Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship

Rev. Tom Capo, Minister



May 2008 Newsletter

Services are 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.

"True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost."

~ Arthur Ashe



Sunday May 25, 2008

Rev. Capo's sermon is entitled *Working for the Greater Good*.

Unitarian-Universalists focus on the inherent worth and dignity of every person. What does that really mean? Sometimes I think we confuse affirming and promoting worth and dignity with letting people do what they want.

Sunday May 11, 2008

Dr. Victor E. Sower will give a talk entitled *The Pursuit of Excellence*. This talk will discuss concepts from two books: *In Search of Excellence: Lessons from America's Best-Run Companies* by Thomas J. Peters and Robert H. Waterman, and a book, that he, himself, wrote, entitled *Benchmarking for Hospitals: Achieving Best-in-Class Performance Without Having to Reinvent the Wheel.* The ideas in these books will be examined from the aspect of how we can sustain excellence once it is achieved and how we can apply these ideas to our personal lives. Dr. Sower applies these principles to his own work. He states



"Credentials do not command respect. Professors must earn the respect of their students every day in the classroom."

Dr. Sower is a Professor of Operations Management at Sam Houston State University, where he has taught since 1990. He is a Senior Member of the American Society for Quality and is Certified as a Quality Engineer. He holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, an M.B.A. from Auburn University, and a Ph.D. in Operations Management from the University of North Texas. Dr. Sower is the co-author of three books, and the author or co-author of numerous articles and presentations. He was the 1996 recipient of the SHSU Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2001 recipient of the SHSU Excellence in Research Award. He was named a 2005 Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. In addition to his academic experience, he has over 18 years of experience in process engineering, engineering management, and general management of a manufacturing operation. On a more personal note, he is currently a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic church in Huntsville. He has been married for 41 years and he and his wife have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. In his spare time he likes to golf, play basketball, garden, backpack, and make furniture and toys for his children and grandchildren. He also enjoys traveling and he and his wife have visited recently visited Ireland, Scotland, Holland, and Germany. This summer, they plan to go to Alaska and Canada.

Annual Business Meeting

The Fellowship's annual Business Meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 4, 2008, at the home of Anne True and Richard Norman (1879 Greenbriar Dr. in the Elkins Lake Subdivision). During this meeting we will be considering the annual budget and the construction of a building to house our fellowship. A Potluck luncheon will follow; so please bring your favorite dish. Friends of our fellowship as well as members are welcome to attend; however, only members will be eligible to vote. If you have not yet received an agenda for this meeting, please contact Stuart Williamson.

The Huntsville UU Fellowship Nominating Committee (consisting of Chair, Stuart Williamson; Brenda Barr; and Roberta Krock) has recommended the following members for fellowship positions.

Officers:

President: Joan Stringer

Vice President/Program Chair: Beth Williamson

Secretary: Pam Johnson Treasurer: Richard Lane

Appointed Positions:

Music Director: Dixon Lichtenauer

Co-Song Leaders: Melissa Templeton-Mahaffey and Beth Williamson

Co-Reading Leaders: Anne Sigler and Richard Norman

OOS Editor: Anne True

Growth/Membership Chair: James Moore

Newsletter Editor: Anne True

Co-Publicists: Paul Culp and Stuart Williamson

Web Site Coordinator: Roberta Krock

Current Committees:

Building Committee: Chair, Anne True; Lee Stringer; James Moore

Ministerial Search Committee: Chair, Beth Williamson; James Moore, Anne Sigler, and

Joan Stringer

Religious Education Committee: Chair, James Moore, Anne True



Diversity Forum

The Diversity forum will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. on April 28th at the First United Methodist Church. The guest speaker will be Dr. Montgomery who is superintendent of Huntsville ISD. He will speak on *Diversity and our Public Schools*.

Women's Sharing Circle

On May 15th, we will be meeting at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Carla McAdams (86 Dahlia Rd. in the Timberwilde Subdivision). We had a wonderful talk by Dr. Karl Mahaffey in April. This month, we will be continuing our topic of dream interpretation. Everyone is encouraged to keep a journal of her dreams this month. Afterwards, we will all go to lunch.



Campus Ministry

James Moore and Beth Williamson are trying to establish a student Unitarian-Universalist group at Sam Houston State University. They are handing out information and talking to students at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays on the Mall in front of the Lowman Student Center. Anyone who is interested in helping to start a campus ministry is invited to join them. For more information, please contact James or Beth.

A Note From Our Musicians

Our Song Leader, Melissa Templeton-Mahaffey, would like to announce that she and our pianist, Dixon Lichtenauer, would be happy to get requests for songs sung either by the congregation or as special music.

Upcoming Conferences

U-U Genera Assembly

The 47th annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations will be held from June 25-29, 2008 at the Fort Lauderdale, Florida convention center. The theme of this General Assembly is the "Common Threads" that weave together the fabric of our Unitarian-Universalist faith and community.

Registration for this event opened March 1st. You may register by going to http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/

The Southwestern Unitarian-Universalist Summer Institute (SWUUSI) will be held from July 20 - 25, 2008 at Lake Murray State Park near Ardmore, Oklahoma. SWUUSI is an annual extended-family gathering sponsored by the Southwestern Unitarian-Universalist Conference. There are opportunities for people of all ages and interests to develop or enrich their Unitarian-Universalist identity

The theme for this year's summer institute is *Thank God for Evolution*, featuring Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow. Michael and Connie have been called "America's evolutionary evangelists." Michael and Connie are passionate about sharing the 14 billion-year history of Cosmos, Earth, life, and humanity in ways that offer practical guidance and uplift and expand heart, mind, and soul. They tell this history as a sacred narrative that can help heal the world.

For SWUUSI '08, much of our musical needs will be provided by Mary Reynolds and Louise Goldberg. Mary and Louise will serve as Choir Director and Accompanist as well as Artists in Residence.

For more information as well as registration forms please go to http://www.swuuc.org/swuusi/

The Southwestern U-L Summer Institute

Huntsville Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship P.O. Box 6751, Huntsville, TX 77342-6751 Huntsville UU Website: www.huntsvilleuu.tx.uu.org

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