

# UU Galveston Gazette

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

JANUARY 2013

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

409.765.8330

<http://uugalveston.org>

The theme for our January services is "Hope."

Hope has been defined as "the emotional state which promotes the belief in a positive outcome related to events and circumstances in one's life." Despair is the opposite of hope. Hope is the "feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best" or the act of "looking forward to something with desire and reasonable confidence" or "feeling that something desired may happen." Other definitions are "to cherish a desire with anticipation"; "to desire with expectation of obtainment"; or "to expect with confidence." With the beginning of

each new year, we hope, and we have hope, that our lives will go well during the coming twelve months. We hope you will join us as we begin 2013 with hope.

# Hope



## A Month Of Sundays

Alison Rutledge

**JAN. 6** "I Was Raised Up Holiness" Nursing Home Epiphanies"

Alison Rutledge, a member of our congregation, is now working as a psychologist providing mental health care in nursing homes. She loves her job and wants to share some of what she has learned and its relation to spirituality. She works with a very diverse population and says she was amazed to find that this job uses every single part of who she is -- much more than just her psychological training.

BMOD: Cheryl Henry  
Greeter: Bets Anderson

Music: Margaret Canavan

Karen Brykczynski

**JAN. 13** "The Spirituality of Elvis"

Karen Brykczynski has been a member of the Galveston UU fellowship for more than 10 years. She is a tenured full professor in the UTMB School of Nursing. She has been an Elvis Presley fan since she was 11 years old. Her service will be honoring him 35 years after his death and will share the message of hope from his uplifting spiritual songs.

BMOD: Stephanie Nwadiie  
Greeter: Claudia Maveety

Music: Bunny Andrews  
Facilitator: Bets Anderson

Andrea Hodgson

**JAN. 20** "Footprints on Sands of Time: Lessons in Forgiveness from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

Martin Luther King, a great American Civil Rights Leader, had many gifts and he shared them with the world. His greatest gift may have been his ability to forgive.

Andrea Hodgson is a member of the fellowship. She is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of UH-Clear Lake's School of Business, and a former IT manager. She currently studies Religion in Latin America at UT Austin.

BMOD: Stan Blazyk  
Greeter: Dawn McCarty

Music: Steve Hodgson  
Facilitator: Rick Altemose

Tom Parker

**JAN. 27** "UUs and Racism"

UUs have a long history of taking a stand against racism and some acts are clearly and egregiously racist. But what about the grey areas, the more challenging aspects of racism we deal with both publicly and privately? Is racism ever justified? How does racism manifest itself in your life? To what extent are you a racist? Join us as Tom Parker addresses these and other questions and gives us his take on what UUs can do.

Tom Parker has been a member of Northwest Community UU Church since 1996; he has served in many positions on the Board there and has presented sermons there and at Thoreau UU in Houston. Tom is an actor, part-time speech instructor, and also works at the Transportation Department at Cy-Fair ISD.

BMOD: Billie Rinaldi  
Greeter: Judy Glaister

Music: Tony DiNuzzo  
Facilitator: Robert English

# Open-Ended Garage Sale Is A Great Way To Raise Money



There's no need to store all those pesky items you forgot to take to the Attic Treasures Sale. You can now advertise and sell them through our Open-Ended Garage Sale.

By advertising and selling via this bulletin board, you can rid yourself of serviceable items you don't need, raise money for the Fellowship,

and even put a few dollars in your own pocket. The process is simple and fully explained in guidelines posted on the bulletin board outside the children's classroom. Whether you want to sell something or buy something, the Open-Ended Garage Sale will help sellers, buyers and the Fellowship. Be sure to check it out soon.



## Get Connected With UUFGC



**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.

**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 7 pm. Questions, visit [www.galvestondanceclub.com](http://www.galvestondanceclub.com) or call Betty at 281-337-0441.

**Program/Worship Committee** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm, at a location to be determined each month. Join them or contact Mike Hennen if you have a program to suggest.

**"Spirituality of Poker"** will meet at 6:30pm, Sunday, January 20, at John Hunger's house. There is a \$20 buy-in, and is Dealer's Choice. Everyone is invited to participate.

**The Other Games Night:** will be starting up again on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Please let Judy Glaister know if you would like to host a games night.

**Social Action Committee** meets the first Sunday of each month after service and welcome s your ideas, energy and enthusiasm. This month we will be selecting recipients for our monthly compassionate offering for 2013. If you have a group that you would like to receive the offering, please contact a member of the Social Action Committee. The committee also has plans to participate in the Martin Luther King Day parade in January. Volunteers are needed to walk the parade route and hand out children's books. More details will be forthcoming.

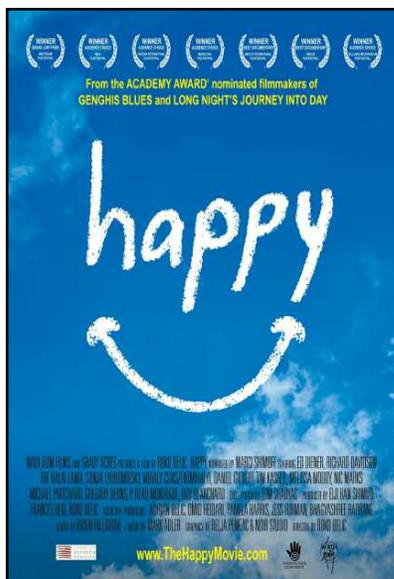
**2013 Supper Circles:** If you are thinking about the possibility of hosting a supper circle during 2013, contact Rick Altemose at 409-996-1882.

**Meditation:** *Zen Island Fellowship* meets every Monday at 5:30pm, Contact Cara Geary ([gcarag@comcast.net](mailto:gcarag@comcast.net)) or <http://galvestonzen.org/>  
**Spirit Circle** meets at 6 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Fellowship. If you are interested in finding out more about the Spirit Circle, please contact Gerry Carr.

**Fundraising Committee** We are forming a fundraising Committee. If anyone is interested in attending or serving, please contact Claudia Maveety, Fundraising Chair.

**Newcomers' Meeting** Meets the second Sunday each month at 11:45, immediately following the service. All are welcome at these meetings, if you are curious about Unitarian Universalism in general, want to know more about this Fellowship, or are considering becoming a member.

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



## Provocative Film Series

Friday, January 4, 7 p.m.

502 Church Street, Galveston

What makes people happy?  
It's the question at the heart of filmmaker Roko Belic's documentary feature film simply — but appropriately — titled "Happy."

The film was originally inspired by a 2005 New York Times article "A New Measure of Well-Being from a Happy Little Kingdom" by Andrew C. Revkin in which the United States was ranked 23rd on a list of the happiest nations in the world. With much poorer countries like Iceland and Puerto Rico easily surpassing the U.S., "Happy" makes a compelling argument that once basic necessities like food and shelter are provided for, economic factors have relatively little to do with overall satisfaction in life.

Instead, using a balance of scientific research and fascinating human stories, the filmmakers explore some of the non-material roots of happiness, and in the process, show that while there isn't a formula for it, everyone can become happier.

With subjects ranging from an Indian rickshaw driver to a family of crab-fishing Cajuns in the Louisiana bayou to an aging Brazilian surfer, the film benefits from the huge variety of experiences it examines.

**Bring a friend and a snack to share.**

### 2012 - 2013 UUFGC Board of Directors

President	Cheryl Henry
President-Elect	Susan Persons
Past-President	Billie Rinaldi
Secretary	Bets Anderson
Treasurer	Stan Blazyk
Members at Large:	Rick Altemose
	Stephanie Nwadiel
	Al Smith

### Committees and Task Forces

Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	John Hunger
Membership	Maragaret Canavan
Program/Worship	Mike Hennen
Religious Education	Neil Huddleston
Supper Circles	Rick Altemose
Social Action	Mary Hodgson
Fundraising Chair	Claudia Maveety
Administrative Team	B. Anderson, M.Baker, M.Canavan, J.Glaister, & J. Rainey
Newsletter	Jimmy Rainey
Webmaster	Neil Huddleston



## From The President

# Old Words for the New Year

As I began to think about what I would write for this first newsletter of the New Year, I ran across some old, familiar words.

I first encountered Max Ehrmann's poem "Desiderata" when I was in college.

His words comforted me and gave me hope during a time of uncertainty; I think the message remains relevant today.

Go placidly amid the noise and haste,  
and remember what peace there may be in silence.  
As far as possible without surrender  
be on good terms with all persons.  
Speak your truth quietly and clearly;  
and listen to others,  
even the dull and the ignorant;  
they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons,  
they are vexations to the spirit.  
If you compare yourself with others,  
you may become vain and bitter;  
for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.  
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble;  
it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.  
Exercise caution in your business affairs;  
for the world is full of trickery.  
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is;  
many persons strive for high ideals;  
and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself.  
Especially, do not feign affection.  
Neither be cynical about love;  
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment  
it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years,  
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.  
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.  
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.  
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.  
Beyond a wholesome discipline,  
be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe,  
no less than the trees and the stars;  
you have a right to be here.  
And whether or not it is clear to you,  
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God,  
whatever you conceive Him to be,  
and whatever your labors and aspirations,  
in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,  
it is still a beautiful world.  
Be cheerful.  
Strive to be happy.

I wish you all happiness and peace in 2013!

*Cheryl*  
Cheryl Henry, President

## Hymnal Dedication

If you would like to dedicate one of our new hymnals to someone, please use this form.

I wish to dedicate a new hymnal as follows (please print CLEARLY):

In Honor of (name/s) \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of (name/s) \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish, please let us know you would like to be listed as donor:

Please provide a check for \$28.00 made out to UUFGC and return to the office with this information.

**Thank you for your support of music!**

# Do you know any UUs concerned about animals and their well-being?

Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry is a group of concerned Unitarian Universalists and UU friends who desire to grow and express their faith as compassion towards all beings. We draw on our UU principles and sources, traditions, and congregational life to deepen our awareness of the interdependence of life.

We then support one another in not just learning how caring for all beings is a moral and religious issue, but also engaging in concrete actions that bring about change on the individual, family, congregational, community, and societal level. We do this not just for nonhumans, but for ourselves and all of life. For as we live a life of awareness based on our interdependence (UU 7th Principle) and the inherent worth and dignity of all beings (UU 1st Principle) we live fully, deeply, and authentically. As we come to love our neighbors as ourselves, we liberate not just others, but ourselves as well.



If any UUFGC members, visitors or staff consider themselves pet lovers, **Please feel free to forward this message, or copy and paste this text into an email if you have friends who are animal lovers as well.**

We are also hoping to reach young adults and youth in particular. we ask that you speak to them about this urgent message. Again, you can copy and paste the text from this article and pass it on to as many you as possible. Thank you for helping them connect with us!

In faith,  
**Hal Estry**

*UU Animal Ministry Outreach Volunteer*

## Help Create A More Compassionate World

### What is the Reverence for Life Program?

UUAM created this program in 2010 to provide steps for greater Unitarian Universalist engagement about how we relate to other animals. Several UU congregations piloted the program beginning in 2011, and now the RFL program is available for everyone. Learn more here: <http://www.uuam.org/reverence.php>

**With loving and kindness**, we advocate greater moral consideration of animals.

**With humility**, we are rethinking our treatment of other species.

**With gratitude**, we cherish our multispecies planet.

**With joy**, we practice compassion.

Still, at times, this prophetic task challenges the spirit—  
And when we walk together, the way becomes easier and more joyful.

### How can I be in touch with UUAM?

Join our mailing list and either take part in our inspiring community or simply stop by and say hello!

<http://lists.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/ufeta>

**For mor information about what we do and who we are**, we invite you to visit our website at: <http://www.uuam.org/>

## UU News & Events



**Book Sale:** The UU Book Sale will be held on Saturday, January 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 January 9 at 7 pm in the living room at the Fellowship to discuss *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn.

**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:** Sign-up sheets for the January and February Supper Circles are now posted on the bulletin board in the entrance hall. There are two different Circles each month; please sign up for only one per month. On the same bulletin board are also sign-up sheets for people who are willing to host a Circle during March and the following months. The host provides the home for the supper but is not responsible for preparing the main entrée.

**"Spirituality of Poker"** will meet at 6:30pm, Sunday, January 20, at John Hunger's. There is a \$20 buy-in, games are Dealer's Choice. Newcomers are welcome and invited to participate.

**Newcomers' Meeting** Sunday, January 13 immediately following the service. All are welcome at this meeting if you are curious about Unitarian Universalism in general, want to know more about this Fellowship, or are considering becoming a member.

**Other Game Night:** The Other Games Night will be starting up again on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Please let Judy Glaister know if you would like to host a games night.

**Online Advertising** We are proud to have an online presence in the Galveston Daily News. You can link to our ad at <http://source.galvnews.com/index.lasso?da=profile&id=951>

**Ingathering** A Ceremony of Ingathering is when we formally welcome new members into our congregation, and we have one scheduled for Sunday, January 27. If you are considering making this commitment, please let Margaret Canavan (or any Board member) know. We also have a "Newcomers Group" meeting on Sunday, January 13.

### 2013 Signals The Start Of Twice Monthly Supper Circles Due To Overwhelming Popularity

Due to the overwhelming popularity of our monthly Supper Circles, we will be expanding the number of Circles to at least two per month, each meeting on a different date. Beginning this month, the Circles will be entirely potluck, with the host/hostess responsible only for providing the location and water/tea/coffee/cokes. The guests should bring covered dishes and/or adult beverages. Additionally, the host will specify the maximum number of guests he/she is comfortable with. Since there will be more than one Circle per month, this number could be quite small.

Anybody with any interest in hosting a Circle anytime in 2013 is asked to contact Rick Altemose by email ([rick.altemose@gmail.com](mailto:rick.altemose@gmail.com)) or phone (409-996-1882) as soon as possible. Even if you cannot commit to a specific date or even a specific month yet, please contact him now. We need hosts and hostesses to make this work!

# JANUARY 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Remember Sunday Services Are Available On The Internet</b> A reminder to everyone that a recording of Sunday's Fellowship, as well as many of our speakers are on the website. <a href="http://www.uugalveston.org/Recorded_Programs/Recorded_Programs.htm">http://www.uugalveston.org/Recorded_Programs/Recorded_Programs.htm</a>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>9am</b> - Adult Forum <b>10:30am</b> - Allison Rutledge, "I Was Raised Up Holiness" Nursing Home Epiphanies" Children/Youth Religious Education <b>11:45am</b> - Social Action Committee Meeting <b>8pm</b> - AA Phoenix Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>9am</b> - Adult Forum <b>10:30am</b> - Karen Brykczynski; "The Spirituality of Elvis" Children/Youth Religious Education <b>11:45</b> - Newcomers Group <b>8pm</b> - AA Phoenix Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>9am</b> - Adult Forum <b>10:30am</b> - Andrea Hodgson; "Footprints on Sands of Time: Lessons in Forgiveness from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." Children/Youth Religious Education <b>6:30pm</b> - Poker at John Hunger's house <b>8pm</b> - AA Phoenix Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>POTLUCK</b> <b>9am</b> - Adult Forum <b>INGATHERING</b> <b>10:30am</b> - Tom Parker; "UUs and Racism"; Children/Youth Religious Education <b>8pm</b> - AA Phoenix Group	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Happy Birthday to:</b>  Mardi Mitchell 1/2  Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise noted.	