
NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

P.O. Box 253, Minocqua, WI 54548 <http://www.newnorth.net/~beckratz/nuuf/>

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Volume 3, Number 3

April 10,

2000**Coming Sundays**

Taking the Pulpit

Sunday, April 23, 10 AM, Pat Harrington, Spring is the Mischief.

Sunday, May 7, 10 AM, Rev. Carl Nelson

Sunday, May 21, 10 AM, Dawn Holt, Children's Program

Sunday, June 4, 10 AM, Rabbi Dan Danson, A Curious Silence: Liberal Faiths and Sexual Values.

Sunday, June 18, 10 AM, Dr. Robert T. Pennock, The Creationist Controversy.

Adult Religious Education

Sunday, April 16, 10:30 AM

P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 18:

Leibniz and Theodicy

Sunday, April 30, 10:30 AM

P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 19:

Hume's Critique of Religion

Sunday, May 14, 10:30 AM

P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 20:

Kant--Reason Limited to Experience

Sunday, May 28, 10:30 AM

P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 21:

Kant--Morality as the Basis of Religion

Sunday, June 11, 10:30 AM

P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 22:

Schleiermacher--Feeling as the Basis of Religion .

Notes from the President:

Seems like I've been out of touch for ages, what with the week of baby-sitting in Rockford and then replacement of my left knee. I'm chugging slowly around now and hope to drive in a week or so. I may have to cadge a ride to the Retreat next Saturday, but I wouldn't miss it for the world.

Please don't you miss it! Doug Van Nostran comes highly recommended and sounds as though he'll welcome our opinions and adventures as well as giving us some solid background in our faith. If you haven't signed up yet, please call me immediately (277-3476), and I'll add you to the count. If you want to buy lunch there, it's \$6.50, and I'll need to let them know. Remember, it's 9:00 to 2:30 at Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. The chance of a lifetime!

If you add your support to the youngsters going to the Annual Meeting, it could make the difference in whether or not they go. A real opportunity to show our young people that they are important to us. Let Dawn know.

Enjoy this Spring/Winter/Spring.

Pat Harrington .

Children's RE News

Dawn Holt

Children's Service

On Sunday May 21 the fellowship youth will present their annual children's service. Last year at this time they presented the program that won them the national award from the Unitarian Sunday School Society. The youth have been working on revisions needed to present it before a larger congregation at the General Assembly in June. They would like the opportunity to present this revised version to the fellowship. So for all of you who didn't make it to the service last spring and for those of you who would like to see it again, please come to support our youth on May 21. The program uses music, fellowship participation and creative props to express the UU 7 principles.

Donations Needed for GA Trip

It was a great honor for our youth to receive the Children's Intergenerational Program award in a contest sponsored by the Unitarian Sunday School Society. These youth have been invited to present their 1999 spring program at the General Assembly in June. We are all very proud of these 4 girls and would like for them and their chaperones to be able to go to Nashville. As deadlines start to approach for reservations and planning, money is

becoming an issue. This trip will cost between \$3000 and \$4000. As a small fellowship our budget doesn't have a lot of extra funds. If you wish to pledge a contribution to help with this trip please call or email Ruth Erbs: 362-2643 or hoerhe@newnorth.net or Dawn Holt: 543-8168 or holthouse@centurytel.net. We need to have this information by April 30 in order to final decisions about attending GA. Please contact us now to help send these youth on this adventure. Thanks.

Parents Of Fellowship Youth

The children yearly are responsible for presenting an adult service, serving as greeters, providing snack and cleaning the fellowship. This year that service is on May 21. Please put that date on your calendar. There will be more information coming about your child's part in all this and the times the middle school youth should be at the fellowship to help clean. Each family should plan on bringing about 1 dozen cookies, bars, or muffins for snack that day.

Social Justice Committee Supports Nature Conservancy Patty Buehler

For forty years The Nature Conservancy has conserved wild places and wildlife in Wisconsin and around the world. Their major project areas in Wisconsin include the Baraboo Hills in Sauk County, the Door Peninsula, and the Chequamegon Bay Watershed on Lake Superior. The Social Justice Committee has donated \$100 to the Wisconsin Chapter. The Chapter points out that we can make a donation to help Wisconsin's endangered resources on our Wisconsin Tax Return. Every dollar we donate is matched by the State. In their latest newsletter, the Nature Conservancy suggests "another important source of income for the protection of rare species in our state is the Endangered Resources License Plate. Your \$25 annual fee for the plate, which features the timber wolf, is a donation to the Bureau of Endangered Resources, which protects endangered species and rare habitats. If you care, let it show! Drive your message home today. For more information about the license plate, call your local DNR or DOT office, call (608) 266-7012, or send an e-mail to ber@dnr.state.wi.us."

All Families Seder

On the eve of Passover, Wednesday, April 19, at 6:00 PM, NUUs will again celebrate Exodus, the mother of all liberations. Including ceremony, music, and traditional foods for dinner. We will explain "Why this night is different from all other nights." Please make

your reservations with Jerry Woolpy (356-6276, jerryw@earlham.edu) or Paul Braunstein (356-2428, paul+irma@centurytel.net) by Saturday, April 15. We'll tell you what to bring.

Annual Meeting—Friday, May 19

Pot luck at 6 PM. Meeting at 7 PM. The congregation will meet to adopt the budget for next year, and to elect a new president and a new board member. There will be letter to all members announcing the meeting and agenda.

Joys & Concerns

Clare Polfus wins Region 1 Spelling Bee and goes on to the State competition.

Now hear this. It's the Customer Service number for Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation. Dial 800-578-7453 wait a bit and listen to their "tobacco ditty especially for teens." It's worth the toll-free call.

Announcements:

The General Assembly of the UUA will convene in Nashville, Tennessee, Thursday, June 22, at 7 PM.

Central Midwest District Calendar

August 4-6 – Woman Spirit Summer Gathering - Camp Ronora - Watervliet, MI

January, 2001 - WomanSpirit - South Bend, IN

For more information please call District Office at 708-343-3478 or Carol Hosmer, chosmer@cmwd-uua.org. •

Letter Received

To the editor:

I believe the UU pulpit should be open to a wide range of ideas and in no way should the program committee or the congregation censor a speakers thoughts. I also believe some viewpoints should have limited, but not forbidden, access to our pulpit.

Two years ago a speaker took our pulpit and stated he would not perform a marriage between someone of his faith and a mate of another faith. When I questioned him after the service, his

explanation centered around the offspring. The speaker was on the schedule last year and is on again this year. Would we be inviting this speaker back if his statement involved people of different racial

backgrounds? Lee Zausner

NUU Views

Question; In her recent sermon, Sister Ann Whitman provided a different view of the Lord's Prayer suggesting that what comes to us through the Greek translation in the King James Version as

"...Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..." Seems very different when translated directly from the Aramaic in which it was written. *"...Grant what we need each day in bread and insight. Loose the cords of mistakes binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' guilt. Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back..."* How do you compare the two translations with respect to their meaning to Unitarian Universalists?

Answer from Dick Fields:

The Lord's Prayer bonds Christians of all faiths and is the only prayer attributed to Jesus Christ. Being raised a Methodist the Lord's Prayer was a familiar part of each Sunday service.

I no longer feel comfortable reciting the Lord's Prayer when visiting Christian Churches, possibly due to the initial word which starts out "Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven." Rather than reciting words that no longer have meaning to me I remain silent.

The Newsletter Editor's question does not address the glorification of God, but is directed toward the request for divine assistance to mankind. Of the two versions the King James version is more specific regarding our physical needs, more concise regarding "forgiveness of our debts as we forgive our debtors" and is simplistic in branding us as followers.

I prefer the Aramaic translation and I believe many humanists and UU's would also as it places more responsibility on the individual and society to achieve mutual goals and not on a Supreme Being.

Answer from Terry Hoyt:

Being an attorney who has used language as a means to make a living for almost thirty years I have never been trusting of the "literal" interpretation of the Word. I know that the same words have different meanings to each user and that certainly over the years that translations have come to reflect the interpretations of those words by the translators and their beliefs.

I don't see a great deal of difference between the two translations as I interpret what they are saying. I can't speak for Unitarian Universalists on this one, but my own interpretation of the meaning of these words has been as follows: "Give us this day our daily bread" --as we live this day one day at a time help us to have those things that we need; "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors,"--another way of expressing the Golden Rule; "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,"--help keep us on the right path, the path of doing good.

I'm afraid I'm suspicious of any translation that is trying to exactly interpret the subtleties of a language that is over two thousand years old, but it certainly makes for interesting discussion. •

Reprinted from Somebody Else's Newsletter

1. This afternoon, there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized in both ends.
2. Tuesday at 4 PM there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk come early.
3. Thursday at 5 PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers club. All ladies wishing to be Little Mothers please meet with the pastor in his study.
4. This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Johnson to come forward and lay an egg at the altar.
5. The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement on Friday afternoon.
6. A bean super will be held on Saturday evening in the church basement. Music will follow.
7. The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Belzer.
8. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
9. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
10. Potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
11. Don't let worry kill you off - let the church help.

Next NUUSLETTER Deadline, Sunday, May 14, 2000.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
