



APRIL 2009 GREEN BAY AREA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

FROM THE MINISTER...

by Rev. Sandy Ingham

On March 10th 50 years ago, in an attempt to preserve their culture and practice their religious beliefs, Tibetans revolted against the Chinese. The uprising was unsuccessful and the Buddhist spiritual leader whom we know as the Dalai Lama was forced to flee to India, where he has been ever since. Recent news coverage about these events made me think about what it would be like to live in a place where you could not practice your religious beliefs without fear that by doing so, you could be putting yourself in danger.

We have a long history of martyrdom on both sides of our religious heritage. But, at this point in our history, we most likely don't give much thought to martyrdom. How many of us have ever set off on a Sunday morning wondering if we would be arrested when we got to the Fellowship or whether or not our possessions would be piled outside and our doors nailed shut when we returned home?

One of the goals of our annual canvass is to remind us of how fortunate we are to have religious freedom, not only because we are citizens of the United States, but, more importantly, because we have this valuable heritage bequeathed to us, the priceless gift of being freethinkers and heretics (and proud of it!).

Most of you will already have met with a canvasser by the time you read this column. You will have decided how much Unitarian Universalism is worth to you. That

is a good thing! You have made an important decision that we need to do all that we can to keep our faith tradition alive and well. You have realized how grateful you are for the fact that you can practice your beliefs without running the risk of being thrown in prison or losing your home or tortured or even killed.

There are many ways to keep adding to our Unitarian Universalist riches, many ways to carry on our UU heritage. You can serve on the Board or on a committee; volunteer to clean our space; teach one of our religious education classes; play music on a Sunday morning. These are all ways to give back.

Another way is to discover the wider world of Unitarian Universalism. I can think of at least three ways that you could do this in the coming months. One is the Central Midwest District annual meeting April 24-26 in Waukesha. Our district covers a lot of territory; it even includes St. Louis. So, having the annual meeting in Waukesha is a great opportunity for those of us who live in Northeast and Central Wisconsin. For more information, go to cmwd-uua.org. (If you reserve a hotel room by April 7, you will get a better rate.)

District meetings are fun, challenging and relationship-building events. So are the Unitarian Universalist Association's annual general assemblies. This year's General Assembly will be held in Salt Lake City from June 25-29. For more information about it, go to the UUA's website (uua.org). There is a significant discount on registration fees made before April 30.

Last, but by no means least, if you want to delve more deeply into Unitarian Universalism, plan to take part in the UUA's Welcoming Congregation Program that we will begin here at the Green Bay Fellowship in the fall. Yes, we are already welcoming, but this program

GREEN BAY AREA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

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(continued on page 2)

is designed to make us even more so and to deepen our awareness of our individual biases and prejudices. Going through the process will involve several workshops and a commitment of time by many of us if it is to be effective. But, I can guarantee that it will be well worth it. More information coming in future newsletters.

Happy Spring! Rev. Sandy



FROM THE TREASURER

by Matt Johnson

Our finances continue to be strained. This was the first month that saw some of the effects of the negotiated lower rent. This will not make the rest of the year easy, it will, though, make it doable with the continued support, dedication, and sacrifice of our wonderful friends and members. Please stay current on your pledges. If your financial situation has changed, feel free to contact me and let me know so we can adjust. It is important during this tight financial situation that we maintain an accurate picture of where we stand.

February Month in review
Donations: \$6082
Expenses: \$7345
Difference: -\$1263

Canvass

The canvass is just about over. The only canvasses that should be left are ones that could not fit in the original one and a half week window. If you have not yet met with a canvasser or turned in a canvass pledge form, please call or email me (matt@thosejohnsons.com or 465-1173) as Steve Krings, canvass chair, is on vacation.

On a more personal note...

I plan on stepping down as Treasurer at the end of this fiscal year (June 30th, 2009). At the end of the fiscal year, I will have had the honor of being entrusted with the fellowship fiancés for 2.75 years. It is time for a change. A member has agreed to help with the treasurer role next year as "Assistant Treasurer". So, whoever will take on the main role will have help. I am not going anywhere, I am just moving on a bit. I will be here to ensure a proper and smooth transition.

Based on the additional automation and simplification, the role will be much easier next year. I am still committed to finishing the electric funds transfer work and other steps to reduce the overall time input before the end of the fiscal year. This will make it so the new treasurer will not have to make the same time commitment as I have. That, along with the fact that Ripon will be managing the minister finances in 09/10, should make it more manageable.

I plan on moving over to focus my time on Adult Enrichment and membership growth. I know this comes at a time of many other transitions, but it is important that I make this change.



• Amy Masias and Linda Peacock-Landrum for commitment and dedication to the Coming of Age program. These 2 individuals stepped forward to assume coordinating roles within one month of the program starting. This was a major undertaking for both of Amy and Linda given this is the first ever COA program for our Fellowship (and considering the other ways they currently serve our Fellowship).

• Lisa Adams for her relentless work to make our scrip program a success. Lisa is always available and flexible. She anticipates family/ individual needs with pre-orders and keeping items in stock

UnsUng Hero Nominating

1. Complete an UnsUng Hero Nomination Card.
2. Place in the Nomination Box.
3. The GBAUUF Board will review nominations monthly.

4. One or more of our members will be recognized for his/her efforts.

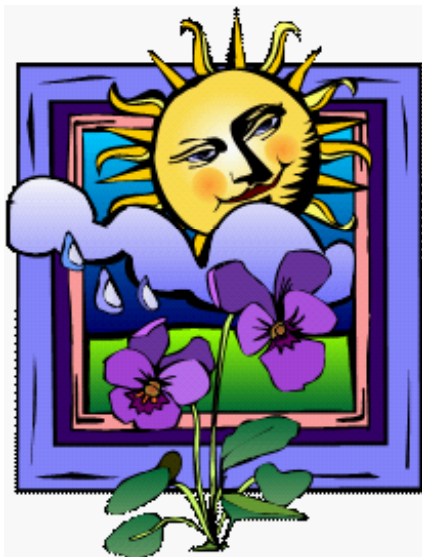
****Nominations are being accepted for May.****

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Membership Committee will be on Thursday, April 16th, at 5:30 p.m. New members are always welcome to help with the vital work of nurturing and growing our membership

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Social Justice Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 14, beginning at 5:30pm, at the Fellowship, to continue working on plans to begin the Welcoming Congregation process in the fall. New members are always welcome!!



FACILITIES COMMITTEE

- Spring is in the air. This Means:

Save the Date

For the Fellowship Spring Cleaning Event!

Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.

Grab your bucket, mop, rake, shovel, and wet/dry vacuum cleaner. Pick your room or a spot in the backyard to help make the place shine. More exciting details to follow. Mark your calendar now!

- Have you formed a Clean Team or asked to be a Clean Team member? Now is the time to sign up your team or ask to be part of one. Clean Teams each will have a month to help keep the Fellowship space clean. Sign up in the back of the Fellowship or let a Facilities member know you want to be a part.

- April Showers will bring May flowers and the grass will start growing. Many thanks go to the John Landrum family for taking on the first year as the grass cutters for the Fellowship. They are gracefully opening the door for others to have an opportunity. Are you the next grass cutter? Please let Jane Shatswell, Nick Gilmore, Brian Brooks, Beth Perry Wattleworth, John Landrum, Joe Eckberg or Terry Baranczyk know if you can help.

UU BOOK GROUP

The following is the Book Group's "rest of the year" list of books and discussion locations. Everyone is welcome to attend and join in the conversation, even if you haven't finished the book!

April 22, 6:30pm ~ at Jennifer Johnson's home (RSVP 465-1173) ~ "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson

May 16, 10:00am ~ at The Attic Bookstore, 730 Bodart St, GB. RSVP to Amy Masias at 429-1290 ~ "Under the Banner of Heaven" by Jon Krakauer

June 27, 9:00am ~ at Bouchee in DePere. RSVP to Geeta Bhojwani 406-9135 ~ "Loving Frank" by Nancy Horan



ANNUAL GBAUUF CAMPING TRIP

Calling all Nature Lovers and Campers! The annual UU campout is slated for August 21-27 at Peninsula State Park. So far three families have sites in Tension Bay! Please consider joining us and going on the state park reservation site to reserve a site or speak to the Fresens if you want to pitch a tent for a day! We will be at site 215. Come for the weekend or a day, lots of hiking, biking, and just enjoying nature and lots of relaxing! This is the premier camping park in the state of Wisconsin, don't miss it!!!

SCRIP PROGRAM

Put your shopping dollars to work for our fellowship by purchasing scrip "gift cards" at face value. Use these cards for everyday purchases like food, gas, clothes and other essentials. It's a great way to help out financially with no additional expense to you. The current return to the fellowship is between 2%-20%. If you don't know about this program please see /call me and I would be happy to explain it. With our current financial slump, this is a great way to add money into our checkbook.

Contact Lisa Adams: radams5@new.rr.com or 983-8661 or @ Sunday Services

Check out what's available from Scrip at
www.glscrip.com

UU MEN'S GROUP

The April meetings of the UU Men's Group will be on the Thursday nights of the 9th and 23rd. The meetings last from 7-8:30PM at the Fellowship. New men are always welcome. Contact Doug Gjerde at 490-9484 or Steve Krings at 432-5756 if you have any questions.

SOUP SUNDAY

Calling all cooks and bakers! Soup Sunday is the third Sunday of every month and is a time when we all can come together and share great food and conversation after service. A sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary for those who are able to volunteer to bring soups, stews, breads, rolls and desserts. So pull out your recipes and plug in your crockpots and come join us on Soup Sunday, April 19. The more goodies, the merrier!



APRIL RE EVENT

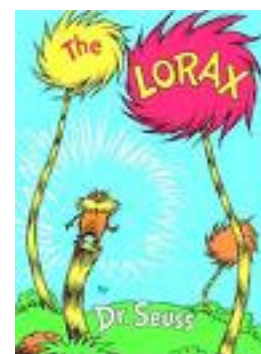
Earth Day Event- "Unless"

Saturday, April 18 1-2:30

In the RE "wing" of the Fellowship

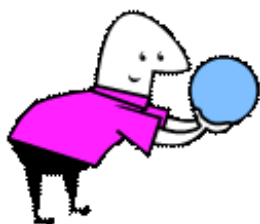
...Way back in the days when the grass was still green and the pond was still wet and the clouds were still clean...

....And all that the Lorax left here in this mess was a small pile of rocks, with one word... "UNLESS." Whatever THAT meant, well, I couldn't guess.



Let's kick off Earth Day Week by watching Dr. Seuss's "The Lorax", and then do some "green" activities!

Contact Stacy Gilmore if you have any questions. 920-434-8601



MARCH RE EVENT

Bowling at the Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley (2929 Allied St.)

Sunday, March 29 from 2-4pm

The sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary.

Questions? Contact Amy Masias at 429-1290

ADULT RE NEWS

LAST UU BIBLE STUDY CLASS

"Sins of the Scripture", the last session of our Bible study, will meet Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship. You are welcome even if you haven't attended the other sessions. Contact Rev. Sandy if you have questions.

THE SACRED BALANCE: A VISION OF HUMANITY'S PLACE IN NATURE

The schedule for this adult RE class has been changed from Wednesday to Tuesday night. It will meet from 7-9pm on April 21 and 28 and May 5 and 19. The Sacred Balance is a four-part documentary series based on a bestselling book by the same name and hosted by David Suzuki. Suzuki is an award winning scientist, environmentalist, broadcaster and pantheist. Filmed on five continents, this ground-breaking series celebrates a new scientific world-view, an inclusive vision of nature in which we human beings are intimately connected to all life processes on Earth. For more information on the series, book or host, simply google Sacred Balance or David Suzuki. The format of this RE offering is to view excerpts of each of the four parts of the series followed by discussion. Please sign up on the sheet at the community table or call Steve Krings at 432-5756.

A NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Leah Raby and her daughter Deanna who just recently signed the Membership Book. We are delighted to have them as our newest members of our faith community. If you wish to become an official member of the Fellowship, please speak to Rev. Sandy or any of our board members

SERVICE TOPIC PREVIEW

April 5 -- "Doers and Dreamers" Which are you? Because Unitarian Universalists are not nearly as interested in the death and resurrection of Jesus as we are in his life, on this Palm Sunday Rev. Ingham will explore the stories of Martha and Mary, two sisters who were contemporaries of Jesus. Both of these women thought that they were living their lives in a way that Jesus would approve. Yet Jesus did not necessarily think so and gave them an enigmatic answer when they asked him whose work was more important. Join us this Sunday as we consider how relevant Jesus's life is to us and which is more important, the doer or the dreamer?

April 12 -- "Words to Live By" We have been stirred to the great depths of our soul with the words of others over the ages. What words speak to you? What words provide guidance to your life that you would like to share with others in our community? Sharing "words to live by" can deepen our understanding of each other and draw us closer together. Submissions need to be submitted to Therese Barry-Tanner (tbarry-tanner@hotmail.com) via email by Friday April 3rd.

April 19 -- "Mystics and Movements" What do Howard Thurman, mysticism, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Justice Sunday and prophets have in common? The answer will be revealed on this Sunday morning as Rev. Ingham explores the link between mystics and social justice movements.

April 25 -- Dr. Carol Cornelius is Area Manager of the Oneida Cultural Heritage Department. Carol Cornelius, (Kanehkanolu "A Little Bit of Water," or "Water is Precious") is Oneida and Stockbridge Indian and has worked with Native Peoples for the last 30 years in educational capacities and is firmly based in her culture. She is well known for her presentations on Oneida culture. Join us as she shares with us the importance of being grounded in nature.

May 3 -- "Food and Fantasy" If you are what you eat, then your minister might be a chocolate-covered avocado. There has been a lot of noise lately about eating locally, eating only organically-raised foods, supporting community-sustainable associations and on and on. Is it possible to do these things, especially if you live in an area with a short growing season? How important is it to pay attention to what we eat? And, what does all this have to do with Unitarian Universalism, anyway? Here's a clue -- think seventh principle.

May 10 -- Intergenerational Flower Communion Service by our RE Classes. All children in RE classes will attend and partake in the service.



CALENDAR

- Mar 29 10:00am** **Service Topic -- "Being Spiritually Human" by Kathleen Kelly-Hoffmann**
2-4pm RE Bowling at Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley (see page 5 for details)
- Mar 30 1:00pm Cooking at the NEW Community Shelter
- Apr 5 10:00am** **Service Topic -- "Doers and Dreamers" by Rev. Ingham**
- Apr 9 7-8:30pm** **UU Men's Group at the fellowship**
- Apr 12 10:00am** **Service Topic -- "Words to Live By"**
- Apr 14 5:30pm** **Social Justice Committee meeting at the fellowship**
7:00pm **Board Meeting-All are welcome to attend**
- Apr 16 5:30pm Membership Committee Meeting at the fellowship
- Apr 18 1-2:30pm RE Event-Earth Day "Unless" in the RE wing of the fellowship
- Apr 19 10:00am Service Topic -- "Mystics and Movements" by Rev. Ingham
Soup Sunday following the service
- Apr 21 7-9pm The Sacred Balance Class at the fellowship (see page 5 for details)
- Apr 22 6:30pm UU Book Group at Jennifer Johnson's home (see page 4 for details)
- Apr 23 7-8:30pm UU Men's Group at the fellowship
7-8:30pm UU Bible Study class (see page 5 for details)
- Apr 24-26 Central Midwest District Annual Meeting
- Apr 25 10:00am Service by Dr. Carol Cornelius
- Apr 28 7-9pm The Sacred Balance Class at the fellowship (see page 5 for details)
- May 2 9:00am Fellowship Spring Cleaning (see page 3 for details)
- May 3 TBA New Member Breakfast
10:00am Service Topic -- "Food and Fantasy" by Rev. Ingham
- May 5 7-9pm The Sacred Balance Class at the fellowship (see page 5 for details)
- May 10 10:00am Service Topic -- Intergenerational Flower Communion Service
- May 16 10:00am UU Book Group at The Attic Bookstore (see page 4 for details)
- May 19 7-9pm The Sacred Balance Class at the fellowship (see page 5 for details)
- Jun 27 9:00am UU Book Group at Bouchee
- Aug 21-27 Annual GBAUUF Camping Trip



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12TH GRADE AND NURSERY CARE ARE AVAILABLE DURING SERVICES.

2008-2009 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President: Alf Langan 337-9147
Vice President: Linda Peacock-Landrum
406-0562
Secretary: Janice Galt 432-5947
Treasurer: Matt Johnson 465-1173
Trustee: Bruce Rose 338-2385
Trustee: Al Huebscher 609-1751
Trustee: Doug Gjerde 490-9484
Minister: Rev. Sandy Ingham 499-2344

COMMITTEE/GROUP CONTACTS

- Board of Trustees -- President, Alf Langan 337-9147
- Joint Committee on Ministry -- Rev. Ingham 499-2344
- Membership Committee -- Chair Steve Krings 432-5756
- Caring Committee -- Co-Chairs Kate Hutton 435-5563 & Francesca Pallo 662-9311
- Program -- Chair Therese Barry-Tanner 336-4642
- RE -- Co-Chairs Beth Jensen 338-2385 and Jennifer Johnson 465-1173
- Social Action -- Chair (vacant) Rev. Ingham 499-2344
- Stewardship Team -- Chair Matt Johnson 465-1173
- Facilities -- Chair Jane Shatswell 405-8338
- SCRIP -- Lisa Adams 983-8661



MAY NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:

The May deadline will be Monday, April 20.
As always, please email all
submissions to:
jennifer@thosejohnsons.com



THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian
Universalist Association, covenant to
affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



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