



THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

Volume 10, Number 11

May 15,

2009

Coming Sundays Services at 10 AM

May 24: Taking the Pulpit, Laura Erickson: “*Migration.*” Laura will be talking about how we often find ourselves migrating between different parts of our own lives as well as between different places.

May 31: Adult Religious Education: Religions of the Axial Age.

June 7: Taking the Pulpit, Rev. Bobbie Groth: “*The Ten Best Things My Parents Gave Me.*” This will be in honor of Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. She will talk a bit about what it was like to grow up in a Unitarian family.

June 14: Adult Religious Education: Religions of the Axial Age

June 21: Taking the Pulpit, Rev. Denise Tracy: “*Thanks!*” This is a sermon about Denise’s dad and why she misses him. He died two years ago this coming October.

“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

Do you hear it? Do you smell it? Do you feel it? Its spring, returning again to the Northwoods! Everywhere you look there are signs—loons calling on the lake, leaves budding on the trees, eaglets in the nest, and of course, deer cavorting along the roadsides. Soon we will be treated to our first glimpses of spotted fawns accompanied by nervous mothers dancing about trying to protect them. It is truly a wonderful time of year in our part of the country.

For us in the Northwoods UU Fellowship, there is another sure sign of spring. Any day now we will welcome back the members, associates and friends of the Fellowship who have wintered in warmer climates. Soon our parking lot will sprout license plates from Tennessee, Florida, Arizona, New Mexico, Kentucky and who knows where. It will be great fun to find out what they have been doing, seeing and thinking while we were enjoying our winter wonderland ‘up north.’

We have much to look forward to this summer at the Fellowship. In addition to the outstanding array of Sunday services and RE discussions, there are other noteworthy events. In June Paul Braunstein is once again hosting his famous fish-fry fundraiser for the Social Justice Committee. Elaine Strite has promised to return from the Middle East to give us a special update presentation on that troubled region, and in August we have the grand celebration of our 20th anniversary as a chartered Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

What an exciting season to look forward to. Let’s vow to savor and enjoy it to the fullest. *Carpe diem!* 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 recently begun a new series entitled, "Religions of the Axial Age". Here is the website describing the program we decided on:

<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

Food Pantry News

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.

A special big THANK YOU to the following people who worked at the food pantry on Tuesday May 12: Jan Anderson, Jay Hoff, Dwight Logan, Sharon VanRaalte. Both Jan and Kay went the extra mile and arrived an hour early to help sort food from the US Post Office food drive.

I am pleased to announce that the NUUF Social Justice Committee sponsored fund raiser on April 21 raised a total of \$155 for the food pantry. Thank you to all who helped organize it and all who participated in it.

Mel Hoff

NUUF Dates of Importance

June 11: Carol Ann Amour will be talking about her experiences on an expedition in Costa Rica when she was part of the Milwaukee Public

Museum team that put together the award winning “Rain Forest: Exploring Life of Earth” exhibit. All women are invited to attend the meeting at 10:30 a.m. with a potluck to follow. Contact Sally Back, 277-3495, if you have questions.

June 21: Meeting of the Publicity Committee following the social hour. The main purpose of the meeting is to discuss and make plans for our new website. The Midwest UU is helping us with talent, technical support, and financing the project. This is an exciting opportunity. Please come with ideas on how the site might look and your wish list for things to include. All members of the congregation are welcome. Contact Candy Sorensen, 892-2997, for more information.

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

July 23: Elaine Strite will be speaking about the Palestinian/Israeli conflict.

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.

Members Page on the Website

This is back online again. The username is still nuuf, but the password is justice. It goes without saying that members should not give out the username and password to non-members. The page can be found at www.nuuf.com.

Dan Rondello

Membership News

The Northwoods Unitarian Universalist 20th Anniversary is Coming!!!!
Be part of our Membership Book and send me your short 1 page biography if you haven't yet done so... Please include some your spiritual journey. This should be in the form of a narrative and sent as an attachment. Please return it by May 25th to Candy Sorensen at sorencan@yahoo.com.

Community Garden Still in the Works

Contact Patricia Bickner, if you would like a garden plot. She can be reached at bickner@verizon.net. Plans are being finalized for site and operating details.

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 **June 6**.

New NUUSLetter Editor

I am pleased to welcome Carol Amour, a newer member, as our new NUUSLetter editor. Carol and I will jointly edit the newsletter in May. In June, she will assume sole editorship. She can be reached at writer65@verizon.net. Welcome! Elinore

From the New Editor

Greetings to all. It's exciting and scary to be taking over the editorship of our NUUSLetter. I come to the fellowship by way of the Olympia Brown UU Church in Racine and First Unitarian in Milwaukee.

Elinore Sommerfeld has been a great teacher as we transition the editing of the NUUSLetter this month. She's given me lots of good advice and lots of material.

So, if you find any errors or omissions in this newsletter, blame me, not her. She has done an amazing job with a very time consuming task lo these many years, and it will take me a while to get up to her amazing speed.

But, I'll do my best, especially if you help me out by sending lots of news and comments. Let me know what you like and what you don't. It's the only way I can meet the needs of the congregation. I can be reached at writer65@verizon.net or by phone at 715-356-5797.

A Big Thank You to Elinore

Elinore Sommerfeld has been NUUSLetter editor for the past five years. Through all the stress and last minute editing, she has always managed to get out a quality product. On behalf of the entire fellowship, I wish to express my personal appreciation to her for many hours of dedicated service. I am also thankful that we have a very qualified successor to continue the high standard set by Elinore. Carol Amour, we wish you well. Sally M. Back

Green Tips

From www.greendaily.com

(This is a really good web site!)

Spam Sucks Up As Much Power as 2.4 Million US Households by Jaymi Heimbuch, San Francisco, California on 04.15.09

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

There's a whole new reason to hate spam. Not only is it annoying, it also is a big energy consumer. Anti-virus software specialist McAfee reports that it comprises over 80% of all email traffic...and it's growing.

The report, called Carbon Footprint of E-mail Spam Report states that Symantec's Internet Security Threat Report recorded a 192% increase in spam detected across the internet, from 119.6 billion messages in 2007 to 349.6 billion in 2008, with 90% of those messages coming from both networks.

The greenhouse gases created from the electricity it takes to create, send, and delete the emails equates to 3.1 million cars. Yep...spam is frustrating for a lot more reasons than a full junk mail box. On the flip side, the report states that "spam filtering saves 135 TWh of electricity per year. That's like taking 13

million cars off the road." But we wouldn't need to worry about saving that amount of energy if spam weren't around in the first place. Wishful thinking... The report has some very interesting key findings about the carbon footprint of spam and it's worth a glance through, especially if you want to get even more riled up about the evils of spammers.

From the NUUF Care Committee

Joe and Bev Strauss' daughter Barbara underwent emergency surgery this morning in Maryland. Bev left early today to be with her. Please keep them in your thoughts.

UUA News

UU Women's Connection Spring Conference **June 5-7**, Pilgrim Park, Princeton, Il and **November 6-8** Lake Geneva Fall Retreat. Flyer is posted at NUUF. Questions? Email <mailto:connections@uuwomensconnection.org>

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

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.

Our 2009 Spring **Chalice Lighter Call** will support the **United Unitarian and Universalist Society of Mukwonago, in Mukwonago, Wisconsin**. The Mukwonago Society has requested funds to go toward building a new, "green" church to meet their current needs. Having outgrown their present home, the Society purchased five acres of land where they plan to build their new home.

This call will close on **June 30**, 2009. Our minimum donation for Chalice Lighters is currently \$10 per call. Please make out checks to **Central Midwest District, UUA** and put **Chalice Lighters** in the memo line. You can also donate online by visiting the web site for the Central Midwest District Chalice Lighters: www.cmwd-uua.org, select **Resources** in the sidebar, then **Chalice Lighters**, then **Donate - Online**. If you have questions, see Elinore.

Milestones

Kate Egan Bruhy & Mark Bruhy	05-18
Kay Hoff	05-18
Solomon Wasko	05-19
Bev Strauss	05-20
Joyce and Don Barnes	05-21
Cheryl & Bob Hansen	05-21
Jeanine Semon	05-25
Alan & Sharon VanRaalte	05-28
Carol Ann Amour	05-28
Ellie Deri-Sproull	05-30
Bob Dallapiazza	05-30
Lynn Deinard	06-03
Ethan Cummings & Jessica Rosenberg	06-07
Ruth Sproull	06-12
Richard Thieret & Wenda Sheard	06-16

Closing Thoughts

Appearing (Allegedly) in Church Bulletins

This evening at 7 PM there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge...Up Yours'

And, finally, this was a poem shared by Rev. Suzanna Wailszak on Sunday,

May 10th at our Fellowship. There were a couple of other great poems related to peace that were shared that morning as well. If you'd like a copy of those poems, let Carol Ann Amour know and she will e-mail them to you. You can reach Carol Ann at writer65@verizon.net.

We All Wake to the Same Sun

by Deborah Cooper, 1st poet laureate of Duluth

Shared at our 5/10/09 Service

We all wake to the same sun

the woman in the brownstone;
the man in the trailer
at the end of a dirt road;
the boy sleeping in the dumpster,
seeking refuge from the cold.

We live and move in this same
circle of light
crossing the sky and sea,
the walls and barricades
and borders.

We whisper the same prayers
in a thousand tongues...
Peace.
The safety of our loved ones.
Peace.

We all shelter the same
small flame of hope.
We all come to know
the weight of grief.
We hold our children close.
We hold the old ones.

We see beauty
in a single yellow flower...

in a field or in a child's hand;
through the barred window
of a cell.

We hear beauty
in the music of a nightingale,
a lark.

All over the world
we join our voices,
singing the way open
in every language,
singing the shackles free.

In different countries,
bells or drums
call us to prayer.
We bow.
We kneel.
We face the four directions...

The same praise in our mouths;
the same needs in our hearts.

Night falls the same way everywhere,
the deepening blue,
the dusk,
the dark...
upon the hungry and the fed,
the loved,
the lonely.

We dream the same dreams everywhere,
inside a tent,
a penthouse
or a high-rise.

Sleep beneath the same soft moon,
the same tossed scattering of stars.

We all wake to the same sun.

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The NUUSLetter is published (usually/mostly) monthly.

Next Deadline: June 15, 2009.

Send submissions to Carol Ann Amour, editor, at writer65@verizon.net,

For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Alan VanRaalte at vanraalte@klinktech.net.



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