

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: Mary Warwick
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, September 27, 10:30am -- *“Getting into the Write Spirit”*— From the dawn of civilization, people have used stories to make sense of life and the cosmos. Sharon Lippincott, a life writing coach and author of *The Heart and Craft of Lifestory Writing*, will explain how to transform your memories into stories of healing and growth for personal benefit and a legacy of values and insight for future generations.

Sunday, October 4, 10:30am – *“That’s My Story And I’m Stickin’ To It!”* -We tend to think of our lives as a story, with chapters, characters, plotline, etc. How we tell our story shapes our lives. **Dr. Waun** will use wisdom from author/lecturer Byron Katie to bring new insights into how things might be different if we change the way we tell our story

Sunday, October 11, 10:30 am – *“Under the Rainbow”* In honor of National Coming Out Day, resident history buff Brenda Shiring discusses the history of gay rights (and, sadly, the lack of same).

Sunday, October 18, 10:30 am – *“Finding a Seat at the Table: Poverty, Injustice, the Oldest Student in the world, and a Long Walk through the Nigerian Desert.”* Brenna Kupferman, daughter of ESUUC's April Soule, will share some of what she's learned at ActionAid --- a nongovernmental organization working with poor people throughout the world.

Sunday, October 25, 10:30 am – *“Dias de los Muertos”* -- Just in time to set up your own offrenda, Leona Dunnett and Mary Kukura-Straw will discuss the holiday of Dias de los Muertos. Everyone who wishes may decorate a sugar skull to honor a loved one recently deceased

Sunday, November 1, 10:30am- *“Why Do They Hate Us So Much?”*- There are parts of the world where Westerners can’t travel any more. There are whole countries that love our dollars but hate our values and our freedoms, and harbor terrorist cells training to destroy everything we stand for. **Dr. Waun** will address this issue using concepts from *The Looming Tower* by Lawrence Wright.



Pastor's Column: The Other Worlds

by Rev. Renee Waun

I had the fun of taking my grandson Simon to the Pittsburgh Comicon (comics convention) recently. I guess knew that there were people who collected comic books and that there are stores that specialize in vintage and collectible comics, but wow, I never dreamed that a convention of such people could fill a whole convention center for three days! We saw famous cartoonists, costume designers, action figure collectors and stores, poster, T-shirts, dolls, masks, regular people walking around dressed up like cartoon heroes and heroines, it was awesome.

It was just another reminder that there are so many subcultures in our world around us, and that my personal worldview doesn't overlap too much with these "other worlds" unless someone in my family or group of friends makes me aware of them, or unless I stumble into one of the other subcultures by accident.

What a fascinating world we live in! I am interested in knowing more about the "other worlds" represented in our congregation. I know we have some avid Trekkies, some contra dancers and at least one Dragon Boat crewmember. What about you? Do you relate to some interesting group or subculture that the church might be interested in hearing about? Perhaps you would consider making your involvement known, and perhaps doing a program for us some Sunday morning.

We are a diverse and varied lot. Let us appreciate all the wonders of who we are and the numerous worlds that we represent!

Book Club

The evening book club will be reading "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant on Saturday October 17th at Jen Halperin's home. A Middle Eastern potluck dinner will be served.

Creating a Culture of Peace

Nonviolence training for personal and social change

Sponsored by the East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church

Certified Trainers: Wanda Guthrie and Bob Brinker

Friday, October 9, 6-9 pm

Saturday, October 10, 9 am - 4 pm

Sunday, October 11, 1-5 pm

Saturday, October 17, 9 am - 4 pm

What is Creating a Culture of Peace (CCP) Training?

CCP is a nationwide program in active peacemaking. It is about transforming violence at the personal, interpersonal and cultural/systemic levels. It goes beyond personal transformation to group and community transformation and action.

The innovative design of this national training program provides a holistic and practical foundation in spiritually-grounded active nonviolence. Participants come to recognize their own power for making personal and social changes without violence and improve their skills for respective engagement with opponents, instead of confrontation that polarizes and demonizes.

Goals of CCP

- Grounding participants in the philosophy, history, principles, and practice of active, creative nonviolence as a way of life and social change.
- Offering tools and building skills for nonviolent social change.
- Using popular education approach that values individuals' experience and wisdom, as well as the group's collective learning process.
- Employing a variety of media to accommodate a diversity of learning styles.
- Identifying personal and spiritual resources to live nonviolently.
- Building trust and a sense of community to support a commitment to action.
- Beginning plans and projects for personal and social nonviolent action.
- Replacing fear and hopelessness with a sense of empowerment and readiness to take action.

Training Modules

Using a popular education approach CCP will:

Explore the nature of violence and its misuses – This module will help to increase awareness of the depth and breadth of violence in our culture; analyze types, motives, causes, effects of violence; identify responses to violence.

Increase awareness of nonviolence and how active nonviolence can be used- participants will define and describe active nonviolence; share stories and experiences; and explore ways active nonviolence can be used in our lives.

Understand social change movements as engines for change – identify and increase awareness of social change movements, analyze successful nonviolent social change movements, and to apply our learning to movements of today and tomorrow.

Consider the values of community – participants will consider the stages of creating a community, consider the value of community, understand decision making process in community and the values of community in preparing for action.

Identify steps and tools for planning nonviolent actions - Group will design creative action plans with goals, objectives and timeline. They will look at ways to address injustice and violence and consider possible allies, opponents and resources.

The full CCP training is 20 hours and we ask that people attend the full training. The 20 hours allow time for reflection, including the sequenced modules, building community, and planning projects. This training is open to everyone.

Cost per person for the training is: \$100. A deposit of \$50 is required with the full amount due at the door. Partial scholarships are available. Fee should be sent to:
 Scilla Wahrhaftig- AFSC 7514 Kensington Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

For more information please call Bob Brinker at 724.837.5410 x 704 or Wanda Guthrie 412.596.0066

Coordination by ESUUC Social Justice Committee, co-chaired by Marilyn Devlin, 412-372-6113, and Judy Graham, 724-433-1887.

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. And please don't think you have to provide a lunch – a snack is really all we're asking. 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 or 724-334-1507. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me.

Refreshments Roster

If the week you're assigned doesn't work for your schedule, please switch with someone else for that month. If you need help finding someone to cover, let me know.

Oct. 4	Chris Priano
Oct. 11	George Ratliff
Oct. 18	Tabitha Riggio
Oct. 25	Nancy Ritsko

Nov. 1	Kathy & Lew Ruffing
Nov. 8	David Schwartz
Nov. 15	April Soule
Nov. 22	Stone Soup Sunday
Nov. 29	Sharing Sunday

Global Connections: Good News and Bad News in Uganda

Let's do the bad news first. On Thursday, Sept. 10 tribal riots broke in Kampala and spread into the area where the school is located. During the next two days, dozens of people were killed and many injured, including two of our students. One had a gunshot wound and one had other injuries—both boys requiring hospitalization. The Headmaster David was with the students at the time, and he got arrested for unknown reasons. This all had to do with a tribal king wanting to make a visit to a nearby village and the controversy this created. (See the Sept. 13 BBC report at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8252043.stm>)

The Director of the school, Mr. Hanan Bulime had to take measures to keep the school safe, including the hiring of an armed guard for several days until things began to settle down. The students were released from the hospital, the day students at the school were able to return home in the evening, and the teachers were then able to travel safely back and forth. We also hired an attorney to help David sort out why he was arrested.

We are feeling very fortunate that the school children and staff have so many American friends to be there for them in their time of trouble. Rev. Waun and the ARSF Board continue to monitor the situation and we will help wherever necessary.

Now the good news. We have just received a major contribution toward the classroom construction project. A woman from New York (who found us on the internet) is going to finance the replacement of the classroom building in honor of her 40th birthday. This fabulous gift means that we can now enlarge the project to include a multi-purpose building that will connect the girl's dormitory with the classroom building, thereby completing an "L" shape facility, which was our original dream. All the Buy-a-Brick money that is coming in from individuals and groups toward the construction project will go toward the completion of the expanded plan.

Needless to say, we are thrilled! If you would like to make a contribution toward this exciting project, you may do so by issuing a check to ESUUC, with the memo ARSF (African Rural Schools Foundation). Thank you!

Blessing of the Animals

There will be a Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at Journeys of Life in Shadyside, 810 Bellefonte Street. Our own Reverend Renee Waun will be one of the ministers participating between 2:30 PM and 4:00 PM. Bring your well-behaved pets to receive a blessing. There is no charge for the event but a donation for the Animal Rescue League is appreciated. ARL needs dog or puppy food, cat or kitten food, blankets or towels, and check or cash donations. The event also includes a CD signing of *Heal Your Heart: Coping with the Loss of a Pet*, produced by Karen Litzinger with music by Faith Stenning who are both members of First Church Unitarian Church. Karen led an animal blessing for ESUUC in the 1990's, and now professionally assists grieving pet owners, www.HealFromPetLoss.com.

OMD Programming

Learn About Becoming A Multicultural Congregation. Don't miss this great workshop on October 10, 2009 at the First Unitarian Church of Toledo! The Rev. Hope Johnson will help participants learn how to create a welcoming, multicultural UU community and what resources are available from the UUA to help you and your congregation. Rev. Johnson is minister of the UU Congregation of Central Nassau, NY. The congregation is the 2007 recipient of the UAs Eugene Pickett Award for Growth. Hope is the chair of the Committee on Ministry and Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression and Multicultural Committee of the UU Minister's Association. For details and registration visit:
www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/multiculturalworld.html

Interested in Learning About Growth?

The workshop "Choosing Wisely: A Biomimetic Approach to Nurturing Growth in Congregation" a four part webinar series still has a few seats open. This free web-based training series is designed for lay leaders within Unitarian Universalist congregations. Biomimetics refers to the process of taking ideas from nature and applying them to other fields such as organizational structures and leadership processes. This seminar series will use the model of plants to highlight the critical components of leadership in sustaining significant and lasting growth in congregations. The series meets on Wednesday evenings in October. Groups can log in together and share the experience. For details, visit: www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/growthweb.html

Documentary Screening

Race discrimination infects America's capital punishment system. According to a landmark study regarding race and the death penalty, a black defendant who kills a white victim is up to 30 times more likely to be sentenced to death than a white defendant who kills a black victim. RACE TO EXECUTION, a film by Rachel Lyon, traces the fates of two death row inmates, Robert Tarver in Russell County, Alabama and Madison Hobley in Chicago, Illinois.

Their compelling personal stories are enlarged and enriched by attorneys who fought for these men's lives, and by prosecutors, criminal justice scholars and experts in the fields of law and the media. The varied voices heard in RACE TO EXECUTION contribute to a thoughtful examination of the factors that influence who lives and who dies at the hands of the state.

RACE TO EXECUTION will be screened on October 18th at noon at the Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church, 416 West North Ave, Pittsburgh's North Side - admission is Free

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly	Membership – Marylyn Devlin
Building and Facilities – John Graham	Music – Alan Halperin
Caring & Concerns – Susan Goodis	Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau	Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnet
Community – Brenda Shiring	Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary
Social Justice – Marylyn Devlin and Judy Graham	Kukura-Straw
Finance – Chris Priano	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis
Landscaping – open	

Newsletter Deadlines

November 2009 newsletter deadline: Sunday, October 18, 2009. 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

Sunday, September 27
10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, September 28
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Sunday, October 4
9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service
10:30am Sunday Service
12:00pm Program Committee

Monday, October 5
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, October 7
1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, October 11
10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, October 12
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, October 14
7:30pm Board Meeting

Sunday, October 18
10:30am Sunday Service
11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Monday, October 19

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, October 21

1:00pm Current Events Group

Sunday, October 25

10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, October 26

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Sunday, November 1

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Monday, November 2

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, November 4

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, November 8

10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, November 9

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, November 11

7:30pm Board Meeting