

THE CHALICE

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

May 2013

Fellowship Services

Fellowship services are held each **Sunday** at **10:30 A.M.** at 366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA.
Meditation is held each Sunday from 9:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. in the sanctuary.
All are welcome. Coffee and conversation follow the service.

Sunday Programs

May 5

Rev. Jennifer Ryu: "Prayer"

The act of prayer, according to Rev. Jennifer Ryu, is when the part of us that is mortal reaches out to the part of us that is divine. The topic promises a lively discussion.

* UU For Kids *

May 19

Cliff Schelling: "Why We Can't Talk About Sex, Politics, and Religion"

The purpose of this presentation is to explain why it is so difficult to discuss what matters most and what we can do about it.

May 12

Bob Weekley: Charter Sunday

Bob will lead a special service to honor our members who have passed away since the UU Fellowship of the Rappahannock's charter in 1999. The service also will include a formal dedication of the *Pathways of Remembrance*, the area we have designated to honor those departed members.

Our Fellowship has invited guests from the UU District organization as well as friends and family of the deceased. This will be a very special service of remembrance and fellowship. On this day we also will celebrate the Fellowship's fourteenth Charter Sunday.

A potluck luncheon will follow the service.

May 26

Donna Sequeira: "Remembering: Reflecting and Struggling on Memorial Day"

How do we honor military service while struggling with war and violence? What does it mean to re-member service while celebrating life? We will explore these and other questions about Memorial Day and service.

President's Corner

by Bob Weekley

The Meaning of Membership

I have found that people who are newly attracted to our congregation often describe the joy they experience in finding a community of like-minded (not same-minded) people on their spiritual journey, a place where they share common interests in wanting to be of service to the larger community and to work for social justice. I, too, have found a deep satisfaction in being a part of our Fellowship for these reasons.

Once a person begins to feel that sense that yes, indeed, they are in the right place, they start thinking about how they might participate. Among those who become regular attendees, there are two categories – “Members” and “Friends” of the Fellowship. Is there a difference? Many people who have not yet become members do participate with enthusiasm in the life and work of the Fellowship.

To me, the difference is that at some point, determined by the individual, she or he wants to personally identify with the mission, the goals, and the life of the Fellowship. They feel ready to say: “I’m with you. I want to pitch in, to stand with you, to commit to building this Fellowship as a permanent beacon of spiritual welcoming and community leadership in this region.”

In a fellowship that as yet has no professional minister, people who commit themselves as members are especially critical to the life and health of this organization. We need your ideas and your talents. We commit to doing it together. This is why it is so exciting when someone who has been attending comes forward and says: “I’m ready to identify with the UU Fellowship of the Rappahannock. I want to do what I can. I want to be a part of it.”

Yes, there are other benefits, such as being eligible to hold office, to vote on matters that come before the congregation, to be given a subscription to the *UU World* magazine, but in my mind, the major benefit is psychological – the joy of commitment.

Are there specific requirements for membership? According to our Bylaws: *Any person demonstrating an understanding of the Unitarian Universalist Living Tradition and striving to be in accord with the Unitarian Universalist Principles may join this Fellowship. Membership is initiated by signing the Membership Book and committing to participation in the Fellowship as an Active member as demonstrated by a contribution of time and/or money.* (The “Unitarian Universalist Living Tradition” and the UU Principles are found in the front of our hymnal, “Singing the Living Tradition.”)

If you have questions or would like to discuss membership further, please speak to me, or to Judi Caples, Membership Chair, or to any of our board members. All are welcome here!

— *Bob*

May 12th Potluck Luncheon

by Janet Hemming

This Charter Sunday we will be dedicating the *Pathways of Remembrance*. Family members and friends of the deceased and members of the UUA Southeast District have been invited to attend. A potluck luncheon will be held after the dedication, and we need your help in providing enough food for those who join us on this special day.

A sign-up sheet will be on the sharing table. The sheet will specify the type of dishes needed (entrée, vegetable, salad, etc.) We are asking that you volunteer to bring a dish or two.

Thanks for your help in making this a wonderful event for everyone to enjoy.

Phood and Philosophy

Tom and Shirley Kinney will host May's Phood and Philosophy, our monthly potluck and discussion, in their home on **Saturday, May 4th, at 5:30 P.M.**

The topic for the evening will be: *The First Four Years of Our Lives*. Let's share the circumstances of our first four years and any memorable parts thereof. Then, discuss how these years influenced the rest. Speculation is encouraged on how different experiences would have produced different results.

Please call or e-mail Tom and Shirley in advance so they know how many to expect. Please bring a dish and bottle to share.

The Eternal Question

by Shirley Kinney

Churches around the country ask themselves "The Question" every year. Unitarians are no exception. Will it happen? When will it happen?

The definitive answer for UUFR-VA is **Yes!** *This year it will happen.* Paula Greenwood says she is ready to head up yet another UUFR-VA yard sale. Yeah! We don't know when exactly, but sometime this summer.

So, save all those treasures in your attics and garages. They will be worth millions (or at least dollars) to someone. Watch this space for more details as they become known.

Let's Thank Ourselves

Due to your generosity, three projects are now completely funded: the assist rail up the entrance slope, enhancements to upgrade our hallway to serve also as an art gallery, and our gathering deck. Materials have been ordered. Watch for the progress by our volunteers as we continue to improve our building's accessibility, utility, and esthetics. The deck will need many willing and friendly hammer, shovel, and lifting hands. If you are able,

please let Dave Dustin know that you are willing to do your part.

Please thank yourself, and then remember to thank your fellow member for helping to fund these projects as well. If you get a blank stare, just remind that member that there will be future project opportunities.

Your Project Organizing Team: Dave Dustin, Bill Gimpel, Cliff Hemming, Janet Hemming, Tom Kinney, Bob Weekley.

Circle of Life

On the month's second **Wednesday, May 8th**, from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. at UUFR-VA, we will explore the first of *The Four Agreements* discussed by Don Miguel Ruiz in his book of the same name – "Be Impeccable With Your Word." Ruiz writes; "Speak with integrity. Say only what you mean. Avoid using the word to speak against yourself or to gossip about others. Use the power of your word in the direction of truth and love." New members are welcome. For more information, contact **Fran Schelling or Hank Stupi**.

You can watch a short video clip to stimulate some thinking at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIY9mFH5m8I>.

You can also read a short article that deals with this agreement at <http://www.toltecspirit.com/four-agreements/impeccable-word/>.

Lay-Pastoral Care Program

Challenges come our way in life. Some are manageable, while others leave us feeling very alone and overwhelmed. Lay-Pastoral Care will provide, upon request, personal & confidential support to those enduring grieving, illness, injury, disability, marital changes, unemployment, relocation, caregiving, isolation, inability to attend church or other life situations.

How Can You Receive Lay Pastoral Care?

Call one of our Lay-Pastoral Care Associates listed on the Programs tab of the website. Their numbers are in the UUFR-VA directory and this service is available to members of the Fellowship. There are no fees. This support is offered with strict confidentiality. **Bob Weekley**, our newest associate, has served as the president of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock for over five years. He is a retired military officer with degrees from West Point and American University. In addition to his military career he has been an educator and a business professional.

If you feel you would like to go outside of the Fellowship, a referral list of counselors is available upon request.

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 27: *Troubles* by J.G. Farrell

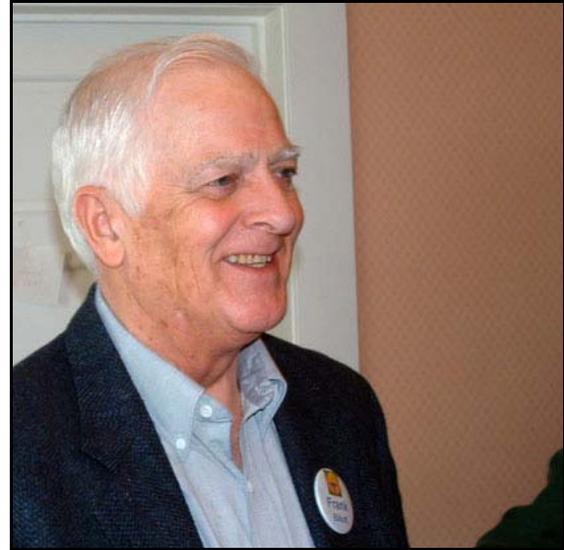
June 24: *36 Arguments for the Existence of God: A Work of Fiction* by Rebecca Goldstein

If you have a recommendation for a noteworthy book to discuss, please call or email the title to **Elaine Weekley**.

May's Sing Out

by **Diana Jamison**

May 26th is the fourth Sunday of the month — the date for our next exciting *Sing Out*. Bring your voices, instruments, songs, friends, and family. We will meet at UUFR-VA from **7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.** Call me if you need additional information.



Who's Who in UU: Frank Elliott

by **Eve Jordan**

Frank Elliott is one of the founding members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock. He heard about the initial meeting through a neighbor, who knew David Daugherty, who had the idea of a new UU Fellowship in the Northern Neck. Frank missed the first meeting. As luck would have it, his old Volvo would not start. His wife, Betsy, declared that *someone* was trying to send him a message. The second meeting was held at Ina Fuller's house, and he was in attendance. His rich singing voice is frequently heard on Sundays, and we are grateful when he is in attendance.

Music has been a large part of Frank's life, although from his education in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, this did not seem likely. There was no music education in his school at that time. He first picked a guitar at age six, but for many years, nothing more. After graduating from Boydton High School, Frank attended Smithdeal-Massey Business School in Richmond, and then enlisted in the United States Navy in 1951. He worked in naval aviation until 1954. During the summer of 1954, he took about ten trumpet lessons from a private tutor. He enrolled in the College of

William and Mary, where he graduated with a B.A. in Music in 1958. Frank then began his teaching career as a music teacher in Hampton. He returned to William and Mary in the summers of 1959 through 1963 to earn his M.Ed. in Guidance and Administration, while working in afternoons and evenings as a singer in *The Common Glory* and *The Founders*, both outdoor dramas. In 1964, Frank received a direct commission as a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the U.S. Navy Ready Reserves, Intelligence Division, was promoted to Lieutenant, and served until 1972 when he went into the inactive reserves.

In 1964, with his new Master's degree, Frank moved to Fairfax County Public Schools where he became a Guidance Counselor at Robert E. Lee High School. Continuing his upward trajectory, Frank worked with the Virginia Department of Education, Research Division, as Assistant Supervisor of Pilot Studies in 1965, and Supervisor of Statistical Studies from 1965 to 1967. He became the Guidance Director at Robert E. Lee High in August 1967 and then served as Director of Staff Development from October 1967 until 1972, after which he became Assistant Principal until 1974. He moved to Thomas Jefferson High School in 1974 and served as principal until 1981. In 1981 to 1982, Frank was the Acting Director of Student Services for Fairfax County. He then returned to Robert E. Lee High School as the principal. Frank retired from that position in 1988, having served public education in Virginia for 30 years. He filled out his education credentials by serving for four years on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and was the State Coordinator for Governance Affairs. He also served as a member of the Virginia Committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). After retirement, he became a lobbyist for the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals in the 1988 and

1990 sessions of the Virginia General Assembly.

So, after all of this activity and hard work, Frank and Betsy, his college sweetheart, moved to Kilmarnock in 1991. What a major change of pace! However, true to form, Frank participated in many community activities — including musicals and dramas at the Center for the Arts, the Lancaster Players, and church and community choirs. Notably, Frank was musical director and one of the three co-founders of the Northern Neck Bay Tones barbershop chorus. He served as Treasurer and Vice-President of the Northern Neck Computer Users Group and led sing-alongs at the Lancashire Nursing Home and other community groups. Owning and operating a counseling service called *Learning Lessons* (no longer active), Frank mentored and counseled school-age clients.

He and Betsy have three sons, David, Michael and John, two daughters-in-law, and seven grandchildren. Recently, Frank and Betsy relocated to Rappahannock Westminister-Canterbury to simplify life and make room for different activities. They have maintained their home in Kilmarnock for the children and grandchildren and their frequent visits. Frank, what a different place this would have been if the flooded engine in your car really was a *sign* and you had not come to the Unitarian Universalist birthing so many years ago. We are grateful that you made it! And the people of the state of Virginia are grateful for the difference you made in public education.

Sunday Bulletins

by Hank Stupi

The Sunday speakers have been really great about getting their information to me in advance. I'm finding that it works best for me to print the bulletins at the church on Sunday, one week before the service. Therefore, it is important for anyone with announcements to get them to me as soon as possible. In the

event of any last-minute announcement, you can always mention it during the service, though we are trying our best to keep the time spent on announcements on Sunday to a minimum. Your cooperation and understanding is appreciated. Thanks.

Universalist Convocation 2013

“Universalist Voices Then and Now”

will be hosted by Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church, 4408 NC Highway 111 North, Seven Springs, NC, **May 17 to 19, 2013**. Come to hear and learn:

- Fred Kiger - American Civil War lecturer, master story-teller, and author of Workman Publishing's Fandex Field Guide on the American Civil War and Clara Barton - Saturday morning
- Gordon Gibson - Judith Sargent Murray's place in our history - Friday night
- Eunice Benton - Carolina Industrial School and Shelter Neck Stories in the Chapel at Shelter Neck, the oldest Unitarian Church in North Carolina - Saturday afternoon
- Holly Lux-Sullivan - Assistant Minister, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Raleigh, Raleigh, NC - Sunday Morning - *A voice for the future*

Service Project - Please bring your old or unused eyeglasses to be donated to the Lion's Club.

[Registration form and other info here.](#)

SJ/CS Niche Progress

by Tom Kinney

The membership voted in December that they prefer our Social Justice/Community Service niche to address either poor nutrition and hunger or lack of socialization and pre-school among the very young — those trapped in generational poverty. Members of the work

group are studying root causes and researching operational issues, such as how to identify the children trapped in the poverty cycle, how to win parental support for participation, and what resources and organizations can partner with us toward this lasting improvement in our four-county community.

Dave Dustin, Eve Jordan, Mike Knez, and Lynn Langley have gathered information from Social Services, Head Start, and Title I in their respective counties. Wendy Mataya has developed opportunities with Montessori, including data on their success in Milwaukee Public Schools with at-risk children. Wendy has also explored Rural Virginia United Coalition connections and tapped into expertise with experience in Adult Ed among the Northern Neck incarcerated. Tom Kinney has acquired the results from Smart Beginnings extensive study, assessing the opportunities and overcoming challenges applicable to UUFR-VA's candidate niches.

We are discovering techniques to find the toddlers that are at risk. And have learned the Wiley Foundation funds programs to do something about it when those at-risk toddlers are found. Dave Dustin has worked with Head Start regional management to understand their screening, organizational, and financial issues. We have much more to learn before we can report the critical root causes that contribute to generational poverty and what we can do to free these children from that trap.

If you hear words of impatience, please remind all that Charlotte UU church took three years to carefully research and formulate the path forward for their niche. And they have over 600 members to draw upon to help in the studies. If you want to be a part of this niche information-gathering effort, please contact me to receive a question that needs answering or an opportunity to be explored.

A Love Songs Survey

Dear Lovers of Music,

September or October seems like very fine months to host a show for our UUFR-VA Fellows and Friends. Might you sing a song, recite a poem, play an instrument, help with food preparation, or general set-up? Please fill out this survey and return it to Diana Jamison by the end of May.

Possible Dates (Please circle dates that would work for you.)

Sept 14 Sept 21 Sept 28
Oct 19 Oct 26

Performing Interests (Please circle areas of interest.)

Sing a solo

Sing with another

Sing as a back-up singer

Play a musical instrument (list instrument: _____)

Recite a poem

Back Stage Help (Please circle how you might like to help.)

Setting-up/breaking-down stage, tables, and chairs

Setting-up sound system

Preparing and serving food

Coordinating reservations

Contact Information

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Just so you know

We have in mind a slate of love songs - but are open to the possibility of adding your favorite song or poem. The MC will be developing a script around our final selections. Once we have a list of performers, we will be working out the details.

Thanks,
Diana Jamison

Board of Stewards

Bob Weekley, President
Bill Gimpel, Vice President
Lynn Langley, Treasurer
Dave Dustin, Secretary

Caroline Shiflett, Past President
Shirley Kinney, Program Chair
Judi Caples, Membership Chair

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)