

SERMON  
TOPICS:

- March 3—A Golden Key
- March 10—Ethics & Healthcare
- March 17—Potters for Peace
- March 24—TBA
- March 31—Flower Communion

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# The Compass

MARCH 2013

## The Reason for Hope

Often we optimists get discouraged by the bad news. Indeed, sometimes it seems those in the mass media are only interested in the seamy, sordid, & sensational.

But John Yemma, Editor of the Christian Science Monitor, reminds us that good news, like the growth of a tree, is hardly noticed. It is incremental.

In the last issue of the CSM in 2012, he gave us some reasons for hope.

I quote. "Extreme poverty is declining. Technology is transforming everything from African agriculture to urban transportation. Drug violence is decreasing in Mexico. Travel is safer. Crime rates are falling. Somalia is emerging from a long night of anarchy.

Burma is coming out of a dictatorial shell. HIV is no longer a death sentence."

Speaking of which, now comes good news regarding testing for the HIV virus. Health workers have known for a long time that many who may be infected are unwilling to take a test and share the results with a government agency.

The stigma is still very much with us. But now, one who suspects he is infected can purchase a kit from CVS or Walgreens and administer the test in the privacy of his home, with results in twenty minutes. If infected, he can decide independently if he wishes to share the results. It is thought that with a shield of privacy in hand, more will

take the test, and those infected will seek treatment.

We might add other reasons for hope. The ill-advised wars of the past ten years are winding down. The housing market is rebounding. After we rescued the manufacturers in Detroit, auto sales are booming. The prospect of immigration reform now seems feasible. Gay marriage is gaining acceptance. And thanks to "Obamacare", millions of previously uninsured citizens will have health insurance.

Finally, at UUCE, we welcome a cluster of mature, substantial & enthusiastic new members who will bring new ideas to provide hope for a bright future.

-ED

## Signs Posted by Churches

We are grateful to Alan Marty for sending along these amusing postings outside various churches in the USA.

"Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed the Snake, the Snake didn't have a leg to stand on"

"Honk of you love Jesus. Text if you want to meet him"

"Whoever is praying for snow, please stop"

"Thou shall not steal the copper from the AC unit"

"There are some questions that can't be answered by Google"

"Keep using my name in vain, and I'll make the rush hour longer"

"Church Parking. Trespassers will be baptized"

"You may party in Hell, but you will be the barbecue"



## Sermon Topics

March 3—**A Golden Key**, Greg Meyer, Coptic Christian Minister will speak, Karim Shelton worship associate

March 10—**Ethics & Healthcare**, Dick Connolly will speak, Linda Sue Cates worship associate

March 17—**Potters for Peace**, Joe & Jenny Smith will speak, Tom Moor worship associate

March 24—**TBA**, Rev. Bill Gupton will preach, Karim Shelton worship associate

March 31—**Flower Communion**, Ed Howard worship associate

## Highlights of February Board Meeting

*“Fall Festival...Food Booth Committee comprised of Alice Cardin, Linda Sue Cates, Paul Mefford, Chris Norrington, and Bev Tonso.”*

The Board took an important step toward planning, organizing, staffing and operating a booth at the Nut Club Fall Festival next October when they approved the appointment of a Food Booth Committee comprised of Alice Cardin, Linda Sue Cates, Paul Mefford, Chris Norrington, and Bev Tonso. The group will elect its own chair.

Good news came from Bev Tonso, Chair of the Congregational Life Committee, when she announced that

eight people had signed up for new-member orientation.

She suggested that a photo and a short bio of each person who completes the instruction be included in upcoming issues of THE COMPASS. The Board agreed.

Hardin Rathgeber, Chair of House & Grounds, presented evidence for the need of better ventilation of the attic of the Chalice House. He asked the Board to accept an estimate of \$2,505.85 from Reynolds Construction Company to replace the solid soffits

with perforated ones, thus allowing air to enter the attic through the overhangs.

A motion & second were forthcoming and passed. Ed Howard then announced that he would underwrite the repair as a gift to the Church.

Citing a need to spruce up and thoroughly clean the church and its contents, the Chair proposed a Spring Cleaning Day when the weather ameliorates.

A date will be announced later.

### UUCE Brown Bag Book Club

The next meeting is March 28 from 11:30am until 1:00pm. Bring your lunch to eat while we discuss this month's book, *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor. All members and friends are welcome; if you want to, bring a friend!

*My Beloved World* is a memoir written by Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic justice on the United States Supreme Court, about her childhood, education, and life through 1992.

# Welcome New Members!

**KEN COMBS, M.D.** was born and raised in Louisville, attended medical school at U of L, and did his residency training in Internal Medicine at St. Louis University and the Medical College of Ohio (Toledo). Ken has been in Evansville since 1994. He practiced with Deaconess at Gateway for 14 years, then went out on his own in a solo practice in 2007, called LakePointe Internal Medicine, on the east side.

Ken's wife, Diane, is an IU grad and does behind-the-scenes work for the practice, payroll, bookkeeping, etc. She attends Trinity Lutheran and her two children live in Indy, the youngest is a student at Butler.

Ken went to a Catholic grade school, high school, and college (Bellarmine University). Years ago, he grew away from the doctrines of the man-made institution of the Church, and essentially from formal religion itself. But when he recently discovered the UU community, Ken found a spiritual home and a vehicle for putting his philosophy, values and world view into action. Ken is glad to be here.

**SHARON DENNIS** moved to Evansville this summer from El Paso, TX. Her daughter, Brooke, and her family have been trying to convince Sharon to move closer for many years. In June, Sharon retired from her job as a Theatre teacher and made the move. She has been pleasantly surprised with all that Evansville has to offer and is enjoying being close to family. Sharon's other daughter, Jessica, and her son, Garret (adopted in Zambia) live in Lima, Peru where she teaches Theatre in an International School.

While in El Paso, Sharon taught Theatre in Middle and

High School. In an effort to keep students immersed, Sharon directed 4-5 plays each year after school in addition to a full compliment of classes. She also managed to squeeze in some acting and directing herself and worked with community theatre and professional groups, university productions, independent films, commercials, and as an extra in "The Day After Tomorrow."

Prior to teaching, Sharon worked for the American Red Cross for 14 years. Her jobs were centered in social and disaster services, but also included volunteer services, youth programs, public relations, and bone transplantation. Her final position with Red Cross was as the Executive Officer in Norman, OK.

Sharon was born in Pennsylvania and went to college in New Mexico. She spent 26 years as a military wife moving around the US and Germany. She still enjoys travel, photography, reading and writing. Now she is happy to call Evansville home.

**PAUL S. MEFFORD** is a Licensed Clinical Social

Worker in a private practice and a Licensed Massage Therapist in a private practice. Paul is committed to doing what he can to making the world a better place.

**ASHLEY PERKINS** lives in Evansville with husband Ryan, son Jude, and dog Chewbacca. Ashley is a Licensed Kindermusik Educator at The Guitar Lab where she teaches music and movement classes to families with newborns through children 6 years of age. She is also employed as the administrative office assistant at UUCE. In her free time, Ashley enjoys listening to music, reading, watching movies, gaming, and scrapbooking.

**SUZANNE PERREY** is employed at Industrial Control Repair of Warren, MI, but is on site at TMMI in Princeton, IN. She is a graduate of Murray State University in Murray, KY and the University of Evansville. She enjoys reading, travel and collecting vintage jewelry.

**TEDDYE THOMPSON** a native of Benton, Kentucky, has lived in Evansville for 14 years. She is a retired CPA,

and was employed at Flanders Electric for 12 years as a Senior Accountant. She resides in Evansville with her sister, Suzanne Perrey, and a poodle (Buster) and a Shih Tzu/Poodle mix (Baby). She enjoys walking, reading and travel.

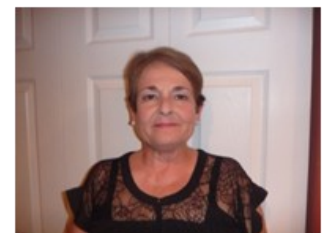
**SHELLEY WOODWARD** moved to the Evansville area from the booming metropolis of Cuba, Missouri, where she was a lawyer in general practice. She has also lived in Chicago, St. Louis, and Kansas City.

Shelley is divorced and has no children. She is an aunt, however, to 13 nieces and nephews, 6 of whom live in Newburgh. Shelley's sister is a psychiatrist and whose husband is in family practice.

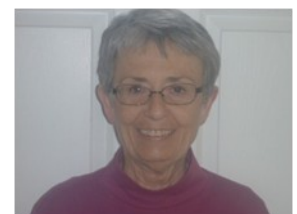
Shelley spends her time working, looking for a better job, giving her niece piano lessons, walking her dog, Betty (the best dog ever), reading, and listening to music. She is planning to start running again, so hold her to it. She also likes hiking, canoeing and camping (would like to backpack some day), traveling, and, of course, seeing or talking to friends.



Photo courtesy of Linda Sue Cates. From left: Bev Tonso with new members Ashley Perkins, Paul Mefford, Shelley Woodward, Sharon Dennis, and Ken Combs



Suzanne Perrey



Teddy Thompson



**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

# Upcoming Events & Activities

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| Friday, March 1: 7-9pm Drum Circle                    | Tuesday, March 12: 7pm Historical Jesus Class      | Sunday, March 24: 10am Rev. Bill Gupton will preach; potluck after service |
| Saturday, March 2: 10am Nia Class                     | Friday, March 15: 3pm United Caring Shelter Dinner | Monday, March 25: Coffee Orders Due  |
| Sunday, March 3: 9am Adult Discussion Group           | 7-9pm Drum Circle                                  | Tuesday, March 26: 7pm Historical Jesus Class                              |
| 10am A Golden Key service                             | Saturday, March 16: 10am Nia Class                 | Thursday, March 28: 11:30am-1pm Brown Bag Book Club                        |
| Monday, March 4: 7pm Board Meeting                    | Sunday, March 17: 9am Adult Discussion Group       | 6:30pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting                               |
| Tuesday, March 5: 7pm Historical Jesus Class          | 10am Potters for Peace service                     | Saturday, March 30: 10am Nia Class   |
| Wednesday, March 6: 7pm RE Committee Meeting          | Tuesday, March 19: 7pm Historical Jesus Class      | Sunday, March 31: 10am Flower Communion service                            |
| Saturday, March 9: 10am Nia Class                     | Wednesday, March 20: COMPASS submissions due       | 3-5pm Dances of Universal Peace  |
| Sunday, March 10: 10am Ethics and Health Care service | Saturday, March 23: 10am Nia Class                 |  |