



FEBRUARY 2009 PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 1 "IN THE SERVICE OF CREATIVITY"

Fellowship member Aaron Ford shares his journey of spiritual discovery through the creative arts, particularly dance/movement and music. Reverend Michael Nelson will share some transforming lessons he learned from working with members of the Open Theater, one of NYC's premiere experimental theater companies in the 1970s. Contact *Michael* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

FEBRUARY 8 "A VIEW FROM AFGHANISTAN"

They say that if a person goes to Afghanistan, he/she is either a mercenary, a misfit, or brokenhearted. After a recent stint as a professor at Kabul University, Mary Copple hasn't quite figured out if she fits any of those categories, but she has found new ways to view herself and a world that not many experience. Contact *Jennifer Askey* at 537-1272 or jda127@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 15 "THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS"

Reverend Michael Nelson reflects, "Is love an ever fixed mark? Does it move, evolve with time or does it beckon us to sense the eternal? Yes, love poses many questions, but its quest guides us beyond simplistic answers." Contact *Michael* at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

FEBRUARY 22 "THE FOUNTAIN OF FAIR FORTUNE-- INTER-GENERATIONAL SUNDAY"

For centuries storytelling has been an entertaining way to teach values and promote critical thinking. Join us for an interactive fairytale from the world of Harry Potter by J K Rowling. In this story our hero and heroines are trying to reach a fountain with magical powers to grant them good luck. Who will get there? Will they find what they are looking for? What is the real magic of the fountain? Fun for kids in all of us! Contact Director of Religious Education *Maria Snyder* at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

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SUNDAY SERVICES

begin at 10:45 AM
at 481 ZEANDALE ROAD

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RELEASE TO CREATION WORKSHOP

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!! On Friday, **MARCH 6**, from 6 to 9 pm, and Saturday **MARCH 7**, from 10 am to 5 pm, Aaron Ford and Michael Nelson will lead all who gather to create the elements for the March 8th Sunday service. The workshop explores improvisation, movement, and voice as a way of developing a deeper capacity for personal and communal expression, for the ancient quest for meaning. Ask Aaron at (785) 257-3296 or alford@tctelco.net, or Michael at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net, to learn more about this innovative opportunity!



UUUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

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

MICHAEL'S MUSINGS - REV MICHAEL NELSON, JANUARY 21, 2009

"The end of teaching is simply wisdom ... conferred when all defenses, armaments, rhetoric and roles, self-importance, bumptiousness are dropped, let go. The great and lovely and life infusing equalizer is--love."

-- Daniel Berrigan

When I am laid low with the flu I like to read slow, thoughtful novels and watch movies with a good dose of sentiment and an ending that avoids despair. I can tolerate cold gloom when the end flushes warm with meaning. I am at the end of a virulent virus that is unwilling to fully release



its grip. Illness, when severe enough, makes one slow down. Death announces its presence. As my body struggled to regain its health and small tasks enervated, I found myself missing my father more than I had since he had died in April. I have not missed him in a way in which I wish he were alive. I fully accept his death. Moroseness didn't hound, nor did melancholy sing its lachrymose tune. Depression did not exert its force. Vulnerability opened me wider to the loss. Once when I asked my father how often he thought of his mother and father, he replied, "Everyday." I categorized his answer as "sweet," but did not realize its rounding value. So much of life seems to be lived linearly. I do this, then I do that. This needs to be done by Thursday.

Grief, a great teacher, makes one circle what has been lost; spiral up and down memory's circuitry. In early adulthood I wished I had another father. One who would listen to my dreams, counsel me; talk to me about his inner journey. As a child I had this notion that our family should talk about important things as we shared another great dinner my mother had cooked. We didn't and that frustrated. It made me long for connection that lifted up what was important in life. My parents were always working. Labor provided them value. They were often exhausted. The "great depression" permanently marked their sense of self. They knew what it meant to pinch pennies, the distinction of those who were among the intellectually elite and those who barely had time to read. Yet my father, when he had time to read, did enjoy

Hemingway and would go with me to see a serious film like "Dr Zhivago." We just never talked about content.

Without any doubt I know my father fully loved me. Now I learn to fully love him. It is a life's work. He teaches me to round my love out so that it is not like an arrow that wounds. He teaches me that in the end, there is no ending, that when there is room for love to do its work, the meaning of life revolves and releases its own profoundly quiet wisdom.

May wisdom release its love to all, *Michael*

MICHAEL NELSON'S SCHEDULE

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

Monday,	February	2 -	4:30 to 6:30 pm
Tuesday,	February	3 -	2 to 4 pm
Tuesday,	February	10 -	4 to 7 pm
Wednesday,	February	18 -	12 to 2 pm
Thursday,	February	19 -	4 to 7 pm
Wednesday,	February	25 -	12 to 2 pm
Thursday,	February	26 -	4 to 6 pm

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

UUFM BLOGS !!!

It's a shame that so much of our creativity doesn't get beyond UUFM. Working with Michael Nelson and the Communications Committee, we have set up a blog at <http://uufm.wordpress.com>, where members and friends can express their creative side. The goal is to create a welcome mat, where someone might think, "I enjoy reading this and want to know more about the religious community behind it." Creative writers and photographers who would like to be added to the blog as authors should contact Dale Askey at 537-1272 or dsa06512@gmail.com

RE NEWS

REFLECTIONS - MARIA SNYDER, DRE, JAN 23, 2009



January was an exciting month in RE. We had a great time at our Intergenerational Bowling Event. We are looking forward to our K-2 Overnight. We picked back up where we left off in the Timeless Themes curricula and are learning about our Judeo-Christian heritage.

In February we will continue with our Timeless Themes, but take a break on Sunday,

February 22, for an Intergenerational Service. I am very excited about the program that will bring kids and adults together. I am putting together a program based on a fairy tale from the world of Harry Potter. If you are interested in playing a part helping us stage such a program please let me know.

I am also working on a task list of what I would like to accomplish as the DRE during this year. Please let me know if you have any desires or ideas of what you want to see.

I also want to thank Tom and Monta again for my awesome office, and for hanging the doors new doors on the stage. If you have not come by to visit the stage and the office please do. I look forward to having visitors.

We are looking at scheduling some classes for the OWL program. If are not familiar, the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program is a series of sexuality education curricula. Specifically we want to gauge the interest in the fourth through sixth grade class. If you would like to have your child(ren) attend this class or have any questions about the class please contact me.

We would like to welcome Molly McGaughey back into the classroom. We have missed you. Also thanks to everyone that helped cover the pre-school room in Molly's absence.

Have you ever thought about teaching or helping in RE? Please let me know. I am looking for some helpers to make sure that we are covered in all the classes and to give our RE teachers an opportunity to attend services when they want to.

As always if your child needs a ride on Sunday let us know. We can make sure that they get here.

Maria

Contact DRE Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

YOUTH CHOIR

The UUFM Youth Choir rehearses in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room on Sunday, **FEBRUARY 1**, and **FEBRUARY 15**, at 10:15 am. All kids are invited!!! Learn more from Sarah Nuss-Warren at 537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com

RE EVENTS

Kindergarteners, and first and second graders won't want to miss the **K thru 2 sleepover** at the Fellowship on Friday, **JANUARY 30**. Learn more from DRE Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

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

MARIA SNYDER'S SCHEDULE

Maria will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Sunday,	February	1 - 10 am to 1 pm
Monday,	February	2 - 1 to 4 pm
Wednesday,	February	4 - 12:30 to 4:30 pm
Friday,	February	6 - 12:30 to 4:30 pm
Saturday,	February	7 - 11 am to 4 pm
Tuesday,	February	10 - 4 to 7 pm
Wednesday,	February	11 - 6:30 to 8 pm
Friday,	February	13 - 1 to 4 pm
Saturday,	February	14 - 11 am to 4 pm
Sunday,	February	15 - 10 am to 1 pm
Wednesday,	February	18 - 1 to 4 pm
Thursday,	February	19 - 4 to 9 pm
Saturday,	February	21 - 9 am to 2 pm
Sunday,	February	22 - 9 am to 1 pm
Monday,	February	23 - 1 to 4 pm
Wednesday,	February	25 - 12:30 to 4:30 pm
Friday,	February	27 - 12:30 to 4:30 pm
Saturday,	February	28 - 11 am to 4 pm

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The UUFM Social Committee will host a **CATERED ITALIAN DINNER** at the Fellowship on Saturday, JANUARY 31, at 6 pm. *Reservations must be submitted no later than Tuesday, January 27.* Contact Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com

The UUFM Aesthetics Committee invites Fellowship artists of all ages to submit paintings for an **ART EXHIBITION**, which opens following the Italian Dinner at the Fellowship, on Saturday, JANUARY 31, at 7 pm. Children's work will be displayed on the new RE bulletin board. Framed paintings must be ready to hang with wire or hooks. *Please submit paintings no later than Wednesday, January 28.* Drop them off, with artist's name and title of the painting, on the backstage shelves during Michael's, Maria's, or Susan's office hours. Learn more from Kim Belanger, 587-8107 or kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com

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 Charley Kempthorne at 564-1118, or Jack Warren at 539-4073 or jomega@ksu.edu

The **UU DRUM CIRCLE** will meet on Friday, FEBRUARY 6, at 7 pm, in the Fellowship's new sanctuary. We will drum, sing and dance. Bring your friends, family, and guests of all ages. Plenty of instruments are available. Bring anything or any thoughts you wish to dedicate with a drumming round. Learn more from Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net

The **WOMEN'S LUNCH GROUP** meets Wednesday, FEBRUARY 11, at 12 noon, at Meadowlark Hills in the Manhattan Room (next to the Pub and across from the Game Room). Enter through the front door of the main building. All interested Fellowship members, friends, and guests are invited! Contact Florence Schwab at 539-0976 or fschwab@cox.net, to learn more.

Fellowship member Ana Franklin will lead a free **VEDIC CHANT CLASS** at 12 noon, on Saturday, FEBRUARY 14. Those planning to attend are asked to search their recipes and bring an East Indian dish for the "Vedic Potluck" at 1 pm, after the class. Ana reflects, "Since I love ... all things Indian, I decided that Valentine's Day would be the perfect day to offer this 'taste' of India. If you can't come up with a dish, don't worry, I'm sure there will be enough!" The class gathers in the New Sanctuary, then adjourns to the Inez Alsop room at 1 pm for a potluck meal. Learn more from Ana at 341-9908 or yogaconnection@gmail.com

MEDITATION practice meets this month on Thursday, FEBRUARY 19, in the new sanctuary, from 5:30 to 6 pm, before our regular Third Thursday Supper. Come take a deep breathe after a long day, and then join us for a meal. Learn more from Michael Nelson at (913) 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

THIRD THURSDAY SUPPER gathers on FEBRUARY 19, 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 Snyder take care of dinner! Contact Sue at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net to learn more.

The UUFM **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** will meet on Wednesday, FEBRUARY 25, at 7 pm. Title and location will be announced in February Order of Service announcements, distributed at Sunday morning services. New members are welcome. Learn more from Lorrie Cross at 539-7883 or lmcross@kansas.net

A **CIRCLE DINNER** will gather on Saturday, FEBRUARY 28, at 6:30 pm. Register to attend on the sign up sheet posted on the "Announcements" bulletin board in the narthex. New members and friends are encouraged to join us. Learn more from Enell Foerster at 537-0977 or foer@kansas.net

ART EXHIBITS

The UUFM Aesthetics Committee continues our series of Art Exhibitions, featuring the creative work of Fellowship members and friends. Photos submitted for the first exhibit will be available for pick-up anytime after January 28. Our second exhibit, featuring paintings, opens on Saturday, January 31, following the Italian Dinner. The paintings will be



on view for approximately three months, at which time our third Art Exhibition, featuring FIBER ART creations, will go up. Fellowship fiber artists are encouraged to consider work they may wish to display. Learn more from Kim

Belanger at 587-8107 or kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com

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.

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.

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

Learn more from Lorrie Cross at 539-7883 or lmcross@kansas.net, Anne Marchin at 539-3026 or annemarchin22@hotmail.com, Harriette Janke at 539-0865 or ahjanke@sbcglobal.net, Monta Manney at 537-0624, or Kim Belanger at 587-8107 or kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com

UUFM SINGERS

The Choir rehearses this month on Sunday, **FEBRUARY 1**, and Sunday, **FEBRUARY 15**, at 9:30 am, in the new sanctuary. Learn more from Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

SOCIAL ACTION AT UUFM

VOLUNTEER AND SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

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. Ask Gwen Geiselman at 776-4505, or Betty Banner at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com, to learn more.

This month, Fellowship volunteers prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS** on Friday, FEBRUARY 6, and FEBRUARY 20, from 7:30 to 9 am, at St Paul's Episcopal Church. Occasional **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to fill in when regular volunteers are absent. 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

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. This is a great way to give to the Fellowship with a minimal investment of time. Learn more from Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@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 UUFM for many years, and invites interested Fellowship members and friends to become involved. Learn more from Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net

HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

On the second Sunday of each month our Social Action Committee designates an agency or association to receive the offerings for the day. On FEBRUARY 8, our congregation will collect funds to provide necessary learning supplies for the faculty and students of Kabul University. Our speaker for the Sunday service on February 8, Mary Copple, will deliver the funds and supplies on her next trip to Afghanistan.

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 CFL SALES

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 may be placed. 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



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. Bulbs are \$4 each, and may be purchased to donate to families seeking help through Shepherd's Crossing.

GI RIGHTS HOTLINE

For over a year, the UUFM Social Action Committee, along with other area churches, has supported the establishment of a local GI Rights Hotline. The Flint Hills GI Rights Hotline now exists. The mission is to provide trained lay counselors to offer accurate information and assistance to help GIs and their families understand their rights and options. Issues addressed are discharge status, AWOL/UA, sexual orientation, Delayed Entry Program, conscientious objection and others. The hotline number is 800 819-3225. View the website at www.flinthillsgirights.com or pick up a brochure from the information table in the narthex. Learn more from Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Social Action Committee will not meet in February. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, at 5:30 pm, in the large RE classroom. Next year's budget (for fiscal year 2009/2010) will be the main topic of discussion. Learn more from our Social Action Committee chair Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711 or patw@ksu.edu

WORDS FROM OUR CHAIR

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends,

As announced in the January Newsletter, former Chair-elect Dale Askey will not be able to serve as Chair during the next fiscal year because of a temporary move to Germany. He resigned his position as of January 8, 2009. We thank him for his service on the Board during the past 7 months. The Executive Board, in its January meeting, talked



about possibilities to fill the now open Chair-elect position and the Chair position come next June 1st. Eric Banner, Past Chair and, in this capacity, Nominating Committee chair, was charged by the Board to discuss the situation within the Nominating Committee and bring suggestions to the Board for the February 10 meeting. Kathleen Oldfather and Scott Tanona serve on the Nominating Committee together with Eric.

DRE Maria Snyder gave her first report of her work for the Fellowship. Maria also presented several forms regarding the protection of our children and youth participating in RE programs, including a "Protection Policy for Children, Youths, and Adults." After reviewing the materials and making a few suggestions for change, they are now being examined by the RE Committee chair, Sandy Nelson, and others. The documents will come back to the Board in February for further input and possible adoption. The adoption of a Protection Policy will help to keep our children, youths, and adults safe and will also satisfy our insurance requirements in the unlikely event that a lawsuit would be filed against the Fellowship.

The Board reviewed a document downloaded from the UUA website on "Conflict Resolution: Guidelines and Suggestions for Success." The Board and the Committee on Ministry had previously discussed on several occasions the need to develop a document on conflict resolution and non-violent communication to serve as a guide in times of disagreements or conflict within the Fellowship. The Board feels that it is much better to have procedures in place before a conflict happens than to not quite know how to go about it when it occurs. The Board's work increasingly focuses on the assumption that the Fellowship will grow. We welcome growth and embrace it and we take our job to prepare for it in a proactive manner seriously.

Most of our Fellowship members and many friends are involved in the well being of the Fellowship on an almost daily basis. Without the hard work of our committees and their dedication to the Fellowship we would not be able to function. We need the commitment and enthusiasm of our members and friends and we appreciate their contributions to the life of the Fellowship. If you would like to be more involved and do not know how to go about it, please talk to any of us, or to our Fellowship administrator, Susan Turner. We welcome your participation and can guide you in the right direction.

All Executive Board meeting minutes as taken by our Secretary, Terri Franz, can be viewed on the UUFM website after they have been approved by the Board [*go to www.uufm.net and click on "Documents" to view Board meetings minutes*]. Please feel free to discuss any questions, suggestions, or concerns you may have with regard to the work of the Board with any Board member.

Elke Lorenz

UUFM Executive Board Chair

Contact Elke at 539-3527 or ellorenz@uufm.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board meets Tuesday, FEBRUARY 10, at 7 pm, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). Members and friends of the Fellowship are welcome and encouraged to attend. Learn more from Executive Board Chair Elke Lorenz at 539-3527 or ellorenz@uufm.net

COUNCIL OF COMMITTEES MEETING

The Council of Committees will meet on Monday, **FEBRUARY 2**, at 6:30 pm, in the Fellowship's Inez Alsop all-purpose room. Committee chairs are asked to prepare a short report about your planned activities for the remainder of the year, and important information to share with other committees and groups. If you co-chair a committee, please make sure that at least one co-chair will be present. If you chair a committee and are unable to attend, please ask a committee member to represent your group at the meeting. Learn more from Elke Lorenz at 539-3527 or ellorenz@uufm.net



SUNDAY COFFEE PROVIDERS

February 1: Larry Weaver
 February 8: Florence Schwab/Don McKee
 February 15: J and J Maseberg-Tomlinson
 February 22: A Marchin / C Markle

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.

A NOTE FROM BETTY: Many people choose to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries by providing special snacks for Sunday coffee time near the date.

Administrator's Schedule

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

Monday, February 2 - 3 to 5 pm
 Tuesday, February 3 - 12 to 5 pm
 Thursday, February 5 - 12 to 5 pm
 Monday, February 9 - 3 to 5 pm
 Tuesday, February 10 - 4 to 7 pm
 Thursday, February 12 - 12 to 5 pm
 Thursday, February 19 - 4 to 9 pm
 Saturday, February 21 - 11 am to 6 pm
 Monday, February 23 - 3 to 5 pm
 Tuesday, February 24 - 12 to 5 pm
 Thursday, February 26 - 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

February 1: *volunteers needed*
 February 8: *volunteers needed*
 February 15: *volunteers needed*
 February 22: *volunteers needed*

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

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

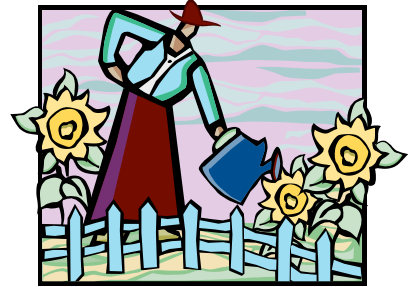
Please check with Susan Turner to be sure your desired date is available before finalizing plans for committee meetings, Fellowship activities, or private events that will be held in the Fellowship building. To confirm building availability and schedule your activity, or for more information, contact Sue at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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

SUNFLOWER CASA SPRING TRAINING BEGINS

Sunflower CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) will begin Spring training sessions on Monday, **FEBRUARY 9**, from 6 to 9 pm, at the Alan Lee Center (621 Humboldt). Classes will continue on Monday nights through March 16. This is an opportunity to become the difference between abuse and hope in the life of a foster child. Learn more about Sunflower Casa at sunfcasa@interkan.net, 537-6367, or visit <http://casa.manhattanks.org>. Independent study options are available, if you are unable to attend classes on Monday evenings. There is a child waiting for your voice.



BECOMING A CHALICE LIGHTER

The Prairie Star District Chalice Lighters (CL) program has existed since 1984, awarding grants for growth to UU congregations in our eight-state area. Our Fellowship was awarded a grant to help hire our first minister in 1994, and we received a second grant to expand and renovate our building in 2000, and now, just announced, we will receive a grant to help with the cost of hiring our first DRE.

Chalice Lighters support three projects each year with money coming from individuals who sign up to be Chalice Lighters. Being a CL entails receiving information about a congregation and its project and sending \$20 to the Prairie Star District for that grant--total of \$60 a year.

In early 2009, we at UUFM along with a few other churches will have a campaign to increase the number of Chalice Lighter volunteer contributors, with special activities in February. This is very appropriate since we have benefited greatly from these grants.

UUFM presently has just 8% of our members being Chalice Lighters. Our goal is to increase that to 35%, a challenge but achievable. If you are interested in becoming a Chalice Lighter, see the brochures and forms on the information table in our narthex. Completed forms may be returned in the Sunday morning collection basket, or talk to Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net

CAMP STARTRAIL 2009

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. Photos of the camp are available on the Prairie Star District Web site at www.psduua.org/CampStarTrail. Registration will open in mid-January. Watch the District's Web site at www.psduua.org for more information.