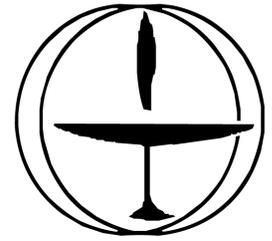




HONORING THE PAST  
BUILDING THE FUTURE

# UUFC WORLD

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson  
230 Pendleton Road, Clemson, SC 29631  
August 2014 Volume 45 Issue 8



August Services  
**Page 2**

Reverend's Remarks  
**Page 3**

President's Column  
**Page 4**

Religious Education  
Summer & Fall Updates  
**Page 5**

A 60th Anniversary  
Potluck and BBQ  
**Page 6**

Stewardship  
**Page 7**

UUFC Novel Circle  
**Page 8**

Silent  
Auction  
Returns  
In  
September

**Page 9**



## Kitchen Update

### Lookin' Good

The painters are done with their work. Now it's time for the paint to dry thoroughly before we reload the cabinets and drawers in the kitchen. Cecil is busy readying the four slide-out drawers for the lower kitchen cabinets later this week. Lots still to do to make things operational again.

Next week: New coffee making and serving equipment!

Submitted by Sandra Sanderson



Deadline for submission to the next issue of UUFC World is **August 20th.**

Please share with us at  
[UUFCWorld@gmail.com](mailto:UUFCWorld@gmail.com).

# August Services

**Sunday services begin at 10:30 am**  
Coffee and conversation follows in the social hall.

## **August 3: *Humor Heals***

A friend once told me, "A day with no laughter is one of Dante's seven stages of hell." Although they are circles and not stages and there are actually nine of them, I understood the wisdom of his observation. We all experience pain, so how do we cope? Pills? Exercise? How about a good joke. Humor can heal, but sometimes we have to look for it. Justin Campbell

## **August 10: *Out Mother in Heaven: A Theological Exploration of Non-dualism and Gender.***

In this service we will explore the implications of a feminine concept of God. How does our understanding of the sacred create our view of reality, and what are the outcomes of our beliefs on other people and society as a whole?  
Will Thompson

## **August 17: *Guest Minister — The Rev. Dr. Don Randall, Community Minister UU Fellowship of Athens, GA***

While rivers and their sources hold an importance in their own right, they also offer metaphoric understanding for our lives as individuals and communities.

## **August 24: *Our Water Communion and Peace Ritual Blessing the Water, Land, Plants, Animals and People of the World's Continents.***

During the service we will honor our relationship to our world using water and plants as a reminder of our interdependence with other people and places.  
Rev. Terre.

Following the service we will have an ingathering picnic on the grounds. Bring a dish to share or things to grill.

## **August 31: *Celebrating Our Unitarian Heritage.*** Reflections on a pilgrimage to Transylvania. Insights from our journey to our Unitarian Motherland. Andi Nelson & Del Kimbler



### **Additional Important Dates to Consider:**

August 17:	RE Teacher Orientation
August 24:	60th Anniversary Welcome Back Potluck & BBQ
August 31:	RE Classes Begin and Parent Orientation
September 1-14:	Annual Silent Auction Event
September 21:	Ordination of Eve Stevens
October 12:	UUFC Stewardship Sunday
October 18:	Western Carolinas Cluster fall gathering, UUC Asheville.
November 16:	Carla Ulbrich Concert

# The Reverend's Remarks

Rev. Terre Balof, Minister

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Dear Friends,

August is upon us. For many in our Fellowship, August means getting children ready for school or getting ready to teach. In general, by the end of the month our life rhythms will be changing to some degree and football season will be here. As I write, the rain is making music in the trees giving us some respite from the heat of July. I am reminded of the large part that water plays in our enjoyment of summer.

We are so blessed to live in a place where clean water is abundant. Recently we have experienced a concern that much of the world worries about daily. Is our water safe? This question reminds us once again how precious our water really is.

For the last couple of years, our water communion has evolved from a service in which we remember the places we have

traveled over the summer into a ritual to honor the waters of the world that are precious to us - as well as the water that is disappearing or polluted. On August 17, my friend and colleague, Don Randall, will offer a sermon using water as a metaphor for living. Our service on August 24 will focus on water from special places as part of a peace ritual. Water will be our symbol of healing as we honor the land, water, plants, animals and people from the continents of the world.

As we gather back from our journey, this peace ritual will offer us a way to highlight the fragility of the relationships among many nations and people. This is certainly a time for us to pray and to hope and to work for peace. Whatever our disagreements and misunderstandings, may we be a source of peace in our community so that the ripples of peace will spread throughout the world. I look forward to sharing this ingathering service on August 24 after which we will have an old-fashioned ingathering picnic on our grounds.

Peace, Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

Terre



## Report From the 53rd UUA General Assembly

*Submitted by Carol Ward*

The 53rd Annual General Assembly was held in Providence, Rhode Island, from June 25 to June 29, 2014. One of the main issues discussed in several programs was the need for increasing the minimum wage, springing from the discussion of *Behind the Kitchen Door* (UUA Common Read.) That session even led to a political protest in Providence.

One of the best sessions I attended was "Aging: Creating a Culture of Care." As a member of our own Care Committee, I learned a lot about what could be done for our whole congregation to improve our treatment of the members of the "silver tsunami." Another great session came from Keith Kron,

a minister who has preached several sermons here at UUFC. His "Navigating Ministerial Transitions" helped congregations prepare to hire a new minister, just as we have recently hired our own Terre Balof.

Always on the lookout for any free items to help us, I collected several new DVD's for our library. Carolyn Turner will soon have them catalogued for us. These materials include Breakthrough Congregations, U U University, and Drive Time Essays.

# The President's Column

Cecil Huey, 2014 Board President

In the last newsletter, I mentioned our Board's work on the details of our organizational structure--many of you provided helpful insights and suggestions during the process. I also mentioned pending enhancements to our communications, record keeping, and documentation procedures. Everything taken together should improve efficiencies of time and energy and reduce frustrations and confusion. Clearly, squandering less time and energy on piddling matters will leave more for important things. Accordingly, I hope we will devote ourselves to handling our affairs well in the firm belief that doing so will enable us to better deal with important things, including our future here in Clemson. The first results will soon begin to show up on our web site, and everyone is encouraged take a look. Watch for notices and instructions in the Midweek News.

One new feature will be an organizational chart showing our Board and all of our committees. A click on a committee will zip you to the committee makeup, its description in the bylaws or policy manual, and contact information. Further, committees will be able to post timely notices, meeting agendas and the like. Initially, you will find at the very top of the organizational chart, a note stating that everything remains a work-in-progress and requesting suggestions and comments. Your thoughts will be helpful in finishing up, so please offer them. A click on that note will lead to

a brief rationale for organizational details that might seem new. Once everything is ready to go, volunteers will man the TV screen in the Social Room during post-service hospitality to demonstrate the web site and to illustrate its new features. We will probably have a few more nifty things to show at the same time.

You will note some terminology changes and new titles that better convey purpose and function and help simplify or clarify responsibilities and reporting lines. A few descriptions and duties of officers and committees have been adjusted to keep the scope of each volunteer position or committee within reasonable and practical boundaries. Our administrative structure and practices are working already, but with a few tweaks, we should be able to carry on with greater effectiveness and better negotiate the future, boldly.

Revised descriptions of duties and responsibilities of individual units, officers, and volunteers will be incorporated into the bylaws and our policy manual as necessary. They will be drafted and distributed in time for consideration at our year-end congregational meeting in December. Current versions of bylaws and policy manuals are available on the UUFC web site.

Regarding the future, boldness will indeed be needed. An article, "Into the Beyond," by Terasa Cooley appears the Summer 2014 issue of [The UU World](#).

In it Cooley examines some important trends, especially the relentless demographic tide sweeping over all of organized religion and the urgent need for us to think about the coming years and to prepare for them. It will be great for all of us to read the article, so please take a look at it and think about it as you reflect on our organizational structure and practices and our aspirations for the future, and how they are linked.

I am reminded of an anecdote from the life of George Eastman, the father of the Eastman Kodak Company. George was an interesting person. He was a rare combination of inventor, meticulous planner, and gifted organizer. Late in his life, at age 72, he travelled to Africa on a photographic safari. At one point along the way, his party encountered a rhinoceros, and George decided to approach the animal, filming as he went. His actions prompted a ferocious charge, perhaps the first ever attack on a paparazzo. Anyway, as his group scattered, Eastman filmed away until the very last second when one of his guides fired, and the animal fell at Eastman's feet, literally. When asked later why he hadn't scampered away with everyone else, he replied, "You've got to trust your organization." We too need a sound and trustworthy organization to work for us so we can get on to the absolutely essential business of the future--it is an existential necessity. Further, an efficient and effective organizational structure will help us turn serious aspirations into pleasant and satisfying endeavors.

The Board of Trustees is currently discussing improvements to the facilities that will open the courtyard by removing the wall that currently borders it. More details will be coming about this but please stay alert for further information.



Bird's Eye View As Is



After removal of courtyard wall and some vegetation

# Religious Education

Theresa Pizzuto, Director of Religious Education

Theresa.pizzuto@gmail.com

## Summer & Fall Updates

Submitted by Christine Prado & Theresa Pizzuto

Spring semester ended with a picnic for all ages at Bayshore Park. The beautiful day meant volleyball, swings and even a few toes in the lake - as well as delicious food. Thanks to everyone who came out!

We also had help from the youth for a short play during the multigenerational Transitions service. The teens narrated the story, "Good News, Bad News" and the early learners acted out the story. Since then the teens have been helping out with our Spirit Play One Room Schoolhouse classes by reading favorite Spirit Play stories to the younger children.

August is a month of new beginnings, and that's certainly the case for RE. We will be covering World Religions, doing one every month, in parallel with the monthly service topic. The

younger class will follow the Spirit Play model implemented last year. The teens will more fully investigate each religion utilizing an approach called the "Rotation Model." We are creating a curriculum that explores the religions through art, drama, food and field trips. We will start with Earth-centered religions in September.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to teach again!

### Returning Spirit Play Teachers:

Beth Carraway  
Kari Carson  
Kathy Gilcrist  
Sarah Harcum  
Jan Lay  
Hala Nassar  
Christine Prado  
Carl and Martha Thompson  
Carolyn Turner

### Returning Teen Class Teachers:

Meg MacArthur  
Beth Venable  
Drake McNeary  
Karen Hiebel

And a warm welcome to our new Teen class teachers; Chad Carson and Will Thompson.

Important upcoming dates for teachers and parents!

August 17: Teacher orientation (noon to 2:00 pm)

August 31: Classes begin and Parent orientation (noon to 1:00 pm)

We look forward to seeing you and your children in the fall! We are still in need of some non-teaching volunteers. If you are interested in helping create Spirit Play kits, please contact Theresa Pizzuto at Theresa.pizzuto@gmail.com

Moments From our  
Campout and One  
Room School  
House Classes



The UUFC RE Program maintains a Shutterfly account containing these and many more moments of our various activities. For access, contact Theresa Pizzuto, RE Director at Theresa.Pizzuto@gmail.com



# 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Welcome Back Annual Potluck and BBQ Sunday, August 24

*Submitted by Kathy Crain, Membership Committee Chair*

HONORING THE PAST  
BUILDING THE FUTURE

Eating together has been a wonderful part of UUFC’s 60 year history. Many grown RE “children” will remember the Hot Dog Sundays hosted by Charmaine Kenelly at her home. This was done monthly to free the RE teachers from the classroom duties so that they could attend a worship service. Word has it that the RE class was full of “a lot of wild young boys back then...” who loved an early lunch of hot dogs.

UUFC has honored the return of each academic year through Welcome Back parties on an August Sunday evening with offerings of heavy hors d’oeuvres and much fellowship. This writer experienced those happy gatherings at the nearby home of Albert and Berniece Holt for several years. Then Jackie and Cos Renzi continued the tradition, expanding this event to their beautiful lake home in Oconee County.

Potluck meals have been offered at UUFC frequently throughout the years, thanks to the tireless and creative energies of the Hospitality Committee Volunteers.

After the service on August 24, UUFC members and friends are invited to stay and welcome the return of this academic year with a potluck and BBQ. This 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary event will also honor Charmaine’s legacy: UUFC has initiated paying back her generous Endowment contribution, which financed our latest building project.

(The interest earned on this Endowment has been used to care for the plants in the sanctuary. This recognized another of Charmaine’s passions shared with UUFC: she kept a “plant hospital” at their home in Clemson during the time of those Hot Dog Sundays.)

This year for UUFC’s August 24 potluck, grills will be provided (with cooks!) to BBQ meats and veggies that you bring – along with a dish to share.

There will be a sign-up poster in the UUFC foyer to letting you know what is needed, etc. If you would prefer, you can sign up online via the electronic signup link on our website or via the Mid-Week News(Welcome Back Potluck Sign Up) which would then be transferred to the poster.

We look forward to sharing this special time with all members and friends. Please make plans to attend! For more information, please contact the Membership Committee through Kathy Crain at [isencrain@gmail.com](mailto:isencrain@gmail.com) See you there!

**UUFC WORLD  
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CLEMSON SC 29631**

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UUFC World is published 11 times a year. All articles are due on the 20th of the month preceding publication. Articles can be e-mailed to: **UUFCWorld@gmail.com**

We welcome new ideas, opinions, poems, inspiring quotations, advertisements, photos, artwork, and of course UU-related news!

# *Giving What's Right, Not What's Left*

OR

*No Pledge is Too Small*

By Janet Marsh, Stewardship Chair

Pretty catchy title, don't you think?? And a very appropriate approach to thinking about the Stewardship pledge you will be making to UUFC this fall toward the UUFC 2015 budget.

In his book, *Cultivating Generosity: Giving What's Right, Not What's Left*, Rem Stokes grapples with the culture in many churches in which talking about money is soft-peddled because it may be embarrassing to some. "It is easier for UU's to talk about sex than it is to talk about money," according to one prominent UU.

The discomfort we experience in discussing money may be that money is viewed as a measure of worth – we admire the rich, are indifferent to the middle class, and look down on the poor. Because UUs want to embrace all who come to our door, we are concerned that some folks may be embarrassed if their pledge is small. Hence, we do not directly



explain and encourage pledging. We unwittingly accept society's measure of human worth. Better if we challenge it! One important step would be to openly talk with individuals and groups about money and the importance of a pledge commitment, giving as able.

"It is incumbent on the church to overcome its money embarrassment and find a non-threatening way to help members understand the tension behind their money discomfort and re-channel it in a more constructive and satisfying way," according to Stokes.

Deciding on the amount to pledge should flow from one's financial

needs and security, and the value of UUFC in their life. Acting in accord with one's values feels "right." The decision isn't based on what is left after necessities and non-necessities are paid for.

Please, don't base your pledge decision on what is left; base it on what feels right to you and UUFC!

Stokes asks, why should money be viewed primarily as a measure of wealth instead of a measure of generosity? Shouldn't there be a leavening influence that broadens the concept of money into a means of help, an agent of goodness? He suggests that it is the role of churches to identify:

approaches to the discussion of money that are comfortable and constructive,

an alternative money language that focuses on cooperation rather than competition, abundance rather than scarcity, and community-building rather than self-interest.

**LOOKING AHEAD:  
OCTOBER 12, 2014  
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

## UUFC Novel Circle

Cold, rainy days make me want to curl up with a good book and lots of chocolate. But then, so do sunny days.



som<sup>ee</sup>cards  
user card

If you enjoy reading and discussing books, we invite you to the Novel Club, a focused Covenant group. We meet the first Wednesday of each month (rain or shine) at the Founders' House, 7:30.

On August 6th we will be discussing [In The Bleak Midwinter](#) by Julia Spencer-Fleming.

### September 2, 2014: **The All-Girl Filling Station's Last**

**Reunion** by Fannie Flagg. Enjoy this comic mystery novel about two women who are forced to reimagine who they are. Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Alabama, has just married off the last of her daughters and is looking forward to relaxing. The only thing left to contend with is her formidable mother. Then quite by accident Sookie discovers a secret about her mother's past that suddenly calls into question everything she ever thought she knew about herself, her family, and her future. Sookie begins a search for answers that takes her to California, the Midwest, and back in time, to the 1940s, when an irrepressible woman named Fritz takes on the job of running her family's filling station. This soon leads to even more groundbreaking adventure. As Sookie learns about the adventures of the girls at the All-Girl Filling Station, she finds herself with new inspiration for her own life. Random House, 368 pages, 2013.

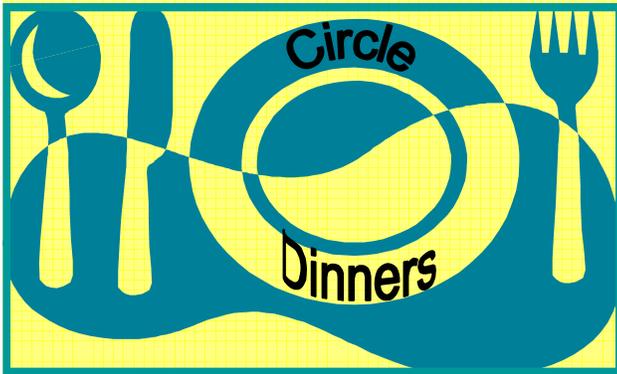
October 1, 2014: **The Custom Of The Country** by Edith Wharton. A scathing novel of ambition featuring one of the most ruthless heroines in literature. Undine Spragg is as unscrupulous as she is magnetically beautiful. Her rise to the top of New York's high society from the nouveau riche provides a provocative commentary on the upwardly mobile and the aspirations that eventually cause their ruin. The novel is a stunning indictment of materialism and misplaced values that is as powerful today for its astute observations about greed and power as when it was written. Bantam Classics, 480 pages, 1913. **Free Kindle download from amazon.com.**

November 5, 2014: **The Weird Sisters** by Edith Eleanor Brown. Three sisters have returned to their childhood home, reuniting the eccentric Andreas family. Here, books are a passion ("there is no problem a library card can't solve") and TV is something other people watch. Their father—a professor of Shakespeare who speaks almost exclusively in verse—named them after the Bard's heroines. It's a lot to live up to. Faced with life's disappointments, what can the shy homebody eldest sister, the fast-living middle child, and the bohemian youngest sibling find in common? Berkley Trade, 368 pages, 2012.

December 3, 2014: **The Invention of Wings** by Sue Monk Kidd. Hetty "Handful" Grimke, an urban slave in early nineteenth century Charleston, yearns for life beyond the suffocating walls that enclose her within the wealthy Grimke household. The Grimke's daughter, Sarah, has known from an early age she is meant to do something large in the world, but she is hemmed in by the limits imposed on women. Kidd's sweeping novel is set in motion on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership of ten year old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next thirty five years, as both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other's destinies and forming a complex relationship. This exquisitely written novel looks with unswerving eyes at a devastating wound in American history, through women whose struggles for liberation, empowerment, and expression will leave no reader unmoved. Viking Adult, 386 pages, 2014.

January 7, 2015: **Dreamers of The Day** by Mary Doria Russell.

*Submitted by: Dixie Haywood*



Circle dinners are a wonderful way to get to know members and friends of our Fellowship in an intimate and relaxed atmosphere. Dinners begin in September and continue for 5 months, skipping November and December. Everyone gets to host at least once in their home. Others bring salad/bread, appetizer, or dessert. We need at least 20 participants to have this popular activity. The deadline for signing up is August 17, 2014. Look for the BIG YELLOW sign-up sheet in the atrium. Questions? Contact Jackie Renzi at 888-2276 or [jcrenzi@aol.com](mailto:jcrenzi@aol.com)

Submitted by Jackie Renzi



The auction will be held after the service on Sept 7 and will conclude at 1pm on Sunday, Sept 14.

Come and bid generously on a wonderful variety of items!

The auction committee is now accepting donations of upscale items of all kinds.  
Items may be dropped off at Founders' House or contact:

Marty Bynum  
[mbynum303@gmail.com](mailto:mbynum303@gmail.com)

## Our Benevolences

August	Clemson Community Care
September	Our Daily Rest
October	Family Promise
November	Guest at Your Table UU Service Committee
December	Family Promise



True politeness is the spirit of benevolence showing itself in a refined way. It is the expression of good-will and kindness. It promotes both beauty in the man who possesses it, and happiness in those who are about him. It is a religious duty, and should be a part of religious training.

(Henry Ward Beecher)

izquotes.com

### Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

**We affirm and promote:**

- the inherent dignity and worth of all people justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- a free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- the right of conscience and use of the democratic process
- a goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth
- respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part.

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Minister..... Reverend Terre Balof  
*Reverend Balof's Office Hours: By Appointment*

Director of RE:..... Theresa Pizzuto  
 Administrator..... Susan Watson

Phone: 654-5959

Email: uufcadm@gmail.com

Main Bldg. Phone: 654-5980

Office Hours: M–F 11:00 am until 2:00 pm

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*Please report corrections and/or omissions to  
Andi Nelson at [andine@bellsouth.net](mailto:andine@bellsouth.net).*