

CUC VOICE

April 3, 2009

A Publication of the Congregational Unitarian Church
221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 338-0731 – office@cucw.org – www.cucw.org

SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 A.M.

BRING FLOWERS

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.

Sunday April 19th – “IT’S MORE THAN NOISE”

The Youth Group will be responsible for everything from the ushering to the Worship Service. Discover Spirituality through music in this very interesting and refreshing program. Music will be featured by Jeweled Ice and members of the Youth Group themselves. You are not going to want to miss this!!!

Sunday April 26th – “A STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE”

We will be discussing during the Worship Service a “Statement of Conscience” being considered by our National Association (The Unitarian Universalist Association) in becoming a “Peacemaking Church. Sue Rekenhaller and Dan will speak and there will be time for comments from the congregation. This is also teacher recognition Sunday and we will be recognizing our teachers from this past year.

May 3rd – “CONGREGATIONAL MEETING”

This will be our annual “Congregational Meeting” upstairs with a Pot-Luck to follow downstairs. The member care committee will advise us what we can bring.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still in need of volunteers for coffee, treats, and flowers for 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.

OFFICE SCHEDULE

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, April 6: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lora Cantele
Tuesday, April 7: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, April 8: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, April 9: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe
Friday, April 10: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Monday, April 13: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Tuesday, April 14: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, April 15 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, April 16: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe
Friday, April 17: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

PLEDGE DRIVE

We have mailed out the remaining pledge packets this week and will be contacting by phone those who have not returned their pledge. We need all pledges to be in by Sunday April 19th.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday May 3rd, we will hold our Annual Congregational meeting. This year we will not be routinely mailing out packets of information about the meeting, in order to save postage costs. The information instead, will either be available by e-mail or by regular mail (by your request) or you may pick up a packet here at church. Otherwise the information will only be available that day. We will consider the following:

- Change the name of the church to “Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock”
- Nominating church officers and council members.
- Recognizing new members from the last 12 months.
- Changing the by-laws.
- A UUA Peace Proposal “A Statement of Conscience”
- Approving new church budget.

Please make every effort to attend. A pot-luck dinner will be served afterwards downstairs. The member care committee will help to organize the dinner.

LAW OF ATTRACTION SUPPORT GROUP

Nicette Crawford & Cathy Smith are working with the Law of Attraction principles and we would like to share their 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 every

Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.. All donations will go to the church. Please RSVP if you are interested in attending; Nicette 815-473-6187 or Cathy 815-679-6990

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, April 13th. We will continue our discussion of "GOD".

The Spiritual Reading group will be meeting April 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage. We will be discussing "The Impossible Might Take A Little Longer".

"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.

Small Group #2 – If anyone is interested in joining please contact the church office.

Men's Group will be meeting on Thursday April 9th at 7:00 p.m.. Instead of meeting at the home of John Hill, John will be treating us to a Mexican dinner at the El Niagra Restaurant in Woodstock. Please R.S.V.P. by Monday April 6th.

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

Sunday April 5th will be the last of the five session course of Voluntary Simplicity.

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.

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.

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY – FROM PATRICK

The Central Midwest District Assembly will be held in Waukesha Wisconsin from Friday, April 24 through Sunday, April 26. Most of the business, including a joint appearance by candidates for the UUA Presidency Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman and Rev. Peter Morales, will be held on Saturday. I would like to attend all or part of the Assembly representing the Church as a delegate. There is room for more delegates and individuals can register to attend without voting status.

Registration for the District Assembly itself is \$155 – unchanged for the past 5 years! All events will be held at the Marriott Milwaukee West in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and overnight rooms are reserved until April 15, 2009 at the rate of \$105 per night. You can reserve rooms on line – see the registration form for details. These rates are as reasonable as you'll find and you'll help the District keep costs down by booking directly through the Marriott.

For a much smaller fee, you can register for individual events, including the UUA Presidential forum. Visit <http://www.cmwd-uua.org/content/>

If you are interested in attending all, or part of the Assembly, Please contact the office and register online. And if you could give me a ride to Waukesha, please e-mail me at pmurfin@sbcglobal.net. Thanks, Patrick Murfin

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.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

The 2008-2009 Church Directories are still available for members to pick up before and after worship services on Sundays. 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. We will not be mailing the directories.

TAI-CHI WORKSHOP

Saturday April 11th , Rev. Denise Tracy returns to our church to lead another workshop in the practice of Tai Chi. These movement help our bodies relax, our minds focus and our lives center. Wear loose clothing and non tread shoes (slippers or socks are fine). The cost for the workshop is \$25.00 and is requested in advance. Checks can be turned into Carol Alfus or the church office. Please make checks payable to Rev. Denise Tracy.

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 Conscience” 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 this Sunday 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.

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.

TREAT YOUR FEET

Lora Cantele is teaching aromatherapy classes later this month and is in need of a few volunteers who wish to be “models” for the practical class portion on Swiss Reflex Therapy (SRT). SRT combines basic reflexology with aromatherapy as a form of healing the body. Those interested in receiving a free treatment as part of a training program for her students should contact Lora at 815-814-1444 to make an appointment. The classes will take place on April 22-24 & April 28 & 29.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CHURCH BBQ

Please set aside Sunday June 7th for our fundraising BBQ after church at Emricson Park in Woodstock. Dave’s BBQ in Algonquin will be providing the lunch. There will be tickets for this event to be purchased in advance. Music, games and activities for all ages. Watch for more details!!!!!!

CURRENT AMERICAN ISSUES

On Wednesday April 8th at 7:00 pm there will be a lecture at McHenry County College Conference Center on “Exposing Flaws and Injustices in the Death Penalty”. Gary Gauger will be speaking. This is sponsored by The Illinois Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Murder Victims’ Families for Human Rights, The McHenry County Peace Coalition, and The Student Peace Action Network.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

We are looking for Delegates for the General Assembly which will be taking place the last week of June. Those interested in going or voting absentee, please contact the church office.

CALENDAR OF REGULAR EVENTS

Please help us make sure our calendar is up-to-date! If you have corrections, please contact the Church Office.

- Sunday, April 5
 - 9:00 a.m. – A Course in Miracles (parsonage downstairs)
 - 9:15 a.m. – Joyful Journey (parsonage)
 - 9:30 a.m. – Adult Discussion Group (parsonage upstairs) Voluntary Simplicity Program
 - 10:45 a.m. – Worship – “Flower Communion and Joyful Journey”

- Monday, April 6
 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – DAP
 - 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Spanish Speaking Support Group
 - 5:00-7:00 p.m. – Latino Outreach
 - 7:00 p.m. – Blue Lotus Temple (downstairs)

- Tuesday, April 7
 - 9:30 a.m. – Recovery International
 - 7:00 p.m. – Ten Directions Zen Meditation (in parsonage)

- Wednesday, April 8
 - 5:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m. Thursday – PADS

- Thursday, April 9
 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – DAP
 - 7:00 p.m. – McHenry County Pride

- Friday, April 10
 - 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Law of Attraction Group
 - 5:30 p.m. – Congregation Tikkun Olam

- Saturday, April 11
8:45-10:00 a.m. – Yoga with Jayson (downstairs)
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Blue Lotus Temple
- Sunday, April 12
9:00 a.m. – A Course in Miracles (parsonage downstairs)
9:15 a.m. – Joyful Journey (parsonage)
9:30 a.m. – Adult Discussion Group – (parsonage upstairs)
10:45 a.m. – Worship – “Easter Sunday”
- Monday, April 13
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – DAP
4:30-5:30 p.m. – Spanish Speaking Support Group
5:00-7:00 p.m. – Latino Outreach
7:00 p.m. – Spirituality Class (parsonage)
7:00 p.m. – Blue Lotus Temple (downstairs)
- Tuesday, April 14
9:30 a.m. – Recovery International
7:00 p.m. – Ten Directions Zen Meditation
7:00 p.m. – Church Council
- Wednesday, April 15
5:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m. Thursday – PADS
- Thursday, April 16
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – DAP
7:00 p.m. – McHenry County Pride
- Friday, April 17
• 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Law of Attraction Group
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- Saturday, April 18
8:45-10:00 a.m. – Yoga with Jayson (cancelled for this date)
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Blue Lotus Temple
- Sunday, April 19
9:00 a.m. – A Course in Miracles (parsonage downstairs)
9:15 a.m. – Joyful Journey (parsonage)
9:30 a.m. – Adult Discussion Group (parsonage upstairs)
10:45 a.m. – Worship – Youth Group Presents “It’s More Than Noise”

“MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL”