

The Voice

Newsletter of Unitarian Universalists of
Coastal Georgia

February 2012



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

SUNDAY SERVICES

♦ *Feb. 5* — *The Rev. Lynne Garner, “Staying Grounded”* —10:30 am,
—First Sunday Forum, — *Joan Shinnick on Robert Abbott* —9:30 am

♦ *Feb. 12*— The Rev. Norm Horofker of Columbus, GA, “When the searching for Truth and Meaning is Not Enough”
— 10:30 am

♦ *Feb. 19* —*Jack Kelly, “Someone’s Uncertainty Principle”* —10:30 am

Coming Events

♦ *Each Tuesday* — Deliver food on Wolfe St., Meet at 1 pm on at O and Amherst Sts.

♦ *Feb. 1* —*Friends of Selden Park, 6:30 pm., Selden Park gymnasium*

♦ *Feb. 7* — Welcoming Congregation Team Meeting, 5:30 pm.

♦ *Feb. 8* — *Board of Trustees meeting, 5 pm*

♦ *Feb. 9* — *Social Justice Team meeting, 5:30 pm*

♦ *Feb. 10* — *Chili Supper and Bingo, 6 pm (details in box on right)*

♦ *Feb. 26* — *Film, Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin, 10:30 am*

(All events are at the church, 1710 Gloucester St., Brunswick, unless otherwise specified.)



Chili and Bingo

Join us for what has become a fun annual tradition on Friday, Feb. 10. We'll have chili, cornbread, fixin's and sweets. Tea and other soft drinks will be included in the price. We will also have beer and wine available for a donation.

Cost:

\$10 (\$5 for children 12 and under)





UUs Honor Dr. King: As usual, UUCG had one of the largest delegations marching in the annual Martin Luther King parade in Brunswick. Our minister (front left) is right out front.

Minister's Musings

This was going to be a very different kind of newsletter column. I was going to expound about the wonderful events that our church community took part in during the month of January and invite us on to even better things this month. I was going to say how moving an experience it was to travel to Savannah with some of our social justice leaders and watch part of the film *Slavery by Another Name* based on the book by Douglas



A. Blackmon, and to meet the author and filmmaker, and what a beautiful day we had marching in the Martin Luther King Day parade.

That was before the second phone call. The phone call called me into reality about the fragile nature of our existence. It was a call from yet another member who had just lost a life partner, the second such phone call within a two-week period. In any congregation, this would bring sadness. In a small congregation such as ours, it can bring a bit of fear as well. As a minister, I long to take away the pain, to wave a magic wand and make it go away. But no one ever taught me in seminary how to mend a broken heart, and so I do the best I can to offer comfort.

The words that the poet John Donne wrote in his meditation of 1624 still ring true today: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind...and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

We need each other. We always will. It seems that at hard times such as these, the work we continue to do as a community, such as marching together for justice, as we did on Jan. 16, is even more important. Tragedy has a way of putting things in perspective and reinforcing the urgency of our work, and the poignancy of our being together in community.

So in this month that includes a holiday based on love, let us go forward together, keeping Herb and Onnalee in our hearts and working yet more fervently for the Beloved Community that they, too, desired.

Peace, **Lynne**

Two Guest Speakers Will Appear in the Pulpit in February

The Rev. Lynne Garner will begin the month of services on Feb. 5 with a sermon entitled, "Staying Grounded." The theme is as follows; U. S. Americans have always been a very mobile people. Today, with our lives seemingly overrun with electronic devices and the fast pace of travel and moving, it is hard to find our spiritual centers. She will talk about how we can live more serenely and put down roots, even if we don't stay in the same place and we seem to be always in a state of

Shinnick Is Forum Speaker

Joan Shinnick, one of our Religious Education teachers, will lead the discussion at the Is Rapaport Forum at 9:30 am, Sunday, Feb. 5. The forum will honor Robert S. Abbott and discuss the Robert S. Abbott Institute's multicultural festival;

same place and we seem to be always in a state of flux.

The Social Justice service on Feb. 12 will bring the Rev. Norm Hrofker of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbus, GA, His title is, "When the Searching for Truth and Meaning is Not Enough."

On Feb. 19, Jack Kelly, professor emeritus at the University of Illinois, returns to the pulpit to speak on "Someone's Uncertainty Principle." Kelly now resides on Jekyll Island.

Discuss the Robert S. Abbott Institute's multicultural festival; "One World-Many Faces-2012," cosponsored by the Coastal College of Georgia on April 13.

January Was a Sad Month for the UUCG Congregation

January 2012 proved to be difficult for the congregation at UUCG. Two of our longstanding and well loved members, Herb Frederick and Onnalee Willnow, passed away within just a few weeks of one another. Though it is always hard to lose people you care about, it was wonderful hearing how both of these people were able to happily live out every minute of their lives, Herb with his family at Christmas, and Onnalee with Ron in Puerto Rico. Herb and Onnalee's funerals, though sad, were true celebrations of their lives; they walked us through the personal histories and passions that helped create the people we knew. It was neat to see Bill Phillips and Lynne Garner, ministers of our past and present, collaborate on these final rites of passage. Though our building was over capacity for both of the services, it felt right to say goodbye to Herb and Onnalee while in our church home.

We move forward from here, but we will carry our memories of Herb's loy-

President's Report

alty and trustworthiness, and Onnalee's *joie de vivre*, to help inspire us on the road

ahead. February will bring a service by Lynne Garner, and then the next two weeks will be covered by guest speakers - both come highly recommended so you won't want to miss out. Also, please be sure to put UUCG's Bingo and Chili Fundraiser on your calendar for Feb, 10. This promises to be both fun and profitable, plus one more chance to appreciate and strengthen our church community.

I leave you with a poem read by one of Ron and Onnalee's



sons.

Lingering Joys

The tide recedes, but leaves behind bright seashells on the sand.

The sun goes down, but gentle warmth still lingers in the land,

The music stops, and yet it echoes on in sweet refrains . . .

For every joy that passes, something beautiful remains.

Gratefully, **Catherine**



In Memoriam

Herbert Frederick

(March 2, 1930—Jan. 5, 2012)

Onnalee Willnow

(Mar. 24, 1937—Jan. 20, 2012)



Social Justice Report

Savannah Trip, Ethnic Lunches, Diversity

Savannah Trip, Ethnic Lunches, Diversity Highlight Social Justice Team Schedule

Eight UUs took a field trip to Savannah Feb. 12. Starling Sutton had arranged for us to attend a preview showing of "Slavery by Another Name," a documentary based on the Pulitzer prize-winning book of the same name, by Starling's friend, Douglas A. Blackmon. We got to hear and meet Blackmon, and to hear from director Sam Pollard. We also saw works by artist Robert Claiborne Morris, who created an exhibit for the Telfair Museum based on the book. The very diverse audience filled the auditorium to overflowing. Those of us who went can highly recommend that others read the book and see the documentary. It will show on Feb. 13 at 9:00 on PBS (check local listings).

We had a very successful Ethnic Lunch at the New Hong Kong Restaurant on Jan. 8. Owner David Liang was pleased to have us, and he signed up to be a food vendor at the festival on Apr. 13 (details to follow). Because of another event after the service at UUCG on Feb. 12, we will have our next Ethnic Lunch on Mar. 11 at Nacho's on SSI (more in next The Voice).

We on the Steering Committee of the Robert S. Abbott Institute had our first meeting with the Multicultural Committee of the College of Coastal Georgia on Jan. 27. We really accomplished a lot in a wonderful spirit of cooperation. "One World - Many Faces: International Culture & Food Festival" will be held on the college campus from 2 to 8 pm Friday, Apr. 13. Plans for the musical performances have been finalized. We are in the process of lining up ethnic food vendors and artisan vendors of diverse cultures/countries. We need a lot of help with finding artisan vendors, so put on your thinking caps and let me know if you have suggestions. We will have lots of specific tasks that will need to be done both leading up to the festival and on the day of. I will have a sign-up sheet available at a Sunday service soon. We really hope to have a lot of help from UUs to make the festival a success. It's the only way to assure that this becomes the annual event that we wish it to be. Anyone desiring to get in on a planning session, please try to attend the next Unity in Diversity luncheon at 12:30 on Feb. 11, The Corner Cafe.



We gather for lunch at the New Hong Kong Restaurant

Don't forget Wolfe Street food deliveries each Tuesday, the Friends of Selden Park meeting Feb. 1 (6:45 pm at the park's gymnasium), the Social Justice Team Meeting (Feb. 9, 5:30 pm), NAACP meeting (Feb. 21, 6 pm at Zion Baptist Church .) And remember to bring your donations for Sparrow's Nest to the church services on Feb. 12.

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— Diane Knight

Installation to Be at Temple

The Installation Ceremony for Rev. Lynne Garner will be held on Sunday, March 18 at 3 pm, with a reception to follow. Temple Beth Tefilloh has graciously agreed to let us use their facilities for the ceremony and reception, as it has become clear that our church facilities are not large enough for

Pledge Drive Falls Short of Goal

Almost all of the pledges for the second half of 2011 have been paid. For 2012, our budgetary goal for pledges is \$54,000, and we have received pledges thus far totaling \$49,620. We need to get those remaining pledges in. Of course, we also need to receive payments according to the schedules members indicated on their pledge forms -- or sooner. Thanks to all for your continuing support.

It has become clear that our church facilities are not large enough for this event. Bill Van Loan is heading the planning committee.

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— Ken Trobaugh

RE Corner

Religious Education lessons for February:

(inspired by lessons from "We Believe, Learning and Living Our Unitarian Universalist Principles")

February 5: Principle 2, "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations"

Celebrate Black History Month. Introduce Robert S. Abbott (born on St. Simons Island, founder of Chicago Defender Newspaper, fought against racial prejudice.)

February 12: Principle 1, "The Inherent worth and dignity of every person"

Celebrate Valentines' Day - how can we demonstrate our care for each other?

February 19: Principle 4, "A Free and responsible search for truth and meaning"

Observe Presidents Day - what makes a good leader?

— Nancy Stewart

February Helpers

Lay Reader: Mary Freeman

Music: Miguel Carbone

RE: Nancy Stewart, Joan Shinnick

Ushers: Ken and Karla Trobaugh, Ron Yost, Patti Rankin, Amy Stark

Song Leader: Toni Tennent

Hospitality:

Tia Van Loan

House: DeLeon Peacock, Ron

Yost, Bruce Beard

Greeters: Ellie Legg, Mary Freeman, Sarah McGettrick, Sally Revoile



Farewell to VanDee Van Deusen And Bill and Mary Ann Freeling

VanDee has moved back to Niagara Falls and the Freelings soon will part for Denver.

VanDee reports that she has moved into an apartment that she lived in 15 years ago. She can now be reached at C. VanDee Van Deusen, 730 Main St., Apt. 2, Niagara Falls, NY, 14301. Her new phone number is 716 255-0150.

The Freelings write: "After living here for seven years and being part of this UU congregation since 2009 we find it time to say good bye. We have sold our home and will be moving to Denver to be closer to our children and grandchildren. Bill and I will miss you and the fellowship of this congregation, but we take with us wonderful memories and experiences that will last us a lifetime."

Starling and Beth Sutton have organized a going-away brunch after the Sunday service pm Feb/ 12. Please bring a brunch dish to share.

Welcoming Congregation Application Mailed

On Saturday, Jan. 27, the Welcoming Congregation Team mailed off UUCG's application to the Unitarian Universalist Association for formal recognition as a Welcoming Congregation. Thanks to the time, patience, and expertise of Elaine Deaver, all the info was collected into files on a CD for mailing--a nice, neat, little package! UUA instructions explain that applicant congregations should not expect any response for at least four weeks. Think good thoughts for UUCG's WC success, all y'all!

— Mary Freeman

33 Attend January Stew Lunch

Four tables of eight (one nine) comprised the group who remained after our Sunday service on Jan. 15 for a light luncheon. During lunch, the conversational din was such to suggest that diners were surely getting to know one another.

Film on Bayard Rustin to Be Shown on Fourth Sunday

In honor of African American History Month, on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 10:30 am, we will be showing the award winning documentary, "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin." Rustin was an advisor to Martin Luther King who organized not just the 1963 March on Washington, but a much earlier one in the 1940's. In addition, he was openly gay at a time when many of those in the Civil Rights Movement were far from supportive of gay rights. He was an intrepid visionary

In addition, he was openly gay at a time when many of those in the Civil Rights Movement were far from supportive of gay rights. He was an intrepid visionary whose homosexuality kept him from being an even more powerful leader in a world that was not ready for his honesty.

There will also be a film shown for children, so everyone is welcome to come on the fourth Sunday this month. The exact film title will be announced at a later date.

We hope to have more events like this on Sundays when we have not previously met, so if you have suggestions for this, please see Barbara Sprouse, Program Team Leader, or Rev. Garner.

— *Lynne Garner*

Ushering Is a Good Way to Meet People; We Can Use Your Services

On one or two Sundays in February, I will be showing a potential new usher the ropes (and may ask you to share what you know if you happen to be working on the Sunday we settle on). If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining our team, please let me know so we can do a little "training" this month.

How would you know if someone would like to join our team? Just ask! Ushering is a great way for people who are new to the church to start getting to know our members, and for our members to start getting to know them! Often times a person new to our congregation doesn't know how to get involved, and inviting them to join our team is a good way to recognize "hey, you've been here a while...we want you to be part of us!" Even if the person declines to join our team, it can feel good to be invited to be a part of the church! — **Sarah McGettrick**



Many Smiles: The toys and clothing we gathered in December brought some big smiles to these and other tots.



Officers, Board of Trustees

President: Catherine Squire
Vice President: Bob Ingram
Treasurer: Ken Trobaugh
Secretary: Mary Freeman
At Large: Barbara Sprouse
Diane Knight
Mary Ann Freeling

ex officio: Ted Davis
Lynne Garner
Team Council Chair: Jerry Hegstrom

Reaching Us

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Brunswick, GA. 31521

Ted Davis has agreed to take over for Herb Frederick as Building Fund Treasurer.