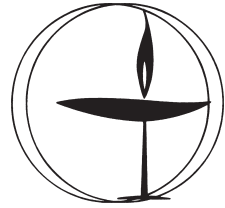


# The Beacon

Newsletter  
of the  
Unitarian  
Universalist  
Congregation  
of Lakeland



Volume 28, No. 8

Published Monthly

February 2007

## Sunday Services

11:00 AM

## Religious Education

Children 11:15 AM  
(School Year Only)

## Adult Discussion Grp.

10:00 AM

## Choir Practice

10:00 AM

## Coffee on the Patio

10:00 AM

## Fellowship on the Patio

12:00 PM

## CUUPs Evensong

4:00-6:00 PM

Address:

UUCL

3140 Troy Ave.

Lakeland, FL 33803

Phone: 863-646-3715

[www.uuc.lakeland.fl.uua.org](http://www.uuc.lakeland.fl.uua.org)

## UUCL SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE - February

- 4 **“Leap of Faith”**—The Rev. Robin Gray, minister of the First U.U. Church of Milford, MA, will be our Guest Speaker.
- 11 **“Why Signing the Book is Never Enough”**—On this Sunday before UUCL’s Annual Dinner to kick off this year’s Pledge Campaign, Dr. Robert P. Tucker will remind us why merely signing the Membership Book is never enough to meet our UU/UUCL obligations.
- 18 **“Not a Christian Nation”**—Despite the dreams and false claims of many, the United States is not a Christian nation, but something much better, as Dr. Tucker will explain.
- 25 **“Look Back, Around, and Ahead”**—To be healthy, a congregation must always be conscious of its past, its present, and its dreams for the future, as Dr. Tucker will illustrate.



**Sunday Service 4 March—Mountain Quartet!**

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# CONGREGATION DIRECTORY

## MINISTER:

Dr. Robert P. Tucker ..... UUCLakelandFL@aol.com ..... Office 646-3715 ..... Home 682-2636

## CONGREGATION OFFICE SECRETARY

Lee Myers ..... UUCLsec@hotmail.com ..... 863-646-3715

## PIANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Paula Parsche ..... pparsche@flsouthern.edu ..... 863-688-0159

## RE COORDINATOR

Diane Baum ..... rbaum@gte.net ..... 863-686-8820

## MINISTERS EMERITUS:

Dr. Clarke Dewey Wells

## OFFICERS 2003-2004:

President: ..... Elaine Lehmann ..... zphrn@verizon.net ..... 863-859-6807

President-Elect: ..... Elaine Lehmann ..... zphrn@verizon.net ..... 863-859-6807

Treasurer: ..... Joyce Bode ..... jbode@tampabay.rr.com ..... 863-701-0077

Asst. Treasurer ..... Linda Walters ..... wlindaw@aol.com ..... 863-648-9676

Board Secretary: ..... Whit Weihe ..... wwweihe@aol.com ..... 863-868-3337

## TRUSTEES:

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Blenda George ..... blenda@tampabay.rr.com ..... 863-709-9096

Mary Grove ..... gvgrove@aol.com ..... 863-680-1234

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Portia Westerfield Alt.) ..... portiap@verizon.net ..... 863-425-3968

## DR. TUCKER'S OFFICE HOURS:

### Walk-ins/Drop-bys/Appointments

Mon., Wed., Fri.: 9:00 A.M. until noon

### Appointments only

Mon., Wed., Fri., 1:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M.

### For Emergency

Call anytime Home: ..... 682-2636

Office: ..... 646-3715

## THE BEACON

Published Monthly by the Unitarian Universalist

Congregation of Lakeland

Editor (Temp): K. Schmidt,

kschmidt@tampabay.rr.com

## UUC of Lakeland Web Page

www.UUC.Lakeland.FL.uua.org

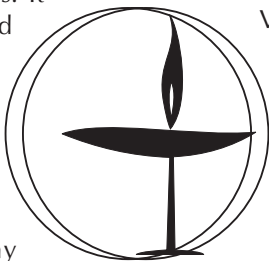
Webmaster: Diane Baum, rbaum@gte.net

E-Mail: UUCLakelandFL@aol.com

## FROM THE MINISTER: *Black German Holocaust Victims*

February is Afro-American/Black History Month, a time when we should learn things we don't know, and always remember and never forget some things we do know.

To that end, Steve Carman sent me an email about Black German Holocaust victims. It tells about a documentary entitled "Black Survivors of the Holocaust" (1997). Outside the U.S, it is called "Hitler's Forgotten Victims." It shows that in the 1920's there were 24,000 Blacks living in Germany. Many were caught up in the Holocaust. Like most West European nations, Germany established colonies in Africa in the late 1800's. German genetic experiments began there involving prisoners taken from the 1904 Herero Massacre that left 60,000 Africans dead, following a 4-year revolt against German colonization. After World War I, Germany was stripped of its African colonies in 1918. As a spoil of war, the French were allowed to occupy Germany in the Rhineland. The French deployed their own colonized African soldiers as the occupying force. Germans viewed this as the final insult of World War I, and, soon thereafter, 92% of them voted in the Nazi party. Hundreds of African Rhineland-based soldiers intermarried with German women and raised their children as Black Germans. In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler wrote about his plans for these "Rhineland B—ds." When he came to power, one of his first directives was aimed at these mixed-race children. To achieve "racial purity," by 1937 he had every identified mixed-race child in the Rhineland forcibly sterilized to prevent "race polluting." Hans Hauck, a Black Holocaust survivor and victim of such sterilization, explained in the film that, when he was forced to undergo sterilization as a teenager, he was given no anesthetic. After sterilization, he was "free to go," so long as he agreed to have no sexual relations



with Germans. Although most Black Germans attempted to escape their fatherland, many encountered problems elsewhere. Nations shut their doors to Germans, including Black ones. Some Black Germans were able to eke out a living during Hitler's reign by performing in Vaudeville shows, but many Blacks, believing themselves to be German first, Black second, opted to remain in Germany. Some fought with the Nazis (a few as Lutwaffe pilots)! Other Black Germans were arrested, charged with treason, and shipped by train to concentration camps in cattle cars so packed with people that, after the 4-day journey, doors were opened to piles of dead and dying. Once in the camps, Blacks were given the worst jobs conceivable, staffing the crematoriums and working in labs where genetic experiments were conducted. Such Blacks were killed every three months so that they could never reveal the "Final Solution." Nevertheless, some German Blacks committed heroic acts of resistance, such as Johnny Voste in Dachau. His job was to stack vitamin crates. Risking his own life, he distributed hundreds of vitamins to starving detainees, saving many. Later, unlike Jews (in Israel and in Germany), Black Germans received no war reparations because their German citizenship had been revoked. (Further information can be found in *Destined to Witness: Growing Up Black in Nazi Germany*, by Hans J. Massaquoi, and at: [www.black-history-month.co.uk](http://www.black-history-month.co.uk).)

So that such atrocities never happen again, let us all learn what we don't know, always remember, and never forget!

**Dr. Robert P. Tucker**



# A Message

## From The President

### The Focus Is on YOU

February is the month UUCL begins to plan for the next church year which begins July 1, 2007. At the center of this planning is YOU. What do you want from your membership here? What will you give of your time, talents, and treasure to meet these desires?

We kick off our annual talent and financial canvass at the **Annual Dinner on Feb. 17**. Please come, enjoy, meet others you may not know too well, schmooze. This event is always a treat—our once-a-year BIG party. Also, please give attention to both parts of the pledge card. There's one side for your financial contribution and the other side for your comments and offers of help.

In addition, the Nominating Committee (Sue Mitchel, Ken Davis, and Joyce Bode) will be contacting members to serve on the Board of Trustees, the Committee on Congregational Relations, and the Endowment Committee.

Our congregation's strength lies in what each member can and will give to it. Please consider how you will help UUCL if the Nominating Committee asks for your time and talents; please consider what you will bring to UUCL in terms of treasure.

**Elaine Lehmann, President**

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## February Birthdays!!!

Harriett Wheaton	1	Betty Burns	14
Etsuko Rivers	5	Thomas Meade	14
William Gompf	6	Katie Garland	17
Mary Grove	7	Zela Hicks	19
Fred Beckett	7	Ann Wiseman	23
Sarah Dubendorff	9	John Perry	25
Whit Weihe	10	Laura Wampfler	26
Laura Baum	12	Jaimee Haley	27
Rowan Reppeto	12	Caley Farinas	27

## February Anniversaries!!!

Jack & Mona Oberhaus	6
Theresa Lutz & Duke Donovan	8
Teddy & Whit Weihe	14
Carol Hull & Donald Hamilton	26

## ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP (ADG)

The Adult Discussion Group (ADG) Meets in the Social Hall at 10 AM each Sunday to discuss topics of interest that have been chosen by the participants, Discussions are facilitated by volunteers. Topics for this month are:

**Feb. 4, 11, 18** TBA

**Feb. 25** Discussion of Bill Moyers' new book: "**Moyers on America, a Journalist and His Times**" facilitated by Ken Davis

Suggestions for discussion topics are welcome. Name a topic and every effort will be made to include it in the schedule.

**Don Wallace, Temporary ADG Coordinator**

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## Religious Education

Thank you goes to those who have tirelessly continued to inspire our young people by teaching a Sunday School class! Thanks also to those of you who have recently volunteered to help teach a class. It is very much appreciated! The fresh eyes on the program have been the catalyst for some adjustments that will positively benefit everyone involved.

We have about 30 children in our Religious Education program, the most we have had in over 20 years! Bringing in young families with children is the future growth of our denomination. I am excited about the number of kids, even if it takes more planning to accomplish our goals. Don't hesitate including these young families in the life of our congregation.

Note that the RE classes are in session from  
Continued on p. 7

## BEACON EDITOR NEEDED!

We are urgently seeking someone to become our new **BEACON EDITOR**.

Ken Schmidt has volunteered to fill in and do the February issue for us. But he does not wish to take on the job (again) permanently. So...

We need **YOU**, please, to step up and help us out. We have all the software and instruction you will need. Moreover, you will have a great deal of freedom to modify the basic format according to your skills, needs and desires.

Anyone wishing to help us with this extremely important part of UUCL's life, please **contact our President, Elaine Lehmann, as soon as possible: 863-859-6807 or zphrn@verizon.net**

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Month ending December 31, 2006:

### Operating Fund:

	December	Year to Date
Income	\$10,898.44	\$54,686.69
Expenses	\$ <u>7,823.65</u>	<u>\$49,271.40</u>
Total	\$ 3,074.79	\$ 5,415.29

### Restricted Fund Balances:

Endowment Funds	\$35,610.31
Capital Fund	1,701.00
Fund Raisers	409.05
Prepaid Pledges	8,491.66
Earth Families CUUPS	622.50
Roof Fund	5,000.00

Statements were sent out to everyone either by e-mail or mail showing pledges and payments through December 31st. If you did not get your statement, please let me know.

Thanks, **Joyce Bode, Treasurer**

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## THANK YOU!

A **GREAT BIG thanks** to Alysia and Tom Evans for painting the Secretary's Office.

Thanks, Lee Myers



## FACILITIES USE GUIDELINES

By Lee Myers, Secretary and Facilities Use Coordinator

The Board asked me a few months ago to make suggestions to update the Facilities Use Guidelines. The charge was to recommend what changes should be made to clarify, modify and specify more clearly what our policies should be. At the December Board meeting the new Guidelines were adopted.

It is the practice and policy of UUCL to be a good community citizen whereby we encourage events to be held at our facilities that are consistent with UU Principles.

As you probably know, *The Calendar* for all events that are held on UUCL premises is kept in the Office. When anyone wants to schedule **any** event to be held on UUCL premises, that person needs to see me to go over the Guidelines and to make sure the room/s is/are available. If the event is an "outside" (non-UUCL) event, the sponsor will be asked to complete an application. If the event is going to be on-going the Board must approve the request.

Also, depending on the event, there may be a donation requested if the event is **not** UUCL-related. The Board has set a donation request schedule for various events and the facilities that are to be used.

Many meetings are scheduled months in advance so it is to the user's advantage to schedule any event at the earliest time possible.

A caveat: If any non-UUCL-related event is scheduled and (for whatever reason) UUCL develops a need to hold a meeting at that same time and place, UUCL use takes precedent over all others. We, however, shall make every effort to accommodate outside users by switching them to another room or if necessary to reschedule them to another time and/or date.

The Board has also directed me to mail letters in January of each year to all "outside" groups asking them to complete a new application and quote any change in the requested donation or other changes that may be apply to their group.

Anyone wishing to read the entire Guidelines may go to our web site:

[www.UUC.Lakeland.FL.uua.org](http://www.UUC.Lakeland.FL.uua.org).

## FORUMS FOR FEBRUARY:

**Wednesday, February 7, 2007: Speaker and Discussion: Jeremy Evanche: Organized Labor**  
Jeremy is an active member of the local teacher's union. He will share his observations and discuss the status of organized labor and its importance in our society.

**Wednesday, February 14, 2007: No Forum. Happy Valentine's Day!!**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2007: Movie and Discussion: The Next Industrial Revolution**

We live in a time of increasing environmental concerns. Doomsday scenarios abound based on an increasing human population competing for ever scarcer natural resources. Bill McDonough and Michael Braungart offer a different vision of the future — one where humanity works with nature, where technical enterprises are continually reinvented as safe and ever renewing natural processes.

**Wednesday, February 28, 2007: Movie and Discussion: The Motherhood Manifesto**

This vibrant documentary gathers true stories from American mothers, ranging from maternity leave, to day care, to employment discrimination, to shed some light on the 'crisis of care' in America.

**Laura Wampfler, Forum Coordinator**

## WHAT IS THE ISSUES AND IDEAS BOX?

When you come in the northern set of doors into the lobby, look immediately to your right. There it is—with its little green sheets. Just put your thoughts on the sheet and sign it. You have to fold it in 4ths to get it into the little slot at the top of the box. It's just that simple to tell us how well the UUCL is doing on its mission—how can we improve? Are there barriers? Just tell us—so that we can put together a good understanding of how the congregation thinks on this topic. You will always get a response—and your comments are always confidential.

**Charlene Bennett for the Committee on Congregational Relations.**

## SOLO PARTY—ATTENTION SINGLES

All UUCL Singles are invited to our February gathering—a birthday party for Charles Darwin, on his birthday, Monday, February 12, 2007. Meet at Charlene Bennett's at 5:30 p.m. for wine and potluck. Those who know how to get to Charlene's, remember the gate code is #2224 and her condo # is 3810. Others, call her and get directions.

Charlene will probably provide a honey-baked ham (is that sufficiently British?)—Others bring something complimentary. We will also need wines and appetizer. Call Charlene at 644.7575 or email at [charleneben@earthlink.net](mailto:charleneben@earthlink.net).

All parties are asked to bring a small birthday gift for Charles—and be prepared to explain why you chose it. —**Charlene Bennett**

## Town Meeting Report

On January 14, the attendees discussed covenant and the covenanting process for our congregation. Many excellent suggestions were put forth by a very positive group. For example, a Young Religious Unitarian Universalist (YRUU) member will be temporarily added to the Committee on Congregational Relations for its work on the covenant development. A town meeting, which the Board has scheduled for March 11, will provide the place for everyone to decide which items for the covenant should be placed on the list of possibilities and which items are the most important to the most people. But more about this later.

Evaluations of the January meeting were highly favorable, indicating that the town meeting is a fine venue for soliciting ideas and for sharing concerns and building community. The only negative mentioned was that more people would have been welcome.

Thank you to those who attended.

**Elaine Lehmann**



## CUUP's

**4 p.m., February 4th:** "Essence of Life" At the peak of our dry season here in Central Florida, we will celebrate the presence of Water in our lives. A ritual and meditation led by Theresa Lutz, followed by finger food pot luck

**4 p.m., February 11th:** "Drum and Rhythm Circle" led by Linda Walters. You don't have to drum: dance, chant, play another rhythm instrument or just soak up all the great vibes! This is a family friendly opportunity to release all that negative energy and generate a lot of the positive kind! Finger food potluck after.

**4 p.m., Feb 18th:** No CUUP's, UUCL members, please attend the Annual Dinner on the 17th.

**4 p.m., February 25th:** Creating our Circle "Part Two: The Flowing Waters of Earth-Centered Religions - Pagan views of Deity and of the Living Universe", led by Chalice Moon. Related material can be found in chapters 3 & 5 of *Paganism: An Introduction to Earth-Centered Religions* by Joyce and River Higgenbotham. Copies are available at the Earth Families meetings or just come and contribute your thoughts. Finger food potluck after.

**Theresa Lutz 863-605-3815**

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## MOUNTAIN QUARTET COMING SUNDAY, MARCH 4!

Our Sunday, March 4th service will feature **The Mountain Quartet!!**

Title: **Everything We Do is Important - Living Our Lives to Overflowing**

The Rev. Davidson Loehr challenges us to "live our lives to overflowing so that the world is nourished by the overflow." We are called to choose civility, compassion, generosity, responsibility and respect - these define our religious values and us. Through reflections and music, The Mountain Quartet (Tom & Jane Warth, and Shelley & Ian Denham) will bring their personal perspectives to these challenges.

## UUCL MARCH YARD SALE!

**HEY, HEY, HEY! PAY ATTENTION HERE!** Do you think this Fund-raising Committee is finished for the year? No sir-ee. We're a hard working little group and we're gonna have another yard sale in March. So start rooting around in your closets and garages and get that stuff together that you're tired of or never used like you thought you would. This year you will have the option of renting a table and selling your stuff yourself and then giving UUCL a cut, or you can bring it for the committee and helpers to sell for you. More details in next newsletter.

If you already know that you would be happy to help with the yard sale please call Blenda at 709-9096 or email Blenda at [blenda@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:blenda@tampabay.rr.com).

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## ADDRESS/E-MAIL CHANGES, DIRECTORY CHANGES, ETC.

Please make the following recent changes or updates to your address books and your May 2006 Membership Directory:

**Dale Mathias**

[dwmathias@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:dwmathias@tampabay.rr.com).

**Fred Royal**

Home: 863-679-9164

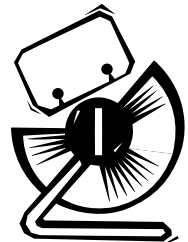
Cell: 863-651-9669

**Carol Righter**

4187 Audobon Oaks Circle,

Apt. 106,

Lakeland 33809, Phone 863-858-4120



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## Religious Education

Continued from p. 4

the time they leave the service until 12:15. Please do NOT come in the classroom when a class is in session, as that is disruptive to the lesson. This includes those who want to use the 'library' in the large room. Thanks.

Continued on p.8

## 2007 UUCL ANNUAL DINNER

It's time to Party! This year's Annual Dinner will, once again be held at the Peggy Brown building at the Lake Mirror Complex, on the second floor. There will be a delicious served dinner, some very wonderful and fun entertainment, followed by dancing. The festivities start at 5:30. Please bring some wine or an appetizer to share during our social hour from 5:30 to 6:30, if you so desire. Dinner will be served **promptly** at 6:30. The menu consists of Caesar Salad, Soft Breadsticks, Pork Tenderloin with dressing OR Corn Flake Crusted Baked Scrod, Roasted Red Potatoes, and a vegetable medley with a surprise dessert, that is sure to make you ooh and ah! Or so I am told.

Baby-sitting will be provided at UUCL for your child(ren), under the age of 14. They are invited for an evening of fun and, yes, Pizza!!!! Please contact Barbara Wallace (696-0323) to reserve your children's spot. Two adult baby-sitters will be provided, with charged up cell phones to call us at the Dinner, if necessary. Please remember to pick them up after the Dinner.

If you have not returned your RSVP card, please do so, now. We need to inform the caterer of the number of each meal choice, very soon. You may leave it in the Finance mail box in the UUCL office, mail it, or give it to Barbara Wallace or me. If you did not receive your invitation, please let me know, ASAP. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Linda Walters, Finance Chair**

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## Religious Education

Continued from p. 7

In addition to the normal RE classes, there is a condensed OWL program currently happening, with 4 or 5 teens participating.

The RE committee is designing a t-shirt to reward the students that can recite the Seven UU Principles. Let's encourage the kids to learn what UUism is about!

**Diane Baum, RE Coordinator**

## FINANCE MATTERS

This year's Pledge Drive (July 2007 thru June 2008) is going to be a bit different than in previous years. The kick-off for the Pledge Drive will begin at our Annual Dinner. We have chosen the theme of "Caring for our Beloved Community," because that is how we see our financial support, as one way to care for our congregation; to nurture it and help it to grow and prosper.

Pledge cards and budget information will be available at the Annual Dinner. Members and Pledging Friends will have three choices as to how they may make their pledges.

- A sealed box will be on a table at the Annual Dinner for those of you that would like to do it, right there, right then.
- If you would like to speak to someone about pledging, or finances, or budgets, there will be several lists on the pledge box table with Canvass Captain's names on them, and you may put your name on the list of the person you would like to speak with.
- You may also put your card in the Finance mailbox at the UUCL office, or give it to one of the Canvass Captains.

More information will be available at the Annual Dinner. If you will not be attending, please contact the Treasurer, Joyce Bode, or me, to get your card. Contact info for both of us, is on the last page of the Beacon.

The pledge cards will need to be returned by the Ides of March, or sometime mid-month, in order to have the budget available for the Annual Meeting on April Fool's Day. If we have not heard from you by the end of February, please expect a courtesy call from one of our Canvass Captains. And remember that your pledges are not written in stone (that went out of style, ages ago). Your pledge may be adjusted throughout the year as special circumstances arise, such as a financial hardship, or a big win on the Lottery. With your help, care and support, we anticipate great things for the coming years at UUCL.

**Linda Walters, Finance Chair**





**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Lakeland  
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## **The Seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- ❖ The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- ❖ Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- ❖ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- ❖ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- ❖ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- ❖ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- ❖ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

