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# THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

*A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods*

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Volume 11, Number 2

August 15, 2009

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## Coming Sundays

Services at 10 AM.

August 23: Adult Religious Education:  
Religions of the Axial Age

August 30: Reverend Denise Tracy: Celebrating our Twentieth Anniversary

September 6: Adult Religious Education: Religions of the Axial Age

September 13: Terry Hoyt

September 20: Adult Religious Education: Religions of the Axial Age

September 27: Sister Ann Whitman: Three's Company

*“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**

## From the President

If you watched any of the TV cable news networks during the past couple of weeks you were no doubt treated to scenes of angry, red-faced men and women screaming at members of Congress and each other about health care reform. Spurred on by national political

figures and talk-show personalities, people raged on about “death panels,” “socialism,” “euthanasia” and “Nazi-style health care.” One Iowa Senator even suggested that his constituents were right to be concerned that if the health care reform measures were enacted, some government bureaucrat might decide to “pull the plug on grandma.” The fact that none of the charges were accurate did nothing to dampen the spirits of those determined to scuttle all attempts at reforming our expensive and inadequate health care delivery system.

The health care debate is more than a political issue or a simple public policy question. Above all, adequate health care is a profoundly moral and spiritual issue. In 1994 the UU General Assembly passed a resolution affirming that basic health care is a human right, and called for a national, comprehensive system of universal health care that was accessible, affordable and accountable. The UUA continued to push this effort, and has now joined together with a broad coalition of faith based organizations in support of health care reform. Christians, Jews, Muslims, and Buddhists are working jointly to bring a spiritual dimension to the discussion. Through prayer rallies, sermons, visits to members of Congress and other efforts, they are trying to frame the debate in a theological perspective. A high point of this effort will take place on August 19, when thousands of coalition members will participate in a national joint telephone conversation with President Obama about the religious principles at stake in the movement for health care reform. Further information on this initiative is available at [www.faithforhealth.org](http://www.faithforhealth.org).

This month, UUA President Peter Morales wrote a letter to our denomination pointing out how compassion for others and respect for the democratic process are central to the discussion. Reforming health care is essential to protect the well-being of the most vulnerable members of our society. We must not let demagogues and unruly mobs silence these voices of reform. As people of faith we have a responsibility to inform ourselves and speak out in defense of those who cannot speak for themselves.

Jim Williams

## **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 are currently exploring a new series entitled, "Religions of the Axial Age". Here is the website describing the program we are using:

<http://www.teach12.com/ttcx/CourseDescLong2.aspx?cid=6312>

We usually view two lectures each week because each is 30 minutes long. When they are

45 minutes, we do only one.

## **News and Announcements**

### **Important News About NUUF 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

On August 30, the Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (NUUF) is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a special service and open house from 10:00 a.m. until 1:30p.m.

Terry Hoyt explained, "In 1989 a group of about fifteen people got together looking for a liberal religious fellowship. We started meeting in Paul and Irma Braunstein's home. Within a few months we had grown to over twenty and applied for recognition as a Unitarian-Universalist congregation. As we continued to grow we moved from individual homes to the Minocqua Community Center where we met for several years. As we continued to grow in numbers we began looking for a place of our own and in 1994 we found some property. By 1995 we had moved into our building located on Peggy's Lane in Woodruff. Now we celebrate our 20th year with over 80 members and an addition to accommodate our growth. We look forward to many more years as an ever increasing beacon of light in the northwoods."

"I recently joined the NUUF because it was a welcoming community of people dedicated to the welfare of others," said Cheryl Hanson. "I was raised in a very dogmatic religion. The NUUF is based on the individual's search for meaning, and that appealed to me. I liked the tongue-in-cheek message that, for every religious answer, UU's have a question," said Hanson.

The anniversary service at 10:00 a.m. will be conducted by Rev. Denise Tracy, who has served as a guest minister on numerous occasions throughout the years. She was the first female to hold the Central Midwest District Congregation Services Director position in the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). During her tenure Rev. Tracy helped found 10 congregations, including the Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The public is invited to share in the anniversary celebration.

For more information contact Barb Beutler at 715-362-2609 or visit #[Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#)

### **Home Hospitality needed.**

Invitations have been sent for our 20th anniversary celebration of our

Charter the weekend of August 29th-30th.

If you are willing to have guests in your home for that weekend please call Mary Ann Fields at 715 385 2975 or e-mail her at [dmafields@yahoo.com](mailto:dmafields@yahoo.com) for more details.

## Food Pantry News

The NUUF will again be co-hosting the Lakeland Area Community Dinner next month on Tuesday, September 15 at St. Matthias beginning at 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to bring food and/or to help serve the meal. If you can help with this, please contact Jim Williams at 715-762-3434 or e-mail to [blockhouselake@yahoo.com](mailto:blockhouselake@yahoo.com).

A Snowshoe Baseball fund raiser is scheduled for September 5th at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk. Please bring along non-perishable food items and receive a free raffle ticket. The concession stand opens at 5:00. All proceeds from the homemade fruit pies will be given to the Lakeland Food Pantry and the Lakeland Sharing Foundation.

Tuesday, the 6th, is the NUUF day in October to help out at the Food Pantry. We need volunteers from about 8:15 to about 11:30. If you are able to help out please call Mel Hoff at 588-1409.

Donations of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items are needed and welcome. For your convenience, a drop-off box is located in the Fellowship vestibule. Thank you for your continuing support of the Lakeland Food Pantry.

## NUUF Dates of Importance

**September 10th:** August Women's Circle at 10:30 a.m. Speaker and potluck luncheon at the Fellowship. The speaker for this meeting will be Sally O'Brien whose presentation is entitled "Panama! Pandemonium?" Call Sally Back, 277-3495, for more information.

**August 29 and 30:** NUUF Twentieth Anniversary Celebration.

### **Remember, When You Shop at Trig's, You Can Help Our UU Fellowship**

Trig's Food and Drug helps our Fellowship earn money with its "Trig's Supports Local Churches and Schools" Program. Three times a year receipt totals are tabulated and 1% of the total for our Fellowship is returned to us by check. You must record our Fellowship number, 27B, on your register receipt before depositing it in the "barometer" at the exit door for this to work for us. Our receipts this last year totaled \$346.08.

So, remember, 27B.

# Membership News

## **The Northwoods Unitarian Universalist 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is Coming!!!!**

To all Members and Friends of NUU: This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Fellowship and a celebration is planned for Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>. The Social Activities Committee is planning a Saturday Evening Gala and Dinner for all members and friends and guess.

On Sunday, Rev. Denise Tracy will have the pulpit for a special service relating to the anniversary. This will be followed by an open house to which the public is invited. We are planning to bring a meat as well as vegetarian main dish for the Saturday dinner and others are welcome to bring side dishes.

For further information, please call Barb Beutler, Chairperson of the Social Activities Committee, 715-362-2609. We are looking forward to a festive occasion!

### **Remembering the story, honoring the struggle.**

*In 1971, Congress designated August 26 of each year to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote. This was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that had its formal beginnings in 1848 at the world's first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York.*

#### **Women's Equality Day Open House**

**August 26, 2009, 1 to 3PM  
Many Ways of Peace**

217 S. Main Street , Eagle River (downtown, between Wall and Main streets, behind the edible garden).

Special Interactive Presentation at 2PM.

Unknown Women Scientists and Inventors: Their contributions, their struggles.

Pam McVety, a summer resident of Rhinelander, will cover a thousand years of important contributions women have made to improve our lives, yet most of these women are unknown to us. In this presentation, you will learn their names and hear about their struggles for fair treatment in the workplace and equality in pay and recognition. Pam, a native of Florida, retired from leadership of the Florida EPA in 2003 and now travels the country lecturing on climate change.

**For more information, contact Debbie Ketchum Jircik, Director of Many Ways of Peace, 715/480-4697**

**Sponsored by: MJ Berner Foundation for Peace & Justice, Inc., a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Nonprofit Organization**

Note: Thanks to Kay Hoff for this timely information.

## **Alzheimer's Walk**

It's not too soon to MARK YOUR CALENDAR and save an hour or two on OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup> to join the "NUUF Trotters Team" at the Annual Alzheimer's Memory Walk. Registration 9:00 a.m. – Walk 10:00 a.m. at the Marshfield Clinic, Minocqua. Center. Please plan to join the fun! We've been a winning team and hope to be again this year! Thanks! Bev Strauss 356-9307.

## **R.S.V.P. for the Twentieth Anniversary Dinner on August 29<sup>th</sup>!!!!**

### **From the Editor**

Just a reminder that the deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the fifteenth of each month. Please send newsletter items to my e-mail address. Please send them as an attachment to your e-mail as that makes them much easier for me to cut and paste. You make it even easier to work with if your notices are in Times New Roman with a type size of 14. I can be reached with questions, suggestions, or reactions at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net) or by phone at 715-356-5797. My apologies if I missed any information to be included in this issue.

I have tremendously enjoyed editing the newsletter for the past few months, but find I am going to have to resign already. My daughter, Jennifer, who lives in Berkley, California is having twins and she has invited me to come help her with them. I cannot pass up such exciting opportunities: being an active part of the raising of twins, living in the San Francisco area, and having access to all the intellectual stimulation Berkley has to offer. For a writer and a seeker, this is just too much to pass up.

I have truly appreciated getting to know many of you here and I plan to come back to visit often. I will be leaving on November 15<sup>th</sup> so hope we can find a new editor soon. NUUF and its many wonderful members will remain in my heart.

Carol Ann Amour

### **New NUUF Newsletter Editor Needed**

Due to the upcoming relocation of Newsletter Editor Carol Ann Amour to the San Francisco area, we need a new newsletter editor. If you enjoy writing and can spend a few hours each month putting the newsletter together please contact Carol at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net) or President Jim Williams at [blockhouselake@yahoo.com](mailto:blockhouselake@yahoo.com)

Carol Ann will be assembling the September and October newsletters, and will be happy to “train” the new editor before the leaves.

*Live together, talk together, walk together. We are all one.*

Swami Satyananda.

## UUA News

### Many Resources Available

You can find some interesting and helpful resources by going to UUA websites. For starters try:

[www.lists.uua.org](http://www.lists.uua.org)  
[www.uua.org/index](http://www.uua.org/index)

## Milestones

Kay and Mel Huff	8-21
Julie White	8-27

## R.S.V.P. for the Twentieth Anniversary Dinner on August 29<sup>th</sup>!!!!

### Review Corner

*Ojibwe: Waasa Inaabidaa, We Look in All Directions*, Thomas Peacock and Marlene Wisuri, Afton Historical Society Press, Afton, MN.

This thoughtful and beautifully produced book is a companion to a PBS series by the same name. Peacock is Fond du Lac Ojibwe and has both personal experience and academic study behind him in this book. Its review today was prompted by Jim Williams’ insightful comments in his opening message in our newsletter. Jim speaks of respect for all people, of spirituality, of the importance of informing ourselves. This book provides a powerful opportunity to inform ourselves about Ojibwe culture and history.

On page 37, Peacock says: *I mentioned at the beginning of the chapter my anger over the hypocrisy I felt at a showing of ...a play about the persecution of the Jews by the Nazis during the Second World War. I was angry because we humans seem to revert to unfathomable cruelty over and over again, despite the lessons history provide; angry*

*because those who attended that play put genocide in all its forms into the abstract, something that happened fifty years ago in Europe; angry because I know the history of the indigenous people of this country and know of our genocide; angry because we continue to live in a country that has not completely accepted its indigenous people as full and equal members of this society; angry because, as indigenous people, we have had to learn and be tested in schools and churches about the colonizer's creation stories, yet they do not know ours; angry because we have had to take years of Euro-American history and know of their migrations and they know little or nothing of ours...angry because we know of their great artists and art, and they know little or nothing about our artists or art.*

*But with all my anguish, I also have a great sense of hope. Because what is written here will be read by many non-Indians and because the photographs contained in the book will be viewed with great respect by the same people. And maybe as a result of this, they will begin to know our story---our creation story, our migrations, our language, our art....*



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**Next Deadline: September 15, 2009.** Send submissions to Carol Ann Amour, editor, at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net),

**For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Alan VanRaalte at [vanraalte@klinktech.net](mailto:vanraalte@klinktech.net).**







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