



CUC VOICE



May 29, 2009

A Publication of the Congregational Unitarian Church

221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098

(815) 338-0731 - office@cucw.org - www.cucw.org

SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 A.M.

May 31st “DO YOU BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION?” & HONOR GRADUATES 2009

Dan and Franklin Kral will discuss the modern day implications of: Evolution vs. The Biblical Understanding of Creation. We will also be honoring Joe Heinen and Charlie Stough, two seniors who are graduating.

June 7th “CHURCH BBQ & SPIRITUAL JOURNEY”

We are changing plans a little! We will meet at the church at 10:45 a.m. as usual, but instead of our regular service, we will receive our instructions for a “Spiritual Scavenger Hunt” where we will go off in small groups for an hour to look for ways to “Save Our Souls”.

At noon we will meet at the main pavilion in Emricson Park in Woodstock for a BBQ lunch and to report our findings, while enjoying an afternoon of music and games!

Come either for worship or lunch or both!!! Tickets for the BBQ will be on sale after church this Sunday.

June 14th “MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY”

We will talk about the responsibilities and privileges of church membership, including our obligation for “Fair Share” with the UUA. Dan will speak about his proposal for transition to a new minister. We will also take in new members this Sunday.

Those who are interested in talking about membership, Fair Share, and Ministerial transition are invited to stay after church to discuss.

June 21st “OUR TRADITIONAL FATHERS DAY SERVICE”

Including candle lighting for fathers and children.

June 28th “BARN SERVICE AT THE TINKLER’S”

Another tradition! Bring some flowers for the flower wheel and a dish for the Pot Luck to follow.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still in need of volunteers for coffee, treats, and flowers for June. 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.

MINISTERIAL TRANSITION

The following is my proposal to the Church Council for a transition of ministers between me and a new minister to occur over the next few years.

We discussed these ideas at the May Council meeting and will discuss them again at the June 16 Council meeting. New Council members and any other church members who wish to come are invited to this meeting. The Council will vote on whether or not to proceed with this proposal.

In addition, I have met with the Committee on Ministry and will speak about the plan on Sunday June 14th during the service. There will be an opportunity for discussion after the worship service.

If the Council votes to proceed, we will form a "Transition Committee" to meet over the summer to develop the specifics of the plan. At the September Congregational meeting, the Congregation will choose a "Search Committee" to begin to interview candidates for a new minister.

I would like to discuss this proposal with any of our members who are interested. Just let me know.

Dan

MINISTERIAL TRANSITION PROPOSAL

As I approach the time for my retirement, I would like to offer a plan to the congregation that I think would both make for a smoother transition and allow us to increase ministerial time without increasing costs.

I have reviewed this plan with representatives of the UUA Central Midwest District and they have assured me this is something they can work with, is gaining greater usage within the UUA, and that there are ministers out there who would be interested in this type of transition.

Church Growth & Cost Savings

Our recently completed 5-year plan calls for: additional ministerial time and staff; assessment of long-term build need; improved integration of members into the life of the church; 50% expansion of the RE program; expansion of social justice and community service programs; and enrichment of worship and music programs and exploration of a second service. All of these objectives assume 50% growth in members and pledge income.

Transition Plan

Over a period of 3-5 years I would reduce my time as minister to the point where I was primarily involved with social justice and community service programs. At the same time a new minister would come to work with me and eventually become a full-time minister, gradually taking over ministerial duties. Specifically the new minister would preach and lead worship at least two Sundays per month in order to give some variety to preaching and worship, while I would continue to do some preaching.

During this time I would commit to working more time than I was being paid for, which would increase ministerial time. Also, with relief from preaching, this would allow me to spend more time in other areas. The result would be a net of more than 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent Minister.

This increase in ministerial time, I feel, is essential for us to move further towards the five year objectives.

Smooth Transition

In the past the usual pattern of transition has been for the minister to leave, an interim minister appointed, and then the new minister called. Churches are moving away from this for several reasons. I believe this proposal would address these reasons.

- * Increased ministerial time during the transition at no extra cost.
- * Two sets of skills and ideas during the transition.
- * Time to evaluate the new minister before making a long-term commitment.
- * More momentum going forward (keeps the best of the old and adds the best of the new)

At the same time this would benefit me by being able to stay longer and work in those areas where I can make the greatest contribution.

Admittedly the pool of ministers we would have to choose from is smaller, but even with that, we would wait until we found the “right person”.

“Visioning & Process”

My recommendation would be to have the Church Council, at its June meeting, appoint a committee to work over the summer to do two things; advance the five year plan into a longer term vision for the future that would give a clearer picture about how the two ministers would work, the kind of person we need; and also prepare a job description and materials for the UUA selection process. A formal search committee would then be appointed at the Fall Congregational Meeting to interview and eventually select a candidate.

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, June 1 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lora Cantele
Tuesday, June 2: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, June 3: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, June 4 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Friday, June 5: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele

Monday, June 8: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Tuesday, June 9: all day – Janet Burns
Wednesday, June 10: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Gail Wells
Thursday, June 11: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Lora Cantele
Friday, June 12: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

TAKING IN NEW MEMBERS JUNE 14TH

We will be taking in new members on Sunday June 14th. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please call the church office at (815) 338-0731.

LAW OF ATTRACTION SUPPORT GROUP

Nicette Crawford & Cathy Smith are working with the Law of Attraction principles and would like to share their knowledge by offering to meet once a week at the Church. The group will listen to the audio version of the book, followed by a discussion, to 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

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.

The **Spiritual Practices** group meets every other Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage. The next meeting will be Monday, June 1st.

The **Spiritual Reading** group will be meeting June 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Small Group #1 will be meeting on June 2nd at the home of Margaret Fox Hawthorne at 7517 Ryan Rd. in Harvard at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass for the pot-luck. The topic is "Simplicity".

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

The **Sun City** group will be meeting Wednesday, May 27th at the home of Jeff & Kathy Levin. They will be discussing "Freedom Tower", among other topics.

Men's Group will be meeting on Thursday, June 18th at Don Metivier's home at 413 N. Cold Springs Road, Woodstock at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Don at 815-334-0015.

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 is taking the summer off. It will resume once again in the fall. Please watch for those dates and times.

Our new **CUUPS** (Pagan) group will be meeting Friday June 12th at 7:00 p.m. (upstairs)

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. The Church Council is in the process of reviewing provisions for security at this time and hopes to have everything ready within a month.

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. These classes are Tuesdays 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

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. They will be traveling 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 educational 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 the month of May and early June.

LATINO COALITION BENEFIT CLOTHING SALE

The Latino Coalition is hosting a clothing sale on June 5th and June 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Project: “Build a Dream” and the current mission to assist a school in ElVaquero, Mexico.

They are in need of donations of gently used clothing, linens and shoes, which can be dropped off, Thursday, June 4th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you would like to donate and that day or time is not convenient for you, please contact Linda Baumert (815) 245-1478 or e-mail: buildabledreams@aol.com to arrange pick-up or drop-off suitable to you. Linda is also looking for volunteers with set-up, working the sale, or clean-up. Your help is greatly appreciated.

CHURCH FUNDRAISING BBQ

Please set aside Sunday June 7th for a “Spiritual Scavenger Hunt” and FUNdraising BBQ! We will meet at the church at 10:45 a.m. for a brief service and instructions for the scavenger hunt that will lead us to the main pavilion in Emricson Park in Woodstock by noon for the BBQ. The BBQ will go on RAIN OR SHINE!!!

Tickets for the BBQ will be on sale after the service on Sunday! This will be your last chance to buy a ticket for the meal. You must have a ticket for the meal, as they are preordered. No tickets will be available at the park! The tickets are available for \$16 for adults (meat or vegetarian) and \$6 for children. 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 for all ages. Join us in helping to support the church with this fundraiser.

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 Manage/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.

MESSAGE SERVICES AVAILABLE

Lauretta Wolf has been a professional massage therapist for the last 17+ years, doing therapeutic massage with clients experiencing many of the conditions that massage therapy is helpful for. Some of these are: carpal tunnel, whiplash, sciatica, sports/exercise injuries, as well as relaxation and pain relief. Lauretta is currently building a practice here in Woodstock. If you have any question, or to make an appointment, please call Lauretta at: (815) 648-2381

“MAY YOU BE WELL, HAPPY AND PEACEFUL”