

# Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton

June 2007

## Sermons

### Connections, Compassion, and Creativity

**June 3**, Along with this Sunday being the grand opening of our refurbished fellowship building, it is Religious Education Sunday. Come hear this presentation by our new Coordinator of Religious Education, Liz Hausburg.

### June 10, Flower Communion Sunday.

At this time every year, we celebrate the flower communion that was instituted by Norbert Capek, a 20<sup>th</sup> century martyr to our beliefs whose wife brought this celebration to our country. Remember to bring flowers from your garden to share with everyone. Patty Rubin and Ann Johnsen will sing from classical repertoire.

**June 17, I Remember Him.** On Fathers' Day all of us have the opportunity to ponder our paternal origins and what they have meant to us individually and collectively. Come join in this special day.

**June 26, Reaching the Other Side of the Rainbow.** Laura Winne will deliver a brief reflection on the history of gay oppression and civil rights.



## Our New Pulpit

Our new pulpit is a gift from retired physician, Unitarian Universalist, and friend of Jean Rhian and Jerry Fairbanks, John Roberts of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. John crafted the pulpit himself, and it will be a beautiful addition to our wonderful new space and our celebration of faith and community. Thank you, John!

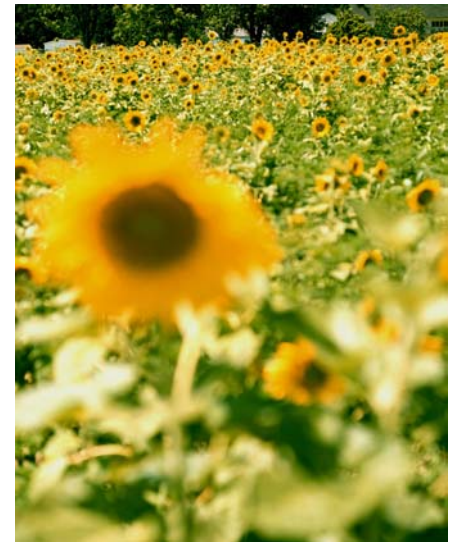
### Coming Home!

### Services and Sunday School To Begin Again at the New Fellowship Building

**June 3 at 10 a.m.**

No matter what your race, no matter what your creed, no matter whom you love, all are welcome! See you there! Childcare for very young children provided.

Sunday Service and School, 10:00 a.m.



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*Read the weekly sermons and continue our after-sermon multilogues at <http://uufe-dialogue.blogspot.com>*

## Minister's Office Hours

Tues. & Wed., 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Mon., Thurs., Fri. by appt.  
410-822-8103 (Office)  
410-770-9772 (Home)  
410-253-8881 (Cell)  
jmbatmd@aol.com  
*Appointments encouraged.*

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## Swallows Honored With Gift to the Capital Fund

A gift to the Capital Fund in honor of Chan and Edie Swallow was recently received from their daughter and son-in-law. How lovely!

Perhaps you would like to give a gift in honor or memory of a special loved one. If so, please contact either our new President, Dick Doughty, or one of our financial secretaries, Edie Swallow or Lois Greenburg. It's easy to do and a fitting and lasting honor for a loved one.

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## Building Access

It has been agreed that a lock box will be used to open the front (West) entrance to our new building. Those who need repeated access will be given the combination. Please call the Administrative office (410-822-8103) between 10 and 12 to sign up. During office hours, you can usually gain entry through the office door on the south side of the building.



## Ministerial Thoughts

### Home at Last

It's hard to believe, but our time away from our own building is over at last. By the beginning of June, we will have moved everything out of the temporary office space in the Stewart Building and back to our completely refurbished Fellowship building. The hymnals will have been taken home from Third Haven, along with the tables and chairs, the desks, and what have you from wherever they have been stored. Piles of boxes from attics, basements, and garages will once more be brought to the Fellowship where they belong. A brand-new pulpit will grace the front of our worship area, and we will be able to bask in the beauty of every room.

Is it possible that less than a year has gone by since we bid our old building a fond farewell? Can it be that somewhere under the beautiful new façade there still are the cement blocks of the old? About the only room that looks almost the same is the nursery, and even it has had a facelift. The kitchen is the same, but also with a new look and feel. All of us will look around to find our own favorite new nooks and crannies where we can meet with friends and settle in.

I hope you come to our grand opening on the first Sunday of June and that you keep coming back to this grand home we have made for ourselves. We have worked hard to see through this time of construction, and we deserve to celebrate the changes we have made possible. *See you at the Fellowship on Sunday Mornings and through the rest of the week, too!*

*Jim Bank*

## President's Corner

### Transition

June, the last month in the Fellowship calendar, is especially meaningful for me this year as I complete my second term as President of the Fellowship. Serving as President has been a learning and growing experience, and I leave with a sense of gratitude for all the help, good cheer, and support that you have given me along the way as well as for the opportunity to work hard and do my best on something that is very important to me. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

A lot has happened these past 2 years, including the decision to build, moving to new spaces, construction and financing of the building, staff changes, committee changes, and more! So as this year ends for the Fellowship and the new one begins, I look forward to lighter responsibilities and participating in congregational life in other ways.

We have a wonderful new President, Board, and leaders to move forward and grow with. I know that they will find the work as gratifying as I have with your continued support. Thank you for your love and support.

*In faith,  
Jean Rhian*

# Gatherings

## Welcoming Our Community to UUFE

Please begin to invite your friends to come and enjoy our new space, either to a Sunday morning service, to one of our many planned weekday and weeknight activities, or both! Many activities go on every month to suit a variety of interests and will be continuing or renewing this summer (see below). Be sure to check the *Newsletter* calendar or call the Fellowship office for times and dates. We have more activities in the planning stages, so watch for them. And, as always, if you have an activity that you would like to propose, contact Dick Doughty, our new Board president, and offer your suggestion.

Gathering	Date	Leader
Chakra Tai Chi	First Saturdays	Kathy Miller
Men's Lunch Bunch	First & Third Wed.	Fellowship Office
Dinner & Movie Night	Second Fridays	Julie Striegel
Women's Lunch	Second Thursdays	Edie Swallow
Drumming Circle	Third Fridays	Debra Hathaway
Women's Spirituality	TBA	Beth Hansen
Book Discussion	Fourth Thursdays	Edie Swallow
Family Potlucks	Fourth Fridays	Gail Woodall
Outdoor Club	TBA	John Turner

**Men's Lunch Bunch, Wednesday, June 6 & 20:** Men from the Fellowship gather promptly at 11:30 a.m. at the Easton Airport Café.

**Women's Lunch, Thursday, June 14, Noon:** We're planning to alternate our monthly luncheons between member homes and local restaurants. For June, Barbara Doughty has invited us to her home on the Choptank. Just bring a sandwich or salad, and Barbara will provide beverages and a dessert. It is very helpful if you will let her know whether you can come (410-673-7580). See directions in the sidebar.

**Family Potluck, Fri., June 22.** Mark your calendars and come to UUFE at 6 p.m. for the revival of our very successful intergenerational family potluck suppers. This is a no fuss, casual event. Bring a dish, bring your kids, bring a friend or two. We will have board games and a child-friendly video available for the children if they want to strike out on their own and avoid the grown-up conversation. If you can't make it by 6 p.m., come later. We usually have an abundance of food.

**Book Discussion Group, Thurs., June 28, 11 a.m.:** Both women *and* men will gather at our new building to talk about their recent reads. This month we will focus on planning 2 or 3 months ahead, so do bring a title you think we might enjoy for a future group discussion. We'll start our conversation at 11 a.m. and continue through lunch, so bring a sandwich. There will be hot water for tea and coffee. And many, many thanks to Joanne Baynard for hosting us at her home these past months. We will miss her hospitality.

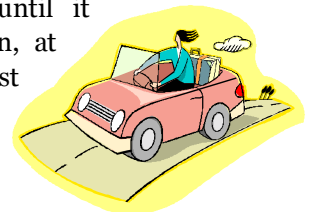
Coming Soon!

## Open Space Fridays

Now we can have several things going on at the same time, making for new ways to have fun and build community! Beginning in September, Rita Barker and Jean Rhian will be hostessing these events where the new building will be open from 5:45 to 9:00 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month. They will commence with a potluck in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. followed by board games, needleworking, youth group, and a song circle, to present just a few ideas on how we can use our wonderful rooms. At the end of the evening, we will close the building together with a short ceremony at 9 p.m. All are welcome, including children! If you have an idea for an Open Space Event, please contact either Rita (410-634-2399) or Jean (410-822-5807), and we'll target some space for you.

### Directions to Barbara Doughty's

From Easton, go out Dover Road, over the bridge, and left on Tanyard at the little store. Continue about 3 miles, then left on Hog Creek Road; straight through the first stop sign; and then left at the second stop sign on Bell Creek Road. After the curve, turn left on lane marked #6280. Follow the lane until it turns left, again, at the white post marked #6280 to house in the trees.



## Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence

### Personal Care Items Drive

As you travel this summer, save the sample personal care items such as shampoo and lotions that you find in your hotel rooms for our collection to be given to the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence. Once we get settled into our new space and find an appropriate location for a collection box, we will re-start our regular delivery to the agency. Check the July/August *Newsletter* for information about where to deposit your items.

## Thank You, UUFE

I have enjoyed being your *Newsletter* editor for the past 4 years; the privilege of getting to know so many leaders in the Fellowship; and being up on all the goings on, from Board meetings to potlucks. As much as I like publishing each issue, my life has been becoming steadily more complicated with growing children and aging parents, and so priorities must shift. Thank you for all your encouragement and support during my tenure as editor and for the great plaque given to me at Annual Meeting! Very clever!

Love,  
Amy :o)



## Social Action

### Fresh Produce Needed

As a member of the Talbot County Interfaith Social Action Coalition, UUFE will join other Talbot County religious groups in an effort to provide fresh produce to our county's less fortunate. Members and friends who grow vegetable gardens are encouraged to grow an extra plant or two and to bring the extra produce to Sunday services this summer. The produce will be taken to the Neighborhood Service Center on Mondays for distribution. Please contact Mary Young (410-819-0050) with any questions.

### Migrant Ministry

Trinity Episcopal Church will begin its Migrant Ministry in cooperation with Choptank Health in June. Teams of two or three people take supplies to camps located around the Cordova area. To volunteer or find out what supplies are currently needed, call Trinity Cathedral office (410-822-1931). Past supplies have included hats, t-shirts, towels, eyewash, lotions, and so forth.

### Detention Center Lending Library

Two volunteers are needed in the lending library of the Talbot County Detention Center. Tasks include updating a library database whenever books are loaned out and when they are returned; pulling and returning books to the book stacks; entering new books into the database, and updating periodically the printed lists of all books in the library, which are located throughout the detention center. The library contains about 5,000 books and weekly circulation varies from 60 to 100. There is no direct contact with inmates. Volunteers are needed on Monday and/or Friday mornings from about 9:45 until noon (or on an *occasional, as needed* basis). For more information, contact Mary Young (410-819-0050).

## Music Notes

### Returning Home, With New Directions

Any change is an opportunity for growth, in new ways, in different directions. Our music program will change with my departure. Some background information on the UUFE music program is important for understanding program and financial choices made over the years.

Seven years ago, I volunteered to start a formal choir, working with six UUFE singers who had been leading hymns and with Anne Lemp's skilled volunteer accompaniment of Anne Lemp. This was with the understanding that if the Fellowship found the program satisfactory, a budget including fair compensation would be stepped in and that I would be passing on professional leadership for further program development. By 2005/2006, paid staff included an accompanist for program year services and choir rehearsals and a quarter choir director plus 20% for administration. Other elements have been offered on a volunteer basis, such as song leading, Children's RE music, musical guests, summer accompaniment, and leadership for song and drum circles.

(Continued, p. 6)

## Final Meeting of the Building Oversight Committee

The last meeting of the Building Oversight Committee will be held on June 4. Jean Rhian, with assistance from Dick Doughty, Maggie Garey, and Don Barker will work on the creation of a new Facilities Management Committee that will be responsible for maintenance, alterations, and aesthetics at the new building. Moving day for the office is scheduled for May 29. By then virtually all construction work will have been completed. Dick does not believe that the few punch-list items will delay our receipt of a certificate of occupancy.

The Board approved the committee's recommendation that the yard sale scheduled for May 26 be postponed to Labor Day or some other time because of the confusion associated with the move and the necessity of not having personal property in the building at the time of our final certificate of occupancy inspection.

The Board authorized Dick, in addition to Jean, to execute a mortgage and related documents. The Board also established a special subcommittee consisting of Dick, Liz McGory, Tom Anovick, and Edie Swallow to prepare a security, key, and lockbox plan.

### Budget

The budget that Don Barker prepared (almost the same as that distributed after the Sunday service on April 29) was approved and recommended for congregational adoption at the Annual Meeting. A resolution was proposed for congregational approval that states that we should use any excess income received in fiscal year 2007/2008 over that budgeted to reduce the amount of the \$20,000 JPD grant, all of which was included as income in order to balance the budget.

### Web Page Policy

The Board adopted a new UUFE Web page policy that Sandra Henry-Stocker drafted and the Board reviewed at a previous date.

### Music Program Meeting

Jean reported that those attending the April 26 meeting on the music program thought the highest priority for next year was the engagement of a professional accompanist. The choir will be disbanded for the time being due to the difficulties involved with self-directing.

### Sunday Barbeque Sales

The Board voted to allow the Fund-Raising Committee to work with several food service businesses to set up and sell barbeque on Sundays during the summer from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a 50/50 split in profits. Tom Anovick will lead this effort.

## For All You Do, Thank You!

It's time again to thank some of the many people who pitch in with time and talents to keep UUFE the growing and thriving religious community that it is. Here some of the folks who deserve big THANK YOUS for the work they have done recently:

- ❖ *Tom Anovick and Jake Jacobs* for their work on the kitchen
- ❖ *Sue Loweree* for continued landscaping work
- ❖ *Jerry Fairbanks and Ken Court* for traveling to IKEA to pick up bookcases for the office and *George McManus* for providing the truck for the job
- ❖ *Liz McGrory and Tom Anovick* for heading up our move back to the building
- ❖ *Jim Bank, Peter Paul, George McManus, Gail Woodall, and Janet Pfeffer* for their help on the annual awards
- ❖ *Maggie Garey, Dick Doughty, Jake Jacobs, Tom Anovick, Don Barker, and Sue Loweree* for helping to plan the care of our new building and grounds
- ❖ *Jim Bank* for advice on the Annual Meeting

I'm sure that I've missed some folks, and I apologize. There are so many contributions of time and talent.

Thanks to all of you who have been so helpful over these past 2 years.

Your contributions are what make us the successful, lively community we are!



## UUFE Mid-Age Kids' Gathering

**W**e had another lovely evening with our young folk! Eight children, including friends and siblings, and eight adults gathered for swimming and games at the YMCA and talk and pizza in Idlewild Park until it was almost too dark to find the baseball mitts and bocce balls!

At twilight, a fiddler wandered from the gallery walk to the gazebo, and we were treated to an impromptu concert. Thanks to Nancy Labat, who covered the non-Y members with her work-perk guest passes, UUFE RE had nothing to reimburse. Although we met at an earlier hour with less advanced notice and various scheduling conflicts, we had a good turnout. Greetings to those of you who couldn't make it—we thought of you and hope to see you next time!

We're hoping to do at least one more gathering before the fall, maybe something easy like a movie and ice cream or weekday at the beach. As always, let us know if you know of someone who is between 11 and 15 years old to include in these communications.

Hurrah for beautiful weather!  
*Patty and Eric Rubin*

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*(Music Notes, continued)*

This past spring, after I announced that I would not be returning to direct the choir next year, a combination of board and member input resulted in the decisions to seek to continue paid accompaniment for one service a week for 10 months and to eliminate the staffed choir element of the music program. Unfunded maintenance and administrative needs for the music program remain in discussion.

In June, Jim Bank, representatives from the Worship and Music Committees, the Board, and I will have a music turnover meeting to be certain that all aspects of the program are well understood. UUFE musicians and supporters also will be meeting to discuss and take action on needs, ideas, and commitments that will keep the joyful and meaningful practice and presence of music part of Fellowship life.

I will be providing special service music, as vocalist, on June 10 and arranging a schedule of mostly volunteer accompanists for the summer services. I will help to find a home in the new building for music program administrative records, the choir sheet music, and sets of music books—an investment that will not lay dormant long, I hope.

*Patty Rubin*



### Choices That Matter

#### General Assembly 2007

General Assembly is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. General Assemblies make overall policy for carrying out the purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association and direct and control its affairs. Voting at each regular and special General Assembly is by accredited delegates from certified member congregations, certified associate member organizations, and trustees.

For further information, go to [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org).

#### Save the Dates for Future General Assemblies!

- June 25–29, 2008, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- June 24–28, 2009, Salt Lake City, UT

## UUFE Contacts

Minister Rev. James Bank,  
410-770-9772 or 410-822-8103  
President Jean Rhian, 410-822-5807  
Music Director Patty Rubin, 410-745-2000  
Minister Emeritus Daniel G. Higgins, Jr., DMin,  
410-745-3462  
Newsletter Editor Amy Eutsey, 410-820-7971  
uufenewsletter@hotmail.com

Many thanks to the Folding and Stamping Crew. *We can't get the Newsletter to you without them! :o)*

The deadline for the July/August Newsletter is June 15.

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## Formal Dedication of New Building

**October 7, 2007**

Save the date and come and celebrate! Gini Coulterm National Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association, will be our featured speaker. Stay tuned for more information.

## Unitarian Universalist Principles

*Unitarian Universalism* is a faith for those who want the freedom to develop their own religious values and beliefs without being bound by creed or dogma. These are the principles that we share:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.

### **We Want To Hear From You!**

UUFE is always interested in hearing from members and friends about new ideas for small group activities. Contact President Dick Doughty, and let' make your ideas a reality.

# June Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Service and RE, 10 a.m.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Social Action Mtg., 7 p.m.	<b>6</b> Men's Lunch, 11 a.m.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Dinner & Movie Night, 6:30 p.m.	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Service and RE, 10 a.m.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Board Mtg., 6 p.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Women's Lunch, 12 p.m.	<b>15</b> Drumming Circle, 7 p.m.	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Service and RE, 10 a.m.	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Men's Lunch, 11 a.m.	<b>21</b> Book Discus- sion Group, 11 a.m.	<b>22</b> Family Pot- luck, 6 p.m.	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Service and RE, 10 a.m.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Interfaith Lunches, 10 a.m. Membership Mtg., 3:30 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>