

Highlights in Lifespan Religious Education

From Babies to Sages

May 3, 2009



Classes and Events Today

- 9:30 *Childcare begins, Power of Myth (adults)*
9:45 *Adults —Course in Miracles, Liberal Christian Study Group*
Children -- Children's Chapel with Kris Beliakoff
10:00 *3 Years to 4th Grade – Spirit Play*
5th-6th Grade – Kingdom of Equals
11:00 *Middle School, Coming of Age, 10th-12th Grade – Classes with*
advisors
11:20 *Elementary – After the story in the service, make sandwich*
lunches for Southern Side.

Join us at the Low Country Boil after the service!



Game Night **May 8th**



RE invites all families to come and hang out for an evening of food and fun. Dinner and games will be provided for all ages, though we invite you to bring your favorite game. This annual event is a favorite that many of the children look forward to. So please, come enjoy a family night together. Our treat. 6 – 8 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

2009 Bridging Ceremony

May 31st

In the Service

Join us as we celebrate our 12th Graders who bridge to adulthood . We will honor them in the service and wish them well as they head to college or career.

Chili Cook-off

May 31st

Our yearly chili cook-off has arrived! Enjoy a meal at the congregational meeting knowing you are helping the youth group. On May 31st join us for a meal prepared by the teens and their families as a fundraiser for their trips 9th grade to Boston and 10-12th grade to NYC. The meals are \$5 and a wonderful way to relax and visit with one another as well as stay for a congregational meeting. Note about lunch fundraisers: Each teen must raise between \$700-\$800 to attend their annual youth group trip. We hold luncheons once a month to help them out, along with fundraise throughout the Greenville community. Thank you for your support!

Families and Teens -- Save these dates:

May 17th Hot dogs/hamburgers social/volleyball here after the service (all teens)

June – 18-21 (NYC for 10—12th Grade)

August 13-17 Boston 9th Grade

O' Charley's Night for GUUF!

May 26th 4 to 8 PM

We have secured a dinner night at O'Charley's in Simpsonville. * 10% of the proceeds for the night will go to our youth group (up to \$500). Where else can you enter a restaurant and know so many patrons? Spread the word. You don't even have to mention the name of the group, just eat at a place that cares to help our teens. Funds raised will offset the cost of the NYC and Boston trips. *Thank you to Scott Gilbert for making this connection.

671 Fairview Rd

Simpsonville, SC 29680

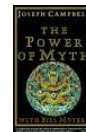
(864) 228-3681 www.ocharleys.com

Power Of Myth Begins Today!

Sundays* 9:30 AM

Six sessions, *skip second Sunday of each month

Almost FULL, please register if you intend to come!



Joseph Campbell and the *Power of Myth* is an encounter between teacher- mythologist Campbell and student-journalist Bill Moyers covering a galaxy of topics related to Campbell's central themes: Mythology is humanity's universal method of seeking the transcendental, and "follow your bliss" is the timeless formula for spiritual satisfaction. Campbell recalls 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. Includes The Hero's Adventure, The Message of the Myth, The First Storytellers, Sacrifice and Bliss, Love and the Goddess, Masks of Eternity. Facilitator: Deborah Hickey. Format: DVD and discussion. Please RSVP to Kris or the office.

Liberal Christian Study Group Meeting

Sundays, 9:30 AM

Interested in studying Liberal Christianity? Meeting in the UU World of Children classroom, Sundays at 9:30. Need to know more, call Jackie Weddington at 934-6464 or Diana Miel at 276-1338.



Spiritual Cinema

Taos

May 20 Wednesday, 7 PM, Founders Room

From the jacket: "John Wahlberg is a fast-track lawyer in the prime of his life when he takes a trip to join his girlfriend for a family vacation to Aspen. When his car breaks down stranding him in Taos, New Mexico, he has an opportunity to take a moment to review his life. What he discovers will take more than a night in the mountains to solve, but once he sees the light, clearly there's no turning back. "This film is about perspective and wake up calls that suggest it is time for a change in perspective.

Facilitator: Kris Beliakoff, 906-5368. Childcare available with one week's notice.

**Joint Social Justice Committee/Adult Religious Education
Movie Premier and Discussion**

May 27th, Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Join internationally accredited speaker and facilitator Ron Chapman in a premiere of *The First Millimeter: Healing the Earth*, a national PBS documentary about healing the land around the world - and the lives of those who are dependent on it. Produced by 17-time Emmy award-winning director Chris Schueler, who says that it may be the most important story he has ever told. Ron is the Past Chairman of the Board of Holistic Management International (HMI), whose work is central to the film's focus. HMI is a global environmental education non-governmental organization headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico that works with stewards of large landscapes—agricultural producers, pastoralists, and government agencies—to help them partner with nature to create a positive ecological footprint. Through improved natural resource management practices, these managers improve soil health, which results in a host of benefits including: improved water quality, carbon sequestration, drought mitigation, flood resilience, and food security.

We will serve a light dinner at 6:15 PM. \$5 per person. RSVP requested for dinner. Call the office at 271-4883 or email Kris Beliakoff at dre@greenvilleuu.org.

Next RE Meetings

Children and Youth – TBA 12:30 PM, RE Classroom. Adult RE May 17 12:30 PM, Annex building. New committee members always welcome!

**Summer in Children and Youth Religious Education
Volunteers Needed, plans being made**

GUUF religious education continues over the summer beginning in June, though with a condensed Sunday morning schedule. Children's classes begin after the story in the service and the teen classes begin at 11 AM. Our children's curriculum this summer is from the Culture Company which advocates peace through play (see the May Flame for more details). We need folks to lead one or more of the following sessions:

PEACE: Peace is the Path
AUSTRALIA: Responsibility to Others
BRAZIL: Respect the Earth and Each Other
GHANA: Different yet Familiar
GREECE: The Golden Rule
INDIA: Fairness
MOROCCO: Being Thankful

If you would like to teach, please see Kris or Laura Christenbury and we will help schedule the summer sessions around your summer plans. Lessons and materials provided.

Teens ---

You will be involved in Social Action and brush up on your theology with an unusual but highly popular curriculum called The Gospel According to the Simpsons. Yes, those Simpsons. True to the themes of the ancient texts but taught in an unforgettable style, this curriculum promises to break up those summer blahs. Plus, we will add more social plans as you wish. Teachers needed. All materials and discussion questions provided.

~ ~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 Thursday each month, Contact: Joan Baker (232-1660)

Discussion Group (FR) Sundays, 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) 2nd Thursday each month, 12:00 – 2:00 pm, Contact: Suzanne Hart (235-1714).

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

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

Yoga (FH) Tuesdays beginning April 21st until May 19th, 5 weeks, 6:30 — 8:15 pm, Contact: Bruce Cable (906-8067)

Hiking Group (Off Site) on going with dates and locations to be determined, Contact: Karen Csizmadia (322-6441)

How to Reach Us:

Kris Beliakoff, Director of Lifespan Religious Education & Administration
Office 271-4883, Cell 906-5368, Email: dre@greenvilleuu.org or
Kris.Beliakoff@gmail.com
Office Days: Sun - Thurs
Karen Conrad, Adult Religious Education Chair
Email: innisfreedesigns@yahoo.com

The UU Women's Book Group will meet on Sunday, May 10 at 9:45am in the Women's Room located beside the fellowship hall. Diane Lawrence will lead us in the discussion of the book, The Music Lesson, by Catherine Weber. This will be our last meeting until the fall. Questions? Call Susan at: 288-4912.





~ **IMPORTANT** ~
Congregational Meeting



May 31st, 2009
Immediately Following the Service in the Fellowship Hall

Meeting is for the adoption of a budget for the 2009/2010 fiscal year.
Please plan to attend.

Spring Hymn Toss May 17, 10:30 am

Come one and all, one half hour before the service and sing and play your favorite hymns! We had so much fun the first time that we're ready to rock it again! Bring your voices, instruments and a list of your favorites and we'll play through as many of them as time allows. Its great way to get into the spirit for worshipping together, go come on, and jam!

Clip Coupons for Pat's Pantry

Please donate any coupons you are not using to the Coupon Box, above the little red wagon, for Pat's Pantry. Betty Gibson knows how to use coupons with sales to get free or almost free food for the Pat's Pantry

Garden Time

Want to plant a garden of your own and don't have space at home? The fellowship is providing about 5,000 sq ft of garden space ready for your hoe. We have arranged to have a section of our front yard ploughed and tilled and ready for you to garden. Get in touch with Alvena Chapman chapman100@charter.net or 232-7092 or the office and reserve a space. The ground should be ready for you now.



UUA Presidential Candidates Forum in Asheville, NC, May 7th

The Asheville congregation will host a forum for the UUA presidential candidates, Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales, on Thursday, May 7th beginning at 6:00 p.m. Visit their website at uvasheville.org and click on "Events" for more information.

Weekly Updates on Attendance & Contributions
4/26/09 Attendance: 164
4/26/09 Contributions: \$3,206

IN 30 SECONDS FLAT, YOU CAN HELP START A NEW UU CONGREGATION...BECOME A CHALICE LIGHTER

In the 30 seconds it takes to go to this link, <http://tjd.uua.org/cl/tjd-chalice-lighter-pledge-form.htm> and fill out the pledge card, you can help start up new UU churches in America, help a congregation call their first UU minister, expand or re-build current UU buildings, or start UU ministries on college campuses. It's easy when thousands of individual UU's come together, each giving as little as \$10, three times a year, in what is called the "Chalice Lighters Program". The money is rolled together from lots of congregations to help individual congregations. Perhaps even GUUF! Very cool!

Our neighbors, the Spartanburg congregation have been the beneficiary of this program twice--first with a \$2400 grant in 1990 to call their first minister, and again with a \$26,140 grant in 2006 for a building expansion. Clemson fellowship benefited from the program in 1998 with a \$15,837 grant to call their first minister. While GUUF has never applied for a grant, we certainly could! We could receive funds to expand or renovate our building, for example. But to be a beneficiary of the program, we must have a substantial number of members contributing as Chalice Lighters for other congregations.

When a congregation applies for a grant, the district will send out a "call", never more than three times per year, to everyone who has signed up to be a Chalice Lighter. For each call, you send in however much you have pledged--\$10, \$20, \$50, \$100--whatever is the right amount for you. Our goal is to have 75% of our members sign up to be Chalice Lighters. When you sign up, you accomplish two enormously important things: help grow UUism across America, and help make GUUF eligible to receive a grant at some point.

I signed up to become a Chalice Lighter on Friday, April 17th. It took 30 seconds using the online link. They'll send me a welcome packet and a Chalice Lighter decal to wear on my name badge (if I ever remember my name badge). They'll contact me by mail no more than three times per year to help out another congregation. I felt great about standing up for this program. Will you stand with me? Will you take the 30 seconds to click on the link to the online pledge card and sign up today? Let's overwhelm the district office with dozens of Greenville Unitarian Universalist folks' pledge cards, and show that we walk our talk, that we believe in deeds not creeds, and that our deed for today is to become a Chalice Lighter. Thanks

Susan Crow-Granger, Denominational Affairs Chairperson

This is the link: <http://tjd.uua.org/cl/tjd-chalice-lighter-pledge-form.htm>

National Day of Prayer Event

A National Day of Prayer event will be held on Thursday, May 7th at 12:30pm at the Allen Temple AME Church located in the West End of Greenville (across from the baseball stadium), on 401 Vardry Street. Our own Gordon Branson will be participating along with a dozen other faith communities and organizations. This event is sponsored by the Interfaith Forum a community organization here in Greenville. The topic for the service is "Caring for Our Community." Questions? Contact Susan Cooper at: 288-4912.

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.

Dinner and a Movie

Movie: *Night on Earth (1991)*

When: Sunday, May 10th, 2009

Time: Potluck Dinner 6pm, Film 7pm

Place: Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The Movie: OK, we have had enough of sad movies for a while so let us change the mood. This collection of five stories involving cab drivers in five different cities. Los Angeles - A talent agent for the movies discovers her cab driver would be perfect to cast, but the cabbie is reluctant to give up her solid cab driver's career. New York - An immigrant cab driver is continually lost in a city and culture he doesn't understand. Paris - A blind girl takes a ride with a cab driver from the Ivory Coast and they talk about life and blindness. Rome - A gregarious cabbie picks up an ailing man and virtually talks him to death. Helsinki - an industrial worker gets laid off and he and his compatriots discuss the bleakness and unfairness of love and life and death. This movie has been rated R by the MPAA. Time 128 minutes.

The Food: We will have a potluck at 6PM before the movie. Well, you have a choice to bring an American, Italian, French, African or Danish dish to share with 4-6 people (Did I leave any country out!). 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.





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

Kris Beliakoff, Director of Lifespan Religious Education & Administration

Corry Clark, Office Administrator

Scott Gilbert, Sexton

Lana Gilbert, Childcare Coordinator