



Mister Ed. Musings

"So the powers that be left me here to do the thinking"

As his June Ministry Musings informed, Rev. Paul is on summer hiatus. While this provides us with the opportunity to hear a summer's worth of lay speakers at the UUMAN pulpit, it also leaves us without a regularly scheduled opening column for the newsletter.

That may not seem such a big deal, but in all the years I've been Mister Ed. of this publication, I've always had a lead column from a settled or interim minister to anchor the stories that followed.

Thus while my plight might not be quite as dire as that faced by the 22-year-old protagonist of [Neil Young's "Powderfinger"](#) expressed in the quote above, it's still worth acknowledging, if only out of courtesy to those regular readers likely wondering why the verbiage they're reading hasn't been tempered by years of seminary study and, in some cases, literally decades of hands-on ministerial obligations. Similarly, for those who've already scrolled down (or paged ahead) to see a rather light offering of news and announcements, it's worth answering the question: What happened this month?

Answer: Generally speaking, summer happened. Summer's like that. Recreational activities beckon. Schedules get scrambled. Heartfelt commitments, emailed in May or June, to deliver that 500-word article on the link between John Adams and the Fellowship Hall mold abatement program get

quietly placed in the Round Tuit file. Not insignificantly, UUMAN's committees play musical chairs, i.e., terms end, new ones begin. I sympathize; as of the first of this month, I happen to face the awesome responsibility of heading up a committee that was so ably managed by its predecessor, the mere thought of maintaining its current prestige and prominence, let alone prospecting for and locating new veins of communications gold, seems overwhelming. I imagine other committee chairs have similar concerns.

So as many of us sally forth this Fourth to celebrate our Summer Independence with all manner of fireworks of questionable legality, food of questionable nutritional worth and a newsletter of questionable journalistic merit, I'll leave you with this one eternally bittersweet truth: Summer is always over sooner than you expect it.



July Blessings,
Dirk Bender

They: Jump in. Us: Catch them.

Please join the UUMAN Membership committee in welcoming our newest members, who officially joined UUMAN on June 6th. They are:

Gretchen & Ted Taylor

Juanita Ruiz-Orr & Bob Orr

Lynn Butler

Diane Egnatovich

Bill Secreast

Kirsten Hagman & T.K. Thornton

If you were attending service that day, you heard our very concise two-word charge to the new members, which was "Jump In!", and the two-word charge to the congregation which was "Catch Them!"

May we take these words to heart as we grow our faith community. Welcome New Members--we've been waiting for you!

—*Laurie Wheeler*

Brown Bag Sunday is July 25th

Thank you for your continued support of UUMAN's monthly food drive for North Fulton Community Charities. Your donations of nonperishable food and other items make such an important difference in other families' lives.

Since 1983, North Fulton Community Charities has been helping families in the Roswell-Alpharetta area with food, financial and clothing assistance on an emergency basis.

NFCC is currently seeing an average of 140 families daily for assistance and about 115 of those families are receiving food. The NFCC Food Pantry is distributing approximately 1.5 to 2.0 tons of food daily.

NFCC relies on donations from the community and organizations such

as UUMAN to keep its shelves stocked and the pantry full.

Please remember NFCC when you go grocery shopping and place your donations in the basket located in the UUMAN Sanctuary by Sunday, July 25.

—*Sarah Jones, Susan Wilson, and Sue Tromblee,*
UUMAN NFCC Food Drive
Committee

A Public Service Announcement from the Membership Committee

Please remember to wear your name tags EVERY Sunday. It truly helps us grow when we can call one another by name.

New Online Message Board for (most) everything that won't fit on UUMAN

Announcements

As featured prominently in last month's UUMANTimes, we've just launched a new online "bulletin board" for, in essence, all the stuff that wasn't quite UUMAN-specific enough to be posted to UUMAN Announcements. This way, UUMAN members and friends can share information and messages on a very wide range of topics.

The name of this new board is "U2U" and you can register to participate on the board at <http://u2u.boardhost.com>.

The "U2U" board is not sanctioned by UUMAN. We are activating it for the convenience of members of the UUMAN community and other interested parties.

We hope you will use it to share information about events and activities of interest; to offer items for sale or barter; to post notices about items you want to buy; to post "help wanted" ads; to share your résumé if you are seeking a

job; or other announcements that you believe will be of interest to others, but which are not church-related.

To participate in "U2U," interested persons can register at <http://u2u.boardhost.com>. We will also provide a link to the registration page on the UUMAN Web site – www.uuman.org. Click on the link and follow the instructions.

Complete guidelines and posting rules are available at the site. Thanks to all who contribute, and good luck with your personal endeavors!

—Carole Herman

A Month of Sundays

(July Worship Services—lay led)

July 4 Randy Blausch

July 11 Julie Lepp
(And immediately following, in the Sanctuary: 21st Century Humanism will meet. The topic will be "Civilian Control of the Military: A Humanist's Dream or a Humanist's Nightmare?" All are invited.)

July 18 Shelley Nagran

July 25 Dave Hudson

And there will be RE Summer Fun as well:

July 11 **Co-operative Games**

July 25 **MUST Ministries Lunches**

Help make sandwiches and put together lunch bags. These packages will be delivered to MUST Ministries, who will distribute them to local families.

About the UUMANTimes

UUMANTimes is the newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Metro Atlanta North (UUMAN), located at 11420 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA 30075. We welcome nearly all imaginable newsletter submissions, and publish most of them in the process. We go live with each issue by the first Sunday of the month; deadline for submissions is typically close of business on the 20th of the month preceding the issue date, unless forgiveness is begged sincerely or creatively. Please email your articles, announcements, musings, summer vacation photo essays, and campfire ghost tales to Mister Ed.:
newsletter@uuman.org