

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
January 27, 2009

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:15 am Service: “Carpe Diem”

Imbolc, Candlemas, and Groundhog's Day all remind us that Spring is just around the corner and that the Earth will once again be full of life. In waiting for the longer days of light to return, it can be so easy to fall into a habit of spending our days surviving that we forget to live. Join us as Heather Coffman explores the idea of finding spirituality in daily life, and the power of "today".

10:45 am Program: Nathanael May, a graduate student of Jack Winerock, will present a program of piano music.

WEDNESDAY EVENING IS FOR EVERYONE!

Wednesday Evening Programming is looking for more members. We served approximately 40 last week so our hard work is paying off. This week's menu is as follows: Hamburger, cheese and noodle casserole (like lasagna); Italian vegetable soup (vegetarian); Macaroni and Cheese; Hot Dogs, Peanut, butter and jelly; salad, relish tray with hummus; fruit and cookies for dessert. The suggested donation is still \$5.00 for adults and children ten and under eat for free. Remember there is childcare from 6:30 to 8:30 and we have some games for adults who aren't in a class but want to visit and play. Come, join us--we are the place to be. Any questions about classes call Judy Wilson at 887-6223.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Summary)

- Movie Night – Featuring “King Corn” in the New Building, Wed. Feb 11th 6:30-8:30
- Barndance in the old meeting hall (Founders' Hall) from 6:30-8:30pm on Wed Feb 11.
- Use of Accessible Parking Spaces
- There is a new Lost and Found box located in the Fellowship Hall.
- Nominations Sought for 2009-2010 Officers and Board Members.
- Strategic Planning Task Force Team Meeting, Sunday February 8
- Annual Fellowship Auction, Saturday April 18
- Reminders (pages 3 and 5)

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Details)

Movie Night at the UFL!!! Come one, come all! We will be featuring a **FREE** movie once a month in the new building/sanctuary. Tell your friends there is childcare during the movie, and dinner before at 5:30 for a suggested donation of only \$5.00. Organic popcorn will be served during the movie! This month we will feature “King Corn,” which is a fun movie about the production of corn in America. See more about this movie and the trailer at: <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/kingcorn/> **Questions? Email Janet at waxplanet@sunflower.com** See you there!

Barndance in the old meeting hall (Founders' Hall) from 6:30-8:30pm on Wed Feb 11. It will be partly concurrent with a board meeting and other Wednesday program activities.—*Jim Williams*

Use of Accessible Parking Spaces

On some meeting days recently, all of the accessible parking spaces have been full, or someone has parked a car in the striped access aisles, precluding their use for vans with lifts. It may be that we do not have enough accessible spaces, and we will monitor use of the spaces and listen to your feedback to develop a plan for that if needed. In the meantime, I ask your assistance to give priority to those who require lift vans or use wheelchairs or other rolling assistance aids, particularly if they are the drivers of vehicles.

Also, please do not park in or block the striped access aisles at any time, as that makes the accessible spaces unusable for lift vans. I know UFL members have strong values about inclusivity generally, and have worked hard to make our new facility accessible (including creation of our paved spaces). With your help we can continue to assure that all are able to reach and fully participate in the Fellowship. (A personal note--John and I became sensitive to this issue when my best grade school friend, a quadriplegic, called on our wedding day [at the Fellowship, before paved spaces], canceling her attendance because of rain, explaining that mud in her wheelchair wheels would be too difficult to deal with.)--*Valerie Roper*

Nominations Sought for 2009-2010 Officers and Board Members

Your suggestions are welcome for 2009-2010 officers (Chair-elect, Secretary, Treasurer) and Board Members at large (three positions). Please contact members of the Nominating Committee: Carol Eades Delnevo, Richard Johnston, Mary Miller, Barbara Schowen, Judy Wilson with your thoughts.

Strategic Planning Task Force Team Meeting--Noon on Sunday, February 8. At this meeting the various teams will report on progress and discuss plans for the future. The Teams are Welcoming/Inclusivity, Wednesday Evening Programming, Public Relations, Social Action, and Website. Team conveners, team members, and all members and friends are welcome as we continue to move forward with new ideas and initiatives.

Annual Fellowship Auction April 18

Saturday April 18 is our date for this display of Unitarian creativity. Start thinking about what services/goods you might offer for this auction. Jeremy Taylor, our droll auctioneer, will again cajole bidders in supporting the Fellowship. If you wish to preview Jeremy's eloquent British accent, you may hear him on KLWN from 9-11 daily

Community Connections (from the Social Action Committee)

Peace Vigil on Saturday. Some may think that since the election and the President's plans to close Guantanamo, and complete the withdrawal of troops in the near future that we have achieved our objectives. **NOT SO!!!!** There is a general consensus that the effects of terribly bad decisions and the momentum of war may continue on into the future well beyond what most of us have hoped.. The President plans to expand the war in Afghanistan with the killing of many more innocent civilians.

WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER; THE VIGILS MUST CONTINUE!!!! The need remains for more of us to take an hour out of our Saturdays and stand with the advocates for peace in Lawrence.

Peggy Bowman Second chance Fund. This coming Sunday will complete our collections to assist women in need of abortions. Figures are not yet in on the total contributions; however for those interested and willing Second Chance Fund envelopes will be available. Remember, make checks out to the Fellowship with "2nd Chance Fund" on the memo line.

Generous support from Fellowship members. Our response to the monthly Community Connections has been generous and welcomed. A special thanks to members of our community. Here are the figures for contributions to agencies/organizations date:

JUST FOOD	\$600	Success by Six	\$190
LINK	\$1,000	2 nd Chance	\$375
WTCS	\$305	UUA	\$775
Holiday Family	\$220	Total to date	\$3,447.00

REMINDERS

Religious Education “Souper Bowl” Sunday Food Drive

On Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1, the Religious Education Committee, in collaboration with the Social Action Committee, will be organizing our second annual food drive as the morning activity for children. Our event last year was very successful, with several grocery carts of food collected and valuable lessons learned by participating children.

This year we will gather at 9:15 and drive in caravan to Dillons on 23rd street. Several adults from the Religious Education Committee will be driving and supervising, but we ask that parents of children younger than five years accompany their children. Nursery care will be available for families who prefer to remain at the Fellowship. Additional adult volunteers are welcome to join us. At Dillons, children will hand out a Just Food list of high priority items to shoppers as they enter the store. The items can then be donated to the children as shoppers exit the store.

We will return to the Fellowship around 11:00 or parents may pick their children up at Dillons. Donations will be delivered to ECKAN on Monday. Two churches will be joining our “Souper Bowl” event this year; Trinity Lutheran and Good Shepherd Lutheran at Dillons and Hy-Vee on Clinton Parkway.

Please support our children’s efforts to contribute to their community! Contact Carol Eades Delnevo at askeades@aol.com with questions or to volunteer.

Operating Fund Campaign Kick-Off Set--March 7

Saturday evening, March 7th will see our new facilities transformed into an extra attractive venue for an evening of fine food, fine music and fine conversation, including a short and sweet request that you continue our tradition of generous support of our Fellowship! Expect some wacky skits and a glass or two of wine. There will be a special kids dinner and child care will be provided. Tentative time 5:30 social; 6:15 dinner.

Ministerial Search Committee--please fill out the questionnaire

The ministerial search committee has assembled a questionnaire, which we encourage everyone to fill out. The purpose of the questionnaire is to find out how members of the Fellowship think the minister should spend his/her time. A minister can make a variety of contributions to a Fellowship, such as personal counseling, visits to hospitalized members, Sunday morning services, assisting with fund raising, working to promote growth in the Fellowship, etc. Since our new minister will be only half time, the search committee feels we should prioritize our expectations so that the new minister can accomplish our goals in a 20-hour workweek. Thus we are asking members to assist us by identifying how they think the minister could best spend his/her time and energy. The questionnaire also has space for any additional comments. Also, feel free to contact members of the search committee: Ellen Reid Gold, Helen Gilles, Chris Brown, Mark O’Lear and Donna Swall. If you wish us to mail a copy to you, please contact Alexis at the office: uflooffice@sunflower.com or 785-842-3339.

Small Steps: Another way to Volunteer for Fellowship Activities

Have you wanted to volunteer at the Fellowship but have sporadic availability, or an unusual schedule? Or are you a committee chair or project leader who has a need for one-time or short-term volunteer assistance? If so, there’s a new initiative to match those needs with volunteer interest.

There’s now a section of our new bulletin board marked “Small Steps.” Committee chairs and project leaders can post 3 x 5 cards with descriptions of a task needing to be done on a one-time or short-term basis, and include their contact information. Potential volunteers can put their names and contact information on the back of the card and drop it into the “Small Steps” envelope in the rack under the

bulletin board—or contact the person needing volunteers directly. Committee chairs and leaders can check the envelopes for responses.

For questions, comments, suggestions about the “Small Steps” approach, please contact Valerie Roper.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Let us know about community events that would be of interest to UFL newsletter readers. We will include them in the UFL Weekly News as space permits. -- ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

SUMMARIES

Can both Theists and Humanists be UUs?

Last Sunday at the 9:15 service, Jill Jarvis (taking the part of the humanist) and Heather Coffman (taking the part of the theist) entertained us, and passed on an important lesson about UUism, by singing and acting out the words to the following lyrics, sung to the tune of "You Are Sixteen, I Am Seventeen" from The Sound of Music. The message was clear.

Jill:

You're a theist, I'm a humanist
I think that you're naïve
You have no truth to offer as proof
You simply say "I believe"

New Age bubbles get you in trouble
Lost in a feel-good fluff
True understanding is quite demanding
Praying is not enough

Totally unprepared are you
To make a case that's plain
Maybe the incense, chants and drums
Have ruined your poor brain

You need someone saner and wiser
Telling you what to do
You're a theist I'm a humanist
I will think for you

Heather:

I'm a theist, you're a humanist
You're locked inside your head
You're existential, self-referential
Claiming that God is dead

Totally unprepared are you
To let go of your mind
Why not a leap of faith my friend
You might like what you find

Occam's razor, Pascal's wager
Soulless tautology
Wisdom, tradition, not erudition
Make much more sense to me

When you find that you're out of answers
You won't know what to do
I'm a theist, you're a humanist
I will pray for you

(together)

We cannot agree on anything
Each has a point of view

Jill: I'm a theist

Heather: I'm a humanist

(together)

That's why we're UU

1-25-2009 10:45 a.m. JUDAISM: A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE FROM HILDA ENOCH

Hilda Enoch's life has always been touched by social activism. Her grandfather, who emigrated from Poland, started the synagogue in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Jews in the community then "adopted" a Jewish baker and his family from Germany, and raised money to bring Jews safely out of Germany. Later, when Hilda and her husband Jack came to Lawrence, she herself established a no-fee nursery school, was Chair of the Coalition on Homelessness, and helped establish Small World, to help non-English speaking women adjust to Lawrence. For Hilda, "community" has always come before "individual" needs. Over the years, she floated back and forth between the Unitarian Fellowship (which she began attending in 1962) and the Jewish Community Center. But our Fellowship will always hold her in high regard, regardless of whether she is Unitarian, Jewish, or "Jewnitarian." -- *Summary by Jean Dirks*

ADDITIONAL REMINDERS

Inclement Weather Policy Notice

In case of inclement weather on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, please check the Fellowship website (<http://uufi.net>) for cancellation notice or call the Fellowship at 842-3339, where the answering machine message will indicate whether Fellowship events have been cancelled. In the event of cancellation, notices or phone messages will be posted at least an hour prior to the event. For other committee meetings or small group activities, please contact the chair or host of the event.

Our UFL Virtual Bookstore web page is open for business—if you're an Amazon.com customer, you can earn money for UFL while you shop online. Simply access Amazon.com through the link on the uufi.net Virtual Bookstore page, and a portion of your total purchase is returned to UFL. To see the Virtual Bookstore page, go to <http://uufi.net>; click on "UU books." Or go directly to <http://uufi.net/books.html>. Your friends, neighbors, and relatives may also use the site and help UFL.

Fair Trade Coffee - Triple Good to the Last Drop!

On Sunday morning, Fair Trade Coffee supplied by the UU Service Committee is on sale after the service and the program. "Fellowship Blend" is \$8.00 per pound and decaf is \$9.00. Two pound bags of French Roast Organic whole beans are \$18.00 (All lower than store prices.)

No Salt Or De-icer on New Concrete

To prevent our new concrete surfaces from spalling and crumbling, we must strictly refrain from using any salt or de-icer on them this first winter. Please observe this important precaution. And, if necessary, please assist the B&G crew as they work hard to assure our safety this winter. - *Graham Kreicker*

Peace vigils continue at the Douglas County Court House on Saturdays at noon.

Newsletter Items Wanted: The deadline for submission is noon Monday

Send your articles for the Newsletter to ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

UFL Office Hours

Monday: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Wednesday: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

FELLOWSHIP DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Feb 1	RE Souper Bowl Food Collection
Feb 8	Strategic Planning Task Force Team meeting, noon
Mar 7	Operating Fund Campaign Kickoff Event
Feb 11	Movie Night at the UFL – Featuring “King Corn”
Feb 11	Barn dance in Founders Hall 6:30-8:30pm
Apr 18	Annual fundraising Auction

For a more detailed listing of Fellowship events, please see the calendar on our website at <http://uufl.net/calendar.htm>.

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence - A Welcoming Congregation
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