



# The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

March 2013

**Sunday Services**  
10:00 and 11:30 am

**228 Gougler Ave.**  
**Kent, Ohio 44240**  
**Phone: 330-673-4247**  
**Fax: 330-677-4772**  
**[www.kentuu.org](http://www.kentuu.org)**

**Minister:**

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziener  
[minister-uukent@sbcglobal.net](mailto:minister-uukent@sbcglobal.net)

**Minister's office hours:**

Tuesday - Friday  
By appointment

**Congregational  
Administrator:**

MaryBeth Hannan

**Office hours:**

Mon. through Fri. 9 - 2

**Religious Ed. Director:**

Karen Lapidus

[dre-uukent@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dre-uukent@sbcglobal.net)

DRE's Office Hours:

Tuesday and/or Wednesday  
By appointment

**Music Director:**

Hal Walker

**Commissioned Lay Leader:**

Rev. Christie Anderson  
[christiea@neo.rr.com](mailto:christiea@neo.rr.com)

**Affiliated**

**Community Minister:**

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke  
[zimlar@juno.com](mailto:zimlar@juno.com)

**Newsletter editor:**

Brad Bolton  
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**Deadline:**

The 15th each month

Who or what was God to you when you were a child? When I have asked this of adults, I've noticed that many people can speak quite vividly of their childhood images of God. These often include celestial images of power and presence; many people describe their childhood image of God as an older, white, powerful man sitting on a throne in the heavens.

Who or what is God to you now? When I have asked this of adults, I've noticed that while some people are able to answer in the affirmative, many more people speak first in the negative. In other words, people sometimes answer this question by saying who or what God is not. That is a start, but what comes after the negations?

For some it may be the avowal that there is no God. When people would make such a statement to the renowned Unitarian Universalist minister the Rev. Forrest Church, he would reply "Tell me a little about the God you don't believe in. I probably don't believe in him either." I really like that reply. I like it because it gently challenges the narrow view of God so often assumed to be the only view of God.

So what other views are there besides the omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent image of an active God with the power to intervene in history? Well, that is what we will explore this month. From the history of God to the process theology notion that God is still becoming, we will delve into both historical and contemporary understandings. One of our stops will be an exploration of the connections between God and the world of science and our last stop this month will be a celebration of God's poetry in our special Easter services.

Whatever you currently do or do not believe about God, I hope this month will give you an opportunity to dive even deeper to refine your own understandings and to learn more about how other people image the divine. I look forward to seeing you in church!

In faith,

P.S. The annual Ohio Meadville District Assembly will be held jointly this year with the Saint Lawrence District in Niagara Falls, NY from April 26-27. The annual Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly will be held in driving distance this year in Louisville, KY from June 19-23. Each will be filled with many opportunities for worship, workshops, celebration and exploration, as well as the business of the district and the association. Please see details on page 7.

Learn more about District Assembly at <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/districtassembly>

Learn more about General Assembly at <http://www.uua.org/ga/>

If you are interested in attending either, especially as a delegate, please let me or our Board Moderator Kathie Slater know as soon as you can. If you need financial assistance to make it possible for you to attend, there are options that can help defray the cost. Call or email me and I'll be happy to give you more information.

## Upcoming Sermons

24 February

*Music Sunday*

Music Director Hal Walker

Every year around this time, musicians come out of our church's woodwork for our annual Music Sunday. With this year's theme of "The Music Within You," Music Sunday promises to be a morning full of pulsing rhythm, soaring melody and satisfying harmony.

3 March

*The Changing Reputation of God*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate John Marfy

Join us for a whirlwind tour of some major moments in the history of God. Who has God been in the past and how does all that history inform our understanding of God today?

10 March

*When God and Science Met*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Justin Czekaj

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the meeting of God and science helped fuel the rise of humanism. Since then, the ongoing relationship between the two had led down many paths. We'll explore some of them this morning.

17 March

*Poetry Sunday*

Led by Lay Leaders Joe Kuemerle and Lori McGee

Poetry is an important part of many people's lives here at the UUCK. We are reviving the long-held tradition of Poetry Sunday, a tradition that has fallen to the wayside for several years. This service will include poems sent in by members and poems chosen by Joe and Lori which will be woven into an uplifting and inspirational service. If you have a poem you'd like to include, we will accept submissions until 3/8/2013. Please send poems to Joe at [joe@kuemerle.com](mailto:joe@kuemerle.com)

24 March

*God's Becoming*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Joel Slater

One of the most innovative developments in recent theology has been the development of a field called Process Theology. According to this view, everything is interconnected and God is always in relation, always becoming in relationship with all. This morning we'll unpack this view of God and consider its implications.

31 March

*The Poetry of God*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Bonnie Harper

Our celebration of Easter will be infused with song and stories, marked by beauty and centered in a broad, poetic frame. The first service will be created with people of all ages in mind, the second service will be created for older youth and adults. In between we will have our annual egg hunt. Come join us for a wonderful morning.



How come Ted Voneida is the only pancake chef who gets to wear the official hat?



### Moderator's Musings

With thoughts of spring, come ideas about growth and expansion. Good news: we are officially registered with the Unitarian Universalist Association with 207 youth and adult members. The UUCK also has 175 men, women, and children who align themselves as friends of our congregation. We are a growing community, alive with people, ideas, projects, commitments, dreams, and hopes for the future.

One way we can ease our journey with each other is by being considerate and kind. I am thinking, in particular, about Sunday morning and our parking situation. In a recent meeting with Doug Fuller, local architect, who is aiding us as we work towards building projects that will enable us to live into our mission and vision, the expansion committee learned that we have lots of parking available to us. Yes, you can park in the lot behind the church and Franklin Trustee building (36 spaces). There are 9-12 spaces around the Eldredge Annex and the Trustee building (many are designated for handicap parking). The city has counted 42 spaces along Gougler Avenue. We have access to parking across Gougler at the Family and Community Services building (22 spaces).

So on Sunday morning, we can help each other by being aware of all the potential parking spaces, by being timely in our use of our parking space as members, friends, and visitors come to second service, and by knowing there is room for all of us. Just be persistent!

Yours in faith, *Kathie Slater*



### Celebrate St. Patrick's Eve!

Celtic Clan of Kent Concert in the sanctuary, Saturday, March 16, 7 PM featuring family friendly music with toe tapping jigs and reels and wonderful vocal harmonies. There will be some old style Irish dancing too!

The Clan is a 7 piece band who play traditional acoustic style Irish music along with some tunes from Scotland, England and Wales.

This will be a fun fundraiser for the church. Tickets at the door: Adults \$7 children 12 years and under, free. Visit our Facebook page to hear some tunes. For more information contact Trish.

### Give me a "P"! Give me an "I"! Give me an "E"! What's That Spell? STEWARDSHIP!

It's that time again. Time for Pie. Time for Reflection. Time for Giving!

Once a year, we have an opportunity to act on our Unitarian Universalist values and principles in a very tangible way: by pledging to our annual Stewardship Campaign. Making a financial commitment to our Church is one form of spiritual practice that brings our UU values to life.

Looking back at last year's successful campaign, the results of what was accomplished are everywhere: increased programming, an increased level of involvement, special events, and a cleaner and better-looking church building. Also, our worship services are more full and enlightening. All of these things reflect our growing community. We are all proud to be a part of this vibrant church congregation.

As you reflect on what this church community means to you, let's all work together to make an even bigger, better pie this year! An increase in overall giving will generate increased financial support for key ministries including Music, Sunday Program Committee, Library Committee, Buildings & Grounds, Capital Repairs Fund, and Membership. In addition, increased financial support will enhance the RE program by allowing for a new part-time RE assistant for Karen Lapidus, Director of Religious Education, as well as making our Sunday music offerings richer and more meaningful through the hiring of a part-time accompanist.

Our stewardship campaign will launch March 3 and wrap-up on March 24 with a pie celebration--PIE Sunday! Watch your mail for the FY2014 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) brochure materials; also, a volunteer canvasser will be calling you soon. It is our hope that reviewing these materials with careful consideration and reflection inspires you to increase your donation as your circumstances permit. The Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent is worth our generous support and sacrifice.

Thank you, *Kay Eckman* and *Marion Yeagler*  
Stewardship Co-Chairs



## The Value of Story

"The universe is made of stories, not of atoms."

*Muriel Rukeyser, feminist poet*

If we look to the past, we know how important stories have been to human development over the centuries. Consider how cultures have been influenced by Bible stories, Aesop's Tales, the Buddhist Jataka tales, Anansi stories from Africa and even the Harry Potter stories. Stories need to be told in order to pass down our morals and values from generation to generation.

People often ask me where I find the stories I share with you during the Time for All Ages, so I'll take this opportunity to share my process. I know the theme of each worship service after the two semiannual meetings of the Worship Associates. A few weeks before each service, I check in with Reverend Melissa or other worship leaders to gain more insight into their goals for the worship service. Sometimes it is easy to choose a story based on what I know is available in children's literature as well as what is available in our church's library. If I am feeling stumped, I first go to the Unitarian Universalist Association's *Tapestry of Faith*, where I can find the collection of stories that has been deemed "core" to our shared faith and values. If I'm still stumped, I must admit that I do a Google search. This often leads me to the Amazon site, where I can get a synopsis of a book, as well as critics' and readers' reviews. If I find what might be a gem there, it's off to the public library website!

It is work that I love, as I have always felt myself drawn to stories. Of course stories can be fun and entertaining, but they also have a deeper value. Stories can provide a common ground that connect people across their differences. They can reflect our values and help us interpret and deepen our own experiences. They help us make sense of what is complex or confusing. They remind us that we are all in this together!

In faith and with love, *Karen Lapidus*  
Director of Religious Education



## Surprise Friends

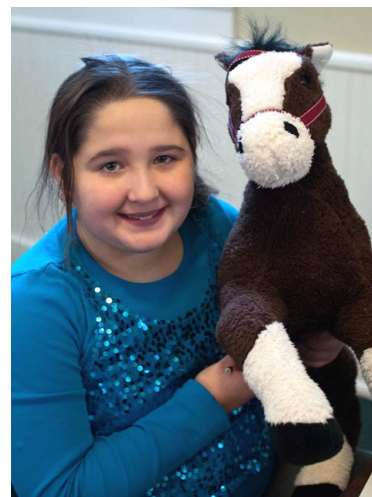
Surprise -- it's that time of year again! Want to make a new friend in the church? Looking for a way to celebrate spring? Here is your chance! You are all invited to participate in this fun, intergenerational activity of friendship and caring! We will have a sign up table outside of the sanctuary on March 24, 31 and April 7. Participating adults will be matched with children in the congregation on April 10 and encouraged to exchange notes and artwork on Sundays, April 21 through May 12. Adults will remain anonymous until the "big reveal" on May 19. Sign-up forms will be available until April 7.

### Simple Gifts Received for January

Joel & Kathie Slater, in celebration of  
Norah Julia Lang

## Book Group

The Patricia Pownall UU Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, March 12 at 7 pm in the home of Betty Kendrick, Apr. 12 in Cuyahoga Falls. This month we are reading *The Chaperone* by Laura Moriarty. This is a novel about the friendship between an adolescent, pre-movie-star Louise Brooks, and the 36-year-old woman who chaperones her to New York City for a summer in 1922, and how it changes both their lives. If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper. All are welcome.



Brooke Columbo and her horse  
in Fessenden after first service.



### Book Review from the Church Library

We want to thank Larry Cole for donating the following book to the church library.

Mill, John Stuart and Harriet Taylor Mill, Essays on Sex Equality with an Introductory Essay by Alice S. Rossi (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, c1970). This volume brings together for the first time all of the writings of John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill on equality between the sexes, including John Stuart Mill's *The Subjection of Women*, a classic in the history of the women's rights movement.

There is also an interpretive essay by Alice S. Rossi, a sociologist and a feminist and one of the founders of the National Organization for Women (NOW). It analyzes the long personal and intellectual relationship of Mill and Harriet Taylor. This book will be available March 1 in the Women's Studies category.

As new books are added to the library, they are shelved on top of the bookcase at the far left end. This section is suitably labeled "New Books in the Church Library."

*Martha Kluth*



Mara DeMattia, who is researching Robert Wood's artwork, spoke about the project at church.

### Navigators USA Announces Local Chapter Opening

Navigators USA, a co-ed, youth-adventure organization committed to opening minds and creativity through direct contact with nature, announces the formation of a new chapter in Streetsboro, Ohio. Navigators USA provides a quality scouting experience available to all children and youths, ages 7 – 19, and their families, regardless of gender, race, religion, economic status, sexual orientation and/or social background. The program, comprised of separate Junior and Senior Navigators components, emphasizes the importance of attributes such as camaraderie, loyalty, friendship, cooperation, and appreciation for nature, both within the membership of the local Chapters and in their communities.

The founding committee of the Streetsboro Chapter, comprised of Bill Butt of Streetsboro, Michelle and Andrew Bores of Streetsboro, and Beth and Joe Kuemerle of Cuyahoga Falls would like to extend an invitation to all interested families in Portage County and other nearby communities to attend an informational meeting to be held at the Camelot Village Community Center, 1425 Frost Road, Streetsboro, OH on Friday March 1, 2013. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Activities and entertainment will be available for the younger children and light refreshments will be served to all attending.

For more information about Navigators USA, please visit <http://navigatorsusa.org/>. Interested parties unable to attend the informational meeting may contact the founding committee members at [werdnaserob@gmail.com](mailto:werdnaserob@gmail.com) or [wmbutt@aol.com](mailto:wmbutt@aol.com) for information about the local chapter.



Souper Bowl Sunday Head Coach Elaine Bowen sets up a Hail Mary Leeson pass at her booth.

## Wine Country Holiday

***"You generously share your beautiful community, your welcoming homes, your expertise and, especially, your warmth. We will remember this trip always."***

***Ann McCracken, Cincinnati, OH.***

The UU's of Napa, California proudly announce the eighth season of our **Wine Country Excursions**. Again, we offer several options for an inside look at one of America's most beautiful areas, internationally known for fine wines, gourmet dining and spectacular vistas.

There is much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma valleys, e.g. wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads. Napa is an hour from San Francisco by car or ferry.

**We offer two choices:** Both start with comfortable lodging in members' homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a 2-day "Wine Country Excursion," (a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of our members--some with wine industry experience) or lodging and self-guided touring. If desired, we provide guidance, maps, etc. UU ministers will be personally guided by our minister, Rev. Bonnie Dlott.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are well below market rate for comparable services and **all proceeds go to our small fellowship**. For complete details contact: Iris Barrie at 707.363.7552 or barrie001@comcast.net

## UU Journey to India

Take a mindful journey with Unitarian Universalists and their friends to India, November 5-18, **2013**: Visit the renowned Golden Temple in the Punjab, and experience the incredible one-of-a kind, once-a-year Pushkar Camel Fair in Rajasthan. Art and frescos, ornate palaces, spectacular hill top forts -- the varied architecture and art on our journey will be memorable. Visiting Hindu, Sikh, and Jain temples, we'll learn their history and beliefs. We'll stay in small Heritage Hotels and two nights in a tented camp. At the end of our journey it will be possible for you to add the Taj Mahal or other places in India.

Taking a mindful journey is about being alive in the moment, being wide-awake, being present to what is on our path. No better place to do that than India! This will be the Best Exotic Marigold adventure ever! Email [bev-erlz@me.com](mailto:bev-erlz@me.com) or see [www.nuuc.ca](http://www.nuuc.ca) Mindful Journeys, for more information. UU Rev. Wayne Walder will accompany us. -- Beverly Carr, Neighborhood UU Congregation, Toronto, Canada.

Feeling down because you didn't make it to Winter Institute? Cheer up Boopsie, for you can relive those halcyon days through Brad's photos -

<http://proftalon.smugmug.com/Winter-Institute/2013-winter-institute/>



The Chili Cookoff was hot! Ann VerWiebe, middle above, Colleen Norris, and Amy Edmonds, right, were winners. Who said men know how to cook chili?



## **District Assembly is Coming**

2013 District Assembly, April 26-27, 2013  
Joint District Assembly with St. Lawrence District  
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Peter Morales, President of the UUA  
Niagara Falls Convention Center, Niagara Falls, NY

Are you trying to decide to attend District Assembly 2013? Don't know if there will be something for you or your congregation? Here are some highlights from our programming broken down into theme areas:

### **UU Community:**

- Multi-generational Coffee House - do you have a talent to share?
- Uplifting Opening Worship led by SLD ministers
- OMD/SLD Joint Bridging Ceremony led by our youth and OMD Ministers
- Where else can you sing, dance, laugh, and cry with hundreds of UUs? The future of Unitarian Universalism, CERG (our region) and our districts
- Keynote address: Breaking Down Walls, Rev. Peter Morales
- Breaking Down Walls Keynote Talkback Workshop
- CERG Information Session Workshop

### **Lifespan Faith Development/Youth/Young Adults:**

- Could You Be a Youth Ally? Workshop
- Youth Service Trips: How to Make It Happen Workshop
- Youth Caucus Social Justice Issues:
- Addressing the New Civil Rights Issue: Global Warming Workshop
- Fracking, An Assault on the Web of Life Workshop
- Our Place in the Web of Life Workshop
- Courageous Love Awards
- Social Justice Solidarity Communion Service
- Congregational Staffing
- Embracing Change: Finding the Right Minister Workshop
- Strong Staff, Strong Church Workshop

### **Personal Spiritual Development:**

- Gould Lecture: Polity, Pine Trees and Process Theology, Rev. Douglas Taylor
- Leader? Who Me? Workshop
- Stewardship of the UU Soul: Spiritual Leadership Through Small Group Ministry Workshop
- Stewardship
- Beyond the Annual Canvass Workshop
- Congregational Leadership & Mission: Power of Shared Ministry Workshop
- Moving from Mission to Action Workshop

### **Right Relations:**

- The Difficulty of Being Just: Including People with Disabilities in Congregational Life Workshop
- Let's Talk About It! Living Our Covenant in a Sexually Healthy Faith Community Workshop

Registration is now open. Childcare is available if registered by March 29. You can find the full schedule and all the details for District Assembly on our website at [www.ohiomeadville.org/program/da](http://www.ohiomeadville.org/program/da)

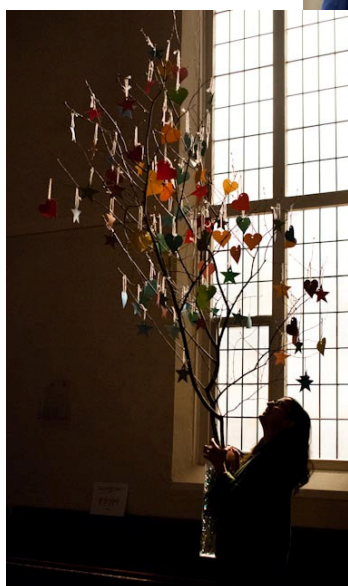
Delegate information and the annual report will be sent out to congregations in mid March.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the district office. I will be very happy to help you. You can contact me at 740-297-6966 or [office@ohiomeadville.org](mailto:office@ohiomeadville.org)





The Creativity Tree grew during the Service on Collective Creativity.



Melissa moves the tree to Fessenden Hall.





**March Church Events**

24 11:00 pancakes 11:00 –11:30 Environment task force <i>F</i> 12:30 pancakes 1:15 Presentation <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	25 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	26 7-9p OWL <i>F</i> 7-9 Adult RE <i>FL</i>	27 7-9 Choir rehearse	28 7-9:00 Adult RE <i>A</i> 7:30-9 AA	1	2
3 9:15-10 Adult RE 12:40-1:40 Adult RE 2-5 church reserved 4:30-6:30 Annex meeting rm. reserved 7-9 Concert <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	4 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	5 10-11a Staff mtg. <i>A</i> 7-9p OWL <i>F</i>	6 7-9 Choir rehearse	7 7-8:30 Singalong <i>F</i> 7:30-9 AA	8	9
10 12:45-2:45 TED Talk <i>F</i> 7-9 AA <i>F</i>	11 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	12 12-1:00 Retiree's lunch 7-9p OWL <i>F</i>	13 12:30-2:30 Ministry <i>A</i> 6:30-8:30 RE <i>F</i> 7-9 Choir rehearse	14 7:30-9 AA	15	16 7-9 Celtic Clan <i>S p3</i>
17 11:00 –11:30 Environment task force <i>F</i> 12:45-2:45 Potato Bar <i>F</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	18 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi 7-9 Fundraising <i>F</i>	19 7-9p OWL <i>F</i>	20 10-11a Staff mtg. <i>A</i> 11:30-1:30 Fes- senden reserved 6:30-9 Membership <i>F</i> 7-9 Choir rehearse 7:30-9:30 Board <i>A</i> 7:30-9:30 COM <i>Nurs- ery</i>	21 7:30-9 AA	22 5:00 church reserved	23 12-4:00 church reserved (Our church is anything but reserved)
24 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	25 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	26	27 7-9 Choir rehearse	28 7:30-9 AA	29	30
31 11:30 Pancakes 12:30 Pancakes part ii 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	1 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>A</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi (no fooling)	2 7-9p OWL <i>F</i>	3 7-9 Choir rehearse	4 7-8:30 Singalong <i>F</i> 7:30-9 AA	5 7-10p Ted Voneida show church re- served	6

Tai Chi: 7:00 Advanced, 7:30 Intermediate, 8:00 Beginner - Yoga and Tai Chi are held in Fessenden Hall  
*A*- Eldredge Annex; *F*- Fessenden Hall; *FL*- Founders' Lounge; *L*- Library; *S*-Sanctuary; *N*- Nursery;  
*FC*- Family and Community Services bldg.

*Calendar does not reflect changes or additions after February 21*

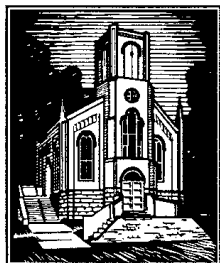
A complete and up-to-date church calendar can be viewed at

<http://www.localendar.com/public/uukent> or through a link on our website at [www.uukent.org](http://www.uukent.org).



Too much fun at the Wine and Cupcakes auc-  
tion item party. Claudia  
Miller surprised with  
gourmet cupcakes (left),  
while Marion Yeagler and  
Larry Cole have . . . too  
much fun.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent  
228 Gougler Ave.  
Kent, OH 44240



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**Return Postage Guaranteed**

Call the office to cancel your *Chalice Flame*



A week later, the Creativity Tree itself became  
creative by sprouting leaves.