



A Month of Sundays

Services and Children's Religious Education 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9am

May 3

Laura Emerson, "Liberal Bible 101: 'Paulianity', Theology from Paul, never from Jesus"

Laura presents information about Paul, who is more decisive than Jesus on Christian faith. Many beliefs like "saved by faith" and resurrection of everyone do NOT come from the Gospels but from one letter or another attributed to Paul. Learn what is attributed to Jesus but may have actually come from Paul, such as believing in Jesus is the only way to go to heaven. Laura will show how Christian beliefs were as varied then as they are now.

Greeter: Vickie Francil
Facilitator: Cheryl Henry

Board Member: Pete Olsen
Music: Margaret Canavan

May 10

Tony DiNuzzo, "Recapturing Joy: Lessons from a Storm"

The damage caused by Hurricane Ike went far beyond the destruction of homes, businesses and the environment. The storm's negative affects on our way of life, what we like to do, that maybe was taken for granted, have only begun to become apparent. Maybe it's time to reevaluate our lives, how we spend our time, and what we enjoy. This service provides a personal reflection on finding joy again as we continue our road to recovery.

Greeter: Fanny DeGesero

Board Member: Bets Anderson

Music: Tony DiNuzzo

May 17

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AFTER SERVICE

"UU Revival"

This service will provide 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 our religion has done for me."

Greeter: Bets Anderson

Board Member: Susan Persons

Music: UU String Band

May 24

Bets Anderson, "Unitarian Universalism: A Peace Church"

This Memorial Day service will remember those who have died in the service to our country and celebrate our church as one of peace, similar to the Quakers and Mennonites. It will build on a sermon by the Rev. Mark Worth.

Greeter: Martha Terrill

Board Member: John Hunger

Music: Woody Dickson

May 31

POT LUCK AFTER THE SERVICE

Alison Rutledge, "Deliver Us From Evil: The Seven Deadly Sins"

The early church codified sins by the sixth century. Later, Dante's **Divine Comedy** has sinners in hell and purgatory where their punishments fit their transgressions. A recent movie, **Se7en**, used the seven deadly sins to explain the deeds of a serial killer. What exactly are the seven deadly sins? Why would anger or sloth be among them? Is everyone equally vulnerable? How can they be countered? Alison will share her studies on these "seven forms of spiritual isolation."

Greeter: Stan Blazyk
Facilitator:

Board Member: Fanny DeGesero
Music: Margaret Canavan

President's Message

"May 17 is our annual meeting. You will have the opportunity to

- ◆ vote on the slate of officers,
- ◆ approve the budget
- ◆ reflect on this year's accomplishments.
- ◆ bring up ideas and suggestions

I hope that the meeting will also be another celebration of our recovery progress. We are all doing better and better, bit by bit.

The programs are wonderful each week. I am so grateful for the creativity and dedication of our program committee. The increased musical offerings are delightful. It's good to see new and old faces playing together and leading us in song.

Our pledge drive was in April. Since I write these ahead of time. I am imagining a successful pledge campaign fueled by the realization of what a role this fellowship plays in our lives. A rather trite statement but I know no other words to express the depth of comfort and support a strong community faith based group can offer. We have held each other together through laughter, tears and hugs as well as literal helping hands.

Let's continue to do good work.

Happy May!

Susan

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.

ATTIC TREASURES Sale Set for June 12-13

Ike pushed us back a bit, but he didn't stop our annual de-cluttering and fund-raiser rummage sale. We are planning our early-bird sale and reception for Friday evening, **June 12 from 6-8pm**, which will have an admission fee of \$5 to cover refreshments. Sale will be continue on **Saturday, June 13 from 8am-1pm**. Both events are open to the public, of course.

We hope you'll get right to work identifying things you'd like to donate. All you give is tax-deductible as a donation to the Fellowship. Be sure to ask for a donation receipt.

We will start accepting items after the Sunday service on June 7, and will schedule times each day to accept donations. Details will be in the June newsletter. Because the Fellowship now has several activities during the week we will begin setting up the sale on Thursday morning.

Please bring your donations by as soon after June 7 as you are able, so we'll have time to sort and price everything. We still need lots of assistance, both with the sorting and pricing, and with the sale itself. Sign up on the bulletin board, or contact Margaret Canavan.



Reminders

- Please bring **clean plastic grocery bags** and small **plastic food containers with lids** for **Shirley Hollingsworth's** Saturday work to feed the homeless. Leave them in the box outside the Administrator office.
- Bring old (clean) socks and rags for **Judy Glaister** to use for cleaning on the **Elissa**. They are needed for polishing.
- We can get reduced-price paper with your **used inkjet printer cartridges**.
- **Fair Trade Coffee and Tea** sales in our foyer benefit small coffee farmers & also our Social Action Committee.
- **For visitors & newcomers:** Our members receive the **UU World** magazine, & want to share with you. Feel free to take copies from the display in the foyer.
- **Friendly Sunday morning "Greeters"** are needed! Sign-up in the kitchen or contact **Vickie Francil**. Don't wait for Vickie to call you, go ahead & contact her or sign up in the kitchen !

HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW GOOD THE COFFEE TASTES AT UU?

Have you ever wondered who makes it every Sunday? You can thank Neil Huddleston. For years now, I've watched Neil go about quietly giving service to the Fellowship, taking care of the collection basket, tending to outside chores, watering the plants, doing the dishes, cleaning up. I never really talked much to Neil, but I found myself becoming fond of him and appreciative of his efforts and quiet way. I asked Neil to talk about what I had noticed. In his characteristically modest way, he told me that he was brought up on a farm in Appalachia in Tennessee. Everyone was expected to pull their own load, to take responsibility and to help out when it was needed. This way of life seems to be second nature to Neil.

Neil came to the area in the 70's for his work with IBM as an electrical engineer in conjunction with the NASA program. He was invited to a Unitarian service by a friend of his wife. He had come from a strict Presbyterian background whose tenets he questioned. He was drawn to the beliefs of the Unitarians, and became a member. When he came to Galveston with his wife in 1974, he became part of the Galveston Fellowship. He's retired from IBM, and is presently working at the Transitional Learning Center as a research analyst, doing programming and data base operations.

When asked what the most significant event in his life was, he talked about his

fourteen month experience, working with the Defense Communications System in Viet Nam. He went into the army as a second lieutenant when his draft became imminent. He believed he was doing the right thing to serve his country in the war. However, his life was turned upside down as he was catapulted from his pleasant life as a bachelor with a good job, security, and good times. Once in Vietnam, he quickly realized that the war was immoral, and that the Vietnamese people were victims. He saw them trying to survive while being harassed, threatened and robbed on three sides by the Vietnamese government, the Viet Cong, and criminal motorcycle gangs. He saw more and more soldiers' caskets being lined up everyday and knew the deaths were being under reported. Neil began to have a new perception of things and a new way of thinking.

At present, Neil is still out of his home and in a temporary home while he deals with post Ike business, so he doesn't have much time. He has enjoyed sailing and bird watching. He lives with his wife, and has two grown stepchildren and grandchildren. His official jobs at UU are backup to the treasurer and alternate Webmaster. We also depend on him to open and close up on Sunday, make the coffee, and take charge of the collection baskets. I, for one, enjoy seeing him every Sunday and knowing that UU is in good hands. My hat's off to you, Neil. Thanks.

Marilyn Schultz

2008-2009

UUFGB Board of Directors

President	Susan Persons
President-Elect	John Hunger
Past-President	Bets Anderson
Secretary	Amanda Prather
Treasurer	Pete Olsen
Members at Large:	Fanny DeGesero Cheryl Henry Patrick McGuffey

Committees and Task Forces

Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	Martha Terrill
Membership	Cheryl Henry
Program/Worship	Gerry Carr
Religious Education	Neil Huddleston
Supper Circles	Judy Glaister
Social Action	Mary Hodgson

Administrative Team	B. Anderson, M. Baker, M. Canavan, J. Glaister, & C. Henry
Webmaster	Amber Zainfeld

News & Coming Attractions

Member NUUs

Thinking of You: Please keep in your prayers & thoughts: **Rusty McGowan**, **John & Bev Frannea's** daughter **Andy Walker**, and Judy Glaister's sister, Dorcas. Rusty would love to have visitors anytime at 3203 Ave. Q.

Upcoming Events

Supper Circle: Alison Rutledge will host on Friday May 22 at 6pm. She will be baking a variety of different breads. Please sign up on the bulletin and join in a night of delicious food and stimulating conversation.

"Spirituality of Poker" and Game Night: Poker Sunday May 17, 6:30pm at Tony DiNuzzo's. Games at Susan Persons—same date & time.

Book Club: On Wednesday, May 13 at 7pm join the discussion of **The Temple of My Familiar** by Alice Walker. Please send your suggestions of books to read for the coming months to **Fanny De Gesero** at fandfare@aol.com

Around UU

Houston Area UU Spring Music Festival, Saturday May 2 3-9pm: This family event is free at the Fellowship at 1504 Wirt Rd. Details at www.UUHouston.org/musicfest.

Houston Pride Parade and Festival June 27: Planning is underway to make the UU presence there memorable and to represent our churches well. Anyone interested in helping with the booth at the Pride Festival or marching with the UU group at the Pride Parade please contact Sharon Lockridge at sharon_scherer@yahoo.com or call 936-755-1475. The parade and festival will be June 27. The festival starts at 11 am and the parade starts at 8:45 pm. The booth sign up is for 1 hour increments. Anyone who wants to work it early and not stay the whole day, or anyone who wants to come late so that they also can participate in the parade, can absolutely be accommodated.

Other Events

General Assembly (GA) June 25-29, Salt Lake City, UT: There's still time to register, take a look at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml>

INGATHERING MAY 17: If you've been thinking about becoming a member of our Fellowship, now's the time! We will have an In-gathering of new members on May 17. If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Henry at 409.765.5991 or csandershenry@yahoo.com or see her at the Fellowship on Sundays.

Join UUs from around the country in Niagara Falls, July 19-22: Experience the wonder of Niagara Falls including some great educational opportunities while being taken care of like royalty. The UU Church of Niagara is conducting a four day UU Niagara Experience which is a lifetime opportunity to encounter the Falls up close from every perspective. Spend four days with us exploring the rich history and natural beauty around the Falls. For information visit <http://www.uunex.net/>

Mark your calendars for May 30, it's the long awaited Empty Bowl Fundraiser!

If you recall, we usually have this the first weekend in November, but Ike took care of that for us, and it has been rescheduled for 5-8 pm at the Lasker House again, on Saturday, May 30. If you are unfamiliar with the event, it is our premier social action event, and raises funds for the Jesse Tree with a soup dinner served in handmade bowls which you take home with you at the end of the evening. Its focus is to remind us that there are empty bowls, ie hunger, in our community. Last year we raised over \$11,000 for the Jesse Tree.

Because we had an extra 6 months to make bowls for the event, we are trying something new this year. Instead of having a silent auction at the event, the computer gurus at the Jesse Tree have mounted an online auction of 50 bowls. We hope to attract those people who can't

attend the event, or anyone who just wants a chance at some beautiful handmade bowls There are 25 bowls made at College of the Mainland, and many are wheel thrown. The other 25 were made right here at the Fellowship by your fellow UU's, and are stunning! Our own Kathy Domsy photographed our bowls, and the online display looks very professional. All bowls will sell for \$50, P&H included, and can be purchased by PayPal or credit card. The Jesse Tree website is www.jessetree.net.



This year there will be no ticket sales on site. All tickets must be purchased in advance and only 300 will be sold. As soon as they are available, we will have them at the Fellowship for purchase, or they can be reserved by calling the Jesse Tree, 762-2233. Tickets are \$30 and include dinner and your choice of bowl.

MAY 2009

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise indicated



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Happy Birthday to: <i>Sandra López</i> 5/1 <i>Diane Olsen</i> 5/1 <i>J. T. "Red" Henry</i> 5/7 <i>Cheryl Henry</i> 5/15 <i>Mary Hodgson</i> 5/16 <i>John Frannea</i> 5/17</p>					1 7pm - Provoca- tive Film Slumdog Millionaire	2
3 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Laura Emerson, "Paulianity"; Children/Youth RE 12n - Social Action Cmte; 4pm - Zen Meditation 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	4 11am - Course in Miracles	5 7pm - Dance lessons	6 5pm - UU Bowlers 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	7 7pm - Dance lessons	8	9 9am-noon - Book Sale/ Workday 9am-3pm Defensive Driving
10 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Tony DiNuzzo, "Recapturing Joy"; Children/ Youth Religious Ed. 4pm - Zen Meditation 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	11 11am - Course in Miracles 5:45pm - Board Meets	12 6pm - Spirit Circle 7pm - Dance lessons	13 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	14 7pm - Dance lessons	15	16 9am-3pm Comedy Defensive Driving
17 ANNUAL MEETING 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - "UU Revival"; Children/ Youth RE 4pm - Zen Meditation 6:30pm - Poker at DiNuzzo's 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	18 11am - Course in Miracles	19 7pm - Dance lessons	20 5pm - UU Bowlers 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	21 6pm - Pro- gram Cmte at Mosquito Café 7pm - Dance lessons	22 Newsletter Deadline 6pm - Supper Circle at Rutledge's	23 9am-3pm Comedy Defensive Driving
24 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Bets Anderson, "Memorial Day"; Children/Youth Religious Education 4pm - Zen Meditation 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	25 11am - Course in Miracles	26 6pm - Spirit Circle 7pm - Dance lessons	27 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	28 7pm - Dance lessons	29	30 9am-3pm Def. Driving 5-8pm - Empty Bowls at Lasker Hs
31 Potluck 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Alison Rutledge, "7 Deadly Sins"; Children/Youth Religious Education 4pm - Zen Meditation						