January 2007

Volume 50, No. 1

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Every Sunday:

9:45 AM Choir Practice exc. 1/28 9:45 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM 11:00 AM Youth RE, Preschool class, Rm C Elementary classes (K - 2nd, Rm K; 3rd - 5th, Rm 2) Middle/ High School Youth Group, Rm 3/6

Adult Forum Topics:

- Jan. 7, TBA
- Jan. 14, TBA
- Jan. 21, Jim Dawson, "30 Years in the Third World"
- Jan. 28, TBA

January Highlights:

- Eleanor Moore Memorial Service, Sat. 1/13, 1:00 PM
- Church Council Budget Review, Sun. 1/14, 12:35 PM
- Woohoo Wednesday 1/17, 6:30 PM
- Movie Group Resumes, Sun. 1/21, Afternoon

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee



The Meridian

January Sundays (11:00 AM)

Jan. 7 Prophesying Daughters: Black Women Preachers & the Word --1823-1913

Four autobiographies of black women who were preaching in America during and after the height of slavery. Our speaker will discuss how during the 1800s these itinerant women preachers addressed questions being raised even today about whether women's place is in the pulpit or in the pews and if the Bible justifies women preaching. **Speaker: Chanta M. Haywood, Dean of the FAMU Graduate School; Lay Leader: Jack McDevitt**

Jan. 14 Ahimsa & the Three Rs: Reverence in Right Relations

The Indian Jainist belief in the concept of Ahimsa has much to say about what constitutes right relations with all living things. There is much to ponder, much to learn, here as we begin our course of right relations in our process of developing a congregation-wide covenant of right relations. (We'll also light candles of joy and concern and have a Shelter meal collection.) **Rev. Lyn Plumb**

Jan. 21 Reluctant Penguins

How can a rite of passage for penguins become a metaphor for times in our own lives, and in the life of our congregation -- times of hesitancy, times of fear, times of reluctance? Come and find out! **Rev. Lyn Plumb**

Jan. 28 Doing Good for Nothing

Determining our ethics without the usual religious authority for UUs can become a murky marsh. How do such things as intention, motivation, situation and relationships enter into our ethical core? Rev. Lyn will wade in these waters. **Rev. Lyn Plumb**



Rev. Lyn's Plumb Line

January marks the beginning of an important year for UUCT. It begins with the final months of transition time, your interim time, and will end with hopeful celebration of the new settled minister in your midst, of your new future.

This month also marks the midpoint of our interim year together. In six months we will have said our goodbyes, and I will no longer be with you. After your time of transition, you will be ready to greet your future here at this church. Yes, you will be. You appear ever so ready to me.

If you welcome your new minister as warmly and respectfully as you have me, you and the new minister will be amply blessed. If you are as willing to do some of the hard work of being open to changes, open to new ideas and new ways of being in relationship with both minister and each other as you are demonstrating with me right now, you and your new minister will be blessed indeed.

One of the new ideas that we are formalizing in the next few months is the idea of a covenant of right relations. Through a course being offered in the next few weeks and a large congregation-wide workshop this spring, we will endeavor to ready ourselves for our future dealings with each other - with minister, with committees, with individuals. A good place to be. A welcoming environment for new minister and members, new and old, alike. I encourage you all to consider partaking of these offerings and make this covenant a real and meaningful document.

It is but one way that we are all encouraged to consider what is for the good of our whole congregation – not just for some who have particular proclivities, particular opinions, but for everyone, for the entity of the congregation as a whole.

What are the priorities that you have voiced in your surveys? How can we make them be a living and true reflection of what we actually do here, of how we make our decisions, of how we may vote on particular issues? How do our decisions reflect truly what is for the good of all? Weighty questions to ponder.

As we assess how far we have come this year and where we have yet to go, let us ponder these things in our hearts, and let us be guided by the ultimate question – what is for the good of the whole congregation?

Much peace & blessings, Rev. Lyn



consider donating a special service, such as a dinner in your home, babysitting, or the use of your truck. Stop by the auction table before or after the service in January to pick up a donation form! Forms due Sun. 1/28. An auction catalog will be available for your perusal. Deliver items after 1:00 PM, Sat. 2/10.

Bid on donated items Sat. 2/10:

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© Silent Auction: 5:00-6:30 PM & 7:30-8:30 PM, Rm. L.

□ Live Auction: 6:30-7:30 PM, sanctuary (with our own Elinor Elfner). A wonderful evening is planned!

Also on Sat. 2/10: Chili & Chocolate Dinner, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, sanctuary. Sponsored by UUCT Executive Board. Will include HOT chili, vegetarian chili, and regular meat chili with LOTS of condiments: cheese, onions, sour cream, etc. Plus fabulous chocolate desserts and drinks. Dinner prices: \$10/adult; \$5/child; \$30/family (2 adults & 2 or more children).

Sun. 2/11 - Silent Auction continues 9:30 - 11:00 AM & 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM, Rm. L.

Questions? Donations? Volunteers for the **Auction?** Contact Peggy Lentz (<u>peglentz@aol.com</u>, 878-2226); Jennifer Carver (<u>jzcarver@earthlink.net</u>, 212-6734). Questions about the **2nd Annual Chili & Chocolate Dinner?** Contact Dick Leinberry (<u>rlibrary@nettally.com</u>, 386-4977).

Right Relations Initiative

By Jennifer Carver

Practicing Right Relations Course

Tuesdays 1/30 - 3/6, 7:00 PM -8:30 PM

Facilitators: Jennifer Carver and Isabel Sheridan

You are invited to stand in a place of curiosity as you move through this six-week long course, based on Sellon's & Smith's book Practicing Right Relationship. Join us as we spend time learning about

Settled Minister Search Committee

By Bob Deyle, Committee Chair

As of 12/19, the SMSC has selected four ministers for group phone interviews from among a pool of seven applicants. We have just received the ministerial record of an eighth applicant and will be reviewing her information packet over the next few weeks. We released two because of very limited experience (one being still in seminary) and a third who was not judged to be a good fit with our congregation.

right relations and how practicing right relations helps strengthen our church community.

The course is a learning lab designed to help us reflect, experience, and build the skills that make relationships lively and lifegiving. Course activities include inclass and outside exercises, sharing circles, readings, reflection and journaling, in a format similar to Evensong. Each session will

examine a different and necessary component of creating conscious and intentional relationships.

This initial course offering is limited to 10 participants. Church committees are encouraged to send a representative, but the participants will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, contact Jennifer Carver (jzcarver@earthlink.net, 402-0622).

women between approximately 50 and 60 years of age. Four of the five entered UU Ministry Fellowship after extensive prior professional careers: the fifth has been an ordained UU minister for nearly 20 years. While none of these candidates has shown evidence of being able to walk on water, each has experience, skills, and enthusiasms that we seek and is a person we wish to learn more about.

The five prospects include men and Phone interviews will be conducted during the first several weeks in January. We have scheduled neutral pulpit visits with three other UU churches in the region in late February through mid-March. We will select the three semi-finalists after completing reference checks following our interviews.

Memorial Garden Happenings

By Joan Patterson, Committee Co-Chair

Orders are now being taken for cast-bronze plaques and engraved brick pavers. Anyone may pay for a cast-bronze plaque to be affixed to the plaque wall, but the name on the plaque must be that of a deceased member of the church. Cost of a cast-bronze plaque is \$250, and you may have up to three lines of wording.

If you wish to memorialize or honor someone such as a parent, child, relative or friend who is or was not a member of the church, you may purchase an engraved brick for the paved area that will be installed in front of the plaque wall. A 4" x 8" engraved brick costs \$100. Three lines of up to 18 characters per line may be engraved on a brick. There are price breaks for orders of more than 1 brick if purchased at the same time. Order forms for plaques

and bricks are available in the back of the sanctuary. Checks should be made payable to UUCT, with "Memorial Garden plaque" or "brick" in the memo line. You may put the order form and your check in the Sunday service offertory basket.

Thanks for your continued support of this beautiful addition to our church grounds. Contact Joan Patterson (309-1248).

Social Justice

Harmony Camp 2007

Harmony Camp 2007 is up and running. Terri Martin and Sally Andersen are co-directors of our 4th summer camp about diversity, which will run July 16-20, 2007. Are you interested in helping? We need volunteers to share their talents by offering workshops, as well as classroom assistants to help them. And we need your elementary-aged children and grandchildren! Our annual fundraising Sunday service will be March 18; the money will fund

Announcements

• Joyous Giving is ... "giving from the heart and the mind." — Steve Urse

• Budget requests due 1/7/07. 2007 – 2008 budget requests, fundraising plans and program accomplishments and visions (2-3 very short, key items) due, on form provided, to VP for Finance Jim Dawson (jwdawson53@aol.com, 383-1213). Deadline firm.

Mountaincamp Scholarships.

\$450 total available in UUCT budget for scholarships to The Mountain, plus additional contributions to scholarship fund promised if needed. Brochure and registration 2007 Mountaincamp: www.mountaincenters.org.

Deadline for scholarship requests: 1/31/07. Send letter with amount requested and why needed to UUCT: Scholarship Comm. or put in DeWayne Carver's box.

• Nursery/RE class help needed. No special skills required, only a willingness to help. Contact DRE Maggie Geraci. scholarships. Look for an organizational meeting early in the new year. In the meantime, contact Terri (385-5106, <u>tmartin823@comcast.net</u>) or Sally (<u>salbert56@earthlink.net</u>, 385-4639).

Guest At Your Table Boxes

Now that the holidays are over, write a check to cover the amount you collected in your GAYT box, indicating "UUSC Guest at Your Table" in the memo line. Drop the check in the collection basket on Sunday or slip it in the locked

Workday helpers needed.

Coming by even for an hour or two will be a big help. Time: 2nd Saturday, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Good chance to get to know church members and friends better. Contact Don Berger (442-2847, berger-don@comcast.net)

• Kitchen Kontrollers needed. March and beyond. Kontrollers are volunteers that oversee the kitchen and volunteers for a month. Contact Nancy Harvey (668-9096, npharv@aol.com)

• **Dirty dishes in kitchen sink.** The church does not pay to have dishes washed. If your group uses dishes, you are expected to wash, dry, and put them away. Thanks!

• **Minister's sermons.** Available on sanctuary back counter the week after given.

• Audio-tapes of services. Available for four-week loan. CDs available upon request. Sign-out sheet in audio closet. Mark sheet each time you borrow or return a recording. Contact: Gwendolyn Waldorf (dcbgbw@comcast.net, 668-3346). mailbox in the church mailroom. A single donation will then be sent to UUSC from our church. Contact: Norene Chase (422-1985, nochase@earthlink.net).

UUA Social Witness Process

Congregational comments due 3/1/07 on: (1) Draft Statement of Conscience on Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society and (2) Study/Action Issue on Peacemaking (resource guide at <u>www.uua.org/cws</u>). Contact Abbe Justus or Kim Ross for more info. and UUA comment forms.

Rummage Sale, Sat. 2/24. Do your spring cleaning early and start saving donations. Collection day: Fri. 2/23, 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Contact Maria Mena (907-0739, 597-2293). Watch for a sign-up table for volunteering.

• January Trustee Tidbits. FL District UUA Trustee Joan Lund's article posted at the back of the sanctuary. Subject: Management vs. Leadership.

• **UU're Home**. UU bed & breakfast directory (\$20 paper copy or www.UUreHome.com). Contact: info@uurehome.com, 828-281-3253, or 43 Vermont Ct., Asheville, NC 28806.

• Theological School Scholarships. Meadville Lombard Spencer & Susan Lavan full, meritbased scholarship for an incoming residential student in their Master of Divinity Program, Fall of 2007. Deadline: 3/15. Website: www.meadville.edu. More scholarship info. at UUWorld website.



Appreciation



- To:
- Nancy Harvey, Steve & Mary VanSciver, Annette Pearce, Rod Oldenburg, Frank Deasy, Chris Ellrich and Abbe Justus, Barbara Sterling, Joan Patterson, and Tim Campbell for greeting Sun. 12/3 - 12/24.
- Chelsea Joyner, Brian Lee,
 Kim Ross, Sandy Smith,
 Abbe Justus, Gabriel Justus,
 Chris Ellrich, Jerri Lee
 Wagner and kitchen kontroller
 Lorin Pratt for Nov. Sunday
 coffee and clean-up.
- Nina Cline and Claudia
 Joyner for Dec. nursery help.
- Dan Damerville, Mimi Jones, Chris Ellrich and Gabriel Justus, Linda McConnell, Davlinn and Alexandra Roberts, Erin Hamilton, Susan Snyder and Frank Deasy, and University UUs Brian Lee, Frank Green, Charles Starr, Jake Kessler, and Danny Apatiga for doing the Dec. Shelter meal.

FL District News

FL District Packet mid-December messages from FL District Executive Kenn Hurto and Acting Lifespan Program Consultant Connie Goodbread are posted at the back of the sanctuary. Rev. Kenn draws our attention to three upcoming district and national opportunities. See *Events*.

In her message, Connie continues her discussion of "**The Smart Church**." She asks the following questions of us:

- What are the most important things going on in and around your congregation?

Rod Oldenburg and Trudy Deyle for co-facilitating fall New UU classes, with Rev. Lyn.

- Molly Schmid for serving 1.5 years as Board Secretary.
- Nancy Bass, Barbara Lineberry, LaRae Donellan, Annnette Pearce, Randall Gann, and Isabel Sheridan for rocking at the annual Riley House Museum Rock-a-thon on December 2, and all who sponsored rockers. (\$425 donated to Tallahasee's African American history museum.)
- Jim Stangel for all his recent work on the church computers.

Winterfest Thank Yous

Charlotte Dudley for coordinating the event, Carolyn Pardue for arranging the lovely dessert buffet, Bruce and Junelle Brandt for the donation of the *tannenbaum*, Ed Oaksford, Rod Oldenburg and Will Adkins for cutting the *tannenbaum* and setting it up, Ken Wood for building the solstice fire, Helen Meacham and Carrie Hamby for the music, Ed and Linda Oaksford and Rod Oldenburg for the hot wassail, Joy Fahs and her family for delivering food to ECHO, Katya and Tom Taylor for the circle dance and Katya for her "Winterfest Tanka," and Ron Crowe for the story "The Christmas Goat." EVERYONE for coming, bringing food for ECHO and marvelous desserts, and making great decorations for our *tannenbaum*.

12/9 Workday Thank Yous

Thanks to Mitch McDermott, Jim Stangel, Don Berger, Charlotte Dudley, Tom Chase, Dave Harvey, and Steve Urse for a job done well. Also thanks to those who have done maintenance work around the church during the rest of the month: Francis Ventre who has volunteered to blow the leaves off the drives and walks, the watering crew, and others.

Special Thank You from Kathie

To everyone who gave me such wonderful holiday gifts!

- What are the issues that most concern the people in the community that your congregation serves? Where are the people located who would most likely be attracted to your congregation? How do these people like to be contacted? What is the growth in your area? Is your congregation growing at the same rate as the larger community? Does your congregation want to grow? Does your congregation serve the larger community by being the UU congregation that is needed? When is the last time you did a demographics survey?

- How much time does your Board focus on the unimportant? Are the standing committees trusted to make decisions? Are leaders empowered to make decisions?

- What is the most important reason for your Board to exist?

- Whom do we serve? Connie writes: "There are polarities that exist in congregations. Each of the ends of these polarities is of equal importance. An example would be outreach and serving members (inreach)... Our ministry needs to balance both sides of the polarities."

Caring Network and Membership News

Caring Ministries Network

Our hearts and minds are with:

Ann Conn as she copes with the loss of her husband, Erling Hansen.

Trudy Deyle as she mourns the loss of her mother, **Anna W. Lamb**, formerly **Anna W. Trammell**, of Jacksonville.

Pauline Masterton's mother, Helen Merbitz, as she recovers from a broken arm and prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday 1/15.

Sarah Ingram and family as they plan the memorial service for Sarah's mother and our long-time member, Eleanor Moore, 1:00 PM, Sat. Jan. 13 at UUCT. We ask that everyone bring finger foods for the reception after the service.

Anne Rudloe as she celebrates the good news that a biopsy of a spot in her lung is benign.

Welcome New Members!

- * Megan Kristen Lewis and
- * Philip Nelson

Dinners for 8

Winter round after Jan. 1. Hosting means welcoming guests to your home, providing main dish (any style or theme you wish), and calling the others to complete menu. Two dinner categories: adults-only and intergenerational. Adults without children welcome to sign up for intergenerational; and adults with children, find a sitter and enjoy an all-adult evening. To participate as guest or host, contact Junelle Brandt (893-5511, junellebrandt@earthlink.net).

New UU Sessions

Next sessions: Feb. or March. Sign up at back of sanctuary, or contact the church office (<u>uuct@nettally.com</u>, 385-5115) or membership chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057, <u>gdeyle@juno.com</u>). Childcare available on request.

Offered on a regular basis for those new to Unitarian Universalism and UUs new to UUCT, usually two weeknights, but occasionally in one 3-hour Sunday afternoon session. Participants share some about themselves, including their spiritual journeys, and learn a little about the church and the greater UU movement. Some discussion time. Rev. Lyn co-facilitates 2nd night.

On-going Opportunities

- 2nd Saturday Workdays: Contact Don Berger (422-2847, berger-don@comcast.net).
- Nursery Help: Contact DRE Maggie Geraci (877-6301, dremaggie@earthlink.net).
- 2nd Monday Shelter Meal: Contact Frank Deasy (907-1740, deasyf@comcast.net).
- Sunday Hospitality and Clean Up: Contact January kitchen kontrollers Tom and Linda Wheatley (580-5230, Tom2Wheatley@excite.com).
- Sunday Service Greeter: Contact Debbie Holt (553-3231, holt0119@earthlink.net).

Current UUCT Stats

- Certified Membership (as of 1/06) -174
- Current Membership 175
- Current No. Friends 52
- Average Sunday Service Attendance - Adults
 - November 2006: 90.5
 - 7/06 11/06: 96.2
 - 7/05 6/06: 99.4
 - 7/04 6/05: 107.3
 - 7/03 6/04: 107.4
 - 7/02 6/03: 96.5
- RE Enrollment (nursery -12th)
 - 06-07: 44 (incomplete)
 - 05-06: 52
 - 04-05: 61
- Average RE Attendance (not including Fun Days)
 - 12/06 27
 - 9/06 **1**2/06: 28.5
 - 9/05 5/06: 27
 - 9/04 5/05: 33.8

Connecting with Visitors

The "Greet & Meet Group" is a special team of UUCTers who take the initiative to really connect with visitors during Sunday social time. To volunteer for group or making phone calls to visitors, contact Linda Oaksford (422-0240, lloaksford@earthlink.net).

Lifespan Religious Education

Youth Religious Education (RE)

Committee Meeting, Sun. 1/7, 9:30 AM, Rm. K

YOUTH RE CONTACTS:

- Eliza Coyne, Youth RE Committee Chair (<u>krelcoyne@gmail.com</u>; 877-5415)
- Vacant, Nursery Sub-Committee Chair
- Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (DRE), (<u>dremaggie@earthlink.net;</u> wkdays, 443-2586; eves & wkends, 877-6301)

January RE Classes

Explorers (ages 3 to 5)

- 1/7 "Celebrating a New Year"
- 1/14 "Black is Beautiful"
- 1/21 "We Can Be Angry"
- 1/28 "All Kinds of Families"

The Artists (grades K, 1, 2)

- 1/7 "A Time for Giving Gifts"
- 1/14 "A Time to Plant Trees"
- 1/21 "A Time for Heroes & Heroines"
- 1/28 "A Time for Worship"

The Bridgers (grades 3,4,5)

- 1/7 "Let My People Go"
- 1/14 "The Ten Commandments"
- 1/21 "David and Goliath"
- 1/28 "Wise King Solomon"

Youth Group (grades 6 – 12)

Sundays 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, includes business meeting, discussion topics, and activities. Contact a Youth Group advisor for more details.

WOOHOO Wednesday, 1/17

All ages are invited to join together at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary for a potluck dinner (bring a dish to share). After our meal and cleanup, we'll move to Rm. L for a special art night, experimenting with different mediums and creating together, then displaying our masterpieces for the congregation. If you're able to help set up, come at 6:00 PM. Contact: DRE Maggie.

Adopt-A-Friend

During February and March, adults and children will have the chance to pair off as pen pals and write weekly letters to each other sharing thoughts, poems, stories, and artwork. We especially encourage the wise, elder generation to consider adopting a child as a special friend. This is the chance to learn from each other across the generations.

Sign up any Jan. Sunday. (Use form in order of service or come to RE tables.) All participants will be contacted between 1/29 and 2/3 with their match. Exchange correspondence during the four Sundays in February and the first two in March. A special revealing party will be held on March 11. Contact: DRE Maggie.

Harmony Camp 2007

See article under *Social* Justice. Organizational meeting soon. Dates: 7/16-20. Co-directors: Terri Martin & Sally Andersen. Volunteers & participants needed!

FL District CONS

Youth Group and advisors decide which FL District CONS to attend. Trained advisors must accompany youth to district CONS. Schedule: 1/12-14 All-Age Con, Gainesville

2/16-18 Transition-In Con, TBA3/16-18 Social Action Con, TBA4/27-28 Youth Caucus, Clearwater5/4-6 All Age Con, Tampa

2006-2007 MT. CON Schedule

2/2 - 4	Junior High
2/16 - 18	Elementary
3/2 - 4	Senior High

For more info. or to volunteer to take a group, contact DRE Maggie.

Adult Enrichment

ADULT ENRICHMENT CONTACTS:

- Isabel Sheridan, Adult Enrichment Coordinator (iasheridan@nettally.com, 668-0785)
- Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (dremaggie@earthlink.net; wkdays, 443-2586; eves & wkends, 877-6301)

Intergenerational Coding

In an effort to address the needs of all our congregants, find the following codes at the ends of some classes:

Baby-friendly – Infants and young toddlers welcome to come w/ parents, who assume responsibility for them.

Childcare provided – Childcare has already been lined up for this.

Childcare available upon request – Let contact know childcare needed; s/he will arrange for it at or near gathering.

In addition, transportation can be arranged upon request for those who cannot or prefer not to drive. Please contact the Adult Enrichment coordinator for assistance.

Details on Classes

Classes with an asterisk following class name have more detailed information available at Sunday Lifespan RE table or church website: <u>www.nettally.com/uuct</u> (Adult Enrichment Offerings or Religious Education - Adult Programs).

Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

Current Classes & Opportunities

Exploring Spiritual Practices.

Newcomers of all ages are welcome! Join us on our journey, by exploring some simple spiritual practices. Led by Rev. Lyn Plumb. Class meets in the sanctuary at **7:00 PM on Thurs. Jan. 11 and 25.** Will continue 2nd & 4th Thurs. through March. Contact Rev. Lyn (LynPlumb@aol.com, 671-2634).

Future Classes and Opportunities

The following classes will be offered in the winter and spring. Visit Sunday Lifespan RE table for latest information and to sign up for classes.

Evensong. This 8-session course is designed to promote a deeper sense of community in a small group setting that allows deep listening and knowing of each other. We're offering multiple groups of ten with a facilitator for each. First two classes begin in Feb: (1) Starts Thurs. Feb. 1, 7:00 PM, running the first, third, and fifth Thurs. through early May; (2) Starts Sun. Feb. 5, 7:00 PM, running eight consecutive Sunday evenings. To sign up, contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785, iasheridan@nettally.com), or visit RE table any Sunday in Jan.

Practicing Right Relations. Starts Tues. Jan. 30, 7:00 PM. See article, "Right Relations Initiative," p. 3. Contact: Jennifer Carver (402-0622, jzcarver@earthlink.net). **Monthly Potlucks & Discussions** for Parents*. Will begin in the spring of 2007, depending on interest. UUCT parents would come together to share a meal. Afterwards, the discussion would center on Parents as Resident Theologians, a UUA-published parenting course which helps adults articulate their religious experiences and beliefs in order to more effectively respond to children's religious questions. Would occur monthly throughout the year, with parents of all ages welcome! Contact DRE Maggie for more information.

UU Parent Support Group.

Several parents have expressed an interest in forming a parent support group. Participants will play a role in planning the format and topics discussed. Sign up at the Sunday RE table or contact Cathy Briggs (219-3637, cbriggs@nettally.com).

UU Committed Couples Enrichment Program*. A new, 20hour, UU principles- and valuesbased enrichment program designed for married/partnered adults, gay and straight alike, to nurture intimacy, spiritual connection, and emotional fulfillment. To be offered as a series of short workshops or as a more intensive retreat-type program. Currently seeking volunteer couples to facilitate some or all of the course. Contact Kim Ross (877-1972, kim@associatedadvocates.com).

On-Going Opportunities

Adult Forum. Meets Sundays 9:45-10:45 AM, Rm. L. Open to everyone. See front page of this *Meridian* for the month's topics. Contact: Norene Chase (nochase@earthlink.net, 422-1985). The UUCT Book Club*. Meets at 7:00 PM the 2nd Tuesday of every month in Rm. C. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Linda Oaksford (<u>lloaksford@earthlink.net</u>,

422-0240). Childcare available upon request.

1/10: *The Sea,* John Banville and book exchange. Meeting will be a potluck. We'll vote on the choices for March and April.

2/13: *Saturday* (paperback), Ian McEwan.

Freethinkers' Forum*. Meets weekly to study and discuss issues of philosophy and religion, including the contributions to civilization of freethinkers across the ages, the history and evolution of religious mythology, and the effects of organized religion on our democracy and the world's civilizations. Meets Thursdays. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Rm. L. January will feature a number of Great Courses tapes on Ralph Waldo Emerson and David Hume, Contact Ron Crowe (997-5307, rongcro2@juno.com).

Knitting for All*. Meets Thursdays at 7:00 PM in Rm. 3/6. Contact: Chelsea Fox (421-1575, <u>chelsuu@yahoo.com</u>). Babyfriendly.

UU Buddhist Fellowship. Will resume when Anne Rudloe is again able to lead the group, anticipated to be in **Spring 2007.** Contact: Anne Rudloe (984-5204, rudloe@bio.fsu.edu).



Campus Ministry Corner

By Brian Lee, Campus Ministry Coordinator

The New Year is here! Campus Ministry will be entering its tenth year here at UUCT. We have a tentative date of April 1 set for a celebratory Campus Ministry Sunday to commemorate this occasion. If you have ever been involved in Campus Ministry in any way, you will not want to miss it!

Thanks to the Campus Ministry **Committee** for putting together the

November Board Actions

By Molly Schmid, Executive Board Secretary

Unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows: a. **Report from Settled Minister** Search Committee (no action required), b. Proposed policies for the Memorial Garden.

Accepted the contract between **UUCT and OneWorld Sustainable** Energy Corporation for installation of photovoltaic energy system, pending review and approval by the Finance Committee.

Accepted Oct. Board minutes. Accepted Oct. Treasurer's Report.

goody bags that were given to our college students during Final Exam Week in December. The students loved them!

Coffee Hour will continue at 6:30 PM Fridays at All Saints Café, 903 Railroad Ave., one block south of Gaines St. After coffee on Friday, Jan. 5, we will be checking out the First Friday Gallery Hop at Railroad Square.

For more information about the University Unitarian Universalists, please contact your Campus Ministry coordinator Brian Lee (brianlee@hcsmail.com,

877-1972). To sign up for our email list please send an email to **UUUTally-**

subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Approved proposal to congregation for *\$3,910 increase in FY 2006-2007 operating budget due to additional pledge income, to be allocated as follows:

(1) Religious Education: Increase the hourly salary rate of the DRE to the UUA-recommended rate of \$14.00 per hour; and increase the work hours for the DRE from 16.5 to 17.5 hours per week. Both changes to be effective 12/15. (2) Program Committee: \$650 to increase the existing budget for item from \$100 to \$750.

(3) Remainder to the UUA and District Fair Shares to be apportioned on a 73-27% basis between UUA and District.

*Subsequently, total adjusted down for congregational vote, per updated pledge information.

Agreed Nominating Committee to be tasked with finding a replacement for Molly Schmid as Secretary of the Board.

December Congregational Actions

1. Unanimously approved 9/10/06 congregational meeting minutes.

2. Approved Solar Project and application for bridge loan of up to \$40,000, thereby enabling UUCT to contract for installation of photovoltaic system, certified by Florida Solar Energy Center, eligible for state rebate, and including net-metering arrangement increase in work hours for DRE with city. System will provide a portion of church's electrical needs. Loan will be paid in full upon receipt of state rebate. President is authorized to sign for loan. 71 in favor, 1 opposed, none abstaining.

3. Approved \$3,400 increase in FY 2006-2007 operating budget due to additional pledge income, to be allocated as follows:

Religious Education: \$840 to increase hourly salary rate of **Director of Religious Education** (DRE) to UUA-recommended rate of \$14.00 per hour; and to provide from 16.5 hours to 17.5 hours per week - both changes effective 12/15/06.

Program Committee: \$650, which will increase existing budget for this item from \$100 to \$750.

UUA and District Fair Shares: \$1,910, which will be apportioned on 73-27% basis between UUA and District.

60 in favor, 7 opposed, 1 abstaining.

Note: Prior to approval, motion made to amend RE portion of budget increase to \$1,265, in order to make it retroactive to 9/15/06, with corresponding decrease in UUA and District Fair Shares. Motion failed. 13 in favor, 34 opposed, 8 abstaining.

Events: UUCT, District, The Mountain, National

Upcoming UUCT Events

Peace Dances, Saturday, Jan. 6, 7:30 PM. Simple, meditative circle dances, rejuvenating and uplifting. Contact: Tom and Katya Taylor (656-9321, katyata@earthlink.net).

All-Church Workday, Saturday, Jan. 13, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Enjoy fellowship working on chores and projects to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Don Berger (422-2847, bergerdon@comcast.net).

Second Sunday Potluck, Jan. 14, 12:30 PM. Bring your favorite dish.

Church Council Meeting, Sunday, Jan. 14, 12:35 PM. In Rm. L. Main agenda item will be reviewing the draft asking budget with the VP for Finance. Contact: Steve Urse (385-2864, surse2@earthlink.net).

Woohoo Wednesday, Jan. 17, 6:30 PM. A communal meal in the sanctuary followed by art night in Rm. L. See *Youth RE*. All welcome! Contact: DRE Maggie Geraci (dremaggie@earthlink.net, 877-6301).

Movie Discussion Group, Sunday, Jan. 21, Afternoon. See a movie chosen by consensus, then go to a restaurant for discussion. Contact: Dave Harvey (daveharv@mac.com, 668-9096).

Reserve the Date...

Sunday, March 11 for the annual Canvass pledging party, immediately after the Sunday service and before the regular potluck. A canvass packet with pledge forms and summary information on church programs will be mailed beforehand. Contact: Tony Lloyd, Canvass chair (229-226-6479). Auction, Chili & Chocolate Dinner, Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 10 &11. See p. 2.

Asking Budget Meetings, Sundays, February 18 and 25, 12:30 PM. On 2/18, we'll have an information and discussion meeting on the proposed Asking Budget, which members and friends will have received earlier. On 2/25, we'll vote on the Asking Budget. Contact: DeWayne Carver (ddcarver@earthlink.net, 402-0622).

UUCT Rummage Sale, Saturday, Feb. 24. Start sorting now!

Non-UUCT Events

- Every Sunday, 7:00 PM, Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)
- Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 1/20, All Day, Belly Dancing Group (Sanctuary, Rm 3/6)

FL District Events

For more information on these events, contact church office, look on the sanctuary back counter or bulletin board, or visit www.floridadistrict.org.

Curriculum Renaissance Module, Fri.-Sun., 1/19-21, UUCT, District RE.

Leadership in Congregational Life: A New Way of Thinking, Sat. 1/20, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, First Unitarian Church, Orlando. An introductory workshop in leading congregational systems, for current or emerging leaders in congregations. Led by District staff, Rev. Kenn Hurto and Connie Goodbread. Each congregation is invited to bring a team of no fewer than two and no more than five. Register by 1/10. \$55 first person, with graduated discount depending on team size. (Repeat of Oct. workshop attended by four UUCTers.)

District Youth Ministry Gathering, Sat. 2/10, Tampa, FL. Creating a vision for local youth programs. **Social Action Workshop,** Sat. 3/3, with UUSC President Charlie Clements, Clearwater

District Annual Assembly, Fri. - Sun. 4/27-28, Clearwater. "Congregational Cornerstones & Cupolas."

National Events & Programs

Now is the Time: Leading Congregations into a Multi-racial, Multi-cultural Future. 2/16-18, Arlington, VA. Led by Dr. Jacqueline Lewis, formerly Alban Institute consultant for Cultural Boundaries, and philosopher activist Dr. Mark A. Hicks. Conference will ask participants to shape the conversation as to how we might move our congregations more faithfully in fulfilling our dreams of compassion, equity and social justice. Register by 1/16 at uua.org or with form in FL District Dec. packet in church office.

Forward Through the Ages, A New Stewardship Development Program.

A demonstration project, free to participating congregations, to find a new way to develop stewardship in congregations that addresses our spiritual needs to be generous givers. On-site training and on-going support provided. Application deadline 3/1.

UU University. Tues. & Wed. 6/19-20. Portland, before GA. Featuring Gil Rendle, author of *Leading Change in Congregations* and *Holy Conversations*.

UUA General Assembly. Thurs. -Mon. 6/21-25. Portland. Open to all!

Programs at The Mountain

Elderhostels throughout the year.

Mountaincamp registration open.

For more info., contact The Mountain (info@mountaincenters.org, 828-526-5838) or UUCT Mountain Ambassador Elinor Elfner (524-1026, eelfner@comcast.net) or visit www.mountaincenters.org.

January 2007

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed Rev. Lyn Vacation	2 Rev. Lyn Vacation	3 Rev. Lyn Vacation 7:30pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary	4 Rev. Lyn Vacation 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6 7:15pm Membership Committee, Rm C	5 Rev. Lyn Vacation 12:00pm Personnel Committee, off-site 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	6 Rev. Lyn Vacation through 1/8/07 7:30pm Universal Dances of Peace, Sanctuary
7 Rev. Lyn Vacation 9:30am Youth RE Committee, Rm K 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30pm Program Committee, Rm L	8 3:00pm Memorial Garden Committee, Sanctuary 5:00pm University UUs, Off-site 7:00pm Bldgs. & Grnds. Comm., Rm C 7:15pm The Shelter Meal, Off-site	9 6:30p m Committee on the Ministry, Rm K 7:00p m UUCT Book Club, Rm C	10 7:30pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary	11 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6 7:00pm Exploring Spiritual Practices, Sanctuary 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L	12 6:30p m University UUs, Off-site	13 9:00am All Church Workday 1:00pm Eleanor Moore Mem. Service, sanctuary
14 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30pm Potluck, Sanctuary 12:35pm Church Council	15 12:30p m Meridian Deadline 3:00p m Finance Committee, Rm K	16	17 6:30p m Woohoo Wednesday, Sanctuary (Rm L, 7:30 PM) 7:30p m Choir Practice, Sanctuary	18 7:00p m Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00p m Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	19 5:00pm Renaisssance Module, Rm L 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	20 8:00am Renaissance Module, Rm L
21 Afternoon Movie Discussion Group, Off-site 8:00am Renaissance Module, Rm L 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm C	22	23 Meridian Workday 7:30p m Publicity Meeting, Rm C	24 Meridian Workday 7:30pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary	25 Meridian Workday 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00pm Exploring Spiritual Practices, Sanctuary 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	26 Meridian Workday 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	27
28 No Choir Practice 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 5:00pm Executive Board, Rm L	29 Meridian Workday	30 7:00p m Right Relations, Rm L	31 7:30pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary			

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 850-385-5115 Fax: 850-385-5834 Email: uuct@nettally.com Church Office hours: M-F 7:00-3:30 (Closed 11:00-11:30)

Our Web Address: www.nettally.com/uuct

Building A Home for Liberal Faith

Our Staff:

Rev. Lyn Plumb, Interim Minister, 385-5115 (office), 671-2634 (home study); LynPlumb@aol.com. Office hours: Tues. & Wed., 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM; Thurs., 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM; and by appointment.

Kathie Mackie, Office Administrator, 385-5115; uuct@nettally.com

Helen Meacham, Music Director, 556-2533; pianoskin@nettally.com

Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education, wkdays: 443-2586; eves. & wkends: 877-6301; dremaggie@earthlink.net. Office hours: by appointment

Brian Lee, Campus Ministry Coordinator, 877-1972; brianlee@hcsmail.com

Emmy Barthel-Mackie, Nursery Worker, 514-9975, sattcomm74@yahoo.com

Our Mission:

"The mission of

UUCT is to be a

liberal religious

individual spiritual

quests and service

minds, and doors."

presence that

to others in a

community of

open hearts,

supports

Our Board

- * DeWayne Carver, President
- Christine Boczarska, Past President
- * Steve Urse, President Elect
- Molly Schmid, Secretary
- * Dave Harvey, VP for Management
- Charlotte Dudley, VP for Worship
- VP for Social Justice, Abbe Justus
- Jim Dawson, VP for Finance
- Kelley Turnage, VP for Religious Education
- Dick Leinberry, VP for Church Community

Non-Voting Members are:

- Ellen Dempsey, Treasurer
- * Joan Patterson, Asst. Treasurer
- Tom Chase, Collecting Treasurer

The Committee on the Ministry

Bob Deyle, chair

Maria Mena

Tony Lloyd

Directory Changes

If your mailing address, phone number or e-mail address changes, please let the office know. Unless you direct us otherwise, changes will be published in updates.

Membership Notes

To explore becoming a member or supporting friend, contact Rev. Lyn Plumb, Membership chair Trudy Deyle or president DeWayne Carver.

Help our visitors by wearing your nametag on Sundays. New members and friends receive name tags. Contact church office for replacements (\$6.60).

Next new member recognition: This winter

Mark Your Checks

- Note the purpose of every check in the memo line (pledge, UUSC...)
- Note the month or fiscal year for pledge checks.

Place Stamps Here