



UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP of LAWRENCE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 19 2013

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

1263 North 1100 Road
Lawrence, Kansas 66047
785.842.3339
www.uufl.net

Reminders/Notes:

**TALENT SHOW
SATURDAY 6 PM
(see p. 2)**

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Sunday, February 24

9:30 Program: "For Our Future" Eleanor Patton, Carol Delnevo, Rebecca Gant, Bobby Patton, and Jill Jarvis

UFL's past will be celebrated, our future imagined, and the present Super Budget Sunday--we mean Stewardship Sunday-- will reveal UU's own saints and miracles. The exciting features of our upcoming fund drive will be explained and we will even look a Kansas tornado in the eye.

11:00 a.m. Spiritual Service: "Home With A Mission" Rev. Jill Jarvis with Worship Associate Ellen Reid Gold

Over a half-century since our founding, we as a congregation find ourselves in a time of transformation. It's a time to think deeply about what we most cherish as a people pondering a bright yet uncertain future. To what shall we devote ourselves? How shall we use our resources? What risks are we willing to take on to nurture spirits and help heal our world?

2013 Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30-10:30 Traditional Program plus Religious Exploration for children (plus infant/toddler childcare)
 10:30-11:00 Coffee and Conversation
 11:00-12:00 Spiritual Celebration (to include children and youth 9 years old and older); younger children will be sung out after the story for all ages.
 11:00-12:00 Childcare for infants and toddlers
 11:20-12:00: Activities Program for ages 4-8 (after the story)

THIRD ANNUAL TALENT SHOW



**Third Annual Fabulous Talent and Tapas Evening
at the Fellowship
Saturday, February 23, 2013
6:00--8:30 p.m.**

- 6:00 Gather to enjoy Fabulous Fellowship Culinary Creations
and partake of our provided Beverages: wine, coffee, cold drinks, etc.
- 6:45-7:15 FABULOUS Talent Show Act I
- 7:15-7:45 Intermission--Savor and Sip Some More
- 7:45-8:15 Fabulous Talent Show Act II

Childcare provided by Eliza, Shelley, Morgan

Bring your favorite finger food to the event
Do you have a special appetizer or dessert? Stuffed Mushrooms, baby quiches, dips, veggie/fruit plates, cookies, bars, small cakes, etc.? Please bring some finger-food--the **tapas show** wants to have your talent!



Annual Budget Drive—“For our Future”--watch your mailboxes!

Members and many friends of the Fellowship should have received, or shortly will receive, a letter this week from Annual Budget Drive Team Chair, *Elle Patton*. The mailing also contains a beautiful and informative brochure designed by Fellowship member, *Kristen Spencer*.

Our theme this year is “Fueling the Flame—For our Future”

We hope you take the time to look at the brochure and the message it contains.

Our hopes for this coming year include, in accordance with our Five-Year Plan:

1) greatly decreasing reliance on our cushion account (saved from the 2007 capital campaign and which will soon be depleted)

2) funding a part-time Music Director

3) adding much needed part-time administrative help

[If you do not receive this mailing, please contact Elle at cleanornpatton@att.net or 785-856-6871.]

We urge you to think especially deeply this year about what this Fellowship means to you. We have accomplished so much since the turn of the millennium: increased membership, more children, minister, music, expanding RE for all ages, new space, Wednesday evenings, office manager. We are now poised to move forward toward an even more vibrant future.

Please be prepared to meet with one of our visiting steward volunteers for a one-on-one opportunity to speak about what the Fellowship means to you. Your views and concerns are highly valued and will go into planning for the future.

And, note the following to see how your dollars can go even further!

Exciting 2013-2014 Matching Challenge

For each household that steps up to the challenge, a marvelous group of donors will add an additional \$200 gift (up to \$9,200)!

If you have never pledged before, and make a commitment, \$200 will be added;

If your current pledge is less than \$100 a month, increasing to \$100/month or more will add \$200;

If your current pledge is greater than \$100 a month, increasing by 25% will add \$200.

Taking advantage of this offer will make a huge difference to our budget drive and the future of the Fellowship—see priorities mentioned in the article above.

In any case, we hope each household can pledge in accordance with the UUA “Fair Share” guidelines (blue sheet in your mailing).

Pulpit Editorial—delivered by Jordinn Nelson Long on Sunday, February 17

I have shared with you that upon first walking into this place; actually, it was Founders Hall—I thought you all were crazy. I was expecting a church—a quiet place to find a stillness, reverence for the holy . . . bonus points for a spire on top. In my vision of this church, we might wish each other peace, but mostly we would stay in our own space. This group, on the other hand . . . there was no sharing of the peace. It was summertime, the program was a joyous, sometimes raucous occasion, and there was precious little peace to start with. There was lots of laughter. There was lots of love.

Eventually, I let go of some of my expectations about church, and *I began to see UFL as a family*. We signed the book, and as we attended more regularly, I came to appreciate the familiar comforts, the steady love, and even the endearing foibles, of those who were here. We felt appreciated, too—loved by our church family.

Then, one year ago, at a time when I least expected it, there was more. Something inspired my imagination and provoked my soul. And I dived in. I tested myself, challenged others, asked hard questions . . . and suddenly this didn't feel like a family any more. Things got difficult. It was time for me to grow. And around me, this fellowship was growing too. We have grown outward, extending our embrace to a wider group. More than that, we have grown deeper, putting down strong new roots among the old ones, as we have envisioned a future together and created infrastructure to make it happen.

Finally, I realized this is a community.

That might not sound as homey as “family,” but I am here to tell you—it is better. In fact, in this time and place it is a true miracle: there still exists a place where different people come together to talk, to explore, to truly connect. Where we learn to listen. Where we are challenged not just to find love and wrap it around ourselves, but to practice it, daily, as a verb.

We have a secret in our society, where everything has a price tag and you “get what you pay for”: some of the most valuable experiences you may have are available from liberal religion—and don't mean the gift of everlasting life. I'm talking about becoming the best we can be, and living each day with joy, intention, and meaning. I'm talking about growth and self-discovery and the kind of leadership training we pay thousands of dollars for.

Those of us gathered here may know that secret. I hope you do, and that it blesses you abundantly. But we have another unintentional secret in our fellowship: that sustaining this place takes each one of us, and that making the commitment to help is itself part of a deep spiritual practice.

I am honored to have the opportunity to give back to a place that has given me so much. It has nurtured a small spark in my heart—something I didn't know was there. May my love burn brightly enough to light the way for someone else, and may my love of this fellowship guide my actions to help sustain it, and the beloved community that we work every day to become.

UFL Hosts Friends of Jung Lecture and Workshop

“Mother and Myth in Spanish Novels: How Stories Affect Our Lives”, will be the theme of Baker University’s Professor Sandra Schumm* as she presents a lecture at UFL on Friday night, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. and a follow-on workshop Saturday, February 23, from 10:00 – 4:00. (For more detailed information about the event content please consult the January 22 UFL newsletter.)

Both events are open to UFL members and the general public. They are part of a lecture/workshop series offered by the Kansas City Friends of Jung (FOJ) (www.kcjung.org). Lecture cost is \$20 (\$15 for students or FOJ members), and for the workshop it’s \$65.00 (\$50 for students/FOJ members). UFL sponsors are members Jeff Lewis and Valerie Roper, who are also members of FOJ. A flyer on the series is available in the UFL lobby.

*Professor of Spanish, she teaches courses about Spanish literature, language, and culture as well as yoga classes; she received her Ph.D. in Spanish from KU. Most recently she is the author of *Mother and Myth in Spanish Novels: Rewriting the Maternal Archetype* (Bucknell University Press, 2011).

Fellowship donates \$1195 to Peggy Bowman Second Chance Fund!

Our January 2013 community connection of the month was the Peggy Bowman Second Chance Fund. Our very generous and understanding members came together to provide \$1,195 in critically needed funds to the organization that assists women throughout the state. We should all congratulate ourselves! Centro Hispano is our agency for February.

Thank You!

Please be sure to say “thanks” the next time you see the following people for their work helping paint the RE Wing nursery and classrooms! It looks so fresh and clean!

Stuart Beals, John Boulton, Lori Kemme, Daniel Bontempo, Brita Calnon, Paul Calnon, Shannon VanLandingham, Sarah Bodle, Chris Brown, Alex Moise, Heather Moise, Melissa Freiburger and daughter Luna, Rachel Gehringer, Annemarie Chilton, Barbara Thompson, Marcel Harmon, Michelle Iwig-Harmon

International Student Exchange

International Student Exchange is looking for warm, loving families who enjoy the idea of sharing their lives with a young person from another country. Our students do not need their own room--sharing a room with an age appropriate sibling of the same sex is fine. A Host Family should provide love, care, support, approved sleeping quarters, and three meals a day (on school days the student will eat on a meal plan at the school). We ask that our Host Families give the exchange student the same care and concern they would want their son or daughter to receive if in another country. We ask that our Host Families treat the students as a member of the family. The students will cover school and travel fees and

have insurance along with \$300 of their own spending money per month. As a host family, you will receive constant contact and support from a local International Student exchange representative. If interested please call or email Sally Sanko (785)-917-9459 <sallysanko@hotmail.com> (Sally Sanko is a former student of UFL member Tim Miller.)

We Serve at LINK on March 9!

Our next date for serving at LINK is Saturday, March 9. We will need about 18 meat main dishes, each to serve 12-14 people; two high-protein vegetarian dishes (things like veggie lasagna), and one vegan dish. We could also use some homemade desserts. In addition, we need about ten people to serve the meal and about 6 for cleanup. The meal is served from 1-2 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 10th and Vermont, but food and helpers need to be there by 12:30. Please consider joining us in this worthwhile, fun, and rewarding endeavor! We especially welcome those who have not participated before. Sign-up sheets will be available in the lobby starting on Sunday, February 17, or you can contact the Fellowship's LINK coordinator, Ellen Sward, at 842-3078 or esward@ku.edu.

Save the Date for the Annual Fellowship Auction—Saturday, April 27.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

We invite you to join us each Wednesday night for dinner, classes and groups. Being part of this small group opportunity is a great way to cultivate a deeper connection to the people you enjoy seeing on Sunday mornings! Dinner is from 6:00-6:45 p.m. for a suggested donation of \$5, free for children 10 and under. Childcare is provided from 6:30-8:30. Sign-up sheets for classes and groups are available on the counter in the Social Hall, or e-mail Michelle Iwig-Harmon at miwigharmon@sunflower.com. Getting you signed up helps us plan ahead, but even if you don't get the chance, feel free to attend. Please see previous newsletters for current group descriptions and watch future newsletters for more groups and classes as they start throughout the semester.

Dinner from 6:00-6:45 p.m.

On February 20, the Hot Flashes (Rebecca, Tamara, Carol Eades Delnevo, Silke, Michelle, Donna Eades) are fixing dinner. It will be a baked potato bar with different toppings, salad, dessert, mac&cheese, hot dogs.



Classes

Please see previous newsletters for current group descriptions and watch future newsletters for more groups and classes as they start throughout the semester.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

February Community Connection: Centro Hispano

Centro Hispano provides a consistent, welcoming place for Spanish-speakers to receive support in their native language and be linked to community resources. UFL member Lydia Diebolt is the bilingual director. Located at 204 W 13th St in space provided by St. John's Church, Centro Hispano receives limited financial support from the Success By 6 Coalition and makes excellent use of bilingual AmeriCorps members and social work students to extend its services to our growing Latino population.

Just Food

It is never too late to help our area food bank. Needs are great and ongoing. Checks made out to UFL with Just Food in the memo line may be placed in the offering baskets or the box at the back of the room. Your gifts are appreciated.

Ecumenical Campus Ministries Activities

At the ECM, 1204 Oread, This Week: Wed., Feb. 20, noon to 1 p.m. (or at 11:30, with lunch, for a donation of \$3.50) "Common Sense Climate Change" by Rachel Myslivy, Program Coordinator at Climate + Energy Project.

Also *Wed., Feb. 20, go for a meal at 6:30. p.m.* At 7, Orthodox Christianity: An Introduction." By Father Joshua Lollar, Rector, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, and Religious Studies Lecturer at KU.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Craft Day

Join us for an exciting day of crafting in Founders' Hall on Saturday, March 16th from 10am – 3pm. Spend your day scrapbooking, card making, knitting, crocheting, quilting, making jewelry, or working on any other craft you enjoy. Bring your creativity, your projects, and your supplies, and enjoy crafting, socializing, and seeing what others are creating. Look for more details in upcoming newsletters. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brita at brita.calnon@gmail.com.

Art Exhibition in Founders Hall:

"Elemental Fire and Water," by Stephanie Freeman

This show might also be called "Burnt Art." What would *you* call it?

Herbs Study Group

The Kaw Valley Herbs Study Group meets monthly to learn about herbs. \$2 charge to cover costs (KVHSG is a non-profit group; no charge for students). No pets. No children under 10. For newsletter & Updates: herbstudygroup@gmail.com

UU Pagans:

The Lawrence branch of CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) meets monthly. We practice earth-based spirituality, and we plan services for UUFL to celebrate the earth holidays, including the solstices and equinoxes. For more information:

LawrenceCUUPS@gmail.com

REMINDERS

Dates to Remember

Friends of Jung Feb 22-23
Talent/Tapas Show Feb 23
Craft Day Mar 16
Auction, April 27

Deadlines

Announcements for Sunday
due **Wednesday evening**.

Send items to

ufloffic@sunflower.com

Newsletter articles due

Monday at noon.

Send items to

ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

end items to ufl_newsletter@yahoo.com

Minister Office Hours

Office Hours: Rev Jarvis is at UFL most Monday and Wednesday afternoons, though may leave the office for outside appointments. To verify availability, it's recommended you contact her at 816-853-6530 or jjarvis1@kc.rr.com

Community Care Team

The UFL has a group of volunteers available to assist and support members and friends of the Fellowship during times of special need. Community Care Team Leaders are Laura Wilson and Kristen Spencer. To contact the Care Team, e-mail UFLCareTeam@gmail.com. You may also contact Jill Jarvis at jjarvis1@kc.rr.com or 816-853-6530.

Remember to "Like" the UFL Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/TheUFL>