



THE MOSAIC CHALICE

Newsletter of Mosaic Unitarian Universalist

October 2009

Volume 4, Issue 10

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
(a Small Group Worship)

Mosaic Center
425 S. Volusia Avenue
Orange City

Mail: P.O. Box 740292
Orange City, FL 32774

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www.mosaicuu.org

To Submit Articles for
The Mosaic Chalice:

Susan DuPree, Editor
susdupree@hotmail.com

Chocolate Industry Update

From the Equal Exchange Interfaith Program Newsletter

"Fifty-four children were recently rescued by Interpol, an international police organization, from working on cocoa plantations, and Interpol believes there are hundreds of thousands more children working illegally in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire alone. Dary Goodrich, Equal Exchange's Chocolate Products Manager, writes:

"...Most of the proposed solutions [to child slavery in the cocoa industry] do not discuss the need to increase prices to farmers and if farmers in this traditional system cannot make enough money to survive they are forced to find the cheapest labor possible, which in this case are innocent children.



Children attending CONACADO's co-operative-supported school benefit from the Fair Trade premiums from the sale of Equal Exchange chocolate.

We know that there are other ways of doing business; clearly the Fair Trade model which emphasizes higher prices, pre-harvest credit, environmental sustainability and direct relationships with small-scale farmer co-operatives, is a far more ethical and sustainable business model. People, not profits, are at the heart of our businesses and we know that makes a real difference."

The Mosaic Unitarian Universalist congregation supports the Fair Trade model by purchasing Equal Exchange coffees, teas, chocolates, and cocoa. Each purchase not only helps to support small farmers, but a portion also goes to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which supports social justice work throughout the world.

From the Mosaic Board of Trustees:

Mosaic Unitarian Universalist is entering the final quarter of the year. We begin the quarter with a joyful occasion; on **October 4**, Mosaic will welcome our largest group of new members ever.

Meanwhile the trustees and committees are busy with the budget and annual meeting. The Mosaic Annual Meeting will held on **Saturday, November 14, (time to be announced)** at the clubhouse at Country Village Estates in Orange City, thanks to Pat Rader, who lives in that community. More information will be forthcoming.

New this year is a "pre-meeting," on **Tuesday, November 3, at 7pm in the Mosaic Center (Suite F)** which will allow for free and open discussion of the proposed budget and consideration of the question, "Should we have a noun in our name?" No vote will be taken. Dessert will be served.

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.**

(Trustee Notes - cont,)

Our 2010 budget will contain a new item this year – a line item to move us toward buying our own home or calling a minister. At present the trustees are holding regular monthly meetings and special working planning sessions to complete the work to be done.

As we grow larger the questions get bigger. The trustees look forward to hearing the input from everyone as we finalize the budget, so do attend the “pre-meeting” as well as the Annual Meeting.

**MOSAIC UU HALLOWEEN YARD SALE
SUBMITTED BY DEBORAH LANGDALE, TREASURER**

**To be held October 31, from 7am-2pm
at Nancy Jacobsen's home, 427 W. Hogle, DeLand**

This is our big fund raiser for the year, folks, so bring us your good stuff and your spooky selves! Please donate items that we can price for a dollar or more so we can raise much needed funds for our congregation. Also, ten percent of our proceeds will go to the Children’s Home Society.

You can drop your goodies off at Nancy’s, or call Andy to pick up them up. Think re-gifting! How about that unwanted Christmas gift you got last year? We would love to receive baked goods for sale, as well as hand-made crafts. Tax deduction statements will be available for donations of significant value, and you can set a minimum price on your item if you like.

We also need your help in witch and warlock power. Here are your choices:

VOLUNTEER JOBS (Come in costume if you like!)

Set up Friday, 10/30, 7pm
Finish set up Saturday, 10/31, 6am
7 – 9am shift
9 – 11am shift
11am – 1pm shift
1pm – close & take down

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Baked goods | Home-made crafts |
| Christmas decorations/décor | Potted plants |
| Furniture | Lamps |
| Jewelry | Home Décor |
| Baby & children’s items | Toys |
| Tools | Garden tools/equipment |
| Antiques | Quilts/Bedspreads |
| Pots & pans | Dish sets |
| Sporting equipment | Camping equipment |

QUESTIONS? CALL DEBORAH LANGDALE 407 754-7675



MOSAIC Values:

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

Thank you to everyone who has generously given their time and resources to provide refreshments after worship services for our coffee hour and fellowship. We appreciate your time and effort.

Remember to sign up for the upcoming months this Sunday. Call Lauren Griffin 386-801-2606 with questions.

COMING THIS MONTH:

Weaving the Fabric of Diversity

Judy Raymond and Liz Schumaker will facilitate a class called "Weaving the Fabric of Diversity" for five **Saturdays, October 3 through October 31**, from **9:30-11am**, at the Mosaic Center (Suite F). This is the first part of an 8-week course; part 2 will be offered later. This course is considered a foundation course for membership in Mosaic UU and is open to everyone.

Weaving the Fabric of Diversity is a structured small group to help people identify and overcome bias and to celebrate diversity through telling their stories and actively listening to others. Trained facilitators help to create a safe environment to examine and challenge ableism, racism, ageism, classism, and sexism in an atmosphere which appreciates diversity and its implications."

The class is limited to 15. Call Judy if you are interested: (386)734-0759.

October Potluck and Ghost Documentary

Join us for food, fellowship, and a film on **Saturday, October 10**, (Second Saturday) at **5pm** in the large Mosaic Meeting Room. Bring a covered dish to share, your personal place setting, a hearty appetite and an open heart. The film is a National Geographic investigation of ghosts and things that go bump in the night. See you there. Call Lauren Griffin 386-801-2606 with questions.

Fifth Annual UU All Cluster Picnic

Saturday, Oct. 10, 11am,

hosted by Spirit of Life - Unitarian Universalists
18412 Burrell Road, Odessa, Florida (near Tampa)

Featuring:

- * Dining beneath the beautiful Pavilion (a wonderful place for children)
- * *Cluster Players* in an original drama.
- * Bring a Picnic dish to share.
- * Burgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs and drinks provided

Faith in Action: A Social Change Workshop

How do our convictions play out in "patching holes" and lighting bridges? This is a regional workshop for people of faith who want to enable their congregations to engage in faith-informed social change on behalf of a fair and kinder world.

The featured presenter and workshop leader will be the **Reverend Richard S. Gilbert**, Social Justice Coordinator for the St. Lawrence Unitarian Universalist District (New York), pastor emeritus of the First Unitarian Church of Rochester, and author of *Building Your Own Theology* and *The Prophetic Imperative; Social Gospel in Theory and Practice* among others. Richard is one of the preeminent spokespersons for the primacy of action for social change in the faith community. He comes to this workshop from long experience in enabling congregations to make a difference in the way the world works.

This workshop is designed to encourage the sharing of participant experiences and the building of informal networks for possible conjoint social change projects in Florida.

(Faith in Action cont.)

When: Saturday, October 24, 10am -4pm (Registration at 9:30am)

Where: First Unitarian Church of Orlando, 1901 East Robinson Street
Reservations are required - \$20 (\$15 before October 10). Fees cover workshop materials, beverages and light snacks at registration time, and lunch. Please make your check payable to "First Unitarian Church of Orlando", write "KIN" in the "memo" line and send to: First Unitarian Church of Orlando, Faith in Action Workshop, 1901 East Robinson Street, Orlando, FL 32803 www.faithinactionnetwork.info

THIRD ANNUAL UNIVERSAL MUSIC DAY – OCTOBER 10

Created by Susan Patricia Golden, a member of the UU Church of Clearwater, because "Music and Art are to our Spirits what Air, Food, and Water are to our Bodies." (www.UniversalMusicDay.org)

"Just as Earth Day has created awareness for the importance of caring for the Earth, Universal Music Day creates awareness for the importance of Sound, Silence, Vibration--known as Music, the best approach to teach Listening & Communication Skills. Universal Music Day sets aside one day a year (the second Saturday in October) to encourage and inspire people everywhere to claim, reclaim or rejoice in one's ability to sing and make Music. Making Music is too important to our bodies, minds and spirits to leave only for the professionals. We speak primarily to the 80% of the non-musicians who "WISH" they made Music."

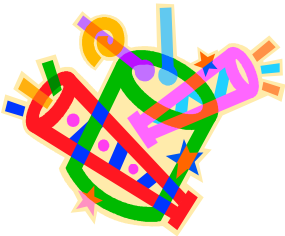
"When we support this population in claiming their own Music -- "one quality sound" from their heart-- they will have a MUCH DEEPER APPRECIATION for the commitment, dedication and perseverance of the professional Musicians. Symphonies will thrive! Musicians will be paid appropriately -- and we will all be happier and healthier! AND that 80% will know that the more they are willing to put in the hours/decades of practice (like the pros) the more likely they are to reach similar/higher standards of many quality sounds in repetition."

So, let's make some music. Put on a CD and sing along, gather some friends and play whatever instruments you've got (even pots work). There will be a celebration at the Octagon Arts Center (UUC Clearwater) at 6pm. Tickets are \$10.

LECTURE: STETSON CENTER FOR SCIENCE, NATURE, AND SACRED

The Stetson Center for Science, Nature, and the Sacred, with the Values Council, announces a lecture for **Monday, October 5**. At **7pm**, Professor Michael Ruse will speak on the subject "The Evolution-Creation Struggle: An American Story" in the Stetson Room of the Carlton Union Building. The Stetson community and the public are welcome at this event.

Ruse, a Professor at Florida State University, is one of the world's leading authorities on the philosophy of biology, the history of science, and the American controversy over the thought of Charles Darwin. He takes the position that it is possible to reconcile Christian religion with evolutionary theory. Ruse is the author of a 120 page set of dialogues titled *Evolution and Religion: A Dialogue*. For more information, contact Dr. Donald Musser at dmusser@stetson.edu.

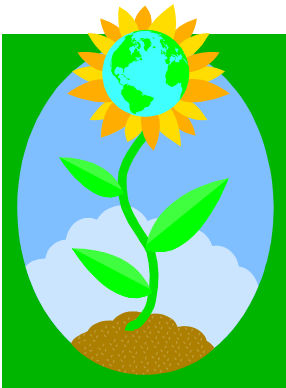


OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

04 Pat Rader
24 Judy Raymond
27 Gene Mulhern



Faithful America was founded on June 15, 2004, when Americans of faith raised \$36,000 to place an advertisement on Arabic-language satellite television expressing regret to Muslims for the abuse committed by Americans at Abu Ghraib prison.



A Letter from Jennifer Butler, Executive Director, Faithful America,

I wanted to write today to say a special thank you for the incredible support you provided for our *40 Days for Health Reform* campaign. Because of you and the rest of the Faithful America community, the campaign has been a huge success. In a summer where rowdy town halls were stealing all the headlines, Faithful America and over 30 other religious groups teamed up to shift the narrative and show Congress and the media that people of faith support health care reform, and we were blown away by the results:

Over 300,000 people have heard our call to action for health care reform with President Obama (over 140,000 people listened live!). Tens of thousands of people urged Congress to act, including over 25,000 petition signatures and 20,000 calls. We raised over \$16,000 and put an ad on the air nationwide and key states featuring people of faith calling for health care reform.

We've never achieved anything like this before, and we couldn't have done it without you. This energy and dedication will be crucial in the coming weeks as we launch our next campaign urging the Senate to pass a strong climate bill. Of course, our work on health care is not done yet.

Our *40 Days* campaign is wrapping up, but we are not leaving the issue behind. We'll keep working until quality affordable health care is available for every American family.

We're not letting up -- and we hope you don't either. Keep in touch at www.faithfulamerica.com

OUR GREEN EARTH

Submitted by Lauren Griffin

Water From Plastic Water Bottles Is More Toxic When Heated - Bottled water sells itself as being pure in its clear plastic bottles, but nearly 40% of bottled water is actually tap water with added minerals or filtration. There is no guaranteed safety because it's wrapped in plastic; in fact there's some risk.

Municipal water actually has an advantage in that it is tested many times per month, constantly moving, keeping fresh and avoiding stagnancy. Water bottles, though cleaned, are not sterilized. Relatively low amounts of bacteria at bottling can multiply to a much larger problem by the time bottles hit store shelves. Bottled water frequently is not chlorinated, allowing bacterial and fungal growth within the bottle. Bottled water companies are regulated by the FDA and inspections of plants can be years apart.

If that isn't bad enough, the bottles themselves have health impacts, besides the environmental havoc created by their disposal in our landfills. Water bottles (and other plastic food containers) contain **phthalates**, a chemical used to soften plastics and make it less brittle. When these plastics are heated, even from a hot day in the car or during the shipping process, they begin to leach into the contents of the bottle. Phthalates can cause reproductive difficulties, liver problems and increased risk of cancer. While phthalates are regulated in tap water, the FDA maintains an exemption for bottled water.

GREEN INDUSTRY COMING TO DEBARY – The Volusia County Department of Economic Development and Southeast Fabricators Inc. have announced that the company will be relocating its operations to a 70,000 sq. ft. facility in DeBary to expand its manufacturing operations. Southeast Fabricators manufactures steel structures, and has developed a proprietary photo voltaic system for use by the telecommunication industry. The company anticipates hiring 250 employees over the next 3 years and is seeking County incentives for job growth

Volusia PeaceCenter ~Upcoming Event

On Sunday, October 25, at 6:30pm, speaker, Skip Schiel will present "Eyewitness Gaza" at the the United Church of Christ, 203 Washington Street, New Smyrna Beach. Skip Schiel, a frequent visitor to Gaza, was there in January 2008 and the summer of 2009, before and after the devastation of Operation Cast Lead, the Israeli offensive on Gaza. While there, he worked with the American Friends Service Committee youth program and was witness to the effects of the Israeli siege on Gaza as well as the aftermath of Operation Cast Lead.

Skip is a photographer, writer, and political activist, currently based in Cambridge Massachusetts. Since 2003, his main emphasis has been on the troubles in Palestine and Israel.

All movies and programs are FREE and OPEN to the public. Doors open at 6:00 pm, program begins at 6:30 pm. Support Volusia PeaceCenter by becoming a member. Visit our website... www.VolusiaPeaceCenter.org. Thanks!

Creating a Jubilee World Workshop November 13 - 15, 2009

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville

"Creating A Jubilee World" Workshop was developed by the Jubilee Working Group for Anti-Racism. This workshop is designed to help Unitarian Universalist congregations dismantle racism by allowing participants to examine both personal and institutional racism, and by empowering them to develop a realistic plan that can move their congregations forward in working for racial justice. Objectives of the workshop are to:

- *Increase awareness of racism within the church and the larger community;
- *Recognize the power/privilege of racism from personal and institutional perspectives;
- *Identify activities and responses that promote the elimination of racism;
- *Identify the challenges and barriers to working toward eliminating racism;
- *Examine our denominational values, principles, and purposes in relation to the vision of a Jubilee World;
- *Begin the process of building an anti-racism transformation team in the congregation.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Florida District and the Gainesville congregation. Contact: Alice Primack for more details at Primacks@cox.net.

In Memoriam – Rev. Forrest Church



Rev. Forrest Church

The Rev. Dr. Forrest Church, whose ministry transformed Unitarian Church of All Souls, New York, from a quiet congregation with a distinguished history into the nation's most visible exponent of liberal religion, died Thursday, September 24th, after a three-year battle with esophageal cancer. He was 61 years old.

During Church's tenure at the congregation, All Souls flourished. Over the past three decades, membership at All Souls has more than tripled. With over 1,400 members, All Souls is one of the largest congregations in the Unitarian Universalist Association today.

At the UUA's 2008 General Assembly, Church received the Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism, the most prestigious award given by the UUA. "Let us never forget what a privilege it is to be part of this great movement and to pronounce its saving faith: one Light (Unitarianism) shining through many windows (Universalism)."

His prominent works include [Our Chosen Faith: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism](#) (1989, co-authored with John Buehrens), [The American Creed](#) (2002), [So Help Me God: The Founding Fathers and the First Great Battle over Church and State](#) (2007), and [Love and Death](#) (2008). Church's final book, [The Cathedral of the World: A Universalist Theology](#), will be published by Beacon Press in November.

MOSAIC Leadership

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Community Connections: Racial Issues Study Circles in Palatka What is There to RISC? By Gaye Esperson

I am a middle aged, middle class, college educated, white woman from the north who is now living in a poor, rural county in northeast Florida. It's small enough that after a while you begin to recognize people in the streets, stores and restaurants. A few years ago, I found myself standing on the curb at a local parade. Standing there, for the first time in my life, I was beginning to feel like I was an integral part of a community. Next to me was Ralph Dallas, a black leader in the community, a person I was just beginning to get to know. As I was feeling the delight of the day, and the community, Ralph turned to me and said his father would never have believed that one day he could be standing next to a white woman in the streets of Palatka. I was stunned. This was my first reality check of the legacy of racism in the south.

Ralph and I are now co-facilitating Race Issues Study Circles in Palatka. It is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. It gives me joy and feeds my soul. I do it because it feels like the right thing to do. It is not easy - it's a lot of work -it's a stretch.

So what is a Study Circle and how does it work? The Study Circle is similar to a small group:

- we have a covenant;
- we limit our attendance to about 12 participants;
- we hold ourselves to confidentiality in order to feel safe to talk freely;
- the group meets at least five times;
- there is a curriculum that guides our discussions;
- the facilitators do just that; they are not teachers or participants.

In the Study Circle we create a safe environment where people can speak about race issues from their hearts and be heard. They also have the opportunity to ask questions they would not normally feel comfortable asking. We have found that as people get to know each other and begin to trust each other, our differing world views can be revealed, and we understand each other better.

We have a curriculum that we use as a starting point. There is a beginning exercise to get to know each other. The second week we talk about the invisible knapsack that all white people have. We move on to the history of our area, the point of view of the media and then talk about what we might be able to do to move forward.

Personally, these Study Circles, along with my UU faith, have transformed me. I used to be very wary of black people. This is the first time I have had black friends and associates. I am no longer nervous about entering a convenience store in the black part of town. I regularly go to the black community center to swim. I find my black friends all over town. What a delight!

I know what I get out of the Study Circles but suspected it was not the same for Ralph. So I asked him. His answer was that he felt that he was being heard. He was brought up in the segregated south and lived through the process of integration. Finally, there is a venue where he can tell his story.

The Study Circle we put together are modeled on the Racism Study Circles in Jacksonville which are based on the Study Circles from Everyday Democracy (www.everyday-democracy.org). If you would like any more information, please feel free to contact me, Gaye Esperson, at gayeanastasia@earthlink.net