

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: Marianne Jew
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, October 2, 10:30am- “*Sleeping With the Enemy*” - This is International Gandhi Day when we think about making peace with our enemies. Germany and later Russia were once our enemies, but now we are all friends. **Dr. Waun** has just stayed with families in both of these countries and will reflect upon the peace journey of European countries.

Sunday, October 9, 10:30am- “*Partner Churches in Romania*” - **Lois Davis**, a laywoman from the Akron UU Church in Ohio, shares her recent experience visiting their partner church in Transylvania. We will be paying close attention because our church is also looking to find a partner congregation in Transylvania. What are the nuts and bolts of partnership? What new opportunities will open up because of this relationship? Come and see.

Sunday, October 16, 10:30am- “*Working for Gender Equity*” - In conjunction with the start of the Adult RE curriculum on “Unraveling the Gender Knot”, **Gerard Katilius** and **Maureen McHugh** will explore how and why we should work for gender equity. How can transformed gender relations benefit each of us?

Sunday, October 23, 10:30am- “*Following the White Blazes*” - As an avid hiker **Lee Ann Wester**, Director of Religious Education at the Meadville, PA U-U Church, has traveled many trails. These hikes are usually marked with painted blazes located on trees along the trail. They help keep us on track and point us in the right direction. Join us this Sunday to find out what these blazes represent in our lives. What are these blazes? How do we find them? And how do we follow them?

Sunday, November 6, 10:30am- “*Are You Awake?*” - If you have had a chance to learn a bit about Buddhism, you will know that awakening is a key concept. What does it mean to be awake? How do we find our truth? How do we maneuver when others sometimes want to be in charge of our truth—or vice versa? **Dr. Waun**'s reflections are meant to help us in our own awakening.



Pastor's Column:

by Rev. Renee Waun

Living Our Principles

Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. --Norman MacLean, A River Runs Through It.

We are all connected. This has never been more apparent than in the past few weeks in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina, which is surely the worst natural disaster in America during my lifetime. I am constantly amazed and touched by the stories told by the evacuees and their rescuers, along with the outpouring of help coming from every sector of our country and our world. By now we probably all know at least someone who has gone personally to volunteer in the south, or who has provided money, supplies or housing for those in need.

Now that residents of New Orleans are finding their way back to damaged or demolished homes and businesses, we hear more and more talk of how that great city will be rebuilt. I like the image of resurrection when speaking of New Orleans, because to simply replace what was there, with its poverty, racism and careless political decisions would be a social disaster even bigger than the one caused by the hurricane. What is needed is for the city to rise up out of the floodwaters transformed by the vision that many of us share, which is one of justice, compassion and equality for all the people who live there.

Our values as a community of faith call us to carry forth this vision, into the choices we make about how we set our priorities and spend our money and cast our ballots. We are indeed, all connected; and now we have this marvelous and historic opportunity to advocate for highest good that can possibly come out of the wreckage of a failed system, as we live out our UU principles. Let us be ever more alert to the greater possibilities that transformation and new beginnings offer to us and to our world.



mUUsings from the President:

by Maureen McHugh

The Communal Quest

Being a Unitarian is about exploring new ideas. We do that in our Sunday services, and sometimes in special forums. Certainly the film series and the lunch bunch are programs that encourage discussion. Traditionally we also explore and discuss new ideas in Adult Religious Education. The UUA assists in the development and distribution of specific curriculum for Adult RE; for other sessions, we devise our own. We have offered a few series over the past years, and we hope to offer more sessions and series in the future. Natalie Mendik has agreed to help facilitate Adult RE. We welcome her to the post, even as we congratulate her and her husband on the recent birth of their son. If you have any ideas that you would like to facilitate or to see discussed, please let us know. In this newsletter there is information on "Unraveling the Gender Knot", an adult RE curriculum that was developed by the UUA and will be offered here at ESUUC starting in October.

Being a Unitarian is exploring alternative religious practices. Our Sunday services are varied and often draw upon religious traditions other than Christian. Here at ESUUC we have begun a more systematic exploration of "pagan" practices that celebrate the Turning of the Wheel. Many of us find such rituals reinforce our connection with nature and with each other. Samhein in late October is the holidays that we initially and most often celebrate.

Being a Unitarian is being concerned with social justice. Social justice is often the theme for the Sunday service, and is addressed in RE. We now have the opportunity to work on social justice issues here in Murrysville, like working for the food bank. A group called UUs United for Faith in Action has been taking part in a series of social justice activities. This group from five UU congregations in the Pittsburgh cluster marched in the Gay Pride Parade and participated in an anti-war candle light service in Schenley Park. In the future they plan a rally for Dafur (Oct 6) and a showing of a Walmart expose. To connect with this group contact them at Jeannez49@cs.com.

Katrina Aftermath Donations Through the UUA

Our hearts go out to all those affected by Hurricane Katrina. The UUA has established the Gulf Coast Relief Fund. Our church will be donating all cash offerings on Sunday to this effort. For information on how you can contribute individually to this relief fund, please go to http://www.uua.org/news/2005/050831_katrina_donate.html. All funds received will be distributed under the auspices of the Southwest and Mid-South Districts and will be used entirely for hurricane relief.

Split the (Collection) Plate

We're heading into the second month of our new Split-the-Plate program. As of September 19, we have collected \$435 in cash donations and an additional \$600 in individual donations for Hurricane Katrina Relief through the UUA Service Committee Gulf Coast Relief Fund.

We will be continuing to collect money for Katrina Relief through September and then begin collecting money for a new organization in October. Starting in October, half of any money collected during the collection not directly marked for the church will be split 50 - 50 with the charity.

If you have any questions please contact Cathy Serventi at treasurer@esuuc.org or (724) 387-1155.

Build a Labyrinth at ESUUC

Attention All Labyrinth Lovers -- December is a month of many holidays, including Bodhi day, our Lady of Guadalupe, the winter solstice and others. Many of these are based around light and enlightenment. It has been suggested to set up a light labyrinth in our outdoor fenced-in area that could be left up in weatherproof containers for the month of December. We could publish specific dates and light up the labyrinth for anyone to walk on these special locations, if only we had volunteers to help set up the labyrinth and help host the events! Our own Maureen McHugh has taken a workshop on laying out and building a labyrinth, and has already volunteered to lead a workshop early in the season to help individuals layout and build our own light labyrinth. If you are interested in helping make this happen at our church, please sign up quickly on the bulletin board at church. If we have enough volunteers by Halloween, we will schedule the workshop and the events. Thank you, Gerard.

Do You Have a Sewing Machine?

This month, we kick off the Service Project component of the new RE program. We plan to make hats, scarves, and (hopefully) mittens out of fleece that will be donated to Westmoreland County Children's and

Youth Services. To support this project, we need to borrow sewing machines on the fourth Sundays in October and November. Does anyone have a machine they can bring to church on those days??!! We have fleece, but are still in need of elastic and other notions. Please contact RE@esuuc.org or phone Kate Begg if you can help out.

Choir and Music Notes

We have a wonderful choir that is small but growing. Would you like to join us? We sing in the service about once every month, with practice **at 9:30am**, before the service on that same Sunday. Our next appearance will be on Sunday, **October 2**. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Dr. Waun revmom@pitt.edu 412-731-2834.

MUSICIANS are invited to contact Brian Ogle our Music Director brianwilliamogle@yahoo.com 724-387-1190. We would like to find people who play a variety of instruments, or who sing and would find it rewarding to do so during an occasional service.

Visit Transylvania

It's time for UU Heritage Trip registrations! We continue to receive registrations for our UU Heritage Trip to Transylvania. Note that in order to get the price that was quoted to us, we need to have trip deposits of \$300 per person by the end of October. Registrations can be made after that, but the price of the airfares will go up considerably, so get your name on the list before the deadline. It's going to be a great trip with fellow UUs, so why not jump in with both feet and join the adventure! See flyer at the end of this newsletter, and see the September newsletter or pick up a brochure in the church foyer for more details.

Interfaith Ministerium – luncheon

On Wednesday, **October 5**, from **10:30 am – 1 pm**, ESUUC will host the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium meeting & luncheon. If you can help provide food and/or help serve the luncheon, please contact Maureen Lilly.

Rally and Fast for Darfur

On **October 6**, there is a local fast and rally for Darfur, where violence continues in spite of the US having acknowledged that what is happening there is genocide. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has focused a lot of attention on Darfur and the UU Office of the UN asked all UUs to take action several months ago.

If you are willing to fast (give up one meal) on October 6 and donate the money saved to help out in Darfur, please take a moment to go to: <http://www.pittsburghdarfur.org>, click on "Join the Fast" and sign your name, along with the name of your church and/or Unitarian Universalists United for Faith in Action so that we have visibility as UUs.

Movie Night Returns

We will have our first movie night of the year on Friday, **October 7**. We will be showing Shrek 2 - a very fun movie for everyone! Doors open at **7:30 pm** and we'll show the movie at **8 pm**. Feel free to bring snacks and beverages (adult beverages are OK). Kids may want to bring a sleeping bag or a pillow and stretch out on the floor for this one.

We are always looking for good movies to show, so if you have you'd like to recommend, or would like to see, please let us know. Hope to see you October 7!

(Mark your calendars – next month's movie night will be on Friday, November 7.)

Family Drumming Circle

Saturday, **October 8 at 4:00 pm** - Come one, come all and join in the FUN! Drum along with other people of ALL ages and ability levels. Bring your drums or use ours - we have plenty to share. Snack foods are welcome, too. Your kids will LOVE it and you will, too!

International Gandhi Day Event

Mahatma Gandhi's birthday is celebrated each year by the community with an event that is planned by several area religious groups, including UUs. This year's program will be held on Saturday, **October 8** from **3-5 pm** in the Laughlin Music Hall at Chatham College as part of it's year-long program called "Year of India" which also includes exhibits and displays.

This year's speaker will be Vance Engleman of the Gandhi Ashram in Sewickley. His theme will be "Choosing the Right Means for Lasting Peace" and his talk will followed by questions and answers, High Tea consisting of delicious Indian snacks and spiced tea, with a time for those interested in more in-depth discussion to converse in small groups.

ESUUC Cleans up Sardis Road

It's time again for our clean up of Sardis Road through the **PA CleanWays Adoption Program**. As a church we have committed twice a year to clean a section of Sardis Road from the intersection of Route 22 to the entrance to Heather Highlands at Heather Drive. This section is roughly one mile in length and with 10 adults and youth took us about one hour to clean in the spring. We will meet at church on **Saturday October 15, 2005 at 8:30 am**. After signing in and figuring out plans (last year it was the youth who drew up the plan—thank you!) we will shuttle to the stretch of road to be cleaned. All supplies will be provided although if you have an extra reflective vest or favorite pair of work gloves, bring them along.

Volunteers must be 13 years of age to participate. If a youth is not accompanied by a parent, they must submit a signed parental consent form **before** participating. Please see Kate Codd-Palmer for the forms.

For any questions call Kate Codd-Palmer 724-325-3903.

Thank you in advance for your enthusiasm and support!

Pittsburgh Symphony Benefit Concert

On **Saturday, October 15 at 7:30 pm**, the Monroeville Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a concert of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra to benefit local music scholarship initiatives. The location is the Gateway High School auditorium and the cost is only \$5 for students, \$10 for adults. Program includes Dvorak, Bach and Von Suppe.

Spiritual Day Out

A day is planned for all those in the greater Pittsburgh area who value churches that are open to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons and their loved ones. The day is Sunday, **October 16 from 2-6:00 pm** at the Rodef Shalom Temple in Oakland (corner of Morewood and Fifth Avenues).

There will be:

- A keynote speech by the Rev. Chris Glaser, activist, interfaith liturgist, author of *Coming Out as a Sacrament* and *Coming Out to God*
- Workshops about GLBT spiritual issues (one offered by our UU pastors)
- Representatives from GLBT-friendly churches (including our own)
- Experiential sessions on meditation, toning, spiral dancing, etc.
- An interfaith worship service, including a UU component
- A display area provided by churches and regional agencies
- A bookstore

Dr. Waun and the other Pittsburgh area UU pastors will be involved in the Spiritual Day Out in a variety of ways. Spiritual Day OUT is a project of the Voices for a New Tomorrow Spirituality group of Persad Center, of which Dr. Waun is a participant.

Drumming Circle

Sunday, **October 16** at **7:30 pm** - Drum, chant, meditate and groove with new and old friends as we relax and rejuvenate in the power of creating music together. No experience necessary and no skill required. Bring your drums or use ours. Why not give it a try?

Adult RE Series: "Unraveling the Gender Knot"

Based on strong congregation support after the Sunday, August 7 program on "The Alphabet Versus the Goddess", we are pleased to present "Unraveling the Gender Knot", a new course in our adult RE program. This adult education series will be held from **7:00 to 9:00 pm** Monday evenings, snacks provided. The 1st session is Monday, **October 17**. For more course details, see the full write-up later in this newsletter, in the section where Religion Education is covered.

Kids' Halloween Costume Party/Campout

Date: Saturday October 29, 2005 at church

Time: 5:30 to 8:30PM

Ages: 4 and older

Activities: *pizza, snacks, costume parade, games, crafts, bonfire, campout*

Cost is \$5 per child.

Cost is \$2 per parent for those staying and sharing in the pizza.

Sign up in the community room.

Parents interested in helping the night of the party can call Kate Codd-Palmer at 724-325-3903

Attend UU Palooza: "A Vision for our World"

Two extraordinarily gifted and nationally known UU "stars" are coming to Pittsburgh **November 4-6**, and we are all invited to join in a weekend of UU meeting, sharing, worship and inspiration, plus the installation of the new minister at Allegheny UU Church, the Rev. David McFarland. This is the first event of this kind ever in Pittsburgh.

The two "stars" of the weekend are:

See you around the kitchen----Kate

Refreshments Roster

If the week you are assigned doesn't work with your schedule, please switch with someone else for that month.

Oct 2	Kathy Belli
Oct 9	Jenifer Cheripka
Oct 16	Steven Davis
Oct 23	Leona and Tom Dunnett
Oct 30	Marylyn Devlin

Nov 6	Nancy Fitzgerald
Nov 13	Susan Goodis/Matt Mathis
Nov 20	Stone Soup Sunday (details to follow)
Nov 27	Sharing Sunday (bring something to share)

RE Class Schedule

Nursery:	Day	Teacher
	Oct 2	TBD
	9	Maria Luczkow
	16	TBD
	23	Cathy Serventi
	30	TBD

Lower Elementary:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Oct 2	Kids Attend First Part of Service, followed by Children's Chapel	Kate Zingarelli/Kathy Begg
	9	Listening, Talking, Sharing (Session 3)	Gayle Pamerleau
	16	Fair and Unfair Experiences (Session 4)	Mary Kukura-Straw
	23	Service Project	Youth Group/Laurie Montgomery
	30	Art/Crafts Project	Kate Codd-Palmer

Upper Elementary:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Oct 2	Kids Attend First Part of Service, followed by Children's Chapel	Kate Zingarelli/Kathy Begg
	9	2 Stories from the Hebrews (Session 5)	Nancy Fitzgerald
	16	Stories in the Stars (Session 8)	Karen Katilius
	23	Service Project	Youth Group/Laurie Montgomery
	30	Art/Crafts Project	Kate Codd-Palmer

Middle School:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Oct 2	Kids Attend First Part of Service, followed by Children's Chapel	Kate Zingarelli/Kathy Begg
	9	Caring	Tom Dunnett
	16	Choice and Accountability	Marianne Jew
	23	Service Project	Youth Group/Laurie Montgomery
	30	Art/Crafts Project	Kate Codd-Palmer

Youth Group

Youth Group meetings (all are **Sunday evenings**, from **6-8pm**): **Oct 9, 23**

Any questions, please contact Leona Dunnett, Youth Advisor (secretary@esuuc.org).

OWL Sexuality Education for Grades 10-12

We are pleased to announce that the Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education Series for grades 10 -- 12 will be conducted here early next year. Using a comprehensive approach, this program helps senior-high youth gain the knowledge, life principles and skills they need to express their sexuality in positive, life enhancing ways. Although this curriculum was developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ, the text is completely secular and free of specific religious doctrine or reference. The underlying values of the program, however, reflect the justice-oriented traditions of both the denominations.

A mandatory orientation session for parents is tentatively scheduled Sunday, December 11, 2005, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Course materials and accompanying video will be reviewed, and written permission from the participant's parents is required prior to enrollment.

At this point we're planning for the 12 sessions to be held basically every other Sunday, starting in January 2006, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., at the East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church on Sardis Road in Murrysville.

Please contact our certified instructors Maureen McHugh or Gerard Katilius to confirm your child's enrollment, or for any questions on the program. Maureen McHugh (mcmchugh@IUP.edu), 724-733-3620, or Gerard Katilius (KarenLGerard@aol.com), 724-327-6321.

Parents, educators, and communities all face the challenge of creating environments that support and nurture positive sexual health. Young people need sexuality education programs that model and teach caring, compassion, respect, and justice. Thank you for supporting this holistic program, that moves beyond the intellect to address attitudes, values, and feelings that youth have about themselves and the world.

New Adult RE Course: "Unraveling the Gender Knot"

Based on strong congregation support after the Sunday, August 7 program on "The Alphabet Versus the Goddess", we are pleased to schedule this new course in our adult RE program.

Our tentative schedule is to kick off the series with a related program for the Sunday service, 10:30 a.m., October 16th. The actual adult education series would be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday evenings, snacks provided. The 1st session is Monday, October 17th, then October 24th, off for Halloween, then sessions Nov. 7/14/21/28, ending Monday, Dec. 5th.

Suggested donation to the church: \$5 per session

Please contact co-leaders Maureen McHugh or Gerard Katilius to confirm your enrollment, or for any questions on the program. Maureen McHugh (mcmchugh@IUP.edu), 724-733-3620, or Gerard Katilius (KarenLGerard@aol.com), 724-327-6321.

Unraveling the Gender Knot: Challenging the System that Binds Us is a new course based on the book, The Gender Knot, by Professor Allan Johnson, for Unitarian Universalist adults and youths and our friends. Topics in the seven two-hour sessions include gender, religion, economics, invisibility and denial, and how to challenge the patriarchal system.

Participants and co-leaders:

- * Examine religious writings that influence our beliefs about women and men
- * Study how the patriarchal system shapes women and men
- * Identify and practice confronting patriarchal actions by organizations, other people, and ourselves

Participants learn that:

- * We are not responsible for our inherited patriarchal system, and we participate in it.
- * Paths of least resistance are easy to take and hard to recognize.
- * We can change our attitudes and behavior, and can influence others.

Barter Board

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - words that could have been written by a UU! In support of Reuse and Recycle, we will be continuing the Barter Board this year.

The Board will be located in the RE hallway on the Community Bulletin Board we have installed. In an effort to improve its usefulness, we have made two columns - one for trade/sell and one for needs. Another change is that instead of having a sheet of paper tacked up for everyone to list their items, we have put together 'Cards' (a copy is reproduced below). Blanks will be available on the bulletin board itself. Fill one out and put it up in the appropriate column. If you'd like your item listed in the weekly updates, fill an extra card out and give it to Leona Dunnett, or put it in the Secretary's mailbox, or e-mail the information to her, and it will get done.

In order to keep the Board from getting overcrowded, we do ask that you take your note down once you have gotten rid of your item, or found what you need. 30 days seems like a good amount of time to have the individual cards up, so we will take individual cards down after 30 days. If you would like to have your item stay up longer, use the date box on the card. We hope this proves to be a useful service for all of us. Please take advantage of it!

Kathy Begg (REdirector@esuuc.org)

Sample Card:

(circle one)	TRADE/SELL	NEED
Today's Date:		
Your name:		
How do we reach you: (Phone, e-mail)		
Item/Service:		
Will trade or sell for:		
Need - will pay or trade for:		
Please keep this item on the Board until:		

UU Heritage Trip: Transylvania, 2006



Join with other area UUs for the trip of a lifetime! July 30-August 10

Visit historic UU sites, the dramatic Carpathian Mountains, King John's Castle, Unitarian villages and more!

- The group is limited to 20 people**
- A \$300 deposit will hold your place**
- Payment plans available-see below**

The total cost of the trip will be approximately \$2500, which includes:

- ~Air Fare from Pittsburgh to Bucharest and return from Budapest
- ~All land travel abroad ~Lodging in host homes ~Most meals



Make checks payable to ESUUC and marked "UU Heritage Trip". Send to 4326 Sardis Rd. Murrysville 15668. Questions? Call 412-731-2834 (Dr. Renee Waun, pastor, East Suburban UU Church, registrar and tour leader)

Payment Plan A: \$300 deposit by Oct. 30 to confirm trip; balance due by June 1.

Payment Plan B: \$300 deposit by Oct. 30; \$500 payment by Dec. 1; \$500 payment by Feb. 1; \$500 payment; by April 1, \$500 payment by June 1; balance due NLT July 1.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST VALUES: A VISION FOR OUR WORLD

A Revival for Unitarian Universalists
in Pittsburgh

Saturday, November 5, 2005
At the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh
Ellsworth and Morewood Avenues in Shadyside

REGISTRATION FORM

*Please return this form to: David Herndon, First Unitarian Church,
605 Morewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213*

Names: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Congregation: _____

Please indicate how many people from your home will be attending each of these events:

_____	12:00 – 2:00 PM	Leaders' Lunch with a presentation by Rev. Forrest Church and Rev. Mark Belletini on the theme "Opportunities Facing Us: A Time for Leadership"
_____	2:15 – 3:15 PM	Conversations and Workshops
_____	3:30 – 5:00 PM	Presentation by Rev. Forrest Church and Rev. Mark Belletini on the theme "Unitarian Universalist Values: A Vision for Our World"
_____	5:00 – 6:15 PM	Dinner (\$6 for adults, \$4 for children)
_____	6:30 – 7:00 PM	Hymn Sing
_____	7:00 – 8:30 PM	Worship
_____	8:30 – 9:15 PM	Social Time and Refreshments