



The UUCG beacon

OCTOBER 2006

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

October 1

Sunday Worship
Board of Trustees

October 8th

"The Ways We Worship"
Rev Frieda Gillespie

October 15th

"Initiations & Expectations"
Rev Frieda Gillespie

October 22nd

*"What Right(s) Do We
Have?"*
Rev Frieda Gillespie

October 29

The Day of the Dead
Ed Day

Children's activities are available
each Sunday.

President's Notes:

Fall is upon us. This a time when some trees lose their leaves and go dormant for the winter. Many animals hibernate or head south for the winter. We however are springing ahead. Our new interim minister has arrived. Frieda is already making a difference. While her reflections are great, it is her other contributions that are reminding us of what we've been missing. Her suggestions, guidance, and listening are helping us accomplish more and think more deeply about our growth.

We still have plenty of room for growth: numerically, organically, spiritually, and incarnationally. Growth and improvement are continuous. If we stop growing, we start dying. Growth is not always easy or comfortable. I don't subscribe to the "no pain, no gain" philosophy. On the other hand, always avoiding painful things limits opportunity.

I don't normally enjoy being the leader. I prefer to let someone else take charge. I would not ask to be President. When I was asked, though, I accepted the opportunity. I did it in part to help our church, but also because I saw it as a chance to grow and develop. My time as Vice-President and President hasn't always been pleasant. Some times have been painful. Most of the time it has been enjoyable and affirming. I'm a stronger, happier, and better person because of this opportunity. If I had chosen to take the easier and safer route, I would have missed some problems and pain, but I would have missed even more pleasure and growth.

Sometimes we need to pass up opportunities. I think, though, that we tend to err more often on the side of caution and security. Sometimes we need to be more adventurous and try something new. Failure is always a possibility. If you don't try, though, failure is almost certain. If I only did what I was certain I could succeed in, I'd accomplish much less. And think of all the opportunities I would have missed. Be bold!

--Feryl Masters

Reflections

Reflections . . . of Frieda Gillespie

Notes from the Interim

“In one sense we are always traveling, and traveling as if we did not know where we are going. In another sense we have already arrived.”

-- Thomas Merton

Some of you have taken the time to talk with me about the things that have concerned you about the way things are done at this church. I appreciate these stories because they help me to get to know you and what you want. Learning to ask ourselves what we want is very important. It seems obvious that we would do this, but often we don't. We see the thing that isn't what we want and the positive core of that thought – the wanting something – gets lost in the wake of our frustration or sadness. Something, some part of us, knows what we want—this is evidenced by how quickly and surely we react when “it” is not there, when something else is there in its

place. Many years ago, I had a therapist who gave me a mantra – “What do I want?” It was an amazingly hard question to answer. For one thing, if we do answer it, then what? We have to face the issue of what to do about it. If we have created or been given a lot of obstacles to having what we want, it is problematic to know clearly what it is. Then complaining about what others want and do becomes an outlet for our pent up accounts against ourselves for not listening, not listening to who we really are. I invite you to use this mantra, “What do I want?” in relation to your church. And if you are willing to share your desires with me, I promise to listen. In one sense you may feel like you don't know what you want in a church, in another sense, you may feel you do know—in those moments when you really feel connected, feel alive, feel like “This is why I love this church!”.

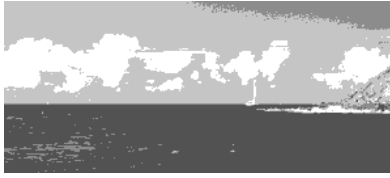
-- Frieda

Having a minister who is here and there can be quite confusing, so in each Beacon Newsletter, I will tell you my schedule in my column so you can know when I am in town and how to contact me. The basic schedule goes like this:

I arrive on the Saturday of the first full week of the month (e.g. October 7th) then I preach for 3 Sundays and leave on the third Sunday evening (e.g. October 22nd). Occasionally there will be exceptions – in December, I will adjust to do a Christmas Eve service and sometimes I'll need to stay over an extra day to attend the Board meeting.

In Greenville: To contact me during the time I'm in Greenville, you can try the church first. I will be there Monday – Wednesday and Friday for at least part of each day. You can also call my cell phone – 508 207-7566. Note that this is a long distance call for you. If you don't have unlimited or free long distance, let me know when you call and I can call you right back.

In Framingham: When I am in Framingham, you can reach me on my cell phone too. For non-emergencies, you can use email to reach me fairly quickly; minister@uugreenvillenc.org is my address. My at-home office days in Framingham will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.



On The Horizon

SUNDAY ORDER OF SERVICE

October 1st -- *Sunday Worship* -- **Board of Trustees** -- The Board will provide this Sunday's worship service (not a presentation)

October 8th - "*The Ways We Worship*" -- **Rev Frieda Gillespie** -- We will explore the history of worship at this church and the elements of worship that are meaningful to us. What is worship and why do we do it? Everyone present will have the chance to identify what parts of a service mean the most to them.

October 15th - "*Initiations and Expectations*" -- **Rev Frieda Gillespie** -- We will be welcoming those who have become members since last Spring and talking about what it means to belong. What are our UU and UUCG initiations and expectations?

October 22nd - "*What Right(s) Do We Have?*" -- **Rev Frieda Gillespie** -- In honor of United Nations Day. Are we happier following nature's law of "might is right"? Or is cooperation and sacrifice a requirement of our well-being?

October 29th -- "*The Day of the Dead*" -- **Ed Day** -- The service will be about the dual celebrations Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) and All Souls Day.

RE Director Speaks

We have lots of fun things planned for Religious education in the month of October. Our big event will be the Halloween Party for the children during Sunday School on October 29.

We have resumed our regular Sunday School during the service. We would like to thank Kristen Kenyon and Kimberly Smith for coming on board as two of our new Sunday School teachers. We would love to have more people to help in the spiritual growth of our youth as well as themselves through becoming an RE teacher. If you are interested please contact Victoria at 252-747-7785.

October 1 Teens Skating

October 14 Briley Corn Maze

October 28 Scary Teen Movie Night

October 29 Halloween Party during Sunday School.

More information on these events will be posted at the church and through the RE email loop.

--Victoria Brown

CROP WALK

October 8, 2006

The CROP WALK is scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2006. Registration is at 2pm and step-off is at 2:30pm. The walkers meet at the First Presbyterian Church located on the corner of Elm Street and 14th Street. The route is approximately 3 miles.

Ask your family and friends to walk with us. UUCG will give t-shirts to each walker that walks with our team. In 2005 we had 39 walkers and in 2004 we had 40 walkers. Let's have at least 50 walkers this year.

Up to 25% of the money raised by the CROP WALK is used to support the following local organizations:

- a. The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina in Greenville.
- b. J.O.Y. Soup Kitchen
- c. Meals on Wheels sponsored by Pitt County Council on Aging.
- d. Greenville Community Shelter.

Please contact Toni Britt, Victoria Brown or Tracy Donohue-Stein for more information and donation envelopes. --Toni Britt

News, Notes and Other Stuff

CAMPUS MINISTRY

The UU Campus Ministry group meets in Mendenhall Student Center on Tuesdays at 6:00. ECU students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend. We are scheduled in different rooms so you need to ask at the front desk where we are.

So far, we have 6 young women attending the Tuesday meetings. Frieda came by for our Sept. 12th meeting. We eat and gather in fellowship, share joys and concerns and discuss ideas for social action. In October, we plan to participate in the Crop Walk.

If you have any questions about UU Campus Ministry, don't hesitate to contact me.

Tracy Donohue – Faculty Advisor for the UU Campus Ministry donohuet@ecu.edu
328-1194

--Tracy Donohue

Improving the Beacon

We would like to include as many activities of the congregation in the calendar as possible. When submitting your Beacon items, please include items for the calendar as well. Include the date, the event title, and the time. It's not always easy to pull that information from submitted articles. And remember, we're cramped for space.

--Don English

UUCG Book Club

The Book Club Discussion group will meet October 22, at 7:00 -- location to be determined.

The book for this October is Alias Alice by Margaret Attwood. November's book is The End of Faith by Sam Harris.

--Ray Sobel

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee would like to remind everyone that there is a sign-up sheet posted in the church for people who are willing to bring refreshments for coffee time.

PLEASE take a turn bringing simple refreshments---vegetables and dip, fruit, cheese and crackers, chips, muffins, cookies, or whatever--no need for anything fancy! If two people sign up for each Sunday no one has too much to do. A member of the Hospitality Committee makes the coffee and provides cold drinks, and is on hand to help you set out your food before the service. We ask that folks bringing food help set it out and clean up afterwards. (Many thanks to those who help with clean-up even when they are not providing food!)

--Gail Butler and Marcia Sobel

UUCG Forum

Some problems are good problems to have. At the next membership meeting on Oct. 8th, we will be co-ordinating with hospitality committee and Kay Austin on Dinners for Eight and, Movies and Finger Food, start up dates this fall.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Oct. 8th membership meeting, immediately after church.

A welcoming new members, fall date has been set for October 15. This will be announced in the church announcements prior to services.

We had our first "Forum" at 9:30 before church on Sept. 17th. Those who came were talking about the subject until the last moment. Our only problem may be that we need more space.

--Ruel Tyer



OCTOBER in Preview

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Forum 10:30 <i>Worship</i> Teen Skating	2	3 8:30 Breakfast@ Cracker Barrel 7:30 Search Committee 7:00 Univ Health Care Committee	4 6:00 Eat Out @ Red Lobster	5	6	7
8 9:30 Forum 10:30 <i>Ways We Worship</i> Membership Crop Walk	9	10 8:30 Breakfast@ Cracker Barrel	11 6:00 Eat Out @ Chico's (Reade Circle)	12	13	14 9:00 Bldg Cleanup 9:30-10:30 Social/Political Covenant Group
15 9:30 Forum 10:30 <i>Initia- tions & Expec- tations</i> 7:00 Meditation Covenant	16 7:30 Board Meeting 7:30 Search Committee	17 8:30 Breakfast@ Cracker Barrel	18 6:00 Eat Out @ New Szechuan Guarden	19	20	21
22 9:30 Forum 10:30 <i>What Rights Do We Have?</i> 7:00 Book Club	23 7:00 Interfaith Prayers for Peace @ PCMH	24 8:30 Breakfast@ Cracker Barrel 12:00 Beacon Deadline	25 6:00 Eat Out @ Outback	26	27	28 9:00 First Born Scary Teen Movie Night
29 9:30 Forum 10:30 <i>Day of the Dead</i> Kids Halloween Party	30	31 8:30 Breakfast@ Cracker Barrel	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Dates in gray indicate days that Frieda is in Framingham, MA. To contact her call: 508-207-7566 email: minister@uugreenvillenc.org</p> </div>			

Getting to Know Our Members

Joan Sachtjen was born April 8, in Detroit, Michigan. She was an only child. Her grandmother lived with them and was able to be "family" until her death. She had a parakeet named "Chico" (until she started to lay eggs!) and a little white toy poodle named "Nanette" The family lived in a house near Lake St. Clair. It was a protected and safe neighborhood, and the people were friendly and close to one another.

Joan went to Wayne State University and majored in History. After Graduation she went to an advertising agency which was, at that time, the largest in the world. She worked ads for the Chrysler Company before switching to the Social Security Administration as a Claims Representative for those who were disabled. In the meantime, in 1970, she met and married Peter, and in 1974 they had a son, Jonathon. Joan stayed at home as a full time mom. She also added volunteer work. Her favorite things were the PTA, and the Junior Committee of the Cleveland Orchestra. After Jonathon went to school, she had a variety of paid part-time jobs. Her favorite one was working for the suburban weekly newspaper which she had until she moved to Greenville.

After living in Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland, the couple finally moved to Greenville 1997, where Peter wanted to open a patent law practice as there were none in the area. In Greenville, Joan, who had a lifelong love of books and films, also became a lover of tennis, which she played often until her stroke in 1999. As she was left disabled she had to make some changes in her life...

With a new found love of horses, she found she could go horseback riding at the Rocking Horse Ranch where there is a therapeutic riding program. Together, with Joanie de Groot, she goes horseback riding every week and they are affectionately known as the "Joan and Joanie Pony show"!!! Peter and Joan joined the Unitarian church in 2002.

--Joanie DeGroot

Jarvis Lecture

The 15th annual Jarvis lecture will be held at 7:30 on Monday, October 2 at the Willis Building at 300 E 1st St (across from the Town Commons)

The lecture always provocative and usually controversial has always been a favorite with DUs. This year the speaker will be Dr Phyllis Trimble, a well known feminist scholar of the Bible. Her subject will be Taking Back the Bible". It will involve a reevaluation of the story of the Garden of Eden showing Eve as intelligent, perceptive and informed and Adam as passive, bland, inept and weak. Largely funded by Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church this should be an especially lively gathering.. While there is room for 200 cars the lecture is usually well attended so an early arrival would be wise.

--Ed Day

The Day of the Dead

Sunday October 29th the service will be about the dual celebrations Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) and All Souls Day.

The Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday celebrating the special day of the year when the souls of the dead can return to their loved ones to share time with them.

The Aztec part of this holiday is at least 3000 years old. When the Spanish Conquistadors came they tried to Christianize the holiday, but didn't entirely succeed. The Aztec view of death was that true life didn't really begin until death so that this was a real celebration. The Spanish wanted to make it a

day of prayer and fasting. They were able to add Christian elements to the occasion but it has remained a joyful celebration of life with death as a part of life. We win celebrate the occasion with true Aztec exuberance. Please bring with you to church pictures and mementos of those loved ones you would most enjoy seeing again. You might bring some of their favorite food too, the returnees are said to be hungry after their journey. In rural Mexico they have a basin of water and soap and towels so that the dead can wash up before sharing a meal with the living. Sadly the modern world has intruded on this wonderful way of viewing life-and in many urban areas the original sacred nature of the Day of the Dead has disappeared.

--Ed Day

Working Together to Build Community



Board Notes

The Board welcomed Frieda Gillespie to her first meeting with us. She's already assisting us in the interim process to find a settled minister. The Board will act on one of her suggestions, a second phone line to provide private and confidential access to Frieda.

The Board and Membership Committee will be working on remedying our audio system which has not been performing up to expectations during services.

Several leadership positions remain vacant.
--Susan Foreman

Universal Health Care Committee Meeting

The Universal Health Care Committee will meet, Tuesday, Oct 3rd 7:00 pm at the Church. Three items for the Agenda will be the Board of Directors reaction to the letter requesting changing our covenant group to a sub-committee of the Social Action committee, discussion of the Single Payer system for Universal Health Care that each member is looking up, and involving the congregation in the committee's project of Universal Health Care for North Carolina.

--Ray Sobel

UUCG Event Photos wanted

The Ministerial Search Committee is looking for photos of UUCG events for inclusion in the Congregational Profile packet. If you have any prints or digital photos, we'd like to borrow them long enough to copy them. Contact any member of the Ministerial Search Committee at your earliest convenience.

Ministerial Search Committee

The search for a permanent or settled minister is well underway. After some organizational meetings, the committee has, as of the end of September, held three working meetings. We are currently scheduling meetings every two weeks with an eye to completing the paperwork before the holidays so that we'll be ready to put everything on the UUA website right after the first of the New Year.

The Committee will place the Congregational Survey (to help us learn what kind of a minister will be suited to our needs) on the UUCG website and will mail to the regular Beacon mail list. Members and Friends of the Congregation are asked to complete a copy of the survey and return it to the special collection box at the church. Completed forms must be returned by Sunday, October 22nd.

The Committee has already begun collecting materials for the Congregational/Community Profile. This is information for candidates telling them about us and the community

Between now and the holidays we will tabulate the Congregational Surveys, sponsor a service in October called "Beyond Categorical Thinking," and complete the Congregational/Community Profile. As everything comes together, we will be ready for the spring candidating season.

Committee members include: Patrice Alexander, Joanie deGroot, Don English, Marcia Fletcher, Terry Shank, Jan Salstrom, and teen representative, Cameron Baker.

--Don English

On a Personal Note . . .

Fred Becker had a recent visit from his daughter Dusty and her husband, but they left without making a lemon pie for him.

Bruce Berberich returned from his vacation to find a house full of water from a burst pipe. That's the bad news....the good news is that he gets a lot of new stuff in his house.

Bob Franke has had a lot going on in his life. His daughter got married, he now has a son-in-law and a teenage stepson, he had his 81st birthday, and he met his brother's crew member who had been grounded the fateful day of the crash 62 years ago.

Elizabeth Jesse expressed joy that there is conversation between the hospital emergency department and the National Association for the Mentally Ill to assure more appropriate evaluation in the ED.

Sondra Haynes had the good news that two of her daughters are coming for a visit, and the bad news that she is going to have knee surgery.

Bette Nelson personalized the loss of life in the Twin Towers for us.

Karen Hall is still reveling in the completion of her Ph.D. She announced that she just had her 1st birthday as Dr. Hall!

Bill Baker is struggling with the recent theft of personal checks.

Toni Britt is facing surgery in November which will put her out of commission for the most of the rest of the year.

Ruth Leggett has been in California visiting her 92 year old mother-in-law who is not doing well.

Ben Thomas is still very happy with their new condo and the perfect timing of making that change in his life.

Bonnie Pulver Honey Bunny was featured in the Daily Reflector for giving pleasure to Stafford Glen residents. Bonnie is a pet therapist and UUCG friend, who has given Honey Bunny to Stafford Glenn.

Don & Sylvia English's youngest daughter, Dr Suzanne Lazorick, has taken a position at the Brody School of Medicine as an Asst. Professor in the Pediatrics Healthy Weight program. Younger son, Gary Lazorick, recently took a job with Cingular phones in Garner and moved into his new apartment within walking distance of work.

Pat Dix's daughter sold her house on Long Island and is moving to the Asheville area. It's always nice to have family move closer.

Joanie DeGroot's son, Peter, broke his hand very badly while skiing.

Susan Foreman's son totaled his car but, thankfully, was not hurt. Susan's mother-in-law has moved in with them; she has dementia.

Alice Arnold is quite concerned over the upcoming marriage of her godchild.

Janet Doig's granddaughter, Jessica (who we used to see on Sundays), has earned her GED and is enrolled in one of the Community Colleges in the triangle.

Kelly Kurz's husband Dave's left leg amputation has been canceled! Kelly and Dave traveled to the Rubin Institute for Advanced Orthopedics at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore to see a surgeon specializing in osteomyelitis. Dave will have surgery in early November to remove the infection in the bone.

Dining Out

Ed Day has "retired" from his long faithful service as the Dining Out Coordinator. We all owe him a sincere thanks for keeping it organized for so long.

The attendance has been dwindling so we need to know if it is worth continuing. I chose restaurants for October and welcome suggestions for any favorites for future months. Hope to hear from you, and/or see you at dinner.

-- Sylvia English



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Interfaith Prayers for Peace

I attended the Interfaith Alliance meeting on August 21st as a representative for our congregation. The current plans are to continue the Community Interfaith Peace gatherings in September and October; the Thanksgiving Interfaith Service on 11/19; first light on New Years and Interfaith Peace Gatherings monthly starting again in January.

UUCG will host the September Prayer for Peace on Monday, September 25 at 7:00 PM. PCMH will host the October gathering on October 23rd at 7:00pm. Contact PCMH Chaplain Jim Yoder.

--Susan Foreman

October Birthdays

Happy October Birthdays to:
Patty Gade 10/16
Brent Lindeberg 10/16
Todd Finley 10/28

--Jackie Wyman

First Born Food Distribution

Please note the 4th Saturday Food Distribution at First Born Holy Church has resumed. The 4th Saturday is now designated as the "Diabetic Food Distribution" Saturday.

Please join us at First Born Holy Church on Saturday, October 28, at 9:00am. We will distribute food packages, help with administrative work, pack food boxes and carry food boxes.

Please save/recycle your grocery bags for the Food Distributions. Bring your clean, dry bags to UUCG and I will deliver them to First Born Holy Church. Please do not bring grocery bags with RED lettering. Many people associate the RED lettering as "dirty or contaminated" because medical facilities "Red Bag" items contaminated with blood and other body fluids.

If you need directions to First Born Holy Church or have any questions, please call Toni Britt at 252-916-5069 or email at toniebritt@clis.com.

--Toni Britt

UUCG Recycling

The U.U. Congregation of Greenville recycles the following materials: glass, plastic containers marked #1 and #2 (if you can't read the little number in the triangle on the bottom, ask a kid to do so, or put it in the recycle bin anyway; they'll sort it out at the plant,) six-pack rings (cut the rings apart so the thing can't strangle a bird or animal,) beverage and food cans, newspaper and other clean paper, magazines, cardboard, (both corrugated and other types, except waxed or plastic-lined.) Please rinse out food containers before recycling! There are recycling bins in the kitchen (by the fridge) and in the R.E. classrooms. PLEASE do not put non-recyclables in these bins! There is also a basket for paper recycling near the front door.

Thanks to those who have been taking the recyclables from the church to their home recycling bins or collection sites. If anyone else feels moved to help with this, just check a bin or two when you are leaving the building. Thanks!

--Gail Butler

Deadline for next month's **beacon** is Tuesday 12 noon, October 24, 2006

UU Wednesday Dining Out Menu*



October 4 -- **Red Lobster** -- 3501 S. Memorial Drive -- 756-4000
October 11 -- **Chico's Mexican Restaurant** -- 521 Cotanche St. -- 757-1666.
October 18 -- **Szechuan Garden** -- 302-A Greenville Blvd -- 757-1818
October 25 -- **Outback Steakhouse** -- 606 SW Greenville Blvd -- 321-8444

Let's Eat!

* Wednesday dining out starts at 6:00 pm & is Dutch treat. Please let Sylvia English know if you plan to come so that an appropriate number of places can be made available at the restaurant.

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

Minister, Rev Frieda Gillespie
Religious Education Dir, Victoria Brown
President, Feryl Masters
Vice President, Rich Elkins
Secretary, Sue Ferris
Treasurer, Brenda Stewart

Committee Chairs

Building and Grounds: Lee Wyman
Committee on Ministry: Sylvia English
Communications: Don English
Endowment: Bill Paulson
Hospitality: Gail Butler & Marcia Sobel
Membership: Ruel Tyer
Religious Education:
Social Action:
Worship: Bruce Maxwell

