



APRIL 2008 PROGRAMS

APRIL 6 "FILIAL PIETY AND CONFUCIANISM"

We will be joined this morning by CiCi Yang, an exchange teacher from China. Contact/convener is *Elke Lorenz* who may be reached at 539-3527 or ellorenz@earthlink.net

APRIL 13 "TREES WE DID NOT PLANT"

Reverend Charles Stephen, Minister Emeritus of the Lincoln Unitarian Church, will be with us again. Charles promises "A look at the continuities of life, at the importance of history, and of how it has made us what we are." Contact/convener is *Brice Hobrock* at 776-3175 or hobrock@ksu.edu

APRIL 20 "A CELEBRATION OF HUMANITY"

Nearly half of Unitarian Universalists describe themselves as Humanists, making humanism the largest identity group within our diverse faith. At its best, humanism helps ground us in the here and now, stay connected to the larger world, remain anchored in reason, and work for democracy and justice for all. Yet humanism remains misunderstood, and is increasingly maligned even by UUs as dry and soulless. Reverend Lisa Schwartz of the Topeka UU Fellowship explores humanism as a vital part of our religious tradition.

APRIL 27 "WAVERING MIND"

Reverend Michael Nelson offers reflections before the Annual Meeting, "The vitality coursing through our Fellowship life portends qualitative and quantitative growth. The efforts of so many people who dedicate time and resources and an expanding vision of our potential make this possible. Growth that lasts and inspires more growth requires a dedication to a purpose larger than any one person; a mission of goodness shared by all, for all." Contact *Michael* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

The service will conclude early. After a break for refreshment, members and friends are encouraged reconvene at noon in the sanctuary for **UUFM's 2008 ANNUAL MEETING**. Executive Board Chair Eric Banner comments, "We welcome the new year best when we do it with solid planning and leadership that builds on our strengths. Join us as we look to the coming Fellowship year and remember the one now coming to a close."

Executive Board officer nominees and the proposed FY 2009 Budget will be considered. For more detailed information, please see page 8 of this newsletter.

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

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SUNDAY SERVICES

begin at **10:45 AM**

at the Fellowship building

located at **481 ZEANDALE ROAD**

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FELLOWSHIP WORK DAY(s)

This year's spring-cleaning Work Day at the Fellowship is scheduled on Saturday, **APRIL 5** (April 12 rain date/finishing up), starting at about 8:30 am and finishing around 2 pm. Members and friends are invited to come out to the Fellowship to help. Every hour you can spare will be appreciated. Work inside or outside. Lunch will be provided. Learn more at www.uufm.net/wiki/ then click on "Work Day." Or, contact Tom Manney at 537-0624 or tmanney@ksu.edu, or Council of Committees chair Elke Lorenz at 539-3527 or ellorenz@earthlink.net



UUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

Learn more about the Welcoming Congregation initiative
at www.uua.org/visitors/justicediversity/6252.shtml



Bertrand Russell wrote, "The second characteristic of mysticism is the belief in unity and its refusal to admit opposition or division anywhere." My return to ministry after a seventeen year absence required a UU minister to mentor the process.

Rev Jim Eller of All Souls UU Church in Kansas City, to whom I am deeply grateful, guided me. To reactivate my credentialing with the UU Ministerial Fellowship Committee, Jim provided them an evaluation of my ministerial skills. He explained that the MFC committee would not take his evaluation seriously unless it included suggestions for improvement. I was curious and anxious to know what he discerned in my character that needed improvement. It stunned me that he found me too trusting.

I still puzzle over his observation. In part, he meant that I spoke too freely. Implicit in this observation is that there is a political dimension to "church work." We must be careful about what we say. Statements may take on a meaning independent, even at odds, with their intended meaning. One must be mindful of how all this works. Intelligent listening with an open heart enhances communication. Naivety can be akin to ignorance that causes chaos and the diminution of the capacity to achieve a goal and its larger vision.

I assume that all involved in the life of UUFM seek truth that liberates from ignorance; it's capacity for cruelty and injustice. We seek individually and in community a release from falsehoods that shackle us to ignorance and make us mean spirited. This eternal quest leaves no aspect of one's living unexamined. If we apply ourselves with sincerity and discipline to training the mind and heart to work in concert, what obscures truth will gradually disappear. Love, like the sun, is at the center of what advances the search. Love's boundless capacity expands our boundaries toward the infinite. If the drive for truth lacks a cosmic dimension then we diminish our capacity to know awe at every stage of our life. Openness and humility train us to receive what each moment offers.

"Let me not admit to the marriage of true minds impediments." This beginning of Shakespeare's sonnet has inspired me for years. Lack of trust and faith block love. If love always "alters when it alteration finds," then little guides us but doubt. Suspicion, the servant

of treason, betrays our good hearts. Pettiness stems from a fixation on details and constricts access to wisdom ... (Of course attention to details is important!) We are a wonderful mix of faults that obscure. Our faults contain the information, if explored, understood, and applied, the power to transform it into a virtue. Forgiveness of oneself and others is key to progressing on in this venerable venture. High standards are important, but if they become a prison with razor wire marking the boundaries, then sharp judgment constrains and cuts. A spirit of generosity and goodwill are essential to moving into the light of truth. Love cannot flourish without its trusty friend, humility. Let us help each other learn to trust by taking the risks that set us free, allowing love to flourish.

May spring's wonder impart renewing energy to us all!

Michael

Michael Nelson's Schedule

In April, Michael will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Tuesday, April 1 - 2 to 4 pm
Tuesday, April 8 - 4 to 7 pm
Thursday, April 17 - 4 to 7 pm
Friday, April 18 - 3 to 5 pm
Monday, April 21 - 2 to 4 pm
Tuesday, April 22 - 3 to 5 pm
Saturday, April 26 - 2 to 4 pm *Ping Pong!*
Monday, April 28 - 3 to 5 pm
Tuesday, April 29 - 2 to 4 pm

Over the weekend of April 11, Michael will be attending the Prairie Star District Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. During this time, Michael will be available for *urgent* matters. Contact him at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

During office hours, call Michael at the Fellowship at 537-2349. Meetings may be arranged at times other than posted office hours. Call Michael or email minister@uufm.net

A NOTE FROM UUFM CHAIR-ELECT ELKE LORENZ

We are approaching the close of a very successful Fellowship year. Eric Banner, Michael Nelson, the Board, task forces, and committees did an incredible job bringing the Fellowship together. Perhaps most importantly, we had wonderful Sunday gatherings where we "nurtured our spirits" and were inspired to "help heal our world". I am grateful to be part of this community and look forward to working with all of you next year. **Elke Lorenz**, Chair-elect

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Fellowship offers organized religious education experiences for students from preschool thru high school during Sunday morning programs. Childcare is available for younger children.

This year our Religious Education theme is "*WORLD RELIGIONS*."

High School students (ninth thru twelfth grade) attend regular Sunday services. On alternate Wednesday evenings, a teen youth group meets led by Carolyn Ferguson and Sarah Nuss-Warren. If you plan to attend, contact *Carolyn* at 776-6495 or ferg@ksu.edu

Sixth thru eighth graders are using the "Neighboring Faiths" curriculum, exploring our community with field trips to local houses of worship.

Younger students' curriculum involves 14 children's picture books. *We welcome the donation of any book* on our list. Ask *Sandy Nelson* at 341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com

For more information on Youth Religious Education at UUFM, and to learn how you can contribute to our youth activities contact RE Committee chair *Sandy Nelson* at 341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com

YOUTH CHOIR



The UUFM Youth Choir, directed by Sarah Nuss-Warren and Kris Cervantes, rehearses before the morning service on the first and third Sundays of each month, from 10:15 to 10:40 am, in the old sanctuary. This month, the choir practices on Sunday, APRIL 6 and APRIL 20. All kids and youth are invited to join in our song. Learn more from *Sarah* at 537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com

NEWS FROM RE

SUMMER RE VOLUNTEERS Needed ...

The RE curriculum in June, July, and August will once again be the much-loved "UU World Travelers." This year, RE students will be taking "tours" of historic Unitarian and Universalist locales. *We're looking for volunteer "tour guides."* This is a one time, one morning commitment. Sandy Nelson and our RE teachers have lots of information and guidance to offer. All tour guides will be joined by an adult assistant in the classroom. If you have ideas, or would like to learn more, please contact Sandy at 341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com

OUR WHOLE LIVES at UUFM

The RE program reports enthusiastic parental and student participation in the nationally renowned UU human sexuality program "Our Whole Lives" (OWL) for our Kindergarteners thru Second Graders. Eleven children and their parents are enrolled. Classes continue thru April.

Learn more from Colina Stanton (770-8246 or cstanton@ksu.edu), Larry Weaver (539-3176 or lweaver7000@sbcglobal.net), Carolyn Ferguson (776-6495 or ferg@ksu.edu), Christopher Renner (770-8309 or renner@ksu.edu), or Sandy Nelson (341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com).

RAGAN - BANNER BABY SHOWER!

Friends of Emily Ragan and Eric Banner will host a baby shower for them on Saturday, April 19, from 3:30 to 5 pm at the house of Sandy Nelson (1906 Bluestem). All are invited to attend. If you need a gift idea, Emily and Eric are registered at Target.

Please *contact one of the hostesses by Monday, April 14, if you plan to attend.* Hostesses are Colina Stanton (770-8246), Sandy Nelson (341-0134 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com), Sarah Nuss-Warren (537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com), and Elke Lorenz (539-3527 or ellorenz@earthlink.net).

TWEENS OFFER THANKS FOR YOUR ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS

Fellowship "tween" (middle school age) students have concluded a successful drive benefiting the T Russell Reitz Animal Shelter, collecting dog and cat food, food dishes, toys, and other necessary items for the comfort and maintenance of shelter pets awaiting adoption. The students offer their thanks to Fellowship members and friends who generously contributed to their effort.

APRIL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

FELLOWSHIP GARAGE SALE

The **MEN'S LUNCH** meets EVERY WEDNESDAY, at 12 noon, in the old sanctuary. Bring a desire for stimulating conversation and a sack lunch for yourself. Contact Jack Warren at 539-4073 or jomega@ksu.edu, or Charley Kempthorne at 539-0910 or charley@thelifestoryinstitute.com

MEDITATION practice meets in the new sanctuary on the first and third Thursday of each month. In April, sessions will be held on Thursday, APRIL 3, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, and on Thursday, APRIL 17, from 5:30 to 6 pm, before Third Thursday Supper. Learn more from Jay Ham at 539-5118 or jm.3554@gmail.com

The **EAT 'N' WRITE** memoir-writing workshop meets Monday, APRIL 7, and APRIL 21, at 11:30 am in the old sanctuary. Bring your lunch and your writing tools! Learn more from Barbara Bascom at 537-1132 or bbbascom@sbcglobal.net

The **UU DRUM CIRCLE** meets regularly on the second Friday. This month, we gather on APRIL 11, at 7 pm, around the fire circle behind the Fellowship. Members, friends, families, and guests are welcome. No experience is needed and past experience is honored and enjoyed. We welcome new songs suitable for drumming. Drums and rhythm instruments are available and bring your own as well. For more information, contact Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net

The **ADULT DISCUSSION** forum meets on Sunday, APRIL 13 and APRIL 27, at 9:30 am, in the large RE room. Those interested in helping plan forum programs for the next fiscal year may join an ad hoc group that will meet during April establish an agenda. Contact Jim Bascom at 537-1132 or jfbascom@sbcglobal.net for more information, or to join in planning sessions.

The **WOMEN'S LUNCH** meets Wednesday, APRIL 16, at 12 noon, at Harry's Downtown Restaurant, 418 Poyntz Avenue, in Manhattan. All interested Fellowship women and their guests are invited. Contact Barbara Hacker at 587-8002 or bjhacker@networksplus.net, for more information.

Join us for **THIRD THURSDAY SOUP SUPPER** on APRIL 17, at 6 pm, in the old sanctuary. Jay Ham leads a brief meditation session beginning at 5:30 pm, in the new sanctuary. Attend one, or both, events. You may bring food to share, but it's not required. Bring your smile, family, friends, and guests, and let Michael Nelson and Susan Turner take care of dinner! Contact Sue at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net

A **CIRCLE DINNER** will be held Saturday evening, APRIL 26, at various members' homes. A sign up sheet will be provided on Sunday mornings, or contact Enell Foerster at 537-0977 or foer@kansas.net

The **BOOK DISCUSSION** will meet on Wednesday, APRIL 30, at the home of Gwen Geiselman. The April title will be announced in the Sunday program guide. All members and friends interested in reading and discussion are invited. Contact Gwen at 776-4505 to learn more.

The annual Fellowship garage sale is one of our most important fundraising events. This year, it will be held on Friday, APRIL 25, from 3 to 7 pm, and Saturday, APRIL 26, from 7 am to 12 noon. Members and friends with items to donate for sale should make arrangements to drop contributions off by Thursday evening, April 24, at Gwen Geiselman's house (1701 Westbank Way).

We also need volunteers to help set up, price items, work both days, and clean up after sale. If you can help, or for more information, please contact Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com



AN INVITATION FROM MAPJ

The Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice invites interested Fellowship members and friends to join them for their Annual Dinner Meeting on Saturday evening, APRIL 12. Kathy Kelly, co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, and founder of Voices in the Wilderness, will speak. Kathy has visited Iraq several times, working to promote nonviolent resolution to the problems in that area. A unique Chinese dinner will be served prior to the program. Contact Fellowship and MAPJ member Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net, for more information, and to make reservations.

UUFM Social Action

VOLUNTEER AND SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

This month, Fellowship volunteers will prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS** on Friday, APRIL 4 and 18, at St Paul's Episcopal Church. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.** The meal is free and all are invited to join us for good food and fellowship. Of course, donations are welcome. Contact Yvonne Lacy at 539-4404 or yvcq67lacy@sbcglobal.net

Fellowship volunteers periodically deliver government food commodities to individuals unable to pick them up from **FLINT-HILLS BREADBASKET**. If you can share two hours of your time during an upcoming delivery, it would make a world of difference to someone. For more information, contact Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711 or patw@ksu.edu

GREETERS share a smile as folks arrive on Sunday morning, encourage visitors to sign our guest book, answer questions, and help to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere at UUFM. Contact Welcoming Committee co-chairs Mary Westfall at 539-5397 or westyks@hotmail.com, or Cathy Hedge at 537-1101 or cjhedgewriter@yahoo.ca

Could you share your travel adventures with our youth this summer? Volunteer **"TOUR GUIDES"** are being scheduled for this summer's RE curriculum, "UU World Travelers." The theme of the tours this year will be Unitarian and Universalist destinations. This is a one-morning commitment, and our RE teachers have lots of help and guidance to offer. Contact Sandy Nelson at 341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com

The Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice (MAPJ) continues weekly **ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATIONS** on Wednesday afternoons, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm, in Triangle Park, at the corner of Bluemont and Manhattan Avenue, in Aggieville. Please contact Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net to learn more.



HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

On APRIL 13, our Helping Hands Sunday beneficiary will be the PEGGY BOWMAN SECOND CHANCE FUND, offering otherwise unavailable financial assistance to Kansas women in crisis, and providing access to abortion and reproductive health care through referral by social workers and health care providers. Learn more at www.geocities.com/febsisters/Bowman.html or ask Betty Banner at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com, or Phoebe Samelson at 539-2978 or psamel@ksu.edu

All cash contributions and checks placed in the offering basket on the second Sunday of the month will go to the Helping Hands Sunday beneficiary, unless otherwise indicated. Write "UUFM" on the memo line of your check to indicate contributions not intended for the beneficiary. All checks should be made out to UUFM. On Sunday, March 9, we raised \$544.97 as we passed the plate for the Flint Hills Community Health Clinic. The Social Action Committee heartily thank members and friends for your generous contributions!!!

For more information, contact our Social Action Committee chair Barbara Bascom at 537-1132 or bbbascom@sbcglobal.net

FROM OUR COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The role of a UU Committee on Ministry is to help strengthen the quality and health of ministry within our congregation. In the past year we've transitioned from the Ministerial Relations Committee, which met only "as needed," to a Committee on Ministry, which will meet regularly. We work with UUA guidelines to define our new responsibilities.

The minister and the Committee on Ministry monitor congregational life, educate ourselves and the congregation about the breadth and depth of shared ministry, and coordinate assessments of the shared ministry of the congregation. We strive to model the partnerships of trust necessary to bring the potential of shared ministry to its fullest blossoming. We are looking at what it means to practice a shared ministry, which involves both laity and clergy. We ask, "How do we move forward with a collective approach to ministerial responsibility? How can we help promote effectiveness and support for every aspect of our congregational leadership? What are our passions, priorities, and goals at UUFM?" We seek to promote a practice of mutual ministry as we learn, teach, and practice new ways of being together. We welcome input from UUFM members and friends who would like to explore the mission of ministry within our Fellowship. Contact Emily Ragan at 776-7649 or eragan@ksu.edu, or Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net to learn more. Committee members are Pat Embers, Jay Ham, Shirley Hobrock, and Emily Ragan.

EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE

Fair Trade coffee and chocolate products are available for purchase on Sunday mornings at the Fellowship. Contact Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net, Learn more at www.equalexchange.com

WORDS FROM OUR CHAIR



The March Board meeting was mostly occupied with matters of the budget, but before getting down to the business of business we regretfully accepted the resignation of our Treasurer, Doreen Shanteau. She had stepped up earlier this year, when Dan Swenson asked to lead our new Communications Committee. As a result of her willingness to take on this important role, Dan and his team have revitalized our website, built a new newsletter format, and are deep in planning for

ways to improve both our in-reach and outreach. Due to her ongoing health problems, however, Doreen asked to step down. Mark Mayfield, who will stand for election at the annual meeting was appointed to fill out the unexpired term.

The Board has been a major promoter of program growth here at UUFM these last few years, and with that has come an increase in our costs. This year we felt it was our responsibility to hold the line on spending, to the extent possible, in most areas to pay for the coming DRE position. The results are visible in the budget proposed for approval at the annual meeting. When comparing overall spending for this year and the coming one, excluding DRE related costs, the increased expenditures amount to 3.7%.

The DRE position represents, as Brice Hobrock put it, a strategic move for UUFM. The cost is not small, but we are working to distribute the size of the increase over a few years. There will, no doubt, continue to be much discussion and planning that will need to take place as we move to fill and fund this position. Starting off with a 49-4 vote in favor of hiring a person is big step forward, but it will not be the only one we'll need to take.

One of the under-mentioned steps that we'll need to continue working on is our ability to meet the needs of the families that come with these new children. As our RE program grows, the number of adults who join our community will also grow, and those adults will have needs just as pressing, just as important, and just significant as the children we expect to welcome. They will have spiritual needs that are part of their life situation and life journey. They will need space to fit into our community, and a place to fit into our lives.

In our all too busy lives, you can be sure that many of these parents we hope to attract will be struggling with the same issues many of you are, balancing home and work, being parents, being partners, and being themselves, ensuring their kids have safe places to be, providing opportunities for their children to grow and prosper. If history is any judge, they're likely to have less time for church between soccer games and music lessons and all the rest than families did a generation ago. So as we look forward to this exciting future, keep thinking about what you need, what you needed when you had children at home, and think about the ways we can make sure we are truly taking care of families as we embark upon this journey together.

In Faith, Eric Banner, UUFM Executive Board Chair.

Contact Eric at 776-7649 or banner.eric@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM THE MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE

When Spring comes, take a walk up to the UUFM Memorial Garden at the top of the hill behind the Fellowship building. Recently completed steps and a railing will help, plus there's a bench to stop and rest half way up the path. There are benches in the garden, and work is progressing on additional plantings and flowers.

The Memorial Garden was secured in perpetuity in 1986. A 60 square foot area was dedicated by Rev Charles Stephen in 1993.

The Memorial Garden is available to members, friends of the Fellowship, and their loved ones. Human ashes may be buried or scattered in designated areas. Memorial flagstones may be placed in designated areas, if desired. These stones have been purchased by the Fellowship, and are available without cost. The family may engrave a stone at their own expense.

A plaque in the Inez Alsop sanctuary (old sanctuary) contains the names of members and friends whose ashes have been buried or scattered in the garden. Another plaque contains names of Fellowship members who are deceased.

To learn more, contact Memorial Garden chair Barbara Hacker at 587-8002 or take a leisurely stroll on the path up the hill to see prairie flowers, wild turkeys, and other native Kansas flora and fauna.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, APRIL 8, at 7 pm in the old sanctuary. Members and friends of the Fellowship are always welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Executive Board Chair Eric Banner at 776-7649 or banner.eric@gmail.com



SUNDAY COFFEE PROVIDERS

- April 6: J and D Askey / C Markle
- April 13: Ana Franklin/Buddy McGaughey
- April 20: Christopher Renner
- April 27: Shirley and Brice Hobrock
Happy 25th Anniversary!!!

THANKYOU to our refreshment providers! Volunteers make coffee, serve a simple snack, and clean up afterwards. A sign up sheet is available, and there is always help at hand in the kitchen. To learn more, contact Gwen Geiselman at 776-4505, or Bobette McGaughey at 539-6872 or kbmccgoy@ksu.edu

Administrator's Schedule

In April, Susan Turner will be available in the Fellowship office on:

- Tuesday, April 1 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, April 3 - 12 to 5 pm
- Friday, April 4 - 4 to 6 pm
- Tuesday, April 8 - 4 to 7 pm
- Thursday, April 10 - 12 to 5 pm
- Friday, April 11 - 4 to 6 pm
- Monday, April 14 - 3 to 5 pm
- Tuesday, April 15 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, April 17 - 4 to 9 pm
- Monday, April 21 - 4 to 6 pm
- Tuesday, April 22 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, April 24 - 12 to 5 pm
- Monday, April 28 - 4 to 6 pm
- Tuesday, April 29 - 12 to 5 pm

Contact *Sue* at 537-2349 during office hours, or just drop in. She may also be reached at office@uufm.net at anytime.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Contact Fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net to **UPDATE YOUR MAILING, PHONE, or EMAIL** information, or to cancel your subscription to this newsletter. Members and friends may also reach Susan during her posted office hours (*see below*) at 537-2349.

If you have been considering **BECOMING A MEMBER** of UUFM, please contact our Welcoming and Membership Committee co-chairs, Mary Westfall at 539-5397 or westyks@hotmail.com, or Cathy Hedge at 537-1101 or cjhedgewriter@yahoo.ca, for information and assistance.

Fellowship members may receive the UUA magazine **UU WORLD**, without cost. Contact Fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net. UU World may be viewed online at www.uuworld.org

Join in email discussions of interest to Fellowship members and friends on our **EMAIL LIST SERV**. List serv members may choose to receive each message individually as it is sent out to the list serv; receive one daily. Contact list serv moderator Ruth Welti at welti@ksu.edu to subscribe.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contact Marolyn Caldwell at 776-4862 or marolync@flinthills.com by 12 noon, on Friday, with announcements of interest to Fellowship members and friends for inclusion in the Sunday program guide. Remember to check the program guide each week for announcements of upcoming activities and events.

CARING FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

If you could use a hand, or if you know members or friends who are experiencing life challenges, and would appreciate assistance, please let our Caring Committee know. Contact Caring Committee chair Barbara Hacker at 587-8002, or contact Reverend Michael Nelson at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

BUILDING USE AND SCHEDULING

Please check with Susan Turner to be sure your desired date is available before finalizing plans for committee meetings, Fellowship activities, or private events that will be held in the Fellowship building. The building is available for Fellowship-sponsored activities without cost. Members and friends may schedule private events for a small fee, which includes a re-fundable deposit. To confirm building availability and schedule your activity, or to learn more, contact Sue at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the May newsletter will be Friday, **APRIL 15**. Please send news, meetings, announcements, and events to Sue Turner at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net

UUFM 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

FROM THE UUFM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Seen at the right is the proposed budget for the 2009 fiscal year (June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 or "FY 2009"). The **TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED FROM PLEDGES** to fund this budget as proposed here is \$93,345--an increase of just over 11% compared to FY 2008.

This budget was prepared by the Finance Committee and approved at the UUFM Board meeting on March 11, 2008. DRE-related income and expenses were added after the March 9 congregational meeting at which time it was decided to move ahead with the hiring of a part time Director of Religious Education (DRE). The majority of the increase in this year's budget is the result of the additional funding needed for the DRE position. We included lines for payroll for the DRE for 2/3 of the year, and for expenses related to setup costs associated with bringing in a new DRE. Excluding DRE-related expenses-the proposed budget expenses are increased by 3.7% (or \$3501) over the current fiscal year. A few other noticeable changes in FY2009 are:

- the combination of Grounds, Building, and Memorial Garden Committees into a single Facilities committee (see UUFM wiki for details at www.uufm.net/wiki)
- the addition of a "contingency" line to cover unanticipated property repair and maintenance costs, executed by the Board
- a new Communications line that includes all network, internet, web maintenance and publicity costs, as well as computer depreciation costs

A detailed version of this budget is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex, or download a pdf file from the UUFM wiki at www.uufm.net/wiki -- click on the "Budget" link.

FROM THE UUFM NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At the annual meeting on Sunday, April 27, the congregation will vote on three vacancies of next year's Executive Board. The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee--Barbara Hacker, Mark Moser, and Michael Oldfather (chair)--includes the following members: **DALE ASKEY**, Chair-elect; **MARK MAYFIELD**, Treasurer; and **ANNE COWAN**, Member-at-Large. Executive Board officers who will continue their service in FY 2009 are Elke Lorenz, Chair; Terri Franz, Secretary; Terrie Clark, Member-at-Large, and Eric Banner, Past Chair.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

Income

DRE: Bettie Dale Memorial Funds	4,000
DRE: Special gifts	5,000
DRE: Chalice Lighters grant	4,000
Fundraising (garage sale, etc.)	1,500
Building rental income	1,000
Interest	200
Contributions, Cash	2,000
Contributions, non-pledge	6,000
[Subtotal, Non-Pledge income]	23,700
Pledge Income	93,345
TOTAL INCOME	117,045

Expenses

Administration	1,800
Caring	250
Communications/Publicity	3,435
Facilities	10,040
Green Sanctuary	165
Leadership Development	1,000
Membership	300
Minister's Discretionary Fund	250
Miscellaneous	200
Music	1,220
Programs	1,850
Religious Education	2,380
Social	1,000
Social Action	750
Welcoming Congregation	500
DRE Startup (Bettie Dale Mem Fund)	4,000
Payroll - DRE 2/3 year	14,667
Payroll - Minister (0.6 FTE)	39,400
Payroll - Administrator (0.5 FTE)	13,750
Payroll - Other (Workers Comp Ins)	500
Contingency Funds	2,000
Dues	8,112
Building Insurance	2,234
Legal Fees	42
Sitter	1,300
Utilities	5,900
TOTAL EXPENSES	117,045