

CONVERSATION WITH EVA

The saying goes, “March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers”, but as I write this we’ve had blowing winds, bitter cold and several snowstorms, along with a nice bit of ice to spice things up a bit. It’s hard to imagine this thaw that is promised by the poem. Yet, I’ve lived enough winters, I know that although it’s hard to imagine, it always does come. Some years the snow lingers more than others. Some years the warming winds blow in March and others are bitter well into April, but living on this earth brings some promises, and spring “springing” is one of them.

So, what does your faith promise you? Some will promise you a privileged place in an afterworld and other such things. Our faith doesn’t offer such sureties. We don’t have a set teaching about beliefs, instead leaving each person alone with God, or as the Zen Buddhists say “alone on the cushion” to determine your own place in the grand scheme of things. So, here it is—March. . .promising spring. What else is promised in your life? The month extends the invitation. . .stop for a moment, (set down the snow shovel) and think.

I’ll be eager to hear your answers!

See you in church!

Eva



FVUUM

The Friendship Village UU Ministry continues with its monthly chapel from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The location is Lakeview Landing which is the first building on Southbrooke Drive just off West 9th Street in Waterloo. Mark your calendars for this month’s meeting which will be **Wednesday, March 26th**.

For more information or to R.S.V.P. that you will be able to join them in their service, contact *Marilyn Desmond* at 233-3454. You need not be a resident to attend.



Spring Fever

Four high school boys afflicted with spring fever skipped morning classes. After lunch they reported to the teacher that they had a flat tire.

Much to their relief she smiled and said, “Well, you missed a test today so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper.”

Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down. Then she said, “First Question: Which tire was flat?”



UU historical facts in our newsletters are contributed by *Mica Lorenz* and taken from *This Day in Unitarian Universalist History* by Frank Schulman – Skinner House Books.

PRESIDENT’S CORNER

As many of you know, we have recently formed a Marketing Committee to look at ways to get the message out about who we are and what we have to offer. One of the challenges in any marketing campaign is to figure out exactly who your audience is—who is most likely to respond favorably to what you have to say.

In her sermon on February 9th, *Eva* talked a lot about the demographics of our nation and community, and one thing she highlighted was the growing number of people who do not identify with any religion or denomination. They have come to be referred to as the “nones” and they are the fastest growing religious group in the country, even outstripping the fundamentalists! This group is of younger than average age, and many describe themselves as “spiritual” and as believing in God, but they aren’t interested in organized religion.

The “nones” would appear to be a natural recruiting ground for Unitarian Universalists. We can offer them the benefits of belonging to a religious community without their having to adhere to a specific set of beliefs or spiritual practices. In our group, they have the freedom to develop their own spiritual path, and that should be quite appealing to them.

The trick is to convince them that being in a religious *community* has clear benefits beyond simply practicing your religion, or non-religion, on your own. A community such as ours offers support for where you are spiritually, but it also challenges you to think differently about things and to move toward a deeper understanding of what it means to be religious. Since this group is disproportionately younger, we may have to come up with ways to draw them in other than the traditional 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. Meetings in the evenings at coffee shops, special programs on religious topics, concerts—all of these might serve to draw them in.

I will be working with the Marketing Committee, with our minister, and with others in the congregation to come up with new ideas for attracting this population. I would welcome creative ideas and suggestions from anyone in the congregation.

Al Hays
President of the Board

Charles Edwards Park was born in Mahabaleshwar, India on March 14, 1873. He attended Yale University and the University of Chicago Divinity School and was a minister in Hingham, Massachusetts, from 1900 to 1906. He then had a long and prominent career in Boston, with forty years as minister of First Church (Unitarian). *Time* magazine called him “the Grand Old Man of U.S. Liberal Pulpits.” He exerted a strong influence through his sermons. His books include *Christianity: How it Came to Us, What it Is, What it Might Be* (1948); *Creative Faith* (1951); and *The Way of Jesus*.



Spring is nature's way of saying, “Let’s Party!”
Robin Williams

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RE?

I admit, I no longer like play dates. I used to love play dates. I would plan my week around them. The opportunity to have adult interaction while the kids were kept busy. I didn't have to dress up, it was completely appropriate to show up not showered with spit-up on your shirt. It was a time to ask questions of other moms and for the kids to learn to share and play with new toys. They would last hours and then, the best part, the kids would sleep for hours! They were great! Then, my kids got older and play dates turned into having a friend over or sleep-overs. I no longer look forward to these and, as much as I would plan my activities around them before, I now plan my activities to avoid them. (I realize, I need an attitude adjustment.)

Let me tell you why I no longer like them. On the boys side, they became bigger and rougher. Now they chase each other around the whole house (not just the designated play room I had when they were little) shooting nerf darts at each other. When that bores them, they take Izzy hostage or stalk her when she least expects it. When they bore of that (or get in trouble), they seem to turn the nerf guns on me. Inevitably, I end up protecting myself with a pillow while threatening to take the toys away if they don't leave me be. Other "play dates" for *Landon* consist of playing Minecraft. Now, how is this a PLAY date when all they are doing is virtually playing with each other in a virtual world? I don't get it, however I appreciate the lack of destruction in the real world. Thankfully, *Landon* is a quiet homebody who would rather hang out at home with his sister most days.

Then there is Izzy. She loves having friends over. However, I think her opinion may be changing. It started last year when a friend would often come over due to her parents' work schedule. It went from playing dolls in her room to checking on where *Landon* was throughout the play date. Then, during virtual play dates (when one friend FaceTimes another friend and they play, usually dolls, over FaceTime) she would ask for Izzy to go find *Landon* to see what he was doing. Izzy was getting very annoyed that her friend had more interest in her stinky brother. She couldn't understand why?! She eventually quit answering FaceTime and asking her over.

When Izzy was five, we had a friend of hers over (let's call her Jane) and they played together perfectly. It was great until Jane's mom came to pick her up. She had her two year old son in tow and before I knew it the two year old had *Landon's* guitar in his hand hanging from the strings. Izzy tugged on my arm and whispered, "Mom, he's going to break it!" When Jane's mom saw the distress in Izzy's face, her response was, "Yes, he's broken three guitars in our house like this" and she did not take the guitar away, I did. The final straw was when they were going out the door, the little brother was screaming saying he wanted to stay. The mom said, "I bet when Izzy invites Jane over again, she will invite you too!" Umm. . .two and a half years later, I let Izzy invite Jane over again due to Izzy's insistence (this was two weeks ago).

I pick the girls up from school, tell *Landon* to leave them be, and the girls are off. It was going well. I only had to ask *Landon* one time not to shoot the girls and the girls seemed to be playing nicely in Izzy's room. Then, Jane appeared downstairs as I was working on my computer. She plops down next to me on the couch ready to watch some TV with me instead of playing with Izzy. I shut the TV off. She heads down to the basement to see where *Landon* was. Izzy comes to find her. Come to find out, they were playing school, taking turns being the teacher, and when it was Izzy's turn to be in charge, Jane decided she was bored and left. After getting her up from the basement, Jane decides to hide. Jane has hidden herself well enough that Izzy cannot find her. Izzy is distressed and then Jane pops out says, "Ha! Ha!" She then helps herself to snacks. I finally have to tell her that she cannot help herself to thirds (I mean, really?!) and she needs to be ready to

go when her mom comes. (I am not having the guitar incident happen again!)

The play date ends. Our musical instruments were safe this go-round and I thought it was a mediocre play date. I was glad it was done; then, at bedtime Izzy says this:

Izzy: "Mom, when Jane and I got upstairs she told me that gay people are drunk."

Me: "What?!"

Izzy: "She said she can't bring gay people to her church."

Me: "What?! Well, I don't think she needs to be coming over here again."

Izzy: "Yes, I know."

I was shocked and surprised that a second-grader felt comfortable declaring her, her family, and her church's opinions on sexual orientation. I figured the biggest debate would be which American Girl doll to play with!

Thinking of this interaction reminds me of other parents of Izzy's friends who declared on Facebook they supported the Christian singer, Natalie Grant, who walked out of the Grammy's once "One Love" was sung and Queen Latifah married thirty couples, some same sex, on live TV. They supported the Christian singer's response of not responding other than saying, "I've never been more honored to sing about Jesus and for Jesus. And I've never been more sure of the path I've chosen." Really, your path? A path of hate and inequality? I was so disappointed in the parent who "liked" this on Facebook.

So, here's the difference with me and these other moms. I recorded the Grammy's and during the performance of "One Love" and the mass wedding ceremony, *Kevin* and I asked *Landon* and Izzy to put down their Kindles and watch. I cried, even though it was the fourth time I watched it, and after Izzy asked why they needed to watch it, I said this is important. I told them to look at how happy the couples were and how in love they were. I told them they were watching history (plus our whole family loves Macklemore and Ryan Lewis).

On a final note, when my family and I were working Pride Fest last summer, I was surprised to see the mom of one of *Landon's* friends in attendance. She came up to me with a look of bewilderment and said, "Hi." I said, "Hi!!!" She didn't skip a beat when she took the opportunity to ask me how I explained all "this" to my kids. I told her that I didn't, I didn't need to. They know no different. Why would we hide "this" from our kids? "This" is a part of the big picture. Her response was "Well, at least these people feel comfortable and that's okay." I have to say, I laughed inside. It was great to see her this uncomfortable and I was glad to see that she had put herself in that situation. It was a step in the right direction, and even though she was visibly uncomfortable, she was there.

I am thankful the CVUU teaches love. Love for all, even for ones that hate (I'm having a harder time with this one, I will admit it). I know that my kids can go to a friend's house and they will be respectful of all people, but stand up for equality. I do not take this for granted, as I know what an effect one incident can have on forming opinions. The CVUU kids are awesome and spectacular. They are wise beyond their years and I can only hope that the kids who don't go to the CVUU will catch up with them eventually.

I will now have to inform our play date guests of our rules, (well, rule) before they come inside.

1. No hate in this house.

Angie Stafsholt, DCRE



LYNDA'S MUSINGS

A funny thing happened while I was writing this month's Musings. I stepped away from my computer to get a drink of water, and when I came back, the screen had gone dark. I did the usual things one does to wake a computer: clicked the mouse, pressed the Enter key, tapped the space bar a few times. No response.

It was just about bedtime anyway, so I forced it to shut down by holding down the on/off button, and put it away for the night. Maybe it needed a good night's rest. Maybe it would be perky and ready to go in the morning.

No such luck. Early the next day, I pressed the on button. My laptop acted like it was going to start up; but after flashing a few of its lights at me, it just . . . stopped. I waited patiently for half an hour, to no avail. I tried again a couple times, for good measure. Same results. My computer was in a coma.

Now, I consider myself somewhat computer literate. I am pretty good with Word, Google Docs, and Face Book. I can find my way around Power Point and Excel and turn out a workable product, and I know five wildly different computer accounting systems (I was a bookkeeper in a former life).

But when the computer does not do what it is *supposed* to do, I am lost. You probably already guessed that. I looked at the clock—5:00 a.m. It would be a while before I could take it to the computer doctor at Radio Shack. I looked around the house, feeling a little disoriented. I wanted to check the temperature outside, but I never did put up that outside thermometer; there hadn't seemed a need, when I could just check the weather site online. Hm-m-m. Better get some coffee. Steaming mug in hand, I thought I should check my to-do list for things I could accomplish without my computer. Oh, drat! That's on my computer, too! I was astonished at how helpless I suddenly felt.

I thought about how easy it is for us to become attached to what we have planned, to having things work the way we think they are going to. But life has a way of throwing curve balls. Then, if we're lucky, we try to step out of the way so the ball doesn't hit us, or sometimes, we end up with a nasty bruise.

This time, I was lucky. It happened *after* those two big final papers were turned in for J-term. I lost my newsletter article that I was writing, and all of the material I had gathered for writing it. If my nice computer tech can fix my computer, or even just retrieve my files, I will get it written for a future newsletter.

Well, I learned some things.

1) ALWAYS back up my files! Yep, I'm a convert now to regular backups.

2) Work a little farther ahead of the deadline (I usually try to do this, but maybe I'll try a little harder, even when things pile up).

3) It would be good to take an occasional media sabbatical—maybe one day a month—and go through the whole day without looking at life through the lens of a computer program. Walk outside to tell what the weather is. Write a letter on actual paper, maybe.

Meanwhile, I am so relieved that I actually got my papers submitted a few days ago. I feel fortunate to know a really good computer technician, and I am grateful for all of my CVUU friends and associates, and for the time I get to spend with you each week.

My wish for each and every one of you:

May the road rise up to meet you; may the wind be always at your back. May love and luck attend you, and life be full and satisfying. And may your technology work when and how you really need it to.

Have a good March!

Lynda Sutherland,
Student Ministerial Intern

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., a Supreme Court justice, died on March 6, 1935, two days before his ninety-fourth birthday.

CHILDREN'S RE AND SPRING BREAK

There will not be Children's RE on Sundays, March 16th (a Festival Sunday) and the 23rd due to Spring Break.



John Albion Andrew was born on March 31, 1818 in Windham, Maine. He was reared orthodox but became Unitarian at the Church of the Disciples in Boston during the ministry of James Freeman Clarke. A lawyer, Andrew also visited prisons, took on many cases pro bono, and became an advocate of prison reform. He was an outspoken opponent of slavery, and became the Governor of Massachusetts in 1860, after raising funds to support abolitionist John Brown's family. Andrew also helped found the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first African-American fighting unit. A Transcendentalist, Andrew was active in the Unitarian denomination, often speaking at conferences and annual meetings.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

BUDDHIST PATH

Join us each week at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays in the balcony for meditation, walking meditation and discussion of Buddhist topics. All are welcome.

This is a great group to which to invite a friend or neighbor, someone who might enjoy having a place to meditate. Come explore the living dharma with us.



Two old drunks on their way home from the pub, were stumblin' up the country road in near darkness.

"Seamus, I think we've stumbled into the graveyard—look, I can see a stone here that says a man lived to 105!"

"Glory be Malarki, was it anybody we knew?"

"No, t'was somebody named 'Miles from Dublin.'"



Tipperary Hill, also known as Tipp Hill, is a district in the city of Syracuse, New York, largely settled by immigrants from Ireland, especially from County Tipperary. When the city first installed traffic signal lights in 1925, they placed one at a major intersection in the main business district on Tipperary Hill. Local Irish youths, incensed that the "British" red appeared above the "Irish" green, threw stones at the signal and broke the red light. John "Huckle" Ryan, then alderman of the Tipperary Hill section, requested that the traffic signal be hung with the green above the red in deference to the Irish residents. This was done, but soon the State of New York stepped in, and city officials reversed the colors. The red lights were again broken regularly. Members of a group called Tipperary Hill Protective Association addressed the town rulers. On March 17, 1928, Commissioner Bradley met with Tipp Hill residents, who told him that the light would continue to be vandalized. The city leaders relented, and green was again above the red light, where it remains to this day.

THE ST. JOHN'S BIBLE

If you intended to enjoy the exhibit of the St. John's Bible that ended on Friday, February 21st at Wartburg, but just couldn't fit it into your schedule, there is another opportunity coming up in eastern Iowa, so mark your calendars!

The dates are May 2nd to June 8th at Prairiewoods on East Boyson Road in Hiawatha. A win-win situation, as this should be a lovely time for a visit to Prairiewoods *and* to take in this work of art relevant in the 21st Century.

Viewing will be free but donations are gratefully accepted to help offset costs. Public viewing hours will be posted at <www.prairiewoods.org> or call 319-395-6700 for more information.



SOME OBSERVANCES FOR MARCH:

National Nutrition month Women's History month
Irish Heritage month Save Your Vision month
American Red Cross month
Music in Our Schools month



The second religious debate between *Unitarian Francis David* and Calvinist bishop Peter Melius opened at Gyulafehérvár, Transylvania on March 3, 1568. It lasted ten days. Tradition has it that after returning home from that debate, Francis David preached standing on the "round rock" at the corner of Torda street in Kolozsvár and converted all who heard him to Unitarianism. The stone is now in the narthex of the First Unitarian Church in Kolozsvár. The series of debates began at the Diet of Torda and ultimately resulted in the conversion of Prince John Sigismund of Transylvania to Unitarianism.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Sunday, March 9th

Don't forget to set your clocks!



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Cedar Valley Unitarian Universalists will be held on Sunday, April 27th at 11:15 a.m. A regular Sunday Service will precede this meeting.

John Taylor died at age sixty-seven on March 5, 1761. A minister of Ronwich, England, his religious studies emphasized Hebrew languages and Jewish scriptures. To accommodate those wishing to enjoy his simple form of Christian worship, the Nonconformist congregation of Norwich built the Octagon Chapel and became Unitarian. Taylor was the author of several theological works and principal and tutor in theology at Warrington Academy, England.



MARCH SERVICES

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. unless stated otherwise

March 2nd

Community Gardening: Sprouting Seeds

~~ Lynda Sutherland, Karen Impola (WA)

Have you ever reached out to help someone, and received so much more in return than you ever gave? We'll take a look at the book *Tuesdays With Morrie*, a poignant example of the power of relationship to bless and heal hearts. Then we'll explore ways in which the seeds of compassion and caring can sprout in unexpected ways, opening new possibilities for us as individuals and as a UU community.

March 9th

Community Gardening: Ground Conditions

~~ Rev. Eva Cameron, Lynda Sutherland (WA)

Last month we explored our climate conditions; exploring what it's like here in the Cedar Valley. This service will be about authenticity, and accepting who we are, what we have to offer our world. Growing a strong community means starting from the ground up!

March 16th

Festival Sunday: Spring Equinox

~~ Rev. Eva Cameron, Festival Team, John Miller (WA)

Winter has been long and wearying. Let's have some fun and celebrate the coming of spring. No matter what the weather is on this day, we do know that we are halfway to the longest day of the year.

March 23rd T&T Auction sermon

Community Gardening: Gathering

~~ Rev. Eva Cameron, Maureen Murphy (WA)

Each year at the annual Treats and Talents Auction, attendees have the chance to bid on a sermon to be based on a book of one's choice. This year's winner was *Jan Gallagher*, who chose the book *Gathering: Memoir of a Seed Saver* by Diane Ott Whealy, about the history of the Seed Savers organization in Decorah. We will be exploring lessons on community building through gathering.

March 30th

Planting the Seeds of Modern Religion: The Long Shadow of Zarathustra

~~ Al Browne, Del Carpenter (WA)

Do you teach Zoroastrianism to your children? If you practice any Abrahamic religion, you may be surprised to find that the answer is "yes". This presentation describes how some of the core beliefs of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are based on ancient teachings of Zarathustra and how these ancient teachings made their way into religions practiced today.



GREEN LIVING CORNER

Responding to pests in a green and sustainable way

After we got the news in February that the Emerald Ash Borer has finally arrived in Black Hawk County and other counties nearby, we—and thousands of folks with the widely-dispersed and vulnerable ash trees—talked seriously about the options we face.

Nobody wants to lose a beautiful tree. We knew that imidacloprid is the treatment used to save ash trees, but we needed to know at what price, in terms of its effect on our environment.

So, though we knew a little about imidacloprid—that it negatively affects pollinators—my very logical friend suggested that perhaps seedless ash trees could not spread the poison.

Well, nothing exists in a vacuum, as our 7th Principle about the Interconnected Web of all Life reminds us. **Here's what we learned** from some governmental and other sources:

“Imidacloprid is rapidly moved through plant tissues after applications, and can be present in detectable concentrations in tissues such as leaves, vascular fluids, and pollen. **Many nontarget[ed] beneficial arthropods** such as honeybees, parasitic wasps, and predaceous ground beetles **are sensitive to imidacloprid**. These organisms may be adversely affected by sublethal doses of the insecticide, but the effects vary widely depending on application method and route of intake.” <<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/pubs/fatememo/Imidclprdfate2.pdf>>

Risks to water-dwellers, and users of water

Moreover, “there is a potential for stress-related sublethal effects on fish in water contaminated with imidacloprid. [And] several imidacloprid metabolites have been shown to be equal or greater in toxicity than the parent compound. . . .”

This pesticide's effects go well beyond the treated tree: “Imidacloprid detections have been reported in both ground water and surface water in New York. One surface water detection has been reported in Florida.” Reference: <<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/pubs/fatememo/Imidclprdfate2.pdf>>

Thomas Starr King, a Universalist and Unitarian minister and missionary of the West Coast, died of diphtheria on March 4, 1864 at age thirty-nine. At the time of his death, President Lincoln ordered guns to be fired from U.S. forts in recognition of his service to the country.



Our thoughts are with members, friends and their families who are dealing with health or other life issues.

Contact *Rev. Eva* with pastoral concerns or if you are in need of assistance.



Risk to birds

“Imidacloprid is toxic to upland game and birds especially Japanese quail, house sparrow, canary and pigeons. So toxic is imidacloprid to birds that the EPA concluded that the ‘levels of concern’ for secondary exposures were exceeded for both non-endangered and endangered songbirds.

“Imidacloprid causes abnormal behavior, such as lack of coordination, lack of responsiveness and an inability to fly, [even] in birds for which it is not considered highly toxic, such as mallards. Other adverse effects observed include eggshell thinning, decreased weight and reduced egg production and hatching success.” Reference: <<http://www.beyondpesticides.org/pesticides/factsheets/Imidacloprid.pdf>>

How else is this pesticide used and under what names?

“Imidacloprid has many brands and formulations for a wide range of uses, from delousing or defleaing animals to protecting trees. Selected brand names include: Admire, Advantage (Advocate) (flea killer for pets), Confidor, Conguard, Gaucho, Hachikusan, Intercept, Kohinor, Mallet, Merit, Nuprid, Optrol, Premise, Prothor, Provado, Turfthor, Temprid (Bayer), Winner, and Xytect.” <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imidacloprid>

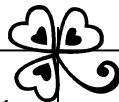
Under scrutiny in Europe

According to the European Food Safety Authority, imidacloprid “poses a potential high acute risk for herbivorous and insectivorous birds and granivorous mammals.” <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imidacloprid>

Whew! And we thought this pesticide “only” harmed pollinators! Guess we'll have to replace that tree. Better than poisoning our wildlife and water.



~Donna Davis



DCRE'S HOURS

Due to Spring Break, *Angie* will not be in the office the week of March 16th to 23rd. During this time she can be contacted by email <dcrc@cedarvalleyuu.org> or cell (319-230-0210).



Ebenezer Gay, thought to be the first Unitarian minister in America, died at age ninety on March 8, 1787 while preparing for Sunday service at the Old Ship Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. He served as minister of Old Ship Church for sixty-nine years.



Q: What is a three-season bed?

A: A bed without a spring!

**SOWING THE SEEDS—
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2014-2015**

What does it take to sustain a healthy CVUU congregation? It takes effort to plant, grow and tend to this valued place in our lives. The Stewardship campaign focuses our attention on raising the funds to make these efforts possible. Without financial support, our congregation cannot be sustained and grow. So help us sow the seeds for our coming year.

Stewardship Sunday was February 23rd. Hopefully you picked up your pledge packet and heard about the campaign. The Stewardship committee has planned small group meetings, occurring over two weeks—the last week in February and the first week in March. Please plan to attend one of these important Stewardship Circles.

You may sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact *Shanlee McNally* at 319-296-2780 or <stewardship@cedarvalleyuu.org>. At these meetings a short presentation will be followed by time to socialize and discuss what you'd like to see grow at CVUU. We look forward to sharing our vision and hearing about your passions.

Stewardship Circle Dates / Times / Locations

- * February 23rd at 2:00 p.m. at the home of:
Brittany Flokstra and Sue Hill, 705 Wisner Dr., Waterloo
- * February 23rd at 5:00 p.m. at the home of:
John and Karen Miller, 4213 W. Shaulis Rd., Cedar Falls
- * February 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of:
Kevin and Angie Stafsholt, 827 Lynkaylee Dr., Waterloo
- * February 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of:
Norm and Karen Kitchen with Mary Kay Madsen,
2116 Barkwood Dr., Cedar Falls
- * March 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the home of:
Mike Knapp and Mica Lorenz, 1141 Independence Ave., Waterloo
- * March 5th following Children's Choir/WOW hosted by:
Sean and Shanlee McNally in Fellowship Hall
- * March 7th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of:
Lisa Kratz, 1821 Quail Run Lane, Cedar Falls
- * March 8th at 10:00 a.m. at the home of:
Bill and Moria Brown, 505 Arizona Rd., Cedar Falls
- * March 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of:
Jan Gallagher, 1324 Prospect Blvd., Waterloo

Shanlee McNally,
Stewardship Chair

Editor's Note: the calendar in this newsletter has the above March Stewardship Circles noted with an *.



Viola Fauver Gregg Liuzzo was murdered in Selma, Alabama, at the age of thirty-nine on March 25, 1965. She was in Alabama to participate in the freedom march between Selma and Montgomery, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., to secure voting rights for African-Americans.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter deadline—for the April issue—will be Friday, March 21st. The calendar deadline (to have things to *Janet Sanders*) is Wednesday, March 19th. Unfortunately, that is the week of Spring Break!

If you plan to be away during Spring Break week, please get your calendar items and newsletter articles to Janet and me, respectively, before you leave. We have timely work to do during that week and appreciate everyone's help, so we can keep things running smoothly.

Thanks in advance and enjoy a safe Spring Break.

Gerry Chamberlin
Newsletter Editor



CVUU "ART SALE"

As was announced in this space last month, plans are being made to have an "Art Sale" at CVUU later this year. The sale would be held on a Saturday in the Sanctuary. (Current plans are to have the recently successful "Book Sale" coincide with this event.)

Looking ahead to spring, some of you may be thinking about 'spring cleaning', so this is a reminder that the Art Sale is still in the planning stages! We need everyone's help to make this work. This is what you can do:

- ☞ Donate art from your homes that you are no longer using. Appropriate items would include, but are not limited to, paintings, drawings, prints, ceramics, fiber arts, and sculptures. Hang on to these items with the sale in mind!
- ☞ Make an original work of art for the sale.
- ☞ If you cannot afford to donate your original work of art, we may be able to work out a split of the proceeds.
- ☞ Volunteer to help! We will need committee members to help with media promotion, setting up and helping with the sale, and tearing down after the show.
- ☞ If there are enough volunteers, we will also sell refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact *Bill Brown* if you have art work to donate, wish to volunteer, or have any questions about the event. Bill's e-mail is <wjbrown@cfu.net> and his phone is 319-429-1068.



The influential Universalist minister *Clarence Russell Skinner* was born on March 23, 1881. He became a secretary of the Universalist Service Commission, professor of applied Christianity and Dean of Crane Theological School, and author of numerous religious books. Skinner, a pacifist, wrote the Universalist Statement of Social Principles. He died on August 26, 1949.



ADULT FORUMS IN MARCH

Join other UUs on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. to learn and share your thoughts about UU-related topics. If you would like to help facilitate a future session, please contact *Heather Flory* at <forums@cedarvalleyuu.org>.

March 2nd

Reproductive Justice in Action—Cuidate!

Facilitator: *Erin Cubit*, Health Educator,

Cuidate/BabyThinkItOver, Allen Hospital

Now that the reproductive justice series has concluded, what can CVUUs do to take action? Join us to hear about a local program that works with Latino youth to empower them to build self-esteem, develop healthy relationships, resist peer pressure, and ultimately, avoid teen pregnancy and STDs. As time allows, we will also discuss other ways that CVUUs can take action.

March 9th

Living the Interdependent Web, Part 5

Facilitator: *Al Hays*

Join other CVUUs to discuss the fifth UU Principle: “the rights of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large”. What does this principle mean to you? How do you (or can you) live it in everyday life?

March 16th

No Adult Forum

Due to spring break week, there will be no Adult Forum this Sunday.

March 23rd

No Adult Forum

Due to spring break week, there will be no Adult Forum this Sunday.

March 30th

Acts of Faith, Part 1

Facilitator: *Sally Browne* and Team

This series is being offered three Sundays in a row, from March 30th through April 13th. Please join us to find out more about the series, and to begin the discussion of *Acts of Faith*, by Eboo Patel. See below for more information about the book and this discussion series.

&& &&& &&

UU Common Read: *Acts of Faith* (March – April, 2014)

This spring’s book discussion will feature the 2011 Common Read selection *Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation* by Eboo Patel. This discussion group will be offered in the Sunday Adult Forum on March 30th, April 6th, and April 13th. The introduction to the UUA materials on *Acts of Faith* describes it as “a call to religious pluralism,” saying that Patel “frankly discusses the appeal of religious fundamentalism to young people.” Patel founded the Interfaith Youth Core to encourage young people of different religions to work together to “apply the core value of all faith—service to others.”

Join us for reading and discussion about Patel’s religious journey, his strong advocacy for interfaith dialogue and action, and how we might take action through interfaith dialogue. Contact *Sally Browne* if you would like to help facilitate these discussions.

Eva found Patel an impressive public speaker when she heard him at General Assembly. His personal faith journey gives him unusual credentials as an advocate of pluralism. Copies of the book will be available for check-out prior to spring break at the Cedar Falls Public Library.

MYSTERY FRIENDS 2014 – SIGN UP NOW!

The sign-up for Mystery Friends began on Sunday, February 16th. Pairings were to be sent out the week following. Mystery Friends will run from Sunday, March 23rd to Sunday, April 13th. On April 13th you will meet your Mystery Friend during coffee hour.

What is Mystery Friends (MF)? MF is where a child, in grades Kindergarten to 12th grade, will be matched up with an adult from our congregation. Between the dates of March 23rd to April 13th the adult will leave mystery messages for their friend, without letting them know who they are. You can provide small gifts during this time or just notes. On April 13th the mystery friends will meet and share a small gift with each other.

What are the requirements to be a MF? You will need to be able to send notes to your friend throughout the weeks of the event and be able to attend the reception on April 13th.

How do you sign up to be matched with a Mystery Friend? There are sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall or use the forms at the end of this newsletter. Fill out and drop off or email to *Angie* at <dcre@cedarvalleyuu.org>. Please fill out the appropriate form. *You MUST have signed up by the deadline on March 16th* or you will not be matched up.



SOCIAL ACTION “WALKIN’ THE TALK”

The Most Successful Grassroots Effort Ever to Fight Hunger!

March is the month for one of our most important Social Action collections. On Sunday March 30th, our special collection will benefit the Feinsein Challenge for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. This is the seventeenth year the Feinsein Foundation will divide \$1 million among agencies such as our Northeast Iowa Food Bank. The more donations made to the Food Bank between March 1st and April 30th, the more of the Feinsein Challenge money they will get. Past challenges have raised over \$2 billion nationwide to fight hunger.

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank distributed over *five million pounds* of food in the last fiscal year and *serves sixteen counties*. Their programs include mobile food pantries to send food to under-served areas, the Kids Cafe to provide meals to children in safe and convenient places, and the Elderly Nutrition Program that serves 1,700 seniors in thirteen counties. The need for their services is growing. As we move into March, please remember to help your neighbors by contributing to the Feinsein Challenge.

Sally Browne
Social Action Chair

*March is
Music in Our Schools month*

Paul Cardale, whose publications helped shape English Midlands Unitarians and influenced Unitarian theologian Joseph Priestley, died on March 1, 1775 at age seventy. The church he served, the Oat Street Chapel in Evesham, continues to espouse progressive Unitarianism.

2014 Mystery Friend Adult Sign-Up

I would like to be a Mystery Friend.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I can/cannot attend the reception on April 13th

- I agree to contact my friend by regular mail or using the Mystery Friend message center located in the Fellowship area once a week during the whole month of April. Hand-made notes or store bought cards are appropriate.

- I agree to attend the reception on April 13th, or to send someone on my behalf.
(donations will be collected to cover the cost of food)

- I agree to provide a small final token of friendship for my friend at the reception (\$5 or equivalent if hand-made).

Signature: _____

2014 Mystery Friend Child Sign-Up and Permission Form

I would like to have a Mystery Friend

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Complete Address:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Age: _____

Gender: _____

List 3 things you are interested in:

1.

2.

3.

Favorite Color _____

Parent's signature is required in order for a child to be paired with a Mystery Friend.

I give my child, _____, permission to participate in Mystery Friends.

My child can/cannot attend the reception on April 13th. Parents and siblings are also included!

How many people will be coming to the reception? _____ (donations will be requested to cover the cost of food)

Food Allergies/Restrictions (vegetarian, vegan): _____

I agree to help my child provide a small token of friendship (\$5 max. or equivalent if home-made) for her/his Mystery Friend at the reception (even if my child cannot attend).

Signature: _____