

March 2010

*A light exists in Spring
Not present on the year
At any other period
When March is scarcely
here.
Emily Dickinson*



March 7 • 9:30 and 11:00 am • The Rev. Ernest L. Mills, Jr.

Fun Raising!

Having fun is not a sin. In fact it is a sacred and holy thing. We will celebrate having fun and raising funds in our annual pledge campaign. A special treat ... we will be joined at the 11:00 service by our UUTC children who will help lead us in the service.

March 14 • 9:30 and 11:00 am • Venerable Pannadipa Bhikkhu

The Simple Message of the Buddha

Conditioned reality is imbued with suffering...yet, suffering is optional. Our speaker will clarify this paradox! Much like the plumber who knew where to tap, it is about knowing the source of suffering and how to disentangle yourself. Please see more information on page 2.

March 21 • 9:30 and 11:00 am • The Rev. Ernest L. Mills, Jr.

The Unseen World of Connections

The age-old dogma of humans as free-standing, independent creatures is no longer. In its place is a new world and a new consciousness of our interdependence within a great web of existence. Can we further not only this consciousness but transform our actions and behaviors to reflect this new world? We will explore this question and others.

March 28 • 9:30 and 11:00 am • The Rev. Gary Hyndman

The Life of Ants

We probably don't think of ourselves as having much in common with ants. After all, ants don't have cable TV! But we may, in fact, be much more like these insect pests than we care to admit, especially when it comes to one inescapable paradox. See more about Rev. Hyndman on page 2.

Childcare is held during both services.

Children's Religious Exploration is held during the 11:00 service

From Our Minister

WHICH COMES FIRST, THE GIVING OR THE CARING?

As we enter our annual stewardship campaign we need to ask ourselves two fundamental questions: "Why am I here?" and "Why are we here?" There are as many diverse answers to these questions as there are members of UUTC.

Here is my answer. I am here because I cherish the openness and freedom to be able to think "out-loud" and to explore in depth this magnificent journey we call life. I am here because of the wide concern this congregation has for those beyond our walls who need our hearts and our hands and our voices. I am here because of the hard work that we all have put into building this special space and this physical place. I am here because of the labor of love that we have all invested in molding and shaping the beloved community. I am here because of the hard work that we have done in building a community of trust where each individual can come to truly feel (not just think) personal worth and dignity. I am here because I care and I am here because I believe every member of this congregation cares about UUTC. My hope is that each gift given in this campaign will be given out of a spirit of care and care-fullness. My hope is that each gift of talent and time will be given out of that same spirit.

We have a lot to be thankful for and a lot to work toward as we continue to build the beloved community.

About our speaker on March 14

Venerable Pannadipa Bhikkhu, Co-Abbot of the Embracing Simplicity Hermitage in Hendersonville. Pannadipa (pronounced pan-ya-dipa) is a Buddhist monk, ordained in the Theravada and Mahayana (Chan) traditions. He is a founder of the hermitage where he serves as meditation counselor with a practical approach to spirituality. A former Taoist monk and initiated yogi, Pannadipa taught Tien Shen Pai Kung Fu, qigong, Tai Chi and fitness for over 25 years. He facilitates wellness retreats and has extensive experience assisting in the transition from this life to the next, both for humans and for animals.

About our speaker on March 28

Rev. Gary Hyndman is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister who works as a free lance journalist in Greenville, South Carolina. He is author of [Breathe](#), a nonfiction account of a young, disabled man's fight to end his life.

Rev. Hyndman was formerly minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg and served as consulting minister for the Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County from 1999 to 2002.
