

July 2010 Programs

JULY 4 "REFLECTIONS ON THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE"

Rev David Jones, Director of the Ecumenical Campus Ministry, joins us for a lively Independence Day discussion of how to preserve the vital separation of church and state without trivializing religious faith and devotion. David will examine such controversial issues as state textbook selection, gays in the military, the delivery of social services, and whether the United States was founded as a Christian nation. Contact/convener is Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

JULY 11 "WE'RE ALL CONNECTED"

Stan Slaughter and Linda Chubbuck explore the science behind the concept of connection. From the mycorrhizal network, to the amazing micronutrients in food, to the leading edge of spirituality and science, they share glimpses of what goes on behind the scenes of our "ordinary" world. The Green Spirit Band (Stan and Linda and friend Judy Best) will provide songs in tune with the topic. Contact/convener is Harriette Janke at 539-0865 or ahjanke@sbcglobal.com

JULY 18 "IS NOTHING SACRED? LIBERAL RELIGION AND THE YOGA TRADITION"

Rev David Carter, Minister of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Wichita, explores the possibility of the sacred within the context of contemporary liberal religious tradition. Contact/ convener is Ana Franklin at 341-9908 or yogaconnection@gmail.com

JULY 25 "PERSONAL SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS"

Three Fellowship members will share their individual explorations and adventures, as they journey through life in a quest for spiritual/religious practice that speaks most clearly and strongly to them. Contact/convener is Dick Beeman at 539-9369 or rbeeman@cox.net



UUFM is a WELCOMING CONGREGATION

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

UU FELLOWSHIP OF MANHATTAN

PO Box 910 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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NINTH ANNUAL UUFM MUSICALE

The date has been set for the Ninth Annual Musicale--Sunday, August 29. Singers, dancers, instrumentalists, and entertainers whose artistry defies cat-

egorization are encouraged to volunteer

before available
slots fill up.
Learn more
from Music Committee Chair
Michael Oldfather

at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

Every year the General Assembly for the Unitarian Universalist Association of congregations travels from one



district to another. The Prairie Star District, of which our Fellowship is a member congregation, is hosting it this year in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The introvert side of me, half of me according to some standardized psychological test I took when I entered the ministry more than 25 years ago,

wants to stay home. This side barely survives the tsunami impact of the building waves of new people, old friends, workshops, receptions, worship services ... As much as I try to schedule myself wisely the extrovert side of me gets caught up in riding the high waves of energy that pulse through our national conference.

While deliberating on whether to attend or not, I asked Thea Nietfeld, whose advice I often seek and heed, what she thought I should do. After returning from researching the UU archives at Harvard, she listened to me share how much I learned about the history of Unitarian and Universalist attempts to form congregations in 19th century Kansas and how much there was left to find, she said, "You're sabbatical worked." She observed that I was not only rejuvenated but fired up. She was right. My enthusiasm to know more about how to empower our congregation, [and other] emerging and small UU congregations has never been stronger.

She said, "Go to GA." " Why?" I asked. She said, "You have a mission. Seek people who share your vision of helping emerging and small congregations to bring progressive religion into areas where they are needed." Aha! My fear of being worn down to a grain of sand receded as I sensed a way to navigate my way through the tremendous power of our yearly national gathering.

I plan to meet with a number of ministers and staff of PSD, other districts and the UUA to see what we can do to facilitate the creation and gathering of more resources for emerging and small congregations. Since well more than half of our congregations have under 150 members, this effort could provide a considerable boost to progressive missionary efforts across the country.

Having counted over 50 Universalist and at a least a dozen Unitarian attempts to bring progressive religion and culture

to 19th century Kansas communities, it is obvious that many efforts did not succeed. Imagine how different Kansas would be today if there were 62 thriving UU congregations scattered across the prairie? What has happened to all this potential? How many lives would this evolving religion focused on working to bring the right for women to vote, public education to all kids regardless of economic status, care to the mentally ill, the right and need to question dogma ... have helped and more often than we know, saved? That potential, like our history, waits to be revealed.

May we release the power to do this for ourselves and others!

Michael

REVEREND MICHAEL NELSON'S SCHEDULE

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

Thursday, July 1 - 2 to 4 pm

Monday, July 5 - 5 to 7 pm

Wednesday, July 7 - 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Thursday, July 15 - 2 to 4 pm

Friday, July 16 - 2 to 4 pm

During office hours, Michael may be contacted at the Fellowship at 537-2349. At other times, you may reach him at (785) 765-3650 or minister@uufm.net to arrange meetings, talk, or make appointments for other get-togethers.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The UUFM Executive Board meets on Thursday, **JULY 8**, at 7 pm, in the Inez Alsop all-purpose room (old sanctuary). Interested members and friends are invited to attend and observe the proceedings. Learn more from Board Chair Larry Weaver at 539-3176 or lweaver@uufm.net

REFLECTIONS - MARIA SNYDER, DRE, JUNE 26, 2010

Our first month of summer RE sessions is behind us, and it



has been exciting. In June we had a Bon Voyage party, learned about fire safety, had a trip to Pillsbury crossing, and learned dance from Ghana.

June 30 is our Annual RE Social, where we will celebrate another year and think about what is

coming up in the next year. We are in need of some great volunteers to work with the kids as some of our teachers are moving on. We will talk about next year's curricula topic which is World Religions. It promises to be a fun year of broadening our horizons.

Our July schedule is going to be exciting too. We will be learning about China and fireworks on the 4th of July. We will also visit Australia with Janelle Bailey. We will tour Native America with Pat Embers and Harriette Janke. We will end our month with a European dance party with Mark Moser.

In July we will have just one movie night with the teens, where we will watch a movie about the Japanese internment camps during WW II. This will be our third movie in our series on racism and racial justice.

Check out the website for current schedules, and contact me if you have any comments, questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you all this summer.

Maria

ANNUAL RE SOCIAL

Please join us on Wednesday, **June 30**, at 6 pm, for our annual RE Social gathering. We'll meet at the Tanona home, 1719 Humboldt, in Manhattan, to celebrate a fun and successful past year of Religious Education activities for kids of all ages, and think about the year to come. We'll discuss the new curriculum, which begins in September, and focuses on World Religions. Members and friends interested in volunteering as a weekly RE teacher, or willing to fill in occasionally for our regular teachers, are encouraged to join us to find out how we can support youth RE at UUFM. Learn more from Director of Religious Education Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

TEENS - POPCORN THEOLOGY

Teens, tweens, and parents are invited to join us for Popcorn Theology on scheduled Tuesday evenings. Movies are contemporary selections, evoking introspective thought, and stimulating discussion. Recently viewed films have included *Willow, The Fellowship of the Ring,* and *Defending Your Life.* This month, our theme will be Racial Justice.

We meet at 6 pm, in the Inez Alsop room (old sanctuary). On Tuesday, **JULY 20**, we continue our exploration of racism and racial justice issues, as we view a film about Japanese internment during WW II. Invite your friends! Learn more from Maria Snyder at 537-2349 or dre@uufm.net

MARIA SNYDER'S SCHEDULE

This month, Maria will be available in the Fellowship office on:

Friday, July 2 - 2 to 5 pm
Tuesday, July 6 - 2 to 5 pm
Friday, July 9 - 2 to 5 pm
Tuesday, July 13 - 2 to 5 pm
Friday, July 16 - 2 to 5 pm
Tuesday, July 20 - 3 to 6 pm
Friday, July 23 - 2 to 5 pm
Tuesday, July 27 - 2 to 5 pm
Friday, July 30 - 2 to 5 pm

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

YOUTH CHOIR

The UUFM Youth Choir will not practice in July. All kids who enjoy singing are invited to join us when rehearsals resume. Learn more from UUFM Singers director Michael Oldfather at 537-3738 or mou812@ksu.edu

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, or Charley Kempthorne at 564-1118 or charleykempthorne@dishmail.net

The **UUFM OPEN CIRCLE** meets on Saturday, JULY 10, at 7 pm, in the Fellowship's old sanctuary (Inez Alsop all-purpose room). We'll be creating our own "traveling altars," portable shrines to help us focus on the sacred wherever we go. Supplies will be provided. Learn more from Sarah Lawver at (218) 387-4273 or adelamae@gmail.com

The **Women's Lunch** group meets Wednesday, July 14, at 11:30 am, at the Colbert Hills Golf Course Clubhouse. We'll gather to discuss current events in local, national, and international news. All interested members, friends, and guests are invited. Learn more from Harriette Janke at 539-0865, 410-9379 (cell), or ahjanke@sbcglobal.net

The **UUFM Drum Circle** gathers on Friday, July 16, at 7 pm, around the Fellowship's fire circle, or inside in case of inclement weather. UUFM members, guests, beginners and regulars, and those of all ages are welcome. Bring your favorite rhythm instrument, or borrow one of ours. Learn more from Pat Embers at 539-2819 or embers1@cox.net

The UUFM **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** gathers at 7 pm, on Wednesday, JULY 28. The location and title will be announced on the Fellowship list serv, and in Sunday morning bulletins. Learn more from Anne Marchin at 539-3026 or annemarchin22@hotmail.com

THIRD THURSDAY SUPPER will not meet in July, giving our staff members a well-deserved break. We hope you'll all be able to join us next month, on AUGUST 19, with your smile, family, and friends for a delicious supper and great conversation! Learn more from Susan Turner at 537-2349 or office@uufm.net

PRACTICING SHALOM: HOMECOMING OF THE FEMININE

Fellowship members and friends are invited to join other participants from the community in a workshop/retreat led by Sr Margaret Gonsalves on Sunday, **July 25**, from 3 to 8 pm, at the Fellowship building. The retreat begins at 3 pm with Walking Meditation. There will be storytelling, guided movement meditation, chanting, theological reflection, and blessing and healing prayers. Participants will be invited to reflect upon Jesus as Shalom, who welcomed the feminine, in this opportunity to find ways of working towards achieving the United Nations' Development Goals #3, empowerment of women; and #8, to promote a global partnership for systemic change.

Bring a dish to share during the potluck meal at 6 pm. Learn more from Matthew Cobb at 410-0436 or cobb66502@gmail.com

Rev Thea Nietfeld facilitates a weekend focused on Everyday Peacemaking during this year's UU Southern Cluster Campout at White Memorial Campground, at Council Grove Lake, on Friday, OCTOBER 1, thru Sunday, OCTOBER 3, 2010. Thea comments, " ... we will open ourselves to stories and songs, poems and prayers, games and dances about peacemaking. If each family or individual brings one such gift, we will return home rich with resources." Michael Nelson offers a caution to those who will be tent camping: the grass is tall, and will not be cut this year. Learn more from Thea at 323-7177 or thean@uufm.net

CIRCLE DINNER

Mark your calendar for the next UUFM Circle Dinner! Look for sign up sheets in the narthex (entry hall) at the Fellowship, and choose Friday, JULY 23, or Saturday, JULY 24. At a circle dinner participants choose to host a dinner, or attend as a guest. Hosts will make arrangements with guests to determine what dish each

person brings. Anne Marchin and Enell Foerster organize Circle Dinners and will contact those who sign up. Ask Enell at 537-0977 or foerbande@gmail.com or Anne at 539-3026 or

annemarchin22@hotmail.com

MEADOWLARK HILLS SERVICE

This month's UUFM Service at Meadowlark meets on Wednesday,
JULY 7, at 3 pm in the Wroten House Library. Rev Michael Nelson leads a program exploring the great value of FRIENDSHIP in our lives, and the ways in which we maintain those friendships. Learn more from Kathleen Oldfather at 537-3738 or kjoldfather@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER AND SOCIAL ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

The Manhattan Emergency Shelter needs our help! Many small items are needed, such as disposable razors, individual soaps and shampoos, deodorant, ibuprofen, pacifiers, kids' socks, and nail clippers. Nonperishable FOOD is also needed at this time. Contributions may be placed in the box decorated by RE students in the southwest corner of the narthex. Learn more from Pat Weisenburger at 539-4711.

Our Welcoming and Membership Committee is seeking a few volunteers to help Sunday **REFRESHMENT AND GREETING TEAMS**. This is an easy way to give to the Fellowship with a minimal investment of time--only three Sundays each year. Learn more from Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com

Sunflower **CASA PROJECT** is offering independent study training this summer. There is a neglected child in the court system, waiting for your concern as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA). Be a voice for a foster child's needs and best interests. Contact Bridget to learn more at 537-6367 or bridget@sunflowercasa.org

This month, Fellowship volunteers will prepare and serve **HAPPY KITCHEN COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS** on Friday, JULY 2, 16, and 30, from 7:30 to 9 am, at St Paul's Episcopal Church. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to occasionally fill in for regular helpers. The meal is free and all are invited to join us for good food and fellowship. Donations are welcome. Learn more from Ana Franklin at 341-9908 or yogaconnection@gmail.com

JUNE HELPING HANDS

The June 13 Helping Hands collection Shepherd's Crossing raised \$330. *Thanks for your generous support!*

HELPING HANDS SUNDAY

Each month our Social Action Committee selects an agency or organization to receive the morning offering on the second Sunday. On Sunday, **July 11**, our morning collection will benefit the **FLINT HILLS COMMUNITY CLINIC**, providing free healthcare services to low income residents of Manhattan and Riley County, without access to insurance or government health care programs.

All cash contributions and checks placed in the offering basket on the second Sunday of the month go to the Helping Hands Sunday beneficiary unless otherwise indicated, and should be made out to UUFM. Write "for UUFM" in the memo line if you wish your contribution to benefit the Fellowship.

The Social Action Committee has selected the following organizations to receive Helping Hands collections in the coming year: Area Transportation Agency (aTa Bus), Big Brothers/Big Sister, The Crisis Center, Fairy Godmothers' Fund, Peggy Bowman Second Chance Fund, Manhattan Day Care, Boys & Girls Club,, and the UFM Teen Scholarship Program. Learn more from our Helping Hands coordinator Betty Banner at 776-1887 or bettybanner@gmail.com.

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 purchase Fair Trade products, ask Anne Cowan at 537-2025 or anne_cowan@sbcglobal.net or talk to Anne 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, and may be purchased for your own use, or donated to families seeking help from Shepherd's Crossing.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Social Action Committee will meet in the Inez Alsop room on Wednesday, **July 14**, at 5:30 pm. Learn more from Social Action chair Yvonne Lacy at 539-4404 or socialjustice@uufm.net



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.

COFFEE AND GREETING TEAMS



- July 4: Shirley and Brice Hobrock, Melissa and David McKee, Monta Manney
- July 11: Elke Lorenz, Sandy Nelson, Sue Pray, and Marguerite Shelton
- July 18: Michael and Kathleen Oldfather, and Bill and Bobette McGaughey
- July 25: Cathy Hedge, and Dan and Kathy Swenson

Shirley Hobrock, Coffee and Greeting coordinator, reports, "We have 15 Coffee and Greeting Teams this year with 3 or 4 members on each team. Each Team will have at least 4 by the time they're scheduled. I have made up a schedule for the year confirming with Team Leaders through September. The schedule is posted on the Hall bulletin board and also on the refrigerator for the first 6 months. Please check when you are scheduled. If [there's] a problem please trade with someone and let me know so I can get it in the newsletter and bulletin." Learn more from Shirley at 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com

THANKS to everyone who has volunteered!

Coffee and greeting teams are vital to the welcoming atmosphere of our Fellowship, helping visitors get acquainted, and providing a comfortable setting for after service reflection and conversation.

Administrator's Schedule

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

Thursday, July 1 - 12 to 5 pm

Monday, July 5 - 3 to 5 pm

Tuesday, July 6 - 12 to 5 pm

Thursday, July 8 - 4 to 7 pm Thursday, July 22 - 12 to 5 pm

Saturday, July 24 - 11 am to 6 pm

Monday, July 26 - 3 to 5 pm

Tuesday, July 27 - 12 to 5 pm

Thursday, July 29 - 12 to 5 pm

Susan will be taking a week of vacation leave from July 9 thru July 15. 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-chairs Shirley Hobrock at 776-3175 or shirleyjhobrock@hotmail.com, or Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson at 477-2759 or welcome@uufm.net, for information and assistance.
- Fellowship members may receive the UUA magazine **UU WorLD**, 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 email discussions of interest to Fellowship members and friends on our **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 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 **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

AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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