

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



Sunday Services - 10:30 AM
Religious Education - 10:30 AM

Telephone
(724) 327-5872

Website
<http://www.esuuc.org>

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Editor, Andy Manhardt
newsletter@esuuc.org

Annual Meeting

June 12, 6:00 PM

The ESUUC annual meeting will be held on June 12. The potluck dinner will start at 6:00 and the official Annual Meeting at 6:45. All official members should have received a packet with the agenda and the items to be considered at the meeting. If you think that you should have received a packet and didn't, please contact Leona (secretary@esuuc.org) ASAP.

The meeting has a full agenda as usual. We will be considering capital expenditures, the operating budget, a Welcoming congregation resolution, some proposed by-laws changes as well as the election of new officers. If you have any questions or concerns try to attend the town hall meeting on May 27, or talk to one of the board members before the Annual Meeting. It is important to resolve any concerns before the meeting so we can get through the agenda in a reasonable time.

ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, June 6, 10:30AM- "*Stepping Stones*"

Kathy Begg and Rev. Dr. Renee Waun

The **Coming of Age Youth** will star in this Sunday's service as they have completed their year-long program of preparation. We will have a wonderful time of sharing as we welcome the youth into this new phase of their lives. **Kathy Begg and Dr. Waun** will facilitate this momentous occasion, which will be followed by a special reception in the Community Room.

Sunday, June 13, 10:30AM- "*In Every Bud There is a Flower*"

Rev. Dr. Renee Waun

This will be **Pride Sunday** for East Suburban Church (celebrating the worth and dignity of every gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender person) as well as our annual Flower Communion ritual where each person is asked to **bring a stemmed flower** to place in a common vase for this poignant tradition begun during WWII. Come and hear the story of how all this fits together as we bring our regular Program Year to a close before beginning summer activities. **Dr. Waun** will officiate.

Sunday June 20, 10:30AM - "*RE Program Grand Finale*" - *Father's Day Intergenerational Service*

Our final event of this RE year will be the Father's Day Intergenerational Service. The kids have put the whole service together right down to choosing the readings, the music, and the program. They

will also conduct the service. They have put a lot of time and effort into this program, which promises to be extraordinary! - Please come and join us for this grand event!

Sunday, June 27, 10:30 AM - "Poetry – The First Language"

Dr. M.P. Khan

This program will be a presentation of poems and the emotions they evoke, connected to the body chakras. There will be an open mike following the presentation. Bring your poetry to share.

Sunday July 4, 10:30 AM - "Dreaming of Freedom and Peace"

Rev. Dr. Renee Waun

For the program on this Independence Day, Rev. Dr. Renee Waun will lead us in a relaxed, guided meditation which will help us to visualize peace and freedom throughout the world, in a sort of Buddhist style. Brian Ogle will provide esoteric music during the guided meditation and dress will be casual.

Religious Education News

Class Schedules;

Nursery:

June 6 Nursery care will be provided
June 13 Nursery care will be provided
June 20 No nursery care will be provided

Lower Elementary:

June 6 Coming of Age Ceremony - Kids to attend the service
June 13 Preparation for Intergenerational Father's Day Service
June 20 Intergenerational Father's Day Service

Upper Elementary:

June 6 Coming of Age Ceremony - Kids to attend the service
June 13 Preparation for Intergenerational Father's Day Service
June 20 Intergenerational Father's Day Service

Middle School:

June 6 Coming of Age Ceremony
June 13 Group to attend the service
June 20 Intergenerational Father's Day Service. Group to attend the service

Coming of Age Ceremony

Please join us for a very special service to celebrate our 8 Candidates completion of their year long Coming of Age Program. They have studied various religions and their beliefs, and have attended services/ceremonies for 5 very different communities, including Muslim, Russian Orthodox, African Methodist Episcopalean, Hindu and Pagan. They participated in a Native American-based camp out/opening for the program, worked on a service project at Urban Hope UU Church in Cleveland, and, thanks to the generous support of the wonderful people in our congregation, they raised funds to support their projects and their trip to Boston!

On Sunday, June 6, the Coming of Age program will officially end with a celebratory ceremony to be held during our regularly scheduled Sunday morning service. Mentors, Parents, Teachers, and everyone in our church family has helped make this year possible. Please come and be a part of this joyous occasion!

RE Summer Program

This is a reminder that there will be no RE program or Nursery provider during the summer months. We will resume RE activity in the fall with the new Church year.

RE Sponsored Book Club

Do you like books? Love to read? Have a house full of books you'd love to discuss with other people? Well, from time to time we have talked with various members/friends/ and visitors about forming a Book Club, and it's time to do it! Are you interested? If so, please come to an informal, formative meeting, after

church on Sunday June 13. At this meeting we can decide things like when to meet, how often to meet, length of books, etc . . . This could be the beginning of some wonderful insights into some great books.

Chalice Circles

We are still interested in forming a series of Chalice Circles, but need your feedback on what topics you would be interested in. When we asked previously, we only got a couple of suggestions, and would like to have a half dozen or more to work with. We are going to put a jar by the refreshment table in the community room, with some blank slips of paper, and ask that you write down any ideas you have and put them in the jar. If you would, by chance, be willing to lead the Circle, please give us your name, but whether you are interested in leading a Chalice Circle or not, please give us your ideas. Thanks!

Fall Registration for RE

Registration forms for the fall program should be in the mail by June 1. If you don't get yours within a few days of that date, or if you have any questions on the program, please let us know.

Thank You!

Thank you to all of the teachers, parents, mentors, kids, and members of our congregation. You have all helped us so much this year and given us so much support. We feel honored to be part of such a caring and supportive community. We hope you have a wonderful, enjoyable summer - you deserve it! - and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy and Dan Begg
RE Directors

New Member Recognition

New Member Recognition on Sunday, June 13-We continue to be blessed with new people who are signing our Membership Book. On Sunday, June 13 we will take a few moments during our service to recognize those who have joined in the past several months. If you have been considering membership but have not yet signed the book, we invite you to do so on or before June 13 so that you may take part in the recognition. If you have any questions about the meaning of membership, please call Rev. Waun 412-731-2834, Brien Palmer 724-325-3903 or Gerard Katilius 724-327-6321.

In Honor of Walt Courtley

by Nancy Fitzgerald

Walt Courtley planned his memorial service in Greenville on Sat. over the last 6 months of his life. "Celebrate and let it be dance!" were part of his instructions as indeed his life was a dance. "Let it Be a Dance" is also the title of a hymn with words by poet Ric Masten, a favorite of Walt's, with whom he was in touch by email over the last few months.

Walt filled many roles within ESC over the years, including President in 1974-75, program chair and participant on the committee when we hired our first full time minister. He started a men's tennis group and a Men's Retreat for Ohio-Meadville District. He took my 13 year old to the tennis court when he was in his late 60's, and contrary to Greg's expectations for "this old man" beat him soundly. He went white water rafting with teenagers Brian Lilly and David Cook and David's dad Charlie in about the same time frame. He was an enthusiastic greeter of visitors and encouraged others to consider serving on the board or committees for OMD so that including Walt, Steve Fowler and Sibyl McNulty, ESC has had so far three

presidents of the OMD Board and a goodly share of people serve on the Summer Institute Planning Committee and in other key roles. For many years he participated in guiding ESC at board meetings along with his wife Mildred.

Mildred and Walt moved 9 years ago to the retirement center of St. Paul Homes in Greenville, PA for which Walt raised capital funds as a young man. Still he kept up his UU and East Suburban interest. He served a four-year term as a trustee to the national Unitarian Universalist Association board while based at the UU Church of Youngstown, OH with duties as liaison to the young people. In that capacity, he showed up one evening at Summer Institute with bright green hair. When asked if it would wash out, he said he didn't know but he'd tell me in the morning. Walt's hobby was wood working and we benefited in our new building from the gifts of our podium, hymnal cart, worship table and three small tables in the back corner the he made to the specifications of the Aesthetics Committee.

Walt was still concerned about deficit spending and unrealistic dues collection projections in the OMD budget right before this year's Annual Meeting. It would be a worthy memorial to make sure there is fiscal balance in next year's budget. There were at least 25 people at his memorial service who had known Walt through East Suburban Church, including Tam, Minh and Cuong Nguyen, the Vietnamese family sponsored by ESC when they immigrated to Pittsburgh in 1975, who came from Boston and Baltimore.

Walter J. Courtley died on May 16, 2004 from cancer at the age of 81. We celebrate his life in the congregation of East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church and the joyous contribution he made to so many of us.

Puppeteers Needed

We have had some light hearted Children's Moments with the help of the Funshine Folk—a fun loving group of folks who enjoy operating puppets to convey simple but meaningful messages to all. We would like 2 or 3 more people (any age) to join us. If you are interested in being a puppeteer or would like more information, please contact Michael Safran 412-798-0545 or Rev. Waun 412-731-2834. The next puppet appearances will be on Sundays, June 13 and September 12.

We Want to Know YOU Will Vote

Our congregation is committed to 100% participation in voting this November. In addition to every member pledging to vote we are asking every member and friend to take one registration form home to get ONE new person registered to vote. We will have a chart in the foyer showing exactly which people have signed the pledge to vote. Your vote counts more in 2004. Please help us to motivate others in this important work.

Come to a Welcoming Congregation Picnic

You are invited to come and:

- share yummy picnic food
- share Welcoming stories from your church
- share discussion after watching
the award winning video, "It's Elementary"

WHEN: Sunday, June 6, 5-8pm

WHERE:

**The East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church
4326 Sardis Rd., Murrysville, PA 15668**

WHAT: A picnic—bring a dish or dessert to pass. Beverages plus grilled hot dogs, hamburgers and mushrooms (for vegetarian sandwiches) will be provided

WHY: We would like to gather welcoming ideas, celebrate progress, offer support, form a network, envision the future

**PLEASE RSVP by calling the church 724-327-5824 or Renee Waun's home 412-731-2834
BY Tues, JUNE 1**

We earnestly hope that you value this opportunity—
So please join us!

Farm Days At Brier Hill Farm

Saturday June 5 Noon –7:00PM

Sunday June 6 Noon to 5:00PM

Come and see Llamas, Alpacas, Sheep, Goats, Horses, Chickens, and Rabbits.

FUN! FOOD! & FIBER!

- Demonstrations of sheep shearing, spinning/felting fiber & packing a llama.
- Take a llama for a walk.
- Drawings for Prizes!

Directions: From Pittsburgh take #22 east toward New Alexandria. 5½ miles past the traffic light at New Alexandria, turn left onto Westinghouse Road. Go one mile and turn left onto Brier Hill Lane. Continue to the top of the hill.

Diane & Terry Neely

(Diane Neely (nee: Whittier) who, along with her husband Terry own the farm is a former member of ESUUC and is now an active member of the Indiana UU Church.)

Refreshments

"Coffee and Conversation" is an integral part of Sundays at ESUUC. This time honored ritual takes place after every Sunday service and consists of coffee and other beverages, as well as a snack. Snacks are provided by congregational members and friends on a rotating basis, and the list of names is posted in each monthly newsletter. The duties of the assigned refreshment person(s) include setting up the coffee and hot water for tea and cocoa, setting out plates, cups, napkins, plastic cutlery and the food, as well as cleaning up when everyone is finished.

June 6 Meritt and Tom Bailey

June 13 sharing Sunday

June 20 Jill and Keith Born

If the Sunday assigned to you is inconvenient, please try to switch with another person on the list. Feel free to call me with questions.

This officially ends regular refreshments for the year. During the summer refreshments will be informal. We are asking that people donate non-perishable snack items i.e. chips, crackers etc. that can be on hand for the summer services. Thanks. Maria Luczkow (724) 327-3352.



mUUsings from the President

by Gerard Katilius

Walt Courtly, a former leader of ESUUC passed away last night. Although I was not a member of our Church while he was president, I had the honor and pleasure of talking and working with him while I have been on the board. If you want a role model for the ideal person, Walt's the guy. He was always cheerful, encouraged others to talk a lot, and shared his wisdom appropriately. He also worked tirelessly to apply and advance the principles which guide Unitarian Universalists.

From what I understand, Walt and his wife Mildred were the backbone of the church for many years. This was in the days when there was no building, so they were herding nomads in rental spaces. Everyone I have ever talked to about them has spoken of them with the highest praise. When you look around our sanctuary and see the beautiful wood pulpit, hymnal rack and tables, know that Walt designed, built and donated each one of them to our Church. When I accepted them on behalf of the church, he was proud yet humble, as you would expect a great person to be.

Our sincerest condolences go out to his wife and family. One thing I'm fairly certain of is that a person's life flashes before their eyes as they pass on. I am positive that Walt was happy last night.



Pastor's Column

by Rev. Renee Waun

June: a time of transformations

June is one of those months that holds a variety of meanings and things to celebrate. It is a time of graduating from institutions of learning. It is Pride month. It encompasses the summer solstice. It is a favorite month for weddings, and then there is Fathers Day. All these events include within them a component of transformation in them as there is movement and celebration between one phase of life and another.

It also happens to be a month of transition at East Suburban UUC between the outgoing officers and those who will be elected at our June 12 Annual Dinner and Meeting. Most notably we will be celebrating the two years of extraordinary leadership of Gerard Katilius as our President. He has done an outstanding job

as visionary and advocate for freedom of belief. Every President shapes to some degree the direction of the church. During Gerard's turn at the helm we experienced our first two years of property ownership as a very positive beginning here in Murrysville. That required a great deal of Gerard's time in helping to organize congregational life, listening to the concerns of the membership, speaking out in local newspapers on community issues, putting forth a vision for what we could become, picking up the slack wherever needed, helping people move to consensus and managing to endear the attitudes of all, through his marvelous and affirming perspective.

Our church has been blessed with strong leadership in every area. Let us celebrate the work of Gerard and the others who will be rotating out of their Board positions: Jean Robl and Kate Codd-Palmer (Program Committee Co-Chairs) and Maureen McHugh, (Vice President), who have all served conscientiously and well. We recognize the contributions of these wonderful leaders as we move to the next exciting phase of church life together.

See you all at the Annual Meeting!

Congregational Committees

Current Committees

Committee - Chair

Aesthetics - Jane Longdon
Building and Facilities - Lew Ruffing
Caring and Concerns – Maria Luczkow
Committee on Ministry - Ginny Connolly Manhardt
Finance - Cathy Serventi
Landscaping – Open
Membership – Brien Palmer
PIIN – Nancy Fitzgerald
Religious Education Committee - Ken Noble
Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett
Social Enrichment - Open
Drumming – Karen Katilius
Sunday Programs/Celebrations– Kate Codd-Palmer, Jean Robl
Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Committee Calendar

June 20 Aesthetics Committee meeting – 12:15 PM at the church

Newsletter Deadlines

The newsletter deadline for the July-August Newsletter will be June 18. Please Email me with your articles at manhardt@adelphia.net or call me at (412) 373-3668 and leave a message with your news, stories, and other information.

The deadline for the September Newsletter will be August 13. This deadline is a week earlier than normal so we can have the September newsletter out well before the start of the new church year begins in September year.

I would like to thank everyone for their help and cooperation in submitting their information for the newsletter during the past year. Your efforts made this newsletter possible.

Andy Manhardt, Editor

Calendar

(Sunday Services and Forums are listed on the first page)

Thurs. June 3	Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:15 PM at the Church
Sat. June 5	Coming of Age Picnic – 5:30 PM at the Church
Sun. June 6	Welcoming Congregation Picnic – 5:00 PM - at the Church
June 5 & 6	Farm Days At Brier Hill Farm Sat. Noon to Seven, Sun. Noon to five.
June 12	Annual Meeting – 6:00 PM at the Church
June 20	Aesthetics Committee meeting – 12:15 PM at the church