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Ministry Musings

June, 2011

Rev. Paul D. Daniel, Minister



An Exciting Time at UUMAN

I begin my summer break on June 15 for two months, returning on August 15. For me, it is a time of rest and renewal, but the work of the church goes on. I will not be present to lead you for this period, as I am not yet your full-time minister. That is a promise yet to be fulfilled. That means that you will have to minister to each other more intentionally. I know you will.

We have continued to learn and grow in how we treat each other and take on the responsibility of lay leadership. When I return, we will quicken the pace of changing our community's culture to become more mission-centered. The community

building initiative (CBI) will pick up speed with a renewed emphasis on offering a radical hospitality to all who visit us. It is only through welcoming and retaining new members that we will be able to offer full-time ministry, restore cuts to our staff compensation and offer better, more enriching, programming.

This is an exciting time to be a fully participating member of UUMAN. We are poised for healthy growth and there is a new widespread enthusiasm to move out of a survivor's mode of existence into an activist, thriving community.

Until I return, I wish you a healthy happy summer.

Yours in Faith,

— Rev. Paul

What is CBI?

The **Community Building Initiative (CBI)** originated from a sense that we need to focus more on UUMAN as a community. After all, a significant number of people would say that they come to UUMAN because of the community we offer, because of the people that are here. Yet to be more effective, we need to be more intentional about our community. We need to identify the things that make being part of UUMAN worthwhile to us. By nurturing those areas, UUMAN will become a more vibrant community. That, in turn, should lead to greater involvement by current and future members, and make UUMAN more exciting to visitors and prospective members.

This initiative is being shepherded by the Special Projects group, of which Cliff Brown will be the new Trustee. The plan is to gather ideas on building community from all our individuals and groups, meet each of the UUMAN committees and ask for their commitment to implement them.

To share your ideas, please talk to Cliff Brown or email him at cbrown10595@gmail.com

— Cliff Brown

Gardens Galore



UUMAN Gothic?



Thyme



"It isn't who created earth,
but how do we take care of it?"

This spring, UUMANites have been planting, weeding, watering, mulching, composting . . . and soon, they'll be harvesting!



Thornless Blackberries



Yellow Crook-Necked Squash



At work in our garden

Inspired by Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, which the Adult Sunday School has been reading, Jennifer Ratcliffe has restored the vegetable garden we started a few years ago. This garden (the original Common Grounds) was dug in a sunny spot, behind the playground. Parsley, basil, rosemary and thyme are now thriving, along with tomatoes, two kinds of squash, thornless blackberries, and more. It is a model of smart, organic practices, using raised rows, companion plantings, and compost.

Everyone is invited to join in nurturing our community vegetable garden on Saturday mornings, rain or shine. Bring a hat and bottled water. We have the tools and the energy to start feeding our families healthy, tasty and low-carbon-footprint plants. For more details, please email Jennifer at: jennifer.ratcliffe@att.net

— *Jennifer Ratcliffe*

— *Photos by Carole Herman*



THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE'S

Tip of the Month

Don't Delete Your Windows

Have you ever vacationed at a quaint little beach town only to find old windows stunningly transformed into a delightful scene as pictured here? While I am an avid fan of these charming works of art, I have another idea of what can be done with these old windows – why not leave them where they are?



Most homeowners today want to follow the green trend and upgrade old, crumbling windows such as these with new triple-pane gas-filled windows or some similar product more suitable for life in Alaska. Replacing windows is expensive and can destroy the integrity of a historic home. This could reduce resale value since most people in the market for an old house are not looking for modern windows but would rather have the ones that were made specifically for that home.

As with many other changes we have made over the years that seemed good at first, there are repercussions. The demand for new windows has increased the use of vinyl, a non-biodegradable material that emits toxic byproducts during its production. It would be great if all the old discarded windows were transformed into sellable art as illustrated above, but the reality is that most of them end up in landfills. Remember the

second “R” in our mantra, “Reduce Reuse Recycle”. We are still in favor of lowering overuse of our resources. If your windows have not rotted and are still intact after 100 or so years, chances are they can be salvaged. Studies show that older windows can perform as well as vinyl replacements. Depending on the state of your old windows, making them more energy efficient may only require some basic steps such as weather-stripping them so that they are tightly sealed, caulking the exterior trim and repairing cracked glazing or putty around the glass panels.

Whether you lack the money or the desire to replace your windows there are many websites that can help you fix and insulate them so they last another hundred years. Below I have listed three of them but there are many, many more available with a quick internet search.

- <http://www.historichomeworks.com/hhw/reports/reports.htm#Windows>
- <http://www.presnc.org/Preservation-Answers/Historic-Windows-Resource-Page>
- <http://www.windowrepair.com/>

If your old windows are not salvageable, please consider donating them to thrift stores instead of sending them to the dump. In the event that you do not have the time or inclination to do this, contact me and I will personally pick them up from your home and have them donated.

— Margie Jacobs, mjake57@yahoo.com

Getting in Touch with the Source

Are you a woman writer who yearns for . . .

- * A place to write?
- * Time to write?
- * An audience?
- * Inspiration?
- * Publication?

You are invited to:

Getting in Touch with the Source: A 2-day Writing Experience for Women

When: Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22nd
Where: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta (UUCA)
How Much:

Friday night only, Keynote Speaker Pearl Cleage
 \$30.00;
 2 Day event: \$85 (\$70 for UUs)

You can purchase tickets at UUCA, Charis Books & More or through Michelle Liebergesell (770) 641-9454.

— Michelle Liebergesell



A Letter from Eunice Benton Transition Time This Summer

Since 1997 it has been my pleasure and my challenge to be Mid-South's District Executive. No position I have ever held has brought more rewarding work! What a rich, engaging, demanding, creative, endlessly-challenging, often-exasperating, frequently-exhausting, never-completely-finished, inspiring journey!

But now it is time to step back to open doors for next leaders and new achievements. So, on June 30th I will turn over the staff leadership of Mid-South District to a new team – led by Connie Goodbread and Rev. Fred Hammond! Connie will be the acting District Executive and Fred will be the acting Director of Faith Development. I am delighted to see two such wonderful and competent leaders to take up this work!

Connie and Fred join skilled and seasoned leaders on the Mid-South Board of Trustees and in other key positions. And all are part of the extended Southern Region of the UUA, affording all our Unitarian Universalist congregations even finer access to a broad range of expertise and wisdom.

Details about upcoming events and transition plans can be found on the Mid-South website and Facebook page and in electronic news.

All through this year I have said, "I leave Mid-South in great hands – yours!" And it is surely so! Dedicated, skilled, wise elders exist in every congregation as well as in leadership at the district and region.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Presidents Convocation (June 3-5) and at General Assembly (June 22-26) – and I'll be cheering you on as Mid-South moves forward into a new era!

— Eunice Milton Benton
Mid-South District – UUA
On the web at <http://www.msduua.org>

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.

Date	Topic	Speaker
6/5/11	The Common Good	Rev. Paul
	What are we called to be, as	

Date	Topic	Speaker
	members of a church or civic community? How do we navigate between the I and the we? Is radical hospitality the answer?	
6/12/11	The Inscrutable Cookie	Rev. Paul
	The Great Karnack will make a rare public appearance on this last Sunday before Rev. Paul's summer break. He will predict the future, sort of, and expound on the wisdom of the East. This service will also provide a moment of self-reflection and observations about the church year just ending.	
6/19/11	Father's Day and Summer Solstice	Matthew Elliott
	<i>The Dad Path - The Path I Chose.</i> I will explore how having a dad and being a dad changes us and prepares us to be a part of our world's future. This is also connected to the free and responsible search for truth and meaning, as our children grow and make their own choices. Our meditation segment will honor the Summer Solstice.	
6/26/11	Can Watson's Soul be Saved?	Cliff Brown
	A look at the Jeopardy-playing computer, with the question of just how close is Watson to Stanley Kubrick's HAL? What exactly does it mean to be intelligent? What does it mean to be human?	

Rev. Paul on vacation until 08/15/11

More June Events

Sunday, 6/5	Annual Bridging plus New Member Sunday — After welcoming our newest members during the service in the Sanctuary, we will celebrate with a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall immediately after.
Monday, 6/6	Nia, Joy of Movement Class — Classes resume this week, and will be held every Monday evening , 6:45 PM, in the Sanctuary. \$5 per class; your first class is free. For more information, please contact Marjorie Pomper,
Thursday, 6/9	Women, Wine and Words — UUMAN's Women's Group discussion, 7:30 PM in Discovery Hall. All women are welcome. This month's book is <i>The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity</i> , by an Episcopal Priest, Cynthia Bourgeault.
Sunday, 6/12	Meet the Minister — after the service, 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Visitors are invited to remain in the Sanctuary to meet with Rev. Paul for a short period of greeting, questions and answers. (This will be the last Meet the Minister Sunday until the fall.)

Sunday, 6/12	21st Century Humanism — after the service, 11:45 AM in the Sanctuary. If you possess a truly solid grasp of recent events in the Middle East and North Africa, let us sit at your feet and listen. If not, join us on June 12, so we can tighten our grasp of this will-o'-the-wisp. We might even show its relevance to Humanism. Everyone is welcome.
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More events in the MCY section!

Ministry with Children & Youth

— *Articles submitted by Toniann Read*

Dearest MCY Volunteers:

It is with much love and deep appreciation that I thank you for your commitment and devotion to our shared ministry with children and youth this year.

Sunday, May 15th, was the last meeting of this church year for Religious Exploration Teams at UUMAN. It has been a privilege for me to serve alongside you and our young people as we have spent time worshipping, playing, learning, growing and serving together. Your thoughtfulness, enthusiasm and dedication are inspiring. Your deepening relationships form the foundations of a 'Beloved Community' in our church home. The moments that you have spent together will change lives forever!

I want you to know that your loving care and attention is very much appreciated by your community. The Van der Beek family made a generous donation to the DMCY discretionary fund in lieu of individual teacher gifts as a mark of their deep appreciation for all that you do together. These funds will be used to provide scholarships and special purchases in the coming year...wonderful opportunities that we can offer in honor of YOU!

For those of you who will be taking a break from volunteering next year, I wish you joy and I look forward to connecting with you in new ways. For those of you who will be continue to volunteer with your MCY next year, I look forward to continuing our journey of deepening faith next Fall!

In the meantime, I hope that you will stay closely connected to your church family and MCY during the Summer break. We will have a schedule of activities planned to take place with children and youth, so please check in regularly...

With best wishes, many thanks & One Love,
— *Toniann*

Too often we under estimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. — Leo Buscaglia

Toniann will be back on 08/1/11

Bridging Ceremony, 2011

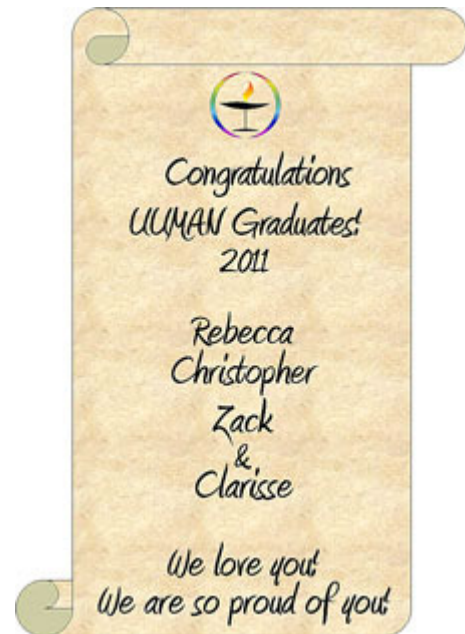
Dearest All:

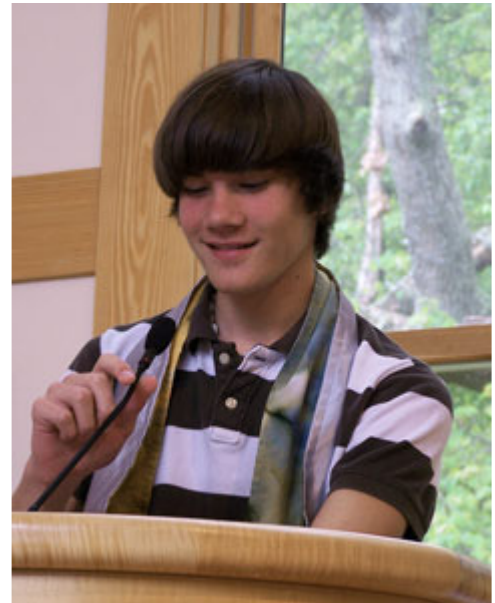
I do hope that you will join us this **Sunday, June 5th**, for **UUMAN's Annual Bridging Ceremony**. We will celebrate this important rite of passage at the beginning of our usual Sunday morning service. Please stay after the service for the New Member Potluck where we will also have a special cake in honor of our 'Bridgers'. Photos will be taken in the 'Bridging Garden' with friends and family.

This year we proudly honor **Rebecca, Christopher, Zack and Clarisse!**

It has been a joy and a privilege to have shared the precious years of their childhood and youth with these amazing young people. We can now look forward to continuing our journey of faith with these young adults as they venture out in to the world and take on new and greater challenges, with the hopes that they will come 'home' to visit us from time to time...

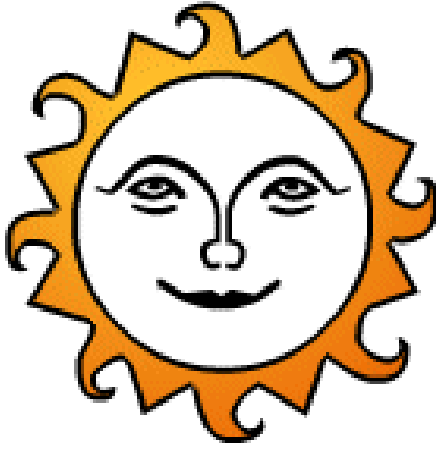
See you on Sunday!
One Love, Toniann





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 articles and artwork 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”

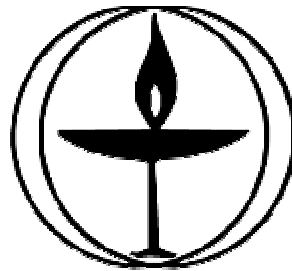
<http://www.commonsemmedia.org/movie-reviews/kung-fu-panda>

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