

# THE UNIGRAM

January 2, 2007

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC



## **January 7, 2007**

### **11:00 Sermon Topic:**

*"Hope: Writing Your Own Script"*

Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

"Hope" is one of those fluffy words that usually means no more than wishful thinking, but that doesn't have to be the case. Hope can have a backbone, as when we think of hope as becoming aware of the scripts we have been living and especially when we start writing our own scripts.

Kathy Paget will play the violin.

**9:30 Forum Topic:** Does the Forum serve a purpose or accomplish anything?

## **January 14, 2007**

### **11:00 Sermon Topic:** *IN REMEMBRANCE*

In so many ways we are connected with so many others. Last year hundreds of notable people died, and our own lives were touched by many of them. Join us as we remember and reflect on Shelley Winters, Saddam Hussein, Betty Friedan, James Brown, Gerald Ford, Specialist Dustin Donica and a few dozen others that we shared some time with.

Don Mohr will lead the service.

**9:30 Forum Topic:** To Watch or not To Watch

## **Sunday Schedule**

**Forum:** 9:30 AM in the Library

**Worship:** 11:00 AM -12:15 PM followed by a Coffee Hour in the Social Hall

**Nursery:** Available during service for infants through age 2

**Children:** 11:00 AM -12:15 PM Religious Education classes for children ages 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade

## **A Short, But Proud, History**

The TJD Chalice Lighter program was created in 1987 and has grown to one of the largest Chalice Lighter programs in the UUA. About half our calls help congregations obtain or settle their first minister. The other calls help to build facilities. A few congregations have gotten a boost when constructing all-new church homes, but most of the calls were for much needed, but more modest renovations of newly purchased properties. The members themselves did many of these projects, at least in part; Chalice Lighters provided the building materials.

Pooling hundreds of checks of the \$10, \$15, \$25 and more, has meant a lot to quite a few of our neighboring congregations since 1988, but opportunities for growth still abound in our district and the continued support of Chalice Lighters is critical.

### **What is a Chalice Lighter?**

A Chalice Lighter is a person, a couple, or even a group of people who pledges to respond with a contribution when the call comes that it's time to light a chalice within the Thomas Jefferson District. Calls support specific growth initiatives in individual TJ District congregations.

### **How often are calls made to those participating as Chalice Lighters?**

No more than three times a year (July-June), you will receive a letter explaining who has applied for a call and what the funds will be used for.

### **Who sponsors this program?**

The District's Growth and Development Council oversee chalice Lighters. The TJ District is committed to growth in all its aspects: personal growth, spiritual growth, growth in the health of our member congregations, growth in the number of congregations, growth in the number of individual Unitarian Universalists, and lastly, growth in our presence in society. The Growth and Development Council has primary responsibility for facilitating this growth, and one way in which it does this is by raising funds through Chalice Lighters to support congregational activities.

Read more about the Thomas Jefferson District Chalice Lighter program in the brochures available in the pews at the Fellowship. You can join by signing the application there or online at <http://www.tjd.uua.org/cl/tjd-chalice-lighter-3panel-brochure-12-27-06.pdf> or ask Peter Kandis or Judy Turnipseed for more information.

No matter what else you do with your amazing life and no matter how challenging it may at times seem never stop 'stretching' yourself as you reach towards the stars.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS



### Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will meet at 7:00 on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at the home of Adele Scaccia. Our January selection is "*Southern Ladies and Gentlemen*" by Florence King. For

February, we'll be reading "*The Devil in the White City*" by Erik Larson. If you would like more information, or if you need directions to Adele's house, please contact Adele (xxx-xxxx or [scacciaa@bellsouth.net](mailto:scacciaa@bellsouth.net)).

### Science and Religion Group

Meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM recommends two books instead of one, since one of them is very short. A small book by Richard Feynman (the famous physicist) called *The Meaning of it All*. You can read it in 45 minutes or so. And a book on Pantheism, *Elements of Pantheism* by Paul Harrison.



### Hiking/Walking Outdoor Group

The ad hoc outdoor hiking and walking group had a good walk at Congaree Swamp this past Saturday. In addition to the joys of being outdoors, we discovered that this is a good way to get to know people better in sharing a

picnic lunch. Our next outing will be to Poinsett State Park. It is located between Columbia and Sumter; you can look on the Web at SC State Parks to find details and directions. We will meet at the visitor's center on Jan. 27 at 10:30 AM. Bring a picnic lunch and we will take a lunch break during our hike. Families with children are especially invited to attend as this is not strenuous hiking, but rather geared to be appealing to anyone who enjoys being outdoors. If you need further information you may call Ann Johnson at xxx-xxxx or Joe Long at xxx-xxxx.

### Recycle Office Paper

We now have a *Recycle Roll Cart* for 'office paper'. So if you would like to bring in 'office paper' only for recycling please call the office for more information.

### They're Back!

The winter session of our Wednesday Family Nights will resume February 21-March 21. Details will follow.

### Interior Plants

Ruth Thacker has loving cared for our plants for many years and would like to pass this joy on to someone else. Anyone interested please contact the office. Thank you, Ruth.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

### Harvest Hope Food Bank

We are collecting non-perishable food items for Harvest Hope every week. A basket is on the stage in the Social Hall, and volunteers will deliver all donations to the Food Bank each Monday.

### REGIONAL CLUSTER MEETING IN FEBRUARY

Mark your calendars now for a meeting of the Eastern NC Cluster Meeting of UU congregations. It will be on Saturday, February 24, at Outlaws Bridge Universalist Church, about an hour and a half from Wilmington. This will be a good opportunity to connect with fellow UU's from nearby congregations and network on common problems. In addition, the three candidates for District Trustee to the UUA Board will be there to discuss their candidacies. For more information, contact Rev. Barry Whittemore, minister of Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church at: [obuc@bellsouth.net](mailto:obuc@bellsouth.net)

### GLOBAL WARMING: WHAT CAN WE DO?

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wilmington (UUFW) is inviting leading local industries and regional environmental groups together for a public Global Warming Conference (GWC) to be held March 30 and 31, 2007.

For more info, email: [gwc@uufwilmington.org](mailto:gwc@uufwilmington.org)  
<http://www.shelterneckuucamp.org/2007/GWC.html>

## ACTING Director Religious Education NEEDED FOR SPRING 2007

We have the children. We have the schedule. We have the teachers. Religious Education program needs an Acting Director of Religious Education to help keep our RE program running smoothly for the remainder of the program year. Responsibilities include welcoming new families, working with current families, coordinating Sunday School activities, recruiting additional volunteers for special activities/ summer, and planning the bridging ceremony in May. You will be supported by the UUFW administrative assistant, the RE committee and volunteers.

The position is part-time, for 10 hours a week, from January 1 through the end of May. Background check and references are required. Please contact Caroline Eastman; Chair of the RE Committee, to apply or to request additional information. Home phone: 803-xxx-xxxx. Cell phone: 803-xxx-xxxx. Email: [Eastman@sc.rr.com](mailto:Eastman@sc.rr.com).

# The Unigram

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia  
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**How to Reach Us** Fellowship Office (803) 799-0845  
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10:30 am – 3:00 pm  
Ministers Hours: Thurs., Fri. 9:00 am – 5:00 pm



**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.

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## Unigram Deadline

The e-mail deadline for the next Unigram is **5:00 p.m., Jan. 14, 2007.**

Please submit articles and announcements for the next issue to UUFC@bigfoot.com  
Typed or neatly handwritten copy must be received in the office by 12:15 p.m. the same day.