



## Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church

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

# Kaleidoscope

October 2008

Sunday	Oct 5	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Gang continues David Tripp's series on Transcendentalist poets
		11:00 a.m.	David Tripp speaks on <i>The Courage to Create</i> , by Rollo May
		12:30 p.m.	Finance Committee led by Larry Heath
Monday	Oct 6	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Oct 12	10:00 a.m.	Conversation about <i>PrairyErth (a deep map)</i> , by William Least Heat-Moon, led by John Blair
		11:00 a.m.	Marvin Willis speaks on "In Concert With Nature, Flying With the Birds: Gliding"
		12:30 p.m.	Board Meeting led by John Blair
Monday	Oct 13	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Oct 19	10:00 a.m.	"Sunday School Gang" continues a series on "No Excuses: Existentialism and the Meaning of Life" led by Naren Jackson and David Tripp
		11:00 a.m.	Lester Robbins speaks
		12:30 p.m.	Social Justice Committee meeting
Monday	Oct 20	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Oct 26	10:00 a.m.	Conversation about the Persian poet Rumi, led by Gregory Ellis
		11:00 a.m.	Bud Kennedy, of the Star-Telegram, gives us "an election preview"
		12:30 p.m.	Monthly Potluck - all are invited
Monday	Oct 27	7:30 p.m.	Support Group led by John Reed
Sunday	Nov 2	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Gang continues David Tripp's series on Transcendentalist poets
		11:00 a.m.	David Tripp speaks on "Paul Tillich and the Courage to Be"
		12:30 p.m.	Finance Committee led by Larry Heath

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

**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 Robert Gould Shaw



If you saw the film *Glory* or watched the Ken Burns documentary *The Civil War*, you have already met this brave and principled Unitarian American hero. A member of a prominent and wealthy Unitarian

and abolitionist family, Robert Gould Shaw was born in Boston in 1837 and grew up in a privileged life. As a young man working in an uncle's office in New York City, he had come to consider himself a failure. But after he enlisted in the Union Army at the outbreak of the Civil War, he soon distinguished himself as a soldier. He was one of the troops defending Washington against attack in 1861 and in 1862 fought as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Massachusetts Infantry in the battle of Antietam, being wounded twice in combat. Shaw, by this time a captain, was one of the officers recruited in 1863 to raise and command one of the first regiments of black troops for the Union, the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was composed primarily of free African Americans from several states and included two sons of famed abolitionist Frederick Douglass. Shaw was initially unenthusiastic about this assignment, but the dedication of his men deeply impressed him and he grew to respect them as fine soldiers. He was rapidly advanced in rank, first to major, then colonel so that he could lead the regiment into combat. The unit performed poorly in its first military engagement, at Hilton Head, South Carolina. In July 1863, however, the troop performed ably, holding off Confederate forces at James Island until leaders could organize a defensive retreat. Shaw then volunteered his troops to join in an attack on Battery Wagner, the first step in an assault on Charleston. Although the attack, on July 18, 1863, failed, the 54<sup>th</sup> fought valiantly: 272 were killed, wounded or captured, including Shaw, who died leading the attack. The dead, including Shaw, were buried in a mass grave. The exemplary performance by the

unit helped to dispel the idea that blacks lacked the intelligence or the discipline to perform well as soldiers. In 1897 a bronze and stone memorial designed by Augustus St. Gaudens and Stanford White was dedicated on the Boston Common across from the Massachusetts State House and the present-day Unitarian Universalist Association headquarters. Upon its unveiling, William James, as part of his dedicatory speech, proclaimed "There they march, warm-blooded champions of a better day for man. There on horseback among them, in his very habit as he lived, sits the blue-eyed child of fortune upon whose happy youth every divinity had smiled." Shaw is well-known for the over 200 letters he wrote to his family and friends during the war, now preserved at Harvard University. The book *Blue-Eyed Child of Fortune*, edited by Russell Duncan, includes most of his letters and a brief biography. They are also quoted liberally by Burns in his documentary. In music, Shaw, the 54<sup>th</sup> Regiment and the Boston memorial are the subject of a segment of Charles Ives's well-known piece *Three Places in New England*. Robert Lowell referenced both Shaw and the Shaw Memorial in his major poem "For the Union Dead." In it appear the lines:

*Shaw's father wanted no monument  
except the ditch,  
where his son's body was thrown*

Drawn from several sources, including:  
[harvardsquarelibrary.org/UIA%20Online/76shaw.html](http://harvardsquarelibrary.org/UIA%20Online/76shaw.html),  
[civilwarhome.com/shawbio.htm](http://civilwarhome.com/shawbio.htm), and  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Gould\\_Shaw](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Gould_Shaw)



**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](mailto:blairbards@sbcglobal.net)