

THE BRIDGE

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Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

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JUNE 2010

SUNDAY SERVICES

June 6, 2010 "The Meaning of Ritual" Rev. Claudia Frost – Is there a place for ritual in the lives of liberally religious people? It's Flower Communion Sunday. Please bring a flower for the "communal bouquet" to be chosen by another person during the service. It is also a day of new member commitment and recognition and will be a time for renewing our covenant of membership.

June 13 - Service with Jimmy Merritt

June 20, 2010 "The Spirituality of Parenting" Rev. Claudia Frost - Happy Father's Day! - Opportunities abound to engage more deeply in the world, with yourself and others through the eyes and wonder of a child. Whether you are a father, a mother, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, or someone's child, parenting moments can bring a deeper connection with the Devine Mystery.

June 27 - Service with Lisa Stolar

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am - INTERGENERATIONAL
DEVOTIONAL

10:00am - ADULT AND YOUTH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

11:00am - CHURCH SERVICE

Religious Education

Speaking of Faith: Why Religion
Matters and How to Talk About It -
By Krista Tippett. Discussion will be
lead by Laurie Lamb and Robert Stolar.

Children's Classes - UU Kids
with Lisa Stolar

Teen Classes - Being UU
with Robert Stolar

AUW

June 19 - 3:00pm at the church.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER NEWS

Rev. Frost will take vacation June 8-June 14th and will attend the UUMA meeting and General Assembly in Minneapolis June 22 - June 27th.

Congratulations to DJ and Thor Boswell. Both young men qualified for the Academic Awards Ceremonies for the Duplin county Schools.

Super Congratulations to Shelle Baker! Shelle recently graduated from James Sprunt Community College and received recognition for the highest GPA in the graduating class (4.0)! Shelle is looking forward to transferring to ECU and has enjoyed her internship at Guilford Mills.

Flower Communion is June 6th. Please bring a flower to share.

We can now recycle plastic bottle tops. Please save these tops and bring them to church.

Claudia's Notes
MAY 2010



Sometimes it truly seems like time is flying. For me, time has been flying since last fall when I became your minister. Since then, I've been conducting worship and preaching twice a month; visiting many of you; representing OBUC in the wider UU world, and learning as much as I can about the history and traditions of this church. I've also been learning about rural life in Eastern NC, our community, and the cities that mark the four directions (Mt. Olive, Goldsboro, Kinston, and Kenansville) to the crossroads at the bridge and the highway. I know a few of the shortcuts on the back roads now but still occasionally get lost. Getting to know each of you and your families is important to me and it makes time fly even faster when we are together.

Since October I have enjoyed a number of our traditions (Love Feast, Christmas Eve, Seven Springs Christmas parade, Easter, AUW white elephant sale, Homecoming and Mother's Day,) and I'm looking forward to celebrating Flower Communion, New Member Commitment-Covenant Sunday and Father's Day with you this month. We have welcomed new members; bid farewell to those who moved away; and continue to miss some who no longer attend for one reason or another. Also, after attending several of the UCONCI meetings I believe I understand what UCONCI is and has been and I appreciate even more the dedication that goes into preserving Universalism and restoring and renovating the Shelter Neck property.

I've also learned that we are a church that enjoys singing. We've learned some new hymns; sung old favorites with gusto; and Jimmy has challenged us to think deeply about the music and words we sing. The adult Sunday school series on "Misquoting Jesus" has been a success too. "Thank you", Monica and Joseph for facilitating the class. I'm looking forward to our summer series "Speaking of Faith" and the fall focus on Environmental Issues ("Treading Lightly: The Joy of Conservation, Moderation, and Simple Living). Plans are also being made for a "Start Up" meeting with the Board of Trustees. The meeting will be facilitated by a TJ District consultant in preparation for our formal Installation Ceremony in the fall. It looks like we have many interesting things planned for the months ahead.

Time really does seem to fly when we are immersed in activities that challenge us or inspire us. The theological topics we have covered in the worship themes (Faith, Hope, Justice, Love, Brokenness, Transformation, Resurrection, and Transcendence) have stretched me and caused many hours of research, reading and reflection.

As I continue to learn about our church and explore our community, I often ask myself, what is our mission in the world? Where does our passion meet the needs of others outside our church walls? What are we good at? What are our congregational gifts and talents? Who can we partner with in social justice and social service work in the wider community? One thing I've learned so far, I think the answers have something to do with food. Food and friends are essential to caring for people's souls and we love food and sharing it with one another. I feel certain the answer will emerge in the near future as we worship and work together.

With Love, Hope, and Joy,
Claudia

