

UUF Galveston Gazette

April 2007



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

(409)765-8330 Online at <http://www.uugalveston.org>

Sunday Activities: Adult Forum, 9:00 a.m.; Services 10:30 a.m.; Children and Youth Religious Education, 10:30 a.m.

President's Message—Gerry

Open Space Technology at UUA General Assembly, June 20-24, 2007

As we look to the end of the fiscal year (June 30), there are many important tasks to complete.

We have scheduled the annual meeting for May 20. At this meeting we will approve a budget and nominees to fill positions for those completing terms on the board. Please mark your calendars and plan to be there.

In preparation for developing budget we will canvass for pledges beginning April 1 in order to give the board time to work on the budget before the annual meeting. I will also be appointing a nominating committee. Please begin to consider how you can give of your time, talent and treasure in the coming year.

It sounds like several members are considering going to the General Assembly June 20 - 24 in Portland, Oregon. Please let me know if you are interested so that we can coordinate all who plan to go.

As always, please let any board member know your needs and thoughts, this is our church, we can make it want we want!

Faithfully,
Gerry

Right Relations Covenant

We will communicate openly, honestly and respectfully. We will listen carefully with open minds and open hearts. We will assume good intentions, practice tolerance and resist the temptation to become offended. We will take responsibility for our speech, actions and feelings, and we will be sensitive to possible conflicts and willing to work toward solutions. We will consider other perspectives and

Be in Portland, Oregon, this June for an unprecedented opportunity to shape the mission of our Association. General Assembly attendees will engage in a unique open meeting process where our own questions and passions will determine our direction for the 21st century.

In Open Space meetings, event participants create and manager their own agenda of parallel working sessions around a central theme of strategic importance, such as "What difference should Unitarian Universalism make in the world?"

Orientation to Open Space will be provided on Thursday, June 21, during Plenary II (8:30-10:00 a.m.) Open Space participants will then go to one of ten concurrent Domain sessions from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. These sessions, as well as subsequent Open Space workshops and Convergence sessions, will run simultaneously with other GA programming. Participation is voluntary; all GA registrants are invited.

At each Domain, participants will identify as many as 12 issues or topics that relate to the central question and will schedule their further discussion in designated meeting times and spaces.

This Domain process will produce as many as 120 participant-driven meetings over six available workshop times. A master schedule grid of all break-out workshopswill be produced and made available to all GA attendees on Thursday afternoon. Any GA registrant may attend any Open Space workshop. However, attendance will be limited to room capacity on a first come, first served basis. General Assembly ushers will be present at all Open Space workshops to ensure that rooms are not over-filled and that aisles remain clear and accessible.

On Saturday, June 23, workshop participants will return to the Domain rooms for Convergence sessions. The Convergence sessions will serve to bring together the ideas and themes produced by dozens of simultaneous workshops and identify points of emergent consensus.

On Sunday, June 24, resolutions resulting from the OST process will be introduced to the Plenary for prioritization by GA delegates.

This June, members of Unitarian Universalist congregations will gather in one strong body, to share our passions and turn those passions into priorities. Don't miss this historic meeting!

More Information: <http://www.uua.org/>

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its gift.

This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

A Month of Sundays

(All Services are held from 10:30-11:30 a.m.)

News Items

April 1

SPEAKER: Joseph Simmons
TOPIC: Humor and Spiritualist

Is there a place for humor in church? Joseph Simmons, a professional stand-up comedian, Muslim and friend of the fellowship will explore humor and spirituality on this April Fool's Day. Be prepared to share your favorite religious jokes!

Facilitator: Stan Blazyk Music: Margaret Canavan
Board Member: Woody Dickson

April 8

SPEAKER: Gerry Carr
TOPIC: Flower Communion

On this Easter Sunday, we welcome spring and look with hope to the future. The Flower Communion was developed by the Unitarian minister, Dr. Norbert Capek. The program will explore the history of the Flower Communion as well as Dr. Capek's story. Please join us and bring a flower from your garden or yard to add to the vase for the ceremony. Music: Margaret Canavan Board Member: Amber Booth

April 15

LEADER: F. Woodrow Dickson
TOPIC: UU Revival

On this Sunday as we wind down the annual canvass, our service will allow us the opportunity to reflect on our faith, recommit to our beliefs, and renew our connection with this fellowship. What does it mean to be a UU? What does it mean to be part of this Fellowship? Here's your chance to share "what religion has done for you".

Music: UU String Band Board Member: Mike Hennen

April 22

SPEAKERS: Rev. Tom Capo
TOPIC: Should We Actually Kill the Buddha If We Meet Him On The Road?

The Buddha taught many things. He brought us the four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. He exposed us to a way of living that included moderation, mindfulness and caring for people and planet. If we were to meet Buddha on the road today, how would we act? How would we respond? Would we listen to him/her or would be just kill him/her and be done with it?

Facilitator: Vickie Francil Music: Margaret Canavan
Board Member: Gerry Carr

April 29 POT LUCK TODAY AFTER THE SERVICE
FACILITATOR: Tony DiNuzzo
TOPIC: Creativity

This year's Creativity service focuses on the places where the creative spirit can flourish. That means just about anywhere and everywhere. There are obvious places - in some special and holy place, perhaps a wood, or a meadow, or a beach, or your favorite quiet place where your thoughts can soar unimpeded by distractions that may create barriers rather than create inspiration. But what about places we may not think of - the office, the monthly poker game or pot luck lunches? Let's expand our definition of creativity to outside the norm. As always, please bring your "show and tell" pieces. And let's make today's potluck a creative one!

Music: UU String Band Board Member: Mike Hennen

April Supper Circle

Mardi Mitchell is hosting the April Supper Circle on Friday, April 6th. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. Mardi lives at 2208 Avenue P. The theme will be April's Fool. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for the first 6 lucky folks. Please contact Judy Glaister at 762-8187 or judyglaister@yahoo.com if you would like to host a supper circle. May through November months are open.

Provocative Film Festival & Discussion

The next film in the SAC series will be shown on April 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the fellowship. The film is called "Paper Clips" and is a story of a school that collected paper clips to symbolize the losses in the Holocaust. It is a documentary about tolerance and what can happen when there is a lack of it. Please bring refreshments to share.

Poker Night — and Non-Poker Night

Tony Dinuzzo will host "Poker night" at his house on Sunday, April 8. His address is 1419 Ball. Also on Sunday, April 8 at 6pm: Non-poker Games at Fanny DeGesero's, 2910 Heron Drive, 6pm. Bring a snack. Check with Fanny for details.

Hammers, Ladders and Nails

Help needy Houstonians with home repair. Join us on **Saturday, April 14 or 21**. To get on the e-mail list for the address and other information, e-mail laura@starlightcapital.com.

Program Committee Needs Input

Program Committee: will meet at 6:15 pm on Thursday, April 26 at the Mosquito Café, 14th & Winnie St. in Galveston. All are invited. We really would appreciate help in developing program ideas for our Sunday services. We know everyone has ideas and we'd like to hear them.

Garden Work Day

Garden workday Saturday April 28 9-11am: Please come if you can. Our garden is scheduled to be on a "Watersmart" Gardening Workshop tour on Saturday May 5, so we'd like it to look as nice as possible. We can do weeding and mulching, light pruning, and raking around bushes.

Many Thanks!

Many many thanks to Judy Glaister and Richard Orange, who have labored mightily to clean the stove and refrigerator in our kitchen. Also thanks to Marilyn Schultz, Laura Murrell, and Margaret Canavan who helped with cleanup efforts.

News From Heather Flynn

Heather Flynn reports that Mike Rogers came to Fairbanks to visit his son and ended up moving to Anchorage to live....about a mile down the road from her. Says Heather, "Right now Anchorage could use an informed *#@#* like Mike. Galveston's loss is our gain."

Birthdays this Month

Gerry Carr (4/17)

Mike Hennen (4/17)

Jodie Tefer (4/4)

APRIL 2007

Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise indicated

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am—Adult Forum 10:30 am—Adult Service & Children/Youth RE Program	2 Weekly Bulletin Deadline	3	4 5:30pm UU Bowlers	5 7:00 pm—Course in Miracles Covenant	6 7:00 pm—Provocative Film “Paper Clips”	7 9:00 am—Zen Meditation
8 9:00 am—Adult Forum 10:30 am—Adult Service & Children/Youth RE Program 6pm—Poker Night at DiNuzzo’s, Game night at DeGesero’s	9 Weekly Bulletin Deadline	10 8:00 pm—UU Net, Emerson UU	11	12 7:00 pm—Course in Miracles Covenant	13	14 9:00 am—Zen Meditation
15 9:00 am—Adult Forum 10:30 am—Adult Service & Children/Youth RE Program 12 pm—Social Action Meeting	16 Weekly Bulletin Deadline	17	18 5:30pm UU Bowlers	19 7:00 pm—Course in Miracles Covenant	20 News-letter Deadline	21 9:00 am—Zen Meditation
22 9:00 am—Adult Forum 10:30 am—Adult Service & Children/Youth RE Program	23 Weekly Bulletin Deadline	24	25 5:45 pm—Board Mtg	26 6:15pm—Program Cmte@ Mosquito Cafe 7:00 pm—Course in Miracles	27	28 9:00 am—Zen Meditation 9am —Garden workday
29 9:00 am—Adult Forum 10:30 am—Adult Service & Children/Youth RE Program Potluck Lunch after Service	30					

Adult Forum meets every Sunday Morning at 9am!

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Get Connected with UUFGC
Meetings are at the Fellowship unless otherwise noted.

Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9:00 am to explore topics in religion, philosophy, history and politics. For information, contact Neil Huddleston at 409/7442369.

Course in Miracles Study Group meets every Thursday at 7pm. For more information, contact Laura Murrell LauraMurrell@houston.rr.com or Susan Persons at SPersons@houston.rr.com

Empty Bowlers Bowl making meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Contact Madeleine Baker at mabaker@houston.rr.com.

Program Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:15 pm at the original Mosquito Café to plan Sunday services. The next meeting is April 26. Please come if you want to suggest or provide a program, participate as a facilitator, or just talk about our Sunday services. Contact Margaret Canavan, Gerry Carr, or Katrina Chamberlain.

Social Action Committee meets every 3rd Sunday at 12 noon at UUFGC. Come and share your ideas, energy and enthusiasm for Social Action projects. Contact Mary Hodgson at 409-762-0193.

UUFGC Board Members meet the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:45 p.m. Committee members are invited to send Committee reports or present them in person at the meeting. Interested members/friends are also welcome to attend. Contact Gerry Carr, President, at 1

UU Gardeners meet April 28 at 9am to weed and maintain our hearty native foliage and flower beds. For more information contact Margaret Canavan at margaret@galveston.com

UU Social Club needs your input and participation. Contact Susan Persons at SPersons@houston.rr.com or at 765-7907.

Zen Meditation meets Saturdays at 9am, and is an activity of the Zen Island Fellowship. If you wish to learn more about Zen Buddhist practice, contact Cara Geary at gcara@houston.rr.com.

The Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

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.

UUFGC Board of Directors

President	Gerry Carr
President-Elect	Laura Murrell
Past-President	Tony DiNuzzo
Secretary	Amber Booth
Treasurer	Woody Dickson
Members at Large:	Karen Brykczynski Michael Hennen Doris Lee

Committees

Administrative	Madeleine Baker
Archives	Ellie Porter
Covenant Groups	Position open
Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	Margaret Canavan
Membership	Bets Anderson
Music	Woody Dickson
Policies & Procedures	Tony DiNuzzo
Program/Worship	Gerr, Margaret, & Katrina
Religious Education	Neil Huddleston
Supper Circles	Judy Glaister
Social Action	Mary Hodgson
Newsletter Editor	Maggie Pinson
Webmaster	Neil Huddleston

