Rev's Reflections

This Sunday

Typically, I try not to take up this space "pitching" the program for the coming Sunday. But sometimes in life it's worth it to break your own rules.

This Sunday, the first Sunday in June, we will be collecting food for the Jonnycake Pantry. Please don't forget to bring what you can to reach our goal of 100 pounds. Pasta, sauce, rice, beans, cereals, ultra-pasteurized milk, and canned meats and fish like tuna are especially appreciated.

The service will be led by four young folks who are Coming of Age this year: Dash, Ezra, Moses, and Tusz, four brilliant and funny guys who are going to share their belief statements and some stories of their own, while guiding our regular rituals. Lee and I will also be involved, as will their mentors, Brian, Jean, Tony, and Ray.

Coming of Age services are the UU rough equivalent of confirmation in the Catholic Church, or being "born again," in evangelical traditions. It's the point when teens say to their community "I choose to belong to you because you have been here for me." So please, be here for them, so that they are not playing to an empty house. These young men are not just our *future*, they are our *right here and now*.

And finally, after the service, the Committee on Ministry will be conducting its annual evaluation of the ministry, and in response to all the feedback and input they've received in the last couple of years, they are opening it up to anyone who wants to take part. Barbara, Sarah, Danielle, and Aline will be asking variations on two basic questions about the four parts of our mission statement of "welcoming, loving, growing spiritually, and seeking justice." The questions are: what are we doing well? And what could we do better?

We'll be talking about the *whole* ministry of the congregation, with a special focus on program staff: minister, director of faith exploration, and music director.

Your input is valuable, so we'll make sure you are fed during this conversation of 90 minutes or so.

And the following Sunday is the Annual meeting. This is a super busy time of year with a lot going on. Thank you for being a part of it.

In Peace,
Rev Denis