



# THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
FELLOWSHIP

**We are a Welcoming Congregation.**

*A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods*

Volume 10, Number 10 April 15, 2009

## Coming Sundays

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### Services at 10 AM

#### Taking the Pulpit

**April 26:** Ernie St. Germaine

**May 10:** Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk, *If Every Woman in the World Had Her Mind Set on Peace*

**May 24:** Laura Erickson

*“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.

*From Terry Hoyt:* We are about to begin a new series. Here is the website describing the program we decided on:

<http://www.teach12.com/ttex/CourseDescLong2.aspx?cid=6312>

This program is "Religions of the Axial Age." We will probably do two lectures each week because each lecture is 30 minutes long. When they are 45 minutes, we do only one.

Our session on May 3 will be a viewing of the PBS program entitled "Journey of Man" which answers the question, "Where do we all come from?" Today, some six billion people are spread across the planet. But there was a time--not so long ago--when the human species numbered only a few thousand and their world was a single continent: Africa.

Then something happened. A small group left their African homeland on a journey into an unknown, hostile world. Against impossible odds, these extraordinary explorers not only survived but went on to conquer the earth. Their story can finally be told through the science of genetics. Dr. Wells, a 33-year-old geneticist, is part of a team that has been re-writing history. He has been disentangling this epic story from evidence all people carry with them --in their DNA--inherited from those ancient travelers.

Wells travels to every continent in search of the people whose DNA holds humanity's secret history, the Namibian Bushmen, the Chukchi reindeer herders of the Russian Arctic, Native Americans and Australian Aborigines.

## **From the President**

On the very first Earth Day in April, 1970, I decided to take a walk along Waller Creek, a small tributary of the Colorado River in Austin, Texas. Along with the typical debris of old tires, lumber, cans and such, I spotted a black, powdery substance covering the creek bank and seeping into the water. When I went up to investigate, I saw that it was right behind a local dry cleaning establishment, part of a local chain that was owned by the mayor, Travis LaRue. Outraged, I hurried home determined to compose a scathing letter to the newspaper about my discovery. But next morning a local reporter beat me to the punch by writing a front page story about the dumping, complete with pictures. The chagrined mayor alleged the chemical was harmless, but promised to cease the practice. He was defeated for re-election the following year.

Fortunately, a lot has happened in the 39 years since that first Earth Day. Congress passed the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Endangered Species Act. They also created the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate and monitor actions like those of Mayor LaRue. Today Waller Creek and other urban waterways are much cleaner, thanks to the efforts of dedicated public officials and caring citizens. Regular cleanups along Waller Creek insure that trash does not accumulate the way it did in 1970. This April 22, Earth Day will be celebrated in more than 140 nations around the world. As Wisconsinites, we can proudly recall that it was Senator Gaylord Nelson who conceived the idea for Earth Day and pushed for its authorization. As UUs, we can be grateful for the visionary writings of Rachel Carson, whose prophetic book Silent Spring awakened the world to the dangers of harmful agricultural practices. Ms. Carson pinpointed the problem when she cautioned, “The human race is challenged more than ever to demonstrate our mastery—not over nature, but ourselves.”

Our seventh principle calls on us to “affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part.” Never has this idea been more important than today, when we are confronted by the threats to that web of existence presented by global climate change. As we celebrate Earth Day this year, let us be mindful of the ways we are contributing to this threat, and work to reduce our own ecological footprints on the planet.

Our three-year-old grandson spent a few days visiting with us earlier this month. Like me, he is an early riser, and every morning we would stand in the living room and watch the sun come up over the lake. And each morning he would look up at me and say, “Grandpa, it’s a beautiful day.” Let’s make sure his grandson will be able to make the same comment 70 years hence.

Jim Williams

## **News and Announcements**

### **NUUF Dates of Importance**

**April 19:** Spirituality Committee meeting for all

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

**May 14:** Women's Friendship Circle

**May 16:** Annual Meeting

**May 18:** Social Justice Committee Meeting

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

### **Upcoming Services**

**May 10:** *If Every Woman in the World Had Her Mind Set on Peace* The Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk reflects on Mother's Day, mothers past and present, and peace.

### **Special meeting; April 19th at 10 AM, at the Fellowship**

The spirituality/program committee invites your participation in a 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. Contact the 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.

### **Earth Day**

*From Trish Kirk:* As we honor and celebrate Earth Day on **April 22**, I would like to bring attention to the wonderful work of UU Ministry for Earth <http://uuministryforearth.org/cgi/news.cgi>. There are a number of excellent resources offered about Global Warming, Worship Resources, UU EcoMinds Posters, and other publications. Please take a look at the Earth Day link, too:

<http://www.uuministryforearth.org/earthday/>

"Those who dwell, as scientists or laymen, among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life. *Rachel Carson*

## UUSC Coffee and Chocolate

*From Sherry Zoars:* This is our last chance to order chocolate until October. Please email me your orders by **Wednesday, April 22**. I will order extra to sell at coffee hour but to be sure you get what you want, place an order now! Be sure to email me directly at <[thezoars@excite.com](mailto:thezoars@excite.com)>.

All products are organic, shade grown, and fair trade. Your choices are:

10/12oz. drip grind (order a 6-bag case for \$35; decaf for \$41) :

*Columbian* (lightest roast) \$6

*Ethiopian* (medium roast) \$6 (“exotic and complex with heavy body, gentle acidity and hints of vanilla, black pepper and raspberry”)

*Mind, Body, Spirit* \$6 (“lively, smooth & spicy with a chocolate finish.” A blend of medium & Vienna roasts)

*French roast* (darkest roast) \$6

*Decaf drip grind* \$7

Decaf WHOLE BEAN 12-oz. bag \$7 (order 6 bags for \$41)

2lb. whole bean (5-bag case \$69):

*Breakfast Blend* \$14

*French roast* \$14

Tea:

I will not have individual boxes of tea this time. You may always order a case of 6 of any one kind of tea (*English Breakfast, Earl Gray, Green* at \$16.50; naturally decaf *Rooibos* \$18).

Chocolate, 3.5 oz. bars:

*very dark* \$2.75 (\$33 a case of 12)

*dark w. almonds* \$2.75 (\$33 a case of 12)

*extra dark (80%)* \$2.75 (\$33 a case of 12)

## **Public Reading**

The writers' group of the Campanile Center for the Arts, including NUUFers, Joyce Barnes, Sally Back, Cheryl Hanson, Dave Foster (instructor) and Eileen Schultz, will present a public reading on Wednesday, **April 22**, at 5 PM at the Little Creek Coffee Company in Woodruff. Group members will read and discuss their work. Admission is free.

## **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 24<sup>th</sup>**, 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](mailto: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.

## **Spring Concert at Campanile**

The community chorus will hold its spring concert at the Campanile Center on Sunday, **May 3**, at 1 pm. NUUF singers include Patty Buehler, David Foster, Frank Patin and Tom Sommerfeld.

## **Women's Friendship Circle**

The next Women's Friendship Circle will be Thursday, **May 14**. Marjorie Plum-Sellers, a former deputy sheriff and mental health therapist in northern Minnesota, will discuss her experience with elder abuse. She will lead a discussion on how to help if you know or suspect of someone in an abusive situation either at home or in an institution. All women are invited to attend the meeting and potluck to follow. Contact Sally Back if you have questions.

## **Membership News**

*From Sharon VanRaalte:* Teress Toigo signed the membership book on March 29.

## **Pledge Drive**

We are conducting our annual operational pledge drive. A mailing was made which included a pledge card and brochure, which included a message from Jim Williams, our president, describing some of the committee activities. As noted in his message we are an active Fellowship and we wish to continue and expand the work we are doing. There is a proposed budget in the brochure which describes our financial goals for fiscal year 2009-2010. This represents a 17% increase over the current budget. We are in the third and last week of the pledge drive. If you have not returned your pledge card please do so, or contact one of the Finance Committee members. Dick Fields, Chair, Finance Committee, Terry Hoyt, Terri Hoyt, Tom Sommerfeld, Patty Buehler, Alan VanRaalte and Eileen Schultz

## **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](mailto:gooseknoll@copper.net) (This is her preferred method of contact). She will next be available on **June 6**.

## **Motel Coupons**

Do you have company coming between now and the end of May? Do you need a motel room for them? Jerry Buerer has given me four coupons for the AmericInn, priced at \$39 for Sunday through Thursday and \$49 for Friday

and Saturday. I will bring them to NUUF the next two Sundays. Elinore

### **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 <mailto:writer65@verizon.net> Welcome! Elinore

### **Green Tips**

*From the web site: <http://www.greendaily.com>*

#### **Is Cheap Gas Killing the Hybrid Market?**

If you're in the market for a new car, you've probably noticed that the number of hybrids parked on dealer lots higher than ever -- even as the market for cars in general has collapsed. Much of the reason for this is the intense tongue-lashing the auto industry has received for focusing on SUVs and not the smaller, fuel-efficient cars of tomorrow. The trouble is, now that a glut of hybrids are being pumped into the market, [the demand for hybrids seems to be vanishing like a mirage.](#)

This month, Toyota celebrated the sale of its 1,000,000th hybrid -- and while execs were reveling in their hybrid domination, they were also digesting the news that Prius sales were down [33%](#) since last February. Hybrid sales across the board are [down almost 2/3rds](#) since last April. "When gas prices came down, the priority of buying a hybrid fell off quite quickly," says [Wes Brown](#) of LA-based Iceology. In some places, car buyers are [trending back towards SUVs and trucks.](#) Still, the slate for most automakers, especially the ones who took bailout money (*ahem*, GM and Chrysler), is loaded to the brim with hybrids and fuel-sippers. Has the demand for hybrids really collapsed, or is it just the ailing economy? Is our fuel consciousness truly only engaged when energy prices rise?

### **UUA News**

**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. NUUF is entitled to send two delegates to this convention. If anyone is interested in going and representing our fellowship, please contact Jim Williams right away for details. We can provide a stipend of \$100 to each delegate to help with expenses.

**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>

**Superior Vistas Bike Tour-June 27, 2009-5th Year Anniversary! Century Loop Added!** If you have ever thought of riding and or volunteering for the Superior Vistas Bike Tour, do it this year! It may be the last. The weather is always gorgeous, funds are raised for the Washburn Cultural Center and Friends of Lake Superior Nordic Trails, and riders and volunteers give it high marks! It is a family oriented, eco-friendly, fully supported RIDE not race. Seven loops to choose from (13, 19, 34, 40, 52, 70 or 100 miles!). Volunteers needed for rest stops, serving food at the Finish, driving support vehicles, putting up and taking down the tent and at registration. Friday night activities have been added! Check out the website, [www.superiorvistas.org](http://www.superiorvistas.org) or call 1-800-284-9484 for more information. To help out, contact Mary Wichita, 715-765-4132 or [mary.wichita@hotmail.com](mailto:mary.wichita@hotmail.com) Early bird registration deadline May 7.

**Amuuse 2009 Summer Camps** Attend the UU camp for singles in Saugatuck Michigan. Dates are **June 14-19** and **August 9-15**. More info at <http://www.amuuse.org>. A brochure is also posted at NUUF.

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

**Saug-For-All, A Summer Camp for Adults June 21 - 27** Any adult 21 or over. Our community is comprised of singles and couples. Need not be a UU member to attend but should agree with our [7 principles](#). On the dunes of

Lake Michigan. Including a half-mile long private [beach](#), outdoor worship area on the dunes, acres of green woods, and nearby hiking and biking trails. <http://www.saugforall.org/>

**Ferry Beach** Check out the summer programs at Ferry Beach Park Association, a UU Camp and Conference Center on the coast of Maine. More info at [www.ferrybeach.org](http://www.ferrybeach.org). Info is also posted at NUUF.

**Camp UniStar**, for Unitarian Universalist individuals and families and other like-minded people. Located on Star Island in Cass Lake, a part of the Chippewa National Forest in northern Minnesota. During the season, camp offers ten family weeks with various programs, a work week, two youth weeks, Boundary Waters canoe trips, and Sept. group retreats <http://www.campunistar.org/>

**Chalice in the Woods:** A Great Lakes Bioregional Encampment for Everyone. An Earth Centered Spirituality conference with emphasis on worship in a natural setting, and programs which deepen our awareness of the Great Lakes Bioregion. Meets at a cooperative camp founded in 1938 on 248 forested acres with hardwoods, pines and meadows. Tenting, cabins, heated dormitory. Capacious children's outdoor play area..  
Contact: B. Mullins (attn. CITW), 936 Fischer, Detroit MI 48214. Early June ?? Check with the contact person re. plans for this year.

**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.

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee are members of the interfaith [Let Justice Roll Living Wage Campaign](#), a nonpartisan coalition of more than 90 faith, community, labor and business organizations. Let Justice Roll played a lead role in winning the current federal increase to \$6.55 per hour (the first raise in ten years) that will be raised to \$7.25 per hour in 2009. Even after the minimum wage rises to \$7.25 in July 2009, it will be far below the minimum wage of 1968. Let Justice Roll Living Wage Campaign, has launched the "\$10 in 2010" campaign to raise the federal minimum wage to \$10 an hour in 2010.

For more information, visit [UUA Living Wage Resources](#); 2008 Action of Immediate Witness: [Raise the Federal Minimum Wage to \\$10 in 2010](#) or email [socialjustice @ uua.org](mailto:socialjustice@uua.org). (From the KUUF newsletter)

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](http://www.cmwd-uua.org), select **Resources** in the sidebar, then **Chalice Lighters**, then **Donate - Online**. If you have questions, see Elinore.

## UU's in the News

### **Iowa legalizes same-sex marriage**

Iowa's Supreme Court voted unanimously on Friday that a 1998 law limiting marriage to a man and a woman was unconstitutional, making Iowa the third state in America to allow same-sex marriages. Sean Fritz and Tim McQuillan were married in the First Unitarian Church of Des Moines by the Rev. Mark Stringer in August 2007 after a local judge ruled that a state law defining marriage as only between a man and woman was unconstitutional. They were the only same-sex couple who managed to marry before a stay was issued. (New York Times - 4.4.09)

### **"UUs celebrate legalization of gay marriage in Vermont and Iowa"**

Congregations and individual UUs active in the fight for marriage equality. <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/132952.shtml?n>

## Joys and Concerns

*From Rev. Bobbie Groth:* Many of you know that I have a brother who struggles with severe Parkinson's disease. He recently had a piece published on the national Parkinson's website, regarding the experience of early-onset Parkinsons. It really is an inspirational piece, and I'm forwarding the link so you can read it--I hope you'll find good inspiration for yourself, and any others who need a shot in the arm for their struggles of all kinds.

<http://www.youngparkinsons.org/netFacesExperience.php>

## Milestones

Tony Dallapiazza	04-19
Aaron Rusak	04-20
Matthew Rusak	04-20
Stephanie Perkins & Gary Pajonk	04-22
Paul & Betty Frisbie	04-23
Barbara Logan	04-23
Annamarie Beckel	04-28
Ella and Abraham Toigo	05-01
Amy Kratz	05-05
Joan Hafner	05-08
Ethan Cummings	05-08
Arthur Eberlein	05-09
Toni Lieppert Polfus	05-09
Emerson Morris	05-16
Julie and Joe Holzem	05-16
Paul Frisbie	05-17

## Closing Thoughts

### To Spring

O thou with dewy locks, who lookest down  
Through the clear windows of the morning, turn

Thine angel eyes upon our western isle,  
Which in full choir hails thy approach, O Spring!

The hills tell one another, and the listening  
Valleys hear; all our longing eyes are turn'd  
Up to thy bright pavilions: issue forth  
And let thy holy feet visit our clime!

Come o'er the eastern hills, and let our winds  
Kiss thy perfumèd garments; let us taste  
Thy morn and evening breath; scatter thy pearls  
Upon our lovesick land that mourns for thee.

O deck her forth with thy fair fingers; pour  
Thy soft kisses on her bosom; and put  
Thy golden crown upon her languish'd head,  
Whose modest tresses are bound up for thee.

William Blake, 1783

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Send submissions to Carol Amour, editor, at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net), **For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Alan VanRaalte at [vanraalte@klinktech.net](mailto:vanraalte@klinktech.net).**



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