

THE BRIDGE

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Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

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JULY 2010



Sunday Services

July 4 - Service of Patriotic Music with Jimmy Merritt

July 11, 2010 "The Power and Promise of Covenants" – Rev. Claudia Frost – Our Unitarian Universalist faith is covenantal not creedal. We are bound together not by what beliefs we hold in common — not by creeds — but by how we live together with one another or by our deeds. What is our history of covenant and what does it mean today in this new century?

July 18 - TBA

July 25, 2010 "Views from the Balcony and the Borders" – Rev. Claudia Frost - Are you aware that the Unitarian Universalist Association has called for a boycott of the state of Arizona in an effort to change the legislation known as AZ SB1070? Immigration issues are a hot topic among leaders of our faith. Reflections from General Assembly and thoughts on immigration are on my mind.

Every Sunday

9:45am - INTERGENERATIONAL
DEVOTIONAL

10:00am - ADULT AND YOUTH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

11:00am - CHURCH SERVICE

Religious Education

Adult Classes - Exploring various topics from Krista Tippett's *Speaking of Faith: Why Religion Matters and How to Talk about It*. Discussion is lead by Laurie Lamb and Robert Stolar.

Children's Classes - UU Kids
with Lisa Stolar

Teen Classes - Being UU
with Ann Malpass

AUW

The Association of Universalist Women will meet July 17 at 3:00pm at the church. All are welcome to join in on the fellowship, fun and refreshments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Everyone is invited to be an adopted Outlaw for the day and join the M. L. Outlaw family for a covered-dish lunch at 1:00 p.m. on July 4 at the church. Matthew and wife, Ida, were founding members of Outlaw's Bridge church.

July 11th - Covered-dish lunch followed by the Board of Trustees hosting Peter Kandis, a consultant for the TJ District, to lead them through a covenanting process in preparation for the upcoming Installation of our minister this fall. This meeting will take place during the regularly scheduled time of the Board meeting. All members are welcome to attend and participate.

Congratulations to Helen Hinson who has been awarded the honor of "Master". This is the highest degree in the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.



OBUC is affiliated with: The Universalist Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (UCONCI), The Universalist Convocations, UUA Thomas Jefferson District (TJD), and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

Claudia's Notes

July 2010

Happy Independence Day

Summertime and the livin' is easy.....at least in my mind. Memories of childhood summers remind me of ice cold watermelon, lemonade and fresh ice tea on the back porch, catching fireflies at dusk, and trips to the library for lots of summer reading. The idea of slowing down and moving into a different routine are part of that memory. Thinking about slower days is relaxing, and I had a glimpse of that recently when I took a week vacation, but for now, I will hold those memories as I pack for Minneapolis to attend the annual Ministers Meeting and the General Assembly. When I return, I'm looking forward to spending the summer days connecting with you. It's hard to believe it's July already. My vacation took place in Jackson Hole area of Wyoming near the Grand Tetons National Park. I was fortunate to accompany my husband to a meeting he had to attend. While he worked indoors in meetings each day but one, I reveled in the natural beauty of the area and the feeling of freedom in the quiet, wide open spaces of the pristine valley.

I've always appreciated how lucky I am to be a US citizen, but there is nothing like seeing the spacious skies, snow capped mountains, and herds of buffalo and elk, big horn sheep, a moose and her baby, a bear and other wild life to fill the soul with gratitude, awe and wonder. I'm especially grateful that long ago our national leaders and private citizens had the foresight to preserve the wonderful scenery and unique natural features for all to enjoy. When we were at the Grand Tetons Park, I learned more about the philanthropy of the Rockefeller family and the extensive lands they purchased to keep out of the hands of developers and then donated to the National Park system. My week away was a refreshing time spent walking, reading, and enjoying the out of doors. My vacation week has left me with a renewed spirit that reminds me how lucky I am to live in a free country that not only offers opportunity but abounds with beautiful natural resources.

I'm also reminded of our country's beautiful resources every time I drive across NC HWY 55 on my way to the church. Each week the corn is higher and recently, I noticed the tassels are sprouting on the corn. For those of you who see it every day, it's easy to take for granted, but I invite you to take note of what you are passing each Sunday as you drive to church and appreciate the beauty of the country we've had the good fortune to inherit.

As you celebrate the 4th of July with family and friends, please take the time to remember all those who are representing us around the world now serving in the US Military, and don't forget to remember all those who are working around the clock to deal with the oil spill and it's aftermath along the Gulf coastline. Please take the time to pause in gratitude for their service and work.

Have fun this Summer.

With Love, Hope, and Joy,
Claudia

