



THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

Volume 10, Number 9

March 15,

2009 Coming Sundays

Services at 10 AM

Taking the Pulpit

March 29: Rev. Glenda Walker *"Grist for the Mill"*

April 12: Rev. Bobbie Groth *"Lessons from the Resurrection Lily: UU's and Easter."*

April 26: TBA

"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.

Adult RE will be finishing up our series "Power over People: Classical and Modern Political Theory". Our March 22nd lecture is "Hitler's Use of Power" and our April 5th lecture is "Gandhi's Use of Power". We enjoyed the film

provided by Trish Kirk that followed up her March 1st service. We all need to consider the ethics involved in our eating and lifestyles.

Anyone with ideas for future programs is invited to make suggestions. We have some exciting courses to consider pursuing next. They include: "Science and Religion", "Mystical Tradition: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", "Religions of the Axial Age", "Religions in the Ancient Mediterranean World", "The Story of the Bible", "The Book of Genesis", "Introduction to the Study of Religion", "Introduction to Judaism", and "Cycle of American Political Thought". If we can't find something of interest amongst all of those we can also revert to our library of courses that we have done in the past. We will try to decide next time where we might go from here.

Our programs are even more enjoyable with our new big screen projector and sound system. If you have never come to our sessions, please note that it is an enjoyable way to spend your alternate Sunday morning with a smaller group--fellowship, discussion and intellectual stimulation.

From the President

As many of you know, Audrey and I just returned from a delightful trip to California and Hawaii. I do enjoy traveling and the opportunity it affords to see new places and to meet different people. Paradoxically, the best part of a trip for me is the return home. That's when I realize once again how fortunate we all are to be living in this beautiful part of the world. More than anything, however, I look forward to reconnecting with our UU community and the wonderful people that contribute so much to making our Fellowship warm and welcoming.

As a lay-led congregation, we depend heavily on our members for leadership, inspiration, and especially for perspiration when there are jobs to be done. The range of talent and dedication in our little group is truly awesome. For example, Betsy Schussler's service this morning on Rabindranath Tagore was enlightening and entertaining as well as profoundly inspirational. It was such a delight to learn about this thinker who has played a significant role in our UU heritage. How fortunate we are to have people like Betsy in our midst who will devote energy and effort to enriching our

lives by sharing their knowledge with us. And the lovely music of the choir along with the keyboard talents of Joyce Barnes enhanced the service immeasurably.

Vibrant communities such as ours do not happen just by accident. It takes the shared efforts of many different people to keep our Fellowship's wheels turning. Right now there are a number of opportunities for members to become more deeply involved in the governance and operation of our congregation. For example, Elinore Sommerfeld is stepping back from the position of NUUSLetter editor after many years of outstanding service to the fellowship. We need someone to step forward quickly and take this position so that the news we depend on each month continues to flow uninterrupted.

There are other positions that need to be filled as well. The Nominating Committee (Katie Egan-Bruhy, Paul Braunstein, and Terry Hoyt) are actively searching for people to fill a variety of jobs, including Treasurer, Secretary, board member, and slots on the Endowment and Memorial Garden committees. I strongly urge you to consider submitting your name as a candidate for one of these open positions.

Making the commitment to serve in a leadership capacity can be somewhat daunting to be sure, but it can also be tremendously rewarding. Everyone has gifts and talents that can be shared. Please step forward and help keep our Fellowship strong and thriving. Jim

News and Announcements

NUUF Dates of Importance

March 21: JazzWorks Concert

April 9: Board Meeting

April 13: Social Justice Committee meeting

April 19: Spirituality Committee meeting for all

April 21: 6:00 p.m. - Soup supper and Restorative Justice presentation

May 16: Annual Meeting

June 19: 6:00 p.m. Annual Fish Fry and fundraiser for Kids Against Hunger

Upcoming Services

March 29: Rev. Glenda Walker writes, "'*Grist for the Mill*' is a reflection on how character and soul are developed through life's difficulties, using examples from my life, other people's lives and the lives of religious leaders,

i.e. Jesus, Muhammad, the Buddha. I also draw on Wm. Blake's poetry in Hymn #17 in our Hymnal: "Joy and woe are woven fine, clothing for the soul devine" as well as a poem by the Sufi poet Rumi."

April 12: The Rev. Bobbie Groth writes, "The service will be a celebration of the hope of spring, and an examination of the meanings that the Easter holiday can have for even the most humanist of Unitarian Universalists."

JazzWorks Comes to NUUF

On **March 21**, we welcome local favorite *JazzWorks*, a wonderful blending of the area's finest jazz musicians. To hear samples of their music, visit <http://www.jazzworksmusic.com>. Once again, tickets for adults are \$15, available at the door. Kids are free. We expect to have another great evening of music, dance, food and friendship. We hope you can join us and **BRING YOUR DANCING SHOES!** For more information, contact Barb Beutler at 715-362-2609.

ÒPeace in the Promised Land?Ó

On Sunday, **April 5, 2009**, 2-4 pm, at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, Wausau, the Peace Action Task Force will present an informative program on the problems for peace in the "Promised Land" in the Middle East. The program will feature: Dr. Neil Lewis, a professor emeritus from UW-SP with expertise in Middle East history; **John Viste and Elaine Strite**, who have lived and worked in the Middle East; Tracy Feldman, an American Jew from the faculty of UW-SP; and, finally, Rabbi Dan Danson of the Mount Sinai Synagogue. For more information, contact John at email: jviste@gmail.com or jviste@aol.com.

Special meeting; April 19th at 10 AM, Fellowship

The spirituality/program committee invites your participation in a participative feather circle evaluation of the program offerings at the fellowship. Your input to initial questions and discussion will be heard and incorporated into planning for meaningful and inspiring presentations in the future.

This is an education Sunday, not a regular service Sunday. Please plan to join us in the discussion. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to share your comments with committee members, preferably in writing. Questions? contact

us: Spirituality Committee: Joyce Barnes, Paul Braunstein, Jerry Buerer, Terry Hoyt, Dan Rondello, Tom Sommerfeld, Alan Van Raalte, Jim Williams, Joan Hauer, Chair

Food Pantry Fund Raiser

The Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a fund raiser for the Food Pantry on **April 21**, 2009 at 6 p.m. Donations will be accepted for a simple meal of soup, bread and dessert. Following the meal Lynn Bartling and Charlotte Hocking will present a program on the area's Restorative Justice Program. Members of the congregation are invited to bring their friends for this fun and informative evening.

Home Concert at the Woolpy's

Scotland's Heather Innes and Ireland's Jacynth Hamill sing together as 'Caim'. They will be singing a capella in harmony with a pure Celtic sound and with the occasional addition of the beat of the bodhránat. That is at the next home concert at Tara and Jerry's, Saturday, **April 24th**, at 7 PM. With music ranging from the lively to the meditative, 'Caim' aims to bring the depth and simplicity of Celtic music to a wide audience. Concert ingredients include Scottish and Irish traditional songs, contemporary folk songs from around the world, pieces in Gaelic, sing-along items, stories and Irish dancing as well as some of the Celtic prayers. Contact jerryw@earlham.edu for details and reservations.

It Takes a Village

On **Saturday, April 25**, from 9 am to 12:30 pm there will be a free workshop, sponsored by Ministry Health Care, at the Pointe Hotel on Hwy 51 South. "In our increasingly complex world, caring individuals and communities can make an important impact by reaching out to guide and support those facing health care crises. Working together and understanding the many resources available can empower us to help our family, friends and neighbors remain at home as long as possible." For more information, call Randy Danner at 356-8805. A flyer about this is posted at NUUF.

Membership News

As part of becoming a member we have a program called a Welcoming in Ceremony for those new members. Several people were welcomed into the congregation on March 1. They were John Viste, Elaine Strite, Pam Thul-Immler, Cathy Peterson, Laurie Figueroa and Cheryl Hanson. Membership involves a commitment to Unitarian Universalist principles, our mission and covenant, participation in church activities and financial support. If you would like more information about the Fellowship contact Sharon VanRaalte 715-453-8083 or Mary Ann Fields 715-385-2975.

On March 15, Carol Ann Amour (Cardinal) signed the membership book. Welcome all new members!

Food Pantry News

A big thank you to the following people for working at the food pantry on Tuesday, March 3: Alan and Sharon VanRaalte, John Viste, Candy Sorensen, Dwight Logan and Kay Hoff.

I was pleased with the results of the "Kids Against Hunger" fund raiser for the food pantry. The fellowship raised a total of \$520. I thank Joe Strauss for his help and everyone who participated.

Mel Hoff

More Information on Ethical Eating Issues

After Trish Kirk's service on March 1, there was interest in finding vegetarian dog food. Trish has supplied the following information: <http://www.v-dogfood.com>

Description: V-dog is recognized as the original vegetarian dog food, first produced in 1980. Our nutritionists have developed Crunchy Nuggets using only natural, healthy and wholesome ingredients and without the use of artificial colors or preservatives.

V-dog Crunchy Nuggets with Pasta, Rice, Quinoa, Oats and Vegetables is

formulated to meet the nutritional levels established by the AAFCO Dog Food Nutrient Profiles for adult maintenance based on the product's calorie content.

Trish also shares the following news story:

[Cow Climate Bomb](#) A new study is saying what most people have thus far been refusing to acknowledge: it doesn't make a difference whether you raise cattle organically or conventionally; the practice is still a major contributor to global warming.

http://animalrights.change.org/blog/view/researchers_even_organically_raised_cows_are_a_climate_bomb

Consultancy Services

If any committees or individuals would like to meet with Rev. Groth during her visit, please make arrangements by contacting her directly. Her phone number is 414-764-0612, and e-mail is gooseknoll@copper.net (This is her preferred method of contact). She will next be available on **April 11**.

Green Tips

It can take less than a minute to do something green. Try some of these simple solutions to be on the path to a greener lifestyle.

If everyone in the U.S. said "no thanks" to ATM receipts, it would save a roll of paper so long it could circle the equator fifteen times.

Change light bulbs from traditional incandescent to compact fluorescent light bulbs. If every American did, it would reduce greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of nearly 800,000 cars.

Turn off the car instead of idling when waiting in a carpool lane for the kids at school. When a car idles for more than 30 seconds, it's actually using more gas, therefore putting more greenhouse gas pollution into the air than if it was turned off.

If every household in the U.S. replaced just one roll of virgin fiber paper towels (70 sheets) with 100% recycled ones, we could save 544,000 trees.

(From filterforgood.com)

Camp Quest Minnesota

Camp Quest Minnesota is a non-profit secular residential week-long summer camp for kids ages 8-17. For more information, visit <http://minnesota.camp-quest.org/> or see the flier posted at NUUF.

UUA News

Chalice Lighters: The spring call has gone out for Chalice Lighter donations to support the UU Fellowship of Door County in Door County in their efforts to purchase a new sound system for their expanded building. Donations are due by the end of March. Contact Elinore for more information or donation forms.

Central Midwest District Assembly: April 24-26, Marriott Milwaukee West in Waukesha WI. Register online at <http://www.regonline.com/690962> The keynote speaker will be Sharon Daloz Parks who will speak on the Assembly's theme: "Leadership in Times of Profound Change." There will be a forum with the candidates for UUA President, opportunities for worship and numerous workshops, including one conducted by Denise Tracy. There is a brochure on this posted at the Fellowship.

General Assembly: June 24-28 in Salt Lake City. Registration is now open at <http://www.uua.org/>

Send a Love Letter to Salt Lake City

Can you imagine a *Marriage is a Civil Right* banner waving over downtown Salt Lake City? **Donate now** to make it happen.

This year, we have a unique opportunity to hang a three by ten foot marriage equality banner on the large tower of the Salt Palace Convention Center during General Assembly in June.

Did you know that Utah residents donated \$2.6 million in 2008 – more than any other state outside California – to support the passage of Proposition 8,

which banned same-sex marriage in California? Displaying our banner will send a strong message that we are **standing on the side of love**.

\$6,000.00 alone will make this advocacy event possible, but the Salt Palace will not reserve the space until payment is in hand. We aim to make the reservation **by May 1st**, so the time to act is now. Gifts of **\$35 or more** are especially helpful.

Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly: July 12-July 18 at Trout Lodge 75 miles SW of St. Louis. <mailto:pamela.d.hermann@gmail.com> for more info. The brochure is at NUUF.

UU's in the News

Portland church closure draws media attention As previously reported, a \$185,000 deficit at the First Unitarian Church in Portland, Ore., is leading that church to close for the month of July. First Unitarian, one of the largest UU churches in the country, normally remains open in the summer. Now, as Oregon schools discuss shortening the school year, the First Unitarian Church in Portland's budget-based decision to close for the month of July is being held up as an example of how bad the economy has gotten, and of the tough decisions groups are facing. (The Oregonian - 2.13.09)

Folk icon Pete Seeger, got an apology from the San Diego school board over an event that happened in 1960. Better late than never. (Newsday - 2.11.09)

"UUA prepares for belt tightening"

Unitarian Universalist Association anticipates 10 percent drop in revenue in FY2010, begins planning cuts.

<http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/129208.shtml?n>

Help Wanted

Newsletter Editor: Immediate Opening. No experience needed; will train. This is only a two-year commitment. Familiarity with Word useful. Remuneration: Comparable to other NUUF positions. Rewards: Priceless. Contact Elinore at 385-2407 for more details.

Joys and Concerns

It is my great PLEASURE to announce to all of you that Andrea Billings is our 2009 Kohl Fellowship recipient. Andrea will be honored at a luncheon on Saturday, March 28th at West DePere High School along with other Fellowship, Kohl Excellence Scholarship and Initiative Scholarship recipients.

Andrea, YOU are a TREMENDOUS choice, and we are all very proud of the work you do for your students and all of us, here at LUHS. The Fellowship stated it correctly, "...your skill as a leader and agent for positive change, and your superior ability to inspire love of learning..." is not surpassed. Thank you for what you do!!

Mr. James P. Bouche' Ed.S.
Principal, Lakeland Union High School

Milestones

Kayla Norris	03-19
Connie Downey	03-22
Sophie Singleton	03-22
Jason Orloff	03-23
Sally O'Brien	03-24
Dan Rondello	03-24
Terry Hoyt	03-27
Pat Bickner	03-29
Sophia Figueroa	03-29
Tara Reed	04-03
Joyce Barnes	04-08
Steven Cyra	04-13
Trish Kirk	04-13
Joe Strauss	04-14
Jessica Reupert	04-14
Laurie & Nestor Figueroa	04-15

Doris Eberlein

04-16

Closing Thoughts

The Story of Adam & Eve's Pets

Adam and Eve said, 'Lord, when we were in the garden, you walked with us every day. Now we do not see you anymore. We are lonesome here, and it is difficult for us to remember how much you love us.'

And God said, 'I will create a companion for you that will be with you and who will be a reflection of my love for you, so that you will love me even when you cannot see me. Regardless of how selfish or childish or unlovable you may be, this new companion will accept you as you are and will love you as I do, in spite of yourselves.'

And God created a new animal to be a companion for Adam and Eve. And it was a good animal. And God was pleased. And the new animal was pleased to be with Adam and Eve and he wagged his tail. And Adam said, 'Lord, I have already named all the animals in the Kingdom and I cannot think of a name for this new animal.' And God said, 'I have created this new animal to be a reflection of my love for you, his name will be a reflection of my own name, and you will call him DOG.'

And Dog lived with Adam and Eve and was a companion to them and loved them.

And they were comforted. And God was pleased. And Dog was content and wagged his tail.

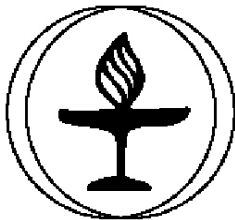
Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 1881
Woodruff, WI 54568-1881
<http://nuuf.com>

Jim Williams, President
715-762-3434, blockhouselake@yahoo.com

The NUUSLetter is published (usually/mostly) monthly.

Next Deadline: April 15, 2009.

Send submissions to Elinore Sommerfeld, editor, at esommerf@aol.com. **For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Alan VanRaalte at vanraalte@klinktech.net.**



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