



THE BEACON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

Volume 62, Issue 2

August 5, 2010

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UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

Musical Prelude at 10:45 a.m. Service at 11:00 a.m.*

August 8, 2010, 11 a.m.

Love in Action

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Wishing Chair

Fyodor Dostevsky wrote that "love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing compared with love in dreams." In this service, Rev. Bossen will reflect on his late July experiences in Arizona, the Unitarian Universalist traditions of civil disobedience in the face of injustice and the power of love to unite and transform us.

August 15 2010, 11 a.m.

Practical Purposes

Service Leaders: The Worship Team
Musician: George Foley

Where did our Unitarian Universalist Purposes and Principles come from, and how can we and do we incorporate them as guides in our daily lives? Does every UU believe in them in their entirety? Members of the worship team will personally explore these questions and draw upon our rich living tradition drawing from many sources to illustrate them.

August 22, 2010, 11 a.m.

The Root of It All

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Karin Tooley

In the Unitarian Universalist tradition personal experience is the starting point for theological reflection. In this service we will consider how our personal experience can both shape and distort our understanding of the sacred.

August 29 2010, 11 a.m.

One Light, Many Windows

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Karin Tooley

The late Unitarian Universalist minister and theologian Forrest Church felt that our Universalist theology had the potential to transform our movement and the world in the 21st century. Can Universalism live up to that potential? If so, how?

September 5, 2010, 11 a.m.

Hope Needs Only Hands and Hearts

Service Leader: Marc Adams
Musician: Karin Tooley

Marc Adams is the gay son of a fundamentalist Baptist minister and a great grandson of U.S. President John Adams, an early American Unitarian. He grew up in an environment where his parents, teachers and peers deem evangelical Christians like Jerry Falwell as leftwing liberals. Adams experienced a transformation and became a Unitarian Universalist in 1999. Come hear his story.

September 12, 2010, 11 a.m.

Mingling of the Waters

Worship Leaders: Rev. Colin Bossen and Amy Collins, CLL
Musician: Karin Tooley

We invite everyone to bring actual or symbolic waters from places of personal and spiritual significance to our annual ingathering service. During the service, we will mingle and bless the waters, which represent the many journeys of exploration we experience before our paths converge in sacred community. Once collected, we use the waters from this service for child dedications and other rites of passage over the year.

Notes from our Minister

August is a month that I often spend planning for the upcoming program year. To the best of my ability I try to map out the next twelve months of services. Last year I did a loose sermon series on the Bible. This year I am planning a series of ten sermons inspired by wisdom from the world's (non-Western) religions. Over the next twelve months there will be sermons drawing from the teachings of the indigenous cultures of North America and Africa, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism and contemporary paganism. If there's a particular story from or a topic relating to the world's religious traditions that you would like explored in a service, I would love to hear from you.

In addition to our regular services, there are three evening young adult focused services planned for the coming program year. In October, February and May we will hold an evening worship service featuring contemporary music and a much looser worship style. This is part of a broader effort over the next couple of years on the part of myself and the other staff members to intentionally reach out to young adults and college students in the surrounding area. If you know of musicians or spoken word artists who might be interested in participating in these services please send them my way.

Every year the Worship Associates collaborate with me to develop spiritually uplifting worship services. I would like to thank this year's outgoing Associates Michael Hugill, Mariamne Ingalls and Emily Tuzson. They have helped make the worship life of our community strong and vibrant. Continuing on as Worship Associates for the next year are Valerie McFadden, Walt Nicholes and Pat Solomon. In September we will welcome new Worship Associates to fill the slots left by the departing Associates.

Also in September we should be welcoming new Pastoral Associates. Rachel Webb and Marie Nightingale are stepping out of this role after two years of service. Jeri Rask is continuing on. Ideally, I would like to find two or three other people to serve as Pastoral Associates. Pastoral Associates work with me to meet the pastoral needs of the congregation by visiting with, coordinating care for and communicating with members of the Society in need. If you are interested in serving as a Pastoral Associate please contact me.

I am excited about our upcoming year together. I am sure it will be an interesting one and I am hopeful that through it we will continue to grow as a community.

love,
Colin

Board Minutes

If you would like to receive the minutes from Board Meetings via email, please contact the Society's Office. Alternatively, the minutes from the previous month's Board Meeting are posted on the Bulletin Board in the Social Hall.

From Our President

We are already two-months into the 2010-11 year and gearing up for the start of the new program year. The new board members are settling into their positions and we are coming together to work towards fulfilling our mission:

We are a joyful, welcoming, religious community. We strive to be a sanctuary for all who enter, to reflect the diversity of the local community, and to work toward a more just and sustainable society.

To help us reach this goal the board and I would like to reinstate monthly committee reports to the board. When I first was elected to this position, I took the opportunity to read through several years of board minutes to help familiarize myself with some of the past actions of the board. In doing this review, I noticed that the board packets for every month up to just a couple of years ago included monthly committee reports. I think this is a great idea for several reasons. It keeps the board informed of all the great work committees are doing, it provides an opportunity for committees to educate the board on their activities and ask for help when it is needed, and keeps members informed of the ongoing work of the committees.

So starting in September we are going to try the first round of committee reports. Shirley, our Office Administrator, will help with the logistics. She will contact each Committee Chair, most likely through email, about a week before the board meeting and ask them to complete the report form and return it by a specific date. The report form will be included with the email, and require only for the Chair to reply to the email with the form completed. The form will request basic information such as a list of committee members and when the committee last met, followed by a series of 3 questions/request: 1) what is the committee currently working on; 2) what are future projects you would like to do; 3) any additional information the committee thinks is important for the board to know.

This may take a couple of months to work out all the kinks, but please be patient, because I think the rewards will far outweigh any initial bumps in the road. These reports will help keep an open line of communication with committees, the board and members.

Rachel Webb

Joys and Concerns

Once a month, on the first Sunday, we invite people to individually share their Joys and Concerns while a Worship Associate lights a candle in honor of the Joy or Concern. The rest of the month Joys and Concerns are incorporated into the service leader's spoken meditation. If you have a Joy or Concern you would like shared, there are three ways you can communicate it to the service leader:

1. You can contact the Society's Office up until 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the service;
2. You can fill out a Joys and Concerns Form up until the start of the service. The forms, and a box to receive them, are available in the back of the Sanctuary. They are collected by a Worship Associate immediately before the service starts. On the form you can indicate whether or not you would like to be contacted by the minister or if you would like your Joy or Concern included in the Beacon.
3. On those weeks he is leading the service, you can send an e-mail to Rev. Colin Bossen at minister@uucleveland.org up until 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning.

UUSC News/Announcements

Vacation for Rev. Bossen August 9-13: It's vacation time and Colin will be gone the entire week.

UUSC Office Closed August 9-13: Due to commitments made prior to coming on board, Office Administrator, Shirley Nelson, will not be in the office August 9-13. If assistance is required, please leave a message for Nathan Staples, DRE, or Kelsey Fischer, Membership Coordinator. Regular office hours will resume the week of August 16.

Treasurer Search: The Board is recruiting for the position of Board Treasurer. If you are interested see Steve Doell or Rachel Webb for more information.

A New America and How to Get There: Dan LaBotz, Socialist Candidate, U.S. Senate will be speaking at UUSC on Thursday, August 12, at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend.

How will you Grow this Year?: The 2nd UU principle is "acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations." UUSC's Religious Education programs offer many ways to grow. Want to learn, along with our younger set, about Eastern religions? Consider reading and teaching 45 minutes of our curriculum this coming year, two Sundays a month. Wishing for a group you could explore a great book or topic with? It's a snap to plug into UUSC resources (facilities, Beacon newsletter, and the RE Team) to get such a small group going. Have you resolved to help others more this year? There are many opportunities in RE to help, and have fun with others at the same time. Maybe you have an idea for your or the Society's growth that isn't quite hatched, yet? Talk with an RE team member about it: Nathan Staples, dre@uucleveland.org, Stephanie Sweeton, sweetson6@gmail.com, or Mariamne Ingalls, mariamne@roadrunner.com.

Wanna go to Funday School?: During the summer, UUSC religious education goes "caj" (casual). Funday School each Sunday is a chance for the students to play games, watch a craft demo and then try it out, or do other fun and cool activities. The Religious Education Committee is seeking several volunteers to supervise and join in the summer fun. Your commitment would be for an hour, 3-4 Sundays this summer. You'll always work with one or more adult volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Mariamne Ingalls, mariamne@roadrunner.com; Anela Forrest, swimming68@hotmail.com; or our Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples, dre@uucleveland.org, for more info.

Best Younguns!: We have the best babies and pre-schoolers at UUSC. Then again, we know we're a little biased on that score. The time playing blocks with them, reading them a story, playing peek-a-boo or running toy trucks goes by so fast! (Rmmmm! Rmmmm!) If you like watching and helping the littlest explore the world, sign up for a Sunday in the nursery. You'll be glad you did! All our volunteers say so. You'll always work with one or more adults. Mariamne Ingalls and Anela Forrest have sign-up sheets at coffee hour on Sundays. Or you can give Mariamne a call at 216-291-3038.

The Great Questions Covenant Group Hosts Baby Shower: The Great Questions covenant group is hosting a baby shower for Veronika. That's right—Patrick and Phoenix's baby that we love to hold. We thought it appropriate, since Patrick does the coffee, to hold it during coffee hour. This will be Sunday, August 22. There will be cake to go with the coffee, and an opportunity to interact with Veronika. If you have something special to give, that's great, but if you don't have other ideas, Target gift cards are welcome. There will be a basket for this. Everyone is invited, and the gift of good wishes is also appropriate.



More Announcements

Spirit Song Circle: Songs of the Great Heart: You are invited to attend a series of workshops at UUSC held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00-8:30 p.m. on September 15, October 20, November 17, and December 15. Rev. Mary Grigolia, singer-songwriter and facilitator, will help you tune up with traditional songs from the world's religious and spiritual traditions; create space to listen together and give voice to the stirrings of the Great Heart! The sessions are open to everyone and there is no need to read music. For more information call 216-539-3784, or email: mary@marygrigolia.com. Fee: Dana (pay what you can).

Earth-Centered Spirituality Group: The next gathering of the Earth Centered Spirituality Group will be Sunday, September 19th, when we will explore the concept of The God, the divine masculine. We are moving to a quarterly gathering, rather than every month. Starting in September we will meet on the Solstices and Equinoxes. However, there will be "field trips" in between these gatherings. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please send your email address to wytchywmn@sbcglobal.net. For more info, contact Mary Schatzman at maryschatzman@sbcglobal.net, or Lainey Warren at hockeyfan631@yahoo.com.

Public Hearing on Coal Fired Steam Plant in University Circle: The Medical Center Company's steam plant in University Circle operates near houses, schools, and hospitals, causes asthma, heart disease, mercury contamination, and premature death, and lowers our property values. The plant's operating permit is up for renewal, and citizens convinced the Environmental Protection Agency to hold this hearing to get public input. Demand clean energy solutions that protect our families!

Mattie Reitman, Beyond Coal Field Organizer, Ohio, mattie.reitman@sierraclub.org

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

MLK Library, 1962 Stokes Blvd., Cleveland, OH

An Historic Event and Opportunity - You Decide!

On Tuesday September 14 at 7:00 p.m., clergy and laypeople from dozens of Cuyahoga County religious congregations will assemble at Fairmount Temple in Beachwood to hear about a new social justice initiative in the region. The Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), a national network of powerful community organizing groups, will propose creating an organization here in the Cleveland region. The IAF uses skilled organizers to create local coalitions of religious congregations and other institutions to train and empower their members to work together on key issues of economic and social justice and equality. These interfaith, multiracial and multiclass groups have achieved major victories in housing, jobs, education, and other areas in many cities. Our minister and several members of our congregation have met with IAF staff. We plan to attend the September meeting, and encourage all of you to attend to see if our congregation should participate in this effort. For further information, please contact Rev. Colin Bossen (minister@uucleveland.org, 216-932-1898) or Board President Rachel Webb (rmwebbyn@hotmail.com, 216-956-4634).

Rob Kleidman • rakedman@yahoo.com

Special Collections

June Special Collection: Rebuilding Together Cleveland — \$129.00

July Special Collection: Sierra Club Inner City Outings — \$66.00

Thank you for your generosity!

The August Special Collection will benefit the InterReligious Task Force for Latin America.

Kelsey's Corner

The Membership Committee is looking for two dedicated members to add to its team!

The primary responsibility of the Membership Committee is to implement and oversee the Society's outreach work. Outreach includes increasing the number of visitors who enter the door, helping visitors transition to members, and maintaining membership. The Membership Committee is guided by the Society's Outreach Plan. It is also guided by the ideas and skills of its committee members. This year, the Society's work will include targeted outreach to Case students.

If you are interested in helping with the Society's outreach work or feel like you have skills that could contribute (e.g. visual art, marketing, computer skills, etc.), please see me or any member of the committee.

Also: Please don't forget about Welcome Team and Chalice Lighters. Volunteers are needed every week! Sign up ahead of time using the sheet found at the Welcome Table or at coffee hour, and you will save yourself one pesky phone call from me during the week.

Thanks!

Kelsey
fischer.kelsey@gmail.com

RE-VIEW

Each month, the Religious Education (RE) team will give you a glimpse into what goes on in RE. If you miss an inter-generational service, or usually attend service upstairs on Sundays, you may not know too much about all that RE offers or how it works. This month, our topic is Covenant Groups and Small Groups. Covenant Groups and Small Groups share these characteristics: 1) They may be led by lay persons, minister or staff 2) are informal, and organized around a topic, theme or purpose, 3) anyone can join (member, friend, visitors), 4) usually meet monthly starting September through June, 5) can be for adults or inter-generational, and 6) are fun, and a great way to get to know people and more about the Society. A Covenant Group usually, in addition: 7) asks attendees to attend as regularly as possible 8) starts each meeting with a chalice lighting or other informal ritual and 9) may commit to provide some service to the congregation or the larger community. Do you have an idea for a Group you'd like to see? Something you'd love to get together with a few people at the Society to do, study or explore? It's easy to get one started or to join. Just contact our Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples at dre@uucleveland.org or 216-932-1898.

Mariamne Ingalls • mariamne@roadrunner.com • 216-291-3038

August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 First Sunday Lunch 12:30 p.m.	2	3	4	5 Joseph Camp- bell Round Table 7:30—9 p.m.	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Dan LaBotz 6:30 p.m.	13	14
15	16 Religious Edu- cation Commit- tee Mtg. 7 p.m.	17	18	19	20	21
22 Baby Veronika's Shower (following service)	23	24	25	26 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	27	28
29 <i>Beacon Deadline</i>	30	31				

**THE UNITARIAN
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SOCIETY
OF CLEVELAND**

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www.uucleveland.org

Rev. Colin Bossen
Minister
Mon. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wed. 1:15 - 4:15 p.m.,
Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Shirley Nelson
Administrator/Beacon Editor
Tues. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Wed. 1-5 p.m.,
Thurs. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Amy Collins
Commissioned Lay Leader

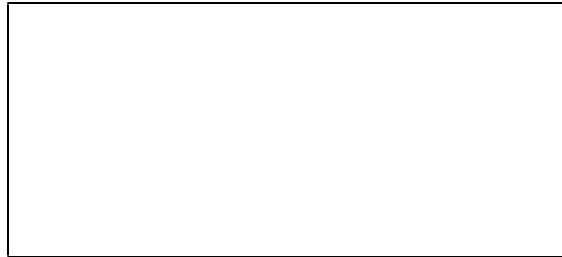
Nathan Staples
Director of Religious Education
Wed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and
Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Kelsey Fischer
Membership Coordinator

Joel Prater
Facilities Manager

Barbara Boyd
Choir Director

Rev. Peggy C. Clason
Minister Emerita



UUSC DEADLINES:

Beacon Articles: Deadline for September is *August 29*

Order of Service/Announcements:

Wednesday a.m. before the Sunday Service

Board Reports: Tuesday a.m. before the Board Meeting

Birthdays and Anniversaries

This is only a partial list, to make it complete, send your special dates to the Office at office@uucleveland.org or just call and leave a message on the machine. Thanks!!

August

Hannah Klausen	5
Rev. Colin Bossen	7
Shirley Nelson	7
Rob Kleidman	13
Karin and Paul anniv.	17
Kelsey Fischer	17
Wendy Wills	18
Kathy Rosner	20
Ben Kleidman	22



UUSC Board of Trustees

Rachel Webb President
Mary Schatzman Vice President
Beverly Austin Secretary
Vacant Treasurer
Ben Faller
Stephanie Sweeton
Sarah Thuerk
Elaine Weaver

*Board Meetings are held on the
4th Wednesday of the month at
7:00 p.m.*