



Greenville
Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship

The Weekly Spark

Spark the Memory, Spark the Spirit

September 14, 2008

September 21st 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
Topic is Budget for remainder of
2008-2009 FY

~ ~ **IMPORTANT** ~ ~
**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETINGS**

October 26th 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
Election of the President-elect &
consideration of by-laws changes

Alternative Gift Fair: November 23, 2008



Who needs another bathrobe? Candle holder? Talking Elmo doll? No one you know! The **Alternative Gift Fair**

is returning for a sixth year to both eliminate holiday stress and support worthy charities on Sunday, November 23 from noon until 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Since 2003, GUUF has raised over \$35,000 for local and international nonprofits through this annual event, where you have the opportunity to honor friends and family with donations to worthy causes, instead of buying more "stuff" to clutter up their closets.

Volunteers are needed now to help with the publicity poster, web site, and press releases; plan logistics; and schedule fair helpers. We can also use many of you on the day of the event to set up, bake food for the bake sale, and staff the event. Please contact Nancy Fitzer at scfizers@yahoo.com or 370-3493 to volunteer.

~ Congregational Care Items ~

We extend our loving support to:

Steve Compton -- coping with his diagnosis
Jean Diamond -- coping with two deaths recently
Bob Monaghan -- hospitalization
Ben Williams & family -- loss of Ben's grandmother

We celebrate with:

Jean & Dave Wilder -- daughter Rachel is moving to Asheville
Jean Diamond -- first granddaughter born
Todd Guillard -- starting own business
Lynn & Bill Wunch -- Navy Seal grandson leaving service after 3 tours in Iraq
Wil Edwards -- new stepfather

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and good conversation after the service. We have a special newcomer's table with coffee mugs and information about Unitarian Universalism. Our greeters will be there to speak with you and help you feel at home.

Be There or Be Square on September 13th!

This is the "be there" event of the year. We still have room left for this event.

What awaits you? An eight course meal and wine too for only \$75 per person! There will be spa services, hot tub and a pool. **Contact:** Candy Kern-Fuller, co-Host (Past President Greenville UU Fellowship) at 864-905-3610 or Candy@PowdersvilleLaw.com

Bon Fire and Hay Ride in Pumpkintown

At the home of Lori Morton and her son Case, Saturday Oct 18th, 2008 - \$20 donation to GUUF. Contact Lori at 864-430-0450 or email lori@aerie-corp.com

We have a few slots open so come and join friends and fellow UU's at the quasi-annual Pumpkintown Bonfire complete with veggie chili, adult beverages and weather permitting – a hay ride. Good conversation, good fun. Bring a chair, blanket, an instrument, or a story to share around the fire. No charge for children. "5:00 pm ish" until ...

Celebration of the Fall Equinox

Thursday, September 25
Women's Room, 7:00 pm.

All women from 18 to ... are invited. You do not have to be a member or guest of the Fellowship to attend. Please bring a dish to share. Questions? 609-6058 (Jackie)



The Rowland McFerrin House Needs a Helping Hand

On Saturday September 20, 2008, 9 am till noon, the Social Responsibility team needs a few good helpers to come and give a spruce-up to the Rowland McFerrin House. There will be jobs for all levels of ability from people who like to use power tools, to people who feel most competent with less techno-savvy tools such as a yard rake or window cleaner.

One of our gifts to the Greater Greenville Community is this house, which right now looks a little less like a gift than we'd like it to. The fine folks at the Buildings and Grounds crew have given us a good push forward, now with your help; we can wrap this gift up and make it shine a little.

Please e-mail edwardproulx@mac.com and let me know that you can come and if you have any skills that you'd like to put to use.

Attention All Singers!

A special choir retreat to help us get started for the year with our new Guest Conductor, Miriam Davidson will be at the mountain home of Jeannette and Marshall Winn. We start at 2:00 and take a break after a while then continue until 5:00 p.m. We will eat afterwards. Please bring either bread, cold cuts, or desert to feed 6. The Winns will provide the beverages.

Feel free to bring any other instruments that you play. This should be a fun time for all of us! Please contact Annie Pal 244-5858 or Suzy Boghani 458-8332 if you will be attending and what food you intend to bring.
See you there!

GUUF Leadership Retreat Goals

The lay and professional leadership of the Fellowship held a retreat on September 6th and set the following goals for this year

1. Enrich and deepen the bonds of congregants to the Fellowship and to each other so that we are a true extended family and GUUF can be a focal point of our lives.(Committees through Program Council will develop strategies to achieve the goals.)
2. Increase our visibility and value through social action and other outreach in order to enrich and deepen the bonds of congregants to the greater community, our faith, and the world.
3. Enhance our services and programs, and expand community forums to enrich the spiritual and intellectual growth of our Congregants and the wider community.
4. Ensure that our governance structure is understood, creates a culture of openness and engagement, and develops and supports new leaders.

Dinner and a Movie

Movie: *Persepolis*

When: TONIGHT!!!!!!!!!!!!

Time: Potluck Dinner 6pm, Film 7pm

Place: Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Please Contact Bo Boghani at 458-8332 or boghanibs@bellsouth.net with questions.



Weekly Updates on Attendance & Contributions

9/7/08 Attendance: 185

9/7/08 Contributions: \$4,018

SunTrust will donate \$100 to the charity of your choice (GUUF)

How? "SunTrust has made community involvement an important part of relationships we have in the communities we serve. As part of that commitment, we're offering a special opportunity that can help you help your community"

Open a new checking account with them in September and for each account SunTrust will donate \$100 to GUUF. If 5 people do this, \$500 easy. Ten and it's \$1,000, and so on. Even easier than working the food stand.

Are you new to the Greenville UU Fellowship?

Introduction to New UU Orienteering Class – A 7-week class for New Members, Friends and Newcomers. The Class is 7 weeks long beginning Sunday September 21 at 9:45 AM. The Children's nursery and class start at the same time. Classes will be held in the Right Sanctuary Overflow Room across from the ladies rest room. For details see or contact Glen Rowley 859-9992, or glenrowley@charter.net

The classes

Sept 21 - Meet the Class and their Spiritual Journey

Sept 28 - What do UUs Believe? What does the Class Believe?

Oct 5 - GUUF Past, Present, Future, & UU History
GUUF History, GUUF Future, UUism History, Building & Grounds, Work Days, Aesthetics, Landscaping, Memorial Garden.

Oct 12 - Religious Education (Adult & Children) & Staff Functions ARE, Build Your own Theology, Course in Miracles, Covenant Course, Mentors, Spiritual Cinema, YRE, & more.

Oct 19 – **Part A - Sunday Services 9:50 a.m.** - Choir, Sanctuary Aesthetics, Chalice Lighter, Infant Care, Joys & Sorrows, Lay Speakers, Music Instruments. **Part B - Social Justice & Programs 10:15 a.m.** - GLBT, Thrift Shop, Knitting Min, Letters, Pat's Pantry, Rowland/McFerrin House, Safe Harbor, Southern Side, GAIHN, UUA Chalice Lighters, Pastoral Care, Welcoming Congregation, Green Sanctuary

Oct 28 – **Part A - GUUF's Structure & how it relates regionally & Nationally 9:50 a.m.** - Board, Program Council, Denominational Affairs, The Mountain, Interfaith Issues, UU Service Comm., Budget, Office Gov. **Part B - GUUF Social Activities, Fund Raisers, and Website 10:15 a.m.** - Wm. Book Club, A Drums, Hikes, Dinner Groups, River trips, Auction, Greenville. Drive, Sound System & More

Nov 2 - Time, Talent, Treasure Commitment of GUUF Members Review Time & Talent Survey, Volunteer Pool, Operational Costs, Pledging & Canvas and Q & A

Highlights in Lifespan Religious Education

From Babies to Sages

September 14, 2008

Classes and Events Today

9:30 *Childcare begins*
9:45 *Adults — Saving Jesus, Course in Miracles, Discussion Group,*
Spirit Play
 Children's Chapel (in our new space!) with Kris Beliakoff
10:00 *Spirit Play (ages 3 to 4th grade)*
 Kingdom of Equals (5th and 6th grade)
11:00 *Middle School and Senior High together with Kris and advisors*
11:20 *Music with Ms. Joy*
12:30 *Pizza and bowling –Middle School and families*
 Children and Youth RE Committee meeting

Upcoming Youth Group Events

Saturday, September 20 – High School (9th-12th) Messy Game
Night and Lock-In. 6 PM
Stay tuned for more information coming via email!

New Books IN!

The Book Nook has a wide selection of new Skinner House and Beacon Press books available for purchase during coffee hour. Buy from the Book Nook and you save on both tax and shipping charges. Best of all, you can preview the book before you buy it. Service provided by the Adult Religious Education Committee.

Have you read Eckhart Tolle's *A New Earth, Awakening to Your Life's Purpose?* Are you interested in a group that meets to discuss and follow the teachings? If so, newcomer Estelle Craig invites you to join her. Call Kris Beliakoff and she will connect you. Note: The group will decide where and how often they will meet.

Fall Volunteer Needs in Lifespan RE

Help us ground our children, youth, and adults in a peaceful faith that embraces diversity and welcomes questions and individual interpretation. Show the children how to reach out to the community, raise their voices in song, care for the environment, turn inside for deep reflection, and search for their own truth. We are looking for a many talented or just plain dedicated folks to join us in our mission to make the world more compassionate, with lots of bridges and knowledgeable world citizens.

Where can you fit in?

Play with the youngest — Nursery volunteer (any time between 9:30 and 12:30)

Teach or assist with an adult class of your design or offered through the adult RE committee (9:45 AM or time of your choice)

Assist with the very young — Spirit Play 3 years old to 4th grade. (10 AM)

Learn and teach a liberal interpretation of the words of Jesus to 5th and 6th grade, or assist the teachers. (10 AM)

Learn and teach about world religions with the 6th-8th graders, or assist the teacher. (11 AM)

Be a mentor to 9th grader in their Coming of Age class (11 AM, occasionally)

Be guest speaker on diversity or leadership with the 10th-12th grades (11 AM occasionally)

Assist with the activities such as children's choir and social action during the service.

Advise an RE Committee (one Sunday a month)

Chaperone a trip, assist a fundraiser or party.

We value you and we welcome you!

New Adult Course Offering!

Death and Dying

Four Thursdays October 9, 16, 23 & 30

10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Facilitator - Rev. Norm Stewart

This 4 week class will address some of the emotional, legal, medical and spiritual attitudes and issues surrounding death and dying. End-of-life medical realities, legal considerations and planning will be discussed. Plans include one session with an attorney and another with a physician. Our last session will be an opportunity for you to explore and share how you might like to have your own life remembered, honored, and celebrated. You can bring a brown bag lunch and do lunch with friends after the class.

Spiritual Cinema

September 17th, 7 PM, Founders Room

One

(Note: Due to a glitch in delivery, we are showed something else in August and will see this previously advertised film this month). From the Spiritual Cinema Club — "We are thrilled to finally bring you one of the most member-requested films in SCC history, a feature length documentary that asks the ultimate questions of life to world renowned masters and ordinary people alike. First time filmmaker Ward Powers didn't realize that he'd start a worldwide conversation and an important spiritual movement by making this film, but he did. ONE reminds us of our similarities while celebrating our differences, leaving us with a message of hope about our true destiny." Facilitator: Kris Beliakoff

<http://www.onethedocumentary.com/story.html>

Short Story Discussion Group Forming

The GUUF Discussion Group, which meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m., will initiate a series of monthly short story discussions beginning September 21. Please contact Herb Reeves at hbrvs6@yahoo.com, or at the next discussion group for information if you wish to participate. The first selection is "The Whore's Child" by Richard Russo, Pulitzer Prize winning author of "Empire Falls."

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven IN ANCIENT TIMES

October 5 – November 2 (Sundays)

1:00-3:30 PM (bring a lunch if you wish)

Facilitators Suzanne Case and Susan Cooper

A five-session religious education curriculum in feminist theology for adults and older youth *In Ancient Times* is the long-awaited update of the popular feminist theology curriculum, *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*. *In Ancient Times* introduces participants to ancient Goddesses, weaving their stories together with major concerns of women today. For more information, please see your August *Flame*. Registration required. Please sign up or contact Kris Beliakoff at 271-4883 or kris.beliakoff@gmail.com



~ ~On Going Meetings and Classes~ ~

Childcare begins at 9:30 am each Sunday

A Course in Miracles (LOR) Sundays, 9:45 — 10:45 am, Contact: Jean Blank (239-0110)

African Drum Classes (FH) 1st Thursdays, 6:30 — 7:30 pm, Contact: Joan Baker (292-6054)

Community Drum Circle (FH) Last Sundays of each month, 1:00 — 2:00 pm, Contact: Joan Baker (292-6054)

Discussion Group (FR) Every Sunday, 9:45 — 10:45 am, Contact: Cliff Beck (848-9734)

Women's Book Group (WR) 2nd Sunday each month, 9:45 — 10:45 am, Contact: Susan Cooper (288-4912)

Zen Meditation (LOR) Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, Contact: Carole McAfee (236-8484)

Senior Fellowship (FH) A potluck and program, 2nd Thursday monthly, noon, Contact: Suzy Hart (235-1714) or Mary Foley (232-6003)

Dinner & A Movie (FH) Every 2nd Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm, Contact: Bo Boghani (458-8332)

The ManKind Project (WR) Every Wednesdays of each month, 7:00 — 9:00 pm, Contact: John Szczesniak (901-6068)

How to Reach Us:

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