

THE BRIDGE

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Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

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SEPTEMBER 2011

Sunday Services

September 4, 2011 - Have You Got a Sec?" with Jimmy Merritt

September 11, 2011 – RESPECT: Acceptance, Tolerance, Remembrance. – Rev. Claudia M. Frost - On this tenth anniversary of the 9/11 disaster, it is a good time to explore the theological themes of acceptance, tolerance and respect. What is the scope of tolerance? How do we move beyond intractability to acceptance or respect? On this day ten years ago....we came together across this nationmore alike than different in our grief and shock....let us gather to remember, reflect and learn.

September 18, 2011 - Jazz - with Bob Jeffcoat and Mort Stein

September 25, 2011 – “What is the DREAM SABATH?” – Rev. Claudia M. Frost -In coordination with the Interfaith Immigration Coalition, the UUA Standing on the Side of Love campaign is asking congregations to dedicate this weekend to learning about the DREAM ACT. Synagogues, mosques and churches across the nation are participating in this effort to educate the country and make a difference in people's lives. Join me in exploring what this means for us as liberal religious people.

Every Sunday

9:45am - INTERGENERATIONAL
DEVOTIONAL

10:00am - ADULT AND YOUTH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

11:00am - CHURCH SERVICE

Religious Education

Adults: New Program begins

**Children: UU Kids with Linda Jones
and Lisa Stolar**

New classes start September 11th.

Other Stuff!

Sept. 2-5 OBUC Retreat Weekend at Shelter Neck. For information and planning purposes, please contact Ann if you plan to attend. She can be reached at annmalpass@att.net or by phone 919-658-6233 or 919-738-4369

Sept. 10 8:30 a.m. Roadside Pickup - Weather permitting and roadsides have been mowed.

Sept. 11 Fall Religious Education Programs Begin

Following Church - Covered-dish lunch and Annual Meeting. All members and friends are encouraged to attend.

4:00 p.m. Grove Park UU Congregation Inaugural Worship Service, Kinston, NC

Oct. 1 Harvest Sale/Supper/Entertainment

Oct. 8 Universalist Convention of NC, Inc. Annual Business Meeting at Shelter Neck, NC

This is a free weekend at Shelter Neck for anyone who is registered.

Claudia's Notes

September 2011

As our church year ends and a new year begins with our upcoming Annual Meeting September 11, 2011, it's a good time to reflect on how we have grown in spirit, love and wisdom. The theological themes explored by at least one sermon a month have included Unity, Vocation, Peace, Grace, Prayer, Letting Go, Salvation, Truth, Joy and Sabbath. We have also explored the three monotheistic religions of the Abrahamic tradition: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Generosity is an additional theological theme we explored in worship and praxis....learning by doing and reflection. Generosity leads us in giving generously without expectation of anything in return. Our Fifth Sunday Offering gives the entire collection to selected non-profits whose work reflects our values. The Board of trustees oversees the process. Congregation members and friends are invited to make suggestions for the agencies or organizations to be selected.

More than just collecting an offering and giving away the money, our Fifth Sunday Offering combines education, meeting people, sharing our faith, and reaching out in the four directions from our church at the crossroads to make a difference in the surrounding communities. For each special collection, we invite a representative from the agency to worship with us and speak during a special time in the service to connect us directly to their work.

Our first year of the program, the Fifth Sunday offerings have benefitted the Kitty Askins Hospice Center Chapel (building fund), the Duplin Habitat for Humanity, Honor Flights of North Carolina, and the A lot of Love and Direction Inc. (ADLA). We should feel pleased with this new outreach as our donations have ranged anywhere from about \$426.00 to over \$250.00 per offering. We have learned more about the needs of the people in our surrounding communities.

We donated new school supplies not only to the students of our church, but also supplies were given to BF Grady elementary school and paper goods were given to the Culinary Arts program of the ADLA who are preparing hundreds of meals each week for those in need. Additionally, with the help of many of you, we raised money for a Camp Scholarship to Shelter Neck and money was raised to help fund registration for delegates to General Assembly in Charlotte.

Thank you Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church. This has been a good year for growing our generosity, and making a difference in people's lives and the life of this church.

See you at the annual meeting..... September 11, 2011
With Love, Hope, and Joy,
Claudia

