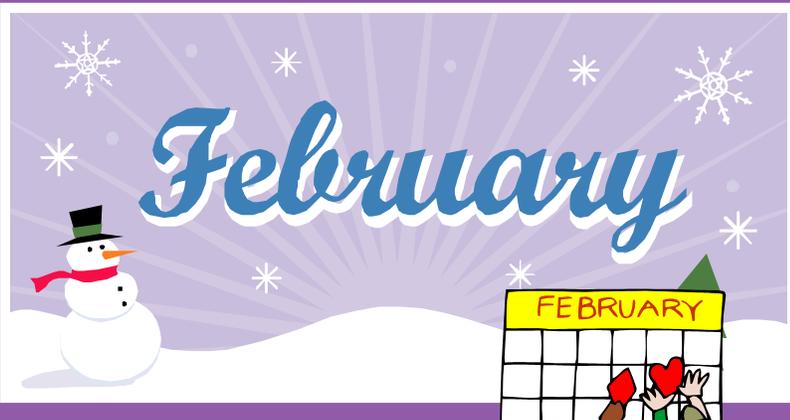


TBUUF Newsletter



February 9, 2014

*Thermal Belt Unitarian/Universalist
Fellowship*

2nd and 4th Sundays at 10:30 am

P. O. Box 653

Tryon Youth Center, Route 176N Tryon, NC

uutryonnc.org 828-894-2011

FEBRUARY SUNDAY

SERVICES

Sunday, February 9 at 10:30am

Reverend Sally Beth Shore

“The Greatest Love”

Valentine’s Day is coming—a holiday that can leave us gagging with sentimental expressions of affection. But with all that talk in the air, let’s think about what, how, and why and who we love. Loving others can sometimes be easy, but loving ourselves, not always so much. It would be an understatement to say that religious doctrines that focus on original sin and guilt aren’t helpful; this attitude has hobbled western consciousness for centuries. Our faith tells us otherwise; how can we be faithful practitioners?



Sunday February 23 at 10:30am

Rev. Jim McKinley, Guest Minister

Rev. Jim McKinley, minister at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hendersonville, will offer our sermon today, while Sally Beth is in Haiti.

(At the time of newsletter publication, we didn’t have Rev. McKinley’s sermon title.)

Sunday Assistants in February 2014

February 9

Greeter: Midge LaRoe
Chalice Lighter: Chris MacMillan
Hospitality: Christine Mariotti

February 23

Greeter: Need a volunteer
Chalice Lighter: Lou Murch
Hospitality: Need a volunteer

SHORELINE

Greetings TBUUF Members and Friends!

During this month, I want you to give some thought to what might be possible and what you want as a Fellowship. The Board will begin reconsidering the renewal of my contract; but aside from the issue of whether you wish to keep me or anyone else in the pulpit two times a month, do some dreaming-- Who can we reach in Polk County with a message of love, acceptance and inclusion that may not know about us now? What can we do to further fulfill TBUUF's stated mission of being a force for good in the area? What are your ideas? One of things I hope to begin in March is a short adult religious education class. I'm looking into possible locations, times, and topics at the moment. Theme possibilities include "This I Believe" which would use a curriculum popularized by NPR, and "Building your Own Theology" but I'm open to others. If you have an idea for an adult ed class, or any other activity, please pass it on to me and/or the Board.

I want you to know that I will be away at the end of this month, from Feb 20-March 1, I will be away in Haiti, where I'll be co-leading a trip sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (UUCSJ). A collaboration between the UU Service Committee and the UUA, the UUCSJ offers journeys in which participants engage in learning more about specific social justice concerns. In addition to trips to Haiti, the CSJ offers learning-journeys to Mexico, India, and Chicago, as well as youth programs and internships. www.uucsj.org

UUCSJ offers journeys in which participants engage in learning more about specific social justice concerns. In addition to trips to Haiti, the CSJ offers learning-journeys to Mexico, India, and Chicago, as well as youth programs and internships. www.uucsj.org

This will be my third visit to Haiti, where I have learned a tremendous amount, particularly about the Haitian farmer's movement, MPP, and its decades of work empowering people to create better living conditions. Through this native organization, our UU Service Committee (that's you!) has been engaged in building "ecovillages" which are helping resettle victims of the 2011 earthquake that killed more than 100,000 people. The history of Haiti, which lies just 500 miles or so from the US coast, is both grim and heroic, and the past oppressions of this former slave colony have led to many of the current difficulties the nation faces. On this trip I will be going with members of the West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Ohio. I look forward to sharing more about Haiti and this trip with you when I return.

Stay warm and take care--

Much love,

Sally Beth



Note from Robbie—Coffee anyone? Put these dates on your calendar:

Friday, February 14th at 9:30 and on Friday, February 28 at The Open Road Coffee House on Highway 176 in Tryon. The owner says he'll reserve a spot for our group. It worked out beautifully last Friday—cozy and relatively private. Please note that we will meet at 9:30 not the early time of 9 a.m.

Page 3 and Page 4 give you some more information about the Chalice Lighter program. It might prove a viable way to do something about new meeting place or having a full-time minister

New Website? and New Phone Number?

The new website address for our Fellowship is: www.tbuuf.org (Sally Beth is working on it).

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. And we'll soon have a cell phone number.



Chalicalighters
@gmail.com

Chalice Lighters
web site:

[www.uucosouthernregion/
chalicalighters.html](http://www.uucosouthernregion/chalicalighters.html)

**CHALICE LIGHTER
COMMITTEE**

- Linda Bair, secretary
- Claire Doyle, vice chair
- Anita Lee
- Holly McKinney, chair
- Christina Rivera, treasurer
- Larry Romans

**Application
deadlines**

15 March for the
Spring Call

15 August for the
Fall Call (October)

15 November for
the Winter Call
(February)

**Southeast District
of the UUA**

9704 Mallard Creek
Rd. Charlotte NC
28262-9738

The Flame

\$50,000 from Call 160 Will Benefit Two Congregations

The Chalice Lighter Committee is grateful for the generosity of our Chalice Lighter membership who responded to the double call to benefit the UU Fellowship of Statesboro, GA and the Mutual Aid Carrboro UU congregation, Carrboro, NC. Each congregation will receive \$25,000.

Thanks to you: The UU Fellowship of Statesboro will be able to complete their renovations and development on their new site, and the emerging Mutual Aid Carrboro UU congregation will use their funds to support a part-time minister. We look forward to following the progress and growth of these two congregations.

\$1,000,000 Raised in 25 Years!

2013 marked the 25th year of our SED Chalice Lighter program! And with call #160, we have now raised more than \$1,000,000 over the life of the program. It is truly amazing what can be accomplished when we pool our resources and dedicate ourselves to growing Unitarian Universalism.

Here are some highlights from our proud history:

The very first grant was awarded to the Piedmont UU Church to call their first minister. The total raised was 52,850. In 2013, the Piedmont UU Church received another Chalice lighter grant of 525,600 to support an assistant minister position (Call158).

In 1993-94, Chalice Lighter pledges more than doubled from \$4,000 per call to over 59,000. Since that time, pledges have steadily increased. Our typical call amounts are \$25,000+ for the past six years.

Of the 61 calls over the past 25 years, 25 were in support of a first time or additional ministry positions, four were for other staff positions (ORE, Music Director, etc.), 28 were for building construction, renovation, acquisitions and the remainder were for new starts.

A number of congregations have received more than one grant over the life of our program. In most cases, these congregations received a grant to support their first minister, then after some years received a second for a building-related project.



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

January 2014

SED Chalice lighter Committee announces Chalice Lighter Call # 161 to benefit UU Congregation of Swannanoa Valley, Black Mountain, NC

It is a simple fact that good ministry grows congregations, and a professional Minister's role is to help grow good ministry." - the Pacific Northwest District of the UUA, Oct. 9, 2011.

In February 2010 the membership of Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Swannanoa Valley overwhelmingly agreed to seek a half-time minister. However their search for a UU minister willing to relocate for a half-time position was understandably unsuccessful. In August 2012 they were able to hire an ordained interfaith minister, Rev. Michael Carter, as a half-time consulting minister.

UUSCV is clearly committed to growth and increasing diversity. The congregation has dug deeply and made sacrifices in order to increase Rev. Carter's hours as well as those of their Director of Religious Education. Since Rev. Carter's arrival, Sunday attendances, RE enrollment and membership have all grown. Rev. Carter, who is African-American, has brought his experience as a Diversity Specialist to help the congregation to become the best they can be.

It is the congregation's ultimate goal to be able to afford a full-time settled UU minister. As the congregation meets financial and membership goals, UUCSV hopes that Rev. Carter may be that minister and he, in turn, is interested in working toward UU ministerial fellowship. Whoever may be called to UUCSV in the coming years, please help this congregation realize this dream of full-time ministry with your generous contribution.

Let's help their flame glow brightly as they continue to be a beacon of liberal religion in the Southeast.

Thank you.

Linda Bair, Claire Doyle, Anita Lee, Holly McKinney (chair), Christina Rivera, Larry Romans Chalice Lighter Committee

You may make payment online via credit card or Electronic Funds Transfer. Go to the Southern Region website/SED Chalice Lighter page: <http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/clsed.html> and click the "Donate" button.

If you prefer to pay by check, make it payable to the "Southern Region UUA" and note on the memo line that it is for **SED Call #161**. Your pledge amount is printed on the return envelope. Please include any address updates or if you want to change the amount of your pledge or no longer wish to be a Chalice Lighter, let us know by returning the enclosed card. Thank you.

Please send your contribution by April 30, 2014, the closing date for this call.

Southeast District Office, 9704 Mallard Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28262-9738