

Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
WEEKLY NEWS
January 19, 2010

Sunday, January 24

9:30 a.m. Service: "Talent, Tolerance, Transformation: Building the Beloved Community"
Rev. Jill Jarvis

Healing a broken world, supporting each other through life's difficult passages, promoting personal and spiritual development, the coming together to celebrate and explore life's meaning – these are the ministries of our Fellowship. Our faith tradition is not one of solitary contemplation, but of engagement in the world. It is work (and play!) we do together, contributing our many diverse gifts to build a community living out our highest aspirations and deepest values. What passions and gifts do you bring to our shared ministry? Join us for this celebration of purpose, generosity, interconnection, and service to what we cherish. There will be a special time in this service to recognize and honor our newest members.

Also, our *special collection for the minister's discretionary fund*, postponed from Christmas Eve

11:00 a.m. Program: "Living with Alzheimer's Disease"
Carole Boulton, Earl Nehring, and George Worth.

Carole, Earl, and George will share with us some of the daily ups and downs of dealing with the realities of a loved one's struggle with this very difficult disease. Carole will also share some of the information she has learned from professionals in this field.

Wednesday Night January 20
Food, Fun, and Friendship--Everyone's Invited!

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Ham * Sauerkraut * Mashed Potatoes
Vegetables & Hummus * Fruit Salad * Homemade Cake
Mac 'n' Cheese Hot Dogs
Suggested donation \$5 Children under 10 free
Child Care 6:30 – 8:30

6:30 p.m. Speak, Listen, Learn: The UFL Fourth Principle Hour *(see below)*

6:30 p.m. Youth Meeting; Classes start --see page 5 for details

7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Speak, Listen, Learn: The UFL Fourth Principle Hour

Do you hold strong views you're eager to share about some aspect of Fellowship life? Do you see problems or opportunities that cry out to be addressed? Would you like an opportunity to hear others' views, and even to engage in a spirited discussion?

Many Unitarian Universalist congregations have a tradition called "Hot Potato Discussions" or "Church Chats," where interested members and friends come together to examine an issue, practice appreciating different perspectives, and get to know each other better. With a trained facilitator and ground rules to ensure that all viewpoints are respected and everyone who wishes to speak is heard, the goal is not consensus or decision making, but a deeper understanding of the issue and of one another.

On Wed., Jan. 20, from 6:30 to 7:30 in Founder's Hall, our newly established Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) will host UFL's first such discussion, called the Fourth Principle Hour ("a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.") *Our topic will be: In a congregation filled with many different perspectives and feelings about language, particularly traditional religious language, how do we honor one another's sensibilities and freedom of expression?* (Think: *Church, Congregation, Sanctuary, God, Prayer, Soul, Spiritual, Religion.* The list is long!) COSM member Peter Graham will be our facilitator. If the issue inspires passion in you, compile your own list and come join the fun!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Over \$2500 was cleared in the Haiti--Chili feed fundraiser Monday night!!!!

Congratulations and many thanks to Sherry, organizers, cooks, servers, and all the many other helpers for the phenomenal effort and fantastic success.

Roe v. Wade Interfaith Service: Stand Up for Choice!

this Thursday, January 21, 2010

9:30-10:30 a.m.

Dillon House (across from the capitol), 404 SW 9th St., Topeka, KS

**Let's turn out in full force
and show Kansas that the religious right does not speak for all faith traditions.**

This is a call to UFL members and friends to join in an interfaith service in Topeka, on **Thursday January 21**, commemorating the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Led by Christian, Jewish, and Unitarian Universalist clergy (*including Rev. Jill Jarvis of UFL and Rev. Lisa Schwartz of the Topeka Fellowship*), this service is an opportunity to present to the Kansas public and legislators that there is strong pro-choice religious presence in Kansas. In recent years, this pro-choice religious presence has been nearly invisible, but this year in the wake of Dr. Tiller's murder and the legislative battles over abortion coverage in national health care reform, the time is right to make a strong showing.

There is also an opportunity to stay afterwards for lobbying, and a lunch with legislators. For those who plan to go for the day, **a bus will stop at the West Lawrence exit to pick up riders**. If you would like to carpool to Topeka for the service only, please email Jill at uflminister@sunflower.com. For information on registration for lunch and the bus, go to http://www.ksnow.org/KS_NOW/Welcome.html.

You Don't Say....

Some of us have been thinking and talking about what and how we communicate with each other and about how we can, as Chair-Elect Nancy Jorn says, "work together to generate a culture of appreciation and collaborative problem solving."

Consider e-mail, for example. It's immediate, efficient, and convenient—an easy way to get a point across—but also an easy way to offend others, often unintentionally but hurtfully nonetheless. For guidelines on e-mail communication, check out www.101emailtippstips.com.

Jill gave me her permission to share something she said in an e-mail message:

"All of us who plan and lead and coordinate anything should take responsibility to ensure that everyone who might be impacted is included or consulted--but it's a given that despite our best efforts, we will occasionally overlook someone. I wish we could develop a culture where everyone would feel empowered to speak up directly to the "offender" when this happens--politely, calmly, firmly. I would love to be sure that no one felt disrespected, resentful, irritated, or disappointed by something I did but wouldn't let me know, and was inwardly seething or talking to others about it. I wish I could always be given the opportunity to apologize, to be aware, and to make sure it wouldn't happen again. Sure, that feels risky sometimes, but harboring grudges is not part of healthy congregational life."

Here's to working toward "healthy congregational life!" May all of us feel so "empowered."

~Betty Baron, Chair

Meet and greet friendly UUs while helping out in the kitchen.

If you enjoy Sunday coffee or Wednesday meals, please consider signing up to help in the kitchen one Sunday per month. You will be paired with an experienced kitchen worker. Look for the sign-up sheet near the coffee pots.

New Members

We extend a hearty welcome to Ben Dillon as well as to Kristen Metcalf and her husband Greg Osterhaus, all of whom signed the membership book in the last week. Congratulations to each!

Attention parents and guardians!

We find ourselves in a happy conundrum here at the UFL- there are kids popping up everywhere! While we are ecstatic to have so many shining faces in the building, we are finding it increasingly difficult to keep track of them all, and to keep them safe and sound. In light of that, please be aware that downstairs is off limits to the children unless they are specifically accompanied by an adult. We will continue to have the occasional class down there, and there will still be times when the children are to go downstairs for one reason or another, but those times will all be supervised by an adult. At all other times, including during and after Sunday services and during Wednesday night programming, the basement is out of bounds.

Please contact RE Chair Aileen Dingus (aileen@flyingdingii.com) if you have any questions or concerns about this.

Second Annual Fabulous Fellowship Follies



Save the Date!

Saturday, March 6, 2010

Dinner, Entertainment, Celebration, Fun for All Ages

5:30 Social time, appetizers, various beverages

6:15 Sit-down, served dinner

7:30 The Follies!--and more

Special meal and activities for children; Child Care will be provided

Watch this space for more and more details

The Unitarian Chamber Music Series--next concert February 7

Please add the remaining four concerts to your calendar now. Details will follow.

Sun., Feb. 7, 2:30 p.m.: William Baker Festival Singers of Kansas City --the entire group!

Sun., Feb. 21, 2:30 p.m.: KU Saxophone Quartet 1

Sun., Mar. 28, 7:30 p.m.: Allegresse, a piano, flute, and oboe trio

Sun., May 9, 2:30 p.m.: KU Student String Quartet.

Subscription series tickets (\$20) are available between the Sunday programs or by contacting the Unitarian Fellowship office. Single admission at the door is \$5. Your support in continuing this series, begun so successfully in November with the appearance of the Spencer Consort, is invaluable.

WhaleCoast Alaska 2010: Four Alaskan UU fellowships invite you to experience our eco-cultural and spiritual program this summer in our 14th year! See *REAL* Alaska, with UU homestays in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka. UUs host events and lead tours. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Observe wildlife, including bears, moose, caribou, whales, sea otters and bald eagles. Visit Denali National Park. Dave Frey, a 29-year Alaska resident, leads the programs. Visit www.whalecoastak.org. Don't delay, the program usually fills by March 10. Email dfrey@whalecoastak.org for information, or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS --- From the Social Action Committee

Community Connection. Our January collection is for the Peggy Bowman Second Chance Fund. *The fund assists women who need access to a full range of reproductive health care, including abortions.* The Fellowship has contributed to the Second Chance Fund for the past six or eight years. As with our past practice, Fellowship members may contribute by making checks out to the ***Fellowship, with Second Chance on the memo line.***

Peace Vigil Every Saturday Noon to 1 p.m. at the corner of 9th and Mass., even through the wintry Saturdays of January and February.

REMINDERS

Memorial Service for Cornelia Fields

Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Fellowship. Cornelia Fields, an early and long-time member of the Fellowship, died on December 23 at age 97.

Chocolate and Coffee

Be sure to look for wonderful Equal Exchange chocolate bars, chocolate mini-bars, roasted and salted pecans, sweetened dried cranberries and tamari almonds in addition to several varieties of coffee. Contact Susan Harper at sbharper@sbcglobal.net

Art This Month in Founders' Hall

We are pleased to feature the work of Lawrence artist, Karen Wiley. If any word describes Karen's art it would be EXPLORATION! Most of Karen's focus is on texture and color; her work is mainly abstract or geometric. Since she rarely starts with a specific idea or design, she has learned to have patience, searching for the textural effects that please her and discovering along the way that each layer of texture

usually adds something positive to the final layer she has been look for. Please be sure to check out this new display in Founder's Hall.

Recycling Request

Please do not contribute *styrofoam* items to the Fellowship's recycling containers. Although Home Recycling Service will collect plastic numbered 1 through 7, unfortunately, no facility is available to accept styrofoam. (*Note, we are not talking about the yellow bin, which is for paper only.*)

Inclement Weather Policy Notice

In case of inclement weather on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, please check the Fellowship Web site (<http://www.uufl.net>) for cancellation notice or call the Fellowship at 842-3339, where the answering machine message will indicate whether Fellowship events have been canceled. In the event of cancellation, notices or phone messages will be posted at least an hour prior to the event. For other committee meetings or small-group activities, please contact the chair or host of the event.

Community Care Team:

The UFL Community Care Team is available to assist members and friends of the Fellowship. The Care Team's role is to learn from the involved individual or family how we can be of assistance and provide the requested assistance within the limits of our resources. Care Team Coordinators are Beth Chao and Donna Swall. Contact the Care Team at uflcareteam@sunflower.com or call Rev. Jill Jarvis, 816-853-6530. See details at http://www.uufl.net/comm_care_team.html

Office Hours for Rev Jill Jarvis: Rev Jill Jarvis has office hours on Wednesdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., by appointment.

Wednesday Night Classes Beginning January 20

"Sign up for classes on the sign-up sheets in the Social Hall or by e-mailing Rebecca Gant at rkgant@hotmail.com."

Exploring Membership Class

Exploring Membership is a four week course designed for individuals new to Unitarian Universalism (UU), those considering membership, or new members. It will acquaint you with the Fellowship community and answer your questions about UU. Class will be led by Rebecca Gant and Silke Johanning and will meet Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24 in the Wollstonecraft room.

What If? Works of Alternate History

Many of you are familiar with the old proverb: "For want of a nail the shoe was lost. For want of a shoe the horse was lost. For want of a horse the rider was lost. For want of a rider the battle was lost. For want of a battle the kingdom was lost. And all for the want of a horseshoe nail." Fascination with "what if," what might have happened had a person not been born, a new technology not have been invented (or introduced centuries earlier), an action not occurred, has produced a genre known as alternate history. I long have been intrigued by stories and books typically categorized as science fiction because they raise issues about human behavior and introduce provocative ideas about how we have (and might) live. I look forward to sharing and discussing several of my favorite works this semester. This class will be led by Ted Wilson and held in the Library on the first Wed. of each month, February 3, March 3, April 7, and May 5.

World Religions Book Group

Susan Rickman will facilitate a once a month book group, centered on Huston Smith's, *The Illustrated World's Religions: A Guide to Our Wisdom Traditions*. We will meet throughout the course of the year to discuss Huston Smith's book, which covers 8 different religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity and The Primal Religions. Our meeting will allow time to discuss the Wisdom-Of-The-Month, and possibly discuss how we might further explore any ideas of interest. Please purchase Huston Smith's *The Illustrated World's Religions: A Guide to Our Wisdom Traditions* and read chapters 4 & 5, Confucianism &

Taoism, before the first session on January 27. This class will meet in the Library on the fourth Wed. of each month, January 27, February 24, March 24, and April 28.

The Bible is a City: A Personal View

Like any ancient, large city, the Bible has interesting neighborhoods, some good and some bad. As our tour guides and body guards, we'll use Isaac Asimov's *Guide to the Bible* and the introductory chapters of the *Interpreter's Bible*. Discussion encouraged. No book purchase required or suggested. This class will be led by John Brewer and will meet Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 17, and 24 in the Alcott room.

Talking with Your Kids about Sex: Beyond Biology

We will discuss the book *Sex and Sensibility: the Thinking Parent's Guide to Talking Sense about Sex*. Written by a long-time sexuality educator, the book is divided into two sections: a section titled "New Ways of Thinking and Talking," and the second, titled "Raising Sexually Healthy Children." It is full of research-based and anecdotal information about sexuality, and encouragement for parents as they have those difficult but crucial conversations. Rebecca Gant will facilitate the discussion. Please read part one before the first meeting. Used books are available at amazon.com, or contact Rebecca at rkgant@hotmail.com to borrow a copy. Group will meet March 31 and April 21 in the Library.

A Short History of the Way We Eat Now

Have you ever wondered why recipes call for Crisco when Crisco didn't exist until the early 1900s? Why the color of the bread you eat determines how upper crust you are? Or what the upper crust has to do with being upper class? In this class we'll take a brief look at the history of how our food got to be the way it is, touching on topics like invention of canning and refrigerators, the creation of ready-to-eat foods like jams and jellies during the Industrial Revolution, how the Swill Milk Scandals in the 1850s led to pasteurization of dairy foods, and how World War II factories were retooled for food production after the war. We'll finish by considering some of the current controversies and trends surrounding our food supply today. Class will be led by Jennifer Dropkin and will meet March 24th and 31st, April 21st and 28th in the Alcott room.

The Pagan Way

This class will focus on Pagan practices and beliefs. It will meet February 17 and April 21 in the Sanctuary and will be led by Martin Coffman. More information to follow soon!

Youth Group

The youth will meet weekly starting January 13th, from 6:30-8:00p.m. in the Emerson Room except on Board Meeting nights, when they'll be preparing the meal and then joining in the Movies and Barn Dances.

Deadlines: Announcements – Thursday Evening at 5:00 p.m. *Send items to uflooffice@sunflower.com*
Newsletter articles-- Monday at noon. *Send items to ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com*

Fellowship Dates to Keep in Mind

Jan 21 Thur. Roe v Wade Interfaith Service in Topeka

Jan. 23 Sat. Cornelia Fields -Memorial service, 11:00 a.m.

Jan. 24 Sun. Committee and Board Roundtable, 12:05 p.m.

Feb 7 Sun Next Concert Series performance

Mar 6 Sat. Fabulous Fellowship Follies

**The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence
A Welcoming Congregation**

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