

# The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

# January 2009

Sunday Services 9:30 and 11:15

228 Gougler Ave. Kent, Ohio 44240 Phone: 330-673-4247 Fax: 330-677-4772 www.kentuu.org uukent@sbcglobal.net

#### Minister:

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer minister-uukent@sbcglobal.net Minister's office hours:

Tuesday - Friday
By appointment

Office Manager: Judy Brannan Office hours: Mon. through Fri. 9 - 1:30

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Brad Bolton
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Deadline:
The 15th each month

In Roman mythology, Janus was the god of thresholds, the god of gates and doors, of beginnings and endings. Janus was usually depicted with two heads – one looking back and one looking ahead. Legend had it that he was able to see both the past and the future at the same time. Our January is named after Janus, signifying a month on the threshold between the old year and the new. As an adult, I have not found our rituals and traditions for a new year in January to hold much resonance. January has just never struck me as a very likely time for a new year. To me the year always seems new in springtime when green life again rises from the dark brown earth. I also feel a sense of new beginnings in September, probably as a result of the many years I spent beginning school again in the fall. This year, though, is different.

This year as December comes to a close I am looking back. For the past two years I have been trying to conceive. Sadly, though, this has not been my blessing. At first I thought it was just a matter of time. My family is quite fertile; indeed most of my family members had their first children when they were themselves adolescents. I intentionally made a different choice. I knew when I was a child that I wanted to have children. I just decided that I would wait until I was older. At first that meant waiting until I was done with college, but then I was done with college I decided that I would wait until I was more financially stable. By the time I had achieved financial stability I was heading off to seminary. It then made sense to me to wait until I was finished with theological school. When I interviewed for my position at this church I knew that the time was finally close at hand so I told the search committee that I intended to have children. But I figured that I'd wait a couple of years until I had established myself in my role at the church. Ellen and I planned our first attempt so that I would be due in June. I thought it would be easier on the church if I took leave over the summer. I was confident that I would get pregnant on the first try. I never imagined that I would have the kind of trouble I have had. Each month has brought with it more heartache and discouragement. It has been very hard.

But as I said, I knew when I was a child that I would have children. Ellen shares this longing. We aren't ready yet to give up completely on the possibility that I might conceive so we may try once or twice more before we let that dream go. However, we have also decided that it is time to begin looking ahead. We are ready to open more doors. Beginning on January 6, Ellen and I will begin the process of becoming certified to adopt through the foster care system of the state of Ohio. The classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings for six weeks through mid February. I recognize that this will dramatically reduce my evening meeting availability for that time. I share this news with you to let you know why I am about to become less available in the evenings for a time and to ask for your creative cooperation in scheduling meetings that I need to attend. Though Mondays are my day off, I am willing to schedule important meetings on Monday evenings during this time if we can find no other alternative. The process of becoming certified by the state will take at least six months, possibly longer. After we are certified, the state will be able to place foster children in our home. If there is a reunification plan in place, the state will attempt to help the child's birth parents meet the qualifications they have set in order to place the child again in their custody. If the

# **January Sermons**

January 4

Peacemaking - Building a Culture of Peace

Mac Goekler and Worship Associate Susan Goekler

Our UU denomination has embarked on a four-year study action mission to discern our UU commitment to peacemaking. We are well into our third year of this effort. This is our first time that we have taken such an undertaking and the results have been very enlightening. We want to share with you some of our experiences and insights as Mac is on the UUA Peacemaking Core Team that has been facilitating this endeavor. Our congregation is now being asked to provide its input into the Peacemaking Statement of Conscience proposal.

January 11

Welcoming What Is

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Marion Yeagler

The holidays are over. Winter is settling in. Most of us have returned to our ordinary routines. What is there to welcome? Together, we shall explore. Together we shall practice.

January 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Christie Anderson

As we honor the legacy of a man who changed our nation, we will consider what is still required of us if we are to live into our commitment of becoming an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, multi-cultural religious association. Come celebrate, remember, reflect and dream.

January 21- Vespers, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Counter Doldrums

Christie Anderson and Brad Bolton, with hand drums

Arouse your heart beats to the sound of drum beats by exploring the rhythmic spirit of drumming, which as mesmerized humans throughout history and across cultures. Then experience the rejuvenating energy yourself by participating in or listening to simple rhythmic drumming. A variety of hand drums, rattles and shakers provided. No experience needed.

January 25

Learning While Leading

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Kristofer Sperry

We often talk about the fact that ours is a religious tradition which values and promotes shared ministry. We talk less about learning to lead in our shared ministry and even less about what it takes to lead well. Whether you consider yourself a leader or not, this service is intended for you.

reunification plan requirements are not met after a specified period or if there is no plan in place, then we will be able to apply to adopt the child in our care. I will keep you posted as the process unfolds.

In other transitional news, I also want to share with you that I have been informed by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association that I have been awarded full and final fellowship. For those of you who have no idea what this means, the best analogy I can offer is that it is kind of like being granted tenure. For the first three years of my ministry I had preliminary fellowship. During that time I met with a senior colleague who served as a mentor once each month. I also submitted three annual evaluations (one completed by the Board of Trustees, one by the Committee on Ministry and one by me) to the Ministerial Fellowship Committee each year for review. Having successfully passed the last round of evaluations, I will formally be recognized as having achieved final fellowship at our annual Unitarian Univer-

salist General Assembly in Salt Lake City next June. Knowing that most of you will be unable to attend GA (though I hope we will have a full delegation this year), the Committee on Ministry is considering ways that we can celebrate this achievement together. It is said that good congregations make good ministers. I am grateful that my first experience in ministry is with such a good congregation. Thank you all for the good will and support that helped make the last three years positive ones for me and for the church. It hasn't been without its bumps, but I feel confident that we are in a good and healthy place as a congregation.

Last, I wish a Happy New Year to you all! May your holiday be healthy and happy. And may the year ahead bring you enough challenge to keep your interest, more joy than you dare hope for and abundant love.

In faith,

Melissa

# Moderator's Message

regularly hear comments from members and visitors Lalike expressing appreciation for the inspired, meaningful sermons delivered by our Reverend Melissa Carvill-Ziemer. And, upon hearing me mention our church, friends and acquaintances in the Kent community who have never attended a UUCK Sunday service have told me "I hear good things about your minister." I assume that most of you also deeply appreciate Melissa's ministry to our congregation. She does so much in so many ways for so many of us, yet she has the capacity and an expressed desire to do even more. This month, the Board of Trustees took action that will enable Melissa to expand her ministry. Specifically, the Board approved a policy stating that "for all financial records, the minister will have access to amounts donated, pledged, and paid unless the donor specifically writes to the Trustee for Finance requesting anonymity."

The suggestion for such a policy was first made back in June during Board discussion about the proposed finance policies that were drafted by the finance committee. Recognizing that it would represent a significant shift in our church culture around stewardship, the Board decided that rather than acting hastily we wanted to take some time to educate ourselves about the potential ramifications of such a policy. Over the next several months, some of us consulted with Ohio-Meadville District Executive, Rev. Joan VanBecelaere, spoke with moderators of several other UUA congregations, and read Beyond the Collection Plate: Overcoming Obstacles to Faithful Giving by author Michael Durall (© 2003, Abingdon Press). Here's what we learned that served as the basis for the Board's ultimate decision to pass a policy granting the minister access to congregants' pledge and payment records:

The practice of granting ministers access to pledge and payment information is increasingly prevalent and is "recommended practice."

Having access to pledge and payment information enables a minister to more fully tend to the pastoral care needs of congregations. It provides a vehicle for the minister to be aware of the highs and lows in congregants' lives. Often a change in pledge and/or payment amount signals a change in life that may warrant a pastoral care check-up call. And the minister would also know who might be a likely donor for a special needs situation.

Access to pledge and payment records enhances the minister's role in stewardship by permitting the minister to "express appreciation to those of modest means who support the church in ample measure" (Durall, p. 68) as well as to those of more comfortable means who are major contributors. Such expressions of gratitude, especially when they come from the minister, make donors feel appreciated and they tend to continue or increase levels of support.

Ministers are always very careful about not treating anyone in the congregation differently because of how much they pledge. Granting access to pledge and payment information signals a congregation's trust in and respect for the integrity of their minister.

The Board fully recognizes that individual members of the congregation will have different degrees of comfort with this new policy. Therefore, we have included an opt-out clause that allows any of you to request that your pledge and payment information not be shared with our minister. If you wish to exercise this option, please contact our Trustee for Finance, Bob Erdman, either via email or postal mail by January 15, 2009.

In shared appreciation for our minister, *Rhonda Richardson*, Moderator

#### **Peacemaking**

We are well into our third year of the UUA study action for Peacemaking and now is the time for our congregations to again get thoroughly involved. We will start this off with Peacemaking Sunday Services on January 4th. I will lead this service with the kind assistance of my partner Susan. Following this service we will have three Sunday Adult Exploration programs in succession during first service beginning January 11th. These services will address our congregation's response to the draft statement on Peacemaking, available here -

http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/peacemaking/121606.shtml

We will also have paper copies available during the Adult Exploration sessions. At the end of the January we will collect all the input and send it along to the UUA. If you are unable to attend the Adult Exploration sessions and still want to have you say about this important process -- please see me directly.

Peace - Mac Goekler, UUA Peacemaking Core Team Member

# "Recycled Life": The Children of the Guatemala City Dump

They wait patiently each day for the yellow trucks to arrive. They are called guajeros, and they live in the slums just outside the Guatemala City garbage dump. When the trucks dump their loads of trash, they run forward to pick through the piles, pulling from the trash the edibles that can sustain life and the valuables that they can sell or use. These are the families of the Guatemala City dump, thousands of impoverished people who, for over sixty years, have survived by digging through and recycling the city's trash. They are Guatemala's outcasts, the poorest and most despised in this notoriously poor country. Most have never attended school.

In 1997, a young woman from Maine arrived in Guatemala to learn Spanish and to volunteer with children there. A friend urged Hanley Denning to visit the basurero, the Guatemala City dump. What she saw changed her life and the lives of the guajero children. Hanley Denning decided that she had to act. She sold her computer and her car, and with a small sum of money, she opened a school for the children of the dump. Denning enrolled forty children in her school, and she provided them with tutoring and a healthy snack. From this humble beginning grew the organization called Camino Seguro, or Safe Passage, which today provides over 550 children with education and social services.

Hanley Denning was, tragically, killed in a car accident in Guatemala in 2007. Her friends and her colleagues have embraced her vision and have continued to extend the work of Safe Passage. We in our church now have the opportunity to help improve the lives of the children of the Guatemala City dump. On Friday evening, January 23rd, the Social Justice Committee will screen for the public an award-winning documentary about the people of the dump entitled "Recycled Life." The screening begins at 7:30PM in the church sanctuary and is free. Child care will be provided. On Sunday, January 25th, the congregation will take our special offering for Camino Seguro, or Safe Passage, to benefit the children of the Guatemala City dump. We hope you will join us to view this powerful film and will contribute generously for the children.

Vivien Sandlund, Social Justice Committee



#### Race, Whiteness, and Unitarian Universalism

During my time as a social worker, I experienced preschool children beginning to notice race. One little boy (whose family I had been working with for a year), looked at me one day and proclaimed, "Hey, you are white!". What does it mean to be white? How has being white shaped our daily life experiences?

In 1997 at General Assembly, Unitarian Universalists passed a resolution to become a multicultural religious community. Rev. Bill Gardiner, the author of *The Whiteness Curriculum*, has created an opportunity for Unitarian Universalist to begin the important work for racial equality. We at UUCK are excited to have this curriculum available to us!

The Whiteness Curriculum will be offered beginning Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. This curriculum will be jointly facilitated by our minister, the Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer, our Director of Religious Education, Diana Van Winkle and the other members of our Anti-Racism Action Task Force, Mac Goekler, Saunis Parsons and Esther Duncan. This seven session curriculum will meet on the following Friday evenings:

January 30<sup>th</sup>, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Each evening will begin at 6:00 pm with a shared meal. Exploration will follow from 6:30pm – 8:30pm in Fessenden Hall. In order to cover the cost of the meal and materials, we ask that each participant contribute \$25 payable on the first night of the class. However, we do not want cost to be the reason someone does not participate and will grant a waiver to anyone who requests one by contacting the minister.

To experience this opportunity, call the church office at 330-673-4247 and register by January 21<sup>st</sup>. It is important that you register to participate.

When registering please indicate any dietary issues or restrictions. Childcare is available for a fee and can only be offered if registered by January 21<sup>st</sup> and indicating the need for childcare.

Diana VanWinkle, director, DRE

The Guatemala City Dump

#### 5

# Membership Musings

#### A warm welcome to new members

Shana Steinhouse and Max Grub (daughter Sophie) Heidrun Hultgren

# Thinking about becoming a Member?

You can contact Kay Clatterbuck

# **Updated Directory**

Its that time again... We're updating our directory for 2009. If you are in the directory and your info is correct, you can sit back, relax and not do a thing. If you've joined the church within the past year, you will be automatically added to the new directory. If however, you need to update your information, please notify Judy at the church office with your new information. The deadline is January 31.

#### New U Class

New to our church? Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and our community. Our next New U Class will be offered on Saturday, January 31 from 9:00 to noon in Fessenden Hall (basement). Please look for the sign up sheet (conveniently located next to the coffee pot) on the membership bulletin board.

Kay Clatterbuck



# The UUCK "Soup"er Bowl

Even if you're not a football fan like me, please admit it's a clever play on words! Sunday, Feb. 5, the other Super Bowl, is a day for collecting cans of hearty soup/chili/stew/ravioli for Kent Social Services food programs.

Please stop by the football themed table in Fessenden Hall before, between and after worship services to drop off your cans and/or fill the empty soup pot with coins & cash.

The goal this year is 150 cans (we scored 125 last year) and \$125 (we collected \$100 last year.) I know that my UU team can do it!!!

GAME RECAP: When - Sunday, Feb. 5 from 9 AM to 1  $\,$  PM

Where - Football table in Fessenden Hall

What - many cans of soup/chili/stew/pasta, cash & coins

Who - YOU and everyone coming to church on 2/5

Why - because no one should be hungry and we care.

Goooooooo team UUCK!!!

Coach E. Y. "Woody" Bowen

#### Service Auction Events Available

If you missed this year's Service Auction but are still interested in attending some of the events, there are some spots left! Please contact the host/hostess directly. Checks should be marked "service auction" and put in the collection box in the lobby.

Myrddin Winery Wine 101, February 22, 2-4 pm– 13 spots at \$40; contact Kristofer or Evelyn Sperry

Tea Tasting Party, January 17, 2-4 pm - 3 spots at \$14; contact Susan Goekler

Taste of Ohio Wine Tasting, June 14, 6:30 pm – 6 spots at \$70; contact Kathie Slater or Marion Yeagler

Sustainable Dinner, June 20, 6 pm – 4 spots at \$25; contact Mary Lou Holly

Percussion Party, March 7, 7 pm - 2 spots at \$15; contact Trish McLoughlin

Monk 'n More, February 28, 6 pm − 2 spots at \$26; contact Mary Lou Holly

Knitting Lessons – 3 spots at \$35; contact Joann Slease Food & Wine Pairing, May 9, 6:30 pm – 4 spots at \$70; contact Kathie Slater or Marion Yeagler

Essential Oils Workshop, March 14, 1-4 pm – 8 spots at \$40; contact Beth Straubhaar

Biomes Dinner, May 16, 6 pm – 5 spots at \$30; contact Mary Lou Holly

Art History Lecture, February 21, 8 pm - 2 spots at \$35; contact Gingr Vaughan

Thanks - Beth Wills



Olive Hobbs, Wendy Mann and Coleman

#### Wednesday Vespers Expanded

Wednesday vespers for renewal and restoration has been so well received that we have decided to expand it to twice a month. Starting on January 21st and continuing through May 6th we will have restorative vespers on both the first and third Wednesdays at 7:00 pm with fellowship following at 7:30.

Due to the contemplative nature of this service, childcare will be offered. Please RSVP to the church office by the Thursday prior to the vespers service. If no one RSVPs, then childcare will be canceled.

Marion Yeagler

#### **Financial Corner**

#### November- and 2008- to-date Financials for General Fund:

	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUES-EXP</b>
NOV. ACTUAL:	\$27215	\$17674	+\$9541
MONTHLY PLAN:	\$27411	\$15467	+\$11944
YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUAL:	\$182402	\$179269	+\$3134
YEAR-TO-DATE PLAN:	\$182909	\$184416	-\$1507

ovember Revenues were essentially on plan. Net Service Auction Revenue was about the planned \$12,000, and pledge income was significantly above October and more in line with our average year-to-date. Expenditures were above plan. As discussed at an information meeting Dec. 3 and congregational meeting on Dec. 7, we expect to be able to end 2008 with a bank balance of over \$12,000.

The big unknown in revenue at this point is the pledge income that we will actually get in December, given the difficult financial situation at the end of this year. A significant uncertainty in expenditures in December is what reimbursements will be submitted. The church operates on a "cash basis", meaning that income and expenses for 2008 occur in 2008. This combined with our need to rapidly determine our financial status at the end of December, early in January, means that 2008 donations can only be accepted until Dec. 31, 2008. After that date, they will be credited to 2009.

The 2009 budget is predicated on having at least \$12,000 in the bank on Dec. 31. If we have more than \$16,000 in the bank, we can increase some church activity budgets. The amount of money in the bank is very directly related to how many pledge payments and other donations we get by Dec. 31. NOW is the time to get caught up on your pledge payments. Certainly donations in 2009 will help too, but the 2009 budget is predicated on how much we end up with at the end of 2008.

Likewise, expenses that you have meaning to turn in for reimbursement must be submitted NOW. These take some processing time. Whatever is actually paid in 2008 will count as a 2008 expense. If delayed until 2009, the expense goes against the 2009 budget. Many 2009 activity budgets are much smaller than in 2008, due to lower pledges. Some are zero. In order to avoid saddling these smaller budgets with 2008 expenses, requisition and reimburse forms must be turned in immediately.

Given the state of the economy, we are not doing badly, but we have to watch the details carefully, such as keeping 2008 expenses in 2008. In spite of the economic difficul-

ties of the year, we have done some wonderful things this year, such as the Tents for Hope, the special collections, pancake breakfasts, many other activities, concerts and Sunday music by visiting musicians, visiting Sunday speakers, and even a new chalice. Some of these were funded by budgeted line items, some by dedicated contributions, but the funding for all of this good work comes primarily from the generous giving of our congregation. Thank you for all you have enabled this year.

Please call or email me if you need any info on the status of your pledge, as many have already, or you need to change anything regarding your 2008 or 2009 pledge.

Enjoy the holiday.

Bob Erdman, Trustee for Finance



# **Books of the Month**

<u>Freedom from Fear</u> is by Forrest Church, minister of Public Theology of the All Souls Church in New York City. Franklin Roosevelt told us that what we have most to fear is fear itself. Forrest Church shows that we can start to overcome it. He begins by identifying the five kinds we face in life: fright, worry, guilt, insecurity, and dread. Each has its own logic, but their effect singly or collectively is paralysis. Conquering fear requires courage - to love, to act, and to be.

<u>Helping Your Angry Child</u> by Darlyne Nemeth, Kelly Ray, and Maydel Schexnayder is an interactive, self-help workbook, written for parents with real-world solutions for helping your child deal with anger and rage.

Both these books are available in the church library. *Martha Kluth* 

#### **Social Justice News**

# **Peace Sing-a-long**

Come Friday, January 16 – join in song – and raise your voice for peace in the new year. The inimitable Saunis Parsons will lead a Peace sing-a-long in the sanctuary from 7 – 9 pm. In addition to song and song sheets, the Social Justice Committee will provide light refreshments. Because children can join in the singing, we will not offer child care unless someone asks for it by Jan 9 by contacting Susan Goekler.

This event was offered as part of the 2007 service auction. If you did not buy it then, come anyway as we will accept donations at the door. All proceeds will go to the church. In addition, given that many people are facing financial burdens, we are asking each person who comes to donate one can of food that will go to the local food pantry.

#### **Social Justice Fair**

Want to find out how to get involved in helping others in our community or influencing public policy? Did your New Year's Resolutions include offering a helping hand? The Social Justice Committee of the UU Church of Kent will host a Social Justice fair during coffee hour on Sunday January 18 in Fessenden Hall. Members of the committee will staff a variety of tables with information about various Social action and social justice opportunities through the church. If you have an activity you would like to share, come to the Social Justice meeting Jan 4 after church or contact Susan Goekler.

Susan Goekler



Linda Mishler, Paulette Thurman, and our new chalice they helped obtain.

# What's Up in Religious Education

Happy New Year! During 9:30am worship, religious education occurs for children and youth (4 years old thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade). Spirit Play continues to be a huge success as preschoolers thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade experience this Montessori based curriculum each Sunday. Spirit Play begins at 9:30am and ends at 10:45am. The extended time means adults are able to meet their children in Fessenden Hall after worship.

Holidays and Holy Days will continue to be the curriculum for the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Each Sunday is a celebration and January will prove to be no different than fall and winter. Weekly celebrations begin as the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades are sung out of worship and go to their classroom. This age group experiences a weekly time for all ages during the worship service.

At 11:15 am, middle school and high school youth participate in the first 15 minutes of worship. Religious education follows for 60 minutes. Children 4 years of age thru  $5^{th}$  grade will experience an expanded Spirit Play curriculum between 11:15 am – 12:15am. Nursery is offered during both services.

Watch for news concerning the Religious Education Open House, game night and more. RE news and updates are sent out via email. If you wish to be placed on the email list, contact the DRE.

# 9:30 am

Nursery: 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Spirit Play: 9:30 – 10:45 am (*go directly to classroom*) Holidays and Holy Days: 9:30 am – 10: 45 am (*begin in the sanctuary*)

#### 11:15 am

Nursery: 11:15 am – 12:15 am

Spirit Play: 11:15 am – 12:15 am (go directly to class-

room)

Neighboring Faiths (middle school): 11:15 am – 12:15 am

(begin in the sanctuary)

High School: 11:15 am – 12:15 am (begin in the sanctu-

ary)

Diana VanWinkle, DRE



# Leadership Learning Opportunities

Did you know that the Ohio-Meadville District website offers information about a wide variety of leadership events in the District? The information available includes Youth Conferences, Young Adult Conferences, Youth Trainings, Religious Education Workshops, and Leadership Development opportunities for congregational leaders and others. Please see the latest information on the OMD website: www.ohiomeadville.org.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me -

Beth Casebolt
District Administrator
Ohio Meadville District



Bailey Clegg and Hal with the church's new Schimmel piano courtesy Bailey

# Past Sermons Available for Listening

You can listen to past sermons in three ways.

Go to our church website - http://www.kentuu.org/ and click on "Podcast link" on the right side. Scroll down to the sermon you want and click on "Play Now" to listen. To save the sermon as an mp3 file which you can transfer to your iPod, right-click on "Play Now" and choose "Save Link As". Our website provides only the sermon and other original content.

To hear the complete sermon, CDs are available in the church library in a black folder labeled "Recordings of Services". There is a sign-out sheet in the folder.

Brad Bolton

# **New Chalice Dedication**

If you were not at church the Sunday before Thanksgiving, you did not have a chance to hear how we came to have a new chalice in our sanctuary. Several months ago a small group of people were standing around after a service wondering about how we might get our glass chalice to give us a bigger flame. One of our number suggested that it might be time to consider a new chalice for our sanctuary. While I was at General Assembly last summer, I noticed a postcard advertising chalices for sale by the Unitarian Universalist Church in Montgomery, AL. I brought the postcard back to our décor committee who thought the brass chalice depicted would look lovely in our sanctuary. Linda Mishler, Paulette Thurman and Stephanie Summers did the work to organize your donations which made our purchase of the new chalice possible. Thank you all for your generosity.

Our glass chalice has not been retired, but rather relocated to the Eldredge Annex where its light will continue to illuminate the many meetings and conversations and Small Group Ministry sessions we hold there. As we used the flame from the glass chalice to kindle the flame of our brass chalice, we offered these words:

In memory of those who have gone before, with gratitude for the ones who here today, and with hope for the ones who will come when we are gone,

we kindle this chalice flame.

May its spark be a spark of justice.

May it light illuminate many truths.

May its flame be a flame of love.

May its warmth welcome all who would find here a home.

In gratitude for our free faith,
we dedicate this chalice
in celebration of the Unitarian Universalist Church of
Kent.



# "Ask Me" Name Tags

You may have noticed a few people with "Ask Me" on their name tags. These are members of our Membership team, and are always happy to answer any questions about the life and work of our church.

# **January Church Events**

28 10:30 Pancake Bkfst. 12:15 Pancake Bkfst. 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	10:15 am gentle Yoga 1-5:00 Sanctuary in use 5:15 gentle Yoga	30 Thread/Web dead- line 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	31 9:30a Yoga	1 7:30p Yoga	2	3
4 12:30 Social Justice mtg. EA p7 4-5:30 Yoga / meditation 4-6 Hogwarts mtg. EA 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir S 7-9 AA FH	5 10:15a gentle Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:00 Clan Wood- lands	6 Thread/Web dead- line 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	7 9:30a Yoga 7-9:00 Our Many Lives 7:45-10 COM <i>EA</i>	8 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation FL 7-9:00 Men's Group EA 7-8:00 Membership mtg. RE 7:30 Yoga	9	10
11 4-5:30 Yoga / Meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult choir 7-9 AA FH	12 10:15a gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7-8:00 Clan Tower 43	13 Thread/Web dead- line 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga 7-9 Living by Heart FL	14 9:30a Yoga 630-9:30 BYOT <i>S</i> 7-9:30 Board Mtg. <i>EA</i>	15 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation FL 7:30 Yoga	16 7-9:00 Peace Sing-along <i>S p7</i>	17
18 10:30 Social Justice Fair F 4-5:30 Yoga / Meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir S 7-9 AA FH	19 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	20 Thread/Web dead- line 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	21 9:30a Yoga 7-7:30 Vespers <i>S p5</i> 7:30 Vespers Social time <i>FL</i>	22 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation <i>FL</i> 7:15 OWL 7:30 Yoga	7-10:00 Social Justice Movie p4 7-9:00 Worship Ass. Training FL	9-1:00 Worship Ass. Training 1:00 OWL over- night 1-4:30 Worship Ass. training
25 10:30 Pancake Bkfst. 12:15 Pancake Bkfst. 4-5:30 Yoga / Meditation 6:30-7:30 Adult Choir S 7-9 AA FH	26 10:15 am gentle Yoga 5:15 gentle Yoga 7:00 Tai chi 7:30 Clan Stow Glen	27 Thread/Web dead- line 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga 7-9:00 Living By Heart FL	9:30a Yoga 7-9:00 Living By Heart	29 10:15a Yoga 5:30 Yoga 6-6:45 Meditation Group 7:15 OWL 7:30 Yoga	6:30-8:30 Whiteness Curriculum p4	31 8-1:00 New UU Class F p5

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 December 21

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



Jill Forsman and Dani Beale at choir rehearsal



Colleen Norris and Beth Wills at December's Farmers' Market

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



# Return Service Requested Return Postage Guaranteed

Call the office to cancel your *Chalice Flame* 

#### Celtic Clan

1/5/08 7 - 8pm Woodlands at Robinson

1/12/08 7 - 8pm Tower 43 Kent

1/19/08 No practice

1/26/08 7 - 8pm Stow Glenn Assisted Living

#### **Book Club Gatherings**

On Tuesday, January 13, at 7 pm we will meet at Altercare of Cuyahoga Falls, 2728 Bailey Rd., in Cuyahoga Falls. Betty Kendrick, one of our members, is there temporarily, so we are having our meeting there in January. We will each share a book we have read over the holidays.

Directions: take Front St. in the Falls west past Hudson Drive. Turn right on the next street, Bailey Rd., at the traffic light just before the Acme store. Past 3<sup>rd</sup> St. on the left side of the street is Altercare.

# **Out To Lunch Bunch**

China City – except when pancake breakfast or other church lunch is held after church. Come join us after second service for food and fun.

#### Tai chi --

a non-impact "meditation in motion." Although you can study it for a lifetime, by coming you do not make a commitment for any number of sessions -- come when you can. You are welcome to start any Monday night. Wear loose fitting clothing, as it is participatory. Questions? Contact Susan Goekler, certified tai chi instructor with the Tai Chi Association of Atlanta, GA.

7:00 Advanced 7:30 Intermediate 8:00 Beginner



Restoring the original entrance to the church, 2001