



## UUSBHC November Newsletter

### CONSCIOUS LIVING

In 1986 a man in Italy became very angry when McDonalds proposed building in his favorite piazza in Rome so he formed a group to enjoy leisurely dining which he called Slow Food. Today there are 80,000 members worldwide and the movement is growing. There is a Slow Food Iowa based in Iowa City. Small groups form conviviums and eat together “savoring the flavor”.



The goals: protecting artisan foods, promoting sustainable agriculture, preserving food traditions and enjoying a slower life. The logo is a snail.

### NEW SCRIP AVAILABLE

There are several new stores in the scrip program. Amazon.com is available in \$25 denominations and the church will get seven percent. Other new vendors are GNC (the vitamin store) with a discount of eight percent, Crate and Barrel at eight percent, and don't forget, we not only have Barnes and Noble scrip, but there is a beautiful new Barnes and Noble store now open at Crossroads where *Mary Kay Madsen's* daughter is the Manager. Stop by the scrip table during fellowship after the service and let us know if you would like to order some of the new scrip offerings.

### ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sundays from 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

#### November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Meet Your Search Committee Candidates**—In preparation for the upcoming election of the Ministerial Search Committee on November 9<sup>th</sup>, please join those persons who have agreed to be nominated for the Committee in a discussion of what kind of minister we should look for and what kind of congregation we should aspire to be. You will learn about their visions for the Society and you will be able to share yours with them.

#### November 9<sup>th</sup>

##### **Theology Discussion Group**

**Becoming a Welcoming Congregation**—This continues a series of discussions begun last spring, following a curriculum prepared by the UUA, that prepares our Society to be a truly welcoming congregation to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons. Led by our Board Chair, *Mica Lorenz*.

#### November 16<sup>th</sup>

**Conscious Living Circle**—A discussion group considering how we as individuals and as a congregation can deepen our commitment to live in harmony with the Earth.

**UU Family Values**—Family History: Who Cares about Your Ancestors? *Al Hays* reflects on the lure of tracing one's family's past; on reasons one should do it and possibly, on reasons one should not. (Rescheduled from earlier months.)

#### November 23<sup>rd</sup>

##### **Theology Discussion Group**

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#### November 30<sup>th</sup>

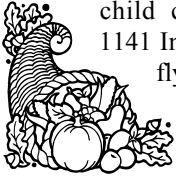
**Social Action Discussion**—Topic to be announced.

**UU WEBSITE. . .www.uusbhc.org**

When was the last time you visited [www.uusbhc.org](http://www.uusbhc.org)? Check it out and view our calendar on line. When you view the calendar you can also view the calendars for the rest of the year. In the calendar, if an item is underlined and you click on it, a window will pop up with more detailed information about the event. *Mica Lorenz* <[micallea@mchsi.com](mailto:micallea@mchsi.com)> is doing the calendar if you have items to add. *Leigh Zeitz* <[zeitz@uni.edu](mailto:zeitz@uni.edu)> is the web master if you have information for the website.

⇒ LAST CHANCE ⇐  
**TREATS AND TALENTS AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

Last call for Treats and Talents Auction items. If you haven't already sent in your Auction item, now's the time to do it. Share your treat or talent with us, and have fun at the same time. Our Annual UU Treats and Talents Auction will be held on Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments and child care will be provided. Send your auction item descriptions to *Mike Knapp* at 1141 Independence Ave., Waterloo, 50703 or e-mail them to <[mikemica@mchsi.com](mailto:mikemica@mchsi.com)>. Auction flyers are available on the oval table in the Fellowship Hall, and completed flyers can be left there in the basket.



**GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR**

In some of my earlier columns I have quoted from a report/book from the UUA titled Belonging: The Meaning of Membership. Each time I dip into this book I come up with a treasure. I have been thinking a lot lately about how much I have changed and how much that change is due directly to my experiences at this society and the people I have met here. Here is what the book says about change and community:

“We find our wholeness in relationship, in community with others, people both like and unlike ourselves. Individually we are changed, transformed by our relationship with others; at the same time the community as a whole is changed by the presence and participation of each individual. Both individually and collectively we are in a constant state of change, of transformation. Transformation is the fundamental purpose of and reason for a religion of seriousness and depth.”

This month we are starting a new journey together as we search for a new settled Minister. We will be electing a Search Committee on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will be doing the actual nuts and bolts work of the search, but they will be calling on all of us to help in many ways. Please thank these members for their willingness to give their time and effort to find the right Minister for our congregation.

We are pleased to sponsor a PFLAG group at our society. This local Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays affiliate meets the second Monday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. here at the Society. All are welcome to attend. UU member *Ardie Viet* is the President of the local chapter. On Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. PFLAG will be hosting a Holiday Pot Luck here and would like to invite all UUs to join them. Children are welcome. I hope to see you all there!*Mica Lorenz*

**SEARCH COMMITTEE FORUM – NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**  
**SEARCH COMMITTEE VOTE – NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Candidates for the Search Committee will be available for questions and conversations at a Second Hour Forum November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The vote for the Search Committee will be at the Special Congregational Meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Information on who the candidates for the Search Committee are and their applications are posted on the large Search Committee Board in the fellowship hall. There is also information posted on the search process and the search committee budget.

## WELCOMING CONGREGATION

We have been continuing our Welcoming Congregations program this fall with some enthusiastic participants. At our first meeting we had a free-ranging discussion on the many events that have occurred since our last meeting in May, and there were plenty from which to choose. It seems that gay issues have come center stage this year. The Supreme Court has affirmed the right to privacy in sexual relationships. A few states are conferring a few limited number of legal protections to same-sex couples. The Episcopal Church has confirmed the world's first openly homosexual Episcopal Bishop. The courts are poised to decide lawsuits on same-sex marriage in courts in Massachusetts and New Jersey, and in New York, the first public gay high school, the Harvey Milk HS, opened this fall. We noted that while there have been advances there have also been a noticeable increase in the rhetoric and a backlash from those who seek to repress.

There is no better time than now for those of us who, in the words of our sixth principle, "believe in the worth and dignity of each human being" to start speaking out in protest. Do not let our legislators think that it is okay with us if they support legislation that is harmful or not supportive to the LGBT community. Let's write letters to the Editor in support of things like the Supreme Court decision or refuting some of the gay bashing and other rantings that have made their way into the paper this summer and fall. Let's let the Cedar Valley know that there are some heterosexuals in this community who are very happy that the Supreme Court has finally done the right thing and that we are glad that some states are finally starting to think rationally about what constitutes a family. Maybe we can start having a rational debate in this country about what we mean by "family". Let's not let the conservative right get all the ink. We will be continuing our Second Hour sessions on November 9<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## INTERIM MINISTER PLACED AT UUSBHC

After searching the world for the best interim minister available for UUSBHC, we found *Mark Allstrom* in southern Australia. He will begin at UUSBHC on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

Reverend Allstrom has had a wide range of experiences in his life. Over the past seventeen years, he has served four full-time ministries in the United States and in Australia. Between 1982 and 1985, he served two churches as summer minister and one as intern minister. Most of his professional training and work has been in the United States and some in Australia, but he has preached in Canada, England and New Zealand and served as the Special Assistant to the Secretary-General of the World Conference on Religion and Peace at UN headquarters. He is not only a fully accredited minister with the Unitarian Universalist Association, but also on the Roll of Ministers of the British General Assembly. He has worked with the Black Caucus in South Carolina to fight discrimination.

An interesting aspect of Rev. Allstrom's work is the weekly Radio Outreach program, "Expanding Horizons", that he has hosted in Australia since 2001. In the phone discussion we had during the interview process, he explained that he found the radio show to be an important part of expanding his ministry.

Mark Allstrom is well-schooled. He received his Doctor of Ministry from the Meadville/Lombard Theological School in Chicago in 1985. Before that, he earned his Master of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of Chicago. Beloit College is the institution where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

We look forward to hearing his sermons and seeing what he brings to our congregation. More information about Mark Allstrom is available at the UUSBHC website ([www.uusbhc.org](http://www.uusbhc.org)).

## NATIONAL LUNG CANCER STUDY

Participants are needed for a National Lung Cancer Study. Are you a current or former smoker between the ages of fifty-five and seventy-four? If so, you could be eligible to participate in a new clinical trial funded by the National Cancer Institute. The American Cancer Society supports the investigation and is helping to recruit fifty thousand current and former smokers to participate in the study. Trial participants will receive a spiral CT scan or chest X-ray, and will have that same screening procedure again one and two years later. The screenings will be provided free of charge to study participants.

For more information concerning additional eligibility requirements, you may contact the Cancer Information Service of Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at The University of Iowa at 1-800-237-1225 or 1-319-356-3000.

# November Activities

\*\*\*\*\* 2003 \*\*\*\*\*

- NOVEMBER 2 10:00 A.M. **“ABORIGINAL BELIEFS AND SPIRITUALITY”** – Pam and Al Hays  
**Alternative Activity for Children**  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Time  
11:30 A.M. **R.E. for Youth / Adult Education** (Forum: Search Committee Candidates)
- NOVEMBER 9 10:00 A.M. **“SEEK AND WE SHALL FIND”** – Del Carpenter  
**Alternative Activity for Children**  
10:30 A.M. **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – Search Committee Election  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Time  
11:30 A.M. **R.E. for Youth / Adult Education**
- NOVEMBER 16 10:00 A.M. **“A FEW NEW WORDS ON ‘OLD TIME RELIGION’”** – Tom Hockey  
**Alternative Activity for Children**  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Time  
11:30 A.M. **R.E. for Youth / Adult Education**
- NOVEMBER 23 10:00 A.M. **“SACRED HARVEST: BREAD COMMUNION”** – Sunday Service Committee  
**Alternative Activity for Children**  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Time  
11:30 A.M. **R.E. for Youth / Adult Education**
- NOVEMBER 30 10:00 A.M. **“THE PLEASURES OF FASTING DISCOMFORT”** – Dr. Mohammed Fahmy  
**Alternative Activity for Children**  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Time  
11:30 A.M. **R.E. for Youth / Adult Education**