



FAREWELL AND WELCOME IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
by Wendy Sapp

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[RETURN TO UUC](#)
[HOMEPAGE](#)

For the past two years, our religious education (RE) department was blessed to be led by Jamie Sullivan. Jamie has devoted herself to supporting our children and youth, using her special interests and talents to the benefit of our children. Jamie has also been going to school and in September will begin her new career as a respiratory therapist. We will miss you, Jamie!

We are delighted to welcome our new director of religious education, Kay McCurdy. Kay has been a member of our church since 2004, along with her husband, Jay, and daughters, Isabel and Sophie. Kay decided to apply for this job because she wants to serve the church, and as she puts it, "This is how I can serve: caring about kids and working towards their interests and goals." Kay says that her family was thrilled to find a place to go to church where her children can learn what it means to be a "UU kid." She wants to support the religious education program so other families will continue to find a religious home with us.

Kay's varied experiences and education give her a breadth of skills to draw from in her new role as DRE. Kay has a degree in Theatre and Speech, and she has had varied work experiences from a cruise director to a carpenter's apprentice to a teacher. For the past 11 years Kay has largely identified herself as a home schooling parent. As a member of the church, Kay has worked in the RE department and the church nursery where parents and children alike have come to love her. She is in her second term as secretary to our board of trustees.

Kay is delighted with the growth and enthusiasm in the RE program over the past years; she wants to maintain the excitement the children feel for coming to church and to help the program grow in new directions. In addition to her overarching goal of keeping children and teens enthusiastic about RE, Kay has three plans for the RE program. She hopes to create, along with our own UU kids, a UUC Kids theatre troupe. She and Dez Papendorp began this project with a week-long theatre camp for the Medievals in June. She plans to increase opportunities for service projects, such as the Heifer project (developed and led by Jamie Sullivan this past May) in which the children raised money, increased community awareness of world hunger, and provided visibility for our church in the community. Finally, she intends to help our children explore their Unitarian Universalist identity in a loving and supportive environment.

Kay applauds Jamie and the RE volunteers for their love of and dedication to the program. She wants to thank the church at large for giving her family "a safe place to land on Sundays" where they always feel welcomed. She says, the congregation makes her kids feel loved and cared for and she hopes to do the same for everyone else's children.

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SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

AUGUST 2 ♦ *SCRIPTURE BOX SERVICE*

Today we will read favorite, meaningful passages of scripture. Please submit your favorite passage from the Bible or other sacred text with a few words about the special meaning it has for you. Please indicate whether you would prefer to be called upon to read it, or would prefer that it be read for you. You may make your submission by dropping an index card in the Scripture Box in the fellowship area. We hope to be able to use all entries, but may be constrained by time to a limited selection. This service will be led by Jerry Smith and Nicky Ozbek.

AUGUST 9 ♦ *BECOMING A WITNESS FOR PEACE*

On the 64th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, 2008 Tennessee Green Party candidate for US Senate Chris Lugo offers his personal commitment to witness for peace despite the legacy of decisions that have shaped global politics over all the intervening years. Steve Hollingsworth will serve as worship leader.

AUGUST 16 ♦ *WHAT COMES AFTER BEER, PIZZA, AND SEX?*

What Comes after Beer, Pizza and Sex refers to ways in which combat veterans and others can begin to recover from the horrific realities of trauma. The presenter, the Rev. Peter Bauer is an ordained United Church of Christ minister currently serving as a clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist for the Veteran's Administration. He's on active duty with the army at Fort McPherson, GA. Peter tells us that his title reflects the tone of his sermon and that it won't be all that somber. Daidee Springer is the worship leader.

AUGUST 23 ♦ *MY SUMMER OF WORLD WAR II*

"The War to End All Wars" was the backdrop for three books our minister read this summer. This service will explore themes in these books: *The Book Thief*, by Marcus Zusak; *Sarah's Key*, by Tatiana de Rosnay, and *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. The Rev. Jeff Briere leads the service.

AUGUST 30 ♦ *CHURCH WORDS*

Our minister, the Rev. Jeff Briere, began this series of services this spring. He began with the G-Word, "God." He picks the series up again with three related words, "spirit," "spiritual" and "spirituality." How might these words be meaningful to a Unitarian Universalist?

SUNDAY FORUMS

The Forum meets downstairs in the last room on the left at 9:30. Please feel free to join us and add your voice to the thoughtful discussions.

August 2 ~ *Are Americans less religious now than they were 10 years ago?* This discussion will be led by Dr. Charles Lippy, a distinguished professor emeritus of religious studies at UTC who is widely known on the lecture circuit.

August 9 ~ *Becoming a Witness for Peace*. Chris Lugo, who also is speaking at the eleven o'clock service, will lead an informal discussion. This program will follow nicely on Dr. Carter Pate's July 12th program, *Avoiding War*.

August 16 ~ *General Assembly*. Mary Hunter and Steve Hollingsworth will report on General Assembly, which was held in Salt Lake City June 24-28, and included the election of the new president of the Unitarian Universalist Assembly (see the summer issue of *The UU World*).

August 23 -- Topic to be announced, led by Matt Hoyt.

August 30 ~ *Issues in Health Care Reform* -- Dr. Clif Cleaveland will lead this discussion. Dr. Cleaveland is a highly-respected retired local physician who currently writes a biweekly column on health issues for the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* and teaches Development of Scientific Thought at UTC. Dr. Cleaveland has led literature workshops for physicians and served as past president of the American College of Physicians.

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB
by Steve Hollingsworth

The cycle of life is always moving, unstoppable, while at the same time often unnoticed in our daily lives. Yet any time a community may have to deal with so many deaths in a short time we may want to lash out at the apparent unfairness of it all. Such a time has come again to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga (UUC). Christopher Henry, Nathan Bosis, Ralph Yates, and Bruce Hollingsworth represent deep grief to their friends and families, and losses to any of us diminish us all. Losing Bill Berry and Joe Lewis and, not all that long ago, Fred Tregaskis has left holes in our leadership and support that represent a daunting challenge to fill.

But fill them we must and we will. Mixed in with my personal sorrow, I have unalloyed delight at the abilities and energy of some of our new UUC folks. Three whom I've watched with wonder are Ory Weaver, Miranda Cagle, and Nancy Beel. With Ory, I sense someone who is poised to handle new technologies coming down the pike when Karl Hunt and I are barely keeping up with last year's. On Sunday mornings you've seen him dishing

up the PowerPoint slides that make stories and services more interesting, but that's just the beginning of what he knows how to do. Miranda is a perfect UU combination, a first-rate scientist and a dancing pro—and a most welcome addition to the Working on Worship (WOW) group. In addition to her abilities as a pianist, we have found in Nancy the UUC poet laureate. *the nUUsletter* readers got a taste of her work last month and now know what the UUC Coffeehouse attendees knew already.

Perhaps I don't know you yet as well as these three and you will amaze me also. What I'm sure of is that if we all take an active interest in the abilities, likes, dislikes, and temperament of the people around us, we will find you willing to use your gifts where they best fit. If that happens, you will bring a smile to the face of the young man doing the greatest volunteer job in the church—Board President Eric Papendorp.

Yes, we can.

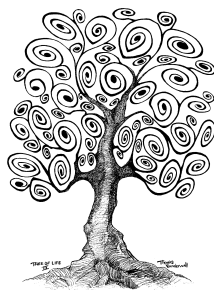
PAGAN PERSPECTIVE

The Pagan group will not meet in August, but will resume meetings on September 6, 2009

Dates of interest in August

- 1 - Lughnasadh/Lammas
- 5 - Full Moon
- 20 - New Moon

Lammas Lughnasadh is named for the Irish god Lugh, one of the chief gods of the Tuatha De Danann, or the people of Danu. Lugh decreed that a commemorative feast be held each year at the beginning of the harvest season to honor his foster mother, Tailtiu. Tailtiu was the royal Lady of the Fir Bolg. After the defeat of her people by the Tuatha De Dannan, she was obliged by them to clear a vast forest for the purpose of



planting grain. She died of exhaustion in the attempt. The legend states that she was buried beneath a great mound named for her, at the spot where the first feast of Lughnasadh was held in Ireland, the hill of Tailte. Games and contests of skill were held at this gathering, as well as a great feast made up of the first fruits of the summer harvest.

Lammas, the medieval Christian name for the holiday, originally celebrated in Britain and now celebrated in other countries, including the United States, was known as the celebration of bread. Bread was one of the main staples of our ancestors, the ripening of the grain was the cause for great celebration. The reaping, threshing and preparation of these breads spawned great ritual and ceremony to ensure bounty for the following year.

You need not think alike to love alike.

~Francis David

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 (UUC).

GREEN SANCTUARY
by Sandy Kurtz

EAT FRESH

Right now it's easy to find fresh produce by frequenting local markets. You have no doubt heard that the average bit of food you eat has travelled an average of 1500 miles. So, who cares you say. I want to be able to eat anything I want all year round and anyway oranges don't grow around here. Try to resist that attitude because the increase in air pollution, the use of foreign oil for transport, the loss of freshness of nutrients, the degradation of soil, and money leaving your community, make it better to support your small local farmers. Then there's the "Case of the Murdered Flavor" as described in *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. Ask **Trish King** about 'slow' and organic food. Here's a challenge: Increase the percentage of food you consume that grew within a 100-mile radius of your home? For good winter eating, invite friends over for canning time now when local produce is cheap. That's a fun, flavorful way to help the Earth and your health.

A COOL THOUGHT

With steamy summer days come wishes for cool fall outings. Sunday, September 20 provides you just such an opportunity during **PRIVET PATROL AND PIZZA PARTY**. This seasonal intergenerational event has many positive benefits. These include enhancing our land for wildlife, removing alien species, beautifying our grounds, having fun interacting with Unitarian Universalists (UUs), getting free exercise, and eating free pizza! Mark your calendars.

THE MOUNTAIN PRACTICES WHAT IT PREACHES

Our UU Retreat and Learning Center in Highlands, North Carolina has always emphasized careful conservation of water. After all, at 4000 feet atop quartzite rock, water is hard to come by. There are

also reminders to turn off light and heat when not needed and to recycle. Last year, however, The Mountain took a very big step to preserve the land in perpetuity: A conservation easement was established, meaning the human footprint will never grow even if the property changes hands. This is a fabulous legacy gift to preserve endemic Appalachian mountain species including massive rhododendrons, dwarf white oaks, and chinquapin oaks with all the accompanying animal species increasingly hard to see in our world. There are beautiful views from Meditation Point, the observation tower sitting on the Eastern Continental Divide or the cabins. Quiet serenity, healthy food, and excellent programming all warrant a visit.



The Mountain View from Meditation Point

BOARD NOTES

Our board or trustees met on July 22nd. The board

- Discussed logistics and planned for the transition of the Director of Religious Education position.
- Discussed guidelines for the Minister's Discretionary Fund.
- Approved new form to be filled out for all church programs. The form can be obtained from Chris and hopefully, in the near future, on the church website.
- Discussed financials.
- Approved Jeff's request for the change in the start date of sabbatical from March 15 to March 1.
- Approved the December 6 date for the harp concert.
- Chose Tim Kleve to serve on the Committee on Ministry.
- Approved the continued use of the church by the eclectic homeschoolers for French lessons.

I was taught that the way of progress is neither quick nor easy.
~Marie Curie

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UUPDATE
by Jamie Sullivan, Director of Religious Education

It's hard to believe my time as Director of Religious Education (DRE) is coming to a close. These two years have been such a growing experience! Getting to know the Unitarian Universalist (UU) children is a blessing. Each of them has such unique and wonderful characteristics and personalities. Their vibrant energy has lifted me out of many dark, moody days and reminded me about the importance of presence. Teaching is so often an exchange of energy through action rather than words...smiles, knowing looks, hugs. Parents, please tell your children how much they mean to me and how much they have taught me by just being themselves.

Over the past two years, many RE committee meetings have left me in a challenged place. I have often gone home from these meetings not knowing which path to take or action to fulfill. These dilemmas have enlightened me to the many facets of human nature and individuality. Our relationships grow through cooperation and determination. These challenges have helped me understand that virtues are only attained through hard work and an open mind.

I look forward to helping our new DRE settle in. Through the month of August, we will work together to assure a smooth

transition for the children and teens. By September, the program will be well on its way to a new UU year. Thank you to all who have supported me in my role as DRE, there are so many of you, I can't begin to name.

Upcoming Events:

Aug. 9: Storytelling with Maureen Olin. Our very own UU member will delight us in some nature based stories.

Aug. 16: Making nature based ink and writing utensils with a special guest and naturalist, Jackie Wooden.

August 16: *Attention* CHATTANOOGA NATURE CENTER DAY- after service, we will take a trip to the nature center where Kyle Waggener will guide us through some fun learning activities! Parents must bring their children to this event. Plan to spend time until around 3:00.

Aug. 23: Scavenger Hunt- You won't want to miss this!

Aug. 30: Let's Party! We'll celebrate the wonderful times we have had with Jamie, give a heart-warming greeting to our new DRE, and celebrate the end of our summer curricula!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
by Eric Papendorp, President, Board of Trustees

The number of new people I see every time I attend service has had me thinking about a sermon Jeff presented a number of months ago. He spoke about church growth; specifically transformational growth that occurs within organizations when they reach around 150 members. It is at this point that churches move from a "Family" model to a "Pastoral" model. Relationships are most important in the "Family" size congregation, and the pastor often serves by leading worship and offering pastoral care. Decisions are likely to be made informally by consensus so long as the key leaders of the congregation are involved. In contrast, "Pastoral" size congregations are made up of several family and friendship groups, unified around the pastor who plays a key role in the decisions and ministry of the congregation. This paradigm shift occurs naturally as the number of members grows to a point where it is virtually impossible for each individual congregant to know every other church member. Like Jeff, I believe we are on the cusp of this paradigm shift within our church.

There are positives and negatives to our growth, and to attempt to quantify the growth as "beneficial" or "harmful" is, to me, a moot point. Personally, I am happy to see the expanding interest in liberal religion in our area, but it saddens me to think that our congregation may develop into groups of strangers with no

common bonds other than the shared use of the sanctuary during service on Sundays. I believe it is in our power to prevent this from happening and that we can look to existing groups within our church that cross family and friendship groups and keep our congregation united.

Affinity Groups such as the Forum and the Pagan group provide opportunities for members to learn about each other outside the scope of regular services. Our Greeters and Caring committee help to involve new members and guests and comfort those who might be isolated in their times of need. The Memorial Garden committee helps preserve and keep sacred our church's history and the newly forming Small Groups will help members of our congregation provide ministry to each other.

I cannot hope to name and recognize all of the great groups and individuals that are keeping our church community united, but I hope that my point is clear. We can no longer depend on Jeff to keep our church united while we work through our growing pains. Every one of us needs to make the effort if we want to keep our church feeling like a family. Find the group, the cause, the activity, the program that speaks to you, and do it. If we all work together, we can grow bigger and feel smaller at the same time.

STARTING THE CHURCH YEAR*by the Rev. Jeff Briere*

Each year in the early autumn, many Unitarian Universalist congregations participate in a ritual known by several names. Water Communion, Water Sunday, Homecoming and Ingathering are a few that I've seen.

The ritual usually goes like this: People bring to the service a small amount of water from a place that is special to them. During the appointed time in the service, people one by one pour their water together into a common vessel. As the water is added, the person who brought it tells why this water is special to them. The combined water is symbolic of our shared faith coming from many different sources. It is often then blessed by the congregation, and sometimes is later sterilized and used in child dedication ceremonies and similar events.

For the past several years, we have celebrated a Water Communion to coincide with the beginning of the church year, and we have scheduled it on the first Sunday after Labor Day. Accordingly, on September 13th, during the Sunday worship service, we will begin our time of fellowship for another year as we enact our Water Communion.

I will explain the history of the water communion in a short sermon on the 13th, so if you want to know more about how this ritual came to us, I encourage you to attend the service and bring with you a small amount of water that comes from a place special to you. That can be your kitchen faucet, a mud puddle, a bird bath or anyplace in the world.

One year, I recall clearly a woman brought a vial of water from the Yangtze River in China. Visibly polluted—gray, hazy, with solids resting on the bottom, it reminded us of the need to guard our watershed against over-development and runoff. She didn't add it to the vase.

Another time, after a couple of years of drought, I remember a man bringing a half-cup of rainwater that he collected when the rains finally arrived and watered a parched land. We rarely consider how water arrives at our bathtub, our sink or our garden hose. At a very basic level, his four ounces of water reminded us of how critical water is to our survival on this planet.

Where the water comes from is irrelevant. What you did to collect it doesn't matter. What the water means to you and to us is important. So that's your assignment. Collect some water, bring it to the service and in a couple sentences, tell us why it's important to you and to us and why you brought it to the church.

On a symbolic level, the water you bring represents the little bit of you that you bring to the life of the church. Adding together our waters (pouring into a vase), represents the larger life we live together as a liberal religious community.

If water doesn't float your boat, bring a stone, a leaf, a flower or another natural object to the service, and we'll add it to the decor on the altar.

PLAN, PLAN, PLAN*by Kristie L. McKinley, Vice-President of Programs*

Between the time I found out that I was to write something as the Vice-President of Programs for *the nUUsletter* and this very moment, I thought of probably a zillion different introductions. Here's what I settled on: I consider myself a pretty rational-minded, non-hand-holding type personality. I say this to mean I think every one of us should work to the best of our ability and when we have decided that we have reached our 100%, seek help if needed. I personally think self-reliance is a pretty attractive trait to have.

I am grateful for you, the congregation, for selecting me so that I may be able to do the best I can for the church. With that being said, there are quite a lot of changes going on with Programs. For starters, Programs is getting a complete overhaul. Even the event form on the office door is changing and there is an event checklist being added to the back for anyone who is new to planning an event and not sure where to start, or you're a pro and curious about gaining insight [or you'd like to contact me and say, "Hey

you may want to add (fill in the blank)."]. I have added many events to a calendar shared by the Board, but if you want to make sure a regular event is on it, please don't hesitate to ask me.

I'm going to share some advice: Plan. Plan early. Plan clearly. I say this because when you give yourself enough time to plan, situations tend to work much more smoothly than if you wait until last minute (I think that's one of Murphy's Laws.). Beautiful and wonderful things like the date and time you request will more likely be available, any "hiccups" can be more easily dealt with, and...dramatic pause...more people will know about your event and be able to participate! I would suggest giving yourself at least 2-3 months before your event as to not stress yourself out, but if you feel you work better with less time, you are a cooler soul than I am.

Again thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve the church in this way. I look forward to the year ahead.

BROWN SUGAR
by Nancy Beel

I turn over a shovelful of dirt
exposing three more grubs,
as long as my littlest finger
and fatter - they've been eating
my compost.
With gloved hand I pick them up
one by one
and drop them into the metal bucket.
The noise in the bucket has grown loud
by now, like rain on the rooftop.
Grubs, three inches deep
are crawling, clawing
in frantic slow motion,
trying to get down to the bottom.
They like it dark and dirty.

My puppy, who eats everything,
trots over to investigate.
She stares into the bucket for a few seconds,
recoils, and bounds away.
Apparently, nobody likes a grub.
I throw down the shovel
and carry the bucket over
to the big trash can,
dumping the grubs on top of
honeysuckle clippings,
spent Gerbera daisies,
dying Passiflora vine.
Then I scoop up some fresh
puppy poop and dump it on top of them.
I wonder if they are offended.
(I would be.)
But then, maybe they like it.
Maybe I just gave them a scoop of
pure heaven.

LESS PAPER NEWSLETTER

In order to reduce paper waste for the environment and printing and mailing costs for the church, our monthly publication, *the nUUsletter*, will no longer be mailed to congregation members. Instead, it will be available at our website <uuc.org/nUUsletter>. For visitors and those with limited access to the internet, a few paper copies will be available in the fellowship area, and you are welcome to take one home with you.

CHIONS

The Chattanooga Institute of Noetic Science will meet on August 8, 2009 from 10:30 am to noon. Eileen Meagher will present Qi-ssage. Qi-ssage is a combination of the principles of qigong and the art of massage. Master Lin, who is always looking for ways to help people maintain and regain their health in an effective way, developed qi-ssage. Master Lin picked a small number of the most powerful energy points and developed a system where an individual can massage these points in a certain way and in a certain order to achieve maximum benefit for the body. One can perform qi-ssage on oneself.

In her presentation, Eileen will show where these points are, how to massage them, and in what order to do the massage. She will concentrate on the points on the front of the body. Folks are encouraged to wear loose, comfortable clothing to the session. Further information on qi-ssage may be found at www.springforestqigong.com.

Dr. Eileen Meagher served as Professor of English at UTC from 1980 until her retirement in May of 2007. In retirement, she teaches Spring Forest Qigong, a form of qigong created by International Master of Qigong, Chunyi Lin, for the purpose of helping people to heal themselves. Eileen studied with Master Lin and has completed all four levels of Spring Forest Qigong. She teaches Levels I and II at Unity of Chattanooga and at Clear Spring Yoga. She also offers information sessions on Qi-ssage to anyone interested.

BIRTHDAYS!

Lori Emerson August 4
Peggy Solomon August 4
Jesse Blue August 6
David Vanderhoof August 6
Leslie Brock August 6
Mark Simpson August 7
Victoria Henry August 12
Evelyn Wood August 15
Hunter Davis August 15
Carmen Vanderhoof August 17
Bill Lusk August 19



Tamara Everett August 20
Steven Kimbell August 22
Eric Papendorp August 23
Bill Wynot August 23
Susan Kennedy August 26
Sarah Faulkenberry August 27
Karen Kimbell August 27
tom kunesh August 28
Isabella Vanderhoof August 28
Marian Kern August 31

**SEEKING FACILITATORS TO BRING SMALL GROUP MINISTRY TO UCC:
SUPPORT & TRAINING IN AUGUST**
by Dez Papendorp

What's the difference between a leader and a facilitator? After sifting through possible answers, for me, it comes down to this: **intent**. A leader can be a teacher sharing distinct ideals, offering solutions to problems, and directing a group down a certain path. Whereas a facilitator learns alongside others, encourages everyone to solve difficulties, and points towards the end goal without defining the pathway to travel. Both roles are invaluable but worthless as a solitary venture.

Small Group Ministry has a defined format that each group relies on for consistency and ease of use. Every Small Group Ministry (SGM) session has an *opening*, a *check-in*, a *focus* for listening and uninterrupted discussion, a *check-out*, and *closing*. Over time with practice, each group member can share in facilitating a meeting. Each Small Group will have a designated contact facilitator that has electively chosen to be the on-site SGM adept. A SGM Facilitator possesses certain

qualities such as a positive regard for others, a non-judgmental listening and communication style, notable listening skills, a desire to participate in ministry sessions 2-3 times a month, and a strong tie to our church. IS THIS YOU? If so, contact Jeff Briere or a member of the Small Group Ministry Steering Team (Elaine Hill, Linda Helton, James Joyner, Elaine Watkins, Dianne Davison, Nicole Barnhart, Leslie Brock, Kay McCurdy, Nancy Beel, and Dez Papendorp) by August 11th to let us know! Rev. Briere and the SGM Steering Team invite you to learn about facilitating a Small Group at the church on **Saturday, August 15th from 9-noon**. It will be a **fun event** offering great fellowship and support for those curious about Small Group Ministry. After identifying our contact facilitators, the church hopes to start forming groups this fall. Come be a part of the excitement!

Let Dez Papendorp know your thoughts on SGM anytime: 706-820-4006, <dezrulz@comcast.net>.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS ELECT NEW PRESIDENT

Adapted from a press release found at
<www.uua.org/pressroom/pressreleases/144323.shtml>

The Unitarian Universalist Association's 2009 General Assembly concluded on June 28th with the installation of a new president and the passage of several social justice resolutions.

Rev. Peter Morales, of Golden, CO, has been elected the eighth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Morales, 62, won with 59 percent of the vote, defeating Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman of Dallas, TX. Morales, who succeeds popular outgoing president Rev. William G. Sinkford, will serve a four-year term with the possibility of running for a second term.

Morales campaigned on a promise to make Unitarian Universalism more racially and culturally diverse. Morales believes that national demographic shifts present this liberal, non-dogmatic denomination with both a challenge and an opportunity to become "the religion for our time." To accomplish this goal, he said, "Unitarian Universalism needs to reach the millions of people who share our theology and values."

Morales is the first Latino president of the UUA. He was born in 1946 in San Antonio, TX, into a family with Mexican-American and Spanish heritage, and he is bilingual. Before hearing a call to ministry, Morales had successful careers in academia and publishing.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS TAKE A STAND AGAINST TORTURE

Adapted from a press release found at
<www.uua.org/pressroom/pressreleases/144323.shtml>

The General Assembly passed several social justice resolutions, including a demand for "Clean, Honest, and Fair Elections in the United States," a commitment to work for "U.S. Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty," and a "Call for a Commission of Inquiry into U.S.-Sponsored Torture." The torture resolution concludes with these words: "Nothing less than the soul of our nation is at stake in confronting U.S.-sponsored torture and completely renouncing its use."

The UUA launched a new public awareness campaign, called "Standing on the Side of Love," to counter acts of exclusion, oppression, and violence based on the perceived identities of victims. The campaign promoted several related public events. Attendees at the General Assembly, along with interfaith partners in the Salt Lake City religious community, organized a rally on behalf of immigrant families. The Unitarian Universalists also hosted an intergenerational "Prom for All," to show support for Salt Lake City's bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender community.

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DATE	8/2	8/9	8/16	8/23	8/30
TOPIC	Scripture Box Service	Becoming a Witness for Peace	What Comes After Beer, Pizza, and Sex	My Summer of World War II	Church Words
LEADER	Jerry Smith Nicky Ozbek	Chris Lugo	Rev. Peter Bauer	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere
BOT MEMBER	Maddie Kertay	Kay McCurdy	Eric Papendorp	Bonny Sinclair	Kristie McKinley
GREETER	Richard Ralston	Monique Lewis	Nancy Beel Carolyn Moore	Harold Linn Mike Bascom	Linda Helton Steve Sherman
USHER	Stacie Tippens	Denita Rainingbird	Tim Kleve	Richard Ralston	Martha Lee
MUSIC	Aaron Long	Marcia Jenison	Steven Hollingsworth	Kate Briere	Christina Koch
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Karl Hunt	Roger Davis	David Reed	Rich Dwyer	Ory Weaver

Creativity requires the courage to let go of certainties.

~ Erich Fromm