

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



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

Telephone
(724) 327-5872

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

Volume 44 No. 8

March 2007

Editor: Marianne Jew
newsletter@esuuc.org

ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, February 25, 10:30am- *“Darwin Remembers”*- Charles Darwin, as portrayed by **Dr. David Campbell**, looks back over his life, thinking out loud as well as hearing voices from his past that were part of his life and work, as he formulated the theory that changed the world forever. This live performance, sponsored by Carnegie Science Center and The Center for Inquiry Community of Pittsburgh, is very much in the tradition of one man/one woman shows and provides an overall understanding of Darwin.

Sunday, March 4, 10:30am- *“Eastern Energy”*- It seems that more and more people who are either considered “churched”, “pre-churched” or “church free” are being attracted to the practices of eastern religions. **Dr. Waun** will explore this attraction. What is it, and how are its various facets manifested in western culture and religion?

Sunday, March 11, 10:30am- *“BIRTH ORDER: The Interdependent Web of Family and Personal Relationships”* – Our family position strongly influences our personality, who we marry, how we work with others, and our choice of friends. The oldests will feel bound to come, the youngests will dispute what is said, but this program is for the middles and onlies also. Led by **Michael Gruber** and **Mary Phan-Gruber**.

Sunday, March 18, 10:30am- *“Search for the Goddess/sacred feminine”* - **Maureen McHugh** will lead this service that will affirm and celebrate the Feminine Divine and will include personal and societal reasons for the need for the Goddess/Sacred Feminine.

Sunday, March 25, 10:30am- *“Unraveling Revelation”* - Possibly no biblical book both entices and perplexes us more than the New Testament book of Revelation. Trying to understand it will take us into the realm of apocalyptic literature. Join **Sue Lau** as we will look at the themes that characterize this literary genre and at the symbols that lend it color.

Sunday, April 1, 10:30am- *“Rising to a New Level”*- On this April Fool’s Day we will have some fun looking at numbers and while we’re at it, we will play the ESUUC version of *“Who Wants to be a Millionaire?”*—no fooling! **Dr. Waun** will lead the service.



Pastor's Column: Gratitude and Diversity

by Rev. Renee Waun

I'm so glad to be part of a church that celebrates diversity to the point where we don't have splinter groups threatening to break off to form other denominations. I'm watching, with much fascination, our friends in the Episcopal/Anglican church, the ELCA (Lutheran), Presbyterian (USA), and others. There is a small but mighty movement within each of the old-line denominations that is pressing to include GLBT persons and clergy at every level of power, and to affirm gay unions.

It's amazing to me how this one issue alone threatens to split many of these worldwide church bodies right down the middle. When people line up on one side or the other, some will say, "Oh, we just CAN'T split the church!" (This translates as some form of idolatry, I think.) And there are others who will say, "But we have to stay together to show we are united in common heritage and ministry (and church property, too)." And the same time they have the problem of reconciling (or not) the vast differences of opinion and theological perspective.

As we watch these various ecclesial foundations crumble around us, we UUs have a wonderful ongoing opportunity to live in gratitude that we will never have to split over this issue or probably any other. It will be interesting to watch, however, as a national UU task force tackles the issue of the Seven Principles, to see if any of them needs revision. I am confident that we will meet the test. It's a good feeling to know that we can encourage one another in our various beliefs and faith journeys and still move forward together.

Caring and Sharing

Sympathy is extended to the Noble family upon the death of Andrea's father, to the Halperin family upon the death of Alan's father, and to the Goodis/Mathis family upon the death of Susan's mother.

We send healing thoughts to Frank Nemeth.

If anyone has any news that they want to share, please send it to newsletter@esuuc.org

\$afeguarding Cash

We now have a small safe in the church lobby, near the greeting table. Cash or checks received on a day other than Sunday can simply be deposited in our safe via the slot in the front. (On Sundays, you can just drop these items in the collection basket.) If you're depositing cash into the safe, please make sure you include an explanatory note. Any unaccounted-for cash found in the safe will be considered "unrestricted" and applied to the church's general operating expenses.

If you have questions, please contact Chris Priano (Finance Committee Chair) or Cathy Serventi (Treasurer). Thanks!

Canvass plus Inner Beauty Pageant

Mark your calendars! **Friday, April 13, 7:30 pm.**

As we gear up to start another ESUUC canvass campaign, we've decided to hold an event that promises to be fun and entertaining for everyone. The first (and probably last) ESUUC Inner Beauty Pageant will be held on Friday, April 13th at 7:30 pm. The mock beauty pageant will feature our Coming of Age youth. You'll be dazzled by their talent and and social awareness! Afterwards, join us for snacks and beverages (BYOB) and take the opportunity to fill out pledge cards and discuss church finances with members of the Canvass committee. You'll be hearing more about this event as the date nears.

Spaghetti Dinner "Thank You"s

A great big "Thank you" to everyone for your help in selling tickets, bringing food, preparing and serving the spaghetti dinner, and in attending the event! With your generous help, the Coming of Age youth raised \$485, of which \$121.25 will be donated to the church for general use, and \$363.75 will be added to the CoA program funds.

Green Sanctuary

On Saturday, January 6, the very first step to becoming a Green Sanctuary occurred when Dan Begg introduced the Annual Retreat participants to the Green Sanctuary Program. A Green Sanctuary congregation is one that lives out its commitment to the Earth by creating a sustainable life style for its members as individuals and as a faith community. Sustainable living is not about our material comfort (though these choices are an important part of the overall life style); it is about choosing to live in a way that nurtures life, builds relationships, and rejects material consumption as the sole determinant of happiness. There are five goals that underlie the program: * To build awareness of societal environmental issues among UUs * To generate commitment for personal lifestyle changes * To motivate UUs to community action on environmental issues * To build a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness * To build awareness of and rectify environmental injustices. At the Annual Retreat, a committee was formed to further explore the process for becoming a certified Green Sanctuary. Please stay tuned for more information! The next Green Sanctuary Committee meeting will be in March. Watch the weekly ESUUC updates for the exact date and time.

Global Connections- Uganda

With a new property deed for three acres in hand and a digital camera, African Rural Schools Foundation Director Hanan Bulime will soon be taking photos of the progress as they begin making bricks and constructing a new school. Your kind and generous contributions have made this possible. Watch the website for developments.

The UU congregations of Ligonier and Ohio Valley have supported the ARSF, as well as the Franklin Regional High School (who recently donated the proceeds from their Multicultural Extravaganza), and there are other organizations wanting to help, including a church in Eastern PA, the Ohio Meadville District Youth and several area Rotary Clubs.

Three people have expressed interest in going to Uganda with Dr. Waun next January 28-February 13, 2008. Cost will be around \$2000. For details, contact her at 412-731-2834.

Buy Scrip – “Cash and Carry” or Place Orders

Please continue to buy Giant Eagle, Gasoline, and Gift Cards (including Panera) - and help fundraise for both the Coming of Age program and the general Congregation at the same time. Giant Eagle cards (\$100) and Panera (\$10) are available “cash and carry” – see Marianne. If you buy gas at Sunoco, the scrip card (\$50) can be used right at the pump. Giant Eagle cards can be used at the GetGo gas stations.

Contact Marianne (email scrip@esuuc.org) or one of the Coming of Age youth to get more details. To see the full list of current stores online: <https://www.glscrip.com/retailerlist/index.aspx>

Keep Recycling Paper

What we CAN recycle: catalogs, magazines, newspapers, junk mail, office paper, fax paper, notebooks, folders. NO phonebooks, please. (Note: shredded office paper in clear plastic bags is acceptable)

What we CANNOT recycle: cereal boxes, chipboard, milk cartons, soda cartons, or food cartons. These items cannot be used to make newsprint. This is considered contamination and may ruin an entire load of material.

If you have any questions, please leave a message for Chris Priano (724-327-5872).

Thursday Book Club

We chose “Siddhartha” by Hermann Hesse for March. We'll be meeting at the Penn Center Panera (near Sears) on **Thursday, March 1 at 7:30 pm**. If you have questions or want to receive updates and reminders by email about the book club send a note to bookclub@esuuc.org or contact Cathy at (724) 387-1155.

Join the Choir

Join the Choir on **March 4** for their next rehearsal (**9:30 am**) and performance (**during Service**). All are welcome! Contact Brian Ogle if you have any questions.

Come Help Us Plan the Rummage Sale

We're having a meeting on **Sunday, March 11 after church** to plan the rummage sale in May. The proceeds will benefit the piano fund. If you're interested in helping out come to the meeting or contact Cathy Serventi at treasurer@esuuc.org or at (724) 387-1155.

Drumming News

Saturday, **March 17 at 5:00 pm** - Family Drumming Circle - 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!

Sunday, **March 18 at 7:30 pm** – Groove and Meditate Drumming Circle - 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?

Any questions - contact Jen Trout Osborne at 412-608-2725 or drumming@esuuc.org

Wheel of the Year: Ostara

OSTARA, Spring Equinox , **March 24, 7:30 pm**. Other names by which this Sabbat may be known are Oestara, Eostre's Day, Rite of Eostre, Alban Eilir, Festival of the Trees, and Lady Day. Ostara is a time to celebrate the arrival of Spring, the renewal and rebirth of Nature herself, and the coming lushness of Summer. It is at this time when light and darkness are in balance, yet the light is growing stronger by the day. The forces of masculine and feminine energy, yin and yang, are also in balance at this time. At this time we think of renewing ourselves. We renew our thoughts, our dreams, and our aspirations. We think of renewing our relationships. This is an excellent time of year to begin anything new or to completely revitalize something. This is also an excellent month for prosperity rituals or rituals that have anything to do with growth. In the Pagan Wheel of the Year, this is the time when the great Mother Goddess, again a virgin at Candlemas, welcomes the young Sun God unto her and conceives a child of this divine union. The child will be born nine months later, at Yule, the Winter Solstice.

Please join us indoors at the church for a festive gathering in celebration of Ostara and Spring Equinox. Bring a drum or any rhythm shakers you may have. If you have any questions please contact Leona Dunnett 724-327-3841 (ldunnett@gmail.com) or Kate Begg 412-372-4106 (nikitazeema@comcast.net)

Teen Book Club

For more information, please contact Julia via email: redirector@esuuc.org

Sunday Book Club

For information about the Sunday evening book club, contact: SunBookClub@esuuc.org .

Sunday Refreshments

A time-honored tradition among Unitarian Churches is to gather for “social hour” immediately following Sunday service. At ESUUC we gather in the community room for coffee, juice, something tasty to eat and spirited conversation. It is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet some new friends at church. Each member is asked to take a turn throughout the year providing, serving and cleaning up refreshments. With everyone taking a turn it is usually once a year that we are called upon. The schedule tends to go alphabetically, **although I have had a request from those in the middle of the alphabet who always get to bring food in the snow to move things around, so we are starting roughly in the middle of the alphabet this calendar year.**

Don't worry if you are not a cook---store bought treats work quite well. There is a “guide to setting up refreshments” posted in the kitchen and in the September 2006 newsletter. If this is your first time you may want to review it a couple of weeks before you take your turn to get an idea of the flow. If you have any questions or are daunted by the thought of serving refreshments, please call Kate Codd-Palmer at (724) 325-3903. Don't think she will let you off the hook, however, we all seem to like to eat.

The refreshment table is located in the far corner of the community room. This area also serves as a religious education room for the children during service. You may consider preparing the table before service starts. There is also a cart in the kitchen that can be used to place food items on and be wheeled into the community room after service.

See you around the kitchen----Kate

Refreshments Roster

Mar 4	George Ratliff
Mar 11	Bob and Jean Robl
Mar 18	Kathy and Lew Ruffing
Mar 25	Michael and Tracy Safran

Apr 1	David Schwartz
Apr 8	Sharing Sunday
Apr 15	Cathy Serventi and Gene Wilson
Apr 22	Mary Warwick
Apr 29	Kate and Mark Zingarelli

RE Class Schedule

Nursery:	Day	Teacher
	Mar 4	Natalie Mendik
	11	Maria Luczkow
	18	Kim Katilius
	25	Mary Warwick

Elementary:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Mar 4	Children's Chapel	Marianne Jew
	11	Mary and Martha – Session 30	Wendy Noe
	18	The Teachings of Jesus - Session 31	Gayle Pamerleau
	25	Service Project Sunday	

Middle:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Mar 4	Children's Chapel today	Marianne Jew
	11	Taoism - Lesson 18	Tom Dunnett
	18	Native American - Lesson 19	Karen Katilius
	25	Service Project Sunday	

Coming of Age:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Mar 4	Children's Chapel today	Marianne Jew
	11	Ritual Liturgy and Symbol	TBD
	18	Reformers and Protesters	Laurie Montgomery
	25	Service Project Sunday	

Youth Group

Youth Group meetings (all are **Sunday evenings**, from 7-9 pm): **March 11, 25**

Dates and times are subject to change, so please check for updates: contact Leona Dunnett, Youth Advisor (ldunnett@alltel.net).

Barter Board

If you have items to trade/sell, or have needs, you can post to the Barter Board.

The Board is located in the RE hallway on the Community Bulletin Board. To use, fill out a card (available on the Barter Board itself) describing your item or need, then pin it up in the appropriate column of the Barter Board.

Want your item listed in the weekly newsletter? Fill out an extra copy of the card and give it to Kathy Ruffing, put it in the Secretary's mailbox, or e-mail the info to Kathy at secretary@esuuc.org .

Experimental Online Calendar

For immediate access to the most up-to-date information on ESUUC events, go directly to:
<http://www.esuuc.org/calendar.htm>

Calendar

Thu Mar 1, 2007

7:30pm [ESUUC Bookclub](#)

Sun Mar 4, 2007

8pm * [Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program](#) (Every Sunday)

Thu Mar 8, 2007

7:30pm [Board Meeting \[More\]](#)

Sun Mar 11, 2007

12:15pm [Planning - Rummage sale](#)

4pm [CoA Candidate/Mentor Meeting](#)

Fri Mar 16, 2007

8pm [CoA visit to Temple David](#)

Sat Mar 17, 2007

5pm [Family Drumming](#)

Sun Mar 18, 2007

7:30pm [Drumming \(Groove and Meditate\)](#)

11pm [Newsletter Deadline](#)

Sun Apr 1, 2007

10:30am [Annual Canvass Kick-Off](#)

Thu Apr 5, 2007

7:30pm [ESUUC Bookclub](#)

7:30pm [Board Meeting \[More\]](#)

Sun Apr 15, 2007

4pm [CoA Candidate/Mentor Meeting](#)

11pm [Newsletter Deadline](#)

Fri Apr 20, 2007

[... OMD District Conference](#)

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly	Membership – Marylyn Devlin
Building and Facilities – Jim Osborne	Music – Alan Halperin
Caring & Concerns – Maria Luczkow (caring@esuuc.org)	Pastoral Care – Maria Luczkow
Committee on Ministry – open	Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
Community – Kate Codd-Palmer	Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett
Drumming – Jen Trout-Osborne (drumming@esuuc.org)	Social Enrichment – open
Finance – Chris Priano	Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery	Kukura-Straw
	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Newsletter Deadlines

April 2007 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, March 18**

PRIVACY: Our newsletter is posted on the ESUUC website. If you don't want your phone number to be published, please don't include it in any newsletter submissions. Instead, use the church phone number. If you would like an email alias (format is "<your choice>@esuuc.org"), please contact Cathy Serventi.

Please email your articles to newsletter@esuuc.org or call Marianne at (724) 325-1548 and leave a message with your news, stories, and other information.

Get the Weekly Email News

If you would like to receive a weekly email that includes items not in the newsletter and reminders of upcoming events for the week, please send an email from the address you would like subscribed to esuuc_news@esuuc.org. You can also send a message to that address if you would like it included in the weekly email announcement to the congregation. If the message can't wait for the weekly announcement, please contact Kathy at secretary@esuuc.org. No attachments please.

ATTENTION VEGETABLE LOVERS !

Misty Morning Farm Vegetable and Fruit CSA Inc. Is now open to membership For its First Season!!!

Member Benefits will include weekly shares of fresh, organically grown produce at affordable prices. Season runs Mid-June through November.

Opportunities are available for different levels of membership, As well as lowered rates in exchange for work at the farm. Contact us, or visit our website for full details.

Act now! Open Enrollment ends March 1. Limited memberships available through spring. Go to our website for membership applications. www.mistymorningfarm.org

CONTACTS:

Stanley Chepaitis, 724/349-2507, stanleychip@verizon.net

John Hollway, 814/743-5959, Fax 814/743-5959, jihollway@winbeam.com

Misty Morning Farm is pleased to announce the start of a vegetable/fruit CSA to compliment its existing meat and poultry CSA.

CSA (community supported agriculture) is a system in which members buy a share of a farm and receive that share in the form of freshly harvested produce on a seasonal basis. Misty Morning Farm's fruit and vegetable CSA will begin producing during an extended, six month season through the summer and fall of 2007. This is made possible through the use of raised beds, cold frames and greenhouses.

We will offer over forty different vegetables and fruits, grown using organic and sustainable methods. Much of our produce will consist of heirloom varieties, developed for taste and nutrition, as opposed to shelf life and shipability. Tree and vine fruits will be planted this year to be available for subsequent harvests.

Weekly delivery during the season will be via pickup at the farm or at specified drop off points in surrounding communities.

Several different fee schedules, based on family size and makeup, will allow us to accommodate many different lifestyles.

Members can choose to work on the farm in return for fee reduction. Senior discounts and deferred payment plans will also be available.

Misty Morning farm is committed to the belief that healthy, sustainably raised food should be priced so as to be affordable for any who value its many benefits. We are a non-profit corporation.

The 127 acre farm is located at **1781 Hazelet Church Road, Cherry Tree, PA 15724** between Hillsdale and Cherry Tree, Montgomery Township, Indiana County, PA.

Full details of the costs and benefits of membership as well as membership applications are available on our website. Interested parties could also contact John Hollway or Stanley Chepaitis at the above listed addresses and/or phone numbers.



INTRODUCTION

Relationships are at the heart of every important moment in life. Yet many of us have little or no effective training in how to make those relationships feel safe and joyful. This nationally-recognized program will help you to grow and change in your own ability to guide your relationships *intentionally*, not to simply *react* as you learned from childhood experiences. The class will not be “group therapy,” but rather “relationship education.” It’s exciting, interesting stuff!

HOW THE PROGRAM IS STRUCTURED

The six-week program consists of a series of two-hour classes, offered once a week. Each class looks at typical problems in intimate relationships, especially emphasizing the differing perspectives of both partners. We’ll start with everyone reading the story of a real-life relationship situation. Then, through discussion, journaling, video and leader commentary, we’ll “un-pack” the unspoken feelings, expectations and perceptions that cause the tangles. This is NOT a series of lectures. You will be personally involved, but in as private a way as you wish.

THE “TAKE-HOMES” FROM THE PROGRAM

You’ll end up with several important “take-homes” from every class:

1. You’ll begin to understand the “**power struggle**,” an unavoidable part of every long term relationship and the basis for many typical relationship problems, and you’ll know that you are not alone in facing it.
2. You will begin to understand that *conflict* is not to be feared in a relationship, but that it is truly an *opportunity* for growth.
3. You’ll begin to understand that love is not just a feeling. It’s a verb.
4. Perhaps most importantly, you’ll learn some valuable *tools* which, if you will use them, will help you work through and even avoid painful and repetitious scenes in your own relationship that all too often go unresolved.
 - Where there is flagging commitment, we’ll give you tools to re-ignite it.
 - Where passion and romance seem cold, we’ll give you tools to re-ignite them.
 - Where there is conflict, as there will be, we’ll give you the tools to use it constructively.

SOME BACKGROUND READING

These classes spring out of the work of Harville Hendrix, PhD, whose million-seller book, “**Getting the Love You Want: A Guide for Couples**,” was reissued by Harper’s in September, 2001

INSTRUCTORS

The class will be taught by **Dr. Linda C. Bazan**, whose private couples’ therapy practice is at 5850 Ellsworth Avenue (see www.therelationshipshop.com). She is a certified Imago Relationship Therapist and a clinical psychologist. Her husband, Donald Gibbon, will also be part of the teaching team. He has also had extensive training in Imago Relationship Therapy.

PROGRAM COSTS AND LOCATION

The class is taught at Community College of Allegheny County, Allegheny Campus on the Northside. Contact Dr. Bazan at 412-362-0311 or CCAC at 412-237-2670 for registration information. You can also check Community Education, www.ccac.edu . Look for Course Number YEB-026-1210. The course costs \$125 per person.