



In this issue:

- A Retiring President's Observations
- New UUMAN Directory Photos
 - To be Taken Aug.25-27 !!!
- Notes from General Assembly:
 - Let's Set a Welcome Table with a Plateful of Peace
- Book Discussion
 - Our immigration series continues
- Landscaping News
- A Month of Sundays
- More Events
- Ministry with Children & Youth
 - MCY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS
 - UUMAN Summer Fun!
 - Family Movie Mornings
 - North Georgia UU Congregations Picnic
- About the UUMANTimes

A Retiring President's Observations

As I step down from the Presidency of UUMAN let me offer a few observations, most of which I have already offered, in one forum or another, over the past several months.

It is plain for even the most casual observer to see that UUMAN is now thriving; we thrive, I believe, because we have a new sense of who we are and what we stand for – a new sense of purpose – and, from that, a new sense of where we want to go, who we want to be, and what we want to accomplish in the world – a new vision, in short. The circle of our concern and compassion is expanding to include more of the wider world; we are acting on our values; we are “living in” our mission, to use the words of Toniann Read.

Kate and I just returned from General Assembly in Charlotte, where we saw wonderful examples of congregations thriving for just these reasons – and because of the wisdom of elders and leaders that keeps them focused on the big picture. We thrive, in part, because that kind of wisdom resides here at UUMAN, also. I referred to it at our recent congregational meeting – the wisdom that asked, “What would UUMAN look like if we were really living our mission?”

We owe much to Kirk Bogue, who posed that simple question to me way back in January.

The story of the last five months is our response to that question – first, imagining programs that nourish our spirits – that nourish transformative growth of individual members and the congregation as a whole – and imagining programs that promote truth and justice beyond our walls – and, then, acting on those visions. It was asking the congregation to fund its visions of a vital, vibrant, engaging, and compelling community – the brilliant Miracle Shares Sunday and an equally successful annual canvass – ably lead by Kirk Bogue - and, finally, given our new understanding that the status quo is unsustainable - the story continues with our committing ourselves to an aggressive, intentional, and focused effort to grow the community – an initiative now only a few weeks old – one that we call the Community Building Initiative, that engages all aspects of membership growth – from attracting new people to our community, to welcoming them once they find us, to integrating them fully into the community, and to retaining and nurturing them (us). Cliff Brown will head up this effort as our new Special Projects Trustee, carrying on the work of the ad hoc committee that has sketched out the broad outlines of the effort – Shelley Nagrani, Cliff Brown, Chuck Jones, Kirk Bogue, Rev. Paul, and I. Merri Beth Stephens will join this steering committee next year.

We owe much to the energy, creativity, and passion of many members, who are imagining a compelling, exciting future – and creating momentum that is real and tangible.

We are grateful for a membership that steps up to serve. Most of us have, in one way or another. All of us will, at some point. We thank Rick Irwin and Stephen Shanahan, whose tenure on the Board helped keep the ship on course and moving forward. And we thank those who are stepping off the board after three years of service – wise elders – Joe Creech, who served through that difficult second interim year of Sue Turner's arrival and departure, and then ably guided us through Rev. Paul's first year – and Carole Marra, who brought us the Covenant of Respectful Relations and the processes that accompany it, and who this year has chaired – ably – the Nominating Committee in its new expanded role. It has been a big job, one that seems to have no end, as the realities of people's force them out of leadership roles. Both Joe and Carole have helped us keep our eyes on the prize – focused on the big picture.

We thank our tireless Treasurer, Carolyn Lee, who steps down from the Board to devote more time both to her elderly mother and to a new business that has grown faster than she has imagined it could. Fortunately, she will continue to keep her hand in the important accounting and bookkeeping functions of the Finance Committee.

And, finally, we thank our new Board members for their willingness to step up into service – Cliff Brown, again, our Special Projects Trustee, and Don Groce, our new Vice President, who will become our President a year from now.

We are in good hands, and, for that, we are thankful.

Our challenge next year is to continue what we are doing, all of us, while we engage the important work of bringing the world to us – and growing our community. These are two sides of the same coin that both say, "The status quo is not good enough! We want more!" We have said that, and we are acting on it, and we must continue to hold the banner high in the coming year. I'll be there, and I know you will, too!

We must, if we are to become the community we want to be, if we are to fully fund our operations and staff, if we are to meet our obligations to pay them their due and to maintain programs and facilities as we should.

I look forward to the year ahead!

Finally, we honor the memory of our dear friend, colleague, and leader Sue Bell, who died so unexpectedly and tragically this past September, having just assumed the presidency of the congregation. Sue's wisdom, intelligence, keen insight, and joyful sense of being have been with us through all we have experienced this year now closing; her courageous, adventuresome, and loving spirit has buoyed us. Let us dedicate all we have accomplished – all we have become

these past eleven months - to her wonderful spirit. May it infuse this community forever.

— Dave Hudson

New UUMAN Directory Photos To be Taken Aug.25-27 !!!

Please plan on being available to have **your family's photo** taken for the new UUMAN Directory in late August. There will no charge for this service, and no UUMAN funds will be employed. A free directory and a large print will be made available to all who participate. The service will be provided by [Lifetouch](#).

Stay tuned for for more details and announcements in the weeks to come. Please plan on having yourself and your family represented. **DON'T BE LEFT OUT!**

— Steve Allerton

Notes from General Assembly: Let's Set a Welcome Table with a Plateful of Peace

"Every forkful is a statement about who we are and what we value." — Rev. Michael Schuler



Having just returned from four busy and inspirational days at the UU General Assembly in Charlotte, I'm overflowing with ideas to share. I'm inspired by the tremendous diversity of the participants, the social justice actions of many congregations, the commitment to Standing on the Side of Love for LGBT people, the growing support for immigrants and undocumented workers, and the many anti-racism and anti-oppression efforts that were highlighted. I am lifted up by the young people who are taking stands of courage and by the time and commitment I witnessed by 4000 other UUs from all over this country. It was wonderful to realize that there is shared mission we can all work to achieve, a mission that is so much bigger than anything our good folk right here in Roswell, GA can achieve on our own. I was privileged to hear the words of our current president, Peter Morales speak to bringing that mission to life, to learn about ways that environmental justice and immigration are intertwined, to participate as a delegate in the plenary

meeting that debated and voted on the new Statement of Conscience on Ethical Eating and to hear the inspiring words of Reverend Michael Schuler of Madison, Wisconsin's 1500 member church inspire action on that same topic. See a video of his compelling talk, The Welcome Table, Common Ground on Ethical Eating given on Friday, June 24th at GA here: <http://www.uua.org/justice/issues/environmentaljustice/ga/184982.shtml>

It is this new Statement of Conscience and the years of work that went into its development that is particularly inspiring to me as a member of the sustainability and social justice committees here at UUMAN. We have had opportunities to participate in ethical eating topics over the last few years in book groups and in potlucks, and now our congregation, our entire denomination is being called, indeed calling itself, ourselves to stand up for justice whenever and wherever we fill our plates and/or break bread.

I invite you to read an early draft of the Statement of Conscience here: http://www.uua.org/documents/csw/ethicaleating/100801_soc_draft.pdf or with a list of proposed amendments here: <http://blogs.uuworld.org/ga/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/FINALCSWAlert-GA2011-Friday.pdf> The final version will be posted on the UUA website soon.

There are so many ways that eating ethically can have a positive impact on our planet and all its inhabitants, as well as on our health and happiness. Here at UUMAN we have taken conscious steps toward many of them already. Jennifer Ratcliffe has revitalized our organic garden; we compost; we support fair-trade, we are committed to using china and glass rather than disposables whenever feasible (now that we have our wonderful water and energy saving dishwasher); we support a CSA, the Local Food Stop, www.localfoodstop.com as a congregation and as individuals. These are just a few of the many things we try to do. Many of us support local farmers by visiting farmers' markets, or buy local and organic whenever we can, even grow our own food when and where possible. These are such powerful steps we are taking, but there is even more we can do. Some of the many ideas I heard include: offer cooking or preserving classes, 'plant a row for the hungry', 'take the food stamp pledge', 'start a community garden', support 'the farm-to-table' movement and/ or 'the farm-to-school' movement, 'set a "welcome table" with sustainable, local, organic foods, have 'ethical-eating potlucks', support living-wage and safe conditions for farm workers and food processors, and so.... many..... more.

I invite you to share your thoughts and your ideas at the Sustainability Committee Table in Fellowship Hall or help to develop a new blog together for this purpose. So many of you are already doing so much; let's learn from each other about ways we can nourish our bodies and our spirits all at once and make a difference in the world as we do so. What are your ideas for how we can eat more ethically? Please do share.

In gratitude,

— Kate Hudson

More information about ethical eating here: <http://www.uua.org/justice/issues/process/currentissues/ethicaleating/121903.shtml>

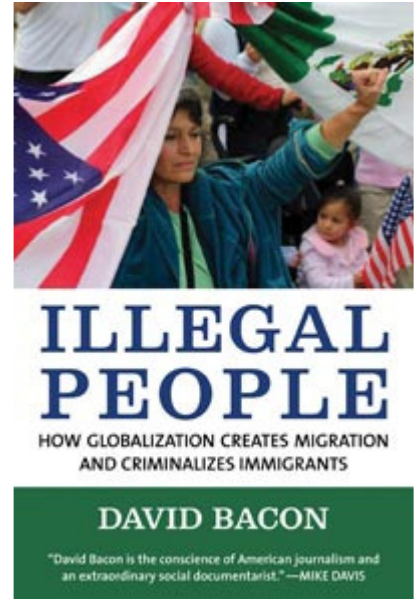
More information and videos from the General Assembly here: <http://www.uua.org/ga/2011/index.shtml>

Book Discussion Our immigration series continues

We will have our second book discussion in the series on immigration on **August 26th** at 7 PM. in Discovery Hall. The book we will discuss is **Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants** by David Bacon. It is available from Beacon Press: <http://www.uuabookstore.org/searchproducts.cfm>.

If you have questions, please contact Linda Johnston at ljohnst9@gmail.com

— Linda Johnston



Landscaping News

As you have probably noticed, our landscaping at UUMAN is really looking great thanks to:

- **Larry & Lois Curry** and the **Daytimer garden club** that has been working on the area in front of Fellowship Hall
- **Jennifer Ratcliffe** and **Rich Foley** who cleaned out the beds in front of the Sanctuary and Discovery Hall. (Jennifer is also co-coordinating the vegetable garden behind the playground)
- **Susan Wilson** and **Michelle Liebergesell** who have done the plantings by the sign
- **Ann Bender and crew** who are maintaining the Butterfly Garden between the buildings
- The people who have signed up to mow (there are still some open slots, so sign up before they are gone)

There are some exciting things in the works. **Dillon Langston's Eagle Scout Project** will be landscaping the area in front of Fellowship Hall. And we are looking into making an outside reception area behind the Sanctuary.

We are looking for some people or groups to champion some specific projects. They will adopt a specific area and we will come up with a plan for improvement. We will then set a time(s) for our crew to come and do the major work. After that the champion will be in charge of maintaining that area. Some of the areas are:

- The playground
- Behind Discovery Hall
- The area around the rear parking lot
- Your Ideas?

If you would like to get involved, just let me know at Mliebergesell@yahoo.com. We have two regular gardening times per week: **Friday mornings** and **Monday evenings at 7:00 PM**.

— Mike Liebergesell, 770-751-1954

A Month of Sundays

Rev. Paul D. Daniel, Minister

Sunday Services: 10:30 AM **Adult RE: 9:15 AM** **Children's RE: 10:15 AM**

Please join us for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall right after the service.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
7/3/11	Since We Built It, Will They Come?	Randy Blasch
	And that's all I've got to say about that...want to build the suspense, but venture to say, I will be connecting baseball and UUMAN.	
7/10/11	The Heart's Desire Sermon on Christianity: Who is Jesus?	Dave Hudson
	Specifically, who is Jesus to the liberal Christian? And who is the liberal Christian? How does Jesus hold such power for those who do not hold a supernatural view of him – but still call themselves Christians?	
7/17/11	Spiritual Scientist	Margot Harding

7/24/11 **To be announced**

Kathy Colbenson from CHRIS Kids

7/31/11 **This I Believe: The Gifts of Religion**

Kim Palmer

Join Kim as she talks about UUMAN, seminary, and chaplaincy and the unexpected spiritual gifts she found in each.

Rev. Paul on vacation until 08/15/11

More Events

Monday, 7/4/11 **Nia, Joy of Movement Class** — *Cancelled* for July 4th, so everyone can dance under the fireworks of their choice. For the rest of the month, Nia will be held as usual **every Monday evening**, 6:45 PM, in the Sanctuary. Open to Every Body - all ages, sizes, fitness level, etc. \$5 per class; your first class is free. For more information, please contact Marjorie Pomper, mpomper@bellsouth.net

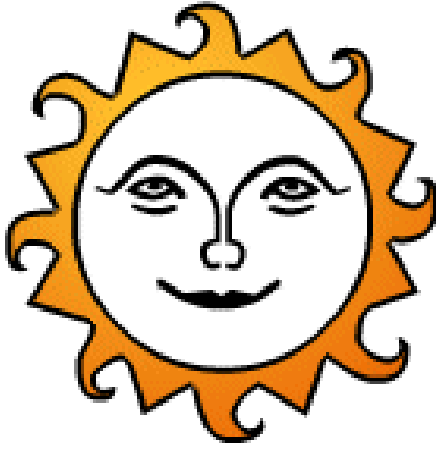
Sunday, 7/10/11 **21st Century Humanism** — after the service, 11:45 AM in the Sanctuary. Topic to be announced, based on current world events. All are welcome. Direct inquiries to peltier.john@gmail.com

Thursday, 7/14/11 **Women, Wine and Words** — UUMAN's Women's Group discussion, 7:30 PM in Discovery Hall. All women are welcome. Pat Shea will be facilitating our discussion of [Elite: Uncovering Classism in Unitarian Universalist History](#), by Mark Harris. We will be discussing who we welcome to UUism as we discover the theological, political, and demographic roots of classism in our faith today.

[More events in the MCY section!](#)

About the UUMANTimes

UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN), located at 11420 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA 30075, on the web at www.uuman.org. We welcome almost all imaginable newsletter submissions, and publish as many as possible. We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month. The deadline for submissions is close of business on the 20th of the month preceding the issue date. Please email your poetry, prose and puzzles to c.news:newsletter@uuman.org



UUMAN Summer Fun!

Sunday June 5th - Music & Tie-dye in the garden

Sing and play as you make cool tie-dye t-shirts to wear proudly all summer!

Sunday June 19th - M.U.S.T. Ministries Lunches

Help make sandwiches and put together lunch bags. Lunches will be delivered to M.U.S.T Ministries from where they will be distributed to local families.

Sunday July 10th – Glassworks

Michael & CJ Dean-Andrews will share their skills and interest in the unique and beautiful work of handmade glass

Sunday July 24th - M.U.S.T. Ministries Lunches

Help make sandwiches and put together lunch bags. Lunches will be delivered to M.U.S.T Ministries from where they will be distributed to local families.

Sunday August 7th – ‘Homestretch’

Help prepare for a ‘Back to School’ Party that we will share that afternoon with our friends from ‘Homestretch’.

Sunday August 21st - 'Cooperative Games'

Playfully celebrate the end of summer with cooperative field games!

Stay connected with Playgroup & Family Movie Mornings!

UUMAN Playgroup meets every Thursday morning and welcomes school age children through the summer. We meet in Discovery Hall at 10.00 am.

For more information contact Kara Sweeney
Kara_sweeney@hotmail.com



Family Movie Mornings

Meet in Discovery Hall at 10.00 am on the following Tuesday mornings. Bring a snack and a drink. Popcorn will be provided. Children (ages 6-11) may be dropped off by prior arrangement, *otherwise parents or other designated responsible adults are expected to be present.*

June 21st – “Free Willy”

<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/free-willy>

July 5th – “Kiki’s Delivery Service”

<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/kikis-delivery-service>

July 19th – “Secret Garden” + “Pooh’s Heffalump Movie”

<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/secret-garden>

August 2nd – “Bugsy Malone”

<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/Bugsy-Malone.html>

August 9th – “Kung Fu Panda”

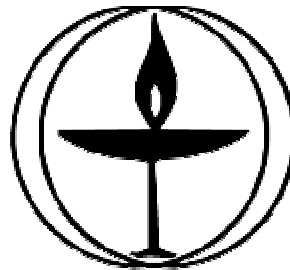
<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/kung-fu-panda>

UNITARIAN  UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION

The Religious Professionals of the North Georgia UU Congregations warmly invite
YOU to join us as we celebrate 50 years of bold, life-changing ministry...

SUNDAY AUGUST 28TH 2011
WILLS PARK, ALPHARETTA

Pack up the family, a picnic lunch and a dessert to share, as we gather for an
afternoon of food, music, fellowship & fun...



GEORGIA FAMILY REUNION!

SCHEDULE

3.00 pm Gather, Picnic & Play

Face painting, volleyball, 'Wacky World' playground and cooperative games for all ages

4.30 pm Worship

Inspiration & connection with multiple choirs, singing & drumming

5.30 pm Dessert

6.30 pm Clean up & Farewells



BRING...

- *Picnic Lunch for your family
 - *Potluck Dessert to Share
 - *Musical Instruments (drums, guitars, etc)
 - *Lawn Chairs
 - *Swimsuits & Towels *City Pool next door (+ entrance fee)*
- Beverages & ice provided!

SUNDAY AUGUST 28TH 2011

AN AFTERNOON OF COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP,
MUSIC & FUN FOR EVERYONE!

\$2 per person or \$5 per family suggested donation
All proceeds will go to the Interfaith Disability Network

Wills Park Directions - Take Exit 10 off of GA400, and go west on Old Milton Parkway for 2 miles. The park is on the left hand side. Enter by 'Wacky World' play area and park. We will be gathering in & around Pavilion 3. The official address is 11925 Wills Road Alpharetta, GA 30009.

RAIN PLAN...

Meet at UUMAN at 3.00 pm for Worship and Cake.
UU Metro Atlanta North, 11420 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA 30075