

# The LOG

Our monthly newsletter  
Editor: Mike Dover

**Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
3201 Turnagain Street, Anchorage, AK 99517

May 2010

Minister's Musings	1	<b>MINISTER'S MUSINGS</b>
Minister's Schedule	2	<i>From the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock, Transitional Minister</i>
Circles and Ripples	2	As the "church year" winds to a close, I am moved by all that is stirring in the Anchorage Fellowship.
Thanks and Wish List	3	Members and friends are thinking about their commitments to AUUF, and volunteering and pledging reflects that. The Visioning task force is at work on distilling a long-term Vision for the fellowship. A group of volunteers is considering how to improve the Fellowship's communication via web, print, and other media. A Volunteer Coordinator is setting up systems to keep track of who is doing what, and which committees and work groups need help. The Board of Directors is considering how to train more leaders.
Benevolence	4	The Children and Youth Religious Exploration program is completing a year of full enrollment, dedicated teachers, and joyful learning and living. The high school group is sending one of their own to leadership school this summer. The Adult Programs Committee has been resurrected and is looking at programs to create a balance of seven pathways to spiritual maturity.
Earth Day Items	4	The Fellowship adopted a year-long social action project, working with transitional housing for people moving out of homelessness -- and the Social Justice Committee is coordinating it. The Green Sanctuary Committee is completing its work to have AUUF certified with the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Green Sanctuary.
Adding to the Forum	6	The Committee on Ministry is connecting with all the groups and committees in the Fellowship to find out what they're doing, and what they need. The Welcoming Committee is seeking new ways to welcome visitors and help them find a place here.
New Members	6	The contemporary service will soon have held seven months of participatory, celebratory services, with innovative music and worship. The forum is experimenting with new ways to make all feel welcome. There is a new choir starting up for the worship service.
Summer Small Groups	6	Seven members attended the UUA Pacific Northwest District Assembly in Bellevue, Washington in February. At least three are planning on attending the UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis this June.
Green Thumb Alert	7	There is a new and beautiful chalice in the sanctuary. A member photo board is taking shape again. There are new wooden name tags for members. A new congregational historian has stepped forward, to record the fellowship's history as it completes its 55th year.
1:30 Contemporary Service	7	I hope you are as proud as I am of all that you have accomplished this year. It's been a good year, with more to come.
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		With Love, <i>Beatrice</i>

## THE REV. BEATRICE HITCHCOCK'S SCHEDULE FOR MAY

The Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock is the 3/4-time transitional minister to the AUUF. She works at her home in Palmer when she is not at the Fellowship. Her day off is Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday are generally spent on Fellowship, staff, and committee business, and pastoral care and counseling. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are mostly for preparation of Sunday services. Her hours are flexible, and she is usually available before evening meetings. Email [revmama@mtaonline.net](mailto:revmama@mtaonline.net) or call 306-7692. *Italics indicate an off-site activity.*

Day of Week	Date	Hours Scheduled Meetings/Activities	Day of Week	Date	Hours Scheduled Meetings/Activities
Sunday	2	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Sunday Services	Sunday	16	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Sunday Services
Tuesday	4	9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Office hours 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Worship Service planning	Tuesday	18	9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Office hours
Wednesday	5	6:30 p.m. Welcoming Committee	Wednesday	19	3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Committee on Ministry 6 - 8 p.m. Board Retreat
Sunday	9	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Sunday Services	Sunday	23	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Sunday Services
Tuesday	11	9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Office hours 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Forum planning	Tuesday	25	9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Office hours
Wednesday	12	6 – 8 p.m. AUUF Board meeting	Thursday	27	6:30 p.m. Compassionate Communication practice group
Thursday	13	6:30 p.m. Compassionate Communication practice group	Sunday	30	Off this Sunday

## CIRCLES OF LIFE, RIPPLES IN THE LARGER POND

*by Shirley Dickens*

A candle of appreciation **for the wonderful Seder** that at least 50 of us enjoyed April 3rd at the Fellowship. Organized by Debbi Bock and Diane Wiggin, we had a wonderful potluck supper and a full Seder ritual with lots of participation from everyone. Lots of children and young people helped and “a good time was had by all.” I love this ancient ceremony.

A candle for **Averill Gay’s continued healing**. The Gays are still here in Anchorage at their condo, and Averill is much more comfortable since she has begun to bear a little weight on the leg with the mending bones. I am happy to say she looks much better and is putting on some much needed weight. Their adult children and grandchildren continue to be a major help to them.

A candle for **Charlu and Tom Choate** (who have been snow birds) who are back in town. Charlu’s chemotherapy continues. She did spend a week in the hospital but is home now and doing better. She felt well enough to crave a Mexican supper this past week. They are staying with their daughter right now.

A candle of pride and appreciation for our own **Heather Flynn** who was awarded the annual Achievement Award by the Anchorage Women’s group, ATHENA. There is a wonderful picture and article on the bulletin board in the upstairs social room. Her many contributions in serving this community make her a “natural” to receive this award. Enjoy, Heather, you deserve it. All this AND a new grandson too!

A candle of gratitude for **all of us (and there were many) who brought lots of stuff for Safe Harbor Inn**. On a recent Saturday the Social Justice Committee met to assemble 16 tubs (the kind that make a nice dish washing tub), and we filled them with 362 pounds of things that any family would need to start out in their own apartment. They were wrapped with colorful dish towels and delivered. There were enough items left over for a good start of another delivery in a few weeks. Well done, and thank you to everyone who helped and contributed. We are a generous bunch here at AUUF and I am proud to be one of us.

A candle of fun and joyful playfulness for a night at AUUF celebrating with the wonderful **Coming of Age people (all the mentors and all the mentees)**. We enjoyed great pasta, salads, yummy desserts, AND karaoke and laughter as a fundraiser for our Coming of Age program.

We have the most beautiful, smart, sweet, and charming young people in the whole city. All you adults in our congregation, if you get asked to participate as a mentor in this special program, jump at the chance. What a fabulous way to make a difference in the life of a young person.

A candle of welcome for the happy return of “snow bird” **Karen Tschannen**, who showed up from California in time to read a couple of her own lovely poems at Poetry Sunday.

A candle of appreciation for several people other than Karen, who read their own poems, many outstanding. **Marie Lundstrom, Renee Frost, Louise Gallop, Darrell Keifer, and Tom Choate** wrote and read their own. What a bunch of talent we have among our own congregation. **Fred Hillman** memorized an unforgettable little poem and delivered it so beautifully that I think I shall never forget it. Thank you, Marie, for a very special service.

A big candle of appreciation to the **Save Darfur people** and especially our own **Debbie Bock** (whose idea it was) for the Sudanese Haflah (a wedding celebration) for the very festive party to honor a local Sudanese couple who were reunited after 10 years and had never had a chance to have this special celebration. Debbie Bock and helpers got together a lovely celebration and wedding cake with African dancing, music and drums. Our Sanctuary was the place to be Sunday night when about 60 of us danced, drank a lovely African fruit punch, and enjoyed the wonderful cake. It was delightful to see all generations dancing together in joyful friendship.

Another candle of appreciation for the faithful UUs who jumped in to help KSKA when they needed us for their recent membership drive. **Judy Whittaker, Julia Garrigues, Mindy Willis, Rick Zimmer, Tom Choate, Maesha Reed and her husband and daughter** were there answering the phones and taking pledges. We are glad that our congregation rallies when needed. Thank all of you who worked that night and also all of us who pledged.

In spite of recent snow, nothing lasts forever. Spring is here at last! And the voice of the turtle is heard in the land! Rejoice, rejoice!

## THANKS AND WISH LIST

*From the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock*

### THANK YOU

Thank you to new member **Aaron Ford**, who is the new choir director, and to all the **choir members**, who will grace our services once a month.

**Mindy Willis, Susie Kobierowski, Jeanne Devon**, and all who worked to sort out nametags and order beautiful new wooden ones for Fellowship members. Thank you to the **Alliance** for funding them.

Thank you to the **Alliance** for paying for the new Nerikome chalice for the sanctuary. Its swirled clay colors of blue, white, green, and brown suggest the colors of the earth as seen from space.

Thank you to **Stan Pitts**, who has volunteered to be the new congregational historian.

Thank you to **Teresa Zimmer** and **Leslie Gale**, who are new on the Adult Program Committee.

Thank you to **Paul and Stephenie Wheeler**, and **Chris Jenkins**, who are bringing the member photo board up to date.

## WISHES

A **laptop computer** for the fellowship and **someone to input and format lyrics** in PowerPoint for the contemporary service.

A **Bulletin Board Creative Designer** to insure order, beauty, timely and useful information on the upstairs bulletin boards.

**Community Organizer** to spearhead Standing on the Side of Love campaigns in Anchorage area. For more information, see [www.standingonthesideoflove.org](http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org).

**Five delegates to UUA General Assembly** in Minneapolis this summer.

**Airline miles** to send high school student Chris Jenkins to Goldmine Leadership Training this summer.

## HALF-PORTION FOR BENEVOLENCE - 2010

In the spirit of benevolence, the following donations have been designated by AUUF. Half of our nonpledge, nonrestricted donations from the plate each Sunday have been, or will be, given to the following:

January	Anchorage Literacy Program	\$764.25
February	Alaska Community Action on Toxics	693.36
March	Hearts and Hands to Africa	1901.34
April	Disaster Relief for Haiti (through UUSC)	TBA

## MORE HANDS NEEDED

As they say, “many hands make light work.” The Pastoral Care Givers are interested in individuals, families, or teens for a Call List to do mini-good deeds:

- Send a card to a UU who might appreciate a birthday, get well, congratulatory, or thank you greeting...perhaps home-made by your children?
- Provide “limo” service to a non-driving UU to a doctor’s appointment, Small Group, Book Club, UU function or Sunday service once or twice per year
- Make a 15 minute friendly phone call once per month to a UU who may not be able to attend services or otherwise participate in our activities
- Cook an extra casserole or hearty soup for our freezer pantry once a year (or be on call for special requests)
- Take an at-home UU out for an hour of coffee and conversation once per quarter

Contact Teresa Zimmer (278-2033 or [tzimmer@gci.net](mailto:tzimmer@gci.net)). Note that your commitment *does not* require any meeting attendance or paperwork!

## COMMENDABLE EARTH DAY COMMITMENT ETHICAL EATING TEAM: FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Unitarian Universalist Association

In honor of the **40th anniversary** of Earth Day, the UUA asked each congregation for **40 people** who would commit to **40 days** of an environmentally friendly daily action or lifestyle change. *Fifty-three* people who attended Earth Day services signed up to participate in the 40/40/40 campaign! Thank you, all.

## **ETHICAL EATING: AN EXCERPT FROM THE EARTH DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

*by Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock*

What follows are eleven suggestions for ethical eating from UU minister Mark Hayes, nutritional educator Dorothy Blair, and me.

- 1) Eat lower on the food chain. This will have positive effects on your personal health, and land use, water quality, and soil conservation. Eating lower on the food chain mostly means to reduce or eliminate meat from your diet.
- 2) Eat and act to promote good farming and fishing practices. Reward those who do this in ecologically sustainable ways by buying their products. This means buying locally produced, or organic, foods whenever possible. Beware of buying fruits and vegetables from states and countries with heavy pesticide use.
- 3) Reduce your consumption of processed foods by eating foods that are as close to their fresh state as possible.
- 4) Avoid foods with excess packaging. Buy in bulk to reduce packing materials, and reuse or recycle every package you can. Take your own shopping bags to the store with you. Those plastic grocery bags take 300 years to decompose, and they pollute water and soil and endanger animals while they're doing it.
- 5) Eat foods produced locally whenever possible. This reduces our share of transportation energy. Foods produced outside Alaska come thousands of miles, and their transportation, by truck or plane, uses fossil fuels and produces greenhouse emissions.
- 6) Reduce food waste by buying only what you can use while it's still fresh, and using leftovers. Organic food seems to have a longer shelf life, as will food grown locally. 27% of the food produced for humans is wasted every year in this country, at the retail, food service, and consumer levels.
- 7) Whenever possible, make compost rather than throwing away your non-meat food scraps. Either keep a compost pile outdoors, or a worm farm indoors, or both. Use the composted material on your garden or houseplants, or give it to someone with a garden.
- 8) Eat for social justice by supporting fair trade initiatives that promote living wages for the food producers and harvesters, and sustainable agricultural practices.
- 9) Grow your own food, whenever possible. Backyard vegetable gardens, berry patches, and fruit trees, are all possible in Alaska, as well as counter-top herb gardens and hydroponically-grown vegetables.
- 10) Another way to eat locally in Alaska is by foraging, fishing, and hunting. Berry picking, mushroom hunting, and clam-digging are time-honored Alaskan pursuits that put delicious food on the table.
- 11) Eat slowly and with appreciation for your food's source. Be thankful.

That was ten different ways to practice ethical eating. Each of them affirms and promotes our seventh principle: respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

## **AUUF RE KIDS CLEAN UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

*by Susie Kobierowski*

Did you notice how much cleaner the streets looked as you arrived at the Fellowship? You'll want to thank the children in the RE classes for all their hard work! We celebrated the 40th anniversary of Earth Day by rolling up our sleeves, pulling on our gloves, and pitching in together to make our neighborhood a place we're proud to call home. Check out the bulletin board in the downstairs social room to see photos of RE Kids In Action! And, while you are there, pick up one of the suggestion lists to see what YOU can do to participate in the Earth Day 2010 40/40/40 campaign. (One class found a box of cassette tapes while cleaning and donated them to the Alliance Book Sale upstairs. Aren't you proud of their dedication to be socially active and charity-minded?) RE Kids ROCK!!

## ADDING A MOMENT OF WELCOME TO THE FORUM

*by Mindy Willis*

Ever since I started as a Forum newbie sitting on the bench next to Dorothy Zappa, I've heard people grumbling that we don't welcome visitors, dabblers, and lurkers into our conversation. I love our Forum, and I've always wished we could reach out more to those like-minded people who would enrich our weekly conversation and enrich their own lives by joining us.

In an attempt to address this, we spent time at April's Forum planning meeting to meet with Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock and discuss options for opening our figurative arms and welcoming the unnamed visitor. During this meeting we decided that:

- We have visitors almost every week, many of whom don't return.
- We occasionally invite friends and family to visit, and wish for an opportunity to introduce them to our community.
- When invited, people are often willing to share more than their names—they might even raise their hands to join the queue.

At the request of the Forum planning group, our minister, the Rev. Hitchcock, has agreed to start the Forum at 9:00 (promptly!). She will introduce herself and welcome our visitors and guests, inviting them to introduce themselves and join our community in conversation and coffee. Then she will introduce our moderator and leave the dais to let the Forum proceed as usual. Based on our usual sleepy pattern, we might even begin the Forum a bit earlier than normal.

I find balance and beauty in this solution. We begin our Forum with welcoming words and a pause to recognize those individuals around us. The minister will unify our three divergent services, beginning with the early morning lecture group and ending with the midafternoon celebration service. And we will have an opportunity each week to greet the visitor who found our website, read the newspaper ad, or bowed to pressure from friends or family to come and listen.

Join me in this experiment in graciousness. I truly value the individuals who form this community, and I hope to see it grow and strengthen. My hope is that by welcoming our visitors, we will gain more voices in our conversation, and what could be more coveted, commendable, and collegial than expanding our progressive hive brain?

## NEW MEMBERS DIG IN RIGHT AWAY

*by Marie Lundstrom, Welcoming Committee*

Our new members will likely have high visibility in coming months and years. **Anthony and Cori Bailey** are taking a leadership role in the Arctic Circle CUUPS group. Ann and Stan Pitts joined, and Stan has agreed to become our Fellowship historian; **Paul and Stephenie Wheeler** are working with Chris Jenkins to take current photos and update our photo board in the upstairs social room. **Mary Ann Eininger** has already been visible as a poetry reader at Poetry Sunday, April 11, and her daughter **Annie Belts** brought her lively, and quite delightfully visible daughter Bella to the New Member Welcome Ceremony April 18. **Aaron Ford** signed the membership book during that ceremony, but he had already been working as our new choir director the day before with a rehearsal and again between services on the ceremony day. We are lucky! Aaron not only directs, but teaches. We UU choristers are all learning.

## SUMMER SMALL GROUP(S)

*by Susan Orlansky*

One or more new small groups will be forming to meet over the summer. Exact times and places will depend on members, but the group(s) are most likely to meet on a WEEKDAY evening, 7-9 p.m., and unlike school year groups, will probably meet every week, so the group can meet approximately 10 times in June-August. If you've been part of a group before and want to meet with different people, this could be a good chance. If you've never been in a small group, this could be a good chance. Small groups AUUF-style pick their own topics and provide a comfortable, friendly environment to think about life's big issues, and to learn about each other and ourselves by listening. Oldtimers and newcomers are welcome. Groups work best when most members can attend most meetings, so this isn't for you if you expect to be gone a lot, but perfect attendance isn't required. If you have questions, call or email Susan at 677-8306 (days), 248-1141 (evening), or orlansky@frozenlaw.com. If you want to be included, give me an idea what days and times work for you. Weekends and weekdays also are possible if there's enough interest.

## GREEN THUMB ALERT

*by Gwen Perry-Crawford*

Hey, all you green thumbs and wannabes out there! How about meeting up for a work party or two at the Fellowship to put in a little thoughtful effort to improve the “curb appeal” of our meeting place? What do you say? Spring is coming fast. A couple of well spent mornings/afternoons/evenings could yield some green and colorful results. I’m betting there are plenty of perennials out there crying to be divided! I’m also guessing there are several master gardeners among our flock. When you head out to your favorite greenhouse, consider what might look good in our flowerbeds and pick up an extra. Any and all thoughts and energy welcome. Please contact the Grounds Committee/Gwen (333-3659), and let’s watch our garden grow!

## 1:30 P.M. CONTEMPORARY SERVICE SCHEDULE

The Contemporary Service will not meet during the summer months. Sunday, May 23 will be its last service for the season. It will resume in the fall, possibly at a different time.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE - MAY 1

*by Susie Kobierowski*

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank you ALL for the wonderful outpouring of goods you provided in March for Safe Harbor Inn! Because of your generosity, nearly 200 lbs. of toothbrushes, shampoos, soaps, and some other basic necessities of life were gathered, distributed into 16 Welcome Baskets, and delivered to the very appreciative staff at the Muldoon Inn. (Please check out the photos on the bulletin board in the upstairs social room) Can you tell from the photos we had a lot of fun loading up these “baskets?” (dishpans really- more functional in a room with no kitchen, only a bathroom sink). The items that were left over will become the “seed” for the next time we have a Safe Harbor collection. All of these baskets have probably been distributed to guests before you are even reading this, with 80 rooms at each Inn and the average stay of 30 days, you can see there is always a need. We are making a difference - there are 16 families getting off to a better start because YOU cared!

Did you attend the 11:00 service on Sunday, March 25th? We on the SJC organized that service! We were so thrilled that Jerene Mortenson could come to speak to us about the Central Asia Institute, especially with a presentation that included the kids in RE. How wonderful to know her son’s work is inspiring our own sons and daughters! The drawings done by the children and adults following that service will become artwork in the homes of children who may never have heard of Alaska before. Now they’ll know we’re here and we are thinking of them. Thank you especially to Cheryl Childers and Kalen Saxton for their contributions in making Jerene’s visit such a success!

The Half-portion For Benevolence Partner for May is the Central Asia Institute, founded by author Greg Mortenson (*Three Cups Of Tea*). The CAI mission is to promote and support community-based education, especially for girls, in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, May 1** in the Teen Room at AUUF. Following on the heels of the very successful Safe Harbor Welcome Basket project, we are looking forward to summer projects and what we would like to do next. We have such energy and enthusiasm, we are sure to have fun with whatever we choose. What do you want to see AUUF doing in the community? Plan on attending this upcoming meeting-- this is where you can put your ideas into action! Want to know more about YOUR Social Justice Committee??? Please contact either Joanne (248-3006) or Susie (696-7337 or skobierowski@yahoo.com)

## BELTAINE (MAYDAY) CELEBRATION - MAY 1

*by Charli Sewell*

**Saturday, May 1**, at 5:30 p.m. in the AUUF parking lot, Arctic Circle CUUPS will host a Beltaine (May Day) Celebration, with Ritual and May Pole Dance, canned music and chanting, Bar-B-Que and potluck and a food drive.

Attire will be ritual garb or comfy casual. Respectful non-pagans and minors under supervision of a watchful parent are WELCOME! If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to oldhippywitch@yahoo.com so that we will know how much food to purchase, and you can get info on chant practice and the potluck.

As is our tradition at all of our events, we are having a food drive, so please bring one item of non-perishable food for each person attending.

The celebration will wrap up around 9:30 p.m.

## WOMEN'S "CLOZ" SWAP & NETWORKING - MAY 2

*by Jill Johnson*

Time to clean out the closets, ladies, and trade in those hardly- or never-worn clothes for some new ones. If Cloz Swap is a new concept to you, it's a wonderful way to share what you don't use and walk away with a new wardrobe...for free! And it's FUN!

Women of ALL SHAPES AND SIZES are encouraged to attend. Bring a friend who's about your size and you'll have someone to trade with. Moms are encouraged to bring their teenage daughters. ONLY clothes, shoes and clothing accessories please, ie. party dresses, ski duds, office clothes...

We will decide as a group where the excess clothes will be donated. As many hands and minds make light work, we encourage everyone's help in sorting the excess, cleaning up and taking the extra to local charities. This will be done in the last 45 minutes, so please arrive BEFORE 5:30 if you want to enjoy the swap.

In the middle, we will take a food break - so bring something to share - and do some networking. It's a great place to find a babysitter, housesitter, realtor, new friends, etc.

Wear fashionable underwear that you don't mind prancing around in as you try on clothes! Bring:

- FRIENDS and TEENS
- a portable mirror (if you own one)
- healthy and/or delectable munchies and/or beverages to share
- your business cards -- we'll also be doing some networking

WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 2, 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street

YOUR HOSTS: Jill Johnson (274-8509 or [jill@sabus.com](mailto:jill@sabus.com)), Gwen Perry-Crawford, and Teresa Zimmer

## MEDITATION MONDAYS—PEACE AND RELAXATION!! - MAY 3, 17

*by Cindy Kinard*

The Monday Meditation Group has begun starting the hour off with a little yoga to relax the body... Well, except that we are starting the yoga at 5:45 in the sanctuary, and heading to the Teen Room for the main meeting from 6-7 p.m. We will continue our normal programs **Mondays, May 3 and 17**. All are welcome!

The group will continue to meet during summer, with extra options for:

- 1) Spur of the moment walking meditations—if you want to be contacted for these, please let us know via email at [ckinard@ak.net](mailto:ckinard@ak.net) or by phone at 345-7296 with both contact pieces...we'll provide a master list to everyone who is interested.
- 2) Outdoor meditation meetings—on regular Monday meeting nights at warm sunny locations...Joyce Palmer's home, Cindy and Wrays' home, other locations to be determined...

If you are not yet on the meditation group email list, and want to get updates on this and other plans for the group, please email [ckinard@ak.net](mailto:ckinard@ak.net).

## WELCOMING COMMITTEE- MAY 5

*by Marie Lundstrom, Welcoming Committee*

The Welcoming Committee is still dealing with what should be on the AUUF Web site for newcomers, visitors, and curious folks. We are getting a list of summer events of all kinds to post, with some marked as of special interest to newcomers. We talked about posting a small list of Fellowship "Ambassadors" with phone numbers and email addresses and maybe some brief "Who We Are" bits from our three-column Welcome flyer. Shirley Dickens volunteered, and I said I would do the same, but more would be welcome.

Some other ideas we nibbled on were (1) to devise an orderly plan of Member Development, i.e. what happens after a person fills out a Visitor Card, gets a letter and Events for Newcomers sheet? What further follow-up should we be doing? and (2) what can we learn from the Web sites of other UU congregations? Some worth checking out: Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Fox Valley in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Our next meeting is **Wednesday, May 5**, at 6:30 p.m. We will focus on summer activities, especially those of interest to new folks.

## BABY DEDICATION CEREMONY – MAY 9

*the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock*

On **Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9**, the 11:00 worship service will include a Baby Dedication Ceremony. Unlike other religions, in which children are dedicated to the church, Unitarian Universalist congregations dedicate themselves to the children. Parents are invited to bring their babies, ages two and younger, to the dedication. Please contact the Rev. Hitchcock by Friday, May 7, to arrange for your baby to be dedicated. (revmama@mtaonline.net or 306-7692).

## HUNGRY BOOK CLUB – MAY 11

*by Susie Kobierowski*

April's Hungry Book Club selection, *Stones Into Schools- Promoting Peace With Books, Not Bombs, In Afghanistan and Pakistan* by Greg Mortenson, reads so much more than just a travelogue or a diary. This book is an adventure story, a mystery, and a quick introduction into geography, social science, and political science. Mostly though, this is a story of hope and determination, and how contagious one person's dream can be. This is Mortenson's second book, although the first one (*Three Cups of Tea*) was written primarily by another person, this one is told by Mortenson himself about the highs and lows of the nonprofit agency he created – The Central Asia Institute- and its work in very remote areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan. We are introduced to some of the individuals in the CAI, his "Dirty Dozen," the loyal and focused locals who work doggedly to continue the mission of educating Afghanistan's children, especially the girls. Each of the 130+ schools that have been built has a unique story, but some of them are just so uplifting and motivating, It's hard not to get swept up in the joys of the children and their parents. Although too much of Afghanistan is enveloped in the ongoing, years-long wars, the elders and villagers remain optimistic and committed to improving their children's lives, even by surrounding their local school to protect it from harm as the surrounding countryside is shelled. As we sat around Shirley's living room nibbling on desserts, having enjoyed a feast as grand as any in the book, we couldn't help but admit how fortunate we are, and how even a small change in our attitudes and actions can benefit children a world away (both literally and figuratively).

In May we are coming closer to home, to Seattle, Washington with our selection of the novel *Broken For You*, by Stephanie Kallos. ["The dead, Margaret thought. They can be so loud." So muses the protagonist of this dreamy, powerful tale of familial warring, secrets and redemption. – Publisher's Weekly] We'll be meeting in Sue Williams' home on **Tuesday May 11** at 7 p.m. for our potluck dinner and discussion.

For June we've chosen *The Spirit Catches You And You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman.

These books can be borrowed through the Loussac Library, and may be purchased with discount from Metro Music and Books. As always, our meetings are open to anyone who is interested - you don't need to have read the book, been part of the book club before, or have a dish of food. If you'd like to join in on the fun, PLEASE DO!! For more info contact Susie (696-7337 or skobierowski@yahoo.com). It's great to read with friends!

## UPCOMING RUMMAGE SALE! – MAY 22

*by Shirley Dickens*

There will be a huge rummage sale **Saturday, May 22** from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the downstairs area. We will set up Thursday and Friday evenings from 5:30 until 8:30 or 9 p.m. prior to that Saturday. As always, we need most of the things brought to the Fellowship **AFTER Sunday, May 16** because there is simply **NO** room to store things. And as always, we need good quality things to sell and lots of help both nights prior to the sale and the day of the sale. Safe Harbor Inn will be the first recipient for those things that don't sell. If you wouldn't want to purchase what you bring, perhaps you shouldn't bring it to us. Thank you in advance for the good things you bring us. This is a wonderful way to recycle and reuse and the main money maker for the Alliance. Besides, it's a great way to get to know others from our congregation. Come and look us over; we get a lot of very interesting things to sell. Again, please, No tires, old computers, or printers. Small furniture (like chairs and bookcases) sell well.

## CELEBRATE THE REVEREND RICHARD R. GAY'S 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!

*The Alliance*

On **Sunday, May 23**, Minister Emeritus Richard R. Gay will turn 90 years old. The Rev. Gay has been a part of AUUF since 1961. He served as minister from 1976 to 1986. To honor him, the Fellowship will host a potluck lunch following the 11:00 service. The Alliance will provide cake and beverages. Please plan on attending and bring a luncheon dish to share.

# AUUF ANNUAL PICNIC - JUNE 6

*by Gwen Perry-Crawford*

It will be here before we know it! What will? Why, the AUUF Annual Picnic, of course! Mark the date on your calendars – **Sunday, June 6!** Alert those taste buds that grilled goodies are on their way. And watermelon! Just when was the last time you tried to see how far you could actually spit those pesky seeds? It will be held at the Kiwanis Fish Creek Park, just around (a few) corners from the Fellowship, as in previous years. Join us in welcoming the summer! See you there! Be there or be Square!

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION (CYRE) NOTES

*by Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration (DLRE)*

### THANK YOUs

. . . Thanks to everyone who brought eggs, toys, and candies, and volunteered for our Spring Fling extravaganza. What a lot of baskets got filled this year! Our biggest kids filled Easter baskets for Covenant House teens, and the rest of us filled 100 baskets for the kids of families staying at McKinnell House and Safe Harbor. The McKinnell House kids were *so* excited as they raced to help carry the baskets in from the car. But I think the RE kids had just as much fun and excitement filling the bags and baskets with goodies! The egg hunt was lots of fun for both the hiders and the finders, even with lots of snow still on the ground!

. . . Thanks to everyone who provided food, bought tickets, and sang their hearts out at the Coming of Age Dinner and Karaoke show. Who knew we had such talent?! It was a stellar evening of food and fun, brought to you by the youth and their mentors in the Coming of Age program.

### SUNDAY MORNING YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAM

#### 11:00 Service

**May 2** - Regular age-group classes

**May 9** - Regular age-group classes

**May 16** – Wrapup activities and pageant practice

**May 23** – Celebration Sunday - RE pageant, Flower Communion and Teacher Recognition! If you are an RE family you won't want to miss it! If you have no children in RE, you will want to be part of this celebration and see what is going on in our program that is usually tucked away downstairs. Flower Communion is a wonderful UU tradition. Each individual/family brings flowers to share. They are placed in vases or baskets upon arrival. During the service there will be a ritual exchange of flowers, sharing the beauty of spring, and recognizing the individuality of each member of our wonderful community. **Please bring flowers to share!!**

**May 30** – Memorial Day weekend, Childcare at 11:00 No RE classes

**9:00 and 1:30 services - Toddler care ages 2-4 - Kid's Quest ages 5-11**

### RE SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

**January Soup Sunday**, hosted by the Moon Spinners, raised \$361 for UUSC Haiti relief.

**February Soup Sunday**, hosted by the Sun Catchers, raised \$236 for The New Hope Food Pantry.

**March Soup Sunday**, hosted by the Water Skippers and Wind Walkers, raised \$246.

**April Soup Sunday** will be hosted by the YRUU class.

**The 9:00 kids** made 50 sandwiches for the Brother Francis Shelter in March, and will be making Doggie Biscuits for the animal shelter in April.

### YOUTH

**May 7-9** – Coming of Age – Rites of Passage Retreat at Birchwood Camp

**May 16** – Coming of Age and Bridging (seniors) recognition at the 11:00 service – Share our youths' experience; recognize their achievements, celebrate!

## **UU WORLD TRAVELERS - SUMMER SUNDAYS - JUNE 6 - AUGUST 29**

### **Do you LOVE to travel?**

Do you bring back cultural artifacts, photos, memories? Are you excited about the cultures and places you've visited? Do you love to tell folks about your trip? Would you be willing to share that cultural experience with our UU kids for 45 minutes this summer?

### **It's easy! We'll help you!**

There will be a tour leader designated every Sunday and you will be the "Guest Tour Guide!" We even have an information packet downstairs! Sign up for a summer Sunday at the Parent Spot or call Rosene Beachy (248-5318) for more information.

## **LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD TEACHERS FOR 2010-11!**

It's May. That means it's time to start thinking about next year! Recruitment has started for next year's teaching teams, and spots are filling up fast to teach amazing kids with wonderful curriculums!

This is a large program, and we need many volunteer teachers and youth advisors to lead our classes. If you have children in the program and have never volunteered, this would be a great year to begin! We have teams of three or four as this makes rotation of responsibilities easy on everyone, with each having one lead Sunday and one helper Sunday each month. This way everyone gets a chance to participate in the adult service. If you would like to be on a teaching team for a particular class, call Rosene Beachy (248-5318) to get your first choice of age groups!

Be part of the fun and action with special programs, celebrations and getting to know a wonderful group of children!

Children and Youth Registration forms will also be available in May.

Fill yours out early so you don't have to worry about it all summer!

## **UPDATE FROM THE AUUF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

At the March 19 and April 7 meetings, the board continued working toward developing charters and revitalizing committees serving AUUF. Also, in keeping with the goal of "building a vibrant community of committed people." We discussed the membership expectations as outlined by Transitional Minister Beatrice Hitchcock in March services, as well as on the cover of the April *LOG*. We encourage all to attend, volunteer, participate, and otherwise support AUUF for the good of the entire congregation!

## **ALLIANCE HIGHLIGHTS**

*by Shirley Dickens*

The Alliance met April 11th with eight members and a guest (Chris Jenkins). Business included hearing Chris Jenkins' request for help with his airline ticket to Seattle, Washington to attend Goldmine Leadership Training, a UU youth leadership school developed by the Pacific Northwest District. This is a five-night, six-day school. \$500.00 was unanimously approved to give to Chris for his airline ticket. \$1,000.00 will be reimbursed to Mindy Willis to help pay for the new name tags. The Alliance will help sponsor a "birthday luncheon" for the Rev. Dick Gay between the second and third services on his birthday, May 23rd. It will be a potluck downstairs, and the Alliance will order the cake, supply drinks, help set up, etc. We also started to seriously look at the upcoming rummage sale May 22nd. We will need lots of good stuff and lots of volunteers.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010**

### **MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, JUNE 23 - 27**

Join thousands of Unitarian Universalists from across the United States for the 2010 General Assembly (GA) in Minneapolis.

You'll experience wonderful and uplifting worship services—morning and night—led by some of our best worship leaders, with glorious music and inspiring messages. Worshipping together with thousands of fellow UUs at our Sunday Worship Service is an experience that should not be missed.

General Assembly is the way that our faith does business. Actions of social witness are passed at GA, elements that make up future policies are discussed... and YOU have a voice in the discussion.

You'll hear terrific speakers. There will be hundreds of entertaining programs and informative workshops, offering excellent support and learning for leaders in our congregations. You'll be able to join the witness for our faith and values, in moving and exciting ways.

Register at [uua.org/events/generalassembly/](http://uua.org/events/generalassembly/) and consult your minister for delegate status.

### **WANT TO KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT AUUF?**

### **WANT TO ACCESS THE LOG ONLINE? JOIN THE AUUF GOOGLE GROUP!**

The **AUUF Google Group** is the Fellowship's primary means of communicating with its members.

To **SUBSCRIBE**, go to [www.anchorageuuf.org](http://www.anchorageuuf.org). In the upper right portion of the page, you will see a block titled "**GOOGLE GROUPS SUBSCRIBE TO AUUF.**" Follow Ken Winterberger's excellent directions.

To **SEND** something to the Google group, send to [AUUF@googlegroups.com](mailto:AUUF@googlegroups.com).

To **UNSUBSCRIBE**, follow the directions at the bottom of an email from the Google group.

### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Jeanne Hickman	May 2	John Blaine	May 21
Charli Sewell	May 6	Sharon Smith	May 21
Andy Baker	May 7	Michele Champion	May 23
Mike McGrath	May 7	Richard Gay	May 23
Denise Martin	May 8	Jeanne Devon	May 25
Arthur Curtis	May 11	Anthony Bailey	May 26
Aggie Blackmer	May 17	Todd Stark	May 27
Isobel Roy	May 18	Natasha Graham	May 29
Ronald Anderson	May 20		

## AUUF MAY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Saturday, May 1	Noon	Social Justice Committee
	5:30 p.m.	CUUPS Beltaine (May Day) Ritual
Sunday, May 2	4:00 p.m.	Women's "Cloze" Swap and Networking
Wednesday, May 5	6:30 p.m.	Welcoming Committee
Friday, May 7	6:00 p.m.	Coming of Age Rites of Passage (Birchwood Camp)
Sunday, May 9	12:30 p.m.	Alliance
Tuesday, May 11	5:30 p.m.	Forum Planning Team
	7:00 p.m.	Hungry Book Club (Call 696-7337 for info)
Wednesday, May 12	6:00 p.m.	AUUF Board
Sunday, May 16	<b>LOG DEADLINE</b>	
	10:25 a.m.	Choir Practice
	12:15 p.m.	Celebrate May Birthdays
Thursday, May 20	5:30 p.m.	Alliance Rummage Sale Setup
Friday, May 21	5:30 p.m.	Alliance Rummage Sale Setup
Saturday, May 22	8:00 a.m.	Alliance Rummage Sale
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday, May 23	10:25 a.m.	Choir Practice
	12:15 p.m.	The Rev. Richard Gay's 90th Birthday Celebration

## GUEST ORGANIZATIONS - WEEKLY MEETINGS

Monday through Friday	Noon	AA - Lost and Found
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	AA - Slap Happy

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

**Deborah Smith** is a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Alaska. She has recently returned from Zambia where she provided judicial training to help deal with violence against women.

**Leon Webber** is a former UU minister. He is a practicing marriage and family therapist in Anchorage.

**Shannon Moore** is a radio show host, political activist, and true progressive, inspiring action and hope in people who tune in to listen to her daily dose of Vitamin Democracy.

**The Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock** is the transitional minister to AUUF.

**Mary Schallert** is a member of AUUF, and a leading Anchorage folk musician and teacher.

**Faon O'Connor** is on the board of the Alaska Conservation Foundation. Her interests include environmental and Alaska Native advocacy work. Native land management, hiking, camping, kayaking, urban gardens, green roofs, and renewable energy strategies for rural communities.

**Rosene Beachy** is the Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration.

**Dr. Travis Rector** is an associate professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

**Judge Karen Hunt (ret.)** served on the Superior Court in Anchorage from 1984-2000.

**Fiddle Dee Dee** is an Anchorage fiddle group including AUUF member Diane McIntyre.

**The LOG deadline is the third Sunday of each month.**

**Late articles will go into the next LOG..**

Please email all LOG articles to **anchorageuuf@alaska.com**.

Please indicate in the **SUBJECT BOX** that they are for the LOG and the TOPIC.

Articles sent as **MS WORD attachments** are preferred. Articles sent **in the body of the email** are acceptable. As a **VERY LAST RESORT**, articles may be placed in Micaela's mailbox.

### **Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Information**

Office phone: 907-248-3737, ext. 2

Office fax: 907-743-6987

Email: anchorageuuf@alaska.com

Website: www.anchorageuuf.org

### **Phones and Email**

The Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock, Transitional Minister to AUUF, 306-7692 or revmama@mtaonline.net

Rosene Beachy, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, 248-3737, ext. 3

Micaela (Mike) Dover, Administrator, 248-3737, ext. 2

**The Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock's** schedule appears on page 3.

**Rosene Beachy** is usually in the office **Tuesday** and **Thursday**, 8 a.m. – noon  
She can often be reached at home.

**Micaela "Mike" Dover** is usually in the office **Monday** through **Thursday**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### **AUUF Board of Directors**

Doug Eby, President  
Mary Spalding, Vice president  
Erik Hill, Secretary  
Darrell Keifer, Treasurer  
Sam Cason

Susie Kobierowski  
Robyn Lauster  
Rod McCoy  
Carma Reed  
Mindy Willis

The Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, May 12, at 6 p.m.

### **AUUF Committee Chairs/Other Contact Persons**

9:00 a.m. Forum Planning – Mindy Willis  
11:00 a.m. Worship Planning – Beatrice Hitchcock  
11:00 a.m. Worship Music – Cheryl Childers  
1:30 p.m. Contemporary Planning –  
Beatrice Hitchcock  
1:30 Contemporary Music – Beverly Grogan and  
Diane McIntyre  
4As Lunches – Debbie Cahoon  
Adult Programs – Beatrice Hitchcock and  
Rosene Beachy  
Alliance – Shirley Dickens  
Building and Grounds - Bruce Roberts  
Children and Youth Religious Exploration –  
Bonnie York  
Committee on Ministry – Heather Christensen

Denominational Affairs – Open  
Finance – Darrell Kiefer  
Green Sanctuary – Michelle Champion  
Human Resources – Jim Parker  
Nominating – Stan Fischer and Fred Hillman  
Pastoral Caring Team – Shirley Dickens and  
Teresa Zimmer  
Planning – Doug Eby  
Social Justice Committee – Susie Kobierowski and  
Joanne Anderson  
Small Groups – Susan Orlansky  
Stewardship – Wray Kinard  
Welcoming Committee – Marty Herriott, Marie  
Lundstrom, and Diane McIntyre,

## AUUF MAY SERVICES

Sunday, May 2

9:00 a.m.

“Creating Justice in Zambia: Fighting Gender-based Violence” – Deborah Smith

11:00 a.m.

“In Retrospect: A UU Buddhist Looks Back at 40 Years in Alaska” – Leon Webber –  
Volunteers will also be recognized.

1:30 p.m.

“May Day Celebration” with May Pole Dance. Celebrate the rites of spring with music  
and dancing. Fiddle Dee Dee will play.

Sunday, May 9

9:00 a.m.

“Political Science: The End of the Legislative Session in Juneau” – Shannyn Moore

11:00 a.m.

“Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, and Others: The Women in My Life”  
with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock – A Mothers’ Day reflection on bonding,  
nurturing, withholding, and letting go. There will also be a Baby Dedication  
Ceremony.

1:30 p.m.

“Music for Mothers” with Mary Schallert and friends – Mary will provide memorable music  
for and about mothers.

Sunday, May 16

9:00 a.m.

“Water Quality Issues in Alaska” – Faon O’Connor

11:00 a.m.

“Coming of Age and Bridging Ceremony” – Celebrating the transitions of our youth.  
with Rosene Beachy, DLRE, and the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock

1:30 p.m.

“Speaking Truth to Power” with the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock - Stories and Strategies for  
standing up to tyrants.

Sunday, May 23

9:00 a.m.

“Science, Education, and Spirituality” – Travis Rector

11:00 a.m.

“Celebration Sunday and Flower Communion,” with Rosene Beachy, DLRE,  
and the Rev. Beatrice Hitchcock

1:30 p.m.

“Celebration Sunday” with Beatrice Hitchcock – Volunteer recognition. The final  
Contemporary Service of the season will celebrate its successes and look to  
the future.

Sunday, May 30

9:00 a.m.

“The Politics of Corporate Spending” – Karen Hunt

11:00 a.m.

“Our Veterans Remember: A Memorial Day Service,” A panel of veterans will share their  
memories of friends.

1:30 p.m.

There will be no Contemporary Service today or for the summer.

At 9:00 and 1:30, there is childcare for ages 1-4, and a cross-age program for children 5-11.

At 11:00, there are classes for children ages 1 through high school.

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship  
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