

The UUCG Beacon

PRESIDENT'S NOTES



In June, Gail and I went to the UUA General Assembly in Portland Oregon. I like going to GA because it helps to remind me that I am part of something larger than me. Last month, I went to the Presidents Convocation in Raleigh. Again, I got to meet and interact with UU leaders.

We are all part of something larger than ourselves. I like being part of something larger. That is why I belong to organizations. As a group, we can reinforce and support each other's efforts. We can inspire each other and multiply our abilities. I belong to and support our congregation because you help me accomplish my goals and inspire me. When I might get discouraged others inspire me.

Being part of our Congregation is great. I am part of the Universalist Convention because I can't preserve a historic school or run a youth camp alone, but I can help. I am on the Cancer Support Community Board for the same reason.

But I go to GA for a different reason. I go to our church services to be inspired and learn. I go to hear good singing and inspiring lessons. GA is a level above our Congregation. Hymns sound and feel different when thousands are singing. The speakers are chosen from the best and give their best. People who feel passionately about issues discuss and debate, but ultimately agree on a resolution or action using the democratic process. I really feel a part of something tremendous when I am there. We all need to experience and feel part of something greater. Whether we see it as Jesus, Allah, Nirvana, Nature, Gaea, Humanity, or the essence of the Universe, however we visualize the sacred that unites us, GA brings me closer to it.

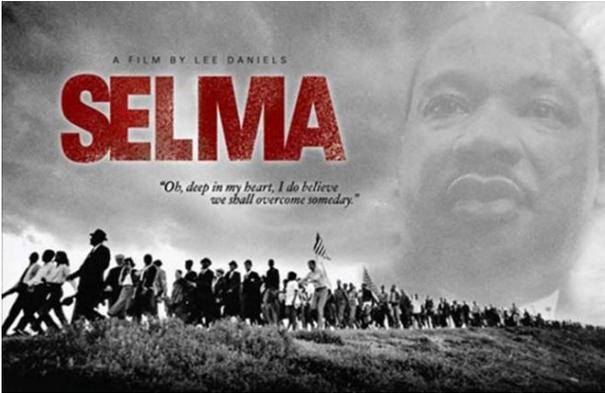
There are times when we need to be alone. There are times we need to be with others. Our Congregation is similar. There are times we as a congregation do best by ourselves, but we need to be part of something greater at times too. I encourage you to find ways to be part of something greater.

Feryl Masters, UUCG Board President

From uua.org, delegates from UU congregations passed statements on social justice and climate justice:

- A [Statement of Conscience on reproductive justice](#) developed over four years of study and action. Though the UUA has long held pro-choice convictions and has long taught comprehensive sexuality education, this statement embraces a broader reproductive justice framework, which explicitly addresses racial, economic, and gender inequality.
- An Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) supporting the [Black Lives Matter Movement](#), calling congregations "to action, in order to become closer to a just world community."
- An AIW [supporting climate justice campaigns](#) locally, nationally, and internationally, including the Lummi Nation's opposition to the Gateway Pacific Coal Terminal in Washington State.
- An AIW to call an [end to immigrant child and family detention](#) by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

EVENTS



Moral Movies

For August, our Moral Movie will be "Selma" (2014) a chronicle of Martin Luther King's campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965.

Join us on **August 8th at 6:30pm for "Selma"** and monthly on the 2nd Saturday for our continuing series of thought-provoking movies, followed by discussion time. September's movie, to be announced, will feature an education theme,

appropriate for back-to-school

Team Trivia

In case you hadn't otherwise heard, UUCG's Team Trivia Group "UU Can't Touch This" recently switched from Wednesday nights at the Coffee Shack to **8pm on Tuesday nights at Professor O'Cool's**. Most likely this will continue through the month of August, but we may consider returning to the previous location if they resume their event in the fall. If you're interested in participating, contact Rich Elkins or any other of the regulars to let them know you're coming and they'll make sure to get a table large enough to accommodate everyone. When the group is large enough, we may split into two teams and compete against each other as well as other groups.



Classic GLBT Movie Night

We always skip August for GLBT Movie Night so not to conflict with the [NC Gay and Lesbian Film Festival](#) going on at the Carolina Theatre in Durham from August 14-22. We will return on regular schedule on **September 18th with "Bear Cub"** (2004-Spain – in Spanish with English Subtitles)



NEWS

Lunch Groups

Did you know we have 2 different Sunday after-service lunch groups to choose from? The Original Lunch Group has been a tradition for many years. They currently go to Outback each week, where the staff expects them and has their table ready and waiting. If you're more adventuresome, you may choose to join the Roving Lunch Group which goes to different restaurants each week. The restaurant choices are more often ethnic cuisine and they try to patronize locally owned establishments

and places with good options for vegetarians or vegans as well as the omnivores among us. Miss a Sunday with your favorite restaurant? We tend to return to our favorites about every 2-3 months, as well as trying out new places. Suggestions are always welcome!

August Roving Lunch Group Destinations

August 2 - [EC Pho](#) (Vietnamese Noodle House)

August 9 - [Mellow Mushroom](#) (Pizza and Subs)

August 16 - [Crave Uptown](#) (eclectic American)

August 23 - [Kasturi](#) (Indian - buffet or menu)

August 30 - [A Tavola Market Cafe](#)

Share the Plate

Our August Share the Plate recipient organization is [PFLAG Greenville](#). PFLAG (originally Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, but now just "PFLAG") is a community organization that provides support and advocacy for LGBTQ individuals coming out as well as for their family and friends. Several UUCG members have been very active in getting the local chapter of PFLAG started, and they were just officially recognized as the newest chapter in the state early in July.

PFLAG meets at UUCG on the 2nd Thursday of each month, with support group at 7pm followed by a general meeting or special program at 8pm. Please consider joining them. An LGBTQ and Allies youth support group sponsored by the congregation also meets at the same time.

Share the Plate is a congregational Social Action program where a deserving organization is designated each month to receive half of all the non-pledge cash offering at the Sunday services for that month. You may also write a check, designating it as a donation to the organization, which will receive all of your gift. Sometimes the recipients are special projects of national groups, such as the UU Service Committee's Nepal Relief program we supported in May, but more often we select local groups which do important work here in our community.



August 2015

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|--------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday August 2 | 10:30am | Who's Driving Your Chariot? An Introduction to Meditation -- Don English |
| Saturday August 8 | 6:30pm | Moral Movie - "Selma" |
| Sunday August 9 | 10:30pm | From the Heart -- Dr. Calvin Mercer |
| Thursday August 15 | 7:00pm | PFLAG/LGBTQ Support Group |
| Sunday August 16 | 10:30am | Topic Where Have all the Blessings Gone? -- Rev. Rod Debs |
| Sunday August 23 | 10:30am | Minimalism -- Laura Schroeder |
| Monday August 24 | 7:00pm | Interfaith Prayers for Peace and Justice |
| Sunday August 30 | 10:30pm | Secularism -- Jerry Gregory |

View the entire calendar at <http://www.uugreenvillenc.org/calendar.html>

STAFF

Minister: Rev. Rod Debs
 Music Director: Mort Stine
 Choir Director: Sue Jefferson
 RE Director: Lilani Butler Masters

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Feryl Master
 Vice President: Richard Baltaro
 Secretary: Shannon Sparrow
 Treasurer: Brenda Stewart
 At Large: Cam Scales
 At Large: Toni Broshears
 Past President: Rich Elkins

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

9:30AM Mindful Meditation
 10:30AM Worship
 12:00PM Lunch Groups

TUESDAYS

8:00AM Breakfast Group
 7:30PM KTC Buddhist Meditation
 8:00PM Team Trivia

WEDNESDAYS

7:00PM Choir Practice

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ambiance:

Brenda Stewart

Building and Grounds:

Bob Hudson

Caring:

Ruel Tyer & Ruth Abramson

Communications:

Toni Broshears

Endowment:

Feryl Masters

Fellowship:

Laura Schroeder & Michael Betteken

Finance:

Richard Baltaro

Fundraising:

Patrice Alexander & Jennifer Schultz

Hospitality:

Holly Brown & Jacki Vaughn-Heath

Membership:

Susan Foreman & Laura Neece-Baltaro

Social Action:

Rich Elkins & Sandy Shephard

Stewardship:

Patrice Alexander & Feryl Masters

Worship:

Pat Dix & Jerry Gregory

Youth Religious Education:

Shannon Sparrow & Christy Hoppenthaler

Deadline for next month's **Beacon** is **Tuesday, August 25 at 8:00 pm**

Email Beacon submissions to beacon@uugreenvillenc.org