

# The Beacon

Newsletter  
of the  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Lakeland



Volume 31, No. 4

Published Monthly

April 2009

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**Adult Discussion Group**  
10:00 AM

**Religious Exploration**  
(School Year Only)  
Children/Youth  
10:00 AM

**Coffee**  
10:00 AM

**SUNDAY SERVICE**  
11:00 AM

**Fellowship**  
Noon

**EarthFamilies Evensong**  
2:00 PM



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## The Beacon

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Universalist Congregation of Lakeland  
Editor: Portia Westerfield  
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Contact@UUCLakeland.org

## SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

- 5** "Einstein's Religion" As UU's, we 'promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning'. Today we will look at Einstein's beliefs about God and religion and in so doing come to understand how science and religion were related in the mind of one of the greatest scientists the world has known. Presented by **Don Wallace**.
- 12** "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?" - **Rev. Bonnie Devlin** - This will be a special day, where we celebrate two important Sundays in one - the holy day of Easter, and the first 'Covenant Sunday' at our Lakeland congregation. Easter (along with Christmas) is one of the most 'inter-faith' of religious holidays, since it is a celebration of the return of the light in our daily and spiritual lives; and it marks the time of the Vernal Equinox—a sacred time of renewal for our ancestors and so many of us today. This time also marks the story of Jesus, particularly the last days of his life and the great epic 'Passion' story of his crucifixion and resurrection. The story of Jesus is a 'divinely human' story, which is why it touches the lives of so many people around the world, regardless of their particular faith. Today we can reflect on the Passion of Jesus, and pay respect to our unique Unitarian Universalist Covenant of Principles and the Sources of our free Faith Tradition.
- 19** "Honoring the Earth" As people of faith, and especially as Unitarian Universalists, we recognize our place within the community of life, as part of the interdependent web of all existence. Join us for this service honoring the 39th Earth Day. This special service will also feature music and a Story for All Ages by special guest storyteller and Celtic harpist **Patrick Ball**.
- 26** "Exploring Humanism" Humanism affirms that human beings have the right and responsibility to give meaning and shape to their own lives. As our monthly InterGenerational service, it is intended to be of interest to all ages. This year our children are studying the World Religions curriculum and this exploration co-ordinates with their study this month of Humanism.



### Congregational Services Committee

**Help us care for one another:** if you know a member or friend who could benefit from receiving a call, card, visit or assistance, please notify the Office at 646-3715 and/or Sunshine@uuclakeland.org.

**Need wheels?** If you desire a ride to/from church on Sundays, phone or e-mail the Office and they'll try to procure one for you.

## Annual Meeting Notice

April 5th is our annual congregational meeting; The time when we all get together and elect our future leaders, approve next year's budget and possibly make changes to our by laws. This year, we will also be voting on our Mission Statement. Please read through the Annual Meeting packet that was mailed to you last week, and bring it with you to the meeting. To save costs, only a few extra copies have been made.

After the morning service, sandwiches will be provided for a light lunch. Please bring some finger foods to accompany the sandwiches if you can. As soon as possible after we eat, we will begin the meeting. We anticipate that the meeting will be short, since we held two informational Town Meetings in March to go over items on the agenda. Thank you in advance for your attendance and taking part in this important part of your membership with UUCL. This is your congregation!

## Easter Weekend BBQ

We are planning a BBQ at UUCL on Saturday, April 11th, at 3:00 p.m. Instead of only a few of us meeting with Rev. Bonnie on Saturday, for business, we have decided to have some fun with her instead. And what better way than to have a cook out! We will be asking everyone to bring a side dish to share and meat (or meat substitute) to be grilled on-site by some champion BBQers, or so I've heard. Additional details will be communicated to you via e-mail and Sunday morning announcements.

See you there!  
Linda Walters

## NEWCOMER BREAKFAST AND ORIENTATION

Everyone who is new to UUCL and/or new to Unitarian Universalism - we invite you to join us on Sunday, April 19, at 9:00 AM for a continental breakfast and informational session. Church members are welcome also to get to know the newcomers. Call Barbara Wallace, Membership Chair, 425-2319, if you would like to come.

Barbara Wallace

# Minister's MUUsings

This is an exciting time of the year! We are celebrating Easter Sunday together, and something new for our congregation, where holy days like Easter, the Equinox, and the time of spring are all celebrated in a uniquely UU way.

For many years I had thought about our UU traditions of celebrating the holidays and holy days of all the world's great faith traditions. Yet, despite this joyful acceptance of religious pluralism, I always feel a bit empty and frustrated that we didn't have a unique, indigenous Unitarian Universalist 'holy-day' celebration of our own. Out of this calling to honor our unique faith tradition I created a special celebration which I call '**COVENANT SUNDAY**' and I've been celebrating this service with congregations for almost 20 years now.

What exactly is '**COVENANT SUNDAY**?' Well, it will be a time to symbolically celebrate the return of the light and to re-dedicate ourselves to our Unitarian Universalist Covenant of our Principles and Purposes, through the lighting of seven candles, one for each of our Covenant Principles, and then lighting one candle to symbolize our commitment to our 5 religious, moral and spiritual sources. We celebrate the history and symbolic importance of the flaming chalice, recite our principles and purposes, Dedication to the UU Martyrs, a reflection on our Covenant and community of faith, and celebrate a communion of Light which is a hallmark of our tradition.

Our first written Covenant recorded in 1889 by the Unitarians reads:

### OUR FAITH

The Fatherhood of God  
The Brotherhood of Man  
The Leadership of Jesus.  
Salvation by Character.  
The Progress of Mankind,  
Onward and upward forever.



Well, these are noble words, but have we come a long way since then! Today, and since our merger in 1961, the Unitarian Universalist Association has evolved to adopt a Covenant which is both inclusive and expansive, a Covenant that is sensitive to both men and women, the environment, the global village, to peace and social justice throughout the world, to the magnitude of the individual and collective spiritual journey. I invite you to read our Covenant which is in much of our UU literature. THIS IS A COVENANT WORTH HONORING AND CELEBRATING!

So I invite all of you to join with me on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> for Easter Sunday and for the first '**COVENANT SUNDAY**' ever celebrated in our Lakeland congregation!

Peace and Love, Bonnie

**No Pot-luck lunch this month (April 12th).  
Join us for our cook out on the 11th!**



## "Splinters From The Board"

### March 18, 2009 Meeting

- An oral summary of the recent survey will be presented at the annual meeting.
- A Town Meeting will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the survey and how to best use the results.
- The word "diversity" in the survey is confusing. It was suggested that an Adult Education class be held on the meaning of diversity.
- The Caring Committee needs donations of cards and stamps.
- The Hospitality Committee needs assistance.
- It was the consensus of the Board that the current President be sent to GA as a delegate and that money from a fundraiser be used to help pay expenses, or at least pay the registration fee.
- The RE porch replacement is a priority and it was suggested that \$800 received from the Florida Jets fundraiser be used for this project. No decision was made at this time on how to spend this money. Rafi will contact members about getting a "foreman" for the project and estimates of cost and permits required.
- The bake sale at the Florida Jets was an RE fundraiser and it made \$300.
- It was suggested that a social activity be held the next Saturday afternoon that Rev. Bonnie Devlin is with us. The date will be April 11, and a BBQ is being planned.
- The Board agreed to hold a retreat for the current and new Board members, this summer. Rafi Ellis will coordinate the retreat.
- It was suggested that the topic of Rev. Bonnie Devlin's time in May be Adult Education.
- Absentee voting is allowed for General Assembly. Delegates and voting will be decided at the May Board meeting.
- The budget was approved by the Board with the addition of a Sunday in July and August for the Rev. Bonnie Devlin.
- The monies raised from fund raisers were not included in budget income and may be earmarked for special purposes.
- It was suggested that UUCL's participation in Sun and Fun be cancelled to concentrate on other fundraisers.
- The Board approved two fundraisers: a yard sale on May 1 and 2 and participation in the Top Gun model airplane show May 6th through 10th.
- The Board approved holding a "Job Fair" on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> to explain and promote participation in committees at UUCL.

The truest test of character is not how much we know how to do,  
but how we behave when we don't know what to do.

– John W. Holt

## APRIL



Jim Young	2
Adair Wheaton	5
Merce Fox	12
Warren Slack	12
Heidi Zappler	16
Anne Kearton	18
Tom Bergere	29

## April Anniversaries

Dorothy and Warren Slack	3
Harriett and Adair Wheaton	4
Deb and Bruce Dubendorff	11
Kitty and Kyle Sawyer	15
Beverly and Ralph Sterling	22
Estuko and Bryan Rivers	25



### SCHEDULING MEETINGS

**REMINDER:** All meetings and events are to be scheduled through the UUCL Office. Contact the Office at 863-646-3715 or [Contact@UUCLakeland.org](mailto:Contact@UUCLakeland.org).

To publish information about the content of meetings/events, contact the Beacon Editor, Portia Westerfield, at 863-425-3968 or e-mail at [portiap@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:portiap@tampabay.rr.com)

## Thank YouUU!

We would like to send out a big THANK YOU to **Daniel Whitt**, one of our newest members and a go-getter. Since joining UUCL last November, Daniel has integrated himself into many aspects of congregational life. Since he is new to the religion, he is learning as much as he can by attending various functions and committee meetings, and has even created one himself (with the help of a few friends): Common Grounds Coffee House, a sub-committee of the Congregational Services Committee. He is always willing to lend a hand and has great ideas for improvements. His presence in our beloved community is refreshing and uplifting, and not just because he makes coffee for us every Sunday morning, but because he cares about us and wants to help us make UUCL a better place. Bravo!



## GAMES FOR GROWNUPS

Join us! We play games the group decides to play that evening ...cards, board games, table games and anything else that meets our fancy. Bring a game or two that you would enjoy playing. Some folks bring simple snacks or beverages to share but that's up to you. We meet in the Social Hall at 6:30 every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.

Questions?:

Call Blenda George at 709-9096 (blenda@tampabay.rr.com) or Jane Eskenazi at 682-8869 (ajeskenazi@earthlink.net).

## UUCL Book Club



The Book Club meets third Thursdays at 6:30 in the Social Hall. This month, join us April 16 as we discuss The Spiral Staircase, by Karen Armstrong. The author speaks to the troubling years following her decision to leave the life of a Roman Catholic nun and join the secular world. This discussion will be moderated by Barbara Wallace. All are welcome!

## *A Message From The President*

March was a crazy, busy month: Florida Jets, Paint Your Heart Out, District Assembly, two Town Meetings, Common Grounds concert (Jim Scott), Committee Meetings, Board Meeting, and preparing for the Annual Meeting. Whew! April should be a breeze after that.

Joyce Bode, Heather Curry, Theresa Lutz and I attended the District Assembly in March. We took the opportunity to learn, mingle and network with our fellow UUs from Florida. As with any UU event I have attended, I came away feeling inspired and optimistic, feelings I cherish in this world today. Our own Rev. Bonnie was there and gave a workshop entitled "The Diverse, Yet Inclusive Worshiping Congregation: Moving Beyond the Word Wars." I also had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Charlie Clements, President and CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world. His talk was inspiring and educational. Did you know that 1 in 6 people on this earth do not have access to safe drinking water?

Our special collection for March was for the UUSC. This is a group that walks our talk and helps people all over the world. Please take a look at their website, [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org), and see what they are doing. And while you're there, if you have not done so this year, become a member of UUSC, and remember to enter "UU Congregation of Lakeland" on the form, so we will get credit. You will see a lot of references to UUSC in this newsletter. It is important to many of us.

Be blessed,  
Linda Walters



*Finish each day and be done. You have done what you could.*  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

## RUMMAGE SALE

Get ready. Get set. Go! Start now saving plastic and large paper grocery bags. We can also use some newspaper for wrapping glassware. Need a sturdy rack for hanging things, and help with advertising. The action dates are as follows:

Sun. April 19: Sign up to help before, during, and after the sale.

Sun. April 26: Begin bringing your stuff to UUCL at the closet end of the Social Hall.

Mon. & Tues., April 27-28: 6pm to 9 pm, bring more stuff and help with set up.

Wed. & Thur., April 29-30: 6pm to 9pm, help with pricing.

Fri. & Sat., May 1-2: 8am to 4pm, help with sale, clean-up.

Contact Blenda with questions or offers of help: 709-9096 or [blenda@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:blenda@tampabay.rr.com)

Blenda George

## SOCIAL CONCERNS

### UU SERVICE COMMITTEE

It is time to renew our memberships in the UU Service Committee (UUSC). The UUSC is an affiliate of the Unitarian Universalist Association, but is separately funded, primarily by membership fees and donations.

The UUSC supplements our local social action programs by enabling us to have an impact globally. It works to promote economic and environmental justice, and to address human rights violations around the world.

Our congregation has a proud record of supporting UUSC through individual memberships over the years. The memberships are renewed annually. To renew, or to become a new member, follow the simple steps at the UUSC web site at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org), or, if you prefer, contact Peter Helwig or Joyce Bode for assistance.

### TOMMIE AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Each year the Social Concerns Committee presents the Cleo Thomas Award to a person who deserves recognition for acts of humanitarian service. Sometimes the recipient is a UUCL member, but more often s/he is a member of the larger Central Florida community.

The Social Concerns Committee is now soliciting nominations from the congregation. Please submit the name of your nominee, along with a brief statement of the reasons supporting the nomination, to Peter Helwig at [pfhelwig@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pfhelwig@tampabay.rr.com). Nominations can also be placed in the Social Concerns mailbox at UUCL. Please submit nominations by March 31, 2009.

Co-chairs: Peter Helwig  
Laura Wampfler



“The flaming chalice was first seen in April 1941 in the refugee camps in France as the symbol of the Unitarian Service Committee. It was designed by a Jewish refugee, Hans Deutsch, and commissioned by Rev. Charles Joy, who believed the refugees we served in the midst of Nazi and Vichy informers needed a symbol to know that they were in safe hands. Rev. Joy believed they needed a symbol of hope, which the flaming chalice has been for nearly seven decades...”

“Of course, we retained the flaming chalice (for our new logo), but now you can see it is framed by joined hands ... these open hands, universal symbols of welcome and fellowship, sweep outwards, indicating our engagement with the broad community of people committed to human rights. The chalice enshrines our origins; its central position reaffirms the continuing importance of our Unitarian Universalist values. The logo’s sweeping parallelism suggests flowing energy, consistent with our vision for UUSC as a dynamic and agile force in the world of human rights advocacy.”

— excerpted from plenary address of Charlie Clements, General Assembly 2008, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

## Religious Exploration

Hello!

March has been a great adventure through Islam. I think my favorite activity was making sandwiches to bring to the Talbot House. This was a great way to show how community service activities are important to many religions. Islam has so many positive aspects and I hope you feel as determined as I do to help spread the word and change peoples’ perspectives. I am all about “coexisting” this year and not just at UUCL, but also within the larger community.

Speaking of “coexisting”, have you seen our new t-shirts? Have you bought one? If not, see us in RE and we’ll set you up! We will be building a new porch on the RE building, with your help! Thanks!

We will not be focusing on a specific religion in April. Instead, we will dabble in a few things, including humanism. We will also direct our energies towards a kid-designed worship service, coming to you in May! It’s one you won’t want to miss!

Love,  
Heather Curry  
Director of Religious Exploration



### A Note from Rev. Bonnie

Even in the best of times we all experience moments of personal pain or crisis—and in these times the stresses on us are even greater. I want to make myself available to any of you who are experiencing difficult moments, to be there for you in a pastoral capacity.

I invite you to call upon me should you need someone to talk with, some pastoral care or even to set up a time for a pastoral counseling session. My phone number is: **941-722-0868**. I have the ‘freedom plan’ so I can always call you back to save you the ‘dime’. None of us should ever walk alone in the valley of life, so please call me. I would be honored to talk with you.

Many blessings, Rev. Bonnie

### To All Committee Chairs

Will groups which meet regularly on a particular day **please let the UUCL Office Secretary know** if/when your plans change and you decide NOT to meet on that day. It will be announced on the Office Calendar, the website Calendar of events and in the Sunday Bulletin (for instance, “Sunday, Dec. 25...no CUUPs.”)

If you forget to notify us of such cancellation, your regularly scheduled meeting will automatically appear on its usual day in our Calendars. And folks might show up expecting your excellent program, and be disappointed.

## Words on Worship

The Worship Committee has been working hard to learn more about how to create excellent worship services. In March, we had a workshop with Rev Bonnie here at UUCL. Then Joyce and Theresa attended a more in-depth workshop with her at the Florida District Annual Assembly.

We've begun offering excerpts from our worship services at the website. You can listen to them at the site or download them to your computer or even to a disc if you know someone who can't listen online. We hope you enjoy this opportunity to listen if you can't attend, or if you just want to hear it again!

As always, the Worship Committee needs your help! Attend our meetings (first & third Mondays @ 5:30pm), volunteer for a "This I Believe" Moment, offer your musical talents, or just give us feedback. You can reach us all at [worshipcommittee@uuclakeland.org](mailto:worshipcommittee@uuclakeland.org), or just Joyce and Theresa at [worship@uuclakeland.org](mailto:worship@uuclakeland.org).

## COFFEE HOUR



Beginning in May the Hospitality Committee has decided to try a different method of securing volunteers for Sunday's Coffee Hour.

We will post a calendar listing all the Sunday's of the year with spaces for members and friends to sign up for Coffee Hour responsibility once a year. We have 90 plus members at present and 52 Sundays. This is just about enough people so that working in pairs, most of the Sundays would be covered if EVERYONE TAKES THEIR TURN.

The duties are minimal. (1) Make fresh coffee if the early morning people have emptied a pot (We make one decaf and one regular pot at 10 am.) (2) Carry food items brought by members to the serving tables. (3) Pick up and empty trash when finished. As is the case now, everyone is urged to bring some finger food every once in a while, taking their dishes home with them afterward. Finger food does not require plates and silverware so there should be no dishes to do.

This process will give everyone a chance to help with Coffee Hour so it will not be a burden to just a few. If no one signs up for a given week, there won't be Coffee Hour that week.

Don Wallace

### COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL RELATIONS

The COCR meets regularly on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Social Hall; any other/additional meetings, such as the extra one in January, are always posted on the Committee bulletin board. All UUCL members are welcome to attend all meetings.

Everyone is reminded of the Issues and Ideas Box where you can submit comments/ideas and questions. This box is opened at committee meetings and all entries are answered.

## Treasurer's Report

We now have a positive cash flow, and we do have money in our checking account and are current on all bills. February was a short month and shows a loss because we paid some of the outstanding bills, but the year-to-date amount is in the black.

The 2009-2010 budget has been approved by the Board and is a balanced budget—**no shortfall!** This budget includes having a minister two Sundays a month, and includes money for more professional musicians. We have not included fundraisers in the Operating Budget and therefore will be free to use the fundraiser money as needed for special projects. We continue to look for innovative speakers and musicians to provide intellectual and stimulating services within the budget.

Special collections for the next several months will be decided by the Social Concerns Committee. If you have not yet become a member of the UU Service Committee, please do so by going to [UUSC.org](http://UUSC.org) and filling out a membership application. Membership needs to be renewed each year.

	<u>February</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget 08-09</u>
Income	\$ 3,752	\$ 51,320	\$ 71,800
Expenses	\$ 6,277	\$ 50,243	
Total	\$ (2,525)	\$ 1,077	

Financial reports are posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen. If you ever want any information on any financial matters, please feel free to contact me.

Joyce Bode  
Treasurer



## SAVE THE DATE !

Tuesday evening, May 12, the Humanist Association of West Central Florida (HAWCF) will host guest speaker Ronald Aronson, Distinguished Professor of the History of Ideas, at Wayne State University, Michigan. The meeting will start in the UUCL Sanctuary at 7:00 pm and is open to the public. Dr. Aronson's newest book, *Living Without God, New Directions for Atheists, Agnostics, Secularists and the Undecided* (Counterpoint 2008, \$25.00) offers a positive, socially conscious worldview for today's rapidly-growing secular community. Other contemporary authors have attacked traditional religion, leaving us in an empty "what now?" limbo; *Living Without God* concentrates on upbeat, challenging concepts to fill that gap.

Portia Westerfield, HAWCF President

## EarthFamilies Evensong Gatherings

Every Sunday at 2:00 P.M.

**Apr 5th:** Join in a CUUPS annual tradition as we observe the Jewish Seder, or The Telling of Passover. The gathering is planned for 2:00 in the Social Hall, or directly after the conclusion of the main congregation's annual meeting, whichever comes first.

**Apr 12th:** Drum Circle in the main sanctuary. Join this family-friendly activity and explore the meditative value of rhythm! We have plenty of instruments to share; chanters and dancers always welcome! Come early (noon) and join UUCL's monthly potluck.

**Apr 19th:** Chant Workshop and Earth Day observance. Last month's chanting was so enjoyable, and there's always more to learn and share. This month, we will also observe Earth Day with a special prayer. Free chant booklets courtesy of *Reclaiming Quarterly*.

**Apr 26th:** Anime in the Afternoon, sponsored by EarthFamilies. This month's film TBA. Bring a drink to share. Fresh popcorn will be available for a donation.



## ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP

Sundays at 10:00 am in the Social Hall

Topics for April '09

**Apr 5th:** Should we intervene militarily in countries that kill large numbers of their own citizens? (eg: Cambodia, Darfur, Rwanda, Sudan)

**Apr 12th:** Why are bioethical researches so controversial and argumentative? (eg: reproductive science, stem cell research, cloning people, designer babies, gene therapy)

**Apr 19th:** Discuss the goals of critical thinking:

- be alert for alternatives,
- be familiar with the subject,
- seek reasons and evidence,
- should be a controversial topic.

**Apr 26th:** How can Unitarian Universalists open communication with others in social interactions? (eg: freedom of religion, toleration of others, reason and conscience)

### CONGREGATIONAL DIRECTORY

Deletions, new entries, and changes to existing telephone numbers, e-mail or residence addresses should be e-mailed to [Contact@uuclakeland.org](mailto:Contact@uuclakeland.org). Members and friends unable to e-mail are asked to submit information to (863) 646-3715. Thank you.

## Friends of Joe concerts

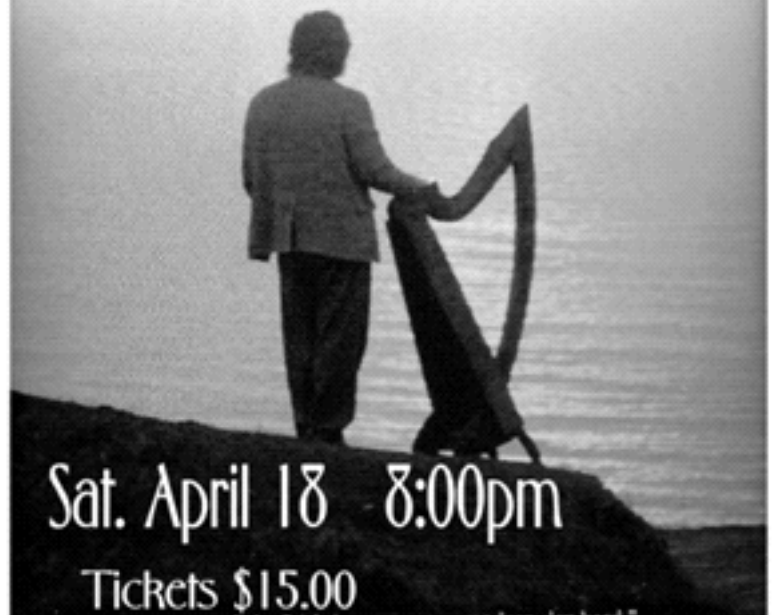
UUCL 3140 Troy Ave. Lakeland

contact Anne 863 - 646 - 1972

[www.joeprine.org](http://www.joeprine.org)

## Patrick Ball

Theater of Legend  
*Celtic Harp & Spoken Word*



Patrick Ball is one of the premier Celtic harp players in the world and a captivating spoken word artist. He has recorded seven instrumental and three spoken word albums which have sold well over one-half million copies internationally and won national awards in both the music and spoken word categories.

Patrick Ball is "a rare artist." For in playing the ancient, legendary brass-strung harp of Ireland with its crystalline, bell-like voice, and in telling marvelous tales of wit and enchantment, he not only brings new life to two cherished traditions, but blends them in concert to create "a richly theatrical and hauntingly beautiful performance."

Patrick will also be performing in the Sunday morning UUCL service on April 19th at 11:00 am.



### The Smart Church #28

What do we do when members act out? Do we have policies in place that will support actions that leaders might need to take? What are our expectations for the behavior of the members of the congregation? Members have rights but does the congregation, as a community, have rights? What are the responsibilities of members? Do we understand the deepest meaning of, "*The inherent worth and dignity of every person*"? Do we understand that to allow one member or even a group of members to blackmail, gossip, bully or in any other way hurt others or the community is not upholding our principles? "*The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large*" - does not mean that we should just say it louder or over and over again until we get our way.

Democratic process gives each person a voice in the process. It does not guarantee that we will get our way. Once everyone is heard from, we vote and then we take action. If you do not like the direction taken you are free to say that. However, you are not free to sabotage the congregation. All differences of opinion should be stated in covenant, loving kindness and humility.

The democratic process by which we make our big decisions needs to be loving, kind, open, honest, inclusive and communicative. It needs to take in the largest vision. The process by which we make small to medium size decisions needs to be through our elected leaders. That is why they are elected - to lead. We should thank them every Sunday for their dedication, the time and energy they give and their passion. We should pray for their good health and that they be blessed with wisdom. We should support and communicate our appreciation for all they do on behalf of the congregation. Leaders should be elected for the right reasons too. Not to fill a slot or because it is their turn but because they have a gift for leadership. They are mature, self-aware people who love the congregation and Unitarian Universalism, people who understand who and what they serve.

By Connie Goodbread  
District Lifespan Program Consultant

*Leadership is the spiritual process of discerning what one believes (clarity), acting on that belief in the public arena (decisiveness), and standing behind that action (responsibility) despite the varied responses of people (courage).*

- Rev. Frank Thomas



**UUA General Assembly** - June 24-28, 2009 Salt Lake City, Utah - <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/>

### The West Central Cluster and the UU Church of Tampa Present a Workshop on - Ethics: The Cosmic Imperative

During this workshop participants will actively engage in a series of activities designed to lead to a more thorough understanding of the Role of humans in Evolution, and the necessity of Ethics in the Role.

In this workshop, every basic assumption will be challenged with a radical view of the Cosmos and your place in it. Be prepared to have thoughts you never had before as religion, evolution, and God are put into a perspective that opens a new paradigm for understanding them as different views of a single process.

Drinks and light lunch will be provided. Registration fee is \$15.00 per person, payable at the door. Call (727) 393-3499 by April 6 and leave a message if necessary.

**Saturday, April 11th. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Hosted by UU Church of Tampa 11400 Morris Bridge Rd., Tampa

### REVIVAL

**April 17, 2009 7:00 PM**

**Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed**

Raised Unitarian Universalist (UU), Mark Morrison-Reed was ordained as a UU minister in 1979. For 26 years, he and his wife, Donna, served as co-ministers—first in Rochester, NY, then in Toronto, ON, Canada. Morrison-Reed's graduate thesis, *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination*, was published in 1984 and is still in print. He is also co-editor, with Jacqui James, of *Been in the Storm So Long*. His latest book, *In Between: Memoir of an Integration Baby* is a frank personal account of growing up black during the era of the Civil Rights movement.

Music by the Octagon Players

Reception to follow

Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater  
2470 Nursery Road  
Clearwater FL 33764

For more information go to:

UUA - [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) - FLD - [www.floridadistrict.org](http://www.floridadistrict.org) - WCC - [www.westcentralcluster.org](http://www.westcentralcluster.org)

# CONGREGATION DIRECTORY

## MINISTER

**Rev. Dr. E. Bonnie Devlin**  
Part-Time Consulting Minister

## OFFICERS

**President** Linda Walters  
[President@uuclakeland.org](mailto:President@uuclakeland.org)

**President-Elect** Rafi Ellis  
**Past-President** Joyce Bode  
**Treasurer** Joyce Bode  
**Recording Secretary** Anne Kearton  
**Corporate Secretary** Joyce Bode

**Board Members:**

Charlene Bennett Peter Helwig  
Blenda George Laura Wampfler  
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