

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI
SOUNDS OF THE SEA IS PUBLISHED BY:

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,
6901 HOLLY ROAD, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78414
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,
6901 HOLLY ROAD, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78414

SOUNDS OF THE SEA



NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 VOLUME 101, No. 143

*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 AND NURSERY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 FIRST SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON
BRING A DISH OF FOOD AND STAY FOR LUNCH

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 WOMEN'S GROUP
JOIN IN FELLOWSHIP WITH ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH AT 7:00 PM IN THE HOME
OF DR. LILLIAN WALDBESER, LOCATED AT 15322 YARDARM COURT. THIS WILL BE
A POTLUCK DINNER. RSVP LILLIAN AT LILLIAN.WALDBESER@TAMUCC.EDU

"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.*

CONTACTS FOR THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

MINISTER REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS AS OF AUGUST 2008
CHURCH WEBSITE [HTTP://WWW.UUCORPUS.ORG/](http://www.uucorpus.org/)
CHURCH PHONE 986-8855

SAND AND FOAM

WELL, HELLO!

"Can you sum up in two or three words what your ministry is all about," asked my CPE Supervisor, the REVEREND DOUG WATTS. It was one of those questions I had to reflect on. I chose 'friendship' as the first word. I want to treat the people I minister to as you would a good friend and keep in mind what is best for them.

The second word I chose was the old-fashioned church word 'righteousness,' you know, treating people right. Treating people justly, fairly, tempered with kindness and understanding.

And then, after considerable more thought, I chose the word 'fun.' My pastor at First Jefferson Church, the REVEREND CRAIG ROSHAVEN, used to say, "Act your species!" Act like a mammal, a creature that can play and have fun. One of the tests of whether I can be present and effective is if I am able to respond in a sense of play.

The first weekend in October, which is just around the corner, our District Executive, the REVEREND SUSAN SMITH, will be coming here to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi, for a new minister start-up weekend. We will look at our history and talk about our mission and vision and we will try to come to a good understanding of what we expect of each other in our relationship as congregation and called minister.

These are times of deeper self-understanding. This will give us all a chance to think about and say out loud who we are as a religious people and what our ministry is all about. We can do this! Because there is enough flexibility in the system that we don't have to be exactly correct. We can make necessary adjustments over time. We can become more precise as we learn more.

But do this we must! Taking the existential risk to say who we are and what our relationship is all about is necessary work for our self-understanding of our mission as a church in Corpus Christi. Having a clear understanding of who we are and who we mean to be is the most attractive attribute we can show to people who are interested in our faith.

Please plan to attend one of the events of the new minister start up weekend. We will all deepen because of our participation.

Welcome back to the new church year! We are in for a splendid adventure.

WARM REGARDS, PHIL



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 1	BILL RANDALL
SEPTEMBER 3	ZULIE DATH
SEPTEMBER 8	KIRK NEWPORT
SEPTEMBER 9	SUSAN DOUGLAS
SEPTEMBER 14	ROBERTO ALANIZ
SEPTEMBER 17	LYNN JONES
SEPTEMBER 17	JENNIFER MARTIN
SEPTEMBER 22	NANCY CARLTON
SEPTEMBER 25	REVEREND PHILIP DOUGLAS
SEPTEMBER 26	MARGARET LUCERO
SEPTEMBER 28	J.B. CUDD
SEPTEMBER 29	RICHARD MCLAUGLIN



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 10	DONNA AND LOYD OAKES
SEPTEMBER 29	JENNIFER AND KEVIN MARTIN

☆☆☆☆ ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY'S, ANNIVERSARIES ☆☆☆☆

If you have an announcement for the newsletter, or would like your birthday date and wedding anniversary listed, please email **DEBBIE NEWPORT AT KNDCCCTEX@YAHOO.COM**

NOTICE FOR MOWING VOLUNTEERS

Due to attrition secondary to relocation and to other exigencies consistent with the demands of our busy lives, we on the Mowing Crew are down from 15 people to 10. Recruits are needed to fill our ranks. Monetary and celestial rewards doubtful, but 4-5 hours thrice a year riding Big Red (our zero turn mower) and walking about our beautiful church grounds with a weed whacker are truly heavenly. Enlist now. See **TOM BOOKOUT FOR DETAILS TBOOKOUT@STX.RR.COM OR 658-6060.**

HUMANIST ENRICHMENT GROUP RESUMES

After a break for the summer, the Humanist Enrichment Group will resume its sessions next Monday evening, September 8, from 7:00 to 8:30, at the church. This is the start of the sixth year in which men and women (members, friends, and people not affiliated with our church) meet to discuss a wide variety of topics from a largely humanist perspective. Anything is fair game in these discussions -- history, philosophy, politics, theology, current affairs. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. If you're curious, please give us a try. If you'd like more information, call **MIKE REED AT 857-8631.**

HEB CARD SALES

Thanks to everyone who has been purchasing HEB cards. Sales have been a little slow during the summer, what with everyone off having a good time on vacation. But now that school is starting and everyone is settling back into the routine, it's time to pick up the pace!

For those of you who are new to our church community or are unfamiliar with the HEB card program, here's how it works: The church buys \$25,000 worth of HEB gift cards at a time. We then sell them to members and friends of the congregation in denominations of \$100, \$50, and \$20. HEB gives us 4 percent of the \$25,000. Right now, we usually are able to sell out the \$25,000 three times during the year. That gives us \$3,000 into our church coffers, all just for doing what we do anyway. The cards are very easy to use, and if you buy groceries, school supplies, gas, or pretty much anything from HEB, you can use the gift card in lieu of cash or check. We are not far off from being able to sell out FOUR times, and that would give us \$4,000 a year for the church. Can you help make that happen? Here's how.

To our core group of dedicated HEB card buyers—keep on doing what you've been doing. Thanks so very much to all of you! And if you're not a regular, why not think about becoming one? It's easy to do, and it's a simple way to help contribute to our church. Also, your friends and relatives might be willing to buy HEB cards from you, if they know it will help the church.



So watch for the lady in the blue “HEB hat” every Sunday and buy, buy, buy! Thanks everyone! — **BOBBI REED HEB “HAT” LADY**

T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER

The T-Shirt donation incentive has netted the church over \$500 so far. The reason I say “so far” is because there have been a lot of new people at church and a few have expressed an interest in some of the shirts that are left from the initial “blind” order. I still have several adult large and some children's sizes in the 2008 “Universe” style on black. I tote them to church whenever I go. I also have one vintage “Important Unitarian Universalists” in green, size adult large. This one is only available because it was not the right size for the person who ordered it. Unfortunately, I cannot remember who had expressed an interest in the vintage shirt style. So it is up for grabs to the first person in line. A \$15 donation to the church gets you any one of these remaining shirts. If you have any questions, contact me, **DEBORAH SUNDERMANN, ON MY CELL PHONE: 290-9004.**

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

DEAR UU CHURCH FRIENDS,

Not that the outside temperature feels like it, but summer is officially over and it seems like the new church year is just beginning. It's an exciting time! There have been many changes within the church and there is much to do in the coming months.

REVEREND DOUGLAS is just finishing up his first month and we've seen many new faces at the Sunday services with some of the largest attendance counts in a long time. There seems to be a lot of energy in the air. This could be the beginning of something big!

On a sad note, we've also seen some long-time church members move away and we'll miss them terribly. The good news is that it seems to be a terrific time to tap into this new energy and move forward. We'll be addressing some of these needs very shortly, so stand by for more information.

This fall we'll be looking at the completion of the Memorial Garden, the Rummage Sale and Canvass. The Enrichment Groups are also gearing back up after a summer break. If you have an idea for a new Enrichment Group, don't be shy!

So welcome back, or just welcome, as the case may, to the U2C3!

**RESPECTFULLY,
KIRK NEWPORT
BOARD PRESIDENT**

GREETINGS FROM THE DRE!

DEAR FRIENDS,

Religious education classes will resume on September 14, when we will induct our teachers for the coming year. We will follow the induction with games and get-to-know-you activities.

If you have not registered your children for religious education, please consider doing so. Forms are on the RE table in the hallway. One thing this gets you is regular e-mails with information about upcoming events, including a monthly schedule of activities. Copies of these monthly schedules can usually be found on the RE table as well.

For the remainder of the summer, we've continued to explore our Learning to Give curriculum. The children came up with creative ideas on how to recycle and repurpose things that would have ended up in our landfills.

We also talked about the importance of nutritious meals. We figured out that we could provide a nourishing breakfast and lunch to a child for only \$1.47.

On Sunday, August 24th, the children participated in our annual intergenerational Water Communion Service, sharing their summer experiences with us.

I'm looking forward to an exciting year!

PEACE,
LAUREN

The STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE (AKA CANVASS COMMITTEE) asks that you put the following dates on your calendars:

OCTOBER 4 **FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH CANVASS KICKOFF**
OCTOBER 6 – OCTOBER 25 **CANVASS GATHERINGS **SEE ARTICLE BELOW****
OCTOBER 31 **FAMILY HALLOWEEN CANVASS CELEBRATION**

You will be receiving information throughout the month of September. Please contact anyone on the Stewardship Committee for information, or Judy Pate at CPATE@STX.RR.COM OR **387-9386**
— **PETE AND PEG BRASWELL, JERRY JONES, BOBBI AND MIKE REED, AND JUDY AND CARROLL PATE**

CANVASS GATHERINGS

Every Fall, members and friends pledge an amount they plan to contribute toward sustaining and expanding the services and efforts of our UU Church during the next calendar year. The Stewardship Committee proposes that our method this time involve discussing the future of our church and accepting pledge cards from members and friends during "Canvass Gatherings." Held anytime from October 6 through October 25, these may consist of a dinner, a Saturday morning brunch, a dessert-and-coffee session, a wine-and-cheese party, or another idea that a host may have.

A list of hosts will be available on Sunday, September 14, and you may sign up for any date and event that is convenient for you. We hope that these opportunities for members and friends to attend small, informal gatherings will be a more pleasant and convivial way of carrying out our Canvass than past methods such as individual home visits.

To achieve this, we will need 12 to 14 hosts for these events. If you are able to provide this service for the congregation, please contact **JUDY PATE AT CPATE@STX.RR.COM OR 387-9386 OR ANOTHER COMMITTEE MEMBER BY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.** We will work out details with you, and begin sign-ups the following Sunday. Stewardship Committee members include **PEG AND PETE BRASWELL, JERRY JONES, BOBBI AND MIKE REED, AND JUDY AND CARROLL PATE**

Thanks in advance for your willingness to be a host, for your commitment in attending one of these get-togethers, and certainly for your dedication in financially supporting U2C3's programs during 2009.