



THE MOSAIC CHALICE

Newsletter of Mosaic Unitarian Universalist

March 2010

Volume 4, Issue 3

Annual Florida District Assembly – *The Challenge Ahead* April 9-11, 2010

Out of the work of
hands,
hearts,
and minds, emerges
a meaningful life.

ABOUT US

Sunday Worship
10:30am
(with Children's Program)

AND

Mosaic in the
Afternoon
3pm
(Small Group Worship)

Mosaic Center
425 S. Volusia Avenue
Orange City

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To Submit Articles for
The Mosaic Chalice:

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Each year, delegates and guests from the forty-five Unitarian Universalist congregations of the Florida District come together in common Assembly to celebrate, to meet and to learn from each other. We also come to conduct the District's shared business - to elect new officers, adopt a budget, and vote on by-law revisions to permit Youth participation on the Board.

Gini Courter, Moderator of our Association of Unitarian Universalist Congregations will be the featured speaker. She will share her thoughts on changes occurring within our Unitarian Universalist world and the challenges facing our future. She will also lead a workshop for congregational leaders.

Additionally, there are fifteen workshops and other meetings focused on the theme and congregational life, including a presentation on the UU response to the tragedy in Haiti. The *Awards Luncheon* on Saturday honors congregations and individual achievements in this last year.

After the workshops, the Board invites delegates to participate in an open discussion of the challenges and opportunities facing congregations here in the Florida District.

This is your big chance to explore the wonders of the larger UU world. Plan to attend the **UUA Florida District Annual Assembly, April 9-11**. Meet UUs from all over the SE. Enjoy the workshops, lectures, and social opportunities. We thank our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Miami for hosting us this year, offering a beautiful and accessible campus for our time together. Nearby is the University of Miami and South Miami's colorful restaurant district. District Assembly begins on Friday evening with dinner, worship and a racial justice movie, "The Lost Tomb of Jesus."

Begin Saturday with breakfast, in-gathering, and worship. Gini Courter will give the sermon, "Leadership by the Book." After a business meeting and lunch, afternoon workshops and presentations begin. They include such things as: "Transforming the Agriculture Industry: The Struggle for Fair Food," "From Spirituality to Activism," "Ministry to Aging Populations," and "The Spiritual Practice of Laughter Yoga," Intriguing titles - interesting speakers. After a reception, drumming circle, and dinner, Amy Carol Webb will present an evening concert. At 11am on Sunday attendees are invited to join the Miami congregation for worship, with Gini Courter in the pulpit.

Registration for the entire weekend, including meals, is \$105 before March 29. The rate for Saturday only is \$85. There are special rates for youth and young adults (to age 30). Childcare is free (age 2-12) with pre-registration. Local hotel rates are listed at the on-line registration site. The Mosaic Leadership Development Committee will assist with registration for interested Mosaicans. Please contact Andy Bowen for info, (386)736-1688 or ABOWEN27@cfl.rr.com Registration online at: www.floridadistrict.org.

MOSAIC Mission:

The mission of Mosaic UU is:

to nourish body, mind and spirit for ourselves and the larger community by partnering with established community programs providing direct service to those in need of food and family support,

to develop programs to supplement and advance those efforts,

and to provide worship services to renew and revitalize the spirit.

From the Mosaic Trustees:

Andy Bowen: Mosaic has fulfilled one of its goals with the election of your new trustees. A full 80% of the board joined Mosaic after we were chartered in 2006. Our new leadership is full of energy and ideas. The trustees held their retreat in December, wrote a covenant, and agreed on who would fill the various board roles. Andy Bowen serves as president, Julie Lowery as vice president, Deborah Langdale as treasurer, Elissa Emerson as secretary, and Cary Ragsdale serves at-large and coordinates Mosaic communication.

The trustees are currently working on several things, including partnering with the other churches in SW Volusia to sponsor a *Spirituality Fair*, with Mosaic taking the lead. Also, the "A Noun for our Name" workshop is scheduled for Monday, March 15. Your trustees are also looking at ways to market Mosaic and welcome all suggestions. We are currently working on ads and will be going on Facebook. Remember, every Sunday is "bring a friend to services day."

A Noun for Our Name (Mosaic's name, that is) Workshop

The Mosaic trustees have scheduled the "A Noun for our Name" workshop for **Monday, March 15 at 7pm** in **Suite "F"**. After hearing the feelings of the congregation at the Annual Meeting in November, a workshop is scheduled to further discuss the important matter of defining who we are. Suggestions for a noun to add to our name can be given to any trustee in person, by phone, email or from the floor at the workshop. The workshop is open to all members and friends. The decision reached at the workshop will be presented for a membership vote at a congregational meeting to be called in April.

Report of Mosaic Treasurer, Deborah Langdale

FUTURE FUND REPORT

I am pleased to report that by March 1 we will have over \$1000 deposited in our Future Fund Savings Account! For those of you who have not heard about our Future Fund yet, we have budgeted \$5000 for this year to be paid monthly into a savings account. Our plan is for a larger amount to be budgeted each year, as Mosaic grows. The moneys can be used for buying a building or renting better space, calling a minister, or responding to a catastrophe. The congregation will decide how the Future's Fund is utilized. So instead of just wishing for our own building or imagining what it would be like to have a minister, we are making it happen!

The majority of Mosaic members made the financial commitment this year to increase their pledges in order to make this happen. The Future Fund is growing even faster than planned, thanks to people making donations in honor of friends and family members' birthdays, losses, celebrations, etc.

If you are making an additional donation to the Future Fund, please note that on your check. For your monthly pledge, you do **not** need to make any notation other than pledge. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

HOLIDAY CARD FUND RAISER

Thank you, thank you to the anonymous donor of the Unitarian Universalist Holiday Cards! And to those who purchased and sent them! Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$150 for the beautiful cards.

Mosaic Community Potluck Lunch Success Submitted by Lauren Griffin, Hospitality Chair

MOSAIC Values:

Compassion moves us to transform our shared world through service, individual spirituality, and respectful relations with all.

The Mosaic Community Potluck Lunch held on Valentine's Day was a rousing success. The participation of our members and friends made the lunch a culinary treat and the conversation was light and uplifting. Thank you to everyone for your help with setup and cleanup. Based on this success we will have potluck lunches on the second Sunday of **even numbered** months immediately following morning services. We will not hold Saturday potluck dinners at this time. There will be a 15-20 minutes coffee and cookie time before lunch for those members, friends and guests who are unable to stay for lunch. The schedule is as follows: April 11, June 13, August 8, October 10, December 12. Mark your calendar!!

Please contact Lauren Griffin at (386)801-2606 with questions.

From the Mosaic Library

Our library is seeing more activity, both in books checked out and in donations. This month's donations are from Kathie Shepard who has donated: Radical Hospitality, This Day in UU History, UH-Oh, and The Power of Now. Liz Schumaker has donated The Last Lecture. Be sure to take the short walk down to Suite "F" and look over all the offerings.



DUST OFF YOUR WALKING SHOES It's time to take to the streets

The SW Volusia **CROP Walk** will be held on **Sunday, March 21 at 2pm**. Again this year, walkers will leave from the Deltona Christian Church, 960 E. Normandy Blvd. We will walk to the Deltona Community Life Center and return, a distance of 4 miles. There will be transportation from DCLC for those who don't want to walk back. While at DCLC there will be time to tour the facility and rest, with water and snacks. Please sign up on Sunday (see Cary Ragsdale), collect pledges, and let's get out there.

What is a CROP Walk? It's "neighbors walking together to take a stand against hunger in our world. Together we raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger-fighting." Last year 9 Mosaicans walked with 6 other congregations on a cold, beautiful, sunny day. Mosaic raised \$500 from pledges – 25% of the proceeds went to the DCLC, the other 75% to the UUSC for their hunger relief work. Good company, good exercise, good work – Win. Win.



2009 WALKERS: Lynn Allen, Elissa Emerson, Deborah Langdale, Judy Raymond, Lisa Stauffer, and Susan DuPree.

Jane Bradford, Andy Bowen, and John DuPree set up and staffed the mid-way refreshment stop for the walkers.

TAKE ACTION...

On January 15, 2010, the Obama administration announced that Haitians in the United States prior and up to the date of the Haiti earthquake (January 12) may apply for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). This status will allow them to legally live and work in the U.S. for the next 18 months without fear of deportation. *This program is estimated to help 100,000–200,000 Haitians currently in the U.S.*



Partnering with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and UU congregations, UUSC (UU Service Committee) is organizing and supporting legal services clinics for TPS applicants in select regions of the country to facilitate this process. At these clinics, volunteers will provide free advice and assistance in filling out the necessary forms, as well as help in completing TPS fee-waiver applications. Volunteers need NOT be attorneys in order to participate but do need to take part in a TPS training supervised by immigration attorneys prior to volunteering.

UUSC is hosting two TPS webinars — **open to all** — facilitated by immigration attorneys, to train volunteers to serve at these clinics. Mickey Kranz, an attorney who has been doing her field education ministry at Cabrini Immigrant Services and organizing TPS clinics in the New York area, will also speak.

TPS Training Webinars – www.uusc.org

Wednesday, March 3, 7:00–8:30 p.m. (EST)

– www.uusc.org

Wednesday, March 10, 7:00–8:30 p.m. (EST)

– www.uusc.org



Once you have participated in a training, UUSC and the UUA will invite you to volunteer in TPS clinics as they are scheduled. Information about clinics and trainings are being compiled, so please check back regularly to learn about opportunities to volunteer that may be scheduled in your area.

Thanks for supporting UUSC's efforts to help Haitians, both in the United States and in Haiti, recover from the earthquake.

HOMELESSNESS IMPACT LOBBY DAY - April 7, 2010

Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry (UULMF) works to bring our Unitarian Universalist unique voice to the legislative halls of Tallahassee. We are comprised of an all-volunteer steering committee of UU lay and clergy folk dedicated to enlivening justice legislatively and collaborating with like-minded groups to support their legislative agenda. We work under the auspices of the Unitarian Universalist Florida district, and we want to invite your congregation's participation in the Legislative Ministry of Florida Impact Days.

This year we are organizing the Homelessness Impact Lobby Day in Tallahassee on April 7, 2010 to support the legislative agenda of the that will have a direct positive impact on Florida's homeless population. Florida is one of the most difficult states in which to be homeless, and we are proud to work in solidarity with the Florida Coalition for the Homeless this year.

We also invite you to visit our website, www.uulmf.org and to save the date for Lobby Day. Through district and cluster communications, we will keep you informed about details and logistics.

Making Ethical Decisions, a workshop presented by the West Central Cluster of Congregations on March 27, will be led by Rev. Robert Tucker, addressing such questions as, "Do ethics and morality differ?" and "What role does religion play?" This event will be held from 9:30am – 2:30pm at the UU Church of Tampa. Call (727)526-9837 by March 22 for registration. The fee is \$20 and includes lunch and beverages.

Hunger in Central Florida 2010 Results Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, Volusia, Brevard



As part of **Feeding America's** recent national hunger study (*Hunger in America 2010*), and with generous funding from Walmart, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida recently collected interview data from nearly 400 nonprofit feeding programs and more than 469 food assistance recipients. *Hunger in Central Florida 2010* provides a statistically valid and reliable look at hunger and poverty in our community. Just as important, the study provides a very real snapshot of who is hungry, and the challenges faced by the most vulnerable of our society.

- 731,900 people in Central Florida received food assistance from Second Harvest in 2009, an increase of 152% from 2006.
- Approximately 55,000 different people receive food assistance in any given week.
- 20.7% of the pantries, 10.1% of the kitchens, and 33% of the shelters responded that they turned people away in 2009.
- 47% of the members of households served are children. This is up nearly 100% from 2006.
- 49% of clients reported having to choose between paying for food or paying rent or mortgage. This is nearly 100% increase from 2006 and higher than the national average.
- Nearly 40% of clients have no access to a working car.
- At 13.1%, Volusia County has the highest rate of people living at or below the poverty level in Central Florida.
- 96% of every dollar given to Second Harvest of Central Florida goes to feed hungry people. Only 4% is used for administration and fund raising. This is possible because of the large number of volunteers. Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida relies on more than 7,500 volunteers, whose hours total over 28,000, every year to fulfill our mission.

Our various projects offer fun and unique ways for individuals and groups to contribute their time, talents and resources to connect with the community. Contact: Mindy Ortiz (407)423-1754 or mortiz@foodbankcentralflorida.org

TAKE A WALK WITH US...

The UU Northeast Cluster board has invited us all to a fun day in a beautiful place on **Saturday, March 20 from 10am - 2pm**. We'll explore the Princess Place Preserve and visit Cherokee Grove, the oldest homestead in Flagler County. What better way to refresh our winter spirits and get to know one another better? We'll meet at 10am at the Princess Place Preserve off U.S. 1 in Flagler County, at the confluence of Pellicer Creek and the Matanzas River. We'll walk on easy trails for two hours or so, and then explore the homestead. Be sure to bring lunch, water, suntan lotion and insect repellent. The outing will be over by about 2pm. For directions or further information, please email Brian Paradise, outing coordinator, at bgparadise@comcast.net.

MOSAIC Leadership

2010 Board of Trustees

Andy Bowen
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Julie Lowery
Vice President

Elissa Emerson
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Committee on Ministry and Leadership Development Committee (Combined for 2010)

Fred Lowery, Chair
Jane Bradford
Shannon Davies
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Hank Boudolf

Lifespan Faith Development Council

Judy Raymond-Worship
Lynn Bowen-Children's
Program/Historian
John DuPree-Music
Susan DuPree-Social
Justice
Lauren Griffin-Hospitality

OUR GREEN EARTH Submitted by Lauren Griffin *Stop the Junk Mail Madness*

Junk mail accounts for 1/3 of all mail sent in the U.S. - over 800 pieces of junk mail delivered each year to each household. That is 100 million trees every single year just for junk mail. This is equivalent to clear cutting all of Rocky Mountain National Park every four months. The emissions created from junk mail each year, according to DoNotMail.org, is equivalent to the emissions created by more than 9,377,000 passenger cars.

Here is the ultimate list for stopping junk mail:

1. The Direct Marketing Association (DMA)

Registration through the DMA will facilitate a dramatic drop in junk mail, especially credit card offers. You can customize your mailing preferences through the DMA by heading here:

<https://www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/home.action;jsessionid=BC02D98ADBB650F598CC931BCAB8CDD7.tomcat2>

If you've lost a family member and want to get their name off mailing lists, you can sign up for Deceased-Do Not Contact through the DMA

2. Val-Pak

Val-Pak is that blue envelope of varied coupons that shows up every month. Unless you are a customer of their clients, these coupons are a waste of time and paper. You can get off the Val-Pak mailing list here.

<http://www.coxtarget.com/mailexpression/s/DisplayMailSuppressionForm>

You'll need to do this even if you sign up with DMA.

3. Opt-Out Pre-Screen

Opt-Out Pre-Screen stops you from getting pre-screened or pre-approved credit card offers.

To sign up, click here - **<https://www.optoutprescreen.com/?rf=t>**
You can also call (888)567-8688 from your home telephone to opt out.

4. Catalogs

If you get catalogs, it's probably because you bought something at anytime in your life. Companies are notorious for selling lists.

Write to:

Abacus, Inc.

P.O. Box 1478

Broomfield, Colorado 80038

5. Store Flyers

Local and national furniture stores, car dealerships, hairdressers, pizza stores, department stores all send these flyers addressed to Resident.

They usually come from Red Plum marketing.

Click here to get off the Red Plum mailing list:

http://www.valassis.com/1024/Contact/contact_home.aspx

You can also call: (888)241-6760.

6. Other Junk

If, after signing up with all the resources listed above, you're still getting some junk, then call the company directly. Ask them to take you off their mailing list.

References:

<http://www.care2.com/>

<http://www.getridofthings.com/get-rid-of-junk-mail.htm>

<http://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=get+rid+of+junk+mail+free&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

www.DoNotMail.org

From Charity Vickers, Executive Director, Deltona Community Life Center:

"The Center's donations have decreased by 50% since last year. We are still struggling every month to pay our rent, phone, internet, insurance, etc... In order to help CLC, a few events have been planned -

1. **Riverfest** is going to be giving a portion of their proceeds to CLC. This event is going to be **March 6**. Please visit this site page 2 for more information: <http://www.debary.org/activitiescalendar.pdf>
2. The Annual **Crop Walk, March 21** will also be giving CLC a portion of their proceeds. (More information and sign up sheet coming - SD)
3. We are planning our 2nd Annual **Chili Cook-Off, Battle of the Bands** event for **April 18, 12pm - 5pm** at Deltona City Hall Courtyard.

We'll be sending out our newsletter soon as well with all of the upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support and reaching out to help us, help the community. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated. May you continue to be blessed."

MORE FROM DELTONA COMMUNITY LIFE CENTER:

Food donations come in on a regular basis through local organizations and food drives. However basic operating expenses (Rent, Phones, Insurance...) are what is causing us the most problem as the cash contributions have dwindled dramatically. Before the economy took its turn for the worse, CLC had regular contributors who would stop in weekly or monthly to drop off a check. The problem we are seeing now, like so many other organizations recently reported on the news, is that the people who used to drop off a check are now in-line looking for help.

Community Life Center has discovered over the past year that most grants NO LONGER allow any grant funds to be used for operating and overhead. I suspect the abuses of a few have created problems for others.

NOTE: Mosaicans may contribute to CLC any time. If you put designated funds in the offering basket, they will be sent to CLC.

The **Mosaic Worship Committee** (made up of any interested Mosaicans) will meet **Thursday, March 11, at 7pm**, at Judy Raymond's home. People interested in participating in planning services and in lay leading are invited to attend. The Worship Committee meets on the second Thursday of odd numbered months. Please contact Judy Raymond, Chair, for directions or information - (386)734-0759.

Buddhist Meditation Group - March

Clear Sky Mind

Meeting each Thursday at 7:30pm in Mosaic Suite F

All are welcome

During these classes, we will explore Buddha's teachings on the location, nature and function of the mind. Taking Buddha's insight to heart, these meditations improve our concentration and wisdom, allowing our inner peace to manifest. These meditations also offer powerful new ways to solve our daily problems. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome.

- 03/04 Clarity of the Mind
- 03/11 Concentration and Inner Peace
- 03/18 Wellness Within and Without
- 03/25 Discovering Bliss



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Liz Schumacher
- 03 Terry Brophy
- 04 Mary Smithwick
- 08 Betsy Mulhern
- 09 Mariellen Teeters
- 19 Killian Seiler
- 19 Karen Dell
- 19 Rusty Gaffney
- 24 Lauren Griffin
- 29 Ginny Stehle

MARCH CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
03/02	Mosaic Cookbook Workshop	Mosaic Center (F)	7pm	Julie Lowery
03/03	Helping Haitians Webinar #1	Register at www.uusc.org	7-8:30pm	
03/04	Buddhist Meditation Group <i>Clarity of the Mind</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	7:30pm	Julie Scofield 734-8747
03/07	Men's Group- Set up for Worship	Mosaic Center	8:30am	Andy Bowen
03/07	Men's Breakfast	Gram's Kitchen, Orange City	9am	Andy Bowen
03/07	WORSHIP: Dr. Robert Flick <i>Moral Values in a Secular World</i>	Mosaic Center	10:30am	Cary Ragsdale
03/07	MOSAIC IN THE AFTERNOON: <i>Purim - Queen Esther Saves the Jews of Persia</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	3pm	Julie Lowery
03/10	Helping Haitians Webinar #2	Register at www.uusc.org	7-8:30pm	
03/10	Evening Covenant Group: <i>Adversity</i>	Mosaic Center (F)	7pm	Gary Schindler
03/11	Buddhist Meditation Group <i>Concentration and Inner Peace</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	7:30pm	Julie Scofield 734-8747
03/11	Worship Committee Meeting	Judy Raymond Home	7pm	Judy Raymond
03/14	WORSHIP: Rev. Robert Tucker <i>Who We (UUs) Are</i>	Mosaic Center	10:30am	Judy Raymond
03/14	MOSAIC IN THE AFTERNOON: <i>Judaism 101</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	3pm	Lisa Stauffer
03/15	A Noun for Our Name Workshop	Mosaic Center(F)	7pm	Andy Bowen
03/16	HINDI NEW YEAR			
03/18	Buddhist Meditation Group <i>Wellness Within and Without</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	7:30pm	Julie Scofield 734-8747
03/20	EQUINOX			
03/20	UU NE Cluster Hike	Princess Place Preserve	10am-2pm	(See story)
03/21	WORSHIP: Rev. Mark Spivey TBA	Mosaic Center	10:30am	Elissa Emerson
03/21	MOSAIC IN THE AFTERNOON: <i>Spring Equinox</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	3pm	Julie Lowery
03/21	Ostara Ritual (Pagan)	Mosaic Center(F)	4:30pm	
03/21	SW Volusia CROP Walk	Deltona Christian Church	10am	Susan DuPree
03/24	RAMA VAVAMI(HINDU -BIRTHDAY OF RAMA)			
03/24	Evening Covenant Group: <i>Atheism</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	7pm	Gary Schindler
03/25	Buddhist Meditation Group <i>Discovering Bliss</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	7:30pm	Julie Scofield 734-8747
03/28	WORSHIP: Karen Ahlers <i>Ecology and Spirituality</i>	Mosaic Center	10:30am	Betsy Mulhern
03/28	MOSAIC IN THE AFTERNOON: <i>The Teachings of Jesus</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	3pm	Lisa Stauffer
03/29	FULL MOON			
03/30	FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER(JEWISH) - 04/06			
04/02	GOOD FRIDAY			
04/04	WORSHIP: Rev. Robert Tucker <i>Easter</i>	Mosaic Center	10:30am	Judy Raymond
04/04	MOSAIC IN THE AFTERNOON: <i>The Theology of Inclusion vs. Exclusion</i>	Mosaic Center(F)	3pm	Lisa Stauffer