



## Sounds of the Sea Newsletter



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

June 1, 2011 Volume 101, Number 172

CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,

6901 HOLLY ROAD, CORPUS  
CHRISTI, TEXAS 78414  
<http://uucorpus.org/>

CHURCH PASTOR:  
REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS

*“Our mission is to nurture the spirit within us and among us, to welcome all who share our covenant, and to embody our values of love, justice, peace, and respect for the earth, in order to transform the world. We learn, we lead, we love.”*

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00 AM (ONE SERVICE ONLY)

SUNDAY MORNING 11:00 AM CHILDREN’S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & NURSERY

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS  
*“UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM AT HOME”*

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS  
*“THE NEW HUMANISTS”*

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

REVEREND PHIL DOUGLAS  
*“FATHER’S DAY”*

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

MIKE REED  
*“DUSTY ANSWERS FOR THE SOUL”*

## SAND AND FOAM

Members and Friends,

In case you missed it, Saturday, May 21, was thought to have been the end of the world by the followers of a radio evangelist in Oakland, a Mr. Harold Camping. At 6 PM, Susan and I were having dinner at a nice little place just off of 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin, there to celebrate our anniversary and swap pulpits with my treasured colleague, the Reverend Eliza Galiher. I was disappointed, and surprised by my disappointment. I really didn't expect anything to happen, but then felt strangely let down. Because nothing out of the ordinary at all happened.

Apparently, this belief in the end of the world, and the many inaccurate predictions thereof, (well, I guess it is fair to say that ALL of the predictions have been inaccurate) is a product of what's called evangelical premillennial dispensationalism, an interpretation of selected scriptures with an apocalyptic view of eschatology. In this view, the chosen, elect, or saved people will be taken up in a rapture and the rest will be left behind to face a time of tribulation before the final judgment.

This point of view is very popular. There are sixteen books in the "Left Behind" series of novels that are based on these notions. Sixty-five million books of these books have been sold, plus graphic novels, DVD's, video games, and, I guess, action figures.

Reminds me of a Buddhist story. It seems that three Bodhisattvas, three beings who had achieved enlightenment, came upon a high wall in the forest. Climbing up, the first peered over the wall and exclaimed that Nirvana was on the other side and dived over. The second climbed to the top of the wall, saw that it was indeed paradise, and also jumped across. The third climbed to the top of the wall and looking back, had so much compassion for the suffering world that he could not leave it thus. And so declined to enter heaven for the sake of all those he would leave behind.

So, the truly enlightened ones are here among us, not left behind, but staying behind. I think some of them are members of our church.

**Love and Peace and Swell Thoughts,**  
**PHIL**

**REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS**  
Office: 986-8855  
Cell: 817-456-6404  
philip.douglas@gmail.com

## **Reconnection: Youth Religious Education News**

Greetings,

Summer is almost here! Our last Sunday of regular classes will be on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Our summer program will start on June 26<sup>th</sup>. It is a workshop series called "Gather the Spirit" which is that explores the importance of water. It addresses spiritual and environmental aspects, as well as inequity of access to clean water on a global level. Through various activities, participants learn that stewardship of Earth's water resources is not just critical, but possible.

*It's not too late to sign up for Summer Camps at U-Bar-U!*

SWUUC will offer summer camps for ages 8-19 at three separate camps again in July 2011. For more information and registration, visit the SWUUC website at [www.swuuc.org](http://www.swuuc.org) or contact me.

### **SWUUC Primary Camp**

July 3 - 9 - U Bar U  
rising 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders

### **SWUUC Junior Camp**

July 10 - 16 - U Bar U  
rising 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders

### **SWUUC Senior Camp**

July 17 - 23 - U Bar U  
rising 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders, 19 year olds who've just graduated

I would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers that helped make this year a success. Our teachers included Wes Burkett, Angela Leach and Stephanie Ruiz (Preschool), Jim Fugate, Matt Oakes-Randall and Christy Stockman (Elementary), and Druzy Casper, Michael Causey and Sanford Jacques (Middle and High school). Thanks also to everyone who donated supplies, snacks, time and talent to our program. It is very much appreciated!

**Have a great summer!**

**Peace,  
Lauren**

**RE Director: Lauren Cantatore-Causey**  
Church Office: 986- 8855  
Cell: 210-831-7820  
[causemouse@aol.com](mailto:causemouse@aol.com)

## WOMEN'S GROUP

**Women's Group will not gather this month.**  
*Stay tuned for July's meeting information in next month's Newsletter.*

*The Women's Group welcomes all women. We meet the second Monday of the month, and one month we meet for lunch and the next we meet for dinner, to accommodate different life-styles.*

## YOGA CLASS

Wednesday's Yoga Class has been canceled indefinitely due to low attendance.  
Sorry for any inconvenience.

There is still a "FREE" Yoga class held on Friday's at the Church from 1:00pm-2:00pm.  
Hope to see you there!

**For more information contact: Jim or Pam Donnelly at 949-3448.**

## HUMANIST ENRICHMENT GROUP

The humanist group will take a break for the summer,  
and we'll resume our meetings in September.

--Thanks,  
Mike Reed

## LOST AND FOUND

If you have lost something at church, look in the kitchen near the phone. Several umbrellas are there....it may rain again!

## ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

Don't forget to buy your **HEB Gift Cards** from Bobbi Reed on Sunday mornings. Every dollar earns the church \$.04 so as our treasurer pointed out....that's almost \$.15 for each gallon of gas that you buy at an HEB gas station! They are great gifts also. Several denominations are available.

**Igive** is another program from which we earn money on internet purchases. Go to the website at **igive.com** and continue to Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi. It's easy to sign up and follow for us to receive credit which accumulates quarterly.

The site offers different amounts of dollar credit for just about everything that you order via the internet.....merchandise, travel, car rentals, etc., etc.

## GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Grounds Committee is looking for volunteers for the upcoming year.  
Help is needed for any amount or combination of mowing, trimming or watering. Even if you can only come out once or twice over the year, it would be a big help.

**If you can help, contact Kirk Newport: 887-7569.**

## U2C3 TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION ~ MAY 15, 2011

In preparation for this report I reviewed the three congregation reports since 2008. Those reports were pretty upbeat, showing that we were in good or very good shape. This year's report is more sober. I am concerned about our ability to maintain our current and future programs.

I would like to use the statement of operating cash flow that was handed out at the start of the meeting to illustrate my concerns. The news is not all bad. The first two lines of the statement, income from plate collections and new pledges, are considerably over budget. While the total dollar increase is not large it reflects the healthy increases in attendance and the early influx of new members. Another good sign is that our fund raising activities, shown as other fundraising, is well over budget and just slightly under the number for the same period last year. More about that in a minute. The bad news is that receipts from pledges are below budget by more than \$6,800 and they are behind last year's intake by \$17,700. We have stayed whole so far by virtue of \$8,400 of 2010 pledges that were not paid until 2011 and by \$1,025 from our fall service auction that was not received until this year. That's great for now but we cannot count on a similar situation in the first part of 2012. My first plea is for our members to keep their pledges up to date or even consider increasing their donations above the pledge amount. And it goes without saying that it would be great if you paid your summer pledges before you go on vacation.

You may recall that our pledge goal last fall was \$155,000. We did not come close to meeting that figure. Last November at budget time I was desperately hoping that we would get \$140,000 and, in fact, we received only \$137,600 in pledges. So we started the year knowing we had a budget deficit of \$2,400. Since then we have lost a further \$5,100 to deaths, departures and resignations. We have the reserves to deal with these kinds of events but we need to reestablish a higher level of pledge income. So my next plea is to all members but particularly to the soon to be formed 2012 canvass committee to significantly increase the level of pledge income for 2012.

Finally, let me talk about fundraising. 2010 was an excellent year for fundraising. That activity helped create a cash surplus that is supporting us in 2011. I did not budget for the same high level in 2011 because I felt it would be unfair to put too much pressure on the new fund raising chair or chairs. As much as we need the income from fundraising we cannot have these activities become a matter of income at all costs. The fund raisers this year have not been as well attended as the ones in 2010 but they have been of very high quality and enjoyed by the guests and organizers alike. My next plea to the congregation: please support our fund raising events with your attendance. Bring your friends as well. To the organizers of the events: keep them fun and affordable.

One other fundraising activity that we talk about often is the HEB gift cards. Sales of gift cards this year are slightly under budget. We should be able to increase sales. For example, how many of you use the cards to buy your gas? Heb prices are equal to or lower than other retailers and you could be giving 4% or almost 15 cents per gallon to the church at the current gas prices.

If we are going to pursue the long term strategies that were approved today and build on the vitality in our church life we must find the means to finance our progress.

I have talked only about the income section of the operating statement. The expenditures are, as usual, well under control and the significant variances have been noted. If any of you have questions about anything on the statement do not hesitate to call me.

Thank you,

William Bodrug  
**Treasurer**  
949-6790

## HOORAY FOR THE BUTTERFLY BALL!

Thanks go out to all who helped make this May 21<sup>st</sup> event a memorable evening of fun. Entering through the butterfly adorned entry we found the sanctuary transformed into a glittery ballroom with beautifully decorated tables surrounding the dance floor. The little people got the dancing started but soon even the oldsters were inspired to fill the dance floor to the wonderful music provided by none other than our own talented musicians. Should we call them the UU Sensations? Sensational they were! Vocalists Deanne Pierce, Susan Boozer and MC songstress Pam Donnelly were backed by Joe Pierce, Ed Mehollin, Fernando Figueroa on guitars and Jack Thorn on the drums. What talent we have in our congregation.

*Special thanks are due to the organizer, Deborah Sundermann but also to all the people who helped with this evening.*

*Not designed as a big fundraiser, the church did realize over \$500 for this fun event.*

## CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR SUMMER HOURS

The kiddos are out of school so I've had to make a few changes to my work schedule. You can still send an e-mail anytime, but if you need to get in touch with me directly, I will be at the Church during the following hours:

**Monday: 12:00pm-3:30pm**  
**Wednesday: 12:00pm-3:30pm**  
**Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm**

I will also be posting my monthly schedule on my office door which will include some days that I may be out for a summer vacation.

**Thank You**  
**and**  
**Have a Great Summer!**

**Imelda Elizalde – Church Administrator**  
**Office: 986-8855 Email: [chrchdmn@gmail.com](mailto:chrchdmn@gmail.com)**

## U2C3 CHURCH DIRECTORY

Please check your Church Directory Listing on the website to ensure all information is correct. It is updated monthly. If you have missing info, not listed, moved or don't want specific information included in the directory, please contact me:

**Imelda Elizalde – Church Administrator**  
**Office: 986-8855 Email: [chrchdmn@gmail.com](mailto:chrchdmn@gmail.com)**

## PATH TO MEMBERSHIP

If you're interested in becoming a Church Member of the  
**Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi**  
please come by and visit us or join us for our monthly  
Path to Membership Meeting.

Our Next Meeting is:  
**June 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm**



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Debbie Cannatella
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Cherry
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Carla Straube
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	David Randall
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pete Braswell
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Monica Vaughn
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Deanne Pierce
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Deborah Sudermann



### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Deanne and John Pierce
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sonia and Richard McLaughlin
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Monica Vaughan and Roberto Alaniz
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Marlet and Kevin Dath
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Judy and Colin Sykes

☆☆☆☆ ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES ☆☆☆☆

If you have an announcement for the newsletter, or would like your birthday date and/or an anniversary listed, please contact me:

**Imelda Elizalde – Church Administrator**  
Office: 986-8855  
Email: [chrchdmn@gmail.com](mailto:chrchdmn@gmail.com)

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI  
6901 HOLLY ROAD CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78414  
(361) 986-8855

### Contacts

**MINISTER** REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS

IF YOU NEED TO REACH THE MINISTER, THE BEST WAY IS TO CALL 1-817-456-6404.

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.

**DIRECTOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** LAUREN CANTATORE-CAUSEY

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR/NEWSLETTER, CALENDAR,  
AND DIRECTORY, WEBSITE UPDATES** IMELDA ELIZADE

**CHOIR DIRECTOR** DR. KIMBERLY BISSELL

**PIANIST** LORRIE PIERCE

**BAND** JOE PIERCE

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

**BOARD PRESIDENT** CARRIE ALEXANDAR

**BOARD VICE PRESIDENT** DEANNE PIERCE

**BOARD TREASURER** WILLIAM BODRUG

**BOARD SECRETARY** JEAN CHASTAIN

**TRUSTEE AT LARGE** MARGARET LAWRENCE

**TRUSTEE AT LARGE** DIANA MASTERS

**TRUSTEE AT LARGE** RICHARD McLAUGHLIN

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE** JUAN MIGUEL WILBURN

**HOSPITALITY** Harley Doerfler

**BUILDING** SHARON PURCELL

**CANVASS** JUDY PATE

**FINANCES** WILLIAM BODRUG AND JEAN EVANS

**GROUNDS** KIRK NEWPORT

**LAY MINISTRY** AGNES MAIER

**ENDOWMENT** JUDY PATE, DEANNE PIERCE AND RICHARD McLAUGHLIN

**MEMBERSHIP** REV. PHILIP DOUGLAS AND MERILYN BREMSER

**SOCIAL ACTION COMMUNITY- OUTREACH** DAVID BARTLETT



### “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.

