



# The Chalice Flame

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

March 2012

## 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)

## Minister:

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

## Minister's office hours:

Tuesday - Friday

By appointment

## Congregational

### Administrator:

MaryBeth Hannan

### Office hours:

Mon. through Fri. 9 - 2

## Religious Ed. Director:

Karen Lapidus

[dre-uukent@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dre-uukent@sbcglobal.net)

DRE's Office Hours:

Tuesday and/or Wednesday

By appointment

## Music Director:

Hal Walker

## Commissioned Lay Leader:

Christie Anderson

[christiea@neo.rr.com](mailto:christiea@neo.rr.com)

## Affiliated

### Community Minister:

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke

[zimlar@juno.com](mailto:zimlar@juno.com)

## Newsletter editor:

Brad Bolton

[bbolton@neo.rr.com](mailto:bbolton@neo.rr.com)

## Deadline:

The 15th each month

*Welcome Morning* by Anne Sexton

There is joy

in all:

in the hair I brush each morning,  
in the Cannon towel, newly washed,  
that I rub my body with each morning,  
in the chapel of eggs I cook  
each morning,

in the outcry from the kettle  
that heats my coffee  
each morning,

in the spoon and the chair  
that cry "hello there, Anne"  
each morning,

in the godhead of the table  
that I set my silver, plate, cup upon  
each morning.

All this is God,  
right here in my pea-green house  
each morning  
and I mean,  
though often forget,  
to give thanks,  
to faint down by the kitchen table  
in a prayer of rejoicing  
as the holy birds at the kitchen window  
peck into their marriage of seeds.

So while I think of it,  
let me paint a thank-you on my palm  
for this God, this laughter of the morning,  
lest it go unspoken.

The Joy that isn't shared, I've heard,  
dies young.

The Christian mystic Meister Eckhart once said "if you only manage one prayer in your life, and it is 'Thank you,' it will suffice. Gratitude is an essential component of spiritual practice. By acknowledging our gratitude, we are acknowledging and celebrating all the many gifts we have been given in this life.

I love Anne Sexton's poem for its catalog of blessings noticed in a single morning. I love it for her acknowledgment that she often means to give thanks, but gets distracted by the demands of the day. I love it for the spiritual insight she offers about the importance of expressing gratitude; without our appreciation and acknowledg-

*Continued* →

## Upcoming Sermons

26 February

*Courageous Dissent*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Kathy Kerns

Have you ever found yourself tongue tied when you wanted to speak out in opposition? Have you ever been so opposed to an action that you just felt you had to do something? Today we will hear stories and songs about the courage it takes to take a stand.

4 March

*The Way Gratitude Wears*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Dani Beale

Have you ever considered the way gratitude wears? I mean, the way you wear gratitude in your heart and mind and body and spirit. I also mean the way gratitude wears a way to generosity. This morning we will celebrate the many gifts bestowed by the practice of gratitude.

11 March

*What It Takes to Speak Out*

On March 11th, the Youth Group takes over. This service will be about how our Unitarian Universalist principles and background affect us on our journey into adulthood. The service features music by and stories from the youth.

18 March

*This Particular Call*

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer and Worship Associate Bonnie Harper

Every year our association of congregations has a General Assembly in June. This year our gathering will not be business as usual. This year we will have a Justice General Assembly with a very particular call. Whether you think you might have any interest in attending or not, I hope you will join us to consider the call our association is being invited to respond to in Phoenix and all across our country. David Petras of the Phoenix Witness Project will be with us to receive our special collection which will be used to help fund scholarships to Justice GA. (Given the timing of the scholarship distribution, the second sermon I planned to deliver on gratitude will be postponed until April.)

25 March

*From Tolerance to Humility*

The Rev. Tim Temerson and Worship Associate Kristina Spaude

As Unitarian Universalists, we affirm tolerance as an important religious value. But is it enough simply to tolerate difference and diversity or can we move to a deeper, more authentic place of acceptance and celebration? Today we will explore the beauty and the challenge of difference and consider the role of another religious value - humility – in helping us to move beyond tolerance.

*The Rev. Tim Temerson is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron. He and I will be participating in the time honored tradition of a pulpit swap this morning. With this swap, he and I are looking forward to strengthening the ties between our congregations.*

---

← From p1

ment, we run the risk that our many reasons for giving thanks just might grow thin. But perhaps most of all, I love Anne Sexton's poem because I know that hers was not an easy life to live. Beginning with an episode of severe postpartum depression after her first daughter was born and continuing in episodes for the rest of her adult life, Sexton struggled with the anguish of mental illness. And still, she found a way to gratitude.

It may be that practicing gratitude is part of what leads us to gratitude. We'll begin our exploration this month and then, due to a change in our schedule, continue it next month with a second sermon on this most vital of spiritual practices.

See you in church,



## Children's and Family Library Moves to Founders' Lounge

Let's file this under the heading, "silver linings". Our recent baby boom meant that we needed to expand our nursery space, which meant that the library needed to be moved to Founders' Lounge. The adult library collection doesn't completely fill the wall space in Founders', so the Children's and Family collection was brought over from the Eldridge Annex. Hopefully, this will result in more folks taking advantage of our wonderful and rich collection of books.

We have a wide selection of folk tales from many corners of the world and from many ages in time. The collection of books with craft and game ideas are sure to keep children busy and happy for long stretches of time. There are books to help families celebrate just about every holiday of the year.

We are especially blessed to have such a wide array of resources that affirm and support all kinds of families. Many aspects of family life are addressed in our books on birth, death, adoption, illness, disability and the blending of families.

Our collection of biographies includes Albert Einstein, Eleanor Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, Jr., Anne Frank and many other inspiring individuals. We have books that promote peace and responsibility; books that in-

spire us to sing and to dance and books that encourage us to wonder about the beauty and power of the natural world.

We have children's Bibles and many stories from the Jewish tradition. We have books that honor the life and teachings of Jesus from a liberal religious point of view.

What we don't have a lot of, however, are resources about Unitarian Universalism! If you happen to be browsing the UUA bookstore and happen upon a gem that you think would be a good addition to our collection, your donation will be gladly accepted!

Books can be signed out for 2 weeks. Each book has a brightly colored card clipped inside. Please put your name, the date and your contact information on the card and place the card in the basket on the table near the nursery door. When you return books, please place them in the box on the table near the nursery (not on the shelves). We are sharing the check-out and return system with the Adult Library.

The RE Committee and I truly appreciate the generosity and flexibility of the members of the Library Committee.

In faith and with love, *Karen Lapidus*  
Director of Religious Education



Gary Wood, Robert Wood's brother from the Baltimore area, holds Robert's portrait after his memorial service.

Robert Wood's ubiquitous hats. Bob Batian, friend of Robert who gave the last eulogy at his memorial, is reflected in the glass.



## Acme Bucks, Past, Present, and Future

The Acme Bucks program has been going on for decades. Esther Duncan has been running it for the last 20 years, and is now stepping down from the Coordinator position. We should all thank her for running it so well. She'll still be behind the table a few times a month, but she will have other Sundays to enjoy coffee hour.

In January 2008 the Board approved \$1900 for a revolving account that is continually used to buy ACME Bucks. We get 5% on all sales. Since then this operation has contributed over \$5000 in revenues. It is a great investment, and continues to provide about \$1300-\$1500 per year revenues. The cards can be used as cash for everything available at ACME stores; for example I buy all my prescriptions with them. So you pay the same amount as you would buying items for cash, so this is like a 5% donation to the church at no cost to you. We could use more fund raisers like this! Any ideas?

I'll be around the table most Sundays, and Eunice Michaels and Julie Wilcox are selling the cards on a rotating schedule with Esther and I. We're looking for others to participate. All you do is sell the cards and note the sales. Its a fun way to meet some of the interesting people at our church, you get to sit down during coffee hour, and with two people at the table you can always get up to get a snack, have a coffee, or say hi to a friend. We trying to arrange the schedule so the duty is only once every 4 weeks or so, if we get a few more volunteers. Let me know if you want to join the team. But even if you don't, stop by and say hi. We're by the front door to the coffee hour hall every Sunday from 10:35 to 11:05.

*Bob Erdman, new Grocery Card Coordinator*



## Saint Patrick's Day Irish Dinner

There are only 8 tickets left for a traditional Irish dinner of corned beef, cabbage, colcannon, carrots, and soda bread.

Saturday, March 17 at 5:00 p.m. in Fessenden Hall.

Contact Lois Weir or Meg Milko for tickets or more information.

## New Olive Oil for Sale

The Social Justice Committee is selling Extra Virgin Olive Oil from Palestine during coffee hour. This delicate, mild oil is delicious in salad dressings and for dipping bread. Ted and I pour it over everything, including bread, salads and vegetables. Mixed with your choice of herbs and vinegar there is no comparison to the usual store-bought varieties. These sales benefit the Palestinian farmers who are having difficulty getting their olive oil to a market. Come try this excellent olive oil for a real taste awakening! There are also many health benefits that truly virgin cold pressed olive oil is reputed to bring.

*Swanny Voneida*



Kay Eckman signals a touchdown while Elaine Bowen drums up business at Elaine's annual collection for Kent Social Services, the Sou-per Bowl.

## The Big, Bad Book Sale is Ba-aaack!

Hello, fellow bibliophiles . . . time to clear out your bookshelves, the stacks next to your favorite chair and from under your bed. The book sale is coming . . . Saturday, April 28 from 9am to 2pm with sorting Wednesday, 4/25 and set-up Friday, 4/27 from 6p to 9p.

We need:

- donated books to sell - bring them to church beginning Sunday, 4/22 (Earth Day)
- volunteers for sorting, set-up and sales
- customers! Please invite your friends and neighbors ~ we can use all the free advertisement we can get!

To volunteer, please contact Elaine Bowen at [eybowen@yahoo.com](mailto:eybowen@yahoo.com) - sorters, set-uppers and sellers are permitted pre-sales:)

NOTE: please refrain from donating old encyclopedias, texts, Readers' Digest Condensed books or anything really musty/moldy - if you wouldn't buy it, we can't sell it! Thanks - Elaine Bowen.

## Library News

Many of the children's books have been moved to the west end of the Founders Lounge. Checking out these books will involve filling out the information required on the book card for each book placed in each item. The cards go into the checkout basket. These cards are in colors, and they are easily distinguished from the cards for the adult books that are circulated. Returns should go into the same box where the adult books are returned. Questions? Ask the library committee member in the library at coffee hour and see the article in this month's Chalice about the Religious Education Library materials.

"The Library Speaker's Forum" presented Dr. Dan Roland from the School of Library and Information Science in a talk about "Communication and the Fear Factor" on the afternoon of Sunday, February 26th. We want to thank Matt Cox for securing the speaker, Ann Waters for managing all the publicity, and the Nodens for providing flowers.

The Library will assume responsibility for sponsoring a bi-annual Chapbook on the history of the Kent UU Church. The editorial committee for this project will be chaired by Caroline Arnold. Ann Waters will serve as a member of the committee; if anyone is interested in becoming involved in this project, contact either Caroline, Ann or a member of the Library committee. The purpose of the Chapbook is to capture special memories of church history from current members.

*Ann Waters, Library Publicity*



The chili cookoff! Right, Lois Weir, Connor May, and Kathy Kerns sample the goodies. Winners of the event, on left, are Cheryl Spoehr, Amy Edmonds, Anne VerWiebe, and Mac Goekler.

## Family Movie Night

Our Family Movie Night is March 23rd, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in Fessenden Hall. This is a pot-luck affair. While some food will be provided, we encourage you to bring something to share. Our theme is "It's not Star Trek, but...." All you Star Trek and Science Fiction fans will enjoy a night of Star Trek parodies and satires! We will begin with the legendary comedy series Quark from 1978. This show was a line by line take-off on the original Star Trek, fans will be counting off the scenes lampooning the Star Trek episode "Shore Leave". Then comes Futurama's "Where no Fan has Gone Before" starring the bottled heads of William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, and the rest of the cast. We switch gears with chapters of the movie serials which inspired Star Trek, Captain Video and Buck Rogers. We finish off with the funniest movie ever made about Star Trek fandom, Galaxy Quest. Throw in some sci-fi themed cartoons, and a good time will be had by all!

*Cheryl Spoehr*

## 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off Results

The Chili Cook Off was a very successful event for fun and as a fundraiser. We had several entries and stiff competition in four categories. Every taster received a ballot to vote for their favorites. The winners are: Cheryl Spoehr for Most Exotic, Amy Edmonds for Best Vegetarian, Ann VerWiebe for Best Meat, and Mac Goekler for Hottest. They each won customized trophies designed by Logan Bores.



## Middle School RE Class “Human Right to Water” Project

The middle school youth have been learning about justice this year as a part of their curriculum “Heeding the Call: Qualities of a Justicemaker.” Using the democratic process—and with concern for the interdependent web of existence—they have chosen a social responsibility project for the rest of the year.

Inspired by a video by rapper Jay Z, they have decided to raise money and awareness for the human right to water. They are planning to make items out of duct tape and sell them...the proceeds going to help the global water crisis.

What we need from you:

If you have duct tape you would like to donate (the more colorful, the better!) please contact Karen Lapidus, or drop it off in the Middle School classroom (first room to the right on the classroom level).

Watch for the duct tape and other fundraisers to help support this noble cause!

Thank you!

The middle school class and teachers

Bobbi Beale

Camille Pavlicek-Fauser

Rhonda Richardson

Renee Ruchotzke



## Celtic Clan of Kent Concert

Come to a family friendly Concert of traditional and contemporary Irish folk music to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Saturday, 17 March, 7 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

Visit us at Facebook to hear some tunes. Tickets at the door: \$7 Adults, children under 12 free. This is a fun fundraiser for the church.

Contact for information: Trish McLoughlin

## What are you passionate about?

Do you have an idea for a Sunday service? The Sunday Program Committee is currently soliciting proposals for Sunday services in the Spring and Summer. You can find a proposal form on our web site at: <http://www.kentuu.org/docs/spc/sunday-proposal-e-form.pdf>. You can also contact Lois Weir to discuss your idea and get some assistance with formulating it into a service. You have something to say. Share it with your church community!

## Surprise Friends Returns!

It's that time of year, soon you will be able to take part in Surprise Friends. On March 11th, 18th or 25th stop by during Coffee Hour to have yourself paired up with a child from our congregation, anonymously, of course. Children who want to participate will also need to fill out a short form. Beginning April 11th and continuing throughout that month notes and small gifts will be secretly exchanged every Sunday leading up to the big reveal on April 29th!



Cal Frye played Charles Darwin for his service on Darwin's life and times.

## Spiritual Cinema

Spiritual Cinema will be on March 21st at 7:30 pm in Fessenden Hall. Light snacks will be provided. Our theme is stereotyping, which will be illustrated by episodes of the fifties TV shows *Amos & Andy*, *Car 54 Where Are You?*, examples from movies, radio, and other sources. This will be a multimedia presentation, rather than one movie. Discussion will follow each presentation. We will examine all kinds of prejudicial art, exploring the misrepresentation of racial and ethnic groups, males and females, GLBT people, and other forms of discrimination in popular culture. Please be aware that this material has been chosen precisely because it is offensive.

## March Church Events

<b>26</b> 11-12:15 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 11:15 Social Justice Hour <i>F</i> 12:15-2:15 Youth RE 12:30 Puppet show 12:30 Canvass <i>EA</i> 2-6 Library Speaker <i>S+FL</i> 6:30 Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>27</b> 2:30-5 Sanctuary reserved 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>EA</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	<b>28</b> 6:30-8:30 RE cmte <i>EA</i> 7-8:30 Adult RE <i>F</i>	<b>29</b> 6-8 Sunday cmte <i>EA</i> 7:30-8:30 Canvass <i>F</i>	<b>1</b> 7:30-9 Capital Campaign <i>A</i> 7:30-9:30 COA <i>F</i>	<b>2</b> 6-9 Democracy workshop <i>F</i>	<b>3</b> 8a- 6p Democracy workshop <i>F</i>
<b>4</b> 10:30-11:30 CUUPS info <i>F</i> 11-12:15 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 11:15 Social Justice Hour <i>F</i> 12:30-2:30 Social Justice <i>EA</i> 12:30-3 Kluth reception <i>F</i> 6:30 Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>5</b> 12:30-2:30 Social Justice <i>EA</i> 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>EA</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	<b>6</b> 5:30-7:30 Safety <i>EA</i> 7-8:30 Adult RE <i>F</i>	<b>7</b> 7-9 Singalong <i>S</i>	<b>8</b> 7:30-9:30 COA <i>F</i>	<b>9</b> 4-6 Fessenden and Sanctuary reserved 6:30-10:30 CUUPS potluck <i>F</i>	<b>10</b> 2:00 Vars memorial
<b>11</b> 11-12:15 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 11:15 Social Justice Hour <i>F</i> 6:30 Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>12</b> 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>EA</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	<b>13</b> Noon Retirees lunch 7-8:30 Adult RE <i>F</i>	<b>14</b> 6:30-8:30 Food group <i>F</i> 7:30-9:30 Board <i>EA</i>	<b>15</b> Newsletter deadline 7:30-9:30 COA <i>F</i>	<b>16</b> 6-8 Church reserved 8-10 Claudia Schmidt concert	<b>17</b> 1-5 Fessenden reserved 5-7 Dinner <i>F</i> 7:00 Celtic Clan concert <i>S</i>
<b>18</b> 11-12:15 Adult RE <i>EA</i> 11:15 Social Justice Hour <i>F</i> 1-4 CUUPS egg hunt, Fred Fuller 4-6 Williams Project church 6:30 Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>19</b> 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>EA</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30-9 Spiritual Cinema	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7-9 Family movie night <i>F</i>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 11:15 Social Justice Hour <i>F</i> 12:30-3 COA <i>S,F</i> 6:30 Choir <i>S</i> 7-9 AA <i>FH</i>	<b>26</b> 5-7:00 FinSecs <i>EA</i> 5:30-6:30 Tai Chi	<b>27</b> 6:30-8:30 RE cmte <i>EA</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:30-9 Ministry <i>EA</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</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; *FC*-  
 Family and Community Services bldg.

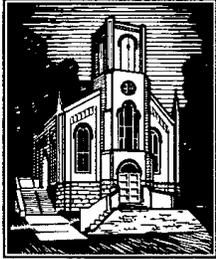
*Calendar does not reflect changes or additions after February 21*

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).



Kathy Walker, Kailani, Saul Flanner, and Melissa at Kailani's baby dedication at church.

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*

### **Book Group Meeting**

The Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, March 13, at 7 pm in the home of Betty Kendrick. Thank you, Betty for helping us out this winter with an accessible place to meet. Those attending should bring a snack to share.

We have been reading fairly serious/heavy novels in recent months. We decided on a fun, light book for March. We will be reading *Home to Woefield* by Susan Juby. Prudence Burns, a well-intentioned New Yorker full of back-to-the-land ideals, just inherited Woefield Farm--thirty acres of scrubland, dilapidated buildings, and one half-sheared sheep. But the bank is about to foreclose, so Prudence must turn things around fast and thus our story.

In April we will be reading the book *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghesse. If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper.



Gordon Vars,  
we miss you  
and wish you  
well.