

THE UNIGRAM

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia, SC

February 27, 2007



March 4, 2007

11:00 Sermon Topic: Sermon: Learning to Fall by Rev. Dr. Neal R. Jones

What could be more anti-American than failure? As much as we deny and avoid our failures, they are, well, undeniable and unavoidable. Why are we so resistant to admitting our failures and what could we possibly learn from facing them?

9:30 Forum Topic: Can We Impact Global Warming?

March 11, 2007

11:00 Sermon Topic: Jerry Rudolph and Karen Murphy of the **Columbia Society of Friends** will be speaking. Special music will be performed by Jack Beck and Wendy Welch.

9:30 Forum Topic: *Reason and Reverence* by Murray in UU World Can We Have A Religion With Both?

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

Religious Education

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.

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed."
Mohandas K. Gandhi

TJD Trustee Candidates for UUA Board

For more information about the trustee election, please contact TJD President, Myrtle Hepler, at 919-xxx-xxxx.

From Fred Anderson:

He is presently a member of the TJD Board of Directors, where his duties include: Chair of By-Laws Committee, member of Personnel Comm. and Board Parliamentarian. He's served six years as President of All Souls Waccaamaw UUF (Myrtle Beach) and is presently Member at Large there. He's served as president board member in his professional teaching organizations, for one of which he was on the Fiscal Oversight Comm. for a retirement fund of 52.1 billion dollars. He served as a legislative intern in Wash. DC.

From Anna Olsen:

Has served on and chaired many committees in three different UU congregations, as well as attended at least ten General Assemblies. Coming from a conviction that all congregations need to sense their connection to our 200,000 member denomination with a 450-year heritage, five years ago she founded the Western Carolinas Cluster of 13 UU congregations, whose annual "Gathering" attracts about 150 area UU's. For this work she was awarded the TJ District Board's Distinguished Service Award in 2005. All of my professional experiences from public school employment, to non-profit work, as well as training thousands of people in corporate seminars have prepared me to bring unique insights to this UU Board position.

From Bob Gross:

He serves on the Committee on Ministry, helping launch TJMC's participation in an interfaith social justice project, have chaired the Endowment Comm. and Undoing Racism Comm. & served on a church Governance Task Force. Chaired the District Anti-Racism Transformation Team for 5 years. Helped design and facilitate workshops at two General Assemblies and currently serve on the UUA Board-appointed Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Team.

My participation in our faith community and the skills honed through my work experience will help me to make effective and appropriate contributions to the Board of Trustees.



Community Chalice

Our thoughts and concern are with...

The family of **Laurel Sutton** – her husband **David Scharfe** and her son **Alex** and daughter **Sarah**. Laurel's memorial service, which reflected her love of music and of love, was held at the Fellowship on Sunday, February 25. Memorial gifts may be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society or the American Red Cross.

Ann Cargill, whose mother Mayme Sanders died on February 12, the same day that husband **Glenn White** lost his father Bill.

We extend our appreciation to...

The Unigram Folders. No, they're not a rock band (but they could be). They are the volunteers who come to the Fellowship office every two weeks to arrange, fold, and mail our biweekly newsletter: **Judy Brenner, Marie Hunt, Ruth Thacker, Carita Barr, Marilyn Miss** (who also folds our Sunday order of service), **Judy Pearce, Joyce Rodgers, and Joan Watterson**.

Tammy Jenkins and **Peter Kandis**, who have put in countless after-work hours at the Fellowship transferring information onto our church management software, ACS (which stands for 'A Continual Struggle').

Mike Allen, who is constructing a new website for the UUFC, which should be up and running soon.

Donald Griggs, who served as the sound technician at Laurel's memorial service, and **Sandy Chubon** and the **Caring Committee**, who sponsored a reception for the family after the service.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

The Women's Book Group

Meet on Tuesday, March 13 at 7:00 in the home of Lynne Sparrow, 1425 Adella Street, Columbia to discuss "March" by Geraldine Brooks. This novel parallels Lousia May Alcott's "Little Women" by telling the story from the father's, Dr. March's, point of view. Call Lynne at xxx-xxxx for more information or directions. All female UUFC members and friends are invited to attend.

Share our Abundance

Remember to fill the basket on the stage in the Social Hall every week for Harvest Hope Food Bank. Non-perishable food items and personal hygiene needed every day. Volunteers deliver all donations to the Food Bank every Monday.

Our Next Hike

March 24, 2007; 10:00 am at Congaree Bluffs Heritage Preserve, meet at the Education Center

Directions to Park:

<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/managed/heritage/congbluffs/directions.html>

Directions to Meeting Place (Park's Education Center):

<http://www.sctrails.net/trails/MAPS/CongareeBluffsHP%20map.html>

The Congaree Bluffs Heritage Preserve comprises 201 acres and contains steep, undisturbed bluffs bordering the Congaree River. It harbors significant stands of American beech, oak-hickory and bottomland hardwood forest. No comparable sites exist in the coastal plain of South Carolina. More than 100 species of trees, shrubs and woody vines exist in the preserve from the ridge base to the crest of the bluffs. Woody plants may number 200 species.

If you would like to carpool, send a note to UUFCOutdoorActivities@yahoo.com requesting to carpool. The request will go out to our members, giving them an opportunity to offer assistance.

Supper Groups

Next Supper date is March 17th. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Fellowship Hall or call Jenifer Slater, coordinator at xxx-xxxx.

Play Readers

All are invited to join; we will meet on Thursday March 15 at 7:30 in a classroom.

Science and Religion

The next meeting is April 12 at 7 PM, and the book will be "The Stem Cell Divide", by Michael Bellomo.



The Green Corner

Welcome the UUFC Green Corner. My name is Susan Siegel and I will be writing regularly for the Unigram about a variety of environmental topics. Sometimes I may write about the UUA and

its policies and actions regarding the environment; or I may provide an environmental fact or update; or I may write how human behavior is impacting the environment. I will always provide an environmental tip or two to help us decrease our footprint on Earth. If you have something about the environment you would like to share, please contact me at e-mail address - susankfs@aol.com.

Did you know that the UUA has an affiliate organization called the UU Ministry for Earth? It is based on our 7th principle-Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Their mission is that UUs recognize and embrace the moral imperative to live in covenant with the web of life through personal, congregational and denominational practices.

Tips: Keep your tires inflated to get better gas mileage, you burn less gas and emit less carbon. Turn off lights and other energy sources when leaving a room. Use compact fluorescent light bulbs. Buy fair trade coffee. A lot of small steps make a big difference over time.

"The frog does not drink up the pond in which it lives."

7th principle of UUA

"Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

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Keep the Midlands Beautiful Volunteer Update - February 2007

Recycle Your Phone Books

Recycle your old phone books February 15-March 15 through Keep the Midlands Beautiful's Telephone Book Recycling Program, sponsored by BellSouth: The Real Yellow Pages, The Talking Phone Book, Waste Management and Paper Stock Dealers/Sonoco. For drop off sites and other information, http://www.keepthemidlandsbeautiful.com/telephone_book_recycling.html.

Recycling on Ice

Bring an old telephone directory to recycle to the **March 2nd Columbia Inferno game** and receive one free admission pass. You can use it that night or for any of the remaining home games left in the season. (One pass per person regardless of number of directories recycled.)

Welcoming Congregation

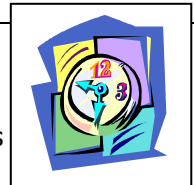
The Board has approved the formation of a committee to explore implementing the Welcoming Congregation educational program at the UU Fellowship of Columbia. "In 1987 the Unitarian Universalist Association established the Common Vision Planning Committee. This committee found many negative attitudes, deep prejudices, and profound ignorance about bisexual, gay, and lesbian people, which resulted in the exclusion of bisexual, gay, and lesbian people from their churches. As a result of these findings, the delegates of the 1989 UUA General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to initiate the Welcoming Congregation program to educate its members. Each congregation adapts the program to best meet its goals and each unique situation can bring positive changes to individuals and congregations." Several years ago, the UUFC participated in activities related to the program. We are not currently listed as a Welcoming Congregation by the UUA. Information on the program and steps that congregations can take to being recognized as welcoming is available on the UUA website: <http://www.uua.org/obgltc/wcp/wc1expln.html>. If you would like to serve with or take a leadership role in the newly formed committee, please contact Cheryl Soehl at xxx-xxxx or via email at csoehl@usit.net.

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>

It's Time to Change our Clocks Spring Forward

At 2 a.m. on March 11, groggy Americans will turn their clocks forward one hour, marking the beginning of **Daylight Saving Time (DST)**. The federal law that established "daylight time" in this country does not require any area to observe daylight saving time. But if a state chooses to observe DST, it must follow the starting and ending dates set by the law. From 1986 to 2006 this has been the first Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October, but starting in 2007, it will be observed from the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, adding about a month to daylight saving time.



*"In the beginning...
the beginning is now."
Join us for our 20th Anniversary
Celebration!*

**Unitarian Universalist Womenspirit ~
Spring 2007**

**INSTITUTE: May 16-18 ~ GATHERING: May 18-20
Highlands, NC ~ UU Mountain and Retreat Center**

Visit our website for more information and registration forms: [Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#)

If you do not have internet access, please call Kate at (828) xxx-xxxx to request that a printed brochure be mailed to you.

"In the beginning..."

We will gather to celebrate our beginnings as a circle of Womenspirit, our emergence as women seeking our own stories, our conscious creation of a community of sisters.

"...The beginning is now."

Mindful that we are constantly beginning, remaking Womenspirit, and ourselves we will rededicate our energies to this everchanging circle of diversity and unity, and to our vision for the world.

I've decided to make up my mind
about nothing,
to assume the water mask,
to finish my life disguised as a creek,
an eddy,
joining at night the full sweet flow,
to absorb the sky,
to swallow the heat and cold,
the moon and the stars,
to swallow myself in ceaseless flow.
...Jim Harrison

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.

Western Carolinas Cluster of Unitarian Universalist Congregations

5th Annual Gathering Saturday, March 24, 2007, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Voices for Hope: Speak Out!

Keynote Speaker - Rev. William G. Sinkford, President of the UUA
"Witnessing for a Liberal Faith"

Intergenerational Program
Childcare and Middle School/Teen Activities
Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1135 State Park Road
Greenville, SC 29609
www.wccluster.org



WORKSHOPS:

- "Individual Faith Development"
- "Leadership and Ministry"
- "Speaking Out"

What is a Cluster Gathering?

The Cluster Gatherings began as a way for local congregations to network and get to know each other. They also provide workshops and training for people who can't travel to national events. There are 13 member congregations in North and South Carolina that make up the Western Carolinas Cluster, which is the one that *you* belong to.

What will be unique about this year's Cluster Gathering?

This year, for the first time, it will be intergenerational. Childcare will be provided for a \$10.00 registration fee per child (to cover food and activities). They will have the opportunity to play games and do arts and crafts. There is also a Middle-school/Teen Program with a registration fee of \$10.00 per youth (grades 6-12).

How can I help support the Member Congregations in our Cluster?

First and foremost, please attend! I can assure you that you won't regret the time you spend at the Gathering. I can't think of one workshop that we've put together for this year's Gathering that isn't exciting. For the early-bird registration fee of \$35, you'll get a light breakfast, snack, lunch, three awesome workshops and a keynote speech given by Rev. William G. Sinkford, President of the UUA.

Registration deadline: Early-bird deadline: March 10 - We'll accept registrations later at the higher rate but we hope there won't be many due to the need for planning.

Visit the website to register and for more information, www.wccluster.org

Worship Service coordinated by Rev. Cynthia Prescott
Sponsored by the UU Fellowships of Clemson SC,
Franklin NC, and Greenville SC

The Unigram

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbia
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Columbia, SC 29205

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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 **9:00 p.m., March 11, 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.