

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

SOUNDS OF THE SEA IS PUBLISHED BY:  
THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,  
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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI,  
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**SOUNDS OF THE SEA**



NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI  
NOVEMBER 28, 2007 VOLUME 101, No 134

*Building a welcoming and affirming religious community  
To Liberate and Cultivate the Human Spirit*

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00 AM ONE SERVICE ONLY  
SUNDAY MORNING 11:00 AM CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND NURSERY

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 JOIN US AFTER SERVICE FOR FIRST SUNDAY LUNCHEON**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 IS GOD KEEPING YOU FROM GOING TO CHURCH?  
JOIN US THIS SUNDAY IN WELCOMING  
CORPUS CHRISTI TO OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION, 7-9 PM,  
ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS THERE WILL BE STARGAZING, HOT CIDER, AND SNACK GOODIES**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE  
LAS POSADAS/CHRISTMAS SERVICE FOLLOWED BY TAMALES AND PIÑATA!**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

MINISTER:  
REVEREND DAVID FARRINGTON  
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[HTTP://WWW.UUCORPUS.ORG/](http://www.uucorpus.org/)

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**FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT**

**DEAR CHURCH FRIENDS,**

I suppose this will be the closest thing I'll ever come to what might be called an inaugural address, so here goes.

I came to this church for the first time in October of 1996 very shortly after I moved here from California. I was looking for a community of friends with similar likes and values and I have never been disappointed. The church has meant a lot to me over the years and it would be hard to imagine what my life here would have been like in Corpus Christi without it. I suppose that fits the definition of what a loving community should be.

I'm honored to be entrusted with this responsibility and will constantly remind myself of all the others who came before me and made this church possible. I hope that someday they'll look back at me with the same fondness.

It's interesting to note that the very first day I came to the U2C3 was the morning of the formal installation of our past minister, Tom Burdette. I didn't know a soul there. The stage was filled with numerous people dressed in formal robes, sashes and weird hats. There were so many formally attired dignitaries, and I wasn't even able to identify who the new minister was. I was totally surprised. I had no idea that this little church was such a "happening place!"

We don't see the "high church" too often, but it seems like there has always been something happening.

We've made tremendous strides since I came that first morning and I hope we never lose that energy.

We have had challenges in the past and there will be new challenges in the future, but when you've got a hundred something people pulling together, it's amazing what can be accomplished!

**SINCERELY,  
KIRK NEWPORT**

**CONGRATULATIONS ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Congratulations to Eric Payne for his Second Place Winning at the Art Center. He entered a competition for "Bless Me Ultima" Art contest at the Art Center, which was sponsored by the "Corpus Christi Reads."

**BABY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Congratulations to **JAN AND RAY MILLER** on the birth of their grandson **JEREMY**. **JAN'S DAUGHTER ANNE AND SON-IN-LAW JEFF** greeted their new son, **JEREMY**, at about 11pm on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30**. **JEREMY** weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 inches long. Although **ANNE** had a C-section, all are happy and healthy!! And **ANNE** is wondering if she will ever get to hold **JEREMY**, since **JEFF** is a VERY proud daddy!

**SIMPLE JOYS FOR DECEMBER**

Gratefully we weave the golden thread of the sixth principle of Simple Abundance - Joy - into our tapestry of contentment.

Fulfill the holiday dreams of a child who isn't yours.

Share your blessings with a shelter for women or the homeless.

Invite friends over for a cookie exchange.

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

<b>DECEMBER 3</b>	<b>MATT RANDALL</b>	<b>DECEMBER 4</b>	<b>MADISON MARTIN</b>
<b>DECEMBER 7</b>	<b>BOBBI REED</b>	<b>DECEMBER 11</b>	<b>MONICA WALKER</b>
<b>DECEMBER 12</b>	<b>GABRIEL RUIZ</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20</b>	<b>JACK LLOYD-REILLEY</b>
<b>DECEMBER 26</b>	<b>COLIN SYKES</b>	<b>DECEMBER 27</b>	<b>CHERI RANDALL</b>
<b>DECEMBER 28</b>	<b>CHERYL MILLER</b>	<b>DECEMBER 31</b>	<b>FRANK REILLY</b>

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

<b>DECEMBER 27</b>	<b>DEBORAH SUNDERMANN AND SCOTT CHERRY</b>
<b>DECEMBER 30</b>	<b>BOBBI AND MIKE REED</b>

**WORDS OF THANKS**

Our church would like to thank **JOE PIERCE** for his generous gift he donated of the beautiful piano cover and seat cushion for our baby grand. He also has been just terrific with the sound system and keeping the band alive.

### **SEARCH COMMITTEE PROGRESS**

Your Search Committee met Monday, November 26, with **REVEREND KATHLEEN ELLIS**, District Ministerial Settlement Representative. She reviewed with us our progress so far, and gave us great tips on the procedures to follow.

We should soon see a list of prospective ministers who have expressed an interest in serving our congregation, after they view our congregational record on the UUA Transitions web page.

Once we have that list, we will take a look at their information, contact them, and exchange informational packets with those we are interested in learning more about.

Later will come telephone interviews and reference checking. We'll let you know as we take those additional steps.

Right now, we want your help assembling information about our congregation for the packet we will send out. We want photos of church activities and people, either prints or digital.

Bring any of your prints to church on Sunday, to give to one of us. Please write your name on the back of prints so they may be returned. We'll scan them for use in the packets.

Or you may e-mail digital photos directly to **BILL BODRUG** who is helping us assemble the packet at **WBODRUG@STX.RR.COM**

We would like to show prospective ministers what a wide range of activities and programs we have here, and photos are worth a whole page of words.

Thanks for your help.

— **BARBARA BRIODY, CHAIR, FOR THE SEARCH COMMITTEE**

### **BEACH CLEAN UP REMINDER**

For those participating in the **MCGEE BEACH CLEAN-UP**, this is a reminder of the next Beach Clean Up on **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1**.

Those wishing to help with our beach clean up, meet us downtown at the beach just north of Holiday Inn Emerald Beach at the first Miradora.

We gather at 8:00 am and work for about an hour and a half. See you there.

### **MEN'S LUNCHEON INVITATION**

This is a reminder of the Men's monthly luncheon.

We will get together on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 AT THE CHINA GARDEN SUPPER BUFFET**, located on the south frontage road of SPID between Weber and Everhart.

There are about 10 of us who meet at noon on first Tuesdays, so come join us men.

## **RECONNECTIONS: YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

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**DECEMBER, THE MONTH OF CHRISTMAS, YULE, WINTER SOLSTICE, HANNUKUH, KWAANZA, AND WHO KNOWS WHAT I'M LEAVING OUT, IS UPON US!**

Before enumerating the religious education and other events for the month, thanks go to everyone who donated to our Thanksgiving gift drive.

Thanks to generous donors, including **EARL HERRICK** who provided five \$20.00 HEB cards, we were able to fill 19 baskets with food and other essential items.

**NOW FOR THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, AT 11 AM:**

During religious education time, children will shop at our annual holiday store. If you have gifts that may be used for our Christmas store, Please bring donations to stock this store!

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21:**

Winter Solstice celebration, 7-9 pm, On the Church Grounds there will be stargazing, hot cider, and snack goodies

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 AT 11 AM:**

Intergenerational Las Posadas/Christmas service followed by tamales and piñata!

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24: TIME TBA:**

Intergenerational Christmas Eve Service conducted by **REVEREND DAVE FARRINGTON**

— **DR. SHERI PHILLABAUM** — **DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**AVAILABLE 7 AM -10 PM ALL WEEK AT 947-0863**

### THE TREE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

DORA WILBURN would like to ask everyone in our Church Community to bring a Spiritual, Non-Spiritual, Religious, Non-Religious Christmas Ornament in order to decorate our TREE OF ENLIGHTENMENT. This tree will be in our Sanctuary for the month of December.

Please feel free to express yourself!

We would like to thank Ray and Jan Miller for the donation of the Christmas Tree.

We would also like to thank ERIC PAYNE who will make our Tree Topper entitled "THE ENLIGHTENMENT SUN."

Thank you all for participating and decorating our Church Christmas Tree.

— LOVE AND JOY FROM DORA

### HERTA DOUDEN MEMORIAL SIGN FUND

One of HERTA DOUDEN'S parting gifts to our church was a request that at her memorial service, there would be a request to collect funds that could be used for the acquisition of a new church sign. An ad hoc committee is near a decision for a sign, but needs a more precise estimate of what funds are available.

Many church members have expressed a desire to contribute to HERTA'S request.

If you would like to contribute, please do so quickly!

You can mail a check to the church or give it directly to ROY ELLZEY OR EVELYN BOOKOUT.

Please indicate on the check that it is directed to HERTA'S memorial.

THANK YOU, KIRK NEWPORT

### LANDSCAPERS REQUEST MULCH AND NEWSPAPERS

You have probably noticed how nice the landscaping at the church looks after some recent maintenance, especially at the corner of Holly and Joplin.

There's still more work to do and the church needs newspapers, grass clippings and leaves to help finish the job.

If you could bag these items and place them underneath the church sign it would be greatly appreciated.

### DECEMBER 1 VIOLIN AND PIANO RECITAL INVITATION

#### PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FINE MUSIC

ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2007 AT 7:00 PM, you are invited to hear **RUSSELL ALANIZ**, play Violin accompanied by **ALENE BURCH**, on Piano.

They will perform selections by **HANDEL, BRUCH, AND BACH.**

This event will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi.

**TICKET COST IS \$10.00** and will be available at the door or may be purchased in advance by calling **361-882-4120.**



There will be complimentary wine, coffee, non-alcoholic drinks, and refreshments.

### DECEMBER POETRY REFLECTIONS

*I open the door. The gorgeous guest from afar sweeps in. In her hands are her gifts - the gifts of hours and far-seeing moments, the gift of mornings and evenings, the gift of spring and summer, the gift of autumn and winter. She must have searched the heavens for boons so rare. — ABBIE GRAHAM*

*Candles are a gift of light, A tiny sun, a bit of star. No other dancer in the night Dances with such sheer delight, Little souls serene and bright, Each a glimpse of what we are, Shining innocent and pure. — Anonymous*

### PLEDGE STATEMENTS

Pledge statements of JANUARY THROUGH NOVEMBER will be available at the church this SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR STATEMENT SO WE CAN SAVE ON POSTAGE.