



The UUCG Beacon

October 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

October 2

Association Sunday
Rev. Ann Marie Alderman

October 9

Laughing is Good for You
Rev. Ann Marie Alderman

October 16

Who is Jesus?#2
Rev. Ann Marie Alderman

October 23

UN Sunday
UUCG Members

October 30

Celtic New Year
Green Weavers CUUPS

Children's activities are
available each Sunday.



President's Notes

We've had good news and bad news this month. Let me happily forewarn that if you are hoping to be more involved on specific tasks, read the last paragraph. Here's the news. Hurricane Irene was a dangerous and demanding storm that lingered too long in Eastern North Carolina while then going on to seriously deluge several heavily populated states up the coast. While we feel empathy for those most seriously affected, we

also experience our own disappointments and dangers here at home. More than a few of our members and friends have had trees fall on their homes and many have had to enlist workers to remove fallen trees.

We also received serious damage to our UUCG building and this, very unfortunately, caused the Youth RE programs to be delayed for a few weeks. Areas of the roof were compromised so that a significant amount of rain caused structural problems to a wall, ceiling and the carpet in the nursery. Similar problems occurred in the RE office. We are very grateful that a crew of members worked diligently to repair these areas. Pat Tesh and Ruel Tyer worked many hours repairing the damage. Other volunteers include Tom Long, Susan Foreman, Carroll Webber, Tom and Jennifer Thielen, Kimberly Thornton Scholl, Lowell Berkowitz and me. Rev. Ann Marie met with the insurance agents and identified other repairmen we will hire to complete some of the work.

Despite losing our YRE space, the programs continued with the library becoming the nursery, an outdoor canopy for the middle kids and designating the minister's office for the older kids. We are all committed to reopening the nursery and YRE rooms as soon as they are clean and safe.

And now for simply good news, we had our Board Retreat last Friday and our Leadership Retreat on Saturday. In addition to relaxing over a potluck dinner, the Board had an in depth discussion of its Covenant, which is read at the beginning of each meeting. Written as a behavioral guideline, we explored how we might be able to adhere more carefully to its lessons. For example, the communication section reminds us to deeply respect, listen and be nonjudgmental of what is presented by each other.

The Leadership Retreat on Saturday had a morning session led by Michelle Covi and Rev. Ann Marie on how to effectively use of internet and written communications. The afternoon session led by Tom Thielen and Rev Ann Marie was designed to brainstorm what kinds of activities we could add to our ongoing programs. Be ready to do a little maintenance work when a fifth Sunday pops up. Feryl has details. Rent a portable office building so that the Cancer Support Community might start in our building. Set up Pay Pal for those who would like to contribute to us online. Stream the sermons for those who can't easily attend, create more adult RE, offer sermons in Spanish, and have social events for members and outsiders. Events could be film festivals, a coffee hour, open mike, etc. Find and reestablish Fellowship committee chair. Plans are already being explored by Judi Hickson and Betty Greer to have a membership/volunteer coordinator. This person could help newcomers find their first niche as well as identifying volunteers for specific onetime events. Right now, we need a photographer for various events and for the directory. What would you like to see happen and what would you like to do?

Reflections

... of Reverend Ann Marie Alderman



If I had only known... How many times have you thought ...if I had known that the person I was so snarky with was mourning the loss of a dear relative... or if I had known that the person moving so slowly in the lunch line in front of me just had a hip replaced...or if I had known that the person I am calling to press for more volunteer time doing congregational tasks works two jobs just to make ends meet...

If I had only known, I might have been kinder, paced myself differently, or asked about a person's circumstances before assuming my need was more important than theirs.

Especially within congregational life...where we are all already REALLY trying to be our best selves...let's renew our pledge to act as if we do already know... that each and every one of us is a whole person full of hopes and hurts, some of what all of us do is brand new for some of us, and that each and every one of us would probably do whatever it might take to bring more love into this world if we were treated with kindness and respect.

We know already....

The REVEREND Ann Marie

Seeking Worship Service Leaders

Are you interested in your spiritual growth and development individually and that of the UUCG congregation as a whole? Well, you can have a positive influence on both by becoming a Lay Service Leader. A Lay Service Leader leads the Sunday worship services when our minister Rev. Ann Marie Alderman is not here, usually once a month and for a couple of weeks in the summer. It is a great way to participate in the spiritual life of our congregation in an up close and personal manner. A Lay Service Leader helps to select the music and readings for the Sunday services and special worship events, and has input into the themes and topics of Sunday sermons, among other duties.

All UUCG adult members are eligible to be a Lay Service Leader once they have completed the formal training session. The next training session is scheduled for Monday, November 7 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Worship Committee Chair, Lynn Caverly, at 252-702-3007, caverlyl@ecu.edu for more information.

Staff

Minister: [Rev. Ann Marie Alderman](#)

Youth Religious Education

Director: [Kimberly Scholl](#)

Music Director: Mort Stine

Choir Director: Sue Jefferson

Office Administrator:

[Michelle Covi](#)

Board of Trustees

President: [Bev Harju](#)

Vice President: [Tom Thielen](#)

Secretary: [Susan Foreman](#)

Treasurer: [Brenda Stewart](#)

At-Large: [Alan Bailey](#)

At-Large: [Judi Hickson](#)

Past President:

[Patrice Alexander](#)

Committee Chairs

Ambiance: [Terry Shank](#)

Building Maintenance: [Pat Tesh](#)

Communication: [Rich Elkins](#)

Endowment: [Bill Paulson](#)

Finance: [Paul Alston](#)

Fundraising: [Feryl Masters](#)

Hospitality: [Alice Arnold](#) &

[Ann Eleanor](#)

Membership: [Bud & Phyllis Hazel](#)

Youth Religious Education:

[Jennifer Thielen](#)

Stewardship: [Feryl Masters](#)

Social Action: [Tom Long](#) &

[Pat Anderson](#)

Worship: [Lynn Caverly](#)

Social Action

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT

UUCGSHELTER ACTION REPORT

Since beginning our volunteer service to The Greenville Community Shelter's Evening Check In program, we have had seven of our certified volunteers working at least one evening at the Shelter. This list includes: Ruth Abramson, Pat Dix, Gladie Hamilton, Tom Long, Marcia Sobel, Ray Sobel and Pat Tesh. Most of this group are continuing to sign up for regularly scheduled evening times. We do have five more certified volunteers who plan to fit into the schedule soon. However, the need is much greater than the number of volunteers we have ready. So, please notify Tom Long should you wish to serve in this program. This is probably the one program that allows us to actually work first hand with individuals. All of our workers have reported the experience to be worthwhile and rewarding.

THE GREATER GREENVILLE ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK

The Annual Crop Walk is to be held Sunday, October 2 at 2:00PM for registration and 3:00PM for the Walk itself. The Walk begins at the First Presbyterian Church at Fourteenth and Elm Streets. The Walk is three miles long over a carefully monitored level course that ends back at the starting point. UUCG has an excellent history of participation in this event. Last year we had about thirty walkers who did the course, and that put us near the top in participation. Registration for the event can be obtained by either checking on line by Googling Greater Greenville Crop Walk or by filling in Donation Envelopes. More information about either way for registration can be gotten from Feryl Masters or Tom Long.

THE FIRST BORN PROGRAM

The First Born Program on August 27, 2011 was cancelled due to hurricane Irene.



Board of Trustees Vice President Tom Thielen Stands on the Side of Love at the Equality Vigil in Greenville

Giggles for Gilda Event

Ooops! Comedy Improv will be putting on a hilarious fundraising performance to support our project to open the Cancer Support Community Eastern NC. The event will be on Oct. 14th 7 p.m. at the City Hotel & Bistro, 203 Greenville Blvd. Refreshments are included in the \$25 ticket fee (\$30 at the door); \$300 for an 8 seat VIP table by the stage. The money raised will help open the red door to Gilda's Clubhouse and start the support program, so that no one will have to go through cancer alone. Get your tickets (and as many more as you think you can sell!) after the service each Sunday or contact us through 414-9986 or gigglesfor-gilda@gmail.com.



Religious Education

Youth Religious Education Report

Wow! We've had quite a month. Thanks to Hurricane Irene we are starting our Youth Religious Education "school year" a little behind. I would like to thank everyone for their patience as we work on getting repairs done to the Nursery and RE Office areas. Many of our members have been a tremendous help in cleaning, repairing and setting up temporary classroom space in other portions of the building, and I want to let each and every one of you know that your assistance is appreciated more than you can know. Thank you.

Because of the damages and ongoing repairs we have delayed the start of Yoga and are hopeful that we will begin again on the third Sunday in October. Please check with Kimberly if you are not receiving email updates and would like to keep up with what is happening in YRE. We have started out new curriculum programs. "Love Will Guide Us" is the theme for our elementary students which uses a metaphor of the night sky and our older children and tweens are have started with "Jesus and His Kingdom of Equals". Both of these promise to be fun and informative and I hope to see many of you come out on Sundays to take advantage of these wonderful lessons.

We are always looking for volunteer teachers for our elementary and tween classes as well as second adults for our classrooms and nursery. We are able to offer the opportunity for open, welcoming religious education because of the dedication of our volunteers. If you would like more information please contact [me](#) or [Kimberly](#).

In Service,
Jennifer Thielen
Chair, YRE



Baby Shower!!!

Janet Doig and Alice Arnold invite you to attend a baby shower for Janet Doig's granddaughter Jessica Connor.

Jessica is expecting a baby boy in November, so we are treating her to a baby shower after church (and coffee) on Sunday, October 30th, from about 12noon until 1:00 pm.

Please bring a baby boy gift (Pampers or "anything blue" to the shower - birth through 24 months would be great.)

We will have cake and punch to help celebrate this joyous occasion.

Unitarian Convention of North Carolina

On October 8 and 9th, the Unitarian Convention of North Carolina will hold its annual meeting at the Shelter Neck facility. There will be workshops, food, and fun. Childcare is provided, but preregistration is required. Come and meet area UUs and see this historic facility near Burgaw, NC. Brochures are available on the table by the bulletin board, or go to www.shelterneckuucamp.org for more info.

~ October 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:45a-10:25a Mindfulness Group 10:30a-11:30a Association Sunday: Rev. Ann Marie 12p-1p Lunch Group 3p-4p Crop walk	3 5:30p-6:30p Worship Committee Meeting	4 8a-9a Breakfast Group 1p-3p Minister's Office Hours 7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	5 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 5:30p-7p Adult Faith Development 7p-8p Choir Practice	6 7p-8:30p Green Weavers CUUPS meeting	7	8
9 9:45a-10:25a Mindfulness Group 10:30a-11:30a Laughing is Good for You: Rev. Ann Marie 12p-1p Lunch Group	10 7:30p-9:30p Sierra Club meeting	11 8a-9a Breakfast Grp 1p-3p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8:30p Gilda's Organizers/All Teams 7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	12 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 5:30p-7p Adult Faith Development 7p-8p Choir Practice	13 7p-8:30p Green Weavers CUUPS meeting	14 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group 7p-9p Giggles for Gilda comedy show	15 6:30p-8p Annual Service Auction
16 9:45a-10:25a Mindfulness Group 10:30a-11:30a Who is Jesus? 2nd in a series, Rev. Ann Marie 10:45a- Youth Yoga 12p-1p Lunch Group 5p-7p Vegetarians in Pitt County	17 7p-8:30p Board of Trustees Meeting	18 8a-9a Breakfast Group 1p-3p Minister's Office Hours 7p-9p Coffee Party meeting 7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	19 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 5:30p-7p Adult Faith Development 7p-8p Choir Practice	20 7p-8:30p Green Weavers CUUPS meeting 7p-8:30p Shelter Action Group meeting	21 7p-10p Hold for movie night TBA	22 8:30a-10:30a First Born Food Distribution 9a-4:30p Greenville Friends
23 9:45a-10:25a Mindfulness Group 10:30a-11:30a United Nations Sunday 11:45a-1:15p New UU orientation 12p-1p Lunch Group	24 7p-8:30p Book Club	25 8a-9a Breakfast Grop 1p-3p Minister's Office Hours 3p-4p Caring Committee Meeting 7:30p-8:45p KTC Buddhist Meditation	26 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 5:30p-7p Adult Faith Development 7p-8p Choir Practice	27 7p-8:30p Green Weavers CUUPS meeting 7p-8p UU Men's Group	28 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group	29 8a-1p Building and Grounds Workday
30 9:45a-10:25a Mindfulness Group 10:30a-11:30a Celtic New Year 12p-1p Baby Shower	31					

Don't Forget ...

our **Annual Service Auction** October 15th. Contact Feryl Masters for forms for donations, or email him with you offerings at oferyl@gmail.com. We also can use help with organizing and the Auction and on the evening of the auction. Contact Feryl if you can help.

Happy Birthday to UUs this October

Oct 16– Patty Gade

Oct 29– Sue Jefferson



Our Leaderful Community!
UUCG leaders attend the 2011 Annual Leadership Retreat September 17, 2011

Hospitality Needs Volunteers

The hospitality team would like volunteers to sign up for "Kitchen Coordinator" to set up the coffee, etc. before the service and clean up the dishes, etc after the service. You can sign up for a day or a month on the bulletin board. Thanks, the Alice and Ann team.

Fifth Saturday Workday

Make plans to be here for Fifth Saturday, October 29th. We will be working on several projects at the church, including siding replacement and chair cleaning. If you have a job that needs to be done at the church, or can come to help, contact Feryl at oferyl@gmail.com.

Deadline for next month's *beacon* is Tuesday, **October 18 at 8:00 pm**

Unitarian Universalist
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