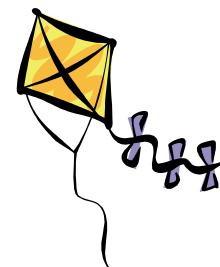


# Newsletter



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton

March 2008

## Sermons

### Mar. 2, An Attitude of Gratitude

As we approach the time of the year when we are asked to support UUFE with our time, talents, and finances, I prefer the word "stewardship" rather than the phrase "every member canvass." Dan Higgins' sermon will reflect on the difference.

### Mar. 9, Death and Ministry

We hear a lot about "feel good" churches these days, but what we really need are churches, fellowships and clergy when we feel bad - at least that's been Jim Bank's experience and what he would like to talk about today.

### Mar. 16, Jesus the Storyteller

The Rev. Betty Jo Middleton, our guest speaker, is a retired UU Minister of Religious Education and will preach on the enduring image of Jesus as storyteller, and the stories he told. In the book, *American Jesus*, Stephen Prothero talks about how the Son of God became a national icon and discusses images of Sage and Savior, Manly Redeemer and Superstar, Mormon Elder Brother, Black Moses, Rabbi, and Oriental Christ.

### Mar. 23, Faith Without Certainty

Dan's Easter sermon is an opportunity to reflect on the Easter story, its myths and legends, and consider where the meaning is for religious liberals.

### Mar. 30, The God Question

The recent national advertising campaign for Unitarian Universalism asks, "Is God keeping you from going to church?" Whose idea of God? Nancy Orr will explore our struggle to name the sacred while respecting the individuality of our beliefs.

Sunday Service and  
School  
10:00 a.m.  
7401 Ocean Gateway

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### Mar. 30, Special Congregational Meeting

This special meeting is scheduled immediately following the morning worship service. The purpose is to elect members who have been nominated to serve on the Search Committee for the new Called Minister.

### I ONCE WAS LOST, BUT NOW AM FOUND!

We have found a number of items that people have left at church which will be put in a large "Lost and Found" box on the floor of the coat closet, just outside our meeting room. About once a month this box will be cleaned out and the items donated to Goodwill or saved for our yard sale. Please check the box if you have lost something!

Please



Wake Up!

## Spring Conference

Register now for the JPD Spring Conference, March 28-30, at the Doubletree Bethesda hotel. A special room rate is available until March 4<sup>th</sup> or until the group block is sold-out.

The theme for the conference is "Voices of Justice, Hands of Change." Full details are available at the JPD website, [www.jpduua.org](http://www.jpduua.org).

A copy of the complete conference brochure with descriptions of 30 separate workshops is posted on our Easton Fellowship bulletin board.

## Board News

Liz Hausburg reported that our Religious Education program for children and youth is doing well, with good teachers and facilities. Currently, there are 21 registrants, including 2 teens. Attendance averages 10-14 young people each Sunday. Some larger chairs are needed for the upper-elementary-school-aged children and Liz will be purchasing these shortly.

The RE Committee and Liz updated the Children's Safety Policies/Procedures and they were approved by the Board. Copies will be available soon. The Board thanked Liz for her excellent work as Coordinator of RE for Children and Youth.

The recent Committee Coordination meeting was very beneficial, prompting the Board to agree that such meetings will be held at least twice a year.

The Board also approved using UUA's fair compensation guidelines in crafting a salary/benefits package for our yet-to-be-named full time interim minister and eventually for our called minister.

*(Board News continued p. 3)*

## Ministerial Thoughts

### Daniel's Docket:

Since time immemorial Easter has been a season of special celebration. It is a time of and for renewal. We call it "Spring" - as we watch the first flowers bud and bloom. We listen to the singing of the birds as they return from their winter retreats. Daylight lengthens and we know that summer is approaching.

"The flowers appear on the earth,  
the time for singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in the land." (Song of Solomon)

The festivals of Easter and Passover celebrate life in terms of deliverance and resurrection. They reaffirm the recurring themes of life. Something deep within us responds to these enduring symbols of ultimate truth.

With wonder in our hearts and awe in our eyes we raise the Easter anthem.

"Lift up your voices and with us sing  
Alleluia! Alleluia!"

dgh

## President's Corner

### UUA Policy Regarding Interim Ministers

Because the Board plans to hire a new interim minister for one year starting in August 2008, UUE members should have a clear understanding of the UUA policy regarding the role of an interim minister. The text of the official policy is shown below:

*"It is understood, in accordance with the established policy of the Unitarian Universalist Association, that an interim minister is pledged not to become a candidate for the congregation's called ministry, not to serve the congregation for more than two years, and not to discuss specific prospective candidates for the called ministry of the congregation with the ministerial search committee. It is also understood that interim ministers both carry out the normal responsibilities of congregational ministry, including worship and pastoral care, and also assist the congregation in addressing the following interim tasks:*

- *claiming and honoring its past and engaging and acknowledging its grievances and conflicts*
- *recognizing its unique identity and its strengths, needs, and challenges*
- *understanding the appropriate leadership roles of minister(s), church staff, and lay leaders and navigating the shifts in leadership that may accompany times of transition*
- *making appropriate use of District, UUA, and other outside resources*
- *reaching beyond the dominant culture to include the multicultural world in social service and social justice, and renewing its vision, strengthening its stewardship, preparing for new growth and new professional leadership, ready to embrace the future with anticipation and zest "*

If you have any questions about the role of the interim minister, please feel free to contact me.

*Dick Doughty  
(President's Corner continued p.3)*

### The UUFE Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning (HVAC) System

**B**ecause the cost of energy is rising dramatically and to minimize impact on the environment, it is important that we conserve energy by properly using the HVAC facilities in our new building.

The building is divided into four zones for heating and cooling.

**Zone 1** covers the facilities at the North end of the building including RE Classrooms 1, 2 and 3; the Nursery; and the Women's and Men's Restroom.

**Zone 2** covers the Entry Foyer, the Kitchen, RE Classroom 4, and the Archer-Shee Room.

**Zone 3** covers the New Meeting Room.

**Zone 4** covers the Administrative Office, the Shared Office, the Minister's Office, the Copy Room, and the Unisex Bath.

Each zone includes a separate digital programmable thermostat that is set to maintain a minimum temperature during hours when the building is normally not in use. Each thermostat is also programmed to raise the temperature at times when regularly scheduled events are held such as worship services and office hours. At other times, it may be necessary to raise or lower the temperature set point by pressing the top/bottom button on the right hand side of the thermostat. It is not necessary to open the thermostat cover to change the temperature setting.

#### **Locations of Zone Thermostats**

Zone 1 --the north hall adjacent to the Boiler Room.

Zone 2 --the Main Foyer near the door to RE Classroom 4.

Zone 3 has two thermostats-- on the back wall of the Meeting Room. The thermostat on the right hand side (as you face the rear of the Meeting Room) controls the heat pump which provides primary heating and cooling for the Meeting Room. The thermostat on the left hand side controls the auxiliary cooling system and provides additional cooling on hot summer days when heat pump capacity is inadequate.

Zone 4 --the Administrative Office near the hallway leading to the Unisex Bath.

To conserve energy when only a portion of the building is being used, it is necessary to keep doors closed between the heating zones. This translates into three simple rules:

Keep the doors to the Meeting Room, including the sliding door to the Kitchen, closed when the Meeting Room is not being used.

Keep both the main entry door into the Administrative Office from the hall, and the door from the Copy Room to the Archer-Shee Room closed when only the Administrative Office complex is being used.

The door from the Entry Foyer into RE Classroom 4 and the door into the Archer-Shee Room from RE Classroom 4 should be kept open whenever possible to allow air to circulate throughout Zone 2. If these doors are closed when the thermostat is calling for heat, the normal result is excessive heating in the Archer-Shee Room.

**These rules do not apply when the entire building is in use.**

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Anovick or Dick Doughty.



### Denominational Affairs Committee To Be Formed

At the February Board Meeting a decision was made to establish a new Denominational Affairs Committee in the Fellowship. The primary purpose of this committee will be to build membership familiarity with the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Joseph Priestley District and what they have to offer in the business of managing our Fellowship. There are volumes of written materials available for those who know where to look. In addition, there are other UU's who have "been there before" and are happy to share their experience.

This Committee would:

Collect denominational communications that come our way and direct them to the person(s) who would be most interested.

Be an advocate for congregational participation in denominational and district affairs, either individually or by group. This might include encouraging attendance at General Assembly, district conferences, retreats, leadership training events and special skill workshops. Registration reminders, carpooling arrangements, and budget requests for registration fees could be part of the committee responsibility.

Be an advocate for greater membership in Chalice Lighters. We owe a great deal to Chalice Lighters for the several grants we have received. This committee would encourage new members to be involved with this program.

If you have a personal interest in becoming involved in the new Denominational Affairs Committee, please contact Dick Doughty.

**And the Winner Is!**



In our February Newsletter, we reported that Dan Higgins was a nominee for the Talbot County "Maryland's Most Beautiful People" Volunteer Award.

Once a year, Marylanders nominate individuals in each county who truly represent the State's volunteer spirit. After community selection, local elected officials recognize the nominees at their county ceremonies. One outstanding volunteer from each jurisdiction is then selected to represent their county at the statewide reception and ceremony in Annapolis, where the Governor, with other dignitaries, presents the awards to the winners.

And of the twelve nominees, the volunteer selected for Talbot County is - the Rev. Daniel Higgins!! The reception and ceremony in Annapolis will be held in April.

**Second Sunday Scavenge**

On Feb. 10 and on the second Sunday of every month, scavenge your closets and bring donated clothing items to the Fellowship. Joanie Baynard will prepare them to be sold at the hospital commission shop, The Bazaar, on Federal Street. Our Fellowship receives 50% of the sale price of each item. We've received \$48 so far and Joanie is ready for Spring clothes!

Religious Education

**Calendar Events**

*(ES: Elementary school age children*

*MS: Upper elementary/middle school age children)*

- Mar. 2 ES: "Fair & Unfair Experiences", MS: "Affirmation of Self"
- Mar. 7 (Friday) – Youth Night at UUFE
- Mar. 9 ES: "Peaceful & Hurtful Experiences" MS: "Affirmation of Self and Others"
- Mar. 16 ES: "Caring & Uncaring for Others" MS: "Deciding for Peace & Justice"
- Mar. 23 Celebrating Easter and the start of Spring!
- Mar. 30 ES: "Friends & Enemies" MS: Respecting Others, Valuing Diversity"

**March RE Donation Needs:**

- Juice Boxes
- Old Magazines
- Maps of the World or U.S. that you no longer need or want

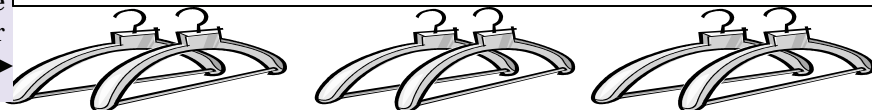
If you have an item to donate from the list or other items you wish to donate please see me, Nancy Dimond or Colleen Ronning. The RE Committee is looking for adults to supervise our children during the time when RE classes end at 11:15 and until 11:45 (you do not have to be a parent with a child in RE classes). Our teachers would like time to talk with parents about our program as well as enjoy a part of coffee hour. We are not looking for only one or two adults for this role, but several who are willing to take one or two Sundays over the next few months to talk with and enjoy snack time with our children. Slots are filling up so if you are interested please see Liz Hausburg for more details!

**A Few Words from Religious Education**

Our elementary age group will continue in the "In Our Hands" curriculum with unit 2: "Exploring One's Own Experience". The goals of this unit are for the children to explore their own life experiences, feelings and understandings of the themes of fairness, peace, and caring. They will learn that people can choose to be peacemakers. The activities will nurture the growth of empathy within us and help us gain a better understanding of others.

Our upper elementary/middle school group will also begin unit 2: "Peace and Justice within Oneself" this month. The central goal of this unit is to nurture the sense of self-worth of each child. The children will explore how they make decisions and how that process relates to peace and justice. They will consider what qualities in people help them decide to act for peace and justice and will take part in activities of self-affirmation and affirmation of others.

*Liz Hausburg CRE*



## Gatherings

### **Men's Lunch, Wednesday, Mar. 5 and Mar. 19**

Breakfast orders at Airport Café before 11:30, lunch orders after 11:30.

### **Building Your Own Theology, Wednesday Mar. 5 and 19**

Sessions 4 and 5 start at 7 p.m.

### **Meditation Group, Wednesday Mar. 5 and 19**

The Meditation Group meets at 7 p.m. at UUFE. Beginners are welcome! The group meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month. For more information contact Laura Winne.

### **Adult RE film (film as Theological Text, a discussion series for adult and senior youth), Wednesday, Mar. 12 and 26**

March 12 movie at 7 pm. *Murder on a Sunday Morning*, not rated This gripping documentary won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2002. Follow this murder case of a 15 year old black male who confesses; from the crime to the arrest to the surprising conclusion of his trial. His very capable lawyer discovers troubling information about the case which makes one question the methods that police use. A "must see" for anyone interested in our justice system.

### **Women's Lunch, Thursday, Mar. 13**

We will continue to enjoy the privilege of being in someone's home. This time Maggie Garey has offered to host us at 213 Brookletts Avenue. Look for the house on the corner of Aurora and Brookletts with green trim and a handsome blue stair railing. Todd's Market is just across the street so you might consider picking up a sandwich there before joining us. Bring it or your salad. Maggie will provide drinks and cookies. She would appreciate a head count, so let her know if you plan to attend. (410-822-2953)

### **Friday Night Movie, Mar. 14**

The movie, *Across the Universe*, tells the story of an American girl Lucy, played by Evan Rachel Wood, and Jude, a British lad played by Jim Sturgess who fall in love amid the upheaval of the 1960s. This musical features classic Beatles songs and a mix of live action and innovative animation. On an excursion to America, Liverpool dock worker Jude falls for Lucy. When Lucy's brother Joe is drafted, Jude and Lucy take a stand as anti-war activists. A New York Times reviewer wrote, *Across the Universe* captured my heart, and I realized that falling in love with a movie is like falling in love with another person. Imperfections, however glaring, become endearing quirks once you've tumbled."

The pot luck dinner begins at 6:30.

*David Stevens*

### **Spring Equinox Gathering, Saturday Mar. 22**

Celebrate the turning of the season where day and night are equal. Everyone is invited to the Fellowship at 5 p.m. to say goodbye to short daylight hours. For more information, contact Beth Hansen at 410 253-0214.

### **Adult RE film, Wednesday, Mar. 26**

*Amistad*, rated R, is a historically based dramatic story of the 1839 mutiny on the Spanish slave ship *La Amistad* (English translation "Friendship") and the legal battle to win freedom for Joseph Cinque (Sengbe - his African name) and his compatriots. It is the story of 53 Africans captured in Mendeland (now Sierra Leone), who were sold and re-sold into slavery - first in their homeland, then in Cuba. Movie at 7 pm.

(continued, p.6)

## Social Action

- The Social Action Committee will host the Health Care for All Town Hall Meeting, being presented by the Maryland Citizens Health Initiative, a statewide advocacy organization that has been working toward expanding access and health care for all Marylanders since 1999. The public is invited to attend this forum at the Fellowship on Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm. See the flyer insert in this Newsletter for more details.

- The Committee approved a \$100 donation to Asbury Methodist Church for their soup kitchen. UUFE, as part of the Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger, participates in this project.

- Donations of toiletries, bath and bed linens, perishable foods and used cell phones are still needed by the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence. Place your donations in the plastic box labeled "Mid-Shore Council" in the foyer.

- In order to become more effective, committee members will hold one-on-one conversations with members of the congregation in February and March to learn about their concerns, passions and interests regarding social action issues.

### **Social Action Coalition film Cancelled**

There will be no film shown in March because the third Friday is Good Friday, which is observed by some who come to these movies. *No End In Sight* will be shown at the Third Haven Meeting House on **Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.** This 2007 Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary takes a comprehensive look at the Bush Administration's conduct of the Iraq War and its occupation of the country.

(Gatherings, continued)

**Women's Spirituality Circle,  
Thursday Mar. 27, 7 p.m.**

**The Book Group, Thursday, Mar. 27**

We meet at the Fellowship at 11:00 a.m. in the Archer-Shee room, and invite all to bring a brown bag lunch and share in our informal discussions. Even if you haven't read the book, you are welcome to join us. We enjoy hearing about new books you have recently read. This month we will review *Three Cups of Tea* written by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, which won The Kiriyaama Prize. If you have questions, contact Joanne Baynard at 410-770-8277.

**Fellowship Friday, Mar. 28**

The Potluck begins at 6 PM, followed by various activities for all ages. If you would like to coordinate an activity for that evening or have questions, please call Rita Barker (410-634-2399) or Jean Rhian (410-822-5807). Hope to see you there!

**Stewardship Campaign  
Cottage Meetings  
Mar. 7,8,9,14,15,16**

All members are being invited to a Cottage Meeting on one of these dates. If you cannot attend the meeting that you are invited to, there will be a "catch-up" Cottage Meeting later.



**NEW MEMBER BIOGRAPHY**

**Phillip Sawyer**

Mid-way through this interview, I learned that Phillip is a classical guitar player and for a number of years played a guitar he purchased in Barcelona, Spain. While living in Tennessee, he played in a variety of venues, including concert halls, weddings, college graduations, and fashion shows.

His father probably had an influence on his musical ability, for he was a trumpet player who performed in a professional orchestra and founded the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee.

With an undergraduate degree in Physics from Vanderbilt University and two graduate degrees, Phillip worked for a number of years in the high tech business field. The nature of his work required moving every few years. When he spotted an opening in the Shore Health System he applied for it and was immediately accepted. He moved here last July.

Phillip is responsible for radiation safety for the entire Shore Health System. He is favorably impressed with the Regional Cancer Center in Easton. Even though it is currently understaffed, he considers it one of the best in the country. Currently, the Center is installing a new accelerator. (For those of you as uninformed as I am, Medical Physicists are responsible for the invention of MRI's and CT's and all imaging systems of the body.)

Phillip is familiar with Unitarian Universalism and attended Unitarian churches while living in Tennessee and Cincinnati. His mother and stepfather were married in a Unitarian church in Nashville, Tennessee, and his sister in Oregon attends a Unitarian church there. His brother, who lives in Moscow, attended a Unitarian youth group in his high school years. Phillip has two sisters, a brother and 3 nephews, with a niece on the way.

Before deciding to accept the job offering from Shore Health Systems, Phillip checked the internet to learn if there was a Unitarian Universalist church in Easton. He was pleased to find one and attended his first service shortly after we moved into our newly remodeled building.

We extend a hearty welcome to Phillip and look forward to his friendship and to hearing his music.  
*Jean Griffith*

**Member Services**

The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11 at 3:00 p.m. at the Fellowship building.

**INTRODUCTION TO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM**

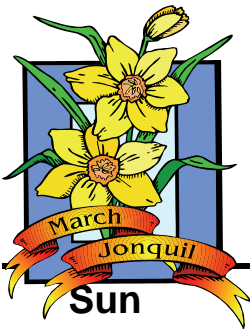
**Saturday March 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

This class, led by Rev. Dan Higgins and Membership Chair, Gail Woodall, is helpful for anyone new to our Fellowship - whether you've just joined, are considering joining, or would simply like to know more about Unitarian Universalism and our Easton Fellowship.

Class participants will be introduced to general UU history and theology and, more specifically, our own UUFE history.

We will also discuss how we get things done and where you can be involved. We will share some of our own spiritual beliefs and get to know others who are new to UUFE. To register, call the church office at 410-822-8103 or Gail Woodall at 410-820-8541. Bring a brown bag lunch if you like. We will provide cookies and drinks.

**Childcare can be provided with advance notice.**



# March 2008

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Easton

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				5:00 to 5:30 Silent Peace Vigil in front of the Courthouse every Thursday		1
2 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE 11:30 am Worship Com- mittee Mtg	3	4	5 11:30 am Men's Lunch 7:00 pm BYOT 7:00 pm Meditation Group	6 ↓	7 7:00 pm First Friday Youth Night	8
9 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE 11:30 am Social Action Committee	10	11 3:00 pm Member Services Committee 6:30 pm Board Meeting	12 7:00 pm Adult RE Film	13 12:00 pm Women's Lunch 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14 6:30 Friday Night Movie	15
16 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE 11:30 am Climate Change Group	17	18	19 11:30 am Men's Lunch 7:00 pm BYOT 7:00 pm Meditation Group	20 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21	22 5:00 pm Spring Equinox Gathering
23 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE	24	25	26 7:00 pm Adult RE Film	27 11:00 am Book Group 7:00 pm Women's Spirituality	28 6:00 pm Fellowship Friday	29
30 10:00am Worship Service and Children's RE  Special Congregational Meeting following	31					

## UUFE Contacts

Minister Emeritus and Interim Minister	Daniel G. Higgins, Jr., D.Min, 410 745-3462
President	Dick Doughty, 410 673-7580
Coordinator of Religious Education	Elizabeth Hausburg, 410 476-4774
UUFE Office	410 822-8103
Newsletter Editor	Frank Greenburg, 410 819-8810 <a href="mailto:frankg@goeaston.net">frankg@goeaston.net</a>

### The Purpose of our Fellowship is to Provide

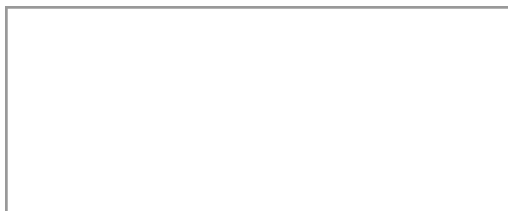
- Public worship according to the liberty of individual beliefs
- The free discussion of religious and moral questions
- The opportunity for children to discover, through broad religious education, an evolving faith of their own
- The transformation of individual and social life in the light of religious principles

#### About the Newsletter On-line Edition

Several members and friends have expressed an interest in reading and/or printing monthly UUFE Newsletters at home by using our web site [uufeaston.org](http://uufeaston.org). We will send an email to all members once a month after the Newsletter has been posted, providing an easy link to our web site. If you have trouble misplacing the newsletter that is mailed to your home or have an interest in saving a bit of first class postage for the Fellowship you can elect to discontinue the printed mailing by contacting the Editor at [frankg@goeaston.net](mailto:frankg@goeaston.net). It's becoming the "green thing to do." And if you ever wish to change your mind that's perfectly OK too. Just let Frank Greenburg know.

**THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP AT  
EASTON, MARYLAND  
PO BOX 1162  
EASTON, MD 21601**

**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**



## **MARK YOUR APRIL CALENDAR NOW!**

***UUFE Service Auction & Dessert Buffet  
Friday, April 18, 2008  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.***



***You are invited to bring a dessert, donate goods or services, or request services in the reverse auction. Sign-up forms will be sent via e-mail and will also be available at the Fellowship.***

### **Ideas for a successful service auction... plus your own!**

#### **Sharing our expertise:**

building, computer, sailing, knitting, decorating, health, art lessons, tutoring ...

#### **Great eating:**

special dinners for 6, cheesecake, delivery-of-dinner, brunch, home-made bread, dessert-of-the-month, pick-of-the-garden ...

#### **Service with a smile:**

babysitting, mother's helper, housework/yard work, pet-sitting, car cleaning, pick-up and delivery; birthday parties, gardening, painting or papering ...

#### **Handmade to order:**

knit items, sewn items, original art, furniture, decorative ornaments...

#### **Marketplace and gifts:**

special, high-quality items are welcome - original art work, tickets, antiques, gift certificates for your business...

#### **Adventures:**

boat or plane excursions, special expeditions, vacation home...

*Want more information? Contact Janet Pfeffer at 410-770-9540 or  
[jpfeffer@goeaston.net](mailto:jpfeffer@goeaston.net)*