



CUC VOICE



May 1, 2009

A Publication of the Congregational Unitarian Church

221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098

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SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 A.M.

May 3rd – “CONGREGATIONAL MEETING”

This will be our annual “Congregational Meeting” upstairs, with a Pot-Luck to follow downstairs.

May 10th “MOTHERS’ DAY”

We will have a traditional Mothers’ Day service with the opportunity for people to pay tribute to their mothers. The men of the choir will sing to the mothers. We will recognize our religious education co-directors, Pam Lopatin and Sue McCowin, on this their last day in that capacity. Please be there to thank them for their years of dedication to the children and young people of our church.

May 17th *NO CHURCH*****

Due to Fair Didley taking place on the Square on this day, and the limited parking available, we choose to take this day off. Please enjoy the day and we hope to see you next week.

May 24th “TRADITIONAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE”

Please join us as we take our annual walk to the Woodstock Square to honor those from McHenry County who have died from war.

May 31st “DO YOU BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION?”

Dan and Franklin Kral will discuss the modern day implications of: Evolution vs. The Biblical Understanding of Creation.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still in need of volunteers for coffee, treats, and flowers for May. Please take a moment to sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board in the Social Room the next time you are in church. It’s easy and very much appreciated by all.

Also, on May 10th after the service, there will be cake and refreshments served in the social room honoring Pam and Sue who are retiring this year. If you can donate a plate of cookies or fruit, please contact Mary Robinson at (815) 455-8007 or e-mail robsto87@sbcglobal.net

OFFICE SCHEDULE

Lora Cantele, Karen Stowe, and Gail Wells share in the secretarial duties at the church office. You will find the office schedule below. Steven is on a leave of absence but will still be attending to the website and e-bay.

Monday, May 4: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lora Cantele
Tuesday, May 5: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, May 6: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, May 7: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Friday, May 8: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Monday, May 11: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Tuesday, May 12: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, May 13 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, May 14: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Friday, May 15: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

PLEDGE DRIVE UPDATE

As of April 29th, we have received 87 out of a possible 149 pledges. Forty-one have increased their pledges. There have been 11 decreases, 32 have remained the same, and there are 3 new pledges. Thank you to all have pledged thus far. However, we are still short of our goal which is: \$179,000.

For those that have not returned your pledge, please let us know what your pledge will be, or if you will not be making a pledge this year. Please help us as best as you can to allow us to continue the work that this Church has to offer.

At our Congregational Meeting this Sunday May 3rd, we will revise the budget for the coming year that will reflect our pledges. Ultimately because of the shortage, this means reductions will have to be made. We need your help now!!!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday May 3rd, we will hold our Annual Congregational meeting. The material being discussed is currently available on our website. Otherwise the information will only be available that day. We will consider the following:

- Change the name of the church to “Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock”
- Nominating church officers and council members.
- Recognizing new members from the last 12 months.
- Changing the by-laws.
- A UUA Peace Proposal “A Statement of Conscience”
- Approving new church budget.

Please make every effort to attend. A pot-luck dinner will be served afterwards downstairs. Please bring a dish to pass.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION PEACE PROPOSAL

At our May 3rd Congregational meeting we will be voting on a proposal from the UUA to adopt a "Statement of Conscience" dealing with Peace issues for the church. The "Statement of Conscience" is now posted on our website as a link from the home page. Please read and review and give us your thoughts. The question that we will be voting on is whether or not to keep this proposal on the agenda of our national organization.

CALLING ALL PAGANS AND PRACTITIONERS OF EARTH-BASED RELIGIONS!

The first meeting of our new Pagan group will be meeting Friday May 8th at 7:00 p.m. upstairs in the social room of the church. All who are interested are invited to attend

LAW OF ATTRACTION SUPPORT GROUP

Nicette Crawford & Cathy Smith are working with the Law of Attraction principles and we would like to share their knowledge by offering to meet once a week at the Church to listen to the audio version of the book, discuss and help each other by setting a practice of these principles. We will be meeting every Friday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. All donations will go to the church. Please RSVP if you are interested in attending. Nicette 815-473-6187 or Cathy 815-679-6990

NIA FOR THE FAMILY

Family Nia is an opportunity for your child to experience the "Joy of Movement" along with you. Parents and/or Grandparents are encouraged to participate with their children. We will play with guided and non-guided movement, beats, sounding and more, to a variety of music! All are welcome and encouraged to participate in a way that feels comfortable to them. Infants are welcome to participate by moving along with a parent. Join the fun in this "MOVING" Family Experience. This class will begin Tuesday May 5th at 9:30 a.m. to coincide with the Woodstock Farmers Market. The cost is \$10.00 per family per class. Try it for the "Health" of it!!! For further information please call Gail Wells at: (815) 206-0490 or e-mail gailh14@yahoo.com

CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

The 2008-2009 Church Directories are still available for members to pick up before and after worship services on Sundays. Also, if you picked up your directory before February 1, there is an addendum label that should have been added to your directory that was not ready in time. The directories and the addendum labels are available on the table in the Social Room. If you are picking up an addendum label, please be sure to initial beside your name on the roster in the folder so that we know that you picked yours up. We will not be mailing the directories.

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

We now have several small groups that meet for the purpose of spiritual, intellectual, and personal learning. You are invited to any of these groups. If you are interested, contact the church office and we will put you in touch with the coordinator.

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS-CONTINUED

The Spiritual Practices group meets every other Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage. Our next meeting is Monday, May 11th. Gail Wells will lead.

The Spiritual Reading group will announce their next meeting soon. Watch for the date and topic.

"Small Group #1" will be meeting on May 5th at the home of Elizabeth Dimond at 1209 Thomas Dr. in Woodstock at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass for the pot-luck. These meetings have an open agenda and often end up talking about personal things.

(Directions to Elizabeth's house are as follows: Coming north on Rt. 47, cross Rt. 120, continue 4 blocks to Greenwood Ave and turn left. Seven blocks down you will be at a stop sign (Wicker) continue one block to Thomas and turn right, immediately turn left into 1st. driveway.

Coming south on Rt. 47, 4 blocks past St. John's Ave. (Church on L) turn right onto Greenwood Ave. to Thomas and turn right, immediately turn left into 1st drive by first garage or on street by mail boxes.)

Small Group #2 – If anyone is interested in joining this new group, please contact the church office.

Men's Group will be meeting on Thursday May 14th at 7:00 p.m. at Coleman and Company Restaurant.

Our "A Course in Miracles" group meets Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the parsonage. The curriculum is handed out before each session, so there's no textbook to buy. All are welcome!

The Sunday morning Adult RE Class has changed its name to the Adult Discussion Group, and also changed its starting time to 9:30 a.m. on Sundays! Please be sure you note these changes in your calendar so you're not waiting for a while.

CHURCH GROUNDS NOW WI-FI ENABLED

A wireless network (WI-FI) service to both the church building and both floors of the parsonage have been set up. But the Church Council wants to review provisions for security at this time and hopes to have everything ready within a month.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INTERNATIONAL

Two of our High School students, Addy Hicks and Jessica Stowe, have been accepted as Student Ambassadors with People to People and will travel to Australia and New Zealand this summer. Last year Craig Rapp was a Student Ambassador to Europe. President Eisenhower founded the program in 1956 and believed if people from different cultures could come together in peace and friendship, so would nations. On this 20 day exchange they will meet with government officials, students, join in education activities and home stays. Both girls are in need donations with the tuition of \$8000 each. They plan on selling craft items in the church during April and May starting on April 19th.

BUDDHA DAY TO BE CELEBRATED IN WOODSTOCK FOR THE 7TH YEAR!

Saturday, May 16, will be the 7th annual Buddha Day celebration held in Woodstock, IL, and the public is invited to join in the festivities. The popular event, beginning at 6 p.m., is co-hosted by Blue Lotus Temple and the Ten Directions Zen Community.

Buddha Day, Visakha Puja in the ancient Indian language of Pali, is celebrated in all Buddhist communities and countries. It honors the three most important events in the life of Buddha: his birth, his enlightenment, and the attainment of Nirvana at his death. This is always a happy and joyful holiday for Buddhists. It's a time of celebration, personal reflection, and generous giving. It's also a time to be with family and friends. For more information, please call Blue Lotus, (815) 444-8915

TAI CHI WORKSHOP

Tuesday May 19th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Reverend Denise Tracy returns to offer another session of Tai Chi. Come and learn what this ancient form of moving meditation is all about! Sign up in the social room, or contact Carol Alfus, alfus@att.net Workshop fee: \$20.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS JUNE 7TH FOR THE CHURCH BBQ AND WORSHIP SERVICE

Please set aside Sunday June 7th for our Worship Service and fundraising BBQ at Emricson Park in Woodstock. The Worship service will begin at our normal 10:45 a.m. time at Pavilion #1. All are welcome to attend the service.

After the service, the BBQ will begin. You will need a ticket to attend!!!! The tickets are currently available for \$16 for adults (meat or vegetarian) and \$6 for children. You may purchase these tickets up until May 31st. Please contact the church office for more information. Please bring your ticket with you to claim your meal. The food is being supplied by "Famous Dave's BBQ" and the church has donated 2 bottles of water per person. If you should want something other than water, please bring it along with you. Alcohol is not permitted.

There will be games and entertainment along with a 50/50 raffle. Please join in this FUNdraising event. RAIN OR SHINE!!!!!!

JOB SUPPORT

Please help us support those looking for work. Should you be hiring or know of a position available for the people listed below please contact them. If you are looking for work, we will be happy to post your information to spread the word. Let's all work together.

Fiona Stilson is looking for work. She has a Degree in Business Administration and almost 20 years professional experience as an Office Manager/Administrator and is also trained in Accountancy. Due to the state of the economy Fiona is willing to take any type of office work that is offered, from office manager to receptionist or general clerk. Fiona can be contacted by email: jobforfiona@hotmail.com or (815)-321-9381

Allen Geiger is also looking for work and is open to a variety of positions. Allen's work qualifications are as a: Truck Driver, including a heavy machine operator, Truck Mechanic, Warehouse manager, and Dispatcher. Allen also has work experience as a painter and carpenter, etc. Allen can be reached at (815) 410-8523.

"MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL"