



Odyssey

January 2009

Newsletter for the Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Ministerial Musings

Dear Members and Friends of Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation:

One presidential election is over, but there is another presidential election coming soon, the election for the next president of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The president is responsible to the UUA Board of Trustees for the administrative policies and programs of the Association and is the chief spokesperson for the UUA. In January there will be a local opportunity to hear our current president and the two candidates running for the office. On January 28, 7-8:45 pm, Rev. Bill Sinkford, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association, will moderate a panel discussion on "How to Heal a Broken Nation" with Rev. Marilynn Sewell, Thandeka, and Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd in the sanctuary at All Souls Church, Unitarian 2835 16th St NW Washington, DC 20009. A 5:00 p.m. dinner reception preceding will include statements from the two candidates for the UUA Presidency, Peter Morales and Laurel Hallman, in Pierce Hall. Tickets for the dinner will be available in January.

If you, like me, have other obligations that night, you can check out the websites of the two candidates Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales at www.laurellhallman.com and <http://moralesforuuaresident.org/>. Let us be as involved in choosing our denominational leaders as we are our national ones.

Blessed Be,

Cyn

A Mystic's Journey

Joy in Community-We are blessed with Joyful community this season. The classrooms are fully of happy children playing with their friends. New visitors are returning and bringing their friends. Some of our elders are recovering and are able to visit with us again. The sanctuary is abuzz with joy.

Laird had a first interfaith meeting of Green Sanctuary. From that meeting, Michelle created a Green blog. Rob introduced Gary Allen to a crowd of 20 people, including five from other congregations and 1 city councilman. Steve told about his weatherization project and how it is helping others to get started. We are reaching out and our enthusiasm is very encouraging to others.

Cyn and Tisha hosted the JPD Journey to Wholeness team and took them on a Goodloe tour at Bowie State. Ken attended a regional ad campaign meeting that is refocusing on grass roots advertising. Cyn was featured in photo with other UU ministers at the Raising the Promise day. Others are recognizing how much we accomplish for a congregation our size.

Volunteers are ready to pitch in to help. Sally is leading the food collection for Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry. Trevor is our new librarian for our book collection. Alicia has sponsored a number of special social events.

We remain connected to former youth and members. I received a facebook message from a young adult retelling how friendly and welcoming she found our congregation to be. We had involved this young adult in our community within three visits, and not every congregation does that. Another young adult, Julia Pietras, compiled a new UU poster for us while she is at college. We hope to share the JPEG files with another UU in the southwest so he can post them on Famous UUs on Facebook. We can share our efforts to show our gender and ethnic diversity.

Kelson and Benjamin appear on the front of the UUMAC webpage. UUMAC is a summer retreat for multigenerational community, and our teens are leading with great enthusiasm. Anna had

the lead as Mulan in her school musical. Our teens are encouraging more of their friend to attend CON. Sean and Katy talked about their friends' interest in our faith and how we might do more to help them find their own spiritual path.

We have many challenges in these changing times. We face some hard and uncertain times ahead. Yet, the happiness is buoyant and bubbling out of our sanctuary. We have a tremendous gift to share with others: a joyful community.

Karen and I joined nearly 25 years ago. We found a spiritual home that welcomed our different faith traditions. We found a community that shared and rejoiced in the raising of responsible children. We found a community that encouraged us to grow in our talents.

Blessed is our community with new members and new visitors. Blessed is our community with many generations. Blessed is our community with outreach. Blessed Be and Be Happy.-Ken Shilling, President

Around the Church News

Orientation to Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Grab some food and stay following the service on Sunday, January 11th. We will ask you to share your journey to UUism. We will give a brief history of the denomination, go over the typical year at Goodloe with special events and services; go over how the congregation is run and who does what; go over how the congregation is funded and how to make a pledge; and go over how to join. Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to CSnavely@uuma.org or 240-475-2111.

Women's Group

Karen Scivo and Misty Cole will be facilitating the Women's Group in a 10-session UUA Tapestry of Faith Adult Education Course called *Spirit in Practice*. Regular meetings are in the Blue Room on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. January's meetings are the 13th and 27th.

Magazine Exchange

John Cole invites you to leave your gently used magazines in the lobby of Goodloe to share with other members, and feel free to pick some up to peruse!

Goodloe Readers

You are invited to join the Goodloe Readers Book Club on the third Thursday of each month at the church at 7:30pm. For more information, please contact John Cole at 301.352.5981 or john.b.cole@gmail.com.

January 15, 2009 *Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith* by Jon Krakauer

February 19, 2009 *Garbage Land: On the Trail of Trash* by Elizabeth Royte

March 19, 2009 *Plan C: Community Survival Strategies for Peak Oil and Climate Change* by Pat Murphy

Goodloe Contributes to the Bowie Food Pantry

Goodloe contributes to the Bowie Food Pantry which is housed at Christian Community Presbyterian Church. A bin for donations to the food pantry is located in the lobby. Please consider making regular donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items.

Collington Service

On Thursday, January 15th, at 11:00 a.m., Rev. Snavely will be preaching at the monthly Unitarian Universalist worship service at Collington. Adult members and friends of Goodloe who are free at that time are invited to join the Collington residents for worship and lunch.

Drumming Date Changed for January

To avoid drumming on January 2nd, the drumming group will meet January 16th from 7:30 to 9:00p.m. at Goodloe. We will drum for hope and auspicious goodwill for the inauguration.

Service Auction Scheduled for Spring 2009

Goodloe will have a Service Auction in April 2009. We rely on auctions as a fundraiser for the congregation. We have lots of food and fun. There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers in the Goodloe lobby. We also need people to donate items or services. Please contact Ken if you want to volunteer.

Monthly Game Night Returns!

Everyone is invited to please bring games and a few bucks to pitch in for pizza (if you want) on the fourth Friday of each month, starting January 23rd, 2009, at 7 p.m. at Goodloe. If you have questions, please contact Betsy Delaney at 301-345-2369 (home), 301-922-1865 (cell).

Monthly Spiritual/Intellectual Discussion Continues

Join a Spiritual/Intellectual Discussion using lectures on "Emerson, Thoreau and the Transcendentalist Movement" by Professor Ashton Nichols of Dickinson College recorded for The Teaching Company. We will meet at Goodloe at 7:30p.m on the second Friday of each month. For more information or to discuss the need for a ride or childcare contact: Rev. Cyn Snavely at RevSnavely@comcast.net or 240-475-2111.

January- Transcendentalist Utopias-Living Experiments

February- Transcendentalism and Education

March- Thoreau, Abolition and John Brown

April- Frederick Douglass

May- Emily Dickinson

June- Walt Whitman

July- Transcendentalism's 19th Century Legacy

August- The Legacy in the Twentieth Century and Beyond

Calls to Action

Bowie Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

The Bowie Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Committee will present a program on Sunday, January 18, 7:00 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. The keynote speaker will be Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund.

Bowie Interfaith Green Group (BIGG) Blog

On Monday Nov 24, the Bowie Green Sanctuary Committee met with the St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Environmental Group. One outcome of the meeting was to create a forum where environmental groups from all faiths could exchange "green" information among themselves and with the community. We hope that more congregations will join and the site will continue to grow. Visit the Bowie Interfaith Green Groups Blog at

bowie-interfaith-green-groups.blogspot.com
If you have information to contribute, contact Michelle Malta at michellemalta@gmail.com.

Goodloe Forms Micro Lending Team

Micro lending refers to the practice of lending small sums of money to poor, but enterprising, people in order to assist them in working their way out of poverty. These are people who are the salt of the Earth, but are shunned by traditional banking system. Their need is a social justice issue. Micro lending has achieved a great deal of success around the world, especially in assisting women to help improve the lives of their families, as well as themselves.

The purposes of the Goodloe team are to assist poor people who are trying to help themselves as entrepreneurs via the micro lending process; and to build the Goodloe community with an activity which many of our members are likely to support and participate in, at least to a small degree (the minimum loan is only \$25). Team participation can also be a family activity, a religious education project, etc., and it might also stimulate a little friendly competition with other UU congregations, while directly assisting the poor.

More background is given at www.kiva.org/about/microfinance. For more information about participation, please contact Team Captain Laird Towle at 301.464.1159.

OpportUunities

"Faith and the Bay" Adult Ed Course

An adult education VoiCeS course titled "Faith and the Bay" is to be held in Baltimore City starting in late January. This is an 8-week course that is being promoted to members of the faith community because of its special focus on faith and the environment, along with covering the Bay's natural history and pollution issues. Over the last five years, VoiCeS courses have trained over 200 Bay advocates and volunteers and is one of the most successful programs that the Bay Foundation has ever done. In addition to the course work, students are asked to complete forty hours of volunteer work of their choice once the course has ended. For more on the program, you can check out www.cbf.org/voices.

Calling all Crafters

Are you a crafter? Are you interested in meeting with other crafters on a regular basis for fun and fellowship? Please contact Alicia Simon at mom2blu@gmail.com if you would like to participate!

Paint Branch UU Church Seeks Bookkeeper

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church at 3215 Powder Mill Road in Adelphi, Maryland, is seeking to employ a bookkeeper on a part time basis, approximately 5 to 6 hours a week.

If you are interested please send an email to churchadmin@pbuuc.org, along with a copy of your resume in MS Word Format. Deadline for your resume is January 10, 2009. We will inform prospective candidates after January 10th of their interview date.

Bookkeeper

Part Time – 5 to 6 hours a week.

DUTIES: Bookkeeper will perform the following duties at the church office during normal business hours, (Specific schedule can be negotiated at time of hiring):

1. Post all financial Transactions (monies received, cash disbursements, journal entries) to Quickbooks, (familiarity with Quick Books 2007 is preferable), making certain to correctly categorize/code all transactions. Make appropriate journal entries to record special transactions and or/reallocations.
2. Reconcile all bank accounts (checking, savings, etc.) every month.
3. Process bills and other church financial commitments as directed by either the church administrator or board treasurer. Forward checks to the Board Treasurer or Authorized Signatories, as directed, for signature and mailing, or verify payments made by agents (e.g.. bank, insurance company, etc.) on behalf of the Church.
4. Prepare 1099's for those individuals who are not enrolled in our payroll service.
5. Prepare Financial Reports as directed by the Church Administrator or Board Treasurer.
6. Maintain adequate accounting files for all outgoing invoices and payments
7. Meet as needed with the Board Treasurer and/or Finance Committee Chair at a mutually convenient time and location to coordinate and discuss the progress of work.
8. Either party (bookkeeper or the church) may terminate this agreement, without cause, and must provide two weeks notification of termination.

PAYMENT, HOURS, TERM OF EMPLOYMENT: It is agreed that hours and days on which work is performed will be specified by the Church Administrator and that all work is to be

completed at the church office. It is expected that the contractor will work at the church office on at least one day each week. Renewal of contract occurs each year on June 30th. Bookkeeper is supervised by the Church Administrator. As compensation for services rendered under this agreement, the Church will pay Contractor a flat fee of \$360 per month.

UU Bed and Breakfast Directory

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly Homecomings) can fulfill your dream. For 29 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory. Contact us at info@uurehome.com, or at 828-281-3253, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

Host listings on the *UU're Home* website at www.UUreHome.com are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published once a year in April. For a copy of the 2009 directory and a year's access to the website listings, please click on "become a member" to pay by credit card or send a check for \$25 and your e-mail address to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

Calling all DC-Area UU Poets

If you'd be interested in participating in a winter/spring, Saturday afternoon/evening DC-Area UU poets open reading in front of the fireplace at Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church in Camp Springs, MD, please let Hiram Larew know (hlarew@juno.com or 301.627.0284). Depending on the level of interest, further plans (date, time, etc.) will be made.

UUA Social Justice Theology Convocation

January 27-29, 2009, All Souls will bring together a UUA Social Justice Theology Convocation for reflection of a national group of 32 participants, hosted by All Souls, and meeting at the Maritime Institute in Baltimore. This project will result in a DVD resource on Social Justice Theology for the denomination, a book by Skinner House, and two public events on January 28 and 29 at All Souls. The Social Justice track of UU University at General Assembly in June will also draw from this gathering.

As part of this event, on January 28, 7-8:45 pm, Rev. Bill Sinkford will moderate a panel discussion on "How to Heal a Broken Nation" with Rev. Marilyn Sewell, Thandeka, and Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd in the All Souls Sanctuary. Preceding the panel discussion, at 5:00 - 7 pm there will be a dinner reception and a Candidates Forum for the UUA Presidency, with Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales, in Pierce Hall.

Calls to Volunteer

IF YOU LIKE gadgets, technology, helping behind the scenes, become a Sound Technician! Contact Steve Buckingham at 410.451.2338 or Dick Wobus at 301.249.1703, or see them after church.

IF YOU LIKE babies and children, become an RE teacher's assistant or nursery helper! Contact Sally Raymond at 301.218.2089 or sally.raymond@yahoo.com.

IF YOU LIKE researching and learning about spiritual practices, or public speaking, become a Worship Associate! Contact Dan Delaney

IF YOU LIKE to stay out of the limelight, become a Grime Fighter! We need your help keeping Goodloe neat and clean. We are currently looking for a person to coordinate our clean up efforts.

IF YOU LIKE looking at the bigger picture,

Upcoming Sunday Services

January 4 Diets and Budgets -Rev. Snavelly

The holidays are over and a new year has begun. It is the time of year many of us renew commitments to diet and exercise and household budgets. Our faith may help us keep these commitments.

January 11 The Truths of Myths and Fairy Tales -Rev. Snavelly

Truth is not always contained in facts and figures, sometimes truth comes in the guise of a story.

January 18 The Dream -Rev. Snavelly

"I have a dream that someday..." How might we finish that speech today?

January 25 Leadership and Keeping Oaths -Rev. Snavelly

The inauguration is past and the hordes of visitors are leaving the area, now what do we expect?

February 1 Guest Preacher TBA

become a Goodloe Green Sanctuary Committee Member. Contact Rob Whitaker and be part of the solution.

IF YOU LIKE to write, create art, or take photographs, and see your name in print, contribute to the Odyssey! Contact Misty Cole, 301352.5981

IF YOU LIKE easy ways to contribute to Goodloe, buy Giant Scrips. Contact Deon Merene at (240) 678-0262.

An Unholy Trinity of Disasters (Part I) by Laird Towle

As I see the world situation today, we stand on the threshold of an unholy trinity of interconnected disasters, and any false step could spell catastrophe for humankind. The disasters I refer to are:

Resource depletion – this encompasses everything from water to uranium, but the substances of most immediate concern are the fossil fuels (especially oil) on which our civilization is built.

Climate Change – the science is perfectly clear that humankind is driving the temperature of the earth far above the point at which the polar icecaps can exist, and into a climate regime in which mankind's ability to survive is doubtful.

Economic Collapse – our economy is in deep trouble, and many other countries are on shaky ground as well; it appears that we may be entering a decade long depression such as we experienced in the 1930s; the situation could spiral out of control.

It is not immediately obvious which of these disasters is most imminent. My sense is that resource depletion is the most pressing because numerous writers have projected world oil extraction to peak between 2000 and 2010 and then to decrease by 5-10% per year. Since all the oil extracted is currently used, and demand is projected to continue growing because of the industrialization of India and China, as soon as supply cannot meet demand we will know it within a year because the price of oil will start going through the roof. The oil spike of the past year may already be an indication of that event; the recent drop in the price of oil is very likely just temporary due to the drop in US demand as our economy slows down.

With regard to climate change, small changes are already evident, and they are clearly harbingers of bigger things to come,

unless we can stop the warming. However, the major deleterious effects of climate change may not be completely evident for many decades, or even a century or two. Thus, of these two, resource depletion is more likely to produce spectacular effects first as our oil dependent economy contracts abruptly.

While these three disasters are clearly connected, how the economic collapse fits into the sequence is more problematic. A comparison of the US with the old Soviet Union shows many parallels. It appears that our economy, like theirs, could collapse suddenly and imminently which is unsettling considering recent events.

We are told that the solution to all three of these problems is to spend huge amounts of money on converting our economy from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. How incredibly convenient! Obviously, if we stop using the fossil fuels, they will not get depleted; if we stop burning the fossil fuels, we will reduce our emission of greenhouse gases and curtail climate change; and with a gigantic economic stimulus how could the economy not recover?

Does any of this sound too good to be true?

In Part II we will pursue these questions further, and in the end propose a solution which is exciting and full of promise.

1. The following policy will apply whenever weather or other conditions could prevent our congregation from holding scheduled services or any other activity or event. These conditions include:

- **Winter storms: snow, ice, sleet, freezing rain, icy roads, etc.**
- **Water-related problems: hurricane, flooding, leaking roof, etc.**
- **Building problems: power outage, building closed/locked, etc.**

2. Responsibility for determining whether a Goodloe activity will be cancelled or moved to another location resides with:

- **The convener or chair of a committee meeting, social event, or other activity that is not a regularly-scheduled worship service; and**
- **For a regularly scheduled worship service, the President or, in his/her absence, the Vice President.**
- **The President, Worship Committee Chair and Minister, who will confer with each other and the presenter and Director of Religious Education or RE chair in making the decision whether or not to cancel services.**

3. In the event that any condition exists that could interfere with holding a regularly-scheduled worship service, the President shall:

- **Contact the person designated to open the building at least 2.5 hours before the service is schedule to begin to determine whether the building will be open as planned (for a regular 10:30 a.m. Sunday service, this requires calling the custodian by 8:00 a.m. that day); and**
- **Contact the person scheduled to lead the service (the minister, lay leader or visiting presenter) to determine whether that person will be arriving as planned**

4. In the event that the President, Minister or Worship Chair determines that a regularly-scheduled service should be cancelled or moved to another location, he/she shall immediately notify the following people:

- **The person designated to send out an email message to the congregation**
- **DRE – who will notify all teachers scheduled that day**
- **Choir Director – who will notify all choir members**

In addition, the President shall:

- **Record a new outgoing message on the answering machine**
- **Contact WTOP Radio**
- **Contact the set up crew**

5. In the event that any condition exists that could interfere with holding an event or activity that is

- **Contact the person designated to open the building at least 2.5 hours before the service is schedule to begin to determine whether the building will be open as planned; and**
- **Determine if the event or activity should be cancelled or moved to another location**

6. In the event that the convener or chair determines that the event or activity should be moved or cancelled, he/she shall:

- **If the event is a congregation-wide or public event, notify the person who manages the email list who will:**
 - Ø **send out an email message to the congregation; and**
 - Ø **record a new outgoing message on the answering machine; or**
 - Ø **If the event is not congregation-wide, notify all planned participants of the decision**

Goodloe Memorial Unitarian Universalist Congregation Calendar - January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 3-5 p.m. Private Event
4 10:30 a.m. Service: Diets and Budgets -Rev. Snavely	5	6 7:30 p.m. Goodloe Board Meeting	7 7:30 p.m. Choir Dick Wobus (301.249.1703)	8	9 7:30 p.m. Transcendentalists Cyn Snavely (240.475.2111)	10
11 10:30 a.m. Service: The Truths of Myths and Fairy Tales -Rev. Snavely After-Church Pot Luck Marlene Towle (301.464.1159)	12	13 7:00 p.m. Women's Group Misty Cole (301.352.5981) Meditation Group Tom Brenner (301.776.9689)	14 7:30 p.m. Choir Dick Wobus (301.249.1703)	15 7:30 p.m. Goodloe Readers John Cole (301.352.5981)	16 7:30 p.m. Drumming from the Heart Ken Shilling (301.464.0021)	17
18 10:30 a.m. Service: The Dream -Rev. Snavely	19	20 7:15 p.m. Spanish Group Tom Brenner (301.776.9689)	21	22 7:30 p.m. Goodloe Greens Rob Whitaker	23 7:00 p.m. Game Night Betsy Delaney (301.345.2369)	24
25 10:30 a.m. Service: Leadership and Keeping Oaths -Rev. Snavely After-Church Chinese Buffet Tom Brenner (301.776.9689)	26	27 7:00 p.m. Women's Group Misty Cole (301.352.5981) Meditation Group Tom Brenner (301.776.9689)	28 7:30 p.m. Choir Dick Wobus (301.249.1703)	29	30	31

**Goodloe Memorial Unitarian
Universalist Congregation**

Minister: Rev. Cynthia Snavelly

240.475.2111 (cell)

Minister Emeritus:

Rev. John Gaffney

RE Coordinator: Tisha Richardson

Music Director: Dick Wobus

Board of Trustees:

President:

Ken Shilling: 301.801.8803

Vice President:

John Cole: 301.352.5981

Financial Officer:

Roger Davidson 410.451.9805

Secretary:

Laird Towle: 301.464.1159

Trustees:

Jackie Lord 301.249.7713

Hazel Elbert: 301.249.5946

Rev Cyn Snavelly: 240.475.2111 (cell)

Committee Chairs:

Worship:

Dan Delaney

Building & Facilities:

Roger Davidson

Communications:

Vacant

Membership:

Vacant

Religious Education:

Sally Raymond

Ministry:

Tom Brenner

Nita Page-Daves

Lorraine Webb

Pathfinders:

Vacant

Goodloe Green Sanctuary:

Rob Whitaker and Michelle Malta

Goodloe Readers:

John Cole

ODYSSEY Editor:

Misty Cole

If you have changed your address,
phone, or email, please let us know at
goodloe.memorial@gmail.com or
contact Jackie Lord (301) 249-7713 or
Nancy Choice (301) 805-5345.

Notice: Lorraine Webb - Maryland Notary
Lorraine Webb, a certified Maryland Notary,
offers her services, free of charge, to
Goodloe Memorial members and friends. If you would like to
utilize her notary services, contact her:
(301) 218-1516 or llacey33@verizon.net.

Please Buy Giant Scrip

Use scrip as cash at Giant Food Stores.

Goodloe makes 5% to 10% each time you shop.

Contact Deon Merene (240) 678-0262.

**There is no additional cost to purchase Giant Scrip.
Use the scrip like a gift card at the check out line.**

**Deadline for Next Odyssey: January 15th, 2009
Please email submissions to playmisty4me@gmail.com.**



**Goodloe Memorial
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation** is named for
Don Speed Smith Goodloe, first
principal of Maryland Normal
and Industrial School, Bowie



Goodloe Memorial Unitarian
Universalist Congregation



1540C Pointer Ridge Place
Bowie, MD 20716

301 218-5277

www.goodloeuu.org

Reverend Cynthia Snavelly

Service and Religious

Education 10:30 am Sundays

