



Domelight



Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
Rev. Sara Zimmerman, Minister

November 2007
Katie Templin Culbert, Dir. Religious Education

Minister's Musings Rev. Sara Zimmerman

Hello Everyone:

I'm preparing to teach a UU 101 class in three sessions. All three are scheduled for Thursdays, 7 PM to 9 PM in the Big Dome. Starting November 29th. Continuing December 6th and 13th. I'd really appreciate if you would register. To do so, send me an email at revsaraz@aol.com, or call the church at (813)988-8188 and just tell me your name(s) and phone number and/or email address. That way I'll know how much ice cream to bring.

Who should take the class?

You should take this class if you are interested in learning the historical highlights of Unitarian Universalism, all the way back to the 17th century.

You should take this class if you are attending, or thinking of attending this church, and would like to know about it in greater depth.

You should take this class if you have been attending and are interested in becoming a voting and pledging member of the congregation. We'll have a New Member Sunday on December 16, when you will be invited to sign the Membership Book.

You should take this class if you have been a member for a time and would like a refresher course.

You should take this class if you would like to get together with others socially, in collaborative learning and while deepening your affiliation with the church.

At the end of the class, if you have attended all three sessions, you probably will be able to answer these and similar questions without a moment's hesitation:

What do Unitarian Universalists believe?

Why did you become, or why are you thinking of becoming a UU?

Can you state your basic personal UU beliefs in one minute?

What is the source of those beliefs?

Do UUs have a creed, like the Apostles Creed?

What was the Council of Nicea in AD325?

What are the Seven Principles and what does each one mean to you?

What did "Universalism" mean originally, and what does it mean now?

What did "Unitarianism" mean originally, and what does it mean now?

What happened in 1961 of significance to Unitarian Universalism?

How were the following important to the UU movement? Michael Servetus, Faustus Socinus, Joseph Priestley, Benjamin Rush, Thomas Jefferson, William Ellery Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Olympia Brown.

See you in church!

With gratitude,
Rev. Sara

REflections

Katie Templin Culbert

One of my favorite things as a child was tiny envelopes. Once a year I received in the mail a tiny box of tiny envelopes from my Baptist church. Each tiny envelope had my name printed on it and each Sunday my mother would give me a dollar to place into the tiny envelope for the offering. I loved that the tiny envelope was mine and that the offering I was putting in the basket was from me. I was contributing to the church. I knew that was important. It made me feel good. Several parents have inquired about how their children can contribute to the church offering each Sunday. Teachers have also expressed a need since they are in the small dome teaching when the offering is being collected in the big dome. Beginning in November, there will be an offering box located in the small dome. Teachers and students can place their offering in the box and a member of the RE Committee will place those donations in the offering basket during worship service. Let's encourage our children to be active stewards of our congregation and contribute to the offering box each week. Tiny offering envelopes will be available next to the box.

Guest at Your Table, the annual fundraiser for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee kicks off on **Sunday, November 18th**. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, founded in 1939 to rescue victims of Nazi persecution, is an independent human rights organization whose work is grounded in UU principles and is made possible by the activism and generosity of more than 47,000 members and supporters. For more than 30 years, UU communities nationwide have participated in *Guest at Your Table (GAYT)*. They have come together for this special tradition to give thanks, celebrate UU values, and partner with UUSC to change the world. This year, GAYT participants are celebrating the work of UUSC and its program partners to strengthen workers' rights; protect the right to safe, affordable water; defend civil liberties and democratic processes; and preserve the rights of vulnerable people after disasters. *Guest at Your*

Table is our UU tradition for educating our communities about human needs and human rights, and sharing our blessings. **Every family is encouraged to take a GAYT box home to keep on their table during the holiday season. At each meal you will contribute money to the box, imagining that your family is hosing a guest at your table.** If you are unable to attend the Guest at Your Table Thanksgiving worship service on November 18th, please pick up a box in the foyer during the weeks after. In January, count the money you have collected and write a check to UUSC in that amount. Please remember, all donations of \$75.00 or more will be matched by the congregation at Shelter Rock.

It Takes a Village: Volunteer Opportunities!

Please support our growing RE program! We have many needs and will find a job that utilizes your gifts. Contact Katie Culbert or a member of the RE Committee to volunteer. Training & curriculum is provided. *All parents with children in the program are expected to volunteer throughout the year.*

Note to Parents: Children strengthen relationships with peers and develop a sense of belonging by attending Religious Education classes regularly. Teachers put time, energy and love into their lessons and are sad & frustrated when they are unable to share it with a full class. Please bring your children on a regular basis and let us know if there is anything we can do to help make this happen.

Mark your calendars now ~ December 2007!!!

Following service on **Sunday, December 2nd** we will be having an **All-Church Holiday Kick-off Party**. We will decorate the church for the holidays while enjoying food, crafts and festive music. Our **intergenerational holiday service** will be on **Sunday, December 23rd**. This year's theme is the Winter Solstice. We will need participants of all ages! Please contact Katie as soon as possible to sign up.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
One Place: All Faiths
Creating a caring, justice-seeking community

UUA Trustee Tidbits

Joan Lund

November already... I sincerely hope your congregation year is going well and you are energized by cooler weather. By the time you find this in your newsletter I will have returned from the October Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting and written a report for the District Packet and web page. This month the information will be about The Board of Review (formerly known as the Ministerial Fellowship Board of Review). This Board hears appeals from ministers and credentialed religious educators who have had their fellowship or status as credentialed religious educator terminated by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) or the Religious Education Credentialing Committee (RECC). No appeal is permitted after the Board of Review's Decision.

Due to a bylaw change passed by the delegates to the 2007 General Assembly (GA) the BOT approves the rules of the Board of Review, which parallels the BOT's authority for the Ministerial Fellowship Committee and the Religious Education Credentialing Committee Rules. The Board of Review consists of eight members which includes three members who are ministers in final ministerial fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association for at least seven continuous years; a credentialed religious educator-masters level; and four members who are not ministers or credentialed religious educators who have been members of a congregation for at least three years as an officer or member of the governing body of that congregation. Board of Review members are elected by the delegates at GA and serve for eight years. No member of the Board of Review is permitted to be a member of the MFC, the RECC, or hold any salaried position in the Association.

A minister in final ministerial fellowship whose fellowship has been terminated may appeal the determination of the MFC to the Board of Review, who has exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide on the appeal. A credentialed religious educator whose status has been terminated may appeal the determination of the RECC to the Board of Review who has exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide on the appeal. An appeal to the Board of Review is heard by a panel of that Board selected by its rules. The panel hearing an appeal does not "try" the case but only reviews the record made before the MFC or RECC. The panel must uphold the decision of the MFC or RECC if it can be sustained by a reasonable view of the record, and in the absence of newly ascertained information. The panel may set aside the decision of the MFC or RECC only when it's necessary to correct or prevent manifest injustice.

The rules of the Board of Review can be found on the UUA web site. You can contact me at jlund@uua.org or at 813-931-9727. I always enjoy, and profit from hearing from you. May you experience a blessed Thanksgiving and be of good health.

Board Bytes

Mary Francis, Secretary

Each month we receive and discuss reports from the Minister, Director of Religious Education, Treasurer, and Board / Committee Liaisons.

At the September meeting, we elected officers as follows:

Diana Stevens, President
Bill Blymiller, Vice President
Mary Francis, Secretary
Russ Patterson, Treasurer

So, Mary Francis replaced Tempie Taudte as Secretary, and Russ Patterson replaced Ed Benedict as Treasurer. Be sure to thank both Tempie and Ed for their work and dedication! Of course, they remain as Board members.

The Finance Committee reported that Miracle Sunday was a success! We exceeded our goal and raised \$12,908. While the main event was fun, entertaining and successful, many contributions came post-event. Thank you!

There was much discussion about the upcoming UUA marketing campaign in our Florida district. The marketing campaign fundraising for the district fell during our Stewardship week. The Board agreed to designate half the funds raised at the December Auction to the Marketing Campaign. Anyone interested is invited to West Central Cluster Meeting on Nov. 3 in Clearwater from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. We want to be ready and welcoming to those who visit our church!

We will soon initiate the planning for Rev. Sara's installation which will be early in 2008 and coincide with UU Association Sunday service.

The Board also held a retreat weekend meeting on October 12th and 13th to plan for 2008. Ken Hurto from the Florida District Office assisted in setting goals in the areas of Worship, Leadership, Spiritual Discernment, Administration/Management, Beloved Community, and Witness. These turned out to be useful categories and the Board has more work to do in this area so watch *Board Bytes* as we continue to work through the process and take action on the priorities. 2008 promises to be a productive and exciting year!

For more information, please see the most recent copy of the minutes, which is posted on a bulletin board in the foyer, or ask any board member.



Book Sale Kickoff

Ruth Davis

Watch for the UUCT Book Sales on the 1st Sunday, every other month, following services. The schedule is:

December 2nd, 2007

February 3rd, 2008

April 6th, 2008

June 1st, 2008

So bring some extra coins for some good reading and even gifts.

If you want more information or want to purchase a book between book sales, contact Ruth Davis at

harpsofwinds@tampabay.rr.com.



Missing your Domelight?

A 1-year subscription by mail is still available! Stop by the office with a \$15.00 donation – be sure to mark it **Domelight** and include your name and address.

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(813)988-8188

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Domelight deadline is generally the Sunday closest to the 15th of each month. Deadline for the next issue is at the end of service on **November 18th**. Articles may be submitted by e-mail to Domelight@chrisandjamie.net or left in the Domelight box in the church office.

Submissions should include a contact name and phone number. Editor: Chris Hendrickx



Green Challenge

Brittany Bennett

This month's "Green Challenge": Stop using plastic bags from stores and start using reusable bags!

Did you know that...

- "...Society's consumption rate is now estimated at well over **500,000,000,000 (that's 500 billion)** plastic bags annually, or almost **1 million per minute.**"
- "Single-use bags made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) are the main culprit. Once brought into existence to tote your purchases, they'll accumulate and persist on our planet for up to 1,000 years."

- "According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the U.S. goes through 100 billion plastic shopping bags annually. An estimated 12 million barrels of oil is required to make that many plastic bags."
 - "Plastic bags cause over 100,000 sea turtle and other marine animal deaths every year when animals mistake them for food."
 - "The average family accumulates 60 plastic bags in only four trips to the grocery store."
 - "Each high quality reusable bag you use has the potential to eliminate an average of 1,000 plastic bags over its lifetime."
 - "Plastic bags don't biodegrade, they photodegrade—breaking down into smaller and smaller toxic bits contaminating soil and waterways and entering the food web when animals accidentally ingest them."
- Information from <http://www.reusablebags.com/>

Here are some resources for learning more and for acquiring reusable bags of your own:

- <http://www.reusablebags.com/>
- <http://www.shop.greensak.com/main.sc>
- <http://www.ecobags.com/>
- <http://www.chicobag.com/>

Searching online can yield great resources; also, if you shop at Publix, check out their "green bag." It is *very* affordable and functional! As always, if you do have plastic bags at home, remember to reuse and/or recycle them. Publix offers plastic bag recycling as well.



Getting Green

Betty Kaminker

The Green Group meets on Sundays from 9:45am-10:45am. We discuss issues of the environment and sustainable living. Every week there is a different facilitator and perhaps a guest speaker. Try to attend even if you cannot be there for the entire hour. Everybody can make a contribution! Come join us. For more information call Betty at 246-6568 or Carolyn at 989-0771.



UUCT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President – Diana Stevens

Member – Tempie Taudie

Vice President – Bill Blymiller

Member – Ralph Lehman

Treasurer – Russell Patterson

Member – Felice Richardson

Secretary – Mary Francis

Member – Kathy Hunter

Member – Ed Benedict

Calendars

Jamie Hendrickx, Interim Office Administrator

We now have 2 sets of calendars for the church. The first one is the old one in the office which is for **events AT UUCT only**. Please do not write on this calendar. To schedule an event at UUCT, please complete a calendar request form located under the calendars on the wall.

The second one is a new calendar located on the door of the office. It is the *UUCT Community Calendar* and is for the UUCT church and church related events that are not necessarily happening at UUCT. It will be kept up to date on the office door and on the web page.

Examples of events for these calendars include, but are not limited to, the following:

- INTERWEAVE activities such as Winter Pride and St. Pete Pride
- H.O.P.E. activities such as the Annual Convention and Nehemiah Action
- Friendship dinners
- UUCT Board retreats
- Committee meetings that are off-site
- RE activities such as the MLK day parade and Popcorn and Opinions
- RUUGS excursions
- Walk In The Park
- UUA West Central Cluster Meetings

There are several ways to add an event to the calendar:

- Email the information to Mary Francis at gldnpuma@earthlink.net
- Phone the office with the information 988-8188
- Email the information to the office at info@uutampa.org
- Leave a note on the dry erase board with the date, time, location, and event and your contact information for any questions.
- Write the information on the date on the calendars on the office door. (Please include contact information.)

We hope that having this information available will encourage members and friends to be more involved in UUCT life. Any questions, ask the interim office administrator, Jamie Hendrickx (info@uutampa.org or 813-988-8188). The calendar is also available online at www.uutampa.org/Calendar.htm.



The Prez Says

Diana Stevens

Your Board of Trustees has been hard at work on your behalf. We have a full board of 9 members: Diana Stevens, president; Bill Blymiller, vice-president; Russell Patterson, treasurer; Mary Francis, secretary; Ralph Lehman, Ed Benedict, Tempie Taudie, Felice Richardson and Kathy Hunter. We are available to hear from you at any time.

We went on a week-end Board Retreat with Reverend Sara Zimmerman in October. Florida District Executive Kenn Hurto came for a morning to assist with the “Start Up” of the Board’s working relationship with our new Minister. Each member of the Board, the Board as a whole, and the Minister have strengths and weaknesses that are brought to their participation. During the two days, we became more familiar with each other’s leadership styles and have formed a bond that will assist us in working efficiently together. We explored our expectations for the coming year and set goals for ourselves and the church.

The goals we have are divided into the following six categories: Worship, Spiritual Discernment, Creating the Beloved community, Witnessing to Our Faith, Administration and Leadership. We kept in mind that our church focus for this year and the next three years is Religious Education. We feel that making goals in all these areas will help us remember that the Board of UUCT is a Steward of the many facets of UUCT. Our goals are not just for the Board, they are for the entire congregation. Religious Education and the up coming UUA Tampa Bay Marketing Campaign will require the entire church community’s participation. We will be taking a look at our practices and how they relate to newcomers and how they encourage people to stay and join us. The first step will be the November 3rd planning meeting at the Clearwater UU Church to discuss ‘Best Practices.’ Our church has much to offer the other churches but there is always something to learn and we will be there for the discussions. Members of the Board and Membership Team will attend and bring back the information. Anyone who is interested can attend – see the bulletin board in the hall for information.

November 25th will be the next “Conversation with the Board” after church. It is a time to ask questions and discuss with the Board what is on your mind.

One big, fun, celebration is the Installation Service for Rev. Sara Zimmerman on March 2nd, 2008. If you would like to be on the planning committee – let us know. We also need a coordinator for this event. We will be celebrating at the church with people from the UUA and our area churches. We are delighted to have Rev. Sara as our settled minister.

Interweave

Interweave Continental is a membership organization actively working to end oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity, recognizing that we will not be free until all oppression is a thing of the past. We are an affiliate organization of the Unitarian Universalist Association. We value and affirm the lives and experience of Queer people of faith of all ages, races, ethnicities, income levels, and abilities. By providing and supporting leadership, and working in collaboration with other organizations of similar vision, we strive to connect and nurture all Queer individuals, communities, groups, and their allies.

The local UUCT Chapter of Interweave will announce their next meeting during Sunday services. Please see the Order of Service for details or questions can be directed to Magda Santos.



Friendship Dinners

Martha Robinson

The October Friendship Dinner was held October 13th at Faye and Tom Turke's home in Lutz. It was a great evening with many new faces, great food and great conversation! Many thanks to Faye and Tom! As always, it was a great evening.

The sign-up sheet for the November dinner, which will be held at Lynn Parrish's home on November 10th, is posted in the foyer of the church, or call Martha Robinson (813/985-4777) to sign up if you can't make it to church to put your name on the list. After you sign up Lynn will call you to confirm what you will be bringing to the dinner and give you directions if needed.

Bud Clough and I will be looking forward to seeing you at our home for a December dinner on the 8th but if anyone else would like to host an additional dinner please let me know. I am also looking for anyone who would like to host a dinner in the future months (January, February, March, April, May, June, etc.). If you would like to be a host, please call Martha Robinson (985-4777 or email mrobins7@verizon.net). Keep in mind that there may be a special occasion you would like to celebrate with fellow UUers. The Friendship Dinner is a great way to have friends with you for those special occasions. To those people who are new to the area and UUCT, it would be great if you would sign up to attend a dinner. We are anxious to get to know you better and these dinners are a perfect way for us to meet you on a more personal level with good food thrown into the bargain.

The Dinners work like this: They are usually held on the 2nd Saturday of the month, but if that date does not fit into your busy schedule you may choose a date more to your liking. The entrée is usually fixed by the host and the guests bring the rest of the meal, but that is not carved in stone. As mentioned before, our host will contact you to find out what you would like to bring. Hope to see you at the November and December dinners!

SHAAG /SHAAFT

Bill Blymiller

The SHAAG (Secularist, Humanist, Atheist, Agnostic [and Free Thinker] Group) now meets on the **second and fourth Wednesdays** of each month to discuss topics of interest from a primarily non-theistic point of view. I say primarily, because the discussions range freely and many different flavors of "Free Thinking" display themselves. Go the Church website and follow the SHAAG link to get more information and links to download the discussion material. Contact Bill Blymiller for questions at bill@blymiller.com or 813-988-6551. The discussions are always open and new people come and go all the time. We would love to have you visit to see if it is something you would be interested in.



Walk in the Park

Patricia McCracken

A group of UUs meet at Lettuce Lake Park Thursday mornings at 8:30AM for a brisk walk on the paved path and good conversation. To find the parking area and meeting place, take the Lettuce Lake Parkway to the end. Turn left and then immediately turn right into the parking lot. We will gather there and begin the walk at 8:30AM. You are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Patricia McCracken at 813-988-6453.



Engaging Our Theological Diversity

Bill Blymiller

We continue to meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00PM to discuss the report of the UUA's Commission on Appraisal on the theological diversity in Unitarian Universalism. You can check out the current month's topic by going to the Church's website www.uutampa.org and following the link to the report.



Your help is needed!

Just a reminder, please help to clean the church. This is not only needed on Building & Grounds day, but also whenever you're there. Make sure all food is picked up and put away. Clean up all of your dishes. Take the garbage out to the dumpster. Just these few simple tips can help make sure that we have a sanctuary that's ready to use when we want to use it, and helps keep the grounds looking beautiful!



Circles In The Woods CUUPS

Chris Hendrickx

Circles in the Woods CUUPS (Convenent of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) is a committee within the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa.

Full Moon Celebrations

We host Full Moon Celebrations on the Saturday closest to the Full Moon at 7:30PM followed by shared feasting. This is an open family event, so yes, children are welcome! However, childcare is **not** provided, so parents **are** responsible for the care of their children. Donations to help pay for the upkeep of the property are welcome! First-time ritual attendees, those interested in Wicca or Paganism, and their families are welcomed and encouraged to attend! You do not have to have ritual experience to be part of the Celebration. We welcome all those who come in Perfect Love and Perfect Trust!!

Upcoming Rituals:

November 24th: Join members and friends of Circles in the Woods CUUPS for our annual November Bardic Circle facilitated by Lord SunFire. This is "open mic" so bring your favorite story, poem, dance, song, etc and entertain us! We will laugh, cry, and giggle together!

Upcoming Classes:

Note: All are welcome at meetings and classes. Meetings start at 7:00 PM and are followed by a class. There is no cost for the meeting or class, however, love donations are gratefully accepted. All money goes directly to UUCT.

November 5th: Making Staffs and Wands: Now in its 3rd year, this popular class discusses the properties of native woods found around our area and gives you the opportunity to make a staff or wand of your own! Wear something that you don't mind getting a bit dirty if you want to participate.

December 3rd: Kitchen Witchery: In this popular class you will learn different techniques and recipes for brewing a bit of magic in your own kitchen. There will be a potluck to follow. Please bring recipes to share.



Migrant Workers Program

Ollis Hughes, Chair

The Charity Committee would like to remind you that there is a basket for food offerings at the church entrance. The basket is for nonperishable food and personal items, no clothing. Please try to remember to bring something to share with those less fortunate.



UUCT Annual Auction

Russell Patterson

Good food, good fun, and a GREAT Time to buy something special and support our church. Bring your friends, co-workers, and family to join the fun.

The auction is a great time to pick up goods and services from members and friends. This year, half of the auction proceeds will go to the January Media Campaign and half will go to church funds.

We are calling for new or gently used (and clean) items, services or promises. Please contact Russell Patterson (russellpatterson1@earthlink.net 813-333-5315), or Candy Gale (candylgale@rearthlink.net 813-333-5325) to donate, or bring your item to church no later than Sunday, December 2nd.

Some items will be on display starting Sunday, November 25th, for our silent auction. Some items will also be on display for a raffle that will go on at the same time as the auction.

Save the date, and plan to spend the morning and afternoon of December 9th at UUCT.



Calling All Elves!

Martha Robinson

Christmas is coming and the Hot Fudge needs to be cooked! Calling all elves who would like to make hot fudge for the Christmas Eve service. I will supply the recipe and all you have to do is bring it to church Christmas Eve night. Call me or let me know by email or in person. Thank you. Martha Robinson (call 985-4777 or email mrobins7@verizon.net.)



Giving to the UU Church of Tampa

There are several ways to give to UUCT. You can fill out a form with our pledge secretary, Joyce Formica to enroll in automatic deductions from your bank. For those of you who would like more control, you can make a one-time or recurring donation online at <http://www.uutampa.org>. You can drop money in the Sunday collection basket (mark it pledge if you want it to count toward your pledge – there are envelopes in the basket if you are using cash toward your pledge). Finally, you can drop donations off at the church office anytime someone is there. If you wish to make a gift of stocks or bonds, please see our treasurer for instructions.



Conversation With The Board

Diana Stevens, Board of Trustees President

Available members of the Board of Trustees will be present for **conversation** after church on the 4th Sunday of the month from 12:15 to 12:45 PM. The purpose of these conversations will be to open communication and share ideas. Come with questions and ideas, but always with an open mind.



H.O.P.E. Happenings

Carol Partington

By the time you read this, the Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality (HOPE) will have held their Annual Convention with our UUCT Choir performing.

In preparation for this, HOPE congregations held House Meetings to share our concerns and suggest actions that HOPE could consider for the coming year. UUCT held their House Meeting on September 30, with seventeen people in attendance.

Some Justice Quotes were shared as a reflection to start the meeting. Here are some examples:

“The inequalities suffered by the many are in no way justified by the rise of the few.” -James Baldwin

“Kindness without justice is of little moral worth.” -William Ellery Channing

“One hour of justice is worth three thousand hours of prayer.” - Kemal Djumblatt, Lebanese Revolutionary Leader

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

“If you want peace, work for justice.” - Pope Paul VI

Then we went around the group sharing a time when we felt powerful or powerless in the community. This sharing revealed the rich backgrounds of those at the meeting.

Next we spoke of specific community problems in Hillsborough County that we felt strongly about. Some of the actions suggested were getting to the roots of homelessness, needing mental health care for incarcerated people, increasing access to birth control and health care for women, providing homeless services in North Tampa, providing sex education in schools, increasing funding for crisis center and mental health care, making cheap and accessible transportation available throughout the county, and improving police response to rapes including quick processing of DNA tests.

These ideas will be combined with those of other HOPE congregations and prioritized to select issues for 2008.

The Justice Ministry Network concept was explained. Each person will bring 3 people with them to the Nehemiah Action on April 7, 2008 at 6:30 pm. They will also attend 2 other meetings in preparation: the Annual Convention- Oct. 29, (already over) and the Rally - March 10, 2008, 6:30 pm.

Eight people from our church committed to be Justice Ministry Network Members. If you would like to be a Justice Ministry Network Member or would like to know more about it, please contact me at 985-9109, or yellowcap9@yahoo.com.



Adult Religious Education

Ollis Hughes

The Adult RE Committee meets on the 3rd Wednesday every other month. The next meeting is on December 19th. There are several events coming up in November to be excited about!

Don't forget about the **Wand and Staff workshop** after the CUUPS meeting on November 5th. See the CUUPS article on page 7 for more details.

November 11th following services we will have a **book discussion** on *Peace is Every Step* by Thich Nhat Hanh led by Judy Mintz. “Every morning when we wake up we have twenty-four brand new hours to live. What a precious gift! We have the capacity to live in a way that these twenty-four hours will bring peace, joy and happiness to ourselves and others.”

UU 101 will be taught by Rev. Sara Zimmerman starting on **November 29th**. This is a three-class series on Thursdays. The other dates are **December 6th** and **December 13th**. All UU101 classes are 7PM – 9PM in the large Dome. UU 101 explores the history and roots of Unitarian Universalism. This class is ideal for those new to the church who may wish to become members.

Popcorn and Opinions returns **November 30th** with a showing of Jonathan Miller's *Brief history of Disbelief* which explores his own lack of belief and the hidden story of atheism. This showing will be at the home of Mary Francis at 7:00 PM. Contact her if interested.

The **Engaging Our Theological Diversity** series continues the second Monday of each month. See details in Bill's article on page 6.

Our very own Rev. Sara Zimmerman is starting a **Zen Loving Kindness Meditation** every Tuesday evening from 5:30 PM until 6:30 PM in the large dome.

We're still looking for hosts for the Popcorn and Opinions series as well as facilitators for book discussions. Contact Ollis Hughes if interested.

Hymnbooks

We can always use more hymnbooks so if you would like to gift one to the church you can purchase a hymnbook in memory of a loved one or dedicated to a special person. Our hymnbook "Singing The Living Tradition" is available for \$32.00 a copy, this includes a bookplate with the donors name, shipping & handling fees. When we have five requests we will order the books. Send your check payable to UUCT, along with a note with information about who is to be memorialized or honored to the church, attention Joyce Formica. You will be notified when the book is available for you to place it in the sanctuary.



Concerts in the Dome

Gloria Holloway
813-837-6572, gshello@tampabay.rr.com

For late breaking concert news, check the concert page at the church website.

AMY MENARD (Yes - our lovely, gracious and talented AMY who can sometimes be found tickling the ivories of our Baby Grand) helped arrange this very special classical concert:

WHO: THE DRAGIEVA STRING QUARTET.

WHEN: Thursday 11/15. Concert 8:00. Doors open 7:30.

COST: \$10 in advance, \$8 at the door.

The members of the quartet are OLGA DRAGIEVA, first violin; BENNETT ASTROVE, second violin; AMY MENARD, viola; and TOM KERSEY, cello.

Ms Dragieva, a virtuoso from Bulgaria, is the concertmaster of the USF symphony orchestra. She dazzles with a brilliant, bright sound. Mr. Astrove, the youngest in the group, is ahead of his time and already a first violinist in several orchestras. He lends beautiful, cantabile harmonies to the music. Ms. Menard, a Florida native, has been principal violist of multiple orchestras. Her rich sound is the heart of the quartet. Mr. Kersey, a professional cellist and composer, completes the sound of the group with his warm, deep, sonorous tones. Theirs is music to stimulate the mind and delight the senses.

The Dragieva String Quartet performed during Miracle Sunday. They were such a tremendous hit that a group of

church members "bought" the rights to have them return and do a benefit fundraiser for the church. Don't miss it!

A TENTATIVE LOOK AHEAD:

December is Christmas Music with tenor Paul Diaz-Cobo (as in Opera) in a double bill with traditional folk musician Susan Boyer Haley (as in old yuletide folk carols and folk instruments). You can find a clip of Paul singing Chella Mi Creda at <http://www.pdiazcobo.freehomepage.com/>

Jan 12 / Cellist Matt Haiovitz who created quite a buzz his last visit.

Jan 25 / The Nields.

Feb 2 / Friends of Florida Folk & Concerts in the UU Dome present FOFF Fest (full day event - multiple performers in the afternoon).

Additional concerts to be announced. Stay tuned.



Care Committee

Joyce Formica

We are a small group that tries to assist members and their families, those that are ill, isolated or bereaved, lending a helping hand.

The Care Committee invites you to explore ways you can assist others who are in need within our church family. There are lots of ways you can help even though you feel you don't have the time to join one more committee or attend another meeting. Perhaps you would be willing to do any of the following that might take just a few minutes or a few hours, on an as need basis. Contact Joyce Formica (988-1907) for more information. Please place a check how you would like to help and place the list in the Sunday collection basket.

- Companionship visit
- Grocery shopping
- Transportation/doctors or church
- Memorial service assistance
- Record Joys & Sorrows, Sunday mornings.
- Run errands
- Meal Prep
- Child care
- Visitation / hospital

Name: _____

Phone Number _____

Communications Tidbit

Getting information to the congregation at The Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa

E-Group – The church has an E-Group. You can subscribe at <http://www.uutampa.org> by clicking the “Related Links” button and entering your email address. Conversation about various topics occurs on the E-Group. There is also a social action e-group at the same place.

Domelight newsletter – Firm deadline is the end of service on the Sunday closest to the 15th of the month. Editor is Chris Hendrickx. Submissions may be made by email to Domelight@chrisandjamie.net or left in the Domelight box at the church. Final decisions on content included are made by the Communications Committee and there is limited space so articles may be edited for brevity.

Printed Announcements in the Order of Service – Firm deadline is 10:00AM on the Thursday before the service. Submissions may be made by email to info@uutampa.org or left in the Order of Service Announcements box at the church. Space is limited so final decisions on what will be printed rests with the church office staff.

Spoken Announcements during Sunday Service – should only be used if the announcement was not published in the Order of Service or the announcement is of great importance. Should be **very brief**, and if further detail is necessary, something like “if you want to know more, see me after service” should be used.

Web Site – Requests for items to be added to the web site should be sent to our webmaster, Mary by email at gldnpuma@earthlink.net.



Help Keep the Updaters Updated!

Joyce Formica and Jamie Hendrickx

Are You Moving? Are you planning to move or have already moved? Has your phone number or email address changed? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, please notify the church office by email: info@uutampa.org or phone: 813-988-8188. You can also print your new address, phone number, and/or email address on the guest register form in the foyer. Since the *Domelight* is now sent out electronically, you can help keep communication lines open by updating your email address as well. Again, just contact the church office or leave a note in the Office Manager’s mailbox in the church office with your new information. Thanks for helping us communicate better with you!!



Calendar of weekly events at UUCT

SUNDAY

- 9:45AM Green Group
- 10AM Current Affairs (Small Dome)
- 11AM Sunday Service
- 11AM (Grades 1-12) Youth R.E. (Small Dome)
- 11AM Child Care for babies in the Nursery

THURSDAY

- 8:30AM Nature Walk in the Park
(info: 813-988-6453)

Calendar of October Events

- Nov 1** – Jin Shin Jyutsu Rental
Tibetan Buddhist Meditation 7:00 PM
- Nov 2** – Jin Shin Jyutsu Rental
- Nov 3** – Jin Shin Jyutsu Rental
- Nov 5** – CUUPS Meeting and Workshop 7:00 PM
- Nov 6** – Adult RE: Zen Loving Kindness Meditation 5:30 PM
- Nov 7** – Choir 7:00 PM
- Nov 8** – Walk in the Park 8:30 PM
Tibetan Buddhist Meditation 7:00 PM
- Nov 10** -- Breathwork
Buildings and Grounds Cleanup 9:00 AM
- Nov 11** – Book Discussion *Peace is Every Step* 12:30PM
- Nov 12** – Finance Committee 7:00 PM
Adult RE: Engaging our Theological Diversity 7:00 PM
- Nov 13** – Adult RE: Zen Loving Kindness Meditation 5:30 PM
Small Group Ministry 7:00 PM
- Nov 14** – Choir 7:00 PM
SHAAG 7:00 PM
Youth RE Committee 7:00 PM
- Nov 15** – Tibetan Buddhist Meditation 7:00 PM
Concert: Classical Quartet 8:00 PM
- Nov 18** – **DOMELIGHT Deadline**
Interweave Meeting 12:15 PM
- Nov 20** – Adult RE: Zen Loving Kindness Meditation 5:30 PM
- Nov 21** – Choir 7:00 PM
Adult RE Committee Meeting 7:00 PM
- Nov 22** – Food For Life Rental
Tibetan Buddhist Meditation 7:00 PM
- Nov 24** – CUUPS Annual Bardic Circle 7:30 PM
- Nov 25** – Conversation with the Board 12:15 PM
- Nov 27** – Adult RE: Zen Loving Kindness Meditation 5:30 PM
- Nov 28** – Choir 7:00 PM
SHAAG 7:00 PM
- Nov 29** – Tibetan Buddhist Meditation 7:00 PM
Adult RE: UU 101 7:00 PM

A Month of Sundays at The Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa

Please Note: All Sunday Services start at 11:00 AM and are led by Rev. Sara Zimmerman unless otherwise noted.

November 4th – *UU History: Heretics and Heresies*

With volunteers from the congregation playing the parts of historical figures in Rev. Zimmerman's original "readers' theater" sermon. If you would like to participate, call the church now (press 2 to leave a message for the minister) or email her (revsaraz@aol.com). The roles will include Michael Servetus, John Calvin, Laetius Socinus, Katharine Weigel, Faustus Socinus and others. No previous acting experience required, no memorization required.

November 11th – *Wisdom from the World's Religions: The Essential Thich Nhat Hanh.*

Rev. Zimmerman will present a sermon based on the inspiring wisdom of this Vietnamese Zen Buddhist monk. See description of a coordinated afternoon event, below.

On this Veterans Day we will honor our Veterans.

Note: Everyone is welcomed to the Brown Bag Book Discussion, 12:30 PM on November 11. Judy Mintz will lead a discussion of Thich Nhat Hanh's short book, *Peace is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life*. Copies are available in most libraries, bookstores (\$14.00), used books at Amazon.com. This is a presentation of the Adult Religious Education Committee.

November 18th – *Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service*

Kick-off Sunday for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee *Guest at Your Table* fundraising. Rev. Zimmerman will offer her sermon, *Faith in Action: We Affirm and Promote Justice, Equity and Compassion (2nd Principle)* with emphasis on UUSC efforts in the world community and UUCT's efforts closer to home.

Child Dedication: Casey Tupelo Culbert, son of Katie and J. D. Culbert

November 25th – *A Matter of Life and Death* – Rev. Francesca Hughes (guest minister)

Every once in awhile someone will ask you, "What would you do if this were your last day on earth?" It concentrates the mind, doesn't it? Death is one of the few things of which we are certain, and yet it is something we often ignore until it forces itself upon our notice. But, in a way, it is the sense of limitation that gives our life meaning. To acknowledge death is to become more alive. This talk will not be about death so much as it will be about life and the complete aliveness and authenticity that are available in every moment.

Francesca Hughes is a chaplain at Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care. Chaplains address the issues of hope, meaning and love with dying patients and their families. She is a graduate of Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley and New College of Florida. Francesca is a member of the UU Church of Sarasota and was ordained there last year. She was raised in Reform Judaism and is a long-term student of Tibetan Buddhism. She has a connection with Sufism and has studied Hinduism and Taoism. Her interests include meditation, theology, cooking and flea markets. She has two cats.

Want to get this by US mail? Need to contact the church? All the info is on page 4!

Domelight is a publication of:

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Please Note: The deadline for the December issue of Domelight is November 18th at the end of the church service.