



## CONVERSATION WITH EVA

This morning, as I awoke, the first thought that I formed into words was this line— “i thank You God for most this amazing day”. I thought of all the good things that I would be able to experience today because I was awake. Not all of us are so lucky! Sometimes, I think that UUs don’t take time to pray in the morning, because they think it should be a time to ask God for all sorts of things, sort of like a list to Santa. But there is a long tradition, which I join, of using prayer as a time to open oneself to the ‘big picture’. We can get so lost in our daily cares, the scars we have always carried with us, our habits. So there is real value in escaping this for a moment each day. Climb a ladder up to a different view of your life, of your day. It doesn’t matter if you feel God is a loving force in your life, or a far-distant impartial observer, or not out there at all. It doesn’t matter if the divine is male or female, or gender-neutral. You can still wake up each morning, and climb this ladder for a moment.

Some mornings I review the whole of the e. e. cummings poem in my mind. It’s well worth committing to memory. Here it is for you:

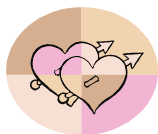
i thank You God for most this amazing  
day: for leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes  
(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun’s birthday; this is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth)  
how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any—lifted from the no  
of all nothing—human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?  
(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

Other mornings when I wake, I form these words in my mind. They are perhaps my favorite morning prayer, ancient lines from the Hindu teacher Kalidasa:

Look to this day!  
For it is life, the very life of life.  
In its brief course lie all the verities  
and realities of your existence:  
The bliss of growth,  
The glory of action,  
The splendor of beauty;  
For yesterday is but a dream,  
And tomorrow is only a vision;  
But today, well lived, make every yesterday  
A dream of happiness  
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.  
Look well, therefore, to this day.

Your favorites don’t have to be the same as mine, but I strongly encourage you to adopt a morning prayer life of some sort. Play with the idea, and make it yours—make it fit your theology, your life rhythms, just do it! You’ll be surprised how delightful it can be to climb the ladder up above your daily life each morning for just a moment. Connect with something bigger, wider, and drink in the view.

See you in church!



*Eva*

## PRESIDENT’S CORNER

I was on the phone to some folks in India a few days ago, just after one of our snow storms. I was explaining the concept of a “snow angel”. How after a snow, when the world looks new and all of the ugliness is covered by a fresh clean blanket, people (mostly kids) lie down and express their joy by waving their arms and making an angel shape. I don’t think they bought it. I’m not sure I did either. Of all the records that we could break, “coldest day ever in recorded history”, isn’t the one I would have chosen.

Now is the time of year the board is looking ahead to organizing the next. We’ve set the date for the annual meeting. The nominations committee is starting to work on finding people to serve in leadership positions. If you are interested in serving, contact *Karen Miller* who chairs that committee or *Judy Harrington* and *Leigh Zeitz* who are also members. We’ll be putting before the membership a by-law change to add a member to the governing board and to officially assign particular council responsibilities to each board member.

The siding committee continues to solicit pledges. Siding wasn’t our only building challenge, we replaced two furnaces in January. The annual inspection found them to be dangerous. Fortunately we have a building replacement fund to cover things like that.

December and January were months when snow and ice made many a Sunday a challenge. But folks were coming out anyway; often visitors as well, even on the nastiest of days. Perhaps we are making “virtual snow angels”.

See you in church.

*Jan Gallagher,*  
Board President



## MAKING PROGRESS ON SIDING— BUT STILL NEED YOUR HELP

As we shiver through another beautiful, cold winter it reminds us of the importance of our church building. It gives us warmth—both physical and spiritual—on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings and various times in between. We know many of you look forward to seeing a renewed and inviting face on our church when we complete the re-siding project. We’re happy to report that we’re half way there! **We’ve raised pledges totaling \$30,665.** That’s the good news. The challenge is that we still need \$29,335 to reach our goal. We can do it if everyone pitches in. So, if you haven’t pledged, please do so. If you have pledged—thank you—and consider increasing your pledge as your finances allow. If anyone has thought of becoming an anonymous major donor, we’ll take that too. In the meantime we will work with the Board to continue investigating additional ways of financing this important project.

We hope to have the pledge campaign wrapped up and any additional financing arranged this winter so we can get the project completed in the spring. Renewing our building during the season of renewal—how appropriate!

*The Siding Committee*



*Laurel Salton Clark* was killed with six other astronauts on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 when their spaceship *Columbia* disintegrated as it was coming in to land. A native of Ames, Iowa, Clark was a member of the Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church in Racine, Wisconsin.

## NOTES FROM THE DRE

Snow, snow, beautiful snow! Today someone told me that the snow looked like it was covered with diamonds, so as I drove home I looked and she was correct! What will February hold for us? *Jan Gallagher* has posted our new Severe Weather Policy and, like *Eva*, I plan to be at church every Sunday. Here's hoping that the groundhog does not see his shadow!

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

Please remember that we are flexible with the grade levels.

### Nursery News~

We have quite a few toddlers this year, so you may notice new potty chairs in the upstairs bathrooms. Parents, please feel free to have your children use these.

### The Youth programs~

**Middle School** – *Keri* is leading the middle school youth this year and they are working hard on being a group. This group will grow into a middle school by staying together for the next year and a half. They are starting some new projects with *John Grinstead*, *Adele Queiroz* and *Chris Rediske*. I hope you all will support them.

The projects are:

#1–They are planning a trip to Boston in three to four years and are beginning to design a T-shirt that they will sell to help raise money for the trip.

#2–They are starting a social action project and will be selling snacks during Fellowship time to raise money to support this project. During February they will be picking their cause to support.

#3–They want to do something to support the environment and our students in the Khasi Hills; they will be making tote bags to sell. The bags will have UUSBHC, a picture of one of the Khasi students and the words “I helped this child”.

*Joyce* and *Amy* will be working with the high school youths to get ready for Youth Sunday on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

### High School – from *Joyce* and *Amy*

The UU Youth joined the choir in January to help with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner and hosted the string group from Minnesota.

They have been busy planning for the Youth Service on February 1<sup>st</sup>—please plan to attend! That day the UUYouth will lead us in a service exploring the theme of fear. It's titled: “Facing Our Fears”. What are we afraid of, and why? In order to ‘dare to grow’, we need to face these questions.

### Children's Chapel

Meets in the Alternative Activities room at 11:00 a.m. *Tim Purdum* has been joining us to teach us some songs.

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### First Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:00 p.m.

We will celebrate *Brazilian Carnival* with a party. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. and party the night away. *Adele Queiroz* will be our hostess and available to answer any questions. It will be a typical Carnival costume party, so start planning your attire. *Adele* tells me that you can have individual costumes or bloco—this is where a group gets together to be one costumed thing or they all represent a theme. Of course, costumes are not required, just come join the fun. Please bring Brazilian food or your favorite dish for the potluck. This is a great family event. Hope to see you all there. For more information, recipes or costume suggestions check out our website: <<http://snipurl.com/a60xb>>.

### Documentaries

Well, I keep getting great documentaries, but we are going to take the month of February off to regroup. NO one showed up for the documentaries in January so we are looking at the documentaries, the weather, the time and the day of the week. Please feel free to share your ideas on our web survey. This group is open if you would like to help preview and select documentaries.

Thank you for sharing your children, youth, and yourself with our leaders and myself.

*Kathy Klink-Zeitz, DRE*



February 7, 1812 *Charles Dickens* was born in Landport, England. Dickens had little formal education but spent his extra time at the British Museum reading. He wrote *A Christmas Carol* while a member of Little Portland Street Chapel (Unitarian). Dickens also wrote factual newspaper and magazine articles with radical reforming intent.



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, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Please R.S.V.P. to *Brian Forster* (291-8427). You don't need to be a resident to attend.

## YOOUNG CHILD PLAY GROUP

Please join us for the YoUUnG Child Play Group in the new year! We gather from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Fridays of every month in the church nursery. The play group is designed for ages newborn to preschool aged children.

If you are interested in attending, please contact me so I can add you to my email list. This is a great way for the kids to burn off some energy in these cold winter months and a great way for parents to meet and talk.

I hope to see you to play,

*Angie Stafsholt*  
<[stafsholt@mchsi.com](mailto:stafsholt@mchsi.com)>



### Child's letter to God:

Dear God,

I am American. What are you?

*Robert*

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Black Hawk County will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2009 at 11:15 a.m. A regular Sunday Service will precede this meeting.

*Jan Gallagher,*  
Board President



## 2009 ANNUAL PRAIRIE STAR DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth, MN is excited to be the host congregation for the 2009 Annual Conference of Prairie Star District of the UUA to be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>. We are equally excited about the conference theme—“Our Blue Boat Home: Living the Seventh Tradition”.

Folksinger/songwriter Peter Mayer has given us permission to use his song title for our theme, and he will be delivering the annual Arthur M. Judy Lecture at the Conference.

We want to extend a warm invitation to our friends in the district to travel to Duluth in April to attend the conference. More information can be found at: <[www.uuduluth.org](http://www.uuduluth.org)>.

and . . .

### SOCIAL JUSTICE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

“Successful Strategies for Environmental Justice”  
*First Unitarian Church*, 145 W. Winona Street, Duluth  
Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
(optional tour of Green architecture church at 1:00 p.m.)

When you are making your travel arrangements to go to the Prairie Star District Annual Conference in Duluth, plan to arrive in time to attend the Social Justice Pre-Conference Workshop on Friday afternoon.

Panel members will describe successful strategies for educating and forming alliances for local energy sustainability, nation-wide environmental issues, and worldwide activism for basic human rights.

Breakout sessions will connect participants with one another in Prairie Star’s seven-state district to share experiences and develop strategies for organizing to improve environmental policy at all levels.

Panel members include: Patricia A. Jones, JD, LLM, Environmental Justice program manager at Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), focusing on water rights; John LaForge, anti-nuke activist with NukeWatch Quarterly and member of an intentional community in Wisconsin organized around radical nonviolence and sustainable living and Dr. Greg Chester, educator, author, and environmental activist currently working to stop a coal plant in northern Minnesota.

Cost: \$5 in addition to PSD Annual Conference registration fee OR \$10 if not attending the Annual Conference. You may register by selecting “Pre-Conference Workshop” on the Annual Conference registration form.

The Pre-Conference Workshop ends in time to get back to the hotel for the opening session of the Annual Conference.

## WANTED

We are looking for people to help with the Wednesday Dinners. Do you like to cook or would you be willing to just organize a dinner? The dinners are simple: a main dish, soup, salad and a dessert. Your supplies are reimbursed and your dinner is free. You can cook from scratch, buy the food ready to cook, or already cooked. Set up and clean-up are also part of it. The perfect solution is if people would sign up to do one or more weeks, but we also can have people who want to cook a main dish or a dessert.

The dates are: February 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>;  
March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>;  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>;  
May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>.

Contact *Kathy Klink-Zeitz* to sign-up or for more information.

\*\*\* *and another chance to help* \*\*\*

Would you like to be part of Sunday Service but don’t like to be up front? Then volunteer to help with the Sound System. Contact *Leigh Zeitz* for more information.



## CULTIVATING GRATITUDE

It’s time to thank another congregational member who makes life at UUSBHC just a little bit easier. This month the recipient of our gratitude is *Crystal King*.

Crystal is a busy mother with four children and her own business at the Centre for Conscious Living. While due to work obligations, she is only able to occasionally attend our services on Sunday, she is always here in spirit. Our RE program benefits from her tireless dedication in recruiting people to teach in the RE classes for children or working as a substitute teacher when volunteer teachers can’t make it. Last month Crystal began teaching an Adult RE class in *Self-Realization*.

We should all take the time to thank Crystal to help us grow as a community and individually. Thank you, Crystal!

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



In 1851 *Lombard College* (Unitarian) was chartered in Galesburg, Illinois. In 1857 it changed its name to Lombard University. It was the second college in the United States to award the B.A. degree to women through the regular curriculum. Later the university merged with Meadville Theological School which became the Meadville/Lombard Theological School.



## FEBRUARY SERVICES

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

**February 1<sup>st</sup>**

### Facing Our Fears Youth Sunday

What are we afraid of, and why? In order to “dare to grow” we need to face these questions. The UU Youth will lead us in a service exploring the theme of fear. Worship Associate will be *Karen Impola*.

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**

### Darwin Day: A Celebration of Charles Darwin's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday

We have a special love of the relationship of science and religion. For some, Darwin's evolution has become their religious myth as well as a scientific theory. Let's celebrate the man, his ideas and how they have rocked our religious world! Join *Rev. Eva, Jim Demastes, Lynn Brant, Johanna Foster* and *Lara Martinsen-Burrell* (members of the Darwin Day Team) for this 200-year anniversary celebration.

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**

### Love A Service For All Ages

Join *Rev. Eva* and the Service For All Ages Team for this celebration of music, drama and poetry about all the many ways love touches our lives.

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

### Lincoln Bicentennial

*Al Hays* will be preaching. Lincoln's values and causes are central to UU beliefs. Our forefathers and the forefather's of his day had an active involvement in the abolitionist movement and other progressive causes of that era. Let's celebrate 200 years of progress.



### **MAKING YOUR SUMMER PLANS?**

If you're already dreaming about the warm, sunny days of Summer 2009, we invite you to consider attending a UU camp.

Camp StarTrail will be held August 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 near Omaha, Nebraska. Join us for a multigenerational camp that celebrates and explores Unitarian Universalism, in the beautiful rolling hills of the Platte River Valley. From the morning Celebration, to the workshops, to the evening Vespers and campfires, there will be fun and good conversation. If you'd prefer to sit in a rocking chair and read a good book, you'll enjoy the quiet of the woods, lake, and sky.

Costs are reasonable. A single adult would pay \$375 for registration, room and board, or higher for premium housing. Depending on what housing you choose, a family of four (two young adults, one child over four, one child under four) could pay just \$900 for a comfortable air conditioned room with bunk beds; less expensive if you plan to camp out in your tent. Another family of four (two adults, one teen over thirteen, one child over four) would pay \$1,300 or higher, depending on the housing you choose, or less if you camp. If you compare this to costs for attending Camp Unistar, you'll see it's comparable. If you compare this to a trip to the Grand Canyon or Yellowstone, it's much less. Additional options will include challenging ropes courses or trips to nearby museums.

Photos of the camp are available on the Prairie Star District website at <<http://www.psdoua.org/CampStarTrail/CampStarTrail>>. We are renting a Lutheran camp for the week. There is a swimming pool, a small lake for canoes and paddle boats, and excellent food.

Registration will be open in February. Watch the District's website for more information. Hope to see you there!

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE NEWS and NOTES

The Creative Visual Artz team continues to astound and delight with its monthly sanctuary installations. Coming soon: short written expositions about them. If you'd like to contribute ideas to this process, ask *Deblyn Russell* <[deblybzart@cfu.net](mailto:deblybzart@cfu.net)> to put you on her mailing list. Installations are usually done the last Tuesday of each month.

Ushers—we thank *Karen Miller* for recruiting ushers to help in the sanctuary before and during services. If you would enjoy a low-stress way of meeting people and helping us at the same time, contact Karen <[kjmllr@mchsi.com](mailto:kjmllr@mchsi.com)>.

A Drama Team is in formation. Interested? Contact *Rev. Eva*.

Worship Associates keep our services flowing—*Al Hays, Karen Impola, Esther Kieffer, Lisa Kratz, Lara Martinsen-Burrell, John Miller* and *Deblyn Russell* consult with worship leader(s) and musicians, make sure that all supplies, furniture and people are present, and take care of numerous details, including handling of the offering.

Lay Ministers (*John Miller, Sue Hill* and *Deblyn Russell*) and other UU members lead worship alone, in teams and/or with *Rev. Eva*, about once a month during the winter plus all summer. Upcoming in the next few months: UU Youth, *Al Hays, Mike Knapp* and the Finance Committee, *Tim Purdum, Lynn Brant*. How about YOU? Contact *Rev. Eva* or any member of the Religious Services Committee for more information.

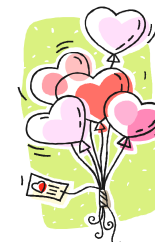
Interested in finding out more about any of these teams? Contact anyone named above, or Religious Services Committee co-chairs *Karen Impola* <[impola@uni.edu](mailto:impola@uni.edu)> or *Mimi Kuester*. The Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m. and all are welcome to visit.



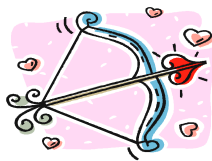
### **CONVOCATION TO BE HELD IN HOUSTON**

International Convocation of Unitarian and Universalist Women will be meeting in Houston on February 26<sup>th</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be the first time! And even Unitarian women from the Khasi Hills of India will be there. I will be attending! More information can be found at: <<http://www.icuww.com/index.htm>>.

*Rev. Eva*



*Horace Greeley* was born February 3, 1811 in Amherst, New Hampshire. At the age of twenty he started a printing office and produced a magazine called *The New Yorker* from 1834 to 1841. In 1841 he founded the *New York Tribune*, which championed a number of educational and social reforms. Contributors included Margaret Fuller and Karl Marx. Greeley served in Congress briefly. After the Civil War, Greeley's ardent support of Reconstruction eroded his popularity. He was a stalwart Universalist. He died on November 29, 1872.



## CONSCIOUS LIVING CORNER

While it is a very good thing that the Waterloo coal plant will not be built, the problem of climate change is still here, and it is increasingly obvious that we need to tackle this problem aggressively. There are several proposed coal plants in the Midwest that should not be built. Closest to us is the Alliant Energy coal plant proposed for Marshalltown.

There is no such thing as “clean” coal. Coal is dirty from the mountaintop removal mining, to the emissions while burning, to the coal combustion waste (CCW). Instead of investing in new technologies to minimize the impact of dirty coal, we should invest in technologies that further clean energy solutions of the future.

CCW from coal plant sites is hauled to our abandoned mines and quarries. This waste contains heavy metals such as arsenic, selenium, zinc and mercury, which can leach into groundwater. Iowa state regulations for CCW are weak so Iowa is a regional recipient of this waste (Iowa is currently importing CCW from as far away as Indiana).



Iowa has nearly two dozen sites where CCW has been used as “fill” without liners or groundwater monitoring.

We have fish warnings due to mercury contamination in portions of the Mississippi River, Cedar River and Upper Iowa River. Coal-fired power plants are the largest source of mercury pollution. Eight percent of women of childbearing age already have mercury levels in their blood exceeding the limit deemed safe for unborn children.

Renewable energy sources create so many benefits and new hope for our future. There will be less poverty in the world with a shift to renewable energy since the control of energy will be in the hands of many people and not only in the hands of a few. Here in Iowa we have many clean options for our energy: wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, methane from landfills, etc. We need to press policymakers to take immediate actions to promote these technologies and energy efficiency programs.

Here in Waterloo the organization Community Energy Solutions has shifted its focus from educating the community about issues related to the proposed coal plant to bringing green jobs to the Cedar Valley. We can have a healthy community and economic prosperity. Let’s join together to promote a healthy, vital community for future generations. For more information, call me at 291-6994.

Margaret Whiting



## CHILI COOK-OFF TIME IS HERE!!

Mark your calendars for the Annual Chili Cook-off to be held at 12:15 p.m. 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*.



In February 1939 the *American Unitarian Association* sent Martha and Waitstill Sharp to Czechoslovakia to work with refugees from the Nazis. This marked the beginning of the Unitarian Service Committee, which was organized in May 1940 as a standing committee of the association “to investigate opportunities for humanitarian service both in America and abroad”. In 1963 it merged with the Universalist Service Committee, which was first organized in 1945, also as a response to the war in Europe.



Washington

## MUSIC MUSINGS AND MARVELS

*Tim Purdum* <musicman@cfu.net>, our new Music Director, is already busy with plans to enhance the music life of our congregation. He directed our UU singers and worked with *Caren* and *Paul Umbarger* and their Minneapolis strings in a special Martin Luther King, Jr. program both at church and at the Annual MLK Banquet in Waterloo. You’ll be hearing often from the choir and TSB (Theoretical String Band) as they enhance our Sunday worship. Tim will be working closely with *Rev. Eva*; do offer your comments and suggestions. Interested in occasional music-making for services (solos, small groups)? Contact Tim.

Music-making, UUSBHC group-style continues practices on Wednesday evening, with choir at 6:15 p.m. and TSB at 7:15 p.m. Tim welcomes mature teens and adults—you need to read English, but not music to participate, and you can join us at any time. String band is always looking for string, percussion and other players and singers; questions to *Nate Callahan* <n8c1lhn@cfu.net>. Wednesday nights also include dinner (5:30-6:15 p.m.) for anyone interested; reservations to *Kathy Klink-Zeitz* by Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m.; no cooking required! Child care is available 6:15-8:15 p.m. at no charge.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS: we’re looking for a few people willing to organize dinners this spring. This can be done with little or no actual cooking. If you’d be willing to consider doing one or two, please contact *Kathy Klink-Zeitz* <klinkzeitz@gmail.com> or *Mimi Kuester* <mhkuester@gmail.com>. In return for organizing, you and your family eat free.

- 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

## DARWIN DAY: CHARLIE'S 200!

On Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. join us for "Charlie's 200!". This will be a continuation of "Darwin Day" with a dialogue of how he inspired religion and science.



### EDITOR'S INCH

Some housekeeping items to share with you:

- 1) The Calendar and Newsletter deadlines can be found *on the calendar page* in each monthly issue. *Mica* needs your calendar info and I need your articles by these dates. Our email addresses are on that page, as well as the address for *Janet*, the church Administrative Assistant (Janet's is under Order of Service).
- 2) The next deadline (for March's newsletter) will be Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. (What can I say; February's a short month!)
- 3) These deadlines are set to accomplish one thing—to have your newsletter arrive in your mailbox prior to the first Sunday of a given month.
- 4) Finally, if you put something for the newsletter in my box at church, please sign it so I have a reference point should questions arise. Years ago, with fewer members, I could usually tell by the handwriting but not so any more with many new members.

A big thanks to those of you who get articles in on time; some even get them in early! That simply allows us to complete the task at hand in a timely fashion.

*Gerry Chamberlin*



### LETTER FROM A MINNEAPOLIS UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010 RECRUITS NEEDED

I am writing to introduce myself, and to get some advance word out about volunteer opportunities at the 2010 General Assembly in Minneapolis. I am a member and past board president at First Universalist Church in Minneapolis, and I have the pleasure of serving as the District Coordinator for the 2010 GA. My primary responsibility will be recruiting and training approximately two hundred volunteers for the event.

These recruiting efforts will not begin until sometime this fall, but I understand that some of you are being approached already by congregants who want to get involved. If you know of people with an interest in volunteering, please encourage them to email me at <lauth.david@dorsey.com>. I will be in touch with you again in a few months with additional information. Thank you.

Best regards, *David Lauth*



On February 6, 1804 **Joseph Priestley**, a Unitarian theologian and scientist, died at age seventy in Northumberland, Pennsylvania.

## SOCIAL ACTION COLLECTION

### "WALKIN' THE TALK"

Hello everyone out there. I hope you are staying warm! The Social Action Plate Collection for December yielded \$319 to support the Khasi Hills orphan girl, Iahunlong. Thanks to all who donated! The December Adult class was led by *Patrick*. The discussion was about our Khasi Hills Project. Thanks to Patrick for taking the lead on that.

January's focus was on *Christine Carpenter's* Breast Cancer Edu-action Group. The total raised was not known as of this writing. Christine did an Adult Sunday School talk on January 18<sup>th</sup> about this wonderful cause.

February has no Social Action focus because of the Pledge Drive. Stayed tuned for an Adult offering on February 15<sup>th</sup> though; I will let everyone know details later. I want to focus on volunteerism and our seven principles.

Also, if you are donating to Guest At Your Table, it needs to be in for sure by the end of February. You can send it in yourself to UUSC or make a check out to UUSBHC with Guest At Your Table in the memo. Details on where to send it and about matching and membership levels are on the bottom of the box you have. If you did not get a box, there is one on the Social Action Table in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to everyone for all of your support throughout the year!

*Sheri Huber-Otting*  
Social Action Chair



See the DRE's article for  
details on First Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>



### SNOW ANGELS

Are you feeling like I am feeling? All this snow seeming a bit like a burden in your life? The other day as I went out to shovel my drive, I looked at the mountains of snow everywhere, and felt so defeated as I thought, "I have no place left to put all this snow!" I re-arranged my thinking, and managed to get it all shoveled into, well, h-m-m it's approaching Mt. Everest—as we all seem to be doing. But it made me think that we should be THRIVING and not just SURVIVING.

We can thrive if we put some joy and community spirit into this winter. I'd like to start a "Snow Angels" group. If you could possibly help to shovel snow—at the church, at someone's house, would like to be part of a group effort—maybe want to participate in some random acts of kindness, let me know. If you want to co-captain this effort, let me know!

Also, if you are feeling beat up by winter, and need a bit of help, able bodied and just tired of battling winter, or not-so able bodied. . .let me know. I WILL come help! And I just bet some Snow Angels out there will be coming with me.

*Eva*

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COUNCIL

## Multi-Generation Programs

### What's Up Doc?umentaries



We're taking a break to regroup.

### **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 (see article)

### **WORKSHOPS:**

**Self-Realization** – February 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> with *Crystal King*

**Couples Small Group Ministry** – February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Small Group Facilitators Meeting** – February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### *Weekly Programs*

(See related articles elsewhere in this newsletter.)

**First Friday** – Brazilian Carnival Party (details in DRE article)

**YoUng Child Play Group**

**Buddhist Path**

**FVUUM**



### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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

**February 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Conscious Living** – The Conscious Living Group and Green Sanctuary

Committee will sponsor a Draft-Stopper Making Workshop this day. Bring measurements for those drafty doors and windows and we'll have materials and sewing machines set up in the Fellowship Hall to construct them and you can take them home that day. Any donations will go toward supporting the work of these two groups.

**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.

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Circle Way** – *Imbolc Circle Way Ritual*

All the land is wrapped in winter, but our thoughts are turned to spring and warmer weather. *Deblyn Russell* and *Al Hays* will be creating a mid-winter ritual celebrating the Celtic Goddess, Brigid. The triple aspects of Brigid are inspiration, smithcraft and healing.

**The Small Group Experience** – Try a Sample!

Have you been wondering what Small Groups are all about? We will do a typical small group meeting during Adult R.E. Here is your opportunity to sample a small group experience and perhaps sign up for one of the open groups forming now.

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Walking The Talk** – Watch your emails and the Sunday bulletins for details when they become available.

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**"Doc" Shorts** – *No Logo: Brands, Globalization and Resistance*

Based on the best-selling book *No Logo* by award-winning Canadian journalist and activist Naomi Klein, this biting film essay sheds light on the power of corporate branding, and the backlash against increasing domination by multinational companies.

### **BUDDHIST PATH**

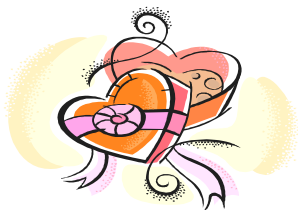
Join *Eva* each week on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the balcony for meditation, walking meditation and discussion of Buddhist topics. All are welcome.

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.



Our thoughts are with members and friends of this congregation and their families who are dealing with health issues—specifically: *Eleanore Stark*, *Glenyce Butschy*, *Ruth Mahon*, *Mildred Pierce*, and *Bea Tate*. Although still sore at the time of this writing, *Bob Robinson* is healing following his shoulder injury.

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*.



### **NEW SMALL GROUPS BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY!**

We'd like to invite you to join a Small Group. This is an excellent way to get to know some people well, and work together on creating community while growing spiritually. We ask you to commit to regular attendance. Please come to a planning and organization meeting, Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at UUSBHC.

These new Groups will meet at church and childcare is provided. For questions, contact *Mica Lorenz* or *Christine Carpenter*.



### **CUP OF JOE'S ON FRIDAYS. . .**

Join *Eva* and others who drop in from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on the second Friday in February—the 13<sup>th</sup>—for conversation and to celebrate Friday! (Remember, *Eva* will be at the First Friday celebration at the church on the 6<sup>th</sup>.)



*Abraham Lincoln* and *Charles Darwin* were both born on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1809 which makes this month the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their births. Lincoln was born in Kentucky and Darwin in Shropshire, England.