



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

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***** 2009 *****

- MAR. 1 9:30 A.M. **“WHERE DO MY PASSIONS MEET THE WORLD’S DEEPEST NEED? REFLECTIONS ON POSTVILLE”** – Perry-O Sliwa
11:15 A.M. Adult Sunday School: Conscious Living
- MAR. 8 9:30 A.M. **“DARING TO GIVE”**: STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
– The Rev. Eva Cameron, The Stewardship Team
11:15 A.M. Adult Sunday School: Circle Way / Book Group / New Member Meeting
- MAR. 15 9:30 A.M. **“FEELING CRABBY”** – The Rev. Eva Cameron
11:15 A.M. Adult Sunday School: Buddhist Path / Walking The Talk
- MAR. 22 9:30 A.M. **“RITE OF SPRING”**: A SERVICE FOR ALL AGES
– The Rev. Eva Cameron, The Service For All Ages Team
11:15 A.M. Adult Sunday School: “Doc” Shorts
- MAR. 29 9:30 A.M. **“JUSTICE SUNDAY”** – The Rev. Eva Cameron
11:15 A.M. Adult Sunday School: Book Group

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.

CONVERSATION WITH EVA

As we look to the coming of spring this month, many of us are worried about a winter in our economy. So many of us are being touched by this, and it is a common topic of conversation in the hallways and rooms of the church. We can make a choice now—we can give in to our fears and distract ourselves from what is coming by ignoring it, or we can choose as a community to build resources and tools to help each other whatever comes. The age-old insurance policy is not a piece of paper you pay money for—it is a strong community that cares for one another.

I would like to create a team of people to help us grow our community to meet the coming needs with strength and foresight; and I'd like each of you to dedicate yourselves to two things: the first is to be open to new ways of helping others in the coming times. We will all need to stretch and be creative! The second is

to promise us that you will reach out and ask for help if you find yourself, your family, in need. Together is the way to make it through.

If you want to join me in being on this team to help create a stronger community in the face of these times, please let me know.

On another note. . .we have HAPPY news! Our Sunday morning attendance is UP! So, if you need a place to park, please know that you can park in the back AEA lot and come across over to our lot. We will work towards getting some steps in there. We do have permission for using their lot. (If you are feeling like a walk would do you good, park there when you come early, and save the nearby spots for those who come late!)

See you in church!

Eva



NOTES FROM THE DRE

Snow, snow, beautiful snow! As I write this I can't believe it is snowing again! We had a lot going on at the church during February and more upcoming in March. We are growing with adults and children.

It is very important that we get our children registered, thus if you have not yet registered your child for the 2008-09 year, please do so this month. I have included a registration form in this newsletter. You may hand it to me, mail it (Attn. *Kathy Klink-Zeitz*), put it in the red wagon, or put it in my mail slot upstairs. We need to have a registration on every child attending any of our programs at church. We do have some scholarships (this is a private matter between you and me). Thank you.

We do still need some helpers and substitute teachers, 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.

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 Living in UUville this month as well as continuing to work on their projects with *John Grinstead*, *Adele Queiroz*, *Chris Rediske*, and *Maribel Mugge*. I hope you all will support them.

The three projects are:

#1–They are planning a trip to UUSC Camp and/or Boston in three to four years. They will be selling a T-shirt that they designed to help raise money for the trip(s).

#2–They have started a social action project and sell snacks during Fellowship time to raise money to support this project. So far they have sent money to the UUSC and have adopted a Khasi Hills student. #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”.

High School – Congratulations to the UU Youth for an amazing Youth Sunday in February on the topic of “Facing Our Fears!”. In the upcoming weeks, they will be learning more about Eastern religious perspectives, including some practice in Buddhist meditation. They will also be preparing to host a lunch event for other youth groups in the area on March 8th. In addition to planning games/activities, our youth will be responsible for providing an explanation of UUism to these peer groups (and hopefully in turn, learning more about the perspectives of the other groups present).

They are also thinking ahead about the possibility of a trip to Chicago this summer—if you have any fundraising ideas the youth can take advantage of, please let us know! ~*Joyce and Amy*

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.

First Friday, March 6th ~ 6:00 p.m.

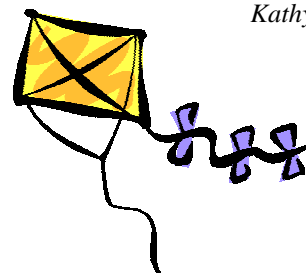
We will celebrate *Cheesefare Sunday* with a potluck followed by some information about this day. Please bring dairy food or your favorite dish for the potluck.

Documentaries

We will start up again in March with documentaries. See the REAP article in this newsletter for details. 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



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Music at the UU is expanding, with the start of our Children's Choir, which debuted on February 15th, when we sang "Love Grows One by One". If you have elementary/middle school age children who would like to join us, we are practicing Wednesday evenings from 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. *Diana Harwood* has volunteered to drive a carpool for those interested, and the children or your whole family can partake in the Wednesday night meal following rehearsal, if you wish.

For those of us who don't qualify for the "Children's" Choir, we still have the Adult Choir at 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. and the Theoretical String Band (any instruments and folks voices) from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Recent performances in church have included "The Gift of Love" (choir) and "Hey Charly" (TSB). We are having a fantastic time in all of our musical groups, and hope you can join us soon!

Tim Purdum,
Director of Music



CONSCIOUS LIVING CORNER

PERENNIALS, IOWA STYLE

Perennials, the theme for my forty-fifth college reunion next year, is described/defined in part: "stems and leaves disappear, but their roots carry on, so that. . .they spring up again. We negotiate with nature through our gardens. How we design, tend and enjoy them can increase biodiversity. Gardeners nurture soil too, engaging us in intimacy with macro-invertebrates, bacteria, fungi, and rhizomes. The closer we get to a relationship with our habitat, the easier it is, sometimes, to understand our own participation in natural systems." Landscape gardener, Rinda West goes on to set the task of reflecting on the perennials in our lives—be they people, pleasures, problems or plants. What do they call us to do? Here are a few starter verbs: root/uproot, dig, weed, divide, prune, combine, tend, propagate, nurture, restore, design, survive, delight.



Many among us devote considerable time, energy and imagination to coaxing, cajoling and encouraging soil to yield its wonders, share their passion eloquently, and could elaborate convincingly on any of the above—both literally and metaphorically. So I head in another direction, to the delight of clouds and sky. Because of our gently rolling terrain and (relatively) short trees, we Iowans can experience daily what the Dutch masters painted: landscapes which are one-third land, two-thirds sky. We can watch thunderstorms and tornados form and move, then clear. The variety of cloud formations is seemingly endless. They cover and uncover the sun, their layers visible and moving in many directions. They look whimsical, threatening, cottony-soft, wispy, airbrushed, mountainous, wave-washed.

So think profound thoughts and pursue worthy activities. But take time to check out the pasqueflowers this spring and, while you're out, chase the clouds.

Mimi Kuester,
for the Conscious Living Group

MARCH SERVICES

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

March 1st

Where Do My Passions Meet the World's Deepest Need? Reflections on Postville

Perry-O Sliwa, a friend from Decorah, brings her ongoing story of intentional living and thoughtful action as she shares her thoughts on vocation and her engagement with a family profoundly changed since the Postville Immigration Raids.

March 8th

Daring to Give ~ Stewardship Sunday

Each week we sing "From You I Receive, To You I Give"—this year as we are *Daring to Grow* we will explore the deeper meanings of giving. Join *Rev. Eva* and the *Stewardship Team*.

March 15th

Feeling Crabby ~ Rev. Eva Cameron

March is supposed to 'come in like a lion' but sometimes it seems to bring a lot more crabs than lions as we are all weary of winter weather. What can we do with the upsets, angers, and crabbiness we find popping up in our lives?

March 22nd

Rite of Spring ~ A Service For All Ages

Join *Rev. Eva* and the *Service For All Ages Team* in this celebration of Spring with music and drama. We will dedicate children who are new to our UU faith!

March 29th

Justice Sunday ~ Rev. Eva Cameron

Since WWII the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has been our arms of Justice in the world. Come learn more about who they are, what they are currently doing, and how you can help!



JOYS and SORROWS

Our caring 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, Bob Robinson, Staci Channie-Hill, Mary Olson, Bea Tate, and Chris Rediske's* granddaughter, *Halle*.

Congratulations to *Joan Webster-Vore* whose art exhibit, "Soul Dance", will be at the Center for the Arts on the Luther College campus through March 18th.

A 'joy' for *Esther Kieffer* and family—great-granddaughter, *Sofia Esther Hall*, was born on February 3rd weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Parents are *Alicia* (Esther's granddaughter) and *Tyrone Hall* who live in Cedar Falls.

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*.



FVUUM

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

YOUNG CHILD PLAY GROUP

Join us for the YoUUnG Child Play Group. 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>

RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE NEWS and NOTES

Who are we? We are musicians, artists, minister, worship associates, lay ministers, ushers, and tech wizards who, as teams, work together to create meaningful and vibrant worship services. We gather as a whole team once a month (second Tuesday at 7:15 p.m., snacks and beverages provided; visitors are welcome). Individuals and small teams meet to coordinate specific services and activities as needed. *Rev. Eva* has empowered our new Drama Team, and a Dance Team is next. Ask, and you'll be added to the contact list.

The RSC "go-to" people are:

- *Ushers, *Karen Miller* <kjmlr@mchsi.com>;
- *Creative Artz, *Deblyn Russell* <deblynzart@cfu.net>;
- *Music, *Tim Purdum* <musicman@cfu.net>;
- *Tech, *Leigh Zeitz* <zeitz@uni.edu>;
- *Lay ministers, *Sue Hill, John Miller, Deblyn Russell*;
- *Drama team, Dance team, Rev. Eva;

*Worship Associates—any one of the folks you see taking up the offering, lighting the chalice, inviting us forward to share joys and sorrows, offering opening words—*Del Carpenter, Esther Kieffer, Al Hays, Karen Impola, Lisa Kratz, John Miller, Lara Martinsen-Burrell, and Deblyn Russell*.

Do you have an idea for something you'd like to experience in a service? Are you interested in helping plan it? Do contact *Rev. Eva*, or co-chairs *Karen Impola* <impola@uni.edu> or *Mimi Kuester* <mhkuester@gmail.com>.

Parking On Sunday Mornings: trouble finding a space in our lot? We have permission to park in the AEA lot next door, and encourage early birds to do so. This will leave close-in space for those who are just on time! Early-birds are also encouraged to hang their coats upstairs, so late-comers can find a hanger.



KHASI HILLS PROJECT

The Khasi Hills Project would like to thank all the new and renewing sponsors for their help for the students of the Nongtarian School. We will be wiring the funds to India soon.

We still have a number of un-sponsored students. If you are interested in sponsoring a student, it is not too late. It costs \$40 for a year to sponsor a student. Talk to *Patrick Malloy* on Sundays, or email him at <ptmalloy@gmail.com>.

Once again, thanks to all for your support.

REGISTER NOW FOR 2009 PRAIRIE STAR DISTRICT CONFERENCE

April 3rd – 5th in Duluth

"Our Blue Boat Home: Living the Seventh Tradition" is the theme of the 2009 Prairie Star District conference of the Unitarian Universalist Association, April 3rd to 5th in Duluth. During the conference, we will explore our stewardship of the environment (and all of our resources!), hear from candidates for the Presidency of the UUA, and enjoy great fellowship with other Unitarian Universalists. All information—including facts about youth programming and child care—is available at <<http://www.psduua.org/AnnualConference/AnnualConference>>.

Join this fun and interesting two-day meeting with Unitarian Universalists from our district! Register now; early registration ends March 6th!



Child's letter to God:

Dear God,
I think the stapler is one of your
greatest inventions. Ruth



INTERESTED IN HOSTING AN EXCHANGE STUDENT?

Iowa Resource for International Service (IRIS) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1993 and located in Ames, Iowa. Its mission is to promote international education, development, and peace through rural initiatives.

IRIS recruits secondary students for the Youth Exchange and Study (YES) program from Nigeria and Tanzania. The website is: <<http://www.iris-center.org/Site/Home.html>>. If you have an interest in being a host to an exchange student, call 515-292-7103 or check out the website.



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



HYMNAL ORDERS

Many people have asked how they can donate a hymnal to the church and/or how they can get a hymnal for their home use. So this month we are taking orders for hymnals. The one you donate to the church will have a faceplate in it with your name. If you would like to donate it in honor of someone else we can do that also.

We are taking orders for all three hymnals that we are presently using: *Singing the Living Tradition* (\$35.50), *Singing the Journey* (\$24), and *May This Light Shine* (\$14). The order sheet is located on the RE table (northeast side of Fellowship Hall). Large Print Editions are also available, just ask *Kathy Klink-Zeitz*.

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: March 11th, 18th, and 25th;
April 22nd, 29th;
May 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th.

Contact *Kathy Klink-Zeit* 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 or to run a PowerPoint presentation. Contact *Leigh Zeit* for more information.



NEW SMALL GROUP: INTEGRAL LIFE PRACTICE

Neil and Lara Martinsen-Burrell will be leading a new small group in studying the book *Integral Life Practice*. This book describes a system for self-enrichment based on the teachings of Ken Wilber, which are known as Integral Studies. It advocates daily practice in the areas of Mind, Body, Spirit and Shadow among other things.

Come and join as we all learn about this exciting synthesis of new and old life practices. The group will meet Wednesday nights starting in the middle of March. If you are interested or have questions, contact Neil or Lara at: <nmb@wartburg.edu> or 319-352-3076.



Boy, sure sounds like we missed a terrific show on January 31st at the Performing Arts Center on the UNI campus when Bobby McFerrin was in town. Our relatives on the hill mentioned having seen several UUs in the audience but UUs *Tim Purdum* and *Charlotte Brandenburg* were actually on stage with him! What fun for our musically talented UUs to share the stage with such a fine artist.

The Church Mouse



COMMUNITY MEALS

On the fifth Tuesday of each month that has five Tuesdays, we work with First Christian, St. Luke's Episcopal, Valley View Baptist, and United Church of Christ to serve a free meal at the First United Methodist Church at West 8th and Washington Streets in Cedar Falls.

Our next Community Meal will be Tuesday, March 31st. We need volunteers to set up tables and chairs that morning, donate cupcakes, serve from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., and clean up from 5:45 to about 6:30 p.m.

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact *Ruth Walker* at <ruthdbwalker@yahoo.com> or 266-8822. Many thanks to all who helped last year.

MAKING YOUR SUMMER PLANS?

Registration is now open for Camp StarTrail, our new UU summer camp for all ages. Go to <www.psduua.org> and click on Camps on the left tool bar.

Camp StarTrail will be held August 2nd to 7th, 2009 just off I-80, between Omaha and Lincoln, 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.



Our Theme Speaker is Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister at First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis. Her topic is "Toward Wisdom: How to recognize and become a spiritual grown-up, with or without god." Rev. Mark Stringer, First Unitarian Church of Des Moines, is our Chaplain and Vespers leader. Other ministers who will be present include Rev. Jim Eller of All Souls UU Church of Kansas City; Rev. Fritz Hudson of the Unitarian Church of Lincoln; and Rev. Ted Tollefson of UU Fellowship of River Falls Wisconsin.

Costs will be reasonable. Tent and RV camping is available. A variety of housing is available; most spaces are air conditioned. Photos of the camp are on the Prairie Star District Web site at <http://www.psduua.org/CampStarTrail/CampStarTrail>. There's a swimming pool, a small lake for canoes and paddle boats, hiking trails, challenge courses including high ropes, plenty of comfortable housing, and excellent food. We're renting a Lutheran camp for the five days.

For an affordable vacation this summer, consider Camp StarTrail. You'll be glad you did!



CUP OF JOE'S ON FRIDAYS...

Join *Eva* and others who drop in at Cup of Joe's from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on March Fridays (13th, 20th and 27th) for conversation and to celebrate Friday! (Remember, *Eva* will be at the First Friday celebration at the church on the 6th.)



Spring Forward

Sunday, March 8th

THE USBHC BOOK GROUP

The Book Group will be meeting on the second and last Sundays of the month. For March that is the 8th and the 29th. We will begin a new book in March, written by Loyal Rue, member of the Religion and Philosophy department at Luther College. The book is *Religion Is Not About God: How Spiritual Traditions Nurture Our Biological Nature and What to Expect When They Fail*, Rutgers University Press, 2006, ISBN-10: 0813539552.

The book is widely available. Please join us. If you have questions, contact *Patrick Malloy*, <ptmalloy@gmail.com>.

MUSIC MUSINGS AND MARVELS

Our new UU Children's Choir is up and running! Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. and those of us preparing dinner downstairs hear joyful noises! Children (ages five years and up) are welcome. Choir—older youth and adults—rehearses 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., and the Theoretical String Band (strings, percussion, recorders, singers, and imagination) rocks the rafters from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Enthusiasm is the main requirement. If you have questions, contact *Tim Purdum*, <musicman@cfu.net>.

Coming your way late this spring (probably May 31st, which is after Memorial Day) will be the second annual Prairie Home potluck and concert. It's not too early to start planning your act. Contact *Tim* with ideas or questions.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ENDOWMENT FUND FOLKS

WHY MAKE/UPDATE A WILL?

- To be sure that your under-eighteen aged children are cared for by the people you choose
- To share some of your funds with the UUSBHC Endowment Fund
- To make many decisions easier for your loved ones after your death
- To leave some funds to an organization that has enhanced your life (like UUSBHC)
- To have some input in the amount of money that goes to taxes
- To leave some funds to the cause of free tolerant religion in Black Hawk County
- In case of divorce or death of a spouse, to be sure that all beneficiaries are updated correctly
- To help ensure the financial continuity of UUSBHC by helping to build the Endowment Fund
- To make sure that domestic partners receive the funds that you wish

Suggestion – make a commitment to make (or update, if needed) your will by tax day – April 15, 2009.

If you need information about putting the UUSBHC Endowment Fund in your will, contact a member of the Endowment Fund Committee: *Dennis Harbaugh*, *Sean McNally*, or *Pam Hays*, Chair.



FIRST FRIDAY – CHEESEFARE SUNDAY

Some called it a Greek Mardi Gras, others Forgiveness Sunday. Cheesefare Sunday is the last Sunday before the Great Lent. On this day the Orthodox Christians only eat dairy. The Sunday before was Meatfare Sunday, the last Sunday Christians eat meat before lent. During the Great Lent, Orthodox Christians give up meat and dairy products until Easter. Join us and bring a dairy dish to share on March 6th at 6:00 p.m.

SOCIAL ACTION COLLECTION

“WALKIN’ THE TALK”

Hello to everyone. Spring is coming, I can smell it!!

We collected \$225.00 for the Social Action Plate Collection in January for Breast Cancer Edu-Action. Thanks so much to all who donated!

In February there was no Social Action focus due to the Stewardship Campaign (therefore, no collection or Adult Sunday School program for Social Action).

In March the Social Action focus is the UUSC. The Plate Collection will be on March 29th, which is also Social Justice Sunday. For those of you who don't know, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has four focus areas:

1. Rights in Humanitarian Crises
2. Civil Liberties
3. Economic Justice
4. Environmental Justice

So there is something for everyone as they say. *Patrick Malloy* will be leading the Adult Sunday School program about the UUSC on March 15th. For more information the website is <www.uusc.org>.

Enjoy the signs of the upcoming spring! Thanks to everyone who is Walkin' the Talk.

Sheri Huber-Otting
UUSBHC Social Action Chair



MARCH “WOW” SERIES

Lincoln: His Life, Legacy, and Link to UU Purposes
March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th ~ 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Yes, we know Presidents' Day was last month, but we thought Lincoln and his relationship to our UU Principles deserved its own additional month of investigation. Some of us think, after all, that Lincoln was a closet UU! We will be watching parts of the History Channel's DVD series, *Lincoln: His Life and Legacy*, and using that as a springboard for discussion.

“Investigating History: Lincoln—Man or Myth”, “Man, Moment Machine: Lincoln and the Flying Spying Machine”, “Conspiracy?: Lincoln Assassination”, “High Tech Lincoln”, and “Lincoln's Mental Health”, are some of the topics in the DVD series.

How did Lincoln relate to the inherent worth and dignity of every person; to justice, equity and compassion? Was the Emancipation Proclamation a reflection of that concern or a shrewd political move? What was his interest in spiritual growth? Was he interested in the right of conscience—for everyone? Did he truly support a free and responsible search for truth and the use of the democratic process when he muzzled free speech during the civil war? Did he have a concern about the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all? Or was he just concerned about keeping the United States a union? What about his respect for the interdependent web?

Join us for some interesting discussions. Budding Lincoln buffs might be interested in reading *A Team of Rivals*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin or *Douglass and Lincoln*, by Paul Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick.



CHILI COOK-OFF RESULTS

The UU Chili Cook-Off was sponsored by the Caring Committee on Sunday, February 8th.

Thanks to the thirteen participants: *Karen Kitchen, Keri Brecht, Sheri Huber-Otting, Carolyn Hildebrandt, Sue Campbell, Paula Stadler, Christine Carpenter, Nate Callahan, Bob Robinson, Nettie Enshayan, Jim Demastes, Robyn Heiden, and Jeff Cash.* A great time was had by all.

The winners were:

First Place – *Sheri Huber-Otting, Chile of Gods*

Second Place – *Keri Brecht, Chili Caliente*

Third Place – *Nettie Enshayan, Champion Chili*
(with organic grass-fed beef)



Sheri was eager to take the Twinkling Red Pepper trophy home for the year.



UU SPOTLIGHT



This month we'll meet *Bill and Diana Harwood* and their three children, *Amanda, Seth and Nathaniel.*

Bill and Diana recently joined our church with their children, Amanda, age fourteen, Seth, age eleven, and Nathaniel, age eight. Bill is the head of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UNI. Diana is a secretary in the Department of English Language and Literature at UNI. Amanda attends Holmes Junior High School and participates in band, choir, jazz band, swing choir, and enjoys acting. Seth and Nathaniel attend Hansen Elementary School. Seth loves math and science, started playing the clarinet this year, and enjoys being on a Lego Robotics Team. Nathaniel is in Cub Scouts and is a great speller. All three children take piano lessons.

Bill was born in Florida but lived most of his life in Lexington, Massachusetts. His family was Jewish and attended synagogue. Bill was Bar Mitzva in 1971. He went to Jewish summer camps and participated in a Jewish dance group in college. He has always had a strong interest in learning about other religious perspectives. In high school he spent time with friends in the Catholic group (Newman Center) while also participating in a Jewish group (D'ror). In graduate school, he had friends in the Wesley Foundation and spent time there, eventually becoming an elected officer in the Wesley Foundation and conducted Jewish/Christian outreach efforts in the community. He was also briefly an officer in the Hillel Society in graduate school. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and from Purdue University for graduate school.

Diana (Morgan) was born in rural southeastern Ohio. Her father was Methodist and her mother was Baptist and she attended a Methodist church her entire life. Church was a very important part of Diana's upbringing and her family didn't miss a Sunday unless they were sick. Diana has good memories of going to church; attending her grandma's Sunday school class, the hymns, the choir, and the youth group when she was in high school. Diana also has uncomfortable memories of going to church; the hell, fire, and brimstone sermons, feeling like she was bad unless she was "saved", and revivals. Diana graduated from Ohio State University and from the University of Maryland for graduate school.

CHILD DEDICATION

On Sunday, March 22nd we will be having a Child Dedication during our Service For All Ages. Children who have not been dedicated in a Unitarian Universalist Church are welcome to be part of the ceremony. Our Minister, Eva, does a wonderful ceremony and it is a great experience for you and your child.

If you are interested in having your child dedicated or would like more information, please contact your DRE, *Kathy Klink-Zeitz.*



COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE

Join *Deblyn Russell* and others at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 13th for this fun experience. Drum Circle participants express themselves collectively by using a chorus of drums, percussion, and vocals to create music together. Every drum circle is different; it's a free family friendly event. Bring a drum or use one provided by Deblyn.

Bill and Diana met in Springfield, Ohio where Bill took his first college teaching job and Diana took her first elementary school teaching job. The decision to get married was one that was very serious and took a lot of thought, planning, and soul searching especially since Diana had never known anyone who was Jewish until meeting Bill. This "soul searching" led to a lot of spiritual growth for both with the end realization that they weren't so different after all! As another interfaith couple articulated, there was a large chasm between them but they found that they could hold hands across it.

When they lived in Maryland and when Amanda was first born, they visited a UU church once but it just didn't feel right. While living in Indiana, they attended a very liberal Methodist church that welcomed Bill with open arms and appreciated Bill's Jewish knowledge and roots. Amanda attended one year of Hebrew school in Indiana and enjoyed it but didn't continue because after the first year, the family would have had to pay membership dues and it felt more like an elite club than a place of worship at that point.

Upon moving to Iowa, the Harwoods tried several churches and found them to be much more conservative than the one they had attended in Indiana. Bill and Diana felt it was very important for the children to grow up in a place where they would learn about God and his love. They also thought that it was important for the kids to have a community of people who they can trust and who will help nurture, love, and listen to them. Bill and Diana have recently read *If Grace is True* by Gulley and Mulholland and this book provided several challenges to faith that helped set the stage for their choices here in Iowa.

The UU church has quickly become a place where grace is not just discussed, but lived. The Harwoods are very happy to have found a community of like-minded people with whom they can face all of the joys and sorrows of life and with whom they can share, learn, and grow.

Contact information: 2309 Coventry Lane, Cedar Falls; emails—(Bill) <bill.harwood@uni.edu>, (Diana) <dianaharwood@gmail.com>.

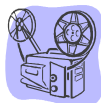


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PROGRAM COUNCIL

Multi-Generation Programs

What's Up Doc? documentaries

New Evening! Mondays at 7:00 p.m.



March 2nd – *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. March 9th – *Movie about Purim*: Do you know the story of purim? If not this is a great movie for you.

March 23rd – *Escape from Affluenza*: Follow courageous life-style pioneers as they simplify their lives, connect to their communities, help the environment, and recover from our culture's epidemic of over-consumption.

March 30th – *Peace One Day*: This inspiring film tells the story of one man's impassioned and improbable quest to create an internationally recognized day of peace and cease-fire, observed on a fixed calendar date each year.

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.

Children's Choir at 5:00 p.m. every Wednesday

Choir at 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday (see article)

WORKSHOPS:

Wednesdays, March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

Crystal King: Self Realization

Lincoln: His Life, Legacy, and Link to UU Purposes (see related article)

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

Small Group Facilitators Meeting – March 4th at 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Programs

(Some events have related articles elsewhere in this newsletter.)

First Friday – Cheesefare Sunday

YoUng Child Play Group

Buddhist Path

FVUUM

A Gathering of Women

Waverly Small Group

Last Sunday Small Groups

Nature Lovers Group (TBA)



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

March 1st

Conscious Living – We will host a Green Home Improvement session with *Carole* and *Jack Yates*. The Yates will share ideas gathered from the UNI I-Renew Conference as well as from earth-friendly projects done at their own home. Come and share your own ideas and/or learn from these “seasoned pros”.

March 8th

Circle Way – to be announced

Book Group – meet with *Patrick Malloy* on the second and last Sundays in March to begin a book by Loyal Rue titled, *Religion Is Not About God: How Spiritual Traditions Nurture Our Biological Nature and What to Expect When They Fail*. See related article elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

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

March 15th

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

Walking The Talk – Join *Patrick Malloy* in learning about the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

March 22nd

“Doc” Shorts – *Heavy Metal Drummer*: This delightful short-story film follows a young Muslim teenager in Morocco and his passion for heavy metal music. His musical taste makes him a “freak” in his culture, and though he tamely plays drums in a small band with two friends, he longs to let his passion burst through. This is a charming look at the yearning for artistic freedom in a closed society; *Earthdance: Dancing the Dream Awake*: This documentary short introduces a blossoming global culture dedicated to using the power of music, dance and shared intention to create a peaceful world; *Prayer for Peace*: Shown here at an Earthdance celebration in the United States, the peace prayer is played at the same moment in hundreds of synchronized global dance gatherings honoring the International Day of Peace.

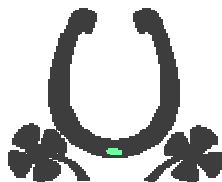
March 29th

Book Group – (see March 8th above and/or related article for details)

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.



WESTWARD HO COLORADO EXCURSION

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2009

The UU Church of Pueblo in Pueblo, Colorado is hosting a Rocky Mountain excursion as a church fundraiser. The package includes: pick up and drop off at the Colorado Springs Airport, Bed and Breakfast with a UU host family, welcoming dinner/three restaurant dinners/BBQ on a working ranch, lunches on day trips and the day of departure, air conditioned van for day trips with tour escort, all admission fees.

For more information see the kiosk in Fellowship Hall.