

Sunday, May 8, 2005

FLOWER CELEBRATION

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM

Barbara Fuchsman, Service Leader

Through communion using flowers, the unique UU Flower Communion celebrates awe, purpose and beauty. Between the World Wars, Czech Unitarian leader Rev Norbert Capek invented the service to be satisfying to people of many different backgrounds and beliefs. Come share in one of UUism's most beautiful services, and one of the high points of the Oberlin Fellowship's year. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BRING A FLOWER! All are welcome. Barbara Fuchsman is Chair of the Program Committee, a Sunday School teacher, and a UU Commissioned Lay Leader in training.

RELIGION AND THE STUDY OF NATURE

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM

Sara Chatfield, Discussion Leader

Various writers have interpreted the relationship between nature and religion very differently in their attempts to answer questions such as: Is it possible for humans to discover religious truths or qualities of the divine from observation of nature? Is a belief in God compatible with a belief in scientific truth? How can religion and the study of nature work in tandem? References will include Stephen Jay Gould, Kenneth Miller, Paul Davies, Ian Barbour, and Annie Dillard, to explore a range of beliefs in terms of religious background and belief and scientific background. All are welcome. Sara is an Oberlin College junior with a major in politics and a minor in French. She has been a UU since second grade, when her parents decided to switch churches.

Religious Education (continued)

On May 22, we will be building a metaphorical altar of this past Religious Education year during the service. The children will bring and present memories, lessons loved and learned from this past year in the form of songs and stories. Please join with them and their RE teachers for this holy day of celebration.

I also extend an invitation on behalf of the RE committee to join with us in exploring new ways of honoring our children and youth through the RE program. Many possibilities are available for involvement. A full year commitment is not always required. Please see the ad in this CHALICE for various RE-related positions!

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

SECOND SUNDAY

The Second Sunday collection for April will go to the Lorain County Free Clinic. To direct a check to this agency make it out to O.U.U.F. and write "Second Sunday" or "Lorain County Free Clinic" 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 Lorain County Free Clinic unless put in an envelope marked for the Fellowship.

FAIR TRADE TEA

is available at \$5.50/box from Cindy Frantz <cindy.frantz@oberlin.edu> or 774-2374.

Sunday, May 15, 2005

WHY SOCIAL ACTION?

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM

Eleanor Helper, Service Leader

Eleanor will address the title question by looking at the brief but important work of a prominent woman who was not known to be a member of a UU congregation until long after her death. Why did she act? What lessons can we draw from her deeds? Should she be a role model for us today? All are welcome. Eleanor has been a member of OUUF for a little over a year but belonged to Columbus's First UU and before that to the Omaha church. She has been active on social justice committees here, in Columbus, at the Ohio-Meadville District and at General Assembly. Before retiring she conducted research on business and technology transfer for the chemical industry.

LIVING WATERS -- GREAT SOURCE OF LIFE

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM

Marjorie and Floyd Ramp
Guest Speakers

The Ramps will talk about the effects of climate change on the Great Lakes, especially Lake Erie and how this affects those of us living in its watershed. Floyd is a retired chemist. Both are on the Board of Directors of the Citizens for Global Solutions, a membership national organization working to build peace, justice and freedom in a democratically governed world, and Marjorie is the Chair of their National Board. Among their activities in many peace, justice and environmental efforts, Marjorie and Floyd are active members of the Interfaith Alliance for the Environment and have obtained a lot of useful information and materials about Great Lakes' water resources during a recent meeting in Toledo.

**SHARING OUR PROGRESSIVE VALUES
AS POLITICAL: THE LINGUISTIC
LESSONS OF GEORGE LAKOFF**

Wednesday, May 18, 4:15 p.m.
Whittier Lounge, Kendal at Oberlin
Barbara A. Fuchsman, guest speaker

In his books *Don't Think of an Elephant: Know Your Values and Frame the Debate* and *Moral Politics*, linguist George Lakoff explains that all public policies are at bottom based on moral values. He attributes the success of right wing politicians to the fact that every policy they promote connects back to values. Many polls have shown that Americans believe that leaders should have a moral core that informs what they do. So this constant connection to values has been very effective in meeting Republican political goals. Lakoff, therefore, is issuing a strong challenge to progressive people. Rethink your policy goals in terms of your values.

Barbara Fuchsman will talk about Lakoff's writings and lead a discussion about how Unitarian Universalist values can be used effectively in political discussion. Barbara is a graduate of Swarthmore College and has an MA in Anthropology from Oberlin College. She retired as Director of Federal Grants at Oberlin College in 2002, and is currently in training to become a UU Commissioned Lay Leader.

REFRESHMENTS

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, May 22, 2005

KIDS AND UUism IN ACTION

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM
Kim Peters, Service Leader

Come join our young UUs as they share with you some of the highlights from this past year's RE classes in the form of song and original story. Show your gratitude to the teachers who worked, played, wondered along with them! All Welcome! Kim Peters is the OOUF Director of Religious Education.

THE END OF POVERTY?

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
Allison Gallaher, Guest Speaker

Eight million people die each year because they are too poor to survive. The Millennium Development Goals adopted by the world in 2000 call for cutting absolute poverty in half by the year 2015. Jeffrey Sachs, an economist at Columbia and an advisor to the Millennium Project, has proclaimed that within 10 years beyond that, by 2025, we could *eliminate* extreme poverty from the planet. What will it take, from the world's governments, the world's moral and political leaders, and especially, from all the world's citizens, to achieve this reachable, but by no means assured, outcome? Come learn about the "quick fixes" that can literally save millions of lives and the roles you can play in making them reality.

All are welcome.

Allison Gallaher is a grassroots organizer for RESULTS, a citizens lobby committed to shifting government policies to improve the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable and to empowering citizens to express their personal and political power. She lives in Grafton, and has worked at the Oberlin College Library for more than 20 years.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES!!

The Religious Education Committee is inviting you to be involved in one of a number of ways in our children and youth programming.

Can you see yourself in any of these roles?

- ***RE teacher** (9 month commitment)
- ***Youth Advisor** (11 month commitment)
- ***RE Committee member** (11 month commitment)
- ***OWL committee chair** (11 month commitment)
- ***OWL committee member** (11 month commitment)
- ***RE Special Event Coordinator** (ie: organize 1 Intergenerational service, kid special event or social action, 3-6 week commitment)
- ***RE supply/equipment manager** (9 month commitment)
- ***Sunday morning childcare back-up** (intermittent)

Please contact either RE Chair Nancy Boutilier at <nboutilier@oberlin.net> or 774-1368, or DRE Kim Peters at <kpeters@eriecoast.com> or 776-0132, for further information.

PROGRAMS FROM THE PEWS

A large and important part of the Sunday morning program is provided by us, the members and friends of OOUF. Do you harbor a potential topic for a sermon or forum? Let's try to realize it! Hymns, readings, music, etc. can be furnished by the Program Committee. Contact Barbara Fuchsman, <bafuchsman.oberlin.net> or 774-1804.

Sunday, May 29, 2005

THE POWER OF ONE

MORNING SERVICE -- 11:00 AM
Jo Huber, Service Leader

We will look at how UUs from the past to the present have used "the power of one" to effect change. All are welcome. Jo Huber is a long-time member of the Fellowship and is presently the Chair of its Trustees.

MODES OF MODERN MASSAGE THERAPY

FELLOWSHIP FORUM -- 9:30 AM
LD Moore, Discussion Leader

LD, who has been licensed as a massage therapy since 1997 with the Ohio Board of Medicine, will be joined by two other local massage therapists to talk about their different practices. LD is the vice president of the OUUF and is recently retired from his years as a school psychologist. His practice as a massage therapist involves working at the Lorain County Free Clinic and seeing a few clients from the community including college faculty and conservatory students, a special interest of his. The other presenters work with various clients including a number of children and adults with developmental disabilities such as cerebral palsy, mental retardation, and autism spectrum disorders. Be forewarned, there may be some hands on activities during this forum. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

All of us working together make OUUF happen. We have committees and teams looking for new members. Helping out is a good way to make friends, have fun and help OUUF 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 notify the Team leadership.

**Agenda for Board Meeting
May 5, 2005 at Boys and Girls
Club at 7:00 pm**

Opening words
Reading of minutes from February and March meetings
Treasurer's Report
Budget for 2005-2006 fiscal year to be approved

Finance Committee Report
Committee on Ministry Report
Space Committee Report
Program Committee Report
Membership team report

CLL report
DRE report

Appoint three members to work with Rod Thompson on settlement process

CARING COMMITTEE

The OUUF Caring Committee has been revived. Members seek to offer limited pastoral care to OUUF members and Kendal UUs, such as visits to UUs in nearby hospitals, and occasional visits to UU shut-ins, including those residing in the Stephens Care Center at Kendal. We ask your help in making us aware of those who might appreciate such visits.

Limited assistance in offering rides for medical appointments also is offered. The Caring Committee observes birthdays in each issue of the Chalice and sends cards to OUUF members & friends in cases of illness, births, sympathy or other important life events.

If you need help or know of someone in OUUF needing help, please call the OUUF phone number, 440+371-1345, and a member of the Caring Committee will return your call. Members of the committee include Eleanor Helper, LD Moore, Darlene Krato, John Marshall and Joan Webster.

HOW TO FIND THE OBERLIN U.U. FELLOWSHIP

OOUF 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.

GREEN JOURNAL

I got this from an email list; the source is <www.beliefnet.com> -- a few simple ways to help children connect with the interdependent web when their sense of wonder is unsullied and open, and keep them in touch as their lives become increasingly scheduled by the quotidian:

- o Create a family Earth Day ritual.
- o Start an "I discovered" scrapbook for your child's nature discoveries.
- o Start an under-the-sink earthworm farm to compost kitchen waste. Children can become very worm-friendly.
- o Plant a tree; if it's infeasible for you to plant one on your own land, donate a planting.

On another note, I see that an environmental care movement, based on theological grounds, has emerged among evangelical Christians. Their position is that "dominion" granted to humans over the Earth carries an obligations of stewardship and is not a license to grind it up.

REGULAR MEETINGS

THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM to be announced.

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM meets the first Wednesday of the month at **7:15** pm in the Conference Room at Kendal. Next meeting is May 4, 2005.

THE OBERLIN UU FELLOWSHIP BOARD meets monthly at 7:00 pm at the Boys & Girls Club on North Pleasant St. Next meeting is Thursday, May 5. All are welcome to observe, and the right of members to participate in Board discussions is guaranteed in the Bylaws.

THE R.E. COMMITTEE meets the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm at the Boys and Girls Club. Next meeting is May 19.

THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE meets monthly at Fuchsmans', 192 Forest Street. Next meeting is Wednesday, May 11 at 6:00 pm.

OOUF

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