



The Unigram

March 14, 2006

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC

March 19

Nourish What You Cherish

Rev. Dr. Doug Reisner

What is the relationship between giving money for the program of the congregation and the health of the religious community? How can we keep the flaming chalice burning brightly in this beacon of freedom, justice, and hope?

Forum: "Culture War? Islam vs. the West"



Find Your Magic
*
March 31
(see last page of Unigram)

March 26

Guest Minister: Rev. Arthur Severance

Rev. Severance is the minister at First Unitarian Church of San Antonio, TX.

Forum: "Culture of Violent Communication"

Sunday Schedule

Choir: 9:30 (March 26)

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 adults and are then dismissed to Religious Education classes or activities.

From the Canvass Committee: Introduction to the UUA's New Giving Guide

The Unitarian Universalist Association has provided us with a new giving guide, which is based on the level of commitment that you feel toward the UUA and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia. There are four levels of commitment:

Supporter: The UUFC is a significant part of my life and promotes my spiritual growth;

Sustainer: The UUFC is central to my identity; I'm committed to sustaining our programs;

Visionary: I am committed to both the present and future growth of this Fellowship; and

Full Tithe: I designate 10% of my income to the Fellowship as a way to live out my spiritual principles.

This new guide is progressive and is based on the percentage of your adjusted gross income

given rather than the number of dollars given. There will be a poster in the Social Hall next week that gives specific percentages and dollar amounts for each income and commitment level, and we will also have giving guides available next Sunday to help you translate your level of commitment and disposable income into a pledge.

We encourage you to look into your hearts and think about what this Fellowship means to your spiritual, intellectual, and social community. Two households on the Canvass Committee, **Peter Kandis** and **Pat and Don Mohr**, have already announced that they will be giving at the Visionary level and are dedicated to working their way to the Full Tithe. They encourage others, if they have not already done so, to step up to that level or higher.

COMMUNITY CHALICE

Bb UUFC member, **Mitch Yarborough**, passed away Sunday, March 12. He died of heart failure, while hospitalized for lung cancer.

Mitch joined the UUFC in the mid '80's. He met and married UUFC member **Angie Dodd Yarborough**, here. Their daughter, **Kathryn Yarborough**, 15, attended the UUFC RE program for many years.

There will be a Memorial Service for Mitch on March 19, at 4:00 p.m. at the UUFC, arranged by his ex-wife Angie.

b Long-time member, **Laurel Sutton**, is back at Palmetto Baptist with a relapse of leukemia. Cards would be appreciated.

Donations of platelets or blood can be made in Laurel's honor at the Red Cross on Bull Street. Platelets are especially important and you should allow about 2 hours for registration and the procedure. Call for an appointment at xxx-xxxx.

The Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) held a healing service for Laurel on March 9.

Bb Congratulations to **Adele Scaccia** who finally moved into her new home.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Committee Corner

March 20 - Long Range Planning Team

March 27 - Long Range Planning Team

March 28, 1:00 - Unigram Folders

Long Range Planning Update

The Long Range Planning team has one more input session this Thursday, March 16. The team wants to hear your thoughts about staff positions at the UUFC. The session will run from 7:00 to 8:00, and will be in the sanctuary.

The LRP team appreciates all of the thoughtful input that we have been receiving. Many of you have been able to attend the input sessions, and others have contributed their ideas in writing. Thank you!

Coffeehouse Connection

Chris Rosser and Ron Fetner come to the UU Coffeehouse for a double show on Saturday, March 18. Chris Rosser has visited the UU many times, bringing his unique style of folk music with an international flavor. This is Ron Fetner's second trip to the UU. Ron's music incorporates folk, roots, and jazz. This will be a full evening of music with individual sets and some duos along the way.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for students at the door, or save \$2 per ticket by leaving

your name and the number of tickets you need at 1.888.849.4224 X4, or by purchasing tickets at Papa Jazz.

The UU is a smoke and alcohol free listening room. For more information, visit our website at www.uucoffeehouse.org



The Return of Persephone

Please join the Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) on Sunday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall for their Ostara Ritual. Ostara is a Pagan spring celebration, with some customs that were later adopted by Christianity for Easter.

New to UU?

The next Visitors Orientation will be Sunday, March 26, 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), or **Mary Maclachlan** (xxx-xxxx) and **Tootsie Holland** (xxx-xxxx)

Social Justice Sunday

Mark your calendars for Social Justice Sunday on March 26. In the Social Hall there will be a table with a myriad of info about ways that you as individuals and we as a congregation can help provide economic justice in our community and in the world. Meanwhile, read Nickeled & Dimed by Barbara Ehrenreich and/or go on line to uusc.org/justicesunday.



Legends of West Africa

Mark your calendars now for a special show on Saturday, April 1. **Legends of West Africa** will come to the UU, featuring some of the World's most notable curators of West African traditional musical arts. The ensemble displays a dynamic and exhilarating celebration of the region's ethnic heritage through song, music and dance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Bulletin

The UUFC Board of Trustees met March 8, 2006 and:



- Discussed guidelines for pledging for the next fiscal year
- Approved a policy for dealing with disruptive behavior
- Approved a process for staff salary recommendations to be used in the budgeting process

this spring

- Agreed to postpone replacing the hallway furnace until further estimates and recommendations are obtained

Sandy Chubon, Secretary

A Policy Regarding Disruptive Behavior

At its March 8th meeting, the Board of Trustees adopted a "Policy Regarding Disruptive Behavior." In keeping with the ideals of our UU Principles, the UUFC's Mission Statement, and our covenant, "The Way We Are with Each Other", this policy balances our inclusiveness with the need to maintain a secure atmosphere in which openness can exist.

A task force comprised of **Rev. Neal Jones, Mary Etta McCarthy, Regina Moody, Janet Swigler, and Glenn White** recommended this

policy to the Board, tailoring a UUA model to our congregation's needs. The policy sets out clear-cut procedures to address behaviors that may be disabling and detract from our spiritual community.

It is the Board's hope that these guidelines will help us function at our highest level.

Sign Up for the UU Art Show

"The Art Show" is coming this summer. Artists to exhibit their goods at the UU with a portion of profits benefiting Sistercare. Call for exhibitor's deadline is April 15.

Please contact **Alex White** via email ChariscuroBaby@yahoo.com

Job Opening at the UUFC

The UUFC is conducting a search for a new Director of Religious Education (DRE).

The job is half-time (20 hours), which includes hours on most Sundays, scheduled office hours during the week, and occasional evening meetings. The DRE, working in collaboration with the RE Committee and other volunteers, is responsible for coordinating the RE program, including the development/ selection of RE curricula and the recruitment of teachers for classes. S/he must work closely with parents, UUFC staff, and other committees. Salary will be based on education and experience. For more information, please contact the UUFC administrator, Isabel Oake, at 803-799-0845 or at uufc@bigfoot.com. She will refer your inquiry to the DRE search committee.



Keys Please

We are again experiencing a shortage of keys to lend to renters and members planning activities.

If you are a former Board member or Committee Chair with a key, please return it to the office. If you have passed your key on to another member, please contact Isabel in the office to let her know who has the key.

DISTRICT AND DENOMINATION

Expand Your Leadership Skills At The Mountain

The Mountain School for Congregational Leadership provides opportunities to explore your own leadership style, gain interpersonal and organizational skills, deepen your spiritual life, and network with people from small, mid-size and large UU congregations. The program runs from July 23

– July 29, 2006 and is an intensive weeklong learning experience. Some areas of discussion will be Temperaments and Styles, Organizational Development, UU Heritage and Values, and Conflict Management.

The deadline for enrollment is June 6. For more information contact **Scott Dillard**, 478-xxx-xxxx or tato@alltel.net.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

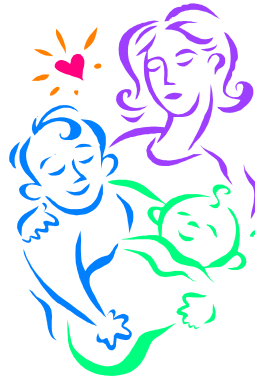
Way Cool Sunday School Calendar

March 19 Sunday School – Stories of Acceptance
March 26 Social Action – Partner Church
April 2 Children’s Chapel
April 19 Sunday School – Easter lesson

Upcoming RE Events:

April 16 Easter Celebration – Pot Luck & Egg Hunt (no Sunday School – children participate in service)
April 19 REC meeting – 9:30
April 23 Youth Service (no Sunday School – children attend service)
May 7 Beltane (no Sunday School – children attend service)
May 14 Bridging Ceremony (no Sunday School – children participate in service)
May 14, 11_45-12:15 RE Parent Meeting

What Can You Do to enrich the UU experience for our kids?



- Bring a side dish, casserole, or dessert and celebrate spring with us on April 16!
- Organize and supervise an outdoor activity for the children during the Beltane celebration on May 7!
- Help plan & execute the moving up and moving on ceremony for the children and youth on May 14!
- Ask questions & give input about the upcoming Summer and Fall programs at the Parent Meeting on May 14!
- Come to an RE Committee meeting at 9:30 on the Second Sunday of every month to find out more!

Find Your Magic

at the Canvass Kick-off Party

Friday, March 31, 7:30 PM until....

This enchanting evening in our Fellowship's Social Hall will be filled with delectable desserts, dancing (fast, slow and in-between), and a generous sprinkling of magical acts. One of our own Magical Mikes will be spinning the discs for the musical selections.

You are invited to enjoy the festivities dressed in a costume that represents whatever it is you aspire to be – acrobat, Donald Trump, championship golfer, belly dancer, African drummer, Peter Pan, glamour puss!

(Your total transformation by a costume is optional so come as dressy as you like, or just wear something that gives us a hint of your aspirations.)

The sky's the limit for you and our Fellowship!

Childcare will be provided with a week's notice to the Fellowship office. Please call Janet Swigler (xxx-xxxx) or Regina Moody (xxx-xxxx) to contribute your magic touch before, during, or after the party.



The Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
of Columbia
2701 Heyward Street
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How to Reach Us Fellowship Office (803) 799-0845

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FAX: (815) 550-4740

Web Page: www.uu.columbia.sc.uua.org

Special Events Line: (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.

Unigram Deadline

The e-mail deadline for the next Unigram is **5:00 p.m., March 26, 2006.**

Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to Isabel Oake

at UUFC@bigfoot.com

with a copy to iioake@hotmail.com

Typed or neatly handwritten copy must be received in the office by 12:15 p.m. the same day.