

Sounds Of The Sea

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

SOUNDS OF THE SEA IS PUBLISHED

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BY THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: DR. SHERI PHILLABAUM

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: JESSICA LATIMER

NEWSLETTER AND DIRECTORY: DEBBIE NEWPORT

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NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI
FEBRUARY 1, 2007 VOLUME 101, No 125



*Building a welcoming and affirming religious community
To Liberate and Cultivate the Human Spirit*



**SUNDAYS 10 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE 11:30 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND NURSERY**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

REVEREND DAVID FARRINGTON

**ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:00 AM WITH A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER SERVICE
FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH AT 11:30 AM PROVIDED BY THE WOMEN'S GROUP**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

REVEREND DAVID FARRINGTON

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

REVEREND DAVID FARRINGTON

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

REVEREND DAVID FARRINGTON

DON'T FORGET THESE EVENTS:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

POPCORN THEOLOGY AT 7:00 PM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

WOMEN'S GROUP 7:00 PM (SEE ARTICLE)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

STUDY GROUP ON RABBI LERNER'S BOOK

IN THE INTERIM

GREETINGS,

REMEMBERING THE GOOD TIMES BY PLANNING THE FUTURE

The holidays are now well past and the new year is upon us. It is time to begin the future in earnest and with intention. Soon a neighbor will call upon you, not to solicit money or a covered dish, not even to fill a vacancy on some board or committee, but to chat – to remember the “good times” as a means of carrying us into our future.

Traditionally, we would seek to identify what needs improving, what is “wrong.” The problem with this very logical approach is that it creates a mindset which is fundamentally negative. Using that traditional approach, a Board member in an earlier church said (with some considerable passion in his voice), “I love this church. Sure, there is always room for improvement, but I’m tired of hearing about what is wrong with us. There is a lot that is good, too!” He was, of course, quite right.

So we are focusing on the good times – the successes, the joy and the fun filled moments of the past.

Not that all were fun. Many important decisions get decided by majority rule. In the larger scale, state and national elections for example, it is a practical and speedy process. We have even learned to live with the consequences of creating “losers.” Indeed, we regularly make a game of losing. In Massachusetts some years back, many of us gleefully sported the bumper sticker: *Don’t Blame Us, We Voted for McGovern.*

The principle reason consensus building has come into common use in smaller organizations is that it avoids creating a class of “losers.” In such organizations, creating losers can be devastating. Subtle, even overt, anger causes some people to lessen their commitment and involvement as they feel cheated of something which, heretofore, had been a source of spiritual nourishment and personal fulfillment.

By focusing on the good times we will not ignore these situations. Rather shall identify those affected and, if we can not restore them to feelings of good will, hopefully we will be able to learn from them as a means of preventing similar situations in the future.

As a result of inquiring about the good times we cause our earlier experiences of success and fun to appreciate in value. Hence, the name of the process – *Appreciative Inquiry*. Whatever enabled our earlier successes is identified and put to work to ensure an even more successful and fun-filled future.

Please -- be sure to join the effort, and become a part of our vibrant future, as many of you were in our exciting past and others are certain to be as we grow together into a new era of joy – and the fun of a mysterious, unknown future!

BLESSINGS,

DAVE



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY 2 CORINNE (CLIF) AUVINEN
FEBRUARY 4 LUELLA HEWITT
FEBRUARY 11 MARILYN BODRUG
FEBRUARY 17 LOIS WRIGHTSMAN
FEBRUARY 20 DEBBIE NEWPORT
FEBRUARY 20 MARGARET LAWRENCE
FEBRUARY 20 AMELIA TULLER
FEBRUARY 24 TOM BOOKOUT

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

The Congregational Team had a meeting this past Saturday with Reverend Farrington. The following people were brought into membership of U2C3, SONIA AND RICHARD MCLAUGHLIN, AND ALSO GINNY AND HARRY SHAW. If you have already met them, please welcome them as members, if you haven't met them, now is the time! We welcome them into the fellowship of our church and of our church community.



LOST AND FOUND BOX

A "lost and found" box is located in the kitchen, and it is beginning to overflow. If you have misplaced a jacket, some eyeglasses, an umbrella, or various other items, please check the box and retrieve your item

YOGA CLASSES

Our church has ongoing Yoga Classes being taught by EVY COPPOLA on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday's at 9:00 am and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. All classes are 90 minutes and will cost \$35 for 4 classes during the month or 8 classes during the month for \$62. You and a partner can sign up together for the 8 classes monthly as well.

Instructor EVY COPPOLA, is an experienced registered yoga teacher, with training in several yoga styles. She is a Holistic Health Counselor, Nutritionist and owner/facilitator at Pathways To Wellness Yoga & Natural Health Center. JOIN EVY for this great opportunity for a healthy direction with a holistic approach to Yoga. EVY is a registered teacher through the Yoga Alliance (see WWW.YOGAALLIANCE.ORG) is a highly qualified individual. All level students from beginners to advanced will benefit from her teaching style incorporating yoga flow, solar yoga, psycho-physicals, asanas, yoga breathing techniques, guided relaxation, balancing and focus, strength building and more. Call EVY at 361-949- 4790 or 361-880-6555 to register and also check out her website WWW.PATH2WELLNESS.COM

STUDY GROUP MEETING FEBRUARY 8 ABOUT RABBI LERNER'S BOOK

On Thursday, February 8, at 7:00 pm we will have an introduction to a book study group around RABBI LERNER'S book "The Left Hand of God—Taking Back Our Country From the Religious Right." It will be here at the church in the sanctuary. A short DVD will be shown and study groups organized. For added information email TOM BOOKOUT TBBOKOUT1@YAHOO.COM.

POPCORN THEOLOGY PRESENTS "THE WARRIOR ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 7:00 PM AT OUR UU CHURCH.

A beautifully filmed tale set in feudal India, *The Warrior* tells the story of a man who must decide whether to follow the orders of his cruel boss or do the right thing and put his own life in danger. When Lafcadia realizes he can no longer kill innocent people whose only crime is being poor, he defies his warlord's orders to annihilate a village that has been unable to pay its taxes. Filmed in 2001 by director Asif Kapadia and presented by Anthony Minghella--who, like Quentin Tarantino, is fond of attaching his name to smaller films that may otherwise get overlooked--*The Warrior* manages to tell a violent story without depicting very much on-screen carnage. Kapadia's subtle direction shows that the viewer's imagination often is more potent than anything Hollywood can dream up. As the hunted warrior Lafcadia, Irfan Khan is a stoically heroic presence. We do not sympathize with what Lafcadia has done in the past, but we empathize with his trying to right his wrongs. Rated: "R" due to a few violent scenes. Run Time: 87 minutes.

PENNY FUND

Thanks to everyone who has been participating in our 1 Million Penny Fund Drive . It continues to grow! Our total to date is: 133,282 or \$1,332.82. We accept pennies, nickels, quarters, 50-cent pieces, and, hey, even greenbacks, so save your change during the week, and then drop it in the penny jar on Sunday. The penny jar is on the table near the HEB HAT LADY.



Thanks and a tip of the hat to all! __BOBBI REED PENNY COUNTER

SOCIAL ACTION (SACO)

Habitat for Humanity will have two building projects operational in mid February, and are looking to us to provide volunteers for Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday's.

The hours are flexible, and all skill levels including "no skills", will be welcomed and much appreciated.

Please call COLIN to let him know of your interest to volunteer **ONE DAY OR ALL FOUR** at 853-7992

__COLIN SYKES

SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS: MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT WORKSHOP MARCH 30 THRU APRIL 1 2007

A new series of workshops will take place at the U Bar U Retreat and Conference Center, located in the heart of the fabled Hill Country. Led by REVEREND TOM CAPO AND MARTHA KIRBY CAPO, the "SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS: MIND, BODY, SPIRIT" workshop series begins with a weekend retreat on Prayer and Meditation. Specifically designed for Unitarian Universalist's, workshops in the series also include Personal Mission and Vision; Deepening Your Theology; and a couples workshop, Spiritual Journeys in Partnership.

An ordained UU minister, REVEREND TOM has been in private psychotherapy practice for over 25 years. He has led several workshops for NASA and at SWUUSI. Martha Kirby Capo is an award-winning, published poet and lyricist whose work has appeared in *The Aureorean*, *Texas Poetry Calendar 2000 and 2003*, *Curbside Review* and several Poet Works Press volumes.

The Prayer and Meditation workshop will allow you to expand and deepen the experience of prayer and meditation. We will take time through didactic presentations and multiple experiential opportunities to consider more thoroughly what it means to pray and meditate. The Prayer and Meditation workshop will be held Friday, March 30, through Sunday, April 1, 2007. The cost is \$150 per person. To learn more about the "SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS: MIND, BODY, SPIRIT" workshops or to register, please contact REVEREND TOM AT 281-468-2800 OR AT TCAPO@HOUSTON.RR.COM

RECONNECTIONS: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE:

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Guest-at-your-Table program. The totals haven't been tallied yet, but it's looking good! The money collected will go to fund worthwhile service projects throughout the world.

CHURCH PALS

Everyone should have gotten their invitations to the church pals Valentine's/identity-revelation party February 11. If you participated in this program and will not be able to come to the party, please contact SHERI PHILLABAUM, 992-8048, ASAP!

FEBRUARY 4:

Don't forget that the first Sunday of the month, February 4, there will be no second service and therefore no second-service RE. Children and youth will begin in the service for "Time for all Ages," then go to their regular first-service curriculum classrooms.

REMEMBER! THIS IS YOUR PROGRAM!

Questions, concerns, suggestions, (kudos?) may be directed to DRE SHERI or to any member of the religious education committee:

WAYMAN TOOLES

LOIS WRIGHTSMAN

KELLY RUSSELL

DORA WILBURN

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

First let me remind you that there is a brief congregational meeting after the single service at 10:00 am on Sunday, February 4 but before the First Sunday Lunch at 11:30 am. The meeting will be to elect a Standing Nominating Committee for our church.

I have found myself becoming a conduit for who should contact whom in our church so I thought it would be good to just list the leaders of committees and the persons to contact for your various needs.

The Board members are MARGARET LUCERO, MARY GLEASON, TOM BOOKOUT, WAYMAN TOOLES - SECRETARY, ROY ELLZEY -TREASURER, KIRK NEWPORT -VICE PRESIDENT AND PAT HUDSON - PRESIDENT.

Concern's about the building or supplies that are part of the usual function of building maintenance, contact BILL RANDALL - BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.

To help in cutting the grass or working on the grounds in any way, contact TOM BOOKOUT - GROUNDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.

To participate in the music, contact DR. KIM BISSELL FOR THE CHOIR AND CAMDEN PLUM FOR THE BAND.

To participate with any Social Action, such as Timmons, which helps feed the homeless, contact COLIN SYKES HEAD OF THE SOCIAL ACTION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH.

For Membership in joining the church, the person to inform is JESSICA LATIMER, CHAIR OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE.

For snacks during Coffee Hour or Greeting for Sunday Services, contact TOM OR EVELYN BOOKOUT OF THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE.

For Circle 6 Suppers contact NANCY CARLTON AND EVELYN BOOKOUT.

Women's Group monthly dinner contact JESSICA LATIMER and Men's Noon Lunch contact TOM BOOKOUT.

CLINE DAVIS is in charge of the Search Committee but that is all hush-hush, so don't even try to get details about that!

MIKE REED is the contact if you have suggestions about Reverend Farrington's ministry—the Committee on Ministry.

Worship Committee contact DAVID FARRINGTON, who is forming a committee for Sunday Service programs, and would welcome your suggestions and help.

CHARLIE WEST is in charge of the Popcorn Theology - First Friday Movie Night.

For the Enrichment Groups contact MARGARET LAWRENCE for Simplicity, MIKE REED for Humanist Group, and CLINE DAVIS for Early Christianities.

DEBBIE NEWPORT is in charge of the Newsletter and Church Directory; JAN MILLER, the webmaster; and JUDY SYKES for scheduling events and meetings at the church.

If you have a person you wish to nominate for the Thank You Cups, contact PAT HUDSON.

DR. SHERI PHILLABAUM for Religious Education.

Phew! So many hard workers!

I think that covers most of the questions that have come up in the last few months that inspired me to make a list of contact names. If something comes up that I have not thought of, of course, call me, Pat Hudson and I will help you find the right person.

We have an amazing team of committed members who are not the "heads." If you want to pitch in and connect with more people, we would love to have your participation. We do these things because working together for common goals is fun and satisfying on many levels!

BEST WISHES, PAT HUDSON

WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19

Join the Women's Group for fellowship on February 19, 7:00 pm at **SONIA McLAUGHLINS', LOCATED AT 7816 LOVAIN. PLEASE RSVP TO SONIA AT 834-9613** to know how many place settings and tables will be needed. Our meetings are a shared Pot Luck Dinner, which gives you a chance to share your culinary skills. This group welcomes Women of all ages. Hope to see you there.

FIRST SUNDAY LUNCHEON

The First Sunday Luncheon in January was a lot of fun, and was exactly what the Long Range committee was hoping would happen, for people to take time over lunch and to have a nice fellowship with each other. Thanks to the following cooks, MARILYN BODRUG, LINDA FOSS, JESSICA LATIMER, AGNES MAIER, MARY MESSER, DONNA OAKES and to the kitchen helpers, SUELLEN ABAJIAN AND CHERYL MILLER. The process went very well, getting the tables set up, coffee and drinks out, etc. Also, thanks to DAVE BAKKER, who washed all the dishes. It was nice not to have to use paper plates, and throw away all of those paper products. Hope we can go paperless in the future. And thanks to all of the different people who took home the napkins and tablecloths to wash. Everyone pitched in to make it a fun and tasty luncheon. In a couple of more months, the process will seem like clockwork to all of us. LINDA FOSS had a great idea, to collect recipes as we went along this year, and do a cookbook at the end of the year. The Women's Group will be cooking the February 4 luncheon. Put it on your calendar!!!

HEB CARDS

Have you joined the club, yet? It's a wonderful club that anyone can join and it really benefits our church! I'm talking about the Weekly Purchase of HEB Gift Cards Club. No, you're not a member? Well here's all you have to do to belong:

Come to church every Sunday and between the two services, you will find the HEB lady wearing a blue HEB hat. She will be happy to sell you an HEB gift card in the amount of \$100, \$50, or \$20. You can use the cards for anything you buy at HEB such as groceries, prescriptions, and gas. For every \$25,000 worth of cards that we sell, HEB gives us back \$1,000, so it is a great fundraiser. We are at the point now, where we make about \$3,500 a year, and we would really *love* to push that over to \$4,000. That's a pretty easy goal, too, if some new folks join the club. We are fortunate already to have some steady-Eddie members who line up every week to buy their HEB cards—and they feel awful if they miss a Sunday and have to use a check or cash at HEB instead of the card. If you are new to the program, ask the HEB lady to explain it to you—it is very simple and easy to do! And thank you very much to all those who participate in the HEB gift card program!

___BOBBI REED, HEB HAT LADY

POETRY REFLECTIONS

Was it the smile of early spring

That made my bosom glow?

'Twas sweet, but neither sun nor wind

Could raise my spirit so.

Was it some feeling of delight,

All vague and undefined?

No, 'twas a rapture deep and strong,

Expanding in the mind!

- ANNE BRONTE, *In Memory of A Happy Day in February*

