

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



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Volume 44 - No. 9 THE MERIDIAN September 2001

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SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN AT 11:00 AM

Sunday, Sept. 2	“Workers’ Rights are Human Rights — the Labor Movement and our Seven Principles” Sheila Meehan, Service Leader Eric Draper, Lay Leader
Sunday, Sept. 9	“Emptying the Summer Backpack” Rev. Amy Water Ceremony and Ingathering for All Ages
Sunday, Sept. 16	“Capturing the Moment” Kim Ross and University Unitarian Universalists
Sunday, Sept. 23	“College Reach Out Program” Marjorie Turnbull, Guest Speaker Isabel Sheridan, Lay Leader
Sunday, Sept. 30	“Embracing the Mystery: The Hows and Whys of the Universe” Rev. Amy and Bob Deyle

For service topic details see p. 11.

EVERY SUNDAY AS OF SEPT. 16:

9:45 AM	Choir Practice & Adult Forum
10:30 AM	Child Care - until 12:30 PM
11:00 AM	Youth RE Program
	Classes for Pre-K-12th grade
	High School class meets off-site

Rev. Amy will be away September 1 - 4
and September 21 - 28.

CONGREGATIONAL VOTING MEETING

40% QUORUM (68) NEEDED

Sunday, September 16 at 12:15 PM

In the Sanctuary

Proposals on facilities expansion

See Proposals for Congregational Consideration

At the End of This Issue

NOTE: OUR ZIP CODE STAYED THE SAME, 32312

TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS M-F - 7:00 - 3:30 (Closed 11:00-11:30 AM)

PHONE: 385-5115 (fax 385-5834)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: uuct@electro-net.com

WEBSITE: www.electro-net.com/~uuct/

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

By Rev. Amy McKenzie

GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERSHIP

All Unitarian Universalists are welcome to join UUCT and participate at whatever level they can, may, or will. So, the following are unofficial guidelines put forth by me as your minister. I hope you'll keep them in mind, whether you're someone considering joining, or someone answering the question "what does membership mean around here?" or as you think about how to spend your time and energy this year. It may be impractical for you to attempt these or you may not be interested in this level of commitment to religious community at this time. Some folks do about what I've written and others take their commitment to membership even more seriously than I've outlined here, in Ten Guidelines for Membership:

1. Attend church regularly, at least three services a month.
2. Donate 5% (or more) of your income to UUCT, unless you are having financial hardship. (Remember that in times of financial hardship you may talk with me about receiving a one-time gift from the Minister's Discretionary Fund.)
3. Volunteer in one of the following areas once per year:

Building and Grounds—monthly work parties welcome people of all ages and abilities, it helps if you like to work outside, but there are inside jobs as well;

Nursery, or any other place offering Youth RE—Preschool (ages 3 & 4), and grades: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, middle school, high school, YRUU youth group;

Greeting all comers to the Sunday service.

4. Participate in two of the following once per year:

Social Justice activity, including preparing and serving the Shelter meal;

Adult RE course to deepen your sense of life's meaning and increase your understanding of the people next to you on Sundays (see #1 about attending services);

Adult RE course to expand your mind, and learn something new plus, "ditto" the getting to know each other better statement above;

Sunday service (more about this option next month).

5. Once a month call or visit or email a member, friend or visitor you don't know well. He or she might be someone you just met at church, or perhaps a person who lit a candle and shared a joy or sorrow during the service.

6. Twice a year invite a friend, co-worker, or even someone you met at the child care center or dog park to church and introduce them to other UUCT members.

7. Attend the annual denominational gathering, General Assembly (G.A.) at least once a decade, and a Florida District event every other year.

8. Give your copy of the *World* magazine (sent to every family with a member of a UU congregation) to the waiting room of your dentist, doctor, therapist, mechanic...or bring it in to church for a newcomer to read.

9. Expect the best of UUCT; be a part of the solution if your expectations aren't met.

10. Soak up the love and give some away.

The official rules of membership are: Be at least 18 years of age (for Youth Members, the age is lower); donate money; sign the Membership Book. Plus, *take to heart* the UUA Seven Principles. That's what's in

the bylaws. And what of the laws of our conscience, and spirit? Out of those laws come my guidelines, in which I've tried to reference the "laws" of individuality, generosity, growth in mind and soul, social justice, responsibility, and yes physical labor.

In the spirit of the statement: "Nothing worthwhile is effortless,"

In Faith, (Rev.) Amy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING YOUR "WINDFALL"

Those promised tax refund checks are beginning to appear in our mail...a little extra you had not counted on. How about sending half (or more) to UUCT to help with some of those not-so-little "extras", such as the needed roof repairs for the sanctuary or furniture replacement? If you're moved to do this, make your check out to UUCT, marked TAX REFUND PROJECTS in the memo line. You'll be doubly blessed as both a receiver and giver! Thanks in advance, Your Executive Board

CHECK OUT RE BROCHURE

Stop by the RE table on Sundays to look over and pick up the Lifespan Religious Education brochure. You'll be impressed with how much we have to offer at UUCT for children, youth and adults!

ELECTRONIC MERIDIAN

Thank you to all those who indicated your willingness to receive *The Meridian* electronically. We have stopped sending you your printed copy as of this month; please let Kathie Mackie know if you'd rather still receive it. If you are not on the electronic *Meridian* list and are willing to be, just let Kathie know (uuct@electro-net.com).

AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY

- **The Sunshine:** Our Florida UU District newsletter. Also available at the District website: <http://www.cyberstreet.com/uuFLD/>
- **Mountain Information:** Program schedules and brochures.
- **UUCT T-shirt:** Order forms and sample shirts. (\$15/shirt)

ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender Welcoming Congregation Committee:** The UUA's Welcoming Congregation Program is a completely volunteer program for congregations that see a need to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people. Welcoming Congregations are involved in a number of activities that work toward reducing prejudice by increasing understanding and acceptance among people of different sexual orientations. If you are interested in helping our congregation become a certified Welcoming Congregation, please contact Jennifer Carver (402-0622).
- **Sunday Service Greeter:** Contact Jean Chulak (385-2214 or jeanchulak@aol.com).
- **Coffee Hour Host:** Sign up on the clipboard at the back of the sanctuary or contact Hospitality Chair Dick Leinberry (386-4977).
- **UUCT B & B Host:** Be one of the homes for our UUCT listing in the nationwide UU B&B directory, *Homecomings*. Donate half (or all) the room fee to UUCT. Contact Lois Bloom (402-9044) or Pam Hoskins (893-5039).
- **Social Justice Opportunity:** TCC's Reach Out Program (CROP) needs mentors for middle & high schoolers. Contact Isabel Sheridan (668-0785) or Craig Fletcher (201-8312).

- **Shelter Meal:** Monday, September 10, 7:45 PM. To contribute or assist with, call Karen or John Mann (562-4781).
- **Social Activities Chair:** Organize a quarterly calendar. Guidance available: Jennifer Carver (402-0622).

APPRECIATION

To **Jane Anderson, Pam Hoskins, Elinor Elfner, Will Adkins, Richard Dempsey, Bonnie Foster, Barbara Sterling, Joe and Jean Chulak, and Bob Deyle** for greeting members and visitors on Sunday mornings July 22 - August 19.

To **Rod Oldenburg, Isabel Sheridan, Jerri Lee Wagner, Dick Leinberry, and Lynn Scher** for providing hospitality during the coffee hour, and to **all others who helped out in the kitchen**, from July 22 - August 19.

To **Dexter Easton** for cleaning the sidewalks and **Ed Oaksford** for **trimming the shrubbery**. Thanks to **Rev. Amy, Ed and James Oaksford, Danny Geraci, Lucas Hafdahl, Bill Radel, and Tom Chase** for spreading mulch on the parking lot.

To **Linda Oaksford, Fran, Zachary, and Anna Bridges, Susan Angel, Christine Boczarska, Mary Caine-Hafdahl and Lucas Hafdahl, Maggie, Danny, Devin, and Dylan Geraci, and Pam Hoskins** for cleaning and organizing the classrooms for the new church school year.

To **Rev. Amy and Tom Chase** for setting up the chairs for Sunday.

To **Tim Campbell, DeWayne Carver and Jennifer Carver** for attending the weekend of FL District Youth Advisor training in August.

To **Keith Henry** for creating and updating our website.

From Kathie Mackie, your Administrative Assistant. A great big thank you to **all of those folks** who made my birthday such a special occasion this year at the potluck luncheon you gave me.

On Behalf of Youthful JJSM From Will Adkins: Thanks to all those UUs (including the Okay Chorale, led by Helen Falb) who came down to the Wakulla Springs Lodge, August 11, for a wonderful 84th birthday party celebration for our longtime UU Irish friend John Murphy. Although some of John's older friends around Tallahassee could not make it, many of his younger friends did. We kept the rising floodwaters at bay and alligators at a snapping distance. John says it was the best birthday party ever he's had in his life! (Many more to you, Mr. Murphy!)

CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSETS, KITCHEN AND GARAGE!



Our annual yard sale to raise money for the operating budget is scheduled for Saturday, October 6th, so this is a reminder to start cleaning out your closets, storage rooms, kitchen, and garage. We will accept anything you don't want that is still usable: clean clothing, dishes, household items, small appliances, toys, knick knacks, paperback and hardback books, shoes, gizmos, electronics, purses, computer software, etc. With enough advance notice, we can pick up whatever you can't bring the day before the sale. Additional details to follow. Call Joan Patterson (309-1248 or email jpatters@mail.fsu.edu) if you have questions.

A Hearty Thanks to All Poets & Musicians & Lovers of the Poetic Tongue... who came out to our 2-round / 3-hour UU Coffeehouse for Poets & Musicians on Saturday night July 28th. An enthusiastic crowd of forty heard a live crop of 21 exciting poets of all ages including 2-year-old Isaac Bakan who sang by heart "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and (later) "Itsy Bitsy Spider," youthful poets **Devin Geraci, Danny Geraci, & Dominique Matlow, & pianist Melissa Campbell** -- along with senior poets **Ron Crowe** (also a banjoist in the 2nd round), **Eunice Saunders, John Murphy, Anita Matlow, Mary Draughon Persons, Scott Geraci, Manny Melin, Cheryl Turner, Katie Chamberlain, Kathryn Hansman-Spice, Byron Spice, Katya Taylor, Hank Mannheimer, Karen Melin, Polly Williams, & Will Adkins**, (along with old phonograph recordings of 3 classic poet-luminaries, Robert Frost, Carl Sandburg, & John Jacob Niles), in an aurally brilliant display of mostly original poems.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
NEXT YOUTH RE
COMMITTEE MEETING:
Sunday, September 9, 9:45 AM**

YOUTH RE CONTACTS: Fran Bridges, Youth RE Committee Chair (894-2965); Kelley Turnage, Nursery Sub-Committee Chair (553-9416); and Maggie Geraci, DRE [Director of Religious Education] (877-6301).

COME ONE, COME ALL!
Registration for the 2001 – 2002 Youth Religious Education (RE) Program will be held on Sundays September 2nd and 9th. Please stop by the RE table to register your children. All children, from babies to



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS DESPERATELY NEEDED!

Helping hands are desperately needed for our nursery/preschool kids. We have had large numbers of kids under the age of 4 in the nursery on Sundays. This is great, but a little hard on our nursery care provider, especially when many of the kids need a potty break at the same time! Helpers are needed to read stories, help put puzzles together, pour juice, clean up spills, push swings, etc. Great physical strength is not necessary, but a desire to see the smile on a child's face is. Please consider giving one Sunday a month or whenever you can spare one to our littlest UUCT-ers! Contact Kelley Turnage, Nursery Subcommittee Chair (553-9416) or Scott Geraci, Nursery Care Provider (sgeraci10@aol.com or 877-6301).

teens, should be registered at this time. The registration fee for one child is \$20, for two children - \$30, and for three or more children - \$35. Scholarships are available. Please contact DRE Maggie Geraci.

OUR CURRICULUM. The regular fall curriculum will begin on September 16th, following the intergenerational Ingathering Service (including Water Ceremony) on September 9th. We will once again use a "pillars" approach, where common themes are presented across age groups. All classes, kindergarten through middle school, will cover the same material, using age appropriate lessons. The curriculum for this year will include series on justice, earth-based spirituality, and the U.U. principles. Stop by the RE table to look over the materials we will be using. The High School class will offer an eclectic mix of topics, based on issues that are important to today's teens. See our *Lifespan Religious Education Brochure* for more details on the curriculum and the general goals for each age grouping, as well as descriptions of special youth and family events throughout the year.

**YRUU FALL KICKOFF & PLANNING MEETING,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8,
1:30 - 4:30 PM.** The first Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) meeting will be Saturday, September 8, 1:30 - 4:30 PM: a pool

party at the Deyle Residence. YRUU is the youth-led group for Unitarian Universalists teenagers and is open to young people ages 12-20 (middle and high schoolers). At this meeting, the group will set the meeting schedule for the year, plan special activities, and have a lot of fun as always! Contact Anna or Ethan Deyle (422-1057) for directions and what to bring. For more information about YRUU, call Holly Mackie, Youth Rep (926-2974) or YRUU Advisors, Jennifer & DeWayne Carver (402-0622).

YRUU FL CON SCHEDULE. The FL District Con (Youth Conference) schedule for middle and high schoolers for fall follows. We have received forms for the first one. Contact Jennifer Carver (402-0622).
u1 *September 14-16* Tampa Con
u1 *September 28-30* Trans-In Con
u1 *October 12-14* Orlando Con
u1 *November 9-11* Jacksonville Con
u1 *December* Social Action Con

MOUNTAIN CON SCHEDULE. The *Mountain* Con schedule for the coming school year follows. Let Jennifer Carver (402-0622) know which ones you'd be interested in attending.

[1 *November 2-4*: Jr High
[1 *November 16-18*: Jr High
[1 *December 7-9*: Sr High
[1 *January 18-20*: Jr High
[1 *February 8-10*: Sr High
[1 *February 22-24*: Sr High

ATTACHMENT PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP. Attachment parenting develops an infant's or child's need for trust, empathy, and affection to create secure, peaceful, and enduring relationships. The group meets at 6:00 PM the third Tuesday of each month at UUCT and is open to the congregation and the Tallahassee community. Children are welcome. Contact: Maggie Geraci (877-6301; DREMaggie@aol.com).

ADULT ENRICHMENT

ADULT ENRICHMENT

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

for being inspired to offer a variety of programs for adults this year. Please look for the green brochure at the Religious Education table which will give you the details of programs for children and adults. Some of the programs that begin in September are listed below. Please contact the coordinators for each class for the specifics on meeting times and place.

September

Bible Study

Coordinators - Del and Patty DeTar
Location - DeTar home at 1912 Sharon Rd.
Phone - 385-3332

Email - ddetar@tdo.infi.net

Time - On-going every Sunday evening at 7 PM as long as there is continuing interest.

Each evening begins by watching two half-hour videos by Amy-Hill Levine on the Old Testament. Once the Old Testament is done, the group will move on to her New Testament videos. Anyone may join the group at any time; each evening stands alone. Discussion follows the videos.

Evensong: A Series of Gatherings

Coordinator - Sheila Meehan
Phone - 425-5626 (w) 668-5075 (h)
Email - smeehan@hklaw.com
Days - 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month

Begins - September 13, 2001

Evensong is comprised of approximately eight gatherings in which participants explore individual life journeys through sharing thoughts, experiences, doubts, and beliefs about traditional religious concepts. Each week follows an order of service with the central event being a sharing time. Evensong is a good way to explore personal beliefs and possibilities and a great way to get to know a group of people.

Rise Up and Call Her Name

Coordinator - Bonnie Foster
Phone - 504-2963

Email - dbdfoster@yahoo.com

Begins - mid September (Wed. or Thurs. evenings)

This multimedia program provides a unique format for learning about goddesses from a variety of traditions, hearing and telling personal stories, creating sacred art, participating in rituals, talking about important questions in feminist spirituality, and engaging in personal discovery.

Our Evolving Psyche

Coordinator - Pauline Masterton
Phone - 385-2879

Email - paulinemrm@aol.com

Begins - Sept. 18 (Tues. evenings 7-8:30 PM)

To offer optimism about prospects for human spiritual transformation by reviewing several intriguing models of human psychospiritual development which illustrate how the psyche may have evolved historically, and examining some practical models for accelerating our own total growth.

Building Your Own Theology I & II

Coordinator - Harold Hawkins

Phone - 893-1331

Email - revhlhawk@aol.com

Begins - As soon as we can arrange, based on convenience of those who enroll.

A contemporary classic program for UUs to understand, articulate and develop their own religious beliefs and values.

October

New UU Sessions

Leader - Rev. Amy

Coordinator - Steve Urse

Phone - 385-2864

Email - stevur@mindspring.com

Alternate Contact - Church Office

Dates - Wednesdays, Oct. 3 & 10

Time - 7-9 PM

If you are a new member or thinking of joining UUCT, these sessions offer an opportunity for newcomers (and those wanting a refresher course) to learn about the history, philosophy and policies of our congregation and denomination, and also share a little about their own spiritual journeys.

BUDDHISM STUDY GROUP. If you are interested in helping to form a new Buddhism Study Group at UUCT, or would like to participate in such a group, please contact Will Adkins (385-5071, wma@post.harvard.ed). The group would meet Sunday mornings at UUCT before the church service, possibly on a weekly basis.

ADULT FORUM, SUNDAYS, 9:45

- 10:45 AM. The Forum is held in Room 4 and open to all interested. The program for September 9th is a "Talk on Russia" by Richard Dempsey. Every third Sunday the topic relates to the Green Sanctuary program. This month, September 16, is Bill Moyer's "Earth on Edge" part two. If you have ideas for programs contact Norene Chase (422-1985) to schedule.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY

GROUP. Any women interested in learning more about Goddess spirituality may sign up at the RE table or contact Bonnie Foster (504-2963). The group meets on Mondays at 7:15 PM off-site.

UU NIGHT AT THE MOVIES.

There will be numerous movies and videos for viewing and discussing throughout the year. Most will be shown at church. Dates and times will be announced in *The Meridian* and on flyers posted at church.

UUHUMANISTS

Begins its new year of meetings on Sunday afternoon September 16th at 1PM in the church sanctuary (or right after the Congregational Voting Meeting, if it runs past 1 PM). The speaker is UU minister Rev. Harold Hawkins talking on "Shadow Syndromes." Preceding his talk, Will Adkins will give a brief history of the 20th century American Humanist movement as intellectual godchild of American Unitarianism. Meetings will be held approximately monthly through next May, with a special "Darwin Day" celebration in mid-February. For more information, contact Will Adkins (385-5071 or wma@post.harvard.edu).

SPEAK OUT!

SPEAK OUT!, a Hyde Park soapbox for principled freethinkers, radical liberals, & noisy cranks in search of an appreciative, tolerant audience at UUCT will meet this church-year on an ad hoc basis only, as public demand or need calls for it. If you have a special issue you'd like to air, or hear aired, please contact Will Adkins for scheduling.

FRIENDS OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

It's time to renew your Friends of Campus Ministry membership. If you can't join us September 16th, fill out a form and deposit a check in the pink basket in the back of the church or send it in to the church c/o the Campus Ministry Committee. Even if you didn't become a member last year, be sure to join this year and help support Campus Ministry.

CAMPUS MINISTRY CORNER

By Kim Ross

Yea! School is back in Session! The University Unitarian Universalists meet Tuesday evenings at 8 PM at the International Student and Scholar Center, 107 S. Wildwood.

Our Welcome Back meeting will be a dessert party and meeting on "Starting Anew". This year our programs will include, among other things, an invitation once/month to various social justice and community oriented committees within UUCT to give presentations about the work they are doing. UUCTers invited too!

Coffee Hour will resume at 5:30 PM on Fridays. Call Kim for the location (443-4361).

Be sure to come to the church service on September 16th— this Fall's Campus Ministry Sunday on "Capturing the Moment". We intend for it to be just as exciting as last year's CM Sunday.

Other activities planned for this Fall include a Fall Beach Retreat, Social Service projects including the Shelter, and other fun adventures. Call Kim (443-4361) for more info. and to get on the e-mail list.

NOTES FROM THE MOUNTAIN

*by Jean Chulak
Mountain Ambassador*

RETREAT ANYONE? Sunday, September 30, 12:15 at UUCT is the time and place for a meeting of those interested in exploring the possibility of another great UUCT Retreat next year at The Mountain (a UU-affiliated retreat and learning center located near Highlands, NC).

UPCOMING MOUNTAIN PROGRAM: The Gays of Our Lives, November 2 – 4 (Fri-Sun). This weekend of spirited fun, laughter, exploration, and companionship at The Mountain is a special time for gay men of all ages to be together in community.

For more information about specific programs or The Mountain itself, see the bulletin board and blue notebook on the back counter or contact Jean Chulak, 385-2214; jeanchulak@aol.com. You may also make direct contact with The Mountain Retreat and Learning Centers, Highlands, NC (828) 526-5838. www.mountaincenters.org.

CURRENT UUCT STATS

Certified Membership (as of 1/01)	158
Current Membership	171
Current Number of Friends	41
RE Enrollment	61
Avg. RE Attendance (7/1-8/19)	27
Avg. Sun. Attendance (7/1-8/19)	84

GREEN SANCTUARY CALL TO ARMS

By Ed Oaksford, Chairperson

Our Green Sanctuary Committee members are latching on to specific action items and taking on a leadership role to see that tasks are accomplished. However, some of these activities are more than just one person can handle, and the committee is soliciting interest from the general congregation to help get these tasks tackled. Our action items are listed on the church web site, so you can shop for one you'd like to pitch in on. If you're interested in helping out please send your name, phone number, and email address to oaksford@hotmail.com or call Ed Oaksford at 422-0240. A complete list of Action Item Leaders and Team Members will be provided in the next issue of the Meridian along with a table showing our progress to date. Thanks for all your enthusiasm and support.



GREEN CORNER

By Bob Deyle

LET'S TALK CARS

According to the Earth Communications Office website (ECO), fueling passenger cars accounts for more than 25% of world oil consumption, and personal transportation generates 30 to 50% of greenhouse gas emissions, 33% of toxic water pollution, and 45% of toxic air pollutants. The following tips are from ECO and from the "Green Living" column in the Environmental Defense July 2001 newsletter (ED).

Inflate your gas mileage – If all Americans properly inflated their tires (80% are under-inflated) we could save more than 2 million gallons of gasoline a day (ED).

Switch to low-rolling-resistance tires

– “[T]ires like the Michelin Energy combine special tread designs, lighter materials, lower-profile sidewalls, and higher air pressure to reduce resistance and improve fuel efficiency without sacrificing handling or durability” (ED).

Keep you car tuned up – “When just 1% of car owners tune up their cars, 453 kgs of carbon dioxide are kept out of the atmosphere. . . . According to the EPA, keeping an older car tuned up can reduce pollution by 40%” (ECO). A new oxygen sensor can improve gas mileage by as much as 15% (ED).

Go easy on the AC – At speeds below 40 mph, using air conditioning can reduce fuel economy by more than 20%; above 40 mph, driving with the AC on is more efficient than having the windows down because of aerodynamic drag (ED).

Travel light – Every 200 pounds of unnecessary weight reduces your fuel economy by one mile per gallon (ED) – Take those cinder blocks out of the trunk! Eat light and reduce greenhouse emissions! Tell your overweight couch potato to walk!

Carpool - But DO take along another rider - if each commuting car carried one more person, we'd save 18 million gallons of gasoline and generate 360 million fewer pounds of carbon dioxide every work day (ECO).

Plan ahead; use your bike; use your feet – Combine trips if possible or get there without using internal combustion – A 20% reduction in mileage traveled will reduce your contribution to air pollution by about 5% (ECO).

Shop around – You can compare fuel economy and air emissions for different cars at websites of the U.S. Department of Energy (www.fueleconomy.gov) or the U.S. EPA (www.epa.gov/autoemissions).

If you're thinking about getting an SUV for camping or off-road trips, consider renting one when you absolutely have to have those features and do the rest of your traveling in the most fuel-efficient, least-polluting car in the size class best suited to your routine needs (ECO).

Buy a used car instead – There may be trade-offs in fuel economy and emissions, but if you can find a well-maintained used car that gets good fuel economy you can save all the energy, solid waste, and pollution associated with producing a new car (ED).

UUCT DEATH PENALTY RESOLUTION?

Later this year, UUCT members will consider a resolution on a "Moratorium on the Death Penalty". Copies of the draft resolution and other literature are available at a table each Sunday. Nancy Daniels, Public Defender, presented pro arguments and Willie Meggs, State Attorney, presented the con arguments on Sunday August 12th. A tape is available of this 70 minute meeting from Sandy Smith (297-0012) for any one who would like to hear this lively discussion.

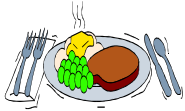
A committee consisting of Steve Urse, Sandy Smith and Norene Chase will be considering any changes in the draft resolution. Any church member who would like input in this process is invited to participate. A committee meeting date will be announced in advance. Call Sandy, Norene (422-1985) or Steve (385-2864) for more information.

THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Chair: Annette Pearce
(386-4053);

Richard Dempsey (671-2748);
Christine Boczarska (893-7079).
Rev. Amy is a non-voting member.

A CALL FOR HOSTS & HOSTESSES



Dinners for 8 and *Dinners for Families with Children* start up again in September. **On Sunday, September 9 before the service and during the potluck**, there will be a **sign-up table** for those interested in being dinner hosts and hostesses. Your offer can be for occasional or once-a-month dinners, September - May. You set the menu and provide the main dish, as casual or gourmet as you like; your guests bring the rest. And you are free to sign-up as a guest for dinners others are hosting, if you like!

Dinners for 8 is adults only, with all parents welcome. *Dinners for Families with Children* is for parents and their children. A primary purpose for all the dinners is to provide opportunities for newcomers to meet longer-term members and friends of our congregation. Once we have a group of hosts and hostesses, dinner dates will be announced for the early fall, and sign-up sheets for guests will be placed on the counter at the back of the sanctuary. If you miss the September 9 host and hostess sign-up, call the appropriate contact person: Barbara Lineberry (668-0762), *Dinners for 8* and Kelley Turnage (553-9416 or akt@nettally.com), *Dinners for Families with Children*.

OUR CONGREGATION

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.”

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to explore membership in our congregation, contact Membership Chair Trudy Deyle (422-1057) or Rev. Amy.

UUCT NAME TAGS

Please, help our visitors get to know us by wearing your NAME TAG and thinking of yourself as “HOST”. New members will be presented with nametags. Others may order chalice nametags by contacting the office (\$3.50 each).

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Sunday, September 30,
during the service.

UUCT CLASSIFIEDS

For \$2 per month (3 month minimum), *members and supporting friends* may advertise their business or service on the bulletin board located near the north sanctuary

doors. *Available to others* for \$5 per month. Submit ad and check for fee to church office.

LOST AND FOUND

We have many items in the lost and found right now, including two folding chairs from the Pig Roast. If you are missing anything, take a moment to look for it on top of the gray filing cabinet in the library.

ADDRESS CHANGES

When you have address and phone number changes please let the office know. Changes will appear in *The Meridian*, unless you direct us otherwise.

Linda Logan
8122 Treetop Lane
Pensacola, FL 32514
Phone: 850-471-2621

Charlene White
621 W. Indiana Avenue Unit 3
DeLand, FL 32720
Phone: 386-785-0038

BABY, WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Are you expecting or adopting a child? If you or another UUCT member is expecting a new arrival, please contact Megan Bakan (216-0510, Dixon@posy.fsu.edu). If you are interested in preparing meals for new arrivals and their families during the first days of parenthood, please contact Megan.

OUR STAFF

Rev. Amy McKenzie's office hours at church: Monday & Wednesday 1:00 - 5:00 PM, Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. *These and others by appointment.*

E-Mail: revamq@earthlink.net
Home Study: 383-9186
Cellular Phone: 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@aol.com

Kim Ross, Campus Ministry Coordinator, 443-4361; kim@cennexus.com

Scott Geraci, Nursery Worker, 877-6301; sgeraci10@aol.com

JOYS AND SORROWS

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

John, Karen, and Johnny Mann. John's father died in August.

Congratulations to **Aaron Oldenburg** on graduation from FSU with high honors and on entering the Peace Corps.



All Souls UU Autumnfest, October 27, 7:00 PM

This will be a transmogrified masquerade party (witches & hobgoblins, etc., optional) event for children & adults, with an all ages get-together party around "The Hallowe'en Tree," followed by a Children's Haunted House in a back pod and a ghost storytelling and darkly poetry coffeehouse for adults. Free will donations accepted.
Next All Souls UU Poetry/Music Coffeehouse: January 2002.



ON TRAVELING, SINGING & CLAPPING

By Helen Falb, Music Director

V...V...V...V...

VISITING PARENTS & SUUSI.

It's great to be back after 3 weeks of traveling! The first part of my trip was by far the most difficult, as I went to visit my parents in Vicksburg, Mississippi, where my father's strength continues to weaken as a result of prostate cancer and its treatments, and my mother is coping as best she can. Next, my two sons and I headed to Blacksburg, Virginia for our 4th SUUSI (Southeastern UU Summer Institute), where we're making it an annual habit now to try to max out our Fun-O-Meters for 6 exhausting, yet oddly enough, energizing days. We've made friends from all over the place, and there's nothing quite like being surrounded by over a thousand folks who share many of your beliefs.

UU MUSICIANS CONFERENCE.

Then we drove to fellow congregant Linda Winn's serene and secluded cabin, located near Highlands, North Carolina, where the boys and I were joined by my husband, Marty. After a blissful few days there, he took the boys home and I headed, alone, to my very first Unitarian Universalists Musicians Network annual conference. Held this year at The Mountain during the first week of August, this experience has left me incredibly enriched, both professionally and personally. **I'd like to thank each and every**

member and supporting friend of this church who made it possible for me to attend this conference through your support of the UUCT operating budget. I have brought back to you lots of great new music and new ideas.

The most memorable time I spent at the conference was during our daily singing sessions, led by Eastern Mennonite College professor Ken Nafziger. Ken led all 170 of us music directors, organists, pianists, choir members, and other interested folk in singing some of the most haunting, moving music I've ever experienced. Tears were copious and flowed freely.

And you know what? Many of these songs are in our hymnal, or I grew up with them, but have avoided them since becoming a UU because their texts, based on traditional Christian beliefs, seemed problematic to me. Now I'm starting to think that it's the *feelings* which are expressed by these songs that are the essence of them.

Most of the singing we did was completely without accompaniment, except for the sounds we could make with our hands and feet. I'd like to do more singing like that in our congregation, where we focus on hearing the breath and sound of our neighbor, rather than "hiding our lights" beneath the piano accompaniment. The best part of this, the absolutely most amazing thing that I've been waiting to tell you is: There are no wrong notes!! You can't make a mistake in this kind of congregational singing! If

you don't like the note you're on, try another one. It's so liberating!

HERE AT UUCT. I hope you'll plan on coming to church each Sunday to sing with your heart, and wholeheartedly join in our hymn-singing with new enthusiasm. Be sure to mark your calendar for October 2, when we'll be having our annual music service, with lots of singing and a special emphasis this year on raising funds for a new sanctuary piano.

Another realization I had while at the conference has to do with clapping in our service (I'm not talking about the soul-felt clapping that works so well in spiritual singing; I'm talking about clapping at the end of a prelude or postlude.) Some years ago our congregation had lots of discussion about this topic, and I, typically, didn't say much. It's taken me some time to formulate these words.

When clapping occurs at the end of one of my preludes or postludes, it makes me uncomfortable. It then feels like the worship service has become a performance. As the person providing most of the music, I don't know how to acknowledge such clapping, because on the one hand, I appreciate clapping as opposed to tomatoes being thrown, but on the other hand, it disrupts the spirit in which I play the music, which is, namely, to express something which may not be expressible with words. Guest musicians whom we hire understand that this is a church service, not a recital, and don't expect applause, so you needn't worry about them not feeling appreciated. Might I suggest that, instead of clapping, you come up to me or the guest musician after the service and express your appreciation (although I already feel very appreciated here!!!)?

I look forward to much great music-making together!

SEPTEMBER UUCT EVENTS

CONGREGATIONAL DISCUSSION WITH CIC, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 7:00 PM. An opportunity for the congregation to discuss with members of the Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) the *Proposals for Congregational Consideration* for the September 16 voting meeting. See addendum to this issue of *The Meridian*. In the sanctuary. Contact: Trudy Deyle (422-1057).

DINNER HOST SIGN-UP, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9. Sign-up before or after the service to be a host or hostess for *Dinners for 8* or *Dinners for Families with Children*.

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK, SEPTEMBER 9, 12:30 PM. Bring your favorite dish to share.

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1:00 PM. A second opportunity to discuss the *Proposals for Congregational Consideration*. Contact: Pauline Masterton (385-2879).

ALL CHURCH WORKDAY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Come enjoy the fellowship of working together on the numerous chores and special projects needed to keep our buildings and grounds in shape. Contact: Tom Chase (422-1985).

FLORIDA COASTAL CLEANUP, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 8 AM - NOON. The Sierra Club and UUCT will again combine forces to clean-up the Aucilla River and its River Sink Trail in Jefferson County. To sign-up, contact Steve Urse (385-2864) or Walker Banning (878-2270).

CONGREGATIONAL VOTING MEETING, SUNDAY,

SEPTEMBER 16, 12:15 PM. To vote on the *Proposals for Congregational Consideration*. See *Meridian* Addendum. Contact: Pauline Masterton (385-2879).

MULTICULTURAL FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 12:30 PM. Susan Graham, Director of Project Race, will speak on the new census data. Contact: Sandy Neidert (656-7894).

MOUNTAIN RETREAT MEETING, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 12:15 PM. For all interested in the possibility of a 2nd UUCT Retreat at The Mountain. Contact: Jean Chulak (385-2214).

YOUTH EVENTS

See *Youth RE* (p. 4).

- Registration 9/2 & 9/9
- YRUU Fall Kick-off & Planning 9/8

ADULT ENRICHMENT

See *Adult Enrichment* (pgs. 5-6).

- Bible Video & Discussion, Every Sunday, 7:00 PM
- Women's Spirituality, Every Mon., 7:15 PM
- Attachment Parenting Support Group, Every Tues., 6:00 PM
- Evensong Gatherings, Alternate Thurs. Eves, 9/13 on
- UUHumanists, Sunday, 9/16
- Our Evolving Psyche, Tuesdays, 7:00 PM, 9/18 on
- Rise Up & Call Her Name, Mid-Sept.
- Building Your Own Theology, TBA
- New UU Sessions, Weds 10/3 & 10/10, 7-9 PM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Open to All Interested

- Youth RE, 9/9
Contact: Fran Bridges (894-2965)
- Capital Improvement, 9/13 & 9/27
Contact: Trudy Deyle

(422-1057)

- Social Justice, 9/18
Contacts: Lorin Pratt (893-3067) & Bonnie Foster (504-2963)
- Racial & Cultural Diversity, 9/19
Contact: Bob Kenon (878-3647)
- Green Sanctuary, 9/23
Contact: Ed Oaksford (422-0240)
- Membership, 9/24
Contact: Trudy Deyle (422-1057)

UUCT EVENTS AFTER SEPTEMBER

DINNERS, SEPTEMBER - MAY. Sign-up will be on-going dinner by dinner throughout the year. Contacts: Barbara Lineberry for *Dinners for 8* (668-0762) and Kelley Turnage (553-9416) for *Dinners for Families with Children*.

UUCT YARD SALE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6. See article on p. 3. Contact: Joan Patterson (309-1248 or jpatters@mailers.fsu.edu).

Y*ALL CONCERT AT UUCT, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 7:30 PM. Tickets: \$10 for adults. \$5 for children. "Y'all is the name of the bluegrass group that consists of Jay Byrd (the guy in the dress) and Steven Cheslik-DeMeyer (the guy in the hogwashers). Their hour-long variety show, which they dream of taking to TV, includes some clever puppet theater, old-fashioned storytelling, and some fine country music." *UU World Magazine*.

CROPWALK, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2:30 PM. Interfaith event to raise money to end hunger in our city and abroad. UUCT contacts: Pam and Walter Hoskins (893-5039).

DISTRICT & NATIONAL UU EVENTS

FL DISTRICT FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Hosted by the UU congregation in Clearwater, a workshop on "Congregational Self-Assessment" led by FL District Executive Rev. Mary Chulak Higgins and UU Healthy Congregation Consultant Margaret Sanders. Contact: Bruce Brandt (893-5511).

FL DISTRICT UU WOMEN & RELIGION RETREAT, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 - 21. Held at the UU in the Pines Conference Center in Brooksville, FL, the theme is "Circles for Centering - Circles for Change." For information and registration watch for Fall issue of "Womanspirit" or contact Mary Howard Cadwell (561-391-3755, mhcadwell@juno.com).

"JESUS SEMINAR ON THE ROAD," WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 28TH, VALPARAISO, FL. A workshop and lecture series at the UU Fellowship of the Emerald Coast. Charles W. Hedrick and Stephen J. Patterson will lead discussions on the question, "The Historical Jesus, So What?" Contact: 850-678-7197 or Mike Beck (MikBek@aol.com).

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM SCHULZ, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 7:00 PM, JACKSONVILLE. Former UUA President; current executive Director of Amnesty International, USA; and also the author of a new Beacon Press book, *In Our Own Best Interest: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All*. The UU Church of Jacksonville is a co-sponsor of this event at University of North Florida's University Center. Contact: www.uujax.org

MORE ON SUNDAY TOPICS

September 2 - "Workers' Rights are Human Rights — the Labor Movement and our Seven Principles" Sheila Meehan, Service Leader. Eric Draper, Lay Leader. People of faith are called to be doers, not hearers. Working together, organized labor and congregations can be a strong voice for the struggle for worker justice. As UUs, raising our consciousness about the struggles of vulnerable workers is essential. Like our intentional efforts to uncover and confront racism, sexism, and discrimination of gay people, understanding the plight of workers is also an important part of our overall journey toward a just society.

September 9 - "Emptying the Summer Backpack" Rev. Amy. I have a hard time unpacking bags after a trip. I'll try to figure out why, and then ask for your comments about what "home" meant to you this summer. Remember to bring the water you collected, or the memory of where you were, so we may intermingle the molecules and *gather in* the congregation for another year of discovery, support, inspiration, action and engagement.

September 16 - "Capturing the Moment" Kim Ross & University UUs. We were standing around at

Campus Ministry member Rebecca McNeil Charles' wedding wondering how we might capture that moment when the idea hit us: We would discuss the many ways and the great desire to capture the moment during our next Sunday Service! Come "Capture the Moment" with us!

September 23 - "College Reach Out Program (CROP)" Marjorie Turnbull, Guest Speaker. Isabel Sheridan, Lay Leader. Marjorie Turnbull, Director of the TCC Foundation, will discuss TCC's award-winning College Reach-Out Program (CROP). The program mentors local students through middle and high school and provides them with scholarships to TCC and to the final two years at a state university.

September 30 - "Embracing the Mystery: The Hows and Whys of the Universe" Rev. Amy and Bob Deyle. Bob and Rev. Amy will offer several services this year that illuminate the beautiful and scientific ideas about creation, life, death, miracles and the self found in Ursula Goodenough's book, *Sacred Depths of Nature*. On September 30, we'll hear several ideas about the beginnings of the Universe from religions and science, and ponder the Mystery of it all.

SEPTEMBER NON-UUCT CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Every Thursday (Sanctuary)	Every Wednesday (Rm. 2)
6:00 PM Intro. to Zen	7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender
7:15 PM Zen Meditation	
Every Sunday	Saturday, Sept. 1: 7:30 PM Peace Dances (Sanctuary)
6:30 PM Urantia (Rm. 4)	Monday, Sept. 17: 6:00 PM Sierra Club (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM Gentle Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church (Sanctuary)	Tuesday, Sept. 25: 7 PM Audubon (Sanctuary)



Water Ceremony

September 2001

UUCT Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For sermon titles & "Every Sunday" activities, see the front page.	*Details on another page.	See p. 6 of <i>July Meridian</i> for UUCT Contacts for committees and events.				1 Rev. Amy away →
2 7 PM <i>Bible Study</i> (off-site)*	3 OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY 7 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)*	4 7:15 PM New UU Planning Mtg. Rev. Amy → Returns (AM) 8PM University UUs (off-site)*	5 7 PM Congregational Discussion w/ CIC* (Sanctuary) 7:30 PM Choir (Rms 2&5)	6 7 PM Board	7 5:30 PM University UUs Coffee Hour (off-site)*	8 Fix a dish for  1:30 PM - 4:30 PM YRUU Pool Party*
9 9:45 AM Youth RE Comm. Mtg. 12:30 PM Potluck & Meridian Deadline 1 PM Congregational Forum* 7 PM <i>Bible Study</i> (off-site)*	10 7 PM Finance Comm. Meeting 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)* 7:45 PM Shelter Meal (off-site)*	11 8PM University UUs (off-site)*	12 7:30 PM Choir	13 7:15 PM CIC Meeting (Rm 4)* Eve - <i>Evensong</i> (off-site)*	14 5:30 PM University UUs Coffee Hour (off-site)*	15 AM - 1 PM Workday*
16 12:15 PM Congregational Voting Meeting 1 PM UUHumanists 7 PM <i>Bible Study</i> (off-site)*	17 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)*	18 6 PM Parenting Support Group (Nursery)* 7 PM <i>Our Evolving Psyche</i> * 7 PM Committee on Ministry 7:15 PM Social Justice (Rm 2)* 8PM University UUs (off-site)*	19 7 PM RCDC (Rm 4)* 7:30 PM Choir	20 7 PM Board	21 5:30 PM University UUs Coffee Hour (off-site)* → Rev. Amy Away	22
23 12:30 PM Green Sanctuary (Rm 4) 7 PM <i>Bible Study</i> (off-site)*	24 7:15 PM Women's Spirituality Group (off-site)* 7:15 PM Membership Comm. (Rm 4)	25 7 PM <i>Our Evolving Psyche</i> * 8PM University UUs (off-site)*	26 7:30 PM Choir → Rev. Amy Away	27 7:15 PM CIC Meeting (Rm 4)* Eve - <i>Evensong</i> (off-site)*	28 5:30 PM University UUs Coffee Hour (off-site)*	29
30 12:15 PM Mountain Meeting* (Rm 4) 7 PM <i>Bible Study</i> (off-site)*						