

THE UNIGRAM

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC

February 13, 2007



February 18, 2007

11:00 Sermon Topic: "Here we Go Again" by Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

In the great American tradition of stereotypes, 9/11 and the so-called "war on terror" have spawned distorted images of Muslims and Arabs. Let's look at the facts behind these images and discuss why we persist in maintaining old stereotypes and creating new ones. This will be an Intergenerational Service, with a potluck lunch to follow. So bring a culinary or monetary contribution.

9:30 Forum Topic: Should People Be Allowed To Sell Their Body Parts?

February 25, 2007

11:00 Sermon Topic:

9:30 Forum Topic: The Impact of Fundamentalism

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 Ed. classes for children ages 3 through 8th grade

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 Sat., 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

Religious Education

Junior High Youth

are planning an Overnight Lock-In Event for Saturday, February 24th at the Fellowship. Lots of fun is anticipated, so please encourage your youth to attend. The cost of the event is \$7.50. Monies and permission slips are due in the office February 18th. Please refer to the information packets that were mailed to parents and youth for more information. Please call the office at 799-0845 to request an information packet if you did not receive one.

The **Junior High Youth** are planning an all-you-can-eat, pancake, coffee, and juice for \$5 breakfast fundraiser for Sunday, February, 25th from 9 to 10:45am.

Social Action Leaders Needed.

The Junior High Sunday School class will be doing a social action project this spring. We need at least two people to assist them in planning and executing this project. You will have three Sundays (4/15; 4/29; & 5/13) during the Sunday School hour (11:00 - 12:15). If you would like to help, please call Barbie Seymour, xxx-xxxx or barbieseymour@aol.com.

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WILMINGTON GLOBAL WARMING CONFERENCE POSTPONED AND EXPANDED

The Global Warming Conference previously announced for late March in Wilmington has been postponed, and the venue changed. It has now been rescheduled for June 8 & 9, 2007. It will be held at the Warwick Center of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, a larger facility than previously planned.

UNC-W will partner with the UU Fellowship of Wilmington in promoting the conference and handling registration. Details of the revised plans will be announced as soon as they are available. For more information, contact: Charlie West - Co-chair, Denominational Affairs Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wilmington 910-xxx-xxxx westjrc@aol.com



Community Chalice

Our thoughts and concern are with...

David Scharfe and his children, **Alex and Sarah**, who lost his wife and their mother, **Laurel Sutton**, on January 31st after a valiant battle against leukemia. Laurel chronicled her struggles online at <http://sutton.redtoenail.org>

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions in her memory to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society or the American Red Cross.

Her memorial service will be held Sunday, February 25 at 2:30.

Glenn White, whose father **Bill** passed away on February 12.

Our congratulations go to...

Josie Dunbar, has started a new job with the Dickerson Center of Child Advocacy. In preparation for work, she will be attending a weeklong national training event in Huntsville, Alabama.

Larry Witkowski, who will start a new job March 1. Unfortunately, his good news is our bad news – he and wife **Nova** and son **Gavin** will be moving to Atlanta. The Witkowskis have contibuted invaluable advice to our long-range renovation plans.

Laura Rich is moving to Oregon. She has already found another fellowship in Southern Oregon.

Gerard Regula and **Tara Lavigne-Regula**, who were the first residents of Columbia to participate in Story Corps, a nationwide project of recording people's life stories to be archived in the Library of Congress.

Jennifer Brennison, daughter of **Linda Brennison**, has accepted a position in Salt Lake City, Utah as CopyWriter with the O. C. Tanner Co., a leader in the development of employee recognition programs. Jenni attends the First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City and is a member of the choir.

Thank you...

To all that helped **Carolyn Ivey** in December and January.

"We must become the change we want to see."

Mahatma Gandhi, 1869-1948

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Our renovation plans are on the move!

As you know, the long-range plan calls for a total renovation of our buildings and grounds. We want all the members to know where things are, so here are some recent developments:

500 letters were hand-carried to neighbors around the UUFC to let them know about our plans. We have received some "thank you's" from neighbors who appreciated the notice.

The survey of our property has been completed.

The environmental survey has been done, and we expect the report soon.

Heating and cooling engineers are looking at the system to see what we can do to make things more comfortable in the office and bathroom hallway. We hope to have a plan that allows us to do something soon about this area. We also plan for any new equipment used on the heating and cooling system to be re-used in our renovations.

Architectural firms are looking at our Request For Proposals. We expect to have several firms interested. The timeline is to select a firm and get the master plan completed by June. We are on track now to complete those tasks.

Finally, you may have seen the recent article in the State newspaper about our green renovation plans. This is great for the community to see how we are planning the renovation. The "Green Grants Group" is actively working to educate us on what we can plan for, both in terms of the renovation, and with how we live in our building.

We are very excited about the future of the UUFC, including the facilities!

Mike Paget, Chairperson

Facility Planning Committee

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You're invited to hear dynamic Keynote Speaker "Pardon me...Do you have change?" - Gini Courter, Moderator, **Living Our Religious Values, TJD Annual Meeting April 27-28, 2007**

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

We live in a country in desperate need of transformation. We need more Unitarian Universalists living our religious values. We need to be more comfortable, even passionate about living a public faith. If we want our communities to become more just, more equitable, more compassionate, we must focus ourselves and our religious communities to serve the change we want to create. Let's light our chalice, pull out the gasoline can, and see what happens. Lodging details and registration form to be posted soon on the website.

Periodically check the website. New information will be added, as it becomes available.

<http://www.tjd.uua.org/tjd-2007annual-meeting-details.htm>

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

September Set Potluck Dinner

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm on Friday, February 23rd for this month's September Set Potluck Dinner, to be hosted by Molly Jones and Bob Scott. As always, if you know of anyone who is interested in this group, please encourage them to join us. If you have any questions, please call or email Adele Scaccia (scacciaa@bellsouth.net or xxx-xxxx) We look forward to seeing all of you on the 23rd.

Share our Abundance

Fill the basket on the stage in the Social Hall every week for Harvest Hope Food Bank. Non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items like shampoo, soap, detergent, feminine products, deodorant, toothbrushes, etc. Volunteers deliver all donations to the Food Bank every Monday.

Finance Committee Soliciting New Members!

Finance is responsible for coordinating and administering all incoming contributions, which includes tracking and recording receipts, providing reports to membership and the board, and assisting the board in the budgeting process. The work that finance does is vital to the overall Health of the Fellowship.

If you are interested in becoming a full-member of Finance, or perhaps serving on a sub-committee (e.g., weekly counting or the fundraising team) please contact Peter Kandis (Board of Trustees) or Dave Crockett (interim chair of finance). No experience necessary.

Social Action Committee

There will be a brief meeting following the service of Feb. 18 in the alcove. So get your coffee and join us for a quick planning session. If interested join us to learn how you can fulfill "our Mission - to work for positive change in our community and the world". Any questions contact Jan Fulcher at xxx-xxxx, No email please, at this time.

Register for an Adult Education Class.

Our Wednesday night "Dinner & a Class" program begins on February 21. You choose one class for all five nights from this list: A Chosen Faith, It's Easy Being Green, Paganism 101, or Parents as Social Justice Educators. Only classes with more than five participants will be offered, and the decision will be made this week. SIGN UP TODAY at the table by the poster in the social hall!

Hiking/Walking Outdoor Group

Our next hike/walk will be Feb. 24th at West Columbia Riverwalk. For information join the following email which will automatically put you in our membership list: UUFCOutdoorActivities-subscribe@yahoogroups.com Alternatively, they can send an email to me ljely@aol.com, and I'll send them an invitation to join the email group.

Do you dream of **Inexpensive Vacation Travel** to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The **UU Bed And Breakfast Directory** *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) can fulfill your dream. For 27 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory. Contact us at 828-xxx-xxxx or at info@uurehome.com, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

Host listings on the *UU're Home* website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published every year in April (and has many listings different from those on the website). For a copy of the 2007 directory, please send a check for \$20 (or \$25 and your e-mail address for both the book and a year's access to the website) to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

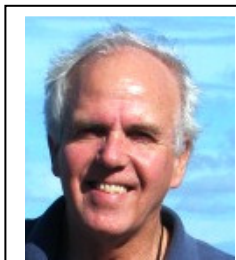
INTRODUCING NEW MEMBER'S

Ken and Carolyn Scott McLeod:



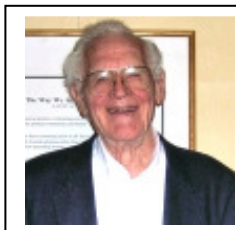
They lived in Sumter since 1971, and have two grown children - Eden and Erik. Carolyn is from NC, & was brought up Methodist. She went to what was then the NC School for the Blind, where she developed her singing. She has a Masters in Speech

Pathology. All Ken's family has been Methodists for generations. Ken has a Masters in Social Work and had a 32-year career with the Santee-Wateree Community Mental Health Center. Since he retired, he has enjoyed having time to exercise regularly, get extra sleep, and do lots of things in a less stressful manner. Ken and Carolyn have been active in three churches in Sumter and spiritually dissatisfied in all three, although they love the people in those churches and continue to contribute to the activities they do believe in. They know John and Sarah Tindal, who are members of UUFC also living in Sumter. Unfortunately, they live an hour away from UUFC and Carolyn doesn't drive, but they will attend as often as they can, hopefully several times a month. Although Ken was a bit apprehensive initially, they are thrilled with the freedom of thought, humor, and yes, irreverence, they find at UU.



I'm Mike Stone. My wife's name is Kathryn, and I have four adult sons—Chris, Rob, James, and Ryan. I have an engineering degree from Clemson and an MBA from USC, and I'm general manager at S.L. Munson & Co. My hobbies include reading and

woodworking. My spiritual journey has taken me from the Baptists for 23 years, to the Methodists for 21 years, and I've been UU for 16 years. I was Chair of UUFC's Religious Education Committee in the 1990's, and in joining UUFC I have returned to rejoin my friends. I look forward to getting involved again in Religious Education here.



My name is Rusty Jobe. I am a North Carolinian and NC State graduate. I was in China in World War II, then worked for a pharmaceutical company after the war. In about 1960, I had an assignment in India where I stayed for some time. After that, I lived in (not just visited) South

Africa, Pakistan, Lebanon, England, Colombia (South America), India again, Venezuela, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, and back to the U.S. My spiritual journey has been from Christianity to a serious study of Hinduism, Islam, Maronite Catholicism, Zoroastrianism and other religions when I lived in areas where those religions were predominant. Personally, I am almost an atheist, but I am very respectful of and interested in various religions. My daughter is an active UU in Philadelphia, and she encouraged me to attend this fellowship. I usually attend the Forum.

Upcoming Coffeehouse Shows

March 3, 2007 The Jonathan Byrd Band

www.jonathanbyrd.com

This will be Jonathan Byrd's second appearance at the UU. For this show he will be bringing his band. Jonathan's delightful, substantive songs are rich with imagery and textures of influences from Appalachian, country, early American balladry, modern atmospheric Mideastern, urban and old timey folk music. A stalwart of modern folk music, Jonathan is a Kerrville New Folk winner and National Public Radio *All things Considered* performer. As noted by Tom Paxton, "What a treat to hear someone so deeply rooted in tradition, yet growing in his own beautiful way."

"I thought I was listening to a young Doc Watson."

- Jay Moulon, Southeast Performer Magazine

Opening the show will be Travis Nagy. Travis has a passion for music, which shows in his writing and performances as a solo act and with a band in the Columbia area.

March 10, 2007 Jack Beck

www.scottishsongandstory.co.uk

An acclaimed international performer of Celtic music, Jack Beck was born in Dunfermline in Fife. He became interested in Scots ballads and songs at the beginning of the folk-song revival of the 1960s, and was one of the founders of the Dunfermline Howff folk club. Part of the circle which included Barbara Dickson, Archie Fisher, John Watt, Rab Noakes, Jimmy Hutchison, The MacCalmans, The Corries, and The Incredible String Band, in 1976 he co-founded the acclaimed folk-band 'Heritage'. The band went on to make a number of recordings, perform on radio and TV, tour Europe regularly, and play at most of the Scottish festivals and clubs. Since 1989 Jack has performed regularly in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the US.

Opening for Jack will be **Steve Bennett**. Steve has been playing traditional music for a long time in the Columbia area, originally with bluegrass and old-time music and moving on to Irish music about 20 years ago. Steve has played in a number of local bands, initially on mandolin and guitar but eventually winding up on tenor banjo and button accordion.

Doors at the UU Coffeehouse open at 7:30, and the music begins at 8:00.

\$10/\$5 advance \$12/\$7 at the door

For advance reservations, call the events line at 1.888.849.4224 extension 4

For more information, visit www.uucoffeehouse.org.

People will forget what you said...
People will forget what you did...
But People will never forget how
you made them feel! ~SHELLEY~

The Unigram

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia
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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 **9:00 p.m., Feb. 25, 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.