

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
November 17, 2009

Sunday, November 22

9:15 a.m. Service. "A Truer Thanksgiving," Rev. Jill Jarvis

Thanksgiving is a time of people coming together, an offering of gratitude for the fellowship among us all. Yet there is more to the story of Native American/Pilgrim relations than in the Thanksgiving stories most of us heard as children. For three days in New England's history, peace and friendship prevailed, but the friendship was guarded and the peace soon abused. How might we honor the dual reality of our Thanksgiving story? Join us for this intergenerational service of drama, music, singing, and truth-telling, as we explore the mix of myth and history surrounding that "First Thanksgiving" in Plymouth.

10:45 Program. "Harvest Festival"

We will celebrate the harvest with an emphasis on water--its necessity to life as well as its ability to destroy; the right for all to clean, safe water; efforts by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to guarantee a safe source of water to all; and our thankfulness for water as well as other life sustaining nourishment. Come prepared to say "thank you" in the language of your heritage or another adopted language. The festival is designed to include celebrants of all ages; children will be involved and should remain with their families for the program. Child care for our youngest will be available in the nursery as always.

Guest-at-your-table boxes will be distributed and the work of the UUSC will be highlighted as we give thanks for our ability to help others and for our own good fortune at this time of the year.

12:00 Noon. Potluck Harvest Feast

Following the 10:45 program (about noon) we will have our traditional potluck harvest feast. All are invited to share our bounty; if you haven't signed up to come, join us anyway. Bring a dish to share if you can; newcomers and visitors are cordially invited to bring just themselves and an appetite.

As always, help with setup and cleanup is needed and will be most appreciated. Many hands make light work!

Wednesday at the Fellowship
November 18, Everyone's Invited!

5:30 PM to 6:30 PM Dinner
6:30 Adult RE Classes
6:30 PM to 8:30PM Youth Meeting
7:30 PM Choir Practice

REMINDER: *There will be no dinner or classes on November 25. See everyone on December 2*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

New Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Schwartz, our new administrative assistant began her work with us this week, Nov 16. Her hours will be 8:30 - 11:30. For more info, see last week's newsletter.

Claim your lost items!

Things are accumulating at the Fellowship. They are overflowing their space in the box on the counter in the basement. If you have lost something, please locate and claim it on or before November 30th. *Everything will be removed and taken to the Social Services League store on December 1st.*

Art This Month in Founders' Hall

We are pleased to feature the work of Lawrence artist, *Carla Tilghman*. She has been spinning and weaving unique pieces since she was twelve. Her work ranges from landscape inspired pieces to complete abstractions that are often influenced by music. Working to combine traditional hand-weaving techniques with contemporary digital technology, Carla uses computer assisted looms that allow for complex patterning, but require the hand of the artist to be an integral part of the process.

Planning our Annual Winter Holiday Party.

At our summer retreat, the board and committee chairs agreed to stage our annual winter holiday party (for adults, with child care available) on **Saturday, December 19**. The tentative venue is the Fellowship building, and the tentative starting time is 7:30 p.m.

Would you like to help plan, decorate, be in charge of kitchen aspects (mixing punches, arranging food contributions, etc.), or help with set-up or clean-up? If so, please contact Betty Baron, 842.1728, or baronbetty@yahoo.com.

Chocolate and Coffee

Our *Equal Exchange offerings* are expanding just in time for the holidays! Be sure to look for wonderful chocolate bars, chocolate mini-bars, roasted and salted pecans, sweetened dried cranberries and tamari almonds in addition to several varieties of coffee. If what you see is not exactly what you want, go to <http://www.equalexchange.coop/uusc> to see the full catalog offering. Let Susan Harper know if there is something you would like to order. Please be aware that we must order case lots and if we order four or more cases, the shipping is free. If Susan gets requests from several people for the same item, the items can be sold individually. If only one person wants the requested item, the items must be sold in case lots. The Fellowship does make some money on each sale, so the more you buy, the more you help UFL! Through the UUSC Coffee Project, we can enjoy delicious offerings while helping small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the U.S. as they build a better future for themselves and their families. Through the project, farmers earn a fair price for their products, have access to affordable credit, and gain a long-term trading partner they can trust, a Fair Trade Organization called Equal Exchange. For every item we buy, Equal Exchange makes a contribution to UUSC programs that support the human rights and social justice work of community-based cooperatives in coffee-growing regions.--*Susan Harper*

Lawrence Civic Choir Poinsettia Sales

Beautiful poinsettia plants with at least five blooms are again available from the Lawrence Civic Choir for yourself or as gifts to family and friends. Flower choices are red or white. Choices of foil around the 6 1/2 inch pot are green, red, gold or silver. By ordering, you are receiving a beautiful plant as well

as giving your support to an important community organization. The price is \$9.75 per plant or \$9.50 if we have 50 or more ordering.

An order form has been placed in the Fellowship entry hall to mark your selections or you may contact Ellie Unruh by Nov. 29. Ellie can be reached at 843-8849 or at ellie@unruhly.org. Ordered poinsettias will be available for pick-up at the Fellowship on Sunday, December 6. If needed, arrangements can be made for delivery to your home.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: from the Social Action Committee

November Community Connection: Success by Six. Success by Six has as its mission, “to insure that all Douglas County families of children under 6 have what they need to successfully parent their young children, thereby fostering positive relationships and preparing children for success in school and life.” Success by Six compliments and enhances vital early childhood programs in the community. The program builds on the growing knowledge of the importance of early childhood. Contributions may be made by cash or check to the Fellowship; *if a check be sure to write “Success by Six” on the memo line.*

Family Promise Family Gift Cards. Our *Family Promise* partner church, First Baptist, has asked for Christmas fundraising help. They would like to purchase gift cards that the parents of the families in the program can use to buy Christmas presents for their children. The parents know exactly what their children want/need, and this option gives the families more autonomy than having church members purchase gifts directly. The objective is to provide a \$100 gift card for each of the four families being served by Family Promise. To donate, please write a check to UFL with "Family Promise gift card" on the memo line. *If you have questions contact Donna Eades 842-3867.*

Tuesday, November 17, **Health Care for All Meeting**, 7 pm, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont. This is an opportunity to share information about the public position adopted by the Fellowship, and to learn more about strategies for achieving the objectives of “affordable quality health care for all.”

Health Care Access Holiday Homes Tour, December 6th from 1 - 6 pm. The 5th Annual Health Care Access Clinic Holiday Homes Tour will benefit the Health Care Access Clinic. The Tour is open to the public and will showcase holiday decorating ideas from a variety of traditions at several exclusive locations in Lawrence. Arts and crafts and homemade baked goods will also be available for purchase at Corpus Christi Catholic Church with all of the proceeds also going to the clinic. Health Care access is one of our Fellowship’s major Community Connections.

Peace Vigil Every Saturday Noon to 1 pm at the corner of 9th and Mass, downtown Lawrence. Come and stand for peace in the world, “and may it begin with me.” Yes, the weather is becoming a little wintrier, but the faithful few continue to stand on the side of peace! Come and join, make your/our stand a part of the global peace initiative. *Remember the first step in working for social justice is in just showing up.*

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. Care Team Coordinators are Beth Chao, Susan Cooper, and Donna Swall. To contact the Care Team, e-mail uflcareteam@sunflower.com or call Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530.

Office Hours for Minister

Office hours for Rev Jill Jarvis are on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

Sun., Nov 22 Sunday at noon following the Program--Harvest Festival Thanksgiving Feast

Wed., Nov. 25 no Wednesday evening activities. They resume Wed., Dec. 2

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence *A Welcoming Congregation*

1263 North 1100 Road | Lawrence, Kansas 66047

785.842.3339 www.uufl.net