

UUC VOICE

March 5th, 2010

A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock

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www.uucofwoodstock.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*If you would like to listen to Rev. Dan Larsen's Sermon from February 28th, "Everything is Going to be Ok", it is up on our website as a podcast.

March 7th – "Forgive or Give Up"

Rev. Dan Larsen will be speaking about the guilt and hatred that we place on our selves.

March 14th – "The Last Taboo"

Rev. James Hobart will be promoting an enthusiastic kick-off for our Stewardship Campaign, which financially supports the church's important lay and professional ministries with and beyond the congregation. Our Choir Director Tom Steffens will have Irish Music

March 21st –

Harold Rail will speak

March 28th – "Remembering and Following"

Rev James Hobart will be leading A Flower Festival Celebration or Flower Communion Service in keeping with the tradition established in 1923 by Norbert Capek at the Unitarian congregation in Prague. Each person is invited to bring a flower to create the floral display. At the conclusion of the service each person selects a different flower to take home.

PRELUDE

It's Wednesday, March 4. There is a promising hint of spring in the air. I say "hint" because the temperature is only in the mid-30s, there is still snow on the ground, and, no doubt, there is more to come. Yes, all true, but there is bright sunshine this morning. The weather forecast for the upcoming weekend promises temperatures in the mid-40s. Sure, there will be rain, but no snow.

My spirits lift. The end of this long, gray winter is in sight. Have you remembered that Daylight Savings time begins Sunday, March 14? That's just ten day! Isn't that a sign of spring? Easter is Sunday, April 4. That's only a month away. I'm sure my spirit is beginning to thaw with the approaching spring thaw. What about you?

The human spirit does not inevitably follow the example of the predictable seasons. Sometimes I've been euphoric in the middle of a blizzard, and I've been emotionally down when the natural world is brilliant with sunshine, warmth and growth. That said, the spring season does promote an added bounce in my

step. I'm more likely to whistle a happy tune. I notice the buds ready to burst. I hear the song birds in the trees. I hope you share this emotionally lifting experience.

As the seasons shift and our spirits lift, I trust there is a similar lift in our individual and community religious spirits this time of year. The church community is moving into a new season. The difference is that the church's new season is not inevitable. The church has chosen to move in a new direction. If this church season is to reach full fruition, we each will choose to participate and do our part in the common effort.

I have been "springing forth" these few weeks since January 15, when I took up my ministerial position among all of you. I'm getting oriented to the people and the ways of this congregation. I invite all of you to join with me and your brother and sister members in this community as we plan and carry out the new directions of the church's program and service.

In keeping with the long-time spirit of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Woodstock, we today have the opportunity to serve and to change lives, the lives of persons and the life of the larger community. I understand this is our religious calling and our religious mission. I also understand you agree.

James A. Hobart

PASTORAL CARE

Do you need pastoral care? If you or a member of your family or other church members you know of needs pastoral care, a visit, or conversation with either of our ministers, please contact the church office and talk with Lori or Karen at 815-338-0731 or leave a message at office@uucowoodstock.org and they will contact Rev. James Hobart and Rev. Dan Larsen and let them know what is needed. Rev. James Hobart and Rev. Dan Larsen will decide who will be able to respond to your request.

NO MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

In an effort to streamline member announcements, The Worship Committee will be experimenting with a new delivery method for the remainder of the church year. We are asking that individuals or groups who have announcements please email them to the church office office@uucowoodstock.org by Wednesday to be included in an insert in the following Sunday's bulletin. We are also asking any of our members who have personal news they would like to share with the congregation (birth of a grandchild, illness of a family member, graduation, etc) also send those to the church office. These personal announcements will be included on the insert under the heading of "Milestones". It is hoped that having a written copy of announcements each week will provide us all with an easy reference on upcoming events. Likewise, we hope the "Milestones" feature will share our joys and concerns will help us stay more connected as a church family.

THIS SATURDAY—AUCTION 2010

On this Saturday March 6th the Auction fundraiser will take place. Please join us!

This evening will begin promptly;

6:00 p.m. sharp until 7:00p.m., The 'Silent Auction' will take place

7:00 p.m. to 9:00p.m. Will be the 'Live Auction'

We would love people to donate food items such as hors d'oeuvres, cakes, cookies and other snacks. Be a part of the fun - - a guaranteed good time!

If you have any questions;

Contact Shelly Nicholson (815) 322-2533 or snichol33@hotmail.com or Sue Eberhardt 815-337-8137

sue.eberhardt@sbcglobal.net

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will be hosting a "Soup Day" on Sunday, March 14th which will be held in the church basement immediately after church. We will be offering an eclectic variety of soups, salad and bread for your enjoyment. Please be generous with your donations as it will be supporting an excellent cause.

We are looking for church members to donate a homemade soup to be offered that day. For soup donations please contact Janet Burns at (847) 542-7678 or at janetrugi@yahoo.com.

This event will serve as the first of a series of fundraisers, the proceeds of which will help fund the Youth Group's mission trip to Mexico this upcoming July. While in Mexico, our youth will participate in laying a water pipeline to a small local school and assisting with improving the living conditions of some houses in the area.

This trip will be carried out in partnership with a small non-profit organization 'Build a Dream'. If you have any questions about this project or would like to make a donation to this fund please contact the Youth Advisers, Mary Fleming at 815-814-2054 or Barb Oesterle at 815-814-2058.

Website for Build A Dream, - www.buildadreamproject.com email: builadabledreams@aol.com

QUAFF AND KARAOKE

Join us on Sunday, April 11th for "Quaff and Karaoke" 5:00 – 8:00 pm in the Social Room.

Quaff—verb (used without object) - 1. To drink a beverage, esp. an intoxicating one, copiously and with hearty enjoyment.

Karaoke- Kara - (Missing) OKe - (Band)

Please join us for another fun church party as we Quaff (maybe not copious amounts, but enough to boost your confidence) and Karaoke (or bring your band, even if it is your nephew and his kazoo)!

Bring an appetizer and your favorite beverage to share! Children are welcome and will have their own snacks and activities downstairs in the church. Child care will be provided and donations to the Youth Group (providing child care) would be appreciated. Please RSVP to the Church Office 815-338-0731.

GIFT-CARDS STILL AVAILIABLE

By participating in purchase of gift cards you can help to raise money for the church.

The process is simple; you choose the gift cards you want to order and fill out a form provided at church. Drop off the form and cash or check (payable to UUC of Woodstock with gift card on the memo line) to Heather Madaus or Whit Sears after church on Sundays, or mail it to the church by Monday. You will receive your orders on the following Sunday.

The church makes \$ by purchasing the cards at a discount and you get the face value of your card! Please consider helping us by planning your weekly expenses for fuel, groceries, entertainment, and gift-giving from this list!

Please contact Heather Madaus for online ordering instructions or with further questions at heathermadaus@sbcglobal.net or at 815-509-7862.

CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Sunday's Adult Discussion Group will be informed by Frank Rich's op-ed piece (February 28) concerning the February 18 murder suicide by a man who flew his plane into a complex housing IRS offices in Austin, TX. Drawing on a half century of US history, Rich looks at the John Birch Society, Timothy McVeigh and the Oklahoma City bombing, 60's left-wing radicals and today's Tea Party movement. Can Old Testament prophecy and the Dreyfus affair be added to lengthen the thread (if it exists) to connect these events? And finally, we'll look at a black Alabama state legislator in a nearly all-white district who may shed some light on navigating among those who have traditionally been hostile to blacks (New York Times Magazine, February 28, 2010).

Join us in the Parsonage at 9 AM this Sunday morning, March 7, for some lively discussion. If you have questions, or for copies of the articles informing the discussion, call Don Metivier at 334-0015.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will be meeting at 6:00p.m. Tuesday, March 23, at La Trinidad Taqueria. La Trinidad faces Rt. 14 and is next to the Super 8 Motel on the southeast corner of Rt.'s 14 and 47. Entrance is from Rt.47 just south of Rt.14. Building number is 1230C. For information call Don Metivier at 815-334-0015.

THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

On Thursday, March 11th the film, "Fish Out of Water" will be shown at 7:30 pm at the conference center at McHenry County College. This film is about how the Bible treats the question of homosexuality and is being sponsored by PFLAG. I will be on a panel discussion about the film after the screening. I invite all of our members to be there. This is part of our community ministry.

Dan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) UPDATES

March 7th – OWL 6th and 7th at 9:15 a.m.

March 12th & 13th - The OWL overnight for the Youth Group will begin at 5p.m. Friday until 4p, Saturday.

March 14th - YOUTH GROUP MISSIONARY WORK IN MEXICO

On March 14th, at 1:00p.m. after the soup fund-raiser, all interested parties should meet in the 2nd room on the left after the stairs leading to the basement. Although the focus is on the Youth Group, all members of this church who are interested can be a part of this missionary work. Linda and Wayne, founders of “Build A Dream” are recruiting a team of people to go to Mexico sometime before the end of June, before school gets out, to work on putting in a water line to the school, as well as helping with working on repairing dwellings of six needy families in the village. Linda will be at church on that Sunday, March 14th at 1:00p.m. to talk about the details of that project. All parents of the Youth Group members as well as all church members, who might be interested, are invited to attend that gathering in the Spirit Play room, in the basement of the church.

Thank you,
Sam

Build A Dream Website - www.buildadreamproject.com or email: buildabledreams@aol.com or Linda Baumert 847-376-0822

OFFICE SCHEDULE

Lori Burns and Karen Stowe share in the secretarial duties at the church office. Office hours from March 8th to March 19th

Monday, March 8th, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns
Tuesday, March 9th all day – Janet Burns, Bookkeeper
Wednesday, March 10th 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe
Thursday, March 11th 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns
Friday, March 12th 10:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Monday, March 15th, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns
Tuesday, March 16th all day – Janet Burns, Bookkeeper
Wednesday, March 17th 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe
Thursday, March 18th 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Lori Burns
Friday, March 19th 10:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Lori Burns

“MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL”