



INTRODUCING...
by Wendy Sapp

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga is delighted to announce the addition of two new staff members. Jamie Sullivan has graciously accepted an offer from the Board to assume the position of Director of Religious Education, and Kate Briere was appointed by the board to take on the leadership of the choir as the Music Director.

Jamie Sullivan was born and raised on Signal Mountain where she attended a Baptist Church. Her religious journey has taken her on a winding path including living for two years in an ashram that emphasized the spark of truth found in all religions and philosophies. For one year, she resided in an environmentally sustainable, permaculture community. She has been a life long student of yoga and meditation and is drawn towards Buddhism. Her varied and eclectic experiences provide her with a wealth of resources, wisdom, and experience that will benefit the RE program.

Jamie decided to apply for the position as director of RE because she is attracted to questions about the mystery of existence. She loves children and loves hearing what they have to say. Like any good teacher, she knows she never stops learning and she hopes to learn more about life as she leads the RE program at the church. The board was impressed with her educational experiences which include home schooling her children, working with several curricula, and creating her own home school curriculum.

Jamie Sullivan and her husband Scott have three young children currently enrolled in the Religious Education program. She has assisted Amy and Maddie with the RE program in the past and is looking forward to contributing her experience, energy and creativity to the program.

Kate Briere has been a member of our choir since shortly after her husband, the Reverend Jeff Briere, accepted the position as our minister. She has all the skills necessary for a choir director including an ability to read and direct choral music and to play the keyboard. Over the past four years she has helped out by singing, accompanying, and directing the choir. She received her music teaching certificate in New York State where she taught high school French for half of the day and music/singing the other half.

Kate was recommended for this position by members of the choir who were asked to think of church members interested in the future of the choir. Kate says that accepting this position is her "ministry and what [she] is called to do." Her goal is to continue to grow the excellent choir at UUCC and to involve more singers and musicians as participants in the Sunday worship services.

We are honored to welcome these wonderful women to into their new leadership roles!

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA
*a liberal religious
community*

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CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411
www.uuc.org

Board President:
Roger Davis

Minister:
Rev. Jeff Briere

*Religious Education
Director:*
Jamie Sullivan

Music Director:
Kate Briere

Church Administrator:
Chris Tregaskis

SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

September 2nd ♦ *TOIL AND TROUBLE*

A Labor Day service, highlighting the nature of work in our lives. What do we do and why do we do it are just two questions that the Rev. Jeff Briere will pose in his sermon.

September 9th ♦ *NO POPCORN FOR ME*

This service, in advance of our participation in the Interfaith Homeless Network, will feature Brother Ron Fender, a member of the Brotherhood of St. Gregory. Br. Ron works among the homeless in Chattanooga at the Community Kitchen. These days, Br. Ron is searching for God in a cultural milieu that is said to have a "popcorn theology." He hopes his religion will not kill his faith. Learn more about Br. Ron on page 3.

September 16th ♦ *THE HOPE—NOT THE FEAR; THE WE—NOT THE ME; THE FUTURE—NOT NEXT WEEK*

The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service. His topic was inspired by the newspaper columnist Lisa Earle McLeod. NOTE! A potluck follows this service. See article on page 5.

September 23rd ♦ *SEASONS CRYING—NO DESPAIR*

There won't be "alligator lizards in the air," but this service will occur at the autumnal equinox. It will invoke some of the natural forces that mark our lives and the seasons in which we live. Led by the Rev. Jeff Briere, the service will also feature participation by the pagan community within our church.

September 30th ♦ *TAO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON*

Five hundred years before the birth of Jesus, in ancient China, Lao-tzu dictated 81 verses, which are regarded by many as the ultimate commentary on the nature of our existence. The Tao Te Ching, or the Great Way, offers advice and guidance that is balanced, moral, spiritual, and always concerned with working for the good. This service, led by the Rev. Jeff Briere, will address the Tao of the season.

SUNDAY FORUMS

Sept. 2nd - Rediscovering the Bible, led by Jerry Smith.

Continuing his series of Bible interpretations and critiques, Jerry will lead a discussion of the Book of Genesis.

Sept. 9th - International Migration, led by Matt Hoyt.

Using materials prepared for the *Great Decisions* series we will get a new look at US immigration issues as we consider the global views.

Sept. 16th - Rediscovering the Bible, led by Jerry Smith.

The Book of Exodus is the focus for this discussion. How historical is it?

Sept. 23rd - Medical Ethics, led by Dr. Lee Solomon.

UU Church member, psychiatrist Lee Solomon, will use Unitarian Universalist Association Beacon Press materials and his own experiences to address the issues.

Sept. 30th - *This Noble Land*, written by James Michener, reviewed by Bill Berry.

Though Michener's book was written at the end of the 1900's, the same critical issues of our country are still with us.

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB

by Steve Hollingsworth

The mission of the Urban Century Institute is to develop, implement, and disseminate integrated solutions to the challenges associated with rapid urbanization. –Urban Century Institute

The mission of [Sequatchie Valley Institute] is to offer society an opportunity to experience and learn about living in harmony with nature[.] –Sequatchie Valley Institute

The effort I've begun to get a new noncommercial/educational (NCE) broadcast license in the Chattanooga areas has already led to some delightful and unexpected connections. One local organization, the Urban Century Institute, may be familiar to long-time Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUCC) members, because our own Sandy Kurtz is its director. Another organization I didn't even know the name of before embarking on this project is the Sequatchie Valley Institute.

On a hot August afternoon I toured the grounds of the Sequatchie Valley Institute and saw first hand how they've built unique residences and work spaces with onsite materials, recycled and salvaged pieces and parts, and created comfortable environments that have a sustainable energy footprint. At their website, I learned how they've conducted workshops, offered summer internships for years, and produced a collection of related programming that might be just the sort of thing that a people-oriented media outlet in town could draw on.

Out of these connections, I perceive a synergy that I think we at UUCC can tap to help the church balance sheet, to show ourselves as a model for the community in our innovative use of green technology, and to experience doing something that expresses our UU values.

Usually if we are less than green, the reasons are one of these:

- ✗ Cost-benefit looks wrong.
- ✗ We think necessary knowledge is hard to come by.
- ✗ Institutional support is lacking.
- ✗ We must sacrifice comfort and convenience.

The truth is there are right answers that pay for themselves, cause no discomfort, and the people who know how to do it are all around us. Some UUCC members live "off the grid" today.

At UUCC, we have inherited a wonderful green opportunity to solve a problem that is just over the horizon. Our air conditioning units are old and inefficient. Yet, under our land, is a huge cistern. That water is an efficient heat source in winter and a heat sink in summer. Let's begin there. With the right engineering, we can have heating and cooling bills a tiny fraction of what they are now. Once done, it's something we'll rally around and point to as part of our living faith. Just do it.

OH, BROTHER! WHO ART THOU?

Our worship service on September 9th will feature a guest preacher. Brother Ron Fender is a vowed member of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory, an Episcopal Order of monks who live under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. He serves as the Outreach Case Manager at the Chattanooga Community Kitchen where he also lives. He teaches classes on spiritual issues through the VIP Alcohol and Drug Program at the

Homeless Healthcare Clinic. His primary ministry is the care of the feet of homeless people.

Br. Ron is a native of Asheville, North Carolina and attended Western Carolina University. He is certified as a Hab/Tech for developmentally disabled men and is an advocate for homeless artists. He occasionally directs productions at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre.

TABLES, TABLES, & TABLES

We will soon purchase new lightweight, banquet tables for events where we have sit-down meals. Because they are light, weighing only a fraction of the ones we now have, we hope many more people will volunteer to help set them up for potluck brunches after the service. They are also quite sturdy and color-coordinated with our new carpet.

But we must dispose of the old tables. Perhaps you'd like one? The price is \$10 each and you can buy as many as you like. In the office, you'll find a roster with a blank line for each table. Enter your name and phone number on as many lines as you wish, hand over \$10 for each table and take 'em away. First come, first served.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

by Nicole Barnhart, VP Religious Growth and Education

This has not been an easy question for me to answer. I know why Religious Education is important—because we need to continue to grow as an individual and as a community. Our children need to learn how different people live and believe and how diversity is a good thing. The tough part for me is actually defining what Religious Education (RE) is.

The simplest answer is: learn about religions. And as Unitarian Universalists, we learn about all religions, and we discuss these religions, and we teach respect for the people who believe in these religions.

But I feel that Religious Education goes much deeper than that. It is also a responsibility—to ourselves, to the younger generation, and to the community. A responsibility to learn what we can, and to teach what we have learned. To pass on the tolerance for diversity to others, whether by teaching and guiding the youth, or

by talking to someone about what we have learned, or simply leading by example.

This then brings up the question of what *you* can do to help—plenty. Once a month, the RE Committee holds a meeting. Everyone is welcome to come and discuss what you would like to see happen in the RE department. Every Sunday, the Adult RE has forums and everyone is welcome to come and participate in those discussions. And every Sunday, the youth are divided into two groups—the Teens and the Kids. Both groups need volunteers—to help the teachers, to help plan and execute activities, or to lead a class.

So continue the legacy of Religious Education. Learn something new. Or teach something you know. Keep the diversity going—for all generations.

SPIRIT OF LIFE

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga was chosen from a pool of more than a hundred churches as a field test site for *Spirit of Life*, a new adult curricula from the Tapestry of Faith lifespan series. Among Unitarian Universalists, the Unitarian Universalist Association has detected a real interest in spiritual growth and this course is designed to address that need.

Dates & Time: The course meets nine times on Tuesday nights this fall. The dates are September 18 & 25; October 2, 9, 16 & 23; November 6, 13 & 20. All meetings at 7 pm. Each workshop is one hour in length, with an optional half hour of additional activities. You need not attend all workshops, but your experience will be better if you do. Below is a list of the workshop topics.

Please register by calling the office or using the roster on the minister's door.

September 18: Spirit of Life
Exploring Spirituality for Unitarian Universalists

September 25: Sing in My Heart
Celebrations and Rituals

October 2: The Stirrings of Compassion
Caring For One Another

October 9: Blow in the Wind, Rise in the Sea
Spirituality in Nature

October 16: Move in the Hands
Living Our Spirituality in Our Day to Day Lives

October 23: Giving Life the Shape of Justice
Loving Your Neighbor and Yourself

November 6: Roots Hold Me Close
Tradition, Teachers, and Spiritual Formation

November 13: Wings Set Me Free
Hopes, Dreams, and Expanding Vision

November 20: Spirit of Life, Come to Us, Come to Us
Continuing On

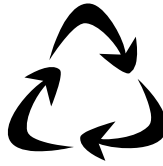
If there is to be peace in the world,
There must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations,
There must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities,
There must be peace between neighbors.
If there is to be peace between neighbors,
There must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the heart.

~ Lao-Tse

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE

by Sandy Kurtz, Chair, Green Sanctuary Initiative

Unitarian Universalist of Church of Chattanooga member **Elaine Watkins** is an avid recycler, but she discovered that one cannot recycle any plastic containers locally unless they have a number 1 or 2 on the bottom and have a neck too. What to do with all those yogurt containers and syrup bottles with 4s and 5s for recycling numbers? After all plastic requires that precious resource oil to make so it is worrisome to casually send those empties to the landfill.



5. Save your unrecyclable containers until you have enough to give to a day care center, school, youth organization or UU Religious Education department!

HOLIDAY GREEN ACTION

With the Christmas shopping push beginning, you are likely to receive a deluge of unwanted catalogs with all that unnecessary paper and associated tree loss. Lighten your general junk mail load at www.directmail.com and request removal from mailing lists. If you prefer, call 1-888-690-2252. Most catalogs also have an 800 number you can call and ask for removal from their lists. Don't expect instant results as many companies are mailing to speculative customers at this time of year and some mailings are already in the hopper. Eventually, you will see a reduction. That will save trees and your time too.

Some tips:

1. Don't buy items with numbers above 2 on the bottom (but yogurt is good for you).
2. Invest in a yogurt maker and make your own.
3. Buy in bulk to reduce the amount of plastic per unit of product.
4. Creatively reuse the container.

UPCOMING GREEN DATES AT THE CHURCH!

EcoTeam Introductory Meeting Sunday, September 9, 12:30 pm

An EcoTeam is a small group with members from 6-8 households who want to learn how to live a more Earth-friendly lifestyle. This structured program (about 8 meetings) is good for people with little time who want to make a difference and get to know some fellow UUs better. For those who sign up, you receive a workbook guide. Put your name on the signup sheet at church. Bring a sack lunch to the meeting. Contact Sandy Kurtz for more information.

Green Sanctuary Initiative Meeting Sunday, September 30, 12:30 pm

With Green Sanctuary Phase 1 accomplished, the Green Sanctuary Initiative is ready to move forward on Phase 2. We can be greener. You can help. Where do we go next? Join us for this planning meeting.

POTLUCK: SEPTEMBER 16TH

by Adam Couch, VP Programs

Food is important to all of us. Its origins, processing, storage and transport are critical to our economy and ecology. This September 16, our potluck will focus on our country's method of food production. The idea is to know the story of one ingredient in your dish from seed to mouth. Example: Did you or a friend grow it? Did you find it at a farmer's market, where did the grocery store get it, was it manufactured in a taste laboratory in

New Jersey? The goal is to think about your food; its true cost and true value. This is not a requirement for participation in the potluck, there is no assignment here—if you decide to trace an ingredient, you may chose to write the story and place it by your dish, share it with someone during coffee hour or simply think of the whole exercise as food for thought.

The articles in *the nUUsletter* are representative of the diverse and varied opinions and beliefs of the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUCCh). They do not necessarily represent the views of the UUCCh.

INTERFAITH HOMELESS NETWORK

by Marge Pasch, Chair, Interfaith Homeless Network

The Interfaith Homeless Network (IHN) had a blow this summer when Families First, the state program that runs the Special Transportation Service (STS) vans that have been picking up our guests, changed the requirements for riding. Now only adults who are employed can ride the STS vans. This means that our church must provide drivers for the IHN 12-passenger van for Sunday afternoon, September 16; Monday through Friday, September 17 to 21, both mornings (6:30 a.m. from the church) and afternoons (4:30 p.m. from the Community Kitchen) as well as Sunday morning, September 23. WE WILL NEED 12 VAN DRIVERS!

No experience is necessary to drive the van—just good driving skills. The IHN office will add van drivers on its insurance policy. All we need from each driver is name, address, telephone number and cell number, driver's license number, and date of birth. For more information on driving the van or to volunteer, see Marge Pasch at the IHN Volunteer Board after Sunday services, email her at <rpasch1@comcast.net> or call 423-875-4109. Can you help? WE NEED YOU!

In addition to van drivers, we will need Evening Hosts, Overnight Hosts, Dinner Preparers, Unloaders, Loaders, Bed Makers, and Take-Down volunteers. Hosting homeless families with children for the Interfaith Homeless Network is our church's only community service project. All willing and able members are urged to take part. If you are new, please stop at the Volunteer Board in Fellowship Hall to talk to Marge Pasch, primary coordinator, or to Kathy Love and Charlotte Davis, who will become the coordinating team after Marge finishes the September Hosting. Charlotte will be in charge of signing up the Dinner Preparers, and she'll have menu suggestions for those who need ideas. Kathy will be in charge of the Overnight Hosts. Any of the three will be glad to give you a job description and to answer any questions.

Pilgrim Congregational Church has volunteered to be our support congregation, but we will always have one UUC member in each time slot, possibly along with a Pilgrim member. This will be our chance to make new friends as we help our homeless families become stable and move into housing again.

WE ARE NOT ALONE!

by Helen Solomon

Sometimes it feels lonely being members of the only Unitarian Universalist Church in Chattanooga. We are by far the most liberal religious organization in town (although Pilgrim Congregational Church, a member of the United Church of Christ, comes closest to our philosophies). Most of the folks in Chattanooga either never heard of us or know nothing about how we are different.

But we have neighbors not too far away. Knoxville has two Unitarian Universalist (UU) churches and Oak Ridge has one. Nashville and Memphis each have two, and Tullahoma has a UU "Fellowship" (without a minister). Atlanta has a total of five UU Churches!

You'll be rewarded if you find yourself in one of these cities on a Sunday morning and drop in for a worship service. You will feel an immediate expansion of UU brotherhood/sisterhood and you will know that our Chattanooga UU Church is not an only child.

Another way to meet your UU kin is to attend a regional gathering. Every year there is a UU Tennessee Conference in the fall to which we are always invited but in recent years have seldom had a representative. Then, there is the week-long annual gathering in July which is called "SUUSI" for Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute. That is a kind of summer camp for individuals or families where you could meet 1500 fellow UUs. Or, you could attend the national UU General Assembly (GA) held annually in June where you could meet 6000 of them.

Steve Hollingsworth and Daidee Springer call themselves GA "junkies." They enjoy these conventions so much that they make it their annual vacation. They described the feelings they have for GA in their "virtual visit" sermon you may have heard on August 12th at our church, and they reported on the resolutions and other important business considered at this year's GA in Oregon in our July Newsletter.

Next year's GA will be in Ft. Lauderdale. Maybe you'll be there!

WANTED
SINGERS...MUSICIANS...ALL THOSE MUSICALLY INCLINED!
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 13 at 7 pm
COME ONE!! COME ALL!!
Can't make that night?? Contact the church office 423/624-2985 or <office@uuc.org>.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

by Roger Davis, President, Board of Trustees

Last month I wrote that our Board of Trustees would consider the topic of *the nUUsletter* – its purpose, its goals, its content – in our all-day retreat on Aug. 5th. I'm pleased to report that we confronted these issues head-on, with every participant weighing in with their views and participating in a spirited deliberation on the best way forward. We were also fortunate to have our newsletter editor, Wendy Sapp, in attendance. She provided much-needed perspective and history on the role that our newsletter has played in the life of this church.

After the dust settled, a motion was made to add a disclaimer somewhere in the body of *the nUUsletter* declaring that all opinions are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. The exact wording of the disclaimer will be left up to Wendy. The motion was seconded and passed. A second motion was then offered to table further discussion of the content of *the nUUsletter* until and if the Board felt a need to revisit it. This motion passed unanimously. In other words, we decided to leave the current editorial structure in place. Evident in the discussion was an inherent

trust in and respect for the editor and minister who are the two people primarily responsible for the finished product.

Frankly, trying to decide on the editorial policy governing the content of the newsletter was a tough, disturbing and divisive issue. I feel like the Board did a reasonable job wrestling with the many nuances that were scattered here. By adopting intelligent compromises, we dodged several menacing bullets. Not to say that we completely resolved all the issues. In fact, this topic probably never gets completely resolved to everyone's satisfaction – it's more like we agreed to disagree. We put the genie back into the bottle. He and all his volatile emotions need not escape again...if we all just keep our wits about ourselves. This will require that we continue to invoke the courage to speak our minds, but do so in a way that's sensitive to the diversity and vastness of the audience that we have become.

I'll say this: It's been a heck of a way to start off as president of the Board. Was this some sort of fraternity initiation, or what?

FINANCIAL PEACE

A young wife came running in tears to her husband. "Honey, you gave me some terrible financial advice!" "I did? What did I tell you?" said the husband. "You told me to put our money in that big bank, and now that big bank is in trouble." "What are you talking about? That's one of the largest banks in the state," he said. "There must be some mistake." "I don't think so," she sniffed. "They just returned one of our checks with a note saying, 'Insufficient Funds'."

Ever feel like this joke? Sometimes it seems like it's impossible to get ahead these days and if, like 70% of Americans, you are living from paycheck to paycheck maybe it's time to find a new way. Would you like to understand more about money? How to save? How to become debt free? Or maybe you just would like to know how to become a better steward of the money you already have.

Beginning in September the church will be offering a unique opportunity to attend Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. FPU is a 13 week video course and group discussion on how to get out of debt, learn to live on a budget, and begin to live free of debt and free of worry about what tomorrow will bring. The course will be hosted at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga on Thursday nights beginning Sept. 13. Registration is limited and the deadline to have your payment to the church office is Sunday, Sept. 2. The cost of the 13 weeks is \$97. This covers the cost of a FPU membership kit (1 per family) which includes a CD set with 13 audio lesson, lesson forms, "zero" based budget forms, bonus

CD and an envelope system for budgeting. FREE childcare will be available at all 13 sessions.

The average family that attends the full 13 sessions of FPU reduces their debt by \$5,300 and puts \$2,700 into savings. What sort of peace would it bring your family to eradicate your debt, and build your savings so that the one catastrophic hit to your family budget could become at worst a minor annoyance—no longer causing that feeling of panic or worry about how you would cover yet another bill? It is possible and we invite you to join other church members for this journey.

If you would like more information please check of the Financial Peace Website <www.Daveramsey.com> and (click on Financial Peace) or you can call the church office at 423/624-2985.

P.S. Trying to figure out how to come up with the \$97?

Brown bag it!: The average office worker spends \$25-\$55 dollars a week eating lunch out!

Skip the Pricey java: The average Starbucks junkie is spending over \$30 a WEEK on coffee.

Get on a roll!: Roll that change or take it to the bank and let their great little machine count it for you!

Water please!: Watch those trips to the coke machine, \$1.25 a pop adds up real fast! Two cokes a day for just a work week is \$15!

WELCOME! WELCOME!

by the Rev. Jeff Briere

Sometime Wednesday or Thursday evening, the telephone lines hereabouts carry a conversation very similar to this one:

Visitor.: Hello?

Rev: May I speak to Joe or Jolene Visitor?

Visitor: This is Jolene.

Rev: Hi, Jolene. This is Jeff Briere, and I'm the minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga. I'm calling to thank you for visiting our church on Sunday. I hope you enjoyed your time with us and that you'll return when you can. It was great to meet you and Joe.

Visitor: Oh, we really enjoyed it, Pastor. Uh, do I call you Pastor or Reverend?

Rev: Call me Ishmael. (Laughter.) Most people call me Jeff.

Visitor: Thanks so much for calling. Wow! The minister called us.

Rev: Well, I try to call all the visitors, Jolene. I also wanted to give you a chance to ask me any questions that you might have about Unitarian Universalism or our church.

Visitor: Well, you know, (insert lengthy history of spiritual & religious journey here). And that's how I ended up at your church. And we really had a good time. Everyone was so warm and friendly. They weren't nosy and didn't insist that we believe anything particular. It was very open and welcoming.

Rev: I'm glad to hear that, Jolene. The people you meet at the church all have different beliefs, so they really could not adopt a common creed. If there is one thing we all believe, it's that people ought to make up their own minds about religious issues. What keeps us together is a desire to build a strong community that promotes a liberal religious message.

Visitor: Now that you mention it, I do have one question—Does the church (insert special interest here)?

Rev: Well, not really, but we've been thinking about it. I know a half-dozen people in the church who (restate special interest here). When you return, I'll introduce you to them.

Visitor: Great. We'll be back. Thanks for calling.

Rev: You bet. Hope to see you soon.

Visitor: Goodbye.

Rev: Goodbye.

One hundred percent of the visitors I have called in the past three years have voluntarily—with no prompting from me—complimented you on your hospitality and the warm welcome they received as a visitor. That's 100%.

You have achieved the goals of the Welcoming Congregation and exceed them, in my opinion. Congratulations. Take your right hand and place it on your left shoulder. Now pat.

CHURCH RETREAT

by Adam Couch, VP, Programs

In the August newsletter, Helen Solomon wrote about the retreats of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga, or lack thereof. I think a church retreat is a great idea and it has been mentioned time and again by others. So it starts here.

What kind of retreat do you want? I would like to suggest a spring retreat one to two hours from Chattanooga with a night-owl and an early-bird cabin. Food could be a simple setup; cereal and sandwiches for breakfast and lunch, with a family-style dinner. The days could be filled with board games, live theater and music or filled with fishing, hiking and caving adventures. If all we do is

sit gathered around a fire and talk it would be a well-spent weekend.

In order to tailor the retreat to our congregation, I have set up a survey to gauge interest in the retreat and to begin to get a rough plan going. A link to this online survey is posted on the church website, <www.uuc.org>. I can make a paper copy available for those without internet access. If you are at all interested in a church retreat, please fill out the survey by the first week of November as reservations for many locations require booking several months in advance.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

by Roger Davis, President, Board of Trustees

Thanks to the generosity of Eric Papendorp, the Board of Trustees held their annual retreat at the Fairyland Club on August 5, 2007. The board

- √ voted to add a disclaimer to *the nUUsletter* declaring that all opinions were those of the writer and did not necessarily reflect the position of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga.
- √ agreed to table further discussion of the content of *the nUUsletter* until and if the Board felt a need to revisit it.
- √ agreed to offer the program "Bringing Financial Peace to Our Congregation Workshop" to our congregation, friends, and family.

- √ agreed that the Rev. Jeff Briere will create some consistent language for the Board Rep to explain when the minister is absent and our guest is <somebody else>.
- √ discussed recent damage to the church's mailbox and agreed that the mailbox should be moved to the opposite side of the drive.
- √ asked its President to accelerate the discussion about additional security lighting in the parking lots.
- √ developed a solution for getting keys to members of Pilgrim Congregational Church who assist with hosting guests during Interfaith Homeless Network weeks.
- √ agreed to purchase twenty new banquet tables.

FINAL EXIT

As a subcommittee of the Social Justice Council of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville, a branch of the national Final Exit Network has been established locally under the name of Final Exit Network of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This national organization was originally known as The Hemlock Society.

In the absence of any other affiliate in the surrounding area, we are currently the branch serving members of your community. All who support our mission of the right to die with dignity are welcome.

Our first meeting will be on Sunday, October 7, 2007 at 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville (Charlotte Street and Edwin Place.) Our program will be the presentation of a skit on how to be a good advocate for a patient's end of life care and how to insure that your Advance Directives will be followed. A discussion will follow with a physician and an attorney present to answer questions. The meeting is open to the public and free of charge.

For further information, contact Ruth Beard at 828-254-9154.

SUPPORT GROUP

Hospice of Chattanooga In partnership with Chattanooga Cares is offering a Grief Support Group for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community

This group will meet on Wednesdays for 8 weeks beginning September 5th and continuing through October 24th from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. A light meal will be provided. Meetings will be at

Chattanooga Cares located at 13 Kent St., W, Chattanooga, TN 37405. This group is for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one. It is FREE to the community.

For additional information or to register please contact, Sue Coulliette, Hospice of Chattanooga, 423-892-4289 ext. 104. Registration is required.

DOMESTIC AND COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

The Coalition Against Domestic & Community Violence of Greater Chattanooga, Inc. announces its 13th Annual Fall Conference on Thursday, October 25, 2007 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. This year's focus is on

What Children Can't Tell You...(How Witnessing Violence Changes Childhood Development) and *What Happens When Violence Leaves the Home and Enters Your World?* For more information call 423-648-7774 or email <cadvchatt@gmail.com>

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club will meet on September 20 at 7 pm to discuss *In the Shadow of the Ark*, by Anne Provoost. This is a gripping drama--part love story and part novel of ideas.

On October 18 we will discuss *March*, by Geraldine Brooks. This book shows "how war dashes ideals, unhinges moral certainties and drives a wedge... between [spouses]."

The Book Club will meet on November 15 to discuss *The Brides of March: Memoir of a Same-Sex Marriage*, by Beren de Motier, an absolutely hilarious and sobering memoir about lesbian motherhood, the quest for marriage, and the pitfalls of a legal system that doesn't know how to classify and acknowledge same-sex relationships.

There will be no meeting in December.

On January 17 we will discuss *The Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls. One reviewer said, "Jeannette's experiences are unbelievable and her ability to always overcome is unending....she retains her love for her parents after all she goes through."

TWISTED KNITTERS

Twisted Knitters will resume regular meetings on September 10th at 7pm. Come one and all with your needlework, crocheting, knitting projects. Just starting?? We can help. Come and join the fun and conversation. Questions? Call the church office at 423-624-2985.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS OUT

Wednesday Nights Out is BAAACK! See the schedule below. Want more information? Call the church office.

9/5	Dinner at the Church*	\$5	Definitely FAMILY FRIENDLY!
9/12	La Altena *	\$\$	Broad & Main
9/19	Bones Smokehouse *	\$\$	East Brainerd Rd.
9/26	Lupi's *	\$\$	East Brainerd Rd.

\$ - Inexpensive entrée usually under \$10

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

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

* Family-friendly

DATES, DATES, & DATES

Below is the preliminary list of dates for 2007-2008 events in the life of the congregation.

Recurring monthly events

2nd Wednesday of the month – Board meeting, 7 pm

3rd Sunday of every other month – Potluck after the worship service

2007 Calendar (As We Now Know It)

September 16th – Potluck: Where Did Our Food Come From?

October 27th – Halloween Party & Dance, 5–9 pm

November 18th – Potluck: Soup & Salad & Bread

November 22nd – Thanksgiving Dinner at the church time TBA

December 15th – Minister's Open House, 2–4 pm

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service, time TBA

December 31st – Family New Year's Eve Party, time TBA

January 20th – Potluck: Chili Cook-Off & Birthday Party

March 1st – Fellowship Dinner, time TBA

March 2nd – Stewardship Sunday

April 18th – Seder Supper, time TBA

May 18th – Potluck & Annual Meeting

June 26th thru 30th – General Assembly, Ft. Lauderdale, FL



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 October issue of *the nUUsletter* is September 15th.

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DATE	9/2	9/9	9/16	9/23	9/30
TOPIC	Toil and Trouble	No Popcorn for Me	The Hope... The We... The Future...	Seasons Crying—No Despair	Tao Everything There is a Season
LEADER	the Rev. Jeff Briere	Brother Ron Fender	the Rev. Jeff Briere	the Rev. Jeff Briere	the Rev. Jeff Briere
BOT MEMBER	Adam Couch	Daidee Springer	Eric Papendorp	Linda Helton	Maddie Kertay
GREETERS	Harold Linn	Linda Helton	Elaine Hill	Lynna Ruth Stanridge	John Stanridge
USHERS	Nicky Ozbek	George Helton	Harold Linn	John Stanridge	Lynna Ruth Stanridge
CHANCEL DÉCOR	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter	Mary Hunter
MUSIC	Marcia Jenison	Marcia Jenison	Steve Hollingsworth	Kate Briere	Steve Hollingsworth
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Roger Davis	Mike Walters	Rich Dwyer	Roger Davis	David Reed

*Happiness is when what you think, what you say,
 and what you do are in harmony.*
 ~ Mahatma Gandhi