

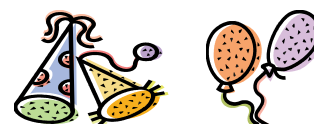
Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton

October 2007



TIME TO CELEBRATE !
Dedication Ceremony and Celebration
Sunday, October 7, 3:00 p.m.



Gini Courter, presiding as moderator at Unitarian Universalist Association General Assemblies and at meetings of the UUA Board of Trustees, will be our guest speaker. The title of her presentation is "To Build the Common Good".

Ms. Courter, a native of Flint, Michigan, was raised a Methodist, left the church at 14, explored different religions for 13 years, and joined the Unitarian Universalist Church of Flint as a young adult. Her special role as moderator comes with exceptional experience. Ms. Courter served her own church as an active board member, and was a UUA Board of Trustees member for eight years. She has been quoted as saying "My experience on the board was life-changing, valuable, and authentic."

Ms. Courter is also an information technology consultant, a nationally recognized speaker, a founder and partner in TRIAD Consulting, and author and co-author of 29 books on information technology. A very busy lady!

Also attending the Dedication will be the Rev. Dr. Richard Speck, District Executive of the Joseph Priestly District in Wilmington, Easton Mayor Robert Willey, Talbot County Council President Thomas G. Duncan, and representing the Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity, Deacon Terry Stackpole.

Thanks to our Worship and Music Committees for planning this wonderful event!

Sermons

The Dividends of Hope

October 7

As we begin a new church year in the life of the UUFE (the church year really does begin in September), Dan Higgins will lead a discussion of our hopes and dreams for the coming year.

October 14, **Our Mother, the Earth, Our Father, the Sky.**

Nancy Orr will explore Native American spirituality and its relevance for us today.

October 21, **The Faith of an Unrepentant Liberal.**

The word "liberal" in America has almost become a dirty word. Dan suggests that UU's reclaim the word and wear it as a badge of honor.

October 28, **Live and Savor Life.**

We welcome the Rev. Anne Herndon, Chaplain of the Anne Arundel Medical Center, preaching "On Death...and Life!" Sometimes a reminder of the inevitability of our own death is actually a prompting to live and savor life to the fullest.

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

Religious Education

A big thank you to all those who donated magazines and juice boxes last month.

If you have an item to donate from the list below please see me, Nancy Dimond or Colleen Ronning. If you would like to discuss other items that you may want to donate to RE please see me.

In October, we continue our study of the Unitarian Universalist principles with principles two and three. Principle two is the belief that all people should be treated fairly and kindly. Be sure to ask our children why they are wearing a white ribbon. Principle three is the belief that we should accept one another and keep on learning together. The children will learn about inner peace, expressing feelings, and meditation.

We will also have our own "Fall Festival" as we look at different ways Fall is celebrated.

Liz Hausburg, CRE

Our Calendar:

October 7th – UU Principle 2 – Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations

October 14th – UU Principle 3 – Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations

October 21st – Meditation with guest Laura Winne

October 28th - Fall Festival

R.E Needs of the Month

October

- ◆ Juice boxes for children's "coffee" hour
- ◆ Small pumpkins for decorating

Ministerial Thoughts

Daniel's Docket:

In the summer of 1980, during a visit to Maryland, I went to the drug store in St. Michaels to make a few purchases. Approaching the cashier ahead of me was a small boy, six or seven years old, purchasing a hoarhound candy ball. He gave the cashier a nickel and she replied that it cost seven cents.

The boy looked at her and walked away, leaving his nickel on the counter. As he made his way to the door the cashier said, "Don't you want your nickel?" The boy answered, "What good is it?"

I gave the cashier two cents. The boy thanked me and went on his way. I wish that it were possible to make people happy, as happy as that boy was, for a mere two cents. I cannot help but wonder what I paid for hoarhound candy when I was the age of that boy, or what hoarhound candy costs today. I will have to check it out.

As I think back on that brief encounter I realize that there is a lesson to be learned. Many people are like the small boy. They have limited financial resources or perceive that they have limited talents and they think, "What good is it?"

Edward Everett Hale wrote,

"I am only one, but still I am one.

I cannot do everything, but I can do something.

I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

Shalom,
dgh

President's Corner

Although Webster's dictionary defines "dedication" in various ways, its application to a church is specifically mentioned. It is therefore appropriate that we will formally "dedicate" our new building on October 7th.

Those who attend the dedication ceremony may view the event from different theological perspectives. That would be consistent with the freedom of our faith. However, I think there are some generalities about this occasion which we all can share. First, is the courage of the old timers among us who initially established a very ambitious goal for a small congregation. This was followed by a remarkable financial commitment by our membership, not just in one big capital campaign, but in two of them occurring back to back. Then there was the incredible amount of work performed by so many during the building process, including a huge amount of on site construction oversight.

All of the foregoing accomplishments, together with the attractiveness of our new building, permit us to be justifiably proud when we dedicate our Fellowship's new home and place of worship and obtain its recognition from the UUA as well as from the broader community.

Peter C. Paul, filling in for Dick Dougherty



Gatherings

Men's Lunch Bunch, Wednesday, Oct. 3 & 17 & 31: Men from the Fellowship gather promptly at 11:30 at the Easton Airport Café. - before 11:30 for fare from the breakfast menu.

First Friday Teen Night, Oct. 5: Our first monthly event for UUFE teens (13 & up) and their friends will be held from 7:00 until 10 p.m. Join us for 'make your own pizza' and a movie. Reconnect with old friends and make new ones! We will discuss projects that you would like to be involved in and the upcoming Winter Con, a 3 day, 2 night all teen (9th-12th grade) conference held like a big sleep-over in a sponsoring church. Contact Colleen Ronning (colleendr13@yahoo.com) or 410-770-3843 for more information and to sign up.

Women's Lunch, Thursday, Oct. 11: So that those on a lunch break can join us now and then, we plan to alternate, monthly, in and out of Easton. This week we'll carpool up to Denton to Ann Jacob's Lily Pad Café at 4 South First Street. Join the carpool at the Fellowship at 11:20 for a real culinary treat. Please call Edie Swallow at 410-745-5170 so we can give Ann the number of attendees.

Dinner and Movie Night, Friday, Oct. 12: Following the potluck at 6:30, at 7:00 we will watch this month's movie. *The Impressionists* is a dramatization of the lives of French impressionists who boldly created a new style of painting. Reminiscing about his life, 80-year-old Claude Monet (Julian Glover) recalls his experiences in Paris with maverick painters Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Paul Cézanne and Édouard Manet, who endured poverty, social upheaval and derision from the art establishment. Richard Armitage plays the young Monet.

Too Good for the Yard Sale, Friday, Oct. 19: A Swap Party for UU Women and their Friends will be held at 7 p.m. in the Rhian-Fairbanks home, 7607 Easton Club Drive, Easton. Deliver your special trade-ins to UUFE between Sunday, October 14 and NOON Friday October 19 - or make arrangements with Jean, 410-822-5807. Let Janet Pfeffer know what you can bring for dessert to share! \$10 cover We welcome donations for lucky finds.

NAACP Banquet, Saturday, Oct. 20: The Talbot County Branch of the NAACP will hold their Annual Freedom Fund Banquet at the Easton High School on October 20, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. The speaker is Dr. Clara Small, Professor of History at Salisbury University. If you are interested in attending, contact Dan Higgins at (410) 745-3462 for tickets.

The Book Group, Thursday, Oct. 25: We meet at the Fellowship at 11:00 in the Archer-Shee room, and invite all to bring a brown bag lunch and share these very informal discussions. Even if you haven't read the books, come join us. We also enjoy hearing something of your recent reads. Our focus for October is Barbara Kingsolver's *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*. The tea kettle will be boiling. For more information, call Joanne Baynard at 410-770-8277.

Women's Spirituality Circle, Thursday, Oct. 25: All women are invited to honor the female divinity at 7 p.m. in this monthly circle at the Fellowship. For more information contact Beth Hansen at 410-253-0214.

Fellowship Friday, Oct 26: At 5:45 p.m. we will begin with a potluck, with various activities to follow. To secure space for your activity please call either Rita Barker or Jean Rhian. Join in the fun! See you at the Fellowship Friday!

(continued, pg4)

In 1910, who taught in this one-room school house?



▲
The cover of the September issue of
What's Up? Eastern Shore
For the answer, see page 5

Board News

Board Members

Two new members were welcomed to their first meeting - Joanne Baynard and Reverend Dan Higgins.

Interim Minister

A contract with Reverend Dan Higgins to serve as part-time Interim Minister until August, 2008 was approved.

Building Dedication

The Board received a report from Joanne Baynard, Chair of the Building Dedication Committee, that local dignitaries have been invited and preparations are proceeding smoothly.

Bob Woodall Memorial

The Board approved a Dedicated Gift from the Woodall children for a tree and plaque to be placed on the Fellowship grounds. Sue Loweree will decide on the placement.

Social Action



The Social Action Committee voted to provide \$65 for a Uufe ad in the NAACP's annual banquet program.

The Committee also voted to pay the annual \$10 dues to be a part of the web site www.whatsoeveryoudo.net, a program initiated by the Interfaith Social Action Coalition.

The Coalition will present their monthly film on October 19 at 7:00 in the Third Haven Common Room. The film for this month is "Dark Days". Documentarian Marc Singer focuses his camera on a group of homeless people who live deep underground in an abandoned New York City railroad tunnel. By day, they scavenge for food on the mean streets of Manhattan. At night, they retreat to the tunnel, where they've built huts out of scrap metal, plastic and plywood. Amazingly, they have electricity, furniture, working kitchens and a sense of community many surface dwellers would envy. The film is not rated.

Uufe's commitment to the Interfaith Hunger Coalition requires that a few people meet every fourth Wednesday morning to prepare and deliver lunches to those who need this service. The Social Action Committee needs two delivery drivers
(continued p.5)

(Gatherings, continued)

Yard Sale on Saturday Oct. 27: 8:00 a.m. Items can be dropped off at the Fellowship as follows: Sunday 10/21 after the service, Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., and Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Transportation of large items can be arranged with Tom Anovick. There will be a baked goods table and a pit beef barbecue during the sale. Please call Mary Young to let her know what baked goods you will bring. If you would like to help with the Pit Beef, call Tom Anovick. Volunteers for displaying and pricing items and working the day of the yard sale should contact Patty Joiner or Debra Hathaway. Yard sales, the best way to recycle and make money!!

Uufe Fall Festival, Oct 28: Festivities begin immediately following the worship service for this annual Uufe event. Children and adults are invited to arrive in costume this day. Lunch will be "potluck" with standard fall fare – chili (both vegetarian and non-vegetarian), corn bread, hot dogs, pies, cakes, cookies and cider. Plenty of activities will keep us and our children busy. There will be areas designated for mask-making, pumpkin decorating, bobbing for apples, games, and more. Weather permitting, activities will be outside. Regular worship service and religious education will precede the celebration. Plan to join the fun.

Adult Religious Education

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm unless noted

October 3, This I Believe

This wonderful series began in the 1950's by Edward R. Murrow and continues today on NPR. Enjoy an evening listening to and responding to a few essays reflecting the personal values and beliefs of a rich variety of contributors.

Leader: Carol Smith

October 10, October Sky

This film takes off with a bang and soars upwards to lift your spirit and make you feel good about all those who pursue their dreams in the face of large obstacles. Suitable (in fact, encouraged) for middle school and older children.

Leader: Gail Woodall, time **6:00 pm**. A donation for dinner will be requested.

October 17, Articulating Our Faith

How do you answer the question "What do Unitarians believe?" Galen Guengerich has a rich answer in his Spring 2007 UU World article entitled "The Heart of Our Faith." We'll have copies of the article available in the Fellowship the week before this session or you can obtain one by calling session leader Gail Woodall at 410-820-8541.

October 24, Biographical Romper Room

Bring your bag of memories, a pencil, pen and notebook and willingness to free-write for the fun of it. Inspiration will come from prompts such as "your favorite teacher", "the first money you ever earned", "the best Christmas" etc. found in *Writing Your Life* by L.W. Stanek, PhD. Brief writing periods will be followed by sharing results with each other. It's the stories we're after and you're full of 'em!

Leader: Sue Loweree

October 31, Feast with the Ancestors

On Halloween, when the veil between the worlds is thinnest, we will have a silent meal honoring those who have passed to the other side. Please bring a dish to share. This feast can be a profound and moving experience and is open to people of all ages, provided they can sit quietly through the entire meal.

Leader: Beth Hansen

Member Services

This year our committee's primary goal is to help our congregation become one where every individual practices intentional hospitality. David Rynick titled a recent article in the Summer 2007 UU World magazine "The Spiritual Practice of Hospitality". He suggests that when we hear the term "spiritual practice", we think of something radically different and more exotic than our everyday lives and actions. He believes that we are always practicing something. Everything we do has some consequence to our spirit. Practicing hospitality is an expression of our first UU Principle *The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person*. We can do this by engaging those we don't know in meaningful conversation that will move us a bit closer to knowing one another and establishing a connection that can be rekindled during future encounters. We can also do this by engaging those we already know and attempting to learn more about them and hopefully expand and deepen the friendship. Hospitality is not something to be "done" to new visitors on a Sunday morning. But rather, as David Rynick describes it, an individual work of intentional action, action that creates the quality of relationships in our church that will nourish newcomers and longtime members alike.

The next meeting of the committee will be Wednesday, October 24 at 3:30 p.m. at the Fellowship building.

Please see new member biographies, *Welcome New Members!* on page 6 of this month's Newsletter.

Gail Woodall
Chair, Member Services Committee

Our Loss, Florida's Gain

This month we bid a fond farewell to Julie and Eric Striegel as they relocate to Clearwater, FL. They will love it there, no doubt, but we do not love to see them go. We take this opportunity to say a big "Thank You!" to Julie for having created and run the Friday night dinner and movie program, for her work on the Membership Committee, for her signature decorations each year around Halloween for our Fall Festival, for her participation in the UUFEB choir and for her work on the two Masquerade Balls. Eric will be remembered by our older children for his participation in the youth group activities and for being the father of Chloe. Eric, Julie and Chloe, we will miss you and hope you will be back to visit.

All the best to you; please stay in touch.

In Memory of Bob Woodall

The Fellowship is pleased to report that \$2,095 has been received and credited to the Bob Woodall Memorial Fund. Deposits have been made to the Capital Campaign account. The Woodall family appreciates your generosity.

(Social Action, continued)

each week plus backup volunteers who would be willing to help deliver the lunches. The route is within Easton and takes about an hour. Please contact Mary Young at 410-819-0050 if you are willing to help.

Thank You!



A very heartfelt THANK YOU to Jim Richardson and Peter Paul who braved the hottest days of summer hauling lumber, stone and slabs for the very handsome walkways they created on either side of the meeting room. Their volunteer effort was expedient, efficient and very professional - giving a "finished" look to the exterior of the back elevation. Kudos to the "Walk-men"!

Submitted by Sue Loweree



Little Red School House

Answer:

Reverend Dan Higgins' mother, Anna Pearce, taught in Longwoods, then Tunis Mills, was assigned to Neavitt in 1914, ending her teaching career in 1917 when she met and married Dan's Father.

Welcome New Members !

Roger and Linda Williamson

Linda and Roger raised their three children in the Gold Country of the Sierra Mountains in Northern California. Linda has served as a teacher's aide in elementary school and worked as a volunteer naturalist in children's outdoor camps. She has also served as a counselor in women's centers associated with clinics for substance abuse and domestic violence. Roger has worked for the U. S. Forest Service and in construction. Their lives were touched by tragedy in 1987 when their son died at age 22.

Currently, Roger and Linda live in a re-modeled chapel in Wittman located on property of friends, Joe and Kathy. Their friendship has developed into an extended family. Summers are especially fun when all the families from California, Illinois and Maryland come together.

Linda and Roger's daughter, Shannon, recently enrolled in Chesapeake College to pursue an RN and BA in Nursing. Shannon and her husband live near St. Michaels, and have two teen age sons. Willow, their younger daughter, is a massage therapist in Northern California. She and her partner have two children. Linda and Roger love traveling to California to spend time with them.

Linda enjoys spending time with her grandkids (and their friends), gardening, and feeding birds off the back deck. She loves being in the outdoors and because of her abiding interest in the environment she would like to focus her energies on environmental causes. She and Roger are volunteers at the Audubon Jean Sheehan preserve near Neavitt doing habitat improvement and wildlife studies.

Roger works as a Home Improvement Contractor and renovates boats. His interests range from early American folklore to computer engineering, with some emphasis on boating on the Bay, especially crewing on sailboat races. He is drawn by a sense of community, of a group of people who think for themselves, and are willing to make friends. "I work alone, so a sense of camaraderie is important, and the invitations to various social events entices me to get out of my usually "grind". I am especially interested in the furtherance of good works in our community and world. I believe that each person is improved by doing good things for other people." He feels he has found such a community at UUFE.

Linda grew up in the Presbyterian faith, but has always had a desire to find a church without a set dogma. She wholeheartedly subscribes to our principles and is impressed with our inclusiveness. We welcome both Linda and Roger into our membership and hope that here they will find an atmosphere to expand their interests and talents and to nourish their beliefs.

Jean Griffith

Meet the Echternach Family

Passing by our Fellowship on her frequent trips to Cambridge to visit her mother, Sally Echternach thought of conversations she had in high school with friends who were UUs. Now a mother of three children, she, as well as her husband, Sean, wanted their family to have some form of spiritual framework. Might this UU Fellowship in the midst of a renovation provide that for them? After viewing our website, then waiting for the building to re-open, they drove in from their Preston home to attend a few services. They soon decided to join our Fellowship and now feel comfortable enough with us that they sometimes wear the costumes they've donned for their Sunday afternoon visits to the Renaissance Festival.

Both Sally and Sean grew up in Maryland. For the past 18 years, Sean has worked with the Fluharty Company as a commercial electrician. He enjoys outdoor activities, especially hunting and fishing. Though not raised in a religious tradition, Sean believes in an intelligent, spiritual force and Unitarian Universalism suits him just fine.

Sally is a stay-at-home Mom who enjoys taking care of her family, plus their canine and feline pets. She is a candle maker and studies dianic wicca, a feminist religious tradition. She attends UUFE's women's spirituality group meetings and soon may be helping with our children's RE program.

The Echternach children attend our RE classes. They all love animals and enjoy the outdoors. Additionally, Jeffrey, a 7th grader, likes to swim, read and play video games. Seven year old Kylee belongs to the Brownies, the 4-H Club, and likes to swim, read, ride horses, sing and act. Busy little Connall, the "almost 4 year old" has fun on the backyard swings, plays with the family's pets and loves being read to and going fishing with Dad.

Most of all, they have a lot of fun as the entire family participates in the Renaissance Festival held each summer/early fall near Annapolis. We are pleased to welcome the Echternachs to our Fellowship.

Liz McGrory



October 2007



Calendar of Events - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Easton

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 11:30 am Men's Lunch 7:00 pm Adult RE 7:00 pm Meditation Group | 4 7:30-8:30 pm Choir Practice | 5 7:00 pm First Fri. Teen Night. | 6 |
| 7 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE 3:00 pm Dedication Ceremony & Celebration | 8 | 9 6:30 pm Board Meeting | 10 6:00 pm Adult RE Dinner & Movie | 11 11:20 Leave for Women's Lunch in Denton | 12 6:30 pm Dinner and Movie Night | 13 |
| 14 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE | 15 | 16 7:00 pm Worship Committee | 17 11:30 am Men's Lunch 7:00 pm Adult RE 7:00 pm Meditation Group | 18 | 19 7:00 pm Too Good for Yard Sale 7:00 pm Drumming Circle | 20 1:00 pm NAACP Banquet Easton High School |
| 21 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE | 22 | 23 | 24 10:00 am Hunger Coali- tion 3:30 pm Mem- bership Mtg. 7:00 pm Adult RE | 25 11:00 am The Book Group 7:00 pm Women's Spirituality Circle | 26 5:45 pm Fellowship Friday | 27 8:00 am Yard Sale at the Fellowship |
| 28 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE 11:00 am Fall Festival | 29 | 30 | 31 11:30 am Men's Lunch 7:00 pm Adult RE | <i>On each Thursday the Silent Peace Vigil is held from 5:00 to 5:30 in front of the Courthouse</i> | | |

UUFÉ 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

Newsletter Editor Frank Greenburg,
410-819-8810
frankg@goeaston.net



The Silent Peace Vigil has resumed in front of the county courthouse, each Thursday from 5:00 to 5:30.



SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, October 27, 2007

The 3rd Annual Meeting of the *Unitarian Universalist
Legislative Ministry of Maryland*

9:00am—1:00pm
at the UU Congregation of Columbia

Please join us for a day of advocacy training, issue strategizing, and networking as we endeavor to strengthen the UU voice in the MD General Assembly. Our keynote speaker will be Delegate Liz Bobo.

For more information, go to
www.uulmmd.org

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