



The Open Door Newsletter

April 2012

Time and Location of Services: Fellowship Services are at 10am on the Northland College Campus. Both services this month are on the 2nd floor commons of the Ponzio Center.

Fellowship Service – April 8th – 10 am

Speaker: David Saetre “The Meaning of Salvation”

Easter Sunday Service, speaker David Saetre, Northland College Chaplain and Humanities professor. David will offer an inter-faith exploration on themes of new life and renewal. This will also be the last in his year-long series on “reconstructing theology”: essential themes from the Judeo-Christian traditions. In David’s own words, the series has been a theology for skeptics, exploring some of the difficult ideas from the Western religious traditions.

The Easter service will focus on the idea of *salvation*. Noting that *salvation* derives from the Latin root, *salus*, meaning to be safe and sound, this meditation will explore what that might mean not only in the context of Easter, but in the everyday world of our lives. The world often seems unyielding and dangerous. Here, one finds a word of hope and encouragement. Finally, we look to the Universalist side of the UU heritage, which defined salvation in terms of a final acceptance and healing for all humankind.

David W. Saetre

College Chaplain and Assistant Professor of Religion, Northland College

“The opposite of faith is certainty, not doubt.” David

Please stay after the service for a tour of the proposed worship space.

Fellowship Service – April 22nd – 10 am

Speaker: Jan Lee “The Power of the Live Arts & The Willing Suspension of Disbelief”

Believing, as I do, in the power of the live arts (theater, music, dance, and spoken word) to literally heal and change our society, I’ve made it my life’s work to encourage people of all ages to explore the transformative power of “the willing suspension of disbelief.” This is a theater term that I think can be applied to create concrete change starting with our individual lives and further expanding to our communities, and eventually change our world.

After working as a professional director, actor, singer, playwright, and designer in the Twin Cities and around the US since the early 80’s, I bought a house and moved to Washburn in 2000. Before even moving in, I got an idea: What if I applied the theatrical mantra of “suspension of disbelief,” which is normally only used to describe the relationship between actor and audience, to life at large? This question spawned, among other things, what was to become my tenure as STAGENORTH’s co-founder, artistic director and chief-cook-and-bottle-washer. My hope being to create the first-ever, self-sustaining (read: non-grant reliant), for-profit model for an arts venue and community center in the nation.

After seven years of operating out of the Old Swedish Lutheran church in Washburn, I drew up the designs for the current STAGENORTH building. After years of hard work and with the help of many individuals in this community, we created “common community” through hundreds of live arts events and producing many fundraising events to help those in need. I retired from STAGENORTH and sold my ownership shares in 2009 and in doing so, handed this particular dream over to future generations who also believe in the power of suspending disbelief and acting on it.

Continuing to explore the potentials of applying the “suspension of disbelief” in a variety of ways in my daily life, as well as in my work as a freelance singer and as an actor in the Twin Cities and locally at the Big Top Chautauqua has given me a wonderful lease on life and belief in the importance in sharing those experiences as tools to instigate and inspire social change. I will be exploring these ideas and more in my talk with the fellowship.

Jan Lee □ *Tall Timbers Cabin Resort, Manager* □

Please stay after the service for a brief annual meeting followed by a shared dish lunch.



Becoming new members in the ceremony on March 4th: (From left) Kristi Kiel with her daughters Rowen O’Laughlin and Neve O’Laughlin, Susan Leigh, Janet Bewley; and Keith and Suzanne VanGilder, with Zoe and Harrison. Welcome!

New Worship Space Proposed:

Submitted by David Saetre

The Fellowship Worship Committee has renewed discussions about the possibility of moving our worship services to the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute Sentry Room on the Northland College campus (the large gathering space in the SOEI). The college would welcome this move, and that prospect presents significant benefits for worship, but with important questions for our religious education program.

- ❖ *We will discuss this proposal at the annual meeting on **April 22**.*
- ❖ **Tour:** In order to facilitate that discussion, David will be available following the Easter Sunday service, **April 8, from 11:30 until Noon** to tour the worship and possible education facilities. The tours will be available for any members interested in this proposal, and **we especially encourage instructors and parents of children in the RE program to take advantage of the tour**. We want our Sunday gatherings to support our fellowship, to provide a quality experience for our children, and to provide the best ambiance for worship. And, we want our decision to include all voices, and to be a “win-win” decision.

Annual Potluck Lunch and Annual Meeting April 22nd

Submitted by Diana Granger, Patty Dufek and Marilyn Einspanier

After the April 22nd Fellowship Service, the Annual Board Meeting will be held. It is a fairly short and efficiently run meeting at which the committee leaders give a summary of the year. It is a very good snapshot of the mechanics of this lay-led fellowship. Attending is a way of showing appreciation and respect for the many volunteer hours this core group of individuals devote to the fellowship.

And...you get to have lunch! That is the good news...the flipside (but still good news) is that you are asked to make one of your favorite recipes to share. The name “potluck” really doesn’t do justice to the many creative and nutritious dishes that are brought to share. It is a scaled down version of the December Holiday meal. Last year we ate after the meeting – committee reports were given with some deference to time as the aromas and distance from noon worked their charm.

Planning Meeting, May 5th

Submitted by Diana Granger

The board would like to invite the fellowship to our May 5th **planning meeting**. Join us for food at noon. There is a Mexican theme since it's Cinco de Mayo. (Food contributions appreciated.) A facilitator will lead us in getting started with long-range planning. Jan is looking for a place to hold the workshop. Please plan to attend and bring or invite others from the fellowship. Attending is especially important if you have ideas which you would like to see implemented during the year. A more complete description will be emailed as well as included in the May Newsletter.

All Music Service, May 6th

The annual UU All Music Service will be held on May 6th in the **Alvord Theater**. We are an eclectic group in our spiritual tastes and no less so in the musical realm. This service should have something for everyone, as we will draw from our rich fellowship a wide variety of musical genres and readings.

If you would like to perform please contact Joni Chapman, Music Director, (715) 685-0076, jonibchapman@yahoo.com or Megan Perrine at 715-682-4414 x 3, fiavolunteer@ashlandaging.org.

Child Dedication Ceremony, May 20th

Submitted by Irene Blakely

The annual child dedication ceremony will be part of the Flower Service on May 20th.

A U U 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. Children from infants to twelve-year-olds are eligible to participate. A child comes forward with parents, guardians, and/or other family members during this part of the service in order to be acknowledged. There are no other requirements of them or family members.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Irene Blakely, at adahsdottir@gmail.com or 715.373.2907.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE GREAT UU GARAGE (and bake???) SALE

May 19, 2012, 8am-1pm in June Bavlnka's garage. Please let me know if you can help even for an hour or two. We need help to set up Fri., and Sat. to sell, and after 1 pm to clean up and dispose of left over items (should there be any). Let me know if you are interested in contributing to the bake sale.

Birgit birgithwolff@yahoo.com

Send In The Songs

CUUF is all about diversity, including in music. The CUUF Music Committee would like to gather songs for an eclectic supplement to the hymnal. The hymnal is a great resource for congregational singing, but often the songs in the service are from other sources. If you have a favorite folk, gospel, rock, round, standard, or whatever genre song with UU-friendly threads running through it, send it along. The songs will be gathered, copied and filed for easy access when song selections are made. Don't be shy. Shout out your favorites to: jonibchapman@yahoo.com

Annual CUUF Picnic

I am already in the planning stage for our CUUF picnic – the date is tentatively set for June 10th. This year my focus is going to be MUSIC-SWEET-MUSIC ! When I was a child, at family gatherings there was always an accordion, a guitar, and other instruments (including a washtub drum) playing, with singing and dancing as well. We were poor but VERY HAPPY. Later, when my children were small, our circle of friends would gather for fellowship in the woods in Ogema, Wisconsin – again, out came the fiddles, guitars and harmonicas.

Our CUU Fellowship has become my circle of friends and family. It's only fitting that music will follow. This is a heartfelt invitation to all those among us who play musical instruments to please bring your instrument of choice to our annual picnic. Please share the gift of your tunes. Those of you who

know me well know that I am always open to suggestions – give me a call to share your idea.
Patty Dufek - CUUF Hospitality
pport57@charter.net, 715-682-9015 / 715-292-1676

Caring Corner

If you know of people in need of our thoughts and prayers or people who have specific needs please contact Jacki Rae-Ledin at 373-0347 or antiquegardeninn@hotmail.com. If you are interested in serving on the caring committee, please contact Jacki.



Women's CUUF Monthly Lunch at Coco's

The third Wednesday of each month UU women are meeting for lunch at Coco's in Washburn. This month we will meet on **April 18th at noon**. Feel free to call Jan if you have questions, (715) 373-1141. (Thanks Jan!)

CUUF Website & Facebook page: Check them out....

The CUUF website is in the process of being updated – it will soon be unveiled. It will reside at the same location, URL <http://www.chequamegonuuf.org/>, but will have a new look. We are now a presence on Facebook... <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chequamegon-Unitarian-Universalist-Fellowship/185720978179>. Since it is a fan page, you will have to “like” it to follow it.

We still have Podcasts...Thanks Travis!

Directly through itunes: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/chequamegon-unitarian-universalist/id392546299>

Or, through our website: <https://sites.google.com/a/chequamegonuuf.org/frontpage/home/service-podcasts>

After Service Snack Host/Hostess Schedule:

- April 8th** Granger; Quinlan; Bergeruhd-Quamme; D/A Christensen
- April 22nd** **If you plan to attend the Annual Meeting please bring a dish to pass.**
- May 6th** Gonderzik, Wolfe, Lewis, R & D Aaron
- May 20th** Wichita, Haugo, Oppedahl, Burchill
- June 10th** CUUF Picnic @ Prentice Park – POTLUCK; FRIENDS & FAMILY

Patty's note regarding the Annual Meeting on April 22nd: Please bring your specialties and enjoy fellowship and food with friends and family. Thanks everyone-this is always a day of sharing good things . Any questions or concerns please call or e-mail. Patty Dufek,
CUUF Hospitality 715-682-9015, 715-292-1676, pport57@charter.net

Have You Considered Making a Planned Gift to CUUF?

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.

Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later. Og Mandino

Planned Giving is good stewardship. For more information contact Ruth Oppedahl at 715-292-3872.

In Our Community:

First Friday Dance

The first Friday dance is the first Friday of the month at the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute on the Northland College campus. Kids dances start at 7 and adult dancing is at 8. All dances are taught and no experience is necessary. The dances include circle mixers, square dances, contra dances and some waltzes. Live music is by the Omega Threes (Tom Draughon, Lisa McGinley, and Bentley Brehm) with Donn Christensen calling. This is a free event sponsored by the Northland College Student Association. Contact Donn Christensen with questions: donannc@hotmail.com.

Spring for Pizza for Faith In Action

Submitted by Megan Perrine

Faith In Action-Ashland County is having a Pizza fundraiser at the Alley Restaurant on Monday, April 16th from 4:00-9:00. An all-you-can-eat buffet with pizza, hot pasta, chicken wings, and Caesar salad will be served for \$10. There will be great gift baskets that will be raffled off as well. Take a night off from cooking to support Faith In Action. For more information call [715-682-4414](tel:715-682-4414) x 3.

Faith In Action Spring Clean Campaign

Submitted by Megan Perrine

Faith In Action-Ashland County is taking requests for help with yard raking or various spring chores. Volunteers can help with shopping, light housekeeping, mowing, minor fix-it jobs, lamp/fan repair, transportation and respite. Seniors can request a friendly visit, or a visit from a Pets 'N Pals therapy dog, or to have an Arts/Sports Buddy to get out to area events. New volunteers for spring and summer will be needed. For more information you can call the Faith In Action office at [715-682-4414](tel:715-682-4414) x 3.

PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) – Washburn Chapter If anyone has any questions, please contact Mary Wichita (mary.wichita@yahoo.com; 715-765-4132). Meetings are on the fourth Tues of the month on the 3rd floor - Washburn Cultural Center.

UU Prairie Star District and UUA National:

PSD Announcements are listed. For more detailed information, visit the PSD website: www.psdoua.org.

Note: Those who receive this newsletter via email have access to the embedded links – click the red items.

- Register for **Annual Conference 2012 Explore War and Peace, April 13-15**, Bloomington, Minnesota
- There are many workshops offered during the conference. One of special interest is *Imagining a Peace Dividend: The Economics of Peace and War* with Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer. For more information: <http://www.psdoua.org/annualconference2012/SocialJustice>
- Registration is open for a series of **online workshops** for **small congregations** on Saturday mornings in March, April, and May.
- Save the date for **MidWest Leadership School (MWLS)**, a week-long intense program that includes leadership, group and system dynamics, UU history and theology, and elements of worship. It will take place **July 15-21, 2012** in Beloit, Wisconsin. *There is also a Youth Leadership School for ages 14-18 at the same time and place.*
- Registration is open for **Committee on Ministry Online Workshop** which will be March 15, 2012.
- Registration is open for **Worship for All Ages Renaissance Module** taking place May 10-12, 2012 in Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- See the **Positions Open** page for notices from several congregations.
- Registration is open for a **series of webinars** for **Youth Advisors** taking place once a month from January to April. Sign up for one or more.
- In November 2011, PSD Board unanimously voted to work collaboratively with the Boards of the Central Midwest District and Heartland District to **create a regional governance entity** to replace the three individual districts. Read a **letter from PSD President Kathy Burek** about this decision.
- **UUA General Assembly June 20-24, 2012** in Phoenix, Arizona will be a different GA - a Justice GA. Download **this flier** for ideas on how to start preparing now.

CUUF and local community Calendar

April 8	Sun , Fellowship Service Speaker: David Saetre Following the service please plan to tour the proposed service space with David
April 13-15	PSD Conference, "Lessons from War and Peace," Bloomington, MN
April 16	Mon, Faith In Action-Ashland County Pizza fundraiser at the Alley Restaurant Buffet, 4-9pm, \$10
April 18	Wed, Lunch at Coco's - Noon
April 22	Sun , Fellowship Service and ANNUAL MEETING/Potluck luncheon Please plan to stay for the potluck and attend the Annual Meeting
May 5	Sat, CUUF Planning Meeting and Lunch – more details coming soon
May 6	Sun , Fellowship Service All Music
May 19	Sat, Garage Sale
May 20	Sun , Fellowship Service and Flower and Child Dedication ceremonies
June 10	Sun , Fellowship Picnic – Bring a dish to pass and an instrument to play (optional)
June 20-24	UU National General Assembly, Phoenix, AZ "Justice" (for immigrant communities)
July 15-21	MN Leadership School

Camps: Camp Star Trail: July 29-Aug 3, Omaha, NE – youth, adult and combined programs

<http://www.psd.ua.org/Camps/CampStarTrail>

Camp UniStar – weeklong programs throughout the summer in MN

<http://www.psd.ua.org/Camps/CampUniStar>

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

*** Please note the change in June's phone number and Erin's phone number ***

Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

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CUUF Board Members and Staff:

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Jan Perkins, secretary, (715) 373-5585, perkworks9@yahoo.com

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Dear Members of the Congregation:

I am pleased to announce that A.J. Galazen will serve as the Northland College and CUUF seminary intern for 2012-13. A.J. is a member of the Fellowship and a seminary student at United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, Minnesota. A.J. will begin his work the second week of September (at our first service) and will conclude his seminary year the second week of May, 2013. This is an exciting time of growth and new opportunities for the Fellowship.

The intern will have primary support from the College Chaplain's office (that's me!). I will serve as the direct supervisor and mentor for A.J. in this year of study and service to the Fellowship and Campus Ministry. In order to facilitate and guide the internship process, the congregation also needs to develop a "Lay Advisory Group": a committee of four members of the Fellowship that will convene on a regular basis to provide support, mentorship and guidance for A.J.

We hope to appoint this Advisory group at the Annual Meeting of the congregation on April 22. If you would like to serve on the intern Advisory Group, or you would like more information please respond to the CUUF administrator. Brenda will pass along your interest to the Board Chair and the College Chaplain (me!). I hope some of you will give real consideration to serving on the Advisory Group. Your support and wisdom will not only help make next year a success, but will provide critical insights for interns in the future.

David W. Saetre
David W. Saetre
College Chaplain and Assistant Professor of Religion
Ponzio Campus Center, 231
[715-682-1253](tel:715-682-1253) (office); [715-682-0284](tel:715-682-0284) (home)

Justice, Equity and Compassion From “We Build Temples in the Heart”
by Patrick Murfin

Justice is dispassionate,
a courthouse idol in blindfold,
impartial in application -
but it is also the wrathful judgement
of an Old Testament war god,
awakening the lurking Puritan within.

Justice is ideal,
but alone and untempered
it is harsh and mere retribution.

Equity is parity before God and law,
the plea of Jefferson,
the full voiced cry of the mob before the
Bastille,
yet, unfettered, it is a snarling demand
for sameness and conformity.

Equity is fair,
but in isolation it fills the Gulag and
inspires Pol Pot.

Compassion is the soul of empathy and forgiveness,
the plea of Jesus for the adulteress,
the revelation of the happy Universalists,
but it is slow to recognize evil,
and reluctant to act for fear
of victimizing the perpetrator.

Compassion is sweet
but, on its own, apt to flabby paralysis.

We call on Justice, Equity, and Compassion together
for harmony and balance,
checking each others' excesses,
illuminating each others' strengths,
three-in-one,
a Mystery.



Editor's note: In an effort to find an image to enhance this poem, I googled "Justice, Equity and Compassion." Many legal symbols, including Lady Justice, came to the screen. Expanding the search to include "in human relations" brought more images. Interestingly, most symbols were Unitarian Universalist.