



## UUFS Newsletter – July 2011

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF STATESBORO

An independent congregation affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association since 1990

Services are held every Sunday at 10:30 AM at 609 East Grady Street.



#### Sunday Services

10:30 - 11:30 AM: *worship service*  
11:30 AM: *refreshments/social break*  
11:45 AM -NOON: *adult "talk-back"*  
(*group discussion on sermon topic*)

#### July 3

##### What Patriotism Means to Me

A panel of members shares this topic for Independence Day Weekend, featuring Beth Butterfield and Matthew Kleinsorge. Special music by Kevin Crabtree.  
Shari Barr

#### July 10

##### What Nurtures Shari's Spirit

Shari Barr

#### July 17

##### To Be Of Use

Rev. Jane uses a special reading from the back of our hymnal to bring a message in our "What Nurtures Your Spirit" series  
Rev. Jane Page

#### July 24

##### Music Nurtures

Jason Blizzard provides a program of music and word in our "What Nurtures Your Spirit" series.  
Jason Blizzard



#### Adult Religious Education

UU Philosophy Group – July 10, 7pm

*\*topic: Spirituality*

Evensong – July 10, 5pm

#### Children's RE News

\*Children's RE *WILL NOT* meet during the summer.

\*Childcare *WILL* continue to be provided during services.

\*Children's RE will resume in August, led by our NEW Director of Religious Education, Jason Blizzard. See page 5 for more information.

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**Ric Stewart** Accepts Administrative Position  
by Jane Page

We are pleased to announce that Ric Stewart has accepted our offer to become our new Administrative Assistant. Ric is replacing Shay – who is undergoing treatment for a back injury.

We are delighted that Ric Stewart has joined our UUFS family to help out with many secretarial and administrative activities. Some of us know Ric from his volunteer activity in other progressive community organizations and have appreciated his dedication, organization, and hard work. Ric is a college student studying migrant education and also serves in a ministerial capacity with an area Primitive Baptist Church. His leadership in community organizations and the administrative and computer skills he has gained with this work should be an excellent asset for his work with us. Ric is from Lyons, GA but has Bulloch County roots. Ric will usually be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 to 2 each week – and will work an additional two hours on a flexible schedule. If you need to work with him on a project, you can contact him at [StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com) or [ric\\_stewart90@hotmail.com](mailto:ric_stewart90@hotmail.com). Please join us in welcoming Ric Stewart to this position! And congratulate him on his first newsletter!

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**Feeding Statesboro!**

THANK YOU, UUFS Team, for the GREAT job you did on June 21<sup>st</sup> feeding 80+ folks some delicious food at Rebecca's Cafe soup kitchen. Dixie Aubrey was chief cook, and Uma Steinhauer helped with advance cooking. Dee, Annalycia & Natasha delivered bread donated by Sugar Magnolia Bakery. Other UUs lending helping hands included Paul Ziegler, Mary Margaret, Bill Herring and our new Admin Asst. Ric Stewart. We also had several GSU college students (Marvin, Junior, Shantel, Merry, Erin and others) who showed up, as well as community regulars Gwen, Mary, Louiser and dessert ladies Catherine and Bonnie. Donna Jones, Nancy Herring, Rick and Shari cooked two bushels of Relinda's beautiful organic squash and onions, and that was popular. Left-over bread was taken to the Food Bank to be distributed. Cookie Cutter Bakery donated cookies, which supplemented canned peaches as dessert. There were many smiling faces walking out that door on June 21<sup>st</sup>, thanks to these folks. If you can help in July, the date is July 19<sup>th</sup>. Email Rev. Jane Page to volunteer. With summer travel some of our regulars are out of town. Extra hands are always welcome!

**WANT TO HELP?  
JOIN US, TUESDAY, July 19<sup>th</sup> FROM  
10AM TIL 2PM AT REBECCA'S CAFÉ**





Jane leading Homily on Memorial Day



Chase, Grace and Matilda leading the labyrinth walk



Rev. Jane with children hiking to the pool

Diving into summer on the diving board





## **Shari Sharing** What Matters

By: Shari Barr

I'm writing hurriedly this month from the CyberCafe at General Assembly in Charlotte, NC. I'm very pleased to tell you that I attended the Friday morning plenary session, and joined the overwhelming majority of UU delegates who voted YES, adopting our denomination's proposed Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice Statement. That Statement of Conscience begins, "Aware of our interdependence, eating ethically requires us to be mindful of the miracle of life we share with all beings. With gratitude for the food we have received, we strive to choose foods that minimize harm and are protective of the environment, consumers, farmers, and all those involved in food production and distribution." Amen! and May it Be So.

Another highlight of our General Assembly experience today was attending the Rally in support of LGBT civil rights in North Carolina. Hundreds of us marched several blocks from the Convention Center downtown to Marshall Park where we heard UUA President Rev Peter Morales' exhortations to continue to stand on the side of love. He was joined at the podium by Lutheran ministers, a rabbi and many others. Despite a sudden thunderstorm, Statesboro UUs stood on the side of love. Ask for details from any of the UUFS delegation, when we return. We are Rev. Jane Page, Greg Brock, Kate Beck, Beth Butterfield and Matilda, Lori Criswell, Virginia Fuller, Bill Herring, Sharon Rowe, Steven Rowe, Leon Spencer and me. Wish you were here!!

Love,  
Shari



Father's Day Altar

## Children's Affirmation on Father's Day



## **DO YOU LIKE TO SING?**

The Fellowship Singers have fun planning, rehearsing, and singing. We usually rehearse on two Wednesday evenings a month (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) and gather at 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings to run through the offertory and hymns for that day.



Would you like to join us?  
If you'd like to know more, please contact  
Miriam Bryant  
([StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com) with  
Miriam Bryant in the subject line).



### **Ministerial MUUsings**

#### **My General Assembly Testimony**

Jane Page, July 2011

*Introduction: A couple of days before I was to arrive in Charlotte for some ministerial training, I received a special "late request" from Annette Marquis, our district executive. She and other district executives in the Southland Region were scheduled to do a program on Friday afternoon entitled, "Turn the World Around – the South can Lead Us!" And she said that since they need to "liven it up some" they were asking a few others to share a song or story or something. I told her I would share my "testimony" – with a humorous bend to it. If you came to my sermon on laughter, you'll recognize some of this.*

I was born in Statesboro, Georgia in 1950. (Go ahead – do the math.) And like many of you – I was born with a questioning mind. Now that could sometimes be problematic for a girl back then in the South – but question I did. I remember when I was 5 or 6, standing in the line at the Dairy Queen with my dad, waiting to get a cone. I asked "Daddy, why are all of the white people in our line and all of the colored people in the other line?"

Daddy explained it this way, "Well, Jane – we are white – so we stand in this line to get vanilla ice cream. And the colored folks stand in the other line to get chocolate ice cream." Of course, I immediately told him that I wanted chocolate. And he said, "No, you are white, so you get vanilla. That's just the way it is and you have to accept it." Well, I didn't realize that vanilla was the only flavor served at Dairy Queen. (That was even in the days before dipped cones.) But his unusual answer stuck with me. And it has served as a metaphor for what happened in my life. Indeed, I TRIED to just accept some things that didn't make sense to me – because that was "the way it is."

But I still couldn't help questioning some things. When I was 11 or 12, I became dissatisfied with the responses to my questions given by my Baptist Sunday School teachers. So I decided to take matters into my own hands and read the whole Bible for myself. (Okay – I scanned over the "begats.") And a lot of what I had been taught about the Bible just didn't jive with what all I was reading. Plus – while the Bible has some really good stories – there's some strange stuff in there! And that idea of liberal interpretation and biblical authority just didn't fit into my heretical brain.

However, I closeted my doubts and disbeliefs enough to get along okay then – and later – when in my 20's and 30's – enough so I wasn't too far out of line as a deacon's wife. But I kept reading (all kinds of materials) and had this alternative religious life that was going on in the "holy of holies" in our home – behind the locked bathroom door, where I kept my contraband reading materials in that most sacred of places – hidden in the drawer under the feminine sanitary supplies. I did not hear about Unitarian Universalism till I was in my 40's – and I heard about you folks from a TV program on a cable channel and thought, "WOW – there are others out there!" So I ordered some UU materials – hoping they would come in a plain brown wrapper. In any case, I kept those with my other contraband reading materials, in the holy of holies – glad to have that study time alone, but longing to be with others.

Long story short though – through a series of fortunate events in my late 40's; I finally had the freedom to be me. And I became a Unitarian Universalist!! Hallelujah!

Of course, some of my relatives were worried about me – and one asked, "But are UU's saved?" To which I responded, "We are not LOST - we're exploring." Of course, that's a UU joke – and I've found – actually – that there can be a lot of truth found in these jokes. And in fact, they may be a good way of evangelizing.

We could put an ad in the paper to help folks find out if they are UUs...kind of like the guy – Jeff Foxworthy, who helped folks understand whether or not they were red-necks. For example,

If you are unsure about the gender of God,

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

If you begin your prayers with "To whom it may concern,"

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

If you gave up pot in the 70's because no one could guarantee it was organic,

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

If your teens rebel by becoming more conservative,

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

If you get Newt Gingrich confused with the Grinch who Stole Christmas,

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

If you've ever been in an argument over whether or not breast milk is vegan,

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

AND -If your children think the holy trinity is "Reduce, reuse, and recycle."

*You might be a Unitarian Universalist.*

Yes, our children get a different view of things than those in more conservative religions. An older neighbor, trying to be helpful, said to a little UU girl, "I know you're sad, but right now your kitty cat is with Jesus."

To which the child replied, "What would Jesus want with a dead cat?"

Well, I don't know what Jesus might want with a dead cat – but I do know that my friend Jesus said that we should not hide our lights under a bush, we should let them shine.

And for UUs in the South – (and you Yankees too) – that means we need to come on out – and reach out to others who are perhaps hiding behind locked bathroom doors – they are there folks – and invite them into our circle of loving light – and together we will SHINE!



Rebecca Ziegler leading the Annual Blessing of the Animals service.

### **Year Round Worship Services!**

For several years we've had more informal gatherings in the summer which did not necessarily include the traditional elements of a worship service – including music. However, the program committee has announced that beginning this summer, we will have worship services in the summer as well, complete with hymn singing and special music. Join us for worship at 10:30 every Sunday morning – all year round!



### **FELLOWSHIP EVENTS**

- **Sundays at 9:45AM** – choir practice at our UUFS building
- **Monday, July 5th – 6:30PM** – Board meeting at our UUFS building
- **Sunday, July 10 – 7:00-9:00PM** - UU Philosophy group, “Spirituality” (UUFS Building)
- **Wednesday, July 13 – 12 NOON** – UU Guy’s Lunch, Latte Da on South Main, coordinated by Greg Brock.
- **Tuesday, July 19 - 10:00AM - 2:00PM** – UU serves at Rebecca’s Café
- **Sunday, July 21 – 5:00PM** – August newsletter deadline



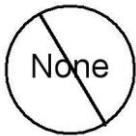
### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- **October 8** – Cluster Workshop, Charleston, SC



## GIVING

Are you UU AND active faculty/staff at GSU? You can give to UU Campus Ministry in late August during the "Day for Southern Campaign." This tax deductible payroll deduction goes to GSU foundation account 0839 that supports UU students. For example, we are using last year's money to fund registration and hotel for 4 students participating in GA this year in Charlotte. So please mark your calendar for late August.



**BAR NONE:  
Open to All  
Who Are Open to All**

*Look for us to start up again in the fall!*

**Sponsored by: the Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry  
Campus advisor: Dr. Greg Brock**



## July Birthdays!

***Happy Birthday to:***

- Judith Longfield – July 1
- Grace S. – July 3
- Spike Jones – July 4
- Caren Town – July 8
- Heath A. – July 12
- Debbie Campbell – July 12
- Jon Bryant – July 16
- Jonathan D. – July 20
- Elizabeth deWester – July 21
- Mary Margaret Jones – July 23
- Laura Shelton – July 24
- Bob DeLaar – July 28
- Betsy Nichols – July 30

*\*initials are used for children's last names for privacy reasons.  
(apologies to anyone we missed)*

*If you know of anyone in the congregation who has a special joy, concern, or illness, please contact  
MARTHA HUGHES,  
Care-Ring Coordinator  
(StatesboroUU@yahoo.com  
with Martha Hughes in the subject line).*



## A NOTE FROM REV JANE...

This summer, starting July 10, I plan to facilitate a small group using UUA's Evensong materials. These materials were developed by Barbara Hamilton Holloway for eight gatherings of small group worship and sharing. The group that forms would be a "covenant group" that remains together throughout the 8 gathering series. This may be especially good for new folks who want to get to know others better -- but it's open to all. If you have already done Evensong I -- and want to do it again, that is fine.... but, let me know that so that I can give others the first openings for this. We will meet 5:00 on July 10. To RSVP, email or call Rev. Jane.



# General Assembly

The Unitarian Universalist Association held its 50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Charlotte, NC from June 22 – 26. Attendees from UUFS include Shari Barr, Bill Herring, Steven Rowe, Sharon Rowe, Jane Page, Greg Brock, Beth Butterfield (with Matilda), Lori Criswell, Virginia Fuller, Kate Beck, and Leon Spencer.



### What Do Unitarian Universalists Believe?

While Unitarian Universalists have their individual beliefs about a number of things-- including God, *The Bible*, Jesus, the earth, death, prayer, and ritual--they are united in their beliefs that all people are inherently worthy; that we should work for a peaceful, just world; that we should continue to question and search for the truth; and that we should cherish the earth and all its inhabitants.



### Fellowship Calendar On-line

The church calendar is now on-line at <http://www.uustatesboro.org>. This is the most up-to-date source for Fellowship events.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS AT OUR UUFS BUILDING

Monday Evenings - Love and Tolerance AA Meeting  
Thursday Evenings - Primary Purpose AA Meeting  
Saturday Mornings - Primary Purpose AA Meeting



### Joining Our Fellowship

Voting membership in our UUFS congregation is open to interested friends who have read our by-laws and are

- 16 years of age or older,
- in sympathy with the purposes and principles of Unitarian Universalism, and
- actively contributing to the life of the Fellowship through regular attendance, service, and/or financial support.

For more information, contact  
**Membership Chair June Hackle**  
(StatesboroUU@yahoo.com with June Hackle in the subject line) or Rev. Jane Page  
(revjanepage@yahoo.com or 764-7845).

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF STATESBORO

P. O. Box 2453  
(609 East Grady Street)  
Statesboro, GA 30459  
(912) 489-8338

**UUFS has been an independent congregation affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association since 1990.**

Visit the UUFS home page, with links to the Thomas Jefferson District and UUA web pages:

<http://www.uustatesboro.org>

### MINISTER INFORMATION

#### Minister: Reverend Jane Page

Call home phone (912-764-7845) or cell phone (912-682-3566) and leave a message:  
-to make an appointment,  
-to schedule longer telephone visits,  
-for pastoral care emergencies (anytime).  
e-mail: revjanepage@yahoo.com

Office hours: Call for an appointment

### ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT

#### Administrative Consultant: Ric Stewart

e-mail: StatesboroUU@yahoo.com; 489-8338 (UUFS phone)

### Director of Religious Education

#### DRE: Jason Blizzard

e-mail: jasonblizzard@gmail.com; 489-8338 (UUFS phone)

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### President: Shari Barr

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Vice-President (Membership): June Hackle

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Secretary: Steven Rowe

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Treasurer: Bill Herring

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Past President: Teresa Winn

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

### USEFUL CONTACTS

#### Building and Grounds Committee Chair: Rodney Fowler

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Care-Ring Coordinator: Martha Hughes

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Religious Education: Beth Butterfield

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

#### Hospitality Committee: Paul Ziegler

StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

#### Editor: Dee Liston

The deadline for the monthly newsletter is nine days before the end of the month. Please send submissions to joy4education@yahoo.com or StatesboroUU@yahoo.com

