



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

April 2006

UU News

April Service Schedule

April 2: 10:30 am The Role of Community in the Life of a Child [The Rev. Dr. James Cushman] Our guest minister is Jen Cushman's father! Together, we will celebrate a child dedication.

4:00 pm Dedication of Our New Building [The Rev. Thomas Chulak]

In this special afternoon service, our Ohio Meadville District Executive will be with us to celebrate our new building and to challenge us to keep our beacon shining in the world around us. (Those who can, please park at Frelander Park or the High School. Parking is sure to be a challenge).

April 9: 10:30 am The Native American Spirit [Snow Owl] It's a little drumming, a little singing, a lot of life! Join Show Owl as he leads us in interactive worship

April 16, 7:00 am Sunrise Service [Rev. Strawn] It is traditional in the Christian Community to rise early on Easter to greet the sun on the day of Jesus' resurrection. This year, we will gather, as do many UU congregations, to greet the sun together. We'll sing a few hymns and share a few thoughts on our new land. Then, we'll gather for pancakes in the fellowship meeting house. Join us as we make new memories!

10:30 am Easter: The Velveteen Rabbit [Marge Thomas & Elaine Strawn] This delightful tale of love and growth will be the focus of our service.

April 23: 10:30 am Intelligent Design [Skip Nault] Creationism is a concept that just won't go away. Skip will bring us up to date on the version of Creationism called-"Intelligent Design."

April 30: 10:30 am Humor Sunday [Dan O'Rourke] Norman Cousins showed that humor can heal. Come help release this powerful energy into the universe!

*Spend a little time with your homies.....
and celebrate the **pledge campaign**
on **Sunday, April 9th** immediately
following the morning service.*

We will provide red beans and rice (New Orleans style of course). Please bring a favorite appetizer, veggie dish, or dessert to share and leave it in the kitchen before the service. There will be plenty of beverages and table service available.

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From the Board

It has been a challenging 2 months for me and Gene, but I do a little better every day. We plan to move back home on March 18, having lived with Joyce for 2 months. Her generosity has helped so much with my recovery.

In April we all celebrate our new home in the woods off Burbank Road with our UU community, and work to raise our 2006-07 general fund budget.

Both endeavors ensure the legacy of progressive thought and action, for we are a unique congregation amid the other churches in our counties.

We don't just tolerate diversity, we celebrate it -- big difference.

We encourage journeys of discovery, rather than blind faith, and we find "grace" in life's smallest miracles.

I am honored and so very grateful to be a part of this beloved religious community.

namaste,

Helen



Social Action in Action

ATTENTION SPRING BREAK TRAVELERS: please remember to collect the toiletries from any motel or hotel you stay in. When you return, put them in the bin labeled "**Travelers' Toiletries**" and Scott Gross will sort and deliver them to the Every Woman's House shelter and/or the Salvation Army shelter.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee thanks our congregation for the donations to the **Guest at Your Table Program** supporting human rights work worldwide of UUSC. The voluntary donation amount was \$1,925.07. With a matching grant for donations of \$75 or more, the total amount of donations increased to \$3,258.11.

Thank you for making **Birthday Cake Sunday** a huge success! All the food products, gift cards and cash totaled almost \$300.00, which means we can provide 60 decorated birthday cakes to Every Women's House. We all thank you.

DATE FOR DAY OF CHANGE HAS CHANGED Each year, on the Sunday when Daylight Savings time starts, the Social Action committee asks you to donate your pocket change to Friendship Meals in Orrville. This year, we are delaying the collection one week (to April 9) to avoid a conflict with the building dedication. United Way supported Friendship Meals provides a free nutritious supper every Thursday evening at the New Hope Christian Church in Orrville to all who come. Remember to bring pocket change to support Friendship Meals on **Sunday, April 9**.

Wait - don't donate blood yet.....Wait for us!

Our first-ever **UU Blood Drive** will be **Thursday, June 1, 2006**, from 1:00 to 6:00 PM. We need 2 shifts of volunteers, 3 per shift. Please see Sue Gross or one of the Social Action committee members.

Our goal is 30 donors, and you can help us reach it. If you're not able to donate, it's OK, we need cookie bakers, too.

Minister's Column

In his address to the College of Wooster Clergy Academy, Dr. Charles Kamer talked of “singing the Lord’s song in a foreign land.” The reference was to the Hebrews who strove to preserve their religion and culture while in exile in Babylon. Dr. Kamer made the comparison to the current situation in the world. So many of the things important to our faith [equal human rights, the separation of Church and State, conservation of the environment, world peace and justice] are in direct conflict with the religious-speak of the current United States. Sam Harris [*End of Faith*-which I promise to stop quoting after this!] underscores the importance of a worldview based on a future life. If we are simply waiting for heaven and/or for Jesus to return, then no amount of poverty or sickness, no level of drilling or pollution are relevant. It will all be laid to waste, anyway, when Armageddon comes. And, if only those who behave in a way a religion defines as ‘righteous’ will be saved, then all the rest of the population-sinners- be damned. How **does** one sing the song, or remain true to our religious principles when a nihilistic version of religion has such a loud and powerful voice?

John Buehrens penned hopeful words. “Blessed are those who yearn for deepening more than escape; who are not afraid to grow in spirit...Blessed are those who know that the work of the church is the transformation of society; who have a vision of Beloved Community transcending the present, and who do not shrink from controversy, sacrifice, or change.” What a challenge! May this be a community which supports such a calling, as we walk together, may we continue to sing...and may our chorus be heard in the land!



DRE Column

The excitement of our Open House and Dedication of our New Building is upon us! The R.E. Committee is busy making plans. Of course, your children will be involved!!

The number of children has again increased. At last count we had 65—contrasted with 51 when we moved in October. Wow! We have made color-coded nametags in order that the greeters may more quickly identify a fellow classmate when a new child walks in the door. These nametags are to be housed in the LARGE RACK in the entryway. Parents—please help by seeing that your children wear their nametags. Thanks!

Since we’re getting more and more new families, I will repeat here some basic information regarding picking up children. All children in the Nursery, Blessed Bees, and Earth Spirits are to be picked up at 11:45. All young children are then welcome to play on the blue rug at the front of the Sanctuary, “A Special Place.” If your child doesn’t wish to play there, he or she is the parents’ responsibility during coffee hour.

The Knebusch family recently donated a full-size puppet theatre to us! It is currently being used in the Earth Spirits classroom. Our deepest thanks to Elise, Maddie, Clare, and Kurt! Speaking of donations, Kay Bowen has updated our book wish list and has posted it on the bulletin board. This year we are concentrating on books for the older children. The Wooster Book Company and Books, Etc. in Orville also have our list on file. How about this for an idea? Donate a book in honor of our new building!?!

Several members of the R.E. Committee will be attending a Curriculum Fair to be held at East Shore Church on April 29th from 9 to 3. Anyone interested in joining us, please let me know. Childcare and lunch are free.

The UUA is beginning a huge undertaking called “A Conversation About and for Youth.” You’ll be hearing much more about this soon, as every congregation is being strongly encouraged to become deeply involved.

Happy Spring! Marge

More Committee News

from the Fundraising Committee

We Need You!

The Fundraising Committee needs you! We have several activities coming up that will require LOTS of volunteers from the fellowship.

We need six or more people to help with organizing and running the **UUFWC garage sale in June**. We will set the specific date shortly.

We need eight to twelve people to help with a fundraising **booth at the Wooster July 4th celebration**. We'll be doing 'Sand Art'—it looks like a ton of fun.

We need at least twelve people per weekend to help us raise funds by **selling hot dogs at Buehler's** on two to three weekends over the summer. August 18 and 19 are firm dates; we will know the others soon.

Funds raised through these activities will be used for programming and keeping our fellowship financially healthy. Importantly, we will be making ourselves visible in the community and raising funds from outside the fellowship.

Look for a sign-up sheet when you buy your UUFWC polo shirt or tell Peg Redinbaugh where you will be able to lend a hand. THANKS!

Membership Minute

Some ideas to help children feel welcome and included in our fellowship:

- Greet children as well as adults. Be as intentional about learning children's names as you are about learning adults' names.
- With the parents' permission, occasionally invite a child you are acquainted with to sit with you at the start of the service.
- During the offering on Sundays when children are present, pass the basket to the children, rather than over their heads.
- Open yourself to what you can learn from our children, and to what you might be able to teach or model for them.

This Month

PFLAG

The Rabbi David Horowitz, a national Board member of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) will speak at the local PFLAG meeting on **Thursday, April 20** at 7 pm. They will meet at our fellowship. Attendees of Summer Institute last summer will remember Rabbi Horowitz. All interested are invited to attend.

Top 10 Reasons to Attend a Circle Supper*

- 1) You won't have to plan dinner.
- 2) You can bring the kids.
- 3) You can come alone.
- 4) You'll know what everyone's talking about on Sunday.
- 5) You won't break the bank.
- 6) You'll catch up with old UU friends.
- 7) You'll meet those new UU's you've been curious about.
- 8) You can try great new food.
- 9) You'll be home before midnight.
- 10) You'll have lots of fun!

*Circle Suppers are a small, organized potluck dinner with ~8-12 UU's meeting at the home of a fellow UU for conversation and food. Suppers will be held **Saturday, April 29** at 6 pm. To sign up:

- Add your name(s) to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the kitchen window or
- Give the information to Mary Wicks (name(s), preferred type of dish (if any), willingness to host).

Deadline is April 16 (exceptions made) and you'll receive your assignment on April 23.

COFFEE HOUSE

Saturday, April 22 from 7 to 10:30 pm
\$4 donation at the door.

Come for an enjoyable evening of Music, Poetry & Fun.

Coffee & Teas provided

Interested in performing?
Contact Gregg Sheffield.

This Month

EYES WIDE OPEN is an exhibit sponsored by the American Friends Service committee on the human cost of the Iraq War. The exhibit features one pair of shoes for every Ohio military casualty and one pair of shoes for every 1,000 Iraqi civilians killed. Among other elements is a multimedia display exploring the history, cost and consequences of the war. A variety of area groups and churches are working together to bring this exhibit to Wooster, **April 21-23** at the following locations:

Friday, April 21, 10 am to 10 pm at the Wooster Gazebo. A candlelight prayer service will be at 7:30.

Saturday, April 22, 10 am to 6 pm at the fairgrounds.

Sunday, April 23, 1 pm to 6 pm at the College of Wooster near Lowry. An interfaith service will be at 5.

Volunteers are needed to help staff the exhibit. If you can help, contact Mary Wicks.

CHILD CARE GUIDELINES FOR NON-R.E. RELATED ACTIVITIES

According to our "Child and Youth Protection Policy," there shall always be two child caregivers present, especially in the case of one child only being cared for.

An exception to this rule would be if the child's own parent is present. Child caregivers should have filled in an application form and given permission for a background check, unless that person is a youth. It is advisable to have a least one qualified adult present if one of the caregivers is a youth.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO BE A REIMBURSED OR VOLUNTEER CAREGIVER, PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE LIST IN THE FOYER.

If your group needs child care, please do not ask the Youth Group leaders for their help, but rather consult the list in the foyer.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

UUSC Holiday Card Design Contest

Creative UUSC supporters of all ages are invited to submit a festive design for a new UUSC holiday card for the 2006 holiday season.

Please visit www.uusc.org/holidaycards for submission guidelines & last year's winners. Deadline April 28, 2006.

Every Month

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

meets 3rd Sundays during school year at 7:00 pm
April 23: (note date change) If Grace is True

DRUMMING CIRCLE

1st Fridays

On February 3 from 7 to 9 pm

NEEDLEWORK GROUP

3rd Saturdays from 2-4 pm
at the fellowship

OHIOANS FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY

We are working for the civil right of marriage for same-sex couples in Ohio. Meetings are the 4th Tuesday, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

WISE WOMEN'S CIRCLE

The Wisdom Circle meets on 4th Monday at the fellowship from 6:30-8:30 pm.

SOCRATES' CAFE

Ever want to discuss the difficult questions in life??? Then, please join us on the second Friday of the month at the Wooster Book Co. from 7-9 pm for Socrates' Cafe. Bring thought provoking questions or explorable themes to discuss.

WUUPS

Meets the Sunday before the full moon at the fellowship. The next meeting is April 9.

Rachel Webb has a new job and recently moved to the Cleveland area. Her new address is available in the paper or email versions of the newsletter. (effective March 25, 2006).

Other Important Information

COFFEE ASSIGNMENTS

We have adopted the policy of assigning coffee duty each week during the regular church year. At most, you would be responsible for making coffee once a year. There are directions near the coffee maker, treats are optional. Sharing this responsibility makes it easier on everyone.

April	2	Kathy Green & Cris Sullens
	9	Mary Wicks & Rachel Webb
	16	Jay Klemme & Mike Anderson
	23	Leroy Curtis
	30	Mariola Family
May	7	Jay & Lucia Weinroth
	14	Jim & Jan Wheelis

If you wish to volunteer, please add your name to the list which is posted on the announcement board.

If you are unable to make coffee on your assigned week, please find your own replacement.

Rides for College Students

The fellowship offers a rides service for College of Wooster students who wish to attend Sunday services. Following is the schedule of drivers for the coming weeks. Drivers, if you cannot drive on your scheduled date, please arrange your own substitute. We meet in front of the Lowery Center at 10:10 AM.

April 2 (morning) - Ruth Sewell

April 2 (afternoon dedication service) - Students, please make your own arrangements. One of the regular drivers will probably be happy to oblige.

April 9 - Sue and Tom Gross

April 16 - Hazel and Clif Bushnell

April 23 - Margo Warner Curl & Tom Strickler

April 30 - Ruth Sewell

BIRTHDAYS

April	9	Kate Freed
	12	Jay Klemme
	12	Kurt Knebusch
	20	Margaret Boyer

NEW MEMBERS

Beth Borham first visited the UUFWC on our first Sunday in the new building, October 30, while doing an internship with Margaret Minick-Blake. After 20 years of reading college catalogs, she settled on social work as a profession on September 11, 2001. Through a special program at Wayne College, she will earn an associate's degree in the fall and a bachelor's soon after. Beth lives in Orrville with her husband, John, and their 13-year-old son, Tim, who often attends services. She works at the circulation desk at the Orrville Public Library, which suits her, she says, because "I get paid to be chatty." She also volunteers at Orrvilla, an assisted living center. She loves to read, crochet, and design purses, and she has been a tongue-in-cheek columnist for the local newspaper.

Karen McCoy grew up attending Baptist Sunday School in Twin Falls, Idaho. She earned a BS at Oregon State University, where she met her husband, Ed, who has also been attending the UUFWC frequently. They moved to Wooster 20 years ago when Ed accepted a job at OARDC, where he is now an associate professor. Until recently they attended Central Christian Church. When their son, Kevin (now 21), was young, Karen became a freelance writer and published health science articles in *Children's Digest*. She has since published two children's books that draw on her Japanese heritage, *A Tale of Two Tengu* and *Bon Odori Dancer*. See our children's library for copies that Karen kindly donated! Karen is now studying art with the goal of illustrating her own books in the future.

A Look at The Year Ahead

May 7	UUFWC Annual Meeting-following the service
May 13	Ladies Tea
June 21-25	General Assembly in St. Louis.
July 9-15	OMD Summer Institute at Kenyon College-The brochures are available at the fellowship.
July 23-29	EAGLES-district wide leadership training.
Nov 18	Madrigal Feast.
Dec 3	Alternative Gift Market will be held in our building
Dec ?	Evergreen Workshop. We had such fun this year, we will repeat it next year

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April						
2 8:45-Fundraising Mtg 10:30: -Cushman 4:00: Dedication of Building	3 6:45 pm: Zen Meditation	4	5 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal	6 7 pm Intrafellowship Committee	7 7-9 pm: Adult OWL	8 10:30 am: 5-6 grade OWL
9 Day of Change 10:30: TITLE??- Snow Owl 12: Pledge Drive Lunch	10 6:45 pm: Zen Meditation 7 pm: RE Committee meeting	11 7 pm: Board Meeting	12 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal 8 pm: StorySalad Players Rehearse	13	14 7-9 pm: Adult OWL	15 10:30 am: 5-6 grade OWL 2-4 pm: Needlework Group
16 Easter 6:30: Sunrise Service 10:30: Velveteen Rabbit- Strawn & Thomas	17 6:45 pm: Zen Meditation	18	19 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal 8 pm: StorySalad Players Rehearse	20 7 pm: PFLAG- see pg 4	21 Eyes Wide Open (all weekend) 7-9 pm: Adult OWL Elaine is out of town for a class	22 OMD Annual Meeting-Columbus 7: Coffeehouse
23 10:30: Intelligent Design -Nault 12:00: Parent Circle 12:00: Membership Mtg 7:00: Book Group	24 6:30-8:30 pm: Wise Women's Circle 6:45 pm: Zen Meditation	25 7 pm: Ohioans for Equal Marriage	26 7 pm: Choir Rehearsal 8 pm: StorySalad Players Rehearse	27	28	29 10-11 am: Story Salad Players Circle Suppers
30 10:30 Humor Sunday- O'Rourke						

About the UUFWC

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County,
a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Mission Statement: The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County welcomes, accepts and supports all individuals seeking personal and spiritual growth in an open community. For our children and adults, we nurture and promote the development of ideas, beliefs and respect for self, others and the earth. We celebrate diversity, honor the individual and collective search for truth and strive for social justice.

How to Find Us: We meet at 10:30 am on Sundays. Any questions, please call: 330-262-9194
3186 Burbank Road, Wooster. (on the west side of Burbank Road, 2 short blocks north of Oldman Road)

Minister: Rev. V. Elaine Strawn, email: minister@uufwc.org

Director of Religious Education: Marge Thomas, e-mail: dre@uufwc.org

Office Administrator & Newsletter Editor: Anne Wilson, email: fellowship@uufwc.org

Newsletter Deadline: The 17th day of *every* month!

Website: www.uufwc.org Check out our new website!!

Yahoo Group Email: uufwc@yahoo.com One email reaches nearly everyone!

Office Hours: Elaine: Monday 1-5 pm, Wednesday 6 pm– 9 pm, Thursday 9 am-1 pm
Marge: Tuesday & Thursday 11:30—4 pm
Anne: Monday & Wednesday 11 am—2 pm, Fridays by appointment

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Wooster, OH 44691



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