



Super Pinch Hitting by Team UUCK! [from Rev. Christie Anderson](#)

You may recall that prior to Rev. Melissa's maternity leave to care for her son Rylan, the super-efficient Rev. Melissa had every aspect of her work organized for coverage until her return. She even created a brochure outlining all of the plans and the individuals with responsibilities during her leave. I'm sure Rev. Melissa was intending to leave us with a similarly organized plan, that is, until baby Owen decided to make a surprise appearance!

But as we have seen, players on Team UUCK stepped up immediately and continued the work of the church without any need for a time-out. I would like to recognize some of the many folks who volunteered to make this a smooth transition.

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke enthusiastically agreed to lead the worship service which took place only five days after Owen's birth. Lori McGee and the Worship Arts Team members immediately began to make arrangements for worship leaders to

cover the worship services for the month of July. I facilitated the Chalice Group at Laurel Lake and handled several urgent pastoral situations in coordination with the MET (Ministerial Executive Team) and the COM (Committee on Ministry). Thankfully Marion Yeagler agreed to coordinate the reception for the "Freedom To Marry Event" and Lori McGee agreed to help with the wedding ceremonies.

Vivien Sandlund and the Social Justice Committee quickly organized a vigil to stand witness to the tragic shootings at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Charleston. Dani Beale stepped forward, along with Social Justice Committee members, to continue our church-wide conversation about racial justice. And our church Administrator, Mary Beth Hannan, facilitated the Retiree's Lunch and organized meal donations for Larry Cole's family and for Rev. Melissa, Evin and Rylan.

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

Minister:

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer
minister-uukent@sbcglobal.net

Minister's office hours:

Tuesday - Friday
By appointment

**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 of each month



Meanwhile, regularly scheduled church activities continued without interruption. The outstanding Hogwarts leaders trained their Prefects and held their successful summer Hogwarts children's program. The summer youth RE program kicked off with a contingent of adult teachers. Church delegates traveled to our denomination's annual conference in Portland, Oregon. The adult RE series on UU theological sources is continuing, a young adult meet-up was held, and the group, "Parents of Young Children" met, as well as the knitters group and the sacred circle singers. Work is continuing on the search for a new Director of Religious Education. The Building Expansion Team and the Capital Campaign members are carrying out their responsibilities. The 2014 Board met with the new 2015 Board members and our church leaders are moving toward implementing the new organizational structure which begins on July 1st. This is a significant amount of activity for summer – which is our slow time!

I extend deep gratitude to all who have offered to help maintain the many diverse ministries of our beloved church. We miss Rev. Melissa's invaluable contributions to the life of our church, but we can take pride in knowing that our team can work together and perform even while the coach is absent!

In faith,

Christie

UPCOMING SERVICES

9:45 and 11:30 am

July 5 - Black and Blue

Dani Beale and Worship Associate Deb Biggins

Unitarian Universalism's first principle calls for us to uphold and protect the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and our second principle requires us to seek out justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. Recent events, such as the horrific mass shooting at the Emmanuel AME church in Charleston, SC, and the numerous highly publicized killings of unarmed black people at the hands of police, have sparked a national debate about how we value the lives of ourselves and others, and specifically those of black people. Our own community has demonstrated a diverse response to these events, and our country is divided on how to move forward.

For this service, we will explore the historical roots of liberation theology in Unitarian Universalism and how our faith calls us to act when oppressed peoples are asking for us to witness their struggle and join them in protest for change. Most importantly, we will consider how we as individuals and a community can address the challenges facing us. What does it mean to be antiracist? What does it mean to be an effective ally? Are we ready to take a hard look at ourselves, and work towards understanding our place in one of the civil rights movements of our time? Join us as we begin again in love.

July 12 - Hope is the Thing with Feathers

*Lori McGee with Nicole Zavodny
and Worship Associate Cheryl Spoehr*

During periods of trial and tribulation, hope is often what sustains and carries us through to better times. This service will explore the ways that hope lifts us and keeps us moving forward in our lives.

July 19 - The Next Generation

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke

In times of transition there is a tension between holding on to the past and making space for the emerging future. How might we faithfully engage with that tension?

July 26 - Generosity

Kathy Kerns and Marion Yeagler

This Sunday will consider different perspectives on generosity, and include personal sharings from some members.



EVENTS TO NOTE



July 12th - 18th

(see omdsi.org for details)

International Student Outreach Informational Meeting

Sunday, July 19th, 12:45pm

(see page 6 for details)

Pat Pownall Book Club

Tuesday, July 21st, 7:00pm

(see page 7 for details)

Where's Walden Campout

October 1st - October 3rd

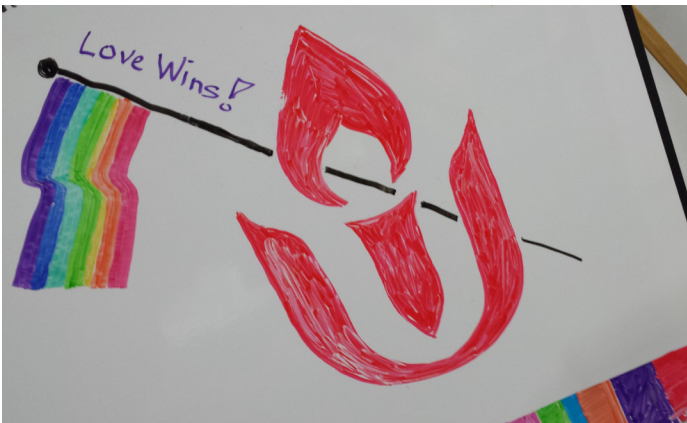
(see page 7 for details)

Greetings from Portland!



I have been spending the week at our national gathering of Unitarian Universalists: General Assembly. It's been a week of celebration as 5000 UU's celebrated

the Supreme Court decisions on upholding the Obamacare legislation and overturning bans on same-sex marriage. On Friday morning we took out time from our regular business to celebrate the news. UUA Moderator Jim Keys invited all of the couples who were now able to have their marriages recognized in all 50 states to join him on stage. It was a joyous moment.



It's also been a week of commemoration as we engage with how Unitarian Universalists can faithfully engage with the #BlackLivesMatter movement after the horrific killings in the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC. I want to share a moment that made me think that those of us who are white can be good allies in the movement, however imperfectly. When I was working at the UUA Congregational Life booth in the Exhibit Hall, one of the wait-staff, who was an African American male, came up to us and asked if he could have some of the "Black Lives Matter" pins to bring back to his church. In some ways, I think that a white ally wearing a #BlackLivesMatter pin, or wristband, or t-shirt, is a way of saying "I see you... You matter to me." Or "I am willing to have a conversation that is not centered on my white experience." We all know how powerful it is to be invisible and then to be seen.

Next year, General Assembly will be right down the road, in Columbus (June 22-26, 2015). I hope many of you will attend, at least for the Sunday morning portion where you can experience worship with thousands of UU's and visit the booths in the Exhibit Hall without paying an entrance fee.

In faith and service,

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke



Simple Gifts received...

Claudia Miller
in memory of Delpha Wayte

Bobbi & Dani Beale
in celebration of Jesse's graduation

Robert Kempe
in honor of Rick Mild

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.

Work We Can Be Proud Of

As the new board of trustees assumes their new responsibilities, I want to take this time to thank the congregation for giving me the opportunity to serve these last two years, one as vice moderator and recently as moderator. It has been a busy year for our church with a considerable amount of work accomplished and more to do.

We can be proud of the work done by the many church volunteers. Their energies go to the heart of our mission, principles and values, and in making our vision a reality. The numerous services, ministries, committees, actions, activities and events would not be possible without the efforts of these community members.

In addition, we have taken on additional undertakings with the revision of the bylaws and the facilities expansion, renovation and remodeling plans. The bylaws revision now enables the board of trustees to devote their time to policies and strategic issues and planning. This will provide us with a more effective, efficient and expedient way to accomplish our mission and work.

The work of the Capital Campaign and Building Expansion teams is exciting. It's wonderful and amazing to see the community support as these teams work together to help us realize our vision. Their work will go far in supporting a growing community and the vision of our church. We all look forward to seeing the outcome of their efforts.

Ours is a vibrant and energized community. It's been exciting to see the work of the social justice ministries in their efforts to create awareness, adopt resolutions, and engage not only church members but also our external communities in order to create change. These endeavors have

gone far in promoting dialogue and deliberation among community members on important issues confronting our society. In addition, the UUA challenges us to engage our external communities

to not only make them aware of our mission, principles and values, but to join us in tackling the issues that confront our society and to promote social justice by standing on the side of love. We need to support and continue the church's social justice activities.

Finally, it has been an honor to serve you, the church community these last two years. I want to thank the ministerial staff, board of trustees and, of

course, the community members for their support and encouragement. We have accomplished a lot in recent years, but we have more to do as a community and as members of society. Let us continue as a community to work together as we strive to promote our mission, vision and principles in building a just society.

Thank you,

Max V. Grubb

Former Moderator



Thank you, Max!

International Student Outreach: Friendship Partners

Please join Sevim McCutcheon and an international student to learn about opportunities for UUs to connect with college students from around the world!

Informational meeting on **Sunday, July 19th, at 12:45 p.m.** in Fessenden Hall. Snacks will be provided. Feel free to bring a lunch.

For more information, contact Sevim McCutcheon, via the church office. If you can't make it to this meeting but want to get involved, contact Sevim.

Nearly 3,000 international students from scores of countries will attend Kent State University this fall.

They come to the United States hoping to engage in local activities and make connections with people who live here.

Often, international students arrive in the United States alone and without family members or friends in the area to assist in the transition into their new surroundings. In this situation, support from the local community in the form of a "friendship partner" can be a key to adjusting to culture shock and connecting with their new hometown.

In this proposed Friendship Partners program, American individuals, couples and families are introduced to an international student or two, with potential for building relationships and sharing culture in unique and fulfilling ways.

Friendship partners can engage in a variety of activities with their international students, depending on mutual



interests and schedules. Possibilities include informal meals, holiday traditions and celebrations, outings to local festivals and sporting events, shopping, and hikes in nearby parks.

Given UU values and principles, Sevim considers the UU congregation to be especially well suited for reaching out in positive and accepting ways to international students of many backgrounds, religions, and cultures. Sevim will gather contact information from interested Americans and interested international students and facilitate the initial connection.

In addition to the Friendship Partners program, for those with a spare bedroom who are interested, there are opportunities to host international students in your home. This can be temporary (a few days to a week, giving students a "home base" from which to find more permanent housing) or longer term (a semester or more). Housing needs are especially acute for new, incoming international students in August, just prior to the fall semester.

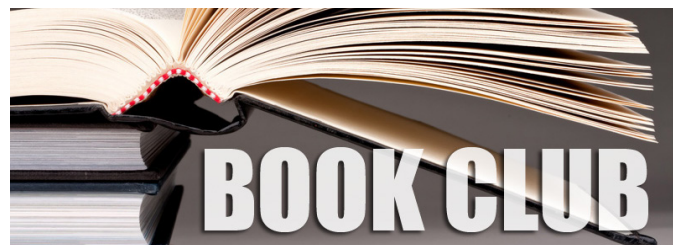
While Sevim meets international students and learns about their needs and situations because she works at KSU, this pilot program has no formal affiliation with Kent State University.



DRE Positions Available

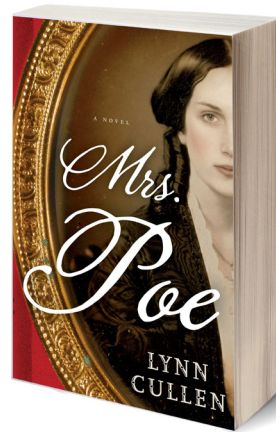
Southwest UU Church is looking for a 12 hour/ week Director of Religious Education. Job description and details can be found at www.swuu.org/dre-job-description/

UU Church of Kent is looking for a 3/4 time professional to work with children and youth. This can be a Director of Religious Education or an Assistant Minister for Lifespan Faith Development. Details can be found at www.kentuu.org/2015/05/01/



Mrs. Poe

The Patricia Pownall UU Book Group will be meeting on Tuesday, July 21 at 7 pm at the home of Trish Johnson-Kwartler. Meet at the church at 6:30 if you want to carpool. This month we are reading *Mrs. Poe* by Lynn Cullen. Struggling to support her family in mid-nineteenth-century New York, writer Frances Osgood makes an unexpected connection with literary master Edgar Allan Poe and finds her survival complicated by her intense attraction to the writer and the scheming manipulations of his wife. In August we are reading any book by the author Anne Tyler.



If you have any questions you may contact Bonnie Harper. All are welcome.

Where's Walden in the Fall Campout

Save the Date!

Thursday, October 1st,
Friday, October 2nd,
and Saturday, October 3rd

Caesar Creek Lake State
Park, 50 Springs Area, Hickory
Overlook group camp

Activities include hiking, boating, nature center visit, fossil hunting, day trip to the John Bryan / Clifton Gorge park.

Additional information and a sign-up sheet will be posted in Fessenden Hall later in the summer.





School Supplies Needed for Area Children

Even though the summer has just begun, it's not too early to think about school supply needs for late August.

KSS and The Center of Hope are collecting school supplies for families in need and there are MANY in need. UUC of Kent will offer our support and I respectfully request you consider donating what you can.

Items needed include: **1" 3 ring binders** (high need for these), **backpacks** (high need for these), loose leaf filler paper (wide and college rule), spiral bound notebooks (wide and college rule), pocket folders - pronged and not, Crayola crayons (24 pack), pink erasers, pencil sharpeners, any color stick pens (black, blue, red), colored pencils and Elmer's bottled glue & glue sticks.

Please leave items in the closet on the ground level next to the elevator and I will get them delivered to KSS.

The deadline for donations is Sunday, August 9.

Thank you in advance for your generosity; children need tools to support their education.

Elaine Yehle Bowen



Ohio Meadville District News

It's Time for Summer Institute

New leader or volunteer? Want to brush up on a few things before fall? The Central East Region On Demand Learning Center had videos and resources on a variety of topics that deal with all aspects of congregational life. You do have to register to use the site, but registration is free. Visit the site today at www.cerguua.org/ondemand

Young Adult Opportunities

OPUS, the annual national gathering of Young Adults will once again take place in the OMD at Camp Nuhop August 19-23, 2015. Registration is open. Find more details at www.ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/736-opus15

New Board Member or Congregational Leader?

The UU Leadership Institute is offering a summer class on *Healthy Leadership 101*. This course is all online and self-paced with three webinar based sessions for conversation and connections. Learn more at www.uuinstitute.org. It's not too late to sign up as long as you finish before September 15.



For a complete and up-to-date calendar,
please visit 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

the
chalice flame

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH
OF KENT

228 GOUGLER
KENT, OH
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