



*The UUCG*  
**beacon**

September 2010

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

Sept 5  
*Annual Ingathering &  
Water Ceremony*

Sept 12  
*Chanting with  
Calvin Mercer*

Sept 19  
*Ten Years Later:  
Hurricane Floyd*

Sept 26  
*Who Was Frances David?*

Children's activities are  
available each Sunday.

President's Notes

September 2010

Where has the summer gone? Seems like we were just getting used to the concept of fun in the sun and now school is starting tomorrow! Time flies for sure. We have welcomed our new Board members, Alan Bailey and Tom Thielen, and Vice-President Bev Harju has conducted an orientation session for the incoming and continuing Committee Chairs and congregational leaders who make up our Program Council. Our Annual Leadership Retreat will take place September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Pat Anderson, Co-Chair of the Social Action Committee, has agreed to facilitate the Retreat.

This is the beginning of our fiscal year and so far, so good. We are facing some challenges. One is the low returns we are getting on some of our investments. At the request of the Board our Treasurer, Brenda Stewart, is exploring possible CD options for some funds. Another challenge is determining what is the best way to ensure that the building is cleaned on a regular basis. It is important that our congregational home is clean and presentable. We want to have a warm and welcoming environment for visitors, members, and friends. At this time we do not have a cleaning committee and our appeal for volunteers has had mixed success. At our last meeting the Board discussed some of our options, including paying for a professional cleaning service twice a month. Our concern is the cost since this was not included in our current austere and balanced budget. I would welcome all suggestions and ideas on how to resolve this issue quickly and effectively. Bottom line, the Board should be focusing on issues and initiatives that will further the goals identified in our Strategic Long Range Plan. Our choice for the past two years has been to focus any extra funding on our Religious Education and Music programs.

Last year our Fundraising Committee did a great job and they are

# Reflections

. . . of Rev Ann Marie Alderman

Even though we are a year-round congregation with worship services and weekly events nearly every week, we really get going in September! This month begins with our Annual Ingathering Service on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to bring water (real or "symbolic") from wherever you may have found yourself this summer. As we pour our containers of water together in one bowl, we will be celebrating what makes us "flow" as a body of UU's in Eastern North Carolina. On the following Sunday, (September 12<sup>th</sup>) we will reprise the flavor of our Summer Series: Spirit on the Move as Dr. Calvin Mercer from ECU's Religious Studies Program and the originator of the Monastic Project leads us in chanting. On Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, as we

recall how Hurricane Floyd impacted our community ten years ago, we'll remember that too much water can bring devastation and move people to help each other. On Fourth Sundays this church year you'll hear my sermon series on UU historical figures, starting in September with Francis David, famous for the quote; "We need not think alike, to love alike."

September will also bring the re-start of our Wednesday evening programs. Beginning, Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, I'll lead a six week look at U & U and UU history! Starting at 5:30 pm and finishing just before choir rehearsal starts at 7 pm, I hope you will make plans to be there!

*Ann Marie*

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## UUCG Orientation for Visitors and New Members

All visitors and new members are invited to a light lunch and orientation after the Sunday Worship Service on September 26<sup>th</sup>. You'll learn about UUCG's history, governance and what it means to be a congregational member. This is always a great opportunity to meet other new folks, ask questions and share your hopes and dreams for UUism!

Please contact Rev. Ann Marie (414-4076, [amalderman@uuma.org](mailto:amalderman@uuma.org)) or Membership Committee Co-chairs, Bud and Phyllis Hazel for more information or to RSVP!

## Wednesday evening Study Group starts September 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Rev. Ann Marie will lead us through six weeks of UU history. Learn of the early beginning of Unitarian and Universalism, important historical figures, what they believed and how they influenced who we are now.

Deadline for next month's **beacon** is Tuesday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 pm

# Affirming justice, equity and compassion towards all

## Funraising Activities

While we have many generous members, we limit what we can do if we ask only for money from each other. Fundraising is becoming a bigger portion of our budget each year. When we raise money from non-members, we increase what we can accomplish. Our goal is not just to raise funds, but to have fun doing it.

Our McAllister Wednesdays (the next one is September 22) are a great way for us to raise funds from outside our congregation. We can also meet and enjoy good food and company while doing it. Our upcoming car wash also raises funds from outside. Come and have fun with us this September 25th. Everyone has fun at the car wash, and you can get one more chance touch up your tan as you head into fall and winter. Oh, you can get your car washed at reasonable rates also. Bring yourself, your car, your friends, and your friends' cars to our car wash.

Our main fundraising activity is our Service Auction on October 9th. We need services and items to auction and people to bid on them. Special meals and labor are especially popular. If you have a skill or some time you can offer, we need your donation. Bring your friends to the auction for a good time and a chance to buy things you won't find anywhere else. Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided.

Our final scheduled Funraising Activity is gift wrapping at Barnes and Nobles in December, the week before Christmas. We have other ideas that may be announced later. We'll keep you informed. Contact Feryl Masters 252 975-2020 or [oferyl@gmail.com](mailto:oferyl@gmail.com) or in person at the church if you are interested in participating in, contributing to, or helping to organize any of these events. If you have another idea you'd like to help with, let me know. —Feryl Masters

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## Children's Religious Education

Summer is officially over and the kids have started back to school! The children had a great time exploring the natural world in the combined age groups, but it is time for the children to once again explore their spirituality in smaller groups.

In the past few years the Primary class has studied Bible-based stories with the "Timeless Themes" and intangible gifts such as love and friendship with the UUA curriculum "Wonderful Welcome". This year the Primary class will be using the curriculum "Around the Church, Around the Year" which will help them explore more specifically what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist and to be a part of our congregation.

The Tweens have built their "Toolbox of Faith" and discussed details of the Bible as well as stories and will now be moving towards some self-exploration with "A Growing-Up Year". In addition to the self-exploration, we will have lessons on our Jewish and Christian heritage, comparative religions and a lesson set entitled "Unitarian Universalism and You".

Both the Primary and Tweens curricula involve one overnight stay at the church later this year.

Our nursery improvements are coming along nicely, and none too soon with our newest arrival! We have a new Port-a-crib so that infants may have a safe place to stay in the nursery and new toddler manipulative toys to entertain and stimulate our toddlers.

The curricula are planned, the stage is set, and now what we need is YOU! We are looking for volunteers to help out in all our classes. Our Primary children are enthusiastic, energetic and ready to learn! The Tweens may be able to teach the adults a thing or two, and the toddlers and infants will warm your heart. Please consider volunteering with our Youth Religious Education programs as a way to give back to the church, grow our community, and make sure that the UUCG continues to be a safe place to explore spirituality for those of all ages.

—In Service Jennifer Thielen



## ~ September 2010 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1p-2p Ladies Lunch	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:30a-11:30a Annual Ingathering and Water Ceremony  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30a-9:30a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5p-6p Worship Committee meeting	<b>8</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 7p-8p Social Action Committee meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10:30a-11:30a Chanting with Calvin Mercer  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:30a-9:30a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's Office Hours	<b>15</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p UU History study group  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group  6p-9p Annual Board Retreat	<b>18</b> 9a-3p Annual Leadership Retreat
<b>19</b> 10:30a-11:30a Ten Years Later: Hurricane Floyd  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:30a-9:30a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's Office Hours	<b>22</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5p-9p McAlister's Deli Dining for Fun & Funds  5:30p-7p UU History study group  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>23</b> 7p-8p UU Men's Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Fall Car Wash Fundraiser  8:30a-10:30a First Born Food Distribution
<b>26</b> 10:30a-11:30a Who Was Frances David?  12p-1:30p Orientation  12p-1p Lunch Group	<b>27</b> 1:30p-2:30p Caring Committee Meeting  7p-8:30p Book Club  7p-8:30p Interfaith Alliance	<b>28</b> 8:30a-9:30a Breakfast Group  3p-5p Minister's Office Hours	<b>29</b> 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours  5:30p-7p UU History study group  7p-8p Choir Practice	<b>30</b>		

## Promoting a free and responsible search for truth & meaning

**PREZ NOTES** (continued from page 1)  
determined to do it again this year. We have McAllister's Community Days scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup> so please plan to come out and eat dinner on those nights. Our next Car Wash/Bake Sale is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup> and our Annual Service Auction will take place on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Please start thinking about what unique services and items you may be able to donate. October 9<sup>th</sup> may be a good day to also start your holiday shopping. Then in December, we hope to do the holiday gift wrapping again at Barnes and Nobles.

The Youth Religious Education curriculum for the Primary class will be Around the Church, Around the Year. The children will explore what it means to be a UU and what it means to be part of a UU congregation. The nursery improvements are almost completed. The Tweens class will be working on the A Growing-Up Year curriculum. Now we need adult volunteers to teach and assist with the classes. If you can help once or twice a quarter, please contact Kimberly Scholl, our Director of Youth Religious Education. Reverend Ann Marie will be start-

ing a new Adult RE class after Labor Day, on Wednesday evenings, that will focus on our UU history.

Our services will now have a new look due to the generosity of one of our members who has donated a wonderful new LCD projection system and screen. Our choir director, Stephen Brand, is back and is looking for singers and those who are willing to try so that we can have more of the music that moves and inspires us all.

We want all of our members and friend to find their niche at UUCG. Please consider serving on one of the Committees or in another leadership role this year. 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, 2010-2011

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

Deadline for next month's **beacon** is Tuesday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 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:** Bev Harju  
**Secretary:** Susan Foreman  
**Treasurer:** Brenda Stewart  
**Music Director:** Mort Stine  
**Choir Director:** Stephen Brand  
**Office Administrator:** Michelle Covi

## **Committee Chairs**

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

