



The Communicator

of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Lake County

Church Service Programs in April

4 - Easter Sunday "Evolving Faith." Our Consulting Minister, Rev. Roger Seidner, keeps a record of his messages to us. He reports his first Easter was 15 years ago and for the past 10 years he has been with us on this day. Time and history evolve! This year's Easter message will endeavor to continue our journey into a faith relevant to the 21st century. Can we find an image to reflect faith in our day?

11 - "One Nation Under Law." Our speaker, Dr. Robert P. Tucker, is Minister Emeritus of the U.U. Congregation of Lakeland, FL. This will be a timely topic for today.

18 - "William Ellery Channing - Likeness To God." Ken Lofgren, a member of the First UU Church of Orlando since 1987, will present this outstanding early Unitarian who helped to shape our denomination. Ken and Carolina operate a book store which stocks Beacon Press and Skinner publications. They will bring a display for sale, an easy way to buy titles you want without postage. All proceeds go to the Orlando church.

25 - Our Consulting Minister, Rev. Roger Seidner, will be our speaker with his topic to be announced later.

Our monthly pot-luck lunch follows this service. All are welcome to bring a dish and share the fellowship.

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Note: Rev. Seidner is available to respond to calls for pastoral care in crisis situations. If you or someone you know has a need, feel free to call him at 407-905-5767.

Roger welcomes sermon suggestions and ideas. He is always available by phone or at the pot-luck lunch Sundays.

April Adult Forum Programs

Our schedule for April follows:

4 – Present your concept of your God (2 to 3 minutes then discussion and questions),

11 – Our US Constitution (basic body), with Marvin Jacobson,

18 – Our Bill of Rights, with Robyn Kelly,

25 – Open forum.

Join us Sundays at 9:45.

...**Bob Young**

President's Corner...

A few weeks ago we had the pleasure of officially welcoming our new members and presenting to them their membership certificates. Now I would like to present the brief bios of four of them. Next month the other three will be presented. You will note that they are already very active in our congregation.

Gina Rossi was born and raised in Montclair, NJ. She raised her three children in Holliston, a suburb of Boston, Mass. Prior to retiring to Florida in 2006 she was a Medical editor for many years. In 2000 she met Ernie on line and they were married in 2006 at Baskin Ridge, NJ. Gina's sister is a member of the UU Church in Montclair,

(continued on page 2)

The **UU Congregation of Lake County** meets
Sundays at the American Legion Hall,
101 S. Bay Street, Eustis, FL.

Adult Forum, with Bob Young is at 9:45 a.m.
Church Service begins at 11 a.m.

UUCLC Information & Contacts

Mail address: PO Box 1761, Eustis, FL 32727

Phone: 352-383-2263

Email contact: canopus1@comcast.net

Website: lakecountyuu.org

Officers

Barbara Coats, President
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Roger Benton Seidner, Consulting minister.
Phone: 407-905-5767

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Editor, Ted Fessler Phone: 352-483-7405

President's Corner (continued)

NJ. Her son resides in Plantation, FL. Gina and Ernie searched for a more open, uncritical religion. We are so happy they found us. Gina is an avid reader and loves to cook. She is also a newly elected member of our Board of Trustees.

Ernie Rossi was born in Brooklyn, New York and lived in the NY area until moving to Florida in 2006. He has 2 children and three grandchildren. Ernie was a data processor for a large bank in Manhattan. His real love is astronomy, a hobby he has enjoyed since he was 10 years old. His knowledge is extensive as we have learned from the presentations he has given at several services and discussion groups. He is also one of our newly appointed offering servers.

Steve Collins was born in Newark, NJ. His family moved to Miami, FL in 1951. Steve was a police officer for seven years and taught criminal justice at Miami/Dade Community College. He has a son by his first marriage. After his divorce Steve moved to California where he resided for 20 years. During this period he earned his second masters in Psychology. (He had earned his first masters degree in Tallahassee.) Steve met Tasana at a Thai Temple in Las Angeles. They were married in 1993 in San Francisco, Calif. In 1995 Steve retired and they moved to Port

Charlotte, FL. In 2005 they purchased a home in Leesburg. Later they found us. Steve has presented many in-depth topics to our congregation. Last year he held meditation sessions prior to our discussion group. Steve's knowledge and understanding of Buddhism is from years of study and participation and he has shared this philosophy with us. Steve is the newly appointed Chair of our Committee on Social Justice.

Tasana Collins was born in Thailand where she was raised and educated. She is a former hotel chef. Tasana moved to Los Angeles in 1985. She and Steve were married in 1993. Tasana is very artistically talented.

We are so happy you all have become members of our UU family. A little note of interest: Four people in our congregation had contact with or lived for some time in Montclair, NJ. Ruth Grey & Gina Rossi were both born in Montclair and Carol Welter & Steve Collins were born in Newark, just 7 miles away in the same county.

Next month I will write about Bill & Carol Welter and Ken Gerry.

I neglected to mention one committee in the listing last week. Ruth Gray is chair of the Book/Movie Committee.

...**Barbara P. Coats**

More on Food Banks

As part of **Feeding America's** recent national hunger study (*Hunger in America 2010*), and with generous funding from Wal-Mart, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida recently collected interview data from nearly 400 nonprofit feeding programs and more than 469 food assistance recipients. *Hunger in Central Florida 2010* provides a statistically valid and reliable look at hunger and poverty in our community. Just as important, the study provides a very real snapshot of who is hungry, and the challenges faced by the most vulnerable of our society.

- 731,900 people in Central Florida received food assistance from Second Harvest in 2009, an increase of 152% from 2006.

- Approximately 55,000 different people receive food assistance in any given week.
- 20.7% of the pantries, 10.1% of the kitchens, and 33% of the shelters responded that they turned people away in 2009.
- 47% of the members of households served are children. This is up nearly 100% from 2006.
- 49% of clients reported having to choose between paying for food or paying rent or mortgage. This is nearly 100% increase from 2006 and higher than the national average.
- Nearly 40% of clients have no access to a working car.
- At 13.1%, Volusia County has the highest rate of people living at or below the poverty level in Central Florida.
- 96% of every dollar given to Second Harvest of Central Florida goes to feed hungry people. Only 4% is used for administration and fund raising. This is possible because of the large number of volunteers. Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida relies on more than 7,500 volunteers, whose hours total over 28,000 every year to fulfill our mission.

Second Harvest's projects offer fun and unique ways for individuals and groups to contribute their time, talents and resources to connect with the community. Contact: Mindy Ortiz (407) 423-1754 or mortiz@foodbankcentralflorida.org

Our Congregation supports Second Harvest. Carl Stiner will take our food donations to the Food Bank in Eustis. Just leave them in the kitchen area on Sunday mornings.

...**Barbara P. Coats**

April Birthdays:

- Frank Bishop, April 2
- Lucy Landis, April 6
- Kathleen Cook, April 8
- Marvin Jacobson, April 14
- Myrna Merron, April 17
- Debbie Miller, April 19
- Pat Linfield, April 25
- Betty Emery, April 27

UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

Joan Lund, April 2010

It's the month for the annual column about our annual General Assembly to be held in Minneapolis from June 23rd to June 27th, and to encourage your attendance at this wonderful meeting where UU delegates and a lot of other UU folks gather to experience the way we do business. To start with...imagine being with others who want to grow in number and impact vibrant, reaching-out, hopeful congregations. It is at GA the skills and practices to achieve the most for our congregations can be discovered. For those of you who have attended GA UU University, and had hoped to do so again it will not be held this year. UU University is slated to become an every-other-year event in the future.

We know we are charged with creating multicultural, multiracial congregations that minister to each coming generation in a changing American society. Programs will be offered to help us on the journey. You can also come to GA to nourish the mind and spirit. There will be programs that delve into the theological and spiritual foundation of our UU faith. One of the programs, "A House for Hope: Our Theological Foundation", will be led by Dr. Rebecca Parker, President of Meadville Lombard Theological School, and Rev. John Buehrens, past President of our UUA. There will also be multiple programs to provide resources to congregations for the development of exciting, meaningful worship services that are intergenerationally and multiculturally inclusive.

The Reverend Paige Getty, who has served the UU Church of Columbia, MD since 2003, will preach the 2010 Service of the Living Tradition. Rev. Getty has been selected because our President, Rev. Peter Morales knows we need to develop a strategy for ministry for the next generation and he purposely sought a preacher who was in her first decade of ministry.

An annual highlight of GA is the Ware Lecture. Winona LaDuke will be the Ware Lecturer this year. As many of you know she is a Native American activist, environmentalist, economist, and writer. Ms. LaDuke is a graduate of Harvard and Antioch Universities, and ran for U.S. vice-

President in both 1996 and 2000 as the nominee of the Green Party.

In past year's columns about GA I have neglected to write about the social service community project that is always a part of our time at GA. In addition to contributing money to this year's service project, GA attendees will have the opportunity to offer hands-on service at Hope Community, a neighborhood revitalization center.

Hopefully these few words are enough to entice you to journey to Minneapolis. All the information about programming for GA, how to register, and find housing can be found on our UUA website, www.uua.org. There is also great information about the city of Minneapolis. I will be there; but I also can be reached at jlund@uua.org or by phone: 813-931-9727.