



# THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
FELLOWSHIP

**We are a Welcoming Congregation.**

*A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods*

Volume 10, Number 3

September 15, 2008 **Coming Sundays**

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## **Services at 10 AM**

### **Taking the Pulpit**

**September 28:** Rev. Denise Tracy

**October 12:** Rev. Phil Sweet

**October 26:** Rev. Paul Beckel

*“Worship is the central act of the religious community.... The root of the word worship is the Anglo Saxon for worth, and worship is the way we celebrate what we hold worthy.”*

*---Rev. William Sinkford*

## **Adult Religious Education**

On alternate Sundays we meet at 10 AM to discuss topics relating religious and ethical issues to current events and considering ideas that contribute to the spirit and meaning of our group.

We continue a sixteen lecture series entitled *Power Over People: Classical and Modern Political Theory*. The course is taught by Dennis Dalton, PhD of

Barnard College. “These lectures examine some of the fundamental questions that have shaped Western political thought since its inception in Athens in the fifth century BC, together with some of the most influential answers that political theorists have proposed.... The first involves the essential characteristics of human nature and the good society.... The second set of fundamental questions involves the relationship between the individual and the society.... The final set of questions involves theories of change.

Upcoming lectures are:

**September 21:** Plato—Idealism and Power, Part II, Plato’s Republic

**October 5:** Aristotle and his Critic of Plato’s Works

**October 19:** Machiavelli, his Theory of Power; Comparisons and Contrasts Between Machiavelli and Plato

Please join us for this highly stimulating series of lectures.

## **From the President**

As I said good-bye to Rick and Julie Wambach last Sunday I was reminded of what bittersweet feelings I hold about September. Soon it will be time to wish farewell to all the UU snowbirds that join us each summer up here in the Northwoods. Those who make the journey up from warmer climates each year bring a richness and diversity to the congregation that I treasure, and seeing them go back is accompanied by a twinge of sadness.

But September brings forth mixed feelings for other reasons as well. It is such a month of transitions. We who remain in the north during the winter are already thinking about packing away all those toys and clothes that we associate with summer. Soon it will be time to store the boat, the grill, the bike, and the patio furniture, and get out the snow blower, the snowshoes, and the ice auger. The shorts and sandals will be replaced by parkas and boots as we prepare for the frosty months that lie ahead. It's sad to see the summer slip away, but like many of you, I am already looking forward to the bug-free autumn hikes, the brilliant colors of fall, and the first dusting of snow in the woods.

Sadly, this month is also etched in tragedy. Each one of us can remember exactly what we were doing when the twin towers fell on September 11, 2001. Some of us may have known people who were in those towers. But even if we did not, we still remember the day with a sense of profound loss. The UUA website has a memorial page dedicated to the eleven UU members who died on that day. Hopefully, our faith was a source of strength and comfort as we struggled to understand the awful reality that we faced during those sad times.

But for me personally, this month will always be remembered with more joy than sorrow. Fifty years ago this September Audrey and I were married on a Royal Canadian Air Force base in what was then called West Germany. When I was growing up in Texas, my Uncle Lyle repeatedly cautioned me "It's just as easy to love a rich woman as a poor one." He was sorely disappointed when I showed up with Audrey, a penniless product of Canada's wilderness frontier. It turns out he was right, but in a different way. Audrey brought incredible wealth into our marriage with her energy, creativity, compassion, and unquenchable zest for life. While money has been tight, there has been an abundance of those assets that really count: love, loyalty, and lots and lots of laughter. Audrey's riches have sustained us and lifted our spirits through some tough times over the years. And so I look forward to each September, for it is a reminder that the real treasures are those which give us hope, strength and the courage to move ahead. So, Uncle Lyle, I guess I did OK, after all.

## **News and Announcements**

### **NUUF Dates of Importance**

**October 9:** Women's Friendship Circle

**October 20:** Social Justice Committee Meeting

**December 13:** Holiday Service

### **Fair Trade Coffee**

The Fair Trade coffee prices are going up. The good news is, they are going up because of increased demand. I will be placing the order for delivery in October, as the chocolate cannot be shipped before then.

Please send me your orders by Friday, **September 26**. I will order extra to

sell at coffee hour but to be sure you get what you want, place an order now!

Be sure to email me directly at [thezoars@excite.com](mailto:thezoars@excite.com).

All products are organic, shade grown, and fair trade. Thank you for making this a successful project for UUSC.

Your choices are:

10/12oz. drip grind (order a 6-bag case for \$35; decaf for \$41)

Columbian (lightest roast) \$6

Ethiopian \$6

French roast (darkest roast) \$6

Decaf drip grind \$7

Decaf WHOLE BEAN 12-oz. bag \$7 (order 6 bags for \$41)

2lb. whole bean (5-bag case \$69):

Breakfast Blend \$14

French roast \$14

(NOTE: decaf is not available in 2 lb. bags. Order whole bean 12-oz bags instead. A case of six 12-oz. bags is a total of 4.5 lb., approx. two 2-lb. bags)

Tea: I have available, "first ordered, first served"

English Breakfast: 2 boxes at \$3 each

Green tea: 3 boxes at \$3 each.

You may always order a case of 6 of any one kind of tea (English Breakfast, Earl Gray, Green) at \$16.50 (\$18 naturally decaf Rooibos).

Chocolate:

Very dark \$2.75 (\$33 a case of 12)

Dark w. almonds \$2.75 (\$33 a case of 12)

Unsweetened baking cocoa \$5.25/can (\$31.50 a case of 6)

Sherry Zoars

### **An Invitation**

The Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth

Requests the honor of your presence at the ordination of **Suzanne M.**

**Wasilczuk** to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry

**Sunday, September 28, 2008**

4:30 in the afternoon

835 College Avenue, Duluth Minnesota

Clergy are invited to robe and process. Please arrive at 4 pm.

Please call 218-525-5811 to RSVP, for directions or further information.

## **Alzheimer's Association**

### **Memory Walk**

Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk in Minocqua will be on Saturday, **October 4th** - Registration - 9:00 a.m.; Walk - 10:00 a.m.

PLEASE mark your calendars now and plan to join our "NUUF Trotters Team". We were great last year with placing **FIRST** with the most walkers - and we placed **SECOND** for the amount of \$\$\$ raised! Let's do that again!

Save the date and please give me a call or send an email and I'll get you registered for another successful Memory Walk.

Thank you, Bev Strauss at 356-9307; email: [bevjoest@verizon.net](mailto:bevjoest@verizon.net)

## **Women's Friendship Circle**

The October Women's Friendship Circle will meet at 10:30 am, Thursday, **October 9<sup>th</sup>** in the Fellowship Hall.

The program will be facilitated by Lynn Deinard, using as a resource the book. "SIMPLE ABUNDANCE" by Sarah Ban Breathnach, written within the essence of a personal journal. There will be selected readings, followed by group discussion.

The traditional potluck buffet will follow the program. Members, friends and guests are always welcomed. Remember- we start at 10:30 am, fifteen minutes earlier, allowing more time for the program.

### **Recital at Campanile**

Tom Sommerfeld will present *An Evening of Broadway* at the Campanile Center on Saturday, **October 18**, at 7:30 pm. Admission will be by donation. This will be a special evening as Tom presents some old and new favorites.

## **Social Justice Committee Meeting**

The Social Justice Committee will meet on **Monday, October 20**, at 6:30 at the fellowship. All are welcome.

## **Salon Evening**

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make Ed Semon's fundraiser for Kids Against Hunger such a big success. We raised enough money to feed 4,866 hungry children. Not only did we do some good, we had a good time doing it. The play, poetry and music were fantastic and the desserts lived up to their promise.

Now we need help in getting the food packaged. On **October 18<sup>th</sup>**, the entire Northwoods will be packing this food to be distributed locally and worldwide. We will be packaging at Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua from 8 a.m. to 12 noon and at the High School in Park Falls from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. It is our goal to package a total of 90,000 meals. School children and their families from the entire area are getting involved and we ask that you sign up and join them.

This is by far the most ambitious project this committee has spearheaded. Please help us make it a big success. You can sign up at the Fellowship or by calling Joe Strauss at 715-356-9307. Audrey Williams

## **The website is back up!**

**We are still at <http://nuuf.com>**

As some of you know, the website had been down since June. I apologize to those of you who were not informed of this earlier. I was hoping that the situation with the website and the problems with the previous web host would have been resolved sooner. My focus has been on getting the situation resolved.

But, happily we are back up! In the future I may try some new things with the website, but for now, it will be about the same as it was before it went down. There is more left to be done on fixing things, but as of today (Sept. 12th) the home page, the Sunday program schedule, adult religious education information, and the August issue of the Social Justice Committee's Signal are up on the pages. In the coming days the rest of the site will be re-stored.

I apologize for any inconveniences. Any questions or comments regarding this can be directed to [nuuf2@yahoo.com](mailto:nuuf2@yahoo.com) or you may call me at 715-362-9420. Dan Rondello

## **New UFETA Board Member**

Northwoods UU Fellowship member, Trish Kirk, has accepted a position on the Board of Trustees with UFETA, Unitarians for Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Recognizing the beauty and interconnectedness of all species that call us to wholeness and toward justice for all beings, UFETA members dedicate themselves to:

- \* Informing ourselves about nonhuman animal suffering
- \* Educating others to understand the interconnectedness of all living beings
- \* Seeking and promoting ecological justice
- \* Inspiring respect and reverence for the earth and all its creatures
- \* Living in harmony with the natural world

"The culture of isolation and violence in which we live is, indeed, a deeply spiritual issue . . . I applaud the work of UFETA and hope that it 'takes' at the congregational level." ~ Reverend William Sinkford, President, UUA

Please visit UFETA's website to learn more about UFETA's work.

<http://www25.uua.org/ufeta>

### **U.S. Military Shooting and Burning Live Monkeys, Goats, and Pigs in Trauma Training**

The Department of Defense is shooting and burning monkeys, pigs, and goats in combat training exercises for servicemen and servicewomen—even though *more effective non-animal simulators are readily available*. Leading medical experts agree that these simulators offer superior training. In addition to being cruel, this outmoded practice is a disservice to the men and women who risk their lives in defense of our country and who deserve the most effective trauma training methods available. Most medical schools long ago ended the use of animals for trauma training.

Many humane alternatives for trauma training are readily available, including the following:

Having military level one trauma centers work with the community and take

care of the entire population of their city

The Combat Trauma Patient Simulation System, which "provide[s] realistic training" and dropped the trainee attrition rate from 23 percent to 6 percent, according to CHIPS (the U.S. Navy's information technology magazine)

Simulab Corporation's TraumaMan system, which has been approved by the American College of Surgeons for teaching *Advanced Trauma Life Support* Dr. Emad Aboud's "living" cadaver perfusion model, which has been endorsed by more than 20 surgeons and used in surgical training at universities in the U.S. and abroad. Medical experts agree that there is no need to shoot pigs and goats and to burn monkeys with chemical weapons to teach soldiers and medics how to treat human injuries. Please help animals who are suffering in Department of Defense trauma training exercises by using the form below to send a quick message to Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates respectfully urging him to replace the use of animals with non-animal methods.

Please contact the Department of Defense today by filling out their [Ask A Question](#) web form.

Feel free to copy and paste the sample letter below or write your own.

Sample Letter:

*I was shocked to learn that the Department of Defense is shooting live pigs and goats and burning monkeys in trauma training exercises. There is no justification for this cruelty. The majority of medical schools in North America no longer use animals for medical trauma training, and more effective humane alternatives are readily available. I respectfully request that you take immediate action to end the needless suffering of animals in these outdated training exercises.*

Submitted by Trish Kirk, Unitarians for Ethical Treatment of Animals

### **Happy World Vegetarian Day!**

October 1 is the annual kick-off of Vegetarian Awareness Month. Since "Ethical Eating" is the Study/Action Issue from the 2008 UUA General Assembly, what better time to try going meatless--for a day, or longer?

And if you want some fun and easy ways to incorporate more vegan habits into your daily life, help has arrived! UU Marisa Miller Wolfson, a member of Unitarians for Ethical Treatment of Animals, has announced the launching of Kind Green Planet's new website at:

<http://www.kindgreenplanet.org>, where you can sign up for her free email

coaching program. Here's how Marisa describes it: Vegan at Heart is a free e-mail coaching program for people who are vegan at heart but not necessarily in practice. It's for idealists and animal-lovers and tree-huggers and health nuts and everybody in-between who wants to incorporate more compassionate, healthy, sustainable habits into their daily lives but who need a little more information, a little moral support, or just a little friendly kick in the pants. Sign up today--you'll love it (and you'll help our earth). Trish Kirk

### **Care Corner**

At our August meeting, we discussed our goals for the year:

1. Continue to provide information for members regarding care and care giving.
2. Offer another opportunity for members to fill out the profile sheets with instructions for the end of life requests.
3. Increase the communication among committees and between our committee and the board.
4. Continue with the successful monthly Women's Group
5. Develop guidelines for meeting the emergency needs of members and non-members. Barb Bratcher

### **Consultancy Services**

An agreement has been reached with Rev. Bobbie Groth to provide consultancy services to the Fellowship on the six weekends that she is taking the pulpit during the coming year. The dates are: 11/8-9, 12/6-7, 1/31-2/1, 4/11-12, and 5/23-24. Committees that wish to meet with her to discuss events, projects, mission or other concerns are asked to contact her in advance to make arrangements as to time and place. She will also be available for private individual consultations on Saturday mornings from 11-12, again arranged in advance. To contact Rev. Groth, you may call at 414-764-0612, e-mail to [gooseknoll@copper.net](mailto:gooseknoll@copper.net), or write her at 707 Hawthorne Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172.

### **UUA News**

**UUWomen's Fall Retreat, *Peace of Cake: Food for Women's Souls*,  
November 7-9, Williams Bay WI. [www.womensconnection.org](http://www.womensconnection.org)**

**International Convocation of UU Women, February 26 to March 1, 2009,**  
Houston TX [www.icuuw.com](http://www.icuuw.com)

**New Gulf Coast Updates:**

The UUA is building on the exceptional response of Unitarian Universalists like you to coordinate advocacy efforts for long-term systemic recovery. And today, we are pleased to inform you that the Greater New Orleans Unitarian Universalists (GNOUU), New Orleans Rebirth Volunteer Center, Unitarian Universalist Association, and Unitarian Universalist Service Committee have launched joint **Gulf Coast Updates** to keep our UU community informed of opportunities to work for a just recovery in the Gulf.

[Click here](#) to view the first issue, on the third anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

These electronic updates will include new volunteer opportunities at the New Orleans Rebirth Volunteer Center, national advocacy campaigns for rebuilding, news, resources, and articles.

If you would like to begin receiving these updates, please **click here** to subscribe.

**UU's in the News**

**"Sierra Club highlights UU environmental initiatives"**

National report on religious environmentalism honors Unitarian Universalist projects.

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/118623.shtml?n>

**"UUA's 'New York Times' ad affirms justice stances"** Full-page ad responds to Knoxville shooting by reaffirming Unitarian Universalism's open hearts and open doors. (Posted on our bulletin board)

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/118622.shtml?n>

**"Knoxville UUs tear garment to mourn shooting victims"** Westside Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville mourns victims of church shooting.

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/117993.shtml?n>

## Green Tips

Here are some resources for creating greener buildings:

**Wisconsin Green Building Alliance:**

[www.wgba.org](http://www.wgba.org)

**Focus on Energy:** [www.focusonenergy.com](http://www.focusonenergy.com)

**Building Green:** [www.buildinggreen.com](http://www.buildinggreen.com)

U.S. Green Building Council: [www.usbgc.org](http://www.usbgc.org)

## Meet our Members

*From New Member, Carol Potter:* I have no prior religious affiliation. I talked to a member of the fellowship and it sounded like something I would like. I particularly like the members and the philosophy I find here. I am concerned about state welfare. A recent joy was the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday of my great grandson. I have concerns about my husband's health. The most important things in my life are God, my husband and my daughter. I would like to get to know the members better.

## Joys and Concerns

Our thoughts and good wishes go out to Diane Reupert who writes: "I had a lumpectomy procedure on September 12. There was no lymph node involvement, which means I will have six weeks of radiation treatment. I am doing great and both my girls came home for the surgery. Kenzie had to leave on Sunday but Jess was able to stay until Tuesday. I feel like I have a dodged a bullet. Thanks for the concern. Love to all."

## Milestones

Betty Frisbie	09-23
Jim & Audrey Williams	09-27
Betsy Schussler & Rick Foral	09-30
Eileen & Thomas Schultz	10-04
Rick Wambach	10-07
Jean Polfus	10-10

Avery Kobling 10-13  
Dwight and Barbara Logan 10-14

## **Closing Thoughts**

Last month, Alan VanRaalte read some of his poetry at our salon evening. The editor has selected two of her favorites to share in this month's newsletter.

### **Priorities, August 3, 2008**

The National Football League  
reinstated Bret Favre today.  
It must be so,  
I heard it on the news several times –  
National Public Radio, no less.

I don't know how many children  
died of hunger today in Darfur;  
There were no news reports – again.

### **Special Delivery**

Mailboxes were real once,  
tangible terminals of connection  
nailed to fronts of city houses  
or the tops of posts along country roads.  
Access to the conduits of communication,  
information, salutations;  
some from far-away loved ones,  
not so timely, perhaps,  
as those from creditors  
but worth the wait.

Now they are icons on computer screens;  
high-tech, electronic

outlets of solicitation  
with offers to enhance performance  
and equipment if you, "Click Here!"  
Letters from family replaced  
with jokes that weren't funny  
the first time you heard them.  
And no more news from friends  
but some vague promise of riches  
if you forward it to 30 others  
who, no doubt, will be as pleased  
to receive the chance as you were.

Where once birds could alight and sing,  
now receptacles for viruses and Spam.

Alan VanRaalte

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[esommerf@aol.com](mailto:esommerf@aol.com). **For distribution of announcements between**  
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[vanraalte@klinktech.net](mailto:vanraalte@klinktech.net).



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