

UUF Galveston Gazette

April 2011



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

(409)765-8330

Online at <http://uugalveston.org>

A Month of Sundays

Services & Children's Religious Education 10:30 a.m.

Adult Forum 9am (except Potluck Sunday)

April 3

Mike Hennen, "UU Revival"

Unitarian Universalists tend, it seems, to be the sort of folks who observe their religious practices in mostly a calm fashion and in cool demeanor. But as we have witnessed in the past few years, when the Call comes we can sing with fervor, cry out in optimism, extol the virtues and benefits of our beliefs, and share it all with one another in an annual Revival! April 3 will again see a gathering of those inflamed by UUism. Fellowship Board President Mike Hennen will lead this celebration, which also will kick off the annual pledge drive; assisted by music for tuneful worship.

Greeter: Dennis McFadden

Board Member: Kathy Domsky

Music: Tony DiNuzzo

April 10

Laura Emerson, "Writing a Faith Narrative - Part 1"

Is the **Bible** "God's word" or is it a compilation of texts written by a variety of very human individuals over hundreds of years? Over the course of two services, Laura Emerson will explore who wrote the **Bible** and when and where it was written. Why were some books included and others excluded? (explaining why Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and Eastern Orthodox Bibles include different books today.) This service will focus on the New Testament and the service on May 8 will focus on the Old Testament. What can we learn about those people and how their faith narrative evolved over time? Can we extrapolate anything to our own selections of "truth" and "heresy" today? As always, Laura's sermons promise to be provocative and educational.

Greeter: Kathy Domsky

Facilitator: Cheryl Henry

Board Member: Holly Fortenberry

Music: Margaret Canavan

April 17

Tony DiNuzzo, "The Music and Sprit of John Lennon"

John Lennon made some outrageous, often controversial quotes and comments about religion. I recall the outcry of Lennon stating the Beatles were 'more popular than Jesus.' But what was this all about? How was John Lennon's 'spiritual message' misinterpreted - or was it? He is a vivid example of an attitude toward faith that has gained power in the decades since his death. Lennon was "spiritual," but not "religious" before that stance became all too common. Through the power of his songs and quotes, this service will explore Lennon's life, defined by symbolic moments and raw feelings of love, peace - a man who was almost too honest about his doubts and his beliefs. Tony is a member of our Fellowship.

Greeter: Holly Fortenberry

Board Member: Dale Hogan

Music: Tony DiNuzzo

April 24

POT LUCK AFTER THE SERVICE

Ken R. Vincent, The Resurrection of Jesus as an After-Death Communication

Recent polls indicate that over one-third of Americans view the Resurrection of Jesus as a spiritual/visionary experience rather than a physical one. Interestingly, the only first-hand account of Jesus' Resurrection is that of St. Paul, and his report of the Resurrection is that of a spiritual/visionary experience. Over 130 years of academic research into after-death communications provides numerous examples of non-psychotic individuals who report contact with the dead. Although the Gospels suggest a physical resurrection because of the empty tomb, in fact, the appearance stories in the Gospels are more in accord with the phenomenology of ancient, medieval, and modern after-death communications. Dr. Ken R. Vincent is a writer and religious experience researcher with over 150 publications in the fields of psychology and religion, and he is a member of our Fellowship.

Greeter: John Frannea

Facilitator: Gerry Carr

Board Member: Billie Rinaldi

Music: Stephen Hodgson

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.

From the President

On April 3, the Sunday on which we initiate our annual pledge drive, we also will celebrate our annual Revival! It is altogether fitting and proper that we combine our Revival! with our commitment to support our beloved UU Fellowship.

In this second decade of the 21st Century the time has come for our Fellowship to move to the next level. At last official count, we have 84 members; all sterling folks, I might add. This is about as high a level of membership as we have ever had, but it is what I will call a "plateau." It is a plateau we should depart as we rise toward a more developed religious institution in our community.

Our annual budget for the fiscal year we will close out at the end of June is \$76,427.40. That sum divided by our 84 members gives \$909.85 per member. Of course, some members contribute more than that amount, and some contribute less.

What is important is that every one of us contributes to the highest level we can. If possible to do, I urge our members to pledge a minimum of three to five percent, or more, of income to our Fellowship. Even an increase of just \$10.00 per month by each member will bring in an additional \$10,080 annually for good use in Sunday programs, for maintenance of our building, and for social action programs and activities. This is in reach of our membership. At the earliest opportunity, we should strive to give five to ten percent of income for Fellowship use.

Ask yourself, what better use is there for your money?

The Revival! we will celebrate April 3 will include toe-tapping music, from-the-heart testimonials, and light and serious sermonizing on the need for all of us to dig a bit deeper into our pockets to further the work of the UUG. This year we will make it possible to pledge by e-mail as well as by the tried-and-true letters and envelopes we have used for previous fiscal years.

The money our Fellowship needs is out there now. Most of us can increase our giving and not notice the slightest difference in our daily lives. Increased funding for Fellowship activities will enable us to begin moving up from the plateau where we are now.

Just think, for a moment, about money. Is it better to spend it at The Mall? Better to have an extra latte that will just give us the jitters? So many times in our daily world advertising calls us to spend money on things we don't need and don't use.

Instead, let's go to the Revival!, get in the spirit of singing, enjoying being with our fellow UUs, and the spirit of giving.

I'll see you there.

-- *Mike Hennen*



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.*

Provocative Film Series
Friday, April 1, 7pm

Inside Job

From filmmaker Charles Ferguson comes this sobering, Oscar-winning documentary that presents in comprehensive yet cogent detail the pervasive and deep-rooted corruption that led to the global economic meltdown of 2008. Through unflinching interviews with key financial insiders, politicians, journalists and academics, Ferguson paints a galling portrait of an unfettered financial system run amok -- without accountability. Actor Matt Damon narrates. (2010) PG-13

Free admission
Bring a friend & a snack to share.

Send us your news! Provide information to administrator@uugalveston.org or phone 409-765-8330, or leave at note at the Fellowship.

Alcoholics Anonymous Phoenix Group meets Sunday & Wednesday at 8pm. Contact Robert G. for information at 409-392-7005.

Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9am (except potluck days) to explore topics in religion, philosophy, history & politics. Contact Neil Huddleston at (409)744-2369.

Board of UUF GC meets the second Monday of each month at 5:15pm.

Book Club meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7pm. Contact Fanny DeGesero if you have book suggestions.

Book Sale monthly on second Saturday, 9am-2pm.

Bowlers will be on "vacation" for awhile as they rest up from the successful "Empty Bowl" fundraiser for Jesse Tree. They'll let us know when they begin meeting again. Contact Madeleine Baker for more information.

Choir rehearsals are on the second Sunday of the month at 11:45, and potluck Sundays at 9:15. All are welcome.

Course in Miracles Study Group meets every Monday at 11 am. Contact Laura Murrell for information (lauramurrell@att.net).

Dance Classes: Galveston Dance Club offers classes each Tuesday & Thursday at 7pm. Questions, call Betty at 281-337-0441. See <http://www.galvestondanceclub.com>.

Garden Work: This is scheduled for the second Saturday of each month, at 9am. Contact Martha Terrill or John Hunger.

Program/Worship Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6pm, at Mosquito Café in Galveston. Join them or contact Gerry Carr if you have a program to suggest.

Poker and Game Night is monthly and held in members' homes, open to all. Check the calendar & weekly announcements for date & location. Game night is in need of hosts!

Social Action Committee meets the first Sunday of each month after service and welcomes your ideas, energy and enthusiasm. Help plan our "deeds not creeds".

Supper Circles meet monthly. Call Judy Glaister at (409)762-8187 to schedule a supper, sign up for one, or for information.

Meditation: *Zen Island Fellowship* meets every Monday at 5:30pm, Contact Cara Geary (gcarag@comcast.net) or visit <http://galvestonzen.org/>. *Natural Awareness Meditation* meets Thursdays at 5:30pm, contact Terry Conrad (409)599-7268.

Have an open group meeting you'd like to list here? Let us know and we'll add it.

ATTIC TREASURES Sale A HUGE Success!

Thanks to everyone who donated, worked the setup and/or sale, or who came as buyers, we cleared over \$2400 in our recent sale. This is about equal to a month's mortgage payment and utilities for the Fellowship! We've had this event for eight years now, and have used funds for improvements to our landscape, our playground, and many other things. The work team this year was the best ever, and all seemed to have a good time. So now we have less cluttered attics and closets, many folks have great new stuff, the Resource and Crisis Center benefits from our leftovers! Start looking now for what you want to contribute to the next sale.....



UUF GC

Right Relations Covenant

- We will communicate openly, honestly & respectfully.*
- We will listen carefully with open minds & open hearts.*
- We will assume good intentions, practice tolerance & resist the temptation to become offended.*
- We will take responsibility for our speech, actions & feelings, & we will be sensitive to possible conflicts & willing to work toward solutions.*
- We will consider other perspectives & will strive not for unanimity but for mutual respect.*
- We will honor our own boundaries & the boundaries of others.*
- We will respect & support the diversity within our congregation & work to foster a welcoming environment.*

--adopted 12/05

2010 - 2011

UUF GC Board of Directors

President	Mike Hennen
President-Elect	Billie Rinaldi
Past-President	John Hunger
Secretary	Cheryl Henry
Treasurer	Woody Dickson
Members at Large:	Kathy Domsky Holly Fortenberry Dale Hogan

Committees and Task Forces

Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	Martha Terrill/John Hunger
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
Newsletter	Judy Glaister/Margaret Canavan
Webmaster	Neil Huddleston

News & Coming Attractions

NUUws from Members & Friends

Our sincere condolences to **Claudia Maveety** on the recent death of her mother.

We grieve the loss of our friend **Malcolm Brodwick**. We hold his family in our hearts and prayers.

UUcoming Events

"UU101" Continues: This is open to New- and Old-comers. The purpose of this covenant is to learn more about the UU principles through sharing and discussing. We'll start our sessions at 7pm and should finish by 8pm. Here is the schedule for the remaining meetings, which are open to all:

Fifth Principle: Wednesday March 30

Sixth Principle: Wednesday, April 6

Seventh Principle: Monday, April 11

"Spirituality of Poker": Sunday, April 3 at 6:30, hosted by **Tony DiNuzzo** for a "farewell to the house" celebration. Games are "dealer's choice".

Book Club: Will Meet April 13 at 7pm to discuss **Never Change** by Elizabeth Berg. All are welcome to participate. Here is the reading list for the rest of

2011 so you can get started: May: **Zeitoun** by Dave Eggers; June: **The Shadow of the Wind** by Carlos Ruiz Zafón; July: **World and Town** by Gish Jen; August: **The Sonderberg Case** by Elie Wiesel; September: **Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China** by Jung Chang; October 12: **Birds Without Wings** by Louis de Bernières; November: **All Those Who Save Us** by Jenna Blum; December: **Crow Lake** by Mary Lawson

Garden Committee : Has scheduled the second Saturday of each month as work date, from 9am until you are ready to stop. This means April 9! Check with **Martha Terrill** or **John Hunger** of the Garden Committee.

Galveston Island Arts Academy Concert: The Civetta String Quartet of the Rice University Shepherd School of music will perform at 7:30 pm Sunday, April 10 at Moody Mansion, 2618 Broadway. Tickets are \$17 Adults/\$15 Seniors, Students, Educators. For reservations, contact our own choir director **Susan Vaughan**, Executive Director at 409-771-4438 or email galvestonislandartsacademy@yahoo.com, or check with GIAA President **Mike Hennen**. GIAA is a non-profit academy with the goal of providing arts education and performances.

Empty Bowl Event Saturday, 6-9pm April 15 at Garten Verein (27th & Avenue O): This is our BIG social action event of the year, and has become a significant fundraiser for the Jesse Tree. Join us in making it a great success! We need volunteers to wash & arrange bowls on the tables, work in the bar, serve soup, set up & clean up. We will have a silent auction of work by local artists, and will need volunteers to work the auction. If you can help out, please email madeleine baker at madeleine-baker@att.net, or betsanderson@sbcglobal.net. they can also help you with tickets.

Supper Circle: Saturday, April 30 at 6pm, hosted by Marilyn Schulz. This will be a poolside gathering. Be sure to sign up in the hallway at the Fellowship. Get ready for the May Super Supper Circle to be held Saturday May 21, at various homes near you!

Please send items for the newsletter by the 15th of each month, for the following month's edition. Send to administrator@uugalveston.org and put "for newsletter" in the subject line.



You are Cordially Invited to the
"Empty Bowl"

Fundraiser for Jesse Tree

Friday April 15, 6-9 pm

Garten Verein 27th & Avenue O

Tickets \$35 advance/\$40 at the door

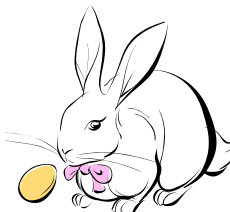

Dress is Casual

<http://www.jessetree.net/events/empty-bowl.asp>

APRIL 2011

Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise indicated



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Happy Birthday to:</p> <p><i>Stephanie Nwadie</i> 4/1 <i>Robert English</i> 4/5</p> <p><i>Holly Fortenberry</i> 4/6 <i>Sandra Sullivan</i> 4/11</p> <p><i>Gerry Carr</i> 4/17 <i>Michael Hennen</i> 4/17</p> 					1 7pm - Pro- vocative Film, <i>In- side Job</i>	2
3 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Mike Hennen, "Revival"; Children/Youth RE 12n - Social Action Cmte. 6:30pm—Poker at DiNuzzo's 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	4 11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	5 7pm - Dance lessons	6 5pm - Bowlers 6pm - Program Cmte (Mosquito) 7pm - UU 101 8pm - AA	7 5:30pm - Meditation 7pm - Dance les- sons	8	9 9am - Gar- den work- day 9-2 - Book Sale
10 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Laura Emerson, "Writing a Faith Narrative: Part 1"; Children/Youth RE 11:45am - Choir Practice 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	11 11am - Course in Miracles 5:15pm - Board 5:30pm - Zen Meditation 7pm - UU 101	12 7pm - Dance lessons	13 5pm - Bowlers 7pm - Book Club, Never Change 8pm - AA	14 5:30pm - Meditation 7pm - Dance les- sons	15 6pm - Empty Bowl Evening @ Garten Verein	16 Newsletter Deadline
17 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Tony DiNuzzo, "Music & Spirit of John Lennon"; Chil- dren/Youth Religious Educ. 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	18 11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	19 7pm - Dance lessons	20 5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA	21 5:30pm - Meditation 7pm - Dance les- sons	22	23
24 Potluck NO Choir Practice 10:30am - Ken Vincent, "The Resurrection", & Flower Com- munion; Children/Youth RE 8pm - AA Phoenix Group 	25 11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	26 7pm - Dance lessons	27 5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA	28 5:30pm - Meditation 7pm - Dance les- sons	29	30 6pm - Sup- per Circle @ Marilyn Schultz's