



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

July 2008

UU News

July Service Schedule

July 6: 10:30 am *What Are Those UUs Up To?* [General Assembly Delegates]

Once a year 6,000 UUs gather to determine what our social responsibility is in the world, new ways to educate our children and adults, check on the progress of Beacon Press, and many, many other things. Sound dense? Actually, it's quite exciting when that amount of diversity, energy and creativity get together.

July 13: 10:30 am *Guest Minister Speaking* [Renee Zimelis Ruchotzke]

Renee is a ministerial student at Meadville Lombard School of Theology in Chicago and has served as DRE and ministerial intern in local UU congregations.

July 20: 10:30 am *The UUSC and NAFTA* [Sue Gross]

Sue recently returned from a trip to Mexico with the UU Service Committee. She has much to share about the impact of NAFTA on their economy as well as ours. Her comments range from farmers to ambassadors.

July 27: 10:30 am *Balance and Service: the Theology of Ric Masten* [Laura Grimm]

Masten, a renowned UU theologian and composer had a great gift for balancing spirit and social service. Laura's family counted him among their close friends.

For those new to UU

Each summer, we relax a little; the piano player & choir get a break.

The office is open fewer hours.

(Mon-Thurs 10am-2pm)

On August 24, we will re-gather as a community with a ritual called water communion.

If you travel this summer, think of our UU and bring back some water in a small container (pill bottle sized). Then bring your water with you for water communion.

(Water from the kitchen sink works also.)

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From the Board

At our June meeting, your Board of Directors discussed the Finance Committee's concerns about raising enough money during the pledge drive, both to achieve the budget requests and to pay our employees the UUA's Fair Compensation pay rate. The committee plans 2 meetings with the congregation before Thanksgiving to explain the Fellowship's ongoing financial needs, the pledge system, and the Fair Compensation commitment.

We are continuing to gather information about the options to add more parking spaces. After considering the pros and cons of each, we plan to make a recommendation to the Fellowship, with a Congregational Meeting scheduled for August 24 to vote on the issue. We hope to have more completed parking areas before winter.

And as we end our fiscal year, we welcome new Board Members Karen Hoy-Skubik and Georgia Jaeb, and we bid farewell to Carol Morrison and myself. Many thanks to everyone for their service to the Fellowship.

The next scheduled Board Meeting is Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00, and is open to all.

For the Board, Juan Gross, secretary



Social Action in Action

DONATIONS MADE TO LOCAL AGENCIES: each year the Social Action Committee donates the funds remaining in its budget at the end of the fiscal year to local organizations. In addition to its other projects, these donations help the Social Action Committee further the Fellowships's efforts to address social justice issues. This year, thanks to generous donations to that budget from the sale of fair trade coffee and chocolate by Tom and Sue Gross and by Janice Baxstrom, the committee had a considerably larger amount to donate. Six organizations: the Viola Startzman Free Clinic, the Wayne County Humane Society Goodwill Industries of Wayne-Holmes Counties, the Wooster/Orrville NAACP Youth Group, People to People Ministries and the Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee for its Myanmar relief fund, received donations of \$90 each in the name of the UUFWC.

MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT: the Wooster Green Committee will meet on July 1 at 7:00 pm in the parlor at Trinity United Church of Christ. All interested in reducing global warming pollution in Wayne County are urged to attend. Petitions urging all the mayors of Wayne County to participate will be distributed. The names of signers will appear in an ad in The Daily Record. Petitions will be available for signing at the UUFWC beginning July 6th.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY: this program will be able to continue thanks to Jay Klemme who has agreed to coordinate it assisted by Mary Wicks. He'll need your help with the trash pickups on the UUFWC's stretch of Route 3, so plan to volunteer –see page 6 for more details.

PUBLIC WITNESS: the Payday Lending Bill had been signed by Governor Strickland. Thanks to all who wrote letters supporting it and helped to change public policy.

TRAVELER'S TOILETRIES: staying in hotels or motels during your summer vacation? Please remember to collect the soap, shampoo and conditioner provided. You can put them in the Traveler's Toiletries bin under the Social Action Committee table in the rear of the meeting room. They will go to the Salvation Army shelter and the Every Woman's House shelter.

The Minister's Column

Much is being written recently about becoming spiritually deep, about creating authentic worship time, about sharing our stories with one another. I just finished reading, Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals, written by two seminary professors. Their viewpoint is that a congregation is the place in our modern world where the stories we live out everyday can be combined with the larger, spiritual stories which help to give meaning. *Sunday's Myth, Monday's Parable: Redefining the Sacramental* is one of their chapter titles; Sunday reconciles the weekly discords, and then we head out into the world for another Monday of paradox and questioning. In this section they quote a poem written by Herbert Brokering:

Once there was a church/where they couldn't find the bible/one Sunday.

The minister asked if anyone/had good news from the Lord...

One man said his wife/had just had a baby this morning.

The people decided that this/wasn't a word from the Lord/and they went home...

In this time of reorganizing ourselves and plotting what will be and will not be part of our Sunday service, we need to think of new and creative ways to share our stories...because it is our everyday experiences which make the "fodder" for our sacred life together. And it is in the larger perspective that a faith community can give, where the tears can be shed, the laughter shared, and the meaning wizened out of struggle. This sharing is not the kind of this which gets tossed out on Sunday morning and forgotten. The concept has me thinking...and I would value your ideas.

Director of Religious Exploration Column

Our Web of the World multi-aged summer program got off to a great start on June 15th! As this is an outdoor program, in case of rain there will be no WOW.

I'll be at General Assembly in Florida from June 25th-30th. After that, I will be working on getting our two new Spirit Play classrooms and materials ready. These will be for children age 3 through 2nd grade. I'll be writing to all of you parents whose children will be involved. I plan to have two parent informational sessions—one in July and one in August—so that you may attend the one most convenient for you. Also, I would like to do some orientation sessions with the children—a few at a time—throughout August on Sunday mornings.

More news to come next month!

Blessings,

Marge

Parents--We ask that you supervise your own children on the playground. Thanks!

News from the committees

Facilities

The facilities committee is interested in a few new committee members. Speak to Helen Ostermiller or Gene Meyers .

Parking Solutions

Information sessions to discuss the plans:
Sundays July 27 or August 10 after the service

Congregational Vote:
Sunday, August 24 after the service

The board is hard at work this summer considering both current and future parking needs, costs, aesthetics and how to finance it.

The intension is to go before the planning commission in July, and present the plan to the congregation at the informational meetings. There will be a congregational meeting after the water communion service on August 24th to vote on the issue. Construction can start in the fall & be finished before the snow flies.

Fundraising Committee

Annual Garage Sale: July 25 & 26
—more information on page 7

Orrville Buehler Hot Dog Sales
Saturday, August 9

We will be selling hot dogs at Buehler's in Orrville on August 9. If anyone is interested in helping to work a 2 hour shift, please contact Sharon Delgado.

We will be having a Swing Dance this year! So, get out your 50's style and get ready to swing! More details later!

Are you GoodSearching and GoodShopping? If you use GoodSearch as your web browser, the Fellowship will receive a penny donation every time you do a search. If you purchase products online, go to GoodSearch and click on GoodShop to find your store and they will donate a percentage of your purchase to the Fellowship!

Olan Mills Photos

Olan Mills will produce a new photo directory for us in the fall.

Photos will be taken from 3pm— 9:30 pm on:

Thursday & Friday August 28 & 29
& Tuesday & Wednesday September 2 & 3

For having your family photo taken, you will receive a picture directory of everyone in the fellowship and an 8x 10 photo FREE.

You will be given the opportunity to purchase more photos. There is no pressure to purchase—but how often do you have professional photos taken? More information in August.

Membership

GREETER TRAINING

If you would like to be a greeter or want to brush up on your greeting skills, join us for greeter training and a light lunch on **August 10th**, following the service. This will be held simultaneously with UU Inquiry -- we will all have lunch together then split up for our separate meetings. If you cannot attend this training, another training session is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 21st.

HELP! Coming of Age is Going

To Boston that is! This year's Coming of Age (COA) class will be the first ever from the UUFWC to make a pilgrimage to the UU-center-of-it-all. The trip is just part of the journey that Annie Jaeb and Morgan Bostdorff-O'Rourke have been making this past year as they explore their spiritual and moral selves. And, they decided not to ask the congregation for financial support, until now. On July 6, donations will be requested to help defray gasoline costs. In addition, your thoughts and good wishes are requested for the trip (July 11-14). Annie and Morgan will be accompanied by COA leader, Bev Wire, and mentors, Jon Sprunger and Mary Wicks. You will all have a chance to hear about their adventures as they share their journeys during the COA fall service. Thank you for your support!

Finance Committee

The finance committee compared the pledges from the current fiscal year with the pledges for next fiscal year in the charts above. You can see that not only did we have 4 fewer pledges for fiscal year 2008-2009, but the increase in the overall pledge level was only about \$2,400.

Pledge range		# of	FY 0708	# of	FY 0809
	top of range	pledges	amount pledged	pledges	amount pledged
\$ 0.01	\$ 250.00	11	\$1,229.00	15	\$2,188.80
\$ 250.01	\$ 500.00	13	\$5,275.00	6	\$2,436.00
\$ 500.01	\$ 1,000.00	21	\$16,149.00	16	\$12,290.00
\$ 1,000.01	\$ 1,500.00	15	\$19,272.00	18	\$24,056.00
\$ 1,500.01	\$ 3,000.00	13	\$27,115.00	13	\$28,555.00
\$ 3,000.01	\$ 5,000.00	10	\$38,650.00	11	\$43,560.00
	above 5k	2	\$25,000.00	2	\$22,000.00
	Total:	85	\$132,690.00	81	\$135,085.80
	average pledge		\$1,561.06		\$1,667.73
	median pledge		\$1,000.00		\$1,200.00

		FY 0809 total	Change from FY 0708 to FY 0809
New pledges	13	\$10,986.00	\$10,986.00
Reduced pledges	11	\$10,532.00	-\$8,038.00
Pledge at same level	23	\$35,029.00	\$0.00
Increased pledge	34	\$78,538.80	\$12,687.80
No longer pledging	17	\$0.00	-\$13,240.00
	Total:	\$135,085.80	\$2,395.80

July Events

Summer Family Sing

Members and friends of all ages are invited to the Summer Family Sing, to be held each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at the UUFWC from June 15 through August 17.

For more information, please contact Bill Alkire or Susan English



Annual 4th of July Fireworks Picnic

at the Fellowship,
7 - 11 pm.

Bring your own lawn chairs, and a dish or snack to share. We'll have lemonade and iced tea.

[You can also bring your own beverage.]

If it rains, it's cancelled.

Contact Gregg or Sandy Sheffield with questions.

Note: we are not allowed in the building to set up for the picnic while the wedding party is present.



The July **Out for Dinner Night**

will be held at
Wild Ginger China Bistro
Burbank Road, Wooster
Saturday, July 26th, 6:00 PM

Wild Ginger has a diverse Asian menu, the cuisines of China (Cantonese, Hunan, and Szechwan), sushi from Japan, pad Thai from Thailand, and curry from India. But did you know that they will attempt to produce your favorite Asian dish that is not on their menu? So let your senses be your guide. Try a little of this, sample a little of that and share with your family and friends so that you may all experience as many different flavors as possible.

Reserve your place at the July event by signing the sign-up sheet on the Connections Table at the Entrance Hall by July 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.

Highway clean up *Putting our 7th principle in action*

Our fellowship has done road clean up for many years for a 1.8 mile section of OH 3 (Cleveland Road), from a bit north of Hartzler's to just short of Hawk's Nest golf course. It is a great way to get our fellowship identity out in front of our larger community.

It takes 8 of us about an hour to do the job.

We've done it with 6.

More than 8 is better.

The physical work aspect isn't tough--we leave really heavy stuff behind--but there's lots of stooping over to pick up trash.

Next planned clean up: July 5--meet at 9:00am

sharp at Shearer Equipment (Cleveland Rd at Fox Lake Road). Rain-date is July 12 (or, we will plan for that date if not enough folks can participate on the holiday weekend--and morning after our congregation picnic/fireworks on Friday evening 7/4).

Please e-mail to say if you can help on 7/5, 7/12, or both. Thanks--Jay Klemme

We need you for the UUFWC's
Upscale Garage Sale
Friday, July 25, 3 – 7 p.m.
and Saturday, July 26,
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 3186 Burbank Road



It's time to check in the closets and under the bed for those treasures looking for a new home! This will be a unique sale, featuring a flea market as well as a special area for the sale of upscale items. These proceeds will benefit the UUFWC's operating budget. Individuals will also have the opportunity to market their own crafts.

Here's how you can help:

Donate: We need items that are **clean** and in **good condition**. We'll be advertising specific upscale items, so let us know any special treasures you'll be donating ASAP (tax receipts will be available). Clothing in baby and toddler sizes only. Books are fine! Items can be dropped off on the following dates:

Sundays, after July 6
 8 – 10 am, Tuesday, July 22
 6 – 8 pm, Tuesday, July 22
 6 - 8 pm, Wednesday and Thursday, (during set up and pricing)

IMPORTANT: If you bring items during the sale, they must be priced and set out by the you!

Spread the word: Post a flyer in your work place or local business or e-mail it to friends. Let folks know that this is **no ordinary sale!**

Volunteer: Workers are needed **during the sale** and **to help set up and mark prices** on Wednesday and Thursday, beginning at 6 pm (no experience needed).

Rent a booth: Do you have a special craft you'd like to sell? You can rent your very own booth (card table) for a mere \$10. You'll keep all the proceeds from your sales.

Questions? Items to donate? Willing to volunteer?
 Contact Mary Wicks
 A UUFWC FUNdraising event

Every Month

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Sunday, during the school year, at 7 pm
 Summer Picnic: August 3 at 5-if you read a book this summer, come & share it with us.
 Sept 21: River of Doubt by Candice Millard

COVEN OF UUFWC

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

DRUMMING CIRCLE

Is taking the summer off. Check back in the fall.

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

SCRABBLE NIGHTS

During the summer: 2nd Sundays only from 7 to 9:30PM. Bring a board if you have one, a dictionary is helpful, and if you like: a snack to share.

SPIRIT PATHS

a newly formed group, welcomes pagans of all persuasions. See calendar for date of current month's meeting at 6 pm at the fellowship.
 For more information, contact Tammy Paul

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
 July 19 at 6 with Spirit Path Group, August 3 at 7pm
 For information, contact Gail Carter

Other Important Information


July	<u>Birthdays</u>
1	Bill Alkire
5	Sonia Solomonoff
7	Curt Leben
20	Bill Carter
22	Sherri Gochnauer
22	Tom Gross
23	Ruth Dykstra
24	Kevin Lowry
24	Jenny Grimsley
28	Dan O'Rourke
29	Kat Gibbons
July	<u>Anniversaries</u>
7	Susan Heady & Larry Madden
17	Tom & Sue Gross
25	Dan O'Rourke & Denise Bostdorff
<p>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.</p>	

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.

Have a happy summer!! See you in the Fall.

Coffee Duty

July 6	<i>available</i>	
June 13	<i>available</i>	
June 20	<i>available</i>	
June 27	<i>available</i>	
August 3	<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.

ESCAPE TO VERMONT
September 26 – 28, 2008
 Fourteenth Annual B&B Weekend

offered by the UU Church of Rutland, VT. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, kayaking, bicycling, antiques/arts, cider making historic tour, soaring tour, touring historic sites and quaint towns, and much more. Registration by August 1, \$250 (single) and \$450 (double). After August 1, \$300 (single) and \$500 (double).

For more information contact uufoliagevermont @yahoo.com

<i>A Look At the Year Ahead</i>	
July 13-19, 2008	Summer Institute: Family Fun with friends from the Ohio Meadville District.
July 27– August 2	UU Leadership Training Institute, Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA
Sept 28	Committee Fair—What to get involved? Find out about ways you can spend time with your UU friends.

July 2008

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1 6:15pm Membership committee 7:00pm Board meeting	2 7:30am X Team Meeting	3	4 1:00pm Wedding 7:00pm Picnic & Fireworks!	5 9:00am Highway Pick-up
6 Aluminum Cans 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am What Are Those UUs Up To?-GA Delegates	7 6:45pm Zen Meditation	8	9	10	11 Coming o Age to Boston Elaine at a class	12 Elaine at a class
13 People 2 People 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am Guest Minister- Renee Ruchotzke 7:00pm Summer Scrabble Nights	14 Summer Institute 6:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee meeting	15 Summer Institute	16 Summer Institute 5:00pm Baker's Dozen	17 Summer Institute	18 Summer Institute	19 Summer Institute 6:00pm Spirit paths & WUUPs
20 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am The UUSC & NAFTA-Gross	21 6:45pm Zen Meditation	22	23 7:30am X Team Meeting	24	25 gargage sale	26 gargage sale 6:00pm Out to Dinner Night
27 Elaine on Vacation 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am Youth group 10:30am Balance & Service-Grimm 12:30pm parking Info session	28 Elaine on Vacation 6:30pm Women Wisdom Circle 6:45pm Zen Meditation	29 Elaine on Vacation	30 Elaine on Vacation	31 Elaine on Vacation		
<p>Summer Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 10 am—2 pm Elaine on Tues, Thurs and by appointment / Anne on Mon, Wed No office hours July 14 thru 18</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 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 every-
one! To join, email the office: fellowship @uufwc.org.

Office Hours:

Summer Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 10 am– 2 pm
Rev. Elaine Strawn: Tues & Thurs and by appointment
Office: Anne Wilson: Mon & Wed

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