



Clearwater UU Annual Auction  
April 2, 2011 at 4pm  
Mark Your Calendars!  
Plan to join us for an evening of  
great food, entertainment and fun!



**Doors open at 4:00 for the start of the silent auction.**

In past years there have been thousands of amazing items including artwork, jewelry, and services. Once the bidding is underway, small-plate style food will be served and a cash bar will be available.

**At 6:15, the action-filled live auction will begin, followed by a Happy Hour event with cash bar, great conversation, dessert and the musical styling of keyboardist Bill Bartlett.** Children's activities and childcare will be provided.

Tickets are \$18 in advance or \$20 the day of the event, with free admission for children 10 and younger.

**We need your help!**

Our biggest fundraising event of the year cannot be successful without the support - in treasure, talent and time - of the many members of our beloved UUC community. Your donations of gently used vintage items, jewelry, personal services, and other treasures will be sold to the highest bidder, raising money in support of your favorite UUC activities and local charity, the Clearwater Hispanic Outreach Center.

**Here's your opportunity to get the most desired volunteer positions for the Auction 2011. They are:**

- ◆ The always-coveted chopping & cutting of fruit & veggies earlier in the week.
- ◆ Serving during the buffet itself, one of the favorites among volunteers.
- ◆ The posh position of closing down the (not cooked in) kitchen after the auction.

**If any of these positions interest you, please call Ann Myers at 727 391-5798** or e-mail her at [anndmyers@netzero.net](mailto:anndmyers@netzero.net).

**Plan ahead and get the most desired volunteer positions!!**

**Please volunteer** - Also, please let us know if you can help us find sponsors and advertisers, especially if you have a business or can help reach out to businesses and organizations.

Contact the following members for specific information:

**Donations:** Sylvia and Scotty Scott 727-459-6510

[Sscott6@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Sscott6@tampabay.rr.com)

**To place an advertisement:**

Bill Norsworthy 727-687-9867 [Bnorsworthy@verizon.net](mailto:Bnorsworthy@verizon.net)

**General Information:**

Bill Dishongh 727-415-7676 [Bdishongh@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Bdishongh@tampabay.rr.com)

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**As human beings, we must have faith!** Life cannot go on, or go forward, sparked by pessimism, cynicism, hopelessness and despair. Whatever our problems, however complex and unwieldy, opaque and dangerous, we have to believe that we can do something about them. We have to believe in ourselves, in each other, and in our collective ability to create a better future.

### **What is faith?**

Faith is what we put our trust in. It is our allegiances. It is our relationships. It is the promise we make that we really try to keep. Faith is those few convictions in which we have confidence, confidence even when the facts are not all in or in the face of daunting tragedy or sickening anxiety or serious financial hardship.

Faith is something that's with us even in the midst of our confusion, anger, grief and also in our moments of triumph and ecstasy. Faith is reaching toward and connecting with that which is greater than ourselves; it is recognizing that there is an underlying oneness in the multiplicity we perceive and struggle against.

**For Unitarian Universalists, faith is a verb.** It's a matter of being and doing. But it's not without doubts; in fact, our faith is based on learning to live with and work our way through our doubts. Faith does not always come easily. At times, it can be a struggle.

It is far easier to be "faith-less" than "faith-ful" as my colleague Suzanne Meyer observes: **"(My faith) functions more like a sharp stick that pokes at my conscience most of the time. It is what moves me to speak when I would rather keep silent, to act when I'd rather sit on the sidelines, a not-so-innocent bystander."**

What does faith mean to you? How has the meaning changed for you over time? How does your faith show up in your life? In your thoughts? In your actions?

"Your faith has made you whole," Jesus said to the woman who touched the hem of his garment (Mark 5:34).

**Maybe the faith we have will make us whole enough to be human at last – to see something of the holiness and the joy and the power and the glory beneath the world's lost face.**

In faith,  
Abhi Janamanchi

**The new Covenant Group for Snowbirds will meet and dine together  
March 16 at 4:00 pm**

**This is our last meeting until November. We meet at UUC in the  
Maxwell Library just off the Social Hall. After the meeting, the  
Snowbirds will dine together at a local restaurant.**

**Anyone interested in covenanting with "Snowbirds" is welcome,  
just drop in.**

**For more information please email Gene or Susan Walker at  
[walk2000@paonline.com](mailto:walk2000@paonline.com) or Tiffany Boggs at [puggirl417@gmail.com](mailto:puggirl417@gmail.com).**



## From The President Terrence Stapleton

*We minister to each other through service, education, artistic and spiritual nourishment and the strengthening of our relationships.  
In our local and world communities, we promote our vision, live our UU principles, inspire peaceful activism, and invite fellow seekers to join our quest.*  
**UUC Mission Statement**



Dear Members and Friends,

**“No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.”** So wrote poet John Donne.

It's been said that the ability of churches to fund their work depends upon the economic views and employment status of the members. If members are suffering financially or lack confidence in their economic future, it follows that the whole body suffers and there is less money to sustain the work of the institution.

**However, I disagree.** It is not how much money we have in our collective wallets that will fund our work. Our success depends upon the priority you assign to this religious community's work to achieve a just and moral society. If a liberal religious community is important in your life, your children's and the community, the success of our programs will be determined by priorities you make.

**If you have not returned your gift card for 2011-2012, please do so today.**

As for members, who have made their financial commitment, please re-consider the role of the UUC in your life and our community and increase your gift as you are able.

March is a good time to meet with your financial advisor to discuss including the UUC and Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater Church Foundation in your estate plans. Planned giving donations to the UUC help fund UUC operations, a specific program or capital project. Gifts to the Foundation will be invested with a portion of the earnings designated to the UUC every year thereafter. Randy Cooper is our Planned Giving Chairperson. Contact him at 813-884-9511 or email [rctampa@verizon.net](mailto:rctampa@verizon.net)

The Board approved the hiring of a UUA consultant to guide us through Phase II of our Vision Planning Program. Phase I gave a positive assessment (copy available in office) of our ability to create a new Vision and Mission Plan that will position the UUC for the future. Each of you will be asked to contribute your ideas into the planning process. Our goal is to have these plans ready for your approval at the next Annual Meeting.



### **FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES**

Call Carol Heichel if you wish to place flowers on the pulpit with an announcement in the Sunday Bulletin.

You may reserve a special date on the flower calendar outside the office doors. Bring your own arrangement or order a bouquet for \$40.

You may also choose to contribute the \$40 to RCS (Religious Community Services) and a token rose cluster will be provided.

To schedule a flower contribution please contact:  
Carol Heichel (727) 738-8982 or e-mail [clheichel@hotmail.com](mailto:clheichel@hotmail.com)



Hello Friends,

Our Religious Education Program is thriving! I am so glad to see so many families join us each Sunday. It is a true pleasure to be around so many wonderful children and youth.

Some reminders to keep the Religious Education Program on track:

- \* Eat a good breakfast.
- \* Arrive on time or a little early to allow for some free play
- \* Sign-in and out (sign-in sheets are in the lobby or playground area)
- \* Please leave toys and candy at home or put them away until after classes
- \* Ask questions and participate
- \* Volunteer! We can always use an extra set of hands

Our Religious Education classes begin at 10:30 am. Our Nursery offers free play and loving care for our littlest UUs (ages 0-3). On the first Sunday of each month we begin with Children's Worship in the Maxwell Library. This gives the children a chance to worship and share on a more cozy level.

On the remaining Sundays, the children will attend the first part of the service in the Sanctuary with their parents. The children will participate with the rest of the congregation in lighting the chalice, singing hymns and hearing a story in keeping with the day's theme before going to their classes.

Our High School Group now meets from 12-1 pm to allow our youth to attend worship, help in the sound booth or assist with the younger children. This later time also allows Abhi to meet with the group once a month as well as letting others from the congregation be involved without missing the worship service.

I encourage you not to let Religious Education end when you leave UUC on Sunday, but to make it a part of your everyday life.

In addition to Sundays, I am usually at church on Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and most Fridays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm or we can get together at another time that is more convenient for you.

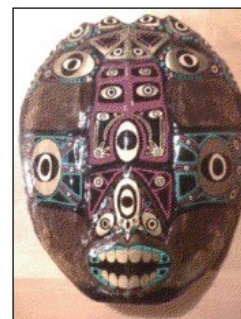
I hope to see you on Sunday with a smile!

Christine Pensa, Religious Education Coordinator

If you would like to know more about the Religious Education program at UUC, contact Christine Pensa at: [christinep@uuclearwater.org](mailto:christinep@uuclearwater.org)

Dream Visions: Native American Impressions L. Kevin "Skypainter" Turner  
Opening Reception: Sunday, March 6, 1-3 pm Dates of Show: February 25 - April 6, 2011

Skypainter, of Choctaw descent, has created a completely unique collection of artist-signed "dream vision" art. No two pieces in this collection of hundreds of entrancing items are alike. Come and see!





**What is your favorite sacred work by a classical composer?**

Is it the Vivaldi Gloria? What about Mozart's Requiem? Perhaps you are more a fan of Twentieth Century music and have a fine recording in your home of Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms or Ernest Bloch's Avodath HaKodesh (Sacred Service).

**As a choral conductor and classically trained singer, much of my exposure and education of vocal and choral literature has centered around works of faith.** Many composers have written fine music in the name of God. But why have faith? Furthermore, why does faith have such an allure for the composer?

**For me, a life without faith is a life without hope.** Part of the Unitarian Universalist principle of respecting the interdependent web of all existence has to do with the mystery of what got us here. Perhaps more importantly, I believe this principle challenges us to seek out not only how we got here, but how we are going to get to there. In a world which often challenges our very sanctity and safety as a people, faith or hope is the principle which makes us want to get up the next day and the days thereafter.

**Great composers who have inhabited this world take their own personal interpretations of faith, hope and God and set them to paper with musical notation.** When this notation comes to life through its performance, we are given a template of their personal faith testament so that we have inspiration to move forward in our lives. Music is a great thing in that it can provide the impetus to believe and hope. For that, I am faithful and hopeful for a better world.



**Our next regular meeting of the Clearwater Chapter of the UU PSI Symposium will be held after the morning service, at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 27, 2010, in the Patio Room at Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater.**

**Clara Morabito**, our own young, uplifting and energetic Nonagenarian, will lead a discussion on Prolongation of Life Via Gratitude. She will incorporate the findings of the major study done by Dr. Robert A. Emmons, who wrote Thanks!--How the New Science of Gratitude Can Make You Happier.

**In Memoriam – Pat McGiverin**

It is with great sadness that I tell you (in case you haven't heard) of the recent death of our own beloved Pat McGiverin, who has been an active PSI Symposium member for many years. A Memorial Service will be held after Abhi gets back from India, and details will be available.

**For more info contact Roberta Casper Watson at [rcwatson@trenam.com](mailto:rcwatson@trenam.com)**

**Above and Beyond Award**

**The Above and Beyond recipient for March is Charlotte Olson.**

Charlotte's work in the Religious Education Department has been exceptional. Among her many contributions were the design and maintenance of the Children's Hymnal, acting as a teacher of both the 1st/2nd and 3rd/5th classes and as an active member of the RE committee.

Charlotte has been an integral part of the Spirited Worship Sundays, as an organizer and a storyteller. Last year she spearheaded the very successful UUC production of the Vagina Monologues and was an outstanding actor in the performances. Thank you Charlotte, for your many contributions to UUC.





**Speakers on Topics of General Interest In the Patio Room at 9:30am Sundays**

**Mar 6: Nan Owens "Comfort and Challenge in End of Life Issues"**

After graduating from high school, Nan Owens attended Moody Bible Institute with hopes of becoming a missionary. Before she finished seminary, her opinion on religion had changed to a more effectual world view of ethics without the supernatural. Nan is Vice President, Atheists of Florida; Editor of Common Sense, the newsletter of the Humanist Association of West Central Florida; and former Executive Director, Center for Inquiry Florida, part of a worldwide humanist organization.

**Mar 13: Luc Zio "Goats for Women in Burkina Faso"**

Luc is president of OUAGANET, a nonprofit organization based in Florida that operates in Burkina Faso, a poor, land-locked country in West Africa.

**Mar 20: Jim Graham and Carolina Krawarik "Undocumented Migrants: Just the Facts"**

Jim and Carolina are UU activist laypeople, recently married, with a passion for social justice issues. Their wedding reception was a three-day social justice event: undocumented migrants, environmental responsibility, and marriage equality.

**Mar 27: Ann Scott "Want a fun and inexpensive place to stay on your vacation?"**

Ann is a 30 year member of Hostelling International. She is also a very active member of UUC. Before she departs for Athens in May, come and discover Hostelling International's many locations and learn that they are not just for young people.

**Worship Services — Sundays at 10:30 am**

**March 6**

**What Good Is Faith? Rabbi Arthur Baseman**  
Rabbi Baseman will explore the meaning of faith from a Jewish perspective. Rabbi Baseman was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio, served two years as a Chaplain in the U.S. Army, and then served Temple Sinai in Roslyn Heights for three years, prior to coming to Clearwater, Temple B'nai Israel in 1969, from which he retired in 2008. He is married to Renee, and the couple have three daughters and six grandchildren.

**March 13**

**Cherish Your Doubts Rev. Abhi Janamanchi**  
**Worship Associate – Carl Hansen**

What role does doubt play in our lives—is it constructive or destructive? How do we as Unitarian Universalists use doubt as part of our faith development? How does doubt affect the way we lead our lives?



**March 20**

**Keeping The Faith Rev. Abhi Janamanchi**  
**Worship Associate – Megan Szczepanik**

Several years ago, the Continental Public Relations Office of the UUA printed an outdoor sign for congregational use that proclaimed, "A RELIGION THAT PUTS ITS FAITH IN YOU." Ours is a tradition where we put our faith in one another and in Life itself. This service will investigate that idea.

**March 27**

**Unitarian Universalism's Christian Roots**  
**Rev. Abhi Janamanchi**  
**Worship Associate – Clara Morabito**

This is an auction sermon. Unitarian-Universalism springs from multiple sources, acknowledged and otherwise. The main taproot of UUism is Protestant Christianity, especially the Reformed tradition.

**We have made a great start with Estimate of Giving Cards; about 46% (101 cards) were collected on Sunday, February 13th, raising approximately \$213,000.**

We will be mailing out cards to those who were not at the luncheon and we ask for a prompt response.

**If you have not signed a card, there are three easy ways to do so:**

1. Wait for the card to arrive in the mail and return it with your estimate of giving to the church by mail.
2. Go online to the UUC website <http://uuclearwater.org/EstimateOfGivingCard.pdf> to print the card, and mail it in to the church office, marked confidential: UUC, 2470 Nursery Road, Clearwater, FL 33764.
3. Email your weekly estimate of giving to [shegner@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:shegner@tampabay.rr.com) with a "cc:" to: [bnorsworthy@verizon.net](mailto:bnorsworthy@verizon.net) Susan Hegner and Mary Thornton: Consecration Sunday Co-chairs.

## Social Justice Council News

### Share the Plate

**Thanks to the generosity of our members, \$1,022 was collected for the UUA on Association Sunday, February 6th.**

The Share the Plate recipient for March 13th is the RCS Food Bank. Religious Community Services (RCS) has helped feed hungry residents of Pinellas County since the 1960s. The need has now increased dramatically. Please bring your check book on March 13th.

### Khasi Hills

Thanks to all who sponsored a student or donated to this project. The students and teachers of the Margaret Barr Memorial School in the Khasi Hills of India appreciate your support. This is the 7th year UUC has assisted the children of this poor area of Northern India. The Social Justice



Council is grateful for your response to such a worthwhile program.

### ECONOMIC JUSTICE TEAM

#### Annual "Undie Sunday" Collection.

Each Sunday in March we'll ask you to bring new men's and women's socks and underwear to the UUC and drop it in a box in the lobby. We will be donating these collected items to an area homeless shelter. The shelters really appreciate it because these items are rarely donated.

### Major March for the Farm Workers on Saturday, March 5th

UUC members join the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) their families and allies for a spirited rally, pageant and celebration on March 5th in Tampa. **At 11 am, March 5th, we will carpool from the UUC parking lot to the Publix at 3838 Britton Plaza, Tampa for a 1.5 mile march which begins at noon.** If marching isn't your thing, you can go directly to the rally site. There will also be vans along the route to assist marchers who need a rest. Three separate marches will converge at the Dale Mabry Publix, 1313 Dale Mabry Hwy, at 2:00 PM. Sign up will also be available at the Social Justice Table or contact Linda Stoller for more information or go to <http://www.ciw-online.org/>.

### Immigration as a Moral Issue

Last year, the General Assembly (GA), voted that "Immigration as a Moral Issue" would be the Congressional Study/Action Issue for the years 2010-2014. For the next four years, local congregations are invited to study the issue of Immigration Reform, while The Commission on Social Witness begins the draft of the UUA Statement of Conscience. Congregations are asked for feedback at each step of the four year process. The final Statement of Conscience will be voted on at the GA in 2014. To begin our congregation's study process the Economic Justice Team has printed information at the Social Justice Table **and is planning to hold a discussion and light lunch at 12:45 in the Chorale Room on Sunday, March 6th.** Lunch is \$5 and reservations are required. You can make a reservation at the Social Justice Table or by emailing Linda Stoller at [LStol10403@aol.com](mailto:LStol10403@aol.com).



### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TEAM

Those interested in honoring Mother Earth for Valentines Day came to UUC on Feb. 12th to watch the film HOME. (Due to irresolvable technical difficulties, the film was not shown. The film is available on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/ek2Ahp>.)



At the Green Team February Meeting, we resolved to plan a film series and developing two demonstration projects in gardening at UUC. We will be inviting speakers from various community environmental organizations to share their expertise with the congregation. For further information on green activities please follow the UUC Weekly News, the website, and join us at our next meeting on **Saturday, March 19th from 9:30 – 11:30 am.** Bring your ideas, suggestions, questions, skills and enthusiasm.

**Thanks, Dotti "Green-Jeans" Doyle**

## Looking Toward Our Future

**You are invited to help chart the course for UUC's journey over the next five years. Before we cast off, you may want a little information about our itinerary.**

### Our Vessel

UUC has been a beacon of hope in our community for sixty years. We have provided a shining light through our social justice work, our interfaith relationships and our music programs. Where else could one have an open discussion about spirituality with an Atheist, Christian, Buddhist and a Humanist without being thrown overboard?



### Who Has the GPS?

As with any successful organization, our leaders and congregation members must periodically reassess where we are and where we want to be in the future. Our Board of Trustees decided that it would be helpful to gather all the data and reports collected over the past few years through workshops and focus groups to help guide us in this visioning process.

### Planning the Voyage

**Sheila Knaust, Scott Millinder, Pat St. Clair, Denise Seeber and Max Shimer** accepted the responsibility of working together for a few months as a **'Vision Task Force'** to review all that information and help lead the congregation in discerning the will of the congregation and our vision for the next five years. With input from the Board and you, the congregation, this process will be completed in April and presented at the May 15th Annual Congregational Meeting.

### All Aboard

For the past couple of months the Vision Task Force has been reviewing the information and working with the Board to help define the best ways to accomplish this task. **Now, we are asking everyone to come onboard.** Children, teens, young adults, mature adults; everyone. Whether you have participated in workshops before or not, this is the time to bring all our ideas together, in one place, at one time; together as a congregation.

### 'A Three Hour Tour'

**We will be asking for three hours of your time on Saturday, April 16, 2011. You will be able to sign up for a morning or afternoon workshop. Our captain for this process is a great consultant from UUA that you may have met before, Barry Finkelstein. His crew are trained facilitators from UUC who will help Barry lead us through this process.**

### Reaching Our Destination

**The April 16th workshop will produce UUC's Vision, Mission and Broad Goals for the next five years.** But that is not our final destination. From that, our strategic plan will be developed, with specific goals, objectives and timelines. The work we do on April 16th will be used to guide the Board and the Congregation in our decisions about things like governance, programs, facilities, ministry and options that may be available through a capital campaign.



**UUC will continue to be a shining beacon in our community.**

**We hope you will help guide us as we navigate our course.**

# 2010-2011 Program Focus for UUC

“Building the Beloved Community” is our worship and lifespan learning program year focus for 2010-2011. This year we will reflect, consider, and act upon nine religious and spiritual themes. Each theme plays a part in the development of a well-grounded religious and spiritual life. They provide us with a set of common stories and ideas that become elements of an ongoing community conversation.

September: **Mission and Ministry**  
October: **God**  
November: **Gratitude**  
December: **Hope**  
January: **Justice**  
February: **Unitarian Universalism**  
March: **Faith**  
April: **Salvation/Resurrection**  
May: **Growth**



## **MARCH: Faith**

### **Books:**

**Anne Lamott,**

*Traveling Mercies:*

*Some Thoughts on Faith, Grace (Eventually),*

*Thoughts on Faith,*

*Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith*

**Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner,**

*The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew –*

*Three Women Search for Understanding*

**Frederick Buechner,** *Secrets in the Dark*

**Paul Tillich,** *Dynamics of Faith*

**Nicholas Wade,** *The Faith Instinct:*

*How Religion Evolved and Why It Endures*

### **Movies:**

**Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?,**

*Starring George Clooney*

**Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring,**

*Starring Elijah Wood, Ian McKewan*

**The Apostle,** *Starring Robert Duvall*

**Field of Dreams,** *Starring Kevin Costner*

**Contact,** *Starring Jodie Foster*

**Faith Like Potatoes,** *Starring Frank Rautenbach,*

*Hamilton Dhlamini*

### **Websites:**

[www.faithandreason.org](http://www.faithandreason.org)

[www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)

[www.uuclearwater.org](http://www.uuclearwater.org)

[www.au.org](http://www.au.org)

[www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)

### **ART NEWS**

The "PaperSolo" show of Patricia McCandless generated the most excitement of any show in recent history. Twenty pieces of art were sold with a portion benefiting UUC.

### **MEMBERS ART SHOW:**

It is time to begin thinking of what you want to put in the show which will be hung May 19 and will remain up until Labor Day weekend. UUC members and regularly attending friends are eligible to exhibit their art. Children are encouraged to participate.

## **Consecration Sunday Thanks**

Mary Thornton and Susan Hegner, chairpersons, would like to thank everyone who helped with our spirited Consecration Sunday: Barbara Brandt (Committee/Board dinner), Ann Myers (Congregational lunch), Barbara Bedingfield, Marty Pelham, and Bill Snell (pulpit speakers), Ed Kraemer, Bill Norsworthy (list makers/number counters), Pat St. Clair (Order of Service), Charlotte Olson (children's treasure hunt), and staff members, Janine Tompkins, Karen Roeder, Christine Pensa and the office volunteer team for all their extra work. For providing all of us with inspiration we thank Rev. Dr. Meredith Garmon of Gainesville UU Fellowship and our own minister Rev. Abhi Janamanchi.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

I am pleased to report that sixteen (16) new members have joined UUC since September 2010 and we extend a warm welcome to them. Following are brief biographies of these new members and I encourage all of you to reach out to get to know them.



### **Byron & Evelyn Campbell**

**Byron** was born in Australia but has been a US citizen for 29 years. He served with the Australian Special Forces in Viet Nam. He lived in California and Pennsylvania, working in the profession of drug and alcohol therapy, before moving to Clearwater in 2009. He has a 24-year-old daughter in Pennsylvania. Byron volunteers for the Citizen's Patrol at the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

**Evelyn** is from Bucks County Pennsylvania. She has two married daughters in Pennsylvania and four grandchildren. She was a licensed clinical social worker for 25 yrs in the field of public child welfare.

### **Lary & Lori Crews**

**Lary** spent 30 years as a radio announcer and writer. He's also a djembe drummer, a published author and an actor. (His latest film, *Insidious* starring Patrick Wilson, opens in April.) Lary is also editor of the Octagram.

**Lori** was a former English teacher in Burbank, CA. Her son, Tom, who lives in California, is a school assistant principal, who's married to a lawyer, Jill. They have a daughter who is 11 months old. Lary and Lori were active members of the UU Church in St. Petersburg for several years.

### **Elizabeth Gunther**

**Liz** proudly graduated last year from the University of Central Florida with a Bachelor's Degree in Multicultural Humanities. She plans on continuing her education working toward a Master's Degree in Environmental Science. She considers herself a life-long student of religion, history, and the sciences including pagan and mystic theology, medieval history and world religious traditions as well as ecology, forestry and the environmental sciences.

### **Richard Olson**

**Richard** was born and lived most of his life in Cleveland, Ohio. He worked as a mechanical engineer, specializing in the design of production equipment for manufacturers. He moved to Florida 17 years ago. His partner, Carol Heichel, is also a UUC member. They live and enjoy life in Dunedin.

### **Pamela Page**

**Pam** has been a seeker of truth, a non-conformist and a believer in deeds, not creeds, all her life. She didn't know it had a name until Belief-O-Matic told her she was a "Unitarian Universalist." Pam is a resident of Redington Shores, a business owner and a lifelong friend of animals. She hopes to someday start an animal ministry at UUC to help raise awareness of animal issues and concerns.

### **Kathy Griffin**

**Kathy** is a Florida native and has lived in Clearwater for the last 30 years. She has one daughter who is a junior at USF, two sisters, and three great-grandnephews who live in Brandon. She enjoys cooking, spending time with family, and has recently started attending and enjoying UUC Saturday afternoon art classes.

### **Michael Thomas**

Originally, **Mike** is from California and now lives in Largo. Mike has worked in the Technology Industry, and later pursued a Licensed Massage Therapy career. Currently he attends P-Tec Technical School for industrial machine maintenance. He enjoys being with people of the same mindset and who treat one another with mutual respect.

### **Joe Weinstein**

**Joe** was born in Newark, NJ. He spent his early childhood in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; then was raised mostly in South Florida. Born Jewish, he became a Jehovah's Witness when he was taken in by Jehovah's Witness relatives after the death of his parents. He remained in that faith for 28 years. He has lived in Central FL most of his adult life in Deland, Sanford and Tampa. He currently lives in Safety Harbor with his partner, John Ferguson. With a high school education, he worked in construction as a stucco/plasterer, till 1984 when he started his career as a Fountain Artist. He has two daughters and seven grandchildren. He enjoys gardening and is currently active here at UUC with the GLBT group, Interweave.

**The following people joined in a private ceremony during December and February.**

**Everett Breningmeyer** recently moved to our area from Atlanta. He is a life long UU and finds himself at home with our congregation.

**Linda Faust** has been a long time visitor and friend of UUC. She is a musician and hopes to become active in our music programs.

**Roy and Beverly Swanson** moved to our area from Chicago. They live in Palm Harbor and are delighted to have found UUC.

**Bob and Teresa Jones** are especially appreciative of our RE programs for their children. They moved to our area from North Carolina.

**Our next UU 101, Introduction to Unitarian Universalism, will be held March 13th at 1:00 – 2:30 PM in the Chorale Room. A pizza lunch will be served.**

**The Next Pathways to Membership Session is scheduled for April 21, 28, and May 5, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the Patio Room of the Social Hall.**

Sign up sheets are at the Welcoming Desk, Guest Table, or on our Web Site.

If you have any questions about these programs, please see me at UUC, email me at [wescon@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:wescon@tampabay.rr.com) or call me at 727-596-7123. Bill Snell - Membership Chair



**The intrepid travelers from UUC are making progress on their whirlwind tour of the Indian sub-continent.**

Find out about the interesting things they've experienced already (like being blessed by an elephant and offering Mark Brandt's autograph to Bollywood actors).

**Follow their journey on the new UUC Blog.**

<http://uuc-blog.blogspot.com/>

**You'll also find it under Quick Links on the [UUC website homepage](#).**

**Saturday, March 19, 9am to 1pm, UUC Social Hall**

**PEACE  
NOT WAR  
GENEROSITY  
NOT GREED  
EMPATHY  
NOT HATE  
CREATIVITY  
NOT DESTRUCTION  
EVERYBODY  
NOT JUST US**

—Sami Sunchild, coc

The West Central Cluster of UU Congregations and UUC Present:

**Immigration Justice**

**- Not Just Us!**

A Workshop Panel Featuring:

**Ramon Carrion** has practiced U.S. Immigration and Nationality law since 1982. He has assisted hundreds of individual and corporate clients from around the world.

**Tempie Taudte and BiLLD Dishongh**, UU's from the Tampa bay area, joined approximately 1,000 protestors from all over the United States, who gathered in Phoenix, AZ to protest the passing of the Arizona Immigration Law.

**Carolina Krawarik** is an Austrian immigrant, an activist, and a lay leader of the Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Chandler, AZ. She is active in the VUUC ministry for Immigration Justice.

**Joan Lund** serves as elected Florida District Trustee on the UUA Board of Trustees. Joan and the board "walked" to Nogales, Mexico from Arizona. They spent time on both sides of the border as they went 'up close and personal' to understand the issue of immigration justice.



**Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute**

2011: Joy!

**SUUSI** - Order your FREE CATALOG today ([www.suusi.org](http://www.suusi.org)) to a one week summer camp for UUs of all ages on a college campus and enjoy an incredible life experience with like-minded vacationers at the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest gathering of UUs in the world (July 17 - 23).

Questions? Contact the SUUSI Answer Man: Paul Langrock 727-784-6597,

[Paul@TheLangrocks.com](mailto:Paul@TheLangrocks.com)



2470 Nursery Road, Clearwater, FL 33764

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**TIME DATED MATERIAL**



**SUUSI 2011**  
Joy!  
July 17-23 Radford, VA  
Southeast Unitarian Universalist  
Summer Institute

## OCTAGRAM

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists  
Of Clearwater and the Octagon Arts Center

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### DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT OR A QUESTION RELATING TO THE MINISTER OR MINISTRY?

If so, please contact one of the Members of the  
Congregational Committee on Ministry:

Jenn Bouchie 470-9422  
Sue Boone 531-5236  
Jackie Brown 772-6764  
Lucille Odeneal 743-1304

Please send OCTAGRAM submissions by email to  
[Octagram@uuclearwater.org](mailto:Octagram@uuclearwater.org). Deadline for  
each month's issue is midnight of the third Sun-  
day of the month prior to the month of issue.

**Sunday Worship Service  
information is on centerfold.**

Visit: [www.uuclearwater.org](http://www.uuclearwater.org)