

The Open Door Newsletter April 2010

Time and Location of Services: Fellowship Services are at 10am on the Second Floor commons of the Ponzio Student Center on the Northland College Campus.

Fellowship Service - April 4th Speaker: David Saetre ***"Themes from the Easter story"***

David's talk will explore themes from the Easter story. What does this ancient story of suffering, death, and resurrection have to tell us today about the transitory nature of life. Come to an Easter Sunday Service, Unitarian style, as we explore the implications of these narratives for our own life journeys. Angie Kroenke will provide a special musical touch for this special service.

David W. Saetre is the Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religion at Northland College.

"The prevailing wisdom of the day is that religion and spirituality are a way to feel good, but the search for religion is the search for truth"

"I began my work in ministry and religious education in a world that could no longer believe in anything. I find myself working now in a world that will believe in anything." DS

Fellowship Service- April 25th Speaker: Sara Thomsen ***"A Song is Somewhere to Begin"***

Sara Thomsen is a singer-songwriter, song-leader, and recording artist based in the Twin Ports of Duluth, MN-Superior, WI. A weaver of song and community singing, Sara also performs with the vocal trio Three Altos and is the founder and artistic director of the non-audition community choir, The Echoes of Peace.

Sara will be talk-singing on the power of song to deepen awareness, evoke wonder, plant courage, heal hearts and transform minds. She will share how her own sense of spirituality and community activism has been shaped by song and singers and why, in the face of all our human struggles, she sings. It is somewhere to begin. More about Sara at: www.sarathomsen.com.

Note: Our **annual potluck** and **Annual Meeting** are scheduled after the fellowship service. Please bring a dish to pass.

New Members 2009-2010

submitted by Karen Crowell

Our March 14th service recognized people in our congregation who have become members. Karen Crowell introduced the ceremony by talking about her faith traditions and about what being a UU means to her. Please welcome these new members!

George Einar Bussey
Ed Calhan
Linda Borglum Calhan

Tom Draughon
Chris Gonderzik
Mary Gonderzik

Chequamegon UU Fellowship Cookbook

submitted by Patty Dufek

Patty Porter Dufek is planning to compile a UU cook book. Please email Patty with your recipes or bring them in hard-copy form to a fellowship service. Interesting cookbooks have stories surrounding the recipes. So, if you have a story to go along with the recipe and feel like sharing it, please include that too. ***Please share your recipes whether or not they are surrounded by a plot.***

The book may be something we share between ourselves or it may be used as a fundraiser. Recipe submissions can be brought to fellowship or email to PattyDufek at: pport57@charter.net.

Fellowship service April 25th:

Annual Meeting

submitted by Beth Reed

The Annual Meeting for our fellowship will happen after the service on **April 25th**. We will enjoy the potluck potpourri (see description below) and then reconvene to get reports on fellowship activities for the year and to give suggestions for the next year of the fellowship. We will also accept nominations and vote on new board members as well as a change to the bylaws regarding membership. **All are welcome and members are needed for a quorum to vote!** *Your input is appreciated.*

Bring a dish to pass

submitted by Patty Dufek

It is time to line the tables end-to-end and make use of Patty Porter Dufek's enormous table cloth collection. Dust off your favorite recipes and let's have an eclectic shared-dish feast. From Pad Thai to chocolate brownies, the range of selection is not to be missed.

The annual meeting (see description above) that follows Patty Dufek likens to "a family discussion around the dinner table." Questions or queries please contact Patty Porter Dufek: pport57@charter.net or 682-9015

Fellowship service May 9th:

All Music Service – May 9th

submitted by Joni Chapman

The CUUF music committee is already scheduling the talent for the annual **All Music Service**. If you have musical skills or would like to do a reading of poetry or prose, please contact Joni Chapman or Megan Perrine. Dust off that guitar. Start practicing those arpeggios. You still have plenty of time to brush up on that favorite piece you have worked on over the years.

Joni Chapman, jonibchapman@yahoo.com 715-685-0076
Megan Perrine, perrine@cheqnet.net 715-278-3386

Meet our Prairie Star District Liaison – May 9th

submitted by Ruth Oppedahl

Ruthie Rosauer is our connection to the Prairie Star District, our regional resource base for training, curriculum and support from the Unitarian Universalist Association. Ruthie will be at our **All Music Service on May 9th** to learn more about our fellowship and look for ways to support us. In addition, Ruthie is a talented musician and will lead a singing meditation. Ruthie has offered to visit with those of us who would like to explore some of our current issues after the service. Committee chairs and other interested members are invited to stay late and engage in dialog about where we are headed and how PSD can help.

Prairie Star District is one of nineteen districts of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It serves almost 70 congregations in the Upper Midwest. Three full-time staff people and three part-time program and support staff members work with many volunteers to assist congregations. To learn more about PSD, see our Web site: www.psdoua.org.

Child Dedication Service – May 23rd

submitted by Irene Blakely

A Unitarian Universalist Child Dedication ceremony welcomes a child into the fellowship. It is an opportunity for the fellowship to recognize each child and to offer support to the child as s/he grows.

The ceremony is brief, but meaningful. It takes place May 23rd during the flower service. Children (infant to twelve years) who participate, come forward with parent(s) or guardians during this part of the service. There are no special requirements of the children or their parents.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Irene Blakely at blakely@centurytel.net or 373-2907

Youth News:

COMING OF AGE KIDS VOLUNTEER FOR BIRKIE *submitted by Krisin Quinlan*

Our Fellowship was well represented at this year's Birkebeiner ski race February 27th and the Jr. Birkie on February 26th. Besides having a number of skiers from within our Fellowship, the Coming of Age religious education class volunteered to help at the starting line. Our teens raised the gates to send skiers on their way! It was an enjoyable morning for all, and our group earned \$250 for their efforts, which will be used to help pay for any expenses associated with our Coming of Age program.

Thanks to Ruth Oppedahl for making arrangements, and to all the kids who got up extra early on a Saturday morning to help others!

Lacrosse Y-Con

The UU Fellowship of La Crosse is hosting a Youth Conference this April. If you have questions please email or phone: dre@uulacrosse.org or at (608) 519-1045.

Have You Considered Making a Planned Gift to CUUF? *Submitted by Ruth Oppedahl* *"Life is a gift, and if we agree to accept it, we must contribute in return. When we fail to contribute, we fail to adequately answer why we are here. I believe we are here to do good." -- Albert Einstein*

There are a variety of ways to make planned gifts or bequeaths to the Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Please consider designating a specific sum or percentage of your estate or life insurance policy to CUUF. Or, perhaps you are able to offer a planned gift while you are living. Contributions may be set aside for specific purposes, with recognition or anonymously. Please discuss any ideas you may have with a board member.

Planned Giving is good stewardship. For more information contact Ruth Oppedahl at 715-373-0973.

Caring Corner

Our thoughts are with David Saetre and Janet Bewley regarding the passing of David's mother, Margaret Saetre. Their address is 810 Chapple Ave, Ashland, WI 54806, if you would like to send a card.

Thoughts and prayers of healing go out to Carole and Bruce Kjellander as Bruce battles cancer. If you can help the Kjellanders in any way such as driving Bruce to radiation treatments in Duluth, respite care with the family, or meals please contact Jacki at the email or phone number below. Cards are welcome and can be sent to: Bruce Kjellander 214 E. 12th Ave., Ashland, WI 54806.

Speedy recovery and healing wishes to Patty Dufek after her hand surgery.

If you know of any upcoming graduates (high school or college) who are members or friends of CUUF please let one of the caring committee members know so we can recognize them.

Ashland resident, Donna Kurensky, is seeking a ride to Duluth/Superior once a week so she can visit her son. Her son is a patient of Vent Care Residence in Duluth due to Lou Gehrig's disease. Donna can take public transportation from Superior or any point in Duluth to get to the facility located near Miller Hill Mall. She can spend the whole day there and can help with gas costs. Vickie at MMC at 685-5391.

If you know of someone who is ill, needs help, or has a great joy to celebrate, we offer support to members and friends of our fellowship: Jacki Rae-Ledin 373-0347 (antiquegardeninn@hotmail.com), Jan Perkins 373-5585 (perkworks@yahoo.com), Patty Dufek 682-9015 (pport57@charter.net)

After Service Snack Host/Hostess Schedule: (Please note if you are on the list!)

Our snack list is listed below. If you cannot bring snacks for that particular Sunday, please feel free to contact Karla Hasart at 682-4012 or kkhasart@yahoo.com or Patty Porter Dufek at 682-9015 or pport57@charter.net.

April 4th: Jan Perkins, Mark Perrine & Megine Perrine

April 25th: Patty Porter, Henry and Kristen Quinlan

May 9th: Beth Reed & Doug Liphart, Mary Rehwald, Anni Schneider

May 23rd: Jacki Rae-Ledin and Terry Ledin, Jeff Silbert, Stefania Strazalkowska

June is the picnic pot luck – stay tuned. Thank you again!

Annual Garage Sale – May 15th

The great UU GARAGE SALE is scheduled for May 15th. Volunteers and sale items are needed. Please put the date on your calendar and start organizing your goodies. Contact: Birgit Wolff, 765-4888, birgithwolff@yahoo.com.

Unitarian Universalist Association Events:

submitted by Beth Reed

This year, the UUA General Assembly will be in Minneapolis, MN! It takes place from June 23-27th. There are opportunities for worship, keynote speakers, and learning about how to conduct congregational business. You can join with Unitarian Universalists from all over the U.S.! We would love to send members of our congregation to this gathering. **There is money from the fellowship to help support your trip and it is not required to attend all 5 days.** Consider going to the General Assembly this summer!

The Mid West Leadership School happens every July on the campus of Beloit College in southern Wisconsin. It is a great opportunity to develop your own “credo” by examining and deepening your spiritual beliefs while learning about worship planning and congregation stewardship. **July 19th - 25th.**

Prairie Star District 2010 Annual Conference

Roots and Wings: Weaving Multigenerational Dreams! **April 23-25, 2010**, Davenport, Iowa

Speakers include Dr. Mark A. Hicks from Meadville-Lombard Theological School, PSD religious educators, and other experts. John McCutcheon, a nationally known singer and dulcimer player, will give a concert for all ages on Saturday night and will also lead a workshop for all ages.

For a full conference schedule of events: www.psdoua.org/AnnualConference2010. phone: 612-870-4823
Scholarships may still be available: www.psdoua.org/AnnualConference2010/scholarships.

Spring into Faith In Action

Faith In Action-Ashland County is taking requests from senior citizens for volunteer assistance with spring yard work and chores. To qualify for Faith In Action a person needs to be 60 years of age or older, residing in Ashland County and still living independently in their home or apartment. Volunteers can assist with a wide variety of services, both inside and out. Faith In Action will need lots of new volunteers willing to mow, help with yard work, or do basic household cleaning this spring and summer. Call the Ashland County Aging Unit for more information on becoming a volunteer or requesting volunteer assistance. (682-4414 ext 3 or fiavolunteer@ashlandaging.org)

Faith In Action Benefit Concert

Spring is a good time to get out and enjoy great music for a wonderful cause. Faith In Action-Ashland County will be having a Benefit Concert at the Great Lakes Visitors Center on Sunday, **April 18th** from 1:00 -4:00 p.m. The concert will feature Richie Yurkovich and Polkarioty and their exciting blend of polka, waltz, country, and cajun. Local talent, Ben Masterson and Kaia DuShane will play some old time string band music. \$7 suggested donation at the door. Food will be sold starting at 1:00, music starts at 1:30. For more information call 682-4414 x 3 or email: fiavolunteer@ashlandaging.org.

UU websites:

National organization – UUA: UUA.org

Regional organization: Prairie Star District: www.psdoua.org

Prairie Star District newsletter: www.psdoua.org/newsletter

Letters to the Fellowship:

A THANK YOU

submitted by Karen and Mike Crowell

We want to thank the fellowship for all the help and comfort these last couple months, after my mother died and after Mike's hip replacement surgery. Thank you for the beautiful cards, for attending Mom's memorial reception at Northern Lights, for the memorial gifts to the Elsie Ruedi music fund at Northern Lights, for the food when we had no energy to make our own, phone calls, emails, and for being available whenever we needed a helping hand. Your attentions speeded our healing. Thank you. *Karen and Mike*

Thanks and Goodbye

submitted by Jennifer Courtwright

I wanted to thank you for welcoming me into your fellowship at Sunday services. I started attending your fellowship my sophomore year at Northland and have been attending services ever since. Every time I go I feel renewed, and it means a lot to me to be apart of this group that shares so many of my beliefs and values. I was raised in the Christian faith but have always been open to hearing about other's traditions. I love how the UU faith draws on wisdom from all religious traditions, and I especially appreciate the respect that the UU faith has for nature. My spiritual connection to nature has always been at the core of my faith, but previously I have not been able to find many people who understand this connection. The first UU service that I attended was the water service that was held outside by the fire ring. I was very moved by how beautiful the service was and how many people shared my love and spiritual connection to water and nature. This fellowship has such an amazing sense of community, and I am sad to leave it. I am a senior this year at Northland and am graduating in May. I will be leaving the Northwoods to attend graduate school for a Masters of Biology at James Madison University in Virginia. In Virginia, I hope to find a UU fellowship that I can become apart of, but I will dearly miss this fellowship and the Northwoods. Thank you so much for making me feel at home and introducing me to this amazing faith. *Jennifer*

Reflections after visiting the Illinois Holocaust Museum *submitted by AJ Galazen*

I was in Chicago over Thanksgiving to visit the big, new, multimillion dollar Modern Wing at the Art Institute. Sure enough, it is big and flashy and full of masterpieces. Hordes of people were crowding the galleries to see the Picassos and the Mondrians.

But the Modern Wing was upstaged in my mind by something very different - something that surprised and humbled me. The new Illinois Holocaust Museum opened only a few months ago, to much less fanfare, but I believe it holds even greater promise.

There were no crowds, yet. Only the hushed tones of individual witnesses.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum is a world-class masterpiece. It carefully balances the gritty and brutal realism of history (symbolized by bare concrete blocks) with the sober and studied lines of compassion (depicted by smooth glass and curves). The centerpiece of the collection is a German railway car, used to bring thousands of people to the death camps. As I entered the darkness of the boxcar, in the middle of the exhibit, I heard the echoes of misery screaming from every rotting board. Directly below the car is a metaphoric river of blood. Directly above this place of extermination is a cylinder of polished wood, written with the names of the not-to-be-forgotten, rising to a portal of light that illuminates each human sacrifice.

These are stories that must be remembered.

Each one of us is standing in a place where we can make a difference, solely by our presence.

We are witnesses both of the past and the future. Of healing hands and senseless destruction. *AJ*

Hats On!

submitted by Cyndy Guy

I would love to see someone, besides myself, wear an Easter hat this year! (This is not case sensitive..female or male.) Thanks!

Chequamegon Bay Chowder for the Soul~stories needed

submitted by Ros Nelson

I am looking for one short, love story from you. I am assembling a book of stories entitled Love Stories of the Bay. Each 2-page spread of the book will feature a color photo and a story. I have met my first stage goal of 30 stories and will be adding more in the next few weeks.

I am not necessarily looking for tales of boy-girl-hearts-flowers UNLESS this is the one you really want to tell. These love stories can be about your dog, friendships, kids, a place, a moment in time, loss, pride, a memory, a parent, or the moment you fell in love with Lake Superior. I have stories of mothers, a great blue heron, a marriage proposal in a garden, best friends, favorite dog... and so on. I am looking for stories about something that has touched your heart.

I get new stories every week. Many emails start with the words, "I can't write, but..." and then I read a story that blows me away. Sincerity wins the day! If you can tell it to a friend, you can write it down!

Stories can be a few sentences, or up to approx. 800 words. If any edit is necessary, it will be submitted to you for approval. The finished product will be sold at blurb.com. In the (unlikely) event that a profit is made, it will be donated to the Bayfield Regional Conservancy. There is no money to pay writers; this will be for love and about love. Your story will not be reproduced except as it may be quoted to promote the book. Your rights to your story remain 100%, completely yours.

Please send your stories to: ros@winternet.com. The easiest way for me to get them is as the text of an email message. Include your contact information so that we can talk about a photo to match.

People are asking about the **deadline**. My goal is to have the book assembled by the end of April so I would like to have them all by **April 20th**. Please share this with friends.

Ros Nelson 715-373-5088 <http://www.glacialdrift.com>, 76325 Church Corner Road, Washburn, WI 54891

UU Calendar of upcoming events:

April 4th	Fellowship service – Themes from the Easter story - David Saetre
April 18th	Faith In Action Benefit Concert – 1-4pm – Great Lakes Visitor's Center
April 20 th	Stories for Ros Nelson's book are due
April 23-25 th	Prairie Star District Annual Conference Davenport, IA
April 25th	Fellowship service - A Song is Somewhere to Begin - Sara Thomsen – Singer/Songwriter The Annual Meeting and potluck lunch follow the service. Please bring a dish to pass and plan to stay for the meeting.
May 9th	Fellowship service – All-Music Service – meet PSD liaison Ruth Rosauer
May 15 th	Annual Garage Sale – Volunteers and Resale items needed – Birgit Wolff, 765-4888
May 23rd	Fellowship service – Flower Ceremony and Child Dedication
June	Picnic – to be announced
June 23-27 th	UA General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN. CUUF will subsidize.
July 19 th -25 th	Mid West Leadership School, Beloit, WI
	Note: Fellowship service dates are in bold.

MISSION STATEMENT - This fellowship exists to serve the human needs of its members and friends, to stimulate individual development of a positive and ethical philosophy of life, and to provide a common shelter for everyone's personal growth. -- Founded, February 22, 1998

Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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