

UU Galveston Gazette

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

MAY 2012

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

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Online at <http://uugalveston.org>

A Month Of Sundays

Our theme for the month of May is Creativity. Albert Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For while knowledge defines all we currently know and understand, imagination points to all we might yet discover and create."

Through the programs this month, we will explore the topic of creativity and how it can shape our spiritual growth, both personally and as a UU congregation.

Amanda Prather

MAY 6

"Creativity as Interpretation"

Guiding an idea through the many ways it could be expressed, then actualizing the expression through deliberate choices makes creativity a courageous act. In visual art, mathematics, history, writing, music, or any other context, creativity is an exercise in translation as much as creation; all who have tried to communicate outside their primary language know the tingle of fear and excitement that translation entails. Join the Creativity Sunday Showcase to briefly share about your latest gutsy triumph of mind or simply to be inspired by the works of others!

Amanda J. Prather has been a UUFGC member since June 27, 2004. She is earning an MA in Humanities at the University of Houston Clear Lake. She enjoys making art, writing poetry, harvesting food from the wilderness, experimenting in the kitchen, and loving her friends with great intensity.

BMOD - Cheryl Henry

Greeter - Judy Glaister

Music - Bunny Andrews

Ken Shuman

MAY 13

"Freedom & Unity in Tension"

Within every person there are two basic life searches. There is a search for individuality; this is a search for freedom to be completely oneself. At the same time, there is a search for unity and community; this is a search for belonging and togetherness. But how do we keep our search for freedom from becoming indifferent individualism? How do we keep our search for unity from becoming oppressive conformity? Is it possible to be really free and really together both at the same time? Can we be both uncoerced and unfragmented? Join us as we discuss Freedom & Unity in Tension.

Dr. Ken Shuman is a former Southern Baptist pastor with more than thirty years of ministry experience. He is an adjunct professor at the Houston Graduate School of Theology.

BMOD - Woody Dickson

Greeter - Claudia Maveety

Facilitator - Gerry Carr

Music - Margaret Canavan



Jim Goodwin

MAY 20

"The Personal Essay as a Creative Tool"

Jim will speak about writing short essays, many related to his patients, and describe how these essays have helped him sort out his thinking.

Dr. James S. Goodwin, M.D., is the George and Cynthia Mitchell Distinguished Chair in Geriatric Medicine and the Director of the Sealy Center on Aging at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Jim attended Amherst College and Harvard Medical school. He has been at UTMB 20 years. He is a geriatrician who specializes in the primary care of those over age 80. Jim's current research is on factors leading to overtreatment of older patients. He has published over 500 articles and book chapters.

BMOD - John Frannea

Greeter - Susan Persons

Facilitator - Alison Rutledge

Music - Tony DiNuzzo

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www.facebook.com/#!/home.php?sk=group_152677004758894&ap=1



Meetings are at the Fellowship unless otherwise noted. Everyone is invited and welcome to all listed activities

Alcoholics Anonymous Phoenix Group meets Sunday & Wednesday at 8pm. Contact Robert G. for information at 409-392-7005.

Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9am (except potluck days) to explore topics in religion, philosophy, history & politics. Contact Neil Huddleston at (409)744-2369.

Board of UUFGC meets the second Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

Book Club meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at the Fellowship. Contact Fanny DeGesero if you have book suggestions.

Book Sale monthly on second Saturday, 9am-2pm, at the fellowship. All adult hardback books are \$ 1.00, paperbacks \$ 0.50. Children's hardback books are \$ 0.50 and paperbacks are \$ 0.25.

Bowlers will meet at 5 pm each Wednesday to create "Empty Bowls" for the annual Jesse Tree fundraiser. Please check availability before showing up.

Course in Miracles Study Group meets every Monday at 11 am. Contact Laura Murrell for info: (lauramurrell@att.net).

Dance Classes: Galveston Dance Club offers classes each Tuesday & Thursday at 7pm. Questions, call Betty at 281-337-0441. See <http://www.galvestondanceclub.com>.

Program/Worship Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm, at the Fellowship. Join them or contact Gerry Carr if you have a program to suggest.

"Spirituality of Poker" Group meets the third Sunday of each month in a member's home to play "dealer's choice."

Location is in the monthly calendar and is announced in weekly emails and the Sunday bulletin. Game Night is not currently held for lack of a host (let us know if you'd like to host!).

Social Action Committee meets the first Sunday of each month after service and welcomes your ideas, energy and enthusiasm.

Supper Circles meet monthly. Call Judy Glaister at (409)762-8187 to schedule a supper, sign up for one, or for information.

Meditation: Zen Island Fellowship meets every Monday at 5:30pm, Contact Cara Geary (gcar@comcast.net) or visit <http://galvestonzen.org/>.

Have an open group meeting you'd like to list here? Let us know and we'll add it.

POTLUCK

Curtis Jones and Al Smith

What does it mean to become a "Welcoming Congregation"?

Congregations across the country -- UU's and other denominations as well -- are participating in a process to become officially designated as "Welcoming Congregations". What does this mean exactly? And, what is required to receive an official designation from the Unitarian Universalist Association? Our Fellowship is currently exploring the steps involved in this process. Members of our Welcoming Congregation committee will discuss what it means to become a Welcoming Congregation and the steps involved to receive an official designation. They will also explain why our Fellowship would want to be officially designated as a Welcoming Congregation, and they will answer questions from members of the Fellowship concerning this process. The dis-

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cussion promises to be informative, educational, and lively; don't miss it!

Curtis Jones and Al Smith are the team leaders of the Welcoming Congregation Committee of our Fellowship. Both men are actively involved in a number of activities at the Fellowship.

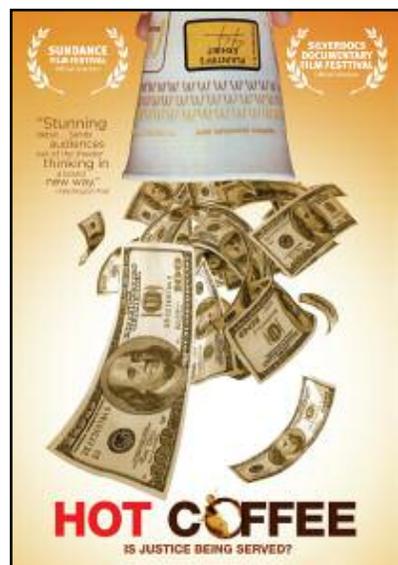
BMOD - Billie Rinaldi

Greeter - Al Smith

Music - Margaret Canavan

UU's A Part Of Free Concert

Don't miss the Galveston College Choir spring concert will be Sunday, May 6, at 2pm at Moody Methodist church (53rd and Avenue U). The free concert will be in the sanctuary. Admission is free and choir members include Bets Anderson, Madeleine Baker, Mary Case, Margaret Canavan, John Hunger, and Fanny DeGesero's husband Roy.



Provocative Film Series Friday, May 4, 7 p.m. 502 Church Street, Galveston Hot Coffee

HOT COFFEE – Is Justice Being Served?, the 2011 documentary by filmmaker, Susan Saladoff, was a winner at the Sundance Film Festival and the Silverdocks Documentary Film Festival. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld mocked the lawsuit. Legendary talk show host David Letterman ranked it in his top ten list. And more than 15 years later, its infamy continues. Everyone knows the McDonald's coffee case. But, is it a fair rendition of the facts? Hot Coffee reveals what really happened to the Albuquerque woman who spilled coffee on herself and sued McDonald's, while exploring how and why the case garnered so much media attention, who funded the effort and to what end. After seeing this film, you decide who really profited from spilling hot coffee.

Bring a friend and a snack to share.

2011 - 2012 UUFGC Board of Directors

President	Billie Rinaldi
President-Elect	Cheryl Henry
Past-President	Mike Hennen
Secretary	Bets Anderson
Treasurer	Woody Dickson
Members at Large:	Margaret Canavan Holly Fortenberry John Frannea

Committees and Task Forces

Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	John Hunger
Membership	Cheryl Henry
Program/Worship	Gerry Carr
Religious Education	Neil Huddleston
Supper Circles	Judy Glaister
Social Action	Mary Hodgson
Administrative Team	B. Anderson, M.Baker, M.Canavan, J.Glaister, & J. Rainey
Newsletter	Jimmy Rainey
Webmaster	Neil Huddleston

Annual "Attic Treasures" Sale Set For Saturday June 16

It's that time again, when we clean out our attics, closets and garages and turn our sanctuary into a thrift shop for a day! Event will take place Saturday, June 16 from 8am-1pm. As usual, we will begin accepting donations on the previous Sunday, June 10, and have hours during the week for people to drop off donations. Then Thursday and Friday will be big workdays for sorting, pricing and setting up. Our "Early Bird" sale is Friday from 6-8 with a \$5 entry fee for those wishing to get first dibs on our treasures. We'll need lots of donations, and lots of help, to make this happen. Our "seasoned veterans" know this is a fun event and great community-builder, not to mention a good fund-raiser. You get to have a tax deduction for cleaning your attic, lots of folks get good deals on our amazing stuff, and UU usually gets enough \$\$ to pay a month's mortgage. Margaret Canavan and John Frannea will be coordinating this activity and they will definitely need your help!

UU Artists Keep Busy With Contests, Exhibits

It's a busy spring for creative UUs. Cheryl Henry was awarded honorable mention for her oil painting in the Texas City Juried Arts Festival. The College Station MSC Forsyth Center Galleries Juried Art Exhibition includes photographs by

Katherine Domsky, Jeff Narron, and Rhonda Tipton, and a painting by friend Victoria Narkin. All will be up through August 19. Galveston's Mosquito Café is featuring watercolors by Margaret Canavan, on display through May 30.

UU News & Events



Book Sale: The UU Book Sale will be held on Saturday, May 12, from 9 am to 2 pm. Books are \$1.00 for hardbacks and \$0.50 for paperbacks. Children's books are \$0.50 for hardbacks, and \$0.25 for paperbacks.

Book Club: Will Meet May 9 at 7 pm in the living room at the fellowship to discuss *State of Wonder* by Anne Pachett.

Bowlers: Have resumed working on bowls for the 2013 Jesse Tree fundraiser and will meet each week at 5 pm at the fellowship. Please check for availability before showing up.

Supper Circle: THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2012 SUPPER CIRCLES is on the bulletin board. Please sign up for the month that you would like to host a Supper Circle at your house. Recently the Supper Circles have been filling up. The Supper Circle for April is already filled. We are

now posting an additional sheet for a second Supper Circle. Please sign if you are interested in either attending or hosting a second Supper Circle. If this works, we will continue this practice. Let Judy know if you have ideas for a non-traditional supper circle. You can contact Judy at judyglaister@yahoo.com "Spirituality of Poker" will meet at 6:30pm, Sunday, May 20 at Alan Griffin's house. There is a \$20 buy-in, and is Dealer's Choice. Everyone is invited to participate

Ingatherings are scheduled once a quarter on the last Sunday of the month. If you are not already a member, think about accepting the joys and responsibilities of membership in this Fellowship. Please contact Cheryl Henry, Membership Chair, if you are interested in becoming a member.

Olympians In Our Midst

On March 31 at the Barshop Jewish Community Center in San Antonio, the Senior Olympics Regional Badminton Games saw UUFGC members Madeleine Baker and Bets Anderson win the gold! Yes, they played doubles and competed in the 70-74 year-old category but were pitted against 'youngsters' who were 60-64 because there were no others



Madeline Baker and Bets Anderson

competing in their age group. They, as well as the three other Galvestonians who competed [Pat Patterson, Bebe Rizo and Paula Johnson], are now eligible to compete in the National Senior Olympics which will

be held in Cleveland, Ohio, in June of 2013. You are invited to watch them play [or play along] any morning, Monday through Thursday, 8:30-10:00am at the McGuire-Dent Recreation Center.

May 6 Collection To Benefit KIVA

The May Compassionate Collection, on May 6, will go to support our microfinance efforts through KIVA. KIVA is a non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Leveraging the internet and a worldwide network of microfinance institutions, Kiva lets individuals lend as little as \$25 to help create opportunity around the world. Since Kiva was founded in 2005 there have been 747,956 Kiva lenders providing \$301 million in loans with a 98.9% Repayment rate. KIVA works with 145 Field Partners and 450 volunteers around the world in 60 different countries.

Since joining Kiva in March 2007 UUFGC has made 189 loans totaling \$5825 and have donated \$368 to support Kiva's activities, all from a lending fund of under \$1100. We make loans as we receive donations and re-lend as existing loans are repaid, and currently have \$733.88 out in loans. We are part of the UU "lending team" which has 624 members who have made 11,499 loans totaling \$392,325. (We have 145 loans through that team, with the average team member having 18.4!) See our portfolio at <http://www.kiva.org/lender/unitarianuniversali3384>.

Consider starting your own Kiva lending portfolio. It is easy and very satisfying to help people around the world, by donating what is a small amount to us, but makes a huge difference to them in developing countries. We are even able to donate locally on occasion! All our lending funds have been donated for this purpose by our members and friends, and new donations are always welcome. Margaret Canavan manages our Kiva activity and she welcomes feedback from you.

MAY 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:</p> <p>Sandra López 5/1 Diane Olsen 5/1 J. T. "Red" Henry 5/7 Joan Patteson 5/10 Cheryl Henry 5/15 Owen Leisey 5/15 Mary Hodgson 5/16 John Frannea 5/17 Stephanie Narron 5/27</p>		1	2	3	4	5
<p>6</p> <p>9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Amanda Prather "Creativity as Interpretation;" Children/Youth Religious Education 8pm - AA Phoenix Group</p>	<p>7</p> <p>11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5pm - Bowlers 7pm - Book Club 8pm - AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>7pm - Provocative Film Hot Coffee</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am - 2pm Book Sale</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Ken Shuman; "Freedom & Unity in Tension" Children/Youth Religious Education 8pm - AA Phoenix Group HAPPY MOTHERS DAY</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Board 5:30pm - Zen Meditation</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	18	19
<p>20</p> <p>9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Jim Goodwin, "The Personal Essay as a Creative Tool" Children/Youth Religious Education 6:30pm Poker at Alan Griffin's House 8pm - AA Phoenix Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	25	26
<p>POTLUCK 27</p> <p>10:30am - Curtis Jones & Al Smith; <i>What does it mean to become a "Welcoming Congregation"?</i>; Children/Youth Religious Ed 12n: Potluck Lunch following Fellowship 8pm - AA Phoenix Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11am - Course in Miracles 5:30pm - Zen Meditation</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7pm - Dance Lessons</p>	<p>Happy Mother's Day!</p>	