



UUCOB NEWS

AUGUST 2009



8/2 - Poetry Sunday

There are favorite poems that we have committed to memory, poems that have changed our lives, poems that bring us back to a specific time in our lives, poems that take us aback with their way of expressing what is true like nothing else. Members, friends and visitors are invited to bring and read such poems of their own and/or of other authors. This includes poetry set to music. Children are invited to share as well during the Children's Time before leaving for the Religious Education program.

8/9 - Synchronicity - Linda Fisher

Linda Fisher's talk is built around events and insights shared in a book that has been very meaningful to her, Joseph Jaworski's, "Synchronicity: The Inner Path of Leadership." On one level, this book describes a very personal journey, on another, it is about seeing a deeper level of reality -- "that the world is not fixed but is in constant flux; accordingly, the future is not fixed, and so can be shaped." Contributing to the discussion within this book are such thinkers as physicist David Bohm, British biologist Rupert Sheldrake, Martin Buber, Joseph Campbell, and others.

8/16 - How Open Are Our Doors? - Rev. Patricia Guthmann Haresch

"Radical Hospitality" is a concept that is found in some form or another in all the great religions, the urging to go beyond the common and comfortable courtesies to swing wide the doors of welcome, deeply engaging and receiving the stranger, the newcomer, the old friend. We Unitarian Universalists (UUs) pride ourselves on our welcome and inclusion of each individual, but how well are we doing or not doing this?

8/23 - Justice for All (Discussion Sunday) - Rebecca Mann, Community Organizer for Equality NC

Did you know this past Spring that our Dare County Commissioners voted 5 to 2 to support an amendment to our State constitution that would ensure marriage would only be defined as being between a man and a woman? If we as UUs affirm and promote the worth and dignity of every person what might we do to help to secure equal rights and justice for lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgender individuals? Equality North Carolina (ENC) is an organization dedicated to this effort. A representative from ENC will discuss the current issues of concern. Please feel free to take notes and come with questions.

Typically the fourth Sunday of the month is "Discussion Sunday." Light brunch potluck items are welcome. All are invited to enter, take some refreshments and find a seat. The goal is to have ample time in the latter part of the morning service for discussion following the presentation. Please do consider coming a bit early between 10-10:15 am to help set up tables in the Meetinghouse.

8/30 - Wounded Words - Rev. Patricia Guthmann Haresch

"Sticks and stone may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Well, we all know that words can hurt. Pat's friend and colleague, Rev. Diane Rollert, now serving in a congregation in Montreal, reminded Pat at the UUA General Assembly of Rev. Barbara Wells idea of "wounded words." Those words that have become so packed with hurtful or difficult meanings that we as UUs can barely speak to each other about them. Perhaps for you these words might be: God, sin, forgiveness, the Bible, religion, spiritual, immortality, hell. Rev. Pat will introduce the idea to begin a sermon series focusing on different wounded words.



FROM THE MINISTER

Rev Pat Guthmann Haresch

If we were to promote our Unitarian Universalist principle of respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person in a public way, what would it look like? At this most recent General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA) General Assembly in Salt Lake City, hundreds of UU's walked downtown Salt Lake City to support humanitarian issues with regard to immigrants. This was part of a new UUA public advocacy campaign called "Standing on the Side of Love." The goal of this initiative is to confront exclusion, oppression and violence based on identity. To learn more about the campaign and watch a short video from General Assembly, go to www.standingonthesideoflove.org.

Just after July 4th, I learned of another event worthy of the "Standing on the Side of Love" movement. A friend from seminary, Rev. Lyn Stangland Cameron, who serves the UU congregation in Idaho Falls, Idaho, shared with several of us that her congregation has hosted a PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) chapter for 20 years. This year PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries (a group celebrating diversity) co-sponsored a float in the annual July 4th parade in the small city of Idaho Falls that has over 100 entries each year. After over a month of float making in the church's garage and giving away 3000 bracelets during the parade saying, "It's Cool to Be Kind," the float won the parade sweepstakes. Yet, Lyn said one of the best prizes was the community response demonstrated in an editorial that appeared in the Idaho Falls POST REGISTER, an excerpt of which is found below:

"...Idaho Falls tea partiers. . .showed a caricature of the tree of liberty with an ax next to it. On the blade was written the name of President Barack Obama. Whether or not this fairly elected, term-limited president actually threatens a 233-year tradition of self-reliance and freedom is not the point. The Fourth of July is the one day Americans set aside differences and celebrate the freedom we all cherish, that our ancestors, Democrat, Republican and independent, fought and died for.

. . .Take the award-winning float sponsored by PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries, groups that advocate for gays and lesbians and their families. One might have expected PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries to complain about California's Proposition 8. They could have protested Idaho's constitutional amendment prohibiting gay marriage and civil unions, or the Legislature's refusal to consider a bill that penalized employers for firing somebody because they are gay. These groups could have used the parade to complain that Idaho's Human Rights Commission, which administers state and federal anti-discrimination laws, refused to sign onto that effort. Instead, PFLAG and Breaking Boundaries, in keeping with the parade's theme, 'Through the eyes of a child,' decorated their award-winning float with bright colors and animals in varying shapes and sizes. It carried people that for this one day set aside differences and celebrated a sense of community. Written on their float: "It's cool to be kind."

If we were to promote our Unitarian Universalist principle of respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person in a public way, what would it look like? The Idaho Falls float is a great example. What might we do here in the Outer Banks?

Blessed Be, Rev. Pat

AUGUST Share-The-Plate The Valpey Emergency Fund

A portion of our plate collections on Sunday mornings this month will go to The Valpey Emergency Fund. This fund was set up by one of our founding members, Allen Valpey, to assist UUCOB members and friends with emergent financial needs.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joe Heard

In Memory of Knoxville

On our latest trip this summer, Christine, Braden, Haley, and I had the opportunity to visit with the Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware (UUSD). Located in the historic, coastal town of Lewes, DE, the congregation caters to a vacation/retirement community that has many similarities to our own. UUSD has a part-time minister and presently meets in a relatively nondescript metal building (very attractively upfitted inside). The membership of the congregation has grown from 80 to 130 over the past couple of years. To accommodate this growth and gain greater visibility in the community, the congregation is presently weighing the pros and cons of purchasing a larger, former church located on a nearby highway. We hope that you'll spend some time among our UU brothers and sisters during your travels this summer.

In lieu of my typical remarks, Unitarian Universalists are coming up on the anniversary of a significant and tragic event in Knoxville, TN. As I certainly couldn't express these thoughts any better, I'm enclosing the words from a letter written by Rev. Chris Buice of the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church and posted on the UUA website.

July 15, 2009

On Sunday, July 27th, 2008, a man walked into the sanctuary of my church – Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church – and opened fire. Two dedicated Unitarian Universalists were killed: Greg McKendry, an usher, and Linda Kraeger, a member of the Westside Unitarian Universalist Church. Six other people were injured. Every member of our two congregations was affected. In the aftermath of that tragic morning, the surrounding community embraced us. We kept our hearts and doors open, and love came rushing in from every direction.

One year later, I remain deeply grateful for the countless hugs, cards, meals, and prayers that sustained us. I could not have known then that our commitment to love in the face of violence would inspire the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) to launch a Standing on the Side of Love campaign. I couldn't be more pleased, however, because experience has taught me that brokenness can only be healed with love. As we approach the first anniversary of the shooting, I ask you to join this campaign by standing on the side of love.

Unfortunately, our experience is not unique. People across the nation face exclusion, oppression, or violence because of their immigrant status, sexual gender and orientation, religion, race, and political views, among other identities. Such dehumanization must be challenged. This campaign invites people of every faith and belief to stand together in the name of love. Our nation is at a critical moment, when our collective voice and action can heal families, towns, cities, states, and nations.

One week after the shooting, I returned to the pulpit to rededicate our sanctuary. I said, "A man came into this space with a desire to do an act of hatred, but he has unleashed unspeakable amounts of love." Join with me in that unleashing of love. I invite you to open your hearts and join thousands of others who are standing on the side of love.

Love,

Chris Buice

Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (TVUUC)

LUNCH WITH PAT

Tuesday, August 25th, Noon-1:30 pm

Bring your own lunch.

You are invited to join Rev. Pat, our minister, and other UUCOB members and friends for lunch, socializing, and conversation. Look to weekly UUCOB emails and Sunday announcements for the August topic.

Anyone interested in a cooperative playgroup and/or finding a sitter together during Lunch W/ Pat may contact Rev. Pat at UUCOB (252-261-2801; minister@uucob.org).

DRUMMING AT THE BEACH

Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 pm

UUCOB members and friends will gather by the Black Pelican beach access in Kitty Hawk. Bring your own drum if you have one. Some are provided.



Treasurer Treatise

Chuck Purser

UUCOB completed the fiscal 2008-2009 year on June 30, 2009. For the year we collected 111% of budgeted income and paid out 104% of planned expenses that gave us a Reserve Gain of \$4,486. Spreadsheets reflecting income, outflow, assets, and liabilities, for the fiscal year are posted in the church office. Expenses exceeded income during the month of June by \$5,313 as a result of insurance expense of \$6,806.

The overall financial picture during June remained about the same after factoring out the insurance payment that caused our cash balance to drop.

Share the Plate for June was the Carolina Estuarine Reserve Foundation. A check for \$264.00 and letter were mailed June 29, 2009.

Earlier in the year the Religious Education youth elected to donate their Special Collection funds of \$289.00 to Feline Hope. A check was written and the class personally presented the check to Feline on Sunday, June 28, 2009.

The congregation finished the fiscal year on sound financial footing and for the next few months appear to have a better than average start for the New Year. We survived an unpredictable and down economy during the past year as a couple of numbers will indicate. Though our reserve securities during the year depressed over 17%, we only dropped in net worth for the same period of less than one-half of one percent.

Enjoy the remaining of the summer and if any questions contact the Treasurer at purserchuck@yahoo.com or cell 252-216-9119.

General Assembly Report From Rev. Pat

There were many highlights for me at this year's Ministry Days put on by the Unitarian Universalist Minister's Association (UUMA) in the days before General Assembly (GA) and at our UU Association's GA proper in Salt Lake City this past June. Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie from the historic Arlington Street Church in Boston gave a moving homily at the UUMA's 25/50 year worship service (which is not yet available). Rev. Clark Olsen who visited UUCOB with his UUA Trustee wife, Anna Olsen, this Spring, followed Kim with the 50 year homily. As our society and denomination struggles with and celebrates multiculturalism and diversity, the annual Berry Street Lecture, "Ironic Provincialism" by Rev. Dr. Paul Razor was especially timely and provided the fuel for Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt's inspiring response (both available at <http://www.uuma.org/BerryStreet/index.htm>). I was absolutely in tears following the Rev. Mary Harrington's beautiful Service of the Living Tradition sermon and enjoyed Melissa Harris-Lacewell's Ware Lecture (each available to view at the GA live streaming site <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/2009/141864.shtml>).

I was again left with watery eyes during a Friday evening Shabbat Service featuring selected book readings by Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed from his new memoir "In Between." Mark will be the keynote speaker at next year's Eastern Cluster meeting in Greenville, NC, in March. You won't want to miss it. (For a summary of Mark's "Perversity of Diversity" presentation at General Assembly see <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/2009/ga2009/144176.shtml>.) Also available at the General Assembly live streaming site mentioned above or in transcript form at http://www.uua.org/documents/cornishalison/090627_cant_eat.pdf is the Social Witness sermon award service featuring my friend the Rev. Alison Cornish's thought-provoking sermon on "Ethical Eating." It was also quite fascinating to hear the passionate pro and con comments regarding the vote on whether or not to amend the current Principles and Purposes (the amendment did not pass). And if you do go to the live streaming site, view some of the worship services and enjoy the wonderful music and sing-able hymns.

Much of my time was focused on Small Congregation workshops as well as the "UU University" track on creating multicultural congregations. I will be bringing much of my learnings to you all throughout the year.

[Continued On Next Page]

FROM THE BOARD

Fran Green

Action Points from the July 7, 2009 Board Meeting:

- Approved a proposal from Dennis Tromba, Buildings and Grounds Chair, to improve the security of the building by installing new locks and developing a system for assigning keys to key persons.
- Agreed to allow GEM Adult Day Services to use space at the UUCOB Meetinghouse during the month of August if they have not found a permanent location for their program.
- Declined an opportunity to participate in Kitty Hawk Heritage Day in September.
- Set the meeting time for future board meetings at 7 pm. The board will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month and meetings will move from the RE building to the Meetinghouse.
- Scheduled the annual Board Retreat for 1 pm, Sunday, July 26.

A complete copy of the meeting minutes, committee reports and associated documentation are posted in the office at UUCOB.

General Assembly Report From Rev. Pat

[Continued]

The Rev. Peter Morales is our new UUA President and six Actions of Immediate Witness passed:

- "Advocate Pending Legislation Toward Clean, Honest, and Fair Elections in the United States," which endorsed three election reform bills in Congress: H.R.2894, H.R.1826, and S751-752;
- "U.S. Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty," which urged the Senate finally to ratify a treaty signed by the United States in 1996;
- "In Support of America's Red Rock Wilderness Act," S799/H.R.1925, which would protect 9 million acres of Bureau of Land Management land in Utah;
- "Support Bolivian UUs Struggling for Justice and Human Rights," which offered support for Bolivian UU leader Olga Flores Bedregal, who has been calling on her government to provide information about victims of disappearance by the country's military government, and asked UUs to write to the Bolivian ambassador urging the country to establish a truth commission to investigate human rights violations;
- "U.S.-Sponsored Torture: A Call for a Commission of Inquiry," which endorsed the National Religious Coalition Against Torture's call for a commission of inquiry;
- "Oppose Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity-Based Violence in Iraq," which called for UUs to lobby the U.S. government to work with the United Nations to protect sexual minorities in Iraq.

UUCOB Healing Circle

[Now Second Sunday]

Sunday, August 9, Noon-12:30 pm

Religious Education Building

Our healing circle begins with a centering meditation, a bowl of water is passed, and a stone dropped in the bowl for each request shared. We then connect with one another and gently send love and healing energy to all requests, creating a circle of loving energy to heal ourselves and those we care about.

If you'd like to bring a picture or memento of a healing request recipient, please do so, but it is not necessary. No special skills or previous experience is required. Just bring an openness to send and receive love and healing energy!

Childcare will be available during the circle and meeting.

Questions may be directed to: Rev. Pat at minister@uucob.org or 261-2801 during office hours, Heather at sun-seaearth@gmail.com, Michel at malameddin@aol.com or Janice at naturegirl@aginet.com.

AUGUST 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 ▼ 10:30a Poetry Sunday	3 ▼ 7:30p Al Anon	4 ▼ 9a Weight Watchers ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours ▼ 5p Strategic Planning Committee Meeting ▼ 7p UUCOB Board Meeting	5 ▼ 9a Minister's Office Hours	6 ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours		
9 ▼ 10:30a Synchronicity - Linda Fisher ▼ 12p Healing Circle	10 ▼ 7:30p Al Anon	11 ▼ 9a Weight Watchers ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours	12 ▼ 8a UUCOB Men's Discussion Group ▼ 9a Minister's Office Hours	13 ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours	14	15
16 ▼ 10:30a How Open Are Our Doors? - Rev. Pat Guthmann Haresch	17 ▼ 7:30p Al Anon	18 ▼ 9a Weight Watchers ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours ▼ 6:30p Drumming on the Beach	19 ▼ 9a Minister's Office Hours	20 ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours ▼ 7p Thursday Edenton Discussion Group	21 ▼ 7:30p Jewish Service	22
23 ▼ 10:30a Justice For All (Discussion Sunday & Light Potluck Brunch) - Rebecca Mann	24 ▼ 7:30p Al Anon	25 ▼ 9a Weight Watchers ▼ 12p Lunch w/ Pat ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours	26 ▼ 8a UUCOB Men's Discussion Group ▼ 9a Minister's Office Hours	27 ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours	28 ▼ 7p Friday Film Nite (Sicko)	29
30 ▼ 10:30a Wounded Words - Rev. Patricia Guthmann Haresch ▼ 12:30p Annual Picnic	31 ▼ 7:30p Al Anon	1 ▼ 9a Weight Watchers ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours ▼ 5p Strategic Planning Committee Meeting ▼ 7p UUCOB Board Meeting	2 ▼ 9a Minister's Office Hours	3 ▼ 2p Minister's Office Hours ▼ 7p Thursday Edenton Discussion Group	4	5

Friday Nite Film & Discussion

"Sicko"

Meetinghouse, Friday, August 28, 7 pm

Bring Your Own Snacks & Beverages

View this next film in a monthly series of mainly contemporary films that raise social and ethical issues of interest to all. After each film, we will have a discussion session for any who wish to participate or just listen.

"Sicko" (2007) is a documentary by Michael Moore that looks at health care in the United States as provided by profit-oriented health maintenance organizations (HMOs) compared to state-supported free, universal care in Canada, the U.K., and France. He reveals that U.S. media reports concerning universal care are not exactly the whole picture.

UUCOB SUMMER PICNIC

Sunday, August 30

12:30-4:30 PM

(Following a short coffee hour)

Where:

At Boyce & Mary Blanche Harwell's, 174 Victor Meekins Road, Manteo, 473-1559.

Activities For All Ages:

Eating and chatting, being together in a beautiful spot on the Sound, volleyball, swimming in the Sound, kayaking (kayaks at Harwell's) and beach toys.

What to Bring:

It's a potluck. The Harwell will provide paper plates, utensils. Bring: bathing suits, blankets to spread on the ground if you wish. Other games or water activities. The Harwell's could use a few more folding lawn chairs if people have some.

Directions:

Right into Manteo on business 64. North about 2 miles. Left on Airport Road toward Aquarium & Airport. At about 1 mile at a left bend, go straight/bare right onto D. Victor Meekins Rd. After about ¼ mile turn left into dirt trail at "Harwell" sign with 3 rabbits on it. Go to house on the right.

UUA/TJD NEWS & EVENTS

Faith and Meaning in Troubling Times

(The Mountain's Annual Peace Week)

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center
Highlands, NC

Friday, August 7 to Wednesday, August 12

Sliding Scale \$525-650 (Adults)

\$250-525 (Young Adults 18-30)

Presenters: Rev. Marti Keller, UU Congregation of Atlanta; Dr. Kenneth Nafziger, Professor of Music, Eastern Mennonite University; Andrew Ramer, Author.

The Mountain invites adults of all ages to share your quest for faith and meaning in an ever-changing and often troubling world. The peace week is the perfect forum for creating relationships among older and younger adults, and through those relationships, cultivates the next generation of social change agents.

For more information go to <http://www.mountaincenters.org/> and find the name of this seminar on the left hand column to review the brochure and to register.

Human Rights Campaign Tribute to Former UUA President Sinkford

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) represents a grassroots force of over 750,000 members and supporters nationwide and is the largest national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization. Recently, HRC paid tribute on their website to for-

mer UUA President William Sinkford who just ended his eight year tenure. "We could not allow Bill Sinkford's successful term to come to a close without offering our heartfelt thank you for this witness and for his leadership on all issues affecting the LGBT community. . . [I]t is often our UU friends we turn to knowing that their work is fully embraced by their denominational President. . . Without the presence of UUs in collaboration with other faith voices, marriage equality would not be a possibility for lesbian and gay couples in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, Iowa and New Hampshire and still counting."

To read the full tribute, go to
<http://www.hrc.org/issues/religion/13176.htm>.

Arts & Social Change Institute with Holly Near

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, Highlands, NC

Thursday, August 27 to Sunday, August 30

Adults \$295 Young Adults (18-30) \$173

This time with singer/songwriter/activist Holly Near is designed to offer a transformational experience to help find inspiration and tools useful in work for social change. The object is to increase understanding of how the arts and personal creativity are used everyday as a catalyst for social change.

For more information go to <http://www.mountaincenters.org/> and find the name of this institute on the left hand column to review the brochure and to register.

*The mission of the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
of the Outer Banks
is to be a focal point
of enlightenment,
enriching our spiritual
lives and enhancing
the quality of life
in our community.*



P.O. Box 1006
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949
252-261-2801
www.uucob.org
info@uucob.org

OUR PRINCIPLES

*We, the member congregations of the
Unitarian Universalist Association,
covenant to affirm and promote:*

The inherent worth and dignity of
every person;
Justice, equity and compassion in
human relations;
Acceptance of one another and
encouragement to spiritual growth in our
congregations;
A free and responsible search for
truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of
the democratic process within our
congregations and in society at large;
The goal of world community with
peace, liberty, and justice for all;
Respect for the interdependent web of
all existence of which we are a part.

COME JOIN US!

Our meeting house is located at the corner of
Kitty Hawk Road and Herbert Perry Road. It is

one mile west of Highway 158 at about milepost 4.

SUNDAY PROGRAMS

All services are held at 10:30 am. A program is
provided for older children and childcare is avail-

able for the youngest.

The 4th Sunday of each month is "Discussion

Sunday" and people are welcome to bring brunch

items to share.

The first Sunday of each month is usually Food

Pantry Sunday, so please remember to bring a do-

nation of non-perishable unopened foods, per-

sonal items or paper products.

Layout & Editor: Dick Liston

Assistant Editor: Joan Liston

To have something included in the

newsletter, please email it to

jodliston@embarqmail.com