

**Sunday, December 12, 2004
HOLIDAY INTERGENERATIONAL
SERVICE AND PARTY**

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM

Kim Peters, RE Director

With Hanukkah, Solstice, Christmas and the entire Fellowship family, what's not to enjoy? Come ready to sing and celebrate! All are welcome.

WHY CAPITAL PUNISHMENT DOESN'T WORK

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
Andrew deCoriolis, Guest Speaker

Citizens Against Capital Punishment (CACP) is a local organization, including Oberlin College students, who are working against the death penalty. They have submitted a resolution to City Council calling for a moratorium on the death penalty in Oberlin. Andrew deCoriolis, president of CACP, is also co-chair of Liberal UU Voices (LUUV), the UU student organization on campus. He and other CACP members will tell us about their work and answer our questions, hoping to gain support for their efforts. All are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY

The Second Sunday Collection for December will go to the Boys and Girls Club of Oberlin. To direct a check to the Boys and Girls Club make it out to O.U.U.F. and write "Second Sunday" or "Boys and Girls Club" on the memo note line. Our Treasurer will send along a consolidated check. Checks to O.U.U.F. without a memo note will go to the Fellowship. Loose cash and change will also go to the Boys and Girls Club unless put in an envelope marked for the Fellowship.

Minister Continued

I, too, get lost in the hurry. I count my Holiday baking as one of my favorite preparations. Yet, sometimes it feels like a burden and a hassle with very little joy as a primary ingredient. My prayer for this year is that I will be able to balance the work needed as preparation with the reality that what is most dear to me about this time is sharing it. Sharing it, not doing it.

May this be the prayer we all pray for ourselves - May we enjoy this season because of all we will share and do share. May we remember that the hope in the season is of the returning of what is light and healing after winter's dark. May our lights shine on each other. May we keep our focus on sharing, not doing. And, may the joy of the season find its way into each of our hearts and make this Holy season more special and Holy. And, when we are most tired, may we accept rest for ourselves as part of our preparations. For all that is in this season, for all that touches so many and calls so many to celebrate this time uniquely and diversely, may we never lose sight of the what is shared. Our love and our hope in all life.

So be it.

Blessings,
Patricia

LEADERSHIP POTLUCK & PLANNING

Tuesday, December 7, will be a potluck supper and planning meeting for all committee heads and team representatives, at 7 pm at the Boys & Girls Club on North Pleasant Street. We will get to know Rev Patricia Shelden better and will be sharing information and planning spring events. For more info contact Jo Huber (440+774-2062).

Sunday, December 19, 2004

A TRADITIONAL SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM
Carol Wilde, Service Leader

Come join the merrymaking as we welcome the sun and the increasing daylight hours. Please bring drums and/or rattles if you have them for

"drumming up the sun".
All are welcome.

**THE BLIND IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT:
RESEARCH AND PROGRAMS THAT ARE
CHANGING THE FUTURE**

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
Barbara Pierce, Forum Leader

Until now, programs and rehabilitation for blind people have been designed and conducted by the sighted. The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) has now built and staffed a research and training institute, intended to reshape and research programs for blind children, job seekers and seniors.

Barbara Pierce, editor since 1993 of The Braille Monitor, an information magazine of the blind, has been president since 1983 of the National Federation of the Blind of the State of Ohio. An Oberlin resident since 1962, she met Robert Pierce, professor of English, while attending the College.

All are welcome.

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>.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Greetings families! In this post-election, post Thanksgiving daze; as we will ourselves to recreate meaning and value in our lives, I remind you to surround yourselves with the beauty and power of our Oberlin UU family and our extended UU families world wide.

The head of UUA, Rev. Bill Sinkford used the term our "Beloved Community" to include ALL of whom we live with and around, and our children are trying in ways never done in our Fellowship to truly make a difference in their neighborhood. Beyond providing 2 beautifully decorated boxes to collect nonperishable food, hats and mittens in our foyer, and dropping change in the "Guest at Our Table" boxes, our kids wished to sign up with the Oberlin Community Services "Adopt a Family" for Christmas program. The children learned about the program when Anne and Emily Jindra, staff at OCS, visited the kids in November. The RE teachers and the kindergarten to third grade classes have responded. They have adopted 2 families, each single mothers, one with a 6 year old daughter and one with 4 children ages 15, 14, 10 and 1 year old. We are asking Fellowship friends and members to contribute financially so we can organize gift shopping for these families. Checks to OUUF or cash in envelopes marked "adopt a family" can be given to any RE teacher, Lynn Haessly, Virginia Erdy (treasurer) or myself. We need your contributions by December 5th, so shopping, wrapping and delivery get done by the 14th. If you have any further questions, ask Rex or Ray's mom Lynn Haessly or myself. Lynn is happy to be reached at 774-2099 or <lynnhaessly@oberlin.net>.

Working together to improve our beloved community; nameste and happy holy days,

Kim Peters
Director of Religious Education
<kpeters@eriecoast.com>, 776-0132

HOW TO FIND THE OBERLIN U.U. FELLOWSHIP

OUUF meets in the Oberlin Early Childhood Center (OECC) 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.

Sunday, December 26, 2004

REGULAR MEETINGS

REMEMBRANCES

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM
Lisette & David Burwasser

Once again, each of us is invited to share memories of this season with a brief story of childhood or adult remembrance of these holidays. The guided meditation that introduces this service will reflect the spirit of the ancient Yule holiday. An inter-generational service; all are welcome.

THE AGE OF THE WARRIOR

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
Virginia Erdy, Forum Leader

This will be a discussion of some of notions of Joseph Campbell, noted scholarly of mythology, which may relate to contemporary society.
All are welcome.

THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM meets the first Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm at Oberlin Early Childhood Center. Next meeting is December 7.

THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at Fuchsmans' 192 Forest. Next meeting is December 8.

THE R.E. COMMITTEE meets the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm at Edie Fuchman's office at Oberlin Inn. Next meeting is December 16.

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Conference Room at Kendal. Next meeting is January 5, 2005.

THE O.U.U.F. BOARD meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Boys & Girls Club on North Pleasant St. All are welcome to observe and the right of members to participate in Board discussions is guaranteed in the Bylaws. Next meeting is January 6, 2005.

OUUF

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FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES

The kids of OUUF have adopted 2 families in need this Holiday Season through Oberlin Community Services' "Adopt a family" program. This program exists to help families in poverty provide gifts to their children and allow the parent a gift as well.

PLEASE help us support two local families by making a charitable cash donation by Sunday December 5. Cash in an envelope can be given during offertory or to OUUF Treasurer Virginia Erdy. Checks can be made payable to OUUF and "adopt a family" noted on the check. We will be helping a single mother with 4 children between the ages of 1 and 15 years, and a single mother with a 6 year old daughter.

Lynn Haessly will be coordinating the shopping once we have our kitty established on Dec. 5. Please let her know if you can shop. She will give you a copy of the families' "wish lists" with further instructions. For further info please see Lynn at <lynnhaessly@oberlin.net> or 775-2099. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

OOUF FINANCIAL REPORT

Nov 1 to Nov 28, 2004
INCOME: \$1,811.38
EXPENSES: 2,929.71

Fiscal year to Nov 28, 2004
INCOME: \$16,391.36
EXPENSES: 16,185.09
Virginia Erdy, Treasurer

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

All of us working together make OOUF happen. We have a variety of committees and teams looking for new members. Helping out is a good way to make friends, have fun and help OOUF be a vital and interesting place. Sign up on a Team Sheet in the OECC lobby, and give the sheet to Valerie Frantz, who will make sure the Team leadership knows you want to be part of the action.

AN INVITATION TO A CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

At 5 pm on Christmas Eve, the Olmsted UU Congregation will hold a candlelight Christmas Eve Service. All are welcome. This service will celebrate the hope that is found in the season and in the birth of every child. There will be singing, stories and, maybe even a skit. You are invited to attend this Holiday Tradition.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

We all know what the Wise Men brought to the stable during this festive month. We at the OOUF and Kendal have been even more blessed with the members that joined our world at this time: Harvey Culbert, Ernie Eddy, Barbara Fuchsman, Joel Harris, and Joan Webster.

If anyone is not on the Birthday List and would like to be added, please see Darlene at Coffee Time or before or after Services.

GREEN JOURNAL

FRIENDLY TREES

Every week the Plain Dealer publishes James Dulley's "Sensible Home" column in its Inside&Out section, and some are green gems. For example, last summer's column on shade and windbreak trees. The US Dept of Energy has found that three well-placed trees can cut \$250 from the utility bills of a typical home.

Summer cooling is not just a matter of shade. Sunlight evaporates water from leaves, letting roots draw up more groundwater by capillarity, and this evaporation cools the surrounding air in the same manner as perspiration or air conditioning. The process, called transpiration, can cool a yard by 10 degrees (F). However, too much planting will raise the humidity to a point that undermines the cooling effect.

Shade trees should be deciduous, because you want the sun to shine right through their leafless branches in the winter. To the north and northwest of the house you want evergreens to act as a winter windbreak.

Most important is to design plantings to one's climate. Dulley offers Update Bulletin #438 with more details for \$3 and a stamped, self-addressed, business envelope. He can be reached at James Dulley, The Plain Dealer, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati OH 45244.

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.

SHAMANIC JOURNEYING

The Shamanic Drumming Journeymen meet monthly to journey and share insights. Two meeting times are offered: The second Thursday of the month, December 9, at 12:30 pm; and the second Friday, December 10, at 7:30 pm. We meet at the home of Carol Wilde, 37 Groveland Street in Oberlin, 774-9089 or <cwildeflower@aol.com>. Shamanic journeying is a time-honored tool for accessing an altered state of consciousness, much like a dream state, for spiritual guidance and healing. The altered state is achieved by listening to a rapid drumbeat, approximately 4 beats per second, which induces theta waves in the brain. Please call Carol for information about this group or the open journeying circle at Common Ground.

COVENANT GROUP

The Covenant Discussion Group will gather on Sunday, December 5, at 7:30 pm at Barbara Fuchsman's home, 192 Forest Street in Oberlin. Those who come to this small discussion group build shared understanding, provide and receive support, and strengthen connection with each other. The group is open and new members are warmly welcomed. For more information call Barbara at 774-1804. NOTE: The group usually meets twice a month but is holding only one December meeting due to the many activities in people's lives this month.