

Highlights in Lifespan Religious Education
From Babies to Sages
January 11, 2009



Classes and Events Today

9:30	<i>Childcare begins</i>
9:45	<i>Adults — Course in Miracles, Discussion Group, Spirit Play Manipulatives Class Children's Chapel with Kris Beliakoff</i>
10:00	<i>Spirit Play Kingdom of Equals (5th and 6th grade)</i>
11:00	<i>Children and Youth Yule Log burning</i>
11:20	<i>Elementary – Music Middle School, 9th grade, 10-12th grade classes with advisors</i>
12:30	<i>Ault RE meeting in annex RE office</i>

Special Friends Week is On its Way!

Do your Grandchildren live far away? Have your children left the nest? Or maybe not ready to start your own family yet? Have we got a deal for you!!!!

During the week of February 9-15, 2009 you can have the opportunity to connect with or even lavish affection upon one of the bright, beautiful younger members of the GUUF family. We need adults to sign up to be paired with a child. During Valentine's Week, you will contact your child two or three times by sending valentines, poems, riddles, etc. You'll send one of two identical nametags at the end of the week to be worn by each of you on Sunday, February 15th when your "Special Friend" identity will be revealed. If you would like to participate, please sign up in the RE area to receive further details. Don't miss this opportunity to win a child's heart!



We invite friends, young and old, to participate in a Valentine's week of delightful surprises. Please join us in an opportunity to make an interesting new friend in the congregation.

PARENTS: We hope your children will want to participate. It is a lot of fun, and we have had excellent participation in past years, forging strong intergenerational bonds. Please contact Jennifer Cowden (dave.cowden@gmail.com or 675-0373), or Kris Beliakoff (kris.beliakoff@gmail.com or 906-5368) if you have any questions. Drop children's forms in the Special Friends box in the RE area. Deadline to sign up is January 25, 2009.

Next RE meetings:

Adult RE Today! 12:30 PM, Annex building. New committee members always welcome!

Thank you to our teens Max Edwards, Sara Harris, Henry Pfeiffer, and MaKensie Schumaker for loaning your construction skills to help with the security needs at GUUF and the Rowland-McFerrin/GAIHN house.

Teens -- Back by Popular Demand: It's Paintball Time!

Teens from 6th grade and up are invited to our wildly popular youth group event on January 25th. Bragging rights and bruises seem to be the aim, and Ms. Kris is being egged on to give it a try. Well, if I can move after all the padding I plan to put on, I hope at least to provide a decent target, though I doubt I will aim back! Meet here for class and lunch (free) or meet us at Red Fox Games at 1:30 PM. Permission forms, release forms, and \$20 are needed (\$10 if you have your own gear). Yes you can bring friends. Rain or shine unless it is torrential. ☺
More info: <http://www.redfoxgames.com/index2.html>.
Questions? Call Kris at 906-5368 or email at Kris.Beliakoff@gmail.com

Super Bowl Sunday Sandwiches! February 1st

Mmmm....is there anything better than Sub sandwiches during the Super Bowl Sunday game? The senior high youth will be providing eat in or take-home sandwich meals for you to enjoy during. The meal will include a 6" Sub sandwich (veggie or meat) chips, drink, and a dessert for \$5. Stay to share the meal with others or take it on home to enjoy with the rest of your Sunday. All proceeds will go towards the Youth Travel Fund which funds Coming of Age and Senior High trips. Questions? Contact Steve Duda or Kris Beliakoff.

Lost and Found Items are Piling Up

We have a variety of items that folks have left behind in their classes or on one of our outings. Please stop by the RE lobby and look by the wall by the elevator. There you will find a shelving unit with all sorts of items waiting to go home with the rightful owner. We also have scrapbooks from Neighboring Faiths two years ago and last year's 3-D clay reliefs that are too beautiful for us to just throw away.

Snowboarding Anyone? All ages.

February 15th is a school holiday and a group of GUUF families are planning to head to Wolf Ridge which is about 1.5 hours north of the Fellowship for a day of snowboarding and an early evening dinner together. Snowboarders need to be aged 8 or old There is even a Tube Run for those wishing for something less involved and less costly or for those younger than 8. We will carpool. Of course you can bring friends, but permission slips and assistance with carpooling arrangements will be needed from all families. We need at least 15 people to get our group rate. I have 10 already! Prices range from \$10 to tube to around \$70 to snowboard.

<http://www.skiwolfridgenc.com/pdf/group-packet.pdf>

<http://www.skiwolfridgenc.com/tubing.htm>

Teens -- Save these dates:

February 6-8th Charlotte CON - 10th - 12th grade See Julie Csizmadia \$45

February 15th Mountain CON Papers Due! See Kris Beliakoff

March 6-8th Mountain CON for 9th grade and up \$90

June - Boston for 9th graders and NYC for 10-12th

OWL Begins in February

Once again we will offer Our Whole Lives sexuality education for teens in 7th-9th grade. Over the course of three weekends in February and March, the teens participate in an inclusive and developmentally appropriate program that models and teaches caring, compassion, respect and justice for sexual health. The program is holistic moving beyond the intellect to address attitudes, values, and feelings that youth have about themselves and the world. Developed jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church Board for Homeland Ministry, United Church of Christ, the underlying values of the program reflect the justice-oriented traditions of both denominations.

The overall goal of the Our Whole Lives program is to create a positive and comprehensive lifespan educational program that helps participants gain the knowledge, values, and skills they need to lead sexually healthy, responsible lives. Sexual Health, Lifespan Sexuality, Building Healthy Sexual Relationships and Sexuality and Social Issues are studied, discussed and reflected upon in a supportive environment that stresses accurate knowledge and healthy decision making. Our instructors are Pat Edwards and Pat Dillow who have facilitated GUUF's Owl program for many years.

There is no cost for the program but families will be required to provide the food. The session exact dates will be published by next week. The times are tentatively scheduled for 6:30 Friday evening to 4:00 PM Saturday day.

Parents must attend an orientation in order for their teen to participate. The one-hour orientation is February 1st after the service. Families with teens in 7th-9th grade will receive more information in the mail. Please contact Kris Beliakoff or one of "The Pats" if you seek more information.

A SEDER FOR ALL AGES!

All are welcome to attend a Passover Seder brought to you by the CYRE committee. Please join us April 19th, 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will learn the stories and traditions associated with a Seder, and share a traditional meal (with vegetarian options) afterwards. To attend all you need to do is RSVP by April 5th and purchase your ticket. Tickets are \$10.00/family or \$5.00/person. Proceeds will cover part of the cost of the lunch. You are also welcome to help RE by contributing a small part of the meal. We will have a list of donation items available when you purchase your ticket. If you would like to help with this event please contact Wendy Plummer at wplummer@wyckoffllc.com or 864.654.1334. All other questions please contact Kris Beliakoff or a member of the CYRE committee. Tickets are available from committee members before or after service after February 1st.

Discussion Group's Short Story Conversation January 18, 9:45 AM, Founder's Room

The GUUF Discussion Group will have its next Short Story Discussion Session January 18 at 9:45 a.m. in the Founders' Room. The author of that session's story is Ellen Gilchrist. For more information contact Herb Reeves at hbrvs6@yahoo.com

Saving Jesus Begins Again in February

9:30 AM Sundays, Teen Lounge downstairs

We are planning to run this popular class again for new participants beginning February 1st. We have only a couple spots left.. Please see Jackie Weddington or Kris Bellakoff to pre-register Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right or the Secular Left? Saving Jesus is a revolutionary DVD-based small group exploration of Jesus Christ for the third millennium. Featuring leading religious voices of our day, the 12-week program includes historical, theological, spiritual and social justice themes for a conversation around the relevance of Jesus Christ for today. Facilitator Karen Conrad, Jackie Weddington.

By Request: Saving Jesus – Extended Discussion Group

9:30 AM Sundays, place to be determined

Sometimes when a course ends the participants want to continue to meet. This class is winding down and gearing back up. If you were a member of the first run of the *Saving Jesus* course, please join in the extended discussion and chosen enrichment activities. We are finding a space for you, but talk to Jackie and let's keep the group fed.

Speaking of “fed”: Let us whet your appetite for Adult Enrichment
Upcoming topics in Adult RE – Check your Flame and your January Sparks for start dates, places and times.

Power of Myth, Joseph Campbell and Bill Moyers – DVD series and discussion. Mythology is humanity's universal method of seeking the transcendental, and “follow your bliss” is the timeless formula for spiritual satisfaction. Campbell himself is the embodiment of these themes, an erudite scholar and quintessential storyteller, recalling a wide spectrum of myths from throughout history (Japanese, Native American, Egyptian, Mayan, and many more) to illustrate humankind's eternal quest to grasp the mysteries of creation. Historical artifacts and illustrations bring these timeless stories to life. Women's Room downstairs every Sunday but the second Sunday, 9:45 AM, starting date to be decided.

Living Wills, Ethical Wills, End of Life Planning, Hospice

How do you know your wishes will be followed at your time of death? What do you really wish to leave behind? How will folks know of your wishes? Part of what we provide as a spiritual home is guidance and support for both the happy and the toughest times in our lives. Adult RE is continuing topics from our Death and Dying course in small stand alone seminars to help all adults in our community.

In Discussion: Russian lessons, Square Foot Gardening for Adults, Healthy Living (food and home products), Meditation in Motion Saturday seminar, *Rise Up and Call her Name* (feminist theology for women and men).

Spiritual Cinema

January 21, Wednesday, 7 PM, Founders Room

It's shorts time! Most of the films I receive arrive with accompanying “shorts.” These complete films come from around the world and share in common a chance to surprise us, visually please us, and usually teach us something about ourselves.

Twice a year or so we take a break from the longer films and enjoy these shorter gifts. We will share at least three shorts and discuss our reactions. Always a crowd pleaser! Let me know if you need childcare at least a couple days in advance.
Facilitator: Kris Beliakoff

~ ~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) Every 1st Thursday, 6:30 — 7:30 pm, Contact: Joan Baker (232-1660)

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) Cancelled until further notice.

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) No Meetings at the Fellowship in January 2009.

GUUF Singers (CR) Every Sunday, 9:30 — 10:45 am, Contact: Miriam Davidson (285-0994 or miriam@wishingchair.com)





Greenville
Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship

The Weekly Spark
Spark the Memory, Spark the Spirit
January 11, 2009

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TODAY

Immediately After The Service In The Sanctuary
Election of Nominating Committee

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25, 2009
Immediately After The Service In The Sanctuary
Election of Two Members to the Committee on Ministry

First Leadership Development Series to Start in January

Beginning January 18, 2009, the Leadership Development Committee will be offering its first leadership development series open to ALL members, whether you are currently in leadership at GUUF or simply have an interest in potential future leadership at GUUF. The skills taught in these sessions are transferable skills that can carry over into other volunteer organizations and workplace situations.

The six week course will be held in the Founder's Room beginning at 12:45 each Sunday and will last one hour. Classes start January 18, 2009. Lunch and refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to candy@upstatelawgroup.com or at (864) 905-3610 by Sunday January 11th so we can plan for course materials and food for the first class. Please also let us know if you have special meal needs or childcare needs on or before January 11th.

≈ *Congregational Care Items* ≈

We extend our loving support to:

Joan Baker -- recovering from shoulder surgery
Madge Connor -- recent death of younger sister
Muriel Hill-Rowley -- brother's lymphoma
Zermah Dawes -- mother died January 3rd
Jan Arnold -- recovering from pneumonia, broken rib, etc.

We celebrate with:

David Miracle -- found work after 7 months
Carole Frome & Bob Pepoon -- recent marriage
Lee Duncan and wife -- recent marriage
Suzy Hart -- happy to be back again after 3 hospitalizations in 2 months

Dinner and a Movie

Movie: Milarepa: Magician,
Murderer, Saint (2006)



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

Time: Potluck Dinner 6pm, Film 7pm

Place: Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The Movie: Bhutanese director Neten Chokling's fantastical biopic dramatizes the early years of Milarepa (Gimyan Lodro), the 11th-century man who would become Tibet's preeminent mystic. Born into privilege, Milarepa is plunged into a life of darkness when greedy relatives stage a power grab after his father's death. The young man learns black magic to seek vengeance, but some unexpected life lessons along the way steer him onto a more spiritual path. This movie is not rated by the MPAA. Running time 90 minutes

The Food: We will have a potluck at 6PM before the movie. Please bring an Bhutanese dish to share with 4-6 people. I like both fooddownunder.com and www.recipesource.com. If you plan to drink, please bring beer or wine. The fellowship has a stove, refrigerator and microwaves.

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

New Members Recognition

On Sunday, January 18 new members to our congregation will be recognized during the Sunday Service. If you have recently become a member or were unable to attend the last recognition service, please plan to attend and be recognized. Following the service, new members will be honored downstairs in the Fellowship Hall with a Fellowship potluck.

Members and friends please plan to bring a dish to share on January 18th and stay for a meal to get to know the new members and socialize with other friends.

Next New UU Orienteering Class

Beginning on Sunday, February 8, at 9:45 a.m. the next seven week New UU Orienteering Class will begin in the in the right overflow room next to the sanctuary. The class is designed to help people new to our Fellowship meet and get acquainted with others new to our congregation. The class will help those attending to learn about the various backgrounds of others that brought them here on their spiritual journey, what UUs believe, and what we all have in common. The class will also learn about our Fellowship's and UU world history; what educational programs are available for youth and adults; our social justice issues and activities; how we socialize together in our UU community; and much more.

UUs Helping UUs

To help one another, the Fellowship is providing a very low-cost publication to promote the businesses and services people within the GUUF community have to offer to our members and friends that will be circulated only within our congregation. It is called **UUs Helping UUs**.

All ad applications must be in by January 31st, and the goal is to have the ads published and distributed in Mid-February. So please hurry!

Pick up an ad outline and information sheet in the Fellowship's foyer or contact Glen Rowley, Email: glenrowley@charter.net, phone: 859-9992. Ad requests can be turned in or mailed to the office, or given to Glen Rowley.

Columbarium Meetings

There will be meetings held on January 11th and 25th at 9:30 am in the right overflow room. Contact: Jim Yockey, 246-5777 or jimyockey@juno.com. All interested and public are invited.

Weekly Updates on Attendance & Contributions
1/4/08 Attendance: 121
1/4/08 Contributions: \$2,698

Southernside Needs Your Help

Making take-away meals for the beneficiaries of Southernside is an easy and fulfilling experience. We need twelve groups (one per month) to pick one of the second Saturdays in 2009 to make and deliver the meals. All details will be provided. No guessing as to what to do. If I can do it, you can too.

Please let us know which month you can take. We'd like to get the calendar done for the year and move onto bigger things.

Ed and Francine Proulx
theproulxfamily@mac.com
864-704-3263 or 864-245-8788

Pat's Pantry

Please try to make a donation every week.
These are hard times and every bit helps.



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.

Want to Contact Us?

Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1135 State Park Road
Greenville, SC 29609

864-271-4883 fax 864-271-6088
www.greenvilleuu.org office@greenvilleuu.org

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
10 am – 4 pm