

UUC VOICE

May 12th, 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

OUR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 23RD, HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH.

PRELUDE

Today is Tuesday, May 11. Next Saturday, May 15, marks our four month anniversary as minister and congregation. Saturday is the date our current agreement calls for the Council and me to decide about a new agreement for the 2010-2011 church year.

Tomorrow night the Transition Team and I meet to evaluate our time together, and to make a decision regarding a possible draft agreement to present to the Council.

Four months into our current six month agreement, I have enough experience with the congregation and with its leadership to form firm perspectives on what will best serve the church next year. The Transition Team and I will discuss my recommendations. They will determine their recommendation to the Council. The Council and I will decide whether to sign a new agreement.

If you have anything you want the Council to know that might help them with their decision, speak to Don Metivier. Don't delay; the time-frame is short.

Time flies! I am responsible for only four Sunday services during May and June.

One service was last Sunday, Mother's Day or, as I prefer, Mothers' Day. If you were not in attendance and are curious as to what the difference is, let me know and I'll email you a copy of my sermon.

The other May Sunday service is May 30, Memorial Day weekend. My sermon topic is "A Silence That Speaks." I look forward following the service to our gathering in the square at the Civil War memorial. My family had participants on both sides. My maternal great-grandfathers served in Confederate Georgia regiments. My paternal New England ancestors served the Union. I don't know much about where any of them served. When I visited Manassas/Bull Run, Shiloh/Pittsburgh Landing, and other Civil War battlegrounds, I wondered if my Confederate and Union forebears were there trying to kill one another.

In June, I am responsible for two Sunday services, June 6 and June 13.

For June 6, my sermon is inspired by a recent book, "The Spirit Level," authored by Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett. Their sub-title is intriguing, "Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger."

For June 13, I will reflect on our six months together as minister and congregation. I'm still pondering about the title and the content. Sometimes this is resolved early, sometimes late. Sometimes what I decide early is over-ruled by what I decide late. Stay tuned for updates!

James A. Hobart

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 16th – NO CHURCH DUE TO FAIR DIDDLEY (Fair Diddlely on the Square, means no parking around the church. We will not meet this Sunday).

May 23rd – Youth Service – Our Youth Group will be delivering the Worship Service; Mary Fleming Barb Oesterle are the Youth Leaders.

**The Congregational Meeting originally scheduled for this is postponed until June 6th

May 30th – Memorial Day – Rev. James A. Hobart

June 6th – Congregational Meeting – We will depart for Emricson Park afterwards, please bring your tickets with you for the BBQ. Announcements

COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEWS

Social Justice Committee – The Social Justice Committee, which oversees the Community Ministry Program, will be meeting on Tuesday, June 1st at 7pm in the minister's office if you are interested in attending.

Family Suppers - Our Family suppers begin Wednesday, May 19th on through the end of September for PADS, DAP, Latino Outreach, and other persons who could use a free meal. Dinners are from 6 – 8 Wednesday evenings. Donations will be accepted. Our church members are invited to come and join us for food and to help out. Call Joe Blanco 847-814-1385

Immigration - Hannah Rapp, one of our members who works for an immigration agency in Chicago, will be coming out soon to give us some of the basic facts regarding immigration.

Press Conference - I will be speaking at a press conference at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago this Wednesday, May 12th in response to the immigration law that was passed in Arizona.

Pilgrimage of Hope -There is a march for immigration rights beginning in Chicago on Friday, May 21st and ending at the McHenry County Jail on May 23rd. Some of our members are thinking about marching. Also, the church will be providing support services for the marchers.

Foreclosures -The Social Justice Committee has decided to assist persons in McHenry County who are faced with the foreclosure of their home. Two panels on foreclosures lead by lawyers, realtors, and accountants will be held on Saturday, May 15th from 1 until 3pm at the Faith Community Church in Huntley and Wednesday, May 19th at the Lake in the Hills Village Hall. For further information call 847-812-0994. Please let the church office know if you plan to attend and can help a committee.

School Funding - The Social Justice committee is also interested in doing some research on school funding reductions. Please contact the church office if you have information or would like to help.

Build A Dream Benefit - On Sunday night June 13th beginning at 6pm we are hosting a pot luck dinner for "Build A Dream" project, raising money for a school in the small town of El Vaquero, Mexico. We will show a video of the school and provide more details about this project. Anyone interested in learning more about Build A Dream please plan to attend.

Taste of Reiki - Stressed? Anxious? Restless? Depleted? Reiki can help. Join local Reiki practitioners for "A Taste of Reiki" Thursday, May 20th, 2010 here at UUC from 6:30 to 9:00p.m. Your 'Taste of Reiki' will be 20 minutes long. Donation \$10 Please reserve your 20 minute spot in advance by contacting Pam Sourelis at 815-943-0653 or Pam@WingedHorsehealing.com. All donations will be given to the UUC.

Dan Larsen
Community Minister

SPECTRUM SUMMER CAMP

Cheryl Niemo has been working with a 19 year old Latino man from McHenry who is working to transition into a better life by escaping a gang he is currently a part of. He has been working with a team of professionals to enhance his mental health but the hope is to get him into the Spectrum Summer Camp.

This is a 30 day program sponsored by Southern Illinois University, where he could learn responsibility, asset building, and other skills needed to get his life on the right path. The camp is donating \$500 towards his costs but he needs further donations in order to attend this much needed camp.

If you would like to help this man, get the best possible help please give your donations to the church office or directly to Cheryl Niemo. Please make checks payable to S.I.U. (Southern Illinois University). If you would more information regarding the Spectrum Summer Camp, please contact Cheryl Niemo at 815-347-3171 or cmeniemo@gmail.com

MAY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DATE JUNE 6

The bylaw-mandated spring congregational meeting, where we approve the annual budget and elect Council members and officers, will be held Sunday, June 6. The church Council is struggling to present a balanced budget proposal to the meeting. We urge all those members and friends who have not yet finalized their pledge commitment for 2010-2011 to do so within the next two weeks so that the church Council will have more complete information to prepare next year's budget proposal.

CHURCH BBQ ON SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH!!

2nd Annual UUCW Fund Raising BBQ - Tickets are now on sale now - from Jeff and Fiona Stilson after Church on Sundays! Come join us! Sunday, June 6th, 2010. Starting at 12:30pm at the Main Pavilion, Emricson Park in Woodstock --after the Church Service/Congregational Meeting. Rain or Shine!

Ticket Price includes 'Famous Dave's BBQ' Adult \$18 / Child under 10yrs \$6 - Tickets must be presented to claim your meal. A five dollar profit (two dollars for kids) goes directly to the church fundraiser

GREEN SANCTUARY

On Thursday, May 13th, a film will be presented here, sponsored by the Green Sanctuary. The film we will be showing is "In Transition" at 7:00p.m. All are welcome. If anyone would like info about the McHenry County Transition Group here is the website: <http://mchenrycountytransition.ning.com/>

FIELD TRIP TO WILLOW CREEK CHURCH MAY 16

In the minds of many of us the anti Unitarian Church is Willow Creek, the huge and (by all the usual measurements of success) tremendously successful mega church in South Barrington. How many of us have ever attended? What attracts people to Willow Creek? Can we learn anything from Willow Creek?

A simple visit to a Sunday worship service probably won't answer these questions, but we would hope to come away better informed.

Since we have no worship service May 16, we have a perfect opportunity to expand our horizons by visiting Willow Creek. Willow Creek Sunday worship is at 11:15 AM. We can share rides. Plan to leave the Woodstock area about 10:00. We'll probably stop for a light lunch and some discussion on our return. Call Don Metivier at 815-334-0015 for more information.

MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group will meet at 5 PM Tuesday, May 25, at the home of Don Metivier, 413 N. Cold Springs Rd., Bull Valley.

Don't be put off by our early 5 o'clock start...it just gives us more time to talk and (maybe) drink. Light meal about 7...so arrive whatever time's most convenient for you. For more information or directions call Don Metivier at 815-334-0015.

R.E. VOLUNTEERS

Last Sunday, May 9th was the last day of Sunday School for the 2009-2010 year.

**We are looking for volunteer teachers for the 2010-2011 year. Even if you can only help out one Sunday a month or a couple of times a year, we need you to help keep the R.E. Program strong. Please contact Sam Jones at 815-334-8522 or samjones@ameritech.net or office@uucfwoodstock.org

The new school year will begin with a 'Kick -Off' on Sunday, September 12th, 2010. Please enroll your children with Sam Jones; watch for re-enrollment forms to be mailed out in August. R.E. wishes the kids

a great summer. (Thank you, Sam Jones for all your dedication, commitment and hard work. We had a very successful year)!

MIND OVER MOOD

‘Mind Over Mood’ has a new group that will begin an 8 week program on Thursday, May 20th at 7:00p.m. - We will meet in the parsonage. The group uses a cognitive therapy model to improve mood by examining how we think about situations. The Fee is \$10 per person, for more information contact, Gale Harris at 815-3370697 or tpgaleh@yahoo.com

BILLY ELLIOT

On Saturday, June 12th; many of us from church are attending the matinee (2:00) show of “Billy Elliot” in Chicago. We plan on taking the train in and out (only \$5 round trip on weekends), packing a picnic lunch for the train ride and after the show return to our place in Woodstock for an ‘after show’ Pizza Party. We would love to have you join us. If you want more information please contact Bob Tirk at bobtirk@aol.com or 815-334-8050.

USHERS

Ushers are an important part of our Worship Service. We are looking for people who would be able to volunteer, once a month or once every two months. There is training involved, the ushers collect and count the Sunday offering. Please contact Lori or Karen in the church office.

MOVIE NIGHT OUT

WineStyles is hosting a couple of Movie Premier Events! May 14th “Robin Hood” with Russell Crowe and Cate Blanchette or May 27th ‘Sex and the City 2’ with Sarah Jessica Parker and Kim Cattrall

Cost is \$35 per person and includes: Champagne Reception upon arrival at WineStyles Movie Ticket (Lake in the Hills Theater) After Show Party with Raffle, Trivia Contest & Prizes and Wine Tasting. Call to make your reservation as these events always sell out! WineStyles is at 319 Randall Road, Lake in the Hills (Across the street from Lowes). The theater is behind WineStyles.

This is a really fun night out! Pay attention to the movie to win really great prizes. For more information Contact Lora Cantele, cantele@ameritach.net or call at 815-814-1444

TANGO-NEW DATES

Now’s the time, to get on your dancing shoes and learn to Tango! We need 10 lively couples to make this church fundraiser happen. The lessons are \$199 per couple, with part of the fee going to the church.

Classes will be held on Wednesday night beginning Mid July through August for a total of 8 sessions. The times will be from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm (usually 1 hour, but if we're on to something may go an extra 15-30 minutes). Couples, partners and singles are welcome! Lessons will be held in the Social Room at the church. To sign up, just call or email Lora soon with your intention of joining. Min/Max 10 couples/12 couples. Tell your friends! cantele@ameritech.net or 815-814-1444

ITEMS/SERVICES FROM THE AUCTION

There is an Auction Item Listing that is posted in Social Room (behind coffee treat table), so if you are still in the dark as to who to contact about a service or dinner you purchased at the Auction 2010 or are curious to see how much your event or service raised for the church, you may see all the details on the folding panel - all items are listed by category and also by whether it was a live or silent auction item. You should contact the person listed to make all arrangements and you may contact Shelly Nicholson for further assistance. snichol33@hotmail.com (614) 456-9744.

WALK

Judy Beyer will be participating in the Walk Now for Autism Speaks fundraiser In Chicago on May 15th, 2010. People throughout the U.S. and Canada will be participating in this walk in 80 different locations. If anyone wishes to help us get one step closer to the day we dream of: when no parent hears the words "Your child has autism", please see Judy Beyer in the social room after the service to make your donation. Thank you. - Judy Beyer - donbpi@gmail.com

THE ARTS OF SELF EXPRESSION

The Arts of Self Expression invites you to join us in our new project! Our first ever, "Variety Show & Art Exhibit". If you sing like an angel or rock star, dance with all your might, read poetry like Shakespeare, crack your friends up with your comedy routine, or mystify crowds with your magic, then this is your time to shine. The event is scheduled for May 29th from 1:00p.m. -4:00p.m. We need fresh talent and seasoned support to pull this event off. Everyone is a star to us. Come join the fun. Please contact Cheryl Niemo for more information 815-669-2552 or 815-347-3171cell

GIFT CARDS

Great gift-cards are still available. Meet with Heather or Whit to get the gift-cards in the Social Room after church when you come for coffee. Your purchase 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!

OFFICE SCHEDULE

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

Monday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Lori Burns

Tuesday, all day – Janet Burns, Bookkeeper

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – Lori Burns

Friday, 10:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

"MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL"