

Allegheny **ADVOCATE**

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church's Monthly Newsletter

Message from the Board President

I want to give you all a quick update what is on your boards agenda for the coming months. We are particularly busy right now (as a growing church should be) addressing many issues that affect all three columns of our church foundation - Social Outreach, Caring Community and Spiritual Nurture. Following is a list of some of the big ones:

- **Neighborhood Relations** - find ways to foster communication in the neighborhood and maintain firm dedication to our UU principals.
- **Long Range Plan 1** - improve financial standing.
- **Long Range Plan 2** - move to full time ministry.
- **Long Range Plan 3** - move more congregants to participate in our good works.
- **Long Range Plan 4** - broaden our community outreach.
- **Board / Minister Responsibilities** - Work to enhance the roles of the church leadership.
- **Minister / Board Evaluation** - Establish long term method for reviewing performance of all.
- **Organizational Structure** - determine it and document it for all to see and understand.
- **Covenant of Right Relations** - establish a policy to guide us through conflicts.
- **Safe Congregation Policy** - build on previous work to create guidelines for safety.
- **Leadership Development** - work to continually identify and develop potential church leaders.

As always, your board is here to serve you. Please don't hesitate to talk to any of us regarding any of the above or let us know if we are missing the boat on something else.

March 2009

Chris Stygar

Reach Out to the Neighborhood



Ever wondered how to get more involved in the neighborhood? Ever wondered IF you should get involved? Please join a group of Allegheny friends and neighbors to explore ways to reach out just beyond our walls and engage in effective work toward social justice in our church neighborhood. We'll be meeting after church on Sunday 15 March 2009 at 12 noon. Hope to see you there!

RW Dewe

Spaghetti Dinner, Talent Show and Silent Auction



Can decent people really have this much fun!? Well if you attended the From the Heart celebration - you know they can! Come join us as we continue an AUUC tradition. There will be lots of food and drink, fabulous entertainment provided your self and your fellow congregants (this is your big chance to show off your flawless Ethel Merman impersonation) and finally snatch up some great items or services while secretly bidding against the people you love - sweet! All benefits go to the church. Save the date - March 21st!

Something a Little Different...

For Easter Breakfast this year, we're gonna give all the cooks a chance to get out from behind the griddle and share in the fun. This year's breakfast will be a "potluck"!

Bring your favorite morning danish, rolls, biscuits, fruit, etc. Breakfast will begin at 9:00 am (set-up will be at 8:30). There will be coffee and tea. If you like orange juice - bring enough to share! Hope to see you all on Sunday 12 April!

Refreshments



Please look for the 2009 Refreshments sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to see when YOU can help out. The success of this church really depends on everyone volunteering just a little.

The Racial Justice Ministry had a very successful February, including a wonderful service with members of Metropolitan Baptist Church to celebrate Black Heritage Month. We're looking forward to many more exciting events in the coming months, including an anti-racism workshop and a Juneteenth celebration, as well as continuing our work to build relationships with other churches in the neighborhood. Join us at one of our upcoming meetings to help us achieve our goals! We meet the third Thursday of every month from 6:30-8pm in the Emerson Room at the church. Our next meetings will be on March 19th and April 16th.

Racial Justice



We have had a great couple of months with the kids at Jefferson Recreation Center. Many people from the congregation have been joining in the activities, and the kids really look forward to our visits! Join us on March 2nd or 9th from 5:30-7:00pm for more fun!

Tuesdays at the Jefferson Recreation Center

We would love volunteers from the congregation to come along with us, and we are always looking for new project ideas as well. Send an email to Jay Poliziani or Kim Winbush for directions and/or any questions. We can't wait to see you there!



**Challenge Grant
Awarded for
Western PA UU
Archive!**

Through a \$4000 grant, plus \$1000 Challenge Grant, awarded to the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh from the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program in Boston, we have the opportunity to collect and catalogue the records of our Western Pennsylvania UU churches at the Senator John Heinz History Center in downtown Pittsburgh.

The added Challenge Grant of \$1000 offers the potential for an additional \$2000 if we can raise \$1000 to match the \$1000 award. This would provide a total of \$6000 toward the Western Pennsylvania UU Archive Project!

As Kathy Parker, from the First Unitarian Church, has been accessing records in order to write our church history, it has become evident that an organized, secure archive for our Western Pennsylvania UU history is needed. Such an archive will be a proper place of deposit for the UU church records that have surfaced these last few years.

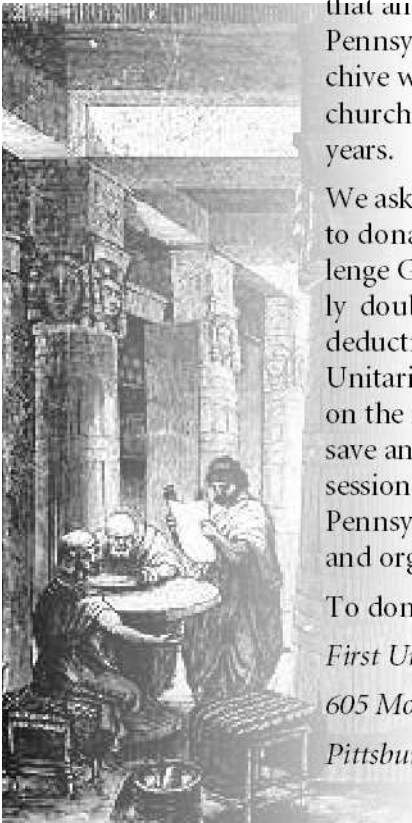
We ask that you consider this important appeal to donate what you can toward the \$1000 Challenge Grant. Any amount you give will essentially double in value! Your gift will be tax deductible and should be made out to the First Unitarian Church with "Archive Project" noted on the memo line. We are also asking that you save and collect any church records in your possession for donation to the new official Western Pennsylvania UU Archive. There they will be safe and organized for future generations!

To donate, please send checks to:

First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh

605 Morewood Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15213



AUUC has weekly on Sundays:

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service

Sunday 1 March

- 10:00 am Family Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Story for All Ages Service

Worship Leader: Jeanne Zang

Speaker: Rev. Dave McFarland

Julia Ward Howe: Woman of Peace Please join us as Rev. Dave kicks off Women's History Month with an exploration of how the life of one historic Unitarian might speak to us today.

Greeters: Cameron Booth and Lynn Glorieux

Refreshments: Greg Blackman and John Engberg

- Pick Up Giant Eagle certificates
- 2:00 pm NA Regional Meeting

Sunday 8 March

- 9:30 am Communion Service

Worship Leader: Paul Lawson

Speaker: Evan Frazier

Integrating Spirituality with Success Evan Frazier is President and CEO of the Hill House Association which provides a range of community services and develops a strategic vision for the ongoing rebirth of the Hill District neighborhood. The Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) he helped to negotiate for the One Hill coalition is a model for other neighborhoods. Evan will bring a message of integrating spirituality and achieving personal and organizational success.

Greeters: Lisa Carvajal and Chris Stygar

Refreshments: Ellen Kerr and Matt and Tiffany Merriman-Preston

AUUC March Events



AUUC March Events



Sunday 15 March

Worship Leader: Kate Tomlinson

Speaker: Rev Lynn Acquafondata

Engaging The Unexpected. Most people like a certain amount of stability and predictability in our daily routines, but sometimes life shakes us off course in distressing ways or delightful ways. In this time of national economic instability, how can we make the most of life's unwanted surprises? Is there a way to approach this as Unitarian Universalists? Rev. Lynn Acquafondata is the owner of Final Journey Home, the first home funeral business in the Pittsburgh area.

Greeters: McQuillin and Karen Zoller

Refreshments: Sharon Pillar and Kate Tomlinson

Sunday 22 March

Worship Leader: Donald Zeilman

Speaker: Rev. Dave McFarland

Religion of the Cosmos Even when seen from a gritty downtown Pittsburgh street through a somewhat grungy store window, the pictures being sent back the Hubble Space Telescope are awe-inspiring. In this anniversary year of Galileo's first look into the heavens, Rev. Dave explores the cosmos as a source of religious discovery.

Greeters: Andy Schwarz and Jeanne Zang

Refreshments: Betty Schwarz and A. Thompson

- Order Giant Eagle Certificates
- 6:30 pm Theologies Small Group

Sunday 29 March

Worship Leader: John Engberg

Justice Sunday - Economic Justice for All Join us as we celebrate the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and highlight the intersection of human rights principles and UU values – the imperative to affirm the worth and dignity of every person. And take away some simple steps to make a real impact on our world.

Greeters: Gloria Skillings and Jackie Svitek

Refreshments: Lynn Glorieux and Bryan and

Jessica Vogelsang

March 2009

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
2 7p NA Meeting 7p BOT Meeting	3 5:30p Jef Rec Center- AUUC Night 6p Sandwich	4 6:30p Comm. Plan 7:30p Choir	5 6:30p Girl Scout Meet- ing 8p Tai Chi	6	7 11a Northside Peace Vigil
9 7p NA Mtg	10 5:30p Jef Rec Center- AUUC Night 6p Sandwich Making	11 6:30p Comm. Plan	12 7p PIIN Board 8p Tai Chi	13	14 11a Northside Peace Vigil
16 7p NA Mtg	17 6p Sandwich Making 7p Finance Cmtee Mtg 7p MWSS Gen Mem Mtg	18 7:30p Choir Practice	19 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg 6:30p Racial Justice Mtg 8p Tai Chi 8:30p Shelter Meal	20	21 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 11a Northside Peace Vigil 5:30p Spaghetti Din- ner / Talent Show
23 7p NA Mtg 7:30p Worship Cmtee	24 6p Sandwich Making	25 6:30p Comm. Plan	26 8p Tai Chi	27	28 11a Northside Peace Vigil
30 7p NA Mtg 7p Execu- tive BOT Meeting	31 6p Sandwich Making				

Community Building after the Service on March 22



Immediately after the service on Sunday, March 22nd, please join us for an in-depth exploration of Rev. Dave's sermon topic, "Religion of the Cosmos". Members of the "What's It All About" small group will lead a community-building exercise centered around the morning's worship service with the goal of engaging each other more deeply. If you've ever wondered what goes on during Small Group sessions, here's your chance to find out. This will be a sample of what we do in our small group sessions but using Rev. Dave's topic as our focal point.

So please grab a cup of coffee and meet us in the Emerson Room at 11:45 am.

If you have any questions about Small Groups please talk to any of the current facilitators: Jane Dirks, Pete McQuillin, Fran Quinlan, Cathy Serventi or Mark Tomlinson.

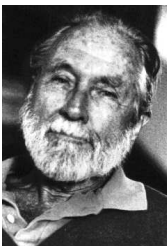
Small Group Ministry News

Theologies small group ministry will be meeting twice over the next 2 months on the following dates:

Sun 3/15 - 6:30 pm

Sun 4/5 - 6:30 pm

Welcome back Rick Smith!



Myles Horton

Rick Smith, who moved away 4 years ago, will be spending April in the city on a sabbatical from his work, studying the works of Myles Horton, who worked in the 40s through 70s on social change education, and also studying Restorative Justice Circles, a community conflict resolution process. If you have projects or activities you think he'd be interested in, or have interest in what he is planning on studying, or have or know of someone willing to rent a room to stay in for the month, please let him know.

Ohio-Meadville District News

The Ohio-Meadville District is very pleased to announce that we will be hosting the two UUA Presidential Candidates at a Candidates Forum as part of the 2009 OMD District Assembly at First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights, OH. Because of the important nature of this event, we are opening the forum to the public free of charge. All are invited to attend Friday 27 March at 7 pm for a hymn sing, followed by presentations from the two OMD UUA Trustee Candidates and then at 8 pm, the UUA candidates will speak. A reception will follow.

District Assembly is your congregation's opportunity to gather resources, network with other congregations, and vote on issues brought to the floor of the annual meeting. Keynote Speaker Michael Durrall, speaking on "The UU Congregation of the Future" is certain to encourage attendees to look at our faith in a new light. Workshops on a variety of topics from Multigenerational Congregations to Stewardship to Policy Governance will be offered. Registration is now open and detailed information and a downloadable brochure is available at the OMD website at <www.ohiomeadville.org>.

We hope to see you there!

Beth Casebolt
District Administrator
Ohio Meadville District
<office@ohiomeadville.org>
Phone: 740-252-5980
Fax: 866-460-7969

PO Box 157, St. Clairsville, OH 43950
<www.ohiomeadville.org>

Services of the OMD Office are provided through the generous donations of our congregations through your district and APF dues.



**March 2009
Interfaith Calendar**

- 1 • Intercalary Days conclude- Baha'i
- Cheesefare Sunday - Orthodox Christian
- Saint David of Wales - Christian
- 2 • Lent begins - Clean Monday - Orthodox Christian
- 8 • Orthodox Sunday - Orthodox Christian
- 9 • Mawlid an Nabi - Islam
- 10 • Purim - Jewish
- 11 • Holi - Hindu
- Hola Mohala - Sikh
- 13 • L. Ron Hubbard birthday - Scientology
- 17 • St Patrick's Day - Christian
- 21 Vernal Equinox
- Ostara - Wicca - Northern Hemisphere
- Mabon - Wicca - Southern Hemisphere
- Norouz (New Year) - Persian/Zoroastrian
- Naw Ruz (New Year) - Baha'i
- 25 • Annunciation of Virgin Mary - Christian
- 26 • Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zaranhushtro) Zoroastrian
- 27 • New Year - Hindu
- 29 • Passion Sunday - Christian



Minister

Reverend David McFarland

Board of Trustees

Chris Stygar, President

Director of Religious Education

Kris Thomas

Director of Music

Kiki Barley

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Peggy Thompson

Stewardship

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Lynn Yocum

House Committee

Donald Zeilman

Membership Committee

Betty Schwarz & Lisa Carvajal

Worship Committee

Mark Tomlinson

Racial Justice Committee

Jay Poliziani

Ministry Committee

Lynn Glorieux

Allegheny UU Web Sitewww.alleghenyuu.org**Allegheny UU YahooGroup**groups.yahoo.com/group/auuc/*Email <p_mcquillin@yahoo.com> to join the group***Church Phone**

412-322-4261

E-mail<auuchurch@yahoo.com>**AUUC Contacts**

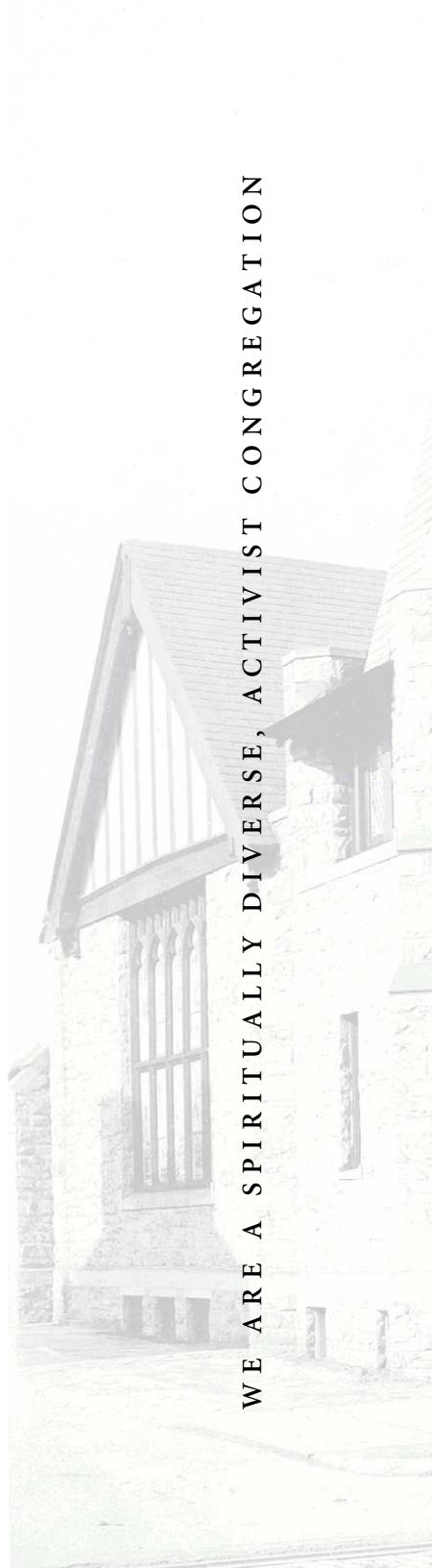
Our mission is to create a caring, nurturing liberal religious community centered on the celebration of life; to deepen awareness of the history of our Unitarian Universalist movement, its principles, and sources of wisdom; to engage in ethical discourse and action in order to maintain social justice as a central concern.

The *Allegheny Advocate* is published monthly (except August) by Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church.

Submissions must be received by the third Saturday of the month preceding publication. Contributions or inquiries may be directed to Lisa Carvajal or Chris Stygar at stygarjal@comcast.net © Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 2009



Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church
1110 Resaca Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15212



WE ARE A SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE, ACTIVIST CONGREGATION