



May  
2011



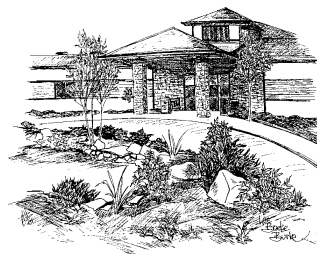
# DIRECTIONS

When all else fails  
... Read the  
*Directions!*

## The Weathervane

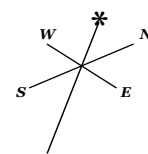
“A resource congregation”

by the Rev. Roger Bertschusen & the Rev. Dottie Mathews



One of the goals we adopted in our 2004 Long Range Plan was to “be seen as a resource for leaders and ideas” in the Unitarian Universalist Association. We want to share with you that this is happening in spades.

To get a sense of how much of this we’re doing, we asked our staff this year to track the assistance to other congregations. The list is astonishing! This past year, we’ve assisted thirty-five congregations. We’ve given several of these assistance in more than one area. Eleven of the congregations we’ve helped are in Wisconsin. The other twenty-four congregations are in fourteen different states across the United States—from California to Florida, from New York to New Mexico. And one’s located in Canada. We even helped the Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Parish in Sammamish, WA! We’ve helped congregations of all sizes—from tiny to much larger than ours. Among other things, we’ve provided information about our healthy congregation, lay ministry, membership, religious education and social justice programs. We’ve provided help with governance and second minister searches. Dottie and I have provided mentorship to new colleagues in ministry. Last fall, a team of staff and lay leaders from a UU congregation in the Chicago area came up and spent a few days meeting with our staff and Board. Just a few weeks ago, Roger led a long-range planning workshop with the Board of another Chicago area congregation. This is only the tip of the iceberg. We have been a resource to many without even knowing it. We know, for example, that documents we’ve put on our website are frequently helpful to other congregations.



One interesting thing about all this is that we haven’t really been intentional about offering the Fellowship as a resource. We haven’t put together a slick flyer about what we might offer or advertised on the internet. Mostly it’s word of mouth that has spurred congregations to contact us. When the Rev. Don Southworth, Acting Executive Director of the UU Ministers Association, preached here last fall, he said, “People pay attention to what you are doing and hope to replicate your success in their own congregations.” Looking at the list of congregations we’ve assisted, we can see that people are paying attention across the whole United States!

Why do we serve as a resource for other congregations? We do this because we have learned many useful things in our development as a congregation. A lot of what we have learned can be of inspirational and concrete help to others. We also do this because we continue to be helped in so many ways by other congregations we seek out as resources. This goes back to the beginning for us: the Rev. Max Gaebler at First Unitarian Society in Madison generously drove up to speak at the first gathering of our Fellowship, in 1955. In this past year, we’ve been greatly aided in our overhauls of our social justice and adult educational programs by Roger’s visit last year to the First Unitarian Church in Rochester, NY. We give and we receive: the interdependent web in action!

Peace,  
~ Roger & Dottie

## DIRECTIONS

Serving the Members and Friends of the Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Fellowship Phone: 920-731-0849  
Fellowship Fax: 920-731-3737  
E-Mail: [fvuuf@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuuf@fvuuf.org)  
Website: [www.fvuuf.org](http://www.fvuuf.org)

### Staff

**Roger Bertschausen**, Sr. Minister  
**Dottie Mathews**, Assoc. Minister  
**Bridget Kramer**, Director of Religious Education  
**Jay Thomas**, Music Director  
**Marie Murton**, Membership Coordinator  
**Siri Witt**, Business Administrator  
**Cyndi Polakowski**, Secretary  
**Colleen O'Brien**, Bookkeeper  
**Karon Sandberg**, Intern Minister  
**Jim Coakley**, Student Minister  
**Rachel Fisher & Olivia Hood**, Childcare

### Officers (2010/2011)

**Deb Andrews**, President  
**Jean Kwaterski**, Vice-President  
**Rick Krumwiede**, Secretary  
**Theresa Hannah**, Treasurer

### Board Members-at-Large

**Perry Bush**  
**Kate McQuillan**  
**Marty Arnold**

### Committee Chairs (10/11)

**Gail Dolan**, Art  
**Julie Heidemann**, Audit  
**Albert Park & Terry Dawson**, co-chairs Building Project  
**Debra Cronmiller**, Crystal Ball  
**Joe Abhold**, Healthy Congregation  
**Kelly Barnes**, Hospitality  
**Dave Roisum**, Landscaping  
**Roxanne Hallock**, Leadership Development  
**Veronica Flower & Marge Koepke**, Neighbor to Neighbor  
**Jodie Kacer**, Personnel  
**Rosie Geiser**, Planned Giving  
**Lisa O'Connor**, Playground Task Force  
**Monica Rico**, PR & Communications  
**Jay Barnes**, Services  
**Leslie Taylor**, Social Justice  
**Marti Wheeler**, Stewardship  
**Mary Gerlach**, UUA Connections  
**Heather Westley**, Wellspring

## New Members

Please take a moment to welcome our newest members:

**Anne & Steve Sieck, Dan Fraleigh, Shawna Terry, Katie & Drew Demerath**

# Welcome

### How are we doing?

Our open, democratic society values freedom, self-determination, diversity, and dissent. Sometimes, these factors can be at odds with collective forces that support communities. Authentic community needs to balance the recognition of our individuality with the health and vitality of the community as a whole. How do YOU think the Fellowship is doing finding this delicate balance? Are we encouraged to show our authentic selves and are we accepted here? Do we foster positive connections with others in our congregation? Do we care what is happening in each other's lives and listen deeply to each other? Do we challenge ourselves and each other to continue to learn and grow and apply our UU Principles every day? Are we good stewards to our spiritual home? These are some of the questions the Fellowship Board has pondered lately.

Albert Einstein once said, "Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts." Maybe it's impossible for us to measure how we're doing as a spiritual community....but we're going to try!

In the next few weeks, we will launch a short survey to gather some of your opinions about our Fellowship community. Your input will be digested by the Board and used as we start the process of updating our mission and vision statements. Please make time to share your thoughts and feelings with us. Einstein also said, "Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler." So we promise we'll keep the survey short and pain-free!

In the coming months, we'll be doing more temperature-taking of this kind, as we search for a new assistant/associate minister and go deeper into the next long range planning cycle. Thanks, in advance, for sharing your thoughts and feelings....and for all you do to make our spiritual community so special! - *Marty Arnold*



### ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 22, 6:00 P.M.

Members and Friends are welcome to participate (only members may vote) in our annual exercise in congregational democracy. Here's what's on the agenda for this meeting: An update on building design and timeline for our new building, a review of building finances and a vote to approve mortgage negotiations, a vote to approve the 2011-12 operating budget, and the election of new leadership.

### INDIAN DINNER CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to Prerna Kvalvik, Lisa O'Connor and their team of volunteers, our congregational Annual Meeting will once again be preceded by a thank you dinner for our Fellowship volunteers and family. The dinner will take place from 5:00-6:00pm on Sunday, May 22. All are invited to attend this free appreciation dinner. We will need an advance sign-up since we there's a maximum we can accommodate. Please sign up by May 16—there will be a sign-up in the lobby, or call or email our office at 920-731-0849 or [fvuufsec@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufsec@fvuuf.org).

**April 30-May 1: "Immigration and the Soul of Our Nation"**

**by the Rev. Roger Bertschausen**

There are indications that immigration may well be the next highly controversial issue in our state. Immigration is not only a political issue, but also a highly spiritual issue. It has to do with soul—the soul of individuals, the soul of our nation.

**May 7-8: "Big Questions: So What?"**

**by the Rev. Roger Bertschausen and the Rev. Dottie Mathews**

We will take a look back at this year of examining Big Questions and reflect on what we've learned through the year.

**May 14-15: "What I'd Want to Share If It Were My Last Solo Sermon Here ... Oh, It Is!"**

**by the Rev. Dottie Mathews**

Some pundits say that every minister has only one good sermon in them - which they just recycle and recycle and recycle using different words and titles. As my time as your second minister draws to a close, I thought it might be interesting to think about what my one sermon has been. What is it I've been trying to say all this time?

**May 21-22: "Coming of Age"**

This is one of the most eagerly awaited services of the year. The high school youth who have completed the nine-month Coming of Age program will share with the congregation what they've learned through the year—about themselves and about their beliefs. This is a service for all ages. Nursery care will be available for children from birth to 5-years-old.

**May 29 (9:15 & 10:45am only): "Living Spaciously" by the Rev. Roger Bertschausen**

Many spiritual paths lift up the possibility of "living spaciously"—that is, of living in an unhurried, thoughtful way that is full of heart and connectedness. I'll explore what living spaciously might mean, especially in our fast-paced and busy lives, and how go about cultivating a spirit of spaciousness. (This weekend will mark the beginning of our summer service schedule. We'll have services on Sunday at 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. There will be a children's program at the 9:15 service; nursery care for children from birth to 5-years-old will be available at both services.

**June 5 (9:15 only): "The Flower Communion"**

**with the Rev. Roger Bertschausen and the Rev. Dottie Mathews**

Each year the Fellowship joins many Unitarian Universalist congregations around the world in celebrating the Flower Communion. This is a service for all ages; nursery care will be available for infants and toddlers. We will have one service only—at 9:15 a.m. Weather cooperating, the service will be held outside, in the footprint of our soon-to-be sanctuary. Please bring a flower to share and a chair to sit in. This will be Dottie's last service as our Associate Minister, a celebration of Dottie's ministry with us will follow the service, along with a brunch. (See below for details.)

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Fellowship Mail:  
PO Box 1791  
Appleton WI 54912-1791  
Phone: 920-731-0849

**Staff Office Hours  
during program year**

**Sr. Minister**

Tuesday 9:00AM—4:00PM  
Wednesday Noon-3:15PM  
Appointment times by request  
fvuufmin@fvuuf.org

**Assoc. Minister**

Tuesday 9:00AM—4:00PM  
Wednesday Noon-3:15PM  
Appointment times by request  
fvuuf2min@fvuuf.org

**Director Of  
Religious Education**

Monday thru Thursday  
9:00AM—3:00PM  
Appointment times by request  
fvuufdre@fvuuf.org

**Music Director**

Please call 920-731-0849  
fvuufmd@fvuuf.org

**Membership  
Coordinator**

Please call 920-731-0849  
fvuufmem@fvuuf.org

**Business  
Administrator**

Monday thru Friday  
8:00AM—2:30PM  
fvuufoa@fvuuf.org

**Secretary**

Monday thru Friday  
8:00 AM—3:00PM  
fvuufsec@fvuuf.org

**Intern Minister**

Please call 920-731-0849  
fvuufintern@fvuuf.org



**DOTTIE CELEBRATION ON JUNE 5**

We will have a celebration of Dottie's ministry with us following the Flower Communion on June 5. We'll only have one service that weekend—starting at 9:15. A program celebrating Dottie's ministry and a catered brunch will immediately follow the service. We're delighted that the Kangaroostaurant will cater the breakfast. There will be a modest suggested charge to defray costs of the brunch. All are welcome to attend. To sign up for the brunch, please sign-up in the lobby, or contact our office at 920-731-0489 or [fvuufsec@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufsec@fvuuf.org).

## Landscape Work Day Saturday, May 28, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar for exercise, learning, charity, camaraderie, fun, and fresh air! The Landscape Committee is planning a public work session (nice weather permitting). Bring your work clothes, gloves, and your favorite tools (rakes, weeders, etc.). Bring a friend who may want to see what native flowers will bloom on our new restoration. For more information, contact David Roisum at [drroisum@aol.com](mailto:drroisum@aol.com).

### Attention Artists and Crafters

The Fellowship will again be sponsoring a holiday Art and Craft Sale. This year it will be on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and will run from 9:00am to 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome to sell their handmade items with a small percentage of their profits going to the Fellowship. More information and registration sheets will be available in August. Contact Kathy Hogan at 920-739-0843 with questions.

Thanks to everyone who made the Spring 2011 **Service Auction** a huge success! We especially thank Tony and Jane Salsich, Joel Sandberg, Denise Tirimacco, Karen Page, Erin Chudacoff, Katie Normington and the many other volunteers who helped put on the event. We also thank the members and friends who donated their services and items as well as those who purchased those donations. We raised \$9000 from the event!

*Merci*

We also thank the people who helped create and hang the **beautiful curtains** in the Fellowship kitchen, including Margaret Alexander, Jane Salsich, Donna Weis, Linda Grishaber, Sherry Gates, Francie Ginocchio and Scott Baker.

### Summer Art Theme : "THE ANIMAL SPIRIT"

In June we will be hanging our summer art display. If you have a piece that would fit the theme of "The Animal Spirit" we would love to include it. Original art by Fellowship members of all ages is encouraged. You need not be a professional artist! Please help us beautify our sanctuary with your artistic talents.

Gail Dolan, Art Committee Chair (920-725-3587)



### IMPORTANT REMINDER

You received a contribution statement in April that showed the amount of your pledge for this fiscal year and all contributions made toward that pledge through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Please take a moment to review that statement to be sure your pledge payments are up-to-date. It is especially important now as we approach the end of the Fellowship's fiscal year at June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, contact Siri Witt at the Fellowship office. Thank you for your continued attention to this important matter.



### Thinking About Joining?

We encourage all who wish to join our community to consider areas you would like to get involved in. When you would like to join or talk about joining, Rev. Dottie Mathews and I offer times on Saturday mornings for you to meet with each of us individually to discuss this exciting decision. I will talk with you about the different aspects of membership, including involvement and financial support. Dottie will talk with you about your personal spiritual journey.

Please contact me at [fvuufmem@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufmem@fvuuf.org) or 920-731-0849 to schedule a time on **Saturday, May 14** from 9:00-11:00 a.m. or another time.

*-Marie Murton, Membership Coordinator*

**Fellowship Camping Day**  
**High Cliff State Park,**  
**Sherwood, WI**  
**August 6**  
**10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**



Join us for a fun day at High Cliff. For those interested in overnight camping, reserve your site now! We will have scheduled activities throughout the day on Saturday with time to play and relax as well. We have the Pavilion rented for the day, so even if the weather turns on us, we can have a game day! More details will be available in the June/July newsletter. For more information, contact Marie Murton, Membership Coordinator at [fvuufmem@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufmem@fvuuf.org) or 920-731-0849.



## RE—VISION

Bridget Kramer, Director of Religious Education

“If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, “thank you,” that would suffice.” ~Meister Eckhart

I am so grateful for all of those who volunteered to help our community of young people grow and become more connected to their UU faith. If you see any of the volunteers who helped in the nursery, taught Religious Education, mentored the Coming of Age teens or taught the Our Whole Lives Program, please let them know how valuable they are to our Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist family. (Also know there will be opportunities available for everyone in the Fellowship to help out next year!)

### Chalice Camp: Learning To Tread Lightly on Our Earth June 12- August 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am

It is time to start thinking about summer! Join us for our Summer RE Chalice Camp! Each Sunday at the 9:15am service we will learn new ways in which we can treat our world and environment with more respect and care. Hands on activities for children ages 4-12 years of age will explore our connection to animals, plants and how we can live our lives with less impact on the earth. Falcons and frogs, trees and ponds, along with seasonal foods and experiments in conservation will change how we see ourselves and our place in this world. Join Chalice Camp this summer and learn how we can all tread more lightly on our earth! Look for more information beginning May 8th.

### High School Youth Group Dates:

**Date:** Wednesday May 18

**Time:** 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**Theme:** Where Do We Go From Here?

\*\*\* Please note a change in topic!

### Wellspring Wednesday—May 11, 2011

“*Shrinky Dinks and Finger Paints.*” This messy and fun activity will be available to all young people between the ages of 4 and 12. If the weather permits, there will also be plenty of time to play outside. Nursery care is also available. Please sign up on the Wellspring Wednesday Bulletin Board by Monday May 9th at noon, so we can gather the appropriate supplies.

### Days to Remember in May

**Saturday May 7th 4:30 p.m. Service ONLY**—We will have a special *Bridging Celebration* to honor our graduating Seniors.

**May 14th and 15th**—The last weekend of Religious Education for the program year. RE will be held at the 4:30 p.m. Service Saturday and the 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. Services on Sunday.

**May 21st and 22nd**—*Coming of Age* services. All of the services this weekend will be led by the youth who participated in the Coming of Age program this year. The youth will present their credos and be a part of the entire service. This is an event that you will not want to miss. \*\*\* *Note this is a Service for All Ages.* Nursery will be available to young people from birth to 5 years old.

**May 29th**—We begin our *Summer Schedule*. Classes will be offered **ONLY at the 9:15 service** for rest of the summer. The celebration of the summer schedule will include playing outdoor games, creating bird feeders, and gathering items to create a summer altar or basket. This program is open to young people from 4 year olds—to 5th graders. (We also love to have those who are older help with the program!) Nursery care will be provided at the 9:15 and 10:45 services for infants to five-year-olds.

# Calendar May 2011

## **Sunday May 1 - Services 8:00, 9:15 & 10:45am**

Building Listening Sessions after all services.  
Smiling Dandelion Sangha Small Group 6:30-8:30pm  
Narcotics Anonymous 6:00-8:00pm  
Games Night 5:00pm (page 8)

## **Monday May 2**

Goddess Group Small Group 9:00-11:00am  
Miracles Group 6:30-7:30pm  
Deva Partner Church 6:00-7:30pm

## **Tuesday May 3**

Playgroup 9:00-11:00am  
Men's Group 7:00-9:30pm  
Art Committee 6:30pm

## **Wednesday May 4**

Overeaters Anonymous 6:30am  
Lay Ministry Team 7:00-8:30pm  
Coming of Age Planning 6:45-9:00pm

## **Thursday May 5**

Choir 6:45-8:15pm  
1st Thursday Book Group Small Group 6:30-8:30pm

## **Friday May 6**

Crafter's Corner 7:00-11:00pm

## **Saturday May 7 - Service 4:30pm**

Zen Meditation Small Group 6:00-9:00am  
UU 101 9:00am-2:00pm

## **Sunday May 8 - Services 8:00, 9:15 & 10:45am**

Freethinkers Symposium 8:30-10:15am  
Mental Health Matters Task Force 12:00pm  
Smiling Dandelion Sangha Small Group 6:30-8:30pm  
Narcotics Anonymous 6:00-8:00pm

## **Monday May 9**

Goddess Group Small Group 9:00-11:00am  
Miracles Group 6:30-7:30pm  
Survivors of Suicide 6:30-8:30pm  
Leadership Development Committee 6:45-8:00pm  
Hearing Loss Association 6:30-8:30pm  
Compassion for Human Rights & Diversity Task Force 6:30-8:30pm

## **Tuesday May 10**

Playgroup 9:00-11:00am  
Word For Word Small Group 7:00-8:30pm

## **Wednesday May 11**

Overeaters Anonymous 6:30am  
Wellspring Wednesday  
5:45pm Dinner 6:30-8:30pm Program

## **Thursday May 12**

Choir 6:45-8:15pm  
Wellspring Committee 6:30-8:30pm  
Women's Talking Circle Small Group 6:30-8:30pm

## **Saturday May 14 - Service 4:30pm**

Zen Meditation Small Group 6:00-9:00am  
South of 40 Small Group (page 8)

## **Sunday May 15- Services 8:00, 9:15, & 10:45am**

Smiling Dandelion Sangha Small Group 6:30-8:30pm  
Narcotics Anonymous 6:00-8:00pm

## **Monday May 16**

Goddess Group Small Group 9:00-11:00am  
Miracles Group 6:30-7:30pm  
Survivors of Suicide 6:30-8:30pm

## **Tuesday May 17**

Playgroup 9:00-11:00am  
Board Meeting 6:45-8:45pm

## **Wednesday May 18**

Overeaters Anonymous 6:30am  
Senior High Youth Group 6:00-9:00pm

## **Thursday May 19**

Choir 6:45-8:15pm  
UU Book Club Small Group 7:15pm (page 8)

## **Saturday May 21 - Service 4:30pm**

Zen Meditation Small Group 6:00-9:00am

## **Sunday May 22 - Services 8:00, 9:15, & 10:45am**

Annual Meeting 6:00pm  
Narcotics Anonymous 6:00-8:00pm

## **Monday May 23**

Goddess Group Small Group 9:00-11:00am  
Miracles Group 6:30-7:30pm  
Gathering Circle 7:00-9:00pm  
Adult Drum Circle Small Group 6:30-8:30pm

## **Tuesday May 24**

Playgroup 9:00-11:00am  
South of 40 Small Group (page 8)

## **Wednesday May 25**

Overeaters Anonymous 6:30am

## **Saturday May 28 - No Service**

Zen Meditation Small Group 6:00-8:00am  
Landscape Work Day 9:00am-12:00pm

## **Sunday May 29 - Services 9:15 & 10:45am**

Smiling Dandelion Sangha Small Group 6:30-8:30pm  
Narcotics Anonymous 6:00-8:00pm

## **Monday May 30 - Office Closed**

## **Tuesday May 31**

Playgroup 9:00-11:00am

**For more information on these listings  
see the:**

- ♦ **Committee Brochure**
- ♦ **Small Group Directory**
  - ♦ [www.fvuuf.org](http://www.fvuuf.org)

Wednesday Programs:  
May 11

Dinner served from 5:45-6:00  
Dinner cost: \$6/adult \$4/child  
Program: 6:30-8:00pm  
Concurrent children's program



Don't forget to sign up for the dinner and the programs in one of these ways by Tuesday at 9:00am prior to the program:

- ♦ On the bulletin board in the Fellowship lobby
- ♦ On the website at <http://tinyurl.com/fvuufforms>
- ♦ Email [fvuufsec@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufsec@fvuuf.org)
- ♦ Call 920-731-0849

**May 11: What do you think happens after we die? What are your thoughts regarding the soul? We have been exploring many deep spiritual topics this year through our Wellspring program. Why do we go through this exercise of considering questions and pursuing answers to topics that, in many cases, we won't ever truly answer? Join Rev. Roger Bertschhausen and Rev. Dottie Mathews as they recap the Big Questions we have been considering this year and give insight into where we go from here.**

#### **Adult Spiritual Programs Needed for 2011-2012**

Do you have a TALENT, SKILL OR KNOWLEDGE that you would like to share with the Fellowship that would bring SPIRITUAL DEPTH to those in attendance? The Wellspring Committee is now accepting program applications for the 2011-2012 program year. Please complete the Program Proposal Form found on the Wellspring page on [www.fvuuf.org](http://www.fvuuf.org) or on the Wellspring bulletin board in the lobby of the Fellowship. Turn it into the Fellowship office no later than August 1st. All programs will be considered, however due to various factors not all programs will be able to be accepted. Contact Bradley Shipps at [bradley.shipps@gmail.com](mailto:bradley.shipps@gmail.com) or 920-574-8044 for additional information or questions.

#### **Wellspring Wednesday Children's Programming-**

During the adult programming we provide both nursery care for infants through pre-school age. The Children's Program is offered to school age children through 5th grade.

**Sign Up**—Please sign your children up for this program by noon on the Monday before the program so we can have enough supplies and supervision.

**Families have come to greatly enjoy sharing a meal with their children and then having separate activities to go. The kids get to play while the parents share time with other adults growing on their spiritual journey.**

**May 11:** Shrinky Dinks and Finger Paints.  
See page 5 for more information.

#### **Don't Miss the Last Wellspring Wednesday of the 2010-2011 Program Year!**

**May 11** Recap the Big Questions Theme

#### **UU101 Class**

**Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Catered lunch included.**

Join Rev. Roger Bertschhausen and Rev. Dottie Mathews for a fun and informational class to learn more about the Fellowship. This class is especially helpful for new members and those considering joining the Fellowship, but everyone is welcome to attend. We offer information about our history, governance, programs and liberal faith. This class is a wonderful opportunity to engage with new people and connect with others in the Fellowship community. Please sign up in the lobby of the Fellowship or contact the office. Child care will be available to those who request it no later than May 1st.

## UU Pantheists of Eastern Wisconsin

Saturday, May 21

1:00– 3:00 p.m.

The UU Pantheists small group will be having their small group kick-off celebration at Wild Ones Institute for Learning and Development, also known as the Wild Center located at 2285 Butte Des Morts Beach Road in Neenah. We will have some planned activities and also have a chance to tour the beautiful grounds. For more information,, contact Jon Wigg at [bladng2k@yahoo.com](mailto:bladng2k@yahoo.com) or Dave Gerlach at [gerlachda@new.rr.com](mailto:gerlachda@new.rr.com).

### 1st Thursday Book Group

The 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday book group will meet on May 5th at 6:30p.m. in the Brown Room. The May book is *The End of Faith* by Samuel Harris. The June book is *The Diary of Mattie Spenser* by Sandra Dallas. You do not need to be a member or have read the book to attend. Call CyAnn Martin at 920-729-0477 for more information.



### UU Book Club

Monthly discussion of a fiction or non-fiction book of modest length. Books are chosen by members on a rotating basis, not with an eye to what the others' usual interests are, but with an eye to what the selector thinks would be good for the others to read. Please join us every third Thursday at 7:15 p.m. The May book is *Elmer Gantre* by Sinclair Lewis and the June book is *Lacuna* by Barbara Kingsolver. For more information, contact Ed Hudak at [ehudak2@yahoo.com](mailto:ehudak2@yahoo.com).

### South of 40 Young Adult Small Group

The young adults of the Fellowship gather for caffeine and conversation on the 2nd Saturday of each month as well as dinner and dialog on the 4th Tuesday. In May, we'll be meeting at Harmony Café in Appleton on the 14th at 9:00am. For dinner on the 24th at 6:00pm, we'll dine at Koreana in Appleton. Contact Jessa Green for more information or to RSVP: [green4keeps@gmail.com](mailto:green4keeps@gmail.com) or (920) 850-4950.

## Crafter's Corner

The next Crafter's Corner will take place on Friday May 6 from 7:00-11:00 p.m. at the Fellowship. If you scrap, stamp, knit, or anything else please join us!

### Women's Talking Circle

The *Talking Circle* is a safe gathering place for adult women to share personal feelings, experiences, and thoughts on any topic, without judgment or interruption. The next Talking Circle will take place on May 12 at 6:30pm at the Fellowship. For more information please contact Debra Morningstar at 920-915-4154 or [dawest@centurytel.net](mailto:dawest@centurytel.net).



**Games Night** - "35 & Better" - but all ages welcome, and looking for seniors. Playing games for fun and laughs like Taboo, word games, new card games, trivia, or bring your own game. Generally meeting on 1st Sundays at 5:00pm, Capek room. Contact Ross Wilmington, [ross.wilmington@gmail.com](mailto:ross.wilmington@gmail.com) or Marj Moeller, 920-739-6807.

### Drum Circle

Adult, Co-ed Drum Circle. Monday, May 23, 6:30-8:30pm at the Fellowship. No RSVP required. For more information, contact Debra Morningstar at [dawest@centurytel.net](mailto:dawest@centurytel.net) or 920-915-4154.



### First Wednesday Luncheon

The **First Wednesday luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, May 4th at noon in the Founders Room. Take your lunch break and join us for a time of fellowship, food, and conversation! If interested, please sign up on the bulletin board at the Fellowship or call the office (920-731-0849) by Monday, May 2nd.

### Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the June/July newsletter are due by **May 15th**. Email your articles to Cyndi Polakowski, Fellowship Secretary, at [fvuufsec@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufsec@fvuuf.org).

**FVUUF INCOME AND EXPENSE SUMMARY REPORT  
AS OF March 31, 2011**

Income	Year To Date		YTD Prior Year	Year To Date Budget
	3/31/2011	7/1/2010-3/31/2011		
<b>Contributions:</b>				
Pledges	39,242	354,559	337,407	378,154
New pledges	1,732	8,172	8,519	9,000
Unpledged	1,160	11,097	9,287	9,000
All other income	9,466	33,023	47,692	39,494
<b>Total income</b>	<b>51,600</b>	<b>406,851</b>	<b>402,905</b>	<b>435,648</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Service	554	10,399	9,354	12,762
Personnel	33,933	303,717	295,270	310,075
Office expenses	1,591	23,832	22,527	28,100
Mortgage P & I	3,985	36,105	39,997	40,356
All other expense	7,118	37,749	29,033	37,969
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>47,180</b>	<b>411,801</b>	<b>396,182</b>	<b>429,263</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>4,420</b>	<b>(4,950)</b>	<b>6,723</b>	<b>6,385</b>

Pledge Income was under budget for the month and remains under budget for the year. YTD Pledge Income is \$354,559, which is \$23,595 under budget, but \$17,152 ahead of prior year.

Total Income YTD is \$406,851, which is \$28,797 under budget.

All lines of expense are under budget. Total Expense YTD is \$411,801, which is \$17,462 under budget.

YTD, Total Expense exceeds Total Income by \$4,950.

**Oshkosh Wellspring Wednesday**

Catered dinner, Adult and Children's Programs

Wednesday, May 18

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Recapping the "Big Question" Theme

B'nai Israel Congregation Social Hall - 1121 Algoma Blvd.

Childcare will be offered

The cost for dinner is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children



Everyone is invited to join the discussion!

Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/fvuufforms> or in the lobby of the Fellowship. If you have any questions or comments about this event, please contact Kristin Bock at [kjkbock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjkbock@sbcglobal.net). The sign-up deadline is 9:00am the Monday before each event. If you are interested in attending but are financially unable, please contact Rev. Roger Bertschausen or Rev. Dottie Mathews for discreet financial assistance.

Contact Cyndi Polakowski, Fellowship Secretary, at [fvuufsec@fvuuf.org](mailto:fvuufsec@fvuuf.org) to sign up for the Oshkosh email list to receive announcements regarding Oshkosh events.

# Social Justice News

This spring we are celebrating the launch of our new Social Justice Ministry program. After a great deal of conversation and re-organizing and prioritizing, as of this writing we have five new Social Justice Task Forces in motion. We will also continue to support the social justice work of our partners ESTHER (the Fox Valley's interfaith social justice network) and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). All Fellowship members and friends are warmly invited to get involved with any of these Social Justice activities that will do your heart good and fit in your life. Check the Social Justice bulletin board for updates and meeting dates. Questions? Contact Leslie Taylor, Social Justice Ministry Facilitator 920-739-7307 or [leslietaylor@retail.com](mailto:leslietaylor@retail.com).

## Compassion for Human Rights and Diversity Task Force

Contact : Margaret Alexander [westfieldretreat@gmail.com](mailto:westfieldretreat@gmail.com) or Brittanie Pierce [brittaniepierce@yahoo.com](mailto:brittaniepierce@yahoo.com)

We have been sharing with one another our own stories about what "drives" our interest in this work. This discussion has helped create a bond among us. We want to encourage everyone in the Fellowship to attend these three upcoming events in the community:

- On Tuesday, May 17th at 7:30 PM, UW Madison neuroscientist Dr. Davidson, whose work is known world-wide, will talk about his work on changes in brain structure when people meditate on compassion for long periods of time. His subjects include the Dalai Lama and monks who have spent much of their lives meditating. This is a *free* presentation at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) in Appleton, but you do need to get a ticket in person, while supplies last, at the PAC or the Trout Museum. Doors open at 6:30 PM on the 17th.
- Over the past year, children in local schools (and some teachers) have been using their artistic skills to depict what compassion means to them on 6" x 6" tiles. These tiles will be on display at the Trout Museum, starting at the beginning of May. A must see!
- Appleton's 2nd Annual Juneteenth Day: Sunday, June 26, 10am - 6 pm at Houdini Plaza Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, the date when the last slaves, in Galveston, TX were informed that they were freed. This event is for all ages. Come join us in singing "Lift Every Voice" at 10:00 when the celebration begins so we can send music resounding through the streets of Appleton!

## Hunger and Homelessness Task Force

Contact: Terry Dawson [tdawson48@gmail.com](mailto:tdawson48@gmail.com) or Miriam Douglass [mdouglass@new.rr.com](mailto:mdouglass@new.rr.com)

Our Task Force has been busy working to make a difference by supporting programs of other organizations in the Fox Cities which serve our hungry and homeless populations.

- The collection of hygiene items for the "Help for the Homeless" campaign was a huge success. Even the organizers who picked up the items were amazed at the quantity of hygiene items contributed by our Fellowship. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.
- Our weekly Food Pantry collections at the Fellowship have notably increased, and a group of us provided a meal at COTS.
- The hungry in other parts of the world were helped by the Bread for the World Offering of Letters conducted April 16 and 17.

Soon we will be visioning other possibilities for the Task Force. We welcome all who are interested to join us!

## Mental Health Matters Task Force

Contact: Karen Schiller [karenschiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karenschiller@sbcglobal.net) or Cindy Darling [cdarling@new.rr.com](mailto:cdarling@new.rr.com)

Our Task Force has created a Facebook page to facilitate sharing and communications among those of us who care deeply about this topic. When logged into Facebook, go to FVUU Mental Health Matters and "Like" our group to get connected.

- We would like to invite the Fellowship to join us in reading Steve Earley's "Crazy," a father's journey in trying to help his mentally ill son negotiate life and the mental health system. On May 7th and May 8th we will kick off this Book Read - we will ask members to commit to reading the book and we will lead a discussion about it in September. (continued)

- We're also looking into the possibility of organizing a QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Training for Suicide Prevention. The Task Force would like to make this training widely available - to Fellowship members and faith leaders in the wider community.

### **Seventh Sense Task Force**

Contact: John Duffin [japple51@gmail.com](mailto:japple51@gmail.com) or Jessa Green [green4keeps@gmail.com](mailto:green4keeps@gmail.com)

In keeping with our Unitarian Universalist seventh principle, our Task Force for a sustainable environment strives to reduce our human footprint through education, example, and cooperative action.

- We are partnering with the Design Team for our Building Expansion project to educate ourselves and the Fellowship community about the choices we can make to incorporate sustainable design into everything we do, in our "church" home as well as our own homes.
  - We are also looking into a Seventh Sense sustainable community gardening project. Below are some possibilities we've identified so far - please let us know if you're interested in helping with any of these ideas!
1. Volunteers to help us start a partnership at COTS (and possibly elsewhere) in which we provide container gardening resources and mentoring. Residents at COTS would be encouraged to grow produce for consumption there at COTS using organic methods. They apparently also have space at COTS for an in-ground garden.
  2. Fellowship members who are willing to "Grow an Extra Row" of produce in their own gardens to share with a local nonprofit (such as COTS) or food pantry (such as St Joseph's). The Seventh Sense committee would arrange, later this year, for a central collection point from which the produce could be delivered each week to the nonprofit group.
  3. Donations from anyone wishing to help fund the container gardening or donations of a suitably sized container or soil, seeds, extra garden plants, used tools. Any help of this type would be very welcome even if the person is too busy or otherwise unable to help with labor.



### **UU Partner Churches Committee**

Contact: Tony Salsich [jtsals8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtsals8@sbcglobal.net) or Vickie Milde [vicmilde@hotmail.com](mailto:vicmilde@hotmail.com)

The committee's 3rd annual plant sale will be held on Sunday May 15th. Look for our tents in the Fellowship yard from 8 am-2pm. We will have lots of plants to choose from including perennials, vegetable plants, herbs, house plants and more, all at reasonable prices.

- On Thursday 5/12 at 3:00 potters can gather at Marsha Dawson's home (907 N. Fair St., Appleton) to get the plants ready for the sale. Please join us to help & stay for a potluck supper after we finish our work. We are looking for donations of plants, soil, & pots.
- We are also seeking volunteers to help set up for the sale on Sat. 5/14 and others to help sell plants on 5/15. Look for sign-up sheets in the Fellowship lobby. Help us make this another successful sale to support our UU Partner Churches in the Philippines and Romania!

For more information call Marsha Dawson (734-0013), Vickie Milde (730-0596) or Lee Boeke Burke (915-1667)

#### **Banaybanay, Philippines**

There is much excitement surrounding the start of our partnership with Banaybanay in the Philippines. Our three representatives on the March 2011 Philippine Pilgrimage, Lee Boeke Burke, Karon Sandberg, and Nadine Van Lieshout, brought back wonderful photos and compelling stories of learning, sharing, and opportunity. Your generous donations brought tears of joy to our new partners. With our \$1000 donation, they will be able to purchase materials to add an RE wing and storage cabinets to their building. Please visit the displays in the lobby to learn about our new partners and our future plans.

#### **Deva, Romania**

Our dear friend Zoli, Minister at Deva, has won a scholarship to study at Starr King in Berkeley CA (wife, Ildi, and son, Guszti included). As a result, Zoli and his family will be able to visit us here in Appleton at least once and hopefully twice over the next year! We look forward tremendously to these rare and special visits from our Romanian friends.



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### Return Service Requested

As Unitarian Universalists, we affirm and promote these principles in our Fellowship and in our religious education program:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relationships.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

↓Keep Scrolling↓

### ESTHER Notes

ESTHER, in conjunction with WISDOM, continues its work on the budget as a justice issue. Check out [www.prayforjusticeinwi.org](http://www.prayforjusticeinwi.org) to read WISDOM's statement on the budget, find statements from various faith traditions, and see what others are planning across Wisconsin.

- ♦ Our new issue, Transportation, is moving to the forefront as we plan for Secretary of Transportation LaHood's visit in June. Transportation task force meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at First English Lutheran Church, 326 E. North St., Appleton.
- ♦ Pending Arizona style legislation in the Wisconsin Assembly and the proposed changes to in-state tuition for undocumented students keep our Immigration task force busy. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Methodist Church, 740 E. College in Appleton.
- ♦ The Workforce Housing task force is planning a foreclosure prevention event this summer. Their next meeting will be Monday, May 2nd from 11:30-1:00 at First Congregational UCC in Appleton to plan the event. This is not the normal meeting date or location: Typically, they meet on the second Monday of each month at Atlas Coffee Mill from 11:30-1:00.

Please join us at one of our ESTHER task force meetings! Questions? Call Connie Raether at 920- 832-8990.



### Social Justice Collections:



LEAVEN	\$965
UUSC – Japan Relief	\$2,231

Total collected for 2010-2011 as of 3/31/2011 = \$10,836