#### March 2007 Volume 50, No. 3

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#### Every Sunday:

9:45 AM Choir Practice exc. 3/11&3/18 9:45 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM 11:00 AM Youth RE, Preschool class, Rm C (2x/mon.) Elementary classes (K - 2nd, Rm K; 3rd - 5th, Rm 2) Middle/ High School Youth Group, Rm 3/6

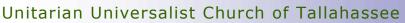
#### Adult Forum Topics:

- *Mar.* 4, TBA
- *Mar. 11, TBA*
- Mar. 18, Pam McVety, "On Becoming Carbon Neutral"
- Mar. 25, TBA

#### March Highlights:

- A Night of Kirtan, Thurs. 3/8, 8:00 PM
- Pledging Sunday and Potluck, 3/11, Noon
- Church Council Meeting, Sun. 3/18, 12:30 PM
- Woohoo Wednesday, 3/28, 6:30 PM

 Right Relations Covenant Workshop & Children/Youth Activities, Sat. 3/31, 1:00-5:00 PM; Fiesta, 5:00 PM





# **The Meridian**



## March Sundays (11:00 AM)

### Mar. 4 Freedom to Give

How does our democratic freedom affect the way we are encouraged to view our giving to our congregation, both in service and in financial support? Rev. Lyn will relate a bit of the history of church giving and how it may inspire us today as we ready ourselves for our annual canvass. **Rev. Lyn Plumb** 

#### Mar. 11 Sabbath Sense

Are you harried, overwhelmed, often short on time, rushing around trying to do all your daily tasks? Do you fell obligated to always be busy, productive? Does all this feed our spirits, our well-being? How can a Sabbath sense of rest be reinterpreted for our times and help us balance our lives? (We'll also light candles of joy and concern.) **Rev. Lyn Plumb** 

#### Mar. 18 Annual Harmony Camp Review

We'll take a trip back to the sights and sounds of Harmony Camp '06. We'll share our dreams for the fourth annual Harmony Camp, which is one of UUCT's most important outreach programs. We're proud of our unique camp, which provides not only for the children of UUCT, but also for many other children in the area. Help us keep the camp's spirit alive by supporting our scholarship fund collected on this day. Service Leaders: Sally Andersen and Terri Martin, 2007 Harmony Camp co-directors

#### Mar. 25 The Power Beyond Measure

Marianne Williamson's evocative meditation on this provides the inspiration for an examination on how we view and practice power, both in our personal lives and in our world in community with one another. (We'll also light candles of joy and concern.) **Rev. Lyn Plumb** 

#### Canvass 2007 - 2008

We're almost there! The Asking Budget for FY 2007-2008 was approved by the congregation on 2/25. The budget total of \$250,198 is an increase of \$20,500 over this year and will require about a 10.5% increase in pledging. It's an ambitious budget in support of an ambitious program and can only be achieved by a corresponding increase in our individual gifts of money and self.

In early March, you'll receive the annual canvass pledging packet consisting of: the 2007-2008 Canvass brochure; a gift of money pledge form with suggested giving guide, and a gifts of self and service pledge form. To finalize our budget we need you to complete and return these forms as soon as possible. To expedite this, you are invited to bring your completed pledge forms to the pledging time and potluck following the March 11 Sunday service. See you there!

### Rev. Lyn's Plumh Line

March is a particularly important month for our congregation this year. As we begin it, we will be dwelling on our pledge drive, our canvass, for the upcoming fiscal vear of 2007 – 2008. As this fiscal year starts, I will have said my fond together, will consider what is the good-byes to you. Our interim year of transition will have been completed. Your new fiscal budget, the results of this canvass, will be for the time when you will be seeing a new face in the pulpit most Sunday mornings, when you will have a new spiritual leader among you, a new beginning.

This month we will be talking about what makes this congregation so special, so significant in our lives. We will be discussing how committed giving can enhance our feelings for our church, can provide for its continued growth and health - very essential aspects to consider.

And, then we will end our month with a congregation-wide workshop on Right Relations, a program that has been "in the works" for at least two years. At this workshop we, all of us proper way to relate to each other with respect, with full concern for each other. We will consider what is just and worthy treatment among all of us in our daily dealing with one another. It will become a formal "pact," if you will, about how we can best be with each other to enhance the health and vitality of our whole congregation.

Be there on March 31 so that you can have your say on this all important document we will be forging on that day, and then asking all of us to follow in a congregational vote in May. This is true democracy in action!

After the workshop, we will celebrate our coming together for such an important time with a fiesta. It is always good to celebrate our accomplishments, to joyously note what work we have done in covenant with one another.

We begin our month in considering what is worthy in this congregation and pledging our support for it both financially and in service to the congregation. We end the month in establishing what we need to do to ever better our coming together and being together. An essential month, an inspiring month, a joyous month, a month when we can say, "I am so glad I am a member of this vital congregation!"

Love & blessings,

Rev. Lyn



### A Canvass Message

By Tony Lloyd, Canvass Committee Chair

In my dual roles with the canvass campaign and as a member of the finance committee, I see two trends that can not be sustained simultaneously.

As a congregation, we have big dreams, and we feel passionately about many issues to include religious education, music, social justice activities, excellent Sunday services and being a UUA fair share congregation, just to name a few. Many times these dreams manifest themselves in the form of a larger budget request. This trend is an increasing financial burden.

In looking at the list of contributing members and supporting friends, I have seen another trend: significantly fewer members and friends are pledging this year than last year. Maybe some of us are waiting around to see what the settled minister brings? "I'll wait 'til September and see if I like the minister." These two trend lines can not be sustained indefinitely.

As we near the end of our second year of interim ministry, I know that we are excited about the calling of a settled minister. Each of us holds an expectation that we can build and grow with the stability and shared vision that a settled minister can bring. However, we can't wait for August and September to begin that journey.

I submit that the realization of these dreams and passions doesn't start in August. It starts in early March, when we sit down with our pledge sheets. Will members and supporting friends renew their pledges with an increase? Will members and friends who have stopped contributing start again, with a little faith that all of us contributing something will help make our dreams a reality. My hope is that we answer "yes."

Hollie and I will be increasing our pledge. Let us jointly lay the groundwork for a great year. It starts in March. Let's not procrastinate!

In community, Tony

### Campus Ministry Corner

By Brian Lee, Campus Ministry Coordinator

Campus Ministry is preparing a verv special Campus Ministrv Sunday for April 1. We'll be celebrating ten years of Campus Ministry at UUCT and making some important announcements! UUCT has made a long-term commitment to having an effective Campus Ministry. Our congregation has applied for Anchor Congregation status with the UUA. This designation recognizes congregations "that have made a substantive commitment to young adult and campus ministry, and which serve as a model to other Unitarian Universalist congregations seeking to do young adult and campus ministry." We'll be hearing more about this soon!

The UUUs want to give Brennan Hughes and the Ambassadors for Christ special thanks for inviting us to see "Hell House" a few weeks ago. The documentary examines the making of an evangelical haunted house, and it was very interesting to discuss with the Ambassadors for Christ.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers successfully campaigned for an <u>agreement with Taco Bell</u> to improve farm worker pay and working conditions. The CIW is challenging McDonald's to do the same. The CIW will hold a rally at McDonald's world headquarters in Oakbrook, IL on **April 13**. UUU members are putting together a road-trip to this event. Contact Brian Lee for more information. **Coffee Hour** continues at **6:30 pm Fridays** at All Saints Café, 903 Railroad Ave., one block south of Gaines St. After coffee on Fri. 3/2, we'll be checking out the First Friday Gallery Hop at Railroad Sq.

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



### Announcements

• Memorial Garden orders. Cast-bronze plaque in memory of deceased member or engraved brick can be ordered any time. Forms/directions back of sanctuary. Put forms with payment in sealed envelope; drop in plastic box on sanctuary back wall or in Sunday collection basket.

• **Music Director News**. The OK Chorale will be participating in an exciting event Mar. 10-11 at the UU Fellowship of Gainesville, working with 4 or 5 other UU choirs from the north and central region of FL at a Choir Festival. Ruth Lewis, Gainesville music director,

## Social Justice



#### **Social Justice Committee**

The Social Justice Committee met in Feb. to discuss the social justice direction for our church. A review of the social justice surveys finds that we are a very diverse group with a wide variety of interests. (Surprise!) Two common themes stood out:

- Begin a study/action group on the 2006 General Assembly Peacemaking Study/Action Issue — Should the UUA reject the use of any and all kinds of violence and war to resolve disputes between people and nations and adopt a principle of seeking just peace through non-violent means?
- 2) Act locally as a way of both helping our community and strengthening our image as a concerned church.

The committee decided to take the following immediate actions:

- Continue gathering feedback from the SJ survey. If you haven't, please complete one.
- Begin deeper dialog on SJ

organized the event. Sat. we'll rehearse together, followed by dinner and a drumming and singing concert. Then, 50 voices will sing at the Sun. morning worship service. 12 UUCT choir members will participate. Music we're preparing for this event will be heard over the next few months at UUCT.

• Kitchen Kontrollers needed. For May & June. Kontrollers are volunteers who oversee the kitchen and volunteers on Sundays for a month. Contact Nancy Harvey (668-9096, npharv@aol.com).

• **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.

• March Trustee Tidbits. FL District UUA Trustee Joan Lund's article posted in sanctuary north entry. Subject: UUA's new Public Policy Statement (PPS) process, allowing anyone interested to readily determine the UUA's policy on a given issue. For complete versions of PPSs approved by UUA General Assembly or Board: uua.org/actions.

issues with 'Issue Dinners.' These will be potlucks that focus discussion on a particular issue. The first will be in **April**, with the focus on the **Peacemaking Study/Action Issue.** Contact **Kim Ross** by **Mar. 15** to express an interest and have your schedule taken into consideration.

- Support ECHO: Our church has a long history of supporting this local organization. In March – look for the renovation of our ECHO box for donations of food and practical clothing.
- Other ideas for the future: other issue discussions, show SJ issue movies, support Habitat for Humanity, revive Poverty Gourmet Meals to raise money for ECHO.

#### **Harmony Camp News**

We're excited about Harmony Camp 2007 plans. Attend the **fundraising service** on **March 18** to hear about this year's camp. If interested in being a volunteer, join us at a **planning meeting** right after church on **April 1**. We want as many volunteer staff as possible to help us provide another enriching summer experience for our children and for other children in our community. For more info., contact Sally Andersen (385-4639) or Terri Martin (385-5106).

#### **Dept. of Corrections Donations**

The dept. requests donations of sporting equipment (used, repaired, or new). While prohibited by law from purchasing any equipment for inmates, they may accept donations. Give them to Abbe Justus, VP for Social Justice, or directly to the Corrections Foundation, 2601 Blairstone Rd. – a 501(c)3 organization that can acknowledge tax-deductible gifts.

#### **UU-UNO Conference**

Intergenerational Spring Seminar, April 12 – 14: "Stop Modern Day Slavery: Breaking the Web of Human Trafficking." Info on denominational affairs bulletin board or at <u>www.uu-uno.org</u>.

## Florida District Executive February Message: Excerpts

In his February message to Florida congregations, District Executive Rev. Kenn Hurto gives some possible answers to the question: Whom do we serve?

The first five answers he lists are from congregational leaders at a recent Board retreat:

- We serve the alienated and disaffected.
- We serve naturalists.
- We serve the universally minded.
- We serve rationalists.
- We serve justice-seekers.

Rev. Kenn writes: "This is a good start. For many, Unitarian Universalism is an alternative to

## January Board Actions

By Molly Schmid, Former Executive Board Secretary

The Board took the following actions 1/28/07:

Unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

a. Accepted title transfer for 1994 Plymouth Voyager van from Ed Oaksford for resale in church auction or other disposition, but not for church use.

b. Accepted report from Committee on the Ministry, and per COTM recommendation, approved spending remaining balance of \$4,400 allocated for Rev Lyn's health insurance premiums to cover a larger proportion of those premiums than the maximum stipulated in her letter of agreement with the congregation.

c. Accepted VP for Management report with correction: projector for Rm. L donated by Hall Engineering, not DeWayne Carver.

Accepted Dec. Treasurer's report.

something, a haven and refuge. We serve those seeking a sanctuary form dehumanizing and hurtful beliefs and practices. This is our history. May I suggest as well three additional answers that may guide our future:

- We serve the lost...We need to re-emphasize the Universalist side of our faith that equates God or the holy with the power of love.
- We serve the counter-culture. Unitarian Universalism is not an escape from the social world, but neither is it simply an embrace of what is. More than a matter of justice, we serve those who believe our culture is spiritually sick...

 We serve democracy...We as Unitarian Universalists need to be more fully in the public square defending democracy at every level.

What would you add to this? How would you define our 'mission-field' for our time? What should the District do to support you and your congregation's ministries? Please, drop me a note or give a call.

Thanks." Rev. Kenn

Note: Rev. Kenn's full message is posted on the Denominational Affairs bulletin board in the sanctuary north entry.

Accepted minutes from 12/17/06 board meeting.

Approved Settled Minister Search Comm. (SMSC) recommendation to request congregational approval to increase maximum settled minister compensation package which can be offered from \$80,000 to \$85,000.

Authorized SMSC to conduct a settled minister candidate background check pursuant to UUA procedures and convey the results to the board president subsequent to the SMSC's announcement of the candidate to the board.

Denied a request for meeting space from the group Code Pink, due to specific political nature of group. Note: Social Justice Committee had recommended sponsorship of the group to allow free use of UUCT space. Authorized purchasing two Memorial Garden plaques at \$250 each (from the Endowment Fund) for John Murphy and Hazel Richards.

Eliminated requirement for Finance Committee to publish quarterly financial reports in *The Meridian*.

Approved 2007-2008 Asking Budget for proposing to the congregation, with the understanding that there might be a downward adjustment in the Building and Grounds figure.

Note: The board held a special meeting on Feb. 7, rescinded the Jan. 28 vote to adopt the Asking Budget, made some modifications, and approved a new Asking Budget for recommendation to the congregation. This was distributed to the congregation on Feb. 9, Full minutes of all board meetings are available on request.

### February Congregational Actions

The congregation took the following Search Committee to permit the actions 2/25/07: Negotiating Team to negotiate a

Approved the minutes of the last congregational meeting on 12/03/06.

Elected Abbe Justus to serve as the Vice President for Social Justice (for a term ending 6/30/08).

Approved the proposal recommended by the Settled Minister

Appreciation

To:



- Carolyn DuBard, Nancy Bass, Jerri Lee Wagner, Christine Boczarska, Susan Snyder & Frank Deasy, Sara Reece, Ed & Linda Oaksford, and Jean & Ken Wood for greeting Sun. 1/28-2/18.
- Jerri Lee Wagner, Howard Pardue, and kitchen kontrollers Tom and Linda Wheatley for Jan. Sun. coffee and clean-up.
- Kandy Crowe for the lovely farewell cake for Jerri Lee
  Wagner on 2/18 and Nancy
  Bass for helping serve it.
- Dan Damerville, Jan Oldenburg, Deidra Schaub, Debbie Holt, Barbara Gearhart, Gretchen Shankweiler, Gwendolyn Waldorf and Cate Bryan, and Frank Deasy and University UUs Brian Lee, Charles Starr, Brian Kilgore, and Frank Green for doing the Feb. Shelter meal.
- Jennifer Carver, Joan Patterson, Sally Andersen, Pauline Masterton, Peggy Lentz, Janet Kistner, Debbie Holt, Linda Logan, Isabel

Search Committee to permit the Negotiating Team to negotiate a compensation package for our Settled Minister up to \$85,000, a \$5,000 increase from the \$80,000 maximum approved by the congregation at the annual meeting in May 2006.

Approved the proposed asking budget for 2007-2008 with an amendment to provide a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to the Music Director of \$.10/hr. + 2% for a total increase of \$536. (Note: This same COLA was already provided to other non-ministerial staff in the proposed budget.)

Sheridan, Sara Reece, Joanne Taylor, Terri Martin, Lorin Pratt, and Mimi Jones for providing meals and food to the Thompson family after Mae Runvon Thompson's birth.

**Don Weed** for donating two speakers for the audio-visual system in Rm L.

#### Auction and Chili & Chocolate

Our annual Auction and Chili & Chocolate Dinner fundraisers in Feb. were again great successes. The dinner raised \$768. As of 2/15, the Auction had raised \$5,293 for the church, if everyone pays for and picks up the items (or certificates for items) on which they bid! Many thanks are due for both!

Chili & Chocolate Dinner: Christine Boczarska, DeWayne Carver, Eliza Coyne, Jim Dawson, Frank Deasy, Trudy Deyle, Charlotte Dudley, Randall Gann, Dave Harvey, Abbe Justus, Maria Mena, Ed & Linda Oaksford, Rod Oldenburg, Carolyn & Howard Pardue, Joan Patterson, Ruth Pestle, Isabel Sheridan, Barbara Sterling, Allen & Kelley Turnage, Steve Urse, and Dick Leinberry, who coordinated the event. Auction: Christine Boczarska, Charlotte Dudley, Elinor Elfner, Earl & Eleanor Enge, Nancy Harvey, Grey Howard, Mimi Jones, Barbara Lineberry, Linda Logan, Rod Oldenburg, Joan Patterson, Annette Pearce, Lorin Pratt, Isabel Sheridan, Mimi Stangel, Joanne Taylor, Ray Tucker, Allen & Preston Turnage, everyone who donated and bought items, and Peggy Lentz and Jennifer Carver, who coordinated the entire effort.

#### 2/10 Workday Thanks

Eight people participated in the Feb. workday. Tasks undertaken were: helping to setup for the auction; clearing leaves and trash from driveways, sidewalks, parking lots and the memorial garden; removing large amounts of cardboard and plastic packing material that came with the solar panels; and leveling gravel in the paths and parking lots. Those who attended were: Mitch McDermott, Tom Chase, Dave Harvey, Charlotte Dudley, Don Berger, Joe Lama, George Knight, and John Whitton. The next workday will be the second Saturday of March, 3/10, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM.

### Caring Network and Membership News

#### **Caring Ministries Network**

#### Our hearts and minds are with:

**Tony Lloyd** as he recuperates from a recent hospitalization.

**Ron Crowe** as he copes with the loss of his mother.

**Sean Coyne** as he deals with the loss of his father.

Helen Merbitz, Pauline Masterton's mother, as she recuperates in south Florida.

Harold and Joe Hawkins as they cope with Margaret's illness.

Frequent visitors **Jill Pearson & Kevin Morrell** as they deal with Kevin's brother's recent stroke.

Caring Ministries Chair **Joanne Taylor**, as she heals from a broken foot and badly sprained ankle.

And congratulations to **Kathie & Billy Mackie** on the birth of their granddaughter, Lillian Raye, 2/10!

Best wishes to **Jerri Lee Wagner** on his move to Bristol, FL and many thanks for his years of dedication to singing in the choir and helping in the kitchen!

#### Welcome to UUCT!

- Steve Lize & Pippin Whitaker as members
- Mary Tyler as supporting friend

#### **Dinners for 8**

Just a few spaces are left in the winter series of Dinners for 8. Many are enthusiastic about this very enjoyable way of getting better acquainted with "newcomers" and "old timers." The only goal is delicious food and sparkling conversation with fascinating people. There are two dinner categories – Adults only and Intergenerational. Adults without children are welcome to sign up for intergenerational if they wish and adults with children can find a sitter and enjoy an adult evening. Hosts welcome guests to their homes, provide the main dish and contact the guests to complete the potluck menu. If you'd like to participate, contact Junelle Brandt

(junellebrandt@earthlink.net, 893-5511), or sign up on Sundays.

**Dinners - Adults Only:** Sat. 3/3, Peggy Lentz & Ray Tucker

Sat. 3/10, DeLos & Karla DeTar

#### **New UU Sessions**

Next sessions: April or May. Sign up at 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 available on request.

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

#### **On-going Opportunities**

- 2nd Saturday Workdays: Contact Don Berger (422-2847, berger-don@comcast.net).
- Nursery Help: Contact DRE Maggie Geraci (877-6301, dremaggie@earthlink.net).
- 2nd Monday Shelter Meal: Contact Frank Deasy (907-1740, deasyf@comcast.net).
- Sunday Hospitality and Clean Up: Contact March kitchen controller Dick Leinberry (386-4977, rlibrary@nettally.com).

#### **Current UUCT Stats**

- Certified Membership (as of 1/07) -172
- Current Membership 174
- Current No. Friends 53
- Average Sunday Service Attendance - Adults
  - January 2007: 104.8
  - 7/06 1/07: 99
  - 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)
  - 2/07 26
  - 9/06 2/07: 28
  - 9/05 5/06: 27
  - 9/04 5/05: 33.8
- Sunday Service Greeter: Contact Debbie Holt (553-3231, holt0119@earthlink.net).

#### **Connecting with Visitors**

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

## Lifespan Religious Education

#### Youth Religious Education (RE)

Committee Meeting, Sun. 3/4, 9:30 AM, Rm. K

#### **YOUTH RE CONTACTS:**

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

#### March RE Classes

#### Explorers (ages 3 to 5)

3/4 People of All Colors...

3/18 We Begin Life...

#### The Artists (grades K, 1, 2)

- 3/4 A Time to Celebrate Victory
- 3/11 A Time When Each Person...
- 3/18 A Time to Bless the Animals
- 3/25 A Time for the Teachings of...

#### The Bridgers (grades 3,4,5)

- 3/4 Wise King Solomon
- 3/11 Jonah and the Large Fish
- 3/18 Job
- 3/25 The Teachings of Jesus

#### Youth Group (grades 6 – 12)

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

#### **FL District CONS**

Youth Group and advisors decide which FL District CONS to attend. Trained advisors must accompany youth to district CONS. Schedule:

3/16-18 Social Action Con, TBA

4/27-28 Youth Caucus, Clearwater

5/4-6 All Age Con, Tampa

#### Special Pen Pals Take Note!

Keep the letter-writing going! We have a record-breaking 32 participants this year! We'll continue corresponding until **March 25**, when the **Special Pen Pal Revealing Party** will be held after the service in Room L. Pals will reveal themselves, and we'll all share pizza and conversation. If you have any questions, please contact DRE Maggie.

#### March: WOOHOO Wednesday!

#### March 28, 6:30 PM in the

sanctuary. (We'll skip Spring Break week.) We'll start off with our potluck meal (bring a dish to share) and then move on to Room L for our time together. ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS FUN, INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT. For more info, contact DRE Maggie.

#### **Now's Your Chance!**

Now's your chance to find out what teaching RE is all about! Volunteer to assist in a RE class. No experience necessary...just one hour of your time on a Sunday. Assist the regular RE teacher in reading, helping children with crafts, setting up snacks, and other activities. Get to know the kids and have a blast! For open dates or more info, contact DRE Maggie.

#### Adult Enrichment

#### ADULT ENRICHMENT CONTACTS:

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

#### **Intergenerational Coding**

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Details on Classes**

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

#### **Current Classes/Opportunities**

**Exploring Spiritual Practices.** Newcomers welcome to join us in exploring simple spiritual practices. Led by Rev. Lyn, in the sanctuary, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays. Everyone especially invited to attend "A Night of Kirtan," **Thurs. Feb. 8, 8:00 PM.** Also meets **Thurs. Feb. 22, 7:00 PM.** Contact Rev. Lyn (671-2634, LynPlumb@aol.com).

## Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

## Future Classes and Opportunities

The following classes will be offered in the future:

**Evensong.** This 8-session course is designed by UUA to promote a deeper sense of community in a small group setting that allows deep listening and knowing of each other. To sign up for next course, contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785, <u>iasheridan@nettally.com</u>).

Practicing Right Relations. In six sessions, you are invited to stand in a place of curiosity to reflect upon, experience, and build skills that make relationships lively and life-giving. Learn about right relations and how practicing right relations helps strengthen our church community. To sign up for next course, contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785, iasheridan@nettally.com).

**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

Green Corner



By Sara Reece With the installation of UUCT's solar panel nearing completion, we have taken a small, but significant step in reducing our collective carbon footprint on the planet. Your Green Sanctuary Committee is committed to keeping this issue on the front burner through programming and education in the coming months. We'd like to highlight a few upcoming events that deal with this issue: fulfillment. Topics include: covenant, humility, trust, dignity, generosity, connection, playfulness, collaboration, commitment, love, and celebration. To be offered as a series of short workshops or as a more intensive retreat-type program. An interest meeting and pot-luck will be held on Wed., March 21 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary to discuss the format and facilitation, with childcare available upon request for this and the full program. If interested but can't make it, or for more info., 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).

The UUCT Book Club. Meets at 7:00 PM the 2nd Tuesday of every month in Rm. C. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Linda Oaksford (<u>lloaksford@earthlink.net</u>, 422-0240). Childcare available upon request.

- 3/13: Diary, Chuck Palahniuk
- 4/10: *Broken for You,* Stephanie Kallos

The rest of the year: TBD. Suggestions: Julia Childs' latest or another Louise Erdrich book.

Freethinkers' Forum\*. Meets weekly to study and discuss issues of philosophy and religion, including the contributions to civilization of freethinkers across the ages, the history and evolution of religious mythology, and the effects of organized religion on our democracy and the world's civilizations. Meets Thursdays, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Rm. L. For current topics, contact Ron Crowe (997-5307, rongcro2@juno.com).

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

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

**Sat., March 17,** the Florida Big Bend Green Living and Energy Expo will be held in Crawfordville from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. There will be free workshops and exhibits where you can discover hundreds of the best products and services that promote sustainability. For more information check out www.greenlivingenergyexpo.com.

**Sun., March 18,** Adult Forum, Pam McVety will speak about First Presbyterian's draft of a congregational carbon-neutral policy.

Our Earth Day celebration on Sunday, April 22 will include a dedication of our new solar panels, and we're planning a communitywide event in the form of an open house later that day. We're really proud of our accomplishment and vision and can't wait to show it off to the community! Stay tuned for more details.

## Events: UUCT, District, National, The Mountain, UU Travel

#### **Upcoming UUCT Events**

Peace Dances, Saturday, Mar. 3, 7:30 PM. Simple, meditative circle dances, rejuvenating and uplifting. Contact: Tom and Katya Taylor (656-9321, katyata@earthlink.net).

A Night of Kirtan, Thurs,, Mar. 8, 8:00 PM. In sanctuary, sponsored by Exploring Spiritual Practices group. All invited to come hear 3 well-seasoned musicians lead an evening of spiritual call-andresponse chanting from the Hindu tradition. Sing along with them in this meditative practice that is both solemn and celebratory, uplifting and energizing. Contact: Rev. Lyn (LynPlumb@aol.com, 671-2634).

#### All-Church Workday, Saturday, Mar. 10, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

Enjoy fellowship working on chores and projects to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Don Berger (422-2847, bergerdon@comcast.net).

#### Pledging Sunday Potluck, Mar. 11, 12:30 PM. Bring your completed pledge forms & favorite dish and come celebrate all that we have together here at UUCT!

Church Council Meeting, Sun., Mar. 18, 12:30 PM. Chairs and coordinators, please make this bimonthly meeting in Rm. L. We'll approve the proposed fundraisers for 2007-2008 and review committees (needed narratives, current health, etc.) and the new church contacts list, as well as do the usual networking, coordinating and sharing. Contact: Steve Urse (surse2@earthlink.net, 385-2864).

Movie Discussion Group, Sunday, Mar. 18, Afternoon. See a movie chosen by consensus, then go to a restaurant for discussion. Contact: Dave Harvey (daveharv@mac.com, 668-9096). Woohoo Wednesday, Mar. 28, 6:30 PM. A communal meal in the sanctuary, then time together in Rm. L. See *Youth RE*. All welcome! Contact: DRE Maggie Geraci (dremaggie@earthlink.net, 877-6301).

**Right Relations Covenant Workshop & Fiesta, Sat., Mar. 31, 1:00 PM - 7:30 PM.** See p. 2 and brochure mailed to members and friends. Register by 3/23.

**UUCT Memorial Day Retreat, May 25-28.** Join fellow UUCTers at the Mountain Retreat and Learning Centers! People had so much fun last year we voted to continue the Memorial Day weekend event. Interested? See retreat flyer. Contact: Charlotte Dudley (Icdudley@yahoo.com, 668-7126).

#### **Non-UUCT Events**

- Every Sunday, 7:00 PM, Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)
- Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)

#### **FL District Events**

More info.: Church office, Denom. Affairs bulletin board (north entry sanctuary), or www.floridadistrict.org.

**Social Action Workshop,** Sat. 3/3, with UUSC President Charlie Clements, Clearwater.

**Our New DE & a Famed Humanist**,\* Sat. 3/17, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Rockledge. AM talk by FL District DE Rev. Kenn Hurto on his vision district & NE cluster; PM talk by Ed Doerr, board member or president of American Humanist Association for over 50 yrs.

**Our New DE & Rev. Dr. William Murray**,\* Sat. 3/24, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Jacksonville. AM by Rev. Kenn Hurto (see 3/17); PM on humanism by Meadville-Lombard Theological Sch. past pres. Rev. Dr. William Murray.

\*To register: Larry Rayner (Irayner@cfl.rr.com, 321-752-4140). **District Annual Assembly,** Fri. - Sun. 4/27-28, Clearwater. "Congregational Cornerstones & Cupolas." Jazz UU revival dinner Fri.; key-note sermon by Rev. Kenn Hurto and workshops Sat. (worship, education, caring, social outreach, administration & leadership); annual awards dinner Sat.; and Sun. worship with Rev. Abhi Janamanchi.

#### **National Events & Programs**

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

**UU University.** Tues. & Wed. 6/19-20. Portland, before GA. Featuring Gil Rendle, author of *Leading Change in Congregations* and *Holy Conversations*. Registration (\$125) begins 3/1 at uua.org/DIST/uuuniversity.

**UUA General Assembly.** Wed. - Sun. 6/20-24, Portland. Open to all! Registration begins 3/1 at uua.org/ga.

#### **Programs at The Mountain**

**Elderhostels** throughout the year. Spring Topics: Appalachia, folklore, music, Mark Twain, nature.

Mountaincamp registration open.

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

#### **UU Travel Opportunities**

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

**Cherry Blossom Festival.** 4/13 – 4/15. B & B and transportation by Cedar Lane UU Church. Information: www.cedarlane.org/cbfestival.

Wine Country Excursions. Mid-May through mid-October. 2 days touring, 2-3 nights home hospitality. UUs of Napa, CA. Contact: Iris Barrie (707-265-6926, <u>barrie001@comcast.net</u>).

Eco-tourism in Alaska. June & July after GA. Reservation deadline 3/31. 888-998-8753 or www.wuurld.org.

## March 2007

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday   |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|   |  |   |  | 1<br>1:00 pm Office open<br>(5:00 pm)<br>7:00pm Knitting for<br>All, Rm 3/6<br>7:00pm Freethinkers'<br>Forum, Rm L<br>7:15pm Membership<br>Comm., Rm C               | 2<br>1:00 pm Office open<br>(5:00 pm)<br>6:30pm University<br>UUs, Off-site | 3<br>1:00pm Green<br>Sanctuary, BBCAT,<br>Rm C<br>7:30pm Universal<br>Dances of Peace,<br>Sanctuary  |
| 4<br>9:30am Youth RE<br>Committee, Rm K<br>9:45am Adult Forum,<br>Rm L<br>12:30pm Program<br>Committee, Rm L<br>7:00pm Evensong,<br>Rms 3/6   | 5<br>7:00pm Bldgs. &<br>Grnds. Comm., Rm C                                       | 6   | 7<br>7:00pm New UU, Rm<br>C<br>7:30pm Choir<br>Practice, Sanctuary   | 8<br>12:00pm Personnel<br>Committee, Off-site<br>7:00pm Freethinkers'<br>Forum, Rm L<br>7:00pm Knitting for<br>All, Rm 3/6<br>8:00pm A Night of<br>Kirtan, Sanctuary | 9<br>6:30pm University<br>UUs, Off-site                                     | 10<br>9:00am All Church<br>Workday   |
| 11<br>Canvass Sunday<br>9:45am No Choir<br>Practice<br>9:45am Adult Forum,<br>Rm L<br>12:30pm Potluck,<br>Sanctuary<br>7:00pm Evensong,<br>Rms 3/6  | 12<br>5:00pm University<br>UUs, Off-site<br>7:15pm The Shelter<br>Meal, Off-site | 13<br>6:30pm Committee<br>on the Ministry, Rm<br>K<br>7:00pm UUCT Book<br>Club, Rm C<br>7:30pm Practicing<br>Right Relations, Rm<br>L | 14<br>7:30pm Choir<br>Practice, Sanctuary  | 15<br>12:30pm Meridian<br>Deadline<br>7:00pm Freethinkers'<br>Forum, Rm L<br>7:00pm Knitting for<br>All, Rm 3/6  | 16<br>6:30pm University<br>UUs, Off-site                                    | 17   |
| 18<br>Afternoon Movie<br>Discussion Group,<br>Off-site<br>9:45am No Choir<br>Practice<br>9:45am Adult Forum,<br>Rm L<br>12:30pm Church<br>Council Meeting, Rm<br>L<br>7:00pm Evensong,<br>Rms 3/6 | 19<br>3:00pm Finance<br>Committee, Rm C  | 20  | 21<br>Meridian Workday<br>6:30pm Potluck &<br>Interest Mting,<br>Couples Enrichment,<br>Sanctuary<br>7:30pm Choir<br>Practice, Sanctuary | 22<br>Meridian Workday<br>7:00pm Knitting for<br>All, Rm 3/6<br>7:00pm Exploring<br>Spiritual Practices,<br>Sanctuary<br>7:00pm Freethinkers'<br>Forum, Rm L         | 23<br>Meridian Workday<br>6:30pm University<br>UUs, Off-site                | 24   |
| 25<br>9:45am Adult Forum,<br>Rm L<br>12:30pm Special Pen<br>Pals Party, Rm L<br>5:00pm Executive<br>Board, Rm L<br>7:00pm Evensong,<br>Rms 3/6  | 26<br>Meridian Workday   | 27<br>Meridian Workday<br>7:30pm Publicity<br>Committee, Rm C   | 28<br>6:30pm Woohoo<br>Wednesday,<br>Sanctuary (Rm L,<br>7:30 PM)<br>7:30pm Choir<br>Practice, Sanctuary                                 | 29<br>7:00pm Freethinkers'<br>Forum, Rm L<br>7:00pm Knitting for<br>All, Rm 3/6  | 30<br>6:30pm University<br>UUs, Off-site                                    | 31<br>1:00pm Children &<br>Youth Activities,<br>New Bldg.<br>1:00pm Right<br>Relations Covenant<br>Workshop, Sanc.<br>5:00pm Right<br>Relations Fiesta,<br>Sanctuary |

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

#### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

# Our Web Address: www.nettally.com/uuct

Building A Home for Liberal Faith

Our Staff:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our Mission:

"The mission of

UUCT is to be a

liberal religious

individual spiritual

quests and service

minds, and doors."

presence that

to others in a

community of

open hearts,

supports

#### Our Board

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

Non-Voting Members are:

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

## The Committee on the Ministry

Bob Deyle, chair

Maria Mena

Tony Lloyd

#### **Directory Changes**

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

#### **Membership Notes**

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

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

Next new member recognition: This spring

#### **Mark Your Checks**

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

Place Stamps Here