



The UUCG beacon

NOVEMBER 2006

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

November 6

The Minister Search
Rev. Jennifer Slade

November 13

Reader's Theater
Brody School of Medicine

November 20

New Member Bread Ceremony
& Karen's Farewell
Various

November 27

To Be Announced

Children's activities are available
each Sunday.

President's Notes:

The Search

As we begin our search for a new minister, we have a long and many faceted process ahead. The process developed by our Unitarian Universalist Association is focused on finding the right match between Minister and Congregation rather than speed. For those interested, information on the search process is available on the UUA website. On November 6th, Reverend Jennifer Slade, the Ministerial Search Representative from the Thomas Jefferson District will visit to help us start the search process. She will join us in our service, and then lead a discussion with the Congregation afterward.

We've made one key decision already, to hire a full time Minister. We still have many choices left to make. The Search Committee will be helping us to make these. They will need ideas and suggestions from all of us. They will also sometimes need help in completing the tasks they have ahead. I hope we will all help them as they work to find the Minister who will be perfect for us.

At the leadership conference in Winston-Salem, we were told to staff for the congregation we want to become, not the congregation we are. We did that when we hired our part time Director of Religious Education. We hired Victoria and organized our RE program to be ready for the Youth Religious Education Program we want to have.

As we search for Karen's replacement, we should keep this in mind. We should search for a minister for the Congregation we want to become, rather than the Congregation we are. To do this, we need to decide who we want to be. Part of the Search process will be to figure out who we are and who we want to become.

The search process will probably take a year or more, but when we find the right Minister, the wait will have been worth it.

--Feryl Masters

Reflections

Reflections . . . of Rev. Karen Day

Remember the old grade school joke, “Why don’t you make like a tree and leave?” My last day with you will be Sunday, November 20 for our annual New Member Bread Ceremony. During these last three months since I have announced my departure I have noticed several phases. First you responded to my news with your feelings and questions. Next we went about the business of getting ready-me passing along tasks, you preparing for your future. Now we are in the final phase of finishing up our time together.

Because I am bound by my covenant with my colleagues I will have to take my leave without binding you with continuing ties. You need to be free to develop and grow in your own ways. You will be considering who you are and what you want in a minister and you will be trusting your lay and interim leadership. You will discover there are so many things you can do, so many talents to share.

I know this is true because I see the strength and determination and commitment you carry for this congregation, this place that is larger and deeper than any one person, that has continued on despite many changes. I see your abilities to create the spiritual home and the beacon of justice you desire.

Your tasks will be to continue to remain open and listen deeply to each other as you move for-

ward. With many ideas and opinions, with strong feelings, you can flourish if you trust the good will that each person brings to the task of becoming who you want to be. Of becoming who you want to be for each other and for those who haven’t found you yet.

Many of you have felt completely welcomed and immediately at home here. Cherish that feeling and keep offering it to others. Some of you have felt less certain of a welcome and less sure how to enter this warm circle. Voice your experience so that this congregation can become an even more welcoming, inclusive, open-hearted place. That’s the last of my advice to you.

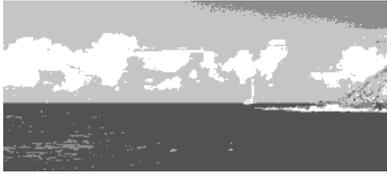
My future also holds surprises and uncertainties. We have not yet sold our house but still plan to move the week after the 20th. McCabe and I will snuggle into our mountain cabin in front of the fire for time to sink in to the mystery that awaits us. I’ll be talking with colleagues and community leaders about where I might be of service. We’ll spend holiday time with our families. So rest assured, dear friends, that all shall be well, that this road you walk and the road I walk, while no longer intertwined, are still moving in harmony. I go with love in my heart for you and for all we have been together, may you remain with love and with trust in your future.

--Blessings, Karen

Karen’s Office Hours

Karen will be in the office Mondays and Tuesdays Oct. 31, Nov. 1, 14, 15. She will be at the Southeast UU Ministers retreat Nov. 7-10 and the 20th is her last day.

2 Deadline for next month’s **beacon** is Tuesday 12 noon, November 22nd.



On The Horizon

Sunday Morning Fare

... by Karen Day

Worship Services for November

November 6 - *The Minister Search* - **Rev. Jennifer Slade** -- After a short break there will be a Town Hall-type congregational meeting

November 13 - *Reader's Theater* -- **Brody School of Medicine**

November 20 - *New Member Bread Ceremony and Karen's Farewell* --

Our annual celebration of new members is linked today with Karen's departure. Come taste and see!

November 27 -- *To Be Announced* --

Reader's Theater

The Brody School of Medicine Reader's Theater will be reading "The Enemy" by Pearl Buck. It's a story about physician loyalties during wartime and takes place in WW II Japan. It should generate a lively discussion.

--Roger Robbins

From the Worship Committee

A couple of seasonal opportunities coming up. The first is our Winter Solstice Celebration on December 18th welcoming in the Season of Simplicity. Anyone who would like to contribute a song, story, decorations, etc. please let me know. The second is our Christmas Eve service. This has traditionally been a collection of carols, stories, or whatever people want to share. Mort and Tracy have organized this in the past but feel they would like to offer someone else the chance to put it together. Anyone interested in putting their own personal stamp on this tradition, again please let me know. Thank you.

And finally, speaking of personal stamps, I would like to say what a pleasure it has been working with Karen as Worship Committee Chair over the last year, especially as we have instituted this cycle of seasonal celebrations and themes. I hope this tradition will continue and grow, and that Karen feels special thoughts coming her way every equinox and solstice.

--Roger Robbins

Comings and Goings

The Membership Committee tries to keep track of current members and newcomers. We have sad news that longtime UU Tina Baldrige moved to Wilmington in October. We will miss her beautiful laugh and bright spirit. Best of luck in your new home, Tina!

On a happy note, we had a wonderful, cozy gathering of newcomers on October 9th. Recent newcomers Dave and Bette Nelson, Roy and Karen Lucas, Deborah Bryant, and Erin Ramsey attended along with several UU's. Hope to see all of you again on Sundays.

Don't forget that New Member Sunday is coming up in November. If you want to be included, please contact Karen.

--Kendall Garing 3

News, Notes and Other Stuff

Interfaith Thanksgiving

Everyone please plan to attend the Fourth Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service at First Presbyterian Church at 3pm on Sunday November 20. Our congregation helped begin this community tradition so we'd like to see strong support for this event. You'll hear speakers and music from various traditions and share a refreshment time afterwards with folks from across the community.

--Karen Day

JOY Soup Kitchen

Janet Doig has agreed to coordinate our participation, making sandwiches monthly for Wed. lunch. Because of Thanksgiving we are not sure about November's schedule at press time, so ask Janet if you'd like to help.

--Janet Doig

McCABE'S HOLIDAY SALE

McCabe's Holiday Pottery Sale Sunday November 6, before and after the service in the church parking lot. 10% of proceeds go to social action fund.

--McCabe Coolidge

Social Action

The Social Action Committee is sponsoring a food drive for the Food Bank of Eastern Carolina. We will be accepting donations on Sunday, November 6, and Sunday, November 13. There will be a donation box in the back near the Social Action table. The Food Bank most wanted items are: canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups, cereals, diapers, infant formula, elderly nutrition drinks, canned tuna and salmon, beef stew, corned beef hash, chili, pastas and sauces, dried beans, 100% juices. No glass please.

Also, since the holiday season is the busiest time for the Food Bank, they could use some extra hands. If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Bank contact Joan Sachtjen.

--Joan Sachtjen

Campus Ministry

Our first Campus Ministry gathering was a big success with sixteen people attending! There were faculty, staff and students from ECU and from Pitt Community College. Katy McFadden shared our UU history. Shareen Berkowitz offered her thoughts on what UUs believe and several wonderful soups and stews were shared. Thanks to Tracy Donohue for being the faculty advisor, Rick Taylor for finding a room, Shareen and Richard Weir for organizing and everyone who cooked and attended. The group decided to keep meeting every other Monday at 6pm. That means November 7-room to be announced. If you want to be on the email list let Tracy know donohuet@mail.ecu.edu.

--Karen Day

Building & Grounds

B&G regular monthly clean-up and work day is the second Saturday of the month, November 12th, at 9:00am. Remember, many hands make light work, so, let's have a big turnout and finish early.

--Lisa Brenner



November in Preview

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 8:30 Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel	2 6:00 Eat Out @ a Tavola	3	4	5 9:30-10:30 Soc/ Political Covenant Group
6 MCCabe's Pottery Sale 10:30 <i>Minister Search</i> -Rev Slade 12:00 Town Hall Meeting Food Bank Donations	7 6:00 Campus Min	8 8:30 Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel 7:00 Committee on Ministry	9 6:00 Eat Out @ China 10	10	11 Teens to Mosque	12 9:00 B&G Work Day
13 10:30 <i>BSOM Reacer Theater</i> 12:00 Membership Committee 7:00 Meditation CG 7:00 Earth Based CG Food Bank Donations	14	15 8:30 Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel	16 6:00 Eat Out @ Ruby Tuesday's	17	18	19 9:00 First Born 8:00 Dinners for Eight
20 10:30 <i>Bread Ceremony</i> -Rev Day 3:00 InterFaith 7:00 Sacred Text CG	21 6:00 Campus Min 7:30 Board Mtg	22 8:30 Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel 12:00 Deadline for Beacon items	23	24 4:00 Pot Luck Thanksgiving Dinner	25	26
27 10:30 TBA	28	29 8:30 Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel	30			

Contributed Item

The announcement below may be of interest to members of your congregation. Thank you for helping us spread the word.

In faith,

Gordon and Judy Gibson, Tour Leaders
Tina Porter, Director of Communications
Meadville Lombard Theological School

EXPERIENCE THE PEOPLE AND PLACES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Some of the places of the civil rights movement are readily accessible: the Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma, 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, the church whose burning drew Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman to Philadelphia, Mississippi. But fewer and fewer of the people who gave such places their meaning survive to talk with us. Both places and people are included in a tour being offered in March of 2006 by Meadville Lombard Theological School.

The March 18-26 tour has been planned and will be led by the Rev. Dr. Gordon Gibson, who was involved in the early stages of the 1965 Selma voting rights campaign and was the Unitarian Universalist minister in Mississippi 1969-84. He led similar tours in 2004 and 2005.

The tour, by luxury motor coach, will include all admission charges, overnight accommodations, and most meals in the \$1,000 cost. Visits with 1960s activists and videos on the bus will supplement the site visits. The tour will begin and end in Chicago, Illinois.

For full details and registration information, you can visit the Meadville Lombard website (www.meadville.edu) or write to the Academic Office, Meadville Lombard Theological School, 5701 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637.

Registration is on a first-come basis with some of the 30 seats reserved for theological students who will be taking this as a credit course.

A participant in the 2004 Tour said, "the stories from the folks who were 'in the trenches' make the Movement come alive." Another participant described it as "seeing the Movement through the real experiences of real people."

--Special Thanks to Karen Day for this submission

Our Collective Works



Board Highlights

At the October Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees received information about a possible disruptive behavior policy from Toni Britt, the board member who did the research. It will be discussed at the November meeting.

Changes to the Committee on Ministry are being discussed to make it more like the UUA recommends. It will be discussed further. The Trustees voted to start a Denominational Affairs Ad Hoc Committee with Carroll Webber as the chair. The purpose of the committee is to keep us informed of TJD and UUA activities. Carroll will be looking for committee members.

There still is no chairperson for the Stewardship Committee or the Fundraising Committee. Because these committees need to be active, Feryl Masters has agreed

to temporarily chair the Fundraising Committee, and Mark Barnes has agreed to temporarily chair the Stewardship Committee. If you are interested in chairing either committee, please let Feryl know. There is also still need a for a Membership chairperson.

The cost of high speed internet and wireless internet are being looked into. It seems that it would actually save money. The teens especially want it so they can host Coffee Houses. It sure is nice to have active teens again (thanks to Richard and April Weir!).

New tee shirts will be available in the near future.

The Board has tabled the hiring of an Administrative Assistant for further consideration of tasks needed.

Until next month....

--Jackie Wyman

FIRST BORN UPDATE

In November and December, First Born just does one distribution each month and, of course, they are HUGE ones. The dates are November 19 and December 17. They will also need folks to come in on the Thursdays and Fridays before the distributions to pack boxes. I'll be posting sign-up sheets at church so I can tell the First Born people how many of us to expect.

If you've never volunteered, this is a good time to start! We need strong folks for carrying boxes, people to work at the desks to fill out the paper work, and people to pack boxes. Just arrive between 9:00-10:00 on Sat. morning to get your assignment. The distribution goes from 10:00 – 12:00. To get to First Born Church from Greenville: take Rt. 33 East to Grimesland. In Grimesland turn right on Chicod St. Go for around a mile and First Born will be on your right. If you need transportation or if you have any questions, call Tracy Donohue 758-0693.

--Tracy Donohue

On a Personal Note . . .

Cameron Baker** is scheduled to go to Japan next summer. Excitement! Look for news from Japan this summer. Also, Cameron has been selected as youth representative on the Search Committee for our settled minister.

McCabe Coolidge's daughter Mollie also has/had/or will have a trip, a cruise. If there's time, good wishes, Mollie.

Our members, Mort Stine and Karen Hall, were part of the ECU production of "The Pajama Game" last month.

This year we exchanged positions with the first Presbyterian Church -- They had the most walkers in the Crop Walk October 2nd and we had the second most. Carroll joined me in bringing up the rear. I don't think Charles Knowlton who had that honor last year was there this year. He wasn't in church that day, a casualty of the risen cost of gas.

Matthew Farris is, or will be soon, a licensed driver -- an event as usual of mixed joy and apprehension in his family.

Victoria Leo and Mort Stine were the authors of the two letters to the editor (LTEs) in the October 18th Daily Reflector. Each hit a nail on the head.

A writer* commissioned by "Mother Jones" interviewed some six of us at Ray and Marcia Sobels'. He was researching Walter Jones, Jr. in connection with the Jones-Paul-Kucinich-Abercrombie House resolution asking the president to announce by year's end a plan for a withdrawal from Iraq that would begin by October 1, 2006 and noticed the LTE, signed by 17 of us, supporting that Jones effort which now has 50 or 60 co-sponsors.

--Edith Webber

Breakfast (But Not at Tiffanies)

There's a group of UUCGers who meet for Breakfast each Tuesday morning at the Cracker Barrel. The time is 8:30 and when the service is prompt, they can be out in an hour plus. It's a very informal opportunity to get together and enjoy conversation on a wide range of impromptu topics. See you at breakfast.

Thanksgiving Pot Luck

Thanksgiving Day we'll hold our traditional Pot Luck Thanksgiving dinner at the UUCG for anyone who's away from family and would like to share with their new UU family.

For more information contact Edith Webber at 758-4906.

Children's Religious Education

Things are going well in the RE Department. The Tweens are continuing their studies with In Our Hands: A Peace and Social Justice Program.

On November 11 the RE is planning a field trip to the local Greenville Mosque for the Teens. This is a continuation of their study of other faiths. In October they attended a Protestant Worship Service at First Presbyterian Church. After the service they attended the Presbyterians' Youth group and were also treated to lunch by them. Richard and April Weir are planning a movie night at the church in November for the Teens.

I would like to introduce myself as the new Director of Religious Education. I am very excited about this position and am looking forward to working with you and getting to know you. Please feel free to contact me at 252-747-7785 or HemlocMoon@aol.com.

--Victoria Brown

CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee, actually a subcommittee of the Membership Committee, met after church on September 25th. Nine people attended the meeting. The group discussed the essential role of the committee in providing support to members, especially during this period of transition. In addition to usual concerns, many will be experiencing a loss and a sense of uncertainty.

Sue Daughtry suggested basic ideas for distributing the work by dividing the various activities among members of the committee and encouraging each person to solicit help from other members on an occasional basis as the need arises. For example, Joanie de Groot will maintain a list of people willing to occa-

Hospitality

We had a nice turn out for Dinner and a Movie, delicious food and a good film.

November 19th will be Dinner for Eight. The Host provides the home and drinks. Those attending share in providing main dish, vegetable, and dessert. In the past, children have not participated in this event. If someone with one or more children signs up to be a Host another parent or parents will be invited to share in this dinner. Kay Alston has done well in arranging these gatherings. She will have a sign-up sheet posted.

November Refreshments

Nov. 6----Fruit Janet Doig

Nov. 13----Cookies Marcia Sobel

Nov. 20----Fruit Shirley Day

Nov. 27----Cookies Carol Weil

-- Janet Doig

sionally provide food for a member who is sick, hospitalized, or otherwise in need. Others on the committee volunteered to coordinate or carry out other activities such as visiting the sick, sending cards, providing rides to church functions, sending flowers, calling to check on members, or providing other support activities whenever possible.

The 12 members of the committee are: Sue Daughtry, Ruel Tyer, Nancy Shires, Terry Shank, Ed & Shirley Day, Lezah Pagels-McCarthy, Janet Doig, Joanie de Groot, Bee Behr, Edie Webber, and Sue Farris. If you would be able to help your fellow members in some way on occasion or if you have suggestions for the committee, please call Sue Daughtry at 355-3537 or one of the committee members.

--Sue Daughtry 9

Deadline for next month's **beacon** is Tuesday 12 noon, **November 22nd**

UU Wednesday Dining Out Menu*



Let's Eat!

November 2nd -- a Tavola -- 620 Red Banks Road 321-5535

November 9th -- China 10 -- 2516 E. 5th Street -- 830-2238

November 16th -- Ruby Tuesday's -- 3510 S. Memorial Dr -- 355-4060

November 23rd -- No Dining Out

November 30rd -- No Dining Out

* Wednesday dining out starts at 6:00 pm & is Dutch treat. Please let Ed Day (355-0652) 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
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355-6658**

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Committee on Ministry: Sylvia English (temp) 756-7010
Communications: Don English, 756-7010
Finance: Mark Barnes, 321-2605
Hospitality: Janet Doig, 355-1822
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