

# The UUCG Beacon

March 2011

The beacon is published monthly by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Greenville  
 252-355-6658  
 www.uugreenvillenc.org  
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Sunday Services -- 10:30 am

**March 6**  
*A People So Bold*  
 Rev. Ann Marie

**March 13**  
*A Religion for the 21st Century*  
 Ed Day

**March 20**  
*Flower Ceremony*  
 Rev. Ann Marie

**March 27**  
*Olympia Brown*  
 Rev. Ann Marie

Children's activities are available each Sunday.



## President's Notes

February has been a very busy month. The good news is that we are making progress in many areas. Our Pledge Drive is going well with all of our gatherings completed as of the last Sunday in February.

The Gilda's Club informational fund raising meeting held on February 3rd was a great success. Several of our members have committed to working with the Greenville Community Shelter. We are truly making an impact on our community. The Program Council meeting gave all the Committee Chairs the opportunity to share their mid-year reports and talk about where they are in terms of the goals they had established to move us forward on our four strategic goals.

Our current treasurer's report shows that we are functioning within our budget with our fundraising efforts helping to drive our income. The last McAlister's Day, on February 14th, seems to have been very successful. We overflowed the side room and for a while it looked like there was standing room only! The results of the Pledge Drive and the requests from the Committee Chairs will drive our 2011-2012 budget, which will be presented to the Congregation for approval at our Annual Meeting. We have scheduled the Annual Meeting for May 22 at 12:30 pm and we plan to have a potluck lunch on that Sunday prior to the Meeting.

UUCG hosted the Thomas Jefferson District meeting on February 19th for the leaders of all the congregations east of I-95 to discuss opportunities for expanding the reach and impact of the Universalist Universalism vision in our region. We had almost 50 UU members and staff in attendance; it was an interesting and inspiring meeting. We also heard from Jim Key, the TJD Board of Trustees President, about some of the organizational restructuring that UUA is undertaking in an effort to be more streamlined and to encourage stronger Cluster relationships.

We are all facing challenges these days. Each one of us has much to share - at the same time we each need support and understanding of our special circumstances. As we finish up our Pledge Drive please make sure that you have turned in your pledge card. I hope that you will be as generous as you can. This is an exciting time here at UUCG and we need everyone's contributions of money, time, and talent in order to continue our efforts to have a significant impact on those that are in need in our communities.

In Gratitude and Covenant,

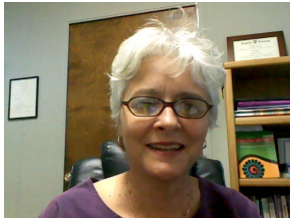
*Patrice Alexander*  
 Patrice Alexander, President  
 UUCG Board of Trustees,  
 2010-2011

### **First Fun Friday**

March 4th will be our next First Fun Friday night. We'll be having a games night, again. Bring your favorite game, or try a new favorite. We'll start at 7:00 PM at the church, and play till we're done.

# Reflections

... of Reverend Ann Marie Alderman



On Saturday, Feb 19th, UUCG was comfortably crowded with nearly 50 folk from almost all of the eleven UU congregations or groups almost ready to be congregations east of I-95. (Outer Banks, Edenton, Rocky Mount, Greenville, New Bern,

Seven Springs, Clinton, Pinehurst, Fayetteville, Morehead City and Wilmington) Leaders from all these groups came together to envision what we might do to grow UUism in Eastern North Carolina. Lots of creative ideas and familiar themes came forth. Best of all was getting to know that there are other UU's in neighboring communities and that soon there will be more and more!

For all of you eager to meet and greet and get to know other UU's from all over the country General Assembly, to be held this year in Charlotte, on line registration begins March 1st! Just go to <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtml> . If you need a printed paper registration form, you can pick those up at UUCG. If you find the registration fee to be more than you can pay, you can always volunteer which will significantly reduce your registration costs!

Don't wait until late June, though! Your next opportunity to join with other like minded, creative folk from all the many great congregations east of I-95, is in Wilmington on Saturday, March 19th for the Eastern North Carolina cluster gathering! This gathering will only cost you \$20! For information and how to register see <http://www.uugreenvillenc.org/cluster/reg2011.html>

*Ann Marie*

## Stewardship

We're almost to the end of our Stewardship campaign. Your pledge lets us set a budget for the next year. We can't budget it if you don't pledge it. If you've turned in your pledge, thanks. If you haven't, fill out your card and give it to Brenda Stewart, Feryl Masters, or drop it in the offering basket Sunday. If you don't have a card, let Feryl or Brenda know, and we'll get you one. Every pledge helps us grow and do more.

### Staff

**Minister:** Rev. Ann Marie Alderman  
**Youth Religious Education Director:** Kimberly Scholl  
**Music Director:** Mort Stine  
**Choir Director:** Stephen Brand  
**Office Administrator:** Michelle Covi

### Board of Trustees

**President:** Patrice Alexander  
**Vice President:** Bev Harju  
**Secretary:** Susan Foreman  
**Treasurer:** Brenda Stewart  
**At-Large:** Alan Bailey  
**At-Large:** Judi Hickson  
**At-Large:** Tom Thielen

### Committee Chairs

**Ambiance:** Terry Shank  
**Building Maintenance:** Feryl Masters, & Pat Tesh  
**Communication:** Rich Elkins  
**Endowment:** Bill Paulson  
**Finance:** Paul Alston  
**Fundraising:** Feryl Masters  
**Hospitality:** Lynn Caverly & Pat Dix  
**Membership:** Bud & Phyllis Hazel  
**Youth Religious Education:** Jennifer Thielen  
**Stewardship:** Feryl Masters  
**Social Action:** Tom Long & Pat Anderson  
**Worship:** Gladie Hamilton

# Social Action

## **SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **UUC Greenville Community Shelters Action Group:**



On Thursday, February 17, our Group met with six members present. Gladie Hamilton and Tom Long reported delivering an overflowing basket of "Daily Needs" items to the Shelter earlier in the day (see picture at left).

Concerning the provision of gifts to Shelter residents near the Easter Holiday, we discussed two proposals suggested by Shelter Director Lynn James that we either give individual gifts to all residents or provide gift material for the staff to create the gift baskets. Group members are going to search for affordable sources for gifts and decide on a workable approach next meeting.

Volunteer Application forms were handed out to be completed by next meeting when we can then set up an orientation "check in" session with Shelter staff.

### **Operation Sharehouse Event.**

Operation Sharehouse was held on February 22 at Cypress Glenn in Greenville. We had a nice representation at that very successful program, including: Ruth Abramson, Ann Marie Alderman, Bill Baker, Bob Franke, Tom Long, Ron Moye and Pat Tesh as UUCG participants (see picture at right).



## **Friends of Gilda**

Thanks to a highly successful February 3<sup>rd</sup> event, **Give Cancer A Noogie!**, we have raised over \$100,000 in less than three months! A matching grant of \$10,000 helped bring in \$89,576 that night alone. The family and friend of P. Roger Sundman donated \$25,000 to sponsor the "It's Always Something" room in our future clubhouse. Many thanks to all the volunteers and donors who helped make this happen.

Our next step is to let as many people as possible know about our work to start a Gilda's Club in Greenville. We call these Gilda's Club 101s. You can help by inviting us to talk to your group. We will be happy to talk to service organizations, employment groups, neighborhood coffee clubs, or any other group that wants us to come. We'll just give them the facts and listen to what they have to say – no fundraising at these sessions. There are three coming up soon and we'd like to add more.

### Meeting Schedule:

Board of Directors March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m.

All teams March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Friends of Gilda is A Greater Greenville Community Foundation Charitable Fund Tax ID #56-2152669

**Make tax-deductible checks payable to Friends of Gilda/GGCF and mail them to The Greater Greenville Community Foundation, P.O. Box 20154, Greenville, NC 27858**

Contact: Pat Anderson [patanderson@suddenlink.net](mailto:patanderson@suddenlink.net)



## Religious Education

### **Youth Religious Education Report**

Things are moving along well in YRE. The children are enjoying their work, which this past month included making Valentines for different church members that the children handed out after the service. The children are still enjoying Around the Church, Around the Year in the Primary class, and A Growing Up Year in the Tweens class, but I think everyone is looking forward to our Hogwarts inspired curriculum this summer. We will be discussing and finalizing the details of our summer curriculum over the next few months, and we encourage anyone who has an interest in helping with this "magical" class to join us in the planning.

In addition to our classes, we will be planting a vegetable garden again this year. Last year we were able to donate a few small bags of fresh food, and I hope we can manage to grow even more this year. The children will be planting seeds soon, and we hope to have a surplus of seedlings that the children can sell as a fundraiser.

I would like to thank our dedicated YRE volunteer organizers and teachers. Your loving, dedicated work and the examples you set are much appreciated. I encourage those of you who have not volunteered, or who have not volunteered in a long time, to consider taking some time to work with our UU children. I think you will find it very rewarding.

In Service,  
Jennifer Thielen  
Chair, YRE

### **SUMMER CAMP for UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH**

Come join other UU youth for one fun-filled week of workshops, games, music, campfires, outings, and more. . . the perfect setting in which to be silly, make lasting friends, and learn what makes UU youth so awesome! This summer, Shelter Neck will bring back its celebrated summer camp program for UU youth, connecting youth from small, mid-size, and large congregations across Eastern and Central NC. Youth aged 12-14 (rising 7th - 9th graders) are invited to join us July 10-16th at Shelter Neck UU camp in Burgaw, NC.



To register by the March 1 deadline, please contact our 2011 Director, Agatha Buell, [youthcamps@shelterneckuucamp.org](mailto:youthcamps@shelterneckuucamp.org), (415) 240-6638. Check out our website too: [www.shelterneckuucamp.org/2011/youthcamp.htm](http://www.shelterneckuucamp.org/2011/youthcamp.htm)

~ March 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 8a-9a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's office hours  7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	<b>2</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p Harvest the Power #6  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>3</b> 7p-9p Turtle Creek Homeowners Assoc. Meeting	<b>4</b> 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group  7p-9p First Friday Fun Night	
<b>6</b> 10:30a-11:30a A People So Bold; Rev. Ann Marie  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>7</b> 6:30a-10:30a Building Cleaning  5:15p-6:15p Worship Committee meeting	<b>8</b> 8a-9a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's office hours  6p-7p Gilda's Team Leaders  7p-8:30p Gilda's Organizers/All Teams  7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	<b>9</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p Harvest the Power #7  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>10</b> 7p-8p Social Action Committee Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:50a-10:25a Living Mindfully  10:30a-11:30a A Religion for the 21st Century: Ed Day  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>14</b> 6:30a-10:30a Building Cleaning  7:30p-9:30p Sierra Club Meeting	<b>15</b> 8a-9a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's office hours  7p-9p The Coffee Party  7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	<b>16</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p Harvest the Power #8  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group	<b>19</b> 8:30a-4p EC Cluster Meeting
<b>20</b> 9:50a-10:25a Living Mindfully  10:30a-11:30a Flower Ceremony  12p-1p Lunch Group  12:30p-2p Council Meeting  5p-7p Vegetarians in Pitt County potluck	<b>21</b> 6:30a-10:30a Building Cleaning  7p-8:30p Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>22</b> 8a-9a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's office hours  3p-4p Caring Committee Meeting  7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	<b>23</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p Harvest the Power #9  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>24</b> 7p-8p UU Men's Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30a-10:30a First Born Food Distribution
<b>27</b> 9:50a-10:25a Living Mindfully  10:30a-11:30a Olympia Brown: Women Ministers in the 19th century  12p-1p Lunch Group  12p-1p Orientation	<b>28</b> 6:30a-10:30a Building Cleaning  7p-8:30p Book Club  7p-8:30p Interfaith Alliance/Bayt Shalom	<b>29</b> 8a-9a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's office hours  7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	<b>30</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p Harvest the Power #10  7p-8p Hymnphony	<b>31</b>		



**2011 ANNUAL Eastern Carolina Cluster Gathering**

**WHOSE ARE WE? WALKING TOGETHER: AN EXPLORATION OF COVENANT**

**8:30 am (Registration) - 4:00 pm Closing  
Saturday, March 19**

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wilmington, NC  
4313 Lake Avenue, Wilmington, NC 28403**

**KEYNOTE \* WORSHIP \* WORKSHOPS \* ALL AGES WELCOME**

**Gather with other Thomas Jefferson District Eastern Carolina Cluster UU congregations (those on or East of I-95).  
Go to [www.uugreenvillenc.org/cluster](http://www.uugreenvillenc.org/cluster) for updates regarding offerings, schedule, and registration  
or contact Rev. Cheryl M. Walker ([minister@uufwilmington.org](mailto:minister@uufwilmington.org))**

**Happy Birthday to UUs this March**

- Mar 3 –Michelle Covi
- Mar 7 – Michelle Jenkins
- Mar 8– Cam Scales
- Mar 10 - Peter Sachtjen
- Mar 12– Derek Carmichael
- Mar 16– Tammy Atchinson
- Mar 19 Richard Weir
- Mar 27– Scott Gade

**Funraising**

Don't forget to add the Spring Car Wash to your calendars for April 9th. This will be our last fundraising event for the fiscal year, and a great opportunity to wash all that winter dirt off your car. We'll do the spring cleaning for your car. No car too dirty for the UUCG! A great opportunity to get a jump on your summer tan, too.



Deadline for next month's *beacon* is Tuesday, **March 22 at 8:00 pm**

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