

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
May 12 2009

Sunday, May 17

2009 Annual Fellowship Business Meeting

9:30 -- Please come early for coffee, snacks, conversation, and check-in

10:00 – Business meeting begins

Please plan to attend our annual Fellowship business meeting. This meeting will cover the budget for 2009-2010, election of officers and board members for 2009-2010, and the nomination and selection of a nominating committee for 2009-2010.

The proposed slate of officers is: Betty Baron, Chair-elect; Ellie Unruh, Secretary; Laura Wilson, Treasurer; Marcia Johnston, Member-at-Large to 2012; Heather Coffman, Member-at-Large to 2011; and Steve Lee, Member-at-Large to 2010. Our new by-laws call for five at-large board members. The two new at-large positions are being introduced for staggered terms to provide for term changes to be no more than two per year in coming years. Members-at-large elected this day will join two whose terms are continuing—Jake Kipp (to 2010), and Tom Cravens (to 2011).

The proposed budget was mailed to voting members on May 7, and they should bring it to the annual meeting. There will be one more Q & A budget session before the annual meeting, on Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting hall.

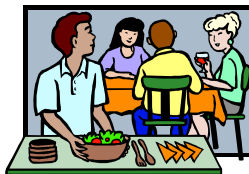
Under the new by-laws, proxies are allowed for this meeting. If you wish a proxy, you must provide a signed copy naming your proxy to that proxy before the annual meeting. Please be sure the person you wish to designate as proxy is not already holding a proxy for someone else (each voting member may hold a proxy for only one other person).

A quick voting check-in will be done as it was for the Fellowship vote last Sunday. Volunteers (with an alphabetized partial list, e.g. A-G, H-P, R-W) will check voters in, record the proxies, and give out voting cards.

Food, Fun, and Friendship

Wednesday May 13 at the Fellowship

Everyone's Invited!



5:30 -6:30

Dinner

Chicken and Rice, Vegetarian Lasagna, Macaroni and Cheese, Hot Dogs, PB&J, Salad, Relish Tray with dips, Fruit and Cookies

Suggested donation \$5 Children under 10 free
Child Care 6:30 - 8:30

6:30 Budget Q & A Session

6:30 Classes:

1. (continuing) **History of Religion in the U.S.**, John Brewer
2. (beginning) **New 3-week Exploring Membership course**, by Rebecca Gant and Nicole Goodwin, designed for individuals new to **Unitarian Universalism (UU)**, those considering membership, or new UFL members.

6:30 Socializing and Board Games

!! Wednesday evening functions will be on break after May 20 !!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

New Member--Congratulations to our newest member, **Carine Ullom**. Carine signed the book last Sunday after the Ceremony Sunday program, a most auspicious time to join. Welcome, Carine!

Board Considers Chair-elect Vacancy Approach

At the Executive Board meeting on May 6th, the Board decided to defer action on the Chair-elect vacancy, created by Norm White's resignation from that position, until after the annual meeting election on May 17. They did so with the understanding that the following series of events is a likely course of action.

If the Nominating Committee slate is elected as presented, there will be a new Chair-elect effective July 1. That person, Betty Baron, would in line to become Chair. She would be unable to assume the Chair position immediately, due to previous commitments, but is willing to take over about October 1.

Under our By-laws the present Chair, Valerie Roper, may continue in office after July 1 until her successor is able to take over the office. Valerie is willing to do this as a temporary matter. Judy Wilson would then continue as past chair for that same length of time.

If this scenario were to be followed, there would be a vacancy in the Chair-elect position again after Betty becomes Chair, and the Executive Board would ask the Nominating Committee to select a candidate to be presented to the membership for approval.

Having a vacancy in a Fellowship office so late in our official year this year complicates the replacement process. The above approach offers a solution within the letter and spirit of our By-laws.

Fellowship Formally Selects Minister for 2009-2010

In a brief meeting on Ceremony Sunday between the service and program, a quorum of 57 members voted by an overwhelming majority to select Rev. Jill Jarvis as our half-time minister for 2009-2010. Later, during the 10:45 Ceremony Sunday program, Fellowship members participated in a welcoming ceremony for Jill. The Fellowship is grateful to the members of the Ministerial Search Committee for

all their work during this year, making this selection possible. Welcome aboard as the Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence 2009-10 consulting minister, Jill!

Committee Sign Up Sheets Available at Annual Meeting

Committee sign-up sheets will be available before and after the annual meeting on May 17, and for the next few Sundays after that. Please stop by and consider where you might like to volunteer for the next fiscal year. For more info about committees, you may contact current committee chairs or Valerie Roper.

RE VOLUNTEERS AND RE FAMILIES, SAVE THE DATE! To honor our volunteers in Religious Education, we're having a party! If you have volunteered with any Religious Education activity this year or if you are families with children or youth in RE, please join us to celebrate another wonderful year on Friday evening, May 29. We will grill outdoors at the Fellowship, let the children run wild, and enjoy ourselves together for the evening. For those who would like to camp out, bring your tent and sleep under the stars!

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Topeka (UUFT) Building Dedication June 21

Members of the Lawrence Fellowship have been invited to attend UUFT's celebration of their new building addition June 21. There will be a slideshow of the building process at 3:00 p.m., followed by a service of dedication at 3:30 p.m. There will be a reception with cake and hors d'oeuvres following the service. The I-70 choir, including UFL choir members will perform at the service.

REMINDERS

New 3-week Exploring Membership course starts Wed., May 13, 6:30-8:00pm

Offered by Rebecca Gant and Nicole Goodwin, it is designed for individuals new to **Unitarian Universalism (UU)**, those considering membership, or new UFL members. It will acquaint you with the Fellowship community and answer your questions about UU. Come at 5:30 for dinner, or 6:30 for the class only. Child-care will be provided. Interested? Contact Rebecca Gant or Nicole Goodwin.

A Call to Free Thinkers and Free Wheelers-- the 16th of May is Downtown Lawrence's most wacky day! Come participate in Art Tougeau, Lawrence's wackiest, wheeliest parade of mobile art. Everyone is invited to participate! Bikes, trikes, skates--who knows what you'll bring to it this year? Members are assembling a group of UFL participants for the parade. If you'd like to know more, talk to Aileen Dingus or go online to www.arttoungeau.org

Play Softball Come on out and have some fun this summer! Several Fellowship members and friends have formed a softball team! If you are interested in joining our co-ed softball team, please see Susan Rickman or Amerika Grewal. Games will (likely) be held on Sunday afternoons and evenings.

Scrip Sales Challenge So far this FY (Jul 08 – Apr 09), total scrip sales are \$100,740, gaining UFL \$5,683. With two \$12,000 months in May and June, we can bring our total to \$125,000 (\$7,050 to UFL). We can do it!—we've already done it twice this year (Aug. and Feb.). Currently, 58 Fellowship households participate, and all are invited to do so. Scrip can be used to buy anything at the participating stores, even gasoline. Since we are going to eat and drive anyway, this is a painless way to raise money for the Fellowship. For more info, see The Scrip team (*Joe Gant, Chris Redford, Marcel Harmon, John Roper*)

Participate in PSD On-line Workshop—Stewardship in Difficult Economic Times

The Prairie Star District will be offering an online workshop entitled “Ten Best Stewardship Practices for Difficult Times,” led by Wayne Clark on Thursday evening, May 14 from 7:00 – 8:15. We would like to have a group of interested people participate in this workshop together at the Fellowship, and then conduct a brief discussion afterward. We will project the Internet slides onto the screen, and run the audio through the sound system. We tested this approach last Thursday, and it appears to work. If you are interested in participating in this workshop, please contact Valerie Roper, who will forward reference reading materials for the workshop. The Prairie Star District workshops have been on topics of general interest to congregations and technically well presented. This is the Fellowship’s first effort to participate in a workshop with a group approach. If it works well, we’ll use this approach for future district workshops as well.

Urgent Request for Help--Pianists! There is an urgent need for pianists this summer. For some time, there has been a four person piano rotation for the Spiritual Service. This will drop to two for some of the summer, leaving at least two Sundays a month with no pianist to accompany congregational singing. Piano playing for the prelude is optional, as there would be other musical prelude options. The pianist has input on selection of hymns. For more info, please contact Susan Harper, music director. 785-843-8487 or sbharper@sbcglobal.net.

Camp StarTrail Looking for an affordable vacation for yourself or your family? At Camp StarTrail, you’ll enjoy stimulating presentations, workshops, fun activities, good food, and lots of UU conversation in a beautiful nature setting. There will be children’s programs, time to relax and plenty of porch space to sit and read or visit with new friends. More info at www.uufl.net.

New Sight With Old Glasses The Lions Club is conducting their annual used eyeglass collection for the needy. Lion’s member Sue Lewis has placed a collection box on the Social Action table in Founders' Hall. Please donate your unused glasses before the Lions' sorting and shipping date on June 1st.

Cleaning out your garden shed to prepare your own garden? If you run across tools that are smaller in nature, the children would gladly accept them for use in their Monarch Waystation. See Sherry Warren for details.

Coffee and Chocolate Fair Trade Coffee offerings now include regular and decaf in your choice of whole bean, drip grind and percolator grind to purchase in the entry hall. Organic Fair Trade dark and milk chocolate are also popular.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

(from the Social Action Committee)

Lawrence Community Nursery School (The Little Red Schoolhouse) The Lawrence Community Nursery is the Community Connection for May. Contributions may be made by check, or cash, to the Fellowship with LCNS on the memo line.

Family Promise Several UUs attended a Family Promise training session April 7–8 with volunteers from other local congregations to learn about volunteering in Family Promise, an interdenominational initiative to provide temporary housing for homeless families in area churches.

Our next opportunity to participate and learn will be the last week of June, when First Baptist will serve as host church. Anyone interested in cooking, donating supplies, or being onsite with families, please contact Donna Eades or Janney Burgess for more info.

Peace Vigil Ninth & Massachusetts Street from noon to 1 pm on Saturdays. Lawrencians opposed to war are always welcome to be part of the event.

Deadlines

Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin: Thursday evening at 5:00 p.m. uflooffice@sunflower.com

Articles for the Newsletter: Monday at noon: ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Wed., May 13: *Budget Discussion Session, 6:30 p.m.*

Sun., May 17: *UFL Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m.*

Sun., May 24 *Annual Picnic*

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
A Welcoming Congregation

1263 North 1100 Road | Lawrence, Kansas 66047

785.842.3339

www.uufl.net

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