



Unitarian Universalist

Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley

A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

Religious Freedom • Diverse Perspectives

**500 Montreat Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711**

*For more information about our
congregation, call*

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BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 19 • 6:00 p.m.

UUCSV Newsletter

Send newsletter information to

Norm Kowal, Editor

normankowal@bellsouth.net

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2008 at 10 a.m.

Covering September 2008

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News from the Board

Hello from your new board president! Each month I hope to summarize here some highlights from our board meetings for the greater UUCSV community. If you'd like more details of our board discussions, read our minutes posted on the church bulletin board or, better yet, attend a meeting with us sometime!

First let me thank last year's board and especially David Reid as last year's President for providing great leadership last year. We start this new year debt free with more income and less spent than last year's budget -- a great model to follow this year!

Our new board officers also include Robyn Schuster as Vice President, Lee Reading as Treasurer and Dawn Wilson as Secretary -- a fine leadership team. Please also thank David Brown, Mamie Hilliard, Barbara Rogers and Ursula Goebels-Ellis for agreeing to serve as our newest members on the board.

We are continuing to research and decide on proposals for better investing of our financial assets and making HVAC improvements to the RE half of the building consistent with our Green Sanctuary efforts. We hope to conclude these in our August meeting.

We approved a new building use policy for more consistent use and rental of our building for non UUCSV events by both members and non-members. Check the bulletin board for details. We also established some working norms for each other as well as assigned one of us to link more actively as a communication liaison with each church committee.

We are especially busy preparing for the 8/21-24 candidating weekend with Reverend Mary Grigolia, our search committee's choice for our new minister. We are so excited to meet her and begin working with her. I encourage you to attend the many planned events during this weekend and most especially the all congregation meeting to vote on her becoming our new Minister on Sunday 8/24 following the service that Mary will be presenting. I hope you are as excited as we are for her arrival!

Finally, if you have any questions or need to talk to any of us on the board, our names and phone numbers are on the newsletter masthead to the left. We'd love to talk to you! Thanks for your trust and we all look forward to an exciting year at UUCSV.

~ Jim Carillon, your new Board President

Reminder of Congregational Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley on Sunday, August 24, 2008 in the sanctuary at 12:00 p.m. following the service. There are two items of business for the consideration of the members.

1. Voting to select The Reverend Mary E. Grigolia as half-time minister of the congregation.
2. Approve the minutes from the congregational meeting of June 1, 2008.

To the Dearest People

It is impossible for me to express the depth of my gratitude to the compassionate and gracious people of our UU congregation who have been by my side from the beginning, a few weeks ago, when I learned I would have to undergo surgery for breast cancer. The power of my beautiful UU friends' selflessness and sustained presence has been extraordinary. They comforted me by easing my apprehension and fear. Always I felt supported and encouraged. They removed or helped to carry my mental and emotional burdens by driving me to appointments, meeting with the doctors and nurses, and supporting and helping my sons during and after my surgery. I am grateful for every call, email, card, note, and visit. Thank you for every prayer, thought, hug, and candle that was lit. Friends delivered delicious food, and I received beautiful flowers. I am especially thankful to those who recognized my anguish and shared with me their experiences with this dreadful disease.

Soon I will begin radiation treatments and further therapy, but for as long as I live, these past few weeks will be some of the most important of my life. They will be significant, not because of the fear raised when the doctor said, "cancer," but because I learned how it feels to be the recipient of unremitting kindness and love. Thank you, dear ones.

~ Jane Carroll

Sunday Programming

Please join us for Social Hour after each program

Sunday, August 3, 2008 11 a.m.
"The Journey Home"
Rev. Sarah York

Sarah York shares from her pilgrimage to Nepal to explore how our journeys to distant places can bring us back to a true understanding of what it means to be at home.

Sarah York (formerly Sara Moores Campbell) is a Unitarian Universalist minister and author of four books, including "Remembering Well: Rituals for Celebrating Life and Mourning Death" and "Pilgrim Heart: The Inner Journey Home." She also authored three reading selections in the UU hymnal. She has a Bachelor's degree from Wake Forest, a Masters from Duke, a Masters of Divinity from Harvard, and an Honorary Doctorate from Meadville-Lombard Theological School. After serving in settled ministry most of her career, she became an accredited interim minister. Sarah is semi-retired to her farm near Asheville, NC with her husband Chuck Campbell. She serves the Asheville church part-time as Assistant Minister for Pastoral Care, preaches once a month at UUCSV, and consults as needed with congregational leaders.

Sunday, August 10, 2008 11 a.m.
"Beyond Racism"
Robin Tynes and Lewis Isaac

Lewis Isaac, a well-known local social activist, and Robin Tynes, a recent graduate of Asheville High and member of our congregation, will be coming together to share their knowledge and passion for going beyond racism. As Unitarian Universalists, many of our principles call upon us to combat oppression. It's hard for many to believe that racism is still a serious issue in America, but the civil rights movement is not over. Robin and Lewis will present a service on racism and the modern hurdles



we face as a society. Come and participate in a service that will aim to open eyes and spread awareness. After the potluck please join Robin in the sanctuary for a presentation of her Senior Exit project: Eliminating Racism in the Schools: How Cultural Diversity Education Can Help.

Sunday, August 17, 2008 11 a.m.
(To Be Announced)

Sunday, August 24, 2008 11 a.m.
Rev. Mary E. Grigolia
(See the article below.)

Sunday, August 31, 2008 11 a.m.
"All in a Day's Work"
UUCSV Members and Friends

This being the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, those of us who are not away enjoying a hard-earned vacation will share stories about some of our more colorful wage-earning experiences. Some work promotes spiritual growth, some work inspires promotion, and other work is simply whatever it takes to get the job done.....we will hear about them all. If you would like to share one of your stories about work you have done (or are presently doing) in exchange for what might be called "real money," please contact Phil Fryberger at 669-0214 or frypc@aol.com -- and don't work too hard!

Sunday, September 7, 11 a.m.
Rev. Mary E. Grigolia

Monthly Committee Meetings, etc. (CG = Covenant Group)

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FIRST	RE Committee 9:45 Congregational Care Committee 12:30 Program Committee 12:00					Open Mike Night 7:00
SECOND	Adult Forum 9:30 Membership Committee 12:30		Open Topic CG 7:00	The Creative Life CG 1:00 Social Action Committee 5:30		
THIRD	Green Sanctuary Committee 9:30 Warblers 12:30		Board of Trustees 6:00			Friday Fling 6:30
FOURTH	Adult Forum 9:30 Warblers 10:00		Open Topic CG 7:00	The Creative Life CG 1:00		

For the dates, times, and locations of specific events during the current month, go to the UUCSV website (www.uucsv.org), and click on the UUCSV Calendar.

Rev. Mary E. Grigolia Candidating Aug. 21 – 24

The Search Committee proudly introduces our chosen candidate to be the first half-time minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley.

Mary graduated from the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA in 1991. She served UU congregations in Ohio and the Eno River Fellowship in Durham, NC until January 2008. She was responsible for adult religious education at ERUUF, and created several new programs, all related to developing spiritual growth in a UU context. Mary has strong interest in Religious Education for youth, with multigenerational services a strong component of that ministry. She has been involved in Social Justice work in ministry to all races, class and sexual orientation, and a founding member of the North Carolina Religious Coalition for Marriage Equality.

Music is an essential spiritual practice for Mary. She has written hundreds of songs; produced seven songbooks and three CDs. She will be composing, and taking her music to other UU congregations, to complete her working life.

↪ *Evelyn Carter, Phil Fryberger, Ursula Goebels-Ellis, Jo Motzko, Robyn Schuster, Kim Taylor, Angie Underwood*

Schedule:

Thursday

5:00 p.m. Dinner with Search Committee, Spouses and Partners. Angie Underwood hosts.

Friday

10:00 a.m. Home visits and Highland Farms.
to 3:00 p.m. Contact Esther Miller.

5:00 p.m. Dinner for Board Members and Spouses/
Partners. Ursula Goebels- Ellis hosts.

7:30 p.m. Short worship service and music program,
featuring Mary in Sanctuary. Open to
everyone. Sing-along follows.

Saturday: Committee meetings (all at church building)

10:00 a.m. Worship/Program Committee

11:30 a.m. RE Committee, parents and children
(lunch, planned potluck) ending 1 p.m.
Contact Evelyn Carter.

2:00 p.m. Membership Committee and Covenant
Group Chair

3:00 p.m. Caring Committee

4:00 p.m. Social Action, Welcoming Congregation and
Green Sanctuary Committees

6 :00 p.m. Potluck dinner for all congregation.
Hospitality Committee. End by 8:00 p.m.

Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

12:00 p.m. Congregational meeting and vote

Notify candidate of congregational decision. Celebrate!

Getting to Know You: Scott Shaw

Scott and Susan Shaw have been married for 11 years. They have a son, Evan Scott (6), and daughter, Cecilia Raine (4). “Evan is a rising 1st grader at Bell Elementary in Oteen. Cecilia is at home with me for one more year and will then start kindergarten in Aug. 2009. Evan has played soccer with ABYSA for the past two seasons, and Cecilia plays her first season of soccer starting in Sept. of this year. Evan also plans to join the Sign Language Club at his school and to try out either Karate or Taekwondo in the fall.”

Scott was born “in very small, rural Calhoun Falls, SC. Lived and grew up there until graduated from High School. Moved to Greenwood, SC where I attended Lander University - graduated with a BS in Computer Science. Moved to Clemson, SC - waited tables, bartended, met my wife to be. Traveled & camped nomadically/seasonally between Oregon (summer) and Colorado (winter). Settled down in Eugene, OR, Winter Park/Fraser/Tabernash, CO, and Grand Lake, CO. Worked for Winter Park Resort facilities crew and snowboarded in Colorado. Just “chilled”, “hung loose”, and experienced life in Oregon. Moved back east in 1996 to Clemson, then landed in Black Mountain from 1997-1999 due to Susan’s job. Went back to school at UNC-Asheville obtaining a second degree in Biology with a teaching license. Have lived in Oteen / E. Asheville from 1999 to the present.”

His major interests are: “My children, attending live music, trading live music shows, dancing to live music, camping/hiking, snowboarding (not so much as I speed through my 30’s), going to the library with the kids, cooking, reading, fighting a losing battle with a backyard garden.” Scott is a member of the UUCSV RE Committee, and volunteers as a classroom assistant at Bell Elementary School. Scott and Susan have a 12 year-old cat, JoJo, and lots of wild birds (“OK, they’re not technically pets, but I feed them, watch them, and love them.”)

Scott is currently “a stay-at-home-dad (3 years). Before that I taught Earth Science, Physical Science, and Chemistry at TC Roberson High in S. Asheville. While at UNCA I was a wine host at the Biltmore Estate Winery and a waiter at the Bistro at Biltmore Estate.”

He has been attending UUCSV just over 1 year, but has had no previous experience with UU. Scott and Susan officially joined about 3 months ago. Scott was “raised 18 years in a strict Southern Baptist household / community. Became agnostic / anti-Christian for some time. Dabbled in Wicca / Earth Religions. Dabbled in Zen Buddhism / Taoism. Tried to be a good Catholic for a few years (almost converted). Finished Science ed. and became an atheist / humanist. Lived and learned a little more and decided I was a multifaceted spiritualist - picking and choosing themes I like from many different religions and schools of thought. That’s when I found UU. Seemed custom made for me!”

Getting to Know You: Peter Ronman, in His Own Words

My wife, Lauris Liljestrang, and I live about 8 months of the year in Melbourne, FL where she teaches school and I am retired. For the past 6 years, when school is out, we are in our cabin in Black Mountain, off route 9, not far from the Light Center.

My favorite charities are the Population Connection, the Nature Conservancy and Plan USA, where I help sponsor a village in Guatemala. I have worked to help various Democrats get elected. Since the start of the Iraq war, I have participated in marches and protests with "Patriots for Peace".

I was born in 1947 and grew up in Chapel Hill. My Dad was the boxing coach and on the physical education staff at UNC. My main interest was science and, in particular, chemistry as I grew older. After finishing at UNC, I went to Florida State where I earned a PhD in organic chemistry. Following graduate school, I decided I wanted to imitate my twin brother Tom and do an around-the-world trip. I started off in Europe for six months where I learned the ropes on how to travel cheap such as a dinner of French bread, cheese, wine in a park with some newly made friends. From Europe I went to Africa (four months) and Asia (four months) where I had many adventures (how close can you drive a VW bug to a napping male lion?). I returned to the Chapel Hill area and worked as postdoc at the Research Triangle Institute on the synthesis of a cancer drug, camptothecin – approved years later to treat colon cancer. I next worked for a pharmaceutical company (Norwich, NY) and two colleges (Bloomsburg, PA and Purchase, NY). Most of my career was spent teaching at Brevard Community College. I met my wife, Lauris Liljestrang, in 1996 and we lived together in Melbourne before marrying in 2003.

My current interests are travel, hiking, mountain climbing (once attempted Denali without guides), camping, windsurfing, science (learning lots new things in astronomy and physics), mountain biking and kayaking. I like building things and have done additions in various homes where I did most of the work in plumbing, electrical, framing, masonry, etc.

My beliefs are strongly influenced by the principles of science. I think Carl Sagan's prediction of a science-based religion will come to pass although it certainly wouldn't have many followers in our present times. For me, God is the creative forces of the Universe that form stars, planets and life.

Help Wanted

UUCSV is looking for an Office Administrator to begin working in August, 40 hours per month, \$12.00/hour. That's the facts, but the real deal is that you will be working for a creative, passionate group of leaders dedicated to the inherent worth and dignity of every human being. With every email you send, every document you file, every Order of Service you print you will be furthering the cause of liberal religion in the Swannanoa Valley. You will be the You in UU. You will be the force that holds us all together to keep working for social justice. Email DawnWilson@aol.com for more information.

Evening Reception for New Members

An evening reception will be held Friday Sept. 12 at 7:00 p.m. for all new members from the last 12 months (or so). We want to invite all UUCSV friends and members to make this a gala evening while celebrating the newest members of our community. Bring your favorite snacks! Black Tie and long skirts are optional, or any combination. Anyone who would like to help make this event lots of fun, contact Barb Rogers, at boardwalkbarb@yahoo.com.

Room in the Inn

Pitch in and help homeless women in our community. The next Room in the Inn in Black Mountain will be held at the Presbyterian Church annex on Friday, October 17, 2008. This program offers lodging, meals, and transportation to 12 women in need. If you're willing to drive the van, be an overnight volunteer, or provide food, contact me or add your name to the sign-up list in the foyer. We will need food for breakfast and bag lunches. In addition, you can also sign up to bring an entree, vegetable dish, salad, bread, or dessert for the evening meal. For more info, contact me at 686-3112.

Before the June Room in the Inn, Friend Skinner and Mary Soyenova gave me bags of single-use shampoos/toiletries they'd collected from motels during their travels. I passed these on to the women. At Mary's urging, we will continue to do this each time we participate. If you have toiletries you wish to donate, please pass them on to me after October 1st.

*↪ Connie Krochmal,
Room in the Inn coordinator, Social Action*

SOLS

The August SOLS event will be a church-wide picnic on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the Craggy Picnic area, Friday August 29th. We will carpool from UUCSV at 11:00. Bring food to share and your own utensils and SOLS will provide beverages and desert. If the weather is code orange or worse for air quality at high elevations we will have the picnic in Black Mountain at Dawn Wilson and Phil Fryberger's home. All are welcome to join in on some higher altitude fun. Games and ridiculousness will likely take place. Don't miss out! Email DawnWilson@aol.com with questions.

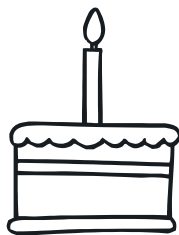
Congregational Care Committee

The Congregational Care Committee is ready to assist our congregation in time of need by providing transportation and meals for those who are facing difficult circumstances. If needs extend beyond those mentioned, please discuss them with the Monthly Coordinator to see if we might have the resources to help. The coordinator for the month of August is Karen McClelland, 606-8514.

Committee Chair, Kay-Sea Conklin, 686-7502 or (cell) 230-2227, would be glad to tell you about the committee and/or add you to the "Maybe Once In A While" volunteer list.

Birthdays in August

August 5 Margaret Bumgarner
August 11 Shari Spires
August 13 Joe Motzko
August 13 Sydney Wilson
August 15 Deb Vingle
August 17 Connie Krochmal
August 19 Susan Shaw
August 20 Carolyn Fryberger
August 20 Robyn Schuster
August 21 Dick Stennett
August 23 Ursula Goebels-Ellis
August 29 Barbara Pleasants
August 30 Latie Cyr



If you would like your birthday posted in the church bulletin, please fill out the form located on the table in the foyer.

Warblers

Warblers! Anyone who likes to sing! Come join us for our practices, each 3rd Sunday after church, around 12:30 (August 17), and each 4th Sunday (August 24) before church, at 10:00. We'd love to see you there.

Hospitality News

We are looking forward to having you join our candidate, Mary, for a covered dish potluck on Saturday, August 23rd, at 6:00. This church wide potluck is one of the events planned for Candidating Week. We eagerly anticipate your contributions of salads and casseroles made with locally grown produce. Check out the Tailgate Market on our church grounds on Saturday morning! Remember to bring your own place setting from home as well as a serving spoon/tongs/spatula.

On Sunday, August 24th, a meeting to vote on Mary's candidacy will take place immediately following our service. In lieu of our regular social hour, beverages and snacks will be passed around in the sanctuary during the meeting. Please bring your contributions of dry snacks such as cheese cubes, nuts and pretzels (not popcorn) in little baggies.

We extend our gratitude for your participation and yummy food at our church picnic on July 6th. Hospitality hosts for the picnic were Pat Middleton, Lauris Liljestrand, Pete Ronman, and Marilyn Wells. Grill masters were Scott Shaw and David Brown.

Finally, a special thank you to Lauris and Pete, who have stepped forward to help with Sunday Social Hour for 6 consecutive Sunday's this summer. They gave the regular hosts a much needed and well deserved summer vacation!

~> Carolyn Shorkey and Milt Warden, Hospitality Co-chairs

Green Sanctuary

Green energy and energy conservation are good for the environment, people, and the economy. Speak out loud and clear. It is more urgent than ever to let people know where we stand, particularly with respect to the energy crisis. We can't drill our way out of this. With the price of carbon-based sources at record levels, the renewables can match the competition. Clean energy will lower greenhouse emissions and lead to cleaner air.

With respect to renewables, it is ironic that India is far ahead of America. In New Delhi, the building code requires solar water heaters. Some Indian villages are lit using renewables and LEDs. Historically, renewables have a proven track record in the U.S. Solar water heaters were once common in Florida. That was before electrification efforts began.

Home energy use accounts for around 37% of the total electrical consumption in the U.S. There are numerous ways we can reduce heating and cooling costs. Ceiling fans can reduce the need for air conditioning by 40%. Floor and box fans also help. Ceiling fans can also be used during the winter to move the heated air down from the ceiling. When buying a ceiling fan/light combo, check the size of the light bulbs included with the kit. Some of the cheaper models have itty bitty light receptacles that won't hold a CFL. Keep your windows, doors, shades, etc. closed during the day. Doing so will keep rooms cooler. Also, control indoor humidity if necessary. This will also reduce the need for air conditioning.

Deciduous trees save energy. Planting three trees in strategic locations can reduce overall air conditioning costs by as much as 50%. Plant them on southern and western exposures so they can shade the home from the summer sun. Because the trees

shed their leaves for the winter, the sun can enter and lower the heating cost as well.

On the subject of transportation, the race is on to develop a reliable, affordable electric car. However, this venture ignores two important issues. Where will the electricity come from, and why is it necessary to have cars in the first place? Hypermilers have the right approach. A report on NPR's Morning Edition on June 9, 2008 highlighted the incredible mileage that is possible by changing one's driving habits (slow down, ease up on the accelerator), getting tune-ups, removing junk from the trunk, and the like. For the complete story, visit www.npr.org. For more driving tips, search Google for hypermiler. Those in the market for new cars should check out the March/April 2008 issue of Sierra magazine. This has a chart comparing the most eco-friendly models.

Bikes are fine around town. Since most of us don't have access to public transportation, cars are necessary for long commutes. However, carpooling is also an option. Green Sanctuary could explore informal ways to promote carpooling if enough folks are interested. If it would be helpful, we could devote a section of the bulletin board beside the unisex restroom for drivers/riders to post notices or sign-up sheets. In either case, it would be up to individuals to check the listings and make their own arrangements. Those interested should contact either of our co-chairs (Dr. Jane Carroll and Connie Krochmal) so the Green Sanctuary committee could discuss this at a future meeting.

Dr. Jane Carroll is recommending an online water use calculator (www.k2oconserve.org/home.php?pd=index). Since WNC continues to be in exceptional drought, we do need to conserve.

~> Connie Krochmal



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Religious Education Corner

Summer Programs

A big thank you to everyone who has worked with our children and youth this summer. We continue with a great line-up of programs through August 31.

Here's what we have lined up for the coming month:

- July 27 Print making with Bette Bates
- August 3 Weird Science with Andrea Vollrath
- August 10 Waterfall Walk at Montreat with Heidi Blozan
- August 17 Green Sanctuary with Marjorie Starrs
- August 24 Outdoor Games with Evelyn Carter—
CANDIDATING SUNDAY
- August 31 Creative Basketry with Carolyn Shorkey and
Barbara Pleasants

RE Classes Begin September 7

Regular RE classes begin September 7, so mark your calendars! All current RE families and visitors we've hosted through the year should have received registration packets. PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION FORMS TO ME NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15TH.

RE Family Camping Trip

Don't forget to sign up for our annual RE family camping trip at Montreat, Saturday August 16 and Sunday August 17.

We'll join together for a potluck and music on Saturday evening. Those who want to, can camp overnight and we'll continue our program Sunday morning with a presentation back at church by Marjorie Starrs on Green Sanctuary. A sign-up sheet is posted in the main RE space so we can see how many campsites we'll need. Please sign up by August 10 so we can make plans.

Rain Barrel Workshop

As part of the RE program's continuing work with the green sanctuary committee, we'll be sponsoring a rain barrel workshop at the church on Tuesday evening, August 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. Dawn Wilson will lead the group in how to construct a rain barrel, and the children and youth will decorate a second barrel to be installed on church grounds. All interested adults are welcome. The program is most suitable for our older elementary children and middle/high school youth.

→ Sybil Argintar, RE Coordinator

Friday Fling

August's Friday Fling, a fun party for grown-ups every third Friday of the month, will be held on August 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Refreshments (red and white) will be provided. Bring some simple food, so that we can make a potluck supper out of it. The movie "The Producers" (2006, Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick, Uma Thurman) will be shown. For further information, call Norm Kowal (669-4668). And don't forget Open Mike Night on the first Friday of the month.