



THE BEACON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

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September 7, 2010

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UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

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

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.

September 26, 2010, 11 a.m.

In the Beginning

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musicians: UUSC Choir (Barbara Boyd, Director)
and Karin Tooley

This service marks the first in our year long series on wisdom from the world's religion. In it we will consider how myths, stories and teachings from the world's indigenous religions--the world's oldest--continue to have something to offer in our post-modern society.

October 3, 2010, 11 a.m.

Association Sunday: The Religion for Our Time

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Karin Tooley

The American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America merged to form the Unitarian Universalist Association in 1961. This year's Association Sunday will celebrate the upcoming fiftieth anniversary of the merger by asking the question: "Can we be the religion for our time?"

September 19, 2010, 11 a.m.

Society Sunday: Reflections of Worship

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Karin Tooley

This year, during our annual service to honor our congregation's heritage and long-time members, Colin will reflect upon what he has learned about the Society and Unitarian Universalism in the last three years and what our congregation looks like when viewed from outside.

October 10, 2010, 11 a.m.

Privilege and Oppression

Worship Leader: Rev. Colin Bossen
Musician: Karin Tooley

Almost everyone has experienced or will experience some form of oppression and has benefited or will benefit from some form of privilege in their lives. What are the spiritual dimensions of privilege and oppression?

On Facebook?

If so, check out the Society's Facebook page. A link to it can be found on our website at www.uucleveland.org.

Wheelchair Available

The Society has a wheel chair available for use during congregational events.

Notes from our Minister

Over the last several weeks I have received a good deal of praise and publicity for my arrest while committing civil disobedience in Arizona at the end of July. As you may know, there was both an article and an editorial cartoon about me in the Sun Press. Since my arrest I have received a number of questions from both congregants and community members about how I managed to gather the courage to be arrested and how they can better participate in social justice.

In reflecting on these questions I realized that the answers to them all boil down to a variation on a theme: I felt comfortable risking arrest because I was part of a movement of people working together for social justice; the best way to work for social justice is to participate in a movement.

Later this month members of the Society will be given the opportunity to begin to build a new movement for social justice here in the Greater Cleveland area. Four Board members, myself, the Director of Religious Education and several lay leaders are planning to attend a meeting organized by the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) to learn about a new social justice initiative. The IAF is hoping to create a local coalition of religious communities and other institutions to train and empower their members to work together on key social justice issues. In many cities interfaith, multi-racial and multiclass groups organized by the IAF have achieved major victories in housing, jobs, education, and other areas.

The meeting will be on Tuesday, September 14, at 7:00 p.m. at Fairmount Temple. Those from the Society who are interested in attending will meet in our West parking lot at 6:30 p.m. to drive over together. I hope that you will consider attending. The greater participation we have from our congregation, and the more people who attend in general, the better chance we will have in building a movement here in Greater Cleveland that can have a significant impact. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone who wants to be part of creating a better community. I hope that you will join with me and other leaders from the congregation and attend the meeting. If you would like to RSVP or to learn more please contact me at minister@uucleveland.org.

Love,

Colin

Kelsey's Corner

The Society spent Labor Day at the Peace Show in Willard Park!

The Peace Show is a free festival at the Free Stamp at East 9th and Lakeside. Each year this family-friendly event runs from noon to 6PM and includes information booths, activities for children and adults, live music, crafts, food, drumming. This year it included the fifth annual Peace Plane Launch.

In other membership news, the Membership Committee has decided to transition to a portfolio system. The Membership Committee will now be composed of four portfolio positions--Press and Publicity, Volunteerism and Community Outreach, Membership Services, and Welcoming--with at least one committee member filling each position. The committee hopes this will increase its capacity to complete the myriad important tasks that fall under the very broad umbrella of "membership". The committee is currently recruiting for Membership Services Portfolio and the Welcoming Portfolio. If you are interested in either of these positions and would like a portfolio description, contact me.

Finally, Newcomer Orientations resume this month after the summer off. If you are new to the Society, join us on Sunday, September 12 from 1-3 PM for a chance to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. Contact me for more information.

Thanks!

Kelsey

fischer.kelsey@gmail.com

From Our President

September is here and fall is on its way. I cannot believe summer has come and gone. But with the beginning of fall the Society also starts the new program year. Reverend Bossen will be speaking on world religions over the course of the year. The religious education program will also focus on this theme in their classes. The Board has also picked a theme to study for the year, stewardship. Every month we will read text selected by Reverend Bossen focused on stewardship followed by a brief discussion and reflection on the text during each month's board meeting.

The goal is to touch on all aspects of stewardship, how it relates to the Society, and how we as Members and Board Members relate to this topic. This "teaching moment" at the beginning of each board meeting will help us keep in mind why we chose to serve the Society as a Board Member, and prevent us from getting overwhelmed by the business of the Society. If you are interested in following along with the reading each month contact Shirley Nelson, Office Administrator, for a copy of the text at office@uucleveland.org or 216-932-1898.

I am looking forward to broadening my own understanding of stewardship and sharing ideas with Members and Board Members over the coming months. Have a great September!

Rachel Webb

UUSC - Treasurer Needed

The Board is seeking a Member to fill the position of Treasurer. This is a 2-year position to begin as soon as possible. The Treasurer tasks include:

- Receiving and processing donations, pledges, offering and other income
- Working with the Bookkeeper to compile monthly reports
- Attend Board meeting to present monthly reports
- Maintain Account of Finances
- Submit Fiscal Year End Report
- Pledge Receipts Reporting to Individual Members

This work is done with the assistance of the Society's Bookkeeper and Office Administrator. Steve Doell the previous Treasurer will work with the new Treasurer to provide guidance and assistance during the first month to help the volunteer to become familiar with the tasks and duties of the position.

Contact Rachel Webb, Board President (rmwebbyp@hotmail.com - 216.956.4634), Mary Schatzman (maryschatzman@sbcglobal.net) Vice President, or Reverend Bossen (minister@uucleveland.org) if you are interested in the position or would like to review the duties and responsibilities in more detail.



UUSC News/Announcements

New Custodian: William Shorter was hired on Thursday, August 19, to replace the previous custodian, Joel Prater. Prior to joining UUSC, William worked for Fairmount Temple in Beachwood for ten years. He lives close by in Musicians Tower. Please join us in welcoming William on board!

Minister's New Office Hours: Rev. Bossen's new office hours begin on Tuesday, September 7, and they are as follows: Tuesday, 9-11:15 a.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m.; and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Office Administrator's New Office Hours: Shirley Nelson's new office hours begin on Tuesday, September 7, and they are as follows: Tuesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Meet-up with the South Green Road Nepali Community: Our next meet-up with the South Green Road Nepali community will be this Thursday, September 9, at 7 p.m. Come join us as we read with children and practice conversational English with adults. Meet-ups are the second Thursday of every month. If you are interested, contact Reverend Bossen (minister@uucleveland.org), Claire Brugnoletti (clairebrugnoletti@comcast.com), or Kelsey Fischer (fischer.kelsey@gmail.com).

Circle Suppers: Want to meet and get to know other members of the congregation? Come to our Circle Suppers, generally held on the second Saturday of each month! These are semi-potlucks held at various Hosts' houses in the area. Sign-up sheets are available at Sunday services, or you can email Ken Nightingale at father.nature@sbcglobal.net or call him at 216-470-7643 to sign up or ask questions.

Spirit Song Circle: Songs of the Great Heart: An open, monthly, singing-as-spiritual-practice group. Songs and chants from contemporary and traditional sources (e.g., UU, Sufi, Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Earth-based, etc), Learn the songs, sing from silence, and share insights, questions, affirmations, and new chants emerging from our hearts. The sessions are open to everyone and there is no need to read music. UU Society 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 15. Rev. Mary Grigolia, singer-songwriter and facilitator. 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.

2010/2011 Church Directory: The Directory is scheduled to be published by the end of September in order to allow time for new committees and covenant groups to be established. A draft will be provided to you at that time so that your contact information can be verified. In the meantime, if you need an updated roster of members, please contact the UUSC office at 216-932-1898.

This Is Your Brain on Meditation: A six-session series exploring insights from neuroscience and meditation. Using the book, *Buddha's Brain*, by Rick Hanson, we'll explore how the brain really is wired for suffering. We'll learn meditation techniques that allow us to rewire our brains for peacefulness—changing our minds and changing our lives. UU Society 1st Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. on Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2. Facilitated by Rev. Mary Grigolia. For more information call 216-539-3784, or email: mary@marygrigolia.com. Fee: Suggested donation \$10 per session (more if you can, less if you can't).

Join the Choir: Singers and wannabe-singers alike-join in the fun on Sunday mornings with the UUSC choir! We rehearse from 9:30-10:30 AM most Sundays, and perform during services once a month. There will be no evening rehearsals this year, and we have some great new music planned. No experience is necessary! This is a great way to contribute your time and talent at the Society while having fun. If you have questions, see Barbara Boyd, choir director, or Amy Collins amymcollins@sbcglobal.net.

UUSC 10 Year Vision Statement

Following is an almost final draft of the UUSC vision statement for your review. This vision statement is informed by our new mission statement, was created by the Long Range Planning Committee, in collaboration with Rev. Colin Bossen and several others at the UUSC, and was approved by the board. Before we take it for a final up or down vote before the congregation in the coming months, we wanted to make sure we have input of the entire congregation — and now's your chance! If you'd like to comment on the vision statement, please contact myself at bmiladin@gmail.com or 216-536-2243, or contact Jesse Honsky at jkhonsky@gmail.com or 440-488-8273. Please have all comments submitted by September 12th. Thanks!

Submitted by Ben Miladin

How We Envision the UUSC 10 Years from Now

- We will be a joyful, religious community of individuals who worship and share in the ministry of the congregation as we continue to grow.
- We will be a congregation known for worship services and programming that promotes social justice and recognizes the worth and dignity of every person.
- We will offer lifelong religious education for children, youth and adults that fosters individual spiritual growth and development of community.
- We will have a full-time minister who furthers the UUSC mission and addresses the needs of the congregation.
- We will be an organization for community service, through projects and outreach programs that address a variety of needs within and around the community, and will reflect the diversity of the greater community.
- We will be good stewards to the congregation and its minister, to sustain the living tradition, nurture spirits and promote social justice.
- We will expand our commitment to worship services and programs that support innovative and interactive music and the arts that facilitate a sense of connectedness with each other and the universe.
- Our buildings and grounds will be accessible to all, and will have facilities that support the UUSC mission, draw new members, and respect the environment.
- We will worship in an inspirational and accessible space, with room for expansion to allow us to connect to each other.
- We will serve as a safe haven where all can feel free to be open without fear of discrimination.

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.

Special Collections

August Special Collection: InterReligious Task Force for Latin America — \$145.60.

August 29th Special Collection: UUSC-UUA Pakistan Flood Relief Fund — \$249.00.

Thank you for your generosity!

The September Special Collection will benefit InterAct Cleveland.

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 about the Society's Religious Education Mini-Goals. At our May Religious Education event at First Sunday Lunch, our Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples introduced the concept of Mini-Goals. These are short-term (2-month) goals, with specifics provided on how folks can join in, to help meet the goal. There will be five Mini-Goals this year, starting in September, November, January, March and May.

The September Mini-Goal is: Refreshing and re-stocking the Nursery!

A key to caring for our littlest children now, and welcoming new families (part of the Society's growth plan) is to have a Nursery that is bright, fun, and set up well. The Nursery is currently clean and neat, but could facilitate children's activities better. We have consulted knowledgeable people who work with pre-schoolers, and they agree small stations work well. So our plan includes small stations for building, music and art activities. Toys and books also need to be refreshed. To give the room a more playful appearance, we'll re-paint the walls, using multiple colors. You can join us for the Painting Party on Saturday, October 23rd, and lunch will be provided. There is also talk of a colorful mural! Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to help out by donating items or time to the effort.

Here is a list of the Nursery items needed...A new (or like new) CD player / Child friendly music CDs / Caldecott Medal Children's Books / A 6-8' round rug (for the children's reading area) / A children's bean bag chair / Large Cardboard Building Blocks / Animal Hand Puppets (not finger puppets).

To donate items or time please contact our Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples
dre@uucleveland.org or 216-932-1898

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

What are Small Groups?

Religious Education

1. Are informal, and organized around a topic, theme or purpose,
2. May be led by lay persons, minister or staff,
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.

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? Just contact our Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples.

What are Covenant

Groups?

Religious Education

Similar to a Small Group (see other box). But in addition, a Covenant Group usually:

1. Asks attendees to attend as regularly as possible,
2. Starts each meeting with a chalice lighting or other informal ritual and,
3. May commit to provide some service to the congregation of the larger community.

Do you have an idea for a Covenant Group? It's easy to get one started or to put a bug in our ear! Contact Director of Religious Education, Nathan Staples.

September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Joseph Campbell Round Table 7:30–9 p.m.	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Stewardship 7 p.m. Nepali Com. Meet up 7 p.m.	10	11 Circle Supper
12	13 Religious Education Committee Mtg. 7 p.m.	14 IAF Meeting 7 p.m. at Fairmount Temple	15 Spirit Song Circle 7 p.m.	16	17	18
19 Earth Centered Spirituality Group	20	21	22	23 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <i>Beacon Deadline</i>		

**THE UNITARIAN
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SOCIETY
OF CLEVELAND**

2728 Lancashire Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106
Phone: 216-932-1898
Fax: 216-932-1516
Email: office@uucleveland.org
www.uucleveland.org

Rev. Colin Bossen
Minister
Tues. 9:00 - 11:15 a.m., Wed. 9:00. - 3:15 p.m.,
Thurs. 9:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Shirley Nelson
Administrator/Beacon Editor
Tues. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wed. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.,
Thurs. 9:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Amy Collins
Commissioned Lay Leader

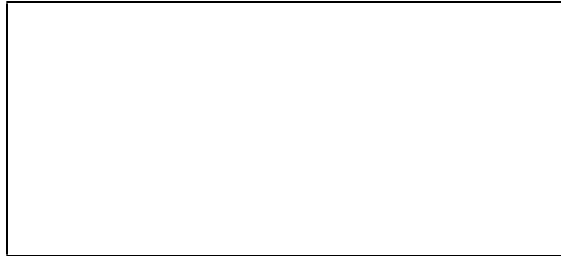
Nathan Staples
Director of Religious Education
Wed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and
Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Kelsey Fischer
Membership Coordinator

William Shorter
Custodian

Barbara Boyd
Choir Director

Rev. Peggy C. Clason
Minister Emerita



UUSC DEADLINES:

Beacon Articles: Deadline for October is *Sept. 30*

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!!

September

Mandy Economos	25
Linda Coulter	29



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.*

One Nation Working Together

On Saturday, Oct.2, 2010, hundreds of thousands of committed people from across the country will gather at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., to demonstrate our commitment to change.

One Nation Working Together - Cleveland has been working to ensure Cleveland will be well represented by organizing buses to travel to D.C. on 10.2.10. Become a part of history and get on a bus!

If you are interested, or your organization would like to commit and help us organize in Cleveland, or for more information, please contact Deb Kline, Cleveland Jobs with Justice at 440/333-7007 or Stanley Miller, Cleveland NAACP at 216/231-6260.

You can also visit us on Facebook - One Nation Working Together - Cleveland.

National website: <<http://www.onenationworkingtogether.org>>

One Nation Working Together is a movement of Americans from all backgrounds, experiences and hometowns coming together to reclaim our country. One Nation aims to recommit every person in America to the principles this country was founded upon:

freedom, justice and equality for all regardless of sex, race, sexual preference or immigrant status.

One Nation Working Together aims to put America back to work by pulling every American together to refocus the nation's priorities and invest in all of our people.

Every person in this country should be able to live the American Dream: a secure job that affords workers the capability to support their families; a safe home and access to excellent quality education.

One Nation includes human and civil rights organizations; trade unions and associations; nonprofit organizations; youth and student groups; faith groups; education, environmental, peace and other ethnic associations and any other organizations, groups or individuals who are committed to bringing our country back together.

Currently, there are over 150 groups and organizations committed to One Nation.

Submitted by:

Nina McLellan, 216-751-7150, ninamac15@sbcglobal.net