

April 13 - YOUNGER GROUP (Pre-K through 3rd) - Anne Ludeman is the teacher.

April 27 - OLDER SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUP (4th and older) - Luanne Buchanan is the teacher.

UUCO MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL

All activities are scheduled for Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 p.m. at UUHall unless otherwise stated (sponsors in parenthesis).

April 2.....bike at Lamar Park (Phillippi)

The UU Middle School students will have a sports evening in Memphis on Saturday, April 5, when they see the Redbirds play Albuquerque at 6:05 p.m. While we already have purchased our tickets for the students and families who have committed to the event, the Redbirds ticket office (901-722-0299) tells us that there still are seats available. If you'd like to join the UU fun and sit near us, we'll be in field boxes in Section 118, rows L and M, where we are paying \$8 a ticket to view the action. Since this is the Redbirds' first evening game, they plan to end it with fireworks.

April 9.....hang out (Cozad)

April 12.....Mac Warren's Coming of Age ceremony at Wall Doxey State Park, 2:00 p.m. (everyone is invited)

April 16.....a REAL Passover meal (Schaffer)

April 23.....bike at Lamar Park (Buchanan)

April 30.....discussion from "Questions for Teens Book" (???) Please call Ann Phillippi (662-236-1456) for more information.

>>>>>> CHALICE LIGHTER GRANT

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Thanks to the unflagging efforts of our dedicated fundraising champion, Ann Phillippi, we have awarded a Chalice Lighter Grant. This wonderful program is part of the UUA Mid-South District's effort to grow the good news of Unitarian Universalist liberal religion tradition in our corner of the world. UU's who are Chalice Lighters agree to contribute \$10 three times a year for the growth projects of specific Mid-South congregations. We may receive \$8,000 from the gifts of other UU's who want to help us grow. Ann wrote the grant application, it was approved by the Mid-South District Board, and the call for UUCO went out the last week of March. The call letter includes a photograph of our new building and some of our members and friends. This is what the letter says:

Before this year the Oxford congregation had met in a room on the Ole Miss campus, but, as grant-writer Ann Phillippi noted, "Homelessness had become our most obvious limiting factor. Visitors could not determine how serious we were and to what degree we were determined to be a vital part of our small town." "The message is now clear," she continues, "Unitarian Universalism is alive and well in Oxford, Mississippi!"

If you would like to become a Chalice Lighter, please call Mary Queyja, 234-4334.

>>>>>>>> UU HALL UPDATE

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WE ARE COOKIN NOW!!!!!!.....New Stove.....New Refrigerator.....UMMMMM Thanks go to the kind person who bought and donated the refrigerator for UUHall. Thanks go to Mary Beasley, KenSleeper and his brother for helping me to arrange and accomplish the move of the refrigerator into the kitchen. Thanks go to Mary Beasley, Eunice Benton, Laura Antonow, Luanne Buchanan, and several others who tried to clean the old gas stove for our use. Making a long story short....the old one could not be fully repaired. Thanks to Mary Beasley and Eunice Benton for helping me secure the brand new stove. - - Ann Phillippi

TREES.....TREES.....TREES.....TREES.....

Do you want to purchase a tree (native species such as dogwood, redbud, oak, hickory, ash, etc) and plant it after our April 13 service??? Buy it and some mulch, bring a shovel or two, and we will all help you do it!!!! John Ludeman will assist in specifying the placement of your tree.

Landscaping our new grounds was the topic for a group of six folks who gathering March 26th to talk about how to use and and plant our new home. Pages of sketches and ideas and scribbles from that meeting can be found along the back hall of the main building -- and all ideas from all are welcome!!

On TUESDAY, APRIL 29, at 6:30pm, the next meeting/discussion will be held. Do you want to be on this committee? Do you want to provide some ideas? If so, contact John Ludeman. You can also email ideas to Embenton@aol.com (Eunice). - - Ann Phillippi

THANK YOU!!!!!!.....UUCO MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS.....THANK YOU!!!! Thank you for donating the \$\$\$\$\$ leftover from our Tishomingo

rock-climbing extravaganza for a picnic table. It has been purchased with that \$\$\$\$ (along with about \$40.00 from UUCO) and placed behind the grill.....waiting for YOU to enjoy. -- Ann Phillippi

THANK YOU Gail Stratton for the long-term loan of your piano to UU Hall! It sounded fabulous when Linda Foshee accompanied our hymns during her service on March 23. For the first time we could hear what Linda's musicianship is supposed to sound like!

SETTING UP OUR OFFICE.....NEEDED.....OFFICE NEEDS...

Do you have a computer to donate to UUHall?? Do you have a 2- or 3-(preferable) drawer file cabinet to donate to UUHall? Call Ann Phillippi 662-236-1456.

>>>> SUPER TALENT AND AUCTION <<<<

Our Silent Auction and Talent Show on March 29 was an unqualified success... We cleared over \$2,100 for the new building and the youth. And that is just the unimportant part! The important part is that about 100 of us had a wonderful time together enjoying a fabulous array of music, magic, poetry and dance. It was so good people didn't want to leave and the talent just kept going.

Ann and I want to thank all the item donors, and all the introverts and extroverts whose performances made the occasion. Special thanks go to the Middle School Youth, Sierra Gelbard, Elaine Gelbard, Larry Cox, Priscilla Handy, Ray and Marge Holland, Dan Marion, Lisa Schaffer, and Laurie Cozad for their help in various important ways. And we also say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who came out on Saturday night, and all the UUCO members who promoted our fundraiser by inviting friends, family and neighbors. It could not have happened without you!

-- Denise Marion

>>>>>> COMMUNITY SERVICE <<<<<<<<

Mary Beasley is going to need someone to replace her as UU Manager for "The Pantry". It is not difficult as we always have enough volunteers and the meetings are from 3:30-5:00, 3 or 4 times a year. We have the month of June and our partners are the folks from Peace Lutheran(a great group) and their Manager is Jean King. Jean is a great person to work with and has always been willing to direct things. Last year we had wonderful assistance from students at the alternative school. Please let Mary know if you can do

this. 234-7034.

Mary has also represented us in Interfaith Compassionate Ministries, Church Women United, and Breadbreakers. Breadbrakers will meet as usual at noon on the third Wednesday, April 23rd, at the Hilltop Cafe, just outside of town at the top of the hill by Ray's Truckstop on 6 East. Ann Phillippi is treasurer and our representative at Church Women United and we are appreciate her helping with that.

>>>>>> COMMUNITY CORNER <<<<<<<<

BOBBY DAVIS WINS SILVER!!

Bobby Davis, Margarette Williams' son, earned the silver medal, second place, in the Tennessee Junior Olympics held in Nashville, March 29-30. Bobby competed in all six events, won the gold medal for floor exercises, and silver in several other events including still rings. Bobby's team, Wimbledon, from Memphis was the gold medal team - beating the next best team by an amazing seven points! Bobby has been selected for the All State gymnastics team and will compete for Tennessee in the regionals, in Marietta, Ga April 12-13. Margarette wants to give special thanks to Mary Beasley, Betty Koletar, Eunice Benton, and Elaine Gelbard for their sponsorship and support.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP SPONSOR BOBBY AT THE REGIONAL COMPETITION?

Margarette says Bobby's gymnastic costs average about \$200/month. At the regionals there will be transportation, hotel, and dining expenses. We will have a special collection jar at UU Hall throughout April, or you can call Margarette at 234-6265.

Ken and Mary Beasley will be moving to the Gulf Coast to be closer to their children, probably before May 25th. We will have a big hole in our UUCO fabric when Mary leaves us, which she will no doubt want us to mend by joining our hands.

The Marion's will be moving to Hot Springs, Arkansas in July or August.

Toni and Billy Stevens will be in Oxford Sunday, April 6. They suggest that we all go to Don Pancho's for brunch after the Discussion.

Toni and Billy are coming to town for the excellent event of Milly Moorhead's wedding! Our wishes go to Milly for a long, loving relationship. Milly asks that we send our sincere thoughts and prayers to her

daughter, Maggie, along the lines of, "Power to the women! Power to the women!"

Speaking of old friends... Keith Wright is running for City Council in his new home town. Pick up his campaign letter on the foyer table at UU Hall. Good Luck Keith! We hope to be able to vote for you some day in a national election - like, for President!

Please make these corrections in your UU directory: The phone number for the Gelbard/Matterns is 236-2545. John Schuster's phone number is 236-4168; email umjohn@bigfoot.com. Ken Sleeper and Susan Pedigo live now at 2 La Rhonda. John and Ann Ludeman's birthdays should be switched. Laura Antonow's phone number listed on the first page as Membership chair is 234-9243. Mary Beasley's address (at least until she moves) is 405 Thacker Loop. Eunice Benton's home phone is 234-4082. Hugh and Betty Bustin's winter address and summer address should be switched. Nan Johnson's phone 473-3670.

>>>> **MIDSOUTH DISTRICT NEWS** <<<<<<

GREAT Annual Assembly for Mid-South with Bill Sinkford!

UUA President Bill Sinkford will keynote the Annual Assembly for Mid-South this year -- which will be in NASHVILLE, MAY 16-18.

This is the best gathering the district has ever had and will be well worth the trip!

Also -- UUCO will receive money from the now-in-progress Chalice Lighter Call! So, folks need to be there to accept the check!

For full information and registration info, visit www.uua.org/msd and scroll down to find the Annual Assembly info (it's quick). Oxford should be present for this one! Let's go!!

Slavery will be a feature issue at the 2003 UUA General Assembly, June 26th-30th in Boston, MA. Kevin Bales will be speaking. One more reason to go to GA this year!

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