



UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP of LAWRENCE

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 20, 2014

## The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence A Welcoming Congregation

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**Sunday, May 25**

**9:30 a.m. Program "Introducing GaDuGi"**

**Jon Coffee, Seminarian and GaDuGi Intern**

As part of his seminary training this year, UFL member Jon Coffee served as an intern at GaDuGi SafeCenter here in Lawrence. GaDuGi SafeCenter's mission is to work together with the community to provide service for all people affected by sexual violence. Jon will discuss the profound impact this internship has had on him during his first year of ministerial formation. Rachel Gadd-Nelson, GaDuGi SafeCenter's Director of Community Engagement will join Jon to discuss the organization's history and mission. More information can be found at

[www.gadugisafecenter.org](http://www.gadugisafecenter.org).

**11:00 a.m. Spiritual Celebration: "Endings and Beginnings" Rev. Jill Jarvis with UFL seminarians Jon Coffee and Jordinn Nelson Long**

Life presents many opportunities to say goodbye. Sometimes unexpected, sometimes anticipated with dread or relief, often ambivalent and conflicted --- leaving behind the cherished and familiar brings a sense of loss even as it offers the possibility of new beginnings. What does our Unitarian Universalist tradition tell us about good endings? How might closure enable our openness to what lies ahead? Join us as we bid a fond farewell to our two seminarians, and look ahead to coming chapters of joy and wonder in the life of our congregation.

**12:00 Seminarian Send Off—Champagne and Cake**

This will be the last day that seminarians Jon Coffee and Jordinn Nelson Long, will be with us as part of our local UFL UFL family. Please join us for a champagne and cake

reception for a final opportunity to thank them in person for all of their contributions to UFL and to wish them well on their journeys in ministry. Together in community, we will share the mixed emotions of knowing how much we will miss them, as well as celebrating the gift that they as future ministers and we as their nurturing congregation, are giving to the wider UU world.

### ***Newsletter Summer Schedule***

Starting this week, the newsletter will come out every other week: May 20, June 3, 17, July 1, 15, 29, August 12 and then weekly again. Please consider this when submitting announcements.

### ***Sunday June 1 Schedule: 9:30 Program and 11:00 Spiritual Celebration (also a Membership Straw Poll; see p. 4)***

#### ***9:30 a.m. Program***

#### ***Prairie Larkspur, a duo featuring music of the 1800s.***

The two women performers, Chris Day and Janet Armstead, have taught music for a combined total of over 60 years. During that time they have played many instruments and learned music from many time periods and genres. Every effort is made on their part to sing and play songs as they would have been performed in the 1800's. They use a highly interesting variety of instruments and the performance will be enjoyed by young and old.

#### ***11:00 Spiritual Celebration Our Prophetic Voice Rev. Jill Jarvis and the Social Action Justice Team***

Our religious tradition has a long history of living our faith through action in our communities and world. The commitment to equity, justice and compassion calls us to speak truth to power and stand in solidarity with those in need of our care and concern. Join us as we honor our religious history of witness, advocacy, and service, and explore the action items to be voted on at this year's General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

### ***Administrative Office Hours Change***

Beginning the week of May 19, the UFL office will have the following hours:

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	<b>9 a.m.-12 noon</b>
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	<b>9 a.m.-3 p.m.</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>9 a.m.-3 p.m.</b>

This change is to accommodate the workload at both organizations (UFL and Trinity In Home Care, Inc.) for which our office manager, Jennifer, works. Please note, for those submitting announcements, this deadline will change to **Wednesdays at NOON** (It had previously been the end of the day).

**CAN YOU TELL "YOUR STORY" for Father's Day Program (June 15, 9:30 a.m.)?** If so contact Jean Dirks ([jdirks@sunflower.com](mailto:jdirks@sunflower.com))

### **LOST and FOUND**

Please claim the jackets and raincoats you may have left on the coat rack. Also check the lost and found cabinet in the foyer. Unclaimed items will soon be removed and donated.

### **Building and Grounds Help Wanted**

Can you help on Tuesday mornings? If not, another time can be scheduled. Ideas, plants and helping hands are welcome!

MEMORIAL GARDEN: Planting has come to a halt due to my hand injury, and ground cover and other plants are waiting to go in. *John Boulton*  
[jhnboulton@gmail.com](mailto:jhnboulton@gmail.com) or 842-4429.

### **From the Director of Lifelong Learning**

**I am very excited about our Summer Religious Exploration curriculum!** We will be using lessons taken from "Spirit of Adventure" - a UU Identity curriculum authored by Katie Covey (a lifetime UU and DRE since 1984) written especially for active 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Each of these sessions focuses on a famous (or not so famous) UU with a message that is brought to life through active participation in a themed activity that involves food, exploration, building, science medicine, sports or the web of life. We will adapt these lessons to include an activity for our younger participants since our RE classes this summer will be multi-age classes for elementary age students.

**Middle Youth kids will not be formally meeting this summer** but if your MY child is at UFL and is not drawn to the program topic, please have them check with me. *There could be opportunities to assist in the nursery or the Children's RE class. I also have a project involving the children's library that they could help me with.*

**There is an opening for a Nursery Caregiver.** Please contact me through email if you know someone who might be fabulous and interested. To be eligible, you must be a high school graduate, love working with infants and toddlers and available on Sunday's from 9:15-12:15. Having 3 caregivers to fill 2 spots each Sunday allows for occasional Sundays off. I will be interviewing for this position.

**Thank you to John Brewer, Deborah Altus and Drew Smith for chaperoning the Narrow Ridge youth service trip!** One of the service projects at Narrow Ridge will be finishing an outdoor cob oven! The rest of us can continue to help make this experience happen by marking our calendars for the following win-win

events:

**Father's Day Green Boutique – June 8<sup>th</sup>.** The Green Boutique table returns with added items especially for dad.

**Valet Car Wash – June 22<sup>nd</sup>** (weather permitting) – drive your dusty car to the UFL, leave in a shiny car! Suggested donation \$5-\$10. In the last car wash, the kids washed 22 cars...with washing skills honed and procedural adjustments, they are hoping to wash 30 cars this Sunday!

**Garage Sale – June 20 & 21** at 1226 Connecticut St. Donations are critical to the success of this event! This is a great time to clean out your “no longer needed” items! **The youth made over \$1000 on their first garage sale so they need more items to sell!** Bring items to UFL and put them directly into my car (DLL spot) or deliver to my covered porch at your convenience. If you have large furniture items to donate, I can put these in my garage - make arrangements with me to be home to help.

**Old – Fashioned picnic at UFL Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>,** grilled food, homemade ice cream, lawn games and fun races! This fun summer event is organized and hosted by one of our chalice circles, with proceeds going toward the youth service trip. See p. 5 for more information.

As I was planting in my garden yesterday, I continued to think about work...about how through our Lifelong Learning classes, programs and experiences we are planting compassion, love, worth and dignity that feeds our world.

*Bonnie Blosser, DLL*

### **Membership straw poll—Sunday June 1**

After a brief reminder of UUA's Congregational Study/Action Issues (CASI) and the upcoming vote at GA 2014, brief descriptions for this year's 5 nominated CASI will be read aloud. Subsequently, members will be asked to indicate their individual preference for 2014-2018 CSAI by a show of hands after each nominated topic is called.

#### ***Congregational Study/Action Issues***

- 1) Age and Ability Reconsidered
- 2) Ending the War on Terror
- 3) Escalating Inequality
- 4) Gun Violence: A Public Health Issue
- 5) Renewing and Securing Our American Democracy

For each proposed CSAI, an extended description, related topics for congregational study, and examples of possible social actions, can be found at: <http://www.uua.org/statements/current/>

**Please join us on *June 21* at the UFL for an old-fashioned picnic to benefit the UFL's youth service trip.**

We will serve hamburgers, hot dogs, homemade ice cream and other standard picnic fare as well as have games for all ages including croquet, egg relay, water balloon games, and three legged races.

The event will also feature entertainment by our favorite ukulele player, *Emily Russell*. This event is *our chalice circle's service project* and all proceeds go to the high school youth for their service trip. Starting

this Sunday, tickets will be sold in the foyer or by contacting Heather at [heather.moise@gmail.com](mailto:heather.moise@gmail.com). Tickets are \$8 for ages 3-8 and \$10 for ages 8 and older. All tickets need to be purchased by June 15. Thank You

from *Shannon VanLandingham, Heather Moise, Martha Burbank, Bob Burbank, Bob Harper, Patti Beedles, Ellen Reid-Gold, Chris Koger, Ken Koger, and Rachael Gehringer*.

### ***Mission and Vision Task Force***

In our congregation's continuing efforts to discern our role in the community and the world beyond, we will embark later this summer on a congregational conversation. In the coming weeks, the Executive Board will appoint a Mission and Vision Task Force to facilitate this work and has already appointed Rebecca Gant to lead the task force and Rev. Jill Jarvis to serve on it. To prepare, Jill and Rebecca attended a seminar earlier this winter based on the book *Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations* by Gil Rendle and Alice Mann, two well-known authors in the field of congregational health, growth, and planning. The book was written with Christian congregations in mind, but the underlying principles will work for any faith tradition.

Rendle and Mann say that planning is a "holy conversation"-- a congregational discernment process about three critical questions:

1. Who are we?
2. What has God (Spirit/Love/our common humanity) called us to do or be?
3. Who is our neighbor?

The task force will begin its work this summer by reading and gathering information, and then will be asking YOU to participate in the conversation.

UFL has several copies of the book floating around as members of the Executive Board and Program Council have read it. Would you like to read it too? Contact Rebecca Gant for a copy.

### ***Third Annual Leadership 101 Seminar***

On **May 30-31** the UFL Leadership Development Team will offer its third Leadership 101. The seminar will run from 6-9:00 on Friday night, and 8:30-4 on Saturday (delicious meals included!). As in the past, the seminar will be taught by graduates of Midwest Leadership School and those who have served in leadership positions at UFL. It will give participants a practical introduction to the governance of the Fellowship, a chance to participate in problem-solving activities and to develop leadership skills applicable in all areas of life. Everyone who attends will have an opportunity to take the *Myers-Briggs Type Indicator* and learn from Jeff Lewis how their preferences influence their interactions with others.

Until recently the UFL has relied upon casual apprenticeship to recruit future leaders through their service on committees, the Executive Board, and task forces. With the growth in membership and programming over the last decade, it has become urgent that members learn more of the “operating instructions” so that they have a better idea of how things work and where they might enjoy volunteering. Our Fellowship has had a strong tradition of volunteer leadership since its founding in 1957. That leadership needs to be grounded in a spiritual practice that reflects our seven principles and draws upon the talents of all our members. As new leaders emerge, older leaders can share their expertise through the annual leadership training. Good governance begins with understanding how we can work together with mutual respect and support. Only in this fashion can we successfully grow and change.

If you are interested in attending the seminar, please send a note to [uflleadership@gmail.com](mailto:uflleadership@gmail.com) so we can include you among the class members.

If you have questions about the seminar, contact Rebecca Gant, Craig Long, Jeff Lewis, Shannon VanLandingham, Valerie Roper, Jake Kipp, Barb Thompson, or John Brewer.

### ***Art in Founders Hall***

“Spring Renewal” is the theme of Benjamin Freeman’s show. A lifelong UU and the son of Julie Loring and Bill Freeman, Ben grew up in New England, where he continues to find inspiration. He works in a variety of media: drawing, painting, sculpture, and photography. Please write a comment in the book on top of the credenza in the southwest corner of Founders Hall.

## **SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS**

### ***May Community Connection: Parents as Teachers***

Parents as Teachers supports parents of children birth to three as their child’s first and most important teacher by providing home-based parenting education and support. The program helps parents give their young children the best start

in life to prepare them to enter school ready to learn. Operated by the Lawrence school district, each locally donated \$1 is matched by \$1.54 in state funds.

***Hilda Enoch Recognition, Friday, May 23, 1 to 4 p.m.*** at Brandon Woods Smith Center. Hilda has long been an advocate for human rights and social justice in Lawrence and Douglas County. The reception is sponsored by the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging (JAAA).

***Lawrence Food Garden Tour, Saturday, June 7.***

9 to noon and noon to 5 pm. This will be a Standing on the Side of Love T-Shirt event! Plans are under way for a UFL gathering for the tour followed by lunch and a “food and healthy eating” lunch/conversation. All of us who would like to join in the tour and lunch contact Daniel at: [deb193@gmail.com](mailto:deb193@gmail.com).

***Memorial Day, May 26, Family Promise of Lawrence and the Community Shelter’s Family Program***

2nd Annual 5k Home Run in Lawrence. The Fellowship has a strong tradition of supporting the Lawrence Shelter, as well as Family Promise. Mark your calendar! For more details go to <http://www.lawrenceshelter.org/>

## **ECM NEWS AND EVENTS**

### **This Week at the Ecumenical Campus Ministries,**

**1204 Oread, 843-4933, [www.ecmku.org](http://www.ecmku.org)**

The semester is ending. The next Veggie Lunch will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thurs., June 5. Wednesday forums will resume on Aug. 27.

## **ONGOING and SPECIAL INTEREST**



### **Women’s Group**

**UFL Women will gather Saturday, June 7 from 2-4 p.m.** at Barbara Schowen’s home. Join us to get acquainted and share conversation. If you like, bring a snack to share. See UFL directory or contact Barbara for address or directions. For a ride, call UFL Transportation Connection, 842-7529.

**MEN OF UFL** gather together monthly for food, fun, and fellowship ALL men are welcome and encouraged to attend! Check this space for news of the next event. Questions? Contact Derek Ishmael: [derek.ishmael@gmail.com](mailto:derek.ishmael@gmail.com) (phone 785-979-1973) or Chris Brown: [jcbrown66@me.com](mailto:jcbrown66@me.com)

The **Kaw Valley Herbs Study Group** meets monthly to learn about herbs. Everyone interested in herbs is welcome. Request monthly newsletter: [herbstudygroup@gmail.com](mailto:herbstudygroup@gmail.com)

## **UFL CLASSIFIEDS**

Do you need a service or have a service to offer? Need a ride? Have a business to promote? Put an ad in the UFL Classifieds! It's FREE (UFL members only). Email [UFLclassifieds@gmail.com](mailto:UFLclassifieds@gmail.com)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION, OFFICE HOURS, AND DEADLINES**

**Helping Hands Team:** [uflhelpinghands@gmail.com](mailto:uflhelpinghands@gmail.com) or call UFL office, 842-3339  
*This team provides short-term practical assistance, e.g., meals, respite, rides.*

**Transportation Line:** 785-842-7529 *(to UFL events or medical appointments)*

**Pastoral Care Associates:** [UFLpastoralcare@gmail.com](mailto:UFLpastoralcare@gmail.com) or Jordinn Nelson Long at 785-766-5164 or [j.nelson.long@gmail.com](mailto:j.nelson.long@gmail.com), or Rev. Jill Jarvis at 816-853-6530.  
*This team provides confidential listening for those experiencing bereavement, illness, unemployment, life transitions, aging, loneliness, etc.*

### **Minister Office Hours:**

Mondays 12:30-4:30 p.m.;

Wednesdays 2:00-6:00

**Deadlines:** Announcements for Sunday due **Wednesday at noon.**

*Send items to*

[ufloffic@sunflower.com](mailto:ufloffic@sunflower.com)

Newsletter articles due **Monday at noon.**

*Send items to*

[ufl\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com)

## **The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence**

### ***A Welcoming Congregation***

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785.842.3339 [www.ufl.net](http://www.ufl.net)