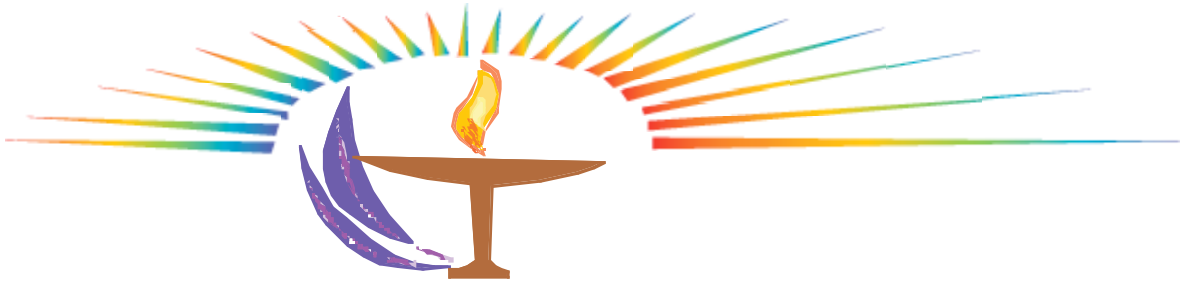


Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship



August 2009 Newsletter

Services are generally held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Laura Chapel of Huntsville Memorial Hospital. From 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., we gather and have coffee. For more information call (936) 295-3170.

"It is not good for all our wishes to be filled; through sickness we recognize the value of health; through evil, the value of good; through hunger, the value of food; through exertion, the value of rest."

~Dorothy Canfield Fisher

Important Congregational Meeting



Beth Williamson, Chair of the Ministerial Search committee has called a congregational business meeting following church service on August 9th at the Laura Chapel. The purpose of this meeting is to consider and possibly vote on ministerial and intern ministerial candidates. Since all voting must be done in person, it is important that all members come to the meeting. We understand that some members may be traveling, so please notify Beth if you are unable to attend the meeting.



August 9th, 2009

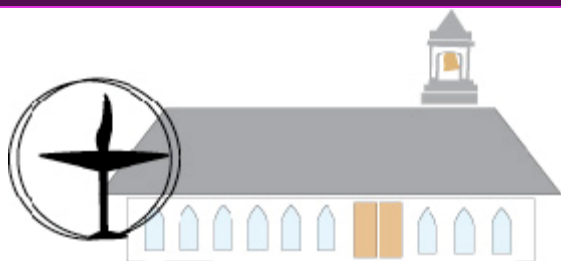
Our speaker will be Bob Tucker and his talk is entitled "Who is this Jesus."

Dr. Bob Tucker is currently the Executive Director of the Foundation for Contemporary Theology. He is a member of First Unitarian Universalist of Houston, has preached in all nine of the Houston area UU churches, has been an UU Affiliate Minister, and was an Interim Minister for seven months in 2008 at FUU of Houston. Prior to retirement, for twenty-eight years, he was the Senior Minister of First Congregational Church in the

Memorial area of Houston.

He has served churches in South Dakota and Houston, and also has been an interim minister in the states of Minnesota, Kansas and Texas. He was a teacher and school administrator in Turkey for five years. For three years he served as the Director of Library Services and member of the faculty of the Houston Graduate School of Theology. He has taught courses at Rice University's Continuing Studies Department, the Women's Institute, and has preached and taught in churches of six denominations. His main volunteer work today is serving on the Board of Justice for Children.

Bob grew up in Minnesota, and has graduate degrees from the University of Chicago, the University of Minnesota and the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.



A Note from the Aesthetics Committee

The Aesthetics Committee has painted strips of paint beneath the two front windows on the right side of the church. One strip is tan-colored (Bagel) and the other is light green (Techno-gray). The

Committee thinks the green with the windows trimmed in white looks the best. Please e-mail Anne Sigler and let her know your opinion at anne@kasigler.net.



A Note From Our President

Dear UUs!!

You all should take a moment to pat yourselves on the back and congratulate yourselves. The Huntsville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship now has a building dried in!!!! We now have a physical presence and the community is slowly but surely becoming aware of us. If there has been any negative response, I have not heard it. Most people seem pleased and happy for us and hopefully that will continue as we progress toward completion and will be able to reach out to serve more people.

Some of you may not be aware that Carol Turner's friend, Mardi Campbell, donated three windows for our building. Carol Turner and Brenda Barr drove to Galveston to pick them up and they were installed the next day to avoid breakage. Thank you, ladies, for donating that long trip!

Huge Thank You's to Bob Collier and Lee Stringer, who spent one of the hottest days of the year, picking up, and then unloading 3200 pounds of trash and debris from the church property. That's over a ton and a half of junk!!! The property looks much better for their efforts.

There is still grounds work to do, but that will wait until we can have a work day in the Fall. Hopefully, we can make a fun day of it, with lots of participation.

We have a lot of decisions still to be made before we go into the next phase. If, after getting a feeling for the new building, you have ideas for the second phase, please share with someone on the Aesthetics committee (Anne Sigler, Chair, Carol Turner, Brenda Barr, and Paul Culp). At present, the Aesthetics Committee is working on colors so that we can vote on how we want our building to look. Painting won't start until this heat wave is past.

As you all know, Anne True worked very hard in completing the application for the Chalice Lighter grant. It is my understanding that the recipient/recipients will be decided upon in August at SWUUSI. Lee and I will be going and can hopefully bring back some good news regarding the grant disbursement.

Remember that in summer we meet only one time in July and August. Our next meeting will be on August 9th. Hope to see you all there! Joan

Youth Advisor Training

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio is presenting Youth Advisor Training on Saturday, August 15th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$30.00 and includes lunch.

The topics covered will include youth empowerment, community building, balanced programming, liability issues, involvement in the congregation and more.

The trainer, Donna Harrison, has been a Unitarian Universalist for over 20 years. During that time she has been very active at both the district and congregational levels. She is the recipient of the Southwest District's 2009 Youth Advisor Award for her work with youth over many years. She is the senior youth group advisor for a shared youth group between First Church and Community Church in San Antonio. She is valued throughout the district for her consistency and sound guidance of youth.

For more information, please contact Sheri Phillabaum at (210) 344-2431.

Recommended Books by Ann Staples



Think Smart: A Neuroscientist's Prescription for Improving Your Brain's Performance by Richard Restak, M.D.

The list of books that this author has written about the brain and the mind is impressive. This is a very readable book with many good suggestions about steps to take and things to do to take care of your "brain power." There is a discussion of the brain at different stages of life, but the primary emphasis is on keeping the brain working well as we age.

The Noticer: Sometimes, All a Person Needs is a Little Perspective by Andy Andrews.

Andy Andrews is the author of the Traveler's Book. While you might have heard of that book, I had not and I picked this book up at random. It consists of a series of separate stories illustrating "truths" of life. The format consists of a mysterious old man who appears and reappears to interact with individuals and groups. There is a reader's guide of discussion question for each chapter at the end. I was reminded of *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran, but this book is in modern form with everyday language. However, the style is not nearly as elegant as *The Prophet*.



Charitable Giving

At our August 9th service, we will have a collection to benefit the Friends of the Huntsville Public Library. Friends is a non-profit volunteer citizens group organized in 1982 to support and enlarge the scope of public library services beyond those funded through the Library's annual City budget. The Friends Board utilizes annual dues to fund the presentation of monthly enrichment programs for children. If you are donating via check, please make the check out to the Huntsville U-U Fellowship and write "For the Friends of the

Library" in the memo space.



Notes From the Building Committee

First, the building dry-in is almost complete. The fiberglass posts for the front porch have arrived at the building supply in Buffalo and Mike Watkins will pick them up tomorrow. His plans are to install them this Saturday as well as finish up some inside framing details.

Two, after paying all current and projected expenses, it appears that the dry-in cost for the building will come in at \$67,062. That is an incredibly low \$21.58 per square foot!

Three, the donors considered the building finished enough to warrant releasing the "requirement to build" provision. The document removing this requirement has been executed and filed for record at the Walker County Courthouse. The Fellowship now completely owns the land and the improvements outright.

Lee Stringer
Building Committee Chair

Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship
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