

UUC VOICE

April 16th, 2010

A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock

221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098(815) 338-0731 ~ office@uucofwoodstock.org

www.uucofwoodstock.org

PLEDGES FOR 2010-2011

IF YOU SENT IN YOUR PLEDGE; *THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!*

There are still some pledges that we have not received, Please send in your pledge soon...

PRELUDE

I am usually in Woodstock two Sundays a month. Most weeks I return Tuesday, stay overnight at Alexandria's House B and B, and I'm at the church Wednesday. I welcome visitors when I'm here for church-related business or just to get better acquainted. However, it's always best to make sure I am here, and that I'm not scheduled for an appointment.

I will not be following my usual pattern during the next few weeks. April 12-16, I am attending the annual meeting of the UU Interim Minister's Guild near Houston, TX. April 20-22, I am participating in an Interim Minister's Network training session in Techny, IL. I will be in Woodstock Sunday, April 18.

The Transition Team and the Council are putting together a team from the church to attend the Central Midwest District's Annual meeting, April 30-May 2, in Wheeling, IL.

The main program offering on Saturday, May 1, is a panel presentation on church growth, presented by representatives of five growing congregation in our district. Following the panel there is a morning discussion session and another in the afternoon. I am confident participation in the panel and the discussion groups will benefit Woodstock in developing its own growth program.

I'm still getting to know you, the people of the UU Congregation of Woodstock. The Sunday morning worship service and the social hour following are good times for us to get acquainted. This is the one time of the week when all of us, everyone from infants to sages, can join together as the UU Congregation of Woodstock.

Please remember to wear your name tag. I and, I am sure, others don't know or remember every name. I'm reminded of a story my father used to tell. He and another person were meeting with an elderly Alabama farmer. When asked if he had met my father, the old guy replied, "Well, I don't recollect your name but your face is mighty common." At this point, I don't recollect a lot of your names, either. See you in church?

James A. Hobart

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 18th – "Where Do We Go from Here?"

Rev. James A. Hobart will speak The Woodstock Congregation and I have spent three months together

getting acquainted during this interim ministry. What comes next?

April 25th - "Sweet Inspiration"

Pat & Dan Larsen will speak. Music by Tom Steffens and The Adult Choir, O.W.L. (Our Whole Lives) graduation ceremony; Introduction to the "Jailbreakers" - one of our new community groups (Cheryl Niemo), and a chance to support SB3266 (anti-bullying policy for schools). (PFLAG). Note—a special invitation to all cancer survivors to come to church with their spouse/partner. We will dance.

May 2nd – "Faith, Hope, Love"

Message from Dan Larsen (I Corinthians 13); Also introduction of Bhikkhuni Pannavati American Buddhist Nun; Community Ministry report by Joe Blanco (PADS & new summer church supper); and honoring of Church School Teachers (Sam Jones).

May 9th – Mother's Day – Rev. James Hobart will speak

***May 16th – NO CHURCH (Fall Diddley on the Square, means no parking around the church. We will not meet this Sunday).

RE- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION APPRECIATION

From this Sunday, the 18th until May 1st, we would like everyone to express in 'key words' what they liked about the R E Program this past year. Adults and children are welcome to participate. There is a foam board up in the Social Room and we would like everyone to share their kind thoughts and feelings about the RE Program. Parents please write thoughts on the board for your child.

PREVENT SCHOOL VIOLENCE ACT SB3266

Please call your representative in the Illinois General assembly, asking for the passage of SB3266 Current Illinois Law requires schools to have an anti-bullying policy, but the current law does not define bullying nor does it provide guidelines for implementing policy. SB3266;

- defines bullying and includes cyber bullying
- provides specific clarification to an existing mandate that will help schools draft the required anti-bullying policy
- establishes the Illinois bullying Prevention Task Force to help identify best practices that will support schools in implementing prevention programs
- aids schools in addressing bullying without costing more dollars

ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP

This Sunday's Adult Discussion Group will be informed by the lead opinion in this week's (April 19) New Yorker...Indulgence. Google New Yorker, click on Talk of the Town and then click on Indulgence.

In the light of revelations about the sexual abuse of children by clergy in the Roman Catholic Church, we must ask ourselves if the good of the institution ever supersedes the good of the individual. The institution can be church, family, nation, business, tradition, etc. Does institutional protection ever trump justice?

Join us for a lively discussion this Sunday, April 18, in the Parsonage at 9 AM. Questions? Call Don Metivier at 815-334-0015.

BLOOD DRIVE HERE AT UUC

On Tuesday, April 27th, from 2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.our church will be sponsoring a Blood Drive. Would you like to be hero? By donating just one pint of blood you could help as many as three patients in need. At our blood drive, our goal is to collect 25 pints of blood, which potentially can help 75 people.

Any healthy person 17 or older (16 with parent's permission) whose weight at least 110 pounds may be eligible to donate blood at the drive. Even if you can't give blood, you can still help by assisting with the drive (we will need some volunteers the day of) or by encouraging others to donate.

Give Blood. It's Safe. It's simple. It saves lives. We thank you for your support and hope to see you there. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Karen Stowe at 815-338-0731 or office@uucfwoodstock.org

BBQ FUNDRAISER ON SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH

The 2nd annual fundraising BBQ is to be held, as last year, at the Main Pavilion at Emricson Park, Woodstock on Sunday June 6th, catered by 'Famous Daves' and organized by Jeff and Fiona Stilson. Tickets will be going on sale soon and if anyone would like to donate a raffle prize please contact Fiona and Jeff through the church office. We need any good unused, unwanted gifts and particularly we need gift cards for stores, restaurants, etc. Please contact the church office 815-338-0731 or office@uucfwoodstock.org Thank you!!!

COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEWS

Our Community Ministry reaches out to the larger communities, the Earth and the World to make a difference, based on the Seven Principles of the UUA.

This is some of what's going on –

We need a volunteer to deliver food collected monthly at our worship services to the Woodstock Food Pantry.

On Friday, April 23rd from 5:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Please join us to help organize a support group for the "Build a Dream" project which helps a school and small village in North-Central Mexico.

Subject to the approval of the Church Council we plan to host a Community Ministry Dinner here at church for PADS, DAP, Latino Outreach and other clients that we serve with in economic hardship. The dinners will begin on Wednesday, May 19th and continue through the summer up through the end of September. Our purpose is to provide at least one low-cost meal a week to families in need.

We need volunteers to host and help with the meals. Contact Joe Blanco or the church office office@uucfwoodstock.org or 815-338-0731, if you can help.

Rev. Dan Larsen

Community Minister

PADS BENEFIT CONCERT

On Sunday, May 2, at 3:00pm, at the Woodstock Opera House, our Adult Choir will take part in "You'll Never Walk Alone" a concert for the benefit of PADS of McHenry County. Our choir will join other music groups from around the county, including St. Mary's of McHenry Choir, Marian Central Catholic School Choir and the MCC Jazz Ensemble in an afternoon of inspirational music benefiting PADS.

Tickets are \$22 and are available by calling the box office at 815-338-5300 or at www.woodstockoperahouse.com Tickets will also be available at the door.

BENEFIT CLOTHING SALE

On Friday, April 30th, 8:00a.m. – 6:00p.m. and Saturday, 8:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. There will be a clothing sale to benefit school children in el Vaquero, Mexico. Our Youth Group is helping support this project. The sale is in need of gently used spring/summer clothing, towels, sheets and blankets; which be dropped off at the church – to be stored parsonage youth room. Please contact Mary Fleming 815-814-2054 tobeus@gmail.com or Linda Baumert 815-245-1478 buildabledreams@aol.com if you can help set-up on Thursday, during the sale or clean-up on Saturday. Thank you!.

CUUPS - PAGAN GROUP

Friday April 16, 2010 at 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm outside of the Parsonage. This meeting will be off the regular 2nd Friday/month schedule – and in honor of Earth day...

Weather permitting we have the OUTDOOR space outside the Parsonage.. Simply Dress to be outdoors (cloaks, boots, etc.). Things to bring; a lawn seat, your own beverage and maybe a snack to share. Possible doings... (we are looking for Volunteers to lead a segment!?)

****New Moon..**Margot Adler's birthday (author of Drawing Down the Moon) birthday, bring your copy, or discussion on a chapter..**Drumming (great time to wake the mother; bring your percussion toys and/or staffs.**

Questions: call Jade Owl- Roz: 815-245-1692

BLUE LOTUS WORKSHOP

Join us for this lively discussion on how to create happiness through understanding. Bhikkhuni Pannavati, co-abbot, spiritual director and co-founder of [Embracing Simplicity Hermitage](#) in North Carolina, is ordained in both the [Theravada](#) and [Mahayana](#) (Ch'an) traditions. She is also a former Christian pastor, Taoist monk and initiated yogi, with a doctorate in religion. Ven. Pannavati's insight comes not just from study, but deep commitment to practice and understanding of the central truths in the various spiritual traditions. While doing her own work, her great wish is that we each seize the essence of this human life to attain enlightenment for the sake of all.

Sister Pannavati's workshop on Saturday, May 1, from 5-7 pm, will be a talk, discussion, and group meditation. Her humor, insight and expansive thinking will take you on an adventure you don't want to miss! The topic:

When We Believe in Things We Don't Understand, We Suffer!

Once the Buddha addressed his disciples thus: "Friends, it may be that seekers belonging to other sects will ask you what is the purpose of leading a spiritual life under the Buddha?"

The disciples remained silent.

Then the Buddha himself gave the answer: "You should answer them, 'It is to understand things that should be fully understood that we lead a spiritual life under the Buddha.'"

Join us for this lively discussion on how to create happiness through understanding.

Place: Unitarian Church, Dean Street, Woodstock, Ill.

Date & Time: Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 5:00p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Cost: The suggested offering is \$20.00 per person. This *dana* will be a contribution towards Ven.

Pannavati's traveling expenses and will also be a gift towards the building fund of Blue Lotus Temple in Woodstock.

Registration will be limited to space available. Mail your registration check to Blue Lotus 520 Devonshire Lane #8, Crystal Lake Il 60014. For more information, call Blue Lotus Temple at 815-444-8915 or visit the website: www.bluelotustemple.org

GIFT CARDS HAVE RAISED OVER \$1000 DOLLARS SO FAR

Heather set up a new poster board to help describe the gift-cards that she has available, come and see her or Whit in the Social Room after church when you come for coffee and be inspired...by participating in purchase of gift cards you can help to raise money for the church.

Please contact Heather Madaus for online ordering instructions or with further questions at heathermadaus@sbcglobal.net or at 815-509-7862.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2010 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association will be held June 23-27 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

This is the closest GA to Chicago in some time so let's take advantage of the low travel costs.

We are entitled to 2 Ministerial delegates (Rev. James Hobart and Rev. Dan Larsen) and up to 5 member delegates.

If you are interested please contact the church office or go directly to the General Assembly website, www.uua.org/ga

Let's send a full delegation in June!

~~~General Assembly Invite

If anyone is planning on attending GA who needs a place to stay is welcome to stay at my (cozy) apartment. I was a member at the UUC for a number of years and now live about 15 minutes from the Convention Center. I am planning on attending GA as a volunteer so I could assist with driving

arrangements as well. Contact me at 952-567-3486 or [saracadiz@mchsi.com](mailto:saracadiz@mchsi.com) for more information.

Sara Cadiz

#### DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

The annual assembly of the Central Midwest District of which we are a part will be held in Wheeling, Illinois at the Westin North Shore Hotel, Friday April 30th to Sunday, May 2nd. If you would like to attend, be a part of our district, and attend some useful educational seminars, please contact the church office 815-338-0731 [office@uucowoodstock.org](mailto:office@uucowoodstock.org)

#### OFFICE SCHEDULE

Lori Burns and Karen Stowe share in the secretarial duties at the church office. Office hours from

Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns  
Tuesday, all day – Janet Burns, Bookkeeper  
Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe  
Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns  
Friday, 10:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

"MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL"