



# UUFC WORLD

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson  
 230 Pendleton Road, Clemson, SC 29631  
 September 2013 Volume 44 Issue 8



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Deadline for submission to the next  
 issue of UUFC World is September 20th.  
 Please share with us at  
 UUFCWorld@gmail.com.

A Mystery Theater Production

## Murder on the Stage

A Hilarious Who-done-it!

By Sherry Wooten  
 Directed by  
 Kathy Gillcrist

**Saturday,  
 September 14, 2013**

**at the Unitarian Universalist  
 Fellowship of Clemson**  
 230 Pendleton Road  
 Clemson, SC

Performance begins at 7:15 PM • Suggested Donation - \$20  
 Hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 PM • Dessert at Intermission

If you are able to contribute an appetizer or dessert for  
 our Murder Mystery evening, please contact Susan Clay  
 or Rev. Terre.

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# September Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30 am

Coffee and conversation follows in the social hall.

**September 1** — *Living our Faith: Balancing External Pressure and Internal Peace.* Our world makes increasing demands on our time, energy and psyches. How can we achieve a sense of balance and peace in our daily lives. Rev. Terre

**September 8** — *Beginning Again in Love—Offering Forgiveness to Ourselves and Others.* The gift of the Jewish High Holy days is to find the inner resources to learn the art of forgiveness. Rev. Terre and Will Thompson

**September 15** — *“A Wandering Aramean Was My Father”*—considering the ethical dimensions of welcoming the immigrant among us. One of the most controversial topics in our nation is immigration. This morning we explore some of the ethical dimensions of this topic. Rev. Terre

Following the service you are invited to come back after social time into the sanctuary - to continue a discussion on immigration led by Holley Ulbrich.

**September 22** — *We Are Standing on the Side of Love — Values, Actions and Building our Future.* In this service we will share reflections on new thoughts and inspirations gained from recent work, internships and journeys that inform life. UUFC Campus Ministry Members and Rev. Terre

**September 29** — *Le’ Go My Ego:* Releasing the ego is a spiritual discipline found in all the world's religious traditions. How do we as people of good will focus our lives so that we become servants of compassion, peace and justice. Will Thompson and Rev. Terre

## September Potluck Lunch

It is time to break bread together after our service on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Our UUFC potlucks are known for delicious food in abundance, so please mark your calendar so you will be sure to attend. For more information, contact Andi Nelson at [andine@bellsouth.net](mailto:andine@bellsouth.net).

## Board Leadership Retreat

All active committee members are invited to attend.

Friday, September 20 6:00-8:30

Saturday, September 21 9:00 –noon

Light supper provided Friday evening.  
Please RSVP for meal and childcare.

# Third Sunday Services

## Conversation on Issues

*Rev. Terre Balof and Holley Ulbrich*

Justice and respect are the only two values that appear twice in the principles, so this year we are trying something new that incorporates both these principles into 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday services with a twist — conversation! Some of you may remember the old 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday forums on social justice issues. This year we are bringing them back in the form of a service on an issue that involves justice (and respect.) After the social time, you will be welcomed back into the sanctuary for a facilitated conversation about the topic of the service. Holley Ulbrich will serve as the facilitator.

Our first service in this experimental format will be September 15<sup>th</sup> with Rev. Terre on immigration. As a follow up to the service and discussion, we will show the documentary "9500 Liberty Street" on Monday evening, Sept. 16 at 7:15 pm. This topic is not only timely nationally, it is timely for Unitarian Universalists, because our 2013

General Assembly adopted a Statement of Conscience called Immigration as a Moral Issue. We will have copies available the preceding week, or you can access it on the UUA website ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)).

The second service in the series, on October 20<sup>th</sup>, addresses another pressing national social justice (and respect) issue, health care. October is the month when people in need of health insurance can start visiting health insurance exchanges to see what their options are. There is a lot of misinformation and a lot of uncertainty out there, so we will have a fact sheet explaining how the Affordable Care Act works and what its likely effects are on individuals, the health care system, and the federal budget. Health care, like immigration, is not just a political or financial issue, it is also a moral issue. Holley Ulbrich will lead the service on Health Care.

The third service, on November 17<sup>th</sup>, veers more in the direction of respect, although it involves a lot of justice issues. It's called Radical Hospitality: Welcoming the Stranger as Friend, and it involves a lot of identity issues of minority, class, sexual orientation, age, gender, and ability (as in mobility or disability.) More details about the service will follow.

The series will take December off for the holidays and January off for Martin Luther King Day, resuming on February 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have details of the spring plans in the December newsletter. If you have an issue of justice and respect that you would like to see included in the series, we would be happy to hear from you.

So mark your calendars for the return of conversation and the return of the justice forums to UUFC, and plan to come and contribute your thoughts and insights to the dialogue!



**Habitat for Humanity**  
*By Terre Balof*



Help with the Clemson University Homecoming Habitat Build.

This year Clemson students, faculty and staff will build their 21<sup>st</sup> Habitat House on Bowman Field. Over the years 15,000 students have worked on these houses. Many of them are now bringing their families to see yet another house being built.

Much of the funding for this house has been lost. Religious communities around the area are invited to sponsor a square foot of the house! If you would like to sponsor a bit of the 2013 Clemson Habitat House, you may do so by filling out a form found in the foyer and let us know how many square feet you would like to sponsor. For more information email Rev. Terre at [tbalof@gmail.com](mailto:tbalof@gmail.com).

# The Reverend's Remarks

Rev. Terre Balof, Minister

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Dear Friends,

Welcome home after your summer adventures! We have a full, rich month of activities just waiting for your participation. Join us for some or all of these events! Here are just a few September happenings:

- The Murder Mystery Evening will be held on Sept 14. Come and bring your friends! This will be a really FUN Fundraiser to help us balance our budget. Kathy Gillcrist, Andi Nelson and many others have been practicing for weeks to offer a fun evening of a hilarious “who-dun-it.”
- As we begin thinking about how we will celebrate our 60th anniversary year in 2014, the board and leadership of UUFC will explore the topic “Living our Affirmation” on Friday evening Sept 20 and Sat morning Sept. 21. The UUFC leaders need your help and support in knowing where to place their energy and focus. We hope that each of you will share your thoughts about how we all can better embody our affirmation. There will be inserts in the order of service and also a way to answer questions about our future on the website. You can connect to the web survey at: <https://docs.google.com/d/1gD7rT33bt6mPjtv4VzuNj6opxEhWR3kbYkIHXTu3EE/viewform>
- We are beginning a new Third Sunday series on social justice issues. We will focus the worship service on a topic (for Sept. it is immigration.) Following the service and social time, folks are invited back into the sanctuary for conversation about the topic. To coincide with the topic of immigration, we will show the documentary 9500 Liberty Street on Monday, Sept. 16 at 7:15 pm. This documentary outlines the first anti-immigration law passed in the United States and its economic and social effect on the Virginia community that implemented it.
- UU and You will be held on Sept. 29 for those who are interested in finding out more about UUFC and are considering membership. This is an interesting way to get to know new people at UUFC and to learn about our heritage.
- Our Campus Ministry group will have a weekend retreat at the home of Jane and Frank Powell on Sept. 13 and 14. All students and student-aged folks are invited and encouraged to participate. We will spend some time getting to know each other, planning events for the year and playing in the lake! For more information email Rev. Terre at [tbalof@gmail.com](mailto:tbalof@gmail.com).
- We begin a new musical offering this month with the All Sing Choir. What a great idea that our choir director, Elaine Fredendall, developed so that members who wish to sing can participate in a choir that practices twice and then performs.

We talk about reaching out into the larger community and this fall will offer me some good opportunities to do just that. This year I am privileged to participate in two special ways. I am honored to be on the Faith and Values board for the Anderson Independent newspaper. I look forward to the new experience of writing a monthly newspaper column. In addition, I will be offering the invocation at Clemson's homecoming game.

Come take part in one or several UUFC events! Looking forward to sharing and exploring with you.

Blessings,

Terre

# The President's Column

**Karen Hiebel, 2013 Board President**

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Maybe you've heard someone say something like this recently: "I just don't know where the summer went!" Maybe they were just commenting on the unusually cool, wet weather of the past couple of months, but more likely, they were referring to the end of what for many of us are more leisurely, less structured, days and a return to the more stringent demands of the calendar.

While we all may have, as children, dreamed of being released permanently from the tyranny of school, many of us never really escape it. Whether we have children who are now in school themselves, or whether we were foolhardy enough to seek employment in any way connected to learning, it seems that the calendar which most dominates our lives, especially in a university town, is the academic one. And so we find that as the earth is winding down from the splendors of summer in this hemisphere, our personal lives are winding up for the beginning of a new year.

This time of the year, then, can be particularly hectic. Classes are starting up again, new projects are getting under way, and our personal planners tend to fill up fast. One of the great things about Unitarian Universalists is that we tend to be very involved, not just within our own congregations, but also within our local communities, social justice issues, and professional organizations. But that very level of involvement and commitment can also become a source of stress in our lives.

We can start to feel squeezed between multiple demands on our time. In my own life, I have often found myself struggling with the frustration of not being able to be every where and do every thing that I feel I ought to. It took some time, and some hard work, to admit to myself that I do have something of a super-mom complex. I still have to remind myself from time to time that it is okay to tell someone that I simply don't have the time or energy to volunteer for another project.

Which is why I think it is so very important for us to take a moment to say thank you to all of those many volunteers that work so hard to make our Fellowship the beautiful, sacred space that it is. It bears frequent repeating, because it is so easy, in our hectic lives, to overlook the simple act of expressing gratitude. So, I would like to take this opportunity to give my personal thanks to all of you who offer of yourselves on behalf of the Fellowship, whether it be making coffee on Sunday morning, writing a note to someone on behalf of the Fellowship, teaching a class, chairing a committee, or anything in between. I know I could never list all of the many things, large and small, that contribute to our beloved whole. I am grateful that you have made a space in your busy life to share of yourself with us. You are the reason for the joy, affection, and spirit that can be found on Sunday mornings, or at any UUFC meeting.

And that is why I think that we must take care to nurture the precious gift of ourselves that is the essence of volunteering. In the coming months, as we take a look at the organizational structure of UUFC, we need to be mindful of the burden we may potentially be placing on our volunteers, as well as on our paid staff. We on the Board must strive to insure that the structure we will pass on to the future is one which creates a space in which individuals may give of themselves in a variety of ways, and at a variety of levels.

Granted, we may not be able to make committee work always "sunshine and lollipops," but we can do our best to make sure that no one is being unduly or unfairly burdened. If we are to be in right relation to each other, we must take care that we do not ask too much of each other. If we are to be in right relation with ourselves, we must take care that we do not ask too much of ourselves. In that way, we can make sure that the light that is our Fellowship will continue to shine in our community for many years to come.

# Religious Education

Theresa Pizzuto, Director of Religious Education

Theresa.pizzuto@gmail.com

## *A New Year for RE*

RE has had a very busy summer as we prepare for our new school year. Many hours have been put into selecting lessons and preparing material. If you haven't seen the new arrangement in the RE room next to the kitchen, it looks VERY different.

An enormous thanks goes to everyone involved. Our DRE, Theresa Pizzuto has put in more hours than she is paid to do and the committee has done a lot of work in planning. A special nod goes to Rhonda Powell, who helped select the Spirit Play lessons and Meg MacArthur, who helped structure the teen curriculum. We also are grateful for the grant that permitted us to buy the materials necessary for the Spirit Play curriculum, as well as everyone that donated supplies.

If you've missed it, we are teaching Spirit Play for the elementary learners. This program, modeled partly on the Montessori method of learning, encourages children to ask

questions of wonder. This semester, we are choosing stories that will reinforce the UU principles. After the storyteller acts out the lesson, children have independent work time as part of the lesson.

Our teens will be exploring topics similar to ones addressed in the Sunday services, with the help of the TED talks and other sources. These will also be based on the UU Principles.

A Spirit Play training was held in early August, along with some members of Peace Church. Teachers not only learned the history of the program, but had a chance to practice telling the stories as well. We are excited to have volunteers happy to teach as well as give their Sunday afternoon to thoroughly learn this new teaching style.

**A big thanks to everyone that volunteered to teach. Thanks to all of you, we have a full slate of teachers! Still want to get involved? You do not have to**

**teach to help out!** We wish to set up an RE support team that will assist with the organization and purchase of supplies, keep track of inventory, help with special projects, and a variety of other things. The education program is an important part of creating community and welcoming new families. *Contact me directly to let me know if you would like to help out in this way. We are also seeking people to serve on the RE committee.*

We were happy to see so many new faces come through this summer and we look forward to a great group of students this fall. We have a lot of exciting activities and lessons for the children and we hope to see happy, energetic faces.

Look for online registration soon. The regular semester will begin on September 8<sup>th</sup>, along with a parent orientation after the service.

Christine Prado

**UUFC WORLD  
230 PENDLETON ROAD  
CLEMSON SC 29631**

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UUFC World is published 11 times a year. All articles are due on the 20th of the month preceding publication. Articles can be e-mailed to: **UUFCWorld@gmail.com**

We welcome new ideas, opinions, poems, inspiring quotations, advertisements, photos, artwork, and of course UU-related news!



## Stories from Genesis

September 24, October 1, 8, 22, 29, November 5  
7:00 - 8:30 pm in Founder's House

This class is based on *The Book of Genesis* by Professor Gary A. Rendsburg of Rutgers University from *The Great Courses*. We will read the biblical Genesis at home, watch a 30-minute lecture by Professor Rendsburg - and discuss what we have read and seen.

The first 6 classes will run in fall of 2013 and will cover Genesis 1-22. The second 6 classes will run in the spring of 2014 and will cover Genesis 27-49. The class will run from 7:00 - 8:30 pm and will be facilitated by Meg MacArthur.

1. Lecture 2, the First Creation Story, Genesis 1-2:4a, September 24.
2. Lecture 3, the Second Creation Story, Genesis 2:4b-3, October 1.
3. Lectures 4 & 5, the history of the Israelites and the Ancient Near East, October 8.
4. Lecture 7, the Flood Story, Genesis 6-8, October 22.
5. Lecture 9, the Story of Abraham, Genesis 12-22, October 29.
6. Lecture 12, the Story of Sarah and Hagar, Genesis 12-21, November 5.

Please email Meg if you are interested in participating.

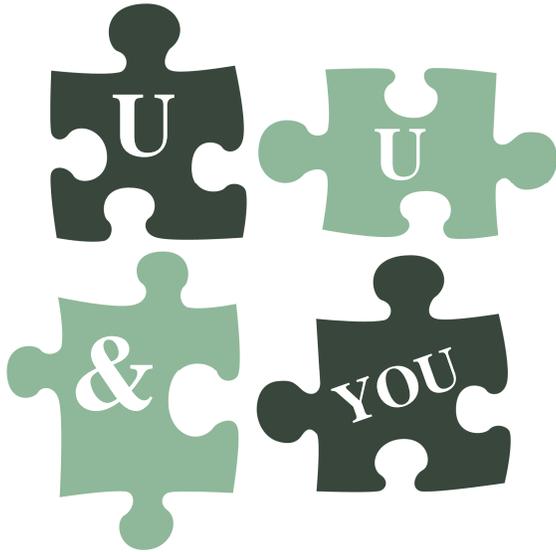
## **Combat Hunger through the Hunger Crop Walk on Sun, Oct. 6th**

This year's Hunger Crop Walk is set for Sunday, October 6th, starting at the Fort Hill Presbyterian Church in downtown Clemson. This annual 3.8 mile walk around the Clemson University campus (with a shorter, 1 mile option) raises funds to combat hunger around the world and here at home. In places like Babol Abajo and El Naranjo, Dominican Republic, for example, farmers are able to purchase seeds to produce food consumed locally. Besides helping hungry people in faraway places, the Crop Walk combats hunger here in Clemson. Twenty-five percent of funds raised will go to Clemson Community Care, our local food bank. To put it succinctly, "you walk, people eat."

If you cannot participate in the Crop Walk on October 6th, you can be a "Spirit Walker" by contributing financially to support those from our church who will walk. Contact Toni King ([king.toni62@gmail.com](mailto:king.toni62@gmail.com)) or Meredith Walker ([wmeridi@gmail.com](mailto:wmeridi@gmail.com)) to get a pledge package. Or you can find the UUFC team by going online to [www.crophungerwalk.org/clemsonsc](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/clemsonsc).

Registration begins at 2:00 pm on October 6th and the Crop Walk kicks off at 2:30 pm. Fort Hill Presbyterian Church is located at 101 Edgewood Avenue, at the intersection of Edgewood and College Avenues in downtown Clemson. There is some parking on site, and many people use the Clemson downtown Parking Garage, located nearby. UUFC is coordinating the Crop Walk citywide this year. It would be great to have a solid home turnout!

Toni King



Come learn about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation in the two-part class UU&You! We'll discuss UU history and philosophy, the organization of UUFC, and what it means to be a Member of UUFC.

September 29 (*Part 1*) & October 6 (*Part 2*)  
 Noon – 2:00 pm  
 Founders House

To sign up or receive more information, email [uufcmemcom@gmail.com](mailto:uufcmemcom@gmail.com) or speak to Elena Dimitrova or Heather Chenette.

UUFC Membership Committee

## Pastoral Care

Submitted by Phyllis Phillips

In keeping with the spirit of our Relational Covenant, which begins with love and ends with our pledge to help one another, UUFC has formed a new committee to help support and nurture those members and friends who are experiencing temporary needs due to sudden life changes. We call it the Care Committee, and it acts as a liaison between our minister and a group of congregational volunteers known as the Care Team.

Even though all members of a congregation are responsible, to some degree, for the well-being of all other members, specific volunteers are crucial to the success of our Care Committee mission. Several members of the congregation have graciously volunteered to help as needs arise, but additional volunteers are always welcome and, indeed, necessary for a complete network of care.

As care needs arise, if you would like help with them, please contact Terre Balof at 804-517-0146 or [tbalof@gmail.com](mailto:tbalof@gmail.com).

If you would like to volunteer for the Care Team, please contact Joan Shier at 864-654-8063 or [joanshier@earthlink.net](mailto:joanshier@earthlink.net).

The Care Committee would like to thank all current and future volunteers for compassionately donating their time and their resources to help others in the UUFC community.

The Care Committee's official mission statement reads as follows: The Care Committee covenants with the UUFC congregation to work with our minister and with our Care Team (congregational network of volunteers), acting as a conduit between the minister and the care team volunteers.

The Care Committee's responsibility is to organize and distribute information to the Care Team to enable them to efficiently serve the needs of our congregation. The Care Committee also has the obligation to determine what it can reasonably offer our congregation in the way of services, and to convey this to our

members and friends. This will allow the congregation to understand what the Committee can offer and what is beyond its realm.

The care team volunteers will provide temporary care for Fellowship members and friends who are experiencing short-term, urgent needs, such as sudden illness, surgery, death of a family member, personal crisis or the birth of a child. Volunteers will help lessen the burden of a difficult circumstance by: visiting the ill, delivering meals, providing transportation for medical appointments and offering assistance to new parents. Although Care Committee members may also be volunteers, the main purpose of the Care Committee is to bridge the gap between minister and volunteers. This covenant will be in effect for two years, after which time reassessments and modifications will be considered.

# UUFC Covenant Groups

**The hands-down, best way  
to get to know people  
and feel a part of things.**

*Submitted By: Karel Keel*

Are you part of a covenant group here at UUFC? Many of our members and friends say their covenant group is one of the most important and rewarding things about UUFC. We currently have 8 groups involving over 80 people. Many, though not all, of these existing groups are already full, but we're eager to create a new group or two if there's sufficient interest. If you're not in a covenant group, we're inviting you to join one. Or if you've been a member of a group, but maybe your needs and/or wants have changed and you'd like to join a different one, we're eager to help you find that perfect fit.

So what is a covenant group, you ask? The best way to find out more about these groups is to go to <http://www.uufc.org/Covenant/CovenantBrochure8-20C.pdf> and read the description of what covenant groups are. Then, if you're still interested (and we hope you are!) and would like to join one, contact Karel Keel at [karels50@gmail.com](mailto:karels50@gmail.com) or 506-3987 and she'll send you the newest version of the sign-up form. Or you can go to <http://www.uufc.org/Covenant/2013Covenant-Group-Signup.pdf> and download the sign-up form. Then print it, fill it out, and give it to Karel one Sunday morning or mail it to her (401 Thomas Green Blvd., Clemson, SC 29631.)

While most of the groups discuss a wide variety of topics with no particular focus or theme, we have a special group for topics of interest to young adults and one for parents of young children. And we can create one for whatever YOU would like. If you live a distance from UUFC, you might want to consider a new group that will meet on Sunday afternoons shortly after the morning service.

Hope to see you in a covenant group!

# UUFC Stewardship

**Stewardship Team: Janet Marsh, Chair;  
Jim Alexander; Liz Branstead; Andi Nelson**

*Submitted By: Janet Marsh*

*Giving should make a difference in how we experience life from day to day ....it should change us because we are matching our giving to our beliefs and values!*

As your UUFC Stewardship Team, we have spent time thinking about how to encourage members and friends to raise their annual pledge. Whatever way we approach this, we immediately think of objections. So, we will be clear at the outset...

The purpose of the pledge drive is to raise funds to support the mission and programs we say we want! We understand some folks can pledge higher, some folks must pledge lower, but as the song goes, *we all sing in the choir*. We are ALL needed and wanted at UUFC, regardless of the resources we can share.

The 2014 Campaign will kick-off Stewardship Sunday, November 3, 2013 with the service lead by Terre and Chad Carson. As we did last year, our Team is providing a luncheon with excellent dishes, home-grown humor, and a presentation from our Finance Council – Our Goals and Our Budget.

Back to the notion of raising your annual pledge ..... At the luncheon, we will give you a number of ways to help you think about the amount of your annual pledge. For now, however, please ponder the idea that *we should give until we notice we are giving*. What is that for you? One less latte a week, one less dinner out a month ....?

If you believe your spirituality is deepened and your life is made better through what you share, please consider increasing your 2014 pledge commitment.

# Living the LGBTQ Life

The first meeting of the LGBTQ conference in Greenville on August 3 inspired me to donate some movies to the library at UUFC. The workshops "LGBTQ inclusion in Social Services," "Political Landscape of the Queer South," "The Trevor Project," and "Engaging Faith Communities" moved me to consider the people in our congregation and in our regional area who do not have access to the important movies made about subjects related to homosexuality and its impact on individuals and communities. I donated three award winning movies to fill that void.

*Brokeback Mountain* is the story of a forbidden and secretive relationship between two cowboys and their lives over the years. The relationship between characters played by actors Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal was very controversial, causing the movie to be called "the gay cowboy"

movie and to overlook the seriousness of their friendship. It clearly affected the marriages that both men had because they couldn't forget their real romance together.

*A Single Man* is the story of an English professor, one year after the sudden death of his boyfriend of 16 years in an automobile accident. The professor played by Colin Firth is unable to cope with his life after his lover's unfortunate death. His lover's family won't even allow him to attend the funeral, so Firth contemplates killing himself. As he struggles to make the decision he is contacted by many of his friends who affect his decision. Firth was nominated for Best Actor by Hollywood, before he finally won the award in *The King's Speech*.

*Milk* is the 2008 autobiographical film based on the life of gay rights activist and politician, Harvey Milk,

who was the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in California. Not only did the film win Best Picture, but Sean Penn was awarded Best Actor. The film was directed by openly gay director Gus Van Sant. The movie shows how the "Twinkie Defense" was used to try the man Dan White (played by Josh Brolin), who killed Milk for his homosexuality. Milk is connected to our study with the Welcoming Congregation certification. We watched *The Times of Harvey Milk*, the 1984 award winning documentary, about this tragic situation.

These three movies show three very powerful stories about living with the stigma of being a homosexual in our society.

Submitted by: Carol Ward

## UUFC Novel Circle

Meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm in Founders' House, this group offers a lively discussion, snacks — lots of chocolate — and touches on a variety of interesting topics. You are welcome to join us.

Our upcoming novel choices are:

**September 4:** *Flight Behavior*, the newest book by Barbara Kingsolver, involves a wide variety of factions. Set in recent day Appalachia, it is a compelling parable of catastrophe and denial that explores the complexities we inevitably encounter in life.

**October 2:** *The Perfect Gentleman: A Muslim Boy Meets the West* by Imran

Ahmad. A dip into non-fiction, this multi-layered memoir has touched the hearts of readers all over the world. Join us as we explore how a young Muslim grows up dealing with his lifelong struggle between his Islamic identity and his desire to embrace the west.

Following are some additional recommendations from our group of avid readers. We'll share a few titles with you each month.

**Georgianne Stafford** suggests *Nevermore* by Harold Schecter. Edgar Allen Poe and Davy Crocket team up to solve a mystery in this fun read.

**Martha Alexander** recommends *The Last Original Wife* by Dorothea Benton Franks. Her newest book about we Southern folk is already moving up the best seller list.

**Mary Orem** suggests *The Autobiography of Us* by Aria Beth Sloss, a good story about friendship in California in the 50's and 60's when women couldn't really dream of developing a career outside of motherhood, teaching and nursing.

Submitted by: Dixie Haywood

# Celebrating UUFC's Southeast District



## Chalice Lighters

Thank you Dixie Haywood and Sandra Sanderson for donating to Southeast District Chalice Lighters for Call 159 to benefit Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Glen Allen VA. These Chalice Lighters were mistakenly left off the initial report.

Martha Alexander  
Chalice Lighter  
Coordinator

# UUFC Lost & Found

This lone brown Rockport shoe (size 10.5W) was recently featured in the



August "lost and found" display. Lots of other items are still without identifiable owners. Please check out the large collection of reading glasses, bracelets, mugs, shirts, jackets, gloves, baking pans, insulated cooler bags, servings bowls, etc. Unclaimed items are destined for a future garage sale.

# UUFC Ladies Swim Party

UUFC women gathered at the home of Anita and Ralph Stutzman in late July for their annual picnic and swimming. The spirit of the women was expressed by one when she said, "Socializing with a large group of like-minded, warm-hearted women is both comforting and energizing to me. I left with a smile on my face and a warm and fuzzy feeling for everyone....."

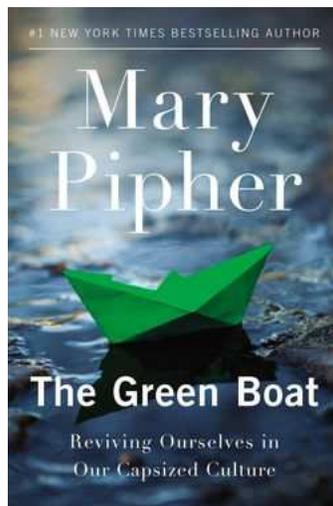


*Submitted By: Ellie Taylor*

The number of serious issues impacting our world can feel overwhelming. Yet we continually ask ourselves: What issue is most important? How do we decide? What can we do as individuals or as a faith community to make a difference?

It is incredible to see how many people at UUFC are individually involved in organizations and movements that are creating positive change. Many of us have chosen to address Climate Change as the central issue of our times. We know that inaction by our government has already caused Earth to slip past the tipping point that results in irreversible change. We are already witnessing catastrophic weather events and worldwide shifts in normal weather patterns resulting in hunger, species annihilation, and forced immigration. Yet, we watch our American political system fail to provide world leadership that could still turn things around. What do we do as parents, grandparents, or as a congregation?

Green Sanctuary has selected a wonderful book, *The Green Boat: Reviving Ourselves in Our Capsized Culture* (2013), for creating a safe place to discuss this difficult topic. Author Mary Pipher understands that Climate Change itself is complex and interlocking. What her book does best is assure us that feeling overwhelmed and defeated by the size of this social justice issue is not at all unusual. *The Green Boat* is structured around the model



**Green Sanctuary  
Book Study**

of grieving made famous by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and, finally, acceptance.

*The Green Boat* is a handbook of hope for those fighting the climate fight, but can apply to any social justice issue. It hurts to see a wounded world, but it also helps when we apply ourselves to healing and undoing the damage that can be done. Pipher brings a deep compassion and understanding of the strain that results from being committed to a political movement and social activism. She presents an optimism and clear-eyed resilience that is sorely needed. Besides her own brand of strength and full-hearted commitment, she shares advice

from other activists and philosophers throughout the ages.

Please join Green Sanctuary for their book study and dialogue every Sunday morning in October from 9:15-10:15 a.m. before the Sunday service. Sign up by calling the UUFC office at 654-5959, or by emailing or calling Ellie Taylor at [elptyl@bellsouth.net](mailto:elptyl@bellsouth.net) or 864-654-1331. *The Green Boat* is available on-line, in local bookstores and as an e-book. However, please attend for the discussion even if you have not read the book.

## GREEN SANCTUARY Needs YOU

You are welcome to join Green Sanctuary for their monthly meeting on the 1st Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the UUFC Library. Sierra Club meetings are held immediately following the meeting. As a certified Green Sanctuary Congregation, UUFC is committed to our Seventh UU Principle: "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." Through meetings, education, and action, Green Sanctuary supports our congregation in living out a sustainable lifestyle in all we do while we actively seek solutions to Climate Change. We work with local, state and national action-oriented groups. For more information, contact Green Sanctuary or visit our UUFC website at [www.uufc.org](http://www.uufc.org) - or call chairperson, Ellie Taylor at 654-1331.



## 2013 General Assembly and Green Sanctuary: Where Is Our Energy?

Martha Alexander and I attended the General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky in July. Martha took advantage of more Plenary sessions than I did, but I enjoyed many sessions at the conference. As a member of the Green Sanctuary committee, I was particularly interested in things related to the environment.

Since the meeting took place in Kentucky - known for mountain top removal and the coal industry - there were meaningful sessions about both issues. Wendell Berry, a well known Unitarian environmentalist justice protester and farmer from Kentucky, helped to lead the march against misuse of energy. He was part of the active protest "Where Is Our Energy? Witness for Earth, Our Communities, and Our Future." The UUA partnered with Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light in this protest about what our energy consumption is doing to our environment and our lives. We must use energy within our group to foster change. At the Exhibition Hall, I discovered a cache of valuable supplies for our Green Sanctuary team. I collected nine new DVD's about environmental issues. These DVD's will be available to members for their use in meetings and personal viewings. Here is the current collection:

1. **Feeding and Fueling the World: Healthier Alternatives for Planet Earth**
2. **How the Earth Changed History**, in two discs
3. **A Convenient Truth: Urban Solutions from Curitiba, Brazil**
4. **Killer at Large: Why Obesity is America's Greatest Threat**
5. **Silence of the Bees**
6. **Burt Wolf: What We Eat: The African Influence**
7. **The Naturalist**
8. **'Til the River Runs Clear**

Please contact me to borrow any of these. The Green Sanctuary Committee would be glad to share them with you. We are also open for membership too! Ellie Taylor is our current chair.

Carol Ward  
646-5458 or <wardc@clemson.edu>

## The JOY of HOSPITALITY

By *Ellie Taylor*

Hospitality is defined as “the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.” By providing coffee and light snacks to our congregation and our visiting guests each Sunday, our congregation is providing a place for visiting, for sharing, and for building a stronger community.

Please join one of our Hospitality Teams and help us achieve our goals of a weekly extravagant welcome. Coffee and light refreshments are provided by our Fellowship, so all we need is YOU. It is a great way to meet people and to enjoy camaraderie with like-minded souls.

You will not be alone in the kitchen and we will help you every step of the way. We can use your help this fall, so if you are interested, please contact Ellie Taylor at 654-1331 or at [elptyl@bellsouth.net](mailto:elptyl@bellsouth.net). Or simply walk into the kitchen one Sunday, and add your name to the list posted on the refrigerator.



## Attending the first LGBTQ Conference in Greenville, SC

by *Kathy Crain*

I have to admit that I had some boundaries pushed when I attended the Sean’s Last Wish NCAVP Annual Round Table conference in Greenville on August 3rd. The Saturday conference was held in the former Holiday Inn. The restrooms next to the conference room had signs taped over the Ladies’ and Men’s signs, identifying these facilities as GENDER NEUTRAL. I reluctantly decided to participate with this,

instead of seeking out typically-identified restrooms. During one of my restroom visits, I walked to the sink to wash my hands as a gentleman was just leaving and we exchanged greetings... just as I would have done with a woman in a restroom. This was new ground for me.

The conference was divided into 4 sessions, offered in small group settings. At the beginning of each session, the participants were asked to identify ourselves with our names, where we were from (folks came from all over the country!), and our preferred personal pronoun. I identified with she, her... another person identified with he, him, she, her, they, them; another person stated that no gender was used for identification. I need to say that most folks identified with “expected” personal pronouns of gender- but the point that this can be an important area of clarification when meeting someone was certainly made!

The session on LGBTQ inclusion in social services opened my eyes to issues involving same-sex domestic violence. Where does the victim go? Would Safe Harbor admit a man being abused by his husband? What about a transgendered person? Would she be allowed to stay in the shelter with the women if her documents still identified her as male? The discussions here were fascinating and frustrating. The session on the Political Landscape of the Queer South involved sharing many stories. Each participant who traveled to get to Greenville shared fear when landing at the airport to arrive for the conference, due to the media’s presentation of the South’s lack of tolerance.

As a school psychologist, my favorite session was the introduction to the Trevor Project. This is “the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth and young adults.” The work of this organization is impressive, intense, informed, and life-saving. I was glad to learn of its existence and to have it as a reference for my work. The final session was about Engaging Faith Communities, to explore how to identify potential allies in the work of changing community policies and laws to affirm, include and empower our community. Here, there was definite celebration for UUFC’s Welcoming Congregation certification.

Other UUFC members in attendance were Carol Ward and Cindy Burke. We all left with much information for reflection.

# Oconee County Education Association donates \$500 to be used for teacher grants

Sherry Moore, president of the Oconee County Education Association along with Kathy Crain, past president, presented the education foundation with a check for \$500 to help fund the teacher grant program. The education foundation established the grant program to encourage teachers to purchase non-consumable items that will increase student achievement in science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics and service (STEAMS). Over the past six years, the foundation has awarded over \$222,000 in grant requests.

The Oconee County Education Association is an affiliate of the National Education Association. Members of the OCEA come from all over



Sherry Moore and Kathy Crain

the school district and include teachers, support personnel, administrators, food service workers, instructional assistants and other support staff who care about advocating

for public education. The OCEA has recently been revitalized, and is sharing its enthusiasm through making this contribution from its membership funds.

Scanned image of article from the August 14, 2013 Anderson Independent Mail newspaper.

# UUFC 2013 Benevolences

September   Clemson Child Development Center  
October       Our Daily Rest  
November     Our Daily Bread  
December     Harvest Hands of Hope  
                  Relief program for UUFC  
                  Communities In Transylvania

“I slept and dreamt that life was  
joy. I awoke and saw that life was  
service. I acted and behold,  
service was joy.”  
~*Rabindranath Tagore*

## Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

### 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.

### UUFC 2013 Board of Trustees

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*Reverend Balof's Office Hours: By Appointment*

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Administrator Susan Watson               654-5959  
Email: [uufcadm@gmail.com](mailto:uufcadm@gmail.com)  
Main Bldg. Phone: 654-5980  
Office Hours: M–F 11:00 am until 2:00 pm

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*Please report corrections and/or omissions to  
Andi Nelson at [andine@bellsouth.net](mailto:andine@bellsouth.net).*