

The JOURNEY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale

DECEMBER 2008
Volume 49, Number 11

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**January 2009 Issue
Deadline**

Sunday December 14, 2008

Submit articles to:
submission@uucfl.org

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Gary Ladka

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David Armstrong Bill Cox

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A Center for
Religious Thought
and Social Action in
Fort Lauderdale

**Unitarian
Universalist**
Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue
Oakland Park, Florida 33309
954-484-6734
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Established in 1958
Celebrating Our 50 Year Jubilee



**Adopt-a-Wish with ChildNet and
brighten the holidays of children
in Broward foster care homes.
Go to Page 7 and make
wishes come true**

**It's A Wrap!
Gift Wrapping Fundraiser at
Barnes and Noble—Ft Lauderdale
Friday December 12
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Find out all about it on page 6**



Labyrinth Café presents
John McCutcheon
Saturday December 13
7:30 pm
Hear more on page 5

Save the Date - December 14 :

11:00am

**Holiday Pageant Service and
New Member Welcome & Pot Luck Lunch**

5:00pm - 9:00pm

Annual All Church Holiday Gathering

Please join us for caroling, ornament making,
cookie decorating and a visit with Santa



**Special Christmas Eve Service
December 24 - 6:00pm
See Back Cover for details**

**SWIM...In the Wintertime? Why Yes!!
Southeast Winter Institute in Miami (SWIM)
is coming and you're invited !!
December 26—December 31
at the Cloverleaf 4H Center Lake Placid, FL
Swim on over to page 8 to learn more**



Prez Says...



While the November 4 election outcome wasn't everything we wanted it to be, it's a huge relief for it to be over, and a big win for our democracy. Thanks go to our Administrator Sandy Walker for once

again accommodating three voting precincts at UUCFL, and to our member volunteers who also helped monitor our building on Election Day.

The high energy election season has been accompanied by a high level of activity at UUCFL—with Reverend Gail back in the pulpit (until late January when she begins Part II of her sabbatical) and a steady stream of guests on Sunday morning. We are doing a great job of welcoming our guests and letting them know we want them to return; however, we can always do better. Remember to reach out and say "See you Next Sunday," especially to those who are heading for the doors when the service is over.

As the economic recession deepens, we have heard from members who are experiencing difficult financial times, with loss of employment and possible loss of their homes. I want to make it clear that we want all members and friends to continue their relationships with us regardless of their ability to make contributions to the church. We are first and foremost about supporting each other. Furthermore, it is at times of financial or emotional distress that we especially need our church community. Of course, financial resources, from our membership as a whole, are necessary to support our programs; but money can never be allowed to be a required ticket for participation in our community. If you are concerned about not paying your pledge or being able to make a pledge for 2009, please talk to our Treasurer Bill Cox, Reverend Gail, or me.

One of my first learning experiences as a UU was to broaden my understanding of the Christmas holidays, including their pre-Christian roots. I look forward to spending this holiday season with my Ft. Lauderdale UU family and seeing you all at our holiday events.

Ken Beier—President

Spiritual Practices Class Winds Up

There are still two more exciting opportunities to deepen your understanding of spiritual disciplines by attending the final two sessions of our Perennial Spiritual Practices class. We have been looking at a variety of practices drawn from world religions. The final sessions are:

Dec. 2 Cultivating Spiritual Intelligence
Dec. 9 Expressing Spirit in Action

We have been having some very deep conversations and sharing in exercises to increase our commitment to regular practices. We meet at the church on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Suggested donation is \$8 per class.

Rev. Gail



Now is the Time for Year-end Donations



Even if the value of your stock or mutual fund holdings has declined this year, you may want to consider contributing securities to UUCFL before the end of the year. This helps you—with a tax deduction—and the church. Donations can be made to the church operating fund, the Building Fund, or the Endowment Fund. If you are interested in making an end of the year contribution of securities, contact Douglas Paul, Chair of our Finance Committee at 954-331-5025 or 646-256-1421 (cell).

UUCFL Book Group Returns

In late January the UUCFL book group will return. The first book chosen is a tribute to the late Miriam Ownby, a long time book group stalwart, who died last summer. Miriam left several book group suggestions before passing on and we have picked one of them - Soldier's Heart by Elizabeth D. Samet. The subtitle of the book is "Reading Literature Through War and Peace at West Point" and it has gotten some great reviews. Now out in paperback, the book is also available through the Broward Library system. Rev. Gail will likely be able to be present for the January book group which will be held on Jan 18 or 25 2009 depending on other scheduled events. So you can start finding the book now and read it easily by late January. Melanie Taffel, long time book group participant will lead the January discussion. Joe DeAngelis, librarian and book resource person has helped us research some new possible books. New friend of the church Clare Donahue may also be co-leading some of the discussions. As soon as Joe has checked on paperback availability of some other books under discussion we will get the spring line up out. Other people interested in leading a discussion or suggesting a book can speak to Rev. Gail, board member Melanie Taffel or Joe DeAngelis. Happy reading.



Rev. Gail & fearless new book group leaders

Rev. Gail's Space

Reframing Our Holiday Fantasies

A few years ago, long time UUCFL member Deb Holt gave me a little book called Hundred Dollar Holiday: The Case for a More Joyful Christmas by Bill McKibben. It tells the story of how more and more people have been finding the excessive gift giving that has come to characterize the holiday season in general, and Christmas in particular, to be oppressive rather than joyous. Instead, the book argues that what we need now are gifts of time, meaningful family connections, periods of silence and relationships with the divine or higher concerns.



I found the little book charming when I read it, but in more affluent times I did not think that too many people would feel called to apply its suggestions too seriously. Now in these very uncertain and economically difficult times, I feel the book is quite timely and may offer some concrete ideas for all of us in the church and elsewhere about how to make this holiday season special rather than feeling a sense of deprivation.

McKibben suggests focusing on homemade gifts that encourage creativity in children and adults alike. He says family members can offer treats like visits to the zoo or a carnival as presents. Adults and children can offer services like additional chores or special treats like massages or breakfast in bed. He says that rituals based more on games, song, conversation and shared food will ultimately be more satisfying than sitting on a huge mound of presents and ripped up wrapping paper and ribbons. While the T.V. may be telling us to get out there and shop to keep the economy going, this is clearly no time to rack up more credit card debts.

McKibben notes that too many people have come to dread the approach of the holidays, a season that should - and can - be the most relaxed, intimate, joyful and spiritual time of the year.

This might be a good year to rent some videos or watch reruns on the Hallmark Channel of old T.V. shows like *The Waltons* and *Little House on the Prairie*. These shows demonstrated loving families and their friends singing and dancing and sharing church potlucks and getting excited over an orange for each person as a special treat.

We have several opportunities coming up at the church for inexpensive fun and fellowship. Our new member potluck on December 14 followed by our wonderful holiday party with the singing of holiday songs, making decorations and munching cookies are great opportunities for simple pleasures and shared good times. Our Christmas Eve service this year will be a UU adaptation of the Moravian Love Feast and should be a memorable evening. What ever holiday or holidays you celebrate in your household this year, make them less stressful and more joyful by focusing on people and not things.

Blessings on all of you.

Rev. Gail

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) NEWS

Interim Director of Religious Education (DRE) - Susan Dirgins-Friend

Phone (954) 424-1910

Email tiredmomofbob@aol.com

Committee Meetings - Third Sundays of the Month—9:30am



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Good Kwanzaa, Merry Winter Solstice, Happy Eid al Adhur, Happy Diwali. Pheww, I think I got them all. If you are not sure about some of these winter holidays, make sure you are at the RE Service and Pageant on December 14 at 11AM. The children are going to present the "True Essences of Winter Holidays".

Things have been going well in RE. The Thanksgiving Dinner prepared by the kids and some other key helpers (thank you Laura Lange, Mara Newman, Gary Ladka, Doug Friend, and Steve Lange) was a success, with everyone eating way too much. The kids enjoyed doing something for the congregation and earning \$300.00 more for their Boston trip. Thanks to all who bought tickets.

The RE kids will be selling Fair Trade Chocolate and Tea. We hope you will support us by buying some of these items. The kids will earn money for their activities and we are supporting fair trade agriculture around the world. These things also make great gifts.

"Guest at Your Table" is underway. We hope you will support this wonderful program of the UU Service Committee, which does great work all over the world.

We sent a check for \$61.00 to Unicef for the "Trick or Treat for Unicef" program. Thank you to all who contributed to the kids, or at coffee hour. We have not participated in this program in several years, and we are proud to be back to it.

Religious Education (RE) December Calendar

December 6, Saturday, 4PM-6:30PM (May change) PLAY REHEARSAL

December 7, Sunday 11AM, RE will be play rehearsal

December 12, Friday, 6-10PM, Gift Wrapping at Barnes and Noble
(see page 6)

December 13, Saturday, 10AM-1PM (May change) PLAY REHEARSAL

December 14, Sunday, 11AM, RE Service and Pageant
Everyone involved please arrive NO LATER than 10AM

December 14, Sunday, 5-9PM, Holiday Gathering

December 21, Sunday, 11AM, Regular RE/Holiday Party

December 28, Sunday, THERE WILL BE NO RE THIS SUNDAY. THERE WILL BE A MOVIE OR SOME OTHER ACTIVITY FOR THE CHILDREN. MS. SUSAN WILL NOT BE HERE.

Adult Religious Education

Rev Gail's class will continue for 2 more Tuesdays in December on the 2nd and the 9th at 7PM

I wish everyone a blessed holiday season. Be glad, be grateful, remember those who are less fortunate, and be FILLED with love.

Love and Blessings, *Susan*





Labyrinth Café Concert Season Continues with John McCutcheon

Saturday, December 13, 7:30pm

Wisconsin native John McCutcheon has emerged as one of our most respected and loved folksingers.

As an instrumentalist, he is a master of a dozen different traditional instruments, most notably the rare and beautiful hammer dulcimer. His songwriting has been hailed by critics and singers around the globe. His thirty recordings have garnered every imaginable honor including seven Grammy nominations. His books and instructional materials have introduced budding players to the joys of their own musicality. And his commitment to grass-roots political organizations has put him on the front lines of many of the issues important to communities and workers.



But it is in live performance that John feels most at home. It is what has brought his music into the lives and homes of one of the broadest audiences any folk musician has ever enjoyed. People of every generation and background seem to feel at home in a concert hall when John McCutcheon takes the stage, with what critics describe as "little feats of magic," "breathtaking in their ease and grace..." and "like a conversation with an illuminating old friend." Whether in print, on record, or on stage, few people communicate with the versatility, charm, wit or pure talent of John McCutcheon. www.folkmusic.com

Reservations requested but not required: Contact Myra at Myrafly@yahoo.com or Susan at OzWoman321@aol.com or 954-478-8637

\$15 at the door, plus non-perishable item for our local Cooperative Feeding Program (canned meats, beans, fruits, vegetables, peanut butter, dried milk, pasta, rice, cereal, baby food and baby formula); advance reservations: \$12, checks (made out to John McCutcheon) received in the UU church office, c/o Labyrinth Cafe, no later than Wednesday before Saturday show.

Last chance to take advantage of our season pass (now \$70 per person), which includes admission to the remaining 6 December-May shows, as well as a Labyrinth Cafe T-shirt (designed and printed by Virginia and Erik Anderson, Labyrinth Cafe volunteers) and premium reserved seating. It's a wonderful way to support the UU church, our performers and the continuation of live, original music! Please visit www.labyrinthcafe.com for further details and the artists' websites, as well as www.myspace.com/labyrinthcafe for song samples!

Susan Moss—Labyrinth Cafe



Music Notes

As hard as it is to believe, the Election, Empty Bowls soup kitchen, Jazz Concert, and Thanksgiving Day are all behind us for another year. So many people are deserving of thanks, where do we begin? As always the choir continues to attend weekly rehearsals and to enhance our services with their beautiful voices.

Did you notice that there is a new soprano among us, Alexis Blasenheim? We are so happy to welcome her to our choir family, and to see Brad Backman return to the tenor section as well.

Thank you to Vernon Allen for his solo on November 2. It is always a pleasure to hear him sing again. The Music Committee, chaired by Doug Paul, deserves credit for presenting the Jazz Concert on November 16. If you missed this highlight of the music program, I'm sorry. We had a wonderful time.

Now we move into the Christmas season with traditional carols and other familiar music that make our church home feel warm and friendly.

We will be looking forward to the Jubilee Gala and the Tri-Choir presentations in the New Year. Our Choir Director, David Fisher, and several members of the choir will appear in the celebrations. Our church has become a vibrant exciting place where we can all participate. Enjoy!

Dot Muise, Director of Music

New Member Orientations are Coming!!

Thinking of becoming an official member of our church family? Please attend New Member Orientation Classes. You have your choice of attending either Sunday November 30 or December 7 from 1:00pm - 2:30pm. The next class for you will be a UU Faith class with Rev Gail on Saturday December 13 from 10:00am -12:00noon (this class is required if no previous UU affiliation, and it is suggested that you attend even if you have).

New Members Sunday will be during church service on December 14 with Pot luck to follow. We welcome you with open minds, helping hands, and loving hearts. For more information, contact at me at 954-298-9779

Mary Bardis - Membership Chair



Labyrinth Café Concerts 2008—2009

- 🎵 **Saturday, January 10, 2009**
Jud Caswell/Friction Farm/Dave Potts
- 🎵 **Saturday, February 14, 2009**
The Orphan Trains/Jennings & Keller
- 🎵 **Saturday, March 14, 2009**
Nick Annis/Danny Schmidt
- 🎵 **Saturday, April 11, 2009**
Amy Carol Webb/Denice Franke
- 🎵 **Saturday, May 9, 2009**
Rod MacDonald/Michael McNevin

Down to Earth with Building & Grounds

Greetings and Happy Everything!!

We are definitely on an upswing despite the economy.

Our church is growing and only pessimism will get in the way. But I'm an optimist!

As I had mentioned in the November article we have received bids to fix the exterior of our building. This is a big project and we cannot do what needs to be done without funding. I have submitted a request to the Endowment Committee and will submit the same information to the board. We may need to explore other options for accomplishing this goal, but I anticipate it will work itself out. Not with blind faith, not with optimism, yet a lot of both won't hurt. Some very wise person in our community said to me regarding our country's financial plight and the need to find alternative forms of fuel and transportation "I have great faith in technology". I add to that, that technology is driven by humans who desire to change and improve their situation based on need. We have great needs right here at the UUCFL. The human factor is where my faith resides. We can, we must, and we will overcome obstacles facing the renewal of this place we call our home. Another code I have accepted along my path, is to know that we cannot help others, until we are able to help ourselves. With a renewed spiritual haven comes the ability to serve others in a grander way. We can, we must and we will!

I would also like to report that our November B & G workday was a tremendous effort and our number of volunteers has grown. Thanks to all who attended. A special thanks to Bob for getting the fans that vent our restrooms fixed and functioning again.

On Sunday November 16th, after the service another project took a step toward completion. The new play ground equipment is being installed. Thanks to Jeff for assisting in getting this task to the next level. We are planning to work on phase two Sunday November 30th after the service. If you are willing and able in body and spirit, we could use the help. Bring a change of clothes - this is not a "Black Tie" event.

As always I enjoy the work because for me it represents my spirituality. Each of us has something to offer. Our next work day is December 20th. Along with a simple breakfast and plenty of coffee we will celebrate the end of a year.

Our hours of operation are from 7:30 to noon.

I look forward to seeing you then.

Steve Lange/Building and Grounds Chairperson



50th Anniversary Jubilee Celebration Set for Saturday, January 24, 2009



Time to mark Saturday, January 24, 2009 on your calendar--to attend our church's 50th Anniversary celebration! We'll start off at 5:30 p.m. with snacks and a cash bar while we enjoy a slide show of past and current photos of members and friends and check out the church's thirty-foot Time Line.

By 6:30 we'll be ready to sit down for an elegant dinner. We'll then sit back for a fun evening of madcap mini-tales from our past, along with buoyant Broadway songs from each of our ten demi-decades. We'll hear an outside speaker (to be announced and to be brief!) who has watched our church through recent years and then end with our Official Soothsayer's report of what's in our future. Come prepared with a free-will offering to support our church's ongoing operations, and come for the good time to be had by all!

**David Fisher, Chair
Jubilee Celebration Task Force**

Looking for Past Members to Join Celebration



For the Jubilee Celebration we are looking to invite as many members of our church family past and present as possible.

I am looking for addresses that people might have personally for former members who have

moved away. If you have any information that might be helpful to me in doing this, I would appreciate it.

Please contact me at Myrafly@yahoo.com

Myra C. Symons-Kazanci

Volunteers Needed for One-Time Church Fund-Raising Opportunity

Barnes & Noble in Ft. Lauderdale will be supplying holiday gift wrapping materials.

Now we need UUCFL volunteers to do the wrapping at:

Barnes & Noble Booksellers - 2051 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33305
Friday, December 12 - 6:00-10:00 pm

This is a great chance to raise money for our Teen Group's trip to Boston and to raise awareness about our church, do some short-term service, make a favorable impression in our community, and maybe even get some new visitors to our church. With enough committed volunteers, we'll have plenty of coverage for our four hours. If you can wrap gifts and

commit to even one hour of your time, please contact me. I have promised that we will do this light work and do not want to disappoint the store that was kind enough to extend us this offer. I hope to hear from YOU soon. Thanks.

Judy King JudyMKing@comcast.net 954-895-5410 or Gary Ladka garyladka@mindspring.com 954-969-7221

**BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS**



Helping Hands

Most of the work of UUCFL is done by YOU--our members and friends. If you can provide time and talent for the following role, please contact the person designated for a specific role. Contact information for me and the others can be found on Page 9 of the Journey.



Greeters--we need 4 greeters every Sunday in various places inside and outside the building, someone to sit at the visitors table for 15 minutes after the service, and someone to say goodbye at the front door. If you are friendly and can say hello, you are perfect for this job. Contact Mary Bardis.

Coffee Setup and Cleanup--we will train you for either role. Ongoing or one-time only roles are available. The bonus with this job is that the kitchen is the best place to learn what is going on at UUCFL. Contact Collette Saucier.

Holiday Gift Wrappers--members and friends will descend on Barnes and Noble in Ft. Lauderdale on Friday, December 12 from 6-10 pm to wrap holiday gifts. All of the donations for this service will go directly to the UUCFL Teen Group's trip to Boston. To join the UUCFL wrapping team, contact Judy King or Gary Ladka.

Holiday Wish-Adopter for ChildNet--you can make a difference by fulfilling a child's wish for the holiday season. The wish lists are completed by the children in October and given to organizations that will adopt the child's wishes. ChildNet is lead agency for services and support for Broward's abused, neglected and abandoned children and their caregivers. Contact Gary Ladka soon so that we will know how many wishes to adopt.

Real Estate Attorney--our rental contracts need a professional review and update--a legal specialist will provide input to members of the Congregation who are reviewing our rental and building use policies. (If we get serious about purchasing the property next door, this person could support that effort as well.) Contact Ken Beier.

Videographer for UUCFL Jubilee--you will create the UUCFL 50th anniversary video, which is sure to be a hit on U-tube and elsewhere. Someone with video equipments and experience with using it preferred. Contact David Fisher.

Ken Beier--President

ChildNet Adopt-a-Wish Program comes to UUCFL



At a time of year when so many children are dreaming of what Santa Claus will bring them for Christmas, children in foster care are simply hoping someone will

remember them this holiday. You can help make wishes come true. We will be receiving wish lists from children here in Broward County along with their age and gender, and we are asking you to pick one item on their list or to use your imagination and choose your own special gift to be presented to your child for this magical season. Watch for our Tree of Wishes in the Sanctuary, or contact me at 954-650-3728 to find out more. Let's fill lots of little hearts with joy this holiday.

Gary Ladka - Santa's Helper



CUUPS Update

Saturday December 20 at 7:00pm, the church community is invited to join us for our Yule

Celebration. With much pageantry we will greet the longest night of the year and then follow up with our pot luck dinner. Because Christmas and the Gregorian New Year both fall on Thursday, Study Group will take a break the last two Thursdays and resume January 8th. On that evening, we will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our Pagan Study Group and share stories of the people who have passed through our gates during the decade.

Kip, Resident Pagan

Cooperative Feeding Education Demo a Success

Marti Forman, Executive Director of the Cooperative Feeding Program, extends her warmest thanks to the



UUCFL volunteers who participated in a cooking demonstration for families of the program. On hand were Mary Bardis, Kathleen Rhoad, Nicole Shulman, Colette Saucier, Judy King, Lydia, Mara Newman, Dave Armstrong, and Bill

Cox. The volunteers prepared their favorite one-pot meals that can be made for less than \$10 and feed a family of four. Also attending was Chef Jeff who demonstrated how to prepare a nutritious crock pot meal and brought enough of the ingredients so that the families could take a crock pot full of delicious food to have the next day. Each family was given a new crock pot so that they can prepare hearty



meals for their families. Marti provided the volunteers with a tour and spoke about the great need for food donations and volunteer assistance. The UUCFL

continues to contribute food items every week, but more is needed. Please remember to go to your pantry before service on Sunday and bring an extra food item to donate to the Cooperative Feeding Program. Also, anyone interested in volunteering

their time, should call the Cooperative Feeding Program at 954-792-2328 or e-mail at info@FeedingBroward.org



Office Notes December 2008

Greetings and good wishes from Sandy in the office. It is so nice to enjoy some beautiful weather and our lovely gardens.

Coffee hour was especially pleasant last month.

Just a few reminders:

The double doors into our Sanctuary should be secured when not in use.

On each set of doors, one door swings and the other is fixed.

That 'fixed' door must be bolted in place, when in the closed position.

Our Calendar is much busier than last year.

Let me know about your event as soon as possible.

Remember to be safe and alert:

Look around when you arrive and leave church.

Your observations are important.

Do not leave valuables in your car.

Lock the Church when you are the last to depart.

Safety First; is a good rule to follow.

Have a good December.

Celebrate EVERYTHING!



Let me know if I can help.

Sandy in the UUCFL office

Time for a SWIM

Southeast Winter Institute in Miami (SWIM) is a one week Unitarian Universalist intentional community which provides religious, inspirational, educational, growth oriented programming. SWIM was founded and continues to celebrate the spirit, to promote community, and to nurture connections among people of diverse ages, backgrounds, abilities, and interests. In so doing, SWIM strives to promote our Unitarian Universalist principles. It will take place from December 26 - 31 at the Cloverleaf 4H Center 126 Cloverleaf Rd, Lake Placid, FL - east of Tampa. SWIM offers a myriad of experiences and opportunities which are challenging and nourishing to mind, body, and soul. Some of our activities are workshops, outdoor adventures, worship, art, dance, music, campfire, and athletics. Visit www.swimuu.org for more details and to register.

Words from the Board

Your Board of Trustees met in November and here are some of the highlights:

- Treasurer's Report showed us transferring \$3,000.00 to our Operational Fund to cover expenses in October, and that we are a little behind in year to date pledge fulfillment.
- President Ken has started a helping hands column for the Journey, which identifies volunteer opportunities that have been identified by committees or the board.
- Board Members continue to participate in monthly Florida District Leadership Teleconferences with Rev. Kenn Hurto
- Approved a Fifth Sunday Collection on November 30 to benefit the Pastor's Fund which is used at minister's discretion to support members, friends and individuals who are in immediate financial need.
- Appointed Monica Pavlik, Kathleen Rhoad, and Annemarie Jameson Kelly to the Nominating Committee. They will serve with members Annette Vafa, David Griswold, and David Armstrong who were elected by the congregation.
- Were delighted by the amount of great work going on by many of our committees.
- Heard further plans of our upcoming Jubilee Celebration.
- Learned of the progress of the Stewardship drive for pledges for 2009. We are still awaiting pledges from some of our members.
- Judy King talked of progress on new website design, advertising efforts and some fundraising ideas, and she is looking for help with making them happen.

Respectfully Submitted Gary Ladka— Secretary

**December Birthdays**

Caterina Turner 12/2
 Mary Bardis 12/2
 Amy Ladka 12/3
 Bill Cox 12/13
 Jerry Waltz 12/15
 Stephen Lange 12/16
 Lois Nikula 12/17
 Ronnie Van Sickle 12/18
 Jim Giblin 12/24
 Amparo Fidalgo 12/28
 Savannah Friend 12/29
 Kimani Salim Pearce 12/30
 Annemarie Jameson Kelly 12/30



If you would like to see your birthday announced here and in the cUUrrious cUUrrier email newsletter, please contact Sandy in the office to make sure we have your updated information in the computer

Thanks for Filling Empty Bowls

I want to extend a special thanks to Collette Saucier and Susan Friend and all the adult and teen volunteers who made Empty Bowls happen again this year. Collette took on the overall coordinator role this year working with other churches to raise the money to get our matching grant from the UU Fund for Social Responsibility. Susan again coordinated the UUCFL dinner with all her helpers and soup makers. Again we will be able to give a large check to the Cooperative Feeding Program as they deal with the largest client load ever.

Rev. Gail

EMPTY
BOWLS



Directory of Staff, Board, Committee Chairs & Affiliates

STAFF

- **Minister**
Rev. Gail Tapscott.....954-288-4245
- **Office Administrator**
Sandra Walker.....954-484-6734
- **Interim Director of Religious Education**
Susan Dirgins-Friend.....954-424-1910
- **Music Director**
Dorothy Muise.....954-731-8790
- **Choir Director**
David Fisher954-567-2677

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- President**
Ken Beier.....954-537-3361
- Vice President**
Mara Newman.....954-492-1005
- Secretary**
Gary Ladka.....954-969-7221
- Treasurer**
Bill Cox.....954-730-7763

Trustees

- Betty Highton.....954-484-6313
- Judy King954-895-5410
- Judy Knopp954-563-8529
- Melanie Taffel.....954-298-9827
- Valerie Turner.....954-768-0798
- Mark Woodpecker.....954-428-1532

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Building & Grounds**
Steve Lange.....954-257-9262
- Stewardship (aka Canvass)**
Myra Symons-Kazanci954-779-2240
- Community Outreach**
•Empty Bowls Project
Colette Saucier954-240-3759
- Printed Newsletter – The JOURNEY**
Gary Ladka.....954-969-7221
- Webmaster**
Kip Barkley.....954-784-8307
- Email Newsletter - The cUUrious cUUrier**
Gary Ladka.....954-969-7221
- Cooperative Feeding Program**
Rev. Gail Tapscott.....954-288-4245



Caring Committee

Molly Lesnick 954-587-9552

Library

Joe DeAngelis.....954-973-1337

Finance

Douglas Paul.....954-331-5025

Building Usage

Sandra Walker... 954-484-6734

Human Resources

Mara Newman.....954-492-1005

Labyrinth Café Concerts

Susan Moss.....954-433-2372

Membership

Mary Bardis954-298-9779

Ministry

Annette Vafa954-923-7144

Sunday Services

Susan Moss.....954-433-2372

Ways & Means

Melanie Taffel.....954-298-9827

ASSOCIATE & AFFILIATE GROUPS

• CUUPS

Kip Barkley954-784-8307

• Endowment

Lyn Kurpiewski.....954-537-3616

• Interweave

Ken Beier.....954-537-3361

• Southeast UU Cluster

David Armstrong.....954-730-7763

• UU Service Committee

Noralee Traylor.....954-776-4226

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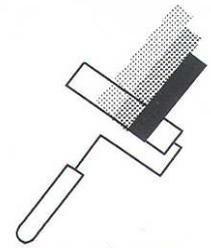


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Remember the Hungry People Around Us

Please continue to fill the Food Baskets at the church with non-perishables for the Cooperative Feeding Program. Learn more about the CFP and other ways you can help by visiting www.feedbroward.org or calling (954) 792-2328



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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DECEMBER 2008 CALENDAR

Every Sunday :
11:00 AM-Church Service
and Children's
Religious Education



<p>Happy Hanukkah</p>	<p>1 7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>2 7:00pm—Perennial Practices Class with Rev Gail</p>	<p>3 •10:30am—Gentle Yoga •12:00Noon—Brown Bag Lunch Bunch •7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 Journey Submission Deadline •9:30am-UU Sisterhood •12:45pm—Jubilee Committee •1:00pm—New Member Orientation Class</p>	<p>8 Eid al-Adha •7:00pm—Board Meeting •7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>9 7:00pm—Perennial Practices Class with Rev Gail</p>	<p>10 •10:30am—Gentle Yoga •7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 •7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>12 6:00pm—Gift Wrapping Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble Ft Lauderdale (see page 6)</p>	<p>13 •7:30am Building & Grounds Workday •10:00am—UU Faith Class with Rev Gail for New Members •7:30pm—Labyrinth Café John McCutcheon (see page 5)</p>
<p>14 Journey Submission Deadline •11:00am—Holiday Pageant Service and New Member Welcome •5:00pm—Holiday Gathering Celebration</p>	<p>15 •7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation •7:30pm—Sunday Services Committee</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 •10:30am—Gentle Yoga •7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>18 7:30 pm CUUPS</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 7:00pm—CUUPS Yule Ritual</p>
<p>21 •Winter Solstice •9:30am—Religious Education Committee •9:30am-UU Sisterhood •Sundown - Hanukkah Begins</p>	<p>22 7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6:00pm—Christmas Eve Special Service</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p>	<p>26 Kwanzaa Begins</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29 7:30pm - Peaceful Meditation</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Happy New Year!!</p>			

Visit our on line calendar for late-breaking events
www.uucfl.org/events.htm

Religious Education Events
See special calendar on the RE page 4

Unitarian Universalist

Church of Ft. Lauderdale

3970 NW 21st Avenue

Minister: Rev. Gail Tapscott

Phone: 954-484-6734

Fax: 954-484-6778

E-mail: uucfl@aol.com

Website: www.uucfl.org

Sundays Service & Children's
at 11 am: Religious Education

The JOURNEY



Sunday Morning Services at 11 am

DECEMBER 2008

December 7- Living in Peace Beyond the Holidays –

It is the start of the season of peace and good will. Why limit these fine sentiments to a certain time of year. Rev. Gail will look at some techniques for cultivating more than the holiday spirit of peace.

December 14- Holiday Extravaganza-

Today marks the return of a UU holiday pageant featuring children of all ages taking us on a tour of seasonal holidays around the world. We will also welcome new members on this day. See inside for other holiday events on this date.

December 21 – An Abundance of Celebrations-

Picking up on our pageant, Rev. Gail will lead us on a more philosophical tour of the holidays of the season trying to find the hidden themes in outward ritual

December 24 – Christmas Eve at UUCFL-

At this **6:00 p.m.** service, we will celebrate a UU version of a Moravian Love Feast. Started at the UU Church in Atlanta, GA, this lovely service of music, story and candlelight should be a joy for all ages.

December 28 – This Year, I Will ...-

Moving beyond the idea of New Year's resolutions, Rev. Gail will try to suggest some ways our habits and behaviors can really change for the better for our own lives and for our community.

January 4 - Learning from Science and the Humanities-

Continuing our look at how the UU living traditions can have practical applications in our lives, Rev. Gail will look at how our understandings from science and the humanities can increasing our spiritual vision.

