



Glenn 'Leaves' a Legacy of Love and Music



Glenn Heggem, center in blue, enjoys one of his favorite activities at church, singing with his friends AUUC Principle Singers, during a service July 17, 2011.

Editor's Note: Gaye Ortiz wrote this remembrance of Glenn Heggem. Please see page 2 for more words about our AUUC member and friend.

Our congregation lost a beloved member on January 19th when Glenn Heggem passed away after a protracted illness. However, up until the last, he was his jovial, loving self, entertaining visitors with his wife Karen, and spending precious time with his children.

Glenn was an integral part of the Principle Singers, and music was a special part of his identity. From a young age he sang with a men's chorale, and some of his most prized possessions were CDs of their performances. When I joined the church as Consulting Minister I was given a basket with items members had given so that I could get to know them and the things they enjoyed. Glenn gave me two harp ornaments, one a pin and the other on a chain, as well as a pack of Norwegian crackers. He wrote a short poem that came with these items; it read:

**"Norwegian bakers take great pride
In baking bread so thin that it has
only one side.**

**I wish you a well-nourished life,
With food to slice and a good sharp
knife.**

**Here's two harps for music,
harmony;
They are essential for my life, you
see,
Food and music nurture body and
spirit,
Help us feel love and also hear it."**

It was, as I found out, typical of Glenn to be generous and expressive; I will treasure the harps in remembrance of him...the crackers I ate and enjoyed!

Join AUUC in the Aiken Black History Parade

Please Reserve Your Calendar's! Saturday, February 18, 2012:
March With Aiken UUs as part of Aiken's 11th Annual Black History Parade!

Join us in recognizing and celebrating the importance of Black History. Our UU Service and Outreach Committee (SOC) has reserved a place for Aiken UUs in the parade. We are urging all UUs and friends to join us that Saturday afternoon to march with our banners.

The parade will start on Florence Street across from the American Legion Post 212 and proceed East onto Hampton Avenue and end at Smith-Hazel Recreation Center. Paraders will begin to gather at 1 PM and be in their place in line before 2 PM.

For More information, contact Julie Evonna at 644-8930

NOTE: Bad Weather Date: Sunday, February 19th at 2 P.M.



Glenn Heggem Hugged His Way Into Our Hearts

Members of the church were invited to share their memories of Glenn during the service on January 22, by writing them on leaf-shaped paper; the 'leaves' will form part of the compost that will be used in the spring to plant a tree or shrub in Glenn's memory on the church grounds. Here are those written tributes paid to Glenn:

Glenn was always a great person to talk to. He carried his condition with such grace – he was an inspiration. I'll always remember him.

He was really cool.

It was an absolute joy to have gotten to know you over the last few years.

Glenn teaching me the bass line melody and we both failed together.

Your smile, kindness, intellect, and hugs will be missed. Your fellow Norwegian.

Glenn, before I knew your name I called u Huggy Man as u were the first I met at chaos time and u hugged me. I lost my Annie at the same time as u that morning. I hope u both skipped across the rainbow bridge.

Glenn, always a hug to warm both of us, always positive, that sparkle in your eye! You will live on in my hugs.

I will miss his hugs!

Glenn my friend: courage, music, joy, dignitas, love, fierce integrity.

Glenn I miss your hugs – you gave the best hugs ever!

Glenn was always so much fun to be around and so giving.

Glenn showed us a lot bout living an honest life and how to bring life to a close with gratitude and dignity.



Glenn Heggen while out and about with his family at Hopeland Gardens.

I was inspired by his testimonial of insight in his service about Alcoholics Anonymous; I was grateful for his visit to the Hopelands Garden Labyrinth when I was volunteering there; my husband and I were treated to his lovely life ending the Sunday before his death when Ginger brought us to visit him.

You always kept me in tune when we sang.

Though Glenn did not believe in the afterlife his spirit will live on in the minds and hearts of all who knew him.

He was my friend.

I'll always remember Glenn's easy temperament and his love of life, right up to the end, and his courage in the face of death.

We'll miss that smile and the big hugs – thank you for all you did.

Glenn caused me to think more about religion and God than my 11 years in Catholic schools.

Very gracious and kind.

A wonderful example for all of us.

More kindness and calmness, less fear of death than I have ever seen.

Glenn hugs!



Minister

Dr. Gaye Ortiz
minister@aikenuuchurch.org

2012-2012 AUUC Board
board@aikenuuchurch.org

President

Michael Smith, 643-8679
smithirmab@hotmail.com

President Elect

Neil Miller, 502-0247
neilm@usca.edu

Secretary

Jack Uhrich, 221-7984
juhrich44@aol.com

Disbursing Treasurer

Tom Brandner, 641-1191
geesenet@bellsouth.net

Receiving Treasurer

Sam Lightner, 226-0298
lightner@westminster.edu

Members-At-Large

Karen DeCamp, 642-5852
decamp@gforcecable.com
Thomas Drake, 644-3304
thomas@drakeflock.com

Committee Chairs

Religious Exploration

Marcy Vernon, 502-1730
re@aikenuuchurch.org
Naomi Frost-Hewitt, 643-8667
frohewit@bellsouth.net

Buildings & Grounds

Sam Dack, 617-9565

Service & Outreach

Julie Evona, 644-8930
evonnaj@bellsouth.net

Worship

Gaye Ortiz, 502-0404
minister@aikenuuchurch.org

Membership

Ginger Rybicki, 270-2659
sc.naturegirl@yahoo.com

Archivist

Mickey Marshall, 637-5823
madmarsh72@att.net

Newsletter Editor

Patrick Krohn, 502-1730
newsletter@aikenuuchurch.org

AUUC Looking to Raffle – And You Can Help

Raffle Anyone? The Fundraising team is exploring the idea of having another church raffle to help cover the costs of our air/heating replacement system. For those who may be new to our Raffle experience, here's a brief summary. Items are donated from AUUC members: services, gift baskets, Timeshares, etc. Raffle tickets are sold to AUUC members and the community. A raffle party is held with folks choosing their top 3 raffle choices from a generated list of donations. Fun is had by All!

Would you like to help with this exciting and fun fundraising project? Please contact Mike Smith smithirmab@hotmail.com or Julie Evonna evonnaj@bellsouth.net by February 15th if you are possibly interested.

UU Men: Join us for the Next Men's Group

Guys, join us for our next monthly gathering. Share food, fellowship with your fellow UU men, and participate in our sharing and discussion!

We have been meeting recently at the Anchor Rehab Center so that one of our founding members, Harry Woodward, now a resident of Anchor, can attend.

This month, Harry, who has been spending his time at the Center keeping his mind active, will share with group what he has learned from studying the evolution of the food we eat: where our different foods originated, and how they have changed over the years. There will discussion following Harry's presentation.

To order food for the meeting, or for more information, call or email Jack Uhrich, at 221-7984, or juhrich44@aol.com. **See You there!**

Our Newsletter

Chalice Connections is published the last Sunday of each month to communicate with the members & friends of the Aiken Unitarian Universalist Church. If you have contributions for the newsletter, the deadline is the second-to-last Sunday of the month. The next deadline will be will be February 19, 2012. Contact Patrick Krohn newsletter@aikenuuchurch.org

Mission of the Aiken Unitarian Universalist Church: We are working together to create a welcoming and inclusive community which supports spiritual growth, ethical living, and open-minded exploration of religion.



115 Gregg Ave P.O. Box 2231Aiken, SC 29802 (803) 502-0404



At Your Service...

Attitudes Change ... Even for UUs

Attitudes change. Here are some examples of important changes in our church: In 1967, 88% of Unitarian Universalists in this country thought that homosexuality should be discouraged by law or through education (Debra Haffner, "Sexuality and the UUA: Fifty Years of Sexual Justice and a Call to the Future," GA presentation, June 2011). The first General Assembly resolution on the topic of equal rights for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) persons passed in 1970, urging the Unitarian Universalist Association to work to end discrimination against homosexuals and



bisexuals. In 1979 the first out gay men in the UU ministry were called to serve congregations: Rev. Douglas Morgan Strong, called to All Souls Church, Augusta, Maine, and Rev. Mark Belletini, called to First UU Society of San Francisco.

Unitarian Universalism is proud to perform commitment ceremonies and marriages for couples regardless of gender, and has publicly supported this practice since 1984. We have had RE curricula for sexuality education since 1971 (known as *Our Whole Lives*). In 2002, the first out transgender person in the UU ministry was called to serve a congregation: Rev. Sean Dennison, called to South Valley UU Society, Salt Lake City. Today, over 85% of Unitarian Universalists attend a Welcoming Congregation and 65% of U.S. Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations are Welcoming Congregations. In 2009 [Standing on the Side of Love](#) was launched, a public advocacy campaign that seeks to harness love's power to stop oppression. The campaign provides a platform for marriage equality efforts, among other causes. (www.uu.org/lgbt/history/index.shtml)

The UUA expects all ministers to show ministerial competency in the area of human sexuality before being approved for ordination. To that end, I have

completed an online course offered by the Religious Institute, Sexuality Issues for Religious Professionals, and have attended a retreat where the program, led by the Rev Dr Debra Haffner, Executive Director of the Religious Institute, was on Sexual Health for Congregations.

And now I have the opportunity to stand on the side of love with this congregation as we begin the Welcoming Congregation Program! We will work over the next year to become a more inclusive and accepting church for people of all sexual orientations. The Welcoming Congregation program calls for each of us to put into practice our first UU principle, that 'we covenant to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of all persons.' Our program will consist of several events and activities, including film screenings, discussions, and workshops.

The first workshop for the Welcoming Congregation program will be held on Sunday, February 19th, 12-2:30 pm. The workshop, "Introductions and Expectations," will feature two of the leaders of the Welcoming Congregation program at the UU Church of Coastal Georgia, DeLeon Peacock and Dr Mary Freeman. The workshop aims to begin discovering what we know and do not know; sharing fears, concerns, and expectations; and discovering common ground.

The AUUC Strategic Planning group agreed to help plan the schedule for the Welcoming Congregation program but the work has just begun! There are two things that are needed in order to make this program a success: one, we need those interested members and friends who represent the diversity of our church to join together in a Welcoming Congregation working group to fully plan and implement the program. The date for this meeting is **Thursday, February 9th at 6pm in the church.**

Secondly, we need every member to participate in at least one Welcoming Congregation event or activity, so that we can demonstrate our commitment to making our church a truly welcoming congregation.

This is a challenging program for our church, but it offers a safe space within which we can explore our fears and concerns, but also express our hopes and our determination to live out our UU beliefs and values.

In faith and friendship,

Gaye

Dr Gaye Ortiz,
Consulting Minister/Ministry Intern



WORDS FROM ABOVE...

Latitude 43

Editor's note: Greg Clapp, who visits our little Aiken community a few times a year on his trips from Aurora, Ontario, Canada, has offered to write a monthly column for the newsletter.

Walk Like a Camel

My maternal grandfather and I walked a lot: sometimes into the woods to smell the cedar or listen to the gurgling stream water. Other days were spent plucking crisp and juicy apples in the orchard or walking the railway tracks to wave at the engineers, chase groundhogs and cut asparagus along the fence line. On one Sunday excursion Gramp attempted to show me how to make an animal snare from a piece of wire in case I was lost in the woods and needed sustenance. He twisted the wire into a loop and hung it over a well-used rabbit trail.

Henry David Thoreau's goal was to walk four hours a day. His kind of walking was the same as my grandfather's, in that it had "nothing in it akin to taking exercise...". "You must walk like a camel, which is said to be the only beast which ruminates when walking."

When strolling through Hopelands Gardens in Aiken I like my mind and eyes to be on what is in the garden: the ponds and fountains, the turtles and ducks, the arbours and paths. There are hidden treasures in the garden; treasures that appear briefly, then flit away: a small child crouched by the fountain watching a leaf sail across the water moved by some unseen breath of wind; two teenage girls in their pink dance dresses, up and down on their toes, practicing ballet moves on the stage.

The sights give me amazing ideas to ponder. I forbid my thoughts to drift out of the Gardens to "morning occupations and obligations to society." I amble along ruminating upon what Nature has to offer, often surprised by what I discover! Walk like a camel! Ruminare.

By the way, the snare did work. The following week my grandfather and I walked up to the top of the garden where he explained to me why my grandmother wasn't speaking to him. Seems our snare had caught and killed the neighbor's cat.

AUUC Income & Expenses Through the 2nd Quarter

FY 2011-2012 INCOME 1-6-12		July 1 2011- Dec. 31 2011	
Category	Income to Date	Annual Budget	Surplus (Deficit)
INCOME			
Pledges	\$ 19,679	\$ 45,452	\$ (25,773)
PrePaid Pledges 2012-13	\$ -		
Non-Pledge Donations	\$ 2,307	\$ 4,000	\$ (1,693)
Other checks	\$ -		
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ (2,000)
Other income (rental, interest, etc.)	\$ 318		
Total Operating Income	\$ 22,304	\$ 51,452	\$ (29,148)
FY10-11 Carryover	\$ 1,018		
Special Collections	\$ 1,245		
Restricted Income	\$ 120		
Chalice Lighter Grant 2009-2013	\$ 6,563		
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 31,250		

FY 2011-2012 EXPENSES		July 1 2011 - Dec. 31 2011	
Category	Expenses to Date	Annual Budget	Balance
Administrative Expenses			
Minister/Intern	\$ 4,076	\$ 24,000	\$ 19,924
Mortgage & Insurance	\$ 4,311	\$ 10,321	\$ 6,011
UUA Assessments	\$ 3,060	\$ 5,300	\$ 2,240
Utilities, Cleaning, Office Supplies	\$ 4,118	\$ 7,450	\$ 3,332
Building & Grounds	\$ 1,796	\$ 1,000	\$ (796)
Newsletter, Ads, Website, Database	\$ 1,354	\$ 3,100	\$ 1,746
Subtotal - Administrative	\$ 18,714	\$ 51,171	\$ 32,457
Program Budgets			
Worship & Music	\$ 615	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,185
Religious Education	\$ 1,109	\$ 2,000	\$ 891
Conferences & Retreats	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Membership	\$ 592	\$ 800	\$ 208
Finance & Fundraising	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ 162
Outreach/Social Justice	\$ 48	\$ 500	\$ 452
25% Cash Income to Outreach	\$ 537	\$ 1,000	\$ (463)
Subtotal - Program	\$ 2,901	\$ 8,262	\$ 5,361
Subtotal - Expenses	\$ 21,615	\$ 59,433	\$ 37,818
Special Collections Disbursements	\$ 1,983		
Restricted Income Disbursements	\$ 318		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 23,916	\$ 59,433	\$ 35,517
TOTAL (Income - Expenses)	\$ 7,334		

FUND BALANCES:

Ministry Fund	\$ 4,800		
Memorial Garden Fund	\$ 700		
Capital Fund	\$ 2,538		
Contingency Fund	\$ 9,317		
Youth Program	\$ 330		
Chalice Lighter Grant Fund	\$ 4,996	Checking Bal:	\$ 9,105
General Fund	\$ 20,731	Money Mkt Bal:	\$ 34,306
TOTAL	\$ 43,411	TOTAL	\$ 43,411

February RE Schedule

Sun	Primary	Elementary & Middle	Middle & HS
Feb 5	Katie Miller	Angie Drake	Patrick Krohn
Feb 12	Lisa Lintner	Neil Miller	Sally Evans
Feb 19	Linda Warren	Katie Miller	In Service
Feb 26	Marcy Vernon	Angie Drake	Patrick Krohn



February Services

February 5, 2012

“The Two ‘D’s in Unitarian Universalism: Dickens and Darwin”

Dr. Gaye Ortiz

Three years ago we celebrated Charles Darwin’s 200th anniversary; February 7th is the 200th anniversary of Dickens’ birth. What do we know about their identities as Unitarians? What would a conversation about faith and religion have been like between them...we can only guess!

February 12, 2012

“Standing on the Side of Love: Sexual Justice and Unitarian Universalism”

Dr. Gaye Ortiz

Today is a proud day for Aiken UU Church: we begin a program that will help us grow in respect and generosity toward all our members, friends, and visitors. The Welcoming Congregation program aims to create awareness and understanding of diversity and to help us speak out for sexual justice and equal rights for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered people.

February 19, 2012

“The Search for Inclusiveness”

DeLeon Peacock

DeLeon Peacock comes to us with a moving story that traces his personal journey to authentic living. He wants to encourage us to reach the goal of being inclusive and welcoming. Along with Dr Mary Freeman, a leader of the Welcoming Congregation program of the UU Church of Coastal Georgia, he will be participating in our initial Welcoming Congregation workshop after the morning service.

February 26, 2012

“The Music and Poetry of Love”

Worship Team with Ken Carlson

Eros, philos, and agape are classic forms of love that have inspired poets and musicians across the centuries. As we end the month in which we ‘stand on the side of love’ let us appreciate the amazing capacity of humans to feel and express this emotionally and spiritually enriching state of being.

February Birthdays

Ann Thal	Feb 1
Thomas Drake	Feb 1
Donald Wargowsky	Feb 5
Emma Philps	Feb 7
Carleen Sexton	Feb 16
Faith Wargowsky	Feb 20

For Your Information

This will be a semi-regular column sharing AUUC board policy and procedures. If you’re curious about something, let us know and we’ll include the information in a future newsletter.

AUUC Facility Use policy – board approved 2008

- The primary function of the church facility is to serve the needs and interests of the church members and congregational friends. We also want to make the facility available to appropriate community groups if it can be done without displacing regular congregational activities and programs.
- Therefore, under certain limited conditions, we allow the personal use of the church by active members (at no charge) and rent the facilities to the general public.
- The AUUC retains the obligation to ensure that only groups that honor our religious principles and traditions, and our congregation’s mission statement and covenants use the church. We may refuse the use of the church to groups who disrespect our traditions: demean our beliefs; practice bigotry, violence, hate or illegal activities; or who practice or promote a religious or philosophical view that contradicts our principles and ethical practices.
- The facility shall not be rented or made available to any individual or group for political fundraising purposes of any kind, or for promoting specific political candidates. However an exception may be made for issues in support of positions of the UUA as outlined in section C 3 above. The facility shall not be rented or made available to any individual or group for the purpose of promoting any private or public commercial interest.

NOTE: Fees for officiating at rites of passage vary; please contact the minister for more information.



Calendar of Events February 2012

31	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee	AUUC
1	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Principle Singers	AUUC
3	Friday	6:30 p.m.	Women's Journaling Group	AUUC
5	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Children's Religious Exploration Sunday Service: <i>"The Two 'D's in Unitarian Universalism: Dickens and Darwin"</i>	AUUC
5	Sunday	4:00 p.m.	Djembe Drumming Circle	AUUC
8	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting	AUUC
9	Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Welcoming Congregation Meeting	AUUC
10	Friday	6:30 p.m.	Sisterhood of the Spirit	AUUC
12	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Children's Religious Exploration Sunday Service: <i>"Standing on the Side of Love: Sexual Justice and Unitarian Universalism"</i>	AUUC
14	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Sierra Club	AUUC
15	Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Membership Committee	AUUC
15	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Principle Singers	AUUC
18	Saturday	6:30 p.m.	Men's Group	Anchor Rehab
19	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Children's Religious Exploration Sunday Service: <i>"The Search for Inclusiveness"</i>	AUUC
19	Sunday	Noon-2:30	Welcoming Congregation program	AUUC
19	Sunday	4:00 p.m.	Djembe Drumming Circle	AUUC
22	Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	4th Wednesday at Riley's	Riley's
22	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Principle Singers	AUUC
23	Thursday	7:00 p.m.	PFLAG	AUUC
24	Friday	6:30 p.m.	Sisterhood of the Spirit	AUUC
26	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Children's Religious Exploration Sunday Service: <i>"The Music and Poetry of Love"</i>	AUUC
29	Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Jackson-Bernard Wedding	AUUC

Aiken Unitarian
Universalist Church
P.O. Box 2231
Aiken, SC 29802



Wine, Chocolate & Balloons



Karen and Gregg DeCamp show off the balloon sculpture they won during the Wine & Chocolate Tasting January 21, 2012. The balloon sculpture was made by Tom and Sandy Brandner.

Our Seven Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience & the use of the democratic process within our congregations & in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.