

AUUF News



AUUF SERVICES • 10:00 A.M.

September 5

“When You Knew You Were UU”

Rev. Diana Jordan Allende

Although Unitarian Universalists don't talk about conversion experiences and some of our ads suggest you might be a UU and don't know it, there are those aha! moments when we realize that we've become Unitarian Universalist and can sort of say why. Whether sudden or gradual, share your awakening, the time you knew that you were UU.

September 12

“Spirituality as Relationship: Intro ”

Rev. Diana Jordan Allende

Potluck and Sundaes Sunday, Giving the Plate

We may never precisely define “spirituality” but we can somewhat demystify it. We grow and deepen spiritually according to the quality of our relationships—with self, others, the natural world, and what Unitarian Universalism describes as “transcending mystery and wonder.” Think about it. Aren't your most profound moments experienced in one or more of these contexts? Thomas Merton said, “The spiritual life is first of all a life.” We'll start with the basics.

September 19

“Journey: How Have You Changed?”

Lay-Led Service

First Day of RE Classes

“We all need companions for the journey.” Our inaugural “Fellowship” service offers everyone the chance to reflect on how things have changed in the course of your journey. Are you MORE or LESS spiritual, friendly, patient, doubtful, enthusiastic, pessimistic than you once were? Come and sit with a small circle of companions and share what has changed in your life.

September 26

“Spirituality as Relationship: Attention”

Rev. Diana Jordan Allende

Using the first of psychologist and Buddhist David Richo's “Five A's of Relationship,” we'll explore the role “attention” plays in cultivating right relationship with self, others, the natural world, and transcending mystery and wonder. The other “A's” (to be explored in subsequent weeks) include acceptance, appreciation, affection, and allowing.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Choir @ 8:30 Service @ 10:00 RE @ 11:15	Natural Spirituality Dream Group 7 p.m. Busch Center	Diana 1:30-5:30/ by appt. Yoga @ 5		Diana 1:30-5:30/ by appt. Meditation @ 6		
↓	↓	↓	1	2	3 Macho Men @ 7 Sundilla @ 7:30	4 Meditation @ 10
5	6	7 Comm. Lunch @ Fine Garden	8	9	10	11
12 Potluck & Sundaes Sunday Board Meeting Humanist Dinner @ 6 in Fellowship Hall	13	14	15	16	17 Feminista @ 6:30 Sundilla @ 7:30	18 Meditation @ 10
19 First Day of RE →	20 News Deadline	21	22	23	← Diana away on study leave →	25
26 RE Teacher Dedication	27	28	29	30		Please see inside pages for more info about events.
Mid-South Healthy Congregation Conference coming October 9!! You're Invited!						

Diana's COLUMN

By the time you read this, we will have begun a new Fellowship year. Kids will be back in school (some of them on our premises!) and adults will be back from vacation. Our Ingathering will have called us once more into community, where there will be challenges to face, but also marvelous possibilities pulling us forward. We have several new committee chairs and high energy generated by various conferences and leadership training sessions attended by Martha, Rebecca, Susan, Debbie, Conar and Ila. Our decision to invest in leadership development was a wise one. In October we'll welcome UU's from around the Mid-South District to Auburn for the annual Healthy Congregation Conference, and over the next several months we will learn about and celebrate our first fifty years in Auburn, Alabama!

In a letter, UUA president, The Rev. Peter Morales, comments on the excitement and energy of our General Assembly (G.A.) as well, reminding us that we are not isolated in our congregations, but connected and part of an international religious movement. He points out that delegates to this year's GA reflected on and passed a Statement of Conscience on Creating Peace—in which we all have a hand—and passed a resolution calling on all of our congregations and the Association to make a special effort in the coming year to continue our work for environmental justice. The trauma of the Gulf Oil spill this summer is sobering and, in many ways, ongoing.

Controversy over the Islamic Cultural Center in New York, a Florida church's intention to burn copies of the Quran on September 11, and the human rights struggle over immigration in Arizona underscore the urgent need for justice, equity, and compassion in human relations (one of our UU principles), along with appreciation for a multicultural society.

Against this backdrop of strife and struggle, UU congregations are called to be communities of hospitality and justice. President Morales asks, "What is our real business?" And answers, "Our real business is religion." He goes on to say,

"Our real business is helping people lead lives filled with meaning and purpose. Our real business is helping to heal the brokenness in our world. Our real business is bringing hope where there is despair, comfort where there is pain, community where there is isolation, acceptance where there is marginalization. Our real business is speaking truth to power. Our real business is to love one another and to stand on the side of love."

The beginning of a new year is a good time to recognize and affirm our real business. There is always much to do at the local level just to keep the lights on and the coffee made, the grass cut and the RE classes staffed. But that's so the great work can commence. And continue. And thrive. Thanks for your part in this, our real business.

Love, Diana Allende



As I sit and write this, **Ila Calloway and Conar Rochford** are attending the OWL training. They will be super busy for the entire 3 day facilitator training which is a total of 25 hours. I thank both of them so much for giving of their time. They will have great information to share with all the parents when they return from Hampton, GA.

RE is starting up again for the 2010-2011 year. Please mark for calendars for the following events:

Sunday, September 12: Sundae Sunday/RE Registration

Sunday, September 19: The 1st Day of RE: All the parents are invited to attend their childrens' 1st class, as the class covenant is discussed and decided on by the kids.

Also to commemorate the **UN International Day of Peace, September 21**, all the RE classes will incorporate the theme of peace and work on a T-Shirt design for AUUF RE. We will take each classes' design and make an iron-on. Once we have the completed design all the children, RE Teachers and parents are invited to bring a T-Shirt from home and make at T-Shirt.

Rebecca Bruscek, DRE



The Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a community dedicated to affirming a reverence for life and enriching the spiritual lives of its members. Here we honor the one and the many; here we welcome a diversity of thoughts, beliefs and passions; here we speak without fear and listen with open hearts. We gather to care for one another, share our burdens and joys, and celebrate life's passages. Strengthened by this fellowship, we bring a liberal religious presence to our larger community and work for a safe and just world.

Office Hours—

Tuesdays and

Thursdays

1:30-5:30 p.m.

and by appt.

Time off: Mondays

Diana's office is

in the lower

level of the

Busch Center,

most easily

reached by

walking down

the sidewalk and

entering through

the back door.

Do stop by!

Parents, please sign your kids up for RE classes during Sundae Sunday on September 12!

When we register your children, we can determine the needs of the various classes and we can know that we can count on your commitment to our RE program.

THANKS!

Budget Woes +Technology Advances = Your Chance to Help

Did you know that it costs about \$37.50 per month to print and mail 50 AULF Newsletters? That's \$450 per year! (Is that how we want to spend our limited money?)

Did you know that you can read it online in beautiful color?

It's true!

If you own a computer, you can help the Fellowship simply by reading your newsletter online. Sharon Roberts will send the link to you each month as soon as the newsletter is ready. It will always be on your computer! You can print it out if you like!

If you can help AULF in this way, PLEASE contact Darrell Crutchley (dcrutchley@auburn.edu) or Leigh Jacobson (friendleigh3@yahoo.com) so that your name can be removed from the mailing list.

Thanks everybody!



Mid-South District News

The Value of Doing It Together! (What Do You Mean, "We Culture?")

Mid-South District's theme this year is **Worshiping and Learning Communities, Celebrating Faith Beyond Belief**. Our theme always gives us something to explore, to wrestle with – and this one is no exception!

There's a message of 'do it together' in this theme, a suggestion that multigenerational experiences are good and inspiring. There's also an implication that what we do in congregations is a lot about learning (spiritual and faith development) and worshiping (lifting up those transcendent values that guide us and hold us). Then there's UUA President Peter Morales' phrase about our non-creedal religion—a "faith beyond belief"—to remind us of who we are.

Studies tell us that young adults tend to stay with the faith traditions of their upbringing if they have had a positive and affirming experience – if they were known and recognized by the adults in their congregations, if they were allowed to have leadership roles and be appreciated for their gifts.

A small sign propped on a mantle at The Mountain reminds us: "Kids Are Watching—What Are They Learning?" Writer Maria Harris makes the point another way by claiming "The congregation is the curriculum." MSD Education Director Connie Goodbread says outright: "I think we should be worshiping with our children."

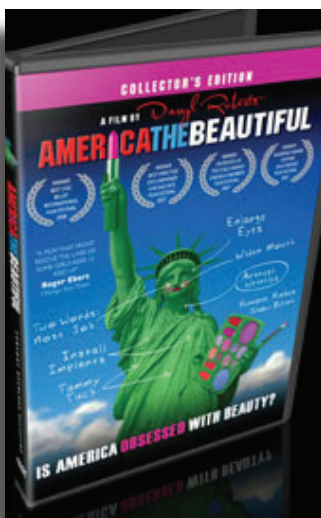
Juana Bordas writes about her Latino culture of origin as a "We Culture," different from an individualistic one (like White cultures): "We cultures' are impeccably inclusive... they put benefitting the whole before the individual."

Making our unique faith more inclusive of all ages and all cultures – and inviting all to gather together – is the message here, and we will explore it all year, especially at district gatherings.

Eunice Benton, Executive Director

Mid-South District, UUA

www.msduua.org



The Environmental Film Series is coming back in September!

Fall is in the air and so are the movies! This is our fourth year of environmental movie watching!! Isn't that sensational? Wouldn't you want to be part of it? **Tuesday, September 21**, is your chance. Free!! We meet at the Fellowship at **7:00 p.m.** And did I mention the organic cookies?

We will start the season with a non-typical movie: **"America the Beautiful"**.

On first glance it might seem to not have much to do with the environment, though the title might suggest that. It is not about wilderness and national parks. It documents a five-year long journey of the award winning filmmaker Darryl Roberts to unearth the origins and risks of this nation's quest for physical perfection. How much effort is spent on this obsession to be beautiful? Watch the trailer at <http://americathebeautifuldoc.com/> and come to see the entire film! You will not regret it. The movie runs for about 100 minutes.

Gisela Buschle-Diller (821-4293)

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Reminder: The deadline for newsletter items is the 20th of the month.



Please contact Congregational Support Chair, Debbie Sneed with information about AUUF members who may be in need of the congregation's care.

If you know of anyone who is ill, having surgery or a debilitating procedure, who is having a baby or has lost a family member, please contact her at 334-734-0103 or debsneed62@vzw.blackberry.net. This also applies to people needing rides and other services.

If you would like to be on this special caring committee to show members support in their time of need please get in touch with Debbie.

HELP WANTED! There are five special altars needed during the year: Ingathering, Bread Service, Day of the Dead, and Flower Communion.

Can you contribute your time and creativity to one of them? Please contact Laura Kloberg (aura57@yahoo.com or 332-5458).

SCHEDULES

PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS

September 5	TBA
September 12	Jack and Suzanne Walker
September 19	Susan McAllister, ?
September 26	Jenny Brooks, John Ellis

STORYTELLERS

September 5	Leigh Jacobson
September 12	TBA
September 19	Terry Rodriguez
September 26	Casey Stanfill

GREETERS

September 5	Leigh Jacobson,
September 12	Ken Walters, Terry Rodriguez
September 19	Emily and Peter Livant
September 26	Leigh Jacobson, Noriko and Liya

ANGELS

September 5	Kitty Frey, Michael Hein
September 12	Jack and Suzanne, Judy Lechner
September 19	Gisela, ?
September 26	Noriko Aoi, ?