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# NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

*A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods*

P.O. Box 253, Minocqua, WI 54548, <http://nuuf.com>

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## 2004 **Coming Sundays**

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### Taking the Pulpit

**Sunday**, November 28, 10 AM, Terry Hoyt, "Guest at Your Table"

**Sunday**, December 12, 10 AM, Elinore Sommerfeld, "Christmas Carols: other stories, other messages"--service will include welcoming in new members

**Sunday**, December 26, 10 AM, Terry Hoyt, "Celebration" (Special music has been arranged.)

**Sunday**, January 9, 10 AM, Sister Ann Wittman

**Sunday**, January 23, 10 AM, Jerry Woolpy and Tara Reed, "Bringing in the new year in the Jewish Tradition."

(Save Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, for an afternoon-evening holiday service and potluck)

### Adult Religious Education

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

Our adult RE schedule is moving along on its lecture series entitled American Religious History. We have all found this to be an extremely interesting series especially considering the claims being made regarding the United States being a "Christian Nation". Topics coming up are as follows:

- 11-21 Victorian Developments
- 12-05 Darwin & Other Dilemmas
- 12-19 Judaism in the 19th Century
- 01-02 Fundamentalism
- 01-16 War & Peace

01-30 Twentieth Century Catholicism  
02-13 The Affluent Society  
02-27 The Civil Rights Movement  
03-13 The Counterculture & Feminism  
03-27 Asian Religions  
04-10 Church & State  
04-24 Enduring Religious Sensibility  
Come stimulate your mind with us on our "off" Sundays.

## Notes from the President

It's hard to believe that winter is almost here again. Winter solstice isn't too far away and the days will start getting longer again. No tornados this summer. Sorry for our Florida friends who got hit by too many hurricanes.

We should have a good group for Thanksgiving this year. Our Fellowship is a great place to get together when your house isn't filled with family and you're looking for friends to be with for a holiday meal.

We have a number of new members who I hope everyone takes the time to meet and to make them feel at home.

We need some people to step forward and accept some volunteer work with the Fellowship. We are looking for someone willing to be editor of the NUUsletter. They don't have to do the whole job, but after about six years of doing it Jerry needs a break. We are also looking for someone willing to chair the Social Justice Committee and someone to chair the Long Range Planning Committee. Please call me to talk about these important positions with the Fellowship if you have any questions or are willing to take on some responsibilities.

There's a Board meeting on Friday, November 19th at 9:00. Everyone is welcome to attend. And don't forget the special membership meeting after the service on November 28 to vote on an Endowment Policy and to authorize the Board to designate individuals who can perform marriages for the Fellowship.

Keep those in need in your thoughts and whatever your position was in the last election take the time to reflect on our UU principles and KEEP THE FAITH.

Terry Hoyt

## Announcements

**NUUsletter editor sought**, apply to Terry Hoyt or Jerry Woolpy.

**Eric Braunstein**--Born 9/6/84 Died 10/11/04

**NUUF Circle Dinners** will be starting in January and ending in May. These are a

gathering of 8 to 10 members and friends for good food, stimulating conversation and fellowship and the opportunity for newer members to get acquainted with us. These dinners take place at either the hosts' homes or at the fellowship building approximately every six weeks or so. Anyone interested in participating should sign up at the church or call Mary Ann Fields at 385-2975. The Host will provide the main course and the guests fill in with salad, dessert and whatever else is needed.

The **Men's Group** will be meeting for lunch Thursday, Nov. 18th, 12:15 PM at the Polecat and Lace Restaurant in Minocqua. All are welcome to join us. For questions contact Dick Fields at 385-2975.

## **Joys & Concerns**

Congratulations to **Minetta Koblings** for being in the top five percent of more than one million high school students taking the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test. For this she has earned a letter of commendation from Lakeland Union High School and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

**Shop at Sears:** By law, Sears, like other employers, is required to hold the jobs of called up reservists open and available. Usually, these employees take a big pay cut and lose benefits as a result of being called up. Sears is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all called up reservist employees for up to two years. Sears is an exemplary corporate citizen and should be recognized for its contribution with our patronage.

## ***Unapproved Minutes of NUUF Board Meeting, October 31, 2004***

Attendees: Mary Ann Fields, Patti Buehler, Barbara Beutler, Sharon VanRaalte.

1) New language to **Welcoming of New Members:** After discussion it was decided to add new language to the Welcoming in Ceremony document that would mention that we are a Welcoming Congregation.

2) **Library** (Mary Ann): Sharon told Mary Ann that she (Sharon) had attended the last board meeting and relayed Mary Ann's request to the board whether the membership committee could maintain the fellowship's library. The board's response was that there should be a card catalog system put in place and then present something to Board about what she had in mind. Mary Ann agreed to pursue it but felt she would need help. She will check what the cost would be to add cards and pockets to the library books.

3) **NUUF Circle Dinners:** Mary Ann talked to Sharon about starting up the N.U.U.F. Circle Dinners and Sharon gave her the forms to display and do the scheduling.

4) **Global Warming:** The committee also discussed Global Warming and the possibility of doing a service in March.

5) **New Members:** Patti asked when we would have the next Welcoming of the New Members ceremony. Sharon told the committee that she would like to put something in the next NUUF Newsletter to let people know that we would be having the Ceremony December 12 and to see if there were others who would like to join.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon VanRaalte

## Children's RE

### Revised schedule for the younger students

#	Lesson/Activity	Instructor(
1	Introduction to	Audrey
3-	Sukkot (Jewish) -	Terry Hoyt
1	Introduction to	Audrey
3	All Hallows Eve -	Terry Hoyt
1	Ramadan	Susan
2	Guest at Your	Katie Bruhv
1	Hanukkah	Charmaine
2	Winter Holiday	
9-	Posadas - Mexican	Susan
2	Huichol Indian	Katie Bruhv
6-	Lent (Christian) -	Terry Hoyt
2	St. Lucia's Day -	Katie Bruhv
6-	No Ruz - Iranian	
2	Equinox -	Katie Bruhv
3-	Buddha's Birthday	Susan
1	Passover (Jewish)	Terry Hoyt
1-	Trinity Day	Audrey
1	Mother's Peace	Katie Bruhv
2	Holidays and Holy	Audrey

## Youth RE Program 2004-2005 Grades 7 - 9 Updated 10/10/04

Date	Lesson/Activity
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Sept.	<b>No RE</b> - Labor Day Weekend
Sept. 19	<b>No RE</b> - Full Moon Soccer
<b>Sept. 22</b>	<b>Coming of Age and Personal Journey Contract Signing and Planning Meeting – 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the fellowship – with pizza</b>
Oct. 3	<b>No RE</b> - Hodag Soccer
<b>Oct. 17</b>	Lesson – Messages in Music <b>Bring songs you particularly like.</b> <b>Youth Mentor Meetings –</b>
<b>Oct.</b>	Lesson – The Inherent Worth
Nov.	<b>Youth Mentor Meetings –</b>
Nov. 28	<b>No RE.</b> Thanksgiving
<b>Dec. 12</b>	Lesson Justice, Equity, and Compassion in Human

Dec. 26	<b>No RE.</b> Winter holiday
<b>Jan.</b>	<b>Youth Mentor Meetings –</b>
<b>Jan. 23</b>	Lesson – Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement of
<b>Feb. 6</b>	Lesson – A Free and Responsible search for Truth
<b>Feb. 20</b>	Lesson – The Right of Conscience and the Use of
<b>Mar.</b>	<b>Youth Mentor Meetings –</b>
<b>Mar. 20</b>	Lesson – A World Community with Peace, Liberty, and Justice
<b>Apr. 3</b>	Lesson – Respect for the Interdependent Web of
<b>Apr. 17</b>	<b>During Service - Plan Coming of Age and Personal Journey Service</b>  <b>Youth Mentor Meetings –</b>

<b>May</b>	Plan Coming of Age and
<b>May</b>	<b>Coming of Age Ceremony and</b>

## **Program Committee Guide for a Sunday Service**

Please include in your program:

1. Welcome statement-introduction of visitors
2. Announcements
3. Chalice lighting ceremony
4. Joys and concerns. Please include the following language:  
*"Joys and Concerns is a part of the Sunday service that gives the gathered congregation an opportunity to share important events in our lives. Together we celebrate one another's joys and offer support and comfort for concerns or sorrows."*
5. Offertory
6. Children's story

You may want to include in your presentation some of the following:

- Music/hymn
- Meditation
- Poetry /reading
- Responsive reading
- Talking circle
- Talk back
- Special holiday program or celebration
- Closing statement or ceremony

The program coordinator is responsible for setting up the room and coordinating the program with the presenter.

Please try to let the Publicity Committee know your subject or title two weeks ahead of time so they can notify the paper. Jerry Woolpy and Alan Van Raalte

Questions or comments. Contact a committee member: Joe Strauss, chairman, Joyce Barnes, Dan Rondello, Jim Williams, Joan Hauer, Dick Fields, Jerry Buerer,

Irma Braunstein, Terry Hoyt, Charmaine Winters, and Tom Sommerfeld.

## **Teens and Cars Collide Too Often**

Excerpted from the Washington Post November 24

The raw, undeniable numbers that make teenage drivers four times as likely as older motorists to be involved in a car crash, and three times as likely to die in one. The risk is especially great among 16-year-olds, the country's newest drivers.

In just one month's time, 15 young people have been killed in the Washington region, including a 3-year-old girl, in nine crashes involving teenage drivers. The first occurred Sept. 16, when a 16-year-old Vienna teenager smashed into a tree on a winding road while playing cat-and-mouse with another teenager. The ninth and most recent happened Oct. 17 on Interstate 95 in Virginia, when one passenger died after a 17-year-old girl lost control and rolled a Cadillac sport-utility vehicle filled with members of her rowing team. She had six passengers, more than she was allowed by Virginia law.

Each of the crashes involved cars driven by a teenager with at least one teenage passenger. Excessive speed played a role in seven of the accidents. Failure to wear seat belts contributed to death or injury in seven. Alcohol was a factor in one and was suspected in another. All but three happened after dark, and all but three occurred on a weekend. Inexperience -- such as drivers overreacting after the car drifted onto the shoulder -- played a role in at least four accidents. In every crash but one, the driver was male.

Nationally, "we lose about 6,000 teen lives a year. I don't know why this is acceptable," said Lon Anderson, a spokesman for AAA Mid-Atlantic. "The fact is, we do have a crisis. The fact that these deaths came together at once served to show we have a crisis."

Traffic deaths of teenagers are rising nationwide, up 5 percent in the past 10 years, even as the overall fatality rate for such crashes has dropped. High speed, alcohol and the failure to wear seat belts were the biggest contributors to teenage deaths, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration concluded in a report released this month.

Some safety advocates also blame faster and more powerful cars. Others cite auto industry advertising, and even the popularity of NASCAR racing, for glamorizing speed. Others fault America's love affair with suburbia and lack of mass transit. Even the nation's affluence -- which has made two- and even three-car families the norm -- has been cited.

Scientists offer different theories on why teenagers take greater risks than adults. Some studies say it's lack of negative experience, brain immaturity or hormones; others say risk-taking is a function of parental influence, personality or even heredity.

PS: Other sources are now reporting that 1400 US college students lose their lives annually in alcohol related incidents, driving being only one of the many high risk situations.



## Meet UU Amy Smith

I was born and raised in Lexington, Massachusetts where I went to Lexington High School. I did a lot of musical stuff there (band, orchestra, stage band, chorus, concert choir, madrigals) and also worked at my church, the Follen Community Church, Unitarian-Universalist. I went to MIT as an undergraduate, where I did a lot of sports stuff (volleyball, water polo, basketball). Before I came back to grad school I was in the Peace Corps and worked in Botswana for 4 years. For my first two years I was teaching Math, English and Science at Itekeng Community Junior Secondary School in Ghanzi. After that I transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and was stationed in Maun as the Regional Beekeeping Officer for the Ngamiland District and soon thereafter became a member of The Maun Rejects.

I still do a lot of things at my church-- I work with the youth group, I am in charge of a couple programs which help provide meals at some feeding programs in Boston, I am in charge of the exchange program with a high school on the Hopi/Navajo reservation and I sometimes teach Sunday School for the 3 and 4 year olds. I have also started to do more musical things-- I bought a Navajo flute while I was out in Arizona and have been busy playing and composing music for that. I also play the penny whistle and guitar and I recently picked up my tenor saxophone and am playing with the Lexington Bicentennial Band. I am still playing sports, volleyball the most seriously and others just for fun. I love to work in my garden and I have a cat named Thibi.

I'm now an instructor at MIT in the Mechanical Engineering Department and the Technology and Policy Program. My research is in the field of Engineering Design for Developing Countries. For my master's thesis I designed an improved grain mill for use in rural villages in Africa. I took the mill to Senegal to do field testing. I am currently trying to set up a program which uses other small-scale engineering projects from developing countries to enhance the undergraduate design curriculum. Some of the projects we are working on are a sunflower seed oil press, an animal driven pump, and a low cost rickshaw. I also help teach a design seminar which deals with redesigning medical laboratory equipment so that it can be used in remote medical facilities.

For her work Amy Smith just received a genius grant of \$500,000 from the MacArthur Foundation. Listen to her interview with Dick Gordon on NRP's The Connection:

[http://www.theconnection.org/shows/2004/10/20041011\\_b\\_main.asp](http://www.theconnection.org/shows/2004/10/20041011_b_main.asp)

## "Feasting"

by Elizabeth W. Garber, from *Pierced by the Seasons* © The Illuminated Sea Press, 2004.  
Read by Garrison Keillor on the Writers Almanac, November 9.

I am so amazed to find myself kissing you  
with such abandon,  
filling myself with our kisses  
astounding hunger for edges of lips and  
tongue.  
Returning to feast again and again,  
our bellies never overflowing from this  
banquet.  
Returning in surprise,  
in remembering,  
in rediscovering,  
such play of flavors of gliding lips  
and forests of pressures and spaces.  
The spaces between the branches  
as delicious as finding the grove of lilies  
of the valley  
blossoming just outside my door under  
the ancient oak.  
"I've never held anyone this long,"  
you said,  
the second time you entered my kitchen.  
I am the feast this kitchen was blessed  
to prepare  
waiting for you to enter open mouthed  
in awe  
in the mystery we've been given,  
our holy feast.

## **Getting the NUUsletter**

In addition to the usual Microsoft Word format, the NUUsletter is available in Adobe PDF format that is readable by any computer, Mac or PC. If you do not have an Adobe Reader you can download one free at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.  
With this software the NUUsletter will be formatted as it is in Microsoft Word and the Word program will not be required.

Previous NUUsletters and the congregation directory are available at nuuf.com. Click on "Members Only." The user name is NUUF. But you need to remember the secret password. If you have forgotten it, contact me--Jerry Woolpy.

**Next NUUsletter Deadline, Sunday, December 26, 2004**

**NUUsletter**  
**Northwoods UU Fellowship**  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**