

# The Flaming Chalice

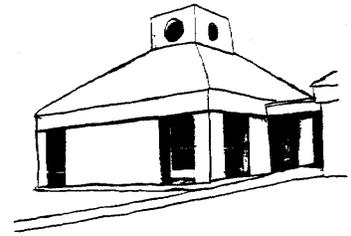
## Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta

Located at: 1951 East Park Avenue  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2342  
Valdosta, GA 31604

Minister: Rev. Fred Howard  
<http://uuvaldosta.net>

229-242-3714

e-mail: [uuvaldosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)



### What's going on... **April 2013**

|     |          |                        |   |
|-----|----------|------------------------|---|
| W   | April 3  | 6 PM                   | Board Meeting in the RE wing at the church  |
| Sun | April 7  | 10:45 AM               | Religious Education for children<br>Service - "Bible and Homosexuality: Rethinking Traditional Interpretations," Dr. Michael Stoltzfus<br>Meet & Greet Coffee after the service                       |
| M   | April 8  | 11:00AM                | Break Bread delivery  |
| F   | April 12 | 6:30 PM                | Pizza and a Movie at the church   |
| Sun | April 14 | 10:45 AM               | Religious Education for children<br>Service - "God and Civility," Rev. Fred Howard<br>Meet & Greet Coffee after the service<br>Power of Myth Class after Meet and Greet                               |
| M   | April 15 |                        | <i>Deadline for May newsletter</i>  |
| Sun | April 21 | 10:45 AM               | Religious Education for children<br>Service - Rev. George Bennett<br><i>Share the Plate Sunday</i><br>Meet & Greet Coffee after the service   |
| F   | April 26 | 6:30 PM                | Firepit and Games Night at the church   |
| Sat | April 27 | 8AM-noon               | Spring Cleanup Day at the church-Lunch and discussion afterwards  |
| Sun | April 28 | 10:45 AM               | Religious Education for children<br>Service - "Chaos," Rev. Fred Howard<br>Meet & Greet Coffee after the service<br><b>Annual Congregational Meeting</b><br>Power of Myth Class after the meeting     |
| T   | April 30 | 3:30-5 PM<br>7-8:30 PM | Visiting Tibetan Buddhist Llama , "Positive Motivation and Conduct from a Buddhist Perspective" at the VSU Continuing Education Building.<br>Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche Teaching Session #1 at UU church |

**April** ... Our Annual congregational meeting is the last Sunday in April. Arrange your calendar so that you can attend. UU churches are self-governing. It is our church. Be there to elect the Board of Directors, who will act for us over the next church year, and to approve the budget for the next year. Don't forget to get your pledge to our treasurer so we know what income we expect as we make these decisions. Our 5<sup>th</sup> Principle is "to affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." This is our opportunity to exercise this principle!

## Sunday Services

### Sunday, April 7 – Dr. Michael Stoltzfus, “Bible and Homosexuality: Rethinking Traditional Interpretations”

We will discuss the handful of biblical passages that have traditionally been interpreted as anti-gay and lesbian. Specifically examining the Genesis 19 account of Sodom, the Holiness Codes of Leviticus, and two Pauline Epistles—First Corinthians and Romans. We may discover that the bible has little to say about homosexuality and what it does have to say has little relevance to contemporary issues and concerns.

Dr. Mike Stoltzfus, Professor in the VSU Philosophy and Religious Studies Department, is a regular speaker at our church.

### Sunday, April 14 – Rev. Fred Howard, “God and Civility”

Recently, an essay called “Why I Raise My Children Without God” appeared in CNN’s iReport. It caused quite a stir, and generated a passionate online debate. I think the essay and the response it engendered are critically important - but probably not for the reasons you might think. This morning I will share some thoughts on this remarkable online conversation. (As of the time of this newsletter submission, the online thread is still available at <http://ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-910282> )

### Sunday, April 21 – Rev. George Bennett

A sermon on the topic of aging, based on Richard Rohr’s book “Falling Upward.” Rev. Bennett’s message is on the voyage into the mystery and beauty of healthy spiritual maturity.

Rev. George Bennett, a retired Christian Minister, member of the Valdosta Area Ministerial Association and longtime friend of the UU Church of Valdosta, will be bringing our message this Sunday. For several years, Rev. Bennett was a regular monthly speaker for our congregation and has had a long association with UU Valdosta. Please join us for an interesting message and a visit from our friend Rev. Bennett.

*Share the Plate Sunday Offering: Donations to the offering plate not designated for pledges will be donated to the Break Bread Together program. The Break Bread program has been in existence since 1973 and is organized by the First Presbyterian Church. Our participation in delivering the meals once (or twice) a month to low-income, home-bound seniors is coordinated by Frank and Rosie Asbury, and the program is supported through donations. We recently received a thank you message on our answering machine from the daughter of a meal recipient, so we know this program is beneficial and greatly appreciated!*

### Sunday, April 28 – Rev. Fred Howard, “Chaos”

Is that an unusual title for a sermon? The word has been revived in the last few years, because of new discoveries and new applications of chaos theory in math and science. The use of the word that I will primarily be referring to this morning is chaos as the second stage of community building as outlined by Scott Peck in his book “The Different Drum.” Chaos is an unpredictable time in the life of a community, and unpredictability tends to generate fear in us. But Peck also gives us great reasons to see hope in the midst of chaos. This stage is infinitely preferable to being stuck in the first stage, which many so-called communities are. There is always a

way out of chaos and a way forward. This morning I will share some thoughts on this.

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting will be held after the service and Meet and Greet on Sunday, April 28th. On the agenda will be election of officers for the Board of Directors for 2013-2014 and approval of the budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2013. A reminder that, according to our bylaws, “Any member, who is at least seventeen years old, who has been a member for a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the vote and has made an annual monetary contribution of record to the congregation, is eligible to vote.”

### “The Power of Myth” Class

After the service until 1PM

Fred Howard is facilitating this class on “The Power of Myth” using video from the popular PBS series of conversations between the mythologist Joseph Campbell and journalist Bill Moyers. The class meets after Meet and Greet on the Sundays Rev. Howard is in charge of the Sunday service.

## Religious Education

**For Children:** The RE program for children under 15 years of age meets at 10:45 AM concurrent with the Sunday morning service. Older young people will remain with the adult service. Two adults are needed each Sunday to help with RE. Sign up on the weekly e-mail volunteer list or let Sue Bailey know if you can help on a given Sunday.

### Sangha Tuesdays

5:30-7:00 PM at the church

The KTD Buddhist reading and meditation group meets on Tuesday evenings at the church. Everyone interested in Buddhist practice and meditation is welcome. Tea, 5:30-6: Buddhist shamata meditation, 6-6:30; Discussion of reading, 6:30-7. Participants should supply their own pillow for sitting, although using a chair for those unable to sit on the floor is allowed. The group shares books and the liturgy.

### Teachings by Venerable Khenpo Karthar Rinpoché

April 30 – May 1

Members and friends of our congregation are welcome to participate in these sessions sponsored by the KTD Buddhist group. Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche, Abbot of Karma Triyana Dharmachakra Monastery in Woodstock, New York and one of the few remaining senior Tibetan lamas trained in Tibet before the Chinese invasion, will give a public talk on positive motivation and conduct from a Buddhist perspective. at the VSU Regional Center for Continuing Education on Tuesday, April 30, 3:30-5 PM. (The continuing Ed Center is located at 903 N Patterson St.) There will be several teaching sessions held at the UU Church to which interested persons are welcome also. These will be held: April 30 7-8:30 PM and May 1 3:30-5 PM. Please see Julie Halter if you would like more information or would like to know about several other sessions planned during the visit. Suggested donations for the sessions: \$10 for public talk, \$25 per session for teachings and empowerment.



## MINISTERIAL MUUSINGS

Rev. Fred Howard

April 2013

As you may have already heard, the Helpers Unlimited arm of the Lowndes Associated Ministries to People (LAMP) ceased operations in February of this year due to lack of funding. This left quite a void in the community for people who are seeking assistance with emergency needs for certain basic shelter and survival needs. All churches in Valdosta, including UU Valdosta, have noticed a marked increase in appeals for assistance. So, to fill the void left by the termination of Helpers Unlimited, several congregations of the Valdosta Area Ministerial Association are stepping up and forming Lowndes Area Crisis Care (LACC.)

LACC's purpose will be to provide assistance to citizens who have emergency financial needs for such items as utilities, rent, food, medication, and the like. Its funding will come primarily through the benevolence of local area churches. It will be staffed by volunteers, also from local area churches. Volunteers will meet with and assess the needs of people referred from local churches and other social service agencies. LACC will primarily act as a bridge during these emergency situations, and all efforts will be coordinated with other social service agencies so as not to duplicate efforts. Clients will, at all times, be encouraged to maintain responsibility for their own situations.

I am very proud that our church is included in those congregations who are stepping up. Our board has decided to participate significantly in this endeavor by making a financial contribution to LACC on a monthly basis.

LACC also needs volunteers to staff the office of LACC and to interview those who are referred for assistance. Those who volunteer will be brought up to speed on the policies and procedures of LACC, the services that it can provide, and the network of social services agencies to which its clients can be referred. Volunteers will always work in conjunction with others in the LACC office and volunteers will always have a supervisor to assist them in making referrals and to give guidance in the decision making process of dispensing emergency aid.

LACC is asking for a commitment of 2 hours a week from all those who feel called to this ministry. The only requirement to volunteer is that you have a compassion for those in genuine need of the basic essentials of life. Training of volunteers will begin very soon. If interested in serving, contact Fred or Richard Hart at Trinity Presbyterian Church. I hope those of you who have a couple of hours a week that you can devote to this crucial service will join me in standing with those in need.

In Faith and Community, Fred

Fred Howard is our part time minister. You may contact Rev. Howard by email (preferable) at [fredhoward3622@gmail.com](mailto:fredhoward3622@gmail.com). He is available for consultations on Monday and Wednesday afternoons on most weeks from 2-5PM by appointment. Fred welcomes any questions you may have about membership in our congregation. He is also available for weddings and rites of passage ceremonies by prearrangement.

S-O-S VALDOSTA

### VALDOSTA SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP

This support group hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta is facilitated by Tamara Hardesty. The group meets at the church on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 P.M. Contact via e-mail at [sosvaldosta@yahoo.com](mailto:sosvaldosta@yahoo.com) or connect online at **VALDOSTA SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP** or 'Like' us on **facebook** for online support, daily affirmations, links to resources, and information on upcoming meetings.

### ABOUT OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

*Keep in your thoughts*

❖ Our members and friends experiencing health concerns.

*Congratulations!*

❖ To Raynaé and Holly!!

*You might like to know*

❖ Fred and Kathy Howard's son Dustin is to marry Lindsay Reene from Atlanta soon.. Best wishes to Dustin and his bride.

❖ We're delighted to have Rose and Jon Baker, our Ohio snowbirds back with us.

### Thank You! Thank You!

**For layleading services:** Valerie Webster, Dee Tait, Betty Derrick

**For speaking at Sunday services:** Betty Derrick, Doug Tanner

**For Sunday service music:** Rhett Watson, Amy Wells, Bill Webster, Doug Tanner

**For Stories for All Ages:** Sue Bailey, Fred Howard, Amy Wells

**For helping with Children's RE:** Sue Bailey

**For serving as Meet and Greet Hosts:** Doug Tanner, Rosie Asbury, Betty Derrick

**For greeting visitors:** Kimberly Tanner, Betty Derrick, Dee Tait

**For delivering Break Bread meals:** Frank and Rosie Asbury,

**For cleaning the church:** Frank Asbury, Doug Tanner

**For sweeping the sidewalk and cleaning up and reporting broken window and theft:** Doug Tanner

**For repairing sanctuary window broken by thief:** Jim Ingram

**For Sunday Service flowers:** Betty Derrick, Valerie Webster

**For helping with and attending the Azalea Festival UU Table in March:** Doug and Kimberly Tanner who arranged

for the table and coordinated our efforts, Dee Tait, Tim Dunn, Dawn Renner, Teagan, Skyler, Betty Derrick, and Rosie Asbury

**For participating in the Yoga group and the generous donations to the last two Share the Plate organizations:** Jane Zahner for teaching and all who participated.

# Let's Have Some Fun!!

## PIZZA AND A MOVIE

**Friday, April 12 6: 30 PM at the church**

By popular demand we will show the second part of the film series "Long Strange Trip," a production by Unitarian Universalists about our Unitarian and Universalist Roots. This film chronicles those who carried on Servetus' message after his martyrdom, primarily Faustus Socinus and Georgio Biandrata, and how they carried his message forward to religious liberals in Poland and Transylvania. It discusses how the thoughts of Servetus, Socinus, Biandrata, and others came together in the mind of Francis David in Transylvania and led to the formation of the first coherent Unitarian theology. It tracks that theology through the rise of liberal religion in Poland and later throughout Europe. There is enough introductory information in the video to view it independently of part one so if you weren't there for the part one, don't let that keep you from coming. Please take note of the time of this event and that it diverges from our usual third Friday time slot.

A \$5 donation is suggested toward pizza and beverages. Hope to see you there!

## Fire Pit and Games Night

**Friday, April 26 6:30PM - until at the church**

We'll start out around the fire pit to enjoy good company and conversation and roast hot dogs and marshmallows. Please bring something to cook over the fire and beverages of your choice. Then we'll retire inside for games. Often we play Mexican Train (dominoes), but we enjoy learning new games. If you have a game that is not limited to small numbers of players, please bring it along! Contact: Susan Bailey.

**Book Discussion and Potluck: Friday, May 10:** The book is "Bless Me, Ultima" by Rudolfo Anaya. According to the New York times his book is "Probably the best-known and most- respected contemporary Chicano fiction." Quoting a reviewer: "Antonio Marez is six years old when Ultima comes to stay with his family in New Mexico. She is a curandera, one who cures with herbs and magic. Under her wise wing, Tony will test the bonds that tie him to his people, and discover himself in the pagan past, in his father's wisdom, and in his mother's Catholicism. And at each life turn there is Ultima, who delivered Tony into the world---and will nurture the birth of his soul." Contact: Betty Derrick.



Bill Webster performing at the VAMA Coffeehouse

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER CAROL STILES

Time flies! Here it is, the annual congregational meeting is upon us, scheduled for Sunday, April 28th.

This is a time when we specifically exercise our fifth principle: the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. It is important that we have the views of our members represented, so please plan to attend! Non-members are welcome to stay for the meeting, too.

We have many community groups now using our facility – there is at least one group, sometimes two, meeting at our church-in-the woods each week night, plus our own activities on many Fridays each month - a development worth celebrating!

We are also continuing our search and requests for people to be involved in all of our activities. If you have not signed up on our Sunday Service Volunteer list or our Ongoing Activities list, please contact me! We need you - your talents and your time, to help build the beloved community.

In community, Carol



### INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member of our fellowship, we encourage you to talk with our minister, Rev. Fred Howard or our President, Carol Stiles, or Membership Director, Kimberly Tanner. We welcome your questions, and we extend an open invitation to all who want to join our liberal community of faith.

## Spring Clean Up-Lunch-Discussion

Our annual spring cleaning event at the church will be held Saturday, April 27 8AM to noon. Afterwards lunch will be provided. During lunch we hope to have an informal time of conversation around current topics that affect the future of our church community.

Come out and be a part of making our facility shiny and welcoming to all who enter our doors! Please bring extra mops, brooms, and other cleaning supplies with you as well as painting supplies as we will be doing some of that as well.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Notes from Kids' RE - Sue Bailey



Spring is in the air and the kids will be exploring this wonderful season as we continue to learn about our UU principles. Recent RE lessons included treating people fairly and kindly, celebrating Chinese New Year, and learning about St. Patrick's Day. The kids made spinners out of paper plates that depicted ways they could be fair and kind toward their family

members, friends, and others. For Chinese New Year, the children helped decorate a large Chinese dancing dragon which they paraded through the church after the service. Our St. Patrick's Day lesson focused on some of the legends and symbols of the holiday. We read about St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, who was born Maewyn Succat in Roman Britian. At age 16 he was kidnapped by pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. He remained a slave for 6 years before escaping and returning to his home and family and eventually entered the priesthood. After reading the legend of how St. Patrick drove all snakes out of Ireland, the children made snake necklaces out of the rims of paper plates. As always, we welcome visitors to Kids' RE. If you would like to volunteer to be an RE helper, please see Sue Bailey.

## Social Action Activities

### Break Bread Together

Our date for meal deliveries with the Break Bread Together program is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (and 5<sup>th</sup> when there is one) of each month. If you would like to help deliver meals beginning about 11:00 AM, please contact Frank or Rosie Asbury.

**UU Valdosta Caring Committee** Contact Dee Tait if you or someone you know needs the services of this committee.



Dawn Renner, Sue Bailey, and Doug Tanner serving coffee at the VAMA Coffeehouse in February. Money raised went to the South Georgia Partnership to End Homelessness.

### UU Church of Valdosta Board of Directors Meeting News March 2013

(Note that some matters appear in articles and announcements elsewhere in this newsletter and are not repeated here. The full minutes are posted on the RE wing bulletin board after approval by the board.) UU board meeting highlights

- Two additional groups are now using the building: South Georgia Pride on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and a new HIV Support Group on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, both at 7:30 p.m.
- A tree and other debris were removed from the roof by Jim Ingram, and a broken window was repaired.
- Board discussed possible upcoming UU workshops and the district meeting.
- Spring work day scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 8:00 a.m. to noon
- Next meeting, Wednesday, April 3, 6:00 p.m.

### Communicating at UU Valdosta

Newsletter Editor: Betty Derrick  
 Website Manager: Carol Stiles, [uvaldosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uvaldosta@yahoo.com)  
 e-Mail List: Contact Carol Stiles  
 Facebook: Kimberly Tanner  
 Local Publicity: Dee Tait  
 April 15: Deadline for the May newsletter.

If you prefer reading this newsletter on the website, e-mail the editor to remove your name from the mailing label list.

### Treasurer's Report - Rosie Asbury

February 28, 2013

| Receipts                   | February          | July -present (8 mos.) |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Plate                      | \$102.00          | \$ 1196.48             |
| Pledge                     | 1562.00           | 12622.00               |
| Rent                       | 320.00            | 1850.00                |
| Share the Plate(SGPEH)     |                   |                        |
|                            | <u>117.00</u>     | <u>1216.40</u>         |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>      | <b>\$2101.00</b>  | <b>\$21884.88</b>      |
| Disbursements              |                   |                        |
| Speakers' Fees             | 200.00            | 1400.00                |
| Minister Exp.              | 1579.99           | 5838.15                |
| Maintenance/Repairs        | 0.00              | 4201.16                |
| Pest Control               | 35.00             | 280.00                 |
| Supplies                   | 29.57             | 295.53                 |
| Utilities                  | 450.61            | 2456.13                |
| RE Program                 | 0.00              | 10.59                  |
| Advertising                | 0.00              | 700.00                 |
| UUA Dues                   | 0.00              | 1276.00                |
| Donations (SGPEH)          |                   |                        |
|                            | 117.00            | 1316.40                |
| Others                     | <u>0.00</u>       | <u>154.17</u>          |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b> | <b>\$ 2412.17</b> | <b>\$ 17928.13</b>     |
| <b>Net Receipt</b>         | <b>\$ -311.17</b> | <b>\$ 3956.75</b>      |

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is charged with preparing a slate of candidates to stand for election to the Board of Directors for 2013-2014. The following will serve on the Nominating Committee: Dee Tait (Chair), Betty Derrick, and Dawn Renner. Our thanks to all of you for taking on this important task!

### Pledges

Members should have received a pledge request letter from Rosie Asbury by now. If you have not received yours, please contact Rosie. She needs our completed forms, with our pledge for the coming year, as soon as possible. She uses our pledges to draft the budget for the coming church year. We will be voting on that budget at our annual meeting on April 28. This is our opportunity to pledge our support to this community which means so much to all of us.

### Board Seeking Volunteers!!

Carol Stiles on behalf of the Board of Directors has been staffing a volunteer sign up table the last several Sundays in March. Essentially all of the tasks at the church from taking out the garbage and cleaning to layleading and speaking at Sunday services are done by volunteers. We need to expand the list of folks who are willing to do some of these jobs. Carol has job descriptions and there are resources available for jobs like layleading. When you volunteer you are simply agreeing to serve in various areas when your calendar will allow you to do so. Give it some thought and contact Carol either at one of our services or e-mail her. Any of us who already volunteer would be glad to answer questions you may have.



## UU Activities and Announcements

*April 6-7- Southern Regional Leadership Training, Clayton, GA*

*April 12 -14- Florida District Annual Assembly UU Church of Fort Myers, FL*

*April 19-21- SWUUC Spring Conference, Journey to Justice, First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio, Texas*

*April 26-Southeast District Annual Meeting, UU Church of Charlotte, Charlotte NC*

*June 19-23-UUA General Assembly, Louisville,*



## UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

*Joan Lund*  
jlund@uua.org

April 2013

It's that time of year for the Florida District Assembly, to be my last one as your UUA District Trustee. In fact after General Assembly (GA) this year there will be no more District UUA Trustees because several years ago GA voted (at the recommendation of the UUA Trustees) that our UUA Board become smaller...all part of policy governance. The UUA Nominating Committee will be responsible for the slate of Trustees, after a period of transition. And as you know there is a vibrant regional services plan already in operation. My tenure on the UUA Board has had far more ups than downs, and never have I worked with finer, more dedicated colleagues and for that I am ever grateful.

The column will be short this month because later in April I will be traveling to Boston for the last time as a Trustee for one of our four meetings a year and most likely I will have more to write about in May. Now I wish to encourage you to attend the District Annual Meeting in Ft. Myers, April 12-14, theme: Leaning Toward Justice, with Dr. Mark Hicks, Professor of Religious Education at Meadville Lombard Theological School. I had the opportunity to be in a workshop with him at GA when his focus was unlearning what we have learned, then re-learning what is really true, in order to "build the world we dream of." He helped all of us to understand the workings of racism, and then how we can understand and relate to one another. There is information at the District website for registering and securing lodgings.

Also, this year, let's all go to GA in Louisville, Kentucky, June 19-23! This year's theme: From Promise to Commitment. Definitely, this is one of the best yearly gatherings on the planet. We worship, witness, learn, connect with old and new friends, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Your annual congregational certification with the UUA guarantees your congregation a certain number of delegates. Another good reason for attending this year is it will be an Assembly when a new Moderator is elected. And although it will be difficult to say good-bye to Gini Courter, there are two capable candidates running for the position and as you know from last month's column I am supporting Tamara Payne-Alex.

Please know how much I appreciate each one of you and the support I have received as your Trustee. If you have questions, comments, and/or concerns please write or call me. Enjoy the month of April and the best to our Florida congregations.



## At the Church-in-the-Woods

**New Hope Christian Community Church-** Sunday evenings: Choir practice at 4:30 PM. Service at 6:00 PM.  
<http://www.wix.com/nhccc1/nhccc>

**Taoist Tai Chi** – Monday and Thursday: Beginners Class 5:30-6:30 PM; Continuing Class 6:30-8 PM. Contact Dennis Bogoy or Luana Goodwin.

**HIV Support Meeting** - The 2nd Tuesday: 7:30 PM. Contact: Dwight Rewis or Janice Price:

**South Georgia Pride** –3rd Tuesday each month, 7:30PM  
Contact Raynaé Jones

**PFLAG Meeting** – 4th Tuesday each month, 7:00PM  
Contact: Doug Tanner The web page for PFLAG Valdosta:  
<http://community.pflag.org/Valdosta>

**Yoga Basics** – The most recent sessions of this activity have reached an end. Thanks to Jane Zahner for her teaching.

### Compassionate Communication Training

There is a great training opportunity coming up on April 5-7 in Clayton, GA, and we would like to send at least a couple of people to this training! If you are concerned about the costs, there will be some funds to cover the trip. If you are interested or have questions, please let either Fred Howard or myself know as soon as possible.

Whether you participated in the workshop with Rev. LoraKim Joyner in January or not, you can participate in this training experience. We are considering Compassionate Communication as a possible adult RE or “second-hour” topic for next year and would like to engage our members as leaders in this effort.

Contact Carol Stiles if you are interested.

**In our Justice Sunday Service in March**, we discussed compassionate consumption and ethical eating. You were informed about the ROC Dining Out Guide that is available on the UUSC website at [uus.org](http://uus.org). The guide gives information about restaurants where worker’s rights are honored. Over the past month, UUSC has asked us to help make the release of *Behind the Kitchen Door*, a new book about the injustices of the restaurant industry, a success — and UUs across the country answered the call! You helped make the book a #1 bestseller on Powell’s, you told your friends and family, and you committed to supporting the rights of restaurant workers. You might want to get a copy if you don’t already have one and join this conversation.

## The Arc of North Florida

Cliff Adams, one of our members, is on the Board of Directors for The Arc North Florida, Inc., which is a membership organization providing advocacy, employment training, and living services for people with disabilities in Baker, Suwannee, Hamilton, Lafayette, and Columbia counties. As a community based and qualified 501(C)(3) charity, The Arc North Florida provides services to all adults with a variety of intellectual and developmental disabilities including mental retardation, cerebral palsy, spina bifida and autism. In addition many of our clients have visual, hearing, physical and emotional disabilities. Pictures below are from The Ride, an initiative Cliff started to give the residents a chance to get out of the institution for an outing once a month. It is held at the horse arena in Jasper, FL and several people from the community assist with providing horses and helping the residents on and off the horses.



Cliff Adams helping client with North FL ARC ride in Jasper.



Fred Howard (on right side of horse) helping with North FL ARC ride.

