



**UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
OF BLACK HAWK COUNTY**

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***** 2007 *****

- JUNE 3 9:30 A.M. “TREASURES OF HOME” – John Miller**
- JUNE 10 9:30 A.M. “WHAT WE HAVE LEFT” – Esther Kieffer**
- JUNE 17 9:30 A.M. “THE FATHERHOOD JOURNEY:
FROM THE ABSURD TO THE SUBLIME AND BACK AGAIN” – Sean McNally**
- JUNE 24 9:30 A.M. “ACCEPTING GRATITUDE” – John Miller**
- JULY 1 9:30 A.M. “THE CHALLENGES FOR HUMANISM” – Del Carpenter**
- JULY 8 9:30 A.M. “OUR OVERFLOWING LIVES” – Karen Impola**
- JULY 15 9:30 A.M. “FAITH IS NOT BELIEF” – Del Carpenter**
- JULY 22 9:30 A.M. “A FAITH FOR AGNOSTICS, ATHEISTS, AND ME” – Del Carpenter**
- JULY 29 9:30 A.M. “LUNASA” – Karen Impola**
- AUG 5 9:30 A.M. “ANNUAL POETRY SUNDAY” (watch for more details)**

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9:30 A.M. Chapel Service
10:15 A.M. / 10:30 A.M. Hospitality / Discussion / Film / UU Principles



The mission of this organization is to be an accepting and supportive community that nurtures spiritual, emotional, and intellectual explorations, articulates ethical values, and encourages actions based on personal beliefs. This community is a voice for religious diversity, human tolerance, improvement of the human condition, and preservation of our environment.

CONVERSATION WITH EVA

Recently I read this short passage at the bottom of a calendar of Japanese temple gardens:

“Only by becoming one with all that is around us can we see. If we are to find peace, we must become the pathway, the trees, the lake. We see not just the building, but the trees that compose it and the people that built it. Take on the perspective of all that is about you, feel the hopes and fears of each element of the landscape surrounding you. As you become more and more of each element, so you become more and more yourself. As we practice this meditation, we are released from our small selves and are more able to be our true selves. In doing this, we come to a greater mindfulness that gives us peace in each moment.”

Today while walking to my friend’s house, I got to thinking about how much more I was seeing on a route I usually drive. I began to understand the idea of becoming one with the plants, the trees, the person who had years ago created this front yard garden, that side yard secluded spot, planted these flowers on the porch urns. I could easily see myself doing these things. First creating a picture in my mind of what I wanted to do, and then laboring bit by bit to see this dream come alive. I walked about fifteen blocks, each one had four to six houses on it for me to think about, for me to imagine myself as part of that place.

I began to think about how one hundred years ago anyone traveling a mile or two in Cedar Falls would have always walked. No matter the weather, no matter the rush, it would have been this way. This chance to encounter many people’s gardens, many people’s front porches, and even other people! What a different connection those people must have had to their place.

I also got to thinking about a newspaper article that *Dennis Harbaugh* shared with me about a relative who is a minister. That man had made the choice to walk all the streets in the town, sending a small prayer for each family, for each person, as he passed their house. I think it took him a couple years to complete. At the time I read that article, I was flying busily about. “How interesting!”, I thought. . .and then the idea was gone. Today it returned. A gentle walk through the streets of our own town reminds us of all the others who live here. It is easy to wish them well, as we see their porch chairs with tattered cushions, as we see the half-finished gardens, as we see the partially painted side wall, the vegetable garden that needs weeding, the old dog struggling up the steps into the front door held open by an aged woman. We see real life—human life with all its raw, true humanity. The fallibility, the hopes, the decay, the fresh spurts of energy—all are written there to us as messages of what it means to be human. It is natural to send a prayer back in response.

This summer, I wish for you a sense of this connectedness. A sense that your deep and abiding connection to all that is in the universe can alter your understanding of who ‘you’ are. That you feel your small self expanding and growing into your true self—a remarkably interconnected being. A self whose eyes allow you to see the frailties, the indignities, the small joys and great aspirations of all life, and grow with passion to create more harmony, more peace in this place we call home.

A small prayer from my heart to your home.

I will be on study leave and vacation much of June and July. The Worship Associates, our President *Judith Harrington*, and our Caring Committee led by *Esther Kieffer* are standing ready to attend to your needs. Please don’t hesitate to call on them.

See you in church in August.

~~Eva

JUDY’S NOTES

Going to meetings; even the thought can elicit mental groans, listening to others? Who wants to spend precious time sitting for long stretches, listening to others? I begin this month’s notes with that drab reflection, only to say: meetings do have purposes other than to lull people to sleep! All this is a way to introduce you to my comments about two recent meetings I attended: one on a grand scale—the Prairie Star District Annual Conference (PSD) in Minneapolis in mid-April; the other—our own annual Congregational Meeting at the end of April. This was my first PSD Conference. I share with you the biggest impact it had on me: that the one common thread among us all was our *faiths*. I use that word in the plural deliberately, as we know that we are drawn to UUism as much by our differences as well as those aspects of our individual beliefs that we share in common. From the time I became a member of this congregation, I knew there was a “PSD” somewhere, and that “it” was an administrative level between individual congregations and the national Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). But, in truth, I didn’t think of it logically; that is, PSD is an organization of *us*, one of twenty such districts in the UUA, managed by a professional staff and enriched by representatives of the fifty-nine congregations that comprise the district. It serves as a unique resource; and its conferences offer the opportunity to listen and speak, along with some celebration. Did I enjoy myself? Sure! Just two of the many highlights: being present when *Al Hays* received the PSD Social Justice Award, and noting *Eva’s* pleasure when mingling with other ministers from our district.

About the other meeting, our own annual meeting: I mentioned to some of you that although I have had many experiences leading meetings, being responsible for a UU annual meeting for the first time was a special challenge. After all, we are UUs! Why bother having these meetings? And, if they *are* necessary according to our bylaws, why bother to attend? The answer is so simple, it seems trite: we are an organization, one that requires a significant budget not only to survive, but to thrive. We all are this organization, and as such, are counted upon to conduct its necessary business, including passing the annual budget, and electing our officers and Executive Board. Is it boring? Could be. Is it democracy in action? You bet! How many hours did members have to sit when the day on the other side of the Sanctuary walls was radiant? One hour and fifteen minutes! And mingled with our necessary business was celebration of individuals who have made a positive impact on us. This portion of my Annual Report to the congregation summarizes how I feel about us:

“Our church community is only one aspect of our lives. Our members and friends are active in the community as politicians; as leaders; as volunteers, extraordinaire. We have careers, families, are caregivers—are cared for. This *is* who we are. And, we are wise; we know successes are not always immediate, and achievements are viewed hesitantly by some among us. Yes, this is who *we* are. Let us celebrate!”

Judith Harrington, Executive Board President



CHILDREN AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

June and July are vacation months for our Child and Youth RE programs at the church. With this in mind, and the fact that the church was unable to raise my weekly hours, I have proposed to the CYRE Committee that for the 2007-2008 RE year starting July 1st that I take July off and starting in August I work twelve hours a week through the first week of June 2008. My annual salary will still be divided by twelve months and I will get a check each month.

New Programs and Ideas for 2007 – 2008

June: I will be working on a booklet for our Children's Chapel, and one for our Alternative Activities program. We have also decided to start a Junior Usher program for next year. Those of you who were at the May Service For All Ages saw a preview. So, I will be working on putting together information for this program. *Chris Rediske* and *Jan Gallagher* are helping me design something to help make the junior ushers feel special.

Nametags: as some of you know, we had a member who made a number of the wooden nametags for us but we have run out of them and will be going to another type of nametag next year that will clip on. The children are welcome to take home their existing nametags.

Children are included in the First Fridays that are sponsored by the Adult RE Committee. In June we will celebrate Buddha's Birthday on June 1st. Please join us for a great potluck and fun learning.

Summer information: we will only have childcare for the services during the summer.

It was suggested that I reprint a portion of my annual report here so that you have an idea of what your DRE does.

We provided a program this year to thirty-five registered children and thirty-eight visiting children.

Priorities

Sunday mornings August to May – 3 1/2 hours a week

- Greet visitors, children and parents before service
- Make additional contacts during Fellowship time
- Supervise and support childcare and teaching teams
- Read story at Time for All Ages
- Check building at end of day, lights and windows

Weekdays/Evenings – 2 to 4 hours a week

- Meet with minister
- Plan children's chapel
- Plan Alternative Activities
- Communicate with families, children, youth
- Attend CYRE Committee meetings
- Attend Adult RE Committee meetings
- Work on First Friday activities

Worship – 2 to 3 hours a month

- Plan intergenerational services with Minister and SAA committee
- Work with Youth Coordinator
- Work with RE leaders
- Work with RE leaders to provide an RE service
- Work with AA leaders to provide a story for Time for All Ages

Administration – 4 to 10 hours per month

- Update brochure and program calendar
- Keep church records up-to-date
- Budget – monitor line items
- Maintain library of resources for parents
- Recruit and provide oversight to Childcare and AA staff
- Purchase RE Supplies
- Make and print out monthly booklets

Discretionary – 2 to 6 hours per month

- Professional Growth and Continuing Education
- Reading and reflection
- PSD Cluster Meetings
- LREDA chapter meetings and Retreats

Thank You! A big thank you to all the leaders and helpers for RE
~~ we could not do it without you!

Kathy Klink-Zeitz, DRE



PRAIRIE STAR THANKS!

We have received word today that Prairie Star District is number one among our twenty districts in the rate of growth of adult members over the past five years. We've had a 12.3 percent growth rate, higher than any other district.

We are very appreciative of the work your congregation has done to welcome people seeking what we ourselves have found.

Thanks to you for all you do!

Nancy Heege
Prairie Star District Executive

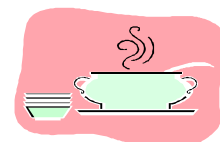
(Ed. Note: This message was sent to our membership via e-mail on April 30th – since not everyone has e-mail, we wanted to be sure it reached all of you.)

COMMUNITY MEALS

On the fifth Tuesday of each month that has five Tuesdays, we work with Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, First Christian, St. Luke's Episcopal, Valley View Baptist, and United Church of Christ to serve a free meal at the First United Methodist Church at Washington and West 8th Streets in Cedar Falls. Thanks to all who helped May 29th.

Our next meal will be Tuesday, July 31st. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact *Ruth Walker* at <ruthwalker@cfu.net> or 266-8822.

We need people to help set up tables and chairs in the morning, furnish cupcakes, and help with serving and cleanup. We also give \$45 each time toward the purchase of food. If you'd like to contribute money, please note Community Meals in the memo section on your check to UUSBHC.



JUNE/JULY CHAPEL SERVICES

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. unless stated otherwise

June 3rd

Treasures of Home ~~ John Miller

Many of us will travel this summer—others will not. We will talk about the special places here in the Cedar Valley. Come prepared to share your favorite places.

June 10th

What We Have Left ~~ Esther Kieffer

Join *Esther* as she shares a story she found meaningful. Has there been a time in your life when it seemed impossible to go on, but you did—and the result was unexpected?

June 17th

The Fatherhood Journey: From The Absurd To The Sublime And Back Again ~~ Sean McNally

In honor of Father's Day, *Sean McNally* will share some thoughts on being a son and being a father in today's society.

June 24th

Accepting Gratitude ~~ John Miller

John will explore the difficulty and meaning of accepting gratitude for both the giver and the receiver.

July 1st

The Challenges for Humanism ~~ Del Carpenter

Del will share a sermon written by The Rev. Michael Brown.

July 8th

Our Overflowing Lives ~~ Karen Impola

A sermon originally delivered in 2002 by The Rev. Marti Keller of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Modern Americans have more possessions than any other civilization at any time, anywhere. How can we keep from being overwhelmed by "stuff" and get back to what's really important?

July 15th

Faith Is Not Belief ~~ Del Carpenter

This is a sermon written by The Rev. Michael Brown. "Faith is not about choosing something to believe and then hanging on for dear life. . . . It doesn't need to be written down and its secret cannot be memorized and recited on demand."

July 22nd

A Faith for Agnostics, Atheists, and Me ~~ Del Carpenter

This service builds on The Rev. Michael Brown's ideas about what faith is. As UUs we may be united more by common leaps of faith than by common beliefs.

July 29th

Lunasa ~~ Karen Impola

Lunasa, or Lammas, one of the pagan cross-quarter celebrations, falls on the first of August, or midway between the summer solstice and the autumn equinox. We'll examine the roots and modern interpretations of this holiday, and perform a short ritual.



WATER COMMUNION

Don't forget to save some water—just a small amount will do—for our Annual Water Communion Service at the start of the new church year. The water can be from your back yard garden tap, or outer Mongolia from the old farm house you grew up in, or the brand-new kitchen sink. . . just remember if you travel, you may want to bring a little bit of water back to share with your UU friends.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thinking of cleaning out your clutter? Would you also like to donate to a good cause? Saturday, August 4th is the Highland Neighborhood Garage Sale and I am going to participate this year. All proceeds will be donated to the Harbaugh-Williams Education Promise Fund at the Walter Cunningham School in Waterloo. UUs *Dennis Harbaugh* and *Juanita Williams* began this scholarship fund to encourage an elementary class of at-risk minority students obtain higher education degrees.

If you would like to participate, you can bring your sale items the week before. I can take a limited amount of boxed items prior to then, but please no large items. Because past experience tells me certain items are difficult to sell and to dispose of, I won't be accepting clothing, electronic items (computers, TVs, DVDs, VCRs, appliances), and building supplies (windows, doors, and other such items).

Thank you for any donations you choose to make to this worthy cause. Contact me at <Micalea@mchsi.com> or 291-6509 for more information.

Mica Lorenz



SUMMER DISCUSSIONS – THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES

The UUA has asked that congregations engage in a period of reflection on the seven guiding principles of our faith. These reflections could eventually lead to modifications, but their main purpose is to review and solidify in our minds the deeper meanings of these principles, so that they do not become mere slogans or mere wallpaper for the church vestibule. Reflection on the principles also helps us move towards a more positive affirmation of our UU beliefs, and away from an emphasis on what we don't believe.

With this in mind, *Al Hays* will lead a series of three discussions on the principles during the summer. The first will be an overview and a discussion of the first principle, "the inherent worth and dignity of every person" which is, in many ways, the core value from which the rest are derived. The other two sessions will each discuss three of the six remaining principles. Obviously, we can barely scratch the surface in such brief discussions, but it is hoped that these summer sessions will stimulate further discussions during the regular church year.

Each session will be held immediately after the chapel service.

Schedule:

June 3rd – Overview and the First Principle

* The inherent worth and dignity of all persons

June 24th – Second, Third and Fourth Principles

* Justice, equity and compassion in human relationships

* Acceptance and encouragement to spiritual growth

* Free and responsible search for truth and meaning

July 29th – Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Principles

* Right of conscience and the use of the democratic process

* World community with peace and justice

* Respect for the interdependent web of life

EVA'S SUMMER SCHEDULE

Please note that *Eva* will be taking some Study Leave and Vacation in June and July. Please save up all your interesting questions, thoughtful comments, and wishes for the coming year until she returns. Emergencies of personal nature warrant a call to her cell phone: 610-6605. The appropriate church officer should be contacted to handle emergencies about the building or institution. (Friendly offers for gifts of extra produce are welcome!)



Condolences to *Karen Miller* and the Miller family on the death of Karen's mother in early May.

Our thoughts are with *Mildred Pierce* and *John Desmond* as they deal with health issues.

The *Rev. Eva Cameron* would greatly appreciate prompt information concerning cases of illness, or homes where a call by the minister is desired. Do not hesitate to give her and/or the Caring Committee this much needed information.

The members of the Caring Committee are *Esther Kieffer* (Chair), *Betsy Brant*, *Sally Browne*, *Jim Paprocki*, *Bob Robinson*, *Cathy Ryan*, *Virginia Mahn*, *Eva Cameron* and *Marilyn Desmond*.



In late April our President, *Judy Harrington*, forwarded to our membership an e-mail message from *Nancy Heege* regarding the death of the *Rev. Dwight Smith*. In the event you did not receive it, here are the details:

It is with a sense of loss that the Ministry and Professional Leadership Staff Group informs you of the death of the *Reverend Dwight E. Smith*. He died Wednesday, April 18, 2007, the result of an aneurysm. His wife, the *Reverend Carol Hilton*, was by his side.

Mr. Smith was born August 22, 1930 in Falls City, Nebraska. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1952 and a Master of Divinity from Starr King School for the Ministry in 1984.

He was ordained June 20, 1984 by the Unitarian Fellowship of Houston, Houston, Texas. Smith served congregations, in co-ministry with his wife, in Hobart, Indiana; Cedar Falls, Iowa; Clinton, Iowa; and Vista, California. Following their retirement in 2003, the Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Vista, California, named them Ministers Emeriti.

Surviving are his wife, *Carol Hilton*, and two children from a previous marriage, Mark Smith of Lafayette, Louisiana and Cara Ferguson of Houston, Texas. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Bailey Ferguson, Adam Smith, Emma Smith and Madeline Smith. Messages of remembrance may be sent to:

Reverend Carol Hilton
3091 Buena Hills Drive
Oceanside, CA 92056

A memorial service was held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 20, 2007 at the Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1600 Buena Vista Drive, Vista, CA 92081. The Reverend Beth Johnson officiated.

Rev. Dr. Michelle W. Bentley
Professional Development Director



UU SPOTLIGHT



Everyone knows *Margie Miller* is a very caring person. In fact, she has served on the UU Caring Committee. Here is her story.

"Hello! My name is Margie Miller and I have been a member here since 1986! (That makes me feel old. . .) I grew up in a conservative Methodist home and had a positive experience with the youth group there in Ames. During my college years I did the fairly typical rejecting of any organized religion and stayed in that mode until several years later when we started a family. My husband, *Mike*, was raised Catholic and still maintains that he received enough "religion" in his twelve years of Catholic school that he has no need for more. While he is a very spiritual person, he chooses not to attend a church, and I respect that decision. He is an electrician and also has a small business on the side selling Solatubes (tubular skylights) and solar and wind energy products.

"We have two adult children, *Travis*, twenty-eight years old, and *Casie*, twenty-five years old, who grew up attending the RE program here. Travis was actually behind the motivating event that brought us through the front door back in '86 when he needed to complete a cub scout requirement that involved church. I have been a regular attendee ever since. Travis is now working construction in the area and is the proud father of two and a half year old GraciMae (who accompanied Grandma to church a couple of weeks ago and will probably be returning from time to time). Casie is an Event Coordinator at Park Place Event Center (Pipac) and keeps very busy out there.

"I have been employed at Allen Hospital for nearly thirty-one years. I have a masters in Social Work and currently work with the EAP (Employee Assistance Program) and the Gambling Treatment Program. I also work part-time as a counselor at Psychiatric Associates of Northeast Iowa. When I am not busy with work I enjoy spending time with my granddaughter, camping, biking, a little gardening and taking my crazy one and a half year old yellow lab, *Sasha*, to the park!

"Being part of this UU group has meant having a lot of opportunities over the years that I am very thankful for. I have been on various committees: RE, Membership (now called Outreach which I am currently on), the Board, and Social Action. Being a UU provides a group to belong to and identify with. I rarely go to any local event or even the grocery store without connecting with one of you. Even if it's just a smile across the crowd—there is a feeling of familiarity and connection.

"To close, I will share a story I have told before, but it remains true. When trying to explain UUism to some relatives a while back, after a lengthy discussion, I finally summed it up like this—"I can sing the words of the hymns and really mean it!"

Margie's address is 3715 Briarwood Drive in Cedar Falls. Her phone is 277-3581 and her e-mail is <ia.m.j.miller@cfu.net>.



SUMMER EVENTS FOR UU SINGLES

Adult Midwestern UU week-long singles enrichment camps are being held June through August in Michigan and Wisconsin. A poster is on the Fellowship Hall kiosk—also check the website <www.amuuse.org>.

CONSCIOUS LIVING CORNER

I've been wondering what kind of an impact we would make on global warming if over the summer everyone who could, did one of the following things:

- ❖ Biked, walked or carpoled one additional time each week rather than drive alone;
- ❖ Shifted one purchase from the grocery store to the farmer's market or a local source, or ate one less meat-based meal (or substituted grass-fed, locally-raised chicken or beef);
- ❖ Hung out one load of laundry a week, planted a tree in the yard, or used the air-conditioning one less time when the heat and humidity rose;
- ❖ Recycled the tableware from one family gathering or party—and basically just found a few easy ways to embrace patterns that lessen our global footprint.



Sometimes it helps to know others are making similar efforts—maybe even sharing ideas for seventh principle practices that are simple to implement. People of all ages, from our children and youth to our “senior members”, inspire me by their conscious actions to live light on the planet. I know there are more “silent practitioners” who would inspire us if we knew what they did!

So, I've been thinking about how to capture what we as individuals in our congregation do in this regard and also to inspire and to encourage each other to add a new environmentally-friendly practice to our lifestyle. Would you be willing to share seventh principle practices that you begin (or continue) this summer with *Jim Paprocki* or me, via email or in a shoe box in the Fellowship Hall labeled “Seventh-Principle Practices for Summer, 2007”? We will post them on a bulletin board downstairs, publish them in this space in a future newsletter, or maybe for the techie-types, we'll put it on our website!

Have a healthy, happy summer and enjoy working together as a conscious congregation toward creating a healthier planet.

Juanita Williams



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Hear ye! Our Annual Congregational Retreat will be held on Saturday and Sunday, August 11th and 12th.

Saturday evening will be a time for adults and children to eat and play. Sunday will include a special chapel service followed by time for thoughtful conversation and a meeting of the Leadership Council as we look ahead to the new church year.

All details will appear in our next Newsletter (the August issue).



POETRY SUNDAY IN AUGUST!

Mark your calendars for the first Sunday in August when we will be having a Poetry Festival. Find a favorite poem to share, write a poem. . .even have your kids write a poem as they are sitting on the dock on a lazy summer evening, or hanging around the campfire as the tents cozy around you. We will celebrate the joy of language on this our Annual Poetry Sunday!

THANKS FOR THE HONOR

Dear Friends and Fellow UUs:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the honor you have given us by selecting us as the first recipients of the “Unsung UU Heroes” of the Congregation Award. We are deeply moved by this gesture, knowing that while we may be the first recipients of this newly created award, that there have been many “Unsung UU Heroes” before us in this congregation. We gladly accept this award in honor of all those who have come before us, and we look forward to its presentations in the future as we continue to acknowledge other UUs within our congregation for their ongoing commitments to this Society.

Giving of our time, energy and resources to this Society brings rewards to us in so many ways. We feel that we have always received more from our experiences than we give. It is truly a privilege and an honor to be members of this congregation. Thank you for this recognition.

Mike Knapp and Mica Lorenz



DOCUMENTARY FILMS IN JUNE AND JULY

Please join us on Sunday, June 3rd at 6:30 p.m. and on Sunday, July 15th after the Chapel service for these two documentary films.

June 3rd - *Kilowatt Ours*

This film opens with Vice President Dick Cheney's energy policy speech in which Cheney makes the claim that America needs nearly nineteen hundred new power plants in the next twenty years to meet projected electricity demands. From here, filmmaker Jeff Barrie takes viewers on a journey from the coal mines of West Virginia to the solar panel fields of Florida, as he discovers solutions to America's energy-related problems. *Kilowatt Ours* invites viewers to help build a net zero nation, by using clean renewable energy. Through their learning experience, viewers discover how they can save hundreds of dollars annually on energy bills, and use a portion of the savings to purchase renewable energy.

July 15th - *America's Lost Landscape: The Tallgrass Prairie*

This documentary film tells the story of one of the most astonishing alterations of nature in human history. Prior to the Euro-American settlement in the 1820's, one of the major landscape features of North America was two hundred-forty million acres of tallgrass prairie. In the space of a single lifetime, from 1830 to 1900, the tallgrass prairie was steadily transformed to farmland. This drastic change in the landscape also brought about an enormous social change for Native Americans; in an equally short time their cultural imprint was reduced in essence to a handful of place-names appearing on maps. The extraordinary cinematography of prairie remnants, original score and archival images are all delicately interwoven to create a powerful and moving viewing experience about the natural and cultural history of America.

(Ed. Note: *America's Lost Landscape* features the lovely Annabeth Gish, a Cedar Falls native, as the narrator.)



CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Eva is willing to have long-range planning meetings during some of her Study Leave time. She has reserved the first week of June and the first week of July for that purpose. Please contact her for arranging a time to include her in your meetings.

FIRST FRIDAY / BUDDHIST MEDITATION RETREAT

We are sponsoring a celebration in honor of Buddha's Birthday. Offerings include our monthly First Friday Celebration and Potluck on June 1st from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. and a half-day Buddhist Meditation Retreat on Saturday, June 2nd from 7:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The retreat will be led by a visiting Buddhist teacher, Ted Tuel. All events are open to people of all religions.

First Friday ~ An event for people of ages, families and singles, we will begin with a vegetarian potluck. The evening will include an opportunity to "bathe the baby Buddha", paper lantern making, chanting and meditation instruction. Come learn about how people all over the world celebrate Buddha's Birthday.

The Retreat ~ During your daily life, the point of your awareness normally goes out from you into the world. In a retreat, it's time to turn the light back inward; it's a day devoted to refreshing and deepening your spiritual practice in an intensive environment. We'll intersperse periods of sitting meditation and reflection with walking meditation and a Dharma talk (Buddhist teaching) from our visiting Zen priest.

Participants are encouraged to experience the entire retreat, but may enter the meditation hall during the walking meditations. Meditation Instruction will be provided at 8:00 a.m. Beginners may start then as well as those who wish a shorter retreat. The meditation retreat will be followed by a light lunch at the church. There is no specific charge for the retreat, but in the spirit of generosity, a free will donation will be accepted.

The Teacher ~ Ted Tuel has been practicing Buddhism formally since 1992, when he became a member of the Ann Arbor, Michigan Zen Temple. In 1993 he became a member of the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he was ordained as a priest in 2005 by Zentetsu Tim Burkett, in the Japanese Soto Zen tradition, in the lineage of Dainin Katagiri. Ted has also served as Practice Director at the Northfield Buddhist Meditation Center in Northfield, Minnesota. In addition to his activities as a priest, Ted works full time as a legal writer and editor. Ted is especially interested in supporting and encouraging persons who are new to Buddhism and are establishing a regular practice.

To register for the retreat, or for additional information, please contact Maureen at <ethelkoelzer@yahoo.com> or call 277-7130.



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ~ MAY 20, 2007 Summary of Highlights

Action Items

- Approved April Board Minutes.
- Approved April Finance Report.
- Endorsed *Mimi* and *Harold Kuester* as Delegates to the General Assembly.

Discussion Items

- Established August 11th and 12th, 2007 as the dates for this year's Annual Congregational Retreat.

Submitted by *Sean McNally*,
Executive Board Vice President

GOODSEARCH EARNINGS ARE ON THE RISE

It's looking better:

January	\$5.19
February	\$2.64
March	\$2.39
April	\$4.04
May	\$3.77

After writing a column last month about using GoodSearch to earn money for our UU Society, the numbers surged. You can see that the April figures jumped from \$2.39 in March to over \$4 in April. Was this increase due to the article? I'd like to believe it was.

Now I am writing to give you great accolades for your conscious use of <www.goodsearch.com> to find things on the web. GoodSearch is a Yahoo-driven search engine that pays non-profits for using their services. For every search that you make, we will earn \$.01. That means that in April we collectively ran 404 searches.

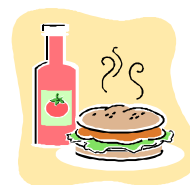
Web searching doesn't have to be Googled. "GoodSearch" your questions (and UUSBHC will benefit from your decision). You might say "But I am more comfortable with Google." You don't have to use GoodSearch all of the time. Just use it half of the time and help us reach our dreams? It's an easy way to help reach your "fair share".

How do you do it?

1. Go to <http://www.goodsearch.com>.
2. In the "I'm supporting" box, enter the name of our church, Unitarian Universalist Society of Black Hawk County. (Your browser will probably remember this for future searches.)
3. Enter your search term(s) in the "SEARCH" box.
4. Enjoy the fruit of your search.

Good luck and happy searching!!!!!!

Leigh Zeitz



MEN'S GROUP

It is expected that the Men's Group community lunches will resume in September. Watch for more details!



THE HEALING POWER OF LOVE

Join us on Friday, June 15th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. when we will have a western Buddhist monk with us for teaching, guided meditation and discussion.

Kelsang Wangden is a western Buddhist monk, close disciple of Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso, and Resident Teacher of Lamrim Buddhist Center in Iowa City. Wangden has been studying Kadampa Buddhism for many years and is admired for his clear, heartfelt, and practical presentation of Buddha's teachings.