



THE CHALICE

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

May 2012

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

May 6

Diana Obeid: "Women in Islam"

9:30 Meditation: **Diana Jamison**

Ms. Obeid, a native of Lebanon, will address, among others, the following questions: Is Islam oppressive to women? Why do some Muslim women veil and others do not? What does the Qur'an say about women?

May 13

Donna Sequeira: "Living Social Justice: Story, Spirit and Action"

9:30 Meditation: **Bob Weekley**

Unitarian Universalists are often known for our social justice work but sometimes that work can feel disconnected from our communal life together. During this service, Donna Sequeira will explore some ways to make our social justice come alive within a congregation through story, spirit and action.

[Donna Sequeira, M.Div. is a spiritual director, teacher and consultant specializing in stewardship and social justice ministries. Donna is also the former Social Justice Coordinator for the Southeast District and a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA. She lives with her spouse, Margaret, and their daughter, Mollie, in Williamsburg.]

May 20

Jane Elkin: "Flower Communion"

9:30 Meditation: **Pam Collins**

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to bring a flower, either wild or domestic, and share its meaning during the Communion. The Flower Communion, an annual UU rite, was created by Norbert Capek (1870-1942), founder of the Unitarian Church in Czechoslovakia. He died in a Nazi concentration camp. A prayer written by Dr. Capek, which reflected on his life and the state of his spirit, will be read to consecrate the flowers

The Monthly Potluck Luncheon will follow the service.

May 27

Bob Weekley: "War and Peace in the 21st Century: Is War Obsolete in the Age of Globalization?"

9:30 Meditation: **Diana Jamison**

Unitarian Universalists, indeed people of many faiths, are deeply opposed to war as an instrument of national policy. As democracy has spread, as the countries of the world have become more and more mutually dependent, and as the economies of the world's countries have become so intertwined, is war still an embedded feature of civilization?

President's Corner

Caring for Our "Home"

When this congregation was meeting at the White Stone Woman's Club, taking down and setting up the card tables each week, hanging our banners and taking them down, putting our sign out and taking it in, many dreamed of a place that they could beautify and maintain as they wanted – a place that was designed to provide inspiration, spiritual nourishment, and room to grow. They adopted a slogan for this vision – *A Home of Our Own*.

Now they have given us that home, and it is recognized in the community for its beauty, function, and spiritual inspiration. Caring for our building and grounds is an opportunity to continue this vision, now a reality. As a lay-led congregation that maintains conscientious stewardship of its finances, our volunteers are the key to maintaining and continuing to improve this *Home of Our Own*.

For spring cleanup this year, we are asking for volunteers to take on a specific task or two. A wide range of tasks is available, from door painting to yard work, depending on individual interest and ability. People can choose their own time to work, and whatever duration they are comfortable with. To get us started, a sign-up sheet is on the sharing table in the foyer. Just put your name in one of the boxes to reserve your very own task. Feel free to join in with someone else. For more information about the tasks, ask Dave Dustin or me. (This is a separate sign-up sheet from the mowing and trimming calendar maintained by Don Lowrey.)

An example of "owning" your task is our beautiful butterfly garden. On their own, Audrey and Ralph Brainard started the garden and maintained it faithfully. With Ralph's later illness and the Brainards' transition from the area, Pam Collins quietly took charge of the butterfly garden. It has thrived and become a source of natural beauty.

Speaking of "owning" your project, I'm sure you are enjoying the beautiful landscape around the building created and maintained by Bob and Sue Adriance. They always welcome some help with weeding and maintenance. We are grateful to Bob and Sue for the beautiful new bench on the entrance patio, too.

Some have told me they love to come by the Fellowship and spend a little quiet time working in a peaceful, natural setting. I do also. You might want to try it!

Bob Weekley

Phood and Philosophy

Judi Caples will host this month's Phood and Philosophy, our monthly potluck and discussion, in her home, Riversong, on **Saturday, May 19th, at 5:30 P.M.**

The topic will be "What is "Fun" for you? How do you play?"

Please contact Judi for planning. Bring a dish and beverage to share for a lovely evening with lively conversation in a beautiful area.



Who's Who in UU: Sue Adriance

by Eve Jordan

Sue Adriance lives on enchanted grounds. The winding road leads to beautiful gardens, a pond, a wall of jasmine, and, of course, a beautiful view of water. There are steps and plants and blooms, with downed trees, courtesy of Hurricane Katrina, lining the path to the water. It is a fitting setting for Sue, a lover of children and, most certainly, children's books. It could be the setting for a storybook. Sue's life in the Northern Neck is mellow and serene.

The touches to her place are magical — a sculpted metal gate, which is really a crane with a bad hair day, leads to a secret garden. The front door to her home is solid oak with a top like a sultan's hat, and handrails to the door are cattails, crafted by the same sculptor that created the crane gate. Azaleas are bursting with delight at the magnificent spring, and everywhere fragrance is just subtle enough to call attention to itself. The home site is appropriately named 'MeadoWood'.

A suburban New Jersey transplant, Sue met Bob at Trenton State Teachers College in her freshman year, and they married five years

later. After graduation, she began teaching third grade, and loved every minute of it! However, when she became pregnant with her first daughter, Sue was not allowed to continue teaching! (How is that for a historical perspective?) This was 1964. Her students' parents, grateful for the wonderful job this new teacher had done with their children, gave Sue a baby shower in the classroom with the kids. It was very difficult for her to leave this position; she was good, and the kids loved her. After staying home for two and a half years, she returned to teaching. This time, at a nursery school, she stayed for ten years. While her children, now three of them, came and went, Sue shared lunch at home and then returned to school. Later in their development, she attended graduate school part-time, as she taught part-time also, and was awarded a Master of Arts degree as a Reading Specialist. Sue became a great proponent of the whole-language approach to reading. One of the joys she found in the classroom was the opportunity to be creative, and to have fun while children were learning. (Bob mentioned that Sue received an award as Teacher of the Year, by vote of her colleagues as well as parents; she was too modest to mention this.)

When Sue and Bob finally moved from being week-enders in the Northern Neck to full-time "come-here's," Sue knew she was in the right place. However, full-time meant the living room was not open enough to enjoy the view, so she had a wall removed, which greatly expanded and enhanced the room. When the new wall was installed with seven panels of windows, there was an addition of two windows on either side. This created a feeling of spaciousness and grace, with the wonderful trees and view of Mill Creek. The final touch of the renovation was a stained glass panel that Sue crafted — the first and the last! A labor of love that took about a year, it is beautifully crafted, has the look of being professionally done, and is, in fact, the work of someone who refused to throw in the

towel until perfection was achieved. Bob was her biggest cheerleader; he knew she could do it when she had serious doubts — and the result is simply lovely.

The hard part of living here is the distance from the three grandchildren: Joseph, who is 12, lives in New Jersey; Zachery, 6, and Grace, 3, live in Seattle. Although they try to see Joseph every six weeks or so, they get to the West Coast only once a year. At the end of April last year, everyone came to MeadoWood — the three grandchildren, their son, and two daughters — such joy!

We love having the Adrianses with us — Sue lent her expertise to the Children’s Sunday School Program (on hold right now due to lack of children). As avid gardeners Sue and Bob have planned the landscaping at the UUFR-VA, taking many plants from their own yard and garden. They spend many hours on the grounds, making our surroundings lovely, and would welcome anyone who would like to share their joy.

Nutshell UU History: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882)

by **Kathy Duhon**

A celebrated Unitarian, “Waldo” was born on May 25th, and we celebrate his birthday with three of his sayings about Unitarianism.

First, a few years after he’d left the Unitarian ministry, he famously called Unitarianism “corpse-cold,” while trying to promote a fresh way of seeking the miracle in life through Transcendentalism. He didn’t leave the Unitarian faith, however, writing, “I am so much a Unitarian as this: that I believe the human mind can admit but one God, and every effort to pay religious homage to more than one being goes to take away all right ideas.”

Many jokes have been made about Unitarian Universalists, often by UUs, and Emerson may have been one of the first in this

tradition. He wrote, “I knew a witty physician who found the creed in the biliary duct, and used to affirm that if there was disease in the liver, the man became a Calvinist, and if that organ was sound, he became a Unitarian.”

Where’s Waldo when we need his bold mix of critique, defense, and humor about our marvelous religion?

Breakfast for the Yogis!

As another wonderful opportunity for a community outreach service, UUFR-VA volunteered to sponsor a breakfast for the YMCA Camp Kekoka Yoga Retreat. Our day is Saturday, May 19. Registration is limited to 60 participants, with an additional 15 staff members. We will be responsible for set-up, purchasing and preparing part of the menu, serving, and clean-up. If you can help, please contact **Elaine Weekley**. We need you!

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:

May 28: *The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka

June 25: *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett

July 23: *Caleb’s Crossing* by Ann Patchett

August 26: *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson

If you have a recommendation for a noteworthy book, please contact **Elaine Weekley**.

Tell Everyone You Know!

by Hank Stupi

I am very excited! Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart, my most favorite singer/songwriter wife and husband duo, will perform at the UUFR-VA on Saturday, June 30.

Based in Tennessee, this lovely couple performs throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Over the last six or seven years, I've had the great pleasure of seeing them perform whenever they've been in the area (mostly at the Ashland Coffee and Tea House, a wonderful venue in Ashland, VA). I own a number of their CDs and plan to buy their latest CD release when they are here.

The Saturday evening performance will begin at 7:00 P.M. Donations will be accepted in appreciation of Mark and Stacey's efforts and talents. They also will be providing music and stories at our Sunday service the following day (different songs based around one or two of our UU principles).

I really would like the Saturday evening show to be a very successful event with attendance of lots of people from the community. I'll be spearheading our efforts with local newspaper advertising and creation of posters, flyers, etc. I'm counting on everyone's help with as much energetic and creative promotion as we can muster in getting the word out and getting flyers into the hands of everyone we know (and even those you don't know). We'll be needing lots of help in providing finger-food and beverages for the Saturday night event.

Please check the UUFR-VA website for information about the event.

Also, be sure to check out Stacey and Mark's website at <http://www.staceyandmark.com/> Click the "VIDEOS" link at the bottom of the left column to get a taste of what this lovely couple is like. If you click on their "Tour Dates" link, you'll find the UUFR-VA program has already been listed there.

Let's really make this a team effort and promote this event to not only introduce this couple's wonderful music to our community, but to introduce our Fellowship to our community as well.

UUFR-VA Business Cards

by Janet Hemming

Have you ever had someone ask you about the UUFR-VA? Did you want to give them information about the service or the website address so they could learn more about UU's?

The Membership Committee encounters this regularly when we meet in local restaurants. So we decided to make UUFR-VA business cards. We also will be using the cards when we do community outreach events, like the upcoming breakfast for the Yoga Retreat. These cards are on the sharing table – take a few to keep in your purse or wallet.

A Bay Center Event

The Bay Center will host a showing of "The Gifts of Grief," a short film/documentary looking at grief and loss in a unique and life giving way, on **Thursday, May 3, at 7:00 PM.** Suggested Donation: \$10

"A compelling documentary that explores how seven remarkable people embrace their pain, learn to live with their loss and now engage in life with more compassion, courage and awareness. The personal and moving stories include those of author, Isabel Allende, Rev. Cecil Williams, Film maker, Lee MNIun Wah and Zen Monk/Vietnam Veteran, Claude AnShin Thomas."

These real people share their life experiences from two points of view... *grief* and *gifts* and the result is very encouraging!

Please think of whom you might bring!

This film will be shown and discussion led by **The Rev. Karen Woodruff**

PRIVATE SHOWING FOR UUFR MEMBERS & INVITED GUESTS
FRIDAY NIGHT @ THE MOVIES

I AM: THE DOCUMENTARY

NOT RATED • 76 MINUTES • UUFR SANCTUARY
FRIDAY, MAY 18TH • DOORS CLOSE AT 7:15 P.M.

Live Simply so Others may Simply Live

Tom Shadyac, film maker (Ace Ventura, Nutty Professor, Bruce Almighty) suffered an injury that altered his sense of purpose. With a crew of 4, he set out to interview luminaries like **Desmond Tutu, Howard Zinn, Noam Chomsky & Thom Hartmann**. He asked them two practical and provocative questions: What's wrong with our world? & What can we do to make it better?

In witnessing his process, we discover what is right with the world.

BYO SNACK & DRINK
FREE* DONATIONS APPLIED
TOWARD THE FUNDING &
FACILITATION OF FUTURE
UUFR MULTIMEDIA EVENTS

366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA (804) 435-7577

Enjoy the Trailer: [Click Here](#)

Board of Stewards

Bob Weekley, President
 Bill Gimpel, Vice President
 Lynn Langley, Treasurer
 Kathy Duhon, Secretary

Web Site

<http://www.uufrappahannock.org>

<http://www.uufr-va.org>

Bob Prescott, Webmaster

Tom Kinney, Past President
 Shirley Kinney, Program Chair
 Janet Hemming and Marge Rowden,
 Membership Co-Chairs

Newsletter

Deadline for articles: 20th of the month

Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)