

Universalist Anchor



August 2007



It is strange how our minds bring snapshots of memories to our consciousness.

I can be driving, or walking, and all of a sudden there is a vision of my brother and me playing tag in Grandpa Jim's cornfield. Laughing, running, and occasionally a little foot would whack into those corn plant roots and cause abrupt, searing pain between our toes! It is all there, the joy, the fun, the pain, and the beauty of being a little girl, playing in the country garden.

This phenomenon of *intrusive memories* is common to all human beings, and occurs throughout our lives.

The other day, a memory of Aunt Gene came to me while I was vacuuming. Aunt Gene was a country woman, and a farmer's wife. In addition to farming, her husband, my Uncle Chuck, also worked as a welder at the Burton Shipyards, in Orange, Texas. Aunt Gene not only took care of the children and the house, she also helped Uncle Chuck tend to the farm animals and the huge garden they planted every spring. And somewhere in there, she did a lot of volunteer work at the Old First Orange Baptist Church.

When you are young, you don't really pay attention to relationships, especially those with your extended family, and I never really felt great warmth from Aunt Gene. Of course I knew that when I stayed with my aunt and uncle, she would take care of me and show me all kinds of "country

Always keep in mind, that as we live our own lives, we are touching others' lives and making memories. Making memories for ourselves and for others.

Memories that can intrude on a perfectly good chore of vacuuming, or cleaning, or sorting out your closet—beautiful, wonderful memories!

I hope you're having a great summer, and creating many wonderful memories for yourself and those around you.

I'll see you in church when I get back from my trip.

Pastor Lillie

UNMC SLATED TO SAVE POSTAGE AND PAPER

***ANCHOR WILL BE SENT
ELECTRONICALLY, BUT NOT IF YOU
DON'T WANT IT THAT WAY***

Beginning with the September Anchor, we are going to send the newsletter by email. Those members and friends who have provided the church with an email address will automatically receive the Anchor electronically. If we do not have an email address, it will be delivered via US Mail as usual. If we have an email address for you, but you want to continue to receive a hard copy, call the office at 202-387-3411 or email at office@universalist.org. And, if we do not have your email address and you want the Anchor electronically, let the office know.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Summer worship schedule continues through Labor Day, with services starting at **10:30 a.m. each Sunday.**

August 5: "Finding Their Way Home: Why Growth of Unitarian Universalism Matters" Chuck Wooldridge represents the Joseph Priestly District on the UUA Board, is a former member of the UUA Baltimore-Washington Growth Committee, and currently serves on the Ministry and Denominational Affairs Committee at All Souls. He shares his thoughts and reflections on congregational growth and vitality in the context of the current examination of what the mission of Unitarian Universalism in the world today should be. He invites all to participate in a discussion after the service with Evelyn Spurgin, Co-Chair of the BW Growth Committee, and Donna Simonton, UNMC BW Growth Committee and BW Vital Congregations Committee representative.

August 12: Rev. Henley preaching "Let It Be a Dance." Using a hymn from *Singing the Living Tradition* she encourages us to see our lives as poetry and song, living intentionally, and enjoying our relationships.

August 19: "The Grace of this World" We live in a rich and amazing creation, yet for some reason it is all too easy for us human beings to fall into the deadly habit of not noticing its abundant and profligate grace. But that, of course, is not the full spiritual story of our world...for life of this planet can also be filled with capriciousness, loss and danger. Let's devote a Sunday to thinking about all of this a little more deeply than our busy lives usually allow. Rev. Scott Alexander, Senior Pastor of UU River Road, preaching.

VESPERS - FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

On the first Saturday of each month at 5:30 PM, a Vespers service of Evening Prayer from the 1894 Prayer Book will be held in the UNMC Chapel. A short service of only 20 - 30 minutes, it is written in a slightly formal mode but contains precious and uplifting prayers, responsive readings, passages from the Old and New Testaments, and a pre-Vespers candle-lighting for personal intentions/requests. Sermon free, this time of praise is appropriate for those working on Sunday, or those who just enjoy dimly lit Gothic chapels like we have. The position of Prayer Leader is open for rotation. Participation and input are strongly encouraged. Other services from the Red Hymnal may also be substituted from time to time. Come worship some evening and be refreshed! Remember: Before your night out...An evening in!

JPD WOMEN AND RELIGION ANNUAL RETREAT

October 12-14, 2007
Friday dinner through Sunday lunch

A WEEKEND TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE

led by Barbara Vaughn and Heather Gehron-Rice

During this weekend we will take the heritage from the women in our lives and look at where we are and where we want to go from here. We will decide what needs to change and then design a road ahead to move our lives in the direction that expresses our essential selves. The weekend is based on the book, *A Weekend to Change Your Life* by Joan Anderson. There will be alone time, sharing time, and plenty of encouragement and support from other women. Come and enjoy a weekend of relaxation with women of like mind as we learn and grow together. St. Raphaela Center, Haverford, PA. For more information contact Kay Woods at woods7777@aol.com or 717-424-2830, or at www.jpdlwr.org.

PARISH NOTES

Dorothy Chapman died Sunday, July 15, 2007. She was a longtime active member of this church, but in recent years for health reasons had been unable to come. She was moderator of the church when Dr Brooks was minister and served on the board for several terms. Shortly after the Universalists and the Unitarians merged in the '60s, she served as president of the national Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation. She was also very active in support of the Clara Barton Camp for Diabetic Girls. At UNMC, she was a longtime member of the Women's Association, one of the founders of Ecclesia, a young working women's group for those women new to DC during the war, and chair of the gift nook for many years.

Mary Jane Ayres' mom passed away July 20. Mary Jane was our choir director and her husband Darrell sang in our choir (gratis) for nearly 15 years. Margaret Alice Thompson Bowles was born in 1919, and was deeply involved as a community volunteer. For many years she was the "Florida Corner" specialist at her library, collecting and evaluating books about Florida, or books by Florida authors. She used to visit Steve Spurrier regularly, getting him to sign his book about University of Florida football for their fundraisers.

SHARING OUR PLATE

Each month we share 10% of our free-will plate collection with a non-profit organization that works in our neighborhood and gives to those in need. For August, the recipient of Sharing Our Plate will be the *Green Door* organization. The Green Door Clubhouse is an employment assistance center on 16th St NW. They help emotionally and mentally challenged individuals who need a range of services. Individuals are assigned a case worker who helps them negotiate the complexities of the social service system.



Chancel Flowers
Mary Templeton, Coordinator

August 5 — Chancel flowers are given in memory of his father David Skidmore by his son, David W. Skidmore.

August 12 — Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Dorothy Boyd Chapman by the congregation of Universalist National Memorial Church.

August 19 — Open

August 26 — Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Frances Marin Pepper by Vicki, Brian, Stephen, and Irina.

Mary Templeton will be taking over scheduling the chancel flowers from Mary Simmons. We appreciate the work that Mary Simmons did for many years and look forward to working with Mary Templeton. Please contact Mary Templeton about donating the chancel flowers.

The *Universalist Anchor* is published monthly for the members and friends of the Universalist National Memorial Church in Washington, DC. It is also on our website, along with Rev. Henley's sermons, and announcements and activities.

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Rev. Lillie Henley, Minister, 301-655-3798, pastorlillie@universalist.org

The Rev. Dr. William L. Fox, Minister Emeritus

Board of Trustees: Rob Bertram, David Burton, Elizabeth Crawford (Secretary), David Gatton (Moderator), Lisa Harris, Jeff Jacobs, Brian Pepper (Treasurer), Jennifer Sandberg, Al Templeton, Greg Wigle

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Mr. Kirk Denton, Organist

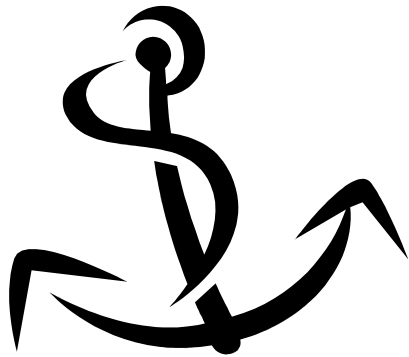
Church Administration — email: office@universalist.org

Marguerite Bogle—(202) 387-3411

Our Mission (adopted May 2002)

We create a loving community
for worship and service
in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

We welcome all and respect individual beliefs as we grow together



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