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[RETURN TO UUC
HOMEPAGE](#)

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE GIRAFFE KIND

by the Rev. Jeff Briere

I like zoos. I have visited several all over the world. The San Diego Zoo stands out in my estimation. Also, the Berlin Zoo. But these two are very large and you need to set aside a couple days to see all the exhibits. The Chattanooga Aquarium is outstanding. One of my favorite zoos is at the New York State Fair, where every year they fill a few aquariums with freshwater fish native to the state.

Smaller zoos are fun in a different way. Zoo Miami is a medium-sized zoo, and with a medium-size operation you can do some very nice things. Like feeding giraffes. For two bucks, Zoo Miami will sell you a handful of Romaine lettuce which you can use to feed the giraffes.



Erin Shank and her daughter, Shayla, have a close encounter of the giraffe kind.

What great fun for everyone! Kids are tickled and adults can't stop grinning. Even the lettuce vendors have fun.

Giraffes are graceful giants, with long prehensile tongues which they use to gently pluck the lettuce from your hand. Zoo Miami has built a feeding station that puts people at the same height as the giraffes, so you have a face-to-face meeting with these beautiful animals.

My daughter and her daughter had a wonderful time as they slowly extended a few leaves to the giraffe, which slowly extended his long tongue and took the lettuce. Giraffes have long eyelashes, making them look very appealing and they are very quiet. They are not at all scary, even for very young children.

I was very impressed. I know that some purists will decry the exhibit, saying that zoo animals should be seen in their natural habitat, or as near to it as possible, but I think exceptions can be made. I'm not crazy about circuses with acrobatic bears and dancing elephants, but I do like opportunities to interact with other species.



A gentle giraffe

I like to interact with my own species, too. And I think we can take a lesson from the giraffes. When interacting with our own species, do we move slowly? Do we look each other in the face? Do we extend our hand gently? Do we smile? Do we say, "Please" and "Thank you?"

If we act more like giraffes, our close encounters of the human kind will be more beneficial and pleasurable.

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SUNDAY SERVICES ♦ 11:00 AM

MAY 1 ♦ UU KID'S SERVICE

Please join us for our first annual UU Kid's Service. Produced in its entirety by thirteen of our talented and amazing UUCC kids, this service is sure to be fun for the whole family! There will be special music, skits and best of all, you'll see the world through the eyes of our youngest Unitarian Universalists.

Questions? Contact Kay McCurdy at mcfamily@epbf.com

MAY 8 ♦ MOTHER'S DAY

The Rev. Jeff Briere reflects on mothers. The Women's Choir has prepared a special arrangement of "Turn Around" for this service.

MAY 15 ♦ SHATTER MY SOUL

Sometimes, people can be incredibly insensitive in the way they speak to you, either in tone or content. How do you respond? In kind? Keep quiet? The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service, which ought to give you some ideas to form your response the next time someone "knocks your lights out."

MAY 22 ♦ "RECALCULATING" - THE VOICE OF OUR TIME

It is common sport to blame a leader for not knowing some problem was about to emerge. The assumption is that we "can and should know" and therefore be ready, having "planned" a response. We hate being caught off guard. It seems like a personal insult or moral failure. However, in spite of our best efforts, life seems to continually teach us that we don't and can't know what the future holds. "Our best laid plans . . .(well) . . . they often don't work out." The best we can do is to keep a clear destination in our mind's eye and put enough heart into that vision to stay on course – regardless. Bring your GPS and let's talk about the necessity of recalculating.

The service will be led by Dr. James Philpott. Jim, a minister in the United Methodist Church, has conducted a community based pastoral counseling practice in Chattanooga for the past 28 years. He is licensed as a Marital and Family Therapist and a Clinical Pastoral Therapist by the State of Tennessee and is a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. He did his college work at Emory and Henry in Virginia and his seminary training at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He went on to complete pastoral counseling degrees from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia and Emory University in Atlanta.

Jim served on the Board of Education of the Chattanooga Public Schools from 1989-1993 and as Director of Pastoral Care at Valley Behavioral Health Hospital in the 1990s. He currently serves as Pastoral Counselor for Christ UMC and the Chattanooga District of the United Methodist Church. On work days he provides counseling services to individuals and couples in his Georgia Avenue office and on off days he can be found in his shop turning wood art on a lathe or in a trout stream testing the waters. He is husband to Jeane, father to Ben and Sarah, and “granddaddy” to two granddaughters.

MAY 29 ♦ MEMORIAL DAY

The Rev. Jeff Briere leads this service of remembrance for those who died in the past year. *THE CHATTANUUGANS*, Rich Dwyer and Kate Briere, have prepared a moving version of “Ashokan Farewell” for this service.

SUNDAY FORUMS

The Forum meets downstairs in the last room on the left at 9:30 am. All are welcome to attend. Contact Jim Welborn for more information.

May 1 - A fresh perspective on America. Guests Alla and Andrea will offer their perspectives on America through the eyes of Russia and Germany.

May 8 - Talking Trash. Where our waste comes from, where it goes, and how it's changing.

May 15 - Introducing the Bessie Smith Cultural Center. Rose Martin, Executive Director of BSCC will be our guest speaker.

May 22 - Current Events. A discussion of a current event for that week.

May 29 - Funny Bone. What makes something funny, and the physiological effects of humor. Bring your favorite joke to share with the group!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Jeannie Hacker-Cerulean ~ May 1
Pamela Johnson ~ May 1
Carol Hobbs ~ May 7
Tim McKee ~ May 7
Diane Reed ~ May 8
Jeff Briere ~ May 10
Joshua Solomon ~ May 10
Sophie McCurdy ~ May 14
Nathan Polen ~ May 15



Stephanie Smullen ~ May 15
John Nelson ~ May 17
Buck O'Rear ~ May 18
Alex Kunesh ~ May 20
Isabel Dillard ~ May 24
Margaret Hudson ~ May 24
Sue Welborn ~ May 25
Madeline Boshers ~ May 26
George Helton ~ May 26
George Olin ~ May 28
Sam Kertay ~ May 30

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
by Eric Papendorp

I hope that many of you are planning to attend the Annual Meeting for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga that will be held after service on Sunday, May 15. A formal notice of this meeting, including the slate of nominees for open Board of Trustees positions, will be posted at the church and sent to you all at a later date. As in the past, the Annual Meeting will be concerned with the broad business of the church: reports from the Board of Trustees Vice-Presidents, approval of an operating budget for the next fiscal year, and election of new Trustees. At the Annual Meeting, the finances of the church will be covered in a very broad and general manner. If you have specific questions in regards to church finances, Frank Caperton, the Vice President of Ways and Means and I will be hosting a meeting designed especially for this purpose on Saturday, May 7 at 10:00am.

Please RSVP with the church office for this meeting. If there are no RSVP's, we will cancel the meeting.

THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB
by Steve Hollingsworth

"Try it, you'll like it!"

—Alka Seltzer ads, 1971 and 2006

The fifth pillar of Islam is the hajj, a pilgrimage to Mecca taken sometime in a Muslim's life if they are physically and economically able to do so. We Unitarian Universalists (UUs) have no similar religious mandates, but I want to put a hard sell onto all of you to consider the UUs annual meeting, General Assembly (GA), this June 22-26, in Charlotte, NC.

This year we'll be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the merger of the Universalist Church of America and the American Unitarian Association, the merger that created the denomination as we know it today. Every UU seems to get it that it's be there or be square. Registration is setting records.

Most folks know Daidee and me as GA junkies. Since my first GA in 1994, I've missed just two. Since you correctly infer that I'm an unabashed partisan, I urge you not to take my word for it. We have many GA veterans among us. Talk to them. For starters, Elaine Watkins will recall the Good Asian Drivers and Van Jones. Mary Hunter will remember Amy Goodman. I promise that's just the beginning of the conversation. Other UU Church of Chattanooga (UCC) vets are Karl Hunt and Rich Dwyer. Elaine Hill, is going, too, for her first time. She's excited to be going. Ask her why!

If I've raised a flicker of interest, please don't stop with one conversation. GAs are sprawling events. Everyone finds a path through one that is uniquely their own. Your own experience will also be unique and unforgettable.

Here's is a certain truth: If you wonder about how church happens, what is necessary to develop programs in a congregation, why problems arise, there will be something for you. Every member of every congregation and fellowship who at one time felt alone but went to GA found useful resources and realized how much we all have in common.

Our mega-celebration this summer is a manageable drive of about six hours from Chattanooga. I know that enough people from our church are already planning to go that carpooling is possible and maybe likely. Say maybe and continue the conversation.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15, 2011
following the Sunday Service in the Church Sanctuary.

WARTS AND ALL

by Kay McCurdy

"If evolution really works, how come mothers only have two hands?"

-Milton Berle

In my experience, motherhood is a series of mishaps, mayhem and (thankfully) mirth. Before sounding any alarms, please re-read the previous sentence: In *my* experience. Suffice it to say, your results may vary. Perhaps you are (or know of) a mother who positively glows, a mother who exudes patience and mindfulness at all times. Not I. Make no mistake, my lack of finesse isn't for want of trying. I've devoured countless books and essays on the subject, attended workshops, joined parenting groups. There's a lot at stake here, after all.

Luckily, my husband and I are the parents of two delightful daughters who've exceeded our expectations at every turn. They're bright, funny and kind. (What else matters?) But there always seems to be a crisis brewing in my head and heart, and the clock is ticking. I've only five years left with our eldest daughter at home, and only eight years with our youngest. What if I can't crack the code in time? What if the mysteries of motherhood elude me until both kids have flown the coop?

There are so many mothers I'm lucky enough to count as friends whose grace and wisdom I admire. What I see when I look at these women is a universal ability to not only make lemonade from lemons, but seemingly to do so without breaking a sweat. (And without swearing like a sailor, a nasty habit of mine.) Where did they find their inner peace? And how late does the place stay open?

Here's a typical mothering morning for me: Wake up. Worry. Drink coffee. Fret over not rising at five to meditate and prepare slow cooked oatmeal. Hug it out. Drive eldest child to school. Watch her walk into building. Burst into sobs. Homeschool youngest child. Feel certain she is not internalizing the ramifications of the Trojan war. She'll never get into college at this rate. Freak out about fruit: Maybe they're not eating enough blueberries. Blueberries are a super food! Reminisce about when they were younger. Pangs of guilt for not following through with the cloth diapering thing. List of acceptable excuses runs through head. All are lame. Maybe this has damaged them in some way? Feel the shame of the lazy, selfish, uninvolved Mother who couldn't be bothered to wash her beloved children's diapers. Not only was I destroying my children, but the planet, as well. What kind of monster am I?

And that's all before noon.

But here's the fun part: Watching them outsmart me at cards. Piling into bed with the four of us to watch a movie and cuddle. Crazy-fast 48 hour family vacations when we're broke but need to get away. Waffles on Saturday mornings. Inside jokes and handshakes and dance moves. Family meetings. Eating pie. Crying together. Raising rescued cats and dogs. Painting each other's toenails. Watching each other fail, then succeed (and sometimes fail again.) Showing up for each other, each and every day, warts and all. Worry. Worry about warts. Probably caused by those horrid disposable diapers!

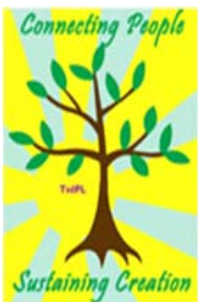
"I shall never forget my mother, for it was she who planted and nurtured the first seeds of good within me. She opened my heart to the lasting impressions of nature; she awakened my understanding and extended my horizon and her percepts exerted an everlasting influence upon the course of my life."

- Immanuel Kant

GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE
by Sandy Kurtz, Green Sanctuary

MIXING EMOTIONS

April was quite a month for extremes. We experienced the high joy that comes from spring renewal of life and the sad low stemming from death due to natural causes (tsunami and earthquakes) and the not-natural radiation releases from Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear power plants. Our sorrow was made more intense knowing that Catherine Long's aunt was lost in the Japanese tragedy. As it happened, UUCC hosted a program called "Voices from Chernobyl" where two Russian women told of the impacts of Chernobyl on the 25th anniversary of that meltdown. Today it still is a place where no one can live, and where animals and plants show up with genetic abnormalities. To date, 1 million people have died. One must ask, where is justice for all who, through no fault of their own, happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time? Yet the flowers bloom after April showers. It's May.

TENNESSEE INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT MOVES FORWARD

Reverend Sally Bingham didn't get here after all due to illness. For weeks the word had gone out that the founder of Interfaith Power & Light would be visiting Chattanooga as part of her Tennessee tour. She would promote the idea that there should be a spiritual response to the climate crisis. Our Chattanooga chapter went forward anyway speaking to an adult education class and delivering Reverend Bingham's sermon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and then holding a public discussion at Grace Episcopal Church. There was lively interaction and exchange of ideas in all the discussions. Participants were genuinely concerned and wanted to know what could be done to conserve energy in their churches and how to personally live in 'greener' ways.

PULL A WEED

Our front door flowerbeds at the church are looking a little scraggly and we have no official gardener. Do your part. Every Sunday as you leave, pull up a few weeds. You can place them in the compost bins at the far end of the parking lot. Some of you may want to set aside some time during the week for creating curb appeal especially for visitors at our front door.

CHATTANOOGA INSTITUTE OF NOETIC SCIENCE

On May 14th, at 10:30am in the Unitarian Universalist Church, Steven Brooks will present *An Apocalyptic Redemption: A Hero's Journey of Resurrection, Enlightenment, and Tantric Awakening*. Here is an excerpt:

Apocalypse Now Redux contains many sublime images that have unfortunately caused the film to be dismissed in some circles as disturbing and violent. While the scenes of warfare can be unsettling when taken out of context, they are in reality a means to a very important end when seen in the context of the whole. Francis Ford Coppola's masterwork is in fact a movie of rebirth, enlightenment, and resurrection, using warfare as a metaphor for the internal struggle of raising consciousness. The film employs symbolism from the Hindu, Buddhist, and Christian religions, as well as the labyrinth and Minotaur from Greek Mythology. Paradoxically, *Apocalypse Now Redux* is a war film that deserves recognition as a work of compassion.

Steven Brooks holds a Master's Degree in music from the University of Southern California, and has years of experience teaching at the college level. He also has written and spoken on the subject of mythology and comparative religion, drawing on his decades' long interest in and study of the religious and philosophical traditions of both the east and west.

We hope to see you there. Like all our meetings, this one is open to visitors and is free of charge.

UUCC CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee is an informal group of UUCC members involved in the infrequent acute needs of church members. When someone is ill or injured or has illness or injury in the family, has medical transportation needs, a death in the family or other sadness, or is unable to come to church, or just needs a sympathetic ear, the Caring Committee services these needs. This committee communicates mainly through email and phone tree. There are no committee meetings, no fund-raisers, nor group functions. Participation is expected on some level though not required to any degree.

Services are rendered individually, on an as interested basis, except as noted below. Requirements for inclusion on the committee are interest in showing you care towards your fellow man, a commitment to send a card, give a call, bake something, or give a ride, and maintain a level of privacy of information where asked.

The committee is chaired (coordinated) by Bonny Sinclair, and co-chaired with Pat Mann. They communicate known needs to each other and other members. Your interest in serving on this committee should be communicated to either Bonny or Pat, along with your phone number or email address. There are currently 18 members on this committee, (including the past, present, and president-elect of the board, the administrator, and the minister). You can communicate any needs that you have, or any find out about, to either Bonny or to Pat, or Rev. Briere. If you have an interest in serving on this committee, tell Bonny your name along with your phone number or email address.

The primary duties of the committee are as follows:

1. December Christmas Cookie delivery to shut-ins. A group activity where some members bake a dozen cookies; others format the cookies into gift-wrapped sets; and others deliver the sets to selected members of the church.
2. Send an appropriate card or personal note, call, or visit where the need arises and as indicated. Preferences, when known, are communicated along with the need.
3. Do an errand or give a ride where crisis or extreme need dictates. Put the word out for needs of rides, housekeeping, or other services for shut-ins.
4. Deliver a prepared meal when needed due to death, injury, or illness.
5. Hospital, nursing home, other facility, or home visits where warranted and requested.
6. Coordination of other services where extreme need or crisis dictates.
7. Service of prepared food trays at a cost, the supervision of a caterer, or trays of cookies prepared at no cost for memorial services at church when requested.

An announcement at church of the passing of a member/past member/friend, or their immediate family member, with the service of coffee and cookies during fellowship hour.

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 (UUCC).

BEES A BUZZING IN SMALL GROUP MINISTRY
by Dez Papendorp

Spring is a busy, bustling, buzzing time for Small Group Ministry at our Church. This season finds most of our current groups reflecting on service projects completed and celebrated*, along with the *simple joy of being* together during session time. By now, most people within the fold of Small Group Ministry feel comfortable and welcomed by comrades within their groups. The end of spring is approaching and many SGM participants may be saying, "Wow, how did this final meeting time arrive already? I'll miss you and our time together this summer."



The summer, however, is not the end of small groups at church; in many ways it is a beginning. In the summer we plan to form our Summer Steering Team and introduce Chalice Circles as a small taste of how wonderful Small Group Ministry can be (more on this shortly). Just as people have made all of the great service projects possible, it takes enthusiastic participants to help continue to grow the program through the summer months.

As is true for all groups at our church, people make it happen or not by participating. If we unite and say, "Yes, my time spent intentionally getting to know my neighbors on this planet while enacting my beliefs are worthy." then, SGM will continue to uplift this church in years to come. If you feel SGM isn't doing much for our church presently, then I invite you to review the chart below listing how our four groups are making a contribution to our

church and community. If you feel SGM should stay here at UUCC, then *you* should commit one full afternoon a month in June, July and August to be a part of our Summer Steering Team. This group of individuals keeps the SGM vision alive throughout the remaining year by determining how the program should adapt to the needs of its participants in 2011-2012. Did I mention, we share laughs as we work together on the Summer Steering Team? We do enjoy our time together. To communicate your desire to join, contact the Coordinators for SGM at sgm@uuc.org, or speak directly to Dez Papendorp or Wendy Sapp. If there is no Summer Steering Team, there will be no SGM.

Please make your interest known now, and we will happily welcome your efforts.

***SGM Service Accomplishments 2010-2011**

<u>For UUCC</u>	<u>For the Community</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mardi Gras Celebration • Serve & Clean Up at Seder Dinner • Created Church Cards with D. Reed • Playground Clean Up • Upcoming Summer 2011 Dinner/Dance • Offering an ongoing Adult RE program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collected food, clothes & money for Northside Neighborhood House • Many volunteer hours at McKamey Animal Center • Collecting Wish List Items & money for Chambliss • Summer charitable fundraising

Join in with others as we work towards Continuing SGM at our church. Your efforts make a HUGE difference in how UUs offer ministry to others and themselves.

PARENTING SGM "WISH LIST" DRIVE

The Parenting SGM "Wish List" Drive for the Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter wraps up Sunday, May 9th. Thank you to all that have already brought in items the CH/CS needs. For those that haven't yet, please bring your items to church on Sunday, May 9th. We will also "Share the Plate" with the CH/CS on Sunday, May 9th. Please help us help children in our community!



THE "CATS AND DOGS" SGM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

The "Cats and Dogs" Small Group Ministry met recently at McKamey for their community service project. Jobs waiting for them included making peanut butter treats for the furry residents, "scooping" up the play yard, and doing tons of laundry! Anyone wishing to make donations to the center will find that creamy peanut butter and used linens are always needed.

The vision of the McKamey Animal Center is comprised of four main pillars focusing on spay/neuter, advocacy, enforcement and education. You can find out more information about the McKamey Animal Care & Adoption Center by visiting their website at www.mckameyanimalcenter.org.



Linda Park, Charlotte Davis, Jerry Smith, Daidee Springer, Linda Helton, Charles Redwine, Mary Hunter, and (not shown) Nicole Barnhart.

CHALICE CIRCLES

Coming this summer to a church near you---namely our Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga...



What are Chalice Circles?

Chalice Circles are an opportunity for adults in the congregation to join together on Sunday mornings this summer for a time of personal sharing and reflection in a supportive environment. Chalice Circles will meet downstairs from 9:30 to 10:40 on the fourth Sunday of the month: 6/26/11, 7/24/11 and 8/28/11. Each session a different topic will be briefly presented through a short reading and then everyone will have the opportunity to equally share their personal experiences related to the topic. Chalice Circle is a drop-in, come-if-you-can group with no need to sign up in advance or commit to attending meetings. Each Chalice Circle will accommodate up to 15 people. Should 16 or more show, the group will divide into 2 groups to allow ample time for sharing in a non-conflict oriented atmosphere.

If you would like to learn more about Chalice Circles, show up for the first meeting on June 26 which will address *LIVING SIMPLY* at 9:30am or call Dez Papendorp (706-820-4006) or Wendy Sapp (706-694-0940) for more information. Childcare is provided by the church at this time. Everyone is invited to join, members and friends.

SHARE THE PLATE

On May 9th, we will Share the Plate with Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter. Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter is a private, local non-profit organization. Dating back to 1872, the agency exists to preserve family unity and to help prevent the dependency, neglect, abuse, and delinquency of children by responding to the community's child care needs. Their programs serve almost 700 children per day, of all races, ages, and economic backgrounds throughout the city.

If you would like to get more information, you can check out their website at www.ch-cs.org.

Month	Share the Plate with	Amount Donated
May	The Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter	????
April	Northside Neighborhood House	\$242.23
March	The Mountain	\$755.52
February	Interfaith Homeless Network	\$505.00
January	Newton Child Development Center	\$381.68
December	Pet Placement Center	\$222.61
November	Community Kitchen	\$471.25
October	UUA	\$268.00
September	Living Waters for the World	\$373.29
August	Minister's Benevolence Fund	\$95.00
July	Greater New Orleans UU	\$219.27

MEMORIAL GARDEN RE-DEDICATION MAY 29TH

You are invited! The Memorial Garden of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga is a quiet area of the churchyard set aside for the memory of loved ones and, if desired, the interment of their ashes.

Each year, on the Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day, we re-dedicate the Memorial Garden. The re-dedication service will take place shortly after the end of that day's worship service and you are invited to this brief ceremony. If you are not familiar with the Memorial Garden, the re-dedication service is a great chance for you to see it and learn about it.

Information about the Memorial Garden will also be included in that day's worship service and there will be a pictorial display on the Garden and its history in the Fellowship area. Additional information is available in our Memorial Garden brochure and on the church's website (click on the Memorial Garden link).

Members of the Memorial Garden Committee are George Helton and Monique Lewis (committee co-chairs), Martha Berry, Pat Mann, Marge Pasch, Kay Spehar, Skip Stevens, and Charles Wright. We would be happy to talk with you about the Garden and answer any questions you might have.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the Memorial Garden of the UU Church of Chattanooga. These donations help support the care and maintenance of the Memorial Garden.

MUUSIC NUUS

by Kate Briere

I am writing this as I am packing up the van to head to Florida for our granddaughter's 2nd birthday! Shayla Noelle will be two on April 14th and grandpa Jeff and grandma Kate will be there to celebrate it with her!

Thanks to all who responded with their singing stories! I have decided to publish this one from Diane Reed. Enjoy!

I grew up in a Baptist church. It had a wonderful music department, and I (like most of the kids there), started in the "Cherub Choir" as soon as I could walk down the aisle of the sanctuary without falling over my own feet. There were certain songs that were a tradition in that church, and we learned them young and sang them every year. Three of my favorites were "Silent Night" at Christmas, "The Palms" on Palm Sunday, and "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" at Easter.

The first Sunday I visited the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga was right around Easter. I had not yet read the order of worship, but I sure did recognize the opening bars of "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" as the first hymn. I can't tell you how pleased I was to hear the notes of this familiar song. It brought back a rush of memories, and I was happy to have a chance to sing it again.

Since I knew all the words to all the verses, I didn't bother to open the hymn book. I joyfully launched into the first verse with gusto, and sang with much enthusiasm if not with much talent. I noticed all the people around me were looking at me, but they were all smiling, and I took their smiles as approval and enjoyment of my singing, and so I ramped up the volume for the second verse. I also noticed that the person beside me was singing the wrong words, but I figured he was just not as familiar with the song as I was, or perhaps had lost his place on the page.

It took coming to church several more weeks before I realized that the hymnal will often have different words to songs...and to understand why the people around me were smiling.

I always use the hymn book now.

Thanks to Diane Reed for sharing. Please send more singing stories to me at music@uuc.org. Thanks in advance!

The Children's Choir sang the Prelude on Sunday April 3. They were accompanied by our "in-house band" Roger Davis, Jesse Blue, Rich Dwyer, and Jeff Briere. Thanks to all the parents, kids and musicians. Special thanks to Catherine Long for her technical advice and sound reinforcement. As with everything we do, it takes many people to create a few minutes of wonder.

The Women's Choir will be singing for Mother's Day, Sunday May 8th. This is a group of dedicated women who have been meeting after church on selected Sundays to prepare the piece "Turn Around."

Singing Meditation will continue on the last Wednesday May 25th at 7 pm. Please come and join us for this unique spiritual experience combining song and silence.

*All good music resembles something.
Good music stirs by its mysterious resemblance to the objects and feelings which motivated it.*

—Jean Cocteau

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

DATE	5/1	5/8	5/15	5/22	5/29
TOPIC	UU Kid's Service	Mother's Day	Shatter My Soul	"Recalculating"– The Voice of Our Time	Memorial Day
LEADER	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. Jeff Briere	Rev. James Philpott	Rev. Jeff Briere
GREETERS/ USHERS	Pat Mann Richard Ralston Steve Sherman	Marge Pasch Elaine Watkins Eric Slaton	Yvonne Derrickson Ken Nickerson Donna Crompton	Kristie McKinley Jesse Blue Sue Knight	Monique Lewis Elaine Hill Susan Kennedy
BOARD REP	Eric Papendorp	Bonny Sinclair	Frank Caperton	Kristie McKinley	Donna Crompton
MUSIC	UU Kids	Women's Choir	Melody Poke	Jay Craven & Steven Hollingsworth	CHATTANUGANS
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Roger Davis	David Reed	Catherine Long	Rich Dwyer	Eric Davis

UUCC Board of Directors

<i>President, Eric Papendorp</i>	<i>VP, Programs, Kristie McKinley</i>
<i>VP, Ways and Means, Frank Caperton</i>	<i>VP, Religious Education Bonny Sinclair</i>
<i>Treasurer, George Helton</i>	<i>Secretary, Donna Crompton</i>

"I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavours to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours. He will put some things behind, will pass an invisible boundary; new, universal, and more liberal laws will begin to establish themselves around and within him; or the old laws be expanded, and interpreted in his favour in a more liberal sense, and he will live with the license of a higher order of beings. In proportion as he simplifies his life, the laws of the universe will appear less complex, and solitude will not be solitude, nor poverty poverty, nor weakness weakness. If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them."

- Henry David Thoreau

April 2010

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May 2010

June 2010

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30a Forum 9:30a Pagan Group 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE	3 9:00a SGM	4 1:00p SGM 6:30p SGM	5 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p Wed. Night In 6:30p SGM	6	7	8 10:30a CHIONS 6:00p Bridge Group
9 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE	10 6:30p SGM Facilitator Mtg (Forum Room)	11	12 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	13	14	15 2:30p Wright Memorial Service
16 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 12:15p Annual Meeting	17	18 1:00p SGM 6:30p SGM	19 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM 7:00p Board Meeting	20	21 7:00a Lookouts Game	22 9:00a Sumi-Art Workshop
23 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 2:00p Environmental Video	24	25	26 5:30p Piano Lessons 6:30p SGM	27	28	29
30 9:30a Forum 9:30a Choir Rehearsal 11:00a Worship Service 11:00a RE 12:00p Memorial Garden	31					