



THE UUFM VOICE

APRIL 2011
VOLUME 49, ISSUE 11

APRIL 2011 PROGRAMS

APRIL 3 "A PARABLE OF RISK AND ABUNDANCE"

The Biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann says, "Parables are subversive re-imagining of reality ... These stories haunt us and push us in directions we never thought we would go." Rev Lisa Schwartz of the UU Fellowship of Topeka examines familiar images through a new lens. Lisa and Michael Nelson exchange pulpits this morning. Contact/convener is Jennifer Askey at 317-5920 or jda127@gmail.com

APRIL 10 "SERMON ON THE MEADOWMOUNT"

Violinifer (Fellowship member Jennifer Bryan) studied for 8 weeks of each of her teen summers at Meadowmount School of Music in the Adirondacks of Upstate New York. She credits practicing with every other violinist, violist, and cellist there five hours a day as one of the main reasons she still plays today. Looking back at that and other aspects of her violin study over the years, Jennifer will reminisce on the many aspects where life and violin intermingle, resulting in certain performance philosophies and approaches to everyday life. Contact/convener is Steve Mull at 564-2150 or stevemull1@aol.com

APRIL 17 "GRATITUDE"

Reverend Michael Nelson reflects, "We have so much to be thankful for, but often allow what's wrong, to block our sensing the daily gifts of friendship, the beauty of the natural world, the wonder of our bodies--even if they sometimes fail ... Thankfulness may be the most underutilized resource we have. When it flows we are more likely to laugh, to lend a hand, to warmly receive and share ... It thrives at the heart of a healthy community." Contact Michael at 537-2349 or minister@uufm.net

APRIL 24 "NEW LIFE"

Reverend Michael Nelson describes this sermon, "We all have phases when we know something has to change or we lose our gusto for life. The loss of vigor calls us to change; sometimes in small ways, sometimes dramatically. Spring reminds us everywhere we turn of renewal and growth. Let us celebrate the bursting forth of new life together." Learn more from Michael at 537-2349 or minister@uufm.net

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

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

REV MICHAEL NELSON, minister
(785) 537-2349, minister@uufm.net

LARRY WEAVER, Executive Board Chair
(785) 539-3176, lweaver@uufm.net

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

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SPRING WORK DAY !!!

Join us on Saturday, **APRIL 2**, at 9 am, to enjoy the season, and the satisfaction of a job well done. Lunch will be served! Ask Tom Manney at 537-0624 or tmanney@ksu.edu, Brice Hobrock, or Sylvia Beeman about planned projects, and to share suggestions. Talk to Shirley Hobrock, welcome@uufm.net or 776-3175, if you can help with lunch. Rain date is Saturday, April 9.



UUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

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

We didn't know where to stay and had little money. It was Paris in springtime. We had just gotten off the 8 am train



POPPY'S SPRING ADVICE: "MORE LOVE, MORE PLAY MORE, MORE BONES!"

that left Stuttgart, Germany at midnight. We were students from the nearby Lawrence University German campus. Dazed, we stumbled without direction seeking a cheap hotel. A woman stopped me, speaking French. I lifted my hands up in the universal gesture that says I can't understand you." "Ohhh, pardon, you speak English?" "Yes," I beamed. "May I be of help to you?" she asked. "We are looking for a place to stay. We are students." "Ohhh, I know a very good place for you and your friends." And she did. The hotel was perfect. When we lost our keys the old lady at the desk smiled, shook her head and handed us another set. Standing in line to see the "Last Tango in Paris," we realized we didn't have enough money for the tickets. A beautifully dressed and coiffed woman gave us the money we needed and guided us through the formalities of getting to your seat without being tossed out for offending the usher.

I had been warned about how nasty the French would treat Americans, especially in Paris, but we experienced the opposite. When we needed help they were kind, caring and generous.

I am deeply touched by the many moments of generosity that connect members and friends of this Fellowship together into a community of care. The multi-faceted way in which this works is complex, and impossible to know in each of its aspects. I know that people are caring for and supporting one another; sometimes I hear about this off-handedly. How much of it transpires I will never know. The private and public generosity of this community makes loving kindness a reality, not just an ideal to wish for. It is one of our brilliant strengths, shining gem-like in this time when so much of what we value--education, LGBT rights, health care--is under siege.

This marks one of those times in the life of the Fellowship when we need to be more intentional about our generosity. We need to provide the resources for what we value so that

our acts of kindness, of caring, and our willingness to give not only keep those values alive, but help them to flourish. Let us take the risk of surprising others by unexpected expressions of support.

Michael

MICHAEL NELSON'S SCHEDULE

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

Wednesday, April 6 - 4 to 6 pm
Wednesday, April 13 - 3 to 5 pm
Thursday, April 14 - 4 to 7 pm
Wednesday, April 20 - 12 to 2 pm
Thursday, April 21 - 5 to 7 pm
Tuesday, April 26 - 4 to 6 pm
Wednesday, April 27 - 2 to 4 pm

During office hours, Michael may be contacted at the Fellowship at 537-2349. To chat or arrange meetings, contact him at (785) 765-3650 or minister@uufm.net. April 8 thru 10, Michael will be attending the Prairie Star District Annual Conference in Des Moines, where he will present a workshop--"The Lost Voices of Our Heritage"--for the Heritage and Archives Committee.



REV MICHAEL NELSON LIGHTS CANDLES DURING THE SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE ON DECEMBER 19, 2010.

WEB SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Our Communications Committee seeks volunteers to help spruce up the Web page, add Web content such as videos, work with FaceBook, blogs, and offer ideas to make our presence more dynamic and increase our visibility in the community. The committee will meet on Thursday, **APRIL 7**, at 5 pm, at the Fellowship. Come share your inspiration! Learn more from Daniel Swenson at 537-4733 or web@uufm.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

RE TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, April 7, at 6:30 pm, at the Fellowship
Facilitator: Reverend Thea Nietfeld

This open discussion is an opportunity for the entire congregation to weigh in with their hopes and dreams for the RE program.

Questions to discuss include (but are not limited to) ...

- ~ *What do you value about the program?*
- ~ *What has been life giving for you and/or your family?*
- ~ *What are your hopes and dreams for the next stage of the program?*
- ~ *What planning is needed?*

If you can't make the session but have ideas, feel free to contact anyone on the RE Committee at any time.

Our youth are finishing out the school year with a World Religions curriculum, but summer is just around the corner and that means we're looking for "tour guides" for the much-beloved **UU WORLD TRAVELERS** curriculum.

This is a one time, one morning commitment. We have lots of information and guidance to offer. All tour guides will be joined by an adult assistant in the classroom. Have you been somewhere that you'd like share with our students? Have you wanted to find out more about a place? This is a great way to share your interest. Our program sets sail with the traditional Bon Voyage Party on June 5 so come join the fun. If you have ideas, or would like to learn more, please contact Sandy Nelson at 341-0135 or RE@uufm.net

Signed,

The RE Committee:

Kathleen Tanona
(537-6208, kmtanona@hotmail.com)

Sandy Nelson
(341-0135, RE@uufm.net)

Molly McGaughy
(776-4543, molly_mcgaughy@hotmail.com)

Kim Belanger
(587-8107, kgardenbelanger@yahoo.com)

MOVIE SERIES VOLUNTEERS

There has been considerable discussion about the possibility of beginning a children's/family movie night, featuring films that will stimulate thought and discussion on a variety of topics, selected with our younger members in mind.

We need adult volunteers to organize this new activity. We hope to find several individuals to share the responsibility. Learn more from RE co-chair Sandy Nelson at 341-0135 or RE@uufm.net



RE NEEDS YOU

It takes a village to raise a child, and our children need all of us to share our knowledge, experience, time and love. There are openings in all areas, including nursery, Pre-K, Kindergarten thru 2nd grade, and 3rd grade and up. Teach a single class, a series of classes, a semester or a year. Be an occasional helper in Sunday classes, facilitate fun and discussion at movie nights, help keep RE rooms clean and organized, train as an OWL instructor, or join our RE Committee. Committee members do not need to be teachers.

We need more members of all ages, to participate in our children's growth.



Learn more from RE co-chair
Sandy Nelson at 341-0135, or
RE@uufm.net

YOUTH CHOIR

All children who love to sing are invited to join our UUFM Children's Choir. Learn more from Sarah Nuss-Warren at 537-3738 or nusswarr@gmail.com

KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE!



Thank you everyone, for making sure all matches are secured following use, safely out of reach of small, curious fingers. Kids, please tell an adult about any matches you find. Let's all stay safe!

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The **MEN'S LUNCH** group meets EVERY WEDNESDAY, at 12 noon, in the Fellowship's large RE room. Bring a desire for lively conversation and a sack lunch for yourself. Learn more from Jack Warren at 539-4073 or jomega@ksu.edu

The **UUFM DRUM CIRCLE** gathers on Friday, APRIL 8, at 7 pm, around the Fellowship fire circle (inside in case of rain). UUFM members, friends, and the community, beginners and regulars, and those of all ages are welcome. All multi-cultural forms of drumming are welcome. We love learning new songs. Bring your favorite rhythm instrument, or borrow one of ours. Learn more from Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net

The **WOMEN'S LUNCH** group meets Wednesday, APRIL 13, at 11:30 am, at Carlos O'Kelly's, in Manhattan Town Center mall. Join us for lively discussion of current events in local, national, and international news. All are invited. Learn more from Harriette Janke at 539-0865, 410-9379 (cell), or ahjanke@sbcglobal.net

Join members and friends to discuss Bill McKibben's **EAARTH, MAKING A LIFE ON A TOUGH NEW PLANET** on Wednesday, APRIL 13, at 7 pm, at the Fellowship. The group will explore ways to reduce personal and community carbon footprints. Learn more from Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

On APRIL 21, at 5:30 pm, immediately preceding Third Thursday Supper, Mark Moser leads a **TAI CHI**, movement-based meditation session in the Main Sanctuary. Contact Mark at 537-5028 or mark@grapeviner.com

THIRD THURSDAY SUPPER gathers on APRIL 21, at 6 pm, in the Inez Alsop room. We welcome food you bring to share, but it is not required. Just bring your smile, family, and friends and join us for good food and great company! Learn more from Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

Following Third Thursday Supper on APRIL 21, Fellowship member Diane Barker hosts **GOING TO THE MOVIES IS MORE THAN PICKING YOUR SEAT**. Films are selected based on respect, humor, an uplifting level of truth, and artistry. Learn more from Diane at 539-9163 or dogsbodyd@yahoo.com

The UUFM **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** gathers on Wednesday, APRIL 27, at 7 pm, at the Hacker residence. We'll discuss *The Worst Hard Time*, by Timothy Egan. Contact Lorrie Cross at 539-7883 or lmcross@kansas.net, or Barbara Hacker at 587-8002 or barbarahacker@yahoo.com

UUFM GARAGE SALE



The Fellowship's biggest fundraiser, the annual UUFM Garage Sale, will be held on Friday, **APRIL 29**, from 4 to 7 pm, and Saturday,

APRIL 30, from 7 am to 12 noon.

Recycling is good for all of us, so start sorting out those closets, and exploring the attic for good, usable items to contribute. *We need volunteers* to pick up, sort, and price donations, and organize and staff the sale. Contact Sarah Nuss-Warren at 537-3586 or nusswarr@gmail.com

UUFM T-SHIRTS

Would you like to have a UUFM T? Stacey Broughman and Betty Banner are gathering information about producing Fellowship T-shirts. If you are interested, contact Betty at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com, or Stacey at sbroughman@yahoo.com or 410-9413.

UUFM SINGERS

The choir rehearses twice this month at 9:30 am, on Sunday, **APRIL 10** and **APRIL 24** in the Main Sanctuary. We will perform later that morning, during the service on April 24. Learn more about vocal music at the Fellowship from music director Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

MEADOWLARK HILLS SERVICE

This month's UUFM Meadowlark Hills Service meets Wednesday, **APRIL 20**, at 3 pm, in Wroten House Library. Rev Michael Nelson leads an exploration of *The Art of Living: How Important Are Art and Literature in Your Life?* Learn more from Kathleen Oldfather at kjoldfather@gmail.com or 537-3738.

EASTER POTLUCK BRUNCH



Don't miss our annual Easter Potluck brunch following the Sunday morning service on **APRIL 24**. Bring a dish to share and join us for good food, and great company. Parents, ask Sandy Nelson or Kathleen Tanona about the Easter egg hunt! Learn how you can help from Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or welcome@uufm.net

UUFM VOLUNTEER OPENINGS

SPRING WORK DAY will be held Saturday, APRIL 2. Enjoy the season, and the satisfaction of a job well done. Lunch will be served! Ask Tom Manney at 537-0624 or tmanney@ksu.edu, Brice Hobrock, or Sylvia Beeman about planned projects, and share your suggestions. Talk to Shirley Hobrock, welcome@uufm.net or 776-3175, if you can help with lunch. Rain date is April 9.

The **SOCIAL, WELCOMING AND MEMBERSHIP** Committee seeks a co-chair to support important welcoming activities. New or long-time members interested in this opportunity to foster an open and hospitable atmosphere at our Fellowship can learn more from Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or welcome@uufm.net

Currently, there are two unstaffed committees at UUFM--**GREEN SANCTUARY**, formed to identify ways to minimize our environmental impact, and complete the UUA goals to become a certified Green Sanctuary Congregation and **WELCOMING CONGREGATION**, coordinating activities to welcome and support LGBTQ members, friends, visitors, and families. If you have a commitment to either of these vital goals, consider volunteering to chair one of these committees. Support and guidance will be provided. Learn more from Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

Our **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** team needs your enthusiasm. Teachers, substitutes, and occasional volunteers are needed, as well as RE Committee members, and individuals to train to teach next year's scheduled OWL classes. Learn more from Sandy Nelson at 341-0135 or RE@uufm.net

This month, Fellowship volunteers will prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** on Friday, APRIL 8 and 22, from 7:30 to 9 am, at St Paul's Episcopal Church. *Volunteers are needed to occasionally fill in.* The meal is free and open to all, providing a good meal for many community members who might otherwise go without. Donations are welcome. Ana Franklin at 341-9908 or yogaconnection@gmail.com

*Find more exciting, volunteer opportunities on the **HELP WANTED** bulletin board in the Fellowship's narthex.*

SOCIAL ACTION AT UUFM

HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

Each month our Social Action Committee selects a non-profit agency or organization to receive the morning offering on the second Sunday of the month. On Sunday, APRIL 10, Helping Hands contributions will be collected for the **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**. Helping Hands funds will provide scholarships for low-income youth participating in summer programs. More information is available at www.bgclubmanhattan.com. Learn more from our Helping Hands coordinator Betty Banner at bettybanner@gmail.com or 776-1887.

In March, the Fellowship Helping Hands funds were collected for Manhattan Day Care. Thank you for your generous contributions which will assist this organization in providing quality day care and early learning experiences to low-income families.

FAIR TRADE 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 purchase Fair Trade products, ask Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net or talk to Anne on Sunday mornings.



COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFLs) are also offered on Sunday mornings, supporting the Fellowship's efforts to encourage environmentally conscious living. Purchase bulbs for yourself, or for families seeking help from Shepherd's Crossing.

FAIR TRADE SALES TO BECOME A FUNDRAISER -- *The sale of Fair Trade coffee and chocolate turns over quite a bit of money with almost all of it going to the product cost and sales tax. The Fair Trade sub-committee has determined that the sales could be a real fundraiser for the UUFM; therefore, we have raised the price of each item by twenty-five cents with the added income benefiting the UUFM General Operations fund, enhancing fundraising without the need for additional volunteer hours.*



JUNE KEMPTHORNE AND SHIRLEY HOBROCK PREPARING LUNCH DURING THE 2010 SPRING WORK DAY.

If you can bring a dish, or otherwise assist with lunch during the 2011 Work Day (on April 2), contact Shirley at 776-3175 or welcome@uufm.net

The inherent worth and dignity of all people is under siege today in our city and state, and so it is more important than ever that



we Unitarian Universalists provide a positive vision. We do this through our "organized religion," the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan. Carrying our program forward

requires work and money. At our Annual Meeting in April [Sunday, April 17] we will vote on a budget for next year, and that is important, but it is not the only thing. We will, each of us, ask ourselves, "How can I help?" and "How can I serve?" as well as, "What can I give?"

The most obvious change from last year is that we are going to reorganize our program of children's religious education. The RE Committee will handle the behind-the-scenes work that Maria Snyder has carried out, while a temporary Director of Religious Education (DRE) focuses on interaction with the congregation. In thinking over the above questions about helping, please consider RE!

The overall budget is lower than last year, but the Finance Committee estimates that we will need about 10 to 15% more in pledge income than we received this fiscal year. In thinking about your pledge note that we send about \$90/year to the national organization for each member, so giving even that much is helpful. But most of us can do more than that, some of us quite a lot more.

You can do a lot through UUFM: we feed a lot of hungry people through the Happy Kitchen; we enrich the lives of many residents at Meadowlark; our minister and the Social Action Committee testify and demonstrate at City Commission meetings; the list goes on and on. Doing these things enriches our own lives as well as the lives of those we serve.

Finally, remember to walk up the hill, sit down in the Memorial Garden, look out over the Kansas River

valley, and renew your spirit. Then, whether it is in RE or Social Action or greeting people or singing in the choir or organizing a garage sale or setting up a book discussion, live out your religion. We are facing "insurmountable opportunities" (Pogo). Let's seize them!

Larry Weaver

UUFM Executive Board Chair

Contact Larry at 539-3176 or lweaver@uufm.net

SCENES FROM THE 2010 UUFM SPRING WORK DAY



CLEARING CEDARS FROM THE HILLSIDE.

PITCHING IN ... WITH GRINS AND GIGGLES.



LUNCH IS SERVED!



Join us for the 2011 Spring Work Day on Saturday, April 2. Rain date is April 9.

Our Annual Meeting will be held following the Sunday service on **APRIL 17**. Members are urged to take this opportunity to participate in the future of our Fellowship, as we discuss our plans and dreams for fiscal year 2011/2012, which runs from June 1, 2011 thru May 31, 2012. Please carefully review the information provided below and on the following pages, to familiarize yourself with the issues and items to be discussed and voted upon.

COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 2011/2012 BUDGET

Our pledge goal for 2010/11 was approximately \$104,000. We were unable to reach this goal with pledges short by about \$18,000. This resulted in a request to committees to reduce this year's spending as much as possible and in the additional fund drive in February 2011. Due to the frugal spending of committees and the generous additional contributions by many members and friends, we will balance the budget by the end of this fiscal year. Thank you!

After soliciting input from committees and considerable discussions within the Executive Board, the FY 2012 Draft Budget has been built by the Finance Committee and approved by the Executive Board. It will be presented to the UUFM membership for vote during the Annual Meeting on April 17. It is published here for your consideration prior to the Annual Meeting.

The 2011/2012 proposed budget is roughly \$112,000 and about \$11,600 lower than the 2010/2011 budget. The proposed budget is lower mainly because of expected lower compensation for a ¼ time DRE that we hope to be able to contract. In addition, almost all committees heeded the Finance Committee's request to reduce their 2011/ 2012 budgets by approximately 6%. The compensation line will be only \$1,000 higher than this year, mainly due to increases in health care cost.

We need pledges of about \$98,000. Our pledge drive is approximately \$6,000 less than last year. However, we need to raise approximately \$12,500.00 more in actual pledges to keep our programs about the same. Also, we would like to avoid having to have a second fund drive in the middle of the year. Pledge drive shortfalls cause a lot of uncertainty and additional fund drives cause a lot of extra work for our already hard-working volunteers!

This simply means that all our members need to pledge and fulfill their pledges in the coming year. In order to make this possible, the Finance Committee, with considerable input from Michael Oldfather, came up with an UUFM fair-share giving guide that is reasonable and achievable by all income levels. We would like to ask that all current members and close friends pledge at least at the suggested levels. We also would like to point out that a considerable number of members continuously pledge above the fair-share giving guide. We would like to ask these members and friends to continue to pledge very generously.

The Finance Committee would like all of you to know that your pledge does count, is needed, and is appreciated. If all of us come together in this, UUFM will have another great year ahead with wonderful programs for our adults and children, with a progressive voice in the community, with a home for diverse religious beliefs, and with more members than ever before.

Thank you for your support and hope to see you at the Annual Meeting,

Elke Lorenz, Acting Finance chair and Treasurer

PROPOSED FY 2011/2012 UUFM BUDGET

INCOME

| | |
|---|--------|
| Contributions - Cash | 2,000 |
| Contributions - Non-pledge | 8,000 |
| Contributions - Pledges | 98,134 |
| DRE Special Gifts (Religious Ed Fund) | -0- |
| Fundraising | 3,000 |
| Interest | 10 |
| Other Income (mostly rental) | 800 |

TOTAL INCOME **\$111,944**

EXPENSES

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Administration | 2,250 |
| Building Contingency Fund | 1,000 |
| Caring | 100 |
| Committee on Ministry | 100 |
| Communications/Publicity | 4,005 |
| Dues | 8,181 |
| Facilities | 4,500 |
| Green Sanctuary | -0- |
| Insurance | 2,400 |
| Leadership Development | 300 |
| Legal Fees | 40 |
| Membership | 250 |
| Minister's Discretionary Fund | 250 |
| Miscellaneous | 150 |
| Music | 410 |
| Payroll Compensation | 64,754 |
| Contractor, DRE | 11,500 |
| Program | 1,739 |
| Religious Education | 1,090 |
| Sitter | 1,400 |
| Social | 625 |
| Social Action | 750 |
| Utilities | 5,900 |
| Welcoming Congregation | 250 |

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$111,944**

BOARD OFFICER NOMINEES

At the Annual Meeting, members will cast their votes for nominees for Executive Board positions. Candidates standing for election appear in **BOLD ITALICS**, below. Officers continuing their terms from the previous year (2010/2011) appear in plain text:

- Chair - Anne Cowan
- Chair-Elect - **SCOTT TANONA**
- Treasurer - Elke Lorenz
- Secretary - **STEVEN MULL**
- Member-at-Large - **KATHLEEN TANONA**
- Member-at-Large - Jason Maseberg-Tomlinson



**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN
PLEDGE FORM**

Fiscal Year 2011/2012 (June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012)

After analyzing data from the long-range planning survey, and after extensive discussions within the RE Committee, within the Finance Committee, and within the Executive Board, the Executive Board will bring (brought) before the Annual Meeting on April 17, 2011, a budget of roughly \$112,000.00. To meet our goals of programming, RE, and service, we will need to raise \$98,000 of this amount in pledge income. This is a challenge that will require great dedication from all our members (and many friends).

The Finance Committee has developed a fair share giving guide that should fit the budget of most (if not all) of our members and dedicated friends. Traditionally, a number of members have given more than stated in these guidelines, and we trust that they will continue to do so.

UUFM FAIR-SHARE GIVING GUIDE

| Income from all Sources | Percentage of Income | Monthly Payment | Yearly Payment |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| \$ 12,000 | 1.0% | \$ 10 | \$ 120 |
| \$ 36,000 | 1.5% | \$ 45 | \$ 540 |
| \$ 60,000 | 2.0% | \$100 | \$1,200 |
| \$ 84,000 | 3.0% | \$210 | \$2,520 |
| \$108,000 | 4.0% | \$360 | \$4,320 |
| \$132,000 | 5.0% | \$550 | \$6,600 |
| Above | 5.0% | | |

Please consider carefully your contribution to the progressive efforts/work of the UUFM, fill out the form and return it to the collection basket, to the Treasurer's box in the hallway, or mail it to UUFM Treasurer, PO Box 910, Manhattan, KS 66505-0910.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

FY 2012 TOTAL Financial Commitment \$ _____

Payments will be made _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Quarterly _____ Other _____

_____ check _____ electronic debit (fill out authorization) _____ from a Stock asset account

Signed _____ Date _____

2011 UUFM GROWTH SURVEY--PRELIMINARY REPORT

Long Range Planning Committee:

Blake Belanger, Abigail Conrad, Brice Hobrock, Elke Lorenz, and Michael Oldfather, Chair

OVERVIEW

The survey was completed by 52 members and 2 non-members. Some key participant characteristics, as well as informative results of the survey appear below.

- the median number of years of respondents' affiliation with UUFM is 11
- on a scale of 1 - 5, they report that their level of activity last year was 3.52
- almost no one selected just one category to describe his/her religious orientation; the big winners were
 - Humanism 74%
 - Ethical religion 56%
 - Atheism 46%
 - Ethical Christianity 39%
- 30% of respondents have children 18 or younger living in their homes
- 100% of respondents regard children's RE as important or very important to UUFM growth
- in addition to children's RE, respondents indicate that the following are very important to them:
 - Sunday morning services
 - forming personal friendships
 - finding a sense of community
- the results suggest that there is little ambivalence about shortening the Sunday morning service from 75 to 60 minutes:
 - 42% checked little or no support – 28% expressed strong support
- respondents believe the minister's most important contributions to attracting and retaining members are his/her
 - sermons/Sunday services
 - pastoral care/counseling
 - community visibility
- respondents gave our minister very high marks on the first two and a low score on community visibility
- commitment to social action is very strong, but thoughtful deliberation could help us settle on the most effective mix of activities to attract and retain members
- the preponderance of comments suggests that taking advantage of the natural beauty of our site is preferred to constructing a conventional children's playground

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Long Range Planning Committee members believe that recent experience clearly demonstrates that the programs we aspire to offer to ourselves and the larger community require somewhat greater expenditures than 100 current members can reasonably be expected to support.

Therefore, we recommend that the Fellowship adopt the policy of a disciplined focus of all the Fellowship's resources on the goal of a net increase of at least 10 members per year for the period 2011 - 2015. We believe some of the most promising features of a program to accomplish that goal include

- concentrating member and staff time and talent on activities with the greatest probability of achieving the goal of a significant increase in membership
- melding respondents' thoughtful comments with research and professional insights to adopt a program of radical hospitality, extending it to visitors, other potential members, and current members
- giving very high priority to developing and sustaining the most effective children's RE program possible consistent with our financial capacity and volunteer resources
- initiating a comprehensive site planning process, which will, inter alia, result in expanding significantly the number of parking spaces on the upper lot and elsewhere on our property



COFFEE AND GREETING TEAMS

- April 3: Barbara Hacker, Terri Franz, Gwen Gieselman, and Sam Lacy
- April 10: Abigail Conrad, Deirdre Greeley, Gail Ragan, Diane Barker, and Judy Exdell
- April 17: Harriette Janke, Anne Marchin, Tom Phillips, Stacey Broughman
- April 24: **EASTER POTLUCK BRUNCH**
Social Committee / potluck

Coffee and greeting teams consist of one leader/coordinator, and three or four helpers to provide Sunday morning greeting and refreshments. Teams sign up for only three Sundays each year. *This is a great way to give to the Fellowship with a minimum investment of time.* Learn more from Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or welcome@uufm.net

THANKS to everyone who has already volunteered for one of our teams! Coffee and greeting teams are vital to the welcoming atmosphere of Fellowship life, helping visitors get acquainted, and providing a comfortable setting for after service conversation.

Administrator's Schedule

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

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Monday, April | 4 - 3 to 5 pm |
| Tuesday, April | 5 - 12 to 5 pm |
| Thursday, April | 7 - 2 to 5 pm |
| Monday, April | 11 - 3 to 5 pm |
| Tuesday, April | 12 - 12 to 5 pm |
| Thursday, April | 14 - 4 to 7 pm |
| Monday, April | 18 - 3 to 5 pm |
| Tuesday, April | 19 - 12 to 5 pm |
| Thursday, April | 21 - 4 to 9 pm |
| Saturday, April | 23 - 11 am to 6 pm |
| Thursday, April | 28 - 12 to 5 pm |

Call Susan 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 Susan during her posted office hours (*seen at bottom left*) at 537-2349.

If you have been considering **BECOMING A MEMBER** of UUFM, please ask our Membership / Social Committee co-chair Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or welcome@uufm.net, or Rev Michael Nelson at 537-2349 or minister@uufm.net, for information and assistance.

Fellowship members may receive **UU WORLD MAGAZINE**, without cost. *UU World* is available on audiotape, for those with visual or reading difficulties. Subscribe by contacting Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net. Read *UU World* online at www.uuworld.org

Join in discussions of interest, receive information on community events, and last minute updates and announcements on our UUFM **EMAIL LIST**. Contact list moderator Ruth Welti at welti@ksu.edu to subscribe.

UUFM bookkeeper Sandy Nelson 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 Sandy at 341-0135 or sandralounelson@yahoo.com, or pick up literature and a form from the information table in our narthex.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact fellowship administrator Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net, **NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY EVENING** with announcements and information for inclusion in the Sunday morning Order of Service bulletin. 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, or let us know at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

BUILDING USE AND SCHEDULING

Please check with Susan Turner to be sure your desired date is available before finalizing plans for any use of the Fellowship building, including **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

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the April edition of *The UUFM Voice* is Friday, **APRIL 15**. *Committee chairs and activity coordinators, let Sue know about volunteer openings* in your group, for inclusion in announcements! Contact Susan Turner at 539-3272 or office@uufm.net