

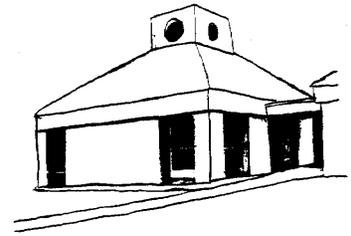
# The Flaming Chalice

## 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)



Please note that although individual personal contact information has been removed from this online newsletter, you can obtain more information on any event or ask questions by sending an e-mail to [uuvaldosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uuvaldosta@yahoo.com).

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

F	Nov. 1	6:30 PM	Book Discussion and Potluck at the church
Sun	Nov. 3	10:45 AM	<i>Daylight Savings Time ends-Fall back one hour and arrive on time!</i> Religious Education for children Service – “Mary Magdalene in the Gospel of Mary and Philip,” Dr. Lily Vuong Meet & Greet Coffee after the service
W	Nov. 6	6:00 PM 7:15 PM	Board Meeting in the RE wing at the church Planning session for the Fall Fund Raiser after the Board meeting
F	Nov. 8	6:30 PM	Pizza and a Movie at the church
Sun	Nov. 10	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – “Insight Meditation as Spiritual Practice,” Dr. Michael Stoltzfus Meet & Greet Coffee after the service Adult RE after discussion
M	Nov. 11	11:00AM	Break Bread delivery
F	Nov. 15		<b><i>Deadline for the December Newsletter</i></b>
Sat	Nov. 16	6:30 PM	Fall Fund Raiser at the church – Low Country Boil and Music!
	Nov. 16-23		Habitat Building on Faith - Houses of Grace
Sun	Nov. 17	10:45 AM	Religious Education for children Service – “An Investment with Real Dividends,” Rev. Fred Howard <i>Share the Plate Sunday</i> Meet & Greet after the service Adult RE
F	Nov. 22	6:30 PM	Games Night at the church
Sun	Nov. 24	10:45 AM 4:00 PM	Religious Education for children Service – “UUSC and Guest at Your Table,” Meet & Greet Adult RE Community Thanksgiving Service ( <i>Watch for announcement about location.</i> )
W	Nov. 27		Hanukkah begins
Th	Nov. 28		Thanksgiving Day

November ... Lot's going on. Happy Thanksgiving at the end of the month. Come when you can! We miss you when you are absent.

## Sunday Services

**Sunday, November 3 – Dr. Lily Vuong, “Mary Magdalene in the Gospel of Mary and Philip”**

*Daylight Savings Time Begins-Fall back and be on time!!!!*

This talk will offer a general introduction to Gnosticism and the Nag Hammadi library that was unearthed in upper Egypt in 1945 and explore the portrayal of Mary Magdalene as offered by the Gospel of Mary and Philip. Dr. Vuong is an Assistant Professor in the VSU Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. Welcome her to our services for the first time.

**Sunday, November 10 – Dr. Michael Stoltzfus, “Insight Meditation as Spiritual Practice”**

We tend to exert much effort to improve the external conditions of our lives, but it is always the mind that creates our experience of the world and translates this experience into either well-being or suffering. If we transform our way of perceiving things, we can transform the quality of our lives even if our external conditions remain much the same. It is this kind of transformation that may be brought about by the form of mind training known as insight meditation in Buddhist traditions. We will apply the spiritual practice of insight meditation to concepts and emotions like anger, selfishness, compassion, and mutual dependence with other people and the broader phenomenal world as a whole. Dr. Stoltzfus is a Professor in the VSU Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. He speaks monthly at our services.

**Sunday, November 17 – Rev. Fred Howard, “An Investment with Real Dividends”**

As religious liberals, where is the best place for us to invest our time, talent, interest, energy, and money for the greatest return on our “investment?” Many organizations and agencies vie for the scarce and valuable resources we have to offer, but not everything that appears as an ostensibly “worthy” cause turns out to be a wise investment in the long run. I think this is a subject worthy of our contemplation and deeper consideration. This morning I’ll share some thoughts and anecdotes on the subject, and suggest one answer that has a really good track record over the long haul. It’s something I think we all can and should develop a better appreciation of and thankfulness for. A good thing to do at this time of year.

**Sunday, November 24 – “UUSC and Guest at Your Table”**

We will kick off the Guest at Your Table campaign today by handing out the contribution boxes and recognizing the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). This is an annual event celebrated by Unitarian Universalists all over the United States. UUSC sponsors social justice work around the globe supported by contributions. Although UUSC shares the values of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), it does not receive funding from the UUA. Consider joining UUSC as part of your contribution this year. Many of our members are already UUSC members.

*Share the Plate Sunday Offering: Donations to the plate this Sunday, not otherwise designated as pledges, will go to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Guest at Your Table campaign.*

## The Annual Community Thanksgiving Service

**Sunday November 24 - 4:00 P.M.**

The location had not been decided when the newsletter went to press. Watch for later announcements on the place it will be held. The Valdosta Area Ministerial Association holds this service annually in conjunction with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity as a part of our growing effort to build interfaith cooperation and community. Representatives of many faith traditions will take part in this service of gratitude and thanksgiving. As usual, we will also commemorate the completion of the Habitat for Humanity house with presentation of the keys to the new owners. It is always an uplifting experience and I look forward to participating every year. And so can you! Make plans to join us for this wonderful occasion.

## 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.

**Adult Religious Education:** This fall Fred Howard is leading Adult RE sessions after the Sunday service. The readings from *The American Transcendentalists: Essential Writings* by Lawrence Buell are listed below. Fred has ordered several copies of the book that are in our church library for loan if you do not have a copy.

**Nov. 10** Margaret Fuller. Read *Recollection of Mystical Experiences* p. 158-161, *The Great Lawsuit* 301-320

**Nov 17** Theodore Parker. Read *The Transient and Permanent in Christianity* p. 162-174 and *A Sermon of Merchants* 244-250

**Nov 24** The Alcotts and Education Reform. Read *A Controversial Experiment in Progressive Education* Parts One and Two p. 281-296, Bronson Alcott’s *The Doctrine and Discipline of Human Culture* 68-75, and Louisa May Alcott’s *A Transcendental Childhood* 513-519

These sessions will be after Meet and Greet. On Sundays when there is a discussion, the discussion will be limited to about 10 minutes with the RE session beginning immediately afterwards. These sessions will end at 1 PM.

### 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.



## MINISTERIAL MUUSINGS

Rev. Fred Howard

November 2013

Kathy and I are now the proud grandparents of Griffin Howard Jacobs! He made his presence known on October 10. We were there with the parents to share in the joy of his birth. Griffin makes number six for us in the grandchild department. The cup of our joy is filled to overflowing.

While we were in the waiting room for labor and delivery, we struck up a conversation with a couple that appeared to be in their mid sixties (clearly older than us (-;-)) and obviously expectant grandparents also. We learned that the birth they were eagerly awaiting was to be their first grandchild. We talked for awhile, getting the details of their daughter's difficulties with conception that made this event even more special for them. Half jokingly and half prideful I told this older couple, "Well, if there's anything you need to know about grandparenting, we're experts at it and we'll be glad to share from our experience." We all had a good laugh.

It's been interesting to observe through the years the reactions of some of our friends to the experience of their children having children. Most of them have greeted it with eager anticipation as well, but some have lamented that it reminds them they are getting old. That's something I just can't understand. Although I'd be one of the first to admit that getting older is not always an easy experience, to me becoming a grandparent is one of the greatest rewards we get for getting old.

The words of Victor Frankl have always been instructive to me in regards to aging. "The person who attacks the problems of life actively is like a man who removes each successive leaf from his calendar and files it neatly and carefully away with its predecessors, after first having jotted down a few diary notes on the back. He can reflect with pride and joy on all the richness set down in these notes, on all the life he has already lived to the fullest. What will it matter to him if he notices that he is growing old? Has he any reason to envy the young people whom he sees, or wax nostalgic over his own lost youth? What reasons has he to envy a young person? For the possibilities that a young person has, the future which is in store for him? No, thank you,' he will think. 'Instead of possibilities, I have realities in my past, not only the reality of work done and of love loved, but of sufferings bravely suffered. These sufferings are even the things of which I am most proud, although these are things which cannot inspire envy.'"

For anyone who has lived life to its fullest, there are so many things for us to write on the back of those calendar pages. For me, the experiences I'm having as a grandparent go at the top of those pages. Laughing at all the funny things the grandkids say and the novelty of the expressions they come up with. Laughing at myself as I finally overcome much of my self-consciousness through talking baby talk and acting goofier than a three year old in my efforts to elicit a smile or a laugh from them. Its great! Best of all, I get to buy them all the toys I never got as a child. And then there's the chance I get to help the grands get into all the mischief that they haven't even thought of by themselves yet.

What liberating experiences come from grandparenthood! Can't wait to see what's coming in the next few years from sharing the journey with Griffin.

Fred Howard is our part time minister. You may contact him by email (preferable) at [fredhoward3622@gmail.com](mailto:fredhoward3622@gmail.com) should you need to reach him. He is available for weddings and rites of passage ceremonies by prearrangement.

### 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.



### 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.

### Low Country Boil + Music!

Church Fundraiser

Saturday, November 16, 6:30 PM

at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Valdosta

A fundraiser to help pay off our new air conditioner and new cupola roof, as well as replenish our general fund - tickets will be available for \$17.00 per person. Music after dinner will be provided by our own Bill Webster! The Low Country Boil will be prepared by our own Jim Ingram! Please see Carol to volunteer - we will need help with publicity, selling tickets, setting up, serving food, and clean up - all hands on deck!

### At the Church-in-the-Woods

**Taoist Tai Chi** - Monday and Thursday: Continuing Class, 5:30-7 PM; Beginner's Class, 7-8 PM. Contact Dennis Bogoy or Luana Goodwin. You can e-mail the group at [georgia@taoist.org](mailto:georgia@taoist.org)

**South Georgia Pride** - 3rd Tuesday each month, 7:30PM

Contact Raynaé Jones [www.southgeorgiapride.com](http://www.southgeorgiapride.com)

**PFLAG Meeting** - 4th Tuesday each month, 7:00PM

Contact: Doug Tanner The web page for PFLAG Valdosta: <http://community.pflag.org/Valdosta>

## Social Action Activities

### Break Bread Together

We deliver meals with the Break Bread Together program on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (and 5<sup>th</sup> when there is one) of each month. Let Dee Tait know if you are interested in helping with this service.

**Volunteer Needed:** For now Betty Derrick will no longer be able to regularly help with the food delivery. We are seeking someone who would be willing to work with Dee Tait in seeing that this monthly service to which our church is committed continues. Please let Betty or Dee know you are available. Several volunteers makes it possible to adjust to changing personal schedules.

### Annual Building on Faith - Houses of Grace Event November 16-23.

This month Valdosta Lowndes County Habitat for Humanity is holding its annual Building on Faith - Houses of Grace event November 16-23. (location to be announced soon.) The event is better known as the "Habitat Blitz Build" because one or two houses are completely constructed in a week's time.

Though Habitat is ostensibly a Christian organization, the builds are very much an ecumenical and interfaith effort. According to the Habitat website, "We gratefully welcome help from all who want to join our fight to make simple, decent housing a matter of conscience." Fred Howard urges everyone in our congregation who can to participate in this fun and rewarding event. The sense of community at the builds can't be described, it must be experienced. Just as our forebears promoted and sustained a depth of community in barn raisings and other acts of neighborly kindness, Habitat gives people in our day an occasion to rediscover that spirit as we build our way into a more inclusive future.

Fred says, "I hope that you will be able to join us in this effort to build the beloved community." You don't have to have any special skills or construction experience to participate. Our congregation has participated in this event for a number of years and usually provides lunch on one day during the week of the build. Watch for more details. Contact Fred Howard or a board member if you would like to volunteer or to find out more information.



### Guest at Your Table

The Guest at Your Table annual tradition at UU churches fosters understanding and awareness of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC) human-rights work. Contribution boxes will be distributed at a special service in November. If you did not receive a box then, you will find some available in the entry way to the sanctuary. Please pick one up and use it through the holiday season.

We will collect the boxes during the Sunday service on January 5. Please convert your cash contributions to a check made out to UUSC-GAYT and place it in your box. Complete the information on the side of the box too. We will send our donations as a church to UUSC.

You'll find information on the box about how you can join the UUSC. Consider making a donation during the holidays sufficient to become a member. Many of our members are also members of this worthy organization. It is one way we, as individuals, can globally support our UU principles. By celebrating Guest at Your Table in our congregation we are helping nurture a spirit of gratitude and "justice, equity, and compassion in human relations." Donations of \$100.00 or more can be matched by a special fund available to UUSC. Please be generous.

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

## Thank You! Thank You!

**For layleading services:** Doug Tanner

**For speaking at Sunday services:** Doug Tanner

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

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

**For helping with Children's RE:** Emma Bailey, Teagan Dunn, Kimberly Tanner

**For serving as Meet and Greet Hosts:** Doug Tanner, Carol Stiles, Dee Tait, Betty Derrick

**For greeting visitors:** Kimberly Tanner, Fred Howard

**For delivering Break Bread meals in October:** David Rodgers and to Logan Hulsey for helping Dee Tait the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday in September

**For cleaning the church last month:** The Buddhist Sangha and the October church clean-up (inside and out!) crew: Kimberly Tanner, Sue Bailey, Lars Leader, Dawn Renner, Teagan Dunn, Kim Richardson, Sean Richardson, Doug Tanner, Cliff Adams, Mary Ellen Adams, Devon Neel, Mackenzie Neel, Julie Halter

**For helping with trash and recycling collection:** Taoist Tai Chi group

**For sweeping the sidewalk:** Doug Tanner, Cliff and Mary Ellen Adams

## ABOUT OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Welcome to our newest member!

❖ Logan Hulsey who joined in September. Welcome Logan when you see him.

❖ Keep in your thoughts our members and friends experiencing health concerns....

Congratulations and Best wishes to the new parents and grandparents

❖ Fred and Kathy Howard have a new grandson!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### CAROL STILES

We have many new people visiting the church and many new members, so this month I want to give you a little bit of background to our fundraiser, planned for Nov. 16. In the late 90's, we would hold coffee houses as fundraisers. The first coffee house took place in the old church on Ashley Street - it had no kitchen and only one bathroom, yet we managed to fill the church to overflowing! Later coffee houses were held in the new building with Molly Scholz and Doug Fraser organizing the performances. René Kerr, Dee Tait, and others organized the coffee and desserts, and everyone pitched in to help set up, serve, and then clean up. These coffee houses were great fun, although we didn't always make a lot of money... ;)

So, here comes the pitch.... We need your help! It's been a while since we've had a fundraising event at the church - this event will be kind of a combination of coffee house (with Bill Webster performing music after dinner) and a wonderful dinner (low-country boil, prepared by Jim Ingram). The intent is raising funds, yes, but also to build connections with the larger community as we invite our old friends, new friends, and supporters from the community, to join us for a special evening! We will need help with publicity and ticket sales, setup, preparing and serving food and the ever-present cleanup afterwards.

Over the past year, we have raised about \$2,000 by way of our monthly Share-the-Plate tradition for various community organizations. We have participated in many community outreach and social justice activities. We continue to be a beacon of diversity, peace, and hope and in the community. In the meantime, we also need to keep the church humming along, and some little blips came this past year in the form of a new air conditioning unit, new parking lights, and a new roof for the cupola to prevent leaking. Although we had many donations contributed to help with the AC and the new roof, we will use funds raised from this event to help pay off those expenses and to rebuild our general fund.

As Dee Tait said in the December 1997 newsletter, while recruiting help for upcoming events, "No one is more important than you are. Absolutely, no one! Particularly in a place such as the Unitarian congregation." And no one can do a better job than each of you - plan to join us in making this an event to remember! Please let me know how you can help! There will be an initial planning meeting in October and a final planning meeting on Wed., November 6, at about 7:15 p.m. (after the board meeting), but even if you can't make it to that meeting, you can still help on Nov. 16!

In community,  
Carol



Logan Hulsey signing Membership Book

### Communicating at UU Valdosta

Newsletter Editor: Betty Derrick

November 15: Deadline for the December newsletter.

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

Website Manager: Carol Stiles, [uuvaldosta@yahoo.com](mailto:uuvaldosta@yahoo.com)

e-Mail List: Contact Carol Stiles

Facebook: Kimberly Tanner

Local Publicity: Dee Tait

## Let's Have Some Fun!!

### Book Discussion and Potluck

**Friday, November 1 6:30 PM - At the church**

The next book will be "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and The Collision of Two Cultures" by Anne Fadiman. This book is a winner of several awards including the National Book Critics Circle Award and comes highly recommended through several local people who have read the book. We actually hope to have several of these people as guests at our discussion. This is a non-fiction book which deals with issues between a small hospital in California and a Hmong refugee family over the treatment of an epileptic child. The book explores a clash between cultures: American medicine and the Hmong culture. We will have fellowship over a potluck supper at 6:30 PM and then begin our discussion about 7:30 PM. Books are available through the local library. Contact: Betty Derrick

### PIZZA AND A MOVIE

**Friday, November 8 6:30 PM at the church**

We do have a movie planned for November but unfortunately your editor, who is out of town, was unable to open the form of the announcement using the computer set-up she was working on at the time. Watch for announcements about further details but plan to be at the viewing and discussion on November 8. The usual donation for pizza is \$5.00. Speak to Fred Howard or David Rodgers if you would like further information.

### Low Country Boil + Music!-Church Fundraiser

**Saturday, November 16, 6:30 PM** - See details in an earlier announcement in this newsletter.

### Fire Pit and Games Night

**Friday, November 27 6:30PM - until at the church**

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! Bring something to cook on the fire and then activities will move inside for more fun. Sue will let you know if it turns out to be too hot to restart the firepit this month. Contact: Susan Bailey



**UU Church of Valdosta Board of Directors Meeting News  
October 2, 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.)

The UU Board discussed:

- Rearranging furniture in RE building now that New Hope will no longer be meeting on Sunday nights.
- Roof repair should be completed soon; window was repaired and new screens were made for some other windows.
- Fred Howard has made the updates to the layleader notebooks, which were suggested at the board and layleader retreat in September.
- Board began planning fundraiser for Nov. 16th.
- Next meeting, Wednesday, November 6, 6:00 p.m

**Treasurer's Report – Rosie Asbury  
September 30, 2013**

Receipts	<u>September</u>	<u>July-September (3 mos)</u>
Plate	\$ 69.35	\$ 249.18
Pledge	795.00	3125.00
Rent	100.00	480.00
Share the Plate	<u>113.00</u>	<u>402.40</u>
(Rotary Reading))		
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$1077.35</b>	<b>\$ 4256.58</b>
<b>Outstanding Debt</b>		
Air Conditioner Loan	\$ 1600.00	
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Speakers' Fees	200.00	615.00
Minister Expense	700.00	1050.00
Pest Control	35.00	105.00
Utilities	291.90	792.62
Advertising	0.00	350.00
UUA Dues	0.00	577.00
Donations (Rotary Reading)	<u>113.00</u>	<u>402.40</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 1339.90</b>	<b>\$ 3892.02</b>
<b>Net Receipt</b>	<b>\$ -262.55</b>	<b>\$ 364.56</b>

**Holly Jones' honey for sale to benefit the church!!!** Holly has some honey for sale for \$10 with all proceeds going to the UU church. Honey is located where our name tags are with a jar for the money.

**Immigration Resources:**

“As people of faith, we must raise our voices for an immigration reform bill that promotes justice, compassion, and keeps families together.” From: Standing on the Side of Love, online at: <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/>  
 UUA Social Justice: <http://www.uua.org/immigration/>  
 UUSC: <http://www.uusc.org/civilliberties/torturesurvivors>  
 No More Deaths–UU Tucson: <http://www.nomoredeaths.org/>  
 Film: 9500 Liberty (see October Pizza and a Movie Night)  
 Book: *The Death of Josseline* by Margaret Regan (we have copies on loan from the UU Church of Orlando). The book discussion group at our church read this book a couple of

years ago and recommends that you take time to read it. It is a true story of the situation on our border.

**UU Activities and Announcements**

November 2 - Northeast Cluster holds Reproductive Justice Perspectives workshops at First Unitarian Church of Orlando, 9:15AM - 3:30PM.

November 8-10 - Caring for One Another in a Lay-led Congregation, led by Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bay County, Panama City. Hours: Friday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.; Saturday - 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Sunday - 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. B&B accommodations are available. Get more info from Cathy Rifenburg.

November 11 - April 22, First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palm Beaches will present its 2013-14 series of six musical events. This is a season of concerts with Robert Prester and some of the most in-demand jazz and classical musicians in Florida. It begins Monday, November 11, 7 pm with The Cameo Chamber Players. Six concerts in all, the best music in the most beautiful space, all at First UUPB. Season tickets at \$120 for all six concerts (a discount of \$30) are on sale, in Ministers Hall at FUUPB.

November 23, Promises, Promises - Being Together in a Faith Community - led by the Rev. Kenneth Gordon Hurto, Southern Region Lead, Congregation Life Staff, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM; hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine (2487 A1A South, Anastasia Island, 32081).



RE Kids with magic vases



Sue with balloon “face” and Betty’s reaction at October movie night!

**Reproductive Justice Perspectives** Northeast Cluster of Unitarian Universalist Congregations Florida District, UUA  
**Saturday, November 2, 2013**

**9:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**First Unitarian Church of Orlando**

1901 E. Robinson St., Orlando, FL 32803

**Reproductive Justice:**

**A Global Perspective on Gender and Social Justice**

Margaret McLaren, Ph.D. Professor of Philosophy, Rollins College

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

◆ Acknowledging Barriers, Constraints, and Differential Levels of Power

◆ Reproductive Justice Issues in the United States

◆ Reproductive Justice Issues Abroad

**How Politics, Parties and Women's Voter Turnout Could Be Supporting Reproductive Justice Issues**

Terri Susan Fine, Ph.D. Professor of Political Science, University of Central Florida

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

◆ Political and Public Gains regarding Women's Health

◆ Voting Trends of Women through the Reproductive Justice Lens

◆ Political Opportunities and Obstacles to Protecting Women's Health

**Lunch and Looking Ahead: SisterSong Preview 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m**

**Business Meeting at 1:45 - 3:30 p.m.**

◆ Financial Report

◆ Reorganization of Clusters and Role of the Florida District and Southern Region

◆ Next Northeast Cluster meeting and topic

**Cost for program and lunch:** \$10.00 for Northeast Cluster paid 2012-2013 member congregations (Community UU, First Unitarian, Gainesville UU Fellowship congregations); \$15.00 for all others; Students for morning program only: no cost but call so we have an accurate count for seating.

**Register online** by credit card between October 1-October 31 (go to [www.OrlandoUU.org](http://www.OrlandoUU.org), look for the "NE Cluster Event" header on the right side of the front page, and click on the link for the NE Cluster event) OR send a check (payable to Martha Harnit, with "NE Cluster meeting" in the memo line) to Martha Harnit c/o First Unitarian Church of Orlando, 1901 E. Robinson St., Orlando, FL 32803. For more information: call Martha, Registration closes October 30.

**About the Presenters:**

**Margaret McLaren, Ph.D.** Rollins College since 1992, named George D. and Harriet W. Cornell Chair of Philosophy in 2004; B. Phil., Miami University (Ohio); M.A., Ph.D., Northwestern University. Received the President's Award for Diversity and Inclusion, 2011 (Rollins College); Received the Faculty Service-Learning Award from Campus Compact, 2010 (statewide award). *Research Interests:* Globalization and Human Rights; Feminist Theory and Gender Issues; Sociopolitical Theory; Ethics.

**Terri Susan Fine, Ph.D.** University of Central Florida since 1989, Professor of Political Science, Associate

Director and Senior Fellow, Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government, University of Central Florida, Content Specialist, Florida Joint Center for Citizenship. B.A. and M.A. Political Science, State University of New York at Albany, University of Connecticut, Ph.D. *Research Interests:* Women and Politics; Civic Education; Civil Rights; Religion and Politics

**The Wi\$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life**

*How do our financial lives intersect with our religious, spiritual, and community lives?*

*How can we have a relationship with earning, spending, investing, and giving that is spiritually healthy and grounded in our deepest values?*

The UUA seeks congregations, district and cluster groups, professional study groups, and summer religious education conferences and programs diverse in size, location, and culture to test a ground-breaking new program, The Wi\$dom Path: Money, Spirit, and Life. The program, authored by Rev. David H. Messner and Patricia Hall Infante, comprises twelve 90-minute workshops, helps participants understand how decisions and attitudes about money can be a more effective force for living lives of meaning and value, and for creating positive change in themselves, their congregations and groups, our society and the world.

Field tests will begin any time after late October 2013, as long as they can be completed by December 15, 2014. Find out more and/or apply to be a field test site.

**Twitter:** How do financial lives intersect w/ spiritual & community lives? New UU adult program seeks field testers.

[bit.ly/18KyrO3](http://bit.ly/18KyrO3)

Form spiritually healthy earning, spending, investing, giving practices! New UU adult program seeks field testers.

[bit.ly/18KyrO3](http://bit.ly/18KyrO3)

See **Facebook** also.

**2013-2014 UUA Common Read**

*Behind the Kitchen Door* by Saru Jayaraman is the 2013-2014 Common Read selection. A groundbreaking exploration of the political, economic, and moral implications of dining out, *Behind the Kitchen Door* invites Unitarian Universalist individuals, groups, and congregations to advocate for just working conditions for the 10 million restaurant workers who bring passion, tenacity, and insight into the American dining experience. Order your copies from the UUA Bookstore and receive 10% off if you order 5 to 9 copies or receive 20% off if you order 10 or more copies.

A discussion guide with options for a single session or three sessions will be published online by October 1. Schedule your congregation or group discussion sometime between now and spring and join UUs everywhere in this project!