



The UUCG beacon

May 2010

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

May 2
Spiritual Autobiography
Lee Canipe

May 9
A Mother's Day Celebration
Rev. Ann Marie

May 16
Movers and shakers
Rev. Ann Marie

May 23
Margaret Fuller Day
Rev. Ann Marie

May 30
*Greenville Community
Shelters*
Lynne James

Children's activities are
available each Sunday.

President's Notes

As April showers finally make their appearance the first flowers are blooming and the grass needs to be cut. This is a busy month for many of us as the end of the school year is now in sight and the April 15th tax deadline has been met. At UUCG it has also been a busy month because our Annual Meeting and the end of our congregational and fiscal year will both take place in the next two months. Our Pledge Campaign, which is the foundation of our budget planning for next year, is drawing to a close. Everyone's contribution is vital to our success so each member is urged to return their pledge card with their indication of support. The Nominating Committee is making their calls and contacts to ensure that we have a full slate of nominees to consider at the Annual Meeting. The Strategic Long Range Planning Committee is gathering the feedback generated by the presentation of the Draft SLRP at the Special Called Meeting. The Budget, the Board and Nominations Committee membership, and UUCG's Strategic Long Range Plan will all be considered and voted upon at our Annual Meeting which will take place after the service on Sunday, May 23rd. It is an important meeting that all UUCG Members and Friends are urged to attend.

The upcoming District Meeting, on April 30th-May 1st, will also be an important meeting as the delegates consider at least three choices for a new name for the District and elect members to the District's Board of Trustees. We will have at least three representatives at the meeting, including Reverend Ann Marie who has been nominated for a position on the District Board. UUCG is entitled to two delegates based on our membership numbers. At the April Board Meeting Patrice Alexander and Judi Hickson were appointed as delegates with Tom Thielen as the alternate.

The next two months are not just all about meetings and serious issues. They are also about fun, fellowship, and making plans for the summer. We will be sponsoring another McAllister's Commu-

Reflections

. . . of Rev Ann Marie Alderman

Later this month, on Sunday, May 23, members of UUCG will gather for the annual congregational meeting. Members will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2010/11 budget, new board members, and the Strategic Long Range Plan. It has long been a hallmark of our way of making congregational decisions for every member to have an equal voice, by the means of voting, to decide together what our particular purpose is and how we will keep moving toward fulfilling that purpose. The annual meeting is particularly reflective of our 5th principle which says in part that we affirm and promote; “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations...”

Sometimes, many of us think, “ho hum” it’s just business, let those who care about the details do whatever they think is best! I appreciate and respect that part of this attitude comes from a sense of trust, a reliance on the current leaders and their process, respecting that they are deeply familiar with the details, and have fleshed out the varying perspectives and are presenting what they have come to think of as the best conclusion. Open to questions, in the end “they” are asking the congregation to endorse their process.

Trusting leaders and their process is a good thing! Yet, there is also the matter of owning the conclusions!

The most important part of annual congregational meeting, in my view, is when the

“I trust them”, becomes the “we” who have decided together! What I mean is; there is a deeply religious significance in our way of governing ourselves. We elect leaders, who we entrust for a time, to process through the details, to arrive at proposals, then each of us as individuals are invited to assess the proposals and to freely express our conscience and may suggest changes or amendments. Yet, when a final vote is taken on whatever is before the congregation that is when WE become more than individuals! We have said together who we are and what we will do.

It is in that moment after a vote, when we have the opportunity to most sense what and to whom we belong, what we together own and what we are owned by, when our individuality is transcended becoming the interdependent whole to which we belong, that makes meaning and moves together. In my view, that’s the essence of our way of being a congregation! It is not just business, it is theology... it is meaning making, belonging and “ownership” in the deepest sense!

—Rev Ann Marie

Worship Committee Announcement

The Worship Committee will meet on June first at 5:00pm.

--Bev Harju

Deadline for next month’s **beacon** is Tuesday, May 25th at 8:00 pm

Affirming the inherent worth and dignity of every person

Fellowship Happenings

A Pot Luck Dinner and "something other than a movie" will be held on Saturday, May 8th, at UUCG at 6:00. There may be a discussion of cartoons and spirituality, a thought-provoking short documentary, or a game. Your input is welcome. RSVP to Jackie at jackie.wyman@gmail.com or 439-8581.

The Women's Lunch Group will break bread together on May 14th and 28th. The time is 1:00, and the location is decided at the prior meeting.

The Men's Group and the Women's Evening Group will meet May 27th. The men will meet at UUCG at 7:30 and the women will meet at 7:00 at Barnes and Noble.

As always, there is breakfast at Cracker Barrel at 8:30 every Tuesday and brunch at O'Charley's every Sunday after church. Both are wonderful fellowship times, and everyone is welcome.

--Jackie Wyman

Annual Car Wash Fundraiser

The spring Car Wash will be May 15th at the church. Volunteers are needed to wash cars and help with the event indoors and out. Cars are also needed. We will have a 50/50 raffle and refreshments. Make sure to put us on your calendar and tell all your friends. Contact Feryl masters 975-2020, oferyl@gmail.com or Claudia Sundman 252-558-0741 home or 252-412-1382 cell or summerthor@summerthor.com.

— Feryl Masters

Social Action Committee Report April 19, 2010

We have received to date eighteen responses to our e-mail requests for individuals to list their volunteer activities. Many thanks for those of you who have responded. We are organizing the thirty some odd individual activities that you eighteen have reported, and we'll be giving you feedback in a while. At present we are waiting for more responses to come in so we can get the best picture of what we as a congregation are actually doing out there. So, please, if you haven't sent in a response, let us hear from you.

Secondly, The semi-annual Oakmont Drive Litter Cleanup is scheduled for Sunday, May 2 at 12:00 noon, right after the social activity following the service. We will provide the necessary equipment as well as pizza following our work detail. Last time we had six adults and two children participate, and we're looking for a good showing this go around. Thanks.

Lastly, We'd like to thank the First Born volunteers for Saturday, March 27. The participants were Hank Foster, Helen Foster and Toni Brit Tyer. The next First Born Food Distribution will be Saturday, April 24, 2010.

--Social Action Committee Co-Chairmen
--Tom Long and Pat Tesh



May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						01 10am» Building Cleaning
02 9:15am» The Forum 10:30am» Worship Service 12pm» Oakmont Blvd Clean Up	03 6:30pm» Girl Scout Troop Meeting 7pm» COM special meeting	04 8:30am» Breakfast at Cracker Barrel 12pm» Greenville Ministers Meeting 5:15pm» Worship Committee Meeting 7pm» KTC Buddhist Group	05 5:30pm» Building Your Own Theology 7pm» Choir Practice	06 6:30pm» Discourses of Meher Baba	07	08 9am» Grounds Workday 10am» Building Cleaning
09 9:15am» The Forum 10:30am» Worship Service 12pm» RE committee meeting 7pm» UU Meditation Group	10 7pm» Committee on Ministry	11 8:30am» Breakfast at Cracker Barrel 7pm» KTC Buddhist Group	12 5:30pm» Building Your Own Theology 7pm» Choir Practice	13 6:30pm» Social Action Committee 6:30pm» Discourses of Meher Baba	14	15 10am» Building Cleaning
16 9:15am» The Forum 10:30am» Worship Service 4pm» Green Weavers CUUPS monthly meeting 5pm» Vegetarian Pot Luck	17 6:30pm» Girl Scout Troop meeting 7pm» Board Meeting	18 8:30am» Breakfast at Cracker Barrel 7pm» KTC Buddhist Group	19 7pm» Choir Practice	20 6:30pm» Discourses of Meher Baba	21 1pm» Women's Lunch Group	22 10am» Building Cleaning
23 9:15am» The Forum 10:30am» Worship Service 11:45am» Annual Congregational Meeting 5:30pm» UU Roddenberry Circle	24 7pm» Interfaith Prayers for Peace	25 8:30am» Breakfast at Cracker Barrel 7pm» KTC Buddhist Group	26 7pm» Choir Practice	27 6:30pm» Discourses of Meher Baba 7:30pm» UU Men's Group	28	29 9am» First Born Food Distribution 10am» Building Cleaning
30 9:15am» The Forum 10:30am» Worship Service	31					

Affirming the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society

PREZ NOTES (continued from page 1)

nity Day. We raised over \$250 at the most recent one. Our semi-annual Car Wash/Bake Sale/Plant Sale/Cook Out will take place in May and a good time is sure to be had by all! Several of our members will be making plans to attend General Assembly in June which will be taking place in Minneapolis. They will be taking lots of notes since next year's GA will be taking place in Charlotte and all District Congregations will be asked to assist.

I want to remind our members that the Committee on Ministry (COM) is in the process of conducting the recommended three year ministerial evaluation of Reverend Ann Marie. The COM members and Board of Trustees will all complete individual evaluation forms that will then be combined to create each group's evaluation. We are soliciting input from members and would encourage all members to share their opinions with any Board or COM member.

We want all of our members and friend to find their niche at UUCG. This is a time for making vacation plans and anticipating good times with family and friends. This is also the time to think about your role as a member or friend of our congregational family. As you make plans please consider serving on one of the Committees or in another leadership role when our new congregational year begins in July. Volunteer to help teach youth RE or to sing in our dynamic choir. It is amazing the friendships that you will find as you work together with like minded folks on projects for which you all have a passion. If you have an idea for a new group or activity that you would like to explore please talk to any Board member, to Reverend Ann Marie, or to the Chair of the Committee that your idea may be related to. The Committee Chairs and their contact information are listed on the UUCG website.

In Gratitude and Covenant,
Patrice Alexander
Patrice Alexander, President
UUCG Board of Trustees, 2009-2010

Free Jazz Concert May 11th

A free concert will be given at the Kinston Library at 7:30pm on Tuesday, May 11th.

The Bob Jeffcott Jazz Ensemble will offer a wide variety of standards, show tunes and traditional jazz tunes for your enjoyment.

Some musicians (with close Greenville ties) playing that evening include Mort Stine on piano, Steve Creech, guitar, Tommy Smith, trombone, and Bob Jeffcott, trumpet. Two more excellent musicians are also included. Tommy Smith will be featured on jazz vocal just the way he performed with the Pete Foundation Band in New Orleans.

The library is located at 510 N. Queen Street in Kinston. To insure seating call ahead 252-527-7066, ext 120.

—Bob Jeffcott

Affirming the goal of world community & peace, liberty and justice for all

Greenville Community Shelters Announcement

The Greenville Community Shelters (GCS) (the Homeless Shelter and supporting programs) is holding an annual fundraiser on June 3, 6:00pm at Dowdy-Ficklin Stadium (Club Level). It is called the Annual Hat Party and Cash Bash. A ticket enters you in a chance at a \$5,000 prize in a reverse drawing. There will be a crazy hat contest, entertainment, heavy-hors d'oeuvres buffet, and a cash bar, 50/50 raffles and a second chance drawing. One ticket for \$100 admits 2. If you can't make this fun event any donations are welcome. Please contact Ruth Leggett, member of GCS Board at 252-717-9237 to purchase your tickets. Deadline is May 21. Hope to see you there.

This year has been an extremely difficult one financially for the shelter because the weather has been so bad causing the use of the shelter to be high and utility bills for Feb & March of between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a month. The United Way, a major sponsor of the shelter had a cut in funds which has had a very big impact on the shelter's budget. Ruth will have flyers at church or you can buy tickets by mail at Greenville Community Shelters, P. O. Box 687, Greenville 27858. Please consider making a donation if you cannot attend the Cash Bash.

--Ruth Leggett

A Special Thank You

I would like to thank all of the members of the congregation, on behalf of myself and my entire family, for their love and support as we deal with Sylvia's loss. I would especially like to thank all of the members of the congregation who helped with the lunch after the memorial service. At the gathering at my house afterwards (the Polish call it a "*proprawiny*," or the gathering after the gathering) things got a bit hectic and I was not always aware who brought what. So, a heartfelt thanks to those who brought food to the house for the *proprawiny*.

—Don English

Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating a Birthday in May!!

Lilani Masters	May 2nd
Stephen Brand	May 7th
Lauren Jenkins	May 7th
Jennifer Barr	May 15th
Jennifer Thielen	May 15th
Charles Gunther	May 17th
Laura Schroeder	May 18th
Jan Salstrom	May 24th
Lee Wyman	May 25th
Janet Doig	May 26th
Elwood Hazel	May 27th
Claudia Sundman	May 31st

--Heidi Luchsinger

Respecting the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Deadline for next month's **beacon** is Tuesday, May 25th at 8:00 pm

**The Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Greenville
131 Oakmont Drive
Greenville, NC 27858
355-6658**

Staff

Minister: Rev Ann Marie Alderman
Religious Education Dir: Kimberly Scholl
President: Patrice Alexander
Vice President: Theresa Sparrow
Secretary: Susan Foreman
Treasurer: Brenda Stewart
Music Director: Mort Stine
Choir Director: Stephen Brand
Office Administrator: Michelle Covi

Committee Chairs

Building and Grounds: Feryl Masters,
Richard Weir & Terry Shank
Endowment: Bill Paulson
Finance: Paul Alston
Hospitality: Kathy Weigel & Tracy
Donohue
Membership: Alan Bailey & Heidi
Luchsinger
Religious Education: Jennifer Thielen
Social Action: Pat Tesh & Tom Long
Worship: Bev Harju

