



The Newsletter for

January 2008

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

UU News

January Service

January 6: 10:30 am *Looking Both Ways* [Worship Associates & Strawn]

Janus looks both ways in Roman lore: reviewing the past and anticipating the future. This is a time of much frolicking and fun as we look both ways in 2008.

January 13: 10:30 am *Warming Up* [Mythos Team]

Brrr! It's cold outside. What warms us? Using story, action and art, we'll try to figure it out.

January 20: 10:30 am *Walking a Mile...* [Worship Associates & Strawn]

There were so many issues on which Martin Luther King, Jr. pushed his culture to develop and mature. Well, now it's our turn. What can we learn from him and from one another?

5:30pm: *Alternative Service* [Wire/Strawn]

Join us for a small, service of inner and outer reflection, and then stay for the pot-luck supper at 6:15. Please let us know ahead of time if you need child care.

January 27: 10:30 am *The UU Elevator Speech* [Wendy Bartlett]

So, if you were on the 14th floor and riding down in the elevator, would you be able to explain your faith to the other person in the car before you landed at Floor One? A member of the UU Church of Akron, Ms. Bartlett is an expert.

So What Do You Say About being a UU? You could go on and on and on about our 500 year history, our congregational polity, our diverse faiths or.....

Let an expert help! **After the service on January 27**, we'll have lunch and our speaker, Wendy Bartlett, will work with us: sharing, crafting, appreciating our faith tradition. Please sign-up on the Connections Table. It'll be fun!

Breakthrough!!!

See the minister's column for details about this national honor!



Streaming audio now available.-
Can't make the service?
Listen online! www.uufwc.org

Inside this issue:

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From the Board

At our last meeting, the Board of Directors discussed hiring a sexton, or maintenance person: what the responsibilities would be and how much it would cost. We may be looking to hire someone part-time sometime next year.

We're also discussing finding a deputy treasurer, to work with Dave Drumm and eventually do the work that he's been doing forever.

The bylaws are being updated, by a separate committee, to better fit our new designation as a mid-sized congregation. One of our primary goals is to get those revised bylaws ready for a vote at the annual meeting in May.

And finally, everyone in our Community should be very proud of our recognition as a "breakthrough congregation". Our growth is a result of everyone's hard work and dedication. It is a great honor for us all.

For the Board, John Gross

Social Action in Action

IT'S TIME TO VOTE - after an absence of a couple of years, the UUA Congregational Study Action Issue vote is back. The CSAI selected at GA 2008 will be subject of study topics and actions by individuals congregations with helpful materials provided by the UUA. For any proposed Congregational Study Action Issue to appear on the General Assembly 2008 ballot, 25% of certified congregations must vote for the CSAIs they want to appear on the GA agenda. Each congregation gets one vote comprised of the individual votes of the members.

For each proposed CSAI, you have the option of voting Yes, No, or Abstain. A maximum of five Yes votes can be submitted, although this year there are only two CSAI to be voted on. Ballots will be distributed on January 6th and voting will continue until January 31. The congregational vote must be submitted by February 1. The complete text and related information about the two 2008 CSAI is on the Social Action bulletin board.

THE ISSUES:

CSAI 1: Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice - Religious organizations throughout the world have discussed the production, distribution, and use of food. Some people enjoy many food choices while others remain hungry. The food industry produces wealth, but small farmers and farm workers are often poor. Food production and transportation contribute to many environmental problems.

Background and Reasons for Study: This CSAI is inspired by the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee with Equal Exchange and the involvement of our congregations with both human rights and environmental protection issues. Hunger is both a community problem and an international problem that can be approached in a variety of ways. There is a need for political advocacy in support of government programs that try to feed the hungry. There is a need also for involvement with service programs that deliver food to individuals and families.

CSAI 2: Nuclear Disarmament - Should the UUA work with other faith communities to advocate a dramatic reduction in the world's nuclear weapons inventories, primarily those of the United States and Russia, in favor of reinvigorated nuclear arms control agreements and principles, such as those embodied in the Nuclear non-proliferation Treaty?

Background and Reasons for Study: 200 well-placed nuclear weapons could drive civilized society back to the Stone Age. Each of these weapons can kill more than 100,000 in populated and targeted areas. The Nunn-Lugar Act, funded by Congress in 1994, allows money to be spent to help Russia stabilize its large number of unsecured weapons materials facilities and to identify, destroy, and dispose of a portion of its nuclear weapons.

The Minister's Column

We Are a Breakthrough Congregation! On Tuesday morning, the Unitarian Universalist Association's President William Sinkford called to inform me that we had been selected to be a Breakthrough Congregation. What does this mean? Let me borrow words from the UUA's Growth Committee:

"Each year, four congregations of different sizes are identified as "breakthrough congregations" to be celebrated and honored at General Assembly. How are they chosen? District staff members, and trustees, in consultation with others in the district, are asked to identify congregations that have been "breakthrough" in one or more significant ways. What made us a Breakthrough Congregation?"

The Ohio Meadville District and the UUA's Growth Team looked at our congregation and found:

- exemplary social justice work [Every Woman's House, Clothesline Project, LEEDs gold certification, trash pick-up, the list goes on],
- radical hospitality [friendly greeters at the door, visitor's packets, large print bulletins, accessible facilities, membership care and support],
- growth in numbers and size transition [we are now officially a "mid-sized" congregation at 152 members],
- strong family ministry [We now have 78 young folks registered in Religious Exploration and a Small Group Ministry program],
- Fair Share with UUA and District [for the growth and development of our UU tradition on national and district levels for all of it's 35 year history!],
- generosity and stewardship [we have been funding our dreams at each step of our history],
- worship [from banners to landscaping, and from choir to the Mythos Team and Worship Associates, talented folks within the congregation bring us variety and depth].

"What happens next? The UUFWC will be honored in the UU World magazine, InterConnections newsletter for UU leaders, and will make a presentation on the plenary floor of the General Assembly in June, 2008. All of this gives us an opportunity to recognize we have done something very special and have something to share with other congregations. It is, also, an opportunity to challenges ourselves to keep the quality going. This honor is one we all share; the UUFWC exists because of the hours of labor, reflection and sharing which happen here. You are a tremendous group of folks...and you are building a presence of liberal religion now and into the future."

Director of Religious Exploration Column

Three students attended the Junior High CON(ference): Skylar Breiner, Miriam Gochnauer, and Michael Russo. Thanks to Jay Klemme for sponsoring them.

Our Mitten Tree is well-filled. We are grateful to the children who brought in so many lovely warm items!

The STARS group (grades 7-9) has been coordinated by Peg Redinbaugh for umpteen years, for which we are immensely appreciative!!! Peg is now directing her energies to the Youth Group, and so is stepping down from the STARS' position (although she'll continue teaching there). Georgia Jaeb has stepped up to become the new coordinator. We welcome her commitment! (See page 5 for an article highlighting the STARS.)

TWO VERY IMPORTANT DATES:

- Saturday, January 5th—Mid-year planning meeting for all R.E. facilitators and subs.
Time: 2:00-4:00 p.m.
THIS IS A CHANGE IN DATE AND TIME!
Bring your personal calendar through June 1st.
- Sunday, January 6th—Collection of the Guest at Your Table boxes. Please convert your coins to a check made out to the UUSC (UU Service Committee). Families without children in R.E. will be bringing in their envelopes, too. A donation of \$100 or more will be matched by the Shelter Rock congregation.

Happy New Year! Marge

News from the committees

Fundraising

Happy New Year from the FUNdraising Committee!

2008 New Year's Resolutions:

Support the church with minimal effort:

Change your internet browser to www.GoodSearch.com. Put in the UUFWC as your fund raiser and every time you search, we get paid one cent. To date, we have earned \$41.50 since June 2007, just by doing what we normally do.

As you shop online, go to www.GoodShop.com and place the UUFWC as your fundraiser. Click on the store site and a percentage of your sales go to the Fellowship. To date, we have raised \$9.45 since November 2007. It is amazing how many stores are participating.

Learn to Latin dance:

Our **next Hot Salsa Night** will be February 9, 2008 at the Fellowship. We will have an one hour dance lesson, Authentic Latin food buffet and then we will dance! Get the date on your calendar.

2007 News:

The Madrigal was a great success. We netted \$1,250 in profit. The Madrigal dates in 2008 are November 21 & 22.

The Lettuce, Olive, 'n Peas Cookbook is selling well. We purchased enough to make this a long term profit maker. If you have any events or groups that we could sell them, let us know.

Meetings:

There will be a 2008 Fundraising Committee planning meeting on January 6 after the Service. If you are a committee member, please plan to attend. If you would like to join us, please attend.

Facilities

Volunteers needed for:
Church Cleaning Day

Thursday Jan 24: Church Deep Cleaning Day
Jan 25 (snow day)

Please sign up for one of the two scheduled times: 9am - 12 and/or 1 - 4 pm

Areas to be cleaned Fellowship Hall, Lobby, Coat room, Library, Restrooms, and Offices. RSVP to Gene Meyers or Helen Ostermiller for volunteer hours, so we can fully plan the day !

Thank you to all who signed up for weekly routine cleaning. The schedule is complete through next summer!



**Youth Group Lock-In
and New Year's
Celebration!!**

Who: Youth in 7th-12th grade.

Where: UUFWC

When: **Saturday, December 29th**

We'll have food, games, videos, food, New Year's noise, a year-end ceremony, food, and oh, maybe a little sleep.

We'll start at 7 PM on Saturday, and finish up at 10:30 AM on Sunday.

David Francis and Peg Redinbaugh will supervise.

For questions, or to let us know you're coming please contact Peg

Stewardship Superheroes and Stewardship Survey

Stewardship is the wise use of talent, time, and/or money on behalf of the Fellowship, and on December 2, the Stewardship Committee kicked off its campaign to honor the stewardship superheroes in our midst.

If you want to reveal the secret identity of a stewardship superhero, all you need to do is go to the box in the back of the meeting room, take a nomination form, fill in the person's name and why you think he or she should be honored, and then put the form in the box. We'll do the rest.

Each week we will be honoring the latest round of stewardship superheroes at the beginning of the Sunday service. In addition, each superhero's name will appear on the honor roll in the entry and—thanks to Michael Jaeb's artwork—honorees will also receive a superhero sticker to put on their nametag.

Below are the names of the stewardship superheroes honored by newsletter deadline time in December:

Helen Ostermiller	Dave Drumm	Margo Warner Curl	Miriam Gochnauer	
Kay Bowen	Ruth Sewell	Jay Klemme	Sue Gross	David Paul
Elaine Strawn	Tom Gross	Sharon Delgadillo	Tom Spencer	

AND, because we know that good stewards act from their commitment to the Fellowship, we want to find out what keeps you coming back. So, on January 6 we will kick off our Stewardship Survey and ask that you take a few minutes to share with us what's important to you, what's not, and what you'd like to change.

You'll have several opportunities to provide input:

January 6 – Surveys given out at the service

January 13, 9 am – Survey Focus Group Breakfast.

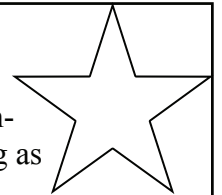
January 20, noon – Survey Focus Group Lunch.

Not planning to make the January 6 service? You will have a chance to pick up a survey the following two Sundays or print it from our website (www.uufwc.org). Everyone is invited to join a focus group for food, fellowship, and a chance to discuss the survey in more depth.

Helen Meyers, Chair Stewardship Committee

RE Spotlight—THE STARS

This class consists of youth in grades 7,8, and 9. It is taught by Janice Baxstrom, David Francis, Casey Hoy, Georgia Jaeb, Peg Redinbaugh, and Karen Skubik, with Art Chenevey acting as substitute.



The curriculum this year is entitled “Neighboring Faiths.” As the name implies, they are studying other religions. So far this year they have attended a Zen meditation session and visited the Oak Grove Mennonite and Grace Brethren churches. There will be several more field trips to come. They are briefed on dress code and etiquette from a book called “How to be a Perfect Stranger.”

The students from this class who attended the Junior High CON recently were SO enthusiastic about their experience, and plan to attend more CONs in the future!

This group of youth is highly creative and deep-thinking. These kids are also fun-loving, and usually hungry—some great snacks disappear rapidly in their classroom! They are lobbying for a new T.V.: see their ad on the bulletin board outside of the DRE's office. Creative, eh?

To Warm you up in January

Don't Miss the ACLU Series: Freedoms

The American Civil Liberties Union and the Social Action Committee are presenting an informative series on our freedoms. They are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in the Meeting Room and are open and free to the public.

Join us.

January 8, 2008: Episode 1: "Freedom to Vote: Protecting the Ballot" focuses on legislative efforts in Georgia and Texas to require voters to present photo IDs, though such rules would create barriers for low-income, elderly and disabled people, and disenfranchise millions. While supporters of photo IDs say the goal is to eliminate voter impersonation, such fraud is extremely rare. "Freedom to Vote" also looks at the sacrifices that have been made in our nation's history to ensure that all have equal access to the ballot box.

Ohioans for Marriage Equality Movie Night

Saturday, January 19, 7pm, at the Fellowship Join us for popcorn, M & M's, and a great video followed by your feedback and comments. Our feature film: *Lesbian Grandmothers from Mars*, a coast to coast road trip movie by two women engaging folks in conversation about marriage civil rights in towns and hamlets along the way. They are funny, down to earth, and passionate about their cause. Don't miss this evening of fun and fellowship on January 19th.

The Next Out for Dinner Night

will be held at

Broken Rocks Café & Bakery
East Liberty Street, Wooster

6:00 PM, **Saturday, January 26th**

No need to travel far on a cold January evening. We have reserved the entire backroom of Broken Rocks Café and Bakery in Wooster just for us. Go all the way down the hallway to the back of the café. Broken Rocks makes everything in-house and many items are made using fresh, local ingredients whenever possible.

Reserve your place by signing the sign up sheet on the Concessions Table at the Entrance Hall by January 20th. We will meet at the restaurant at 6:00 PM. Call Charles Gaines if you need a ride or if you have a change of plans.

Annual Groundhog's Day Pot Luck

Saturday February 2 is Groundhog's Day.

It's time for the 2nd UFWC Annual Groundhog's Day Pot Luck! (Ken's 10th!). It's at the fellowship. Costumes are encouraged (Think the movie Groundhog's Day with Bill Murray...winter 1990's), Bring a dish to share, something non-perishable for People to People, your voice for Groundhog carols, and your good humor! Yes, there will be prizes from Punxatawney for the best costumes. And of course, the movie Groundhog's Day will play continuously.

Fun starts at 6 to at least 9. And remember, the Groundhog predicts spring weather if it snows or not! See you here!

Questions? Ken McDonald

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE PROGRAM will conclude on **Sunday, January 6** with our donations being collected at the Sunday Service. The GUEST PROGRAM supports the worldwide human rights and social justice work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Please if possible convert your monetary donation to a check made out to U.U.S.C. and fill out the information on the Guest box or envelope.

With your donation you are eligible to become a member of UUSC.

Membership in UUSC will inform you of current information and news on human rights issues and partner programs and opportunities to participate actively in UUSC activities. UUSC annual membership is adult \$40, seniors \$20, students and youth \$10. Donations of \$100 or more from an individual or family will be matched dollar for dollar from a matching grant.

Thank you for supporting the Guest at Your Table Program which is sponsored by the UFWC R.E. and Social Action Committees. After Jan. 6 please give Guest donations to Marge Thomas or Ruth Dykstra.

Coming in February

Sewing Saturdays Quilt tops for Kids

Our goal is for our whole church community to put together twin-sized quilt tops for the RE children to tie together.

These will be given to Every Women's House. As you may already know, families who arrive at the shelter often have nothing with them. They are in need of toiletries and bedding. A colorful bedspread will fit the bill.

Mark your calendars for sewing easy quilt tops, we encourage all age levels.

Groups will design their own quilt top, cut and sew. Please bring your scissors, sewing machines and other supplies needed. RE will tie the quilt tops after the last sewing day.

Sewing Saturdays are **February 2**, March 1, and April 5, 2008, from 10:00 to 2:00.

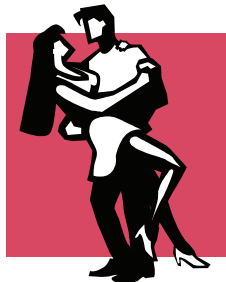
Look for the sign up sheet and quilt samples in the lobby.

Meanwhile, we'll collect any cotton fabrics and quilt batting.

Hot Salsa Night 2 !

Learn to Latin dance. Our next Hot Salsa Night will be February 9, 2008 at the Fellowship. We will have an one hour dance lesson, Authentic Latin food buffet and then we will dance!

Get the date on your calendar.



Every Month

ACLU MOVIE & DISCUSSION NIGHT

Second Tuesday at 7 pm

See article on page 6 for January's movie.

Feb 12: Freedom to Parent: Lesbian & Gay Families

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Sunday, during the school year, at 7 pm

Jan 20, 2008: Misquoting Jesus by Bart Ehrman

Feb 17: The 5 People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

COVEN OF UUFWC

Meets on a monthly basis in members homes, usually on Saturday evenings.

For Information, contact Tisha Russo

DRUMMING CIRCLE

Restarts in Feb! Fourth Sunday at 12:30.

Bring your instruments.

UU MARTIAL ARTS

On a new day –every **MONDAY** -5-7 pm

Principal Instructor: Art Chenevey.

developing personal awareness and situationally correct proaction, self-discipline & self-confidence.

OHIOANS FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY

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

Fourth Tuesday from 7 to 8 pm

THE OPEN CLOSET

The Open Closet is a social networking group for the LGBT community, their families and allies.

Our meetings (pot-luck style dinner and conversation) are held on the first Friday at 6:30pm.

All ages welcome.

SCRABBLE NIGHTS

See calendar: every other Sunday evenings from 7 to 9:30PM. Bring a board if you have one, a dictionary is helpful, and if you like: a snack to share.

WOMEN'S WISDOM CIRCLE

Fourth Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

WORD WORKS WRITERS GROUP

Third Thursday from 1-3 pm

WUUPS

Wayne UU Pagans meets at 7pm at the fellowship

Jan 20-full moon at the home of Chris Weber

Feb 17-full moon Mar 16-Ostara

For information, contact Gail Carter

Other Important Information

January Birthdays

7 Corina Klies
 8 Jon Sprunger
 11 Casey Hoy
 14 Michael Jaeb
 16 Lois Grant
 21 Kay Bowen
 25 Gail Carter
 27 Jim Wheelis
 27 Paul Evans

January Anniversaries

2 Bev Wire & Bruce Carden

If you don't see your birthday on the list, it is because I don't know it. I'd be happy to add your important events to the list- please contact the office.

Rides for College Students

The fellowship offers a ride service for College of Wooster students who wish to attend Sunday services during the school year.

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

Jan 20 Tom & Sue Gross

Jan 27 Clif Bushnell

Students are on Winter Break till Jan 14

Coffee Duty

Jan 6 *available*

Jan 13 *available*

Jan 20 *available*

Jan 27 *available*



Would you like to host coffee hour? It is easy!
Pick your date & sign up! The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board in lobby.

New in the Library

Donated to the Library & soon to be cataloged:

Audiobook on CDs

Jane Goodall's

Harvest for Hope: A guide to Mindful Eating

A Look At the Year Ahead

Feb 15-18, 2008	Winter Institute. Family Fun with friends from the Ohio Meadville District. Held at Salt Fork State Park.
April 4-5, 2008	Ohio Meadville District Annual Meeting at First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh. Look for Summer Institute Brochures.
May 4, 2008	Our Annual meeting. Members are invited to stay after the service and vote on the business of the fellowship.
June 25-29, 2008	General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. Fort Lauderdale, Florida Theme: Common Threads
July 13-19, 2008	Summer Institute: Family Fun with friends from the Ohio Meadville District. Held at Kenyon College. See: www.omdsi.org This year, theme Speaker will be Meg Barnhouse. She is a singer/songwriter and humorist. For more information on Meg Barnhouse, see www.megbarnhouse.com

January 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 7:00pm choir	3 7:00pm Board Meeting	4 1:00pm xteam 2:30pm Facilities Budget meeting 5:30pm The Open Closet	5 2:00pm RE Mid Year Planning Meeting
6 Guest at Table collection 10:30am Looking Both Ways-Rev. Strawn 7:00pm Social Action Meeting	7 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation	8 6:15pm Membership Committee meeting 7:00pm ACLU movie night	9 5:30pm Facilities Comm 7:00pm choir 7:00pm Youth Group	10 7:00pm Committee council meeting	11	12 1:30pm OM District accessibility Committee
13 People 2 People 8:00am Stewardship Breakfast 10:30am Warming Up- Mythos Team 12:00pm Finance Comm. 4:00pm Chalice Circle 7:00pm Scrabble Night	14 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee meeting	15	16 1:00pm xteam 5:00pm Baker's Dozen 7:00pm choir	17 1:00pm Word Works Writers Group 7:00pm PFLAG at Trinity UCC	18	19 7:00pm OME movie night
20 10:30am Walking a Mile-Rev. Strawn 12:30pm Stewardship Luncheon 5:30pm Alternative Service-B Wire 7:00pm WUUPS-full moon 7:00pm Coming of Age Class 7:00pm Book Group	21 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation	22 7:00pm Ohioans for Marriage Equality	23 7:00pm choir	24 Cleaning Day	25 5:30pm AAUW-rental	26 3:00am Rental 5:00pm Out to Dinner Night
		~~~~	Elaine is taking a class in Chicago		~~~~	
<b>27</b> 10:30am UU Elevator Speech-Bartlett 10:30am Youth group 1:00pm Elevator Speech lunch/workshop 4:00pm Chalice circle 7:00pm Scrabble Night	<b>28</b> 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:30pm Women Wisdom Circle 5:45pm Zen Meditation	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 1:00pm xteam 7:00pm choir	<b>31</b>		
<b>Office Hours:</b> Elaine: Wed: 6-9 pm, Thur: 10-2pm, Fri 1-5pm Marge: Tuesday & Thursday 1-3 pm Anne: 10-2: Monday, Wednesday, Friday						

## **About the UUFWC**

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

**Mission Statement:** The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is an inclusive spiritual community; its commitment is to social justice for the individual, the community, and the environment.

**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 Directors:** Phil Grimm, president, Carol Morrison, vice president, John Gross, secretary, Susan English, Cheryl Guthrie, Pat Rodgers, Scott Crawford.

**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:** Regular Office Hours:

Elaine: Wednesday: 6-9 pm, Thursday: 10am– 2pm, Friday 1-5 pm

Marge: Tuesday & Thursday: 1-3 pm

Anne: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10am –2 pm

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



*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is an  
inclusive spiritual community;  
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