

SERMON  
TOPICS  
FOR  
MARCH:

- March 7-  
Savior's Day
- March 14-  
Spring Forward!
- March 21-  
The Five  
Pillars
- March 28-  
Justice

INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

- Minister's  
Musings 2
- Circle  
Dinners 2
- Sermon  
Topics 3
- Social Justice 3
- Annual  
Budget Drive 4
- Budget  
Essays 4-5
- Parenting  
Blog 5

# The Compass

MARCH 2010

## UUCE LEADERSHIP

As UUCE grows in our vision and in our organization, a useful question arises: "Where do we want to vest congregational leadership? Will we be committee-driven, board driven or minister-driven? And, importantly, what are we now?"

If a congregation wishes to be board driven, then we must ask ourselves, "How do we ensure good board leadership?" Are we looking for warm bodies or are we choosing folks that we believe will be good stewards of our Beloved Community? How will we ensure that board members know the will of the community? Do we have processes in place or does it all happen at coffee hour?

If a congregation wants to be minister driven, are they ready to advise, counsel, lis-

ten to and follow the minister? How comfortable to they feel in dialogue with the minister? How does the minister seek out information? How



will members be heard?

If a congregation says they want to be committee-driven, the follow-up question is, "How do our committees achieve coherent leadership for the congregation as a whole?" Possible answers include, "They don't, really. We are just pretending we are not minister-driven."

"They don't, really, we actually operate through parking lot conversations that maintain informal networks, and the folks that are not in those networks get to pretend they are in the loop by having a separate committee."

And finally, of course, "They used to do this better and we don't understand what's not working." All three forms and many combinations are viable forms of leadership. As we at UUCE better define our particular community, it is important for us to understand where we are now so that we can conscientiously decide in which directions we wish to move forward.

-Rev Deane with committee section input from Rev Elz Curtiss

## Fantastic Response!

We are rapidly filling our second large box of shoes for Soles 4Souls, a local effort to collect gently used shoes to be given to those in need. Thank you! Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> is our last collection date.

Pasta and sauce collection is in the bottom middle cabinet in the foyer. Your dona-

tion is welcome. Additionally, our salad fund is almost out. This fund is made up of monies people have donated for weekly fresh salad. Joan Hargis is in charge but you may want to give our Treasurer a donation for UCS so it runs through UUCE books.

Toiletries are underwear

are our second ongoing collection. Teri Rockwood has made a great bin for them.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR CARING DONATIONS!



## Minister's Musings

Last month UUCE challenged its past and claimed its emergent vision. I rejoice in our faith in our beloved community.

Back in the generations of assertive individualism and dissent (read 60s and 70s), the young Evansville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship decided not to speak with one voice. After all, during those turbulent times it was difficult to get two people to consistently agree on any issue. Certainly, no one could speak for the group. Further, when individuals or small groups tried to speak for the larger communities, rifts occurred and schisms developed. Too often, the

cry was heard, "If you don't do what I want, then I am going to take my marbles and go elsewhere." Nowadays I might want to say "Narcissistic brat!" But that was then.

On February 21, 2010 members voted to allow UUCE to take a stand when we found an issue worthy of public attention, and we learned, through education and dialogue, that we are generally in agreement on our voice. What does this decision offer us?

Most importantly, it is hoped that presenting provocative issues for consideration strongly encourages us to deepen our spiritual life; to deliberate within,

ultimately strengthening our moral core, and; to share with community opinions which are important to us.

We are like minded folk. That does not mean that we are single minded folk. We are many related voices that sometimes reach accord on values that we hold dear. It is on these issues that we must speak. Not only for our own growth, but also to claim that goal which we so proudly seek, to be a liberal beacon in our larger community. We have taken the first step.

May it be so.  
--Rev Deane

## Circle Dinners



Circle dinners are a great way to meet new people and share ideas.

It is not too late to sign up for Circle Dinners. The dinners are great way to have an enjoyable meal with like-minded friends, while sharing great ideals.

If you have just joined the church or have become a new friend of the church the Circle Dinners are one of the best ways to meet members and friends of the church.

You do not need to be a host, but if you want to you can. If your home is not large enough to host a dinner, you can use the church, someone else's home, or a park if it is warm enough. The church is always available to use for dinners.

To host a dinners at the church you need to notify the

secretary to be sure it is not being used. You can use the dishes at the church or bring your own. In February Chris Norrington and Joan Hargis hosted their dinner with place cards, napkin rings, a tablecloth that Chris made and they used the church dishes.

I am looking for more people to join our Circle Dinners. If we have enough people who want to these dinners can be on going. In June there will be a picnic for the entire church – after that we will take a vote as to whether the dinners will be on going.

Children are welcome – but we need to know if you are hosting if your home would be child friendly. Also, if you are bringing children

we need to know how many and ages.

An additional item is that the host needs to know if there are any diet restrictions. I would need to know what months you can attend and if you can host a dinner, how many you can seat at your table and what month/s you prefer. .

To sign up for a Circle Dinner, please email me at [shealylinda@msn.com](mailto:shealylinda@msn.com) or call me on my cell 812 430-5443. Please do it today. Come one, come all sign up for March, April and May.

New members and Friends are especially invited to sign-up for the dinners.

# Sermon Topics



3/7 Savior's Day – The Nation of Islam is an important force in the black community yet its mission and objectives are widely understood by most

folks. Saviors Day was last weekend, an annual time for study and reflection. How does this politico-religious institution affect the world. Rev. Deane with Tom Moor, Worship Associate

3/14 Spring forward! Today is the day that we set our clocks and our metabolisms ahead. It's a time for celebration! Will the faeries, leprechauns and saints join us? Rev Deane with Diane Brewer, Worship Associate

3/21 The Five Pillars What do the Islamic Five Pillars have to offer Unitarian Universalists? Let's explore, with special emphasis on Jihad. Rev Deane with John Schaeffer, Worship Associate

3/28 Justice. Guest speaker Myeda Hussain– CAJE Organizer. John Schaeffer- worship associate

## Shamanic Drumming

The First Friday and Third Friday Shamanic Drumming Circle s meet monthly at the church from 7:00-9:00 PM. All are welcome.

## Coffee

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

## 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.

## Monthly Potluck

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

## 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!

**Check Out  
These UUCE  
Events!**

# Social Action

Hotel toiletries—don't forget to pick them up! We have set up a bin in the foyer to collect toiletries for the Evansville Rescue Mission and the Aids Resource Group. Donated items will be delivered to them every time the bin is full. The Evansville Rescue Mission offers showers to homeless men and is in need of economy size shampoo, bar soap, disposable razors, shaving cream, socks in size 9-11, and underwear in size M-XXL. The Aids Resource

Group also helps people in need and has a big request for toilet paper and liquid hand soap. They also need toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, household cleaners, and tampons and pads.

So when you are out shopping pick up something extra and put it in the bin when you get a chance. If you have any questions about this social action project, call or email Teri Rockwood at 437-5473 [teri.rockwood@gmail.com](mailto:teri.rockwood@gmail.com)



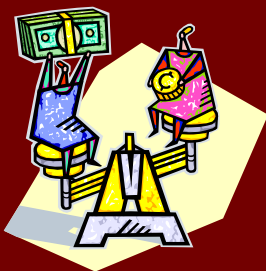
# Membership Directory

The membership directory has been updated and is on line at [www.uuevansville.org](http://www.uuevansville.org) Updates will be made on an on-going basis.

If your child's last name is different than yours and you would like their last name included in the directory, please send updates to Rosi Weatherwax at [waxjack@insightbb.com](mailto:waxjack@insightbb.com).



Do your part to help UUCE meet their budget



“I also understand that it takes my financial support...”

## Annual Budget Drive Timeline

The time is here! Our annual budget drive is upon us. It kicked off on February 28<sup>th</sup> and will run through March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Annual Budget Drive Brochures and Pledge Forms will be available through

March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please turn your pledge forms no later than March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Following the service on March 14<sup>th</sup> we will have an Annual Budget Drive Celebration Luncheon— at ap-

proximately 11:45 am.

If you have questions about the Annual Budget Drive please contact Malika Harris.

## UUCE and Me...We Need Each Other

### Why UUCE Needs US as Much as We Need IT: A Fair Share Essay

I've had the opportunity to serve the church as Co-Chair of both the 2009 and 2010 Annual Budget Drives. You know--the time where we stand before the church and say "please give?"

I had a conversation recently where I talked about my conversion to the UU faith and my membership at UUCE. And I realized that like me, many of our Members and Friends haven't attended church regularly for years---if ever at all. And perhaps there is a misunderstanding of how our Church operates.

So I ask:

Do you really understand what it takes to sustain UUCE? Do you really understand how we are able to provide Ministry, Services and Outreach to the Evansville community?

You've heard "it takes a village to raise a child?" Well, it takes a village to sustain this church. We have no Presby-

tery, no Diocese...we are 100% financially self supporting, so whatever is happening at UUCE, it's up to you and me!

March is Annual Budget Drive month. It is the time where all of us "ante up" to contribute our fair share of UUCE's annual expenses. Purposefully, I said "contribute"...not "give." Oh, "give" is the nice word to say. But really what we are doing is contributing our Fair Share.

Vectren is paid with money collected from pledges. The coffee we serve is bought with money collected from pledges. The Nursery staff is paid with money collected from pledges. Even the chalice we light is filled with oil that is purchased with money collected from pledges. Everything we do is supported with money that we collect from pledges.

Please don't misunderstand my thoughts, because this essay is written in the spirit of helping every person un-

derstand how much our Church needs us.

I need UUCE; I need the love and acceptance that I find in our Community. I need the ability to quiet life's noises by walking in the sanctuary, seeing a room full of smiles, hearing the centering chime and belting out a great hymn. I need what UUCE gives me each week: feeling refreshed and ready for the coming days.

But I also understand that it takes my financial support to keep my needs fulfilled. I understand that the people who sit with me every Sunday also need me to support the church financially to help keep their needs fulfilled too.

So I gladly contribute my Fair Share. And I hope, if these words resonate with you, you will too.

--Malika Harris

## Are you doing your part?

I am going to use this short essay to speak out. During the recap with Barry Finklestein, Ben Sizemore said we have a core group of 40 to 50 members who are members to this church I am one person in that core group. He went on to say not everyone in this group supports the church financially. My eyes pop open; because you see my friends I live on Social Security and pledge twenty-five dollars a month. Twenty-five dollars a month you might say is just a drop in the bucket – but from the amount of Social Security that I live on it is more than the normal ten percent ex-

pected of members of churches.

There will always be the haves and the have-nots – but what I want to know is why are the haves, not giving at least their ten percent?

Our church must be supported one hundred percent by the members, I feel sure that we do not have one hundred percent support from the members – and I count members as being those who attend regularly but have not join the church.

So I ask – what do you want? Do you want to go back to being a small church with no

pastor? Do you want to stay as you are? A great church is not something we experience; it's something we the members create. To create a great church it takes one hundred percent of time and money by the members.

This is your church and I ask that each of you support it with your talents and gifts. We must each put forth the effort to make a difference to let this church small, as it may be have a great impact on our community. Please give more than you have been.

-Linda Sue Cates

## New UU Parenting Blog

Just when you thought that being a Unitarian Universalist parent is something that you have to figure out all on your own, a new resource has been developed just for you! Be sure to check out the new UU Parenting Blog, with author and UU Religious Educator, Michelle Richards.

Our "UU World" is hosting this blog and the link is: <http://blogs.uuworld.org/parenting/>. Here is a description from that site:

"UU Parenting" will be a weekly discussion about parenting and liberal religion with Michelle Richards, author of *Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting*.

"Parents need resources and

information to create and share meaningful religious experiences with their children at home and meet the unique challenges of raising children as Unitarian Universalists. This is why I wrote the book, *Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting*, and will be keeping this blog over the next few weeks.

In the book I have written, and through this blog, we will address how parents and children can live their Unitarian Universalist faith everyday - from engaging in social action projects as a family, to exploring the natural world and the feelings of awe it evokes, to appreciating the interdependent web of life, to searching for truth. Please share your ques-

tions, thoughts, and ideas as well as we address what it means to raise children as Unitarian Universalists. Because whether a family chooses to light a chalice as they share meaningful words, engage in a regular meditation practice, pray together, or walk a labyrinth, they are choosing to give their children a special gift for the future, the gift of a faith tradition. And in doing so, parents are also giving something special to themselves, the gift of a close, connected family drawn together by religious faith." (Michelle Richards)



## 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.2-5 & Thurs. 3-6PM

Home Phone: 812 490-7145

Cell Phone: 270 779-9222

Emailcogenisys@aol.com

### Board of Directors:

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

President

Jan Steinmark

President Elect

Marv Albin

Secretary

Rosi Weatherwax

Secretary Elect

Tina Sizemore

Treasurer

Chris Norrington

Treasurer Elect

David Granholm

Director

Teri Rockwood

Director

Ed Howard

### Other Volunteers:

Religious Exploration

Natasha Goodge

Youth Leader

Lincoln Christensen

Building and Grounds

Hardin Rathgeber

Caring Committee

MaryHelen Weldy

Newsletter Editor

Beth Heil

Webmaster

uceeditor@hotmail.com

Marv Albin

www.uuevansville.org

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



## March Events at UUCE

Meditation— Monday and Fridays at noon

March 14 – Spring ahead at 2 A.M. so you won't miss church!

Annual Budget Drive— now through March 14

Board Meeting- Monday March 1 at 6:30 in the entry

March 7— last day to collect for Soles For Souls

March 14- Pledge forms due & Annual Budget Drive Celebration Luncheon

United Caring Shelter dinner- Friday March 19 from 3-5:30

at United Caring Shelter  
Adult Discussion Group meets March 7 and 21.

Potluck following the service—March 28

Drumming Circle— March 5 and 19

Newsletter deadline- midnight on the 20th

Coffee orders due March 25

Ongoing— collection of toiletries & pasta

