



UUFC WORLD

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson
230 Pendleton Road, Clemson, SC 29631
October 2009 Volume 31 Issue 10



OCTOBER SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Reflection - 10 a.m. Social Time-10:30 a.m. Services - 11:00 a.m.

10 - 4

Beyond Tolerance

Recent scholarship on Unitarian history in Europe has unearthed a new interfaith story.

Reverend Cynthia Prescott

10-11

Hereafter

Unitarian Universalist perspectives on what happens when we die.

Reverend Cynthia Prescott

10 - 18

Oh, the Things You Could Do! (Canvass Sunday)

What if everybody tithed? With an extraordinary canvass, UUFC could come up with an awesome wish list.

Reverend Cynthia Prescott

10 - 25

Intergenerational Halloween Service

Meg MacArthur, Director of Religious Ed.

Program notes - Holley Ulbrich

Sunday Worship is back to its regular fall schedule with Together Time early in the service and celebrations and concerns at the end. Our morning reflection leaders for October are Holley Ulbrich on October 4th, Jeanne Malgrem (Buddhist meditation) on October 11th, Jamey Lowdermilk on October 18th, and Linda Law* on October 25th (*see page 6).

Rev. Cynthia Prescott starts off October with a sermon on October 4th on *Beyond Tolerance*. Recent scholarship in Unitarian history has unearthed a new interfaith story. On October 11th, Cynthia will preach on *Hereafter*—Unitarian Universalist perspectives on what happens after we die. The 18th is Canvass Sunday, and Cynthia's sermon is titled *Oh, the Things You Could Do!* What if everybody tithed? With an extraordinary canvass, UUFC could come up with an awesome wish list. On October 25th, Director of Religious Education Meg MacArthur will lead an intergenerational celebration of Halloween. The more traditional and adult-oriented remembrance service, *All Souls*, will fall on the actual All Saints' Day this year, November 1st.

If you are interested in leading worship, or helping to carry it out, you are welcome to join the Worship Committee and/or attend a series of four workshops on worship led by our minister, Cynthia Prescott, on Sundays after church—October 18, November 1, 8 and 29.

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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FOR THINKING OUT LOUD
Reverend Cynthia Prescott
Use Your Imagination

It's a bit disconcerting to realize I've been a minister long enough to use the phrase "over the years" credibly, but over the years I've noticed a trait common among Unitarian Universalist congregations as the annual stewardship campaign (canvass) approaches.

Our religious imaginations run riot. Freedom of belief and conscience grants us the freedom to soar above conventional thinking on matters of spirituality and ultimate meaning. But when it comes to applying the same sort of energy to imagining a brilliant future for our congregations, often we sink like a stone into scarcity thinking.

Yes, economic times remain hard for a lot of people. Yes, the cost of keeping UUFC doors open is high – the more so when one of those doors breaks suddenly, requiring an expensive repair. And so, yes, funding for building maintenance and improvement is a must. A significant chunk of the annual budget is devoted to staff and ministerial compensation. UUFC teeters constantly on the edge between being a large small congregation and small mid-sized congregation (members plus friends, and children/youth in the religious education program). Pushing through that growth barrier would ease other fellowship's financial breathing, but, the need for paid staff kicks in inevitably at fewer than one hundred members. UUFC began exceeding that level in 1998, and despite a plateau or two, has been growing ever since.

Now that we've faced those facts together, let's take a look in the opposite direction. The idea of growth is a good place to start. Congregational growth is not merely numerical. Congregational growth also is the deepening of love, covenant, and commitment that accompanies knowing Unitarian Universalism and UUFC offer so much to nourish the minds and the spirits of the people who walk through those (newly repaired) doors on Sunday and throughout the week.

Despite economic conditions and much to their surprise, some Unitarian Universalist congregations experienced their best stewardship campaign ever last year. Stewardship Sunday at UUFC is October 18. The title of the service is "Oh, the Things We Could Do!" Know the fiscal facts, certainly, but come prepared to imagine, not just a solvent future for UUFC, but a brilliant one. Imagining costs nothing. It's pure reward.

Young Adult Covenant Group

The first meeting of the Young Adult Covenant Group will take place in October. There are still a few vacancies. If you'd like to put your name on one of them, contact me in the office (cynthia,prescott@yahoo.com or 654-8832) for more information and to join in arriving at the exact date for our first meeting. Initially Emily Wood and I will convene the group, but we're eager to turn facilitation over to a pair of group members as soon as possible. While Emily and I may look young and be young at heart, our birth certificates tell a different story.

"Imagination is the beginning of creation." George Bernard Shaw

THE VIEW FROM HERE
Martha Alexander, UUFC Board President
Fellowships Remembered

We arrived in Las Vegas in summer when UUF of Las Vegas was on hiatus. In the fall of 1982, we showed up for services that were held at the UNLV Religious Education Center. We had guest speakers and homemade (lay) programs. Each year I did a Passover presentation, helped out in RE, and became board president in July 1984. During my year as president, to our great joy, Rev. Scotty Meek came as interim minister. Alex had previously served on the board as Member At Large. This Fellowship had a book discussion group. I remember the discussion of *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche* I hosted at our home. Of course I served quiche. Probably the most meaningful memory of Las Vegas is the two couples we met who became dear friends. We had lunch with them after services and on summer Sundays when there were no services. June and Allen Coleman had retired to Las Vegas from Shaker Heights, OH. They had been very active in the UU congregation there. June was president of UU Women at the Shaker Heights church and told me of being at a UU women's meeting when a cheer went up when Roe vs Wade was announced. June succeeded me as president. June was an unbelievable seamstress and I still have clothes she made for me. Allen had been a pioneer TV engineer putting the first station on the air in Cleveland. Allen put together our sound system and I understand his name is on the podium they still use today although UUFLV has moved several times. The other retired couple was Ben and Diana Oppenheim. He had been the owner of a pest control business and she was an artist. Two of her works are hanging in my home today. Ben was our congregation's treasurer and Diana was caring chair. Diana and Ben were members of the Long Island congregation when Rev. Ralph Stutzman was hired as their minister. Ben was Liberal Religious Youth Director at the NY church. We visited with them many times from 1985-2008 in Las Vegas, once in Charlotte with the Oppenheims and once Diana came to Sumter. All four of them are gone now.

In the winter of 1985 Alex and 16 year old Doug left for Shaw AFB, Sumter, SC. I moved in with the Colemans so I could finish my year teaching sixth grade at Jim Bridger Junior High School and Andy moved in with Alex's vice base commander to finish the year at UNLV. In June we struck out cross country again, this time with 20 year old Andy in his car and me in mine. We visited the Grand Canyon where our geology major son declared, "Mom, this is a hell of a hole." He had previously explained all the rock formations and when I read the explanations by the canyon, by golly our smart boy had been right.

Alex attended the UUF of Columbia prior to my arrival in SC. Andy and Doug went with me my first Sunday with the sole purpose of going to the mall after the service having had 24/7 shopping in Vegas that they did not find in Sumter. I remember Tom Turnipseed and one of his and Judy's sons came out to the car to greet us. At that time they were meeting in a beautiful little church with an amazing wooden ceiling. There was also a stained glass window about one story high of Jesus kneeling and looking up. This window was over an air conditioning unit that when running, drowned out any spoken word. So that church became known to us as The Church of Jesus Christ Over the Air Conditioner. Later UUF of Columbia bought a Jewish Community Center where they still meet. Rev. Christine Robinson, whose Chalice Lighting words we frequently read from *Singing the Living Tradition*, was our minister. Christine's

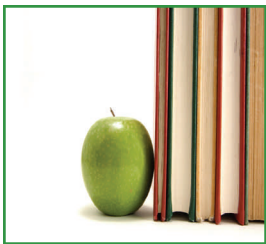
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Continued from Page 3 (The View from Here - By Martha Alexander)

decision to go serve a church far far away was a sad day for us, but a crew dressed as characters from *The Wizard of Oz*, gave her a tearful farewell as she clicked the heels of her new red sparkly pumps and left us for First Unitarian Church, Albuquerque, NM. After her came two more ministers, the last one when we attended, the Rev. Patrick Price. Fourteen years ago I lit a candle to celebrate the birth of Patrick, our first grandchild, and Rev. Price said, "Good choice of name." Because it took three hours to go to church, it soon became too time consuming and we seldom attended.

In 1999, we moved to Oconee County. I was already mapping out the trip to the Greenville church when a Sierra Club member told me about UUF of Clemson. I tried to fly under the radar and refused all requests to chair a committee or run for office, but guilt "got-a-holt-a me" and here I am ten years later ready to turn over my president's robe in two months to Robin Kimbrough-Melton. What? You didn't know we have robes?

My UU life and my other life have been great adventures. Who'd a "thunk" it that all this could happen to a country girl from Burke County, NC? My personal motto is, "Life is an adventure;" and if I had another it would be "The journey is the destination." And folks, I'm still on the UUFC journey as I still have one more year to serve on the board as past president and as COSMOS chair.



THE DRE's CORNER

Meg MacArthur
Director of Religious Education

BIG PLANS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009

On Saturday, October 24 people around the world are organizing to do whatever fits their situation best to display their support of the need to reduce our carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels. Some of the world's leading atmospheric scientists have determined that we need to return to a level of 350 ppm if we are to avoid catastrophic climate change. Currently our CO₂ levels are at about 387 so it will take effort on our part as a society to reduce it. Check out www.350.org for more information.

At UUFC we've decided to do our part on Sunday, October 25, as part of the Intergenerational Service that day, rather than have people make a separate trip in on Saturday. The children and any adults who want to participate will congregate in the parking lot and ring our hand bells in unison 350 times. Perhaps that will work up an appetite for the potluck after the service.

The Intergenerational service will have a Halloween theme. Children, youth, and adults are invited to wear costumes. I hope to see you there.

Thanks for supporting Religious Education at UUFC.

GREEN SANCTUARY

Some of you may recall that UUFC was certified as a Green Sanctuary in January of 2008, the first UU church in South Carolina to attain this distinction. What exactly is a Green Sanctuary? It is a congregation that “walks the talk” of our seventh principle *to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part*. The goals of the Green Sanctuary Program are to build awareness of societal environmental issues, to generate commitment for personal lifestyle changes, to motivate members to community action on environmental issues, to build a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness, and to build awareness of and rectify environmental injustices. We worked hard for more than two years on various projects, activities, and self-studies both within UUFC and out in the local community before finally becoming certified by the UUA as a Green Sanctuary congregation. We made a lot of progress during that time, but there’s still more work to be done. Therefore, we need you! If you’d like to help regenerate our environmental efforts, please **join the Green Sanctuary Committee which meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 5:30 in Founders House**. Here are a couple of the projects we’re currently working on:

Oct. 25 – UUFC will participate in **350.org**, a global call to action to put our world on course to reduce CO2 emissions that contribute to global warming and get back to 350 ppm (parts per million), the number above which scientists agree that our planet cannot sustain life as we know it. On Sunday, Oct. 25, immediately following the 11:00 service, our children and youth, hopefully joined by youth from other area churches, will ring hand bells 350 times to emphasize the importance of this

number. Come out and support our young people as they demonstrate their commitment to save the environment for their future and the future of their own children and grandchildren. For more information, go to www.350.org or email Carl Ulbrich at cwu@nctv.com.

Nov. 1-Dec. 6 – The Green Sanctuary Committee will present an Adult RE discussion series on *The Transition Handbook*, a book by Rob Hopkins which presents the British grassroots “Transition Towns” movement and explains how several U.K. towns are preparing for the twin threats of climate change and peak oil. Discussions will take place on six consecutive Sundays from Nov. 1st through Dec. 6th, 9:00-10:00, in the back RE room. Please sign up on the sheet provided in the main hallway or email Karel Keel at karel@bellsouth.net.

Thanks!

Karel Keel

UUFC WORLD is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson. Please send your submissions to heidisong@nctv.com or visit us at 230 Pendleton Road, Clemson, SC 29631. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for the following month’s edition.

Visit our web page at www.uufc.org. Our Webmaster is Steve Bynum.

We welcome new ideas, opinion letters, poetry, verse, inspirational quotations, or even UU-appropriate humor.

CREATIVITY PAGE

Photo: UUFC member Linda Law, in Brazil, enjoying the warmth in front of a fireplace. Linda will give a talk about her summer trip to Brazil at the Morning Reflection on October 25th, 10:00 am.

June in Brazil: Fire, Food, and Family

- Linda Law -



Quotations about Inspiration Submitted by Nancy Oppenheimer-Smolen

1. "Don't wait for inspiration. It comes while one is working." Henri Matisse
 2. "Inspiration exists, but it has to find you working." Pablo Picasso
 3. "I write only when inspiration strikes. Fortunately it strikes every morning at nine o'clock sharp." W. Somerset Maugham
(Ed. Note: Lucky for Maugham!)
 4. "I'm not inspired every day I go to the studio, but you've got to push yourself. Do it every day and once in a while things will really click. That's the biggest high you can imagine." Jamie Wyeth
-

Alliteration for October: October offers oceanic opportunities:

Overcome obstacles, observe others outside ourselves, opine open-mindedly!

"Om...mane-padme ...Om!" And oh!.....Opulent offertories are a-Okay! (:)

FUNdraising

Our fall event auction is drawing to a close, but there are still spaces in some of the events if you haven't signed up yet. Check with John Kenelly or Holley Ulbrich. Plans are now in the works for a craft fair that will feature not just crafts – sewing, knitting, woodcraft, pottery, whatever you do – but also books and CDs created by our members and friends, baked goods and anything else you might dream up! "Exhibitors" are asked to give from 25% to 100% of their proceeds to UUFC – you get to choose how much. If you have friends outside the fellowship who might be interested in offering their wares, let us know. More details to follow!

Submitted by Holley Ulbrich

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! More UUFC Plans!

SHARED MINISTRY EVALUATION

Have you checked your email inbox recently? It's there waiting for your response. The 2009 Shared Ministry Evaluation was sent out via email on October 1st to all UUFC members and friends. We chose to gather information electronically in order to save mailing expenses and to help save the Earth by not using paper unnecessarily. With a simple click of the mouse you can let COSMOS (the Committee on Shared Ministry) know what you perceive UUFC's strengths and weaknesses to be. This is your chance to voice your opinion! The survey asks you to indicate whether you agree or disagree with a series of statements and also whether that item is important or unimportant to you. In creating the survey, COSMOS tried to limit the questions to those that would provide us with information we could actually DO something about. The results will be referred to the appropriate committees for follow-up action and future planning. They will also be posted for your information on the UUFC website.

If you've already responded to the survey, COSMOS thanks you. If you have not, we hope that you will do so no later than October 14th. It shouldn't take any more than 5-10 minutes of your time. If you did not receive the survey or if you have any questions about it, please contact Karel Keel at 868-7626 or karel@bellsouth.net. A limited number of paper copies are available for those who do not have computer access.

Thanks,
Karel

Halloween Potluck Lunch -

Sunday, Oct. 25, 12:15 p.m.

Members, friends, visitors, children, teens, Halloween goblins--all are welcome to an all-Fellowship potluck lunch in the social room after the service on October 25.

Bring a dish to share (meat, vegetable, salad, bread, dessert and/or beverage). Let us know what you will bring and how many people are coming by signing up on the poster in the atrium. If you do, we'll rest assured that we have enough tables set up and food to go around.



BOO! Get in the mood...wear a Halloween costume!

Submitted by Anita Stutzman

NOVEL CIRCLE meets in Founders House the first Wednesday of every month.

October 7, 2009. **Magic Time** by Doug Marlette. Mississippi native Carter Ransom came to New York as a young man and has risen to become a columnist with a major city newspaper. But when his life in New York falls apart and he heads back home to recover, the still-live conflicts of his youth in the civil rights era rise up all around him again. A 1964 murder case has just been reopened, a church bombing that killed Carter's first love. Carter's father was the judge in the case, and now there's evidence that the trial was flawed, even fixed, and the case's reopening threatens the foundation of Carter's identity, as well as his relationship to his family. *Magic Time* is at once a powerful love story, a courtroom drama, and a complex portrait of the civil rights revolution. 592 pages, Picador, 2007.

Submitted by Gail Brownlee



Goodbye to Nekkid Muse Coffeehouse!

Many thanks and appreciation, especially to Michael McClain & Renee Mendola, Jan and Ken Marsh, and Faith Schrader, for their program arranging, hosting, participation, and love and care of the Nekkid Muse Coffeehouse series for over two years. From Steve Johnson's concertina playing, to all styles of poetry reading, storytelling, and singingfrom Michael's music nostalgia quizzes, to Ken's folk songs. we say adieu to The Nekkid Muse* UUFC Coffeehouse. (**The name was inspired by a line in a poem written and performed by UUFC friend Paul Shirley.*)



In Memorium

Robert Clarence Haywood

UUFC member Bob Haywood, who had been in the care of Hospice, passed away on September 23rd. He was 80 years old. He served our country, enlisting in 1947, in the Army Air Corp and later retired from the US Air Force. He was a Meteorologist by profession. Acting was his avocation. Bob had been married to his wife Dixie Hamer Haywood for 57 years. We offer our condolences to Dixie and the Haywood family. A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Saturday, October 10, 10:00 a.m., at our Fellowship.

Miscellaneous Outreach Notice

The Seventh Annual Ministers' Cook-off to benefit Safe Harbor II will be held Thursday, November 12 from 5:30 - 7:00pm at Daniel High School cafeteria. Save this date!

Other October Holidays

Signs of Halloween (or All Hallows Eve) are hard to miss in our Western, Christian (and Celtic) culture. But there are several other holidays celebrated in our world during this month. Here are two of them: (Information cited from csee.org)

Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)

This seven-day Jewish festival, beginning at sundown on October 2nd this year, is both a harvest festival and a commemoration of the forty years of wandering after the Jews were freed from Egypt. The name refers to the small huts Jews live in during the festival, symbolic of the shelters used during their wandering. Some say that they also represent the huts used by workers during the annual fruit harvest.

Diwali: Sat., Oct. 17, 2009 is celebrated for five days throughout India and its diaspora, primarily in the Hindu, Sikh and Jain traditions, though also recognized by Nepal Buddhists. Also known as the Festival of Lights, diyas (candles lit around the house) and fireworks are ignited, and the light of these symbolizes the victory of good over evil. Gifts are given and festive meals are prepared.

COUNCIL OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS-2009

Cindy Lee	Board Representative & Chair of Council
Building/Grounds	Allen Guest & Meg Williamson
Communication	Jan Lay
Hospitality/Holidays	Anita Stutzman
Membership	Karen Hiebel
Outreach	Kathryn Smith
Religious Education	Mark Mellott
Stewardship	Bob Snelsire
Ways and Means	John Kenelly
Worship	Holley Ulbrich

Monthly Board & Committee Meetings

Covenant Groups: We have 6 on-going Covenant Groups. (Next month's newsletter will include more detailed information about our Covenant Groups, but see Page 2, in the Minister's column, for information on the formation of a new Covenant Group for Young Adults.)

UUFC Board, Committee, and other Business Meetings

Outreach Committee, 1st Thursday, 6:00 pm,
Library

Membership Committee, 4th Wednesday, 5:30pm

RE Committee Meeting, 3rd Tuesday, Noon,
Founders House

Board Meetings, Second Wednesdays 7:00 pm, Social Room

Finance Committee, 1st Wednesday 6:30 pm,
Library

Green Sanctuary, 1st Tuesday, 5:00 pm,
Founders House

COSMOS, 3rd Thursday, 4:45 pm,
Founders House

Staff Meeting, 3rd Wednesday,
Founders House

Miscellaneous Monthly Events

Clemson Community Care Food Collection,
1st Sunday, Main Building

Trading Post, 2nd Sunday, Social Room

Benevolence Offertory, 4th Sunday, Sanctuary

UUFC Women's Salad Supper Group,
4th Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Founders House

Novel Circle, (*See page 9) 1st Wednesday,
7:30 pm Founders House

Literary League, For people who love words.

3rd Tuesday, 5 pm, (call Bonnie Worthen for details. 646-3319) Bring an appetite to become real wordsmiths!) Founders House

Fourth Sunday Food for Thought: Pot luck lunch & discussion on UUA-relevant topic.

Miscellaneous Weekly Events

Course in Miracles - Saturday, 10 am - Library

Choir Practice* Thursdays, 5:30pm. - Sanctuary

Lay Led Meditation - Saturday mornings, 9 - 10 am - UUFC Sanctuary. If questions, please call or email Marty Bynum at 654-5440.

*CHECK OUT OUR UUFC Choir !

Do you enjoy singing? Have you ever sung in a choir before? That's NOT a pre-requisite for joining our choir! But those who have, know that group singing can be fun and rewarding. Come give US a try!....YOU don't have to "try out!" Add to our vocal mix and harmony! :-)

We practice on Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Elaine Fredendall is our dedicated Director.
Paula Heusinkveld is our piano player.

UUFC Board of Directors

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Administrator, Julie Craig	654-5959
Choir Director, Elaine Fredendall	654-3834
Pianist, Shayna Hollander	
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Email: uufcadm@yahoo.com	
Receiving Treasurer, Jeannine Varenhorst	
UUFC Webmaster: Steve Bynum	
UUFC website: www.uufc.org	
Newsletter Editor: Heidi Campbell	653-7835

(*See page 9 for individual committee Chairs.)

Newsletter Deadline for the November issue is October 20th. Please send articles, letters, announcements and other submissions to heidisong@nctv.com.

Want to know what's going on at UUFC between newsletters? Subscribe to the electronic announcement list and you'll receive one or two messages each week keeping you up to date on fellowship activities and people. To subscribe, send an email to uufcadm@yahoo.com and ask to be signed up or call the Fellowship office at 654-5959.

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230 Pendleton Road
Clemson, SC 29631



Return Service Requested

We affirm and promote:

- the inherent dignity and worth of all people
- justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- a free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- the right of conscience and use of the democratic process
- a goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth
- respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part.