



# The Unigram

January 3, 2006

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC

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## January 8

### The Incredible Universe Speaks to Us Rev. Dr. Doug Reisner

Some of what it says we understand and some is still undecipherable to us. Do we know enough to find our way through life?

Forum: "The Importance of Trust"

## January 15

### Hitching Your Wagon To an Old Paradigm Rev. Dr. Neal Jones

The current attempt to insert so-called "Intelligent Design" into science classes is not only a violation of Church and State; it is the last gasp of a Fundamentalist faith that ties its validity to a pre-scientific world view. The danger of hitching your faith to an out-of-date paradigm is that when the paradigm dies, so does your faith.

Forum: "Is Science a Religion?"

## January 22

### Attention Must Be Paid: A Remembrance Don Mohr

Join us as we reflect on the lives of many of those whose lives have touched our own. Some of those we will remember include Rosa Parks, Arthur Miller, Johnny Carson, Peter Drucker, Terri Schiavo, Hermine Braunsteiner Ryan, Eugene McCarthy, and Richard Prior. Participants in the service will include Heather McCalman, Thorne Compton, and others.

## Sunday Schedule

**Choir:** 9:30 Jan.8  
**Forum:** 9:30 in the Library  
**Worship:** 11:00 – 12:15, followed by a Coffee Hour in the Social Hall  
**Nursery:** During service, for infants–age 3  
**Children:** Children attend the beginning of the service with their parents and then are dismissed to Religious Education classes.

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## A UUFC CHRISTMAS WITH SANDRA AND BOB



On Thursday, December 23, **Sandra St Romaine** flung the door to the tiny motel room open and greeted **Don Mohr, Judy Turnipseed, and Melanie Knight** with huge enthusiastic hugs. Ya'll come on in. What can I get you all to drink—I have Apple Juice, Coke, Bottled Water. The perfect hostess, Sandra introduced us to her partner, **Bob Sorrow**, whose delicate health is obvious.

**Pat Mohr** had lovingly decorated the 24" tree we brought and when Bob had carefully situated it just so on top of the little TV set, unplugged the microwave, and plugged in the tiny lights, it was Christmas in the room!

(continued)

**Adele Scaccia**, was the Fellowship's perfect Santa elf, buying all the gifts for us. Because she and Don have spent so much time with Sandra and Bob in recent days, she had a keen idea of their most basic needs and some of what they might have whispered into Santa's ear as well. At the last minute she couldn't come with us, but when we piled her sacks of gaily wrapped presents onto the bed, adding to the confusion in the room, Adele's sparkle was with us too. It was so crowded we couldn't even see each other over the jumble. Chaos reigned. Sandra bustled about making us feel at home, stumbling between the paper bags of miscellaneous possessions gathered during their three month stay in the motel room, now packed in close formation around the wall anticipation of their pending move to a refurbished in Hunter's Way apartment.

We had many places to go and other things calling us away on that Thursday evening before Christmas, so Don let them know our visit would be a brief one. One present each we would watch them open, then leave them the rest to enjoy at a leisurely pace.

I know he had a warm wool hat and gloves and other practical gifts in boxes on the bed, but the bag Bob chose to open was a gourmet treat – and he knew it as soon as he picked it up, for the smell filled the tiny room!! Holding the tissue-wrapped outer bag tenderly in his two hands, he brought it slowly to his quivering nose, breathing in the aroma of some fine Fresh Market coffee and rolled his

eyes back in ecstasy. Bob is one fine thespian! We assured him that all the requirements were somewhere in the jumble of boxes – filters, coffee maker, etc. and he would soon have some real fine coffee on to brew.

Sandra's gift was a beautiful chunky wooden keepsake/jewelry box with six big drawers. Sandra opened them one by one to find the unique treasures Adele had tucked in each spot—suede gloves, a glasses repair kit, dainty sewing scissors and more. Her eyes sparkled with tears as she held each one in her hands just for a moment and tucked it back in, understanding for real that the dear someone who bought those presents had paid careful and loving attention to who Sandra is.

And so we drove away, back into our Christmas week—so different from theirs. Three friends, representing the UUFC family, taking an hour we really couldn't spare, except we felt we had to. And yet this very brief opportunity to share a special time with our Katrina friends on your behalf transformed the season into one of true wonder and joy for me. Thank you for giving me that gift.

Judy Turnipseed

Read about the visit to New Orleans by Don Mohr and Melanie Knight, in Melanie's journal—with pictures—at the Carolina Peace Resource Center website:  
[HTTP://WWW.CAROLINAPEACE.ORG/INDEX.PHP/PT/3/A/742](http://www.carolinapeace.org/index.php/pt/3/A/742)



## COMMUNITY CHALICE

**b Linda Brennison** is happy and proud to announce that her daughter, **Jenni Brennison**, received her B. A. Degree from Winthrop University on Dec. 17th. Her area of study was Political Science and Mass Communication/Journalism.

**b** Long-time UUFC friends, **John Reed** and **Janice Burton** were wed on Christmas Day in the UUFC Memorial Garden. The wedding was officiated by **Rev. Dan King**, minister of the UU Church of Augusta and witnessed by his wife, **Nina Benedetto**, both past members of UUFC.

**b** Congratulations also to newlyweds **Dan Thompson** and **Chrissie Faupel** who were married over the Thanksgiving weekend.

**b Carolyn Ivey** was treated at Providence Hospital after a heart attack suffered Christmas week. She is feeling better than she has in several weeks and will be released on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**b** Our thoughts will be with **Judy Turnipseed** as she undergoes sinus surgery on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

## Committee Corner

- January 4** 7:00 Worship Committee  
**January 5** 7:00 Finance Committee  
**January 8** 9:30 Religious Education Committee  
12:15 Membership Committee  
**January 11** 6:15 Board of Trustees  
**January 17** 1:00 Unigram Folders  
6:15 Co-Council

## Human Kindness Lecture

Bo Lozoff, founder of the Human Kindness Foundation, will speak at the UUFC on January 8, at 7:00 PM. The Human Kindness Foundation, founded by Bo and Sita Lozoff, is a non-profit organization which stresses a way of life based upon three common principles taught by the great sages of all religions: Simple living, a dedication to service, and a commitment to personal spiritual practice.

## Science & Religion Book Group

The Science and Religion Book Discussion Group will meet Thursday evening, January 12 at 7:00 in the UUFC Library.



## Coffeehouse Connection

On Saturday, January 21, the UU Coffeehouse features John William Davis. A 2005 South Florida Folk Festival New Folk winner, a 2004 Kerrville New Folk winner, a finalist in the 2003

Wildflower Songwriting Competition and a winner of the 2002 Swallow Hill Songwriting Competition - all of these describe singer songwriter John William Davis.

His debut album *Dreams of the Lost Tribe* received critical acclaim and was one of only nine albums to earn a perfect 10 from Folkwax

reviewers. John's acoustic blues echo Tom Waits, Leon Redbone, and Randy Newman in a pastiche of Southern musical styles that manages to evoke both William Faulkner and Robert Johnson. No matter your taste in singer/songwriters you owe it to yourself to see this great artist.

## Pie in the Sky?



Not at all!! You can have piece of the pie after the Sunday service, January 22 when the Long Range Planning Team (LRPT) kicks off the second phase of its work. The LRPT has crafted a process during which we will be asking for your input on the future of UUFC. Please take advantage of the opportunities that will be scheduled to give us your ideas about our community's long range plans and goals. Piece by piece we are setting our course -- let's begin by sharing a piece of pie! We hope you will join us Sunday, January 22, 2006.

## For Our Visitors

There will be Visitors Orientations on January 22, after the service in Room 6 in the R.E. wing. This one-hour meeting will give you a chance to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and about our congregation in particular. Snacks will be served.

If you have any questions, please contact: **Larry Siegel** (xxx-xxxx) **Barbara Allen** (xxx-xxxx), **Carita Barr** (xxx-xxxx), **Beth Crawford** (xxx-xxxx), **Gertrude Edge** (xxx-xxxx), **Joyce Rodgers** (xxx-xxxx), **Mary Maclachlan** (xxx-xxxx), or **Tootsie Holland** (xxx-xxxx)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Fellowship Finances

The following shows all offerings collected for the general operating fund. The figures do not reflect money collected and passed through to specific funds such as the Capital fund, Hurricane Relief Fund, or TJ District or UUA dues. Our adopted budget for FY0405 reminds us that we need a minimum of \$1875 per week in offerings to run our Fellowship.

Dec 11	\$6,012*	Dec 18	\$2,902*
Dec 25	\$ 388	Jan 1	\$2,645

\* Include deposits from Holiday Bazaar.

Thank you for your generosity.

## Holiday Bazaar – Final Note

As the Holiday Season winds down and our Bazaar sales end. I want to thank two more contributors to our successful effort: **Jean Arrants** for all the lovely items she donated and **Molly Jones** for donating several copies of her wonderful children's book for the sale.

This year our Holiday Bazaar successfully raised \$1,424 for the UUFC.

**Carita Barr**

## Is the UU for You?

The next New Member Joining Service will be held on February 5, 2006. If you have been considering membership in the UUFC, please contact one of the Membership Committee listed on page 3, in *For Our Visitors*.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## January RE Schedule

January 8	Chapel
January 15	RE Classes
January 22	RE Classes
January 29	Social Action Sunday

## Searching for a Director of Religious Education

We are launching a search for a Director of Religious Education. **Kathy Paget** and **Sej Harman** from the Board will team with RE volunteers, **Pamela Hoppock** and **Heather Matthusen**, to coordinate the search. If you know of qualified individuals who would like a part-time job working with children and volunteers, tell them to contact one of these folks.



## Puzzle Pieces – Creating Community Through Connections

The upcoming Youth CONferences at the Mountain will include workshops relating to communication (Zine Design, Comic Strip Making, Movie Making, First Amendment discussion) and self-expression (Clothing Modification, Sock Puppets, Candy Art, Recycled Jewelry).

The Jr High Con (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) is scheduled for February 10-12 and Sr. High Con (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) March 3-5. Registration is \$85 for the weekend. Forms and fees are due by January 27.

Please contact **Isabel Oake** in the Fellowship office or at xxx-xxxx for information.

**The Unigram**  
The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia  
2701 Heyward Street  
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<b>Special Events Line:</b> (888) 849-4224 ext.4		

**The Mission of our Fellowship is:**

- To nurture and respect each other in our spiritual growth and pursuit of meaning,
- To create a welcoming and engaging environment through which we work for positive change in our community and the world.

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**Unigram Deadlines**

The e-mail deadline for the next Unigram is **5:00 pm, Jan 15, 2006.**  
Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to Isabel Oake at [UUFC@bigfoot.com](mailto:UUFC@bigfoot.com) with a copy to [iioake@hotmail.com](mailto:iioake@hotmail.com).  
Typed or neatly handwritten copy must be received in the office by 12:15 p.m. the same day.