



SEARCHLIGHT

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The Searchlight is a monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, 2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, Missouri 65201.

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Submissions can be made by email to uuchurch@uuchurch.net or by mail to the church – Attention: Administrator. Deadline for submissions is noon on the third Monday of each month for publishing in the following month's Searchlight.



March Faith to Action

The members of our Social Action Committee feel that UUSC, “our” national service committee, does work globally that is so important that we wish to support it as a recipient of a monthly “Faith to Action” collection. Since the work of UUSC will be discussed at the March 18 Service, we are designating the March Faith to Action collection on the 25th for the UUSC. Here is some basic information about the organization; www.uusc.org contains much more, of course.

“Founded in 1939 to rescue victims of Nazi persecution, the UUSC is an independent human rights organization whose work is grounded in UU principles and made possible by the activism and generosity of more than 47,000 members and supporters.” Some of its more recent activities include helping Burmese refugees in Thailand establish legal documentation, helping people defend the right to water around the world and in the US, working to stop US sponsored torture, defending the right to work in dignity for a living wage and to defend that right internationally and in the US, and helping people in disasters - the 2004 tsunami, the south Asia earthquake, and hurricane Katrina.

Here is another chance for us to put some money where our principles are, and to support the work of “our” service committee, the UUSC. We hope you will consider doing so. If you cannot attend the March 25th worship service during which we will conduct the Faith to Action collection, please mail a check to the church, with “UUSC” in the memo line.

Stephen Mudrick

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After Church Lunch Bunch

Everyone is welcome to join the *After Church Lunch Bunch* for your Sunday lunch at Ruby Tuesdays Restaurant, on Vandiver Drive near Highway 63 after the worship service on **Sunday, March 18th**. Please RSVP if at all possible, in advance, to Linda Lou Brown so that we can make a reservation at the restaurant. If you are a visitor or are bringing guests, you can still join us. We promise to make room for all! We expect there will be last minute reservations made at the church on March 18th.

Visit us at uuchurch.net!



Worship Services Sundays at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Our church plans a lay-led service on one Sunday of each month of the regular church calendar year. Lay-ministry enriches us all and helps maintain the tradition of lay-ministry as a vibrant part of our church life. The Worship Associates are responsible for planning lay-led services in the upcoming year. If you have an idea for a Sunday service or just want to help, contact a Worship Associate or Rev. Bill Haney at the church.

04 Mar	<p>“Sacred Satire”</p> <p>We begin with our children for the opening of the worship service. We will recognize Purim, which occurs in Jewish families this day. Our monthly pot-luck luncheon will follow the worship service. All are invited to attend.</p>
11 Mar	<p>“The Meaning of Meeting”</p> <p>How can one be in authentic Right Relationship with another? What is it that constitutes that moment of the transforming power of love that can occur in a Right Relationship? We will depend in large measure upon the work of Martin Buber for some insights. Mary Margaret Coffield will be the Worship Associate. The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Don’t forget Daylight Savings begins this weekend!</p>
18 Mar	<p>“Perspectives on Social Action”</p> <p>UU minister, the Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed has written, “There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice.” The Social Action Committee will address this idea in this layled worship service.</p>
25 Mar	<p>“Advancing Human Rights”</p> <p>With the closure of the “Guest At Your Table” program by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, we will celebrate our social justice heritage with this service. The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Leslie Luchene will be the Worship Associate. The Faith-To-Action Collection will be for the UUSC.</p>

Last Chance: \$1,000 Scholarship for Women

The Women’s Alliance of the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis annual \$1,000 scholarship for the coming 2007-08 academic year is taking applications. It is offered to a woman 25 or older who is responsible financially for her continuing education or returning to school; a member of one of the UU congregations in the St. Louis UU Area Council; a person of leadership ability, scholastic superiority, personal integrity, self-direction and humanitarian concerns; a registered student, carrying at least 6 hours of academic credit each term, who is aiming for a degree or full certification at an accredited college or university; and has evidence of need that will also be taken into consideration.

Application packets are now available upon request from:
 The Women’s Alliance Scholarship Committee
 5007 Waterman Boulevard
 St. Louis, MO 63108
 Attn: Women’s Alliance
 Or by email: office@firstuustlouis.org.

Deadline for completed applications is 31 March 2007.
 For further information, please contact Helen Cadoret at 314-725-1739.

Forum Schedule

The Forum, an adult discussion group, meets on Sundays from 9-10 a.m. in the Library/Forum Room, lower level of the church. Conversation and refreshments are offered along with the discussion. The Forum is open to the public.

04 Mar	“The Story of Our Sudanese Family – Past and Present” Margaret Tyler and Sarah Wolcott-Twaddle, with others, will lead discussion.
11 Mar	“Women, Peace, and Security – Update on United Nations Resolution 1325” Robin Remington, vice president, MidMo Global Action to Prevent War
18 Mar	“Visioning –Imaging Columbia’s Future” Forum participants have an opportunity to share individual visions of what Columbia could be.
25 Mar	“Phoenix Programs Expanding Mental Health Services” Deborah Beste, executive director

President’s Article

In George Orwell’s novel *1984*, party members must attend an indoctrination session daily called “Two Minutes Hate,” which is a facet of a larger indoctrination program designed to stimulate patriotic fervor and focus animosity towards a named enemy. In a manner of simultaneously appropriating and subverting this motif, the Executive Committee of the Board decided to implement for this Spring a new part of each Sunday’s order of service: the Two Minutes Urgency.

What is the Two Minutes Urgency? In one sense, it is a call for help. It is the Board’s way of communicating with the Congregation directly, in order to bring to your attention exactly what this congregation needs. This congregation needs

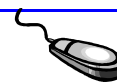


volunteers to help run this Church. We need your time, energies, and talents. This is your Church, and you must take an active part in it if it is to thrive. Our Church is organized into Councils and Committees, but not all of them are chaired or staffed. The Committees and Councils don’t really cease to exist when no one volunteers, but when no one volunteers or volunteers cannot be found, it is left to others not on those committees, already strained by many commitments, to make things “get by.” We have been in “get by” mode on many committees for quite some time, and the Executive Committee has now decided it is time to take this crisis to the members. Monthly messages in the newsletter may be ignored, but it is hoped that informing our members through Two Minutes Urgency each Sunday through May will result in greater participation by all.

Stephen Blower, Board President



Check out uuchurch.net!



Minister's Musings

BUT NOT QUITE YET . . .

In the past I've suggested March is the "teasing month." By that, I mean we are on the verge of spring, but not quite yet! The 21st is the equinox that "officially" inaugurates spring. But the weather rarely cooperates. This year we begin Daylight Savings earlier, on the 11th, which will add to the anticipation of spring, but not quite yet. The earth needs more time to warm. The trees and plants need more time to recover from the winter chill. Many of us, for our part, are tired of the chilled wind, the snow and ice, the dark cloudy days. Many long for the end of winter and the beginning of new life springing forth. With each passing day, there is a longing for the warmth and greenery of spring. It is a time of new hope, of regained

aspirations. However, too often in our culture of immediate gratification, March is over-anticipated. Just because the calendar says spring begins on the 21st, just because the Congress moved Daylight Savings forward, does not mean nature will cooperate with our need for immediacy. For me, March is the month of patience. Yes, there is a change in the weather. Yes, the days and nights are creeping toward warmer temperatures. And yes, it won't happen overnight, so patience in the turning of time and of nature. Spring is upon us, but not quite yet.

Peace and Love,
Bill

Visitor Orientation

On the second Sunday of the month there is a regularly scheduled informal orientation to the church led by the minister. This short session is designed for our visitors to meet Rev. Haney and to ask him questions about our church. Whether you are new to our church or have been attending for awhile, you are invited to meet in Rev. Haney's office after the worship service on **Sunday, March 11, 2007.**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia is:

- To keep our commitment to the seven principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association;
- To act upon these principles through a caring and friendly religious community for persons of all ages and diverse religious views;
- To promote spiritual growth and the quest for truth;
- To build our covenant with fellow Unitarian Universalist Congregations.

Adopted by the Congregation on May 22, 1994

The Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote

- * The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- * Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- * Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- * A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- * The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- * The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- * Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

What is a District Assembly?

Just as the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations has an annual gathering known as the General Assembly (GA for those in the know) so does the Central Midwest District have its own annual gathering. That is the District Assembly (the DA for those in the know). It is a time for members and delegates from the 70 plus congregations scattered around the District to come together to share and to get to know each other. There are workshops, entertainment, meals, children's programs, a District business meeting and a keynote address.

The business meeting will include awards and the election of members to the Board of Directors and a representative from this District onto the UUA Board of Trustees. The keynote address is by Alice Mann, with a theme of "Embodying a Story

that Matters." Ms Mann is an author and senior consultant of the Alban Institute. Her work offered to this church many insights into our transition into a program of Shared Ministry.



The workshops are on five tracks: Music, Lifespan Faith Development, Leadership Development, Ecology/Environment and International. **The location is in Chicago at the Oak Brook Marriot Hotel. The dates are April 13-15, Friday evening through Sunday morning.** Call the office

if you are interested in obtaining more information and desire to be a delegate for the business meeting on Saturday afternoon. You can register for the DA online by going to www.regonline.com/120202 or request a mail-in registration form from the Church Administrator.

From the Desk of the Church Administrator

I am excited to tell you the latest great news out of Meadville Lombard Theological School: Dr. Sharon Welch, member of the UU Church of Columbia, Missouri has agreed to serve as the new Provost. Sharon is known and respected widely in both academic and Unitarian Universalist circles. I could go on, but would rather you read what others have to say about this appointment for the school and for Unitarian Universalism. Please click here http://www.meadville.edu/Ab_News_Provost.html and read what Denny Davidoff, Bill Schulz, and Mary McClintock Fulkerson have to say about Sharon and this appointment.

Congratulations to Bill Clark, Columbia Daily Tribune columnist and long time UU who was honored at the 2007 Martin Luther King Jr. Award Convocation held at Stephens College in January. Stephens College honored six individuals for

embodying the principles and human values reflected in the work of Martin Luther King Jr. Bill coordinates the Forum adult discussion group here at our church. He also serves as President of the Columbia Audubon Society which meets at the church each month on the third Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 PM.



If you would like to be added to the weekly UU email "announcements list", please email uu_members_subscribe@uuchurch.net with your request. To be removed from the list send a blank email to uu_members_unsubscribe@uuchurch.net.

Kathie Bergman

What's New at UU?

Discover UU

Beginning on Monday, March 19, at 7:00 PM, Reverend Haney will facilitate four consecutive sessions of discovery of our Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. These 1-1/2 to 2 hour sessions, titled "Discover UU," are intended for;

1. visitors thinking about joining the church,
2. newly-joined members, and
3. more seasoned members who want to know more about the history of our movement and the Free Church.

So, the sessions are open to everybody!

Reading material required before each session will be distributed electronically (or by snail mail, if needed), which means **registration must be in the church office by no later than Wednesday, March 14th**. The registration forms are available on the Information Table in the Greeting Area at church, or can be obtained electronically by calling the church office or contacting Rev. Haney.

Please take the time to consider participating in this stimulating, informative and getting-to-know-you group. Mark your calendars: **Mondays, March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd, and April 9th**.

Conversations, Etc.

Conversations, Etc. will meet Wednesday, March 14 at the church. Bring a sack lunch and a snack to share if you wish. Kay Woods will discuss Native Americans. Call Roberta Jones if you have questions.

One Read Discussion Groups

It's not too late to sign up to participate in a "One Read" discussion group on the book Transforming Liberal Congregations! There is one group yet to meet in March. If you haven't had a chance to read the book yet, you can still do it! If you still need a book to read, talk to Kathie Bergman, or Eric Bader about getting a copy. Register for the discussion group by emailing uuchurch@uuchurch.

net or call Kathie in the church office. See you at the "One Read"!

Monthly Book Discussion Group

The UU Book Discussion Group will meet Friday, March 16 at 5:30pm at the Formosa Restaurant, 913A East Broadway. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly. Call Pam Springsteel if you have questions.

Social Action Reports

Thanks to 27 individuals and families, we collected \$1155 (as of this writing on February 18) for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, through the Guest at Your Table collection. "Thank you" to those who contributed!

Green Friday

The Green Friday movie for March will be "Birdsong & Coffee: A Wake Up Call" Friday March 2nd at 7pm at the UU church – All Are Welcome!

What is the connection between coffee farmers, birds and ourselves? Why are 25 million coffee farmers impoverished while we spend more for our coffee? Why are North American songbirds becoming harder and harder to find? What is the difference between Free Trade and Fair Trade?

This film explores the answers to these questions and many more. We hear from experts and students, from coffee lovers and bird lovers. But most importantly, we hear from the coffee farmers themselves and learn how their lives and ours are inextricably joined in ways that we need to understand.

It will be a fun evening for all. Come join in on the discussion and gain a deeper understanding of your favorite beverage. Fair-Trade coffee will be provided, but snacks are always welcome.

What's New at UU?

Call for Board of Trustee Nominees

Each year at this time the nominating committee identifies nominees for the Board of Trustees to be voted on at the annual spring congregational meeting. This year there will be two openings on the Board. We would like your help in identifying nominees. If you know someone who you think would do a good job and who might be willing to serve, let me know. If you are interested in being on the Board, don't be shy about nominating yourself. If you have served on the Board in the past and are ready for another term, I'd like to hear from you, too. If you need a reason to serve on the Board, here are a few. Being on the Board isn't hard, but it is an important job that needs to be done. It's a way to give back to the church. You'll learn a lot. You'll provide leadership and help shape the future of our church. You'll have an opportunity to get to know all the other wonderful Board members. It will be fun. Really.

Leslie Luchene

Second Saturdays: An Evening at the Opera

For our March gathering, Second Saturdays will go to the Columbia Chorale's "Opera Gala" at the Missouri Theatre. Nationally-recognized guest soloists and the 9th Street Philharmonic Orchestra will perform with the Chorale. Several UUs sing in the Chorale. The concert will be on Saturday, March 10, at 7:00. Tickets are \$10 in advance, and \$20 at the door. Second Saturdays is a fellowship group for UU adults, single or attached, who are roughly ages 25 to 45. It meets on the second Saturday of each month. Details for the month's activity will be announced by e-mail the prior week. If you're not on the Second Saturdays e-mail list and want to be, please contact us at secondsaturdays@uuchurch.net.

Meditation in Nature

Gans Creek Wildlife Area - Every third Sunday of the month, 9:00 to 10:00 am. Building a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness. Open to all people who love Nature. Contact Peter Holmes for more information.

Membership in this church is open to all



All who choose to walk with us in the spirit of love and in agreement with our UU principles.

We have no creedal requirements for membership. If you wish to become a member, please speak to Rev. Haney or call the church office (442-5764).

Everyone is invited! Sunday Potluck Lunch March 4, 2007



**Immediately following the
worship service in the greeting
area at the church.
Bring a dish to share!**

What's New at UU?

Open Borders Concerts Presents—At the Columbia UU Church:

The song-writing singing duo of Dennis James, a native of Texas, and Lauryn Shapter, a native of New York City, have teamed as Truckstop Souvenir. The group will be performing at the Open Borders Music series, Friday, March 2 at 8:00pm. The music series continues to showcase singer songwriters who are known nation-wide.

Truckstop Souvenir's first album was released in 2006. Their original music focuses on the American landscape and the open road. The duo's acoustic performances of guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and piano, showcase their original songs as well as covers of other groups. "My Heart Ain't Yours" has appeared on several Americana lists of hits since its debut. Each performer has had successful solo careers and is well known in the Seattle area.

Dennis continues to host a weekly web-streamed radio show focusing on Americana music from community radio station KRUU in Fairfield, Iowa. Lauryn has published articles on using yoga to help with the carpal tunnel syndrome which frequently occurs in musicians playing stringed instruments.

WHO: Truckstop Souvenir
 WHEN: 8pm, Friday, March 2
 WHERE: Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia
 WHAT: Open Borders Music series
 SUGGESTED DONATION: \$12

For further information on the Open Borders Music series: thevoiceorama@gmail.com

For further information and downloadable photos of Truckstop Souvenir: truckstopsouvenir.com



Also--

WHO: An Evening with Buddy Mondlock

WHEN: 8pm, Friday, March 16

For further information and downloadable photos of Buddy Mondlock: www.buddymondlock.com

Jefferson City UU Fellowship Plans Open House

The members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Jefferson City will dedicate their new building during the Sunday morning service, 10:30, March 11. In the afternoon, from 2 to 4 pm, the Fellowship will host an open house. Please join us for the celebration.

Men's Spring Equinox Sweat

March 18, 2007

A chance to reconnect with yourself, with other men, and with the natural world. For further details, contact Peter Holmes.

Interweave

Interweave: UUs for LGBT Concerns will meet on Wednesday, March 7 in the Centering Room at 5:45 p.m. Agenda items will include April social/ anniversary gathering, sponsorship of LGBT Coalition April conference, OWL PR, Interweave contribution to PrideFest, and other topics as determined. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Stephanie Dorman.

Congregational Development Council Retreat

The Congregational Development Council is responsible for our Congregational Care Ministry, membership, fellowship, hospitality, etc. In March we hope to have a Saturday morning retreat to help this Council continue its forward progress. Please watch the church announcements for more details.

THE SEARCHLIGHT
Unitarian Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd.
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Our Staff

Rev. William Haney, Minister
Lisa Fritsche, Director of Youth
Religious Education
Desiree Long, Music Director
Kathie Bergman,
Administrator



Office Hours: M - F - 10 a.m. 'til 3 p.m.
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Visit our Website: www.uuchurch.net

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