



The Newsletter for

February 2008

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

UUF News

February Service

February 3: 10:30 am *Stardust* [Beverly Wire]

Crosby Stills Nash and Young sang: "*We are stardust, we are golden, we are ten billion year old carbon, and we got to get ourselves back to the garden.*" We must realize that we are inseparable from the earth/universe and each other.

February 10: 10:30 am *Love makes a Global Community* [Mythos Team]

The love of community, both locally and as a global community, is the one thing that will tie us together. What do we do as people in the global community to express our love to a stranger that we don't know a thousand miles away, or the person sitting next to us on Sunday.

February 17: 10:30 am *Housing those with Different Abilities* [Penny Kidder]

This is the second service in this year's Social Action series on housing. Ms. Kidder's agency provides homes for folks who live with physical or mental handicaps.

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

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

February 24: 10:30 am *Humanism 101* [Rev. Elaine Strawn]

It began in the 1880s and became the strongest element in our movement by 1930. Humanism still speaks with a strong voice in the Unitarian Universalist tradition. What is it? What ISN'T it? Am I one? Come find out.

Bylaws revisions

Members will receive a copy of the proposed bylaws in the mail. Please review the changes. There will be opportunities to discuss the proposal before you are asked to vote at the May 4 Annual meeting.

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

Inside this issue:

From the Board, Social Action	2
Ministers Column, DRE	3
Committee News	4,5
What's Happening	6,7
Birthdays, Anniversaries, rides for COW students & the Year Ahead	8
Calendar	9

From the Board

This past month has been another busy one for your Board of Directors. After several months of work, we've seen the final proposals to changes in the bylaws. Minor changes to the bylaws are necessary, and these changes will reflect the growth we've experienced, and will help us be more secure and efficient. There will be many opportunities for members to see the changes and ask questions in the next couple months, and they will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in May.

We've also been discussing the crowding issue at the church. We've seen a lot of growth in membership and many times the sanctuary and the RE wing are crowded on Sundays. We're looking at the options for how to deal with it. Building on? Adding a service? Making better use of the space we have? No decisions have been made, but these are all things being discussed.

And we're making plans for the Breakthrough Congregation award. Someone will be making a video to present at the General Assembly in July, and we think we should have a celebration here as well.

Social Action in Action

LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES - the second in this year's edition of the annual lecture series, "Social Justice/Community Responsibility" will be on February 17th. The topic this year is Housing Justice and the speaker will be Penny Kidder, Executive Director of Outreach Community Living Services. As usual, a donation of \$100 will be made to that agency, \$75 from the Social Action budget, \$25 from the Worship Associates budget.

MORE LETTERS TO WRITE - the Public Witness project continues on February 24th. Our letters will be directed to Ohio representatives and senators and Governor Strickland regarding the Health Care for All Ohioans Act. A fact sheet will be available the week before at the 2/17 service and on the yahoo group. Come early or stay after the service to write letters in the library.

RECYCLING CHANGES! Because we had to change recyclers, inkjet cartridges, cell phones and laser print cartridges must be on the list of acceptable (recyclable) items, and they must be collected at the Fellowship and shipped en masse.

We think you'll find most inkjet cartridges and cell phones on the lists (found on the Social Action Bulletin Board), though only some Laser Cartridges are worth money. The lists of recyclable (acceptable) cartridges, cell phones and laser cartridges is also available through the UUFWC listserv if you're a member (go to Yahoo Groups, sign in, choose the UUFWC group, then click Files on the left). The prices paid to UUFWC are listed with the item.

So bring your listed, used inkjet cartridge, laser cartridge, or cell phone to the Fellowship and put it in the box on the Social Action table (laser cartridges in the Library), removing them from the waste stream and helping make \$\$ for the Fellowship.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE PROGRAM - Thank you for your donations to the 2007-08 Guest Program to support the human rights and social justice work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. This year the donations totaled \$2,773.89. With the matching grant for donations of \$100.00 or more, the total amount of our donations increased to \$4,636.89. The Guest program is sponsored by the R.E. and Social Action Committees.

Because Fellowship members and friends reported that they were phoned for donations to UUSC while the Guest at Your Table Program was being conducted at our Fellowship, we have sent a letter to the President of UUSC about this activity. We will inform you of the response to the letter.

Questions: please contact Ruth Dykstra, Marge Thomas or Rev. Elaine Strawn.

The Minister's Column

The late Roman Catholic theologian Henri Nouwen, told of a fellow priest who cancelled his subscription to the *New York Times* because he found the news of wars and crimes distracted him from prayer and meditation. Nouwen was saddened by this, remarking it implies that only by surrounding yourself in an “artificial, self-induced quietude can you live a spiritual life.” Nouwen did just the opposite. “A real spiritual life”, he wrote, “makes us alert and aware of the world around us, that all that is and happens becomes part of our contemplation and meditation and invites us to a free and fearless response.” Humanist theologian William Murry defines spirit as the breath of life: giving us something to live for, deepening and broadening our lives, making us truly human.

Adult RE Class

The history of Unitarian Universalism is one lived in the “thick of it”. I am inviting you into the “thick of it” this month. Action always begins with reflection. For two Wednesday evenings, we will roll up our sleeves and open “**The Great White Elephant: A Workbook on Racial Privilege for White Anti-Racists.**” Using interactive exercises and “action-steps”, authors Robin Parker and Pamela Smith Chambers challenge us to look at the ways in which racism benefits us, and to face the hidden prejudices within us. Racism takes many forms and it requires many means of repelling. Join me on **Wednesdays, February 20 and 27 at 8:00pm**. We’ll build our insight and resolve together.



Director of Religious Exploration Column

Items from the Mitten Tree were donated to the Salvation Army this year. Thanks again for all the wonderful mittens, hats, and scarves!

Volunteer R.E. facilitators and a few Nursery Caregivers came together for a mid-year Support and Planning Session on January 5th. The subject of the large group meeting was “Spirit Play.” This is a method of teaching which is being widely used in UU religious education programs. It comes from Maria Montessori by way of Jerome Berryman, a Montessorian who developed “Godly Play” for mainline churches. Then another Montessorian and UU, Nita Penfold, adapted “Godly Play” for UU churches and named it “Spirit Play.” She will be training some of us this spring.

I was privileged to attend the second annual LREDA Chapter Retreat in Wheeling, West Virginia. The Episcopalian retreat center, Sandscrest, is located on over 200 acres in a majestic home built in 1852. I gave a workshop, worshipped with dear friends, and slept in the Bishop’s suite!

Another OWL class has begun. This is the 5th and 6th grade level, and is taught by Mady Noble and Tim Breiner. Mady recently received her OWL training, about which she is most enthused. I am thrilled that she has taken over the role of co-leader along with Tim!

Social Action in February will be “The Great American Bake Sale”—Baking will be on Saturday, February 16th. Children will be selling their creations on Sunday, February 17th. Sue Gross will be coordinating this effort. See the box on page 5 for more information.

And lastly, there is a Social Action CON coming up on March 7th—9th in Pittsburgh. Forms and deadlines should be appearing on the YAC website (<http://www.omdyac.org>) sometime after February 9th. This is an “all-age” CON, renowned as the best CON of the year.

News from the committees

Membership

MEET 'N GREET BREAKFAST

Don't miss this opportunity to
get to know folks a bit better!

Full breakfast, conversation starters,
and childcare provided.

Sunday, February 24th, breakfast available
starting at 8:15

(first rotation of conversations will begin at 8:45).

Sign-up sheet at the connections table.

Hope to see YOU there!

Questions: see Margaret Minick-Blake
or Kelly Chandler.

Committee Council

The Committee Council (the board and all the committee chairs) meet 3 times a year to keep everyone up to date. We try to make sure that the committees don't duplicate their efforts or conflict with each other.

January's meeting highlighted the need for committee members.

Both the FUNraising committee and the Membership Committee could use committee members—especially those willing to move into chair person roles eventually.

Facilities

Did you notice that the curve on the driveway is now lit? You can thank Tom Gross for installing the new bollard light and running electricity to the shed.

You may also have noticed the new sign out front:
“Nurture your spirit
—Help Heal our World”.

The UUA has launched a national ad campaign using this slogan in Time Magazine. The congregations of the Ohio-Meadville District are sharing this banner. We will display it through the first week in February.



Stewardship Superheroes

Our Newest Stewardship Superheroes

The Stewardship Committee continues to honor those friends and members who have made noteworthy contributions of their time, talents, and/or resources to the Fellowship. Since the last newsletter, the following individuals have been honored as Stewardship Superheroes.

Gene Meyers Michael Jaeb Kat Gibbons
Helen Meyers Scott Gross
Scott Crawford Anne Wilson Clif Bushnell
Hazel Bushnell Bert Bishop

If you want to nominate a Stewardship Superhero, place your nomination in the box at the back of the Fellowship.

Have someone you'd like to nominate, but forgot to put the slip in the box? You can email any member of the Committee to make your nomination: Helen Meyers, Mary Wicks, Elaine Strawn, Jon Sprunger, Morgan Bostdorff O'Rourke, or Denise Bostdorff.

Help Wanted! Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

Each year, members of our Fellowship help beautiful and 1.8 mile stretch of Cleveland Road.

A new coordinator is needed to organize this effort by:

- 1) Choosing 3-4 dates for pick ups.
- 2) Recruiting 6-8 volunteers for each pick up.
- 3) Picking up and returning two "Road Work Ahead" signs from/to the OH Dept. of Transport (ODOT).
- 4) Bringing signs, vests*, and trash bags* to meeting spot the morning of a pick up

*Provided by ODOT

Interested? Contact Mary Wicks for more information .

The Great American Bake Sale

The UFWC will be holding our 2nd annual Great American Bake Sale on **Sunday, February 17th following the service.** The Great American Bake Sale is a national campaign by Share Our Strength to end childhood hunger in America. Funds raised help to support after school and summer meal programs for children in poverty and help to provide nutrition education for families at risk. Last year we raised \$378, and we need your help to make this year a success as well!

Donations of baked goods are needed (both small items for the bake sale and larger items for the silent auction). We also need some ingredients donated: pretzels, m & m's, chex, peanuts and raisins. Please see the sign-up sheet on the connections table.

Items can be dropped off on Saturday, February 16th from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

RE children are invited to come Saturday to help prepare for the sale (packaging and pricing items and helping make some treats to sell).

Youth Group

Youth Group has busy these past couple of months. In December, we made a display for the Alternative Gift Market, and we made and decorated cookies for folks at the Salvation Army Shelter. We had some fun just before the New Year with a Lock In at the fellowship—I think the adults were the only ones who slept for more than 15 minutes.

For the next couple of months, we're working on a 'Graffiti Wall' in the teen room. So far, we've figured out what we want to do and practiced some. At our February meetings, we'll be painting the 'wall' and then vandalizing it. Stop by and see our progress.

Our next meetings are:

Sun., Jan. 27th, 10:30am-12. Starbucks for coffee & conversation.

Wednesday, Feb. 13th, 7:00-8:30 PM. Painting the wall.

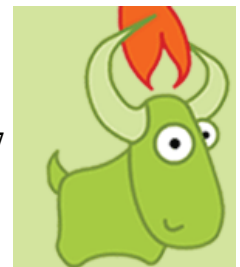
Sunday, Feb. 24th, 10:30-noon. Vandalizing the wall #1.

If you, or someone you know might be interested in the UFWCYG, please contact Peg Redinbaugh.

Social Action CON!

Best CON of the year coming up on March 7--9th at 1st UU Church of Pittsburgh!

This CON is for everyone grade 7 through age 19. Look at the YAC website



(<http://www.omdyac.org>) for forms and upcoming information.

We will find a sponsor! Get your completed forms and a check for \$20 to Marge by February 17th.

Fun in February

Don't miss the Adult Religious Education Class in February! **Wednesdays February 20 & 27 at 8 pm**
See the Ministers Column on page 2 for details.

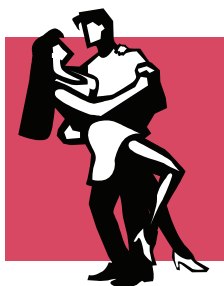
Come, Meet Other UUs, Have Fun, Learn!

On **February 8, 2008** from 7:30-9:30pm, our congregation will host the Ohio Meadville District Board and members of the six Unitarian Universalist Churches surrounding us. There will be time to get to know one another over cheese and fruit, and a chance to learn from other congregations. Our district executive, Rev. Joan Van Becelaere has a background in organizational systems. She will do a brief presentation/dialogue on dealing with change.

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! \$15.00 at the door
A FUN raising event!



The February Out for Dinner Night

will be held
at South Market Bistro

South Market Street, Wooster

6:00 PM, **Saturday, February 23rd** South Market

Bistro is an American bistro dedicated to food craftsmanship of the highest order. It is a small, informal European-style bistro restaurant that serves local, organically-grown ingredients whenever possible. Its philosophy is based on sustainable cuisine, which means preparing and consuming food with a maximum amount of respect for the environment and the health of our society as a whole.

Reserve your place at this special evening by signing the sign up sheet on the Connections Table in the Entrance Hall by February 17th. 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.

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.

02.12.08 "Freedom to Marry: Same-Sex Couples" features three couples who are part of a lawsuit in Maryland seeking to overturn state law that bars lesbians and gay men from marriage. Despite being in committed relationships, they lack the hundreds of legal protections afforded to heterosexual married couples, and must worry about how to look after their families without these protections. In courageously taking their fight for civil liberties to the public arena, they seek to change a system that unfairly harms same-sex couples and their families.

03.11.08 "Freedom to Live: The Death Penalty," tells compelling stories of people personally affected by America's capital punishment system.

Ohioans for Marriage Equality Movie Night

Special Wooster Screening of Award-Winning Documentary *For The Bible Tells Me So*, Friday, February 22, 7:30pm.

Ohioans For Marriage Equality will host a screening of this provocative, entertaining documentary that examines Bible-based anti-gay bias and what the filmmaker, Dan Karlslake, sees as the misinterpretations on which that bias is based.

Voices on both sides are heard, including those of Reverend Jimmy Creech and Episcopalian Bishop Gene Robinson. *For The Bible Tells Me So* "offers healing, clarity, and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity." Put this on your calendar today!

Groundhog's Day Party

Saturday, February 2

From 6-10 pm

An opportunity to think Spring!

Costumes encouraged—think characters in the Groundhogs Day movie!

Prizes for the best costume.

Meat & beverages provided. Please bring a dish to share and non-perishables for People to People. Questions—contact Ken McDonald

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.

Spirit Paths

a newly formed group, welcomes pagans of all persuasions and those interested in learning more about the modern pagan movement. Spirit Paths was organized as a complement to the existing UUFWC traditional pagan groups. In addition to regular celebratory ceremonies, we hope to offer educational classes, family centered activities and informal social events.

Our first meeting will be a full moon ritual on **February 16 at 6 pm** at the Fellowship.

For more information, contact Tammy Paul .

Every Month

ACLU MOVIE & DISCUSSION NIGHT

Second Tuesday at 7 pm

See article on page 6 for this month's movie.

Feb 12: Freedom to Parent: Lesbian & Gay Families

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Sunday, during the school year, at 7 pm

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

Mondays from 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

February Birthdays

- 8 Elaine Strawn
- 10 Peg Redinbaugh
- 11 Don Curie
- 12 Lee Simpson
- 26 Marge Thomas
- 26 Norma Barber
- 26 Emily Curie
- 27 Candy Lint

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.



New in the Library

Now available:
Audiobook on CDs
Jane Goodall's
Harvest for Hope: A guide to Mindful Eating

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

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|--------|-----------------|
| Feb 3 | Ruth Sewell |
| Feb 10 | Margo Curl |
| Feb 17 | Tom & Sue Gross |
| Feb 24 | Clif Bushnell |

Coffee Duty

- | | |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Feb 3 | Carol & Patty Morrison |
| Feb 10 | Joe Kufchak & Cheryl Guthrie |
| Feb 17 | <i>available</i> |
| Feb 24 | <i>available</i> |



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.

A Look At the Year Ahead

March 7-9, 2008	Social Action CON at 1st UU Church of Pittsburg. See page 4 for details.
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, including the bylaw revisions that you will receive soon.
June 25-29, 2008	General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. Fort Lauderdale, Florida We will be honored as a Breakthrough Congregation!
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

February 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:00pm xteam 5:30pm The Open Closet	2 10:00am RE sewing project 5:00pm Groundhog Day Party/Potluck
3 Aluminum Cans 10:30am Stardust-Wire 12:00pm Coming of Age	4 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation	5 6:15pm Membership Committee meeting 7:00pm Board Meeting	6 5:00pm Breakthrough Committee 7:00pm choir	7	8 5:00pm set up for Hot Salsa Dance 5:30pm OWL 7:00pm OMD Cluster Gathering	9 7:00am Salsa Night Prep 7:00am OMD Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00pm Hot Salsa Dance
10 People 2 People 10:30am Love Makes a Global Community-Mythos Team 12:00pm Finance Comm. 4:00pm Chalice Circle 7:00pm Scrabble Night	11 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee meeting	12 7:00pm ACLU movie night	13 1:00pm xteam 7:00pm choir 7:00pm Youth Group	14	15 5:30pm OWL	16 10:00am RE kids: Help prepare for Bake Sale 5:00pm Spirit Paths-full moon
17 RE Bake Sale 10:30am Housing those with Different Abilities-Kidder 12:00pm Stewardship Luncheon Kickoff 5:30pm Alternative Service-B Wire 7:00pm WUUPs 7:00pm Book Group	18 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:45pm Zen Meditation	19	20 5:00pm Baker's Dozen 7:00pm choir 8:00pm The Great White Elephant	21 1:00pm Word Works Writers Group	22 5:30pm OWL 7:30pm OME movie	23 2:00pm Set up for Meet & Greet
24 8:15am Meet N Greet Breakfast 9:30am Social Action Letter Writing 10:30am Youth group 10:30am Humanism 101-Strawn 12:30pm Drumming Circle 4:00pm Chalice circle 7:00pm Scrabble Night	25 5:00pm Martial Arts 5:30pm Women Wisdom Circle 5:45pm Zen Meditation	26 7:00pm Ohioans for Marriage Equality	27 1:00pm xteam 7:00pm choir 8:00pm The Great White Elephant	28	29 5:30pm OWL	
				Elaine is on vacation 2/28 thru 3/5		
Office Hours: 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 Streaming audio now available. Can't make the service? Listen online!
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

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of Wayne County
3186 Burbank Road
Wooster, Ohio 44691



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