



THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

Volume 10, Number 5

November

15, 2008 Coming Sundays

Services at 10 AM

Taking the Pulpit

November 23: Susan Urban, *Respected Elders, Not Old Bags*

December 7: Rev. Bobbie Groth

December 21: 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.

We continue a sixteen lecture series entitled *Power Over People: Classical and Modern Political Theory*. The course is taught by Dennis Dalton, PhD, of Barnard College. “These lectures examine some of the fundamental questions that have shaped Western political thought since its inception in

Athens in the fifth century BC, together with some of the most influential answers that political theorists have proposed.... The first involves the essential characteristics of human nature and the good society.... The second set of fundamental questions involves the relationship between the individual and the society.... The final set of questions involves theories of change.

Upcoming lectures are:

November 30: Freud's Theory of Human Nature; Comparisons between Marx and Freud

December 12: Thoreau's Theory of Civil Disobedience

Please join us for this highly stimulating series of lectures.

From the President

As I listened to Barack Obama give his victory speech in Chicago on election night, my mind drifted back to the civil rights struggles of the mid-1960s. After the deaths of four voter registration volunteers in Mississippi during the summer of 1964, civil rights activity became even more intense in early 1965. Over 500 Unitarian Universalist lay people and ministers responded to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's call in March of that year to join him in Selma, Alabama. Among those volunteers were Rev. James Reeb, of Roxbury, MA and Ms. Viola Liuzzo, of Detroit. By the end of the month both would be dead at the hands of the Klan.

Because of the efforts of these and other heroes of the civil rights movement, Congress passed and President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act in August, 1965. Heretofore, Southern states had suppressed voter registration by imposing barriers such as phony "literacy tests," which required black voters to recite passages from the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence verbatim from memory or be denied the right to register. By outlawing this practice, the law opened the way to electoral reforms that allowed millions of African American voters to join with millions of other citizens in electing Senator Obama to the Presidency of the United States.

Regardless of our political preferences, we can all feel pride in seeing how far our nation has come in overcoming a legacy of racial prejudice and discrimination. When Dr. King gave the eulogy at Rev. Reeb's funeral in

Selma on March 15, 1965, he looked beyond the sorrow and despair of that day, and declared "...something profoundly meaningful is taking place. Old systems of exploitation and oppression are passing away. New systems of justice and equality are being born. Doors of opportunity are gradually being opened." Little did he know that three-year-old Barack Obama would one day grow up and walk through that door right into the White House. May we all work to open the door even wider, until the dream of equality is realized for everyone.

News and Announcements

NUUF Dates of Importance

November 27: Thanksgiving Dinner

December 11: Women's Friendship Circle

December 13: Holiday Service and Founders Room Dedication; Potluck

January 19: MLK Day Program with Ada Deer

January 31: Concert by The Garlic Mustard Pickers (Bobbie Groth's band)

Upcoming Services

November 23: *Upgrading the Image of Older Women in Our Culture.* Older women are the last social group that it is socially acceptable to disrespect and make fun of. This service will discuss the need for Unitarian Universalists, male and female, to resist this cultural bias and to begin to move the rest of the world in the same direction. Presenters: Phil Cooper & Susan Urban ("February Sky")

December 7: "Who needs a messiah?" will be an exploration of the notion and its implications for UU's. Special ancient Yuletide music in honor of the season! Rev. Bobbie Groth

Editor's Note: I am having computer problems and "lost" a half complete version of the newsletter. I hope I have completely reconstructed it, but if I missed an item of yours, I apologize. Please resend me the item for the next newsletter or send to Alan for immediate distribution. Thanks. Elinore

Home Concert at the Woolpy's

Susan Urban is giving her annual winter home concert at Tara and Jerry Woolpy's, Saturday, **November 22**, at 7 PM. Please email

jerryw@earlham.edu or phone 356-6276 for reservations Bring friends!
Donations will be accepted for the performers.

February Sky is traditional singer and Celtic guitarist Phil Cooper with songwriter and singer Susan Urban. Phil sings and plays his own arrangements of traditional songs and tunes on six string guitar and cittern, and he also interprets a number of carefully chosen songs from the best of modern folk song writers, as well as backing Susan up on her songs. Susan Urban is a writer of story songs and humorous "slice of life" songs. She accompanies her songs, plus Phil's songs and tunes, on six and 12-string guitar, six string banjo, mountain dulcimer and hand percussion instruments. After playing in other bands for decades, in 2007 Phil and Susan formed the duo "February Sky." Their performing experience as a duo has convinced them that a combination of old and new songs addressing the widest possible range of human experience, complete with vocal harmony, intricate instrumentation and thoughtful stagecraft, is very appealing to folk audiences. The debut of their first full-length album, self-titled "February Sky," brings home the idea that folk music is a continuum - whether the songs are self-penned or have a history thousands of years old, as long as they speak to the human condition and the human heart, they carry on the folk music tradition.

Thanksgiving Dinner

The Social Activities Committee cordially invites you, your family, friends and neighbors to our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on **November 27**, set up at 3 pm; dinner at 4 pm.

Please RSVP to Barb Beutler at 362-2609 or barbarbeutler@hotmail.com or sign up at the service table at the rear of the sanctuary.

Chalice Lighters

Once again, we have an opportunity to help other congregations and UUs in our district grow, as they helped us when we built our expansion. The Chalice Lighters program is for CMwD UUs to help fellow UUs. This fall, our contributions will either go to support the Emerging Congregation Fund or the Leadership School for Youth. For more information or to contribute by **November 30**, please visit www.cmwd-uua.org, click on Chalice Lighter under Resources. If you have questions, please contact Elinore Sommerfeld at 385-2407 before November 21.

Unitarian Universalists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

From Trish Kirk: Mindful of the "Ethical Eating" Study/Action Issue adopted at the 2008 General Assembly, I want to direct you to recipes for compassionate holiday meals through our Unitarian Universalists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals website at: ["Peace & Thanksgiving" HOLIDAY RECIPES](http://www.ethical-eating.org/)

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary <http://www.bestfriends.org/> thanks the 50,000 people who signed their successful petition "A Religious Proclamation for Animal Compassion". More than 30 NUUF'ers signed this Proclamation, and I thank you, too!

Holiday Poinsettias/Decorations

In anticipation of the holidays and continuing our tradition, the Aesthetics Committee will be coordinating ordering Poinsettias and decorating the Fellowship. The flowers are donated in memory of those special people or events in our lives.

To donate a plant, which you may take home with you after the December 21st Sunday service, please register on the sign-up sheet at the service table in the rear of the sanctuary, or call Eileen Schultz, 356-7531, before **December 7th**.

To pay for your plant, please make your check for \$15 payable to the Northwoods UU Fellowship, designated for: Poinsettias. Give/mail the check to Tom Sommerfeld, or deposit in the box with the sign-up sheet. It is important to pay "up front", so we know how many plants to order. Thanks so much for sharing the beauty.

LUHS Concert and Jazz Band Fruit Sale

The LUHS Concert and Jazz Band Fruit Sale is here again. Here are the items available for purchase and their prices:

California Navel Oranges (~44 per box) = \$17.00

Texas Red Grapefruit (~18-20 per box) = \$17.00

D'Anjou Pears (~9 lbs) = \$17.00

Small Gift Box (2 Braeburn, 2 Granny Smith, 4 Oranges, 4 D'Anjou Pears, 8 oz. Sweetened Dried Cranberries) = \$17.00

Large Gift Box (4 Braeburn, 3 Granny Smith, 8 Oranges, 3 Grapefruit, 6 D'Anjou Pears, 8 oz. Sweetened Dried Cranberries) = \$22.00

Apple Sampler (10 Granny Smith, 10 Red Delicious, 10 Braeburn) = \$22.00

Cranberry Sampler (9 oz. Cranberry Trail Mix, 12 oz. Chocolate Covered Dried Cranberries, 8 oz. Sweetened Dried Cranberries)= \$15.00

3 lbs. Trail Mix (Wisconsin's Finest Cranberry Trail Mix) = \$20.00
Sirloin Filet Steaks (8 – 6 oz. Filet of Sirloin Steaks, Boxed and Frozen) = \$20.00

Pick up point is: West Garage (across from football field) December 16, 17 & 18 -- 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Sale Ends – November 21, 2008

We hope to be there at the fellowship on Sunday to take orders, but you can also email us with your order (ninjanatureboy@gmail.com) and send a check to:

James Rusak

1655 Hillside Circle

Arbor Vitae, WI 54568

Many thanks, Aaron and Matt

New Chairs!

Our new chairs will arrive sometime during the week of December 1. It is our obligation (saving \$500 by doing this) to unload the truck delivery of 100 chairs. Please sign-up to help! When the truck is on its way, you will be alerted by e-mail. When we know the exact day and near approximate time the truck will be at the building, you will be alerted by e-mail and a phone call to confirm. Tell Doris Eberlein you will help @ 356-6268, or e-mail 050924@charter.net, or sign up in person! So far, I have one strong woman and three wonderful men. We need you, too! Thank you! Doris

Women's Friendship Circle

On Thursday, **December 11th** the Women's Friendship Circle will trim the tree, set up the Menorah and arrange the display of beautiful poinsettias. All are invited to share in the gathering, enjoy the potluck and join in the fun.

Holiday Service

Our holiday service will be **Saturday, December 13**, beginning at 4 pm. We will also be dedicating the Founders Room as a part of the service. A potluck supper will follow. Please join us for annual celebration of the season with music, readings and more.

Peace Vigil

Please join the Northwoods Peace Coalition Saturday, **December 20th**, on the corner of 51 x 70, in Minocqua, from 10:50 PM until Noon for the monthly Peace Vigil. It may be cold. It may be snowy. But we'll be there in the interests of peace. For more information, contact Jerry Woolpy at jerryw@earlham.edu or phone 356-6276

Food Pantry News

On Tuesday October 21st NUUF provided a hard working group of volunteers to staff the kitchen at the food pantry. A great big THANK YOU to Dwight Logan, Joyce & Don Barnes, Joe Strauss, Paul Braunstein, Sharon & Alan VanRaalte and Kay Hoff. As always, remember the drop-off box in the Fellowship vestibule. Thank you. Mel Hoff

Thank You!

Many, many thanks to the “3 B’s”—Joyce Barnes, Patty Buehler and Sally Back—for the wonderful musical concert to Monday’s yoga class. Namaste, Betsy Schusler

Kids Against Hunger Packaging Event a BIG Success

The Social Justice Committee wants to thank everyone in the Fellowship who helped make the Kids Against Hunger packaging event on October 18th a smashing success.

The Social Justice Committee's original goal was to package a total 60,000 meals in Minocqua and Park Falls by setting up community committees in both locations. When the Minocqua committee met they thought that they could package 60,000 meals in Minocqua and the Park Falls committee decided to shoot for 30,000 meals. The meals cost 15 cents each and it was necessary to raise the money to buy the food to be packaged. It was estimated that we would need about 350 volunteers of all ages in Minocqua and 150 in Park Falls and we needed to raise \$9,000 in Minocqua and \$4,500 in Park Falls.

By contacting schools, churches, businesses and social organizations in Minocqua, Lac du Flambeau, Arbor Vitae, Woodruff, Hazelhurst, Park Falls, Phillips, Prentice, Glidden, Mellen and all their surrounding areas, we were actually able to mobilize over 1000 volunteers. Almost \$18,000 was raised to

purchase and package 179,500 meals in 6 hours on that beautiful fall Saturday.

Approximately 15,000 meals packaged went to food pantries in the Northwoods and the balance of the meals were shipped to Haiti.

While the Social Justice Committee is proud of the success of this project they believe that it is important to note that it was Woody Hagge and his committee in Minocqua and the members of the Park Falls committee that did the planning that made it work. We just promoted the idea. It was the communities that got behind it and made it a success. *Audrey Williams*

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 December 6.

UUA News

International Convocation of UU Women, February 26 to March 1, 2009, Houston TX www.icuuw.com

UUSC Holiday Cards Now Available UUSC holiday cards are a colorful, fun way to celebrate the holidays, while promoting justice and compassion in human relations. By purchasing a 10-card pack, you support UUSC in our efforts to promote workers' rights, civil liberties, the human right to water, and the rights of vulnerable groups in humanitarian crises. [Order your holiday cards online from our web site](#), where you can see ALL the cards we have available

Also From the UUSC: The *Guinness Book of World Records* describes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as the most translated document in the world, appearing in 300 languages, from Abkhaz to Zulu. But what does it mean to the average person? Here are a couple of stories that highlight our ongoing human rights work and shows how all of our work flows directly from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The [Southern Alternatives Agricultural Cooperative](#) is striving for just and fair working conditions for its women pecan-growing employees; our Environmental Justice partners in South America are struggling to [ensure fair access to water](#), critical for human life.

IRA Charitable Rollover Renewed Through 2009 Did you know that if you are age 70.5 or above, you can now make gifts to your congregation, the UUA, or other UU entities directly from your IRA – without including the IRA withdrawal in your taxable income? This timely provision will be in effect through December 31, 2009. To make a tax-free distribution, simply send a letter to your IRA custodian requesting a transfer directly from your IRA to the organization of your choice. [Read more.](#)

UU's in the News

"Ballot initiatives bring setbacks for same-sex couples" Unitarian Universalists disappointed in state election results limiting GLBT rights. <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/121949.shtml?n>

The Rev. Bruce Davis of the Evergreen UU Fellowship in Marysville, Wash., speaks in favor of a state initiative to **legalize physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill people** who have less than six months to live. (The initiative passed.)

Green Tips

Curtain Call: Cut heat transfer through windows by a third by installing heavy, lined drapes with pelmets or valances. Wooden frames provide better insulation than aluminum. Shade east-and west-facing windows with insulating devices such as blinds or shutters. Cover south-facing windows with suitably angled eaves or awnings that provide shade during summer and light during winter. *From True Green, 100 everyday ways you can contribute to a healthier planet.*

Milestones

Herb White	11-16
Ruth Sproull and Dick Pantalone	11-18
Amy Holt	11-24
Celeste Gonder	11-25
Perry Junkermann	11-29
Patty Buehler	11-30
Paul Braunstein	12-03

Ella Toigo	12-04
Pat Harrington	12-06
Dawn Holt	12-06
Julie Wambach	12-12
Julie White	12-14
Guthrie Linder	12-15

Closing Thoughts

Thoughts for Thanksgiving

Both abundance and lack exist simultaneously in our lives, as parallel realities. It is always our conscious choice which secret garden we will tend...when we choose not to focus on what is missing from our lives but are grateful for the abundance that's present – love, health, family, friends, work, the joys of nature and personal pursuits that bring us pleasure – the wasteland of illusion falls away and we experience Heaven on earth. *Sarah Ban Breathnach*

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December 15, 2008. 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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