

Emerson Cafe

A feast for the Mind and Spirit



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton 7401 Ocean Gateway, Easton
We are located on Route 50 (Ocean Gateway) in Easton, across from the Easton High School athletic fields. 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

Social Inequity

Wednesday February 1, 2012 Richard Wilkinson: How economic inequality harms societies

We feel instinctively that societies with huge income gaps are somehow going wrong. Richard Wilkinson charts the hard data on economic inequality, and shows what gets worse when rich and poor are too far apart: real effects on health, lifespan, even such basic values as trust.

http://www.ted.com/talks/richard_wilkinson.html

Wednesday February 8, 2012 *No Emerson Cafe*

Wednesday February 15, 2012 Jessica Jackley: Poverty, money -- and love

What do you think of people in poverty? Maybe what Jessica Jackley once did: "they" need "our" help, in the form of a few coins in a jar. The co-founder of Kiva.org talks about how her attitude changed -- and how her work with microloans has brought new power to people who live on a few dollars a day.

http://www.ted.com/talks/jessica_jackley_poverty_money_and_love.html

Wednesday February 22, 2012 Sheryl WuDunn: Our century's greatest injustice

Sheryl WuDunn's book "Half the Sky" investigates the oppression of women globally. Her stories shock. Only when women in developing countries have equal access to education and economic opportunity will we be using all our human resources.

http://www.ted.com/talks/sheryl_wudunn_our_century_s_greatest_injustice.html

Wednesday February 29, 2012 The Long Walk Home

The film is set in Montgomery, Alabama, United States, during the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, and features Whoopi Goldberg as Odessa Cotter, an African-American maid, employed by a well-to-do white woman, Miriam Thompson, played by Spacek. The story is told through the eyes of Miriam's young daughter Mary Catherine, for whom Odessa is a nanny. Odessa and her family are faced with all of the social problems typical of African Americans at the time: poverty, racism, violence, and discrimination based solely on the color of their skin. When a boycott of the city buses prevents Odessa from riding the bus to work, she is left with no other choice but to walk. Her employer, Miriam Thompson, offers to give her a ride two days a week in order to ensure she makes it to work on time and alleviate the effect the "long walk home" is having on her. However, as the boycott progresses, tensions rise and giving Odessa a ride to work becomes an issue with the white prominent members of her community, as well as with her husband. Miriam is faced with the choice between doing what she believes is right or succumbing to pressure from her husband and friends. After a fight with her husband, Miriam decides to follow her heart and becomes involved in a carpool group for other workers like Odessa. In the film's emotional final scene, Miriam and Mary Catherine join Odessa and the other protesters in standing against oppression.