



# 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*

**(828) 669-8050 • uucsv.org**

**Volume VII, Issue 7  
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## UUCSV Board of Trustees

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### BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday, July 15 • 6:00 p.m.**

### UUCSV Newsletter

Send newsletter information to  
**Norm Kowalski**  
**normankowal@bellsouth.net**

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at 10 a.m.**  
**Covering August 2008**

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## Search Committee Report

By this time, all members and friends have received a letter that announces the call to a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 24, 2008, at 12 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the acceptance of The Reverend Mary E. Grigolia, as our half-time minister. This vote follows three days of meetings, meals, and a worship service, to introduce our candidate to the congregation. The letter also contains a condensed biography that was compiled from the extensive packet that Mary sent to the Search Committee. This packet will be available at our church building for your perusal, for the next several weeks.

To further introduce the candidate, we quote from the packet, to give you some insights into her concept of Unitarian Universalist identity. "For a congregation to thrive as an explicitly UU congregation in the 21st century, we must attend to four streams. No stream is more important than any other. None comes first:

**Spiritual depth:** We must be grounded in faith in life, with tools for on-going spiritual growth, through all life's states.

**Critical reflection on the meaning of our times:** through sermons, classes, workshops, covenant groups, social action, etc.

**Social justice:** responding to the needs of our times, through congregation-wide initiatives, direct service advocacy, education.

**Creating caring community,** in times of joy and sorrow, building and nurturing the skills of relationship throughout the congregation as members support and care for one another."

Please take an opportunity to read through the extensive materials that Mary created to introduce herself, before our candidating process in August.

*↪ The Ministerial Search Committee: Evelyn Carter,  
Phil Fryberger, Ursula Goebels-Ellis, Jo Motzko,  
Robyn Schuster, Kim Taylor and Angie Underwood*

## New Board of Trustees

The June 1st Annual Meeting elected five new members of the Board of Trustees. We would like to welcome David Brown, Ursula Goebels-Ellis, Mamie Hilliard, Jerry Pope (returning member), and Barbara Rogers. The Board of Trustees would like to express its thanks to the exiting board members for their leadership: Jay Ellis, Norm Kowalski, Connie Krochmal, David Reid, and Angie Underwood.

At the meeting unanimous approval was given to next year's budget. The June 1st Annual Meeting notes will be approved at the August 24th Congregational Meeting.

## Room in the Inn

Homeless women in our community need help year-round, and we're so grateful for all our devoted volunteers who pitched in on June 30th. Without you, this wouldn't have been possible. The next Room in the Inn in Black Mountain is scheduled to take place in early October. We'll keep you posted once the date is chosen.

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

## Parking News

Following the Board's approval, several parking spaces will be designated exclusively for Visitors. A common practice at other churches, this will make folks feel welcome before they reach our church doors. As requested by the Membership Committee, Grounds will do this once we get the signs, posts, and volunteers lined up.

Doubtless you've noticed the parking lot gets full some Sundays. For that reason, Heidi Blozan is making the extra spaces in her driveway available to UUCSV. She lives right across the street from the church at 102 4th St. This will free up several spaces in the UUCSV lots. There is also some space along Fifth Street between our parking lot and the street. If you park there, please be sure your vehicle is completely off the road.

# Sunday Programming

Please join us for Social Hour after each program

Sunday, July 6, 2008 11 a.m.

## "Un-Indebtedness Day!"

Meg Barnhouse and other UUCSV friends

Come and celebrate the miraculously early retirement of the ENTIRETY of the mortgage debt which was incurred a scant four years ago when UUCSV acquired the building and land which we now happily call home! Of course, we will ALWAYS be indebted to the "quiet visionaries" who made this extraordinary accomplishment possible -- namely, ourselves! This will be an occasion to dramatize some of our congregational milestones and consider the prospects of our collective future. And, of course, let's have a picnic!

Meg Barnhouse is the full-time minister of the UU Church of Spartanburg SC, and is a published author and radio personality with an ardent local following. Meg was the featured guest speaker on April 4, 2000 at the Lakeview House in Black Mountain, the event which resulted in the creation of UUCSV.

Sunday, July 13, 2008 11 a.m.

## "Restorative Justice: 25 Years and Counting"

Ellen Clarke

Ellen Clarke is a founder and executive Director of Western Carolinians for Criminal Justice (WCCJ). WCCJ is a non-profit criminal justice and offender treatment agency, committed to the principles of restorative justice and serving western North Carolina since 1983. For over twenty-five years, Western Carolinians for Criminal Justice has been a pioneer in North Carolina's alternative sentencing efforts. Now licensed by the state as an outpatient mental health facility and endorsed by Western Highlands as a Medicaid provider, Women At Risk has gained national recognition for the success of its Program graduates. Ellen will tell us about the founding of WCCJ and we will view the premier of the Women At Risk DVD featuring photography by Benjamin Porter. The DVD features clients and their stories and information about WAR.

Ellen Clarke holds a BA degree from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, NC and a MA from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She is married to John Byrd, a criminal defense attorney practicing in Rutherfordton, NC. They have five children and one grandchild. Ellen Clarke and John Byrd live in Asheville and are members of the Cathedral of All Souls.

Sunday, July 20, 2008 11 a.m.

## "Letting Go or Giving Up: Is there a Difference?"

Rev. Bob MacDicken

Buddhism teaches us that the way to overcome the suffering that we feel in our lives is by letting go of desire. How realistic is this in 2008? Is "letting go" just a synonym for being a quitter? And what does it have to do with our spiritual lives as UUs?

Bob MacDicken is in his seventh year as the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Catawba Valley in Hickory, NC. Bob received his BA from the University of Redlands (CA) and his MDiv from American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley. He was ordained as an American Baptist Minister in 1967, became a Unitarian Universalist in 1982, and received fellowship as a minister in the UUA in 2005. Bob and his wife, artist Eileen Ross, live in Black Mountain. They are parents/stepparents of 6 adult children, and their family also includes four wonderful daughters-in-law, a brand new son-in-law, and three grandchildren.



Sunday, July 27, 2008 11 a.m.

## "Let It Go: Allowing God's Love To Flow Through You and Your Life"

Max Bolka

If God is omnipresent, then why don't we see and feel God's love 24/7? When we say, "Let it go" what is the "it" we're referring to, where is "it" located, and exactly how can we let "it" go? How can we cultivate concrete and meaningful spiritual progress in the areas of peace, bliss, joy, detachment, getting in the flow, emotional equanimity, light, laughter and love? This will be the theme for Sunday, July 27th when Max Bolka will conduct the service, along with Joanne Fisher playing the Piano. Filled with music, humor and inspiration, Max delivers a thought provoking and powerful message: "Love Is The Answer...Now, What Was Your Question?" from his forthcoming book of the same name.

For over twenty-five years, Max has been associated with the financial services industry. Simultaneously he became a student and practitioner of Ayurveda, the five-thousand-year-old science of life from India. Today, Max unites these two diverse areas into a coherent business and personal consulting practice, providing professional speaking, writing, retreats and one-on-one coaching where he teaches individuals, entrepreneurs, and business owners how to grow all aspects of themselves and their businesses, integrating practical spirituality into their everyday business and life. He speaks at progressive businesses and new thought churches around the country, and is co-author of the book, "Success Is A State Of Mind" with Deepak Chopra, Les Brown and Mark Victor Hansen. He lives in Asheville, NC with his wife Julia Monet Bolka.

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.



## Mowing Update

Thanks to all those volunteers who have signed up to mow this summer. We still have some slots available for those wishing to add their names. You can contact me at 686-3112, or see the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

→ *Connie Krochmal, Grounds co-chair*

## Labyrinth Dedication

We're grateful to Calen Rayne for creating our labyrinth. Now that it is mulched properly, we're scheduling a formal dedication. Calen will conduct this right after the service on July 13th. During the ritual, he will open the four directions and ask for prayers and comments from those gathered. Participants can also offer their hopes for the labyrinth. Following that, everyone will then walk the labyrinth.

This landscape feature expands the use of the church grounds for meditative and spiritual purposes, which is encouraged under the Green Sanctuary guidelines. The labyrinth is also open to the public.

## Powerful film about the dangers of "Reparative Therapy"

Wednesday, July 16, at 7 p.m. our congregation is hosting "For the Bible Tells Me So," a powerful 97 minute film about the harmful realities of "reparative therapy," which aims at changing one's sexual orientation. This showing is part of a week of activities by the Coalition for Equality (of which UUCSV is a member) in response to the ex-gay-promoting Exodus International conference at Ridgecrest during the same week. Laine Holloway of the Gay & Lesbian Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of WNC will lead a discussion after the film. For details about the film and about the week of activities which culminates in the Real Families Picnic on Saturday July 19, visit [www.equalityasheville.org](http://www.equalityasheville.org) or contact Monroe Gilmour, co-chair Welcoming Congregation Committee at 669-6677.

## Help Us Celebrate the Mortgage Burning on July 6th

We did it. The mortgage has been paid off. Evelyn Carter, who headed the Capital campaign, has scheduled a mortgage burning on July 6th as part of the service. During this service, Meg Barnhouse and others will highlight milestones of UUCSV history. A church picnic will follow the service.

This date marks four years since we held our first service in the building. Our original mortgage was for \$270,000. By paying it off early, we've also eliminated interest payments that would otherwise be due each month.

A special thanks to the 70+ donors who made capital campaign pledges from April 2004 to the present. This enabled us to pay off the mortgage early. A plaque in the sanctuary lists those who contributed. The names of those who gave after the plaque was engraved will be added in the future. Thanks also go to Lee Reading, our capable treasurer, whose sound financial leadership has helped make this possible. We are also grateful for capital funds we received from other sources within the denomination. These included a \$24,800 Chalice Lighters grant, \$25,000 from UUA for first church home, and \$15,000 from the UU church in Asheville.

## Green Sanctuary

The last month has been a busy one for Green Sanctuary. We're delighted to report that our application has been submitted electronically. This includes all the audits and details about all of our planned projects. The initial response was favorable. We should get formal feedback within a month or so. We'll keep you posted as that moves along.

Meanwhile, our Green Sanctuary sub-committees are hard at work tackling some of the proposed projects. Emory, who heads the Energy sub-committee and is also on the Building Committee, is getting bids for an energy-efficient HVAC system for the RE space. He will make a recommendation to the Board.

Following a suggestion from Emory, Grounds planted three redbuds in front of the RE windows. These energy-saving, deciduous, native trees will shade the building during the summer, yet allow the winter sun to enter. Grounds thanks everyone who helped with this project. David Brown and Dawn Wilson dug holes for the trees. Dawn also transplanted the rosemary to make room for the center redbud. On his day off Tim Perry picked up the trees from the nursery in Fletcher. Bob Box and Monroe Gilmour did the planting.

Grounds also completed another Green Sanctuary project recently. We thank Bert Gaines for installing our rain barrels. This water will be used for our new landscape plantings.

Geoffrey and Sue Stone head the Food Production and Consumption sub-committee. They will be planting several kinds of fruits on the Grounds. So far, Geoffrey has planted four, space-saving Stark Brothers Colonnade columnar apple trees. He plans to add strawberries, and some other fruit plantings as well. For years to come UUCSV members/friends will be able to harvest these fruits.

Thanks to everyone who completed and returned Green Sanctuary self-assessment questionnaires. The results have now been analyzed, and will be posted on the Green Sanctuary bulletin board.

For recommendations this month, Esther Miller recommends the Save Our Cypress Campaign of the Gulf Restoration Network ([www.healthygulf.org](http://www.healthygulf.org)). The website has an educational kit on cypress mulch. In previous Green Sanctuary communications, we have urged people to not buy cypress mulch. Entire cypress forests are being cleared to make this product. While Wal-Mart no longer sells this unsustainable mulch, Home Depot and Lowes do. Let these stores know they should stop.

Barbara Rogers recommends a book called "Somewhere Between Hippie and Yuppie-The Scuppie Manifesto" ([www.scuppie.com](http://www.scuppie.com)). This practical title inspires readers, and explains how one can enjoy the good life in an environmentally conscious way. On that note, Green Sanctuary is looking for folks who will provide testimonials on changes they're made in their life styles since this committee began its work. Anyone interested in doing so is urged to write their testimonial and either paste it into an email or give copies to Connie Krochmal ([cbk119@hotmail.com](mailto:cbk119@hotmail.com)).

Though Green Sanctuary doesn't normally do restaurant reviews, it is worth mentioning those offering green options. For a complete listing, get a copy of the local food guide, which is available in the foyer. Café Azalea at 1011 Tunnel Rd., Asheville is one example. They serve home-grown produce, all-natural deli meats, organic espresso, and locally raised eggs and meat as well as vegetarian and vegan dishes.

## SOLS

The Sisters of Lucy Stone (SOLS) wish to extend an invitation to the entire UUSCV Community to go BLUEBERRY PICKING on Monday July 21. If you've never gone blueberry picking don't miss this opportunity. Your hands don't get stained or cut and you can eat all the blueberries you want while you pick! Meet at the church at 8:30am. Bring a bag lunch which will be et back at the church under our sweet oak trees. Bring your own containers to put your berries into after picking into the farmer's buckets. I find wearing a belt allows me to have two hands free to pick more berries faster. Bring a sun hat, sun screen and water. Last year the berries were \$4.00/ gallon cash only. For more info call Heidi at 669-7435.

## Hospitality News

We are planning a church-wide picnic after the July 6th service. Pat Middleton has stepped forward as the volunteer who will organize the food and beverage tables for the picnic. The Hospitality Committee will provide beverages, hot dogs and veggie dogs for grilling. Scott Shaw and David Brown will be your grill masters! Be sure to thank these dedicated volunteers for their service. Please bring a covered dish of traditional picnic food (with a serving spoon) to share. Also, please bring with you your place setting (plates, cups, and utensils). You will be happy to know that we have been generating less trash at our recent food functions, because many of you are remembering to bring your re-useable dinnerware from home.

We are grateful to those of you who brought food for our sandwich luncheon, which was served prior to the congregational meeting in June. There was plenty of food and your generosity is deeply appreciated.

See you at the picnic July 6th!

—Carolyn Shorkey and Milt Warden,  
Hospitality Co-chairs

## Congregational Care Committee

Our Monthly Care Coordinator for July is Judy Lutvack, phone 669-7649. Members and friends may also call the UUCSV church office at 669-8050 and leave a message for our Office Administrator, Tim Perry.

## July Volunteer Greeters

- 7/6 Connie Krochmal, Dr. Jane Carroll, Barbara Rogers
- 7/13 Susan Culler, Phil Fryberger, Jim Carrillon
- 7/20 Fern Martin, Monroe Gilmour, Geoff Stone
- 7/27 Esther Miller, Bette Bates, Robert Tynes

We look forward to seeing our Greeters on Sunday mornings. Their smiling faces are a welcome sight. Thank you, Greeters!!!

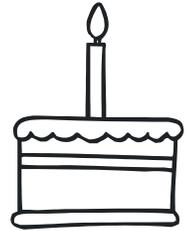
*Volunteers: call Judy Lutvack at 669-7649*

*if something comes up and your date doesn't work out.*

*Note: Greeters are asked to set up folding chairs if they aren't already in place.*

## Birthdays in July

July 7th Emily Eliot-Gaines  
 July 13th Elaine Stennett  
 July 14th Bette Bates  
 July 15th Elaine Everly  
 July 15th Judy Lutvack  
 July 22nd Bob MacDicken  
 July 23rd Phyllis Green  
 July 24th Minda Pierce  
 July 26th Jey Hiott



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

## Warblers SING!

Calling on all singers to join us for rehearsals this month. We'll meet on July 20, following the service around 12:30 and on July 27, we'll meet before the service, at 10:00.

## Friday Fling

July's Friday Fling, a fun party for grown-ups every third Friday of the month, will be held on July 18th 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 "Zorba the Greek" (1964, Anthony Quinn) will be shown. For further information, call Norm Kowalski (669-4668). And don't forget Open Mike Night on the first Friday of the month.

## 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			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			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.uusv.org](http://www.uusv.org)), and click on the UUCSV Calendar.*

## Religious Education Corner

### Teaching anyone?

Please take the time to consider joining our RE teaching team this fall. We'll need a total of twelve adults to cover our three classrooms. This is so we can continue our rotating teaching schedule to allow teachers to have time to attend services part of the month. Classes coming up for the fall include Chalice Children for the preschool crowd (ages 2 – 4); Timeless Themes for the elementary kids (grades K – 5); and Neighboring Faiths for the middle and high school group. If you'd like more information about any of these curriculums, please see me after church or feel free to call me at 230-3773. We'll provide teacher training later in the summer and promise you'll be hooked when you see the creative energy and enthusiasm of our children and youth.

### The Preschoolers STILL Need You!!

Our programs for older youth are filling up, BUT we still need lots of folks to help out in the preschool through the summer months. These little ones are great fun, filled with creative exploration and laughter. Wouldn't you like to join in? Summer for our preschool crowd will still be focused primarily on cooperative play time. We need two adults each week who are willing to volunteer to be with these youngest amongst us. The sign-up sheet is in the preschool room, to your left as you enter the office, on the bulletin board. Please pick a Sunday and sign up for a memorable morning....

### Summer Programs

Summer programming continues through August 31. Thank you so much to everyone who has stepped forward to lead a program. We have just a few more spaces to fill. Right now, the only dates open are July 27, August 24, and August 31. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board to your right as you enter the main RE space. You can sign up to lead the program, or just be there to assist the lead teacher.

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

July 6	All-church celebration and picnic
July 13	Origami with Sam Scott
July 20	Printmaking with Bette Bates
July 27	Open
August 3	Weird Science with Andrea Vollrath

### RE Family Camping Trip

We'll continue a tradition we started last year with a weekend camping trip at Montreat. The dates for this are 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. Then, following the service, there will be a church-wide field trip to Earthaven to see the home of Geoff and Sue Stone. A sign-up sheet will be 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.

### RE Committee for the 2008-2009 School Year

The following folks have generously agreed to give their time and energy to our wonderful RE committee for next year: Sarah and George Scott, Scott and Susan Shaw, and Marjorie Starrs. Continuing members include Heidi Blozan, Evelyn Carter, Monroe Gilmour, and Tim Perry. Thank you one and all!

~ Sybil Argintar, RE Coordinator



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*Artwork by Evelyn Carter*