

# The Austin Unitarian Universalist

*One Church. Many Beliefs.*

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***Sunday Worship Services: 9:30 am and 11:30 am — Contemporary Service 5:20 pm***

## **Sunday, October 6**

9:30 am, 11:30 am and 5:20 pm

***Lessons from the Northwest: The Role of Risk in Spiritual Growth***

**Dr. Barbara Coeyman**

During my intern ministry last year in Portland, Oregon, I grew spiritually and personally in ways I never remotely expected. In addition to many pragmatic aspects of ministry, during the internship I also learned much about feeling vulnerable, and the horror and fear we risk in working to overcome our vulnerabilities. I came away from Portland wondering if risk is necessary for productive growth---my own, that of others, that of our congregations. I also came away with new insights into the role of risk in understanding the mystery of life I call God. And I came away very thankful for becoming a much stronger and, I hope, a more compassionate minister.

A member of First UU Church, Barbara Coeyman is a candidate for ministry in the Unitarian Universalist Association. Last year she served as intern minister at First Unitarian Church of Portland, Oregon. She graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2001.

**Jan Seides**, singer/songwriter of folk, pop and jazz, who has won major awards from songwriting competitions throughout the U.S., will provide the music at the 5:20 service.

## **Sunday, October 13**

9:30 am, 11:30 am and 5:20 pm

***Rediscovering Prayer***

**Cathy Harrington**

One unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is required by the UUA for aspiring ministers, and I chose to do my ten-week CPE in Greenville, South Carolina so I could be near my family that summer. I had been working with life-threatened people for over a year during seminary and felt that I was better prepared than most for this experience. Less than one week into my training at Greenville Hospital System, the major trauma center for the Upstate of South Carolina, and the only chaplain on call, I responded to a terrible tragedy that would leave me dazed for weeks and that challenged everything I believed in. I even considered leaving seminary, but instead I began a desperate search for answers that led me to a new understanding of prayer and a deep respect for the work of chaplaincy.

**Heart in Hand Drumming Ensemble**, with the **First UU Choir** (performing Missa Luba, a mass in Congolese style), will provide the music at the 5:20 service.

**A Note About the 5:20 Contemporary Service** — The Contemporary Worship Covenant was formed as an exploration into an innovative alternative offering for the Austin UU community. Our goal is to *re-imagine the traditional worship service* by incorporating more contemporary musicians and artists into a sacred and very intentional community setting. **Music starts at 5:15 PM so arrive early!**

## **Newsletter Deadlines**

### **Articles (9:30 am)**

Fri. Oct. 4 (for the Oct. 15 issue)  
Fri. Oct. 18 (for the Nov. 1 issue)  
Fri. Nov. 1 (for the Nov. 15 issue)

### **Mailing Days**

Thursday October 10  
Thursday October 24  
Thursday November 7

Contact Rita Rancken at 452-6168,  
ext. 13 or Rita@austinuu.org.

## **Listening Ministry**

New in town, feeling blue, ending a relationship or lost a job? Coping with illness, loss of a loved one, parenting, aging or career change? Life can be full of stressful situations, and sometimes just having someone to talk to can make all the difference. The Listening Ministry is for church members going through times of transition. If you would like the emotional support of someone trained in listening skills, call 452-6168, ext. 18. A member of the Listening Ministry will try to return your call within a day.

## **Memorial/ Endowment Fund**

From time to time, church friends and members tell us they would like to remember First UU in their wills. If we can help you with such a question, call Marian Maxwell, 454-1931, Chair of the Memorial/Endowment Fund Committee.

## **Caring Cards**

We would like to send church members and friends a caring card acknowledging a life event such as illness, death, marriage, birthday, anniversary, new baby or other occasion. Please let the church office know of your occasion or that of someone else in the church family. Call the office or call ext. 18 and follow the directions given on that line (Helping Hands/Hearts).

## **Davidson's Lore**

Let's review.

Since about 1980, the American economy has shifted money, power and possibilities from the lower sixty or eighty percent of our citizens to the top few percent. Between 1981-1986, the income tax on America's wealthiest people was reduced from 70% to 28%. Twenty years earlier, it had been 91%. Taxes on corporations have fallen as dramatically: some large corporations now pay almost nothing in taxes. All this money has been taken instead from other parts of our society, which is why income tax rates on workers increased five-fold, from about 5% to about 25% since 1950.

During the 1980s, the portion of our nation's wealth held by the top 1% nearly doubled, from 22% to 39%, probably the most rapid escalation in U.S. history.

For the past twenty years, the American economy has been identified primarily with the activity of the stock market. But of the stock market gains of the 1990s, 86% went to the top 10% of households, and 42% went to the top 1%.

Among the Western industrialized nations, we have the highest percentage of poverty among those over 65, the highest level of child poverty, the largest gap between richest and poorest, the lowest percentage graduating from high school, and the highest youth homicide rate. It has made many of our citizens angry, though their protests (like the WTO protests) are barely covered by the media.

Whenever finance and speculation define the economy, financial symbols become potential targets for terrorist attacks. The last time the American economy was this lopsided was in the post-WWI years up to the crash of 1929. And 81 years before 9-11, in September of 1920, terrorists — American terrorists — exploded dynamite outside the offices of financier J.P. Morgan, killing thirty-four and wounding over two hundred. That too was a symbolic attack, not a declaration of war.

Today our economic hegemony is worldwide and our weapons are more destructive. The London Times-Herald recently published a story about President Bush's plans to invade and control Iraq drawn up before he was elected, plans that include the intent of US military forces stationed permanently in the oil-producing countries. It is possible, if not likely, that those in the Middle East knew of these intentions two years ago. This comes from a paper called "Rebuilding America's Defenses: Strategy, Forces and Resources for a New Century," from the Project For the New American Century, September 2000. You can download it from <http://www.newamericancentury.org/publicationsreports.htm> or <http://www.sundayherald.com/print27735>.

On September 11, 2001, some angry terrorists destroyed our World Trade Center and a portion of the Pentagon, carefully choosing as their targets prime symbols of our economic and military domination of much of the rest of the world.

It was not an attack on "America" any more than the Wall Street bombing in 1920 was. It was an attack by angry weaker people against a strong country whose military might has seemed to be employed in the service of its economic ambitions.

Yet that attack has been reframed as an act of "war" rather than murderous crime, and it has been used to whip us up for an unending war against anyone our president thinks might be a potential enemy.

The immense increase in military spending has rewarded the top couple percent a thousand times more than it rewards workers (unions are not likely to be able to fight for increased worker pay during a war frenzy, though the owners will make a killing, as they have in all our wars).

The frightening Homeland Security force threatens to become 200,000 people of whom "loyalty" to the president is demanded, whose rights to dissent will be erased, and who will (or at least can) be used to control our own rights. Criticisms are increasingly being seen as unpatriotic.

Some observers have compared this administration's manipulation of the 9-11 tragedy to the Nazi party's manipulation of the Reichstag bombing of 70 years ago, to misdirect the populace from necessary points and fan the flames of war.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## **Spirit Gathered at First UU on September 14**

### **Be sure to show your appreciation with a generous pledge.**

Thanks from the Stewardship Committee to everyone who made the September 14 All Church party such a marvelous celebration. Over 300 First UUs of all ages reveled in the first (annual?) Gather the Spirit All Church Party.

We owe a huge Thank You to Andrea Lerner for planning and tireless work to make this a truly exceptional party, Ben Lerner for the superb buffet, Cathy Harrington for the scrumptious focaccia and cookies, Robert Norris and friends for the joyful music, clowns Robbie Norris and Katie Luu for the canvass messages, Tom Martin for setting up the sound and TVs so everyone could hear the music, Judith Gostisha for hours of exquisite face painting, Robert Dole and Jennifer Loehlin for organizing the work crews - and to everyone who helped make this a wonderful evening of spirit gathering.

Aren't we fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community! Shall we do it again next year?

## **All Ages Playground: Almost DONE!**

The buffalo grass meadow is installed, and everyone seems to have an opinion on whether it will thrive or not. Time will tell if our analysis of soil, sun, water, and use conditions was accurate--we think so! The decision making, and even the WORK, is almost at an end. There are just a few more workdays to complete the planting, arrange decorative details such as boulders and benches, and tidy up before the October 27 dedication. Special thanks to everyone who come out for the last-minute evening work party to prepare the grass area--that was terrific! Check the bulletin board for a detailed list of names. Pat and Dale Bulla have done a wonderful job shopping for the remaining meadow plants, and Ed Travis continues to guide our irrigation efforts, with the help of Monty Newton. Cathy Nordstrom created a beautiful plan for the trees around the play area and along the fence lines, and Jon Soul is working to install those plantings. That final work wouldn't be possible without the generous help of Richard and Michelle Manson, who provided the last amount of funding needed to realize this amazing dream.

If you haven't volunteered yet--or if you enjoyed earlier workdays so much you intended to come again--time is almost up to pitch in on this community effort. We still need everyone we can muster to complete the work. Volunteering is easy, fun, and rewarding. Plus, it's a natural way to meet new people. RE families, this counts towards your commitment of 8 hours during the year. Come join others in our lively church community on Saturday, October 5 and Saturday, October 12, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. We can plan better if we know you are coming, so, if possible, email egray88@hotmail.com or call Elizabeth Gray at 476-1861 or sign up on the bulletin board at church. But even if you haven't had a chance to sign up, COME and help! Bring work gloves and shovels/rakes, if you have them. See you there!

Mark your calendars for the Playground Dedication between morning services on October 27. More in the next newsletter.

## **Rollerblade Hockey**

Please join us every Tuesday night for rollerblade hockey. Skill levels range from barely able to stand on roller blades to pretty darn impressive with a stick. We need more to join us! I promise that you will have a blast. We meet at the IBM lot on Burnet Road just north of Braker Lane, and folks start arriving around 6:00 PM. National Instrument's covered garage is our bad weather backup.

Directions to IBM: Get to the corner of Burnet and Braker (a couple of miles north-east of 183 and Mopac) by taking either Burnet or Breaker. Head north on Burnet (this would be a left from Braker if you're coming from Mopac). Take a left at the first light. You will see the parking lot straight ahead of you. Take a right at the stop sign in the parking lot. We play on the right half of the huge lot.

Directions to National Instruments: Going North on Mopac take the Duval exit. Go left on Duval and then left again onto Mopac's frontage road. N.I. is just South of the Mesa Verde apartment complex. Turn right into N.I. Keep to the right. We play on the third floor of the first parking garage you will see. Contact Kellena Page at kellenapage@yahoo.com if you need additional info.

## **Canvass Pledge Drive 2003 Nears its End. Are you in Yet?**

Our individual and collective stewardship determines our current and future health. It means gracious receipt and allocation of our wealth of religious beliefs, organizational will, and economic power. It grows the soul individually and collectively. Soon, the Stewardship Committee hands off the results of your stewardship to First UU's Finance Committee. They'll plan our 2003 budget.

Thank you all.

John B. Payne, Chair  
Stewardship Committee

## **UUADP Update**

Who will be #800? It could be Rex Mays, who is scheduled to be executed in Huntsville on September 24, thus making him the 800th person to be executed in the United States since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977. Since that time almost one-third of those executed have been from Texas.

Join the THIRD ANNUAL MARCH FOR A MORATORIUM on Saturday, October 12. Opponents of the death penalty and advocates of criminal justice reform will begin gathering in Austin's Republic Park (4th and Guadalupe) at about 1 pm and will begin the march to the Capitol at 2 pm where a rally will be held at 2.30. Among the expected speakers is Ross Byrd, son of James Byrd, Jr., who was dragged to death in a racially motivated killing in Jasper, Texas. Ross, though a murder victim's family member, opposes the death penalty.

## **New Photo Directories and Rosters Still Available**

Members and those who have photos in the new directory: If you didn't get your copy at the Sunday distributions, you can still pick up a copy from the Office. We can only offer one copy per family, due to the cost of the directory. Friends of FUUCA: Rosters are also available.

## UU Minister Seeks Temporary Lodging

Retired UU minister Don Wheat and his wife are looking for a condo, apartment or even a room from approximately November 15 to January 1. Their daughter is having her first child. If you can help or have some leads, please call them at 616-637-5711 or e-mail them at wheatville@yahoo.com.



## Paradox Players Filling Final Roles

A few leading off-stage roles are still available for folks wanting to join the team producing Waiting for MacArthur in early November. Have a talent for keeping track of money? Business Manager may be the role for you. Got the gift of gab (and confident telephone voice)? Persuading groups to attend the show as Advance Group Sales Manager could be your calling. Enjoy decorating for parties? Gallery Designer (for intermissions) gets that fun. Good with words? Program Editor is your role. Like to manage a work party to paint the stage set? Head Set Painter could be you. Please contact Linda Taylor for details at 291-5407 or lindataylo@aol.com. Three-quarters of the work in producing a show happens off stage; nearly 50 people were listed in last spring's program! Contact Linda to find the role that suits you best. And we always need "supporting cast" if the leading roles described above aren't quite right for you. Further incentive – membership in PP – is a concept new this year. Read on.

## Membership in Paradox Players

We've grown! Benefits of membership: free admission to one performance per production, listing in the Program, invitation to all productions and cast parties. Responsibility of membership: 5 hours of work on each production. Contact Linda Taylor to join, at 291-5407 or lindataylo@aol.com.

## Split-the-Plate Nominations-Deadline & Voting

The deadline for Split-the-Plate nominations, October 1st, is fast approaching. Nominations must be submitted on a form which you may obtain from the bulletin board across from the church office. Forms may be turned in to the Social Action Committee box in the office. You may obtain an e-mail version by contacting Mary Jane Ford, mjaneford@grandecom.net, or call her at 926-4122.

Nominations will be considered at a special Social Action meeting on Sunday, October 13 at 1:00 pm. Any member of the congregation who wishes to vote or speak on behalf of an organization may attend the meeting and do so.

### 2002 Split-the-Plate

In addition to amounts given to support the Church, the congregation has supported the following organizations this year through the Split-the-Plate program. One Sunday each month an organization is designated for the Split-the-Plate collection. Thank you for your generosity.

| <b>Paid in 2002 to:</b>                 | <b>Amount</b>     |
|---|-------------------|
| Faith Home                              | \$1,493.98        |
| Sustainable Food Center                 | 639.18            |
| Romanian Partner Church                 | 1,515.60          |
| Hands on Housing                        | 531.99            |
| Casa Marianella                         | 883.76            |
| Austin Resource Center for the Homeless | 838.22            |
| North Central Care Givers               | 517.55            |
| Inside Books                            | 992.28            |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>\$7,412.56</b> |

## Attention UU Thespians

**(and anyone else who has ever been involved with a play or has desired to be!)**

Wildflower Church - UU is planning a special one-act staging of the play "The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail," written by the award winning playwright of "Inherit the Wind" to be performed for our November 17 Worship Service. The production will be directed by Laurie Willis, who directed last year's successful "A String of Lights" production at First UU Church of Austin.

The play concerns Thoreau's feelings on religion and civil disobedience and highlights his relationship with Ralph Waldo Emerson and Emerson's family.

Rehearsals will be evenings and some weekend time. Only the role of Henry Thoreau will be required to attend all rehearsals. Scheduling will be through collective agreement.

Open auditions will be held Thursday, October 3, and Friday, October 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. You can arrange a time slot or just show up to audition. We will also be needing a small production crew to help out with props, costumes, sound, etc.

Below is a list of the character roles. Age suggestion is very flexible.

- Henry - 29 years old, unkempt idealist (big part)
- Waldo - early to mid 40s, well dressed, academic
- Lydian - late 30s, patrician lady of beauty, style, intelligence
- Bailey - late 30s or early 40s, true free wanderer, a bum
- Ball - man or woman, 40s or 50s, represents conforming authority
- Sam - 50s? kindly jailer and constable, the common man
- Edward - Henry and Lydian's son, about age 8

Please contact Laurie Willis at 358-7978 or lauriewillis@sbcglobal.net if you have questions or would like to sign up for an audition time.

## *Internal Reflections*

The All Church party was so much fun that I would love to resurrect the monthly potluck suppers. If anyone else is interested, let me know. Sharing meals together feeds so much more than just "bodies." Epicurus wrote in 285 B.C., "We should look for someone to eat and drink with before looking for something to eat and drink." I am convinced we need to take more time for simple pleasures.

All of the students on internship from Starr King are required to write monthly reflection papers to share with each other. It's been interesting to read the others' first reflections. My internship started a month earlier than most of theirs, so I have moved through some of the shock and stress that is so normal at first. Most of them haven't even preached yet and I've been in the pulpit four times, already!

As I wrote my reflection, I was amazed at how busy I've been. And, I realize that if I am going to survive the year, I am going to have to find a way to be STILL. This wonderful congregation reminds me of a great big hyper-active family! I love that! And that is how it should be, but I find that I am craving silence and meditation time. I love the verse in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God." My understanding of that verse is that unless we take time to quiet our minds and still the storm of everyday life, we cannot access our innate wisdom. I think it is the most common mistake we make in society today, when everything is faster and more available to us. We want faster computers, faster food, more entertainment, and we are missing out on an important factor. Stillness. Time to reflect and remember who we are and as Davidson says, "What gods are we serving? Are we serving them well? Are they nourishing our souls?" We need to take stock now and then and if we find that our souls are impoverished, we can make better choices.

I read that the phenomenon of "entrainment" is when two rhythmic beings alter their movements until they're moving together in the same rhythm. Grandfather clocks will do this if placed side by side. People do this, too. It takes particular care and intention to avoid aligning ourselves with the destructive pace at which our world is moving. It seems as if the world is spinning out of control. I met a woman recently, (when her car ran into mine) who is an expert on labyrinths and was immediately intrigued, especially after reading this explanation of the labyrinth on the Internet:

"A labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. The Labyrinth represents a journey to our own center and back again out into the world. Labyrinths have long been used as meditation and prayer tools. A labyrinth is an archetype with which we can have a direct experience. We can walk it. It is a metaphor for life's journey. It is a symbol that creates a sacred space and place and takes us out of our ego to "That Which Is Within." Labyrinths and mazes have often been confused. When most people hear of a labyrinth they think of a maze. A labyrinth is not a maze. A maze is like a puzzle to be solved. It has twists, turns, and blind alleys. It is a left brain task that requires logical, sequential, analytical activity to find the correct path into the maze and out. A labyrinth has only one path. It is unicursal. The way in is the way out. There are no blind alleys. The path leads you on a circuitous path to the center and out again. A labyrinth is a right brain task. It involves intuition, creativity, and imagery. With a maze many choices must be made and an active mind is needed to solve the problem of finding the center. With a labyrinth there is only one choice to be made. The choice is to enter or not. A more passive, receptive mindset is needed. The choice is whether or not to walk a spiritual path. At its most basic level the labyrinth is a metaphor for the journey to the center of your deepest self and back out into the world with a broadened understanding of who you are."

My new friend, Nancy Bandiera, is working on her Ph.D., and her dissertation includes the labyrinth. She has offered to bring one to our church and give a presentation. We can walk the labyrinth and learn to find that wonderful "stillness." Plans are in the works for this event and I will keep you posted on dates and times.

Meister Eckhart said, "Nothing is so like God as stillness." If you don't like the word "God", then change it to the Universe, the Absolute, Love, or Spirit of Life.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## **Welcoming Sandor**

In anticipation of the visit of the minister of our Romanian Partner Church, we will be hearing a Forum talk by Emile Niculescu, who lived in Romania until he was 16 and is now a graduate student at the University of Texas in Austin. Emile and perhaps some of his students will be with us on Sunday, October 27.

We still need housing for part of the week Sandor is here and suggestions for activities that you think would be helpful in making his stay meaningful for him and to our church. Call Marjorie Loehlin at 327-2159 or email her at [mloehlin@jump.net](mailto:mloehlin@jump.net)

## **Calling All Quilters!**

There's a new covenant group forming for anyone interested in quilting. Beginners are welcome. The group will meet bi-weekly to work on projects, individual and collective. We have a vision of creating "Caring Quilts" for church members who are dealing with serious illness and small children's quilts to be donated to Child Protective Services. Those interested, contact Catherine Meiners at [catnip172@yahoo.com](mailto:catnip172@yahoo.com) or Cathy Harrington at [cathy@austinuu.org](mailto:cathy@austinuu.org) or 452-2560 for more information.

## **Fabric Wanted for "Caring Quilts"**

The newly formed Quilting Covenant Group is accepting donations of fabric, or money to buy fabric, to make "caring quilts." If you have some fabric stashed away that you would like to donate, it would be gratefully accepted and put to good use. If you are interested in joining the Quilting Group or would like more information, call Cathy Harrington at 452-2560.

## **In the Gallery**

Featured In the Gallery in October will be the Austin/San Antonio Calligraphers and Bookmakers. Please stop by for a look.

## Children's Program Committee Meeting

Second Tuesdays

**October 8 6:30pm**

**Room 9**

Childcare by reservation only

## Youth Program Committee Meeting

Fourth Sundays

**October 27 1pm**

**Room 9**

## YRUU

A Youth Group for those  
14-19 years old

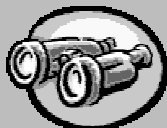
Meets most Sundays at

**6:30pm, Room 11**

## Our Wish List

- \*Three Sturdy Rocking Chairs
- \*Couches in Great condition
- \*Carpets/Rugs 6x8 feet or larger  
in near-new condition
- \*Nature themed posters
- \*Natural decorations - shells, etc
- \*Plants, low light indoor nontoxic
- \*Dress up clothes & Costumes
- \*Children's Clothing up to 4T
- \*Duplos and Legos
- \*Sturdy indoor/outdoor toys for  
climbing, sliding and riding

## Looking Ahead



**Oct 3** - Adult RE

Mtg

**Oct 8** - CPC Mtg

**Oct 26** - Halloween Party

**Oct 27** - Playground

Dedication

**Oct 27** - YPC Mtg

## It's not too late to Support Our RE Program!!

In coordinating our RE database with the church database, I was surprised to find out that many RE families have not made a pledge of record to the church. While new folks may need some time to grow into membership, I believe that established attenders should support the operation of the church through their donations.

Only you can determine the "right" level of pledging for your family. Ask yourself where our church fits into your family's priorities. Is it worth more or less than you pay for cable TV? How much would it cost for your children to attend a weekly class outside the church? If you were moving far away, wouldn't you look for a new UU church?

Please give serious consideration to our annual pledge drive - increase your pledge if you can - start pledging if you haven't before - and support the growth of our dynamic programs. You don't even have to be a member to be a pledging friend. There's excitement in the air about what we can do when we pull together - be part of this wonderful spirit!

**We do not currently charge a registration fee for RE -  
our program is funded entirely through the church budget.**

*Andrea Lerner, DRE*

## Youth Advisors - Volunteer Positions Training Weekend - November 15-17

Do you believe that youth should be empowered  
to develop leadership skills & make their own decisions?

Volunteer to work with our high school group!!

Time commitment: 3-4 hours per week,  
plus occasional overnights and weekends.

Make a two year commitment to the position and

attend the November weekend training at the church's expense.

Please apply to Andrea Lerner, 452-6167, ext 12 or [Andrea@AustinUU.org](mailto:Andrea@AustinUU.org)

## GIVE US YOUR BOOKS!!

**The Youth Program Committee is sponsoring a  
Book/Video/CD/Software Sale this Fall!!**

Proceeds will be used to fund a  
heritage trip to Boston next year.  
Start collecting Books, Videos, Music  
cassettes or CDs, and Computer Software  
from around your house  
and bring them to church  
beginning October 13th.  
Look for our table in the Gallery!!



## October Adult RE

### One Shovel Full

Brad Fregger, author of several books, and our worship leader of July 14, will lead us on a storytelling adventure! Three sessions over six weeks beginning **October 1 from 7-9pm** in Howson Hall, when we'll talk about rules for storytelling. The second class is **October 8**, when we'll think of a story and then go out into our lives and tell the story. One month later, on **October 29**, we'll share our experiences. Cost of the required book is \$16.25.

### Dream Drama

Katya Walter, PhD, will lead a four session Dream Workshop. Explore what this can mean to your life. **Mondays October 7, 14, 21 and 28, 7-9:30pm** in Room 13. \$17.50 per person

### Spiral Dynamics

**Oct 10 & 17, 7-9pm**, Room 9. This program will help you understand the deeply embedded, unconscious value systems operating in us that affect everything from our political and religious beliefs to the kind of house we live in to our ethics to the type of company we work for and more. The world around you will make more sense and it will uncover an order in the apparent chaos. Whew, what a relief! \$3 fee

### Living on Purpose - A workshop on Conscious Creation

Four Tuesdays **October 22, 29 and Nov. 5 and 12, 7-9pm**, Room 15

Are you consciously creating your life - or merely living by default? By the end of this program, you will have a clear picture of the real you, your life purpose and how to create a life you love! Join Chas Schreiber for this fun, life-altering experience. \$50 per participant, limit 20 persons.

## Adult RE-Minders

### Spiritual Exploration & Philosophical Inquiry

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am in Room 9. Free and open discussion group.

### Book Discussion Groups

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am in Rooms 13-A&B

Room 13B Book Group - *The Coming of the Cosmic Christ* by Matthew Fox. Call Jim Burson 794-1086 or jeburson@aol.com for more info.

Mind & Meaning Book Group - Room 13A - *The Origin of Consciousness* by Julian Jaynes. For more info, PollyR6934@aol.com or 371-3257.

### Mindfulness Through Meditation

Sundays 10:35-11:25am, Room 11

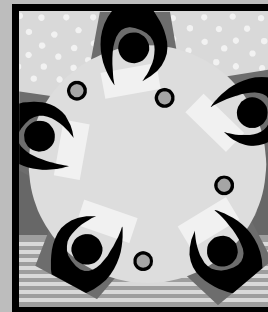
This ongoing class in the Soto Zazen Buddhist Tradition is open to all, even those with no experience in meditation. Margaret Borden 458-4502, margaretborden@alumni.utexas.net

### Tai Chi

Explore this graceful martial arts practice in Howson Hall Sunday and Thursday evenings at 7pm. \$25 for six weeks. For info, call Nell at 458-4903 or enewton@hoovers.com

**Evensong 1** will begin again Wed **October 2** and run through **November 20** at 7-9pm in Room 9 with Cathy Harrington, our ministerial intern, as leader.

We will share what we value most, our ideas of God or ultimate concern, our religious and spiritual experiences. You may expect a structured worship service: a time to be quiet mid-week, listen to others and share. This is for long-time members and people who are checking UUism out! For more information, or to sign up, contact Cathy at Cathy@AustinUU.org or 452-2560 Free, Limit 10 persons



## Adult RE Committee Mtg

Thursday, Oct 3

7:00pm

Room 9

*Come early to get a seat!*

We are recruiting NEW members for the Adult Ed Committee.

This is a fun, interesting committee! We interview prospective class facilitators and decide if and when to offer classes.

If you are interested, contact Sharon Moore 349-2318  
spumonhighhollow@msn.com

**Coming This Fall!!!**

**Sign up at Coffee Hour**

## Unplug the Christmas Machine

The NY Times Book Review says: "*Unplug the Christmas Machine* offers a wealth of suggestions for combating commercialism and filling the holidays with simple, spiritual celebrations that help families draw closer together."

Join Monica Smoot on **November 5, 7-9pm and November 9, 10am-12pm** to discover how to make your holidays less stressful and more enjoyable! \$12 for the book.

**Continuing Courses:**

## Revitalizing Relationships

With Dana Lehman. One evening per month for four months, Continuing **Oct 4, Nov 11 and Dec 9**. This session closed.

## Sharing Suppers

Many of us find Sharing Suppers to be one of the most valuable ways to become acquainted with a other interesting adult UUs in a small group setting. If you haven't joined us yet, you're in for a treat! This month's potluck dinners will take place in members' homes on Saturday, October 19. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to Davidson's office. Deadline is Sunday October 13 after the second service. Some months we have as many as five simultaneous dinners -- and new members and friends are especially welcome! Come along; we look forward to getting to know you!

## UU Fellowship of Austin Open House

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Austin invites you to an Open House on Sunday, October 13 at the Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart Lane in Austin. Jim Harrington of the Texas Civil Rights Project will speak on "The Future of Civil Rights Post 9/11." Coffee and pastries will be served at 10:00 am, and the service will begin at 10:30.

## Vacation with UU's in South Florida

Join UUs from all over North America for a week of fun in the sun! Play, laugh, sing, and celebrate the New Year at S.W.I.M., the Unitarian Universalist Southeast Winter Institute in Miami. This annual Retreat and Family Camp for UUs and like-minded people of all ages happens every year from December 26 through January 1.

S.W.I.M. offers outdoor adventures (including tours, hikes, rides, hot tubbing, and sailing), workshops (including crafts, spirituality, and personal growth), programming for youth, teens, and young adults, fantastic food, and a close-knit community of friends. For more information, visit [www.swimuu.org](http://www.swimuu.org) or write to 40 Pearl Street, Black Mountain, NC 28711 USA for a brochure.

(Continued from page 2)

## Davidson's Lore

Articles are appearing in this and other countries showing US lust for control of Iraq's estimated 112 billion barrel oil reserves as a key motive for attacking Iraq. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council have strong interests in getting a crack at Iraq's oil, which could become a possibility with a regime change.

Conservative thinkers have prepared detailed justifications (or rationalizations) for our country's taking a militarily aggressive posture with pre-emptive strikes to secure a claim to world hegemony, and many seem willing to swallow it whole.

Still, some reports say that as many as 70% of Americans and over 90% of others polled around the world think a war on Iraq would be unbelievably stupid. But it doesn't seem to matter, if you get all your information from our media.

I've read two powerful articles by foreign correspondents comparing the current situation in the US with the situation in Germany in the 1930s, where individual rights were lost and a fascist form of government channeled all energies and sacrificed millions of lives to its greedy ambitions.

I know this is largely a matter of perception, and know that my perceptions won't mesh with some of yours. But I cannot remember a time in my life when our individual rights and way of life seemed as vulnerable and fragile as they do now.

I'm frustrated because I am not an expert in any of these areas. I read the columns and reports, and am selective in what I think reliable, as we all are. I read through biases I can't get rid of. I'm hopeful because I am reading more of these critical pieces, and they seem to be containing more clear facts, and it seems to me that clearer patterns are emerging. There is no single "enemy." "The government" is made up largely of good people who want to do the right thing. So are "the media," and so are our political and judicial leaders.

Still, it seems to me that we are being successfully kept in a state of denial, and that the flag is being wrapped around our eyes so tightly it's shutting of the blood supply to our brains.

I am, in this as in all topics, completely open to hearing strong and passionate arguments to the contrary. But it seems to me that some of the most daring critiques of our current position are coming from comics like Jon Stewart and from foreign correspondents, but not from the brilliant media critics of our "fourth estate," the free press that is supposed to keep us well-informed so that the possibility of democracy can continue — though some are beginning to appear in major papers, which is a very good sign.

I know the fact that I feel certain about these things does not mean that I'm right. We can all be dead certain and dead wrong; it happens frequently.

Perhaps we should at least try to host a public presentation on some of the issues surrounding the apparent coming war so we can get information, and so those who disagree can make their arguments. I'll look into it. In the meantime, see you in church!

— Davidson

(Continued from page 5)

## Internal Reflections

The story in Matthew 8:18 tells of Jesus rebuking the winds and the sea, and "then there was a great calm." The disciples marveled and wondered, "What kind of person is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him." Taken literally, this story suggests a supernatural miracle, but as metaphor, we can understand it to mean that the "calm" is available to us even in the worst "storm." We only need to find the time to "be still."

**TEA TIME CHANGE** Please join me for tea in October on Tuesdays from 4-5 pm in my office. A brief time out of our busy schedules for the simple pleasure of tea and company.

Peace,  
**Cathy Harrington**  
Intern Minister

## **End-of-summer *CAMPING* at Krause Springs**

**Friday night, Saturday & Sunday morning - October 4, 5 & 6**

**Beauty:** Waterfalls, springs, creek, cypress trees

**Fun:** Swimming, campfire and musical jam, star gazing (if clear)

**Bring:** Food to share, drinking water, lawn chairs & flashlights (no dogs, please)

**Non-campers:** Come for the day or the Saturday night potluck & musical jam. Go west on 71 through Bee Caves, 5 miles past Pedernales river, right at Exxon station, next right- follow signs. Gates close at 8 pm. Pay at house. \$6/each, \$3/child.

Information: Vince 385-8862 or Krause Springs (830) 693-4181.

**In case of rain** (not "sprinkles"): potluck and sing-along at Mary Jane Ford's house, 2031 Singing Brook. Phone her at 926-4122 to make sure or Vince.

## **Small Group Ministries**

A covenant group is made up of 5-10 people who meet regularly to find more connection than is usually possible within the larger church. Covenant groups follow a specific, simple format that is adaptable to many different activities but always aims to provide "intimacy and ultimacy."

If you are interested in joining a covenant group or just seeing what one is like, we welcome you to visit OCG1 (formerly Pioneers), a covenant group open to all members and friends of the church. Our next meetings are at the church on Mondays, October 7 and October 21 in room 11. Contact Mickey Moore, group facilitator, (mgmoore@mail.utexas.edu, 779-7234) for more details.

The Facilitator's Covenant Group provides a forum for advice and help for facilitators (and/or group administrators) and for people intending to start facilitating a group in the near future. This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month; the next meeting is on Tuesday, October 8 at 6:30 pm in Davidson's office.

## **Building a Strong Interfaith Community**

As one of the 120 or so members of the Austin Area Interreligious Ministries (AAIM), our church participates in many of AAIM's social action programs, including Hands On Housing to rehabilitate homes of low income families and opening our church to homeless people on freeze-nights. Our work with AAIM has increased the visibility of our church in the community and has been rewarding to the members who participate. With the growing interest in Islam since 9/11 and with the downturn in Austin's economy, AAIM has been impacted with more demands for its services and less money to coordinate old and new programs. They have been forced to reduce their staff and need volunteers to answer phones, handle correspondence, help in coordinating the clergy columns that appear in the American Statesman and newsletters, assist in outreach, and write articles and speeches (this latter job could be done at home). If you are interested in volunteering, call Elliott Brown at AAIM, 472-7627, ext. 13, or one of FUUCA's three delegates to AAIM. Delegates are: Carrie Stewart 257-9317, Marjorie Loehlin 327-2159, and Suzy Reid 474-2696.

## **Heart and Sole Program Looking for a Little Help**

The Heart and Sole Program, initiated by House the Homeless, Inc., provides to homeless adults foot massages and new shoes and socks. Therapists from the Lauterstein-Conway Massage Therapy School donate massages to 3 to 12 persons each month. Shoes and socks are donated by Run-Tex and Work Clothes & More.

House the Homeless, Inc. initiated this program to provide a social service component that they feel is usually underfunded, if not neglected altogether. Jo Anne Koepke, Board Secretary and Project Coordinator for the program, has asked for assistance from FUUCA in keeping this program up and running (pun intended!). The responsibilities for the volunteer would include setting up beforehand, helping with coordination of the massage sessions, and tearing down. The sessions are held on the first or second Wednesday morning of each month at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless at 400 Nueces.

If you have any further questions or are interested in helping, you may contact Richard Troxell, President of House the Homeless, Inc., at 796-4366 or Jo Anne Koepke at 444-3101.

## **Senior Luncheon**

The First UU Senior Luncheon group meets at 12 noon Tuesday, October 8 at the church. Our Paradox Players (formerly The mUUses) will present excerpts from the play "Waiting for MacArthur" by First UU member Paulette MacDougall. Call the church office at 452-6168 before Monday, October 7 to make your reservation. A \$3 donation is appreciated.

## **Heritage Club**

Heritage Club, our interesting book discussion group that meets in people's homes, will meet at 8 pm, Friday October 11 at the home of Jean Wyllys, 2603 Rogge Lane, tel. 926-6353. We'll be discussing THE FOURTH HAND, by John Irving, an entertaining yet controversial novel. Bring a friend and a snack or drink to share and join us! For those who read ahead, our November selection is THE ANGLE OF REPOSE by Wallace Stegner.

## **End of Month Party**

Saturday, October 26, at 8:00 pm, hosted by Nancy and Dick Neavel, 2905 Scenic Drive. From Mopac go west on 35th Street, left (south) on Pecos and right (west) on Scenic. Lost? call 206-0164. Bring a snack to share and your drink. Intergenerational: all UU's and friends invited. It's a great way to get to know all those faces in our new directory. Hosts and hostesses needed for November and December. To volunteer call Kelly Teese, 927-2292, or Jean Wyllys, 926-6353.

## **Live Oak Coffee-house Concerts**

The Live Oak Coffeehouse, a non-profit group sponsored by Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church in northwest Austin, offers an ongoing series of concerts featuring acoustic folk music. Listener Oriented - Smoke Free - Alcohol Free. Visit their website at [www.liveoakuu.org/coffee/index.htm](http://www.liveoakuu.org/coffee/index.htm) or call their concert line at 219-9008 for more information.

## **FUUCA Unveils Our National Wildlife Federation Plaque & Certificate**

**Help us celebrate being in harmony with the earth.**

Sunday, October 6 is the official unveiling date for our National Wildlife Federation plaque and certificate designating our church grounds as a certified wildlife habitat. Certification indicates that our grounds attract wildlife, such as birds and butterflies, by providing food (berries, nuts, seeds, nectar, etc.), shelter, water and a place to raise young. Certification also means that our church grounds have a majority of native plants, which conserve water and require minimal if any fertilizer or insecticide. After each service please come by the courtyard area and see the plaque as well as the framed certificate inside.

Backyard habitats are endorsed by the National Wildlife Federation and Texas Parks and Wildlife. See Pat and Dale Bulla if you'd like to have your own yard certified as a backyard habitat. It is fun for the whole family to "live in harmony with the earth."

## **Message from Grounds**

There is a beautiful new wooden bench on the church patio. It is the generous gift from Helen Siders in memory of her son, Tommy. We thank you very much, Helen.

Mark your calendar and come help tidy up our church grounds. ALL CHURCH GROUNDS WORKDAY is scheduled for Saturday, October 12 anytime from 9:00 am to noon.

In addition, please check the "Job Jar" located on bright green poster board by the office. The list contains some of the one time jobs which need doing by one or two people for 1-4 hours. Take a look and see if you can help. Questions? Contact Barbara Denny at [btDenny@flash.net](mailto:btDenny@flash.net).

See you on the grounds,  
Barb

## **Join Us at the Next All-Church Council Meeting**

Everyone is invited to the next All-Church Council Meeting, to be held on Sunday, October 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in Howson Hall.

This is when all committee chairs, members and interested parties catch up on recent developments, ask each other questions and trade experiences and suggestions.

A light lunch will be served at 12:30 for a suggested donation of \$5.00.

Committee chairs are encouraged to submit reports via e-mail in advance.

Contact Bill Forbes at 420-0707 or [forbes@worldpost.com](mailto:forbes@worldpost.com) for further information.

See you there.

## **PR / Advertising Committee Needs Y.O.U.!**

The PR / Advertising Committee is seeking new members. This is a hands-on group, so proficient computer skills are important. Let us know if you can offer several hours each month toward any of these exciting tasks:

- Desktop publishing of flyers and event programs
- Mailings for special events, including Internet research, list management, mail-merge, photocopying, folding, labeling and mailing
- Media relations, such as promoting church events to the media by e-mail and phone follow-up
- Special event promotion, such as planning, organizing and carrying out activities to promote our church's many programs
- Writing grants (adhering to Board guidelines) to obtain funding for advertising projects, such as video PSAs and direct mail.

We meet once every two months at times TBD according to our various schedules. However, our projects are ongoing. If you are interested and have the skills, please contact Pat Livingston, chair, 454-3963; [plivingston@austin.rr.com](mailto:plivingston@austin.rr.com).

## **Lost and Found**

Missing something? Please check the Lost and Found Basket, located on top of the mailboxes in the office, or call the office at 452-6168 anytime between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm Monday through Friday.

**Green Tip** — brought to you by the Green Sanctuary Subcommittee of the Social Action Committee

*Some folks claim that rinsing recyclables is a waste of water and just throw recyclables away, but if you think about it, water runs down the drain and is recycled through the system: a recyclable sitting in a land fill will be there for hundreds of years. So, wash those dirty recyclables and recycle them!*

If you are interested in helping our church receive Green Sanctuary Accreditation or want to learn more about the program, visit the Seventh Principle homepage at [www.uuaspp.org](http://www.uuaspp.org), or contact Don Smith at 302-5481 or [smith78751@hotmail.com](mailto:smith78751@hotmail.com).

## Events at a Glance

|               |   |               |                 |  |
|---------------|---|---------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>Sun</b>    | CAMPING AT KRAUSE SPRINGS                   | <b>Sun</b>    | 9:30 AM         | Sunday Service                               |
| <b>Oct 6</b>  | NWF PLAQUE & CERTIFICATE UNVEILING          | <b>Oct 13</b> | 10:30 AM        | Parents' Group                               |
|               | 9:30 AM Sunday Service                      |               | 11:30 AM        | Sunday Service                               |
|               | 11:30 AM Sunday Service                     |               | 11:30 AM        | Public Forum                                 |
|               | 11:30 AM Public Forum                       |               | <b>1:00 PM</b>  | <b>All-Church Council - Everyone Invited</b> |
|               | 4:00 PM VOYAGer Explorers                   |               | 1:00 PM         | Social Action Committee                      |
|               | 5:20 PM Contemporary Service                |               | 4:00 PM         | VOYAGer Explorers                            |
|               | 6:30 PM YRUU                                |               | 5:20 PM         | Contemporary Service                         |
|               | 7:00 PM Tai Chi                             |               | 6:30 PM         | YRUU   |
|               |   |               | 7:00 PM         | Tai Chi                                      |
| <b>Mon</b>    | 7:00 PM Dream Workshop                      | <b>Mon</b>    | 9:30 AM         | Paradox Players Rehearsal                    |
| <b>Oct 7</b>  | 7:00 PM Toastmasters                        | <b>Oct 14</b> | 7:00 PM         | Revitalizing Relationships                   |
|               | 7:00 PM OCG1 (formerly Pioneers)            |               | 7:00 PM         | Dream Workshop                               |
|               | 7:00 PM Paradox Players Rehearsal           |               | 7:00 PM         | Toastmasters                                 |
| <b>Tue</b>    | 9:30 AM Deadline for 10/13 Order of Service | <b>Tue</b>    | 9:30 AM         | Deadline for 10/20 Order of Service          |
| <b>Oct 8</b>  | 12:00 PM Senior Lunch                       | <b>Oct 15</b> | 6:30 PM         | Board of Trustees                            |
|               | 6:30 PM CPC Committee                       |               | 7:30 PM         | Women's Spirituality                         |
|               | 6:30 PM Facilitator's Covenant Group        |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:00 PM One Shovel Full                     |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:00 PM Committee on End of Life Issues     |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:30 PM Women's Spirituality                |               |                 |  |
| <b>Wed</b>    | 9:15 AM Listening Ministry                  | <b>Wed</b>    | 7:00 PM         | Evensong I                                   |
| <b>Oct 9</b>  | 7:00 PM Paradox Players Rehearsal           | <b>Oct 16</b> | 7:00 PM         | Paradox Players Rehearsal                    |
|               | 7:00 PM Evensong I                          |               | 7:30 PM         | Choir Rehearsal                              |
|               | 7:00 PM Evensong Covenant                   |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal                     |               |                 |  |
| <b>Thu</b>    | 9:30 AM Newsletter Mailing                  | <b>Thu</b>    | 7:00 PM         | New Member Orientation                       |
| <b>Oct 10</b> | 6:00 PM Committee on Ministries             | <b>Oct 17</b> | 7:00 PM         | Tai Chi                                      |
|               | 7:00 PM Spiral Wizardry                     |               | 7:00 PM         | Spiral Wizardry                              |
|               | 7:00 PM Membership Committee                |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:00 PM Tai Chi                             |               |                 |  |
|               | 7:30 PM Listening Ministry                  |               |                 |  |
| <b>Fri</b>    | 8:00 PM Heritage Club                       | <b>Fri</b>    | <b>9:30 AM</b>  | <b>Deadline for Nov. 1 Newsletter</b>        |
| <b>Oct 11</b> |   | <b>Oct 18</b> |                 |  |
| <b>Sat</b>    | 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast                     | <b>Sat</b>    | SHARING SUPPERS |  |
| <b>Oct 12</b> | 9:00 AM Grounds Work Day                    | <b>Oct 19</b> | 9:00 AM         | Project Transitions                          |
|               | 10:00 AM Paradox Players Rehearsal          |               | 9:30 AM         | Paradox Players Rehearsal                    |
|               | 10:30 AM Women's Spirituality               |               | 10:30 AM        | Women's Spirituality                         |
|               | 3:00 PM Calling All Quilters                |               | 3:00 PM         | Calling All Quilters                         |
|               | 5:30 PM VOYAGers Potluck                    |               |                 |  |

### Join Sunday Sociables...

Sociables is an informal brunch gathering each Sunday. All are invited. People start arriving at 1:00 pm. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Larry Gilstrap (708-1226 or gilstrap@texas.net).

October 6                      Tres Amigos                      1206 West 38th St. (26 Doors Shopping Center)

October 13                      Jim's                      807 Camino La Costa (IH-35 northbound frontage road)

### ...or a Movable Feast!

All are invited to attend dinner with us after the Contemporary Service beginning at 7 p.m. Check the poster board outside the office for details on Sunday evenings. If no host is listed that week, the Movable Feast can be considered cancelled. Also listen for an announcement by the lay leader during the service. If host or hostess is listed, give this name to the restaurant host in order to be shown to the correct table. Typically directions and a phone number will be posted as well.

**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
 CHURCH OF AUSTIN**  
 4700 Grover Avenue  
 Austin, TX 78756  
*One Church. Many Beliefs.*

**Minister: Dr. Davidson Loehr**  
**Director of Religious Education:**  
 Andrea Lerner  
**Director of Administration:**  
 Barbara Lighthead  
**President, Board of Trustees:**  
 Donna Howard  
**Intern Minister: Cathy Harrington**  
 Church Phone: (512) 452-6168  
 Church Fax: (512) 453-5912  
 E-Mail: info@AustinUU.org  
[www.AustinUU.org](http://www.AustinUU.org)

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Return Service Requested

## Sunday Morning Religious Education

*ADULT CLASSES*

- Spiritual Exploration & Philosophical Inquiry Group**  
 Room 9 ..... 9:30 am
- Book Discussion Groups:**  
**Sunday Book Group** — Call Jim Burson (794-1086)  
 Room 13A ..... 9:30 am
- Mind & Meaning** — Call Polly Robertus (371-3257)  
 Room 13B ..... 9:30 am
- Meditation**  
 Room 11 ..... 10:35 am

*CHILDREN & YOUTH CLASSES*

- Children and youth K-8th grade attend the first part of the second worship service with their families before they go to class.
- First Session:** 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
**Second Session:** 11:30 am - 12:45 am  
**Grades 6-8 & 9-12 - 11:30 am only**  
**Third Session:** 5:10 pm - 6:30 pm  
**Third Session is Pre-K through Elementary only**
- INFANTS AND TODDLERS*
- Parents with infants may attend the service with their children, view the service through the quiet room window, watch the service on TV in room 21, or leave their children with our childcare staff in room 19.

### Public Forum “Live” Sundays at First UU Church of Austin

**Post 9/11 Threats to Civil Liberty** **October 6, 11:30 am**  
**Jim Harrington** **Director, Texas Civil Rights Project**  
 Mr. Harrington will speak on the post 9/11 threats to civil liberty, posed by federal legislation and enforcement actions by the Attorney General, as well as the rise of hate crimes and legitimized discrimination against Americans of Arab descent and Muslims.

**Why Travis County Needs A Hospital District** **October 13, 11:30 am**  
**Judge Guy Herman** **Probate Court No. 1**  
 Crowded Emergency departments, soaring insurance premiums, rising numbers of uninsured patients, nursing shortages, cuts in federal and state dollars, and a lack of mental health and substance abuse facilities continue to plague Travis County. A Hospital District has been promoted as a possible solution. Every other large urban Texas county has one.

### Public Forum on Cable Access Channel 10 Sundays at 6 PM

- |            |                |  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| October 6  | Jackie Goodman | Urban Heat Island  |
| October 13 | Wayne Bell     | Preservation in a Growing City:<br>Keeping the Past Alive and Expanding the Future |