



THE CHALICE

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

March 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

March 1 – Rev. Preston Moore: “Are We ‘R’ Or Aren’t We?”

If we UUs can corral ourselves into a common conversation about religion, will it lead us to conclude we are one? If not, should we become one?

March 8 – Aiden Harland: “The Soroptimist Quartet - Lord Peter Wimsey - and The Tragedy of The Church in the Bedroom”

How Dorothy L. Sayers became a Christian scholar, one of the first women to earn a degree at Oxford, and how, unable to make a living with her poetry she became one of the few women to be employed writing advertising copy. She was a scholar who translated Dante, wrote numerous religious plays, became famous on the BBC with her "A Man Born To Be King" series, which many considered blasphemous. Dorothy was offered a Doctor of Divinity by The Church of England, but turned it down. This talk will hopefully leave the listener with an explanation of the turndown, an appreciation of her advancement of the status of women at that time, and severe sorrow for the burdens she felt she had to hide in the closet.

March 15 – Cliff Schelling: “We’re Starving! Should We Eat the Children?”

His presentation will provide a guide to ethical decision making and introduce the “Ethics” workshop, which he will co-facilitate with Barbara Haynes and Hal White, at the church, in early April.

The workshop is a continuation of “Building Your Own Theology” and directly confronts the complex issues that characterize our public debates and private dilemmas.

March 22 – Sara Mackey: “Body and Spirit United”

The Christian sacred text tells us that in the beginning was the Word, and then the Word was made flesh in the person of Jesus the great teacher. Does this mean our religion needs our bodies as well as our minds? Join Sara as we explore ways that religion may extend beyond our intellects.

March 29 – David Davies: “The Economies of a Good Citizenship Society”

Phood and Philosophy

Diana Jamison and Charles VanDenburgh will host the March Phood and Philosophy in the UU Fellowship home, in Whitestone, on **Saturday, March 7th at 5:30 pm.**

Diana and Charles will be showing the documentary: 'Religulous.' Plan to travel the world with comedian Bill Maher as he "talks to believers from a variety of faiths to find out why they are so sure their religion is right – and why they are so certain others are wrong."

All members and friends of UUFR-VA are welcome for an evening of stimulating food for the body and mind. Please bring:

- ⇒ A dish or two to share
- ⇒ Your favorite drink and some to share
- ⇒ Thoughts you'd like to contribute.

For planning purposes, please call Diana if you plan to attend this evening of fun and stimulating conversation.

Earth Day Celebration: Water, Earth, Tides, Wind, and Spirit

by Jane Elkin

Earth Day, an important date in the UU liturgical calendar, will be celebrated here at UUFR on **April 26**. Kathleen Brooks notes, "Earth Day is more important to me, personally, than a lot of other holidays."

On April 26th, bring an osprey feather, an oyster shell (native, please), or any small treasure from a creek, river, wetland, beach or the Bay. Bring your thoughts...a few words...about Earth Day, our UU Seventh Principle, Gaia, nature, the environment, the Chesapeake, or the Rappahannock. Children are encouraged to contribute. Your treasures, notes and poems on Earth Day will be arranged into a collage by the RE class the following Sunday. If you have any special music that celebrates the Earth or you would like to contribute ideas for the Earth Day program, please contact me.



Cliff Schelling will introduce the upcoming Ethics Workshop during his March 15th presentation.

Spring Grounds Work

by Bob Weekley

You may notice that a great deal of work has been accomplished over the past few weeks. Trenches are in place for the parking lot lighting and Terry Smith has been installing the needed circuits and hardware. We have removed a great amount of brush, briars, seedlings, and tree debris from all around the parking lot and the area between the church and the power line. The ditches behind (west of) the building have been filled in and that area cleaned up so it can now be mowed. We began clearing trees and brush from the area next to the road on the east side, so that it can be mowed and we will have better visibility of the traffic from the east as we exit the area. Our work day on February 13 made a big difference thanks to the efforts of Lolly Riley, Bob Duryea, Cliff Schelling, Sue and Bob Adriance, and Elaine.

But, yes, there is still more to do! If you would like to do some work at a time of your own choosing, we have a list of wonderful fresh-air tasks that will provide good exercise, leave you invigorated, and contribute to the ongoing improvement of the area. For example, raking leaves, branches, and debris out of our drainage ditches is a high priority. Just an hour or so now and then will make a big difference. If you would like a project of your own, please give me a call. I'll meet you at the site and show you our needs.

Who's Who in UU

by Fran Schelling

We welcome to our UU fellowship new members Leela Norman and her two sons, Aaron & Bobby Nazrini. With husband and dad, they enjoy river living on Whittings Creek in Saluda.

Leela was born in Canon City, Colorado but has spent most of her life in the Southeast, with her favorite places being Asheville, N.C.; Atlanta, Georgia; and Naples and St. Augustine, Florida. Having enjoyed "The Science of Mind" and the writings of Ernest Holmes, Leela visited Unitarian Universalist churches and was drawn to their inclusive, open-minded attitude.

While Leela has years of experience and a degree in Business, she feeds her creative spirit by writing poetry, composing music for the piano, and painting on unusual surfaces, like wood. Leela is a certified Yoga teacher, medicinal folklore herbalist and Reiki 1 & 2 certified. She is also a volunteer at the Humane Society.

Aaron, her oldest son, is a straight A student and is an animation artist who won a scholarship at the Bay School of Arts in Mathews. He also won a scholarship from the United States Achievement Academy of his exemplary grades. In his spare time, Aaron plays soccer and basketball.

Bobby is an honor roll student and an excellent soccer player. He led his team in Middlesex County to win the championship last fall. Bobby loves to cook and both boys practice karate!

Leela and her sons, along with their talents, will be a welcome addition to our fellowship. We look forward to both their participation in the group and tasting treats from Bobby's kitchen.

River Readers

The book discussion group meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 2:30 P.M. at the Lancaster Community Library. Everyone is welcome. Please read the book and join us. The upcoming selections are:

March 23: *The Gathering* by Anne Enright

April 27: *The Short History of a Prince* by Jane Hamilton

May 25: *Fathers and Sons* by Ivan Turgenev

June 22: *Remembering Babylon* by David Malouf

Please call **Elaine Weekley** at for more information.

Change for Spring

by Sue Adriance

Brighter and longer daylight hours are reminding us that spring is on its way and landscaping at UUFR-VA is on our minds. We'll soon need a load of top soil, grass seed, plants, mulch, and helping hands. And now's the time to get started!



To fund these projects, we're making it easy for anyone to contribute to the Landscaping Fund by placing a receptacle in the entry. Loose change or paper money can be deposited when picking up or returning your name badge. Let's see how much we can raise by Easter!

Feb. Board Of Stewards Meeting

by Bob Weekley

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Stewards, President Caroline Shifflett said she was pleased with the turnout and constructive efforts at the All Committee Night on February 3. She distributed the 2009 Administrative Calendar and the board tentatively set April 11 for the annual all-day working retreat of the board. (The purpose of the annual board retreat is provide time to review with care all of the organizations, activities, goals, and progress of the Fellowship, to assess progress and growth, and to look for actions we need to take to make improvements.)

The board reviewed actions needed to fill the vacant positions of Membership VP and Secretary. Fran Schelling attended the board meeting to represent the Membership Committee in the interim. (Since the board meeting Diana Jamison has agreed to fill the position of Secretary.)

Barbara Haynes, Treasurer, provided an update on the operating fund and the CME fund. Cliff Schelling, attending the board meeting as a visitor, offered some extensive observations that he has developed on what the board and the committees can do to invigorate the congregation in meeting its goals of care of our membership and reaching those who may be interested in joining us.

Members should feel free to contact any board member if they have questions or suggestions.

RE Notes

by Jane Elkin

Does anyone have a Seder plate that the RE class can borrow for the April 5th RE Seder Meal? The RE class will taste “tears of sorrow” in the salt water of chicken soup; taste “new life” in parsley; taste the “bitterness of slavery” in horseradish, name the ten plagues, ask questions and listen to answers on the Passover story. Please volunteer if you would like to lead the Seder Meal.

At the February Committee Night, Cliff Shelling introduced the idea of a vision statement for each committee. The RE vision statement should reflect the priorities of the UUFR congregation. If you wish to be added to the e-mail string titled, “Virtual Flip Chart Paper of UUFR RE Vision Statement,” contact me. If you are computer-free, you may receive a hard copy of the virtual flip chart paper.

For over a year of service as RE Committee Chair, I would like to extend my gratitude to Sue Adriance, and to Marj Bradwick and Dave Rowden for their membership on the RE committee. My gratitude, also, to Leela Norman and her boys for her commitment to our UUFR RE program.

The Seasons of Grief

A Support Group for Loss, Adjustment and Healing

Two Episcopal priests, Rev. Lynn Holland and Rev. Karen Woodruff, will lead a support group for people who have lost loved ones, at the Bay Center for Spiritual Development beginning March 10th. The Registration Deadline is March 3.

This will be a 12-meeting series, held Tuesdays from 4:00 – 5:30 pm during March, with more dates announced in the spring. All who can come at the beginning are invited to do so; however, new members will be allowed to join after the series starts.

Understanding grief can help to avoid some of the misperceptions which keep us from healing. Healing does not involve forgetting our losses, but instead integrates them into our lives. When and how healing and insight come is unique to each person. A support group offers a setting in which to learn, listen, and give and receive care and compassion.

The group will focus on two books by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D, director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition, which are available for \$25. For more information, contact **Karen Woodruff** or **Lynn Holland** To register and order books, contact the Bay Center @ 435-4020. A donation of \$25 per six week series is appreciated.

Board of Stewards

Caroline Shifflett, President
Barbara Haynes, Treasurer
Diana Jamison, Secretary
Shirley Kinney, Past President

Bob Weekley, President Elect
Pam Collins, Vice President for Programs
Fran Schelling, 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 preceding month
Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)