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# The Compass

SEPTEMBER 2010

## Minister's Musings

My heart is filled with gladness. There is an exhilarating buzz in the air: Folks are humming and laughing as we join together to support our church and our values. Our board and worship associate retreats were productive and warm hearted. Summer services, while I was gone, were thoughtful, provocative and well attended. What a joy to our worship leaders who worked so hard to bring you excellent services.

UUCE is on the move! As I write this column, twelve crates of crafts are being priced and readied for Frog Folies. Every room in the church is filled with goodies for the Rummage Sale. Newcomers are signing up and getting involved. Older members are stretching into new areas. We have a mission and we are digging in and putting our values to work.

Does this sound like a

“rah-rah” motivational speech? Perhaps it does, but the good news is, it’s real! Folks are signing up for faith development courses. Children are registered for religious exploration. Teachers have exciting curricula for this year’s topic: Unitarian Universalism!

This month we got an invitation from Patchwork Central to help them out with their Food Pantry. What a delightful request! I hope that we can respond positively. Please check your schedule and see if you can give three morning hours a week to this vital service in our community.

Soon we will begin the Listening Process for CAJE, - Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment -our interfaith group in the larger Evansville area. Know how excited we are to be one of the founding members of CAJE and how proud we are of the leadership of

UUCE in its activities. When CAJE has asked us to appear for a cause, we have responded YES! and good things are happening in our community. This year we will choose a new issue to tackle. What do we see and feel as the pressing social justice needs in our town? Is it prison reform? Health care? Accessibility? Transitional housing? Immigration? Education? Let us lend our hearts and voices as CAJE makes choices for the coming year.

UUCE is truly a warm, welcoming congregation of liberal minded folks who share a vision of honest dialogue, ethical and spiritual development, while working for social justice and sustainability in a culturally diverse world. That’s us and we are proud of it! Let us continue to use our acts and our voices to proclaim our truth.

In joy, -Rev Deane

## Sermon Topics



**September 5<sup>th</sup>**- In-gathering with water communion. Please join us for this inter-generational traditional opening to the church year. You are invited to bring a small amount of water to share in our community bowl and to tell us, in two sentences or less something about your summer. Don't forget to bring your summer remembrance stone to place back in our bowl! Service will be followed by a church picnic and Chalice House Open House. - Rev Deane

**September 12<sup>th</sup>**- Hello all UU'ers and friends. Come one, come all and join us to hear how humor can and does affect us. Fraught with anecdotes, Ben Sizemore will tackle this subject from the lectern.

**September 19<sup>th</sup>** – Peacemaking: where does UUCE fit? September 21<sup>st</sup> is the International Day of Peace: this past June the delegates to the UUA approved a Peacemaking Resolution. What can we do today, this week, this

year? – Rev Deane with Tom Moor, Worship Associate

**September 26<sup>th</sup>** – Unitarian Universalism – not for the faint of heart. Thus, begins our year long journey into Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism. Our roots are deep and wide; our course transformative. – Rev Deane with Lincoln Christensen, Worship Associate

## Plate Share

The Plate Share for September 19<sup>th</sup> goes to Matthew 25. Today, Matthew 25 AIDS Services, Inc. is one of only two comprehensive HIV/AIDS clinics in Southern Indiana and Western Kentucky (the other one is in Paducah, KY, two (2) hours away from our Henderson clinic). Matthew 25 operates medical clinic locations in both Indiana and

Kentucky, providing early intervention specialty HIV/AIDS medical care, medication adherence programs, food pantry, transportation, indigent medication program, referral services, counseling and testing services, education and information in Vanderburgh County, IN, Henderson County, KY and Daviess County, KY.



### PLATE SHARE REPORT FOR AUGUST

Donations of money were collected for the Patchwork Central Back to School Initiative.

A total of \$53.00 was collected.

Thank you for your generosity!

## RE News



Our Religious Exploration for the summer is coming to an end and we will be starting our Unitarian Universalism curriculum in September. Here is our upcoming RE schedule:

September 5- Intergenerational Service (no RE class).  
Open House at the Chalice House following the service.  
Come in and see what classroom your child will be in this year.

September 12 RE Class

September 19 RE Class

September 26 RE Class

To sign up your children for RE, please see Teri Rockwood to get a form for this

year or call her at 437-5473 or email her at

[teri.rockwood@gmail.com](mailto:teri.rockwood@gmail.com)

She will also be seeking parents out to get them signed up to help.

We look forward to another year of being with your children!



### Welcoming Video Pizza and Discussion

Mark your calendars for this very special presentation of a GA, 2007, sermon by the Rev Gail Geisenheimer. We will serve pizza with donation, then watch the video and conclude with a discussion. This is of special interest to our GBLT members and is a must see if you are interested in church growth.

Tell your friends; all are welcome.

Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Pizza at 6:30, video at 7.

## Be A Greeter

Do you appreciate and value our UU church? Would you like to help make it be all it can be for you and for others? You can by joining our church greeters. Its important work for a healthy, growing church and involves just a small time commitment.

We need a person at the front door to smile, say

hello and help visitors know what to do and where to go. We need a second person at the entrance to the sanctuary to hand out hymnals and orders of service. There is a detailed job description and a greeter coordinator to answer any questions and help when you need it. You can sign up for one Sunday a month, a quar-

ter or a year, whatever works for you.

See me, Becky McDonald, and get involved in the life and works of our church.

Becky McDonald, Greeter Coordinator 473-3158



## It's Fall Festival Time!



*"I love working at the Fall Festival. It's a great way to get to know your fellow UU's and have a UU presence in the community."*

The Westside Nut Club's annual Fall Festival is just around the corner! This year it will run October 4-9... that's only ONE short month away!!

If you haven't made plans yet to take a day or two off to help at the booth why not look at your schedule

and block out some time to help. It's a great chance to get to know your fellow UU's and raise some money to keep the church strong!

Can't work the booth? Plan to stay after church on Sunday, Sept. 19th to cook chicken. On Friday,

October 1 at 9:00AM we'll clean the booth and get it ready to be transported to West Franklin Street.

Sign up sheets are located in the church lobby.

Call Teri Rawlings at 477-9813 you have any questions.

## Volunteer with Patchwork Central

For the past two years UUCE has asked community congregations to let us know if they had a project that we could work on together. Finally, we have a positive answer! Patchwork Central has a food pantry Monday through Thursday from 9 am until 11:45. They would like UUCE members to help operate the pantry and, if possible to coordinate this effort. There is in place a regular volunteer who picks up the food for the pantry every Wednesday morning.



Each day two volunteers distribute the food. We have a sign up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the Foyer for volunteers. We ask that you indicate which days you might be available and how many days you wish to work.

The person who volunteers to be the coordinator would have the following Job Description:

1) Attend the Emergency Food Pantry Consortium meetings once every other month (next meeting is Sept. 21). Meetings

last 1-2 hours.

2) Work with Patchwork staff and volunteers to operate the food pantry.

3) Order food and complete all reports.

4) Maintain the food pantry equipment and space.

5) Attend all meetings related to the operation of the food pantry.

6) Work with Patchwork staff to recruit and train volunteers.

If you are interested in the coordinator job, please see Rev Deane. The current coordinator, Miriam Regier, leaves in mid-September.

# Grant Year Completed

UUCE has completed its participating in the CFC “Flourishing Congregations” grant program. The church received \$7985 from the Center with the stipulation that we would have to match the grant dollars.

At the time of our grant application, UUCE was beginning to make the move from a family-sized to pastoral sized congregation. Through World Cafes and the development of a mission statement, we realized the importance of having professional systems in place but lacked the financial resources and depth of leadership to make necessary changes. With member involvement, we developed a grant request to:

1. Plan for the future use of our current location or to determine the need to relocate;
2. Work with Unitarian Univer-

salist consultants to identify assets within our congregation and to build a strategic plan;

3. Identify and implement best financial practices;
4. Implement technology based communications;
5. Identify and train prospective leaders through a professional developed workshop.

Once the grant was received, we began work on each of the initiatives. Leaders for each initiative included John Schaefer (building); Rosi Weatherwax and Mary Helen Weldy (strategic plan); David Fentress and Chris Norrington (financial practices); Deane Oliva (communications) and David Granholm (workshop)

There was a lot of work on many people’s parts to complete the activities this grant year. While we did not complete all of our projects, we have:

- updated our newsletter and

website;

- developed, with the help of UUA consultant Barry Finkelstein, the first steps to our strategic plan;
- explored the pros and cons (and dollar estimates) of expanding/remodeling our current facility;
- learned what we were doing well in our financial practices and a few ways to improve our habits;
- offered and benefited from a leadership training program for self-identified potential leaders.

Thanks to everyone that participated this year. For a small church, we’ve accomplished so much this year!

Rosi Weatherwax

## Coffee

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

## Meditation

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

## Adult Discussion Group

The Adult Discussion Group meets the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays at 8:45 in the Chalice 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!



**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  
Home Phone: 812 490-7145  
Cell Phone: 270 779-9222  
email- cogenisys@aol.com

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

Board of Directors:

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

President	Jan Steinmark
President Elect	Malika Harris
Secretary	Tina Sizemore
Secretary Elect	Joan Hargis
Treasurer	David Granholm
Treasurer Elect	open
Director	Teri Rockwood
Director	John Schaefer

Other Volunteers:

Religious Exploration	Teri Rockwood
Youth Leader	Lincoln Christensen
Building and Grounds	Hardin Rathgeber
Caring Committee	MaryHelen Weldy
Newsletter Editor	Beth Heil
	uuceeditor@hotmail.com
	open
	www.uuevansville.org

Webmaster  
Website



**Don't forget to  
sign up to help at  
the Fall Festival  
booth!**

**Or to cook chicken, or help clean  
the booth....**

**Sign up sheets are in the church lobby!**

**Events at UUCE**

**September 5**– Ingather-  
ing, RE Open House & Pic-  
nic

**September 17**– Serve din-  
ner at United Caring Shel-  
ter

**September 19**– Plate  
Share for Matthew 25.

**September 26**– Potluck  
following service

**October 4-9**– Fall Festival