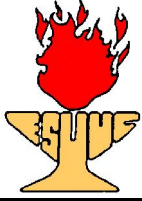


East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



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

Telephone
(724) 327-5872

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

Volume 44 No. 8

June 2008

Editor: Mary Warwick
newsletter@esuuc.org

ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, June 1, 10:30 am – “*Displaced Persons*” – We all have roots that go way back into other countries and cultures, so we are ALL displaced persons. Today, every country is struggling with who is supposed to be there and who is not; who is allowed to work and vote, drive, marry, have access to free education and health care. **Dr. Waun** will reflect on this issue. **We will also have a special dedication ceremony for our new stained glass window, with artist Terry Bengel.**

Sunday, June 8, 10:30 am – “*News from Home*” – It is difficult to live on the other side of the world when trouble breaks out in your homeland. The family of **Zahid Mahmud** was visiting relatives in Pakistan during the assassination of Benazir Bhutto. They will tell us what it was like to live in the violent aftermath and their thoughts on the future of Pakistan. It is also FLOWER COMMUNION SUNDAY. Each of you is asked to bring a stemmed flower to add to the bouquet that we will then redistribute to all in attendance.

Sunday, June 15, 10:30 am – “*Loving Day*” – This month marks the 41st anniversary of *Loving v. Virginia*, the Supreme Court decision that legalized interracial marriage throughout the U.S. **Brenda Shiring** presents the story of interracial couple Richard and Mildred Loving and the legal battle they fought to have their marriage recognized; as well as the implications for today’s marriage debate. Arrive a little early to learn “Standing on the Side of Love,” a hymn co-written by UUA president William Sinkford.

Sunday, June 22, 10:30 am – “*Storm from the East*” – Jean Robl and Marylyn Devlin will review Milton Viorst’s book about the continuing struggle through the centuries between the Arab World and the Christian West.

Sunday, June 29, 10:30 am – *To be announced.*



Pastor’s Column: Changes at ESUUC

by Rev. Renee Waun

Here we are again, in June of an even numbered year—which means that we will be saying good-bye to the President of our congregation and preparing to elect a new one. Matt Mathis has done an outstanding job of overseeing the administration of ministry and mission here at ESUUC. For this we are grateful and appreciative. He has brought a sense of calm, realism, vision, creativity and purpose to the work, and the Board has worked as a great team under his leadership.

Thank you, Matt. We will miss your loyal presence at the Board meetings but we know that you have prepared a list of things that you would like to pay more attention to at the church, now that your term is completed. We look forward to all the manifestations of your great ideas as they blossom forth with your guidance.

Please join us at the Annual Dinner and Meeting on June 7, where our next President will be elected, and important budgetary decisions will be made. We are fortunate here at ESUUC to have such capable and devoted people, willing to serve in so many ways. If you would like to see your name put forth as a

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nominee for an officer or a leader at the church please contact Matt, Leona, Chris Clifton or Chris Priano. We would be happy to have your join the team!



Musings from the President: Annual Meeting

by Matt Mathis

This is my last month as president. It has been a wonderful experience working with all of you to help this church grow in so many different ways. One of the hardest part of being president is the infinite supply of really good ideas of things that we "really ought to do" but just don't have the time or resources. As president you have to watch many wonderful ideas go by, and try to pick just the right ones to grab and plant, so we have to stretch some as a congregation, but not too much. I compare this process to trying to sip from a fire hose.

I am looking forward to retiring from the presidency, because it will give me the opportunity to go back to some of those neat ideas that I just could not make a priority with my duties as president and carry them forward on my own. As many of you know, my background is in computers and the Internet, and I hope to find ways to improve our internal efficiency and external image, through such things as podcasting. (I am always careful to use technology in a ways that help the people who thrive in it, but without compromising the people who don't).

Please come to the annual meeting on Saturday June 7th. All members should have received an official invitation, with copies of the draft budget and other business. There will also be a town meeting after the service on Sunday June 1st to discuss the business before the annual meeting in a more conversational format. It is important that your views are incorporated into our plans, either by participating in the annual meeting, or through the proxy ballot process. The annual meeting includes a potluck, and will mostly be a celebration of community. If you have any questions (or did not receive the meeting materials) please contact Leona Dunnett or me.

As always I can be reached at 412.654.7529 and mathis@psc.edu. For the time being, I can also be reached at president@esuuc.org. Thanks everyone for two wonderful years!

News from the Treasurer

By Chris Priano

Liquid assets, 7/1/07: \$ 20,034

Liquid assets, 4/30/08: \$ 21,367

Increase (decrease) in liquid assets: \$ 1,333

Net inflows: \$ 1,333

Pledge payments through 4/30/08: \$ 36,085 (74% of target)

Collection cash through 4/30/08: \$ 2,483 (50% of target)

Operating expenses through 4/30/08: \$ 41,407 (75% of budgeted)

During June, I'll be e-mailing (or mailing) all pledging members a status of where you are on your pledge for the current fiscal year that ends June 30. I also ask that members make every effort to attend the "town hall" meeting after service Sunday, June 1, and the Annual Meeting Saturday, June 7. Details have been provided in a separate mailing. We have important financial matters to discuss, especially concerning the proposed operating budget for the new fiscal year.

Abitibi has not been doing a very good job of emptying our newspaper recycle bin on a regular basis, despite repeated phone calls from me. Their customer service rep told me that they only have one truck operational in this area, at the moment. I apologize for the bin being full so often. A lot of people in the

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community have been using it, not just us. I've asked to be placed on the list for a second bin.

Finally, I've put the shredding-of-old-documents initiative on hold, for now. After my term as treasurer has ended next year, I'll turn my attention to this project and will happily engage the many of you who've offered to help with the shredding.

Author, Author!

On Sunday, June 8, our resident poet Dr. Mahernosh Khan will be present with copies of his latest and newly published book of poems to sign for those who would like to purchase them. He has kindly offered to give to ESUUC the proceeds for all the books purchased that day. Please be there to show our love and support for Dr. Khan as we support our church at the same time.

Global Connections—Uganda Update

by Rev. Waun

What a thrill to be able to announce that the African Rural Schools Foundation is now the owner of yet another piece of land—the (approximately 2 acres) land that comprises the current Divine Foundation Primary and Boarding School. The previous owner had allowed us to use the land, and he agreed to serve on the ARSF Board so he could help to determine the future of the land and the school.

When I was there, I asked the landowner if he would be willing to sell us the land, especially since we were going ahead with the building of permanent structures. He gave us a good price (\$2350, including buildings) and we thought we might be able to make the purchase by the end of this year.

However, in March the landowner became critically ill and needed the money from the land to pay medical expenses, so we quickly raised the needed funds and bought the property in mid-May. There are over 400 students enrolled at the school, over 200 of whom live right at the school. So we are very gratified to know that we now actually own the land and will never have to wonder about the future of our investments there in Uganda.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this effort, through craft purchases and outright cash contributions. The project continues to grow as we find more possibilities for education.

Sunday School Teacher Recognition

We have a group of fabulous and dedicated teachers who provide a wonderful religious education program for our children every Sunday. On June 8 we will take a few moments during our church service to honor them for all the time and energy they have given to our children. They are nurturing our future. Thank you teachers!

Caring & Concerns

“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, and honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” - *Leo Bucaglia*

Happy Birthday!

Nolan Freda Claire Pamerleau
Marianne Jew Drake Dunnett
Rick Freda

As a community, we share our positive energies to help those who are having difficult times... Gayle Pamerleau for her mother

“Life is not a brief candle... It is a splendid torch that must be made to burn as brightly as possible before it is handed on to the next generation.”

-George Bernard Shaw

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Each month, we will post this column for birthdays, anniversaries, honors, illnesses, or memorials. Please contact Susan Goodis at Caring@ESUUC.org or call 412-609-1232 with events you wish to have included in our newsletter. Thank-you.

Book Club, I

We have chosen the book for the first Wed. in July at 1 pm at Paneras, Penn Ctr.: "In Defense of Food" by Michael Pollan courtesy of April Soule.

Book Club, II

Although the meeting date has yet to be determined, this month's book club's choice is "The Omnivour's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan. Contact Susan Goodis for more information.

Sunday Refreshments

One of our most popular Unitarian traditions is enjoying refreshments together after each service. From September through June, we assign each adult member or couple a date on which to bring refreshments. For June and July, though, we ask members to volunteer for turns.

Bringing refreshments during the summer has several advantages. One is that attendance over the summer is typically lighter, so you won't have to bring as much. The other is that we'll take your name off the fall-spring schedule! (If you'd have two turns next year, you're off the hook for the first one.) If you're interested, talk to Brenda Shiring at service, or contact her at brennyren@yahoo.com or 724-334-1507.

Whether you're scheduled for June or volunteer over the summer, your treats don't have to be homemade or fancy; store-bought treats work well, too. If you haven't brought refreshments before, or are unfamiliar with how things are set up, you may want to come in the weekend before your turn to see how it's done. There are also instructions in the kitchen on how to use the coffeemaker and hot water pot. If you are still confused, or need assistance, contact Brenda Shiring. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me. If the week you're assigned doesn't work for your schedule, please switch with someone else for June.

June 1	Susan Goodis & Matt Mathis
June 8	Community Relations Committee
June 15	Alan & Jennifer Halperin
June 22	Marianne Jew
June 29	Gerard & Karen Katilius

Notes from the Kitchen

Thanks to the Born family (Jill, Keith, and Xander) for donating reusable plastic cups for the congregation's children to drink from during social hour. Now our younger set can follow green practices, too! If you have any reusable children's plastic cups (perhaps from a restaurant or fast-food place) that you're not using, please consider adding to our collection.

Speaking of kitchen supplies, have you taken some of the church's tablecloths or dishtowels home to wash? Thanks for doing that for us! If you haven't brought them back yet, though, could you please bring them to the kitchen sometime over the next several weeks? We seem to be running short of these items, and need to know if we should buy replacements.

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Pride Day June 22: All UUs Invited

Allegheny UU Church will sponsor several events marking GLBT Pride Day on June 22 2008. It starts with an 8 am pancake breakfast at the North Side church followed by a 9:30 am service with Reverend David McFarland speaking on "GLBT Liberation". Following the service they will offer bus transportation to the march that starts downtown near PNC's Firstside Center (a small fee will be collected to defray the bus rental cost). AUUC has applied for a spot in the march and they invite all area UU's to march with them. The PrideMarch will begin at noon followed by a Pridefest on Liberty Ave downtown from 1 - 6 pm. Please join us and show our support for the Pittsburgh GLBT community! For more information contact AUUC at 412-322-4261 or auuchurch@yahoo.com.

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly	Membership – Marylyn Devlin
Building and Facilities – open	Music – Alan Halperin
Caring & Concerns – Susan Goodis	Pastoral Care – Maria Luczkow
Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau	Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
Community – Brenda Shiring	Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary
Drumming – Bill Dunham (drumming@esuuc.org)	Kukura-Straw
Finance – Chris Priano	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery	

Newsletter Deadlines

July 2008 newsletter deadline: June 22, 2008. For sure!

Please email your articles to newsletter@esuuc.org or call Mary Warwick (724) 327-3092 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.

Calendar

Saturday, May 31

10:00am Interfaith Art Exhibit

6:30pm EVENT

Sunday, June 1

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Annual Town Hall Meeting

12:00pm Interfaith Art Exhibit

4:00pm OWL gr7-9 (Last Class & Celebration)

8:00pm * Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Tuesday, June 3

7:00pm RE meeting

Wednesday, June 4

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

7:30pm Board Meeting

Saturday, June 7

9:00am OWL gr7-9 (tentative)

6:00pm Annual Meeting

Sun

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10:30am Sunday Service

11:30am Book Signing: Dr. Mehernosh Khan

8:00pm * Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Sunday, June 15

10:30am Sunday Service

5:00pm OWL gr7-9 (tentative)

8:00pm * Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Wednesday, June 18

1:00pm Current Events Group

Friday, June 20

5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal dinner

Saturday, June 21

2:00pm Wedding Event

Sunday, June 22

10:30am Sunday Service

5:00pm OWL gr7-9 (tentative)

8:00pm * Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Saturday, June 28

9:00am OWL gr7-9 (tentative)

Sunday, June 29

10:30am Sunday Service

8:00pm Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program



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