

THE LIGHTED CHALICE



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

West Lafayette, Indiana



February 2008

*Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.
Childcare provided*

February 3

“Service for the Common Good”

Speaker: Jo Ann Mullen

Worship Leader: Gale Kvam

Pianist: Peg Black

Sound Operator: Sharon McKnight

February 10

“Space, The Final Frontier: How Opportunity is a Challenge, and Challenge is an Opportunity.”

Speaker: The Reverend Chip Roush*

Worship Associate: Gale Kvam

Pianist: Kaye McSpadden

Sound Operator: Carl Seese

February 17

“Breathe: The Life of the Spirit”

The Reverend Hilary Landau Krivchenia

Worship Associate: Kat Braz

Pianist: Peg Black

Sound Operator: TBD

February 24

“Congregational Being and Doing”

The Reverend Hilary Landau Krivchenia

Worship Associate: Martha Gipson

Pianist: Kaye McSpadden

Sound Operator: TBD

**Rev. Chip Roush is the Senior Minister at the UU Church of Grand Traverse, Traverse City, MI. He has previously served as the Minister of Religious Education at Countryside Church in Palatine, IL and looks forward to visiting us in the “south!”*

“Gypsies in the Palace”

It takes many hands to make for fun work! The Service Auction Committee is hard at work (or rather, play!) trying to make the upcoming event fun for everyone. The auction will take place on **Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.**

We do, however, need some help. If you are willing to set up the fellowship hall or clean up following the event, please contact Amy French. If you have a talent or a service to donate, please leave your form in the office by January 31. If you would like to help solicit from our local businesses, please contact Cheryl Fowler.

If you don't want to pitch in, but do want to attend, please see Jean Tyner for your tickets. We ask that you purchase tickets by February 17 to allow our kitchen staff to prepare adequate goodies. Remember, the \$10 ticket price covers not only the auction, but also dinner, drinks, decorations and more!

Once again, we are hoping to pull off the event of the season, so pull out your best beach wear and come and get *lei'ed!*

**Next newsletter deadline:
Sunday, February 24 at Noon
Covering MARCH 2008**

Place items in newsletter mailbox or email
lightedchalice@yahoo.com.

*For this issue:
Editing/layout by Celia Hartley.
Printing service donated by Celia Hartley.*

Minister's Musings

This week the stock market began a serious downturn. The economy is a mysterious thing to me. So this week, it was interesting because while all economic indicators were down, the congregation managed to put the Union Street property under contract. This was an important step financially, but it has emotional implications as well.

The place that the congregation once thought it might move to is moving on. I felt sweeping relief when we got the news. I enjoyed sitting with the Board over negotiations. And yet as the contract was signed and the reality set in, there was also some grieving for the road not taken. Don't get me wrong. The congregation has made one good decision after another as we reckoned with the impossibility of building on that property, up to the decision to purchase and settle into Meridian Street. It has required flexibility and inventiveness on the part of the leadership of the church, particularly financial.

The congregation took a leap of faith in making this move – not a foolish or unstudied leap – but a real leap that required having faith in the future. It has been inspiring to watch. As I get ready to meet with colleagues, it will be interesting to report on the work that has been done here, because it all points to learning and growth on the part of this congregation.

Learning often comes with hard knocks; certainly we have had our share of miscalculations, misunderstandings, and worse. The key is to keep learning and responding positively and creatively. It's what we need most in ordinary times or in times of change.

In addition, the Director of Religious Education, Michele Tomarelli, resigned and left some sad kids and grown-ups behind her. And now the congregation has the opportunity do further important learning – about communication, staff, vision, covenant and moving forward when you cannot see the future clearly.

Truth is, we never can see the future clearly, even when we would like to pretend that we can. We are really always flying by instruments, shrouded in cloud cover and surviving by the skill of intuition and good communication with ground control. For us, that means leading with our hearts and minds engaged, following our principles, and walking in care and covenant. It means responding positively and creatively.

“Truth is, we never can see the future clearly, even when we would like to pretend that we can.”

And this Sunday, there was a great potluck. As I sat by the membership book and watched, it was a pleasure to see so many new and renewed connections. The topic tables seemed to encourage mixing and conversation, but I haven't yet tested that theory. There was strong attendance and plenty of food! I didn't count the number of new members who signed the book – I think it was six or seven – each bringing enthusiasm and hope and new perspectives.

I'm excited about the “New Member Welcome” coming up in February, and I know that more people will be joining this year. To make them feel truly welcome, you just need to do the same thing – respond creatively and positively; be welcoming and inclusive.

There's no magic in it – to approach congregational life and work with the thought: What can I do that is creative and positive? There is no magic in it, but Starhawk defined magic as transforming reality at will. In that case, if we really can focus on that which will be creative and positive, that will be magic enough. It won't always bring a buyer out of thin air or make challenges evaporate, but it will always determine whether you move together through congregational life with grace. Here's to the grace you make together!

Rev. Hilary

Special Thanks To Budding Chefs

The Greeting and Membership committee would like to express our thanks to **Kate and Brian French** for providing, with a little help from Mom Amy, a delicious potato soup and brownies for the New UU & You class.

Not only are they good cooks, but it is fun to have the young people participating in the life of the church.

Della Willman

Atheism Discussion Group

The Atheism Discussion Group – finding meaning and morality without belief in the supernatural – meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 106. For more information, go to <http://atheists.meetup.com/521/>

Todd Barton

Wanted: Childcare Coordinator

Until now, it has been the responsibility of the person in charge of a meeting to find a sitter for childcare, and the DRE would send them the list of potential sitters. It has been suggested that it might be more efficient to have someone who keeps the list and does the hunting for the meeting leaders.

The responsibilities of the Childcare Coordinator would be to keep the Sitters List up-to-date, find an available sitter for meetings when asked, and be an advocate for keeping the sitting wages in line with community standards. If interested, contact Jill Salem,

News For Seniors

Our church, through the Social Justice Committee, has an affiliate membership in United Senior Action (USA). This is an organization that makes the voices of older Hoosiers heard on issues impacting their lives. The legislature will be considering several bills during its current session that will affect the lives of seniors.

By being an affiliate member of USA, individuals are eligible for significant discounts in membership dues. Affiliate Memberships are \$8 single/\$10 couple. Dues can be sent to: USA, 324 W. Morris Street, #114, Indianapolis, IN 46225. Be sure to include the name of the church, as well as your representatives' names: Don and Ruth Ann Ferris.

Church Mouse Award

This month's Church Mouse Award goes to **our young people** for all the work they have contributed to our life together.

There have been many willing hands – at the Jubilee Christmas, wrapping gifts, during our move to the new building, this past fall's football parking fundraiser, and the wonderful ornaments and soup mixes that were made for sale.



Thank you UU Youth!!

Change for Change

Change for Change, which is focusing on environmental groups this year, has selected Wildcat Wildlife Center as our February recipient.

The Center is located in Delphi and is a federal and state licensed wildlife rehabilitation center run by a team of volunteers, including students, veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and citizens. They seek to ensure the health, safety, and ultimate release of injured, orphaned, diseased, and displaced animals, including federal and state endangered or threatened species.

The Wildcat Wildlife Center operates entirely on donations, with no paid staff.

The center has developed a volunteer network of local citizens and Purdue University students, for whom the center provides a unique hands-on experience in wildlife rehabilitation and non-profit organization operations.

In addition, area veterinarians and some faculty from the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine have donated their time and expertise to perform vital surgeries and procedures on animals at the center.

The Wildcat Wildlife Center operates entirely on donations, with no paid staff. Our Change for Change donations will probably be used for supplies. The center is planning a flight pen, and they are seeking funding for that project as well.

Jean Turner



Unitarian Universalist Symposium (UUS)

UUS is a group that gathers weekly at 7 p.m. each Friday for food, fellowship, and fun at a different location each week. All ages are welcome.

Our schedule for this month (five Fridays in February – what are the odds?) is as follows:

- Feb 1 Exotic Thai, 3614 State Rd 38E, L
- Feb 8 Akropolis Greek Restaurant
3311 South St., L
- Feb 15 House of Saigon
Main St. & Sagamore Pkwy., L
- Feb 22 Yats Cajun Restaurant
340 E. State St., WL
- Feb 29 Little Mexico II, 8 East Earl Ave., L

Frank Arnold
UUS Coordinator

FEBRUARY FORUM

The Sunday Morning Forum meets at 9 a.m. in Room 101. We are using the back entrance to the building. Drive around the church to the right until you reach the parking places at the rear. We will meet you at the door and show you to the Forum room. Everyone is welcome!

A special note to young adults with children: Childcare is always provided.

February 3 G. Allen Grady: **What's Ahead for West Lafayette's Development?**

Concerns about the attack of the Emerald Ash Beetle on the city's trees and time spent on strategic planning are all part of the day's work for G. Allen Grady, Director of the West Lafayette Office of Development. Of course, he can't neglect code enforcement, neighborhood improvements and preparing the next block grant application for federal funds.

February 10 Joe Micon: **Lafayette Urban Ministry—New Directions**

What – you are charging rent to the homeless for a place to sleep? What are you thinking, Joe? Joe Micon is the Director of LUM and a long-time friend of Forum. When we read the article in the newspaper about LUM's new rent policy, we asked him to come tell us more about it.

Recent Forum Attendance

January 6 16
January 13 33
January 20 38
January 27 42

February 17 Jennifer Flora: **Mental Health in Tippecanoe County**

On the national level, 700,000 Americans are homeless on any given night. An estimated twenty to twenty-five percent of these people have a serious mental illness, and one-half of this group also have alcohol or drug problems. On the second floor of 914 South Street, Jennifer Flora, Chief Executive Officer, Mental Health America of Tippecanoe County, is doing something about this and other mental health problems in our community.

February 24 Patrick Kain: **"Kant's Moral Religion."**

Chuck Reynolds has waited over a year for this program. Why wouldn't Chuck be interested in hearing more about this philosopher whose 1793 writings on religion so rankled the King of Prussia that he ordered Kant to cease and desist from further publications on religion? Today, Kant is regarded as one of the most influential thinkers of modern Europe.

Patrick Kain is Professor of Philosophy at Purdue University.

News From the Board

Highlights from January 13 Congregational Meeting (Rescheduled from December 16)

- The 2008 Budget was passed.
- Announced appointment of new Assistant Treasurer, Kirsten Reynolds.
- Announced resignation of Director of Religious Education, Michele Tomarelli.

Highlights from Board of Trustees Meeting (January 13)

- Kim Harden gave the final report about our recent successful stewardship campaign.
- Mark VanMeeter gave a report on the final financials from the Celebrations events.
- The resignation of the DRE was addressed and a decision made to send a letter to the congregation regarding the events surrounding this action.
- The February Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 10, as soon after noon as possible.



Good-Bye and Good Luck!

The Board announces with regret the resignation of our Director of Religious Education, Michele Tomarelli, effective February 1, 2008.

We thank Michele for the work she has done to guide and inspire our children over the last three years and wish her well in her next endeavor.



To All My RE Students

Thank you so much for the going-away party – the yummy pancakes, the beautiful poncho and the lovely matching necklace. Thank you so much more for being your own sweet selves! You are the reason your parents and I put our hearts into RE, and I have always looked forward to coming to church to your smiles and hugs, and your wit and challenges. If you see me on the street, don't feel funny about coming to say hello – you'll be growing and a bit different, but that won't matter a bit. I'm always glad to see you!

Michele Tomarelli

Church Sponsorship of WBAA

We hope that you have recently heard the church's name as a sponsor on WBAA public radio, thanks to the generous donations from our members.

Over the past year, about \$1,000 was donated to the special fund for WBAA instead of given directly to the station during their pledge drives.

The Publicity Committee has been saving up the money until we completed our move, and has now passed it along to WBAA in exchange for on-air "advertising." The promotional spots will be aired intermittently through Easter. By then, we hope that more donations will enable us to purchase more air time.

Please direct any questions about this program to Martha Lempke, Publicity Committee,

Offer Accepted on Union Street

The Board of Trustees has voted to accept an offer to purchase our Union Street property. The sale will close on March 3, 2008 and we will provide more details after that date (don't want to jinx the sale – not that we are superstitious!).

The sales price is lower than what we have the property listed for, and we will not make a profit on the sale (compared to the original purchase price). But, assuming that the sale goes as planned, we will be able to pay off the

commercial bank loan on Meridian Street, cutting our debt in half. We will also save on interest payments, utilities, and insurance costs in our 2008 operating budget.

Perhaps most important, we will have one less thing to fret over, and will avoid the potential big expenses associated with older buildings.

The buyers intend to live in the house and restore it. So keep your fingers crossed until March 3!

Barney Dunning

Sermon Dialog

Are you interested in exploring sermon topics further? Do you have questions, thoughts, opinions or simply a desire to share conversation more deeply on the sermon topics with other people?

Please join us ten minutes after the service (bring your coffee!), in Continuing Education Rooms 101/103 for Congregational Response Time. This is an opportunity to dig in, think, and share. We will meet for half an hour, or until conversation can be continued over lunch.

Our conversations will occur when there is a moderator – usually with the speaker or the minister present – and will be announced in the Order of Service. If there is a potluck, such conversations can take place over lunch. A good conversation can be as nourishing as a good meal! Talk with you soon!

Rev. Hilary

Program Council News

At the January Program Council meeting we heard about upcoming activities and events sponsored by several of the committees in our church. It is always exciting to hear what each committee is doing during our monthly "round robin." And, frequently as committee representatives listen to one another, they are able to offer information and assistance to each other as they work toward common goals.

We decided to delay our annual committee fair until next fall; it will be after the service on **September 7**. Inviting members and friends to explore the myriad committees and activities available in our church is a more appropriate event in early fall than in late spring. More information is forthcoming.

We also discussed the need for volunteers. As I mentioned last month in the *Lighted Chalice*, we are looking for a volunteer to monitor bulletin boards – removing items when they are out of date and seeing that the information is placed in our archive. We are still seeking that "special someone" for this task.

In addition, we are looking for members of the newsletter editor team. Our goal is to have a team of six, with two members responsible for the newsletter each month. The two can decide how they want to share the editorial duties. If you have an interest in joining the newsletter team, please contact me

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 5 at 6:30 p.m.** in Room 106 of the church. We expect all committee chairs to attend, but our meetings are always open to all church members and friends. You are welcome to join us on the fifth!

Joan Marshall
Program Council Coordinator

Final Word on the Accessibility Project

In December we received the final bill from Simon Construction for the ramp and doorway widening project. We wanted to share the good news that the total cost was actually lower than we had anticipated. Thanks again to everyone for your help and patience during the difficult days of the construction last fall.

Kaye McSpadden
Accessibility Project Committee

Going Green

The Green Sanctuary Committee will meet over lunch on Sunday, February 17 after the service at noon.

Rae Schnapp

LUM Report

Homeless Shelter:

The Homeless Shelter is in need of coffee, toothbrushes, toothpaste, disposable razors, socks, hats, and gloves.

Office Needs:

Used inkjet cartridges. Any brand except Epson.

Afterschool Program:

The Afterschool Program is in need of snacks and drinks as well as fresh fruit.

Volunteers are also needed to help children with their homework, especially when Purdue is on break. Anyone wishing to volunteer their time may contact Cindy Haley at Lafayette Urban Ministry: 423-2691.

Food Pantry:

The number of people seeking assistance from the food pantry in 2007 totaled 23,143, thus constituting a continual gradual increase over the past five years.

The Food Pantry continues to need canned fruit, soups, cereals and canned tomato products.

Mary Finley
LUM representative

Come Explore Your Religious Past!

Come participate in the Haunting Church Curriculum. This discussion and reflection-based course provides an opportunity to revisit your religious past as you engage in a new religious present.

People from diverse religious backgrounds will spend an hour and a half for five weeks sharing their stories, hearing the different experiences of others, healing and growing in understanding.

The course, developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association years ago remains fresh today and offers a chance not to reject your religious past but to engage with it in a supportive environment. It's a wonderful way to get to know others in the congregation and to have meaningful dialogue.

Please register in the sign-up notebook on the counter in the library. You can also call the church office at 743-8812. The course will be offered Wednesdays: February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 5 at 7:15 p.m. in Room 106. The course is led by Rev. Hilary.

Rev. Hilary



Help Beautify the Church

The Exterior Committee is looking for people interested in helping us plan and execute the beautification of our new building and grounds. Meetings are always the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Room 106. We next meet on **February 11**.

Please come and help make our new home lovely, safe and green! For more information please email the committee chairperson, Michael Lewis,

Come Join the Fun!

We're starting a play group for little ones and their parents in the church nursery on the first and third Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please come into the church through the door near the office and join the fun!

All ages welcome even if your little one is still resting peacefully in mama's belly. The first play group met on January 17. For more information contact Tandy or Malcolm Easler

Hymnal Donation

Many thanks to Patty Wood for donating two hymnals (one gray, one blue). They were given in memory of Homer and Lucy Jordan.

Kaye McSpadden,
Hymnal Project

Mark Your Calendars!

The Annual UU All Church retreat date has been set, so please mark your calendars for **October 3-5, 2008**. The "A" frame at Ross Camp was not available in August, so we will be having a fall retreat this year.

The annual retreat is a wonderful time to leave your homes, get outside and enjoy being with other UU's. Ross Camp is located in West Lafayette, on the Wabash River and provides plenty of space for outdoor activities, exploring nature and communing with fellow UU's.

More details to follow as we get closer to the date – hope to see you all there!

Lisa Pantea

"Guest at Your Table" Report

Thanks to everyone who sponsored a "Guest at Your Table" box during the holidays. Twenty-three boxes were returned with contributions totaling \$655.92! The contributions have been sent to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Fourteen people contributed enough to become members of UUSC. Thank you!

Kaye McSpadden,
Guest at Your Table Coordinator
Social Justice Committee

Fiberarts Fun

Fiberarts has begun an additional monthly meeting jointly with the Old Tippecanoe Quilt Guild charity group on the third Wednesday of the month from 9:30-11 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The next meeting will be **February 20, 2008.**

Fiberarts evening meetings have been changed from the fourth Tuesday to the fifth Tuesday in the hope that we can avoid conflicts. However, since there are only four weeks in February, we will meet on **Tuesday, February 26 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. Our proposed projects will be 36 x 36 quilted receiving blankets and/or knitted neonatal caps.

We have become aware that some babies born in the Lafayette area have no clothes for their parents to wrap them in when they're ready to go home. Making quilted receiving blankets is a fun project that's sorely needed. Also, Kirsten has a knitting pattern for newborn caps if you prefer knitting to quilting.

For more information, contact Kirsten Reynolds,

Meijer/Kroger Fund Raising Programs

Kroger (Payless) and Meijer have a fund-raising program for education and churches. With Board approval, our congregation has submitted an application for these programs. The Kroger (Payless) program involves gift

cards purchased by church members that can be reloaded like any other gift card. The program returns \$250 for every \$5000 spent on the gift cards. That is five percent!

Kirsten Reynolds has agreed to be the church contact for these programs. She has the reloadable Kroger gift cards in \$25 increments. The Meijer program donates one percent to the church.

For more information and to sign up, visit <http://www.meijer.com/mcr/rewards.jsp> This is another way to make a financial contribution to the church without taking a hit to the pocketbook!

Kirsten Reynolds

The Lighted Chalice

Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lafayette
333 Meridian Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906
Phone: 765-743-8812 E-mail: uuc@uulafayette.org
Web page: <http://uulafayette.org>

Sermons available on-line.

Newsletter deadline last Sunday of month. Send items to lightedchalice@yahoo.com or put in newsletter mailbox at church.

Minister: Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia

Phone: 765-743-8812 (work) or 765-463-6201 (home)
minister@uulafayette.org

Religious Education Director:

Michele Tomarelli, phone 765-497-7792 (home) or 765-412-6196 (cell) tomarelli@insightbb.com

Administrative Assistant: Karin Bergman

Phone: 765-743-8812, e-mail: uuc@uulafayette.org

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Board President: Beverly Seese, 765-404-1062,
cnbseese@verizon.net

Editors: Lynn Holland, Celia Hartley

Webspinner: Dagmar Murray:

uucwebspinner@yahoo.com



Unitarian Universalist Church
333 Meridian Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lafayette, IN

Return Service Requested

Permit No. 207



*"February . . .
One last pause as winter lingers,
for the warmth of hearth
and heart."*