

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
September 8, 2009

Sunday, September 13

9:15 Service: "A Celebration of Community"

Our annual Ingathering is a celebration of our coming together as a community. Before the ingathering of the waters (and stones), come join us for music and readings to celebrate the power of community in our lives.- *Heather Coffman*

10:45 Program: Annual Ingathering of the Waters.

Members and friends are invited to bring some water, or perhaps a small stone, from a source significant to them. We will collect the offerings into a single container as we learn of significant events in the lives of our Fellowship community, whether they traveled far and wide or stayed right in their own back yards.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS ONCE AGAIN.

Wednesday Night Programming is back!

Join us as we kick-off the Fall season of Wednesday Nights with a meal and a Barn Dance **September 16th**. Some classes and groups will begin meeting the following week, September 23rd.

Below are the titles and start dates of the five adult groups that will be offered this fall. For more details on each, please see the UFL website (http://www.ufl.net/wed_night_class_descriptions.html) or the printed version on the bulletin board near the restrooms.

On the second Wednesday of each month (Board meeting nights), we'll suspend classes and alternate the popular Barn Dances and Movies so nobody has to pick between them. As always, childcare will be provided from 6:30-8:30 p.m., so there's truly something for everyone!

Sign up for classes either on the sheets in the Social Hall or by e-mailing Michelle Iwig-Harmon, miwigharmon@sunflower.com. The sign up sheets are beneath the bulletin board, on clip boards. **Registration closes on September 13**. After that date see facilitator about joining the group. It looks like a good year.

New: Exploring Membership course--Four weeks starting September 30

(see under "Announcements" below for more details)

First Wednesday Book Group: Ted Wilson will offer a once a month book group starting Oct. 7 titled "What If? Works of Alternate History."

Third Wednesday Book Group: Susan Rickman will facilitate a once a month book group starting Sept. 23rd, centered on Huston Smith's, The Illustrated World's Religions: A Guide to Our Wisdom Traditions.

Support Group: Mark Larson will facilitate a Support Group starting Sept. 23rd, for anyone who would like to experience a group of people sharing and caring for one another.

Weekly Book Group: Susan Harper will offer a weekly book group starting Sept. 23rd to discuss the book Fingerprints of God (The Search for the Science of Spirituality) by Barbara Bradley Haggerty.

Theology for a Secular Age: Rev. Jill Jarvis will offer a weekly class starting Oct. 21st, titled "Theology for a Secular Age." NOTE: Jill is looking for help to prepare and operate power point

presentations and videos as a part of this class. If you would be able to help, please contact her at jjarvis1@kc.rr.com.

Vespers: Starting on September 23 members of the Spiritual Celebration Team will take turns leading a short Vespers Service from 6:10 – 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Readings and hymns will be on a theme chosen by the leader. There will be time for joys and sorrows, as well as meditation and quiet. Due to the meditative quality of this service, we ask that children who cannot sit quietly for the duration of the service remain outside the sanctuary. If you are interested in leading a Vespers Service, please contact Heather Coffman at hcoffman@gmail.com.

Youth: The youth will meet weekly starting Sept. 23rd, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Emerson Room except on Board Meeting nights, when they'll be preparing the meal and then joining in the Movies and Barn Dances.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

09-09-09 Birthday Celebration: "Cloud Nine Party" Entertainers!

In addition to scrumptious food and drink we will have a dazzling entertainment line-up at our Wednesday evening party. *Kids are welcome and expected; childcare provided!* Here is our superb talent line up: Sarah Bodle, vocal; John Brewer, recitation; Chris Brown & Richard Johnston, flute; Tony Cipollaro, percussion; Tim Dingus, magic; Susan Harper, vocal; Ludwig Johannig, piccolo; Wolfgang Johannig, piano; Ulrich Johannig, cello; Lara Wilson, vocal. Don't miss this wonderful evening.

RSVP to 842-2332 or kreicker@sunflower.com

LINK Sign-Up: We serve at LINK, Sat, Sep 12. Email Ellen Sward (esward@ku.edu) if you'd like to bring food or serve. Please assist if you can. The need is great. For more info about serving at LINK, go to www.uufl.net.

Softball September 13th: The UFL Coed Softball team nears the end of the season with a doubleheader September 13, 3 & 4pm, Field 1, v. Brandon Woods; Top Shelf Tators.

Parents of K-1 kids: OWL meeting reminder: Sunday September 13

If you are the parent or caregiver of a child in kindergarten or first grade, please join us next Sunday, Sept. 13 from 10:15 to 11:45 to learn more about *Our Whole Lives*, an age-appropriate sexuality class which starts on Sept. 27. The curriculum and classroom materials will be available for viewing. We will be meeting in the adult RE room, which is the small room on the RE corridor closest to the Mary Wollestonecraft room on the end. Childcare will be provided. Space is available for non-members. Contact Carol Eades Delnevo, Jeff Lewis or Susan Crain Lewis for more information.

Volunteer Survey – Community Care Team

Please watch your e-mail next week for a link to a survey allowing you to indicate how you could help Fellowship members with such things as meals, transportation, and visiting at home or hospital (subject to your availability at the time of need). After clicking on the e-mail link, a checklist will appear along with simple instructions.

When you complete the survey electronically, results will be automatically entered into a database to assist Care Team Coordinators in planning and coordination. For that reason, electronic responses are preferred. Paper copies of the survey will be available at the Fellowship on September 20 for those without internet access.

Exploring Membership Course: A new session of the 4-week Exploring Membership Course begins soon; it will be on Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00 at the Fellowship. Class dates are September 30, October 7, 21 and 28. Offered by Rebecca Gant and Nicole Goodwin, the course is designed for individuals new to Unitarian Universalism, those considering membership or new members. Child care will be provided. So you may come for Wednesday night dinner if you'd like, and stay for the class. Interested? Sign up sheets are available at coffee hour. For more info, contact Rebecca (rkgant@hotmail.com), Nicole (nicolegoodwin@yahoo.com) or Valerie Roper (vgracev@sunflower.com).

Community Connection for September: **Family Promise** is a faith based non-profit program serving families with children who are homeless by providing shelter, food, transportation, training, medical care and other assistance in a safe, compassionate home-like environment. The program serves four families at a time. There are currently 13 host along with 15 partnering congregations in Lawrence. Valerie Miller, a mental health professional, formerly employed by Bert Nash as the supervisor of the homeless outreach workers, is the director. Family Promise has a budget of \$125,000. It receives no government funds and is not a United Way agency. Support comes from the voluntary contributions in the community. Cash contributions may be made by check to the Fellowship with *Family Promise* on the memo line. To volunteer during the week of our partnering, contact **Donna Eades at 842-3867.**

Dinners for Eight: You're all invited for Dinners for 8; sign up sheets at coffee hour. If you've not attended a Dinner for 8, you're in for a treat. When you sign up, you'll have the opportunity to get together 3 times this year for a pot luck meal with a small group of other members and friends. You'll meet different people at each dinner, and have a chance to visit in a relaxed setting. This year we're trying something new, to accommodate both people who'd like to bring children to dinners and those who'd like to have child-free dinners. Sign-up sheets will allow participants to express their preferences, and the assignment team will take account of preferences in making assignments. Contact Susan Rickman for more info. Sign up soon and come to dinner!

Celebratory News Item related to UUA assertion that "the right to marry is a civil right," and to UFL policy adopted six years ago on welcoming and affirming people who are LGBT. Beginning Sep 1, 2009, gay and Lesbian couples in Vermont are able to legally marry. It was only nine years ago that the term civil unions was created in a Vermont legislative committee room by the Vermont House.

Community Care Team: The UFL Community Care Team is available to assist members and friends of the Fellowship. The role of the Care Team is to learn from the involved individual or family how we can be of assistance and provide the requested assistance within the limits of our resources. To contact the Care Team, e-mail uflcareteam@sunflower.com or call Beth Chao (in September 2009) at 785-766-8525 or (after October 1) Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530

Women's "Final Friday" Night: The monthly women's group continues to meet the Final Friday of each month! Look for announcements about "Final Fridays" This month all women are invited to UFL for an informal social Friday September 25 at 7:00. There is no agenda, no theme, just the chance for us to spend some more time together and weave tighter relationships. Leave your cares, children, and significant others at home, and bring a goodie to share. Even if you can't make it this time, mark your calendar for the final Friday of each month. If you are interested in hosting a future "Final Friday" women's group in your home, please contact Amerika Grewal at 813-1287 or amerikag@gmail.com

Southern Cluster Fall Retreat: Come join other UUs from the southern part of the Prairie Star District October 9th, 10th, and 11th to build old friendships and create new ones. This year we will be

at Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center just west of Kansas City. This is a family friendly weekend with activities for all and workshops focusing on growing the UU movement in the heartland. For more info, go to www.psduua.org/SCORE/SCORE.

UU World Story on Carlton Pearson--note from John Brewer: For any of you who wonder how All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa ended up with a praise service, read the following story in the current issue of UU World magazine.

<http://www.uuworld.org/life/articles/145503.shtml>

To hear a terrific narrative on Carlton Pearson's odyssey from his Pentecostal roots, check out the archive from the radio program This American Life:

http://www.thisamericanlife.org/Radio_Episode.aspx?sched=1159

Peace Vigil: Ninth & Massachusetts St., noon to 1 pm on Saturdays.

Lawrencians advocating peace are always welcome to be part of the event.

Deadlines: Announcements – Thursday Evenings at 5:00 p.m.

Newsletter articles-- Mondays at noon.

Fellowship Dates to Keep in Mind

Tuesday, Sept 8:	7:30 Board Meeting
Wednesday, Sept 9:	Graham's 9/9/09 party! 5:30-9:00 pm. Entertainment, food and fun!
Saturday, Sept. 12:	LINK
Sunday, Sept 13:	Ingathering, Wine and Cheese following program
Wednesday, Sept 16:	Wednesday Night Dinners kicks off new season

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence *A Welcoming Congregation*

1263 North 1100 Road | Lawrence, Kansas 66047

785.842.3339 www.uufl.net