



AUUF SERVICES • 10:00 A.M.

October 4

“To Honor the One & the Many”

Rev. Diana Jordan Allende

Over the next several months, we’ll look more closely at key phrases in our AUUF Mission Statement. We say that here we honor the one and the many, but what does this paradoxical statement mean and how do we practice it?

October 11

“Association Sunday: Becoming the Religion for Our Time”

Potluck Giving of the Plate: UUA in Support of Association Sunday

Rev. Diana Jordan Allende

The UUA has recognized the value in UU congregations celebrating our being in association with one another one Sunday a year. In order to fund new initiatives, a special collection is taken up on these Association Sundays. The 2009 campaign focuses on growth in diversity, a natural tie-in to new UUA president, the Rev. Peter Morales’ vision that Unitarian Universalism can be the religion for our time. Let’s celebrate and contemplate that vision.

October 18

“Walking through Mexico”

Jim Gravois

Swine flu? Drug violence? Illegal immigrants? Having spent two months in Mexico this past summer, Jim wants to share some of his observations and personal reflections engendered by his daily walks along the streets of the United States of Mexico.

October 25

Multiple Choice Sunday

“If Questions for the Soul” (Rev. Allende) or Camp Hill Homecoming

The historic Universalist congregation in Camp Hill will celebrate their annual Homecoming with a service (11:00 a.m.) and dinner on the grounds. This tiny, but venerable congregation—one of the few Universalist congregations to survive the Civil War—welcomes our participation. So why not make the trip to Camp Hill (less than 20 miles) and enjoy their hospitality. For those who cannot make the trip to Camp Hill or want to be on hand for visitors to AUUF that Sunday, we will ponder “If Questions for the Soul.”

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Weekly Events Choir @ 8:30		Diana 1:30-5, & by appt. Yoga @ 5		Diana 1:30-5, & by appt. Meditation @ 6		
↙		↘		1 ↘	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Potluck Board Meeting					Feminista @ 8:30	Meditation @ 10
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Humanist Dinner @ 8		News Deadline Env’tl Film @ 7				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Homecoming in Camp Hill 11 a.m.						
<p>Don't forget the Day of the Dead Service is Sunday, Nov. 1!</p>						<p>Please see inside pages for more info about events.</p>

Diana's COLUMN

Sometime in 2011, the AUUF will turn 50, which means that this time next year (2010-11), we will likely be celebrating the vision of that handful of people who, in 1961, opened the door to Unitarian Universalism in Auburn, Alabama. To that end, we need a committee to do some research and organize events around this celebration. Please let me know if you are interested in being a part of this planning, which should be both rewarding and fun.

In recent years, several congregations in the Mid-South District have celebrated their 50th anniversaries: Birmingham, Emerald Coast, and Huntsville come to mind. The 50th anniversary is an opportunity for a congregation to reflect on its place both in the life of the community and in the lives of the individuals who are or have been members. It is a time to collect stories, celebrate milestones, be extra hospitable, and look toward the future. In short, it is an occasion to renew and recast the vision of Unitarian Universalism in Auburn, to ask: What can we rightly and joyfully celebrate about our past, and what are our best hopes and fondest dreams for the future?

It seems to me that a good place to start this process of assessment is by reviewing our AUUF Mission Statement, which was formulated out of a Fellowship-wide process more than ten years ago. The Mission Statement articulates our reason for existing. It states what we are here to do. Ours is something of a mission-covenant statement because in addition to declaring our reason for being, we also describe—in broad, poetic language—how we will treat one another. Thus, I would argue that our **mission** is captured in the opening and closing statements: *The Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a community dedicated to affirming a reverence for life and enriching the spiritual lives of its members. Strengthened by this fellowship, we bring a liberal religious presence to our wider community and work for a safe and just world.* The statements that come in between these two reflect **covenant**: *Here we honor the one and the many; here we welcome a diversity of thoughts, beliefs and passions; here we speak without fear and listen with open hearts. We gather to care for one another, share our burdens and joys, and celebrate life's passages.* These are lovely sentiments, words to live by, words to honor and uphold. But lest they grow stale, they need to be reviewed periodically, and ten years is a good long time. Is this still our mission, as we understand it? This is not an idle question, because, in truth, everything we do should be consistent with mission. In a way, we assess the mission statement and the mission statement "assesses" us. It has even been argued that the answer to the question: Who owns a congregation? most properly is: Its mission. People may come and go, but a well-considered mission should be an enduring touchstone until the people who make up the community determine it is time to revise.

This is not to say that a congregation needs to change its mission statement every ten years—only that periodically it should be reaffirmed or rewritten. It should be a useful statement, not a forgotten one. So this year, I will be offering several sermons that lift up parts of the AUUF Mission Statement, and I'll begin on October 4, with a sermon entitled: "To Honor the One and the Many." As we move along throughout the year, becoming more conversant with our Mission Statement, we'll create opportunities to talk about it in depth and discern the need for change or recommitment.

Blessings and Love, *Diana*

RE

NOTES

from Rebecca
Bruschek, DRE

RE at the AUUF is off to a fantastic start this year.

We kicked it off with an RE for all ages activity. Beautiful peace flags were made, and fun was had by one and all. We have a wonderful group of volunteer teachers. And with the curriculum *Tapestry of Faith*, the children will have a rewarding and meaningful time. Please join me in supporting our teachers, and thank them when you see them.

pre K - Britni and Mark Bentley, Amy Phillips
K-3 - Conar Rochford, Shannon Price, Ila Calloway
4-7 - Terry Rodriguez, Ken Walters, Greg Schmidt
7-12 - Claire Crutchley, Robert Zabawa
Subs - Ginny Jones and Leigh Jacobson

Sincerely, Rebecca Bruschek, DRE, srbruschek@gmail.com



The Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a community dedicated to affirming a reverence for life and enriching the spiritual lives of its members. Here we honor the one and the many; here we welcome a diversity of thoughts, beliefs and passions; here we speak without fear and listen with open hearts. We gather to care for one another, share our burdens and joys, and celebrate life's passages. Strengthened by this fellowship, we bring a liberal religious presence to our larger community and work for a safe and just world.

**Office Hours—
Tuesdays and
Thursdays
1:30-5:00 p.m.
and by appt.
Time off: Mondays**

**Diana's office is in
the lower level of the
Busch Center, most
easily reached by
walking down the
sidewalk and entering
through the back door.
Do stop by!**

"Whatever Catches the Eye— From Darkroom to Lightroom"

In early October there will be a photo show at AUUF featuring works by Judy Booth, Laura Kloberg, Susan Ledbetter, and Jolly Roberts who are all members/friends of the AUUF.

The works span darkroom processing to computer lightroom processing. The show will be up for about a month. A reception date has not yet been set, but the photos may be seen on Sundays during our regular coffee hour.

Stay tuned for updates.

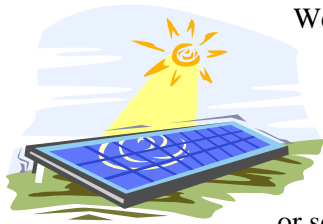
Laura Kloberg, Aesthetics Chair

Living Green, Living Well

The Green Raven

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Politics!



We are facing some pretty big numbers and pretty important political decisions this season. What is to become of our economy and the 10 or so percent of us who

cannot find work?

Health care and insurance to pay for it are of critical importance to about 40,000,000 Americans who don't have it. Not all of these will be sick, some will be killed by the problem. Some, of course, will be saved by "freedom from medicine," as medical mistakes kill quite a number of people. Some will suffer and survive.

Global warming is of critical importance to 6,500,000,000 or so humans, and countless other species. Not all of these will be hurt by the warming climate. Evolution can move rapidly when conditions change, and some individuals and some whole species will prosper -- one thinks of diseases like malaria, vines like poison ivy, and entrepreneurs like arctic oil developers. But many species will become extinct. We have already entered the sixth episode of great global extinctions, according to many biologists.

Many humans will suffer and die, and they will probably fight for life and take others with them. We are probably seeing this in Ruanda, in Darfur, and perhaps in Western China. Possibly the conservative reaction against broadening safety nets in America is based on self defense: what you give to THEM you take away from ME. You have no "right" to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," if it detracts from the happiness to which I feel entitled.

What many people want to talk about -- nay, shout about -- is who is a socialist, who's a strict constructionist, what does the second amendment to

our constitution mean, what, for that matter, does its very preamble mean: what is "the general welfare?"

What is a citizen to do?

Can we carry our re-usable bags, recycle our aluminum, unplug the "wall warts" that waste electricity, turn out the lights, ride bikes or carpool, switch to cloth napkins, darn our socks, grow a garden....

Well, what else can we do?

But here's a thought for you: Why doesn't our press tell us that other countries are using more and more solar water heaters and photo-voltaic panels? . Not just the countries we acknowledge as more civilized than we are -- western Europe -- but China, Turkey, and others that were "third world." Travelers report such changes. We seem to be falling farther and farther behind.

-Chip Busch

AROUND THE HODGEDEROSA

Sadly, the homegrown tomato harvest is over, but eggplants and Lydia's okra continue to produce; these are the long-seasoned, hot weather foods. If you have okra waning, try cutting them back to 6-8" from the ground so that side shoots form and send out new pods. In this region, pepper lovers can tend them through the cooling month of October and harvest those remaining before the first hard frost in November. As we rarely use all the chilies before the following year's harvest, we at the Hodgederosa usually pull most of them around this time of year so that we can accommodate the Fall garden.

Personally, I am no fan of beets, but after tasting authentic, savory borscht last weekend, I am reconsidering this position. Other root crops are just itching to get started in the October garden or in containers: garlic, onions (bulb and green), radishes, shallots and turnips. OK, shallots are technically onions but they deserve special mention. Aboveground sustenance include arugula, brussels sprouts, other cabbages, chard, chicory, collards, cornsalad, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mizuna, mustard greens, parsley, early (snow) peas, sorrel, spinach, strawberries and turnips. I especially honor cornsalad (aka mache) because it can grow uncovered through the coldest months. With the

exception of collards and mustard greens, we usually start some of these seeds indoors as well as in the garden so that we can fill in gaps should there be a shortage of sprouts. Fortunately all of these can be grown in containers and need less sunshine than the summer crops, so if you think you are cursed with too much shade, you can successfully supplement your winter meals with ease. Pick 'em early while they're tender for salads, or let 'em grow for scrumptious, nutritional stir fries. Before planting, be sure to clear the area of earlier crops, apply compost or other organic nutrition, and give plants good drainage: preparation is key. If you see any plants on sale at nurseries, it's probably a safe bet that it can be grown as a Fall crop, so give it a try!

Perennial shrubs and fruit trees should be planted soon before the coldest months are upon us. Dormancy will assure good growth next Spring. At any rate, water as needed and loosen and/or apply new mulch the perennials with any fallen leaves you can spare from the compost pile.

Next month, we'll go over the basics for conjuring the magic of being able to eat fresh salad on New Year's Day!

-Tom Hodges

Borscht

One of the best parts about editing this newsletter is getting a sneak preview of our contributor's thoughts for the month. Turns out Tom's a newly minted convert to beets and he likes borscht. Borscht is soooo easy to make, so give it a shot. Here's a very easy recipe. Tom-let me know if it's savory-delicious!

1 ½ c. fresh beets, peeled and grated
 1 ½ c. red cabbage, finely shredded
 3 T. tomato paste
 2 T red wine vinegar
 3 T butter
 2 c. vegetable or chicken stock
 1 large onion, minced
 1 large carrot, peeled and grated
 1 T molasses
 salt and pepper to taste
 whipped sour cream or unflavored yogurt for garnish

In a large saucepan or soup kettle, combine the beets, cabbage, tomato paste, vinegar, 1 ½ T of the butter and the stock. Bring to a boil. Reduce to a simmer, cover and cook, stirring occasionally for about 55 to 60 minutes, or until the beets are very tender.

Melt the remaining butter in a skillet and saute the onion and carrots together until the onions are browned. Transfer to the soup kettle and continue to cook for about 10 to 12 minutes. Adjust the salt and pepper to taste, stir in the molasses and serve with a garnish of sour cream or yogurt.

Yield: about 4 to 6 servings.

From 365 Vegetarian Soups by Gregg Gillespie.
 Published by Sterling Publications. 2002

-Sharon Roberts

Recycling in Opelika

Our intrepid correspondent, Martha Law, who reports on events in Opelika has researched recycling for Opelika residents this month. Here's Martha's report.



Opelika uses those distinctive and cheery upside-down happy face "igloos" for recycling. There are at least three different locations in Opelika where you will find happy collections of igloos. Two igloos sit in the parking lot of Piggly Wiggly on Pepperell Pkwy- these are for magazines and newspapers. There's a little village of igloos in Miles Thomas Park off Rocky Brooks. You can recycle plastic, newspapers, tin cans, aluminum cans, and glass bottles-brown, green, and clear here. There's a trailer parked with these igloos for cardboard. The city workers are there every day picking up and sorting (usually around 7 am when I drive by to drop off my stuff). Admittedly, the igloos are cute but the plastics igloo in Miles Thomas Park is ALWAYS stuffed to overflowing. They take #1 and #2. The third little cluster of igloos is located on Grand National Parkway just off of 280.

Opelika is also experimenting with home pickup. Martha believes they have a trial project with about 100 homes. Hopefully, it will succeed and Opelika will expand this program to more areas in the community.

-Sharon Roberts with field research by Martha Law!

If you talk to the animals they will talk to you and you will know each other. If you do not talk to them, you will not know them. And what you do not know, you will fear. What one fears, one destroys.

Chief Dan George



Mid-South District News

Experience "Building The World We Dream About"
—and more! — at the

OCTOBER 17th HEALTHY CONGREGATION CONFERENCE

The 2009 Healthy Congregation Conference—in Huntsville on October 17th—will feature 'Building the World We Dream About,' the new curriculum for congregations, and its author, Dr. Mark Hicks.

But, as usual, the Healthy Congregation Conference will offer even more than the featured presentation. There's 'Ensuring Leadership Development' and Adult Youth Advisor Training and 'A Primer for UU Worship' and 'Stewardship Planning With A Program Budget'—and lots more!

The annual Healthy Congregation Conference is always structured so that a number of folks in a congregation can attend and get different kinds of information and wisdom, in addition to meeting UUs from other congregations! It begins at 9 a.m. and finishes in time for folks to get home that day.

Registration, information and a flyer are available at www.msduua.org, Mid-South's web site.

In Mid-South District our theme for this year is "...So Our Children Can Fly"—challenging us to live richly and responsibly in a multicultural world.

Dr. Mark Hicks and the other workshops for congregation leaders promise to be inspiring and enriching paths toward that goal!

See you in Huntsville on the 17th!

*Eunice Benton, Executive Director
Mid-South District, UUA*

Bookworms!!!!

Books, books, and more books! Have you checked out our cozy AUUF library yet? It is in the Bush Center across from the hospitality suite. As of September, the catalogue is up-to-date and checking out books is soooo easy. The books are sorted by category. There is a card in each book.

Write down your name, date of check-out and a phone number or email, and place the card in the small black index card box. When you return the book, just place it in the red box and I will reshelf it. Take your time reading it, but please think of other UU's that would also enjoy it. You could have a mini-book conference over coffee! There are books for kids, on environmental issues, on self-help and on all kinds of spiritual issues. Come and check it out for yourself! The catalogue is on our website.

Questions? Call (821-4293) or email (buschgi@auburn.edu)

Gisela Buschle Diller

What do UU know?

In the Loop

Though neither the state nor an ecclesiastical hierarchy funds us, we are part of the Mid-South District of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (MSD). The MSD's Growth & Support Committee administers a Chalice Lighter Program to assist the growth of both emerging and existing congregations.

One need we have had that fits the Chalice Lighter mission is to make the R.E. Building accessible. Of our three buildings, the R.E. building alone is not wheelchair accessible. Take a moment before you enter the Fellowship building to imagine that you are in a wheelchair, on crutches, or are otherwise mobility-impaired. How could you enter the Religious Education building independently, with ease and dignity? Emily Livant championed the writing of a Chalice Lighter Grant Application to add a ramp to the R.E. Building. Accessibility to this building will help guide our youngest UUs in what it means to be open and welcoming to all. In March, we were notified that the AUUF was selected to receive a Chalice Lighter grant, and recently, we were informed that our Chalice Lighter Call is headed to the printers!

The Chalice Lighter program combines many small contributions into a sum that can be a significant benefit to a congregation. Those who choose to be a Chalice Lighter pledge to respond with a minimum \$10 contribution when the call comes that it is time to light the chalice for a congregation in the Mid-South District. It is a wonderful way to extend the number of companions we have on our journey!

More information about the Chalice Lighter Program is located at: http://www.msduua.org/home/Resources_Chalice/Chalice%20Lighters/index.html

*Carl Hudson
President, AUUF Board of Trustees*

Environmental Movie & Organic Cookies October 20, 7:00 PM!! FREE

Fresh, the Movie

Take a Fresh look at food, agriculture and sustainability across America! A celebration of small farmers and local food production, of ecologically sane practices, and of partnerships between growers and consumers, this documentary is inspiring and positive.

"FRESH celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system. Each has witnessed the rapid transformation of our agriculture into an industrial model and confronted the consequences: food contamination, environmental pollution, depletion of natural resources, and morbid obesity. Forging healthier, sustainable alternatives, they offer a practical vision for a future of our food and our planet."

FRESH features urban farmer and activist, Will Allen, the recipient of MacArthur's 2008 *Genius Award*; sustainable farmer and entrepreneur, Joel Salatin, made famous by Michael Pollan's book, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*; and supermarket owner, David Ball, challenging our Wal-Mart dominated economy. You can watch the trailer at <http://www.freshthemovie.com>. The movie runs for 72 min.

Gisela (821-4293)

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Reminder: The deadline for newsletter items is the 20th of the month.

LOST AUBURN

Do you have photos, print or digital, of houses, businesses, etc., that are no longer standing in Auburn? AUUF member Ann Pearson, Ralph Draughon, Jr., and Delos Hughes, all Auburn natives, are compiling a book of photographs called *LOST AUBURN* and are looking for photos of the exteriors of structures. If anyone has any appropriate pictures, they may contact Ann Pearson at stonylonesome@earthlink.net or by phone at 821-3660.

**Come to the
 Camp Hill
 Homecoming**

We are invited by the congregation of the beautiful First Universalist Church of Camp Hill to join them on Sunday, October 25th. The service begins at 11 a.m., followed by a covered dish dinner on the grounds. Bring something tasty to share. Their first homecoming was 153 years ago!



Directions: Go West on U.S. 280 and turn right onto Highway 50. Turn right onto Claude Pepper Dr. and go over the raliroad tracks. You can't miss it

SCHEDULES

Playground Volunteers		Greeters	
Oct. 4th	Tom Hodges, Conar Rochford	Oct. 4th	Tom Hodges, Conor and Jeblen
Oct. 11th	Dave Roller, Ryan Rood	Oct. 11th	Ken Walters, Terry Rodriguez
Oct. 18th	Noriko Aoi, Zandra DeLamar	Oct. 18th	Peter and Emily Livant
Oct. 25th	Koehlers	Oct. 25th	Dott Daily, Amy Kaiser
Storytellers		Angels	
Oct. 4th	Ila Calloway	Oct. 4th	Jim Gravois, Susan McCallister
Oct. 11th	Peter Livant	Oct. 11th	Jack and Suzanne Walker
Oct. 18th	Jim Gravois	Oct. 18th	Sharon Roberts, Connie Salts
Oct. 25th	?	Oct. 25th	Shannon Price, Amy Kaiser