

The Bridge

*10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional

*10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages

* The adults will be sharing the book "Missionaries, Builders and Pathfinders: UU stories from the Midwest, West and South 1830-1930"

Primary: "Love Surrounds Us"; Teens: "Families"

August 6 "Evangelism and Reformation for the 21st Century" - Elizabeth Ann Terry - Lately it seems that there is a lot of talk about religion. At the same time, recent research shows that increasing numbers of Americans indicate that they are affiliated with no religious faith at all. With all the "nones" growing in number, is it time to have another American Reformation? Is Unitarian Universalism the religion for these changing times?

August 13: "Shades of Grey: The Holy Both Part II" - Reverend Claudia M. Frost - Ambiguity and paradox is our monthly theme. Last year we looked at the human ability to live fully with ambiguity. Let's explore what kind of spiritual maturity is required for living with "Shades of Grey".

August 20: "Knowing and Embracing the TREASURES of Life" - Michael Mozingo - Mr. Mozingo will sing and speak on the importance of seeking "treasures" in our lives. Not just finding them but developing them, nurturing them, fine tuning and sometimes even moving beyond them: "for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". Matthew 6:21.

August 27: "Sitting with Discomfort; Listening Wholeheartedly" -Reverend Claudia M. Frost - In May word went out to all Unitarian Universalist Ministers, calling for an anti-racism *teach-in* on May 14th rather than Sunday worship as usual. As promised, this worship service is dedicated to our continued anti-racism understandings and learning by this congregation even though I didn't change our plans for Homecoming. Reflections will be shared on what has been learned and the work we have ahead of us.



Dates to Remember

August Touchstones Monthly Theme "Ambiguity and Paradox"

August 10: 10: 00 a.m. Quilting; 11:30 leave for Dutch-treat lunch at Johnny's Seafood; 1:15 p.m. A UW meeting at the church.

August 13: Covered-dish lunch and Board meeting following services.

Quilting each Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

September 1-4: Retreat/Canoeing Weekend at Shelter Neck

September 10: Annual Meeting

October 7: Harvest Sale



Claudia's Comments

Summer loving...having a blast. Summer loving...happening so fast. Lines from that 1978 classic musical "Grease" run through my mind as I write this message. Summer is special in spite of the heat and humidity. It's hard to believe it's already August and there are so many fun summer things I haven't yet had time to do. Maybe the summer is zipping by for you too. What's your favorite summer activity? There's still a few weeks left so it's time to make some plans.

Making homemade ice cream, a party at a pool or lake...or just lying near a pool with a good book and a cold drink or that Carolina favorite, "Beach time" might still be on your summer "To Do" list. Perhaps picking summer vegetables, traveling to visit family, buttery corn on the cob, ice cold watermelon with your family (National Watermelon Day is August 3rd) or lemonade and cookies in the evening on the porch are already summer 2017 family memories.

For the last several years, my daughter-in-law organizes her family's summer "Bucket List". Each family member gets to help choose things for the list and their summer family fun revolves around enjoying the "Bucket List" experiences together. This year the list includes some return items like catching fireflies, a water balloon fight, attending a minor league baseball game and a county fair, going to an outdoor movie, a slip-n-slide afternoon on the lawn, a tie dye party, and the annual favorite...making S'mores over a campfire. I've really been enjoying the pictures of their adventures being posted on Facebook.

Did you know that August 10th is National S'mores Day? Roasted over a campfire, nuked in a microwave, charred on the grill...any way you roast those marshmallows they're still delicious. Other special days in August include National Lemonade Day on August 20th, and National Dog Day, August 26th. Did you know August 21st will include a total eclipse? I read somewhere this eclipse will be the first one to cross the contiguous United States since 1918. As you can see, there are many things to enjoy during the summer days we have left.

In addition to what has been listed, don't forget the quilting continues each Thursday morning at the church...Harvest Sale will be here before you know it. I'm sure Ann and Peggy would enjoy some more helping hands. Also, Sunday worship services continue throughout the summer followed by refreshments and fellowship. Registration is still open for the Labor Day weekend retreat at Shelter Neck. There's still time to put a canoe trip on your "Summer Bucket List" if you sign up soon for that weekend.

Wishing you enjoyable long summer days and peaceful nights. See you at church.

With Love, Hope and Joy,



Claudia