

Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship



January 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's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you will realize your true potential.

~Barack Obama



Sunday, February 8, 2009

Our speaker on Sunday, February 8th, will be Ross Henry and the topic of his talk will be: Transcending Traditional Religion: "Let All Those Who'll do Justice and Love Mercy Say Amen."

Ross Hamilton Henry is a Humanist Minister and the president of the Asimov chapter of the American Humanist Association in The Woodlands, Texas. He now serves on the board of "The Humanist Society," the National Humanist Organization that granted him certification for that ministry. He has been a member of Northwoods Unitarian Church for over 20 years. He also serves on the National board of Directors of the Humanist Institute, a post-graduate educational program that prepares Humanist students for roles of leadership.

His degree is in chemistry and he worked in that field for many years, working in industry and later running a clinical research laboratory for The Cornell University teaching hospital in New York City. He has a lifelong love of Science and Philosophy, and is active in his Unitarian Church, and is, at present, running its Library. He is also listed on the local speakers bureau, and performs secular weddings and Memorial Services in the Houston area. He has spoken at six of the local Houston UU Churches as well as to other Churches in the Woodlands area.

If you are interested, you may visit the web page of his Asimov Humanist chapter at: <http://asimovhumanists.org/>



Sunday, February 22, 2009

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Richard Watts of Sam Houston State University (SHSU). The title of his talk is "Adlerian Psychology and Spirituality." He will discuss the work of Alfred Adler (1870-1937), an Austrian psychiatrist who developed important theories concerning the motivation of human behavior. From 1902 to 1911, Adler worked with the famous psychoanalyst, Sigmund Freud.

Watts received a Ph.D. in counseling from the University of North Texas in Denton in 1994. Since 2005 he has been a Professor and Director of the Center for Research and Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education at

SHSU, and teaches doctoral courses in the Counselor Education Ph.D. Program. Watts is the author of over 100 professional publications and has received numerous awards for his scholarship and service to the counseling profession. He is also the Editor of "Counseling and Values", the professional journal of the Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling, a division of the American Counseling Association.

Women's Sharing Circle

On Thursday, February 19th, at 10:30 a.m., the Women's Sharing Circle will be held at the home of Roberta Krock. Carla McAdams and Billye Muecke will be give an overview of Eckhart Tolle's book, *A New Earth*, and they will also discuss how it has influenced them. There will be an invitation to join a spin-off study group on this book to begin in March





Charitable Giving

At our February 22nd service, we will have a collection to benefit the SAAFE House. The SAAFE House offers a variety of free and confidential services in Walker, Polk, San Jacinto and Trinity counties including the following: a 24-hour crisis line; legal advocacy and shelter for adult and child victims of sexual and domestic violence; and an educational program consisting of workshops and classes for clients as well as community outreach to businesses, schools, and organizations.

At our January 25th service, we collected a total of \$113.00 for the Rita B. Huff Animal Shelter.



Our Musical Director, Dixon Lichtenauer, has retired. For over 50 years she has been celebrating her beliefs through music, and our congregation has been the fortunate beneficiary.

Beth Williamson will be the new head of the music program.

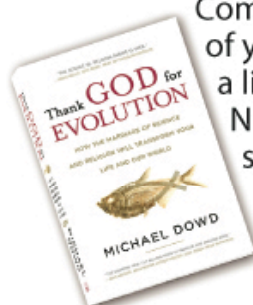
Thank you Dixon for all of the joy that you have given us over the past years. We will miss your beautiful talent.

Thank **GOD** for **EVOLUTION**

Michael Dowd LIVE!

America's Evolutionary Evangelist

JOIN THE EVOLUTION!



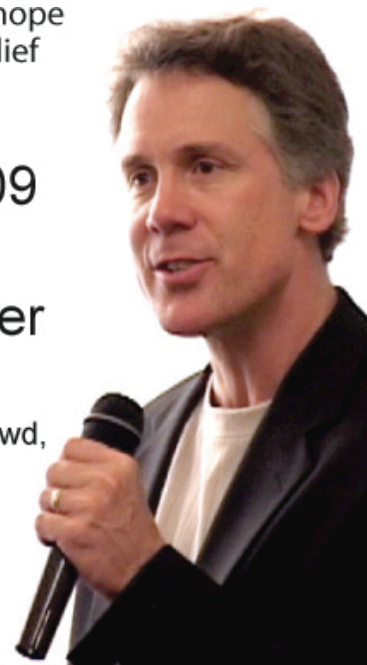
Come hear Reverend Michael Dowd share a gospel that's billions of years old! Find out why Americans everywhere are engaging in a life-changing new conversation about Creation. Endorsed by Nobel Prize winning scientists and religious leaders across the spectrum, Michael's bold new book builds bridges, provides guidance, and restores realistic hope for people of any religion or belief system.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Walker Education Center

The Huntsville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is excited to announce that the Reverend Michael Dowd, author of Thank God For Evolution, will speak in Huntsville. This is a huge opportunity for our UU Fellowship to make a statement and to let people know that UU'S are present in Huntsville! Please tell everyone to attend this event.



WWW.THANKGODFOREVOLUTION.COM

Recommended Books by Ann Staples



The Sheriff Dan Rhodes Mystery Series by Bill Crider.

This series of books on tape consists of the following titles:

Romantic Way to Die; Red, White and Blue Murder; Murder

Among the Owls; and A Mammoth Murder. The setting is a small Texas town and the dialogue among Rhodes, his jailer, and the dispatcher is just wonderful.

I recommend listening to them on tape or disk rather than reading them because the verbal characterization makes the story much more humorous. I did read *Dead Soldiers* by Crider, a book in which a Junior College professor is the crime solver. It is a humorous easy read, but with a sad message. Crider's female professorial crime-solver book, even on audio, was not particularly engaging as far as I was concerned.

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

I did not read this book in its entirety; however, it comes highly recommended. I am not sure why I elected not to read much of this book, maybe I was not in the mood for the topic: and the type setting for some reason did not appeal to me.

Editor's note: I did read this book in its entirety and it was wonderful. The writing style was engaging and I am amazed at how much one lone (though obviously obsessed) person can accomplish in this world. This is an example on how the United States should be modeling its foreign policy.

Life is So Good by George Dawson and Richard Glaubman.

I read this book, which was published in 2000, several years ago and I thought that I would include it here, because it too, in a way, is also about education.

George Dawson decided to learn to read at age 98, and this book is the story of his life and of the relationship between him and Richard Glaubman who tells Dawson's life story. You may recall that he was featured on a brief television interview. The book paints a picture of a young man growing up in a rural lifestyle. Another wonderful book (especially the audio version) of a rural upbringing is Jenny Carter's *An Hour Before Daylight*. Both books bring home the realization of just how much the U.S. has changed in a short period of time.

Happy Valentine's Day!



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