

UUCH
1710 Old NC 10
P.O. Box 275
Hillsborough, NC 27278
919-644-0567
<http://www.uuchnc.org>
Worship Service 10:30
a.m.

Minister:

Rev. Patty Hanneman

UUCH Officers:

Moderator:

Cliff Staton

Secretary:

Linda Couture

Treasurer:

Carolyn Rhode

CoCo:

Minister

Officers

Bob Gailer

Jean-Michel Margot

Dick Merritt

Bill Rasor

Shauna Saunders

Tim Woody

RE Director:

Barbara Cain

Newsletter Editor:

Nancy Staton

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The Free Spirit

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Hillsborough Newsletter

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

APRIL 2009

Sunday Services

April 5

Annual Humor Service—Mike Garner

First Sunday Brunch

April 12

"The Miracle of Easter" - Rev. Patty Hanneman

What happened on Easter Sunday? How are the lessons of that day relevant to us now?

April 19

"A Land of Milk and Honey" - Rev. Patty Hanneman

While our current economic problems are peculiar to our modern system, the fundamental issues of economics are consistent from ancient to contemporary times. What can ancient texts tell us about how to move forward in our current situation?

April 26

Messages from Grace

Visiting North Carolina from Mount Shasta, California, Grace is a poet, an energy healer, and a wonderful spiritual teacher with a positive message about the way we can live our lives with truth, with full consciousness, and without fear.

May 3

Hoping and Coping during WWII - Joanne Dobbs

Other titles of Joanne's memories could be: "The Unsung Heroes of WWII - the Women" or "My Child's Viewpoint on War and the Lessons Learned".

First Sunday Brunch



Celebrate the Circle Services

April 5

Learning Circle - Medicine Wheel, 4 p.m.

Facilitated by Bill Rasor

April 12

Learning Circle - Labyrinth Walk, 4 p.m.

Facilitated by Dick Merritt

April 19

Learning Circle - Self Guided Meditation in the Woods, 4 p.m.

The ritual circle on the church grounds is available for meditation and communing with Nature. Many members of CTC will be at the Carolina Spirit Quest Spring event.

April 26

Learning Circle - Cooking for the Season, 4 p.m.

Facilitated by Ashley

May 3

Wheel of the Year - Beltane, 5 p.m.

Together we will celebrate this point on the Wheel of the Year with a ritual.

Celebrating the Life of Marlene Tasch

Marlene Tasch died Sunday, March 1st in Mexico where she and her partner, Phyllis Applekamp, were vacationing. Although she was swimming at the time, she apparently died of a heart attack, not from drowning. Marlene is a charter member of UUCH and will be greatly missed by those of us privileged to know her. Her Memorial Service took place Saturday, March 7th, at 1 p. m. There was a reception following the service. This was a time to celebrate a wonderful woman with those who love her, and many attending brought pictures and shared memories of her life.

**Hold on to what is good even if it is a handful of earth.
 Hold on to what you believe even if it is a tree which stands by itself
 Hold on to what you must do even if it is a long way from here.
 Hold on to my hand even when I have gone away from you. Nancy Wood**

Editor's Corner

The deadline for the newsletter is the 18th of the month at 5 p.m. (of the month before the newsletter is due out, i.e. the April newsletter deadline is March 18). I have been receiving some articles later than the deadline and it makes it more difficult for me to make sure the newsletter gets to you before the first of the month. As a side note, the May newsletter may be a little later than usual because I'm going to visit my family the last part of April so I would appreciate it if those of you who send in articles for the May newsletter would send them a few days earlier so I can have it ready to go to the printer when I return home

BOX OF CRAYONS

**WHILE WALKING IN A TOY STORE
 THE DAY BEFORE TODAY,
 I OVERHEARD A CRAYON BOX
 WITH MANY THINGS TO SAY.
 "I DON'T LIKE RED!" SAID YEL-
 LOW.
 AND GREEN SAID, "NOR DO I!
 AND NO ONE HERE LIKES OR-
 ANGE,
 BUT NO ONE KNOWS QUITE
 WHY."
 "WE ARE A BOX OF CRAYONS
 THAT REALLY DOESN'T GET
 ALONG,"
 SAID BLUE TO ALL THE OTHERS.
 "SOMETHING HERE IS WRONG!
 WELL, I BOUGHT THAT BOX OF CRAYONS
 AND TOOK IT HOME WITH ME
 AND LAID OUT ALL THE CRAYONS
 SO THE CRAYONS COULD ALL SEE
 THEY WATCHED AS GREEN BECAME THE
 GRASS
 AND BLUE BECAME THE SKY.
 THE YELLOW SUN WAS SHINING BRIGHT**



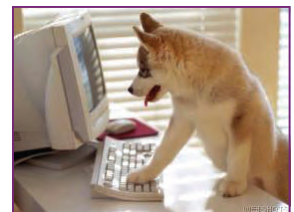
COLORS CHANGING AS THEY TOUCHED, BECOMING SOMETHING NEW. THEY WATCHED ME AS I COLORED

**WITH RED AND BLUE AND GREEN
 AND BLACK AND WHITE AND ORANGE
 AND EVERY COLOR IN BETWEEN
 THEY WATCHED ME AS I COLORED.
 THEY WATCHED TILL I WAS
 THROUGH.
 AND WHEN I'D FINALLY FINISHED,
 I BEGAN TO WALK AWAY.
 AND AS I DID THE CRAYON BOX
 HAD SOMETHING MORE TO SAY...
 "I DO LIKE RED!" SAID THE YELLOW**

**AND GREEN SAID, "SO DO I!
 AND BLUE YOU ARE TERRIFIC!
 SO HIGH UP IN THE SKY."
 WE ARE A BOX OF CRAYONS
 EACH OF US UNIQUE,
 BUT WHEN WE GET TOGETHER
 THE PICTURE IS COMPLETE. -ANON.,**

COMPUTERS (DON'T WE ALL LOVE THEM?)

"All programmers are playwrights and all computers are lousy actors."
 "What goes up must come down. Ask any system administrator."
 "Who's General Failure and why's he reading my disk?"
 "Whom computers would destroy, they must first drive mad." (All are Anon.)



April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Cancer Control Month	Alcohol Awareness Month	1 Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m. All Fool's Day	2	3	4
5 Annual Humor Service—Mike Garner Learning Circle - Medicine Wheel, 4 p.m. New Members Class—following service Program Committee 12:15 p.m. Palm Sunday	6	7	8 Coordinating Council 7:30 p.m.	9 Passover	10 Good Friday	11
12 "The Miracle of Easter" - Rev. Patty Hanneman Learning Circle - Labyrinth Walk, 4 p.m. Welcoming Congregation Committee, 9 a.m. Building & Grounds 12 noon Easter Egg Hunt Easter	13 Easter Monday	14 UUCHorale rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.	15 Income Taxes Due	16 Membership Committee, 7:30p.m.	17	18
19 "A Land of Milk and Honey" - Rev. Patty Hanneman Learning Circle - Self Guided Meditation in the Woods, 4 p.m. Religious Education Committee, 9 a.m.	20	21	22 Earth Day Administrative Professionals Day	23	24	25
26 Messages from Grace Learning Circle - Cooking for the Season, 4 p.m. Green Sanctuary Committee 9 a.m.	27	28 UUCHorale rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.	29	30	OCIM Food of the Month Pasta and Pasta Sauce	



Snow Geese

Wild Geese

You do not have to be good.

You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.

You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves.

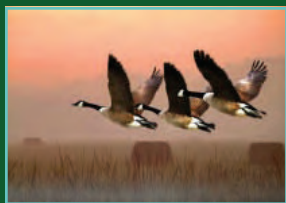
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.

Meanwhile the world goes on.

Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain are moving across the landscapes, over the prairies and the deep trees, the mountains and the rivers.

Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again.

Whoever you are no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting—over and over announcing your place in the family of things. Mary Oliver



Canada Geese

Spotlight On Building and Grounds

The UUCH Building and Grounds Committee has lots of jobs in and around the church. Committee members try and keep our church home clean and in good repair but we have our hands full. Some of the week to week and month to month duties include vacuuming, sweeping and mopping the floors, cleaning the restrooms, dusting, and picking up trash along the Lawrence Road side. These things take little time individually but together can really add up. With the summer season approaching we would like some help in getting some of these things done so we can spend more time on keeping the lawn and grounds looking good and taking advantage of the warmer weather to tackle some of the big outdoor projects we have to do. If you would be interested in spending 10 to 20 minutes once a month to help the B&G keep the church looking nice then email Tim at tim-woody.2@gmail.com, or call 336-380-1926 for more info.

Some of you may have noticed that the kitchen at church is looking much better these days. Members of CTC donated the time and energy to prime and paint the ceiling and walls as part of their quarterly stewardship to UUCH. Next time you see Dick Merritt or Steph Taylor give them a pat on the back or a hug to say thank you for all their hard work. The B&G is working on a plan to paint the hallway and the sanctuary over the next year. Geneva Green has generously donated her interior decorating talents by contributing a plan for remodeling the church. The COW accepted her proposal and copies can be found at UUCH. Volunteers will be needed to implement this plan so keep an eye out for painting party announcements in the future if you would like to help.

In closing if you notice anything that needs the attention of the B&G please let us know. Tim Woody Chairperson of the B&G

Committee Reports

Community Action

On behalf of Habitat for Humanity of Orange County (HHOC), thank you for your generous donation in support of the Apostles Build 2009 Partnership to help families in need build and own quality affordable homes. We have received your gift in the amount of \$1,000.00.

HHOC serves hardworking families earning 30-60% of the area median income who cannot afford to own a home in Orange County. With Habitat, families are able to build equity through homeownership, instead of struggling to afford the average \$785 per month to rent a two bedroom apartment. Habitat offers families a 0% interest, \$72,500 mortgage that they pay back, affordably, over 20 to 30 years.

HHOC began building seven homes this fall in the Fairview community of Hillsborough. Currently, 18 families and 40 children are realizing their dreams of homeownership in Fairview thanks to Habitat and supporters like you. The newest Habitat homes in Orange County are being built green according to standards set by the Green Home Builders of the Triangle. The green enhanced features are consistent with Habitat's goal to build affordable, safe, healthy, and low-maintenance homes.

Thank you again for helping Habitat for Humanity of Orange County touch lives and build a better community, one home at a time. **In Partnership, Susan Levy Executive Director**

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) wrote and said:

Please thank the members of your congregation for supporting the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee with the gift of \$500, which we received on Feb. 12, 2009. Since 1939, supporters like you have helped UUSC become a leading voice in advancing human rights worldwide. We pledge to honor your commitment to us through our efforts to defend the human right to water, to restore and protect our civil liberties, to ensure workers' rights, and to preserve the rights of vulnerable people after disasters. Your support will make a real difference in the lives of people in the United States and around the world. Sincerely, Charlie Clements (President & CEO)

Membership Committee

Calling all musicians! Interest has been shown in starting an informal group where musicians of all abilities can share their music. If interested, contact [Joanne D.](#)

First Sunday Brunch - Next brunch will be on April 7, 2009. Please bring a breakfast item to share.

Circle Dinners Those who sign up are asked to bring a potluck dish. It's a great way to enjoy good company and good food and no one has to do a lot of work. Watch for the date. Anyone interested in hosting a dinner, please let us know.

RE Committee

Here are some dates to put on your calendars:

Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 12.

Children, please bring your Easter Baskets. If adults would like to assist the "Easter Bunny" with hiding eggs, please see Barbara Cain.

Sunday May 3 : MayDay celebration and picnic after the service

This will be our 3rd annual Mayday celebration and picnic, which will include Maypole dancing.

Sunday May 10 (Mother's Day): RE Intergenerational "Honoring Our Mother Earth"

A celebration from the curriculum the Elementary RE class has been studying.

Sunday June 7: Teacher Appreciation Sunday and Annual Flower Communion

We are fortunate to have a new volunteer helping in RE regularly. Elenora Mueller, and her family, who are here from Switzerland. Please welcome them when you get the chance.

Many thanks to our hardworking RE committee, including, but not limited to: Shauna Saunders, Lynne Millies, Sheri Woody, Victoria Caplinger, and the Volecsko's, Jake and Angela. And, also, many thanks to the wonderful parent volunteers! What a great community! Want to get involved? We can always use your vision and expertise. The RE Committee meets the 3rd Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. in the RE Room. Or you can just approach anyone on the RE Committee. Thanks. [Barbara Cain](#), RE Coordinator

Communications

Bulletin

Deadline is Wednesday at 9 p.m. Please put "Bulletin" in the subject line, and e-mail as plain text to). Terry Schneider at UUCH@lambda76.us

Newsletter

Deadline is the 18th of the month at 5 p.m. Please put "newsletter article" in the subject line, and e-mail as plain text to Nancy Staton maxiecat@verizon.net.

Announcements E-mail List

UUCH e-mails out announcements and upcoming events. To subscribe/unsubscribe, visit www.uuchnc.org/mailman/listinfo/announcements and follow the instructions. Please ensure that your e-mail program will accept messages from the uuchnc.org address.

UUCH Website

www.uuchnc.org): Send info to webmaster@uuchnc.org.

Newsletter Deadline

The newsletter deadline for the May newsletter is April 18th at 5 p.m.

You may delay, but time will not.

-*Benjamin Franklin*

When you send an article for the newsletter, type it with no special formatting, i.e. special fonts, extra paragraph returns, boldface text, all caps. I'll do the formatting when I place it in the newsletter. Thanks. Nancy Staton

Newsletter Mailings

If you are receiving the newsletter via mail, please consider having it sent to you via e-mail. It would help with the cost of producing

the newsletter every month because the ones sent by mail includes stamps, labels, paper and the cost of printing it. If you would like to help your church save money this is one way to do it and a bonus is that we help save trees because we won't need to use as much paper. AND the email version is in color! Just send an e-mail to maxiecat@verizon.net.



Bob Wildermann Award

In 2006, UUCH established the Bob Wildermann Award, to honor a member or friend of UUCH who has given the congregation generous gifts of heart, spirit, and energy in the roles of connector and peacemaker. This award is named in honor of Bob Wildermann, who offered these gifts with love from 1992 until his untimely death in 2000. This award will be given only when an individual is nominated from within the congregation for exemplary contributions to UUCH and is affirmed by the Coordinating Council.

The award was presented for the first time at the March 1 Committee of the Whole meeting. The text of the nomination follows.

I am moved to nominate an individual who has contributed amazing energy, commitment, and spirit to our congregation and our community over the past several years. Jean-Michel Margot has been a leader and extremely involved member of UUCH, with seemingly endless capacity for taking on varied projects and a calm, low-key manner of connecting our congregation to important social justice works. He has been the guiding force of the Program Committee, seeing that Sunday morning services are filled by a wide variety of speakers, exposing the congregation to many topics.

Recently, he stepped in to fill a vacancy on the Ministerial Search Committee so that we could move forward in our quest to find a settled minister. Jean-Michel has been a staunch member of the Welcoming Congregation Committee, leading our congregation through the process of becoming a "Welcoming Congregation" and continuing the work of this committee to learn and educate others about BGLT issues and to keep our congregation a presence in the community. Through a spontaneous encounter with a visiting inmate, Jean-Michel followed his heart, becoming a sponsor, thus leading our congregation to embrace "prison ministry" as a new outreach of UUCH. Jean-Michel has filled many important positions, including Moderator and member of the 2008 Auction Committee, but these roles are less important than his ever-present attitude: doing what he thinks is right and encouraging others to follow. His gentle spirit has helped our congregation to maintain peace, at times through quiet example rather than more obvious arbitration. For these reasons, I am honored to nominate Jean-Michel Margot for the Bob Wildermann Award. Shauna

ERUUF Plant Sale 2009

Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
4907 Garrett Road Durham, NC 27707 489-2575
May 1 & 2, 2009

WHAT:

The ERUUF Plant Sale offers great prices on locally grown annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, and Pass-Along Plants. Almost half of the proceeds go directly to fund programs at ERUUF. This year you can shop for books and plants at the same time. Have fun, socialize, get a lot for your \$\$, and support ERUUF simultaneously.

WHEN:

Friday, May 1 & 2 5:30-7:30 p.m.
for ERUFFians and anyone who has Pre-Ordered
Saturday, May 2, 2009 9 a.m.-3 p.m. - open to everyone

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

1. Fill out a pre-order form and mail it along with your check or drop it off at ERUUF where you can pay by check, cash, or credit card. **APRIL 19th IS THE LAST DAY TO PRE-ORDER!** Pre-ordering greatly helps us know what and how much to order. [Contact Virginia Wagner or the ERUUF office if you need a form.]
2. Just come and shop on Saturday, May 2nd between 9-3. We'll order extras of the most popular items just for you! There will be annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, and Pass-Along Plants for sale. And remember the **ERUUF Book Sale** will be open the one-stop shopping?

Order forms will be available on **March** they are placed.

For more information, about the plants 8515 or Linda Clark 929-7985



29th at UUCH—ask Cliff or Nancy where or the sale, contact [Virginia Wagner](mailto:Virginia.Wagner@uuchnc.org), or 732-

TJD News

May 8-9

TJD Board Meeting, Haw River Haw River Park

May 8– 10

1st TJD Annual Retreat

The Thomas Jefferson District Annual Meeting becomes the **First TJD Annual Retreat**, May 8 - 10, 2009, Friday Dinner through Sunday Lunch, at the Summit at Haw River State Park, near Greensboro, NC. For info on the site, see [Haw River State Park](#). Accommodations are cabins of 8 or 9 and motel-like rooms that sleep 2 or 3. There are motels close by and campgrounds too. Registration and lodging information [FLYER AND DETAILS Haw River State Park; Retreat Conference Center](#) at Browns Summit (North of Burlington/Greensboro, NC). Includes: UUA Presidential Candidate Forum and [Newsletter Awards - submission criteria and instructions](#).

April 24-26 (date corrected)

Youth CON - hosted by Eno River UU Fellowship, Durham

April 17 – 18, 2009

Governance Training led by Annette Marquis

Registration hosted by UU Church of Roanoke, VA

May 7

UUA Presidential Candidate Forum- download flyer hosted by UU Church of Asheville, NC

May 15-17

Universalist Convocation 2009

Celebrating the religious heart of Unitarian Universalism

Information will be posted at www.nmuc.org/Convo The Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham, Alabama

June 24 – 28

UUA General Assembly Salt Lake City, Utah

A Leap of Faith

Tim Kutzmark, Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading Massachusetts (with permission)

I don't know why I decided I would risk it. I don't know what bold yearning was driving me toward the edge. But one spring morning, I took a leap of faith. That day found me standing in a crowded parking lot, looking up. High above my head is a tall construction crane, rising fifteen stories into the clear spring sky. In the shadow of its cold metal frame, Jim, my incredulous partner, asks: "Are you really going to go through with this?" I smile quickly, and sickly, and make my way to the registration table. First come the release forms, an endless stream of paper and pen, eliminating any legal recourse in case of injury or death. That done, two burly men approach me, holding out a black, belted body harness. I step into it and—click, click, click—they lock it tightly around my waist and legs. I waddle awkwardly over to the base of the crane, and my harness is snapped to four long, elastic bungee cords.

How suddenly the important things in your world can change. Those four bungee cords are now the most precious objects in my life, my link to the future. I am guided into a small, roofless yellow metal cage. The oily grinding of a motor clangs on, and I rise quickly, too quickly, up, up, up.

Looking down from the top of the fifteen-story crane makes everything but the pavement seem small. The crowd below joins in as a man with a bull horn begins to bellow: "10, 9, 8, 7...." I realize this jump is not going to happen in my own time, in my own way.

"Step out on onto the ledge," commands the fellow who is with me in the little metal cage. I step out, a prisoner on a narrow gangplank two feet wide by two feet long. I do the only sane thing left to do. I grab hold of the railing behind me, holding onto the safety of its solidness. "Hold out your arms out wide to the side." I open my arms. Why do I suddenly feel like Jesus about to be crucified?

"6, 5, 4...." Every cell in my body is screaming: "Do not go forward. Do not move off the edge. Do not step into the unknown."

"3, 2, 1, Bungee!" I release my hold on life and step forward, flying into the open space that is quietly calling my name.

It is risky business, this thing called life. It often feels as if we are balanced high on the edge of a shaky platform, far from the safety of the ground. Life can often feel as if we are caught in a countdown we have not started, but must somehow finish: "5, 4, 3, 2...." Life often feels like a leap into the unknown.

Look around us. Look at the uncertainties of today's world news: car bombs, gunshots, storms, terror—the unknown. Look at the political polarization in this country, listen to the debate on moral values—how will it all turn out? The unknown. Look at our own personal lives: many of us are facing things that feel unknown—uncertainties in our job or marriage, a child growing and changing, our own aging, the loss of someone close.

But the unknown—the edge—is not necessarily negative. The edge can be a place of remarkable opportunity. Philip Simmons, in his book *Learning to Fall*, writes:

I've always loved edges: the edge of night when color drains from the land, the edge of an argument where a fixed idea adjusts to other points of view, the edge of a body where skin meets air, or other skin. I love edges for the vantage they provide.

Our Unitarian Universalist faith has always been willing to step to the edge and push forward the evolution of the human spirit. At our best, we take to heart

these words by poet Muriel Rukeyser: "Look! Be : leap ; Roar in the broad sky. Put your face to the wind. FLY."

But a word of caution: it is not wise to blindly leap. We must never step forward without being firmly connected to something. That morning of my leap of faith, I jumped out into the open space only because there were four bungee cords holding onto me. And so it is with our life. We need to know there is something to hold us and guide us as we step forward.

So let me ask you: What allows you to step into the unknown?

How we answer is, I believe, the foundation of our spiritual life. Knowing where we ground our trust is the source of our courage, our hope, and our vision for the future.

I would like to share with you four strong cords, four core principles of faith that hold me and guide me in my uncertain times. These allow me to get up each morning and meet a new day. They hold me at the moments of my greatest despair. They are personal, yes, but they are also rooted in our shared Unitarian Universalism.

What allows me to step into the unknown?

First: I believe that there is goodness within all people. I don't shut my eyes to the hurt and harm that ignorance and evil can cause. I've felt it in my own life and I've seen it in the world. But as a Unitarian Universalist, I believe that the human heart can be cultivated. This is the historic foundation of our Unitarian Universalist faith. I believe in human worth and dignity. I believe that, given the right circumstances, every one of us can manifest that worth and dignity in our lives, and in the world. I believe this, deeply. How could I not? I have seen so much beauty and so much care in so many different faces, in so many different places: in the isolation of the Burn Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital; at a civil rights rally on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial; in the healing stillness of a spiritual retreat in upstate New York. I believe what my faith and my experience tell me. I believe in the goodness within us all.

What allows me to step into the unknown?

Second: Despite the collective cynicism of our day, I believe we can still work together for the dawning of a more enlightened time. I believe we are moving slowly, ever so slowly, toward a better day. This was once a cherished value of Unitarian Universalism. And I believe it is still part of the profound religious vision we offer to the world. Even as we celebrate the beauty of each individual, we must realize that the true treasure of life is found only as individuals reach out beyond themselves. I'm not naïve. I read the papers. I know history. I hear the cries of greed, exploitation, power, nationalism, and war. But I also believe that peoples and nations are connecting and cooperating in ways never before imagined. Some national boundaries are being bridged; some bonds of unity are being forged to maintain peace and foster justice. Some people are reminding us that moral responsibility extends beyond the human world into the wondrous web of all creation.

However imperfect we may be, we are fashioning new ways of being in relationship with one another. We can add our voices to this growing chorus of non-violence, mutuality, and accountability. Our Unitarian Universalist religion still envisions a "world community with peace, liberty and justice for all." We may not see that day, and many generations may not see it fully realized. But I hope that, one day, history will be written by the heart.

What allows me to step into the unknown?

Third: I believe that we are participants in an unprecedented exploration of spiritual truths. Prior to the last one hundred years or so, religious and spiritual traditions were largely kept separate and isolated in different parts of the world. The world was barely connected. But today, through travel and technology; through the mobility of ideas, through books and articles; through teachers and students—today, these different threads of religious thought are coming into contact with each other, informing each other, informing us. The many hidden schools of Buddhism are now talking to the mystical traditions within Judaism. Ancient earth-based traditions are coming into contact with Orthodox Christianity. Science, too, is broadening this view. For the first time in the history of the human mind we have access to the full breadth of spiritual wisdom. If we take this into our core it has the power to redefine our experience of the spiritual and philosophical life. I don't know what it will ultimately look like or feel like, but boundaries are mixing and merging into something timeless and new. The many facets of truth will only be found through ways both ancient and modern. And who better to lead the way than religious liberals?

What allows me to step into the unknown?

Lastly: I believe there is something greater than my own self. I believe there is something greater than each one of us individually. It moves in my life and in the world. Each of us experiences this in a different way. We give it many names or no names at all. But there is something awesome in this universe, and it holds my soul, and it makes me feel I can be whole. It makes me feel we all are part of something whole.

As we step out into the unknown, I believe that there is great goodness within all people. I believe we can still work together for the dawning of a more enlightened time. I believe that we are participants in an unprecedented exploration of spiritual truths. I believe we are all part of something whole. Let us take a leap of faith, knowing that the cords of our liberal religion can hold us securely as we jump.

KIDZ KORNER by Sarah Woody

Where I'm from

I am from M&M's and Skittles,
From the first bite to the last one
I am from birth to death, tears to laughter.

I am from sitting in my baby swing eating cheerios
Watching Teletubbies with my dad next to me
knowing no matter what I will be ok.

I am from dance and Robin, from Traci and Evan
I am not a branch on my family tree yet
I am a bud waiting for the right amount of love, sun and rain
To blossom into a branch on the Woody family tree
This is a poem I wrote in my class during our latest poetry session.



Here are a few other poems I wrote in this class!



Breaking storm

After three hours of wind and rain, wind and thunder, wind and lightning
After three hours of wind and warnings
They said it was finally safe to come out and play



Breaking school

After 5 days of writing and reading,
of writing and math, of writing and science
writing and social studies...the bell finally saved us all!

I would love for other children to submit poetry that they love or have written to the kids corner
email me or my dad !

**"We are a welcoming community of diverse, open-minded individuals seeking personal spiritual expression, exploration, and ethical growth.
We provide a nurturing home in which to work for trust, understanding, social justice, and universal peace."
—Identity Statement adopted March 2005**



UU Congregation of
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Hillsborough, NC
27278
919-644-0567
[http://
www.uuchnc.org](http://www.uuchnc.org)

Newsletter Deadline: e-mail info by the 18th of the month to: Nancy Staton at maxie-cat@verizon.net

Bulletin Announcements:
Send by noon on Wednesday to: Terry Schneider at UUCH@lambda76.us

To receive e-mail announcements about UUCH activities, visit: [http://uuchnc.org/
mailman/listinfo/
announcements](http://uuchnc.org/mailman/listinfo/announcements)