
NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods

P.O. Box 253, Minocqua, WI 54548 <http://www.newnorth.net/~beckratz/nuuf/>

Tim Kratz, President, 356-3731, Jerry Woolpy, Editor, 356-6276, jerryw@earlham.edu

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September 25,

2000 Coming Sundays

Taking the Pulpit

Sunday, October 8, Rev. Denise Tracy

Sunday, October 22, Dan Rondello, On Salvation.

Sunday, November 5, Diane Reupert, Still Me: A Family Struggle with Alzheimer's.

Sunday, November 19, Guests at our table.

Sunday, December 3, open date

Sunday, December 17, Evening Program, Holiday Program and Potluck.

Sunday, December 31, Paul Braunstein, "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO paul"

Adult Religious Education

Sunday, October 1, 10:30 AM, P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 29: Process Philosophy: God in Time

Sunday, October 15, 10:30 AM, P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 30: Logical Empiricism and the Meaning of Religion

Sunday, October 29, 10:30 AM, P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 31: "Reformed" Epistemology and the Rationality of Belief

Sunday, November 12, 10:30 AM, P & R in Mod World, Video Lec 32: Conclusion: Philosophy and Religion Today

Sunday, November 26, 10:30 AM and thereafter to be announced. *

Notes from the President

Although the fall equinox is the time when days and nights are equal, this year, the fall seems darker to me than usual. In a single day our community lost two teenagers in a car accident and a member of our Fellowship who drowned after saving his son's life. I

knew Tom Frost for more than 19 years and he was a wonderful man who loved his family and his many friends, who had a wonderful sense of humor, and who always had a way of seeing the brighter side of things.

When things are going well our Fellowship is important, but when the worst happens our Fellowship becomes crucial. In a cruel twist of fate, one of my first acts as President was to help organize the Memorial Service for one of my best friends. Yet, watching the community come together for this sad, but beautiful, service was healing for me. From the members of Ascension Lutheran Church and their paster, David Jensen, offering use of their building, to Reverend Bob Reed's wonderful service, to the help of many of our Fellowship: Joyce, Rick, Annamarie, Sydney, Paul, Peter, Dawn, Greg, Irma, Diane, Toni, Candace, Andrea, Jerry, Pat, Megan, Jean, Amy, Claire, Cora and all the rest it was clear that we live in a special and warm community.

Susan and Eliot and Peter, and Tom, our hearts are with you. Spring will come.
Peace. Tim Kratz

Approved Minutes from August Board Meeting

Present: Ruth Erbs, Joan Hauer, Tim Kratz, Dawn McClusker, and Don Barnes.

Minutes of July 24 were approved.

Financial Report: Ruth Erbs presented the July-August revenue and expense report. The checking account total as off August 19 was \$2728. Ruth also reported that the Fair Share amounts assessed the Fellowship will be \$2184 for the national Organization and \$728 for the Central Midwest Organization. The dues will be paid at a later date. Report Approved.

Committee descriptions were sent to all members on August 8 to be returned by September 10. Extra copies were placed on the back table for associate members and friends to read and to participate if they are interested.

The safekeeping of our records as discussed. It was decided that a bank box would be rented for the safekeeping of critical records and a fireproof box would be purchased for the safekeeping of less critical materials, such as annual meeting and Board meeting minutes and bylaws. The fireproof box would be kept in the Fellowship office.

Tim Kratz reported that he had developed a NUUF Web Page and that he periodically updated it. The Board decided that it would be good to include the most recent NUUSLETTER on the Web Page.

It has been suggested that the Board activities be better publicized by placing the approved minutes of the last meeting on the bulletin Board and by putting the minutes in the NUUSLETTER.

The Membership Committee has developed a proposal that would change the rights

of an “associate member.” Presently associate members have no voting rights. The proposed change would provide them with all of the rights and responsibilities of full membership. The Board voted to accept the proposed changes. The changes will be presented in the next NUUSLETTER and the Associate Members will be recognized in a service during October.

The topic of outside playground equipment was mentioned. It was decided that plans should be developed before next year, but that the topic would be tabled at this time.

It was decided that at the next meeting the Board would review progress of the Committee developing information dealing with the feasibility of a new building addition. This would include review of the questionnaire that was completed in June. It will also include a summary of recent committee activities. The committee includes Bob Dallapiazza, Toni Polfus, Patty Buehler, and Don Barnes, Chair.

[Editors note: In the September Board Meeting the Board decided not to recommend changes in the bylaws and redirected me not include the recommended changes here.]

Children’s RE News

Dawn Holt

The lower level now has a new look. Most of the furniture and equipment is now here. Take a trip downstairs and look around. It is much more child welcoming. Thanks to all who helped in any way with donations of time, money, or furniture. We now have more toys, books, and games on the lower level. This means more for the children to do but also more for us to keep clean. Please check with your children and help restore order to the areas they used before leaving the Fellowship. Thanks.

The Coming of Age class will meet with mentors after the service on Sunday, October 8, 2000. If you are in high school and interested in taking part in this class please plan on attending. If you are unable to attend you must contact one of the mentors; Dawn Holt, Annamarie Beckel, Toni Lieppert Polfus. It was great having so many of our youth show an interest in this program at the initial meeting in September.

This year there are two church school classes. Coming of Age is a class designed for high school youth. They will spend the year examining their spirituality. At the end of the school year the youth involved will share their thoughts with the Fellowship at the May 20 service. The other class is using a curriculum called Timeless Themes. This class will study bible stories from a UU perspective. It is being taught as a multi-age class. If you are interested in teaching this class sign up downstairs or contact Andrea Billings.

Hi from Amy: After much frustration and confusion, I finally decided to attend UW-Madison this fall. I am enjoying my classes and meeting many new people. I am staying involved in my music through piano lessons and participation in one of the University Bands. At Madison there is a UU youth campus ministry in which I am involved. We have

worship on Thursday nights and I plan to attend the local UU churches on Sundays. The group consists of about 25 students and is headed by Mary Ann Macklin, who is a UU minister. All in all, I'm having a very good time and I am enjoying the whole college experience.

Joys & Concerns

Mary Ann and Dick Fields announce the arrival of their grandson, William Curran Ashworth born to their daughter Cathy and her husband Warren. The baby was born Saturday, Sept. 16th at 10:57 AM, weighed 6 lbs. 10oz. and was 20 inches long.

Announcements:

If you have not yet had the opportunity to volunteer for the committees of your choice, you will find the necessary information on the table near the entrance of the Fellowship building.

The NUUSLETTER is now available by e-mail for those who can receive attachments in Microsoft Word format. The Fellowship could realize considerable savings if you opted to receive it in this form. If this is feasible and appropriate for you, please let Jerry Woolpy know by email at jerryw@earlham.edu else we will continue to mail your NUUSLETTER through the US Postal Service. The cost of mailing is included in NUUF membership. Those readers who are not members may receive the NUUSLETTER by email or may opt to pay \$12 per year to have it mailed to them through the US Postal Service.

The Young Adult Outreach Network (YAON) will be holding their 3rd EVER WUURSHIP weekend October 6-8, 2000, at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church in Park Forest, IL. Registration forms will be mailed to each congregation, or to have one mailed to you directly, please contact A.D. Lowe Via e-mail at ADtheYAONGoddess@aol.com, or by phone at 708.798.9098, ASAP So, if you're age 18-35, please join us, or pass the word on to any young adult UUs you know! The more the merrier!!

CMwD-UU Women's Fall Retreat "The Sacred Within" for UU and other like-minded women will be held at the Lake Geneva campus of Aurora University, November 3-5. This annual event will offer workshops, worship, ritual, yoga, bird walks, drumming, dancing, good food, entertainment and a chance to nurture yourself. Be an active participant, take walks by the lake, laugh with friends, and just be present here at Lake Geneva for a beautiful fall weekend. Get form from Patty Buehler to register by October 1 or contact Diana DeWeese, 217 546-5834, dianad7@aol.com

Philosofest 2000, Cosmic Consciousness, an important annual event for North Shore Unitarian Church three miles north of Deerfield, IL, October 7. During the day long session

hear two UU ministers, Karen Stoyanoff—Minister of UU Church in Costa Mesa CA and F. Jay Deacon—Minister of UU Church in Oak Park, and two scientists, Grace Wolf-Chase—of the University of Chicago and Adler Planetarium, and Joshua Friedman—of the University of Chicago and the Fermi Lab, followed by an opportunity for discussion and questions. Lunch and music included making a full program to explore and enjoy intellectual and spiritual insight. Call 847 234-2460.

The term of Helen Bishop as the Congregational Services Director for the Central Midwest District ended on July 31, 2000. The new Congregational Services Director is Dr. Angela J. Merkert, who began her term on August 1, 2000.

NUU Views

Question: Religions have various attitudes toward the death of family and friends, what is the Unitarian Universalist perspective and how does it help us to help each other cope with the loss?

Answer from Dick Fields: Within the last year our Fellowship has suffered the tragic, premature loss of two members of our Congregation, Chip Wulff and Tom Frost. Both men were outstanding in their professional lives and in relationships with their family, friends and community. These were good people and we know that bad things can happen to good people, even though there is no rational explanation of why these things happen. How we cope with the loss is up to each of us but it is important that we be supportive to the family, let them know we care for them and be there when they need us.. As long as family and friends continue to honor the memory of the one that has been lost then I believe that person has obtained immortality. There is no better legacy than living a life that sets a caring and moral example to others.

Answer from Terry Hoyt: I'm going to turn to a Skinner House Books publication from the Unitarian Universalist Association entitled "Great Occasions" to help me answer this question. This book has a section on "Death" that is designed to help with services upon a death. The editor of this book, Carl Seaburg, states the funeral or memorial service is "a chance to restate the relationships between ourselves and what we value, and between an individual and the others. In essence, we say that it is good to have lived, that death fits into life and helps it make what little sense it does, and that all remains well with Life and the universe. It is not the place for an empty eulogy of the departed." The death of family or friends is certainly a time to come together as friends and family to reassure each other that "all remains well with Life."

The more difficult undertaking is explaining death. Our approaches are varied

because we do not all have a common understanding of what death means. This is different from many other denominations. We are certainly in general agreement that the deceased is not going to hell or to some halfway station in between, but many of us do not believe in an afterlife. It is easiest for me coming from the Universalist tradition to adhere to the belief in universal salvation. I certainly do not hesitate to tell my grandchildren that someone who has passed away has gone to heaven. They find that comforting and so do I.

21 Reasons Why The English Language Is Hard To Learn:

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) After a number of injections my jaw got number.
- 19) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 20) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 21) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Attention NUUSLETTER readers: Those readers who are not members may receive the NUUSLETTER by email or may opt to pay \$12 per year to have it mailed to them through the US Postal Service.

Next NUUSLETTER Deadline, Sunday, November 19, 2000.

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P.O. Box 253
Minocqua WI 54548-0253

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

