

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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May 2009

Editor: Mary Warwick
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, May 3, 10:30am - *"After-the-Fact Gifts"*-There are times in life when something "bad" happens that turns out to be something good after all. The trick is how to get through these times in such a way that we can find the "gift" in there. It can be daunting but not impossible, and we can help determine the outcome by directing our thoughts away from fear and lackfulness. **Dr. Waun** will present.

Sunday, May 10, 10:30 am - *"Single Payer Health Care Forum "* - Bob Mason is a professional social worker and founding member of Pennsylvanians United for Single Payer Health Care (PUSH) and Health Care 4 All PA. He has also become one of the 20 plus million of the underinsured, one serious illness away from bankruptcy. He will not only talk about health care as a fundamental human right, but single payer (publicly financed, privately delivered) health care as the only option that is affordable for individuals, families, and society. ESUUC's Brenda Shiring will provide an opposing viewpoint.

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane"
--Martin Luther King

Sunday, May 17, 10:30 am - *"Green Ride "*— Merritt Bailey facilitates, providing more information on green living.

Sunday, May 24, 10:30 am - *"Songs for the Journey"*-- Hospice music.

Sunday, May 31, 10:30 am - *"What We Have Learned"*—ESUUC's Coming of Age youth discuss what they have learned studying other religions.

Sunday, June 7, 10:30 am Sunday, June 7, 10:30am- *"Coming of Age Closing Ceremony"* - Sponsors, parents and the entire congregation celebrate the culmination of the past year of preparation for our COA students, in this very special service.



Pastor's Column: Women & Peace

by Rev. Renee Waun

Since May 10th is Mother's Day, I thought it would be interesting to post Julia Ward Howe's Mother's Day Proclamation that she wrote in 1870. It is a cry for peace for and from mothers of the world:

Arise then...women of this day! Arise, all women who have hearts! Whether your baptism be of water or of tears! Say firmly: "We will not have questions answered by irrelevant agencies. Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."

From the voice of a devastated Earth a voice goes up with our own. It says: "Disarm! Disarm! The sword of murder is not the balance of justice." Blood does not wipe our dishonor, nor violence indicate possession. As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of counsel. Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead. Let them solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace... Each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God -

In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask that a general congress of women without limit of nationality, may be appointed and held at someplace deemed most convenient and the earliest period consistent with its objects, to promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interests of peace.

News from the Treasurer

By Chris Priano

Liquid assets, 7/1/08: \$ 4,311.14

Liquid assets, 3/31/09: \$ 10,529.85

Increase (decrease) in liquid assets: \$ 6,218.71

Net inflows: \$ 6,218.71

Prepaid mortgage funds, 3/31/09: \$12,327.08

Mortgage principal balance, 3/31/09: \$ 28,388.81

Liquid assets are comprised of our bank account balances (two checking accounts, a PayPal account and a Scottrade brokerage account). Note that an increase in liquid assets, or a positive net inflows figure, does not mean we're running an operating surplus. Our bank accounts contain monies for other funds as well, such as African Rural Schools Foundation and Coming of Age. Sooo...keep those pledge payments coming!

Speaking of pledges: in May/June, I'll be sending all pledging members and friends the status of their current fiscal year pledge. I'd greatly appreciate it if you could pay your pledge in full before the end of June, so I can complete my end-of-fiscal-year close in a timely manner. Any operating surplus will be sent to the national Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) as partial payment of our dues. Sadly, this will be the first year in our history that we probably won't be able to meet our normal, "fair share" commitment to the UUA (\$3,360). For those of you who may be interested in contributing specifically toward our UUA obligation, please make your check payable to ESUUC with "UUA dues" noted in the memo area of the check. I'll hold this money aside and add it to whatever operating surplus we may realize.

During May, I'll be using the canvass results, budget requirements submitted by the committee chairs and other historical financial data to develop a draft budget for FY 2009-2010. This budget will be reviewed at a "town hall" forum (tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 7 after service). The annual meeting will be held the following Saturday, June 13, hopefully with all budget-related concerns put to rest ahead of time.

I'm in the process of evaluating a fully web-based (and reasonably priced) church accounting system that we may be implementing in July. In addition to making the treasurer's life easier, it allows for secure, online access to church financial records and includes a number of great reports.

Finally: If anyone's interested in stepping into the treasurer's role next year, please contact me and I'll submit your name to the nominating committee. It's my intention to remain as "assistant treasurer" next year, after my current term as treasurer has ended, to assist with bank deposits as well as with the rollout of the new accounting system.

Labyrinth Progress

THANK YOU to the donors and to the great team of Labyrinth workers, led by Kate Begg, who are making our dream of a church-side labyrinth a reality. Tom Dunnett dug the path with his chain saw, and a group of hardworking volunteers hauled the sand and laid the bricks. Wow! What a tremendous addition to our church property and program. Also thanks to David Schwartz who is donating and planting five trees for the front of our Labyrinth.

Time and Talent Forms

Please be sure to fill out your time and talent form and hand it in. In this way, we can enhance your unique membership in our church

Religious Education

RE Class Calendar for May:

Elementary

May 3 Children's Chapel Julia Begg

May 10 MOTHER'S DAY - NO RE CLASSES

May 17 The Good Samaritan - Wendy Noe

May 24 Mary Magdalene - Natalie Mendik

May 31 Kids to attend service - COA running the program today

Middle

May 3 Children's Chapel Julia Begg
May 10 MOTHER'S DAY - NO RE CLASSES
May 17 Jesus and the Temple - Gayle Pamerleau
May 24 The Healing Power - Kate Zingarelli
May 31 Kids to attend service - COA running the program today

COA

May 3 Children's Chapel Julia Begg
May 10 MOTHER'S DAY - NO RE CLASSES
May 17 Mantels and get ready for May 31 service - Living Green Sale
May 24 Mantels and get ready for May 31 service
May 31 COA Youth to do a program on what they have learned during their visits to other churches

Caring and Concerns

“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”
- Leo Bucaglia

Happy Birthday!

April Soule
Nancy Fitzgerald

Happy Anniversary

Wendy & Dave Noe
Jen Cheripka & Steve (a month late -Sorry)

As a Community, we share our positive energies to help those who are having difficult times...

John Graham for an elder family member
Judy Graham recovering from pneumonia
Rayna Faigen for two abdominal surgeries and wisdom teeth extractions
George Ratliffe for his recent hospitalization

Congratulations:

Nic Freda who now has his Learner's Permit
Sydney Dunnett for having her cast removed
And a big thank-you to all those who worked so hard to complete the labyrinth
Brenda Shiring and her friend, Kathy, who remained with a young woman at Heinz Hall and talked her out of a near suicide jump
Marianne Jew for a job well done in handling a pastoral care call

Condolences and Remembrances:

Three Pittsburgh Police officers slain in the line of duty
St Morris member killed by an out of control car
The victims of the earthquake in Italy
Just pause and remember those that have gone before us and fought for a better life for all

“Life is not a brief candle... It is a splendid torch that must be made to burn as brightly as possible before it is handed on to the next generation.”

Each month, we will post this column for birthdays, anniversaries, honors, illnesses, or memorials. Please contact Susan Goodis at Caring@ESUUC.org or call 412-609-1232 with events you wish to have included in our newsletter. Thank-you.

Free Caffeine!

We have obtained FREE samples of fair trade organic coffee from La Prima Espresso via Cindy Blair who owns Blair's Country Coffee Shop in the white medical building on route 48 just south of Gateway High School on the opposite side.

Also because of Cindy, we will be able to obtain a cheaper price on this coffee in the future.

Please patronize her shop when you are in the area. She serves good homemade food at reasonable prices. Cindy's coffee shop is open M-F from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm (except on Friday she closes at 3:00 pm).

Sunday Refreshments

One of the most popular Unitarian traditions is the social hour after each service. At ESUUC, each adult member (or couple) takes a turn bringing refreshments. It works out, on average, to about one turn per person/couple per year. We also have Sharing Sundays, on which anyone who desires can bring in a goody or goodies to share.

To ensure fairness, we assign each adult member/couple a date on which to bring refreshments. These don't have to be homemade or fancy; store-bought treats work well, too. If you haven't brought refreshments before, or are unfamiliar with how things are set up, you may want to come in the weekend before your turn to see how it's done. There are also instructions in the kitchen on how to use the coffeemaker and hot water pot. If you are still confused, or need assistance, contact Brenda Shiring at brennyren@yahoo.com or 724-334-1507. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me. The only thing I WON'T do is let you off the hook – we need your participation to keep this fun tradition alive (and everybody fed)!

If the week you're assigned doesn't work for your schedule, please switch with someone else for that month.

May 3	Chris Clifton
May 10	Kate Codd-Palmer & Brien Palmer
May 17	Alison Daigle
May 24	Marylyn Devlin
May 31	Leona & Tom Dunnett

June 7	Jenifer Ewart
June 14	Nancy Fitzgerald
June 21	Susan Goodis and Matt Mathis
June 28	Alan and Jennifer Halperin

Volunteer for Summer Refreshments

Here at ESUUC, we all enjoy refreshment time after each service, and most members are great at taking their turns for bringing in wonderful treats for everyone to enjoy. During the fall and winter, turns are assigned by alphabetical order, but in the summer we do it a little differently. We take volunteers.

Anyone who volunteers to bring refreshments for a summer service not only gets the appreciation of all the members who attend that service, but also two special advantages: summer services typically have lower attendance, so there's less food to prepare; **and** if you provide refreshments for a summer Sunday, you get to skip a turn in the fall and winter!

Sound good to you? Brenda Shiring will have a Summer Refreshments sign-up sheet at services in May, so you can pick your date!

Support Our Relay Team

Those shoes are made for walkin' – walking to help fund cancer research, that is! Please support our own "UUS for the Cuure" when we walk at the Murrysville Relay for Life, at Franklin Regional Stadium from noon Friday, May 29 to noon Saturday, May 30. You might consider making a small contribution to one of our walkers, or you could just come over and cheer us on. Help us make a difference!

Save the Date

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church is organizing our annual Pride Day Breakfast, Service, and March festivities for Sunday June 14. After a light breakfast we'll host a regular worship service at a special time of 9:30 am, with Rev. David McFarland speaking on the topic "Liberty for All: Stonewall at 40". Immediately following service we'll provide bus transportation (\$5) from the North Side church to the downtown march. The Pride March begins at 12 pm. Pittsburgh area UU's will be marching together so please come out and show your support of our local LGBT community! The bus will make two return trips to the church after the march. Contact Mark Tomlinson at <mark.tomlinson@yahoo.com> for more details.

For more info on the June 8-14 2009 PrideFest check out www.pittsburghpride.org

Global Connections

From Uganda

We now have well over 100 Ugandan children being sponsored by generous Americans, some of whom are in our own congregation. We send out a big Thank You for that! If anyone is interested in sponsoring a child, Dr. Waun can point you in the right direction.

The big project on the schedule at the Divine Foundation Primary School in Uganda this year is to replace all the temporary wooden classrooms with brick ones. It will not be difficult because the bricks are hand made at the Trinity Campus location and trucked in to the school. Then there are volunteers and a few paid workers to do the job. The entire project, replacing 6 classrooms, will be about \$23,000, including the cost of lumber, nails and iron sheets for the roof.

The first trench for bricklaying was dug on May 1, so we are welcoming donations toward the building project at this time. If you would like to see photos and updated information about the school and its many projects, please visit www.africanruralschools.org. Dr. Waun is Founding Sponsor at the school and Ken Noble has been a volunteer there. Either one can answer any questions that you might have about the school. We hope the building will be completed by next February, when a dedication ceremony will be planned during our next visit.

From Transylvania

We received (last month) this message from Rev. Alpar Kiss, the pastor of our sister church in Kopec, Romania.

Dear Friends in Pittsburgh,

We wish you all the best for the coming Easter Holiday, have a wonderful spring and a great Resurrection of the soul and heart.

I know, this holiday has more sense for the so called conservative, traditional churches but I am taking this opportunity to share our best wishes with you.

Spring has come and so are coming our new hopes related to our daily goals.

Let's start this with a common hopeful wish: WE ARE TOGETHER AND WE ARE SHARING COMMON THOUGHT'S.

Best: Alpar Kiss

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Institute- July 12-18, Kenyon College- a full week of UU folks in study, recreation, worship and fun! It's great for all ages. See www.ohiomeadville.org

Family Heart Camp-July 10-18, Prince William Forest Park, VA: an immersion in Nonviolent Communication for families. See www.familyheartcamp.org

Spirit in Practice- a UU Workshop at the Body, Mind and Spirit Conference, Ferry Beach August 22-28. Leader: Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohan Hayashida. Information at www.ferrybeach.org

UU Heritage Week at Ferry Beach, August 22-28. Leadership: Rev. Neal Ferris, Wendell Refior, Rev. David Johnson, Rev. Mark Harris, Rev. Andrea Greenwood. See www.ferrybeach.org

UU Singles Camps (AMUUSE) June 14-19 and August 9-15. See www.AMUUSE.org

UU Theater News

"Are You Being Served?" is a funny play coming to Indiana, PA. One of our regular ESUUC visitors Ted Short is helping to produce this lively and fun play based on the Britcom of the same name. See the play's flyer at the end of the electronic newsletter for all the details or contact the newsletter editor.

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly	Membership – Marylyn Devlin
Building and Facilities – John Graham	Music – Alan Halperin
Caring & Concerns – Susan Goodis	Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau	Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett
Community – Brenda Shiring	Social Enrichment - Open
Drumming – Bill Dunham (drumming@esuuc.org)	Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary
Finance – Chris Priano	Kukura-Straw
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Newsletter Deadlines

June 2009 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, May 17th**. Please email your articles to newsletter@esuuc.org or call Mary Warwick (724) 327-3092 and leave a message with your news, stories, and other information.

Get the Weekly Email News

If you would like to receive a weekly email that includes items not in the newsletter and reminders of upcoming events for the week, please send an email from the address you would like subscribed to **esuuc_news@esuuc.org**. You can also send a message to that address if you would like it included in the weekly email announcement to the congregation.

Calendar

Thursday, April 30

All day Canvass Closing

All day CoA Heritage Trip

Friday, May 1

All day CoA Heritage Trip

Saturday, May 2

All day CoA Heritage Trip

Sunday, May 3

All day CoA Heritage Trip

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Wednesday, May 6

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Saturday, May 9

All day OMD - Youth Ministry Cluster Experience

Sunday, May 10

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Finance Committee

Thursday, May 14

6:00pm Center for Inquiry May Meeting

Saturday, May 16 All day Generosity Pgh. Cluster Event

Sunday, May 17

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm CoA Candidate-Mentor meeting

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, May 20

1:00pm Current Events Group

Saturday, May 23

All day Budget Sent

1:00pm Swap & Spa Day (Green Sanctuary fundraiser)

Sunday, May 24

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm (cancelled due to holiday weekend) Adult RE - Thank God for Evolution

Friday, May 29

12:00pm Relay for Life

Saturday, May 30

12:00pm Relay for Life

12:00pm NON CHURCH EVENT

Sunday, May 31

10:30am Sunday Service

Wednesday, June 3

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Saturday, June 6

5:00pm CoA Potluck Dinner (time TBD)

Sunday, June 7

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service
12:00pm Program Committee
12:00pm Town Hall Meeting

Friday, June 12

6:30pm Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, June 13

1:00pm WEDDING

5:30pm ESUUC Annual Dinner

Sunday, June 14

10:30am Sunday Service

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