

UUF Galveston Gazette

March 2007



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

(409)765-8330 Online at <http://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 Carr

Spring is on the way!

Please read this newsletter because there are LOTS of exciting things going on. Our annual Attic Treasures Sale is set for March 24. Please look for opportunities to volunteer and get involved, this event is lots of work but also provides excellent opportunities for building community.

On that same Saturday, the Houston UU Network is sponsoring a workshop called "Creating the UU Church of the Future" led by Mike Durall. He is a highly respected UU consultant and has written several books about UU church life. This will also be a great opportunity to network with other UU's in the Houston area. I am telling you this...there is nothing like being in room full of UU's....the more the better!

Also look for the new film series sponsored by the Social Action Committee....tell your friends!

Thanks again to the administrative team, the board and the committee chairs for keeping things running smoothly.

This is our church, we can make it what we want it to be!

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 will strive not for unanimity but for mutual respect. We will honor our own boundaries and the boundaries of others. We will respect and support the diversity within our congregation and work to foster a welcoming environment.

Creating the UU Church of the Future

Consider attending this great workshop on Saturday, March 24, 9:30 - 3:30 at Emerson Church. Michael Durall will address a number of topics that Houston-area UU presidents want to focus on. Durall is a congregational consultant who is highly regarded, & has authored four books about congregational life. He usually charges \$500 for consulting with a single congregation so this is a great opportunity for us. The workshop is for all eight Houston-area congregations and will be held at centrally located Emerson UU. Lunch will be provided by the Network. You'll meet other local UUs and learn things to help us move our Fellowship effectively into the future. UUFGC can send as many attendees as we wish. Contact Gerry Carr or Laura Murrell for more information, or to sign up.



It's Attic Treasures Time Again!

Once again it's the season to de-clutter your attic, garage and closets and bring the excess to the Fellowship for our annual fundraiser. All donations are tax-deductible, so tell your friends too.

Bring donations beginning Sunday, March 18 after the service. That's when we turn our sanctuary into a thrift shop for a week. We will have donation and work parties Monday through Thursday of that week, to get things sorted, priced and displayed. If you need assistance with transporting your items, call Margaret at (409)771-6252 and we'll do our best to help out.

Friday evening March 23 is our 6-8pm "Members & Friends Early Bird Sale and Reception".

The sale occurs on **Saturday, March 24** from 8-1pm. Tell your friends, neighbors, relatives, even people you don't know.

Obviously we need lots of hands to work on this project, before & during the sale. Check your schedule to see how you can help that week. We always have fun as we work together! Plus, we bring in needed funds for various projects. Past sales have funded our beautiful garden, assisted significantly with the playground equipment, and provided the durable benches resting under our arbor. This year profits will support scholarships to send members to General Assembly in Portland, Oregon this June.

Don't miss it! And don't miss the satisfaction (and fun) you'll have working to make it happen!

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

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

March 4

SPEAKER: Dr. Bets Anderson

TOPIC: *Nickels and Dimes Do Work: Aiding the Poor through Microfinancing*

Frustrated because you don't have time to give to the community? Wonder how to contribute where your money will 'make a difference'? Want a charity that fits with your own beliefs? Perhaps microfinancing is where you can find some answers. This program will define this phenomenon and include some ways that you can actively fight poverty.

Music: Margaret Canavan

Board Member: Laura Murrell

March 11

SPEAKER: Gerry Carr

TOPIC: *Would Ralph Waldo Emerson Be a UU Today?*

In this sermon, Rev. Michael A. McGee writes, "Ralph Waldo Emerson is my favorite Unitarian for a number of reasons, but one of the most outstanding is that his life is such a mystery. Whenever I read about him I keep asking myself two questions: first of all why did he leave the Unitarian ministry, and secondly, would Emerson be a UU today?" Gerry Carr will read the sermon by Rev. McGee. She is the current President of our Board and works at Transitional Learning Community.

Facilitator: Jodie Mitchell

Board Member: Doris Lee

Music: Steve Hodgson

March 18

SPEAKERS: Harvey Rice & Dr. Jackie Cole

TOPIC: *What's All the Fuss Over Jimmy Carter's New Book- Palestine, Peace or Apartheid?*

President Jimmy Carter's new book has generated personal attacks against him as well as many policy discussions. Our Sunday morning Adult Forum Group has been holding a lively multi-week discussion on this book. Our speakers will outline the major points in the book as well as the controversy. There will be time for discussion following the service. Harvey Rice is a career print journalist, currently the Galveston beat reporter for the Houston Chronicle, after working as English desk chief in Mexico City, Middle East desk chief in London, and International desk in Washington, DC. Dr. Jackie Cole is a veterinarian & outdoor enthusiast & a long-time friend of the Fellowship.

Facilitator: Bets Anderson

Board Member: Karen Bryckzynski

Music: Steve Hodgson

March 25

POT LUCK TODAY AFTER THE SERVICE

SPEAKER: Stuart Hinds

TOPIC: *Overtone Singing as Spiritual Utterance*

Stuart Hinds will perform original compositions which reflect his classical training, with influences from many musical cultures – a unique style that appeals to a broad range of listeners. His music "gives. . . musical joy, [and] also a spiritual uplifting." His amazing ability to produce two discreet melodies at the same time makes him unique among overtone singers. He is active as a composer, performer, and teacher; and is choir director at Galveston's Ball High School.

Facilitator: Margaret Canavan

Board Member: Tony DiNuzzo

Music: Steve Hodgson

News Items

Congratulations to Karen Bryckzynski, who is being honored as one of the top 100 graduates in the history of the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing. Her name will be included in the wall of fame they will display as part of the school's centennial celebration in June. Karen received her Doctoral in Nursing Science from UCSF.

Janyce Blozinski is currently at Turner Geriatric Center, third floor. Her phone is 772-4594. Bets Anderson is coordinating a visit schedule.

Spring Cleaning: the "A' Team" (of your volunteer administrators) is hosting a "Spring Cleaning" at the Fellowship on Saturday, March 3, from 9am to noon or so. A small group working on organizing for a couple of hours will make a huge difference. We will not disturb the Zen group. Please come and help out.

March Supper Circle: Laura Murrell is hosting the March Supper Circle on Saturday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m. She lives at 4052 Pirates Beach. Please sign up on the bulletin board at church. Or call or send an e-mail to administrator@uugalveston.org and we'll add your name to the list.

Garden Work Day will be Saturday, March 31, from 9-11 am. Bring favorite tools & gloves. Thanks to **Susan Persons, Marilyn Schulz, Margaret Canavan, Diane & Pete Olsen, & Neil Huddleston** for helping in February.

Provocative Films: The Social Action Committee is showing a series of films on socially and spiritually relevant topics, on the first Friday of each month. On March 2 at 7pm we will show **The Ground Truth**, an examination of the devastation the war has taken on returning soldiers. Please come and bring refreshments to share. Tell your friends! All are welcome.

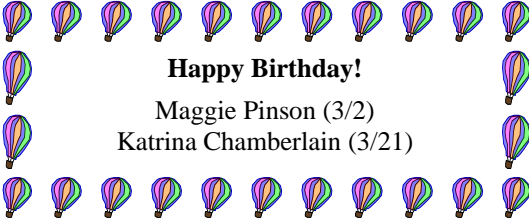
UU Niagara Experience July 15-18, 2007. A four-day opportunity to encounter the Falls & explore history and natural wonders, while hosted by UUs. For information see the web site :<http://www.uunex.net/>, Email: info@uunex.net, telephone : (716) 791-4453.

David Pyle sends his best from snowy Chicago. He is busy with studies, his military commission, working with coalitions to assist returning Iraq vets, and more. . "I have written a chapter in a book that will be coming out this summer on Military Chaplaincy and UU'ism, and UU-World will have an article on my commissioning. . .in their next issue". He hopes to visit Galveston next summer. (Note: David was our Interim Administrator in 2005-6)

Please bring **clean plastic grocery bags** for Shirley Hollingsworth's Saturday project to feed the homeless. Leave them in the small room behind the kitchen. Also, we can get free paper with your **used printer cartridges**.

MARCH 2007

Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise indicated

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Happy Birthday! Maggie Pinson (3/2) Katrina Chamberlain (3/21)</p>				1 7pm Course in Miracles	2 7pm "The Ground Truth", Social Action's first Friday Provocative Film Series	3 9am Zen Meditation 9-11am SPRING CLEANING
4 9am Adult Forum 10:30 Adult Service & Children's Religious Education	5	6 12 noon Weekly Bulletin Deadline	7 5:30pm Bowlers	8 7pm Course in Miracles	9	10 9am Zen Meditation 6:30 pm Supper Circle at Laura Murrell's
11 9am Adult Forum 10:30 Adult Service & Children's Religious Education	12	13 12 noon Weekly Bulletin Deadline	14	15 7pm Course in Miracles	16 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Send info to hestia_olympian@sbcglobal.net	17 9am Zen Meditation
18 9am Adult Forum 10:30 Adult Service & Children's Religious Education Social Action Committee meets after the service	19	20 12 noon Weekly Bulletin Deadline	21 5:30pm Bowlers	22 7pm Course in Miracles	23 6-8pm Members and Friends Early Bird "Attic Treasures" Sale & Reception	24 8am-1pm "Attic Treasures" Sale Fund Raiser 9am Zen Meditation location TBA
25 9am Adult Forum 10:30 Adult Service & Children's Religious Education POTLUCK AFTER THE SERVICE 6pm Spirituality of Poker at DiNuzzos	26	27 12 noon Weekly Bulletin Deadline	28 5:45pm Board Meeting	29 6:15 Program Committee at Mosquito Café (note date change) 7pm Course in Miracles	30	31 9am Zen Meditation 9-11am Garden Workday

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.

Send newsletter items by March 16 to editor Maggie Pinson at

hestia_olympian@sbcglobal.net

You may also leave a written or phone message at the Fellowship and we'll get it to her.

Send items for the weekly e-mail bulletin by noon on Tuesday to

administrator@uugalveston.org

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Get Connected with UUF GC

Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9:00 am to explore topics in religion, philosophy, history and politics. For information, contact Neil Huddleston at 409/744-2369.

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

Empty Bowlers will resume meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, at 5:30, to make bowls for the fall fundraiser. No experience necessary!

Program Committee will meet Thursday March 29 at 6:15 pm at the Mosquito Café, to plan Sunday services. Please come if you wish to suggest or provide a program, participate as a facilitator, or discuss our services. Contact Margaret Canavan, Gerry Carr, or Katrina Chamberlain.

Social Action Committee meets every third Sunday following the service. Come and share your ideas, energy and enthusiasm for

Social Action projects. Contact Mary Hodgson at 409-762-0193.

UUF GC Board Members meet every fourth Wednesday 5:45 p.m. Committee members are invited to send Committee reports or present them in person at the meeting. Interested members/friends are welcome to attend.

UU Gardeners will have a workday Saturday March 31 at 9am to weed and maintain our garden. No gardening experience is required! 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.

Meetings are at the Fellowship unless otherwise indicated

UUF GC 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

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	Gerry, Margaret, & Katrina
Religious Education	Neil Huddleston
Supper Circles	Judy Glaister
Social Action	Mary Hodgson
Newsletter Editor	Maggie Pinson
Webmaster	Neil Huddleston
A' Team	Bets/Judy/Madeleine/Margaret



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