



# THE CHALICE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP  
OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (UUFV-VA)

P.O. Box 1266  
White Stone, VA 22578

August 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

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### August 4

**Sara Mackey:** “Who Gets to Play?”

As Unitarian Universalists, we value the individual search for truth and meaning, the individual inherent worth and dignity, the individual creating of an individual theology. What are the implications for a *community* of faith that so highly prizes the *individual*? Come join us as we explore these implications with our frequent contributor, Sara Mackey.

**\* UU For Kids \***

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### August 11

**Bill Gimpel:** “Our Dead Tree and the Web of Life”

UUFV-VA member Bill Gimpel urges all to explore the Seventh UU principle, “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” What does it really mean?

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### August 18

**Donna Sequeira:** “Revolutionizing Faith: What Home-Schooling Has Taught Me About Practice”

“Aren't all home-schoolers evangelical Christians?” “Does your child have friends?” “Do you follow a curriculum?” “Is there any testing?” “How will she or he know about the world?” These are questions that Donna Sequeira, former Social Justice Coordinator for the Southeast District of the UUA, has encountered during the three years that her family has been home-schooling. The answers to these questions, along with Donna's own reflection about the practice of home-schooling, may have some surprising implications for the practice of faith in our own communities.

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### August 25

**Mark Favazza:** “TBA”

## *President's Corner*

by Bob Weekley

### **Summer Happenings**

There is a lot of activity around UUFR-VA, despite the hot, humid days of summer. Thanks to abundant rain (so far), and our volunteers, the grounds are looking beautiful. Butterflies and birds are happily enjoying the beautiful flowers of the butterfly garden with its overhanging mimosa tree. Grass and weeds have been trimmed. And if you have not attended recently, the new Gathering Deck is nearing completion and new safety railings have been installed along the entrance walkway. Thanks for all of this to the many volunteers, especially Pam Collins, Dave Dustin, Tom Kinney, Mike Knez, Bill Gimpel, Don Lowrey, and Ronnie Cutler.

Ronnie Cutler, a rising senior at Lancaster High School, has taken on the creation of a pergola to cover the Gathering Deck as a project for his Eagle Scout qualification. He's raising money, working on the design, and leading the construction effort. When completed, the deck will have sun deflectors overhead to add to its usability by the congregation and the yoga classes. Thanks, Ronnie! And thanks to his brother, Roman, who has helped Ronnie with the money-raising.

Even during the summer doldrums, our book group has continued to flourish, the ladies luncheons are in full swing, and attendance remains strong. Importantly, the Fellowship is continuing with the imagining and development of our community service "niche." Kristi VanAudenhove led the latest Sunday workshop on sharing the research by our members to focus on the opportunities.

In June, I attended General Assembly (GA-13), the annual conference of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. When I try to give a report about this dynamic five-day conference of thousands of

enthusiastic "UUs" gathering to worship, and plan, and celebrate, and learn, and just be together, I don't know where to start. The most helpful thing I can say is: you have to experience it to understand it.

At GA, from 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. each day there is an amazing range of valuable and relevant workshops and activities for every special interest in the UU community. You will experience great singing and celebration, all interspersed with plenary sessions to democratically advance the ideals, the work, and the goals of the UUA. It was especially gratifying to see a large contingent of teen and young adult UUs having a great time and representing the future of our faith. For details on specific achievements and results of GA-13 take a look at <http://www.uua.org> and see "General Assembly." I have no hesitation in recommending that every member consider attending at least one of these wonderful conferences. Next June, GA will be held in Providence, Rhode Island.

*-Bob*

### **Return of the Book Sale**

by Shirley Kinney

The UUFR-VA Book Sale is over — for now. The unsold books have been put into temporary storage, but will come back for a repeat performance at our Fall Rummage Sale in September. The sale earned \$104.50 for our UUFR-VA Endowment Fund to help sustain our funds to keep our Fellowship operating.

Now's the time to look over your own library and donate any unwanted books to our ongoing Amazon book sale. Bring your books to me to sell for our Fellowship.

## Phood and Philosophy

Phood and Philosophy, our monthly get-together for phun, phood, and philosophical meandering, will be held on **Saturday, August 10**, from **5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**, at the home of **Elaine and Bob Weekley**.

The topic is: **Prayer**. According to new research by the Pew Research Center, "...of those who say they don't believe in God — not all call themselves 'atheists' — 12 percent say they pray." What do you call prayer? Do you pray? Why, or why not? If you pray, how do you pray — and to whom? A recent article in *The Washington Post* features an atheist who prays, with his family, several times a day and describes how prayer has affected his life.

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/on-faith/wp/2013/07/23/the-power-of-positive-praying-even-for-atheists/> ]

Everyone is welcome. Please bring a dish, your favorite beverage, and your ideas to share. And please RSVP so they know how many to expect.

## Reported With Sadness

by **Bob Weekley**

**Ralph Brainard** passed away on June 30<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey, where he and his wife, Audrey, had moved to be closer to family. Ralph and Audrey were Charter Members of the UU Fellowship of the Rappahannock. They played an important role in organizing the UUFV-VA, they donated to purchase our land, and they were major contributors to the construction of our beautiful building. Audrey conceived of the lovely butterfly garden, and she and Ralph cultivated it into existence. We miss them both and will always appreciate their legacy here on the Northern Neck. Audrey sent the following note:

*Ralph was born September 17, 1929. He was born at home and always felt he had come a far way from his entry into the world having traveled, sailed, and researched the things he loved most. The service will be at our former church, where I have been going, at 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 10th. He had a smile on his face as he greeted the staff the morning he passed, and the end came fast. He was a great man and will be missed by many.*

**Dorothy Hackney**, mother of Judi Caples passed away on July 20<sup>th</sup> at the age of 93. She had become seriously ill recently, and Judi was able to be with her. We send our condolences to Judi and her family members who remember her with great love.

## Bay Center Evenings

The monthly 'An Evening With ...' series will run from August through November, 7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Each evening will include the presentation with discussion and conclude with refreshments and socializing. The suggested donation is \$10. An RSVP is appreciated but not required.

**Thursday, August 8** at 7:00 P.M.

An Evening With Susan Hice, *Storytelling*

Susan will tell a story and then discuss the many interpretations of the events within.

**September 12** - An Evening With Sue & Rick Johnson, *Grandloving*

**October 10** - An Evening With Cliff Schelling, *Why we can't talk about politics, sex or religion.*

**November 7** - An Evening With Diana Jamison, *My Journey as an Artist*

## Our Eagle Scout

by Tom Kinney

Scouting has been the premier organization turning youngsters into leaders since 1907. A number of members of our Fellowship have a background in Scouting, including time as Scout leaders. We have all been proud of our own Ronnie Cutler, who has an outstanding academic record, as well as excelling in sports at Lancaster High School. You probably recall Ronnie playing classical piano for our Sunday morning services. And now we are pleased to announce that Ronnie is a candidate for Scouting's highest honor, Eagle Scout. A public service project within the community is one of the requirements. Ronnie has chosen the pergola to shade our new Gathering Deck as his Eagle Scout project.

His project must contain many critical elements — planning, design, costing, fund-raising, recruiting volunteer help, and organizing the work party to a successful completion. Ronnie's design has been approved by UUFV-VA's Board. If you are willing and able, please reserve some time the week of August 18<sup>th</sup> to team up with members of Ronnie's troop to build the pergola. Let's all help him be successful with this project and thank our pending Eagle Scout for providing his church with shade for the Gathering Deck for generations to come.

## Preparing for the Yard Sale

by Paula Greenwood

We are having a yard sale on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. You may bring items to the sanctuary beginning Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Start cleaning out your closets, attics, and garages now! More details will be in next month's Chalice and future Sunday bulletins. Please call me with any questions.

## Gathering Music

by Hank Stupi

We recently introduced Gathering Music as a prelude to our Sunday services. Plans are to continue.

Around 10:25 A.M. each Sunday, we will be closing the doors to the sanctuary and will enjoy some music together before the ringing of the gong at 10:30 A.M. The music will be primarily instrumental, sometimes recorded, but live whenever possible. Possibilities include piano by Shirley Kinney, Eva Abel, and Ronnie Cutler; guitar by Hank Stupi, Cliff Schelling, Frank Elliott, and Marjie Sabo; flute by Eva Abel and Terri Watson; cello by David Duhon; and more.

If you'd like to play something, please don't hesitate to contact me. I hope that everyone enjoys the experience and finds it a welcome addition to our Sunday programming.

## 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:

**August 26:** *Sweet Tooth* by Ian McEwan

**September 26:** *Trespass* by Rose Tremain

**October 28:** *The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes

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

## **Time to Sign Up!**

by Shirley Kinney

Our 2013 holiday retreat in Virginia Beach — which runs from Sunday, **October 13<sup>th</sup>**, to Tuesday, the **15<sup>th</sup>** — is all set to go and ready for all to have fun. Walking in the sand, eating, picking up shells, reading a book, eating, swimming, talking with good friends, eating, relaxing, even transforming meditations are all on the agenda. Plus, there will be some very intriguing discussions and activities in the atrium, planned by our Retreat Committee. There's also a great Ben and Jerry's to enjoy. (Did I mention the eating?)

The theme of our retreat this year is "Addressing the last taboo — with a laugh, a wink, and a nod." Does that make you curious? Come and see what it's all about! That's all we're going to tell you ahead of time.

The venue is the Seaside Motel, right on the sea, in downtown Virginia Beach — handy for walking to restaurants or shops, and certainly to the beach. It's a family-owned motel — not plush, but cozy. This is our third year enjoying this place, so you can see how much we like it. Cost is \$70 per night for a standard room — efficiency units are available for \$10 more daily. Sorry, no pets.

Please sign up on the poster display in the UUFR-VA foyer and join the group. Then, call the motel (800-348-7263) to make your reservations. Mention that you are with the UUFR-VA group.

See you there!

## **Our Ten-Year Vision**

by Kristi VanAudenhove

Join our next meeting after the service on August 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the UUFR-VA "niche" in our community — how will the community be different in ten years as a result of the work that we do to address intergenerational poverty? We'll reach agreement on the ten-year vision and chart out the first two years of this journey. All are welcome. A light lunch will be provided as we do our work. August 4<sup>th</sup> is a Children's Program Sunday — if you plan to attend the Niche Meeting and will have a child (or two or three!) with you, please let me know and I'll work on a plan for something fun that the kids can do while the adults are involved in meeting and planning.

## **Butterfly Club News**

by Diana Jamison

UUFR-VA Singers and Players will perform Love and Love Gone Wrong Songs at The Butterfly Club on Saturday evening, October 26<sup>th</sup>. The doors will open at 7:30 P.M. The performance starts at 8:00 P.M. Wine, beer, soda, and coffee will be served at the cash bar in the lobby. After-dinner noshes will be served at your table. We are offering ticket sales early to fund the event. Any additional funds collected will be given to UUFR-VA and used for the work of the congregation.

Seating at The Butterfly Club, located at UUFR-VA, will be limited to 55. Make your reservations as early as August 1<sup>st</sup> by contacting Thea Marshall. Ticket cost is \$15.

# Come To The Show

Saturday  
October 26, 2013  
7:30 PM

Fun Frolic and Song  
Dessert  
Cash Bar

Tickets  
\$15



Cabaret

At

The Butterfly Club

Hosted By

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock  
366 James Wharf Road, White Stone, VA

## 2013

Love Songs and Love Gone  
Wrong Songs performed by  
UUFR Singers and Players.

Seating is limited.

Reserve your place at the table today  
by contacting Thea Marshall  
at 804-438-6608 or [theamarshall@verizon.net](mailto:theamarshall@verizon.net)

**Board of Stewards**

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

Caroline Shifflett, 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: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month  
Bob Prescott, Editor (editor@uufrappahannock.org)