

# 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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## *ESUUC Sunday Services*

**Sunday, January 10, 10:30 am** – *“Under the Rainbow, Part II”*- History buff Brenda Shiring continues her chronicle of gay history and gay rights in Western society. This installment starts with the Stonewall riots of 1969.

**Sunday, January 17, 10:30 am** – *“Kromatics Performance”*- The popular Kromatics Duo, Pete Wallen and Dick Bucek, will present a program of songs for all ages. A harmonica performance, these professional musicians demonstrate, very skillfully, how the two can sound like a small orchestra. Always enjoyable.

**Sunday, January 24, 10:30 am** – *“Can UU’s Believe Anything They Want?”*- As a UU, your immediate response to this question might be yes, but is it true? This is a question being asked in more and more UU congregations. Join us for a thought provoking service as we explore the many ways this question has been answered by others, and the ways we might want to answer it for ourselves. Service to be led by Kate Begg.

**Sunday, January 31, 10:30 am** – *“Personal Perspectives on Buddhism”*- Most of us have expressed an interest in Buddhism at one time or another, for its radically different approach, for its psychological insights, for its practical applications, or for other reasons. A few of us have the opportunity for exposure to Buddhism on a deeper level, whether from a personal engagement or from living in a Buddhist culture. Come hear some personal insights into this fascinating topic.

**Sunday, February 14, 10:30am - (Valentine’s Day) - “How Dreams Come True”**- Just back from another trip to Uganda, **Dr. Waun** will talk about how an idea becomes a dream if we can focus our attention in a certain way. She will update us on the newly completed construction project and nurse’s office for the school there, using photos and possible video clips.



# Pastor's Column: *Always, Something New*

by Rev. Renee Waun

As we enter into 2010, we also begin a new decade in this millennium. It hardly seems possible that the big time rollover was ten years ago! We are different people than we were ten years ago. We have learned a lot of new things. We are older and wiser. For example, I now know a whole new way of packing a suitcase for when I go on an airplane. I now know how to send text messages and Facebook updates. I now know that I should sneeze into my elbow. With every new year—every new day—there are new things to know, to see, to accomplish. There is always something new.

What lies ahead for us in the new decade to come? My wish for all of us is that we continue to grow, to learn, to hope, to dream and to re-invent ourselves, not only as individuals but as a community of faith. Who are we? Who can we become? Let us continue to encourage one another on this common journey that we are on—honoring our principles and being active participants in fostering our living tradition!  
Happy New Year!

## *Annual All Church Retreat* *Saturday, January 23*

Please join us for a day set apart just for us on January 23 from 9am to 3 pm. This year's annual all-church retreat theme is: "*Shiny People*"- when we shine, we attract good things, both as individuals and as a church community. Let's spend a day exploring the ways in which we already shine, and some ways we can polish up for the future. We will have time to get to know each other in a deeper way as we cultivate our shininess together. The Annual All-Church Retreat is always a time of food, friends, sharing and fun, so we hope you will save the date and plan to join us! Dr. Waun and Board members facilitate the day and provide a wholesome lunch. If you will need child care, please contact RE Chair, Mary Kukura-Straw at 724-733-8804 by Jan. 16.

## *News from the Treasurer*

**By Chris Priano, Assistant Treasurer**

Fund balances (total liabilities and net assets) as of 11/30/09:

ARSF:	\$ 5,283.52
Chalice Lighters:	\$ 1,330.00
Coming of Age:	\$ 1,695.01
General Fund:	\$ 161,789.57 (including \$160K building and land)
Green Sanctuary:	\$ 8.30
Labyrinth:	\$ 60.66
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 170,167.06</b>

Remember that ESUUC sells Great Lakes Scrip (gift cards) for many restaurants and retailers. We buy the cards at a discount and sell them at their face value. For example, if you buy a \$100 Giant Eagle card, the church makes a \$4 profit. For every \$10 Panera card, the church makes a \$0.90 profit. This is easy money for us and doesn't cost you any more than you'd normally spend. At the moment, all profit from Scrip sales benefits our Coming of Age program for church youth.

I'm still looking for an assistant treasurer to replace me after I step down the end of June.

Please e-mail me ([cpriano@alumni.duq.edu](mailto:cpriano@alumni.duq.edu)) or Marianne Jew ([treasurer@esuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@esuuc.org)) if you have any questions.

## *Pastoral Care Team Created*

East Suburban UUC now has a Pastoral Care Team where members of the church will be working in consultation with our Minister Rev. Renee Waun, to help other members who need care. The PC Team members have been briefed and organized to:

- **listen** and be a supportive, caring presence during times of loss, crisis or illness
- **be** with a parishioner or their family member during surgery
- **provide** occasional and modest assistance with practical things such as food, transportation to the doctor or emergency child care

If you or someone you know in our congregation needs to contact a member of the PC Team, here are their names and phone numbers:

Chris Clifton	412-371-1262
Susan Goodis	724-325-8048 (Editor of Caring and Concerns in Newsletter)
Judy Graham	724-433-1887
Kathy Leon	412-377-2627
Maureen Lilly	724-327-6453 (Coordinator of meal delivery)
Rev. Renee Waun	412-731-2834

## *Eco News*

Well, its' official. We are on the road to GREEN SANCTUARY status! After many hours of discussion, research and revision, the Green Sanctuary Committee has completed and submitted our application – all thirteen pages of it (via email – saving a tree) to the UUA and now the real work begins. A copy of our application which includes our assessments and action plans is available for anyone interested in the process. The action plan is on a two year time line, but there are many projects, activities and services between now and August of 2011. I hope everyone will get involved with a piece of the plan that speaks to them and help our church GO GREEN. Many thanks to all of those individuals who have already volunteered and to our GS Committee for all their efforts.

## *PS: Eco News*

\*On a personal note – I continue to try new ways of being more green in my home and work and I am currently renovating a room in my house using Real Milk Paint (a Pennsylvania based company whose

product is made here in PA and very earth conscious) and Grass Cloth to help create a beautiful and environmentally friendly space.

Next time you're sprucing up a room in your home give milk paint a try!

The Green Queen

## *Imbolc Celebratory Ritual*

On the Wheel of the Year, the next celebration is Imbolc, which is traditionally celebrated on the first or second of February. This is the day dedicated to Brigid, (Brigid, Brigit, Bride,) the Celtic goddess who in later times became revered as a Christian saint. Originally, her festival on February 1 was known as Imbolc or Oimelc, two names which refer to the lactation of the ewes, the flow of milk that heralds the return of the life-giving forces of spring. Later, the Catholic Church replaced this festival with Candlemas Day on February 2, which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and features candlelight processions. The powerful figure of Brigid the Light-Bringer overlies both pagan and Christian celebrations.

At Imbolc we celebrate the beginning of spring, the first stirrings of shoots in the Earth, and the gradual dawning of the new light. It is a time to clear out old habits and possessions, to discover the child within ourselves, and to make new beginnings as we honor the Goddess.

We will be holding this year's celebration of Imbolc on Saturday evening, January 30 at 7PM. All are welcome.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kate Begg, Leona Dunnett, Mary Kukura-Straw or Dave Schwartz

## *Caring and Concerns*

"I've come to believe that each of us has a personal calling that's as unique as a fingerprint - and that the best way to succeed is to discover what you love and then find a way to offer it to others in the form of service, working hard, and also allowing the energy of the universe to lead you."

--Oprah Winfrey (1954 - ), O Magazine, September 2002

Celebrations of Birthdays Anniversaries:

Julia Begg	Alyssa Ruffing
Matt Mathis & Susan Goodis	Tabitha Riggio
Marylyn Devlin	Gayle Pamerleau
Laurel Noe	

Condolences:

The family of Rosa Gamarra Thomson  
Brien Palmer for his father  
Karen Katilius for her mother

Send healing energy to:

John Shea, who will be having cataract surgery in January

If you need help during difficult times, please speak to any member of our Pastoral Care Team as the need arises. Chris Clifton, Kathy Leon, Judy Graham, Maureen and Jerry Lilly, Susan Goodis and Matt Mathis

Each month, we will post this column for birthdays, anniversaries, honors, illnesses, or memorials.

Please contact Susan Goodis at [Caring@ESUUC.org](mailto:Caring@ESUUC.org) or call 412-609-1232 with events you wish to have included in our newsletter. Thank-you.

## *Sunday Refreshments*

One of the most popular Unitarian traditions is the social hour after each service. At ESUUC, each adult member (or couple) takes a turn bringing refreshments. It works out, on average, to about one turn per person/couple per year. We also have Sharing Sundays, on which anyone who desires can bring in a goody or goodies to share.

To ensure fairness, we assign each adult member/couple a date on which to bring refreshments. These 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 at [brennyren@yahoo.com](mailto:brennyren@yahoo.com) or 724-334-1507. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me. The only thing I WON'T do is let you off the hook – we need your participation to keep this fun tradition alive (and everybody fed)!

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

Jan. 10	Dan & Kate Begg
Jan. 17	Chris Clifton
Jan. 24	Kate Codd-Palmer & Brien Palmer
Jan. 31	Marylyn Devlin

Feb. 7	Michele Devlin
Feb. 14	Leona & Tom Dunnett
Feb. 21	Jennifer Ewart
Feb. 28	Susan Goodis & Matt Mathis

## *Gently Worn Children's Clothing Needed for Africa*

As Dr. Waun prepares for her trip to Uganda this month (January 25-Feb. 11), she would like to take some clothing along for the children there. If you have summer clothes or sandals for elementary aged children that you would like to donate, please leave your items in the back room of the church (where the mail boxes are) in clearly labeled bags by January 17. Boys wear shorts and long pants and T-shirts, girls wear dresses or skirts and tops or T-shirts. Lightweight sweaters, hoodies or jackets are also useful. THANK YOU!!!

## *Team Captain Needed for Relay*

Murrysville community organizers have begun planning sessions for the next Murrysville Relay for Life (May 29-30, 2010). ESUUC's team, UUs for the Cuure, have walked at the last three American Cancer Society events, raising more than \$1,400 for cancer research and patient support in the process. But they won't be going anywhere this year without a team captain. Interested? Please contact last year's captain, Brenda Shiring, for information and a meeting schedule. Help ESUUC make a difference in our community and our world!

## *Free Webinars*

Our congregation is connected to other area UUs through the Ohio Meadville District, which offers a wonderful variety of free classes called "webinars" via your computer, All you need is a computer and a telephone to participate. You don't have to drive anywhere or do anything special to get this quality presentation, prepared by our District Executive Rev. Joan VanBecelaere. The events that show the initials JPD at the end are sponsored by our neighboring district, Joseph Priestly District, but you can participate no matter where you are. We will post all upcoming webinars in our newsletter so you can see what's coming up! Registration details for the ones marked OMD can be found on the OMD website: <http://www.ohiomeadville.org>.

- *Our Whole Lives Elementary: Ask the Trainer* ~ January 9, 2010, 10-11:30 am ~ OMD presentation
- Religious Educator Self Care ~ January 14, 2010, 10 am - noon ~ [JPD presentation](#)
- Religious Educator Self Care ~ January 21, 2010, 7 - 9 pm ~ [JPD presentation](#)
- Assessment, Part 2 Congregations ~ February 4, 2010, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ OMD presentation
- [Advanced Youth Advisor Topics](#) ~ February 17, 2010, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ [JPD presentation](#)
- [Advanced Youth Advisor Topics](#) ~ March 17, 2010, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ [JPD presentation](#)
- *Behavioral Covenants* ~ March 20, 2010, 10 am - noon ~ OMD presentation
- *Multigenerational Congregations* ~ April 4, 2010, 10 am - noon ~ OMD Presentation
- [Advanced Youth Advisor Topics](#) ~ April 21, 2010, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ [JPD presentation](#)
- *Social Media in Congregations* ~ May 8, 2010, 10-11:30 am ~ OMD Presentation
- [Advanced Youth Advisor Topics](#) ~ May 19, 2010, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ [JPD presentation](#)

## *Congregational Committees*

### **Committee – Chair (email)**

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly Building and Facilities – John Graham Caring & Concerns – Susan Goodis Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau Community – Brenda Shiring Social Justice – Marylyn Devlin and Judy Graham Finance – Chris Priano	Green Congregation - Merritt Bailey Membership – Marylyn Devlin Music – Alan Halperin Religious Education – Mary Kukura-Straw Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Brien Palmer Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis
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## *Newsletter Deadlines*

February 2010 newsletter deadline: **January 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Please email your articles to [newsletter@esuuc.org](mailto: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*

### **Wednesday, January 6**

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club meets at Panera Bread, Penn Center

### **Sunday, January 10**

10:30am Sunday Service

### **Sunday, January 17**

10:30am Sunday Service

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

### **Wednesday, January 20**

1:00pm Current Events Group meets at Panera Bread, Penn Center.

### **Sunday, January 24**

10:30am Sunday Service

### **Sunday, January 31**

10:30am Sunday Service

**Wednesday, February 3**

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

**Sunday, February 7**

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

**Sunday, February 14**

10:30am Sunday Service

**Wednesday, February 17**

1:00 p.m. Current Events Group meets at Panera Bread, Penn Center.

**Sunday, February 21**

10:30am Sunday Service

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

**Sunday, February 28**

10:30am Sunday Service