

# Welcome to First UU of Austin



The August issue of the Newsletter is different. As we get ready for another school year, church year, job year, we thought it would be a good to show off a bit. For everyone: oldtimers, newtimers, in between timers, young, old and those in the middle here are programs, ideas, activities, and mostly lots of UUs. We hope our community will grow and that you will become more involved.

If you want to participate, our Connection Fair is September 14th. All the organizations, activities, and programs will be set up in Howson Hall and you can wander, ask questions, meet others and find your niche. Come and be an active part of our community.

**This is WHO we are! This is WHAT we do!!  
Come Join us!!!**



# Church Services

Service Times

9:30 and 11:30 AM

**August 3: "Doubt is Not Our Product" -Rev. Aaron White.** Recently, the UUA has been placing ads in Time Magazine promoting our congregations and their unique message. One such advertisement on April 14th read, 'When in doubt, pray. When in prayer, doubt.' For many years, Unitarian Universalists have prided ourselves on being able to bring our doubts to church. Are there some things, though, that we should not let doubt rule?

**August 10: "Something, Anything More" - Rev. Aaron White.** The well known software engineer, Fred Brooks, once commented that projects become a year behind schedule 'one day at a time.' Is it possible that the same is true of our lives and of our religion? In his essay, Prudence, the former Unitarian minister, Ralph Waldo Emerson exclaimed, 'How much of human life is lost in waiting!' What great life inside us are we putting off for tomorrow that could be lived today?

**August 17: "To Love Alike" -Rev. Aaron White.** In 1568, the world's first law of religious toleration was put into place by the first and only Unitarian king, John Sigismund of Transylvania. About this cherished diversity of the spirit, his court minister, Francis David, famously noted, 'We need not think alike to love alike.' I have heard in a number of Unitarian Universalist circles that our communities are shaped, not by what we believe, but by what we love. Our Universalist ancestors might have turned that around, saying that we are defined by what loves us. In this month's theme sermon, and my final sermon as your summer minister, we will be exploring the notion of love. What is it that we as a community love? What might it be like to live with the assumption of our Universalist past, that we live in the midst of a love so strong that it will never leave us?

**August 24: "Things to Do in Church When You're Dead" - Rev. Fred Wooden** is the Senior Minister of the Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, an independent and nondenominational liberal church since 1960. He is a fourth generation Unitarian who has served four UU churches between 1980 and 2005 when he went to Grand Rapids. Among them was this church, from 1990-1994.

**August 31: "To Come Alive" Dr. Davidson Loehr** - In addition to the monthly "theme" sermons. I want to do a series on what's unique and important to us about arising from within the Protestant tradition, and especially the very liberal wing of it. There aren't any creeds to learn. That's part of the deal - only a few principles and ideals. But those are both important and life-giving (and sometimes very challenging). This Sunday is the first: a very broad introduction to the fundamental spirit of Protestantism, which is still relevant today. Hint: what exactly were they "protesting"?



Parts of ALL our Choirs...Singing Together



Eve Gilbert



George Denny Reading Story to the children.



Don Smith



Davidson

# Public Affairs Forums

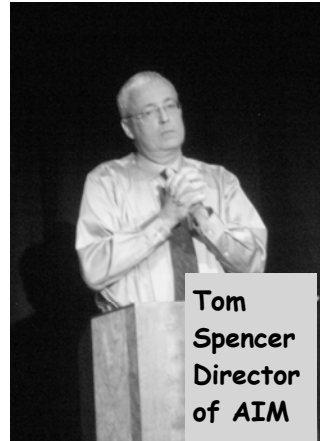
Time: 11:30 am Sundays  
Howson Hall



Robert  
Jensen  
Journalism  
UT Austin



Chief  
Acevedo  
Austin  
Police Dept.



Tom  
Spencer  
Director  
of AIM



Frank Bash  
Astronomy  
UT Austin

**August 31st: The Forum is back!**

## **Not Your Grandfather's Labor Movement**

The Public Forum series resumes on this Labor Day weekend with a fresh look at the changing U.S. union movement. Our guest speaker is Linda Bridges, president of Texas AFT, the state affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers. Bridges, who also serves as a vice-president of the Texas AFL-CIO and of the national AFT, herself exemplifies two notable trends in the labor movement these days: the rising importance of women as union members and leaders and the surge in unionization among public employees--even in a relatively union-hostile state like Texas.



**Remember this sign?**

Rev. Michael Dowd and his wife rolled up to our church in January and were ready to speak and teach. They are perhaps the UUs only traveling evangelists. Living in their RV for the past 5 years and traveling about the country doing science and religion programs in over 250 UU churches. We enjoyed their visit and also their sign.

# Social Action



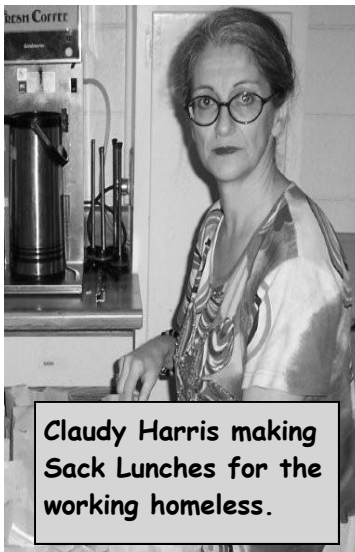
**Rosie Graham, Jack Harris-Bonham,**

**Lois Engintunca, Bob Porter, Mary Shepard, Chris Kellogg, Dale Whiteaker-Lewis, and children. March against death penalty and for Kenneth Foster. Making a Difference.**

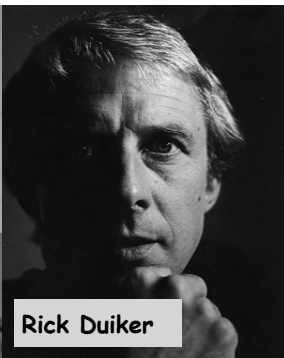


**Patrick McVeety, Mike Matthews, & Ron Phares help at PCC Clinic**

**Geri Mosher, Kathryn Govier and Tieron Ahrnold ready for NAMI walk**



**Claudy Harris making Sack Lunches for the working homeless.**



**Rick Duiker**



**Mike Wilkes**



**Julia Gregory and Cooper**

**The Freeze Night team meets the men, makes them feel comfortable, feeds them, talks to them and helps them settle down for the night as well as providing breakfast and getting them on their way the next day. It is an amazingly rewarding experience. Contact Mary Ann at 587 8373 or Ed at 220 4355.**

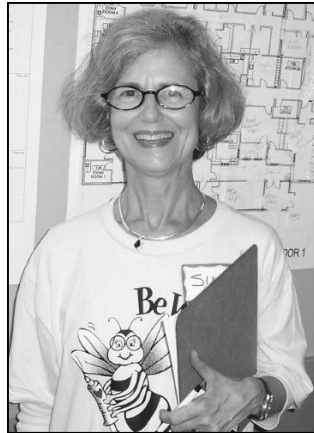


# Social Action

People's Community Clinic



**Cindy Raab**



**Suzy Reid**



**Nancy Neavel**



**Alice Cashman**



**Elaine Carpenter  
Rose Ann Reeser**

**FUUCA's Social Action Committee** began working with the People's Community Clinic two years ago when it was designated a church-wide social action project. We've helped with immunization clinics, fundraising community education events, and donations such as children's books for the waiting room and supplies for new mothers. Each month, we send several teams to copy materials and compile patient information packets. Over 75 church folks have been involved in one or more activities.

If you can help with this project, whether one time or many, please contact Sheri Overton, 512-847-2685 or [sherioverton@hotmail.com](mailto:sherioverton@hotmail.com).



**Sheri Overton**



**Susan Thomson**

**Clark Boykin**

**Drew Bridges**



# Music's in the Air



Adult Choir and Brent



Junior Choir: Audrey, Sage, Seth, Evan, Kira, Alicia, & Bridgett.



Djembabes



Childrens Choir and Davidson smiling!



Bryan in the Piano

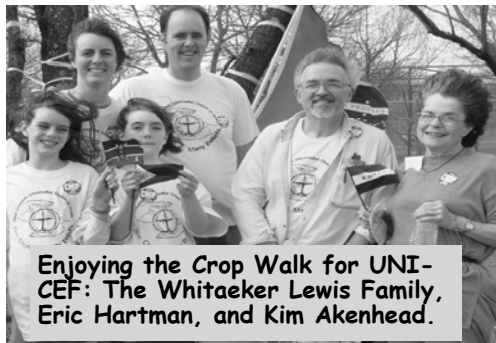


John Sanders

# More Folks...More Fun



New Beam!  
For the  
Playground  
Lots  
Of Help!  
Thanks a lot!



Enjoying the Crop Walk for UNI-  
CEF: The Whitaeker Lewis Family,  
Eric Hartman, and Kim Akenhead.



Susan Smith  
Lends UUs a  
Helping hand



Margie Adams sends  
Us all a Peace sign!



PP Crew: Barb, Monty, and Aaron.



Carl, Aaron, and Kate: Great Crew!



Nancy and Gary



The Oldest Profession

# Youth Sunday 2008!



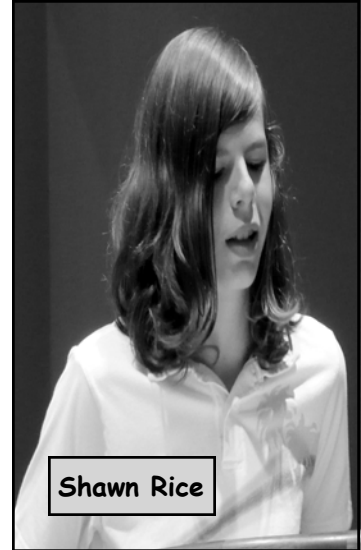
Edward  
Balaguer



Emily  
Withers



Patrick McVeety



Shawn Rice



## Showcase of UUs Best



Aaron Osmer, Natalia Houchins, Emily Withers & Josh Mayes.  
A treat to listen to...

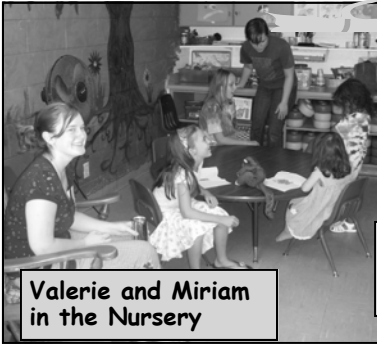


Josh Mayes, Sierra Tothero, and Emily Withers being  
congratulated after the service for a job well done.



Josh Mayes, Lauren Tothero,  
Natalie Houchins, and Aaron  
Osmer being pleased!

# Life Long RE



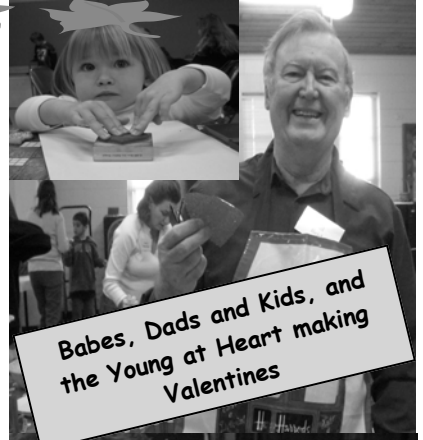
Valerie and Miriam  
in the Nursery



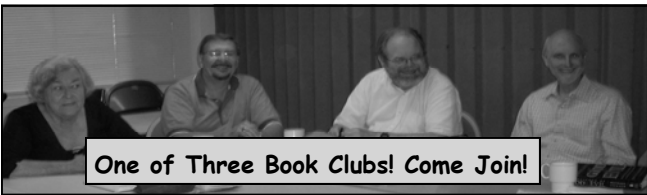
Shanti & Spencer  
On the Playground



Kami & Adrianna & Kids



Babes, Dads and Kids, and  
the Young at Heart making  
Valentines



One of Three Book Clubs! Come Join!



Jim Williams  
shows  
how its done in  
the Tai Chi



Hatha  
Yoga  
with  
Rosie!



Vicky &  
Brian  
Halloween



Art  
Studio  
with  
Susan



Remember  
Sparkle  
Plenty??  
Elizabeth  
Eugene &  
Paella Dinner!



Sunday Morning Book Club



# Memorial Wall!



Margaret placing a butterfly.



Sterling with his Memorial Wall

# Blessing the Beasts



Bill Blessing The dog



Just stopped by...



Baby brings Pooch to be blessed

# More good Music



The Whole band Dyann, Ed, Mary Jane, David, and Edward

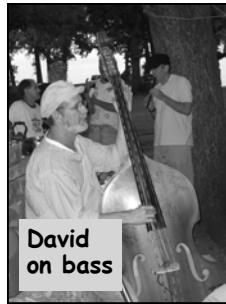


Mary and her bird.

# Senior Lunch



Jammin' Ladies! Dyann and Mary Jane

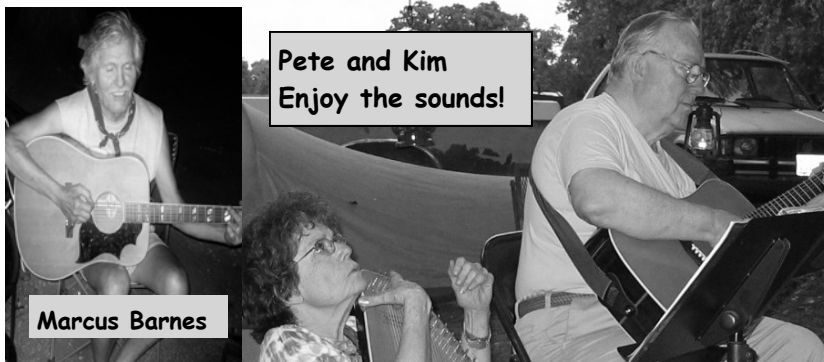


David on bass



Sally ready to dig in....

Ward and Stan chillin'



Pete and Kim Enjoy the sounds!

Marcus Barnes



Alice, Phyllis, and Barb dishing soup.

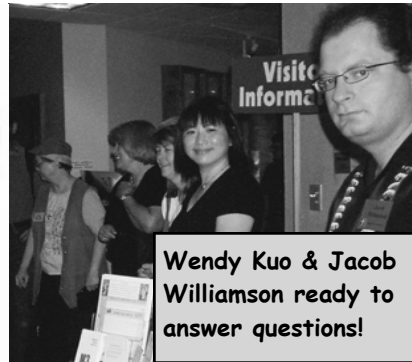


# Membership Counts

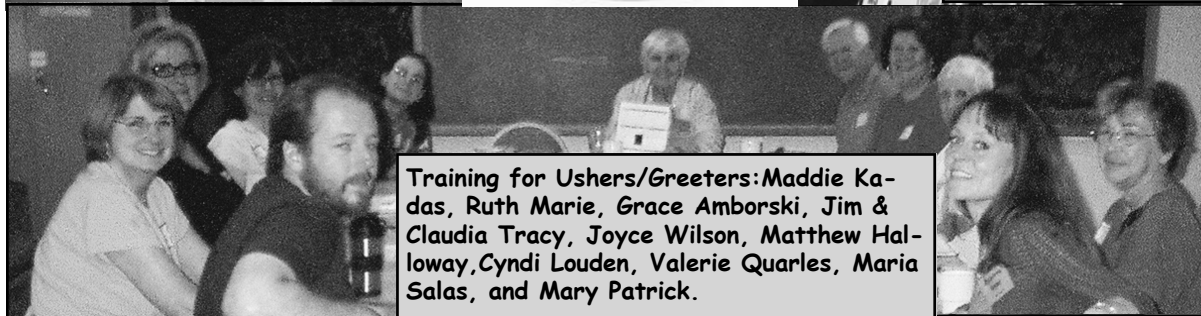
The Membership Committee hard at Play



Kitty Traylor-Joyce Wilson-Ruth Marie (Coordinators for Ushers/Greeters)



Wendy Kuo & Jacob Williamson ready to answer questions!



Training for Ushers/Greeters: Maddie Kadas, Ruth Marie, Grace Amborski, Jim & Claudia Tracy, Joyce Wilson, Matthew Halloway, Cyndi Loudon, Valerie Quarles, Maria Salas, and Mary Patrick.



Steven, Aleita & Jayden White become members with help from Mary Jane Ford & Jeanette Swensen



Genie Barnes and Doug Ginn Welcoming/Greeting us on Sunday!

**Stewardship**



Mary Jane Ford, Margaret Roberts and Mark Skrabacz The Committee

Do you have an interest in public relations, marketing, fund-raising, and/or church growth? Do you enjoy planning and/or hosting social gatherings for church friends? Do you care about the future of our congregation? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, the Stewardship Committee needs you!! We are a fun group of church members who work together to organize the annual pledge drive for The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin. Our role is vital to the life of our congregation and the rewards are high! If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mark Skrabacz at [markskrabacz@hotmail.com](mailto:markskrabacz@hotmail.com) or 236-0504 or Margaret Roberts at [margaretroberts@austin.rr.com](mailto:margaretroberts@austin.rr.com) or 328-0358.

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF AUSTIN  
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*One Church. Many Beliefs.*

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Director of Religious Education:  
Lara Douglass  
Director of Music: Brent Baldwin  
President, Board of Trustees:  
Sheila Gladstone  
Church Phone: (512) 452-6168  
Church Fax: (512) 453-5912  
E-Mail: info@AustinUU.org  
[www.AustinUU.org](http://www.AustinUU.org)  
*Newsletter Deadline  
August 15th*

Non Profit Organization  
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Austin, Texas

Return Receipt Requested

## Connection Fair September 14th in Howson Hall

