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Every Sunday:

9:00 AM zen TAO Buddhist Sangha (Will meet at Lake Ella March 2 only.)

9:45 AM Choir Practice

9:45 AM Adult Forum

10:30 AM Child Care - until 12:30 PM

11:00 AM Youth RE classes for Pre-K - middle school.

6 PM Youth Group for ages 12 - 20.

Scheduled Adult Forum Topics:

- March 16: Report on Regional Green Sanctuary Conference
- March 23: My Creed, Byron Spice facilitating

The Meridian

March Sundays (11:00 AM)

March 2 | Our Old Time Religion

The archives have orders of service and copies of a few sermons from the 1950s and 1960s, early on in the history of this congregation. (Officially recognized on March 3, 1954). We'll sing hymns and have words that were delivered back in the day. The Unitarian Fellowship of Tallahassee was brought about through the efforts and vision of its founders, two of whom we hope can be with us to light our chalice: Arthur and Carolyn Fixel. They and we keep the spirit of UUCT alive and direct its growth. **Rev. Amy McKenzie**

March 9 | Pulpit or Podium

There is a hunger today for substance, for solid meaning and truth. The issues we confront seem very large and fundamental. Yet, too often moral leaders deliver fluff and avoid addressing core values. Not this day. **Guest Speaker: Rev. Harold Hawkins; Lay Leader: Richard Dempsey**

March 16 | What More Do We Need, Canvass Sunday

No question mark on that title. I think the question crops up when our resources seem scant—so we make a list of what we don't have and then life becomes a scramble to acquire *things*. Maybe an attitude of abundance turns the question into a spiritual statement and the answer into a quest to discover meaning. Today we kick off the canvass, the annual fund drive that determines what resources of time and money members and supporting friends will give to further our goals together. **Rev. Amy McKenzie and the Canvass Committee**

March 23 | The Bible Imagine That!

How many ways are there to interpret the Christian Bible? Which ways have Unitarian Universalists preferred? I recommend that we not lose our imagination even as we exercise our minds. **Rev. Amy McKenzie**

March 30 | The Spiritual Journey: Ordinary Heroism

One of the main themes of Unitarian Universalism is that life has a journey quality. This service explores the steps and stages of the spiritual journey: from the urge to explore the unknown, through the death of the ego, to a final rebirth with new strength and a healing message. **Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Reeves; Lay Leader: Richard Dempsey**

Congregational Meetings on Asking Budget



- ⇒ Forum: Sunday, March 2, 12:30 PM
 - ⇒ Voting Meeting: Sunday, March 9, 12:15 PM
- See Events

RCDC Journey Toward Wholeness Congregational Discussion, Saturday, March 15, 9:30 AM. See Events



Minister's Message

By Rev. Amy McKenzie

The Real Danger of Democracy

...it is not only by shooting bullets in the battlefields that tyranny is overthrown, but also by hurling words of redemption, words of freedom and terrible anathemas [curses, including those backed by religious authority] against the hangmen that people bring down dictators and empires.... [from Emiliano Zapata (c. 1877-1919)]

I have mixed feelings about starting this column that has my comments from the 2/15 Tallahassee Peace Rally...with words from a leader of the Mexican Revolution! Of his anti-imperialist sentiments, his famous quote (something like: "I'd rather die on my feet than live on my knees.") is less overtly violent and rebellious than this one: "Never beg with a hat in your hand for what you can get with a gun in your fist." If there's a Zapata in Iraq I want to hear more of the "hurling words of redemption, words of freedom" sentiment than the armed combat kind. But from President Bush I'd also like to have more word hurling in favor of freedom here and abroad than the war build-up we've gotten. The real danger of democracy is that you might not get your way, so that a better way may be found.

TV Viewing Option

I haven't previewed the show, but on March 9, FX channel has The Pentagon Papers. Note that the 1972 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association "commend[ed] the Beacon Press for its publication of The Pentagon Papers" and also

endorse[d] and support[ed] the actions taken by President Robert West and the Board of Trustees in resisting the efforts of the federal government to subpoena the financial and other records of the Association and of Beacon Press,

and in alerting the denomination and the nation to the serious threat to freedom of religion, of expression, and of association represented by the government's actions.

Craving Liberty and With Patriotic Fervor,

(Rev.) Amy

Comments Given at the 2/15/03 Peace Rally, Park & Monroe Streets

Hi, I'm Amy and I am here to remind myself that I am not alone in wanting peace not war, I am here to be with others who think like me. And I'm The Rev. Amy McKenzie, from the Unitarian Universalist Church on N. Meridian Rd. (I mention where we are because I want to invite you there--our congregation will host the second interfaith community peace prayer on Monday, March 3 at 7 PM.)

Be assured: I'm not the only religious leader in Tallahassee who is not for the U.S.A. starting a war in Iraq at this time. You may not hear that from us during worship services, though, because we need to hold together the various beliefs and politics of those in the religious communities we serve. But today we are at a peace rally, so I can speak out for peace and against war in Iraq.

This is a critical moment. It is critical as we take issue with the way President Bush has gone about banging the war drum. It is critical because if there is to be peace, it is time to speak up for peace. [This is when I took out my drum from its case.] I brought my drum; it's not a war drum, it's a peace drum. But I fear I don't know how to use a peace drum. That's very sad, coming from a person of faith. But other people of faith, like the president, have defined our response, and forced it, so that here we are, for 'the 20th month running,' on the brink of a war that we will have fired the first shot to start.

Now people of faith will always have

differences. Life is boundless, people are diverse, beliefs vary. Plus, we are adept at using religion to justify anything. I choose to follow the path of peace. I mean peace not only as an outcome but peace as a means to that end.

MLK, Jr., said at Riverside Church, NY City, in April 4, 1967: "...when the issues at hand seem as perplexing as they often do in the case of dreadful conflict, we are always on the verge of being mesmerized by uncertainty. But we must move on....We still have a choice today: nonviolent coexistence or violent co-annihilation..."

How often has this country been on the brink of war? And now we have terror attacks to worry about.

James Thurber gently urges us: "Let us not look back in anger, nor forward in fear, but around in awareness." What do you suppose we'd notice? Here's an act we can take today, and every day—look around in awareness... Awareness of the many options that are not violent. Awareness of the dear people in our families, extended families, circle of friends. The dear people in our town, on our round good earth. Awareness of the cycles of politics and the eras of history. Awareness of the big, big picture in which we play a small, small part. But this is a critical time for peace.

Lao-Tse (Lao-tzu; 5th C. bce; legendary founder of Taoism) shows us a path to peace on earth:

If there is to be peace in the world,

There must be peace in the nations.

If there is to be peace in the nations,

There must be peace in the cities.

If there is to be peace in the cities,

Minister's Message (Continued)

There must be peace between neighbors.

If there is to be peace between neighbors,

There must be peace in the home.

If there is to be peace in the home,

There must be peace in the heart.

Ah yes,...the heart...where the drumbeat of peace begins. It turns out I don't need lessons on this instrument, the peace drum. The peace drum sounds as long as I'm alive; as long as

you are. It beats in my heart, and in yours. We may feel it driving the pulse of the world. Look around in awareness. Listen deeply. Foster faith—remember to trust—the ways of peace. Did you notice? I didn't use texts from the three major monotheistic religions in my words today. You'll have to supply specific beliefs and religious particulars for yourselves. But somehow: find peace in your hearts.

My final quote is from Alice Walker:

Love is not concerned
with whom you pray
or where you slept
the night you ran away from home.

Love is concerned
that the beating of your hear
should kill no one.

So May It Be!

About our Guest Speaker on March 30

The Rev. Dr. Ken Reeves, Guest Speaker at UUCT on Sunday, March 30, is a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA, and has served congregations in Ohio and

Delaware. He has also earned a Masters in Pastoral Counseling and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. He is currently a consulting psychologist with the Center for Career Development

and Ministry in Dedham, MA, and a member of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

President's Message

By Jennifer Carver

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's a BUILDING! Just when you thought it was safe to play in the mud puddles, that mess outside starts looking like what we were hoping it would be all along -- a beautiful building that will be home to our new nursery, future kitchen (to be used as a classroom for now), MORE RESTROOMS, and new, larger multi-purpose rooms for youth and adult religious education, meetings and other events. I hope you're all as excited as I am to see that building taking shape as the first phase of our vision of "Building a Home for Liberal Faith" moves closer to completion.

I'm also excited about the ministry we have at UUCT -- not just the ministry that is provided by Rev. Amy, but the ministry we provide each other every day. Helen and the OK Chorale give us music, Rev. Amy and the Program Committee give us diverse and thoughtful Sunday services, and the Hospitality folks provide us with nourishment and a welcome place for fellowship.

I see that we are all here for a reason - - whether it's the sense of community, the religious education program, Sunday services, social justice

activities, or something else. Some of us may not have found the right place within UUCT for our gifts yet -- or we want to try out something new, something we've never done before. There are too many ministries in our church to name them all here, but please ask people about how they spend their time -- you might find your next passion or challenge right here at coffee hour!

In Community,
Jennifer

Alternate Program Group

The first conversation between members of the larger Tallahassee community and the Alternate Program Group (APG) left us inspired to continue our efforts to increase diversity and membership in UUCT as supported by the Strategic Plan. Although we planned this conversation to learn more about people of color, we had representatives of our other four

interest areas within one single group-- a member of a multicultural family, a visitor to UUCT who has not returned, a former UUCT member, and a longtime UU who has not joined UUCT.

The conversations will continue, and we hope that each of you will consider suggesting the names of persons you know who might entertain an invitation

to talk about what kind of environment they seek for spiritual, intellectual, and personal enlightenment and relationship. The APG is looking forward to sharing what we are learning with the congregation soon!

The APG members are: Neil Mooney, Cheryl Ward, Bob Kenon, Byron Spice, and Rev. Amy McKenzie.

Announcements



Child Dedication & Naming

A Child Dedication for all ages of children and youth and Child Naming for infants will be led by Rev. Amy this spring. Please speak with her (383-9186) and see *Youth Religious Education* for more information.

Hospitality and Clean-Up

Please note that Sunday hospitality and clean-up are two different responsibilities. Volunteers are needed for both each Sunday. Please say yes to both when asked - for the same or different Sundays.

Missing Cups

Anyone who might have taken home a glass coffee cup from the kitchen, please return it. Every week the church has fewer and fewer of them.

Join Sunday Service Brigade!

Volunteers are still welcome to help set up chairs for Sunday services. You will be called probably once a month to help with the set-up, and if called and you can't make it, no problem; we call the next person on the list until we have at least two people. Able-bodied folks who can spare a half-hour usually on Sat. or Sun. a.m. (about nine-ish) are urged to contact Richard Dempsey (671-2748, or richardd@nettally.com) with name and email or phone number.

Sunday Service Participation

The Program Committee invites you to volunteer to lead: **a Sunday Service, a portion of the Sunday Service (be "lay leader"), the Chalice Lighting / Words of Welcome.** For all three opportunities give your name and contact information to the Program Committee Chair Richard Dempsey (671-2748, richardd@nettally.com).

Missing Hymnals

If you borrowed one, please check at home to make sure it was returned. If you would like your own hymnal, order from the UUA Bookstore (800-215-9076, Monday - Friday 9 AM - 5 PM, www.uua.org/bookstore, or pick up a copy of the mail-in order form from the church office). Current cost is \$28 plus shipping and handling.

Calling All Singers:

Have you ever thought about joining the O.K. Chorale? We'd love to have you! We rehearse Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM and Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM in the sanctuary. You do not have to audition. Come join us as we sing ourselves to bliss! Questions? Call Helen at 309-6853.

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, twchase@tallynet.com, or 405 Castleton Circle, Tallahassee, 32312).

Reminder: Church Office Hours

Please keep in mind that the church office is open "for business" during the week but not on Sundays. When Administrative Assistant Kathie Mackie is here on Sundays, she is attending the service, not working. Please refrain from asking her questions, etc.

Friends of the UUA

Friends of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) will be conducting a phonathon this winter and spring. Donations from individuals are a crucial part of the UUA's operating budget. In the past year, the Friends of the UUA provided roughly 10 percent of the total UUA budget. If you are not already a Friend of the UUA, please consider becoming one.

At The Back of The Sanctuary

- * **Mountain Information:** Program schedules and brochures.
- * **What's Happening at UUCT?:** Check this bulletin board for information on upcoming events.

Appreciation



- To:**
- * **Elinor Elfner, Jim Dawson, Isabel Sheridan, Barbara Sterling, Bruce Brandt, Matt Daniel, Jim Denny and Sara Reece, Jim and Cindy Miller, Jean Chulak, and Joan Patterson** for greeting members and visitors on Sunday mornings 1/26 - 2/23.
 - * **Barbara Sterling, Pauline Masterton, Isabel Sheridan, and University UUs** for providing hospitality 1/26 - 2/23.
 - * **Sharmin Herrin and Charlie Shelfer, Howard and Carolyn Pardue, Dan Damerville, University UUs, Jerri Lee Wagner and Frank Deasy, Susan Snyder and Patrick Deasy,** for clean-up from 1/26 - 2/23.
 - * **Cheryl Ward and her family** for providing home hospitality for two members of the Florida District Board.
 - * All the **UUCTers** who brought food and provided a great welcome for the Florida District Board, especially **Joe Chulak** for helping set up tables and chairs, and **Cheryl Ward, Annette Pearce, Dot Mann, Jean Chulak, DeWayne Carver, Jim Dawson** and former UUCTer **Becky Welty** for clean-up.
 - * **Kandy Crowe** for the beautiful Valentine's cake and the birthday cake for Rev. Amy.
 - * **Byron Spice** for co-facilitating the February New UU sessions.
 - * **Chelsea and Nina Cline, Walter Hoskins, Kim Ross, and Kelley Turnage** for volunteering in the nursery on recent Sundays.
 - * **Joan Patterson** for preparing and **Erin Hamilton and Diana Ortiz** for serving the New UU lunch on February 2.
 - * **Francis Ventre, Dave Harvey, and Tom Chase** for washing the
- outsides of all the windows at the February Workday.
- * **Lois Bloom** for serving as Board Secretary and **Stan Bloom** for assisting with preparation of the minutes.
 - * **Steve Urse and Ed, Linda, and James Oaksford** for attending the Regional Green Sanctuary Conference in Atlanta.
 - * **Elinor Elfner, Annette Pearce and Nancy Bass** for attending the FL District Social Justice Conference.
- Thank You For Whitney Young Contributions**
- Thanks to all who contributed to the Whitney Young Collection January 19. We collected \$304, of which 1/3 will go to the Unitarian Universalist Association and 2/3 will be kept for UUCT, to be used for the Children's Tolerance Camp we are planning, probably for the summer of 2004.
- Heartbeats Heartfelt Thank You**
- To **Ludy Goodson** for planning and musing, and to **Helen Falb** for rehearsals and concert piano performance to produce the fifth Annual Heartbeats concert! We had childcare and though no one used it, we're planning it again for next year. It was a successful fundraiser and audience members claimed "the best ever!" and "everyone had a good time."
- Jerri Lee Wagner** demonstrated the "Heartbeats Hug," Annette Pearce won **Joan Patterson's** beautiful raspberry cheese cake, Kathryn Hansman-Spice won a cute ladybug candle holder, Rev. Amy McKenzie won some scented heart-soaps, and John Murphy won a cuddly plush "I love you" bear.
- Nina Cline, DeWayne Carver, and Ludy** did the set up and decorations. **Lois Bloom** managed the kitchen and **Jennifer Handel** was close by her side. **Vic Venos** set up and managed the sound system. Extra special thanks to **Byron Spice and Kathryn Hansman-Spice** and everyone else who pitched in late to bring the room and kitchen back into shape. **John Douglas, Steve Urse, and Nancy Ognenvoski** were among the late night crew. It must have been the tasty finger foods that helped sustain their energies--from **Carolyn Pardue, Kandy Crowe, Sharmin Herrin, Charles Shelfer, and OK Choralers** and performers.
- Thanks to all who worked with Ludy and Helen to rehearse and perform. Many of our performers also baked, cleaned, and hugged. In order of appearance, they were **Ludy Goodson, Helen Falb, Will Adkins, Cheryl Ward, Lindsey Worsham, Pauline Masterton, OK Chorale, Sally Andersen, Ron Crowe, Tom Chase, Jon Stern, Mollie Lynn Boland, Dan Peterson, Erin Boggs, and Mary Millard. Jack McDevitt** could not make it, but he rehearsed until we wore him out.
- Did we miss any of you? If so, call Ludy--she promises to make it up to you with heartfelt appreciation. Her phone is 531-9819. Or send a note to ludy8@juno.com.

Lifespan Religious Education

Youth Religious Education

Next Youth RE Committee Meeting, Sunday, March 2, 9:30 AM

- **YOUTH RE CONTACTS:**
Kelley Turnage, Youth RE Committee Chair (553-9416)
- **Tina Bush Rester, Nursery Sub-Committee Chair (580-6531)**
- **Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (DRE), (877-6301 or DREmaggie@comcast.net)**

DRE Thanks

Thanks to **Kelley Turnage, Rosa Morgan, Christine Boczarska, and Mary Stewart** for filling in as Sunday RE Supervisors during the month of February. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Curriculum

See our *Lifespan Religious Education* brochure for more details on the curriculum and the general goals for each age grouping, names of teachers, and descriptions of special youth and family events for the year.

What is a Child Dedication or Naming?

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

Any age child or youth may participate, both those new to our church community and those who have been here awhile. Our church will have a

group ceremony once a year, but it is also possible for members to arrange individual ceremonies. For the group ceremony during a Sunday Service, we will learn why children were given their name and the hopes that parents have for their children.

A Child Naming Ceremony is a similar UU ritual usually done for infants. These are two of the special ceremonies our church has to recognize our youths' transitions in life.

Special Pen Pals Celebrates With A "Coming Out" Party

"Secret" identities of twenty-four writing pals in our annual four-week Special Pals (mentoring) program got "revealed" in a special "coming out" party after church on Sunday, February 23 — after a whole month of "secretive" letter-writing and little gift exchanges, of getting to know one another, behind their "magical names". (Two old snail-mail boxes at the back of the sanctuary were the only weekly rendezvous points before the party.)

At the party (organized by **Pam Hoskins**), "Young Pals" got to discover (and match up with) their "Old Pals" — to meet one another and get to know each other beyond their letters.

Matching pals were: Rebecca Briggs-Placier ("Dragon Angel") with Yvonne Gsteiger ("Sunshine"), Preston Turnage ("Skirnir") with DeWayne Carver ("Phantom"), Jackson Turnage ("Wizzard of Iz") with Holly Mackie ("Earth Goddess"), Morgan Stewart-Spiegel ("Little Feather") with Chelsea Cline ("Fancy Pants"), Caroline Mooney ("Witch's Princess") with Amy Mann ("Mimsy"), Kaitlyn Garcia ("Fairy") with Carolyn DuBard ("Phoenix"), Devin Geraci ("Stargirl") with Mary Stewart ("Running Wind"), Marcie Gsteiger-Cox ("Stargaze") with Mary Millard ("Marja"), Daniel Geraci ("The Matrix") with Allen Turnage

("Odinkin"), Johnny Mann ("Paperclip") with Howard Kessler, Becky Hoskins ("Star Rainbow") with Sheri Garcia ("Zoe"), and Katie Hoskins ("Katie Bug") with LaRae Donnellan ("Tinkerbell"). Thanks to all for participating, to Pam for creating a fun party, and to **Maggie Geraci** for organizing this event. And a special thank you to **Will Adkins** for coordinating the Special Pen Pals program and making sure all ran smoothly in the DRE's absence.

YRUU (Youth Group)

Meetings: Every Sunday evening, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (Room 4 at UUCT) - with members taking turns planning and leading.

YRUU Fundraiser: On Saturday, April 5, from 7 - 10 PM, YRUU will hold the 2nd Annual Wildflower Prom for the congregation.

FL District CONferences:

- * Mar. 28 - 30 Transition-In (Ages 12 - 14), DeLand
- * Apr. 11 - 13, Social Action Con, TBA
- * Apr. 25 - 27 Youth Caucus, Oviedo
- * May 2 - 4, All Age, Tampa

For more information, call YRUU Advisors Jennifer and DeWayne Carver (402-0622), Rod and Jan Oldenburg (297-0391), Christine Boczarska (893-7079), or Howard Pardue (386-1494) or YRUU Youth Contact Ethan Deyle (422-1057).

Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

Adult Enrichment

ADULT ENRICHMENT CONTACTS:

- **Sheila Meehan, Adult Enrichment Coordinator** (smeehan@hklaw.com; 668-5075)
- **Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education** (DREMaggie@comcast.net; 877-6301).

CURRENT CLASSES:

The Artist Way. Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM in the sanctuary or a classroom. Facilitator: Amy Mann (222-1420, amann@tdo.infi.net).

Conversations With the Bible.

Tuesdays, March 3, 11, and 18, 7 - 8:30 PM. A Unitarian Universalist enrichment program designed to excite curiosity about the Hebrew scriptures and New Testament and to free participants to interpret passages in their own way, and for the present moment. Contact: Rev. Amy (383-9186).

Evensong: A Series of Gatherings.

New groups starting periodically. In eight gatherings, Evensong participants explore individual life journeys through sharing thoughts, experiences, doubts and beliefs about traditional religious concepts. Contact Sheila Meehan or Rev. Amy.

New UU & Déjà Vu, UU. These classes are offered on a regular basis for those new to Unitarian Universalism and UUs new to UUCT. They are taught by Rev. Amy and a UUCT member. The next sessions will be Mondays, April 14 and 21, 7-9 PM. Lost last sentence: Contact the church office (385-5115) or membership chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057) if interested.

UUA Study / Action Issue. The study circle on economic globalization will meet on Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 PM. The group will discuss *One*

World: The Ethics of Globalization by Pete Singer. Anyone is welcome to attend the discussions. Facilitator: Elinor Elfner (224-3651, eelfner@istal.com).

Other Classes Announced and Described in Adult Enrichment Directory:

- *Siblings without Rivalry*
- *Evolution of the Psyche: The New Evolving Psyche*
- *Weaving the Fabric of Diversity: An Anti-Bias Program for Adults*
- *Faithful Choices - An Adult Program in Clinical Ethics and Religious Values.*

OPEN PARTICIPATION

- **Adult Forum, Sun., 9:45 -10:45 AM, Room 4.** Open to everyone. Usually third Sunday topic relates to the Green Sanctuary program. Contact Norene Chase (422-1985).
- **Women's Spirituality Group.** The group meets on Mondays at 7:15 PM off-site. Contact Bonnie Foster (539-5563).

zenTAOBuddhist Sangha

Meets every Sunday morning 9 to 10:30 AM -- in Room 2 (on the first Sunday, at Black Dog Cafe, Lake Ella).

A Second Possible Meeting Time for Zen Sangha?

Dates: April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, and 27, 8:30 PM. Perhaps it's the time that *zenTAOBuddhist Sangha* meets -- early every Sunday morning, 9-10:30am-- which is so *un*-inviting to so many UUs who otherwise might like to get into a zen sangha, to meditate, or to study Buddhism and Taoism at UUCT.

Many local UUs did show up at the Civic Center to hear Ram Dass in early February, indicating a possibly great interest in meditation and the ideas of Buddhism and Taoism in our church. But these same persons have not

shown up at the *zTB Sangha* at UUCT.

Would another hour or day be better for interested UUs to meet in Sangha? Sunday morning continues to be popular with those who do come, but adding an extra meeting time could be a possibility. If you are interested in doing a weekday or weeknight Sangha, please let me know. Contact: Will Adkins (385-5071 or wmadkins@infi.net).

Zen Circle of Peace

Two Tuesdays / Two Fridays, March 4, 11, 21, & 28, 7 to 8 PM in the Sanctuary. Organized by Will Adkins, *zenTAOBuddhist Sangha* Coordinator.

This sanctuary ingathering is not to be a peace vigil, not a time to pray for peace or for any divine intervention or "magic," not a time to protest the imminent war on Iraq, or any kind of discussion group on War & Peace. In keeping with the Buddhist traditions of *just letting it be*, we will sit in a circle around a candle, or candles, lit to remind us to touch the inner peace possible within us-- that we may feel in our own daily lives (a "peace beyond all understanding")-- no matter what the nightly news or morning newspaper report.

This is a peace to be found and embraced, in a time when any hope for averting international war by the United States is being dashed. We come just to sit quietly, together, to reflect on this peace-of-mind, to nurture this peace, and to share it with others. (Maybe bring a little poem or quote or a candle or other object that helps you keep this peace, to share.) Come join this *zazen* circle of peace.

Campus Ministry Corner

By Chelsea Cline, Campus Ministry Coordinator

Greetings, everyone. Campus ministry has seen it's share of spring semesters, and this one is not unlike many others. Schedules are full, minds are spinning, and coffee is flowing.

We have still found the time to meet twice a week to discuss such topics as

war, ethics and art, and to gather at the local coffeehouse to get to know one another better and drink more coffee. February brought more action-packed service for the Cold Night Shelter. I'd like to thank everyone who made it out to help cook and serve.

We've also begun planning our spring retreat, and talking about new and exciting service projects and fundraisers. There is no doubt that Campus Ministry will continue to thrive.

Contact information for Chelsea: 878-6737, chelsuu@yahoo.com.

Church Community

UU Voices in Our Church Project

By Will Adkins, VP for Community

I am beginning a new project to audio-tape personal, one-on-one interviews with our church's "sage" UUs (if they agree to it). These are the Elders or "senior" members of our church who've been around Unitarian Universalism for a long while here and possibly in other UU societies.

I am looking for you UUs 60 years or older who would be willing to be interviewed about your life history, your religious beliefs, your take on life, how you discovered Unitarian Universalism, and what the UU faith means to you.

I think all of us, old and young (including the children) have unique "wisdoms" and "senses" of what it means to be alive, to be "religious," and we all have unique ways of life and values. Beginning with the Elders, to create a tape-series for the church library, on who we are as UU folk, is only a beginning.

The idea is to create a history of our church and a heritage library that might help future generations to understand us UUs of this time period, if they might listen to our voices across time.

If you are interested in becoming part of this long-term project, please let me know. If you have any ideas about how we might do it, let me know. I need help coming up with a good set of standard questions we might ask every "Voice" we interview. (In early January,

I began by interviewing Eleanor Moore, turned 89 on January 6th, and John Murphy, turned 85 last August 11th.) Your interest and input would be greatly appreciated, both as an interviewer and interviewee. Contact: Will Adkins, VP for Community (385-5071 or wmadkins@infi.net).

The Caring Committee: About to Awake From a Long Winter's Nap

By Isabel Sheridan

Several Sundays ago as I listened to our February joys and concerns, I realized I wanted to talk about a concern I have, not for myself, but for the whole congregation. UUCT needs an active Caring Committee. In casual conversations in just the last month, I have found out about current or imminent needs of several members and friends, and I'll bet you have, too. But they probably were not the same people. So there are a number of us who need caring at any one moment in the life of the church.

The good news is we have someone who is willing to be a co-chair. And we have volunteers who are willing to help, but not to organize. So all we need is one more person to say "yes." The hours needed for the job of co-chair will vary – from a few hours a month to a few hours a week in a particularly busy time. The skills needed are a caring heart (there are tons of them in our congregation), an

ability to organize, and a willingness to contact people on the phone and/or by e-mail. The Caring Committee Co-Chairs do not have to do the caring; they have to set up the caring done by others so that the needs are covered and there is no unnecessary duplication of effort.

Let me give you an example. When Mary Jones was dying two years ago, Peggy Lentz organized daily visits and nightly overnight stays at Hospice House for a month – all from her home. Most of the time she sent us e-mails; sometimes she phoned. The volunteers came from UUCT and from Mary's wide and deep circle of friends – all coordinated by Peggy. None of us felt overwhelmed – because Peggy had made our help manageable. If she hadn't been there, I and others would have been running in to visit or stay only to find three other people were there – or, worse, no one would have been there. Coordinating help is absolutely essential – for everyone involved. That way no one burns out and the persons in need are truly cared for.

I cannot do this job myself because of other UUCT responsibilities. But I am committed to having this committee up and running before the next issue of *The Meridian*. So I will phone everyone on our phone list. You don't have to be a long-time member; the co-chair already on board is wonderful at caring and organizing. All she needs is you.

Social Justice

March RCDC Meeting

The Racial and Cultural Diversity Committee (RCDC) will meet Tuesday, March 3, at 7:00 PM at Isabel Sheridan's house. Call Isabel for directions (668-0785).

UUCT Participation in Blended Lives

By Isabel Sheridan

The significance of Blended Lives is that the four-day series of community events looks at history not as Black or White, but as the story of the interconnectedness of both races.

Several UUCTers attended the Symposium on Reconstruction on January 29 at the R.A. Gray Building. Eight local historians of the period made presentations and answered questions. If you want to know more about the event, ask Richard Dempsey, Norene Chase, Elinor Elfner, or Isabel Sheridan.

On January 30 and 31, fourth graders from Leon County schools learned about Reconstruction by participating in hands-on activities at Riley Center/Museum, Goodwood Museum and Gardens, and Knott House. Howard Pardue led a workshop on music of the era; Elinor Elfner led tours to Knott House.

February 1, Joanne Taylor was a guide for the Bus Tour of historical sites important during Reconstruction. Thanks to a donation by RCDC, several of our children and young adults were able to attend. In all, twelve UUCTers went on the tour.

The 8th Annual Florida District Social Justice Conference

By Nancy Bass

As Chair of the District Social and Racial Justice Council, I presided, along with local host Joe DuRocher,

over the 8th Annual Social Justice Conference in Orlando on Feb 8. The topics were the two current Social Action Study Issues of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The two year study cycle is part of the very effective Commission on Social Witness created a few years ago by the UUA.

The morning keynote address on the subject of Economic Globalization was given by Professor Eric Schultz from Rollins College. The afternoon keynote on the subject of The USA Patriots Act and Civil Rights was given by Howard Simon, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Florida. Each keynote was followed by small group discussions. Both speakers were outstanding. The conference was well attended by 90 UUs from all over the District. Copies of Howard Simon's handout on his key points may be obtained from Nancy Bass.

To facilitate communication between congregations in Social Justice and Social Action issues and initiatives, a Network of Social Justice Chairs held its inaugural meeting during lunch at the conference. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the District Annual Assembly, April 25-27.

Annette Pearce, UUCT's VP for Social Justice, and Elinor Elfner, member of RCDC and the Green Sanctuary Committee, also attended the Social Justice Conference. Annette and Elinor have each led a series of discussions on globalization this year at UUCT. The decision to have those discussions was made at last summer's UUCT Social Justice Retreat.

UUCT thanks Nancy, Annette, and Elinor for their leadership and service in Orlando and at home in UUCT.

Interested in finding out more about

any of the above? See Nancy, Annette, or Elinor.

From the Editor: More History on the Start of the UUCT's Shelter Meal Ministry

By Trudy Deyle

In follow-up to the February Meridian Shelter Thanks article, we got this from Barbara Gearhart— describing a pivotal bridge game conversation:

It was Mable Richardson's idea that something should be done to help The Shelter and that our church should be involved. Sally Bellamy picked up on the idea and ran with it. It was Sally and Mable who drove around town seeking free donations of produce and bread and cajoled their UU friends to cook hot foods and make slaw to take to The Shelter on the second Monday of the month.

Thanks again Barbara, and we all appreciate learning more about UUCT history.

Growing A Home For Liberal Faith

By Margaret Mooney, Canvass Committee Chair

FY 2003-2004 Annual Canvass:

Each Spring we ask all our members and friends to pledge Gifts of Self and Money for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1-June 30). These gifts make it possible for UUCT to be a church – they pay the salaries of our very professional staff, they run programs such as religious education and social outreach, and they turn on the lights each day and patch our roof when needed. These gifts also make it possible for UUCT to be a community that develops leaders, cares for those in need, and helps us all on the journey of life.

The Asking Budget has been mailed to every Member and Friend. A Congregational Forum on the Asking Budget will be held on March 2nd after the service. It is a chance for everyone to discuss and understand the purposes for which resources are

requested. On March 9th after the service, we will have the Congregational Vote on the Asking Budget. Please plan to attend both meetings.

After the vote, we'll really begin the Canvass. A Canvass package will go out to everyone with a summary report on the past year and a look at the year ahead, plus some other important information.

Everyone will also receive a phone call by mid-March inviting them to choose a potluck lunch, brunch, or dinner to attend on the weekends between March 28th and April 12th. Most will be held in members' homes. Childcare will be available for some of the dates. Each will have a leader in the church present to facilitate the discussion. There will be the usual forms to complete – Gifts of Self and Gift of

Money. Last year these potlucks proved to be fun socials where friends were made and camaraderie transpired. We hope you can join one this year.

Meeting the 2003-2004 Asking Budget will of course be challenging as our program, mission, and building GROW. But we can meet the challenge, each giving as generously as we are able. And we will be proud of what we have accomplished come April 13th.

CANVASS CONTACTS:

Chairperson: Margaret Mooney, margmooney@yahoo.com, 893-8250

Incoming Chairperson: Isabel Sheridan, isheridan@nettally.com, 668-0785

Potluck Coordinator: Annette Pearce, 386-4053

Nurturing A Welcoming Culture

By Trudy Deyle, Membership Committee Chair

What if each one of us makes a point to speak with one person we do not know each Sunday, without worrying whether the person is on his or her first or tenth visit, or already a supporting friend or member? Without hesitating because we're afraid we might embarrass ourselves or offend the other person if we introduce ourselves to someone who has been around for weeks?

If we all make a point of speaking with those we don't know yet, no one will mind if we mistake them for a first-time visitor when they've come before or for a visitor when they've already joined.

We'll all be used to frequent welcomes and introductions and be happy to be meeting each other and newcomers. And please don't automatically head for the people who are already engaged in conversations. Look around for the people who are on the sidelines and would probably really appreciate some one-on-one connection.

Let's give it a try: nurturing a true culture of welcome in this our beloved community. We've come along way, but the Membership Committee thinks we can do even better.

So next Sunday, be sure to wear your nametag; after the service, look around for someone you don't know and introduce yourself. And better yet, find someone who is not already engaged in conversation with others!

- From your Membership Committee, who urges everyone to think of yourself as an adjunct member of our committee! We need your help to do our job of welcoming visitors and newcomers! (And of course, if you'd actually like to be a member of the committee, we could also use some enthusiastic committee members!)

Green Corner

By Bob Deyle



Green power is here! As reported in the June 2002 edition of *The Meridian*, the City of Tallahassee was in negotiations with Sterling Planet to provide Green Power alternatives to Tallahassee utility customers.

Two types of “renewable certificates” are now available for purchase directly from Sterling Planet:

- (1) a solar/biomass blend at 1.6¢ per kilowatt hour and
- (2) pure solar at 11.6 ¢ per kilowatt hour. One certificate is issued for each unit of renewable electricity produced.

When you purchase a renewable certificate, you are buying the renewable attributes (i.e. environmental benefits) of a specific amount and type of renewable energy generation. Your purchase of renewable certificates helps offset conventional electricity generation in the region where the renewable generator is located. Your purchase

also helps build a market for renewable electricity and may have other local and global environmental benefits such as reduced global climate change and regional air pollution.

In addition, your support goes directly toward new, local solar projects. The City of Tallahassee and Sterling Planet are jointly developing 625 kilowatts of solar energy in the Tallahassee area that are planned for completion in 2004. This commitment ranks among the nation's largest solar projects.

You continue to pay the City of Tallahassee for electricity and set up an additional account with Sterling Planet. You are billed separately by Sterling Planet for renewable energy. Sterling Planet provides you an annual report on the actual resource mix of the certificates you purchase.

The solar/biomass blend consists of 5% photovoltaic and thermal solar and 95% biomass in the form of wood waste and “forest droppings”; no trees

are harvested for the sole purpose of power production. If you choose this option you can opt to replace 50%, 75%, or 100% of your power consumption with solar/biomass power.

The pure solar blend is 100% photovoltaic and thermal solar. It is available in 10% replacement increments from 10% to 100%.

The solar energy will come from Tallahassee and other Florida facilities, and the biomass from Florida and the southeast.

For more information or to open a green power account, visit the Sterling Planet website for Tallahassee utility customers:

<http://www.sterlingplanet.com/sp/TL/tallBuyEnergy1.jsp>. You also can call them toll-free at 800-473-1335 or write to the following address:

Sterling Planet, Inc.
3775 Mansell Road
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Usage Policy Summary

By Dexter Easton, VP for Operations

The UUCT Board is making progress in revising the Policies and Procedures Manual.

The section regarding usage of church property by members and non-members of the church is completed. A summary follows:

Use of UUCT facilities

A. Officially sponsored events:

An event originating directly from church activities (for example, planned by a committee of the church) is not subject to fee payment. Any proceeds (contributions, etc) devolve to the church treasury.

B. Co-sponsored events:

An event originating outside the church, but deemed to contribute to the central mission of the church, is subject to the same rules as an officially sponsored event (A above). No fee will be levied, but any contributions will go to the church general fund.

As may be appropriate in each instance above, a Contribution Box will be prominently displayed at the door, and contributions by participants will be graciously encouraged.

C. Outside sponsored events:

An event originating outside the church and not considered as contributing to the central mission of the church will be subject to payment of a usage fee, according to a schedule available from the church office. Any contributions remain the property of the sponsor.

The document also sets the rules under which certain items may or may not be used off-campus.

The general policies are available in both a statement for administrative use, and as a set of instructions given to users. A simple one-page contract spells out the agreement between user and the church.

Executive Board Actions for February 2003

By Jennifer Carver, President

- Appointed Dexter Easton to serve as interim Board Secretary (until a replacement is found)
- Approved a revised policy on Usage of Church Facilities (see article on page 11)
- Accepted the Treasurer's Report for January 2003
- Approved the Asking Budget, Green Sanctuary Resolution and other items to be sent to the congregation for the March 9, 2003 Congregational Voting Meeting.
- Tabled a request from a small Tai Chi group for free use of church facilities in exchange for free Tai Chi lessons for members, pending more information from the group leader.

Nominating Committee

Are you interested in serving in a leadership role in our church? Want to have more of a say in how things operate around this place? The Nominating Committee is looking for you! The following positions on the Executive Board and Nominating Committee will be filled (elected) at our May 18 Annual Congregational Meeting, for terms beginning July 1, 2003. All terms are for two years, except for the President-Elect who continues as President and Past President for a three-year term.

The positions to be filled are:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Vice President for Finance
- Vice President for Religious Education
- Nominating Committee (2 positions)

If you are interested in finding out more information about any of the open positions, viewing the job descriptions, or suggesting yourself or someone else for consideration, please contact any of the Nominating Committee members by April 1: Ron Crowe, Chair (997-5307 or rongcro2@juno.com), Sally Andersen, Eric Draper, and Peggy Lentz. Per our Bylaws, these four elected members will choose a fifth member from among the past presidents of the congregation to serve on the committee with them.

What is SUUSI? (Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute)

SUUSI is an intentional community celebrating its 52nd year in 2002. We are UUs and others who gather for a week in July to explore our interconnectedness, learn new ways of seeing our world and each other, delight in the joys of meeting old friends and making new ones, share outdoor adventures, dance, and sing.

And SUUSI is an experience with many levels: fun times, great scenery, sparkles of insight during workshop discussions, high-energy dancing, moments of reflection and awareness, connections with new friends, liberating worship services, even good grits (what, you've never had grits?).

When about 1000 people assemble for a week with a common objective—to establish an intentional community with harmony, spirit, and spice—magic happens. Be there, this year. Bring your friends and family, and develop new friends and a new sense of family.

Watch for more information on the back counter of the sanctuary or visit info@suusi.org.

About Our New Members

Elaine M. Comer. Elaine grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia, living there until her early 20s. She moved to Tallahassee in 1985 and has lived here ever since. She works in the legal services industry, in credit and collections with the State of Florida. She also owns her own business, a

dog training franchise. Her interests and hobbies are dog training, listening to John Denver music, sewing, reading, and gardening.

Elaine went to a Congregational church in her early years, but says: "My religious journey started at age 10 when my family stopped going to

church." When asked what brought her to UUCT, Elaine says: "I met Shirley Peterson [long-time UUCT member who has moved closer to family in South Florida] at the Humanist Association Conference in the late 1980's. She told me about the church in Tallahassee. I had never heard of a

About Our New Members (Continued)

church so respecting of the inherent worth of every individual. I originally started attending the church with my ex-husband in the late 1980's. I got divorced in 1998, have a craving to share spirituality with a group of people, and knew the UU church would be the right 'fit'."

Elaine took the New UU class this past year, and she knew she would soon be ready to make the choice to be a member. She says: "Becoming a member is a very purposeful choice." When asked what the church can do for her personally, Elaine says: "Be a place I can be safe to learn about myself and provide an opportunity for reciprocal relationships." Before deciding what to be involved in at the church, Elaine wants to investigate what would work best for both herself and the church.

Randall Gann. Randall was born in Waterloo, Iowa to parents from Mississippi. He came back to his southern roots when he moved to Florida in 1993. He has a sister in Pensacola, FL, a sister in Savannah, GA, a brother in New Mexico, and other family members in Waterloo.

Randall had an upholstery business in Des Moines, Iowa, and had many photos of his work published in the magazine, *Better Homes and Gardens*. In 1982, he was in a serious car accident that left him in a coma for three months. Walking, going to the gym and working crossword puzzles are some of Randall's current interests.

When asked what brought him to UUism, Randall's response is: "I was raised a Baptist with everything being cut and dried, and the thinking that their way was the only way made me think. Their religion assumed that if you are having fun you are sinning." In looking for another religion, Randall found UUism allowed him to be open

and free to question. He says: "UUism lends itself to making the world a better place to live."

Bettie Greenberg. Bettie is retired and just moved here from the Philadelphia area, where she was a member of the UU Church of Germantown, PA for 46 years. Her interests are music, theatre, reading, book discussion groups, and volunteering with little children. Bettie was born and raised Episcopalian. When her father died at a young age for her (11), she doubted that God loved her and rejected church until she was a parent in her 30s and her two boys expressed a wish to go to church. She found the Unitarian Church through a relative, and her interest was aroused when she heard "that UUs were crazy and didn't believe in the divinity of Christ". She first attended a UU Sunday service in 1957 and found what she was looking for.

Bettie says: "It was difficult to leave my beloved church, and I am so happy there is a UU church here. Everyone here has been so warm and welcoming to me and that has made my transition so much easier." When asked what the church can do for her personally, Bettie says it can provide spiritual and intellectual growth, friendship and social connections, and even political awareness and discussion. When asked what she hopes to find and be involved in at UUCT, Bettie says: "I hope to feel useful and committed, with a group of people who are somewhat like-minded, caring and concerned. I hope that this church will become an important and integral part of my life here, as the Germantown church was."

Amy K. Mann. Amy is a native of Tallahassee and has family scattered all across the U.S. She is also the daughter of UUCT member Dorothy Mann. Amy has a degree in Computer Science and worked as a programmer

and systems analyst for about 18 years before leaving the world of technology to start her own business, the Blue Heron Cafe. Her interests are cycling, cooking, reading, writing, and cats. Regarding her reason for joining UUCT, Amy says: "The main attraction to the UUCT was the open acceptance of many beliefs. I enjoy learning from others and like the open exchange of ideas found at this church." When asked what the church can do for her, she says: "It has given me a sense of community I was missing." Amy is currently facilitating *The Artist Way, a personal growth class that allows her to teach and learn* - two of her favorite things.

And a Good Bye. Lauren Henry says good bye, on behalf of both herself and Keith. Their move to Champaign-Urbana, Illinois was supposed to have been at the end of April, but was moved up two months. So, Lauren says: "We didn't have the chance to do half of what we'd expected:

have a yard sale, have a going away party, and say good bye to everyone. Lauren's and Keith's

e-mail addresses will be the same until the end of March. Daughter Robyn is staying in Tallahassee to attend FSU and is planning to become a full UUCT member, versus a youth member, now that she is 18. We'll look forward to seeing more of Robyn and wish Lauren and Keith the best of luck!

Welcome As Members



On-going Opportunities

- Amy K. Mann
- Elaine Comer
- Randall Gann
- Bettie Greenberg

Membership

To explore becoming a member or supporting friend contact Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057) or Rev. Amy.

UUCT Name Tags

Help visitors get to know us by wearing your NAME TAG and thinking of yourself as "HOST". New members and supporting friends receive nametags. Contact office for replacements (\$3.75 each).

New Member Recognition

Sunday, April 13.

Baby, What's for Dinner?

Are you expecting or adopting a child? If you or another UUCT member is expecting a new arrival, contact Heike Sanford (668-6369). If you are interested in preparing meals for families during the first days of parenthood, contact Heike.

Non-UUCT Events

- Every Tuesday, 6:00 PM, *Spiral Scouts (Rm 4 or next available room)*
- Every Thursday, 7:15 PM *Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)*
- Every Sunday, 6:30 PM *Urantia (Rm 5)*; 7:00 PM *Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)*

- **Hospitality on Sunday:** To bring refreshments, contact Lois Bloom (402-9044).
- **Clean Up on Sunday:** To volunteer, contact Eleanor and Earl Enge (926-9352).
- **Music Committee:** A few music lovers, especially those not in the choir, are needed to meet 2-3 times/year. Contact Cheryl Ward (668-5024) or Helen Falb (422-0603).
- **Shelter Meal:** Monday, March 10, 7:15 PM. To contribute or assist with, call Isabel Sheridan (668-0785).
- **Sunday Service Greeter:** Contact Jean Chulak (385-2214 or jeanchulak@aol.com).
- **Sunday Service Brigade:** People needed Sat. or Sun. mornings at 9:00 to set-up chairs, etc. Contact Richard Dempsey (671-2748; richardd@nettally.com).
- **Social Justice Opportunity:** TCC's Reach Out Program (CROP) needs mentors for middle & high schoolers. Contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785).

Lost and Found

Look for missing items on top of the the wooden table in the mailbox room or in the kitchen on the cart near the refrigerator. Items not claimed for two months will be sent to ECHO.

Joys and Sorrows

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

Barbara Lineberry, whose father, Tom Boen, died in February. Also **Patrick Lineberry and Family**.

Helen, Marty, Nate and Alex Falb on the death of Marty's mother, Fran.

Jan, Rod, Hilary and Aaron Oldenburg, on the death of Jan's father, Bob Filbeck.

Congratulations to **Maggie, Scott, Daniel, Devin, Dylan and Harper Geraci** on the birth of **Harris Parker Geraci**. Harris was born on February 14, 1:13 AM and weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces; 20 1/4 inches long.

Dinners In Homes

Dinners for 8 and Dinners for Families with Children will run through May. Hosts set the menu and provide the main dish, as casual or gourmet as they like; guests bring the rest.

If you are a newcomer or you missed the sign-up for guests or hosts and are interested, contact Barbara Gearhart for Dinners for 8 (386-7378) or Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057 or gdeyle@juno.com) for Dinners for Families.

Directory Changes

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

Nursery Volunteers Needed



Contact **Tina Bush Rester**, (580-6531) or **Scott Geraci**, (sgeraci10@comcast.net or 877-6301)

The Committee on Ministry

Chair: Richard Dempsey (671-2748)
Christine Boczarska (893-7079)
Bruce Brandt (893-5511)
Rev. Amy is a non-voting member.

Current UUCT Stats

- **Certified Membership (as of 1/03) - 174**
- **Current Membership - 177**
- **Current Number of Friends - 48**
- **Average Sunday Church Attendance for month of January - 98.5**
- **Average Sunday Attendance for July - January - 96**
- **Average Sunday Attendance Past Fiscal Year: 100.4**
- **RE Enrollment - 45**

March UUCT Events

March UUCT Events

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE, SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 7:30 PM.

Simple meditative circle dances, rejuvenating and uplifting. In sanctuary. Contacts: Tom or Katya Taylor (656-9321, Katom@istal.com).

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM, SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 12:30 PM.

An opportunity to ask questions about and discuss the items to be voted on the following Sunday. Background material on the items was mailed to all members and friends in February. Childcare provided. Contact: Board President-Elect Neil Mooney (893-8250).

COMMUNITY PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE, MONDAY, MARCH 3, 7:00 PM.

The second of these monthly community events, to be held here at UUCT. Contact: Lorin Pratt (893-3067) or Rev. Amy (383-9186).

UU DOWNTOWN CHOW-DOWN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 11:30 AM.

First Wednesday of the month, Jacob's Doubletree Inn, for all interested members and friends of the congregation. Soup and salad is \$6.95, the full buffet \$10.95. No RSVP needed; just come. Contact: Annette Pearce (386-4053 or 891-8660).

ALL CHURCH WORKDAY, SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

Enjoy fellowship working together on chores and projects needed to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Tom Chase (422-1985).

CONGREGATIONAL VOTING MEETING, SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 12:15 PM.

(Please note that the Sunday Potluck this month will be the third Sunday.) An important meeting to vote on the FY '03-'04 asking budget and a UUCT resolution to meet UUA Green Sanctuary requirements for

church-wide environmental action. Please plan now to attend. Childcare and playground supervision will be provided. Contact: Board President Jennifer Carver (402-0622).

TALLAHASSEE EQUALITY ACTION MINISTRY (TEAM) ONE-ON-ONE TRAINING, MONDAY, MARCH 10, 6 PM.

East Hill Baptist Church. Contact: Rev. Amy (383-9186).

CANVASS TRAINING, FRIDAY, MARCH 14, EVENING. Held off-site, for those doing the presentations at the canvass potlucks. Contact: Margaret Mooney (893-8250).

JOURNEY TOWARD WHOLENESS DISCUSSION, SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

Held by RCDC in the sanctuary for the entire congregation, a continuation of our wholeness discussion, followed by lunch. We'll look at what we are doing on the journey toward anti-racism and other "isms" and talk about where we'd like to go next. Childcare will be provided. Contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785 or iasheridan@nettally.com).

ST. PATRICK'S SUNDAY POTLUCK, MARCH 16, 12:30 PM.

Due to having a voting meeting the second Sunday, we will have a St. Patrick's Potluck on the third Sunday! Think Green!

CIC: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS, SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 12:45 PM.

Following the potluck, the Capital Improvement Committee will have a question and answer session about the new building and site improvements for those interested. If the day is dry, we'll gather on the south-side of the new building where the new drive will go. (The first layer of asphalt may be down by then!) If the day is wet, we'll gather on the sidewalk outside the classrooms. Contact: Trudy Deyle, CIC Chair (422-1057, gdeyle@juno.com).



SECOND WILDFLOWER PROM SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 7 - 10 PM

It's that time of year again, flower children! Yes, the teens of YRUU will soon be hosting the second annual Wildflower Prom for UUCT's teens-at-heart. For those of you who didn't attend last year, the Wildflower Prom is an opportunity for all the adults in the congregation, whatever their age, to slip on their boogie shoes for a night of retro dance party action to benefit our youth.

For only \$10, you and a date can get in a night's worth of groovin' to the hits of your g-g-generation, a sample of the famous YRUU lime punch, and memories to last a lifetime. Sound like a deal? It gets better - two lucky attendees will also be crowned Prom King and Queen for their superior trivia knowledge, and ALL attendees will get to see Rev. Amy and UUCT President Jennifer Carver getting down to the hits of the 80's!

Don't miss it! Mark your calendars and come support our youth. Tickets will be on sale after Sunday services and through YRUU representative Katie McAuley (893-8767). Don't be square - see you there!

Events After March, District & National Events, Social Activities

MULTICULTURAL FAMILIES GROUP, SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1 PM. Round table discussion on raising families in the Tallahassee community, at UUCT. Contact: Rosa Morgan (668-0885).

CANVASS POTLUKS, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 28 - 30. The first of the brunch, lunch and dinner small-group potluck gatherings to discuss program plans and financing for the upcoming year, and then make our individual pledges for our gifts of self and money. Potlucks will mostly be held in members' homes. Contact: Annette Pearce (386-4053).

UUCT Social Activities

See events write-ups for details. Contact Ludy Goodson (531-9819, ludy8@juno.com, or with a note given to her on a Sunday) regarding possible UUCT Social Events.

- Dances of Universal Peace, Saturday, March 1, 7:30 PM
- UU Downtown Chow-Down, Wednesday, March 5, 11:30 AM
- St. Patrick's Day Potluck, Sunday, March 16, 12:30 PM

Events After March

CANVASS POTLUCKS, FRIDAYS - SUNDAYS, APRIL 4-6 & 11-12. More potluck gatherings. Contact: Annette Pearce (386-4053).

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 12:30 PM. The quarterly meeting of committee chairs to share plans and coordinate activities. Also at this meeting, the proposed fund-raisers for 2003 - 2004 will be reviewed and a recommendation made to the Board on which ones to approve. Contact: Neil Mooney (893-8250).

CAMPUS MINISTRY SOUP LUNCH, SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 12:30 PM. Stay after the service for delicious soup and fellowship. Donations accepted to benefit UUCT operating budget and campus ministry. Contacts: Sara Reece (309-1933) and Chelsea Cline (878-6737).

ANNUAL AUCTION, SATURDAY, MAY 10, EVENING. An enjoyable evening in support of the church's operating budget. Goods and services donations needed now. See article in *Announcements*. Contacts: Joan Patterson (309-1248) and Dorothy Mann (222-6166).

PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1:00 PM. Mark your calendar for this annual event held at Jean and Ken Wood's home in South Georgia. Contacts: Ed Oaksford (422-0240) and Steve Urse (385-2864).

Florida District Events

WILLIAM SCHULTZ SERMON, SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 10:30 AM. At the UU Fellowship of St Augustine, located at 2487 A1A South and Florida Avenue, 3/4 mile south of Route 312. Dr. Schultz was President of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and has been Executive Director of Amnesty International USA since 1994.

BUILDING COVENANT GROUPS WORKSHOP, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Held at the UU Friendship Fellowship of Pineda in Rockledge, Florida and sponsored by the District's Living Tradition Council and Northeast Cluster. Covenant groups meet monthly to pursue spiritual development and a deeper sense of community. Participants will learn how to begin and sustain a group and be given resource materials. Registration: \$10 per person. If interested, contact Rev. Amy (383-9186) or President Jennifer Carver (402-0622).

DISTRICT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, APRIL 25 - 27. Held at the Canterbury Retreat Center in Oviedo, FL near Orlando, this gathering is open to all interested. It features workshops, shared meals, worship, the District annual meeting, and plenty of time to relax and get to know others. This year's theme: "The Means and the Meaning" with Rev. Terry Sweetser as keynote speaker.

National Events

UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THURSDAY - MONDAY, JUNE 26 - 30. Held in Boston this year. All are welcome to attend. Detailed information and registration forms available at the UUA GA office (617-948-4209 or gaoffice@uua.org).

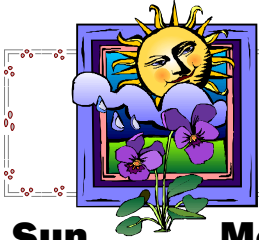
AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!

Dorothy Mann will be calling members and friends over the next few weeks to ask for donations for the auction.

We hope you will search your china cabinets, closets, garage and storage bins for nice items that we can sell at the auction. We also need donations of services. The donation form handed out on Sundays has a whole page of service donation ideas— from writing a poem, making a craft item or giving a lesson to hosting a dinner, grocery shopping, running errands or cleaning a car.

The auction will be held on Saturday evening, May 10. Questions? Call Dorothy Mann at 222-6166 or Joan Patterson at 309-1248, or email Joan at jpatters@mailers.fsu.edu.





March 2003 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:30 PM Peace Dances, sanctuary
2 9:30 AM Youth RE Committee 12:30 PM Congregational Forum on Asking Budget 6 PM YRUU, Rm 4	3 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (WSG), off-site 7 PM Community Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace, sanctuary 7:30 PM Building & Grounds Comm., Rm 4	4 7 PM RCDC Committee Meeting, off- site 7 PM Conversations W/ the Bible, Rm 2 8 PM Zen Circle of Peace, sanctuary	5 11:30 AM UU Chow Down, off- site 6 PM University UUs, off-site 7:30 PM Choir, sanctuary	6 7 PM Board Meeting, Rm 4	7 6 PM University UUs, off-site	8 9 AM - 1 PM Workday
9 12:30 PM <i>Meridian</i> Deadline 12:15 PM Congregational Voting Meeting 6 PM YRUU, Rm 4	10 6 PM TEAM Training, offsite 7:15 PM WSG, off-site 7:15 PM Shelter Meal, off-site	11 7 PM Conversations w/the Bible, Rm 2 8 PM Zen Circle of Peace, sanctuary	12 11:30 AM Personnel Comm., off-site 7:30 PM Choir, sanctuary	13 7:15 PM CIC, Rm 4	14 6 PM University UUs, off-site Eve - Canvass Training Potluck for facilitators, off-site	15 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM RCDC <i>Journey Toward Wholeness</i> discussion for congregation & lunch, sanctuary
16 12:30 PM St. Patrick's Day Potluck 12:45 PM CIC Ques. & Answers session re New Bldg. 1 PM Green Sanctuary, Rm 4 1 PM Multicultural Families Group 6 PM YRUU, Rm 4	17 7 PM Finance Committee, Rm 4 7:15 PM Program Committee, Rm 2 7:15 PM WSG, off-site	18 7 PM Conversations w/the Bible, Rm 2	19 6 PM University UUs, off-site 7:30 PM Choir, sanctuary	20 7 PM Board Meeting, Rm 4 7 PM Globalization Study Circle, Rm 2	21 6 PM University UUs, off-site 8 PM Zen Circle of Peace, sanctuary	22
23 No Choir Practice 6 PM YRUU, Rm 4	24 7:15 PM WSG, off-site	25 ← Rev. Amy Away	26 6 PM University UUs, off-site	27	28 6 PM University UUs, off-site Canvass Potlucks, off-site 8 PM Zen Circle of Peace, sanctuary	29 Canvass Potlucks, off-site → Rev. Amy Away
30 Canvass Potlucks, off-site 6 PM YRUU, Rm 4	31 7:15 PM WSG, off-site ← Rev. Amy Away					

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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Building A Home for Liberal Faith

Our Staff:

Rev. Amy McKenzie's office hours at church:

Wednesday 1 - 5, Thursday 9 - 5.

These and others by appointment.

E-Mail: revamq@earthlink.net

Study: 383-9186; Cellular Ph: 850-566-1388

Kathie Mackie, Administrative Assistant, 385-5115

Helen Falb, Music Director, 309-6853;
helen@townbeacon.com

Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education,
877-6301; DREMaggie@comcast.net

Chelsea Cline, Campus Ministry Coordinator,
878-6737; chelsuu@yahoo.com

Scott Geraci, Nursery Worker, 877-6301;
sgeraci10@comcast.net

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."

YOUTH EVENTS

See Youth RE (p. 5).

- * **YRUU** meets regularly
Sundays, 6-8 PM.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

See Adult Enrichment (p. 5)

- * **Conversations with the Bible**, Tues. 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 7 PM. Contact: Rev. Amy (383-9186)
- * **Globalization Study Circle**, Thurs. 3/20, 7 PM. Contact: Elinor Elfner (224-3651)
- * **The Artist Way**, Mondays, 7 PM. Contact: Amy Mann (222-1420)
- * **Women's Spirituality**, Every Mon. 7:15 PM. Contact: Bonnie Foster (539-5563)

- * Thurs. 3/6 & 3/20, 7 PM.
Contact: Pres. Jennifer Carver (402-0622)

COMMITTEES MEET

Open to All Interested

- * **Buildings & Grounds**, Mon. 3/3, 7:30 PM. Contact: Francis Ventre (402-3050)
- * **Capital Improvement**, Thurs. 3/13, 7:15 PM. Contact: Trudy Deyle (422-1057)
- * **Committee on Ministry** No March meeting. Contact: Richard Dempsey (671-2748)
- * **Finance**, Mon. 3/17, 7 PM. Contact: Del DeTar (878-7895)
- * **Green Sanctuary**, Sun. 3/16, 12:30 PM. Contact: Ed Oaksford (422-0240)

- * **Membership**, No March meeting Contact: Trudy Deyle (422-1057)

- * **Personnel**, Wed., 3/12, 11:30 AM. Contact: Jennifer Carver (402-0622)

- * **Program**, Mon., 3/17, 7:15 PM. Contact: Richard Dempsey (671-2748)

- * **Racial & Cultural Diversity**, Tues. 3/4, 7 PM. Contact: Isabel Sheridan (668-0785)

- * **Social Justice**, No March meeting. Contact: Lorin Pratt (893-3067)

- * **Youth RE**, Sun. 3/2, 9:30 AM. Contact: Kelley Turnage (553-9416)

EXECUTIVE BOARD