

Sunday, November 13, 2005

LISTENING TO THE SPIRIT WITHIN

MORNING SERVICE – 11:00 AM

Karina Leppik, service leader

Are we too busy for our own good? What happens when we stop for a minute and listen to ourselves and our surroundings? We will explore what our Unitarian Universalist faith and other religions teach us about slowing down and listening to the spirit within. All are welcome.

**LIVING UNDER PASSIVE HOSTILE
GOVERNMENT:**

LIFE IN SANTA ELENA

FELLOWSHIP FORUM – 9:30 AM

John Gates, guest speaker

While there has been progress in Santa Elena 20th de Octubre, the campesinos still fear that they will again lose their land. Free trade agreements have them worried that their progress is transitory. John Gates, a retired educator, is vice chair of Oberlin's Santa Elena Project of Accompaniment (SEPA), which maintains a committed relationship with this Mayan village. John has just returned from spending nine days in Santa Elena. He will also talk about SEPA's frustrating experience with rural education in Guatemala and how SEPA is helping the villagers cope with a national system that often fails to pay its rural teachers. All are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY

Second Sunday Collection for November will go to the Santa Elena Project of Accompaniment (SEPA). To direct a check to SEPA make it out to O.U.U.F. and write "Second Sunday" or "SEPA" on the memo 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 change and cash will also go to SEPA unless put in an envelope marked for the Fellowship.

Religious Education (continued)

us to a time to reflect on that for which we can be thankful. Of course Thanksgiving in the U.S. has roots related to surviving in a new land, learning new ways to farm, harvest and co-exist with another race but there exist many connections of gratitude to be made this time of year. Our Unitarian Universalist roots beckon us to think about those connections, and perhaps, like me, you may discover that November is not such a dreary month at all.

Nameste,

Kim Peters
Director of Religious Education

NOVEMBER KENDAL GATHERING

Discussion of "Liberal clergy claims own high ground" by Frank Bentayou Wednesday, November 16, 4:15 p.m. Whittier Lounge, Kendal at Oberlin Jane Eddy, Discussion Leader, Barbara Fuchsman, Service Moderator

In the Cleveland Plain Dealer of June 18, 2005, Plain Dealer Reporter Frank Bentayou described how Cleveland's liberal clergy, both Christian and Jewish, have developed a moral manifesto proclaiming liberal religious values concerning sexuality, reproductive rights, poverty, health care, and war. The manifesto was unveiled at Cleveland's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Parade and Festival. Bentayou extensively quoted Kathleen Rolenz, co-pastor of West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Rocky River. The Gathering will be devoted to discussing the issues raised in Bentayou's article. Copies will be available from Jane Eddy, who will lead the discussion. All are welcome.

Sunday, November 20, 2005

**IN PRAISE OF BREAD:
CELEBRATION FOR THE SUNDAY
BEFORE THANKSGIVING**

MORNING SERVICE – 11:00 AM

Barbara Fuchsman and Kim Peters,
Service Leaders

This is the Fellowship's annual celebration of the gifts of the Earth, an intergenerational observance of the season of the Thanksgiving holiday. Everyone is invited to bring bread to share. During this year's service, the Sunday School will not give holiday presentations, but the children will enjoy hearing of the Wampanoag Indians and about the Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving.

There will be Sunday School and child care as usual. All are welcome.

PLEASE BRING BREAD IF YOU CAN.

**SITTING ON THE FENCE –
CAN YOU BE NEUTRAL?**

FELLOWSHIP FORUM – 9:30 AM

Mathis Szykowski, Forum Leader

In the deep disputes that divide people, is it possible to see merit on both sides and remain neutral? Jean Paul Sartre, caught in the Algerian rebellion against France, was in this position. Does sitting on the fence eventually become unethical? Or is this essentially ethical posture finally unbearable? Mathis Szykowski is emeritus Associate Professor of French at Oberlin College. All are welcome.

**WELCOMING CONGREGATION
WORKSHOP**

Sunday, November 27, at OECC from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. "The Common Elements of Oppression." The purpose of this session is to illustrate the commonalities among various forms of oppression. Everyone is urged to attend, and to bring an example of an oppression you have noticed.

GREEN JOURNAL

The Green Sanctuary team listened to those attending the October 9 Forum and now have a good list of possible projects for our Action Plans. One of the suggested Workshops is described in this CHALICE: the introductory workshop on weatherization and insulation scheduled for Saturday, November 9, at 1:00 pm at Peace Community Church.

At the Green Forum, the top two choices for topics for workshops were Weatherization/Insulation and Solar Energy. Other suggestions included Composting; Rain Barrels -- Making and Using Them; and Information on Energy Use.

Green Team ideas included Working with Oberlin Early Childhood Center on an Energy Audit (and then helping them meet the requirements); Worm Farming for the Kids; Plum Creek Cleanup; Highway Cleanup; Promoting Free Oberlin Energy Audits; Buying Organic Items (such as cotton napkins) in Bulk; Reducing Driving (by carpooling, taking fewer trips); Low-Income Education on Weatherization (perhaps working with landlords to create incentives). Some of these ideas can be incorporated into the Workshops.

The Green Sanctuary Team will continue to mold these ideas into concrete Action Plans. The first Workshop is another step toward certification.

A SECOND REMINDER

Part of bringing refreshments is staying to do the dishes and clean up the kitchen afterward. If you bring refreshments and can't stay, please find a substitute.

HAPPY HOUR: Friday, November 25, at 5:00 p.m., the Party and Fun Team invites everyone to Presti's in Oberlin for a happy hour (or two). We will meet in the bar room.

Sunday, November 27, 2005

GREAT MUSIC PLAY-IN

MORNING SERVICE – 11:00 AM

Andy Frantz, Service Leader

We celebrate the Sunday after Thanksgiving by sharing music and song. OUUFers and friends are invited to share their favorite rather short pieces -- serious, funny, seasonal, eternal, spiritual, earthy. Bring recorded music or your instrument(s) to play live, or come to listen and enjoy. All are welcome.

**DISCUSSION OF
"REPRESSION OF THE SUBLIME"
BY MARILYN SEWELL**

FELLOWSHIP FORUM – 9:30 AM

Barbara Fuchsman, Discussion Leader

In the UU WORLD of Fall 2005, Marilyn Sewell urges us to let bloom "the something in each one of us that longs for its fullest expression....To reach beyond where we are now requires courage, and we are afraid," she observes. In the words of Jesus, "You must lose your life to find it." The Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell is senior minister of First Unitarian Church in Portland, Oregon. The forum will be devoted to discussion of her article. Copies will be available on Sunday mornings in the OECC lobby or from Barbara Fuchsman. The article is short and also will be read at the beginning of the forum. All are welcome.

SHAMANIC DRUMMING JOURNEYERS meet monthly to journey and share insights on the first Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the common room at 95 E. Vine Street. Shamanic journeying is a time-honored tool for accessing an altered state of consciousness by listening to a rapid drumbeat. Please contact Carol Wilde for information about this group or the open journeying circle at Common Ground.

**A FEW SUNDAY MORNING
PROCEDURAL CHANGES**

Have you noticed that the children from the Sunday School are handing out song books and service programs at the beginning of the worship service? Please thank them for their help. This change is part of some small changes in group dynamics to create a more spiritual place for our services. Think of our meeting space for worship and meditation and the foyer for socializing. We would like everyone to consider the following changes to help create a better Sunday morning experience. These changes are as follows:

1. After the forum, leave the meeting space and go to the foyer for a half hour of visiting together. Leave the meeting space for anyone who wants to have time for meditation, etc.

2. A bell and/or light dimming will be used to signal when to return to the meeting room for the service. The first signal will be at 10:50, the final signal will be a couple of minutes before 11:00. Return to the meeting space quietly and take a couple minutes to center yourself for the service.

We hope these procedures will enhance the atmosphere of our worship services for all. Thanks. Jo Huber

**WAL MART –
THE HIGH COST OF LOW PRICE**

November 13 has been designated Moral Approach Sunday to raise awareness of the intersecting oppressions of race and class in America. Thousands of congregations will be premiering Robert Greenwald's new film on Wal Mart, which (unsurprisingly) cannot find a distributor. The OUUF showing will take place at Kendal at Oberlin, Main Auditorium, Sunday, November 13 at 7:15 p.m. Sponsored locally by the Fellowship's Green Sanctuary Task Force and nationally by the UUA, the UUSC, and UUs for a Just Economic Community.

GREEN WORKSHOP

The first Green Sanctuary workshop is on its way! In collaboration with Peace Community Church, First Church, and Rust Methodist Church, Rosa Gadsden, who directs the Youth Energy Squad, will give an introductory workshop on weatherization and insulation on Saturday, Nov. 19th, 1 pm at Peace Community Church. This 1-hour event will include information about how to prioritize insulating projects as well as hands-on training in how to use weatherizing tools and products. Space and materials are limited, so please reserve your spot by contacting Barbara Fuchsman. Free will donations to cover the cost of materials will be accepted at the door.

LITERARY NOTE

“1491” by Charles C Mann cover new archaeological theories about the Americas before Columbus. The field is in serious scholarly conflict over when and how the ancestors of the Native Americans arrived, what their numbers were before they were almost depopulated by European diseases and, perhaps most intriguingly, what kind of management of their environment they engaged in before their numbers collapsed. The old picture of the Indian as passive inhabitants of a wilderness they left untouched, is under serious attack. A new model of quasi-agricultural environmental management emerges from these pages.

OUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, 2005, at 7:30 p.m. at The Boys and Girls Club, North Pleasant St., Oberlin, Ohio. All are welcome.

AGENDA

Minutes of the October meeting
Treasurer's report
DRE report
CLL report
Committee on Ministry Report
Other Committee Reports:

Settlement search process report
Program report
Finance Development report, Shelly Rasmussen

OTHER MEETINGS

Membership Team: Tuesday, November 8, at 8:45 a.m., Blue Sky Restaurant.

Religious Education Team: November 10, at 2-3:30 p.m. Oberlin Public Library, Craft Room, by Kids videos. RE mtgs. are always the 2nd Thurs. of the month, 2-3:30pm.

Space Team: November 17, at 2:00 p.m., at L.D. Moore's home.

The publication schedule of THE CHALICE does not permit timely notice of meetings that fall early in the month. Check the sheet of announcements with the Order of Service.

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THE COVENANT GROUP

The Covenant Group will gather on the second and last Sundays of November. On November 13, they will meet at Kendal at Oberlin at 7:15 p.m., and on November 27 at OECC from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Do bring a bag lunch on the 27th. In this small discussion group, build shared understanding, provide and receive support. Would you like to really connect with friends, discuss issues of the day, larger life issues? The group is open and new members are warmly welcomed. Group facilitators are Barbara Fuchsman and Karina Leppik. For more information, call Karina or Barbara.

ALL AGES GAMES NIGHT!!

Saturday, November 26, the RE Committee invites everyone in the Fellowship to an "All-ages Games Night" from 4-7 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club, 218 N. Pleasant St. Oberlin. FREE PIZZA and snacks for everyone. Bring your board games or share what's there. Bring your family/friends or just bring yourself. Let's gather for some UU fun. And, while you are marking your calendar for the 26th, look ahead and save March 4, 2006 for a second all-ages evening of fun! We'll have sign-ups at service to estimate the pizza need, or you can RSVP to Nancy Boutilier.

MISSION

THE OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVER-
SALIST FELLOWSHIP SEEKS TO
PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
WITH RESPONSIBILITY, TO SUPPORT
EACH OTHER WITH COMPASSION,
AND TO SERVE PEACE WITH JUSTICE.

COVENANT

WE, THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
THE OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVER-
SALIST FELLOWSHIP, COVENANT TO
LIVE TOGETHER IN OUR QUEST FOR
TRUTH, LOVE, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY. IN
THIS SPIRIT OF CARING FELLOWSHIP,
WE OFFER OUR COMBINED GIFTS
AND RESOURCES.