



**THE  
UU FM VOICE**

December 2008  
Volume 47, Issue 7

**DECEMBER 2008 PROGRAMS**

**DECEMBER 7 "SIMPLE LIVING--HOW SIMPLE IS IT?"**  
 Reverend Michael Nelson considers this question, "It depends on who you are and who you want to be. To make it simple, you start with yourself. The complexity of our lives pushes us to do and know more ... to have more. Ultimately, it is not about you or me, it is about us. 'Live simply, so others may simply live.'" Contact *Michael* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net  
 December 7 is "**BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY.**" Please invite interested friends, family members, and colleagues to join us, and learn about all that our Fellowship and Unitarian Universalism has to offer.

**DECEMBER 14 "LIGHTING A FIRE"**  
 William Butler Yeats said, "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." Celebrate the fire we are lighting with our new DRE. Sandy Nelson, Maria Snyder, and Michael Nelson will be sharing their passions. Contact/convener is *Michael Nelson* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net  
 Join us after the service for a **HOLIDAY CRAFT AND BAKE SALE** benefiting the Fellowship's General Operations Fund. See article below, right.

**DECEMBER 21 "THE LIGHT WITHIN A DARK CYCLE"**  
 Reverend Michael Nelson reflects, "Chanukkah, Christmas, Boxing Day, Kwanzaa ... cluster round the darkest time of year. As many of us deal with financial losses, the gloom of a recession, how do we celebrate the essential goodness in our lives? It is time for a calm reading and the heart to take fire. Contact *Michael* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

**DECEMBER 28 "LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD"**  
 Members, friends, and visitors are invited to share their memories of the past year and their hopes for the next. All are encouraged to bring a reflection, story, poem, or song to share, or just to come and listen to others'. Contact is *Scott Tanona* at 537-6208 or sktanona@sbcglobal.net

**UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN**  
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**ELKE LORENZ**, Executive Board Chair  
 (785) 539-3527  
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**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
 begin at **10:45 AM**  
 at **481 ZEANDALE ROAD**

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**HOLIDAY CRAFT AND BAKE SALE**

Following the morning service on Sunday **DECEMBER 14**, the Fellowship will host a Craft and Bake Sale featuring fine craft items and baked goods created by Fellowship members and friends. This is a great opportunity to pick up last minute gifts and snacks for all of your holiday needs. Ask Melissa McKee how you can participate in this fun, fundraising activity by donating and selling your crafts and baked goods, or assisting with set up or clean up. Contact Melissa at 320-7657 or lissa\_717@yahoo.com to learn more.



**UUFM is a  
WELCOMING CONGREGATION**

Learn more about the Welcoming Congregation initiative at [www.uua.org/visitors/justicediversity/6252.shtml](http://www.uua.org/visitors/justicediversity/6252.shtml)

Before my family decided to pull one name from a bag,



everyone bought gifts for more than ten people. Our Christmas Eve tradition of sharing gifts after singing carols and feasting from a table loaded with Swedish yuletide food continues, but the mountains of wrapping paper, boxes, packaging ...

has diminished considerably. So did the stress of trying to find a gift each person would like. My mother resisted this change for years. Finally the amount of shopping became too much for her to get done without physical suffering.

As a child I could not wait for the hour when we could open our gifts. As an adult I increasingly dreaded the excess, except when I had found something special for someone and enjoyed the surprise and gratitude that the gift provided. Many gifts have delighted me--the afghan my sister crocheted, the painting, a framed photograph ... When we first proposed the change in gift giving, my sisters and I wanted us all to donate money to a charitable organization in the name of the chosen one, but that strayed too far from tradition for my mother. As matriarch we honor her need for tradition, but we are all thankful for this simplification of the holidays.

I wonder, "What makes something a gift?" In its original Old Norse usage, *gíft* meant to give something to someone without expecting anything in return. While this definition still applies in our culture, I think of the woolen blankets infected with smallpox given to the Kansa Indians as gifts to decimate their population, so European settlers could rule this land. It is hard not to think of oil lobbyists without thinking of the 3 billion people on this earth who live on \$2 or less a day. Inequities in the world have worsened in the last 25 years. Most of the poor are children. This makes me weep. The gift of our "Helping Hands Sundays" brings a smile.

At its most pure I think of the Fellowship as a gift for each person who becomes involved with its life. It is a gift we give each other; it is the gift of being yourself without fear of being judged or demeaned for your

beliefs, sexual orientation, or lifestyle. Whether you are more Scrooge than playful, helpful elf, our true and evolving selves are a gift we can give each other. This requires belief in oneself and the community--the courage and encouragement to be true. I wonder what expectations based on UUFM's cultural traditions might limit this gift, cause suffering; what is given with strings attached or not given at all? When we return to our first Unitarian Universalist principle calling us to respect the inherent worth and dignity of each person and circle to the seventh which asks us to respect the interdependent web of existence of which we are all a part, it leads us in our personal and communal quest to live a life of meaning and wholeness. This circling brings authenticity to the self and community--hopefully expanding by the giving and receiving of each other's gifts by more and more people.

Let us give our gifts thoughtfully and with abiding compassion. No matter what your disposition, may merry and bright moments punctuate your day!

*Michael*

### **MICHAEL NELSON'S SCHEDULE**

This month, Reverend Michael Nelson will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Tuesday,	December	2 - 4 to 7 pm
Wednesday,	December	3 - 3 to 5 pm
Wednesday,	December	10 - 12 to 2 pm
Thursday,	December	11 - 4 to 7 pm
Wednesday,	December	17 - 3 to 5 pm
Thursday,	December	18 - 2 to 4 pm
Monday,	December	22 - 3 to 5 pm

December 28 through December 31, Michael will be taking a few holiday vacation days. He will be available *for emergencies only* during this time.

During office hours, call Michael at the Fellowship at 537-2349. Meetings may be arranged at times other than posted office hours. Contact Michael at (913) 961-2626 or [minister@uufm.net](mailto:minister@uufm.net) to make arrangements.

### **BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY !!!**

**DECEMBER 7** is "Bring a Friend Sunday." Please invite interested friends, family members, and associates to join us for our morning service, to learn about all that our Fellowship and Unitarian Universalism has to offer.

## RE NEWS

### ***THIS YEAR IN RE ...***

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

This year's theme is "Exploring our Judeo-Christian Heritage." Programs for all ages--pre-school through senior high--draw from various curricula and introduce our children to religious literature that is central to North American culture and to Unitarian Universalist heritage. Children will become familiar with their cultural heritage, and the human issues that inspired these scriptures: the timeless themes of transcendent power, human responsibility, love of freedom, speaking out against injustice, respect for the beliefs of others, love of one's neighbor, and forgiveness.

To learn more about Youth Religious Education at UUFM, and to learn how you can contribute to our youth activities, contact DRE *Maria Snyder* at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

### ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

Our Middle School and High School age students (grades 6 thru 12) are in the process of developing a youth group and are looking for *a few adult advisors*. Ask Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

### ***YOUTH CHOIR***

The UUFM Youth Choir rehearses in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary), on Sunday, **DECEMBER 7**, and **DECEMBER 21**, at 10:15 am. Learn more from *Sarah Nuss-Warren*, 537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com

### ***MARIA SNYDER'S SCHEDULE***

Maria will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Tuesday,	December	2 - 11 am to 4 pm
Wednesday,	December	3 - 1 to 6 pm
Saturday,	December	6 - 11 am to 4 pm
Sunday,	December	7 - 8 am to 1 pm
Tuesday,	December	9 - 1 to 5 pm
Wednesday,	December	10 - 5 to 6:30 pm
Thursday,	December	11 - 5 to 7 pm
Saturday,	December	13 - 11 am to 2:30 pm
Sunday,	December	14 - 8 am to 1 pm
Monday,	December	15 - 11 am to 4 pm
Tuesday,	December	16 - 2 to 4:30 pm
Wednesday,	December	17 - 2 to 4:30 pm
Saturday,	December	20 - 11 am to 4 pm
Sunday,	December	21 - 8 am to 1 pm
Monday,	December	22 - 9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday,	December	23 - 9 am to 4 pm
Wednesday,	December	24 - 9 am to 3 pm
Tuesday,	December	30 - 11 am to 4 pm

During office hours, call Maria at 537-2349, or drop in. Contact Maria by email at dre@uufm.net

### **REFLECTIONS - MARIA SNYDER, DRE, NOV 25, 2008**



It has been an exciting first month on the job. I want to thank everyone for welcoming me, giving me information, and helping me get settled.

I am learning my way around and beginning work on some exciting projects. I have spent some time in each of the classrooms getting to know the kids

and learning the routines from the teachers.

I also want to thank everyone who had their hand in creating my work space. I have a desk, an office chair, a computer, power, a phone and great bookshelves that will soon be in place. Stop by the stage and see the transformation of the DRE office space.

The first projects I am working on are communication, new teacher training, and a youth safety policy. Through the course of December and January you will begin to notice changes. You will soon begin seeing the topics to be covered in the RE rooms in the newsletter, the website, and a calendar of events in the hall. I am working on getting some volunteers to help us in the RE classrooms. These volunteers would assist us on rotating schedules to allow our core teachers to attend services. New volunteers would attend a new teacher-training course to learn about Unitarian Universalism and what to expect on Sundays. The youth safety policy will help us to protect our children and our volunteer workers.

I have met other DREs and have attended several meetings. I am making plans to continue to meet with people for feedback and personal growth, and to get resources to continue the growth of the RE program.

In the classrooms during December we are taking a break from the Timeless Traditions and getting into the spirit of the season. We will be learning about winter holidays from different faiths and traditions from all over the world. After the New Year we will pick back up where we left off with Timeless Traditions, learning about our Judeo-Christian heritage.

We started a note cards project that will be completed for the crafts fair [on December 14]. Make sure to stop by and see our hand painted cards. They are perfect to send as holiday cards, as gifts, or as decorative note cards for any occasion.

If you have any suggestions, questions, comments, concerns, or if you are interested in assisting in RE or any of the projects we are working on, please feel free to give me a call or email me and we will set up a meeting time. In addition I am generally available during my office hours if you just want to drop in.

Contact Maria during her office hours, seen at left, at 537-2349 or email dre@uufm.net



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

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The **MEN'S LUNCH** meets EVERY WEDNESDAY, at 12 noon, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). Bring a desire for stimulating conversation and a sack lunch for yourself. Contact Jack Warren at 539-4073 or [jomega@ksu.edu](mailto:jomega@ksu.edu) or Charley Kempthorne at 564-1118 or [charley@thelifestoryinstitute.com](mailto:charley@thelifestoryinstitute.com)



DECEMBER 7 is **BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY!!!** Please invite interested friends, family members, and colleagues to join us, and learn about all that our Fellowship and Unitarian Universalism has to offer.



The **WOMEN'S LUNCH GROUP** meets Wednesday, DECEMBER 10, at 12 noon, at Harry's Restaurant, 418 Poyntz Avenue, in the Wareham Hotel. All interested Fellowship members, friends, and guests are invited! Contact Florence Schwab at 539-0976 or [fschwab@cox.net](mailto:fschwab@cox.net), to learn more.

The **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** meets on Wednesday, DECEMBER 10, at the home of Barbara Hacker. Our title this month is *The Devil and the White City*, by Eric Larson. New members are always welcome. To learn more, ask Lorrie Cross at 539-7883 or [lmcross@kansas.net](mailto:lmcross@kansas.net)

The UUFM Social Committee will host monthly **CRAFT GROUP SOCIALS**. Are you crafty? Anyone interested in sharing company and/or advice while working on their fall craft projects is invited to join us on Saturday, DECEMBER 13, from 3 to 5 pm, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). Bring your supplies and your positive spirit and we'll enjoy a few hours of craft and social time! You are welcome to bring a snack to share if you like. Learn more from Courtney Markle at 236-1563 or [clmarkle@hotmail.com](mailto:clmarkle@hotmail.com)

The **UU DRUM CIRCLE** will not meet in December, to accommodate busy holiday schedules. The circle resumes next month on Friday, JANUARY 9, at 7 pm, in the Fellowship's new sanctuary. Members, friends and guests of all ages are invited to bring their drumming instruments and drum with us. Instruments are also available to borrow. Learn more from Pat Embers at 539-2819 or [embers1@cox.net](mailto:embers1@cox.net)

**MEDITATION** will resume next month on Thursday, JANUARY 15, from 5:30 to 6 pm, before our regular Third Thursday Supper. Come breathe after a long day, and then join us for a meal and conversation. Learn more from Michael Nelson at (913) 961-2626 or [minister@uufm.net](mailto:minister@uufm.net)

**THIRD THURSDAY SUPPER** will not meet in December. Please join us on JANUARY 15, at 6 pm, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). You may bring food to share, but it's not required. Bring your smile, family, friends, and guests, and let Rev Michael Nelson, Susan Turner, and Maria and Dusty Snyder take care of dinner! Contact Sue at 539-3272 or [office@uufm.net](mailto:office@uufm.net)

## HOLIDAY CRAFT AND BAKE SALE

Following the morning service on Sunday **December 14**, the Fellowship will host a Craft and Bake Sale featuring fine craft items and baked goods created by Fellowship members and friends. This is a great opportunity to pick up last minute gifts and snacks for all of your holiday needs. Ask Melissa McKee how you can participate in this fun, fundraising activity by donating and selling your crafts and baked goods, or assisting with set up or clean up. Contact Melissa at 320-7657 or [lissa\\_717@yahoo.com](mailto:lissa_717@yahoo.com) to learn more.

## SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND CREATIVITY

The UUFM Aesthetics Committee seeks members and friends who would like to share their interests and creativity in a variety of ways.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** Sign up on the list in the kitchen to provide floral arrangements for Sunday morning services.

**EXHIBITIONS:** We are looking for photography, paintings and drawings by members and friends to exhibit in the narthex and hall. Contact one of the committee members if interested.

**SHARE, LEARN, GROW:** Volunteer to create a display illustrating something important in your life--a trip, a biographical summary, activity or hobby, favorite poet, author, or any interest or expertise.

Learn more from Lorrie Cross at 539-7883 or [lmcross@kansas.net](mailto:lmcross@kansas.net), Anne Marchin at 539-3026 or [annemarchin22@hotmail.com](mailto:annemarchin22@hotmail.com), Harriette Janke at 539-0865 or [ahjanke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ahjanke@sbcglobal.net), or Monta Manney at 537-0624.

## UUFM SINGERS

The Choir rehearses from 9:30 to 10:30 am on the first and third Sunday of each month, in the new sanctuary. This month we'll meet on **DECEMBER 14** and **21**. Learn more from Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or [mou812@ksu.edu](mailto:mou812@ksu.edu)

# SOCIAL ACTION AT UUFM

## VOLUNTEER AND SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

This month, Fellowship volunteers prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS** on Friday, DECEMBER 12, and DECEMBER 26, from 7:30 to 9 am, 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, your donations are welcome. Learn more from Anne Marchin at 539-3026 or annemarchin22@hotmail.com. *THANK YOU TO ALL OUR LOYAL VOLUNTEERS!!!*

**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. Ask Welcoming Committee co-chair Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@gmail.com to learn more.

Host Sunday Coffee Hour. **REFRESHMENT PROVIDERS** are needed each week to host coffee time following Sunday services. Volunteers make coffee, provide a light snack of no more than two or three food items, and take care of the necessary clean up. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the kitchen, or ask or Gwen Geiselman at 776-4505, or Betty Banner at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com, to learn more.

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

The **MANHATTAN ALLIANCE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE** (MAPJ) meets regularly, working for peace and justice issues. MAPJ has worked closely with our Fellowship for many years, and invites interested Fellowship members and friends to learn more. Please contact Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne\_cowan@sbcglobal.net to learn more.

## HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

On the second Sunday of each month the Helping Hands committee designates an agency or association to receive the offerings for the day. On DECEMBER 14, **BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS OF MANHATTAN** will be the recipient of our collection. This agency recruits, trains and assigns volunteers to develop long term relationships with boys and girls who are considered at risk and live in single parent homes. This program has been proven to be very successful and is always in need of caring adults willing to share their time to forge a close relationship with a child in need of an extra adult in their lives.

*On November 9, our congregation raised \$784, which was divided evenly between the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA) and the Southern Cluster Outreach Extension Ministry (SCORE)! 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, and should be made out to UUFM. Write "UUFM" in the memo line if you wish your contribution to benefit the Fellowship. Learn more from our Helping Hands Sunday coordinator Yvonne Lacy at 539-4404 or yvcq67lacy@sbcglobal.net*

## EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE AND CFLS

Fair Trade products are offered for purchase at the Fellowship following Sunday programs. Regular, decaf, whole bean, and ground coffees, as well as chocolate, and tea are available. Special orders can be taken. To learn more, or to purchase Fair Trade products, please contact Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne\_cowan@sbcglobal.net or ask her on Sunday mornings. Learn more at [www.equalexchange.com](http://www.equalexchange.com)



Anne also coordinates the sale of COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFLs) on Sunday mornings, in support of the Fellowship's efforts to encourage green living.

## SOCIAL ACTION MEETING

The next Social Action committee meeting will be Thursday, DECEMBER 11, from 5 to 6 pm in the Fellowship's large RE classroom. We will review projects planned for the next two months (Emergency Shelter Christmas presents, 150 pounds of canned goods, Souper Sunday) and take a quick look at Helping Hands Sundays and projects for the rest of the year. We always need new ideas and new members. Please join us. Learn more from Social Action Committee chair Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711 or patw@ksu.edu

## HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER RESIDENTS

Fellowship members will be shopping for Christmas gifts for residents of the Manhattan Emergency Shelter in early December. The Shelter staff will provide several wish lists and we will do the shopping. If you would like to join the shopping group, please contact Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711 or patw@ksu.edu

## WORDS FROM OUR CHAIR

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Dear Fellowship Members and Friends,



Noteworthy Fellowship events this month included a membership committee meeting at the home of Kathleen and Scott Tanona. Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson presented ideas that she brought back

from the Fall PSD Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. We discussed how to fine-tune our welcoming and greeting of visitors. As a result of the discussion we assembled welcoming folders that include a copy of our monthly newsletter, an old copy of the *UU World*, information about our Fellowship life, a bookmark with the 7 Principles, and a questionnaire to be filled out by visitors if they choose to do so.

We also talked about the possibility of organizing Sunday morning responsibilities a bit differently. Many congregations our size have teams who share the Sunday morning tasks of greeting, preparing coffee and refreshments, flower arrangements, clean-up, etc. This way we will not need to have sign-up sheets for each of these tasks but have small teams of five individuals in place who will take care of the Sunday morning hospitality needs a few times each year. We may implement this approach some time this winter on a trial basis.

The Committee on Ministry, under the leadership of Emily Ragan and Pat Embers, in their meeting discussed many aspects of the ministry of the congregation including the possible advantages of consolidating the Membership and Welcoming, Caring, and Social Committees. I will invite the three committee chairs for another discussion of this topic with the goal to bring a recommendation for a consolidation of the committees before the Board.

In the monthly Executive Board meeting Eric Banner presented and we discussed at length the necessity to have a plan in place for the training, screening, and supervision of all our paid and volunteer staff who work

with our children. This is not only common practice for any program that works with children and youths but also a necessity for insurance coverage should a case of abuse arise. A Task Force under the leadership of RE Committee Chair Sandy Nelson and in collaboration with DRE Maria Snyder will work on a plan and present it to the Board in the January 2009 meeting.

On November 22, All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in Kansas City together with the Lawrence Unitarian Fellowship celebrated the ordination of Jill Jarvis, who is the current SCORE minister and also serves UFL. It was a marvelous service with many well-wishers from regional UU congregations. The I-70 choir with Michael Oldfather conducting gave yet another wonderful choir concert at the event.

Please let us know how you think the Executive Board is doing and if you have any questions or concerns about Fellowship life.

Wishing all of you a happy and fulfilling holiday season,

*Elke Lorenz*

UUFM Executive Board Chair

Contact Elke at 539-3527 or [ellorenz@uufm.net](mailto:ellorenz@uufm.net)

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### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board meets Thursday, DECEMBER 11, at 7 pm in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). Members and friends of the Fellowship are welcome and encouraged to attend. To learn more, contact Executive Board Chair Elke Lorenz at 539-3527 or [ellorenz@uufm.net](mailto:ellorenz@uufm.net)

### RECYCLE YOUR OLD UU WORLD MAGAZINES

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The Fellowship's Welcoming and Membership Committee would like to collect old UU World magazines, after members have finished with them. The magazines will be included in packets, which will be given to interested visitors to the Fellowship, to help them learn what UUism is all about. If you would like to help, please ask Membership Committee co-chair Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or [jo.maseberg@gmail.com](mailto:jo.maseberg@gmail.com)



## SUNDAY COFFEE PROVIDERS

December 7: K Belanger / A Conrad  
 December 14: Y Lacy / K Oldfather  
 December 21: Sarah Sevens  
 December 28: Betty Banner

THANK YOU to our coffee hosts! Volunteers make coffee, serve a simple snack, and clean up afterwards. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Learn more from Betty Banner at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com, or Gwen Geiselman at 776-4505.

We **ENCOURAGE HOSTS TO CUT BACK** to no more than two or three simple food items on Sunday mornings.

## Administrator's Schedule

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

Monday, Dec 1 - 3 to 5 pm  
 Tuesday, Dec 2 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Thursday, Dec 4 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Monday, Dec 8 - 3 to 5 pm  
 Tuesday, Dec 9 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Thursday, Dec 11 - 4 to 7 pm  
 Monday, Dec 15 - 3 to 5 pm  
 Tuesday, Dec 16 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Thursday, Dec 18 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Tuesday, Dec 23 - 12 to 5 pm  
 Saturday, Dec 27 - 11 am to 6 pm  
 Monday, Dec 29 - 3 to 5 pm  
 Tuesday, Dec 30 - 12 to 5 pm

Call Sue at 537-2349 during office hours, or drop by the office. She may be reached at any time by email at office@uufm.net

## SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

Dec 7: Michael and Kathleen Oldfather  
 Dec 14: Brice Hobrock  
 Dec 21: Elke Lorenz  
 Dec 28: Alley Stoughton

Greeters are vital to creating a welcoming atmosphere. This is an easy way to support the Fellowship, when you only have an occasional hour to give. Learn more from Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@gmail.com

## 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 Sue during her posted office hours (*seen at center left*) 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; Cathy Hedge at 537-1101 or cjhedgewriter@yahoo.ca; or Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@gmail.com 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](http://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 one daily "digest;" or check messages by logging into our list serv web site. Contact list serv moderator Ruth Welti at welti@ksu.edu to subscribe.

UUFM bookkeeper Kathleen Oldfather announces **ELECTRONIC PAYMENT** of your pledge contributions is now available. If you wish, pledge installments can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis. There is no cost for this service. Ask Kathleen at 537-3738 or koldfather@yahoo.com, or pick up literature and a payment form on the info table in our narthex.

## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net, **NO LATER THAN THURSDAY MORNING** with announcements and events for inclusion in the Sunday morning Order of Service bulletin. Remember to check the bulletin each week for important 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 co-chairs Yvonne Lacy at 539-4404 or yvcq67lacy@sbcglobal.net, or Barbara Hacker at 587-8002.

## 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. To confirm building availability and schedule your activity, or for more information, contact Sue at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the January edition of *The UUFM Voice* is Monday, **DECEMBER 15**. Please send news, meetings, announcements, and events to Susan Turner at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net





## ***HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROCK !!!***

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*Brock Dale joined the UU Fellowship of Manhattan with his wife, Bettie, in 1957, just a few weeks following the Fellowship's initial founding. He has given his labor, music, knowledge, and care to the Fellowship throughout our 50-year lifespan, in times both lean and rich. This month, on December 15, Brock will reach a significant milestone as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Join us in thanking Brock for his lifelong support over the years, as we wish him the happiest of birthdays and many more to come.*

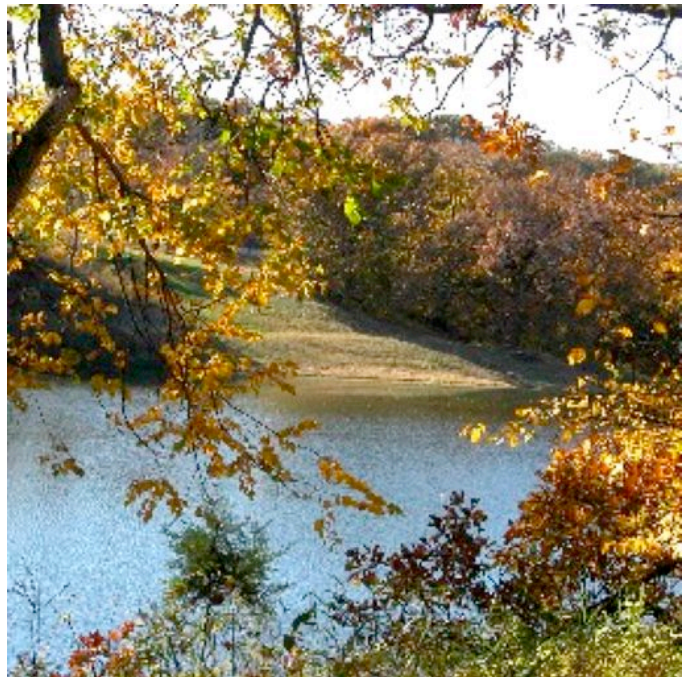
## ***CAMP STARTRAIL 2009***

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If you're already dreaming about the warm, sunny days of Summer 2009, consider attending a UU camp, sponsored by the UUA's Prairie Star District.

Camp StarTrail will be held August 2 thru 7, 2009, near Omaha, Nebraska. Join us for a multigenerational camp that celebrates and explores Unitarian Universalism, in the beautiful rolling hills of the Platte River Valley. From the morning Celebration, to the workshops, to the evening Vespers and campfires, there will be fun and good conversation. If you'd prefer to sit in a rocking chair and read a good book, you'll enjoy the quiet of the woods, lake, and sky.

Costs are reasonable. A single adult would pay \$375 for registration, room and board, or higher for premium housing. Depending on what housing you choose, a family of four (two young adults, one child over four, one child under four) could pay just \$900 for a comfortable air conditioned room with bunk beds; less expensive if you plan to camp out in your tent. Another family of four (2 adults, 1 teen over 13, 1 child over four) would pay \$1,300 or higher, depending on the housing you choose, or less if you camp. If you compare this to costs for attending Camp Unistar, you'll see it's comparable. If you compare this to a trip to the Grand Canyon or Yellowstone, it's much less. Additional options will include challenging ropes courses and trips to nearby museums.



Photos of the camp are available on the Prairie Star District Web site at [www.psduua.org/CampStarTrail](http://www.psduua.org/CampStarTrail). We're renting a Lutheran camp for the week. There's a swimming pool, a small lake for canoes and paddleboats, and excellent food.

Registration will open in mid-January. Watch the District's Web site at [www.psduua.org](http://www.psduua.org) for more information.