



# The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

June 2006

**Sunday Services**  
9:45 & 11:30 am

228 Gougler Ave.  
Kent, Ohio 44240

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**Minister:**

Rev. Melissa Ziemer

**Minister's office hours:**

Tuesday - Friday

By appointment

**Office Manager:**

Judy Brannan

**Office hours:**

Mon. Wed. Thurs. 9 - 1

Tues. 9 - 11

Fri. 8:30 - 1:30

**Religious Education Director:**

Michelle Culley

**Music Director:**

Hal Walker



**Newsletter editor:**

Brad Bolton

**Deadline:**

The 15th each month

June is upon us. June is a time of endings. The formal academic year comes to a close bringing proms and graduations, exams and celebrations. The formal church year also comes to a close as we switch to a single worship service on Sundays beginning June 11. June 18 will be my last Sunday leading worship until September, with the exception of one service in July and another in August. For the rest of the summer, you will be treated to the wisdom of guest speakers and members of this congregation. This June brings me to a time for rest and reflection, renewal and study. In other seasons of my life I've known June as a time to pack up a room or apartment and move; time to finish a chapter and say goodbye. If June brings you ending this year, may you know satisfaction in your closure and sweetness in your parting.

June is upon us. June is a time of beginnings. Summer begins now and she brings with her pleasures that demand to be savored. This is the time to fire up the grill and take in a game of baseball. This is the time of summer camp and summer jobs – each with their own rewards. June is the time to read novels that have been on your list and meander down paths you've been meaning to visit. June brings strawberries and rhubarb, biting bugs and longer days. This is the time to begin planning a summer adventure. I hope you have one, and that it is filled with surprise and delight.

June is upon us. June is a time of growing. The days grow longer and warmer now. Suddenly the baby geese begin to look like gangly adolescents and the grass shoots up before our very eyes. Anyone with the slightest affinity for seeds and soil is planting. The roots are sinking down, taking up the nourishment of earth and water. Nature will work magic. In time, our blessing will be leaf and bud, flower and fruit. Between now and then we will weed and water, wait and wonder – wonder at the miracle of sugar snap peas, wonder at the endless shades of green, wonder at the joy of play and wonder at the sensual pleasure of warm sun on skin. Welcome wonder! May we greet you prepared to savor.

*Melissa*

## June Sermons

6/4/06 *Love is Life Believing In Itself* Rev. Melissa Ziemer and Michelle Culley

All are invited – encouraged even – to come participate in this special all church worship (childcare will be available for the little ones). On this last Sunday of two services until September, we will hold an Ingathering for new members. We will also engage in the ritual of the Flower Ceremony – please bring a flower to share.

\*\* Begin single 10:30 am. summer service schedule June 11 \*\*

6/11/06 *The Mind on Fire* Rev. Melissa Ziemer and Worship Associate Mike Kreyche

Ralph Waldo Emerson is one of the most influential figures in United States literary history and in the history of Unitarian Universalism. We will explore some of the ways in which his thought continues to inform our faith. We will also celebrate a child dedication for William David Lang.

6/18/06 *To Nurture* Rev. Melissa Ziemer and Worship Associate Damien Chapman

How do we nurture ourselves and each other? What does healthy nurture look like? This morning we will explore the ways we give care.

## Thank You

A huge thank you goes out to the more than 70 church members and friends who in large and small ways made our Ordination and Installation celebration a success. Special thanks go to Elaine and Bill Bowen for the creative and delicious food, Evelyn and Kristofer Sperry of the Myrddin Winery whose wine added just the right touch, Paulette Thurman for the beautiful flowers and to Cass of the McKay Bricker Gallery. Cass donated her creativity in honor of her mother, Amy Maxey, who was a strong member of this church in her lifetime. In addition, all of the musicians and choirs, all of the bakers, the wonderful young people, the drivers, those who participated in the services, the photographers, our great sound technicians, the greeters, those who helped setup and tear down and get the kitchen back in order, our sextant with her many talent and inexhaustible energy, our secretary who created and printed all sorts of beautiful materials, our food table monitors, our publicist, and last but not least our neighboring church who helped out in a pinch and other neighbors who approved our use of their parking spaces.

We would also like to thank those who, in addition to time and talent, donated funds to sustain the weekend. Many people supported the event financially. No money from the general fund was used to sponsor any part of the wonderful weekend events. We have such a giving people here!

*The Ordination Installation Planning Committee*

## Ordination Photos

Photos of Melissa's Ordination and Installation are available for viewing and download at -

<http://www.proftalon.smugmug.com/gallery/1451856>

<http://homepage.mac.com/steelhorse/PhotoAlbum27.html>

*Brad Bolton*

## A-camping UU Will go

The church has reserved Group Camping Area C (non-electric) at West Branch State Park for two nights, Friday August 4 and Saturday August 5. Join us! We can have as many tents as we want, but are limited to 25 people. West Branch is out past Ravenna. If you don't tent camp, come out to the campfire on Saturday night and roast some marshmallows with us for awhile. If you would like to sign up to camp, the cost is \$3 per individual per night or \$5 per family per night. YOU MUST SIGN UP and pay Kelley Plishka to join the group, which is limited to the first 25 people paid & signed up for each night. For more information, contact Kelley.



### Summer Hunger

Children living in poverty are out of school for the summer and do not have subsidized breakfast or lunch to eat. Parents need to stretch their resources even further to feed their children these meals. Your frequent and generous donations to the Kent Social Services baskets are even more CRITICAL throughout the summer.

Please donate child and family friendly foods: peanut butter, cereal, pastas and canned spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese mix, "meal in a can" items, crackers, 100% juices, canned fruits/veggies/tuna, crackers, pudding and gelatin mixes, condiments in plastic containers (BBQ sauce, catsup, mustard, salad dressings, mayo, etc.) and powdered drink mixes.

Thank you for making a difference in the life of a child.

*Elaine Bowen*

### Fresh Flower Fundraiser

I am offering fresh bouquets of flowers from my gardens this summer in exchange for a donation to our church. Tell me what you'd like to spend, I'll tell you what's blooming, and together we will design your bouquet. I can have it at church on the Sunday you chose, or ready for pick-up at my house at any other time, depending on your special occasion or gift needs. These bouquets are by advance order only. Please call for more info, Paulette Thurman. Your vase or mine.

### Invitation to Summer Hogwarts

Hogwarts--Kent Branch Summer term 2006 approaches. It runs Thursday June 15 through Sunday June 18, at the Kent UU Church, Kent Masonic Temple, and Towner's Woods. Children who are entering kindergarten and older are welcome to apply. Returning students should have already received applications in the mail. If you need one, contact Kelley Plishka as soon as possible. Applications are absolutely due by June 1 and we are limited to the first fifty applicants. You do not need to be a member of this church to attend.

If you are not familiar with Hogwarts, it is the magical school of Harry Potter, where one will find classes such as Potions, Care of Magical Creatures, Defense Against the Dark Arts, and more. Students are encouraged to be true to themselves and follow in the path of Faith, Hope, and Love. If you are an adult Potter fan (or even a regular muggle who likes working with kids), feel free to contact us about helping out before, after, or during the event.

### Equal Exchange Coffee Project

By now, I'm hoping that most of you already know that you can adhere to our Unitarian Universalist principles while indulging in an aromatic cup of coffee or hot chocolate by purchasing Equal Exchange items through the Social Justice Committee. Currently we have caffeinated and decaffeinated organic coffees, baking cocoa, hot cocoa mix and three kinds of chocolate bars available for purchase during coffee hour on most Sundays. Other products such as teas, flavored coffees or whole bean coffees are also available by special order for whole cases, or if there was enough interest, we could expand the number of items we offer on a regular basis. People who order in bulk have more choices in products and also receive a price break, which can help you save a little money if you drink a lot of coffee. An order sheet is available at the Equal Exchange table each week, or you can contact me directly or call me to place an order.

Profits from these sales go into the Social Justice Committee's fund, which supports many of our Social Justice projects. For example, the committee is currently working to bring Bill Schultz to our church to speak as part of the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our churches founding.

Purchasing Equal Exchange products is an easy way to put our UU principles to work in a tangible way. These products are produced without slave or other forced labor, using ecologically sound agricultural practices to minimize environmental impact. In addition, the farmers of Africa, South America and Asia receive a fair price for their products, which allows those communities to invest in education, health care and agricultural improvements. In addition, for each case of chocolate we purchase, the Equal Exchange Project makes a contribution to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's programs supporting social justice and human rights. Everybody wins (unless you eat too much chocolate!)

After a recent review of our prices, there are a few changes to make pricing more equitable for our caffeinated and decaffeinated customers. New prices will go into effect June 1, 2006. Caffeinated coffees will cost \$35.00/case (6 bags) or \$7.00 per bag. Decaffeinated coffees will cost \$41.00/case (6 bags) or \$8.00 per bag. Tins of hot chocolate mix and baking chocolate will remain \$4.50 per tin. Chocolate bars will continue to sell for \$30.00/case (12 bars) or \$3.00/bar, however chocolate bars won't be available again for purchase by the case until October. We don't currently keep tea on hand, but if there was interest in this item, we could begin to stock it. Right now a case of tea costs \$33.00 and a box of tea would be \$3.75.

So, if you like coffee or chocolate, and if your UU principles are important to you, consider supporting our Equal Exchange sales at the Church. Stop by the Equal Exchange table during coffee hour and make a purchase or place your special order. It's an indulgence your conscience can live with.

*Saunis Parsons*

### Membership News:

We're excited to welcome the following new members to our Church. Please join us in congratulating Megan Harding, Chris Shantery, Mary Lou Holly, Mike Lee, Dani Beale and Bobbi Beale who all recently signed the book.

Membership Directories in beautiful technicolor will be for sale during the next few weeks during coffee hour. For just \$5.00, you can own one of these beauties. See the Thread From the Web for details. Big thanks go to our photographers Melissa Rubin and Colleen Norris, to Michelle Angelo-Baker who formatted all of the pictures and made sure that the right names went with the right people, and to Jim Scott who did a little horse-trading to get these directories printed when we ran into money difficulties. The proceeds of these sales will be held and used for printing the next directory.

A thank you to Lynn Kindsvatter who will be serving as co-chair of the membership committee. We're looking forward to a great year.

*Kay Clatterbuck*

### Book Group Meetings

**June 13** at 7 pm - We will meet at Linda Bunyan's. If you want to carpool, meet in the church parking lot at 6:30 pm. The book will be *My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk. Linda plans to serve us Turkish food as this novel is set in 16<sup>th</sup> century Istanbul.

**July 18** at 7 pm - We will meet at Kathie Slater's. The book will be *Freakonomics* by Steven Levitt. This book explores the hidden side of everything--by a rogue economist.

**August 8** at 7 pm - Place to be announced. Share a book you have read this summer relating to your summer activities or summer travel.

### Tie-Dye Palooza

What? Tie-Dying at the Church Picnic.  
 Why? Raise funds for Hurricane Katrina relief.  
 When? June 11th at the Plum Creek picnic after church.  
 Who? The youth group and everyone else !

White t-shirts fit for dying will be available with a handsome locally designed logo on front. Suggested sales price of \$10 or up for finished shirts. Any questions? Just ask any of the youth, we'll be happy to answer all of them.

*The Youth Group*

### Hogwarts to March in Parade

Everyone is welcome to join the Hogwarts students, professors, prefects, and various other creatures (like maybe a HIPPO-GRIFF - whoops, I shouldn't have told ya that...) in the **Memorial Day Parade** in Kent on the morning of Monday **May 29**. We will meet at 9:30 am by the KENT Record Courier office, near the corner of Erie & Depeyster, in Kent. Wear your robes and other Harry Potter regalia. Scooters welcome. If you would like details, please contact Kelley Plishka. We need to know how many marchers to expect, plus you need to be on the contact list to get more info as it comes in...



### New member spotlight

Mary Lou Holly and Mike Lee visited our church several years ago but were not impressed enough at that time to visit on a regular basis. Trish McLoughlin, a long-time friend of theirs, invited them back after the church was reorganized and Melissa became minister. This time they kept coming back, and have found enough value here to become members after only a few months of attending.

Mike and Mary Lou noticed that the services were much more integrated, each element dovetailing and supporting the theme. And they liked how the church community had been included in each service through the chalice lighting and readings. Melissa's themes and personality impressed them, too. Unlike other churches they've visited, Mary Lou notes that "The congregation really sings at our church." And, "People seem more engaged with the church here."

By attending the four sessions for new members this year they became aware of the church's restructuring and how the church improved as a result. They also made acquaintances with several other new members at the sessions. Mike and Mary Lou were also impressed by the diversity of activities they learned about at the sessions.

Mike is interested in the grounds and gardening opportunities at church, while Mary Lou has found a voice in the choir and attends Margo's yoga class.

Both work at Kent State. Mike teaches physics, and Mary Lou is a coordinator in the College of Education.

*Brad Bolton*

## June Calendar

1 Thu. 4:15 pm- Yoga	5:00-6:30 Yoga fundamentals	19 Mon. 10:15 am- Gentle Yoga
6:15 pm- Yoga	6:30 pm- Choir	5:15 pm- Gentle Yoga
2 Fri. 4:00 pm- Wedding rehearsal	7:30 pm- AA	7:00 pm- Celtic Clan @ Kent Health Care Center
3 Sat. 3:00 pm- Wedding	12 Mon. 10:15 am- Gentle Yoga	20 Tue. 5:15 pm- Yoga (Moderate)
4 Sun. 5:00-6:30 Yoga fundamentals	5:15 pm- Gentle Yoga	7:00 pm- Yoga (Challenging)
6:30 pm- Choir	7:00 pm- Celtic Clan @ Stow Glen Assisted Living	7:00- Committee on Ministry- EA
7:30 pm- AA	13 Tue. 5:15 pm- Yoga (Moderate)	21 Wed. 9:30 am- Yoga
5 Mon. 10:15 am- Gentle Yoga	7:00 pm- Yoga (Challenging)	7:30 pm- Women's choir
5:15 pm- Gentle Yoga	14 Wed. 9:30 am- Yoga	22 Thu. 4:15 pm- Yoga
7:30 pm- Celtic Clan practice	(7:00) 7:15- Board Meeting- EA	6:15 pm- Yoga
6 Tue. 5:15 pm- Yoga (Moderate)	7:30 pm- Women's choir	25 Sun. 6:30 pm- Choir
6:30-7:30 - RE Committee mtg.- EA	7:30-9:00 pm- Building Your Own Theology- FL	7:30 pm- AA
7:00 pm- Yoga (Challenging)	15 Thu. Hogwarts- Kent Masonic Temple- p. 3	26 Mon. 10:15 pm- Gentle Yoga
7 Wed. 9:30 am- Yoga	4:15 pm- Yoga	5:15 pm- Gentle Yoga
7:30 pm- Women's choir	6:15 pm- Yoga	7:30 pm- Celtic Clan practice
7:30-9:00- Building Your Own Theology- FL	Newsletter deadline	27 Tue. 5:15 pm- Yoga (Moderate)
8 Thu. 4:15 pm- Yoga	16 Fri. Hogwarts- Masonic Temple & Church- p. 3	7:00 pm- Yoga (Challenging)
6:15 pm- Yoga	17 Sat. Hogwarts- Towner's Woods	28 Wed. 9:30 am- Yoga
7:00 pm- Men's Group	18 Sun. Hogwarts- Church	(7:00) 7:15 Board Meeting- EA
8 pm- Hogwarts mtg.- FL	5:00-6:30- Yoga fundamentals	7:30-9:00 pm- Building Your Own Theology- FL
11 Sun. <b>10:30 am- Summer schedule: 1 service</b>	6:30 pm- Choir	29 Thu. 4:15 pm- Yoga
1:00 pm- Church picnic (Plum Creek park)- <i>see below</i>	7:30 pm- AA	6:15 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

*Calendar does not reflect changes or additions after May 15*

### Out to Lunch Bunch

We extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to join others for lunch - Dutch treat - after church on Sundays. The schedule of where we will meet follows - changes will be announced in the Thread.

**June 4** El Campesino (Rt. 59, near Stow Kent Plaza)

**June 11** All church Picnic

**June 18** China City (Rt. 43 in University Plaza)

**June 25** El Campesino

We are looking for some new places. If there is a place you like to go after church that can accommodate a group, is generally smoke-free, has parking, has vegetarian and non-vegetarian options, is reasonably priced, and will allow separate checks, let Susan Goekler know so we can add it to the schedule.

### Church Picnic Potluck!

Join us for a fine summer kickoff, Sunday June 11 at 1 pm. It's at **Plum Creek Park** in Kent, (off Mogadore Road) at Shelter #1. We'll provide paper products, utensils, ice, and a grill. You bring a labeled item to share, and your dizzyingly delightful personality. And maybe a frisbee. Musicians, pack your guitar, banjo, drum, banakula, kazoo, baster, whatever...

### Celtic Clan

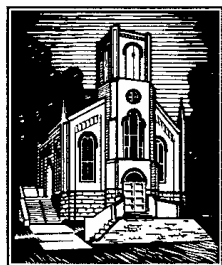
6/5/06 7:30 PM- Practice in the sanctuary

6/12/06 7:00 PM- Stow Glenn Assisted Living

6/19/06 7:00 PM- Kent Health Care Center

6/26/06 7:30 PM- Practice in the Sanctuary

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



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### Among Ourselves

Alice Maurine Thomas, the mother of Mary Maske, died peacefully in early May. Please keep Mary in the light as she journeys through this transition. And please say a prayer for Bill Avery and his family and friends who are grieving the sudden death of Bill's wife, Jeanette Avery. Bill and Jeanette were both present for the service celebrating the work of the Urban Hope Unitarian Universalist Community held in our church in late April.

Congratulations to Diane Kloss and David Krantz who joined together in marriage on May 13. Congratulations to the Kuemerle family, Joe, Beth, Justin and Kate, who welcomed Connor Raymond Kuemerle into the world on April 11. Abundant blessings be upon them!

And our well wishes to Adina Mather. Adina has been very ill. She is continuing her recovery at home now and we hope to see her back at church soon.

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

### Tai Chi

Tai chi is an ancient Chinese meditative practice that involves flowing movements. Tai chi classes are held on Monday evenings in Fessenden hall. Beginners start at 8 pm, intermediate students at 7:30, and advanced students at 7 o'clock. Newcomers are welcome to start any Monday; it is an open class.

Please wear loose fitting clothes and socks or slippers. The suggested donation is \$5, which goes to the church for utilities.

For more information, contact Susan Goekler, certified instructor with the Tai Chi Association of Atlanta, GA.

### 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.