquarelibrary.org/unitarians/seegeer.html>



Cell phones should be turned off during the service.

Food in the Sanctuary: So we can all enjoy a snack and fellowship afterwards, please do not bring food into the sanctuary during services and forums.

Facilities Use Policy: Permission must be obtained prior to use from the church board or, at minimum, the church president. The fee is \$15 per hour unless another rate or free use is agreed upon by the AUUC Board prior to use. Copies of the policy are available upon request.

Support Group: For our members who are trying to get their lives straightened out or to search for just plain stress relief, we have organized a support group that meets at the church every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact John Reed, our dedicated problem-solver.

Side Porch Counseling: Arlington UU Church is sponsoring counseling services each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. For a moderate fee, Dr. John Reed, LPC, provides counseling for personal problems, stress management and relaxation. Call 817-460-6481 for more information or an appointment. Or just drop by.

New Members Welcome: Membership in the Arlington UU Church is open to everyone 12 or older who is in sympathy with our purpose and principles. If you wish to join us, you need only sign a membership form in the presence of an officer of the Church. Active (voting) members must additionally make a financial contribution of record during the year prior to, and be on the roster at least 60 days prior to, any congregational business meeting at which they wish to vote.

Newsletter/Publicity: Clara Blair, 817-265-3429, blairbards@sbcglobal.net