



**UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
OF BLACK HAWK COUNTY**

3912 Cedar Heights Drive, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

319-266-5640

**NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Cedar Falls, IA
PERMIT NO. 366**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.uusbhc.org



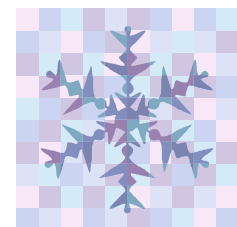
***** 2009 *****

- JAN. 4 9:30 A.M. ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY: "SPREADING LIKE WILDFIRE!"**
 – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Lara Martinsen-Burrell*, John Miller*
- 11:15 A.M. **Adult Sunday School: Conscious Living / New Member Meeting**
- JAN. 11 9:30 A.M. "MEET EVERETT HALE"** – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Al Hays*
- 11:15 A.M. **Adult Sunday School: Circle Way / Stories / Sunday Reading Group**
- JAN. 18 9:30 A.M. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY: "TEACH US LOVE"**
 – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Service For All Ages Team
- 11:15 A.M. **Adult Sunday School: Buddhist Path / Walking The Talk**
- JAN. 25 9:30 A.M. CHALICE LIGHTER SUNDAY: "LIGHT THE FLAME!"**
 – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Chalice Lighter's Team
- 11:15 A.M. **Adult Sunday School: "Doc" Shorts**

* ~ denotes *Worship Associate*

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

- 9:30 A.M. Services ~~ UU and Quaker**
- 10:45 A.M. Coffee/Fellowship/Announcements**
- 11:00 A.M. Children's Chapel**
- 11:15 A.M. Sunday School for Children, Youth, and Adults**



The mission of this organization is to be an accepting and supportive community that nurtures spiritual, emotional, and intellectual explorations, articulates ethical values, and encourages actions based on personal beliefs. This community is a voice for religious diversity, human tolerance, improvement of the human condition, and preservation of our environment.

INTERIM MUSIC DIRECTOR HIRED

With the Executive Board's approval earlier this fall, the Personnel, Music, and Finance committees worked collaboratively to develop the position of an Interim Music Director—unique for our congregation: "Interim," as the position is for the remainder of the current Fiscal Year (from January through June 2009); "unique," as the Fiscal Year 2009 budget did not include funds for a Music Director, thus funding was independently raised through the Music Committee's leadership.

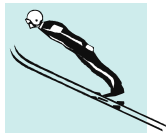
The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that *Tim Purdum* has been hired as the Interim Music Director. Tim has been a member of our Society for over five years, volunteering during that time as singer, pianist, guitarist, drummer, trumpet and recorder player, and director of the adult and children's choirs.

Only some of the highlights from Tim's extensive résumé are included here. From 1998 through 2003, he directed adult, children's, and bell choirs variously at four churches, including First Congregational Church, Waterloo, where he also directed two praise bands. Since 1998, Tim's professional employment has included serving as a music teacher in several schools including Independence Community School District since 2004, where he is a music teacher and Assistant Vocal Director, working with children from third through eighth grades. Tim's education includes in part a Bachelor of Music Education, Vocal Major; and Master of Music in Composition. He has a number of professional certifications and memberships, all in the area of music.

Quoting from Tim's application: "I have discovered with great joy over the years that the music that I learn about and teach at school, including music from around the world and many different sacred traditions, is often the same music that we find in the hymnals and supplements of the UUA. Music is deeply connected to our spiritual selves."

Tim lives in Cedar Falls with his wife, *Suzanne Bullard*, also a member of our Society, and their two-year-old son, *Elliot*.

Judith Harrington, on behalf of the Personnel Committee



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I am writing this as I await the storm that is forecast to dump ten inches on us, thus giving an excuse for a 'snow day'. What is it about winter that brings out the child in all of us? And how strangely disappointing when the 'big one' turns out to be a no show? Do we need an excuse to slow down, to be more connected with the world, to give in to nature? Some folks do, and I suppose I'm one of them. Always busy busy, hurry hurry.

But there is a time to slow down and be connected. Connect yourself to your world and the moment; connect your actions to your values and goals. That's part of what the board will be looking at this year. Work was done earlier in the year to organize our committees into councils. Leadership has been recruited in key areas that needed it. We are now turning our attention to the board itself—what the role of the board should be on the policy/programming continuum, what goals we are trying to accomplish and how to recruit the volunteers needed to accomplish them. All of this aimed at being more deliberate in our choices.

See you in church,

Jan Gallagher,
Board President

CONVERSATION WITH EVA

Welcome to 2009!

With this New Year we have new beginnings. The church year tends to run, like the schools, from the start of fall to the end of spring. Yet this year, in January, we begin something new—we welcome *Tim Purdum* as our Interim Music Director. I am excited to have someone new as part of the Worship Team of the church. Tim has been a delight to work with as a volunteer, but with this change, we will be working together to bring you exciting, challenging, peaceful, restorative worship experiences week after week.

Did you make New Year's Resolutions this year? Was one of them to get more connected to others? Make more friends?

Our music program is one of many ways to make friends and feel connected to some people in the church. You don't have to sing like an angel or play like a pro to find a place in our choir or band. I hope you'll join, give it a try—and get to know Tim better too.

If music isn't your thing, there are many other ways you can contribute to the worship life of our congregation. The Creative Visual Artz team installs new art for us each month, (and always enjoys help). We have a team that creates the monthly Services For All Ages that you could join too. If you are a bit of a ham, and would like to join the newly forming Drama Team—let me know. We will use this team for skits in the services.

We have some new Small Groups starting up for intentional monthly meetings focused on a topic. Watch for details.

Beyond the walls of this church, we will welcome a new President this month. Whatever our political leanings, with the state of this nation, we all have work to do. I ask you to recommit yourself to some form of civic engagement, if you haven't already done so. We need to listen to what our leader offers, and attempt to pull together. We love individualism, but there is strength in togetherness; and we, who are bright and strong, can offer this gift to the world.

I end with these powerful words, by Dr. Howard Thurman—

“When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.”

See you in church!

Eva



On January 1, 1892 the *Ellis Island* Immigrant Station in New York officially opened. A fifteen-year-old Irish girl named Annie Moore became the first of the more than twelve million immigrants to pass through Ellis Island in its sixty-two years of operation.

The Writer's Almanac

NOTES FROM THE DRE

Well, we got a bit of snow in December, so what will January hold for us? *Jan Gallagher* has posted our new *Severe Weather Policy* (which you can find on this page) and, like *Eva*, I plan to be at church every Sunday. Because we may not have great weather it is important to have people who will help when our teachers cannot make it. We do still need some substitute teachers and helpers; you do not have to be a parent to volunteer.

Classes this year will be~

- ◆ Early Childhood Class: 3, 4, 5 year-olds and Kindergarten (meets at 9:45 a.m.)

The following classes meet at 11:15 a.m.

- ◆ Primary Class: Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades
- ◆ Intermediate Class: 3rd and 4th grades
- ◆ Middle School: 5th, 6th and 7th grades
- ◆ High School: 8th through 12th grades

Please remember that we are flexible with the grade levels.

The Youth programs~

Sunday mornings: *Keri* is leading the middle school youth this year. They are working hard on being a group as well as on their time machine and their search for UUs from the past.

Joyce and *Amy* will be working with the youth to get ready for Youth Sunday.

Children's Chapel ~

Meets in the Alternative Activities room at 11:00 a.m.

First Friday, January 2nd—We will celebrate Shinto New Year from Japan. We will eat at 6:00 p.m. *Joyce Boss* will tell us a little about this interesting holiday and then we will run in the snow. Please bring Japanese food or your favorite dish for the potluck. This is a great family event. Hope to see you all there.

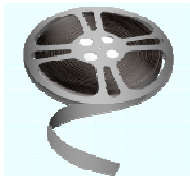
Documentaries ~

We will only have two evening documentaries this month—on January 4th and 11th. Many people have suggested different movies to watch and that is wonderful, but there is a new law that does NOT allow us to show movies of any sort in our church building without having viewing rights. So we have to get the viewing rights. First we have to know who owns the viewing and/or distribution rights. Then we have a few options:

1. We check on the CVLI* website <www.cvli.com> for the company that owns the rights. If our company is on that site we may show the movie in our building but we may not advertise outside the church building. *(Church Video License International to whom we paid a fee and have a one year license).
2. We check to see if the documentary is on the Ironweed website. I have a membership with them and they have great prices and, so long as we call ourselves a club, we can show the films in the building.
3. We write to the company or person that owns the film. This is more difficult but I have had a lot of success with those I have contacted thus far.

So I am sorry if I don't jump up and say thanks for the movie and show it, as you can see it takes a lot of work to bring a documentary and/or movie to our building.

Thank you for sharing your children, youth, and yourself with our leaders and myself. *Kathy Klink-Zeit, DRE*



On January 6, 1878 *Carl Sandburg* was born in Galesburg, Illinois. He served in the infantry during the Spanish American War, later helped organized the Social-Democratic party of Wisconsin and attended Lombard College which later merged with Meadville Theological School. He won three Pulitzer Prizes, for poetry and history. At the time of his death in 1967 he was a member of the Unitarian Church of Asheville, North Carolina.



YOUTH NEWS

The UU Youth had a holiday party on December 13th. They spent a couple chaotic hours at Chuck E. Cheese and then worked in teams to build beautiful, creative gingerbread houses at the church.

In January, they will be spending the majority of Sunday School time preparing for Youth Sunday, which is coming up February 1st. Stay tuned for more details about a possible fundraiser lunch happening the same day!

Joyce and Amy



SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

Unlike organizations that meet during the week, who can simply state: "We cancel when the Waterloo/Cedar Falls schools cancel", UUSBHC has to determine for itself whether the weather and road conditions are severe enough to officially cancel. Who makes this decision? The Minister and Worship Associates who are in charge of the particular service determine whether it is possible to hold a service. The *Rev. Eva Cameron* has a strong commitment to having the building open regardless of the weather. She points out times when weather was bad and people came to church needing comfort and were glad it was open. So, on her Sundays, if she can get to the building in her 4WD Subaru, the building will be open. If she finds there are problems getting to the building or that conditions aren't safe, we will cancel. Notification methods include: the UUSBHC email group, the <www.uusbhc.org> web site, changing the message on the church's phone, and KWWL.

However, if a service is not canceled, that does not mean going out in severe weather is the right thing for you to do. If your car, your temperament or your driving ability is not up to the challenge; if you look at the <www.511ia.org> DOT map and every road between you and the church is marked "travel not advised"; if you watch KWWL and—seeing a long list of churches around us that are canceling services—don't feel joy in your heart about our name not being on the list; it's okay to stay home. You need to be aware of the conditions and make up your own mind. If you have volunteered to do something, and people are expecting you, it would be good to give them a call or email so they don't worry. If there doesn't turn out to be enough people for the service as planned, those who are there will find a way to improvise. Life goes on.

Jan Gallagher

On January 1, 1919 novelist J. D. (Jerome David) Salinger was born in New York City. In 1941, Salinger started dating Oona O'Neill, daughter of playwright Eugene O'Neill. Their relationship ended when Oona began seeing Charlie Chaplin, whom she eventually married.

Salinger was in the ground force invasion of Normandy on D-Day, and for months he saw some of the bloodiest fighting of World War II, including the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he wrote the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*. It was an immediate best-seller. J.D. Salinger now lives in seclusion in New Hampshire, and though he hasn't published anything new in forty years, his friends and neighbors claim that he still continues to write.

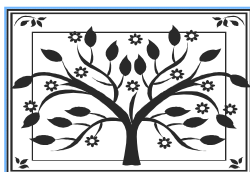


CULTIVATING GRATITUDE

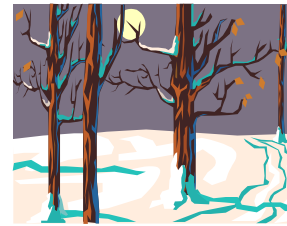
The *Committee on Ministry* started out to name *Julie Fischer* as our January recipient of the *Thank UU Award*, in recognition of her dazzling commitment to our Peace Garden: maintaining it, planting, cultivating, reaping, and selling the Garden's harvest, all for the benefit of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. But, wait! In January, Julie will be joined by a "harvest" of others whom she identified for us, led by regulars in the process: *Nita and Terry Stewart, Bob Robinson, and Betsy Brant*. They and the many folks identified below participated this past season, perhaps by bringing produce, pitching in with gathering, washing, preparing the tables, selling, and/or clean-up: *Amy Anderson, Charlotte* and Mathilde* Brandenburg, Lynn Brant, Randolph and Randy* Bryan, Joyce Boss, Nate Callahan, Sue Campbell, Hanna* and Leo* Gibson, Curt Hanson, Alex* and Taylor* Hanson, Al Hays, Jeff and Robyn Heiden, Karen Impola, Bennett* and Devin* King, Mimi Kuester, Danny Lee, Mary Kay Madsen, Ruth Mahon, Grace* and Patrick Malloy, Lara, Neil and Rose* Martinsen-Burrell, Karen Miller, Miriam Queiroz, Chris Rediske, Michaela Rich, Deblyn and John Russell, Landon* Stafholt, Linnea* and Thos Sumner, Laura Walter, Sue Wilson, Leigh Zeitz*. Names designated with an asterisk are children or youth. How marvelous that this endeavor has attracted their interest, as well. We will recognize all of you at the January 4th Sunday service.

The financial "harvest" was over \$1,400 this year. For every one of those dollars, the Food Bank can provide \$13.31 worth of food to our community. Think of that—while we were able to eat fresh produce, those less fortunate than us have been aided, forty percent of whom are children.

Members of the Committee on Ministry: *Rev. Eva Cameron, Christine Carpenter, Judy Harrington, Jim Paprocki, Leigh Zeitz*.



Q: What do you call fifty penguins in the Arctic?
A: Lost! REALLY lost! (Penguins live in Antarctica.)



NATURE LOVERS GROUP

I would like to start a small group that focuses on enjoying nature. This group would meet on Saturdays in the afternoon. There will be a planning meeting in January—to be announced later. This meeting will focus on when we want to meet and what our goals will be, etc. If you are interested and have not already contacted me, please let me know at <sherih@cfu.net>.

Sheri Huber-Otting



"HEAR YE!! HEAR YE!!"

Mark your calendars for the Annual Chili Cookoff to be held on Sunday, February 8, 2009. There is a lot of competition so be looking for your favorite recipe. Sign up in the fellowship hall or by e-mail. It is necessary to have a special name for your chili. Questions? Contact *Esther*.



Our thoughts are with members and friends of this congregation and their families who are dealing with health issues—specifically: *Eleanore Stark, Dottie Forsberg, Mildred Pierce, Bea Tate, Tyler and Angie Vincent, and Ruth Mahon*.

Belated Happy Birthday wishes to *Dick Shane* who celebrated his 97th birthday on December 17th.

What a joy to hear the New Horizons Band play at the GBPAC in December. The holiday performance was a delight and included our own *Esther Kieffer, Donna Kroeger* and *Lewis Lynch* making great music for the community! Several UUs were in the audience.

An active member of our Society's Buddhist Path, *Senora Sara Blanco*, an Elementary/Middle School Spanish teacher, has received the 2008 Multicultural Educator Award for dedication to teaching from a multi-cultural perspective. Each year, this award is presented to five Pre-K through 12th grade educators and administrators in the state of Iowa. The purpose of the award is to recognize ethnically and culturally diverse educators who have demonstrated a commitment to culturally responsive and responsible teaching, leadership, and multicultural education for all students. Congratulations!

The members of the Caring Committee are *Esther Kieffer* (Chair), *Betsy Brant, Sally Browne, Bob Robinson, Cathy Ryan, Virginia Mahn, Donna Davis, and Eva Cameron*.



January 1, 1764, the Royal Family at Versailles was treated to a harpsichord performance by eight-year-old **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**. Mozart had the honor of standing behind the queen at dinner later that day.
The Writer's Almanac

SING AND REJOICE – OR JUST REJOICE!

Starting January 1st our UU Society will have its first paid Interim Music Director! *Tim Purdum* accepted the position in December (see related article by *Judy Harrington*). Knowing that the congregation had thrived on the quality volunteer musical leadership of *Carolyn Hildebrandt*, many members and friends concluded that continuation of this legacy in a growing congregation would only be possible with paid staff. Much research and many meetings took place this fall to hammer out details, and many members and friends donated time and money to make it possible, including a “seed money” donation of \$1500. Our Winter Festival Concert fund-raiser on December 7th was great fun (think good food, dueling viola players and boogie-woogie sax, among MANY others), and successful in raising the needed funds.

You all have experienced some of the breadth of Tim’s talent. UU musicians who’ve participated in the selection process are among many who are delighted with this outcome, and *Rev. Eva* will find it a bit easier to pin down Order of Service details when she only has to contact one person!

The Music Committee (*Karen Impola*, chair) is grateful to all who had a part in this outcome. Rock on!



RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE NEWS and NOTES

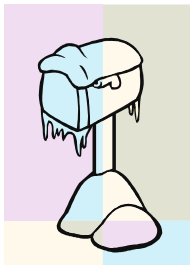
The Creative Visual Artz team has adopted “the struggle is the change” as its January theme. Check out the listing elsewhere of January service topics, then prepare to be enthralled as the group puts together another great installation. Ideas? Would you like to be involved, generating ideas and/or doing the installation? Contact *Deblyn Russell* <deblynzart@cfu.net>.

Tech Team: the sanctuary viewing screen is in poor condition; *John Miller* <kjmlr@mchsi.com> is gathering information about possible replacements. Contact him with input.

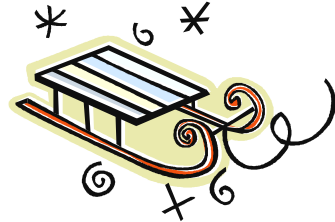
Sunday services: visiting string musicians from Minneapolis will participate in our service January 18th, and some of our UU singers will participate. Watch your e-mail, or contact Interim Music Director, *Tim Purdum* <musicman@cfu.net>. Information on other January Sundays elsewhere. . .it should be an exciting month, even without snow and ice!

November was a busy month for Lay Ministers *Deblyn Russell*, *Sue Hill* and *John Miller*. The three led worship on November 9th and Sue also served as worship leader on November 30th. They are among the many talented (and brave!) UUs who offer quality, lay-led worship experiences throughout the year.

. . .and our Worship Associates: *Del Carpenter*, *Al Hays*, *Karen Impola*, *Esther Kieffer*, *Lisa Kratz*, *Lara Martinsen-Burrell*, *John Miller* and *Deblyn Russell* help keep the Sunday services running smoothly.



January 6, 1568: The Diet of Torda, called by Prince John Sigismund to settle disputes between the Calvinists and the Unitarians, opened in Transylvania. The minister, Francis David, represented the Unitarians, and the bishop, Peter Melius, represented the Calvinists. As a result of the debates, Sigismund converted to Unitarianism and issued the Edict of Torda, which declared official toleration for other religions. It was the first time in Western history that a ruler allowed his subjects to practice a religion different from his own.



MUSIC-MAKING, 2009 UUSBHC-STYLE

Choir rehearsals begin again on Wednesday, January 7th at 6:15 p.m. sharp; rehearsal time is one hour. Tim welcomes mature teens and adults. The only requirement for participation is being able to read English; music reading is not required. One future possibility—children’s choir. Stay tuned. . .and share your ideas with Tim. Come, and make a joyful noise!

Wednesday nights also include dinner, from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. All are welcome; no cooking required. Your cost is \$5/adult, \$2/child; \$10 maximum/family. Details forthcoming as to who will be looking for your R.S.V.P.s. Child care will be available from 6:15 - 8:15 p.m.

Theoretical String Band rehearsals begin again on Wednesday, January 7th. Music reading isn’t required—just the desire to make music. Questions? Contact *Nate Callahan* <n8clln@cfu.net>. Anyone with a hankering to use our newly-acquired snare drum or metal xylophone, do come.

Do you have an interest in occasional music-making for services? Tim <musicman@cfu.net> will be looking for players and singers; these can be solos or ensembles. Let him know what interests you (or your kids), and if you’d need accompaniment, and when you’d like to be scheduled. There are various points during a service where this participation would be welcome.



CUP OF JOE’S ON FRIDAYS. . .

January brings us four Fridays to enjoy each other’s company at ‘the cup’ in Cedar Falls. Join *Eva* and the others who drop in from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on the 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. (Remember, Eva will be at the First Friday celebration on the 2nd.)



The Friendship Village UU Ministry continues with its monthly chapel and luncheon at Lakeview Landing every second Wednesday from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 14th. Please R.S.V.P. to *Brian Forster* (291-8427). You don’t need to be a resident to attend.

CONSCIOUS LIVING CORNER

Start off the new year by joining with others who are attempting to live more in line with our Seventh Principle. We'll share ways that each of us is attempting to lighten our ecological footprint on the planet in 2009.

Come be inspired and inspire others on our common journey. We meet on January 4th at 11:15 a.m.



Juanita Williams

JANUARY SERVICES

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. unless stated otherwise

January 4th

Spreading Like Wildfire! Anniversary Sunday

Once Universalist congregations spread across the Midwest with giant revival meetings. What message did they offer the spirit-weary of the plains? Strong enough to leave Iowa with over one hundred congregations at the turn of the last century! What can we learn from this past? We'll serve Communion on our historic Universalist communion set with the children. *The Rev. Eva Cameron* will be preaching and the Worship Associates will be *Lara Martinsen-Burrell* and *John Miller*.

January 11th

Meet Everett Hale

Hale once said, "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something I can do." *The Rev. Eva Cameron* is preaching joined by Worship Associate *Al Hays*.

January 18th

Teach Us Love Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

Help us to welcome the *Artistic Youth Ensemble* of Minnesota, which brings special music to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in this Service For All Ages. Join Worship Team members: *Tim Purdum*, *Kathy Klink-Zeitz*, *Karen Impola*, *Esther Kieffer*, *Ute Brandenburg*, and the *Rev. Eva Cameron* for this special day.

January 25th

Light The Flame! Chalice Lighter Sunday

Join *Rev. Eva* and the Chalice Lighter's Team to learn about this amazing program in our district. We are part of a pilot project to take this program to new heights—a program that gives UU churches in the area a boost when they need it most. Ever wondered about where our symbol of the Flaming Chalice comes from? We will share with you about that too!



Q: What do you call ten Arctic hares hopping backwards through the snow together?

A: A receding hare line.

SOCIAL ACTION COLLECTION

"WALKIN' THE TALK"

The November Social Action plate collection was for Christmas Dinner boxes to be handed out at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank on December 23rd. We served fifty or so families with the \$600 that was collected. Thanks to *all* for that very generous donation!

December's collection on the 24th was for our Khasi Hills project. I will report on the total collected in the January newsletter. *Patrick Malloy* did an Adult Sunday School class about the Khasi Hills on December 21st.

January's Social Action focus will be on Breast Cancer Awareness. *Christine Carpenter* will present an Adult Sunday School class on January 18th to inform us about the work she does with this wonderful organization; the Social Action plate collection is scheduled for January 25th.

Thanks so much to all of you *generous* people. May this New Year bring you all happiness and joy.

Sheri Huber-Otting
Social Action Chair



ALL CHURCH LUNCHEON – JANUARY 18TH

The Couple's Enrichment Small Group is offering a soup luncheon for all at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, January 18th. A variety of meat and vegetarian soups along with bread and dessert will be provided. Please join them for this culminating service project.

The suggested donation is \$4 per adult and \$3 per child or \$10 per family. All donations will help fund Child Care services for Small Group Ministry. Join us for this fun and tasty event!



WHAT A DIFFERENCE \$20 CAN MAKE

Our congregation has been chosen by Prairie Star District to participate in a pilot project to generate greater awareness of the Chalice Lighters program.

A Chalice Lighter pledges to respond with a contribution of \$20.00 or more, when the call comes to "light the chalice" somewhere in the Prairie Star District. There are three calls each year. Chalice Lighter funds are used to support growth in our Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Prairie Star District through Chalice Lighters Grants to new or existing congregations for a minister, Religious Education professional, music, social justice, office staff, building or land and innovative growth strategies. PSD Chalice Lighters in our seventy congregations in Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin have combined their \$20.00 or more in contributions to help thirty-four Congregations grow over the last seventeen years. For more information, or to enroll as a *Chalice Lighter*, contact *Jim Paprocki* at 296-3737 or <jpaprocki@mchsi.com>.

Chalice Lighter Sunday is January 25, 2009



See the DRE's article for details on First Friday, January 2nd



UU SPOTLIGHT



Here are *John* and *Marilyn Desmond* and their story. They are both native Californians and met at a political club in high school.

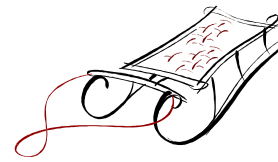
John's first venture into the political realm was leading a campaign to do away with the requirement of a student body card to vote in school elections. After high school graduation, John attended San Jose State for two years. In 1954 he joined the U.S. Air Force; he was sent to Parks Air Force Base only twelve miles from his home.

Marilyn worked at the same base, and they married in 1955. They spent the last two years of John's enlistment in Arizona. He decided not to accept a commission and left as a staff sergeant.

Back in California, Marilyn became interested in medicine and worked for several doctors. In 1961 John became State Comptroller for the California Democratic Council and the next year he was campaign manager for Don Edwards who was elected to the U.S. Congress and was the only Unitarian in Congress at that time. John served as his aide for six years and as an aide on loan for Robert Kennedy in his run for U. S. President. During this time, Marilyn and John worked on civil rights and anti-war issues. Don Edwards was a sponsor of the Civil Rights Bill and presented John with one of the pens used to sign it.

In 1968 they moved to Minnesota. Marilyn went to work for the chief of surgery at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Minneapolis. John worked with the mentally handicapped and after two years joined the United Way in St. Paul. He received a B.A. from Minnesota State University. After working twenty-five years for the United Way in four cities, including Waterloo-Cedar Falls, John retired in 1996. After retirement, he remained active in Democratic activities. Marilyn initially worked at Schoitz and St. Francis Hospital, now Covenant Medical Center. In 1987 she joined the word processing staff at AEA 7 where she remained until retiring in 2002. John and Marilyn's formal introduction to the UUs was brought about by *Dick* and *Vivian Shane*. John served two terms as Chair and one term as Vice Chair; Marilyn served on the Caring Committee.

John is the author of a historical novel, *The Last Revolutionary*, and is in the midst of writing the sequel. The Desmonds have two adult children (Dennis who lives in Virginia with his wife Rita, and Justine who lives in Waterloo). They also have three granddaughters and two great-grandsons who also reside in Waterloo. John continues to enjoy politics in its many and various forms, and gardening. Marilyn's hobbies include reading, crocheting, and cooking. They are both avid birdwatchers.



SELF-REALIZATION COURSE

Crystal King will teach a six-week self-realization course based on principles from the Self Awareness Institute (more information available at <selfawareness.com>).

Steve Sadleir, director of the Institute writes, "*Love is dynamic. To grow it, to feel its full effect, you must share it. You must give it freely, with abandon, unconditionally. By stretching your capacity to receive love unconditionally, you develop a greater capacity to share it unconditionally too.*"

Crystal elaborates, "*Your true teacher lies within. Awake and deepen your connection to Spirit during this six week intensive course. Learn the secrets of the Siddhas, passed down for 8,000 years. If you are reading this, it is no coincidence. Stop, take a deep breath, and reflect. Listen to the calling within. As you connect deeply, your life and the lives of those around you are allowed to naturally unfold to their highest vibration and potential. It is easy, effortless, enjoyable and leads to prosperity, happiness and peace. If you won't do it for yourself, be a noble soul and volunteer for the cause of World Peace!*"

Note: if you go to the website, you can see a couple of photos of Crystal, she is one of the international trainers!

- Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals
- Learn about hosting people in your home to earn extra money

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people. Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.



www.UUreHome.com
43 Vermont Court
Asheville, NC 28806
828-281-3253

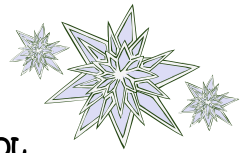
For more information, visit
www.UUreHome.com
or write to
info@uurehome.com

On January 5, 1835 *Olympia Brown* was born in Prairie Ronde, Michigan. Reared as a Universalist she graduated from St. Lawrence University Theological School and became the first woman ordained to the ministry by a full denominational authority on June 25, 1863. She served Universalist churches in Vermont, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Illinois, and Iowa. Brown was also co-founder of the New England Women's Suffrage Association and President of the Suffrage Association. She died on October 23, 1926.



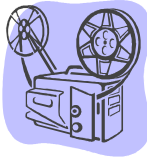
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COUNCIL

Multi-Generation Programs



What's Up Doc?umentaries

A new program at UUSBHC, we will be showing documentaries on the first and second Sunday nights in January at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there.



January 4th

Tales of the City – The stories of a group of people who meet and become friends in San Francisco. The series opens with the arrival of Mary Ann Singleton, a naive young woman from Cleveland, Ohio. She finds an apartment at 28 Barbary Lane.

January 11th

Blue Butterfly – A dramatic adventure about courage, redemption and love, filmed in the rain forests of Costa Rica and in Montreal. Based on a true story.

WOW! WORKSHOPS ON WEDNESDAYS **WOW!**

Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday, reservations needed—sign up at church or online.

Cost is \$5 per person, \$2 children under five years, with a maximum of \$10 per family.

Family Choir at 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday in January

Self-Realization – January 14th, 21st, 28th with *Crystal King*

Couples Small Group Ministry – January 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Theoretical String Band – every week at 7:15 p.m. (see article)

Small Group Facilitators Meeting – January 7th at 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Programs

(See related articles elsewhere in this newsletter.)

First Friday – Japanese New Year (details in DRE article)

YoUng Child Play Group

Buddhist Path

FVUUM

Nature Lovers Group



BUDDHIST PATH

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

This is a great group to invite a friend or neighbor to, someone who might enjoy having a place to come meditate. If Thursday evenings don't work for you, we also meet the third Sunday of each month at 11:15 a.m. Come explore the living dharma with us.



Child's letter to God:

Dear God,
I would like to live 900 years like the guy in the Bible.
Chris

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. unless stated otherwise

January 4th

Conscious Living – This ongoing group encourages us to live green, lessen our footprint, live out ecological values, think global/buy local, all the while encouraging ways we can be more 'conscious' in our daily lives. Join in with others who are eager to take care of our planet.

New Member Meeting – If you are new to our church, then this would be a good time to visit with *Rev. Eva Cameron* and *Mica Lorenz* and learn more about being a UU member.

January 11th

Circle Way – *Chris Rediske* will lead us in work on Words of Power. We will also have time to share what is happening in our lives.

Stories – Please join us for "stories". Individuals tell of a particular event, activity or other occurrence that has had an impact on their lives. This month we'll hear from *Keri Brecht*.

Sunday Reading Group – *Patrick Malloy* will be facilitating a reading group that will discuss the book *Reinventing the Sacred: A New View of Science, Reason, and Religion* by Stuart Kauffman. For more information about the book, visit these links ~

*link to a Kauffman essay about what he is trying to do with the book at <<http://snipurl.com/4grsp>>

*link to the book via Amazon: <<http://snipurl.com/4grvb>>

*link to a bio of Kauffman: <<http://snipurl.com/4grvt>>

For more information about this group, please contact *Pat Malloy*.

January 18th

Buddhist Path – Join *Rev. Eva* and others in exploring Buddhist spiritual practices.

Walking The Talk – A talk about Breast Cancer Education with our own *Christine Carpenter*.

January 25th

"Doc" Shorts – *Granny D Goes To Washington*

This rousing film tells the amazing story of iron-willed, upbeat, eighty-nine year-old Doris Haddock who astonished the nation by walking across the entire continental United States to bring attention to the issue of campaign finance reform.

YOOUNG CHILD PLAY GROUP

The weather outside is windy and chilly and, as I write this, we have plenty of snow! If your kids are like mine, they get a bit squirrely during the cold months. There is a cure! Bring them to the YoUng Child Play Group! You get to converse with other like-minded parents and the kids get to play, play, play! No mess at your house either (other than the one you left behind when you came to the play group).



Due to the holidays, the play group will not meet on January 2nd, but we will meet on the "usual" third Friday, January 16th. The time is the same—9:30 - 11:30 a. m.—in the church nursery. The ages range from baby to preschool age. No cost, just fun, free playtime!

If you'd like to be added to my email list for reminders of the play group, please let me know.

I hope to see you in 2009 to play!

Angie Stafsholt
<stafsholt@mchsi.com>