



# CUC VOICE



March 20, 2009

*A Publication of the Congregational Unitarian Church*

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## **SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 A.M.**

### **Sunday March 22nd – “AMAZING GRACE”**

Dan and Cathy Smith will speak on their experiences of Grace. There will be a story for all ages.

### **Sunday, March 29th –“HOPING FOR THE BEST”**

Dan will summarize the last several messages which altogether give us hope for the future. There will be special music by Tom and the adult choir and a story for all ages by Sue.

### **Sunday April 5th – “FLOWER COMMUNION” and “JOYFUL JOURNEY CELEBRATION”**

Please bring flowers to share for this Unitarian Universalist Celebration. This is our form of communion as we celebrate the Spiritual Gifts that we bring and take away from church. We will also celebrate “Joyful Journey” which recognizes our 3rd and 4th graders as they embark on the next stage of their religious journey.

### **Sunday April 12th – EASTER SUNDAY “UP THE LADDER”**

Dan will speak about the Unitarian Universalist Resurrection. Tom and the adult choir will sing “Up the Ladder” and there will be a story for all ages.

## **OFFICE SCHEDULE**

We have decided to have Lora Cantele, Karen Stowe, and Gail Wells share in the secretarial duties at the church office. You will find the office schedule below. Steven is on a leave of absence but will still be attending to the website and e-bay.

Monday, March 23: 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Gail Wells

Tuesday, March 24: all day – Janet Burns

Wednesday, March 25: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

Thursday, March 26: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Friday, March 27: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Monday, March 30: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

Tuesday, March 31: all day – Janet Burns  
Wednesday, April 1 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells  
Thursday, April 2: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele  
Friday, April 3: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

### **SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are still in need of volunteers for coffee, treats, and flowers for the rest of March and April. Please take a moment to sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board in the Social Room the next time you are in church. It's easy and very much appreciated by all.

### **PLEDGE DRIVE**

We are now preparing for our annual pledge drive, where we ask all of our members to make a financial pledge to the church. Each Sunday 2 of our members will speak during announcements to share in the one of the programs we offer. This Sunday, March 22nd, Joe Blanco will speak about PADS and Lily Bailey will speak on the Sun City Group. You will be receiving in the mail, by the end of March, the request for pledges.

### **CHURCH BUSINESS COMING UP**

On Sunday May 3rd, we will hold our Annual Congregational meeting. We will nominate and elect church officers, approve a budget, vote on the UUA Peace Proposal, and consider renaming the church (Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock).

This year we will hold the meeting downstairs and have a pot-luck dinner afterwards. The member care committee will help to organize the dinner.

### **SMALL GROUP MEETINGS**

We now have several small groups that meet for the purpose of spiritual, intellectual, and personal learning. You are invited to any of these groups. If you are interested, contact the church office and we will put you in touch with the coordinator.

The Spiritual Practices group meets every other Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage. Our next meeting is Monday, March 30th. Dan will be leading the group with the topic being "GOD".

The Spiritual Reading group does not meet on a regular schedule, but meets approximately every month at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage. Watch for the date and book to be announced soon.

"Small Group #1" will be meeting on April 7th in the church kitchen at 6:00 p.m., please bring a dish to pass for the pot-luck. These meetings have an open agenda and often end up talking about personal things.

Our "A Course in Miracles" group meets Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the parsonage. The curriculum is handed out before each session, so there's no textbook to buy. All are welcome!

The Sunday morning Adult RE Class has changed its name to the Adult Discussion Group, and also changed its starting time to 9:30 a.m. on Sundays! Please be sure you note these changes in your calendar so you're not waiting for a while. There is a separate article about their activities for the next several weeks.

### **ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP NEWS**

On March 8, the Adult Discussion Group started a five-week run with the Voluntary Simplicity Course; the last day for this course will be April 5th. Regular discussion topics will resume on April 12. Please note description below.

### **VOLUNTARY SIMPLICITY COURSE**

On Sunday, March 8 the five session course began. The course is limited to a maximum of 12 participants and the cost of materials is \$20.00. For more information please contact Margaret Fox-Hawthorne at 815-943-6828 or [margfh2000@yahoo.com](mailto:margfh2000@yahoo.com).

### **LAW OF ATTRACTION SUPPORT GROUP**

Nicette Crawford & Cathy Smith are working with the Law of Attraction principles and we would like to share our knowledge by offering to meet once a week at the Church to listen to the audio version of the book, discuss and help each other by setting a practice of these principles. We will be meeting this Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. starting this Friday March 6th. All donations will go to the church. Please RSVP if you are interested in attending; Nicette 815-473-6187 or Cathy 815-679-6990

### **JOB SEARCH GROUP**

The Job Search Group has currently stopped meeting. We are interested in matching up people...those looking for employment or those who know of a job available. Please contact the church office for more information.

### **MARCH FUN NIGHT –**

Don't forget Fun Night Friday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. Julia Klein will lead the fun for the evening.

### **NEW WOODSTOCK ZEN GROUP**

A second Zen meditation group associated with our church has recently been formed in order to provide more meditation practice opportunities. The new group meets Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m...This group meets at Harold Rail's home; you can contact Harold at 815-236-2511 for more information.

### **CALLING ALL PAGANS AND PRACTITIONERS OF EARTH-BASED RELIGIONS!**

We have had a preliminary meeting and will be announcing more information regarding the interest in a possible pagan organization here at church that may evolve into a chapter of CUUPS, or the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans. If you would be interested in being involved and active in such a group, please contact the church office.

Also, there will be a Spring Equinox celebration March 21st presented by the Raven Wood Grove. Please contact the church office for more information.

### **SPRING IN THE ENERGY OF NIA WORKSHOP**

There will be a Nia workshop on March 22nd from 2:00 -4:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church. Through movement and music we will Awaken the Body in Renewal for Spring. The cost for this workshop is \$30.00 or whatever you can afford. No experience necessary.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!**

The 2008-2009 Church Directories are still available for members to pick up before and after worship services on Sundays through March 16th. Also, if you picked up your directory before February 1, there is an addendum label that should have been added to your directory that was not ready in time. The directories and the addendum labels are available on the table in the Social Room. If you are picking up an addendum label, please be sure to initial beside your name on the roster in the folder so that we know that you picked yours up. After that time, we will be mailing the directories and the addendum labels out. Please stop by the church either this Sunday or next to get your directory or addendum label so that the church can cut mailing costs as much as possible.

### **HEALTH CARE REFORM**

Since Cover the Uninsured Week is coming, Peter Lopatin will speak briefly about the current state of the uninsured, the Family Health Partnership Clinic (the only clinic in McHenry County

dedicated to serving the uninsured), the national citizen action group HCAN, and some upcoming events relating to health care reform:

Single-Payer Health Care for All: Legislative Advocacy Day (Springfield) on March 24  
Health Care Summit at Countryside Unitarian (Palatine) on March 28  
Rally for Health Care Reform on April 18 (Location TBD); sponsor Health Care for America Now (HCAN)

Peter will have flyers & information available after the service.

### **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION PEACE PROPOSAL**

At our May 3rd Congregational meeting we will be voting on a proposal from the UUA to adopt a “Statement of Conscious” dealing with Peace issues for the church. The “Statement of Conscience” is now posted on our website as a link from the home page. Please read and review and give us your thoughts. The question that we will be voting on is whether or not to keep this proposal on the agenda of our national organization.

After church on April 5th, those interested in reviewing the proposal will meet in Dan’s office after church.

Also, Sunday April 26th, Sue Rekenhaller will be discussing this topic during worship and there will be time for the congregation to discuss.

### **WOODSTOCK 10 DIRECTIONS ZEN GROUP**

We will now be meeting in the parsonage on Tuesday evening at 7p.m. and not in the church basement. Contact Sam Jones, 815-334-8522 with any questions.

### **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INTERNATIONAL**

Two of our High School students, Addy Hicks and Jessica Stowe, have been accepted as Student Ambassadors with People to People and will travel to Australia and New Zealand this summer. Last year Craig Rapp was a Student Ambassador to Europe. President Eisenhower founded the program in 1956 and believed if people from different cultures could come together in peace and friendship, so would nations. On this 20 day exchange they will meet with government officials, students, join in education activities and home stays. Both girls are need donations with the tuition of \$8000 each. They plan on selling craft items in the church during the month of April.

*MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL*