

## Rev. Pat's

### New Office Hours:

**Tuesdays** 1-5 pm  
**Wednesdays** 9 am-Noon  
**Thursdays** 1-5 pm

Effective Wed., Jan. 2

*Also note Rev. Pat will be on vacation and out of the office Monday, 12/24 through Tuesday, January 1.*

## Come Join Us!

### UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

*See our calendar on page 6, or visit [www.uucob.org](http://www.uucob.org) for the most up-to-date information.*

#### **12/2 Twelve Days of Medieval Frivolity; a holiday play presented by the RE Committee**

*Intergenerational*

*Coordinated by the RE Committee*

#### **12/9 Hope As If You Mean It**

*Rev. Pat Guthmann Haresch*

What is the most ancient of sentiments of this holiday season, if not hope? Hope for warmer weather and more daylight, the return of the growing season, rebirth, fresh starts, even peace and justice. Author Barbara Kingsolver suggests, "The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof." Rev. Haresch will explore this notion of living in hope.

#### **12/16 The Holly, The Oak and The Ivy OBCUUPS**

*Intergenerational Service*

*Musicians: Drumming Circle*

A Winter Solstice service celebrating this time of year, its changes and messages. Herald the Sun's return and winter's arrival as we honor Nature's transitions as well as our own through the stories of the growing things around us. Feel free to come bedecked in your finest greenery!

**6:00 PM - OBCUUPS Winter Solstice Ritual with potluck feast.**

#### **12/23 A Child Is Born**

*Rev. Pat Guthmann Haresch*

*Intergenerational Service*

Come sing and hear songs of the season and the telling of the traditional Christmas story interspersed with contemporary poetry and reflections.

#### **12/30 Resonance Repatterning**

*Discussion Sunday led by Tobey Milne*

Two years ago, Tobey Milne came to speak to us about Resonance Repatterning (RR). She'll be returning on December 30 to share more about how we can change the negative energetic patterns that keep us unhappy or unproductive by using the universal modalities of RR – sound, light and color, breath, movement, fragrance, and energy balancing.

After receiving a BA from Duke University and a MSW from Catholic University, Tobey provided individual and family psychotherapy for over 20 years to communities near Washington, DC. Attracted to RR due to its accuracy and efficiency, Tobey trained to become a certified practitioner and then a teacher of this exciting, powerful process. She offers individual, couple, and group sessions of Resonance Repatterning to those seeking effective ways to bring harmony into their lives.

*The newsletter mailing label list has been organized in a new database. You will notice that only one member of each family will have their name on the label due to this new system. Thank you for your understanding.*



## FROM THE MINISTER

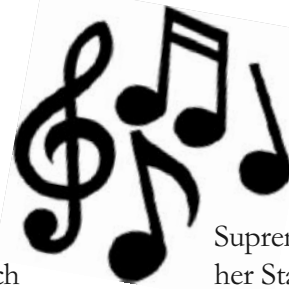
*Rev Pat Guthmann Haresch*

**S**ophia Lyon Fahs (1876-1978) helped to transform American children's religious education and was a major contributor to Unitarian religious education in the 1940s and 50s. I was raised on some of her lessons and philosophical approach centered on the curious and inquiring minds of children. Her child-centered approach surfaces in this portion of her Christmas time poem that appears in our current UU hymnal:

*For so the children come.  
And so they have been coming.  
Always in the same way they come  
Born of the seed of man and woman.  
No angels herald their beginnings,  
No prophets predict their future courses,  
No wisemen see a star  
To show where to find the babe  
that will save humankind.  
Yet each night a child is born is  
a holy night. . .  
A time for singing, a time for  
wondering, a time for  
worshipping*

As a child growing up Unitarian Universalist, this was very much the sentiment I had about the Christmas story. The miracle of Christmas made much more sense to me than the miracle of Easter. I could understand celebrating the birth of a baby, even or especially a baby "of lowly birth," a whole lot more than focusing on anything to do with the horrible, unjust death of a man. The meaning of Easter seemed complicated, the message of Christmas—a piece of cake. Who couldn't celebrate the birth of a baby, any baby? But, you know, you grow older and learn that even something that seems so simple gets complicated. Not all births are happy, not all babies are celebrated and treated the way they should be, not every baby or child are given all the chances and opportunities that they should to thrive and live a decent life.

What comes to mind is a story told to me by one of the congregants I served as a student minister at the UU Congregation of Asheville, North Carolina. She had taught in public schools in the 1950s and was supposed to lead her students in the Pledge of Allegiance every school day. However, she heard an Afro American gentleman speak about what was happening with regard to racism in the country and came to feel the Pledge of Allegiance was a lie. It wasn't true that there was "liberty and justice for all." To be true to herself and her convictions, she began to be silent during the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and no longer compelled her students to say it.



She was fired and battled her case in court until a Supreme Court compelled her State to hire her back.

In the meantime, she was condemned in the press, received hate mail and threatening phone calls. Someone drove by her home shooting and shattering her windows while she and her children cowered in a closet.

Fifty-some years later, how do we all sit with this question, "Is there liberty and justice for all?" Do we see each child, each human as inherently precious and holy doing everything we can to promote safety, security, well being, and the pursuit of happiness? When do we say enough is enough and take a stand?

Another favorite Christmas time poem from our hymnal:

*The Work of Christmas  
by Howard Thurman*

*When the song of angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the Kings and Princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back  
with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among the brothers,  
To make music in the heart.*

May it be so.





## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Fran Green*

What can I possibly say about the Holiday Season that has not already been said hundreds of times? Within our small congregation we celebrate this season in a variety of ways. Light seems to be a theme that is probably the most universal part of the celebration. Whether it is celebrating the Winter Solstice, lighting Hanukkah candles, putting lights on trees, or candles in windows we all probably have our traditions we have enjoyed over time.

Long after I was too old to believe in Santa Claus, I remember watching out of the window after the Santa letters were read at our local radio station, hoping to catch a glimpse of him as he flew off into the sky from the station, just in case it might be true.

I thought I might really see lights on the sleigh.

Our neighborhood in Richmond used to line the streets with luminaries one night during the season, regardless of religious beliefs. It was a beautiful and uniting event.

In addition to being the "Season of Light" it has also become the "season of eating".

I remember my mother telling me how exciting it was for her as a child to receive an orange for Christmas. My father always gave me chocolate covered cherries for Christmas, and my maternal grandmother made a wonderful four layer "Japanese Fruit Cake" while my paternal grandmother made a real coconut cake and a delicious drink she called "custard". We are truly fortunate to have plentiful light and plentiful food.

Today with dark times in much of the world and with hunger rampant in many places, let us enjoy our lights to their fullest brightness, while keeping our consumption of food in control this holiday season.

## LUNCH WITH PAT

**Tuesday, December 11 Noon to 1:30 pm at UUCOB**

**BYO: Lunch & Beverage**

You are invited to join Rev. Pat, our minister, and other UUCOB members and friends for lunch, socializing, and conversation.

In November, the group discussed various aspects of "Gratitude."

Following on the heels of Nancy Proctor's November Sunday morning service, "The Sum of All Parts: Humanism, Mysticism and Spirituality," in December, we will discuss "Mysticism" and "Rationality." Can a person be rational and a mystic?

The playground will be in use by the Montessori school. Accordingly, the porch and Minister's Office may be available for supervised play. Anyone interested in a cooperative playgroup and/or finding a sitter together may contact Rev. Pat at UUCOB (261-2801).

## Treasurer Trivia

The end of October completed 33% of the church's fiscal year and our finances remain within a couple of percentage points of the working budget. During October our expenses exceeded income by \$4,494 bringing our checking account balance down to the \$4,000 range.

Annual dues paid in October for district and national UU amounted to \$3,404 and is based on \$74 per member of record as of February 2007. Just for reference the breakdown for all building expenses including mortgage, insurance, utilities, and taxes total \$23,500 and represents \$547 per member. If we are fortunate to get 20 friends to also pledge then the contributing unit toward real estate drops to \$373. Closer to canvas time we'll address the many other expenses and programs of the church to encourage full budget understanding and participation.

Since these notes are from the treasurer it appears that it's all about dollars and cents. Well, for the bill paying that's true but for the operation of the church it's not. The giving of one's self is the most important and meaningful contribution of being part of this congregation. Please continue to attend services, volunteer, socialize, praise, complain, suggest, and be the church family member we so need.

I sure hope everyone is getting as excited as I am about December 8, 2007. Be at the church and buy lots of coffee and goods.

Chuck Purser



## THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR CHILDREN

*RE Update*

### *Lots of Medieval Frivolity!!!*

Thanks to all of the parents and volunteers who have helped the RE group to stage "The Twelve Days of Medieval Frivolity" for the congregation. December 2nd is the date when all of our hard work comes to fruition. We will be entertaining the congregation with our skit and with a few musical numbers. This service will also feature the vocal stylings of a notorious local group called The Rising Waves. I know it will be a hoot for all involved! Your kids have been working really hard and I'm immensely proud of them.

On Sunday, December 9th, Heather Demerest is once again leading the RE lesson in her inimitable style. This time Heather will discuss Winter Solstice. Anyone who'd like to know more, come join us on December 9th!

We're also hoping to have time to learn some seasonal songs and to share them with the congregation on Sunday, December 23. We have some beautiful voices in RE and some of us really love singing and entertaining!

Happy Holidays to all!

Monika Lupean, RE Chairperson

## Membership at UUCOB and a New Video About UUism

Our bylaws state that membership at UUCOB is freely offered to all persons 14 years old or older, who are committed to the support, purpose and programs of the congregation, who have signed the membership book, and who submit an annual contribution of record form. All members should have an appreciation for the background, purpose, and principles of Unitarian Universalism.

If you would like to learn more about UUCOB, becoming a member here, and/or Unitarian Universalism, please feel free to make an appointment or contact Rev. Pat at the UUCOB Office (261-2801) or via email ([minister@uucob.org](mailto:minister@uucob.org)).

There is also a new video available, "Voices of a Liberal Faith," produced by the Unitarian Universalist Association, if you would like to learn more about (or as some report, feel affirmed in finding) Unitarian Universalism.

To find the video online go to:

<http://www.uua.org/visitors/47881.shtml> and click the link to the video. Otherwise, Rev. Pat has copies of the DVD available for loan.

Also, if you would like to become a member and join in a special recognition of new members on Sunday, December 9, contact Rev. Pat as well.

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## OBCUUPS

**Sunday, December 16th 6:00 PM**

**OBCUUPs Winter Solstice Ritual with potluck feast.**

OBCUUPs Rituals are child-friendly and are open to all Pagan and Pagan-friendly, respectful people. These rituals are considered sacred to the participants. Therefore, we ask that all people, adults and children, be courteous and well-behaved during the ceremony.

All rituals are followed by an always delightful potluck dinner. Come, participate, have some fun and connect with spirit and others!



**UUCOB's  
PEACE**

**Meditation Group  
of the Outer Banks**

**Friday, December 14 6:00 - 6:30 pm**

**This month's focus: Middle East**

We sit silently and meditate sending peace, love and healing to different regions of the world. People of all spiritual paths, political parties and backgrounds are welcome to join. Each person's energy does make a difference!

For further information, e-mail Heather [sunseaeearth@gmail.com](mailto:sunseaeearth@gmail.com) or call 473-5698.

**May Peace Prevail on Earth . . .**

## FROM THE BOARD

### November 2007 Board Meeting Action Items

- 1 Approved making a \$25 donation to the Kitty Hawk Fire Department.
- 2 Pat Guthmann Haresch received approval to change her office hours to Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Wednesday mornings.
- 3 Pat was congratulated for receiving her first year renewal of Preliminary Fellowship with the UUA.
- 4 Determined that funds for miscellaneous repairs to the Heron Pond building should come from Maintenance Reserve Funds.
- 5 Fran Green will request the donation of a baby monitor to be used in the Listening Room (Office/Conference Room). This will allow parents to continue to hear the service while attending to noisy children.
- 6 Agreed to request baked goods packaged for sale along with coffee for the Fair Trade Sale December 8 from 10 AM – 4PM. This event is sponsored by UUCOB and Voices that Challenge in partnership with A Greater Gift (a non-profit program of SERV

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

International who works in trade and development in 35 countries).

- 7 Reviewed changes to the Greeter procedures including use of a visitor card for local visitors.
- 8 Recognized the extraordinary success of Crop Walk. Our participation made quite a contribution, not only in numbers of walkers, but in the amount of money collected. UUCOB was second in both. Thanks to all who coordinated and participated and particularly to Michel Sanchez who raised the largest amount of money for the event.
- 9 Nancy Proctor led the board in a Long Range Planning exercise to identify our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.
- 10 Set November 30 as a tentative date for a holiday decorating party and pot luck.

## Who is UUCOB?


Who is UUCOB? What are we all about? Who are our neighbors? Sound like simple questions. Not really. But these are the questions of long range planning. The Long Range Planning Committee spent part of a meeting on October 29th to address these questions and will continue that conversation at our next meeting. Similar questions were presented to the Board at the last Board Meeting – and a small group of members and friends after church service last week. The Board and Committee Members participated in an exercise that identified the internal strengths and weaknesses of UUCOB as well as external opportunities and threats to UUCOB continuing to be a vital, healthy, UU Congregation.

To help us in answering the question, the Long Range Planning Committee will be using a number of tools. Our main approach comes from the book *Holy Conversations* (HC), Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations by Gil Rendle and Alice Mann, published by Alban Institute, leading publisher of books and training material for liberal churches and synagogues. Much of what we have done to this point is to prepare people to plan. The next major step will be in collecting Data, gathering relevant information. Data can be collected through surveys and dialogues both within the congregation and without. We are fortunate to have several talented members to assist in this work. Drawing meaning from the data, can be called the ‘so what’ stage. What does all this mean for our

future together? There are also two continuous tasks that must be followed throughout the planning process. The first is getting and giving feedback to/from the Board and Congregation. And secondly ongoing task, engaging in text or reflective study. "Planning in a congregation must be more than an organizational exercise driven by logic and problem-solving skills. It must also be faithful to the purpose of the congregation. The difference between organizational planning in business and congregational planning and discernment is the need to make room for the presence of the transcendent – defined as the spirit of the Universal which includes our Unitarian Universalist values.

Nancy Proctor

# December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Twelve Days of Christmas (or 12 Days of Medieval Frivolity) Play  	+ADD 3 9a Minister's Office Hours 10a Long Range and Strategic Planning Committee 7p Edenton Discussion Group	+ADD 4	+ADD 5 December 5 - 12 Hanukkah/Chanukah	+ADD 6 9a Minister's Office Hours 10a Grocery Delivery 4p Dare County Literacy Council	+ADD 7 8a Minister Out of Office - Dare County Minister's Association 9a Minister's Office Hours 10:30a Minister's Office Hours 6:30p Board Meeting	+ADD 8 6p Set Up for Fair Trade Sale 10a Greater Gift/Fair Trade Sale
9 Rev Pat	+ADD 10 International Human Rights Day 9a Minister's Office Hours	+ADD 11 12p Lunch With Pat	+ADD 12 December 5 - 12 Hanukkah/Chanukah	+ADD 13 9a Minister's Office Hours 4p Dare County Literacy Council	+ADD 14 9a Minister's Office Hours 6p The Outer Banks Peace Meditation Group	+ADD 15 9:30a Edenton UU Discussion Group
16 December 5 - 12 Hanukkah/Chanukah Winter Festivals of Light: An Intergenerational Celebration 12-9 rev pat 12p UUCOB Mens Group 6p OBCUUPs Yule Ritual and potluck	+ADD 17 9a Minister's Office Hours 7p Edenton Discussion Group	+ADD 18	+ADD 19 9a Minister's Office Hours 4p Dare County Literacy Council	+ADD 20 9a Minister's Office Hours	+ADD 21 7:30p Jewish Service	+ADD 22 12/22 Winter Solstice,
23 Lessons and Carols Rev Pat 12p Monthly Art Show Reception and Discussion	+ADD 24	+ADD 25	+ADD 26 4p Dare County Literacy Council 6:30p Drumming	+ADD 27 9a Minister's Office Hours	+ADD 28	+ADD 29
30 Discussion Sunday: Resonance Repatterning	+ADD 31	+ADD 1	+ADD 2 10a Grocery Delivery 4p Dare County Literacy Council	+ADD 3	+ADD 4	+ADD 5 9:30a Edenton UU Discussion Group



**Sponsored by:**  
UUCOB & Voices that Challenge

**In partnership with:**  
A Greater Gift  
(a non-profit program of SERV International, who works in trade and development in 35 countries)

Please join us at this community wide event to help support fair trade around the world.

Enjoy festive holiday entertainment, purchase delicious baked goods and sample fair trade coffee.

This is a great opportunity to shop for holiday gifts while directly supporting artists and farmers in developing countries.

## Fair Trade Sale

**When:** December 8th  
**Time:** 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.  
**Where:** Unitarian Universalist Church  
(on Kitty Hawk Road in Kitty Hawk, NC)

**For more information contact:**  
Michél Sanchez @220.4792

We are planning to hold a bake sale as part of the Fair Trade Sale. We will also be selling fair trade coffee by the cup. Proceeds from these will go to UUCOB.

If you have not already signed up to bring something delicious for the bake sale that day it's not too late.

**Please call Fran Green: 453-3955**

## UUS IN THE NEWS

UUCOB member Bob Green was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Currituck-Dare Community Foundation, a regional affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation.

The Community Foundation is a state-wide community development and philanthropic organization.

Peggy Birkemeier, a Founding Member of UUCOB, is professional associate and consultant for the northeastern region.

# District & UUA News & Events

## UUA News

### ARE National Conference in Memphis 2/08

Allies for Racial Equality (ARE) will hold their annual conference for all who identify as white and who want to work on ending racism as allies of people of color in Memphis, TN, February 1-3, 2008. Watch for registration information on the ARE website: [www.uualies.org](http://www.uualies.org).

Speakers include Abbey Tennis, a young adult currently serving on the Unitarian Universalist Association's Ministerial Fellowship Committee, who will share her own growing understanding of white privilege, and the Rev. Clark Olsen, retired UU minister who was with the Rev. James Reeb when he was attacked and killed in Selma, Alabama, in 1965. Rev. Olsen is a member and Trustee of UUC of Asheville.

The conference offers three tracks:

1. one for newcomers to this work, Antiracism 101;
2. one for those further along, Making Whiteness Visible, and
3. one for the nuts and bolts of organizing.

This conference will afford an opportunity to address the overwhelming issue of classism in America.

## Thomas Jefferson District News

### Compensation Consultant Sought (Help congregations live UU values)

If you are committed to assuring that our religious professionals and other congregational staff people receive fair compensation and you have experience in human resources, compensation, or employment, we would like to hear from you. We are recruiting a second UUA Compensation Consultant in the Thomas Jefferson.

District compensation consultants work with the UUA Department of Church/Staff Finances and help congregations in our district develop fair compensation packages for new ministers, Religious Education professionals, and other staff. If you are interested in applying to become a compensation consultant, please contact me as soon as possible at [amarquis@uua.org](mailto:amarquis@uua.org) and I can provide you with more information and the process for applying.

### Southeast Unitarian Universalist Winter Institute

Dec. 26, 2007-Jan. 1, 2008

Location: UU in the Pines

Southeast Winter Institute in Miami (SWIM) is a one week Unitarian Universalist intentional, intergenerational community which provides religious, inspirational, educational, growth oriented programming. SWIM was founded and continues to celebrate the spirit, to promote community, and to nurture connections among people of diverse ages, backgrounds, abilities, and interests and to promote our Unitarian Universalist principles.

SWIM offers a myriad of experiences and opportunities which are challenging and nourishing to mind, body, and soul. Some of our activities are workshops, outdoor adventures, worship, art, dance, music, campfire, and athletics.

UU in the Pines is a 14-acre retreat in Brooksville about 40 miles north of Tampa in Florida's Nature Coast area.

A brochure will be posted in the Meetinghouse and may be viewed online at [www.swimuu.org](http://www.swimuu.org). Online registration is also available.

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## "Thank God for Evolution!" available for free November 1st!

In Fall of 2006, UU "evangelists" the Rev. Michael Dowd & science writer Connie Barlow visited UUCOB providing a Sunday morning service and a weekday evening program. They view themselves as emissaries of a worldwide ecumenical movement that draws from the contemporary wisdom of those on the growing edge of science and meaning. Micheal Dowd's new book, "Thank God for Evolution!: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World" (endorsed by 5 Nobel prize-winners and 120 other luminaries, including prominent UU ministers), is available as a free PDF download November 1:

<http://www.ThankGodforEvolution.com>. Inexpensive hardcover copies are also available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble: <http://www.thankgodforevolution.com/the-book.html>

*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**

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## 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. The last Sunday of the month  
is devoted to topic discussions.  
Everyone is welcomed to attend  
these services and light refresh-  
ments will be served.  
A program is provided for older  
children and childcare is available  
for the youngest.

Layout & Editor: Susan Lawrence  
Assistant Editor: Joan Liston

To have something included in the  
newsletter, please email it to  
susan@boldprintdesign.com