

May 2006

Volume 49, No. 5

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Every Sunday:

9:45 AM Choir Practice exc. 5/21

9:45 AM Adult Forum

10:30 AM Child Care - until

12:30 PM

10:30 AM Middle/High School

Youth Group, Rm 3/6

11:00 AM Youth RE

• Pre-school class, Rm C
(1st - 3rd Sun.)

• Elementary classes (K - 2nd,
Rm K; 3rd - 5th, Rm 2)

Adult Forum Topics:

• May 7, TBA

• May 14, TBA

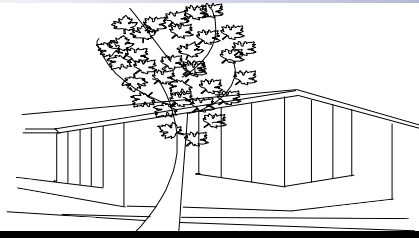
• May 21, TBA

• May 28, TBA

May Highlights:

- * Congregational Meetings: Sun. 5/7, 12:30 PM, Voting; Sun. 5/14, 1:00 PM, Discussion; Sun. 5/21, 12:15 PM, Annual Voting
- * Picnic & Outdoor Fun Day at the Woods', Sat. 5/13
- * Woohoo Wednesday, 5/17, 6:15 PM - Potluck and Intergenerational Activities

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee



The Meridian

May Sundays (11:00 AM)

May 7 | A Literary Footnote

Many well-known historical leaders have had a wilderness experience. Today's sermon will focus on the story of Hagar and Ishmael and how a wilderness experience can be a significant life event. (We'll also light candles of joy and concern.)

Rev. Bill Murchison

May 14 | Mother's Day

On this Sunday your minister, along with members of the congregation, will discuss the experiences of being and having a mother. (We'll also have a child dedication and naming ceremony.)

Rev. Bill Murchison

May 21 | Youth Religious Education Sunday

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. A service to honor students, teachers, and all those who work to make our Youth Religious Education program a success. Join us for a celebration of our young people and Youth Religious Education! **Speakers: Youth Religious Education Committee, children, and youth; Lay Leader: Melanie Hennings**

May 28 | Health and the Human Spirit

This sermon will consider interpersonal relations and their significance in our lives.

Rev. Bill Murchison

The Consultation on Youth Ministry: An Opportunity for Visioning & Growth

Ministry with youth is about listening, empowerment, and spiritual guidance. It is instrumental to the vitality and growth of UU communities. The Unitarian Universalist Association of congregations is embarking on a two-year process to revitalize and strengthen youth ministry. Our congregation's engagement in the process is essential to its success. *The Consultation on Ministry To and With Youth* is designed to be a grassroots process that begins with input from individuals and congregations and progresses to districts and the organizations that provide services and support to congregations. It is an inclusive and transformative process. Our congregation took the first step in the process by ensuring that our youth received and completed a survey done in January and February, 2006 throughout churches in the UUA.

We are invited to participate in the next step, an opportunity for listening, dialogue, visioning and strategizing, at an intergenerational Youth Ministry Cluster Congregational Conversation on **Saturday, May 27, from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM** at the UU Church in Clearwater. Lunch will be provided. Because this conversation is about the life and vitality of our ministry to and from youth, which affects our congregation as a whole, everyone is encouraged to attend and actively participate. The gathering will be co-facilitated by a youth facilitator and Connie Goodbread, Florida District RE program consultant. Contact DRE Maggie Geraci to learn more about attending this event.

Minister's Message: In the Interim

By Rev. Bill Murchison

A few weeks back in a sermon I made a joke about not being able to preach about the war in Iraq. My hope is that all understood it was an effort at levity in the midst of a sermon. If the time comes when I need to make a statement, it will be done, and I will not be shy about my feelings or what I feel to be the needs of our country. It is a part of the UU tradition that the minister have freedom of the pulpit, and it is a tradition that must be maintained. I assure you that I will do that. We must feel free, though maybe not always comfortable, to preach sermons speaking to the human need and to the needs of a particular issue.

One of my frequent thoughts is about the moral environment in which we live, and as in the past, I ask you to answer for yourself how you can cast

the moral landscape in which we humans live. We live in a big, busy, and often times dangerous world, and though we are a small group and you are only one person, it is important that we speak against abuse, discrimination, global warming and other social and political issues. Only by doing this can we seek to influence the moral landscape in which we exist.

However, it is not only to social issues that we speak but also to the moral environment of our congregation. This year I requested of the Committee on Ministry that they work on a Covenant of Right Relations for us. Why, because it is important in every sense that we treat each other with respect, kindness and understanding. Only by doing this will we be able to reach the high goals that we have set for

ourselves. If we do not treat each other with love and respect, our future is questionable; without right relations, we will eventually destroy what so many have worked so hard to build.

So, I ask you to consider the moral landscape in which we live, both within our congregation and within our nation. By so doing we and our world will prosper. Let me share with you again the words of Joseph Campbell:

"People say that what we're all seeking is a meaning for life. I don't think that's what we're really seeking. I think that what we are seeking is an experience of being alive. . .so that we actually feel the rapture of being alive."

Perhaps this is a gift that we can give to each other.

See you in church, Rev. Bill

President's Message: Take Heart

By Christine Boczarska, Executive Board President

This is always a challenging time of year. We, as a congregation, have many activities at church that we care about deeply and want to see expand and improve. Not all of us are vested in the same areas with the same amount of zeal. Providing a summer camp for children sounds a lot more appealing to some than fixing an air conditioning problem or covering health insurance for staff. Inevitably, there is the desire to improve on what we have already done and to offer more choices for member and friend involvement. How else do we stay alive and attractive to our congregation and to newcomers?

While new and different is interesting, let's not ignore what we are about as a congregation. Many of us have come to this place, the UU Church of Tallahassee, first to worship. Worship may take many forms for our varied needs, but most of us were looking for

a quiet place, a retreat to come together with other kind individuals who may not believe as we do, but who will respect our choices to follow our own paths. Whether we need this haven for intellectual, spiritual or emotional respite, in order to go back into the world we face all week and live more authentically, coming from a core of calm, is unimportant. This church serves a need that we cannot satisfy elsewhere. We are the vessels that come to be filled on Sunday morning.

We are all capable of many deeds that support our own beliefs. It is here at UUCT that we can perform them together and find strength and inspiration from a ministry shared with others. Ahead of us now are decisions about how we want to continue as a congregation. To me, the most important issue is that we do continue and we do it together. We have the

ability to do so if we regard ourselves as a congregation, and not just an odd assortment of people.

I can't think of anything stronger than a group of people heading together in the same direction with the conviction that we will accomplish the goals we set. How we get to the goals may change, and we, too, certainly may change, but if these are worthy goals we have set for ourselves, they will endure. I can't think of a better legacy than knowing we will have advanced the cause of liberal religion in Tallahassee. So, take heart. We are continuing the journey and will do it honorably. Some options may be changed, some may be deferred, but together we can continue to pursue the shared hopes of all of us.

In faith, Christine

Settled Minister Search Committee Launches UUCT Self-Study Phase

By Bob Deyle, SMSC Chair

The UUCT Settled Minister Search Committee (SMSC) is off to an enthusiastic start after a retreat facilitated by UUA District Executive, Rev. Mary Higgins, in early April. We earnestly believe what Mary Higgins and Rev. Bill have told us several times: UUCT is poised for a significant leap forward as a congregation. We have the spirit, the people, and the will to do it. We also earnestly believe that we are a congregation that can attract a skilled and caring minister whose call to ministry will strengthen and nurture our own.

I am blessed to be working with a dedicated and talented group who are committed to honoring the trust placed in us by the UUCT congregation to pursue this opportunity with hard work, optimism, and a promise to do our very best to faithfully represent and serve the interests of our congregation. Please feel free to talk to any of us if you have questions about the search process or our progress. Our primary assignments are as follows:

- Bruce Brandt – secretary
- Bob Deyle – chair and *Congregational Record* lead
- Chris Ellrich – background and reference checks and *Information Packet*
- Mimi Jones – candidate scheduler/liason
- Hollie Lloyd – treasurer
- Annette Pearce – congregational input lead
- Sara Reece – *Information Packet* lead

In May we begin the crucial Self-Study phase that provides much of the input for the *Congregational Record* (CR), which will be studied carefully by min-

isters who are looking for a new settlement. The CR will present a picture of who we are as a congregation, what we hope to be, and what we are looking for in a settled minister. This picture will influence the ministers who respond and the way in which we assess their fit.

To capture and focus a valid picture of UUCT, we need input from as many members and friends as possible. Over the next several months, we will be asking you to provide input in several ways, each of which will provide unique information, all equally important:

- May - June: cottage meetings
- May - June: strategic interviews with UUCT lay leaders and staff, UUA district staff, and Tallahassee community members
- June - July: congregational survey
- Late August: congregational review of draft CR and *Information Packet*

Our first Self-Study initiative is to conduct a final set of **cottage meetings** to address three questions:

1. What is the essence of UUCT today, the glowing coal at its center?
2. How do you hope to be able to describe UUCT in five years?
3. What skills and qualities does a minister need to help us get there?

As before, these meetings will be groups of six to 12 UUCT members and friends, facilitated by two SMSC members, for a period of two hours. Tentative times and dates follow. Locations will be at the church or in members' homes. Sign-up sheets will be available at the back of the sanctuary starting May 5. If you are interested in

participating, you may also contact Mimi Jones (385-4249; mjones111@earthlink.net). If you would be willing to host a meeting (provide chairs, drinks, and cookies), please also contact Mimi.

On the sign-up sheets or when contacting Mimi, please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for cottage meeting dates, as well as your phone number(s) and email address. Also, please indicate if childcare is needed. We'll try to offer meetings with childcare for those who need it, and we'll schedule enough meetings total so that everyone who wishes to participate will have an opportunity.

The tentative dates and times are:

– Tue	5/9	7-9 pm
– Thr	5/11	7-9 pm
– Mon	5/15	7-9 pm
– Wed	5/17	7-9 pm
– Sat	5/20	10 am - noon
– Wed	5/24	1-3 pm
– Thr	6/1	7-9 pm
– Thr	6/8	7-9 pm
– Fri	6/9	9-11 am
– Sat	6/10	1-3 pm
– Sun	6/11	during potluck
– Wed	6/14	7-9 pm

This is the time in the process to make your ideas and desires known. Please try to participate in a cottage meeting and make sure that you complete the congregational survey when it is distributed.

Canvass Campaign Report

By Jim Dawson, Canvass Campaign Chair

The Asking Budget for next year was by far our most ambitious one in recent years, calling for a 15% overall increase in pledging, versus the 5% - 7% increase called for in most recent years. With no growth in membership in the past year, the pledging increase needed had to come from those of us already here who were both able and willing to increase our pledges over last year's amounts.

Last month I was able to report that we had raised \$169,600 in pledges for FY 2006-07, amounting to 76% of the Asking Budget goal of \$223,254. By the April 9 Board meeting, we had

made little progress in obtaining pledges for the remaining 24%. Further, fully ten percent of the membership had failed to submit pledges in spite of follow up actions by the Canvass team.

As a result, the Board called a special congregational meeting on Sunday, April 30 to conduct a supplemental canvass in an attempt to reach the canvass goal and address current congregational priorities. As of May 1, the status of the canvass is:

- Initial pledges received from 116 pledging units totaling \$185,000

- Supplemental pledges received from 18 units totaling \$6,000
- Total pledges received: \$191,000
- Shortfall in terms of goal: \$32,000

During the week of May 1, all UUCT members and supporting friends will receive a mailing or e-mailing about the supplemental canvass. The Board will announce the results at a second congregational meeting on Sunday, May 7, and at that time propose revised congregational priorities for next year based on the total amount that has been pledged by May 6.

Regards, Jim

Social Justice

TEAM Community Problems Assembly

Monday, May 15, 7:00 PM at John Wesley United Methodist Church is the first big TEAM meeting of the year. Come to vote on what our congregation thinks are the priority community issues. Please come to this interfaith, local, social justice event so that the voice of UU will be heard at TEAM. There will be a vote, so it is important that UUCT be represented by as many folks as can show up! Contacts: Pam Crosby (pcc02d@fsu.edu) or Brian Lee (brianlee@hcsmail.com).

But what is TEAM? Tallahassee Equality Action Ministry (TEAM) is a faith-based, social action ministry dealing with community issues in Tallahassee. TEAM's mission is to enable people of diverse faiths to work together to redress local injustices.

In late April, UUCT had a TEAM "House Meeting" to share ideas on the most important issues relating to social injustice in Tallahassee. At the present time, TEAM is devoted to these initiatives: homelessness and housing,

healthcare, teen and juvenile issues, universal/voluntary issues, pre-kindergarten, and transportation in Tallahassee. A few examples of the over fifteen member organizations are Anderson Chapel AME, Faith Presbyterian Church, Temple Israel, Friends Meeting, and our UUCT. For more information on TEAM, go to <http://www.teamtally.org>.

Harmony Camp News

The April 30 Sunday service for Harmony Camp was a great success with \$1,130 received to support scholarships for the camp, which will be the week July 24-28. Brochures and registration forms have already gone out to the families of last year's campers. Places in the camp will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis, so the registration forms need to come in as soon as possible.

Many of the staff from last year will be with us again this year, and we will have lots of new volunteers and programs. One exciting new event will be a nursery bat house build on Thursday afternoon, the 27th. Those in the congregation who are

handy with tools are invited to assist the experienced bat house building team. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the importance of bats in our environment is invited to come at noon on the 27th and observe the process. This can be an intergenerational experience, and you may decide to create a bat house for your home. The nursery house will be located on our campus in a spot selected by the team of experts.

Another new activity will be the creation of a tie-dyed t-shirt by each camper for our '06 Harmony Camp shirt. Other fascinating plans are to weave bracelets, bake cardinal-shaped edible bird feeders, and receive instruction in Tai Chi.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with camp activities such as cooking, jewelry-making, tie-dying, creating butterfly gardens, drying flowers to make cards and book marks, walking campers to Harbor Chase retirement facility for pet therapy and oral histories, or painting bird houses, please call Joanne Taylor (893-9024). We welcome your participation.

Announcements



Child Dedication 5/14

A Child Dedication for all ages of children and youth and Child Naming for infants will be led by Rev. Bill on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14. Please contact DRE Maggie Geraci (877-6301, DREMaggie@earthlink.net) if you are interested or need more information. Also see the article in the April *Meridian* under *Youth RE*.

R.E. Bake Sale – Bakers Needed

On Sun. 5/21, delicious goodies will be on sale at this fundraiser for the Youth Religious Education program. Money raised will go towards our annual teacher appreciation dinner and the end-of-the-year RE party. Come buy a treat and help with the Youth RE Program. To donate food items to sell or to help out, contact Maggie Geraci (877-6301, DREMaggie@earthlink.net) or Eliza Coyne (877-5415, krelcoyne@gmail.com).

Greeter Coordinator Needed

We all know how important Sunday greeting is for the congregation and our visitors. As of July 1, we'll need a new greeter coordinator to line up greeters each week. If you might be interested, contact membership chair Trudy Deyle (gdeyle@juno.com, 422-1057).

Sun. Coffee Hour Volunteers

Each month we need one person or a team of two people to volunteer to be responsible for the Sunday coffee hour. These kitchen kontrollers start the coffee and dishwasher half an hour before the Sunday service begins, set out the cups and supplies, recruit clean-up volunteers from the gifts of self, and generally oversee the Sunday kitchen for the month. We currently need kitchen kontrollers for July, October, November and December. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Harvey (npharv@aol.com, 668-9096).

Sunday Coffee Experiment

In July and August the kitchen kontrollers will experiment with serving only coffee after Sunday services. Potluck will continue as always, but the kontrollers will stop recruiting volunteers to bring in food for the coffee hour. Our main goal is to reduce the workload on the kontrollers and other kitchen volunteers. If the experiment is successful, we will continue it for the rest of the year. If you volunteered to bring in food on your gift of self, we will ask you to help with the after-coffee clean-up instead.

Individuals and groups who want to celebrate an event by sharing food with the congregation are still welcome to do so. Please let the kontrollor coordinator (Nancy Harvey) or the kitchen kontrollor for the month involved know about your plans, so that we do not have more than one group bringing food the same Sunday. The person or group bringing the food is responsible for the food set up and the kitchen cleanup that day. The kitchen kontrollers will continue to prepare the coffee, train clean-up crews on the dishwasher, and oversee use of the kitchen.

Strong Clean-up Volunteers!

One of the biggest problems the kitchen kontrollers had last year was finding people to help them with clean up. Our new dishwasher, while greatly reducing the time spent washing dishes, requires at least one clean-up volunteer who is strong enough to lift trays full of dishes/glasses into and out of the dishwasher. If this sounds like you, please consider volunteering more often to be one of the clean-up crew! Watch for the monthly sign-up sheet at the back of the church or let the kitchen kontrollor for the month or the kontrollor coordinator (Nancy Harvey, npharv@aol.com, 668-9096) know you are available.

Check for Your Dishes

The accumulation of serving dishes in the kitchen is limiting the space for potlucks and dinners. Please check for any items that might be yours.

Audio-tapes & CDs

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

Wisdom of the Ages

Grace Martin (born Oct. 2, 1916) is featured as one of 27 elder Floridians in a special visual and audio exhibit on aging and sage wisdom called "Wisdom of the Ages" currently showing at the MOAS (The Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science) in downtown Tallahassee, March 9 to May 27. See Grace's photo at www.wisdomexhibit.com/images.html and hear her talk about her long and varied life (at the exhibit and online). This exhibit is planned to tour the country and show at the Smithsonian in Washington, DC.

P & P Deadline 6/18

A reminder to committees that the deadline for submitting proposed UUCT Policies and Procedures Manual additions and revisions for FY 2006-2007 is 6/18 to Joan Patterson (patterson090@comcast.net). Prior to submission, the proposed addition or revision should be approved and recommended by the appropriate committee/program coordinator and the Board member in charge of that area. If there is no committee or program coordinator, the Board member for the appropriate area or any Board member may make the recommendation. The proposed items will then be taken to the Board for approval at the July Board meeting.

Appreciation



To:

- **Sara Reece, Peggy Lentz, Isabel Sheridan, Nancy Harvey, and Frank Deasy** for greeting Sundays 4/2-4/23.
- **Ruth Pestle, Eleanor and Earle Enge, Mary VanSciver, and Margaret Mooney** for hosting coffee hours in March.
- **Howard and Carolyn Pardue, Earl and Eleanor Enge, Ellie Whitney, Jerri Lee Wagner, Stowe Alrutz, John McDevitt, Sara Reece, and Lugenia Dixon** for March kitchen clean-up duties.
- **Earl and Eleanor Enge** for serving as March Kitchen Kontrollers (recruiting and overseeing the volunteers).
- **Nina Cline, Christen Ellrich, Devin Geraci, and Corwin Hall** for helping in the nursery in April.
- **Dan Damerville, Isabel Sheridan, Mame Fleming, Linda Oaksford, LaRae Donnellan, Joe Grigg, Logan Hunter-Thompson, Susan Snyder and Frank Deasy, and University UUs Frank Green and Brian Lee** for doing the April Shelter meal.
- **Randall Gann, John Sandstrum, Eleanor and Earl Enge, Brian Lee, Ben and Mame Fleming, and John Whitton and Elinor Elfner** for recent Sunday set-up.
- **Don Berger** for spending some of his new retirement time updating the UUCT website.

Buildings and Grounds Thanks

The all-church workday in April was attended by nine participants. Thanks go to the following volunteers for contributing their time and effort. **Mitch McDemott, George Knight, Don Berger and Dave Harvey** identified plastic bumpers missing from sanctuary chairs and replaced them. Dave washed the sanctuary entrance doors. **Tom Chase** and Don took measurements of the office screen door in order to repair it later.

In the highland-hammock, native-plant, woodland garden, **Joe Lama, Greg DeAngelo, and Steve Urse** planted seven more trees. The trees were then mulched and watered. Charlotte and Greg removed weeds from around air conditioning units, and Greg put more gravel around them. Charlotte put mulch around in both butterfly gardens and other places. **Tony Lloyd** mowed all of the grass surrounding the buildings. Joe and Mitch picked up trash on Meridian Road. Joe also raked leaves around the sanctuary entrances and sprayed "Round-Up" on grass and weeds. Steve sprayed some of the poison ivy. George blew leaves off the sidewalks and driveway, as well as doing this during non-workdays.

Outside the workday, Steve, Charlotte and George watered newly-planted trees. Charlotte weeded the butterfly garden. Steve, on behalf of the church, bought a micro-irrigation system and more trees--American beech, chickasaw plum, red buckeye, black tupelo, a high-bush blueberry and more Florida anise. **Ed Oaksford** helped select the micro-irrigation system and planted a couple of the trees. Tom painted various railings around the church. Ed continues to work on the solar power project and also is developing a plan to expand the church vegetable garden. He encourages garden volunteers.

Rummage Sale Thanks

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's rummage sale. The amount raised by the event was \$1,600. Besides **everyone who brought goods to sell**, without whom the sale would not be possible, thanks to the following people for volunteering to set up and work the day before and the day of the event: **Randall Gann, Joe Lama, Joan Patterson, Jerri Lee Wagner, Davlinn Roberts, Yvonne Worden, Jim Dawson, Charlotte Dudley, Dick Leinberry, Francis Ventre, Loren Curro, Barbara Gearhart, Isabel Sheridan, Annette Pearce, Eliza Coyne, Ruth Pestle, Louise Clay, Del DeTar, Dorothy Mann, Barbara Lineberry, Pauline Masterton, Lorin and Chelsea Pratt, Sally Andersen, Susan Snyder, and anyone else** who came and whose name may have been forgotten. And a huge thank you to **Maria Mena** for once again coordinating this annual, major UUCT fund raiser! Thank you all and three cheers for Maria!

Caring Network and Membership News

Caring Ministries Network

We are grateful for your willingness to assist others in the congregation when asked! Our thanks to the following who have so generously provided meals for our members who have needed them:

Norene Chase, Charlotte Dudley, Pam & Don Crosby, Barbara Gearhart, Maggie Geraci, Pam Hoskins, Michele Hope, Mimi Jones, Abbe Justus, Janet Kistner, Peggy Lentz, Terri Martin, Jan Miller, Rosa Morgan, Carolyn Pardue, Joan Patterson, Ruth Pestle, Sara Reece, Isabel Sheridan, Kelley Turnage, and Francis Ventre.

Transportation for doctor and hospital trips has been provided by **Tom Chase, Nancy & Dave Harvey, Peggy Lentz, Rev. Murchison and Joanne Taylor.**

Congratulations to **Jennifer and DeWayne Carver, the proud parents of Kenneth David Carver.** Kenny is thriving with the loving attention of doting parents and many aunts and uncles from UUCT.

Fran Boyle continues to recover from surgery and appreciates cards, phone calls and an occasional meal.

Leslie Wurster went home from rehab on April 21, following a hip replacement, and is convalescing for two months at Twin Oaks Apts. #71, in Southwood. Phone: 877-5038. She enjoys phone calls, meals, and cards.

Ken Wood is making good progress in recuperation from a leg injury which resulted in surgery. He prefers emails.

Molly Schmid's lumpectomy resulted in an excellent pathology report. We rejoice with her about this good news.

Kristin King had a successful procedure for kidney stones in April.

Lorin Pratt had outpatient surgery in April and is doing well. Meals for her family were helpful.

Welcome To UUCT!

- *Dottie & Tom Baldwin (as members)*
- *Parker Collins (as member)*
- *Mitch McDermott (as supporting friend)*

New UU Sessions

Offered on a regular basis for those new to Unitarian Universalism and UUs new to UUCT, usually two weeknights from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, 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. There's time for some discussion. The next sessions will be this summer. A general sign-up sheet is on the back counter of the sanctuary. Or contact the church office (385-5115, uuct@nettally.com) or membership chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057, gdeyle@juno.com). Childcare available on request.

"Dinners for 8"

A spring round will be held in May/June. Newcomers will be contacted and invited to participate. There are two dinner categories – adults only and intergenerational. Adults without children are welcome to sign up for intergenerational, and adults with children can find a sitter and enjoy an adults-only evening. Hosting means providing the main dish – any style or theme you'd like – and calling the others to complete the menu. If you are interested in hosting and did not check dinner host on your gift of self, contact Junelle Brandt, dinners' coordinator (893-5511, junellebrandt@earthlink.net).

On-going Opportunities

- **Nursery Help:** Contact Melanie Hennings (229-226-0446, melanie.hennings@mchsi.com)

Current UUCT Stats

- **Certified Membership (as of 1/06) -174**
- **Current Membership - 173**
- **Current Number Friends - 58**
- **Average Sunday Service Attendance - Adults**
 - **March 2006: 105**
 - **7/05 - 3/06: 101.8**
 - **7/04 - 6/05: 107.3**
 - **7/03 - 6/04: 107.4**
 - **7/02 - 6/03: 96.5**
- **RE Enrollment (nursery - 12th)**
 - **04-05: 61**
 - **05-06: 52**
- **Average RE Attendance (not including Fun Days)**
 - **9/04 - 5/05: 33.8**
 - **4/06: 31**
- **Buildings & Grounds 2nd Saturday Workdays:** Contact Dave Harvey (668-9096, daveharv@mac.com).
- **2nd Monday Shelter Meal:** Contact Susan Snyder and Frank Deasy (907-1740, deasyf@comcast.net).
- **Sunday Hospitality and Clean Up:** May kitchen controller is Dick Leinberry (386-4977, rlibrary@nettally.com).
- **Sunday Service Greeter:** Contact Nancy Harvey (668-9096, npharv@aol.com).
- **Sunday Service Set-up:** Contact Elinor Elfner (524-1026, eelfner@comcast.net).

Lifespan Religious Education

Youth Religious Education (RE)

Youth RE Committee Meeting, Fri., May 5, 6:30 PM, off-site

YOUTH RE CONTACTS:

- **Eliza Coyne, Youth RE Committee Chair (877-5415; krelcoyne@gmail.com)**
- **Melanie Hennings, Nursery Sub-Committee Chair (melanie.hennings@mchsi.com, 229/226-0446)**
- **Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (DRE), (dremaggie@earthlink.net; 877-6301)**

Youth RE Committee Meeting

For the month of May, to accommodate the congregational meetings taking place, the Youth RE Committee will meet on Friday, May 5 at 6:30 PM at Eliza Coyne's home (1708 Kathryn Drive). The meeting will be potluck and kid-friendly, so bring a dish and the kids! The focus of the meeting will be planning the Youth RE service scheduled for May 21. For more information or directions, contact Eliza Coyne or DRE Maggie Geraci.

Woohoo Wednesdays!

Beginning **Wednesday, May 17, at 6:15 PM** in the sanctuary, all are invited to participate in Woohoo Wednesdays: once-a-month potluck dinners with a theme. **ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!** April's theme is "Creating a Family Chalice." Typically, UUs don't have many symbols of their faith in their homes. Traditions, symbols, and rituals play an important part in developing a sense of identity within one's faith. So, we'll come together as a community to create our own chalices for our homes. Families, children and adults working side-by-side, will design unique chalices, through the use of mosaic materials, that they can take home and use for

their own family rituals. All materials will be provided...if you have something special you'd like to add to your chalice, please bring it along.

We'll begin in the sanctuary with our community meal. After clean-up, we'll move to Room L for the chalice-making. We'll also learn about the history of the chalice as the symbol of UUism and different chalice-lighting sayings for different occasions.

Woohoo Wednesdays will occur on the third Wednesday of every month. **Please RSVP to DRE Maggie Geraci** if you plan to attend, so she has materials available for your family. Also contact her if you have questions or ideas on topics for the future.

Materials Needed for 5/17!

If you have a stash of tiles or tile pieces suitable for mosaic or small terra cotta pots with bottom plates, please consider donating these items for the May Woohoo Wednesday. Our theme is creating a family chalice. Your donation could be used by your friends and fellow congregants to create a beautiful chalice for their homes. Contact DRE Maggie Geraci if you have items to donate.

RE Fun Day: End-of-Year Party

Children are invited to attend the RE end-of-year party on Sunday, May 28 during the service, in Room L. We'll celebrate the end of another great year with games and treats! For more info., contact DRE Maggie Geraci.

Registration for 2006 - 2007

Registration for the upcoming year in Youth RE will be held Sundays in August and early September. New registrants should stop by the RE table then to fill out a registration form. Parents of currently registered children will receive a printout of the information on file to update during the summer months. Please return the forms and

any corrections to DRE Maggie Geraci by early September. Most of the expenses of the RE program are met through pledges to the church budget. A yearly fee covers additional costs. Family fees will be \$30 for one child, \$40 for two, and \$45 for three or more. Scholarships are available. Contact DRE Maggie Geraci for information.

What Does It Take?

Have you ever thought about volunteering as a teacher in the Youth RE Program, but hesitated because you thought it would be too time-consuming? Do you love kids, but are afraid that you wouldn't make an effective teacher? How much time does it really take to teach RE? What about curricula? What experience is necessary? Find out the answers to these questions by talking to Eliza Coyne, Dee Scarlett, Tina Bush-Rester, Melissa Forgey, Terri Martin, Stowe Alrutz, Marco Messori, and Kim Ross. These dedicated people have been an important part of UUCT's ministry to children and families. Learn how they did it! Teaching RE isn't just for parents with children in the program; we need help from all members and friends of UUCT. See what it really takes to make a difference in a child's life! For more info., contact DRE Maggie Geraci.

UU Youth Group

The UUCT Youth Group, open to any middle or high school youth, meets from **10:30 AM - 12:30 PM in Room 3 on Sunday mornings**. Details about events will be provided to the youth on Sundays and through the youth e-mail list. For more information about the group, contact advisors Scott Geraci (877-6301; sgeraci68@yahoo.com) and Jennifer & DeWayne Carver (jzcarver@earthlink.net; ddcarver@earthlink.net; 402-0622).

Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

FL District CONs

The Youth Group and their advisors decide which FL District CONs to attend. Trained advisors must accompany youth to district CONs.

5/5-7 CinCon de Mayo, Tampa

Volunteer of the Month

For May, the Youth RE volunteer of the month is Kim Ross. Her dedication to the program and to UUCT is quite evident. She has always been willing to step in to cover a fellow teacher, to accommodate last minute changes, and to make the curriculum really work for the kids. Not only that, but she has been known to fight another teacher in order to teach a class, AND she's the first person to volunteer to teach next year! Thanks for your enthusiasm, Kim! Kim tells us a little about herself.

Your volunteer positions: Adult RE Coordinator, member Campus Ministry Committee, RE teacher for Bridgers (Grades 3-5), occasional social justice work (UUCT Crop Walk Coordinator).

Your family life: Recently married to Brian Lee. Two kids: Julia (9) and George (7). It need not even be said that we keep busy - soccer games, science fair projects and other school events, gymnastics, and girl scouts are some of the fun things I do with the kids. Brian and I try to go dancing at least once a week, or otherwise have a date, even if it's just sitting for some quiet moments on our porch.

Your time outside of family and

UUCT: For work: Quality Assurance Coordinator for the Contract Management unit in Child Support Enforcement, Dept. of Revenue. I also volunteer on the School Advisory Committee. I do have friends who aren't at UUCT - so hanging out with them/talking on the phone.

Your hobbies or interests: Ballroom dancing - esp. swing and Argentine tango, reading, working out at the gym or bike riding. Being outdoors.

Why you decided to volunteer in

Youth RE: A while ago, I decided that I'd focus my volunteering on doing things related to my children. (The exception to this is campus ministry, which remains a passion). I am busy enough with work that I sometimes feel like I should spend more time with them - volunteering with youth RE is a way to do that and give to the church.

Your favorite part about Youth RE

volunteering: When the kids take a simple topic and turn it into a deep intellectual discussion. This happens pretty often, and I really feel like I'm helping them in some way.

How you fit Youth RE into a busy

life: I usually take a few minutes to review the lesson a couple of days ahead of time. Then I let it percolate - thinking about the topic in various ways - deciding the best way to present it to get the most interaction. As long as I review it a few days ahead, everything comes together.

What you'd like others to know

about Youth RE: It's really been a lot easier than I thought. I've never felt like this task, which originally seemed fairly monumental (volunteering for a whole year!!!), was an imposition at all. Rather it's been quite fun.

Adult Enrichment

ADULT ENRICHMENT CONTACTS:

- **Kim Ross, Adult Enrichment coordinator (877-1972; kim@cennexus.com)**
- **Maggie Geraci, Director of Religious Education (dremaggie@earthlink.net; 877-6301).**

We're looking for a new Adult Enrichment Coordinator, because our current volunteer is unable to continue. If you are able or want to find out more about what is involved, please contact the current coordinator or DRE.

'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/young toddlers welcome to attend with 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 the site.

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.

Spring Classes & Opportunities

The following is being offered this spring, enrollment closed:

How to Talk so Kids will Listen.

Based on the book *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk*, the goal is communicating effectively with children. The final sessions will be held as follows: 5/7, 5/14, and 5/21 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301, dremaggie@earthlink.net). Childcare provided.

Lifespan Religious Education (Continued)

Summer Opportunity

The following class will be offered in the summer. Sign up at the RE Table.

Summer Camp for Parents. This summer, we'll offer Summer Camp for Parents: a time for parents to come together and enjoy learning in a group setting. The focus will be on *Being a UU Parent*, a UUA curriculum that offers 5 sessions on theology and real-life child-rearing. Parents often wonder how they can better understand and interpret UU values during the week. Do you know how to respond to such questions as: What is the Bible? What do UUs believe about God, or about heaven and hell? This curriculum offers an initial theological exploration, an examination of ways we can encourage a greater sense of our religion in our family lives, and an opportunity for parents to raise and discuss real-life childrearing questions and challenges and how these might be answered from a UU perspective.

Camp will occur once a week on Monday nights (dates to be determined by participant majority), with childcare provided. We might do potluck or brownbag dinners, depending on the will of the participants. If you are interested, please contact DRE Maggie Geraci or sign up at the Adult RE sign-up board near the Sunday RE welcome table. In the future, follow-up curricula will include *Parents as Resident Theologians*, which helps parents and kids explore together their beliefs about God, prayer and other religious issues, and *Parents as Social Justice Educators*, which provides sessions on values clarification and how to talk about social issues.

On-Going Opportunities

Adult Forum. Meets Sundays 9:45-10:45 AM, Rm. L. Open to all. May's topics TBA. Contact: Norene Chase (422-1985, nochase@earthlink.net).

Ballroom Dance Interest Group. Anyone interested in ballroom dancing is invited to join this group. We learn dances and practice by going to the various dance venues around town. Partners not required. The group attends the Tallahassee Swing Band night at the American Legion Hall at Lake Ella on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM. Contact Annette Pearce (385-4053, Annette.Pearce@gmail.com).

e-Ken Wilber. It's a new way for interested UUs to get together to study – online! (via email). Wilbur is a modern "Emerson" (but not a UU). To some, he is an enigma, to others a visionary and genius. Wilber is an "integral philosopher" looking for "big pictures" – writing prolifically, sharing his ideas freely. (His "Neo-Perennial Philosophy" is UUism in a nutshell.) Learn more – get connected – join us online: contact Will Adkins (metamuse@comcast.net, 385-5071).

The UUCT Book Club. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month in Rm. C. Newcomers are welcome. Contact: Linda Oaksford (422-0240, loaksford@earthlink.net). Childcare available upon request.

May 9, *Another Roadside Attraction* by Tom Robbins. "What if the Second Coming didn't quite come off as advertised? What if 'the Corpse' on display in that funky roadside zoo is really who they say it is? The book answers those questions and a lot more. It tells us what the sixties were truly all about, not by reporting on the psychedelic decade but by recreating it, from the inside out."

June 13, *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls. In this memoir, Walls tells about

how "her rootless, feckless family, consisting of her parents Rex and Rose Mary, two sisters, and a brother, came to roost in a leaking, plumbing-free shack in Welsh, W.Va. Aimlessly, sometimes looking for work for Rex or a bar where the adults could party, they wandered the highways and byways of the great Southwest. What money they scrounged went for gas, Rex's cigarettes and beer, and Rose Mary's art supplies. At night, they would set up camp on the desert floor or find an abandoned hovel, and if lucky, cardboard boxes to sleep in."

UU Buddhist Fellowship. Will begin meeting again when Anne Rudloe is able to resume leading the group. Temporary contact: Joanne Taylor (taylorjoanne@earthlink.net, 893-9024).

Freethinkers' Forum. Meets Thursdays, 7:00 PM to about 8:30 PM, Rm. L. Contact Ron Crowe (rongcro2@juno.com, 997-5307). Discussion topics listed below:

May 4: Richard Hull will present the second half of Chapter 6, "A Science of Good and Evil," completing coverage of *The End of Faith: Religion, Terror, and the Future of Reason*.

May 11: Gary Whittenberger will present his own work, "Jesus Wasn't All He Was Cracked Up to Be," a critical look at the acts and beliefs of Jesus based on the Gospel of Mark.

May 18: Ronald Crowe will present his own work, "Letters to the Editor," a collection of humorous letters to the editor on a variety of subjects.

May 25: Harold Hawkins will present his own work (title to be announced).

Knitting for All. Meets Thursdays at 7:00 PM in Rm. 3/6. This class is for people who would like to learn or improve skills, and/or knit with others. Contact: Chelsea Fox (421-1575, chelsuu@yahoo.com). Baby-friendly.

Campus Ministry Corner

By Brian Lee, Campus Ministry Coordinator

Summer is here, and with spring semester at an end, many students have left town. We hope the students enjoyed the final exam goody bags prepared for them by **Dan Damerville, Rosa Morgan, Sara Reece and Kim Ross!**

We will be suspending Monday meetings for the summer, resuming

with the start of fall semester. However, for the month of May, coffee hour will continue at 6:30 PM Fridays at All Saints Café, 903 Railroad Ave., one block south of Gaines St.

Your Campus Ministry Coordinator would particularly like to thank **Isabel Sheridan** for her generous donation of frequent flyer miles to send me to the

2006 UU General Assembly in St. Louis.

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

Green Corner



By Michele Hope, Green Sanctuary Chair

We anticipate being recognized by UU Ministry for Earth as a UUA Green Sanctuary Congregation in June at General Assembly. Here are the goals which our application addressed:

1. To build awareness of societal environmental issues among UUs,
2. To encourage personal lifestyle changes,
3. To motivate UUs to community action on environmental issues,
4. To build a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness,

5. To challenge and work to heal environmental injustices.

We have pages of documentation of numerous and varied activities which served to meet these goals. We invite you to stop by the Green Sanctuary Sunday table to see the notebook on display and to applaud all our efforts of the past five years as we worked toward certification by UUME.

What did all of these activities lead us to? In our report we said that the most important benefit our congregation has gained as a result of our participation

in the Green Sanctuary Program is an expanded awareness of the intricacies of webs: webs of life systems working together in balance, from which we draw inspiration; webs of disruptions to these systems; and webs of alliances needed to protect Earth and heal injustices. In short, we understand the necessity for an ongoing process. Therefore, the Green Sanctuary Committee will continue to serve as a framework for coordinating this work as our congregation supports the seventh UU principle through commitment and action.

Quarterly Financial Report

UUCT OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES January 2006 - March 2006

INCOME	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
Pledges	24,653.41	11,917.25	8,403.25	44,973.91
Non-pledge cash/checks	760.95	706.73	553.00	2,020.68
All Other Income	2,375.54	5,991.70	3,143.05	11,510.29
Total Income	27,789.90	18,615.68	12,099.30	58,504.88
EXPENSES				
Administrative Expenses	5,378.42	4,463.97	4,779.71	14,622.10
Nat'l & District UU Fair Share	3,115.00	0.00	3,115.00	6,230.00
Campus Ministry	530.98	530.98	530.98	1,592.94
Religious Education	1,480.63	1,620.41	2,159.43	5,260.47
Music	1,768.50	1,709.73	2,056.20	5,534.43
Other Programs & Committees	397.03	292.04	475.10	1,164.17
Buildings & Grounds	2,330.20	2,974.40	2,003.54	7,308.14
Minister's Package	4,472.00	4,136.00	4,472.00	13,080.00
Total Expenses	19,472.76	15,727.53	19,591.96	54,792.25

April Board Actions

By Molly Schmid, Executive Board Secretary

- Accepted March minutes and February Treasurer's report.
- Approved spending up to \$300.00 for a landscape plan for the memorial garden, with money to be taken from the Memorial Garden Fund.
- Approved creating a Solar Power Fund to pursue various projects.
- Appointed Tony Lloyd to the Endowment Committee.
- Approved the revised guidelines for reimbursement of professional expenses.
- Approved taking the remaining balance in leadership training for this year and dividing the money equally among the delegates to General Assembly.
- Approved keeping Spiral Scouts on the UUCT fund raiser list.

UUA Mid-Size Congregations Conference - March 2006

By Isabel Sheridan

Isabel attended the UUA Mid-Size Congregations Conference in Arizona in March 2006. Her report on the conference follows.

What I noticed:

1. **The importance of training for a congregation.** Most of the 400 – 500 participants were there with 3 or 4 other members and staff from their congregations; most groups included the minister and either the RE director or the Music director. And it was clear they had been to other trainings at both the national and district level. I recommend the UU University training by Peter Steinke before GA.
2. **The importance of understanding transitions in our individual lives and in our congregation.** This was the theme of the keynote address. I plan to offer an adult RE course on personal transitions in the fall. I brought back books on individual and congregational transitions.
3. **The inclusion of many traditions in worship (true in each service).** The use of the new hymnal and the inclusion of non-European instruments, along with a strand of inclusion in every sermon, combined thought with feeling, knowledge with mystery. It met my personal needs in worship.
4. **The importance of choosing an explicit governance model and an explicit staffing model as appropriate for your size congregation.**
5. **The importance of using UUA professional trainers to help manage transitions in a congregation.** I have a brochure on training options offered by presenters at the conference. I have notes on all the workshops I attended, which I would be glad to share with committees and individuals as requested. I appreciate the Board and Rev. Murchison's sending me to this conference; it helped me in my personal transitions and gave me many ideas for how the congregation might manage its transitions now and in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Isabel Sheridan

Trustee Tidbits

By Joan Lund, FL District UUA Trustee

The May *Trustee Tidbits* is posted on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary, or you may request the full text from Meridian editor Trudy Deyle (gdeyle@juno.com). The subject is "UU University," a pre-General Assembly event suggested by the congregational presidents convening at GA last year. It is intended to be presented every other year in synch with GA, to help new and continuing congregational leaders gain the

knowledge needed to be effective in their congregations. For a day and a half preceding GA, June 20 and 21, "UU University" will offer specialized training primarily for current and future congregational presidents, financial and membership leaders, and all others involved in congregational leadership. Registration is \$95 per person and is separate from GA registration. Go to www.uua.org and type "UU University" in the search box.

Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke will be keynote speaker for presidents, discussing congregations as emotional systems and leadership in them. Financial leaders will learn about the language of generosity, gain an understanding of effective stewardship, and build knowledge about money management. Membership leaders will learn how to "repel" fewer visitors, how to close the "revolving door," and effective means of moving visitors to membership.

Events: UUCT Upcoming

Upcoming UUCT Events

Executive Board & Finance Committee Meeting, Saturday, May 6, 9:00 AM. In Rm. L, the Board, Finance Committee, and 06-07 Interim Search Committee will review the supplemental canvass results and decide whether to propose revised options for next year to the congregation. All interested are welcome to attend. To be put on the agenda, contact: Christine Boczarska (893-7079, rrlee@infionline.net).

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

Congregational Voting Meeting, Sunday, May 7, 12:30 PM. The Board will report on the results of the supplemental 06-07 canvass and propose revised options for next year for congregational vote, should total pledging fall short of what is needed to fund our full Asking Budget. We will also vote on approving the UUCT certification report to UU Ministry for Earth to become a Green Sanctuary Congregation. Contact: Christine Boczarska (893-7079, rrlee@infionline.net).

Cottage Meetings, Tuesday, May 9, 7:00 PM & Other Dates. See article by Settled Ministry Search Committee for details and other dates in May and June. ALL are encouraged to participate. Hosts needed. Sign-up sheets at the back of the sanctuary or contact: Mimi Jones (385-4249; mjones111@earthlink.net).

All Church Workday, Saturday, May 13, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Enjoy fellowship working on chores and projects to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Dave Harvey (daveharv@mac.com, 668-9096).

Picnic and Outdoor Day at Woods' Home, Saturday, May 13, All Day. Swimming, hiking, boating, and fishing. This is not a potluck. Everyone should bring their own supplies independently: food, camp chairs, swim suits, towels etc. Barbecue grills and good drinking water will be available. Maps available at church. Consider carpooling, as this is in Georgia, 50 miles north. Contact: Ken and Jean Wood (229-377-8739, caldy23@yahoo.com).

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

Congregational Discussion Meeting, Sunday, May 14, 12:30 PM. An opportunity to ask questions about and discuss the items to be voted on the following Sunday at the Annual Meeting. Background material will be mailed to all members and friends in advance. Childcare provided. Contact: Christine Boczarska (893-7079).

TEAM Assembly, Monday, May 15, 7:00 PM. Off-site, come help UUCT's voice be heard in the voting on priority community-wide issues. See article under *Social Justice*. Contacts: Pam Crosby (pcc02d@fsu.edu), Brian Lee (brianlee@hcsmail.com).

Woohoo Wednesday, May 17, 6:15 PM. A communal meal in the sanctuary, followed by making family chalices in Rm. L. See *Youth RE* for more details. Contact: DRE Maggie Geraci (DREMaggie@comcast.net, 877-6301).

Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, May 21, 12:30 PM. Our yearly meeting to elect Board and Nominating Committee members, adopt a final budget, approve the list of fundraisers for the coming year, and transact any other important business. Childcare provided. Contact: Christine Boczarska (893-7079).

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

Mountain Retreat May 2006

Need a break? Join the dozen or so adults and half-dozen children who will be at The Mountain Retreat and Learning Centers on May 26-29. We're planning a great program including Lee Knight on Saturday night. Contact Elinor Elfner at 524-1026 or eelfner@comcast.net.

Code for Events Listings

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

Baby-friendly - Infants and young toddlers welcome to attend gathering with parents, who assume responsibility for them.

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

Childcare available upon request - Let the contact know you need childcare; s/he will arrange for it at or near the gathering.

Transportation available - This can be arranged by event contact upon request for those who cannot or prefer not to drive.

Non-UUCT Events

- Every Sunday, 7:00 PM, Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)
- Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Zen Meditation (Sanctuary)
- Mon. 5/15, 5:00 PM, private piano recital (Sanctuary)
- Fri. 5/19, 7:30 - 9:30 PM, Private Wedding rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 5/20, Noon - 4:00 PM, Funeral & Memorial Society (Sanctuary)
- Sat. 5/20, 2:00 - 8:00 PM, Private Wedding (Rm. L) and 4:00 - 10:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Events: District & National

FL District Events

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

Mary Says Goodbye, Sat. 5/13, 1:00 PM, UU Fellowship of St. Augustine, "My 10 Years in Florida" (\$10 for AM program on environment, no charge for PM only)

Florida UU Women and Religion Spring Retreat, 6/2-6/4, near Brooksville. Brochures at back of sanctuary, call Michele Hope (894-0976) or visit <http://www.floridawomenandreligion.org/index.html>.

3rd Annual All-Cluster UU Renewal Service, Wed. 5/24, Clearwater, with Rev. William Sinkford.

The Leading Edge, Sat. - Mon. 5/27-5/29, Oviedo, intensive leadership training.

National Events

UU Womenspirit, Wed.—Sun., 5/17 - 21

Event: Spring Institute and Gathering
Place: The Mountain

Description: Women-only spiritual retreat. Through workshops, worship, and community connect with the Feminine Divine. This Spring's theme is *Many Faces, One Goddess*.

Sponsor: UU Womenspirit

Contact: Visit our website (UUWomenspirit.org) for more details.

About Womenspirit: Our purpose is to create, conduct and support activities that encourage and empower women to explore their religious and spiritual origins, experiences, and beliefs. Pursuing, nurturing, and affirming creativity and diversity are major emphases. Our most exhilarating activities are our biannual institute,

held each Spring, and gathering held each Fall. Womenspirit members volunteer to present assorted theme-based programs that enhance a woman's spiritual and emotional path allowing growth and empowerment in an environment that honors the safety, integrity, and confidentiality of those attending.

Past events have included workshops on yoga, tai chi, and communing with the divinity in nature through outdoor activities such as gardening, hiking, and identification of flora and fauna. Beading, needlework, and other craft skills have been taught as a means of developing one's connection with self and the divine.

2006 UUA General Assembly

Wed. - Sun., 6/21-6/25 in St. Louis, MO. Theme: Toward Right Relations. Open to all interested. Registration and housing at uua.org.ga.

SUUSI (Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute)

"Rejoice and Renew," July 16 - 22, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA. A community of nearly 1,000 and a week of conversation, of reflection, of activity, of family. Be challenged intellectually and nurtured spiritually. Stay up all night dancing or making music, and spend all day communing with nature or enhancing your personal growth. So many choices! Special programs for youth and teens, so be sure to bring the whole family. Visit www.suusi.org.

Programs at The Mountain

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

Family Mini-Camps. 10% discount for families of 4 or more.

Mini-camp #1: Fri. 6/30 - Sun. 7/2

Mini-camp #2: Fri. 7/14 - Sun. 7/16

Interfaith Visions for Peace. Mon. 8/7 - Sat. 8/12 with UU minister Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt, spiritual musician Dr. Kenneth Nafziger, and Preetmohan Singh from the Interfaith Alliance.

Compassionate Communication & Peaceful Living. Fri. 9/8 - Sun. 9/10 with Mary Mackenzie, author of *Peaceful Living: Daily Meditations for Living with Love, Healing and Compassion*, as guest facilitator.

Thanksgiving. Wed. 11/22 - Sun. 11/26. Open to all annual members of The Mountain, with annual memberships beginning at \$50.

Celebrating the New Year. Fri. 12/29 - Mon. 1/1. Theme: Living Simply and Well!

UU Travel Opportunities

Wine Country Excursions. Offered April – October by UUs of Napa, CA (2 days of touring, 2-3 nights). Customized to your interests. Private room/bath and breakfast in UU homes. Contact: Tom Wilson (707- 254-7443, twilson9@sbcglobal.net).

WhaleCoast Alaska. Five Alaskan UU fellowships invite other UUs to their eco-cultural programs in June, July and August 2006. Info.: 888-998-8753, www.wuurld.org, or dick@wuurld.org.

UU Ireland Tour. Travel to Ireland to focus religious attention on the situation in Belfast. Tour managed by Global Exchange, with emphasis on political and cultural education. Tentative dates 7/31-8/14/06. Info.: www.globalexchange.org or Rev. Robert Murphy, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 840 Sandwich Road, Falmouth, MA, 02536.

May 2006
Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																															
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 7:30 PM Publicity Comm, Rm C 7:30 PM Swing Dancing, off-site	<i>3</i> 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<i>4</i> 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00 PM Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	<i>5</i> 6:30 AM Youth RE Committee, off-site 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<i>6</i> 9:00 AM Board and Finance Committee Meeting, Rm L 7:30 PM Peace Dances, sanctuary																																																																																																															
<i>7</i> 9:45 AM Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30 PM Congregational voting meeting, sanc. (followed by board meeting) 2:00 PM -4:00 PM How to Talk, Rm L	<i>8</i> 3:00 PM Memorial Garden Comm., sanct. 7:00 PM Bldgs. & Grounds Comm., Rm C 7:15 PM The Shelter Meal, off-site	<i>9</i> 6:30 PM Spiral Scouts Awards Ceremony & Open House, Rm L 7:00 PM Cottage Meeting, Rm K 7:00 PM Green Sanctuary, Rm 2 7:00 PM UUCT Bk. Club, Rm C 7:30 PM Swing Dancing, off-site	<i>10</i> 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<i>11</i> 7:00 PM Cottage Meeting, Rm C 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00 PM Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	<i>12</i> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<i>13</i> 9:00 AM -1:00 PM All Church Workday ALL DAY - Picnic & Outdoor Fun at the Wood's, off-site																																																																																																															
<i>14</i> 9:45 AM Adult Forum, Rm L 12:30 PM Potluck, sanctuary 1:00 PM Cong. Disc. Mting, sanctuary 2:00 PM -4:00 PM How to Talk, Rm L Mother's Day	<i>15</i> 12:30 PM Meridian Deadline 3:00 PM Finance Comm, Rm K 7:00 PM Cottage Meeting, Rm C 7:00 PM TEAM Assembly, off-site 7:15 PM Program Comm, Rm L	<i>16</i> 7:30 PM Swing Dancing, off-site	<i>17</i> 6:15 PM Woohoo Wednesday, sanctuary & 7:30 - 9:30 PM Rm L 7:00 PM Cottage Meeting, Rm C 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<i>18</i> 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00 PM Knitting for All, Rm 3/6	<i>19</i> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site	<i>20</i> 10:00 AM Cottage Meeting, Rm C																																																																																																															
<i>21</i> 9:45 AM Adult Forum, Rm L 12:00 PM RE Bake Sale 12:15 PM Annual Mting, sanctuary 2:00 PM -4:00 PM How to Talk, Rm L Afternoon Movie Discussion Group No choir practice	<i>22</i> 7:15 PM Comm. on Ministry Meeting, Rm K	<i>23</i> 7:30 PM Swing Dancing, off-site	<i>24</i> 1:00 PM Cottage Meeting, Rm C 7:30 PM Choir Practice Meridian Workday	<i>25</i> 7:00 PM Freethinkers' Forum, Rm L 7:00 PM Knitting for All, Rm 3/6 Meridian Workday	<i>26</i> 6:30 PM University UUs, off-site Meridian Workday	<i>27</i> UUCT Retreat at The Mt.																																																																																																															
<i>28</i> 9:45 AM Adult Forum, Rm L 11:00 AM RE End of Year Party UUCT Retreat at The Mt.	<i>29</i> Memorial Day (Observed) Office Closed UUCT Retreat at the Mt.	<i>30</i> 7:30 PM Swing Dancing, off-site Meridian Workday	<i>31</i> 7:30 PM Choir Practice Meridian Workday	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Apr 2006</th> <th colspan="7">Jun 2006</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Apr 2006							Jun 2006							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1						1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	30													
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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

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Tallahassee, FL
PERMIT NO. 37**

Our Web Address:
www.nettally.com/uuct

Building A Home for Liberal Faith

Our Staff:

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bmurchison@uuma.org. Office hours: 9:00 – 12:00 on
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sattcomm74@yahoo.com

Our Mission:

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

<p>Our Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Christine Boczarska, President* Richard Dempsey, Past President* DeWayne Carver, President Elect* Molly Schmid, Secretary* Steve Urse, VP for Management* Rod Oldenburg, VP for Worship* Melissa Forgey, VP for Social Justice* Jim Dawson, VP for Finance* Kelley Turnage, VP for Religious Education* Dick Leinberry, VP for Church Community	<p>Non-Voting Members are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Ellen Dempsey, Treasurer* Joan Patterson, Asst. Treasurer* Tom Chase, Collecting Treasurer <p>The Committee on Ministry</p> <p>Sara Reece, chair</p> <p>Bob Deyle</p> <p>Maria Mena</p> <p>Directory Changes</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Membership Notes</p> <p>To explore becoming a member or supporting friend, contact Membership chair Trudy Deyle, president Christine Boczarska, or Rev. Bill Murchison.</p> <p>Help our visitors by wearing your nametag on Sundays. New members and friends receive name tags. Contact church office for replacements (\$6.60).</p> <p>Next new member recognition this summer.</p> <p>Mark Your Checks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note the purpose of every check in the memo line (pledge, UUSC...)• Note the month or fiscal year for pledge checks.
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