

SERMON  
TOPICS:

- August 5-  
Susane  
Draper on  
CASA
- August 12-  
Rev. Anisa  
Evans on  
Good Vibra-  
tions
- August 19- A  
Speaker from  
the Latino  
Center
- August 26-  
Rev Dotie  
Stone

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# The Compass

AUGUST 2012

## What Do We Get For Our Money?

On a Sunday afternoon recently, I was privileged to attend and be a presenter for one of the instructional sessions for prospective and new members. Bev Tonso and Pam Stivers, members of the Congregational Care Committee, have assumed the responsibility for helping newcomers to UUCE learn what we Unitarian Universalists believe, how we manage our affairs, govern ourselves, and what is expected of them.

They assigned me the job of describing our "Social Contract", that is, how we govern ourselves, how we make our decisions, elect our leadership, call and/or dismiss a minister, purchase or sell property, and finally how we justify our membership in the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the four-state Heartland District.

Because even long-standing members of the Church might be hard-pressed to answer that last question, I want to address it.

First, why do we belong to the UUA and agree to pay an assessment of some sixty dollars per year per member? What do we get for our money?

As a practical matter, they furnish us with our hymnals,

study material, and the all-important curricula we use in our religious exploration classes. We know that material, such as "Our Whole Lives", is of high quality and not easy duplicated. Indeed, OWL is so good it was adopted by the Planned Parenthood Federation nationwide to instruct their clients in matters of sexuality. When we are ready, the staff at UUA will expedite our search for an ordained UU minister. And as members of a unified, nationwide organization, meeting annually at a General Assembly, we can speak as one voice on social issues such as same-gender marriage and a humane immigration policy.

Then, what does the staff of the Heartland District do for us? What do we get for our twenty dollars per year per member? Again, there

are practical benefits as well as intangible ones. Lisa Presley, at the Heartland Office, at our request, sought and put members of our Worship Committee in touch with prospective visiting UU ministers. This enabled us, for example, to hear the Rev. Doddie Stone and to schedule on a monthly basis other UU ministers.

As I write this, our RE Director, Joan DeVillez, is undergoing intensive leadership training at Beloit College in Wisconsin. This week-long program is offered each year by the Heartland District. We have benefited from sending some of our best members to it over the past several years. They describe it as unforgettable and almost life-changing.

As we struggle with mundane tasks such as roof replacement, non-functioning air conditioning, parking, and who will mow the grass next week, let's remind ourselves that we are not alone in our struggle to keep our liberal religion alive and well, and that help is often just an e-mail away.

Ed Howard



## End-of-year Finances

The end of the 2011-12 fiscal year saw a surplus of \$11,278 in the church operating budget. The board voted to use the surplus in the following way. Approximately 40% of this surplus (\$4500) was used to make an extra payment on our debt to the Endowment Fund, from which we had been borrowing during past years.

Approximately 50% of the surplus (\$5650) was set aside as a House & Grounds Contingency Fund. This money will be in reserve to help meet large non-routine expenses associated with our buildings, such as replacing air conditioner compressors or repairing the Chalice House roof.

The remaining 10% of the surplus (\$1128) was allowed to stay in the Op-

erating Fund for routine expenses.

The year was financially successful by other measures as well. This year we withheld income taxes and FICA from all employees' pay, as the government now requires churches to do. We successfully paid 3 months' severance compensation to our former minister Deane Oliva. We collected 95% of the money that donors pledged to give for the year.

With the extra payment on the Endowment Fund debt as mentioned above, that debt is now down to about \$49,000. This compares to a peak value of about \$58,000 a couple of years ago. The current plan is to pay annual installments that will bring this debt to zero by the year 2023.

Despite this relative suc-

cess, I would caution the congregation not to be lulled into complacency about finances. The next 12 months appear challenging. We are budgeted to spend significantly more in the current year than was actually spent last year. Yet the total of all financial commitments (also known as pledges) that were made during the last budget drive are down by about 16% from the year before.

It was an honor to serve as your Treasurer during the 2011-12 year. The office has now been placed in the capable hands of Chris Norrington, who is rumored to have done this job before.

Sincerely,  
David Fentress



## Inherent Worth And Dignity

For the many of you who appreciated Rev. Doddie Stone's service on June 24<sup>th</sup>, you may be interested in the source of the quotation she included in the order of service. It was written by Tim Kutzmark, Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, Massachusetts as part of an article entitled "To Be Seen" for the Quest for Meaning publication and is

available online at:

<http://www.questformeaning.org/page/reflecting/to-be-seen>

Quest For Meaning is a publication of the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) which is sponsored by the UUA and of which our church is a member. For more details, contact any member of the Worship Committee.



# CAROLE MONTGOMERY RETIRES



A long-time member, who for the past several years has been our financial adviser, is retiring from Raymond James Financial Services, the firm with which we have entrusted our investment funds.

Carole Montgomery, as a member of UUCE served as our treasurer, and later, as an agent for Raymond James, oversaw our investments at a time when the returns were much better than they are now. She transferred to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but continued to work with UUCE treasurer David Fentress and other clients in and around Evansville.

When she retires on August 6<sup>th</sup>, our account will be transferred to the local office of Raymond James, and our contact per-

son will be Bob Fenneman. Bob comes highly Recommended by Carole Montgomery. He is the son of the late Dr. Robert Fenneman, M.D, a prominent eye surgeon in the Evansville area for many years.

As the newly-elected UUCE treasurer, Chris Norrington now becomes our contact with Raymond James Financial Services.

## Coffee

Place your order for chocolate, cocoa and coffee by the 25th of the month. Contact Chris Norrington for details 471-9867.

## United Caring Shelter

UUCE prepares a meal at the United Caring Shelter on the 3rd Friday of the month. We work from 3:00– 5:00. Helpers are needed!

Donations of spaghetti noodles and sauce are always needed too!

## Monthly Potluck

Join your fellow UU's after church the fourth Sunday of each month for potluck.

## **DON'T FORGET TO TAKE**

## **SOME TIME TO WORK**

## **THE UUCE FALL FESTIVAL**

## **BOOTH!! Oct 1-6, 2012**

***We need everyone's help to make it happen!!!***

## Space Needed

Linda Sue has a commercial freezer that she would like to donate to the church, but we have no space for it at the moment. Is there a member who would be willing to store it (and let us use it occasionally— IE Fall Festival) until we can find it a permanent home?

Contact Linda Sue for more information.

## Volunteer with CASA

One of the volunteer activities UU's are involved in is CASA. This acronym stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. Often, when children are in court, for whatever reason, They have no competent person pleading their cause.

Some 250 children are waiting for a loving, caring, adult

To step up and be their voices in court. If you are willing to help address this need, and are willing to take the Training necessary to be an effective CASA volunteer, contact Bev Tonso at [btonso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:btonso@sbcglobal.net) or go on line At [www.vandcasa.com](http://www.vandcasa.com).



Jack and Alice got to have lunch with Teri, Liam and Dave on their recent visit to Marquette, MI. Liam has grown to look at least about ten years old, Mama T is selling her wares at the local farmer's market and Dave is working on the Blues festival and trying to establish a local John Lennon night.



## Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville

2910 East Morgan Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47711  
812-474-1704  
Services Sunday at 10:00 AM

**Youth RE at 10:30 Sundays**



### Board of Directors:

President	Ed Howard
President Elect	
Secretary	Marla Minton
Secretary Elect	
Treasurer	Chris Norrington
Treasurer Elect	
Director	Linda Sue Cates
Director	John Schaefer

### Other Volunteers:

Religious Exploration	Joan DeVillez
Youth Leader	Mary Helen Weldy
Building and Grounds	John Schaeffer
Stewardship	David Fentress
Communications	Chris Norrington
Social Justice	Chris Norrington
Congregational Life	Bev Tonso
Worship Associates	Marla Minton
Newsletter Editor	Beth Heil
	uuceeditor@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Jack Cardin
Website	www.uuevansville.org

## Upcoming Events & Activities

August 3 – Drum Circle 7-9pm

August 5 – Adult Discussion Group in the Chalice House at 9am

August 9 – Women’s Group at 7pm

August 17 – United Caring Shelter 3-6pm

August 17 – Drum Circle 7-9pm

August 19 – Adult Discussion Group in the Chalice House at 9am

August 20 – Compass Submissions Due

August 24 – Coffee Orders Due

August 30 – Congregational Life Committee Meeting 6:30pm

October 1-6 — Fall Festival help needed all week 8am through 10 or 11pm

## Fall Festival

**Healthy Choices:** Fall Festival booth Chairman Teri Rawlings attended the Healthy Food Fair on July 16. While there she was interviewed by Fox 7 and appeared in a clip on their evening news!

We hope to get at least one of our offerings certified as “healthy” so it can be featured in the “Healthy Choice” section of the Munchie map.

**Help Needed:** Plan now to spend some time working at the UUCE booth at the Fall Festival. Teri needs help from 8am– 10 or 11 pm EVERY DAY Monday through Saturday. She can’t do it alone!! Please sign up to work a shift or three!