

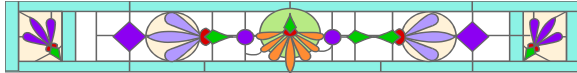


## UUFS Newsletter - February 2011

### 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)

#### February 6

#### "American Myth of Democracy"

(Exploring the mythologies of our political system, this service offers realistic ideas for reclaiming the promise for real-democracy building.)

Speaker: Debra Sabia  
GSU, Department of Political Science

#### February 13

#### "God is Love"

(Chris Johnson shares a message including his own life story entitled "God is Love" for our special "Standing on the Side of Love" service.)

Speaker: Chris Booker

#### February 20

#### "Stories and Storytelling In a Political Life"

(Stories stir the spirit and awaken the conscience. In politics, the story of politics *is* the story.)

Speaker: Patrick Novotny  
GSU, Department of Political Science

#### February 27

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

#### "If Nothing's Wrong, then Nothing's Right"

(The sermon, based on a phrase from Masten's "Let it be a Dance" explores Unitarian Universalist approaches to ethical dilemmas.)

Speaker: Rev. Jane Page

February 14 is

### National Standing on the Side of Love Day



### Children's Religious Education

Little Kids' Class (2-5 years old)

Feb 6: *Second Principle - Be Kind in All You Do* (Abby T)  
Feb 13: *Valentine's Day - Putting Love into Action* (Beth B)  
Feb 20: *Third Principle - Everybody's Different* (Beth B)  
Feb 27: *Third Principle - Celebrating our Differences* (Beth)

Big Kids' Class (1st-5th grade) –

Covenant Coach June Hackle

*Theme: Heroes and Heroines in UU History*

Feb 6: *Timeline of UU History & Sophia Lyon Fahs* (Beth B)  
Feb 13: *Whitney Young and President Taft* (Greg B)  
Feb 20: *Mary White Ovington* (Rev. Jane)  
Feb 27: *Theater Games!* (Sean D)

Youth Group (6th-12th grade) –

Facilitator Kate Beck

### Adult's Religious Education

What Moves Us Series – UUFS,  
Sundays, 5:00-6:30pm

\*January 30 -- *Hosea Ballou*  
\*February 13 -- *William Ellery Channing*  
\*February 20 -- *Margaret Fuller*  
\*February 27 -- *George de Benneville*  
\*March 13 -- *Charles Chauncy*  
\*March 27 -- *Sophia Lyon Fahs*

### Welcoming Congregation Workshops – UUFS

February 13 – Sunday Service at 10:30AM,  
Chris Johnson "God is Love"

March 20 – 5:00-7:00PM  
Experiences of BGLTQ people,  
led by Teresa Winn

## What's your Ministry? UUPS Discusses Shared Ministry

By Teresa Winn

Nineteen of our fellowship's lay leaders met together at RJs for a shared ministry retreat on January 23, 2011.



We focused on

- Defining Shared Ministry
- Reviewing the theological grounding for faithful leadership/Why shared ministry is required by UUs,
- Helping one another develop an identity and skills as Unitarian Universalist lay leaders
- Promoting self-care among ourselves to avoid burnout.

Shared ministry is simply defined as "taking an active role in the on-going care and service which our fellowship has deemed important." After spending time reviewing our UU history around the priesthood of believers and the requirement of shared ministry in our free faith, each individual was asked to focus on, "What is your ministry? What are you doing right now that speaks to the faith and works of this fellowship, that feeds the hungry, that teaches our children, that hollers to the powers that be in our own time to change course, that keeps the kitchen clean and the facilities painted, that helps the flowers grow, that helps us all grow?" There are four simple questions that our group considered together around the concept of shared ministry:

1. What am I good at?
2. What do I like to do?
3. What needs to be done?
4. Is there stuff happening in my life right now that suggests I scream for help?

As a group, we enjoyed expressing ourselves and supporting one another as a community of individuals and leaders. We became excited about the possibilities for ministry this year. UUPS is fortunate to have such committed and focused leaders willing to share their talents.



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## Caring UUs Contribute Toiletries: Continuing Opportunities to Share

By Shari Barr

Throughout December, compassionate UUs brought donated toiletries to the Fellowship building. At Games Night, December 10, children and adults decorated gift bags, each of which was then filled with sample sizes of soap, shampoo, lotion and a roll of toilet paper. These bags were delivered to the Food Bank where volunteers distributed them to local folks in need. Larger bags were made up of full sized personal care products and given to families. The Food Bank manager, Ms. Hendley, explained that individuals whose situations lead them to not have money to buy food seldom have money for other needed items like toiletries.

Our gifts were well received, but have now run out. Food Bank Board President Joe Bill Brannen has established a "Care Box" that is sectioned off, to hold shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion and miscellaneous personal care products. As much and as often as we are able to contribute, they will re-stock the Care Box and distribute the toiletries, however long they last. They are happy to receive and pass along full sized bottles or sample sizes or hotel giveaways of products.

Some UUs have pledged to purchase extras of shampoo, soap and toothpaste when they buy for their own household use, and bring those gifts to UU. Others save their hotel toiletries when they travel, and bring those in. As you are able and willing, please support this outreach by contributing toiletries. The marked collection box is beside the hymnal cart on the back wall of the Sanctuary.



NATIVITY RE-ENACTMENT 12/24:  
Left to Right: Rev Jane, Xandria, Abby, Kaley,  
Grace, JD, Thomas, Kian, Maltilda, and Wise Ones  
Tina and Beth

## Children's RE Spring 2011

By Beth Butterfield, 2011 RE chair

We have planned an exciting new season of Children's Religious Education in Spring 2011! This Spring we will offer three classes: Pre-Schoolers (2-5 years old), Big Kids (1st-5th grade), and Youth (6th-12th grade).

**In the Pre-Schoolers' Class**, the format usually includes singing, reciting the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism in children's language, and a story and lesson for the day, followed by an art

project or activity – this may include nature walks outside or even doing yoga! The themes for this Spring are the Seven Principles along with some simple exposure to World Religions and Holidays. Beth Butterfield is the main teacher for this class, and Abby Thompson has also generously volunteered to teach once a month. Also, we would **love to have some visiting story-tellers!** (We can provide stories for you to read that fit with the lesson scheduled for that week.)

**The Older Kids'** theme for this Spring will be the Six Sources of Unitarian Universalism. We are very lucky to have had a few people volunteer to teach regularly one Sunday a month, so that along with Covenant Coach June Hackle, this class will have some more familiar adult faces. Every first Sunday will be taught by Beth Butterfield. The second or third Sundays will be taught by volunteers or June Hackle, and I am particularly excited to share with you that **each fourth Sunday, Sean DeVine will lead the kids in a session of theater games!!** In the Older Kids' Class, please note the change in ages – now 1<sup>st</sup> graders will meet with the big kids, and anyone in 6<sup>th</sup> grade is welcome to stay with this class, or to move on up to the Youth.

**We are also planning a UU Kids' Party for Feb. 25, as well as a late Spring Kids' Trip (perhaps camping and kayaking!!)** Do you think your child might be interested in attending a UU Youth Conference at the Mountain Retreat Center in North Carolina? They offer programs for 3rd-12th graders, and we've heard from others who have attended that they are just wonderful. If you're interested, let us know, and we'll try to get a group together. We are also open to working with the kids to help raise funds to pay for this trip. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to volunteer to teach any of the classes, please feel free to be contact me or the other members of the RE Committee: June Hackle, Sean DeVine, Shari Barr, and Jane Page. Looking forward to a great season!



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## 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).

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## ***Shari's Sharings: What's on my mind and heart***

By: Shari Barr



It's been a busy January, starting with our Memorial Service on Sunday, January 2. This year we celebrated the lives of people who died last year, including people known to many and people who were well-known only to people who loved them. After the indoor portion of the service, a little child led us to the second part of the service. Matilda, who was the youngest person present, carried the fire of our chalice outdoors where Walden used a big candle to transfer that flame to the waiting bonfire. We celebrated a Fire Ceremony on the patio, wherein each person present tossed a pine cone into the fire, in token of something she or he was releasing or inviting. We also acknowledged the birthdays of one who has been known and loved at UUFS for all of his life <yay, Walden!> and one who discovered us just a few years ago, as she was transitioning to work that literally feeds people and realizing a need for spiritual sustenance for herself.

One of many good things that happen in religious community is the opportunity to celebrate with others. In my opinion, birthdays that end in Zero have a special significance. They feel like milestones worthy of notice and celebration, and I was privileged this month to help celebrate with a fierce, fabulous forty year old UU.

As I complete this column on Sunday afternoon, I am still high from another celebration, our Shared ministry workshop yesterday. During that time we articulated experiences that have been either "Draining" or "Sustaining" in our previous church work, and reminded one another to ask for and provide more of the sustaining elements to one another. Sustenance that any of us can supply, include participation, smiles, wildly outrageous compliments or quieter sincere compliments, pats on the back and other feedback. In another exercise, we identified important ministries of our church <what are we here to do as UUFS?> and then prioritized them. The highest rated was "Programs that feed our Souls." I think that means we want to do the work that helps heal ourselves and the world around us.

May it be so! Love, Shari



Feeding Statesboro, December;  
Left to Right: Feeding Statesboro Board member, James Bastarache  
Jane Page, Pauline deLaar, Bob deLaar

## Welcoming Congregation Update and Forthcoming Events

by Welcoming Congregation Task Force

In early 2010 a Welcoming Congregation Task Force was created with the project of helping UUFS become officially recognized by the UUA as a “Welcoming Congregation” to bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender people. To reach this goal, our Welcoming Congregation Committee has been busy planning an exciting year of activities.

Our first step Spring 2010 was to distribute several surveys during Sunday services and on the listserv to take inventory of our own attitudes and comfort levels. The survey results gave us some information about where we as a congregation stand and what we might benefit from working on further. What we found, of course, is that we are already a pretty welcoming group, but that we still have some work to do.

By Summer 2010, two Sunday programs were dedicated to “Welcoming Congregation” work. In June UUFS member and GSU counselor Kim Rowan-Bender presented a “Safe Space” workshop (33 in attendance). And in August, Spencer Wulwick of the Georgia Equality Project visited our fellowship and presented a talk on supporting BLGTQ relationships (12 in attendance).

In the fall, we began a series of workshops that take us through the UUA curriculum laid out in the “Welcoming Congregation Handbook.” We met about once a month, with four workshops scheduled for Fall 2010. We kept a count of attendance at the workshops. The results are as follows: August 22 – 12 in attendance, October 10 – 16 in attendance, October 17 – 17 in attendance, November 14 – 17 in attendance. We will continue this work with another four workshops for Spring 2011. Our most recent workshop was held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> with 10 in attendance.

While most of us probably already consider ourselves to be welcoming people and the UUFS to be a welcoming place, actually taking the time to go through this series of workshops has given (and will continue to give) each of us the opportunity to learn more, reflect further, examine our assumptions, and raise our consciousness.

In the UUA’s “Welcoming Congregation Handbook,” the authors describe something called “heart-lag.” This is when you find yourself in one of those situations where rationally, you might think of yourself as fully committed to being welcoming/open/tolerant, but you are surprised to find yourself having an emotional reaction you didn’t expect and that is out of synch with your “head.” Most of us have probably had this experience, in which the “heart” lags behind.

The workshops and events held so far, and planned in the coming year, give us a beautiful opportunity to look deeper and learn more, to get our hearts and heads where we want them to be. Then, when we get to the point of calling ourselves a Welcoming Congregation, we will know that it is not in name, but also the result of a lot of work and an on-going genuine commitment.

Dixie and Laura and the Welcoming Congregation Task Force invite you to a **potluck reception** celebrating the loving commitment of Dee and Jen. **February 26, 6:30PM at 313 Palomino Path.**





## Ministerial MUUsings

### “You Say Goodbye, I Say Hello”

Rev. Jane Page

You’re *from* here? The question has been asked of me often, usually with an emphasis on “from” and an air of unbelief. Most folks that I have encountered in my work at Georgia Southern and now here as minister of our fellowship come from other places. And the assumption is often made that Statesboro is where you might find yourself – for school or work – but no one was really BORN here. (Similarly, for some, there is no intention to DIE here.) What really amazes people is that, except for brief periods in graduate school or in ministerial preparation, I never left. And the feeling I get from some comments is that my life is somehow less complete. I do beg to differ with that idea. While I honor those who have lived many places, I do not regret my sense of place. I am geographically centered in a way that is hard for some folks to understand. Similarly, I am often taken aback when folks leave us. Many have to leave because of job circumstances. And some need to leave to be with family. But some just leave because they want to live in a different place – and I have to accept that as well. We have had several members and friends that have moved on recently, including Marky Lloyd & Judy Holleman, Jessie & Chuck Lussier, Eric Stetson, Heather Kalb, Caryn Self-Sullivan, Kevin & Paula Tschida, Steve Gay, Steve Harris, and Mollie Murray & Geoff Carr with darling Viva.

This month we say goodbye to Heather & Christian Lentz and adorable boys, Aksel and Lucas, as well as a special leader for our congregation, Dick Hutcheon and his wonderful wife Nancy. When you are in a small congregation, folks moving away can present a difficult situation. If you look over the list you will realize that we are having tremendous losses. Not only are these exceptional people who have contributed their time, talents, and treasures to our congregation, they are our friends. How can we ever overcome these recent and current losses to our congregation? Here are some possibilities!

First, others in the congregation can “step up to the plate” and offer more of their own time, talents, and treasures. Many of you did this with your financial gifts in meeting our budget this year. We are also hopeful that our “shared ministry workshop” will encourage folks to find meaningful ways to serve.

Second, we can welcome others who have recently starting attending our services. While we don’t expect new folks to pick up all the activities of these folks who have left, we can facilitate their own growth and development by inviting them to share their gifts with us.

And third, we can invite our friends and neighbors to our Unitarian Universalist activities. Although some of you may have found us through the internet or newspaper, most folks come because someone invited them. We do not need to grow “for numbers sake.” But there ARE people in this community who really NEED our fellowship; and who can find a good place here to share with others in making this world a better place.

We salute those who are moving on to other places. (I refuse to say “better places.”) And we welcome those who are new! The teacher in Ecclesiastes says there is a time for everything. I suppose there is a time to stay, and a time to move. May we share our love wherever we may go!



## Appreciation and Support Requested

Please join me in thanking those who have accepted leadership roles in the following areas at UU:

Building and Grounds	Rodney Fowler
Campus Ministry	Trent Maurer, Adv.
Care Ring	Martha Hughes
Committee on Ministry	Martha Hughes
Finance	Jim Nichols
Hospitality	Paul Ziegler
Music	Miriam Bryant, Coord.
Newsletter Editor	Dee Liston
Religious Education	Beth Butterfield
Worship and Programs	Dixie Aubrey & Rebekah Cole

There are several social justice and/or social outreach programs ongoing at UUFS, despite our not having a Social Justice Chair. Some of these projects have designated leaders and others do not.

These include:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| - Social Justice/ Social Outreach     | Chair Needed                               |
| - Care Bags (Toiletries)              | Chair Needed                               |
| - Feeding Statesboro                  | Chair Needed                               |
| - Gay Straight Alliance/Support Group | (Chris Booker, Lori Criswell, Teresa Winn) |
| - Green Sanctuary                     | Tina Whittle                               |
| - MLK Parade                          | Greg Brock                                 |
| - Welcoming Congregation              | Dee Liston                                 |

Please talk with Shari Barr about what is involved, if you are interested in taking leadership in any of these open areas, or talk with the chairperson if you want to help. Whether or not you take on more responsibility, please thank these who have done so.... and please support them by saying "Yes!" when they ask for your help.

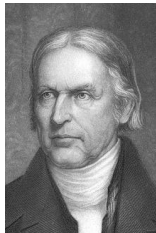
We help heal the world, as we Stand on the Side of Love, together!



Impact of Ice Storm, January 2011:  
Toppled Oak in UUFS Parking Lot

**“What Moves Us” Theological Workshops to begin January 30  
Rev. Jane Page**

Unitarian Universalists often spend time studying theologies of other religions and that is all well and good! We can often learn much from others. But many of us have not really looked at the theological bases for those who call themselves Unitarians, Universalists, or Unitarian Universalists. We have not often looked at what MOVES these UUs or what MOVES us! This series of workshops, authored by UU theologian Rev. Dr. Thandeka, will address that deficiency. We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays from 5 to 7 of each month. However our FIRST session will be on a “fifth” Sunday, January 30. I will facilitate some of these and hope that others will volunteer for some of their favorite theologians. The workshops will include an exploration of the contributions of these well known Unitarians, Universalists, and Unitarian Universalists: Hosea Ballou, William Ellery Channing, Margeret Fuller, George de Benneville, Charles Chauncy, Sophia Lyon Fahs, James Luther Adams, Forrest Church, William F. Schulz, and Thandeka. Since this series is part of UUA’s Tapestry of Faith Series, all materials are online, and therefore without cost to participants.



January 30 –  
Hosea Ballou



February 13 –  
William Ellery  
Channing



February 27 –  
Margaret Fuller

*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).*



**February Birthdays!**

*Happy Birthday to:*

- Nick D (Feb 1)
- Greg Brock (Feb 5)
- Mike Montagne (Feb 6)
- Angela Wong (Feb 6)
- Lauren Fowler (Feb 7)
- Sharon Rowe (Feb 9)
- James Whittle (Feb 16)
- Dee Liston (Feb 17)
- Abby C (Feb 21)

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

(with apologies to anyone we missed)


**Condolences to Geoff Carr and Mollie Murray**



The Fellowship extends its deepest sympathy to Geoff Carr and Mollie Murray on the death of Geoff’s sister, Julie Carr Riggi, after a long battle with cystic fibrosis.

**Healing thoughts to Norma Halley**

Norma Halley recently had a heart attack and is recovering at home. Our healing thoughts are with you.





## FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



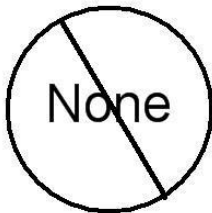
- Sundays** at 9:45AM – choir practice – at our UUFS building
- Tuesday, Feb 7 – 5:30PM** – Board meeting at our UUFS building
- Wednesday, Feb 9 – 12 NOON** – UU Guy’s Lunch, El Sombrero @ Fair Road, coordinated by Greg Brock. (Special thanks to Dick Hutcheon for coordinating this for many years.)
- Friday, Feb 11** – 6:30PM SSL Valentine Supper Party at UUFS.
- Sunday, Feb 20 – 5:00PM** – March newsletter deadline
- Friday, Feb 25 – 6-8PM** – UUFS kids’ party!!! UUFS Fellowship Hall, pizza, games, and a bonfire. All children and youth are invited (and their parents too)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Saturday, Jan 29 – 2PM** – Augusta’s PFLAG planning meeting, Common Room at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Augusta (3501 Walton Way Extension)
- **Tuesday, March 1 – 7:00PM** – Mary Carr, author of Lit to speak at Georgia Southern Performing Arts Center
- **Wednesday, March 3 – 10AM til 4PM** – Red Earth Farm, Bartram Environmental Writing Institute workshop with Janisse Ray
- **June 22 – 26** – General Assembly in Charlotte, NC

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

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



#### ***Topic for February 9: Love and Other Drugs***

*Come join us as we explore our drive to love & be loved.  
Facilitated by Lori Criswell*

***Sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry***

### **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

### 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.



### 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](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com) with June Hackle in the subject line) or Rev. Jane Page  
([revjanepage@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:revjanepage@yahoo.com)

Office hours: Call for an appointment

### ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT

**Administrative Consultant: Shay Gibson**

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

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**President: Shari Barr**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

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

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Secretary: Steven Rowe**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer: Bill Herring**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Past President: Teresa Winn**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

### USEFUL CONTACTS

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

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Care-Ring Coordinator: Martha Hughes**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Religious Education: Beth Butterfield**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com)

**Hospitality Committee: Paul Ziegler**

[StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:joy4education@yahoo.com) or [StatesboroUU@yahoo.com](mailto:StatesboroUU@yahoo.com).