

Inside this issue:

Sundays	1
Minister's Message	2
President's Message	2
Announcements	3
Social Justice	4
Caring / Membership	5
Appreciation	6-7
Lifespan RE Education	7-9
Campus Ministry Corner	9-10
Green Corner	10
Calendar	11
UUCT Events, Social	12
FL District, Mountain	13
UUCT & History	13

Every Sunday:

9:45 AM Choir Practice: not 1/16  
9:45 AM Adult Forum  
10:30 AM Child Care - until  
12:30 PM (Fun Day 1/2)  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Youth  
Group (Ages 12-20)  
11:00 AM Youth RE:  
Pre-K-Elementary

Adult Forum Topics:

- Jan. 2 Open discussion
- Jan. 9 Holly Bins, FPIRG, "Mercury in the Environment"
- Jan. 16 Joe Chulak, "My Life"
- Jan. 23 Joel Blackwell, "How to Get What You Want from Politicians AFTER the Election"
- Jan. 30 (tentative) Pam McVety, "On Global Warming"

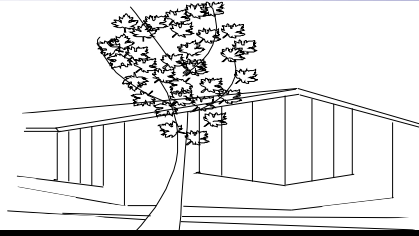
January Highlights:

Potluck with our Muslim Friends,  
Fri. 1/7, 6:30 PM (RSVP by 1/6)

Spiral Scouts Fund Raiser  
Breakfast, Sat. 1/8,  
8:00 – 11:00 AM

UUCT Community Night,  
Wed. 1/12, 6:30 PM

Caring Ministries Luncheon,  
Sat. 1/29, 10:00 AM



# The Meridian

## January Sundays (11:00 AM)

### Jan. 2 | Happy New Year: Keep the Change

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. Folk tradition has us make resolutions for the New Year. Experts say that there's a hard way and an easy way to attempt change, especially when it's a soul issue. Come learn the easy way! **Rev. Amy McKenzie**



### Jan. 9 | Is the Ring of Freedom in Your Nose or Your Ear?

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We'll consider James Thurber's bears today and contemplate where the ring of freedom is found. If it's in your ear, that's best. (We'll share candles of joy, sorrow and concern.) **Rev. Amy McKenzie**

### Jan. 16 | Reflections on Spirituality

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning. In a famous passage in his *Confessions*, the 4<sup>th</sup>- to 5<sup>th</sup>-century theologian-philosopher Augustine asks, "What is time?" He then observes, "If no one asks me, I know; if I wish to explain it to one that asks, I know not . . ." The case is similar with spirituality. We speak of it regularly in our religious communities, but we have difficulty explaining what it is or why it is important. This service will attempt to do just that, but with full awareness of the limitations in trying to do so. Spirituality is a vast and elusive topic. We need to continue to reflect together on its meaning and importance. (Also Shelter Meal Collection)

**Speaker: Donald Crosby; Lay Leader: Kristin King**

### Jan. 23 | Creating Harmony in a Diverse World

The inherent worth and dignity of every person. UUCT's first Harmony Camp was held in August 2004, with the mission to "provide opportunities for children to experience, value, and create harmony within themselves and with friends of diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds, with different generations, and with the interdependent web of life." The intent was to help children of our congregation and the wider community glimpse what life could be if, in the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., they were "...judged by the content of their character." How did we do? Participants will talk about what the camp meant to them. Plans for Harmony Camp 2005 will be discussed. The special collection for Harmony Camp will be used primarily for scholarships. **Speakers: Parents—**

**Georgia Ackerman and Janis Heffrin, Child—Sierra Bush-Rester, Adult Volunteers—Peggy Lentz and Lorraine Warren; Lay Leader: Kelley Turnage**

### Jan. 30 | Spiritual and Mental Health

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations. When mental illness occurs, individuals, families and congregations rely on faith to cope and heal. What do we need to understand in order to respond to mental illness in the most helpful way?

**Rev. Amy McKenzie; Lay Leader: Sally Andersen**



## Minister's Message

By Rev. Amy McKenzie

If you're looking for some words to live by in the new year, you could do a lot worse than the following quote from Arthur Slaten's essay "The Heart-Side of Humanism" (from *Humanism Today*, summer issue, 1928). I saw this in the newsletter from our congregation in Bedford, MA. This poetic prose does more potential good in our newsletter than in a folder in my office labeled "use for something, someday..."

*To look out upon the astounding universe  
with eyes unblinking and a face  
unblanched;  
to ignore no truth and fear no fact;  
to be ready at all times to recast opinion  
in the crucible of new experience;  
to build high hopes upon a firm foundation;*

*to forgive without demanding apology;  
to keep affection in spite of  
misunderstanding;  
to set our thought upon the things of value  
and spend our strength in the fulfilling of  
noble purposes;*

*to reverence the reverences of others  
rather than what they revere;  
to be alert to Nature's pageantry of beauty,  
though we dwell amid the city's clamor;*

*to get the most out of Life  
and give the most we can;  
to be sincere, faithful to responsibility,  
cherishing honor above indulgence  
and service above gain;*

*to be guided in our conduct  
by the shining angel of Intelligence  
and not by the gaunt spectre of Fear;*

*to approach our last hour  
with the calm of a philosopher  
and the gentleness of a saint,  
and to leave the world enriched  
by a treasury of kindly deeds  
and a memory of love;*

*this is our Aspiration,  
this is our Ideal.*

Why not aim very high?!  
Be Fully Alive in 2005,  
(Rev.) Amy

## President's Message

By Richard Dempsey

"If the map doesn't agree with the ground, the map is wrong." Think about it. A stunning metaphor. It's one of the rules proposed for healthy living by psychiatrist Gordon Livingston. If the hill drawn by a mapmaker isn't where it should be, the mapmaker got it wrong. I thought immediately of the number of times I've been mistaken about events and issues over the years and have had to adjust my thinking, my map of how the world works, to bring it in line with reality. Maybe you've done the same. It's called "experience."

It is surprisingly easy to convince people of things that don't exist. One lady auctioned a toasted cheese sandwich on E-Bay recently for \$26,000 because it seemed to bear the image of the Virgin Mary. You know how hard it is to get cheese to melt in just that shape? I've ruined a lot of provolone trying to duplicate the "miracle," so maybe it's the real thing.

Still, I can't believe it belongs on the "map," although the Holy Mother is flexible in showing her image. Before the cheese, there was a plate of spaghetti, mistakenly eaten by a hungry teenager who didn't realize its holy nature. And before the spaghetti, there was a plate glass window in a mid-Florida bank.

And the mistakes get even bigger. The President has been following God's orders to reorganize the Middle East, evidently assured by the Almighty and by Iraqi émigrés that the U.S. would be welcomed with open arms. So he didn't plan on using overwhelming force, didn't plan on casualties, so didn't mobilize adequate medical forces to back up the troops, didn't plan on total collapse of order so he disbanded Iraqi police and the army, didn't plan on the infiltration of jihadists so the borders were left open, didn't plan on ... you get the picture. Somebody's cartographer got it mighty

wrong, but there's no admission of mistakes. It is unthinkable that God's map was in error, so they're still trying to locate that hill.

There is merit in checking the ground, now and then, to validate the map. We plan to do that in coming months. Please keep the Saturdays of February 26, March 19, and April 16 open. We need to hear you tell us what you think about things. We want to know whether we and Rev. Amy are doing what you have in mind for our journey as a church community. We want to move ahead, but we need to be sure of the path, and a couple of hills have appeared that weren't on our map. Time to make adjustments? You tell us. We're going to give you that chance. This is what it's like to live in the real world.

~In liberal faith,  
Richard Dempsey

## Announcements



### Vespers Service Update

On December's potluck Sunday, a planning meeting was held for the vesper services to be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month, Feb. through May. An outline for the service was developed, and topics for homilies were discussed. Musicians interested in leading a couple of inspiring folk-pop-rock songs as part of the services are invited to contact VP for Worship Rod Oldenburg (297-0391). Homily themes and speakers for each month will be published in *The Meridian*. Services will start at 7:00 PM and last 30 - 45 minutes. Planning meetings will be on potluck Sundays through May.

### Committee Budgets Due 1/16

By Jan. 16, submit program plan narrative, budget request and any fund raising proposals for FY 2005 - 2006 to VP for Finance Del DeTar (877-6649, [ddetar@infionline.net](mailto:ddetar@infionline.net)). Committee chairs, staff and the Board will meet with the Finance Committee Jan. 17 to generate a draft Asking Budget.

### Accomplishments & Goals 2/1

For this year's canvass, the committee accomplishments and goals document will be much more concise than the past few years. Please email the following to Canvass Committee member Isabel Sheridan by Feb. 1 ([IASheridan@nettally.com](mailto:IASheridan@nettally.com)):

- A one-sentence description of what your committee does,
- No more than 5 bullets on your accomplishments over the past year,
- No more than 5 bullets on your goals for FY 2005 – 2006,
- Names of committee members and contact information for the committee.

### Yard Sale Saturday, March 12

Start your "spring cleaning" early and save your treasures for our bigger, better-than-ever Spring Sale Extravaganza on Saturday, March 12. Contact: Maria Mena (907-0739; [mcmena@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mcmena@ix.netcom.com)).

### Canvass 2005-2006

Save the date! March 6, 2005. We will have a pledging party in the sanctuary either after church or that evening, with lots of refreshments and good cheer. That's it, folks! Pledge that day (or before) and then stay to celebrate our wonderful congregation and how generously we give to UUCT of ourselves and our money.

You will receive an abbreviated packet with all the essentials in the mail in plenty of time to sit down and plan. Questions? Call Del Detar (877-6649), Isabel Sheridan (668-0785), or Margaret Mooney (893-8250).

### Giving Statements

If you need a calendar year (versus fiscal year) statement of your UUCT contributions for income tax purposes, contact Collecting Treasurer Tom Chase (422-1985, [twchase38@earthlink.net](mailto:twchase38@earthlink.net), or 405 Castleton Circle, Tallahassee, 32312).

### Planned Giving at UUCT

After a long hiatus during our multi-year Capital Campaign, the Planned Giving Committee has started up again, with Dave Harvey agreeing to be chairperson assisted by Del DeTar and Elinor Elfner. If you'd like to serve on the committee, have ideas about encouraging planned giving by members and friends, or would just like to learn more about the possibilities, contact Dave (668-9096, [daveharv@mac.com](mailto:daveharv@mac.com)).

### Board Action in December

Action of the Executive Board at the December 8 meeting: Approved the hiring of Melissa Forgey as part-time assistant to Diana Bell, our new Campus Ministry Coordinator, beginning January 1, with the option for Melissa to continue as the Campus Ministry Coordinator beginning May 1, 2005 when Diana leaves the position. The Board extends an enthusiastic welcome to both Diana and Melissa, as they join the UUCT staff.

### Ongoing Opportunities

- **Music Committee:** Contact Ed Tribble (877-1845, [cbfia@earthlink.net](mailto:cbfia@earthlink.net)).
- **2nd Monday Shelter Meal:** Contact Carla Conaway (264-3249).
- **Sunday Service Greeter:** Contact Nancy Harvey (668-9096, [npharvey@aol.com](mailto:npharvey@aol.com)).
- **Sunday Hospitality and Clean Up:** For January, contact Maria Mena (907-0739).
- **Sunday Service Set-up:** Contact Elinor Elfner (224-3651, [eelfner@istal.com](mailto:eelfner@istal.com)).

### Data Entry Volunteer Needed

The office administrator is looking for a volunteer who doesn't mind doing computer work and could do some data entry, among other things, for her. To volunteer, call Kathie (385-5115).

### Please Volunteer in the Nursery

Sing, dance and play, be a role model for the little ones. We need you for one hour on one Sunday. Please sign-up in the nursery to have some fun with our UU little tikes. Contact: Georgia Ackerman (894-0182, [georgiaackerman@earthlink.net](mailto:georgiaackerman@earthlink.net))

### Audio Tapes

Audiotapes of Sunday services are available for 4-week loan. Sign-out info. and tapes are in the church audio closet. Contact: Gwendolyn Waldorf ([dcbgbw@comcast.net](mailto:dcbgbw@comcast.net), 668-3346).

### Trustee Tidbits Posted

January's letter from our FL District UUA Trustee, Joan Lund, is posted on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary, or you can email Meridian editor Trudy Deyle for a digital copy ([gdeyle@juno.com](mailto:gdeyle@juno.com)). In the letter, Joan discusses small group ministry, also know as covenant group ministry.

## Social Justice

### Guest At Your Table Boxes

Now that the holidays are over, please write a check to cover the amount collected in your Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) Guest at Your Table 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 mailbox in the church mailroom. A single donation will then be sent to UUSC from our church. Many thanks! Contact: Norene Chase (422-1985, nochase@earthlink.net).

### Racial and Cultural Diversity Committee (RCDC)

by Isabel Sheridan, Outgoing Chair

The RCDC, at its meeting in December, decided to go into a "placeholder" mode. That is, since no one is able to chair the committee right now, we decided to keep the committee in existence. At face value, this situation seems more problematic than it is, I believe. The reason no one is able to run the committee is that so many committee members are on the ground running, doing the social justice things that we as a church value. For example, many RCDC members are involved in Harmony Camp, which RCDC initiated last year. That is a year-round commitment. And many of the RCDC members have major responsibilities on other UUCT committees. In my view, it is the same "not enough chiefs to represent the tribe" issue that led to the VP for Social Justice vacancy on the Board.

Several RCDC initiatives continue to happen on a regular basis, for example, Riley House's Rock-a-thon, Blended Lives, and Harmony Camp. And as individual church members offer social justice events (like the civil rights trip to Alabama in February), racial and cultural diversity continue to play an important part in our church.

Please continue to offer to your fellow members and friends social justice

activities you are passionate about. I will coordinate writing up news of RCDC-related activities for the *Meridian*. Please contact me by the first Sunday of the month at 668-0785 or [iasheridan@nettally.com](mailto:iasheridan@nettally.com).

### Harmony Camp

Harmony Camp 2005 is up and running. The camp this year will focus on entering first graders through entering fifth graders. The camp will be August 1 – 5, 2005, from 9:00 to 4:00 each day.

We will share our experience of the first Harmony Camp with you at the Sunday service, January 23. (See the front page for details.) At that service we will take up the church-approved collection for Harmony Camp. We plan to use the bulk of that money for scholarships based on need. Questions? Contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785 or [iasheridan@nettally.com](mailto:iasheridan@nettally.com)).

### Blended Lives

This annual project of community learning is sponsored by Riley House Museum and Goodwood Museum and Gardens. This year's theme is "The Roaring Twenties: Cultural Breakthroughs." The Symposium on Monday, January 24 is open to all members of the community, will be held at TCC from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM, and will include lunch. Panelists discussing music, dance, theatre, and film of the Harlem Renaissance will include Pam Laws, Leon Anderson, Jr., Rodney Jordan, Beverly Barber, John Perpener, Nancy Smith Fichter, Ronald O. Davis, and Ken Zimmerman. The \$30 registration fee benefits both museums equally. Pick up a registration form on the sanctuary back counter or contact Riley House (681-7881) or Goodwood (877-4202).

You can also attend a free concert the evening of January 24 at TCC. The Boys Choir of Tallahassee and Monya Sharpe of Jacksonville will perform.

### RCDC Trip to Civil Rights Sites

In honor and remembrance of the 40th anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, Jonathan Leib is leading a trip to civil rights sites along the Voting Rights March route from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. The sites to be toured include Mya Lin's Civil Rights Memorial, the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church and Parsonage (Martin Luther King's first church), and the Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery; the Viola Liuzzo Monument on U.S. 80 along the march route; and the National Voting Rights Museum and the Martin Luther King Street historic district in Selma. In addition, we will also walk across the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma, where civil rights marchers were attacked in March 1965.

The trip will be held the weekend of February 19-20, 2005. We are still in the planning stages for the trip. If you are interested, please contact Jonathan ([jgleib@comcast.net](mailto:jgleib@comcast.net)).

### Tsunami Victim Relief

In the wake of the catastrophic disaster caused by the earthquake and tsunami in South and Southeast Asia and Eastern Africa, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) have joined forces to help bring humanitarian relief to the victims and their families. "We are deeply saddened by the enormity of death and destruction resulting from this devastating natural disaster," said UUSC President Charlie Clements. "In international relief efforts such as the disaster in Southeast Asia, we will identify grassroots organizations in the region that are able to respond to immediate needs as well as to long-term reconstruction." (*From the UUSC web-site: [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)*) If interested in giving, you may give to the UUSC / UUA Relief Fund directly, or give to UUCT and designate "UUSC / UUA Relief Fund" in the memo line.

## Caring Network and Membership News

### Caring Network

By Joanne Taylor, Caring Ministries Chairperson

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

**Sandy Smith**, who welcomes phone calls as she and the Hospice staff care for her mother at Sandy's home.

**Tom Pratt** as he approaches the conclusion of his chemotherapy treatments.

**Melissa and Paul Forgey**, following the death of Paul's stepfather in late November and the memorial service in early December.

**Jack Rudloe**, whose brother, a long-time UU, died recently at the age of 67, in Lexington, MA.

We all send our positive thoughts to **Laura Cook** as she prepares for hip replacement surgery in January.

Editor's note: We also send positive thoughts to **Joanne Taylor** for her additional herniated disk surgery on Jan. 12.

**Congratulations to** Kathie and Billy Mackie on the birth of their first grandchild and to Holly Mackie on her first nephew: Jacob Frederick Mackie, born 12/28/04.

**Best wishes to** Ludy Goodson as she begins her new life and work in Statesboro, GA. New address and phone number: 1503 South Leah Lane, Statesboro, GA 30461-7969, 912-842-5691. And Ludy sends us Happy New Year wishes!

The **Second Annual Caring Ministries Luncheon** will be held Saturday, January 29, 10 AM - 1 PM. The program will be "Mental and Spiritual Health." See *Events* for details.

### Membership Notes

**To explore becoming** a member or supporting friend, contact Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057) or a Sunday greeter.

**Next new member recognition** is Sunday, Feb. 27.

**Help out visitors** by wearing your name tag! New members and friends receive name tags. Contact office for replacements (\$6.20).

### Church Photo Directory

We are reviving the plan to produce our own UUCT Photo Directory, using the church's database software. Mary VanSciver has volunteered to organize the effort and take the digital pictures for the directory. Watch for announcements of the Sundays she will be doing so. In order to have a more uniform look and photo quality, we will only be using pictures taken at church.

Once the directory is ready, printed copies will be available at cost. We are also planning to post the directory on the UUCT web-site with access limited to members and friends, via a secure password. For questions, please contact Mary (893-0353) or Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057, [gdeyle@juno.com](mailto:gdeyle@juno.com)).

### Dinners in Homes

Dinners for 8 (intergenerational or all adult) will be happening this winter and spring. We have plenty of hosts; they will be choosing their own dinner dates. Watch for sign-ups by dinner at a Sunday dinners table in Jan.

Intergenerational dinners are for families and those wanting an intergenerational experience. Parents are also welcome to attend all adult dinners. A primary purpose for all dinners is for newcomers to meet longer-term members and friends. Hosts set menu, providing main dish, as casual or gourmet as they like; guests bring rest. Contact: Dinners Coordinator Junelle Brandt (893-5511).

### Lend Membership a Hand!

The Membership Committee needs:

Someone willing to provide transportation on Sundays and for other UUCT events to a long-time UU who has moved to Tallahassee, lives off Ox Bottom Rd., and does not drive.

### Current UUCT Stats

- **Certified Membership (as of 1/04) -178**
- **Current Membership - 173**
- **Current Number Friends - 57**
- **Average Sunday Service Attendance - Adults**
  - **Nov. 2004: 104**
  - **July - Nov. 2004: 107.8**
  - **July 2003 - June 2004: 107.4**
  - **July 2002 - June 2003: 96.5**
- **RE Enrollment: 51 (incomplete; nursery - 12th grade)**
- **Average RE Attendance (not including Fun Days)**
  - **Dec.: 35**
  - **Sept. - Dec.: 37**

### What is CLF?

CLF, the Church of the Larger Fellowship, is a congregation that provides ministry and a spiritual home to isolated religious liberals around the world, by mail and by cyberspace. Members receive a monthly publication of sermons and CLF's children's magazine. CLF also offers religious education materials and consultation, a loan library, and a cyber community. Their Pen Pal program connects UUs with incarcerated men and women who have joined CLF. Contact CLF at [clf@clfu.org](mailto:clf@clfu.org) or 617-948-6166 or visit [www.clfu.org](http://www.clfu.org).

### UU World on Tape

Subscriptions to the *UU World* are free on audiotape for people who cannot read regular printed materials. Simply contact Devorah Greenstein at the UUA (617-948-6451, [dgreenstein@uua.org](mailto:dgreenstein@uua.org)).

## Appreciation

### To:



- For greeting on Sunday mornings 12/5 – 12/26, **Barbara Sterling, Mary and Steve Van Sciver, Sara Reece, Barbara Gearhart, Michele Hope, Nancy Harvey, Linda and Ed Oaksford, Bob Deyle, and Randall Gann.**
- For providing hospitality and clean-up after our Sunday services in November, **Leslie Wurster, Mary and Francis Ventre, LaRae Donnellan, Elinor Elfner, John Whitton, Maria Mena, Katya Taylor, Joan Patterson, Mary Millard, Jerri Lee Wagner, Carla Conaway, Greg D'Angelo, Pauline Masterton, Ruth Pestle, Nancy Bean, Randall Gann, Michelle Hope, Peggy Lentz, Cheryl Turner, Dick Leinberry, Joe Lama, and Carrie Hamby.** (We may have misplaced a few names. If that includes you, know your efforts were appreciated!)
- For serving as Nov. Kitchen Kontroller (volunteer recruiting and overseeing), **Leslie Wurster.**
- For volunteering in the nursery, **Georgia Ackerman, Nina Cline, Michael Donnellan, Patrick Lineberry, and Isabel Sheridan.**
- For donating toys to the nursery, **Gwendolyn Waldorf.**
- For helping with the December Shelter Meal, **Dan Damerville, Chelsea Fox, Debbie Holt, Amy and Dorothy Mann, Margaret Mooney, Lamontae Morris, Joan Patterson, and Davlinn, Alexandra, and Zachary Roberts.**
- For handling the mail and phone messages during Office Administrator Kathie Mackie's holiday vacation, **Helen Falb, Dave Harvey, Mimi Jones, Dorothy Mann, and Joan Patterson.**
- For loaning us a *menorah* to go with our tree, **Jonathan, Gretchen and Charlotte Leib.**
- For the poinsettia for the sanctuary, the **Muslim FSU Tolerance and Dialogue Group.**
- **Tom and Norene Chase** for giving Sunday rides to John Murphy, and **Joe Lama** for the time and attention he has given to John.
- **Barbara Lineberry** for giving Sunday rides to Eleanor Moore.
- **Jim Dawson** for serving on the Endowment Committee for the past three years, for his work on endowment financing, and for his efforts with Tallahassee State Bank in arranging for our construction loan, mortgage and favorable interest rate on funds in our checking account.
- **Those participating or sponsoring** in the Riley House Rock-a-thon. We raised \$400!
- From Rev. Amy and the UUCT staff to the **"various UUCT members"** who contributed to the collective holiday gifts for staff.
- "Special Appreciation" to **Tom Pratt** for the colorful new prayer flags that are outside the minister's office. Also, thanks to the **Pratt-Joiner family** for retiring the old flags in a private Winter Solstice ceremony. To learn more about the flags, see Rev. Amy's 4/03 column at <http://www.nettally.com/uuct/Meridian/April%2003%20Meridian.pdf>.
- From the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) to **our church** for the special collection gift of \$586 from our 11/21 service.

### Special December Giving

Thanks to **all the UU singers** who came out on December 11 for soulful singing! We sang at: the Fixels' house in Quincy, Cherry Laurel Retirement Home, Sandy Smith's house, and Heritage Oaks Retirement Home. Special thanks to **Art and Carolyn Fixel**, who in addition to making a donation to the OK Chorale, prepared us sumptuous homemade eggnog and cookies!

Whatever you gave of yourself on UU Mitzvah Day (12/12/04), thanks for helping! Scheduled activities were...

1) Joining with the Muslim FSU Tolerance and Dialogue Group to visit people who were healing from accidents or surgery at TMH Rehab Center and giving them a rose and some encouragement. (Thanks to: the **T & D Group members**, and UUCTers: **Christine Boczarska, Helen Falb, Will Adkins, Dominique Roberts, Joe Lama, and Amy McKenzie.**)

2) Digging out and spreading gravel in a walkway at Ray of Hope United Methodist Church. (Thanks to: **Dave Harvey, Helen Falb, Will Adkins, Dominique Roberts, Dick Leinberry, Joe Lama, Amy McKenzie, Sylvia Davis, and visitors Chris and Barbara.**)

### Winterfest 2004

By Will Adkins, Coordinator

A big thanks, bigger than our 2004 Christmas super-tree, to all who came to our annual UU Winterfest on Friday Dec. 10. It was one of the biggest social events ever at UUCT, with 115 people attending!

Special thanks to: **Rod Oldenburg, Kristin King, Joe Lama, and Ed and James Oaksford** for cutting, transporting and setting up the tree from late **Charlie Terrell's** north Cairo tree farm; **Ken and Jean Wood** for providing a hearty breakfast to this crew; **Tom Chase** for making the sanctuary ready for the tree; **Melanie Brooks** for helping gather Christmas ornaments for the tree; and **Jeff Brooks** for helping string up the tree lights.

Thanks to **Barbara and Patrick Lineberry** for creating a Holiday Box for food and other items for those in need in Tallahassee; **Howard Pardue** for "running" the kitchen for the event; **Mimi Jones** for helping set up the wine and cheese table; **Molly Schmidt** and **Barbara Solomon** for loaning their art work to display; Christmas carolers **Marja Millard, Susie Howell,**

## Appreciation (Continued)

and **Angie Prather**, who greeted us all at the south door firepit; **Marvin Halleck**, jazz pianist invited by **Joe Lama**, for music during our feast hour; **Helen Falb and the O.K. Chorale** for setting the musical stage for all the music sung and performed; our four young UU poetesses—**Cate Bryan, Caroline Mooney, Sierra Bush-Rester, and Dominique Roberts**; singers—**Marja Millard, Ludy Goodson, Pauline Masterton, Ron Crowe, Howard Solomon and Barbara Solomon**; and storyteller **Ron Crowe**. Special thanks to Pauline, songwriter *par excellence*, for farewell songs to Ludy, Howard, and Barbara, who also led our closing peace circle.

Thanks to everyone who helped us set up the party and dismantle it. The "clean-up crew," led by **Howard Pardue** and **Linda Oaksford**, had a special treat this year provided by our hot wassail and (new!) firepit crew (**Ed and James Oaksford, Steve Urse, Rod Oldenburg, and Ken Wood**, firewood provider). An "after-party" party gathered around the fire with **Howard Pardue** picking his banjo for an hour. *And it snowed and we went for a sleigh-ride, too (we dream).*

Come next year, stay and join us around the warm fire. Thanks to everyone not mentioned who helped to create this ingathering at our church, celebrating the holidays.

Editor's note: And a great big thank you to **Will Adkins** for organizing our 12th annual UUCT winter festival!

### Building and Grounds Thanks

At the church workday on December 11, many tasks were accomplished. On the main playground, weeds were removed, and much mulch was distributed by youths, **Austin and Pierce Mooney** and **Michael Wei**, and adults, **Don Weed, Rev. Amy, Debbie Wolf and Steve Urse**. Additional monkey grass borders by the mail box and across that driveway were created by Rev. Amy and **Jeanne Ryder**, with room left for future flowers. **Joe Lama, Don Berger, and Ken Wood** filled in gravel in the parking spaces needing it.

Steve Urse, Ken Wood, Joe Lama and **Dave Harvey** moved concrete parking stops from storage to parking places. Dave worked on getting the heating systems in the new building ready for winter. **Tom Chase** and Dave removed wood stored under the deck behind

Rm 3/6. **George Knight** blew leaves from the sidewalks and driveways.

Other time and effort was spent outside of the church workday. Tom Chase painted the women's restroom a fresh, bright white. Dave Harvey worked on the sanctuary door lock to make it easier to turn, as well as performing maintenance on the floor drains and thermostats in the new building. Joe Lama anchored the newly installed parking stops and installed warning flags.

**Barbara Sterling** planted snapdragons and ornamental cabbage in the front sign garden. Steve Urse and **Michele Hope** weeded three liriopé beds. In October they had planted snapdragons and pansies in the Magnolia tree turnaround area. Steve Urse, Dave Harvey, George Knight and **Francis Ventre** helped with watering new sod. Mulching the leaves with a lawn mower once a month is a best management practice we follow.

Much was done, and more is to be accomplished. Help build community and join us on Saturdays Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and Mar. 12, or do some landscape work during the week. Call Dave Harvey (668-9096).

## Lifespan Religious Education

### Youth Religious Education (RE)

**Youth RE Committee Meeting, Sunday, January 9, 9:30 AM**

#### YOUTH RE CONTACTS:

- **Kelley Turnage, Youth RE Committee Chair (553-9416; [kelleturnage@hotmail.com](mailto:kelleturnage@hotmail.com))**
- **Georgia Ackerman, Nursery Sub-Committee Chair (894-0182; [georgiaackerman@earthlink.net](mailto:georgiaackerman@earthlink.net))**
- **Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (DRE), (877-6301 or [mageraci26@aol.com](mailto:mageraci26@aol.com))**

### Special Pen Pals

Once again during February, adults and children who sign up to be Special Pen Pals will be paired and write weekly letters to each other—sharing thoughts, poems, stories, and artwork. Sign up on Sundays January 16, 23 and 30. (Use form in the Order of Service or come to the RE Table). Correspondence will be exchanged all four Sundays in February. A special revealing party will be held on February 27. Contact DRE Maggie Geraci for more information.

### Mountain Cons

Parents interested in taking a group from UUCT to a Mountain Con this

winter should contact DRE Maggie Geraci. Interfaith youth cons will be:

- 2/4 - 6: Sr. High
- 2/18 - 20: Elementary
- 3/11 - 13: Jr. High

### UU Youth Group

Youth, from grades 6 to 12, are invited to join us in Room 3 on Sunday mornings (11:00 to 12:30) for our UU Youth Group. As a group, we plan social events, educational experiences, social action, and lots of fun! Check us out! For more information, contact advisors Scott Geraci ([sgeraci10@direcway.com](mailto:sgeraci10@direcway.com), 877-6301), John and Barbara

## *Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)*

Donaldson ([john0148@comcast.net](mailto:john0148@comcast.net), 878-5521), or Chelsea Fox ([chelsuu@yahoo.com](mailto:chelsuu@yahoo.com), 421-1575).

### **Bonding at a Lock-in**

By Scott Geraci, Youth Group Advisor

For close to 24 hours the weekend of Dec. 11, 13 members of the UUCT youth group and 2 of the advisors gathered at the church for a weekend of fun, food, music, and bonding. While most of this group has been together since last year's OWL (Our Whole Lives) class, it was fun to watch them continue to grow as a group.

After enjoying some social time, the group kicked off the weekend with its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual potluck trail mix. This is quickly becoming a favorite tradition of the group. Each member brings in one item from his or her cupboards (nuts, raisins, chocolate chips, etc.) and, after checking in with the group, adds the ingredient to the trail mix bowl. This year's edition was a big hit and very tasty. You may have had some of it at the Sunday potluck the next day.

The weekend was filled with lots of games, including a fun, nighttime game of Sardines (reverse hide and go seek), Wink (a wild and crazy game of tag), All My Friends and Neighbors (alternate version of musical chairs), and The Rules (a hilarious guessing game). Several people brought board games, and there were groups playing Risk, Cranium, and cards all weekend. Group members also brought favorite music to share with one another.

Saturday night, former youth group advisor and current VP for Religious Education DeWayne Carver joined us for some of the games and dinner. We also shared our dinner with a homeless woman who came to the church looking for a blanket in anticipation of a cold night. While she did not eat with us, she did leave with pizza, fruit, and cookies, plus a comforter, a coat, and several sweaters. She was very thankful for help, and the group was more than willing to share their food with her. Special thanks to Director of RE

Maggie Geraci, who made a special return trip to the church to deliver the coat, sweaters, and comforter. I am sure they were put to good use.

Sunday morning, we set up the chairs for the service under the direction of Austin, Pierce, and Neil Mooney. While that was being done, youth group advisor Chelsea Fox and several of the youth were busy cooking a delicious breakfast for the group. The youth were very helpful all weekend, and we always had volunteers on hand to help out with preparations and clean up.

All in all, it was a very successful weekend! We are all looking forward to our next lock-in.

### **UU Youth Lend a Hand**

By Scott Geraci, Youth Group Advisor

On the morning of Saturday, December 18, 12 members of UUCT's youth group and 4 of their parents helped out at the Christmas Connection warehouse. The group carpoled from the church and arrived at the warehouse eager to make the most of their time volunteering. Upon arrival, the group was given a tour and instructions and quickly set off to work.

The need for volunteers at Christmas Connection was great, and there were several other groups helping out, too. Some of our group worked with fellow UUCT members, while others worked alone or with fellow volunteers from within the community. Christmas Connection is a large operation, so there were many different tasks to be done. The group helped out with: carrying in donations, preparing gift bags, organizing and sorting donations in the warehouse, and preparing care packages for families.

After volunteering, the group enjoyed lunch together at CiCi's Pizza. Many thanks to all the youth who volunteered and to the parents who offered their time to drive and volunteer. The UUCT Youth Group plans to continue offering assistance to those in need and intends to become more visible within the community. This was the group's first community service project.

## **Adult Enrichment**

### **ADULT ENRICHMENT CONTACTS:**

**Bruce Brandt, Adult Enrichment Coordinator**

**([blbrandt@earthlink.net](mailto:blbrandt@earthlink.net); 893-5511)**

**Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education**  
**([mageraci26@aol.com](mailto:mageraci26@aol.com); 877-6301).**

The winter/spring session of classes and workshops begins this month. Several classes are continuing, one is starting, and another ending. The Adult Enrichment program acknowledges the contributions of Elizabeth Vigil, who arrived at UUCT a little over a year ago and will be moving to Montreal at the end of January. She organized and coordinated a continuing book discussion group and a dream workshop in her short stay with us. Thanks, Elizabeth, and best wishes!

### **NEW CLASSES**

#### **Short Stories, Deep Thoughts, Good Talk: Literature for the Attention Span Challenged:**

Will meet at 7:00 PM for six consecutive Thursdays—Jan 20 and 27 and Feb 3, 10, 17, and 24 in Rm. C. Contact: Dan Damerville ([576-5380](mailto:576-5380), [DAMERVID@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:DAMERVID@tcc.fl.edu)).

In addition to being an exquisitely satisfying form of entertainment, classic and contemporary short stories are an excellent launching pad for group exploration of the most vital issues humans face. Each week's class will be based on small group and class discussions of a selected short story. All materials will be provided for a \$5.00 fee to cover photocopying.

### **CONTINUING CLASSES**

**Choices for Sustainability:** Meets first and second Saturdays at 10:30 AM in Rm. C through February. Contact: Kathie Mackie (385-5115, [uuct@nettally.com](mailto:uuct@nettally.com)).

**Understanding the Bible:** Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:15 PM in Rm. L. Winter



## *Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)*

classes start Jan. 4 and end Feb. 15 and will cover the Christian scriptures (New Testament). This class is based on a book by Rev. John A. Buehrens. A discussion guide by Nancy Palmer Jones will be provided free of charge. Contact: Bob Kenon (878-3647).

### FUTURE CLASSES

**New UU sessions** are offered on a regular basis for those new to Unitarian Universalism and UUs new to UUCT. The next sessions will be Wednesdays, Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, and Mondays, April 25 and May 2. Both sets of sessions will be from 7:00 - 9:00 PM and taught by Rev. Amy and a church member. Sign-up on the sheet on the sanctuary back counter, or contact the church office (385-5115, [uuct@nettaly.com](mailto:uuct@nettaly.com)) or Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057, [gdeyle@juno.com](mailto:gdeyle@juno.com)).

**How to Talk So Your Kids Will Listen and Listen So Your Kids Will Talk** will be offered again later this spring by Maggie Geraci (877-6301).

### ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES

**Adult Forum:** Every Sun., 9:45 -10:45 AM, Room L. Open to everyone. See front page of this *Meridian* for the month's topics. Contact: Norene Chase (422-1985).

**Dream Interpretation Workshop** is over. Our thanks to Elizabeth Vigil!

**The UUCT Book Club:** Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month in Room C.

## *Campus Ministry Corner*

By Kim Ross, Campus Ministry Committee Chairperson

As many of you know, our campus ministry leadership has been in a bit of transition. Our thanks to Chelsea Fox for her dedication and two years as campus ministry coordinator. Chelsea continues to contribute to our church community and has moved on to working with our youth group and

Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Elizabeth Vigil (656-9921) or Linda Oaksford (422-0240, [lloaksford@earthlink.net](mailto:lloaksford@earthlink.net)). For the January meeting, bring a book wrapped in paper to put into a grab bag and exchange for someone else's old favorite. Also, contact Linda Oaksford if you need February's book. She has one copy left (cost: \$5.00).

January's book is *Chalktown* by Melinda Haynes. "*Chalktown* is mysterious, bewildering and surprising. It is also gorgeously written and lavished with the tangled oddities that make the South the South."

February's book will be *The Death of Vishnu: A Novel* by Manil Suri. The protagonist, having purchased the right to sleep on the ground-floor landing of a Bombay apartment house, slips slowly from a coma into death. As this aging alcoholic takes leave of the earth, his neighbors surround him, arguing over who gave Vishnu a few dried chapatis, who called the doctor for him, and who will pay for the ambulance to cart him away. Meanwhile, the hero of *The Death of Vishnu* is lost in memories. Characters are well-developed. There's lots of humor, and you get a taste of Bombay.

**The Freethinkers' Forum:** Meets Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in Rm. K for one and a half hour discussions. It is an out-growth of this fall's "Christianity without God" class. They will be focusing on their first book for awhile: "Freethinkers: A History of American Secularism," Susan Jacoby. Contact Harold Hawkins (893-1331) to find out

what they are up to each month.

**The Knitting Goddess:** Meets Thursdays at 7:00 PM in Rms. 3 & 6. It is for people who would like to learn or improve skills, and/or knit with others. Contact: Chelsea Fox (421-1575).

**Women's Spirituality Group:** Meets on Mondays at 7:00 PM off site. Contact Bonnie Foster (539-5563, [dbdfoster@yahoo.com](mailto:dbdfoster@yahoo.com)).

**UU Buddhist Fellowship:** Meets every first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary for Jan. - Apr., then in Rms. 3 & 6. Contacts: Anne Rudloe (984-5204) and William Riedell (562- 0739, [wmpat88@att.net](mailto:wmpat88@att.net)).

For Jan. - Apr., UUBF will present a series of talks on Buddhism by Anne Rudloe, Ph.D. The talks are free and open to all. Newcomers are especially welcome. Topics include: The need for personal meaning; Scientific and religious world views; Who was the Buddha and what did he teach; Zen meditation—what is it and why do it; The nature of consciousness; Buddhism in America; Buddhism and Christianity; Spiritual ecology; A new scientific/religious synthesis?; Actualizing spiritual practice in daily life. Anne Rudloe is a Senior Dharma Teacher in the Kwan Um School of Zen and has practiced Buddhist meditation for 18 years. She is the author of *Butterflies on a Sea Wind: Beginning Zen* and co-author of

leading the Knitting Goddess adult enrichment class.

Our new campus ministry coordinator started December 1! Diana Bell comes to us from Tallahassee Equality Action Ministry (TEAM), where many of you knew her as the associate director. She has experience with program

direction, promoting interfaith dialogue, and lay ministry. Her enthusiasm is both charming and infectious. Diana is also going into professional ministry and plans to attend seminary next fall. The UUCT job crosses her path at the perfect time. She will put her enthusiasm and energy into building our campus ministry until April 30.

## Campus Ministry Corner (Continued)

We were fortunate to have two excellent candidates for the position, as well as having a little extra money in the budget line for campus ministry coordinator salary because Chelsea worked half of the allotted time last semester. Since both job candidates were well qualified, and Diana will only be with us through the end of spring semester, we were granted board permission to also hire the second candidate, at 10 hours per month.

We are pleased to introduce Melissa Forgey as the assistant coordinator. Many of you know Melissa, as she is a member of our congregation. Melissa previously was the executive director

of a non-profit organization, Thomasville Landmarks. She brings strong organizational skills and a passion for Unitarian Universalism and liberal religion on campus. She will work with Diana and gain experience in the program and in lay ministry. Toward the end of spring semester, we will all evaluate the situation to see whether Melissa would like to take the helm as the campus ministry coordinator when Diana leaves the position.

Please welcome them both and send any college students their way!

In community, Kim

### University UU schedule for January:

Coffee hour: UUUs will kick off Friday, January 7 at 6:30 PM with coffee hour, off-site at All Saint's Café, located in the building once called Javaheads, 903 Railroad Ave., one block south of Gaines St. We'll have coffee hours every Friday, same time and location.

Weekly meeting: We'll also meet weekly beginning the week of January 10, off-site on FSU's campus. The day and time will be determined by the group.

Contact Diana for details (222-0399, ladydibell@hotmail.com) or check the UUU web-site ([www.uuutally.org](http://www.uuutally.org)).

## Green Corner

By Michele Hope, Green Sanctuary Committee

The weekend of **February 19 - 20**, Katherine Jesch from the Seventh Principle Project, a UUA affiliate, will visit UUCT. The Green Sanctuary Committee has asked her to participate in a morning workshop on global warming on Saturday, February 19, and the committee is inviting not only UUCT members, but others in our community and area UU congregations as well. We'll learn more about global warming and brainstorm together to commit to action on behalf of the environment and the world. More environmental and healing issues will be developed in the adult forum and service that Sunday as we focus on our UU seventh principle, "respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part." Reverend Jesch will give the homily. There will be more information on the weekend's events in the February *Meridian*.

### Global Warming

It's on its way! Floridians may expect rising sea levels to impact coastal property. (Sell soon!)

We can expect saltwater intrusion and perhaps more intense hurricanes. Scientists are still not sure of the effect of global warming on the frequency of

these storms. However, Alaskans, Canadians, and people in other Arctic lands in Europe and Asia are already feeling changes. In August, I returned to the Brooks Range within the Arctic Circle for a 10-day river rafting adventure on the Kongakut River. I saw changes attributed to global warming which I did not see six years ago while rafting the nearby Hulahula River.

This summer we saw cottonwoods growing beside the river and also climbing up the mountains, the only trees visible in the entire range other than small river willows. Moose feed on cottonwoods, and their range is moving further north. We saw several of them this year. Rivulets of melting permafrost ran steadily between the hummocks of soggy tundra as we labored to hike up mountains in rubber boots. The ice pack at the coast off Kaktovik on Barter Island is receding further and further, making it difficult for the Inuit people to reach whales, seals, and polar bears. Marie Antoinette might say "Let them eat Spam," but today their subsistence way of life depends on living off the sea. In the Alaskan interior, houses are sinking due to the melting permafrost

and roads are buckling. Global warming has arrived in Alaska.

This crisis will effect us soon enough. For these reasons, the Green Sanctuary Committee has chosen to address the issue of global warming proactively: to help our congregation learn more about what is occurring and why, and to commit to action—personally, as families, as a church and as a community—as well as to affect legislation at a national level. The nature of the interdependent web on earth is quickly becoming apparent world-wide.

Mark Twain said: "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody ever does anything about it." The Green Sanctuary Committee and UUCT disagree. Many members are already making strong statements through educating themselves to current issues and through personal change. Remember to join us for the Saturday workshop and Sunday forum and service the weekend of Feb. 19 - 20 as we strengthen our inquiry and commitment together!

January 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> No Peace Dances
<b>2</b> RE Fun Day	<b>3</b> Office Closed 7:00 PM UU Buddhist Fellowship, sanc. 7:00 PM Journey Team, Rm K 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group, off-site 7:30 PM Bldgs. & Grounds Comm., Rm C	<b>4</b> 6:30 PM Spiral Scouts, Rms 3/6 & 2 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm K 7:15 PM Understanding the Bible, Rm L	<b>5</b> 11:30 AM UU Downtown Chow-Down, off-site 7:15 Membership Comm., Rm 2 7:30 PM Choir Practice, sanctuary	<b>6</b> 8:30 AM Green Sanctuary Comm., off-site 7:00 PM The Knitting Goddess, Rm 3/6	<b>7</b> 6:30 PM Potluck w/ FSU Muslim Tolerance & Dialogue Group, sanc. 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<b>8</b> 8:00 - 11:00 AM Spiral Scouts Fund Raiser Breakfast, sanc. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM All Church Workday 10:30 AM Choices for Sustainability, Rm C
<b>9</b> 9:30 AM Youth RE Committee, Rm K 12:30 PM Potluck 12:30 PM Vespers Service Planning Meeting, sanc. 12:30 PM Church Council, Rm L	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM Journey Team, Rm K 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group, off-site 7:15 PM The Shelter Meal, off-site	<b>11</b> 6:30 PM Spiral Scouts, Rms 3/6 & 2 7:00 PM UU Book Club, Rm C 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm K 7:15 PM Comm. on Ministry, Rm L	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Potuck & Community Night, sanctuary No Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM The Knitting Goddess, Rm 3/6	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> No Choir Practice 12:30 PM <i>Meridian</i> Deadline Afternoon Movie Discussion Group	<b>17</b> 6:00 PM Program Comm., off-site 7:00 PM Finance Committee, Church Council & Board, Rm L 7:00 PM UU Buddhist Fellowship, sanc. 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group, off-site	<b>18</b> 11:30 AM Personnel Committee, Rm K 6:30 PM Spiral Scouts, Rms 3/6 & 2 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm K 7:15 PM Understanding the Bible, Rm L	<b>19</b> 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting, Rm L 7:30 PM Choir Practice, sanctuary	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM The Knitting Goddess, Rm 3/6 7:00 PM Short Stories, Rm C	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group, off-site	<b>25</b> 6:30 PM Spiral Scouts, Rms 3/6 & 2 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm K	<b>26</b> 7:00 PM New UU, Rm L 7:30 PM Choir Practice, sanctuary	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM The Knitting Goddess, Rm 3/6 7:00 PM Short Stories, Rm C	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Caring Ministries Network Annual Luncheon, sanct.uary
<b>30</b> 12:15 PM Harmony Camp Meeting, Rm L	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group, off-site					

## Events: Upcoming UUCT, Social

### Upcoming UUCT Events

#### UU Downtown Chowdown,

**Wednesday, January 5, 11:30 AM.**

First Wednesday of the month, Jacob's Doubletree Inn. All welcome, no RSVP needed. Soup and salad \$6.95, full buffet \$10.95. Contact: Annette Pearce (386-4053, 891-8660).

#### Potluck with our Muslim Friends,

**Friday, January 7, 6:30 PM.** "Why Interfaith Dialogue Matters," in the sanctuary. It's our turn to feed the members and families of FSU's Muslim Tolerance and Dialogue Group after their hospitality at our shared Ramadan dinner. Let's show them how wonderful our potluck hospitality can be! They will bring Turkish baklava and tea; we'll provide the rest. *Important details for hosting our Muslim friends: No pork or pork products! Also, please list the ingredients of your potluck dish and bring beverages without alcohol.* Come learn about others, and yourself. **RSVP to the church office (385-5115) by Thursday, 1/6** with number coming and what you're bringing, so we can let everyone know how much to prepare. (Contact: Rev. Amy McKenzie, revamq@earthlink.net, 566-1388.)

**Spiral Scouts Breakfast, Saturday, January 8, 8:00 - 11:00 AM.** Come join the Spiral Scouts for a yummy breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, muffins, and more! There will be door prizes and information about the scouts. Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 kids, 3 and under free. This is a fund raiser for materials, fieldtrips and camping trips throughout the year.

**All Church Workday, Saturday, January 8, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.** Enjoy fellowship working on chores and projects to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Dave Harvey (668-9096, daveharv@mac.com).

**Second Sunday Potluck, Sunday, January 9, 12:30 PM.** Bring your favorite dish to share.

#### Church Council Meeting, Sunday, January 9, 12:30 PM.

The Council's quarterly meeting to share plans and coordinate. Contact: Christine Boczarska (893-7079, rrllee@infionline.net).

#### UUCT Community Night,

**Wednesday, January 12, 6:30 PM.** In the sanctuary, all invited. Meal at 6:30 and gathering for music from 7:15 - 8:00 PM. Bring a dish to share and a MUSICAL SPIRIT. Games, music, fun!

Contact: Maggie Geraci, DRE (877-6301, MaGeraci26@aol.com), Helen Falb, Music Director (309-6853, pianoskin@comcast.net) or Rev. Amy (566-1388, revamq@earthlink.net).

#### UUCT Movie Discussion Group,

**Sunday, January 16, Afternoon.** See a movie chosen by consensus, then go to a restaurant for discussion. Contact: Dave Harvey (668-9096, daveharv@mac.com).

**Church Council, Board, and Finance Committee Asking Budget Meeting, Monday, January 17, 7:00 PM.** In Rm. L, to review budget requests and the draft asking budget. Contact: VP for Finance DeLos DeTar (877-6649, ddetar@infionline.net).

**Second Annual Caring Ministries Luncheon, Saturday, January 29, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM.** The program will address the aspects of mental and spiritual health that affect our congregation and its members. We'll hear from a special speaker from NAMI (a nonprofit, grassroots, self-help, support and advocacy organization of consumers, families, and friends of people with severe and persistent mental illnesses that affect the brain). The Jan. 30 Sunday service will be on the same topic. Contact: Joanne Taylor (893-9024, taylorjoanne@earthlink.net).

**Peace Dances, Saturday, February 5, 7:30 PM.** In the sanctuary. Simple, meditative circle dances, rejuvenating and uplifting. Contact: Tom and Katya Taylor (656-9321, Katom@istal.com).

#### Heartbeats Concert, Saturday, February 12, 7:30 PM.

Mark your calendar and please note date and time change! This annual fundraiser is always a good time, featuring lots of great music, delicious food and socializing. Childcare will be available. If you or someone you know might be interested in performing, please contact Music Director Helen Falb ([pianoskin@comcast.net](mailto:pianoskin@comcast.net), 309-6853). We're looking for a wide variety of entertainers of all ages. Peggy Lentz has agreed to help coordinate food, featuring desserts, fruit and other delicacies. Please contact her to offer your yummy, finger-food contribution ([peglentz@aol.com](mailto:peglentz@aol.com), 878 2226). If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please contact Helen. Thanks!

#### Asking Budget Meetings, Sundays, February 20 and 27, 12:30 PM.

On Sunday, 2/20, we'll have an information and discussion meeting on the proposed Asking Budget, which members and friends will have received earlier by mail. On Sunday, 2/27, we'll have a voting meeting on the Asking Budget. Contact: Richard Dempsey (671-2748).

### UUCT Social Events

See Upcoming UUCT Events for details. Contact Pam Hoskins (893-5039, [pvhoskins@aol.com](mailto:pvhoskins@aol.com)) regarding possible UUCT social events.

- **UU Downtown Chowdown**, Wed. 1/5, 11:30 AM
- **Potluck with our Muslim Friends**, Fri., 1/7, 6:30 PM
- **Spiral Scouts Breakfast**, Sat. 1/8, 8:00 - 11:00 AM
- **Second Sunday Potluck**, Sun. 1/9, 12:30 PM
- **UUCT Community Night**, Wed., 1/12, 6:30 PM
- **Movie Discussion Group**, Sun. 1/16, Afternoon
- **Peace Dances**, Sat. 2/5, 7:30 PM
- **Annual UUCT Heartbeats Concert**, Sat. 2/12, 7:30 PM

## Events: Non-UUCT, FL District, The Mountain

### January Non-UUCT Events

- Every Sunday, 7:00 PM, Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)
- Every Thursday, 7:00 PM, Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 1/1, 11:30 AM, private wedding (Sanctuary)
- Wed. 1/12, 6:30 PM, Therapy Group (Rm L)
- Sat. 1/22, tentative, private wedding (Sanctuary)
- Tues. 1/25, 6:30 PM, Therapy Group (Rm L)

### District Events

Info. at back of sanctuary or in office.

- The Bible and the Ballot, Sat. 1/15, Ormond Beach

- Integrating World Religions into Liberal Spirituality, Sat. 1/29, Jacksonville
- Healing the Interdependent Web...Let It Begin with Me, Margot Adler, Fri.-Sun., 2/18-20, Ft. Myers
- District Annual Assembly with UUA President Bill Sinkford, Fri. & Sat. 4/8-9, Oviedo
- Deep Caring & Risk Management Workshop, Sat. 4/16, Gainesville
- Roots Hold Us Close: An All - Age FL UU Fest, Fri. - Sun., 5/27 - 29, Oviedo (worship, share, explore, sing, laugh)

### Mountain & UU in Pines Events

**UU in the Pines**, the UU conference center in west-central Florida, is offering an Elderhostel program, "Explore Florida's

Ecosystems from the Water Up: Canoeing Three Rivers," three different weeks this winter: Jan. 16 – 21, Feb. 13 – 18, Feb. 27 – Mar. 4. To register, contact Elderhostel (by calling toll-free to 877-426-8056, by fax to 877-426-2166, on-line at [www.elderhostel.org](http://www.elderhostel.org), or by mail to Elderhostel, 11 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, MA 02111-1746).

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Centers, a Unitarian Universalist Association affiliate organization, is offering a wide variety of Elderhostel programs from March – June and August – October, 2005. For more information, check the bulletin board or Mountain notebook at the back of the sanctuary. Or contact UUCT Mountain Ambassador Linda Winn-Brown (562-4755, [lwinn41@earthlink.net](mailto:lwinn41@earthlink.net)) or The Mountain directly (828-526-5838, [www.mountaincenters.org](http://www.mountaincenters.org)).

## UUCT and Tallahassee Civil Rights History

By Francis T. Ventre, UUCT Member

I am proposing that the historic, former Unitarian Fellowship of Tallahassee building be saved and included in the Florida State University (FSU) Campus Master Plan.

In 1954, the Unitarian Fellowship of Tallahassee was formed, with its constitution, bylaws and charter from the Unitarian Association in Boston. Dr. and Mrs. Paul Finner gave the land on what is now Wildwood Drive, on the south side of the FSU campus, for the construction site of a chapel. Dr. Finner was a retired FSU psychology professor, and Bertha Finner was famous for having been asked to stop teaching at a Methodist Sunday school because of her liberal beliefs.

Architect Ernest Daffin and building contractor Arthur Fixel, a UFT member, went to work. Construction began in May, 1956, and was completed that December. In 1964, North Meridian Road was chosen as a possible site for the ever-expanding church, and in 1966, FSU agreed to buy the Wildwood property.

While I was presenting this information to fellow members of the board of

directors of the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation several months ago, two people said that the Unitarian Fellowship was where civil rights initiatives were talked about in Tallahassee during the late 1950s and into the 1960s. This intrigued me, so I did some research.

The Tallahassee Council on Human Relations was Tallahassee's first integrated civic organization. It met during the late 1950s and into the 1960s. In *The Pain and the Promise: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Tallahassee, Florida*, Glenda Alice Rabby says the following about the council: ". . . held its weekly meetings in the Unitarian [Fellowship] near Florida State University. Those 'blessed Unitarians,' Lillian Shaw recalled twenty-four years later, . . ." (Ms. Shaw was interviewed in 1982.) Rabby also says: ". . . the fact that black and white citizens were gathering on an integrated basis somewhere in the city was news in Tallahassee."

On Heritage Day in January 2004, FSU's "Integration," a group of three

African-American figures sculpted by Stanley W. "Sandy" Proctor out of bronze, was dedicated on Woodward Street Plaza on the north side of FSU's campus. This is in a line with the Wildwood site, which is just to the south. The three figures are: Maxwell Courtney, the first black student to enroll at FSU in 1962; Fred Flowers, the first black baseball player in 1965; and Doby Flowers, the first black homecoming queen in 1970.

Just think about it. Civil rights plans were made on Wildwood in the fifties and sixties and "Integration" was dedicated on Woodward in 2004. You could not mark the civil rights movement in Tallahassee better than to preserve the Fellowship building on Wildwood. Yet the FSU Campus Master Plan is considering tearing the building down.

I hope this important monument in Tallahassee will be allowed to stand and be restored to its architectural splendor.

In community,  
Francis

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee  
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### 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."**

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- \* Richard Dempsey, President
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### 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.

### Mark Your Checks

- Note the purpose of every check in the memo line (pledge, UUSC...)
- Note the year for pledge checks: 03/04 or 04/05.
- Write separate checks for the Operating Budget (payable to UUCT) and Capital Campaign (payable to UUCT Building Fund).
- And a reminder that the three-year Capital Campaign pledge period ended 6/30/04.