

**Unitarian Universalist Church
Of Tallahassee**
2810 N. Meridian Road
Tallahassee, FL 32312



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Volume 44 - No. 4

THE MERIDIAN

April 2001

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April 1, Time Change. Spring Forward.

SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 11:00 AM

- Sunday, Apr. 1** “Building A Home For Liberal Faith”
 Rev. Amy
- Sunday, Apr. 8** “Being Open to Silence”
 Richard Dempsey, Lay Leader
- Sunday, Apr. 15** *Intergenerational Service -*
 “A Garden to Grow In”
 Flower Communion and
 Child Dedication, Rev. Amy
- Sunday, Apr. 22** “Big Foot? How Big Is Your/Our
 Ecological Footprint?”
 Bob Deyle and Ed Oaksford,
 Lay Leaders
- Sunday, Apr. 29** “The Bigger Picture” Rev. Amy
 (Impressions from GA)

EVERY SUNDAY:

- 9:45 AM Choir Practice & Adult Forum
 10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM
 10:45 AM Middle School OWL off-site,
 April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 (4/15 TBA)
 11:00 AM Youth RE Program
 Classes for Pre-K through High School
 (HS OWL off-site, 4/1, 9AM - 1PM)

**A CANVASSING VISIT =
A CHANCE TO CONNECT**

About something we all care deeply about, our church community. Set aside an hour for talking with the UUCT member who will contact you. Your canvasser will want to find out more about you and your hopes for the coming year. Then you'll be asked to write your pledges for next year of time and money and your three-year pledge to our Capital Campaign.
 Be thinking about your answers.

**FLOWERS FOR APRIL 15th,
EASTER SUNDAY**

Children and adults, remember to bring a flower with a non-thorny stem for our annual Easter Sunday Flower Communion.
 Those who can bring extras, please do so for visitors and those who forget.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

By Rev. Amy McKenzie

~~ Rev. Amy will be out of the office
4/18 - 4/23 ~~

I still have a tape of Michael W. Smith's song with the line: "...friends are friends forever, if the Lord's the Lord of them, and a friend will not say, "Never" 'cause the welcome will not end..." I typed that from memory, because I was a Teen-Aged Evangelical. Michael W. Smith is a Christian Singer/Songwriter and he's coming to town this month. With Franklin Graham. And they are here in Tallahassee to "save lost souls." To be contrary, and correct, I'm sure I found and redeemed my soul when I committed to Unitarian Universalism in my 20s. And I became easier to live with too. (Check out your dictionary for the definition of "redeem" – I think it applies to this saving, liberal faith!) But in my teens, after youth conference with the Campus Crusade for Christ, I would torment my friends to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

I'm afraid that after this festival, when people have gotten the message to go out and "save lost souls", the youth in this congregation will be confronted by a friend who went, but in some metaphorical way, they'll actually face "me" in the guise I took on way before I was "Rev. Amy, UU Minister." I don't think it was a very attractive façade, or soul, that was "saved" for Jesus.

After Festival 2001 packs up, we may find out how sincere is the "welcome" of Christian Friends. I know it's different than the one I say each Sunday: Come, Come whoever you are (okay, maybe THAT part would fly at Festival 2001, but would: "Holding various beliefs?!" Would: "Whomever you love?!") Would it be success or failure for the organizers if

you went to the Festival and returned home in all your integrity as a religious liberal, who was open to ongoing revelation of sacred truth, from many sources? A religious liberal who values: diversity, reason, love in many forms, asking questions, searching for answers, and social justice?! If the Lord's not the lord of you, will you be a valued friend to whom someone can commit their love and affection "forever" without pestering you to give in to their creed and their religious metaphors?!

The Festival organizers have been clear that teens and young adults are their target audience. Concerts by Christian musicians like Michael W. Smith are their method for hooking a captive audience; then Franklin Graham will deliver his message.

I'm here to say that Unitarian Universalist youth and young adults are "just fine, thank you!" The campus group, University Unitarian Universalists, is known for offering innovative, fun, and inspirational Sunday services in the sanctuary. With good music.

Speaking of music, I'm sure that the following rap song, written by UUCT middle-schoolers Trey and Melissa, will not be on the Festival 2001 song list. That's too bad; I think this rap has something to offer the MTV generation, too!

"7P Rap" by Trey and Melissa

Roy G. Biv knew how to live.
He wasn't real but that's no big deal,
Because he believed in
The Principles, all seven of them,
And we are aware of them
Because of him. --

The inherent worth and dignity
Of all people as equal;

Justice and compassion.
What I'm asking
here in this steeple:
Is respect
for the interdependent
Web of life,
Acceptance of all, liberty,
And peace to end strife.

Justice and equity in human relations;
Everyone reach your highest expectations.
Feel free to vote and speak out
In our congregations.

Meaning and truth,
Fight the uncouth,
Like a super-sleuth, not in a phone booth.

Growth of the spirit:
Hear it, cheer it...
There's truth in every lyric,
So no need to fear it.

I say: Amen! to that rap. We need not fear Festival 2001. There is truth in their version of the Christian message. But for us, there is more truth, and redemption, in our Unitarian Universalist message. Hear it, Cheer it, Revere it, Be Clear with it!

In Faith and Hope,
Amy

*note: The acronym, Roy G. Biv, is a way to memorize the colors of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet); here is one way to remember our Principles using the same first letters:
Respect
Offer compassion
Yes to all
Growth
Be united (brotherhood and sisterhood)
Interdependence
Vote

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHELTER MEAL. Monday, April 9, 7:45 PM, we'll provide dinner for over 100 homeless people at The Shelter. To contribute or assist, call Karen or John Mann (562-4781).

SERVICE GREETERS NEEDED... Each Sunday. Contact Jean Chulak (385-2214 or janchulak@aol.com).

HOST COFFEE HOUR! Sunday coffee hour is an important gathering time for our religious community. Celebrate a birthday, an anniversary or publicize your committee/group. Sign up on the clipboard at the back of the sanctuary or contact Hospitality Chair, Dick Leinberry (386-4977).

FLORIDA DISTRICT UU NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE. Copies of *The Sunshine* are available on the back counter of the sanctuary. You can also find *Sunshine* at the District website: <http://www.cyberstreet.com/uuFLD/>

OPPORTUNITY FOR MINISTRY

Our current DRE Michelle Buhite is moving, and so UUCT is seeking a new Director of Religious Education, to begin May 1, 2001. It is a 15-hour/week, flexible schedule position -- coordinating Youth and Adult RE. If you are interested in pursuing this challenging and rewarding ministry, please forward a letter of interest and resume to the church, care of Eric Draper, DRE Search Committee. A job description, the Lifespan RE section of our Strategic Program Plan and the Youth RE Policy and Procedures are available at the church. For more information contact Michelle (bishri_1@lycos.com or 553-4084), Margaret Mooney, Youth RE Chairperson (margmooney@yahoo.com or 893-8250), or Sheila Meehan, Adult RE Chairperson (smeehan@hklaw.com or 668-5075).

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS
APRIL 15.

MOUNTAIN PROGRAM SCHEDULES and BROCHURES are on the back counter and bulletin board.

IN THE COMMUNITY. Rev. Amy will deliver the invocation at the April 10 meeting between the Governor and the Cabinet.

HAVE AN ADULT RE IDEA? If you're interested in leading a discussion or book study group for Adult RE, please submit a proposal to DRE Michelle Buhite any Sunday or via email: bishri_1@lycos.com. The field is wide open - as long as topics and books are in line with our UU principles.

PLAY WIN-WIN! Earn extra income and contribute to UUCT's fundraising. Join the Bed and Breakfast hosts for UUCT's listing in the April 2001 Homecomings Directory. Here's a painless way to help UUCT and yourself. UUCT will have a church listing in the nationwide Bed and Breakfast directory, *Homecomings*. Your accommodations will be listed with our local contacts, Lois Bloom and Pam Hoskins. One of them will call you if someone wants to stay at your house. You collect the room fee and donate half of it (or more) to UUCT. To find out more or to sign up as a host, call Lois (402-9044) or Pam (893-5039).

GET A UUCT T-SHIRT! Order forms and samples of the T-shirt are in the back of the sanctuary. Orders being taken NOW. (\$15/shirt)

CHILD DEDICATION & NAMING. A **Child Dedication** for all ages of children and youth will be led by Rev. Amy Easter Sunday, April 15; a **Child Naming** for infants may be at the same or another time. Please speak with her (383-9186) if you are interested for your child or children or if you need more information before deciding. For brief descriptions of these

Creative Giving Every cent counts!

Consider:

- Make a gift of real property
- Give an insurance policy that has cash value.
- Make a gift of irregular or periodic income.
- Give the money saved from eliminating one optional expenditure per week or month.

Talk with your accountant, financial advisor or lawyer, if needed. For additional ideas, see the Combined Campaign brochure and *Ways to Give* in the March *Meridian*.

ceremonies, see *Lifespan Religious Education* in the February *Meridian*.

NURSERY & PRESCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please don't wait to be asked to volunteer in this very important aspect of our church life. See Maggie or Scott Geraci (in the nursery) to sign up for a Sunday or three! You don't have to have a young child in the program to participate!

CARING TOUCH WORKSHOP

Kathryn-Hansman Spice will be offering a Caring Touch Workshop at the church on Sunday, April 22nd from 1 - 3 PM. Kathryn offered her services for this workshop at the silent auction on March 10th, and since there are still a few places available, she is opening it up to those who missed the auction but still might like to participate. If you are interested in attending, please make a

(Continued on page 4)

check payable to UUCT in the amount of \$21, indicate "auction" in the memo line, and give it to Joan Patterson. Kathryn has a Master's Degree in Education and is a licensed massage therapist with extensive experience in conducting workshops on therapeutic and caring touch.

APPRECIATION

To **Tom and Katya Taylor, Barbara Sterling, Jan and Rod Oldenburg, Elinor Elfner, Carolyn DuBard, Jean and Joe Chulak, Kathleen Richards, Steve Urse, and Del DeTar** for greeting members and visitors on Sunday mornings February 18 - March 11.

To **Dick and Barbara Gearhart, Mary and Francis Ventre, Joan Patterson, Barbara and Harold Solomon,** and all other **kitchen helpers** for providing hospitality during the coffee hours from February 18 - March 11.

To **the youth,** from Rev. Amy: thank you for your special birthday wishes and fancy paper folding!

To **Janet Kistner, Susan Snyder, Barbara Gearhart, and Beth Cavano** for preparing The Shelter meal in March and to **Janet Kistner, Daniel Weaver, Lindsey Weaver, George Weaver, Andrew Collins and Johnny Mann** for serving it.

To **Rev. Amy, Mary Bridges, Dexter Easton, Joe Chulak, Don Berger and Tom Chase** for helping with the workday on March 17.

To **all those who are working hard to get ready for our Combined Campaign.** We'll thank you all by name at the end of the campaign.

A belated thank you to **Fran Boyle** for donating a rocking chair to the nursery.

To **Kelley Turnage** for going to Sam's Club and picking out and bringing back to the church a new piece of carpet for the nursery.

To **Joan Patterson** for her gift to the church of sixty matching coffee cups.

To **Stephens Sign Company** for the donation of a banner with changeable lettering and to **Linda Winn-Brown** for procuring the donation. The banner made its debut advertising our Spaghetti Supper and Auction in March.

To the **Turnage Family** for donating snacks for the nursery kids.

From Virginia Anderson who wants us to know how much she appreciated **the visitors from the church** who came and boosted her morale while she was recovering from hip replacement surgery.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU

To all who helped make the auction such a great success and fun time, a big THANK YOU. Without the enthusiastic participation, help, interest and patronage of many people, this fundraiser would not have been possible. We netted almost \$4,000!

Thanks to the auction helpers: **Will Adkins and Joan Patterson,** who co-chaired the event; **Linda Winn,** our colorful, super-talkative and ever lively "Grand High Auctioneer", who kept the auction moving with great humor and with bids flying fast, furious and high; **Carrie Sandahl and Becky Welty** who staffed the checkout table and stayed after to help tie up loose ends; **Randal Svea, Bonnie Foster and Mary Millard,** Linda's able helpers who held up the purchases; **Will Adkins and John Murphy** for taking care of the silent auction

tables; **Victor Venos** who made sure the sound system was working; and **John Murphy, Will Adkins, Joan Patterson, Ed Oaksford, Betsy Borges, Randal Svea, Fran Bridges and Charlene White** for helping with pickup, preparations, setup, and/or cleanup. Thanks also goes to **Barbara Sterling** for helping with all the little details that might otherwise have been missed.

Of course, there would not have been an auction without the wonderfully generous donations from members of the congregation: china, crystal, furniture, exercise equipment; lamps, decorative items, tools, games, etc., plus the absolutely fabulous service and gift items such as four nights at Linda's beautiful log cabin in North Carolina; exciting dinners for 6, 8 and 10; massages, housekeeping services, cake baking, language lessons, and on and on and on.

If you missed the auction, you missed a delightful evening of fun and excitement for both adults and children. It was particularly enjoyable to see the UU youngsters who came with their parents, participated in the bidding and got to see how a real live auction operates. To all of those who came to bid and buy and who made this a memorable event, THANK YOU.

Receipts for donations have been given or mailed out to those who requested it on the donation form. If you were missed, please call Joan Patterson (309-1248).

A THANK YOU FROM THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST UNITED NATIONS OFFICE

To UUCT from the UU United Nations Office for our generous contribution of \$419.87. And a special thank you went to **Barney Cook** for doing such a great job!

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Also see REview, available at the RE table Sundays.

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEXT YOUTH RE COMMITTEE MEETING: Sunday, 4/1, 9:45 AM

YOUTH RE CONTACTS: Margaret Mooney, Youth RE Committee Chair (893-8250); Maggie & Scott Geraci, Nursery Sub-Committee Chairs (877-6301); and Michelle Buhite, Director of RE (553-4084).

K-5 CLASSES. The Kindergarten through 5th grade classes will continue their "Living the Promise" curriculum on the Old Testament (Hebrew scriptures). Look for the "RE Thought for the Day" each Sunday in the announcement sheet.

RE SERVICE PROJECT, SUNDAY, APRIL 29. During class the K-5 classes will do an environmental clean-up service project. Watch for details. That day dress in old clothes and shoes that can get wet; bring plastic bags and work gloves.

WHAT IS OWL? OWL is an age-appropriate UU Curriculum, Our Whole Lives; for sexuality education and moral development.

4th AND 5TH GRADE OWL, SUNDAYS, APRIL 1 & 8, 3:00 - 5:00 PM & April 22, 3:00 - 4:00 PM. The class is held at UUCT, teachers Linda Oaksford and Bob Deyle.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OWL, SUNDAYS, APRIL 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 10:45 AM - 12:30 PM. The full-year class will continue to meet off-site in members' homes and is taught by Susan Angel and Keith Henry. The

status of the April 15 meeting is to be confirmed.

HIGH SCHOOL OWL, SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. The class will meet off-site at the Deyle's house. The 12 lesson course is taught by Tom Taylor and Linda Radel.

HIGH SCHOOL OWL, SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. The class will be at the church, unless participants are notified otherwise.

YRUU, SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. The meeting will be at the home of the YRUU (Young Religious UUs) advisors, Jennifer and DeWayne Carver, 1608 Redwood Dr. Bring \$3 for food. Contact: Jennifer or DeWayne (402-0622).

YRUU CON SCHEDULE. The FL District Con (Youth Conference) schedule for middle and high schoolers for the remainder of the year follows. Contact Jennifer Carver (402-0622).

4/6-7: YRUU Caucus for District Annual Assembly

5/9-11: Beach Con, UU Fellowship of the Emerald Coast, Valparaiso, FL

5/18-20: FL District Social Action Con

FIRST YRUU FUND RAISER

During the Mercury space program, they used to say at NASA "No bucks, no Buck Rogers!" It may sound cynical, but it's true in many ways -- if you want to have an effect in today's world, you must have some of the green stuff. UUCT members pledge to support our operating budget (and now the Capital Campaign) for just this reason. Generating income also generates, to an extent, independence. For this reason, the YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) group was very pleased to host its first fundraiser in recent times on March

10, in conjunction with the church Auction. The YRUU, which is the church's youth group for those aged 12 to 20, served up a spaghetti dinner to patrons who arrived early for the auction. Thanks to the generosity (and patience!) of the attendees, the YRUU raised over \$300 for youth group activities. The funds will be used to defray the costs of traveling to youth conferences (commonly known as "Cons".) The YRUU already receives a line item in the church operating budget, but through fundraisers such as these, the group is able to create new opportunities for itself, as well as give something back to the church by providing a yummy meal prior to the Auction.

This was the first spaghetti dinner hosted by anyone in the YRUU, so there were a few wrinkles, but in general things went very well and everyone had a good time. The following youth participated in the event by selling tickets or serving food: Emily Oaksford, Holly Mackie, Anke Wenzel, Anna Deyle, Emma Denny, and RC Mitchell. YRUU Advisors Jennifer and DeWayne Carver supervised the activity. The YRUU thanks everyone who bought tickets and was patient while waiting for more noodles to cook. In addition, YRUU thanks Will Adkins for inviting them to participate in the Auction, and special thanks to Ed Oaksford, Bob Deyle, and Dexter Easton, who helped out in the kitchen washing dishes afterwards.

TEACHERS NEEDED

We will begin our summer curriculum the first Sunday in June. It is filled with great stories and activities. Last year we had record attendance throughout the summer, averaging 12-15 each week. The age span was 4 years old to 5th grade; quite a span! This year we hope to offer two classes, lower and upper elementary. We can

only offer two classes if we have enough people sign up to teach each week. Our regular RE teachers have earned the summer off! Please stop by the RE table and sign up for a summer Sunday, and share a bit of yourself with our kids.

**FAMILY POTLUCK & DISCUSSION,
TEACHER RECOGNITION
APRIL 21, 5:00 PM**

On Saturday, April 21, we will have our second RE Family Potluck. There were over 70 people at the January potluck, and we had some great discussion on raising liberal religious kids. This time we will discuss the proposed 5-year Youth RE Curricula Plan and what we want our children to learn in religious education.

At this event we will also recognize and honor the great teachers who have volunteered their Sunday mornings to the benefit of our kids all year. We'll gather at 5pm and eat at 5:30. There will be games for the kids, and we'll have some teens to supervise and provide childcare in the nursery.

**PLAN TO ATTEND THIS GREAT
EVENT!**

**ATTACHMENT PARENTING
SUPPORT GROUP
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 6 PM**

Formed in association with UUCT and Attachment Parenting International, this group meets at 6:00 PM the third Tuesday of each month at UUCT. Attachment parenting is a style of parenting that develops an infant or child's need for trust, empathy, and affection to create secure, peaceful, and enduring relationships. Meetings are open to members and friends of UUCT and to the community. Children, of course, are welcome. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301 or minilawyer@aol.com).

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ADULT RE CONTACTS: Sheila Meehan, Adult RE Committee Chair (668-5075); Michelle Buhite, Director of RE (553-4084).

Let Sheila know your joys and concerns about Adult RE. This will help as we add classes this year and plan for next year.

ADULT FORUM, SUNDAYS, 9:45 - 10:45 AM. The Forum is held in Room 4 and open to all interested. Watch for announcements of upcoming topics.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP. (Formerly "Rise Up And Call Her Name"). Any women interested in learning more about Goddess spirituality may sign up at the RE table or contact DRE Michelle Buhite. The group meets on Mondays at 7:15 PM off-site.

FULL CIRCLE & PEACE DANCES. Full Circle, our co-ed Earth Centered Spirituality Group, will combine with the Dances of Universal Peace again on Friday, April 5. There will be drumming at 7:00 PM, followed by dancing at 7:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

**FROM THE ADULT RE
CHAIRPERSON**

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - it doesn't exactly roll off the tongue! There will be many new and exciting changes and opportunities with Adult RE, including the opportunity to give it a new name. I have recently become Adult RE Committee Chair and am in the process of learning about the UU curriculum and getting many creative ideas from people in the congregation. Let me tell you what is happening now and what we are planning for the future.

EVENSONG is an eight-week series of gatherings or "Covenant Groups" using a curriculum developed by Barbara Hamilton-Holway. It provides a simple structure to engage the participants in deepening self-understanding and strengthening interpersonal bonds. Each evening gathering follows an order of service that includes singing, listening to readings drawn from a bowl, personal sharing by each participant, and a closing circle. Topics include spiritual experiences, the divine, human nature, spiritual teachers, religious community, loss and death, and personal ministry. Listening is at the core of Evensong. Listening strengthens relationships and community. The first Evensong group began meeting on March 22 with seven participants and will continue through the end of May. It is our hope that when the program is completed each participant will begin and lead an *Evensong* group or other Adult RE gathering so that we will have seven Covenant Groups and continue to build from there. Ultimately we want to provide an opportunity for everyone to participate.

RCDC IDEAS - The Racial and Cultural Diversity Committee has two ideas for new programs. The first is called, "Weaving the Fabric of Diversity". This is an eight session highly participatory anti-bias program designed for groups of eight to twenty. Our goal is to begin these sessions in September. The second series of gatherings will be based upon a book by Thandeka, a Unitarian minister and associate professor of theology and culture at Meadville Theological School. Her most recent book is *Learning to Be White: Money, Race and God in America*. Thandeka's ideas are very provocative and can provide a forum for discussion in which people can begin to overcome the "toxicity and

racism that have broken us.”

SURVEY IN APRIL - We want to be as inclusive as possible and provide a variety of interesting opportunities for adults. We are putting together a survey which will be distributed and collected on the second Sunday in April. The survey will give you a chance to let the Adult RE Committee know what kinds of programs you would like to have presented for your intellectual and spiritual growth. The survey will also give you the opportunity to come up with a new name for Adult RE. Use your vivid imagination! Sheila Meehan (smeehan@hklaw.com).

UUHUMANISTS

Sunday, April 8, 1:15 PM
(after potluck)
Church Sanctuary

On April 13, 1743, a mere 258 years ago, Thomas Jefferson was born in colonial America, near his future hilltop plantation, "Monticello," at Charlottesville, Virginia. Bring something (a poem, a historical tidbit, story, etc.) to help us commemorate this great New World Humanist who wrote our Declaration of Independence, and also that, someday, every young American boy would be a Unitarian. (Such optimism, Tom, tch, tch!)

MAIN TOPIC:

“THE GAIA HYPOTHESIS”

(Is it scientific theory? Or Philosophical Paradigm Shift in how we see Mother Earth? Or New Age hokum? You decide!) Come learn more about the ideas of Dr. James Lovelock & how they have given birth to our Unitarian 7th Principle & been embraced (or opposed) by modern environmentalists!

The next two UUHUMANISTS meetings will be Sunday May 27th, 12:45pm, with the topic question: “Is Belief in God & Immortality Incompatible with Humanism?” (Participatory discussion.) -- & on

Sunday June 24th, 12:45pm, with the topic for discussion: “Humanist Manifesto III” (Where does it come from? How does it read? What does it mean for American Humanists?) After that, we will take a break until August 26th.

For more information, to ask a question, or make a suggestion, please contact Will Adkins (385-5071, leave a message, or e-mail: wma@post.harvard.edu).

SPEAK OUT!

Sunday, April 22,
Meets at a new time: 12:45 PM
Outdoors (weather permitting)
or Room 2

We will continue a discussion, begun at the Speak Out! on March 25th, concerning President George W. Bush's newly created Federal Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and its threat to the principle of Separation of Church and State. Is President Bush leading America down a long, dark road to a latter-day theocracy? Are we forgetting the most important idea that Jefferson created in our country's law? Are we "losing it" to ignore it? ... in our ability to think clearly, to see what our country is moving towards? Will UUs dare to oppose it? If so, how then? Will UUA eventually become a welfare arm of the Federal Government, along with a few select other religious groups? Or, more likely, be excluded, because we are not the politically-correct type of religion to help others? Is any of this (in or out of favor with the Fed) what we really want? Now is not the time to remain silent! ...

Come Speak Out! -- utter those new thoughts -- & get (if you dare) downright "heretical" with The Bush White House (not just with other religions, or church beliefs) -- or even with other UUs who are sleeping on it. We need to talk! We

need to listen! This forum gives you a safe haven to wake up in & to get involved! If we sleep, surely we will lose a lot!

The next Speak Out! will skip to Sunday June 10th (following potluck), then we will take a break until mid-August.

For more information, to ask a question, or make a suggestion, please contact Will Adkins (385-5071, leave a message, or e-mail: wma@post.harvard.edu).

CAMPUS MINISTRY CORNER

*By Kim Ross Frichter
Campus Ministry Coordinator*

I've just returned from the Beach Retreat, where we had 14 students and young adults. It was a weekend of bonding and of sharing - sharing stories, sharing chores, sharing food and fellowship. The dolphins visited us again. Although it was quite chilly and at times rainy, the warmth radiated from the house that the Eastons loaned us (and thank you again to the Eastons). I believe everyone had a good time.

The group is also excited about our upcoming Campus Ministry Sunday. Hopefully, by the time you read this you will have experienced an awesome and exciting service on Spiritual Fervor in UUism. As usual, we plan to build the energy!

I can't overstate how impressive this church's dedication to Campus Ministry is. In April, I'll be headed down to District Assembly to give a workshop on Campus and Young Adult Ministries that is mainly geared toward churches that are in the "think it's a good idea" stage. This church has shown that they are not just talk, but also action. We stand behind our good ideas, and we recognize the

importance of Campus Ministry to the growth of our movement and to the improvement of our community. The motive behind the Campus Ministry is the same as the motive behind the Capital Campaign - the desire to grow and expand ourselves and our ideas into the community. And that is incredibly inspiring!

OUR UU HERITAGE: JOHN AND JUDITH MURRAY

*Excerpts from:
A Faith People Make
by Stephen Kenrick*

Born in England in 1941, John Murray was a Methodist minister who came under the influence of the early Universalist James Relly. Declaring that "God is a loving God," Relly had decided that the doctrines about hell and damnation were untrue. After being voted out of Methodism, losing his wife and son to illness, and being sent to debtors prison, John Murray emigrated to America in 1770.

When Murray's ship landed on the New Jersey Coast near Good Luck Point, he met Thomas Potter, who convinced him to preach in his little meeting house on the message of Universalism. This began Murray's ministry in America, and slowly he earned a reputation as a talented and controversial speaker.

Murray was appointed Chaplain of the Rhode Island regiment in the Revolutionary army. After the war, he began a 20-year ministry in Gloucester, Massachusetts and also married Judith Sargeant Stevens. In 1793, he became minister of Boston's First Universalist Society. Murray was eventually recognized as the father of American Universalism. Though there were other great pioneers of Universalism, Murray

organized them into a cohesive denomination and clarified their thought.

Judith Murray published many essays, collected them into a book, and also had two plays produced in Boston. Such a career was unheard of at the time, and she remains an important figure in the history of women's rights. She is rightly called America's first real feminist for her essay "The Equality of the Sexes" and is an important literary figure whose work is just now being rediscovered. She also had a great influence on Murray and the development of Universalism.

SHARED MINISTRY HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED YOUR PERSONAL MINISTRY AT UUCT?

*By Becky Welty
Board Member-at-Large*

What would you like to accomplish as a UU? What's your personal sense of mission within the framework for social justice? Do you want to keep our building in good repair? Do you want to help make our Sunday morning experience meaningful? Do you want to help members and visitors feel welcome? Do you want to keep us fiscally sound? Or do you have other grand goals for your time and talents?

During the canvass visit, you will be asked to fill out a form listing lots of opportunities at UUCT. On one side of the sheet all the committees of the church are listed. Check off whatever would help you implement your personal ministry. The chair of that group will be in touch with you over the summer. On the back side of the sheet is a list of specific tasks that we do around the church each year. The leadership of the church will

consult this information as it needs people to work on these tasks over the next year. Again - match the vision of your personal ministry with the work to be done and check off those things that will help you further your goals.

Becky Welty, Board Member-at-Large, has oversight of shared ministry. Call her at 422-3317 to talk about matching your vision and skills to available opportunities.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee will be busy in April filling a proposed slate of Board and Nominating Committee members for the Annual Meeting May 20. April 1 was the deadline for indicating an interest or submitting names to the committee. The following positions will be on the slate:

- President-elect
- Secretary
- Vice President for Religious Education
- Vice President for Finance
- Nominating Committee (two 2-year positions)

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Jennifer Carver, Chair (402-0622), Steve Urse, Bob Kenon, John McDevitt, and Nancy Bass (as past president chosen by the elected members of the committee).

CONGREGATIONAL & BOARD ACTIONS

*Reported by Trudy Deyle
Past President*

CONGREGATION: MARCH 11, 2001
To approve the proposed 2001-2002 Asking Budget (expenses only), including the approved list of operating budget and special cause fund raisers, with the addition of the Partnership Church Program. (53 in

favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

BOARD: MARCH 1 & 15, 2001

To include the Partnership Church Council in the list of approved special cause fund raisers.

To have the Board Member-At-Large be the designated Board member to advise the Administrative Assistant when there are questions to resolve regarding rental of the church facilities.

To increase the Campus Ministry Program's efforts to recruit Friends of Campus Ministry from outside UUCT and to approve the request to have a table on Campus Ministry Sunday, March 25, for selling social action T-Shirts and bumper stickers and for distributing information on the Friends program.

To accept the Treasurer's report for February 2001.

To authorize the VP for RE to form a search committee to find a new DRE, due to Michelle Buhite's resignation as of April 30, 2001. (The Search Committee is to be composed of at least: The VP for RE, the Youth and Adult RE chairpersons, the Minister, and a member of the Personnel Committee.)

Per the recommendation of the Capital Improvement Committee, to name Mad Dog Design and Construction Company as the Construction Manager for building Phase 1 of our Master Site Plan, with the scope of Phase 1 to be determined by the congregation following the Capital Campaign.

To authorize the CIC to negotiate a contract with Mad Dog for signature by the Board President, and once the contract is signed, to proceed with those pre-construction tasks which can be done without knowing the exact scope of Phase 1. (These tasks are: filing for a land use compliance certificate, an environmental review,

and soil borings.)

FACILITIES PLANNING UPDATE

*by Trudy Deyle, Chairperson
Capital Improvement Committee*

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER SELECTION. As reported last month, the Capital Improvement Committee spent February and early March selecting a Phase 1 Construction Manager (CM) to recommend to the Board. The CM will coordinate the permitting process, work with the committee and our architects during the development of detailed building plans (advising us on materials, costs and methods), and then serve as our contractor during construction (soliciting bids from subcontractors and supervising and coordinating their work). With twelve committee members present at our March 8, 2001 meeting, the CIC unanimously agreed to recommend that Mad Dog Design and Construction Company be our CM; and with eight Board members present on March 15, the Board unanimously approved the CIC recommendation. The reasons for recommending Mad Dog and some information about them follow.

REASONS FOR SELECTION. Following the one-hour session to introduce interested contractors to our project and the contractor interviews with the CIC, members of the committee gathered further information on the two contractors interested in our project. This included speaking with subcontractor and client references, making office visits, and visiting construction projects completed or in progress.

The information all pointed to the

same conclusion: While both companies would be good, solid firms with which to work, one of them, Mad Dog Design and Construction, would be superior to work with. "Mad Dog really works with you", "They emphasize quality and trust", and "They have a reputation for stepping outside the box and seeing things differently" were heard over and over. Mad Dog has a history of being innovative, responsive, honest, sensitive to the environment and socially conscious. In outlook, they are a match with UUCT. They also have experience working with a number of private, non-profit organizations including two churches.

ABOUT MAD DOG. The following excerpts are taken from Mad Dog's story about themselves. To learn more, stop by the CIC table on Sundays, pick up a copy of *The Mad Dog Story: We're Building More Than Buildings*, and look through the other material about them.

"As founding members of the Miccosukee Land Co-op our first design/build projects were our own homes. Early collective works included heavy timber residential construction, custom millwork packages, architectural stairs, prefabricated hot tub kits and a geodesic dome. So different were the designs, materials and methods that in 1974 the Leon County Chief Building Official changed the original name of MD Construction on a building permit to Mad Dog. In 1977 we incorporated the name Mad Dog Design and Construction Company and the rest is history..."

"Before long the name Mad Dog became synonymous with energy efficient design. By 1980 Mad Dog had begun creating energy efficient communities. We designed and built over two hundred and fifty homes within our award winning residential neighborhoods, Blairstone Forest,

Sunrise Community and Twin Lakes....Interspersed among the hundreds of homes in our residential communities were scores of custom homes we designed and then constructed on our clients' land....”

“Our house raising work parties at the Co-op were the forerunners for much of our community work. The Chaires Elementary School playground, a house for WFSU Public Television's auction, the Miccosukee Land Co-op's community center and swimming pool, a gazebo at Tallahassee's Lake Ella, a house for troubled youth at Disc Village, the dining hall at the YMCA's Camp Indian Springs, a maintenance facility at the Tallahassee Museum, many Housing Foundation volunteer projects and Habitat builds have all involved our coordination - most often with many eager volunteers, tools in hand, awaiting instructions!”

“Beginning in 1984 with converting the old Joe's Spaghetti House/Seafox Lounge into an office building, commercial construction projects gained more and more of Mad Dog's attention....It soon became evident that our clients were looking for a single ally to coordinate their entire projects. Soon after we began providing commercial clients with complete Design/Build services, we joined in the development of two commercial office parks, Governor's Park followed by Commonwealth Park....Today, whether as General Contractor or the Design/Builder, our name is associated with projects as far away as Charlotte, North Carolina and as diverse as The Moon Musical Hall and the Tallahassee General Aviation Terminal....”

“Although the foundation of Mad Dog's reputation is directly related to our responsive service to our clients, Mad Dog and its associates are recognized as community leaders and contributors. Mad Dog's selection as

the first Tallahassee business to be recognized as a 'Volunteer of the Year' by the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce is indicative of our belief in the integration of business success with civic responsibility.”

PRE-CONSTRUCTION TASKS.

In addition to the selection of Mad Dog as our CM, the CIC recommended and the Board approved using money already in the Future Fund to proceed with pre-construction tasks which can be accomplished prior to knowing the exact scope of Phase 1. These tasks include:

- Filing for a Land Use Compliance certificate,
- Having a pre-application conference with the City regarding permitting,
- Completing a Phase 1 environmental review for the City, and
- Having soil borings done.

We will begin these tasks as soon as we have a signed contract with Mad Dog. Accomplishing them will put us in a position to move ahead quickly once the Capital Campaign is over and the congregation decides on the exact scope of Phase 1.

As always, please contact me (422-1057 or gdeyle@juno.com) with any comments or questions you have regarding our facilities planning.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

By Nancy Bass, Chair

On Feb. 17th, Norene Chase and I traveled to Lakeland to attend the Florida District Annual Social Justice Conference. The ambitious conference addressed reasons for finding alternative solutions on two significant issues, the Death Penalty, and the War on Drugs. The Unitarian Universalist Association has a long tradition of

opposition to the Death Penalty/ Capital Punishment and has approved 5 different General Resolutions expressing such opposition since 1961. Abraham Bonowitz, Director of Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, was one of the speakers and capably discussed his organization's advocacy for a moratorium on application of the death penalty in Florida for many reasons, including the increased frequency of DNA evidence proving the innocence of persons on Death Rows nationwide. John Chase (no relation to Norene) spoke on Alternatives to the American Drug War. This topic, the UUA Study Issue for this year, has been discussed for several months here at UUCT under the leadership of Allen Turnage and Toni Latino.

In other District news, on March 24th, Rev. Amy conducted the Worship Workshop for the Super Saturday Seminar in Jacksonville. As many UUCT members can attest, Super Saturdays are great leadership training events.

In upcoming events, the Florida District Annual Assembly will be held April 6-8 at the Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center in Oviedo, near Orlando. The theme is "Growth SpUUrts: Flowing Toward Wholeness". June 21-25 are the dates for the UUA General Assembly which will be held in Cleveland, Ohio this year. Information on both Assemblies is posted on the Denominational Affairs bulletin board at the rear of the church. Don't miss the Sunday service which will be presented April 29th by the many UUCT members who were impressed greatly by last year's GA in Nashville, TN and who threw a great party for Rev. Amy who was granted her Final Fellowship.

OUR CONGREGATION

OUR MISSION

“The mission of UUCT is to be a liberal religious presence that supports individual spiritual quests and service to others in a community of open hearts, minds, and doors.”

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to explore membership in our congregation, contact Membership Chair Pauline Masterton (385-2879) or Rev. Amy.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Sunday, June 3, during the service.

UUCT NAME TAGS

Please, help our visitors get to know us by wearing your NAME TAG and thinking of yourself as “HOST”. New members will be presented with nametags. Others may order nametags using the sign-up sheet and payment envelope for chalice name tags (\$3.50 each) in the foyer.

DINNERS FOR 8

Sign-up for HOSTS AND GUESTS is on-going. Hosts will cook main dishes, and guests will bring the rest. Look for the sign up sheet on Sundays or call the church office (385-5115) or Membership Chair Pauline Masterton (385-2879).

NEW MEMBER PROFILES

If you missed a new member recognition and want a copy of the introduction of each of our new members, contact the church office, 385-5115.

DRIVERS WANTED

Several of our members and friends are able to attend church on Sunday mornings only if transportation is provided. If you live in or pass by the following areas on your way to church and can help, please contact Caring Ministries Committee

Chairperson Peggy Lentz (878-2226; peglentz@aol.com)—

Sungate Apts. (Tennessee and Pensacola), Westminster Oaks (Dempsey Mayo and Mahan), Capital Circle and Centerville, Ross Road (between the Woodville and Crawfordville Highways).

BABY, WHAT’S FOR DINNER?

Are you expecting or adopting a child? The Caring Committee would like to help you keep well nourished in those wonderful first days of parenthood by bringing a meal to your home. If you or another UUCT member is expecting a new arrival, please contact Megan Bakan (216-0510, dixon@psy.fsu.edu). If you are interested in preparing meals for new arrivals and their families, please contact Megan.

ADDRESS CHANGES

When you have address and phone number changes please let the office know. We will also print changes in *The Meridian*, unless you direct us otherwise.

UUCT CLASSIFIEDS

For \$2 per month, minimum of three months, members and supporting friends may advertise their business or service on the bulletin board hanging to the right of the hymnal shelves, near the north sanctuary doors. Submit ad and check for fee to Administrative Assistant Kathie Mackie. Available to others for \$5 per month.

JOYS AND SORROWS

We keep in our thoughts and prayers, minds and hearts...

Family and friends of **Mary Jones**. Mary died Tuesday, March 6. **Jack Martin** who is healing from a broken collar bone. **Barb Szumowski** whose mother died in late March.

If you know of other Joys and Sorrows, please tell Rev. Amy or Peggy Lentz, Caring Ministries Committee Chairperson (878-2226). Please let us know even if you ask that the information not be published here or in the Sunday Order of Service.

THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The Committee on Ministry is:
 Chair: Byron Spice (668-6109),
 Annette Pearce (386-4053);
 Richard Dempsey (671-2748).
 Rev. Amy is a non-voting member.

CURRENT UUCT STATS	
Certified Membership (as of 1/01)	158
Current Membership	172
Current Number of Friends.....	36
RE Enrollment	61
Avg. Sun. Attendance (February 4 - March 11)	103

CONTACTS FOR UUCT

Adult Religious Education:

Sheila Meehan 668-5075

Buildings & Grounds Committee:

Mary Bridges 894-2965

Campus Ministry Committee:

Sara Reece 309-1933

Caring Ministries Committee:

Peggy Lentz 878-2226

Capital Improvement Committee:

Trudy Deyle 422-1057

Choir:

Helen Falb 309-6853

Church Council:

Becky Welty 422-3317

Combined Campaign:

Trudy Deyle 422-1057

Elinor Elfner 224-3651

Denominational Affairs:

Nancy Bass 893-1806

Finance Committee:

Joan Patterson 309-1248

Forum on Sunday:

Norene Chase 422-1985

Full Circle/CUUPS:

Contact Church Office 385-5115

Fund Raising Committee:

Will Adkins 385-5071

Kitchen Committee:

Linda Logan 575-2780

L-G-B-T Welcoming Congregation Committee:

Pauline Masterton 385-2879

Membership:

Pauline Masterton 385-2879

Multicultural Families:

Sandy Neidert 656-7894

Parenting Support Group:

Maggie Geraci 877-6301

Planned Giving Committee:

DeLos DeTar 385-3332

Publicity Chair:

Barbara Hogan 668-6899

Program Committee:

Richard Dempsey 671-2748

Barbara Hogan 668-6899

Racial and Cultural Diversity Committee (RCDC):

Bob Kenon 878-3647

RCDC Book Discussion Group:

Isabel Sheridan 668-0785

Shared Ministry Committee:

Becky Welty 422-3317

Shelter Meals:

Karen or John Mann 562-4781

Social Activities:

Jennifer Carver 402-0622

Social Concerns Committee:

Walter Hoskins 893-5039

Speak Out! & UU Humanists:

William Adkins 385-5071

YRUU (ages 12-20):

402-0622
Jennifer & DeWayne Carver

Youth Religious Education:

Margaret Mooney 893-8250

Workdays:

Tom Chase 422-1985

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRUCE BRANDT

President 893-5511

TRUDY DEYLE

Past President 422-1057

PAULINE MASTERTON

President-Elect 385-2879

JIM CREWS

VP for Management 567-8795

ISABEL SHERIDAN

VP for Services 668-0785

JOAN PATTERSON

VP for Finance 309-1248

ERIC DRAPER 668-5075

VP for Religious Education

ELLEN DEMPSEY 671-2748

Treasurer

LINDA LOGAN

Secretary 575-2780

BECKY WELTY

Member-at-Large 422-3317

OUR STAFF

THE REV. AMY MCKENZIE
Minister
E-Mail: revamq@earthlink.net
Home Study: 383-9186

KATHIE MACKIE
Administrative Assistant
385-5115

HELEN FALB
Music Director
309-6853

MICHELLE BUHITE
Director of Religious Education
553-4084

KIM ROSS FRICHTER
Campus Ministry Coordinator
562-7378

SCOTT GERACI
Nursery Worker
877-6301

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
M-F - 7:00 - 3:30
(Closed 11:00 - 11:30 AM)
CHURCH PHONE
385-5115
CHURCH FAX #:
385-5834

CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS
uuct@electro-net.com
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.electro-net.com/~uuct/

REV. AMY MCKENZIE'S OFFICE HOURS AT CHURCH:
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY:
1:00 - 5:00 PM
THURSDAY,
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
THESE AND OTHERS BY APPOINTMENT
Rev. Amy's cell phone:
850-566-1388
No office hours:
Wednesday, April 18,
Thursday, April 19 or
Monday, April 23.

APRIL UUCT EVENTS

FULL CIRCLE AND PEACE DANCES, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 PM. Full Circle our co-ed Earth Centered Spirituality Group, will combine with the Dances of Universal Peace again this month. There will be drumming at 7:00 PM, followed by dancing at 7:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY, FSU CIRCUS, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 PM. Come see this wonderful show put on by FSU students under the Big Top at the Haskin Circus Complex, FSU. Reserved ticket prices: \$10 adults, \$8 students, \$5 children. General admission: \$5. Call Jennifer Carver (402-0622) by Tuesday, April 3.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY, LEON SINKS HIKE, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 10:00 AM. Easy hike. Meet at the Circle K store at the corner of Capital Circle, SE and Crawfordville Highway. Call Minel or Betsy Borges (383-0816) for details.

RECEPTION FOR NEIGHBORS, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 3:00 PM. We are inviting the immediate neighbors of the church to a reception to learn more about our building plans. Contacts: Rod Oldenburg (297-0391) and Helen Falb (422-0603) with the Capital Improvement Committee.

MULTICULTURAL SUPPORT GROUP, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 4:30 PM. Contact: Sandy Neidert (656-7894).

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 12:30 PM. Remember to bring your favorite dish to share!

UU HUMANISTS MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1:15 PM. See

separate article for details on this month. Contact William Adkins (385-5071 or wma@post.harvard.edu).

GREEN SANCTUARY WORKSHOP & POTLUCK DINNER, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 3:00 - 8:00 PM. See separate article. Contact: Ed Oaksford (422-0240).

SOCIAL ACTIVITY, SATURDAY NIGHT CHATROOM, APRIL 14, 7:00 PM. At Becky Welty's house. If you're interested in meeting other UUCT members and conversing in small groups (or the whole group), this evening is for you! Bring a snack food to share, non-alcoholic drinks provided. Call Becky (422-3317) to RSVP and get directions.

EASTER SERVICE, FLOWER COMMUNION & CHILD DEDICATION, SUNDAY APRIL 15, 11:00 AM. Bring a flower for our intergenerational Easter Flower communion. Extra flowers appreciated. Parents, contact Rev. Amy ASAP if interested in the child dedication or baby naming ceremony.

YRUU MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. See article in *Youth RE*. Contact YRUU Advisors Jennifer and DeWayne Carver (402-0622).

ATTACHMENT PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP, TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 6:00 PM. See *Youth RE* for details. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301 or minilawyer@aol.com).

STUDY/ACTION GROUP MEETING, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 7 PM, ROOM 5. To continue discussions on "An Alternative to the War on Drugs". See article in December *Meridian* for background. Contacts: Allen Turnage (224-3231) and Toni

Latino (402-2900).

RACIAL & CULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 7:00 PM, ROOM 4. Contact Bob Kenon (878-3647).

ALL CHURCH WORKDAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Come enjoy the fellowship of working together on the numerous chores and special projects needed to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact Tom Chase (422-1985).

RE FAMILY POTLUCK, DISCUSSION & TEACHER RECOGNITION, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 5:00 PM. Eating at 5:30 PM; games for children; nursery care. See *Youth RE* for more details. Contact: DRE Michelle Buhite (553-4084).

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 12:15 PM, ROOM 4. The quarterly meeting of committee chairs to share and coordinate plans for the next three months. Contact Board Member-at-Large, Becky Welty (422-3317).

SPEAK OUT! SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 12:45 PM. Outdoors (weather permitting) or Room 2. Note new time. Contact: William Adkins (wma@post.harvard.edu or 385-5071). See separate article.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY, CANOE TRIP, SATURDAY, APRIL 28. Join with the Sierra Club for a leisurely four hour (approximately) paddle on a local river. All ages welcome. Call Jennifer Carver (402-0622) by Thursday, April 26 to sign up.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UUCT SUPPORTERS LUNCHEON, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 11:30 AM. A special luncheon for people in the Tallahassee community who have been members of or supportive of our congregation in the

past, to give them an opportunity to meet Rev. Amy and learn about our plans for the future. Contact: Barbara Gearhart (386-7370).

UUCT COFFEEHOUSE, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 7:30 PM. See special announcement in box for details. Contact: Ron Crowe (997-5307).

RE SERVICE PROJECT DAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 11:00 AM. The K-5 classes will do an environmental clean-up. Watch for details and dress appropriately that day.

UUCT EVENTS AFTER APRIL

DINNERS FOR 8, THROUGH MAY. Sign-up is on-going on Sundays for hosts and guests, dinner by dinner. Contact Membership Chair Pauline Masterton (385-2879).

ANNUAL PIG ROAST, SATURDAY, MAY 12, MID-AFTERNOON. This will be held at Ken and Jean Wood's home in South Georgia. Watch for details.

JOINT FINAL BUDGET & PROPOSED PHASE 1 MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 7:00 PM. A meeting of the Board, Finance Committee, Capital Improvement Committee and Church Council to develop the proposed FY 2001-2002 Final Budget and the proposed Phase 1 building expansion (based on the results of the Capital Campaign). Contact: Bruce Brandt (893-5511).

CONGREGATIONAL DISCUSSION WITH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, THURSDAY, MAY 10, 7:15 PM. An opportunity for interested members of the congregation to discuss the proposed Phase 1 with members of the CIC. Contact: Trudy Deyle (422-1057).

CELEBRATION POTLUCK,

MAY 13, 12:30 PM. Our usual second Sunday potluck with an extra celebration for the success of our Combined Campaign!

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM ON FINAL BUDGET AND PROPOSED PHASE 1, SUNDAY, MAY 13, 1:00 PM. An opportunity after the potluck to ask questions and discuss the proposed 2001-2002 Final Budget, the proposed Phase 1 building scope, and any other items to be voted on the following Sunday. Members and Supporting Friends will receive a mailing during the week prior to the forum.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, MAY 20, 12:15 PM. Our meeting to elect members of the Board and Nominating Committee, adopt a final budget for the next year, decide on the scope of Phase 1 of our building expansion, and vote on any other items needing our attention.

DISTRICT & NATIONAL UU EVENTS

FL DISTRICT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, APRIL 6 - 8. See *March Meridian* for details.

Registration forms in church office.

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001, THURSDAY - MONDAY, JUNE 21 -25. Held in Cleveland, OH, the theme will be *Claiming our Heritage*. Registration: adults \$230; \$120 youth, theological students and retired ministers. Scholarships

APRIL NON-UUCT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Thursday:

- 6:00 PM Intro. to Zen
- 7:15 PM Zen Meditation

Every Sunday:

- 6:30 PM Urantia
- 7:00 PM Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church

Every Wednesday:

- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous GLBT Group (Rm. 4, except 3rd Wed., Rm. 2)

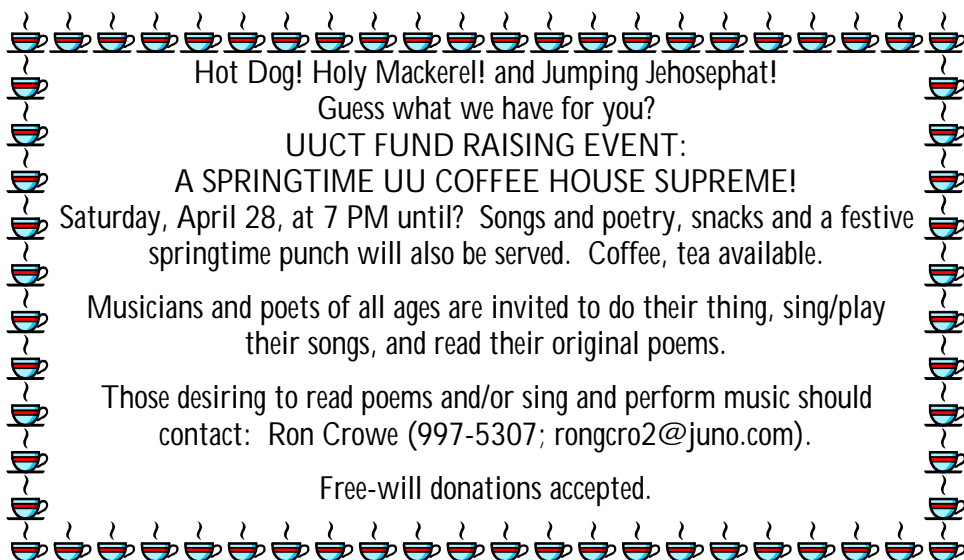
Yoga (Sharon Reiter): Mon., Apr. 2, 9 & 23, 5-9 PM

Meditation Group (Katie Power): Fri., Apr. 6, 20 & 27, 6:30 PM

Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church: Fri., Apr. 13, 6:30 - 8 PM

Sierra Club: Mon., Apr. 23, 6 PM

Audubon: Tues., Apr 24, 7 PM



 Hot Dog! Holy Mackerel! and Jumping Jehosephat!

 Guess what we have for you?

UUCT FUND RAISING EVENT:

A SPRINGTIME UU COFFEE HOUSE SUPREME!

 Saturday, April 28, at 7 PM until? Songs and poetry, snacks and a festive springtime punch will also be served. Coffee, tea available.

 Musicians and poets of all ages are invited to do their thing, sing/play their songs, and read their original poems.

 Those desiring to read poems and/or sing and perform music should contact: Ron Crowe (997-5307; rongcro2@juno.com).

 Free-will donations accepted.

WHAT IS SUUSI?

SUUSI is an intentional community celebrating its 51st year in 2001. We are UUs and others who gather for a week in July to explore our interconnectedness, learn new ways of seeing our world and each other, delight in the joys of meeting old friends and making new ones, share outdoor adventures, dance, and sing.

And SUUSI is an experience with many levels: fun times, great scenery, sparkles of insight during workshop discussions, high-energy dancing, moments of reflection and awareness, connections with new friends, liberating worship services, even good grits (what, you've never had grits?).

When about 1000 people assemble for a week with a common objective—to establish an intentional community with harmony, spirit, and spice—magic happens. Be there, this year. Bring your friends and family, and develop new friends and a new sense of family.

July 22-28 - Virginia Tech campus - Blacksburg, Virginia.

Theme: The Interdependent Web

Contact: Cathy Ring,
info@suusi.org.

GREEN SANCTUARY PROGRAM

WORKSHOP & POTLUCK DINNER,
SATURDAY, APRIL 14

“Homo sapiens are poised to become the greatest catastrophic agent since a giant asteroid collided with the Earth sixty-five million years ago, wiping out half the world's species in a geologic instant.” (Richard Leakey and Roger Lewin, The Sixth Extinction).

On Saturday, April 14, 2001 from 3-8 PM, UUCTers interested in the

UUA Green Sanctuary Program will hold a workshop/potluck dinner to explore having the church become a Green Sanctuary. Everyone in the congregation is invited including children, and child-care will be provided.

While the U.S. can claim only 5% of the world's population, it is currently responsible for 20% of the greenhouse gas emissions from human sources (Brower and Leon, 1999). The average American in the 1990's used 50-100 times the energy of the average Bangladeshi (McNeill, 2000). As the “developing nations attempt to mirror the increased standard of living that the industrialized nations have achieved, the overall consumption of energy will grow, and the problem will worsen greatly.”

The Seventh Principle Project - Green Sanctuary Program is a collection of effective strategies for maximizing the impact of a congregation on the environmental challenges facing our cities, counties, states, nation and world.

Plans are still being drawn up for a specific agenda but arrangements have been made with “Heart of the Earth”, a local organization committed to minimizing the impact of humans on earth, to provide a thought provoking presentation on the role humankind has played in altering planet earth.

UUCTers interested in the Green Sanctuary Program will present material contained in the Green Sanctuary Handbook, describe concepts and processes involved with our church becoming a Green Sanctuary and discuss its relationship to our Seventh Principle.

As an aid to congregations that wish to follow these guidelines, and to provide some standardization for the use of the term “Green Sanctuary”, the Seventh Principle

Project manages an accreditation program for recognizing Unitarian-Universalist Green Sanctuary churches and fellowships that have undertaken the simple process outlined in the handbook.

The first step for congregations interested in the process, is to discuss and understand the five key goals of the program: 1) Building an awareness of societal environmental issues among UUs, 2) Generating commitment for personal lifestyle changes, 3) Motivating UUs to community action on environmental issues, 4) Building connections between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness, and 5) Building awareness of and rectifying environmental injustice. Developing a Green Sanctuary is accomplished by evaluating performance as a result of specific actions taken in the six key areas: 1) Energy conservation, 2) Reduce/Reuse/Recycle, 3) Church communication, 4) Religious education, 5) Worship, and 6) Environmental Justice.

It is toward this end of developing a strong community ethic of responsible consumption in a spiritual framework that this workshop is being held, and it is hoped that this workshop will provide an informative first step for the challenges ahead. An attempt will be made to involve children for at least some of the program, and we are hopeful that gathering around a bountiful potluck meal after the presentations will provide all participants an opportunity to interact and share relevant ideas toward lightening our footprint on the face of our planet. For more information, please call Ed Oaksford at 422-0240.

BE OUR NEW SOCIAL ACTIVITIES CHAIR

If you'd be willing to organize the quarterly calendar of social events, contact Jennifer Carver (402-0622 or jzadwick@tfn.net).



April 2001

UUCT Calendar of Events

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 9 AM - 1 PM HS Owl Meeting (off-site)* 9:45 AM Youth RE Comm Mtng 10:45 AM MS OWL (off-site) 3-5 PM 4th - 5th OWL*	2 7-9 PM University UUs 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)*	3	4 7:30 PM Choir	5 7 PM Board	6 5:30 PM University UUs at Aristotle's 7 PM Full Circle/ Peace Dances* 7 PM Social Activity: FSU Circus* Rev. Amy at FUUMA mtg	7 10 AM Social Activity: Leon Sinks Hike* 3 PM Reception for Neighbors 4:30 PM Multicultural Families
8 10:45 MS OWL (off-site) 12:30 PM Potluck & <i>Meridian</i> Deadline 1:15 PM UUHumanists* 3- 5 PM 4-5th OWL*	9 7-9 PM University UUs 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)* 7:45 PM Shelter Meal*	10 7 PM Campus Ministry Meeting Rm. 4 7:15 PM Program Committee Mtng Rm. 2	11 7:30 PM Choir	12 7:15 PM Capital Improvement Committee	13 5:30 PM University UUs at Aristotle's	14 3 - 8 PM Green Sanctuary Presentation & Potluck* 7 PM Social Activity: Sat. Night Chatroom (off-site)*
15 10:45 AM MS OWL (off-site) TBA 11 AM Intergenerational Easter Service 6 - 8 PM YRUU (off-site)*	16 7-9 PM University UUs 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)* 7:15 PM Finance Committee (off- site)	17 6 PM Cropwalk Steering Committee (Rev. Amy), Rm. 4 6 PM Parenting Support Group, Rm. 2*	18 7:30 PM Choir 7 PM RCDC, Rm. 4 7 PM Study/ Action Group, Rm. 5 <i>Rev. Amy Vacation</i>	19 7 PM Board <i>Rev. Amy Vacation</i>	20 5:30 PM University UUs at Aristotle's <i>Rev. Amy Vacation</i>	21 9 AM - 1 PM Workday 5 PM RE Family Potluck, Discussion, Teacher Recognition* <i>Rev. Amy Vacation</i>
22 10:45 AM MS OWL (off-site) 12:15 PM Church Council, Rm. 4 12:45 PM Speak Out!, Rm. 2* 1-3 PM Caring Touch Workshop, Sanctuary* 3 - 4 PM 4th-5th OWL	23 7-9 PM University UUs 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)* <i>Rev. Amy Vacation</i>	24	25 7:30 PM Choir	26 7:15 PM Capital Improvement Committee	27 5:30 PM University UUs at Aristotle's	28 Social Activity: Day- Canoe Trip* 11 AM - 2:30 PM UUCT Supporter Luncheon 7:30 PM Coffeehouse*
29 10:45 MS OWL (off-site) 11 AM K- 5 RE Service Project Clean Up Day 6-8 PM HS OWL	30 7-9 PM University UUs 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)*	For sermon titles and "Every Sunday" activities, see the front page.	See page 12 for UUCT Contacts for events.	*Details on another page.		