

# Universalist Anchor

July 2006

## **Board & Church Meetings**

### Board Meetings:

Saturday, July 10, 2006

Monday, August 07, 2006

Monday, September 11, 2006

### Quick Start Meeting: TBD

Monday, October 02, 2006

Monday, November 06, 2006

Monday, December 04, 2006

Monday, January 08, 2007

Monday, February 05, 2007

Monday, March 05, 2007

Monday, April 02, 2007

Monday, May 07, 2007

### Semi Annual Meeting:

Sunday, November 12, 2006

### Annual Meeting:

Sunday, May 20, 2007

### Board Retreat:

Sunday, October 14 or 21, 2007

## Hymnal Committee Meeting

July 16th– 9:00am

All Are Welcomed

## **Summer Schedule**

**July 2 thru September 10, 2006**

After a vote on Sunday, June 4th– it was determined that those who voted for 10:00am or 10:30am, out numbered those who voted for 11:00am. So in keeping with tradition, it was decided that the 10:30am time slot was appropriate.

## **July Worship & Activity Schedule at UNMC**

**Sunday, July 2nd-**

10:30am Sermon: "A Patriot's Dream"

**Sunday, July 9th-**

10:30am Sermon: "What Are You Waiting For?"

**Monday, July 10th-**

7:00pm Board Of Trustees Meeting

**Sunday, July 16th-**

10:30am Richard Hurst, preaching

**Sunday, July 23rd-**

10:30am "The Roots Of Unitarianism In Transylvania"  
Catherine Bocskor, preaching

**Sunday, July 30th-**

10:30am Sermon: "And The Sum Of This Is"  
Jim Morgan, preaching

## Emily Dickinson's World Bed & Breakfast Weekend Event

An October bed & breakfast event devoted to "Emily Dickinson's World" is to be offered once again by the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst, MA. Running October 13-15, it will be the Unitarian Universalist Society's tenth weekend of private tours, lectures, poetry readings, and music.

New for 2006 are a dinner Friday evening in the historic home of the Dickinson family's next-door neighbor, a time set aside for discussion of ED poetry, and a performance of William Luce's "The Belle of Amherst."

Jane Donahue Eberwein, editor of *An Emily Dickinson Encyclopedia* and author of *Dickinson: Strategies of Limitation*, will present the keynote address, "Emily Dickinson as Reader's Friend." Her insights will follow the opening dinner at the Leonard M. Hills House (1862), an Italianate villa built for one of Amherst's leading citizens and furnished with period antiques.

On Saturday, guests will visit the Homestead and The Evergreens, tour other historic sites by motor coach, and visit the poet's grave. Afterward, they will be treated to a Victorian tea at the Amherst History Museum and have the opportunity to discuss ED's poetry with fellow conferees.

The day concludes with a performance by stage actress D'Arcy Dersham as "The Belle of Amherst," and a concert of ED poetry set to music.

On Sunday, Harrison Gregg will speak on "The Show is not the Show - Emily Dickinson as Satirist."

The cost of the 2006 Emily Dickinson's World Bed & Breakfast Weekend, \$360, includes two nights' lodging, four meals, and all admissions. To request a brochure, contact [Unitar@crocker.com](mailto:Unitar@crocker.com) or call 413-253-2848, ext. 1. The complete itinerary is also available at <http://users.crocker.com/~unitar>

## The Pastor's Ponderings

How do you say, "Goodbye." Not easily. The "ride" here at UNMC has been exhilarating - mostly. I have enjoyed myself with you and come to know you as a stimulating, tough thinking, congregation with an insatiable quest for what is true. You have kept me on my tippy-toes.

It would not be fair to identify all of those by name who have been so cordial, for I am sure I would leave someone out. I have been thoroughly delighted with the lunches and the exchanges in which we have participated. It has pushed me and kept me thinking. So many of you have been very gracious. Your hospitality has been outstanding.

Just before I came here I had a small stroke in the center of my brain which caused me to lose my memory. I was taken to Johns Hopkins for tests and observation. After \$6,000 in tests, they prescribed one aspirin a day! My memory gradually returned over a period of about a month. I came to realize that there were important things I would leave out of a sermon after that. I had been accustomed to preaching without notes and finally came to understand that had to change, since some of the things I really wanted to say were never said. So, being here has pushed me to write. It is an excellent discipline that I have learned to appreciate and adjust to.

I will remember you fondly and put you on my pray list - that God may continue to bless you and your new settled Pastor and that God will give you a rich harvest in this very exciting neighborhood.

Jim

## COMMUNITY SERVICE FEEDING THE HUNGRY

### Food For All

UNMC serves as a storage center and gathering point for the community program, Food For All. This program delivers food to poverty stricken members of the D.C. community, who tend to be elderly, disabled, or single mothers with young children.

### So Others Might Eat (S.O.M.E) at Leland Place

Every third Saturday UNMC members and friends prepare and share a dinner with the men of Leland Place, a transitional home on North Capitol Street for men recovering from homelessness and addiction. Leland is affiliated with S.O.M.E (So Others Might Eat). Its residents have all been through a three-month recovery program. They spend an additional three months at Leland, where they receive assistance finding a job or schooling and have an opportunity to save for a deposit on a place to live independently.

Volunteers gather at the church kitchen at 3 p.m., carpool to Leland at 5 p.m. and return to the church at about 6 p.m. Volunteers share the cost of the meal (usually between \$15 and \$25). To participate, RSVP during the week before the meal to Dave Skidmore at [dave\\_skidmore@cox.net](mailto:dave_skidmore@cox.net).

Our July meal is scheduled for Saturday July 15.

**Thanks!**

**From: David Fox**

To all at the church, I am doing very good here. Thank you all, for the party and pictures you gave me. I do miss you all but time moves on. I hope to see you all sometimes.

**Your Friend**

### Chancel Flowers For July

Mary Simmons, Chair

**July 2:** Flowers are given in loving memory of Beth Templeton Leach, Al's sister, by Mary and Al Templeton.

**July 9:** Flowers are given in loving memory of his parents, Charles and Helon Pearce, by their son James and family.

**July 16: Open**

**July 23:** Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Seymour S. Fogwell by Esther and Hope Fogwell.

**July 30:** Chancel flowers are given in honor of Rev. James R. Morgan and Beverly Morgan, with great appreciation of their service to our church over the past year.

## Let's Go To The Baysox!

On Friday July 28 we will have a Baysox baseball outing to say goodbye to Rev. Jim Morgan and to enjoy the game, fireworks, and each other. Game time is at 7:05 pm at Baysox Stadium with fireworks following the game. Call 301-464-4880 or [www.baysox.com](http://www.baysox.com) for directions. We have reserved a section of box seats behind home plate at \$12.00 per person, or \$11.00 if we can get 20 or more persons. Please contact Perry King @ [perikine@yahoo.com](mailto:perikine@yahoo.com) to reserve tickets. Join us for a great night of fun and fellowship! They also have a playground and carousel for the kids.

### **Meet Quawanna Thomas: UNMC's Church Administrator**

All organizations must have a caretaker for essential administrative tasks, and UNMC is no exception. As UNMC's Church Administrator, Quawanna S. Thomas performs this role. She has worked in this capacity since March 2006.

Quawanna works mornings, Monday through Friday, and occasionally on Saturdays for weddings and other special events. She is responsible for numerous duties that are essential for the church to function smoothly. She maintains data and statistics for employees and UNMC's clients. She prepares correspondence, reports, forms, documents, and other written material, using various software programs, such as Excel. Once she has created these documents, she is responsible for duplication and distribution through faxing, FedEx, and regular mail. In addition, she serves as the voice of UNMC by answering the telephone and making appointments. She also keeps UNMC well-stocked with supplies.

Quawanna was born in Newark, New Jersey. She moved to Washington, D.C. with her mother 25 years ago. Quawanna has spent her professional life in D.C., focusing on management training and employment. She took classes in Business Administration at Strayer College for about two years, and she has six years of hotel management experience. She also served as an office manager at a charter school for one year. In addition to her management work, Quawanna pursued other opportunities. For example, she worked as a licensed limousine driver and also for a general surgeon for four years. She is currently enrolled in both barbering school and summer school. Quawanna has a 6-year old son. In addition, Quawanna continues to pursue various educational opportunities.

**Continued on other side**

UNMC is fortunate to have Quawanna on staff to assist with UNMC's significant administrative tasks. Because most of the congregation only comes to the church on Sundays, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Quawanna for her significant time and effort as UNMC's Church Administrator.

### **Meet Our Sexton**

Gerardo Carcano is the sexton at Universalist National Memorial Church. He is a 55-year-old native of San Vicente, a town in El Salvador in Central America. Prior to coming to the United States, he worked in a sugar factory, and was active in union organization and workers and human rights. The plant where he was employed, government-owned and operated, was eventually sold to private interests; this led to staffing cuts up to 50 percent, and not-so-subtle anti-union pressures being brought to bear. Eventually he came to Washington to seek out new employment opportunities. In addition to part-time work as our sexton, he works at Kramer Books on Connecticut Avenue.

Proud father of six, four are with him in the United States, while two of his children still live in his native country. Though he attended Catholic church in El Salvador, Gerardo here in Washington participates in Spanish-language Christian services where learning and hearing the word of God is more the focus of worship.

Gerardo is a fan of salsa music, as he is of soccer. A hard-working man, he has had little time to study English since he first arrived in this country in 1998, given his busy schedule. Do know that he is eager to learn all the same, and enjoys speaking with all, regardless of language. We're glad to have him among us! Welcome, Gerardo.

the topic. The booth occupied by the Christian Fellowship in the Exhibit Hall was the site of a spirited and and off-program prayer service protesting the Iraq War.

During Plenary Session, the Reverend William Sinkford, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, unapologetically led prayers, addressed to God; Jesus was less frequently invoked by name, but there was much talk of "our gospel" of welcoming the stranger and feeding the hungry. The assembled body approved as its new study action item one regarding peace-making, specifically naming Jesus in its preamble. There were also a number of actions of immediate witness passed, and procedural amendments passed that may have the effect of reducing the number of denominational statements of conscience. These are available at [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)  
<<http://www.uua.org/>> Pulitzer Prize winning poet Mary Oliver was the Ware Lecture on Saturday evening.

## Annual Election Results

The congregation at the annual meeting held May 21 elected officers and board members for the 2006-7 church year:

Officers who also sit on the Board of Trustees, each serving a one-year term:

Greg Wigle, Moderator  
Mark McNabb, Secretary  
Brian Pepper, Treasurer  
Catherine Bocskor, Assistant Treasurer

### Trustees at large:

Robert Bertram (term expires May 2007)  
David Burton (term expires May 2007)  
Liz Crawford (term expires May 2008)  
Lisa Harris (term expires May 2008)  
Jennifer Sandberg (term expires May 2007)  
Al Templeton (term expires May 2008)

## Bless You, Universalists!

Margaret Albamonte, chair of the local chapter of Interweave, a UUA affiliate group working to end oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity, writes, "Bless you, Universalists! I don't think (given all the variants involved) there could have been a better CAPITAL PRIDE. Thank you Sue, and Gang. The picnic was amazing." Some 40 people from at least 10 local UU congregations marched in the annual Capital Pride parade through Dupont Circle June 10, drawing big cheers from the watching crowds. More than half gathered afterward on UNMC's front lawn for a cook-out and picnic by candlelight. The sweet smells from the grills (deftly managed by Archene Turner, intern minister at the UU Church of Arlington) and festive-looking tables attracted attention throughout the late afternoon and evening, providing a great opportunity to chat with neighbors and make new friends.

## "Parish News"

The Rev. Kelly Murphy Mason walked across the stage at the Unitarian Universalist Association's annual conference in St. Louis last month to be welcomed into "preliminary fellowship" as a UU minister. Kelly has been a member of UNMC since 1994.

Scott Robertson became a member of UNMC on June 25, the fourth new member to join this year.

Philip Doyle and Mary Forrest-Doyle have transferred their membership from UNMC to the Silver Spring UU church.

## REV. LILLIE MAE HENLEY ARRIVAL

We have a lot to be grateful for at UNMC – a dedicated and caring group of members and friends, a beautiful building, a wonderful music program that enlivens our worship hall every Sunday, and a deep respect for each other's beliefs as we untangle our individual faiths. Now we have one more thing to be grateful for: Rev. Lillie Mae Henley – our new settled minister.

Later this month Rev. Henley will pack her belongings and pint-sized dog into her car, leave her hometown of Beaumont, Texas, and drive cross-country to her new home on 16<sup>th</sup> Street. She leaves behind her close family and friends in order to lead our congregation in worship as we enter into what will surely be a period of both spiritual and literal growth.

Rev. Henley brings with her experience as a settled minister and interim minister at several churches, a Master of Divinity from Meadville Lombard Theological School and a Bachelor of Science from Lamar University. With her confidence-inspiring demeanor, she has a gift for pastoral care and parish ministry. She also has a sharp, practical business mind and marketing background that will prove invaluable when handling the logistics of running a church. Finally, as a dedicated Universalist, Rev. Henley is plugged into the greater UUA and is dedicated to increasing UNMC's involvement in the greater community. Likewise, she is enthusiastic about reaching out to our local community surrounding the church.

As we prepare to move forward under Rev. Henley, it is important to recognize the strong foundation that Rev. Jim Morgan, our current interim minister, has helped us lay over the past year. His energy and willingness to stand on the

corner of the 16<sup>th</sup> and S Streets and welcome passersby into our church every Sunday – rain or shine – has inspired us and challenged us to look outward to our larger community. While we wish him luck and extend our deepest gratitude to the work he has done and the love he has shared with us, we are confident that Rev. Henley will continue where he leaves off. We look forward to Rev. Henley's first official sermon **August 16th** and the coming years under her pastoral leadership.

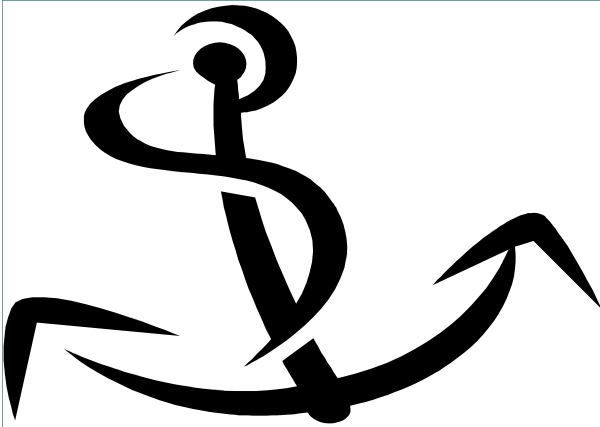
## General Assembly Report

On June 21 through 25, 2006 in St. Louis, Missouri, I attended the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. Though I did not attend as an official delegate of our congregation, I thought a report would be in order all the same.

Long-time friend and member of the church, Kelly Murphy Mason, was welcomed into preliminary fellowship as a minister at the Service of the Living Tradition on the evening of June 22. Kelly has completed studies toward a Masters in Divinity at Union Theological, and has served as intern minister at All Souls Unitarian Church and Community Church (Unitarian Universalist) in New York City. The Reverend Judith Meyer, pastor at the church in Santa Monica, California, gave the sermon at the service; the hymns "Rank By Rank Again We Stand" and "For All the Saints" were sung, as they are every year, by more than 4,000 assembled at the America's Center just blocks from the St. Louis Gateway Arch, in recognition of new ministers as well as those ministers who had passed away this past year.

Not one but two communion services were celebrated by the Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship this General Assembly; the Reverend Derek Parker, who has preached at UNMC, officiated at the service, and preached as well. Other programs included a workshop dedicated to Christian Voices within Unitarian Universalism, and a new book recently published by the UUA's Skinner Books on

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The *Universalist Anchor* is published monthly for the members and friends of the Universalist National Memorial Church in Washington, DC.

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Dr. James R. Morgan, Interim Minister

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

Board of Trustees: Rob Bertram, David Burton, Mark McNabb (Secretary), Brian Pepper (Treasurer), Catherine Bocskor (Assistant Treasure), Jennifer Sandberg, Greg Wigle (Moderator), Lisa Harris, Elizabeth Crawford and Al Templton.

Mr. David Skidmore, Head Deacon

Mr. Kirk Denton, Organist

Quawanna Thomas, Church Office  
[office@universalist.org](mailto:office@universalist.org)

**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

**The Universalist Anchor**  
Universalist National Memorial Church  
1810 Sixteenth Street, NW  
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