

# The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



March 2010

**Sunday Services**  
9:30 and 11:15 am

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

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

**Minister's office hours:**

Tuesday - Friday  
By appointment

**Office Manager:**

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Mon. through Fri. 9 - 1:30

**Religious Ed. Director:**

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**Deadline:**

The 15th each month

*Conversation*

On Sunday mornings I enjoy the opportunity I have to greet many of you after our worship services conclude. Unfortunately, though, the pace of the greeting line doesn't allow for much more than a brief exchange. In the hope of making space for more substantial conversations, I am going to host a meet and greet one Sunday each month during coffee hour and again after the second service especially for people who are getting to know our congregation. Our Director of Religious Education, Karen Lapidus, and a member of our Board of Trustees will join me most Sundays. The first meet and greet sessions will be held on Sunday, March 21 in the library at 10:45 and 12:30. Get yourself a cup of coffee or tea and then come by and say hello.

*Community*

At the end of January, all members and friends of our congregation were invited to come together to explore ways we can work toward earning accreditation as a Green Sanctuary. The accreditation process is multi-faceted and will require everyone's support. Ted Voneida, Patty Miller, Larry Cole and Angela and Jessie Young make up our Green Sanctuary Core Team and will be responsible for overseeing our accreditation process. The whole congregation is invited to participate in the work of the action teams which will be leading projects in five areas: worship and celebration, religious education, physical facilities, lifestyle choices and community outreach. Many interesting and exciting projects were proposed in each of these areas at our January meeting. Stay tuned for more information about how you can be involved in this effort.

*Commitment*

We are fortunate to have a strong group of lay leaders who have made a commitment to our congregation. If you are one of those leaders or if you think you might possibly be interested in becoming one of those leaders, I encourage you to consider attending the Ohio Meadville District Assembly (DA). DA is an opportunity for education, leadership development and networking in a stimulating Unitarian Universalist setting. This year's keynote address will be delivered by the Rev. Meg Riley who has been campaign director for the Unitarian Universalist Association's Standing on the Side of Love campaign. Several interesting workshops will be offered as well as inspiring worship, an Appalachian music concert and time to peruse the books, resources and other items for sale in The Marketplace. Scholarships are available and ride sharing or room sharing may be possible. For more information please speak to me or take a look at the District Assembly website at <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/annmtg/index.html>

*Conversation, Commitment, Community*

That is the theme of our annual stewardship campaign this year. With the capable leadership of Cheryl Casper, our amazing team has planned several events this month that promise to be both interesting and fun. Look inside this newsletter for all the details. See you in church!

*Melissa*

## Upcoming Sermons

28 February

*How to Help*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Marion Yeagler

Lots of people these days say they are spiritual but not religious. What is the difference? I'd say one critical difference is the commitment religious people make to be a part of a gathered community. What does it mean to be a part of this gathered community? Why do we expend the effort to keep this community alive and vital? How can we ensure that the legacy of this community is one we can be proud to say we helped shape?

3 March 7:00 pm

*Vespers: Gratitude in the Doorway*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer will lead vespers

Come join us for a vespers service designed to refresh and renew the grateful heart.

7 March

*The Enduring Wisdom of Dr. Seuss*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer, Director of Religious Education Karen Lapidus, and Worship Associate Kathy Kerns

If he were still alive Theodore Geisel, more famously known as Dr. Seuss, would have been 106 years old this week.

During this special service for all ages we will celebrate the wit and whimsy of Dr. Seuss and lift up the insight and inspiration contained in his work.

14 March

*UUSC Justice Sunday*

Vivien Sandlund and Susan and Mac Goekler will present this lay led service

Justice Sunday is our annual Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC) report of the service committee's work and membership drive. We will be presenting what the UUSC, our beloved Church, our members, and you can do for Environmental Justice. UUSC's efforts in Environmental Justice directly support our own efforts in becoming a Green Sanctuary.

21 March

*The Challenge of Change*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Elaine Bowen

Today as we mark the vernal equinox and rejoice in the changes brought by spring, we will reflect on the place of change in our lives. Even when change is welcome it can be accompanied by stress. How do we navigate the challenge of change?

28 March

*Keep an Empty Chair*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Lori McGee

In many Jewish homes, there is an empty chair and place setting at the Seder table in memory of those who cannot be present to celebrate. The stories and traditions of Passover are filled with powerful themes of hospitality, remembrance and liberation. This morning we will delve into the wisdom of these important Jewish holy days.

## Intentional Eating Study Group

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. This meeting will be a book discussion. Please bring a favorite book related to intentional /ethical eating to share and discuss. At the meeting we will also be discussing our upcoming Sunday service, so please bring ideas with you. For more information, contact Lois Weir

### Moderator McGee's Musings

**T**ransparent: n. manifest; obvious; open; frank; candid. One of the most important goals of any board, in my opinion, should be to make sure the people they serve know what they are doing. Our board vehemently agrees with this opinion as well. We are an open board. Any member of the congregation is welcome at any meeting and our minutes are posted at two places in the church: one set in the Annex and another in the Founder's Lounge. However, I know that many folks don't always look at the minutes. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the highlights of the last few board meetings.

Since it's quite obvious that parking is always an issue for us, we have spent a lot of time discussing the leasing of the city lot behind us. Thanks to the hard work of the Master Plan Committee, we now have an official contract to sub-lease the lot. We also have letters of agreement from the Kent Trustees next door and from Child and Family Services across the street. These documents allow us to be covered by our insurance for those locations.

We also created a policy on the disposal of alcoholic beverages after events where alcohol is served. We felt it was an important safety issue with regard to children in the building. The full policy will be posted on the refrigerator so that everyone is aware of it.

Another safety issue that recently came up was the fact that we needed glass in the RE classroom doors. Ed Stolith and Karen Lapidus took care of finding someone to handle the fitting of the glass, and now the doors look great.

The board also reviewed the Strategic Plan to see if we were on track in those areas that are the responsibility of

the board or trustees. We were pleased to find that we are right on target for just about everything. Our biggest goal is to move into Policy Governance, and we have found that we need to move slowly to make sure that we are creating the right kind of governance structure for our church. We hope to have a proposal ready for the annual meeting, and we will have a discussion about it at the informational meeting in June (and perhaps before as well).

As you are most likely aware, we had a discussion of our relationship to outside for-profit companies. Based on the discussion we had as a congregation, the board put together a list of concerns for the new ad hoc committee that will look into this issue and create a church-wide policy regarding it. This committee has been formed and will begin their work soon.

At our last meeting, we discussed the need for members who are going to District Assembly to serve as voting delegates. We have slots for seven delegates, plus Melissa. There are a few members of the board willing to serve, but we still have need of others. If you are going and would like to be a delegate, please let me or Melissa know as soon as possible.

These are just a few of the issues that have recently come before the board. We are going to start posting the minutes in Fessenden beginning this month. I will post the agendas there as well. We want our work to be known so that if there are questions or concerns, the congregation can come to any of us to discuss them. We hope that our efforts of transparency are obvious. We are here to serve your needs, and we want you to know what we are doing.

*In service, Lori*

### Harvest For Hunger

The month of March is designated Harvest for Hunger Month all over NE Ohio; to dietitians, March is annually celebrated as National Nutrition Month. For me, that's a winning combination - I can channel my 2 passions at the same time!

Our support for the Kent Social Services programs continues because the need is greater than ever. They are so appreciative to help unload the many boxes of donated food from you from the back of my van.

During March, let's focus our attention on **The Super Six** items always needed by food pantries - dry cereal, peanut butter, tuna, canned beef stew, canned veggies and canned soup. Any and all items are appreciated however no open packages can be accepted. KSS is also in constant need of large brown paper grocery bags. Collection areas are on the ground level in the closet next to the elevator and in the large wicker basket on the floor outside the sanctuary.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of our anti-hunger ministry.

*Elaine Yehle Bowen, R.D., L.D.*

## Doing Multigenerational Ministry Well

You may consider it a matter of course and not something you recognize or celebrate, but from my point of view, as the returning Director of Religious Education, our church has many reasons to be proud of our multigenerational way of "doing church". We do multigenerational ministry amazingly well.

Many of our programs that involve folks of all ages come directly from the Religious Education Committee. For example, the Surprise Friends program (see the blurb elsewhere in this newsletter for dates and details) and the Sunday morning program with its core of approximately 24 adults who work with our children and youth.

The Coming of Age program, implemented by a forward-thinking task force last summer, intentionally pairs youth with adult mentors who are not their parents nor the parents of their peers, so that true intergenerational engagement will take place.

Our social activities team has hosted a game night and an amazing Valentine's Day Dance. Both events drew folks of all ages, offering them opportunities to share fellowship, to have fun together and to grow in community.

Certainly, our Hogwarts Action Team creates a time and space for young children, youth and adults to share some Unitarian Universalist magic! Over the years, the Hogwarts program has created ways for the maturing children to move into leadership roles. This attitude of leadership development is an identified characteristic of a healthy multigenerational community.

The Walden programs are multigenerational, too and many children have grown up attending these events over the years. Our Green Sanctuary project is and will continue to be shaped and implemented by folks of all ages. You probably have noticed that there are youth who regularly sing in the choir.

The Worship Associates who collaborate with Melissa and me to create our multigenerational worship experiences seem to have an understanding of what this concept means and what elements it requires. It has been such a pleasure for me to step into this worship planning experience.

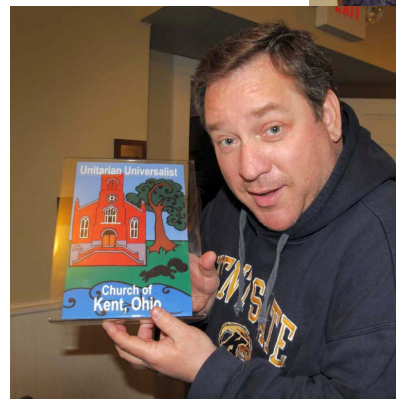
I hope that naming these areas where we excel illustrates our strong multigenerational ministry.

In faith and with love,

*Karen Lapidus, Director of Religious Education*

## Dinner honors Kent Environmental Council

The Social Justice Committee will be sponsoring a dinner and program on Saturday, March 13 on the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Kent Environmental Council, which began meeting in Fessenden Hall of our church. KEC was largely founded as a result of the fire in Cleveland on the Cuyahoga River, which runs through Kent as well as many northeast Ohio communities. The program will focus on our church's pivotal role in the founding of the environmental movement in Kent and its early focus on water pollution. At the time, the Cuyahoga River was extremely polluted and dirty and the Cleveland fire drew national attention to environmental issues that eventually gave rise to the very first Earth Day, which was celebrated on April 22nd, 1970. Many current and former members of our church participated in a river clean-up that day, which resulted in the creation of Franklin Mills Riveredge Park and Brady's Leap Park. The dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the program to follow. The cost of the dinner will be a free-will offering. Child care will be available.



Joey Marfy picks the winning banner raffle ticket while John Marfy shows off the new church banner. Tickets were sold to fund construction of the banner. Kathie Slater ran the raffle.

## FY 2011 Stewardship Campaign Underway

### Campaign theme: Conversation. Community. Commitment.

It's that time of year again! The 2011 Stewardship Campaign kicked off on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> with a special service and will run through March 21<sup>st</sup>. As a way of demonstrating commitment to our church community, church members and friends are invited to participate in one of four special campaign events. Join us for refreshments, experience the latest in innovative communication (uuChat!), and turn in your stewardship card.

#### What is uuChat?

An amazing revolution in social networking, uuChat requires no keyboards, no screens, no wires! As you engage in a series of fast-paced, paired discussions, you'll quickly appreciate uuChat's speed of transmission, user-friendly interface, search capabilities, and collaborative spaces. In this face-to-face, real-time community building experience you will explore what being a UUCK member means to you by sharing your answers to questions like: What led you to become involved? What do you value most about our church community? What are your goals for our future? The unique features of uuChat allow you to quickly and easily share your commitment to our church community with uuChat's other users. And it's fun too!

#### How can I contribute?

Participate in one of our four special campaign events as described above:

February 28 1:00 pm - after Pancake Breakfast  
 March 3 7:30 pm - coffee and Chocolate served  
 March 11 7:30 pm - wine and cheese served  
 March 14 12:30 pm - soup and bread lunch  
 Children's programming will be provided on February 28 and March 14. Sign up sheets will be available during coffee hour. If you attend one of these events and return your stewardship card, you will not be contacted by a campaign canvasser.

Stewardship cards also can be picked up in Fessenden Hall between services or after second service during the campaign period. Our goal for the campaign is to raise \$208,800 in planned donations to support the church's mission during this coming year. Those of you interested in more detailed information, please feel free to pick up a copy of the "Guide to the FY 2011 Stewardship Campaign."

#### What is the 2.5+% Challenge?

This year, we want to celebrate all the church members and friends who accept the challenge to donate at least 2.5% (self-reported) of their adjusted income to the church. You'll be able to indicate on your stewardship card that you intend to meet this 2.5+% challenge, and that you'd like to be recognized with an invitation to celebrate at a **special event** after the stewardship campaign is over.

Adjusted Annual Income	The 2.5+% Challenge		
	Suggested	Monthly	Annual
	% of Income	Payment	Payment
<b>\$10,000</b>	2.5%	\$21	\$250
<b>\$15,000</b>	2.5%	\$31	\$375
<b>\$25,000</b>	2.5%	\$52	\$625
<b>\$40,000</b>	2.5%	\$83	\$1,000
<b>\$50,000</b>	2.5%	\$104	\$1,250
<b>\$60,000</b>	2.5%	\$125	\$1,500
<b>\$75,000</b>	2.5%	\$156	\$1,875
<b>\$100,000</b>	2.5%	\$208	\$2,500

*The Stewardship Team: Cheryl Casper (Chair), Mary Leeson, Randy Leeson, Bruce Richards, Joel Slater, Kristina Spaude, and Kathy Walker.*

### A Special Message from the Stewardship Team:

Is the current state of the economy causing you to limit or delay your pledge? Once again this year, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent pledges to YOU that if you lose your job, any PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS made for the period of July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2011 can be refunded to you. Contact the Trustee for Finance should that occur.

## Financial Corner

The overall financial situation for the year improved in January. Year-to-date expenses are still about \$6500 below plan, and donations are now about \$7000 below plan, meaning that we are close to break-even. If the year-end revenues and expenditures are below plan by the same amount, we will meet our budget. Keep in mind this will mean we will have only \$3288 in the bank on June 30, a very small amount compared to the over \$17000 monthly expenses.

It looks like we will meet our budget if people continue to donate as they have been and we keep our expenses below plan. Thus there is no need to revise the budget at this time. That's very good news! I will continue to monitor the situation, and engage the Finance Committee if it looks like a budget revision is needed because we may run out of money. But for now we are OK.

During the past year, the MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE pulled together plans for the next 5 years, approved by the congregation last May, that will make progress toward our Mission and Vision. Committee Chairs and the Board reviewed these specific plans on February 3. In FY2011, we plan to implement some things that were

planned in FY2010. And we feel the mandates to pay our staff fairly, not overwork volunteers, and keep our wonderful old building running well.

The "FY 2011 Guide to Our Annual Stewardship Campaign" is now available for the 2011 fiscal year going from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Nearly all [\$208,804 out of \$244,413] of our revenues are planned to come from your pledged donations. The stewardship campaign enables us to match the church's plans for FY2011 with each of your personal giving plans for the same period. Hopefully after hearing about the church's plans, your personal giving plans [pledges] will align with these, and we will be able to do these great things in the coming year. Our planning goes on in April, after the stewardship campaign ends. We will do all we can to accomplish the church's plans once we know your plans as stated on your pledge card.

Thanks for your generous contributions.

*Bob Erdman, Trustee for Finance:*

## Contribution Report Confusion ?

The accounting package we use treats each fiscal year as a separate Fund, and subtotals your contribution for each Fund. The Report that it generates includes contributions to each Fund for the calendar year 2009. FY2009 started 1/1/2009 and went through 6/30/2009. In the Report, contributions for FY2009 are listed as "2009 General Fund Donations 9000", since these contributions went into the FY2009 General Fund, or the budgeted operation of the church. We are now in FY2010, which began 7/1/2009 and goes through 6/30/2010. Since the Contribution Report covers all of calendar 2009, it will show any prepaids you made prior to July 1, as well as your contributions during calendar 2009 under "2010 General Fund Donations 9000".

If your pledge card was checked to donate quarterly or more often, the amount you pledged during all of calendar 2009, through 12/31/2009, is shown for each Fund. If you checked that you plan to contribute annually, the total pledge for FY2010 will be shown. If you want your Contribution Reports for FY2011, which begins 7/1/2010, to show the amount you pledged SO FAR during the year, please check the box for quarterly or more frequent payments. Contact Bob Erdman if you want to make any changes to your FY2010 pledge, including the frequency; he will be happy to update the pledge record, or answer any questions.

Can you find us?





## Adult Religious Education

### Sunday Morning Adult Religious Exploration:

Join us any Sunday morning in Fessenden Hall (downstairs) at 9:30 for thoughtful discussions that can help deepen your understanding of Unitarian Universalism and enrich your personal search for truth and meaning. During the month of March, we will continue examining what the UU Principles really mean for how we live our lives.

March 7 - A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

March 14 - The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large

March 21 - The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all

March 28 - Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

### Sunday afternoons:

March 14 and 28: Tell Your Story – 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the annex. Come discover and explore the joy of writing. Pat Pownall leader

Do you have an idea for an adult forum or study series? Come to the Adult RE Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 3 at 7:30 in the annex. We always welcome new members and new ideas for enriching our adult offerings.



## Calling All Sermonizers!

Do you have a great idea for a worship service but you're not sure how to develop it? For those who would like to learn how to develop an idea into sermon, Reverend Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Christie Anderson will be leading a workshop in March offering guidance on writing an effective sermon. This hands-on instruction will take place over 4 sessions lasting 2 hours each. An effort will be made to schedule class times based on mutually convenient times. Each participant will have developed a sermon by completion of the class. Contact Melissa or Christie to express your interest in attending.

## Neighboring Faiths Program

### Part One – Judaism

The Kent UU and United Church of Christ, two remaining branches of the church of the pilgrims, are joining for a year-long study of the faith traditions in our community. This spring we will explore the beliefs, rituals and sacred spaces of the three Abrahamic faiths, starting in March with the first monotheism, Judaism. The group allows time for visiting services, dialogue with guest scholars, and personal reflections from our members. Join us Sundays at 2:00 pm in the lower level of the Kent UU Church, 228 Gougler, Kent, OH.

Sunday, March 7 - History and scriptures with Dr. Bonnie Fraser

Sunday, March 14 - Rituals and holidays with Rabbi John Spitzer

Sunday, March 21 - Judaism today

Friday, March 12 - Shabbat service with Rabbi Ezring at 7:30 pm, Temple Beth Shalom, 50 Division Street, Hudson

### Part Two—Islam

Saturday, March 20 - Kent Community Dinner at the Islamic Center, 152 Steels Corners Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio



Christie Anderson, Randy and Mary Leeson  
visit Hosak's cave (in background)  
during Winter Institute

### Past Church Member Nan Abdo

This past December, Nan Withington, a member of this church from 1965-85 (whom we knew as Nan Abdo) took part in the Gaza Freedom March, trying to break the siege imprisoning the 1.5 million Palestinians who live in Gaza.

While working on her MA in Middle East studies at Berkeley in the 1950s, Nan met and married a Palestinian refugee, Mathar Abdo, whose family had been expelled from Jaffa in 1948. In 1968, on a research trip, she visited the new wave of displaced Palestinians in refugee camps in Jordan.

The family settled in Kent and joined this church during the tenure of the Rev. Peter Richardson; Nan sang in the choir, taught Sunday school and was on the Board of Trustees when the church voted to stop paying the telephone tax as a protest against the Vietnam war. Her four children grew up in the church, and are now scattered: Janan lives in Portland, Oregon; Nadia lives in the Orkney Islands, Scotland; Jim is in Wash. D.C.; David in Charleston, S.C. Nan herself now lives in Santa Barbara, California and can be contacted at [nwithington@yahoo.com](mailto:nwithington@yahoo.com).



Nan (L) in Cairo on Gaza Freedom March, December 2009, with her grandnephew (R) and unidentified woman (center). Note armed police in background.



### Books, Books, Books

The annual book sale is coming in April. We hope you've been saving your good condition, gently used books. If not, time to start clearing out those bookcases! The book sale will be on Saturday, April 17 in Fessenden Hall from 9 am to Noon. We will begin accepting donations on Sunday, April 11. In preparation, we will need volunteers to help sort and set-up during the week of the 12th. If you can spare an hour or two in the evenings of Wednesday, 4/14 or Friday, 4/16, we'd love to have you. An added bonus: volunteers may shop at the end of their work shift and we have a lot of fun! All proceeds from the book sale are donated to the church's general operations fund.

Contacts for book sale information: Elaine Yehle Bowen or Sandy Bowers.



Dr. Tim Matney, archaeologist, shares artifacts from ancient Mesopotamia with students in the 3-5th grade RE class.

### Surprise Friends

There may still be snow on the ground, but it won't stay that way forever. So as you look forward to spring, don't forget about our annual Surprise Friends program. You are all invited to participate in this fun, intergenerational activity of friendship and caring! Participating adults will be matched with children in the congregation on May 16 and encouraged to exchange notes and artwork beginning May 23 and continuing through June 13. Adults will remain anonymous until the "big reveal" in June. Watch for sign-up forms in April.

*The RE Committee*



## New in the Church Library

Living Simply with Children by Marie Sherlock (Three Rivers Press, 2003). Some of the topics covered are:

How and why to live simply and find more time to be with your children;  
Activities and rituals that bring out the best in every family member;  
Realistic ways to reclaim your children from corporate America;  
Helping children of any age deal with peer pressure;  
Raising kids who care about people and the planet;  
How to focus on the "good stuff"... with less stuff.

They Take Our Jobs! And 20 Other Myths about Immigration by Aviva Chomsky (Beacon Press, 2007). Professor Chomsky dismantles 21 of the most widespread myths and beliefs about immigrants and immigration. This book challenges the underlying assumptions that fuel these misinformed claims about immigrants, radically altering our notions of citizenship, discrimination, and U.S. history.

## A Well-equipped Kitchen Is a Thing of Beauty

Thanks to those who donated over \$120, we've been able to update the equipment in the church kitchen.

Through your generosity, we now have:

3 new dish drainer mats  
1 large cutting board  
1 set each of measuring cups and measuring spoons  
2 chafing dish set-ups + fuel

An electric griddle, a set of nesting bowls and 2 large bowls

## Chili Cook-off Winners

First place – Alyssa Lamb  
Second place – Bill Bowen  
Third place – Tracy Parsons

Winners were chosen by the number of "tastes" sold at the cook-off. Fifty-four dollars was raised for the general fund from this year's Chili Cook-off.

## District Doings

### Growing Branches, Strong Roots: Transformational Living

District Assembly 2010 on March 26-27 will focus on social justice issues. We will have a special Interfaith Youth Leadership Training for youth and youth allies; theme speaker Rev. Meg Riley will talk about Standing on the Side of Love; the Friday night panel discussion will focus on anti-racism efforts; and workshops on anti-racism, peacemaking, the green sanctuary program and helping others during the current economic crisis will be offered. Additional workshops focusing on leadership development, multigenerational programming, covenant groups, pastoral care and healthy congregations will be offered. Early Bird Registration Ends February 26; Advanced Registration Ends March 13. For details visit [www.ohiomeadville.org/annmtg/index.html](http://www.ohiomeadville.org/annmtg/index.html)

### Transforming Whiteness

Ohio Meadville District and West Shore UU Church are pleased to sponsor a day long workshop on April 24th using material from the new UU adult curriculum Transforming Whiteness by Rev. Bill Gardiner. The workshop will be led by the author Rev. Bill Gardiner and co-facilitator, Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer of Kent. Transforming Whiteness offers UU congregations, for the first time, a comprehensive overview of the evolution and workings of white identity both historically, as a current agency of oppression, and as a positive identity for the future. Youth and Young Adults are encouraged to attend. For more information visit [www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/transformwhite.html](http://www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/transformwhite.html)



## Local History Program at Church

Wayne Enders, Portage County Historian, will appear at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent on Wednesday, March 31, at 7:00 pm to present a program on the news, significant events, and important people of Kent and Portage County, during the years from 1900 through 1930. Enders, lifelong resident of Ravenna Township, is the author of Connecticut Western Reserve, State of Ohio, County of Portage Timeline 1669-2007.

Three major events highlighted this period that have had a lasting impact on Kent some 100 years later. First, Kent was selected in 1910 as the site of a new Normal School by Ohio Governor Harmon, provided the city met all the conditions. The story of how this was accomplished is both entertaining and filled with political maneuvering. Next, the great flood of 1913 wreaked havoc upon the dam, the adjoining railroad, and the canal during one week beginning March 31<sup>st</sup>. Finally, the city of Akron built a reservoir north of Kent, which resulted in controversy and turmoil at the time, and still presents issues for Kent today.

Mr. Enders previously covered the period from 1669-1900 in Kent. He continues to speak throughout the county and has become an accomplished story teller and entertaining guest. The Universalist Church offers a unique setting for the program and traces its history back to the Haymaker family, early pioneers in Kent.

Refreshments and an opportunity to take part in a tour of the historic church building will be available.



## Harry Potter Movie Night

On Saturday February 27th there will be a potluck dinner at 6pm. At 6:45pm will be the premier of the short film Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.

Filmed, produced, written, directed, edited, and starring John Bores and Tracy Parsons, this special edition of the sixth Potter film was filmed right here in the UU Church of Kent. (*This alone is worth seeing - Ed.*)

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" will be shown immediately following. Popcorn and candy will be offered for sale as a fundraiser. If you can't make the dinner, join us for the movies.

## Our Commissioned Lay Leader

As many of you may recall, my commissioning ceremony as a Commissioned Lay Leader (CLL) took place October 2008, following the completion of a two-year educational program. I would like to provide you with a summary of my responsibilities as a CLL.

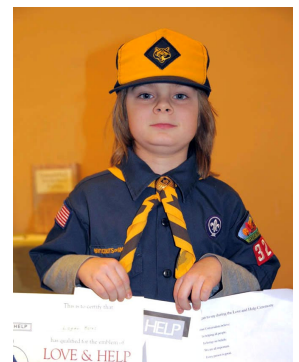
I have a three-year agreement with the church Board that stipulates several areas of responsibility, most of which involve different aspects of worship. Some of my worship activities include serving as Chair of the Sunday Program Committee, membership on the Chalice Group Planning Committee, serving as a Worship Associate, and helping Melissa with her sermon writing class. My role in leading Sunday worship services was expanded by the Board last year, requiring me to provide two to four worship services per year. In addition, I am to have a worship service prepared at all times so that I can step in and lead Sunday morning worship should an emergency arise that prevents the worship leader from conducting the service. Other duties include servicing as a referral source for Melissa for the performance of weddings when Melissa is unable to handle them and serving as a back-up for pastoral care needs when Melissa is away.

Although I have an agreement with the Board, they have designated the Committee on Ministry as the entity to whom I am accountable. I meet with the COM quarterly and I report to the OMD District's CLL Panel twice a year. In addition, I work closely with Melissa, who generously shares her wisdom and insights with me. Although I am not a paid staff member, I recently worked with Hal Walker, Karen Lapidus and Melissa to create a shared behavioral covenant. I am pleased and proud to be part of the team of caring, competent and dedicated individuals who serve this church.

I will share more information about my specific CLL activities in future newsletters.

*Christie Anderson*

Logan Bores received Scout awards at church.



## March Church Events

<b>28</b> 9:30 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 10:30 Pancakes 12:15 More pancakes 12:30 OWL meeting 1:00 Stewardship <i>S</i> 3:30 Writing Group <i>EA</i> 4:00 Yoga 6:30 Choir 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>1</b> 10:15 Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	<b>2</b> Thread/Web and eNuus deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	<b>3</b> 9:30a Yoga 5:30 Pilates 7:00 Vespers <i>S</i> 7:30 Adult RE mtg. <i>EA</i> 7:30 Stewardship <i>F</i>	<b>4</b> 5:30 Yoga 7:00 Master Plan <i>EA</i>	<b>5</b> 6:30 Family Game Night <i>FH</i>	<b>6</b> 7:30 am - 7:30 pm OMD Small Church Growth Conference
<b>7</b> 12:30 Coming of Age <i>F</i> 2:00 Neighboring Faiths <i>F</i> 4:00 Yoga 6:30 Choir 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>8</b> 10:15 Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	<b>9</b> Thread/Web and eNuus deadline 12:00 Retiree lunch <i>FH</i> 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga 7:00 Board mtg. <i>EA</i>	<b>10</b> 9:30 Yoga 5:30 Pilates 6:30 Intentional Eating <i>S p2</i> 6:30 RE mtg. <i>EA</i>	<b>11</b> 5:30 Yoga 7:30 Stewardship <i>F</i>	<b>12</b> 7:00 Prenatal Yoga	<b>13</b> 11-4:00 <i>EA</i> in use 6-10 pm Social Justice Forum <i>p4</i>
<b>14</b> 12:30 Stewardship <i>F</i> 2:00 Neighboring Faiths <i>F</i> 3:30 Writing Group <i>EA</i> 4:00 Easy yoga 6:30 Choir 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>15</b> Newsletter deadline 10:15a gentle Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	<b>16</b> Thread/Web and eNuus deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	<b>17</b> 9:30 Yoga 5:30 Pilates	<b>18</b> 5:30 Yoga	<b>19</b> 7:00 Prenatal Yoga	<b>20</b> 10-3:00 Church re- served 7:00 Art reception <i>S</i> 7-9:00 Mark Twain <i>S</i>
<b>21</b> 10:40 Congregation mtg. <i>S</i> 2:00 Neighboring Faiths <i>F</i> 4-5:30 Easy Yoga 6:30 Choir 7:00 Coming of Age <i>EA, FH</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>22</b> 10:15 gentle Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	<b>23</b> Thread/Web and eNuus deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	<b>24</b> 9:30 Yoga 5:30 Pilates	<b>25</b> 5:30 Yoga	<b>26</b> 7:00 Prenatal Yoga	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 10:30 Pancakes 12:15 More pancakes (burp) 3:30 Writing Group <i>EA</i> 4:00 Easy yoga 6:30 Choir 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>29</b> 10:15 gentle Yoga 5:15 Yoga 7:00 Tai chi	<b>30</b> Thread/Web and eNuus deadline 5:30 Mod. Yoga 7:00 Challenging Yoga	<b>31</b> 9:30 Yoga 5:30 Pilates 7:00 Historical Society talk <i>p10</i>	<b>1</b> 5:30 Yoga	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

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;  
*CB*- Christie and Brad's house

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

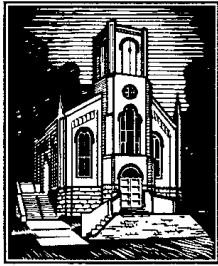
A complete and up-to-date church calendar can be viewed at

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

### T'ai Chi

An ancient Chinese meditative practice, t'ai chi is sometimes referred to as "meditation in motion." It draws upon the principles of Yin and Yang – harmony and the integration of mind and body. The class meets Monday evenings in Fessenden Hall. Beginners can start any Monday at 8 p.m. We invite donations to the church, at a recommended level of \$5 per session. The leader is Susan Goekler, a certified instructor with the Tai Chi Association of Atlanta.

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



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### March Celtic Clan

3/1/10 7:30 Practice Brad and Christie's  
3/5/10 7pm Canton Palace Theater  
3/8/10 7pm Maison Ainee Stow  
3/15/10 2pm New Horizons Cuyahoga Falls  
3/15/10 7:30 Practice Brad and Christie's  
3/22/10 7pm Four Seasons, Kent  
3/29/10 7:30 Practice Brad and Christie's

### Evening Book Group

On Tuesday, March 9 we will meet at 7 pm at the home of Pat Pownall. It is the first building on your right as you drive into the apartment complex.

Please check the Thread for the title of the book we will be reading.



Church member John Kluth's studio on North Water Street.

### 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.

When we go to one service, there is no out to lunch bunch.