



THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

Volume 9, Number 7

February 15,

2008 Coming Sundays

Services at 10 AM

Taking the Pulpit

February 17: Ernie St. Germaine

March 2: Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk *What's Love, But a Second-Hand Emotion?*

March 16: Jim Williams

March 30: Rev. Bobbie Groth

“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 are continuing a 24 lecture series entitled **Peoples and Cultures of the World**. The course is an introduction to anthropology with a dynamic speaker. Please plan to join us for this interesting series. Upcoming lectures are:

February 24: Constructing Emotions and Identities; Magic, Religion and Codes of Conduct

March 9: Rites of Passage; Family, Marriage and Incest

March 23: Multiple Spouses and Matrilineality; Gatherers and Hunters

From the President

Due to the success of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day program and some ideas the Social Justice Committee had about how we might continue the dialogue begun there, Audrey Williams asked me to request that she be put on the agenda of the April Lakeland Area Ministerial Association meeting to present some of those ideas to the association members. This reminded me that I have been remiss in letting you know that fellowship members are certainly welcome at the LAMA meetings.

These meetings provide the opportunity to meet others who share a commitment to social justice and compassion in human relations as evidenced by the support they gave us in our presenting Peggy McIntosh and Ernie St. Germaine to the community. Many members of the Ministerial Association were in the audience on January 21 and expressed to me their appreciation for our bringing the issue of White Privilege to the forum for discussion.

If anyone would like to join me, please let me know. The next meeting will be at noon, Tuesday, March 18. I do not yet know where the meeting will be.

In peace and love, Alan

News and Announcements

NUUF Dates of Importance

March 8: New Member Orientation

March 8: Women's Friendship Circle

June 6: Social Justice Committee Fish Fry Fundraiser

Upcoming Services

Suzanne Wasilczuk: March 2 *What's Love But a Second-Hand Emotion?*
We've explored how we might use the words "faith" and "hope" as Unitarian Universalists. What's love got to do with our spiritual dimension? Our religious quest? Or with building our theology, or our a-theology?

Ethics Educational Conference sponsored by Ministry Health Care

On Thursday, **February 21** from noon to 1 PM in the Howard Young Classroom/3 or Eagle River, Auxiliary Hall, there will be an audio conference featuring Dennis J. Tomczyk, Director of Emergency Preparedness, Wisconsin Division of Public Health and an expert panel. The topic will be Ethical Decision-Making in a Disaster. There is no cost. Contact Chaplain Barnes, 356-8735 to register.

Greetings from the Escanaba UU's

Greetings to our UU Friends in Woodruff:

On Sunday, **February 24th**, the Rev. Ian Evison (Congregational Services Director of the CMwD) will be coming to Escanaba. He will be preaching at our Sunday Service at 10:30 AM and present a program in the afternoon (1-3 PM) after a potluck dinner. The program will include the topics: "The Meaning of Membership"; "Getting the Word Out"; and a visual presentation on the UUA.

We would like to invite you to be our guests and spend the day with us to meet Ian. We are a small emerging fellowship, but we put on a great "pot luck" and would love to meet other UU's.

Please let Alan VanRaalte know if you are interested in attending.

New Member Orientation

The membership committee has scheduled an orientation and discussion at the Fellowship, followed by a potluck supper on Saturday, **March 8th** at 4:00 P.M. Past members who have not been to an orientation session or friends that would like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism are welcome to attend.

Please let Mary Ann Fields or Sharon VanRaalte know by e-mail or telephone, if you are interested in attending.

Mary Ann Fields, 385-2975 dmafields@yahoo.com

Sharon VanRaalte, 453-8083 vanraalte@klinktech.net

Women's Friendship Circle

The Women's Friendship Circle will meet on Saturday, **March 8**, at 10:45 A.M.

Suzy Foster will present a program on the "White Deer Herd in Vilas

County".

Mary Ann Fields will hostess the potluck luncheon. Questions please call Mary Ann or Suzy.

Food Pantry Update

Tuesday, **March 25th**, is the NUUF day to staff the Food Pantry. We will need six volunteers from 9:00 AM to about 11:30 AM. If you are available to help, please call Mel Hoff at 588-1409. NOTE: Donations of non-perishable food items as well as personal care items are always welcome and needed. For your convenience a drop-off box is in the Fellowship vestibule. Thank you for your continuing support of the Lakeland Area Food Pantry.
Mel Hoff

Special Events at the Duluth UU Church OPENING OUR DOORS OPENING OUR HEARTS

From the Inside - Out: A Denominational Look At GLBTQ Faith Equality

Friday, **April 4th**, 7:30 pm Ovation in Concert! This 8 voice GLBT group will lift your spirit! \$15 suggested

Saturday, April 5th 1 pm - 8 pm Opening Our Doors Conference
UUA Office of GLBTQ Concerns Rev. Keith Kron is our keynote speaker!

Special worship, breakout sessions, gourmet dinner with live music, \$20 suggested.

Friday **May 16th**, 7 pm? Reverend Bill Sinkford President of UUA will join in **dedicating our NEW BUILDING!** Come meet and listen to Rev. Sinkford as we look to the future. Saturday **May 17th**, 1 pm - 5 pm UUCD New Building Open House! Come tour our new, green space! Learn about how we 'greened' the construction! Listen to choirs from numerous faith traditions try out our new sanctuary! Questions? Contact Karen Bauman at kklgb4820@msn.com

Save the Date!

The Social Justice Committee is hosting a fish fry fundraiser on **Friday, June 6**, to help defray the costs of the recent Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

event. We hope many of our summer residents will be back north to join us welcome summer.

Awards for NUUF

NUUF recently received three awards. We received an Honor Congregation 2006-2007 Award for support of the Annual Program Fund from the UUA From the UUSC, we received a Vision of Justice Banner Society 2007 streamer and a James Luther Adams Award 2007 for our "generous congregational corporate support."

MLK Day Event Update

The Social Justice Committee wants to thank everyone who put forth so much effort and time to make Martin Luther King, Jr. Day an event that would make him proud.

Dr. Peggy McIntosh and the Honorable Ernie St. Germaine could not have been bested as facilitators of a discussion on white privilege. They were incredible. An estimated 175 members and friends attended their presentation at NUUF.

Peggy spoke to the entire faculty of Nicole College earlier in the day and was very well received there. On Tuesday, Peggy and Ernie lunched with teachers at LUHS and Peggy was able to have a good discussion with the person responsible for the curriculum at the school. The teachers were very receptive to Peggy's remarks and some teachers asked to continue the conversation with Ernie on the following Monday.

None of this would have been possible without the help of our community sponsors, Nicolet College, ILI, St. Matthias Episcopal Church, Lakeland Area Ministerial Association, the MJ Berner Foundation for Peace, Diana B. Anderson, Doris E. Gustafson, Mel and Kay Hoff, Trish Kirk, Barbara and Dwight Logan, Chomingen D. Pond, Tom and Elinore Sommerfeld, Joe and Bev Strauss, Alan and Sharon VanRaalte, Jim and Audrey Williams. Our sincere thanks to each and every one of them.

We also wish to thank all the members of our fellowship who helped pull all this together:

Joe Strauss for being the go-to person in the community, who ended up getting some interesting phone calls. Bev Strauss for nervously welcoming a famous person into her home and finding a new "best friend."

Kay Hoff for writing out endless invitations and putting together a cadre of informers that will forever remain anonymous; our sincere appreciation to them too. Also Mel and Kay took on the duties of

commanders-in-chief for the cookies and the kitchen.

Alan Van Raalte for his welcoming remarks and Tom Sommerfeld for being the audio expert.

Mark and Katie Egan-Bruhy for braving the freezing weather to tend to the parking.

Our set up and take down crews: Joe and Bev Strauss, Alan and Sharon Van Raalte, Mark Bruhy, Terry and Terri Hoyt, Kay Hoff, Tom and Elinore Sommerfeld and Jim Williams.

Elinore Sommerfeld and Trish Kirk for being the welcoming committee and taking charge of the handouts.

Dick and Mary Ann Fields who took the coffee pots home for a good scouring, provided the cream and helped in the kitchen along with Terri Hoyt, Suzy Foster and Candy Sorensen. Trish Kirk for her massive effort in cleaning up the kitchen.

All the women who provided inspiration for a future bake sale by baking the best cookies in the state: Joyce Barnes, Katie Bruhy, Mary Ann Fields, Kay Hoff, Terri Hoyt, Jan Reed, Elinore Sommerfeld, Bev Strauss, Sharon Van Raalte, Audrey Williams, Betsy Schussler and Candace Zahn.

St. Matthias church for loaning us chairs.

Jim Williams for his patience, his quick run to Rhinelander for printing supplies and his chauffeuring abilities.

It takes many minds and many hands to put together an event like this and I am so proud to have worked with each and every one of you on this effort.

Thank you. Audrey Williams, Chair, Social Justice Committee.

It's Not Too Late!

...to become a Chalice Lighter.

Our congregation received a grant of over \$10,000 from the Chalice Lighter program towards the expansion of our building. Now, you can help other UU congregations in our district grow as well. Chalice Lighters is a way to put your faith in UU into action. By volunteering to give a designated amount (as little as \$10) to a specific CmWD congregation for a specific growth project, just 3 times a year, you demonstrate your commitment to your faith, values and way of life. The deadline for the winter call is March 1. To contribute or find more information, contact me or go online to:

http://www.cmwd-uaa.org/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=47&Itemid

Introducing a Fair Trade CD with Equal Exchange.

Many of you know about Equal Exchange, the company that provides our fair trade organic coffee and chocolate. EE guarantees farmers fair return for their products, even when prices are volatile in the regular coffee market. This enables the farmers and cooperatives to plan for the future and provide for their families and communities. EE has been in business for 20 years and is the largest fair trader in the U.S.

EE is now offering Fair Trade CDs through a socially-responsible bank in Boston. The CDs will be pooled and made available to EE as a low-cost loan to finance their growth. The CDs are guaranteed insofar as if the bank fails, the CD is insured. But the CDs will be used to guarantee a loan to EE and so there is extra risk should EE fail to repay the loan. However, EE has never defaulted on a loan and has fully audited reports. Reports are available online at www.equalexchange.coop/annual-reports.

The CDs pay a rate of 4.6% (4.7% APR), and are issued for a period of three years. The minimum investment is \$1000.

Here is a chance to participate in micro-loans at a good rate of interest. Organizations, as well as individuals, may invest. Sherry Zoars can send you more information, or you may call Alistair Williamson at 971-404-5142 or email him at cd@equalexchange.coop

About the artist whose paintings are hanging at the Fellowship:

From Audrey Williams: Jean Accola has been painting watercolors of the plant world for more than twenty years. She credits the influence of many other artists including, her high school art teachers, the study of Sumi-e with Susan Frame and workshops by Alan Servoss, Lee Weiss and Chen Kee Chee for her artistic skill as well as her technical abilities.

Accola attended Clarke College in Dubuque, IA, Augsburg College in Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota, where she majored in biology.

Jean Accola has been honored to do paintings for the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, the Minnesota State Parks, the "Wisconsin Academy Review", "the Northern Gardner" and many private and corporate collectors. You will find her work in art galleries throughout the United States, most prominently in the mid western states.

The Accola Gallery, housed in a little victorian house in Durand, WI, is well stocked with the work of many Wisconsin Artists and is envied by larger galleries for its diverse clientele.

Catalogues of her work are on the desk in the office of the Fellowship. Also, there are some cards available for sale on the honor system. Just put a check in the envelope and take the cards. The checks should be made out to: The Accola Gallery.

UUA News

WomanSpirit, February 22-24, Deerfield IL, "Dancing on the Threshold of Balance" www.womenandreligion.org

District Assembly in St. Louis Friday April 25 through Sunday April 27.

The highlights of this year's assembly will be conversations, speeches and worship services about taking lessons of the past and using them to shape our religious future.

Civil Rights Bus Tour: March 22 - 30, 2008 Join Rev. Dr. Gordon and Judy Gibson as they take you on a tour of significant sites of the Southern Civil Rights Movement, offering a journey of experiential learning where you will encounter the sites, sounds, and especially the people who worked to create change during this revolutionary time in our country's history.

UUWomen's Connection, June 6-8, Pilgrim Park, Princeton, IL.

www.womensconnection.org

General Assembly in Fort Lauderdale, June 25-29, 2008

UUWomen's Fall Retreat, November 7-9, Williams Bay WI.

www.womensconnection.org

Comments Needed For Peacemaking Congregational Study/Action Issue

"Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAI) are an invitation for congregations to take a topic of concern, confront it, reflect on it, learn about it, respond to it, comment on it take action—each in their own way." Please comment on our current Study/Action Issue (SAI) 2006—2010

Peacemaking by February 24. For more information, go to <http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/peacemaking/index.shtml>

"...should the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) reject the use of any and all kinds of violence and war...and adopt a principle of seeking just peace through nonviolent means."

"the heart of peacemaking is seeking to find solutions that encompass all truths, rather than creating a competitive battle between two positions."

See also Peacemaking Resource Guide

<http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/peacemaking/resourceguide/index.shtml>.

Pastoral Letter On Violence Abroad

A pastoral letter from President William Sinkford on the violence in Kenya and Pakistan:

From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Psalms 61:2

Dear Friends, The troubles in our world are many and overwhelming. And yet today there are two crises that are unusually traumatic and vividly present to us since both have touched our global Unitarian/Universalist family.

I am sure that you have been paying attention to the reporting about the post-election violence in Kenya, as well as to the harrowing events occurring in Pakistan preceding and following the assassination of Benazir Bhutto. I am sure that your hearts and souls have been troubled. I am sure, because I have been troubled as well.

Many of you are also aware that Unitarian Universalists in Kenya and Pakistan are among those who have suffered directly. We have received reports that the home of a Unitarian pastor in Kenya was among those that have been burned to the ground, and that many Unitarian families are among the nearly 500,000 newly displaced people in Kenya.

And on Thursday, January 10, we received a report that two members of the Unitarian Universalist Christians of Pakistan were among the twenty-three people killed during a suicide bombing in Lahore.

To read the entire article, please see: www.uua.org/news/newssubmissions/62953.shtml.

Green Tips

For an interesting web site that covers a wide range of “green” topics, visit www.greenlivingonline.com.

Joys and Concerns

Our condolences go out to Jennifer Sites whose grandmother died on January 22.

Our condolences go out to Verona Mucci-Hurlburt whose mother died on January 23.

Our condolences go out to Barb Bratcher whose father died on February 5.

Mel and Kay Hoff want to thank everyone for their lovely cards and heartfelt words upon the death of Kay's father. We really appreciate being a part of this caring UU extended family.

Do you or a loved one in this area need a personal assistant? Help with daily living skills, transportation, and companionship? Merrilee Hansen has sent us a flier about her services. For more information, call her at 358-5518. The flier is posted on the bulletin board by the office.

Milestones

Jack Hafner	02-21
Tom & Elinore Sommerfeld	03-02
Jan Anderson	03-02
Tony Zoars	03-09
Iris Linder	03-10
Dick Fields	03-12
Nancy Junkermann	03-12
Charles Reed	03-13

News From Afar

From Kayla Norris in Venezuela: I started my GRAND tour of Venezuela on January 6th. We started in Maracaibo and went on north. I have seen a few of the world's wonders...the way I see it. I have seen a few of the world's most beautiful beaches. I dealt with my first Vendor. I was able to bargain with him about the price of a necklace and some earrings. It was very exciting for me. I walked around in the desert, which wasn't as bad as I imagined. However, I did break my camera there. I've seen 4 amazing waterfalls. There was one waterfall where I could stand nearby and put my arms in the air...It felt as if I were flying! It was the best feeling in the world. During this tour I have experienced the mountains. I have had an anaconda around my neck, and seen many different species of birds, about 36 different kinds, in just one day!!

I have practiced speaking German with the other exchanges students and French as well. I have taught English to a few students. I have taught them the meaning of my Indian name, Bugadaasigueniibigoque (niibi que).

I went to Brazil and heard Portuguese being spoken. I've seen the differences between people of Brazil and Venezuela. It made me wonder why I chose Venezuela to begin with.

I climbed a mountain and trekked through a jungle in Amazonas. I've been to many museums of the history and people of Venezuela. I have seen the darkest and lightest places of this country. I have had the experience of a lifetime. Traveling is a beautiful thing. It's such an adrenaline rush that I cannot bear to live without. It's changed my life, I could say.

Being back in Barinas and going to school is so lame. I'm hating it because I went from touring and traveling and actually doing something every day to...school.

Barinas is boring for me. The education system is horrible. I'm not learning anything and the students are obnoxious. Maybe that is just my maturity taking over. I'd rather be working or back home with Kevin and my little sister.

But you know what? The fun times stick out more than just another day at

Don Cesar Acosta (name of my school). The 2 weeks I've been back from this tour have flown by so fast! I can only imagine how fast these next months will fly by. Sooner than you know it, I will be home again.
Home.

From Associate Member, Wenda Sheard: We're doing well. I narrowly escaped being dragged to Siberia for two years; Richard convinced me to go to an international teaching fair in Iowa ten days ago and we were offered jobs opening a new school in Siberia. Although Richard is disappointed by the high level of consumption and the large rich-poor gap in our area of Connecticut, I'm so happy to be back in a country with familiar toilets and language that I want to stay here indefinitely. Thank goodness we're staying at least one more year, to help our youngest, Anna, through her last year at Wellesley College outside Boston.

Speaking of that daughter, she's at the University of Munich this year for her junior year abroad. I'm pretty darn amazed by her---she learned enough German and she's studying Romanian now, too, and enjoying comparing it to German and to the Italian she learned during her high school senior year in Italy. Her major at Wellesley is "Cognitive and Linguistic Science."

But the biggest news about Anna is this---although at one point during her high school years, she said, "Mom, Unitarianism is YOUR religion, not mine"---she's now an active member of the Wellesley College UU group, and is flying back to the US during her upcoming break to see us, but more importantly, to attend the Wellesley College UU Retreat with the UU chaplain and UU students. She's visiting Romania in March---I'm hoping she'll stop by a Unitarian Church and say hello while she's there.

This past summer the Care Committee gathered information and made a display highlighting activities of many of the young people who have passed through our fellowship during the last several years. Over the next few months we plan to include these stories in the NUUSLETTER. This month we are featuring Kenzie Reupert and Jean Polfus.

Kenzie Reupert: Kenzie was in the second coming of age group at the fellowship and was sponsored by the fellowship to travel to Boston with our former minister, Rev. Sydney Morris. The group really got to experience many aspects of UU history and Boston's culture. She graduated from

Rhineland High School in 2002 and from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2006 with a degree in Biology. While in Madison she worked for the University of Wisconsin Hospital in cardiac and thoracic surgery as a certified nursing assistant. Her department was primarily transplant surgery. She was accepted into the Physician's Assistant program at Rosalind Franklin in Waukegan, IL where she began her coursework in May of 2006, ten days after graduation. She is now in the her second year of a two year program. She began her rotations this past May in Harvey, IL with a busy cardiology practice. She completed this rotation June 27 and began a Cook County Hospital surgical rotation for another six weeks. She will continue these six week rotations and complete her degree in May 2008. She resides in Wicker Park about 10 minutes from Jess when traffic isn't a problem (which is rare). Cook County rotation demands an 80 hour work week. She is undecided about what she will specialize in but thinks either cardiology or women's health.

Jean Polfus After spending her senior year as captain of the women's Nordic ski team and completing her thesis, Jean graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College with a high honors degree in Evolutionary Biology in May 2006. She spent the summer after graduation with Round River Conservation Studies studying the northern ecosystem and the local Tlingit culture in and around Atlan in northern British Columbia. She then moved to Carbondale, Colorado and spent the school year teaching and coaching Nordic skiing at the Colorado Rocky Mountain School. Besides teaching, being a dorm parent and coaching, she spent the year exploring Colorado hiking, telemark skiing and canoeing. She and her boyfriend, Joe, also adopted a Labrador retriever named Luna, who recently turned one. Joe, Luna and Jean visited the Northwoods in June to re-shingle the roof, enjoy the lakes and spend time with family. Last summer she taught summer school at SRMS and then moved to Missoula, Montana to begin the process of pursuing a master's degree studying the effects of environmental degradation on the caribou herds in the Atlan area in conjunction with Round River and the Tlingit Nation.

**Closing Thoughts
In Celebration of
Black History Month
Great Days in Harlem**

The Birth of the Harlem Renaissance

By Beth Rowan and Borgna Brunner

Originally called the New Negro Movement, the [Harlem Renaissance](#) was a literary and intellectual flowering that fostered a new black cultural identity in the 1920s and 1930s. Critic and teacher [Alain Locke](#) described it as a "spiritual coming of age" in which the Black community was able to seize upon its "first chances for group expression and self determination."

With racism still rampant and economic opportunities scarce, creative expression was one of the few avenues available to African Americans in the early twentieth century. Chiefly [literary](#)—the birth of [jazz](#) is generally considered a separate movement—the Harlem Renaissance, according to Locke, transformed "social disillusionment to race pride."

Perfect Timing

The timing of this coming-of-age was perfect. The years between [World War I](#) and the [Great Depression](#) were boom times for the United States, and jobs were plentiful in cities, especially in the North. Between 1920 and 1930, almost 750,000 African Americans left the South, and many of them [migrated to urban areas](#) in the North to take advantage of the prosperity—and the more racially tolerant environment. The [Harlem](#) section of [Manhattan](#), which covers just 3 sq mi, drew nearly 175,000 African Americans, turning the neighborhood into the largest concentration of black people in the world.

Literary Roots

Black owned magazines and newspapers flourished, freeing African Americans from the constricting influences of mainstream white society. Charles S. Johnson's *Opportunity* magazine became the leading voice of black culture, and [W.E.B. DuBois's](#) journal, *The Crisis*, with Jessie Redmon Fauset as its literary editor, launched the literary careers of such writers as Arna Bontemps, [Langston Hughes](#), and [Countee Cullen](#)

Other luminaries of the period included writers [Zora Neale Hurston](#), [Claude McKay](#), [Jean Toomer](#), Rudolf Fisher, Wallace Thurman, and Nella Larsen. The movement was in part given definition by two anthologies: [James Weldon Johnson's](#) *The Book of American Negro Poetry* and [Alain Locke's](#) *The New Negro*.

"Our Individual Dark-Skinned Selves"

The white literary establishment soon became fascinated with the writers of

Place Stamp Here

the Harlem Renaissance and began [publishing](#) them in larger numbers. But for the writers themselves, acceptance by the white world was less important, as Langston Hughes put it, than the "expression of our individual dark-skinned selves."

From www.infoplease.com

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