



THE CHALICE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (UUFV-VA)
P.O. Box 1266
White Stone VA 22578

NOVEMBER 2008

Fellowship Services

Fellowship services are held each **Sunday** at **10:30 A.M.** at 366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA
All are welcome. Coffee and conversation follow the presentation.

Sunday Programs

November 2 – Caroline Shifflett: “Home Sweet What?”

Caroline will moderate an open forum to discuss the meaning of our new home. Be prepared to share what a home, church, sanctuary, or hall means to you and which of those or other names is closest to the way you feel about our new home.

RE Topics:

A UU Story: “John Murray Come to America”

A Judeo-Christian Heritage Story: “Israel’s Great-Grandfathers, The Family Starts with Abraham”

November 8 – Shirley Kinney: “...Out of Chaos and Darkness”

“...Out of Chaos and Darkness” is a celebration in story and music of some of the creation myths found in all cultures around the planet. All peoples have sought an explanation for the whys and hows of the beginning of life and light. These stories brought sense and meaning out of darkness and chaos. Shirley Kinney will present some of these myths and the music of the cultures that gave birth to the stories.

RE Topic: All Church Sunday

November 16 – Sara Mackey: “Open for Business”

At last! So much planning collaborating, explaining, deciding, and laboring have finally borne this glorious fruit: UUFV-VA shines its beacon out of our own beautiful building. Now, how do we make our presence felt in Virginia’s Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula, with our own space available to us seven days a week? Please join us as we dedicate our new building and invite the future into our home.

RE Topics: All Church Sunday

NOTE: The month’s Chalice includes the press release, announcing the dedication, and the event’s program.

November 23 – Rev. James Sanderson: “The Lost Holiday”

Rev. Sanderson will look at the history of the celebration of Thanksgiving and examines what this holiday means to UUs? Who or what do we thank, or is our focus different?

RE Topics:

A UU Story: “The Baltimore Sermon: “Those Awful Unitarians””

A Judeo-Christian Heritage Story: “Jacob and Esu: Deception”

November 30 – Dave Rowden: “The Hidden Persuaders, Part Deux”

In 1957, Vance Packard authored The Hidden Persuaders, which tells us how our beliefs and opinions can be manipulated by advertising and public relations. In 1961, Stanley Milgram's research demonstrated how we can be convinced to inflict pain on strangers, even when we know it is wrong. In 1971 Phillip Zimbardo, in the Stanford Prisoner experiment, showed how a defined social context like a prison can cause us to act in ways that are entirely contrary to our morals and ethics.

This presentation looks at the next step in how our beliefs are influenced and manipulated. Instead of looking at how outside factors influence our behavior and beliefs, we will examine how we manipulate our own beliefs and perceptions to create realities that are contrary to our own values, that in turn, allow us to act in ways that go against what we think we believe and what we stand for.

RE Topics:

A UU Story: “Circles of Light, the Flaming Chalice”
A Judeo Christian Heritage Story: “Joseph and the Dreams: Giving and Forgiving”

President’s Corner

Thank you to those of you who read and responded to my request in last month’s President’s Corner to reserve business until after the service. That simple procedure has increased the joy I feel, as a part of this community, by leaps and bounds.

We are now truly up and running! We recently added a parking lot to our church property. In October we were able to have our first congregational retreat here in our own building. Thank you to the Schellings and the Rowdens for organizing and running such a great day. We were also able to host a party in memory of our dear friend Richard Ward. What an honor it was to provide a space to celebrate such a great life and man. And this month we will celebrate the birth of our new UUFR-VA space with a building dedication service on November 16th. I’ve been working with a few other members of the fellowship on this service

and it is going to be a moving service that you won’t want to miss.

Lastly, I wanted you to know, the board is not resting on our laurels as “they” say. One of our most important tasks at our November 9th board meeting will be to review our current 5 year plan (we are in year one) to assess our progress and determine our priorities for next year. We will also be reviewing a first draft of next year's budget. Please see any board member with your input or to see a copy of our current 5 year plan. As always, anyone with an interest is welcome to attend our board meetings.

Caroline

Phood and Philosophy

Caroline and Matt Shifflett will host this month’s Phood and Philosophy in their home on **Saturday, November 1, 2008, at 5:30 p.m.**

The evening’s topic will be:
30 days in Another's Shoes.
No preparation necessary.

Please call Caroline or Matt to ensure we have enough chairs, etc. Plan to bring a dish and a bottle of wine to share.

Unitarian Universalists Dedicate White Stone Church

UUFR-VA Press Release

On November 16, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock (UUFR-VA) will dedicate the first Unitarian Universalist (UU) church ever constructed in the Northern Neck. Sara Mackey, a frequent speaker at the UUFR-VA, will be the main speaker at the dedication service at 366 James Wharf Road in White Stone, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

While a UU church may be new in the Northern Neck, the Unitarian denomination has a long and illustrious history in Virginia. Among America's founding fathers, our 2nd, 3rd, and 6th Presidents were all Unitarians. Thomas Jefferson, for whom the regional UU District is named, was long a promoter of Unitarianism. John Adams, John's wife Abigail, and John Quincy Adams were Unitarians. Other prominent Unitarians in the early days of our country included Ethan Allen, Paul Revere, and perhaps Thomas Paine who, at least, was accused of being a Unitarian by his royalist enemies.

Ten years ago, a small local group interested in Unitarian Universalism began meeting for discussion, sharing, and potluck dinners. Eventually, a UU fellowship emerged. As the group grew, they took up

residence in the White Stone Women's Club, and chose to affiliate with the national Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. The UUFR-VA has grown into its own church, and remains an active presence in the greater community. The fellowship is a regular contributor and supporter of local community charitable efforts, including The Haven, The Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, and The Interfaith Alliance.

The UUFR-VA aspires to be a symbol of fellowship, family, and service. The congregation's mission is to inspire spiritual and intellectual growth; to provide spiritual guidance for future generations; to serve the needs of the community; and to pursue the Unitarian Universalist Principles of truth, fairness, respect, and social justice.

According to UUFR-VA President, Caroline Shifflett, "One motivation for constructing our own building is to provide a facility with space to welcome children, and to provide a venue for events that would be of interest to the community." The new building will provide a welcoming home for educational, musical, and cultural events in the community.

The UUFR-VA, serving the Middle Peninsula and the Northern Neck, is led by its lay members. The Sunday services frequently feature visiting ministers or others prominent in their fields. The UUFR-VA meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.



*UUFRC-VA Dedication Service
November 16, 2008*

<i>Prelude: "Hymne" by Vangelis</i>	<i>Shirley Kinney on piano</i>
<i>Welcome; Who We Are</i>	<i>Cliff Schelling</i>
<i>Introduction of Guests UUA, TJD, contractors, others</i>	<i>Service Leader (Bob Weekley)</i>
<i>Lighting of the Chalice</i>	<i>Andy Kelsey, assisted by Jack Elkin</i>
<i>Expression of Joys and Concerns</i>	<i>Service Leader</i>
<i>Birth of UUFRC-VA (short remembrances of the first meetings)</i>	<i>Ina Fuller</i>
<i>Hymn "We'll Build a Land"</i>	<i>Service Leader</i>
<i>Dedication of Donors Plaque</i>	<i>Caroline Shifflett -- Roger and George Failmezger</i>
<i>"In Memory" (reading of names of deceased members and friends)</i>	<i>Caroline Shifflett</i>
<i>Reflection and Meditation</i>	<i>Caroline introduces Shirley plays background music ("Variations on Bamboo" arr. by George Winston)</i>
<i>History of "Our First Home" from Vision to Now (highlights. More detail in brochure)</i>	<i>Bob Weekley -- Vision Development Tom Kinney -- Creating the Reality: design, symbolism, contractor recognition, environmentally friendly features, ...</i>
<i>Special Music</i>	<i>Cliff Schelling</i>
<i>Offering</i>	<i>Shirley plays background music</i>
<i>Introduction of Dedication Speaker</i>	<i>Service Leader</i>
<i>Sermon</i>	<i>Sara Mackey</i>
<i>Responsive Reading 733</i>	<i>Pirkko Graves</i>
<i>Hymn "One More Step"</i>	<i>Service Leader</i>
<i>Extinguish the Chalice, Closing Circle, Closing Words</i>	<i>Ann Kelsey with Jefferson Elkin</i>

RE Notes

by Jane Elkin

This month we've added three resources to our RE program to supplement our Judeo Christian Heritage curriculum: [A Lamp in Every Corner: Our Unitarian Universalist Storybook](#) covers UU History, UU Heroes, and UU Principles. Our used copy, from Amazon, is inscribed, "Sophie – Hope this answers some of your questions! Merry Christmas – 2004 Love, Mom"

From the Thomas Jefferson District RE Lending Library, we borrowed a 2008 book by Michelle Richards (not yet available on Amazon) titled [Come Into the Circle, Worshiping With Children](#), a collection of chalice readings, meditations, prayers, intergenerational worship and other useful tools for children's RE.

Published by the UUA Project of the Heritages from Judaism and Christianity Curriculum Team, [Bible Songs on Timeless Themes](#) complements the TT curriculum. Frank Elliot will soon lead some Old Chestnuts: "Rock-a-My Soul," "Jacob's Ladder," and "Go Down Moses."

From [A Lamp...](#), we read "King John Sigismund, the First Unitarian King in Transylvania and the Edict of Torda." From [The Kid's Book of Awesome Stuff](#) we read "How Rachel Carson Helped Save the World by Telling the Truth about Chemicals that Kill," and "A Time When People Didn't Know: Copernicus and Galileo." We completed Genesis from Timeless Themes. We built the Tower of Babel out of marshmallows and toothpicks. Reading two stories, one from Judeo Christian Heritage and one on UUism, with two discussions per week seems to work well for now, since we are small group. We enjoyed Ken Roses's "For All Ages" talk about God and we enjoyed Caroline's "Laughter Yoga" during the recent All Church Sunday. Thank you to Pirkko & Larry Graves for the gift of the animal cards and to Shirley for more art supplies from her studio.

On Nov 30, we plan a child-friendly dramatic reading titled "Celebrating Our Sources" (Richards). Did you know that UUs have Six Sources...Direct experience, words and deeds of prophetic women and men, wisdom from the world's religions, Jewish and

Christian teachings, humanist teachings, and spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions?

Please remember that the children may feel uncomfortable if too much physical affection is offered at church. It's a good idea to ask permission before hugging a child who is not your own. We wouldn't want our well-intended gestures to make a child feel uncomfortable.

Donations to the UUFR-VA Library

Contact: Bob Weekley

Jean Ward gave UUFR-VA some excellent books from our friend Richard's UU collection. We thank Jean for her generosity and we know they will be a source of inspiration to our congregation. Jean also provided nine CDs from Richard's excellent jazz collection for use in our services. Books include:

- * Rev. Rudi Gelsey, [Imagine, A New Bible](#)
- * Rev. A. Powell Davies, [Without Apology: Collected Meditations on Liberal Religion](#)
- * Rev. A. Powell Davies, [The Language of the Heart: A Book of Prayers](#)
- * Bishop John Shelby Spong, [Why Christianity Must Change or Die](#)
- * Douglas Lurton, [The Jefferson Bible](#)
- * John Buehrens and Forrest Church, [A Chosen Faith: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism](#)

Take A Chance?

By Elaine Weekley

The economy may be in a slump, but the Lancaster Community Library will be giving away money again this year! Take a chance on winning it!

The Lancaster Community Library has launched its annual Lottery campaign. In the past, some UUFR-VA's have gone together to purchase a ticket, which we donate to UUFR-VA. The amount each person contributes is tax deductible, and UUFR-VA then has a chance to win a \$10,000 grand prize or several others of different amounts. As many as 10 people may purchase a ticket. If you want to contribute to a very worthwhile organization – the Library – and give UUFR-VA a shot at a big boost to the building budget, please see Elaine Weekley.

Budget Time!

By Tom Kinney

November kicks off the annual budget process at UUFR-VA for our Operating Fund. The Operating Fund is what pays our guest speakers; funds our weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters; supports, through dues, UUA and the Thomas Jefferson district; makes our charitable giving possible; covers RE expenses; and provides a myriad of smaller needs that keep us healthy, active, and an influential presence in the community.

At the beginning of November, all committee chairs submit their projections of needs for the upcoming year. The Board assembles their inputs as well, gleaned from the priorities, desires, and concerns of the congregation. The Finance Committee looks at your previous years of weekly giving and estimates the generosity of the membership for the coming year. All these will come together to create a balanced budget proposal for 2009.

At the Annual Congregation Meeting, December 14 this year, copies of the proposed budget will be distributed to everyone. Members will be asked to look over the proposal carefully and share their comments with Board members. At their January 11 meeting, the Board will make final adjustments and approve the 2009 budget for the coming year.

A Single Minded Pursuit

by Diana Jamison

Mingle with Singles in the Northern Neck while exploring the concept of living in the now and awakening to your life's purpose.

Plan early to attend a review of Eckhart Tolle's book: [A New Earth - Awakening to Your Life's Purpose](#).

Spread the word and plan to join in @:

The Bay Center for Spiritual Development
31 Noblett Lane, Kilmarnock, VA
November 18 at 7:00 PM

The agenda and future meeting times will be set up at this organizational meeting. RSVP Diana Jamison.

River Readers

The book discussion group meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 2:00 P.M. at the Lancaster Community Library. Everyone is welcome. Please read the book and join us. The upcoming selections:

November 24: *Cosmicomics* by Italo Calvino

December: No Meeting

January 26: *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz

We will be choosing next year's books in November, so submit your recommendations and then come and vote. Please call **Elaine Weekley** for information.

Fall Is Planting Time – Help!

By Bob & Sue Adriance

Fall is the ideal time for planting the *waves* of foliage in front of our new church home. A number of members have offered plants from their garden, and offered to purchase plants. Some have been seen happily weeding where the existing landscaping is already beginning to thrive. And some have merely said, "What can I do?" Here's how to help:

If you have plants to donate, please see Sue or Bob Adriance to discuss how they may (or may not) be melded into the overall landscaping plan.

If you have offered to buy plants to help the landscaping progress, please consider instead adding a check to the Sunday offering marked "landscaping." We'll buy those plants for you in coordination with the purchase of other plants to complete a priority part of the plan. If you wish to help plant and water, that would make us so appreciative. Let's talk about when and where.

If you wish to weed—don't let us get in your way. Weeds will be a constant battle until our plants take over the open spaces. Your active participation will ensure our new church blossoms.

UU Leadership Conference and Growth Summit

by Bob Weekley

The Thomas Jefferson District of the UUA will hold a Leadership Conference and Growth Summit in Richmond at the First UU Church from October 31–November 1. Although the details of the agenda have not been published yet, if you would like to learn more about what is going on in UU and meet interesting UU people from the region, this might be just what you are looking for.

Last year Shirley Kinney and I attended the regional annual conference and found it to be both inspirational and packed with good ideas. Usually they have inspirational speakers combined with interesting workshops. Attendance is open to anyone who would like to attend. If you are interested, let someone on the Board of Stewards know. We will be sure you get the additional information and we can arrange a UUFR-VA carpool.

Board of Stewards

Caroline Shifflett, President
Barbara Haynes, Treasurer
Pirkko Graves, Secretary
Shirley Kinney, Past President

Bob Weekley, President Elect
Pam Collins, Vice President for Programs
Kathleen Brooks, Vice President for Membership

Web Site

<http://www.uufrappahannock.org>
<http://www.uufr-va.org>
Bob Prescott, Webmaster

Newsletter

Deadline for articles: 20th of the month
Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)