



The Choice Flame

April 2006

Sunday Services
9:45 & 11:30 am

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Kent, Ohio 44240
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Website: www.kentuu.org
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Minister:

Rev. Melissa Ziemer
minister-uukent@sbcglobal.net

Minister's office hours:

Tuesday - Friday
By appointment

Office Manager:

Judy Brannan

Office hours:

Mon. Wed. Thurs. 9 - 1
Tues. 9 - 11
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Deadline:

The 15th each month

Aria for Willow
by Dorothy Parsons East

wind willow
silver in silver
rain
in February
promising spring
surprisingly silver
when sun-shot
a web suspended
on cables
of dawn
a mist in spring mist
a cloud
gold or green
dream of green or
gold
a mist
a wind
caught
wrought
in gold
a filigree of sway
weeping under
a weeping sky
April rain
streaming
Greengold

And so the earth turns again and we turn with it. Some with eager impatience, a longing for that which lies waiting to blossom, to burst. Some reluctantly, for them rebirth will require hard work this time. I turn. It feels bittersweet to me as I write – like the aching beauty of a weeping willow under a weeping sky. I've known that tree, that sky. I've been in that moment, caught by the forming of a yes that must press its way up through sorrow. Like the way the crocuses even now press their way through the cold, hard earth heralding again the promise of hope.

Participants in our small group ministry program have been reflecting together on sacred places. One of the facilitators told me that in her group, every person identified a place in nature as among the most precious they have known. It is true for me too. I carry within me my time in the forest and by the ocean, moments in the hills, mornings in a Japanese garden by Lake Michigan on Chicago's south side. Nature is the most glorious temple I have known. Upon us is bestowed abundant beauty.

In church this month we will honor the holy days of this season. In our lives this month, let us honor this holy planet. With songs of praise and willing hands to help heal, may we make of our lives a blessing.

Yours in faith,

March Sermons

4/2 *Chocolate - A Religious Experience* Kat Holtz

Chocolate and religion have long been intertwined at this time of year. This is a slightly indulgent service as we explore this relationship and share a chocolate communion and meditation.

4/9 *On Suffering* MZ and Worship Associate Christie Anderson

No one escapes it. Some endure so much more than their share. What meaning can there be in suffering? And what response can be adequate to its terrible power?

4/16 *Risking Resurrection* MZ and Worship Associate Kristofer Sperry

This morning we will celebrate Easter and the coming of spring while we explore what meaning there may yet be for us in the old story of resurrection.

4/23 *Faith in Action in the City* Doris Matthey and Worship Associate Susan Goekler

The Urban Hope UU Community will lead a service about their presence and activities on Cleveland's Near West Side (Ohio City). This is a lay-led congregation originally initiated a decade ago by the Rev. Mary Grigolia. Many of Urban Hope's members are also active in at least one other UU church as well.

4/30 *Money, Work and Spirituality* MZ and Worship Associate Mike Kreyche

Money and work are matters that occupy much of our life energy. What relationship do they have to spirituality? Together we'll explore.

Kent UU Resolution on Terror in the News

The UU Church of Kent sent out the following press release to area newspapers on March 1st. A story about our torture resolution was published in the Record-Courier newspaper on Saturday, March 4th. Members of the Social Justice Committee also sent the press release to area churches, and so far the social justice committees of both the East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church and the Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Church have decided to sign onto our resolution against torture. Here is the press release:

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Takes Stand Against Torture

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent voted unanimously to adopt a resolution against the use of torture at a congregational meeting February 26. The resolution states that the congregation will "unconditionally oppose the use of torture against any person in any form by any means for any reasons by any entity."

The resolution was introduced by the Social Justice Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent. Vivien Sandlund, Chair of the Social Justice Committee and a professor of history at Hiram College said they were called by both "faith and principle" to take such a stand.

"The members of our church have been deeply disturbed by reports of the use of torture by the U.S. government against detainees at Guantanamo Bay, at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq, and in secret prisons in other parts of the world," Sandlund said. "We have also been upset to read about what are called extraordinary renditions, which involve the U.S. government capturing and handing over suspected terrorists to foreign governments known to use torture. As Unitarian Universalists, we

embrace seven principles which include an affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person and justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent is currently marking its 140th anniversary with a celebration of "140 Years of Standing Witness."

"The members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent have stood witness for peace and against injustice for the last 140 years," Sandlund said. "In taking a stand against the use of torture, we continue that honorable tradition of speaking out for social justice, as people of faith."

The Rev. Melissa Ziemer, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent, said she fully supports the resolution against torture. She said the church calls on congregations from all faiths to join in taking a stand against torture, defined by the 1987 statement of the United Nations Convention Against Torture as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person."

"Torture is a crime against humanity," Ziemer said. "It is illegal, immoral and a violation against life itself. With this resolution we accept our religious responsibility to stand with those who defend life and we call upon people of conscience to stand with us.

"Alone we have little influence. Together – that is another story."

The congregation plans to inform elected officials of the resolution and other churches are encouraged to pass similar resolutions, Sandlund said.

Annual Meeting Arrangements

At our last few congregational meetings, it has become apparent that there are two types of meeting activities of value to the congregation:

1. A rather free-flowing discussion of issues of importance to the church, where people can politely but casually discuss topics and interact with each other, without strict rules regarding the discussion process. This allows people to express their opinions, permits consensus to form, and requires some time so that people do not feel rushed in their discussion.
2. A formal meeting, under Roberts Rules of Order, in accordance with our Bylaws, to formally decide and approve key activities of the church, such as budgets, elections, and resolutions. These require a quorum of Members certified by the Membership Committee. The actual formal meeting does not take long [as evidenced by the recent 5-minute meeting to pass a Resolution on Torture proposed by Social Justice Committee], if the voters at the meeting are properly informed.

Considering this situation, the Board has decided to hold two meetings on May 13 and 14:

Saturday May 13, 7:00 PM: an informational meeting on:

- Proposed Bylaw revisions [inputs for these revisions discussed at the March 15 information meeting].
- Nominating process and the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee.
- Any questions on the Annual Report, which will be issued in April.
- Any issues of concern to those attending the meeting.
NO votes will be taken at this meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Sunday May 14: 10:50 AM (after first service): a formal congregational meeting to vote on:

- Acceptance of the Annual Report and minutes of the last regular congregational meeting.
- Proposed Bylaw changes.
- Election of the slate of Elected Officials for May 2006 to May 2007.

A quorum of certified registered Members is required for this meeting, which will follow Roberts Rules of Order.

This serves as the formal announcement of both meetings. The Board welcomes discussion of these arrangements. We feel it will allow for both appropriate informal discussion time and a proper vote on key issues. Your comments are welcome.

Bob Erdman, Moderator, May 2005 - May 14, 2006

Celtic Clan

Celtic Clan in April
4/3/06 7:30 Practice
4/10/06 7:30 Practice
4/17/06 7 PM Kent Health Care Center
4/24/06 7PM Stow Glenn Assisted Living

Our Mother Earth: Adult Religious Education

We often speak of "Mother Earth", but do we treat the earth as lovingly as we would treat our own mothers? We only can do so if we have a deep emotional and spiritual relationship with the Earth as we do with our own mother. Where can we find insights about that relationship? In this series we shall examine the insights from our own transcendentalist heritage and from native peoples. What does this knowledge mean to us as UUs? There is the Seventh Principle and now the UU Ministry to the Earth. How can we pass our understanding and love of Earth to our children? Join us in discussion during first service in Fessenden Hall.

March 19th	Introduction
March 26th	UU insights: Transcendentalism and Henry Thoreau
April 2nd	Native American insights
April 9th	Shamanic insights
April 23rd	Origin of the Seventh Principle
April 30th	Ministry for the Earth
May 7th	What about the future? <i>Last Child in the Wood</i>

Contact Liz Erickson , Sue & Mac Goekler , Beth Straubhaar or Angela Finn for further information.

Note that this week's program was inadvertently omitted from the flyer in the Order of Service.

Book Group

Tuesday, April 11, 7 pm. Meet at the home of Kathie Slater, Kent. The book will be *The Temple of My Familiar* by Alice Walker or choose another of her books.

Tuesday, May 9, 7 pm. Meet at the home of Martha Kluth, Kent. The book will be *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones.

Tuesday, June 13, 7 pm. Meet at the home of Linda Bunyan, Akron. Meet at the church parking lot at 6:30 pm if you wish to carpool. The book will be *My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk.

What the Hoot is OWL? (Our Whole Lives)

Just what is the Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education program? Why do we offer these classes at church? What does sexuality education have to do with faith development?

OWL is a series of sexuality education programs for five separate age groups: Kindergarten through first grade, grades 4-6, grades 7-9, grades 10-12 and adults.

We have offered OWL classes for the grades 7-9 and the adults at our church. It is my hope to offer OWL classes at as many age levels as possible. The OWL classes last several weeks and do not take place during regular Sunday school time. The teachers of these classes have attended intensive training sessions and are supported by the UUA OWL network.

Our very own Kat Holtz and Fred Smith are certified by the UUA to train OWL teachers at all levels. We will be hosting an OWL teacher training at our church this May. Individuals who successfully complete this weekend training will be certified to teach OWL at both the 7-9 and 10-12 grade levels.

The goal of the OWL experience at all levels is to help participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. According to the OWL webpage, "It equips participants with accurate age appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture." Participants are encouraged and supported to clarify their values in these areas.

OWL at every level offers:

- Current information, honest age appropriate answers to all questions
- Activities that clarify values and improve decision making skills
- Group building activities to create safe and supportive peer groups
- Education about sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment
- Opportunities to critique media messages about gender and sexuality
- Acceptance of diversity
- Encouragement to act for justice
- All OWL programs also offer parent orientation programs that affirm parents as primary sexuality educators of their children.

This fall we will be offering the OWL program for grades 7-9. Information, including registration materials will be sent directly to teens in this age group. If you would like more information about this program, feel free to contact me.

Michelle Culley, Director of RE

Out to Lunch Bunch

April 2	El Campesino
April 9	China City
April 16	Easter Dinner at the Church
April 23	El Campesino
April 30	China City

Easter Dinner

The Out to Lunch Bunch will sponsor an Easter Dinner at the church after the second service in Fessenden Hall. We will provide turkey and ham. Those who come should bring something to share. The cost is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under with a maximum of \$10 for a family. There will be a sign up sheet in Fessenden Hall.

Among Ourselves

Several members and friends of our congregation have lost loved ones this month. Please keep Randy Lyle, Kathy and Bill Wilen and Joanne DeWilde in your thoughts and prayers. Randy Lyle and his family are grieving the death of his nephew Zach Dunlap. Kathy and Bill Wilen are grieving the death of Bill's brother Bob and Joanne DeWilde is mourning the death of her dear friend Paul Baus. Joanne is also celebrating the birth of Gabriel Sage, her daughter Barbara's first child.

Saunis Parsons and her family have been busy caring for Saunis' mother Twyla Whitmer, her father Robert Boyd and her father in law Bill Parsons, all of whom have been recently hospitalized with illnesses and surgeries. May they recover fully and well.

Congratulations are in order for Vivien Sandlund and Kathie Slater. Vivien recently received an award from Hiram College for outstanding teaching. Kathie was nominated (and accepted the nomination!) to serve as the vice-president for the Ohio-Meadville District.

If you would like to submit an item to be included in next month's Among Ourselves column, please contact our minister, Melissa Ziemer.

Safety Notice

The single user unisex bathroom locks with a deadbolt from the inside. If a person should ever get trapped inside in an emergency, there is a key to open the door stored on the bulletin board in the kitchen. The key is placed in a key hole behind the "Occupied" sign on the lock. More detailed directions are attached to the key. The more people who know about this feature the safer we all are. If you have any questions about this, please see Michael Bruder.

Bill Schulz to Return to Celebrate our 140th Anniversary

I am thrilled to announce that Bill Schulz, the retiring Executive Director of Amnesty International and the former student minister of our church, has agreed to come to Kent to celebrate our church's 140th anniversary with us. His visit is scheduled for Saturday, December 9th. The Social Justice Committee is working on developing the plans for a gala dinner to be followed by Bill's talk, which we hope will attract many people from the surrounding community.

Bill Schulz was the student minister at our church in 1970, and he remembers Clinton and Olive Hobbs and Caroline Arnold and others who were active in the church at the time. After he left our church, Bill went on to lead our UU movement and to do significant work for human rights. He worked for 15 years for the Unitarian Universalist Association, and he served as President of the UUA for 8 years, from 1985-1993. As President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Bill got involved in a variety of international and social justice causes.

In March of 1994, Bill was appointed Executive Director of Amnesty International USA. In September of that year, he took part in an Amnesty mission to Darfur, Sudan to try to address the humanitarian crisis there. Bill has traveled extensively around the world in his work to promote human rights. He has long been an outspoken opponent of the death penalty and a strong supporter of women's rights, gay and lesbian rights, and racial justice. He has been in the forefront of the worldwide movement to win human rights, social justice, and dignity for people everywhere.

Bill Schulz is the author of *In Our Own Best Interests: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All* (Beacon Press, 2002) and *Tainted Legacy: 9/11 and the Ruin of Human Rights* (Nation Books, 2003).

We look forward to hosting Bill, and we extend our thanks to him for coming to celebrate 140 Years of Standing Witness with the UU Church of Kent. Thanks also to Clinton and Olive Hobbs and to Caroline Arnold for encouraging Bill to join us.

Vivien Sandlund, Chair, Social Justice Committee

Upcoming Board Listening Session

The church Board will be holding its third Listening Session on Sunday, April 9th at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Given the short time period of the Listening Session, it is not intended to serve as a dialog. Rather, it is an opportunity for friends and members of the church to express comments to representatives of the Board in an open session. Please join us!

Christie Anderson

The Placement of the Pews and You

We are in the process of doing a bit of rearranging in the placement of the seating in our sanctuary. The good news is that the church is a vital and growing place. The challenge is that sometimes we struggle to comfortably accommodate all who wish to join us for worship on Sunday mornings. Careful and thoughtful consideration has gone into a seating layout that we believe will use our space efficiently while also creating a welcoming feel in our sanctuary. We ask that you refrain from rearranging the pews on Sunday mornings so that we can fairly evaluate the new arrangement. If you have any questions or concerns about seating, please speak to our minister, Melissa Ziemer.

Good Times Rolled at Mardi Gras Ball

Thanks to everyone who "laisse les bontemps roulez" at the Mardi Gras Masked Ball. \$370.00 was raised to send to a most appreciative First UU Church of New Orleans. Their church sustained such damage seven months ago that they are still unable to hold services in the building. They will use it where the need is the greatest.

Kay Clatterbuck



A Reading Room is Coming!

Will you help make it happen? We are planning to convert the room off of the sanctuary into a comfortable reading room, suitable for reading, reflection, quiet meditation and small meetings. The room will have both circulating and non-circulating material including books, magazines and possibly videos. We need a small action team to help make this dream a reality. If you are interested, please contact our minister, Melissa Ziemer.

UUs Volunteering at Clothing Center

We now have a team from our congregation volunteering for a four-hour stint at the County Clothing Center on 2nd Wednesdays of each month. We work with good folk from Immaculate Conception Church in Ravenna. At our first Wednesday some of us unpacked bags of donations and culled out unsuitable items, others sorted clothing by types and put them on hangers, others worked at the checkout, assisting customers.

This is an outstanding way to be of service to your neighbors and the environment: you help people get good clothing, you help keep usable goods out of landfills, you get to know other people who share concerns about our community.

We're trying to form a second team that would serve 6 -8PM one Thursday evening a month. If you're interested in joining either team please call Caroline Arnold.

Scheduling Reminder

The UUCK is an active church with many events taking place. Please remember to check with Church Secretary Judy Brannan regarding availability of space prior to scheduling an event at the church or the Eldredge Annex. And also remember to ask Judy to place events on the church calendar to avoid scheduling conflicts. Thanks!

Christie Anderson

Come To the (Green) Faire

Sunday, April 30 from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Akron, 3300 Morewood Road, Fairlawn.

This joint project of their Social Action Committee and Green Team is an opportunity to learn more about our Seventh Principle (the interdependent web of all existence) while having fun! Games and crafts for children will be sponsored by the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Summit County Solid Waste Management Authority as well as by members of our congregation. Healthy lunches, "No Sweat (shops)" clothing, green cleaning supplies, and much more will be available for sale.

The Faire's many exhibits will include a hybrid car, an electric car, live animals, and information about socially responsible investments, organic horticulture, local library resources, recycling, and area environmental groups and parks.

A Speaker's Room will offer short presentations on topics such as "Greening Your Home," "Dams of the Cuyahoga," and "Cooking with Organic Foods." There will be foot-stomping music and lots more.

Join us! Questions? Call the UUCAkron at 330-836-2206.

UU Field Trip

Remember the excitement that the mention of "Field Trip" conjured as a child? Bring back the magic! Join us in an educational, fun, informational day, open to all. Come to Cleveland's Healthspace Museum on Saturday April 29. We can carpool AND get the group rate. We'll plan on leaving together from the church at 10 am. Price: Children 2 and under are free; Children ages 3 and 4 are \$2; Students and Seniors are \$4; and Adults are \$5.50. You need to sign up and PRE-PAY by April 9. Arrangements are made with Kelley Plishka. Check out the museum website at www.healthspacecleveland.org for more information about their hands-on exhibits.

Kent Social Services

During April, let's work on donating necessary items that the Ohio Direction Card (food stamps) does not allow recipients to purchase - paper products such as paper towels, toilet tissue and napkins; food wraps - plastic cling, foil, wax paper & food storage bags; cleaning supplies - dish/bar/laundry soaps & surface cleaners; personal care items such as anti-perspirant, toothpaste & shampoo. If it's inedible, it cannot be purchased with food stamps.

As always, all non-perishable food items are welcome and encouraged. Imagine the impact we will have if every Sunday, every person or family brought in at least one item for the collection!

Thank you for your continued generosity and care for those existing in poverty. If we do not help, who will???

Elaine Bowen

Every Day Should Be Earth Day . . .

. . . not just Saturday, April 22. We can do our part by limiting what we contribute to landfills. UUCK has its own "Recycling Center" on the first floor of Fessenden Hall opposite the elevator. Remember to save used/dead batteries, old eyeglasses, used ink cartridges and out-of-commission cell phones. Bring them in and let's fill the bins, not the dump!

The kitchen and closet off of it also contain recycling containers for paper/cardboard and cans/bottles. Please remember to use them; we can each make a difference for our home planet.

Elaine Bowen



UU Revival in Akron

The Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship invites all curious or committed UU Christians to a One-Day Revival on Saturday April 15 (Holy Saturday) from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Akron UU Church, 3300 Morewood Parkway (Phone 330-836-2206). Gathering time with coffee and muffins will begin at 8:30 am, with the opening worship at 9:00.

The day will include an old-fashioned hymn-sing, small group discussion and fellowship, a communion service, and workshops on subjects such as prayer and Bible study. A catered lunch will be provided at a cost of \$5.00. Please RSVP to Karen Fabre by April 12.

Help, I Need Somebody, Help, Not Just Anybody

We have accomplished so much to make our buildings so welcoming and comfortable. There are still a few pressing projects that I would really like to see completed to make our church even better. I am looking for volunteers to organize and lead specific projects. It would be a short term commitment and you get to see the fruits of your labors every time you come to church. Specifically, I am looking for a volunteers to lead the following projects:

- Paint Fessenden Hall with the help of other volunteers (ideally this would be completed in April in time for Melissa's installation).
- Clean out the garage at the Eldredge Annex. This can coincide with the Kent Clean-up in May and so most items will be recycled or salvaged.
- Gather up old cans of paint stored throughout our buildings and drop them off at the Portage County Recycling Center on Mogadore Rd. (Another recycling opportunity).
- Paint the porch and other wood trim on the Eldredge Annex.

I know how much you all love this old building and that you can't wait for a chance to get to know it even better! (say with a paintbrush in hand?!) Please contact Michael Bruder with your enthusiastic replies.

Michael Bruder

Sunday Program Committee

Lay led services are part of our worship heritage and there are numerous ones during the summer months. Do you have ideas or suggestions for topics and service leaders? We'd love to hear from you! Please write up a brief synopsis of the topic including all contact information; address it to me, Elaine Bowen, and either e-mail or leave a hard copy in an envelope in the Eldredge Annex.

Our next meeting to plan summer services will be on Wednesday, April 5 at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in joining us, you are welcome and encouraged to participate. We are best served by a variety of voices and experience so come, let us do worship work together.

Elaine Yehle Bowen - Chair, SPC

Learn About Unitarianism

There will be a four session course offered in April for those interested in membership and those new members interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism. The sessions (approximately one hour each) will take place on Sunday April 2, 9, 23 and 30 after first service.

To participate, please see the sign up sheet next to the membership bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. You can contact Kay Clatterbuck with any questions.

Sunday in Other UU Churches

As some of you know, our family recently lived out of state for a few months, and attended a UU church while we there. Rev. Ziemer suggested that folks might be interested in hearing about how that church differed from ours in some of its practices. The church we usually attended (Hope Unitarian in Tulsa, OK) has about 150 members, so was fairly close to ours in size. I also occasionally attended a very large church in Tulsa (All Souls, with 1000 members). The following were practices in both churches:

- The churches selected one theme a month (e.g., covenant, forgiveness), and this theme was the focus for the sermon, children's RE program, and adult RE program that month.
- The Sunday school program lasted two hours. The philosophy is that many people only come to church once a week, so it is important to make the most of that time. I thought my children would complain about this, but they never did, perhaps because with two hours there is time built in for fun/social activities. Adults attended Adult RE and the service during the same time block.
- There were some elements that were the same in every Sunday morning service— an affirmation, doxology, or hymn that was said or sung by that congregation every week (and some were common to the two churches, which created a sense of familiarity if you normally attended one but visited the other). In the church that I usually attended the minister also gave the same benediction every week, with the charge of going out in the world and living our values.
- In the smaller church, half of the plate collected every Sunday was donated to a charity (plate is that part of the Sunday morning collection that is not designated for a person's pledge or specific fundraiser). It was even more interesting at the larger church. They decided in 2005 to donate their entire plate collection every week to charity. Last year their plate donations increased from \$18,000 (in 2004) to \$120,000, and pledges were also up a bit. They see the practice as helping to create a culture of generosity.
- Even the smaller church had a weekly newsletter, which I really liked— it was great to get news in a timely way, and know what is going on even if you missed church that week. There were few announcements during service (printed or spoken).

In peace, Kathy Kerns

Weekly newsletter ??? Ack!! (Ed. ;o)

Sermons and Minutes Available

Some of Rev. Melissa Ziemer's past sermons are available in the Founders' Lounge for \$1.00 each. Your donation can be placed in the black lockbox, also in the lounge.

The Board meeting minutes are available for review in the Founders' Lounge.

Proposed By-Law Changes

Six changes to the church by-laws were discussed at the congregational meeting held on March 15 and are described very briefly below.

1. **Financial Secretary:** Clarify existing language by stating that the Nominating Committee is responsible for recruiting a candidate to serve as Financial Secretary for election at the Annual Meeting.
2. **Staggered terms for the Trustees:** Rather than specifying that the Trustees for Fellowship and Finance are elected at the same time and that the other three Trustees are elected in the following year, the proposed change would simply specify that "Two Trustees shall be elected in a year other than the year that the remaining three Trustees are elected."
3. **Aesthetics and Space Allocation Coordinator:** Split this position into two positions with the Space Allocation Coordinator's duties remaining the same and staying under the responsibility of the Trustee for Building and Grounds, and the Aesthetics Coordinator/Committee moving to the responsibility of the Trustee for Programming, to better ensure coordination of holiday decorating and sanctuary art with the Sunday worship services.
4. **Information Technology Committee** (or Electronic Communication Committee): This would be added as a new standing committee under the Trustee for Building and Grounds. The proposed language states, "Technology Committee or Coordinator identifies electronic equipment and internet needs of the church for the benefit of the church membership and paid staff. Examples include: church computers, copier, sound system, and internet connections and server."
5. **Adoption of Resolutions:** The following new section would be added. "A Congregational Resolution (or Position Statement) may be presented to the congregation by a group of members representing 10% of church membership, based on the most recent membership count or a church standing committee. The vote on a Congregational Resolution may occur at a scheduled congregational meeting or at a special meeting. The Congregational Resolution must be presented to the congregation in written form at least two weeks prior to the vote. Notification of the meeting where the vote will be conducted must follow the procedures set forth in Article IV, Section 4, Notice of Meetings. Adoption of a Congregational Resolution requires a quorum in attendance and an affirmative vote of (options - 80%, 85%, 90%) of the eligible members in attendance at the meeting plus absentee ballots. The Minutes of the meeting shall (option 1 – "reflect statements made by attendees who cast dissenting votes" (or option 2 – "include a statement provided by those with a dissenting position as an attachment to the Minutes"). (Optional statement – "In the absence of a congregational vote, a church standing committee or recognized action team or task force may adopt a statement as a position supported by their group.")

6. **Endowment Committee:** Add the following as a new standing committee to be elected by the Congregation. "The Endowment Committee is responsible for overseeing the Legacy Fund that receives gifts, bequests, proceeds of charitable trusts, and similar contributions intended for the long-term needs of the church in keeping with the purposes and objectives of the church. Members will handle marketing of the program, develop an investment strategy, and make recommendations to the congregation regarding disbursements from the Legacy Fund. A Committee of three active church members will be elected by the congregation and will serve three-year terms. The three members will have staggered terms. The initial election will include a member to fill a one-year term, a two-year term, and a three-year term. Members of the Endowment Committee shall meet at least twice a year to review Legacy Fund financial reports and discuss outreach efforts to increase fund contributions. In addition, the Committee will convene on an as-needed basis when requested by the Board or congregation in order to review requests for disbursements from the Legacy Fund."

Questions and comments about the proposed changes should be directed to Christie Anderson or to Susan Goekler .



Church-State Network Group

First Unitarian Church
21600 Shaker Boulevard
Shaker Heights, Ohio
Saturday, April 1, 2006
1:00 – 4:00 PM

Houses of worship have a unique role to play as stewards of our democracy. Inform yourself and network with others on how to work internally and externally with your church/temple on key church-state issues. After a brief introduction on church-state boundaries, this meeting will address the following questions before breaking out into individual workshops.

- Ohio politics. Is there an appropriate role for my church in the upcoming elections? If so, what are next steps?
- Religion and governance. What can churches do about political leaders who wish to incorporate their religious beliefs and values into our governance?
- Religion and local schools. What's happening locally? Are there issues that need addressing?

Help develop your church's action plan, as we begin to act locally as individual churches and as networking partners with other northeastern Ohio houses of worship.

April Calendar

2 Sun.	11:05 AM- Children's Choir 11:30 AM- New UU- EA*	11 Tue.	5:15 PM- Yoga (Moderate) 7:00 PM- Yoga (Challenging) 7:00 PM- Book Grp.- (Slater's); p. 3 7:00- 9:00 PM- SGM- FL*	23 Sun.	6:30 PM- Choir 7:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:30 PM- AA
3 Mon.	10:15 AM- Gentle Yoga 5:15 PM- Gentle Yoga 7:00 PM- Tai chi 7:30 PM- Celtic Clan Practice	12 Wed.	9:30 AM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:00- 8:00 PM- Pilates Class- FH* (7:15 PM) 7:00 PM- Board Mtg.- EA 8:30 PM- Campus Circle	24 Mon.	10:15 AM- Gentle Yoga 5:15 PM- Gentle Yoga 7:00 PM- Tai chi 7:00 PM- Celtic Clan @ Stow Glen Assisted Living
4 Tue.	5:15 PM- Yoga (Moderate) 7:00 PM- Yoga (Challenging) 6:30- 7:30 PM- RE Committee Mtg.- EA*	13 Thur.	4:15 PM- Yoga 6:15- PM- Yoga 7:00 PM- Men's Group	25 Tue.	5:15 PM- Yoga (Moderate) 7:00 PM- Yoga (Challenging) 7:00- 9:00 PM- SGM- FL*
5 Wed.	9:30 AM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:00 PM- Sunday Program Committee- EA*; p.7 8:30 PM- Campus Circle	16 Sun.	<i>Easter Sunday</i> 12:30- Easter dinner, F*; p. 4 No yoga 7:30 PM- AA	26 Wed.	9:30 AM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:00- 8:00 PM- Pilates Class- FL 8:30 PM- Campus Circle
6 Thur.	4:15 PM- Yoga 6:15 PM- Yoga	17 Mon.	10:15 AM- Gentle Yoga 5:15 PM- Gentle Yoga 7:00 PM- Tai chi 7:00 PM- Celtic Clan @ Kent Health Care Center	27 Thur.	4:15 PM- Yoga 6:15 PM- Yoga 7:00- 9:00 PM- Eckhart-Tolle Meditation Group (upstairs in church)
7 Fri.	7:00- 9:00 PM- Jesus Christ Superstar Sing-A-Long	18 Tue.	5:15 PM- Yoga (Moderate) 7:00 PM- Yoga (Challenging)	28 Fri.	Youth Group- "Room of Our Own" Sleepover
9 Sun.	11:05 AM- Children's Choir 11:30 AM- New UU- EA* 5:00- 6:30 PM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Choir 7:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:30 PM- AA	19 Wed.	9:30 AM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:00 - 8:00 PM- Pilates Class- FH* 8:30 PM- Campus Circle	29 Sat.	Youth Group- "Room of Our Own" Sleepover 10:00 AM- Cleveland Health Museum Field Trip; p.6
10 Mon.	10:15 AM- Gentle Yoga 5:15 PM- Gentle Yoga 7:00 PM- Tai chi 7:30 PM- Celtic Clan Practice	20 Thur.	4:15 PM- Yoga 6:15 PM- Yoga	30 Sun.	11:05 AM- Children's Choir 11:30 AM- New UU- EA* 5:00- 6:30 PM- Yoga 6:30 PM- Choir 7:30 PM- Women's Choir 7:30 PM- AA
		21 Fri.	possible Bunko game night		
		23 Sun.	11:05 AM- Children's Choir 11:30 AM- New UU- EA* 5:00- 6:30 PM- Yoga		

Tai Chi: 7:00 Advanced, 7:30 Intermediate, 8:00 Beginner - Yoga and Tai Chi are held in Fessenden Hall

*EA- Eldredge Annex; FH- Fessenden Hall; FL- Founders' Lounge; S-Sanctuary

The calendar will not reflect additions or changes after 3/21

Ohio League of Conservation Voters

The Ohio League of Conservation Voters will have a regional meeting on Monday, April 17 in the Conference Center at NEOUCOM from 1:30 to 4:30 PM. The topic is the reauthorization of the Clean Ohio Fund. This fund has supported many improvements in environment in Ohio but needs to be extended. This is a good time for us to become involved in the League of Conservation Voters. This grass-roots organization actually changed the makeup of the Legislature in Oregon. If all persons and organizations interested in environmental issues become active, we can do the same in Ohio. As far as I know, the Executive Director, Bill DeMora, will be there.

Tom Myers

Church Babysitters Network

Planning a church event? Or any gathering large or small? Remember to incorporate babysitting in your plan. Under the guidance of our DRE, Michelle Culley, a babysitting network was developed with a group of our dedicated and reliable youth (ages 12-16). Parents who utilize these services will be responsible for a pre-arranged fee for babysitters and meal/snack for children if applicable. For babysitting arrangements or questions, please contact Laura Teagle.



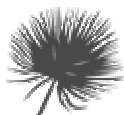
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
228 Gougler Ave.
Kent, OH 44240



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Call the office to cancel your *Chalice
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*The Congregation of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
requests the honor of your presence at
the ordination and installation of
Melissa Jean Ziemer
Sunday, May 7, 2006, three p.m.
in the Sanctuary
Reception to follow in
Fessenden Hall at four p.m.
230 Gougler Avenue Kent, Ohio*



*All UU members and friends are invited to
attend the Ordination/Installation Celebra-
tion Concert & Dessert Saturday, May 6th
at 8pm in the Sanctuary.*