

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



Sunday Services - 10:30 AM
Religious Education - 10:30 AM

Telephone
(724) 327-5872

Website
<http://www.esuuc.org>

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Editor, Andy Manhardt
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, July 4, 10:30AM *“Dreaming of Freedom and Peace”* **Rev. Dr. Renee Waun**

For the program on this Independence Day, **Dr. Waun** will lead us and **Brian Ogle** will provide esoteric music for a time of relaxed, guided, Buddhist style meditation which will help us to visualize peace and freedom throughout the world. Dress will be casual.

Sunday, July 11, 10:30 AM "Paper Bag Skits" **Marylyn Devlin**

Come for the fun of it and bring your creativity. We'll divide into small groups that will be given a bag of "stuff" to use (or not use) as they come up with a plot and characters. Then they'll improvise their way through a skit for the audience. This is an intergenerational service and a good way to get to know other members. I am always amazed at the hidden talents of our group!

Sunday, July 18, 10:30 AM *“Bullies and indifference: Lessons from the Holocaust”* **Debbie Maier Orefice**

This service will use music, videos, computers, and straight talk to create a powerful and thought provoking lesson on what happens when bullies rule and the indifferent look away. How can we make a difference?

Sunday, July 25, 10:30 AM Panel on Politics **Tom Bailey**

Sunday, August 1, 10:30AM *“Visiting the Twilight Zone!”* **Rev. Dr. Renee Waun**

Have you ever had a paranormal experience-- in other words, something like seeing spirits, or knowing what someone else is thinking, or having an out-of-body or near death experience? On this Sunday, Dr. Waun will share something from her personal life, and then invite others to tell about a particular time or ability. This is not something we usually discuss in church, so it is an opportunity to talk about it, if you are comfortable.

Sunday, August 8, 10:30AM **Read-In** **Dan Begg**

Please join us for an ESUUC summer tradition: **A Read-In**, facilitated by Dan Begg. Bring along a favorite poem or passage from a book to read. It is a great opportunity to share something that has influenced your life and to learn the same about others

Sunday, August 15, 10:30AM
Manhardt

“Religious Community”

Andy

We will have a discussion of what each of us sees as the requirements of and the functions of a religious community as it relates to our needs and desires. The format will be based on that used for the Evensong series that we had in the spring. This format provides a contemplative, peaceful environment to encourage each person to state their ideas without fear of criticism as well as some relevant readings to provoke your thoughts.

Sunday, August 22, 10:30AM

Scavenger Hunt

Maureen McHugh

This Sunday we will have a scavenger hunt, set up by the ever-devilous Maureen McHugh. This is a program that people of all ages will enjoy.

Sunday, August 29, 10:30AM

The Politics of Health

Kate Codd-Palmer

This service will be a panel facilitated by Kate Codd-Palmer. The perspective of health care providers and consumers will be presented. It is sure to be a lively discussion.

Sunday, September 5, 10:30 AM

Annual Fall Picnic

Rev. Dr. Renee Waun

This will be an informal potluck brunch/lunch picnic, along with the sharing of joys and concerns and a discussion on Get Out the Vote. More details will follow in the September newsletter.

Sunday, September 12, 10:30 AM

Annual Water Communion and Start-up Sunday

Rev. Dr. Renee Waun

Be sure to bring a vial of water from your summer adventures to pour into the common vessel as we share the meaning of our experiences with one another. The choir will sing, the puppets will make us smile, the Sunday School will begin—it will be a great Sunday!

Refreshments

There is no schedule for weekly refreshments in the summer however, we all enjoy beverages, snacks and conversation in the community room after service—even in summer! Please consider bringing along something cool to drink or tasty to nibble on during the summer months. Feel free to make a pot of coffee as well. If you have any questions call Kate Codd-Palmer (724) 325-3903.

Sardis Road to be Closed on July 18

Sunday July 18th Sardis will be closed between the municipal building and Marmont (right in front of the church) for "Murrysville Cycling Classic".

The most direct detour (given that the cycle route loops to the east) is almost certainly Bulltown rd, which intersects Sardis at the golf course and some where beyond the church. Watch the e-mail announcements for more details.

Religious Education News

Fathers Day Intergenerational Service

On June 20 we had an Intergenerational Fathers Day Service orchestrated by our Upper and Lower Elementary classes. The students led the service and performed a special Fathers Day play. Don't we have some talented kids? We sincerely hope that all who attended enjoyed the service as much as the kids enjoyed putting it together. They did a GREAT job!

RE Registration Forms

Re registration forms were mailed out on June 1. As of the June 15 deadline, we have rec'd only about 25% of them back. If you haven't returned your forms yet, please do so as soon as possible. We are deep in planning for the fall program and need to have a good count on kids in order to finish up.

RE Sponsored All Church Camp-Out

Please mark your calendars to reserve the evening of Sat. Sept 11 for this spectacular event! Details will be sent out at a later date, but for now, plan to arrive around 4PM for set up. We plan to camp outside in the fenced yard, weather permitting. We will dine outside, have a bon fire, sing, tell stories, play games, etc . . . Extra tents and sleeping bags are available if anyone needs them. Sunday morning we'll have a pancake breakfast before service. We had our last camp-out two years ago, and it was a blast! - So mark it down and plan to join us for fun, frolic and food!

Church RE Space Painting Project Update

We have the paint & the tools, we have the will... All we need is the labor. On Saturday, August 21st, we are planning to paint the church hallway, nursery & small RE classroom. Please let us know if you can help us on that date. We want to complete the job in one day so we do not disrupt the Sunday services, so we need plenty of volunteers. The time you take out of your busy, summer schedule will be greatly appreciated. A good time will be had by all.

I'd also like to organize the RE material we have - attaching labels, organizing it by age group it applies to etc . . . and would love to have a few people to help with this.

Hope you have a great summer
Respectfully submitted,
Kathy and Dan Begg
RE Directors

Get Out the Vote

We now have a big chart in the foyer with everyone's name on it, to track how many of us have signed a pledge to vote on November 2. Please do stop by and pick up a pledge card so we can check off your name. Our goal is to have 100% voter participation this year. Registration forms are also available. If you have friends, relatives, or neighbors—or even perfect strangers who need to register, please take the forms to them and offer to help fill them out so we can count on their vote. **Your vote counts more in 2004!**

Annual Meeting

The ESUUC Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, June 12. The food was wonderful and the conversation during the meal was lively as usual. The membership also responded well to a request for signups to participate in the congregation's various committees.

The results of the business meeting were as follows:

The Welcoming Congregation resolution passed by a unanimous vote! **The East Suburban Unitarian-Universalist Church is now a Welcoming Congregation.**

- The operating budget for the 2004-2005 fiscal year was adopted, as proposed by an overwhelming majority. The projected deficit is down to a few thousand dollars.
- The capital expenditure budget, the largest item being a new roof, was passed.
- A by-laws amendment was passed, creating the board position of Community Cluster Facilitator.
- The newly elected officers are

Vice-President – Matt Mathis

Program Committee – Brian Ogle

Community Cluster Facilitator - Kate Codd Palmer



PIIN Issues Convention

We need every able bodied person who is interested in social justice to come to the Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network's Issues Convention on Sunday, July 18 from 3-4:30 at the Nia Lutheran Church, 809 Center Street in Wilkinsburg. It is essential for those who have particular issues they would like to see PIIN address at our Public Action meeting next October, to come to this meeting, as the issues are decided only by those who are present and voting at that meeting. Please see Nancy Fitzgerald or Rev. Renee Waun if you need more information or if you want to discuss possible issues to bring forth. There seems to be a lot of interest in preserving the green spaces here in the suburbs, and we can have an impact on that issue if we pool our strength together at the Issues Convention.

Legalization of Medical Marijuana

Your Help as a UU is Needed to Legalize Medical Marijuana. Several major religious denominations have joined the national movement for compassionate medical marijuana legislation. The Interfaith Drug Policy Initiative (IDPI) is targeting U.S. House members who belong to these denominations, including the UUA which passed a Social Action statement supporting legal use of medical marijuana, in 2002.

Since 1996, ten states have enacted laws allowing the medical use of marijuana. The Bush Administration has responded by imprisoning medical marijuana patients and providers in these states. A timely example of this injustice is Bryan Epis, who was recently in federal court to appeal his 10-year prison sentence for growing medical marijuana for himself and other patients in compliance with California state law. **Please write to your federal lawmakers to urge support of new legislation. It is one way to put the church's social action statement into practice when it is most needed.**

The Great American Bake Sale

ESUUC Community Enrichment Committee is sponsoring a Great American Bake Sale, **Saturday July 17, 2004** from 9am-1pm at the church. This is a groundbreaking national program to end child hunger in America. Money raised throughout the US will fund summer and after school meal programs in the states and communities where the funds were raised. A small portion will go to areas of extreme poverty like the Rio Grande Valley and the Mississippi Delta. You can support this event by making something sweet (cookies, candy, cake, or pies) and dropping them off at church Friday July 16th between 6-8pm, or Saturday at the start of the sale. Sign up sheets to bake are posted in the church community room. We would like to extend the invitation to the surrounding community to attend and even donate baked goods. Please consider baking up a special treat and stopping by to make a donation. Any questions please call Kate Codd-Palmer at (724) 325-3903. More information on the bake sale can be found at www.greatamericanbakesale.org



Pastor's Column

by Rev. Renee Waun

Pastor's Column

In July, when other people are going off to camp sites or vacation places, I will be heading for Barcelona, Spain to attend the Parliament of the World's Religions, a gathering of thousands of representatives from almost every known religion around the globe. Of the four Parliaments (1893, 1993, 1999 and 2004), this will be the second one I will have attended. It is an enormous opportunity to learn—yes, to dialogue—yes, but the most important aspect for me is to look beyond belief systems and organizational differences to discover how we can join hands to make the world a better, more just and peaceful place. I don't care what you believe, let's just work together because we love the earth and its people.

There will be swamis and gurus, lamas and priests—all varieties of Buddhists, Jains, Hindus, Ohmists, Baha'is, Sikhs, Moslems, Christians, Jew, Pagans, UUs, Native Americans and Aborigines, Wiccans—you name it, they will be there. Last time I met the Pharaoh of Egypt! I am always fascinated by the languages, customs, rituals, dress, smells, bells, worship styles, etc. that go along with the beliefs.

I will have to choose from over a thousand programs, including displays, special programs, film festivals, symposia, workshops, concerts, dialogues, etc. Every morning there will be about 25 different worship and meditative experiences to attend. I will be totally over choiced!

After I return, I will have much to share, which I hope to do in an upcoming program. Meanwhile, may your time this summer be rich and meaningful whether you are traveling or whether you find adventures right there in your own back yard. See you in church!

Drumming Opportunity

Monroeville Summer Fest Saturday, July 17- Our church is a member of the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium which will have a booth at the annual Monroeville Summer Fest on July 17 at the Boyce Campus of CCAC. On the display table, we will have a flyer describing UUism and principles. There will be 45 minutes allotted to the religious community to stage something of interest. It will be divided into

three 15 minute segments, so that three of MIM's member congregations can be on stage to offer music of some kind. Our congregation is hoping to showcase a demonstration of our Drumming Circle around noon. It's a great way to be more visible in the greater community and to attract those who are seeking a liberal community of faith. Please plan to attend to show your support.

Congregational Committees

Current Committees

Committee - Chair

Aesthetics - Jane Longdon
Building and Facilities - Lew Ruffing
Caring and Concerns – Maria Luczkow
Committee on Ministry - Ginny Connolly Manhardt
Finance - Cathy Serventi
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery
Membership – Brien Palmer
PIIN – Nancy Fitzgerald
Religious Education Committee - Ken Noble
Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett
Social Enrichment - Open
Drumming – Karen Katilius
Sunday Programs/Celebrations– Brian Ogle
Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Newsletter Deadlines

The newsletter deadline for the July-August Newsletter will be August 15. Please Email me with your articles at manhardt@adelphia.net or call me at (412) 373-3668 and leave a message with your news, stories, and other information.

The deadline for the September Newsletter will be August 13. It is important that everyone submits their material on time so we can have the newsletter out well before the start of the new church year begins in September year.

Since I will be relocating to North Carolina, the august newsletter will be the last one that I will be editing. Marianne Jew has graciously agreed to take over the Newsletter Editor position.

Andy Manhardt, Editor

Calendar

(Sunday Services and Forums are listed on the first page)

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| Sat. July 17 | Great American Bake Sale 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the church |
| Sat. July 17 | Drumming at the Monroeville Summerfest |
| Sun. July 18 | PINN Issues Convention at the Nia Lutheran Church, 809 Center Street in Wilkinsburg from 3-4:30. |
| Thurs. July 22 | - Book Club ("The Gender Knot") at Mary Warwick's house |
| Sat. Aug. 21 | RE Space Painting Project At the Church |
| Sat. Sept 11 | All Church Camp-Out 4:00 PM at the Church |



Flower Communion Service, June 20, 2004

