



Partner Church News

A publication of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council

Connecting Unitarian and Universalist congregations around the globe

Volume 9 Number 3

Winter 2003

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR TO VISIT IN JUNE Support Needed for Kolozsvár Choir

BY BOB TRIPP

The magnificent choir of the Unitarian High School of Kolozsvár, Transylvania, will be performing in June 2003 at several UU congregations in the northeastern USA— if enough money can



The choir of the Unitarian High School at rehearsal.

be raised to bring the choir here.

The primary purpose of the visit is for the choir to raise money to help with the completion of the Unitarian Center for Students and Pilgrims—including more dormitory space, a cafeteria, and other needed rooms. We are helping the youth to help themselves!

The Kolozsvár Choir Visit Committee (KCVC) has been formed to coordinate fund-raising and to plan the visit. The choir will perform in the Washington, DC, area, the mid Atlantic area, and the Boston area—at 12-14 UU congregations. The culminating concert will be at the 2003

(Continued on page 2)

Economic Fairness Task Force Begins Work

BY DENNY DAVIDOFF, CHAIR

The Economic Fairness Task Force has been laying plans to undertake an extensive data gathering process between February 1 and June 15, 2003. This initial research has two parts:

I. Analysis of long term PCC relationships

Clergy and lay principal players in ten partnered congregations in the United States and Transylvania will be extensively interviewed. We want to understand better both positive and

(Continued on page 2)

Bishop Szabó to Visit U.S.

BY JOHN GIBBONS

Transylvanian Unitarian Bishop Arpád Szabó and Counselor Dávid Gyerö will be in the U.S. this winter to thank contributors and raise funds needed to complete the Unitarian Center for Students and Pilgrims in Kolozsvár (“the dormitory project”). Arriving February 14, their itinerary includes Boston, New York, New Jersey, Tulsa, Dallas, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Denver, Cleveland, and Washington, D.C. They return home March 6.

Educational excellence is considered key to Unitarian survival in Tran-

sylvania and Hungary. By modifying attic space of the 19th century Brassai building that also serves as church headquarters, modern dormitory and study rooms have been created for 41 high school students. This North Wing was joyfully dedicated last summer and the student residents have been enthusiastically proud. To accommodate 50 university and seminary students, funds are still needed to renovate the South Wing and to install an elevator. These rooms will also provide accommodation for—and income from

(Continued on page 2)

Inside News...

President's Report and Churches Needing Partners	3
"Before the Journey" and English Teacher's Report	4
Kolozsvár High School and R.E. Materials Report	5
Bell Ringers' Update and Synod Report	6
"Taking Time to Discuss Why"	7
Executive Director's Report	8
News from Project Hope	9
Directory of Networkers and Representatives, Partner Survey	10, 11
Reports, News & Travel Stories	12
Communicating with Your Partner	15
Travel Services; How to Send Money	16, 17
Gift Transfer Form	18
Membership Application	19

Economic Fairness

(Continued from page 1)

negative issues of bonding, mutuality, dependency, money, service and shared ministry. Questions are being formatted, and training protocols are being prepared.

II. Information gathering from other denominations and NGO's

We have compiled an extensive list of individuals and non-government organizations whose experience and evaluations can inform our efforts to identify best practices in all of the areas of present and future relationships that involve money and investment. What we learn from others will guide our assessment of the findings from our interviews among PCC congregations and also help us to frame final recommendations.

The Task Force intends to issue a final report by January 15, 2004. Our key deliverables will be a set of guidelines to be used by Unitarian Universalists working to establish and maintain international partnerships, and will specifically address the economic disparities and opportunities inherent in such work. ●●

PARTNER CHURCH NEWS is the newsletter of the UU Partner Church Council, an independent affiliate organization of the Unitarian Universalist Association, started in 1993.

This newsletter supports the mission and goals of the Partner Church Council.

Editors: Nancy Daugherty and Richard Cooper

Publication Advisors: Barbara Kres Beach, John Gibbons, Leon Hopper, David Keyes, Emery Lazar, and Pat Rodgers.

Articles for the next newsletter may be mailed to the editor at 49 Elm Street, Bedford, MA 01730; email to nancydaugh@aol.com.

Telephone: 781-275-1892 Fax: 781-271-9254
The UU Partner Church Council is a 501(c)(3) charitable tax-exempt organization.

For information about membership, contact Cathy Cordes in the UUPCC office, PO Box 88, Bedford, MA 01730.
and

For any other information, contact the UUPCC office at 781-275-1710, or uupcc@uua.org

Visit the web site at: www.uua.org/uupcc/

PROCLAMATION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM 1568

FAMOUS PAINTING AVAILABLE AT LAST!

Poster reproductions of Aladar Korosfoi-Krieschs famous painting of Francis Dávid and the 1568 Proclamation of Religious Freedom at Torda are now available! These are high quality prints, 16x20 inches, quite suitable for framing and proud display.

This is the sepia-colored photogravure that hangs in most Unitarian churches and many homes in Transylvania. Copies have not been available for decades. It would be wonderful for every North American UU church to display this painting to honor our partnerships and to recall our heritage of religious freedom.

Also included is an outlined key to all the historic figures depicted in the painting (Zsigmond, the Báthorys, Blandrata, Meliusz, et al.) as well as a short history of the Edict of Torda and the painting, written by Dávid Gyerö, administrative counselor of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church.

Prints cost \$20 (US), including shipping and handling. Checks, made out to First Parish with "Torda Poster" on the memo line, should be sent to:

Torda Poster / First Parish / 75 The Great Road / Bedford, MA 01730

Proceeds benefit (in descending order) the Kolozsvár Dormitory Project (The Unitarian Center for Students and Pilgrims), the UU Partner Church Council, and the Bedford-Abásfalva partnership.

Please see photo of poster on page 7 of this issue.

Bishop's Visit

(Continued from page 1)

—the many North American pilgrims who visit Transylvania each summer.

Total cost for the completion of both wings is approximately a million US dollars, of which more than half has been raised. Critical support has been received from Veatch funds as well as from UU churches and individuals, many of whom have named dormitory rooms in others' honor. Continued support remains essential and, as is often true, a project's second half is

more challenging than the first. In addition to Szabó and Gyerö's travels in North America and solicitations to European foundations, the Transylvanian Unitarian leadership has committed their own church resources to the fulfillment of this first-ranked church priority. A truly mutual endeavor, the Center's completion will be cause for all to celebrate.

Inquiries or contributions may be directed to the UU Transylvania Fund, c/o Rev. Olivia Holmes, UUA, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108. ●●

Proposed Choir Visit

(Continued from page 1)

General Assembly in Boston.

The KCVC is seeking funds in the form of grants and loans from host UU congregations, foundations, and individuals. Anyone able and willing to donate or loan money, please send a check payable to the UU Partner Church Council (putting "choir visit" on the memo line) to: Catherine

Bocskor, Cedar Lane Unitarian Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Questions or comments? Please contact Bob Tripp or Catherine Bocskor, co-chairs of the KCVC: Bob at 703-742-0929/ trippm@yahoo.com, or Catherine at 301-495-8977 / cbocskor@wwparking.com. ●●

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Past, Future, and Present

BY DAVID KEYES

A reading I sometimes use as an invitation to the offering goes in part:
*We drink from wells we have not dug.
We warm ourselves beside fires we
have not kindled...we stand on the
shoulders of those gone before...*

As we prepare to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Partner Church Council, I am especially mindful of the contribution of that far-sighted little band that gathered in Charlotte in 1993 to imagine a grassroots movement that would build and sustain global partnerships. We will honor them at our annual meeting during General Assembly in Boston in June. I hope all who were present at or near the creation will make a special effort to be there. It should be a grand reunion. If you have special memories, or ideas about how to celebrate, do let me know.

At that meeting, as an interlude in the festivities, Cathy Cordes and I will offer reflections on what the next ten years of partnership may be like. I don't know about Cathy, but I have as yet been unable to locate my crystal ball. So, again, I would love to hear from any and all of you who have ideas, dreams and visions about what your organization should be doing in its second decade.

In the present, PCC volunteers are doing a great deal. Thanks go to those who are making preparations for the visit of Bishop Arpad Szabo in February and March for fundraising for the Center for Students and Pilgrims in Kolozsvár... to those planning what should be a highlight of General Assembly 2003—the visit of an angelic youth choir from Transylvania... to those working on Denny Davidoff's Task Force on Economic

Fairness... with John Dale on a revamped travel program... with Sonya Sukalski on the extensive plans for the Networker Conference in Newton, MA, in March... to PCC Vice President Fred Muir who is working on plans for a trip he and I (along with Bill Sinkford and Olivia Holmes) will take to visit Philippine partners in March... to John Gibbons who is working on a pilgrimage to partners in the Khasi Hills... and to all of you who give of yourselves to make partnership mean so much to so many.

Finally, with the present and the future in mind, allow me to remind you of the annual appeal. Your letter should have been in the mail in November. If you have put it aside waiting for a day when you felt like writing a check that would match the importance of international partnership in your life, I hope that this will be the day. ●●

UUPCC@UUA.ORG OR 781-275-1710

Looking for an International Partner?

The UUPCC exists to help international churches that would like to find a partner North American church. The list below contains the names of churches that are currently looking for partners.

We are hoping to expand the number of partnerships with the Philippines and the Khasi Hills, India within the next year—so if there are churches in your district that might be interested please have them get in touch with UUPCC.

IN ROMANIA

Please note: The names of villages located in Transylvania have two names listed. The first is the Hungarian name of the village and the second is the Romanian.

Nyomát/Maiad—There are 200 Unitarians in Nyomát. The chapel was built in 1753. This year the members are working hard to restore their priceless historic building.

Nyomát has a new, young minister Rev. Botond Jakabhazi and would very much like to have a partner church.

Nagyszeben/Sibiu—

This is a small, vital congregation in the Haromszek District of 100 Unitarians, half of whom are active in the church. They are served by Rev. Ervin Markos who also serves Fogaras. He visits twice a month; services are held in a rented church. The lay president is Eva Solymosi, who says they are eager to partner. The town of Sibiu is a beautiful example of a Saxon city.

Vámosudvarhely/Odrihei—Rev Sandor Kovacs is the new minister serving isolated Vámosudvarhely, a very small congregation of 41 dedicated Unitarians. Transylvanian congregations in the same district (Kukullo) are partnered with Albany NY, Appleton



Members of the 2002 UUPCC Youth Tour together with members of the Marosvásárhely Unitarian Youth Group in the church in Marosvásárhely.

WI, Arlington VA, Belmont MA, Bethesda MD, Charleston SC, Clinton NC, Evanston IL, Fort Collins CO, Franklin MA, Los Gatos CA, Princeton NJ, Victoria BC, Waterville ME, and Wheeling WV. If you are a smaller congregation near one of these North American cities, you might want to partner with Vámosudvarhely,

(Continued on page 14)

A PERSONAL NOTE

Before the Journey

BY DR. JUDIT GELLÉRD, HONORARY
PRESIDENT OF THE PARTNER CHURCH COUNCIL

Before the grand adventure of sailing on seven seas around the earth between January and May, this note is a symbolic farewell and a moment of thanksgiving at New Year. My destiny seems fulfilled; my dreams have come to completion last year.

I have graduated summa cum laude from Boston University School of Theology, Master of Theological Studies degree. If the May hooding ceremony in Boston was glorious, a twin event happened to me on November 30. The Unitarian Synod of Transylvania ordained me as a Unitarian minister, in the presence of all the ministers, my mother and George. The circle is closed now, I am like my father. And if with the Hippocratic Oath thirty years ago I committed myself to service, now the ministerial robe has sealed it. I preached my first thanksgiving sermon at my birthplace,

Siménfalva, in my father's pulpit, on the 55th anniversary of his installation there.

My Boston life was filled with privileges—singing Verdi's *Requiem* in Boston Symphony Hall, living in a palace as part of a full merit scholarship. But nothing compares to studying with Elie Wiesel for two years. Out of that experience my first book of literature of witness was born. *The Prisoner of Liberty* was meant to be a monument to sufferings under totalitarianism, a historical novel based on my father's life. Now Prof. Wiesel is helping me find the right publisher. In one way or another, the book will be published by the 2003 General Assembly—a firm commitment.

After five creative months in Transylvania, where we witnessed the most exciting time of church renewal and the democratization process of the Unitarian Church—the very one for which we have been working fourteen years—George and I are about to become citizens of the world in a literal sense, with

no fixed address—only e-mail. We both have received the invitation of a lifetime to teach for University of Pittsburgh's *Semester at Sea* program. On their ocean liner, 700 students, professors and staff will sail around the world visiting twelve major cultures, starting with Cuba! George will teach courses on Eastern Religions and I will attempt teaching medical anthropology-healing practices cross-culturally.

The fluidity of our life at this point of redefinition, however, is not only ocean-related. George's recent retirement and desire to live in Hawaii, and my intense longing for academia and Boston, could land us in unexpected places and projects. George is interested in developing an adult religious education program of Eastern spirituality for UUs if he finds a home. Although I am invited back to BU for a Th.D. degree, I am open for any possibility in writing, research, teaching, and/or ministry, if the suitable job finds me. ●●

English Teacher's Report

The American-English Studies Program in Kolozsvár established an Honors Group at the beginning of the current academic year. I am pleased to report that the five students in this class performed at an exceptional level in their first semester.

The Group's syllabus had the following components:

- Individual class presentations of UUA sermons provided to the students (which led to lively debate)
- Critical writing skills studies
- Individual reading of challenging books, weekly discussions as reading progressed and preparation of critical reviews of the books
- Preliminary planning for a public dramatic presentation in Spring 2003 (involving all theology students)

The five members of this group are: Ferenc Dávid (IV-year), Adél Nagy (III-year), Endre Nagy (III-year), Zoltán Gál (III-year), and Norbert Rác (II-year).

These students demonstrated the ability to reach far beyond ordinary foreign language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. They became confident in the ability to think critically in a foreign language and to express their thoughts and ideas brilliantly.

With limited help

from me, these five young men and women recruited an excellent drama coach, Dana Pickell, one of our local Peace Corps volunteers. Dana is helping them plan and present their dramatic production. The tentative program includes scenes from "The Scarlet Letter," "The Crucible" and "Our Town;" poetry readings (Poe and Eliot); excerpts from "I Have A Dream" (Martin Luther King, Jr.) and "Solitude of Self" (Elizabeth Cady Stanton). And several musical selections....

These five students have done outstanding individual and team work. I am honored to be associated with them. Besides, they continue teaching me many of the things I came to Transylvania to learn. So do the other 25 theology students, for that matter.

Thank you for your wonderful support, and I look forward to contact with you during the coming year. ●●

COLLEEN SANDERS
colleensanders@att.net



The Honors Group: Endre Nagy, Adél Nagy, Ferenc, Dávid, Zoltán Gál and Norbert Rác.

A Week at the Unitarian High School in Kolozsvár

BY BOB TRIPP, UU CONGREGATION OF FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

For nine nights and eight days I recently had the incredible experience of living in the dormitory of the Unitarian College (high school) in Kolozsvár, Transylvania. I have taught and worked with high school youth for over 40 years, and love to work with that age group, but rarely have I had an experience like this.

To say that these kids are wonderful is an understatement. They are highly intelligent (they must pass a stiff entrance exam), they are astonishingly knowledgeable about the world, they are vibrant and alive, they are inquisitive—asking good questions, curious not just about the USA but the world, they are very warm and caring, they care about each other, they study very hard but they also enjoy life very much, and are fun to be with. They are the vital future leaders of the Transylvania Hungarian world.

During my stay in the dorm I went to quite a few classes, attended a dorm meeting, watched the choir rehearse, and had many individual and small group discussions. I ate with the kids in the too-small, jury-rigged, cold basement room that serves as a dining

room/kitchen/gathering place. (*This is why one aim of the continuing fundraising for the dormitory is for building a real cafeteria and kitchen.*) The kids do their own cooking, buy their own food, and clean the eating area. Though there is a cleaning woman who cleans the halls once a day and does some other tasks, the kids themselves must—and do!—clean their rooms, the bathrooms, and generally keep the place amazingly neat and tidy. Like most kids, they are not crazy about doing this—but they do it because they know they must. It is just expected.

The kids who live in the dorm come from all over Transylvania. While most of the youth are Unitarian, there are Reformed (Calvinist), Lutheran, and Catholic students. Last year there was a Jewish student, who has graduated.

The school day is long. Classes begin for most students at 7 a.m. All continue in classes until 3 p.m. when they can eat lunch (they have a break at 11 a.m.). For the dorm kids, there is the daily Silencium: from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. they must stay in various rooms in the school and be silent and study. Of



Studious quiet during Silencium.

course, they do not necessarily study, but most do most of the time, and when they are not studying they must be quiet and read or write or think or rest.

There are some 160 students in the high school, 70 of whom live in the dormitory, roughly evenly divided between guys and gals. Virtually all of the students receive financial aid. The spiritual leader and one of the teachers in the school is Rev. Zsolt Solymosi. He is also the main dorm counselor for the boys. There are two other dorm counselors: Sámú Ferenci and Balla Gyöngye, who is the girls' counselor. All three of these adults live in the dorm.

I went to Kolozsvár in December for three reasons: to meet with the

(Continued on page 9)

UUPCC TASK FORCE RE Materials

BY GRETCHEN THOMAS

The Partner Church Council's Religious Education task force has for some time been collecting materials for RE and there are some materials posted on our website <http://www.uua.org/uupcc/reindex.html>

In the past year we have:

- 1) edited, rewritten, and posted all the curriculum pieces we have collected onto the PCC RE website.
- 2) received funding (just now) from the Unitarian Sunday School Society for the "Who Are Our U/U Partners?" (see below) curricula and
- 3) continued to provide support and encouragement for Csaba Mezei's

work on Transylvanian Unitarian children's RE curricula that is adapted from U.S. curricula.

During this next year we hope to finish #2 above, as well as find funds (which Richard Beal has volunteered to do) for a Transylvanian/North American partnership curriculum including adult session(s) that any congregation offering UU History can plug in.

I am continuing to be the RE Task Force chair; members are Ann Willever and Ruth Gibson. We have a list of friends who will help us on specific projects when asked.

The Partner Church Council has recently received a grant from the USSS to develop seven Sunday morn-

ing sessions for ages 6-12. These lessons will include the following:

1. Who are the Transylvanian and Hungarian Unitarians?
2. Who are the Czech Republic Unitarians?
3. Who are the Khasi Hills Unitarians?
4. Who are the Philippines Unitarians and Universalists?
5. Who are the British Unitarians?
6. Who are the North American Unitarian Universalists?
7. A General Session on Partnership

Betsy Williams will be developing these sessions with the help of people with experience in the countries listed.

For additional information see the website or contact me at gthomas@attglobal.net. ●●

PROGRAM UPDATE

Bell Ringers

Our second appeal for support of the English Teacher Program at the Seminary in Kolozsvár has been fairly successful. As of early January, 2003, more than \$3,000 has been received. If you mislaid your response form, or want to sign up and support this program, just use the form below and write on it that your contribution is for the English Teacher Program appeal.

Our next appeal will be going out in late January. The PCC Executive Committee decided that it should be in support of the Prague Unitarian Church and the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines, both of which suffered from natural disasters in 2002. Along with the appeal information, the packet will include a short article by Rev. Fred Muir on the beginnings of the Church in the Philippines and how it came to be associated with the UUA. Also included will be an accounting of how the Prague Unitarian Church at 8 Karlova Street became the home for Norbert Čapek's congregation. We hope that these "spiritual dividends" will enhance your awareness of the universal appeal of our basic UU religious values and the importance of our work as Partners.

If you are not a Bell Ringer, we invite you to enroll now. We have two or three \$20 appeals each year for Partner Church-related needs that do not fit into the congregation-to-congregation mode of assistance. Please copy or cut out the form below.

DEFOREST RALPH

2002 Synod of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church

BY PROF. GEORGE M. WILLIAMS, CO-DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR FREE RELIGION

Even though the 2002 Synod was held in Kövend, a tiny village near Kolozsvár, delegates from all over Transylvania packed into the unheated church for one of the most memorable Synods in the church's history. There were three historic features: the tri-annual election of the church's highest officers and their public reading of statements on their contacts with secret police during the totalitarian era; the passage of a new church constitution with some far-reaching changes; and the ordination of seventeen Unitarian ministers.

A new constitution, initiated by the Transylvanian Ministers Association, bears the hallmark of a new reform coalition of the church's most promising young ministers and elder statesmen, and is called "Rög alatt" (Under the Clod)—a reference to Ferenc Balázs' similar, church-renewing program. The discussions had been heated before the Synod, but it passed handily with the vote of all the church delegates.

One indication of a blossoming of democracy was a full slate of reform candidates who won many important church offices, including a slight majority in the Consistory, equivalent to a board of directors for the whole church.

The reform agenda that was articulated both at the Synod and earlier in the abbreviated campaign period had been undertaken without rancor or personal attacks. The first public accounting of contacts with the Romanian secret police by all elected officers added a dramatic tone to the event—some said 12 years too late, others said it was symbolically important no matter how late it was.

Bishop Árpád Szabó was re-elected for a second and final six-year term. Never in the history of the Transylvanian church, however, had an alternative candidate to an incumbent bishop received so many votes as did Rev. Ferenc Bálint-Benczédi, minister of Kolozsvár's First Church. Vice Bishop Elek Rezi was also re-elected, in competition with István Kovács, president of the Ministers Association. Two new lay presidents were chosen: Dr. Dénes Máthé, professor at the Babes University at Kolozsvár, and Gábor Kolumbán, a progressive politician from Székely-udvarhely.

From the adoption of the new constitution came a broadening of democratic offices and processes. One office, that of a church ombudsman, who oversees the integrity of legislative and executive processes, was added to a new Presidency (consisting of the Bishop, Vice-Bishop and the two Lay Presidents). In a demonstration of genuine popularity, Rev. László Szabó, president of the Francis David Youth Association won this office.

One of the highlights of the Synod was its tri-annual ordination, this time of seventeen new clergy, including more women ministers than ever before in the more than 430-year-history of the church. Dr. Judit Gellérd was among the seven women ordained, acknowledging her many contributions to the recovery of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church through the activities of the Partner Church Program. ●●

YES, I want Religious Tolerance and Freedom of Belief to Ring Out across the World. I will help Ring the Bells!

I AGREE TO RESPOND TO TWO OR THREE REQUESTS PER YEAR WITH A CONTRIBUTION OF AT LEAST \$20 FOR EACH REQUEST.

NAME _____ DATE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE: DAY _____ EVENING _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

CONGREGATION _____

UUA DISTRICT _____

Please complete and mail this form to:
UUPCC Bell Ringers
c/o Pat Rodgers
3182 Isadora Drive
San Jose, CA 95132

To contact Pat Rodgers:
Phone: 408-926-3799
E-mail: patrodgers@sbcglobal.net

Taking Time to Discuss *Why*

BY SHERMAN EAGLES

David Keyes writes in *Most Like an Arch* that there are two parts to partnership: the organizational, how we do partnership; and the spiritual, how we are with each other. At Unity Church-Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota, we found that our partner church team meetings were filled with the organizational. We always seemed to have a long agenda of what we could do and how we could do it. We would talk in small groups after church services about the impact of visiting our partner church, about how we admired the courage of the couple from the village that had come to visit us in St. Paul—never having been to a large city and knowing no English, or about our sorrow over the accidental death of a young woman in the village this past summer. But as a larger group, we had no time to talk about why we cared about what happened in a small village thousands of miles away, to people who didn't speak our language and whose lives seem to have little in common with ours.

So at our first partner church meeting this fall, a few of us said we were going to make time to talk about these things. We decided to meet for a meal and discussion on a Friday evening and said "anyone who wants to is welcome to join us." It soon became apparent

that almost everyone wanted this opportunity—25 people said they were coming—and we knew we needed some way to structure our discussion or we would just ramble about without achieving the depth of discussion that we wanted.

We decided to try an approach we had learned of from another partner, a church in the Netherlands (de Woudkapel in Bilthoven) that is also partnered with Homoródszentpeter. They had sent us information about topics and a format they had used for achieving meaningful discussion in large groups at their church. It is a simple concept; the discussion happens in a small group with the rest of the large group listening. Some in our team knew this approach as a "fishbowl." Since our partner church team had never tried this before, we knew we needed to do a little preparation prior to our gathering.

To allow everyone the chance to speak, we had four groups of 5-7 each discuss a different question. We used email to get about a dozen suggested questions and to individually rank our interest in them. Then we assigned people to groups to discuss the four questions that had received the highest rankings. Those who didn't rank the questions by email were asked to choose from one of the four topics

when they arrived for dinner. No one was forced to participate in a small group, and there was some last minute switching between topics—the organization after all was only intended to provide enough structure to allow meaningful discussion.

After a potluck dinner of soup, salad, and bread; we crowded into a large circle in the living room with six chairs in the middle. Over the next two and one-half hours, we discussed the four questions. Each question was discussed by a different small group while the rest of us listened. As their turn came, the small group moved to sit in the middle of the circle. The questions we discussed were:

- *What do partnership and mutuality mean to you and can there be a true partnership without mutuality?*
- *How important to you are principles of freedom of conscience and religious tolerance, and how important are they to the partner church relationship?*
- *Where do you find the sacred in the partner church relationship?*
- *Can the partner church relationship lead you to make changes in your lifestyle?*

After about 15-20 minutes of discussion on a question, the small group stopped talking and each person in the large group was allowed to make a comment. No discussion was allowed in the large group—there just wasn't enough time.

The process worked. We listened. When we spoke we were heard. For the first time as a large group we struggled to express our understanding of what we find important about our partner church involvement. We began to talk about how we are and how we want to be with each other and with our partners. Of course it wasn't enough. There wasn't enough time. There is too much to say, too many questions, too many thoughts to explore. It was a beginning, and it increased the appetite. We will have more gatherings to continue these conversations. In time, we hope to find a way to include our partners in this type of discussion, and to reach toward another level of relationship. ●●



Reproduction of Aladar Korosfői-Krieschs famous painting of Francis David and the 1568 Proclamation of Religious Freedom at Torda.

To purchase, see box on page 2.

From the Executive Director

BY CATHY CORDES

Partnership can be exciting and invigorating for any congregation. Being involved in international programs with Unitarian and Universalists in other countries truly adds a new dimension to congregational life. Much excitement is stirred up by visits, but these are always not as frequent as we all would like and are not easy to arrange. To make it easier for just a few people from a congregation to travel to Transylvania, UUPCC is announcing two new large group trips to Transylvania for individuals. See descriptions elsewhere in this newsletter or check the web page for details. If these are successful, we hope to offer additional ones in the future.

We are again offering the highly successful Youth Trip to visit partners in Transylvania. If you talk to any of the students who have traveled on these in the past, you will understand how truly life changing they are. If you know of teens who might be interested, please pass the information along.

We are also working in cooperation with the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists to offer a study tour to the Philippines in spring 2004. Write me at uupcc@uua.org if you are interested so that I can keep you informed.

Travel is not the only way to keep energy around a partnership however. Mutually established programs and projects keep people involved. While sometimes these are elaborate and complex, some can also be elegantly simple and effective.

I recently read an article that helped me think about the many varieties of projects in which our various partnerships are involved. The article classified international programs by non-government organizations into several categories: cultural, educational, health, fair trade, human rights, sustainable development, labor, micro-finance, women's issues and peace initiatives. I realized that our partnerships are exploring projects in almost all of these

areas. Here are a few descriptions of some of these program ideas. Perhaps your church will want to explore deepening your partnership in a new area.

Women: I am quite excited about a new partnership that was just formed this fall between the UU Women's Federation and the Women's Alliance of Transylvania. Barbara Gardner [activistuu@aol.com](mailto:tuu@aol.com) is currently setting up a pen pal program and I know there will be much more to come of this initiative. They are a membership organization as well and the annual dues are \$35, \$15 for students and seniors. Contact them at UUWF Office, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108.

Cultural exchange: The partnerships with churches in the Khasi Hills of India are centered on exchanges between religious education classes. The children write each other about aspects of their family, school and church life, thus learning about life in another culture.

Education: There are many variations of scholarship programs between churches in the US and churches in Transylvania. Concord, MA, Atlanta, GA, and Mt. Vernon, VA all have family-to-student scholarship programs. These programs identify indi-

vidual students who are then sponsored by a U.S. family for the four years of high school. Bedford, MA supports any child from the village who is going to school. Several churches partnered with churches in the Aranyos Valley in Transylvania have pooled their funds to sponsor students from their region.

Fair Trade programs: Many of our churches bring back handcraft items to sell in our churches. The proceeds of these sales provide fair trade income to the artist with additional income going to support the partner. Health—The UU Church of Fairfax, VA joined together with their partner, the Unitarian church in Szentgerice, Transylvania—and the Reform church in the Netherlands partnered with the Reform Church in Szentgerice to build a health clinic in the community. This program was an exciting cooperative project with another religious group.

Environmental, Human Rights and Labor issues: These are areas where I believe that Unitarian Universalists can do much good. I am not aware of any international programs associated with individual partner churches at the moment. I think this is partly because it requires organizing on a larger scale than one partnership. The



Boglárka Barabás, Kristi Montooth, and Erik Cordes in the Homoród Valley, overlooking the village of Abásfalva.

Executive Committee is in the initial stages of thinking about this as it affects human rights issues. We welcome your ideas and input and will share any plans that develop with you.

MicroFinance: St. Louis, MO established a micro-lending program some years ago in their partner village in Transylvania. Other churches have explored this idea and we would welcome information from any of you who have developed a program.

Peace: Several years ago the Greater Washington area churches joined together to do some work on conflict resolution and peace negotiations. Joining with other groups working in Romania to support local training opportunities has been explored as well.

Sustainable Development: Project Harvest Hope has led the way in partnership in Transylvania with the bakery, mill and dairy projects in the Homoród Valley. These efforts grew out of the partnership between the UU church in Oakland, CA in partnership with Oklánd, Transylvania. For more information on the what and how of PHH projects, see their website at www.projectharvesthope.org.

More recently, the partners of churches in the Aranyos Valley in Transylvania have joined together and are planning several projects to support development in the valley.

Maybe your church has a great program going in one of these areas that we don't know about. Please share your stories by posting on the UUPCC listserv. If you are not currently enrolled on the listserv and are a member in good standing, send your request to Pat Rodgers. You can also send articles for newsletter consideration to Nancy Daugherty (find e-mail addresses on back page).

There is no one right way to be in partnership. The focus and programs of each partnership should arise from mutual assessment of needs and resources, and can range from very simple to very complex. We all benefit from hearing about others ideas, successes and failures. ●●

A Week at High School in Kolozsvár (Continued from page 3)

youth who put out the school paper, *Cipó*, to make further arrangements for a publication schedule of the English version so I may continue to offer it via the UUPCC-CHAT and other partner church list serves; to meet with the choir director, the principal, Bishop Szabó, Dávid Gyerő, and Zsolt to confirm arrangements for the proposed choir trip to the USA in June 2003; and to experience the life of the dorm for a week. Out of this experience comes another project to try to raise money: to create a photo-essay booklet with much more information about the Unitarian College to

be sold as an additional way of raising money for the high school. More about this project when it is (hopefully) ready within the next couple of months. ●●



A dorm meeting.

News from Project Harvest Hope

Dairy Nears Completion

The first phase of Project Harvest Hope's dairy project is nearly complete. Located in Karácsonyfalva (partnered with Northampton, MA), the model dairy farm is a cooperative effort that will provide livestock, equipment use, veterinary services and income to twelve neighboring villages. Once mature, the offspring of the initial herd will be distributed to waiting villagers, with special priority given to widows and single women. In a region where milk sales are a vital form of income, the benefits to local people are substantial.

Thanks to many of you in the partner church community, over \$122,400 has been sent to Karácsonyfalva—all since June 2000! PHH is grateful for your ongoing commitment to this vision. Together, we can plant the seeds of the future!

Harvest Hope's Expanding Interfaith Vision

The work of Project Harvest Hope in Harghita County has drawn interest

from new quarters. The Romanian government, impressed by the cooperative efforts of Harvest Hope pro Homoród, has awarded the foundation two grants for the dairy farm project, making them one of the first Hungarian minority programs to receive such funding. With this encouragement, PHH is now working to diversify and expand its program and donor base. The board of Project Harvest Hope has decided to offer help to other partnerships interested in village-scale economic development.

PHH feels it is time to put our faith to work beyond the confines of Unitarianism, and has applied for major funding to create an interfaith network of village-scale development efforts across Transylvania. România cries out for ways to meet in partnership across the boundaries of ethnicity and religion. After far too many years of building walls, the time has come for building bridges. If you would like to learn more about PHH's vision, please visit our website at www.projectharvesthope.org. ●●

BY CECILIA KINGMAN MILLER
VICE PRESIDENT, PROJECT HARVEST HOPE

North American District Networkers

BC (Ballou Channing)—9 partners

- Peg Carpenter, 58 Meadowbrook Road, Norwell MA 02061 (781-826-8553) margcarp58@attbi.com
- Eric Cherry, 13 Main Street, North Easton MA 02356 (508-238-6373) echerry@mail.com

CB (Clara Barton)—7 partners

- Jeanne Kocsis, P.O. Box 128, Whately MA 01093 (413-665-7057) cjkocsis@aol.com

CMW (Central Midwest)—14 partners

- Clint Blandford, 12602 Bradford Woods Dr., St. Louis MO 63127 (314-821-2781) cpbland@aol.com

FL (Florida)—4 partners

- Abhi Janamanchi, UU Church, 2470 Nursery Road, Clearwater FL 33764 (727-531-7704) abhij@tampabay.rr.com
- Steve Urse, 1118 Waverly Road, Tallahassee FL 32312 (850-385-2864) surse2@earthlink.net

HRT (Heartland)—9 partners

- *currently vacant*

JP (Joseph Priestley)—10 partners

- Kathy Birnbaum, 12234 Westwood Hills Drive, Herndon, VA 20171 (703-620-6079) birnbaum@erols.com
- Liz Campbell, 429 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria VA 22314 (703-683-4579) campfair@comcast.net

MB (Massachusetts Bay)—19 partners

- Linda Lu Schulz, 145 St. Botolph St. #15, Boston MA 02115 W:781-246-1414, H:617-266-3438 linda.schulz@dmh.state.ma.us FAX: 781-246-1315
- Ellen Cerasuolo, 28 Chester Road, Belmont MA 02478 (617-484-6804) eccerasuolo@earthlink.net

MD (Mountain Desert)—3 partners

- Rev. Ruth Gibson, 2512 S. University Blvd., Denver CO 80210 (608-231-1161) regibson@uuma.org
- Sonya Sukalski, 5 Loma Vista, Los Alamos NM 87544 (505-661-4282) sonya@cybermesa.com

MNY (Metro New York)—11 partners

- (North) Lois Ann Sepez, 8 Rocklyn Court, Huntington NY 11743 (516-271-9418) lasepez@optonline.net
- (South) Ethel Mae Theriault, 97 Stony Brook Road, Hopewell NJ 08525 (609-466-1259) emtheria@aol.com

MS (Mid-South)—4 partners

- John Dale, 1131 Austin Avenue, Atlanta GA 30301 (404-588-1496) jdale28788@aol.com
- Wilmajean Nipper, 12885 Ellison Road, Hampton GA 30228 (770-946-3046) nipperwj@mindspring.com

NE (Northeast)—4 partners

- Jodi Cohen, 169 Pleasant Street, Auburn ME 04210 (207-783-0461) jlc@megalink.net

NHV (New Hampshire-Vermont)—4 partners

- Rev. Robert Bowler, P.O. Box 849, Walpole NH 03608 (603-756-3961) uubeau@adelphia.net

OM (Ohio Meadville)—10 partners

- Rev. Daniel Budd, 21600 Shaker Blvd., Shaker Heights OH 44122 (216-751-2320 x24) revdbudd@aol.com

PC (Pacific Central)—15 partners

- (North/East) Anne Greenwood (Berkeley), 21 Villa Dr., San Pablo CA 94806 (510-215-6620) annegt1@aol.com
- (South/West) Bill Kennedy, 263 Alameda de las Pulgas, Redwood City CA 94062 (650-361-8146) flea-st@ix.netcom.com
- (Philippines) Judy Belcher, 248 Mather Street, Oakland CA 94611 (510-655-8658) judanbel@aol.com

PNW (Pacific Northwest)—19 partners

- Leon Hopper, 12902 SE 48th Place, Bellevue WA 98006 (425-643-8923) clhopperjr@aol.com
- Julie Jose, 2632 W. Everett, Spokane WA 99205 (509-325-8889) jjj@oo.net
- Susan Maclaren, RR#1 Q-15, Bowen Island BC V0N 1G0 Canada (604-947-9191) designit@axion.net

PS (Prairie Star)—11 partners

- Janne Eller-Isaacs, 732 Holly Avenue, St. Paul MN 55104 (651-228-1456) janne@unityunitarian.org
- Sherman Eagles, 980 Hampden Avenue, St. Paul MN 55113 (651-646-6667) sherman.eagles@medtronic.com

PSW (Pacific Southwest)—5 partners

- *currently vacant*

STL (St. Lawrence)—9 partners

- Sue McLeod, 80 Front Street #622, Toronto ON M5E 1T4 Canada (416-368-4014) suprsu@istar.ca FAX: 416-368-7107

SW (Southwest)—7 partners

- deForest Ralph, 4307 Nenana Drive, Houston TX 77035 (713-721-3818) texasralphs@aol.com FAX: 713-721-3818

TJ (Thomas Jefferson)—11 partners

- Ben Horvay, 11 Linkside Court, Isle of Palms, SC 29451 (843-886-4961) benjaminhorvay@cs.com FAX: 843-886-5175

WCA (Western Canada)—1 partner

- Sue McLeod (*see STL*)

North American District Networkers as of December 23, 2002

District representatives needed for:

HTL (Heartland)—9 partners MB (Mass Bay)—20 partners (part)

MNY (Metro New York)—11 partners (north)

PSW (Pacific Southwest)—5 partners SW (Southwest)—7 partners (north)

Partner Interactions

Ever wondered how other partnerships manage to communicate across the many miles, and cultural differences? Or how often most partnerships manage to visit with their partners face to face? Thanks to our very hard working networkers in each district, and the 103 congregations who responded to our fall survey, a picture emerges.

Obviously the easiest way to communicate is to visit your partner church, or to bring someone from the congregation over here, and 46 partnerships say they have done or plan to do one or both in the near future. Although some reports are inexact in expressing how many people have gone over, or come here, at least 160 people have visited recently, and 17 of those were Transylvanian ministers and their families who came to the US or Canada. The largest number of visitors are on choir trips—

Transylvanian District Representatives

Háromszék district

- Rev. Alpar Kiss / Parohia Unitariana Baraolt / Str. Libertatii Nr. 24 / 4023 Baraolt / Jud. Covasna / România
alpar@honoris.ro

Kolozs-Torda district

- Rev. János Kriza / Str. 21 Decembrie Nr. 9 / Jud. Cluj / 3400 Cluj / România
krizajan@freemail.hu

Küküllő district

- Rev. Jakab Benedek / Parohia Unitariana Sighisoara / 3050 Sighisoara / Jud. Mures / România
benjak@elsig.ro

Maros district

- Rev. Szilárd Sándor / Parohia Unitariana Troita / 4334 Troita / o.p. M. Nirajului / Jud. Mures / România
szilard1@hotmail.com

Székelykeresztúr district

- Rev. Lajos Dancs / Parohia Unitariana Inlaceni / 4188 Inlaceni / Jud. Harghita / România
email c/o József Szombatfalvi, Jr. at szombatfalvi@yahoo.com

Székelyudvarhely district

- Rev. Sandor Simo / Parohia Unitariana Ionesti / 3044 Ionesti / o.p. Cata / Jud. Brasov / România
msimo@sigmasoft.ro

Transylvanian District Representatives as of September 9, 2002

Unitarian Church in Hungary Representative

- Rev. Sándor Léta / Béla Bartok Unitarius Egyhazy / H-1092 Budapest / Hogyes Endre U.3 Fsz. 7 / Hungary
36-1-217-6171
sandorunit@yahoo.com

Unitarian Church in Hungary Representative as of March 16, 2002

one from Concord, MA and a youth choir from Tulsa, OK, both of about 45 people! Five partnerships report sending someone to teach English.

Ten partnerships mention that youth/young adults were a part of their visit, or the focus of visiting. Atlanta's youth had a joint project with youth in Székelyudvarhely. No doubt the remarks from Alexandria's Mount Vernon Unitarian Church apply to many of the partnerships that have spent time together on the same continent, *"It was a wonderful visit. Our committee has expanded with renewed enthusiasm."*

There are many reasons people correspond in partnership—keeping in contact with their hosts, pen pals, to wish each other happy Easter or Christmas, to correspond with scholarship recipients and donors, and even to play a long distance chess game! Forty-three partnerships reported some kind of correspondence or lack of it. Fourteen mention using e-mail, 17 use letters, and two use phone calls among other media. Twenty-one partnerships report frequent or regular contact, and 14 report infrequent correspondence. Surprisingly, e-mail is no guarantee of frequent contact. Five partnerships with e-mail say that contact is infrequent, and eight partnerships that use letters say they have frequent contact. Six partnerships that correspond by letter could be characterized as infrequent communicators. E-mail availability doesn't seem to guarantee good correspondents.

Probably the most significant statistic it is possible to pull out of the survey results is that 14 of the partnerships with regular communication also had individuals or significant-sized groups visit in the last year or two. As I have said to many

partners wanting to improve connections across the miles, "the most significant thing you can do to deepen your partnership is to meet each other face to face."

SONYA SUKALSKI

PCC NETWORKER COORDINATOR

We Want YOU!

Are you curious about what neighboring partnerships are doing, and how they meet the communication challenges of partnership? Do you need a new approach to partnership activities, but your committee (if you are lucky enough to have one) has no new ideas? One way to brainstorm new ideas, and learn new approaches is to contact your networker—almost every district has at least one. There are a few districts that need one, or don't have enough people to keep in contact with every partnership. Volunteer networkers are a vital support to the hundreds of partnerships between UU churches in North America, and those in Europe, India, the Philippines, and other areas of the world.

WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING two more networkers in the Massachusetts Bay district, and one each in Central Midwest District, the Heartland District, the Metro New York district, the Pacific Southwest District, and the Southwest district. Networkers keep in contact with up to nine

partnerships around their district, offer ideas and help with projects, can often give a large-group presentation about partnership, and most importantly they bring their challenges and concerns to the annual networker's meeting (*this year's will be March 27-30th in Newton, MA*).

These are people with experience of partnership in their congregation who generously want to help other congregations enjoy the benefits of partnership. They often have a booth at district annual meetings, sometimes give workshops at the same meetings, or put together district meetings focused solely on partnership, and they contact each North American partner annually in the Fall. One of the largest benefits of being a networker is the Unitarian Universalists you meet doing this work, so if you are involved in partnership in one of the above districts, please consider joining us! Contact Sonya Sukalski, PCC Networker Coordinator, at 505-661-4282, or sonya@cybermesa.com for more information.

Reflections on Partnership

BY PAT BOWER, LYNCHBURG, VA

For almost a decade, I have enjoyed reading the trip reports in the PC newsletter, so it is a privilege now to be contributing my own reflections! Two couples from Lynchburg visited our partner church village, Csegez, in October. We traveled from Budapest with the Malloys from California, as Mike is the treasurer of the newly-formed Aranyos Valley Development Co. (AVDC) and our visit overlapped partly with their more comprehensive fact-finding study of economic development models in the area. Csegez is one of the nine villages included in the AVDC, although it is located in the mountains above the valley. Zsuzsa Bartha serves Csegez part-time, in addition to her duties in Meszkö, and she planned a wonderful trip for us.

These are some of my favorite memories from Transylvania:

- families working in the fields that we passed—digging carrots, cutting corn stalks, plowing, planting winter wheat, spreading manure;
- the warm hospitality of our hosts—symbolized for me by the tray in our room with two stemmed glasses, a pitcher of water covered with an embroidered cloth, and a bowl of wonderfully flavorful apples;
- the pure delight of the Sunday School children (and the American grownups!) in Meszkö playing the duck-duck-goose game that we taught them;
- helping our host in Meszkö find the right English word to communicate with us (he does amazingly well, having learned English only from American movies on TV which are subtitled in Hungarian);
- my being unable to get a drop of milk from our host's cow (it looks so easy!);
- the chatter (in Hungarian) of our hostess in Csegez, as she bustled about the house making sure John and I were well fed and comfortable for the night;

- the picture album our hostess brought out when we showed our picture with our daughters (hers have also moved away to larger cities and she seems lonely, a widow for 15 years, in a big house);
- the murmurs and stirrings of the animals in the barnyard in Csegez when we went to the outhouse in the night—and the gorgeous view from same as the sun rose over the mountains the next morning;
- the unspoiled beauty and charm of Csegez and its environs. I now understand why Zsuzsa believes that our partner church village is ideally suited for a bed and breakfast, an herb farm, a horse farm that would offer trail rides and wagon trips, hiking—ecologically sound tourism that would provide jobs and draw young people back to the area;
- the vigor of the 76-year old lay leader of the Csegez church and the history he shared with us on a wonderful all-day hike through the pastures, forests, fields, and up the mountain Székeleyko, culminating in a 360 degree view;
- the warm hugs and occasional tears when it was time to leave.

Charleston UUs Visit Küküllödombó

In September 2002, four UUs from Charleston, South Carolina, were met in Budapest by Rev. Dénes Farkas and his van. In Kolozsvár we were guided by Rev. János Kriza, and attended a musical evening service as the guests of Rev. Ferenc B. Bálint. By chance we also met Colleen Sanders, the English teacher at the Theological Institute.



Charleston UU Paul Nelson with the students supported by members of that American congregation.

On our way to Küküllödombó, our Partner Church village, we stopped in Meszkö, the “Alabaster Village” of Christine Morgan. All of us had read her book and we admired the church that Ferenc Balázs built. It was great to renew our friendship with Rev. Zsuzsa Bartha, and to enjoy her hospitality.

We were so fortunate to be in Küküllödombó on their Thanksgiving Sunday. The communion service was a moving and spiritually uplifting experience. The choirs sang beautifully, and what a surprise it was when suddenly the words were in English rather than in Hungarian.

The highlight of our trip was to meet with the young people who are supported in high school and in college by individual members of our Charleston congregation. It was such a joy to hear them ask good questions in surprisingly good English.

In Segesvár we visited with Rev. Jakab Benedek, who, as representative of the Küküllö district, has been most helpful in our communication with our partner church village that lacks email access.

Our visit to Transylvania ended up in Brassó with Rev. Sándor Máthé and his wife Szendike, the most gracious of hosts.

It was a memorable trip that would not have been possible without the

arrangements by Linda Gabriel, the PCC Travel Coordinator, Rev. Ferenc B. Bálint of Kolozsvár, and most of all our drivers, Dénes Farkas and George Andrási.

BEN HORVAY, THE UNITARIAN CHURCH IN CHARLESTON, SC, NETWORKER, TJ DISTRICT

Report from East Shore

• East Shore will honor the contribution to Unitarianism and partner relationships by our minister emeritus, Dr. C. Leon Hopper, Jr., with a contribution of over \$11,000 toward the Unitarian Center for Students and Pilgrims. Over 140 individuals and groups from across the U.S. contributed to this fund. We love you, Leon!

• East Shore's Partner Church Committee will host its annual Pacific Northwest District Partner Church Workshop on February 1, 2003.

• We celebrate our partnership relationship with a Partner Church Week-end each year, which includes the PNWD PC Workshop, a Saturday evening fundraiser that supports our work, a special Sunday sermon, and a special collection at Sunday's services also dedicated to partner church work.

• Our congregation participated in creating personalized Christmas greetings which included individualized photos. Over 130 were sent in early November. At the same time, 16 boxes of books, supplies, and Christmas presents were shipped via Helping Hands Romanian Relief.



Székelyderzs Unitarian church.

• We have created a newly updated brochure which informs new members and visitors of our partner church relationship.

• Our committee held its first-ever retreat to review the past two years' accomplishments and affirm the remaining three years of our five-year Strategic Plan.

• Plans for our August, 2003, trip to Transylvania are beginning to gel. This year's cooperative effort will focus on repairing and refreshing Torockószentgyörgy's Unitarian Church building.

BARBARA SHELTON,

EAST SHORE UNITARIAN, BELLEVUE, WA

Fundraiser in Cedar Rapids

Peoples UU Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has had a partner church for many years, and dinner fund raisers have worked well enough in the past to enable our partner church in Komját-szeg to build a very nice, attractive gate and fence around their church. This year the partner church celebration at Peoples UU turned out to be a really unusual event, a special community-building activity for our members. We would like to share information about the event, attended by about 95 people.

The dinner included Magyar goulash, a special recipe requiring Hungarian paprika. The second highlight was the gift of a beautiful vase that was sent from Komját-szeg to our church members. The third was the Hungarian music, *Ja Sam Sirota* (*I am an Orphan Child*) and *Czardas* (dances performed at taverns), played on an accordion. The fourth was a short dramatic portrayal of Francis Dávid, revised by Rev. Gretchen Thomas. This piqued interest in the information left at each table on the history of the Unitarian church in Transylvania, written and sent to us by Rev. György Andrási for the dinner.

The fifth event really

made the dinner a real success—early folk dancing, including the Mazurka, taught to four couples well before the night of the dinner, and performed after the meal. The dancers inspired others to get out on the floor and learn the dances, taught by a retired professional dance instructor, Julia Bennett. She did a marvelous job of pulling in other dinner guests to participate in the activity. Funds from the dinner will be used to continue and further our relationship with our Partner Church, the Komját-szeg Unitarian church near Kolozsvár. Rev. György Andrási, retired counselor to Bishop Szabó, is the minister.

ROY WATKINS, PEOPLES UU CHURCH,
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Travels from Atlanta

Impressions

I have been fortunate enough to visit Transylvania and UU Church of Atlanta's sister church in Székelyudvarhely twice. I was the *only* youth on the 2000 Partner Church tour, but this summer I was one of six. Four of us were from my UUCA Coming of Age class. Both trips I stayed in communist-era apartments with a girl from our sister congregation. I was able to visit with my pen pal as well as spend some time with our scholarship student.

On my trips I have witnessed the origins of some popular idioms. I was barely able to think while riding in a hot, un-airconditioned van. Outside in the blazing heat farmers were harvesting hay with scythes while the sun was shining. In Gyepes, a tiny town in the Homoród valley, the Unitarian minister told us to be outside at 6:30 to watch the cows come home from their daytime pastures. Each cow stops in front of her owner's Székely gate. After witnessing "making hay while the sun shines" and "the cows coming home" I wondered what other idioms I would find. In the small village we saw storks sitting in large rooftop nests and on the top of utility poles. We asked our van driver if Romanian storks delivered babies like in the U.S. He answered,

(Continued on page 14)

“Oh, no, we are so primitive we have our babies the old-fashioned way.”

I feel fortunate to have observed the paradoxes of Eastern Europe first hand. For example, a horse-drawn wagon with the driver talking on a cell phone and a motorcyclist carrying a hand scythe over his shoulder.

The faith and resilience of the ethnic Hungarians in our sister churches was very inspiring.

BY ELIZABETH COGBURN

Confirmation Service

The UUCA Partner Church trip to Romania was exciting, fun, and a great learning experience for us all. One specific experience that stands out in my mind was when we observed the three-hour Confirmation service for the class that was UUCA's Coming of Age equivalent. I was particularly impressed with the kids' knowledge of their catechism (all 136 concepts).

Another interesting part of the service was when the minister of the church, Rev. Kedei, delivered his sermon. Although I couldn't understand the words, the way in which he deliv-

ered it was very impressive and powerful to me. In many ways Rev. Kedei reminded me of my own minister, Dr. Frost. All of these events along with the friendships I made created an unforgettable Partner Church experience for me.

BY BEN STEVENSON

Easter in Transylvania

My husband and I spent Easter in Kolzs with our partner church and its minister, Rev. Dénes Farkas. I wore my down coat—there was no heat. We took communion from a 14th century chalice. At breakfast, we had a traditional toast. On Easter Monday, an older gentleman sprinkled me with water and read me a poem. Dénes asked some gypsies to come and play music for us.

It is an Easter I won't forget.

BY DIANE KNIGHTS

SUBMITTED BY WILMAJEAN NIPPER,
NETWORKER, MIDSOUTH DISTRICT

Churches Needing Partners

(Continued from page 3)

which would be reasonably near their partner in Transylvania.

Kisilyle/Ilioara—There are about 38 Unitarians in this small village—30 adults and 8 children. Rev. Attila Molnar serves both this village and Ikland/Iceland, partnered with Melrose, MA.

Bucharest—The Fellowship is small in attendance though there are many more Unitarians in the city. It does not have any property—they have been using the Lutheran church for services since 1933, when the first Unitarian gathering was held in Bucharest. The city is outside the traditional Transylvania region, but they would very much like to have a partner church.

Küküllőszéplak/Suplac—There are only 20 adult Unitarians and two children in this small village. They have a 300-year-old church. The interim minister is Kovacs Sandor, who speaks English very well. This small village is near Dicsöszentmárton.

Székelymuszna/Mujna—This small village is served by Denes Katona, who is also the minister in Székelyderzs (partnered with Cherry Hill, NJ).

Please help us find partners for these churches. If you know of a church that would like to consider partnership, share the list and ask them to contact our office. We will provide information and support to help them get started.

IN HUNGARY

Budapest III—Budapest Third Congregation is in Pestszentlorinc, a southern suburb of the capitol. In 1936 the congregation built their Transylvanian-style building in the middle of an apartment housing development. Their new minister is Adrenne Szasz, a young, second-generation minister who finished her theological studies a year ago with distinction. There are about 100 quite active members, many of them senior citizens. Adrenne speaks English and German well and has e-mail access.

Pecs—Pecs is a beautiful and historic city in southern Hungary near the border with Croatia and Serbia. It contains Hungary's oldest and most famous university. The

THE ALABASTER VILLAGE

Many of us have delighted in reading Christine Morgan's book, *The Alabaster Village*, which is her fascinating account of the years (from 1930 to 1937) when she lived in Meszkö with her remarkable Transylvanian Unitarian minister husband, Ferenc Balázs. Her book has now been translated into Hungarian and published to commemorate the fifty-fifth anniversary of Ferenc Balázs' death.

The book is available for \$12 (which includes postage and a money exchange fee) from the translator, József Kászoni, minister of Budapest's First Unitarian Congregation. It would make a wonderful present for your partner church minister and friends, any who have helped you make written translations, and Hungarian-speaking members of your congregation.

If you would like to buy a copy(s) for your Hungarian-speaking friends, simply send a check for 12 US\$ or 12 CAD made out to "Kászoni József" and mark the memo line "Meszkö/ Alabástromfalú." Be sure to include a sheet of paper on which you write the recipient's name and full postal address including country. Make clear if the book is to be sent to you, or if you want it to be sent to someone else.

Also included will be a lovely bookmark that contains photos and the words of "Let It Be A Dance" by Ric Masten in Hungarian and English. Please expect at least three weeks to receive the book.

Unitarians in Pecs were originally a new fellowship formed to serve the Transylvanian Unitarians who immigrated to Pecs from Romania after 1989. The congregation meets in rented space and is full of interesting and energetic people, including families concerned about religious education for their young children and teenagers.

Kecskemet—Kecskemet is a major city in Hungary and the center of the East-Danubian fellowship. They have a retired minister, who lives in Budapest and twice a month goes to Kecskemet to keep the services. The lay members are organizing themselves. They established a local Partner Church Committee with three members. Besides the minister, there is the president and two English-speaking members with email access. For more information on them see www.unitarius.hu/dunatisza/english.htm

Bereg—Bereg is a small town and has no local Unitarian minister—a minister from a neighboring town serves them once a month. They are a strong congregation with active lay leadership. Most of the members are Roma (Gypsies) and they want to keep their faith. They have a local Partner Church Committee, and are looking forward to learning from a partner church how to organize themselves. For further information see ww.unitarius.hu/bereg/english.htm.



Sarah Grenzeback Winchester MA UU, with the antique chalice of Francis David, at the church in Kolozsvár.

Communicating With Your Partner

BY CATHY CORDES

E-mail has certainly changed the way we keep in touch with partners no matter where they are—Transylvania, Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, India or the Philippines. But e-mail has not solved all our problems and communication with partners remains the most often mentioned “problem” area.

Here are a few tips for improving communication:

Keep each message short and direct. It is not always possible to print a copy of your e-mail, if your partner is using an internet café to receive and send e-mail. Don’t ask too many questions at one time. If you are sending an important communication you might want to send a copy via regular mail as well so they will have it in print form.

English is not the first language of our partners. While this may sound obvious, we often forget how very complex English sentence structure can be. Many speak English quite well, but writing and reading it is very different. In writing messages, keep your sentences short. Don’t use a lot of idiomatic phrases or complex sentence structures. This will make it easier to translate into their native language and make it easier to share your letters with others.

Make it someone’s responsibility (not your minister) to write a church-

to-church-letter every month or so. Rotate this assignment among the people on your partner church committee. We often complain about not getting any letters, but often don’t think about the fact that we haven’t written a letter. In Transylvania and Hungary, often it is the minister who is expected to keep up the correspondence. Try to identify others who might have more time to write. Ask the partner minister if there is someone who would like to write and especially someone who has access to e-mail, perhaps a student.

Write about different aspects of your church life, such as religious education classes for youth, holidays, how a wedding was celebrated, baby-namings, a fundraiser you had, or other aspects of your church life. They are just as curious about how we “do church” as we are about their celebrations and functions. Send this letter via regular mail.

Ask them to write back to you and tell you about something they are doing in their church, or how their school is structured or how their economy is doing. Enclosing an addressed envelope is helpful. Share these letters with your congregation. Start a scrapbook and keep the letters there for others in the church to read.

If you have other ideas about communication—or other experiences—please write us and share them. Send ideas to uupcc@uua.org.

“WHY WE TRAVEL: A LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE WORLD,”

(excerpted from a piece by Pico Iyer)

“We travel, initially to lose ourselves, and we travel, next to find ourselves. We travel to open our hearts and eyes and learn more about the world than our newspapers will accommodate. We travel to bring what little we can, in our ignorance and our knowledge, to those parts of the globe whose riches are differently dispersed. And we travel, in essence, to become young fools again—to slow time down and get taken in, and fall in love once more.

For if every true love affair can feel like a journey to a foreign country, where you can’t quite speak the language, and you don’t know where you are going, and you’re pulled ever deeper into an inviting darkness, every trip to a foreign country can be a love affair, where you’re left puzzling over who you are and whom you’ve fallen in love with. ... All good trips are, like love, about being carried out of yourself and deposited in the midst of terror and wonder.”

The following services are offered by the **Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council** to facilitate visits to Unitarian partner churches and sites in Transylvania. For information about planning trips to other countries please contact us at uupcc@uua.org.

NEW! Group Tours for Individuals

MAY 30, 2003 - JUNE 11, 2003

SPRING AND PENTECOST RENEWAL TRIP:

UNITARIAN HISTORY AND PARTNER CHURCH VISITS FOR ADULTS

Travel by deluxe coach, beginning and ending in Budapest, Hungary. Spring is a beautiful time to visit Hungary and Transylvania, with the fields and hills in full bloom. At this time of renewal for the earth, come and renew your spirit as well as you discover the historic roots of Unitarianism. The visit will include Torda, where the first act of religious tolerance was signed. See the rock in Kolozsvár from which Francis Dávid reportedly spoke when he "converted the whole town's population to Unitarianism." Take a pilgrimage to Déva, where he was later imprisoned and died.

Experience the warmth and loving hospitality of Transylvanian Unitarian families during a three-day home stay in your partner village. Attend church in your village on Pentecost Sunday, one of the four Sundays of the year when communion is celebrated in the Transylvanian Unitarian Churches. *(If your church is not yet partnered, we will arrange a home stay for you in a Unitarian village.)*

COST: (12 days) \$1250/person, double occupancy - includes all ground transportation, lodging, meals and fees. Does not include airfare.

To reserve your space or to receive more information please contact: John Dale, UUPCC Travel Committee
Jdale28788@aol.com / 404-588-1496

SEPTEMBER 25 TO OCTOBER 2, 2003

ANCIENT CHURCHES:

ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY IN THE HÁROMSZÉK REGION, TRANSYLVANIA VIA BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

Travel by deluxe coach, beginning and ending in Bucharest, Romania. Seven days in Transylvania's historic walled churches with an emphasis on history and architec-

ture. Discover for yourself the singular beauty and fascinating history of these churches built by the Saxons between the 15th and 18th centuries. While the Saxons have largely immigrated back to Germany, their remarkable architectural legacy is still very much in evidence in medieval cities such as Segesvár, Brassó, and Sibiu. In the villages between these citadels, the Saxons in the South and the Székely to the North built walled churches to defend against the Turks. Constructed to withstand a protracted siege, these fortified churches are some of the most unique and memorable religious buildings anywhere in the world.

Tour will include a knowledgeable guide to give background and history of each church. Includes Sunday services on *Őszi hálaadás*—traditional Thanksgiving Sunday in the Transylvanian Unitarian Church, and one night at a glorious mountain retreat in Balványos surrounded by beautiful pines.

COST: (8 days) \$900/person, double occupancy - includes all ground transportation, lodging, meals and fees. Cost does not include air travel to and from Bucharest, Romania.

To reserve your space or to receive more information please contact: John Dale, UUPCC Travel Committee
Jdale28788@aol.com / 404-588-1496

JULY 24 TO AUGUST 6, 2003

FOURTH ANNUAL YOUTH TOUR— FOR AGES 15-19

Travel with other UU youth from around the country accompanied by Cathy and Ron Cordes and other chaperones. Learn about Unitarian history in Transylvania and get to know the people in your partner village. Prior year's trips have had rave reviews from parents and youth alike.

The trip starts with an overnight stay in the Boston, MA area where you meet your fellow travelers. Explore beautiful Budapest and then take a motorcoach to Transylvania. The trip includes a 3-day

visit to your partner church. Along the way you'll learn about the roots of our Unitarian faith, hike in some beautiful country, meet Transylvanian Unitarian youth and have a great time. Participants have called it "life-changing." Travel with us and see why.

COST: (15 days) \$2500 includes round trip AIR FARE from Boston, MA, and all other expenses including all meals, lodging and ground transportation. Personal spending money is not included.

**OPTIONAL ADD ON:
AUGUST 4 TO 13, 2003**

ICUU UNITARIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

COST: \$400 additional

The International Council of Unitarians and Universalists is sponsoring a European Unitarian Con, gathering youth from Europe and the U.S. for a 7-day conference in Illyefalva, Transylvania. Return to Boston, Massachusetts.

To reserve your space or to receive more information please contact: Cathy Cordes at uupcc@uua.org / 781-275-1710.

Check the web site for details:
<http://www.uua.org/uupcc/trips.html>

CONTINUING TRIPS SERVICE

SMALL GROUP VAN TOURS—PERFECT FOR
CHURCH GROUPS OF 5 TO 14 PEOPLE

- The original and most popular PCC service
- Low all-inclusive price includes ground transportation, meals, lodging, guide(s), and translator(s).
- Budget accommodations include home-stays, guest-houses, and pensions, and typically include a shared bathroom.
- Surcharge for hotel stays.
- Trips begin and end in either Budapest or Bucharest
- Minimum Van Tour is five people for five days.

To schedule your trip or to receive more information please contact:
Linda Gabriel, UUPCC Travel Services
gablin@tscnet.com

Harvest Hope Travel Service

In keeping with its mission of encouraging economic opportunity for areas of Transylvania served by Unitarian churches, Project Harvest Hope offers tours for groups of twelve or more visiting partner churches or making a pilgrimage.

For more information, visit their web site: www.harvesthope.uua.org or contact in-country travel director Eva Kelemen at kelemens@zappmobile.ro.

Harvest Hope Pilgrimages

For information about annual Transylvanian pilgrimages for individuals and small groups who come together from several North American partners, contact travel coordinator Sherman Eagles at sherman.eagles@medtronic.com.

B&B Guest House in Barót

Alpár Kiss, minister of Barót/Baraolt, offers visitors to Barót and other Covasna County (Háromszék district) towns, reasonable lodging in a newly remodeled facility.

To make a reservation, contact Kiss Alpár, Str. Libertatii 24, 4023 Baraolt, Jud. Covasna, România (011-40-67-377-446).

Erdély Maps

The PCC has available two maps of Transylvania. Both give place names in Romanian, Hungarian, and German:

- Erdély by Cartographia, covers all of Transylvania. The scale is 1:500,000 and the map lists cities, towns, and most villages. \$15.
- Székelyföld also by Cartographia, is a newer map, covers the Székely area where most Unitarian churches in România are concentrated. The scale is 1:250,000, twice as large. Every village is shown. \$15.

Send your check to: *Emery Lazar, 18 Mountain Laurel Lane, Castleton VA 22716. All profits go to the PCC.*

"PARTNERS IN FAITH" VIDEO

"Partners in Faith" is a UUPCC video that is getting good reviews everywhere. This short—17 minute—video provides an overview of how international partnerships affect congregations and individuals.

You can borrow the video from Executive Committee members or from your district networker (see lists) You can also order a copy of your own by sending a check made payable to UUPCC for \$20 (includes video and postage) to:

UUPCC, Cathy Cordes, P.O. Box 88, Bedford, MA 01730-0088

Fenyökút Guest House

The Unitarian Congregation of Fenyökút and the Los Alamos Unitarian Church in New Mexico cooperated to renovate a guest house right next to the Fenyökút church.

Fenyökút is 7 km from the well-known pottery village of Korond and is served by the same minister. The guest house has room for 9 people, a fully modern, Western bathroom, and kitchen. The hiking and natural environment alone are worth a several-night visit.

To book the Fenyökút guesthouse, contact church president, Ferenc Molnos: Molnos Ferenc, Fintina Brazilor, Nr. 119, Odorheiu 4150, Jud: Harghita, România.

RE MINDER :

The third Sunday in March (3/16/03) is Partnership Sunday in both Transylvania and North America.

LET THE BELLS RING OUT!



How to Send Money to Your Partner Church

The UU Partner Church Council, in cooperation with the Unitarian Headquarters in Kolozsvár, has developed a process for transfer of funds for PCC members.

Please use the Gift Transfer form on the next page of this newsletter.

When sending checks, it is important to include:

- The name and address of the donor church
- The name, address, and email of the contact person in your congregation who should receive the acknowledgment of delivery of the funds
- The name of the partner church in România

- The names of the minister and church president of the partner church
- The amount designated for the congregation (and the purpose, if designated)
- The amount for the minister's support (if any)
- The amount designated for other persons or purposes

You should also separately write your partner church to tell them the funds have been sent and how they are to be spent.

Funds received by the 20th of the month will be wired before the end of the month to a bank in Hungary where they are received in US dollars.

Congregations and individuals in România are notified by Unitarian Headquarters in Kolozsvár that funds have been received. Funds are distributed directly to the churches or individuals designated. Receipt of delivery is sent to the Partner Church Council treasurer who in turn sends them to the original donors.

This process takes place every month and is reliable. The PCC assumes the bank fee in the U.S. There are no other fees.

The PCC is in the process of determining the most effective system for transfer of funds from North American congregations to Hungary and the Czech Republic. This information will be included in a forthcoming newsletter. ●●

Gift Transfer Form

PARTNER CHURCH GIFT FORM FOR TRANSMISSION OF FUNDS

Please enclose this form with each check for funds to be transferred to your Partner Church or an individual in ROMÂNIA.
Please type or print clearly.

NOTE: Funds transmission is a benefit of PCC membership. If your church is not a PCC member, dues will be deducted (\$50 for churches under 150 members, \$100 for churches over 150 members).

Mail to:

UUPCC / c/o University Unitarian Church
6556 35th Avenue NE / Seattle, WA 98115

Make check payable to:

UU Partner Church Council

*(This form may
be duplicated)*

DONOR CHURCH

Name _____ Date mailed _____

Address _____

City/State or Prov./Country _____

Contact Person _____

Email Address _____ Phone Number (____) _____

U.S. Dollar Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____

FOR

Partner Church Name _____

Address _____

Contact the Following: Minister: _____
and Church President: _____

(Note: You should also contact these people yourself to tell them what the money is to be used for.)

Delivery Instructions _____

Amount designated for congregation _____
(This will carry the instruction: "to be used at the discretion of the minister and president of the congregation.")

Purpose of contribution _____

Amount for minister's support _____

Amount for: _____

Amount for: _____

UUPCC Mission, Vision, Beliefs and Support

Mission: The Mission of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council is to foster and support partner church relationships between North American congregations and congregations in all other countries where partnering is sought and welcomed. This includes countries where partners are already active, such as România, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, as well as other countries where new partnerships are now beginning, such as the Philippines, India, and Poland.

Vision: The Vision of the UU Partner Church Council is that partner relationships between North American congregations and churches

around the globe will be forged and sustained wherever they are desired—and that all of these relationships will be of high quality, firmly based, mutually beneficial, responsibly sustained, and linked by a joint and mutual covenant.

Beliefs: We believe that partnering is effective because it is a grassroots effort, sensitive to and sustained by the local needs and interests of both partners.

• We believe that partnering and related international exchange opportunities are effective forces for expanding the awareness and appreciation of the historical roots and many flowerings of liberal religion.

• We believe that partnering can be a significant force for social justice and international understanding.

• We believe that partnering can be a central aspect of a reinvigorated North American Unitarian Universalism and a means of infusing congregational life with pragmatic global ethics and one-to-one commitments.

Support: The PCC will be bold and ambitious in the support we provide.

• We will encourage, embrace, and support a wide range of partnering models, including ones that go beyond today's approaches.

• We will encourage and support both church-to-

UU Partner Church Council

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you or a friend wish to receive this newsletter three times a year and to support and participate in Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council programs and goals, please fill out this form to join us. Widen the circle! Pass this newsletter to friends and encourage them to join.

DATE: _____ ONE YEAR TWO YEARS New Membership Renewal
Individuals \$30 \$50
*Institutional under 150 members \$50 \$75
*Institutional over 150 members \$100 \$175
*An institutional subscription provides you with up to **four** newsletters mailed to separate addresses*

Name: _____ Telephone _____
Address _____ Fax _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ E-Mail _____
UUA Church Name _____
Partner Church Name _____
This is a GIFT Membership from: _____

Make your check in US dollars payable to
UU Partner Church Council.
Mail your check and application to:
UUPCC / P.O. Box 88
Bedford, MA 01730

OR

*Note: Canadian congregations may pay the same amount in Canadian dollars, made out to **Canadian Unitarian Council.***
Mail your check and application to:
Canadian Unitarian Council / 55 Eglinton Avenue E #705
Toronto ON M4P 1G8

*For Institutional Members, please list the four newsletter recipients:

1. Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____ E-Mail _____
2. Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____ E-Mail _____
3. Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____ E-Mail _____
4. Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____ E-Mail _____

church partnering relationships and meaningful participation opportunities for individuals and congregations that are not in a partnering relationship.

• We will support grassroots partnering activities by developing effective leadership, stewardship, fellowship, and logistical services.

• We will provide outreach and informational support so that partnering efforts are widely recognized and strongly supported by North American UUA congregations.

• We will work cooperatively with the international efforts of the UUA and other international religious organizations, and we will encourage

and support the UUA in developing and maintaining a strong international engagement.

• We will provide other support and services to ensure that partnering has a significant, increasing, and mutually beneficial impact worldwide.

Partner Church Council Executive Members

Rev. David Keyes, PRESIDENT
Rochester, NY
W: 585-271-9070 keyestone@aol.com

Rev. Fred Muir, VICE PRESIDENT
Annapolis, MD
410-266-8044 FredMuir@comcast.com

Ms. Barbara Kres Beach, SECRETARY
Falls Church, VA
H:703-532-7788 W:703-893-8500
bkbeach@aol.com

Mr. Lawrence Coburn, TREASURER
Weston, MA
781-899-2415 coburnlh@aol.com

Mr. John Dale
Atlanta, GA
404 588 1496 jdale28788@aol.com

Rev. John Gibbons
Bedford, MA
781-275-7994 jegibbons@rcn.com

Rev. Leon Hopper
425-643-8923
Bellevue, WA
elhopperjr@aol.com

Mr. Emery Lazar
540-937-1789
Castleton, VA
lazar3@aol.com

Rev. Barbara Pescan
847-864-1330
Chicago, IL
bjpescan@rcnchicago.com

Rev. Carol Rosine
508-528-5348
Franklin, MA
revrosine@aol.com

Ms. Sonya Sukalski, NETWORKER COORDINATOR
Los Almos, NM
505-661-4282 sonya@cybermesa.com

Ms. Barbara Weber
610-270-0567
Wayne, PA
weberbarbara@erols.com

Dr. Judit Gellérd, HONORARY PRESIDENT
zizi315@yahoo.com

Staff:

Ms. Cathy Cordes, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PO Box 88, Bedford, MA 01730-0088
781-275-1710 FAX: 781-275-7008
uupcc@uua.org

Ms. Nancy Daugherty, NEWSLETTER EDITOR
PO Box 88, Bedford, MA 01730-0088
781-275-1892 FAX: 781-271-9254
nancydaugh@aol.com

Ms. Linda Gabriel, TRAVEL COORDINATOR
P.O. Box 996, Poulsbo, WA 98370
360-697-2378 gablin@tscnet.com

Ms. Barbara Mades,
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COORDINATOR
bjmades@sinclair.net

Ms. Pat Rodgers, MEMBERSHIP DATABASE, MATCHING
3182 Isadora Drive, San Jose, CA 95132
408-926-3799 pat.rodgers@sbcglobal.net

Partner Church Council Contact Addresses

Administration and general services, contact Executive Director, Cathy Cordes, at uupcc@uua.org

District networker services, contact networker coordinator Sonya Sukalski at sonya@cybermesa.com

Membership status and data base, contact Pat Rodgers at pat.rodgers@sbcglobal.net

Money and budget, contact treasurer Larry Coburn at coburnlh@aol.com

Money—wiring safely and efficiently to România, contact Larry Coburn at coburnlh@aol.com

New partnership, or reviving or ending one that is not working, contact Gretchen Thomas at gthomas@attglobal.net

Newsletter, contact editor Nancy Daugherty at nancydaugh@aol.com

Partnerships in India, contact John Gibbons at jegibbons@rcn.com

Partnership in the Philippines, contact Fred Muir at FredMuir@comcast.com

Religious education materials, contact Ruth Gibson at regibson@uuma.org

Travel services, contact Linda Gabriel at gablin@tscnet.com

Visa services for Romanian visitors to U.S., contact John Dale at jdale28788@aol.com



Partner Church News

PUBLISHED 3 TIMES A YEAR

P.O. Box 88
Bedford, MA 01730-0088 USA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Bedford MA 01730
Permit No. 10