



The Flame

March 2011

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula



13136 Warwick Blvd
Newport News, VA 23602
www.uufp.org 757-369-1098



The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula is to create a dynamic community that celebrates life and searches for truths.

March Services


Theme: Resilience

March 6th: "The Class of 2010" Rev Millard. Each year the Unitarian Universalist Association offers a week-long seminar for first-year ministers, helping them find their spiritual cores, providing them with tools to build their new ministries, and creating a community of resource-sharing and support. Back from Boston, Andrew will share what he learnt that will help him and the Fellowship in the years ahead.

March 13th: "The Weight of the World" Rev Millard. Justice takes a long time, and it sometimes seems that we spend as much time moving away from it as toward it. Part of being in a community involved in justice work, however, is finding the strength to carry on when times get tough, to rise above disappointments and differences of opinion, and to draw upon our personal and spiritual resources for resilience.

At this service we'll also welcome the Fellowship's newest members.

March 20th: "Eostre, the Spring Equinox" Robin van Tine, EarthRising and the ChorUUs will present an experiential, Earth-centered celebration of Eostre, the Spring Equinox. Together we will mythopoetically explore the inner and outer meanings of Spring and renewal with music, metaphor, meditation and deep sharing, while reconnecting ourselves to the sacred cycles of nature and the cosmos. Please bring a "sacred object" that represents renewal — you will get it back!

March 27th: "How many Unitarian Universalists does it take to celebrate a golden anniversary?" Rev Millard. It's almost here! This year the UUA turns fifty, and we're hosting the celebration in our district! As the Fellowship prepares to send its own delegates to General Assembly in Charlotte NC, let's reflect on our struggles and achievements since 1961's consolidation of the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America, and lay out our hopes for the future. 

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Best Phone # -369-1098

Our mailing address is:

UUF

13136 Warwick Blvd

Newport News, VA 23602

March 1st An Evening with Mel White

From: Cassie Cole



Please share it with them!

I am writing to announce an exciting upcoming event happening at the College of William and Mary. If you think your members would be interested in this event, please share it with them!

“Why Gay Rights Concern Us All: An Evening With Mel White”

Tuesday March 1st, 8-10 PM,

**Commonwealth Auditorium, Sadler Center
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg**

The Rev. Dr. Mel White, renowned civil rights activist, minister, and author, will give a talk about LGBT civil rights and nonviolent resistance followed by a Q&A session. Dr. White worked for

many powerful figures of the Religious Right before coming out of the closet in the early 90's. Since then, he has written books about the experience of being gay and Christian, became a minister, and founded SoulForce, an interfaith civil rights and advocacy organization dedicated to the principles of nonviolent resistance. He is an inspirational and deeply moving speaker.

This event is free and open to the public.

If you are interested in learning more about Mel White or SoulForce, here is his website: www.soulforce.org

Join members of the Welcoming Congregation from UUFP at this upcoming event..

For additional information contact Lauren Furey at ozmagoddess@yahoo.com , ☎

March 4th Invisible Children's "Tony"

From: Valerie Gecowets

Hello,

My name is Valerie Gecowets. I am a senior at Poquoson High School and a member of the UUFP. I am contacting you on behalf of People to People International's Hampton Roads Student Chapter. PTPI's HRSC is hosting a community event I believe our congregation may be interested in.

In following with PTPI's mission, the Hampton Roads Student Chapter is hosting a screening of the film "Tony" as part of Invisible Children's Congo Tour on Friday, March 4th. "Tony" documents the life of a young Ugandan man named Tony and follows the past eight years of his life, which have always been marked by violence from terrorist groups like the Lord's Resistance Army.

Invisible Children is a nonprofit that is dedicated to raising awareness about children who are abducted and forced to fight as soldiers in the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a rebel group currently terrorizing central east Africa.

I would like to invite any members of the congregation to attend. If possible, it would be nice to have the word about this event spread to have many people come...

The screening will be at Norfolk Collegiate School's Upper School Gym (7336 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA) 7 pm- 8:30 pm, Friday, March 4.

If you are not familiar with People to People International, its purpose is to enhance international understanding and friendship through educational, cultural and humanitarian activities involving the exchange of ideas and experiences directly among peoples of different countries and diverse cultures.

PTPI's Hampton Roads Student Chapter is a student group based in the lower tidewater area of Virginia whose members are students from various local high schools. The chapter's main focus is on spreading international awareness and the mission of Peace through Understanding in the local community. The chapter also does service projects that serve to help the needs of the greater Hampton Roads area.

If you have any questions or would like more information, feel free to contact me.

Very Respectfully, Valerie L. Gecowets Co-President
People to People International's Hampton Roads Student Chapter ptpi.hrsc@gmail.com valerie.gecowets@gmail.com (757) 291-2568 ☎



For all that is our life!

Andrew Clive Millard



There's a lot of discussion amongst today's Unitarian Universalists about "adaptive leadership". It's been the subject of workshops at the UUA's General Assembly and was one of the tracks at last month's UU Ministers Association "Institute for Excellence in Ministry". It's the focus of much of the First Year Ministers' Seminar in Boston this month, and it's the main topic for the Southeast UU Ministers Association Retreat at the Mountain in May. It's also a significant part of the "Harvest the Power!" program on lay leadership development that Joanne and I have been facilitating.

Many of the problems facing us in everyday life might be considered technical challenges, in that it's simply a matter of acquiring the knowledge or skills needed to resolve each problem. Should one of the tires on my bicycle develop a puncture, for instance, it's either a matter of taking it to a bike shop for the tire to be replaced or buying a new tire and then replacing it myself. I come out of the process pretty much as I went in, at least once I've washed the dirt and grease off my hands!

An adaptive challenge, though, isn't about acquiring knowledge or skills, at least at first. Rather, it requires, in the words of Ron Heifetz of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, "developing the organizational, cultural and spiritual capacity to meet problems successfully according to our values and purposes." Many of the problems faced by groups of people — from a congregation to human society — are actually adaptive, not technical; addressing them can be messy but is always transformative, for individuals as well as their culture.

At this time of year, most UU congregations are doing their annual pledge drives, and the Fellowship is amongst that number doing its canvass. Now it might seem like ensuring there's a healthy budget is a technical challenge: it's simply a matter of finding the right way to ask members and friends to submit a generous pledge and that's all there is to it. Well, no. For one thing, very

few people get excited at the mere thought of a balanced budget!

In Heifetz's terms, we've been developing our organizational, cultural and spiritual capacity by embracing an understanding of stewardship that goes beyond the pledge drive. Most of you, by now, will have been invited by a "steward" to a friendly meeting — over breakfast or lunch or afternoon coffee — to simply talk about what it means to you to be a part of our Fellowship, reflecting on where our shared hopes for the congregation overlap the dreams of your heart. As part of the canvass this month, of course, the next round of such conversations will include a request to you to complete your pledge card; future stewardship meetings will then return to more general discussions of connection and caring as we develop our stewardship ministry together. UUA Consultant Frankie Price Stern says that the Fellowship may well be the only UU congregation in the country taking this approach to stewardship, so the rest of the denomination is watching us closely!

My sermons this month will turn to the topic of resilience, and it's perhaps not surprising that in developing our capacity to respond to adaptive challenges, we also deepen our resilience. After all, it isn't usually technical problems that call for resilience; a punctured bicycle tire shouldn't affect my own sense of identity and who I am trying to be in the world! Rather, it's adaptive challenges that call into question our purpose, our attitudes towards risk and difficult decisions, our comfort (or lack thereof!) with disequilibrium, distress and change. So, when it comes to the problems that we all inevitably face in our lives — whether as individuals or in families, as a congregation or in the wider society — may we support and encourage one another in our efforts to draw upon our cultural and spiritual resources for resilience, finding within ourselves and through each other a deepened capacity to respond to life's challenges. ☺



Member Bio

Stella Combs

submitted by: *Bobbie Schilling*



When did you join UUFP? How did you find out about us? Why or how long have you been a UU?

September 25, 2010. I found out about the UUFP and UU from belly dance class (August 2008). After reading the principles I was amazed this style of religion that I knew in my heart could exist actually did. We can all live in harmony and UU-ism is proof.

Tell us something about your background: Where are you from originally? Where did you go to school? Careers? Jobs?

I am originally from Paintsville Kentucky which is nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. I say that I'm a Jack of all Trade and full time employment of none. I have held many jobs in my life. My family owned a fencing business when I was in my pre-teens until I was 20. Jobs I have had in the past have been with elderly as their personal assistant, and a stint with Microsoft. Most of my experience comes from a wealth of volunteer work. I worked closely with an animal shelter in Kentucky in fostering abused dogs. Being a mentor is also a passion; I enjoy working with new US Navy Families. I am currently enrolled at Ashford University majoring in Psychology.

Why have you become active with some committees? How long have you been doing it?

I am part of several committees, Social Justice, Green Sanctuary, and Fellowship Circle. I love being part of a congregation of do-ers. The fellowship circle is an amazing place to express you self and to learn. I have grown tremendously

since joining the circle. I also attend EarthRising, Women's Drumming, and Goddess Circle.

“What do you like best about the UUFP” or “What keeps you coming to the Fellowship?”

I can truly be myself. Even if myself is different tomorrow.

When you are not doing church things...what do you like to do with your time? Significant others? Family? Other accomplishments?

Spouse: Michael Combs (US Navy)

Married: November 23, 2006

Daughters in order of age:

Kurstie Dutton attends Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky.

Carlie Dutton-Combs resides here.

Kayla Combs lives in Hinesville, Georgia

In 2010, I became an official member of the dance troupe Treasures in the Sand. This is the troupe that meets at the UUFP and is part of the Casbah. This is also the year of the launch of my solo career.

Anything else you would want us to know about you?

I will be walking on September 10 for the SOS Out of Darkness walk in VA Beach. I am the Captain of the team LOVE COMPASSION PEACE. The walks are to raise money and awareness for suicide prevention. ☺



Report on Sharing the Basket

By *Donna Sprock*



Social Justice Committee wants to thank everyone who has so generously contributed to the “Share the Basket” program. This is a program in which half of all of the non-Pledge portion of the collected offering is shared with various organizations. Our Unitarian Universalist principles call for us to work

for justice and humanity. By reaching out to the community, both locally and globally, we are showing the world who we are and for what we stand. In addition to providing some financial resources to our chosen organizations, sharing the basket offers opportunities to raise awareness of

Continued from previous page.

these organizations and their causes among ourselves, get involved with the organization itself, as well as develop and deepen connections with these non-profit organizations. Someone once said, "Comfort the disturbed. Disturb the comfortable." We believe that these organizations help us do this as a congregation. We help those in need and we raise awareness about issues that need to be addressed on a range of issues, including hunger, civil rights, medical care, and the environment. Each week, the basket is currently shared with the following groups:

The first Sunday of every month, we share the basket with the Lubuto Library Project, and have donated \$980.14 (as of January 31st). This organization helps Zambia's street kids, orphans and other vulnerable children who are mostly out of school by offering them an opportunity for informal education, constructive engagement with society, and personal fulfillment. They give hope of a future to children who would otherwise have none. They have sent us fliers about their organization with information about their program and other ways to get involved, which are available in the lobby. You can also learn more at <http://www.lubuto.org>.

The second Sunday of every month, we share the basket with the Virginia Sierra Club, and have donated \$957.54 (as of January 31st). They are involved in a number of issues statewide, including mountaintop removal mining, green transportation, and climate change. The Virginia Sierra Club offers many

opportunities to get involved and informed, and a number of our members are also members of the Virginia Sierra Club. To learn more, go to <http://vasierraclub.org>.

The third Sunday of every month, we share the basket with LINK, and have donated \$966.25 (as of January 31st). We have supported LINK in many ways for many years now, and the Social Justice Committee takes this commitment seriously. It is our hope that the Share the Basket program will increase the amount of financial assistance we give LINK and make that amount much more dependable. LINK is a nonprofit volunteer organization which exists to help people help themselves through education, direct services, advocacy and outreach programs with a vision to break the cycle of poverty. If you wish to volunteer directly with LINK or to learn more, go to <http://www.linkhr.org>.

The fourth Sunday of every month, we share the basket with A Safe Place—Saturday Noon Meal program at St. Paul's Episcopal in downtown Newport News, and have donated \$631.65 (one of their Sundays was cancelled for snow). A Safe Place provides support and emergency assistance to people who are homeless and in crisis. Five days a week, St. Paul's welcomes homeless and low-income adults to shelter, peer counseling groups, and the opportunity to attend to basic human needs. The Weekend Meals program offers meals for the downtown community on days when many other local outreach programs and social services support offices are closed. We cook and

serve dinner on the first Friday of every month and a hot lunch about every 6th Saturday. Our contributions go to this program to help purchase groceries. To learn more, go to http://www.stpaulsnn.org/min_food.php.

On the occasional fifth Sunday, we share the basket with two different causes. One is PORT, the emergency winter shelter program, and have donated \$297.48. The other is our Minister's Discretionary Fund, and have donated \$526.55.

Now after almost eight successful months, the Social Justice Committee is looking forward to the upcoming new fiscal year. We will be considering the current organizations as well as new organizations for the Share the Basket Program. There will be nomination forms available in the lobby. We will present the possible candidates to the membership at the annual meeting in May.

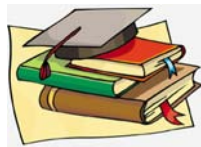
Thank you for supporting the Share the Basket effort, so we can make a greater impact on the world around us. Thank you for generously sharing your gifts with these organizations.

"Love is our doctrine, the quest for truth is our sacrament, and service is our prayer. To dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom, to serve life, to the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine, thus do we covenant with each other, and with all."

In sincere gratitude,

The Social Justice Committee





Spring is in the air, hooray! There are lots of things going on in Children’s Religious Education. Our 9:30 kids enjoy learning classic Bible stories with Timeless Themes. Our Spirit Play kids continue to enjoy stories and self-guided activities each week. The second through fifth grade students are building their Toolboxes of Faith. The middle school class explores new directions with Compass Points and the high school students have been searching deep for Truth and Meaning.

Final update on Guest at Your Table– the UUFP contributed \$549.96 to help others.

Check out the photo and certificates of our adopted Giraffe in the Caum Room.

The Harvest the Power sessions have been very enjoyable and informative. We welcome everyone to join us for our last two sessions in April on the 14th and the 21st.

Thanks goes out to all our participants in the Secret Friends Program. I think everyone had a lot

of fun and it was great to give people a chance to get to know each other better. We look forward to running the event again next year.

All are invited to an RE Families Potluck. We especially want to encourage new families, visitors and families with children in the nursery and Spirit Play. We hope this luncheon will give families a chance to network. We would also like to create an online RE family support group. The luncheon will be held on March 6th after second service. Bring a dish to share!

In preparation for General Assembly in June, the high school youth will be holding a Spaghetti dinner on March 19th at 6:00. More details will be posted soon. Help support the youth go to GA. It’s sure to be an experience they won’t forget! Just a reminder- registration and hotels for GA will be available starting March 1st.

See you in the RE! ☺



Children’s RE Committee

submitted By
Joanne Dingus, DRE & Brandy
Bergenstock, RE Chair

The Children’s RE Committee is sponsoring a potluck luncheon on Sunday March 6th after second service. All RE families are welcome to attend, but we would especially like to encourage families who have recently visited or are new to the fellowship, families with children in the nursery and families with children in Spirit Play. We hope to make this an opportunity for parents to network with each other and share stories, concerns, needs, talents and ideas. We will discuss the possibility of forming an online parent support group for anyone interested in connecting with other UU families at UUFP.

Please bring a dish to share. To help our members and friends with food allergies please tape a list of ingredients on your dish.

We look forward to sharing this time of fun and fellowship with all of you. ☺

Adult RE

by Dennis Shaw

Beginning on Sunday March 6th and continuing through April 10th, we will be privileged to have Dr Bill Peach, a renowned religious scholar and lecturer at the CNU Lifelong Learning Program, as our guest speaker at Adult RE. His topic will be “Christianity- then and now”. Each of the six sessions will be interesting and informative, with a touch of humor and plenty of chance for questions and discussion. Please join us- all sessions are held in the new Annex building from 9:30 until 10:30.

Thanks,

Dennis ☺



News Bytes

50 & Better

We, who are near fifty or more, always have fun with our peers while enjoying a pot-luck lunch on the first Thursdays of (almost) every month. If you have not experienced these pleasant get-togethers, we hope you will try it...we think you'll like it! Please call Esther at 369-1858 for more details. Our next lunch will be on March 3rd. ☺

Membership

The next Membership Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 pm in the Annex. Please note that this is a change in time and location. ☺

TJ District Meeting

by *Sandra Engelhardt*

The spring meeting of the 63 congregations in the Thomas Jefferson District of the UUA will be held at Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Durham, NC on 30 April. UUF is allowed 3 delegates to this meeting. One of the items on the agenda for this meeting is changing the name of the district. Prior to the TJ meeting there will be at least one town hall meeting and a 'straw vote' of our congregation. Anyone interested in attending the TJ meeting, please contact Joanne Dingus as there is a delegate slot open. The registration cost is not yet known, but is usually under \$50.00. ☺

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee keeps a list of volunteers willing to help other Fellowship Members and Friends through difficult times. You are encouraged to call or e-mail us if you need assistance; if you know a UUF Friend or Member who needs assistance; if you have a specific caring task in mind; or if you would like to be included in the Committee List of Volunteers for future tasks. Call Meg Glenn-Albiez, Caring Committee Chair at (757) 874-4368 or e-mail caringcommittee@uufp.org. ☺

Fellowship Circle

Our Fellowship Circle program is expanding. A new Monday evening Circle will begin in March. If you are interested in becoming part of this group please contact Bob Smith Rsmith4908@aol.com. The purpose of our Fellowship Circles is to provide an opportunity to meet others in a small group setting in which participants can explore their beliefs and think deeply about their lives. The Circles choose topics that help members think and share at a level not usually found in everyday conversation. We accept new members into circles as space permits. New applicants are provided an individual orientation that covers the mission and purpose of the program as well as how to follow the Compassionate Deep Listening process that is the key to our uniqueness. ☺

Humanist Meeting.

The next Humanist group meeting will be on Sunday, March 20 at UUF. Join us for coffee and conversation at 6 pm (you are welcome to bring "finger foods" or other goodies to share) followed by the meeting at 7pm. We will start of a series of discussion based on the book "Good Without God" by Greg Epstein, a "humanist rabbi" who serves as Humanist Chaplain at Harvard University. ☺

TJ Website News Highlights Our Andrew

by *Sandra Engelhardt*

Go to the TJ website and learn about what is happening in the district, including our minister's column in the Daily Press. The website is at www.tjdistrict.org. ☺

2nd Sunday Lunch

We are venturing to a new (new for our 2nd Sunday group) on March 10 at 12:30—ANDERSONS SHOWPLACE CAFE (Anderson's Home and Garden Showplace) on Jefferson. Great salads, wraps, soups and gourmet specialties. You will like the food and enjoy the fellowship. Everyone welcome! ☺



News Bytes (cont.)

New Young Adults Group

'Resist Apathy!'

submitted by Aaron Hansley

This announcement is for the new young adults group. Ages 21-29 only.

Nikki and I will be leading this new group and we can be contacted at our email through the directory. I will also be present after second service to answer questions and provide a sign-up sheet.

As a group, we will focus on manifesting the ministry of the church. Through volunteering and donations we plan on making strides within our community.

We will also spend time in social settings and discussion groups, fostering an atmosphere of openness in our search for our own Truth. Our group will be called 'Resist Apathy!' A schedule will be established after we get an accurate count of interest. Our group will also begin a liason with CNU and Thomas Nelson.

Thank you for your time,

Aaron M Hansley

Email: rn_hansley@yahoo.com

The Casbah Needs You

The Casbah returns on April 16! Taste a delicious meal, watch beautiful dancers, laugh at the final installment of the Sultan Mysteries, and help us make it all happen.

We are still looking for more than a few good men. We especially need help with the following tasks: Finance Manager (keeping our event budget); Ticket Sellers; Decorators (helping turn the Fellowship into a dessert oasis); Host/Hostess (directing the kids who will be serving food); and Clean-Up Chief (we can even give you a special hat!).

These are all great short-term jobs that will allow YOU to help out the UUFP while spending time with some wonderfully zany folks. Please contact Rachel Bevins at see-r-b@cox.net or call 877-1326 if you are able to volunteer.

We hope to Meet UU at the Casbah!

Rachel ☺

EarthRising

Spring Equinox is just around the corner. Planning will be on March 4 and the Ritual will be on the 18. ☺

Book Club

This month's meeting will be Monday the 28th at 6:30pm. The assigned book is Willa Cather's "My Antonia."

The meeting will start at 6:30 for a pot-luck supper and brief discussion of the book. Then we will watch the movie for comparisons.

Next meeting - April 25

The assigned book - free reading

The UUFP Book Club meets every fourth Monday of the month. Come join us to share, discuss, and learn about what you and others have been reading. All are welcome - even if you have not read the "assigned" book!

Contact person: Nan Procyson, procyson@cox.net, 930-3093 ☺

4th Saturday Women's Drum & Pot Luck

7pm - A casual gathering of women to share food, friendship & to make music together. Mark your calendar now! 4th Saturdays!

For more info, call Connie 788-8903 ☺

Bake Sale Date

The planned date for the bake sale to help pay the registration for the GA delegates is 27 March. For more info contact Sandra Engelhardt at slealbers@cs.com. ☺



Services Attendance		
Date	Early/Late	Visitors
Jan 23	57/70	1/5
Jan 30	35/64	n/a
Feb 6	31/78	6/8
Feb 13	39/75	1/5
Feb 20	31/72	1/8





Pre-Cluster Gathering!

by Rev Andrew Millard

For many years now, ministers and religious educators in Virginia have benefitted from a strong colleagues' group, known as the Virginia Cluster of UU Ministers (or VACUUM). We meet once a month, in either Richmond or Charlottesville, to talk about topics of interest, to share joys and sorrows, to support one another and celebrate our achievements. In short, we minister to one another, and that one day a month does a lot to recharge our spiritual batteries! We're lucky, because elsewhere in the District there aren't really such colleagues' groups. At the same time, oddly enough, there are congregational clusters elsewhere in the District, but not here in Virginia.

Since pre-candidating last year I've heard a number of people express interest in having a congregational cluster, from our District Executive Annette

Marquis to other ministers to members of the Fellowship. UUFP has even hosted cluster-type events! While the UUA's districts are beginning to work together by sharing resources within larger geographic "regions" — such as the Southland Region, a cooperative venture between Mid-South, Florida, the Southwestern Conference and our District — there's increasing energy for congregations do more to work together in clusters. One suggestion, given the idea that clusters should be no more than a couple of hours across, is that congregations in western Virginia (roughly along the I-81 corridor) could form a "Blue Ridge Cluster" and congregations in eastern Virginia (roughly along the I-64 corridor) could form a "Tidewater Cluster". (Congregations in northern Virginia are actually in the Joseph Priestley District.)

Whatever the final form of these clusters, however, a number of people are helping the process along, including some here at the Fellowship! As part of the effort to develop a cluster, we've invited ministers, lay leaders and others who are interested to come to an informal lunch meeting, 11 am to 2 pm, here in Newport News on Saturday April 2nd. This is primarily an opportunity for people from different congregations to get to know one another and talk about the possibilities for working together at the cluster level. Just as is the case when people come together to make a congregation, there's lots we can do together as congregations that we can't do (or can't do very well) alone. I hope you'll consider attending and being a part of this exciting process of creating something new, right here in our own part of the UU world! ☺



Sunday Morning Greeters and Lay Leaders Needed



Have you always wanted to be more involved Sunday morning? Did you enjoy being warmly greeted by a member when you first came to UUFP? Have you watched as the lay leader helped the minister present a meaningful service? Have you thought "I'd like to do that" but held back because you were not sure you were prepared to serve?

The Sunday Services Committee and the Membership Committee would like to help. We will be offering a special workshop on March 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship building. Come and learn how you can fill these important roles on Sunday mornings. Training for Lay Leaders and Greeters will be offered. It's a great way to be

involved whether you are a long time member or a relative newcomer.

Please contact Jim Sanderson (e2rgb@aol.com 757-249-4103) with any questions or to let us know you are coming. ☺



Dangerous and Daring Camp for boys and girls

Developing confidence through accomplishment isn't our motto; *it's our day!*

Dangerous campers will be guided in learning how to:

build a bench using saws, rulers, drills and sweat,

enter a "Worst Case Scenario" eating contest with deeping layers of difficulty and bravery,

compete in a bridge building contest of fortitude and strength,

and make household liquids bubble, smoke and/or explode,

just to name a few...

"A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects. "

-Robert A. Heinlein

Designed for 8-13 yr olds

9:30- 4:30 daily (M-F)

with early morning care (7:30) and late pick-up (6:30) available for an additional cost.

August 1 – 5, 2011

\$160 for campers

\$10 discount for additional siblings. Snack will be provided; Travelers need to pack lunches.

Camp is held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 415 Youngs Mill Ln, Newport News VA 23602.

Please read the bottom of this document for instructions on emailing it and making payments.

Contact Brandy Bergenstock at bergiemoore@gmail.com for more information.

The registration form is on the web. Just follow the link below:

[Dangerous and Daring Camp](#)

My favorite time of the year!

By David Walsh



One of the things I like about this time of the year is our annual stewardship drive, when we get a chance to visit with each other one-on-one and share all of the great things the Fellowship means to us.

So, I thought I would share my feelings about this with you.

The energy here is astounding! We see jobs that need doing and we jump in and do them. When the undergrowth between the two buildings needed clearing, sixty+ people showed up with all kinds of equipment and got a three-weekend job done in about 5 hours!

When Rev. Millard came to visit for his "candidating week," we were ready! Everything was cleaned, the church was full of people bringing food to welcome Andrew and Allison, letting them know how happy we

were to meet them. This took a lot of planning and coordination between every committee, the policy board, and the committee on ministry and, after months of hard work, the search committee. I have hundreds of pictures of smiling faces from that week!

No offense, Andrew, but one of my favorite parts of the service is "children's focus." The smiles on the kid's faces are worth a fortune, but has anyone noticed that we, the adults, are just as focused on Joanne's story-telling? And, that's only half of our Religious Education program! Dennis Shaw has grown the adult religious education program to a point where they are, once again, running out of room!

And social justice! Thanks to this committee, the UFP is a force to be reckoned with, locally and internationally! We now share

the bounty we receive in the basket on Sundays, which has resulted in thousands of dollars contributed to organizations world-wide! Volunteers show up to man a soup kitchen every month as well as helping with PORT when the weather is so cold that people deluge shelters in need of a warm meal and a safe place to spend the night.

And we have an active Green Sanctuary committee, which is working on programs on climate change, our participation in the 350.org program and now our new members are stepping up to ask all of us to take a pledge to make changes in our lifestyle. (More info on this soon.)

Okay. Those are my joys about the Fellowship. Be sure and share yours with your steward in March. (I'd really love to hear from you, too! David.walsh@cox.net) David ☺



March Birthdays

Happy Birthday to these members and friends!

If your birthday is this month and we overlooked you, please contact Bobbie Schilling at va_skibums@hotmail.com or 249-2586

2 Alan Sheeler

3 Jake Strom

4 Ann Taylor

9 Susan Schneider

12 Maggie Fureymoore

13 Pat Millspaw

16 Andrew Millard

16 Courtney Coirin

17 Tristess Junkins

19 Daniel Moore

23 Parker Stokes

25 Jerry Dingus, Jr.



Calendar

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