



UUMAN TIMES

Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North

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January 2016

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In the Interim: January Thoughts

As the boat nears Daufuskie Island, the fog thins. Visibility improves. The sun emerges. On the dock, Daufuskie residents say it's a wonder the Wednesday boat arrived at all. In recent weeks, clear mornings have been non-existent, and the boat has never left the dock at Hilton Head.

From long ago summers in coastal Maine, I'm familiar with the dampening effect fog can have on vacation plans. I'd expected the Daufuskie trip to be cancelled. I'd said Oh well, and Maybe, there's another good movie around. (We'd already seen Star Wars.) So when the boat did leave, and the sun did emerge, I decided there had to be a message in there somewhere.

The second year of an interim transition focuses on the ministerial search. Excitement builds. New projects are postponed and decisions tabled until the new minister gets here. That is as things should be. In the meantime, there's still transitional work to be done. Lately I've been asking myself where to put my energies: What to lift up? What to let go?

Religion is embedded in time, place, and culture. Culture is subject to inevitable forces of change. Since I began serving UUMAN as your interim minister, I've alluded often to shifting conditions for "being church" in this unsettled and unsettling era. If you've been a Unitarian Universalist for at least 5 to 10 years, what has changed for you in that time? If you've joined UUMAN more recently, or haven't made up your mind yet, what are your hopes and expectations? What does the history and theology of

Unitarian Universalism have to do with either question? As the future of our liberal faith moves forward, what is emerging that may previously have blurred our vision?

What to lift up now? What to let go?

— Rev. Cynthia Prescott

UUMAN

Ministerial Search Committee

News You Can Use – January 2016

Your Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) is pleased to provide you with another installment of News You Can Use—an update on what we've been up to. We are excited about our section on the new uuman.org website, where you can find the latest information about the search!

What has the MSC been doing?

The survey results have been tallied and the report may be viewed on the UUMAN website under the Ministerial Search section.

Also in this section is a wealth of information about our congregation that may be viewed by interested ministers! This includes a description of our history, our programs and activities, and some general information about the local area.

Prospective ministers have also been viewing our Congregational Record on the UUA transitions website. The CR is our best opportunity to attract ministers' interest. It describes UUMAN's history, strengths, opportunities, and hopes for the future. Prospective ministers began reviewing our CR during December.

What will happen over the next couple of months?

After reviewing the CR, candidates who are interested in UUMAN will notify the UUA. We expect to have a report from the UUA in mid-January with a group of candidates identified. We will then send our informational packet to each candidate, and begin reviewing each candidate's Ministerial Record.

We will conduct an initial telephone interview with each candidate and review any information that is sent to us. We will then narrow our selection to what we feel and think are the best three candidates for UUMAN. These "pre-candidates" will be invited to Georgia in February/March for candidating weekends. Their identities will be kept confidential until one is chosen over the others.

Communicating with You

- We will continue to provide you a 5-minute update on our work from the pulpit on the last Sunday of every month.
- We will continue articles in the monthly newsletter, the UUMAN-Times.
- We will send out updates and time-sensitive information via UUMAN Announcements and the UUMAN Facebook page.
- We will be present during coffee hour after every service at the MSC table in Fellowship Hall. Look for our bright pink nametags and ask us a question!

- We will continue to post important information to the MSC bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.
- We will update the search committee website as new information becomes available.

How to contact the MSC

- Email: search@uuman.org
- In person: before and after Sunday services; look for the people wearing bright pink nametags.

In faith,

Dirk Bender, Joe Creech, Laura Keck, Lyn May, Shelley Nagrani, Miriam Patanian, and Phillip Seaver



Celebrating UUMAN's Silver Anniversary ReUUnion - Standing on the Side of Love



Pictured above: *Roger Comstock, Gary Welterlen, Vera Arthur, Rev. Lauralyn Bellamy, Rosie Popp, Cliff Brown, Roland "Pete" Peterson-Frey.*

Now that 2015 is behind us, it's time to start thinking about the new year. For many reasons 2016 is a banner year for UUMAN— besides calling a new minister, we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary! It was 25 years ago this month that a group of like-minded individuals came together to form UUMAN and start it down the path of serving the north Atlanta metro area of Georgia.

Of course many good things have happened since that day in January 1991. I won't try to recount them here, but instead will encourage you to make sure you attend the 25th Anniversary celebrations on February 6 and 7 when we will take time to remember where we've been and where we are going.

The celebration all begins Saturday night, February 6th, the UUMAN ReUUnion with music and dancing, good food and spirits, a slide show of UUMAN's past, present, and future, and many surprises. Childcare will be provided and we'll have special activities for our youth. Sunday, February 7th, will start with a special inter-generational service celebrating our 25 years, followed by UUMAN's 25th birthday party for the whole family, especially the young ones.

This ReUUnion is for all current and former members and friends of UUMAN, and especially past and present MCY attendees. We hope you will join us, from near or far, for this very special weekend.

We have special 25th anniversary t-shirts available for \$15 each to help us celebrate this occasion. The sizes run from Youth Medium, through Ladies and Men's XL (Ladies' and Men's 2X and 3X are also available). If you would like to order one, please email Bev Jordan at btjordan@mindspring.com and she will give you the measurements and other details.



Come celebrate the history, the present, and the future of UUMAN. Looking forward to seeing YOU and YOURS on February 6 and 7, 2016!!

- Bob Popp

FROM THE GARDEN

Hello Fellow and Potential Gardeners,

From mid-March to mid-November, we meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at UUMAN to take care of the gardens. We usually work from around 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or noon. UUMAN Announcements are sent out the Friday before each work day. Hope to see you in March!

Claire Sullivan
 UUMAN Gardening Group
cbsullivan@bellsouth.net



Life Celebrations

We want to commemorate the happy occasions in the lives of our UUMAN members and other friends of UUMAN. We are looking for Naming Ceremonies, Graduations, Marriages, Anniversaries, Retirements, and Birthdays. Please submit the information about your special day, in the month prior to the event, to Claire Sullivan at cbsullivan@bellsouth.net

Date	Celebration
1/2	Lily H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/4	Jamie Hagood is celebrating his 40th birthday
1/5	Noah S. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/7	Miller M. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/8	Annelies Woesten is celebrating a birthday
1/15	Randy Jue is celebrating a birthday
1/21	Nelson Hagood is celebrating a birthday
	Dharma H. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday
1/30	Marre Woesten is celebrating a birthday
1/31	Evan B. of our MCY program is celebrating a birthday



Azalea—still blooming in December



New planting in entryway



Newly planted Oakleaf Hydrangea

News from the Mountain



Now Hiring:

Development Director - We are looking for a creative and resourceful person with strong communication skills to lead the planning, organizing, and facilitation of fund development for The Mountain. Experience in grant writing is preferred. To apply, send your resume to Miriam Witzl (miriam.witzl@TheMountainRLC.org).

2016 Summer Camp Staff - Are you interested in changing the life of a young person by being a positive Unitarian Universalist role model? Do you want to motivate and inspire a camper to be the best that they can be? If you are, then you may be a good fit for a Summer Staff position for Mountain Camp 2016. This is a paid position, go to [our website](#) to apply. Application must be received by **February 15, 2016**.

Farm Internship - We are accepting applications for our Fall Sustainable Agriculture and Experiential Education internship. Learn about farming techniques, group facilitation, and more! For details and to learn how to apply, visit TheMountainRLC.org/garden-internship/

2016 Programs:

Work Weekend: March 25 - 27

Spring Youth Conferences - *Elementary:* March 11 - 13; *Intermediate:* March 18 - 20; *Senior High:* April 1 - 3

SEUUMA Spring: April 4 - 7

UUWomenspirit: May 11 - 15

Appalachian Spring: May 22 - 27

Homecoming Weekend: May 27 - 29

Annual Meeting: May 28th

MountainCamp: June 12 - July 23 *see [our website](#) for camp session dates*

Family Camp: July 24 - 31

Southern UU Fall Institute (SUUFI): October 2 - 7

UUWomenspirit: October 19 - 23

Thanksgiving: November 23 - 27

Are You Ready for Revolutionary Love?

From Saturday, January 16 through Sunday, February 14, the Social Justice Committee is inviting you to celebrate 30 days of love. We are joining Standing of the Side of Love and other UU congregations in "re-imagining Valentine's Day as a social justice holiday." This year's focus is racial justice.

Stay tuned for messages that will be shared through UUMAN announcements, the Order of Worship, and on the UUMAN Facebook page. We are also inviting you to stop by the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall to share how you are standing on the side of love. During this time, please feel free to wear your Standing on the Side of Love, Black Lives Matter, or other t-shirt to represent your favorite social justice cause.

— Sheila

UNDER THE HARVEST MOON AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

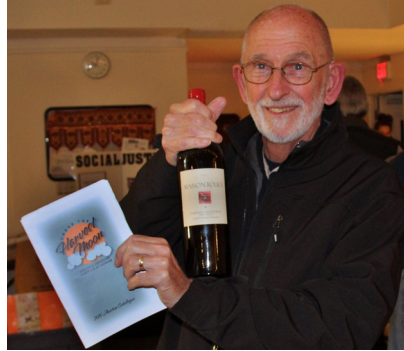
*We danced, we feasted, we bid through the night
What treasures we found under the harvest moon light.*

—Photos by Dan Ben-David



MORE UNDER THE HARVEST MOON AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

—Photos by Dan Ben-David



A Month of Sundays

Date	Topic	Speaker
1/3	A Different New Year New Year's Resolutions? It's about our choices, including whether or not we reflect, without distractions, about what we might do better for ourselves this year.	Lay Speaker Paula Watson
1/10	Beneath the Quilt Many years ago Celestine Sibley, the beloved columnist, wrote of a Kentucky woman's homespun musings about the theological message inherent in patchwork quilting. There is truth in those musings, but there is a deeper truth beneath the colorful surface of the quilt that offers a rich lesson for how we live into the mission of our beloved religious community.	Lay Speaker Dave Hudson
1/17	In the Steps of Dr. King A multi-generational service. The Social Justice Committee will introduce the Unitarian Universalist Association's Thirty Days of Love project.	Rev. Cynthia Prescott
1/24	Far Enemy, Near Enemy Each of Buddhism's Four Immeasurables—loving-kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity has a far enemy and a near enemy. Cruelty is the far enemy of compassion. That's apparent. However it's the near enemies that can trip us up—responses and emotions that seem wholesome enough at the time, but may lead indirectly to pain for ourselves and those around us.	Rev. Cynthia Prescott
1/31	Show Your Work Remember when the teacher asked you to write down every step in solving that math problem? A similar method is useful and when reflecting on our various spiritual paths and where they might be taking us next.	Rev. Cynthia Prescott

January Events

Beginning January 28 Monday 7:30—9:00 p.m., Discovery Hall	Spirit of Life A 9-session course offering participants space, time, and community to explore their Unitarian Universalist spirituality. Each focuses on a different aspect of the spiritual life, framed by the lyrics of Carolyn McDade's song "Spirit of Life." See http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/life for a course description and session materials. Dave Hudson and Jim Saunders will facilitate.
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January Events

Date	Event
2nd Sunday of each month, after the service, in the sanctuary.	21st Century Humanism focuses on the philosophy of mankind as the center of all things, informs members of Humanism's nature and history, and emphasizes free and frank discussion of the effect on humanity of past and present events, safe from the influence of contravening public opinion. For more information, contact John Peltier at peltier.john@gmail.com
Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 in Discovery Hall	Circle of Women We aim to develop a warm nurturing circle of trust where we can share ourselves and our lives. Contact Kate Hudson hudsonkd@bellsouth.net or Linda Etheridge lletheridge1@gmail.com
Wednesdays from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	UUMAN's Painting Group Come paint with us in a relaxed atmosphere with a glass of wine. All are welcome. There is a fee but half is donated to UUMAN.
Weekly on Wednesdays at 12:15	Daytimers The Daytimers group discusses contemporary, thought-provoking topics such as current political issues or social trends that may affect everyone at some level. All are invited to attend. For information, contact Dan Ben-David at dan@uuman.org
Fourth Saturday of the month at 7:30 p.m.	The Common Grounds Coffee House <i>Connecting people who love to play music with those who love to listen!</i> Doors open at 7 pm (except April this year it is the 3rd Saturday). Live music and delicious refreshments, \$5 suggested donation, held in the Sanctuary.
Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary	Centering at UUMAN Silent meditation Saturday mornings at UUMAN. Please come at 9:10 for some basic instruction if it is your first time. The meditation itself begins promptly 9:30. Please be in your seats on time. Those who wish to may stay after for 30 to 45 minutes of discussion about our experiences. For more information, contact Carolyn Bommarito at campoften@aol.com

For more information about events, see the UUMAN Events Calendar at www.uuman.org.

ABOUT THE UUMANTimes: The UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN). We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically on the 22nd of the month preceding the issue date. Please email your news articles and artwork to Becky at newsletter@uuman.org