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TO THE GLORY OF LIFE

The Glory of Flight

A few weeks ago, on our way back from a college graduation in New Jersey and a restful vacation on the Maine coast, Kate and I dropped our son Willy, the graduate, at the Baltimore airport, where he rented a car and set off for Berkeley, California and into the next phase of his life. As we watched him drive off, a big grin on his face, excited about the future, we felt the complementary emotions of great joy and sadness that come to parents as they watch their offspring leave the nest – a universal parental experience. He had been far away for the past four years, but he had remained connected to us; he called for advice, we claimed him as a deduction. He was figuratively, if not literally, still in the nest. This leaving was different; it was the real deal.

The two weeks in Maine with Willy (and his younger brother Peter) were a wonderful time. We had seen the regard in which he was held by college professors and advisors. And then, living with him in very close quarters for two weeks, we secretly marveled at the mature, thoughtful, wise, engaging – and engaged – person he had become. So, when he drove away, fledged at last, we never doubted his ability to fly – and to survive on his own. He had admitted to some trepidation, some nervousness, but there was no question in our minds that he was ready to be on his own.

So it must have been for Greg, when he left the church on January 31st for his five-month sabbatical. He knew we were ready to go it alone; he knew we could fly. I have been accused by those near and dear to me of being the eternal optimist, incapable of

seeing or imagining bad outcomes, and I confess to a weakness in that direction. But even I felt some qualms about five months of solo flight.

As parents, at various stages in our children's development, we sometimes wish that we could freeze them, to preserve a time and a relationship. But we know that the glory of life is, in part, about the glory of growth and the change that growth brings with it. We would not hold our children back, despite the knowledge that real growth entails enduring, overcoming, embracing hardship, pain, and yes, even suffering.

Greg knew that we would encounter hardship and suffering on our flight – that we would be buffeted and bruised, that we might lose our way temporarily. He couldn't know exactly what the hardships would be, but he knew there would be some. And there were! At one point in our debating/arguing the governance issue, someone in the congregation was heard to say, "I think Greg purposefully left us to thrash through this mess on our own!"

You know, I think he did. And I think we are the better for it. On our amazing five-month journey we learned of our incredible reserves of strength and wisdom and resourcefulness. We learned that we can differ and dissent and continue to love each other. We learned that community grows through the respectful, honest engagement of its members. We learned that we can fly, and we learned that flight can be glorious!

Dave Hudson

Sabbatical Corner

Important Meeting on Aug.1 (7:30-9:30 pm): We will join Eunice Benton (Mid-South District) who will facilitate our discussion of Greg's re-integration into the UUMAN family. We have all changed during the 5 months he was on Sabbatical and we will examine our expectations and our relationships. For information, contact Elizabeth Rohan or Dave Hudson.



Sabbatical Update

Dear Friends,

When I began my sabbatical five months ago, grandiose visions of my return came to mind. I dreamed of returning with stories of dragons slayed and details of sages bestowing me with pearls of wisdom. I thought of sharing secrets of enlightenment with folks back home. I pictured myself regaling all with a Homer-esque Odyssey - spellbinding as it was useful.

Sorry to disappoint. But as I return, I feel more like what the Buddha must have felt like more towards the beginning of his path to Nirvana rather than towards the end. After growing up in a palace surrounded by every thing he could ask for, he decided to set out and see the world from which he was long sheltered. And, in the process, he discovered a number of things that changed the way he would look at the world forever.

I must say that I was very surprised at how difficult it was to begin my journey and make my way from UUMAN - a place that has been like a palace for me. Like the Buddha discovered after leaving his home, my sabbatical taught me about how many rigid perceptions I tend to carry and how my attachment to them has been the greatest source of my own suffering over the years. Trying to keep things the same. Or make my life fit the picture in my head that I thought described what I believed I needed or should have. The Buddha encountered a number of things that changed his perspective. So did I.

In Greece I saw how extended families are looked to, cherished, fought for and nourished. I saw how men sat together in groups, talking and arguing in loving ways. I saw how news was shared and debated over food and drink at taverns and how the simplest chores of work and home life were woven into the broader fabric of relationship which made life so much richer.

In my travels to many other cities I visited other churches with different ideas and different ways of worship and governance. I saw some practices that were helpful and intriguing for me that did little for others. I saw some that inspired others and did nothing for me. What I learned had less to do with wanting to promote one more than any other and more to do with finding ways for these different organizations to dialog constructively and respectfully with one another. I deepened my conviction that what will save this planet is not 'the one true faith' taking charge but the many particulate faiths making room and listening to one another. My desire to explore interfaith work has grown.

I used opportunities to visit other secular and faith-based non profits and discover that bettering the world also depends upon creating and strengthening alliances between associations. There are so many great organizations doing vital work right here in Atlanta that could buoy and benefit UUMAN if we just established and maintained communication with them.

And finally, I understand more deeply how my family brings love and wisdom and strength into my life. I realize how the things which keep us moving, growing, exploring, thinking, risking and deepening our understanding of one another cannot be neglected without paying a great price.

These encounters and epiphanies did not, by themselves, bring enlightenment. So I return to you without all the secrets of the universe worked out. But with enough clues to make the search more interesting. The Buddha had to sit for years, upon his return, under a tree. I prefer, instead, your company. And I hope that instead of starting any new religion, we make ours even more compelling and useful. Instead of granting enlightenment, we encourage more to the search. And instead of settling for our attachments, we seek instead a new way, for our different truths to find a way toward a long sought home.

To the Glory of Life.

Library Corner

Calling all Overdue UUMAN Library Books. Before you leave on vacation this summer, please look around to see if you have any books from the UUMAN library that you have finished reading. We have over 100 books that are checked out, some for many months. It would help us if you could return them as we plan to reorganize the collection this summer.

Many thanks from the UUMAN Library Committee



Rules for a Purrfect Life

Since I left my stressful position within the family business, I've been trying to relax. I emphasize the phrase "trying" because it seems there is always some crisis du jour cropping up to cause my anxiety to manifest itself-whether it is due to finances, family dysfunction or personal health. Lately, my hair has started falling out in clumps due to the stress and I am dismayed at my "shedding". I never realized relaxation was so difficult to achieve. Luckily, I live with 4 zen masters in the art of relaxation; my cats. So I decided to watch and learn from them the true lessons to a calm and satisfied life.

I began to notice patterns in my cats' behavior that truly led me to believe that they did have a system figured out. Being a cat lover, I did some research and learned that cats have long been both revered and reviled for their unique personalities and perspectives. Egyptians worshiped them; so much so that they often mummified them along with Pharaohs and Queens and the penalty for hurting or killing a cat was death. The prophet Muhammad, the founder of Islam, so revered his cat Muezza that when he once fell asleep on the sleeve of his master's robe instead of disturbing his beloved cat when he had to leave, Muhammad cut off the sleeve of his robe. The European Christians of the Middle Ages were a tad less enthusiastic about feline companionship, vilifying them for being witches' familiars and in league with the devil- they translated cats as being "lazy & lustful.". Their persecution of cats may have led to horrifying death tolls brought on by the Black Plague- incidentally carried by rodents. Luckily, today cats are back on the popular side of our culture and are quickly outranking Fido as man's best friend.

So what ancient secrets do these enigmatic creatures hold? What wisdom can they share with us? To answer those burning questions, I simply observed my beloved cats throughout 1 week of their routine and "daily schedule". The first unofficial lesson is, of course, there is NO schedule.

Lesson 1: EMOTE! Let your feelings be known to those around you. If you are hungry, lonely, bored, mad, content, annoyed, or just need to express yourself- be vocal. Never keep in your emotions; this garners no results and is not healthy. It is perfectly acceptable to let those around you know what you feel by making loud, guttural noises, swishing your tail and incessantly meowing. (Less preferred methods include destroying furniture and defecating in unauthorized areas.)

Lesson 2: Hold onto your dignity- never accept being treated as anything less than you deserve; and of course, you deserve the best! Demand respect and maintain personal boundaries (try not to resort to drawing blood to do so)

Lesson 3: Enjoy the moment- lay in the sun, enjoy the warmth of the linoleum against your body, take time out to sniff the catnip, never rush or come when called (there is no reason to hurry through life)

Lesson 4: Never give up hope: no matter how many times you mash your face into the glass door, keep the faith- someday you will catch that fat red Cardinal at the bird feeder on the other side of the patio door (even nefarious dreams keep us going)

Lesson 5: Sometimes it's best to take a rest! The world is not going anywhere, so take a catnap and recharge. Let your muscles go limp, close your eyes and purr. If you need help relaxing, find a willing companion to rub your head, behind your ears and under your chin. Belly rubs can also be effective. Remember, there is no such thing as time or schedules; only blissful calm.

"I put down my book, The Meaning of Zen, and see the cat smiling into her fur as she delicately combs it with her rough pink tongue. Cat, I would lend you this book to study but it appears you have already read it. She looks up and gives me her full gaze. Don't be ridiculous, she purrs, I wrote it." - from "Miao" by Dilys Laing

[My thanks to those who contributed their insight to this article & to my life: Maizey, Gatsby, Nutmeg & Buster] - patty@uuman.org

Happenings

YOGA with Lisa @ UUMAN

On-going yoga classes in our beautiful sanctuary. Develop strength, flexibility and balance in mind and body. Learn poses, breathing & relaxation techniques & meditation to reduce stress, calm your mind, strengthen your immune system, and find more joy in life! Beginners & intermediates; men, women & teens. Newcomers welcome anytime. Sunday 4:45-6 p.m., Wednesday 10-11:30 a.m. 7 classes for \$70 for Summer session I. Also offering meditation at my home-call or email for details. Contact lisa@uuman.org or 770-395-7166

Happenings

UUMAN DRUMS

Classes will be 1st & 3rd Sunday's from 1:30-3:30 with practice on alternate Sunday's. Class price \$15. Loaner drums will be available. Pamela Reich - 770-552-2526 uumandrums@uuman.org

Happenings

UUMAN Singles

The singles group meets for a monthly potluck, the second Saturday of every month. E-mail Craig Kaufman or Carolyn Bommarito for more details craigk@uuman.org & carolyn@uuman.org



President's Letter

Self-fulfilling the Prophecy

I think it always helps to begin with an end in mind. So instead of writing my first newsletter article for the UUMAN President's column looking ahead, I thought I'd write the next President's first article, in which he / she looks back over the previous year. Hopefully we can all share the spirit of the vision and the journey that is portrayed.

*Intentionally yours,
Kirk Bogue*

A new year, a new chapter. Another one marked by a regularly scheduled congregational meeting and the vote of a new budget and a new Board. Everyone, and then some others, showed up during the last 12 months. We were community. We were action in 2005-2006. We made a difference. Most importantly, we were healthy...in mind, in service, in governance, in finance and in any other positive way you might describe us. It was an awesome year! It was the kind of journey where the trip was as important as the destination. By and large we focused on making what "might be" actually happen. Our derailments to ponder what could have been or how we got where we are were few, and then only short enough to learn something valuable from that exploration. How do we build on the momentum?

A year ago a lot of things were going well. But, there were a lot of things that needed attention, too. We spent the end of the prior year and the beginning of this past year realizing that we maybe weren't all aligned to the things we were working on. With some healthy listening and introspection...we realized we would need to look at things we might not have been previously open to discussing. It was easy to agree what some of those issues looked like. For others deeper below the surface, they would be harder to ascertain and address. But UUMAN would prove to go on and do that. While not everything UUMAN set out to achieve last year was realized...what was really significant is that UUMAN honed "how it works". Put the issues on the table, open the floor for debate, commit to a direction and align with it...even if the direction wasn't one each of us preferred; UUMAN improved at this healthy, if sometimes challenging, approach to living. Diversity has both a price and a reward.

What our UUMAN community experienced last year might have a lot to do with "abundance" and the relationship we all have to what that word means. Our dedication to social justice helped many and our outpouring of love and care touched and inspired others beyond our doors. That was heartwarming to us and our cause was better served. Unconditional love and care was apparent inside our walls, too. Members collaborated to address the challenges we listed a year ago, and in so doing felt more part of the fabric of our community. The tolerance and respect exchanged initially turned into calls for shared action and the conveyance of the time, talent and money needed to heed those calls effectively. There is a special bond that forms when a group triumphs over adversity and it almost always fortifies the covenant of those involved. Newcomers to the community and the existing membership felt an abundance of warmth, growth, accomplishment, respect and love like none experienced before.

It was and is the kind of abundance everyone deserves. Yet it is the kind that is hard to achieve unless everyone feels he or she is abundant as a person, worthy of it and willing to both share and receive it. It is the kind of abundance that requires respect of self and others. And it only shows up when we show up first.

How do we build on the momentum? We share gratitude to each other for a job well done and we ask each other to show up again next year!

Faithfully Yours,
Your 2006-2007 President

Happenings

Crabapple Road Cleanup Saturday July 23rd 10:00am

Yes. I know it will be hot, but you can know that your sweat is for a good cause!

If you are interested in joining the cleanup crew for some fellowship, community service, and crispy crèmes please contact Pat Lampert at 770-928-6452, or lampert@uuman.org, or feel free to just show up. With even a fairly small crew - the cleanup typically takes no longer than an hour. Only people over 18 are allowed by city law to actually participate in the cleanup.

See you there!
Pat Lampert

Happenings

Mindful Meditation

Need a vacation from stress? A few minutes to sit still; to turn off the phone; to stop thinking about what you have to do next; to be in the present moment; to let other people's needs wait a while? You deserve to be mindful for a few minutes. I'd like to invite you to be still with us every second and fourth Thursday night at 7:30pm in the sanctuary. You don't have to bring a thing. Just you.

See you there!
Merri Beth



In Praise of Doing Nothing

When I ask people how their summer is going I hear this: "BUSY!"

Busy? What happened to those long-anticipated days of summer when kids went outside to play and did their best to stay out at least until dinner, and maybe until dark? What happened to adults slacking off hectic work schedules to slow down and watch the world go by? What happened to hours with your nose buried in a book, not something boring assigned by a teacher, something fascinating and fun? What happened to sleeping in late, staying up late, having no plans, no schedule, no routine other than whatever-I-feel-like-when-I-feel-like-it?

It's no secret that the American lifestyle is fast-paced and that we have an enormous amount of stress-related illness. A sped-up lifestyle weakens the immune system and distorts emotional coping mechanisms so the body becomes more susceptible to disease.

Disease. Dis. Ease. When was the last time you felt "at ease" in your life? Uh oh, don't get stressed-out over feeling stressed. It's not difficult to make small changes in your life. Here are a few suggestions:

Do nothing. Lay on a blanket on the lawn and enjoy the sun, shade, birds. Sit in a comfy chair and space-out. Stretch out on your bed in the middle of the day and relax. Ignore those annoying thoughts that you should be doing something. It's not true.

Letter from the Editor

Sometimes, there just are no words. Especially when death is concerned. This is a discovery I've hit upon both long ago and again more recently; both when trying to give comfort and receive it. Sometimes we simply have nothing to say in response to someone's raw, unbridled pain and loss. And sometimes, that silence is the best response. A hug and silence can convey so much better the care and sympathy we feel than any words in the English language. We stumble for the appropriate wording and silently berate our awkwardness, when really no one knows the "proper" thing to say to lessen the ache.

I've recently dealt with this because my favorite aunt died. After a life of 90 vibrant years, her spirit and soul sought respite. Of course, the news has hit me hard and I have turned to friends and family for comfort. Not necessarily words, just comfort. Some of the nicest expressions have been from friends who have never in their lives met my aunt and have no idea what to say; except that they, too have felt loss and hurt for me. I sense the hesitancy in their words, the frustration in finding the proper language. Yet they have comforted me with their own stories of loved ones who have passed away or with musings on a life well-lived. For me, it is not the substance of their words, but the sound of someone saying "I care." I know how difficult it can be to comfort someone. I, too, have become tongue tied when consoling others over loss. Later, I think of all the deep and philosophical things I could have said and kick myself. But I now realize that most likely, they didn't need to hear those eloquent phrases or profound platitudes. They just needed me to sit in silence with them, supporting the burden of their pain for a moment.

Because, sometimes, there just are no words.

patty@uuman.org

Allow (force?) your kids to play without electronic stimulation (TV, video, stereo, MP3, gameboy, computer, etc.) more often. Then let THEM figure out what to do when they get bored. They don't need to be entertained every waking hour...and if they do, they'll figure out how to entertain themselves if you refuse to step in.

Go barefoot. Sounds silly, but have you ever noticed that taking your shoes off tends to shift you into a slower, more in-touch with the natural world mode?

Put down the car keys. Automobiles must be the most busy-making contraption ever invented. Whenever you can, walk, ride your bike, scooter, roller-blade or run if you really need to get somewhere. Begin asking yourself how much of your life you want to spend inside a metal box, and make life decisions accordingly.

Enjoy yourself! Remember when you were a kid? Enjoying yourself didn't mean an expensive vacation or a luxury toy. Enjoying yourself meant playing, feeling free, taking it easy. It's cheap, it's fun, it's healthy - give it a try!

Lisa Macy is a member of UUMAN, teaches Yoga & Meditation in the sanctuary and in Dunwoody, and is a Mom of 2 happy-to-be-slothful middle schoolers. Contact her at lisa@uuman.org, 770-395-7166.



Adult Sunday School

We will be taking a more in-depth look at current trends in Christianity. We will start by reading "Why Christianity Must Change or Die" by John Shelby Spong. Spong is a former Episcopal bishop who has been described as "A Revolutionary, Rational Anti-Religionist" and a Christian atheist. Spong has been a strong advocate for change in Christian communities. Among the twelve issues to which he has called Christians to debate is "Theism, as a way of defining God, is dead. Most theological God-talk is today meaningless. A new way to speak of God must be found." (For more on this, see: www.liberator.net/articles/LiberatorMark/Spong.html)

During the second half of the summer, we will be trying to "make sense of the conservative worldview" as discussed in the most recent issue of UUWorld (p.54-55) In his article, Doug Muder notes "I wonder where the interfaith dialog goes after we attribute our opponent's views to "derangement." Satisfying as it can be to write fundamentalists off as crazy,

stupid, or evil, if we're going to be true to ourselves we first have to try to understand them as thinking, feeling, human beings." He recommends two books to help us get started: *Moral Politics: How Liberals and Conservatives Think* by George Lakoff, and *Spirit and Flesh: Life in a Fundamentalist Baptist Church* by James Ault, Jr. We may try and end the summer with a discussion with some of our neighbors on Crabapple Rd.

We will meet from 9 until 10:15 over coffee in the Discovery Hall living room. Adult Sunday School is a comfortable place for discussion and sharing of personal reflections on the material we read. We avoid cross talk and try to give everyone a chance to share their thoughts. Our search is for understanding, knowing that truth has many facets. If you are a fellow spiritual seeker, please come and join us. We would love your company on the journey! If you have questions, please email Pat Shea at patshea@uuman.org

Religious Education News

Summer Fun!!!

Summer Fun, our relaxed, activity based religious education program for the summer, continues July 10 - Aug. 8th with a special 5-session program on water. Water, which has been dubbed the "Oil of the 21st century" in consideration of it's importance as a natural resource and it's use as a valuable commodity is the subject of this new unit we're calling "Troubled Water".

Where is the world is the DRE?

Good question! After a wonderful trip with my sister and three daughters to Ireland last month, I'm heading for Ft. Worth, Texas for a week which includes attendance at our UUA General Assembly. I'll be meeting with colleagues, participating in program workshops, and representing UUMAN at plenary sessions of the General Assembly. The theme for General Assembly 2005 is Ministering to Families in Today's World. I will be in town the month of July working on curriculum and program development. I'll be in the office and available by phone. Don't hesitate to call.

Have a restful and a happy summer!

Joan Armstrong

Calendar:

Kids Together Day (Lunch Making for MUST Ministries): July 3, 2005

RE Committee Retreat: July 23, 2005

Teacher Orientation: July 30, 2005



YRUU News

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – SUMMER 2005

Each summer, since I started as Youth Director at UUMAN, I take leave of my job and spend some precious time with my family, indulge in spiritual renewal, research & study as I get my proverbial ‘ducks in a row’ ready for the coming new church year. And I organize the ‘Summer International Film Festival’ at UUMAN.

Now, something you may or may not know about me is that I LOVE FILM!!! I love ‘good’ movies almost as much as I love ‘bad’ ones!! It’s true. I just love everything about the movies. I was born and raised in a world that revolved around music & film. I was in my first commercial at the age of 2 and spent my playtime on sets, riding gurneys and sweeping tiny pieces of celluloid from the cutting room floor. My father’s home was a film studio (the only full time studio in Kingston), my mother’s world was the stage of the Caribbean Royal Shakespeare Company, and I spent hours in mixing rooms as Ska became Rock Steady, which became Reggae, Dub, House & Dance Hall.

But back to the movies...

I love the flicker of the lights in the projection room, the eerie echo on an empty set, the smell of a prop room, the look on my Daddy’s face when today’s rushes are good, but most of all I love surrendering myself completely to someone else’s vision for 20 minutes, or 90 or 180! I will let you take me almost anywhere in a film. I want to hear peoples’ stories. I

want to experience something different than I have ever experienced, I want to see experiences just like mine mirrored for me. I want to learn things I would otherwise never know and I want to hear what I know being said by someone else. The only films I no longer watch are modern ‘horror’ movies. I won’t let myself be scared that way any more.

So, why am I telling you all this? Because I wanted you to understand why I started the ‘Summer International Film Festival’ at UUMAN last year and why I am doing it again this year. It’s because I want you to know that sharing these films with you is a way that I can feel close to you and make connections. It is a way that you can get to know me and a way for me to share something precious with people I love. The selections are nothing more than an offering of films that I like. I think about all the different folks in our community and what might appeal to them as I chose the particular films for each series. I know I can’t get it ‘right’ for everyone, or guess which films will touch people. But I can offer films that have affected me and share them with you. We can share the experience together and build community.

So come to the movies with me! I hope that you will give it a try one Friday evening this summer. There is a chair with your name on it, a tasty snack at the concession table, and a warm welcome that you will always find at UUMAN!

UUMAN Tubing Trip

The 6th Annual UUMAN Toccoa River Tubing Trip will be held on Saturday, August 20.

Hopefully scheduling the trip the 1st Saturday after most schools go back will allow a lot more families to attend. For those that have never been before, the tubing trip starts at the Toccoa Valley Campground, (706) 838-4317 near the beginning of the Toccoa River outside of Blue Ridge, GA on Aska Road. We usually meet at the starting point at 10am on Saturday morning. The river is very tame with only a couple of places where the water gets more than waist deep. Tubes, life jackets and seat cushions are provided at the starting point for about \$6/person. They take checks but no charge cards that I remember. All tubes have bottoms in them. We have had children as young as 4 make the trip with no problem. The tube trip takes about 2 1/2 hours. Afterwards we go to a picnic area on Lake Blue Ridge for swimming and a picnic. So bring a picnic lunch, lawn chairs, blankets, etc.

Let me know if you are interested or have any questions. More details later.

The trip is open to anyone so tell your neighbors and friends!

For more information call Bob or Rosie Popp at 770-751-0356.



UUMANTIMES is the monthly newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North Congregation.

Our minister, Rev. Greg Ward, is on sabbatical until the end of June. When he is here, he does not have specific office hours; he is available to meet with people every day of the week except Fridays, at a wide variety of times by appointment. While he is away, we will contact him in the case of dire emergencies (deaths or death-threatening or severe illnesses). For other care needs, please contact your Care Circle coordinator or Diantha Horton, our Crisis Intervention Coordinator, who will find the most appropriate care resources.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.uuman.org



UUMAN
11420 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA 30075

Get up-to-date information!
Sign up now and
join UUMAN
@ www.uuman.org.

Worship Schedule

July 3rd – “What It Means to Me to Be An American”

Speaker – Jason Shreeram; Service Leader – Cliff Brown

Jason examines the influence of our Unitarian and Universalist ancestors on the founding and early development of our country and Constitution and, specifically, at the contributions of such people as Paine, Jefferson, and Emerson.

Children and Youth begin and end in the sanctuary.

July 10th - "Enthusiasmos"

Speaker– Rev, Greg Ward - Service Leader – Dave Hudson

So much of what I sought in my travels during sabbatical - so much of what many of us search for our entire lives - is what the Scots and the ancient Celts used to call 'gumption.' While in Europe I discovered that the Greeks have another name for it: 'enthusiasmos.' Do we have it? And, if not, what are we missing?

Children and Youth begin in the sanctuary.

July 17th – “How Do You Define Religion”

Speaker – Rev. Greg Ward – Service Leader – Martina Queenth

How do you define religion? What's its purpose? How do you measure its usefulness to society? Test its integrity? Are we called to save ourselves via 'personal growth' and 'spiritual well being'? Or called to save the world? And can we be effective as a religion if we can't agree what we're doing or why we're here?

Children and Youth begin in the sanctuary.

July 24th - “And the World Changed in Akron, Ohio”

Speaker – Ron Crawford; Service Leader: Merri Beth Stephens

70 years ago two men - one a stock investigator, the other a physician - met by chance in Akron, Ohio. Their meeting led to the founding of what has been called “the most significant social development in America in the twentieth century.” It has changed the lives of millions around the world, changed our society, and changed the way the medical profession looks at addiction. The men are known as Bill W. and Dr. Bob. The movement is Alcoholics Anonymous.

Children and Youth begin in the sanctuary.

July 31st

Speaker – Greg Ward; Service Leader – Jim Saunders

Children and Youth begin and end in the sanctuary.

