



The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



November 2008

Sunday Services
9:30 and 11:15

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The 15th each month

On Sunday, October 12, we had the good fortune and great pleasure of installing Christie Anderson as our congregation's Commissioned Lay Leader (CLL). During the service I read a letter sent by the Rev. Chris Neilson, chair of the Commissioned Lay Leader Committee to our congregation. For those of you who missed it, Chris' letter read:

"It is my pleasure to welcome Christie as our newly commissioned lay leader. She is exceptionally skilled and a delight to know. The CLL program honors Unitarian Universalist lay members who are recognized as leaders in their church, and choose to develop a set of skills that augment their commitment to the church. Some people have a general commitment, and others focus in a particular area such as worship, pastoral care, education or membership. They apply as a candidate to the program, and work with a mentor and a long reading list as they develop knowledge in their area of focus, as well as in Unitarian Universalist history and polity, leadership and ethics. At the end of their study period, the candidates come back to the committee for an interview and lead a short worship service."

"At our meeting last week, the committee unanimously endorsed Christie's commissioning and we are pleased to make that official and public by honoring her in a worship service. She has worked hard to achieve this accomplishment. Congratulations Christie, on your commissioning. I hope you have many meaningful opportunities to share your ministry with this congregation."

We installed Christie as our Commissioned Lay Leader for a three year term, which is renewable. During that time we will have the benefit of her many contributions to our congregational life, especially in worship and Small Group Ministry. We also look forward to Christie's creation of a book of devotional writings (she is still accepting submissions if you have written a meditation or prayer you'd like her to consider for inclusion) and to her assistance with the pastoral ministry of our congregation. I am particularly glad that Christie will soon be able to serve as a celebrant for weddings and commitment ceremonies. I receive many calls from people looking for a celebrant who are not associated with the church and will be glad to refer these couples to Christie when I am not available.

As part of the ritual of installation, the congregation issued Christie this charge: "We do hereby install you, Christie Anderson, as our Commissioned Lay Leader. We charge you to lead among us in the search for truth and the service of love. We celebrate your contributions to our church community and offer you our good will and great appreciation for your commitment to share your gifts and talents with us."

Christie offered this pledge in response: "In gratitude for your confidence and support, I am honored to partner with this church community as we journey together toward meaning and spiritual growth. While remaining vigilant to the responsibilities of this role, I pledge to serve as your Commissioned Lay Leader to the best of my ability."

If you have not yet had the opportunity, please do take a moment to congratulate Christie on her achievement. We are blessed to have such a dedicated leader in our midst.

In faith,

Melissa

November Sermons

November 2 *Portraits in Social Witness*

Kiya Heartwood and Linda Mishler

Kiya Heartwood will be our Guest in the Pulpit. For those of you who did not have the pleasure of hearing her at Summer Institute this past summer, or at the concert Saturday Nov. 1, Kiya is a partner in the group A Wishing Chair. Since 1995, Kiya has made an art of inspiring performances and award winning songs. Her songs are a passionate mix of intelligent lyrics & spell-binding storytelling.

November 9, 2008 *What Next?*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Christie Anderson

The voting has been done, the counting completed (we hope). What comes next for us after such a significant election? Come worship with us as we look toward tomorrow in celebration of the ties that bind us together.

November 16, 2008 *Dignity and Justice for All*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Ted Voneida

"You have chosen to light a candle rather than curse the darkness." Inspired by these words from Eleanor Roosevelt, we will gather to celebrate life and consider how we can give our hands and hearts to the work of dignity and justice for all.

November 19 Vespers *Kindness*

Elaine Yehle Bowen

Our new congregational covenant exhorts us to "practice kindness." What does that mean to you? Using the book "A Short Course in Kindness" we will explore kindness in theory and in practice.

November 23, 2008 *With Hope and Thanksgiving*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Lori McGee.

Everyone is invited to share in the joyous communion that will be our annual whole church Thanksgiving celebration. This morning we will have the opportunity to recognize and formally welcome the newest members of our congregation.

Nov. 30 *Growing up UU*

Among others, speakers are, Julie Linebaugh, Randi Palmer and Tracy Parsons.

This service will give you a perspective from several different generations about "Growing up as a Unitarian Universalist".

Pastoral Care Re-Visioning Summit Scheduled

In a growing and vibrant congregation such as ours, it is important to take time every now and again to consider the strength and shape of our varied ministries. On Sunday, November 23 from 1:30 to 3:30, we will hold a Pastoral Care Re-Visioning Summit. During this two hour session, we will consider what is working particularly well in our lay pastoral ministries and identify those places where we might imagine creative new initiatives.

Everyone who has any interest in pastoral care (whether or not you have ever been involved in this area of congregational life) and everyone who has anything at all to do with pastoral care (including the pastoral associates and all the people who bake and cook and give rides and help with other concrete needs) are invited and encouraged to attend. If you are able to attend please register with Judy Brannan, our church secretary, by phone or email so that we can plan our space accordingly.

I have invited my colleague, the Rev. Lynn Acquafondata, to come and facilitate this session for us. Lynn is the ministerial representative to the Ohio Meadville District Board of Trustees and has most recently served as the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the South Hills in Pittsburgh. She is in the process of identifying the next chapter in her ministry while continuing to live in Pittsburgh. I am glad that Lynn is free to come consult with us and hope that you will be able to attend this short, but important re-visioning session.

Melissa

Moderator's Message

Like many of you, I've been thinking a lot about finances lately. Most of us have personal and family finances to manage, and some also have business finances to handle. Those of us who are members of this church have one additional budget to contemplate. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see an announcement for a congregational meeting scheduled for December 7, 2008 to approve our church budget for the first six months of 2009. This vote will be the culmination of many months of dedicated work by many members of our congregation. I'll briefly recap the process.

Last June, the Finance Committee solicited budget requests for the first half of 2009 from Board members and committee chairs. This information was used to provide a monetary goal to the Stewardship Committee. That committee has just completed a very successful campaign, during which over 2/3 of you made a financial pledge to our church for a total pledge amount that exceeds last year's six-month equivalent by 6%! The Finance Committee has used the results of the campaign to prepare a draft budget that will be considered by the Board at our November meeting. Once the Board has finalized the draft budget it will be distributed to all of you for review and discussion on December 3 and for a vote on December 7.

On behalf of the entire Board, I want to thank the members of the Finance Committee and the Stewardship Com-

Social Justice Committee meeting

All are welcome to participate in the Social Justice Committee meeting November 2 after second service in Fessenden Hall. The agenda includes planning winter social justice activities (perhaps a social justice fair, movies, etc.), recommending special offerings, and finalizing Election Night dinner plans. Bring yourself, your ideas, and a brown bag lunch. If you want child care, let Susan Goekler know at least 1 week in advance.

Church Library Additions

Kate Braestrup, chaplain of the Maine Warden Service and a UU minister, turned the tragedy of her husband's death into the career of a very effective and unique minister. Her book is *Here if You Need Me*.

The other book is *Rise Up Singing: the Group Singing Songbook*, 15th edition, edited by Peter Blood and Annie Patterson. Used by our Music Department and for sing-alongs at church, this book offers the words, chords, and sources for 1,200 songs. Joan Baez describes the book as "worth devouring for all those who love to sing."

Martha Kluth

mittee for their commitment and diligence in caring for the financial well-being of our church. The Finance Committee is chaired by Susan Goekler and members include Mac Goekler, Jane Krimmer, Rod Mishler, Beth Straubhaar, and Beth Wills. Members of the Stewardship Committee are Linda Mishler (chair), Dani Beale, Chris Hurlbut, Kim Marfy, Carrie Shelly, Joanne Slease, Kristina Spaude, Kathy Walker and Marion Yeagler.

Our Fundraising Committee, co-chaired by Sandra Bowers and Colleen Norris, plays a critical role in helping us bridge the gap between pledged income and church expenses. Pivotal in that fundraising is our annual Service Auction, chaired this year by Beth Wills and Sandy Bowers. I hope you'll be able to join us for this evening of food, fun, fellowship and fundraising on November 15. Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to all of you who answered the call to stewardship and pledged some of your precious financial resources to the support of our beloved church. In these difficult economic times, your contributions mean more than ever.

In appreciation and faith,

Rhonda Richardson, Moderator

Kiya Heartwood Concert

Kiya Heartwood will be our special guest the weekend of November 1 & 2, 2008. For those of you who did not have the pleasure of hearing her at Summer Institute this past summer, Kiya is a partner in the group *A Wishing Chair*. She is also the life partner of Meg Barnhouse.

Since 1995, Kiya has made an art of inspiring performances and award winning songs. Her songs are a passionate mix of intelligent lyrics & spell-binding storytelling, all rolled into a folk & rock sound. Her guitar work compliments her amazing wide open vocals. Kiya has been said to seduce the listener with soulful confessions, political broadside, and a wicked groove.

A Wishing Chair has released 8 CDs, the latest of which appeared last July. Titled *Folk and Roll (#7)*, it was recorded live in Austin Texas. Their 6th CD, *Underdog*, was awarded Best New Folk CD of 2006 by JP Folks, an Indie organization of over 40,000 music industry professionals.

Kiya will appear in concert on Saturday November 1 at 7:30 in the Sanctuary. Tickets are \$10 and will go on sale during coffee hour October 12.

She will also be our guest in the pulpit on Sunday November 2.

Linda Mishler

Come One, Come All to the Election Day Dinner

Our church will revive an old tradition when we host the Election Day Dinner on Tuesday, November 4, beginning at 6:30 pm in Fessenden Hall. Everyone is welcome to enjoy great food and conversation, and folks can stay late and watch the returns at the church.

The Election Day Dinner at our church dates back at least 100 years according to Roger DiPaolo who writes the column "Portage Pathways" for the *Record-Courier* newspaper. Olive Hobbs, who has been a church member since 1945, remembers attending and preparing food for the Election Day Dinner in the 1940s. Olive says, "It was quite a social event. Marge Fessenden used to run it. All the political people like the mayor and the council people and the candidates who were running for office used to come. The menu was always the same: turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, cranberry salad. The dressing that went with it was made of cream. And they had rolls and pie for dessert. It was quite an elaborate dinner. Marge Fessenden took great care in seating people, and she made sure that she never put rabid Democrats beside prominent Republicans."

According to Olive, dinners on election days were common in local Ohio communities in the early decades of the twentieth century, when election day was a holiday. People used to vote at the Franklin Township Hall next door



Congregational Voting Meeting

There will be a congregational voting meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at 12:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, following the second service. The agenda items are:

- Approval of minutes from the May 11, 2008 meeting
- Voting on the January-June 2009 budget

A quorum of ¼ of active members is needed, so please mark your calendar and plan to attend. An information and discussion meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2008, 7:15 p.m. at which time copies of the May 11 minutes and the proposed January-June 2009 budget will be distributed. This will be an opportunity for members of the congregation to ask questions and offer comments about the proposed budget. All are strongly encouraged to attend that meeting so that we can expedite the voting process on December 7. Free child care will be available for both meetings, but must be reserved one week in advance; please contact the church office (330-

and then walk to our church for the dinner. The dinners were used to raise money for the church.

Olive has heard stories about early Election Day Dinners at our church. She says that back before World War I, the menu was different. Back then the church always served creamed chicken and biscuits. Each family was asked to bring a chicken, and the women would cook them for everyone. The dinner in the old days was at noon, and people stayed for supper and into the evening when the returns began coming in. Olive has heard that in the very early days, the dinner cost 25 cents and the supper cost 15 cents.

Dinner in 2008 will cost a little more than 25 cents, but not much! We are suggesting a donation of \$5. Tickets will be on sale during coffee hour at the Fair Trade coffee table. You can also buy a ticket at the door. We won't be serving either chicken or turkey, but our superb chefs Bill and Elaine Bowen will cook up delicious pasta, both with and without meat. Folks are encouraged to bring salads, desserts, and drinks to accompany the pasta. If you need child care or you need a ticket held for you, please contact Susan Goekler by Sunday Nov 2 so we can plan appropriately.

The old Election Day Dinners faded away in the early 1960s. Now they are back. We on the Social Justice Committee look forward to enjoying election day with you.

Vivien Sandlund, Social Justice Committee

673-4247 if you will be needing child care during either or both meetings.

If you are unavoidably prevented from attending the December 7 voting meeting you may contact the Moderator, Rhonda Richardson, for instructions for submitting an absentee ballot. Per Article IV, Section 5 of our church by-laws, "only active members who provide a written statement to the Moderator prior to the meeting stating that they are unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting may submit an absentee ballot. Such ballot must present the member's position clearly enough that the Moderator can interpret the member's intent at the time of the vote. Absentee ballots are not counted in determining a quorum. Before discussing or acting on an issue, the Moderator shall announce the number of absentee ballots received and accepted."

Fair Trade Goods Available During Coffee Hour

As part of our social justice commitment, we offer Equal Exchange fair-trade products for sale during coffee hour. We usually carry several kinds of caffeinated coffees, decaffeinated coffee, and at least one flavored coffee. Chocolate bars (including 2 new flavors), tea, spicy hot cocoa mix, regular hot cocoa mix and baking cocoa, are also available. Other products are available for special order, giving people more choices and a small price break for purchasing in bulk. Just stop by the coffee table in Fessenden Hall during coffee hour to purchase your items, or to place an order, or e-mail me.

Recently Equal Exchange notified their customers that they would be forced to raise their prices due to increased fuel costs, the falling value of the dollar with respect to other currencies, and increasing demand for Fair-Trade commodities, among other reasons. As a result, we are increasing our prices as well. We will be phasing the price increases in as we use up the inventory purchased at the lower prices. Caffeinated coffees will be \$7.50/bag, decaffeinated coffee will be \$8.50/bag, and flavored coffees will be \$7.75/bag. Tins of cocoa and baking chocolate will be \$5.75 each, and chocolate bars will \$3.50 each.

Purchasing Equal Exchange products through your church 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. Plus, the farming co-ops receive a fair price for



Don Easterling caught washing dishes after church

Thanksgiving Dinner at Church

If you would like to join members of the church family on Thanksgiving for dinner at 3 pm, please sign up on a flyer in Fessenden Hall. Fee \$3 per person, \$2 for children, infants free. The fee covers turkey, dressing, gravy. Each family is also asked to bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share -- indicate what you will bring when you the sign up. We also need volunteers to help with set up and clean up. Following dinner, we will have games available for those who want to hang around and play. For more information, contact Susan Goekler.

their products, which allows those communities to invest in education, health care and agricultural improvements. In addition, for each pound of Equal Exchange products we buy, Equal Exchange makes a donation to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to support their programs in social justice and human rights.

The money that we make goes to the Social Justice Committee and we use it to support many of our social justice projects, such as bringing speakers to the church, or helping to purchase video equipment for the church. We also recently began to work with the fundraisers committee to provide coffee at cost for the Kent Farmer's Market, with all of those proceeds going directly to the church rather than the Social Justice Committee.

Up to this point we have allowed people to help themselves to items on the honor system if they aren't able to purchase the item during coffee hour, and usually this works fairly well. However, this only works if people record what they have taken and when, and how much they owe at that time. From time to time, we have a problem with people who take items and don't record the purchase or pay the money for the item. This happened again the last week in August, when someone took 2 bars of chocolate, but didn't record the purchase, or pay for it. If this continues to happen, we will need to reconsider whether this policy can continue or not, mostly because my heart can't stand the strain of having the inventory sheets not balance with our books. If you took the bars and just forgot to pay it, no problem. Just see me on Sunday and 'fess up and all will be well.

Saunis Parsons

Chalice Lighters

Many churches joined in and celebrated OMD Chalice Lighter Sunday on October 19th or scheduled an alternate date. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be a chalice lighter. For those who are not but would like to be, visit www.ohiomeadville.org and click Chalice Lighter in the left column. You can sign up online, or read about the program at this site. Chalice Lighters commit to pay a minimum of \$10 per call up to 4 calls a year to assist congregation in projects that help our congregations grow and thrive. The next call will be sent out November 1, so check your email or the OMD website to read which exciting project has been selected.

UU Election Issues of Conscience

Here's a brief rundown of the 2008 ballot issues, with a recommendation on voting your U-U conscience from the Social Justice Committee :

STATE ISSUES

ISSUE 1 – Earlier filing and better rules for ballot issues

YES – should make process more orderly, prevent manipulation of ballot issues

ISSUE 2 – bond issue for Clean Ohio Fund

YES – This fund helped with the Kent River Restoration project, supports farmland preservation in Portage County, and will be a resource for environmental improvement all over Ohio

ISSUE 3 – Protection of property rights for landowners along Lake Erie

NO – Those property rights are already adequately protected.

ISSUE 5 -- Payday Lender referendum

YES – This issue asks voters to decide whether or not to enforce Section 3 of H.B. 545, the critical section that cuts the interest rate that can be charged to 28 percent. It has purposely been cast as an issue of enforcing existing law to fool voters into thinking that a 'no' vote caps interest at 28%. (for more explanation:

<http://www.ohio.com/editorial/opinions/28363479.html>)

ISSUE 6 – Casino gambling amendment

NO – This amendment would authorize an exception to Ohio law governing casinos to build one casino near Wilmington Ohio, with many loopholes.

PORTAGE COUNTY ISSUES

ISSUE 31 – General Health Levy for Portage County (excludes Kent and Ravenna)

YES – with no increase in millage since 1955, the County Health Department is severely constrained in providing services, especially monitoring septic systems.

ISSUE 32 – Portage Park District 0.05 mill levy.

YES – this is a new but minuscule levy – about 5 cents a day on property valued at \$100,000. It will provide funding for park improvements and operation; enhance recreational opportunities and help protect water, land and wildlife.

ISSUE 35 – Mental Retardation Developmental Disabilities – renewal of 2-mill levy

YES – funds programs and services for disabled children and adults

ISSUE 36 – Mental Health and Recovery issue. 0 .05 mill levy renewal

YES – these programs are effective for people in need

Caroline Arnold



Lights, Camera, Auction !

We're counting down to our annual Service Auction, but with so many new members in the church I thought it would be a good idea to explain exactly what this auction is, and why YOU want to come! The Service Auction is more than just a big fundraiser, although it is the largest fundraiser our church does, other than the annual canvass. But it is so much more than that! The Service Auction is THE social event of the season. With Denny Eberhart as our auctioneer and Assistant Moderator Rod Mishler as his "straight man", it is great entertainment, even if you don't buy anything! You'll dine well, on a gourmet selection of hearty appetizers and desserts, accompanied by wine, mixed, drinks, and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages. And the items up for grabs....well, you can do your

Christmas shopping and fill up your calendar all in one night! Many local businesses have donated baskets, gift certificates, and event tickets. Church members donate dinners, babysitting services, massages, fun events, and artwork. Even our minister contributes to the fun, offering the chance to choose the topic for one of her services.

So mark your calendars for November 15th at 6:00 p.m. for Lights, Camera, Auction! Tickets are on sale NOW at coffee hour for \$12, or can be purchased at the door for \$15. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities for short shifts the night of the auction – and volunteers get a free ticket! Donation forms are still available if you have an item or a service you'd like to offer. Questions? Contact Beth Wills.

Guest At Your Table

As we sit down with our families and friends for meals this holiday season, let's be sure to make a place for a guest at our table. That guest may be a child starving in Darfur, or an immigrant worker struggling for workplace rights at a poultry processing plant in Mississippi. Our guest may be a woman in South Africa organizing so that the poor have enough clean water, or a woman in Egypt working to advance women's rights. You can bring hope and support to the guest at your table by donating to UUSC, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, in this year's Guest at Your Table program.

Participating is easy. You take home a Guest at Your Table box, provided by the church, and put it at your table during each meal between Sunday, November 23rd and Sunday, December 21st. At each meal, be sure to donate some money to your guest by putting money into the box. On December 21st, bring your box back to the church. You should count the money in the box, and convert your cash donations into a check written to UUSC. Check off "membership" on the coupon on the box and include that coupon in your mailing. Send your check, with Guest at Your Table in the memo line, along with your name and address and your coupon to UUSC Guest at Your Table, P.O. Box 845259, Boston, MA, 02284. These donations will count toward your UUSC membership, which costs \$40 a year for regular members, \$10 for youth, and \$20 for seniors. If you make a donation of \$100 or more, it will be matched by Shelter Rock Congregation. If 25% of the members of our church become members of UUSC through our donations, then we will again receive the UUSC Creating Justice Award.



See Historic Presidential Campaign Badges

UU Church members and friends who missed Alice's program for the Kent Historical Society are invited to a special walk-through exhibit of her impressive collection on November 2 and November 4 from around noon to 6 p.m. at The School House.

Alice has a large, tastefully mounted collection of campaign badges, buttons, and other memorabilia from every presidential election since 1880. She is offering us a chance to see them before she puts them away for another 4 years. You are welcome to drop in, reflect on the history of the U. S. Presidency, and put this year's election in perspective. Come and go at a time of your own choosing on either of these dates:

Our generous donations to the Guest at Your Table program over the years have enabled many people to tell stories of hope. There is the story of Maria, a Cuban immigrant who worked for eleven years in a poultry processing plant in Mississippi. Maria suffered sexual harassment, discrimination, and threats on the job. Often she was not paid all of the wages due her for her long day's work. Then Maria discovered and joined MPOWER, Mississippi Poultry Workers for Equality and Respect. MPOWER is funded by UUSC. Through MPOWER Maria learned to stand up for herself and for her fellow workers. Today she is an organizer for MPOWER.

Together we enable more people to tell stories of hope like Maria's. Our support for the Guest at Your Table program will fund the important social justice work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee around the world. This year UUSC is celebrating the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. UUSC has been partnering with local organizations around the world for more than thirty years to work for human rights, peace, and justice.

Donating to Guest at Your Table is a great way for all of us to put our UU faith into action. You can pick up a box any Sunday in November and December during coffee hour downstairs in the church. Please see Vivien Sandlund, our UUSC local representative, or Mac and Susan Goekler if you have questions.

Vivien Sandlund, Local Representative to UUSC

Sunday, November 2, after church to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, November 4 (Election Day), noon to 6 p.m. (before the church dinner)

The School House is beside the water tower on Fairchild Avenue at the Woodard Avenue stop light. Convenient parking is on the east side of Woodard Avenue or on Randall Drive, one block west of our driveway. Not in our driveway, please.

Questions? Call Alice or Gordon Vars. Do come to this memorable non-partisan, historic, political event!

Financial Corner

September and 2008 Year-to-date Financials for General Fund:

	REVENUES	EXPENDITURES	REVENUES - EXP
Sept. actual:	\$14042	\$15991	-\$1948
Monthly plan:	\$14692	\$15182	-\$490
Year through Sept. actual:	\$142554	\$145074	-\$2520
Year through Sept. plan:	\$139390	\$152921	-\$13531

September was not as good as planned or as some previous months; Revenues were \$650 below plan and Expenditures were just over \$800 above plan. But year-to-date Revenues are about \$3000 above plan, and Expenditures about \$8000 below plan. In September, based on our historical 'summer slump', we planned a significant increase in pledge income as people return from their summer. Revenues were higher, but not to the extent expected. We are expecting even higher Revenues in October.

A word on these numbers: We operate on a break-even budget meaning that the plan is to have the \$15355 that we started the year with back in the bank at the end of this year. This means that cumulative Revenues less Expenditures are \$0 at the end of the year. We know that during the year, Revenues will not always be larger than or equal to Expenditures each month. So the question is: What do we expect each month, and in a given month for the year-to-date Revenues less Expenditures? By December this cumulative number is \$0. But during the year, we know that every year revenues dip in the summer months, we expect to use our cash reserves, and then we have a service auction in November and we generally meet our plan by the end the year. This year we made a specific projection for each month, in order to plan for adequate cash flow during the year. This is the monthly and year-to-date plan

Volunteer Update

It's time to update our volunteer database. All members and friends are asked to fill out a volunteer form indicating areas where you would like to help. This does not obligate you to say "yes" to every request, but the database provides a starting point in identifying potential volunteers. A newly revised form is available on the church's website under "documents". Additional forms are available on a table in the church foyer and you may place completed forms in the box on the same table. Thank you to everyone who already completed their form during the Committee Fun Fair held in September. If you have any questions please contact me.

Mary Leeson (volunteer coordinator)

number above, indicating we expected to be losing money at this point in the year, and we are losing less than planned.

You will be getting a Contribution Report in October. This will tell you what you have contributed through September vs. your pledge, and your pledge for the year. Our cash flow situation is such at this time of year we are always tight on cash. If you are behind on your pledge, the time when it would be of most benefit to get caught up would be October or early November, when we really need the cash to pay essential bills, and we do not yet have the money from the Service Auction. A few families paid their entire 2008 pledge earlier than planned, which has helped the year-to-date situation...THANKS.

Many people are now doing automatic payments to the church through on-line banking. This is very convenient: Just key in the church address and a monthly amount, and we get a check every month...no having to remember if you paid yet or not. If you have to vary the amount a few days before the check goes out, the amount can be adjusted to handle specific situations, or pay off your total pledge for the rest of the year. This would help keep revenues flat during the summer.

Thanks again for your financial support of the church, and for keeping us on plan for the year. I'll be happy to discuss the Contribution Report any time with you, or work with you to update any info on it, such as to whom the Report should be addressed, etc.

Bob Erdman, Trustee for Finance



Aidan Teagle in original Devosuit. It was worn the night before by Devos's drummer. Aidan's dad worked the stage at the Civic Theater and picked up the suit.

November Church Events

26 10:30-11:30 Pancake Breakfast <i>FH</i> 12:15-1:15 Pancakes, 2nd seating <i>FH</i> 4-5:30 Yoga /meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	27 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:00 Clan Haven Homes	28 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga 7-9:00 Living By Heart <i>FL</i>	29 9:30a Yoga 6:30-9:30 Finance-Comm. <i>EA</i> 7-9:00 COM <i>EA up</i>	30 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i> 7:15-9:15 OWL	31 4-6:00 Annex Consult room in use	1 5:30 Concert setup 7:30 Kiya Heartwood concert <i>p3</i>
2 12:15 Social Justice <i>FH p3</i> 4-5:30 Yoga /meditation 4-6:00 Hogwarts mtg. <i>EA</i> 6:30-7:30 Adult choir 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	3 10:15a gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7-8:00 Clan Woodlands	4 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 6:30 Election Dinner <i>FH p4</i> 7:00 Challenging Yoga	5 9:30a Yoga 3-6:30 <i>FH</i> in use 7-9:00 Our Many Lives <i>EA</i>	6 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i>	7 1-2:00 Yoga/Children	8
9 4-5:30 Yoga /meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	10 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:30 Clan practice	11 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	12 9:30a Yoga 7-9:30 Board mtg. <i>EA</i>	13 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i> 7-9 Men's Group <i>EA</i> 7:15 OWL	14 Auction setup 1-2:00 Yoga/Children 7:30 Around Town <i>S</i>	15 Newsletter deadline 6:00 Service Auction <i>p6</i>
16 4-5:30 Yoga /meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	17 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:30 Clan Stow Glen	18 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	19 9:30a Yoga 7-7:30 Vespers <i>S</i>	20 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i> 7-9:00 Master Plan	21 1-2:00 Yoga/children	22 9-5:00 Hogwarts baking
23 1-4:30 Pastoral Revisioning <i>S p2</i> 4-5:30 Yoga /meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	24 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:30 Clan Emeritus	25 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga 7-9:00 Living By Heart <i>FL</i>	26 9:30a Yoga 7-9:00 Living by Heart <i>FL</i>	27 3-8:00 Thanksgiving dinner <i>FH p5</i> 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i>	28	29 Hogwarts Yule Ball
30 10:30 Pancake Bkfst. 12:15 Pancake Bkfst. 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	1 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	2 Thread/Web deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	3 9:30a Yoga 5:00 Vespers meal setup 6:30-7 Vespers <i>S</i> 7:15-9:15 Congregation mtg. <i>S</i>	4 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i>	5 5-7:00 wedding rehearsal <i>S</i>	6 12-6:00 Shaffer wedding <i>S</i>

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; *L*- Library; *S*-Sanctuary; *N*- Nursery
 Calendar does not reflect changes or additions after October 21

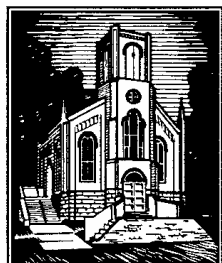
A complete and up-to-date church calendar can be viewed at <http://www.localendar.com/public/uukent> or through a link on our website at www.uukent.org.

Spirited Vespers for All Ages (first Wednesday) will be on sabbatical in November and December



Kent UU folks at Summer Institute last July. If you would like a copy of this photo, write the erudite editor of this exemplary publication.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
228 Gougler Ave.
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Celtic Clan

11/3	7pm Woodlands at Robinson, Ravenna
11/10	7:30 practice Sanctuary
11/17	7pm Stow Glenn Assisted Living
11/24	7pm Emeritus in Stow

Book Club Gatherings

On Tuesday, November 11, at 7 pm, we will meet at the home of Betty Kendrick. We will read *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. This describes Mortenson's dangerous and difficult quest to build schools in the wildest parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Book Group welcomes all who enjoy reading.

Out To Lunch Bunch

China City – except when pancake breakfast or other church lunch is held after church.

Hello from Jay Grech

Greetings from Boston! I'm happy to report the trip went well and I was blessed with beautiful weather on the way here. My girlfriend Kate and I went to the Arlington Street church on Sunday and took a walk around Boston Commons, this city's version of Central Park. We've been riding the trains, navigating through congested streets, and discovering that Bostonians take the Red Sox and ice cream very seriously.

As many of you know, while in Kent I served on the Committee on Ministry. Aside from replenishing the committee's membership, this year the CoM will spend time exploring models to assess the leadership of the church and itself. The committee will also continue promoting an environment of healthy communication and express appreciation for the many people who nurture our community.

I feel very fortunate for my involvement in the Kent church. I wouldn't have predicted it, but it changed the course of my life (some may say it gave me a course). I see involvement as the key. Although it's too early to be involved with a church as deeply as I was in Kent, I will miss knowing others and being known. Thanks to the Kent church, however, I know the value of community and will search for it in my next congregation.

Jay Grech