

The Searchlight



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

Volume 48, Issue 10

Summer 2009

Summertime Changes

Our summer services are lay led rather than minister led. Lay ministry enriches us all and helps maintain the tradition of lay ministry as a vibrant part of our church life. Rev. Haney will return to the pulpit on the first Sunday of September.

Children are welcome at the UU Summer Worship Services. The Youth Religious Education Program will resume on the last Sunday of August with the traditional Water Ceremony. For information about the program, contact the Director of RE.

The church office will be open during the summer months with Kathie, our church administrator, coming in to work part of each day Monday through Friday. If you plan to stop by the church, and you are always welcome to, it would be best to telephone first to make sure the doors are open.

Rev. Haney will be traveling to Salt Lake City for the 2009 General Assembly during the last part of June. He and Loretta will also be doing some summertime traveling. He can be reached at his home phone number or by leaving a message with Kathie. To contact the Care Ministry Team, call on Mike Headrick. Rev. Haney and Lisa Fritsche will return for office hours in August. The UU Singers will resume rehearsals in mid-August. Desi can be contacted by telephone at her home. In emergencies you may call upon any member of the Board of Trustees.

UUA President Election

This year at the General Assembly in Salt Lake City, the delegates to the Assembly will vote for the next President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. There are two candidates, the Reverend Dr. Laurel Hallman, recently minister of the First Unitarian Church in Dallas, and the Reverend Peter Morales, currently minister of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO. One of the key issues in the campaign is that of growth. Our numbers across the nation have stagnated, and the question is what kind of leadership will aid in turning that around. Will growth come from the UUA or from our congregations? Is growth a goal, or is it the result of doing countless things right? In either case, what strategies will the new President offer to aid in that venture? Each candidate has a view on that. What is yours?

Enclosed in the Searchlight is a ballot for your response. You are invited to visit the websites of the candidates, for Laurel, hallmanforuapresident.com and for Peter, moralesforuapresident.org. Give each your attention and participate in the process of electing our new President.

Rev. Bill Haney



Remember to

- SAVE WATER FROM YOUR TRAVELS THIS SUMMER FOR THE WATER CEREMONY
- VOTE FOR UUA PRESIDENT BY JUNE 1
- SEND IN YOUR END-OF-THE-YEAR SURVEY

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The Searchlight

Worship Services Sundays at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Our summer services are lay-led. If you have an idea for a Sunday service or just want to help, please contact a Worship Associate.

- May 31 "Silence"
Rebecca Graves is the service coordinator.
- June 7 "Justice" by Tom Nordberg
The Social Action Committee members are the service coordinators.
- June 14 "Animal Blessing"
Marianne Erickson is the service coordinator.
- June 21 "Summer Solstice With the Whole-Earth Based Spirituality Group"
Come join WEBS to have fun in the Sun. We will experience the "fatherly" aspects the Sun brings to earth-based spirituality on this day. **Rexanna Ipock-Brown** will coordinate.
- June 28 TBA
- July 5 TBA
- July 12 "UU Tent Revival "
A renewal of UU energy, held outdoors under a big tent! Come discuss & explore some of your spiritual beliefs. **Larry Lile** and **Qhyrrae Michaelieu** are the service coordinators.
- July 19 TBA
- July 26 "Forbidden Fruit: a Message from a Young UU"
Marianne and Charlie Erickson are the service coordinators.
- August 2 "What It Means to be an American"
Scott Denson is the service coordinator.
- August 9 "Creating a Culture of Abundance"
Fifty years from now, when our descendants open the 2009 UU Church of Columbia time capsule, what will they discover? Will our symbols and stories hint of a culture of abundance or one of scarcity? What message do you want to convey? Let's explore the images we project.
Stephanie Dorman is the service coordinator.
- August 16 "A Little Old School and a Little New"
Ken Wiley, a church member and a junior at Mizzou, will boisterously discuss the UU age gap, myths about age differences, and how to create a UU bridge that truly connects us all.
Ken Wiley is the service coordinator.



Worship Services (continued)

August 23 "From the Depths: Impressions from Honduras"
Honduras means "the depths" in Spanish, and the members of the group going on the UU service trip to El Pital, Honduras in June will surely come back feeling deeply about their experiences there. Members of the group will be sharing about their experiences, impressions, and lessons learned and wisdom gained. **Allie Gassmann** is the service coordinator.

August 30 "Water Ceremony"
Summer ends and our church calendar begins in September. We will celebrate the ending of summer with the words by **Naoma Powell**. Bring a sample of water from your summer travels to unite with the waters of the world as we reunite with the body of our church community in this annual favorite.

Forum Schedule

The Forum, an adult discussion group, meets on Sundays at 9-10 a.m. in the Library, lower level of the church. Conversation and refreshments are offered along with the discussion. Contact Bill Clark, 474-4510, if you have a program to offer at the Forum.

June 7	Kathie Bergman , our church administrator, and Stephanie Dorman , Congregational Development Council convener, will report about the recent UU District Assembly and answer questions about the coming year, which begins July 1.
June 14	Our own Forum member, Joann Vest , will lead us on "A Meandering Journey Through Art History."
June 21	Lisa Schenker , long-time fourth grade teacher at Grant Elementary School, will take us through a day and a year in today's teaching world. All former teachers should enjoy a look at the teaching profession through the eyes of one of Columbia's best.
June 28	Steve Starr , a medical technologist at MU, will discuss "The Environmental Consequences of Nuclear War."



Congratulations to the Class of 2009!



The Searchlight is a monthly publication of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, 2615 Shepard Blvd., Columbia, Missouri 65201. It is published monthly from September through June.

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 August for publishing in the following month's Searchlight.

The Searchlight

What's on the Calendar?

Monday, June 1

- **Deadline** for voting for UUA President and for the submitting the church evaluation survey.

Wednesday, June 10

- **Conversations, Etc:** Noon. Mary Mosley will give a wrap up of the state legislature. Bring a sack lunch.

Friday, June 12

- **UU Book Discussion Group:** 5:30 pm. We'll meet at Q's Restaurant, 4004 Peach Tree Ct. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly. For more information, call Pam Springsteel.

Saturday, June 13

- **Facility Workday:** 8 am—noon

Sunday, June 21

- **Meditation in Nature:** 9-10 am. Open to all people who love Nature and want to build a connection between spiritual practice and environmental consciousness. Contact Peter Holmes for more information.

Wednesday, July 8

- **Conversations, Etc:** Noon. Bring a sack lunch and a snack to share if you wish.

Friday, July 10

- **UU Book Discussion Group:** 5:30 pm.

Saturday, July 11

- **Facility Workday:** 8 am—noon

Sunday, July 19

- **Meditation in Nature:** 9-10 am.

Saturday, August 8

- **Facility Workday:** 8 am—noon

Wednesday, August 12

- **Conversations, Etc:** Meet at the Museum of Art & Archeology with lunch afterward at the Heidelberg.

Friday, August 14

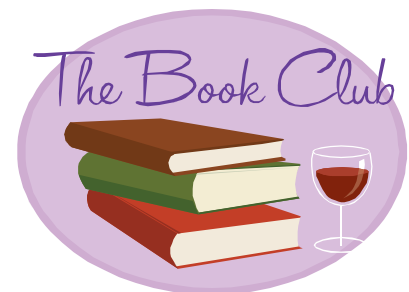
- **UU Book Discussion Group:** 5:30 pm.

Sunday, August 16

- **Meditation in Nature:** 9-10 am.

Monday, August 17

- **September newsletter articles due:** noon



Announcements

FACILITY AND GROUNDS SCHEDULE

This is the time of the year when the church grounds need the most attention, and the Facilities Committee is asking for your help. Summer is also the time when we must address some of the major tasks associated with building maintenance. We had a good turnout and finished several important jobs on May 2nd, and have scheduled additional workdays for the second Saturday of June, July, and August. We invite you to join us in tending to the physical needs of the church from 8:00 to 12:00 on these Saturday mornings. Please bring commonly used gardening or maintenance tools as the church has very few. We hope to see you on Saturday morning, June 13th.



SEARCHLIGHT ARTICLES

Deadline for submissions to the next Searchlight is Monday at noon, August 17, 2009. Send your articles to the church office by snail mail or by email. Submissions should be no more than 200 words in length.

UU DINNER CLUB

Do you enjoy great food and stimulating conversation? Join us for the 2009 – 2010 UU Dinner Club. These are monthly dinners with an International Food theme to make it more than the usual potluck dinner! Eight persons are assigned to a host/hostess and the assignments change each month so you can get to know a diversity of UU church goers! Attend each month or as often as you are available. You will be contacted before each month's dinner. Annual dues are \$7.50 per person. Adult singles and couples are welcome. You don't have to be a member of the church to join our Dinner Club! Last year we had 44 participants. We would love to have you join us. Contact **Valerie Sauers** for more information.

HONDURAS SERVICE TRIP

A great big "Muchas Gracias" to all of you who have supported our Honduras service trip by bringing donations to church, giving financial donations, helping in the planning and advising, buying fundraiser items and being supportive with words of encouragement, wisdom and caring. Our group (**Kevin and Betsy Fritsche, the Thomas family, Sarah Coller and Jessie Murphey, Jeanne and Dennis Murphy, the Denson Amuedo family, Caroline Erickson, the Smith family of the United Church of Christ and the Gassmann family**) will be heading to El Pital, Honduras on June 14. Most members of our group will be involved in the building of latrines, but others will be working in the sewing cooperative, the health clinic, the newly built high school and doing other creative projects. When we come back, we will be eager to share with you about our trip, and we will do so in a summer service (on August 23), a regular church year lay-led service, in Forum, and we will host a "shareholder" dinner. We hope and trust that the bridges we will build and the connections we will make between Columbia, Missouri and El Pital, Honduras will enrich not only the members of our group but the whole of our church community.

SUMMER WRITERS' GROUP

Fran Reynolds, our fearless leader, is taking the summer off, which means Writers' Group will be lay-led, too! We will continue to meet on Saturdays from 10:30 – 12:30 in the Centering Room. Our meeting dates will be June 27, July 11, July 25, and August 8. **Pat Gulmez** will facilitate the June 27 session, and the remaining group leaders will sign up then for their preferred date. **Milbre Burch** will offer a special writer's workshop on June 13. Fran will return in September.

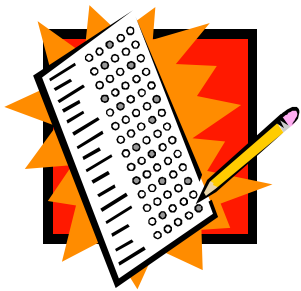
The Searchlight

Announcements

UU ONE READ

The UU One Read committee is already hard at work, planning the church's One Read program for 2010. So put on your thinking (and reading) caps – we will be asking for nominations for the coming year's book selection in September. This is a great excuse for lots of summer reading! Our One Read book can be fiction or non-fiction, and should be something that is readable, has broad appeal, is thought-provoking and will stimulate discussion. From all nominated books, the committee will choose the best two. During the month of November you will have the opportunity to learn more about those two books and to vote for one as our One Read book. There will be a prize for the person (or persons) who nominates the winning book! Discussion groups and other One Read activities will begin in January-February 2010.

This year's One Read selection, *Three Cups of Tea*, was a great success. If you haven't had the opportunity to read the book yet, there are still a few copies available for sale at the Book Table, plus copies of the adaptation for children and teens. We hope next year's program will be even bigger, better and more fun. Let your voice be heard! Start thinking now about nominating a great book for the UU Church's 2010 One Read.



CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

The Board of Trustees and the Leader Councils would appreciate your assistance in determining whether the church is meeting the expectations and needs of our members and friends. We've created an Evaluation Survey to seek your input. It can be accessed online at <http://tinyurl.com/uuccsurvey>. If you would prefer a paper copy, send an email request to uuchurch@uuchurch.net or call 442-5765. The deadline for submission is June 1, 2009. Thank you for participating!

UU AT PRIDEFEST

Visit the UU booth at PrideFest, a community celebration for LGBTs and allies. on June 13, 11– 7, at Stephen's Lake Park. Food, great music, fun vendors, and good company round out this free event.

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

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.*

Opportunities

CAMP STARTRAIL

Prairie Star District (to our west) is starting a summer camp for UUs of all ages. Camp StarTrail will be held August 2 – 7, 2009 just off I-80, between Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska. Join us for a multigenerational camp that celebrates and explores Unitarian Universalism, in the beautiful rolling hills of the Platte River Valley. Our Theme Speaker is Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister at First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis, MN. Her topic is “Toward Wisdom: How to recognize and become a spiritual grown-up, with or without god.” Costs will be reasonable. Tent and RV camping is available. A variety of housing is available; most spaces are air conditioned. Registration is now open. Go to www.psduua.org and click on Camps on the left tool bar.



SUMMER WOMANSPIRIT 2009

Embracing Our Diversity, Celebrating Our Unity

Central Midwest District Women and Religion Committee and the women of the Summer WomanSpirit Committee invite you to attend our 17th annual summer gathering August 7-9, 2009 at the Ronora Lodge and Retreat Center in Wateruliet, Michigan. We will be contemplating how differences between us can be what make us whole as a community. How our complementary talents show us we are one. This incredible time that we are living in has brought down many walls, not without some discomfort. We can seek to nurture each others' strengths in order to better our world. We hope that the weekend inspires us all to be connected with the ones around us. Come share in the joy and the love!

Go to <http://www.womenandreligion.org/index.php/summer-2009> to read or download a brochure. Register online with check or credit card at <http://www.regonline.com/694991>. Please let Registrar Kathryn Vandenberg know if you have questions. Her phone is 847-926-8454 and she can be reached by e-mail at sws@womenandreligion.org.

ESCAPE TO VERMONT

Our fifteenth Annual B&B Weekend, October 9-11, 2009, is offered by the UU Church of Rutland, VT. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, nature walk, kayaking, bicycling, antiques/arts, cider making historic tour, soaring tour, touring historic sites and quaint towns, and much more. Registration by August 15 is \$275 (single) and \$475 (double). After August 15, registration is \$325 (single bed) and \$525 (double bed). For more information contact uufoliagevermont@yahoo.com or (802) 353-7969. See <http://fallweekend.wordpress.com/> for a brochure.

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).



The Searchlight

Festival of Sharing

SHARING KITS NEEDED

Would you find it satisfying to create a Dental Pack to be used by a family in need? Or a Women's Prison Pack to provide toiletries to a woman in a Missouri prison? Or a Layette kit with basic tools for a mother struggling with poverty or the consequences of a natural disaster? The Kits and Packs we create help us spread feelings of compassion and care to people who are like us in many ways, but who are in less fortunate circumstances. Samples of these projects can be seen at the Festival of Sharing Display Table during the month of June. Listed below are the supplies needed for each project. The "Pack Value" is the tax credit value of the project.



STUDENT DENTAL PACK - Pack Value \$ 11.00 (Missouri)

1 fluoride toothpaste, 6 oz. or more, 4 child Size soft toothbrushes, 2 adult soft toothbrushes, 1 dental floss—any size

Place items inside a 1-gallon zip lock bag.

The extra brushes are for family members

WOMEN'S PRISON PACK - Pack Value \$ 9.00 (Missouri)

1 Emery Board (not a metal nail file) 1 Pencil (unsharpened, no advertising)

30 sheets of writing paper, 6"x9", (no note cards) 5 Envelopes (white standard size, not business size)

1 Shampoo (12-16 oz. size, alcohol-free only) *Acceptable brands: Suave, Equate Herbal, Personal Care Herbal, Alberto VO5, Style

1 Tube toothpaste (6 - 6.4 oz. size, alcohol-free only) *Acceptable brands: All types of Ultrabrite, Colgate, Crest, Aquafresh and Gleem

1 Deodorant (2-3 oz. size, alcohol-free only, no roll-ons, no men's brands) *Acceptable brands: Revlon Hi & Dri, Lady Mitchum Clean Gel, Crystal Clean Deodorant, Almay Clear Gel, Simple Basic Clear Deodorant.

Toothbrushes and Stamps are not allowed as part of these kits.

LAYETTE KIT - Pack Value \$39 International Shipping—\$2/kit

Layettes provide gentle warmth for infants and basic tools for young mothers struggling with poverty or the consequences of natural disaster.

6 cloth diapers ,2 diaper pins, 2 t-shirts or undershirts (no onesies), 2 washcloths

2 gowns or sleepers, 1 sweater or sweatshirt, 2 receiving blankets (1 can be a knitted blanket).

Bundle items inside one receiving blanket and secure with diaper pins.

Place your completed projects in the Festival of Sharing bin in the UU Church lobby by the end of September.

We will need time to collect, sort and box these before transporting them to the Festival in Sedalia on October 17th. If you have extra kit/pack items, bring those as well. They will be used to create additional kits and packs.

For more information, contact **Marian Hjelmfelt**.



UU Writers' Workshop with Milbre Burch

Celebrated, internationally known storyteller, award-winning recording artist, published poet and writer, and respected teacher of her craft.

In this hands-on workshop, participants begin the work of mining the memory for family stories. Through a series of questions, workshop participants are led to consider the origin of their own names; to call up the sense memories of early childhood; to begin to catalog the characters and locations important to the family landscape; and to review the sayings, slogans and family myths held in trust by various family members.

Using inquiry as a tool, participants can begin to examine the raw precious metals and unpolished gemstones of personal history, and start to polish them with insight and adorn them with imagination to ensure that the heart of the story is passed on to future generations. This writing workshop is ideal for storytellers, family members, creative writing teachers, and community builders of all kinds.

WHEN: Saturday, June 13, 2009

TIME: 10:30 – 2:00 P.M.

Bring your own lunch, drinks provided

WHERE: UU Church, Centering Room

COST: \$35.00 per person

Workshop limited to 14 participants.

Reservation deadline: June 1

Childcare provided IF requested by June 1

For more information and reservations:

Call or email Fran Reynolds.



The UU Life Writers' Group Presents:

“I Used to Hear Them Say: Mining the Memory for Stories”

Registration due by June 1, 2009

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

\$35.00 _____

Child Care Needed? Yes _____ No _____

Make check payable to UU Church of Columbia, “Writers Workshop” on memo line.

The Searchlight

UUA Presidential Election at District Assembly

In case you missed District Assembly and the forum with our UUA Presidential candidates, here is a recap. As Chief Executive Officer, the President of the UUA is responsible to the Board of Trustees for the administrative policies and programs of the Association and is the chief spokesperson for the UUA. The Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman hails from Dallas, Texas where she has been the senior minister at First Unitarian Church of Dallas since 1987. She has been president of the Southwestern Conference Ministers Association Chapter, and she served on the Meadville-Lombard Theological School board. She has also been on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee as well as the UUA President's council. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Meadville Lombard.

The Rev. Peter Morales is from Golden Colorado, where he first served at Jefferson Unitarian Church from 1999 to 2002 when he went to work as the Director of District Services. In 2004 he returned to Jefferson where he currently serves. He has served on the UUA Board of Trustees, the UU ministers Association Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of LUUNA – the Latino/a UU Networking Association. He got his Master of Divinity degree from Starr King School for the Ministry.

After opening speeches at the forum, the candidates were asked to tell us a story from early in their life that captured the spirit of the kind of leader they have become. Peter took us back to his teenage years in Missouri and the Lutheran church his family attended where he interacted with a mentor who cared deeply and wanted to entrust him with building a common vision of what was possible in the future. Laurel spoke of her early UU experience when she worked at Unity Church in Minnesota, where she set things up at the pulpit and felt a calling to ministry, thinking “I could do this.”

One of the biggest opportunities of new leadership is to redirect the organization's attention. It is easy to name things that need more attention, but what did our candidates muster that needs less attention? Laurel pointed out that “what you pay attention to grows” and that less emphasis needs to be put on reactive habits. She pointed out what the 5th Principle Task Force has come up with in terms of envisioning a new approach to General Assembly, how this refocuses GA on deepening congregational leadership. Peter said “if you can't say ‘no’ to something, you don't have a strategy.” His emphasis was on fewer conferences where the benefit is unclear or not comparable to the cost. Also, he pointed out the value of electronic publishing reducing paper usage. He said that there should be more of a focus on nurturing health and what is good and less time on conflict management.

These are their responses to only two of the ten questions I asked the candidates, and the candidates were also asked a few that came from the floor. Overall, the response from the candidates and those attending was very positive, so talk to someone from your congregation who was there to get the whole story!

Blessings,

Justine Urbikas

Central Midwest District representative to the UUA Board of Trustees

UUA Presidential Election Ballot

The UU Church of Columbia has five delegate votes in the upcoming UUA presidential election between Rev. Dr. Laurel Hallman and Rev. Peter Morales. We will be casting these votes through absentee ballots. Now is the time to add your voice to the process.

To learn about the candidates:

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/uuapres> online for videos and written statements.

See your UU World magazines – Summer 2008 (p. 50-51), Fall 2008 (p. 44), and Spring 2009 (p. 46-47)

Please vote only ONE time by **June 1, 2009** using any of the following formats.

1. On your own, go to <http://tinyurl.com/uuccvote> to cast your vote.
2. Vote during the church services on May 24 or May 31. Ballots will be included in the Orders of Service.
3. Return the ballot in the newsletter to the church by postal mail or place it in Kathie Bergman's mailbox across from the church office.
4. The weekly email announcements on May 21 and May 28 will include the web link. Watch for it and make your vote then.
5. Visit the "Messages" section of the church website, uuchurch.net. The web link for the ballot will be included in the Announcements. Select it to vote.

Our minimum goal is to have 20% of our congregation (42 members) vote in this election. The absentee ballots will be marked based on the percentage out of 100% that each candidate receives. For example, if Rev. Morales receives 40% of the votes, two of the five absentee ballots will be cast for him.

This is a real-life example of congregational polity, showing the UUA what we consider important by choosing the best representative to express our wishes. Thank you for participating.

Please vote for UUA President by June 1.

UUA Presidential Election Ballot

Directions: Please indicate your choice for UUA President below by darkening the circle next to your selection's name.

- Reverend Peter Morales
- Reverend Dr. Laurel Hallman

Return your ballot to the church by June 1.

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

It's the time of year again to wonder where the time went. The academic and church year are coming to a close, and this is my last letter to you as Board President. I remember well how hard it was to write the first one, managing to start only because of a tight deadline and convincing myself that no one would read it. The time pressure remained throughout the year, but I learned to enjoy these opportunities to reflect and work through issues that were on the Board's and my mind. For that alone it was worth it, but I do hope you got something out of it as well!

The congregational meeting on April 26 was short but accomplished the important tasks of approving the budget and electing the board for the next church year. **Kevin Fritsche** was first to thank the Generosity Team and Stewardship Task Force under **Marianne Erickson's** competent leadership for this year's successful canvass, but neglected to mention his own hard work and long-range planning in this matter. We are fortunate to have Kevin as our next Board President. I admire his boundless energy, good humor and knowledge of our church, and I'm looking forward to my continued service on the board under his strong leadership.

We will miss the quiet efficiency of our Treasurer, **Val Sauers**, and the not-quite-as-quiet and always appreciated frankness of **Bill Clark**, who frequently kept us on topic. Both served for two years on the board, and I thank them for their work and advice. Fortunately we will be joined by **Stephanie Dorman**, our imaginative and incredibly hard-working outgoing Council Convener, and **Marian Hjelmfelt**, who together with **Mike Headrick** will maintain a strong voice for Forum on the board despite Bill Clark's departure. Both Stephanie and Marian strike me as very caring, thoughtful and committed, and I think you will find next year's board redoubling our efforts to progress towards our ideal of a vibrant and meaningful church community. On this path we will continue to be served admirably by our staff, who deserve our gratitude for never flagging in their dedication to our church.

I do have some regrets, mainly that other commitments frequently left me feeling I am not giving the board and our church, and our place in the wider community, the time and attention they deserve. But it has been a wonderful experience and privilege to work with all of you. I wish you a great summer of work, play, and recharging your batteries, and I hope to see you at summer services or back at church in the fall.

Walter Gassmann



UU Church of Columbia 2009-10 Board of Trustees members covenant with the congregation on May 10, 2009. Pictured are, left to right, Reverend Bill Haney, Kevin Fritsche, Gregory Brown, Rexanna Ipock Brown, Walter Gassmann, Stephanie Dorman, and Marian Hjelmfelt. Returning Board members not pictured are Linda Brown, Mike Headrick, and Ellen Thomas.

FROM THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Do you enjoy reading the monthly Searchlight? Have you ever thought about how it gets completed each month? For the past several years Stephanie Dorman has been our newsletter editor. A handful of other members have served in this capacity prior to Stephanie's notable work. (Maybe even you!) The staff of UUCC wishes to thank Stephanie for her outstanding service to our church and its members. But now it is time, with Stephanie having been elected to the 09/10 Board of Trustees, to recruit a new volunteer to help us with the newsletter.

If you have experience publishing brochures and/or newsletters; if you have a computer at home and enjoy doing that sort of thing, and you are interested in serving our community, please, consider volunteering about six hours a month to prepare the template for the church's monthly newsletter. I believe that Stephanie used a program called "Publisher" but there are other computer programs that would be equally successful for our purpose. Won't you please contact me and let me know that you are answering the call for service?

Have a great summer! The next newsletter will be mailed in late August!

Kathie Bergman

MINISTER'S MONTHLY MUSINGS

LOVINGLY BEFORE WE PART . . .

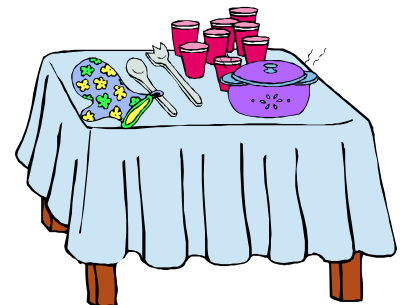
The summer months are upon us. The joys of spring and the freshness of the green will begin to be persuaded by ever increasing temperatures to fade into memories of fresh and delightful days and nights. The summer heat will begin to enfold us. That notwithstanding, there will be time for travel, vacations, yard work and just some sort of leisure time with family and friends. Of course, church life will continue with our lay-led summer worship services and Forum for those not inclined toward dispersing too far into the summer yonder. It's been a good year and good reason for the recreation for most of us. It will be a long time before we re-gather next September for our launching of the new church year. My hope is that each of you will have a wonderful summer and the ability to reflect upon those persons and moments that carry the most meaning for you. As we send off into the summer months, it is appropriate that we reflect upon the message to each other when we conclude our worship service. So as we depart to our separate visions of what summer means for each of us, let us hold in our hearts these words by Sarah Bess,

Now on leaving one another,
May we give of hand and heart.
Let us share our benediction,
Lovingly before we part.

Peace and Love,
Bill



Potlucks resume on September 6.
Have a great summer!



THE SEARCHLIGHT
Unitarian Universalist Church
2615 Shepard Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201-6132



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Columbia, MO
65201
Permit No. 81

Our Staff

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

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