

**Sunday Programs****In This Issue****March 1**

- 9:30 Adult RE: "Sacred Texts of the World, Mormonism"  
 10:40 Children's RE: "Working Together to Make a Difference" - Volunteer: Ashley Walker  
 10:40 Program: Berrien Zettler  
 Title: "The Problem of Evil"  
 Service Leader: Pat Hart  
 Opener: Barry White  
 Closer: Paul Lee  
 Greeters: John Land, Ursula King  
 First Sunday Potluck Lunch

**March 8 at Grace Fellowship Hall**

- 9:30 Adult RE: "Sacred Texts of the World, Islam" (MH)  
 10:40 Children's RE: "Using Our Senses of Wonder" - Volunteer: Kirstin Mix  
 10:40 Program: Rev. Ed Wilson  
 Title: "We Open Wide These Welcome Doors"  
 Service Leader: Ron Ussery  
 Opener: Paul Lee  
 Closer: Elaine Lupo  
 Greeters: Ann Newland, Kirstin Mix

**March 15 at Grace Fellowship Hall**

- 9:30 Adult RE: "Sacred Texts of the World, Islam" (MH)  
 10:40 Children's RE: Art Lesson with Sydney Wilson and Paul Lee  
 10:40 Program: Dick McMichael  
 Title: "My Columbus - Then and Now"  
 Service Leader: John Land  
 Opener: Elaine Lupo  
 Closer: Pat Hart  
 Greeters: Robert Burnham, Anna Hensley  
 GATP: MountainCamp Scholarship Fund

**March 22 at Grace Fellowship Hall**

- 9:30 Adult RE: "Sacred Texts of the World, Islam" (MH)  
 10:40 Children's RE: "Love Surrounds Us" - Volunteer: Donna Dyer  
 10:40 Program: Mike Stephens  
 Title: "A Hike of Hope on the Appalachian Trail"  
 Service Leader: Carolyn Searcy  
 Opener: Pat Hart  
 Closer: Nikki Rohrs  
 Greeters: Bill Edwards, Mark Berger

**March 29 at Grace Fellowship Hall**

- 9:30 Adult RE: "Sacred Texts of the World, Islam" (MH)  
 10:40 Children's RE: "Love Surrounds Us Sharing" - Volunteer: Kayla  
 10:40 Program: Bill Harlan  
 Title: "Communicating the UU Message"  
 Service Leader: Marjorie Harlan  
 Opener: Nikki Rohrs  
 Closer: Linda Hagberg  
 Greeters: Barry White, John Land

Sunday Programs  
 Activities  
 Joys and Concerns  
 Birthdays  
 Updates  
 Breaking News

whispers of spring  
**SEEDS ARE SOWN**  
**MARCH**  
 STIRRINGS OF HOPE  
 DAFFODIL BOUQUETS  
 WINDY DAYS  
 extra long kite strings  
**IRISH SHAMROCKS**

Newsletter Editor  
 Linda Hagberg

Meeting Address:  
 1442 Double Churches Road  
 Columbus, GA 31904

From March 8:  
 8827 Heiferhorn Way  
 Columbus, GA 31904

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Thank You to John Nix for coordinating the March Programs.



Please note: After **March 8**, all groups that meet at the Fellowship House on Double Churches will now meet at the Meeting House in the small building located to the left of Grace Fellowship Hall.

## Activities

### Wednesday Night Discussion Group

This group meets every Wednesday night at 7 pm and is open to everyone. The topic to be discussed is announced on the website calendar a few days in advance of the next meeting.

### Mindfulness Meditation Group

This is a weekly meeting, held every Thursday evening at 7 pm. The group is led by Jon Kendrick, a mindfulness instructor. The Mindfulness/Meditation website is [www.pathofmindfulness.com](http://www.pathofmindfulness.com) which contains links to videos and articles about meditation with a page about the group and updates on the schedule.

### UU Coffee House/Young Adults

This gathering is held every Monday evening. On the third Monday of the month, it is held at the Fellowship at 7 pm. The group meets on other Mondays at different locations in the community. Call Harry Underwood for times and locations.

### Women's Group

The Women's Group meets monthly on the second Thursday. The time of day and the specific plans vary from month to month. The details are usually announced a month in advance and are found in the newsletter and on the website. On March 12 will be a visit to the Ma Rainey House. Carpool and other details will be mailed to the women in the Fellowship.

### Women's Book Club

A monthly meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month at 5 pm. The current book is announced a month in advance, giving everyone a chance to read it before the meeting. The book for March 24 is **Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail** by Cheryl Strayed. (MH)

### Choir

If you are interested in music or singing, please consider joining our newly formed choir. Connie Ussery and Marj Harlan will lead the rehearsals every Wednesday night at 6 pm.

### Movies, Anyone?

On the occasional Tuesday afternoon a group meets at the local cinema to catch a new movie. If you would like to get on the contact list, let Carolyn Searcy know.

## Joys and Concerns

- \* **A Joy– we are moving this month!**
- \* Please remember our Friends and Members who may be experiencing health issues and keep them in your thoughts and prayers.
- \* Ernestine Mathis is experiencing some mobility issues. She would probably appreciate a call or card.
- \* Our February GATP donation of \$135 went to Hope Harbour, a shelter for domestic abuse. In March we will support The Mountain with a contribution to the **MountainCamp Scholarship Fund**.
- \* We bid a fond farewell to Jennifer and Matt Elmatti who have moved to North Carolina.
- \* Barry White was the winner of our "Red Cat Raffle" on February 8. That was quite a Valentine's gift! Thanks to John Kamisky who generously donated the car for the raffle. All proceeds went into the Building Fund.

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Linda Hagberg	March 2
John Studstill	March 4
Kirstin Mix	March 5




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Harry Clyde	March 6
Lisa Pyburn	March 18
Carolyn Searcy	March 30

## **Update on Grace Fellowship Hall**

The Design Team, chaired by Brenda Stevens, has been meeting weekly to allocate spaces for our various activities and select color schemes that are natural and serene. In the Great Hall, they have set up chairs and tables for the service and the lunch area. Two of the three divider walls have been framed by Hal Midgette, John Land, and Kenny Stevens. Paint colors for the Great Hall have been selected and cost estimates will be provided this week. The date of painting is indefinite because it will have to be coordinated with other projects.

The Fire Marshal has completed a walk-through and repairs are underway to replace emergency lights at exits. For the stairway to the upstairs children's area, handrails have been added to both sides as required for safety.

The audio-visual system is being set up by Ron Ussery and an electrician.

The Meeting House, where all adult groups and Adult RE will meet, has been painted inside by Rick Spradlin, Thomas Sturm, John Hart, Connie Ussery, Carolyn Searcy, Ursula King, Harry Clyde, Nikki Rohrs, Barry White and Michelle Midgette. New baseboards have been installed by John Hart. Ron Ussery and John Hart also completed roof repairs. Connie, Ron and John Hart were the workers for removing the mildewed baseboards and wall bottoms and treating with an anti-mold chemical.

Lighting in the Grace Fellowship Hall and the Meeting House is old and eventually will need replacement with more energy efficient fixtures and bulbs. Many overhead light bulbs have already been replaced by Ron Ussery and John Hart. Electricians have completed replacement of fixtures in the stairway, foyer and kitchen. Emergency lighting replacement is scheduled.

Kenny Gray and Brenda Stevens are painting the office. Nikki Rohrs has donated a desk for the office, book cases for the library and a baker's rack for shelving in the Meeting House.

The dilapidated portable storage unit has been removed, along with a considerable amount of unwanted or broken items, including furniture, appliances and trash. Very heavy furniture was moved down the fire escape to allow space for the children's program upstairs. The heavy lifters were Sean Tarkington, John Land, John Studstill and Dave Walker. Useful items have been stored in the former swimming pool bathrooms, which have been cleared to use as storage rooms. Doors were installed by Hal Midgette and a wall was knocked down by Hal and John Hart to create more space and easier access.

The exterior renovation and landscaping will come when funds are available for those projects. Many volunteers helped clear the grounds of trash, tree limbs and underbrush. Plans for the front of the building are ongoing. The Design Team has met twice with architect Sia Entemadi to discuss options for improving the front of the building.

## Update on Grace Fellowship Hall (cont.)

Much has been accomplished to make the buildings safe and functional for our many activities. Our policy for expenditures has been “safety first”. The beautification will come as soon as funds are available. Some projects, such as painting the exterior of the Meeting House, can be done by volunteers when the weather permits.

The Board has been working with our attorney to ensure that the lease agreement accurately reflects the final proposal approved by the congregation. Once this is done we can begin moving. Please be on the lookout for additional communication about a move date.

In the meantime, please sign up to help with the move by choosing one of the areas of our current Fellowship House that you are willing to assist in moving. Sign up sheets are on the visitors table. Heavy items will be moved by professionals, but there is plenty of packing and lighter moving to be done. Many hands make lighter work. All our volunteers are greatly appreciated and please forgive us if anyone’s name was left off. The Grace Fellowship Hall will soon be the new home of our Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Columbus.

Submitted by Michelle Midgette and Dave Walker

### Editor’s Note:

Michelle neglected to mention that she and Nikki have spent countless hours at the new facility and on the phone locating contractors, getting estimates and watching the work being completed.

**THANK YOU TO MICHELLE AND NIKKI.** You are much appreciated.

\*\*\*\*\***BREAKING NEWS**\*\*\*\*\*

We have just learned that we will hold our first Sunday Service in Grace Fellowship Hall on March 8. We hope everyone will be able to join us on that date. This is the news that we have all been waiting for! For those of you who attend Adult RE, the group will meet at 9:30 in the Meeting House which is a small building to the left of Grace Fellowship Hall. The Children’s RE will be held upstairs in Grace Fellowship Hall. There will be plenty of safe parking.

Directions- From 185 North, get off at exit 11 Williams Rd/Welcome Center. Turn left at the end of the ramp and continue to Whitesville Road. Turn right at Whitesville and then take your next left into the Timber Creek subdivision on Heiferhorn Way. Continue to the end of the street. Grace Fellowship Hall is on your left.

From our Double Churches location– Continue up Double Churches to CVS. Turn right on Whitesville Road and continue until you cross Williams Road. Take the next left on Heiferhorn Way and follow to the end.