



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS
OF CLEARWATER

Where Seekers Find a Home

OCTAGRAM

OCTOBER
2006



Congregational Meeting October 29 at 12:30 p.m. to Institutionalize the Second Ministerial Position

Reverend Millie Rochester was hired last year on a two year contract as Assistant Minister for Education. For her ministry at UUC to continue beyond those two years, the position must be changed to a "called" position. She would then be Associate Minister. A congregational meeting will be held October 29 to institutionalize the second ministerial position and call Millie.

Before October 29, there will be town hall meetings and other opportunities for questions and for members to express their opinions.

Good Luck, Nadya!

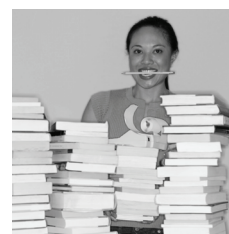


Please come back and visit, Nadya!

We bid Nadya Hand a fond farewell and wish her good luck as she takes on the position of Choir Director at the UU of Tampa. We will miss her and her wonderful cello

It's "Sale" Month in the UUC Social Hall!

The Third Annual Colossal Book Sale October 14, 15, & 16



The Dessert Party for members and guests, Friday, October 13 at 6:30pm. (Your chance to buy books before the general public rushes in.)
The Public Sale, Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9am – 3pm.
The Leftovers, Sunday, Oct. 15, after both services.

Needed: Volunteers, Books, CDs, DVDs, Desserts, Flats

Sign up to *help* before, during, or after the sale, at the table in the Social Hall on Sundays or call the UUC office mornings at (727) 531-7704. Also sign up if you can bring a dessert to the party. Remember, those who help set up (October 10 to 13) get the first look at the books!

Please bring in books, etc. to the Octagon lobby before Oct. 8. Flats (shallow boxes to hold books) are desperately needed. Costco and Sam's Club are the best sources. For more information contact Barbara Brandt at (727) 733-7855.

UUWU Autumn Rummage Sale Is Saturday, October 28

Clean out your closets, garage, etc., and help make some money for UUC. Drop off and set up will be Friday October 27 from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. If that time is unsuitable for you, other arrangements can be made by Jeannie. Donate furniture, clothing, jewelry, household items, toys, etc. The sale is Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and will include a "Boutique" section. Volunteers are needed for both days. Contact Jeannie Shimer at (727) 517-3801 or just "show up." (This project is sponsored by the UU Women's Umbrella group.)

Random Reflections



Rev. Abhi Janamanchi

Silence has a long history in the annals of religion. Jesus, whenever he faced a crisis, retired to some quiet spot to pray. Silence is an important part of Buddhist and Hindu worship. We all need some wordless silence in our lives. It is this impetus that drove Emerson to say, "I like the silent church before the service begins."

Worship without at least some silence is unthinkable. Unitarian Universalists are particularly guilty of a passion for words. I am sure some of you are familiar with the joke, "Unitarian Universalists are Quakers who talk too much."

But even within our own tradition there is a deep concern for the necessity of silence. "Blessed are they who catch the meaning of life's silences," wrote Percy Hayward, "the silence that follows words, when meanings linger to haunt the mind."

This thinking about silence leads me to a concern that I have about our worship service. This concern has to do with the "problem" of applause during worship. It seems that whenever we have music presented during worship, be it a wonderful piece that our chorale sings or a magnificent piano solo by Linda Jones, some of us feel compelled to applaud the performers' efforts.

Believe me, I love accolades as much as anyone. And from the bottom of my heart I appreciate your kind comments to me as you leave the church on Sunday mornings. But I try to remember

that, ultimately, it is not about me. I am merely a representative for something far larger than I, and one of a long line of such representatives at that. I see worship as a vehicle that helps us connect with each other and with Life. And so it is with the music in our worship service.

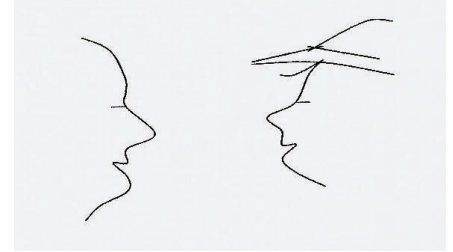
I am all for spontaneity, and there are times when applause *is* spontaneous. I think there is room for that spontaneity, and, besides, there is nothing I or anyone else can do about that. But when it begins to feel like applauding is becoming an obligation, I flinch. I don't think that I am alone in my feeling that it is, or can be, a distraction. It breaks the silence.

The question for all of us to ponder, I guess, is whether music in the context of worship is "performance" in the same way that a concert is. My own conviction is that it is not, any more than what I do is a performance -- at least I hope it is not. Music in worship glorifies not only the human spirit, but God and the whole creation. It represents the beauty that is in us, the wonderful potential that lies within all of humankind. It is an expression of the divine in each and every one of us, an auditory representation of what we like to call "the worth and dignity of every person."

Now, I have had my say. Some of you will agree with me, and some of you won't. Some of you would prefer less formality, some of you, no doubt, would prefer more. I'm not sure this is a question of formality or informality, though. I think it is a question of depth. It is a question of how we respond to the stirrings of the spirit within. And it is a question of how we experience exaltation and express it -- individually and together. But as I like to remind you on occasion, it is *your* religious community. We ministers come and go, but you must decide what you think is appropriate in our worship experience. I hope that you will give it some serious thought, and talk to each other about it.

In faith, Abhi Janamanchi

Planned Giving



"With all that is planned for UUC going forward in the long-range plan, I would like to leave a legacy gift to UUC to nurture my spiritual home. How do I do that?"

"Talk to a member of the Planned Giving Committee. There's Terry Stapleton, you know him. And Randy Cooper and Ken Suggs, and of course Abhi. I found them very informative and helpful."

Blessing of the Animals Service at Unity Church

Saturday, October 14, at 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Leddy Hammok and I will be involved in a ***Blessing of the Animals*** service, to be held on the Unity Church grounds. Please bring your pets (leashed or caged) as we join together to honor the work of St. Francis of Assisi and celebrate our relationships with animals. Cookies and punch for humans and goodies for pets will be served.

-- Abhi Janamanchi



Inward Springs

Stories about space travel and exploration have always captivated me. I know the father-in-law of one of the lead scientists monitoring the two mechanical rovers NASA sent to Mars a few years ago, so I take a special interest in that particular exploration.

A mutual friend related a recent experience concerning these machines, called “Spirit” and “Opportunity.” For years, he says, Spirit and Opportunity slowly rolled around on the surface of the red planet, photographing and transmitting images to earth. Over time, the solar panels that provided their energy got covered with dust, and the rovers began to run down. The engineers were resigned to the rovers’ demise, since by this time, the rovers had done as much as was expected of them. Too bad there was no way to send someone from earth to dust them off!

For a time, he continued, the rovers just happened to be parked overnight in the darkness on top of a ridge. Because of their elevation, some winds coincidentally began to blow the dust off the solar panels. The NASA scientists and engineers, brilliant as they are, did not anticipate or plan this – it was just great good fortune. But it has enabled Spirit and Opportunity to continue their explorations for many hundreds of hours beyond the most optimistic projections of the engineers.

Sometimes it pays to be in the right place at the right time. A congregation like ours provides connections with others when we might be at certain low points of our life. I think about the many activities at UUC, and know that by participating in them, we allow a cleansing breeze to work wonders on our spirit. I’m reminded of all the people who contribute to the success of these programs and activities. You may not realize the impact you can have. Your presence, your energy and enthusiasm, your intelligence, wit and charm, your dedication and perseverance, create some of that, like a cleansing breath of air.



Rev. Millie Rochester

The opportunities of a second Sunday service have attracted many new families, with children and without. What a delight it is to see newcomers and long-time members getting acquainted with one another! What we have to offer at UUC is a balm, and of course people are attracted to it. As we fulfill our mutual ministry, don’t underestimate your own power to bring sunlight into the lives of others.

Warm blessings, Millie

UUA Trustee Tidbits

Welcome to the October column. Hopefully your congregation is prospering and enjoying an active fall season. This month’s column will be devoted to Socially Responsible Investing (SRI). Many investors, be they a religious group or an individual, wish to invest their money without sacrificing their values. This is especially true for UUs because of our ethical and moral principles. The way we invest matters and it is now relatively easy for us to invest in ways that do not violate our integrity while still receiving a competitive return.

There are several main components of SRI. Negative screening means avoiding stock ownership in corporations that make harmful products such as tobacco and weapons, or that have patterns of harmful or flagrant behavior such as polluting substances and abusive labor practices. A second form of SRI is called positive screening which means proactive investment in businesses known for cor-

porate responsibility or positive contributions to the environment and/or society. These corporations have progressive policies concerning equal opportunity, affirmative action, employee ownership, and have beneficial environmental standards. A third form of SRI is shareholder advocacy which seeks to influence corporate behavior through proposing/representing resolutions. These highlight the need for diversified boards of directors, non-discriminatory employment practices, and ending predatory lending programs.

Proxy voting is important because we must have the right and responsibility to understand critical aspects of the challenges facing the corporations in which we have invested, and to express our views and concerns to the management through an annual proxy voting process. The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) uses a proxy voting service called Institutional Shareholder Services which votes our shares by proxy according to our strict SRI criteria.

Community Investing is financing that creates resources and opportunities for economically disadvantaged people and communities underserved by traditional financial institutions. This financing supports development initiatives in low-income communities both in the U.S. and developing countries and includes programs which provide capital/technical expertise to persons and groups often under-served by traditional lenders. Community Investing Institutions include community development banks, credit unions, loan funds, and other institutions which offer investment products that support community development. Community Investments are offered by community investing institutions.

It is important for all of us to express our values in all facets of our lives. If you or your congregation is interested in further information about socially responsible investing contact me at jlund@uua.org or seek out appropriate links on the UUA web site. There is much to learn and assistance available through the UUA.

—Joan Lund

Social Justice Committee News

“Drummers” Going to FUUNO

Steve and Laurel Turner, pictured at right, who entertained and inspired us at the September 10 service, will travel with their family to New Orleans. They will help in the restoration of the First Unitarian Universalists of New Orleans (FUUNO), provide music and drumming workshops, and give some of Steve's drums to FUUNO. The Social Justice committee will assist them with gas money and they will stay at FUUNO in the dorm area that has been set up to provide housing for volunteers traveling there.



“Split the Plate” Sunday for Food Pantry

Last month, you generously contributed over \$300 to Clothes to Kids. Here is a brief excerpt from their thank-you letter: "Your donation will enable us to purchase 20 pairs of shoes for the needy school children of Pinellas County. These shoes will be a blessing to the boys and girls, as they go to school feeling confident in their new shoes! It is increasingly difficult to finance clothing for children these days. Unfortunately, these children that go without appropriate attire suffer physically and emotionally. In fact, many teachers tell us that older children will even drop out of school if they are embarrassed by how they look. Our ultimate goal is to make sure that each child in our community is adequately and appropriately dressed."



On October 8, we will “Split the Plate” with the Food Pantry of Religious Community Services (RCS) to help them purchase perishable food. In addition, we encourage you to you bring some form of non-perishable food whenever you come to the UUC and place it in the large box in the lobby. If we fill the box every week, the Food Pantry will empty it every week. You always give so generously at Thanksgiving but with so many people in the area who are suffering economic hardships, the Food Pantry has an immediate need for more supplies.

Also, the Food Pantry is volunteer driven – 75 volunteers make up the backbone of the RCS Food Pantry. They are urgently in need of volunteers who can serve any amount of time—an hour or two, a day, whatever you can spare. This is a tremendous resource to the community and helping them would be great service project for a covenant group.

Volunteer Jobs include the following: (1) sorting food; (2) data entry; (3) answering phones; (4) delivering and picking up supplies; (5) interviewing clients; (6) having fun helping people! For more information call (727) 443-4031.

Movie on October 6: *Iraq for Sale*

On Friday, October 6, please join us here in the sanctuary for the premier of the movie, *Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers*. It is the story of what happens to everyday Americans when corporations go to war. Acclaimed director Robert Greenwald (director of *Wal-Mart*, *The High Cost of Low Prices*; *Uncovered*; and *Outfoxed*), takes you inside the lives of soldiers, truck drivers, widows, and children who have been changed forever as a result of profiteering in the reconstruction of Iraq. *Iraq for Sale* uncovers the connections between private contractors making a killing in Iraq and the decision-makers who allow them to do so. Bill Newton purchased this film for us to show so we are asking for a “love offering” of \$5 to recoup his costs.



Join Us

Please join us on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Westwood Room. All are welcome at our meetings and we encourage you to let us know about your social justice concerns. Let us know of any charities for which you would like us to “Split the Plate.” We ask only that you provide us with literature so we can make an evaluation. Someone is at the Social Justice table in the Social Hall after each service. Also, on the second Sunday of each month we sell Equal Exchange coffee and tea. We welcome your input and any participation you can provide.

Keeping Informed about RE

UUCRE@yahoogroups.com is a group email list for anyone interested in RE happenings! If you would like to become a member, or if you are on the list and you would like to be taken off, please email Rosanne Silverman at weaver4445@yahoo.com or call (727) 320-0169.

Membership Committee Update



Thanks to the Sunday morning Greeter Teams. Many Greeters are having fun doing this for the first time, really enjoying the opportunity to meet people. We especially want to recognize Sylvia and

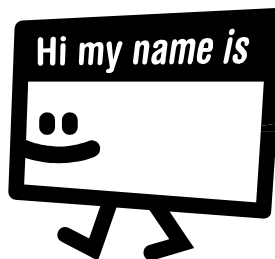
Del Scott from the Membership Committee. They have taken on the responsibility of recruiting greeters for the nine o'clock service. Greeter smiles and willing spirits make great contributions to the success we are experiencing with the additional service.

Guests often mention their appreciation for the warm and friendly atmosphere at UUC, inspiring them to return after an initial visit. This shows we all have risen to Abhi's challenge for spreading an atmosphere of "radical hospitality" at UUC. Recognizing this sense of community among like-minded people, our guests often feel comfortable and say this is what they are looking for in a religious home.

Note that October has two important Membership dates. October 15 is New Member Recognition Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. service. Are you ready to make a membership commitment in becoming part of the UUC community? If so, let us know, as you are welcome to be a part of this celebration.

October 21 is the one-day, all-inclusive "UU101" session. This class gives information on the rich heritage of Unitarian Universalism, as well as history of UUC, along with an opportunity to share your personal spiritual development.

Now the Membership Committee has a new goal. It's Sunday morning. Do you know where your name badge is? It is much easier for our guests and new members when they see a name badge, as well as hear your name when introduced. So take the time to pick up your badge when you enter on Sunday morning, and wear it to the Social Hall after the service.



Some members tell us they wear their name badge home, and then forget it, or lose it. So look for the basket in the Social Hall. If you place your badge in the basket, we will return it to the board for you. We hope this will help solve the disappearing badge problem.

Let us know if you need a new badge. Chuck Sollinger has agreed to head up the badge production. This is a most important task and not easy to find someone to do this, so we thank you, Chuck.

— Donna Ballard, Membership Chair
donnab52@yahoo.com

Cares & Concerns

Florence Austin-Cohen is coming along great in her treatment plan for cancer. She feels good, she says, and appreciates all the cards and calls from her fellow UUs.

Marlene Calderone went through a serious surgery in early September but should be well on the road to recovery by the time this is published. She has been mending well but it will be a while before she is full-speed.

Ruth Crittenton is home at last, having been discharged from rehab in the middle of September.

Trish Dempsey hopes to be able to start making it back to UUC before long as she has some improvement in her condition. She has been dealing with a fragile back and multiple surgeries which forced her into a long period of confinement.

Renee Dralnick is still in treatment at Morton Plant Rehabilitation, and hopes to be going home around the time this is published.

Terry O'Reilly, a snowbird, is scheduled to undergo knee replacements. She has also moved. If you would like her new address to send her a card, you can call the UUC office.

Sylvia Scott's father passed away recently.

Jeanne Traugott has moved to an Assisted Living Facility named "Abigail" located at 320 S. Delaware, Tampa, FL 33606. If you would like her phone number, please call Jackie Brown or Ken Suggs.

And a Joy:

Sarah Wheaton, a former nursery attendant at UUC, and the daughter of Charlie Wheaton, has graduated *summa cum laude* from George Washington University, with Special Honors in her field of Political Communication. She will be working at the New York Times' Washington bureau.

— Jackie Brown, Committee Chair
(727) 772-6764
email: sillyjacky@aol.com

Open Issues Forum — 10:00 a.m.

October 1	Bill Norsworthy	"Election 2006 Environmental Issues"
October 8	Leaders TBD	"Second Minister at UUC: If Yes, How?"
October 15	Dorothy Wylie and Marion Davis	"The Amendments and Propositions on the Ballot"
October 22	Rebecca Harrison Steele	"Why Restore Felons' Rights in Florida" Ms. Steele is the Director of ACLU for West Central Florida.
October 29	Darryl Paulson	"Political parties and elections / Florida and Southern Politics" Mr. Paulson is Professor of government at USFSP.

Open Issues Forum Committee

Dot and Chuck Sollinger	797-7784	Marion Davis	723-1327	John Chase	784-1234
Herb Blume	461-5414	Dorothy Wylie	797-5736	Bill Dougherty	539-1646
Charlene Carnes, Liaison	789-3536				

Calling For Worship Associates

To be a worship associate, you need to be a member of the congregation who is interested in exploring worship in the liberal religious tradition. The responsibilities include assisting the ministers with worship on Sundays for a month and leading a worship service in the summer. Once the associates are assembled, there will be an orientation and training session sometime in October. For more information, contact Abhi at abhij@uuclearwater.org.

Worship Services — 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

- October 1** **Making of the Mahatma** **Abhi Janamanchi**
Music by Students from the Taraana School of Indian Music
 Mahatma Gandhi continues to be an inspiration and a despair to all who approach him. He has been subjected to more analysis than any other person in contemporary history. He was not born a saint (nor did he ever consider himself one) but raised himself to being a 'great soul' by strenuous efforts. The service will celebrate his life and his message.
- October 8** **Navigating in the Dark** **Millie Rochester**
 We all answer a particular calling. This sermon will explore the course of determining what that calling may be. Rev. Millie's call to ministry provides an example.
- October 15** **Is This Your Religion?** **Abhi Janamanchi**
Music by Frank Wells & UUC Chorale
 On Bring-A-Friend-To-a-UU-Revival Sunday, come join us with friends and family to witness the transforming, vibrant, inclusive, healing, and inspirational message of Unitarian Universalism through word, song, and joyous music presented by the UUC Chorale and a jazz band! We will welcome new members at the 11 a.m. service. (Pancake Breakfast starting at 9:30 a.m. in Social Hall.)
- October 22** **Is Your Religion Relevant & Working?** **Abhi Janamanchi**
 Is Unitarian Universalism a relevant religion for today's world? Or, is it "dying" as my colleague Davidson Loehr describes it? What should we be doing to make Unitarian Universalism a significant force for positive change? The service will explore these questions.
- October 29** **Letting Your Life Speak** **Abhi Janamanchi**
 The question, "What shall I do with my life?" is one which, for many if not most of us, never really goes away. It is a deeply spiritual and unsettling question; and, it is not in the least unusual not to know the answer. The service will investigate.

OCTOBER 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Service (O) "Making of the Mahatma" 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open Issues (P) 11:00 AM Service (O) "Making of the Mahatma"	2 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)	3 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM FCP&J - Tampa Bay meeting (S) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UU 101 (P) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bridge (C) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM AA (W)	4 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Adult Education Committee (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal (C) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Committee on Ministry (Abhi's office)	5 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Children/Youth RE Committee Meeting (L)	6 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Books With A Twist (C) 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch and Conversation with the Ministers (W) 7:00 PM Social Justice Movie (O) Iraq for Sale 7:00 PM Friday Evening Meditation (L)	7 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Luncheon and Fashion Show (S,P,L) 9:30 AM Social Justice Comm (W) 8:00 PM AA (W) 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Michael Smith Concert (O)
8 9:00 AM Service (O) "Navigating on the Dark" 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open Issues (P) 11:00 AM Service (O) "Navigating in the Dark" 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Film: Film & Heroism: Busting the Myth of Being Old (P)	9 Book Sale Setup (S) 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)	10 Book Sale Setup (S) 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM New Member Orientation (P) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bridge (C) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM AA (W)	11 Book Sale Setup (S) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting (W) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal (C)	12 Book Sale Setup (S)	13 Book Sale Setup (S,P) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Member's Dessert Party/Book Sale (S)(W) 7:00 PM Spiritual Cinema "One" movie (O) 7:00 PM Friday Evening Meditation (L)	14 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Book Sale (S,P,W) 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cluster Picnic at Spirit of Life UU 8:00 PM AA (W)
15 OCTAGRAM DEADLINE 9:00 AM Service (O) "Is This Your Religion?" 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open Issues (P) 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Service (O) 11:00 AM Service (O) "Is This Your Religion?" 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Drumming Workshop (O)	16 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)	17 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Leadership Development Program (S) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bridge (C) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM AA (W)	18 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Board Meeting (P) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal (C)	19 Delivery and Hanging Art (O) 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Religious Services Committee (W) 2:00 PM Women's Book Club (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P)	20 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Art Reception Octagon and Lobby 7:00 PM Friday Evening Meditation (L)	21 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM UU 101 (P) (S) 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Covenant Groups Annual Potluck (S) 8:00 PM AA (W)
22 9:00 AM Service (O) "Taking Our Religion Seriously" 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open Issues (P) 11:00 AM Service (O) "Taking Our Religion Seriously" 11:00 AM Service (O) 6:00 PM Pinellas Interfaith Coalition for Darfur (OFF SITE)	23 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)	24 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Leadership Development Program (S) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bridge (C) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM AA (W)	25 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal (C)	26 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P)	27 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM Rummage Sale Set Up (S) 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (C) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Halloween Party Offsite	28 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Rummage Sale (S) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM UU Singles Fall Foreign Film (P) 8:00 PM AA (W)
29 9:00 AM Service (O) "Letting Your Life Speak" 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Open Issues (P) 11:00 AM Service (O) "Letting Your Life Speak" 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Congregational Meeting (O) 12:30 PM PSI Symposium Meeting (P) 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM Kate Clinton Concert (O)	30 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)	31 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Bridge (C) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM AA (W)	1 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Adult Education Committee (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal (C) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Committee on Ministry (Abhi's office)	2 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Children/Youth RE Committee Meeting (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Articulating Your UU Faith (P)	3 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch and Conversation with the Ministers (W) 7:00 PM Friday Evening Meditation (L)	4 9:30 AM Social Justice Comm (W) 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Reception Set-up (S,P) 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Wedding (O) 6:30 PM Wedding Reception (S,P) 8:00 PM AA (W)

For the most up-to-date (and legible) calendar information, visit www.uuclearwater.org and click on "Monthly Calendar."

UUC Leadership Program

Enhancing Your Leadership at Work, at Home, and in all of Your Communities

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on

October 17, October 24, November 7 and November 14

In the 4 sessions of the program we will be looking at, and practicing with, tools that are consistent with our UU principles. These include appreciative inquiry, crucial conversations, servant leadership, non-violent communication and the six advisors profile. These tools help to address what we encounter as leaders in small groups – concerns such as:

- Ok, I am a leader – now what? Developing your own leadership style
- Managing the time commitment – Beating the urge to procrastinate
- Managing the team – getting and keeping people involved
- Getting maximum cooperation from people - dealing with disagreements
- Developing healthy habits – balance and the positive outlook
- Running effective meetings - is there such a thing?

The sessions will be very interactive and you will take away specific leadership skills and resources that you will be able to use in many areas of your life, including your workplace, your relationships and in your work in the community and here at the UUC.

Who should attend?

- Individuals who are interested in enhancing their leadership anywhere (at work, at home, or here at the UUC)
- Individuals who are interested in mentoring people to be leaders
- New members
- Individuals who have participated in previous UUC leadership programs
- People who sit on committees or the Board of Trustees, Covenant Group facilitators, or
- Any member of the UUC who just wants to be more effective at what they do, especially in working with groups!

And after the Leadership Program?

There are no strings attached to your participating in this program. You don't have to be ready to sign up for a leadership role at the UUC. And we want to provide you with the confidence and resources which would have you see the value of participating in a leadership role in any area that is important to you AND we hope that includes the UUC community!

To register: contact Pegotty Cooper, (813) 884-9511, or email pegotty@verizon.net

Social Activities Committee Outline of Events

The goal of the Social Activities Committee is to plan and hold social activities to create a sense of belonging in the entire UUC community. Please contact committee chair Ruth Samuel (unless another name is given below) at (727) 791-1216 or RSamuel5@aol.com if you would like to join the committee or serve as a host or coordinator for any of the following:

Open Houses: To have one Open House per month in a place that can accommodate at least 25 to 40 people for an evening. The host provides the location. Participants provide hors d'oeuvres and their own alcoholic or other beverages. Hosts needed.

Circle Suppers: To hold monthly (usually October to April) small dinners rotating hosts and guests each month. Dinners would occur on the third Saturday of the month. The host provides the main dish; the guests provide the rest of the meal and beverages. Contact Emily Hull at (727) 328-0565 or Emily_Hall@places.pcsb.org. Hosts needed.

Holiday Dinners: Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in the Social Hall on Thanksgiving Day. Help will be needed from the congregation. Contact Soledad Loba, at (727) 576-8003 or soledad_loba@hotmail.com. Other holiday dinners are in the planning stages.

Lunch Bunch: To go out to lunch at local restaurants after Sunday services. Coordinator needed.

Pot Luck Suppers: To hold monthly pot luck suppers in the social hall or picnics in the park. Coordinator needed.

Committee members are: Dick Rolfes, Soledad Loba, Linda Stoller, Florence Cohan Austin, Lucille Odeneall, Hal East, and Katherine McDiffett.

Welcome Everyone to our 2006 Season of UU Singles Fellowship 40+ !

We will have a great year. Let us embrace every opportunity to cultivate true friendships. Yes! Let us create a year filled with meaningful activities that will spark the light of love and wisdom that burns within each of us. Bring your ideas and energy to our gatherings. Share your distinct experiences with extraordinary individuals. This is the mission of our fellowship and I hope that each of you recognizes its priceless offering at our spiritual home.

Halloween Costume and Pot Luck Party- Friday, October 27 - at the club house of Ruth Samuel's community. Time: 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Donation \$3 advance plus a healthy snack for five people; \$5 at the door. Free to advance volunteers. Wine \$1.

Thanksgiving and Christmas we will join the congregation at their holiday festivities in the Social Hall. I am the Chair for the Thanksgiving Dinner and a UU Singles Fellowship Table will be reserved.

In addition to our **Foreign Film Series** join us in the **Spring** for the upcoming activities

- **Intergenerational No-Talent Show**
- **Beach Sunset Rituals and a Salsa Merengue Dance Party.**

Yes! It is going to be a remarkable year ! So let's make it happen ! Gracias, Soledad

Some Additional Information for Newcomers about the UUC Singles Fellowship 40+

(1) **What it is?** The Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater Singles Fellowship is a program of the church that provides a safe and caring space for singles of ages 40 and above to come together to socialize and build friendships. All activities have a focus of meaningful exchange in a social, but non-dating atmosphere. It is a place and time for people who are single members or friends of UUC to meet and enjoy healthy relaxed time together.

(2) **Where does it meet?** UUC Singles Fellowship meets for scheduled activities both on the UUC Campus and in the community. All activities are drug-free. There is a two drink limit for all activities on campus.

(3) **What are the guiding principles?** UUC Singles Fellowship will be guided by and act in accordance with our UU Principles.

(4) **Who can join?** UUC Singles Fellowship is open to single members or friends of UUC and their escorted guests. For planning purposes, most activities and events require prior registration on a first come first served basis.

(5) **Can I date someone from the fellowship?** If and when individual friendships evolve into dating relationships, the dating will take place outside of club activities.

(6) **How can I contribute?** All members are encouraged to actively share in the decision making and leadership of activities as well as lend a hand with set up and clean up.

UU Singles Fall 2006 Foreign Films

Saturdays 7:00 p.m. Patio Room \$3 Donation (free to volunteers who sign up in advance). A discussion with refreshments will follow each film presentation, offering wine and coffee specialty drinks for an additional \$2 donation.

October 28: *The River Inside* (2004) Drama. Best Foreign Film 2005. Director: Alejandro Amenabar (Spanish / 2 hours). Life story of Spaniard Ramón Sampedro, who fought a 30-year campaign to win the right to end his life with dignity. "When you can't escape and you depend on others, you learn to cry by smiling." Words by character of Ramon Sampedro

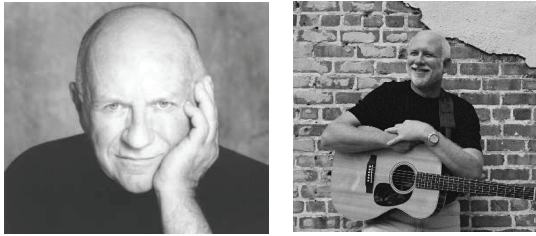
November 25: *Tampopo* (1985) Comedy. Director: Juzo Itami (Japanese / 2 hours). In this humorous paean to the joys of food, the main story is about trucker Goro who rides into town like a modern Shane to help Tampopo set up the perfect fast-food noodle restaurant. Woven into this main story are a number of smaller stories about the importance of food, ranging from a gangster who mixes hot sex with food to an old lady terrorizing a shopkeeper by compulsive squeezing of his wares.

December 9: *Venus Beauty Institute* (2000) Comedy. Director: Tonie Marshal (French / 105 mins.). It's Christmas in Paris, and three employees of a popular beauty parlor are each looking for a way out of loneliness, while Madame Nadine (Bulle Ogier), the boss, tries to keep her staff in check. "...Enchanting.... has more than an unexpectedly playful and pointed sense of humor, it has the gift of joining threads of sensuality, longing and anger to its comedy..." -- Kenneth Turan , (Los Angeles Times)

The CONTACT for ALL singles activities is the chairperson, Soledad Loba, (727) 576-8003, or by email at soledad_loba@hotmail.com. Also, for up-to-date details on our activities, refer to the Calendar on website www.uuclearwater.org. Generally, events are free to individuals who sign up in advance as volunteers.

Two Concerts at UUC's Octagon Arts Center

Michael Smith with Doug Spears
 Saturday, October 7, at 8:00 p.m.
 Tickets \$12 advance; / \$15 at door



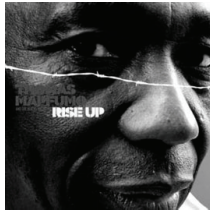
Kate Clinton
 Political comedy at its best!
 Sunday, October 29 at 8:00 p.m.
 Tickets \$25 advance / \$28 at door

**Tickets already
 selling fast –
 get yours soon.**



Tickets may be purchased in person at the church office, by credit card on the phone, or online. Go to www.uuclearwater.org, then choose Octagon Arts Center. You may also purchase **Season Subscriptions** to ALL the concerts. Pick up a brochure or see Kris Temple.

WMNF and
 The Pinellas County Interfaith Coalition for Darfur
 Present
 Sunday, October 22, 6:00 pm
At Skipper's Smokehouse



Thomas Mapfumo and the Blacks Unlimited Concert
 Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door
 All proceeds go to "Save Darfur."

Second Annual All West Central UU Cluster Picnic Saturday, October 14, at 11:00 a.m.

Serving Korean barbeque ribs , hotdogs,
 chicken, and veggie burgers.
 Dine beneath the pavilion.
 Bring a picnic dish to share.
 Drinks and paper goods provided
 Music by Rick Boling and others.

**At Spirit of Life UU
 18412 Burrell Rd, Odessa, FL**

For more information, call (813) 792-1622

UUWU Event for Women Saturday, October 7, at 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall



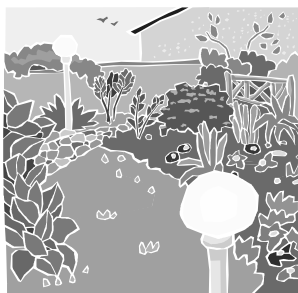
The UU Women's Umbrella group (UUWU) invites all UUC women and their female friends and relatives to a delicious luncheon and an entertaining show of the latest fashions from Bealls department store. This is a wonderful opportunity to interact with other women and share in the joy of being together. Child care is available by prior arrangement by call Molly Stephenson at (727) 723-1543. Tickets are \$8.00 in advance and \$10.00 at the door, and are for sale in the Social Hall Sundays after services. Plan on coming, mark your calendars, buy your ticket! See you there!



Pancake Breakfast Sunday, October 15



On Sunday, October 15, which is our fall "Bring A Friend" Sunday, the Men's Group will be serving pancakes in the Social Hall between services, starting at 9:30 a.m. (Fee charged.)



Pavers for Serenity Garden

If you haven't already ordered a commemorative paver to be placed in the Serenity Garden at UUC, you can do so by calling Jeannie Shimer at (727) 517-3801 or leaving the information

at the UUC office. The cost for a paver is \$50.00 and all proceeds go to a fund for care and maintenance of the UUC Grounds.

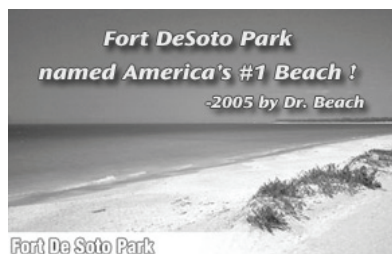
Spiritual Cinema Circle Presents "ONE — the Movie"



October 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Octagon

Backyard Indy-Film from the Midwest may just serve as a 'wake-up' call for humanity. Thich Nhat Hanh, Deepak Chopra, Robert Thurman, Riane Eisler, Ram Dass and others answer *Life's Big Questions*. Fee \$10.

Spiritually & Simply, Bill Newton, 733-9348 home; 688-8912 cell; Wnewton@tampabay.rr.com



WE'RE GOING CAMPING!



December 15 to 17 for 2 nights

Where: Group tent-site at Fort DeSoto Park
Who: Everyone! UUC families, singles, kids, adults!

Sign-ups will begin in November, so mark this on your calendar.
For more information, contact Ashlynn DeCosta-Ponnundurrai at ashlynnp@tampabay.rr.com.

Experience the Spirit of SUUSI !

You have 51 weeks to deal with everything in life. If you can't get it done in 51 weeks you'll never do it in 52...so go to SUUSI! Pencil in the 3rd week of July NOW just in case you can. In the meantime, check-out the 2nd largest gathering of UUs in the world at www.suusi.org And, up to the second countdown at: www.suusi.org/cgi-bin/countdown. You won't regret it. I guarantee it!

— Paul Langrock

Only 41 weeks until SUUSI!

PSI Upcoming Meetings

October 29 – Fritzie Redmond will lead a discussion of "A Course in Miracles." (NOTE: **Canceled and to be rescheduled due to conflict with the Congregational Meeting**)

November 26 – Rev. Linda Lou Kearns will present "Soul Messages – The Power of Dreams."

December 31 – Bill Newton will lead a discussion of "The Disappearance of the Universe," by Gary Renard. This book comes highly recommended as a good "prequel" to A Course in Miracles.

— Roberta ("Bobbie") Casper Watson
(813) 227-7487 or rcwatson@trenam.com.

Art News: "Possibilities in Pastel"

"Possibilities in Pastel" opens with a reception Friday night, October 20 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and will continue through November 29. This is the first show of The Pastel Society of Tampa Bay, a group that began in the spring when pastel enthusiasts from Dunedin Fine Art Center decided it was time to bring local "pastelists" together and showcase the wonderful pastels done in our area. We are happy they chose the Octagon Arts Center for their first show. Jane Freeman, a member of our art committee, is one of the artists. I hope you will encourage these talented artists by attending the reception October 20.

— Charlene Carnes, Chair of Art Committee

Inviting All UUC and Unity Members & their Guests
to
Our Annual Pot-Luck Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 23, 2006

Where: **Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater-Social Hall**
2470 Nursery Road, Clearwater, FL (727) 531-7704

Time: **2:00 p.m. Gratitude Service Conducted by**
Rev. Leddy Hammock of Unity of Clearwater
Special Music by Levi Hammock
3:00 p.m. Dinner is served.



Donation: **\$7 Adults in advance + a Dish for 10 people**
\$2 Children
\$8 Adults at the door

Free for Volunteers or Individuals with limited income.
We want you to enjoy this meal without financial concerns.
Please contact Soledad Loba and express your special needs.

Deadline: **Sunday, November 19**

Reservations: **At our website: www.uuclearwater.org and**
every Sunday in November in the Social Hall
or via e-mail to soledad_loba@hotmail.com

Limited Availability, so please make your reservations early.

Please include:

- 1. Name on the reservation**
- 2. Number of Guests - specify number of Adults and Children**
- 3. Type of Dish - Bring your Choice of any one of these:**
mashed potatoes, sweet yams, steamed vegetable,
dessert pie

All dishes will be transferred into chafing dishes, keeping warm until the meal is served.

For more information

Check our Promotional Poster in the Octagon Foyer or feel free to contact Special Events Coordinator
Soledad Loba (727) 576-8003 or at e-mail her at soledad_loba@hotmail.com





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Subscriptions: An annual donation of \$15.00 to cover publishing and postage costs is requested from non-members who do not make contributions of record to UUC. Thank you for your support.

OCTAGRAM

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

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Facilities Manager **Janine Tompkins**
Octagram Editor **Nancy Warner**

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:

Marie Chapman 772-0812
Diana Fraser 527-7648
Chuck Shimer 517-3801
Sol Winner 397-1935
Dorothy Wylie 797-5736

Please send OCTAGRAM submissions to the UUC office by mail, drop off in the Octagram mailbox, or by email to Octagram@uuclearwater.org. Deadline is midnight of the third Sunday of every month. For November issue, deadline is October 15, 2006.

**Sunday Worship Services
are at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.**

Visit: www.uuclearwater.org