July 2007

Volume 50, No. 7

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Every Sunday:

Calendar

9:45 AM Choir Practice no choir practice through 8/5 9:45 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM (Also 3-5 year olds for summer) 11:00 AM Youth RE Summer Program (elementary ages)

Adult Forum Topics:

- July 1, DVD "Iraq for Sale"
- July 8, Discuss, "Iraq for Sale," Linda Logan
- July 15, TBA
- July 22, DVD "The Big Lie" Linda Logan
- July 29, Discuss "The Big Lie," Linda Logan

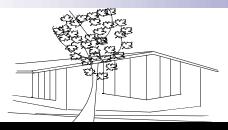
Summer Highlights:

- **Church Council** Meeting, Sun. 7/8, 12:45 PM
- Welcome Reception for Robin & Linda. Sun. 8/5, 12:00 PM
- Day of Great Effort & Fun, Sat. 8/18, 8:00 AM - Noon



for our In-Gathering and Water Ceremony at summer's end.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee



The Meridian

July Sundays (11:00 AM)

Change and the UU Church July 1

The UU Church in the U.S. has slowly but continually changed since William Ellery Channing presided over the split with the Congregational Church in Boston almost two centuries ago. What changes have taken place since that time, specifically in the last generation? Are some Sunday programs acceptable 15-20 years ago now seen by some as unsuitable? How does this change affect different categories of believers in our church? Finally, how can we, as a congregation, best react to these changes to prevent our differences from dividing us? Speaker: Ron Crowe; Lay Leader: Jack McDevitt

July 8 The Nobility of Being a UU

In addition to managing his law practice in Tallahassee, Tim Howard works as Law and Policy Doctorate Program Director on the graduate school faculty of Northeastern University in Boston, MA, He will talk about the learning and evolving a former orthodox Christian must go through, including the embracing of honest, humble existence and noble thinking, in order to be comfortable in a church such as ours. (Also Shelter meal collection)

Speaker: Tim Howard; Lay Leader: Tony Flagg

July 15 How Four of Us Came to Be UUs and How We Feel About It

Four members of various ages will tell about their religious or nonreligious backgrounds, their present religious/nonreligious philosophies, what brought them to the UU church, and how they now view UUism, its plusses and minuses. Speakers: Sally Andersen, Steve Lize, Joanne Taylor, and Dexter Easton; Lay Leader: Abbe Justus

July 22 On Being a Fly on the Wall

It is an age for Isaiah, burning with indignation, calling us to return to the One True God. It is an hour to pause and consider how we got to where we are and what comes next. It is an instant when trust is needed after trust has been shredded by deceit. It is our time, our moment, our lives. What might we see if we were the fly on the wall?

Speaker: Richard Dempsey; Lay Leader: Ellen Dempsey

The Power of the Few and the One

How can people, either alone or in a small group, make a notable difference? Inspired by his experiences as city manager in small to midsize cities in Georgia during the eighties and nineties, Tony's talk will focus on actual individuals, working along or with a few others, whose actions have brought about positive changes in their communities.

Speaker: Tony Lloyd; Lay Leader: Eliza Coyne

Parting Words from Rev. Lyn Plumb

What follows are excerpts from Rev. Lyn Plumb's parting sermon on June 17, 2007: Back to the Future.

Well, you have done it. You have met the many goals set for this interim year. Chief among them, of course, is that you have called a new minister to be with you come August.

Learning and acquiring some wisdom about your past, you are now ready to fully embrace your future, to get back to thinking primarily of your future. It is a time to celebrate, a time to rejoice in all you have done, and a time to look confidently at the times to come. From this interim time with me, I hope we have learned some things that would be prudent for us all to carry into the future, wherever you and I may find ourselves.

We have both learned how to embody the ideal of a shared ministry. I, as your minister, and you, as the congregation, have successfully worked as a team this year. It was not so much a situation where one of us had power over the other as it was where power was rather evenly shared between us. It is the best shared ministry I have encountered in my many years in church life.

We have both learned how to think positively rather than negatively, using the technique of Appreciative Inquiry. We discovered that we can hold up before ourselves what is the best in us, what is the most meaningful in us, as a beacon in dealing with any issue that might come along. We don't have problems so much as opportunities to build on what is already good and valuable within us.

I believe you have gained much wisdom in these past years, wisdom that will be of utmost importance as you continue on in your future. So, just what are some aspects of wisdom that we have all acquired?

First, simply listen. Listen to all others who surround you, be they members of a committee on which vou serve, someone vou are chatting with at coffee hour or at another church social event, or someone who has issues and problems they wish to share with you. If we wish to have successful and productive interactions with people, we must develop this habit, this ability to really hear what others are saying, and the reasons why people are saving those things. We must try to listen very carefully if we are to glean the correct meaning of what is being said.

When endeavoring to listen attentively to one another, do so with compassion - and love. Love and accept unconditionally all the people in the congregation, both the ones who are easy to love, and those, perhaps especially those, who may not be so easy to love. That is not to say we should condone any wrongdoing, mind you. Love the person, not necessarily the deed.

Second, be accepting and tolerant, even welcoming, of the diversity in your midst. This congregation has its staunch humanists and its theists, its young people still in university, its young families and its members with many years of life experiences behind them – a diversity of beliefs, ages and stages of life. Always ask yourselves – how can we all honor our diversity? A well balanced

diversity greases the wheels and contributes to over all health and well-being — and growth, both in numbers and in a deeper sense of identity and purpose.

Third, forever ask yourselves – what is for the good of the whole congregation? What is it in everything you say or do here that will ultimately be beneficial to the whole of what you all are? How can you still respect and honor individual opinions and needs, but meld that with the needs of the whole?

Fourth, honor our democratic process. Honor and abide by congregational decisions, board decisions, leadership's decisions. Respect the work and needs that went into any recommendation, any proposal that is brought before the whole. If you feel compelled to change the decision for some strong reason, it requires appropriate and careful action, striving to work within the democratic process. Otherwise, it is breaking the sacred democratic covenant.

All of these points that I have brought up can be found in one congregational document, the Covenant of Right Relations that you worked on as a church community this year. In your future, you will be invited to make this document a living and viable thing. and not just one gathering dust in church archives. Refer to it, use it, read it time and time again in church meetings both formal and informal, yea, in any interaction between church members. It sets the groundwork for all health and well being in your congregation as a whole, a groundwork that you all decided upon together.

New President's Message

By Steve Urse, Executive Board President

Happy New Year! ... as we build relationships and community ... and it promises to be a very good one. July 1 brings in a new fiscal year with change in the air. Building relationships and building community will be our theme as we welcome a new settled minister -Rev. Robin Gray (August 1), a new director of Religious Education -Keitha Whitaker (June 24), and a new office administrator to be hired. Transition, although exciting, has its challenges, and those challenges are being met one by one - carefully, thoughtfully with a close eye on current policies and our new covenant of right relations.

We are very appreciative of those beloved employees who are leaving and who worked tirelessly to make UUCT a better place – Maggie Geraci, Kathie Mackie, and of course, this past year Rev Lyn Plumb.

We are also appreciative of those Executive Board members who have faithfully served and are now moving to a different call – Past President Christine Boczarska, VP for Religious Education Kelley Turnage, VP for Finance Jim Dawson, and Interim Secretary Barbara Sterling, as well as those committee chairs, coordinators and contact people who are leaving

current positions to serve in another way. They will be recognized next month after the June/July winds of leadership change.

I look forward to working in shared ministry with Rev. Robin Gray, the Executive Board and the Church Council to build an even stronger, more effective church community. Our new lay leaders are very talented. I also feel fortunate to build upon the good work of DeWayne Carver and other recent presidents, boards and councils.

So to all: Excelsior! Onward and Upward!

Steve

Special Thanks to Kathie Mackie

By Trudy Deyle, Meridian Editor & Membership Chair

It is with great appreciation that we bid farewell to Kathie Mackie as a staff member, with hopes that she will maintain ties with the UUCT community. For almost nine years, Kathie has worked hard and conscientiously as our church office administrator, always maintaining her even temper, good nature and sense of humor. She has always been responsive to members and friends needing information or help and has often been an inquirer's first friendly contact with UUCT.

Through the calm times at UUCT and the rockier ones, Kathie continued to remain pleasant to all, work hard, and accomplish her many duties – usually juggling several or more tasks at the same time and often with frequent interruptions.

Kathie has worked cooperatively with other staff, lay leaders and church volunteers to implement many changes in the office in her nine years: the conversion of record-keeping to a church database with multiple capabilities. the move to distribute as much as possible to members and friends electronically, the periodic upgrading of our office equipment and computers, re-formatting the newsletter so it could be printed in house, and later developing new submission guidelines for shortening it.

Kathie truly cared about UUCT and its success as a congregation every day that she came to work. Her heart was in the job, and it showed in her dedication as a staff member. Above and beyond her work in the office, Kathie has also

been very supportive of our green sanctuary initiatives, including researching and implementing printer cartridge recycling by the congregation and coordinating the initial adult religious education class offered on living more simply.

Kathie came to UUCT after eleven years at Temple Israel and is moving on to work in the office at St. Paul's United Methodist Church near Lake Ella. It's hard to believe there could be any person in Tallahassee with more diversity of congregational, administrative experience than Kathie will have. Kathie, we wish you all the best, hope to see you at UUCT from time to time in the future, and look forward to bumping into you walking around Lake Ella on your lunch breaks!

Announcements

- July Church Office
 Hours. The office will be open abbreviated hours in July and possibly in part or all of August. Beginning Mon. 7/9, hours will be: 9:00 AM 1:00 PM, Monday Friday, staffed by Pam Davidson as our temporary office assistant. For the first week in July, hours will be early morning Thurs. 7/5 and Fri. 7/6.
- OA Search. We're currently conducting a search for a new office administrator, advertising one Sun, and then on-line for a month in The Democrat. After the 7/17 application deadline, the OA Search Committee (Rev. Robin Gray, Steve Urse, Don Berger, Ellen Dempsey and Trudy Deyle, as chair) will select which candidates to interview based on skills and experience. We hope to have a recommendation for hiring to the board in early August. Per the FY 07-08 budget, the new OA will work 30 hrs./wk. versus 40. The OA position description specifies that the OA may not have been a member or supporting friend of the congregation during the past year. If you know of someone outside our congregation who might be interested in the job, an individual may apply by sending a cover letter and resume to adevle@iuno.com or to the church addressed to Trudy Devle, OA Search Committee.
- Kitchen Kontrollers Needed. If the congregation wants to have coffee in July we will need volunteers for preparation and clean-up. Please contact Hospitality coordinator Nancy Harvey (npharv@aol.com, 668-9096) if you can volunteer for one or more Sundays in July or for a subsequent month.

- **Temporary Position Open to** Members, Friends, Others. Would work for six weeks, Sun. 8/12 - Sun. 9/16 while nursery worker Emmy Barthel-Mackie is on maternity leave. Need someone who enjoys and is experienced in caring for babies. toddlers and pre-schoolers. Two hours every Sunday, with added hour first Sun. of month, plus possible other times when childcare needed. Pay: \$10.98/hr. Send cover letter and resume to DRE Keitha Whitaker (345-2268) - by e-mail preferably (uukeitha@comcast.net) or by hard-copy (mail to church or put in Keitha's UUCT mailbox).
- Extra Publicity Collection a
 Success! We surpassed our goal
 of \$1,500 for our 6/3 extra
 publicity collection. Thank you to
 all who contributed! We may now
 also be able to underwrite
 once/wk. on WFSU. To still
 contribute to this special outreach
 effort, make checks out to UUCT
 with "publicity" in memo line —
 drop in Sun. collection basket or
 mail to church.
- Memorial Garden Notes. By the time you read this, the first order of engraved bricks will probably be installed in front of the memorial wall. Please take time to go out and see them. To be included in next order: order forms in back of sanctuary in plastic wall pocket. Contact Joan Patterson (309-1248; patterson090@comcast.net).
- Acknowledging Your
 Contributions. '07-'08 fiscal
 year starts 7/1. Please complete
 pledges for '06-'07 ASAP. We'll
 accept all late contributions.
 Request statement any time from
 Tom Chase (422-1985).

- Contributions appreciated any time: weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually, but other than weekly preferred. For '07-'08, we'll send only quarterly statements and a final in 6/08.
- UUCT T-shirts. A few left in each adult size at \$10 each. Contact Barbara Sterling (386-7453, sterlingsilver@earthlink.net).
- New UUCT Directory. The new church directory as of 7/1/07 is available for all members and supporting friends and was sent electronically to all with email. If you need a hard copy, stop by the office after 7/8 or see Membership chair Trudy Deyle any Sun. except 7/1.
- Now Is the Time! The UUA has launched its new "campaign to grow our faith," a comprehensive fundraising campaign. Per the UUA: "When we asked what our congregations need to thrive, thousands of UUs responded with 'Help us grow!' Let us seize this moment to grow stronger and more vital; we believe our religious values are needed to help heal our wounded world. We are better together. Visit uua.org/giving/nowis to learn more about this initiative."
- July Trustee Tidbits. FL District UUA Trustee Joan Lund's article posted in sanctuary north entry. Subject: UU Musicians Network.
- FL District News. Check out the Denominational Affairs bulletin board in the sanctuary north entry for excellent, thought-provoking, monthly messages and news from District Executive Rev. Kenn Hurto and District Program Consultant Connie Goodbread. Messages can also be read online in FL District monthly packet (floridadistrict.org).

June Board Actions

By Barbara Sterling, Acting Executive Board Secretary

The Executive Board met 6/3/07 and took the following actions:

Accepted 125 Cafeteria Plan for employee benefits.

Accepted 4/22/07 board minutes and 5/20/07 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes.

Authorized DRE Search Committee to call Keitha Whitaker as new DRE at 20 hours per week.

Accepted April Treasurer's Report.

Approved publishing in newsletter a

list of UUCT members and friends giving pledges to the church.

The Executive Board also took the following actions by e-mail vote:

On 5/22/07, authorized the formation of Office Administrator (OA) Search Committee and funds to pay for ad(s) and temporary help as needed, with committee to consist of 5 voting members (VP for Management, Minister, President of Board, MembershipChair/Meridian Editor,

and 1 additional person to be appointed by Board).

On 6/11/07, authorized that: Trudy Devle serve as chair of the OA Search Committee, as recommended by Christine Boczarska, Board member overseeing Personnel Committee; Don Berger replace Dave Harvey on the committee, due to Dave's upcoming surgery and recuperation period; and Ellen Dempsey be the fifth committee member.

Our Thanks for Your Pledged **Financial Support** for the New Fiscal Year

Dan Apatiga

Sally Andersen

Dottie & Tom Baldwin

Baseheart, Ed

Nancy Bass

Connie Beane & Ed

Tribble

Marty Beech

Don Beeckler

Don Berger & Pat Farris

Christine Boczarska

Fran Boyle

Bruce & Junelle Brandt

Cathy Briggs

Dewaine Rester & Tina

Bush Rester

Tim Campbell

Jennifer & DeWayne

Carver

Tom & Norene Chase

Jean & Joe Chulak

Louise L Clay

R Parker Collins

Barney & Laura Cook

Eliza Coyne

Don & Pam Crosby

Kandy & Ron Crowe Dan Damerville

Q. Michele Davidson

Jim Dawson

Greg DeAngelo

Susan Snyder & Frank

Deasy

Ellen & Richard

Dempsey

Jim Denny & Sara Reece

Del & Karla DeTar Bob & Trudy Deyle

LaRae & Pat Donnellan

Eric Draper & Sheila Meehan

Carolyn DuBard

Charlotte & Woody

Dudley

Dexter Easton

Elinor Elfner

Earle & Eleanor Enge

Dean Falk

Art & Carolyn Fixel

Tony Flagg

Barbara Gearhart Yvonne Gsteiger

Mary Johnson Guy

Dave & Nancy Harvey

Harold & Margaret Hawkins

Barbara Hogan

Debbie & Tom Holt Michele Hope

Pam & Walter Hoskins

Linda Jamison

Mimi Jones

Chris Ellrich & Abbe

Justus

Janet Kistner & George

Weaver

George Knight

Joe Lama

Jerry Lawrence

Dick Leinberry

Peggy Lentz & Ray

Tucker

Barbara Lineberry

Tony & Hollie Lloyd

Linda Logan

Heinz Luebkemann

Amy Mann

Dorothy Mann

Doug Martin

John McDevitt

Grace Martin Jack & Terri Martin Pauline Masterton

Dan Mears & Emily Leventhal

Maria Mena

Jan Miller

Margaret Mooney

Tom R. Moore

Ed & Linda Oaksford

Jan & Rod Oldenburg

Howard & Carolyn

Pardue

Joan A. Patterson

Annette Pearce

Ruth Pestle

Mary Pope

Lorin Pratt

Kim Ross & Brian Lee

Cecile Rosser

Bill & Jeanne Ryder

Deidra Schaub

Karen Share

Isabel Sheridan

Jim & Mimi Stangel

Dick Steele

Barbara Sterling

Elspeth Stowell

Joanne Taylor

Katya & Tom Taylor

Mary Huggins & Susan Teisciero

Phillip Thompson & Logan Hunter-Thompson

Allen & Kelley Turnage

Cheryl Turner

Mary Tyler

Steve Urse

Burke & Jane Vanderhill

Mary & Steve VanSciver Francis & Mary Ventre

Elizabeth Vigil

Gwendolyn Waldorf

Don Weed

John Whitton

Jean & Ken Wood

Yvonne Worden Linda Wright & Robin

Gray



Campus Ministry Corner

By Brian Lee, Campus Ministry Coordinator

The Campus Ministry is proud to report that UUCT has received Anchor Congregation status by the UUA. The Anchor Congregation award, which Pippin Whitaker received on behalf of UUCT at General Assembly, "recognizes congregations that have made a substantive commitment to young adult and campus ministry, and which serve as a model to other UU congregations seeking to do young adult and campus ministry."

Thanks to all the college students and young adults who make up the program, the Campus Ministry Committee past and present, the UUCT staff, and all of the members and friends whose vision and support of Campus Ministry at UUCT for the past eleven years have earned us national recognition!

As the Campus Ministry program continues to move forward, there has been some discussion of starting a "Soulful Sundown" program this fall at UUCT. Soulful Sundown is a music-based worship service targeted at young adults, college students, and all those looking to celebrate their spirituality in an experiential, participatory and energetic way. If you are interested in joining the Soulful Sundown Team and helping to

develop this concept, please contact Brian Lee.

Summer Coffee Hour is at Black Dog Café at Lake Ella on Fridays at 6:30 PM, except for July 6, when we will have Coffee Hour at All Saints before heading out to the First Friday Gallery Hop at Railroad Square.

For more information about the University Unitarian Universalists, contact your Campus Ministry coordinator Brian Lee (877-1972, brianlee@hcsmail.com). To sign up for our email list, send an email to UUUTally-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Appreciation



To:

- May Kitchen Kontrollers Nina Cline, Tom & Linda Wheatley and Carolyn Pardue, and cleanup volunteers Ken and Jean Wood, Bruce Brandt, Michele Hope, Howard Pardue, Kelley Turnage, Linda Logan and Kim Ross.
- Mimi Jones, Jan & Rod Oldenburg, Dick Leinberry, Norene & Tom Chase, Joan Patterson, Dan & Susan Damerville, Abbe Justus & Chris Ellrich, Erin Hamilton, Greg Laemmerich and University UUs Brian Lee, Frank Green, Emily Peffer, and Ben Thayer for doing June Shelter meal.
- Claudia Joyner, Lorin Pratt, and Nina Cline for volunteering in the nursery.

- Annette Pearce, Linda
 Oaksford, Barbara Sterling,
 Sara Reece, Michele Hope,
 Carolyn DuBard, Rod
 Oldenburg, Peggy Lentz,
 Christine Boczarska for
 greeting Sun. 5/29-6/24.
- Tom Moore for hosting the 2nd Annual Blueberry Pickin' Party in early June.
- refreshments for the June 24 reception for our new DRE Keitha Whitaker, with special thanks to Kandy Crowe for the yummy cake!
- Jennifer and DeWayne
 Carver, Isabel Sheridan and
 Pippin Whitaker for
 representing UUCT at the UUA
 General Assembly in June.

Workday Thanks

Six people attended the June 9 workday. George Knight removed leaves from driveways and a dead tree from the parking lot. Mitch McDermott mowed the grass. Mitch McDermott, Tom Chase, and Dave Harvey worked on the metal hand rails. Steve Urse worked on landscaping tasks. Joe Lama picked up trash, moved the loose gravel back into the parking lots, replenished wood chips in the tot playground, and washed some windows on the new building.

Also thanks to **those who worked throughout June** maintaining the property and keeping things looking good, especially the watering crew during this drought.



Caring Network and Membership News

Caring Ministries Network

Our hearts and minds are with:

Howard Kessler and Anne VanMeter as they cope with the death of Howard's son **David** in June.

Margaret and Harold Hawkins who celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary and Harold's birthday in June. We will be thinking of Harold as he has double knee replacement on July 12. We will think of son Joe Hawkins, as he seeks to take care of both of them during this time. Hopefully, Margaret will be able to go to rehab during the time of Harold's surgery.

Christine Boczarska who has recovered from a severe GI tract infection. She is delighted to feel like herself again!

Anne Rudioe as she continues to recover from radio wave oblation of a tumor in her liver. She has appreciated calls, cards and meals provided by thoughtful members.

Joe Chulak who was strong enough to go home on June 14, after over two weeks of hospitalization related to his long-term lymphocytic leukemia. The Chulaks will be happy to have brief visits, preferably in the afternoon after 1:30 PM. Call first if you want to visit. They will appreciate cards and assistance with meals.

Eleanor Enge who is recovering from a break of the head of the tibia. She is getting around in a wheel chair and on crutches.

Dave Harvey as he recovers from a successful knee replacement. His recovery has been remarkably good.

Karen Hastings on the death of her husband, **Bill Buckley**. (Karen and Bill were UUCT members before retiring and moving to CA).

Welcome New Friends!

- Claudia Montague &
- Jeff Shanks, along with children Brandewyn Sage & Alex

New UU Sessions

Next sessions: Early fall. Sign up back of sanctuary, or contact church office (<u>uuct@nettally.com</u>, 385-5115) or membership chair Trudy Deyle (<u>gdeyle@juno.com</u>, 422-1057). Childcare if requested.

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 and opportunity for interaction with minister.

Dinners for 8 with Robin & Linda

The first round of Dinners for 8 for the new church year will be get-toknow-you dinners with Rev. Robin Gray and her spouse, Linda Wright. The dinners will start in mid-August and run into September, continuing until all interested have a chance to participate. Preferred nights are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. As usual, there will be both adults-only and intergenerational dinners. If you'd be willing to host one of these special dinners, please contact new **Dinners Coordinator Carolyn** Pardue (pardue2@comcast.net, 386-1494). And a special thanks to Junelle Brandt for coordinating Dinners for 8 the past few years!

On-going Opportunities

- Sunday Hospitality and Clean Up: Contact Nancy Harvey (npharv@aol.com, 668-9096).
- 2nd Saturday Workdays: Contact Don Berger (422-2847, berger-don@comcast.net).

Current UUCT Stats

- Certified Membership (as of 1/07) 172
- Current Membership 162
- Current No. Friends 59
- Average Sunday Service Attendance - Adults
 - May 2007: 105.0
 - · 7/06 5/07: 100.4
 - · 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)
 - 5/07: 27
 - 9/06 5/07: 27
 - 9/05 5/06: 27
 - 9/04 5/05: 33.8
- Nursery Help: Contact DRE Keitha Whitaker (345-2268, uukeitha@comcast.net).
- 2nd Monday Shelter Meal: Contact Abbe Justus (ajustus212@comcast.net, 668-4122).
- Sunday Service Greeter: Contact Debbie Holt (553-3231, holt0119@earthlink.net).



Lifespan Religious Education



Youth Religious Education (RE)

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

YOUTH RE CONTACTS:

- Terri Martin, Youth RE **Committee Chair** (tmartin823@comcast.n et, 385-5106)
- Keitha Whitaker, **Director of Religious** Education (DRE), (uukeitha@comcast.net, 345-2268)

New DRE: 2007 continues to be a very eventful one for the church. Right Relations covenanting, a new minister, and now a new DRE! The Executive Board approved the hiring of Keitha Whitaker for the job at its June meeting. We are thrilled to have Keitha on staff. If you missed the church-wide announcement in June, be sure to pick up a flyer on our new DRE at the back of the sanctuary.

Keitha has just completed two weeks of training with outgoing DRE Maggie. We welcomed her to the congregation with a reception in June, and she will be installed formally in September. If you haven't already, please introduce yourself and give Keitha a warm UUCT welcome!

RE classes: Our summer curriculum, UUCT World Travelers, is underway. So far the children have visited Japan with Mary Van Sciver, South Africa with Nancy Bass, Uruguay with Maria Mena and Switzerland with Eliza Coyne (yodel-ay-hee-hoo!). In July and August, the bus will stop in:

Bulgaria (Pauline Masterton),

- Belize or Guatemala (The Carvers).
- somewhere in Africa (thanks, Debbie Holt!),
- Canada (the Lloyd Family),
- China (Isabel Sheridan, Christine Boczarska),
- India (Pippin Whitaker, Steve Lize).
- New Zealand or Australia (Tom Moore – thanks, mate!),
- Mexico (Nancy Bass in for a second round, assisted by Senorita Ezi).

That's quite a ways to travel over the course of a few short months. and we are very grateful to the creative and loving volunteers who are bringing these countries to life with bright garb, tasty treats, videos, crafts, games, stories and other fun. The program ends with a bang at a World Travelers party on August 26.

Playground: The playground located at the back of the church is closed and locked until further notice. The Buildings & Grounds and Youth RE committees reviewed it for safety and found some problems that need to be corrected. We have scheduled "The Day of Great Effort & Fun" on Saturday, August 18 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and encourage you to participate in whatever way you can! Come anytime after 8:00 AM, as help will be needed throughout the morning.

There will be childcare for younger kids, and we hope older kids will help with moving around mulch, etc. We especially encourage parents and their kids to participate together but would love to see others pitching in, too ... helping care for younger kids, serving

lemonade, cheering on the ablebodied. Please contact DRE Keitha Whitaker, VP for RE Eliza Coyne (877-5415), or B & G chair Don Berger (422-2847) if you can volunteer or have questions.

Be safe: Speaking of safety ... a reminder to parents to supervise your children after the service. If your kids are in RE, please pick them up by 12:15 PM at the latest from their classrooms. Children are not allowed in classrooms after RE classes end (classrooms should be locked). We know how easy it is to get distracted while socializing after church, but please make sure to keep a close eve on junior and juniorette. If you're not familiar with the safety policy, consult the copy posted on the RE bulletin board or request a copy from Keitha or the church office.

Youth Group for Summer: Our middle and high school youth group is not meeting weekly this summer but may get together for one or more special activities over the summer. Watch for announcements; details will be provided to the youth through the youth e-mail list. For more information about the group, contact advisor Scott Geraci (877-6301, sgeraci68@yahoo.com).



Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

Adult Religious Education Adult RE Survey (RE)

ADULT RE CONTACTS:

- Isabel Sheridan, Adult RE **Coordinator** (668-0785, iasheridan@nettally.com)
- Keitha Whitaker, Director of Religious Education (uukeitha@comcast.net, 345-2268)

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 RE coordinator.

The Adult RE Committee is still compiling the results of the survey on classes and workshops the congregation may want in the coming year. They will work with Rev. Robin after her arrival in August to set up a schedule of Adult RE classes and events for the fall. Watch next month for the results of the survey. Questions? Contact Isabel.

Classes Beginning

UU Committed Couples Enrichment Program. A UU principles and values based enrichment program designed for married/partnered adults, gay and straight alike, to nurture intimacy, spiritual connection, and emotional fulfillment. Topics include: covenant, humility, trust, dignity, generosity, connection, playfulness, collaboration, commitment, love, and celebration. To be offered as a series of short workshops.

On Sun. 8/26, 12:45 - 1:45 PM, Rms 3/6 (or possibly Rm L), there will be an orientation session for the program. Couples, or individuals within couple, are welcome (i.e. if both in a couple can't make the orientation, it will be fine for one to come). Lunch will be provided with advance notification that you are coming. We'll compare our schedules and plan dates for the actual workshops. 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 (422-1985, nochase@earthlink.net).

Freethinkers' Forum. Meets weekly to study and discuss issues of philosophy and religion. Meets Thursdays, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Rm. L. For current topics, contact Ron Crowe (997-5307, rongcro2@juno.com).

Events: National & The Mountain

National Events & Programs

More info.: Denominational affairs bulletin board, sanctuary north entry.

SUUSI, Sunday – Saturday, July 15 **– 21.** For lots of adventures, challenging conversations, nature trips, and workshops on an unbelievable number of topics, come to Blacksburg, VA for the Southeast UU Summer Institute! See the online catalogue for more information: www.suusi.org. Contact: Rosa Morgan (212-3135).

UUSC JustWorks Camps

Freedom Summer 2007: A Civil Rights Journey (Intergenerational), 7/7 - 7/14.

D.C. Teen Leadership Camp, 8/5-8/10.

See denominational affairs bulletin board or visit uusc.org.

Programs at The Mountain

Elderhostels throughout the year. Topics: Appalachia, folklore, music, nature, hiking & outdoor adventures.

Mountaincamp, some spaces left. Visit www.mountaincenters.org.

Chamber Music in the Mountains, 7/13-18, w/ Highlands-Cashiers Festival.

Congregational Leadership School, 7/22-7/28.

Spiritual Practices Peacemaking, 8/6-11, Dr. Kenneth Nafziger & Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt.

Women's Weekend Retreat, 9/7-9. all ages.

Compassionate Communications. 10/5-7, Mary McKenzie.

Thanksgiving, 11/21-25, Mt. members.

Preparing for the Solstice -Emerging into Light, 12/14-16.

Celebrating the New Year, 12/28 or 12/29-1/1, w/ Randy & Sandra Locke.

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



Events: UUCT & District

Upcoming UUCT Events

Knitting for All, Thursdays, 7:00 PM. In Rm. 3/6; all ages, genders, and skill levels welcome. Bring knitting or crocheting, help folks learn, and/or just enjoy the fellowship. Baby-friendly. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301, minilawyer@embargmail.com).

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

2nd Sunday Potluck, July 8, 12:30 PM. Bring your favorite dish to share!

Church Council Meeting, Sunday, July 8, 12:45 PM. Chairs and coordinators, please make this important, transition meeting in Rm. L. We'll review leadership positions (using the new church contacts list), the Covenant of Right Relations, and goal-setting, as well as do the usual networking, coordinating and sharing. Contacts: Annette Pearce (386-4053, annette.pearce@gmail.com) or Steve Urse (surse2@earthlink.net, 385-2864).

UUCT Book Club, Tuesday, July 10, 7:00 PM. Every 2nd Tues. in Rm. C. Newcomers welcome. Childcare if requested. Contact: Linda Oaksford (422-0240, lloaksford@earthlink.net).

7/10 Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen

8/14 The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, Alexander McCall Smith

All-Church Workday, Saturday, July 14, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Fellowship working on buildings & grounds chores and projects. Contact: Don Berger (422-2847, berger-don@comcast.net). Movie Discussion Group, Sunday, July 15, Afternoon. See a movie chosen by consensus, then discuss at restaurant. Contact: Dave Harvey (daveharv@mac.com, 668-9096).

Welcome Reception for Rev. Robin Gray, Sunday, August 5, 12:00 **PM.** A congregation-wide event in the sanctuary immediately after her first service to welcome and meet our new settled minister and her spouse, Linda Wright. Bring a snack, sweet or beverage to share. Let's make this a finger-food lunch. Also, please try to carpool that day, and as willing and able, park off-site. Contact: Dick Leinberry (386-4977, rlibrary@nettally.com).

The Day of Great Effort & Fun, Saturday, August 18, 8:00 AM -12:00 PM. As many UUCTers as possible, turn out and help get our larger playground back in shape! Come and participate in whatever way you can! See Youth RE. Contacts: Don More info.: Church office, Denom. Berger (422-2847), DRE Keitha Whitaker (345-2268), Eliza Coyne (877-5415).

Non-UUCT Events

- Every Sunday, 7:00 PM, Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)
- Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 7/7, 4:00 PM on, McLawhorn/Coster wedding (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 7/14, 6:00 PM on, We Moon Spirit (Sanctuary)
- Mon. 7/23, 6:00 PM on, Leon DEC (Sanctuary)

FL District Events

- District Social Justice Strategy & Planning Session, Sat. 7/28, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Orlando. Contacts: Steve Jens-Rochow (siensrochow@comcast.net), Lea Hall (leahall@comcast.net).
- Light the Fire! Growing the UU Presence in Florida, NE Cluster workshop, Sat. 9/29, 8:30 AM -3:00 PM, Ormond Beach, Rev. Kenn Hurto facilitating.
- Growth & Diversity Conference, SW Cluster, Sat. 11/10, Sarasota, keynote speaker Rev. Kenn Hurto.

Affairs bulletin board (north entry sanctuary), or www.floridadistrict.org.

Social Justice



Harmony Camp: July 16-20

Harmony Camp time is almost here! The camp schedule is set and is loaded with exciting activities such as solar ovens, owl science, drumming, and Native American crafts, just to name a few. Each registered camper should have already received the sign-up form for camp classes. If you have registered a child for Harmony

Camp and have not received this form, please contact Charlotte Dudley (<u>lcdudley@yahoo.com</u>).

If you know of a child who might be interested in Harmony Camp (your child, a grandchild, a neighbor's child), we still have room for a few more campers! Registration forms are available on the information table at church on Sundays, or access one from the church's web

site (www.nettally.com/uuct).

We are still seeking senior volunteers interested in being interviewed for the camp's Oral History Project. If you are interested in volunteering to be interviewed, contact either Sally Andersen (385-4639) or Terri Martin (385-5106), the camp codirectors.

July 2007								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
1 No Choir Practice 9:30am Youth RE Committee, Rm K 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30pm Program Committee, Rm L	2	3	4	5 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L	6 5:30pm University UUs, Off-site	7 7:30pm Universal Dances of Peace, Sanctuary		
8 No Choir Practice 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30pm Potluck, Sanctuary 12:45pm Church Council, Sanctuary	9 5:00pm University UUs, off-site 7:00pm Bldgs. & Grnds. Comm., Rm C 7:15pm The Shelter Meal, Off-site	10 7:00pm UUCT Book Club, Rm C	11	12 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	13 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	14 9:00am All Church Workday		
No Choir Practice Afternoon Movie Discussion Group, Off-site 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30pm Meridian Deadline	16 3:00pm Finance Committee, Rm C	17 6:30pm Committee on the Ministry, Rm K	18	19 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	20 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	21		
22 No Choir Practice 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 2:00pm Freethinkers', Sanctuary	23	24	25	26 7:00pm Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00pm Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	27 6:30pm University UUs, Off-site	28		
29 No Choir Practice 9:45am Adult Forum, Rm L 5:00pm Executive Board, Rm L	30	31						

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 850-385-5115 Fax: 850-385-5834 Church Office hours: M-F 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Email: uuct@nettally.com

Our Web Address: www.nettally.com/uuct

Building A Home for Liberal Faith

Our Staff:

Rev. Robin Gray, Minister, starting 8/1/07.

Pam Davidson, Temporary Office Assistant, 385-5115; uuct@nettally.com (M-F, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

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

Keitha Whitaker, Director of Religious Education, 345-2268, uukeitha@comcast.net. Office hours: by appointment

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

Emmy Barthel-Mackie, Nursery Worker, 926-9570, sattcomm74@yahoo.com

Our Mission:

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

Our Board

- * Steve Urse, President
- DeWayne Carver, Past President
- Annette Pearce,
 President Elect
- * Bob Deyle, Secretary
- Dave Harvey, VP for Management
- Charlotte Dudley, VP for Worship
- Abbe Justus, VP for Social Justice
- Joan Patterson, VP for Finance
- Eliza Coyne, 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

Maria Mena, chair

Tony Lloyd

Chris Ellrich

Mimi Jones

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 Membership chair Trudy Deyle or president Steve Urse.

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: early fall.

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 Stamp Here