



The UUCG
beacon

November 2010

The *beacon* is published monthly
by the
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Greenville
252-355-6658
www.uugreenvillenc.org
beacon Editor: Don English
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Sunday Services -- 10:30 am

- November 7
Hunger in America
Rev. Ann Marie
- November 14
End of Life Decisions
Rev. Dick Tucker,
Hospice Chaplain
- November 21
Bread Ceremony
Rev. Ann Marie
- November 28
Who Was Joseph Preastley?
Rev. Ann Marie

Children's activities are
available each Sunday.

President's Notes

President's Notes
October 2010

On Sunday, October 17th, at the Special Called Congregational Meeting, the Congregation chose "Gilda's Club" as the focus for our Social Action Committee and congregational activities going forward. Many thanks to Pat Anderson and Tom Long, our Social Action Committee Co-Chairs, who created the process of informing and involving our membership in the decision about where our social action and community outreach energies will be targeted. This is in line with the Strategic Long Range Plan (SLRP) that was approved by the Congregation at our May 2010 Annual Meeting. The SLRP called for the Congregation to focus on two or three social action projects, as part of our community outreach efforts, so that we can truly make an impact in our local community. Working towards establishing a Gilda's Club, a supportive gathering place for cancer patients, survivors, and their families has the potential to positively impact Greenville, Pitt County, and the surrounding counties. It is an exciting concept that has proven successful in the fifty communities across the United States that already have Gilda's Clubs. As someone who lost my husband to cancer seven years ago I know that if there had been a Gilda's Club available during that difficult journey it would have been easier. So now is the time to roll up our sleeves and start working towards making our decision and dream a reality. Each member at the meeting was asked to indicate on a form how much time they could devote towards the project. If you have not already turned in your form, please contact Pat or Tom and let them know how you can help. We will all need to work together and everyone will have something special to contribute.

At our Board meeting on October 18th we were glad to hear that financially we continue on a positive path, helped in part by an unexpected donation of \$4,000 by one of our members. That has al-

Reflections

. . . of Rev Ann Marie Alderman

For me November is the reflective, “count your blessings” month. There is so much I am grateful for. I am thankful for the unexpected generosity that has allowed UUCG to stop worrying about how to keep the building clean! In late September, we were able to employ Mr. John DuPree. He does a fine job early every Monday morning! It is a true blessing for him to have joined the rest of our “staff”; Stephen Brand, Kimberly Scholl, Michelle Covi and Mort Stine, some paid, some volunteer, all of whom are dedicated, passionate and excellent in what they do and each and every one a blessing to me and to this congregation. I am just as thrilled by the energy coming from all this year’s elected and appointed leaders who gathered in “retreat” in September and who now “going forth” enthusiastically fulfilling the goals of our Long Range Plan. I am deeply grateful and moved by this congregation as a whole who decided together in a special called meeting to select and support a congregation-wide social justice project that will meet a huge need in our community in the form of a Gilda’s Club. I always thankful for

every person who comes on Sundays and any other time the doors open to learn, to celebrate, and to share this faith with each other, and with so many visitors who find us again and again. Eight new members have joined since mid-August! Thankful for this measure of success, I am deeply grateful for each and every one of these individual new members whose presence and involvement blesses us all. In sum, I am so proud of who we are and what we do inside congregational life and outside...the influence we have for good in our wider community. We make a difference in lives! We promote peace, understanding and progressive change in our support and participation in the Interfaith Alliance, the Sierra Club, the Vegetarians in Pitt County, the ECU Campus Multi-Faith Alliance, Friends of Greenville Greenways, First Born Community Center, LOTUUS, just to name just a few of the other organizations we support, host and participate in. All these blessings and so many more will be welcomed at my thanksgiving table!

Rev. Ann Marie

Special UUCG Reminder

Reminders of places and times to gather as UU’s in our wider community and to wear your UUCG t-shirts, name tags, pins!

Every Tuesday, 8 am, Cracker Barrel, corner of Greenville Blvd and Memorial Drive

Nov 7, Crop Walk, 2 pm, First Presbyterian, corner of Elm and 14th

Nov 14, Oakmont Street Clean, just following the Sunday Service

Nov 21, Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, 3 pm, First Presbyterian

Nov 27, First Born Community Center, 9 am, Grimesland

Deadline for next month’s **beacon** is Tuesday, November 23rd at 8:00 pm

Affirming the inherent worth and dignity of every person

Reception for the Artists

The reception to meet the artists of the "Larger Than Life" exhibit will be Friday, November 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. at the church. Andy McLawhorn and Richard McLawhorn of the Ayden/Grifton area will present visual art using acrylics, oil, and house paint.

—Thanks, Terry Shank

The Living Mindfully Course

At the request of the members, the Living Mindfully Course will continue through November. With 13 people attending, we began with basic principles of mindfulness and have practiced two meditations each session. We focus awareness, acceptance of inner processes and training in mindfulness. Members report practicing at home and this is helping them progress. Future classes will be devoted to more deeply tapping inner resources and the workings of inner processes. Specifically the focus will be on emotions, thoughts, self-compassion and body awareness. Anyone interested in beginning on the 24th or 31st should call Bev Harju before coming, 252-258-1212 or email harjubev@yahoo.com

—Bev Harju

FLASH — This Just In

Alice Arnold attended the NC Art Education Association Conference in New Bern on Oct 23rd where she was named The NC Higher Education Art Educator of the Year.

Youth Religious Education

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year - the leaves are changing color, we have some wonderful excuses to play "dress-up", and we finally get a real break from the heat of summer! Community gatherings like the trip to Briley's Farm or the Annual Service Auction (we'll have kids' activities!!) give us a chance to socialize, play and meet new people. I look forward to all the upcoming fall celebrations where we'll give away treats, give thanks and take some time to reflect.

As you think about those things for which you are grateful, I want everyone to reflect on what finding the UU has done for you. Maybe you have always been a Unitarian Universalist. Maybe you have just found UUism recently. What has it meant for you to have a place where you are welcome? What has it done for your spiritual path to be supported as you explore yourself?

How does having such an environment encourage your personal growth? What can you do to give back to the community that has given you so much? I hope one of the ways you choose to support the UUCG is by working with our Youth Religious Education program. We strive to give the children of our community the tools, knowledge and self-confidence to explore their own unique personalities and spiritual paths in a safe and supportive environment. I think that is something worth giving thanks for, and a treat worth sharing. I hope you agree. Please contact our Director of Religious Education, Kimberly Scholl, or myself to find out how to share your unique gifts.

Fall Blessings,
Jennifer Thielen
Chair, Youth Religious Education

~ November 2010 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8a-12p Building Cleaning	2 8a-9a Breakfast Group 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 5p-6p Worship Committee meeting	3 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8p Choir Practice	4 7p-9p Program Council Meeting	5 5:30p-7:30p- Art Reception	6
7 9a-10a UU Forum 10a-10:30a Living Mindfully 10:30a-11:30a Hunger in America 12p-1p Lunch Group 2p-3p Crop Walk	8 8a-12p Building Cleaning	9 8a-9a Breakfast Group 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours	10 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8p Choir Practice	11 7p-8:30p Reader's Theatre	12 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group	13
14 9a-10a UU Forum 10a-10:30a Living Mindfully 10:30a-11:30a End of Life Decisions 12p-1p Lunch Group 12p-12:30p Oakmont Clean up	15 8a-12p Building Cleaning 7p-8:30p Board of Trustees Meeting	16 8a-9a Breakfast Group 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8:30p Gilda's Organizers	17 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8p Choir Practice	18 7p-8p Social Action Committee meeting	19	20
21 9a-10a UU Forum 10a-10:30a Living Mindfully 10:30a-11:30a Guest at Your Table / Bread Ceremony 12p-1p Lunch Group 3p-4:30p Interfaith Thanksgiving/First Presbyterian	22 8a-12p Building Cleaning 1:30p-2:30p Caring Committee Meeting 7p-8:30p Book Club	23 8a-9a Breakfast Group 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours	24 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours 7p-8p Choir Practice	25 7p-8p UU Men's Group	26 1p-2p Women's Lunch Group	27 8:30a-10:30a First Born Food Distribution
28 9a-10a UU Forum 10:30a-11:30a Who was Joseph Priestley? 12p-1p Lunch Group	29 8a-12p Building Cleaning	30 8a-9a Breakfast Group 3p-5p Minister's Office Hours				

Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregation

Tong Len USA for India

We are a group of UU's operating on our own, not on the behalf of UUCG. We have a project that might interest you if you've ever seen abject poverty. Would you like to commit some amount of money to this project for this year or even for the next five years? Joanie deGroot, the Administrator, asked me to send you a message about our LotUUs group. The members currently include Alice Arnold, Don English, Joanie deGroot, Bev Harju, Tom Long, Judi Hickson and Claudia Sundman. We have promised to give a fixed amount of money for the next five years to the Tong Len USA project. Derek Maher, Professor and Director of Religious Studies, has given talks about the Tong Len Project here at the church for past three years. This group has taken a community of the poorest people, the "untouchable" in Northern India and created a school and medical care. These children have been given the opportunity to become fully educated and to join the workforce, unlike their parents. Would you like to join us? Talk to anyone in the group.

—Bev Harju

Adult Forum Is Returning

"Oh I heard it through the grapevine. Oh and I'm just about to lose my mind"... that the adult forum was back at UUCG time, 8:50 am to 9:50 am. Remember 50-Cent like the rapper? ha!...ha! What it be !!! It will be a wonderful opportunity to expand your mind and as Emily Dickinson said to "dwell in possibilities." It's 30 minutes of watching a provocative film and 30 minutes of evocative discourse. Sounds like fun to me! Be there or be square.

Peace,
Graywolf
(aka Charles Gunther)

P.S. there will be meditation in the library afterwards.

Happy Birthday

Wishing a Happy November Birthday to the following UUCG Members:

Nov 1, **Jeanne Stone**
Nov 3, **Bradley Baker**
Nov 7, **Bill Baker, Don English**
Nov 9, **Bruce Baker**
Nov 12 **Theresa Sparrow, Leigh Harrison**
Nov 16 **Aaron Gade**
Nov 25 **Brian Hill**

Promoting a free and responsible search for truth & meaning

PREZ NOTES (continued from page 1)

lowed us to hire someone to clean the building every week and the difference is obvious.

We now have 101 members! Please reach out and welcome new members Brian Hill, JJ and Holly Weaver, Irene Raphael, Cam Scales, Amy James and Leigh Harrison. They all want to be involved in UUCG and will bring new ideas and energy to our congregational table. I would encourage all Committee Chairs to talk with our new members to find out where their passions lie. Our next Program Council Meeting is November 4th.

The Stewardship Committee has already met twice and is making plans for our Pledge Campaign. Please let Feryl Masters know if you can help with the campaign as either a host, a facilitator, or by giving your testimony at a service as to why you make your pledge to UUCG a priority.

Our Fundraising efforts are on-going, and if we all participate, will help us meet the budget goal that we have set for this year. We raised over \$400 at the Fall Car Wash and are waiting to hear the results from our two McAlister's Community Days. Our Annual Service Auction will take place on October 30th and everyone is invited to attend and bid on the exciting roster of services and items that have been collected. Families are encouraged to come and costumes are welcome! The next big fundraising project will be the gift-wrapping at Barnes and Nobles so please think about when you can help the week before Christmas because Claudia will be calling for lots of volunteers.

The Youth Religious Education Committee continues to be in need of both lead and assis-

tant teachers for the Sunday classes. If you can help once or twice a quarter, please contact Kimberly Scholl, our Director of Youth Religious Education. We had a great time at Briley's this past Sunday and Michelle Jenkins' "Stone Soup" was delicious. The children were very proud of how many vegetables they had chopped!

Our choir director, Stephen Brand, is looking for performers for the upcoming Hymnphony. Last year's was so much fun and we raised enough money to buy some new hymnals. Please consider "trying out" for this year's so that we can all celebrate each other's talents. Remember how wonderful the steel drums were.....

UUCG will again be participating in the Annual Pitt County Crop Walk, sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville. It will take place on Sunday, November 7th; the starting time is 2:00.

So in case you are wondering - we have lots going on at UUCG and it is really easy to get involved and hard to be bored! 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,

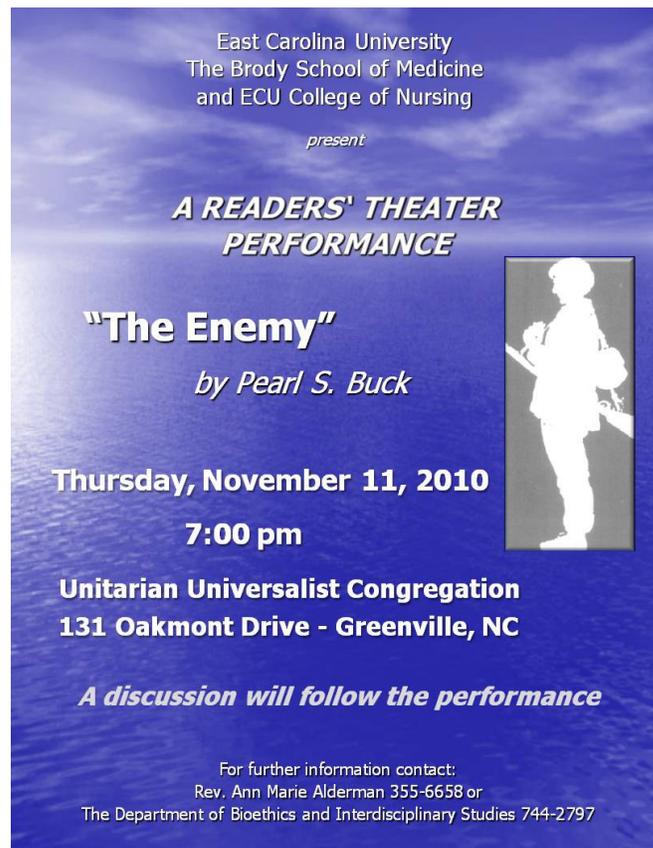
Patrice Alexander

Patrice Alexander, President
UUCG Board of Trustees, 2010-2011

Affirming the goal of world community & peace, liberty and justice for all

The Readers' Theatre returns to UUCG on November 11th at 7 pm.

"The Enemy," a short story by the famous writer of stories about China and Japan, Pearl S. Buck.



East Carolina University
The Brody School of Medicine
and ECU College of Nursing

present

**A READERS' THEATER
PERFORMANCE**

"The Enemy"
by Pearl S. Buck

**Thursday, November 11, 2010
7:00 pm**

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
131 Oakmont Drive - Greenville, NC**

A discussion will follow the performance

For further information contact:
Rev. Ann Marie Alderman 355-6658 or
The Department of Bioethics and Interdisciplinary Studies 744-2797



"The Enemy" tells the story of a white American soldier during World War II who falls into the hands of a Japanese physician in enemy territory. The Japanese physician dislikes Americans and whites and must struggle with issues of loyalty to country, duty to profession, medical practice in war-time, and racism. The half-hour reading will be followed by a short discussion of the story with the audience.

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

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

