

## UUC VOICE

December 17th, 2009

A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Woodstock  
221 Dean Street, Woodstock, IL 60098  
(815) 338-0731 ~ office@uucowoodstock.org www.uucowoodstock.org

## INTERIM MINISTER TO BEGIN

The church council has concluded an agreement with the Rev. James Hobart to become the Interim Minister of our church; the beginning date will be January 15th, 2010

The Transition Committee and the Church Council will be working out the details with Jim. Dan will continue on a half time basis as Community Minister while Jim is here. Our initial agreement is for 6 months after which time the agreement will be renegotiated.

If you have any question please contact Don Metivier (815-334-0015) or Marcia Johnson (815-337-0297) for more details.

## WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE – 10:45 a.m.

DECEMBER 20th “Adult Choir Winter Concert” Tom Steffens has a special program of music planned during our regular church service. Four members of the Choir will speak briefly about “How We Can Change Christmas.” There will be no church school.

DECEMBER 24th - “Christmas Eve Candlelight Service”, at 7:00p.m. There will be music, stories and a Christmas message from Rev. Dan Larsen “T’was the Night Before Christmas...”

DECEMBER 27th “Coffee Cake House”

We will have an after Christmas gathering downstairs at our regular time, 10:45a.m., for coffee, juice, leftover Christmas cookies and stories. Carol Alfus will be leading an informal gathering. There will be no church school.

JANUARY 3rd and 10th - Dan will be speaking about “How We Can Become New People in the Coming Year”.

JANUARY 17th - The Rev. James Hobart will be speaking.

JANUARY 24th - The worship community will lead the service.

JANUARY 31st -We will be celebrating the beginning of our new Interim Minister Rev. James Hobart and Rev. Dan Larsen’s beginning as Community Minister.

## GIVING TREE

Anyone who took a tag from the giving tree is asked to bring their gifts by this Sunday. Please have the gifts wrapped, and attach the tag to the gift, so when you return it we can tell who it is for.

If you haven't purchased a gift or you are feeling "shopping challenged," gift cards from local stores (e.g., Jewel, Wal-mart) are welcomed and appreciated and can be turned in this Sunday (give to Annette Jasiota or bagged with an adult tag attached to it and put under the tree) or you can drop the gift cards before Sunday at the office and we'll make sure they get distributed with the other gifts.

Thank you for your contributions, they will help make someone's Christmas very special.

If you have any questions, please contact Annette Jasiota at [amjazz8874@yahoo.com](mailto:amjazz8874@yahoo.com) or the church office 815-338-0731.

### CHURCH OFFICE CHANGES

This will be Lora Cantele's last month working in our church office. She will be leaving us as work in her clinical practice has increased. Please welcome Lori Burns, who is filling in temporary until we make a final decision about the office staff.

### PATRICK MURFIN'S POETRY COLLECTION

Looking for that perfect stock stuffer? Willing to read poetry without academic requirement or a loaded gun held to your head? In either case, have I got a deal for you! I just received two cases of my 2004 collection "We Build Temples in the Heart" published by Skinner House Books of Boston. The book has enjoyed moderate success, which in poetry means sales in the dozens. Now you can have an autographed copy, value guaranteed to soar if I drop dead and inexplicably become famous.

I will be selling and autographing copies after church December 13 and 20. Copies are \$8. Half the proceeds will be donated to the Church. The shortest sample is below;

An Honor to Be Alive

This happenstance assemblage of atoms.

    this collection of random stardust

    echoing an explosive moment of creation,

    this unlikely bag of seawater, carbon, and stone

    oddly and inexplicably ambulatory,

    miraculously sees and recognizes you,

    the very you seeing and recognizing.

It is an honor to be alive.

Patrick Murfin

Visit HERETIC, REBEL, A THING TO FLOUT: An Ecclectic Journal of Opinion, Poetry and General Bloviating <http://patrickmurfin.livejournal.com>

## CHRISTMAS PARTY, PEACE VIGIL AND CAROLING

Join us for some holiday festivities

We are having a Christmas party on Sunday, December 20th starting at 5:00p.m. We will meet upstairs in the Social Room.

Please bring an appetizer, a bottle of wine or your favorite beverage. We will provide coffee, tea and hot chocolate. There will be child care in the nursery and games for the young children downstairs.

Around 7:00p.m., we will gather outside in front of the church by our new sign for a Peace Vigil. Please bring a candle. Our focus will be about peace in the world.

After the peace vigil we will go Christmas Caroling for about 30 minutes in the area, near the church.

RSVP to the church office if you can attend and if you can bring a hearty appetizer.  
[office@uucofwoodstock.org](mailto:office@uucofwoodstock.org) or call 815-338-0731

## PICTURES FROM PAGEANT

Our RE Director Sam Jones is wondering if anyone who attended the Children's Pageant on December 13th had any photographs that they would be willing to share. Please contact Sam at 815-382-5571 or [samjones@ameritech.net](mailto:samjones@ameritech.net)

## U.S. CENSUS JOB OPENINGS

Rae Brill, is a Recruiting Assistant with the U.S. Census Bureau and is looking anyone interested in a temporary job with the Census Bureau. The job would last 5 to 10 weeks, during the late afternoons and weekends starting in the month of April, 2010. You are asked to contact Rae by email if you are interested. You must be at least 18yrs of age and pass an examination, prior to being hired. In April training would begin. If you are interested we have some information in the office, or you can go to the website [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) or contact Rae directly at [rbrill302@gmail.com](mailto:rbrill302@gmail.com)

SAVE THE DATE

We would like to save the date for our Service Auction on Saturday, March 6th, 2010 at 6:00p.m. Look for mailing in early January for more information. If you are willing to help, please contact Shelly Nicholson at 815-322-2533.

#### GREAT CHURCH FUNDRAISER

Our gift card fundraiser is underway! There are still gift cards available for this holiday season, please see Heather or contact her online.

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](mailto:heathermadaus@sbcglobal.net) or at 815-509-7862.

#### YOUNG FAMILIES

The newly forming Young Families Group is having a holiday party on Saturday, December 19th at 4 p.m. at the home of Shelly Nicholson and Carlos Valdes (Fernando and Alejandro). 119 Norman Drive, McHenry, IL (815) 322-2533.

Bring an appetizer, an adult beverage. We will supply pizza and juice/milk and cookies for the kids.

Please RSVP to Shelly by Thursday Dec. 17th.

#### CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

The Current Affairs Discussion Group will be meeting in the parsonage at 9:00a.m. This Sunday, December 20th. Last week's discussion was informed by an article by Bruce E. Levine "Are Americans Too Broken for the Truth to Set Us Free?" ([www.counterpunch.org/levine12042009.html](http://www.counterpunch.org/levine12042009.html)) In preparation for Sunday's discussion, Google "Straight From The Heartland" and click on the second item "Coming of Age in Ellis, Iowa." Is there a relationship between Levine's article and Ellis, Iowa? Let's talk about it. For more information, please contact Don Metivier 815-334-0015

#### SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

There has not yet been a date set in January for the Spiritual Reading Group.

#### MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, January 19th at 6:00p.m., at the church in the kitchen. Sig Goodwin and Don Metivier will be hosting the group with Chinese Food. Please RSVP the Church Office, 815-338-0731 or [office@uucowoodstock.org](mailto:office@uucowoodstock.org) if you can attend

#### SIN CITY GROUP - (oops) SUN CITY GROUP

Sun City Group is on Wednesday, January 13th 2010 at 7pm at the home of Dave and Carol Prieur at 13352 Longmeadow Dr. in Huntley. Please RSVP to Dave or Carol at 224-569-699.

#### SOCIAL CLUB

On Tuesday, January 12th, at 7:00p.m. The Social Club will meet at the home of Carl and Judy Rudolph, 675 Randall Rd. in Marengo. Please call Carl or Judy at 815-568-3241 to let her know if you can attend and if you will be able to bring a snack or beverage.

#### SPIRITUAL PRACTICES GROUP

The Spiritual Practices group will be meeting on Monday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the parsonage.

This will be our final study of the book "Four Spiritualities". We will need to pick a new topic to continue in January.

#### OFFICE SCHEDULE

Lori Burns and Karen Stowe share in the secretarial duties at the church office. You will find the office schedule below.

Monday, Dec. 21st: 10:00a.m. 4:00p.m. – Karen Stowe & Lori 9-2

Tuesday, Dec. 22nd: all day – Janet Burns

Wednesday, Dec. 23rd: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Thursday, Dec. 24th: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Closed

Friday, Dec. 25th: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Closed

Monday, Dec. 28th: 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Karen Stowe & Lori 10-2

Tuesday, Dec. 29th: all day – Janet Burns

Wednesday, Dec. 30th: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Karen Stowe

Thursday, Dec. 31st: Closed

Friday, Jan 1st: Closed