

CUC VOICE

April 17, 2009

A Publication of the Congregational Unitarian Church

221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098

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SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 A.M.

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 feature 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” which is being considered by our National Association (The Unitarian Universalist Association) in its desire to become a “Peacemaking Church.” Sue Rekenhaler 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.

May 10th “MOTHERS’ DAY”

We will have a traditional Mothers’ Day service with the opportunity for people to pay tribute to their mothers. The men of the choir will sing to the mothers. We will recognize our religious education co-directors, Pam Lopatin and Sue McCowin, on this their last day in their capacity. Please be there to thank them for their years of dedication to the children and young people of our church.

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.

Also, on May 10th after the service, there will be cake and refreshments served in the social room honoring Pam and Sue who are retiring this year. If you can donate a plate of cookies or fruit, please contact Mary Robinson at (815) 455-8007 or e-mail robsto87@sbcglobal.net

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 20: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lora Cantele

Tuesday, April 21: all day – Janet Burns

Wednesday, April 22: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells

Thursday, April 23: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Friday, April 24: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Monday, April 27: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

Tuesday, April 28: all day – Janet Burns

Wednesday, April 29 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells

Thursday, April 30: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

Friday, May 1: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

SARA'S HOPE APRIL 18TH

Kerrie Kurth who is one of our member's and a special education teacher has a special request. Let's hear what she has to say and help out if you can.

“Sara is a sixteen year old student of mine who has an extremely rare disease called Batten Disease. Batten Disease slowly robs children of their sight, ability to walk, and speech. Children with Batten Disease live a shortened life, only living to their late teens, or early 20s. There are only 200 children living with Juvenile Batten Disease in the U.S.”

“A researcher is ready to start a clinical trial. There's only one problem... money. The Batten Disease Support Center needs to raise \$500,000 to start this trial (the trial has already been tested with mice, and found to work!) About 1/2 of the money has already been raised. The center only needs about \$200,000 to start this trial.”

Please come out on April 18th from 6-9 at Wool Street Grill in Cary. \$10 all you can eat pizza and pop (cash bar). There will be raffle items, t-shirts and bracelets. Please give Sara and all the other children living with Batten Disease HOPE. For more information on Batten Disease please go to www.bdsra.org

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.

CALLING ALL PAGANS AND PRACTITIONERS OF EARTH-BASED RELIGIONS!

The first meeting of our new Pagan group will be meeting Friday May 8th at 7:00 p.m. upstairs in the social room of the church. All who are interested are invited to attend

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday May 3rd, we will hold our Annual Congregational meeting. This year, in order to save postage cost, we will not be routinely mailing out packets of information about the meeting. Instead, the information 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 from 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

OUR ZEN GROUPS

A Zen meditation group associated with our church has recently been formed in order to provide more meditation practice opportunities. The 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.

There are also meetings Saturday mornings from 6:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. (enter any time) and Sunday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until 9 p.m. here at the church.

The Woodstock 10 Directions Zen Group 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.

NIA FOR THE FAMILY

Family Nia is an opportunity for your child to experience the “Joy of Movement” along with you. Parents and/or Grandparents are encouraged to participate with their children. We will play with guided and non-guided movement, beats, sounding and more, to a variety of music! All are welcome and encouraged to participate in a way that feels comfortable to them. Infants are welcome to participate by moving along with a parent. Join the fun in this “MOVING” Family Experience. This class will begin Tuesday May 5th at 9:30 a.m. to coincide with the Woodstock Farmers Market. The cost is \$10.00 per family per class. Try it for the “Health” of it!!! For further information please call Gail Wells at: (815) 206-0490 or e-mail gailh14@yahoo.com

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 27th.

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 May 5th at the home of Elizabeth Dimond at 1209 Thomas Dr. in Woodstock 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.

(Directions to Elizabeth’s house are as follows: Coming north on Rt. 47, cross Rt. 120, continue 4 blocks to Greenwood Ave and turn left. Seven blocks down you will be at a stop sign (Wicker) continue one block to Thomas and turn right, immediately turn left into 1st. driveway. Coming south on Rt. 47, 4 blocks past St. John’s Ave. (Church on L) turn right onto Greenwood Ave. to Thomas and turn right, immediately turn left into 1st drive by first garage or on street by mail boxes.)

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

Men’s Group will be meeting on Thursday May 14th at 7:00 p.m. at Coleman and Company Restaurant.

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. The Adult Discussion Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on April 19, downstairs. The discussion will be lead by Anna Gilhooly. "What is your style for interacting with other people? How do you make sense of your life experiences? Do you feel like you make the same relationship mistakes over and over?"

Anna Teresa Evans, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, will provide an introduction to the concept of schemas and the writing of Dr. Maureen Kirby Lassen, Ph.D.

Dr. Lassen's work on personality development and bonding styles is easy to understand and fun to read - and it just might knock your socks off."

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.

CHURCH GROUNDS NOW WI-FI ENABLED

A wireless network (WI-FI) service to both the church building and both floors of the parsonage have been set up. But the Church Council wants to review provisions for security at this time and hopes to have everything ready within a month.

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 in need donations with the tuition of \$8000 each. They plan on selling craft items in the church during April and May starting on April 19th.

BUDDHA DAY TO BE CELEBRATED IN WOODSTOCK FOR THE 7TH YEAR!

Saturday, May 16, will be the 7th annual Buddha Day celebration held in Woodstock, IL, and the public is invited to join in the festivities. The popular event, beginning at 6 p.m., is co-hosted by Blue Lotus Temple and the Ten Directions Zen Community.

Buddha Day, Visakha Puja in the ancient Indian language of Pali, is celebrated in all Buddhist communities and countries. It honors the three most important events in the life of Buddha: his birth, his enlightenment, and the attainment of Nirvana at his death. This is always a happy and joyful holiday for Buddhists. It's a time of celebration, personal reflection, and generous giving. It's also a time to be with family and friends.

For more information, please call Blue Lotus, (815) 444-8915

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CHURCH BBQ

Please set aside Sunday June 7th for our fundraising BBQ after church at Emrickson 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. There will be music, games and activities for all ages. Watch for more details!!!!!!

JOB SUPPORT

Please help us support those looking for work. Should you be hiring or know of a position available for the people listed below please contact them. If you are looking for work, we will be happy to post your information to spread the word. Let's all work together.

Fiona Stilson is looking for work. She has a Degree in Business Administration and almost 20 years professional experience as an Office Manager/Administrator and is also trained in Accountancy. Due to the state of the economy Fiona is willing to take any type of office work that is offered, from office manager to receptionist or general clerk. Fiona can be contacted by email: jobforfiona@hotmail.com or (815)-321-9381

Allen Geiger is also looking for work and is open to a variety of positions. Allen's work qualifications are as a: Truck Driver, including a heavy machine operator, Truck Mechanic, Warehouse manager, and Dispatcher. Allen also has work experience as a painter and carpenter, etc. Allen can be reached at (815) 410-8523.

