



# THE NUUSLETTER

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA

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AUGUST, 2013

A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

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*Share The Plate*  
*Sunday, August 11*  
*Back to School for*  
*the children.*



## **HOW I TALKED TO MY KIDS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO TRAYVON MARTIN (HINT: HATING GEORGE ZIMMERMAN DIDN'T HELP)**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

*by Kay McCurdy, Director of Religious Education*

*Our love of lockstep is our greatest curse, the source of all that bedevils us. It is the source of homophobia, xenophobia, racism, sexism, terrorism, bigotry of every variety and hue, because it tells us there is one right way to do things, to look, to behave, to feel, when the only right way is to feel your heart hammering inside you and to listen to what its timpani is saying. ~ Anna Quindlen*

Part of being a parent is deciphering the world, bit by bit, and inviting your children to consider those bits, and then save or discard them as they see fit. When my girls were younger, I rambled on incessantly about every little thing we encountered. (Look, a tree! An oak tree with rough bark. And a beetle! A tiny brown beetle in a hurry.) No doubt they were secretly thinking does this chick ever just shut up and enjoy the day? But I rambled on because I didn't want them to miss a thing. So much of life is about paying attention to the smallest details, and it's been my experience that those tiny details are what make a life worth living.

I think about those tiny details when I think about Trayvon Martin, and about George Zimmerman, too. My twelve year old, Sophie, has been full of questions the past few days about the verdict in this case. It seems unreal to her that Trayvon Martin was killed just for taking a walk. She witnessed a very passionate (read: loud) argument I had with my brother-in-law about the case a few weeks ago, in which I played the part of the bleeding heart liberal (Zimmerman gunned that kid down! He's a rabid vigilante!) and my brother-in-law played the part of the skeptical conservative (What was he doing in that neighborhood at night, anyway? He was looking for trouble!). We both spouted off our respective positions without really listening to each other, then silently congratulated ourselves for presenting the "truth".

But later, when talking with Sophie, I realize that her perspective is much clearer than mine. She understands that Zimmerman didn't truly see Trayvon Martin that night. He saw an outsider. We talk about how frightened and alone Trayvon Martin must have felt at the end, but we also talk about George Zimmerman's fear. We talk about how sometimes we can't see other people clearly, and not just because they are wearing a hoodie. Sometimes we can't see them because we've decided we already know who they are. Like: you're an African-American kid walking through a gated neighborhood and you are up to no good.

This story would be much easier to stomach if Zimmerman were a textbook villain with ice in his veins. But he is, like most of us, just another imperfect human being. If we deny that at times we have all felt in fear of the "other," whoever the "other" might be, then we do a great disservice to the memory of Trayvon Martin. What we can tell our kids is that it takes time and patience to really see other people. We can be honest about the biases and fears we have carried in our hearts in the past. We can choose to mourn Trayvon Martin, forgive George Zimmerman, and remove our blinders....all in the same, deep, collective breath.

## SERVICE TITLES & DESCRIPTIONS AUGUST, 2013

*Connections* meets every Sunday at 10:45 in the sanctuary. *Connections* is a time of personal sharing for members, friends, and visitors. The worship service begins at 11:00 am.

**August 4: Beginners Heart.** New beginnings are exciting. It feels like everything is bright and new with unlimited possibilities. What happens when the reality of life with humans settles in? How do we sift away the rocks and mud – and lay claim to the gold which lies at the heart of community? Rev Pam Rumancik leads this service.

**August 11: Welcome Back!** Our youth have begun their studies again. We leave vacation mind behind and settle into the rhythm of the year. We welcome our kids back and look at the ways our children challenge and help us to become the people we want to be. Rev Pam Rumancik leads this service.

**August 18: From There to Here—How I Found My Way to UUC.** Mary Hunter will lead this service in which members Monique Lewis, Maurine Olin and George Helton tell their stories of how they got to UUC.

**August 25: Loving the Hell out of the world.** This title is borrowed from a General Assembly workshop which examined ways that we make the world a better place by bringing our witness of love. How can we make love real and visible in the world? What gifts does this community have to offer? Rev Pam Rumancik leads this service.

## FORUM

The forum meets each Sunday at 9:30 downstairs in the last room on the left.

**August 4**      Social Justice Activities Update by Melissa Reese and Francis Starkis

**August 11**    Trip to the Galapagos Islands by Sylvia Saloshin

**August 18**    Me Me Me Generation by Jim Welborn

**August 25**    Report from GA (General Assembly) by Frank Caperton

### UUC Board of Trustees, 2013-2014

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**INTERDEPENDENT WEB***by Juniper Russo*

The day DOMA was overturned, the top-rated comment on the Chattanooga Times Free Press's coverage of the story stated, "America has clearly learned nothing from Sodom and Gomorrah."

I agree. America *has* clearly learned nothing from Sodom and Gomorrah. We live in a country absolutely full of sodomites, but most of us don't seem to know who the real sodomites are. *Nowhere* does the Bible indicate that sodomy had anything to do with love or sexuality, and it certainly had nothing to do with marriage.

Ezekiel 16:49 is the only part of the Bible that gives a specific definition of sodomy. It reads, "Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy."

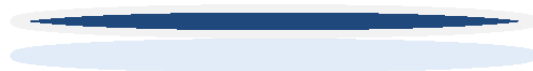
The sins of Sodom do sound disturbingly like the sins of today's America. We are overfed—not just with food, but with all the material junk that we, in our arrogance, imagine we need. We are unconcerned with the weakest and neediest members of our society. We look the other way when we see suffering. We are selfish, greedy, and hubristic. We are a nation of sodomites.

The religious right, of course, tends to focus more on the Bible's passing reference to "sexual immorality and perversion" among the people of Sodom, but a careful reading gives no indication that this refers to consensual relationships between adults. Contextually, this "sexual immorality and perversion" is likely a reference to rape and pederasty. In a country where one in four women will be raped in her lifetime, and where fifteen percent of children are sexually abused... isn't it time we learn our lesson from Sodom and Gomorrah?

Genesis 19:5 describes the destruction of Sodom because of this perversion, but the passage clearly refers to rape—not love, sex, or marriage. According to Genesis, when two angels disguised as men visited the home of Lot, a mob of Sodomites beat on Lot's door and demanded that he allow them to gang-rape his guests.

These Sodomites were not gay. They were rapists. Rape has never been a crime of passion or sexuality, but malice and abuse. As America's the epidemic of prison rape (with self-identified heterosexual men comprising the vast majority of assailants) shows, same-sex rape has never had anything to do with the rapist's sexual orientation.

The real Sodomites were predators. They were "arrogant, overfed, and unconcerned." They exploited the weak. They embraced violence, objectification, and subjugation instead of consent, love, and respect. We *do* live in a nation of sodomites, but it's time we look around and see who the real sodomites are. They can be found more easily in government buildings and in the offices of Fortune 500 CEOs than in a wedding chapel or bedroom.

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### IN SEARCH OF ...

by Steve Hollingsworth, Ministerial Search Committee

*"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"*

*"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.*

*"I don't much care where--" said Alice.*

*"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat.*

~ Lewis Carroll, from Alice in Wonderland

Hey, folks, it's me again! Did you notice I haven't been writing the Interdependent Web column anymore? I hope you have noticed that with Juniper Russo at the helm that column is better than ever, and I urge you to give it your attention regularly.

But here I am again, to write monthly for a year or so about something current, vital, and dear to my heart—our church's search for the settled minister who will take Rev. Jeff Briere's place. I serve on the search committee and happily took on the responsibility of writing about what we're doing, how we're doing it, and the way you can have input into the process.

Most congregants who have made any comments to me so far have focused on ministerial attributes they'd think would be helpful. Definitely I hear how wonderful a job Rev. Pam is doing, could we get her to stay or get someone like her? I listen and remember but it's way premature! Pam is working hard to make us look backward, look inward, and look onward. Until we can suss out where we are willing and able to go as a church, no minister will want to come in and lead us, like Alice, to nowhere in particular.

Getting a picture of whom and where we are is a start. There will be a congregational survey, probably conducted online, that will paint us by the numbers—who we are, what we believe, how generous we are, our ages and identities, racial, ethnic, sexual, and gender. Expect cottage meetings where we can explore together our common understandings as well as problematic differences.

Finally mindful of the data blended with our best collective intuition, as a committee we'll craft an honest narrative of who we are and paint a portrait of the minister we seek.

As I write this, the search committee is about to have a retreat to confirm our covenant to one another and the church; assign leadership roles in more detail, establish our own ground rules for consensus and decision-making, and prepare to resolve conflict if and when it arises. Next month, you'll hear of our first concrete steps and plans for a Beyond Categorical Thinking (BCT) workshop. BCT is all about understanding that irrelevant variables, like gender identity, youth, or disability, need to be looked past when we find the person we need. Stay tuned!

### **UU Adventure Diners and Friends ~**

**Please join the UU diners for dinner on Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>  
Choas Mongolian Grill**

Buy one, get one FREE with your coupon book. Or, just join in. Everyone is welcome. Located at 5726 Brainerd Road, Chattanooga TN. Reserve at [uuacd@gmx.com](mailto:uuacd@gmx.com)

**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**  
*by Paige Maskarinec, SGM Co-coordinator*

I'm sure many of you have had this experience: You make eye contact with another church member from across the fellowship area. They start moving through the crowd toward you. Suddenly you recognize that gleam in their eye. You're about to be asked to join a committee, or head a project, or in some way get your hands dirty with the inner workings of the church. You hastily look around for an escape, but those darn friendly parishioners are blocking the exits. There is no denying it - the church needs people to make it happen. But me?

This was my experience recently when I was asked to serve as a coordinator for small group ministries. And as I debated my response, I kept coming up with a litany of excuses. I'm a new mom! I've just gone back to work! Do I have anything else left to give? But as I reflected on what SGM has meant to me as a new member of this church community, I knew I could give just a little bit more to ensure that every member of our church family has an opportunity to experience this wonderful ministry.

Your SGM coordinators are busily planning for the upcoming year. If you have ideas, suggestions, or questions come and find us! Did small group not mesh well for you in the past? Let us know why and consider giving it another go. Do you love SGM and can't wait for the new year? Consider facilitating a group. Have you long wondered what these mysterious small groups are all about? Let this be the year you discover SGM for yourself.

If nothing else, come watch me squirm with discomfort as I brave my coffee-hour terror to help bring my love of Small Group Ministries to you! Why did I agree to this again?



**THE PAGAN GROUP**



August brings:

8/1 Lughnasadh  
8/4 Sunday Discussion at 9:30 am  
8/6 New Moon  
8/21 Full Moon

The Beginning of the Harvest: At Lammas (August 1), also called Lughnasadh, the hot days of August are upon us and much of the earth is dry and parched, but we still know that the bright reds and yellows of the harvest season are just around the corner. Apples are beginning to ripen in the trees, our summer vegetables have been picked, and corn is tall and green waiting for us to come gather the bounty of the crop fields. Now is the time to begin reaping what we have sown and gathering up the first harvests of grain, wheat, oats, and more.

This holiday can be celebrated either as a way to honor the god Lugh, or as a celebration of the harvest.



## FROM THE GROUND UP

by Marge Pasch, Chair, Landscaping Committee

In preparation for the July 7 church picnic, the landscape committee worked hard on a hot humid June day to improve the playground/picnic table area. The rotting landscape timbers edging the playground were removed, and new mulch was spread over the entire area. Unfortunately, rain drove the picnic indoors, but the RE grounds look much better and are ready for summer fun.



This spring the landscape committee also enlarged the Pizza/Herb Gardens to include a Butterfly/Bee Garden area. Nectar-producing plants such as *Buddleia* (butterfly bush), *Pentas*, *Echinacea* (coneflower), lavender, *Tithonia* (Mexican sun flower), lantana, and creeping thymes, were added. For butterfly larval food, parsley, carrot, and dill were planted. Since butterflies cannot drink from deep or running water, they need shallow puddles. Sunk in the garden soil is a bucket filled with sand and small rocks that holds just enough water to enable butterflies to easily get moisture. Be sure to visit the garden when the sun is out to see if you can spot any flying visitors.

In addition to keeping the grass mowed, Landscape Committee member tom kunesh continues to monitor the grounds for invasive plants, and recently he found a "Tree of Heaven" (*Ailanthus altissima*) infestation on the north side of the church. These quick growing trees need to be cut down.

Nancy Anderson regularly cuts brush and weeds out poison ivy and other invasive from the wooded slope beside the lower driveway. Bonny Sinclair has taken on the care of the South Portico bed and will be adding plants this summer and fall.

The Landscape Committee welcomes new members. If you like to work outside and want to help the church grounds look welcoming and attractive, contact Marge Pasch, tom kunesh, Greg Cruz, Sandy Kurtz, Becca Fowlkes, Bonny Sinclair or Nancy Anderson. The next Landscaping Committee meeting will be Saturday, July 28. Come learn what we're planning to do next, and see if you would like to be a part of this energetic committee.



Ron Pasch, Greg Cruz,  
tom kunesh  
take a rest from mulching

"And forget not that the earth delights  
to feel your bare feet and the winds  
long to play with your hair"  
— [Khalil Gibran](#), [The Prophet](#)

## GREEN SANCTUARY INITIATIVE

*by Sandy Kurtz*

### THINK SOLAR

General Assembly in Louisville was a spiritual inspiration when it came to thinking of the need for eco-justice action. This photo shows the solar energy street puppet that accompanied 3000 UUs during the Public Witness event along the Ohio River. It seemed timely for UUCU given our solar project.

**An update:** You have no doubt noticed that the solar panels have not yet arrived, but never fear. The application to TVA is in the hands of EPB (Electric Power Board) awaiting approval on August 1 and our solar panel installer has visited the site, assessed the design needs, and is ready to start once the contract arrangements are final.

There have been some financial questions (from the Finance Committee of course) about what income we might expect from our solar panels. There are two possibilities depending on whether TVA approves our application allowing us to send our solar electrons directly to the grid, or whether we put in a meter directly connected to our building for immediate consumption.

If we are approved by TVA, the panels will send all their juices to TVA. TVA will then pay us for our solar generation at a premium price of \$.06/kilowatt hour. That means we will receive \$.16 for our hard working panel production, while we pay only \$.10/kilowatt hour for what our building consumes.

If we hook up directly to our building instead, we will still pay \$.10/kilowatt hour, but we will have a smaller electric bill because we will directly consume the solar electricity from our panels.

In either case, we will be reducing our carbon footprint to help that interdependent web of all existence. We will also reap some economic benefit for at least the next 25 years.

Some worry that if we get solar energy directly into the building, we might not use it all and thus it would be wasted. There's really no chance of that as our 14-panel system is much too small. Our area averages about 4.9 hours of sun per day, but, sunny day or not, our building runs many more hours than that and draws more energy than our panels can supply. We use an average of 3844 kilowatt hours per month day and night. Maybe we can think about ways we could conserve more. As they say, the cheapest electron is the one you don't use.



### August – Homeless Collection

#### Bandanas – Coffee – Chap Stick

Our collections for the homeless during the month of August will be bandanas, coffee and/or chap stick. We had a few bandanas last Christmas when we delivered our items to the Community Kitchen, and many of the people there were asking for more. Also, please remember that there are more men down at the Kitchen than women; when you are making your donation choices. As always, we appreciate everything that you feel led to give.

The Social Justice Committee will not have a meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 12 at 6:30 pm. Bring your cares and concerns and join us.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE PRAXIS

*by Melissa Reese and Frances Starkis, Co-chairs, Social Justice Committee*

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga was the host for the first Social Justice Forum of multiple congregations on Saturday, July 20, 2013. There were attendees from four other churches along with members of our committee and a few of our church members. Everyone present felt this event was a huge success. Our Social Justice Committee cooked and served breakfast for everyone; including our Search Committee that was attending a workshop in the Forum Room at the same time.

Discussion began by exchanging information about the projects each group was involved with currently and led to discussion of how we might form an interfaith group to focus and work on areas of social justice conjointly to have a larger impact on our community and those in need. Everyone agreed to join an email group and to meet again mid-September to create a focus and organize a plan of action for this group. All involved in this were very pleased with the response and attitude of those who came to join us and everyone was eager to see how we can work together toward common goals to make a difference in important areas of justice for all.

We especially want to thank Kay McCurdy, Sophie McCurdy, and Wenona Kunesch Kurtz who volunteered to clean up our breakfast mess so we could focus on our meeting and be finished with everything and out the door before the Church of God came in for their service. Big KUDOS to our hostesses and clean-up crew! You brightened up our day and helped in such a big way with the flow of everything.

August 28, 2013 will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the March on Washington when Dr. Martin Luther King gave the "I have a Dream Speech" (read more on page 11). We discussed his dreams during our social justice forum. Questions we all should ask ourselves - have we advanced as much as we should have in fifty years? Is there more equality and more respect of individuals fifty years down the road? Or are things worse for some in our community and country than ever before? ***Praxis*** – translating an idea into action. Are we living the 'dream' daily in our own lives to see more realization and improvement in conditions for the next fifty years?



The great end of life is not knowledge, but **action**. What men need is as much knowledge as they can organize for action; give them more and it may become injurious. Some men are heavy and stupid from undigested learning.

-- Thomas Henry Huxley





## SHARE THE PLATE

### August Plate Share – Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> – School Supplies for Needy Children

**Welcome Back** is our Service topic for Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> ~ centering around the beginning of another school year. We will also be using our “Share the Plate” donations on this Sunday to purchase school supplies for children in need. Please give generously as we think about those who return to school without essentials and feel discouraged and ‘not fitting in’ due to circumstances beyond the control of the child.



Month	Share the Plate with	Amount Donated
<b>August</b>	<b>School Supplies – Needy Children</b>	
July	Fan Fund 2013	\$323.00
June	NorthSide Neighborhood House	\$308.00
May	AIM Center	\$341.95
April	Chattanooga Arboretum & Nature Center	\$258.00
March	Chattanooga Cares/Strides of March	\$354.98
February	Minister's Benevolence Fund	\$648.00
January	Guest at your Table, UUSC	\$642.93
December	UUCC Christmas Project for Homeless	\$225.00
November	CERG: UU Disaster Relief Fund	\$227.11
October	Religious Institute	\$230.00
September	Water.org	\$375.67
August	Community Kitchen	\$233.61

Remember to be gentle with yourself and others. We are all children of chance and none can say why some fields will blossom while others lay brown beneath the August sun.  
~ Kent Nerburn





**CHATTANOOGA INSTITUTE OF NOETIC SCIENCE**  
**August 10, 2013 Meeting**  
**10:30 am-noon**

***The Evolution of Money***  
**Presented by Wade Swicord**

Money is the vehicle by which we communicate commerce and the affairs of everyday life. It is also the major instrument of control; someone or something tends to keep a tight hold on the purse strings that define the value of money which then reflects our value of self. Society did not always use money and there are contemporary movements afoot to change, reduce or eliminate what we now think of as indispensable. In our culture, money becomes completely intermeshed with capitalism. We will take a quick look at the origins of commerce and the formative period of capitalism in the seventeen and eighteenth centuries. Then we will speak to the idea of alternatives currencies and industry structures, and describe a banking process that could begin a corrective measure. Along the way we will spice up the talk with speaking of the sex of money which actually can generate societal attitudes.

After a four year stint in the Coast Guard, Wade Swicord attended the University of Florida where he majored in English, Psychology and Art. He began a successful business as an Architectural Photographer. Dealing constantly with architects and builders, he developed a strong interest in building and experimented with the building process. Later he started two businesses of an ecological nature. At random times, Wade wondered what actually caused the crash of '29 and then the Great Depression. Reflecting on a course in stocks he took at Harvard, he realized that the answer had little to do with stocks. Through considerable reading in the last few years he began to see that the economy moved on a belief system based on the perception of money and how very little we know about what money is and how it controls our culture.




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**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

6<sup>th</sup> Odie (Garfield the Cat's friend)  
 9<sup>th</sup> Smokey Bear  
 10<sup>th</sup> Herbert Hoover  
 13<sup>th</sup> Annie Oakley  
 17<sup>th</sup> Davy Crockett

Hmm... Who at UCC is having a birthday in August? Our membership birthday list is in need of an update. Would you be interested in compiling and maintaining a new birthday list? Maybe you would like to send out birthday cards or organize others to send birthday cards. If you like making someone smile, because we made their day a little more special; then perhaps this special service to others is for you. Contact Chris in the Office if you are interested and willing to volunteer.

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**August 13 - International Lefthanders Day**. It was first observed 13 August 1976. As its name suggests, it is meant to promote awareness of the inconveniences facing left handers in a predominantly right-handed world. It celebrates the left-handers, who are from seven to ten percent of the world's population. Some famous left-handers are: Presidents – Harry S. Truman, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama. Musicians Phil Collins, Crystal Gayle, Paul McCartney. Arthurs – Lewis Carroll, H.G. Wells. Others – Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Supreme Court Justice; Benjamin Franklin, Joan of Arc and Helen Keller.

**August 22 - Be an Angel Day**, first celebrated on August 22, 1993 - encourages us to do acts of kindness, and to help others. To try and be a better person, not just for others, but for ourselves as well. Feel the goodness in it and be blessed by it as you bless others. The objective of this day is to be like an angel, and do something good or kind for someone. The type of angelic help you can offer is not defined or limited. It can be physical, emotional, or spiritual. Any of these would be considered 'being an angel act.' Be an Angel Day is for both the giver and the receiver. If you are the receiver of an act of kindness, make certain to express openly your appreciation. Let that person know how much they are appreciated for the kindness that they gave.

**August 26 - Women's Equality Day** commemorates 26th August 1920 when votes to women officially became part of the US constitution. This day marks a turning point in the history of the struggle for equal treatment of women and women's rights. In 1920, the day stood for the result of 72 years of campaigning by a huge civil rights movement for women. Prior to movements like these, even respected thinkers such as Rousseau and Kant believed that woman's inferior status in society was completely logical and reasonable; women were 'beautiful' and 'not fit for serious employment.' Over the last century, great women have proved these views wrong as the world has witnessed just what women are capable of achieving, from the likes of Rosa Parks and Eleanor Roosevelt fighting for civil rights and equality to great scientists such as Marie Curie, Rosalind Franklin and Jane Goodall. The last century has shown more than ever what both women and men are capable of achieving, given the opportunity. Today, women's equality has grown to mean much more than just sharing the right to the vote. Organizations such as Equality Now and Womankind Worldwide continue to work to provide women across the globe with equal opportunities to education and employment, pushing against suppression and violence towards women and against the discrimination and stereotyping which still occur in every society. So on **Women's Equality Day**, think about supporting women's empowerment projects in developing countries, stop thinking about men and women as separate beings with separate roles and start thinking about treating people as equals.

**August 28** – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the **March on Washington** - More than 200,000 Americans gathered in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 1963 for a political rally known as the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Organized by a number of civil rights and religious groups, the event was designed to shed light on the political and social challenges African Americans continued to face across the country. The march, which became a key moment in the growing struggle for civil rights in the United States, culminated in Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, a spirited call for racial justice and equality.

*Read more:* Civil Rights March on Washington (History, Facts, Martin Luther King Jr.) Infoplease.com <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/marchonwashington.html#ixzz2Zrw4qrXs> and for events planned to celebrate the anniversary: <http://officialmlkdream50.com/>

## Service Schedule

DATE	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25
TOPIC	Beginners Heart	Welcome Back	From There to Here	Loving the Hell out of the World
LEADER	Rev Pam Rumancik	Rev Pam Rumancik	UUCU Members	Rev Pam Rumancik
GREETERS AND USHERS	Linda Parks Elaine Hill	Ken Nickerson Kristie McKinley	Elaine Watkins Eileen Mulcahy	Linc Christianson Sue Knight Kelly Garren
SOUND REINFORCEMENT	Karl Hunt	Roger David	Catherine Long	Rich Dwyer

### Summer By Paul Laurence Dunbar

Oh, summer has clothed the earth  
In a cloak from the loom of the sun!  
And a mantle, too, of the skies' soft blue,  
And a belt where the rivers run.

And now for the kiss of the wind,  
And the touch of the air's soft hands,  
With the rest from strife and the heat of life,  
With the freedom of lakes and lands.

I envy the farmer's boy  
Who sings as he follows the plow;  
While the shining green of the young blades lean  
To the breezes that cool his brow.

He sings to the dewy morn,  
No thought of another's ear;  
But the song he sings is a chant for kings  
And the whole wide world to hear.

He sings of the joys of life,  
Of the pleasures of work and rest,  
From an o'erfull heart, without aim or art;  
'T is a song of the merriest.

O ye who toil in the town,  
And ye who moil in the mart  
Hear the artless song, and your faith made strong  
Shall renew your joy of heart.

Oh, poor were the worth of the world  
If never a song were heard,—  
If the sting of grief had no relief,  
And never a heart were stirred.

So, long as the streams run down,  
And as long as the robins trill,  
Let us taunt old Care with a merry air,  
And sing in the face of ill.

Born on June 27, 1872, Paul Laurence Dunbar was one of the first African-American poets to gain national recognition. His parents Joshua and Matilda Murphy Dunbar were freed slaves from Kentucky. His parents separated shortly after his birth, but Dunbar would draw on their stories of plantation life throughout his writing career. By the age of fourteen, Dunbar had poems published in the *Dayton Herald*. While in high school he edited the *Dayton Tattler*, a short-lived black newspaper published by classmate Orville Wright.



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga  
Board of Trustees Highlights from Meeting on June 27, 2013**

Financial report was given by Alan Larson - we are still behind on giving as of end of May; but also under budget on expenses year to date.

Replacement of Rooftop A/C Unit: The Finance Committee recommended and Buck O'Rear made motion that the board accepted a bid from Mountain City Service of \$8,717.00 to replace our leaking air conditioner for the fellowship area. Funds for purchase will come from the Building Reserve Account and the Equipment Reserve Fund. Elaine Watkins seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Action on Director of Religious Education Search Committee: The DRE Search Task Force reported that based on their conversation with Kay McCurdy, the task force unanimously recommends that the board accept Kay's offer to rescind her resignation and continue as DRE. Based on this recommendation, tom kunesh made a motion to approve Kay McCurdy as DRE. Jim Welborn seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Action on Finance Committee Recommendation on DRE Raise: Since Kay McCurdy has rescinded her decision to resign and will continue as RE Director, the Finance Committee recommends and Buck O'Rear moved that the BOT begin paying the 2.5% raise given to all continuing staff members beginning in July. Monies will be allocated from additional pledge commitments since date of 2013/2014 congregational approval. tom kunesh seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Music Director Search: Nicky Ozbek reported that we have one candidate already. The search committee will still advertise in UUA and locally with a deadline of August 1 to have a new Music Director on board.

Vacant BOT Positions: Frank reported that we need names for the VP Religious Growth Ministries. We currently have someone who has agreed to serve as Treasurer for 2013-2014 replacing Alan Larson. We also have a candidate for the NOMCOM committee.

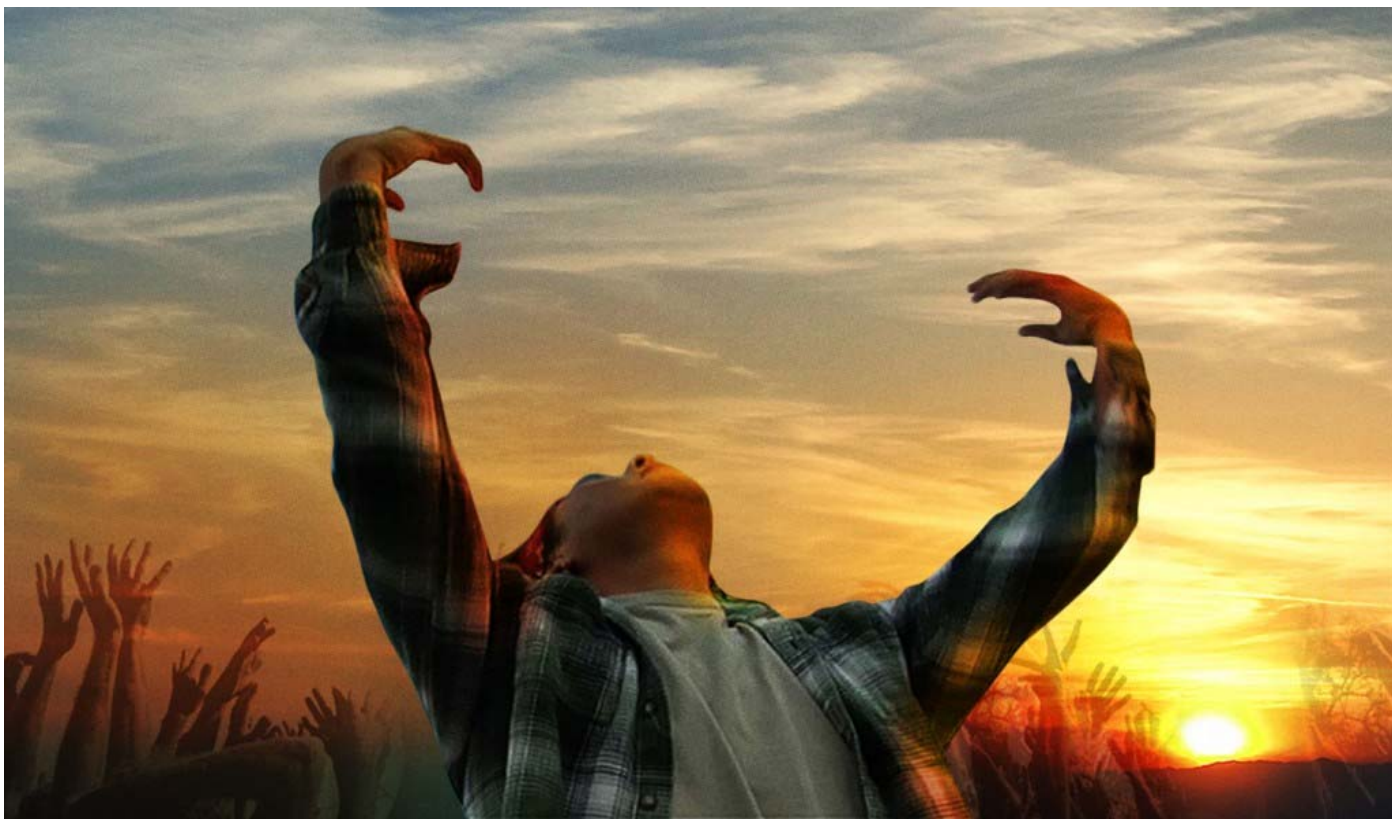
Mileage Reimbursement for UUCC Volunteers: The Finance Committee recommended and Buck O'Rear moved that the BOT continue to use IRS guidelines on reimbursement of mileage expense for volunteers. Use either option 1 or option 2 of the approved policy. Nicky Ozbek seconded the motion and the board approved the motion.

Request that BOT Host Labor Day Picnic: Nicky Ozbek brought the recommendation from the WOWser committee. The picnic would be on Sunday September 1. Nicky and WOWsers will coordinate with Elaine Watkins and committee on Outreach.

Next board meeting is July 18, 2013 at 7:00 pm at UUCC.

- *Jim Welborn, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees*

**Help us promote our showing of the film: Two Spirits** ~ an important film that tells a modern story, with deep historical roots, in a way that is surprising and striking; a film that shows humankind at both our best and worst. Help us begin promoting this now, in areas that you associate with, so that we can have a campaign to reduce violence, increase equality efforts and human-rights initiatives and raise awareness of the change needed at the local, state and federal level. You may print off the flyer below to post it somewhere you feel it will be seen and generate interest or you may ask for copies of the flyer from tom kunesh.



# Two Spirits

**friday 27 september 7pm**

UU Church • 3224 Navajo Drive • Chattanooga

*TWO SPIRITS interweaves the tragic story of a mother's loss of her son with a revealing look at a time when the world wasn't simply divided into male and female, and many Native American cultures held places of honor for people of integrated genders.*

**FREE • Public Invited**

Please join us as we share the strengths and wisdom within our community.

contact: [sj@uucc.org](mailto:sj@uucc.org) more info on the movie: [twospirits.org](http://twospirits.org)