

Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship



July 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.

Every charitable act is a stepping stone toward heaven.
~Henry Ward Beecher



July 12th, 2009

Our speaker will be Liza Ely and her talk is entitled "Conscious Acts of Grace." Of her talk Ms. Ely writes "our culture has forgotten how to die. The pain, the anguish, the suffering of death can deep and invasive. Yet, other than birth, it is the one experience we all share."

There is another way. Conscious Acts of Grace are those words, actions, and touches that let our loved ones know we are there for them at the end of their physical life. Conscious Acts of Grace is a roadmap of how to be with ourselves and our loved ones. With stories, questions to consider, and action steps you will have the opportunity to hold the dying process in loving kindness."

Liza Ely, M.S., is a licensed professional counselor and contributor to *More Random Acts of Kindness*. During her three decades of professional experience in mental health and wellness, she has witnessed firsthand the power of stories for clarifying, modeling, and moving us to love-based action. Her book *Conscious Acts of Grace – A Collection of End-of-Life Stories* and her CD, *Breathe in Life*, provide positive alternatives when faced with a loss of a loved one. Liza shares tools for living our best life.

Following her talk on Sunday afternoon, Ms. Ely will be presenting a Continuing Education workshop for social workers, marriage and family therapists, licensed professional counselors and hospice workers. A registration form follows.

CEU WORKSHOP

SOCIAL WORKERS, LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
HOSPICE WORKERS

Huntsville Memorial Hospital
Laura Chapel

Sunday, July 12, 2009
1 PM - 3 PM

Conscious Acts of Grace: Improving End of Life
Presented by Liza Ely, LPC

Author of Conscious Acts of Grace - A Collection of End of Life Stories
<http://www.centerofwellbeing.com/>

*2 (.2) SW/LMFT CEUs for each workshop (LPC accepts these)
Provided by Your Social Worker*

This workshop is free, but a "love offering" will be greatly appreciated.

REGISTRATION FORM

July 12, 2009

1 PM - 3 PM

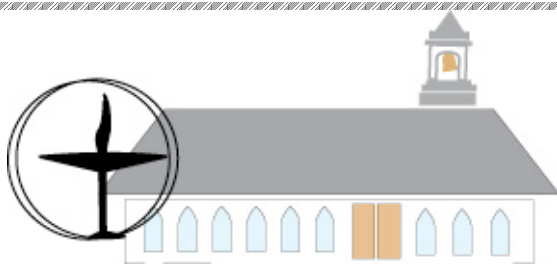
Name

Address

City, State, ZIP

Email

Email pamjohnson05@suddenlink.net, call (936) 661-4313, to reserve a spot, or
visit **Your Social Worker** website at <http://pages.suddenlink.net/pamjohnson/> for
more information.



Report from the Building Committee

What a four or so weeks this has been! On May 21 the workers set the forms for the foundation. On May 28 the concrete was poured and finished. On Monday, June 1, 2009, the workers started framing the structure of our first church home. On Saturday, June 20th, the workers put the shingles on the roof!

Again, I want to thank all you members and friends out there whose contributions so generously made this possible. Every dollar contributed has helped. Many people have been making monthly contributions to the building fund ever since the building was proposed. Many different members paid part or all of their five-year pledges. Others who had made no pledge have also contributed. Those contributions, added to the CD money we already had from contributions over the years, have enabled the construction of the dry-in phase of our building.

There is more good news. We are meeting the building budget for the dry in phase almost exactly. I think this result emphasizes just how lucky we are to have Mike Watkins guiding us on this project. It appears that we will complete the dry in phase at near an incredible \$21.71 per square foot. Better yet, we feel we are on target to eventually complete the structure for about \$44 per square foot. With some volunteer labor we should do even better.

If you are in the neighborhood and have time please stop by and take a look. The address is 144 East Mosley. The permanent doors are installed, and some of the windows are installed. The two 'triangle windows' for the west end of the sanctuary should arrive any day for installation. There was an order mix-up on the seven fixed windows on the north and south sides. They had to be re-ordered, and should arrive in about two weeks. Once all the windows are installed I think we can consider the structure "dried in".

After the dry in is finished, we will turn our attention to additional fundraising for phase 2. We have applied for Chalice Lighter grant that we are very hopeful of getting. There are other funding opportunities we will be pursuing now that we will not be in an active construction phase.

Again, thank you all for making the construction of our first building possible.

Lee Stringer,
Building Committee Chair

Pictures of our New Church

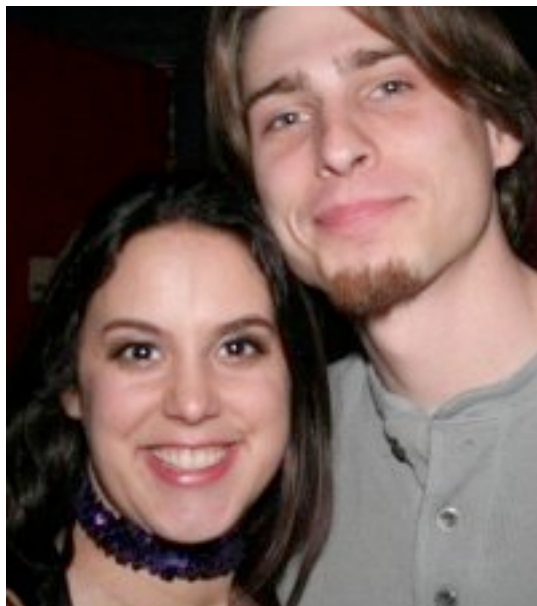
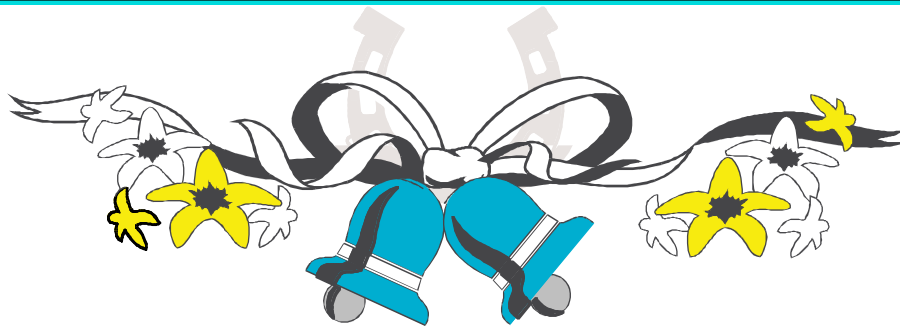


A picture of the north side of our new building as seen from East Mosley Lane



A picture of the triangular windows that will be present on the west wall of the sanctuary.

Our new church building was mentioned in the latest SWUUC Newsletter. To subscribe to the SWUUC Newsletter go to www.swuuc.org and click on the appropriate box. Unfortunately the SWUUC does not publish the newsletter on their website and the only way to see it is by subscribing.



Congratulations Annie and James

Annie Glenney and James Moore were married on Saturday, the twenty-seventh of June. The cake was delicious, the bride and groom were both beautiful, and a wonderful time was had by all.

We wish Annie and James all the happiness and joy that this world has to offer. Best wishes to the newlyweds.



A Note From Our President

Greetings UUs!!

The crews for Mike Watkins who have worked so hard to get the church building dried in are very appreciative of cookies served by Mary Welborn, Brenda Barr and Joan Stringer. One of the men asked Lee, on some of the days when they didn't have cookies, "Where are the cookies?" Big boys, like small boys, like cookies!

As you know, James Moore resigned as Membership Chair. We now have a new person in this position. Mary Welborn has graciously agreed to serve in this spot. Welcome, Mary, and thank you ever so much!

Pam Johnson has worked hard and has organized the conference for Liza Ely to present for CEUs for Social Workers the afternoon of July 12th. Please do mark your calendars so that you can attend the church service on that date, as she will no doubt present a very interesting program.

Finally, please consider attending SWUUSI at U-Bar-U in Oklahoma in August (that sounds hot, and it will be, but we truly did enjoy being with a large group of like minded folks last year at SWUUSI). You can register at <http://www.swuuc.org/swuusi/> Discounted registration ends June 30th. We really need to have as many members as possible attend, especially since that is when they decide who gets the Chalice Lighter grant. Please do think about including August 2 - 7th at SWUUSI!

Keep Cool! - Joan



Charitable Giving

At our July 12th service, we will have a collection to benefit the COME center. Among its activities, the C.O.M.E (or Community Organization for Missionary Endeavor) provides free clothing and school supplies for low-income residents. It also helps low-income residents apply for grant money towards utility bills. During Hurricane Ike, their current center suffered severe roof damage and they have been trying to raise money to construct a new center. If you are donating via check, please make the check out to the Huntsville U-U Fellowship and write "For the COME Center" in the memo space.

Recommended Books by Ann Staples



The Art of Pixar Short Films by Amid Amidi.

The first one-third of this book is the story of how short computer driven films came into being. The remaining part of the book consists of illustrations from these short films from 1984 through 2007. It is a very interesting history of how a new creative field evolved.

Washington Burning: How a Frenchman's Vision for Our Nation's Capital Survived Congress, the Founding Fathers, and the Invading British Army by Lis Standiford. This 316 text which I ordered through interlibrary loan was published in 2008. Interesting, the author writes both fiction and nonfiction. This enjoyable history about the location and the building of Washington D.C. demonstrates that political battles are nothing new. Not only is it the story of the site, it is the story of the architect and planner, Peter Charles L'Enfante, a Frenchman who loved his adopted country. It is to him that we owe the grand vision of the city's layout. He, however, ends his life in poverty and obscurity. Included, of course, is the story about the War of 1812 when the British army burnt Washington D.C. The conflict was much more serious than I had remembered.

The Dance of Time: The Origins of the Calendar, A Miscellany of History and Myth, Religion and Astronomy, Festivals and Feast Days by Michael Judge. This is an elegantly written book. You will enjoy the topic, learn a lot of history, and appreciate the writing style - a little gem.

A Kind of Genius: Herb Sturz and Society's Toughest Problems by Sam Roberts.

The inside jacket of this book reads "Herb Sturz boldly pioneered innovative programs geared toward improving the lives of the disenfranchised while bettering the world around them...." With Louis Schweitzer, an eccentric philanthropist, Sturz effectively revolutionized and unjust bail bond system. Together, the two founded the Vera Institute for Justice - an organization designed "to help leaders in government and civic society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety...." Struz went on to organize many other socially needed projects. An excellent book on making innovative ideas for social change happen and on the man who creatively worked to accomplish those goals.



Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship
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