

**Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence**  
**WEEKLY NEWS**  
April 14, 2009

**Sunday, April 18**

**9:15 Service**      *“Earth as our Home”*

Chris Brown and Byron Caminero-Santangelo will discuss the value of a humble conception of "the earth as our home." On the one hand, imagining the earth as home encourages a recognition of our dependence on it, its high value, and the importance of protecting it. It also encourages us to think of all who share this home as "family." Such imagining, in turn, leads us to search for environmentally sustainable practices which will also work towards the well being of all who share our "home." On the other hand, this search can lead us down the wrong path. What we think are environmentally sustainable and socially ameliorative practices may be quite the opposite. In the face of such situations, we need to remain aware of the limitations in our knowledge and our vision. We must remain humble, even as we keep sight of our goal--to sustain the earth that is our home for all that are living and all that are to be born.

**10:15 Coffee and Conversation**

**10:45 Program**      *“Fair Trade for a Just Earth”*

Chris Brown will share some slides and stories about a recent trip to Nicaragua where he spent a few days doing “agro-eco-tourism”. During that time, Chris met with some of the very farmers who likely produce some of the coffee we consume at the Fellowship. Fair trade is but one way consumers can help create better living and working conditions for those in developing countries. Chris’s experience indicates, however, that consumers and producers alike should view Fair Trade as a process, not a completely achievable goal.

**Wednesday, April 15 at the Fellowship**

Food, Fun, and Friendship. Everyone's Invited!

**This Week:**

5:30 -6:30

**Comfort Food**



Meat Loaf, Scalloped Potatoes, Macaroni and Cheese,  
Vegetarian Lasagna, Hot Dogs, PB&J, Salad, Relish Tray with Hummus,  
Fruit and Cookies for dessert

Suggested donation \$5      Children under 10 free

Child Care 6:30 - 8:30

6:30            **Play Board Games, Socialize,  
                         or Join the Class:**

**History of Religion in the US  
Facilitated by John Brewer**

7:30            **Choir Practice**

WANTED! We need people to prepare entrees for the Wed. Night Programming dinner. You will be reimbursed for all expenses. We have most nights open from April 22 until May 20. May 6 is the board meeting and the older youth with Sherry do the cooking that evening. We need your dish(es) at UFL by 5:15 to begin service at 5:30. We have been serving about 25 people plus a few children. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can bring something. Also, cookies are always welcome. We need people to cook to help us continue this program. Thanks. Judy Wilson [jwilson@sunflower.com](mailto:jwilson@sunflower.com)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Pastoral Care Training Opportunity**

The Pastoral Care Planning Task Force has been looking into training options for Fellowship members interested in providing support for members with various needs. One training option is a course in "Mental Health First Aid" offered by Bert Nash Mental Health Center with the next series of four, 3-hour sessions to be held May 4, 11, 18, June 1 from 4-7 p.m. at 200 Maine. The course is free, with donations encouraged. If you are interested in attending with other Fellowship members, please let Alexis know at [uflooffice@sunflower.com](mailto:uflooffice@sunflower.com). More information is available at the Bert Nash website: <http://www.bertnash.org/services/MentalHealthFirstAid.html>

### **09-10 Operating Fund Campaign Tops \$80,000, with \$19,000 left to go!**

The Operating Fund Campaign continues, with 64 pledges received and 19 still waiting to be received. The total pledged to date is \$80,425 toward our goal of \$99,000. Please contact Della at 749-5164 or Graham at 842-2332 if you did not receive a pledge card in the mail. And, thanks to all who have already returned their cards.

## **FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AND REMINDERS**

**“A Night of a Thousand and One Hopes:”** Bring your family and friends for a great time at UFL’s annual fundraising auction! On the auction block are cheesecakes, yardwork, massage, gift baskets and French vacations! We’ll get started at 4:30 with a children’s auction, then hold a silent auction (5-6 p.m.) where you can enjoy snacks and beverages as you bid, and then cap the festivities with a spirited, witty live auction (6-8 p.m.). See you there!

**Auction Donations:** It’s not too late to donate! You can turn in an auction form today or email your donation item information to [uflooffice@sunflower.com](mailto:uflooffice@sunflower.com) or to Susan Rickman. Also, you may now bring your items to the Fellowship and leave them in the basement of the old building. Please mark the item as for the auction. You may call the office to be sure someone will be available when you deliver your items.

**Emerson Society Lecture:** The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence is a sponsor of an upcoming lecture by theologian and author Peter Gomes. He will speak at the Lied Center on April 26 at 2:00 on "Transformation and Non-conformity: A New Christian Identity" as part of our ongoing Emerson Society Lecture Series. The Emerson Society is a group formerly known as the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Johnson County. When ending their Unitarian Universalist Association formal affiliation, they distributed their treasury to area UU congregations, including the Lawrence Fellowship. We have dedicated a portion of the funds we received for this lecture series, to honor the Emerson Society's continuing humanist tradition.

**Camp StarTrail:** Registration is **now open** for Camp StarTrail, our new Prairie Star District summer camp for all ages, held August 2-9, 2009, in the beautiful rolling hills of the Platte River Valley between Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska. Check our Fellowship website, [www.uufl.net](http://www.uufl.net) for more info.

## **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

(from the Social Action Committee)

**The Douglas Count AIDS Project.** DCAP is the Community Connection for April. Contributions may be made by check, or cash, to the Fellowship with ***DCAP noted on the memo line.***

**IJAM: KU Lecture:** Annual American and British Lecture, Luis Alberto Urrea, "**The Devil's Highway: Stories from the Border and Beyond**". Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m., The Kansas Union Alderson auditorium. The lecture is co-sponsored by the English Department and the Hall Center for the Humanities. The lecture fits with our social justice initiative with Immigration Justice Advocacy Movement (IJAM).

**A world free from nuclear weapons is possible Hiroshima-Nagasaki Memorial Exhibit.** The Opening was Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8 pm at the Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. The Exhibit runs through April 29<sup>th</sup> during regular library hours. Presented by the Ecumenical Christian Ministries with help from the Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice Sponsored by the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Museum. The public is invited to view the exhibition, a compelling reminder of the enormous evil nature of nuclear weapons.

**Health Care for All presentation.** Kansas Insurance Commissioner, Sandy Praeger will speak on "health Care in Kansas and the US" Monday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1011 Vermont St. A Q & A period will follow. The program is sponsored by Health Care for All.

**The 2009 Tom and Anne Moore Peace Awards** will be presented at an evening of pot luck and music. This will be Thursday 6 to 8 p.m., April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Old Train Station, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup>, in North Lawrence. The Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice will give the 2009 Tom and Ann Moore Peace and Justice Awards to **Rebecca Woodman, an attorney with the Kansas Capital Appellate Defender Office, and KU's peace and conflict studies program.** The awards recognizes community members for their efforts to promote peace and justice on a local, national or international level. All Douglas County residents are eligible for nomination. Rebecca is one of the state's biggest death penalty critics and an attorney with the Kansas University program dedicated to resolving human conflict among world cultures. Janette Michaels and Deborah Pine will be singing.

**Earth Day Parade and Speak out - Saturday, April 18th:** The Lawrence Coalition on Peace and Justice (LCPJ) will have its *War is Not Healthy for Children and Other Living Things* float in the Earth Day Parade. If you have children, grandchildren, or neighbor children who would like to be in the earth day parade, contact the organizers at [info@lcpj.org](mailto:info@lcpj.org) with PARADE in the subject line. Speak Out begins at 8:00, Saturday morning, April 18, in the western half of South Park, and continues until 8:00 pm. Anyone—old and young, alone or in groups—is invited to read, sing, speak, act, dance, make music, or perform in any way to sign up for a 10-minute slot in this 12-hour, marathon event on Earthcare. Please contact the organizers at [info@lcpj.org](mailto:info@lcpj.org) for information about participating.

**Lawrence Community Nursery School** (The Little Red Schoolhouse) is having a race/fundraiser on May 9. **Michelle Iwig-Harmon** will have red flyers at the Social Action display at the fellowship. The **Lawrence Community Nursery** will be the **Community Connection** for the month of May. Pick up a flyer and for more information contact Michelle.

**JUST FOOD GATHERING** next Sunday. Bring a bag of non-perishable food items for the JUST FOOD cart; or make a donation. Checks need to include “JUST FOOD” on the memo line.

**Peace Vigil.** Ninth & Massachusetts Street from noon to 1 pm each Saturday. Lawrencians opposed to war are always welcome to join the vigil.

## ALL SOULS UU CHURCH EVENT



### “EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE”

A Show of Paintings, Drawings, and Prints

By Lara Giordano

### UNITARIAN GALLERY

4500 WALNUT  
KANSAS CITY, MO

### OPENING RECEPTION

SUNDAY, MAY 3  
1:00PM - 3:00PM

Gallery hours: 9am - 4pm  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

## MEMBERS COMMENT ON FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

Participants at the 2009-10 Operating Fund Campaign Kick-off Dinner were invited to reflect on two questions, and those who received pledge materials by mail also have had an opportunity to respond to these questions. For the next few weeks, we will print member responses to those questions. Where names are included, we have obtained permission to print them.

The questions and this week's responses are:

**1. What are the things that you most value in the Fellowship, perhaps that brought you to the Fellowship or that sustain you here?**

- People gathering and friends  
Entertaining programs  
Information  
Welcome *Anonymous*
- 10:45 Program  
The people who come  
Being a welcoming congregation  
The Wednesday Evening Program/Activities *Unsigned*

**2. What are the things that you would like to have happen in the near future at the Fellowship? What can we do to continue to build on our successes?**

- More respect for people's ideas who are somewhat conservative as we are expected to respect diversity  
Continuation of much of present activity *Anonymous*
- Increased membership  
Renovations in the RE wing  
Get storage out of backstage room and "beautify" it  
Promote rentals of facilities  
Continue efforts to enhance our present activities *Unsigned*

## **SUMMARIES**

### **First Easter Sunrise Service in our New Space –Beginning a New Tradition?**

More than 40 UFL members gathered in predawn hours on Easter Sunday for a sunrise service of renewal and rebirth, the first in our new building. With chairs turned toward the east window wall, and candlelight illuminating bud vases of spring flowers before us, we witnessed the gradual display of a brilliant red sky defining early morning clouds and dark silhouettes of trees seeking their April leaves. We honored the dawn with music (John Boulton playing *Kokopelli* on his flute, Lara Wilson singing *All Good Gifts*, everyone singing the *Meditation on Breathing* accompanied by John Brewer's drumming, and *Morning has Broken* with Tom Miller playing guitar); with readings given by Alex Coffman and John Roper, with Heather Coffman's reflection on *Easter, Pagan to Christian*, and with our shared reflections of past and present Easter happenings. By the time the chalice was extinguished, daylight was fully present, and we adjourned to a hearty potluck breakfast. Many thanks to all who planned and participated in the sunrise service and to everyone who brought food that morning.  
*Summary by Valerie Roper*

**4-12-2009 9:15 a.m. EASTER:** Rev. Jill Jarvis began her Easter sermon with the biblical text about the disciples searching for Jesus after his death: "Be not affrighted. He is risen." As Unitarians, we do not believe in Jesus' resurrection, but yet his story still has meaning for us.

For he was a hero who refused to surrender his ideals in the face of powers that ruled through fear. In the years since then, many people have done the same. For example, Jill spoke of Viola Liuzzo, a white woman from the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit, and the mother of 5 children. In 1964, Viola stood up for justice and civil rights as she drove marchers to and from the airport in the march on Selma, despite her fear. While doing this, she was killed by the KKK.

Today, fear stretches all around us --fear of terrorism; fear of the bad economy; fear that our children might be abducted; and fear that we might suffer for our beliefs. But it is possible to live with fear, and still keep standing up for what we believe in, so that fear does not control us, nor close out our options. "Being ruled by fear is not inevitable. It is possible to resist," Jill said, especially when your religious community stands with you --*Summary by Jean Dirks*

**Newsletter Deadlines:** Announcements are due on Thursday evening at 5:00 p.m. and Newsletter articles are due on Monday at noon.

### **FELLOWSHIP DATES TO KEEP IN MIND**

- Sat., Apr 18:** *Annual Fundraising Auction*
- Sun., Apr. 19** *Just Food Sunday*
- Sat., Apr 25:** *Board and Committee Chair Budget Meeting*
- Sun., Apr 26:** *Emerson Society Lecture, Peter Gomes, Lied Center, 2 p.m.*
- Sun., May 3:** *Committee Job Fair*

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**The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence**  
***A Welcoming Congregation***

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[www.uufl.net](http://www.uufl.net)