



The Newsletter for

March 2007

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

UU News

March Service Schedule

March 4: 10:30 am *Coming of Age* [the 2007 COA class]

Since UUs are responsible for finding their own religious truths, personal reflection is very important in each of life's stages. Rachel Grimm and Brianna Skubik-Hoy have taken time to do this with their mentors, and after a year, they are ready to share it with all of us. It is a truly inspiring service.

March 11: 10:30 am *The Big Tent of Unitarian Universalism* [Rev. Julie Stoneberg]

The tent of Abraham is said to have been welcoming, open in all directions, and therefore able to encompass Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. How might we use this model in our pluralistic and theologically diverse faith? What holds up our tent and maintains its openness?

March 18: 10:30 am *Espiranza Threads* [Sister Mary Eileen Boyle]

Sister Mary Eileen Boyle is the Executive Director of Esperanza Threads, a Bedford, Ohio cooperative employing low-income individuals for manufacturing organic cotton clothing. She will speak about fair wages and outreach to the unemployed and under-employed.

Potluck after the service—see notice in box below.

March 18: 4:30pm *Evensong: An Alternative Service* [Beverly Wire]

This is the third of our small, informal Sunday services, followed by a light pot luck dinner. It is interactive, reflective and very, very friendly. Join us!

March 25: 10:30 am *Sabbath Time* [Rev. Peggy C. Clasen, Minister Emerita, UU Society of Cleveland]

Sabbath time is time to pamper the soul. It need not be a particular day of the week. It is any time intentionally set apart for rest and renewal. It is time for ourselves, for being with our deepest friends, for reflection. In this service I shall reflect on its importance, and how we might go about incorporating it into our lives.

A potluck luncheon will take place after the Sunday service on March 18th to celebrate our 'Home Is Where the Heart Is' annual fundraising effort to support our Fellowship. Please plan to bring a dish to share and enjoy the company of kindred spirits.

*Don't know where to direct your comments?
Comment cards are available on the ledge across from the nametag rack—
We want to know what you think.*

Inside this issue:

From the Board	2
Social Action in Action	
Ministers Column	3
DRE Column	
What's Happening	4,5
Birthdays, Anniversaries, rides for COW students & the Year Ahead	6
Calendar	7

From the Board

We are growing, and that is good! We are suffering growing pains as well, and that too is good! Did you know that in the year and a half that we have been in our new Fellowship building we have been averaging 108 members, friends and guests at our Sunday services? That is a 30 % increase since we left our old home. Did you know that our religious education program has more than doubled since we left the building on Columbus and Saybolt Streets? This growth was way beyond our wildest expectations.

We now have a home that attracts many more people who share our religious views and spiritual needs. AND many of them have children, and they are our future! So, growing pains are good. But we need your help.

Our bigger building, which houses one or more programs or activities nearly every day of the week, along with the grounds and parking lots, simply costs more to operate. The Religious Exploration program is challenging our budget -- not only do we have more children in the program, we also no longer have the benefit of the \$5,000 a year LREDA grant to support the salary and benefits of our Director of Religious Education. That grant was not meant to be on going, and we did benefit for several years.

We need everyone's help as we seek to increase our 2007-2008 budget by 20%. This increase is modest considering how rapidly we have grown over the past 18 months. You should have received your pledge brochure by now. We hope you will consider supporting the Fellowship according to what this community means to you. Just complete the tear-off section of the brochure, and return it in the envelope provided.

This message is more than about raising money. It is what this Fellowship means in our lives and what it can do to fulfill your religious, spiritual and educational needs.

The Fellowship is a place for me to meet with like-minded social and religious liberals. Skip Nault, Stewardship Committee member

The Fellowship is a place where I can be myself, and when I fall, have a soft place to land. Helen Meyers, Stewardship Committee Chair

Social Action in Action

BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY IS COMING!: on April 1st, Humor Sunday, the CAKES FOR KIDS program will be collecting funds to buy ingredients for the volunteer bakers to make birthday cakes for the children in the Every Woman's House shelter for battered women. The Bakers Dozen Chalice Circle also uses the funds to cook a monthly meal for the families in the shelter. The collection will focus on funds and Buehler's Gift Cards. Baking ingredients are not needed this year.

SOCIAL JUSTICE/COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY: the third and final presentation in the Social Action Committee's annual lecture series will be held on March 18. The speaker will be Sister Mary Eileen Boyle. See page 1 for more details. She will also have organic cotton clothing items made by the cooperative available for sale. Check out her display before and after the service.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE PROGRAM: Thank you to all of you in the Fellowship for your donations to the Guest at Your Program this year. Your donations are so needed and appreciated for the human rights and social justice work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee worldwide. The voluntary donation total was \$2,704.03. With the matching grant for donations of \$75.00 or more, the total amount of our donations increased to \$4,695.03. The Guest Program was sponsored by the Fellowship's R.E. Committee and the Social Action Committee.

DAY OF CHANGE: March 11, the day we put our clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings Time, is the annual occasion when we ask for your support for one of the area's free meals programs. The "**Day of Change**" effort supports "Friendship Meals" in Orrville, which provides a free, nutritious meal each Thursday evening to all who come to the New Hope Christian Center. On that day we collect pocket change (and paper money also if you are able to give it) for our support of this effort. This program is supported by United Way in Orrville, local churches, and individuals who contribute to the "Day of Change."

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE: March 18 is Macaroni and Cheese Sunday.

KEEP SAVING aluminum cans, Buehler's Our Family labels and motel toiletries. They provide help for many people.

The Minister's Column

Leadership Wooster hosts a panel of spiritual leaders once a year. One of the questions asked of us was, "What is the biggest misconception about your religion?" It was easy for me to answer. Actually, there are two: first, we are not New Age Flower Children [though there would be nothing wrong with that]; our history goes back to the Protestant Reformation. Second, we cannot "believe whatever we want." This misconception is harder to explain. Since we don't have a creed, to what should we hold ourselves accountable? Personally I chose to join a community, rather than remaining a solitary seeker. I needed the support of a spiritual community: both for encouragement along the path and to be held accountable by people whom I respected. I believe in people—you, me, folks outside the UUFWC. I believe people are perfectly capable of seeking—and finding—spiritual truth. I also believe that we need to be challenged sometimes when our own limited viewpoints get in the way of growth. Even though we have no stated creed to ground us, we are grounded in this covenantal community.

In the first session of the Mission writing process, people were asked to imagine themselves describing the UUFWC to someone who doesn't attend. The words which arose most often were: diversity, inclusivity, and openness. These were followed by comments about ethical behavior, and the fact that we don't have a creed. Also mentioned often was the sense that we treat religious questions very seriously, and that we value all religious traditions. [Some of us are uncomfortable around Christianity and others worry that we are insensitive to Christians]. We have principles—goals—which help us to live with ourselves and the world around us. We covenant with one another to live with integrity and to respect others' right to do the same. We covenant to treat our religious quest responsibly, and to encourage others to do the same. You know, maybe the critics are right, maybe ours isn't a religion, maybe it is simply a way of life.

DRE Column

The Bake Sale and Valentine decorations were a huge success—thanks to Lois Grant, Sue Gross, Scott Crawford, Kelly Chandler, Patty and Carol Morrison, and all the children and parents who worked on them. We thank you all wholeheartedly! \$378 was earned and given to SOS, an organization dedicated to ending child hunger in the U.S.

While all of you were baking and eating, I was learning more about UU Identity at a Renaissance Module. It was most enlightening and gave me fodder for a future teachers' meeting. One of the presenters was Pat Ellenwood, who is the head of the LREDA grant committee. As she handed me my diploma she said, "...from a congregation which has earned a LREDA grant."

Tim Breiner and I have begun a new OWL class for seven children ages 6 through 8. We have had two preliminary meetings, and on March 3rd will begin the first of eight sessions. Parents are required to attend these classes—which makes for a cozy ambiance.

Thanks to Tisha Russo, who went to the recent CON in Columbus as a sponsor. She has also volunteered to go to the next one, the Social Action CON at Shaker March 9th-11th.

PARENTS—Come socialize with other parents at our PARENT WORK PARTY on March 3rd from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. We will be deep-cleaning the R.E. wing. The cleaning materials are at the church, but you could bring buckets, long-handled dusters, rags, and maybe even a favorite vacuum cleaner. The more the merrier! (Obviously, there will be no child care because we will be "partying" in all the classrooms...)

We are famous in the district and even in the country for our building. People say to me, "Wow, you even made *UU World!*" On March 31st we will be holding the FIRST DISTRICT EVENT IN OUR BUILDING. It is a Curriculum Fair, which will be attended by DREs and R.E. educators from three states. The fair will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We will be providing worship, lunch, and childcare. Chef Scott Crawford will cater the lunch. The R.E. Committee could use additional help with moving furniture, setting up for lunch, and clean-up. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet if you are willing to help for some of that time. We really want to show off our church to its best advantage!

This Month

OME Movie Night

Ohioans for Marriage Equality is sponsoring a "Movie Night" on **Saturday, March 3rd** at the Fellowship.

Starting at 7pm, the featured film will be "Tying the Knot", a 2004 docudrama chronicling the struggle for equal marriage rights in the U. S. and around the world (including amazing footage of gay hippies invading a Manhattan marriage bureau in 1971). The plight of two individuals whose partners died demonstrates the blatant inequality and denial of rights faced by gay couples and families. This award-winning film will amaze, inform, and entertain you. Join us on March 3rd!

R.E. Parent Work Party!

Saturday, March 3rd from 9:00 to noon

Come and fellowship while deep-cleaning classrooms!

UFWC Spring Garden Seminar

Please come and help us plan the 2007 Spring Garden Seminar. This event will be complete with workshops, lunch, activities for the kids, and much more. The Fundraising Committee needs your help in planning this April event. We are holding our first planning session on **Tuesday, March 6th at 7 p.m.** at the Fellowship. We will be planning in the following areas:

- Publicity
- Workshop Topics/Speakers
- Lunch/Entertainment
- Plant Sales
- Other Sales
- Kids' Activities

In order to make this event successful and potentially an annual event for the community, we need your help! For more information please attend the meeting on March 6th and with any questions contact Kim Harris

Madrigal Planning

Sunday, March 11, 2007 after the service

Lords, Ladies, the time is naught to near

To think upon the Madrigal & kindly volunteer

The following committees are in great need of help:

Dinner, sets, Publicity & Costumes

So if you wish to join us and help to spread the cheer

We welcome you participate & plan a banner year.

~Sharon Delgadillo

Next Month

Passover Seder—UU Style

Coming **Saturday, April 7 at 6 pm– 8 pm**

Have you ever wondered what Passover is really all about? Have you ever wondered why there are special foods and rituals observed during one of the most holy days of the Jewish tradition? Then you'll be in the right place to find out on Saturday, April 7 at the UUF. Come and help celebrate Passover, UU STYLE with us!

This will be a semi-traditional service, with a full Passover Seder. This will be a potluck, but a potluck with a twist... We want you to keep (cook) kosher! Not sure how? Dia Miller will tell you and will provide (simple) recipes for you! There will be a sign up sheet on the small table in the lobby and we want YOU and yours to come and join us! We hope you will help us with the readings, as well as the food. THIS IS AN EVENT FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING CHILDREN!!! We're working on childcare for those of you with smaller children who may not be able to sit through the entire event.

The 2nd Annual

MEET N' GREET Breakfast

Coming YOUR way on **Sunday, April 22, 2007.**

Look for details soon!

Questions? See Dia Miller

Landscape Request

Please save your flattened cardboard. We have a nearly unlimited use this spring. We'll use it to smother weeds in the beginning a prairie planting.

Ruth Sewell

Adult Religious Education

invites you to attend

"MY RHYTHM IS OK; YOUR RHYTHM IS OK"

with Bill Alkire and Susan English

4 Fridays in March at 7:30-9 p.m.

Starting March 2 thru 24, 2007

Come explore and better understand the inner and outer rhythms that shape our lives. Our goal is to heighten self-awareness and self-acceptance, stretch by trying new things, and try letting go in a safe place. To sign up, please contact Bill & Susan

New Faces at the UUF

Say 'Hello' to our newest member, Kelly Chandler! Kelly is married to Nate Chandler and they have two daughters, Chloe (3 yrs old) and Emelia (1 yr old). Kelly grew up in Apple Creek and Nate graduated from Triway High (Go Titans!). Kelly and her family live in Orrville. Kelly teaches part time senior exercise classes and also teaches Therapeutic Recreation classes at Kent State University. Kelly says she is most proud of the fact that she went to college at 21 and earned an MA, considering she was a terrible student in high school and was never really considered 'college material.' Nate is a project manager for a technical writing firm.

Kelly says, " I love the outdoors, growing perennials, birdwatching and hiking in the woods. (I just have no time to do those things right now!)" She's an avid animal lover and is owned by four cats and (I do quote) "... one geriatric, blind, epileptic Jack Russell name Charlie..." Her favorite quote is by Ghandi: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." She says that the family has had all kinds of animals and most of her pets are rescues.

Kelly said that she was excited about coming to the UUF and it's important in her life. She says that she's felt welcomed from the very moment she walked in and that coming has added a lot to her life. She was drawn to the church because of the tag line "We Celebrate Diversity" -- and she found that, "... very meaningful in a world where at best, we 'tolerate' differences." Everyone please make sure you seek out and welcome Kelly and her family!

Thank you

Thank you to all who participated in the Great American Bake Sale.

Thank you to those who donated baked goods and/or ingredients -- we received such a fantastic variety of delicious items! Thank you to the children who participated in baking cookies, decorating cookies, and packaging up goodies -- and to the parents who brought them! And thank you to everyone who made purchases! All of your efforts brought in a total of \$378.00!!! This money is being donated to Share Our Strength, an organization committed to ending child hunger in America.

Every Month

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Meets 3rd Sunday during the school year at 7 pm

March 18: Memory Keeper's Daughter
by Kim Edwards

April 15: Kabbalah: A Love Story by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner

May 20: Collapse by Jared Diamond

CAKES FOR THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Thursdays, March 8 & 22 from 7-9 pm.

Last session at Susan Heady's home on March 31.

CHALICE CIRCLES

~*Getting to Know You Circle*: First Thursday of every month at 7 pm in the Library.

COVEN OF UUFWC

Meets on a monthly basis in members homes, usually on Saturday evenings. For Information, contact Tisha Russo

NEEDLEWORK GROUP

Meets 3rd Saturday from 2-4 pm in the teen room.

OHIOANS FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY

We are working for the civil right of marriage for same-sex couples in Ohio.

Meets 4th Tuesday from 7 to 8 pm.

WOMEN'S WISDOM CIRCLE

Meets 4th Monday from 6:30-8:30 pm.

We are reading Inside Islam
(Akbar S. Ahmed, Karen Armstrong, et al.)

WOO 2 MOMS

on the first Friday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Contact Traci Smetzer at TraciAndDia@aol.com for more info.

WUUPS

Wayne UU Pagans meets at 7pm at the fellowship on the Sunday closest to the full moon.

March 25—Ostara

For information, contact Gail Carter

Other Important Information

March Birthdays

2 Betsy Sheets
 5 John Schuler
 21 Sandy Sheffield
 25 Denise Bostdorff
 30 Susan English

March Anniversaries

24 Dave & Lynn Drumm

Coffee Duty

March 4 Carol & Patty Morrison
 11 David & Tammy Paul
 18 Dori Smedley
 25 *available*
 April 1 *available*



Would you like to host coffee hour?

*It is easy! All the supplies are in the kitchen,
 treats are optional.*

*The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board near the
 coat room.*

Rides for College Students

The fellowship offers a ride service for College of Wooster students who wish to attend Sunday services. Drivers, if you cannot drive on your scheduled date, please arrange your own substitute. Please meet in front of Lowry Center at 10:10 am

Mar 4 Margo Curl
 11 Clif & Hazel Bushnell
 18 Tom & Sue Gross
 25 Ruth Sewell
 April 1 Margo Curl

Cleaning Volunteers

Thank our cleaning volunteers if you see them.
We really appreciate their time & commitment.

Mar 5 Peg Redinbaugh & John Gross
 Mar 19 Beth & Tim Borham
 April 2 Sue & Scott Gross
 April 16 Margo Curl & Michele Shaw

Library Request

Is anyone able to donate the following issues of the UU World to the fellowship library so that we can fill gaps in the collection? Needed are: Nov/Dec 1993, Nov/Dec 1995, and March/April 2001.

Also, if you happen to have tapes of past Sunday services at home and are not using them, please return them so that they can be processed with cards and pockets for checkout. We will be retaining the current year and the three previous years of these tapes as well as some programs further back. Those recordings we do not keep are being placed in a box right outside the library and are free for the taking.

A Look At the Year Ahead

March 9-11 YRUU Senior High Social Action Con. Held at 1st Cleveland in Shaker Heights, OH
 April 20-21 Ohio Meadville District Annual Meeting at West Shore UU in Rocky River, OH.
 May 6 UUFWC Annual Meeting. After the service, members are encouraged to stay to vote on the business of the fellowship.
 May 18-20 Spring YRUU Con-All Ages. Held at West Shore UU, Rocky River, OH
 June 20-24 UU Association General Assembly—Portland Oregon. The national meeting for all UU Congregations
 July 15-21 Summer Institute at Kenyon College. District-wide summer fun for everyone!
 Nov 16 & 17 Madrigal Dinner 2! ***Help plan for next year—meeting: March 11 after the service.***

March 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Office Hours: Elaine: Wednesday 6 pm—9 pm, Thursday 9 am—1 pm, Friday 2-5 pm Marge: Tuesday & Thursday 11:30—4:00 pm Anne: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 am—12:30 pm</p>				<p>1 7:00pm Getting to Know You Circle</p>	<p>2 12:30pm x team 6:30pm Wood2Moms potluck 7:00pm Rhythms Class</p>	<p>3 9:00am RE cleaning 1:00pm OWL class 7:30pm OME Movie Night</p>
<p>4 Aluminum Cans 10:30am COA service</p>	<p>5 6:45pm Zen Meditation</p>	<p>6 6:15pm Membership meeting 7:00pm Garden Seminar Planning Meeting</p>	<p>7 7:00pm choir</p>	<p>8 7:00pm Cakes for Queen of Heaven</p>	<p>9 YRUU Sr Hi Con 7:00pm Rhythms Class</p>	<p>10 YRUU Sr Hi Con 10:00am OWL Class 9:00pm STARSs class overnite</p>
<p>11 Day of Change 10:30am The Big Tent Of UUism—Rev. Julie Stoneberg 12:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 12:00pm Madrigal Planning meeting 12:30pm UU Inquiry</p>	<p>12 6:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee</p>	<p>13 7:00pm Board Meeting</p>	<p>14 5 Baker's Dozen at EWH 6:15pm Music committee meeting 7:00pm choir</p>	<p>15 7:00pm PFLAG-Trinity UCC</p>	<p>16 12:30pm x team 7:00pm Rhythms Class</p>	<p>17 newsletter deadline 10:00am OWL Class 2:00pm Needlework Group</p>
<p>18 People2People 10:30am Espiranza threads 12:30pm pledge drive lunch 4:30pm Alternative Service 7:00pm Book Discussion</p>	<p>19 6:45pm Zen Meditation</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 7:00pm choir 8:00pm worship Assoc</p>	<p>22 6:30pm Cakes for the Queen of Heaven 7:00pm AAUW</p>	<p>23 7:00pm Rhythms Class</p>	<p>24 7:00pm Cakes for Queen of Heaven</p>
<p>25 10:30am Sabbath Time - Rev Peggy Clasen 1:00pm Private Rental 7:00pm WUUPS</p>	<p>26 6:30pm Women Wisdom Circle 6:45pm Zen Meditation</p>	<p>27 7:00pm OME</p>	<p>28 7:00pm choir</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 12:30pm x team</p>	<p>31 9:00am OMD Curriculum Fair</p>

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 at 3186 Burbank Road., in Wooster. 330-262-9194

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

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

Board of Trustees: Helen Meyers, president, Susan English, vice president, John Gross, secretary, Phil Grimm, Carol Morrison, Meghan Gray.

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

Newsletter Deadline: The 17th day of every month!

Website: www.uufwc.org Webmaster: Lee Simpson

Yahoo Group Email: Address your email to: uufwc@yahoogroups.com One email reaches nearly everyone! To join, email the office: fellowship@uufwc.org.

Office Hours: Elaine: Wednesday 6 pm– 9 pm, Thursday 9 am-1 pm, Friday 2-5 pm
Marge: Tuesday & Thursday 11:30—4:00 pm
Anne: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 am—12:30 pm

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