



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

September 2009

September Service Schedule

The first service is at 9 am. The same service repeats at 10:45 am. Coffee will be BETWEEN the services—about 10:00 to 10:45 am.

September 6 Action Point [Rev. Dr. V. Elaine Strawn]

We began the summer with a service on the still point. Now all the activity commences again. We enter into thoughtful action, bringing along the learnings from our time of stillness.

September 13 Niebuhr and Health Care? [Rev. Dr. V. Elaine Strawn]

The late theologian Reinhold Niebuhr has come into focus again since Barack Obama quoted him during a few speeches. A master of the middle way, how would he handle the polarizing effects of the health care debate?

September 20 Stewardship of Life [Rev. Dr. V. Elaine Strawn]

We are comfortable with the concept of the stewardship of the earth. But many more things require our careful attention and support. As this generation's people of the UFWC, what care and attention does our fellowship deserve? Our Unitarian Universalist Association consultant will be with us.

September 27 Yom Kippur [Rev. Dr. V. Elaine Strawn]

After Rosh Hashanah [the Jewish New Year], people take a time of fasting and reflection on the year gone by. This is our time to examine ourselves: what do we wish to take with us into the new year? What needs to be changed?

It is hard to miss the concern about the H1N1 flu virus in the news. The most efficient prevention is to avoid contact.

PLEASE stay home if you feel ill. You will feel better & we all will thank you. If you are in need of help, please contact Elaine or Sue Gross.

Two Services start in September

Our year long experiment of holding 2 identical services will start on September 6, the first Sunday in September. The first service will be at 9 am. The second service starts at 10:45 am. There will be a combined coffee hour in between the 2 services.

Details about the children's options on page 5.

Why no food at coffee hour?

We would like to discourage people from bringing their food into the sanctuary during the 2nd service.

The easiest way to accomplish this is to have no food.

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UUF News

From the Board

We are preparing for two services and the expansion of religious exploration. The Board has approved the contract with Nancy Hurt who will be the Assistant to the Director of Religious Exploration. With two services, we will need more personnel to handle the children's church as well as to assist in the classroom preparation. The recommendation of Nancy Hurt does come from the Search Committee. FYI, Ms. Hurt's compensation will be covered from the reduction in hours from the Director of Religious Exploration. Basically, the Director and the Assistant will be sharing the job responsibilities and the salary allocated for the Director.

In other business, approximately two months ago, the Stewardship Committee requested that the Board commit to hire a UUA Financial Consultant to provide guidance and training for an every-member canvas for the 2009-2010 pledge drive. The Board considered this request in the June and July meetings wanting to have final budget figures before making a financial commitment. Unfortunately, the UUA Financial Consultant is not a "benefit" of membership in the sense that it is provided at no cost. The cost of the Stewardship Consultant will range between \$5,000 and \$8,000, and he/she will see individuals at the fellowship meeting and greeting and learning more about our fellowship and its needs. Tentatively, the consultant would be expected to be out and about the fellowship the weekend of September 18. Please look for the consultant, and provide any input you may have.

Coffee hour and fundraising are issues that the Board has been contemplating and will continue to review policy issues concerning both of those important areas over the next few months. Please feel free to contact any Board member to discuss any ideas or suggestions.

Social Action in Action

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE MINISTRIES: the first collection of the 2009-2010 year will be held on Sunday, September 20th. This is "Snap, Crackle and Pop Sunday". Please put donations of low sugar cold cereals in the labeled bin in the rear of the meeting room. Financial donations are also welcome and can be put in the labeled jar on the table in the rear. Make checks payable to People to People. **SIMPLE AND ECONOMIC FUNERALS** are available through the Memorial Society of North Central Ohio. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter about the informational program the Social Action Committee is sponsoring on September 24th.

FOOD JUSTICE AFFINITY GROUP composed of Casey Hoy, Zelda Phoenix, Sue Gross and Betsy Sheets has been formed to explore issues and projects on this topic which might be of interest to the congregation. If you would like to be part of this group or have ideas or resources to contribute, please contact one of these members.

PUBLIC WITNESS LETTER WRITING: the Social Action Committee hopes to hold letter writing sessions on the first Sunday of each month from October through June. If you have an issue you are passionate about and that is currently or will soon be considered by state or federal legislators, contact Betty Schuler.

WOOSTER AREA INTERFAITH NEWS: representatives of area churches meet regularly to discuss issues of our day and support one another in the common struggle for justice and peace. On September 29th the topic will be "Immigration Matters and Hispanic Ministry". Haroldo Nunes, of the Open Arms Hispanic Ministry of Salem Mennonite Church in Smithville will discuss the Hispanic community in our county and their concerns at Trinity United Church of Christ in Wooster at 7:00 pm. All are invited.

SIMPLE AND ECONOMIC FUNERALS are available through the Memorial Society of North Central Ohio. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter about the informational program the Social Action Committee is sponsoring on September 24th.

The Minister's Column

Health care. We can't even agree whether it is a human right or a privilege. People are bringing guns to town hall meetings, commentators and politicians are fighting over the true meaning of some of the provisions in a 1000 page bill. Abortion and end-of-life care are exploding like bombs in the discussion. The House and Senate can't agree. Some liberals are irate that the single payer option has gone out of the picture and others feel betrayed by the comments seeming to indicate that a public health care plan may not be part of the package. There are days it feels as if the Civil War has begun again.

There is so much at stake here. Admittedly we have been spoiled by having the best of options available to us...well to some of us. The problem is that others need to wait until trauma falls in on them and the Emergency Room becomes available. We are a bright people. We understand that preventative health care can save lives, can give quality to life, can even save money in the long run. We also understand how much local and state governments depend on the jobs and other revenue which the health care industry provides.

We have several professionals in the congregation with inside information and understanding. We have many members who follow the news and politics voraciously. And we have a religious mandate in the form of our first principle. What does "Honoring the inherent worth and dignity" mean in this context? I am hoping that we can gather for a brown bag lunch after the second service on September 13 to share facts/shock about the nation's vehement reactions/ideas about how to be a progressive [not liberal or conservative, but progressive] voice in our community.

We Welcome Nancy Hurt as New Assistant DRE!

The board has hired Nancy Hurt to assist with our growing RE program. We are delighted to have her! Nancy has been active in our RE program-- first as a teacher with the Blessed Bees and then as the coordinator and teacher of the Earth Spirits. She is a magnet for children! Her work outside of church is also child-centered. She has been a rider on the school bus for pre-school children in Wooster, and beginning this year she will be working at Cornerstone Elementary as a teacher's aide.

The position of Assistant DRE will be a job-share with Marge Thomas, our DRE.

Director of Religious Exploration Column

It's hard to believe that schools have started and our new RE year will begin on September 6th! This year is going to be special, due to the beginning of two church services. Please see page 5 for details about RE classes. As usual, we have a fine component of volunteers ready for action! The Nursery will be open during both services.

Our district's LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association) Chapter met at my cottage in August. It's always inspiring to be with other DREs! We honored Karen Lapidus, OMD RE Resource Consultant, who completed her Master's Degree in Religious Education at Meadville Lombard Theological Seminary in June.

On a recent Saturday morning our entire RE volunteer staff, including Nursery Caregivers, met for our annual Fall Volunteer Support and Planning Session. The program was entitled "How Can We Teach Children was UUism Is?" Nancy Hurt and I presented two Spirit Play lessons which help define UUism. Bill Alkire led an interactive activity which was very well-received.

Nancy Hurt (new Assistant DRE) and I look forward to another great RE year! Marge

A few words on stewardship . . .

As the Fellowship continues to grow and evolve, our approach to stewardship and the annual pledge drive will be changing. Instead of sending you a pledge card and explaining the how's and why's of pledging through skits and newsletter articles, we will be taking a more personal approach. In January 2010, many of you will serve as stewards, visiting homes of friends and members to share stories about the significance of the Fellowship in our lives and our commitment to it.

Those of us involved in the capital campaign may remember the feeling of community this built, but because this process is new to our stewardship campaign, we have hired a UUA consultant, **Mark Ewert**, to help guide us. On **September 18-20**, Mark will be in Wooster to visit with many members and friends of the congregation. Using his experience, Mark will help us develop an objective assessment of where we are now, where we want to go, and how best to get there.

Mark's tentative schedule for the weekend is as follows:

Friday –Meet with stewardship committee and board of directors

Saturday – Meet with staff, committee chairs or a representative

Sunday – Attend service and meet with individuals

We ask that you reserve the appropriate date so Mark has the chance to meet with as many people as possible. We will follow up with specific meeting times for the groups. If you have any questions, please contact one of us. Stewardship Co-chairs, Mary Wicks and Tom Gross.

Music Committee

- Welcome to new choir members Sarah Miles, and Cherrill & Terry Wertz! The choir continues to need bass voices—if you can lend yours to the cause, please join us on Wednesdays at 7.
- Starting a new year means starting a new schedule for guest musicians and singers. If you are interested in performing at our Sunday services, contact Sharon Delgado. Soloists as well as ensembles are welcome.
- This year during Sunday Services you'll notice that one hymn will be the same for a few weeks in a row. This is intentional on our part and not the result of someone's laziness! Our goal with the repetition is that you will become more familiar with these hymns and feel more comfortable singing them the next time they appear. Let us know how it works.
- Interested in being a Sound Tech for Sunday Services? Maybe you've always wondered how all that fancy equipment in the sound booth works, or maybe you'd just like to be called a Sound Tech...Find out how you can help by contacting Gregg Sheffield or Kat Gibbons.
- * The Coffeehouse is coming! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 10th**. If you would like to perform music, poetry, comedy or storytelling, contact Sandy or Gregg Sheffield to get on the schedule.

Memorial Society Program In September

You are invited to come to the Fellowship on **Thursday, September 24 at 7 PM** for an informative, free program given by the Memorial Society of North Central Ohio. Our speaker will discuss incorporating dignity, simplicity, and economy in the planning and setting up of funeral arrangements, and the purpose of MSNCO in negotiating for its members and their families with area licensed funeral directors for two types of services. A question and answer period will follow the program. MSNCO is an affiliate of the Funeral Consumers Alliance, an association of over 150 independent, non-profit funeral societies throughout the USA. MSNCO is located at 3300 Morewood Road (UU Church) Akron 44333.

Please feel free to invite family, friends, and neighbors to this informative program. There is a sign up sheet at the connections table for those interested in coming to the meeting. This helps the speaker to bring enough written materials for the attendees. The program is sponsored by the Fellowship's Social Action Committee. For questions, please contact UUFWC members Ruth Dykstra or Betty Schuler.

***Committee Fair:
Become Part of the Excitement***

Sunday, September 27, come to the Committee Fair. Displays will be set up in the sanctuary before the first service. During Coffee Hour from 10:00-10:40, committee representatives will be available at the tables to answer questions and excite you about the work their committee is doing. There is so much going on around here! Come be part of the action!

Updates to the Website!
www.uufwc.org

You can now view the church calendar from the website.

This is THE calendar that is used for scheduling events. The rooms are color coded. Please use this calendar to help you plan your events. You will still have to contact Anne to add your event to the calendar.

Two Services/ Two Choices!

At 9:00 there will be an RE class for all ages.

The Class is called Childrens Chapel and will be led by Nancy Hurt, our new Assistant Director of Religious Exploration, along with rotating volunteers.

At 10:45 there will be RE classes divided by age levels.

On any given Sunday a child may attend one or both of these sessions. PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT EACH OF THESE OPTIONS IS RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION!

The Nursery will be open during both services for children 0-2.

Fundraising Committee

*Hear ye! Hear ye!
Calling all Gentle Folk!*

**The Madrigal dates are November 20 at 7:00 pm
& 21 at 6:00 pm.**

We will need servers, cooks, dancers, sewers, clean up, wenches and performers. Oh yes, and also attendees! So, please contact Sharon Delgadillo or Sue Gross (for kitchen) if you would like to join in the fun!

Ticket prices will be as follows: \$30/ one; \$55/ per two; \$27.00/each over two and will go on sale in September.

Library News

The church library now carries **UU're Home** (647.94), a UU bed and breakfast directory listing more than 200 UU hosts in North America. To supplement this yearly publication, we also have access to the UU're Home, Inc. online listing. This listing is continually updated as new hosts are added or removed and contact information is changed. So if you're planning a trip, you might want to checkout (in both senses of the word) this new directory and/or have Kay Bowen print out the newest listing for the area you're visiting.

Also new to the library is **The Hindus: An Alternative History** (264.509) by Wendy Doniger. Reviewed in the July/August issue of *The Atlantic*, this unconventional history presents contributions made to Hinduism by women, untouchables, even animals--this in contrast to the picture presented by male Bramin Sanskritists. Doniger also contextualizes religious ideas--showing how they were reactions to previous ideas and how they were influenced by the events of the times. As *The Atlantic* review points out, "This chronicle is profoundly erudite, thoroughly engrossing, satisfyingly hefty (700-plus pages!), and delightfully idiosyncratic."

What's Happening

Welcome Jackaye Tokar as our PR guru.

Jackaye and her husband Mike are relatively new to our congregation. They were married here in May, 2007 and their darling baby boy, was dedicated this spring.

Jackaye used to work for Emerson Process Management as Marcom Manager. She brings to us her experience in doing news releases, brochure creation, event management, sales training, web management and advertising. In addition to being our volunteer PR guide, Jackaye also volunteers on the communications team for STEPS/Every Woman's House.

A "Media Group" including Jackaye, Alptekin Aydogan [Facebook], Lee Simpson [web page], Sofie Dittmann [photographer and fellowship events], and Anne Wilson [newsletter, Connections Table, yahoo groups] met to strategize our communications process. Jackaye will be the "link" making sure all events get distributed to the communications channels.

Adopt A Highway Road Clean up

Our next road clean up will be Saturday Sept 26. Contact Jay Klemme if you can help, or have questions.

Join Bakers' Dozen!

Once a month, we cook a simple meal for the residents of Every Woman's House. We are there from 5:00 to 7:00, prepping, eating, and having fun.

Pick up your schedule on the Connections table.

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Learn cake decorating

on Saturday, October 10, from 10:00 to 12noon.

No experience necessary. This benefits Cakes for Kids, where we provide a decorated birthday cake for a resident of Every women's House.

Questions on Baker's Dozen or Cake Decorating?
Contact Sue Gross

Let's party & have fun! A potluck party at the church in September!

When: **Saturday, 9/26/09**, 6:00 PM - ?

Where: UUFWC, 3186 Burbank Road, Wooster

Who: You, your family, your significant other...

This is a potluck and BYOB, so please bring a dish to share and some drinks. If you have instruments, drums, board games etc., feel free to bring those also.

Sign up at the connections table & let us know what you want to bring.

The September ***Out for Dinner Night*** will be held at

Toscana Italian Grill

3860 Cleveland Road, Wooster

5:30 PM, **Saturday, September 26th**

Note the new time.

If you were fan of When In Rome, you will be glad that it has been brought back to life as the Toscana Italian Grill. The same family has revived the old restaurant with much the same look, menu, and excellent service. It is not as large as the old restaurant, so reservations are limited to the first 12 people who reserve their place by signing the sheet on the Concessions Table in the Entrance Hall by September 20th. We will meet at Toscana at 5:30 PM. Call Charles Gaines if you need a ride or if you have a change of plans.

See the Darwin Exhibit at the Great Lakes Science Center! You haven't missed your chance yet! One car of people went in August. There will be a second car going on Sept 12th.

Join us for a trip to the Great Lakes Science Center to see their special Darwin Exhibit.

The exhibit is over on September 18.

Let Elaine know if you are interested in joining us.

Stay in touch with the UUFWC !

Did you know that the activities on the back of the bulletin are emailed to the yahoo group every week?

Not a member? Would you like to join?

Contact Anne in the office:

Fellowship at uufwc.org

and she will add you to the group.

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### ***Green Corner September 2009***

Here are 2 bathroom clean up tips:

Remove lime scale on the showerhead by soaking it in white vinegar for 1 hour.

Natural mold-killing formula – mix 2 t. tea tree oil and 2C water in a spray bottle, spray on problem areas, do not rinse.

Shop locally, remember to take advantage of the local Farmer's Markets in your area.

If you have extra garden produce, People to People Ministries and the Salvation Army gladly accept them.

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Standing on the Side of Love

The Untold Stories of Health Insurance
Think of something that you cannot change about yourself.

Now, what if that inherent personal characteristic prevented you from getting the health insurance you need?

There are millions of people who need health insurance, but are denied coverage just because of who they are. Because of their sexual orientation, disability, immigrant status or mental illness, health insurance companies refuse coverage, or offer plans that are so expensive they are inaccessible.

These important voices are being drowned out of the debate about health insurance reform. When we stand on the side of love, we stand with those who are silenced.

Standing on the side of love takes courage, and it is with courage that we tell our stories.

Take Action: If you, or someone you love, have been excluded from health insurance coverage because of your identities, then email your Representatives and tell them your story.

Every Month

BAKERS DOZEN

COOKS AT EVERY WOMEN'S HOUSE

Anyone is welcome to join us. Contact Cathy Miller or Sue Gross.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Sunday, during the school year, at 7 pm

Sept 20: People of the Book, by Geraldine Brooks

Oct 18: TBD.

DRUMMING CIRCLE

Usually 3rd Friday nights at the fellowship.

Contact Lisa Ryan.

for more information

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/ BRIDGE/GAME NIGHTS

2nd Sundays from 7 to 9:30PM.

Bring yourself, and/or cards, a game and PEOPLE!!!
A snack to share if you like. We meet from 7 to 9 or 9:30 PM in the vestibule of the Fellowship. We are a group that encourages everyone to play at their own ability. Questions: Ken McDonald.

SPIRIT PATHS

Next meeting: Saturday, September 19 at UU,
Autumn Equinox ceremony followed by
discussion of pagan ethics.

Questions: Ann Pilarczyk or 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

Other Important Information



Coffee Duty

Thank you to those that have prepared coffee in the past!

We will serve coffee between the 2 services. For those attending the 2nd service, they may want to come about 10:00 to socialize.

We will be serving coffee only. No treats.
We wish to limit the food taken into the 2nd service.

The Healing the Whole Person Chalice circle has also started a ***data base of medical equipment***. All items would remain with the original owners. We just put people in need in contact with those that might lend. We could use more items. Please call Ken McDonald.

Rides for College Students

Emily Detar has (will soon?) create a Facebook page for College of Wooster students that are UU.

We will use this page to coordinate those in need of a ride with the drivers.

Pick up spot: Health Center
Time: 10:20 am (for the 2nd service)

September Birthdays

- 6 Cris Sullens
- 17 Janice Baxstrom
- 21 Joyce Fast
- 21 Traci Smetzer
- 23 Margaret Leben

September Anniversaries

- 8 Margaret Leben
- 18 Jeff & Sheri Gochnauer

I'm happy to add your important events to the list- please contact the office.

From the District

Leadership In a Multicultural World

The Rev. Hope Johnson will be our keynote speaker and workshop presenter for the fall leadership development conference, "Leadership in a Multicultural World" on October 10, 2009 at the First Unitarian Church of Toledo, OH. For more information visit www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/multiculturalworld.html

Spirit Play Training in the OMD

For congregations who are currently using or wish to start using the curriculum "Spirit Play," a training for teachers will be held at the UU Fellowship of Wayne County in Wooster, OH on Saturday, October 3. This training has a limit of 15 participants, so you need to register early to guarantee a slot. Registration deadline is September 15th. For details and to register, visit www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/spiritplay.html or contact the district office.

A Look At the Year Ahead

March 26-27, 2010	Ohio Meadville District Assembly at Ohio U. Eastern Campus, St. Clairsville, OH
June 23-27, 2010	Plan now for General Assembly! Next summer in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
July 11-17, 2010	Summer Institute. Theme Speaker: Odds Bodkin http://www.oddsbodkin.com/

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10 : 30 am - Blessing the Animals-Strawn 1-5 pm- Mandala workshop 1 pm - RE Cleaning Day 5 pm - Membership Committee Potluck	31 7 pm - Zen Meditation	1 7 pm - UU Board meeting	2 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5 10 am - Cake Decorating
6 RE classes resume 9 am & 10:45: Action Point -Strawn	7 1 pm - X Team	8	9 6 pm - Music Committee meeting 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal	10	11	12 Group traveling to the Darwin Exhibit in Cleveland
13 9 & 10:45 am: Neibuhr & Health Care-Strawn 9 am - Greeter Training 7 pm - Scrabble Night	14 7 pm - Zen Meditation	15	16 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal	17 1 pm - Words Writers Group 7 pm - PFLAG	18 UUA consultant visit 7 pm - Drumming Circle	19 UUA consultant visit 6 pm- Spirit Paths
20 People to People UUA consultant visit 9 am & 10:45: Stewardship of Life-Strawn 9 am: Finance Mtg 7 pm - Book Group	21 1 pm - X Team 7 pm - Zen Meditation	22 7 pm - OME	23 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal	24 7 pm - Memorial Society Presentation	25	26 9 am- Road clean up 6 pm: party with Sofie 5:30 pm: Out to Dinner Night
27 9 am & 10:45: Yom Kippur-Strawn 9 am - Greeter Training 10 am - Committee Fair	28 7 pm - Zen Meditation	29	30 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal	1	2 12 pm - Training Set Up	3 8 am- Spirit Play Training

Regular office hours

Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Monday 1-5 pm, Wednesday 6-9 pm, Thursday 10 am-2 pm
 Marge Thomas, Director of Religious Exploration: Tuesday & Thursday: 11:30 am -4pm
 Anne Wilson, Office Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 am-2 pm

About the UUFWC

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

Mission Statement: The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 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
Starting September 6, we will meet at 9 am and at 10:45 am

Minister: Rev. V. Elaine Strawn, email: minister –at- uufwc.org

Director of Religious Exploration: Marge Thomas, e-mail: dre –at- uufwc.org

Board of Directors: Pat Rodgers, president, Karen Skubik vice president, Georgia Jaeb, secretary, Lois Grant, Bill Alkire, Tim Breiner, Phil Grimm, past president

Office Administrator & Newsletter Editor: Anne Wilson, email: fellowship –at- 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 –at- yahoogroups.com One email reaches nearly everyone! There is a delay while the messages are moderated. To join the group, email the office: fellowship –at- uufwc.org.

Office Hours: Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Monday 1-5 pm, Wednesday 6-9 pm, Thursday 10 am-2 pm
Anne Wilson, Office Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 am-2 pm
Marge Thomas, Director of Religious Exploration: Tues & Thurs: 11:30 am -4pm

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