



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

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***** 2008 *****

- APR. 6** **9:30 A.M.** **“SILENT THUNDER”** – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Julie Fischer
11:15 A.M. **Adult RE: Conscious Living / Meditation and Prayer Vigil**
- APR. 13** **9:30 A.M.** **“FROM CONFLICT TO RECONCILIATION: OVERCOMING SECTARIANISM IN**
NORTHERN IRELAND” – Al and Pam Hays
11:15 A.M. **Adult RE: Walking the Talk / UU Stories That Changed My Life**
- APR. 20** **9:30 A.M.** **“EARTH DAY: A SERVICE FOR ALL AGES”**
11:15 A.M. **Adult RE: Buddhist Path / Presentation of the Proposed Budget**
- APR. 27** **9:30 A.M.** **“I’M A CHRISTIAN! NO, I’M A CHRISTIAN!”** – The Rev. Eva Cameron, Jim Paprocki
11:15 A.M. **ANNUAL MEETING**

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

- 9:30 A.M.** **Services ~~ UU and Quaker**
10:45 A.M. **Coffee/Fellowship/Announcements**
11:00 A.M. **Children’s Chapel**
11:15 A.M. **RE for Children, Youth, and Adults**



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

On this dark day, I have realized that I have been awaiting the shifting of energy and life that comes as the days warm and the sun brightens. Already the sunshine has crept around the house and into my back door as it climbs up its zenith, lighting up the kitchen in the mornings now. Gentle signs that times are changing. I anticipate these changes, because I am familiar with them and their age-old sameness makes the changes a delight.

Life is like this. Many things that change, do so with such a regularity and pattern that we embrace them with a deep joy. Other changes are sudden, dramatic and leave us stunned that we encountered such a shift. We know we have to put up with these changes, even as we fight them. The most complicated changes are the ones that creep up over time, slowly, gradually coming upon us—as gently as the disappearing snow. Only it's something unfamiliar, unanticipated, or just unknown. Suddenly, without really knowing how, we find ourselves in foreign territory. Our landmarks are gone, the rules have changed, and things feel different.

Aging is like this—either a teenager growing into adulthood, a retired person finding out how little they can actually do now, or a mid-career person suddenly realizing they aren't the new, bright young rising-star. There are other events in our life where things shift—technology often does this to us; our spiritual life can be like this as well. If we gently, slowly, without forcing it, add moments that help us connect to what is really real; if we gently, slowly live more deliberate lives, in connection with our values; if we gently, slowly add acts of grace, of compassion, of virtue to our days—we will some day wake up and realize we are totally different people than we were. And that's a good thing. That's the amazing part of being human. We can change so much, and still somehow feel like 'us'.

So, my wish for you this spring is a gentle flowering of your being, a slow awakening of your potential, and gradual allowance for joyful playfulness to guide you to the right place for right now in your life. We don't need to get out a big stick and beat ourselves up for "not doing it right" just as we don't need to get out a heat blaster and melt those snow banks away. Just think, sometime in the middle of August, we will be hard pressed to remember how cold and snowy it was in January!

Happy Spring!

See you in church!

~~Eva



THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Please join the Committee on Ministry in thanking and congratulating our award winning UUs. *Kamyar Enshayan* has won the "Keeping the Faith" award from the Prairie Star District for his stewardship of Unitarian Universalist principles in his life both in and outside of our Society. *Mildred Pierce* has won the "Unsung Unitarian Universalist" award, also from the PSD, for a lifetime of service including her work with the Conscious Living Group and Green Sanctuary.

If you would like to nominate anyone for these or other PSD awards, contact the Committee on Ministry next fall as they will be looking to nominate more deserving UUs. Read more about these awards at <<http://www.psduua.org/Awards/Awards>>.

The Committee on Ministry consists of *Leigh Zeitz, Christine Carpenter, Kevin Stafsholt, Shanlee McNally* and *Bob Robinson*.

JUDY'S NOTES

I don't know about you, but I've been thinking too much about weather the past four months—enough, already! In church life, my mind's turning toward our congregation's Annual Meeting, this year on April 27th, during Second Hour. A brief article elsewhere in this Newsletter provides highlights. Yes, I know, meetings aren't usually on most folks' top ten (or even top fifty) list of things to do! But, I request that you do consider spending Second Hour with us that morning. Not only do we have the important business of approving our budget for the next fiscal year (which begins July 1st), and voting for new Board members, we will have the joy of recognizing two of our members who have received prestigious Prairie Star District (PSD) awards, as well as celebrating ourselves for being among the first PSD congregations to receive the Green Star Award for growth. We also will have the opportunity to decide whether any of the most popular nickname choices will be adopted.

Judith Harrington, Executive Board President



CHILDREN AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As I write this, yesterday was the first day of Spring and I saw some lovely flowers at church. In April the Early Childhood Education Class will be working on the *We Are Many, We Are One* curriculum. The Primary and Intermediate Classes will be working on their personal power. The UUYouth Class will be starting a new curriculum and continue working on the *Coming of Age* programs. The Youth Group is planning a day helping at the Food Bank and a movie.

For more information on our programs, please take a moment to look at our table in the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers Needed

Have you thought of volunteering? We are looking for people who can make a commitment of one, five, or seven weeks. Check out our sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to see what is needed.

- ◆ Early Childhood Education – *Shanlee McNally* and *Angie Stafsholt*
- ◆ Primary: 1st to 3rd graders – *Karen Impola*
- ◆ Intermediate: 4th to 6th graders – *Chris Rediske*
- ◆ UU Youth: 7th to 12th grade – *Amy Anderson* and *Mike Holtan*

SOME NOTES FOR PARENTS:

- *During April we will be choosing our church's new nickname.
- *Some people, including myself, will be attending the Prairie Star Annual Conference in Omaha, Nebraska April 11-13th.
- *The last week in April will be our Annual Meeting and we will have something special for the children.
- *Just a reminder—the Second Sunday of each month we celebrate that month's birthdays. We get the birthday information from the registration forms, so if you haven't turned yours in please do so.
- *Remember that when your children are with you down in the Fellowship Hall that *you* are responsible for them.

Children's Chapel

Our Children's Chapel is at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday morning except April 27th. Adults are welcome to join.

Thank you for sharing your children and youth with our leaders and myself.

Kathy Klink-Zeitz, DRE

UNsung UU AWARD

This year I had the honor of nominating *Mildred Pierce* for the Unsung Unitarian Universalist Award in PSD and she won! Mildred has provided service to the UU community for over thirty-eight years. The following list is just some of what she has accomplished during her years as a member of our congregation.

Mildred:

- ⊕ has been a member of the UUSBHC congregation for thirty-eight years.
- ⊕ is a founding member of the *Conscious Living Group*.
- ⊕ has served on the *Program Committee*; she led many green-oriented Sunday services. Her nature (with beautiful slides) and vegetarianism services were inspiring.
- ⊕ has served as the chair of the *Hospitality Committee* and set up Vegetarian Potlucks.
- ⊕ led the summer forum discussion groups for several years.
- ⊕ was active in planning early Sunday morning discussions or forums for a while.
- ⊕ helped to lead Deep Ecology, an Adult RE curriculum.
- ⊕ was a leader in our Theology Discussion Group.
- ⊕ was so inspired by the article, "The Greening of Our Churches" that appeared in the November/December 2001 edition of the *UU World* (as it is consistent with her life philosophy) that she joined with *Juanita Williams* and *Kamyar Enshayan* to establish a *Conscious Living Group*. As a society of *conscious citizens*, its focus was to do all that we can to practice our beliefs related to our Seventh Principle.
- ⊕ was the inspiration for our congregation to seek accreditation as a *Green Sanctuary Congregation*.
- ⊕ wrote a Bread Communion Service for our church that has led us to have such a service each year.
- ⊕ attends occasionally at present but continues to be a resource for the congregation. It is now our time to visit her and give her rides to the doctor and store.

As for her presence in the community, Mildred's background as a teacher involved her in various capacities in the education field. For many years she taught and served as one of the first women principals in Cedar Falls schools. Mildred finished her teaching career in the College of Education at the University of Northern Iowa. She also has taught Vegetarian Cooking classes for Hawkeye Community College.

Mildred set up a community monthly Vegetarian Potluck that still meets.

She volunteered at the Western Home in various capacities. She called several elderly people in their own homes to check on their well-being every morning and worked at the Western Home gift shop. For some years she drove several elderly friends to doctor's offices, church, etc.

I have only known Mildred for nine years but during that short time I have been inspired by her dedication to our Society. When I asked people to give me some background on her for this award, time and again they said: "**Mildred Pierce is an inspiration for all people who are involved with the environment and healthy living.**"

Please come to our Annual Meeting where the award will be presented to Mildred. Her daughter (who has been keeping in touch with me by phone) is unable to be here but her son plans on being present and they are very excited that their mother is getting this award.



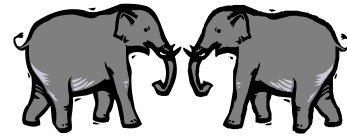
Kathy Klink-Zeitz

OUR SPIRITUAL THEME FOR THE YEAR: "SHOUTING OVER THE BACK OF THE ELEPHANT"

This theme is based on the ancient Hindu story of the blind men and the elephant—with which, I am sure, you are familiar. Usually it is told to show how fallible/limited each person is, and how easy it is to be blind in our convictions. I am convinced that perhaps the primary duty as a religious person is to "shout over the back of the elephant"—to tell the other people what we are experiencing, and listening and honoring what others are telling us about their bit of the elephant.

I use the language of "shouting" not because I want to convey anger, but because I want to convey the energy and work it is to hold conversations about things that are deeply personal 'over the back of a very large elephant'. We have to choose to be about this process, and keep at it—even if it is tough going. We are a community that chooses to listen deeply, and honor what we hear.

~Eva



SUMMER EVENTS FOR UU SINGLES

Adult Midwestern UU week-long singles enrichment camps are being held June through August in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Dates and sites:

June 15-20th and August 10-16th at Saugatuck, Michigan
July 13-19th at Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

A poster and a few brochures are on the Fellowship Hall kiosk, or for more details, the web site is <www.amuuse.org>.



SUMMER MUSICIANS WANTED

During the summer, our regular pianist, *Carolyn Hildebrandt*, takes a well-deserved break. (When you see Carolyn, thank her for her tireless efforts in making our services sound good!)

We are looking for accompanists (piano, guitar, or other instrument?) who can commit to one or more Sundays during June and July. They will be accompanying the congregation on hymns from the hymnal or other simple songs. Music will be provided in advance. If you are interested, please contact *Karen Impola* at <impola@uni.edu> or 277-6549.



CONVERSATION WITH EVA

On Fridays, April 18th and 25th from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. stop by *Cup of Joe's* on Main Street in Cedar Falls (across from the Oster Regent Theatre). Enjoy visiting with *Eva* and others who drop in to celebrate Friday.

Eva won't be there on Friday, April 4th due to the First Friday celebration at the church, or on Friday, April 11th due to the Prairie Star District Annual Meeting in Omaha.

APRIL SERVICES

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

April 6th

Silent Thunder ~ ~ Rev. Eva Cameron, Julie Fischer

Come hear this presentation about inspiration and science based on the book *Silent Thunder*.

April 13th

From Conflict to Reconciliation: Overcoming Sectarianism in Northern Ireland ~ ~ Al and Pam Hays

Al and Pam will give a brief historical overview of how the conflict in Northern Ireland emerged and then present a readers theater based on the reflections of people in adjoining Protestant and Catholic communities about their efforts at working together. Their transformation is really quite inspiring.

April 20th

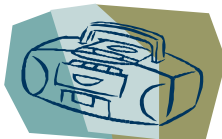
Earth Day: A Service For All Ages

Join our Worship Team as we celebrate our Mother Earth with all our hearts, minds, and senses. A container re-use contest will begin. Weather prevailing we will end our service out in the back garden.

April 27th

I'm a Christian! No, I'm a Christian! ~ ~ Rev. Eva Cameron, Jim Paprocki

Join Jim and Eva for this dialogue sermon about what it means to be a Christian. You might be surprised to find that it is not necessarily what you were raised to believe. We will also have a *New Member Ingathering Ceremony* on this Sunday, with the *Annual Meeting* following the service.



IOWA PUBLIC RADIO PROJECT

Iowa Public Radio's Spring Fundraiser is April 4 - 11th. If you are a regular financial supporter of IPR, or wish to become one, please consider making your donation through UUSBHC. You will not only be supporting public radio but will also be buying valuable publicity for our Society as an underwriter.

It only takes \$100 to support ten announcements for a week. When you hear the fundraising pitch on the radio, don't make that call. Instead, write your check to UUSBHC, put a note in the memo line "for Iowa Public Radio", and drop your check in the collection plate or mail it to UUSBHC. Thank you for your support!



UUYOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In February the UU Youth enjoyed a game night in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to everyone who donated snacks and loaned games for the evening!

In March Youth RE centered around learning about UU Identity/History and looking at global issues. After a discussion about hunger on Second Sunday, the Youth decided to plan a day in April to volunteer at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and then get together to watch one of the recent documentaries about food issues. The Youth have also begun planning a coffeehouse/art sale fundraiser for next fall, the proceeds of which will benefit Heifer International or a similar organization. Stay posted for dates!

Amy Anderson and Mike Holtan,
Youth Advisors

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING THIS MONTH!

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Black Hawk County will be held promptly at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 27th, following our service and break. Visitors are welcome to attend, although voting is limited to members.

Highlights include recognizing members who have received Prairie Star District honors this year, voting on the Executive Board slate, and deciding whether to select a nickname for our congregation. In addition, the Finance Director will present the budget for Fiscal Year 2009 (July 2008 through June 2009) for your adoption. You will receive the annual Minister's report and committee reports in writing for your review and approval. We look forward to your presence at this important meeting. Child care is available.

Judith Harrington, Executive Board President



UU SPOTLIGHT



This month we have the *Kuesters* in the UU Spotlight. Enjoy their story as told by *Mimi*.

"Harold and I (*Mimi*) are searchers. Our long-term previous church home, the United Church of Christ, no longer comfortably accommodated what we now as UUs name the "free and responsible search for truth and meaning." We "tried out" UUSBHC at least as far back as 2000, when *Rod Debs* suggested we attend GA in Nashville (we did). More recently, *Sue Hill* and Harold co-sponsored an Adult RE class on earliest Christianity, and I dipped my toes into musical participation in worship services.

"Rewind: we met in the library at the University of Chicago; Harold was in grad school and I did research for *Encyclopedia Britannica*. He grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church, a UCC predecessor denomination. My parents were unchurched, my spiritual journey included the Episcopal Church and brief forays into Christian fundamentalism and Judaism before our marriage in 1967.

"Fast forward to retirement: spring, 2006 (Harold from teaching philosophy at Hawkeye, me from support staff at a substance abuse treatment agency). We had a grand time with UUSBHC-ers at the St. Louis GA; Harold's excitement focused on economic justice workshops, mine was musical. *Carolyn Hildebrandt* enticed me to my first UU Musicians' Network conference in St. Paul later that summer, and the UUSBHC Family Choir was born. Nietzsche wrote, "Without music, life would be a mistake." Yes!

"We officially joined "our" UU in November 2006, though we were in the joining process for awhile. We have found good, caring people who welcome us and our sometimes wacky ideas. We are at home.

"Since 2003, we are part of the oldest generation in both of our families. Our siblings (three sisters each) are geographically scattered. Our daughter Sonia and husband Peter, attorneys in private practice in D.C., are expecting their first child, a boy, at the end of April. Stay tuned!

"When we're in residence, we're at 565 Pioneer Rd. in Waterloo (291-7728; mhkuester@gmail.com). I sing often, and Harold writes."

SOCIAL ACTION COLLECTION

"WALKIN' THE TALK"

In February we did not do a Social Action Plate collection because of the Stewardship Campaign. The focus for March was The Eastside Ministerial Alliance (EMA). This group of churches helps many people who have fallen through the cracks and need help with housing, transportation, etc. They also have a free clinic and help those in need in many ways.

On March 4th there was an Adult RE Second Hour session on the EMA given by EMA Director, *Martha Frazier*. The plate collection for the EMA was held on March 30th. That total is unknown as of this writing; I will report on it in the May newsletter. Thanks to all who have donated.

The Social Action Focus for April is the eleventh Annual Million Dollar giveaway to fight hunger by the Feinstein Foundation. For every dollar that is donated to our local Food Bank, a proportional match will be added. The Feinstein Foundation has *one million dollars* to give to fight hunger and the more we give in April, the more of that money we will get for our Food Bank. See the Social Action table for more information. I will be having an Adult RE Second Hour session about this foundation and the Northeast Iowa Food Bank on April 13th. Come and find out more about Mr. Alan Feinstein's legacy.

Thanks for "Walkin' the Talk".

Sheri Huber-Otting
Social Action Chair



PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION POTLUCK

Dear UU Friends,

Get your hot dishes, Jell-O salad molds, and powder milk biscuit recipes out! We're having a Prairie Home Companion Church Basement Potluck on Sunday, April 6th, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Music Committee, the proceeds of this pass-the-hat benefit will be used to help send Music Director, *Carolyn Hildebrandt*, and Choir Director, *Mimi Kuester*, to the UU Musician's Network Conference in Boston.

Come hear:

Sharon Anway and her Amazing Tincanarimba!
Professional Stunt Cellist and
Master of Extended Cello Technique, *Jonathan Chenoweth!*
The Family Choir and Folk Ensemble!
and *more!*

If you'd like to present a silly song, joke, or skit, please contact me at <Carolyn.Hildebrandt@uni.edu> or 610-230-6194.

Everyone is welcome! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors so that UU AND YOU can help MIMI AND ME go to Boston!

Carolyn Hildebrandt



Child's letter to God:

Dear God,
Please put another holiday between Christmas and
Easter. There is nothing good in there now.

Ginny

FVUUM

Friendship Village UU Ministry continues with its monthly chapel and luncheon. We will be at Lakeview Lodge and all are invited to attend.

Please RSVP to *Brian Forster*. Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 9th.



★ UU SOCIETY HONORED FOR OUR GROWTH ★

Nancy Heege, Executive Director of the Prairie Star District, recently informed us that our congregation has received the **Green Star** designation for growth. Nancy wrote, "This new designation from the Prairie Star District recognized the congregations which have the largest numerical or percentage growth from 2007 to 2008. Your congregation is on the list for numerical growth (ten new members)."

Nancy noted that we will be honored at the District's Annual Conference in Omaha, April 11th through 13th.

My deep appreciation to all who made this award possible; I especially wish to recognize the *Outreach Committee* and *Rev. Cameron* for your ongoing efforts.

Judith Harrington, President

Ed. Notes: For details on this award take a look at the website, <<http://www.psduua.org/Growth/GreenStarCongregations>>.

For information about the upcoming 2008 PSD Annual Conference, "*Rebuilding a Faithful Democracy*", held in Omaha, Nebraska, go to <<http://www.psduua.org/AnnualConference2008/AnnualConference2008>>. It will include twenty-five thought provoking workshops, moving worship services, and exciting speakers—check it out!



We are thinking of several members who are dealing with health issues and/or in recovery: *Mildred Pierce*, *Glenyce Butschy*, *Barbara Roquet*, *Alma Lynch*, *Dick* and *Vivian Shane*, and *John Desmond*.

Our sympathy to *Margie Miller* and family on the death of her mother; to *Esther Kieffer* and family on the death of her sister; and to *Damon Gross* and family on the death of his father.

Welcome home to *Pam* and *Al Hays* from their six months in Ireland!

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



THE MOSES CODE MOVIE, PRAYER AND MEDITATION VIGIL

The *Moses Code* movie, a powerful and spiritual documentary, will be shown in the sanctuary on Saturday, April 5th at 6:00 p.m. and again at 7:45 p.m. (There will be a small charge at the door with no one being turned away for lack of funds.)

On Sunday, April 6th during Second Hour *Deblyn Russell* will be facilitating a prayer and meditation vigil using the tools expressed in the movie to extend prayers and hopes of peace to our homeland, the Middle East, and around the world.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sundays at 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. unless stated otherwise

April 6th

Conscious Living – How might our Cedar Valley look in the future if we were proactive about shaping a vision and a plan that integrated environmental consciousness into economic development projects? Does our group have the ability to positively impact community development? Come join *Kamyar Enshayan* and be a part of building a coalition and developing a plan to promote a Cedar Valley that reflects our value of caring for the interdependent web.

Meditation and Prayer Vigil – Led by *Deblyn Russell*, the vigil is in conjunction with the spiritual movie, *The Moses Code*, that will be shown in the sanctuary the previous evening. (See related article.)

April 13th

Walking the Talk – *Sheri Huber-Otting* will give a talk on the *Feinstein Challenge* and how it relates to the Food Bank. Sheri is one of those people who both talks the talk *and* walks the walk. Her presentation promises to be both informative and rewarding.

UU Stories That Changed My Life – This is a new series so join fellow UUs as they relate interesting and informative stories about events that changed their lives. *Pam* and *Al Hays* will share their story.

April 20th

Buddhist Path – Individuals are invited to meet with others who are interested in exploring with *Rev. Eva Cameron* about Buddhist spiritual practices and their lives.

Proposed Budget Presentation – Review and discuss the proposed budget with *Mike Knapp* prior to the following Sunday's Annual Meeting.

April 27th

UUSBHC Annual Meeting

OTHER ADULT RE ACTIVITIES

Buddhist Path: every Thursday from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join *Eva* in the balcony for meditation, walking meditation, and discussion of Buddhist topics. All are welcome.

First Friday: Passover ~ April 4th at 6:00 p.m.

Judy Harrington, Suzie Freedman, and Kathy Klink-Zeitz will lead us through our own Passover Seder (*Bill Harwood* will help us with planning). Please join us as we learn more about the religion of our friends and neighbors.



Important Notes for April's First Friday:

1) R.S.V.P.s are necessary by Thursday, April 3rd for this First Friday event as there will be special seating and special placemats for the children. Contact *Kathy* at <dre@uusbh.org> or (319) 404-2589.

2) Is there anyone who would like to bring hard-boiled eggs and/or Seder wine for their dish? If so, please contact *Kathy* for the amount needed.

3) If you are available at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and willing to help set up for this event, also contact *Kathy*.

There are Passover recipes in the Fellowship Hall or you can find them at the following websites, <<http://www.jewishrecipes.org/>> or <<http://www.kashrut.com/Passover/recipes/>>.

What to bring:

★ A dish to pass—If you can't cook anything Jewish then try one of the recipes available at the church (in a magazine rack in the Fellowship Hall). If that's not an option, then prepare one of your favorite Midwestern recipes or pizza! There'll be plenty of electrical hook ups for crock pots.

★ Beverage—we supply the water and juice. You may bring your own beverages if you so desire.

★ Place settings—we provide. As for clean-up, we need a few volunteers to help with clean-up afterwards. Because we strive to be a green sanctuary, we use dishes and silverware. They have to be washed (in our new dishwasher) after dinner is over; tables and counters have to be wiped clean and everything put away. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help out after dinner. If you've recently helped out with this, please feel free to pass the sheet along to the person next to you. All that we ask is that those who haven't helped with clean up lately, put their names on the sign-up sheet so that everyone gets a chance to enjoy the evening.

★ Bring your family, friends, or anyone who you think would enjoy an evening of fellowship and learning from knowledgeable people with different religious outlooks.

EXECUTIVE BOARD CODE OF CONDUCT

At its meeting on February 24, 2008, the Executive Board approved the following Code of Conduct, which is a revision of the Code first approved by the Board in May 2005. The Code will be reviewed annually by the Board.

We, the members of the Executive Board affirm:

1. To treat our staff, minister, members of the congregation, and visitors with dignity and respect at all times.
2. To establish a cooperative and constructive relationship with our staff, minister, one another on the Executive Board, members of the congregation, and visitors.
3. To expect there will be disagreements within our congregation but will endeavor to resolve these disagreements in the best interests of UUSBHC as a whole.
4. To encourage anyone who has a complaint to talk directly to the person with whom they have a concern, or to contact the Committee on Ministry, to begin a process of facilitated open dialogue between the two parties. We will not respond to anonymous complaints.



BUDDHIST PATH

Curious about Meditation? Wondering what is different about Buddhism from other religions? Wishing for greater calmness, centeredness in your life? Join the Buddhist Path every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. for a chance to explore Buddha's teachings and to meditate. Contact *Eva* with questions.



WORDS TO THE SONG

sung Stewardship Sunday, March 2nd

(to the tune of "My Favorite Things" from *The Sound of Music*)

"Interesting sermons and music and choir,
Poker night and youth group and a chalice on fire,
Hospitality, friends and the joy that they bring,
These are a few of our fave UU things.

Chili cook-off!

Treats and Talents!

Things that help us thrive,

We simply remember our fave UU things

And then we pledge LOTS. . .to the Stewardship Drive."

Brittany Flokstra

RSC AND YOU

RSC is the Religious Services Committee, formerly known as the Sunday Service Committee. The name was changed to reflect the fact that the committee arranges more than just Sunday morning services: weddings, funerals, the monthly Wednesday morning service at Friendship Village. . .

What does this have to do with you? Well, we are always looking for new members. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Page Room (that's the one at the very end of the hall, upstairs). A good time is had by all, and there are even refreshments!

But that's not all. You can participate in the committee even if you don't want to make a long-term commitment. If you have an idea for a service, please contact us or come to one of our meetings. We can help you make your idea a reality—whether you want to deliver the message yourself or not. We also have openings for Worship Associates, who help the main presenter make the service go smoothly.

Right now we are starting to plan for the summer. During June, July and early August, we run "chapel" services which are shorter and less formal than during the rest of the year. Being involved in a chapel service is a good way to test the waters, if you think the RSC may be your calling.

To get involved, please contact the RSC Chair, *John Miller* at <kjmlr@mchsi.com> or 988-4024.



THE GENEROSITY OF GIVING. . . A STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As you read this, we are in the closing week of our 2008-2009 Stewardship Campaign. Hopefully, you have returned your pledge form. If you haven't—Stop what you are doing right now. Fill it out. Send it to me.

Early results of this year's campaign are very good, but with only about sixty percent of pledges in from our membership and friends, it's still too early to make any announcements, other than "Send in your pledge form today!"



April begins the budget deliberation process as we transform our collective pledges of financial support of this Society into life by funding activities and events during the coming year. Music, Children's RE, Alternative Activities and child care, First Fridays, Wednesday Suppers, Family Choir and Folk Ensemble, Small Group Ministries, UU Card Club, our Minister, the DRE, utilities, phone, coffee—the list goes on and on. All these things happen because of your support.

This year we will present the proposed budget for your review and discussion during the Second Hour program on the Sunday before the Annual Meeting. Come join us to learn about the budget you will be asked to approve at the Annual Meeting.

Mike Knapp, Finance Committee



After hearing talk about a BrUUnch scheduled for Easter Sunday, we mice stayed close to the kitchen (for any possible crumbs, of course)! That's how we witnessed all the scurrying around when it was discovered there was no brewed coffee! What good neighbors you folks have in the University Avenue Hy-Vee when they came to the rescue and donated the morning coffee!



The Church Mouse



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING -- FEBRUARY 24, 2008*

*Board Meeting was rescheduled from February 17th due to inclement weather.

Summary of Highlights

- Stewardship Campaign update, *Karen Kitchen*.

Received

- Monthly Finance Report, *Karen Kitchen*.

Action Items

- Approved January Board Minutes.
- Adopted revised Executive Board Code of Conduct.
- Approved adding this item to the Agenda of the Annual Meeting:
 - Informal use of a church nickname for Fiscal Year '09.

Discussion Item

Transition of Executive Board and committee restructuring. Board agreed to continue discussion at its March meeting.

Submitted by *Judith Harrington*,
Executive Board President

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING -- MARCH 9, 2008*

*Board met one week early in March, to accommodate members for Spring Break.

Summary of Highlights

- Stewardship Campaign update, *Mike Knapp*.
- *Rev. Cameron's* monthly report.

Received

- Monthly Finance Report, *Mike Knapp* on behalf of *Karen Kitchen*.
- Nominating Committee Report, *Mica Lorenz*.

Action Items

- Approved February Board Minutes.
- Transition of Executive Board and committee restructuring. Following deliberation, the Board voted to table the topic until its September 2008 meeting.

Submitted by *Judith Harrington*,
Executive Board President



COMMUNITY MEALS

On the fifth Tuesday of each month that has five Tuesdays, we work with 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 West 8th and Washington Streets in Cedar Falls. The January meal was canceled because of weather, but thanks to all who signed up.

Our next Community Meal will be Tuesday, April 29th. We need volunteers to set up tables and chairs that morning, donate cupcakes, serve from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., and clean up from 5:45 to about 6:30 p.m.

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact *Ruth Walker* at <ruthwalker@cfu.net> or 266-8822.

YOOUNG CHILD PLAYGROUP

Calling all moms and dads! Are you looking to get out of the house, socialize with other UU parents and let your kids run off some steam? Here is a great opportunity for you!



In April we are starting a YoUung Child Playgroup for ages 0 to Pre-School. We will gather Fridays April 4th and 25th from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the church nursery. In May, we will gather on the first and third Friday of the month.

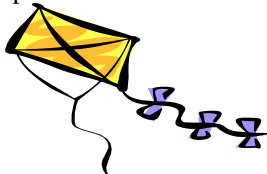
If you are interested in attending and/or have any questions, please contact me at <stafsholt@mchsi.com>.

Angie Stafsholt



INTERESTED IN JOINING?
CURIOUS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP?

On Sunday, April 6th Eva will host a meeting about membership in her office during Second Hour. Learn about the meaning of membership, and ask your questions. There will be an opportunity to sign the Membership Book at that time.



FAMILY FOLK ENSEMBLE

Family Folk Ensemble is continuing on all Wednesdays in April! Dinner is from 5:45 - 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and singing is from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Everyone is invited to join us for dinner, even those who will not be rehearsing with us later. The charge is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, and \$10.00 for families. R.S.V.P. to *Carolyn Hildebrandt* at 235-9285 or <Carolyn.Hildebrandt@uni.edu> by 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.

Everyone is invited to rehearse with us, even those who did not attend the dinner. We are looking for people of all ages who can sing and/or play guitar, violin, viola, cello, string bass, keyboard, hammer dulcimer, mountain dulcimer, flute, recorder, penny whistle, bagpipe, percussion, etc. Children and teenagers are welcome. Children under the age of twelve must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Childcare will be provided for children who will not be rehearsing with us.



We will be focusing on Celtic music (traditional, new age, and fusion) and American folk music (especially songs of peace and justice from the 60's and 70's).



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Black Hawk County will be held at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 27th, 2008.

A regular Sunday Service will precede this meeting.

Jim Paprocki,
Board Secretary

CONSCIOUS LIVING

As with many of you, I am deeply concerned by the pollutants in our air, water and food sources, which logically lead to environmental and health problems for us all. My philosophy—if I can't put it on my dinner plate, then it won't be sprayed on the lawn or used as a household cleaner, etc.—has eliminated one entire toxic aisle of the grocery store I need not trek. Baking soda, vinegar, lemons, salt, water—they were all presented as 'alternative' cleaners (what would Great Grandma think of that?) that pass my 'dinner plate' test. Thanks for the recipes and information from the recent forum presenters!



Recently, we were enlightened by an extensive PowerPoint production created and narrated by Bill Stigliani, former CEE Director. He talked in part about how we as a community can become proactive in turning to alternative energy sources and soon to new technological advances on the horizon—such as the many uses of nano technology—reducing and eventually even eliminating our need for fossil fuel consumption. What is striking is that much of this new technology already exists and our state is in a perfect position to utilize these options. . . like wind and solar vs. gasoline and coal. What seems to be lacking is only our collective vision, and reluctance to change.

Mother Theresa is reported to have declined, shortly before her passing, when asked to attend an anti-war demonstration against the U.S. war on Iraq, saying she could not attend an **anti-war** rally, but would gladly attend a **pro-peace** rally. I have been thinking about how, as concerned citizens, we often focus on what we are 'against' which may be necessary in the short run, but also may inadvertently add momentum to the very ill we are trying to prevent. Perhaps we need to focus more attention and energy on promoting the healthy, lucrative, job creating alternatives already before us, and working to raise awareness of their vital potential on individual, community and State levels.

As Gandhi said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world"—like *Clipper Wind*—a new wind turbine company in Cedar Rapids. According to Mr. Stigliani via Plant Engineer, Bob Lloyd, in its recent first year of business, the company grew from eight employees to three hundred, with product demand back-ordered until 2011, instantly becoming a billion dollar business! The caveat - since our state has not been able to envision its own potential, he sells mostly to more environmentally enlightened customers in Europe. More such businesses are apparently in the planning stages on Iowa soil by businesses from other countries. We need to wake up.

It was suggested that we create a coalition from all walks of life to draw more earth friendly businesses to our area, and promote other 'green' changes in our lives. Yet we currently have several community groups working on various aspects of these problems. Perhaps we could be more effective gathering these existing initiatives together under one roof, sharing information and expertise, and thus having more impact in creating the 'change we wish to see' in our corner of the inter-connected web of being.

Janet Parrish

