



The Newsletter for

May 2007

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

UU News

## May Service Schedule

**May 6: 10:30 am** *The View from Another Age* [Cakes for the Queen of Heaven class]  
UUA curriculum came to life this winter as the role of women through the ages created empowerment, healing, vision. Come share the excitement.

After the service, stay for the annual meeting. Once a year, members of the congregation gather to vote on matters important to us all.

**May 13: 10:30 am** *The Stories of Women* [Wise Women's Circle]

The Wise Women Circle will celebrate the lives of wise and strong women throughout UU history. We have much to admire.

**May 20: 10:30 am** *RE Sunday & Bridging* [Marge Thomas & RE Facilitators]

Many of us first walked into the UUFWC because we knew our children needed a good education...religiously that is. Come learn see some of their results and celebrate their achievements.

**May 20: 4:30pm** *Evensong: An Alternative Service* [Beverly Wire]

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

**May 27: 10:30 am** *Honoring Our Dead* [Rev. V. Elaine Strawn]

Memorial Day weekend has been a time to remember veterans who have died for our country specifically, but also to remember those who added much to our lives while they still lived. It is a fitting time to remember the efforts of devoted UUs as they sought to bring about justice in the world.

### **Call for the Meeting: Annual Meeting for the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship: Sunday, May 6, 2007 after the service**

All members may vote on: new Board members, bylaw changes, informal name change proposal & new mission statement

A copy of the entire bylaws is posted on the bulletin board outside Anne's office & was sent via the yahoo group.

### **Inside this issue:**

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## ***From the Board***

We are working to transition the Annual Pledge Committee into the Stewardship Committee. The three goals that comprise the Stewardship Committee's 5-year plan include to nurture the joyful giving of time and treasure to this Fellowship, to create a culture of stewardship by changing the focus of the pledge drive from meeting a budget to fulfilling Fellowship dreams, and to honor Fellowship stewardship activities of our members and friends. If you are interested in being part of the Stewardship Committee, please see me.

### **This is the first draft of the charge to the committee:**

We create a culture of stewardship by changing focus of the pledge drive from meeting a budget to fulfilling Fellowship dreams. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship regards stewardship as honoring the past, caring for the present and assuring the future. Every member and friend is responsible for these three elements of stewardship, which include the following as practiced today:

Historical documents are archived and available for anyone to view.

We constructed a building and are developing the land on which it rests in keeping with our respect for the Earth and the interdependent web of existence, of which we are a part.

We incorporate environmentally safe methods of cleaning and caring for our facilities, and recycle whenever possible.

Our Fellowship is a model for what anyone who cares for the Earth can do to really make a difference.

We are the liberal voice unlike any other in our geographic area, and celebrate - rather than merely tolerate - diversity.

This is how we honor the past, keep the present, and leave a legacy for future generations.

### **ANNUAL PLEDGE DRIVE**

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for organizing, promoting, and initiating the annual pledge drive to support facilities, programming, (and all the elements of stewardship noted above) over a fiscal year, from July 1 through June 30. The committee will adequately publicize the Fellowship's goals, as determined by the Board, to the congregation, and convey the need for yearly pledges to meet these goals. Furthermore, the committee will provide a mechanism for the members and friends to make a financial commitment to the Fellowship of the coming year.

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## ***Social Action in Action***

**SPEAK OUT: THE IMPORTANCE OF DISSENT:** join the ACLU of Ohio and the Social Action Committee for this presentation on Thursday, May 31 at 7:00 pm at the Fellowship. Watch "Dissent", a half-hour documentary on freedom of speech and how it has been impacted in recent years. Following the film, join ACLU of Ohio Litigation Coordinator Gary Daniels in a discussion about the right to protest and how the government's surveillance programs have impaired many groups' ability to freely express their political views.

**ANOTHER BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY IS COMING:** there's cake in the freezer and we'll be serving it on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to raise money 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. Very few funds were collected on the April 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Cake Sunday because there were no reminders about it that day. Here's another chance to help support this project which brings some pleasure to families under stress.

**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Friday, May 11, 2007, 12:00 to 5:30 PM.**

We need at least 15 units of blood for the Red Cross to break even. We need your help to make this a success! We need to provide cookies and volunteers to help register people and run the canteen. Sign up at the connections table.

**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE:** May 20 is Saltine Sunday.

**KEEP SAVING** aluminum cans and bring them on May 6<sup>th</sup>, bring Buehler's Our Family labels and motel toiletries any time. These simple items provide help for many people.

## ***The Minister's Column***

Dr. Harold Koenig of Duke University Medical Center wrote in *The New Republic*, "Lack of religious involvement has an effect on mortality that is equivalent to four years of smoking one pack of cigarettes per day." In other words, it's good for you to be here! Now, there are many reasons Dr. Koenig would say this. Many religions would require a lifestyle which reduced the chances of death: Baptists are famous for their stance against use of alcohol, Mormons frown on caffeine use, Seventh Day Adventists are vegetarians. Add to this denominations which restrict on sexual license, or restrict travel, and you can see why religious people may live longer. So far, none of these restrictions has applied to Unitarian Universalism, though! So let's take it to a different level: religious affiliation often brings with it a community of support and love. In "Why God Won't Go Away," neurologist Andrew Newberg comments on the evolutionary benefits of human ritual. It generates emotional discharges that represent subjective feelings of tranquility, ecstasy, and awe which can result in unitary states. In other words, one becomes bonded with a group—rather than isolated and alone. Life can be a lonely business, filled with vulnerability, uncertainty, fear. We can become demoralized. The experience of shared ritual can bring to consciousness the realization that, after all, we are not alone, we have a community around us whose common humanity will allow us to understand, to empathize, to offer strength, support, compassion. And, if we push this a step further, isn't it likely that this realization will also give us the strength and confidence to go out into the world as agents of this same empathy and compassion? I can't think of a better reason for a Fellowship to exist, can you?

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## ***Director of Religious Exploration Column***

The Curriculum Fair for the District was a grand success! Attendees oohed and aahed over our building, our hospitality, and the food, provided by **Chef Scott Crawford**, assisted by **Cheryl Guthrie**. **Adam** and **Tyler Keating** tended to parking; **Emily Curie** was a greeter, baker, and song-leader; **Lois Grant** also greeted, baked, and made coffee; **Georgia Jaeb** played the guitar and was a song-leader; and **David Paul** played the drum. Invaluable assistance was provided by **Anne Wilson**, who made nametags-- and **Helen Ostermiller**, **Gene Meyers**, and **Juan Gross**, who set up furniture and spruced up the outside environment!

On April 15<sup>th</sup> the children did their fourth Social Action project, which was planting for our land. As the weather did not allow for outside work, they worked indoors with the assistance of **Lois Grant**, **Mary Wicks**, **Rich Grant**, and **Fred Michel**. The plants will be put outdoors soon.

The OWL class taught by Tim Breiner and me will conclude on May 5<sup>th</sup>. We have had six children in attendance, plus one who is doing the program at home.

Upcoming is a Mother's Day Open House (for moms AND dads)—in the classrooms. Invitations have gone out to parents asking them to come meet other parents and share snack-time with their children.

We will be hosting the Lifespan Faith Development Committee on May 17<sup>th</sup>. That is a slightly different group from the LREDA chapter, although there is some overlap of participants—DREs from the entire district. They seem to be including me as a member....

The last Youth CON of the year for our Senior Highs will be May 18th-20th at West Shore. The theme is the 1990s.

May 20<sup>th</sup> is a very SPECIAL DAY! It is R.E. Sunday, when you will be treated to having all the children share some of what they have been doing this year. All facilitators are asked to be in attendance, and—of course, everyone else!

Marge

## ***This Month at the Fellowship***

### **Articulating UU Faith**

“What do I say  
after I say I’m a Unitarian Universalist?”

At 7:00 each Sunday evening in May,  
we’ll try to answer that question  
by digging a little deeper into our UU tradition  
and what it means to us individually.

**Class starts Sunday May 6.**

Join us! Questions? Call Elaine Strawn. A sign-  
up sheet is hanging on the bulletin board across  
from the coffee window.

Birthday Cake Sunday is being repeated on **May 6.**

With your help,

we provide birthday cakes for the children who are  
living at Every Women’s House on their birthdays and  
one meal a month for everyone there.

We need money for cake & icing ingredients, and sup-  
plies for our monthly meals.

We have 3 requests:

1. Gift cards from JoAnn's
2. Gift cards from Buehler’s
3. Cash to shop at Aldi's.

Thank you from cake decorators & Baker's Dozen.

**Don't let this be our last Blood Drive!!!**

**Friday, May 11, 2007, 12:00 to 5:30 PM.**

We need at least 15 units of blood for the Red Cross  
to break even.

We need your help to make this a success!

The annual Ladies Day Tea will be  
**Saturday, May 12th, 2007,**  
at the home of Sue Gross, from  
2:00 - 5:00 PM.



Please bring your own tea cup  
and food dainty to share OR a personal item for Every  
Women's House: toothpaste & toothbrushes, hair-  
brushes, shampoos, make-up, etc., anything you'd  
need away from home. Susan Heady will teach us  
the proper way to make a cup of tea.

All ladies welcome! Sign up on the easel in the lobby.

The Membership Committee would like to extend  
a very heartfelt **THANK YOU to all who helped  
and participated with the Meet N' Greet.**

We couldn't do it without you!

## ***This Month in the Area***

The Ohio- Meadville District is having a **Women  
Spirit Conference Day on May 5**, at the Akron  
UU Church. Various workshops will be available,  
both earth-centered and of general interest to  
women. The theme is woman supporting  
women. Susan Heady will be presenting a work-  
shop. Registration forms are available from Gail  
Carter

**Habitat ReStore Review** – Hearts for Habitat is  
sponsoring an open house at the Habitat ReStore  
on Saturday, May 5 from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM.  
Look around and enjoy the music, refreshments,  
entertainment and displays. Admission is free!  
Location is 1451 Spruce Street Ext., Wooster.

**Biltz Build In Wooster-** If you signed up to help  
build houses for Habitat for Humanity-they should  
contact you. Their office phone is 330-263-1713.

## ***Next Month***

### **Picture This!**

~Can you picture yourself:

~On a Saturday morning walk?

~Visiting with other UUs?

~Making the world more beautiful?

~In orange?



If you answered yes to any of these, you are the  
perfect candidate to join the UUF Adopt-A-  
Highway Team. We will pick up trash along a  
lovely 1.8-mile stretch of highway four Saturdays  
from now through fall. YOU can help with all or  
just one. All you need is gloves and a willing  
spirit; we’ll provide on-the-job-training and a  
lovely orange vest.

Our first pickup of the year will be **June 2** begin-  
ning at 9 am. We will meet at Shearer’s equip-  
ment on Route 3 and should be done by 10:30. If  
you can help or would like to be included on fu-  
ture pickups, let me know. Mary Wicks

## ***New Faces at the UUF!!!***

Everyone say hello to **Joanne Schroeder and Judy Smith** from Medina. Joanne and Judy have recently moved their membership from the UU church in Akron to be with us!

Both Joanne and Judy are originally from Ohio - Joanne from Cleveland and Judy from Elyria. Even though Joanne has lived in other areas of the country with her family (she thinks that Iowa is beautiful), she ended up back here. Joanne's comment about Judy was, "She hasn't moved much - she doesn't like change!"

Joanne has been retired for three years from the Berea School District as an elementary school counselor.

Judy is employed in the Berea School District as a middle school counselor. They have two Golden Retriever rescues (Bailey and Emily) and a cat named Sammie. According to Joanne, they have three acres of land near Chippewa Lake and "live in the woods in Medina and LOVE it!"

Joanne enjoys reading, gardening, vintage cardmaking (she's REALLY good at this one!), walking, working out and writing. According to Joanne, Judy is a "good story teller" and enjoys woodworking, reading, work and singing. She's an 'out-doors-woman' at heart and comes from a very musical family. Joanne has two children, Mark (35) who is a police officer and Kris (37) who is a medical assistant.

Both women have recently joined the choir and are really enjoying themselves. If you happen to see Joanne or Judy, please make sure you say "HI!" and welcome. We're thrilled that they've joined us!

### **The UU bed and breakfast directory,**

*UU're Home*, provides a network of hosts in the United States who enjoy meeting new friends & who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

Host listings on website [www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com) are updated whenever changes new hosts are added. The paper edition is published every year in April (and has many listings different from those on the website). For a copy of the 2007 directory, please send a check for \$20 (or \$25 and your e-mail address for both the book and a year's access to the website) to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory. Contact us at 828-281-3253 or at info@uurehome.com, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

## ***Every Month***

### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

Meets 3rd Sunday during the school year at 7 pm

May 20: Collapse by Jared Diamond

### **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

### **DRUMMING CIRCLE IS RE-STARTING!**

4TH SUNDAYS, AT 1:30 PM

May 27 & June 24 at the Fellowship.

Everyone is welcome. If you don't have a drum come anyway and we will supply you with bells, rattles and other misc. musical instruments.

### **NEEDLEWORK GROUP**

Meeting on 3rd Saturday (2-4 pm) AND 3rd Monday (7-9 pm) in the teen room. Just bring your handiwork & come for a chat!

### **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.

### **WOO 2 MOMS**

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

Contact Traci Smetzer for more info.

### **WUUPS**

Wayne UU Pagans meets at 7pm at the fellowship April 29- full moon/Beltane; May 20- full moon; June 17- Summer Solstice For information, contact Gail Carter

## Other Important Information

### May Birthdays

- 5 Bev Wire
- 21 Mary Wicks
- 22 Bert Bishop

### May Anniversaries

- 1 Jon Sprunger & Steve Berg
- 12 Lloyd & Margaret Boyer
- 21 Casey Hoy & Karen Skubik

### Coffee Duty

- May 6 Cakes for Queen of Heaven Class
- 13 Ruth Dykstra
- 20 *available*
- 27 Kay Bowen & Jennifer McAdams



***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

- May 6 Clif & Hazel Bushnell
- 13 Tom & Sue Gross
- 20 Ruth Sewell
- 27 Margo Curl

### Cleaning Volunteers

**Thank our cleaning volunteers if you see them.**

**We really appreciate their time & commitment.**

- May 14 Mary Wicks
- May 28 Norma Barber
- June Saturday Spring Cleaning

## 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? **We only need one more issue to complete the collection: 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.

## A Look At the Year Ahead

- May 6 UUFWC Annual Meeting. After the service, members are encouraged to stay to vote on the business of the fellowship. Details in April newsletter or posted outside Anne's office.
- May 18-20 Spring Young Religious UU Con-All Ages. Held at West Shore UU, Rocky River, OH
- June 20-24 UU Association General Assembly—Portland Oregon. Information at: [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga)
- July 15-21 Summer Institute at Kenyon College. **Brochures now available!** Check out the fun! (look in rack outside office) Save \$75 by registering before June 1st.
- Aug 19 Water Communion Sunday-We re-gather as a community after summer travels. Bring water that represents your summer—we pool it as a symbol of our gathered community. The water is sterilized it to use for child dedications throughout the year.
- Nov 16 & 17 Madrigal Dinner 2! **Help plan for next year**

# May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00pm Joint Team meeting	2 7:00pm choir	3 7:00pm Getting to Know You Circle	4 12:30pm x team 6:30pm Woo2Moms potluck	5 8:00am All Day Rental of Sanctuary 9 am All Day Landscape work session 9:00am Women's Spirit conference at Akron UU 10:00am OWL Class
6 Aluminum Cans 10:30am View from Another Age-Cakes for the Queen of Heaven class 12:30pm Annual Meeting 7:00pm Articulating UU Faith	7 6:45pm Zen Meditation	8 6:15pm membership meeting 7:00pm Board Meeting	9 7:00pm choir	10	11 12:00pm Blood Drive-till 5:30	12 10:00am Cake Decorating-at EWH 2:00pm Ladies Tea at Sue Gross'
13 10:30am The Stories of Women-Wise Women's Circle 7:00pm Articulating UU Faith	14 6:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee	15	16 6:15pm Music Committee 7:00pm choir 8:00pm Worship Associates	17 newsletter deadline 10:00am District LFD Committee 7:00pm PFLAG-Trinity UCC	18 12:30pm x team	19 2:00pm Needlework Group  Day 1: Blitz Build—Habitat for Humanity is building 2 houses in 3 days
20 People2People 10:30am RE Sunday 4:30pm Alternative Service 7:00pm Articulating UU Faith 7:00pm Book Discussion	21 6:45pm Zen Meditation  Day 3: Blitz Build — Habitat for Humanity is building 2 houses in 3 days	22 7:00pm Ohioans for Marriage Equality	23 7:00pm choir	24	25	26 12:00pm wedding
27 10:30am Honoring Our Dead-Strawn 1:30pm Drumming Circle 7:00pm Articulating UU Faith	28 6:30pm Women Wisdom Circle 6:45pm Zen Meditation	29	30 7:00pm choir	31 7:00pm Importance of Dissent-see page 2	<b>Office Hours:</b> Elaine: Wed 6 pm– 9 pm, Thurs 10 am-2 pm, Fri 2-5 pm Marge: Tues & Thurs 11:30—4:00 pm Anne: Mon, Wed & Fri 10 am—12:30 pm	

## **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.

**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 10 am-2 pm, Friday 2-5 pm  
Marge: Tuesday & Thursday 11:30—4:00 pm;  
Anne: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 am—12:30 pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
of Wayne County  
3186 Burbank Road  
Wooster, Ohio 44691



*Honoring the individual and collective search  
for truth and striving for social justice.*