

Annual Congregational Meeting

Unitarian Universalist Church Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 25, 2010

Members are hereby notified of the annual Congregational Meeting. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary. Light refreshments served. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Agenda-

1. Election of 10/11 Board of Trustees
2. Vote on 10/11 Budget
3. Annual Reports: President, Treasurer, Minister, Director YRE
4. Special Report: Interim Minister Search Task Force

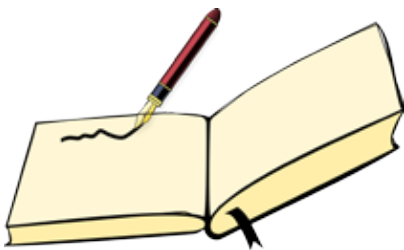


Childcare will be offered in the Nursery.

“A member shall become a voting member 60 days from the date of joining.”

---Bylaws, Article III, Section 2

On Becoming A Member



The church Membership Book will be open for signing on Sunday, 25 April. Those wishing to join the church are invited to attend and participate in the celebration. Signing the Membership Book is more than just putting your name to a register. It is making a commitment that has meaning and importance to you and to many who are a part of

you. That means the moment of signing has extreme importance to more than just the one signing the Membership Book. We will gather in this service to witness as a congregation those who choose to join us, and then we will enter into our covenant that binds us together into a loving community of memory, hope and reverence.

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News & Announcements

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.

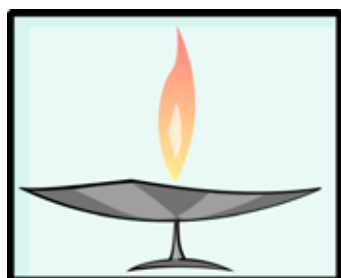
Submissions can be made by email to uuchurch@uuchurch.net or by mail to the church – Attention: Administrator. Deadline for submissions is noon on the third Monday of each month for publishing in the following month's Searchlight.

UCC 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



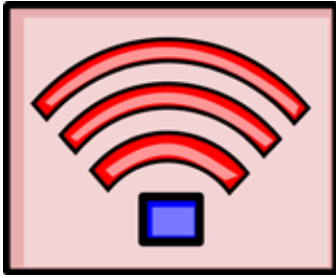
WORSHIP SERVICES

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.

Apr 04	“Just Who Was Resurrected”
There really is more to Easter than just doctrine and dogma. There is a way of understanding the Easter “event” as a continual unfolding of lifting hope out of despair. This is our Flower Communion service (see article in this newsletter). The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Board Secretary Stephanie Dorman is the Welcomer. Sue Bader is the Worship Associate. Our high school group, the Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU) will host an Easter luncheon follows the worship service. All are welcome to enjoy each other’s company!	
Apr 11	“The Grounding of Ethics”
The binding of a religious community requires some form of behavioral grounding. Our covenants offer to us a means of ethical behavior that may be grounded in values and morals. Board Member Linda Lou Brown is the Welcomer. Ken Wiley is the Worship Associate.	
Apr 18	“Green Sanctuary service”
Board Past President Walter Gassmann is the Welcomer. Todd Iveson is the Worship Associate.	
Apr 25	“Purposeful Expectations”
We have many expectations in our lives, both personal and institutional. In this moment of church life transition, how will each respond personally and as a member of the church? This will be our New Member In-gathering celebration (see article in this newsletter). The UU Singers will be a part of the service. Board Member Ellen Thomas is the Welcomer. Adele Coleman is the Worship Associate. The Faith-to-Action collection will be for Missourians Against the Death Penalty.	

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 the church office at 442-5764.

Apr. 04	Stephanie & Adele Dorman & Sam Martin
They will talk about National History Day, a contest for students in grades 6-12, with this year's theme being "Innovation in History: Impact and Change." Sixth graders Adele and Sam, who have advanced to the state level, will perform with puppets, "Silly Putty: Tire or Toy," about World War II scientists' search for synthetic alternatives to rubber. Stephanie will also comment on the struggles and joys of home schooling.	
Apr. 11	Psychologists Carla & Wayne Anderson
Going back seven million years, they will discuss the evolution of the human family, emphasizing the work of Louis and Mary Leakey, archaeologists and naturalists who helped establish human evolutionary development. Further studies of hominid fossils have continued to change our ideas about human origins.	
Apr. 18	Carla & Wayne Anderson
They will discuss how the "Leakey's Angels"—Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey and Birute Galdikas—became important scholars in primatology and played a major role in protecting African wildlife.	
Apr. 24	Carla & Wayne Anderson
They will present on Coco Chanel, the only fashion designer to make Time magazine's 100 most influential people of the 20th century. She noted, "I gave women a sense of freedom; I gave them back their bodies: bodies that were drenched in sweat, due to fashion's finery, lace, corsets, underclothes, padding."	

ANOTHER FREE LUNCH FOR THE FREE CHURCH



On Saturday, 10 April, I will conduct the workshop on our liberal religious tradition, "Discover UU." We will have refreshments at 8:30 AM, with the workshop beginning at 9 and ending by 3 PM. Childcare and lunch will be provided. If you've wondered about the Free Church tradition, or even how it is that this church exists, consider attending this informative and interactive workshop. Registration forms are available in the Greeting Area of the church, or by contacting me at minister@uuchurch.net or by phone, **442.5764**. This series of sessions is open to all without obligation. If as a visitor or guest, you've wanted to know more about our Free Religion, or as a member already involved in the life of the church, all are welcome. Please consider 10 April your day to know more about us. **Rev. Haney.**



MINISTER'S MONTHLY MUSINGS

THERE IS EASTER IN SPRING . . .

I've always felt there was a difference between the cycle of spring and the story of Easter. It is, of course, no accident that Easter occurs at the beginning of spring. That is because of an older tradition that found its way into the springtime events of the ancient world. That older tradition is the Jewish Passover celebrations. There is no historical evidence to support that Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt

in spring, or any time for that matter. The biblical text does not tie the event to any seasonal time frame. In coming out of the surrounding cultures, somehow Passover was established at the beginning of spring. Just as the founding events of the Jewish tradition are expressed in mythical dimensions as historical events, so is the Christian founding event of the resurrection of Jesus. Those mythical expressions were the currency of the ancient days for all people. The spring equinox was celebrated in many ways by many people over time and place. These cyclical celebrations brought attention to the renewal and rebirth of nature – the firstlings of the flock and herd and the time to plant for a new crop. The renewal cycle was endless and dependable if the rituals were done correctly. For me, Easter is different. It is not a rebirth or renewal, but rather a new life in and of itself. Easter is an entirely new way of being in the world, not a repeat of the older ways. The emergence from the darkness of the winters of our despairs, we have the chance to see and live ourselves in a new way entirely. And what better time than the beginning of spring. We have the opportunity to find that there is Easter in spring.

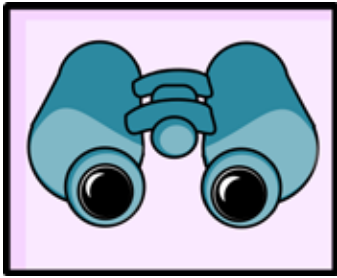
Peace and Love,

Bill.



FLOWERS OF FREEDOM

One of the most unique celebrations in our Unitarian Universalist Free Church movement is the Flower Communion. It began in what was then Czechoslovakia in 1923 by the Reverend Dr. Norbert Capek (chapeck). The Prague Unitarian church was founded by Capek, who later died in a Nazi concentration camp. Because of his martyrdom for the cause of Free Religion, the Flower Communion has taken on a special moment in our tradition. Capek believed there was a need to celebrate the diversity of the Unitarian (now UU) tradition. This is done by each person bringing a flower blossom to the Easter Sunday worship service, and placing it in a basket at the door of the sanctuary. At the conclusion of the service, children will distribute a flower as a gift from an unknown friend to each in attendance. You are invited to attend this special service on Easter Sunday.



THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Fellow UUs,

This month my letter to you is about communication. No lecture, just some practical info. Did you ever want to make a suggestion to the Board of Trustees? How about wanting to voice a concern? Or maybe you thought about something that you saw or experienced here at the church and you wanted to acknowledge the people responsible, but you were not sure who to compliment or thank. Well, let me invite you to share your thoughts, suggestions, complaints, and even gratitude with your Board of Trustees. There are numerous ways to do this:

First, there is always the face-to-face option before or after Sunday services. If you are not sure who we are, then I refer you to the bulletin board in the Greeting Area with our photos posted. Secondly, you can call any of us and talk. Our phone numbers are listed in the church's Directory. Thirdly, you can email the whole Board at once by using the following address: UUBoard@UUchurch.net. Our webmaster, Larry Dorman, set this up on behalf of the congregation to provide all members, friends, and visitors an easy way of communicating with the Board. This email will automatically go to all the elected Board members and our ex-officio members, which include the minister and church administrator. Fourth, you can write me, or the entire Board, a letter. This may be sent via the US Postal Service or hand-delivered to one or more of the "mailboxes" that exist for each member of the Board as well as other church leaders outside of the minister's office. Finally, I would encourage you to attend and participate in the congregational meetings. The next one is scheduled to be held after church on April 25th.

The members of the Board have no special powers, insights, or training that makes us particular suited to do this job. Let me remind you that we are just members of the church, volunteers, like you. We seek to do our best to represent you, but more importantly, we serve the mission of this church. We have pledged to put the church's mission and welfare ahead of our personal desires and agendas. Importantly, you should know that I share all correspondence addressed to me, in service to this church as your president, with the entire Board. I believe in transparency when it comes to communication: the good, the bad, and the emotional are all treated the same. I believe that secrets are the antithesis of a healthy congregation. This year I have strived to make the Board a place where everyone feels comfortable speaking their mind. Consensus is nice, but dissent is welcomed. Each of us within this congregation must be free to speak his or her mind. Share your thoughts, dreams, and fears with us. I encourage and welcome your full participation in the life of this church.

In community with love,
Kevin

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).

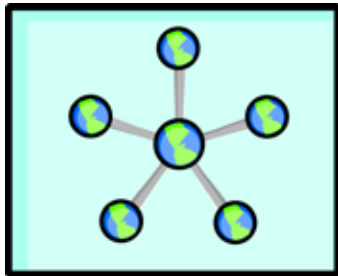


EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY CLASS

Interested in spiritual growth? You are invited to attend the adult Religious Education class offered on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m. The class meets in the lower level of the church (YUUT's classroom-third room on the left side of the hallway past the restrooms). The group is open to all - newcomers and longtime members and friends. No prior registration is required.

Come for one session or as many as you are interested in. We hope to be able to deepen our relationships by meeting together. The more often you attend, the more likely this may occur. Each session will be led by a volunteer who will facilitate discussion and bring short readings to share. Childcare will be offered in the nursery room and is FREE. Please join us!

April 4	Universal Myths
Jane Frazier and Scott Denson, Co-facilitators	
April 11	Telling Stories
Maria Oropallo, facilitator	
April 18	Evil?
Bill McMillan, facilitator	
April 25	UU Work: Social Justice
Kathie Bergman, facilitator	



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.

April 17	The Kabbalah: Climbing the Tree of Life
May 15	Garden Magic: Going Native

We enter Sacred Space at 7 PM, so please be on time. CHILD CARE available. For more information, contact the church office at 442-5764.

Newcomers --We welcome you!

Come to "Guest Orientation" in the minister's office immediately following the worship service on April 11.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOINT LEADER COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 15, 2010

New Breakfast Group

The women's group "Conversations" and members from the Men's Breakfast Club met last week and thought we might try adding a third group to the mix; a monthly breakfast meeting for both men and women. Our first meeting will be on Tuesday April 20th at 9:00. This first meeting will be at the Hyvee on Nifong. We can talk about where and when we might like to meet in the future and how we might like to structure the group. Janet Groat is the contact person. Feel free to join us.

Conversations, Etc.

Conversations, Etc. will meet Wednesday, April 14 at noon at the church. The program will be how to recycle in Columbia. Bring a brown bag lunch and a snack to share if you wish. Call the church office if you have questions.

Book Discussion Group

The UU Book Discussion Group will meet at Q's Restaurant, 4004 Peach Tree Ct. Friday, April 9 at 5:30 pm. Bring a book you have read to discuss briefly. Call the church office if you have questions.

How about a trip to Chicago?

We are searching for church members (up to 5) interested in serving as delegates to represent our congregation at this year's annual Central Midwest District (CMwD) assembly. The meeting starts Friday, April 30 and ends on Sunday, May 2. The meeting will be held in the Westin North Shore in Wheeling, IL (a northern suburb of Chicago). The theme for this year's meeting is "Becoming a Religion for our Time." Workshops will focus on how various UU congregations within our district are supporting strong ORGANIC growth in membership. Also, for the 1st time there will be

an all-inclusive CMwD Choral Festival. Visit www.cmwd-uua.org for details. The CMwD serves 71 UU congregations including parts or all of Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Michigan, and Indiana. If you are interested and willing to attend this assembly and represent us officially as a delegate, then you can expect some modest financial support from us (e.g., registration costs of \$95). -submitted by Kevin Fritsche, on behalf of the Board

UU Monthly workday - April 10, 8am- 12pm

Gardening, cleaning, polishing, repairing. Keeping our church looking beautiful. Come and join us. Flower Gardeners Needed to help look after the Church flower beds. We will be having a brief meeting on Saturday April 10 at 1.30 pm for those who want to help. If you can't make the meeting but want to be involved contact Peter Holmes.

Helpers Needed for the May 9th U.U. Services/Treasures Auction and the June 12 UU Church Group Sale!

On May 9th, the live auction of UU Church of Columbia members' and friends' services and treasures will be held in the sanctuary after the service. If all goes well, the silent auction portion of the sale will begin through our church website on May 2nd. The proceeds of this auction will go to bridge the gap of the difference between actual income and expenses in our church operating budget.

On June 12th, the annual U.U. Church Group Sale will be held, also to benefit the church operating budget.

If you are interested in helping Marianne Erickson and other FUNdraising volunteers with either of these two efforts, please plan on attending the delicious lunch meeting on Saturday, April 10th from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the church. Contact the church office if you can help/attend.

Meanwhile, please be thinking about what you would like to contribute (as a service, treasure or in the group sale).

Change in UU Calendar: April potluck is canceled due to the YRUU Easter Brunch.

**Honduras Service Trip Thank-You Lunch
Sunday, April 11 at 12:00 noon**

Did you contribute to the UU Honduras Service Trip in 2009 in some way -either financially, by giving donations or by providing support in other ways? Are you curious about what the trip was like? Are you thinking about joining a service trip to Honduras in 2011? Do you just simply think service trips are a great idea? As a THANK YOU to the church as a whole for its support for the trip, please come join those of us who went on the Honduras Service Trip in 2009 for a Honduran meal after the service on April 11. No rsvp needed.

Fair Trade, Organic Coffee, Tea and Chocolate Sales-- April 4th

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.

BIBLE STUDIES

Second and fourth Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.. Stephen Blower and Rev. Bill Haney, co-leaders

UUC Men's Group

The UUC 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.

Meditation in Nature April 18

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 via the church office for more information.

**"Civility in Faith and Family" Conference –
April 18**

A conference on "Civility in Faith and Family" will be convened by the Faith and Education Collaborative, Friends of Peace Studies-UM, on April 18, 2010 at the First Baptist Church, 1112 E. Broadway. This conference is co-sponsored by the UU Peace Building Team. The focus of the conference will be on how to have open and honest personal communication with persons of other faiths and beliefs, as well as within one's own family and faith community, without being judgmental. Sarah Read, J.D., President of the Communications Center in Columbia will be the keynote speaker. Her topic is "Civility in Our Relationships." After the keynote address small groups will be formed to practice communication using the QFT technique from The Right Question Project, Inc. All interested persons are welcome.

The conference on Sunday, April 18 will be from 2:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Refreshments will be available. There is a registration fee of \$5.00 per person or a block reservation fee of \$25.00 for six persons. The registration deadline is April 12. Checks are payable to MUMC and mailed to Otto Steinhaus, 904 Oak Lane, Columbia, MO 65203.

For further information contact the church office. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board.

**UU LIFE WRITERS' GROUP
APRIL 3 AND 17 AT 10:30 A.M.
IN THE CENTERING ROOM.**

UU Life Writers' Group meets on the first and third Saturdays of the month. The theme this spring is "Writing Our Lives – One Story at a Time." Everyone is welcome. Bring paper and pen/pencil and be prepared to write!

Stories – Just Stories, the writers' group anthology is sold out. If you would like one, place an order at the Book Table.

Easily Provide Support Through Your Will

One of the most popular and easiest ways to support the good work of our community is to remember Columbia Unitarian-Universalist congregation in your will. Although the legacies you typically read about in the papers are grand in scope, most people who leave assets to charitable organizations through their wills are of modest means. Here are some future and ongoing needs that your donation could support:

- Expand and enhance programs or initiatives in this congregation
- Continue to maintain or build facilities
- Ensure the future of your religious community

Completing Your Gift

So how do you remember us in your will? While planning or updating your will, simply tell your attorney that you want to leave something for our congregation. A common practice when including a bequest in your estate is to leave a percentage, rather than a fixed amount, to us. That way, your bequest to the congregation remains in proportion to other bequests. For more information contact the UU Finance Committee.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING LOGO CONTEST

Create a new logo for the Festival of Sharing.
Design deadline: August 30, 2010.



Top designs will be displayed at the Festival of Sharing Ingathering in Sedalia on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Attendees will vote on their favorite design. The winning designer will receive \$100 and the runners up will receive \$25 each.

Design Elements Desired:

1. The submitted design needs to be digitally produced.
2. Your design should convey the mission of the Festival of Sharing. "The Festival of Sharing is an interfaith community that works together to end hunger and the root causes* of hunger. (*poverty and injustice)"
3. Your Design should be submitted in color and in gray scale options.

If you have questions or comments, please contact the church office.

Marian Hjelmfelt
Festival of Sharing Coordinator.

Requirements:

By submitting a design you agree that, if chosen, the Festival of Sharing will have all future rights to use your design for promotion of the Festival of Sharing without additional compensation to you, the artist. Any artist under 18 years of age should have parent written consent before submitting the design.

Submission of Design:

Electronic: Email to Festival@socket.net, or
Mail: Send an electronic copy to the Festival of Sharing office/Office of Creative Ministries, 3009 David Drive, Columbia, MO 65202.
Include: Artist name, address, phone number and email address for contact.

Selection:

The Logo Design Subcommittee will select the top 4 logos. These will be on display for Festival attendees, on October 16, 2010, to vote with their donation dollars. Proceeds from the votes will be donated to "Where Needed Most". The design with the most money raised for "Where Needed Most" will become the new logo for the Festival of Sharing.

MANY THANKS (AND A GENTLE REMINDER)!

Several weeks ago, we had a visitor from a UU church in another state. She looked carefully at our canvass progress boards: starting with the visual representation of the tree, then watching me update our numbers. When I was done, she asked with incredulity, "How did you do that!"

We shared some conversation. She was on the canvass group at her church; a congregation of similar size to ours. Their pledges were stagnant and their canvassers frustrated. More than once, she commented, somewhat wistfully, on how nice our building was. Listening to her experience gave weight to my own sense of how blessed I am to be a part of this congregation.

Our canvass has gone very well. As of March 20th, we are on a pace to exceed last year's record. Most of our pledging units have responded with hope and vigor. Of the pledges received: 37% maintained last year's pledge; 14% increased their pledge (by less than 10%), 38% increased their pledge by 10% or more (pacesetters) and 12% of the cards returned were new pledges. This amounts to over \$163,000, representing 78% of our canvass goal.

So many thanks are due. First, thanks to our canvassers, who are not frustrated! Most mostly, thanks to you, our members. To those who find value in this special place; who believe in our mission; who see that our vision merits financial support: THANK YOU!

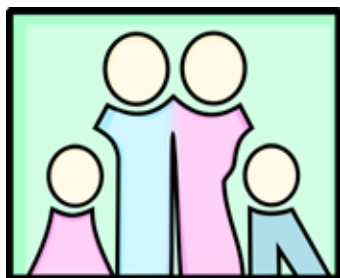
The gentle reminder: we are still waiting to hear from over a third of you. We fully appreciate that busy schedules can push this task down on your priority list! However, as we plan for ministerial transition this year, a clear financial picture is particularly important. Few of us would be satisfied if our employer promised to pay us but couldn't tell us exactly how much!

So, if you haven't already, please return your pledge card! Even if you are unable to make a financial pledge this year. All responses contribute to our planning and budgeting efforts!

We'll help. We're happy to talk with you about your pledge, or send a new card if you didn't receive or can't find yours. We'll even come pick it up when it is complete!

Family Forum III

Sunday, April 11, 2010 – 12:00 noon to 2:00 P.M.



Topic:	Communication between Parents and Kids (of all ages!)
Facilitator:	Jeremy Duke

How do we really talk to our kids so they will listen? In what ways can communication be facilitated for any age? How can kids talk to their parents so they will listen? All are welcome. Bring a brown bag lunch and meet in the centering room. Child care provided.

Message from the Interim Minister Task Force

Many of you have been asking about the work of our Task Force. We wanted to give you an overview of the process and invite your input.

On April 20, we will be given four names of ministers seeking an interim position that the UUA Ministerial Transitions Office believes would be compatible with our church. No offer can be made to a candidate before sometime around May 7 (we will learn the exact date in early April). Because the names we receive will most likely also have been given to other congregations, it is important to be in position to make an offer as soon as permitted to have the best chance to get our first choice.

So, that gives us approximately 17 days to decide who should guide us through the transition process over the next two years. Obviously, in that amount of time it will be impossible to hear the candidates preach or even meet them face to face. Instead, we will rely on the ministers' information packets, their references, and an interview, most likely by conference call.

First, we will receive the candidates' Ministerial Records, i.e., their resumes. Assuming there is nothing in the Records that the Task Force finds disqualifying, a member of the Task Force will contact each of the candidates to determine if they are interested in our congregation. We will then exchange packets with all interested candidates and arrange for interviews. Prior to the interview, we will contact all references. After all interviews are complete, the Task force will rank the candidates in order of preference and make a recommendation to the Board. If the Board is satisfied with the work of the Task Force, an offer will be made to the preferred candidate. If he or she accepts, the Board will finalize the contract with the minister.

Some important things to remember about the interim minister: The interim will only be with us for two years. And the interim's job is different from a settled minister in some significant ways. The interim's primary mission is to assist the congregation in confronting our strengths and weaknesses and truly exploring what we seek and expect from a settled minister. Because of this, a successful interim will likely make us uncomfortable at times as we examine who we are as a congregation.

While we certainly hope and expect that the interim will be an inspiring worship leader and provide pastoral care for those in need, our primary criterion for selection must be the ability to prepare our congregation to select a settled minister that will help us find the future we, as a congregation, seek. Therefore, the Task Force has determined that we will try to hire an Accredited Interim Minister or an Accredited Interim Minister in Training, if at all possible. The accreditation ensures that the interim will have had the experience and training to lead us through this transition.

And what are we doing right now? We are pulling together our church information packet. This is essentially a marketing document. We have to do the best we can to make this church sound like a place any interim minister would love to serve. We have used many sources and are busy writing descriptions of who we are, what we stand for, where we worship, our church finances, etc. Some of our more visually gifted members are culling through thousands of photographs and arm-twisting some of you to take many more. We are gathering information about the vibrant and wonderful Columbia community. All with the goal of having a finished product no later than April 20.

We welcome your input. Our meetings are scheduled around the work we are doing, but if you would like to attend, feel free to contact us to find out when they are. Please contact one of us with any suggestions you may have, or just for an update on how the work is progressing. We would particularly like to hear your ideas on how we can keep the congregation informed during the hectic selection period, keeping in mind that the time will be short and the workload heavy.

The members of the task force are: Leslie Luchene, Chair; Rosie Anderson-Harper; Janet Groat; Todd Iveson; Kakie Love; Steve Mudrick; and Mary Beth Schillinger.

BOOK TABLE NEWS

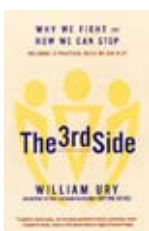
The Peace Building Team recommends the following books:



Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In

by Fisher, Ury and Patton

A handy guide for negotiating personal and professional disputes. It offers “a concise, step-by-step, proven strategy for coming to mutually acceptable agreements in every sort of conflict.”



The Third Side – Why We Fight – How We Can Stop

by William Ury

“According to William Ury, it takes two sides to fight, but a third to stop. Distilling the lessons of two decades of experience in family struggles, labor strikes, and wars, he presents a bold new strategy for stopping fights. He also describes ten practical roles--as managers, teachers, parents, and citizens--that each of us can play every day to prevent destructive conflict.”

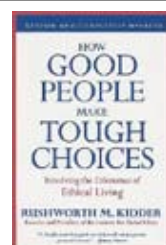
Recommendations from the Building Your Own Theology – Ethics Seminar Group:



Raising Freethinkers: A practical guide for Parenting Beyond Belief

by McGowan, Matsumura, Metskas and Devor

“This unique resource will help parents looking for useful ideas and information on being a nonreligious family.” Library Journal This guide offers solutions to the unique challenges secular parents face and provides specific answers to common questions and also provides activities for families.”



How Good People Make Tough Choices: Resolving the Dilemmas of Ethical Living

by Rushworth M. Kidder

We all have ethical dilemmas in our lives, so how do we handle them and make choices that reflect our values and provide satisfactory outcomes? The book has many illustrative anecdotes. Kidder is the founder of the Institute for Global Ethics.

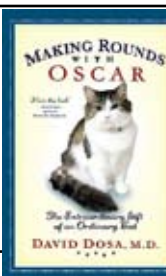


Moral Courage

by Rushworth M. Kidder

Kidder states, “...taking ethical stands should be every individual’s highest priority.” This book defines key concepts and gives us indispensable tools for facing the challenges of today.

Another new book:



Making Rounds with Oscar

by Dr. Dosa

Oscar is the resident, mainly anti-social cat in a nursing home where Dr. Dosa is the geriatric physician. Oscar has an uncanny ability to detect when someone is dying and then stays with that person until the end. Not only is this book a cat tale, but has profound wisdom about the end of life issues for the aged and their families.

PLANTING THE SEEDS of SHARING
VEGETABLE SEED PACKETS NEEDED FOR FEEDING MISSOURIANS

Now is when seed packets are most available and often at discounted prices. Please donate packets no more than a year old.

“Community Gardens around Missouri help people by enabling them to grow their own food, provide food to share with other families and provide food that can be sold for a small income.”

Please deposit your seed packets in the marked container by the Festival of Sharing poster display in the Greeting Area.

For questions or more information, please contact Marian Hjelmfelt via the church office at 442-5764.

WEIGHT FOR ME

In the spirit of promoting a Healthy Congregation & the inherent worth and dignity of every person, please join us for “Weight for Me” - a support group for UUs working toward a healthy weight.

Half-hour gatherings each week will include:

1. Private weigh-in
2. Quote/Thought of the Week
3. Check-In with Joys & Concerns
4. Sharing Ideas & Inspirations

Organizational meetings will be held in the greeting area on Apr. 7 @ 6:30 pm, and on Apr. 11 @ 9:45 am. Please come to the one that best fits your schedule. The purpose of the organizational meetings will be to determine a mutually agreeable meeting time and to identify a co-leader. The intention is to start the support group meetings the week of Apr. 18. Please feel free to invite others who might be interested. Contact Stephanie Dorman via the church office (442-5764) with questions.

WHAT IS YOUR SERMON?

If a man has one sermon, as I sometimes think I have, he should have the facilities extended to him for delivering it, not only to one society, but to everyone within his reachGeorge Stickney, A Layman’s View of the Future Preacher, printed in Unity (June 1, 1880)

The Worship Associates want to know what your sermon is. We are looking for volunteers to lead summer worship services. Don’t let inexperience stop you. The Worship Associates will be available to provide whatever support you need to let the congregation hear your unique voice. If you have a sermon or service in mind, or just the germ of an idea you would like help in exploring, you may contact any of the Worship Associates. We are: Sue Bader, Adele Coleman, Rebecca Graves, Todd Iveson, Desi Long, Qhyrrae Michaelieu, and Ken Wiley.

YRUU Easter Brunch Extravaganza!!!!

The annual YRUU Easter Brunch is happening April 4th. After a delicious post-service brunch, we will have exciting Easter events for children AND adults. (*remember – no potluck that day) Please buy tickets for the brunch in advance (\$5 per person; \$20 for the whole family) and sign up for the Easter events in the common area after Sunday service. Proceeds benefit the YRUU Fund. You can also help us out by donating the ingredients for our brunch. We will post a list of what we need in the common area. Thanks in advance for your participation!