



THE UUUFM VOICE

MAY 2009
Volume 47, Issue 12

MAY 2009 PROGRAMS

MAY 3 "COVERING, PASSING AND COMING OUT"

Kent McKusick, intern minister at All Souls UU Church in Kansas City, began the journey of coming out at age 45 in the "safety" of his home congregation, UU Society of Bangor, Maine. This service reflects on "coming out" as an ongoing multi-layered spiritual, cultural, and social process. Contact/convener is *Michael Nelson* at 913 961-2626 or minister@uufm.net

MAY 10 "FLOWER CEREMONY"

Members and friends will reflect on the "theology of gardening", discussing why they love to plant and grow, and what it means to them to grow things. There will be a "Flower Communion" ceremony, and a discussion of the history of this tradition. Contact is *Dick Beeman* at 539-9369 or rbeeman@cox.net

MAY 17 "INSPIRED BY THE ARTS"

Fellowship artists will share their creative efforts in the performing and visual arts. Part of the program is scripted, but members and friends are encouraged to contribute their own productions or the works of others that have shaped their lives. Contact/convener is *Kim Belanger* at 587-8107 or kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com

MAY 24 "INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY"

As the RE year comes to an end join us in appreciating our Religious Education teachers. Students will be performing a play about the people who teach us. Contact/convener is *Maria Snyder* at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

MAY 31 "THE BOND OF MARRIAGE"

What does it mean to be married? What's the secret of a happy marriage or long-term partnership? Do the realities match our expectations? Brock Dale, Charley Kempthorne, and Alley Stoughton share their thoughts and stories about psychological, social, and perhaps even theological dimensions of marriage. Contact *Scott Tanona* at 537-6208 or stanona@sbcglobal.net

Following the service, we'll adjourn to our annual "late Spring" POTLUCK PICNIC and a spectacular BON VOYAGE PARTY--celebrating the launching of RE students' "Postcards from RE" Summer program--with a bounce house, carnival games, prizes! Bring a favorite dish to share, if you are able to do so. Hot dogs will be provided. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to assist with set up and clean up. Learn more from Courtney Markle at 537-1027 or clmarkle@hotmail.com

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

PO Box 910
Manhattan, KS 66505
(785) 537-2349
office@uufm.net
www.uufm.net

REV MICHAEL NELSON, minister
(913) 961-2626
minister@uufm.net

ELKE LORENZ, Executive Board Chair
(785) 539-3527
ellorenz@uufm.net

SUNDAY SERVICES
begin at 10:45 AM
at 481 ZEANDALE ROAD

INSIDE THIS ISSUE PAGE

Musings	2
Note from Michael Nelson	2
RE / Youth Activities	3
REflections/DRE Schedule	3
Activities and Events	4
Social Action	5
Volunteer Opportunities	5
Words from Our Chair	6
Executive Board Mtg	6
Coffee and Greeting Teams	7
Administrator's Schedule	7
Member Info / Subscriptions	7
2009/2010 Contact Info	8
Annual Meeting Report	9
Thoughts from Thea	9
May Calendar	10

IN APPRECIATION OF THE TEACHERS IN OUR LIVES ...

On Sunday, **MAY 24**, RE students will present an original play, honoring the teachers who touch our lives every day. All members and friends are encouraged to join us for this special, intergenerational Sunday service, in support of our increasingly active and vibrant Religious Education program, and in recognition of the contributions of our volunteer RE teachers. All RE students are invited join in the play. Rehearsal begins on Sunday, May 10. Learn more from Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net



UUUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

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

MUSINGS - JENNIFER ASKEY, APRIL 26, 2009

Fellowship member Jennifer Askey shares these thoughts during Michael Nelson's vacation break ...

I recently had ample opportunity to ponder my relationship with faith and my spiritual journey from the fundamentalist church of my youth to my membership in the UUFM today. My grandfather died the Wednesday before Easter. The combination of true grief over his death and an extended family who all share the same spiritual roots but have taken disparate religious paths as adults provided me a good occasion for thinking about what really anchors and sustains. Salvation and righteousness have little room in my playbook. I put my faith in people and in the power of community, of tolerance, and of love right here, right now.



My parents met at Evangel Bible College in Springfield, MO. My mother was there to study history and receive teaching credentials. My father attended because, as the son of an AG preacher, he received free tuition and, as the son of an AG preacher, he recognized the need to get as far away from his folks as money would allow. Thus began his almost 4-decade-long rebellion from his father, his father's authority, and the authority of his father's church. My dad was groomed to be a minister and, failing that, had not much else to turn to. He died five years ago and I never really understood whether or not he lost faith, never had faith, or struggled with a faith he felt he had but could not express. Many in my parents' church did not approve of him, or his long-haired, pot-smoking hippie lifestyle, but they seemed to approve even less of my mother when she petitioned for divorce. At the ripe old age of six I sensed hypocrisy and felt the stirrings of what I later learned to call "righteous indignation."

In the absence of a father, my mother's parents became my parents, as well. My Grandma and Grandpa were my only babysitters as a child and my Grandpa taught me how to sharpen pencils, shine shoes, and use an adding machine. He was a milkman in the era of home delivery. He and my Grandmother were married in the Assemblies of God church, raised their children there, and raised my sister and me there, too. They--we all--believed in the power of Jesus to save us and fill us with the Holy Ghost.

The world changed around them though, and their no-good, hippie son-in-law was only the first sign of the times. My mother's marriage to and divorce from my father might have, in other families, led to a rift between parent and child. Decades later, I "lived in sin" with Dale

before we were married and not an eye was batted. My Grandpa walked me down the aisle (well, the garden path, but you get the drift) and wept as he toasted my happiness. My cousin's unintended pregnancy at age 18 and the birth of her mixed-race daughter wasn't exactly an immediate cause for family celebration, but I remember my grandfather ignoring the drama sessions and looking forward to a new baby in the family. As he aged and grew weak, holding all five of his great granddaughters, beginning with my cousin's child, now 12, was his greatest joy. Preparing for his memorial service, we found so many pictures of him holding all the baby girls a family could throw at him--he gave love and received love so freely, a true gift to us all.

So, while sitting at his memorial service listening to a pastor intone about my Grandpa's faith--true--his heart--right with God--and the current state of his soul--heaven bound--I found myself feeling righteously indignant once more. My Grandpa's faith was real and meaningful to him, but the legacy he left behind was, in my mind, one of "deeds, not creeds." He lived the principles of love, tolerance, and being there for people in need. Although other family members frequently pray for my soul and my return to the flock, my Grandpa loved me, loved my husband and children, and wanted us nearby. While others in the church may have found comfort in the pastor's words about heaven and salvation, I took solace in the words of my uncle, my sister, my mom about the family community my grandfather helped to create. True grace, I believe, comes not from a savior, but from the love and respect of those around you. Deeds in the here and now trump the creed of life everlasting. Look around you and smile, and love!

Jennifer

A NOTE FROM MICHAEL NELSON

In May I must use what vacation and study time I've accrued since beginning my work with you 5 years ago. I will be attending the monthly UU ministers' meeting in Kansas City and my first SCORE meeting (Southern Cluster and Outreach and Extension Ministry) since the spring of 2007. As one of the founding members of SCORE, I feel compelled to continue to spread UUism to areas where it will make an important difference in people's lives. I will also follow up on some pastoral care responsibilities that need my attention. Otherwise I will garden, paint, read, ponder ... and keep the medicine cabinet stocked with anti-inflammatories. *Michael may be reached by email at minister@uufm.net, or, FOR URGENT MATTERS ONLY, call 913 961-2626.*

RE NEWS

REFLECTIONS - MARIA SNYDER, DRE, APRIL 25, 2009

May is the end of the RE school year and the beginning of the summer program, "UU World Travelers." This year we are using the theme Postcards from RE. We will finish each lesson with a postcard from the place that we visited. This summer we will visit places as close as The World in Our Backyard, as far as India and as imaginary as Oz. We are looking forward to a great summer program.



To kick off the summer we will have an Intergenerational Sunday on May 24. Our kids will begin practicing for the play on Sunday the May 10, so don't forget to bring your kids if they want to be involved! We will say thanks to our teachers through a play. The following week will be the Bon Voyage Party that will include a bounce house, hot dogs, potluck and lots of games. We look forward to seeing everyone here.

Popcorn Theology has been a great time. Join us this month for *Saved* on May 6 and *Little Buddha* on May 20. If you would like to help with this or any other RE program please contact me.

As always if you have kids that would like to attend Popcorn Theology or Sunday RE and need a ride please let me know.

Maria

TEENS - POPCORN THEOLOGY

Teens, tweens, and parents are invited to join us for Popcorn Theology sessions every other Wednesday, at 6 pm. On **MAY 6**, we'll watch *Saved!*, and on **MAY 20**, we'll be viewing *Little Buddha*. Movies are followed by discussion, and of course, more popcorn!

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir rehearses in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary) on Sunday, **MAY 3**, and **MAY 17**, at 10:15 am. All kids are invited! Learn more from *Sarah Nuss-Warren* at 537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com

SPECIAL RE EVENTS IN MAY

- May 24 is an **INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY** service. Students will perform a play celebrating the teachers in our lives. Practice begins Sunday, *May 10!*
- On Sunday, *May 31*, the Fellowship's annual Spring Potluck will be combined with a fabulous **BON VOYAGE PARTY** to launch the "Postcards from RE" Summer curriculum. Bounce house, prizes, and games!

Learn more from *Maria Snyder* at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

END OF THE YEAR THOUGHTS

FROM RE COMMITTEE CHAIR SANDY NELSON ...

As we wrap up the 2008/2009 Religious Education program, I just want to say thanks to everyone for making it so successful ... Please take a moment to personally thank our teachers: Emily Ross and Molly McGaughey (pre-K), Carolyn Ferguson and Kim Belanger (K-3), Larry Weaver and Sandy Nelson (4-8). On the RE committee, and often filling in as teachers: Emily Ragan and Kathleen Tanona as well as youth choir director Sarah Nuss-Warren. Last summer's tour guides: Charley Kempthorne, Scott Tanona, Jay Ham, Kathleen Oldfather, Mike Bonella, Tom and Monta Manney, Carolyn Ferguson, Barbara Bascom, Brice Hobrock, and Courtney Markle (apologies to anyone I missed).

The DRE Search Committee deserves extra thanks for helping to further the vision: Carolyn Ferguson (chair), Larry Weaver, Aaron Ford, Dick Beeman, and Molly McGaughey, and Rev Michael Nelson for his ongoing encouragement. A huge thanks to Maria Snyder for accepting the position of DRE. We're a quirky bunch but she's managed to see beyond our quirks and produce some stellar programs. We all look forward to great things.

Finally, thanks to all our young people for their participation and to the parents and friends who bring them. But most important, thanks to the entire congregation for support, both financial and spiritual. Without that commitment there would be no RE program.

MARIA SNYDER'S SCHEDULE

Maria will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Friday,	May	1 - 1 to 5 pm
Monday,	May	4 - 1 to 5 pm
Sunday,	May	10 - 10 am to 1 pm
Thursday,	May	14 - 4 to 7 pm
Friday,	May	15 - 10 am to 2 pm
Saturday,	May	16 - 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday,	May	17 - 10 am to 1 pm
Monday,	May	18 - 9 am to 1 pm
Friday,	May	22 - 9 am to 1 pm
Saturday,	May	23 - 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday,	May	24 - 10 am to 1 pm
Monday,	May	25 - 9 am to 1 pm
Wednesday,	May	27 - 1 to 5 pm
Friday,	May	29 - 9 am to 1 pm
Saturday,	May	30 - 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday,	May	31 - 10 am to 1 pm

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

MAY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

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 **WOMEN'S LUNCH GROUP** meets Wednesday, MAY 13, 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 interest-ed Fellowship members, friends, and guests are invited! Contact Florence Schwab at 539-0976 or fschwab@cox.net, to learn more.

The **UU DRUM CIRCLE** gathers on Friday, MAY 15, at 7 pm, at the Fellowship. Bring your favorite drum or rhythm instrument, or use one that will be available to borrow. We will drum, sing and dance mostly to Native American rhythms, but African, Asian and other cultural drumming. Singing and dancing are very welcome. Singles, couples, partners, families and guests are welcome. Come join in the fun and feel good drumming! Learn more from Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net

THIRD THURSDAY SUPPER gathers on MAY 21, 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 Susan Turner and Maria Snyder take care of dinner! Contact Sue at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net to learn more.

The **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** will meet on Wednesday, MAY 27, at 7 pm, at the home of Evelyn and Les Frazier. This month, we'll be reading *The Virgin of Small Plains*, by Nancy Pickard. Books are available from Harriette Janke at 539-0865 or ahjanke@sbcglobal.net

SPRING POTLUCK / BON VOYAGE PARTY

The Fellowship celebrates the end of Spring/beginning of Summer with our annual Spring Potluck Picnic, following the Sunday morning service on **MAY 31**. This year we'll combine the picnic with the RE summer program kick-off Bon Voyage Party for a total celebration with bounce house, carnival games, prizes, and perhaps a bubbly beverage for a real send off. Bring a favorite dish, bread, fruit, salad, or des-ert to share (hot dogs and hot coals will be provided). Or just join us for food, fellowship, and fun. Weather permitting, we'll eat outside among the beautiful gardens maintained by our Grounds Committee, and work day volunteers. To learn more, please contact our Social Committee chair Courtney Markle at 537-1027 or clmarkle@hotmail.com



2009 FLINT HILLS PRIDE PROM

The third annual Flint Hills Pride Prom will be held on Saturday evening, **MAY 2**, providing a welcoming, hassle-free gathering for LGBTQ youth and allies from all over Kansas. UUFM will provide overnight accommodations for out-of-town students, parents, and advisers, in cooperation with the KSU Gamma Rho Lambda (GRL) sorority. The event is free for high school students. Cost for adults is \$5, and attendance is by invitation only. Talk to Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net to get your invitation(s), or learn about other ways you can support this inclusive event.

UUFM SINGERS

The Choir rehearses this month on Sunday, **MAY 3**, and **MAY 17**, at 9:30 am, in the new sanctuary. Ask Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu to learn more about choral opportunities at UUFM.

MAPJ FILM SERIES

The Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice is hosting monthly films. In May, *Class Dismissed: How TV Frames the Working Class*, will be shown on Tuesday, **MAY 12**, at 6:30 pm, in the Manhattan Public Library Auditorium. This film won the 2007 Studs Terkel Award for Media and Journalism from the Working Class Studies Association, and is narrated by Ed Asner. The film is free and open to the public, so invite your friends and family to join you. Learn more from Christopher Renner at 770-8309 or renner@ksu.edu

MEADOWLARK HILLS SERVICE

UUFM hosts a Wednesday afternoon service each month at Meadowlark Hills in Manhattan. This month, please join UU community minister Rev Thea Nietfeld and UUFM members and friends on Wednesday, **MAY 6**, at 3 pm, in Wroten House on the Meadowlark Hills campus. Ask Kathleen Oldfather at 537-3738 or koldfather@yahoo.com to learn more.

SOCIAL ACTION AT UUFM

VOLUNTEER AND SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

REFRESHMENT AND GREETING TEAMS are being formed now, in an effort to make planning and providing welcoming hospitality at our Sunday services easier for our valued volunteers. Teams have four members--one leader/coordinator, and three additional members--who share greeting, and preparation and service of coffee and refreshments. Each team will choose three Sundays during the year. This is an easy way to give to the Fellowship with a minimal investment of time. Learn more from Membership and Welcoming co-chair Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@gmail.com

This month, Fellowship volunteers prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS** on Friday, MAY 1, MAY 15, and MAY 29, 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, 539-3026 or annemarchin22@hotmail.com

The **RILEY COUNTY SENIOR CENTER** needs drivers to deliver meals to homebound residents. Pick one day of the week and one week of the month when it would be easy for you to deliver meals to Riley County residents. To volunteer or learn more, please contact Judy Houdeshell at 776-9294 or judyh@ncfhaaa.com

The **MANHATTAN EMERGENCY SHELTER** has received two HUD grants to help make rental housing more affordable, and is seeking landlords to participate. They can offer two year contracts, and some property management. Learn more from Mandy at 537-3113, ext 5.

HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

Each month our Social Action Committee designates an agency or association to receive the offerings for the day. On MAY 12, our congregation will collect funds for **THE FAIRY GODMOTHERS FUND**, which offers emergency assistance to low-income, Manhattan area women, who have needs not covered by other area agencies. Learn more about the Fairy Godmothers Fund at www.fgfund.org

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. Whole bean, ground, and decaf coffees, as well as chocolate, and tea are available. To learn more, or to purchase Fair Trade products, ask Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net or ask her on Sunday mornings.



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.

CHALICE LIGHTERS PROJECT

UUFM has been the recipient of a PSD Chalice Lighters' Grant three times. In 1994, a grant helped us hire our first minister; in 2000, we received assistance for our building expansion; and in 2009, we received \$8,000 to hire our first Director of Religious Education. Individual UU participants send \$20 for each grant after receiving information about the project (three times each year).

Our congregation has set a goal to increase Chalice Lighters participants to 30 from last year's level of seven. So far, 26 members have agreed to become Chalice Lighters. Four more and we will reach our goal! Please consider becoming a Chalice Lighter to help the growth of UUs throughout our District. Talk to Anne Cowan at the Fair Trade Coffee table on Sunday mornings, or call her at 537-2025 to learn more.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

The UUFM Social Action Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 13, at 5:30 pm, in the large RE room. Interested members and friends are invited. Learn more from Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711 or patw@ksu.edu



Shepherd's
Crossing
FAITH HOPE LOVE

Eat at **SIRLOIN STOCKADE** on the *Third Tuesday* each month. Sirloin Stockade will donate a generous part of the cost of your meal to Shepherd's Crossing to assist families with rent, utilities, or prescription medication. Give this coupon and your receipt to the cashier at Sirloin Stockade on Tuesday any time after 11 am.

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends,

With the Annual Meeting behind us and the fellowship year coming to an end, I would like to thank the Rev Michael Nelson, my colleagues from the Executive Board, the committee chairs and co-chairs, and fellowship administrator, Sue Turner for their support this past year. We had a smooth and productive year, for which I am grateful



not only to the ones just mentioned but to all involved in the fellowship life. Many of you contribute countless hours to the well-being of this organization: RE teachers teach our children UU values, greeters and refreshment providers ensure the comfort of new-comers and members, conveners help organize Sunday programs, musicians inspire us, many take care of this beautiful building and its grounds, you feed us, you celebrate with us, you make sure that our bills get paid through pledges and fund drives, such as the garage sale this weekend and the fund drive for 20 additional chairs that are now in the fellowship.

This year we were involved in the larger UU community and received visits from UU ministers and members of other congregations. We visited the congregations in Topeka, Lawrence, Kansas City, and Des Moines, Iowa, to celebrate mile stones with them or to attend workshops. We brought back ideas that we are trying to or have implemented at UUFM. Some of our members are currently passionately involved in the process of electing a new UUA president. Anne Cowan is in charge of finding Chalice Lighters within our congregation in support of Prairie Star District goals.

All of us as individuals and as part of a group bring a lot to the fellowship and ensure that our spiritual and often intellectual needs and our needs for friendship and belonging are met here, especially on Sundays, but also often during the week. Hopefully, while in this building, our members and friends gain the strength it takes to live ethical lives, to live by the UU principles, and to reach out to others in the community and beyond.

Because the Executive Board limited its agenda to no more than three items, we were able to discuss them in more detail. All but one of the votes the Board took this year was unanimous and all decisions were reached by consensus. DRE search, safety, the budget and the work of the Sabbatical Task Force involved research by other leaders of the congregation as well. The Board did not act in isolation but in collaboration with committees and task forces drawing on the expertise of many.

We hired a DRE who is eager to learn, willing to listen, and flexible in her approach in working with others. Getting ready to hire Maria Snyder took the first six months of the fellowship year with several individuals involved in the search process conducted by the DRE search committee under the leadership of Carolyn Ferguson. With lots of

input from Michael Oldfather we worked on a Chalice Lighter grant application to help us finance the new position in the next couple of years. We received the grant which is now included in the 2010 budget.

Safety concerns for our children led to the adoption of a Safe Congregation Policy suggested by Kathleen Oldfather several years ago and re-introduced by Eric Banner. In the April meeting, the Board began discussions of a comprehensive emergency preparedness guide that was developed by the long range planning committee under the leadership of Brice Hobrock.

Communication with committee chairs included presentations to the Board by the chairs and co-chairs of many committees, including Facilities, Membership and Welcoming, Committee on Ministry, DRE Search Task Force, Finance, Communications, and, especially noteworthy, the Sabbatical Task Force, chaired by Michael Oldfather. The sabbatical planned by Michael Nelson for next year is new territory for our congregation and we wanted to be especially mindful to the goal of making this a good experience for both the congregation and the minister.

Also worth mentioning is that we now have a community minister, Thea Nietfeld. Thea recently moved from Oklahoma to Manhattan and needed a UU church to sponsor her (at no cost to us). We are glad to have her expertise available to us. Thus this new relationship is mutually beneficial. A consolidation of the Social, Membership and Welcoming, and Caring Committees was discussed but we did not get it off the ground. I would hope that we would continue working on that in the coming year. Just recently we introduced the team approach to our Sunday morning greeting and hosting. Membership and Welcoming co-chair Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson, Shirley Hobrock, and others did a lot of the work to get this started. We touched upon a UUA Conflict resolution document but did not adopt such a document for UUFM. This is also a topic that the Board may decide to continue next year.

Minutes of the Board meetings, agendas, and materials are posted at www.uufm.net and accessible to all members and friends. I am confident that the Board will continue to build on our work from this year and from previous years. Thank you very much for your confidence in me as Executive Board Chair during the 2009 fiscal year.

Elke Lorenz, UUFM Executive Board Chair

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board meets Thursday, **MAY 14**, at 7 pm, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). In-terested members and friends are invited to attend and observe the proceedings. Learn more from Executive Board Chair Elke Lorenz at 539-3527 or ellorenz@uufm.net



GREETING AND REFRESHMENT TEAMS

- May 3: Barbara Hacker, T Franz, S Lacy, G Gieselman, J Shanteau
- May 10: Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson, S Nuss-Warren, B and S Severns
- May 17: Kathleen Oldfather, M Oldfather, Bill and Bobette McGaughey
- May 24: Memorial Day Weekend
Volunteers Needed!!!
- May 31: Potluck / RE Bon Voyage Party
Social Committee

Starting in April, coffee and greeting teams of four volunteers with one leader/coordinator, and three friends to help have become responsible for Sunday morning greeting and refreshments. Teams sign up for only three Sundays each year. We hope this new organizational method will help lighten the load, and allow those without much time to give a little.

Thanks so much to everyone who has already volunteered to join or lead one of our 16 teams! Team members and occasional substitutes are still needed! Ask Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or jo.maseberg@gmail.com to learn more about Coffee and Greeting Teams.

Administrator's Schedule

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

- Monday, May 4 - 3 to 5 pm
- Tuesday, May 5 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, May 7 - 12 to 5 pm
- Monday, May 11 - 3 to 5 pm
- Tuesday, May 12 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, May 14 - 4 to 7 pm
- Monday, May 18 - 3 to 5 pm
- Tuesday, May 19 - 12 to 5 pm
- Thursday, May 21 - 4 to 9 pm
- Thursday, May 28 - 12 to 5 pm
- Saturday, May 30 - 11 am to 6 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

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 would be happy to help you set up **ELECTRONIC PAYMENT** of your pledge contributions. 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 rack 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

JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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

UUFM QUICK CONTACTS

June 1, 2009 thru May 31, 2010

REVEREND MICHAEL NELSON (913) 961-2626
minister@uufm.net
UUFM OFFICE, Susan Turner, administrator 537-2349
office@uufm.net
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, Maria Snyder 537-2349
dre@uufm.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

CHAIR, Brice Hobrock 776 - 3175
bhobrock@uufm.net
CHAIR-ELECT and COUNCIL OF COMMITTEES chair, Larry Weaver 539 -3176
lweaver@uufm.net
TREASURER and FINANCE COMMITTEE chair, Mark Mayfield 776-6495
ferguson_mayfield@mac.com
SECRETARY, Dick Beeman 539-9369
rbeeman@cox.net
MEMBER-AT-LARGE, Anne Cowan 537 -2025
anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net
MEMBER-AT-LARGE, Kim Belanger 587 -8107
kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR and NOMINATING COMMITTEE chair, Elke Lorenz 539 - 3527
ellorenz@uufm.net

FELLOWSHIP CONTACTS

PROGRAMMING, Alley Stoughton 341- 3041
stough@cis.ksu.edu
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, Sandy Nelson, co-chair 341 - 0135
sandralounelson@yahoo.com
Kathleen Tanona, co-chair 537- 6208
sktanona@sbcglobal.net
FACILITIES, Mark Moser 537- 5028
mark@grapeviner.com
Tom Manney, Building Maintenance sub-committee 537- 0624
tmanney@ksu.edu
Sylvia Beeman, Grounds sub-committee 539- 9369
sbeewoman@hotmail.com
Lorrie Cross, Aesthetics sub-committee 539- 7883
lmcross@kansas.net
BOOKKEEPER, Kathleen Oldfather 537 - 3738
koldfather@yahoo.com
MEMBERSHIP AND WELCOMING / COFFEE AND GREETING TEAMS, Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson 477- 2759
jo.maseberg@gmail.com
SOCIAL ACTION, Yvonne Lacy 539-4404
socialjustice@uufm.net
Shirley Hobrock, Happy Kitchen community breakfast coordinator 776- 3175
shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com
WELCOMING CONGREGATION, Charles Dedmon (785) 765-3650
cddedmon@hotmail.com
COMMUNICATIONS (web, publicity), Dan Swenson 537- 4733
web@uufm.net
SOCIAL EVENTS, Courtney Markle 236 - 1563
clmarkle@hotmail.com
LONG-RANGE PLANNING, Michael Oldfather 537 - 3738
mou812@ksu.edu
CARING, Barbara Hacker, chair 587-8002
bjhacker@networksplus.net
Yvonne Lacy 539-4404
ycvq67lacy@sbcglobal.net
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY, Pat Embers, co-chair 539- 2819
embers1@cox.net
Emily Ragan, co-chair 776-7649
eragan@ksu.edu
UUFM SINGERS (adult choir) and MUSIC COMMITTEE, Michael Oldfather 537- 3738
mou812@ksu.edu
CHILDREN'S CHOIR, Sarah Nuss-Warren 537 -3586
nusswarr@gmail.com
HISTORIAN, Charley Kempthorne 564 -1118
charleykempthorne@dishmail.net
SUNDAY BULLETIN announcements, Susan Turner 537-2349
office@uufm.net

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

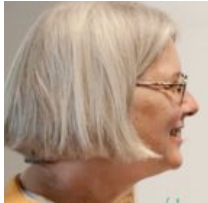
UUFM members gathered on Sunday, April 26, for our 2009 Annual Meeting. Important matters of Fellowship business for the upcoming year (June 1, 2009 thru May 31, 2010) were discussed, and votes were tallied. Results appear below:

2009/2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Brice Hobrock - Chair (*advances from Chair-elect*)
Larry Weaver - Chair-elect (*newly elected*)
Mark Mayfield - Treasurer (*2nd year of 2-year term*)
Dick Beeman - Secretary (*newly elected*)
Anne Cowan - Member-at-Large (*2nd year of 2-year term*)
Kim Belanger - Member-at-Large (*newly elected*)
Elke Lorenz - Immediate Past Chair (*advances from Chair*)

Eric Banner, current Immediate Past Chair and chair of the Nominating Committee, presented candidates nominated for Executive Board service in the 2009/2010 Fellowship year. New officers Larry Weaver (Chair-elect), Dick Beeman (Secretary), and Kim Belanger (Member-at-Large) were approved unanimously by a voice vote.

THOUGHTS FROM THEA



A respected friend from Tahlequah invited me to take the next step in my spiritual journey, which is as a global citizen concerned with peace: I will be part of an 8-person delegation to Palestine and Israel sponsored by Inter-faith Peace-Builders and National Peace Foundation from May 23 to June 5. We will meet with a range of peace activists, bringing an international view of interdependence.

The United Nations concluded in 2006 that this conflict, especially its symbolic power, is the central driving force in global tensions. My trip gives a way for people to show concern through direct financial and spiritual support. Individuals have contributed nearly half of the \$3600 cost. My mother, after telling me for the first time that her 1992 church-related visit had been scheduled to tour the Knesset building the morning it was bombed, asked whether I would be participating in peacemaking activities while I was there. When I said yes, she said "Go with my blessing."

Manhattan nonviolence scholar and activist Susan Allen lent me her book by Unitarian Harry Emerson Fosdick, *Pilgrimage to Palestine*, published in 1927. Harry's prophecy: "If the partisans of political Zionism, as now seems probable, are allowed (their way) ... Zionism will end in trage-

2009/2010 OPERATING BUDGET

UUFM Treasurer and Finance Committee chair Mark Mayfield presented the proposed UUFM Operating Budget for fiscal year 2009/2010, totaling \$123,608. Planned income sources include \$97,508 in pledges (an increase of approximately 4.5% over FY 2008/2009), a \$4,000 Chalice Lighters Grant and \$9,000 in special gifts supporting the Fellowship's new Director of Religious Education position, and various other smaller sources such as building rental and fundraising activities like the Fellowship's annual garage sale. The budget was approved unanimously by a voice vote. Learn more about the 2009/2010 UUFM budget from Mark at 776-6495 or ferguson_mayfield@mac.com

UUA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

UUFM may cast three votes for UUA Presidential candidates at the UUA General Assembly in June, either through members attending the GA as congregational delegates, or by absentee ballot. Eric Banner, representing the candidacy of Rev Laurel Hallman, and Dick Beeman, representing the candidacy of Rev Peter Morales, spoke to the meeting, before members indicated their choice by paper ballot. The final tally was 27 votes for Peter Morales and 10 votes for Laurel Hallman; therefore, the Fellowship's three congregational votes will be divided proportionally with two votes for Peter Morales and one for Laurel Hallman. *The UUA General Assembly will be in Salt Lake City, June 24 thru 28, 2009. Learn more at www.uua.org/events/generalassembly*

dy." From what I'm learning this month, "apartheid" and "occupation" are tragic consequences of dogmatism.

Recently, outgoing congregation Chair Elke Lorenz said she would like to keep a global perspective as she does small things to make the world a better place. When I return, I'm relying on my colleague Michael Nelson, and this congregation that Steven and I recently joined, to support my witness--while reminding me of one person's limits. This community minister needs a congregational home; thanks for being here.

Rev Thea Nietfeld