

June 2007

The **VISION** of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin: As an inclusive religious and spiritual community, we support each individual's search for meaning and purpose, and join together to help create a world filled with compassion and love.



YOU Don't Want to Miss Our Town!



Paradox Players is pleased to present **Our Town** by Thornton Wilder, the quintessential American play. Performance dates are June 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 at 8 p.m. and June 17, 24 and July 1 at 3 p.m. in Howson Hall. The production is directed by Gary Payne and includes a number of First UU members in the cast and in the play's choir.

Set in turn of the 20th century Grovers Corners, New Hampshire, **Our Town** explores the universal themes of family, community, marriage and death. This must see stage classic is great family entertainment, suitable for all ages.

Ticket prices are \$20 for opening night, June 15 (this includes a special reception with refreshments), and \$15 for all other performances. Reservations can be made at 744-1495, or by visiting paradoxplayers.org. Special group rates are also available. We recommend you reserve your seat early for Our Town.



Doug Costello, Don Owen, Nicole Weber

First Unitarian
Universalist Church
of Austin



April Women's Weekend Big Success!!!

It takes many people to produce such a weekend of events. Marilyn Sewell and I want to thank the following for many hours of work: **Susan Thomson**, Adult RE Chairperson; **Lara Douglas**, Acting RE Director; **Dotti Sizer**, Office Manager; **Marianne Foley**, **Linda Taylor**, **Kanlin Mott**, and **John Sanders**, Staff; **Jane Parsons**; **Judith Gostisha**; **Rose Ann Reeser**; **Evangelina Mangino**; **Susan Bethke**; **Kris Mc Kay**; **Becky Moon**; and **Brian Moore**. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! You all are great! **Sharon Moore**, Event Chairperson

SPLIT THE PLATE

On the first and third Sundays of each month, we share half the non-pledge collections in our offertory plate with non-profit service organizations that are putting our common values into action. Please help by making a larger than usual contribution on these Sundays.



On June 3, the **Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office-Ghana Project** will benefit from our split-the-plate program. The mission of UU-UNO is "empowering Unitarian Universalists to participate in the UN's work to build a just international community." The Ghana Project grew out of the desire to do something about AIDS in Africa. Education is the most important factor in slowing the spread of AIDS. For \$60, school fees, books, and uniforms can send a child to school for one year. With \$600, a child can be assured of a primary and secondary education.

On June 17, we will share our offertory plate with the **Mother's Milk Bank of Austin**. The MMBA provides breast milk from volunteers to premature infants and ill babies in the neonatal intensive care units of Austin's hospitals. Human milk is especially critical for premature and sick infants, who are at a tenfold greater risk for acquiring devastating intestinal infections, if they are fed formula instead of human milk. The MMBA has saved many lives since its inception in 1998.



Volume 56
No. 6

Jack in the Pulpit

This is the next to the last newsletter article that you will be receiving from me as your Interim Preacher. I will have been at First Church Austin for 23 months when my tenure here ends on the 31st of July. I really don't like the feeling I get when I think about not being here among you good people. On that topic this is an unabashed appeal to those within the sound of this written voice to contact me if you know of any job that you think I might be well suited to as I await my call from the United Church of Christ. As you know Ministerial Search Committees can take their sweet time when looking for the right candidate. My papers can't go in until this summer, so it could be a year or a year and a half before I land my first permanent church. In the meantime I'd like to be gainfully employed in a church, a non-profit, or somewhere that I can use my speaking and interpersonal skills. Call, write, email, or smoke-signal me – all I need is my foot in the door I'll do the rest.

The congregational meeting on the 6th of May was barely well attended enough to get a quorum for voting. With that in mind I am including the below from my congregational report things that I see that need to be changed:

Open church membership to the youth.

Hire an Executive Director now!

Put the capital fund raising campaign on hold until #2 happens.

The Board of Trustees needs to start following the Carver model of governance

Hire a professional person to manage and maintain the website of this church.

Upgrade the Musical Director's job to a full time position with full benefits.

Hire an Associate Minister.

Pay interns \$2000 a month.

The guy who is about to leave the ship is always a safe bet to be the guy who will speak his mind. I have done that above. But there's a whole bunch that's right with this church, too. Otherwise I wouldn't be so sad to leave, I'd be beating a path to the nearest exit. I love this church. I love this congregation.

One last thing. Everybody needs a swan song and guess what? I got one. On the last weekend in July (27, 28, and 29) in the Sanctuary at 8 pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (and a matinee on Sunday at 2 pm) I will offer my one-man show, **The Leavening – Stonewall Jackson and the reunited States of America** – to this church and the community at large. Tickets are \$20. Come see me play around 30 characters in a show, which depicts the life of a West Virginia hillbilly turned West Point Graduate and perhaps the finest battlefield tactician that ever lived. It's reported that Ho Chi Minh used Jackson's Valley Campaign as a model for defeating the US in the Vietnam War. Come one, come all! You'll laugh; you'll cry; you'll smell gunpowder; you'll eat homemade bread.



Jack

ROMANIAN PARTNER CHURCH



A recent post card invites persons attending GA in Portland and having any interest in the UU Partner Church program to attend the luncheon, award presentation, and meeting at the Doubletree Hotel, Holladay Ballroom, Saturday, June 23, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Lunch tickets may be ordered on line at www.uupcc.org The March 18th Split-the-Plate collection for the benefit of our partner church in Feketehalom, Romania, came to \$1050.

Austin Critics Table

(newspaper reviewers)

Nominated

Paradox Players' production of **Sleuth**



Charles Hill Best Director
Nathan Jenkins Best Actor
(Milo)

congratulations

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The Women's Spirituality Group meets this summer on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Rm 13. The dates are: June 2, July 7, and August 4. We will not meet on Sept. 1st. Weekly meetings will resume on Sept. 8. During the summer, we will focus on seasonal celebrations. This group seeks their own pathways to spirituality with a feminist approach using books, rituals, and shared life experiences. All women are welcome. For more information contact: Linda Webster Lindawebster@grandecom.net (458-1852).

Sunday Worship Services 9:45 and 11:30

June 3 **A Liberal Reclamation of Natural Law** **Eric Hepburn**

This sermon explores the notion that liberal religion could benefit by embracing the core concept of natural law.

The **"Y'all Come Sing" Choir** welcomes all voices of any type to learn a quick, fun and easy piece to sing for this morning's services. If interested, please meet in the Sanctuary at 8:45am.

June 10 **Covenant - The UU Glue** **Mark Skrabacz**

UUs are famous for their free minds and freedom of belief. Is too much freedom an issue? What binds us together? This sermon speaks to our covenant, by which we promise to one another our mutual trust and support.

The **FUUCA Choir and Orchestra** will present **"Little Organ Mass"** by Franz Joseph Haydn during both AM services. Conspirare soprano **Gitanjali Mathur** will be featured in this season's final major work.

June 17: **Hermits or Husbands** **Jack Harris-Bonham**

Worship Associate: **Monty Newton**

June 24: **Asking the Next Question** **Jim Checkley**

Sometimes how we ask a question is as important as what we ask. This applies to any field of inquiry, including that quest for understanding and truth most Unitarians find themselves on. Asking the next question-is not just a matter of curiosity, it's a way of life.

Public Affairs Forum: Sundays: 11:30 am Howson Hall

JUNE 3: Workers Defense Project **Speakers: Cristina Tzintzun and Virginia Badillo**

The Workers Defense Project looks out for the rights of often-exploited immigrant workers in Austin. It has won the recovery of more than \$400,000 in back wages for immigrant workers who have suffered wage theft, and it has mobilized successfully to defeat a proposed Austin anti-solicitation ordinance that would have criminalized day laborers seeking work in public. Project director Cristina Tzintzun and worker/organizer Virginia Badillo will discuss the WDP's campaign to empower immigrant workers.

JUNE 10: A Systems Thinking Look At Texas and the Challenges of Population **Speaker: Jay Forrest**

Population growth is driving an array of predictable changes and challenges for Austin, the Hill Country and the state of Texas. Urban sprawl, increasing traffic and congestion, and water shortages are among the more obvious challenges to be expected. Because the ultimate impacts are clearly visible, the government and far too many people are focusing predominantly on the symptoms of the problems without understanding the forces that are creating the problems.

Jay Forrest, currently a doctoral candidate in Studies of the Future at Leeds Metropolitan University, will begin his presentation with the official population projections for the state and will examine the implications of population growth on sprawl and traffic from a perspective of systems thinking. The primary goal will be to frame the issues in a way that will encourage a more holistic vision of the problems and the possible policies that might ease pending problems. A secondary objective will be to introduce systems thinking as a foundation for framing and solving problems.

JUNE 17: The Campaign for a Universal Living Wage **Speaker: Richard Troxell**

Freeze Night sheltering volunteers at First UU know that many of our homeless fellow Austinites hold down jobs but still can't afford to put a roof over their heads. Richard Troxell, chairman of the Universal Living Wage Campaign and a leader of the National Coalition for the Homeless, will make the case for a new minimum wage based on the simple premise that a person who works 40 hours a week should be able to afford basic housing.

JUNE 24: Legislative Wrap Up **Speaker: Elliott Naishtat**

Texas State Representative, Elliott Naishtat, will summarize the results of the 80th Texas Legislative Session.

Seniors' Luncheon

Tues. June 12th
Howson Hall
Noon

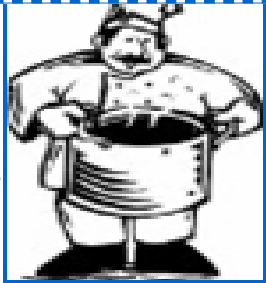
Soup, Salad & Dessert \$5

Mary Jane Ford
and

The Dirigibles

will sing and play for your listening
enjoyment

RSVP Alice Cashman 837-0988



President's Corner



This is my last report to you as President of the Board. I want to thank everyone for the trust you've placed in me over the last four years. It has been an honor to serve this church, and I look forward to continuing to serve in different roles in the years to come.

At the May board meeting we spent most of our time reviewing what we did and did not accomplish over the past year. As usual, we didn't accomplish everything we had hoped, but we did succeed with some of our goals. We have a Master Plan in place and the Building Committee is currently beginning the process of selecting an architect for Phase I. The church has been served well by Jack Harris-Bonham during Dr. Loehr's sabbatical, and we have an intern coming in the fall.

We will be working with the SWUU District Executive, Susan Smith and with Stephan Jonasson, UUA Consultant to Large Congregations, this fall in order to address some structural problems and better define who we are. It is my sincere hope that we, as a congregation, can come together around our shared values in new and meaningful ways. If we do, there's no limit to the influence for good that we can have in our community.

See you in church, *Don*

June Birthday



The happiest June birthdays to all of you. Remember if we don't have your whole birthday (including the year), you will not see your name listed here. **Cecil Hale, Ronya Kozmetsky, Patricia Spurr, John Sanders, Marlys Denison, Jim Reed, Caroline Reynolds, Tina McGaughey, Wilda Campbell, Ann Edwards, Donna Alexander, Mary Ann Copp, Dana Morrison, Susan Thomson, Amy Bennett, David Kendrick, Terrie Lynn Bach, Joy Cunningham, Monty Newton, Amanda Zappler, Nada Boyt, David Kenner, Gillian Redfearn, Joseph Rank, Nalilni Mohan, Cuileann McKenzie, Alessandra Beavers, Becky Moon, Jennifer Felion, Deanna Goodson, Stacy Phillips, JE Johnson, Kim McKnight, Shannon Vyff, Clare Wolf, Catherine O'Neill, Joshua West, Sarah Lewis, Neil Zimmerman, Lynn Samerigo, John Samerigo, Jim Wiggins, Lucy Edwards, Zachary Pettichord, Morgan, Benson, Manada Coeyman-Cleary, and Beth Cortez Neavel.**

Mark This Date

Mark your calendars now!

Susan Smith, SWUU District Executive, will spend the weekend of September 7-9, 2007 at First UU. During this visit we will develop a church covenant and begin work on a new strategic plan. More details to follow in e announcements and August newsletter.

Just save the dates!

Final Meeting for Readers' Theater

Monday, June 11, is our last meeting before summer break. We'll meet in room 13 at 7:30 to read a fascinating mix of one-act plays. Newcomers are always welcome, no experience necessary.



The Flying Circus Camp Fire Club



The Flying Circus Camp Fire club is our older, high-school age group. Under the intrepid leadership of Mina Loomis, they have been very active the last few months. For starters, this club

sponsored an UT concessions booth fundraiser, and made a respectable amount of money for the Camp Fire Council, while experiencing life as fast food workers.

In early March the club went backpacking at Enchanted Rock, and collected about 30 food bags for Hospice Austin. During Spring Break they held a children's book exchange at Austin Children's Museum, and staffed an Outdoor Activities booth. Flying Circus plans to donate the many remaining children's books from the book exchange to Peoples Community Clinic, since the Social Action group has a message out that they need children's books. The club created a simple language, practiced building fires (at the spring campout), and learned about expedition mountain climbing.

Several of our club members served as youth activity assistants at the Spring Campout. They adopted a church peninsula for watering this coming Summer. And finally, several Flying Circus club members are planning to earn the WoHeLo Award over the next two years--equivalent (or greater) to the Eagle Scout award. Whew, it is exhausting just reading about all the great activities of this church-sponsored club.

HELP! CALLING FOR AUDIO AND MEDIA VOLUNTEERS:

The mission of the Public Affairs Forum and Media Committees is to help all areas of the Church and its Committees by providing audio, film and editing support designed to promote the activities of the Church. Towards this end the committee is seeking volunteers. As a part of this mission, the Church is beginning a program to provide training for members who volunteer to operate media equipment that the Church owns, or that can be utilized through Public Access Community Television.

The Public Affairs Forums are presented most Sunday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30 in Howson Hall, but such training should be available to promote the efforts of other Church efforts, including Social Action, and indeed is essential for recording services. If you volunteer, you will receive valuable training for forum and various media related activities. Please contact either Cris Cunningham (451-7172) or Tim Mahoney (326-9944), or see Tom Martin or Cris Cunningham at the Sunday morning forums. Joint meetings of the Forum and Media Committees are held every first Sunday after The Public Affairs Forum.

Betty's Retirement Bash!

When? Sunday June 3rd 1:30 pm

Where? Brentwood Tavern 6701 Burnet Road

Who? Bring the kids and family! Everyone come.

What? Honor Betty for all she has done for First UU!

Info? Melissa Smith 459 8270,
melissa_snowden@unforgettable.com

40 to 50s Group...The Seasoned Seekers

On Saturday, June 9, the Seasoned Seekers, for those born in the 40's and 50's (don't check ID's), will have a "We Ain't Got a Barrel of Money" potluck and a movie about starving artists on the Lower East Side of New York. Bring a dish that you made when you didn't (or don't) have very much money. You know, like when you were in college or first married. Herbivore and Omnivore Spaghetti also will be served with Garlic Bread. Ice Tea and Water available, BYOB for wine and beer. Please come at 6:30 pm to help set up, dinner is at 7:00 pm. Please stay late to help clean up. Movie starts at 7:30 pm. Childcare available by reservation to lara@austinuu.org. \$4.00 donation will be asked.



Adopt a Peninsula!



Yes, this church IS a community! Forty-five members and families signed up to nurture our native transplants--rescued from the bulldozer and placed around the parking area in the previously barren parking peninsulas. Once a month, all these individuals will water their assigned area with several gallons of water to make sure these babies make it through the hot summer. When you come to church and park, notice the small changes that beautify one of the most visible areas of our church. Thank you to the following members and families that agreed to contribute their time: **Kim Aikenhead, Kate Amerson, Abby and Charlie Ashley, Genie Barnes, Kill and Nilsa Brady, Camp Fire Flying Circus Club, Sarah Craighead, Adriana Delarosa, Barb and George Denny, Dysart Family: Karen Delle-Dysart, Dave, Alyse and Alex; Jan and Michael Fredin, Bianca Gare, Matthew and Colleen Garland, Judith Gostisha, Kathryn Govier, Lori Hawkins, Chris, Toby, and Maya Heidel, Fritz Hensey, Christie Drescher Hepburn, Joan Ivy, Michael and Karen Cleary Kersey, Wendy Kuo and Klondike Steadman, Peter Langlois, Ruth Marie, Genie Martin, Brian and Vicky Miller, Monty Newton, Judy Parken, Donna Pauler, Sylvia Pope, Cindy Raab, Rose-Ann Reeser, Juanita Salinas, Janice, Kent and Sky Samuelson, Christy Seals, Humphrey Seay, Mark Skrabacz, Eric Stimmel and family, Veryan Thompson, Melissa Tothers, Larry Vaughn, Melanie Walter-Mahoney, and Cathy Weaver.** If you are feeling left out, contact **Elizabeth Gray** at egray88@hotmail.com or 476-1861. There are still areas that can use some UU Tender Loving Care



Thank UU lay leaders/Ushers/Greeters



A round of applause for our Sunday Lay Leaders: **Greg Thompson, Sharon Moore, Dwayne Windham, and Viv Harris-Bonham.** Another round of applause for our Sunday Service Team who have made us feel welcome each Sunday: **Ruth Marie, Jonas Miller, Alice Cashman, Becky Reedy, Valerie Sterne, Jeanette Swenson, Nancy Barnard, Joyce Wilson, Dan Wilson, Clare Wolf, Dwayne Windham, Douglas Ginn, Geri Mosher, Joe Linsalata, Juanita Salinas, Cathy Weaver, Sandra Ries, Nancy Barnard, Viv Harris-Bonham, Kitty Traylor, Luther Elmore, Thomas Doughtie, and Mary Lehmann.**

FIRST SUNDAY SUPPER for ARCH



A special thanks to the members who have joined in this UU project to serve supper on the first Sunday of the month to the homeless men at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH) located in downtown Austin. The UU volunteers for May were: **Charles Macleod, Lois Engintunca, Jane Hall, J.H. Webber and Mary Ann Copp.**

Up to four volunteers are needed for future First Sunday Suppers. Volunteers don't cook or clean, but they do set the tables and serve food cafeteria style to 100 men from 5:30 to 8:00. Our efforts are a small part of the city of Austin's ten-year plan to end homelessness. To volunteer one time or many times, please contact **Karen Franks:** kfranks46@yahoo.com, (670-2221) or **Mary Ann Copp:** mac624@tstar.net, (830-693-5920).

Sharing Suppers

Get to know other UUs in a more personal, informal setting. On June 16 (the third Saturday of each month), groups of 6-10 people will gather for food, conversation, and laughter in homes. Everyone contributes something to the dinner. Sharing Suppers are open to anyone in the church. The deadline for signing up is the Sunday before the suppers, (June 10th). The hosts will call you with all the information you need to make the dinner a success. The hosts coordinate the dishes into a meal, so please remember to mark it on your calendar. Then you just show up with your dish and enjoy the great food and conversation. Sheri Overton (512-847-2685) or sherioverton@hotmail.com or sign up on the sheet posted outside Davidson's office.



Public Affairs Forum Semi-Annual Committee Meeting

The Public Affairs Forum Committee will meeting Monday, June 18th, at 7:15 pm in the Gallery of the church to plan the fall schedule. This is one of two yearly meetings.

All persons interested in having certain topics with speakers presented may come to the meeting and be allowed 5 minutes apiece for a presentation at the beginning of the meeting. Copies of ideas to hand out are suggested. Others may email topics with suggested speakers to crisc714@sbcglobal.net or put them in the Forum box in the church office.

The public is invited to the meeting, and **persons interested in being new committee members are most welcome.** Submitted by Cris Cunningham, Forum Chair, 451-7172.

Memorial Service for Eva Lopian

Long-time First UU member Eva Lopian, died at Hospice Austin's Christopher House on Wednesday, May 2 at the age of 91. She is survived by two daughters and their families. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 12 at First UU Church.

Memorial gifts may be made to Hospice Austin, Christopher House; Meals on Wheels, or North Central Caregivers.

The reception following was prepared by members of the Women's Spirituality Group to which Eva had belonged for many years.



Unitarian Universalists Against the Death Penalty

Bill Pelke, founder of the Journey of Hope. . . from Violence to Healing, will be a featured speaker at General Assembly in Portland in June. Bill's grandmother was murdered in Indiana by teen-age girls who gained entrance to her home by pretending they wanted to participate in a Bible study class. Bill, a retired steelworker, has since become a strong opponent of the death penalty. Members of his organization are themselves murder victims family members who oppose the death penalty. The Journey has twice visited Austin, most recently in October 2005.

Visit the UUADP booth at GA and meet Board Members Bob Bacon, Larry Egbert, Mac Goekler, and Dave Rickard.

HELP WANTED

Heavenly Hosts shall sing thy praises.

Volunteer to help copy CD's and DVD's after Sunday services (copy time can be Sunday morning or during a weekday). No experience needed--training available. Contact Tom Martin at tom-m@texas.net or 415-9205.

Heavenly Hosts shall sing thy praises.

HELP WANTED

Orientation Meeting

June 20th

Orientation Evenings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from **7:00 to 8:30 pm** in room 13 . This month, join **Jack Harris-Bonham** on Wednesday, **June 20th**, to discuss our church history, faith journey, and programs.

Bring your questions and prepare to be fascinated. This is open to everyone. A great place to meet people who are interested in becoming part of our community.



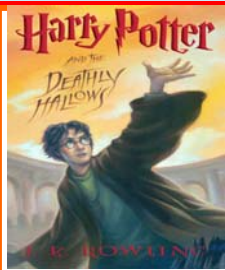
Membership Count

As of May 22nd
Members 603
Associate Members 313

Breaking Free Follow Up Course

This five session program brings women together to discuss aging as the development of character and an opportunity to deepen their spiritual lives. This begins on Monday June 11th from 7 to 9 pm. In Room 17. Contact Person: Becky Moon 821 1386, beckyms@yahoo.com

What's Coming this Summer? Save these Dates!



HARRY POTTER #7 BOOK RELEASE PARTY

Avoid long lines on July 21st. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" will be released at 10 am, July 21st, to the first twenty people who pay in advance at the bookstore Sunday mornings through July 15th. Book will be sold for \$25 discounted from \$37.87 retail (both including tax). Kids of all ages welcome. Come at 9 am for Hogwarts treats such as chocolate frogs and pumpkin juice plus Harry Potter trivia and other delights. Sunday morning!

Back to School Clinic

Coming August 18th



Get Ready! This may seem a bit too soon for Back to School, but we are gearing up to help again at the People's Community Clinic's Back-to-School Immunization Clinic. We need people to work morning, afternoon, or full-day shifts on August 18th to perform well-defined tasks, generally speaking to maintain a flow of children and parents through the various steps leading up to and finalizing the immunizations: tasks like signing in, completing treatment forms, providing coloring books and crayons to children as they wait, and copying and organizing shot records. Everyone is encouraged to help, but we will particularly need bilingual volunteers. Last year we received a terrific



response from the church community (nearly 40 volunteers). If you can help out with either a morning or afternoon shift, please sign up with Sheri Overton by email (sherioverton@hotmail.com) or 847-2685.



Who is this woman?

What does she have to do with the great time that kids will be having at First UU this summer? Without her, our children would have to have a different fun time between July 30 and August 3rd!

**First UU's Summer Camp!
Hogwarts School of
Witchcraft and Wizardry**

Hogwarts is filling up fast! We had a great time last summer and this year could be even better. Our summer school session of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry is 30 July-3 August. Applications for students (K-5), prefects (MS-HS) and volunteer/staff positions are available on the purple and black bulletin board outside the FUUCA office. If you have questions or want to be invited to join our yahoo group, contact Melissa Smith (AKA Prof. M), 459-8270,

For those of you who could not make the tour in April

**PEOPLES COMMUNITY CLINIC TOUR
Tuesday, July 10th from 6 to 7 pm**

Tour will be limited to 12 people as PCC will be serving patients.

Reservations are required



Why Do We Fight?

Why Do We Fight? Learn about the latest brain research that explains why couples fight and learn how to reduce conflict in intimate relationships! Sunday, June 24th, 1:45 p.m. – 4 p.m. Registration Required: \$40 per person, \$75 for couples Contact Michelle M. Bohls, LMFT-A, 512/577-3371, For more information see: <http://therapist.psychologytoday.com/44467>

**English Country Dancing
off for the Summer**

English Country Dancing will meet Friday June 8th at 7:30 pm in Howson Hall. This will be the last meeting until September. September 14th will be our next meeting and will be every other Friday for the rest of the year. New comers are always welcome the donation is \$6.00 a person. Contact Ann McCracken at 266-9949 or email to ann@mcccr.org

CHURCH EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

June 2	Sat	9:00	Board/Council Retreat, Room 15	June 15	Fri	8:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
		10:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal	June 16	Sat	10:30	CUUPS Meditation Group
		10:30	Women's Spirituality	June 17	Sun	9:30	Book Groups
		10:30	CUUPS Meditation Group			9:30	Philosophical Discussion Group
June 3	Sun	9:30	Book Groups			9:45	Worship Service
		9:30	Philosophical Discussion Group			11:30	Worship Service
		9:45	Worship Service			1:00	Social Action Committee Meeting, Room 13
		11:30	Worship Service			1:30	New UU Class, Room 15
		1:30	New UU Class, Room 15			3:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
June 4	Mon	6:30	Sack Lunch Program	June 18	Mon	6:30	Sack Lunch Program
		7:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, Room 17			7:00	Village Int'l Country Dancing, HH
		7:00	Village Int'l Country Dancing, HH			7:15	Forum Committee Meeting, Gallery
June 5	Tue	6:00	Executive Committee, Minister's Office	June 19	Tue	6:30	Board Meeting, Gallery
		7:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH			7:00	Tarot Mysteries Group, Room 13
June 6	Wed	1:00	Philosophical Discussion Group, Room 13			8:00	Paradox Players Benefit Performance
		7:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH	June 20	Wed	1:00	Philosophical Discussion Group, Room 13
		7:00	CPC Meeting, Room 9			7:00	Facilities Committee, office
		7:00	Men's Group, Library			7:00	Men's Group, Library
		7:00	Tai Chi Chuan			7:00	Orientation with Jack Harris-Bonham
		7:30	Choir Rehearsal			7:00	Tai Chi Chuan
June 7	Thu	1:00	Camp Fire	June 21	Thu	1:00	Camp Fire
		6:30	Yew Groves CUUPS, Room 13			7:30	Scandinavian Dancing, HH
		7:00	Choir Practice	June 22	Fri	8:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
		7:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, Room 17	June 23	Sat	10:30	CUUPS Meditation Group, Room 17
		7:30	Scandinavian Dancing, HH			6:30	CUUPS Summer Solstice, Room 13
June 8	Fri	7:00	CUUPS Metaphysical Salon, Room 11			8:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
		8:00	English Country Dancing, HH	June 24	Sun	9:30	Book Groups
June 9	Sat	8:00	Men's Breakfast, Gallery			9:30	Philosophical Discussion Group
		10:00	Choir Practice			9:45	Worship Service
		10:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH			11:30	Worship Service
		6:30	Seasoned Seekers, HH			3:00	Paradox Players Performance
		7:00	Youth Lock-In	June 25	Mon	6:30	Writer's Workshop, Room 15
June 10	Sun	9:30	Book Groups			6:30	Sack Lunch Program
		9:30	Philosophical Discussion Group			7:00	Finance Committee, Room 13
		9:45	Worship Service			8:00	Paradox Players Benefit Performance
		11:30	Worship Service	June 26	Tue	7:00	Tarot Mysteries Group, Room 13
		1:30	New UU Class, Room 15			8:00	Paradox Players Benefit Performance
		2:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH	June 27	Wed	1:00	Philosophical Discussion Group, Room 13
June 11	Mon	6:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH			7:00	Building Committee, Gallery
		6:30	Writer's Workshop, Room 15			7:00	Men's Group, Library
		6:30	Sack Lunch Program			7:00	Tai Chi Chuan
		7:30	Paradox Players Readers' Theater, Rm 13	June 28	Thu	6:30	Committee on Ministries, Room 13
June 13	Wed	1:00	Philosophical Discussion Group, Room 13			7:30	Scandanavian Dancing, HH
		7:00	Building Committee, Gallery	June 29	Fri	8:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
		7:00	Men's Group, Library	June 30	Sat	10:30	CUUPS Meditation Group, Room 17
		7:00	Tai Chi Chuan			8:00	Paradox Players Performance, HH
June 14	Thu	6:00	Paradox Players Rehearsal, HH				
		7:00	Adult RE Committee Meeting, Room 9				
		7:30	Scandinavian Dancing, HH				

DRE Update:

DRE office hours continue to be Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 am to noon. Please stop by to see me or call to make an appointment. I would like to hear what you are thinking about Religious Education!

June 5-7, I will be attending a Multicultural Renaissance Training in West Chester, PA. This will be the third Renaissance training I have taken. The UUA recommends that all DREs complete at least five of the eight approved training sessions. I hope to have completed five by the end of this year.

My family (Bill, my husband, and Spencer, my son,) will be accompanying me to the UU General Assembly in Portland Oregon, June 20 to June 25. This is my first General Assembly and I am very excited to have this opportunity and experience.

Adriana DeLaRosa and Cyndi Stein are job-sharing my old position as Children's Assistant to the DRE. Cyndi and Adriana will fill in for me on Sunday, June 25 while I am in Portland. **Onward!**

Lara

Lara Douglass, Acting Director of Religious Education

Religious Education Volunteer Brunch! Yummee!

The Religious Education Volunteer Brunch on Sunday, May 20 was a glorious event. We had about 50 volunteers enjoy a sit-down brunch of omelets, exotic toppings, fruit salad, croissants, herb butters and truffles!

Our volunteers are what make our Religious Education Programs so enriching and nurturing. As Dr. Seuss once said, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful LOT, nothing is going to get better. It is NOT!"

Special thanks to Children's RE Assistants Adriana DeLaRosa and Cyndi Stein, who really made this year's event extra special (and allowed Lara to actually EAT this year.) Also, thanks to the Middle Schoolers and the High Schoolers, who cleaned up after the event.

Writers Workshop Covenant

Fiction Writer's Covenant has had a name change but still meets on the second and fourth Monday (May 14th and 28th) at 7 pm in Room 17. For the amateur and professional fiction writers and friends. Now we accept screen players also. Come to workshop written work or ideas or to be inspired. Donation of \$2.00 asked. Snacks provided.

New UU Class

New UU Classes will be given The first three Sundays in June (3rd, 10th, and 17th) in Room 15 from 1 to 3:30 pm). A light lunch will be provided. If you are thinking about becoming a Unitarian, are a new member or an old member for that matter, this class is for you. This is an in-depth introduction to UU beliefs, practices, history, rituals, organization and governance. Contact **Marianne Foley** at foleyinitiative@msn.com.

Tai Chi Announcement

On Wednesday nights if you don't find us in room 15 look for us outside on the grassy side of the north parking lot. Too nice to be inside right now. Also new email address for the instructor, Jim Williams, is fourseasonstaichi@gmail.com.

Meditation Group

Join us for an exploration of the spirit through stillness. The group meets on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon, and is led by Swami G. For more information, please contact Brooks at 371-3228 or Genie at 590-2762.

Mind & Meaning Book Club



The Mind and Meaning book group meets on Sundays in Room 13A at 9:30am. The current book is by Susan Blackmore, "Conversations on Consciousness: What the Best Minds Think About the Brain, Free Will and What it Means to be Human." This group reads books and magazine article selected from the sciences and Philosophy with a discussion on one chapter per week. After the current selection they will read "Consciousness Explained by D. Dennett, "The Fabric of the Cosmos; Space, Time and the Texture of Reality" by Brian Greene; and "Before the Dawn: Recovering the Lost History of Our Ancestors" by Nicholas Wade. The contact person for this group is June Beach 382-7551.

Heritage Book Club

The Heritage Book Club includes participants from Live Oak and Wildflower Congregations as well as folks from First UU. There is no designated leader; the group shares the responsibility of discussion leader. **When:** June 8th at 8 pm. All are welcome; bring own drink and a snack to share. **What:** "Polio: American Story" by David Oshinsky Pulitzer Prize 2006. **Where:** Kitty Clark's house 4308 Avenue D 453 6246. We meet on the second Friday of each month.



Sunday Morning Book Club



The Sunday Morning Book Club has been meeting year round for nearly eleven years. The books are chosen in advance and discussed chapter by chapter. They meet in Room 13 B at 9:30. The current reading is "No Time to Lose; a Timely Guide to the Way of the Bodhisattva," by Pema Chodron. The next books are "The Idea of the Holy" by Rudolf Otto; "Critiques of God: Making the Case Against Belief in God" with essays by Freud, Eric Fromm, John Dewey, Bertrand Russell and others. "The King and the Corpse" by Heindrich Zimmer and edited by Joseph Campbell; and "Psychoanalysis and Religion" by Nicholas Wade. If you have any questions please contact **Jim Burson** 794-1086.

What's Happening in Children's RE this Summer?



Children's RE classes

From June through August, children's RE classes will be offered at the 9:45am service only. Childcare will be offered from 9:30 to 12:45, as usual. The Preschool Class will begin a new curriculum, Story Time, based on contemporary children's literature. This program helps preschoolers focus on feelings, relationships, nature, and holidays. Each session has a story, a discussion, and a choice of related activities. Preschool meets in Room 23 and is led by Erin Campbell. Please volunteer!

Kindergarten to 5th graders will have two short curricula; Stewardship: The Joy of Sharing, developed by the UUA and Caring for Out Planet Earth by Tirrell H. Kimball which promotes respect and care for the earth. Themes include natural resources, garbage handling and recycling, taking action, and celebration. The children will once again choose a social action project to work on over the summer...stay tuned for updates on these projects. K-2nd grades will meet in room 17, led by Beth Cortez-Neavel and Bill Douglass. Grades 3-5 will meet in room 15, led by Kami Cornell. Kami needs some volunteers to assist her.

Children's Chapel will be offered on the first Sunday of each month. This is a mixed age service for children from Kindergarten to 5th grade. The theme of the June Chapel is Social Action: Choosing Our Summer Project.

Middle School

The Middle Schoolers, led by Melissa Smith, meet in room 13 at 11:30 each week. These kids continue to work on strengthening their peer group and defining their goals. Middle School will also choose a summer social action project.

High School/Young Religious UUs

The high school group is getting off to a roaring start in June with the Oklahoma City 2007 Rally at [First Unitarian Church of Oklahoma City](#). The rally will be held June 1st-3rd, 2007. The "End of Year Lock-In" is on June 9th to June 10th.



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

CHURCH OF AUSTIN

4700 Grover Avenue

Austin, TX 78756

One Church. Many Beliefs.

Minister: Dr. Davidson Loehr

Acting Director of

Religious Education:

Lara Douglass

Director of Music: Brent Baldwin

President, Board of Trustees:

Mark Kilpatrick

Interim Preacher:

Jack Harris-Bonham

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Newsletter Deadline

July 15th

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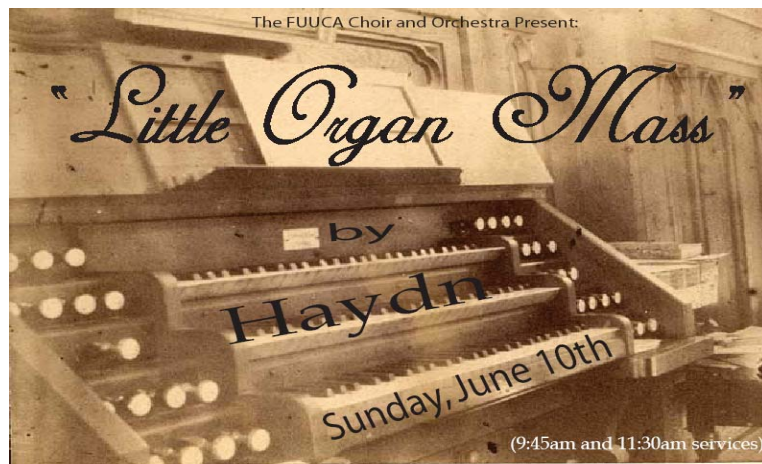
Return Service Requested

The FUUCA Choir and Orchestra

will present "Little Organ Mass" by Franz Joseph Haydn during both AM services on June 10th.

Conspirare soprano Gitanjali Mathur

will be featured in this season's final major work.



NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT.



There will not be a newsletter in July. All news will be presented in the E-announcements, Sunday bulletin, and website. Be sure to send in your



material for the August newsletter by July 15th.

