

SERMON TOPICS:

- April 7—Midwest Leadership Academy
- April 14—Relationship as a Spiritual Practice
- April 21—About CASA
- April 28—Rev. Forrest Gilmore

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All We Have To Fear Is Fear Itself

These words, spoken by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1931, were meant to comfort millions of Americans suffering economic distress during the bleak years of the Great Depression. I was reminded of them while listening to the Rev. Gregory Myers, a Coptic Christian, who delivered the sermon at UUCE on Sunday, March 3rd. He told us that fear originates in the mind and can be paralyzing if not dealt with by effective mental processes. I was reminded also of a passage from *The Life of Pi* by novelist Yann Martel. Here is how the sixteen year old protagonist, adrift at sea, described it:

“I must say a word about fear. It is life’s only true opponent. Only fear can defeat life. It is a clever, treacherous adversary...It has no decency, respects no law or convention,

shows no mercy. It goes for your weakest spot, which it finds with unerring ease. It begins in our mind always. One moment you are feeling calm, self-possessed, happy. Then fear, disguised in the garb of mild-mannered doubt, slips into your mind like a spy. Doubt meets disbelief and disbelief tries to push it out. But disbelief is a poorly armed foot soldier. Doubt does away with it with little trouble. You become anxious. Reason comes to do battle for you. You are reassured. Reason is fully equipped with the latest weapons technology. But, to your amazement, despite superior tactics and a number of undeniable victories, reason is laid low...Your anxiety becomes dread. Fear next turns fully to your body, which is already aware that something terribly wrong is

going on...Every part of you, in the manner most suited to it falls apart. Only your eyes work well. They always pay proper attention to fear.

Quickly you make rash decisions. You dismiss your last allies: hope and trust. There, you’ve defeated yourself. Fear, which is but an impression, has triumphed over you. The matter is difficult to put into words...but you might fight hard to express it. You must fight hard to shine the light of words upon it. Because if you don’t, if your fear becomes a woodless darkness that you avoid, perhaps even manage to forget, you open yourself to further attacks of fear, because you never truly fought the opponent who defeated you.”

—Ed

Letter To The Editor

I have two comments.

1. I agree with Ed Howard’s optimism in the March Compass. I recently finished a book by a Psychologist, Steven Pinker, at Harvard University. He argues, using many events, statistics, and graphs that human on human violence has decreased significantly over the 12,000 years plus of civilization. The title is “The Better Angels of Our Natures (Why Human Violence Has Decreased)”. It is a big book, about 550+ pages but is a good read. I have had the same opinion for years. He

says that the statistical method used does allow for anomalies like WWI and WWII but the overall trend is very encouraging. I highly recommend it.

2. Here are Suggested Tips for Writing Letters to the C/P:

- a. Select a subject you are passionate about.
- b. If you are responding to another writer, whoever, just address their logic don’t degrade them personally. Such a tactic tells everyone you have nothing intelligent to say and it winds up sounding like a playground rant by a 4th grader.

c. Try to keep the letter under 250 words.

d. Title it either as “Response” if it is a comment on a previous writer’s letter or as “Community Comment” if you have a longer analysis you want to present.

Finally:

Don’t be afraid to write! It is good therapy and may actually cause someone to think about what you said.

—Hardin Rathgeber



Sermon Topics

April 7—Jennifer Batts will speak about **Mid-west Leadership Academy**. Linda Sue Cates worship associate.

April 14—Ed Howard will deliver Matthew Johnson Doyle's sermon "**Relationship as a Spiritual Practice.**"

April 21—We hope to have Judge Wayne Trockman speak **About CASA**. Tom Moor worship associate.

April 28—Rev. Forrest Gilmore will return to preach. Tom Moor worship associate.

Potluck

When is Potluck?

Many are wondering, "Just when in the heck is Potluck?" To set the record straight, it is always the fourth Sunday of the month and when we have a visiting UU Minister.

We have potluck when we have a visiting UU Minister so that each of you will have a chance to get to know the minister.

Should there be other times we will announce them.

Housekeeping Rules for Potluck

If all follow this guide line we will have better potlucks.

1. As soon as the Sunday service is over – it would

2. Tables are not to be taken down until 1:30 pm.
3. Put chairs back into rows.
4. All trash cans are to be emptied into dumpster.
5. Once the dishwasher is filled – run it. The remaining dishes must be washed and put away. Note: do not over load the dishwasher – when you do the dishes do not get clean.
6. All tablecloths taken off and washed along with dishcloths.
7. Remember to take home your empty dish – do not leave it at church.
8. Refill the ice trays with

water.

9. Empty coffee urns and rinse out.

If everyone divides up the duties, it will be short work for all. Thank you.

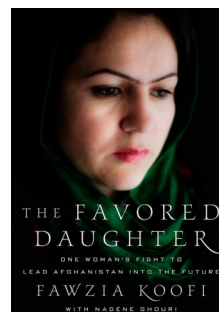
April 7th service will be about attending Mid-west Leadership School. Two members from Bowling Green will explain what to expect and what you and the church will gain from having members of our church attend in July.

After the service there will be a potluck with the two speakers and members of our church who have attended MWLS, this will give you a chance to ask questions.

—Linda Sue Cates

UUCE Brown Bag Book Club

The next meeting is April 25 from 11:30am until 1:00pm. Bring your lunch to eat while we discuss this month's book, *The Favored Daughter: One Woman's Fight to Lead Afghanistan into the Future* by Fawzia Koofi. All members and friends are welcome; if you want to, bring a friend!



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 19-23, 2013 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS

Highlights of March Board Meeting

The Board met at the Church on Monday night, March 3rd. Ed Howard, Joan DeVillez, Marla Minton, Chris Norrington, and Bev Tonso were in attendance.

After approving the Minutes of the previous meeting, they discussed the upcoming General Assembly, which will meet in Louisville, Kentucky, June 19-23, 2013. Because the short travel distance this year makes it possible for several to attend GA, every member is urged to consult the Tentative Agenda (www.uua.org/ga) and consider attending for at least one day. The Board will underwrite the registration fees for three delegates. Others who wish to attend must do so at their own expense. Every attendee is required to pay the registration fee.

As part of the selection process, the Board is asking each Committee Chair to nominate one committee member to attend GA as a UUCE

delegate. The Board will then pick three persons from that list and use monies from the Hafner Fund to pay for their registration fees. To take advantage of early registration (March 1-April 30) the deadline for receiving nominations is April 15th. Submit them in writing to President Ed.

As part of his report, Treasurer Chris Norrington, submitted attendance stats for the four Sunday services in February. They are: Feb 3, forty-eight; Feb. 10, thirty-nine; Feb 17, thirty-six; Feb 24, forty-eight, for an average of forty-three. The average has remained the same since November 2012.

Joan DeVillez, Religious Exploration Director, gave the Board a list of recommendations resulting from a security inspection of the Chalice House by Gerald Summers, who is responsible for security at the School Corporation. These included outside

motion detection lighting, door bells at each entrance requiring unknown persons who wish to enter to ring for admittance. Set all cell phones to speed dial 911. After discussing the recommendations, Board members added one, namely, the installation of an intercom between the Chalice House and the foyer of the Church. Joan was instructed to turn the list over the Chair of the House & Grounds Committee for implementation.

The Chair reported that the ventilation of the Chalice House, authorized by the Board, had been completed to the satisfaction of members of the House & Grounds Committee.

The next meeting of the Board will take place at 7 p.m. on April 1st at the Church.

New Members Step Forward

During lunch at the Acropolis following the Church service on March 17th, your president expressed concern that the flowers on the table before the pulpit were looking pretty sad after being there for the past several Sundays. That prompted new member, Suzanne Perrey, to offer to undertake the job of decorating the table on a regular basis. And her sister, Ted-dye Thompson - also a new member, offered to help.

Pam Thoren is another example of a new member stepping forward to get the job done. Pam's interest in social justice led her to become our liaison with Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment (CAJE). The fact we were

invited to give the benediction, and our good attendance at the CAJE rally on March 14th, were due in large part to Pam's promotion of that event and insistence that UUCE maintain a high profile in CAJE.

Finally, we are indebted to Mike Woodall, a prospective member, for agreeing to assist the House and Grounds Committee in their effort to improve safety features in the Chalice House (see Board Highlights). Mike has an extensive background in construction.

Our thanks to all three!

CAJE Action - April 11th

Transitions to Independence

Issues: Homes for Former Foster Children

Family Reunification after Incarceration

Reducing Recidivism through Employment

Action: CAJE members will be gathering at Crossroads Christian Church to publicly ask elected officials and other decision-makers to take the necessary actions that will bring about just solutions to these issues that have been carefully selected and researched. Sign-in is at 6:00pm; action begins at 6:30pm.

Please contact Pam Thoren for more information and to get your ticket. We need you there!



**Unitarian Universalist
Church of Evansville**

2910 East Morgan Avenue
Evansville, IN 47711
812-474-1704

Service on Sundays at 10:00 AM
Youth RE on Sundays at 10:30 AM



Board of Directors:

President	Ed Howard
President Elect	
Secretary	Marla Minton
Secretary Elect	
Treasurer	Chris Norrington
Treasurer Elect	
Director	Linda Sue Cates
Director	Bev Tonso

Other Volunteers:

Religious Exploration	Joan DeVillez
Youth Leader	Mary Helen Weldy
Building and Grounds	Hardin Rathgeber
Stewardship	David Fentress
Communications	Chris Norrington
Social Justice	Pam Thoren
Congregational Life	Bev Tonso
Worship Associates	Tom Moor
Newsletter Editor	Ed Howard
	uceeditor@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Jack Carden
Website	www.uuevansville.org

Joke of the Month

This sign was spotted in front of the Supreme Court Building as the Court heard arguments regarding the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act:

“JESUS HAD TWO DADS AND HE DID OK!”



Upcoming Events & Activities

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| Monday, April 1: 7pm Board Meeting | Saturday, April 13: 10am Nia Class | Thursday, April 25: Coffee Orders due |
| Wednesday, April 3: 7pm RE Committee Meeting | Sunday, April 14: 10am Relationship as a Spiritual Practice | 11:30am-1pm Brown Bag Book Club |
| Friday, April 5: 7-9pm Drum Circle | Friday, April 19: 3pm United Caring Shelter Dinner | 6:30pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting |
| Saturday, April 6: 10am Nia Class | 7-9pm Drum Circle | Saturday, April 27: 10am Nia Class |
| Sunday, April 7: 9am Adult Discussion Group | Saturday, April 20: 10am Nia Class | Sunday, April 28: 10 am Service
Potluck following service |
| 10am Mid-west Leadership School
Potluck following service | Compass Submissions due | 3-5pm Dances of Universal Peace |
| Thursday, April 11: 6pm CAJE Action at Crossroads Christian Church | Sunday, April 21: 9am Adult Discussion Group | |
| | 10am About CASA | |