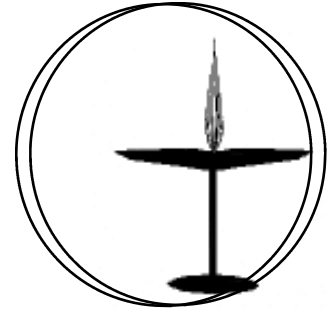


## NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF BOCA RATON



### A WELCOMING CONGREGATION

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 13

AUGUST 28, 2009

GLORIA CHIDO, EDITOR

### UUFBR WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are thrilled to welcome back Vada Mossavat, our new Director of Religious Education (DRE)!

Vada is a graduate of St. John's College in Annapolis, MD. She served first as a volunteer Religious Education teacher, and then became Religious Education Youth Coordinator at UUFBR. Vada has also worked as Director of Religious Education for the Treasure Coast UU Fellowship; and she is a trained "Our Whole Lives" facilitator. She has demonstrated a deep commitment to service, exemplified by a decade in journalism and activities including personal participation in Kosovo with international efforts to aid those affected by that conflict.



Beyond serving our young congregants, Vada will also be offering classes and workshops for adults. The first explores ways that caregivers can help nurture the spirituality of their children and will begin in September.

September 13 will be the opening service for our new Fellowship year. Adults and children of all ages and beliefs are welcome! Our new curriculum includes the "Tapestry of Faith" program. Sunday School includes preschool through middle school age children, as well as a nursery for newborns and toddlers. Of course, we welcome participants from all faith traditions in our active teenage youth group.

### NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2009, 11:45 AM

#### Agenda:

Call To Order

Welcome to New Staff:

Vada Mossavat, DRE

Maddi Gutfreind, Ministerial Intern (Full time 2009-2010)

Amy Carol Web, Ministerial Intern (Part time 2009 - 2011)

Declaration of Quorum

Open conversation on the recent change of leadership

Moved: The congregation affirms the Board's appointment of Linda Savini as President, until the next election in February 2010

Adjournment.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Here's a quick thought experiment:

If you and another person got onto an elevator on the first floor, and both of you were going to the third floor, could you tell that individual what you believe before you got there?

I've heard our children say that they don't know what we believe and some UU adults have trouble putting it into words as well.

Other traditions have it easier than we do. It doesn't take long to say, "I believe Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior" or "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet." You could say that between floors. (To be specific, the first takes three seconds to say and the second takes four.)

Just for fun, take out a stopwatch and see how long it takes you to say what you believe. It takes me about 15 seconds, but I've been practicing because I believe it is important for us to be able to articulate what we believe.

It is in this spirit that we enter a very exciting year of religious education and exploration.

We will be taking advantage of wonderful new curricula, "Tapestry of Faith" developed by the UUA that stresses our unique religious identity and putting those beliefs into action. Our faith tradition has a long and remarkable history in which we can take pride. (I know I do!)

The UUA's new way of thinking, demonstrated in "Tapestry of Faith" is that instead of studying other religions to learn what they believe, now, when we look at world religions, it is to help us better articulate what we believe.

This is an incredible step towards claiming our chosen religion, passing on its' unique gift and strengthening our ability to convey to our children what it is we believe.

Vada

Many thanks to Mary Beth Kugler, our "RE Angel" who helped with supplies for the coming year. Thank you!

**Tapestry of Faith** is a new series of programs and resources for all ages that nurture Unitarian Universalist identity, spiritual growth, a transforming faith, and vital communities of justice and love. This curriculum is the basis for our Religious Education program this year. To register your child for the 2009-2010 program, contact Vada Mossavat for the registration link.

### You Can Be Our Children's First and Best Teacher.

With your involvement, their religious education at UUFBR can be broader, richer and deeper than ever. Mark your calendars for the **RE Council Retreat** on Sunday, **August 30th** 12 – 3 pm in Rockberger where we will plan the year's worship, social action and fellowship. And on Thursday, **September 10th** 7 – 9 pm in Hartley join us for teacher training in the new Tapestry of Faith curriculum. Finally, starting on Tuesday, **September 29th** we will start a new Terrific Tuesday class that explores ways caregivers can help nurture the spirituality of their children.

### We Want You – We Want You – We Want You As A New Recruit!

The RE department under the brave new leadership of DRE, Vada Mossavat, needs teachers for the coming year. Want to read stories to the little ones? Want to hone your own beliefs in discussion with the older ones? All levels needed for this enriching experience. Sign up on the bulletin board next to the RE office and Vada will give you a call.

For more information or questions about the RE program, contact Alexis Moore or Vada Mossavat.



This is a great opportunity to get ready for our next set of hosting dates at UUFBR. September 20th — 26th and October 18th — 25th our Fellowship will once again host Family Promise guests. Please consider helping with cooking meals, shopping for food, setting up rooms, or just coming by for a friendly “hello.” Please check Osias Hall at the end of August for the sign-up chart.

The Family Promise program needs your help:

Jobs for guests with the following skill sets: guest

- 1) restaurant from bussing to sous chef, construction from tack welding to heavy machinery, guest 2) early childhood care, property management, and concert productions

Donations of gift cards or checks designated to help with the needs of a newborn baby of a FP guest family

Van Drivers needed Monday thru Thursday, 6:30am to 9am and 5pm to 6pm

Day Center volunteers needed daily from 9am to 1pm and 1pm to 5pm

Donation of a used vehicle for an FP guest family

Clothes for our guests (boys, girls, ladies) or gift card from your favorite store

Furnishings for a recent FP graduate (wardrobe closet, couch / loveseat, TV [vcr – dvd ready], pots / pans, bath towels, sheets, rugs)

If you can help with any of these, please contact Family Promise coordinators Melissa Livingston ([Livingstonmail@bellsouth.net](mailto:Livingstonmail@bellsouth.net)) or Anna Marie King ([k4ever39@aol.com](mailto:k4ever39@aol.com))



### BOCA HELPING HANDS

On August 25th there was a fire in the offices of Boca Helping Hands which caused a lot of damage. They are in need of general office supplies to start their recovery from this fire, and donations are welcome: They need:

- Refrigerator, Vacuum, Microwave, Hand-held label maker, Calculator, Paper: letter, legal, colored

Their offices are at 127 N W 13th Street, # 13, and the hours are 8 am—4 pm.



### UU CHAPLAIN WINS MILITARY CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Rev. Rebekah (Savage) Montgomery (UUFBR’s Ministerial Intern for 2002/2003) was recently named Military Chaplain of the Year, and also awarded a bronze star for her service during an 18 month tour of service in Afghanistan.

She is currently on maternity leave for her second child and living in Maryland, where she is also an affiliate minister at River Road, the church in which she grew up. Following her maternity leave she will return to her chaplaincy at her Maryland unit, where she counsels soldiers and their families as they prepare for deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Read the full article at [www.uuworld.org](http://www.uuworld.org) or on the kiosk in Osias Hall.

### UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

**September 6:** Jane Tobal  
*Personal Health and Planetary Sustainability*

There is a connection between the overall decline in individual health, and the deterioration of our planet’s eco-system. Humans and their physical environment share a symbiotic existence in evolutionary terms.

**September 13:** The Reverend Harris Riordan  
*“Gathering—Giving.”* Water Communion.

**September 20:** The Reverend Harris Riordan  
*“We’re UUFBR, and We’re Not Boca At All.”*

**September 27:** The Reverend Harris Riordan  
*“Changing Promises, Keeping Faith.”* High Holy Days.

# UUFBR & Friends Work Party

Please mark your calendar for the fall UUFBR & Friends Work Party Saturday, **November 21, 2009, 2— 7 p.m.**

We'll spend a few hours keeping our wonderful grounds and facilities in great shape then we'll have a BBQ/potluck on the patio starting at 5:30 p.m. Hope you and your family can join us.

A partial list of tasks includes:

- Spray washing building/patio/walks
- Waxing of sanctuary chairs
- Kitchen Clean-up
- Osias carpet cleaning
- Painting of the Kimball Garden retaining wall
- Kids' Activities
- BBQ setup
- Heavy cutting of hedges and trees

Look for the umbrella "cleaning cart" to sign up as a team leader or team member or contact Linda Conroy at 954/775-0030 or lconroy27@aol.com.

## MUSIC NOTES



The UUFBR Adult Choir is returning for the fall! First rehearsal will be Thursday, September 3rd, from 7:30-9:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Anyone can join, no audition necessary! Just bring your love of singing and come out for the choir!

UUFBR CHOIR DATES for September:

Rehearsals every Thursday, from 7:30-9:00pm in the Sanctuary.

The Choir will be singing on 9/13 and 9/27th.

UUFBR Children's Choir will be returning in October 2009!

Stay tuned to the next UNICORN for rehearsal times and dates!



## P.E.A.C.E.'s LISTENING PROCESS

P.E.A.C.E.'s Listening Process this year, the process by which we identify the issues on which we are going to work, is going to be done in conjunction with Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church in Pearl City this year.

By way of beginning to forge some relationships between the two congregations, Rev. Cooper has invited anyone from UUFBR who wishes to attend, to their 91st Anniversary Celebration events this weekend.

If you attend, let Rev. Cooper know you're from UUFBR. Thanks!

Jan Booher

### Macedonia AME Church Celebrates 91<sup>st</sup> Homecoming Weekend Aug. 28-30, 2009

Boca Raton's Oldest Church Hosts the Following Events:

- Friday, Aug. 28 – 91<sup>st</sup> Homecoming Gospel Gala-7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 29 – 91<sup>st</sup> Homecoming Picnic – 11 a.m. -5 p.m
- Sunday, Aug. 30 – 91<sup>st</sup> Homecoming Worship Service-10:30 a.m.

All Events Take Place at Macedonia AME Church, 128 Pearl Street, Boca Raton, FL.

For more information, call 391-1822 or 727-9650

### The schedule for Sunday goodies for coffee hour:

Date:	Names beginning:
Aug. 30	F—J
Sept. 6	K—O
Sept. 13	P—T
Sept. 20	U—Z
Sept. 27	A—E



**Terrific Tuesdays begins Sept. 29 . A Brochure will be available Sunday Sept. 13.**

## UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

Joan Lund

Most, if not all, of our congregations have some sort of Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) work/activity going on throughout the year. I realized I have never written about the work of the UUSC; a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world. The UUSC is financially independent from our UUA and the U.S. government; member contributions make up about the majority of the UUSC's annual budget.

At General Assembly (GA) in June I learned about the UUSC's project Water Justice Praxis. Perhaps some of you already are aware of this project. People all over the world, including in the U.S. suffer from lack of access to safe, sufficient, affordable water, which is a human right for all. With the Water Justice Praxis, congregations can study and act on local and international water-justice issues; and learn about courageous people who are working to make sure that everyone has access to safe, sufficient, affordable water to meet their daily needs. This social action tool is for both adults and young adults and is complete with videos, action guide, and companion small group ministry modules. It is flexible and can be used for an evening study course in four sessions or a one-day workshop. There are suggestions for family activities which include taking a group fieldtrip to the local water reservoir.

It is essential every human have access to sufficient amounts of water every day, and affordable and safe water services. This raises a number of questions, including: Does everyone in your community enjoy this right, including the homeless? Are there public water fountains in your community? What happens in an emergency? Who is responsible for getting the community water? What happens to someone who cannot afford to pay his/her water bill in your community? How much does water cost; what is the rate structure? Who makes the decisions about what is safe/potable water in community and well water? What are citizen rights when it is known the water is not safe?

The world is impacted by climate change and increased water crises. Insufficient safe water supplies will continue to fall disproportionately on some groups and it is time to take action to protect the human right to water. To get involved in the UUSC Water Justice Praxis, contact [righttowater@uusc.org](mailto:righttowater@uusc.org). As always I look forward to hearing from you with

thoughts, concerns, and questions; and can be reached at [jlund@uaa.org](mailto:jlund@uaa.org) or 813-931-9727. Stay cool during our Florida summer.

## REEL ADVENTURES

### September 12th film

We're back! Summer gave us a chance to view many great films and we are looking forward to discussing them with each of you. We are starting this season with Woody Allen's "Deconstructing Harry." This is indeed a comedy, albeit a serious one with psychological, philosophical and artistic insights.



"Reel Adventures" is an evening dedicated to viewing and discussing great films. Our goal is to present films that both explore the media as an art form and stimulate discussion of provocative social content.

We meet at 7:00 PM sharp in Rockberger Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton, located .

Martin Lipschultz & Susan Caruso

P.S. What do you have to lose? We provide popcorn and the whole evening is free

## WOMANSPiRiT

### Monday, September 14, 7:30 pm, in the Sanctuary

The drumming during the July 26th Service was enjoyed by all. Let's continue drumming at the September 14th WomanSpirit with a women's drum circle! Drum circles can become a living work of art ....one mind...one body...one spirit. You do not have to bring a drum to participate and no previous drumming experience is necessary. This is a perfect opportunity for beginners to give it a try. Gail Larkin will start the evening with a short explanation of drumming circle etiquette. Please bring any CDs that feature drumming and if you have drums, please bring them to share. The larger the circle, the better the drumming. All UUFBR women members and friends are always welcome at WomanSpirit gatherings.



## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING!

**The Forum Discussion Group:** Sundays at 9:00 am, Hartley Room, presentations and discussions on various topics of interest. Louis Willstein, coordinator.

**Vespers:** at 7:00 pm on the first Sunday of each month. We gather in the Sanctuary for music and quiet reflection—a time to share the diverse spirituality which sustains us.

**Connections:** Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month beginning in October at 12:15. in the Hartley Room. A pot-luck lunch and enlightening group discussion about Unitarian Universalism.

**Odyssey Group:** For e 30 somethings (give or take ten years). Meets at the Minister's home on the third Sunday each month at 6:30 pm. Bring something for the grill—salads, beverages and desserts provided. Directions available at the Visitor's Desk.

**Community Service Team:** Works to aid local charitable organizations. Meets the third Sunday of each month at 9:15 am on the patio. All are welcome to share ideas and energy.

**WomanSpirit:** Meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm. The Sept. 14 meeting will be a drum circle led by Gail Larkin. All UU women and friends are always welcome.

**The Women's Alliance.** Meets the 3rd Tuesday, 10:30 am, in Osias Hall. Details on the first meeting in September to come.

**Tony's Team:** Every Wednesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon, everywhere, inside and out. Come and help with routine maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

**Movie Group:** Beginning September 10, the Movie Group will start meeting again on the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at 10:30 am at the fellowship. Please call Marion Luvisch at 561-496-5476 with any questions.

**Choir:** Beginning on Thursday, September 3 at 7:30 pm Choir rehearsals for the upcoming year resume. New choir members welcome—please contact our Music Director, Stephanie Nixdorf, if you are interested in joining.

**United in Peace Rally:** Every Saturday, 12:00 noon. Meet at the corner of Glades Road and St. Andrews Blvd. for a peaceful demonstration. Bring a sign. For more information contact Susan Caruso at 561-637-5768.

**Reel Adventures:** 2nd Saturday of every month in

Rockberger Hall at 7:00 pm. Join us for interesting movies from around the world and stimulating discussion afterwards.

**Gardener's Work Party:** 3rd Saturday of every month, 8:30 am – 10:30 am. Join a lively group as we trim, weed, and clean up UUFBR's "manicured wilderness". We welcome all and promise to keep a tight time schedule. See Chalice Notes for the upcoming date.

**Meet the Rev.** Meets in the Living Room at UUFBR on the 4th Sunday of each month at 12:15 pm. A time to sit with one of our ministers and ask questions, large and small, about Unitarian Universalism.

**Community Food Pantry collections:** Please bring in non-perishable food items (no glass jars) for Boca Helping Hands and Similac Formula, Ready to Feed with Iron, for Florence Fuller Child Development Centers.

**P.E.A.C.E.** People engaged in Active Community Efforts. A congregation-based community organization charged with the mission of effectively fighting injustices in the communities of PB County. Current work includes affordable housing, health care, homelessness, and alternative schools.

**Family Promise:** The faith community's unique response to homeless families. Family Promise is a network of area congregations who open their doors to families in need. Families receive hospitality at each congregation for a week at a time, with each family sleeping in its own private area at the congregation facilities. Every Sunday volunteers help to move the families to the next congregation in rotation. The program is to bring immediate but temporary shelter, meals, and support services to homeless families. The goal is to restore the families to long term self-sufficiency.

**Directory Information:** If your mailing address, phone number, or email address has changed, please let the office know so we can stay in touch with you, and keep directory information up to date. A new directory will be emailed in September (paper copies will be available for members who are not online).

Privacy Notice: When submitting information for publication in our newsletter, please be aware that the Unicorn is identical in format for both the mailed hard copy version and the emailed electronic version. The electronic version is available on our website ([www.uufbr.org](http://www.uufbr.org)) and is emailed to visitors, as well as members and friends.

# SEPTEMBER 2009 FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

*Sunday*

*Monday*

*Tuesday*

*Wednesday*

*Thursday*

*Friday*

*Saturday*

		1	2	3	4	5
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00 pm: Dream Circle and Pot-luck dinner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Tony's Team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Forum Discussion Group</li> <li>10:30 am Worship Service:</li> <li>10:30 am: RE</li> </ul>	<p>Labor Day UUFBR Offices closed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am: Unicorn Deadline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Tony's Team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am Movie Group</li> <li>7:00 pm—9:00 pm: RE Teacher Development Workshop</li> <li>7:30 pm: Adult Choir</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00 pm: Reel Adventures</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Forum Discussion Group</li> <li>10:30 am Worship Service:</li> <li>Water Communion</li> <li>10:30 am: RE</li> <li>Noon: RE Pool and Pizza Party</li> <li>11:45 am Congregational Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm WomanSpirit</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Tony's Team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 a.m. Gardening Group</li> </ul>
					<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Forum Discussion Group</li> <li>10:30 am Worship Service:</li> <li>10:30 am: RE</li> <li>12:15 pm: Endowment Meeting</li> <li>12:15: re Council Meeting</li> <li>12:15: Membership</li> <li>6:30 pm: Odyssey Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am: Unicorn Deadline</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Tony's Team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>10:30 am Movie Group</li> </ul>		
<b>FAMILY PROMISE WEEK AT UUFBR</b>						
<p>BHH Food Collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am: Forum Discussion Group</li> <li>10:30 am: Service:</li> <li>10:30 am: RE</li> <li>12:15PM: Meet the Rev.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm UUFBR Board of Trustees Meeting</li> <li>All members welcome</li> </ul> <p><i>Yom Kippur</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00 pm: Terrific Tuesdays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 am Tony's Team</li> </ul>			

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Riordan***

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR ~  
*Vada Mossavat***

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - *Stephanie Nixdorf***

**MINISTERIAL INTERN ~ *Maddie Gutfreind***

**MINISTERIAL INTERN~ *Amy Carol Webb***

**ADMINISTRATOR ~ *Gloria Chiodo***

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ~ *Gail Larkin***

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**Upcoming newsletter deadlines**

**Get your information in on time!  
September 8 & 21, October 6 & 20**

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