

# *The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County*



*Building Liberal Religious Community — Please Join Us!*

*February 2003*

## **Our Sunday Schedule**

Childcare 9:30 AM - 12 Noon

Worship and Church School 10 AM

## **Sermons for February**

### **On the Nature of Covenant**

**Rabbi Kenneth Block**

**February 2**

Rabbi Block is a beloved regular in our pulpit. Our religion is covenantal, far more reminiscent in this way of our Jewish roots than our Christian roots (creedal). Judaism was first formed by covenant and has worked its way through this discipline for thousands of years. This day promises to deepen our understanding of both the Jewish faith and our own.

### **Evolution**

**Rev. Lisa Ward**

**February 9**

February 12th is the birth date of Charles Darwin, which is now claimed by some as a day to meditate on the unity of science and spirituality. The theory of evolution, though accepted by most, remains controversial in some religious and educational spheres. A minister's thoughts on evolution.

### **Unconditional Love**

**Rev. Lisa Ward**

**February 16**

This is a phrase that I have rejected for most of my life. It is a concept that makes little sense when considering our relational lives. But recently I've caught glimpses of what this phrase might mean—glimpses because it is so hard to grasp for any length of time. Today I will ponder aloud its many meanings.

### **Bless the Fields**

**Rev. Lisa Ward**

**February 23**

This day is the near end of a week long Navaho Festival tradition, when fields are blessed in preparation for planting. Today we will celebrate earth and how it nourishes our lives.

## **From Our Minister**



And so I'm told it's inevitable. And I watch as billions of dollars and millions of lives are readjusted toward war. And I hear the evil-speak and the double talk. And I receive the news from polls in which I do not hear my voice. And I wonder—oh yes I wonder—if we are simply unable, as a species, to stretch our imagination beyond the drama of war. I wonder if we can ever possibly focus our resources on the drama of intimacy, healing and peace. For that is a greater challenge and an endeavor that would keep us eternally occupied, rather than prone to irrational fear, extraordinary greed and dangerous boredom from self patronage.

No, I did not partake of the quiz I witnessed on a news brief, beguiling its watchers to identify ships in the gulf. Anchor: "What is the name of this destroyer? . . . Stay tuned for your answer after this commercial break." As if we can rev up the denial to the point of games of multiple choice and truth or dare. No, I do not see inevitability in any human choice or action, simply arrogance and self serving promotion toward a vision of a world that does not embrace the people, let alone all living beings, of the world. And the "we can't turn back now" logic is faulty and shallow at best.

Do we have things to work out? Of course we do. Are there good leaders and bad leaders? No doubt. Are we living an equitable existence in terms of resource and finance? Not in the least. Does that give us the right to be first strike aggressors? Not in my dream of a worthy nation. Do we presume realities simply because we say so? Not in my hopes for a free and fair government. Since we have the privilege of more, does that mandate control of the rest? Not in my understanding of democracy. Is this how we honor the military who have put their lives on the line for peace and justice? Is this how we use the freedom they fought and died for? Their lives are worth

more than that. Our lives are worth more than that. All lives are worth more than that.

We can find another way. Do not doubt it. Nothing in our lives is inevitable except our deaths. In-between our birth and death is a treasure of possibility and potential for change. Be your true selves. Do not let others tell you who you are. Make your own decisions and believe in your ability to thrive without destroying another's right to do the same. We can do this. Don't let yourself be underestimated. This is a plea to your beauty within. Let it shine with fierce and loving glory. This I pray.

—Amen, Rev. Lisa Ward

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## UU Sound Bytes

**Query:** How can you be spiritual if you don't read from the Bible?

**Response:** We read from the Bible, now and again. – or – The Bible is a good book, but it's not the only book (a favorite line from *Inherit the Wind*).

**Subtext:** In UUism, revelation is not sealed. Truth emerges, breaks through or reveals itself in many ways. We honor wisdom from many sources. We know it is wisdom through our intuition; it "feels" right. We test what we've learned in community.

**Query:** What is your reference book, then? What is your religious text?

**Response:** We base the structure of our living faith through the wisdom of our principles and purposes. We use all sorts of texts for reference and guidance to understand the sacred in our lives.

**Query:** But how do you know what is right? How can you check the righteousness of your faith journey?

**Response:** That's the mystery of faith, isn't it? We know it is right when it is supported by the wisdom of our experiences, our study and our intuition.

We also know that no one is always right, nor is one text or community the keeper of all the answers. As the Hindu say: "God is One," but the wise speak of it in many ways.

**Subtext:** One of the hardest aspects to communicate about Unitarian Universalism is the fact that you cannot fulfill a formula that then qualifies membership. Unless you would call this a formula: the belief in the genius of creation or spark of divinity within all beings, the yearning to apply one's life to the beauty and wisdom inherent in our being, and the willingness to educate oneself in the discipline of diversity, finding the inherent worth and dignity of all. No one book spells this journey out for Unitarian Universalists.

## From the President

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift; that's why they call it the present."

Some *good news*: At the January board meeting the Board noted that our financial status looks good enough to keep our minister for the rest of our fiscal year. Things have turned around enough for us to make some confident financial decisions about our budget, and we should finish up April in pretty good shape. We have been helped greatly by several very generous gifts by members and friends and by the quick honoring of pledge obligations. We have really pulled together to keep this Fellowship alive and vibrant.

As you know I am currently acting as President and Treasurer on the Board. I am also planning to head up the Stewardship committee for the annual pledge drive, which will be starting this month. With all of this happening I will be stretched thin so Deb Cruise will be helping me with many of the duties of Board President for the remainder of the church year. Once again I am reminded of how important our Fellowship is to each of us when I see our members contribute so much time and effort.

Speaking of the pledge drive, I could use some help. I need some more folks to help out so that the Fellowship can continue to grow. Lots of hands make easier work and this is a great way to get to know the community better. Talk to me if you can put in some time.



—Yours in Fellowship, Ed

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## JYG Annual Dinner Scheduled for Saturday, March 22

The Junior Youth Group invites you to mark your calendar and save this date for the annual gala affair. The JYG will begin planning on February 9 during their monthly meeting. They meet again at the Hofherr's house after church on February 23 at 12:00 pm to continue planning this festive event.



## Religious Education

### Important News About *Coming of Age*

After much soul searching with Beth Wood-Roig, Rev. Lisa and Scott Michael, we have decided to postpone the *Coming of Age* Boston trip until next spring. Three teens had dropped out and wanted to participate next year, and that left a small handful of youth to continue on. The program was designed in part to be an independent study, and any work the youth have done to this point and beyond will be credited and encouraged. With the blow of the financial health of the Fellowship at the beginning of the year and all the attention it created, as well as the RE program trying to maintain three *OWL* programs and full length Children's Worship, we felt the RE energy and Fellowship focus was not in the place that the *Coming of Age* program deserves to make it successful. It is a program designed to get the Fellowship excited and involved with the youth, and that was not able to happen. We've decided to go full speed ahead next year with an additional 8-10 kids who are currently in *OWL* and make it *the big RE* concentration in the coming year. You'll be hearing much more on this in the future!

### RE has been blessed with such generosity

Tony Yiannokos generated wish lists this past Holiday season and asked committees if they were wishing for anything special under the UUFHC tree. Beth Wood-Roig and I noted a few items and have been graced with some awesome new books and music to enhance Religious Education! Thanks so much to Leigh and Bill Faunce and Tony Yiannakos for donating World Music CD's. We wanted to enhance Children's Worship and class experience with music and these folks have answered the call!

In addition, many members purchased books for RE curriculum and the RE Library. Please join us in thanking Mary Ragan, Kit Brown, Judi Walkley, Marlene Leib and Joy Mullen for their generous contributions.

### RE Library

Parents, please encourage your children to visit the RE Library, and while you are at it, go there with them! We have added titles and have many parent resources as well. New additions include a poignant book on loss for all ages, *Aarvy Aardvark Finds Hope*, as well as youth-themed books, *Bullies Are a Pain in the Brain* and *Too Old for This, Too Young For That*. New books that may appeal to parents are *Take Back Your Kids*, and *Boy v. Girl?* "How gender shapes who we are, what we want, and how we get along." We are trying to generate a master list of all the books available in the RE Library for distribution. We have a handwritten list—if anyone is

a fast typist and is willing to help type one up, please see Beth Wood-Roig or me.

### Heartfelt Valentines

As the year reaches its midway point, I want to acknowledge all the hard work on the part of so many volunteers who keep our program vibrant. Big thanks to the RE teachers, our youth advisors, *OWL* leaders, the Children's Worship team and the members of the RE Committee! From the parents who bring their children weekly to all the surrogate aunts/uncles and grandparents—thanks so much for caring about our children and for supporting the Religious Education program.

*Peace and warmth,  
Lisa Chenoweth  
Director of Religious Education*



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### "The Vagina Monologues" comes to Bel Air

Thanks to UUFHC for providing rehearsal space to "V-Day Bel Air." What is V-Day? It's a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. Through V-Day campaigns, both Worldwide and College, local volunteers and college students produce annual benefit performances of "The Vagina Monologues" to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups within their own communities. V-Day campaigns strive to empower women to find their collective voices and demand an end to the epidemic levels of violence and abuse in their communities around the world.

V-Day Bel Air's beneficiary is SARC, the Sexual Assault, Spousal Abuse Resource Center. In FY 2002, SARC served 2,252 individuals. That's an average of over 6 individuals per day.

The cast includes members of UUFHC as well as women from the local community.

V-Day Bel Air will hold its benefit performance one night only, on Saturday, March 1, 2003 at 7:00 pm. The group is still looking for a venue. Ticket prices will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for students.

Production help is always welcome. Please contact the local organizer, Stacie Beard, at 410-879-6151 or email her at [ficera@comcast.net](mailto:ficera@comcast.net) if you are interested in helping with this project or if you have any questions. You can also visit V-Day's website at [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org).

## Member Profile: *Meet Judi Walkley*

A long time UUFHC member, Judi, (Judith) joined us when our church was located on Lee Way in Bel Air in 1984. She was the first person to greet me when I walked into our church at our present location. Always a smiling face, Judi is frequently seen greeting folks. Born in beautiful Cumberland, Maryland she began her formal education at Allegany Community College where she achieved her AA degree. Later, she met Paul Stehlik and they were married at the Towson UU church where they had the distinction of being the first couple to be married there. They moved to Harford County in 1976, “on 4 acres, stream, pool, and little ‘fix-up’ house.”

Ryan was born in 1977, and later Paul was given custody of his 2 children from his former marriage, Monica then 13 and Paul Jr. 10, whom she calls “P.J.” As mother to Paul’s two and their son Ryan, Judi’s face smiles quietly recalling thoughts of those challenges.

In time, after the marriage ended, she returned to college and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business, with concentration in Information Systems. Working in Human Resources since 1987, Judi’s career path took her through Administrative Assistant, Human Resources Information System Analyst and to her current position as Manager since 1993 at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore.

Judi sees herself as an introvert “until you get to know me.” She is an avid reader of many genre, mostly fiction, such as historical novels and mysteries. A favorite author is Anne Tyler. Judi likes to dance to all kinds of music, likes listening to most music, and was part of Freedom Road Productions administrative staff for several years. Judi is versatile. Her hobbies include Yoga, and art—pastels and ceramics, and making potpourri from dried herbs from her own small garden. In her elementary school years she won a poetry contest, and told stories she made up. She’s also a member of an investment club, which piques her interest in the business world.

She always liked animals, including “Gypsy Rose” (horse), “Romeo and Juliet” (birds), ducks, and dogs (one was “Seconds”). The current animal-in-residence is “Bonnie the Cat”.

Her human friends include those in the “Garden Club.” A few of the UUFHC female members formed this social group with a non-member several years ago for the purpose of friendship and support for one another in their life efforts.

Judi is also part of the substance, the core if you will, of UUFHC. Her sister introduced her to Unitarian Universalism in the early 1970’s. The Rev. Dorris Dow Alcott, Retired Minister, and a member of our congregation, is one of her many close friends since Judi met her in 1973. Judi was on the search committee with the late Lois Reed, one of the founders of UUFHC, when Rev. Alice B. Wesley was chosen to be our minister.

Among her volunteer positions, she has been a part of “everything but Finance.” She served on the RE Committee in the early years of her membership, then DRE, the Executive Board, Membership Chair, Committee on Ministry, Human Concerns, Assistant Treasurer, Social Activities, Publicity and worked at the Children’s Auction, part of the Serendipity Auction fundraiser. Judi also taught for many years in the RE department. She takes pride in discussing UUFHC, and has been a big part of its desire to grow.

When asked for her opinion on the direction or goals for UUFHC, Judi answered, “We’ve been struggling for so long. Retention [of members] is everyone’s business. We made good strides. I feel good about Lisa Ward’s sermons. Everything we’re doing is good: Greeting people, for one. We should continue the outreach,” she said with firm conviction in her voice.

Important words to heed coming from one who has been a long-time supporter of UUFHC. With her friendly smile Judi welcomes all of us to join her in the challenges to come, to keep UUFHC vibrant and a fresh voice in our larger community. Thank you, Judi!

*Respectfully submitted,  
—JoAnn Macdonald*

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## Time to Order Special YRUU Valentine’s Day Cakes

The YRUU is once again providing cakes for UUFHC members and friends. These heart-shaped cakes include your own personalized message and are the perfect Valentine’s Day treat. The price is only \$5.00 per cake. Call a YRUU member or watch for sales after the service.





## Corner on Finance

It is with great pleasure that I can report to you that we will be keeping Reverend Lisa as a full time Minister through the remainder of the fiscal year (April 30, 2003). Once again this Fellowship has pulled together to get us past another hurdle and it is with great pride that I can associate myself with this community. I want to take a moment to extend my sincere appreciation to those members and friends who contributed one time gifts totaling over \$20,000. These gifts substantially improved our immediate cash position and took a tremendous amount of short term pressure away from the Finance Committee and the Board. I also want to make it a point to say thanks to all the folks who participated in the fundraising efforts so far. Your commitment, dedication, and effort have us ahead of the fundraising plan for the year. While there is still a key fundraiser, the Serendipity Auction, which needs to conclude successfully, the Operating Budget is on track for finishing the fiscal year in healthy shape.

Committee Chairs, your committees have budgets and a mission. While you are always encouraged to spend wisely, please don't let your committee work suffer. The funds you have in the budget are available. Please strive to accomplish your goals. Should you anticipate a jeopardy and need additional funds, please bring this to the attention to the Finance Committee. *Important!* It is also time for your committees to begin listing and prioritizing your spending needs and wants for the next fiscal year. May 1, 2003 - April 30, 2004. Please include this as a priority in your committee meetings as we will need that information soon for our goal budget.

The Finance Committee needs members! It is particularly important now that we are beginning to enter the budget building process. We are seeking people who do not think they know or do not feel comfortable with finances as well as those who do. We have already the people we need to do the actual financial tasks. Your responsibilities will be to simply attend meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm and represent the UUFHC Membership with your thoughts on what our spending priorities should be. Please consider this. Increased participation will make the Finance Committee healthier, and a healthier Finance Committee can only be a benefit to the UUFHC.

Finally, I'd like to remind all Members that while the immediate pressure has abated, please don't take your eyes off your personal financial planning for the Annual Canvass in March. It took \$20,000 in one time gifts and some reductions in spending to make this fiscal year financially sound. We can't expect that to occur again. We

must make up the difference in pledging or risk further budget cutting. Please consider increasing your existing pledge by 10% or perhaps adding \$5 a week. We ask that you be as generous as your personal financial situation will allow.

*Thank You*  
*—Bruce Dowley*  
*Finance Co-Chair*

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## Christmas Tree Wrap Up

Andy and I wanted to thank all of our volunteers whose time and efforts made this year's Christmas tree sales a great success.

Without their help, we could not have found a home for the 408 trees that were sold or donated—only 1 tree remained homeless. Our crew all deserve a pat on the back as we had 60 more trees than last year and 1 week less to sell them. By the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of sales, all were gone, except for our lone Charlie Brown tree.

We made selling trees simpler this year in hopes of attracting more volunteers. The new Cashier position worked well, especially during the crunch periods, providing better accountability of funds and inventory. We also collected customer demographics (i.e. new or repeat customers) this year to better plan for next.

More importantly, more than a few customers asked questions about the Fellowship while paying in the lobby. Some took literature from the racks—some may come back. Perhaps next year, this can be looked upon as an innovative growth opportunity—manning a hospitality table serving *hot* apple cider to customers or even a computer kiosk slide show about UUFHC and pictures of our activities.

For next year, we are already in the works of brainstorming other fund raising ideas (i.e. pictures with Santa, personalized ornaments) that will complement and enhance Christmas tree sales. Of course, this will require more planning and volunteers to make it a reality.

If you did not get the opportunity to volunteer this year, we hope to see you next year. Aside from having fun, getting to better know your fellow members, and receiving a spiffy gold Christmas tree volunteer pin, we can now give you \$9,205 other reasons to volunteer.

*Thank you, Your Christmas tree committee*  
*—Ross Chenoweth and Andy Powell*

## Potluck Notice!

Potluck Coordinator/Overseer/Boss needed for Sunday February 9th. Steve and Patty are taking a break this day in order to enjoy the food and fellowship. They will not be observing, just enjoying! Helpers are always available, but the *top job* is open! Call Marge Appel, please, UUFGC's Volunteer Coordinator, 410-879-6635.

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## Volunteer Coordinator Update Can you give up one hour?

The cleaning sign-up sheet still has many gaps. Please try to give us one hour a week. It is important that we keep the momentum going (and the building clean)! Lots of volunteers are reporting that their assigned areas don't even look as if they need cleaning. Why? Because the work is being done properly every week! Just look around the Fellowship—our efforts are paying off. Everyone deserves a pat on the back, but don't let our efforts wane. Thank you for all your help. And remember, volunteers are not expected to clean the whole Fellowship, but for one of four areas:

- a. The three bathrooms
- b. sanctuary, foyer and halls
- c. classrooms, library and Fellowship room
- d. the two kitchens

The responsibilities are posted on the bulleting board in the Fellowship room right under the sign-up sheets.

### Committee Needs/Volunteer Opportunities

The Finance Committee is looking for a few people. Please see Bruce Dowley or Marge Appel to find out how you can assist this most important committee.

Publicity Chairs are still in need of some committee members or helpers. See Mary Kuehl and Jean Hillstrom, or Marge Appel. We need to be more visible in the community. Mary and Jean are working hard to make that happen. If you have a good idea, join the Publicity Committee or call Mary and Jean.

Hospitality Chairs Steve and Patty still need help on Sundays after the service in the kitchen. The time commitment is only about 15 minutes. See Steve, Patty or Marge for more details.

### Fund Raisers

The gift shop chair, Leigh Faunce, still needs sales assistance on Sundays after the service, usually from 11-11:30 am. See Leigh or Marge (410-879-6635).

—Marge Appel  
Volunteer Coordinator

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Serendipity Auction “Treasure Island”

The Serendipity Auction theme this year is *Treasure Island*! So come on February 15, look for great treasures and claim your booty! You will find great values and continued interaction throughout the year by bidding on the services offered by members. Dinners, boat rides, pool parties, massages, trips to exotic places, men's adventures and women's adventures, Vacation Retreats, babysitting, rides to the airport—the list goes on and on.

The Preview, Children's Auction and the Silent Auction start at 6:00 pm with hors d'oeuvres served by the youth. The Main Auction starts at 7:00 pm with a break half way through. Silent Auction ends at the break. There will be raffles, door prizes, and much adventure on “Treasure Island.”

Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$10.00 for kids (which includes tickets for the Children's Auction, child care, entertainment and treats), and \$5.00 for kids too young to participate in the Children's Auction. Traditionally this event has been the largest fundraiser of the year. Please come to enjoy an evening on Treasure Island. Please come to load your locker for the year to come with deals almost too good to be true. Please come to support the Fellowship. Please come to claim your Booty. Blow me down, *Matey*.

—Rob Lieb,  
Serendipity Auction Chair

## Next Coffeehouse March 15 Mark Your Calendar!



The Music Committee is hard at work trying to make the Common Ground Coffeehouses a financial success. We'd like to thank the people who showed up on January 11th to help set-up, clean-up, and those who provided the abundant and luscious desserts. We will need the same type of help for the next coffeehouse. Please call or email me if you have the time to help.

The March 15th Coffeehouse, with a St. Patrick's Day theme, promises to be even better. We have an excellent photographic art show lined up, Celtic Music, Irish Dancing, Irish Storytelling, and lots of fun for all. Bring your dancing shoes since you can't sit during this music.

If you know any musicians, writers, or artists of any kind who would like to be a part of a coffeehouse, please have them call or email me.

—Linda Boyle, Music Committee Chair

## Women's Ritual Circle

Friday, Feb. 7

7-9 pm at UUFHC

Kathleen Mader, leader, will continue our work on the third stage in the *Inner Path*.

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## Member's Handbook Progress Report

The new Member's Handbook project is moving right along. The picture-taking portion of the project is 65% complete, with only 37 folks to go to make it 100%. If you have not had your picture taken (or would like it re-taken) corner Glenn Brown before or after services and have him do his thing. It takes just a moment of your time (and you are not pressured to purchase any pictures).

If, for some reason, it is inconvenient for you to get your picture taken by Glenn, you can send him your digital picture by e-mail.

The Handbook will contain a section on UUFHC Committees. It would make the job easier, if all committee chairs would provide Glenn with a list of the committee members and the committee meeting times. E-mail would be a great way to get the information to him: [lcbrown@comcast.net](mailto:lcbrown@comcast.net).

With help, our goal of having the Handbooks available in April 2003 will become a reality.

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## UU Orientation

A UU Orientation will be held on Sunday, February 16, at 11:15 am in the library. This orientation will be open to all who are interested in learning more about UUFHC and about the Unitarian Universalist faith.

The Membership Committee will usually host these orientations every third Sunday after the service.

—Ed H. Roberts  
Chair, Membership Committee

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## Keep in Touch!

Members and friends can easily contact Reg Willis through email. His address is [allstarvet@ksni.net](mailto:allstarvet@ksni.net). Make sure to put his name in the subject line, so the message will be forwarded to Reg.

## UUFHC to Remain Active in PNC

Harford County Permanent Nominating Caucus (PNC) is now in its 43rd year. The purpose of the Caucus is to provide an opportunity for the citizens of Harford County to recommend individuals to the Governor of the State of Maryland for appointments to the Harford County Board of Education and the Harford Community College Board of Trustees. Non-profit organizations in the county thereby decide who will set policies for the public schools and the community college by recommending candidates for these boards.

UUFHC participates by sending 4 delegates to the Caucus on two Thursday evenings:

1. April 3: Candidates' Forum, 6:30 to 10:00 pm at Southampton Middle School. Attendance by delegates required. Delegates receive completed candidate questionnaires, and candidates are available to answer questions.

2. May 22: Voting Convention, 6:45 to 8:30 pm also at Southampton MS. Attendance by delegates required. Nominees selected for Board of Education and Board of Trustee positions. PNC Board vacancies are filled by election (if applicable). This year UUFHC member JoAnn Macdonald is running for election on the PNC Board so she cannot be a delegate. PNC Board officers are also elected at this meeting.

Two geographic regions are open for candidates on the School Board: Bel Air (Ms. Terry Troy, incumbent) and Aberdeen (Col. Eugene Chandler, incumbent). The incumbents may choose to run again. Two College Board seats, representing County Council districts, are open and the incumbents may choose to run: District C (Ms. Helen Tauber) and District E (Dr. Rosemary Bonsack).

Please contact JoAnn Macdonald to complete the application to be a delegate. The deadline is March 6. UUFHC is proud to be a part of this historic Caucus. Keep us a part of the vital public education process!

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## UUFHC Wish List

See Leigh Faunce if you can provide any of the following objects or would like to give a special gift to the Fellowship.

- Digital Camera
- Subscription to *New Moon Magazine* for RE Library
- World Music CDs
- Children's Musical Instruments
- Books, Books, Books! (Please refer to the wish list posted on the coffee room bulletin board.)

January 2003							March 2003						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

February 2003

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00a Vagina Monologues Rehearsal
2 10:00a Sermon 11:30a RE Committee 11:30a Music Committee 5:30p Soulful Sundown	3 6:00p Upper Chesapeake Chorus	4 7:00p Yoga 7:30p Men's Group	5 11:30a UU Theologies 7:00p Bridge Group 7:15p Membership Committee 8:00p Alanon	6 7:00p Carol Bowman's Meditation Group	7 7:00p Women's Ritual Group	8
9 10:00a Sermon 11:30a Pot Luck 1:00p B & G Work Party 7:00p Peace Vigil at NCUUS Newsletter Deadline	10 6:00p Upper Chesapeake Chorus	11 7:00p Yoga 7:00p Finance Committee	12 10:00a Archives Committee 10:00a Volunteer Committee 7:00p Board Meeting 7:00p Bridge Group 8:00p Alanon	13 7:00p Carol Bowman's Meditation Group (final class)	14 6:30p Kabik Wedding	15 6:00p Serendipity Auction
16 10:00a Sermon 11:15a UU Orientation 12:15p Three-TTs	17 6:00p Upper Chesapeake Chorus	18 7:00p Yoga 7:30p Men's Group	19 11:30a UU Theologies 7:00p Building Your Own Theology 7:00p Bridge Group 8:00p Alanon	20 Collating Newsletter	21	22
23 10:00a Sermon 11:30a Human Concerns Committee 12:00p JYG Planning Day 1:00p PFLAG 3:00p Rainbow Room	24 6:00p Upper Chesapeake Chorus	25 7:00p Yoga	26 7:00p Worship Committee 7:00p Building Your Own Theology 7:00p Bridge Group 8:00p Alanon	27 7:00p B & G Committee Meeting	28	



The Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Harford County  
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Churchville, MD 21028

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Building Liberal Religious Community  
*Please Join Us!*

*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

*Sunday Services: 10 AM; coffee follows*

Please visit us online at [www.uufhc.net](http://www.uufhc.net)



Next Newsletter Deadline: February 9, 2003



<i>Minister:</i>	The Reverend Lisa G. Ward
<i>Director of Religious Education:</i>	Lisa Chenoweth
<i>Music Director:</i>	Richard Schroeder
<i>Administrative Assistant:</i>	Nancy Karwatka
<i>Newsletter Editor:</i>	Kay Saucier
<i>Webmaster:</i>	Rick Saucier

*Fellowship Office Hours (Nancy Karwatka):*

Tues & Thurs: 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

*Minister's Office Hours:*

Mon Day Off  
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM  
Fri: Writing & Research Day  
(available for pastoral emergencies)

*Director of Religious Education Office Hours:*

Mon & Thurs: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM  
Wed: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

<i>Office Phone:</i>	410-734-7122
<i>Office Fax:</i>	410-734-7124
<i>Office E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:office@uufhc.net">office@uufhc.net</a>
<i>Rev. Ward E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:rev@uufhc.net">rev@uufhc.net</a>
<i>DRE E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:LisaEBC@aol.com">LisaEBC@aol.com</a>
<i>Music Director E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:schroedr@us.net">schroedr@us.net</a>
<i>Newsletter E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:newsletter@uufhc.net">newsletter@uufhc.net</a>
<i>Webmaster E-mail:</i>	<a href="mailto:webmaster@uufhc.net">webmaster@uufhc.net</a>
<i>Website:</i>	<a href="http://www.uufhc.net">www.uufhc.net</a>

## Meditation Corner

A story is told of a conflict that took place between two Indian Rajahs. The one defeated the other and took captive the son of his rival, and the day he was to return to his own palace he prepared to march into the city in triumph. There was a great procession of elephants, cavalry, infantry, and a long line of captives.

Among them was the young prince. He was told that he was to walk bare-footed and bare headed. He was indignant and said, "What! Go in like that! What will people think! Imagine the faces they will make!" The rajah said, "You haven't heard all yet. You shall carry a bowl of milk in your hand, and if you spill so much as a drop, you will lose your head at the close of the procession!" In a few minutes they brought the bowl of milk, and two guards walked with him, one on either side, and the procession started to move. On and on they went for perhaps a mile or more into the presence of the rajah. And the young prince walked along holding the bowl of milk. It seemed to him he would never finish without spilling some of it, but he completed the ordeal safely. Finally, he stood before the Rajah, "Well young prince, what kind of faces did the people make?" The prince looked up and said, "Your majesty, I did not see the faces of the people. I saw only my life which I held in my hands and I knew one false step would make me lose my life."

Like the young prince learned, if we keep our eyes on the milk we will not worry what people think about us. If we keep our focus on our responsibilities then we won't try to be so critical of others. So often we worry about what others think of us and try to live up to their expectations and even standards. This only brings misery and defeat.