

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
March 9, 2010

Sunday, March 14

Remember Daylight Savings Time takes effect

9:30 a.m. Service *"All That Was, Is, and Is To Come: Finding Modern-Day Meaning in Celtic Spirituality"*
Rev. Jill Jarvis

Contemporary Unitarian Universalism embodies many of the religious understandings inherent in ancient Celtic traditions: reverence for all of life, equality between the sexes, and love of beauty and nature. Yet as a source of wisdom, Celtic spirituality -- with its sense of mysticism, honor of ancestors, and rich mythology -- offers even greater insights that many UU's are just beginning to explore.

11:00 a.m. Program *"Wonderful Wise Women"*.

In celebration of Women's History month, some members of the Fellowship will share stories of strong women in their backgrounds. Come prepared to be inspired by the legacy left by the gender all too often left out of the history books.

Wednesday Night March 10
Food, Fun, and Friendship—Everyone's Invited!

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

CAJUN!

Vegan Gumbo or Chicken and Sausage Gumbo

Corn Bread * Fruit Salad * Tossed Salad

Mac 'n' Cheese * Hot Dogs * PB & J

Suggested donation \$5 Children under 10 free

Child Care 6:30–8:30 *Thanks to Sherry Warren and The Youth, our master chefs!*

6:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Join Us for The Barn Dance

Note: for reminders and more information about Wednesday night classes, please see previous newsletters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Our next LINK service date is Saturday, March 13. As usual, we need about 18 meat main dishes and 3 vegetarian dishes, including at least 1 vegan, as well as a few desserts. We also need volunteers to serve (at least eight) and clean up (at least five). There is a sign-up sheet on the counter at the Fellowship. If you haven't done this before, please consider joining us for a very fulfilling activity. You can find information about LINK service at the Fellowship web site. If you have questions, or wish to sign up but can't make it to the Fellowship to do so, please contact LINK coordinator Ellen Sward at 842-3078 or esward@ku.edu.

Getting to Know UU--Next Sunday, March 14, is our "Getting to Know UU" Sunday. Those interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and UFL, asking questions and getting acquainted, are invited to meet informally with our minister Rev. Jill Jarvis and a representative of the membership committee between the 9:30 service and the 11:00 program. Look for the "Getting to Know UU" sign in the sanctuary after the 9:30 service.

Vision for the Future. The Long Range Planning committee invites you to join us for a bountiful breakfast buffet on Saturday, March 27, 8:45-11 a.m., or dessert and coffee on Wednesday, April 14, 6-8 p.m., and share your dreams for the Fellowship. What's the road ahead for the next 5 years? Join us to share your vision and ideas!

Annual Operating Fund Campaign Officially Begun

With the Fellowship Follies, the 2010-2011 campaign for pledges to fund our annual operations budget has officially begun. Large white envelopes were presented to those attending the Follies. Those unable to be present at that time will shortly be receiving the same envelopes in the mail.

We want to emphasize that every single pledge at whatever level is important and valued.

We need these pledges in order to know our income before creating next year's budget.

We urge each of you to:

Look the materials over carefully. They contain easy-to-read, often colorful, information and clear answers to frequently-asked questions, along with a pledge form and pre-printed return envelope.

We are asking:

If you did not pledge last year, check the information sheets for the rationale for pledging and the easy ways payments may be budgeted, then select an amount that fits your budget and

make your pledge by March 21.

If you did pledge last year, please consider an increase, and

make your pledge by March 21.

Fellowship Follies a Fabulous Frolic

Over 90 Fellowship members and friends came out for the Fabulous Fellowship Follies on Saturday night. The festivities began in Founders Hall with a spread of tasty hors d'oeuvres, a colorful fruit punch, and a choice of wines provided and served by our wine stewards **Ted Wilson** and **Dick Schowen**. We then went down to a sanctuary with twelve festive and gleaming tables strewn with rose petals provided by **Sheila Warren**. At each place we found the evening's printed program designed by **Lisa Hallberg** which revealed this year's follies theme, a rather well-kept secret until then. After enjoying a first course of green salad, our Fellowship **youth (young men)** served, very professionally, delicious smoked brisket (**Sean Belden**) or vegetarian or vegan entrées (**Sherry Warren**) and side dishes prepared by a team of volunteer cooks. Sherry also arranged for a children's program of activities and a special meal for at least 10 of our smallest. Dessert, **Rebecca Gant's** creamy and dreamy cheesecake with choices of toppings, was served by more of our **youth (young women this time)**, again very professionally. Wines and sparkling fruit beverages were at the tables and coffee was served shortly before participants settled in to enjoy the evening's program.

Inspired by the Broadway hit "West Side Story," the theme this year was "South Side Story," featuring new and creative (often "pledge" related) lyrics written by **Rev. Jill Jarvis**. The Fellowship chorus and soloists, directed by **Susan Harper** and accompanied by **Carol Enos** performed rousing, inspiring, plaintive, and celebratory renditions of such adapted show tune hits as *Tonight, Somewhere* (duet by **Sarah Bodle** and **John Brewer**). (See separate newsletter item about

how to obtain a copy of the lyrics.) **Bob Harper** was our sound, light and overall tech person and his contributions were indispensable. Lisa Hallberg arranged for surtitles to appear on a high screen for one song and also provided take-home handout with the lyrics to all the numbers.

The Program was opened by welcoming (and witty and alliterative) remarks by our chair **Betty Baron**. **Paul Enos** operated a camcorder. Musical numbers were interspersed with a variety of non-musical items, beginning with past-chair **Valerie Roper's** review of Fellowship achievements (Who could have believed that we had accomplished so much in one year?). Valerie also moderated table discussions of possible Fellowship directions from the future, receiving varied and positive feedback summaries from some individual table hosts. **Barbara Schowen** and **Stuart Boley** unveiled the 2010-2011 operating budget campaign goals of \$94,000 from 86 of our households, the amount pledged thus far from board members, committee chairs, and a few other long-time supporters, and how pledges from 62 additional households can bring us to the final goals. Barbara later unveiled a beautiful chalice graphic designed by **Kristen Spencer** (who earlier had designed our invitation flyer). This chalice will be on display throughout the month as we record progress toward the campaign goals by coloring in the various "bubbles" emerging from the chalice. **Nancy Jorn** addressed the topic of "Where do we go from here," and mentioned the activities of the Long Range Planning Committee charged with crafting our next 5-year plan. Before Jill extinguished the ceremonial chalice, Susan presented flowers to Jill and Carol, and to each of the performers. Barbara presented a bouquet to Susan and to **Judy Wilson**. Judy had coordinated the dinner, recruiting a huge team of volunteer cooks, servers, table setters, and table setter-uppers, decorators, and more.

Many other volunteers who worked to make this evening a success were acknowledged at this time, including our table hosts, B&G people, many who provided advice and support. An incredible number of energetic volunteers made short work of the cleanup. Like all other Fellowship achievements, the camaraderie and fun of this gala event reflects the talent, commitment, collaborative work and generous support of our members.

Lyrics to the Follies Songs. Printed copies of the lyrics to the Follies show written by Rev. Jill Jarvis and Susan Harper are available on the side shelf in the lobby thanks to Lisa Hallberg. They are set to the music from *West Side Story* by Leonard Bernstein. Included are *Tonight* (Prelude); *Dear Finance Committee* (to the tune of *Gee, Officer Krupke*); *Somewhere*; *When You're UU* (to the tune of *When You're A Jet*); and *Tonight* (Finale). Take one and enjoy!

What is a Vanco (electronic payment) form?

Filling out this form allows for easy, automated, electronic payment of your contributions to our annual operating fund. On it, you will fill out your instructions for electronic withdrawals directly from your bank account into that of the Fellowship at whatever amount and time interval you specify. No checks to write. No problems remembering if you have sent in a check. This also saves our treasurers an enormous amount of time and paperwork. Simply turn in the form with a voided check when you return your pledge form, and our treasurers will do the rest. If you wish to cancel or change the payment amount, or have questions, just contact our Assistant Treasurer John Brewer.

Lost: One gray, waterproof, mid-length jacket taken by mistake yesterday (Sunday) from UFL. The one left had an inside pocket but otherwise looked very much like the jacket belonging to Tamara Fairbanks-Ishmael. If you find it let her know and make the exchange next Sunday or earlier. Your jacket is still at UFL.

Thanks to Bob Smith! The Aesthetics Committee would like to thank Bob Smith for his expertise, time, commitment, and effort in installing all the art shows in Founders' Hall, as well as the lovely Artist Biography displays he creates. Thanks, Bob!!

Transportation Task Force Needed. You can provide an invaluable service to several of our members and friends who would like to join us but lack transportation. Some need rides on Sunday mornings, some on Wednesday evenings, some only when it rains, some for special events. *Any* of us could need rides temporarily. We hope to assemble a task force, to help with this extremely important need. To volunteer, please contact Betty Baron personally, at 842.1728, or via e-mail, baronbetty@yahoo.com.

Lawrence Transit Curtailing Bus Service

We learned Sunday of the proposal to shut down bus service to North Lawrence completely. Other cut-backs are also proposed in other parts of town. The issue will shortly be decided. Please make your views known to our city commissioners.

Final Friday Hostesses Sought

When: Final Friday of each month (usually)

Where: At your house

How: Lock up the attack dog. Put out a bottle of water and some soda crackers

What Happens: The most amazing women in the universe come knocking at your door. They bring gifts of wine, cheese, and scrumptious hors d'oeuvres. They then proceed to entertain you all evening long with laughter, camaraderie and scintillating conversation.

If this sounds too good to be true (and you're not a guy) please e-mail Amerika Grewal at amerikag@gmail.com to sign up to host a future UFL Final Friday.

Budget Meeting Date Changed. Committee chairs and board members should save the morning of **April 24**, for this very important meeting, starting at 9:00 a.m. It is unfortunate that this date conflicts with the PSD meeting, but it has been impossible to find another date. We expect committees to have met before this date, so that their chairs, or their appointed representatives, will be able to attend the meeting, prepared to articulate and defend their financial needs for the next fiscal year. Bagels, donuts, and coffee will be provided.

Auction Date Changed. Because of a scheduling conflict in our auctioneer's schedule, we have moved the auction to **Saturday, May 8**, but it is not too early to consider goods and services that you would like to contribute. In the past, we have sold and bought items ranging from tools to trinkets, from trucks to fine art. Members have cooked meals, driven people to the airport, hauled furniture, sat for cats, offered concerts and computer consultations, and led special outings. The list is limited only by our imaginations. Our generous minister has already promised, once again, to donate to the auction a sermon, a week at her house in the Pyrenees, and a special basket of items from the market in France. If you would like to participate on the auction crew, please contact ***Valerie Roper***. Do you have any unused items that might fit into the cloth tote bags all of us take to the grocery store with us? This year we would like to create a few "mystery bags," so we'll need some things, such as key chains, pens, notepads, gift certificates, flashlights, etc., to stuff into such bags. Watch for more details.

Family Promise Host Week

Host week for First Baptist church is coming up soon, March 14–21. They have asked for our help to fill evening shifts onsite, to help make up for a shortfall of volunteers due to Spring Break. If anyone can help out, please contact volunteer coordinator Sally Heilman at ssheilman@sunflower.com. In addition, they'd like to refresh their children's library, so if anyone has books they'd like to donate, please see Donna Eades.

The Prairie Star District Meeting, Roots and Wings, will be held April 23–25 in Davenport, Iowa. The focus will be on creating multigenerational congregations, and we are hoping that individuals of multiple generations will be willing and able to attend the conference. The board has approved \$80 worth of support for one young person to attend. The deadline for registration is March 16. More information is available on the PSD Web site. Betty Baron is willing to collect the names of people interested in carpooling.

The General Assembly (June 23–27) will take place in Minneapolis. Check the UUA Web site for more information. If you're interested in being a delegate, in carpooling, or in sharing accommodations, let Betty Baron know. If you're sure you're going, you might like to make reservations now; moderately priced rooms fill up fast. To save on registration fees, you might want to volunteer to serve 20 hours at the GA. Applications are being accepted March 1–31 at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/registration/financialaid/14930.shtml>.

Camp StarTrail--August 1-6--In Ashland, Nebraska (between Omaha and Lincoln) For an unforgettable experience for families, children, young and old, think of Camp StarTrail. Deadline for application, April 28 <http://www.psduua.org/CampStarTrail2010/CampStarTrail2010> Those of us who went last year will be showing a 10-minute inspiringly informational video between service and program starting Sunday, March 28.

Summer Arts Programs for Kids

The Lawrence Arts Center has plenty of classes available for youth this spring and summer! Applications and course listings can be found online at www.lawrenceartscenter.org. The classes range from drama and dance to drawing and video editing. Scholarships are available. If you have any questions, please email either Rachael Juhls (rachaelvista@lawrenceartscenter.org) or Caitlin Ballard (caitlinvista@lawrenceartscenter.org).

Community Connections--from the Social Action Committee

Our agency for March is Health Care Access. In October members of the Fellowship voted unanimously to support the proposals for a single-payer universal health care system. At present, Health Care Access is the clinic of last resort for many of our residents who do not have and cannot afford health insurance. To contribute, write check to the *Fellowship, with HCA on the memo line*.

Other Local, State and UU Social Action Items include: The Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice urges the U.S. to announce an immediate cease-fire pledge to stop sending additional troops to Afghanistan, negotiate a timeline for the removal of U.S. troops, and cede control of all bases there. **UUA and Peacemaking Initiatives:** See the Nov. 2009 Draft Statement of Conscience on Peacemaking on the UUA Web page on Peacemaking. Should the UFL consider

developing a “peacemaking pledge”? The UUA draft suggests a sample as a starting point for a congregation. **Proposed Amendment to the Lawrence Ordinance on Non-Discrimination:** The Lawrence Human Relations Commission voted not to reconsider their action in November to “Not Recommend” adding “gender identity.” The City Commission is expected to include the HRC’s recommendation on their consent agenda, which, in effect, ends consideration of the proposed amendment. **The Proposal to Repeal the Kansas Death Penalty** was defeated by a 20/20 vote in the KS Senate. The Kansas Coalition against the Death Penalty will continue to work for repeal.

REMINDERS

Community Care Team:

The UFL 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, Donna Swall, and Carine Ullom. To contact the Care Team, e-mail uflcareteam@sunflower.com or call Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530.

Office Hours for Rev Jill Jarvis: Rev Jill Jarvis has office hours on Wednesdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., by appointment.

Peace Vigils Continue, every Saturday at noon, 9th and Massachusetts.

Deadlines

Announcements: **Wednesday evening; not Thursday.** Send items to uflooffice@sunflower.com
Newsletter articles: **Monday at noon.** Send items to ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

Fellowship Dates to Keep in Mind

March 10	Board Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
March 13, Sat.	LINK
Apr. 24, Sat.	Committee Chair budget meeting (9 a.m.)
Mar. 28, Sun.	UFL Chamber Music Series-Allegresse (7:30 p.m.)
Apr. 23-25	PSD Conference, “Roots and Wings,” in Davenport, IA
May 8	Annual Auction
June 23-27	UUA General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
A Welcoming Congregation

1263 North 1100 Road | Lawrence, Kansas 66047

785.842.3339 www.uufl.net