



FIRST
**UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST**
CHURCH OF BERKS COUNTY

Church Office Hours:

The church office is open Mon. through Fri. from 10-3pm, but please call ahead to ensure access.

Please contact office manager Susan Stewart to arrange for a temporary key if you need access any other time.

Rev. Fees has office hours by appointment. Please call (610) 372-0928 or email sandrafees@verizon.net, to schedule an appointment. Monday is Rev. Fees day off.

Univoice Submission Guidelines

Email submissions by attaching a Word file or including your material in the body of an email message to univoice@uuberks.org. You may also put typewritten submissions in our mailbox in the new Chalice House in the box labelled *Univoice*.

The deadline is the 15th of each month. Please include the date, time and location of events, and the full name and phone number or e-mail of contacts.

My telephone number is (610) 741-6006 if you need to contact me.

~Meghan Cocuzza, Editor

The Univoice

Congregation elects Mannix, Mealing & Hawk to church Board

By Gene Goodwin

Our congregation has confirmed the judgment of our current Board of Directors by voting to reelect two outstanding young Board members, Mike Mannix and Doug Mealing, to serve three-year terms with newcomer Delite Hawk.

Delite, who impressed Board leaders when she answered their call for someone to run the service auction, our major fund raiser, and then did such a fine job organizing the event held in late March that it raised \$3,500 over budget, has one thing in common with Mike and Doug. All three were elected to the Board after having been church members for only about a year.



1 gal
NEW FACE ON BOARD: Delite Hawk elected to our Board after only a year as a UU.



2 guys
THREE MORE YEARS! That's the reward for Mike Mannix, left, and Doug Mealing, Board incumbents reelected on May 16.

Their election on May 16 at the semi-annual spring congregational meeting came after Board President Joe Plageman moved for approval of the Nominations Committee's slate of three nominees. No nominations were made from the floor, and the slate was approved unanimously. Board member Gene Fizz chaired nominations for this election.

When Board members meet at 7 pm June 8, bylaws call for them to select who among them will serve as president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the new Board effective July 1. Before they do that, however, they probably will try to come up with one-year replacement for Board member Miryha Thibault, who resigned for health reasons.

Besides President Joe Plageman, current Board officers are Vice President Ron Smith, Secretary Doug Mealing and Treasurer Jeanne Hey, who is the only officer leaving the Board. Other continuing Board members are Gene Fizz, Jeff Woodward and Karen Nierle.

Important Reminder

Our fiscal year ends on June 30. If you have not already fulfilled your pledge payment for 2009-10, please do so as soon as you can.

From Sandra's Study

Rev. Sandra Fees

The High Cost of Anti-Immigration Boycott



Standing up for our values can be costly. In the case of our 2012 General Assembly (the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists), scheduled for Arizona, the cost to boycott is possibly as high as \$617,000. That's due to hotel commitments and other related costs. The cost to be there may be even higher, and measurable in human worth not dollars.

On Apr. 23, Arizona's governor signed a new anti-immigrant law – Senate Bill 1070 - considered to be the harshest in the nation. Local law enforcement must demand proof of citizenship from those suspected of being here illegally, and detained if proof isn't provided. Unitarian Universalist Association President Rev. Peter Morales condemned the law. He said, "Everything I hold sacred as an American and as a person of faith is threatened by this legislation... We must not let fear and ignorance cause our neighbors to be treated as lesser beings. We must not allow this law to violate our national constitution or America's moral conscience."

UUs in Arizona and elsewhere have opposed the law. It has raised questions about whether to move General Assembly 2012. Some UUs have urged boycott and unity. Others have suggested remaining to encourage local action. Ultimately, after meeting with key UU stakeholders, the UUA determined to make "a values-first decision" that recognizes being in such a location is "intolerable" and that deep engagement is needed.

The result is a business resolution that will be presented at this year's General Assembly in Minneapolis. It will require a two-thirds majority vote to pass. Here is the resolution:

"Whereas the state of Arizona has recently enacted a law—SB 1070—that runs counter to our first principle, affirming the worth and dignity of every person,

Whereas the Association stands in solidarity with allies using a widespread economic boycott of Arizona as leverage for Love against this hateful legislation;

Be it resolved: we will not meet in a state of fear.

Accordingly, the Assembly hereby:

- Directs the UUA General Assembly Planning Committee to recommend to the Board of Trustees an alternate location for General Assembly 2012 at a location outside the state of Arizona;
- Pledges to generate from Member Congregations the amount sufficient to cancel arrangements in Phoenix for GA 2012;
- Pledges further to generate an equal or greater amount to fund ongoing efforts to Stand on the Side of Love in Arizona.
- Pledges to renew and redouble our efforts to become a multicultural, anti racist Association; to live as a people standing faithfully in opposition to systemic racism in our congregations, local communities, and in our own lives."

This is exactly the kind of action that we, along with allies in the interfaith community, need to be taking. We need to stand up for our values. We need to stand on the side of love. We need to make our voices heard. I encourage you to stay informed on the Arizona legislation and our UU response (www.uua.org). Here in Berks County we have a large immigrant population. The work we do to oppose repressive measures elsewhere is also work we do to protect those in our own neighborhoods.

Yours in faith and love

Sandra

July RE Programming

Have you got a special skill or talent to share? We do not hold regular RE classes during mid-summer to give teachers, the RE committee & the DRE time to re-group, organize supplies and classrooms, and plan next year's program. It would be a help to parents to offer a small mixed-age activity in late June and the month of July on Sunday mornings. Do you like to play board games, do crafts or have a special skill or interest that might lend itself to a 45-minute session with children ages 4 and up? You'll be paired with one or more helpers to help manage the group. Contact Elizabeth if you'd like to help encourage year-round attendance by offering some children's programming in mid-Summer.

UUs and Berks Family Residential Center

Gardens are underway! Thanks to all who have helped our congregation begin a connection with the Immigration Services Family Residential Center in Leesport. The residents at this center are awaiting hearings or decisions on their appeals to remain in the U.S. Carla Mannix made the original contact with Chaplain David Ludwig. One of his goals was to begin a vegetable garden with and for the residents. The goal is to provide activity for the residents as well as good food. Joe Plageman, Keith & Carol Orts and Johanna Groebel made the initial visit and decided to move ahead with a project. Joe provided a truck load of mushroom loam. On hand for the "ground breaking" were Keith, Shelley Kauffman and Elizabeth Kaufman. As they began moving and shoveling the loam onto the soil, women and men from the center joined in to help. The Center constructed a protective fence.

Seeds were donated by Kimberly McGarvey, and plants from Keith, Robin Lucas, and a good friend Carl Sabold (from World Affairs Council). Jeff Woodward donated some tools. On subsequent visits to the Center the seedlings and seeds were planted with the residents, including children, taking an active role.

We are off to a good start. Anyone else wishing to help over the summer months should contact Keith Orts for information. We hope to make life for these families a bit fuller as we enjoy working with them.



In addition, Joanna Groebel is beginning the process of offering movement/art workshops twice a month that will be tailored to the needs of the families residing at the center. Using familiar music from their cultures, she will provide an outlet for creative expression to groups of mothers, children, and families. Themes will be explored that will hopefully be supportive to each group...we will learn from each other as we go along. Church members are welcome to attend, please contact Joanna if you are interested.

Consider joining the Caring Circle

The caring circle is a newly formed group that will support our members in times of joy and in need. We are looking for members to commit themselves to one month per year to make hospital visits if needed, coordinate a casserole, or send a card. There is only one meeting per year too! The caring circle is also in need of people to call those members who are unable to make it to church on a regular basis because of illness or distance. Finally, we need some of our great cooks to make casseroles on an as needed basis. This committee will also serve vital need during Sandra's sabbatical next year.

Please contact me-Mindy Bortz, if you are interested in spreading some love and kindness to your fellow members, I guarantee you will find this committee very rewarding.



Summer Series to Focus on Gandhi's Seven Deadly Social Sins

Mohandas Gandhi is revered as a spiritual leader and social and political activist. His work for nonviolence radically changed our understanding of justice and peace. Underlying his work was a particular understanding of human relationship. For him, sin meant a break in relationships through abuse, manipulation, or inequality. A social sin created a structure that supported these abusive relationships. A just world demanded a different way of being. Gandhi, thus, challenged traditional understandings of sin. Playing off the conventional list of seven deadly sins (pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed, and sloth), he created his own list, known as the Seven Deadly Social Sins. These traits are the most perilous to spirituality, according to Gandhi.

This summer, our worship leaders will explore these seven traits. Each worship leader has been selected to present a topic based on

his/her life experience, knowledge, and/or work in the field of study. The services and worship leaders are:

- Politics without Principle, June 27 - Jane Palmer, member
- Wealth without Work, July 4 - Michael Monsour, member
- Commerce without Morality, July 11 - Lisa Wilder, member
- Pleasure without Conscience, July 18 - Kate Diller, 2009 student minister
- Science without Humanity, July 25 - Doug Dinwoodie, member
- Worship without Sacrifice, August 1 - Nadine Smet-Weiss, member
- Knowledge without Character, Aug. 8 - Becca Glenn-Dinwoodie, member

The last three Sundays of August, Rev. Sandra Fees will, as in past years, be back in the pulpit, and there will be a modified religious education program for children and youth. We will cap off the summer worship program with a Labor Day service led by member Joanna Groebel. Details for all services will be provided in each month's worship calendar.

Religious Education

Dear Friends,

Can you help save the rainforest with your fork?

Summer is upon us and our celebration of rainforests will wrap up with a special worship service on June 6. Last month, I asked how we can take the 7th UU principle (Respect for the Interdependent Web of Life) along when we shop. This month, I'm wondering how we honor our 7th principle when we eat? I know we have many "locavores" in our congregation (folks who endeavor to eat locally produced food as much as possible) but have you ever considered reducing your meat consumption in order to reduce your carbon footprint? If so, consider joining the international campaign known as Meatless Mondays.

This campaign, a project of the Center for a Livable Future at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, encourages people to cut out meat on Mondays to improve their health and the health of the planet. Reducing meat consumption by 15% (the equivalent of one day a week) lessens the risk of chronic preventable illness and has a strong positive impact on the environment. Cattle ranching is one of the main causes of rainforest destruction. In addition, geophysi-

cists at the Bard Center and the University of Chicago estimate that curbing meat consumption by 20% would lower greenhouse gas emissions as dramatically as every American switching to an ultra-efficient hybrid vehicle.

If the population of the United States went meatless every Monday for a year, 12 billion gallons of gasoline would be saved. Check out *MeatlessMonday.com* for weekly meat-free recipes, articles, tips and news.

All of these issues are excellent starting points for family dinner time discussions on food production. UUs love to support peace, justice and the interdependent web—consider doing so with your fork!

Peace,
Elizabeth



Elizabeth Kaufmann
Director of Religious Education

Upcoming RE Events:

Lehigh Valley Zoo trip
Sat., May 29, 2010, 10 am

Staying in town for the Memorial Day weekend? Enjoy a fun, local outing with your church friends at the Lehigh Valley Zoo (*lvzoo.org*) near Allentown. Drive time from Reading is about 45 minutes. We'll meet at the entrance gate to the zoo at 10 am and enjoy a morning of animal exploration. After exploring the zoo, we'll have a potluck picnic by the Jordan Creek around 12 noon. (Dress to get wet—the creek is good for wading.) Please contact Elizabeth to register or sign up in the Gerber Room.

Rainforest Decorating Day and Worship Service Rehearsal
Sat., June 5, 2010 10:30 am

Come help bring the beauty of the rainforest into our sanctuary and get ready for the next day's special rainforest worship service. Please contact Elizabeth if your child is planning to participate. If you are good at decorating, your assistance would be greatly appreciated! We could also use loaned items such as tropical plants (real or silk), artificial leaves, branches, and vines and green twinkle lights.

RE Sunday: Rainforest Celebration
Sun., June 6, 2010

Come and join our children as we celebrate all that we have learned about our 7th principle and the rainforest during the spring. We will have special music, stories, a moment of appreciation for our RE teachers, and a bridging ceremony for our graduating seniors all with a green and leafy rainforest flair!

All-Church Pancake Breakfast—FREE for RE Teachers!
Sun., June 13, 2010, beginning at 9:15 am

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast, organized by Barry Groebel and our youth group. RE Teachers will be admitted free as a thank-you for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.



Friday Morning Out

Since the beginning of 2010, a group of moms and babies has been meeting at church every Friday morning at 10 am for playtime and conversation. During the summer break, we'd like to invite families of school-aged children to join us. With the warm weather, we'll do some playground gatherings. Contact Julia Smith if you'd like to be notified in the event of a playground date or to verify that we are meeting.

June's Volunteers

Coffee Corps

6/6 X Nelson & Caroline Simonson
6/13 I Joanne Just
6/20 II Norm & Bonnie Block
6/27 III Joe & Paula Plageman

Ushers

6/6 Oxenrider/DeBroux
6/13 Orts/Axsmith
6/20 Simonson/Plageman
6/27 Brownstein/Cocuzza

Food Pantry

By: Kelly Hartman

On May 6 the Pantry served 171 recipients, the largest number since Sept. 2007. Of these, 22 were new to our Pantry. The households represented 266 adults, 298 children, and 39 seniors for a total of 603 persons.

Our UU Food Pantry is only one of 65 local pantries in the county. According to Greater Berks Food Bank (GBFB), each month these distribute food to approx. 6,000 individuals, representing 22,000 household members.

We obtain food from GBFB at greatly reduced cost, and from continuing food donations by the congregation members. Volunteers from the congregation are the hands and energy which make the Pantry a functioning entity.

Perhaps you, too, can be part of this process. The next Food Pantry Thursdays will be June 3, July 1, and Aug. 5, from 9am to noon.



Awakening BodySpirit 5: Gravity, The Embrace of Belonging

Sunday, June 6th from 6:30-8:30-ish, Movement Therapist Joanna Groebel will host a workshop focusing on our organism's relationship to the pull of gravity. Gravity is one manifestation of the power that holds the universe together and it is the spiritual force of belonging. Gravity says, "I have a place for you and that place is here." Together, we will explore ways to explore, surrender to, and play with this elemental force. Through awareness exercises, contemplative dialog, weight sharing, meditative movement, and work with artistic media, we will build our relationship to gravity. Absolutely no movement experience is necessary. Loose comfortable clothing and a mat is suggested.



UU Books

By: Kelly Hartman

On June 13 we will discuss *Einstein's God* by Krista Tippet. Her NPR program, *Speaking of Faith* addresses relationships between spirituality and the reality of our ordinary lives. She has selected transcripts with quests from various fields of science, and brings them into conversations about how they have personally found truth in science supporting their spiritual journeys.

The selection for July 11 is *Lost on Planet China: One Man's Attempt to Understand the World's Most Mystifying Nation* by J. Maarten Troost. With no knowledge of Mandarin, and no knowledge of Chinese history, Troost sets out to discover the "essential Chineseness" of an ancient and often mystifying land. He finds a country with its feet in the clay of traditional culture and its head straining into the polluted stratosphere of unencumbered capitalism.

He delivers an insightful, rip-roaring funny and engrossing trail across China as a world—indeed a planet—unto itself, on the brink of a transformation that will soon affect the way the whole globe lives, works, and thinks.

He finds himself dodging deadly drivers in Shanghai, eating yak in Tibet, attempting to decipher restaurant menus (with local favorites such as sheep's brain or cattle penis with garlic), visiting chairman Mao (still dead, very orange), or exploring a rural market (offering Siberian tiger paw, cobra hearts, scorpion kebabs).

But within the color, sensuality, and humor Troost presents a noteworthy summing up of the country's rich history, and remains refreshingly upbeat throughout, without a hint of American elitism, often stepping aside to let the facts speak for themselves.

Readers interested in a sometimes raw, warts-and-all, surprisingly humorous look at this complicated, mysterious, evolving country will find *Lost on Planet China* a rich and entertaining education.

UU Books meets the second Sunday of the month, at 9:00am, time enough to make a cup of coffee or tea before we begin our meeting of thoughts and minds.



Santa Claus

By Gene Goodwin

Yes, Sandra, there is a Santa Claus!

This paraphrase of the headline “Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus” comes to mind as I chew the news that our church has been granted \$20,000 from the Chalice Lighters fund of our UUA district to help us pay off bank loans used to complete our new Chalice House addition.

(The headline first appeared in the New York Sun of 21 Sept. 1897 over an editorial reply to a letter from 8-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon, asking, “...is there a Santa Claus?” Although not so much in modern times, the editorial with its affirmative headline has often been reprinted in newspapers across the land.)

This unexpected gift means that instead of the \$62,000 we thought we would have to raise in our extended capital campaign, we now have a more doable goal of \$42,000.

As he revealed the “good news” at the congregational meeting May 16, Stewardship chair Jeff Woodward said we should take pride that for the second year in a row our church has been awarded \$20,000 grants from Chalice Lighters in the Joseph Priestly District.

That gift a year ago, enabled us to hire Dan Matz as church music director. But it also contributed to some pessimism among our leaders about our chances of getting a second consecutive large grant from the JPD chalice lighters. Especially when they learned that four other JPD churches had applied for grants this year.

Fortunately for us, the awards committee recognized the different merit in our applications for each of the past two years. We were one of two applicants chosen from the five churches, all with worthy projects needing financial support. “We must be doing something right,” Jeff said.

The congregation then voted to approve the Board’s recommended two-year extension of our capital campaign through July 1, 2012.



Join us in a nature walk through Neversink Mountain

Duran Cocuzza will lead a nature hike to the top of Neversink Mountain on Sat., June 19th, starting at 10am. The hike will begin from Forest Hills Cemetery in Reifton and conclude at a Scenic Vista point at the top of the mountain, estimated round trip of 1.5 miles. Parking in the cemetery is limited so there will be a carpool leaving the nearby Boscov’s East parking lot at 9:45am.

Although this hike is suitable for persons of all ages, please be aware that there will be a brisk uphill climb lasting about ten minutes, in order to reach our destination. For more information about this nature hike.

First UU Berks is overflowing with new members

By Nadine Smet-Weiss

If you missed our new member ceremony on 4/11, or even if you didn’t, you may find that there are so many new faces in the sanctuary you feel like a visitor!

The good news, in addition to the number of new members, is that they are wonderfully warm and welcoming people. So, if you haven’t been about in a while, they will make you feel right at home.

Our 2009-10 new member roster includes: Judy Aubrey, Howard Berger and Raissa Kalishevich, Jeff and Laura Carson, Jean Cocuzza, John and Kristen Gallagher, Derek and Kris Huey, Shelley Kauffmann, Barbara Kolar, Sally Marr, Vincent and Lynn O’Brien, Matthew and Crystal Owen, Michelle Post (yes, Michelle Post) Ed Renenger, Jacob Sewall and Erin Kraal.

When you see any of these folks around, meet and greet them – they are easy to spot, because they wear their name tags. Can you ask for anything more?



Social Justice Team

Our church will host homeless families IF enough of us volunteer

By: Carla Manix and Gene Goodwin

Spurred by the enthusiastic endorsement of most of the 46 members attending the congregational meeting on May 16, our Social Justice Team is seeking enough volunteers [an estimated 45-50] to add Berks UU to the 17 area churches now working with Family Promise of Berks County to put scores of homeless families on their feet in the coming year.

Committee chair Carla Mannix hopes to have sufficient volunteers by June 13 to make us eligible to host our first homeless family members the week of Nov. 21-28, Thanksgiving week! So if you want to volunteer for this rewarding program, check your personal calendar for that specific week in November.

Carla, who visited some of the host churches, told our congregation that the general purpose of Family Promise is to help.

Family Promise of Berks County is a network of 17 participating congregations who help homeless families get out of crisis and into permanent housing. In 2008, about 90 families applied for assistance; in 2009, about 200 applied for help! Family Promise provides support at a Day Center, and churches provide overnight housing and meals. The families are screened, trained, and mentored until they reach independence in about 90 days.

“Our church would host 3 homeless families for seven overnights (5 pm-7 am) in the Chalice House rooms, about 4 times a year,” Carla said. We would provide breakfast and lunch foods, and a hot meal for dinner each night. We would need about 45 volunteers that week, but it's only 3-4 times a year. “It's a very tangible,

powerful, and meaningful way to help our neighbors in crisis,” she added.

Before officially joining Family Promise as a hosting congregation, the Social Justice Team wants to ensure we will have enough volunteers. If not, we will seek a partnership with another congregation for more volunteers. The need for volunteers are:

Daily:

- 2 Dinner prep (make entree or side)
- 1 Evening host (5:30pm - 8:30pm)
- 2 Overnights (8:30pm -7:00am)
- 1 Morning host (6:00am - 7:30am)

Weekly:

- 1 Shopper (for breakfast and lunch foods)
- 1 Meal Coordinator (contact meal makers to avoid duplication)
- 1-2 Laundry (wash sheets and towels at end of week)
- 2 Set-up and Take Down Beds (Sun. afternoon and/or morning)

Carla says she still needs more people willing to spend the night at church. Volunteers should contact Carla.



The April Special Plate Collection for Wisdom 31 brought in \$388.00

On Sunday June 20th we will be taking a Special Plate Collection for Opportunity House.

Opportunity House is a multi-service organization that improves the quality of life for children, families and adults who face various obstacles to independence, and supports their efforts to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency and well-being.

5 local groups to get plate collections

Once again, in the judgment of our congregation, the two most worthy local programs deserving to receive a Sunday plate collection next Fall are our own food pantry and our minister's Discretionary fund.

Mike Szajna reports that 43 members at the spring meeting filled out ballots asking them to indicate on a sheet full of local do-good organizations and programs which five should get one of our plate collections next fall. The top five vote getters he will recommend for Board approval were:

1. Berks UU food pantry, 37.
2. Minister's Discretionary fund, which goes mostly to poor people these days, 34.
3. Western Berks Free Medical Clinic, 29.
4. Berks Connections Pretrial Services, 20.
5. Southern Poverty Law Center, 18.

The Board, the Stewardship Committee, and all the members of FUUBC would like to give a great big thank you to Cheryl Gallo, her group “Leap of Faith” and all volunteers for the grand performance on Sun. May 16th. The performance was awesome!!! It was well attended, professional and added a significant contribution to our general fund. Thank You to everyone involved and in attendance.

History Revealed

From Sunday School to Religious Education

By: Ruth N. Epler

There is little record about Sunday School in the 1940's to 60's, but with a bit of digging I found some good board minutes from the mid sixties. In Jan. of 1964 the church school was reorganized. A Religious Education committee was established with Lynn Wilson as chairperson and supervisor of teachers. This committee and parents participated in a church school workshop in Oct. of '64. Tracie Greth gave me this description:

We all (youth) met in the Gerber room at the same time during church service. The classes had about twenty students total. After a friendship circle, each age group, there were three, went to their separate class table. We were not included in the adult church service. The curriculum was based on a series of books prepared by the UUA. One we studied was from was, *The Church Across the Street*. When I went to high school, 9th grade, we could join other UU youth at other churches for weekend conferences.

Talk to Tracie about this, she has many fond memories of these trips. At this time, The Liberal Religious Youth Group was formed. The RE program continued to grow for the next forty years. With an expanded program, a paid RE Director, a program far beyond those simple beginnings, and finally the new second floor and now the Chalice House, we have gone beyond the original expectations. Elizabeth Kaufmann, present RE Director summed up the program as one which encourages individuality, creativity, political and social justice, music, games, and special events for starters. The future gives us a look forward to future growth, a youth advisor, an intergenerational choir, and more interactive programs with other churches.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Berks County Vision- Mission

Approved May 16, 2010

Vision

An inclusive community that nurtures people's spirits, supports their spiritual journeys, and serves the cause of justice and love in the world.

Mission

The First UU Church is an open, nurturing community that encourages respect for and knowledge of all spiritual paths, promotes generous giving of time and resources, puts Unitarian Universalist values into action, and acts as a strong voice for social justice.

Strategic Goals

Be an open, nurturing community that promotes respect and knowledge of all spiritual paths

- Expand the small group ministry program to provide avenues for members to develop closer connections with one another and explore their spiritual lives in community
- Provide more fun, community-building activities (such as potlucks)
- Grow the quality and quantity of music
- Strengthen communication to guests and members
- Host invite-a-friend Sundays
- Encourage members to become church ambassadors to extend a personal invitation to potential UUs to attend church
- Expand adult classes in spirituality, theology, etc.
- Continue worship associates program
- Increase involvement of children/youth in worship (chalice lighting, readings, music)

Promote generous giving of time and resources

- Encourage members and friends to share their unique gifts and talents (teaching, music, serving on board and committees, food pantry, etc.)
- Expand and identify new financial resources to support growth, staffing, and programs
- Increase the number of pledge units and giving levels
- Enhance members' understanding of how financial support enables us to attain our mission
- Actively campaign to fully fund the DeBenneville endowment fund

Put UU values into action

- Focus on UU principles in worship
- Promote UU celebrations and rituals
- Educate members and friends to the UU liturgical calendar
- Offer lifespan religious education classes that build a UU identity (theology, ethics, principles, etc.)

Act as a strong voice for social justice

- Participate in local community events and projects, such as staffing booths at PrideFest and other activities
- Partner with other groups in the local community (partner with Interfaith groups, donate space for community groups that align with our mission, etc.)
- Publicize liberal religion in newspaper, etc.
- Cultivate a shared social justice commitment among members and friends
- Identify a church-wide social justice project or focus
- Continue to operate the food pantry, through volunteer commitment of time and money
- Financially support local and UU charities through monthly special plate collections

June 2010



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Meditation Group 6:30-7:30pm Choir Practice 7:30-8:30pm	3 Food Pantry 8am-Noon	4 Family Morning Out 9:30-11am	5
6 Sunday Service 10:30am Awakening BodySpirit 6:30-8:30	7	8 Board Meeting 7-9pm	9 Meditation Group 6:30-7:30pm Choir Practice 7:30-8:30pm	10 Act 47 Community Mtg 4-6:30pm 5th St. Project Meeting 7-8pm	11 Family Morning Out 9:30-11am	12 UU Books 9-10am
13 Sunday Service 10:30am UU Books 9am	14	15	16 Meditation Group 6:30-7:30pm	17	18 Family Morning Out 9:30-11am	19
20 Building Keepers Meetin 12-1pm Sunday Service 10:30am	21	22	23 Meditation Group 6:30-7:30pm	24	25 Family Morning Out 9:30-11am	26
27 Sunday Service 10:30am	28	29	30 Meditation Group 6:30-7:30pm			

Murray Grove Program News

Heritage Week at Murray Grove Aug. 1-6, 2010, led by Rev Dr Elizabeth Strong, with Rev. Carol Haag, Director of Sacred Worship and Rev. Dr. Carol Taylor, Director of Sacred Nourishment: Workshops on Universalist, Unitarian and Unitarian Universalist Religious Education History and General History



Sunday Service Schedule

10:30am every Sunday

June 6 Celebrating the Rainforest

Elizabeth Kaufmann, Director of Religious Education, RE Committee members, RE Kids, Dan Matz, Music Director, and the First UU Choir

June 13 The Resilience of the Human Spirit and the UU Flower Communion

Rev. Sandra Fees, Dan Matz, Music Director, and Special Music with Kristyne Rosier

The human spirit can be startlingly resilient. What gives us that sense of resilience in the midst of life's pressures and even chaos? This is also Flower Communion Sunday. Bring a flower to share.

June 20 The Dignitarian Way

Rev. Sandra Fees, Keith Orts, Worship Associate, Dan Matz, Music Director, and the First UU Choir

Each of us wants to be treated with dignity and respect. Yet there are many ways we unwittingly and intentionally degrade others and abuse authority. Today we'll explore how we can come closer to building a dignitarian world. This is also a special plate collection Sunday benefitting Opportunity House.

June 27 Politics without Principle

Jane Palmer, Member

Politics is defined as the process by which people make collective decisions. It's about power--who has it, how they get it, and what they do with it. In this, the first in a summer series of worship services on Gandhi's Seven Deadly Social Sins, we'll look at why politics must be based on principles, or values, and what happens when it isn't.



You are all invited to join us for silent meditation in the Chalice House from 9:30-10:30am before the Sunday Services.



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