



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

August 2008

UUA News

August Service Schedule

August 3: 10:30 am *Lammas Ritual* [Spirit Paths and Wayne UUPagans]

Explanations intermixed with ritual will enlighten us about the harvest festival, Lammas. The first grains are ready to be harvested and threshed, a variety of berries, fruits and vegetables are ripe for the plucking, and we're grateful for the food on our tables and mindful of the bounty that has been given us.

August 10: 10:30 am *Health & Healing* [Chalice Circle]

The "Healing the whole person" chalice circle shares meaningful highlights from their 3 years together.

August 17: 10:30 am *Reflections on Spiritual Aspects of Physical Movement and Sport* [Tim Breiner]

A look at the connections between the spiritual and physical in sport and exercise across different cultures.

August 24: 10:30 am *Water Communion* [Rev. V. Elaine Strawn]

Every year, we welcome one another "home" from summer travels and time away by sharing a bit of water from wherever we might have traveled [including our own backyards]. This gathered water, then, is used as we dedicate children in the year ahead

August 31: 10:30 am *Blessing the Animals* [Rev. V. Elaine Strawn]

Although this traditional Christian service usually happens in October, we use this summer Sunday to honor and bless the four-leggeds within our families. The service is shortened and there are water bowls placed around. Please do what is needed to make this a safe space for all the two and four-leggeds gathered here in love.

It is time to celebrate!

**Look for news of the Breakthrough
Congregation celebration**

**coming up this month! It's time to
celebrate this terrific honor from the
UUA, all the cooperative efforts
which made it possible, and, we'll
even show the DVD again!**

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	8
Calendar	9

From the Board

At General Assembly in June, we were honored as one of 4 Breakthrough Congregations in the country. Those of us at General Assembly were on stage while they played our DVD for all the delegates. We then had our picture taken with Bill Sinkford, president of the UUA. We will celebrate this honor later in the month—watch for details.

Here at home, the board is hard at work finalizing plans for the new parking lot. At the Planning Commission meeting on July 24, our request was tabled. They will take a second look at our request at their next meeting on August 27. The Fire Marshall and the City Engineer have made several changes to our plan. The Fire Marshall needs a 90 foot turn around at the end of parking and modifications to the landscaped circle outside the front door. Concerns about storm water and run off mean that we will have to move the berm west several feet and increase its height. Copies of the new plan are on the connections table. There are 2 meetings before the congregational vote on August 24. The informational meetings are after the service on July 27 & August 10. Several people have asked about absentee ballots for this congregational vote. No decision has been made about absentee voting yet. More information will be available later.

On the bright side, starting this fiscal year (July 1st) we now have a sexton, John Gross. John is only 10 hours a week so we are still responsible for leaving the space as we found it.

Also new this year, we will have a ministerial intern, Lori Lerner, joining us in September.

Social Action in Action

2008-2009 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING of the Social Action Committee will be held on Sunday, August 24th at 7:00 pm at the Fellowship. If you would like to learn about projects or have a suggestion for one, plan to attend.

SUGGESTIONS NEEDED! The Social Action Committee has received a grant of \$4400 to be used for social justice projects. This money can be divided in several ways and does not have to be used entirely in the 2008-2009 fiscal year. We are looking for suggestions for projects. If you have an idea, we would like you to present it at our August 24th meeting at 7:00 pm. To have a place on the agenda, please contact Betty Schuler, Helen Ostermiller or Elaine Strawn by August 17th.

CLIMATE PROTECTION PETITION: organized by the Wayne County Sustainable Energy Network, a petition urging mayors in Wayne County to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and urging that Green Teams including members of the community, local government officials and experts from area academic institutions be formed to assist the mayors in implementing the recommendations of this Agreement. Names of those signing, grouped by the communities in which they live, will be published in a large advertisement in The Daily Record later this year to demonstrate to the Wayne County mayors the support for climate protection activities by local citizens. Petitions are available for your signature at the UUFWC on the Connections Table in the lobby and the Social Action table in the rear of the meeting room. If you would like to circulate a petition yourself, it can be downloaded at www.wcsen.org click on Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

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

Meg Barnhouse was the speaker at our district's Summer Institute July 13-19. Meg is the UU minister in Spartanburg, South Carolina. One story keeps playing in my mind: while driving past a conservative church lawn she saw a sign that read, "Pregnant? Call [number] for help". She was inspired to stop and add the words "Free Child Care." Her reasoning? Certainly anyone offering to help pregnant teens and women would include free child care, right? [Yes, Meg does have quite a divine sense of humor.] Of course, the sign was gone the next time she passed that particular church lawn.

Meg wrote a song after this incident including the chorus, "Move over, move over now...you are standing in Spirit's way". In her conservative town, ministers tell people to get down on their knees when in pain, to be nicer when abused by their spouses, to toss away their gay teens...and the list goes on. This, in Meg's theology, consists of getting in spirit's way. What a clear way to put it! Of course, Spirit could be interpreted as the Holy Spirit, but it could also take other meanings: "Spirit of Justice and Compassion," or even "Spirit of the Laws of Nature" which abhor any limitation on growth and change. Of course, it also challenges us to look for the ways in which we are standing in spirit's way. Life in 2008 is filled with injustices and abuses, but it is also filled with inspired people who are trying their best to embody the change which needs to happen. May the Spirit we embody be one of openness and compassion.

Director of Religious Exploration Column

Wow! HELP! Our WOW summer program continues to be successful, so successful that the numbers of attendees have caused us to need more adult assistants. We would like to have TWO PARENT VOLUNTEERS each Sunday. I'll post a sign-up sheet on the Connections table. The last day of WOW will be August 17th. Remember that THERE IS NO WOW IN CASE OF RAIN!

I know that it's still summer and we want to hang on to that, but August will be a busy month as we prepare for the new R.E. year:

Every Sunday in August-- We will be doing orientation with the children who will be part of our new Spirit Play program. ALL CHILDREN FROM AGE 3 THROUGH 2ND GRADE should be signed up for one Sunday. There is a clip board on the Connections table where you may sign them up. (This will be during church time.)

Saturday, August 16th--9 to 12--We will clean the entire R.E. wing. We need PARENTS and TEACHERS plus any other willing workers.

Saturday, August 23rd--10 to 12--Fall Planning Meeting for ALL FACILITATORS AND SUBSTITUTES
If you cannot attend, make sure you've given your coordinator all dates through January 11th when you are unable to teach.

Saturday, August 30th--10 to 11--Spirit Play PARENT Informational Meeting There will be CHILD CARE.

To recap:

Saturday, August 16th--Cleaning Day

Sunday, August 17th--last day of WOW

Saturday, August 23rd--Fall Planning Meeting

Saturday, August 30th--Spirit Play parent meeting

Sunday, September 7th--first day of R.E. classes

Happy Rest of the Summer!

News from the committees

Facilities

Have you been admiring the flowers at UU this spring and summer? Our volunteers have made this growing season a frenzy of beauty and color! Thank these gardeners for their "green thumbs" and efforts when you see them: Norma Barber, the Gochnauer family, Joanne Schroeder, Sonia Solomon-off, Susan Heady, Sue Gross, Linda Michel and family, Laura Moore, Ruth Sewell and Helen Ostermiller.

[some beds still looking for volunteer TLC]

With the advent of our new sexton, John Gross, working part time, it would be good to have a few tools on hand at the church. Our "wish list" includes these items:

- Hammer
- Pliers or wrench
- Drill and bits
- Tape measure
- Long-handled duster, for removing cobwebs
- Garden hoses

Thank you for your donation, if you can supply one of these.

Heads up: Fall Landscape work days— We will be spreading mulch 9am– noon on Saturdays September 9/13 & 27.
Many hands make light work!!

Parking Solutions

Information sessions to discuss the plans:
Sundays August 27 or August 10 after the service
Congregational Vote:
Sunday, August 24 after the service
For more information see page 2

Fundraising Committee

Many, many thanks to all of you that helped to make the very successful Fairy Festival possible this year! **Very special thanks to Susan Heady** for her vision, hard, hard work and perseverance. You all made it a magical day!

The UUFWC will be serving hot dogs at the Orrville Buehlers on Saturday, August 9th from 10 – 4. We need volunteers to work 2 hour shifts. If you are willing to help, please contact Sharon Delgadillo.

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

SIGN UP FOR YOUR PHOTO STARTING AUGUST 3
There will be a sign up sheet in the lobby or you can call the office.

What is Spirit Play?

Spirit Play is a Unitarian Universalist program of religious education that has been in existence since the year 2000, utilized in churches across the North American continent. It has been tested with children ages 3 through 12. It takes its model from a long line of Montessori based religious education programming, including Sofia Cavaletti's *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* (Catholic) and Jerome Berryman's *Godly Play* (Protestant). It is based in story and ritual, play and creativity. Spirit Play gives children the tools to make meaning of their lives within the container of Unitarian Universalism.

This Fall in our Ohio Meadville District it will be implemented at the West Shore, East Shore, Olmstead, and Kent churches. Here at the UUFWC it will be employed in the Blessed Bees and Earth Spirits classes (ages 3 through 2nd grade). Five of our teachers were trained last Spring by co-developer Nita Penfold.

FAIR TRADE farmers say thank you for their raise!

Yes, our prices a going up a bit, too.

Now's the time to try Love Buzz coffee.

Equal Exchange always donates 20 cents per pound of coffee sold into the into the small farmer fund, but for this promo, a total of 40 cents per pound of Love Buzz will be donated. It's a blend of full city and French roast, giving it a little kick.

Love Buzz coffee special is in effect till the year's end.

Gourmet magazine voted

Equal Exchange Very Dark chocolate bar # 2 out of 50 tasted.

See their top picks at the coffee cupboard.

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.

UU INQUIRY CLASS

New to UU? Want to learn more about the denomination?

Or about us, the UU Fellowship?

Come to the next UU Inquiry to be held

August 10th, following the service

A light lunch will be provided and childcare is available upon request.

(please let us know in advance if you will need childcare- so we have a chance to make arrangements.)

If you plan to attend please tell Kelly Chandler (or let the office know.)

***RE Fall
Cleaning Day***

cleaning day on Saturday August 16th
from 9 am-12 noon.

Twice a year, we deep clean the RE classrooms. Your help is much appreciated.

Finance Committee

The Fellowship has made a formal commitment to the UUA to reaching Fair Compensation by 2012. As a result of our pledge drive this year we were not able to make adequate progress toward this goal. The Finance Committee intends to plan meetings with members of the congregation to learn how people feel about the various tensions in the budget. More information about Fair Compensation and other aspects of the budget will be available at those meetings.

Dates and times will be forthcoming.

August 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 Fellowship through August 17.

For more information, please contact Bill Alkire or Susan English

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: August 5

--meet at 9:00am sharp

at Shearer Equipment
(Cleveland Rd at Fox Lake Road).

Rain-date is August 12

Please e-mail to say if you can help on 8/5.

Thanks--Jay Klemme

The August
Out for Dinner Night
will be held at

Skyline East Fine Dining Restau-
rant
Mansfield

Saturday, August 23rd, 5:45 PM



For 39 years the Skyline East Fine Dining Restaurant has offered "sit down and relax" dining. Over those years it helped create many, many special occasions and memories for thousands of Central Ohioans. Skyline East has maintained a timeless ambiance accented by crisp linens, candlelight and fresh roses. They have a friendly, professional, and knowledgeable staff and their menu is celebrated and awarded for diverse American-style dining that features over 75 classic selections.

Reserve your place by signing up on the sheet on the Connections Table by August 17th. We will meet at the UUFWC at 5:00 PM. Call Charles Gaines if you need a ride or if you have a change of plans.

Coming in October

We will be on the Northeast Solar Tour

Saturday & Sunday, October 4th and 5th

We will need volunteers to give tours on these days.

Green Energy Ohio is coordinating the Ohio Solar Tour and needs volunteers at sites to assist home/business owners with managing crowds, signing people in, etc. Times vary but tours between 10:00am and 5:00pm across North East Ohio.

More information at: <http://www.greenenergyohio.org/page.cfm?pageID=989>

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 per-
 suasions. 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
 August 19 at 6 with Spirit Path Group, August 3 at
 7pm
 For information, contact Gail Carter

From UUA website: report of Plenary II

The assembly was introduced to the first of four "Breakthrough Congregations," then treated to a 12-minute video about the first of four "Breakthrough Congregations" being recognized at this GA. Breakthrough congregations are selected because they are growing, dynamic, and provide a great example of how to 'do church right.' The UU Fellowship of Wayne County in Wooster, Ohio, is thriving because, in the words of it's minister, Rev. Elaine Strawn, "This congregation says 'yes!' " Newcomers feel warmly welcomed, there are lots of activities aimed at getting people together, people feel their talents are appreciated, and children are treated "as human beings, not merely small bystanders." The congregation has been honored with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) designation for their new, environmentally friendly building. Rev. Strawn explained the success of the congregation: "I've been in churches a long time and churches are often filled with 'We've done it that way; it doesn't work' or, 'Never done it that way; it won't work.' This congregation says, 'Well, let's think about it... maybe...' and 'Yes!' "

Report from Summer Institute 2008

Kenyon College in Gambier Ohio hosted Ohio Meadville District Summer Institute again this year. Six hundred UUs from around the district (& the nation) enjoyed the humor, songs and wisdom of Meg Barnhouse. This year there were 130 first timers in attendance, 100 children (thru 6th gr), about 100 youth (jr & sr high) and 42 young adults.

Photos will be posted soon. Please check omdsi.org to get an idea of the fun and community you can share at S.I.

The Kent church sent 89 people...
 why do only 10 of us go???

Other Important Information

August	<u>Birthdays</u>
3	Carol Noel
25	Shelley Dixon
25	Scott Gross
26	Georgia Jaeb
31	Ruth Sewell
31	Joe Kufchak
August	<u>Anniversaries</u>
10	Bill & Gail Carter
12	Kevin & Alex Lowry
16	Don & Emily Curie
20	Jay Klemme & Anne Wilson
25	Mary & John Wicks
30	Gene & Helen Meyers
<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. Drivers, if you cannot drive on your scheduled date, please arrange your own substitute.

Students: Please meet in front of Lowry Center at 10:10 am

August 31 Margo Curl

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

Coffee Duty

August 3	<i>available</i>	
August 10	<i>available</i>	
August 17	<i>available</i>	
August 24	<i>available</i>	
August 31	<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.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Fellowship library now has a card catalog! [THANKS TO KAY BOWEN] You can lookup materials by author, title, or subject. So check the card catalog out, and then check out any materials you would like to take home. Just remember to bring them back to us!

New Books:

Speaking Of Faith by Krista Tippett

Thank God For Evolution!: How The Marriage Of Science And Religion Will Transform Your Life And Our World by Michael Dowd

The Tibetan Book Of Living And Dying by Sogyal Rinpoche

When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice For Difficult Times by Pema Chodron

<i>A Look At the Year Ahead</i>	
Sept 28	Committee Fair—What to get involved? Find out about ways you can spend time with your UU friends.
June 24-28, 2009	General Assembly. Salt Lake City, Utah. A new UUA president will be elected. Information on Rev. Peter Morales and Rev. Dr. Laurel
July 12–18, 2009	Summer Institute 2009– Theme speaker: Thandeka.

August 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Elaine on Vacation	2 Elaine on Vacation 11:00am Lammas Rehearsal
3 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am Lammas-Spirit Paths 12:00pm Finance comm. 5:00pm Book Group Picnic 7:00pm WUUPs	4 6:45pm Zen Meditation	5	6 6:00pm X Team Meeting 6:00pm Music Committee 7:00pm choir	7	8 7:00pm Break-thru Comm meeting	9 10:00am Hot Dog Sales-Orrville
10 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am Healing Whole Person-Chalice circle 12:00pm UU Inquiry 12:30pm Parking INFO session 7:00pm Summer Scrabble Nights	11 Elaine At A Class 6:45pm Zen Meditation 7:00pm RE committee meeting	12 Elaine At A Class	13 Elaine At A Class 7:00pm choir	14 Elaine At A Class	15 Elaine At A Class	16 9:00am RE Cleaning Day 10:00am Tour for SWUU 6:00pm Spirit paths
17 9:30am Family Sing 10:30am Physical Aspects of Sport-Breiner	18 6:45pm Zen Meditation	19	20 7:00pm choir	21 7:00pm This I Believe Chalice Circle 7:00pm PFLAG	22	23 10:00am Fall Teacher Planning 6:00pm Out to Dinner Night
24 10:30am Water Communion-Strawn 12:30pm Congregational Meeting re: parking	25	26	27 6:00pm X Team Meeting 7:00pm choir	28 3:00pm OLAN MILLS PHOTOS TAKEN	29 3:00pm OLAN MILLS PHOTOS TAKEN	30 8:00am all day rental 10:00am Marge-
31 10:30am Blessing the Animals-Strawn	<p><u>Summer Office Hours (thru August 8):</u> Monday through Thursday: 10 am—2 pm</p> <p><u>Regular office hours begin on August 15:</u></p> <p>~Rev. Elaine Strawn: Mon 1-5pm, Wed 6-9pm, Thursday 10am-2pm, Friday off</p> <p>~Marge Thomas, Dir. Religious Exploration: Monday and Friday from 11:30 to 4 pm</p> <p>~Anne Wilson (office administrator): Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10am -2 pm (in August)</p>					

About the UFWC

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 Exploration: Marge Thomas, e-mail: dre @uufwc.org

Board of Directors: Phil Grimm, president, Pat Rodgers, vice president, Susan English, secretary, Cheryl Guthrie, Scott Crawford, Georgia Jaeb, Karen Skubik

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 the group, email the office: fellowship @uufwc.org.

Office Hours: Summer Office Hours (until 8/8): Monday through Thursday 10 am– 2 pm
From 8/11 to 8/15: Anne: MWF– 10-2pm [Elaine will be at a class]

Regular office hours begin on August 15:

~Rev. Elaine Strawn: Mon 1-5pm, Wed 6-9pm, Thursday 10am-2pm, Friday off

~Marge Thomas, Dir. Religious Exploration: Monday and Friday from 11:30 to 4:00 pm (in August)

~Anne Wilson (office administrator): Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10am -2 pm (in August)

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



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