



The Unigram

May 23, 2006

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC

May 28

Spiritual Rythm
Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

Life seems to move according to a natural rhythm. Like the waves of the ocean, we appear to need to pull back and swell with reflection and restoration before releasing ourselves with renewed engagement.

Forum: What Makes A Great President?

June 4

Walt Whitman: Poet of Democracy
Rev. Dr. Doug Reisner

Whitman's work is one of our great legacies from the 19th Century and is as timely today as it was then.

Forum: Differences in Major Religions

Sunday Schedule

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

PRE-ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSION & DESSERT

All Members are invited to the Fellowship's Pre-Annual Meeting Discussion & Dessert on Friday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. We will have the opportunity to review the proposed 2006-2007 budget and slate of candidates for the Board and Nominating Committee (see page 2). Please come! Bring some dessert to share and offer your thoughts before the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 18.

LONG-RANGE PLAN UNVEILED

Mike Paget introduced the goals submitted by the Long-Range Planning Team during the service on May 21. Copies of the LRP Executive Summary were passed out. Afterwards, **Mike** and LRP Team met with members of the congregation for questions and discussion in the Social Hall over lunch.

You can find a copy of the Executive Summary on our website and the full Plan will be posted there soon. Paper copies of the Executive Summary are still available in the Foyer and there will be several copies of the full Plan available for LOAN starting May 28. Please contact **Isabel Oake** to check out one of these copies.

COMMUNITY CHALICE

Bf Congratulations High School Grads!

Jaded Brown from Eau Claire High School will attend Claflin College. **Kacey Carlton** from Brookland Cayce High School will attend College of Charleston. **Dallas Corbett** from Brookland Cayce High School will attend College of Charleston. **Ivey Lynn Kaiser** from White Knoll High School will attend USC, Columbia. **Becky Kyle** from Lexington High School will attend College of Charleston. **Andy Woodward** from Dreher High School will attend USC, Columbia.

Bf **Dan Thompson** and **Chrissie Fauple** had a wedding ceremony on Saturday, May 6 at the UUFC. The vows were officiated by **Neil Jones** and a Quaker Circle. Dan writes, "Dear UUFC- THANK YOU for your support of Chrissie and I. All my friends and family were so impressed by you all. You have been our family here and we will miss you dearly. After deliberation we have

accepted teaching jobs in Pozarica, Mexico (you are all welcome!) while we STILL wait for our Peace Corps placement. We will keep you in our hearts forever. THANK YOU!!!"

f **Jonathan Thompson** wishes to thank the many people at the UFUC who contributed to his goal of raising \$4000 for Habitat for Humanity. His final total was \$4500! Thanks to all!

f **Laurel Sutton** has been released from Duke Medical Center to the Caring House. Her address there is: Laurel Sutton, Caring House, Room 112, 2625 Pickett Road, Durham, NC 27705. She reports that it's not too bad and they have a koi pond, which she enjoys. You can also contact her and follow her blog at www.redtoenail.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominations

The Nominating Committee will put the following names in nomination at the Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 18, 2006. Additional nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominees.

Board of Trustees

President: Alice Leeper

President elect: **Peter Kandis**

Secretary: **Jessica Kross**

Treasurer: **Sej Harman**

At-large 2-year terms: **Mike Kelly, Karen Koprowski, Mary McGriff, Cheryl Soehl**

At-large 1-year term: **Adele Scaccia, Janet Swigler, Glenn White**

Nominating Committee

Pat Mohr (past President)

Barbie Seymour

Ann Johnson

Larry Siegel

Submitted by **Janet Swigler**, Nominating Committee Chair

Celebrate Our New DREs!!

Our DRE search committee offered the Director of Religious Education position to the team of **Danielle Marx Conwell** and **Lisa James**, and they have accepted, pending successful negotiation about salary, etc. They'll be moving to SC from PA over the next month & both will be here by the end of June to begin work the week of July 3. We look forward to officially welcoming them to the UUFC staff and getting to know them and their families.

The next time you see anyone who was on the DRE search committee (**Kathy Paget, Sej Harman, Heather Matthusen, Barbie Seymour, Caroline Eastman, and Pamela Hoppock**) please convey a sincere, huge "Thank you" for all the work they did to make this happen. From January through May of this year, they met regularly and did a lot of homework in between to get us to this point. All these folks were willing to give their time for the future of the UUFC; they deserve the appreciation and gratitude of this entire congregation (not just that of parents).

Letter from the Administrator

Dear UUFC Members and Friends

As many of you know, my husband, **Eric** took a job in Florida several months ago. Although we don't know yet how "permanent" the situation is, we have decided that it is long-term enough to justify our moving. Reluctantly I am resigning as the UUFC Office Administrator, effective June 30, 2006.

The UUFC has been my employer for only four years, but it has been my extended family since 1992. As such, I have great interest in its health and growth, and regret that I will not be here to be a part of the exciting changes coming up. Over the next several weeks I will do all that I can to help the Board and Search Team secure the continuity of those functions for which I am currently responsible.

Isabel Oake

Administrator Search Begins

Since **Isabel Oake**, our Office Administrator for the past several years, will soon be moving from Columbia, the following "help wanted" ad will soon be appearing in several local sources, but the search committee wanted to let the UUFC community have the first opportunity to respond to this opening.

"Opening for Office Administrator for the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia (UUFC). Position is for 20 hours per week. Candidates should have excellent general office, word processing, and communication skills; must be able to quickly master the UUFC's financial database; and must be in agreement with the principles of Unitarian Universalism. For more information about Unitarian Universalism and a link to the UUFC web page, go to UUA.ORG. Presence at the UUFC on Sunday from about 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM is desired but negotiable. Send credentials to Admin Search, 2701 Heyward Street, Columbia, SC 29205 or to uufc@bigfoot.com with Admin Search as the subject line."

Board of Trustees Report

The Board of Trustees met May 10, 2006 and:

- Approved sending **Sonya Jones** to RE Week at the Mountain in July
- Heard a report on the search for a DRE
- Approved sending the new DRE to RE week at the Mountain
- Approved sending the President-Elect to Leadership School at the Mountain
- Accepted the full Long Range Plan
- Discussed the budget and the Canvass
- Named a search committee to find a new administrator.

Fellowship Finance

The following shows all offerings collected for the general operating fund, since last reported in the Unigram. 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. Per the approved budget for FY05-06, we need a minimum of \$1,958 per week in offerings to sustain our Fellowship.

April 30	\$2065	May 14	\$ 289
May 7	\$3410	May 21	\$1861

In addition, Spring Flings have generated fundraising income of \$1360 so far!



Canvass Great News!

Pledges for this year's canvass are now more than anytime this century. Pledges are now well over \$105,000 and we still have about a dozen people to hear from. Thank you so much to everyone who has worked on and participated in this year's canvass. We may see \$110K by the time we are done. No promises, but there are still some significant dollars out there.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Committee Corner

June 1, 6:00 – Finance Committee
June 6, 1:00 – Unigram Folders
June 7, 7:00 – Worship Committee

September Set

Please join us at 6:00 on Friday May 26, in the Fellowship Hall, for this month's September Set Potluck Dinner! **Toni** and **Neal Jones** have kindly agreed to host this month's dinner, with help from **Jenifer Slater**. They will be bringing Chicken Jerusalem. If you know what you'd like to bring, please let **Joyce Rodgers** know at xxx-xxxx or jrrogers@bellsouth.net. If you don't know ahead of time, please don't let that keep you from attending. We look forward to seeing everyone there and, as always, if you know of someone who would like to join us, please bring them along.

New to UU?

The next Visitors Orientation will be Sunday, May 28 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: **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)

Don't Miss These Last Two Spring Flings

Sushi Making Class with **Bethany Storlazzi**,
Saturday, May 27, 3PM.



In this class we will start with a discussion of a variety of ingredients that go into sushi, followed by a hands-on rolling session. Finally we will eat what we've made! Vegetarians and well-mannered children welcomed. Cost: \$10 per person.

Game Night with **Anthony Houser**, **Mike Edge**, and **John Califf**, Friday, June 9, 7 PM.

Traditional board games, games of strategy and games of patience and dexterity! Pit your skills and wits against other gamers. Adult and children's games, snacks and beverages. Cost: \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 under 14 - \$14.00 maximum per family.



Sign up today by e-mail to **Barbara** and **Mike Allen** at celestia@sc.rr.com and pay by mailing a check payable to UUFC with Spring Fling on the memo line.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Volunteers Needed for Summer RE Program

The RE Committee is looking for energetic and enthusiastic people to volunteer for just one Sunday this summer. We will not have a set curriculum this summer because the kids just want to have FUN! You can bring your own activity or we can help you with ideas, supplies, books, music, whatever you need. To sign up for the Sunday that works best for you, contact **Barbie Seymour** at xxx-xxxx or barbieseymour@aol.com.

The Unigram

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia
2701 Heyward Street
Columbia, SC 29205

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 842
Columbia, SC

**Return Service
Requested**

Staff

Minister	Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones
Administrator and Unigram Editor	Isabel Oake
Custodian	John Squire

Board of Trustees

President	Pat Mohr
President-Elect	Alice Leeper
Treasurer	Sej Harman
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	Jessica Kross Kathy Paget
	Tom Turnipseed Glenn White

How to Reach Us Fellowship Office (803) 799-0845
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10:30 – 3:00

E-mail: UUFC@bigfoot.com

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., June 4, 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.