



UUPS Newsletter – April 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 - 12:30 PM: religious education for children
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM: adult "talk-back"
(group discussion on sermon topic)

April 3

“Heaven or Hell: Up, Down or Right Here”

(Service will feature music by SHS honor student and guitarist Laura Gonzalez.)

Speaker: Peter Lanzilotta
Guest Minister

April 10

9:00 AM: Serenity Service - 10:30 AM: Regular Service

“Let Your Body Learn to Bend”

(The service today will celebrate our miraculous, resilient yet imperfect human bodies.)

Rev. Jane Page

April 17

“Dr. Livingstone”

(Dr. Fisher provides an exploration of this famous Congregationalist missionary and explorer of Africa.)

Speaker: Donna Fisher
Associate Professor Economics, GSU
Member Savannah UU church

April 24 – Annual Easter Service

9:00 AM: Serenity Service - 10:30 AM: Regular Service

“Morning Star Comes Out at Night”

(Rev. Jane’s short homily will be followed by our annual Flower Communion, Refreshments, Patio Music and Egg Hunt after the 10:30 service.)

Rev. Jane Page



Children’s Religious Education

Little Kids: (2-5 years old)

*April 3: Buddhist Water Festivals (with Abby T) --
PLAN TO GET WET, BRING TOWELS AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES

*April 10: Jesus and the Story of Easter (with Beth B)

*April 17: Namaste - the light in me says hello to the light in you (with Beth B)

*April 24: Easter Egg Hunt

Big Kids: (1st-5th grade)

*April 3: Buddhist Water Festivals (with Beth B) --
PLAN TO GET WET, BRING TOWELS AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES

*April 10: Jesus and the Story of Easter (with Beth B)

*April 17: Ifa, an African Religion from Benin (with Sara B.)

*April 24: Easter Egg Hunt

Youth Group (6th-12th grade) –

Facilitator Kate Beck

Adult’s Religious Education

What Moves Us Series – UUPS, Sundays, 5-6:30pm

*April 10 – Sophia Lyon Fahs

*April 24 – James Luther Adams

Great Decisions - April 3

Welcoming Congregation Workshops – UUPS

*April 17 – 5:00-7:00pm

Transgender Experiences, led by Rev. Jane with special guest Barbara D.

*May 15, 5:00-7:00pm

What now? Moving Forward as a Congregation led by Dee L. and Chris B.



Shari's Sharings

By: Shari Barr

Are you a Chalice Lighter? No, I don't mean taking a turn lighting our flaming chalice on Sunday morning. I mean, have you pledged to support other UU congregations in our district, when their application for district-wide support has been approved? Those of us who have made this pledge get a letter in the mail, either once, twice or three times a year. The letter tells us about a sister congregation who is trying to grow Unitarian Universalism in their area. We respond by sending however much money we can, to support that project. I pledged the minimum of \$10 per call. When I get a call letter, I am obligated to send my \$10. If I am able, and particularly if the Call is for a project which appeals to me, I send more. I know, though, that I am only obligating myself for a maximum of \$30 per year.

A recent TJ Update included a listing of the sixty-two congregations in our district, showing membership figures and number of chalice lighters for each congregation. The range was from zero to 92%. With ten Chalice Lighters as of February 1, we were listed as having 17% of our membership as Chalice Lighters.

I confess that I joined out of self-interest. When I first heard of Chalice Lighters, we were dreaming of moving from renting GSU classroom space to finding a building to be our church home. UUs who were better informed than I, told us about the Chalice Lighter program, and that our congregation could apply for help to purchase a building. Several of us joined, thinking it would look better to ask for help if we were already helping others. Sure enough, when we built our building, we applied for and received a Chalice Lighter grant which helped reduce our initial debt on our Fellowship building.

Since then, I have found it very gratifying to contribute my little bit, every time a Call comes, knowing I am helping other UUs accomplish their dreams for our faith. I invite you to consider becoming a Chalice Lighter. Please ask me or Greg Brock about it, or just visit www.tjdistrict.org and click on Chalice Lighters. Thanks for all you do for Unitarian Universalism.

Love, Shari



Dedicating a Hymnal

You may have noticed that many of our hymnals have labels in the front dedicating them to someone special. If you would like to provide our congregation with a hymnal and dedicate it in honor or memory of someone, please provide information at the hymnal sign-up sheet near the hymnal rack in the sanctuary. You can also purchase a personal hymnal if you'd like to have one at home. The hymnals are \$28 plus shipping. If we order \$10, the shipping amounts to \$2 each, for a total of \$30 per hymnal. We'll order these when we have 10 on the list.

Thanks for considering this opportunity.

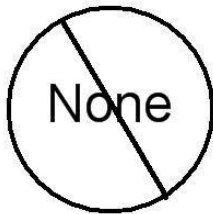
Great Decisions Group to Meet on First Sundays

Good News! Bert and Al Raulerson have offered to coordinate the Great Decisions Group. This group uses materials from the Foreign Policy Association to discuss current issues of concern to policy makers. The 2011 materials include the following topics.

- Rebuilding Haiti
- U.S. National Security
- Horn of Africa
- Responding to the Financial Crisis
- Germany Ascendant
- Sanctions and Nonproliferation
- The Caucasus
- Global Governance

We are ordering 10 copies of the book, which you may purchase for \$20. Those not purchased will be placed in our library and members and friends may check them out – returning them in a timely manner so others can read them as well. The first meeting will be April 3 at 5 p.m. at our fellowship building.

BAR NONE: Open to All Who Are Open to All



Join us each 2nd Wednesday at 6:30PM at Latte Da. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea as we explore theology, cosmology, philosophy, and life.

Topic for April 13: “ God and Coffee”
Enjoy a cup of Joe on Jane and share your thoughts about God.

Facilitated by Jane Page

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



Note – Dates, times, and topics of future
Welcoming Congregation Events:

April 17, 5 to 7 p.m., Transgender Experiences
May 15, 5 to 7 p.m., What Now? Moving Forward as a Congregation.

General Assembly 2011

June 22-26, Charlotte, North Carolina

General Assembly (GA) 2011 in Charlotte will mark the 50th anniversary of the merger of the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America.

Join thousands of fellow Unitarian Universalists from across the country as we remember the persons and events that brought into being the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in May 1961, to reflect on our denomination's relevant achievements and struggles since then, and to chart new aspirations for the future we are determined to shape.

Experience wonderful and uplifting worship services—morning and night—led by some of our best worship leaders, with glorious music and inspiring messages.

Participate in our democratic process. General Assembly is the way that our faith does business, bringing together the distinctive character of our individual congregations.

Hear terrific speakers, including this year's Ware lecturer, Karen Armstrong. There will be hundreds of dynamic, entertaining programs and informative workshops.

Connect with craftspeople and artisans, social action groups, professional and educational resources, theological schools, UUA organizations and staff, Beacon Press, and the UUA Bookstore in the General Assembly Exhibit Hall.

Network with other congregation leaders, share best practices, and learn from one another. Return to your congregation reinvigorated and inspired to put your values to work.

Go to <http://uua.org/ga> for more information.

WANT TO GO WITH A GROUP? The UU Campus Ministry hopes to reserve a Georgia Southern van for (students as well as our members) to leave on Thursday evening or Friday and return on Sunday. You would therefore register for only Friday and Saturday, since the Sunday morning worship service is open to the public. Email Greg Brock, our new campus advisor, at gbrock@georgiasouthern.edu, if you are interested in going with this group.



Children's Party Bonfire – February 25, 2011



For Chalice-Lighters, Small Gifts Add Up to Big Support

from tjdistrict.org website

A Chalice Lighter is a person who pledges to respond with a contribution when the call comes that it's time to light a chalice within the Thomas Jefferson District. Calls support specific growth initiatives in individual TJ District congregations. Individual UUs sign up, pledging to respond when the call comes. No more than three times a year (July-June), chalice-lighters receive a letter explaining who has applied for a call and what the funds will be used for.

The Chalice Lighter Committee of the Growth and Development Council awards grants to congregations to encourage growth of Unitarian Universalism in the Thomas Jefferson District. Grants are awarded for both traditional and innovative growth projects. Examples include traditional grant projects as well as innovative projects. Traditional projects have been Calling a minister, hiring RE professional, volunteer coordinator, music director, other staff; buying building or land; leasing building or land; constructing new building or renovating existing one; or establishing a campus ministry. Innovative growth projects have included new signage or other ways to increase visibility; innovative adult or youth programming; video broadcasting of program(s); innovative advertising or community relations, including new web sites; satellite or branch church startup; outreach program to enhance diversity in congregation; two or more congregations working together.

The TJD Chalice Lighter program was created in 1987 and has grown into one of the largest Chalice Lighter programs in the UUA. About half our calls help congregations obtain or settle their first minister. The other calls help to build facilities. A few congregations have gotten a boost when constructing all-new church homes, but most of the calls were for much needed, but more modest renovations of newly purchased properties. Many of these projects were done, at least in part, by the members themselves; Chalice Lighters provided the building materials.

Pooling hundreds of checks of \$10, \$15, \$25 and more, has meant a lot to quite a few of our neighboring congregations since 1988, but opportunities for growth still abound in our district and the continued support of Chalice Lighters is critical. You can become a TJD. Chalice Lighter and help spread the light of our liberal faith in the years ahead. Go to www.tjdistrict.org/chalichelightersjoin.html and sign up today. You can pledge as little as \$10 per call. Your contribution of just \$30 a year, combined with that of other chalice-lighters across our district, is an investment in growing our Unitarian Universalist faith.

Sign up online and/or talk to local coordinator Greg Brock.

Feeding Statesboro!

Join Our UU Feeding Statesboro Team
We will host "Rebecca's Cafe" on April 12.
Contact Jane Page at revjanepage@yahoo.com
if you are willing to assist with cooking, setup,
serving, or clean-up.



Dixie. Al. Laura. Shari



Ministerial MUUsings

“You can make a Difference: April Give-the-Plate-Away”

Rev. Jane Page - April 2011

As you may know, there are several pieces of anti-immigrant legislation under consideration in Georgia – as well as other states. Georgia is now debating whether to join 39 other states that bar undocumented youth from accessing higher education. And even if this does not come up for a vote this year, these students must pay the out of state rate which makes it impossible for most to even apply. Also, many are impoverished but ineligible for financial aid, scholarships, Pell grants, or the HOPE scholarship. Undocumented youth cannot legally work to help pay for college. Now these students did not do anything wrong. We can argue about whether or not their parents should have brought them here – but the students themselves have grown up here in Georgia, attending our schools, and having the same dreams as other American students.

Several students in Bulloch County are honor students who will not be able to go to college without a lot of assistance from people who care. I am one of a group of citizens who are determined to try to help them. I became especially convinced of this need after meeting with one of the young ladies in my home. Her dad came here many years ago when he found work painting houses. Then she, her mother and little brother joined him when she was eight years old. She is an outstanding student, maintaining all A's since the 5th grade and now taking AP courses. She not only does well with her school work, she is an award winning artist and plays the guitar with a singing group for her church. In fact, she sang in our service when we had the “Day of the Dead” program here a couple of years ago. She and three other students have written a description of themselves for us to share with others. Here are their stories.

I am a senior at Statesboro High School. I have been in the United States since I was five years old. I came to this country with my mother who crossed the border in a truck filled with migrants. I remember the long nights and lots of fear. My parents were separated for a long time by the border. I want to go to college because I want to improve my life. I currently have a 3.7 GPA in school and my dream is to achieve a major in Business. I am particularly good at math because I had a terrific teacher that believed in me. He helped me to see that I could take mathematics at the AP (Advanced Placement) level and still do well. Since then I have been awarded for the highest grade in Accounting and Algebra.

I am a 17 year old and the oldest of four children. I'm currently enrolled as a senior at Statesboro High School. With hard work and the encouragement of my parents, I've managed to maintain a 4.0 GPA. I have been listed on the Principal's Honor Roll's List since the 5th grade and in the 8th grade I received an award that was signed by the president of the United States (President Bush). During my junior year I was awarded for the highest grade in American Literature. It was not easy for me to learn English. I worked very hard and I remember the hours and hours it would take to complete my assignments. My mother was always encouraging me. I remember I had a toy that played out the alphabet and that was also very helpful. Now I can speak and write both languages fluently. I want to get a scholarship and fulfill my dream of going to college. I hope to major in either education or dentistry.

I am 18 years old and I am a senior at Statesboro High School. My biggest dream is to get accepted to college this fall. I want to pursue a major in Business. I am bilingual and I hope to use this skill to help others who can't understand or speak English. I remember struggling so much in trying to understand English. I was a very little girl when I came to the United States

and I was enrolled in school and didn't know how to ask to use the bathroom. My mother worked with me for hours every night trying to translate my homework assignments. We had to use an English/Spanish Dictionary and translate every word. It was very tiring. Both of my parents are very hard workers but their small salaries don't earn enough for them to help me to go to college. My GPA is 3.2 and I recently was listed on the Principal's Honor Roll.

I am 17 years old and a senior at Statesboro High School. I have a 3.32 GPA and consider myself a good and serious student. I put effort in what I do. I came to the United States as at the age of 6. My parents are migrant farm workers and they want more for me and my sister. As I think of the future one of my dreams is to be a teacher. I want to go to college because it will help me become a professional person. I am bilingual and I want to use my language skills to help others. I have been listed on the Honor Roll since Middle School and was name Best Student of the Month. I had the highest average in ESOL during my Freshman Year. I am active in clubs and a community organization named "Students United Against Violence Everywhere."

These students want to go to college. They need to go to college. We need for them to go to college – to help our society become stronger. A special account has been set up at the Farmers and Merchants bank for contributions. Our board has voted to "Give the Plate Away" to this account on Sunday, April 3. All monies collected that day not designated as a pledge will go to this scholarship fund. If you are writing a check for that day, make it out to UUFS and write "scholarship" in the memo line. If you cannot come that day, but want to be part of this UUFS contribution, mail the check to us with "scholarship" in the memo line and a note indicating that you want it included. Alternatively, you can give directly to the bank. (The account # is 1874195.)

Our faith traditions tell us to love our neighbors and to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. You may think you do not have enough to help these students, but our gifts added together can make a difference.

I share with my Unitarian ancestor Edward Hale these values:

*I am only one,
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything,
I will not refuse to do the one thing I can do.*

DO YOU LIKE TO SING?



The Fellowship Singers have fun planning, rehearsing, and singing. We usually rehearse on two Wednesday evenings a month (1st and 3rd) 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 with Miriam Bryant in the subject line).

*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).*



April Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to:

Rodney Fowler – April 1st
 Judy Holleman – April 1st
 Hunter A – April 4th
 Rebekah Cole – April 8th
 Mike Aldredge – April 11th
 Inge Spencer – April 16th

* Initials are used for children's last names for privacy reasons.

(apologies to anyone we missed)



Welcoming Ceremony for Lilly
 February 27, 2011



April 3: "Give the Plate Away" Day

**Recipient:
 Hispanic Scholarship Fund**

All monies not designated as PLEDGE will go to this fund.



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



- **Sundays at 9:45AM** – choir practice – at our UUFS building
- **Tuesday, April 5 – 5:30PM** – Board meeting at our UUFS building
- **Sunday, April 10 – 7:00-9:00PM** - UU Philosophy group, "Is there a God? If we say yes, what do we mean by this? If we say no, what do we mean by this? Why?" (UUFS Building)
- **Wednesday, April 13 – 12 NOON** – UU Guy's Lunch, Gnat's Landing coordinated by Greg Brock.
- **Tuesday, April 19 – 10:00AM – 2:00PM** – UU serves at Rebecca's Café (contact Kathy Smith for details)
- **Sunday, April 24 – 5:00PM** – April newsletter deadline

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **June 22 – 26** – General Assembly in Charlotte, NC

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

-Every Thursday - 5:45 to 7:45 PM –
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

-Every Saturday - 9:45 AM - noon –
Alcoholics Anonymous 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: Shay Gibson

e-mail: StatesboroUU@yahoo.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