



June 1, 2008 -  
Entire Summer

## Calendar

### Sunday, June 1

9:00 Worship Service  
10:00 Annual Meeting

### Monday, June 2

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time.)  
6:00 Anti-Racism Action Com.

### Tuesday, June 3

6:00 Ministerial Transition Com.  
7:00 Executive Board Meeting

### Wednesday, June 4

9:00 Staff Meeting  
6:30 RE Committee Meeting  
7:00 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, June 5

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time.)  
9:00 ARAC Jambalaya Feed

### Friday, June 6

10:30 Women's Alliance Meeting  
6:30 AA Men's Group

### Saturday, June 7

### Sunday, June 8

10:00 Women's Spirituality Group  
11:00 Worship Service  
12:15 Roddy's Retirement Party

### Monday, June 9

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time.)

### Tuesday, June 10

5:30 Property Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, June 11

9:00 Staff Meeting  
5:00 Admin. Relations Committee  
6:00 Music Committee Meeting

### Thursday, June 12

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time.)  
10:00 SGM Steering Committee

### Friday, June 13

6:30 AA Men's Group

### Saturday, June 14

## Reminder

Don't forget Roddy's party on June 8th at noon. Bring a savory dish to share and a card with your words of remembrance and/or wishes for her. If you have questions, call Bridget (879-5409) or Susan (872-9707). And, if you would like to contribute to the gift for her, please send it to Lois Holbrook, 425 Locust Hill, Shelburne, VT 05482 --checks should be made out to Women's Alliance.

## On My Mind

Who said what? And does it matter? Roddy likes to correct me when I put words in her mouth. One of the wise proverbs that I attribute to her is the maxim that **“it takes many to be intelligent.”** Actually, she points out, those words were uttered by the good Pope John XXIII. The Roman playwright Plautus (254-184 BCE) said much the same thing: *nemo solus satis sapit*, or “no one is sufficiently wise alone.” Regardless of who said it first, Roddy is right. We think more clearly when we're part of a larger group that can stimulate, challenge and correct our own ideas.

That reminds me of another of Roddy's favorite mottoes: **“community is the indispensable matrix of enlightenment.”** When I google that phrase, a paper by our local Zen teacher Stephanize Kaza comes up, referring to the “three jewels” of that tradition: the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. Sangha, the community of monks or practitioners, is *“the indispensable matrix of spiritual existence,”* according to Kaza. So did Stephanie borrow the phrase from Roddy, or *vice versa*? Or perhaps Buddhist philosopher Rita Gross said that first? I agree with the sentiment, whatever the answer.

Speaking of answers: **“Our answers divide us, while our questions bring us together.”** Didn't Elie Wiesel say something like that? Maybe or maybe not, but in my mind the statement will always be associated with Roddy.

And who can forget Roddy's definition of the divine as **“the relational liveliness that energizes our universe.”** I think Roddy tweaks that phrase occasionally to make God “the *erotic* liveliness that animates our universe.” Humbly, she attributes those words to feminist Elizabeth Johnson. But whether Johnson or Cleary, erotic or inter-relational, it's a deity I like.

The challenge is, **“Are you willing to use the power you have in service of the things you say you believe in?”** Isn't that from Audre Lorde? I'm sure there are other *bon mots* I'm forgetting—from Nel Noddings or Rita Nakashima Brock. As we prepare to wish Roddy a long, healthy, and happy retirement, it's a comfort knowing that she'll continue to be present ... not just as a congregant, but **On My Mind** and **In My Heart**, and always in my phrase book.

Gary

## Upcoming Sundays

**Sunday, June 1, 9am (1 service only)**  
**“The Question Box”** Gary's remarks this morning will be based on questions he receives from the congregation. Want to know how to rear perfect children? Why God permits evil? Or how you can still be religious, even if you don't believe in God? Please email your queries (metaphysical, historical, personal, socio-political) to [gary@uusociety.org](mailto:gary@uusociety.org) at least one week prior to the service. Our annual congregational meeting will follow the service in the Sanctuary, with childcare provided. Members only can vote, but all are welcome to attend and participate in this important gathering.

**June 8, 11:00am (1 service only)**  
**“The Wheel of Life”** Join us for an intergenerational celebration of the transitions within our community—births, graduations, weddings and unions, deaths and farewells. (If you or your children are receiving degrees this spring, please let Gary know, [gary@uusociety.org](mailto:gary@uusociety.org).) This service will be followed by Roddy's retirement party on the lawn, with bouncy castles for kids and dignitaries aplenty. Please bring your very best dish to share for the potluck.

## Jazz Fund Raiser for UU Katrina Team

This spring we sent a re-building team to New Orleans and outlying towns of Mississippi, sponsored through our Anti-Racism Action Committee. Next year we hope to send more workers to a region that remains devastated almost three years after the hurricane. You can help! On Thursday, June 5, we'll be serving Jambalaya and Cornbread on our front lawn, celebrating the appearance of the Moss Point High School Jazz All-Stars from Burlington's sister city in Mississippi. We're inviting the crowds listening to the Jazz Fest that afternoon to enjoy a taste of Big Easy and raise money for flood relief & reconstruction at the same time. Can you help cook, serve, and distribute flyers on Church Street to bring people up for the feed? Please contact Gary today to volunteer.



## Message From Martha



I recently had some homework to do which I really enjoyed! I was preparing for a vision and goals retreat with the RE Committee, and our facilitator had asked us to list three-five hymns or songs we'd most like our UU kids to learn by heart... ones whose words and messages we particularly resonate with, as UUs. The purpose of this exercise was to illuminate *values* we wish to instill in the hearts of our UU children and youth.

Here are some of the songs we shared:

*Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion... We'll Build a Land where we bind up the broken, we'll build a land where the captives go free... This Little Light of Mine, I'm gonna let it shine! ... Come Sing a Song With Me that I might know your mind, and I'll bring you hope when hope is hard to find... 'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free, 'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be ...*

I hope that as you read, you can hear in your mind the tune of these dear and powerful songs! I hope you can imagine singing these together at worship with your children, in our beautiful sanctuary, in the midst of other UUs. When we sing these hymns, we're singing about love, justice, community, strength, joy, hope, and so much more! We're not listening to them all alone; we're making the music with our own voices, and we're doing it all together. And that gives life to those values we hold so precious.

This summer, may you all find ways to sustain the liveliness – for yourselves and for your children -- of our common values. Come to summer services here! Check out worship at another UU church, or other faith community that pulls at your heart. Attend a UU camp or conference; information is on the large bulletin board in the Community Room. Relax. Play. Have an adventure!

And this summer, if you find yourself in a magical moment of beauty, of mystery, of awe, of centeredness, of pleasure, of joy... if you find yourself in such a moment and a song comes to you, don't keep it inside. Let it out. You may find that giggles or tears – even dancing! -- come along too, but sing. I'd venture that when you sing, others will join you, perhaps voices you've never heard before.

May you sing with summer and may summer sing with you!

Martha

## Partner Church News

As most of our members know, we have a partner church in Lupeny, Transylvania. Your committee hopes all have enjoyed our display in the Parlors, with the recently added holder for the UUA Partner Church Newsletter for anyone to peruse.

Your committee thanks all of you who generously supported the Christmas Eve offerings, which enabled us to send \$1,800 to Lupeny this year. This has contributed to the continuing improvements being made to their Parish House. (See Zoli's letter on back page.)

We would like to have some of you began to consider being part of another pilgrimage to Lupeny, hopefully, next spring. We will begin having planning meetings in early fall, so watch for the notices. *Bill Suiter and Bill Klock, co-chairs*

## Blue Books

All Committee Chairs and Board Members: Please bring your Blue Book to the Annual Meeting on June 1. Updates and changes to the Blue Books are made during the summer so that they are ready to hand out to the new Chairs in the fall. If you will not be at the Annual Meeting, please drop off your Blue Book in the main office as soon as possible. Thank you!

## Gardening Supplies Needed

Society Member and Intervale Center employee Mandy Davis is working with the Association of Africans Living in Vermont to launch their new refugee farming project this spring. The program is in need of gently used or new garden tools, such as shovels, hoes, hand tools, wheel barrows, knives, hoses, onion starts and much more. If you have something you'd like to donate or would like more information about this project, which engages African refugee women in agricultural and entrepreneurship training, please contact Mandy at 660-0440 x 108. And be sure to visit us at the Winooski, Old North End and Fletcher Allen Health Care farmers' markets all summer long!

## Newsletter News

Our bi-weekly publication goes on hiatus for the summer with this issue. Please stay tuned to our UU website, for next year's schedule to be posted in August, [www.uusociety.org](http://www.uusociety.org). Have a wonderful summer!

## Team Hope Vermont Walk- A-Thon

Imagine a genetic disease that combines the muscular deterioration of ALS with the mental challenges of Alzheimer's. Imagine that it strikes adults in their prime and leads to death, usually within a decade of diagnosis. There is a test for it, but no cure.

That disease is Huntington's Disease, whose best known victim is Woody Guthrie. Recent discoveries about Woody's sense of humor during his final years prove that spiritual health contributes to quality of life even with these challenges. So it is no surprise to learn that one of our own UU members, Lynne Matthews, is living with this terrible gene, drawing strength from faith and community in her daily fight for self-actualization.

You can show your support for victims of this genetic anomaly by supporting the first annual Team Hope Vermont Walk-A-Thon on June 28, from 10 until noon at Oakledge Park. For more information and to pledge, contact Lynne at 863-8403/ [lcm4000@hotmail.com](mailto:lcm4000@hotmail.com) or Elz Curtiss at 652-1141/ [revelz@aol.com](mailto:revelz@aol.com).

## Summer Office Hours

During the summer we go down to a skeleton crew. Those of us that work through the summer like to take vacation time. Therefore, please note our reduced summer hours. For the most part, these are the hours that the building will be open. However, if you are making a special trip to the meeting house, please call ahead as there may be times when the staff is on vacation and the building closed. Beginning on Monday, June 23, the building will be open Monday through Thursday from 9am - 2pm. If you come during these hours and the door is locked, please ring the bell. If a staff person is alone in the building, they will keep the door locked. We return to normal business hours (M-Th, 8:30 - 4) on Monday, August 18.

## OWL in the NEWS

Did you see the special on our UU sexuality education on Channel 5's evening news? Check out the link at <http://www.wptz.com/news/16190115/detail.html#>. Our OWL kids and instructors will make you proud!

## Services Available on CD

For your convenience, you may check out a CD of any worship service. If you cannot attend services for any length of time due to illness or injury, let us know and we can either mail you a CD or a written copy of the sermon while you are away. Also, most all sermons are available on our website [www.uusociety.org](http://www.uusociety.org). Questions? Call the main office at 862-5630.

**First Unitarian Universalist  
Society  
862-5630**

*Gary Kowalski, Minister*

*Roddy O'Neil Cleary,  
Affiliate Minister*

*Jerrold Packard,  
Board President*

*Martha Dallas, Director  
of Religious Education*

*David McFeeters,  
Facilities Manager*

*Wayne Schneider,  
Music Director  
wayne.schneider@uvm.edu*

*Christina Fulton,  
Society Administrator*

*Kathleen Kemp,  
Administrative Assistant*

*Email: [office@uusociety.org](mailto:office@uusociety.org)  
Web Page: [www.uusociety.org](http://www.uusociety.org)*

## Ministers' Summer Hours

This summer, Rev. Elaine Bomford will be staffing the month of July, preaching, covering hospital visitation, and looking forward to getting acquainted as she moves into her new office. She can be reached at 862-5630 ex. 25. Gary Kowalski will be on vacation during July, then "on call" the first two weeks of August (available for emergencies and urgent meetings), resuming regular office hours on Monday, August 18.

## COLAGE Scholarship Program

For students with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Queer Parents or Guardians. Sponsored by COLAGE with generous support from the Horizons Foundation Joseph Towner Fund. Applications must be postmarked by Monday, June 2nd, 2008. COLAGE will award four scholarships to children of LGBTQ parents through a fund honoring the memory of community member and gay father Lee Dubin. Each scholarship will provide \$1,000 to post-secondary students who have one or more LGBTQ parent(s)/guardian(s) and have demonstrated ability and commitment to effecting change in the LGBTQ community and the community at large. To download an application, go to the website.

<http://www.colage.org/programs/academic/leedubin.htm>

## 01.29.2010

That's the 200th anniversary of the vote to establish what is now the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington. I am honored to be invited to chronicle the journey of this society, beginning on that historic day.

It is appropriate that my work began by helping archivist Anne Livingston unpack newly-arrived materials from the Women's Alliance. The Alliance is funding my history project as one among many ways they promote Unitarian Universalism. Armed basically with a few small bequests and shrinking annual dues, they meet monthly to hear a speaker on some community work and usually then extend a financial thanks for the project. Their outreach extends from Spectrum to the Vermont Youth Orchestra, COTS storybooks, the Boston Sixth Grade trip, several types of support for incarcerated and recently incarcerated individuals and their families... as well as the pew cushions on which you sit for Sunday worship.

How do they do it? Well, with everyone's help! Their main funding comes from the annual Winter Holiday Bazaar and Luncheon. Who could imagine such value from the sale of greens and household ready-to-move-on goods!

Another way they promote UUism is regular contact with shut-ins. Before there were multiple staff ministers, the Alliance extended caring community presence.

1828 is the first recorded women's group in the society, so change is overtaking them. They have been through change before. Nevertheless, from one first-Friday to the next, the Alliance performs several valuable aspects of our congregation's caring presence. *Elz Curtiss*

## An Evening Not to Miss!

Burlington singer/songwriter Carol Abair will release her New CD, *Voices of Friends*, on Saturday June 21 at the First UU Society. Doors will open at 6pm, concert from 7-9:30. Carol's new collection includes two songs performed by her late friend and mentor, Rachel Bissex. Don't miss it!

## Calling All 8th - 12th Graders!

Please join the Yuuth Group at our annual North Beach Summer Kick Off picnic On Sunday, June 29th from 4-8 pm. Please email Yuuth Group advisor, George Rutherford, at [george.rutherford@uvm.edu](mailto:george.rutherford@uvm.edu) if you plan to come, OR if you're interested in being involved in Yuuth Group activities this summer or next year but can't come to the picnic. We'll talk about future Yuuth Group activities, eat, throw around a Frisbee, eat, play games, eat, hang out, eat, have fun, and ...eat. Please bring a dish to share and don't forget your FORK. Feel free to bring a friend, but they to must bring a FORK.

## Canvass Update

As the Annual Meeting of our Society is upon us, this is a great chance to say a very big thank you to everyone who has pledged to the Annual Stewardship Drive, as generously as your circumstances allow. We are creeping up, if not on our goal, at least on the \$380,000 figure that the Finance Committee budgeted for the next fiscal year that starts July 1. We still welcome any and all pledges of whatever size so that the First UU Society of Burlington can continue to be the vibrant liberal religious voice in the community that it is – working for social justice, raising the next generation of intentionally spiritual young people and adults and the spiritual growth of all of us who are on that path. Thanks to you all.

*The Annual Stewardship Committee*

## Mark Your Calendar!!!

On Sunday June 15th [Father's Day], the Goals Committee would like to host you at a Father's Day Brunch after the service. After the brunch we'll be diving into mapping the future of our Society -- no small feat, so we need you all to participate. Do you have ideas for where our congregation should be in the future? We would love your feedback. The schedule will be as follows ... 11:00 am to 12:00 noon Father's Day Brunch, 12:00 noon to 1:30pm: Mapping our Future –guided group activity, 1:30pm to 2:00pm Ice cream sundae social and Mission/Vision brainstorming. Child care will be provided on request. Please RSVP to David McFeeters 862-5630, ext. 23, or email David at [david@uusociety.org](mailto:david@uusociety.org). IF you do need child care, please tell David the number and ages of your children.

## New England Transgenderpride March and Rally

June 7, 11am, Northampton, MA, "Remember Stonewall? That was us!" The first New England Transgender Pride March and Rally will be held on June 7, 2008 in Northampton, MA. The event is organized by members of the trans and gender variant community, and their allies, with the intent of taking a visible and positive stand for transgender rights. The March and Rally is dedicated to diverse representation among organizers and participants. We seek to educate and build awareness of the movement against gender-based discrimination. We promote self-acceptance and acceptance of our whole identities and lives. We gather to celebrate and affirm our individuality, diversity, and strength. If you are interested in attending and marching with TransAction, contact [carlykisses@msn.com](mailto:carlykisses@msn.com).

**First Unitarian Universalist Society**  
**152 Pearl Street**  
**Burlington, Vermont 05401**  
**(802)862-5630**  
**www.uusociety.org**

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## **Annual Meeting**

The members of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington are hereby warned of the Annual Meeting to be held at the meeting house on Sunday, June 1, 2008. Please note new member-initiated agenda item, in bold.

Member Registration: 8:30 am to 9:00 am

Worship Service: 9:00 am to 10:00 am (note: Only one worship service will be held this day)

Annual Meeting begins at 10:15 am sharp

Social Hour to follow

Agenda:

1. Call to order. Dedication of Annual Report
2. Opening
3. Approval of minutes from 2007 Annual Meeting
4. Introduction of board members
5. Annual report of the minister – Gary Kowalski
6. Annual report of the board president – Jerrold Packard
7. Report on new assistant minister – Ministerial Selection Committee
8. Revisions of the society's by-laws (the by-laws revisions may be obtained from the church office upon request)
9. Nominating Committee – committee's nominations; floor nominations; discussion; voting
10. Treasurer—presentation of FY 2009 budget; discussion; voting
11. **Proposed Resolution: "Be it resolved that the First UU Society of Burlington Vermont in the year 2008 invest \$600,000 in the Vermont Community Loan Fund.** These funds will support affordable housing in the greater Burlington area. The resolution has the support of the social action committee and the local organizing committee of the UU Society of Vermont Interfaith Committee. – Richard Kemp, member."
12. Other business that may be presented by membership
13. Announcement concerning Roddy's retirement
14. Closing
15. Adjournment

## **Dear Friends!**

I think it is time to apologize in the name of the Lupeny congregation and myself, for not writing to you! I could come up with many excuses –time, laziness, language problems-, but it is worthless. The facts are simple: it's been quite a while since we wrote you a letter!

I hope that you can forgive us, and we can reinvigorate the partnership we share!

The life of our congregation is solid, we have had some good results in the past year. We could manage the biggest project in the last years, namely the total refurbishment of the outside of our huge parsonage! We could repair the roof, and repaint the walls! Also, we repaired four rooms, which now can be used by the youth, by the Women's federation, and also for meetings and different occasions. Of course, this rooms need furniture, too, and we plan to have some soon!

The repairing took a big effort, we worked hard for 6 months, the house and surroundings were a continuous work-ground. The cost were over 15000 dollars, which is the biggest cost ever here.

I'd like to thank you for the support you have given to us! We used the money for the repairing of the house, we have the accurate records about it! The members of the congregation had their very good contribution-they donated many days of volunteer work and a good amount of money for the sake of the project!

The work is not done yet, we have more projects: we'd like to put furniture in the renewed rooms, and we'd like to set up a guest-room with bathroom and kitchen. The other project is closer: we'll host the Annual District meeting on July the 11th, and since our Unitarian church is celebrating its 440th year, we'd like to build a tower for our church, to mark this event. The costs are 8500 dollars, this includes the repainting of the building, too.

We'd like to continue the partnership with you, so –in order to make communication more frequent- we established a Partner Church Committee. I hope that you'll forgive us for not writing to you in the last time, we'll try to do better in the future! God bless you!

Yours in Faith, *Zoltan Koppandi, Minister of Lupeny*

**Summer Services – 2008**  
**First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington**  
**152 Pearl St., Burlington VT**

**All worship services begin at 10 AM**  
**Music by Joe Pepper and guest musicians**  
**Nursery care provided**

- June 15**     **A Dad's View of Fatherhood; Past, Present and Future**  
Speakers, Doug Facey, Ken Swearingen, and Jim Lawson  
Music : Joe Pepper and Stephen Rainville  
Coordinators: Ken Swearingen and Kyle Facey
- June 22**     **Summer Solstice Music and Poetry**  
Speakers: Bridget Meyer, Dori Jones, KK Wilder and others  
Cello: Daniel Ramsey  
Coordinator: Bridget Meyer
- June 29**     **Women Writing For (a) Change Vermont**  
facilitated by Sarah Bartlett, will share readings on Connection, the threads that weave us into the greater whole.  
Coordinator: Susan Raimy
- July 6**        **The Search Process**  
Speaker: Assistant Minister Elaine Bomford  
For her first Sunday service with us, Elaine will reflect upon the process of searching, finding and being found. Whether we seek a new job or a new orientation, kindred spirits or the keys to the car, to be” in search” is a part of living.  
Coordinator: Gary Decarolis
- July 13**     **TBD**
- July 20**     **Rainbows**  
Speaker: Assistant Minister Elaine Bomford  
Together with Elaine, we will celebrate the rainbow, one of the most beautiful phenomenon in nature, a powerful symbol, and ubiquitous image in our culture.  
Coordinator: Barbara Heeter
- July 27**     **What Life Was Like In Jim Crow America**  
Speaker: Jerry Packard, author and FUUSB Board President
- August 3**    **New Orleans After Katrina**  
Speakers: Nick Meyer, Susan Schoenfeld, Susie Taylor, and Allan Hunt  
Coordinator: Bridget Meyer
- August 10**   **Vermont Interfaith Action**  
Speaker: Debbie Ingram  
Coordinator: Kathy Bonilla

**Summer Services are partnering with JUMP pilot program to provide food bags for African Refugees –** Their diet and tastes are understandably quite different from those of us who have grown up in the US. We have compiled a list of foods which they prefer. **Please adhere to this list as closely as possible!**  
Spaghetti—long ( no shells, etc.), Whole canned tomatoes, Whole wheat flour, Corn meal, Cooking oil, Rice - white, Canned tuna fish, Dried Beans ( not kidney), Tea  
Your \$20 contribution will purchase a bag full of provisions.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!!!!!!!!

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## Summer Services Childcare

The nursery will be open during summer services for infants through 4 year olds. We are happy to add a supervised activity room for children up to 7 years old. Feel free to bring your own activity or explore one of ours.

### The Big Payoff!

Its that time of year, time to pay off your pledge. This year's pledge total was \$353,000, and so far we have collected \$329,185. That means we need to collect \$23,815 by the end of the fiscal year. In a perfect world, we would collect this money by the end of May, so that we have enough money to pay all our bills before June 30th. If you are unsure of the amount you have left to pay on your pledge, please contact Christina at 802-862-5630 ext. 22. Thank you so much for your generosity!

### Loose Plate for Charity

On April 20th and April 27th, our congregation pledged to contribute 50% of our Sunday Loose Plate Collection to the Burlington Parks & Rec Summer Nutrition Program. I am proud to report that our congregation will be sending a check to the Burlington Parks & Rec Summer Nutrition Program for \$455.13. On May 4th, we collected for the Association of Africans Living in Vermont, that Sunday we collected \$652.40; 50% of that will go directly to that organization. And on Sunday, May 11th, 100% of our cash collection went to fund our Choir's Sheet Music Fund. Thank you Choir for the morning filled with beautiful music! We have deposited \$724.85 into the Sheet Music Fund. We can all be proud of the difference we're making in our community.

On June 1st and June 8th we will be collecting for JUMP (Joint Urban Ministry Project). Our congregation has pledged to keep the JUMP food shelves filled with baby formula and baby food. Most of the church year we are able to do just that. However, during the summer when many of us are taking vacations, the shelves often empty out. So please bring formula and baby food on these Sundays so that JUMP can begin the summer with full shelves. And then also put some money in the plate so that if the shelves go bare during the summer, we will be able to purchase formula and baby food. Help our Society fulfill our pledge to JUMP all summer long!

Loose Plate for Charity collections go to non-profit agencies that serve residents of the Old North End. If you would like to nominate an agency, please contact Christina at 862-5630 ext. 22 or email at [xina@uusociety.org](mailto:xina@uusociety.org).

## First Unitarian Universalist Society Summary of Cash Activity April 1, 2008 - April 30, 2008

**Cash Balance as of 04/01/2008**

**\$66,643.37**

Income	\$14,819.01
Pledge Payments	\$35,322.49
Transfers	\$
Journal Entries	\$ 410.66

Total Additions \$50,552.16

Expenses	\$ 438.27
Invoices & Payroll	\$50,113.44

Total Subtractions \$50,551.71

**Cash Balance as of 04/30/2008**

**\$66,643.82**

### A Gift to Our Children

Summer approaches and our two service format goes to one service and religious education classes are in hiatus until fall. Minds drift to lemonade and beaches, camps and gardens. As a member of the Religious Education Committee I have participated in much discussion and decision making around the 'who, what and when' of Religious Education. I want to address the 'who'. Who will support our religious education cooperative come fall? Support comes in many forms. There are RE Angels who come magically to the classroom to see to any needs; another roll of tape, the juice in the refrigerator. Then there are Classroom Helpers, those people who might not be able to commit to a full semester but want to be involved perhaps with a certain curriculum or age group. These support people are essential and help broaden the connection of youth with the UU community at large. There are activity Sunday Leaders, Library Stewards, Youth Assistants, Childcare Assistants and Permanent Substitutes. Finally, it is the support of the teachers, who bring the curriculum alive for our young people. There are those who choose to join their child's classroom team, others feel it works better to be with another group. We know the support people can give ebbs and flows, and newcomers need to acclimate. I ask you to consider participation in our UU Religious Education community. Your presence, your love, your commitment to our faith is truly a gift to our children. When the fall eases in and classes resume, it will be wonderful to see many new faces at the RE Orientation. Your participation will help quench the thirst of our children as well, perhaps, for you and support germination and growth of the UU Principles. Happy Summer, *Nancy Hellen*