

Sunday, October 10, 2004

**PROPHET OF RELIGIOUS HUMANISM:
FELIX ADLER AND THE SEARCH
FOR AN ETHICAL CULTURE**

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM

Mark Weber, Guest Speaker

The homily will reflect on Felix Adler's role in the rise of religious liberalism in North America. Mark Weber is Dean of Libraries and Media Services at Kent State University. He is a former adjunct leader with the American Ethical Union; a member of the Jewish Secular Community of Cleveland; and a certified ceremonial leader with the Leadership Conference for Secular Humanistic Judaism. He and his family also attend the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights. We welcome him to the OUUF pulpit. All are welcome.

**THE IMPACT OF QUALITY
EARLY EDUCATION ON
CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT**

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM

Nancy Sabath, Guest Speaker

Nancy Sabath, Executive Director of the Oberlin Early Childhood Center, will give an overview of the Center, including the work OECC does to support low-income families and help their children. We welcome her to the OUUF pulpit. All are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION

The Second Sunday Collection for October, loose cash and change in the basket, will go to Oberlin Early Childhood Center, which maintains a memorial fund in memory of Katie Styer. Cash and change donations intended for the Fellowship should be placed in an envelope so marked.

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMER

Dave Burwasser

Not everyone keeps to a strict vegetarian, but there's a baffling variety of quality in the meat products that are commercially available, and responsible consumerism begins with a responsibility to oneself and those whose meals are created in one's kitchen. Two brands available at Oberlin IGA are Ohio Signature Beef and Gerber's Poultry. Both emphasize "family farm" practices.

Ohio Signature corn-fed cattle are not implanted with hormones, nor fed any animal by-products. They are raised without use of antibiotics in the finishing phase of production (the last 140 days). Cattle receive individual attention and care, and beef is dry-aged for at least seven days. <www.ohiosignature.com>

Gerber's chickens are raised on all cereal grain feed. They are fed no sub-therapeutic antibiotics, no growth stimulants, no hormones, no animal by-products, no fishmeal or bakery by-products and no artificial ingredients. They are raised on Amish farms using Amish practices, including room to move. <www.gerbers.com>

Your columnist would not recommend anything he hadn't found to create the foundation of an excellent meal.

REFRESHMENTS

The Sunday Morning Refreshment Team needs help! If you would enjoy sometimes bringing refreshments on Sunday morning please see Margaret Medina or sign up on the Refreshment Sheet. Likewise if you can help Margaret set up or wash up, please sign the Team Poster. Margaret, because of her work schedule, can only do the actual setup every other week.

Sunday, October 17, 2004

THE GOSPEL OF MARY

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM
Virginia Erdy, Speaker

The Gospel of Mary is a Gnostic text written in the Second Century, perhaps by a woman; partially burned in the Fifth Century; and lost to us for 1,500 years. This text gives us a glimpse of early Christian thinking not included in what became orthodox. All are welcome.

CANONICAL AND Gnostic TEXTS

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
Professor Edward Karshner,
Guest Speaker

Professor Karshner, of Lorain County Community College Religion Department, will discuss aspects of the Canon -- the writings of antiquity which are considered properly part of the Bible -- and the Gnostic texts, which are of similar antiquity but not in the Canon. We welcome him to the OUUF pulpit. All are welcome.

VOICES OF THE CITY in CLEVELAND

You are invited to reserve Saturday, October 23 for Urban Hope UU Community's third Urban Immersion Day. This year much of it will be held at the West Side Catholic Center's larger space diagonally across the street from Urban Hope.

You may wish to hear the Rev. Wayne Arnason (co-minister at West Shore UU Church) speak about "UU Roots in Social Justice." Maybe an overview of "Homelessness in the City" is more to your liking, with special emphasis on problems of women and families, featuring invited speakers from three local shelters and groups.

Following lunch, keynote speaker Tony Vento of InterAct Cleveland (of which Urban Hope is a member) will speak on the "Spiritual Dimension of Social Justice." Then, a choice of breakout sessions, including local art projects.

We see the day as a blend of spiritual insight, viewing the realities of homelessness and poverty as well as positive influences on our urban environment. Contact: Molly Holland, 216+382-4367 or <mmh1941@aol.com>; or Doris Matthey, 216+228-5270 or <dondor@vzavenue.net>. For information about needed art supplies, call Alyce McAdam, 216+707-9832 or <alyceamcadam@msn.com>.

Sunday, October 24, 2004

THE SUFI PATH

Mary Inayat Rhodes
Service and Forum Leader

Mary Inayat Rhodes has been on the Sufi path, a mystical form of Islam, for over 35 years. She has been a teacher, minister, healing minister and lecturer for over 15 years. She will conduct the Fellowship Forum on the Sufi path at 9:30 am, and lead a Sufi service at 11 am. We welcome her to the OUUF pulpit. All are welcome.

OUUF meets in the Oberlin Early Childhood Center at 317 East College Street, marked by a large abstract statue of a parent and child. Service and Forum space is barrier-free. Parking in the front and to the east.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

The Social Justice Team meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 in the Conference Room of Kendal at Oberlin. All are welcome.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION -- CURRENT CURRICULA

Kindergarten and 1st grade

Curriculum: Dr. Suess stories and our UU Principles and Purposes

Teachers: Erin Corwin and Shelly Rasmussen

Stories by Dr. Suess are not only fun, rhyming and engaging, they also set the stage for thinking about how we live our lives. Through stories and play kids learn about our UU principles in language that makes sense and is memorable to them. Children in this class will join other kids in their social action choice of working to end hunger in their local and global community.

Grades 2-3

Curriculum: WE BELIEVE

Teachers: Cindy Frantz and Barbara Fuchsman

We are exploring the 7 UU principles at a kid's level, using lots of songs, games, and activities. Each lesson involves discussing one of the UU principles (for example, the inherent worth and dignity of all people -- My worth is IN-HERE!), then finding a way for students to act on it in their everyday lives. Once a month, we will focus on how the children's social justice activity -- ending world hunger -- relates to what we've been studying.

Grades 4-5

Curriculum: TIMELESS THEMES

Teachers: Nancy Boutilier and Eddie Fuchsman

In this class, we will be reading some of the stories of the Hebrew and the Christian Bibles from a UU perspective, i.e. with respect to the seven principles. We will be exploring the power of storytelling, the controversial nature of the Bible itself... (is it true?), and the themes contained within the stories, such as human responsibility, love of freedom, resistance to injustice, forgiveness, faith, and the transformative power of love! We will also include two 3-week sessions addressing the children's choice to focus on "ending world hunger" as a social justice project.

Grades 6-8

Curriculum: TIMELESS THEMES

Teacher: Ed Miller

Helps kids appreciate the many deep moral and religious issues in the Bible from a UU perspective. Some time will be combined with the grades 4-5 class. We will also include two 3-week sessions addressing the children's choice to focus on "ending world hunger" as a social justice project.

High School Youth

Advisor: Ed Vermue

This group is still under construction as Ed meets with the kids to create a program that is pertinent to their interests and needs. Please stay tuned!

**SYMPOSIUM AT CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
TO EXAMINE RELATIONS BETWEEN SCIENCE AND RELIGION**

World-Renowned Authors Will Speak on Relations between Evolution and Religion

CLEVELAND -- It's been a century and a half since Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species*, but the effects of that revolutionary scientific work continue to reverberate throughout theology, philosophy and politics. Many Americans today hear more about evolution from evangelists opposed to the idea than they do from science teachers, and states continue to argue over whether, and how, evolution should be taught in high schools.

This highly-charged nexus of religion and politics has created many false impressions about the history of evolutionary theory and its relation to society. To help create a more accurate picture Case Western Reserve University's History and Philosophy of Science program is sponsoring the symposium "Evolution and God: 150 Years of Love and War Between Science and Religion." It will take place October 15-17 in Strosacker Auditorium on the Case Quad, and is free and open to the public.

Its goal is to explore the both conflict and cohesion between evolutionary theory and religion, and to provide accurate information about the theological, historical & philosophical relations of evolutionary theory. This should help to counter the falsehoods spread by anti-evolution fundamentalists.

The public is invited to lunch with the authors on Sat Oct 16. Box lunch is \$14 and must be pre-paid by Oct 8.

Speakers will include James Moore, author of the best-selling biography *Darwin*, and *The Post-Darwinian Controversies*; Ken Miller, author of *Finding Darwin's God: A Scientist's Search for Common Ground between God and Evolution* and of several biology textbooks; Ron Numbers, author of *The Creationists* and *Darwinism Comes to America*; Keith Miller, editor of *Perspectives on an Evolving Creation*; Ed Larson, author of *Evolution: The Remarkable History of a Scientific Theory* and the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*; Barbara Forrest, professor of philosophy at Southeastern Louisiana University and in the department of history and author of *Creationism's Trojan Horse: The Wedge of Intelligent Design*; Martin Fichman, author of *An Elusive Victorian: The Evolution of Alfred Russel Wallace*; The Reverend George Murphy, author of *Toward a Christian View of a Scientific World* and *The Cosmos in the Light of the Cross*.

This does not exhaust the list of presenters, which include Patricia Princehouse, who spark-plugged the conference. Further information at the symposium's web site <<http://www.princehouse.homestead.com/EvolutionandGod2.html>> or 216+368-2614.

NOMAS CHAPTER FORMING

An Oberlin chapter of the National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS) is forming, spearheaded by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Oberlin College. While the organizers are hoping that a large number of students will be interested, they are also looking for men just and long since out of school, from diverse occupational and life paths. For information please contact the Office at 775-8103 or email <Bill.Miller@oberlin.edu>.

Sunday, October 31, 2004

BOARD NOTES

SAMHAIN

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM

Lisette and David Burwasser

We have no choice but to be haunted. The dead are always in our minds, in our hearts. Just because there is no set UU belief about the dead, does not relieve us of the need to deal with the dead. Samhain (SAH-wun), the pre-Christian Celtic holiday for the dead, remains with us in present-day Halloween. This service, conveying the spirit of Samhain, is cast primarily in UU liturgy. Like much of Earth-centered spirituality, it is more about what is done than what is believed. All are welcome.

NONTOXIC FUNERAL PRACTICES

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM

Carol Wilde, Forum Leader

Alternatives are available to the standard metal casket, including sturdy cardboard and simple wood. In some states, combined nature preserves and nontoxic cemeteries have been set up. All are welcome.

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Frye.

Agenda for Board Meeting for Oct. 7,
2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot

1. Minutes of the Sept. meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Minister's Report
4. Hear Committee on Ministry request for funds presented by Cindy Frantz
5. Hire Building Supervisor for Sunday morning opening and closing
6. Team or committee reports.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY WORKSHOP

The Behavioral Covenant Workshop previously scheduled for May will be held on Saturday, November 20, from 9:30 to 2 pm. All OUUF members and friends are invited to attend. More details will follow.

CARING COMMITTEE

Darlene Krato would like to remind the members of the Fellowship to please let her know if we should be contacting someone due to illness, a family death etc. She can be reached at 774-6316 or <darleneraeK@AOL.com>.