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. 3 October 2006 Editor: Marianne Jew newsletter@esuuc.org

ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, October 1, 10:30 am – "*Launching a Coming of Age Year*"-Another wonderful group of youth is entering the Coming of Age program on this Sunday. **Dr. Waun and Kathy Begg** will facilitate this important intergenerational kick-off service.

Sunday, October 8, 10:30am -"Sharing Secrets of Healthy Relationships." **Linda Bazan, PhD** licensed psychologist and therapist from The Relationship Shop will be here to present Imago relationship theory, which is a tried and true method of working with couples and groups in a profoundly life changing way. For more information about the speaker and the theory, visit www.therelationshipshop.com. We will also have a brief time of commissioning for Ken Noble as he prepares to do volunteer work in Uganda.

Sunday, October 15, 10:30 am – "*The End of Faith*" – In the midst of religious revival, three scholars have written books arguing that atheism is smarter. **George Ratliff** will examine the best known of these books, "The End of Faith" by Sam Harris. He writes: "Our situation is this: most of the people in the world believe that the Creator of the universe has written a book. We have the misfortune of having many such books on hand, each making an exclusive claim as to its infallibility. We have been slow to recognize the degree to which religious faith perpetuates man's inhumanity to man. ... I hope to show that the very ideal of religious tolerance--born of the notion that every human being should be free to believe whatever he wants about God--is one of the principal forces driving us toward the abyss."

Sunday, October 22, 10:30 am – "*Roasted Cow Corn Kernels*" - Is there a purpose or mission for Unitarian Universalists? Are we more than just a social club or ethical society? Are we meant to make this a better world? If so, how? Join us as we welcome back one of our favorite visiting ministers: the **Rev. Kate Walker** from the UU Church in Meadville, PA.

Sunday, October 29, 10:30 am — "What to Do About Death?" - Is there a good time to talk about "End of Life Issues?" Or to think about them? Are you good on the subject in the abstract, but not so good when it's your "end of life" that is up for discussion? How did you feel when Terri Schiavo's name was dominating the news? Are you old enough to remember Karen Quinlin? Does this have anything at all to do with being a Unitarian Universalist? **Sibyl McNulty**, a lawyer and a person who sometimes thinks about stuff like this, will attempt to answer some of these questions and raise others, and will also provide some very practical advice for those of you who swore, a year and a half ago, that you would finally write that living will.

Sunday, November 5, 10:30 am – "*Transylvania Memories*"- There are five people from our congregation who made the Heritage Pilgrimage to Transylvania, Romania and Hungary in August to meet our partner congregation in Kopec, and to visit historic Unitarian sites. Did you know that there is a Unitarian Bishop? That there is a Unitarian catechism? **Dr. Waun** will be joined by **Nancy Fitzgerald, Marylyn Devlin, Jean and Bob Robl** to present their impressions.

AFTER WORSHIP- there will be a traditional Transylvanian lunch with photo display.



Pastor's Column: Sentimental Celebrations

by Rev. Renee Waun

October is turning out to be a month of celebrations. When I first noticed that the 25th anniversary of my ordination to ministry occurred in the same year as the 40th anniversary of East Suburban UU's founding, I just knew there was going to be a party!

But then I discovered that it is also the 100th anniversary of the Allegheny UU Church as well as the 10th anniversary of the ordination of its pastor the Rev. David McFarland. So I talked with the other Pittsburgh area UU pastors about combining all of these celebrations into a cluster event: the second annual UU Palooza!

At the first UU Palooza last fall, folks from the various churches had such a great time that they were calling for more of this type of thing. So this is the perfect occasion. Please come to the First Unitarian Church in Oakland on Sunday, Oct. 8 for an extended party, celebration and schedule of inspiring activities. There are plenty of things to choose from so I hope you will be able to come and go as your schedule permits that day.

An open house reception celebrating my personal milestone of service in ministry will take place from 2-4pm. After that there are more cluster-oriented events. Have a look at the related article for the full listing, and help us to make this another great UU festivity!



m U Usings from the President

by Matt Mathis

I support many diverse religious traditions, because my own theology includes the idea that all mortal representations of "The Truth" are, at best, only approximate. Furthermore I do not presume that my views are exceptionally more accurate than anybody else's religious views. So I have to admit the possibility that other religions contain truth that I do not understand, and that this undiscovered truth has potential value to me and is worth exploring.

Given that other religions might contain Truth that escapes us, what right do we have to impose our own view of the Truth on others? Clearly we don't, and given the possibility that we are wrong and they are right, it seems to be prudent to at least be respectful of other religious communities, even if we do not understand them or they are not respectful of us. My standard email signature, "Evil is defined by mortals who think they know 'The Truth' and use force to apply it to others", sums up this view.

We can reduce the evil in this world by embracing people who are different than us, and making a point to listen and to try to understand the truth that they speak. We can do this at many scales: Renee is the current chair of the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium. We can participate in events sponsored or coordinated by organizations such as the Network of Spiritual Progressives (www.spiritualprogressives.org), and The Interfaith Alliance (www.interfaithalliance.org).

I recently attended a "Town Meeting" sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance, discussing the lack of separation between church and state, and what we might do about it. The audience and panel spanned both the political spectrum and all major religions, and were very much concerned with how the religious right has hijacked the political agenda, debate and even the language of moderates and religious liberals. It was really thought provoking and actually quite hopeful. We plan to list many of such events on the ESUUC calendar in the future.

Please feel free to call me at 412.654.7529 or drop a note to mathis@psc.edu or <u>president@esuuc.org</u>.

Service Project Help and Donations Needed

For this year's RE service project, we are planning to make blankets for donation to Project Linus. This is a non-profit organization that collects and distributes blankets to children, infants through teens, who are seriously ill or going through a traumatic time. This organization has a local office that donates to various organizations in Westmoreland County. Blankets can be knitted, crocheted, sewn, made from fleece. Various sizes are needed (22" X 22" for preemies; 36" X 36"for babies; 36" X 45 " for small children; 40" X 60 " for older children; 48" X 72" for teenagers. If you would like more information on this organization, and the local group, you might like to take a look at their website: http://www.bdjwd.com/projectlinus.html

We plan to make blankets from double sided fleece, and to do as much as we can on a no-sew basis. Large cuts of fleece can easily be turned into a blanket with some simple cutting and tying. Smaller pieces can be cut and tied, or sewn together.

In order to make this project a success we need some adult helpers on service project Sundays, and we need fleece. Please check your schedules and let me know (redirector@esuuc.org) if you can help. The first service project Sunday will be on Sept. 24! Do you have extra fleece, maybe some that has been sitting around your house for a while (like I have in mine!)? Would you like to donate it for this very worthwhile project? We will gladly accept!

ESUUC Celebrates its 40th Anniversary

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church

40th Anniversary Events 2006

October 8, 2006, UU Palooza, Second Annual, at First Unitarian Church. Rev. Renee Waun's 25th Anniversary of Ordination. See attached flyer.

November, Display of History Memorabilia in the Sanctuary

December 2, Saturday, Fabulous Forty Anniversary Party, 6 pm

December 3, Sunday Anniversary Service, 10:30 am

Plans for <u>Outside Symbol</u> for the Church Wish list: <u>A Commemorative DVD</u>

This I Believe Your statement is invited for a Sunday service.

Tell a story, Be brief (350-500 words), Name your belief, Be positive, Be personal.

Full guidelines on the website at www.esuuc.org and see attached flyer.

Do you have old Orders of Service?

Orders of Service are a wonderful record of the topics that members of our congregation have delved into over the years. Help us create a "history of ideas" for our church as part of our 40th anniversary celebration. Please contact Cathy Serventi (724) 387-1155 or treasurer@esuuc.org if you have old Orders of Services, particularly from before we moved into our permanent home. We will happily accept donations for archiving at the church. I'll set up a box in the community room where you can drop them off. But if you understandably don't want to part with them, we would like to borrow them to make photocopies and then we'll return them. If you have electronic copies, please send those to Cathy at treasurer@esuuc.org.

Stone Soup - Join the Musical

It might be a little early to be talking about Stone Soup Sunday on Nov. 19, but this year it is going to be even more special than ever, as we are having a mini-musical called (of course) "Stone Soup", directed by **Dr. Waun**. It is the story of a sleepy, grumpy village that learned all about becoming cheerful in their sharing and caring from three travelers with magic stones in a sack.

This musical from the Albert Publishing Co. was written for kids, but we have mostly adults taking part. If you would like to be in the play, please contact Dr. Waun right away. We have a place for you!!! 412-731-2834

Dr. Waun Attends Rabbi Installation

In her capacity as President of the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium, Renee Waun recently participated in the installation of Rabbi Barbara A.B. Symons of Temple David. The Temple has had a close relationship with the Ministerium in the past and so we were eager to get to know the new rabbi and to encourage her to get to know the other area religious leaders.

Rabbi Symons is from the Reform tradition, meaning that her views on social and justice issues are quite progressive. Her husband is also a rabbi who works from his home computer with a ministry located in Haifa. They have three children.

Some of us remember the cordial negotiations that East Suburban UUC was having with Temple David around the possible rental of Sunday worship space just before the fortunate discovery and purchase of our current building in 2002.

At the Kiddush that followed the installation, Dr. Waun was invited to consider the possibility that ESUUC and Temple David might work together on some social justice activities in the community. We will be hearing more about this in upcoming months.

3 Helpers Needed for Ministerium Lunch

It's October, time again for the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium to come to our church and enjoy our hospitality at their monthly meeting and lunch. (The group meets at a different member location every month.)

We need a team of 3-5 people to help set up and prepare the lunch on **October 4**. The menu usually includes a salad, an entrée or two (one must be vegetarian), bread or rolls, and dessert. In the three previous years we have been hosting, we have had some really gorgeous food and the MIM looks forward to the personal attention they always get here.

If you are able to help, please contact Rev. Waun 412-731-2834, revmom@pitt.edu. We have two people signed up, we need two or three more, including someone to coordinate. Perhaps you are able to cook and deliver a dish without staying to serve. That's ok, too. We welcome any help you can offer.

Ken Noble to Visit African Rural Schools Foundation

On Oct. 14, Ken Noble will be flying off to Uganda for about two weeks as a volunteer working with the African Rural Schools Foundation (ARSF), which provides affordable education to disadvantaged children in rural Africa. Inspired by Dr. Waun's work there, Ken offered to make this trip and to help in any way that he can.

As plans are unfolding, they plan to make good use of Ken's time at the school near Kampala. Through Ugandan connections made in Pittsburgh, Ken and Dr. Waun have scheduled a three-day training event at the school for the Board members of the ARSF, to cover topics such as finances, administration and long range planning.

While there, Ken will be purchasing a computer system for the school with money recently donated by the Greentree Rotary Club. There is also a possibility that Ken and the ARSF Director Hanan Bulime will be looking at property for a permanent school structure, as one of Dr. Waun's friends is doing fund raising for that purpose at this time. Ken will also be taking photographs of all the pen pal children so that we will be able to know what each child looks like.

At our church service on Oct. 8 we will have a brief time of commissioning for Ken as he prepares for this worthy adventure.

Pen Pal Project

Dr. Waun has been identifying middle school aged American students to be pen pals for 60 Ugandan children who have sent introductory letters. The purpose of the project is to help the Ugandan children learn English skills, and to form international friendships. She still has about 30 letters left to distribute on a first come, first served basis. Call her to sign up: 412-731-2834

If you know a teacher or a student who would like a Ugandan pen pal, please visit the ARSF website for details: www.africanruralschools.org

African Crafts Arriving in Time for Christmas Shopping

The children at the African school are learning to make native crafts, including zippered accessory cases that can be used for pencils and small desk supplies, makeup and other things. When Ken Noble returns

from Uganda he will be bringing a suitcase full of items that we will be offering for donations to support the school. This will be a great way to begin your Christmas shopping in a way that really makes a difference to many kids.

Choir - New Rehearsal Format

The choir welcomes new singers and will now rehearse at 9:30 am on the first Sunday of each month. We will be exploring UU choral music and will sing at the service on the first Sunday of each month. Please share your singing talents with the UU community and help make this group blossom.

Fasting to Help Others

In November, the church will be hosting a 30-hour fast to raise money for Heifer International. Heifer International helps people to live longer and healthier lives as well as giving them a livelihood. Heifer is an unusual organization in that the way you donate is that you buy a flock of sheep or whatever and then it is sent to people living in a third world country who are trained to take care of them and then when that animal has a baby it is given to others in the community who need financial help and nourishment. We will be raising money by collecting pledges from people in the community. We will use the money we raise to buy the biggest "basket" we can for these people. Ideally we want to buy these people an ark which includes a little of every thing but it all depends on how much we raise. It will be held at the church starting at 6:00 pm on Friday, November 3rd and will end at 12:00 midnight on Saturday, November 4th. Any questions about this at all contact the Begg's home and ask for Julia or email: redirector@esuuc.org Thanks!

Care Notes

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

Children's Chapel

We are looking for volunteers to lead or help with Children's Chapel. Are you interested? This is a great way to get involved in the RE program and get to know our wonderful children. Please let me know if you would like to participate (redirector@esuuc.org). Children's Chapel services take place on the first Sunday of each month.

Experimental Online Calendar

We are experimenting with Google online calendars to see if they might make it easier to coordinate church events. This will not affect most members since we will continue to generate all of our current paper and electronic calendars from the new online calendar, but people who want immediate access to the most up-to-date information on ESUUC events can go directly to: http://www.esuuc.org/calendar.htm

International Gandhi Day Event: October 1

Building upon the successes of past few years, the Gandhi Day planning committee announces this year's activities sponsored by CMU's Dept of Asian Studies, and several Student groups as well as Pitt. They are doing a marvelous job of making the event reach out to much wider and various audiences. 4 days of activities have been planned mainly on CMU campus, but the main event is:

Various Aspects of Gandhi's Life and Work

Wm Pitt Student Union on Sunday, Oct 1 from 2 to 5 pm., featuring **Dr. Joseph Alter, Prof. of Anthropology at Pitt**. Prof. Alter has outstanding qualifications for the event, including in depth work on various aspects of Gandhi's life. He promises to bring a very novel and refreshing approach to the program.

A "Green" Movie Night

In conjunction with Interfaith Power And Light, and as part of a coordinated nationwide effort entitled Spotlight On Global Warming, ESUUC is sponsoring a free public showing of the movie "An Inconvenient Truth" on Friday, October 6, at 7:30 pm. Doors will open at 7:00. Everyone is encouraged to attend and invite your friends. For additional information or to help with this event in any capacity, please contact Dan Begg.

Interfaith Power And Light is a non-partisan ministry which believes that the religious community must lead by example to help save creation - and our children's future - from the impact of global warming.

Rev. Waun's Anniversary

Please join us on **October 8**, from **2-4 pm**, at First Unitarian Church in Pittsburgh, to celebrate Rev. Renee Waun's 25th anniversary of her ordination! For more details, see attached flyer.

Come Eat Spaghetti

The Coming of Age youth will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on **Saturday, October 21**, from **5-8 pm**. Tickets will be sold in advance. You are welcome to eat at church and catch up on visiting with friends, or take home the dinners to your hungry family. This is a great opportunity to invite new friends to visit our church, meet some nice folks, enjoy a fun meal, and help our CoA youth raise funds for their end-of-year Heritage trip. You might like to come early and attend the Family Drumming Circle at 7:30 pm (see notice below)!

Drumming News

We have two drumming circles which meet monthly. Our Family Drumming Circle is very child friendly and meets on Saturday evenings. Our Groove and Meditate Circle is a bit more serious and meets on Sunday evenings. We welcome everyone to either circle, regardless of anything. We have drums to share and we like homemade and junk instruments, and you can utilize your body percussion potential.

Upcoming dates for Drumming at ESUUC and with other area drumming friends:

Oct. 13th 7 PM - Udu Drum Workshop w/ Kevin Henry, Friends Meeting House in Oakland For more info you can call 412-856-9767. No experience necessary. Drums provided. \$10

Oct 21st 7:30 PM - Family Drumming Circle at ESUUC
Info at www.esuuc.org or email drumming@esuuc.org or call 412-608-2725

Oct. 22nd 7:30 PM - Groove and Meditate Drumming Circle at ESUUC Info at www.esuuc.org or email drumming@esuuc.org or call 412-608-2725

Oct. 27th 7 PM - Transformative Yoga of Drum and Chant w/ Jim Donovan at The Green Bough Info at www.TheGreenBough.com or call 724-331-9085. \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door.

Every Saturday at 5 PM, Three Rivers Thunder plays on Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park. Incredible drumming and fun every time! Come out while the weather holds.

Info at www.drumcircle.meetup.com/20/

What else is Jim Donovan doing? Find out at www.jimdonovanmusic.com
Interested in African drumming? Check out UMOJA at www.umojacompany.com
Be on the lookout for upcoming drumming events associated with Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh.

New Book Club - Sundays

A second book club is starting up, meeting on Sunday evenings! The first meeting is **October 22** and will be hosted at Susan Goodis' house. The book will be "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arthur Golden. Future books, formats and location are still wide open, so please come and help us figure it out.

If you have any questions, you can send a message to: SunBookClub@esuuc.org. Susan will send out contact information and directions to her house shortly.

Book Club - Thursdays

Upcoming Book Club meeting dates (these are all Thursdays and start at 7:30 pm):

October 26 "Sula" by Toni Morrison

November 30 December 28

Location: Penn Center Panera (Meeting Room), near Sears, in Wilkins Township. If you need a ride, would like to borrow a copy the book from someone who has finished it, or have any questions, the address bookclub@esuuc.org sends email to the all the active members. If you want to be added to the book club reminder email list, send email to treasurer@esuuc.org . The book club is open to anyone who is interested. Books generally alternate between fiction and non-fiction.

Teen Book Club

The next Teen Book club meeting will be on **Saturday, November 11** at **1 pm**. Our next book is, "Please Stop Laughing at Me" by Jodee Blanco. Described as follows:

Adult/High School-From fifth grade through high school, Blanco was teased, shunned, and, at times, physically assaulted by her classmates because she was different. She befriended handicapped students, "ratted" on the activities of fellow 12-year-olds at her first boy/girl party, and could not bring herself to dissect a fetal pig. Her experiences with school bullies occurred in a variety of settings, including religious and private schools. At various points in this visceral memoir, Blanco fumes at the injustice of being subjected to psychiatric diagnosis and medication while her tormentors remained unbothered and oblivious, and states that "sticking up for people" and/or being different is a "social death warrant." While her loving parents were sympathetic and supportive, their well-meant admonitions to ignore her harassers and "rise above it all" sprang from adult logic; adolescents simply interpreted her indifference as weakness. The author's emotional torment was partly due to a breast deformity; corrective surgery performed prior to her senior year allowed her, finally, to begin viewing her future optimistically. Adults may consider some of

Blanco's scenes as hyperbole, but teens will find them authentic and apt. Many will take comfort both in the universality of the experiences and in Blanco's transformation from an unhappy, embittered ugly duckling to a poised, accomplished swan. Others, if they are honest, just might recognize bullying tendencies in themselves and become sufficiently chagrined to reexamine their views and actions toward nonconformists of all stripes.

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

Oct 1	Kimberly Jumper	
Oct 8	Gerard, Karen and Twila Katilius	
Oct 15	Mehernosh Khan	
Oct 22	Glenn and Marcia Klepac	
Oct 29	Mary Kukura-Straw	

Nov 5	Maureen and Jerry Lilly

RE Class Schedule

Nursery:	Day	Teacher
	Oct 1	No nursery: all kids attend Coming of Age service
	8	Natalie Mendik
	15	Mary Warwick
	22	Maria Luczkow
	29	Kim Katilius

Elementary:	Day	Day Class Description Teacher	
	Oct 1	Coming of Age service: all kids attend	(no separate RE)
	8	Adam and Eve	Mary Kukura-Straw
	15	Cain and Abel	Kate Zingarelli
	22	Service Project Sunday	
	29	Noah	Gayle Pamerleau

Middle:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Oct 1	Coming of Age service: all kids attend	(no separate RE)
	8	God is Like that Which Created	Karen Katilius
		Everything	
	15	God is Like "Isness"	Tom Dunnett
	22	Service Project Sunday	
	29	An Image of God Can be Male or	Jen Trout-Osborne
		Female	

Coming of Age:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	Oct 1	Coming of Age service: all kids attend	(no separate RE)
	8	What Faiths Do We Want to Learn	
		About?	
	15		
	22	Service Project Sunday	
	29		

Youth Group

Youth Group meetings (all are **Sunday evenings**, from **7-8 pm**): **October 1, 15, 29**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.

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 Pastoral Care – Maria Luczkow Religious Education - Kate Zingarelli (caring@esuuc.org) Committee on Ministry – open Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett Community – Kate Codd-Palmer Social Enrichment – open Drumming – Jen Trout-Osborne (drumming@esuuc.org) Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary Finance – Chris Priano Kukura-Straw Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Calendar

Sun Oct 1, 2006

9:30am Choir Rehearsal

7pm Youth Group

Wed Oct 4, 2006

10:30am Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium Meeting & Lunch

Thu Oct 5, 2006

7:30pm Board Meeting [More]

Fri Oct 6, 2006

7pm A "Green" Movie Night: "An Inconvenient Truth"

Sat Oct 7, 2006

2pm <u>March for Sustainability</u>

Sun Oct 8, 2006

2pm Rev. Waun's 25th anniversary - Open House Reception & Refreshments

4pm Presentation by Rev Roy M Oswald,, "Polarities that Healthy Churches Must Manage"

5pm "Why Ordination" by Rev Joan Houk

5:30pm Simple Supper

6:30pm "Unitarian Universalist Heritage in Pittsburgh", Kathy Parker

7pm Worship Celebration with Pittburgh Playback Theater, and Ordination Renewal for all clergy

present present

8:30pm Open Music Jam

Thu Oct 12, 2006 – Sat Oct 14, 2006

Sunnyhill - Harvest & Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale

Sun Oct 15, 2006

4pm CoA Candidate/Mentor Meeting

7pm Youth Group

11pm Newsletter Deadline

Sat Oct 21, 2006

5pm <u>CoA Spaghetti Dinner</u>

7:30pm Family Drumming Circle

Sun Oct 22, 2006

7pm Sunday Bookclub - "Memoirs of a Geisha"

7:30pm Groove and Meditate Drumming Circle

Thu Oct 26, 2006

7:30pm ESUUC Bookclub "Sula"

Sat Oct 28, 2006

7:30pm Samhain

Sun Oct 29, 2006

7pm Youth Group

Thu Nov 2, 2006

7:30pm Board Meeting [More]

Fri Nov 3 - 4, 2006

6pm <u>Heifer International Fast (tentative)</u>

Sun Nov 5, 2006

ESUUC Historical display in the sanctuary - Month Long display

9:30am Choir Rehearsal

Sun. Nov 19	Stone Soup Sunday
Sat. Dec 2	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Party
Sun. Dec 3	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Commemorative Program

Newsletter Deadlines

November 2006 newsletter deadline: Sunday, October 15

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 <code>esuuc_news@esuuc.org</code>. 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.

DR. WAUN TO CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION OCT. 8

.... and you are invited. There will be a full afternoon and evening of celebration, in combination with some Pittsburgh UU Cluster activities.

There is much to celebrate that day with our fellow UUs:

- Rev. Waun's 25th Anniversary of ordination
- Rev. David McFarland's 10th Anniversary of ordination
- ESUUC's 40th Birthday
- Allegheny UU's 100th Birthday

We hope you will put Oct. 8 on your calendar to set the date aside for some very special activities to be held at the First Unitarian Church in Pittsburgh, corner of Morewood Ave. and Ellsworth Ave.

The schedule features:

- An open house reception with refreshments from 2-4pm (for Dr. Waun)
- A keynote address on church polarity issues presented by the Rev. Roy M. Oswald, Senior Consultant with the Alban Institute for 31 years
- Reflections on ordination by the newly ordained Roman Catholic priest the Rev. Joan Houk (one of the "Pittsburgh Twelve")
- A simple supper-reservations required
- A historical overview of the UU movement in Pittsburgh
- A worship service which will include the Pittsburgh Playback Theater and an ordination renewal ritual for all clergy present
- A folk music jam session--bring your instruments!

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church: 40th Anniversary Project 'This I Believe' Essay-Writing Instructions

You are invited to write and submit your own statement of personal belief. We understand how challenging this is -- it requires such intimacy that no one else can do it for you. We want to reflect the life of developing belief within East Suburban UU Church. To guide you through this process, we offer these suggestions:

Tell a story: Be specific. Take your belief out of the ether and ground it in the events of your life. Consider moments when belief was formed or tested or changed. Think of your own *church* experience, work and family, and tell of the things you know that no one else does. Your story need not be heart-warming or gutwrenching -- it can even be funny -- but it should be *real*. Make sure your story ties to the essence of your daily life philosophy and the shaping of your beliefs.

Be brief: Your statement should be <u>between 350 and 500 words</u>. That's about three minutes when read aloud at your natural pace.

Name your belief: If you can't name it in a sentence or two, your essay might not be about belief. Also, rather than writing a list, consider focusing on a core belief, because three minutes is a very short time.

Be positive: Please avoid preaching or editorializing. Tell us what you do believe, not what you don't believe. Avoid speaking in the editorial "we." Make your essay about you; speak in the first person.

Be personal: This is to be spoken. Write in words and phrases that are comfortable for you to speak. We recommend you read your essay aloud to yourself several times, and each time edit it and simplify it until you find the words, tone and story that truly echo your belief and the way you speak.

Consider our Unitarian Universalist principles; our covenant to affirm and promote

- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

PS There are some beginning statement examples at the NPR website: http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4564213