

# OCTAGRAM

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Rev. Abhi Janamanchi

## Random Reflections

As our Jewish brothers and sisters prepare for the High Holy Days beginning with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur, I thought it

might be worthwhile to reflect on the concept of repentance or teshuvah. In the Jewish calendar, the period of atoning for the misdeeds of the old year comes only after the new year has already begun. My Jewish religion professor in seminary explained that this is because we humans need to be awakened by all the exciting possibilities of a new year before we are ready to look back at all our failures. In this way, we are nourished by hope even as we gain full consciousness of our failures in the past year.

Central to the process of teshuvah is admitting we were wrong, and making restitution where we can. This can be very hard. It takes courage to own up to our failings. We live in a culture where we're taught always to cover for ourselves and never admit fault.

It takes courage to take responsibility for errors we have made, even small ones that probably did not matter to anyone but ourselves. But responsibility is what the process of

teshuvah is all about -- responsibility: the ability to move from our deep knowing of what is right, not from our excuses. It takes courage to meet our partner, our neighbor, our co-worker, our parent, our child face to face, to make peace, to seek justice, to ask forgiveness.

When the Jewish people enter into the process of teshuvah, it is a kind of submission to their God. Unitarian Universalists do not highly value submission, nor do we necessarily image God as one who could or would demand such a thing, so what possible meaning can this process have for us?

In the Universalist sense of things, the gates to God, the heart of the Universe, are always open. On the Unitarian side of things, we are simply called upon to act as individuals -- we are good, we take action, the world turns. And yet most of us do have a sense that there is a reality greater than ourselves, a deeper mystery of life, of which we are a part. And it is here where we can grasp the value of teshuvah.

Teshuvah is not simply submission for the sake of submission, or simply for the sake of obedience to God. Seeking to be truly honest with one another, to make right the ways we have wronged one another, seeking

*Continued...*

and granting forgiveness with our brother and sister human beings, is the way in which we can draw closer to the meaning of life and the center of the mystery in which we live. It is not through piety or self-incrimination, but through connections and reconnections with one another that we move in the direction of a greater Wholeness.

If we want to experience what is most holy in this universe, if we want to experience what is most holy in ourselves, we must find it and honor it in one another. We recreate the world as we recreate our connections with one another in an honest, humble, and honoring way.

I encourage you to join with our Jewish community to search your heart for the times you have missed the mark, harmed another, or have been harmed, and to seek a path to repentance and reconciliation. I make no promises of success or assurances of salvation, yet my own work with teshuvah encourages me. The odds on love are good, so take the risk.

*In faith, Abhi Janamanchi*

## Announcements Policy

Please use the Announcements Form to write out your announcement before service begins. They are available either on the Visitor Desk or at the pulpit. This will help ensure that your announcement will be brief and pertinent. About half of our sample poll wanted members to make their own announcements, but several expressed the wish that announcers would not ramble on. Of course, this also allows you to hand your written form to someone else to read, if you are not a “public speaking” person.

Many thanks for your cooperation from the Religious Services Committee

## President's Message Planning



*Bill Norsworthy*

Planning ahead is one of the hardest things we do both as individuals and as a congregation. Most of us are drawn to the idea that we should live in the present and not be concerned about the future, that it will take care of itself. But, of course, we also know that what we do today will have great influence on how we live in that uncertain future. That applies to our congregation, too.

On Saturday, October 22, everyone is invited to attend a workshop on planned giving. This workshop will feature experts in the field of estate and financial planning. You will learn about the many ways you can help this congregation, both now and in the future, through effective use of the tax incentives offered by the IRS. You will also learn about the great work of the UUC Foundation and ways that your gifts can support the congregation for generations to come. I hope you will plan to attend this informative workshop and do everything you can to support UUC's long-term mission to be a place where seekers find a home.

Looking ahead just a few months, the board and committee chairs met with our stewardship consultant, Jerry King, on Saturday, September 17. We began the process of planning for this year's stewardship campaign. One of the key elements of our plan for this year will be to get everyone involved in the program in some way. There are lots of jobs to be done. Jeannie Shimer and Paul Langrock are co-chairs for this year. They will be reaching out to request your help. Remember the old adage: many hands make for light work. Please join in this effort and contribute the gifts of your time and your talent to this important work.

Speaking of gifts, what a wonderful contribution Scotty and Sylvia Scott have made to the beautification of our facilities. They took responsibility for painting the exterior wall around the Octagon. It was in great need of attention, and they, along with a couple of their employees, donated their time and talent to this very important project. Many thanks go to Scotty and Sylvia for this gift.

Finally, I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to John Chase, Barb Buckland, Bill Newton and everyone who worked to complete the parking lot improvements. These improvements have expanded the number of parking places and greatly improved the drainage. And, of course, we have our dear member Dorothy Young to thank, as well. Before she passed away, she donated a significant amount of money to this project because she was tired of trudging through the water. Those of you who had the great pleasure of knowing Dorothy and her indomitable spirit can think of her every time you park on the now high ground of our new parking lot.

Planning is a challenge. However, it is a very important part of our congregational life. Let us all keep thinking and dreaming of the future we want to create here at our spiritual home.

*Peace, Bill Norsworthy*

## New Members

We are in the middle of the “UU 101” classes and will be having a New Member Recognition on Sunday, October 9.

Attending the classes isn't mandatory for membership. However, the classes provide to those who have little or no idea what the “UU”s stand for or who just want to get some more information about how we started, the principles on which our faith is founded, and anything else they want to know. “UU 101” is an excellent way to get an introduction to Unitarian Universalism. It also provides individuals the opportunity to connect on a closer

level with a small group and get to know one another better. We provide “UU 101” classes three times a year, so hopefully you can find a time that fits, if you would like to attend.

If you are interested in becoming a member of UUC, we would love to have you. You could participate in the ceremony welcoming all new members on October 9th. Then if you would like, you can attend “UU 101” later. If you're a UU already, and are new to our community, WELCOME!!

We continue to grow and that's a wonderful thing. We have much to offer those who have been unable to

find a place where they felt comfortable and accepted, and for those who are on their own personal journey looking for what it is that makes them say, "This is where I feel like I belong--I can be who I am, I can question, and know that it's okay."

Please contact Marie Chapman or Lucille Odeneal, co-chairs of the Membership Committee, if you would like to join us. Marie's email is [harborhome38@aol.com](mailto:harborhome38@aol.com) and phone is **726-3801**.

Lucille's email is [lucill1@aol.com](mailto:lucill1@aol.com) and phone is **738-912**.

## Social Justice Committee

October is domestic violence awareness month. Here are some facts about domestic violence: a woman is beaten every 15 seconds in the United States; a woman is five times more likely to be attacked by her own partner than by a stranger; 3.3 million children will witness domestic violence in this country this year; 73% of batterers were abused as children and 60% of boys who witness violence in the home grow up to abuse their mates.

On October 9 the UUC will be hosting the “Clothesline Project,” a dramatic representation of the impact of domestic violence on families. Tee shirts made by survivors of domestic violence will be on display hanging on a clothesline between the Octagon and Social Hall. Please take time to read the messages on the tee shirts. Dale Slade, the Director of the Clothesline Project, will be the speaker at Open Issues that morning.

The Haven, the domestic violence shelter in Clearwater, is a project of Religious Community Services (“RCS”). This month they are sponsoring a number of activities. On October 7 they are having a “Faces of Domestic Violence Lunch” at 12 noon at the Harborside Center. Tickets are \$25. For more information on this event, call 587-0178. For information on the “Passion for Fashion” event to be held on October 9, call 584-3528.

The Social Justice Committee is sponsoring two outreach tables this month: the Earth Charter Summit on October 8 and Circus McGurkis on October 29. You can find more information on these two events on the Social Justice Bulletin Board or go to [www.earthcharterusa.org](http://www.earthcharterusa.org) and [www.circusmcgurkis.org](http://www.circusmcgurkis.org).

Please remember to continue to bring canned goods on Sunday for the RCS Food Bank. The RCS box is in the lobby.

Our next Social Justice Committee meeting is October 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Westwood Room. Join us—there is much work to do!

## Rides to UUC Needed!

Hello, my name is Sharis Coleman-Derr. I am visually impaired and am always looking for rides to and from church for choir practice (Wednesday nights 7:00-9:00 p.m.) and for Sunday service (must be at church at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays that the choir is singing and 10:30 a.m. on all other Sundays). I live at The Columns at East Bay (right behind the Outback Steak House on East Bay Drive; nearest cross Street is Belcher) at 3660 East Bay Drive Apt # 1311, Largo, FL, 33771. Please contact me if you can help. Call home telephone **230-0351** or cell **366-2291** or e-mail [shariscd@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:shariscd@tampabay.rr.com).

Thanks!

## UUA Trustee Tidbits

As I receive (some on line) and read the various interesting and informative newsletters I am sent from our congregations, I am struck by how active and vital each group is, often in very different ways. The initiatives many individuals and congregations undertook after the devastation of Katrina made me realize how caring and committed we are. The latest information I received from the UUA reported the money sent for relief was \$857,648, from 4,815 contributors, including one anonymous donation of \$100,000. By the time you read this, hopefully, it will be so much more.

Generosity seems to be my theme for September and October. After writing about the Veatch Program last month I thought you might like to know about the UU Holdeen India Program (UUHIP), established in 1984 thanks to a generous bequest to the UUA from Jonathan Holdeen, an attorney and businessman who was interested in assisting impoverished people of India. UUHIP currently is a non-sectarian religious and philanthropic trust.

Since its establishment UUHIP has supported more than 70 groups of marginalized peoples to do the following: help increase their organized strength and self-reliance; have access to productive resources, services, and opportunities; increase their livelihoods, assets, economic independence and security; influence government policies; challenge discriminatory social practices; and build, manage, and control their own institutions. UUHIP supports long term partnerships with demo-

cratically governed poor peoples' organizations that can advocate on their own behalf and are committed to non-violence in their approaches to dealing with social injustices. UUHIP offers strategic support to these organizations that will strengthen their ability to innovate, work, and grow effectively.

Financial assistance is given in the form of grants which are used for a variety of activities including leadership building, strategic planning strengthening, organizing, advocacy, and problem solving skills, and promoting government accountability. Funds may be used for union organization and technical/legal expertise. These are just some of the ways the grants may be used. Seed money provided by UUHIP sometimes enables groups to generate additional funding from other private and public donors both Indian and international sources.

UUHIP is part of the UUA Office of International Relations and maintains a small office in Washington, D.C. Holdeen is governed by the UUA Board of Trustees and UUHIP's own Board of Advisors. If you wish to learn more, go to the UUA website's search box and enter "Holdeen." If you wish to contact me I can be reached at [jlund@uua.org](mailto:jlund@uua.org). I look forward to hearing from you.

*Joan Lund*

## Split the Plate Sunday October 9, 2005

The September collection allowed us to send over \$500 to the Unitarian School that we sponsor in the Khasi Hills of India. This month our collection will be shared closer to home with "The Clothesline Project of Tampa Bay," a program to fight violence against women and children. For more details, read the Social Justice Committee column and look for the program's brochure in the literature rack in the Social Hall. Please bring your checkbooks on October 9.



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## Cares & Concerns

Ruth Crittenden fell and broke a hip and underwent surgery. She should be coming home soon.

Dorothy Busing, who was a victim of "West Nile" disease, has recovered. However, she is getting needed therapy for residual paralysis in her legs. Paul Temple suffered a mild heart attack. He went to Morton Plant Hospital for angioplasty. Our best wishes go out for the full recovery of Ruth, Dorothy, and Paul.

We are deeply saddened to report the death of beloved UUC member, Dr. Ernie Dibble, on Monday, September 20, 2005. Ernie had been ailing for quite some time. He was admitted to the ICU at Largo Medical Center the week before he died. Ernie was an active member at UUC. He managed the archives for a number of years and was instrumental in putting together a comprehensive history of UUC for its 50th anniversary celebrations in 2001. A memorial service to celebrate his life and contributions will be held on Saturday, October 22 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

# UU Buddhist Fellowship

## October Schedule

The UU Buddhist Fellowship meets for meditation and focused discussion every Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the UU Social Hall. We usually begin with brief introductions and discussion of the purpose the Buddhist Fellowship. This is followed by a 20 minute guided meditation session in the library. Afterwards we will continue to view a series of DVDs of Buddhist teachings presented at the first national UUBF convocation in New York. Discussion and BYO refreshments follow. Dana (offerings) gratefully accepted to support ongoing activities.

October 5: Beth Roth: Mindfulness Meditation instructor to children and adults in health care and education settings throughout

Connecticut. A senior nurse practitioner, Beth offers courses in Buddhism and meditation to medical personnel at the University of Southern New Hampshire and Yale Medical School. She also discusses similarities and differences bringing Buddhist teachings to diverse English and Spanish speaking populations.

October 12: Lama John Makransky, Ph.D. Both a professor of religion in Boston and an ordained Tibetan Buddhist lama associated with Lama Surya Das, John is renowned for his ability to support seekers in discovering and expressing their innate compassion towards self and others.

October 19: UU Buddhist Fellowship Convocation Closing Worship led by Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie, senior minister of the Arlington Street Church in Boston, the most prominent UU church in the U.S. Summation and review of

UUBF activities nationwide.

October 26: New independent film and discussion to be announced. A representative of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship will speak.

Background Reading: See essays in [www.uua.org/uubf](http://www.uua.org/uubf) and [www.truedharmaworks.org](http://www.truedharmaworks.org). Ethics for the New Millennium of the Dalai Lama is highly recommended. Download a useful guidebook for free at [www.dalailamafoundation.org/members/en/documents/ENM-Study-Guide-10-18-04.pdf](http://www.dalailamafoundation.org/members/en/documents/ENM-Study-Guide-10-18-04.pdf)

For more information contact Dharma Teacher Frank Tedesco at [franktedesco@yahoo.com](mailto:franktedesco@yahoo.com) or call (727) 391-1152. Find me in the Social Hall after Sunday service



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

On Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on October 18, October 25, November 1 and November 8 we will be holding the first four sessions of our Leadership Series during which time we will explore the concept of Servant Leadership, an inside out approach which is based on developing high trust within an organization and leading people by coaching, empowerment, persuasions and modeling. During these four sessions we will look at some of the skills needed in Servant Leadership and using the context of the UUC, explore how some of these skills can be applied. 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), or in mentoring people to be leaders, new members, anyone who has 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 Series? Will I have to participate in UUC leadership? There are no strings attached to your participating in this program and then taking on an expanded 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!

For further information, contact: Pegotty Cooper, (813) 884-9511, [pegotty@earthlink.net](mailto:pegotty@earthlink.net).

## Worship Services

**Oct. 2, 2005 - Gandhi's Truth, Abhi Janamanchi**  
*Musical Guests – Ms. Sharmistha Banerjee and students of the Taraana Music School*

Oct. 2nd will mark the 136th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi. The service will focus on some of the major principles that guided his life and their relevance for today. We will conclude the service with a special salt communion.

**Oct. 9, 2005 - Confronting Injustice, Abhi Janamanchi & Frank Wells**

What does it mean to affirm and promote “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations?” To what lengths must one go to promote them? To what degree and in what sense are we our brother’s keeper? The service will explore these issues further. We will recognize new members during the service.

**Oct. 16, 2005 - Topic To Be Announced, Ahmed Bedier & Frank Tedesco**  
*Ahmed Bedier is the Director of Council for American Islamic Relations.*

**Oct. 23, 2005 - A Sceptic's Faith, Abhi Janamanchi**  
*Musical Guest – Michael McNevin*

“Doubt,” says David Rankin, “is an intrinsic element of faith. It is the expression of concern for the proper integration of thought and experience.” How do we, as a religion that encourages people to ‘cherish their doubts,’ create and sustain faith? On Bring-A-Friend-Sunday, we will engage with these and other questions.

**Oct. 30, 2005 - Message of the Mahabharata, Abhi Janamanchi**

The Mahabharata is an important Hindu epic which tells the tale of the internecine, apocalyptic battle between two sets of cousins – the Pandavas & Kauravas. It provides valuable insights into the Hindu concept of Dharma or Duty. The service will focus on the story and the concept of dharma.

## Open Issues Forum

**October 2 - Joseph Kolb, "The Biggest Thing Happening in the 21st Century: CHINA"**

**October 9 - Dale Slade, "Closet Project"**  
*A Social Justice Committee program*

**October 16 - Gert Azarva, "How Important is Reapportionment?"**  
*Gert Azarva is Co-president of the League of Women Voters*

**October 23 - Abhi Janamanchi, "The Role of Religion in Politics"**

**October 30 - Dorothy Wylie, Open Discussion**

## Open Issues Forum Committee

Dot and Chuck Sollinger	797-7784	Marion Davis	527-1192
Dorothy Wylie	797-5736	Herb Blume	461-5414
John Chase	784-1234	Joseph Kolb	733-1420
		Charlene Carnes, Liaison	

# OCTOBER 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Committee Fair (S) 12:30 PM PSI Symposium (P)</p>	<p>26 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Toastmasters (S)</p>	<p>27 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Covenant Group Facilitator's Meeting (L) (W)</p>	<p>28 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Choral Rehearsal (O/C) 7:00 PM Ways and Means Committee (at Brands) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S)</p>	<p>29 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UU101 (P)</p>	<p>30 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM setup (S) 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM McMullen Booth Road Clean-up 9:30 AM Social Justice Comm (W) 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Michaelmas Festival (S) 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Indian Cultural Program Fundraiser for Hurricane Katrina(S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>	<p>1 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Second Service Workshop (C,W) 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM McMullen Booth Road Clean-up 9:30 AM Social Justice Comm (W) 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Michaelmas Festival (S) 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Indian Cultural Program Fundraiser for Hurricane Katrina(S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>
<p>2 9:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service 12:15 PM - 1:00 PM Visitor Orientation (C) 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Music Committee</p>	<p>3 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)</p>	<p>4 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (P) (W)</p>	<p>5 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM YAC Council (L) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Choral Rehearsal (O/C) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (P)</p>	<p>6 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (P) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM New Member Orientation (P) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM UUBF Children/Youth RE Committee (L)</p>	<p>7 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM UUC Members Pictorial Directory Photo Sitting (S) (S,L,P) 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch with Ministers (W) 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (L)</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM UUC Members Pictorial Directory Photo Sitting (S) 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Covenant Group Potluck (S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>
<p>9 9:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service - New Member Sunday 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Foundation Meeting (L)</p>	<p>10 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P) 7:00 PM Sr-Adults (L) UUCW Games &amp; Card Night (W) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Toastmasters (S)</p>	<p>11 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 1:30 PM Sr-Adults (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (P) (W)</p>	<p>12 5:00 PM Finance Committee (P) 6:30 PM Executive Committee (P) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Choral Rehearsal (O/C) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S)</p>	<p>13 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (P)</p>	<p>14 Congregational Open House (Offsite) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM UU Singles 40+ Happy Hour (S) 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (L)</p>	<p>15 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Work Party 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Blessing of the Animals (Unity) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Wine and Cheese Night (S, P) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>
<p>16 OCTAGRAM DEADLINE 9:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM RE Sponsored Lunch \$5.00 (S)</p>	<p>17 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P)</p>	<p>18 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Leadership Training Program (P) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S) (W)</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM Community Forum (S) 7:00 PM Board Meeting (P) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Choral Rehearsal (O/C) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S)</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Henging new art show (Octagon) 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (P) 12:00 PM Religious Services Com (W) 2:00 PM Women's Book Club (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Adult RE (L)</p>	<p>21 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Kelly Reeves Reception (O, Lobby)</p>	<p>22 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM UUC Planned Giving Meeting and Luncheon (O,S) 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Ernie Doble Memorial Service (O,S) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Michael McNevin Concert (O) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM UU Singles 40 + Foreign Film Series (P,S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>
<p>23 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Pancakes Breakfast (S) 9:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Volunteer Training (P)</p>	<p>24 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Toastmasters (S)</p>	<p>25 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Leadership Training Program (L) 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM AA (W)</p>	<p>26 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Choral Rehearsal (O/C) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Ways and Means Committee (at Brands) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S)</p>	<p>27 setup (S,P) 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Understanding Religious Fundamentalism (O)</p>	<p>28 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (L) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Men's Night Out (offsite) 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM Best Li'l Horror House in Clearwater(S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>	<p>29 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Best Li'l Horror House in Clearwater(S) 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM Best Li'l Horror House in Clearwater(S) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>
<p>30 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Open Issues (P) 10:30 AM Service 12:30 PM PSI Symposium (P) 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM Best Li'l Horror House in Clearwater(S)</p>	<p>31 9:30 AM Duplicate Bridge (P) 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM Best Li'l Horror House in Clearwater(S)</p>	<p>1 Colossal Book Sale (S) 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM Meditation (O) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Leadership Training Program (L) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S) (W)</p>	<p>2 Colossal Book Sale (S) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM YAC Council (L) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM UUBF Buddhist Discussion (S) Choral Rehearsal (O/C)</p>	<p>3 Colossal Book Sale (S)</p>	<p>4 Colossal Book Sale (S,W, P,L) 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch with Ministers (W) 7:00 PM Zen Buddhist Meditation (CL) 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Children/Youth RE Committee (L)</p>	<p>5 Colossal Book Sale (S, P, L) 9:30 AM Social Justice Comm (W) 8:00 PM AA (P or W)</p>

For the most current information please refer to the online calendar at:

<http://www.uuclearwater.org>

## Earth Charter: Toward an Ethical Community October 8

This is the fifth annual celebration of the Earth Charter here in the Tampa Bay area. This year's gathering will be held on October 8 in the Campus Activity Center at the USF St. Petersburg Campus. We have arranged to have UUC-favorite Amy Carol Webb provide a musical tribute at the event, which will be MC'd by Rob Lorei of WMNF. An exciting day of presentations, discussion and song will be part of Earth Charter Summit 2005: To Build an Ethical Community in Pinellas County. Admission is free. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude at 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided, too. Please participate and help to make our world more sustainable and just.

Volunteers are still needed. If you are interested in more information about how you can help, please contact Bill Norsworthy at (727) 687-9867 or [bnorsworthy@verizon.net](mailto:bnorsworthy@verizon.net). I really can use your help. More information is available at [www.earthchartersummits.org](http://www.earthchartersummits.org)

## Meeting in Support of National Farm Workers Ministry

The Pinellas Support Committee of the National Farm Workers Ministry is having their monthly meeting October 24 at the First United Methodist Church at 411 Turner St, Clearwater, FL. Fellowship begins at 7:00 p.m. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. Please come and join us in our help of farm workers in Florida and throughout America. For more information, contact Joe Morgan, Vice Chair of the committee, at 443-2330.

## Planned Giving Meeting

Do you want to create a legacy, your legacy, of funding the important spiritual work of our UUC? You are invited to an informational meeting regarding the financial nurturing of our UUC spiritual home. It will be about making an investment in our congregation's future. Specifically, we will be covering topics such as End-of-Life financial gifts and During-Life financial gifts. End-of-Life gifts are revocable, simple to accomplish, and vital to UUC's future. Both End-of-Life gifts and During-Life gifts create a legacy, your legacy, of funding the important spiritual work of our UUC.

The meeting will take place in our Octagon on Saturday, October 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, with a luncheon to follow in our social hall from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact any of the members of the planned giving committee: Randy Cooper, Ken Suggs, Bill Norsworthy, Harold Winner.

We are calling for volunteers to help set up prior to the luncheon, help in the kitchen, and clean up afterward. If you can help with any of this please call Barbara in the UUC business office at 531-7704. Thank You.

*Randy Cooper*

## The Octagon Arts Center Proudly Presents Michael McNevin in Concert



We are kicking off this concert season Saturday, October 22 with a very special show. Michael McNevin has performed twice before at the UUC. He is really an intergenerational performer. Children of all ages get Michael's music and adults love him also. For this reason we have scheduled Michael's show at 7:00pm so kids and adults can come. The kids get in for free so families are encouraged to come out to this event. We hope to see you at this wonderful show. Tickets are \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. Children get free admission. Tickets may be purchased at:

**Jim Terry Music**  
2356 Curlew Road  
Palm Harbor FL 34683

**Pets Unlimited**  
1888 Drew Street  
Clearwater, FL 33765

Michael McNevin's songs read like short stories; sometimes familiar, sometimes strange, but always vivid, with a pure eye for Americana. The youngest of four brothers, Michael grew up in the rail town of Niles, California, where many of his songs and stories are rooted. He has won a succession of songwriting awards and is also an accomplished Etch-a-Sketch artist. You can view his art at his website [www.MichaelMcnevin.com](http://www.MichaelMcnevin.com).

## 2005-06 Concert Series Season Tickets

We have a great lineup of artists on hand for the coming year and we have something for everyone: Michael McNevin and his Etch-a-Sketch, Brian Joseph, Rod MacDonald, Si Kahn, Tom Shed, Amy Carol Webb and Cheryl Wheeler. There are even two concerts from the UU Chorale and our featured speaker for the Interweave Convo - Sabrina Sojourner, the first openly lesbian, African-American, US Congresswoman. You won't want to miss one of them!

We are offering Season Tickets for sale through October 16th for \$95 (a \$20 savings on the package). You will never have to worry about getting your tickets on time, and they make GREAT Christmas gifts!

To get your Season Tickets, see any Music Committee member, at the table in the Social Hall after worship, or call Kris Temple 543-0288.

## UU Women's Umbrella Group (UWU) Announces Fun and Games!

Ladies do you like to play games? Mark your calendars. Join us every second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Patio Room. Our next get together is October 10. Bring a drink or snack to share and your favorite game. Play Texas Hold Em, Scrabble, Uno, Chess or whatever is your fancy. This is a great opportunity for the women of UUC to get to know and enjoy one another. Hope you can join us.

For further info contact Arlene Alldredge 796-0260 or Jeanie Shimer 517-3801

## Discounts for SUUSI

The Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, the second largest gathering of UUs in the world, meets the third week of every July. You may attend this great event at a reduced cost! SUUSI Scholarship applications for next year are accepted between April 15 and May 15, 2006. Have tons of fun by joining one of the many great SUUSI staffs and you'll receive credit! Offer a workshop on a topic of your choosing and SUUSI



will give you credit. The workshop proposal deadline is October 15,

2005. Pertinent information, applications and e-mail addresses may be found on the website

[www.suusi.org](http://www.suusi.org). Plan now to attend! Paul Langrock, 784-6597



## Second Annual Colossal Book Sale

We will have our Second Annual Colossal Book Sale in early November and UUC members will get the first crack at the books before we open the sale to the public. If you volunteer to help with the set-up, you will get the very first look! We have even more books this year due to the generosity of our members – a big thank you to those who have already donated from their libraries. And, a big thank you to those who signed up at the Committee Fair to help with the sale.

If you haven't signed up yet, here's what we need:

A work party on Tuesday morning, November 1 to set up tables in the Social Hall and to move the books from storage in the Octagon.

Lots of volunteers for the week from Tuesday, November 1 to Friday, November 4 to set up the book sale (2 ? hour shifts).

Volunteers for the day of the public sale to help customers, to keep the books in order, and to be cashiers.

Members to bring a dessert to share for the Friday night social.

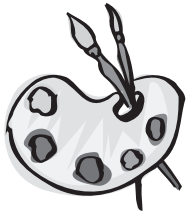
There will be sign-up sheets in the office. Please call the UUC office at 531-7704 and tell the office volunteer what you would like to do and when.

Also, we still need:

Donations of your books, CD's, DVD's, videos. (Place items in the tub in the Octagon lobby.)

Shallow boxes like those used for cases of soda cans, or tomato or strawberry flats from grocery stores and Sam's Club/Costco. (Place boxes in the Octagon lobby.)

Save Friday night, November 4, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., for a UUC Dessert Party and Book Sale and Saturday, November 5, for the public sale, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



## Art Show

Kelly Reaves, a very talented young Pinellas County artist, is currently an art student at the

University of Chicago. Her art show will open with a reception October 21 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and will continue through November 30.

Two pieces of art from the current show of Yoko Nogami have been sold.

*Charlene Carnes,  
Chair of Art Committee*

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## The Not Quite Oktoberfest Picnic, October 15

The West Central Cluster of UU Congregations invites you to this first time picnic event on Saturday, October 15, starting at 11:00 a.m., at the Spirit of Life UUs at 8412 Burrell Rd, Odessa, FL. The picnic features Korean bar-b-que ribs, hot dogs, and veggie dogs. Drinks and paper goods will be provided. Bring a picnic dish to share. Music will be by Rick Boling and others. Kids' activities provided with Angie Rivenshield. Plenty of shade and parking available. Call Spirit of Life UUs for more information at (813) 792-1622 or go to their web page for directions at <http://www.spiritoflifeuu.org>.

## UU Singles Social Club 40+

The UU Singles 40+ is a social club open to all UU members and their guests of ages 40 and above. Our mission is to provide a place where we can share our experiences and build a community. Feel free to join us and bring your creative ideas and positive energy to make this club a vital program within our spiritual home.

### Welcoming Happy Hour

Friday, October 14, Patio Room, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., \$4 donation.

Come and enjoy appetizers, refreshments and the camaraderie of great individuals. We will discuss the club mission and future events. Also tango and salsa dance lessons are offered.

### Foreign Film Series

Saturday, October 22, Patio Room, 7:00 to 11:00 p.m., \$5 donation.

View "After Life" (Wandafuru raifu), a Japanese film by Hirokazu Kore-eda. In the film, people who have died go to a way station where interviewers help



them pick one memory that they wish to take to eternity. The film is about memory and its importance in our lives. There is a wealth of ideas relating to memory that are explored. For example, how much of what we recollect is even true or have we internally idealized it? Enjoy discussion under candlelight with specialty coffees, sherry, and desserts.

### Volunteers are needed

Two volunteers are needed for each event to help one hour before the event begins. Volunteers will attend the event for free. You can sign up as helpers by contacting Soledad Loba either by phone at (727) 576-8003 or by email at [soledad\\_loba@hotmail.com](mailto:soledad_loba@hotmail.com).

### Club Officers

Soledad Loba, President  
Patricia Barnard, Membership  
Georgiann Jones, Public Relations  
Edward Kraemer, Treasurer

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## Annual Pancake Breakfast

On Oct 23 at 9:00 a.m. the food fest begins! The pancakes the men's group cook will make you flip! Ever eaten blueberry, chocolate chip, or "sensitive" pancakes? It's always one of the best Sundays of the year. Don't miss it!



UUC Ways and Means Committee Presents  
**The Best Lil' Horror House in Clearwater**

The UUC Ways and Means Committee and Snazzyact Productions is proud to present our first annual haunted house, "The Best Lil Horror House in Clearwater" at UUC, October 28 through 31. Everyone should be aware that this is a fund-raiser for both the UUC and the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. We are delighted to tell you that this will be a full blown, ghoulishly scary, interactive haunted house. Night tours will be rated PG-13 to protect the children from being traumatized. There will be one toned down afternoon tour for the children so they don't miss out on the fun.



In addition to the fantastic local talent involved (including some UUC members....guess who they are?), Snazzyact Productions is pleased to announce that horror icon Bob Glazier will be flying in from CA to guest star in the production. Bob Glazier and Trish Dempsey have starred in numerous horror films over the years and are well known in the genre industry. You won't want to miss this fiendishly fun event so mark your calendars and bring your friends! Look for the flyer in the UUC lobby.

**The Best Lil' Horror House  
in Clearwater**

UUC Social Hall  
October 28, 29, 30 and 31  
8:00 p.m. to Midnight - PG-13

Tours  
October 29  
2:00 to 4:00 p.m. - Children's Tour  
Tickets Adults \$10, Children \$5

Purchase tickets in  
advance online at  
[www.snazzyact.com/  
HauntedHouse.html](http://www.snazzyact.com/HauntedHouse.html)

For further information call Trish at  
**492-9952**

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**UUC FALL WORK PARTY**

Saturday, October 15, 2005  
8:00 a.m. until Noon

Join us in beautifying our spiritual home. We will be enhancing our new parking lot by trimming trees, pulling weeds, removing debris and mulching. Drinks and lunch will be provided so don't miss this opportunity to make a difference. Please bring gloves, tools and equipment. Look for the sign up table in the social hall after Sunday Services or contact Ashlynn DeCosta-Ponnudurai at [ad69dd99@hotmail.com](mailto:ad69dd99@hotmail.com) or 510-4811





# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF CLEARWATER

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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, Inc. Octagon Arts Center

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

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

- Ina Alexander** . . . . . 531-6110
- Sol Winner** . . . . . 397-1935
- Dorothy Wylie** . . . . . 797-5736
- Steve Poekert** . . . . . 804-4735
- Chuck Shimer** . . . . . 517-3801

*Please send OCTAGRAM submissions to the church  
office by mail, drop off in the Octagram mailbox,  
or by email to mail@uuclearwater.org. Deadline  
for November issue is October 16th, 2005.*

**Sunday Worship Services  
are at 10:30 am**  
*Visit: [www.uuclearwater.org](http://www.uuclearwater.org)*