

UU Galveston Gazette

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Galveston County

MARCH 2013

502 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550-5502

409.765.8330

<http://uugalveston.org>

The theme for our March services is “Unitarian Universalism.” Is it, as some say, “a chosen faith?” Is it, as others have said, a concept in which “anything goes?” Do the “seven principles” define UUs; leading to a “Beloved Community,” or leading to an “iChurch” — so riven by

individualism that it is unsustainable? Perhaps our rich UU history can help in reading the currents that now course through one of America’s smaller, but influential, religious groups. Please join us in March as we reflect on the state of Unitarian Universalism.

A Month Of Sundays

Margaret Anderson

MAR.
3

“Been There, Haven’t Done That”

Many of us, in our lifetimes, have seen great strides in women’s rights. This empowerment of women as individuals has improved conditions for entire societies (including men). But even greater societal benefits can be reaped when we incorporate women’s social values and customs into mainstream culture.

Margaret Anderson is an independent trainer and consultant who helps people learn to get what they need from one another—while building bridges, not burning them. She is also author of the book *Bridges to Consensus—in Congregations* and of a weekly blog devoted to consensus-building and related communication skills. A Harvard-trained negotiator, Margaret is also trained in general, family and church mediation. She regularly designs and teaches interpersonal persuasion courses for Rice University’s Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. She has also designed and taught meeting facilitation for Glasscock and has lectured on negotiation for the University of Houston and Texas State University. At the UUA General Assembly in Louisville, Margaret will present a session on “Navigating Cultural Differences We Never Knew We Had.”

BMOD: Stan Blazyk

Music: Margaret Canavan

Greeter: Bets Anderson

Facilitator: Rick Altemose

Alan Griffin

MAR.
10

“Getting Serious About Unitarian Universalism”

UU minister Rev. Bill Miller puts it bluntly: “For too long we have not taken ourselves seriously. We have offered a haven for those on their way out of institutionalized religion. We have demanded little and received the same. Too many of us have actually espoused the notion that one can believe anything and still be a Unitarian Universalist. We have resisted the strictures imposed by form and structure and embraced a laissez-faire spirituality that has commanded the respect of nearly no one.”

UUFGC member, Dr. Alan Griffin, will read a sermon by Rev. Scott Alexander which explores the reasons Unitarian Universalism may be taken lightly, even by UU’s, and why it’s important that we get serious about our religion.

BMOD: Stephanie Nwadie

Music: Tony DiNuzzo

Greeter: Claudia Maveety

Facilitator: Bob English

Circe Santaniello

MAR.
17

“Spring Equinox”

The Spring Equinox, when day and night are balanced and new life begins to stir, in the northern hemisphere, is the original basis of Easter. It is a time of celebration of this new life, planting seeds, dreams and plans, and the hope of a bountiful harvest in the autumn. This Sunday morning service will be a participatory ritual reflecting those hopes and we enact those intentions in movement and song, as we usher in the season of growth. Feel free to bring colored eggs, Spring flowers, drums, and maybe even your dancing shoes!

As an Earth Based spirituality practitioner, Circe Santaniello founded Mountain CUUPs in Boone, North Carolina where she led workshops, Sunday morning services and participatory seasonal rituals. She has also trained in psychodrama, worked as a hospital chaplain, and designed, facilitated, and led year-long women’s spiritual group workshops for ten years. Circe is also ordained clergy of the Fellowship of Isis, and is trained in the Core Shamanic methods of Michael Harner, and a mental health counselor.

BMOD: Susan Persons

Music: Bunny Andrews

Greeter: Mary Hodgson

Facilitator: Margaret Canavan

Mike Hennen

MAR.
24

“UUism and Individuality – Should The Cats Be Herded?”

One current of thought running through the UU universe (the “UUU”) is that UUs are so individualist, so exceptionalist, and so anti-authority that they have constructed an unsustainable foundation for future growth. Is this so? If it is, what are the implications? This service examines these and other questions about the staying power of our small, but influential denomination.

Mike Hennen is a long-time member, former president of the Fellowship, and mostly-retired lawyer who lives in Galveston.

BMOD: Rick Altemose

Music: Steve Hodgson and Pam Vincent Greeter: Bob English

Facilitator: None

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Marilyn Schultz



"Pilgrimage to India"

Two principles that Unitarianism affirms and promotes are: 1) the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all and, 2) respect for the interdependent web of all existences of which we are a part. What better way to expand our own consciousness in these areas than to travel to other cultures, to interact with others and to glimpse their spiritual practices? Marilyn Schultz recently traveled to India on a spiritual pilgrimage to honor Ramana Maharshi, a dearly beloved Indian sage, 1879 - 1950, and the Buddha, circa 563 BCE - 483 BCE, by experiencing and meditating at their shrines. She shares a bit of her experiences in India and her understandings of Ramana Maharshi, his life and spiritual teachings.

Marilyn Schultz has been a member of the Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston for many years. She is a retired psychologist. She has meditated for many years and more recently became interested in Buddhism. She has also been interested in mystical religions, such as Kabbalah and Huna.

BMOD: Billie Rinaldi

Music: Bunny Andrews

Greeter: Amanda Prather

Facilitator: Cheryl Henry

Q: Why did the UU cross the road?

A: To support the chicken in its search for its own path.



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 Nwadieli
	Al Smith

Committees and Task Forces

Communications	Madeleine Baker
Landscape	John Hunger
Membership	Margaret 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



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 Friday at 1pm. 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 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, March 17, at Stan and Margaret's house. There is a \$20 buy-in, and is Dealer's Choice. Everyone is invited to participate.

The Other Games Night: have begun again, and are being held on the

3rd Sunday of the month. Please let Judy Glaister know if you would like to host a games night or even participate.

Social Action Committee meets the first Sunday of each month after service and welcome s your ideas, energy and enthusiasm. The committee is always seeking volunteers, and fresh ideas of how our Fellowship can help make a difference in Galveston. To find out more about the committee, contact Laura Murrell at lauramurrell@att.net.

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

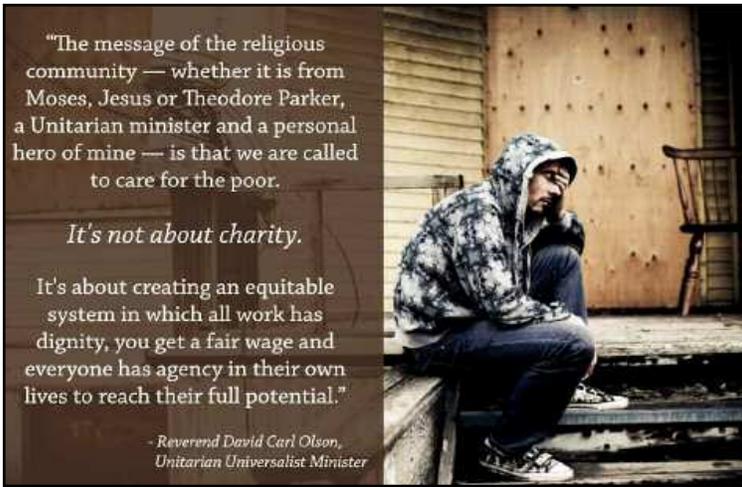
Meditation: Zen Island Fellowship meets every Monday at 5:30pm, Contact Cara Geary (gcara@comcast.net) or <http://galvestonzen.org/>

Spirit Circle meets at 6 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Fellowship. If you are interested in 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.



Each month, whether our readers realize it or not, I try to find a cover image and a color scheme to go with what each month's programs are going to be about. This month was a difficult decision because it is on Unitarian Universalism as a whole.

As I searched for images that I thought would reflect our fellowship's philosophy I came up with two distinctively different visions. One bright and shiny, the other a distinctively different story.

As you can see, the sunny sky with clouds won out, since Spring is on its way, and at UUFGC and through Unitarian Universalism as a whole – the brightness providing comfort in that everyone is considered equal, thus engulfing everyone who comes through our doors with warmth and comfort. On the other hand, we need to reflect on these great words from UU Minister Reverend David Carl Olson about the tenets to which all religions are bound, which is the basic convention of kindness to care for those less fortunate.

Jimmy Rainey, Editor

UU News & Events



Book Sale: The UU Book Sale will be held on Saturday, March 9, 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 March 13 at 6 pm in the living room of the Fellowship building to discuss for "Major Pettigrew's Last Stand."

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

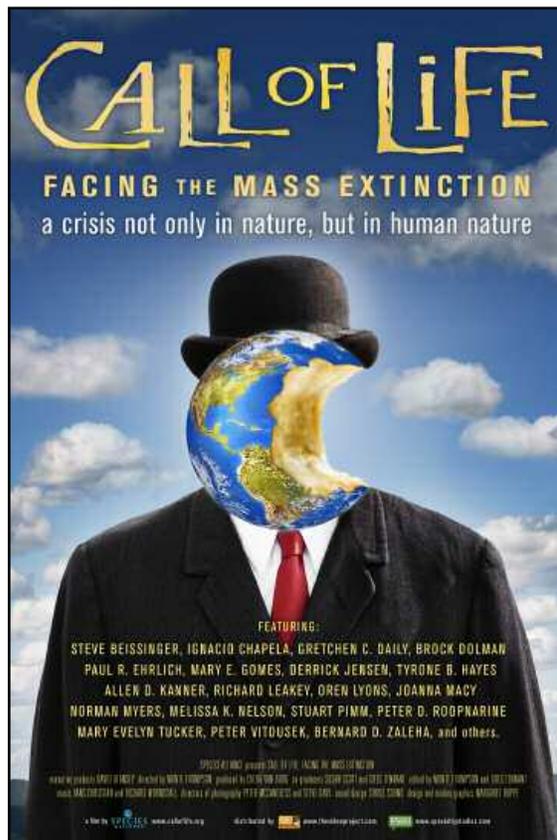
Supper Circle: Sign-up sheets for the March and April Supper Circles are now posted on the bulletin board in the entrance hall. There are two different Circles each month; please sign up for only one per month. On the same bulletin board are also sign-up sheets for people who are willing to host a Circle 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, March 17, at Stan and Margaret's. There is a \$20 buy-in, games are Dealer's Choice. Newcomers are welcome and invited to participate.

Newcomers' Meeting Sunday, April 28, 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 has recently started again. It is on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please let Judy Glaister know if you would like to host, or even attend, one of these game nights.

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>



Provocative Film Series

Friday, March 1, 7 p.m.

502 Church Street, Galveston

The first feature-length documentary film to fully investigate the growing threat to Earth's life-support systems from the loss of biodiversity.

If current trends continue, scientists warn that half or more of all plant and animal species on Earth will become extinct within the next few decades. Call of Life investigates the scope, the causes, and the predicted effects of this unprecedented loss of life, but also looks deeper, at the ways in which both culture and psychology have helped to create and perpetuate the situation. The film not only tells the story of a crisis in

nature, but also in human nature, a crisis more complex and threatening than anything human beings have ever faced before.



Bring a friend and a snack to share.

MARCH 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Audio Services Available We would like to remind everyone who can't always make it to Sunday's Fellowship for one reason or another, that they can find audio recordings of those speakers on the Fellowship's website. This is a great tool to help us reach out to active members as well as giving prospective members an example of what they can expect should they choose to visit. http://www.uugalveston.org/Recorded_Programs/Recorded_Programs.htm		Happy Birthday to: <i>Kristopher Benson</i> 3/7 <i>Carlos Price</i> 3/21 <i>Lois Wright</i> 3/7 <i>Jeff Narron</i> 3/30 <i>Rudy Steury</i> 3/15 <i>Activities are held at the Fellowship unless otherwise noted.</i>			1 1pm - Course in Miracles 7pm - Provocative Film, <i>Call Of Life</i>	2
3 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Margaret Anderson, "Been There, Haven't Done That"; Children/Youth Religious Education 12n - Social Action Committee 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	4 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	5 7pm - Dance Lessons	6 5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA	7 7pm - Dance Lessons	8 1pm - Course in Miracles	9 9am - 2pm - Book Sale
10 9am - Adult Forum 11:45 - Newcomers Group 10:30am - Dr. Alan Griffin, "Getting Serious About Unitarian Universalism"; Children/Youth Religious Ed. 11:45am - Newcomers Meeting 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	11 5:30pm - Board Meeting 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	12 6pm - Spirit Circle 7pm - Dance Lessons	13 5pm - Bowlers 7pm - Book Club 8pm - AA	14 7pm - Dance Lessons	15 1pm - Course in Miracles NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!	16
17 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Circe Santaniello "Spring Equinox"; Children/Youth Religious Ed. 6:30pm - Poker at Stan and Margaret's House 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	18 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	19 7pm - Dance Lessons	20 5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA	21 7pm - Dance Lessons	22 1pm - Course in Miracles	23
24 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Mike Hennen, "UUism and Individuality -- Shoult The Cats Be Herded?"; Children/Youth Religious Ed. 11:45a. - Newcomers Meeting 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	25 5:30pm - Zen Meditation	26 6pm - Spirit Circle 7pm - Dance Lessons	27 5pm - Bowlers 8pm - AA	28 7pm - Dance Lessons	29 1pm - Course in Miracles	30
POTLUCK 31 9am - Adult Forum 10:30am - Marilyn Schultz, "Pilgrimage to India" Children/Youth Religious Education 8pm - AA Phoenix Group	Fellowship Welcomes Five New Members Welcome new members! Our recent Ceremony of Ingathering brought five members into our Fellowship: Carey Battle, Barbara McGuffey, Doris Rasmussen, Glenn Smith, and Susan Vaughan. The next Ingathering is scheduled for April 28. Please contact Membership Chair Margaret Canavan if you are interested in the joys and responsibilities of membership, or just come to the next "Newcomers" meeting on Sunday, March 10 after the service.					