

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



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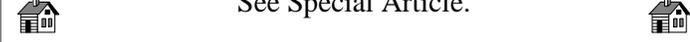
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Volume 44 - No. 2 THE MERIDIAN February 2001

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 **CREATIVE WAYS OF GIVING** 
 Lunch and Workshop
 Sunday, February 18
 12:30 - 2:00 PM
 All Members & Friends Encouraged to Attend. 
 To get Us Thinking About The Small or Large 
 Ways We Might Contribute to the Success of 
 Our Capital Campaign 
 See Special Article. 



SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 11:00 AM

Sunday, Feb. 4 “World Peace”, Rev. Amy & Barney Cook (UU-UNO Sunday)

Sunday, Feb. 11 “Moments that Seal the Deal”
Rev. Amy

Sunday, Feb. 18 “Compassion Sabbath: Meaning and the End of Life”, Rev. Amy

Sunday, Feb. 25 “The Present Religious Revolution”
Rev. Harold Hawkins

EVERY SUNDAY:
 9:45 AM Choir Practice
 9:45 AM Adult Forum Feb. 4, 11 (18 & 25 TBA)
 10:45 AM M.S. OWL off-site Feb. 4, 11, and 18
 10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM
 11:00 AM Youth RE Program


HEARTBEATS FUND RAISER
SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 3RD, 7:30 PM
A MAGICAL MUSIC CONCERT
TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE DOOR: \$12.00
CONTACT LUDY GOODSON:
531-0895


OPEN MINDS - OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOORS

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

By Rev. Amy McKenzie

On our summer vacation in Great Britain, we walked a labyrinth. It was neat to travel the same path both to the center of the maze, and back to the outer rim. I keep returning to this image when I think about UUCT, so I thought I'd share the image with you.

I keep a photo of this labyrinth on my desk; I delight in the fact that the way into it and the way out of it are the same. A labyrinth is a maze that takes you along a winding path to the center of a circle. The path out is the same... unless you're my parents. They had been great hosts and adventuresome travel companions, but at the labyrinth they didn't play by the rules. They got to the center, and then made a bee line across the long and winding path -- cutting through the radius rather than following the path all the way back around to the beginning/end again. I'm glad they broke the rules. It may be heretical to say -- but what do you expect from a UU minister?! -- I think it's okay for someone to join or leave a labyrinth group that's following the path from absolute beginning to end.

As a metaphor for our church life, joining and leaving are necessary. New members come in wherever the congregation happens to be in its lifecycle. People die, or move, or change, and get off the path. Yours truly cut across the path to meet you in the center, ready to work with you in the spirit of shared ministry as we made our way to the outside.

A congregation moves toward center, and then out again, many times in its lifecycle. UUCT is now poised on the outside of the maze, almost ready to launch a combined operating budget annual canvass and capital campaign 3-year pledge. The way out to this point has included votes galore

(staying on site, settling a minister, accepting a comprehensive building site plan, completing a feasibility study, and now, capital campaign for Phase One). I salute you for being ever willing to engage each other in civil conversations and intentional voting as we wend our way through the democratic process.

As we enter the maze again, we'll all support each other through the anxiety and excitement. We'll urge each other along the path, and pause to reflect on the Circle in which we move.

The Circle in which we move is the community of people, and the circle is the communal journey taken by the entity called UUCT. If that's the circle, what supports it? On what ground do we travel? Why, on holy ground, of course! Paul Tillich called his God by many names, including: the ground of all being. That's the ground for our labyrinth.

Time to venture forth and in:
Here we go!

In Faith and aMAZEment,
Amy

TRAINING SEMINAR FOR LAY LEADERS

The Program Committee will conduct a training seminar at the church on Saturday, February 24th, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon, with childcare provided. The purpose is to develop a cadre of members and friends whom we can call upon from time to time to help in conducting lay led services. The focus will be on how to plan, organize, set-up, and conduct a Sunday morning service. This does not require participants to be the guest speaker, only to learn how to manage the service and support the guest speaker. Both men and women are invited to participate. Women are especially encouraged,

as they often have strong skills in this area but are less often asked to serve. You can expect to hear more about this as the date draws near. Meantime, if you have questions or would like to toss your name in the hat, contact Richard Dempsey (671-2748).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHELTER MEAL. Monday, February 12, 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 jeanchulak@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/>

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

UUCT AUCTION. The Annual UUCT Auction will be held Saturday, March 10. Are there goods and services you could donate to this important church fund-raiser? Donation forms are at the back of the sanctuary.

WANTED: JAZZ CARTRIDGE! Does anybody have an Iomega Jazz drive cartridge that they could donate

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SEVEN DAYS OF OPENING NIGHTS FUND RAISER: GUESTS NEEDED!

Thanks to Mimi Jones, our Bed and Breakfast Fund Raiser for FSU's Seven Days of Opening Nights is well under way. Mimi has sent notices to all of the UU congregations in Florida, Alabama and Georgia, offering them lodging in UUCT homes in Tallahassee if they are coming for any of the special performances that are being offered February 16 - 26. The rates are very reasonable (\$35 single; \$45 double) and proceeds will go to UUCT. The generous donors of rooms from the congregation are: Nancy Bass, Nancy Bean, Jennifer and DeWayne Carver, Tom and Norene Chase, Elinor Elfner, Barbara and Dick Gearhart, Peggy Lentz and Ray Tucker, Joan Patterson, Joanne Taylor, and Jean and Ken Wood. Now we just need customers, so if you have friends from out of town who might be coming for Seven Days of Opening Nights, please suggest that they rent a room from one of our UUCT room donors.

Call Mimi Jones at 942-7199 or Joan Patterson at 309-1248.

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to the church office? We would like to keep a copy of our computer hard drive, especially the financial data, off-site but we need another cartridge. We have two good ones, but need just one more. They can only be purchased in sets of 3, and that would cost us almost \$300. If you can help, call Kathie Mackie at 385-5115.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 99-00 AVAILABLE. Copies of the Annual Financial Report for the previous fiscal year, which ran from July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000, are available on the counter at the back of the sanctuary. This will give you a good overview of the financial status of the church as of June 30, 2000.

GET A UUCT T-SHIRT! Order forms and samples of the new T-shirts 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 this spring; 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 ceremonies, see *Lifespan Religious Education*.

CHECK-OUT REview. Whether you are a parent, a potential Adult RE

CREATIVE WAYS OF GIVING WORKSHOP

Are you aware of all your assets? Are your checking and savings accounts your only sources of money for our Capital Campaign? Maybe not!

Come think outside the box at our "Creative Ways of Giving" Workshop after Sunday service, February 18, in the Sanctuary. Terry Dariotis, a local attorney who specializes in wills and trusts and who is a Certified Financial Planner, will be available to explain some giving options and to answer your questions. We'll start the workshop at 12:30 with lunch and then move on to the meat and potatoes, so to speak. The workshop should be over by 2:00 PM.

Questions? Call Isabel Sheridan (668-0785).

participant or just a supportive and interested member of the congregation, be sure to read the January/February edition of *REview*, found at the RE table on Sundays, and catch the excitement in Lifespan RE these days!

SPECIAL PEN PALS. Adults and older youths who expressed an interest have been paired with K-5th graders who were also interested. Throughout February, they will write to one another each Sunday, getting a glimpse into each other's worlds. Identities will be revealed the last Sunday of the month at a special bowling party.

BE A UU MENTOR. As part of their Coming of Age program this semester, our high school youth will each meet once a month for four months with an adult in the congregation in a mentoring

relationship - engaging in conversation about what it means to be a part of our church. If you are an adult who feels you have experience and perspective as a UU that would benefit one of our young people, contact Sara Reece (309-1933) or DRE Michelle Buhite (553-4084).

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.

NEED A COMPUTER? UUCT is selling a donated Gateway computer which we do not need at church. If you'd be interested in buying it, submit a bid (\$50 minimum) to VP

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for Finance Joan Patterson by February 15 - via her box at church or email: jpatters@mailers.fsu.edu. The computer will go to the highest bidder. Call Joan for more detailed information about the computer: 309-1248.

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).

APPRECIATION

To **Elinor Elfner, Kim Ross Frichter, Steve Urse, Fran and Mary Bridges, Del DeTar, Jean Chulak, Becky Welty, Sharon Chackerian, Eleanor Moore, Richard Dempsey, Barbara Sterling, Joe Chulak, Kathleen Richards and Isabel Sheridan** for greeting members and visitors on Sunday mornings December 24 - January 28.

To **Norene Chase, Ruth Pestle, Eleanor Moore, Debbie Wolfe, Kathleen Taylor, Fran and Mary Bridges, Bob Kenon, Jerri Wagner, and Annette Pearce** for providing hospitality during the coffee hours from December 24 - January 28.

To **Victor Venos** for installing new heaters in the restrooms.

To **Mary Bridges** for fixing the water fountain, washing the church windows, and all the other hard work she does for our church.

To **Joe Chulak and Jim Crews** for blowing leaves off the sidewalk and parking lot.

To **Jim Crews** for organizing our UUCT phone tree, which made its debut with calls about our January congregational meeting.

To **William Adkins** for volunteering to chair the Fund Raising Committee.

To **Charlene White** for serving as our Adult RE Chairperson and to **Sheila Meehan** for offering to be the new chairperson.

To those who have given memorial donations to the UUCT Future Fund. In memory of Sally Bellamy: **Virginia Grigg and Sally's daughter Caroline**. In memory of Ralph Cook: **Elinor Elfner, Art and Carolyn Fixel, and Joan Patterson**.

To **Nancy Bean** for taking two of our youth to the Junior High Mountain Con in January - one middle-schooler and one high-schooler, who served as a "Pal" at the con.

To **Mary Caine Hafdahl** who is taking care of the plants in the sanctuary.

To **Leslie Eckhart, Isabel Sheridan, Bruce Brandt, Kim Ross Frichter, Kelley Turnage, Megan Bakan, Fran Bridges, Toni Latino, Sara Reece, and Kathie Mackie** for volunteering in the nursery.

And from the Geraci family: We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to some unknown **fellow UUs**. To our **Christmas Angels**, who left us a beautiful card and gifts on Christmas Eve, thank you.

We hope that your holiday was filled with as much joy as ours. Your generosity and thoughtfulness moved us. To the "**fellow UUs**" who sent us a lovely card after the New Year. Thank you very much for your very generous gift. It came at a great time and was quite helpful. We hope that you and your family have a wonderful New Year, full of joy, love, and good fortune. Sincerely, Scott, Maggie, and the kids.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

The committee is soliciting your input for suggested '01-'03 Nominating Committee and Board members. Two 2-year positions will be open on the Nominating Committee. Positions which will be open on the Executive Board include President-Elect (one-year position, to be followed by one year each as President and Immediate Past President) and the following 2-year positions: Secretary (currently Linda Logan), Vice President for Finance (currently Joan Patterson), and VP for Religious Education (currently Eric Draper).

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or Board or in suggesting someone who would make a strong addition to either, please speak with any member of the Nominating Committee by March 15: Jennifer Carver, Chair (402-0622), Steve Urse (385-2864), Laura Cook (385-4499), or John McDevitt (421-4278). Per our bylaws, these four elected members will choose a fifth member from among the past presidents of the congregation to serve on the Nominating Committee with them.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Also see REview, available at the
RE table Sundays.*

**YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
NEXT YOUTH RE
COMMITTEE MEETING:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4
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).

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!

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.

**OWL CLASSES, FEBRUARY 4,
11 AND 18, 10:45 AM - 12:30 PM.**
Our Middle School class will
continue to meet off-site in members'
homes. See the special article on the
class at the end of *Youth RE*.

OWL PARENT ORIENTATIONS

* **HIGH SCHOOL: SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 4, 4:00 - 6:00 PM.**
Held at UUCT, the parent
orientation is mandatory for a
youth to participate in this class
on sexuality and UU relationship
ethics. Tom Taylor and Linda

Radel will teach the 12 lesson
class, which may be taught in
several intensive sessions,
depending on scheduling input
received from parents and
youth. For more information,
contact Tom at
katom@istal.com or Linda at
radel@nettally.com.

* **4th AND 5TH GRADES:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11,
2:30 - 5:00 PM.** This parent
orientation will also be held at
UUCT and is mandatory for
participation; parents will be
asked to make a firm
commitment at the end of the
orientation if they wish for
their children to participate.
During the orientation, a party
will be held for the 4th and 5th
graders supervised by UUCT
adults and teens. Linda
Oaksford and Bob Deyle will
teach this class and are
proposing the following
schedule: Sunday afternoons
from 3:00-5:00 PM on
February 18; March 4, 11 &
25; and April 1. If March 25 is
a problem due to Spring Break,
a class will be held on April 8
instead. For more information,
contact Linda at
oaksford_l@popmail.firm.edu
or Bob at rdeyle@coss.fsu.edu.

**YRUU, SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY
4 & 18, 6:00 - 8:00 PM.** Both
meetings will be at the home of
the YRUU Advisors, Jennifer and
DeWayne Carver, 1608 Redwood
Dr. Bring \$3 for food. Contact:
Jennifer or DeWayne (402-0622).
Earlier in the month, on Thursday,
February 1, the YRUU group will
attend the meeting and worship of
the Zen Buddhist group who meet
at UUCT.

**YRUU TRAVEL TO
MOUNTAIN CONS.** Several of
our YRUUsers will be traveling to
the two Senior High Mountain

Cons the weekends of February 9 -
11 and 23 - 25.

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).

2/2-4: FL Social Action Con
2/23-25: All Age Con, Lakeland
3/16-18: YRUU Leadership
Development Con
4/6-7: YRUU Caucus for District
Annual Assembly
5/18-20: FL District Social Action
Con

ATTACHMENT PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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).

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS SPEAK UP

Where are the Middle Schoolers?
You may have noticed that the 6th -
8th grade population have literally
disappeared from our church this
year. Well, we are not far away.
Due to classroom space limitations
and the kindness of church members,
we are meeting offsite this year and
participating in the OUR WHOLE
LIVES (OWL) Sexuality Education
class.

We are meeting on Sunday Mornings
from 10:45 AM - 12:30 PM. So far,
we have met in the Elfner, Oaksford,

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Lundberg/Shankweiler and Deyle homes.

There are eleven of us (6 girls and 5 boys) and two facilitators (Susan Angel and Keith Henry). We have learned about Anatomy and Physiology, Personal Concerns about Puberty, Gender Roles, Sexual Orientation, and Relationship Skills. And that is just a sampling of our 27 session class. We have also had guest speakers, a pizza party, and a Christmas party. We were at the church on January 27 for a day lock-in.

We thank the UUCT for providing the OWL class for us and we would like you to know:

“This class is so interesting and I learn a lot. No class is boring.” Meghan Meehan-Draper

“OWL fills in all the small gaps that parents missed. A parent may have missed an individual talk with their kids about sex or whatever. OWL gives it all.” Melissa Angel

“I really love this class. It is very informative and a very good experience.” Caitlin Meehan-Draper

“We do different things every week which keeps it exciting and fun.” Kayla Szumowski.

WHAT IS A CHILD DEDICATION OR NAMING CEREMONY?

A **Child or Youth Dedication Ceremony** is a traditional Unitarian Universalist ritual of accepting the parents' and congregation's responsibilities in the religious development of the child or youth and welcoming her or him into participation in the beloved community. Verbal commitments are made to nurture and support. The participants are then dedicated to a life of love and service to the world and to one of creative possibility and meaning. Any age child or youth may participate, both those new to our church community and those who have

been here awhile. Our church will have a group ceremony once a year, but it is also possible for members to arrange individual ceremonies. A **Child Naming Ceremony** is a similar UU ritual usually done for infants. These are two of the special ceremonies our church has to recognize our youths' transitions in life.

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.

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. Full Circle, our co-ed Earth Centered Spirituality Group, will meet on Friday, February 2 from 6:00 - 8:30 PM to observe Imbolc - the celebration of the growing light and the promise of spring. There will be a family potluck (eating at 6:30) followed by drumming (bring instruments) and peace dances. All are invited to attend. For more information, contact the church office. For more on Imbolc, see *Wheel of the Year*.

"THE NEW UU" CLASS FOR FEBRUARY. To be held Mondays, February 12 and 19 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. If you are a new member or thinking of joining UUCT, this class offers an opportunity for newcomers (and those wanting a refresher course) to learn about the history, philosophy and policies of our congregation and denomination. Sign up on the sheet at

the back of the sanctuary or call the church office (385-5115). For more information, contact Linda Oaksford (422-0240).

ADULT FORUM IS RE-ACTIVATING IN FEBRUARY.

First Meeting, Sunday, February 4, In Room 4, 9:45 - 10:45 AM. At the 2/4 meeting, we'll discuss our thoughts about re-activating the Forum and our ideas for weekly topics. If you are not able to make the meeting, please call Norene Chase (422-1985) with your thoughts and ideas. On 2/11 our meeting topic will be “Marijuana, Is it the right medicine for you?” The discussion will be led by Toni Latino. If enough interest is expressed in re-activating the Forum, enough topics are suggested, and enough people are willing to lead discussions, the Forum will also meet on 2/18 and 2/25 and continue on each Sunday. Watch for confirmations of the 2/18 and 2/25 meetings.

UUHUMANISTS

Sunday, February 11, 1:15 PM
Church Sanctuary

What Is Your Spin on Darwin?

Come join UUHumanists at UUCT in a little Sunday Feb. 11th commemoration of the annual, internationally celebrated "Darwin Day" (Charles Darwin's birthday, February 12th) to sing praises, offer brief critiques, or otherwise just "spin" your own take on the impact on your life & thinking of Darwin's revolutionary idea of biological evolution by natural selection. Darwin's profound theory is a quintessential cornerstone of the modern Humanist movement -- and the biological crux of our modern UU principle of the "interdependent web of all being." No single idea has generated so much hot controversy in American public education (threatening its continuance) or challenged so deeply our culturally antiquated modes of thinking -- from

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Tallahassee to the Kansas State School Board to national politics in general. Come monkey your spin -- & grin! (Sir Charles himself just might make a show, too.)

SPEAK OUT!

Sunday, February 25, 9:30 AM
Church Sanctuary

Come join others to speak out on whatever heretical subject or wild emotion is surging, or sweeping, through your brain or bloodstream. You have just 5 minutes to recover from your fit of anger, enthusiasm, or ecstasy, and the general discussion to follow will surely burst whatever balloons or kites you pose to fly, as others pick away at your flawed viewpoint (or fail to). All are welcome -- coffee & refreshments are served -- everyone has a chance to speak out -- deep tolerance of opposing views is the basic rule -- & right to speak your conscience is sacred! (It is fun & exhilarating to feel free to speak out! Give yourself the chance! See you there!)

CAMPUS MINISTRY CORNER

By Kim Ross Frichter
Campus Ministry Coordinator

We're off to an exciting start at FSU. We're meeting at the International Student Center (107 S. Wildwood) on Mondays from 7-9pm. We're also starting coffee hour up again at the demand of the students! (They almost rioted!) Coffee Hour is on Fridays at 5:30 at Aristotle's on Tennessee Street. In February, we'll be preparing and serving the Cold Night Shelter on February 12th. Come join us for preparing or serving the meal, or for our short meeting on "What is Love." Other meeting topics include the Fifth

Principle on the fifth (The Right of Conscience and the Use of the Democratic Process); Divination (Feb 19th), which will be led by Tanya, one of our students; and The Sixth Principle (The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty, and Justice for All) on Feb. 26th.

We will be having a retreat this Spring. The date of the retreat is undecided at the time of this writing. The Eastons have graciously offered to let us use their Beach House at Alligator Point again. Thank you, Jean and Dexter!

Students can look for our group on Wednesdays at the Student Union, where we'll be setting out information and pretty soon doing some fundraising too. We plan to sell Social Action T-Shirts, Bumper Stickers, and on occasion, baked goods. This is in part to meet the \$3000 challenge grant and in part to allow the students to contribute to their group and to the church.

Speaking of the challenge grant - we're more than halfway there. We've raised \$1880. Our next step is to contact Alumni of Florida State that are also UUs. If you know of any UUs in other congregations that are also Alumni from FSU, please let me know. Thank you to our current Friends of Campus Ministry:

Margaret Mooney, Eleanor Moore, Carolyn DuBard, Jennifer Carver, Richard and Ellen Dempsey, Trudy and Bob Deyle, Joan Patterson, Elinor Elfner, Jean and Dexter Easton, Eric Draper and Sheila Meehan, Sara Reece and Jim Denny, Isabel Sheridan, Laura and Barnett Cook, Amy McKenzie, Chelsea Cline, Wesley VanSciver, and Julia Van Deusen. (If your name isn't included and should be,

please let me know)

Thank you very much for helping make this project so successful.

Another opportunity to help is to join the Campus Ministry Committee. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 20th at 7 PM. It's an important contribution to the sustenance of this Campus Ministry.

WHEEL OF THE YEAR IMBOLC/CANDLEMAS FEBRUARY 2

By Randi Modlin (Re-printed)

One of the four Wiccan Greater Sabbats, Imbolc (or Candlemas) falls between the Winter Solstice (Yule) and the Vernal Equinox (Ostara) and signals the reemergence of the Goddess (the Earth) after her confinement at Yule. In the more northerly latitudes, it may take some imaginings to see the first stirrings of Spring while there is still snow on the ground in some places. Here in the Southeast, winters are not as harsh and being closer to the equator, not as dark. In our climate, livestock give birth year-round and since hard frost is rare, crops can be grown for most of the year.

Attuning oneself with the astronomical event (the cross-quarter day) and the spiritual/ritual event means taking into account the local environment, weather, animal and vegetation cycles, and incorporating this information into what you may already be working on, on a spiritual level. This is the challenge for all practitioners of Earth-centered religions and particularly so with Wicca.

This sabbat is associated throughout the Celtic world with the Goddess Brigid. This much beloved and important Goddess appeared later as St. Brigid as Christianity spread

throughout Ireland and the British Isles. Healing, purification, protection, poetry, and smithcraft are just a few of the areas Brigid holds sway over.

Imbolc is believed to be an ideal time to dedicate or re-dedicate oneself to a spiritual path or quest, a project or artistic endeavor. Candlemas is a traditional time for coven initiations. Being the 'jump-off' point of the year, Imbolc is thought to be especially fortuitous for beginnings of all kinds.

While the vision of Brigid, the Goddess of Light, is a powerful and meaningful one to Wiccans, what is really at the core of this sabbat are the concepts of dedication, purification, healing and new beginnings which motivate us to do some 'Spring-cleaning' in our own lives, to open up dark places to the Light, and to air out spaces too long shut away. After a season spent looking inward, the Wheel turns again and it is time to turn our gaze outward and onto the path we need to follow. Redefining what this path is is one of the main goals of Imbolc. Setting out on that path is another. May your path be blessed.

OUR UU HERITAGE: ORIGINS

Excerpts from *A Faith People Make*
by **Stephen Kendrick**

"Unitarianism as an organized movement began in Eastern Europe over four hundred years ago after the invention of the printing press. People could then read the New Testament for themselves, and in the freer atmosphere of the Reformation, small groups began to form in an effort to 'reform' orthodox Christianity. The Italian Faustus Socinus traveled to Poland and offered leadership to the Polish

Brethren. After a successful beginning, they were ruthlessly persecuted and ordered into exile in 1638, after Socinus' death by natural causes - rare for a heretic.

The Socinians (Unitarians) went to Italy, Holland, Denmark, and most importantly, to England. For a long period, Unitarian ideas got isolated individuals into a great deal of trouble, notably John Biddle, who spent more than half of his life in jail. The first English congregation was gathered in London in an empty warehouse by Theophilus Lindsey in 1774, and in his congregation that morning were Benjamin Franklin and Joseph Priestley. Priestley, the discoverer of oxygen, was himself a Unitarian minister who later came to America and began a congregation in Philadelphia. But American Unitarianism is not really an English transplant; it is a 'home-grown' affair, growing out of the Puritan experience in New England.

Our story goes hand in hand with that of American democracy. The Pilgrim church in Plymouth is now Unitarian Universalist. (In fact, the orthodox minority that withdrew from the congregation said, "We kept the faith, and they kept the furniture".) The first law on religious liberty was written by a Unitarian Thomas Jefferson. The congregation of King's Chapel, in Boston, rewrote the Book of Common Prayer in 1782 and became the first Unitarian church in America - to the satisfaction of Paul Revere, a member. Universalist John Murray was appointed a chaplain to the Revolutionary Army by George Washington. And Universalist Benjamin Rush, a great patriot and doctor, was deeply involved in the affairs of the young nation. Whenever we were needed, we

were there working for liberty. In fact, of the first six presidents, three were Unitarian.

While the Universalists were starting a denomination from scratch, more and more Congregational churches in New England were quietly becoming Unitarian, and wanted to stay Christian in form. They did not want the name 'Unitarian'. Finally, Unitarian minister William Ellery Channing, in his great 1819 Baltimore sermon, *Unitarian Christianity*, admitted the truth: the liberal Congregationalists *were* Unitarian and should proudly accept the name."

Next Month: Unitarian Joseph Priestley

FACILITIES PLANNING UPDATE

*By Trudy Deyle, Chairperson
Capital Improvement Committee*

Now that the congregation has voted to proceed with a Combined Annual Canvass and Capital Campaign this spring, the Capital Improvement Committee has work to do! We need to be ready to begin the construction document or detailed building plan stage once the campaign is over and the congregation has decided what to build as a Phase 1 of the Master Site Plan. In order to begin this next stage, we will need to bring a construction manager or contractor on board. This firm will work with the committee and our architects, developing plans and advising us on materials, costs and building methods. They will also be our contractor once construction starts, soliciting bids from subcontractors and supervising and coordinating their work.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

The Capital Improvement Committee has developed a list of about ten recommended contractors who might be interested in a project of our size. We are sending them an introductory letter asking them to indicate whether they are interested. If they are, they are invited for a tour of our facilities and briefing on our project on February 15, followed by an early evening interview on Thursday, February 22. All interested members of the congregation are invited to attend these interviews. Watch for an announcement on a specific time for them closer to the date. All interested are also invited to stay for the CIC discussion following the interviews and to attend the CIC meeting on Tuesday, February 27 at 7:15 PM where we will decide on a construction manager to propose to the Board.

Our architects will be participating in the interview and selection process with us. We will have definite questions to ask the contractors and a series of criteria to rate them on, such as accuracy of estimated costs, sensitivity to the natural environment, and accommodating continued use of existing facilities during construction. Members of the committee will also visit contractor offices and speak with references. All interested contractors are being asked for five subcontractor references and five client references. If you would like to suggest a contractor to the committee, please contact me immediately at 422-1057 or gdeyle@juno.com. I also welcome any questions you might have about the construction manager selection process.

OUR COMBINED CANVASS & CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

By Trudy Deyle, Co-Chair

THE COMBINED CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP. With timing tight, your Combined Annual Canvass/Capital Campaign Co-Chairs were organized and ready to jump into action once the congregation voted to proceed with the combined effort this spring. We have put together a wonderful leadership team, and they are all busy choosing the people who will work with them. Under consultant Jerry King's guidance and proposed campaign structure, the work to be done will be spread out among many of us, so that none of us will be overburdened! The response has been wonderful so far; almost everyone asked has said yes to the job proposed or indicated a willingness to do another campaign project. Thank you everyone! The top leadership of the campaign is as follows, with Rev. Amy and President Bruce Brandt serving in an ex-officio capacity:

- Campaign Co-Chairs: Elinor Elfner and Trudy Deyle
- Communications Chair: Isabel Sheridan
- Leadership Gifts Chair: Richard Dempsey (elected leaders & all campaign workers)
- General Gifts Chair: Ed Oaksford
- Kick-off Event Chair: Peggy Lentz
- UUCT Supporters Chair: Barbara Gearhart (UUCT Alums, Supporters, & Renters)
- Follow-up Chair: Mimi Jones
- Campaign Treasurer: Joan Patterson

MAJOR DATES FOR CONGREGATION. Please make a note on your calendar of these major dates in the combined campaign:

- Feb. 18 Creative Ways of Giving Workshop 12:30 – 2:00 PM (*See separate article*)
- Feb. 20 Asking Budget mailed to congregation
- Mar. 4 Congregational Forum on 2001-02 Asking Budget
- Mar. 11 Congregational Vote on Asking Budget
- Mar 30 Campaign Kick-off Dinner for Entire Congregation, including dinner & program for children
- Apr. 1 General Canvass begins, with all elected leaders & campaign workers having been canvassed during March after a kick-off event for them in mid-March
- May 7 Annual Meeting materials mailed to congregation
- May 13 Congregational Forum before Annual Meeting
- May 20 Annual Congregational Meeting (2001-02 Budget, Phase 1 decision, elections) with Celebration following

CAMPAIGN THEME. Watch for the unveiling of the campaign theme. It's inspiring, and it captures in a few words what we are about!

(Continued on page 10)

WEBS OF UUS:

NOT to nickel-&-dime you to death, or beg, for the extra \$21.98 needed from every Pledge Unit by June 30th!

Dear Fellow Pledge Units at UUCT: There are 144 of us (before new members were installed this past Sunday 1/28), and we did know, based on our annual pledges & financial goal we set for UUCT, that we would have to do a year-long church fund-raising drive to raise an extra \$6,300.00 to meet budget.

So far, we're almost half-way there - we've raised \$3,135.02 since July 1, 2000, leaving \$3,164.98 to go. If each of us 'pledges' would write UUCT a check for \$21.98, that would essentially complete our campaign: Goal achieved!--go home! --But dream on, because all UUs know this just wouldn't be fun. We're a *quid quo pro* sort of folk from way back-- & we demand something for our hard-earned money. (Enter this committee.)

The church fund-raising committee proposes as its *better, higher* goal (with hidden spin-offs of needed monies to keep our church afloat): To find & promote old & new ways of bringing UUs together into happy webs of relationship where we can enjoy each other's presence & each other's hidden talents & services -- through special events of music, singing, poetry, wit/wisdom & good cooking, & new opportunities to connect with one another-- all with spin-offs of potential \$\$\$-benefit for the church too.

There's lots of future Year 2001 webbing-of-UUs benefits yet to be announced. But for now, we note the following Special Events. **AND-- we really do need dedicated volunteers (won't you be one?) to lead, coordinate & work hard (not too hard) to make these events a reality. Looking at the time span**

February 1st to June 30th we have listed:

1. **HEARTBEATS** -- Romance & Raffle -- being led by Ludy Goodson. \$12/ticket. On Saturday evening, February 3 starting at 7:30 PM. All are welcome. This is a really fantastic, warm-hearted, pleasant evening of love-&-romance songs & music. Yes, even (& especially) UUs have a heart throb (or heartache) to cry, or sing, about! Don't miss this one!

2. **UU BED & BREAKFAST** for out-of-towners coming to Tallahassee for the "The Seven Days of Opening Nights" (see p. 3). Also see "Play Win-Win" in Announcements regarding year-round Tallahassee UU B&B.

3. **UU AUCTION** -- on Saturday evening, March 10, starting at 7:30PM. Including a "silent auction" as well as a lively auctioneering of special items, talents, gifts & services offered by UUs to fellow UUs. Details to be announced. [NEEDS A LEADER SOON! -- contact us soon!] Our past Auctions have been a hoot & a holler! Forms for listing the items or services that you are offering for the auction can be found on the back counter of the sanctuary.

4. **UU PIG ROAST** -- on a Saturday afternoon in mid-May, at Ken & Jean Wood's "Woods Hole" in the woods, on a lake, in south Georgia. [Date yet to be set by Ken & Jean.]

5. (Possible event) **UU CARNIVAL** -- outdoors on the church grounds, after Sunday service-- booths, events, contests, prizes, food, possibly to be created & led by the YRUU. [Early-May? -- possibly tied to the annual Maypole celebration in the back meadow.]

6. (Possible event) **UU**

COFFEEHOUSE -- tentatively planning for 3 in 2001, if there is interest & a leader or leaders. The first one might be in late April, around the time of Shakespeare's birthday. Poetry & song aplenty, on a warm Saturday night at the church.

7. (Possible events) **UU GOURMET DINNERS** -- Special dinners for 7 at your home -- 20 persons/families needed to volunteer one home ingathering. \$15/person. Scheduling at convenience of person or family, who would prepare the gourmet meal. A wonderful way for UUs to get to know each other better.

8. (Possible ads) **CLASSIFIED BUSINESS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, & PERSONAL WANT ADS** -- for UUs needing some help or volunteering their talents to help other UUs. Some portion of proceeds would go to benefit UUCT's general fund.

9. **UUCT UU-COOKBOOK** -- A compendium of local, tasty kitchen recipes for special meals & desserts (combined with local & global UU wit & wisdom), to be coordinated by Linda Logan. To be published later in the year.

Of course, there are more possible benefit activities & events we have planned for 2001, well past June 30th -- including the UU Very Very Big Garage Sale & a UU Autumnfest in Oct., the UU Thanksgivingfest in Nov., & a UU Winterfest (Winter Holidays Celebrations) in Dec. If you have any new ideas you would like to see us try, please contact me, Will Adkins (wmadkins@tdo.infi.net or 385-5071) or Joan Patterson (309-1248), or leave a note in either of our UUCT mailboxes, or come to our committee meetings. The next Fund-Raising Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 13 Feb, 6:30pm.

OUR CONGREGATION

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Scott Geraci
 Toni Latino
 Carrie Sandahl & Randal Svea
 Sandy Smith
 Barb and Rob Szumowski

MEMBERSHIP

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

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Sunday, March 11, 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.

JOYS AND SORROWS

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

Virgina Anderson, who is healing from hip replacement surgery.

Congratulations to the Geracis: Parents, Maggie and Scott, and new brothers and sister, Daniel, Devin, and Dylan, on the birth of **Harper Evans Geraci**, 7 lbs. 2 oz, 20 inches long. Harper was born January 12, 2001 in an unassisted homebirth.

Rev. Amy's sister, Alice, and brother-in-law, Greg, gave her twin nephews on Saturday, January 27, 2001: **Kyle** (6 lbs. 2oz.), and **Scott** (4 lbs. 9 oz.). Their big sister, Lea, is great too!

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.

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.

E-mail change of address for Charlene White: charlene_white@yahoo.com

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."

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 1/00)	165
Current Membership	165
Current Number of Friends	43
RE Enrollment	61
Avg. Sun. Attendance (month of December)	89

CONTACTS FOR UUCT

Adult RE:
Sheila Meehan 668-5075

Board Meetings:
Bruce Brandt 893-5511

Buildings & Grounds Committee:
Mary Bridges 894-2965

Campus Ministry Committee:
Sara Reece 309-1933

Canvass/Capital Campaign:
Trudy Deyle 422-1057
Elinor Elfner 224-3651

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

Denominational Affairs:
Nancy Bass 893-1806

Finance Committee:
Joan Patterson 309-1248

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
Charlene White 562-8935

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 RE:
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 575-2780
Secretary

BECKY WELTY 422-3317
Member-at-Large

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
AND BY APPOINTMENT

Rev. Amy's cell phone:
850-566-1388

Note: Rev. Amy will be away for "twin nephews, and niece duty" in Indianapolis, from after the service on Sunday, February 18 - Monday, February 25.

FEBRUARY UUCT EVENTS

FULL CIRCLE & PEACE DANCES, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 6:00 - 8:30 PM. A family potluck followed by drumming and peace dances to celebrate Imbolc. See *Adult RE* for details. Contact the church office.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES PLANNING POTLUCK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 6:30 PM. Do you want to get to know other UUCT members and friends? Would you like to lead a canoe trip, a hike or a night at the movies? Join us for this planning potluck dinner, to be held at Jennifer and DeWayne Carver's home, 1608 Redwood Dr. Contact Jennifer at 402-0622 or jzadwick@tfn.net if you need more information or have activity ideas.

"HEARTBEATS" CONCERT, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 PM. This evening concert and sing along for love and romance is an event not to be missed, with outstanding entertainment. Tickets available at the door: \$12. Contact: Ludy Goodson (531-0895).

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 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).

HIGH SCHOOL OWL PARENT ORIENTATION, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 4:00 - 6:00 PM. Held at UUCT and mandatory for participation in this class. See *Youth RE* for details and contacts.

YRUU MEETINGS, SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 4 & 18, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. See *Youth RE* for details. Contact YRUU Advisors Jennifer and DeWayne Carver (402-0622).

STUDY/ACTION GROUP MEETING, MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 5 & 19, 6:30 PM AT UUCT. 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).

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 7:15 PM. Held at UUCT, this is the meeting where the Finance Committee will finalize its recommendations to the Board for a FY 2001-02 Asking Budget. All committee chairpersons (or committee representatives) are encouraged to attend. Contact VP for Finance Joan Patterson (309-1248).

MULTICULTURAL FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10. We will participate in the *Unity in the Community Celebration*. At Kleman Plaza from 9 AM - 3 PM. We will be staffing a booth with materials about Multicultural Families.

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 12:30 PM. Remember to bring your favorite dish to share!

UU HUMANISTS MEETING, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1:15 PM. See separate article for details on this month. Contact William Adkins (385-5071 or wmadkins@tdo.infi.net).

FORUM PROGRAM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 9:45 - 10:45 AM. "Marijuana, is it the right medicine for you?" Presenter: Toni Latino. Interested persons are invited to come and discuss important issues. Contact Norene Chase (422-1985).

4th AND 5th GRADE OWL PARENT ORIENTATION, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2:30 - 5:00 PM. Held at UUCT and mandatory for participation in the class. Party for the 4th and 5th graders during the orientation. The proposed first class is Sunday, February 18 from 3:00-5:00 PM. See *Youth RE* for more details and contacts.

"THE NEW UU" CLASS, MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 12 & 19, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. See *Adult RE* for details. Sign up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or contact Linda Oaksford (422-0240).

ALL CHURCH WORKDAY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 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).

CREATIVE WAYS OF GIVING WORKSHOP, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 12:30 - 2:00 PM. All encouraged to attend. See details on p. 3. Contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785).

ATTACHMENT PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 6:00 PM. See *Youth RE* for details. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301 or minilawyer@aol.com).

CAMPUS MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 7:00 PM. Come join this group which supports our active and growing campus ministry. New members always welcome. Contact chairperson Sara Reece (309-1933).

RACIAL & CULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 7:00 PM. Contact Bob Kenon (878-3647).

INTERVIEWS WITH CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, EARLY EVENING. All interested members of the congregation are invited to attend. See *Facilities Planning Update* for more details. Times will be announced the Sunday before. Contact Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) chairperson Trudy Deyle (422-1057).

LAY LEADER TRAINING, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 9:00 AM - NOON. A training class for all who are interested in being a Lay Leader for Sunday services. See article on page 2. Contact Richard Dempsey (671-2748; richardd@nettally.com).

SPEAK OUT! FORUM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 9:30 AM. See separate article for details on this month. Contact William Adkins (385-5071 or wmadkins@tdo.infi.net).

SPECIAL PEN PALS PARTY, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, AFTER CHURCH. At this bowling party, those adults, youth and children who have been Special Pen Pals for the month will reveal their identities to each other. Contact DRE Michelle Buhite (553-4084).

CIC MEETING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 7:15 PM. All interested members of the congregation are invited to attend this meeting where the committee will decide on a construction manager to propose to the board. See *Facilities Planning Update* for more details. Contact Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) chairperson Trudy Deyle (422-1057).

UUCT EVENTS AFTER FEBRUARY

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).

ASKING BUDGET FORUM & VOTING MEETING, SUNDAYS, MARCH 4 & 11. The forum will be an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the proposed Asking Budget for '01-'02 - to be mailed to the congregation in late February. The following week (3/11) we will adopt an Asking Budget.

UUCT AUCTION, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 7:30 PM. Plan on attending and start identifying goods and services you could donate. Donations forms at the back of sanctuary. Contact Fund Raising Chairperson William Adkins (385-5071).

DISTRICT & NATIONAL UU EVENTS

FL DISTRICT SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM, LAKELAND. Held at the Lake Region UU Fellowship, the subject is "Drug and Prison Reform". The focus for the morning will be "Changing the Direction of the Wind: the Death Penalty at a Crossroad" featuring Abraham J. Bonowitz, Director of Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty. The afternoon will focus on "An Alternative to the American Drug War" featuring John Chase, an Advisory Board Member of the November Coalition, an organization dedicated to drug law reform. Registration (\$20 before 2/6/01; \$30 after) includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Child care available for \$20 per child; home hospitality also available. See Denominational

FEBRUARY 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

Unity in Leadership:
Sat. Feb 3, 9:30 AM - 1 PM

Yoga (Sharon Reiter): Mon., Feb. 5, 12 & 26,

Private: Fri., Feb. 9 Afternoon & Evening; Sat. Feb 10

Sierra Club:
Mon., Feb. 19, 6 PM

Audubon:
Tues., Feb. 27, 7 PM

Affairs bulletin board.

ADULT PROGRAMMING SEMINAR, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 & 24, DELAND. Congregations are encouraged to send a team including staff, Adult RE Committee members, and any others interested in small group ministry. Led by Rev. Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley, the UUA Adult Programs Director, the agenda will include: resources for adult programs, Adult RE philosophy and theory, how to start a dynamic program, and achieving balance with available resources and other activities. If you might be interested in attending, contact DRE Michelle Buhite (553-4084) or Adult RE Chairperson Sheila Meehan (668-5075). Registration: \$30.

FL DISTRICT NORTHEAST CLUSTER SUPER SATURDAY, MARCH 24. This workshop to be held at the Jacksonville (Arlington) UU church will be an "Introduction to Leadership". Watch for more details.

FL DISTRICT ANNUAL

ASSEMBLY, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, APRIL 6 - 8. Held in Oviedo, the theme will be "Growth SpUUrts: Flowing Toward Wholeness". Watch for more details. Open to all interested.

SUUSI 2001, JULY 22-28 AT BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA. The Southeast Unitarian Universalist

CONGREGATIONAL ACTIONS

JANUARY 28, 2001

*Reported by Trudy Deyle
Past President*

In keeping with the recommendations of our UUA Feasibility Study, to conduct a Capital Campaign in conjunction with the Annual Canvass in the Spring of 2001. (85 in favor, 3 opposed, 3 abstentions)

To have the goal of the Capital Campaign be \$510,000 in pledges to be paid over a three year period beginning 7/1/01, for the purpose of expanding facilities to accommodate expanded programming for UUCT. We challenge ourselves to double this amount, so that we are able to finance through our pledges the entire proposed Phase 1 as illustrated in the architect's rendering. (78 in favor, 3 opposed, 5 abstentions)

(Note: Final decision on exactly what would be built would be made by congregation after Capital Campaign.)

To hire UUA Fundraising Consultant Jerry King to assist us with the joint Capital Campaign/Annual Canvass, up to a maximum of \$7,000 payable from the UUCT Future Fund. (69 in favor, 6 opposed, 2 abstentions)

To accept the UUCT Strategic Program Plan as a working document, based on the summary in the 1/8/01 congregational mailing: "Our Ten-Year Plan for Program Expansion". (80 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions)

UUCT BOARD ACTIONS

JANUARY 4 AND 18

*Reported by Trudy Deyle
Past President*

To approve the Treasurer's Reports as of November and December 2000.

To reappoint Barbara Gearhart to a second three-year term on the Endowment Committee (1/1/01 - 12/31/03).

To approve proposing to the congregation for voting on January 28, 2001 three motions related to conducting a capital campaign this spring and one motion regarding adoption of the proposed Strategic Program Plan as a working document.

To approve a motion for the remainder of the fiscal year allowing the VP for RE to delegate approval of reimbursements up to \$100 to the Director of Religious Education.

To not designate special visitor parking spaces at this time.

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

FL DISTRICT AWARDS 2001

*by Maurea Slesman, FL District
Awards Chair*

It's time to consider special UU folks and lend applause! Send nominations and descriptions etc. by March 11 in time for judging entries, with awards to be presented at the Florida District Annual Assembly. As in previous years, categories include:

- * best sermon exemplifying UU principles (Clarence R. Skinner Award)
- * Lifetime Achievement Award
- * Unsung Unitarian Universalist Award (that ongoing quiet volunteer)
- * Jim Barrett Social Justice Award (usually a group effort)
- * Excellence in Religious Education

* Excellent website (please include a printout for exhibit)

* Outstanding newsletters - small, medium, and large congregation

* John De Wolf Hurt Levity Award

* Women and Religion (W & R) - contact W & R co-convenors

* YRUU Honors - awarded by YRUU Committee

Be sure to list the contact person and phone number regarding each entry. Send to Awards Chair: Maurea Slesman, 5531 Darlene St., Weeki Wachee, FL 34607.

TELEPHONE TREE

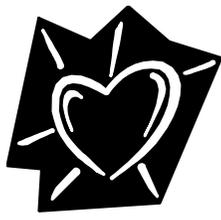
We now have a church telephone tree to contact members and friends. About thirty people have volunteered to call five households each to quickly pass on information, as well as just check with folks.

Only President Bruce Brandt or Rev. Amy can activate the tree. Messages will be official business, brief and infrequent, perhaps not more than once-a-month. For instance, we may announce an upcoming event or take a quick poll.

The tree emphasizes personal contact with an opportunity for feedback. E-mails are discouraged, but when used, electronic messages should be one-on-one only, not a list mail, or multiple lines of "cc" addresses.

Designated callers received instructions in the mail along with their five people to contact. The tree was activated in late January and members should have received a message from us.

Callers volunteered as part of the Spring 2000 Gifts of Self or in response to a message sent last month to members with e-mail addresses. If you would like to help or have questions, please contact Jim Crews (567-8795 or jim_crews@hotmail.com)



February UUCT Calendar Of Events 2001

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:50 PM YRUU* 7:00 PM Board	2 5:30 PM University UUs @ Aristotle's 6-8:30 PM Full Circle* 6 PM Social Activities Potluck (off- site)*	3 7:30 PM Heartbeats Concert*
4 9:45 AM Forum* 9:45 AM Youth Re Committee 10:45 AM M.S. OWL (Off-site) 12:15 PM Church Council 4 PM H.S. OWL Parent Orientation* 6-8 PM YRUU (off-site)	5 6:30 PM Study Action Group 7-9 PM University UUs (off-site) 7:15 PM Women's spirituality Group* 7:15 PM Finance Committee Asking Budget Meeting*	6	7 7:30 PM Choir	8 7:15 PM Capital Improvement Committee	9 5:30 PM University UUs @ Aristotle's Esther McDevitt Mem. Serv. 7-8 PM Wedding Rehearsal	10 Private Wedding 9-3 PM Multicultural Families Support Grp. (off-site)*
11 9:45 AM Forum* 10:45 AM OWL (Off-Site) 12:30 PM Potluck & <i>Meridian</i> Deadline 1:15 PM JU Humanists* 2:30-5 PM 4- 5th OWL Parent Orientation	12 7-9 PM University UUs (off-site) 7:15 PM Women's spirituality Group* 7-9 PM New UU Class, Rm 4* Rm 4* 7:45 PM Shelter Meal (off-site)	13 6:30 PM Fund- Raising Committee 7:15 PM Program Committee	14 7:30 PM Choir	15 7 PM Board	16 5:30 PM University UUs @ Aristotle's	17 9 AM - 1 PM Workday*
18 9:45 AM Adult Forum (TBA) 10:45 AM M.S. OWL (off-site) 12:30-2 PM Ways To Give Workshop 3-5 PM 4-5th OWL Class (tentative)* 6 PM YRUU (off-site)*	19 Rev. ALM Vacation 6:30 PM Study Action Group 7-9 PM University UUs (off-site) 7-9 PM New UU Class* 7:15 PM Women's spirituality Group*	20 Rev. ALM Vacation 6 PM Parenting Support Group* 7 PM Campus Ministry Committee*	21 Rev. ALM Vacation 7:30 PM Choir 7 PM R CDC Meeting	22 Rev. ALM Vacation Early Eve - CIC interviews	23 Rev. ALM Vacation 5:30 PM University UUs @ Aristotle's	24 Rev. ALM Vacation 9 AM - Noon Lay leader Training*
25 Rev. ALM Vacation 9:30 AM <i>Speak Out!</i> * 9:45 AM Adult Forum (TBA) No M.S. OWL After church: Special Pen Pals Party*	26 7-9 PM University UUs (off-site) 7:15 PM Women's spirituality Group*	27 7:15 PM Capital Improvement Committee	28 7:30 PM Choir			