

Universalist Anchor



October 2005

COMMUNITY FOOD SERVICES

UNMC is delighted to announce a new partnership. Food For All (FFA), a food service program that delivers groceries to the poor throughout the District, is moving into our building. Many of their home bound clients are senior citizens and the disabled. FFA has been serving DC for the past 15 years and recently received the Hunger Lifeline award from the Capital Area Food Bank. FFA receives food donations from Giant and the Capital Area Food Bank, and is supported by a government Emergency Food and Shelter Program grant. FFA is a program of Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team, an international organization focusing on development, community assistance and disaster relief, www.amurt.net.

Volunteers will be at UNMC each Friday, from 10 to 2, bringing in fresh food stuffs. From 9 to 1 on Saturdays, they will pack food boxes which volunteers will then pick up and deliver to homes throughout the city. If you'd like to be a part of this important work -- so essential to our service mission as a church, please contact Peter Sage, program director at 301/984-0217 or petersage@amurt.us. You could also contact our own Perry King who has been instrumental in forging this new partnership.

Perkins Hall's stage has been refitted to accommodate storage of dry bulk food and two new refrigerators are now added to the kitchen for use by FFA. A considerable amount of clean up and other preparation work has been completed by UNMC members. Some expenditure was necessary to upgrade the electrical service, provide refrigerators and storage bins. These costs were met by FFA, which will also pay a monthly fee to offset building usage costs.

As a reminder, UNMC's long-standing ministry of sharing a meal with the men of Leland Place has been revived. Leland Place is affiliated with So Others Might Eat. For details, please see the September [Anchor](#) or contact David Skidmore.

Al Templeton

October Worship & Activity Schedule at UNMC

Saturday, October 1

3 P.M. Leland Place Dinners: Meet in the church kitchen to cook the meal.

Sunday, October 2

Sermon series on "The Prodigal Son" - Luke 15:11-31
11 a.m. Worship: "The Son Who Left Home", Jim Morgan preaching.

Sunday, October 9

11 a.m. Worship: "The Son Who Stayed Home", Jim Morgan preaching

Monday, October 10

7:00 P.M. Board of trustees meeting

Saturday, October 15

3 P.M. Leland Place Dinners: Meet in the church kitchen to cook the meal.

Sunday, October 16

11 a.m. Worship: "An Inner Garden", Sue Mosher preaching. Jesus retreated to the desert or a garden in his most trying moments. When the city affords few quiet places, a personal interior garden of light and memories can provide solace and renewal.

12:30 p.m. Community Plant Swap and Book Sale - Bring the "extras" and "babies" from your garden perennials or houseplants to swap with neighbors or take home a free plant to get your garden started. A book sale will also take place, along with tours of the church including the tower.

Wednesday, October 19

7:00 Third Wednesday Theological Discussion: "Sexual Diversity" and how this affects the life of the Church.

Continued on page 3

UUCF Revival: "Freely Following Jesus"

The Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship Revival Nov. 3-6 in Fort Worth, TX, has added even more workshops, including one presented by a guest from the Philippines about Christian Universalists there who are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. Visit

<http://www.uuchristian.org/article/26/revival-2005-registration> for registration details or pick

up a Revival brochures at church. The UUCF is offering free Revival registration to any UUs who have been displaced due to Hurricane Katrina and are in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Pick up a brochure and registration form in the parlor or vestibule. You can also register at <http://www.uuchristian.org>. Note that the deadline for booking hotel rooms at the special Revival 2005 rate is October 3. For more information, talk to Richard Hurst, Sue Mosher, or Dave Skidmore, who all attended Revival 2004.

Chancel Flowers for October

Mary Simmons, Chair

October 2: Flowers are given in loving memory of deceased members of her family by Mae Combs.

October 9: Flowers are given in loving memory of their parents, Dorothy and Leonard Smith and Bill and Lynn Fox by Lynn, William, and David Fox.

October 16: Flowers are given in memory of Corinne and Seth Brooks by Evelyn and James Rowse.

October 23: Flowers are given in memory of their cousin, Vernie Sampson, by Jeffrey, Catherine, and Brian Jacobs.

October 30: Open

Parish Notes

Ed Safranek writes from Apalachicola, FL, that he's enjoying his volunteer work for the National Forest Service at Camel Lake, which he describes as "pretty deep into the wilderness, although it is a beautiful park with facilities that remind me of a first-rate urban park. It is like an oasis in the wilds with a sandy swimming area, park benches, picnic tables and grills." He is also planning to do some substitute teaching at the local high schools.

David Aldridge and Diane Gross have been busy with the newest member of their family, son Derek, who is now 17 months old. In addition to covering pro basketball, which starts this month, David is also doing some of ESPN's pro and college football coverage.

Sue Mosher and David Hooker collaborated with other experts from Canada and the Netherlands on a new book for network administrators and help desks, *Configuring Microsoft Outlook 2003*.

Seen at worship in September: Long-time UNMC friend Joe Rhinehart from Georgetown, Kentucky.

Home Hospitality Needed Nov. 10

Wanted: Someone to provide one night of home hospitality to the Rev. Jim Adams, president of The Center for Progressive Christianity, on Nov. 10, after Rev. Adams speaks at UNMC. Please contact the church office.

Community Plant Swap and Book Sale Oct. 16

Join UNMC members, friends, and neighbors after worship on Sunday, October 16, for a unique event! If you have excess perennials or houseplants, divide them and bring them in to swap, share, or plant around the churchyard. A book sale will also take place with a variety of both fiction and non-fiction volumes. Refreshments will be provided, along with tours of the church, including the tower.

If you can help provide hospitality drinks and snacks, assist with the plant swap or book sale, or help with publicity, please contact the church office.

A PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." So writes the Old Testament sage in Proverbs 29:18. That is good old King James English. It has been used many times by clergy and others to motivate Church folks (and others) to establish some common goals for a common objective and move toward them. The saw was used to focus attention and inspire loyalty and purpose. Get a big picture, hold it in your mind and, like an army, march toward it.

That is an excellent strategy, but it is not quite what the verse says. A better translation may be, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint," or "Where there is ignorance of God the people run wild." The verse wants to commend a nation which follows the laws of God.

But now we have a problem. What is the "law of God?" Here we are divided as a country and left pondering as a Church. While we may have a difficult time establishing with any certainty just what the law of God is, we should be able to come to some consensus about our own role in the life of the Church.

We have chosen in our Quick Start meeting with Dan Hotchkiss last month to encourage everyone to be a "Connector." A connector is a person who "connects" people - friend to friend, friend to stranger, friend to neighbor and also helps to connect all of those folks to God. Our Fellowship time after worship is an excellent place to start. Do you only talk with friends, or do you look for opportunities to do some connecting with all the folks present?

Shalom,
Jim

Exhibition of Adolf Cluss, Architect

Adolf Cluss was the architect of the Church of Our Father, which was the First Universalist Church of Washington, DC, from 1883 until 1925. Among other public buildings, he was the architect of the Eastern Market, several public schools, and the red Smithsonian building. The organizers went to great lengths to get pictures of the buildings that are no longer standing, including the Church of Our Father. See the Washington Post for an interesting review entitled, "Red Architect" Adolf Cluss: A Study in Sturdy, September 17. **Adolf Cluss: From Germany to America, Shaping a City Worthy of a Republic** continues through Feb. 28 at the Charles Sumner School Museum, 1201 17th St. NW. Hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Free. For more information, see <http://www.adolf-cluss.org>.

Third Wednesday Theological Discussion

In September the Theology Discussion centered on "Responding to Fundamentalism," which engendered some lively conversation. The issue was one of taking back the biblical language, but not the ideas of the religious right. Some seven folks enthusiastically warned to the topic and shared their thinking about this important theme.

In October the study will focus on "Sexual Diversity" and will cover the important aspects of this subject for the life of the Church. If you are interested at all in the current climate of and its impact on the future of the church, do join us. Everyone is welcome. Come for a lively discussion and fellowship. 7:00pm coffee and fellowship. 7:30 to 8:30 topical discussion. If you are interested in leading a discussion or suggesting a topic for a future discussion please contact Perry King or the church office.

October Worship & Activity Schedule at UNMC, continued from page 1

Sunday, October 23

11 a.m. Worship: "The Father of Them Both", Jim Morgan preaching.

Sunday, October 30

11 a.m. Worship: "For All the Saints", Jim Morgan preaching. Communion Sunday

MORE FUTURE EVENTS

Nov. 3-6 Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship Revival 2005 conference, Fort Worth, TX. <http://www.uuchristian.org> See page 2 for more information.

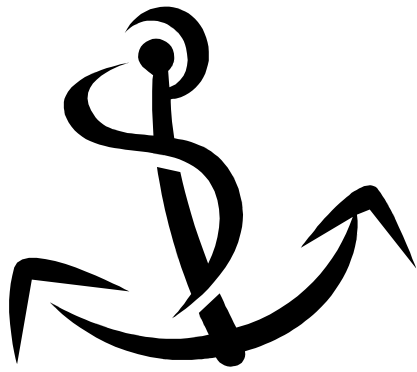
Thursday, Nov. 10

7:30 p.m. at UNMC Rev. Jim Adams, President of The Center for Progressive Christianity, speaks at UNMC and signs his new book, *From Literal to Literary: The Essential Reference Book for Biblical Metaphors*

Ongoing RE classes

Every 3rd Sunday: Inquirer's Class for new or frequent visitors who want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism at 9:30 before church.

Children's RE



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

1810 Sixteenth Street, NW • Washington, DC 20009
<http://www.universalist.org> • (202) 387-3411

Dr. James R. Morgan, Interim Minister

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

Board of Trustees: Rob Bertram, David Burton, Richard Hurst, Perry King, Clint McCully (Assistant Treasurer), Mark McNabb (Secretary), Brian Pepper (Treasurer), Jennifer Sandberg, Greg Wigle (Moderator)

Mr. David Skidmore, Head Deacon

Mr. Kirk Denton, Organist

Marguerite Bogle, Church Office
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
Washington, DC 20009

