



# SOUNDS OF THE SEA NEWSLETTER



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST

DECEMBER 1, 2009

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 158

CHURCH OF CORPUS  
CHRISTI,

6901 HOLLY ROAD,  
CORPUS

CHRISTI, TEXAS 78414

MINISTER :

REVEREND PHILIP

DOUGLAS

*BUILDING A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY  
TO LIBERATE AND CULTIVATE THE HUMAN SPIRIT*

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00 AM ONE SERVICE ONLY  
SUNDAY MORNING 11:00 AM CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & NURSERY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 FIRST SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON,  
BRING A DISH AND STAY TO SHARE LUNCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 GUEST SPEAKER

**EARLY DEADLINES FOR ORDER OF SERVICE IN DECEMBER:**

Due to holiday closings at Parkdale Printing, information for orders of service for the December 24th, 27th, and January 3rd will be the Tuesday of the preceding week, December 22nd and 29th, respectively, so that copies can be made on those Wednesdays. Deadline for all other Sundays in December will be Thursdays as usual. Thanks for helping get these compiled in a timely fashion.  
~~Barbara Briody

SAND AND FOAM

REVEREND  
PHILIP DOUGLAS

PHILIP.DOUGLAS@  
GMAIL.COM

817-456-6404

CHURCH OFFICE:

986-8855

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

The holidays have a mystique of their own don't they? It's a wonderful time of the year. Here at U2C3, we have been working hard, it seems, all autumn long, on fundraisers and dinners and self-organization, with projects and programs and initiatives. We should all be so proud of ourselves! I hope we can relax and enjoy the holidays, with the opportunities to reconnect with friends and relatives, sharing meals and gifts and parties.

We will be having particularly rich worship. This Sunday we will celebrate Advent, it's the second Sunday of Advent. Then on the thirteenth, we will explore some Buddhist traditions with KLEZMER, FOR BODHI DAY AND HANUKKAH. On the twentieth, the children will present a Winter Solstice program from one of the Pagan traditions. We will have a Christmas Eve service, with candles and the dedication of children, which I'm really looking forward to. A person could get carried away.

Of course, I for one need to be aware of how I react to the holiday mystique, because it is easy to have it take me over. Last February or so, KIRK NEWPORT and I were thinking about shedding our holiday weight gain, and he challenged me to a race to our more ideal weight. A race which I rather spectacularly lost about last August, when I had officially put on six more pounds, having not lost any. With trips to the gym and portion control, I am getting back down to the size of my wardrobe, which is a relief. But, I take this as a cautionary tale, and offer it to you in the same spirit. I enjoy the holidays more if I am mindful of myself in them. I would not want to wake up mid-January 2010, broke and bloated, with a vague feeling that something happened and now I have to pay for it.

It's a much more enjoyable season when I mindfully and deliberately choose activities to be involved in, and participate fully and freely. So, let me wish you all to be mindful during the holidays.

I am also aware that the holidays, with their high expectations and big disruptions, can produce highs and lows that are hard on the tender self. So let me remind you that your minister is always on call to help.

It's a great privilege to be your minister. Take good care of yourselves and see you Sunday!

LOVE AND PEACE AND SWELL THOUGHTS, PHIL

## RECONNECTIONS: YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

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**RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION  
DIRECTOR:**

**LAUREN CANTATORE-  
CAUSEY**

**EMAIL CONTACT :**

**CAUSEMOUSE@AOL.COM**

### **GREETINGS!**

**Our winter holidays are quickly approaching! It's easy to get caught up in the mad rush of preparations and forget that one of the most important gifts we can give our children is time. Try to make some time to enjoy the simple pleasures of the season, such as singing carols along with the radio or making a paper snowflake for the window.**

**This Christmas season, we will collect needed items for the homeless people served by "The Station" coffee house in downtown Corpus Christi. "The Station" is part of the United Campus Ministry of Corpus Christi. A list of items needed will be posted in the hallway by the Religious Education table. Donations will be gratefully accepted until December 20, so they can be wrapped and delivered before Christmas. This is a great opportunity to help your child learn how wonderful it feels to assist someone in need.**

**On December 13 our annual Christmas Store will be open immediately following the service. The store gives the kids a chance to do some Christmas shopping for mom, dad and other favorite people. A gift-wrapping station will be available for the kids. To make this event a success, we need donations of small new or like-new items. This is an excellent opportunity to clean out your drawers and closets and recycle things that aren't being used. Volunteers are gladly welcomed to help with wrapping.**

**On December 20 the children and youth will participate in a special intergenerational Winter Solstice service with assistance from our CUUPS (Covenant of UU Pagans) church members.**

**Have a peaceful and safe holiday!**

**PEACE,  
LAUREN**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

LOOK ON OUR WEBSITE:  
HTTP://WWW.UUCORPUS.ORG  
FOR SMALL GROUPS  
DATES AND TIMES, OR  
OTHER CHURCH GROUPS

**DECEMBER 5**  
ENCOUNTER POINT  
MOVIE @ CHURCH  
7:00 PM

**DECEMBER 6,**  
FIRST SUNDAY  
POTLUCK LUNCHEON

**DECEMBER 13**  
CHILDREN'S  
CHRISTMAS STORE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A  
CALENDAR EVENT ON THE  
CHURCH WEBSITE, FIRST  
CONTACT JUDY SYKES AT  
853-7992 OR BOBBI REED,  
REEDS77@STX.RR.COM  
TO MAKE SURE THERE  
ISN'T A CONFLICT OF  
OTHER EVENTS.

FOR ORDER OF SERVICE  
ANNOUNCEMENTS, SEND  
TO BARBARA BRIODY AT  
MSBRIODY@GMAIL.COM

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, FILM AND DISCUSSION**

On Saturday December 5, the award winning documentary "ENCOUNTER POINT" will be shown in the Church at 7:00pm.  
The film is a true story of the every day leaders who refuse to sit back as the Israeli-Palestine conflict escalates. It is a personalized report of the experience of four citizen victims of the struggle.  
The New York Times reviewer of the film praised it as "Assured, thoughtful and clear-eyed ....This film may prompt others to take up the cause"

This is a "must see" film; do not miss this opportunity to witness it. Please bring a friend or two. There will be refreshments, discussion, fellowship and admission is free!.

The film is sponsored by SACO, Tikkun and the Progressive Populace Caucus

For more information call 853-7992, 949-2810 or 992-1535 ---COLIN SYKES

**MISSION STATEMENT**

At the last congregational meeting a new mission statement was introduced.

At that time it was decided that we would take time to consider and make comments about the proposed mission statement.

Therefore, MARGARET LUCERO is asking you to send your comments to her - at the email address [CHINHOUSE8002@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CHINHOUSE8002@GMAIL.COM). MARGARET will collect all the comments and give them to the Mission Task Force. Please make sure your comments are specific with your reasons for the requested change and where possible, suggestions for alternative wording. The proposed mission statement is as follows:

*The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi is to nurture the spirit and to so embody our values of justice, peace, environmental sustainability, and love that the passion and power of our active witness becomes woven into the fabric of the larger community. We are an intentionally welcoming community of learning, service, and celebration. We learn, we lead, we love.*

**BAKE SALE DECEMBER 21**

BAKE SALE to be held Sunday, December 21, after church services.  
Seasonal goodies, cookies, cakes, candy, and German Stollen bread.

If you would like to bake something to donate, please call [DIANE MASTERS 991-2746](tel:991-2746), OR [JESSICA LATIMER 993-6013](tel:993-6013).

*Blessed is the season which  
engages the whole world in  
a conspiracy of love.*

*I heard the bells on  
Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols  
play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth,  
good will to men.*

### **HEB CARDS AND MILLION PENNY FUND**

At our Sunday service on November 29, KIRK NEWPORT spoke on the meaning of the holiday season and how it makes us stop and think about what we are thankful for. That reminded Bobbi Reed of how thankful she is to all of you who have purchased HEB cards throughout the year. As most of you know, sales of HEB cards make for an easy and profitable fundraiser for the church. For every \$25,000 worth of cards that our church sells, HEB gives the church back \$1,000. Over the last couple of years the church has come close to selling that many four times a year. The church is just shy by a few hundred dollars worth. So that means about \$3,500 or so a year that comes to the church thanks to folks like you, the steady Eddies who line up every Sunday to buy an HEB card for the week's grocery shopping. They're good for gasoline and prescriptions also, and come in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100. So thank you, thank you, and thank you!

Bobbi Reed is also thankful to many of you who empty your pockets of loose change into our Million Penny Fund jar. Some of you even save up and bring in big bags and jars of pennies! It is another painless way to bring in a little extra money for the church. So a big tip of the hat to all of you penny hoarders who are willing to share them with us.

And most of all, Bobbi is thankful for a congregation that is filled with warm and friendly people that support all of the fundraising efforts of our church. Happy Holidays, ~~~ Bobbi Reed, HEB Hat Lady

### **NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESS AWARENESS WEEK**

National Hunger and Homelessness Week was recognized in Corpus Christi by the CROP Walk "Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty" and by the HIP Walk "Homeless Issues Partnership", and our church was represented at each event. Money was collected for CROP by church members and friends, for a total of \$455.00

A dozen or so church members marched bearing the new Church Banner, which is currently a work in progress, thanks to great stitchery by BARBARA BRIODY. The money for CROP will go to the C.C. Food Bank and to the U.U. Service Committee. Thanks are due to all who contributed and/or marched.

COLIN SYKES walked for HIP, but notification of the event did not come in a timely notice to involve the congregation. It was a valuable opportunity to network with some of the local clergy.

We marched from the Loaves and Fishes building on Leopard Street to the City Hall to receive a Proclamation from MAYOR ADAME.

COLIN said he was struck by the irony that surely, hunger and homelessness have no place in the richest country that the World has ever seen, but such is life in these United States.

~~~COLIN SYKES



## WOMEN'S GROUP, DECEMBER

*"One kind word can warm  
three winter months."*

**There will not be a December meeting of the Women's Group. We will start our fellowship again in January 2010.**



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| DECEMBER 4  | MADISON MARTIN |
| DECEMBER 7  | BOBBI REED     |
| DECEMBER 8  | CASEY DATH     |
| DECEMBER 12 | GABRIEL RUIZ   |
| DECEMBER 15 | DIANE WEINER   |
| DECEMBER 26 | COLIN SYKES    |
| DECEMBER 27 | CHERI RANDALL  |
| DECEMBER 31 | FRANK REILLY   |



### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

|             |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| DECEMBER 27 | DEBORAH SUNDERMANN AND SCOTT CHERRY |
| DECEMBER 30 | BOBBI AND MIKE REED                 |

*"The leafless trees sway-  
A warm and windy  
Winter's day -  
grackles chattering."*

### ★ ★ ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY'S, ANNIVERSARIES ★ ★

IF YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE NEWSLETTER, OR WOULD LIKE YOUR BIRTHDAY DATE AND AN ANNIVERSARY LISTED, PLEASE EMAIL

**DEBBIE NEWPORT AT [KNDCCCTEX@YAHOO.COM](mailto:KNDCCCTEX@YAHOO.COM)**

*It is tenderness  
for the past,  
courage for  
the present,  
hope for the future.  
It is a fervent wish that  
every cup may overflow  
with blessings  
rich and eternal,  
and that every path  
may lead to peace*

## CONTACTS FOR THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

### MINISTER

**REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS**

IF YOU NEED TO REACH THE MINISTER, THE BEST WAY IS TO CALL **817-456-6404**. FRIDAY IS HIS DAY OFF, BUT HE IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE FOR AN EMERGENCY. HE IS GENERALLY IN THE OFFICE AT CHURCH MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY MORNINGS.

**CHURCH WEBSITE** [HTTP://WWW.UUCORPUS.ORG/](http://www.uucorpus.org/)

**CHURCH PHONE** **986-8855**

**DIRECTOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** LAUREN CANTATORE-CAUSEY

**CHOIR DIRECTOR** DR. KIMBERLY BISSELL

**PIANIST** LORRIE PIERCE

**BAND** JOE PIERCE

**CHURCH COMPUTER AV TEAM** AVTEAM@UUCORPUS.ORG

**NEWSLETTER / CHURCH DIRECTORY** DEBBIE NEWPORT

**CHURCH CALENDAR** JUDY SYKES / BOBBI REED

**PRESIDENT** MARGARET LUCERO **VICE PRESIDENT** BILL RANDALL

**TREASURER** WILLIAM BODRUG **SECRETARY** MARGARET LAWRENCE

**MEMBER** JERRY JONES **MEMBER** CARROLL PATE

**BUILDING** SHARON PURCELL

**HOSPITALITY** MARILYN BREMSER

**CANVASS** JUDY PATE

**FINANCES** WILLIAM BODRUG, JEAN EVANS

**WEBSITE UPDATES** DEBBIE NEWPORT

**GROUNDS** KIP FOSS

**LAY MINISTRY** AGNES MAIER

**ENDOWMENT** VINCE MUSCARELLO, JOHN KENNEDY, ED GROVE

**FIRST SUNDAY LUNCHEONS** STEPHANIE RUIZ

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE (MEMBERSHIP)** JESSICA LATIMER

**SOCIAL ACTION COMMUNITY- OUTREACH** COLIN SYKES

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

6901 HOLLY ROAD CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78414

**WE'RE ON THE WEB! CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR SMALL GROUP GATHERING DATES**

[HTTP://WWW.UUCORPUS.ORG](http://www.uucorpus.org)

### **“BELOVED COMMUNITY”**

***THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY FREELY GATHERS TO LIVE OUT A SHARED MINISTRY. EVERY HUMAN BEING IS SACRED AND IS CALLED TO THE TASKS AND JOYS OF LOVE. WE DO NOT LIMIT THE TRUTH OF GOD (EVEN TO THE WORD “GOD”) BUT LIVE IN OPENNESS AND BELIEF IN HUMAN FREEDOM AND DIGNITY. WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF LIFE, AND JOIN IN TAKING ON THE SUFFERINGS OF A FRAGILE WORLD. WE ARE THIS GENERATION’S BEARERS OF AN ETERNAL MESSAGE: THAT TRUTH MUST GROW, ENLARGE, AND GLOW IN CREATIVE FREEDOM. REVELATION HAS NOT BEEN SEALED. IT IS LIVED ANEW IN EVERY HEART, INCLUDING YOUR OWN. AND THROUGH OUR TRANSFORMED HEARTS, AWAKENED SOULS AND ACTS OF LOVE, EMERGES, THE BELOVED COMMUNITY.***





