



# THE CHALICE

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

**JANUARY 2009**

## 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

**January 4** – Sibley Towner: “The Human Face”

In repose our faces tell the story of our lives. Suffering and pain are etched there. But they are not the full story. Interwoven with our sorrows, our faces also show the traces of light and levity that the virtues of love, hope, and vocation leave there.

**RE: To Be Determined**

**January 11** – Ann & Andy Kelsey: TBA

**RE: To Be Determined**

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**January 18** – Sara Mackey: TBA

**RE: To Be Determined**

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**January 25** – Jim Sanderson: TBA

**RE: To Be Determined**

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## *President's Corner*

On behalf of the Board of Stewards, I would like to say “Thank you,” to Pirkko Graves and Kathleen Brooks, “for your service and dedication to UUFV-VA. The board and congregation have appreciated your leadership and participation!”

At our upcoming annual meeting (I'm writing this way early!), we will elect new officers to the positions of Secretary and Membership Chair. We look forward to working with our new officers this year.

There is a lot to look forward to this year. And having our own home will change things for us in so

many ways. We'll be able to host more of our events here. We are looking forward to pursuing Adult RE classes or workshops. We'll be able to provide programming for the outside community as well. We are looking forward to some public forums with expert advisors. We are looking forward to teaching English classes here.

It's a new year and a new UUFV-VA! But don't worry that we are all new. We are keeping the things that make it a home – us!

*Caroline*

## Phood and Philosophy?

Phood and Philosophy, our monthly Dinner and Discussion group, will be on hiatus during the months of December and January. The UUFR-VA Holiday Party, however, is still an upcoming event. See below for directions.

### The UUFR-VA Holiday Party

Join us for our annual UUFR-VA Holiday Party at the home of **Tom and Shirley Kinney** immediately following the service on Sunday, December 21.

This is a time to celebrate good friendships, good conversation, and good food. Bring a dish or two to share along with a bottle of wine, and definitely bring your party hat!

## Special Parking

by **Tom Kinney**

As our parking areas are getting more and more organized, perhaps you've notice some new signs. In the parking lot, adjacent to the path, we have a space "Reserved for First Time Visitors" and, along the drive and closer to the main entrance, we have three parallel parking handicapped spots marked with the familiar blue signs on posts. Let's try to keep those spaces open for their intended purpose.

## Feeding the Hungry

by **Bob Duryea**

As I wrote last month, our Fellowship has the opportunity to participate in the *Home Delivered Meals Program*, coordinated by the InterFaith Council, Inc. of Lancaster/ Northumberland Counties. This is an essential program. In September, 400 meals were delivered in upper Lancaster County. In Northumberland County, 390 meals were delivered.

Volunteer responsibilities are limited to the delivery of the meals to residences in Kilmarnock, White Stone, and Weems. Deliveries are made three days per week and take about an hour and a half, beginning at 10:00 am. Your help is needed for the month of January. For further information, contact **Jane or Bob Duryea**.

## Need for Holiday Food Continues

With sincere thanks for those who made our *Hungry Families Food Drive* a success, the need for food contributions during this Holiday Season continues. To support those less fortunate in our community, the fellowship will run a food drive for *Holiday Food Bundles* through December 21. Both perishable and nonperishable food items are being accepted by local social services. Drop all items in the large collection box in the UUFR-VA foyer.

After the Holidays, the collection box will be repurposed as a book drop for Shirley Kinney's ongoing book sale. Last month, Shirley reported we have earned \$3450 by selling books you have donated. All proceeds go to our CME Fund for future projects and improvements in our Fellowship. Call **Kathleen Brooks** with any questions.

## RE Volunteers Wanted

by **Sue Adriance**

Religious Education classes will continue during Jane Elkin's absence in January, February and March and will be taught by a variety of our UUFR-VA members. Topics will relate primarily to the UU Seven Principles.

If anyone is interested in teaching one or more of these classes, please contact me. The topic may be of your choosing using curriculum on hand or you may prefer to assist someone who has planned a lesson.

## Pianist Search

by Bob Weekley

Starting in mid-December our pianist, Shirley Kinney, will be away on a well-deserved vacation for a number of weeks. She and Tom will recharge their batteries for the extended and energetic work they do for our Fellowship. We need one or more interim pianists who can help us maintain the quality of our Sunday meetings. Perhaps someone in our midst has been keeping his or her talents hidden. Perhaps you know someone who would be willing to volunteer to help out. If we could locate two or three, then each might be more willing to commit to play for us on alternating Sundays. It might even be a way to introduce our Fellowship to someone new. Please give this some thought. If you, or someone you know, would be willing to help, please contact Pam Collins or me.

## 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:

**December:** No Meeting

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

**February 23:** *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard* by Kiran Desai

**March 23:** *The Gathering* by Anne Enright

\* Location is to be determined. Please call **Elaine Weekley** for more information.

## A Publication Note

As noted last month, and owing to Holiday interruptions, this month's edition of The Chalice arrives much earlier than usual. With the early publication date, the level of detail our readers have

come to expect may be a little disappointing. However, readers can stay current with updates posted on the UUFR-VA web site @ [http://www.uufrappahannock.org/UU\\_Calendar.asp](http://www.uufrappahannock.org/UU_Calendar.asp).



Sara Mackey shares insights with children during the dedication of the new UUFR-VA home. On January 18<sup>th</sup>, Sara will again lift up the fellowship with her positive message.

## Matching Grant Challenge!

by Tom Kinney

An anonymous member has issued a challenge to fund the completion of the finish carpentry for our Home of Our Own. If we together can raise \$5000, the donor will match that \$5000 to allow us to complete the interior trim and window sills, build and install the shelving and doors in closets and storage areas, and construct the valance around our sanctuary.

This is such a wonderful and generous opportunity! Please step forward and do your part. Mark your check as for "trim matching grant" and either drop it in the Sunday basket or hand it to Treasurer Barbara Haynes, and gain a tax deduction as frosting on the cake. Thanks in advance for being part of the group helping to make the completion of our building interior possible.

## RE Notes

by Jane Elkin

Why do UUs teach Biblical literacy? Because Judeo-Christian Heritage is the basis of Unitarian Universalism, and Christianity and Judaism are dominant in our culture. When our children meet someone in our community who has a different perspective, we want them to have the tools to build bridges to understanding. We want them to be able to engage in a healthy debate. We, ourselves, need to be able to engage in interfaith work on the issues that affect our community. The teachings of Jesus are clearly reflected in our UU seven principles. Those teachings are echoed in all the faiths of the world.

We use the Timeless Themes curricula, by Gowdy, et al. Stories are interpreted through a UU perspective. The curriculum includes stories commonly told in our culture. The TT authors have carefully considered which stories to tell. Not all Bible stories are appropriate for children. Although the writers avoid certain images that would be overly violent, some of the stories describe brutal acts. Although there is little doubt that the writings have a patriarchal bias, the authors deal with the issue directly, by using as many stories about women as possible and by using gender-neutral language. God is consistently referred to as “God” and not “He.”

This month we constructed a baby in a basket with cattails for our study of Moses. Tom Kinney has

constructed a bush to be torched in the springtime, when he teaches a class titled “Moses, the Fireman.” Everyone, take a look at the contraption Tom has rigged up out in the fire pit!

For our upcoming “*Earth Centered Tradition – Turning the Wheel of the Year*” observance, we will attach the Grave’s antique wagon wheel to a Lazy Susan, decorate the wheel with seasonal greenery, and attach four candles—representing the four seasons. The children will slowly turn the wheel clockwise one quarter turn, as each candle is lit. We will mark birth, death, gloom, and the new light for the Winter Solstice on December 21.

## Seeking Comments on 2009 Budget

by Tom Kinney

It’s budget time again. Your Board of Stewards has prepared a proposed 2009 budget which will be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Copies of the budget are available.

All members are asked to review the budget and provide comments to any Board member prior to the January 11 Board meeting, at which the 2009 budget will be approved. If you cannot attend the annual meeting and wish a copy of the proposed budget, please contact me. Thanks.

### 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: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

Bob Prescott, Editor ([editor@uufrappahannock.org](mailto:editor@uufrappahannock.org))