



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

by Daidee Springer

It's baseball season and I'm on my roller coaster ride between being delighted to hear the sounds of the game and being totally frustrated by all the creative ways the Cubs find to lose.

There are many similarities between baseball and Unitarian Universalism. And some differences. I'm sure there's a book in it somewhere but for now I only have a column.

Cub fans believe in the future. "Wait 'til next year" is our mantra; and as I write this, I don't think this year is next year. But next year might be. As a Cub fan I've developed amazing fortitude and loyalty in the face of abject disappointment. This has made me a somewhat more patient person. (I emphasize *somewhat*.)

Unitarian Universalists (UUs) not only believe in the future, they work to make it better. Unlike Cub fans, who can't change the management or synergy of the team, UUs can and do make a direct impact every day. Working for justice, recycling, conserving energy, helping elect principled candidates, writing letters to the editor, contributing time and money to worthy causes are among the actions we take to make a difference.

The two UU churches I've been privileged to join have been magical places for me. I didn't know how much a physical space could mean until we briefly considered selling Second Unitarian in Chicago. I feel the same way about the building and grounds of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (JUCC). I can't ever imagine leaving them. I love our space and the crowd that assembles every Sunday. And unlike the woeful Cubs, we have a great team of friends, members and leaders who have learned how to work together and an incredible, inspiring manager, the Reverend Jeff Briere. Eat your heart out, Cub's Manager Lou Piniella.

One of the greatest things about being a Cub fan is being able to sit and worship, yes, I do mean worship, in Wrigley Field year after year after year. The ivy-covered walls, the lush green grass, the crowd in endless variety, the stands so close to the field, the rhythm and untimed nature of the game—Ah yes, the friendly confines. Being there feeds my soul.

After the final game of yet another undistinguished season, I lingered almost alone in the stands of Wrigley Field, not wanting to say goodbye to baseball. The only other person anywhere near me opened a box, threw the ashes in it onto the field, and bowed her head.

I hope I have considerable time left to decide where I'd prefer my ashes scattered. Wrigley Field or the UUCM Memorial Garden?

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA
*a liberal religious
community*

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MUSIC DIRECTOR
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Chris Tregaskis

SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

May 6th ♦ ¿QUE PASA?

This service, led by the Rev. Jeff Briere, focuses on current events and interprets them in the light of a Unitarian Universalist theology. A time of congregational response follows the sermon.

May 13th ♦ HONORING THOSE WHO MOTHER US

Mary Hunter will lead the congregation in a ritual honoring all those who mother us.

May 20th ♦ MY LIFE'S OVER. NOW WHAT?

This service, led by the Rev. Jeff Briere, was prompted by a congregant's question, "Where do UU's go when they die?" If you believe in heaven or hell, then you might end up in one of those places. But if you don't, where do you go?

May 27th ♦ REMEMBRANCES

This service, led by the Rev. Jeff Briere, is an annual service of remembrance, honoring those who have died within the past year. It will be followed by a re-dedication of the Memorial Garden.

SUNDAY FORUMS

Sunday forums meet downstairs at 9:30 AM. Come join us for enlightening and lively discussions.

May 6th - Communicating with Fundamentalists

We all will share what does and does not work when we try to explain what Unitarian Universalism is to our friends and co-workers.

May 13th - Teaching Religion—with guest resource *Maddie Kertay*

A recent TIME Magazine brought up the issue of religion in public schools and our minister had a recent sermon on the importance of being religiously literate. Maddie will help us review how we teach religion in our church school.

May 20th - Spring Issue of *UU World*

Various church members are assigned to lead discussions of the articles. Try to read this edition before you come; but come, anyway, to learn how others view the issues that concern Unitarian Universalists.

May 27th - Less Freedom - More Responsibility—with *Bonny Sinclair*, Scout Leader.

Our country cherishes "freedom" so much that we want to export it around the world. Yet, our take on "freedom" is frightening to many Muslims to whom it seems we do not emphasize enough that "responsibility" is necessary to make "freedom" work.

Potluck!

***Sunday, May 20, 2007,
followed immediately by the***

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB

by Steve Hollingsworth

If there's a one percent chance that Pakistani scientists are helping al Qaeda build or develop a nuclear weapon, we have to treat it as a certainty in terms of our response.

~ Dick Cheney

Core sediments retrieved by three icebreaker and drill ships revise what is known about the Arctic. ...The warmth as recorded by the core data is 10 degrees Celsius higher than climate models had predicted.

~ *Scientific American*, August 2006, p30

My leading quotes differ extraordinarily in tone and content, because this month I'm trying to get up a steep hill in my allotted words. A vital issue of our time is the rising temperatures and sea levels with the possible long-term changes in weather patterns over wide areas of the globe. The best way forward is not obvious.

Formulating public policy is never easy. With dire possibilities in view it may seem nearly impossible. Yet no matter what, we must assess risks across all threats, be they terrorism, depression, environmental degradation, or cosmic disaster. Even a horror like a dirty bomb explosion can be quantified with a risk-weighted cost and may be outweighed by other risks.

The "Cheney Doctrine" rightly put low-probability, high-

consequence risks on the radar, but it was a catastrophic failure because, *prima facie*, it totally discounted all other risks.

In *An Inconvenient Truth* Al Gore and the CO₂ index soar upward and he invokes the possibility of a tipping point where the earth might turn Venusian. Core sediment data, however, bear important good news: The earth has been there already. If CO₂ levels of 2000 parts per million (ppm) vs 380 ppm today didn't cook the earth in a carbon dioxide blanket, then that outcome must be steeply discounted as we factor in all risks.

A successful policy view of global warming needs to:

- 1) Plan for substantial warming with corresponding rising sea levels because it is possible that no interventions will be effective.
- 2) Invest in efficiency across the board. As we do more with less, we will be better able to cope with any future.
- 3) Export efficiency. It is not a zero sum game and a rising tide lifts (maybe literally!) all boats.
- 4) Remember Katrina. Never again can we tolerate blaming the poor for where they live. Through famine and flooding, we'll all be in this together.

The UUC is on track to be accredited as a "Green Sanctuary" by the UU Ministry for Earth. It makes me glad that we are choosing to lead in the kinds of efforts that can do the most good.

WHAT'S IT GONNA TAKE?

by the Rev. Jeff Briere

The "tipping point" is a term from the world of epidemiology. Malcolm Gladwell appropriated it for his book of the same name and he says, "The tipping point is that moment in an epidemic when a virus reaches critical mass. It's the boiling point. It's the moment on the graph when the line starts to shoot straight upwards."

I believe we haven't reached it yet, but I believe we will soon reach the tipping point in the long-running discussion about the right to possess firearms and the right of people to feel relatively safe as they go about their business. I believe that pretty soon, there will be enough aggrieved families, enough outraged citizens, enough people scared to leave their homes that the issue will tip over into the realm of serious action.

What's it gonna take to properly restrict the ability to purchase a pistol and ammo? What's it gonna take for people to stand up to an industry? What's it gonna take to get to the tipping point?

We reached the tipping point in the civil rights movement when the cops turned firehoses and dogs on the marchers as they crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge. In Vietnam, we reached a tipping point when Buddhist monks set themselves on fire to protest the war. I think it will take just one more botched or irregular election, and we'll reach a tipping point in the discussion about voting computers generating a paper trail.

Charles Whitman shot and killed 12 people from a clock tower on the University of Texas campus and that wasn't enough. Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris shot and killed 13 people in Columbine, and themselves and that wasn't enough. Charles Roberts shot and killed five Amish girls in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania and himself and that wasn't enough. What's it gonna take?

I hope it won't take another shooting rampage like the one at Virginia Tech. I pray that some legislator, somewhere in Washington, maybe the one who represents Blacksburg, Virginia, finds enough guts to stand up and say, "That's enough!"

That's what it's gonna take.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

by Amy Ziegler

Sweater, n.: garment worn by child when its mother is feeling chilly. -Ambrose Bierce

Weather patterns aside, April was a month of much warmth for Religious Education. We continued with our Heifer Project International lessons; Marge Pasch joined us for a reading about Interfaith Homeless Network, and Michael Walters joined us for an earth shaking drumming intro. I am excited and grateful to have a few new faces showing up to assist with our lessons. Make sure you sign up to help downstairs, the talent and commitment from our members truly enhances our program.

Our main project for May is a quilt raffle for Heifer. We will begin creating the squares in early May. Any willing parent who

possesses a particular talent for quilting should contact DRE Amy personally. Look for the finished product to be displayed in late May. Tickets will be sold after service beginning May 27th. The raffle will be held June 10th after service.

Teen update. You are invited to attend a dazzling reception in the Teen Room after service April 29th. Join the teens and their tireless leaders in celebration of a project well done. Come downstairs and have a look at the finished décor. Refreshments will be served.

The Religious Education committee would like to wish each family a Happy Mother's day.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU (ROUND 2)

by David Reed

Last month, I said, "Thanks" to all the folks who helped make this year's Stewardship Campaign an expected success. This month, I want to say an even bigger "Thanks" to all of you for making it a success.

I use the phrase *expected success* because, at the time of this writing, you have pledged a little over \$140,000 (97 percent of our goal). Catherine Long and her follow-up stewards are still trying to contact a few folks. (For various reasons, it always seems to take a long time to get the last 10 percent of the

pledges.) But we are confident that we will meet this year's goal of \$144,000.

So, once again, thanks to all of you for your generous pledges. It is your support, financial and otherwise, that makes our church such a great place.

In the immortal words of Porky Pig,

"That's All Folks."

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

by Daidee Springer

At their April 11th meeting, the Board

- √ Welcomed and interacted with Annette Marquis, District Executive of the Thomas Jefferson District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.
- √ Were delighted to learn that the stewardship campaign was on track to meet its goal. Accordingly, they approved a balanced budget to be presented at the annual meeting.
- √ Voted unanimously to pay 50% of a baseline rate for

insurance costs for the Director of Religious Education. The cost for this was estimated to be somewhere between \$2400 and \$3000 per year. The board stipulated a cap of \$3000.

- √ Selected May 26th as the date of the next Games Night.
- √ Listened with interest to the President's recommendation that we hire a fundraising consultant of the UUA to make an assessment visit. Agreed to put this on the agenda for the August Board retreat.

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE
by Sandy Kurtz

The Results of our Green Card Survey are in! To prepare our application for Green Sanctuary application for accreditation, we collected answers over two Sundays. Sixty-one people responded to our questions as shown below. We see that for those who answered, you are most happy to tell others to recycle. Our initial Green Sanctuary Initiative survey did show that most of you already recycled so it's good to spread the word to others. These are impressive numbers in all the categories.

In the last 2 years...	Yes
Have you bought blocks of green power?	31%
Have you encouraged others to recycle?	96%
Have you purchased a high mileage or hybrid car?	30%
Have you bought an Energy Star appliance?	58%
Have you communicated with a legislator regarding an environmental issue?	45%
Have you used a compact fluorescent light bulb?	81%
Have you purchased Fair Exchange coffee, tea or chocolate?	70%
Do you benefit from nUUsletter articles about Green Sanctuary issues?	89%

Thanks to all who are trying to live sustainable lives. Pat Mann tells us she tried a compact fluorescent bulb recently and discovered she likes it better than her old incandescent bulbs. For those who have purchased green power, our numbers look especially good. We show that our average number of blocks purchased is 2.88. That is above the TVA average of 2 blocks valley wide. Each block is worth 150 kilowatt hours of electricity made from sun, wind or waste gas. (The total for those who answered the survey amounted to 7350 green kilowatt hours.) That's a lot less carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions we kept out of the air.

DID YOU KNOW?

Lighting accounts for about 20% of average household energy use. To find out more take the Energy Star Challenge at <<http://www.myenergypolicy.com/myep/challenge.asp>>.

The Second Annual
Rachel Carson Memorial Dinner
Saturday • June 2, 2007 • 6:30 pm

In the Spirit of Rachel Carson

Speaker: Reverend Patricia Cahill
Thankful Memorial Episcopal Church

An uplifting evening to celebrate our place on the planet
With live entertainment and a delicious vegetarian dinner

\$15/person
\$7.00/child 10 & under
Child care available

For your reservation, make checks payable to UUCC and send or drop off at the church.

*To laugh often, to win the affection of children...to find the besting others...
to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.*

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

INTERFAITH HOMELESS NETWORK

by Marge Pasch

It took 39 volunteers, including two who do not even attend our church, working a total of 286 hours to make our April Interfaith Homeless Network hosting a success. We housed 3 families, including 4 adults, 3 children and a baby. Some of our volunteers helped in multiple roles. Delicious, healthy meals were prepared by Catherine Long, Linda and George Helton, Karen McCarthy, Amy Ziegler, Lori Emerson, Ruby Bruns, and Nicki Ozbek. Evening Hosts were Charles Redwine, Margaret Hudson, Carmen and David Vanderhoof, Pat Mann, Matt Hoyt, Alan Larson, Deseri Papendorp, Bill Kurtz, Pat O'Brien, Charlotte and Roger Davis, and Marge Pasch. Spending the night at the church as Overnight Hosts were Harold Linn, Paige Keown, Monique Lewis, Steve Smith, Bart Johnson, Steve Hollingsworth, Tom Kunesh, Nancy Anderson, David Andreae, James Joyner, Ron and

Marge Pasch, and Jerry Smith. Nancy Anderson again acted as Laundry Coordinator as well as helping to set up the RE rooms. Also helping to set up and take down the beds were Margaret Hudson, Harold Linn, Karl Hunt, Cynthia Williams, and Pat O'Brien. Joe Lewis ably drove the van on both Sundays, and Jerry Smith drove it twice on Saturday. Ron Pasch drove the trailer. Unloaders were Roy Presswood, Rich Dwyer, and Ron Pasch. Special thanks to our new Food Coordinator, Elaine Watkins, who was mentored by our busy Daidee Springer. We want to give a big thank you to Linda Helton and Charlotte Davis who cleaned up the kitchen before our guests arrived. Because of the caring and the hard work of all involved, we were able to give our IHN families a safe place to live for a week, delicious meals to eat, and nice people to talk to. Thanks to all who helped!

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The church received a thank you note from Holston Valley UU Church. We recently sent them \$375 from a special offering collection. You may recall that they recently had a fire in their Religious Education facility. Their note says:

Dear UU Church of Chattanooga Congregants:

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$375. Your donation will be used to help build a new RE facility as well as

to purchase new books, furniture, and supplies for our UU youth. It is so heart-warming that people such as your congregation are willing to help us out at our time of need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Mary Williamson, RE Committee Chair
and the HVUUC Congregation.

SUCCESSFUL PASSOVER SEDER!

We're still reveling in the joy of our best Passover Seder ever. Close to eighty (80!) people were there—a record for sure.

The Solomon family started this tradition and they continue to contribute mightily to its success. Helen Solomon was in charge of set-up and did her usual wonderful job. The tables looked awesome.

For as many years as we've been having a Seder at the church, Lee and Peggy Solomon have prepared matzo ball soup to die for. Wonderful light, fluffy matzo balls and delicate soup. Most appropriately, Peggy Solomon served as Woman of the House at the head table this year.

Lee Adler once again outdid herself in preparing a wide array

of scrumptious unleavened desserts. Robin Vasa prepared the delicious *charoset*, the apple, nuts and sweet wine concoction and Daidee Springer cooked the beef brisket and the chicken. Countless others brought incredible side dishes.

We're truly grateful to all those who helped in so many ways. George Helton ably took charge of "attendance." Strong bodies set up and took down the tables. Lots of folks helped with clean-up. Names that come instantly to mind for "service beyond the call of duty" are Ron and Marge Pasch, Mark Simpson, Steve Smith and Robin Vasa. But we know there are many others.

Thanks to one and all.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK CLUB NEWS

On May 17 the book club will discuss *Everyman*, by Philip Roth. The discussion of this book is because the meeting for April was cancelled. Please come.

TWISTED KNITTERS

The Twisted Knitterz will meet May 7 at 7 at the church. Everyone welcome.

Please bring your projects and your attitude! Call Kate Briere for more information 423-624-8152.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS OUT

Join us on Wednesday nights for food, fun, and fellowship. See the May schedule below. Want more information? Call the church office.

5/2	Royal Thai (Thai)	\$\$\$	East Brainerd
5/9	Sticky Fingers (BBQ)*	\$\$	Hamilton Place Mall Area
5/16	Dockside Café (American) *	?	8411 Harrison Bay Rd.
5/23	Magoo's (American)*	\$\$	Ringgold Rd., across from Bi-Lo
5/30	Jason's Deli (Salads & Sandwiches)	\$\$	Gunbarrel Rd. close to Hamilton Place Mall

\$ - Inexpensive entrée usually under \$10

\$\$ - Average price entrée \$10 - \$12

\$\$\$ - A bit pricey entrée usually over \$10

* Family-friendly

CHIONS

On May 12, 2007 from 10:30--noon, Dr. Fred Lansford will present on *DREAMS, Your Magic Mirror*. Dr. Lansford, a CHIONS member, will share information on dreams, how to remember and interpret them.

Dr. Fred Lansford, board certified in Family Medicine, practiced medicine and minor surgery in the Chattanooga area for 43 years. In the 1960's he studied dream interpretation at the Edgar Cayce Foundation (A.R.E.) in Virginia Beach, VA. and later lectured there. In the 1970's he was a speaker at the A.R.E. Alternative Medical Symposia in Phoenix, AZ.

LET'S GO OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Chattanooga Lookouts vs Mobile Bay Bears

Friday, May 18th Game starts at 7:15 pm at AT&T Park (formerly known as BellSouth Park)

Tickets \$2.00 apiece (we got a group rate)

Call the church office to reserve a ticket.

First come, first served.

There are a limited number of tickets available.

For more information, contact Daidee Springer, ultimate baseball fan and organizer of this event.



GAME NIGHT...IT'S GAME NIGHT...AGAIN...

Come one, come all, families, kids and even adults are welcome...and bring your game face, and of course, your games.

Checkers, Chess, Trivial Pursuit, Chutes and Ladders, Risk, Monopoly, Cranium, Connect4, Poker, Hearts...hey, you name it, we'll play it.

This time we'll be getting together at the church on the Saturday before Memorial Day...that's May 26th, at 7pm.

Bring some snacks and some drinks. And tell your friends. The more, the merrier. This will be the third time that we've done this, and it's a blast.

We usually go to about 9:30 at the latest, unless the action is too furious to quit.

So be there or be nowhere!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monique Lewis and her family invite you to attend a Memorial Service to celebrate the life of her mother, Mireille Scheni. The service will take place at the Baylor School Alumni Chapel on Sunday, May 6, 2007 at 4:00 pm. For directions to the chapel, please call Monique at 423-847-1523.

YOGA!

Yoga instructor Cecelia Keefer has agreed to offer a Yoga class on Wednesdays at 10:00 am at our church for a six week session. The dates are July 11-Aug 15. The cost for the course is \$60 and must be paid in advance. Each student must provide a mat, a strap, a blanket and a block. The course is for men and women of all abilities. Ms. Keefer will conduct each class as though the students were beginners. A minimum of six students is necessary for this course to be offered.

Please call Kate Briere at 423/624-8152 for more information and to sign up.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO UUA.ORG?

The Unitarian Universalist Association's redesigned and re-engineered website made its debut on the afternoon of April 2, 2007! UUA.org, the official website of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations, is still committed to the same values, principles and services that have always been at its core.

Now the site has a fresh new look and special entry points for visitors, members, and lay and professional leaders to provide a comprehensive online resource just for you!

In addition to accessible navigation and beautiful images of Unitarian Universalists, you will find information focused on congregational life and spiritual life, an events calendar, and new features! Your favorites are here as well: visit Worship Web, find a UU congregation near you, and much more.

UUA.org began in 1996 and in the last ten years our site has grown from a few pages to over 10,000. The site serves over thirty thousand web visitors a day and more than 20,000 individuals through our email lists. It's time for a change, so get ready for a new UUA.org!

New content will be added to the site over the next six months. Check it out and enjoy the new UUA.org.

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

by the Rev. David S. Blanchard

Most of us look for love in only the most obvious places, and as a result, most of us come away disappointed. It's as if we are still grade school kids, counting valentines as a measure of what matters. The love that matters is not typically the subject of sonnets or love songs.

There can be love in being told we are wrong. There can be love in sharing a regret. There can be love in asking for help. There can be love in communicating hurt. There can be love in telling hard truths. Most of us find it painful to live at this level of love, but it can be there, even in these most unlikely places. It isn't the kind of love we've been promised in the fairy tales of princes and fairy godmothers, but it is the kind experienced by frogs and dwarfs. It's the sort of love that can bring us closer to finding the missing pieces of ourselves that we need to make us whole.

Some of the most loving things I've ever experienced, I haven't been ready for, wasn't looking for, and nearly didn't recognize. A few of them I didn't want. But all of them have changed me, transformed some part of me, filled in a place that I didn't even know was empty.

When the valentine has been tucked away in a drawer, the candy eaten, the flowers faded and gone, there will be other legacies of love that will last as long as we do, because they have brought us to know an element of life -- part feeling, part idea, part mystery -- that once known, is ours to keep.

From *A Temporary State of Grace*, Boston: Skinner House Books, 1997.

THE NUUSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

the nUUsletter welcomes articles from members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. Article topics should be of interest to our church members and could include: announcements of events, discussion of recent events in the church of community, and original essays or poems. Each article can be up to 400 words. Due to space limitations and selected topics, it is possible that not all articles will be published. Please send your submissions to *the nUUsletter* to the editor, Wendy Sapp, at *wksapp at charter dot net*. Wendy can also be reached at 706-694-0940. The deadline for the June issue of *the nUUsletter* is **May 15th**.

DATE	5/6	5/13	5/20	5/27
TOPIC	¿Que Pasa?	Honoring Those Who Mother Us	My Life's Over. Now What?	Remembrances
LEADER	The Rev. Jeff Briere	Mary Hunter	The Rev. Jeff Briere	The Rev. Jeff Briere
BOT MEMBER	Daidee Springer	Charlotte Davis	Rich Dwyer	Linda Helton
GREETERS	Nicky Ozbek	Carolyn Moore	Cynthia Williams	Katy Couch
USHERS	Mike Bascom	Cecile deRocher	Elaine Watkins	Adam Couch
CHANCEL DÉCOR	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter
MUSIC	Steve Hollingsworth	Linda Pehlman	Marcia Jenison	Linda Pehlman

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*The only way to find the limits of the possible
 is by going beyond them into the impossible.*
 ~ Arthur C. Clarke