



Upcoming Services

Service at 11:00, childcare

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| 6/1/2008 | |
| Ken Sizemore | The Old Folkey |
| 6/8/2008 | |
| Chris Werle | Celebration of Bugs |
| 6/15/2008 | |
| Nell Cobb | Flower Communion/Father's Day |
| 6/22/2008 | |
| Andie Gibbs | Summer Solstice |
| 6/29/2008 | |
| Bob Buckner | Suggestions for Improving Your Coping Skills |
| 7/6/2008 | |
| Chris Werle | Soapbox Sunday |
| 7/13/2008 | |
| Kant Vajpayee | Hinduism- the only free market in religion |
| 7/20/2008 | |
| Dan Capper | Abolishing the Death Penalty |
| 7/27/2008 | |
| | TBA |

President's Message by Nell Cobb

Dear Members & Friends of HUUF,

I feel like a June/July newsletter should be celebrating the lazy, hazy daze of summer; complete with vacations, barbeques, day camps, or at least laying around a pool with a tall lemonade. But, no . . . members of HUUF are busy doing all kinds of wonderful things and I hope you'll read about all of them in this edition.

One of the most important goings on during the summer is the changing of the guard. With the beginning of our new fiscal year on July 1, 2008, some new officers, board members and committee workers will begin moving our fellowship down the road of the upcoming year. The new officers and the proposed budget will be voted on at a congregational meeting following a Sunday service in late June or early July.

That means this is my last President's Message, so it is my last opportunity to officially thank all the folks who have made this an outstanding year at HUUF. I won't list a few and leave out too many, you know who you are. All of you who are spending some of your own time to make this congregation buzz with new outreach opportunities, with interesting, varied, and well presented topics, and with the warm, welcoming glow that hugs each of us on Sunday mornings, I thank you, I thank you, I thank you.

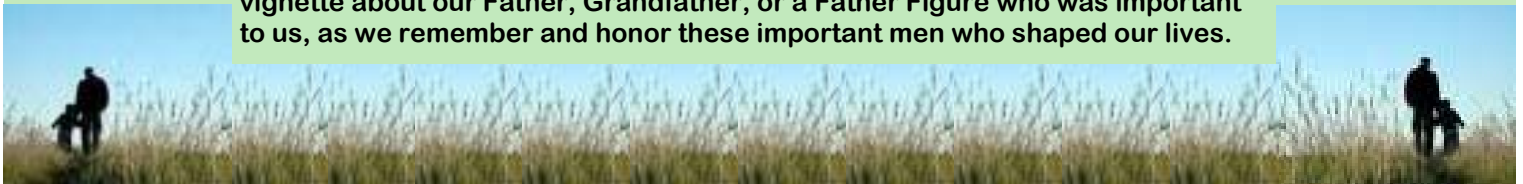
Keep up the good work for Sheri, our incoming president. She's going to need even more help as we continue to grow and extend ourselves into the larger community. If you need a lift for your spirits, give a little of yourself to someone else. *(Read more on this sentiment in the topic Pledge Drive on page 2 of this newsletter)*

Nell

P.S. There are great plans for instructive workshops on various aspects of small congregation organization in our state and our district for the upcoming year. The next one will be on the functions & duties of an effective Board of Trustees, happening sometime in August. We need to take advantage of these resources by showing up and then bringing the relevant tactics back to HUUF to implement in our growing and vibrant fellowship.

Father's Day/Flower Communion Service

Join us on Father's Day, June 15, as we celebrate the holiday with a traditional UU Flower Communion. Bring a flower from your yard or from the roadside to contribute to the communion, or find one in the vases of extra flowers decorating the Garden Center. Along with our flower, each of us will be given the opportunity to contribute a short vignette about our Father, Grandfather, or a Father Figure who was important to us, as we remember and honor these important men who shaped our lives.



Worship News

Adult Religious Education

We completed the Joseph Campbell "Power of Myth" RE series on March 16th and are currently in the process of creating an RE mini-session on "Peacemaking" which will likely take place in June or July on the last Sunday of each month after our regular services. See our website for updated information.

Children's Religious Education

Children's RE welcomes the participation of all members and friends of HUUF, so please share your ideas and talents with us. Feel free to talk with Sheri or Amy (achasteenmiller@gmail.com) to give us your thoughts, or to volunteer to help. Everyone is welcome!

Pledge Drive

Last month we mailed Pledge Forms to everyone listed as a member or friend of HUUF so that we could predict next year's contributions and plan its budget. That budget needs to be finished before the end of June so it can be voted on at our congregational meeting. If you haven't turned in your financial and volunteer pledge forms (we need more than your money—we need your time & talents), then please bring or send them to HUUF as soon as possible. If you haven't received your pledge forms, pick them up at next Sunday's service. And, remember, it's a pledge, not a binding promise. We won't expect you to fulfill a pledge if it becomes difficult

Social Action Committee: *HUUF in the Community*

National Religious Campaign Against Torture

The social action committee, on behalf of our fellowship, joined the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) campaign by purchasing a "Torture is Wrong" banner that will be displayed throughout the month of June and becoming endorsing members of this organization. By joining, we endorsed the following Statement of Conscience and have agreed to use and promote NRCAT programs.

Torture is a Moral Issue" Statement of Conscience

Torture violates the basic dignity of the human person that all religions, in their highest ideals, hold dear. It degrades everyone involved -- policy-makers, perpetrators and victims. It contradicts our nation's most cherished ideals. Any policies that permit torture and inhumane treatment are shocking and morally intolerable. Nothing less is at stake in the torture abuse crisis than the soul of our nation. What does it signify if torture is condemned in word but allowed in deed? Let America abolish torture now – without exceptions.

Peace Vigil

See page 3 for details of the monthly Peace Vigils that will take us all the way to the November Election.

Fair Trade Coffee and Tea available For Sale

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has partnered with Equal Exchange to buy coffee and tea directly from farmers following the standards and principles of fair trade, insuring that low-income farmers earn a fair, living wage. These items may be purchased through HUUF's Social Action Committee on Sundays or by emailing Janet at janetswebb@yahoo.com. For more information go to www.uusc.org. *"Trade justice for the developing world and for this generation is a truly significant way for developed countries to show commitment to bringing about an end to global poverty."* Nelson Mandela .

HUUF Collects Food for Breadbasket Ministry

Please bring non-perishable food on Potluck Sundays to contribute to Breadbasket Ministry which feeds the homeless and the hungry. Suitable foods include 1) dry goods such as grits, oatmeal, cereals, muffin mixes, macaroni and cheese, and beans and legumes, 2) canned goods, 3) peanut butter, and 4) and any kind of pasta.

HUUF Participates in *War is Not the Answer* Photo Challenge

After New Garden Friends Meeting in Greensboro, NC sent the Friends Committee on National Legislation, a Quaker lobby, a picture of 160 people with *War is Not the Answer* signs, FCNL challenged congregations to see how many members each could get to pose with signs. HUUF's picture was featured on their enews website for April 15, 2008. See <http://action.fcnl.org/enews/15april08/> for more information. So now HUUF challenges other congregations who read our newsletter to do the same.



HUUF and the 1Sky Project

On Mother's Day, members of HUUF participated in creating an "action gift for climate change." As a UU congregation we had the opportunity 1) to express our understanding that we, as members in the web of life, have a responsibility to protect and preserve the world for future generations of all species, and 2) through our



action honor mothers and the spirit of "motherhood" intimately associated with creativity, nurturing and faith in the future. On Mother's day weekend all across the country friends, family and local community organizations came together to paint or draw on fabric pieces "what is most important to them in the face of climate change." These artistic expressions will then be sent to the organization "1Sky." At a later date, representatives of 1Sky will present this massive tapestry to Congress at a high-profile press event in support of basic legislation on climate change. 1Sky is a campaign bringing together individuals and various organizations concerned about climate change to form a united movement in advocating for bold federal climate policy. Their goal is to pass meaningful national climate legislation by 2010 by uniting Americans behind a clear vision and simple platform for solutions at the scale of the problem.

Peace Vigil

The Hattiesburg Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will be holding Peace Vigils from 5:00-6:00 pm on the first Sunday of each month June through November. The vigils will be held in front of our meeting home at the Hattiesburg Area Garden Center, 209 Hutchinson Ave. and are open to the public. Members of our fellowship are actively encouraging others to join us in this peace witness.

Janet Webb, Chair of the Social Action committee, said, "Most of us in this country have not been called upon to sacrifice during the five-plus years in which the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been waged. Our soldiers and their families have carried this tremendous burden and suffered along with the people in these two countries. As members of the Hattiesburg Unitarian Universalist congregation, we wanted to express in some way our solidarity and compassion for their suffering and sacrifice. With the upcoming election, we also felt a special urgency in giving voice to our belief that "*War is not the Answer.*" With the right commitment we believe that it is possible to find a nonviolent means for bringing this war to a close that honors both the sacrifice of our soldiers and creates peace, stability and security for the people in Iraq and Afghanistan who have suffered far too long." Susan Nodurft, a member of the committee, described the principles of this witness as one for

- peace and reverence for life
- our soldiers, their families and the people in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- understanding and unity rather than divisiveness as we seek peace
- "Nonviolence as a Better Answer" to meeting the challenge of living as one family on this planet we share.

For additional information, you may contact Janet (janetswebb@yahoo.com), Susan (snodurft@bellsouth.net or call 601-796-2261) or other members of the committee: Betty Press, Stacie Chandler and Michael "Enku" Ide .

New Member Recognition Service Held April 20, 2008

HUUF welcomed over a dozen new members who have signed the membership book since the last such recognition service a few years ago. During the homily our congregation President, Nell Cobb, explained the benefits and the responsibilities of membership in HUUF. Before the service ended two more new members signed the book and joined the fellowship on the spot. Our new members are: Sharon Black, Bob Buckner, Chuck & Stacie Chandler, Sheri Glowinski, Walter Hamner, Conrad Hill, Lilian Hill, Tommie Hildman, Michael (Enku) Ide, Susan Nodurft, Carey Varnado, Janet Webb, and Chris & Nichole Werle.



The Power of Small Workshop

Nell Cobb and Lilian Hill attended the *Power of Small Congregations* workshop held in Jackson, MS on May 24. Connie Goodbread led the workshop for congregations in Mississippi. Connie is encouraging congregations to include children in worship.



“Worship is the most important time for the whole congregational family to be together, to practice our faith and values together.” Connie suggested: “Children are quite capable of being worshipful, and there are many ways to involve them – beginning with greeting other children at the door and giving them special worship packets. The packets can contain items to intrigue children and help them participate quietly. The packet can then go home with the child as a reminder of the day and a catalyst for family discussion.”



The Longest Walk

On Thursday, May 29th several UUs from Our Home and HUUF took food to USM for the 100 walkers with the American Indian Movement's The Longest Walk. These Native Americans (plus a few Buddhist monks and



others) are walking from San Francisco to Washington D.C. to highlight sacred site issues as well as healing the earth and human diseases. HUUF's own Bob Press joined them in the walk from Hattiesburg to Philadelphia. If you want to provide further help, you can donate money for the continued support of the walkers: www.longestwalk.org

UUA President Celebrates California Supreme Court Ruling

May 15, 2008

Unitarian Universalist Association President William G. Sinkford applauded the ruling of the California Supreme Court and its historic support of marriage equality. The Court, in issuing its opinion said, "in view of the substance and significance of the fundamental constitutional right to form a family relationship, the California Constitution properly must be interpreted to guarantee this basic civil right to all Californians, whether gay or heterosexual, and to same-sex couples as well as to opposite-sex couples."

Sinkford responded: "I rejoice today in the California Supreme Court's decision to end discrimination in the state's marriage laws. On behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Association, I thank the brave justices for honoring the spirit of the California constitution and extending its protections to same-sex couples. Decades ago, California led the nation in affirming the right of interracial couples to marry, and it is fitting that the state now joins Massachusetts as a leader in full marriage equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens."

Quite ordinary daily experience may contain within it a multiplicity of vision that proposes the willingness to question what has been taken for granted.

MARY CATHERINE BATESON

Meet our Members: Chuck and Stacie Chandler

We are . . . **Chuck and Stacie** are recently from Plymouth, Mass, having moved here 4 months before Katrina! Chuck is a Lieutenant at the USM Police Department and Stacie is a semi-retired librarian. We live with our 4 kitties and are devoted to them!

How did we get here? First of all we came to Hattiesburg to be near Stacie's Mom who lives in Mandeville, LA. We had passed through H'burg in summer of 2004 and Chuck loved it. By the way, Stacie got her master's degree at USM in the 1980s so it was not unfamiliar.

Finding HUUF? It was a circuitous route: Stacie practices Buddhism and met Chris Johnson through that practice. Chris highly recommended HUUF as a place to meet like-minded people. People who were broad-minded, liberal in philosophy if not also in politics, people who care. Chuck had grown up in the Congregational Church in Plymouth, Mass and the UU Church was next door. It is one of the first in this country! Anyway Chuck was aware of the UUs and thought this might be an avenue for us to take.

It took us several months to actually attend our first service at HUUF and when we did we knew immediately that we had found



our place in Hattiesburg. The people are kind, compassionate, open-minded and welcoming! We have been members since early 2008.

We like to . . . Chuck is a ham radio operator in his spare time and Stacie's hobbies include reading, music and working out. Stacie is also very politically active and plans to campaign for Obama this fall. She is a member of the Social Action Committee.

Thanks to all of you for your friendship and fellowship!

HUUF Board

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|----------------------|------------------|
| President | Nell Cobb |
| Vice-President | Sheri Glowinski |
| Worship Committee | Chris Werle |
| Membership Committee | Nichole Werle |
| Finance Committee | Stephanie Millet |
| Social Action | Janet Webb |
| Newsletter | Lilian H. Hill |

HUUF Mission

HUUF is a welcoming community that responsibly searches for truth and meaning and respects the inherent worth and dignity of each person. We welcome diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, gender identity, abilities and theology.

Hattiesburg Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

A member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

A safe, welcoming atmosphere for spiritual exploration.

Services are held each Sunday at 11:00 am in the Hattiesburg Area Garden Center located at 209 N. Hutchinson Avenue, just south of Hattiesburg High School.

www.huuf.us
601-543-0400