



Monthly Musings from Rev. George Buchanan

Hello, everyone – Reverend George Buchanan here. (Please call me George.) I am the consulting minister serving the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent while Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer goes on maternity leave. I am booked to serve this congregation quarter time, beginning October first and ending just before Christmas.

In the next few paragraphs, I want to tell you a bit about myself, and what you can expect from me during Melissa's leave. There is also a printed brochure with more details on how Melissa's leave will work.

I am a life-long Unitarian Universalist. After my ordination, I served as one of the ministers at the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights from 2006 to 2012. My wife Carrie and I live in Cleveland Heights, one of the "eastern ring" suburbs of Cleveland.

I like meeting people, whether at church, in their homes, or when they are in hospital. Whether in times of great joy, or at moments of difficulty and sadness, it feels right to be present with you. And we've set things up so I'll work with the congregation's Care Team. Together we'll work to ensure all those who need a

visit get one, whether from me or a member of the Care Team.

If you need to contact me directly about visiting, or for any other reason, please call me on my cell phone or email me at gbuchanan7@gmail.com.

I am deeply passionate about finding the path to heal and restore our Beloved Earth. In my heart, I know all of us will be working on this in different forms for many years to come. And we need better long term ways to sustain our spirits as we face the daunting "earth crises" before us. To this end, I am leading a workshop called "Beloved Community, Beloved Earth" on Saturday October 19. Rather than trying to add to our "to-do" lists, this workshop will focus on fundamental ways to orient and sustain ourselves over the long haul, as we build Beloved Community and Beloved Earth. See the information on page 6 of this newsletter on how to sign up for this workshop.

To get you all thinking about this, I am preaching on this same subject – sustaining our spirits for the work before us - on Sunday, October 6. I am in the pulpit two more times during my time with you – on Sunday

Sunday Services

9:45 and 11:30 am

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

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Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer

Consulting Minister:

Rev. George Buchanan
gbuchanan7@gmail.com

Congregational**Administrator:**

MaryBeth Hannan

Office hours:

Mon. through Fri. 9 - 4

Religious Ed. Director:

Karen Lapidus
dre-uukent@sbcglobal.net

DRE's Office Hours:

Tuesday and/or Wednesday
By appointment

Music Director:

Hal Walker

**Commissioned Lay
Leader:**

Rev. Christie Anderson
christiea@neo.rr.com

Affiliated**Community Minister:**

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke
zimlar@juno.com

Newsletter editor:

Saul Flanner
newsletter@kentuu.org

Deadline:

The 20th each month



Lola encourages
us to heal and
restore our
Beloved Earth.

December 8, and an intergenerational Thanksgiving service on Sunday November 24, working with Karen Lapidus. You will enjoy an interesting mix of guest ministers and speakers on the other Sundays during Melissa's leave.

As well as the Care Team, I am scheduled to meet regularly with the congregation's Board, and with some of the other important groups and committees.

I cannot replace Melissa – no one can do that. With your help, I will do my part to keep the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent humming along and moving towards the vital goals you have set for yourselves. My hope and prayer is that Melissa will have a good maternity leave, and then happily return to a congregation still thriving, still working to care for one another, and still a beacon of liberal religion.

May it be so.

UPCOMING SERVICES

9:45 and 11:30 am

October 6 - Go Buckeyes!

*Rev. George Buchanan
and Worship Associate Kristina Spaude*

In this service, we'll celebrate the beauty of Ohio trees, including our magnificent Buckeye trees. We'll consider how our care for these trees and forests connects us to the call to protect and heal our Beloved Earth. (And just for fun, we might even connect in the Ohio State Buckeyes!)

October 13 - Nurturing Our Wonder

*Christie Anderson
and Worship Associate John Marfy*

Rachel Carson is best known for her revolutionary book about harmful pesticide use, "Silent Spring." However, this worship service will focus on her other poetic and heartfelt writings, particularly her view that the way to reduce adverse human impact upon the environment is to nurture a lifetime sense of wonder about the natural world. The service will include Carson's beautifully-written reflections, Brad Bolton nature photos, and a moving video clip.

October 20 - The Art of Living

Rev. Wayne Arnason

"Each of us is an artist whose task it is to shape life into some semblance of the pattern we dream about," wrote Rev. Arthur Graham. Whether or not we think of ourselves as having artistic gifts, each of us has a responsibility for the artistic creation that is our life. Inspired by the beauty of design in the natural world, and by the work of artists and craftspeople, Rev. Arnason will reflect on what goes into the art of living.

October 27 - Finding Fallow Time

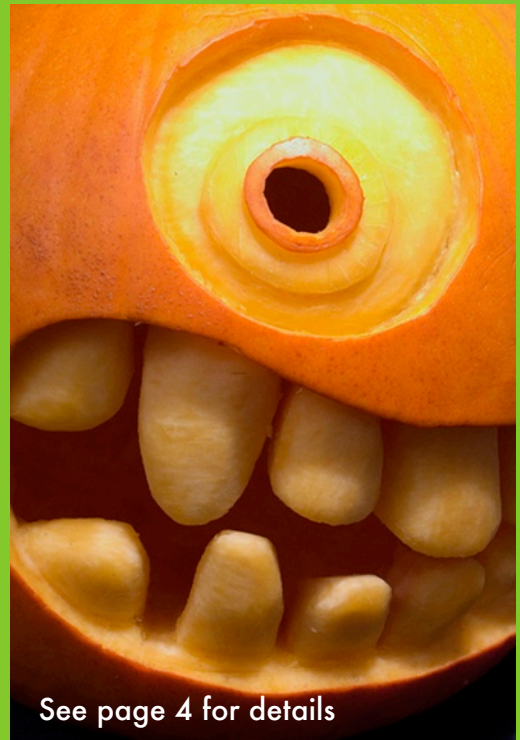
*Rev. Renee Ruchotzke
and Worship Associate Trish McLoughlin*

In a world where so many things are competing for our attention, how can we find our center? This is an intergenerational service.

DATES TO REMEMBER

All-Church Halloween Party

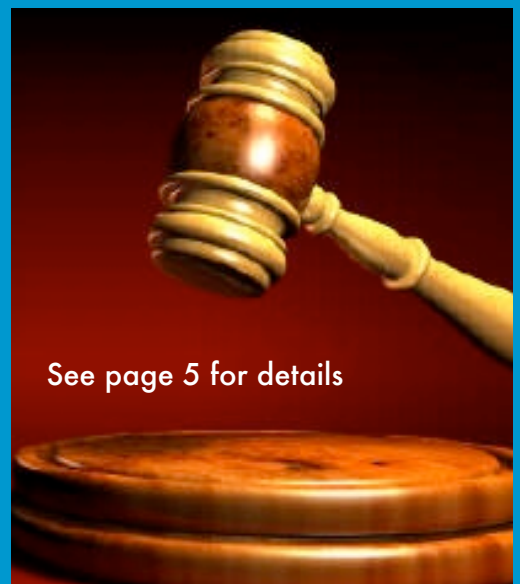
Saturday, Oct. 26th, 6pm



See page 4 for details

Service Auction

Saturday, Nov. 2nd,
United Church of Christ



See page 5 for details

Halloween Party and Haunted House: The Tradition Lives On

from Karen Lapidus

This multigenerational cooperative party will happen on Saturday, October 26th beginning at 6:00 in Fesenden Hall.

Our church has been holding this fall celebration just about every year for at least 30 years! (Does anyone remember the year of the first Halloween Party?) The youth have been transforming the upstairs classrooms into all sorts of scenarios and galleries for nearly as long. It has become a rite of passage, with the younger children anticipating when it will be their opportunity to create the Haunted House.

The party is always family-friendly, as well as adult-friendly. Everyone is encouraged to attend! It will be a finger-food potluck, so bring something to share that doesn't require the need for silverware. We'll be accepting donations, as well, to cover the cost of supplies and prizes.

The Religious Education Committee has some great games planned including old favorites and new experiences. We will be recruiting lots of folks to take a shift or two at leading the games and activities. Instructions and supplies will be provided. Of course, we will be recruiting volunteers to help set up and clean up.

The middle and high school youth groups will gather on Saturday around noon to begin the transformation of the classrooms. This is a great community building activity that supports decision-making, fairness and creativity. After the party, the youth will spend the night at the church.

Wear your costume! See you there!

In faith and with love,

Karen Lapidus
Director of Religious Education



The Moderator's Musings from Elaine Bowen

It's fall and we're well on our way into brisk weather, leaves changing & falling and our church year in full swing. With the summer slow down past us, comes a gentle comment from your loving moderator that donations were less than expected through the summer months. This is not unexpected due to vacations but it is hoped that cash flow will pick up during the fall & winter as expenses increase with utilities as they do at our residences.

Your Board of Trustees is still minus a member as I call upon active church members to request your consideration to serve as Board Secretary through the beginning of June, 2014. Both Max Grubb and Vivien Sandlund have shared the duties thus far but that is a temporary "fix" as they each have their own Board responsibilities that need their full attention. Do consider if you are able to spend several hours a month taking minutes at the Board meeting, transcribing them and being the liaison to the Communications Council.

Board meetings are monthly on the third Tuesday from 7:00 pm to 9:00-9:15 pm in the Eldredge Annex. These are open meetings and all church members are invited to attend. However, if you wish to propose an item for the agenda, please e-mail me no later than the 2nd Tuesday of the month in order to be considered for that month's agenda.

We hope to share news with you soon regarding our ongoing behind-the-scenes work to acquire additional property for our expansion. I know it's difficult to wait and wonder but have faith; I do - in both the process and in the entire team working to make our vision a reality.

In service and with
blessings,

Elaine



Dare to Enter the Forbidden Forest!



Dear parents and guardians of our older (age 9 and above) children,

On behalf of KentHogwarts I would like to cordially invite you participate in our upcoming Forbidden Forest night hike. Prepare to face down Dementors, Death Eaters and Acromantulas in an after dark adventure!

We are hosting this event on Saturday, October 12th, 2013 at the Tallmadge Meadows Metropark in Munroe Falls. This is an open event so please feel free to invite other friends but due to the scary nature of the program we do ask that all participants be 9 years old or older.

We do require that parents/guardians be present during the event. You don't have to go on the hike as we have a hangout spot by the shelter, but we will need to have a signed permission slip for the event.

Please do RSVP for this event at <http://tinyurl.com/forbiddenforest> and feel free to pass along this information and invitation to any others you think may be interested. For updated information please visit our website at www.kenthogwarts.org or email Professor FizzBOOM!

Yours in magical fraternity,
Professor Chroniculus FizzBOOM!
Headmaster, KentHogwarts

Thanks4Giving Auction - Nov. 2nd, 6pm

Did you save the date? You don't want to miss this year's auction of goods and services in support of our beloved church. Fun, food, fraternizing, fundraising. something for everyone in every price range. Look for our table at coffee hour. Tickets will soon be on sale, and FAQs (frequently asked questions) brochures are being made. We'll be looking for volunteers to help that weekend. Have you thought about making a donation, maybe more than one donation? The FAQs brochure can help with ideas, and donation forms are available. You will be hearing more about the auction all month.

Art Auction Preview

Be the first to see the artwork for the 2013 auction! Hear the artists talk about their creations while you enjoy appetizers and beverages. Artists this year are Brad Bolton, Don Easterling, Heidrun Hultgren, Wendy Jenks, John Kluth, Claudia Miller, Georgia Quinn, Rhonda Mitchell, and Jan Noden.

Date: Friday, Oct. 18
Time: 7-9 pm
Place: Fessenden Hall
Donation: \$15



RadioLab and Pancakes is Back!

Our discussion group will return during second service on October 27th. We have changed the time so that the greatest number of people can participate. We will be meeting in Fessenden Hall at 11:30 a.m. There will be pancakes for those who wish, and our topic is "The Paradox of Choice". Some psychological research suggests that the twenty-first century offers too many choices for our health. Come and listen to the RadioLab hosts debate this position with famous neurologist and author Oliver Sacks, then we will toss these ideas around for ourselves. Good food, good companions, and good conversation will be had by all. If you have any questions contact Cheryl Spoehr.

Family Movie Night Returns...

...in Fessenden Hall on October 11th, from 7:30 pm to 10 pm. This will be our second annual tribute to science fiction. **Galaxy Quest will be shown!!!** We will also have a selection of science fiction cartoons, serials, sit-coms and other delights. We might even have an episode of Star Trek this time, or maybe not... So come to our second pot-luck sci-fi movie night for Galaxy Quest, Futurama, and many surprises! If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Spoehr.

Opportunities from the Hunger and Economic Justice Task Group

We have been invited by Trinity Lutheran Church in Kent to be part of augmenting the hot meals available for hungry people in our community. Currently meals are offered every day of the week save Saturdays under the auspices of Kent Social Services. Trinity Lutheran, a trusted partner of Kent Social Services, is planning to offer a hot lunch every Saturday and has invited us to help. We get to determine the frequency with which we would host and to do so we need to know how many of you would be interested in being involved.

For each meal we host, we would need 10 – 12 people to cook, serve and clean up. Children are welcome to be an active part of our team so

we are especially encouraging families to consider volunteering to participate together. We are thinking we might start with one Saturday every month or every other month. If you might be interested in being involved, please write to Rev. Melissa and Tanya Kahl.

Let us know how frequently you would be interested in participating and whether you would be volunteering on your own or with others in your family. Once we know how many people are interested, we'll make a more concrete plan for our congregation's involvement.

Beloved Community, Beloved Earth

Saturday, October 19, 2013, 9 AM to 1 PM

Breakfast and lunch provided

Free will donation to cover the cost of food

Leader: Rev. George Buchanan

We face many challenges as we work to sustain ourselves, build stronger communities, and heal our Beloved Earth. Some of these challenges are local, such as hydraulic fracturing; others are more global, including carbon dioxide pollution, drought, and rising sea levels. In this workshop, we consider new and creative ways to sustain our spirits in the face of these challenges. Our focus will be on vision and orientation rather than taking on "one more task." How do we define our positive vision for our Beloved Earth? How can we be strong and resilient over the long haul? What are the ideas, tools, and resources we need to sustain us?

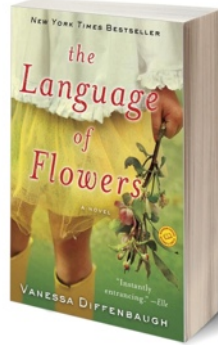
All members and friends of Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent are welcome, including high school youth. Maximum 25 attendees - first come, first served.

Please contact the office to register by Sunday, October 13. Childcare will be available at no charge, however children must be registered prior to the workshop. With this we will be able to plan for the food and the necessary childcare workers.

Literary Liner Notes

The Language of Flowers

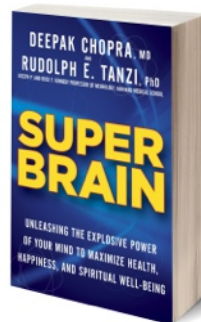
The Patricia Pownall UU Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, October 8 at 7 pm. We are again meeting in the home of Trish Johnson-Kwartler in Silver Lake. Please bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided. This month we are reading *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.



A mesmerizing, moving, and elegantly written debut novel, *The Language of Flowers* beautifully weaves past and present, creating a vivid portrait of an unforgettable woman whose gift for flowers helps her change the lives of others even as she struggles to overcome her own troubled past. In November we will be reading *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper. All are welcome.

Super Brain Discussion

Super Brain: Unleashing the Explosive Power of Your Mind to Maximize Health, Happiness, and Spiritual Well Being is a book by Deepak Chopra, M.D. and Rudolph E. Tanzi, Ph.D.; Joseph P. and Rose F. Kennedy Professor of Neurology, Harvard medical School. The discussion group will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Eldredge Annex on the following Sunday evenings: October 6 & 20, and November 3 & 17.



Feel free to join us as you are able for an exciting examination of who we are as humans and as individuals. Questions? Call Mary Maske.

Here We Have Gathered

The Library Committee has been working on the 3rd volume of *Here We have Gathered*. Featured will be essays on May 4th recollections (Gene Wenninger and Caroline Arnold) Summer Institute (Joel Slater and Lori McGee), and appreciation of his congregational experience by Reid Parsons, to name a few. The issue will be available for purchase in October during coffee hour between Sunday services.

The 2nd Bill Moyers Symposium will be held Wed, October 9th on in Fessenden Hall. The program will feature an interview with the atheist philosopher Colin McGinn. Carolyn Schlemmer will be the Moderator. Plan to join us for this interesting and challenging event; our first program had a unanimously enthusiastic reception.



The Library Committee has been working to process new additions to our present collection. Over 20 books will be available for circulation in October. We remind everyone to put complete information on the card you find in each book so we know where books checked-out are located. Books may be checked out for two weeks, and may be re-renewed with the Library committee member in Founders Lounge during coffee hour. We have a number of over-due books. We do not have a fine policy for over-due books, but count on your cooperation to get the books back in a timely manner. We are aggressively pursuing those volumes that have been due for over 2 weeks.

Finally, the Library Committee is very pleased to welcome Jane Krimmer to the Library Committee. We are grateful to the following congregational members who volunteered to help the committee one-time-only with various Library functions: Sue Croissen, Paulette Thurman, Barbara Broyarone, Zachary Johnson, Mary Lou Holly, Louis Peterson. Thank you all.

Words to Live By...

"We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be."

— Kurt Vonnegut 

GIVING BACK

Simple Gifts received...

from Elaine Bowen

In honor of Kailani Walker's 3rd birthday

from Ed & Jane Krimmer

In memory of Tom Meyers

Our Simple Gifts program is designed to encourage everyday giving. If members and friends of the congregation continue to remember the church with regular gifts, we will be well on our way to building the kind of endowment that can help ensure our congregation's continuing health and vitality.

No gift is too small or too large. Donations can be made in celebration, in honor of someone or something, in appreciation or to note a special occasion. If you would like to participate, the blue Simple Gift envelopes can be found in the pews; please include your dedication and name so we can provide you with a donation credit. Thank you.

September's special collection to benefit Family & Community Services for security deposits for those moving into transitional housing raised \$599.00.



Ohio Meadville District News

Two Hands Clapping OMD Leadership Conference

Are you a congregational leader? Take this opportunity to join other congregational leaders in the OMD at this year's Leadership Day on October 26, 2013 at the UU Church of the North Hills in Pittsburgh, PA. Details and registration available at <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/649-2013omdlead>.

Fall Webinar Schedule Available

Webinar offerings for this fall are being posted on the CERG website. Among the webinars scheduled are ones focused on Dealing with Resistance, From New Member to Committed Leader, RE Thematic Models, Developing Healthy RE Committees, Creating an Anonymous Visitors Program, Managing Learning Differences in RE, Training Greeters and Team Building Activities for Boards, Committees and Congregations. More to be added soon. Find details at <http://www.cerguua.org/calendars/cergwebinars.html>.

District Assembly 2014

District Assembly 2014 will take place at the Avalon Hotel and Conference Center, Erie, PA, March 28-29, 2014 with the Rev. Meg Barnhouse as the keynote speaker. Regionalization will undoubtedly be a topic of discussion. Put this date on your calendar, you won't want to miss it!



For a complete and up-to-date church calendar, please visit <http://www.localendar.com/public/uukent>. If you are unable to access our electronic calendar, please contact the church office and we will gladly provide you with a paper copy.

