

# The Searchlight



Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, Missouri

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**Sustainable Living Fair 2009: A Project of Peaceworks' Center for Sustainable Living and recommended by the UU Social Action Committee**

Mid-Missouri's Premier Sustainability Educational Event: Sustainable Living Fair Scheduled October 17, 2009

Are you concerned about global warming, looking to make sustainable food choices, or wondering how you're going to pay your heating bills this winter? You're invited to check out the alternatives at mid-Missouri's seventh annual Sustainable Living Fair. This FREE event will be held at the Columbia College Student Commons from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 17.

Visit the UU booth at the Fair staffed by UU Social Action Committee members! For more information or to check out the 12 workshops featured visit [www.sffcolumbia.org](http://www.sffcolumbia.org) or call 573-875-0539.

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## UCC MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

**Adopted by the Congregation on May 22, 1994**

**Worship services begin at 10:30 a.m.**

**Youth religious classes and nursery care are also offered at 10:30 a.m.**

### WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday Services: 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.*

Oct 04            “The Gifts of Moving”

There is probably great resistance to leaving, to moving away. Yet, in the process of ending, there are many gifts yet to be received. The children will be with us for the opening of this service. Board member Linda Lou Brown is the Welcomer. Our monthly pot-luck luncheon follows the worship service. All are welcome to enjoy each other’s company!

Oct 11            “Right Relationship With Others”

As we prepare for the transition of a new minister and ministry, we will need the support of the Central Midwest District and the Unitarian Universalist Association. As consulting resources, how are we in relationship with each one? The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Board Treasurer Rexanna Ipock-Brown is the Welcomer. Rebecca Graves is the Worship Associate. A Guest’s orientation session about our church will occur in the minister’s study following the service. The special collection for “Association Sunday” will conclude the service.

Oct 18            To Be Announced. President-elect Gregory Brown is the Welcomer.

Oct 25            “How Am I Stuck Here?”

After 20 years of service with you, it is easy to keep on in the same direction. Yet, that isn’t a good plan for spiritual enrichment and program growth. The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Board member Mike Headrick is the Welcomer. Ken Wiley is the Worship Associate. The Faith-to-Action collection will be for the Walking School Bus fund.

## FORUM SCHEDULE

The UU Forum, an adult discussion group, meets on Sundays at 9-10 a.m. in the Forum Room/Library, lower level of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia. Conversation and light refreshments are offered along with the discussion. The UU Forum is open to the public. If you have ideas for a presentation or would like to make a presentation at the UU Forum, contact Bill Clark, coordinator or the church office at 442-5764.

Oct. 04 Fourth Ward Councilman Jerry Wade will explain the mechanics of coming up with the city's annual budget. As always, an open discussion will follow.

Oct. 11 State Senator Kurt Schaefer will discuss his role as our Ninth Senatorial District freshman senator and give us a look at what lies ahead in the upcoming Senate session.

Oct. 18 Bob Beasley will return for another of his mesmerizing talks - this one about an around-the-world trip with Cyrus Eaton, one of the world's leading industrialists.

Oct. 25 Deborah Harmon, the president of the Boone County Historical Society, will update us on the expansion of Boone Junction Historical Village and the other many projects at the Walters Historical Museum on Ponderosa Drive.

## MINISTER'S MONTHLY MUSINGS

THERE WILL BE MORE TO SAY . . .

If you have noticed, the themes of the worship services last September and for this month are focused upon my retirement and departure from the pulpit effective 30 June 2010. I'm certain to continue with that theme through the course of the church year *ad nauseam* will be straining a good relationship to the point of wishing the retirement date is much, much earlier. Still there is method to madness, which also goes by another name – ministry. The purpose of these services so early in the church year is to acquaint each of you with the stability that will occur during this transition period.

Of course, even under the best of circumstances, transitions are difficult. There are so many memories to unpack and ponder. As I prepare for my transition into interim ministry, I'm digging into my past archeology, and finding many memories, both pleasing and painful. Ministry, as with any other calling or vocation, has its ups and downs, too. It is so pleasant, however, to find so many, many more good memories. In the spirit of love, we have come a long way together.

Having said that, there may be more to be said. In this period, if there are any matters you wish to talk about concerning the past, please let me know. Right now I'm thinking of setting up some group conversations that are open-ended for free expression. I'll work on putting a schedule to do that, for I'm sure, there will be more to say.

Peace and Love,

Bill.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Fellow UU members and friends,

As your Board president, I feel that I should tell you a bit about myself. It is my hope that with this information some of you might feel more comfortable approaching me and tell me something about yourself the next time we cross paths.

Just in case you did not know what I do when I am not at church, I am a professor at MU. The past month has been quite hectic, with the beginning of the academic year as well as the church year. As the saying goes..."my plate is full." My field of research is focused on understanding how nutrition influences our immune system, particularly as it relates to infectious disease resistance. I am an expert on the health effects of fish oil and omega-3 fatty acids. My home department is Animal Sciences in the Ag school, but I interact with a lot of folks in the Vet and Med schools. I have been at MU for over 20 years and I very much enjoy what I do for a living. In the fall semester I teach an undergraduate course about animal nutrition to about 150 students. In the Spring semester, I teach a course for graduate students.

My wife, Lisa, is the Director of the Religious Education (DRE) program in our church. I think she does a great job, but we work hard at keeping our respective responsibilities to the congregation separate from our personal lives. For example, I have and will continue to excuse myself from Board meetings when discussions and decisions regarding staff evaluations and compensation are taking place. On a more personal note, Lisa and I just celebrated our 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the day we first met. I was a junior in college and she was a freshmen. She had the most beautiful blue eyes and long blond hair that hung down past her knees. Her hair is not so long now, but her eyes are still blue and beautiful.

We have four children. All were raised UU, like their mother. Our eldest, daughter, Carrie, is a chemical engineer in Denver. Our son, Peter, is a senior Math major at Bowdoin College in Maine. Our middle daughter, Sally, just started college in Iowa at Grinnell. Our "baby", Betsy, is 15 and just started at Hickman. She is a flag girl in the Marching Band and she just earned the privilege of owning her first cell phone.

Needless to say, I feel very blessed. I am so glad to be a member of this religious community. Now that you know a little bit more about me, I hope you will feel comfortable coming to me to discuss any ideas or concerns you might have regarding our church.

In community with love,  
Kevin Fritsche

## **Bible Study**

Second and fourth Sundays from 9 to 10 A.M. Stephen Blower and Rev. Bill Haney, co-leaders

## **Conversations, Etc.**

Conversations, Etc. will meet @ noon Wednesday, Oct 14 at the church for book reviews. Bring a brown bag lunch and a snack to share if you wish. Call Melinda Farhangi if you have questions.

## **Book Discussion Group**

UU Book discussion group will meet Friday, Oct 9 at 5:30pm at Q's Restaurant, 4004 Peach Ct. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly. Call Pam Springsteel if you have questions.

## **WE DO HAVE A RICH PAST!**

Granted we have a difficult time telling others who and what our Unitarian Universalist tradition is. Yet, there are ways in which we can get a better handle on our sources and heritage. That is through our **Discover UU sessions**.

I will be offering two separate formats this fall for guests, new members and our seasoned colleagues to choose. The one will be a one-day workshop format scheduled for Saturday, 24 October, from 9 AM to 3 PM, with childcare and a lunch provided. The other format will be on four successive Thursday evenings, beginning on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and continuing for the next three Thursdays, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 05<sup>th</sup> of November, at 7 to 9 PM, with childcare provided.

Registration forms to the two series are available at the Guest Table, or by contacting the church office. I hope you can take advantage of these sessions and learn more about our Free Church tradition and Unitarian Universalist heritage. So remember, Saturday 24 October, or the four Thursdays, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 05<sup>th</sup> November. The choice is yours.

Rev. Haney.

## **Fair Trade, Organic Coffee, Tea and Chocolate Sales--**

As we have done the past several years, the Green Sanctuary Group will sponsor sales in the greeting areas on the first Sunday of each month. Proceeds support our coffee hour, where we serve fair trade, organic products, and youth activities. Come see us before or after the service.

## **Help wanted:**

Approximately two hours per month. On the job training provided. No previous experience required. You won't earn any money but I guarantee you'll learn something new and get to know a whole lot more about how our church operates.

As we begin the new church year, we would like to invite anyone who is interested to join the Finance Committee. You'll enjoy interesting discussions and have a chance to help provide good stewardship of our church's finances. Many divergent points of view help the church to grow. Come lend your voice. Interested, please contact Kathie Bergman at [uuchurch@uuchurch.net](mailto:uuchurch@uuchurch.net) or Barb Montgomery for more information.

## **UU Life Writers' Group**

October meetings are October 3 and 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the Centering Room downstairs. All are welcome!

## **Meditation in Nature October 18, 2009**

Gans Creek Wildlife Area Every third Sunday of the month 9.00am 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

## **From the Desk of the Church Administrator**

The new Church Directory has been published for the 2009-2010 year. Pick up your copy at the church at your convenience!

Many thanks to the volunteers who tirelessly collate newsletters each month! Last month that was Dolores Clark, Armine Cuber, Joann Vest, Susie Anand, Melinda Farhangi, Joan Mudrick, Sue Bader, and Ann White.

Are you receiving the weekly email announcements? To be added to the UU Member Email list, send an email from the address you wish to receive your emails to the address [uu\\_members\\_subscribe@uuchurch.net](mailto:uu_members_subscribe@uuchurch.net) Conversely, to get off the UU Member Email list, send an email from the address you wish to be removed from the mailings to the address [uu\\_members\\_unsubscribe@uuchurch.net](mailto:uu_members_unsubscribe@uuchurch.net) You need have no subject in the email. NOTE: **The address has an "underscore" between uu and members!** If this doesn't seem to be working, please contact the Church Administrator at [uuchurch@uuchurch.net](mailto:uuchurch@uuchurch.net)

Deadline for submissions to the church's monthly newsletter is the third Monday of each month.

## **UU Meditation Retreat, 9am-4pm Saturday November 7th**

A chance to step outside the normal rush and tear of daily life and center yourself. No experience of meditation required. Led by Peter F Holmes, PhD

## **UUCM Men's Group**

The UUCM Men's Group meets on the second, fourth, and fifth Saturdays of each month at 8 o'clock a.m. at the Holiday Inn Executive Center. The group is open to all men. There are no fees and no reservations are necessary. The agenda is an open discussion of whatever is on the minds of those in attendance – and breakfast! For more information contact Sam Anand.

## **UU One Read -**

Nominations are now "IN DEMAND" for our One Read selection for this church year. Nomination forms are on top of the book cabinet in the greeting area. Nominate books that you think many will enjoy. The criteria for selection are:

- Ø Appeals to a cross-generational audience;
- Ø Appeals to a diverse audience;
- Ø Had thought-provoking subject matter which encourages discussion; one can learn from the book;

- Ø Easy to read and follow; readability;
- Ø In or of interfaith dialogue;
- Ø Credible author;
- Ø Lends itself to other activities besides discussion (e.g. dramatic readings, author interview, incorporate into Sunday service, etc.);
- Ø In paperback.

#### Monthly Potluck Lunch on October 4th

- Ø Bring your own serving plates.
- Ø Bring a dish to share, extra big portions are helpful.
- Ø If your last name begins with J - R please plan to stay to help with clean up.

#### **WEBS (Whole Earth Based Spirituality) Meetings**

*Third Saturday each month at 7 PM*  
*In the church Sanctuary*

Open to all who are involved in a serious Earth-centered religious practice. Bring an open mind and a willingness to explore it.

#### **Oct. 17:**

A Shamanic Journey to the Shadow Self

#### **Nov. 21:**

Exploring our chakras.

We enter Sacred Space at 7 PM, so please be on time. For more information, contact us at [uuwebs.co.mo@gmail.com](mailto:uuwebs.co.mo@gmail.com). **CHILD CARE** available with at least one week's notice.

#### **We need your help to take the top off the deck!**

On the morning of Saturday October 10th we will be removing the top and the stairs of the deck at church. This is being done for safety reasons because the deck is falling apart. We will leave the three large support structures to allow building a new deck someday.

We need some good workers to help with the demolition AND to carry the boards to a dumpster. Bring your leather gloves! Bring a hammer and crowbar if you have one!

The project starts at 9:00am Saturday October 10th and should finish in the afternoon. Food and drinks will be provided. Please come for as long as your schedule allows.

Thank you! The Facility Management Team

#### **Central Midwest District UU Women's Connection announces the 2009 Fall Retreat at Lake Geneva on November 6, 7, & 8, 2009.**

"Healing in Hard Times" is the 2009 theme with keynote by the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Armstrong. The UU Women's Connection strives to connect UU women within the district and to serve as a liaison between women of the district and the larger UU movement. For more information about the workshops scheduled or any questions about the retreat visit [www.uuwomensconnection.org](http://www.uuwomensconnection.org) or phone Jennifer at 708-386-1840.

## THE SOUND OF UU MUSIC

Why not join UU Singers (teenagers and adults), and add your voice to the choir (all voice parts needed – all singers welcome). **Regular rehearsals** are **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** downstairs in the Centering Room and we sing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month . I hope you join us. Desi

### **Care Ministry Team provides services to fellow UUs.**

If you are willing to provide transportation for fellow UUs, please help us match you with potential riders. Contact Mike Headrick, chair

If you are a UU needing transportation to worship or other church events please contact Margaret Tyler. Margaret will do the best she can to accommodate your request.

Members and friends of the U.U. Church of Columbia may apply for money from the **Benevolence Reserve Fund** to take care of urgent health care needs, preventive care, and funding to prevent homelessness. All applications for assistance will be kept in strict confidence. Members and friends who have made a financial or volunteer commitment to the church will be eligible for consideration. The maximum funding available for each requesting household may not exceed \$100 per fiscal year (due to limited fund resources). Contact Rev. Bill Haney to apply.

### **UU Local Harvest Supper**

Oct. 10, 2009

*Last day to buy tickets is Sunday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>*

Never been before? This is an annual event you won't want to miss! Imagine delicious local foods, a room full of friends, and down-home local entertainments. It's a harvest celebration for all ages. Tickets for vegetarian or omnivore meal cost \$6.00 for an adult portion and \$3.00 for a child's portion. (available in the greeting area after church.)

A reminder from the Little Red Hen: Those who eat the meal will be asked to help with a bit of the work. Sign up sheets are at the ticket table. :o)

### **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).