

- Feb. 6– TBA
- Feb. 13–  
Our Evolutionary Journey
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Loving and Leaving
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Ministry in a Man's World

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# The Compass

FEBRUARY 2011

## Minister's Musings

February is the month of Valentines, a time to remember that we are each special, that we each have gifts to share and that doing good has value.

### Free Gifts!

Who among us has not hoped for a free gift? It does not matter what the gift is: it is *FREE*. We sign up for sweepstakes for trips we do not want to take. We hope to be "caller number 3" to win a free CD, even though we do not like the music. We try to catch the prizes tossed out by cheerleaders at basketball games regardless of whether or not we really want or need them. Free gifts are prized. In some way a gift is affirming. We want to be blessed with a gift.

February is a great month to remind us that every single day we have a bucket full of

gifts to give away. Gifts that cost us no money, little time and small effort. Gifts that will be sincerely appreciated. Yet, even though we have this large supply of gifts, the sad truth is that at the end of the day, all too often, our bucket is still full. We have kept our gifts to ourselves.

Like Valentines, we sometimes do not pass out our gifts because we are afraid that they will not be appreciated or, worse, that they might be rejected. Sometimes we simply forget. Yet, truly, the other side of the coin is that the gift might be greatly appreciated, a boon to the beneficiary, just what they needed. Isn't it worth our time to pass out our gifts?

What are these gifts which each of us has in abundance?

- *The gift of a smile.*
- *The gift of a compassionate nod.*

- *The gift of a kind word.*
- *The gift of a hug.*
- *The gift of listening.*

Of course! Such a simple list of everyday blessings. The early Universalists had a slogan to live by: God is love. People should be good and do good, they said, because God has given us such a nature that] we find it tremendously fulfilling to so conduct ourselves. Doing good is how to be happy in *this* life.

A smile, a kind word, a hug, true listening, a compassionate nod are the gifts of love. That are great Valentines. Let us pass them out not only in February, but also every day. Let us share our gifts of love.

May it be so!  
Rev Deane

## Valentine Dinner & Dance

The UUCE Fundraising committee will host a Valentine dinner and dance on Saturday, February 12. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. We will have a wonderful menu of baked Mediterra-

nean fish, salad, rice pilaf, homemade Parkerhouse rolls, and molten chocolate cake for dessert.

Tickets will be \$15 for adults, \$8 for children under 12. Tickets at the door will be \$20 and \$10. There will be

music to dance to. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening with your someone special and lots of friends.

See Karen Genter, Joel Haffner, Marla Minton, Linda Sue Cates, or Alice Carden for tickets.



## Sermon Topics

**2/6- Population Explosion** Join guest speaker Jim Daniels and Worship Associate Tom Moor as they explore this timely topic.  
**2/13- Our Evolutionary Journey: A Ritual of Gratitude and Commitment** Join us for this interactive, multigenerational ritual as we honor our evolution and commit ourselves to revising the

future. Rev Deane with Sarah Weitkamp, Worship Associate

**2/20 – Loving and Leaving** Death is the final life passage. Increasingly, medical and legal changes are affecting the quality of our end of life choices. Are we prepared? Rev Deane with Tom Moor, Worship Associate

**2/27 – Ministry in a Man's World** The Universalists were the first denomination to ordain a female minister. Others soon followed, but it was not an easy road to travel. What were the challenges? How do female ministers fare today? - Rev Deane and Stephanie Young, Worship Associate

“Love, laugh  
and embrace  
life”

## A Word from the Board

Well folks, another month has gone by marked by your UUCE board meeting. We had a lively discussion about how best to go forward in these financially trying times. “These are the times that try men’s souls”

comes to mind and I don’t mind telling you that I feel that saying is very true. We, your board, continue to ask for your opinions about how best to pay back our endowment and carry on the mission of our be-

loved church.

Love, laugh, and embrace life.

Yours truly,  
Ben Sizemore  
UUCE President Elect

## Circle Dinners a Success

On Saturday 22, 2011 there were three Circle Dinners held. The three hosts were Alice and Jack Carden, Tina and Ben

Cates.

Alice and Jack had fourteen at their home, Ben and Tina hosted a total of ten, and Linda Sue had eight at her home.

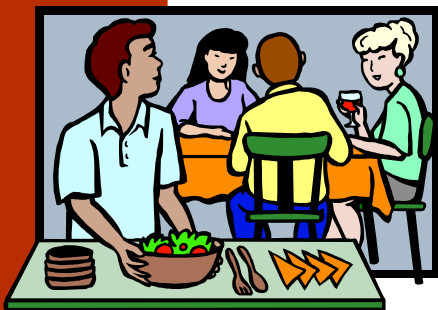
You can still sign up to be a host or attend one or more Circle Dinner. Future dates are: February 19<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> – in June there will be a full church picnic at the Newburgh Overlook Dam Park.

We do need more hosts so please say yes to hosting.

Interested in joining? Sign-up forms are available on the Membership table. You will find the black Trunk box for the sign-up cards – please fill one out.

It is not mandatory that you attend every month. Remember you do not have to be a member to attend the Circle Dinners and you do not have to commit to being a host or attending all of the dinners.

Thank You Linda Sue Cates



Seizemore, and Linda Sue

# Adult Religious Exploration

Now is the time to sign up for these winter and spring workshops.



## Social Justice Discussion Group

Join us to discuss the UUA Common Read book, *The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands* by Margaret Regan (Beacon Press, 2010). If you have not already ordered this book, you can pick one up through Beacon Press. We will meet on Thursday, February 24th at either noon or 6:30 depending on the will of the group.

## Completing Your Living Will

This is a repeat of our fall

workshop. Then, ten folks completed their Advance directives. Have you?

Mark your calendar for this special workshop. Participants will learn about Indiana Advance Directives: what they are, who needs them and where to keep them. They will fill out their living will and, when appropriate, choose a health care representative. Documents will be finished and witnessed by workshop end.

One session: March 12th



## Cakes for the Queen of Heaven: In Ancient Times

by Shirley Ranck

For Women Only: This five session curriculum introduces participants to ancient Goddesses, weaving their stories together with major concerns

of women today. The themes of the Session Plans are: The Sacred Female, In the Name of the Mother and the Daughter, Womanpower, The First Turning-From Goddess to God, and Reclaiming Women's Heritage of Peace. The curriculum also includes five Visual Programs to accompany the sessions. Alice Carden will facilitate, Thursdays, starting April 21th.



*“Sign up*

*now...*

*broaden your*

*horizons”*

## Coffee

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

## Monthly Potluck

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

## Adult Discussion Group

The Adult Discussion Group meets the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays at 8:45 in the Challice House. Contact Hardin with any questions.

## Meditation

Join us for meditation Mondays and Fridays from noon til 12:40.

## 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!



*“Love, laugh  
and embrace  
life”*

## Thankfulness

In November, we remembered our thankfulness on a garland that adorned the UUCE Christmas tree. The tree is put away and the garlands have been recycled. But these feelings of gratitude persist into this dark part of the winter season.

Your fellow members and friends wrote that they are grateful for:

- Being given the favor to be alive and to love a family.
- The feeling of joy that comes when I help others. When I give back to the world that nurtures me.
- Grateful for my life
- My friends but most of all, I'm grateful for my child
- My family that includes my church family (you)
- My skills and abilities, my employment, my recently acquired friends, nice places to go bicycling, my violin, my books
- Love, precious precious time, trust, strength, weakness
- Skippy, Jacque, Tathe, Little Orange
- The spirit and tenacity of the pilgrims of Plymouth
- The glorious disorderly beauty of nature
- Freedom, diversity, and community, for independent minds, working together
- Loving Pets
- A husband who makes me laugh after almost 25 years
- Such good friends
- Willow Pond retreat center
- Just to be able to get up and walk. Spending time with a stroke victim who is paralyzed makes me grateful for things I usually take for granted
- UUCE and our brand new “Standing on the Side of Love” sign
- A job where I get paid to help others
- Loving, caring church community, my parents who taught me so much
- My friends who will always be there when I need them
- Pets, chocolate, rain
- Those who have supported my spirituality helping me live in harmony with my passions
- People who honor, respect, and protect fellow earthlings, deserving of respect, who are not human but share the planet,
- All generations of my family
- This great nation and the freedoms we enjoy
- Of all the Chinese babies, I received YuNa
- Laughing with my family
- This caring welcoming community
- Meaningful work, 12-step recovery
- Flowers, plants, trees and fall.... Growing things
- All those people in the world working for peace and justice
- We were able to move to Evansville and be a part of this community
- Opportunity + Love + Music + Children + Beer
- Family, air, food, diversity, today and health
- Hugs and hands to hold during the life changing move to Marquette, MI
- My job
- For all the exuberant life and beauty around me
- My successful journey from despair to hope and happiness, which I could not have accomplished without a great therapist, good friends, and my new found church family





## Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville

2910 East Morgan Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47711

812-474-1704

Services Sunday at 10:00 AM

Rev Dr Claudene F Oliva, Minister

Office hours: Wed. & Thurs. 2-5 or call for  
an appointment (on vacation Jan. 8 thru 23)

Home Phone: 812 490-7145

Cell Phone: 270 779-9222

email- [cogenisys@aol.com](mailto:cogenisys@aol.com)

**Child and Youth RE at 10:30 Sundays**

### Board of Directors:

The UUCE board meets the third Monday of the month at 6:30PM.

President

Jan Steinmark

President Elect

Ben Sizemore

Secretary

Tina Sizemore

Secretary Elect

Joan Hargis

Treasurer

David Granholm

Treasurer Elect

Jack Carden

Director

Susan Thomas

Director

John Schaefer

### Other Volunteers:

Religious Exploration

open

Youth Leader

Diana Brewer

Building and Grounds

Hardin Rathgeber

Caring Committee

MaryHelen Weldy

Newsletter Editor

Beth Heil

[uuceeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:uuceeditor@hotmail.com)

Webmaster

open

Website

[www.uuevansville.org](http://www.uuevansville.org)



## February Events at UUCE

**1st:** Pagan Group 6:30 p.m.

**15th:** Pagan Group 6:30pm

**2nd:** Yoga 5:45

Stewardship Committee 6:30

SMART (Chalice House) 7 pm

**16th:** Yoga 5:45pm

SMART (Chalice House) 7pm

Health & Wellness (in the nursery) 7pm

**20th:** Adult Discussion 8:45AM  
Plate Share

**4th:** Drumming Circle 7pm

**18th:** Meditation noon

United Caring Shelter 3pm

Drumming Circle 7pm

**21st:** Meditation noon  
Board meeting 6:30pm

**6th:** Adult Discussion 8:45AM

**22nd:** Pagan Group 6:30pm

**8th:** Pagan Group 6:30pm

**23rd:** Yoga 5:45pm

SMART (Chalice House) 7pm

**9th:** Yoga 5:45pm

SMART (Chalice House) 7pm

**19th:** Circle Dinner

**24th:** Social Justice Discussion  
Group

**12th:** Valentine's Day Dinner  
and Dance 6pm



**25th:** Meditation noon

**14th:** Membership Committee

11am

Meditation noon

Worship Associates 7pm

27th: Potluck

**28th:** Meditation noon