



The Newsletter for

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

of Wayne County

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

February 2018

UU News

February Service Schedule

Sunday services are at 9:30am and 11:00am

Join us for coffee after the service.

February 4: *Welcoming Diversity: This Is Who We Are* [Drew Frantz, Student Minister]

UU churches often say we want to be more diverse, especially in terms of race. What can we do to be welcoming to everyone who shows up? The Folk Orchestra will perform.

February 11: *Sharing Of Yourself* [Rev. Elaine Strawn]

Love is an act of giving-and receiving. The vulnerability of giving from the depth ourselves is what makes to gift so valuable. The Choir will perform.

February 18: *The Gift Of Love* [Chelsea Churpek, Deleasa Randall-Griffiths & Rev. Elaine Strawn]

How do we treat one another with loving kindness? Join us for this multi-generation service.

February 25: *Sharing with Our Larger Movement*

We welcome a guest minister into our service this Sunday. Come hear from the larger movement. The Choir will perform.

The UUFWC's annual stewardship pledge drive kicks off this month and we're excited! WHY? Because it's a time to share how this community sustains all of us. See page 3 for more details.

The Minister's Column: Love Makes a Family

In the 1967 case of *Loving v. Virginia*, two young people in love (Mildred Jeter Loving and Richard Perry Loving) won the right to have their very personal love recognized by the laws of their state of residence: they could go home again. The ruling overturned a 1924 law forbidding miscegenation: the Racial Integrity Act. Ah, what wretched violations we can hide behind innocuous sounding words!



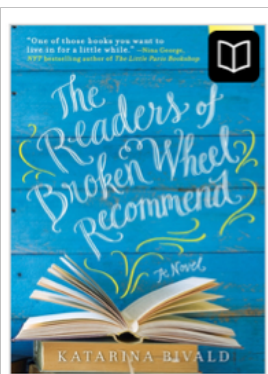
In the Apartheid that has been our history in this country, races and ethnicities have been separated in housing, education, medical care, economics...everyday things required for human beings to thrive. What such legislation doesn't recognize is how deeply wounded such sentiment and militancy makes an entire nation: ALL of us are robbed.

On February 1, the racial justice team will show the movie *Loving*. These two strong individuals learned exactly how political the personal can be. In 2015, GLBTQ couples passed through the same legal fight and won the right to have their loving relationships made legal: a recognition of their lives. Again the personal became public. It seems odd sometimes to think of all the money and all the time and all the resources used simply to allow people to be themselves.

As we wind down our 30 Days of Love (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day through Valentine's Day), we ask who else - simply living their lives to the best of their abilities - is caught in a web of invalidating isolation. The list is long and the road ahead has many turns. But we walk forward, enriching our own communities and the world with the precious lives of immigrants and women, of the poor and those who are differently-abled.

New Small Group Beginning

Join us at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, February 7 as we begin a new Small Group. This month's theme is Perseverance...what better topic could there be for an Ohio February? The group will include a time of sharing our lives, discussion of meaning and sharing of wisdom. We will use a UU resource, Soul Matters. For information, contact Elaine Strawn.



Afternoon Book Group

Thursday afternoon, February 8 at 2:00 pm, join us for a lively discussion of Katrina Bivald's *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend*.

When Sara visits from Sweden, she turns the town of Broken Wheel, Iowa on its ear...and warms its heart through her love of books. It is funny, touching, and even educational!

For information, contact Elaine Strawn

Stewardship Committee Annual Campaign

CHECK IT OUT . . .

The UUFWC's annual stewardship pledge drive kicks off this month and we're excited! WHY? Because it's a time to share how this community sustains all of us. And, because we'll be rolling out a new pledge option and webpage that we think you'll like. So, check out:

- **Your snail-mailbox.** Pledge letters will arrive the week of February 12. Please read it carefully. If you requested a hardcopy of the pledge form, it will be enclosed.
- **Your e-mail inbox.** If you requested your pledge form via e-mail, there will be instructions for electronic pledging.
- **The 'Support' tab** at www.uufwc.org. You'll find resources about pledging as well as a link to the online pledge form.
- **Your understanding.** Pledges are critical for planning the year's budget. We all share the responsibility of financially supporting the UUFWC.

The Stewardship Committee will be available between services throughout the pledge drive (Feb 11-March 18). Please feel free to ask questions or share your thoughts with us. You may also contact Mary Wicks (chair).

Thank you for your continued commitment to the UUFWC. Your gifts of time, talents, and financial contributions *sustain* our vibrant community.

From your Stewardship Team: Tony Beery, Bonnie Groop, Mikel Ann North, Danni Schantz, Mary Wicks



Religious Education

Teaching in the R.E. classroom is a wonderful way to deepen your understanding of what it means to be a UU, while sharing your knowledge and talents with our children and youth.

This month, I interviewed Lesley Mayfield to find out what she loves about volunteering as a facilitator in RE. Lesley has been attending the Fellowship for a little over two years with her husband Mark and three daughters: Maya, Fionna, and Alexandra. You may also know her as Gail Woosley's daughter. Lesley works as underwriting assistant at Mennonite Mutual. She works specifically on faith-based policies (i.e. insurance for churches).

What's one thing that's cool thing about you?

One cool thing about me is that I used to enjoy skydiving. I haven't dove since I moved to Ohio, and now that I have little ones I probably wouldn't, but I used to skydive often in Seattle. My favorite hobby now is reading, making cakes and going to the movies with my kiddos.

How long have been teaching in RE and what do you like about working with this age group?

This is my 2nd year teaching at the UU for the Blessed Bees. I wanted to volunteer because I wanted to be part of my kids' development and learning at the UU, and I thought it looked like it would be a lot of fun. Plus, there was a need for teachers at that time, and I wanted to help in any way I could. I picked this age group since my children were part of it. I thought it would be fun to develop crafts and lessons they would enjoy.

What is your favorite part about volunteering in RE?

I love teaching in RE because it helps me reach out to the younger ones in the UU. I love seeing their spirit develop and the friendships they make, and watching my own kids learn the UU values.

My favorite part of volunteering is just being able to give back and do something that gives me joy. Work and 3 kids can be very demanding, but this is something I can do that is from the heart that I truly love and enjoy doing. It just makes me feel good and I love seeing their little faces after a fun class!

For information about Religious Education, please contact Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Education, at chelsea.uufwc@gmail.com

To request child care for fellowship meetings or events, email childcare.uufwc@gmail.com

**Thank you for
volunteering Lesley!**

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

4--Coming of Age class 11a
4-- Elementary OWL 6-7:15p
11-- Elementary OWL 6-7:15p
17—Cocoa House 6-8pm
17—Youth Community Lock-In
18—All-ages Service- Nursery only
18--Elementary OWL 6-7:15p
25—OWL (grades 4-5) 6-7:15p

MARCH

4—Coming of Age class 11a
4-- OWL (grades 4-5) 6-7:15p
11—MS/HS Trip to another UU
Congregation Details TBD
11-- OWL (grades 4-5) 6-7:15p
16—MS/HS Trip Kneseth Israel
Temple Details TBD
18—All-ages Service- Nursery only
18-- OWL (grades 4-5) 6-7:15p

APRIL

1—Easter Egg Hunt after 1st service
1—Coming of Age class 11am
8—MS/HS Trip to Orthodox Christian Church in Akron
Details TBD
13—All-Ages Pizza and Game Night 5:30-7:30p
15-- All-ages Service-Nursery only

A Message from **Youth Community** (Grades 7-12)

January Recap

In RE (Religious Education), the Middle School youth explored Hinduism through the *Building Bridges* curriculum. The High School youth explored Hinduism and Humanism in their monthly *Coming of Age* class. On January 27, the Middle School and High School youth travel to the Greater Cleveland Shiva Vishnu Temple for a field trip on Hinduism. Throughout January, members of Youth Community gathered to plan for Cocoa House (see details below).

Upcoming Opportunities

Cocoa House Planning and Work Sessions

Sunday, January 28 @ 11:00am - 12:00pm @ the UFWWC

Thursday, February 8 @ 6:00pm – 8:00pm @ Home of Peg Redinbaugh and Juan Gross

Sunday, February 11 @ 11:00am - 12:00pm @ the UFWWC

Members of Youth Community are encouraged to plan for and participate in Cocoa House—a social outreach project for our younger UUs, and a fundraising opportunity for Coming of Age. The creativity, time, and helping hands of Youth Community are critical to the success of this event. Contact Dawn Frank with any questions.

Youth Community Lock-In

Saturday, February 17 – Sunday, February 18 @ the UFWWC

Our winter lock-in will be held in conjunction with Cocoa House—which makes this weekend an awesome opportunity to grow, connect, and serve with old friends and new. Check your email inbox for more details!



Fourth Annual "Camp Cocoa House"

Saturday, February 17

6:00pm to 8:00pm @ the UFWWC

\$4 Donation per Guest at the Door

What is Cocoa House? It is an evening where the kids and youth of our congregation can showcase their talents. Youth Community members (grades 7-12) will MC the event, perform in skits, and auction off goods and services they produce. Children and youth are encouraged to perform in the talent show portion of the evening, and they can win prizes in a silent "ticket auction." Hot cocoa and sweet treats will be available by donation throughout the evening. This will be a fun evening for congregants, family, and friends alike. Spread the word!

Cocoa House is a social outreach and fund raising event for Youth Community. The proceeds of all donated and auctioned items will go towards our Coming of Age programming. Thank you for your support!

Are you a Child or Youth Interested in Performing? Applications may be pick up from the bulletin board outside the DRE's office, or from the bulletin board outside the Youth Room. Applications may be turned into Chelsea Churpek by February 11.

If you would like to learn more about Youth Community, you may reach Dawn Frank, Youth and Campus Ministries Coordinator, at dawn.ufwwc@gmail.com, or during her office hours on Tuesdays from 5:00pm to 8:00pm.

Music Committee

Calling all Talented Souls!

Come and join your voice with us! Choir rehearsal is Wednesday at 7:00pm. We invite you to come and sing with us! If you aren't sure of your voice, we will help you learn how to be a better singer!

Folk Orchestra rehearsal is 8:15pm on Wednesdays. Any level of expertise is welcome to come and play! Come and make a joyful noise with us!

Special Music. We want you to share your musical gifts with us! If you would like to perform special music during the service, please contact Sharon Delgadillo. Solos, Duets, Groups, welcome!

BoomWhacker rehearsal will begin in February 4, 11 and 18th from after the second service to 12:45. We will perform February 25th. It is open to all ages and you don't have to be musical or read music. If you wish to participate, Contact Sharon Delgadillo.

Questions? Contact Sharon Delgadillo



A message to the Fellowship from John Renner

I would like to express my gratitude to the Fellowship for your wonderful compassion given to me during my recent foot procedure. I received cards, food, visits, and phone calls throughout the recuperation, and was truly overwhelmed by the expression of concern. Thank You all for the needed emotional support. You are very much "family" to me. Thank You again. ~John Renner

Membership Committee

Becoming a Member

Please take a look at the Membership Committee bulletin board next to the coatroom. You will see all the wonderful people who joined our fellowship in 2017.

For anyone else interested in joining, please consider attending the **March 18 UU Inquiry Session**. The event is designed for those new to the congregation. You will learn a little UU history, find out how the UUFWC works, and get to meet representatives from some of our committees – with refreshments too!

Upcoming Winter Social!!!!

Please join us for **Wine, Cheese and CONVERSATION!**

The holidays are over, the doldrums of winter may have set in, and many of us are open for something fun to do. Mark your calendars for Saturday, **February 10 at 7 pm** to join us for our first Wine, Cheese and CONVERSATION event. Not only will wine be available, but also coffee, tea and non-alcoholic beverages, along with cheese, crackers and other goodies. There will be a little structure to the evening – similar to our former Sweet and Greet, where you supply the conversation and have a chance to meet new people and learn more about your fellow UU's. If you need childcare, please let Karen Skubik, our membership coordinator, know by February 3. Hope to see you there!!

UU Women's Social Group

The first gathering of this just-for-fun group was held on Monday, January 22 at the downtown Buehlers for lunch, with 16 in attendance. We had a great time sharing about our lives and what brought us to the UUFWC. We decided to meet regularly on the fourth Monday of the month at 11:30am. The next lunch meeting will be on February 26, 2018, at the Towne Cafe in the downtown Buehlers. If you have any questions about this group, please contact Karen Skubik.

New Men's Group Starting

Wednesday, February 7, 7:00-8:30 and Wednesday, February 28, 7:00-8:30

All men are invited to this workshop to explore what's working in your life and what you would like to change. We will create a safe space to go deeper into our authentic selves, offering tools for self awareness and getting aligned with our sense of mission and purpose. While framed in terms of masculinity, this is not meant to be exclusionary--anyone who identifies as male, transgender, gender non-binary, or queer is welcome. Come to one workshop or both.

Questions? Contact Student Minister Drew Frantz.

Social Action In Action

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SUNDAY is FEBRUARY 18th. The pantry is very low on personal items, so we will be collecting toothpaste and toothbrushes. As always, cash is welcome. Make checks payable to People to People.

The **OPEN PLATE COLLECTION** on Sunday, February 25th will be given to **ONE EIGHTY** (formerly STEPS and EVERY WOMAN'S HOUSE), an integrated health system bringing treatment to individuals and families suffering from the effects of substance, drug, and alcohol abuse. In addition, residential programs and counseling exist for those people who have been sadly damaged by domestic violence. ONE EIGHTY operates six major service programs designed to address as many needs as possible. Wooster and the Wooster area are seeing more and more local headlines about addiction and violence. Families are desperate for hope and for help. On February 25th we will have an opportunity to extend some valuable support.

MEMBERSHIPS: Every year the Social Action committee pays, from its budget, membership for each member of the congregation in two UU organizations. Dues for membership in the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)** are \$1.00 per member. The UUSC began its work in 1939 helping refugees escape Nazi persecution. Its mission advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies. Its vision is a world free from oppression and injustice, where all can realize their full human rights. The UUSC works anywhere rights are threatened - by natural disasters, armed conflicts, genocide, forced migration, and systematic injustice.

The other organization is **UU Justice Ohio (UUJO)**, a statewide action network for the 38 UU congregations in Ohio, whose dues are \$2.00 per member. The UUJO mission is to organize justice seekers statewide, to promote education, service and advocacy consistent with UU principles and to witness with and on behalf of marginalized groups and individuals. It encourages contact with legislators regarding social justice issues, holds vigils in support of these and offers webinars and training workshops on various topics. Several UUFWC members attend its annual fall workshop. If you are interested in attending this fall, contact Rev. Strawn.

All Things Green

CLIMATE REPORT: A massive federal government study released last week concludes that humans are the “dominant cause” of global climate change, and that heavy rains, heat waves, and forest fires are expected to become more frequent in the U.S. if green house gas emissions are not curbed. There is “no convincing alternative explanation” for global warming outside of human activity, the study says, contradicting statements by President Trump. The report, produced by scientists from 13 federal agencies, says that average global temperatures have increased 1.8 degrees over the past 115 years, an “unambiguous” warming trend caused by emissions, and that sea levels have risen by 7 inches over the same period. The White House has worked to downplay discussions of climate change, which Trump has called an “expensive hoax”. But government scientists say the report has met with little official pushback. *THE WEEK 11/17/17*

BY THE NUMBERS: 400 - the average number of plastic bags used each year by a person living in California before the state voted in 2016 to ban single-use bags; 85% - the amount by which plastic bag use has decreased in England after it required all stores to levy a 5 pence per bag charge starting in 2015. *The Nation 12/18/17*

Library News

Library News will return next month. In the meantime, stop by the library the next time you are at the Fellowship and peruse the shelves. Take advantage of our extensive collection of books, expertly maintained by Kay Bowen.



The Humanist Group meets the first and third Sundays at 11:00am in the EEE room. Here is the schedule of speakers thru March. Questions, contact Skip Nault or Jason Ferrel.

February 4	Utilitarianism - Jason Ferrel
February 18	Constructive Political Discourse - Cindie Slater
March 4	Global Warming - We are past the Point of No Return - Skip Nault
March 18	White Privilege and White Male Privilege - Lowell Steinbrenner



The Evening Book Club meets the third Sunday of each month at 7:00pm. Here is the schedule of books through April. Questions, contact Bert Bishop.

Feb: Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis. by JD Vance
 March: Neither Wolf nor Dog: On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder by Kent Nerburn
 April: An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo Ishiguro

Regular Events

THURSDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP meets on the 2nd Thursdays at 2:00pm. February's book is *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katrina Bivald. Contact Rev. Elaine Strawn.

SUNDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP meets on the 3rd Sundays at 7:00pm. February's book is *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by JD Vance. Contact Bert Bishop.

EARTH CENTERED GROUP meets most 2nd and 4th Sundays after the second service. Contact Lindsay Walker or Doris Cannon.

HUMANIST GROUP meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11:00am. Contact Skip Nault or Jason Ferrell.

INNER PEACE YOGA meets Mondays at 6:00pm. Contact Dae Evans.

PLANT-BASED POTLUCKS meets on the 4th Tuesdays at 6:00pm.

UU UKE GROUP meets the second Friday of every-other month, at 7:00 pm, starting in January.

Ukuleles only, and any level of expertise. Contact Juan Gross.

ZEN MEDITATION meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm. If you are new, please come no later than 6:45pm for orientation. Contact Steve Berg.

February Birthdays:

Jack Baxstrom
Don Curie
Emily Curie
John Gross
Peg Redinbaugh
Lee Simpson
Elaine Strawn
Marge Thomas

We'd like to add your birthday or
anniversary to the list.
Please contact the office



The events shown on this page are just a part of what goes on at the UUFWC. If you're looking for a specific activity, or if want to know when a particular group or committee meets, go to the Fellowship website, uufwc.org, and look at the calendar.

A Look at the Year Ahead

General Assembly 2018 will be in Kansas City, MO on June 20-24, 2018. You can still view/listen to presentations from GA 2017 in New Orleans at www.uua.org/ga.

Summer Institute will be July 8-14, 2018 at Oberlin College. The Theme Speaker will be David W. Orr, a Paul Sears Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics, Emeritus at Oberlin College. More information at omdsi.org.

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	2	3
9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Welcoming Diversity - Frantz 11 am - Senior Hi: Coming of Age 10:45 am - Pledging 101 11 am - Humanist Group 11 am - Stewardship committee 6-8 pm: OWL Classes	4 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation 7 pm - Membership	5 7pm - Plant Based Potluck	6 1 pm - Afternoon small group 7 pm - Men's group 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	7 2 pm: Book Group 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	8 7 -9 pm - Wine, cheese, CONVERSATION	10
9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Sharing of Yourself - Strawn 11- Finance 11 am - Senior Hi 12: RE committee 12: 15 - Earth Centered group 6 pm: Elem. OWL classes	11 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation 7 pm - NAACP @ OneEighty	12 6:30pm - Board 7 pm -private group	13 7 pm - Caregiver's support Group 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	14 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	15 6-8 pm: Cocoa House 10 pm - Youth Lock in	17
People to People 9:30 & 11 am - The Gift of Love - Strawn, Churpek 11 am - Humanist Group 6 pm: Elem. OWL class 7 pm: Book Discussion Group	18 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	19 7 pm: Small Group Discussion 6-8:30 pm: Worship Planning meeting	20 7 pm - Leadership Development Team 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	21 7pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics	22	24
Last Sunday Collection 9:30am - RE Classes 9:30 & 11 am - Sharing with our Larger movement 2pm: Bill Alkire Celebration 6 pm: Elem. OWL class	25 11:30 am - UU Lunch Bunch 6 pm - Inner Peace Yoga 7pm - Zen Meditation	26 7 pm - Plant Based Potluck	27 7 pm - Men's group 7pm - Choir rehearsal 8:15pm - Folk Orchestra	28 Office Hours: Rev Strawn: Mon 12-4, Wed 6-9 pm, Tu/Th by appt. Drew, Intern: Wed 1-4 pm Chelsea, DRE: Sun 8:30- 1 pm , Tu 5-8 pm Anne, Office: MWF: 9 am - 2 pm	29	30

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

How to Find Us: We are located at 3186 Burbank Road, in Wooster, 330-262-9194.
After Labor Day through Memorial Day we meet on Sundays at 9:30am and 11:00am.
In the Summer, June through Labor Day, we meet on Sundays at 10:00am.

Minister: Rev. V. Elaine Strawn

Ministerial Intern: Drew Frantz

Board of Directors: Peter Schantz, president; John Waldman, vice president; Cherrill Wertz, secretary;
Adam Keating, David Francis, Inez Bird, Kelly Chandler, Tony Beery, past president.

Office Administrator: Anne Wilson

Director of Religious Education: Chelsea Churpek

Youth & Campus Ministries Coordinator: Dawn Frank

Membership Coordinator: Karen Skubik

Newsletter Editor: Joann Ribar The newsletter deadline is the 17th of every month.

Congregational Group Email: One email reaches nearly everyone! There is a delay while messages are
moderated. To join the group, email the office

Office Hours:

Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn: Monday 11:00am-3:00pm; Wednesday 3:00pm-9:00pm, Tuesday/Thursday by appt
Drew Frantz, Ministerial Intern: Wednesday 1:00pm-4:00pm
Anne Wilson, Office Administrator: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00am-2:00pm
Chelsea Churpek, Director of Religious Exploration: Sunday 8:00am-1:00pm; Tuesday 5:00pm-8:00pm
Dawn Frank, Youth & Campus Ministries Coordinator: Tuesday 5:00pm-8:00pm

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

www.uufwc.org

**Contact the office to
receive this newsletter
via email. You will get it
a week earlier and save
the Fellowship money!**

*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
is an inclusive community for spiritual exploration
dedicated to social and environmental justice.*

 *Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne County*