

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs...



NEWSLETTER January 2008

Tar Hollow Announcement!

Hey Campers!

The holidays have nearly run us over and I hope the all the contribution checks are ready for the mail. Now it's time to plan for some real fun. Pull out your new 2008 calendar and open it to May and mark these very important dates, May 16th, 17th and 18th.

That's right, It's time to think about the books you want to read by the fire and the friends and family you want to spend special time with. Perhaps think about the song you want to sing at the campfire.

This year we will have a new old Tar Hollow Dude. Hardy B. AKA the Old Tar Hollow Dude Emeritus is stepping down after 70 years on the job. So when you see him, give him a hug and thank him for all his thankless work.

For any questions and those who want to join the new Tar Hollow Committee feel free to call the New Old Tar Hollow dude (No capital D on dude until I earn it).

Chris K. @ 937 409-4108

January Programming... ...at a glance:

January 6

“To Hold Fragile Things in
Our Hands.”

January 13

“Minding the Planet, One Step
at a Time.”

January 20

“Tunisia (As Seen by a
Pragmatic Grandma).”

January 27

“Man's Search for Meaning.”



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs is published monthly. To submit material for the newsletter please do so by the **15th** of each month. Please submit material as non-formatted text in your e-mail or as an MS Word attachment in 12 point font with no formatting (bold, italic, etc...). Send material to David K. at: tau.athanasios@gmail.com

January Program Calendar:

Sunday, January 6

8:30 a.m.: Spiritual discussion group, "Looking back at 2007, and onward to 2008."

10:00 a.m.: "To Hold Fragile Things in Our Hands": Rev. Richard Venus will present this service about good and evil. He suggests that "evil is not a fallen state, but part of living in a state of becoming. Looking at the complexity of evolution, it seems plausible, in fact, much more realistic to assume that humanity is evolving ethically just as it evolved physically. Such development suggests that just as we are physically maturing, we are also moving toward the good; we are finding our way." Rev. Venus is the minister of the First Universalist Church of New Madison, OH.

11:30 a.m.: A potluck lunch follows the program. Please bring your own table service and a generous dish to share.

Sunday, January 13

8:30 a.m.: Spiritual discussion group, "Diversity."

10:00 a.m.: "Minding the Planet, One Step at a Time". Local manufacturer, YSI Inc., asks itself and its customers, "Who's Minding the Planet?™" Learn how YSI's products, customers, and internal processes are addressing that question. Lisa A., director of quality and corporate responsibility, will discuss YSI operations and product applications as they relate to climate change and water resources.

Sunday, January 20

8:30 a.m.: Spiritual discussion group, "How to cope with hate & animosity."

10:00 a.m.: "Tunisia (As Seen by a Pragmatic Grandma)". In 2006, Fellowship member Sharon M. visited friends living in a small country village in North Africa. She will present an illustrated talk about the customs, politics, clothing, schools, economics, housing, etc., from the view-

point of a compassionate non-expert.

Sunday, January 27

8:30 a.m.: Spiritual discussion group, "Is it possible to *make a difference*?"

10:00 a.m.: "Man's Search for Meaning": Fellowship member Rubin B. will read scenes, accompanied by slides (many of which depict concentration camp scenes), from his play about the life of Viktor Frankl, a Viennese psychiatrist who survived Nazi internment. Frankl's philosophy was crystallized by his analytic mind and his horrific wartime experiences. His message is, "We may have no choice about what happens to us, but we always have a choice about how we respond." He found meaning in love and never lost hope. The presentation includes three video clips of Frankl delivering his messages. Frankl's book, "Man's Search for Meaning," has sold millions of copies worldwide. He developed Logotherapy, which is a system of psychotherapy designed to help clients find meaning in their lives.

It's "Souper Sunday". Plan to stay for soup, bread and conversation.

Coming in February Sunday, February 3

8:30 a.m.: Spiritual discussion group, "Existentialism."

10:00 a.m.: To be announced

11:30 a.m.: A potluck lunch follows the program. Please bring your own table service and a generous dish to share

Important Notice:

Religious Education at UUFYS is in need of a Younger Group Teacher. If you are interested please see David K., or e-mail him at:

tau.athanasios@gmail.com

NEWS FROM SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

We wish you all the very happy and peaceful New Year.

EVENTS SUMMARY. FALL 2007

Our SoJus Committee was been very busy this Fall with studying alternative energy sources and conservation initiatives. SoJus and UUFYS helped sponsor the Thanksgiving Dinner for the Community.

We thank our own Ruth L. and Ann T. for much of the Thanksgiving Day Dinner success (feeding over 340 local people) and everyone having a great time. So many UU'S helped with this huge event and we thank each and every one of you!

Sylvia and Mary again organized a local write-in campaign to influence relief and aid to the people of Darfur. Good going, Mary and Sylvia.

UPCOMING HELP NEEDED WITH SOCIAL ACTION FOR WINTER 2008

We have several actions planned for January and February. Sign up to help with at least 1-3 of the following, please. All January Food Pantry Drive. Come to Sunday Service each week with a can of soup or beans, or box of cereal, pasta or rice, or maybe paper towels and dish detergent for our local food pantry drive. SoJus Service.

Sunday, January 13th. 10:00 am Sunday Program: "Who's Minding the Planet?" with Lisa A., Yellow Springs Instrument Co. SoJus Education

Wednesday, January 16th. Community Blood Drive. The UUFYS, Odd Fellows, and Bethel Lutheran Church are sponsoring a Blood Drive from 3PM to 6:30 pm at the Glaesner Center on corner of Rt.68 and W. Jackson Rd.). We need 2 Canteen volunteers at the snack table at all times, we need people to donate cookies and sweets that day, and at least 26 UU's to give blood! Sign up sheet is on the Snack Table every Sunday, or call Joan C. to volunteer help or blood (Joan's # is 767-7056). SoJus Service.

Monday, January 21st. Martin Luther King Jr Day. Spend the day building community and creating a diverse society for all.

9:00 am Human Rights Breakfast. Antioch College Inn. Featuring Activist Herb D. Jr. sponsor: Coretta Scott King Center (CSKC). March from Antioch College to First Baptist Church, 600 Dayton St., Yellow Springs. MLK Jr. Program. First Baptist Church Sponsor: AACW

1:30 pm "Strengthening Leadership for a Diverse Society" with Herb D. Jr. First Baptist Church. Sponsor: Coretta Scott King Center

7:00 pm Watoto Children's Choir. 18 children from Uganda, blending native African rhythms, contemporary gospel and ethnic dance. Sponsor: CSKC. (Note: UUFYS families will be hosting and housing some of these amazing children.) Please call the CSKC (769-1785) or AACW (767-9114) to help with above events. SoJus Service and SoJus Education.

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Minutes Summary November 11, 2007 UUFYS Board Meeting

Present: Stacy A., Debbie D., Martha G., George K., and Marianne W.

Absent: Mary D., Louis S.

The meeting was preceded by listening & responding to:

Mary S., who reported that the basement mold and mildew has been taken care of. Building & Grounds will monitor the situation.

The business portion of the meeting began at 12:10 p.m. with chalice lighting, check-in, and agenda review.

Toby K., Administrative Coordinator, suggested that purchase of an ozone machine be put on hold as the basement mold and mildew problem had been addressed. Regarding other administrative concerns: 1) Toby's office hours are changing. 2) Currently Wild Blue is our only option for internet service. 3) Toby expressed concern about the building rental process, specifically the lack of a contract and safety/liability safeguards (e.g., for the sound equipment). Board members will follow up. 4) Toby wants to update her Office 2003 software to the 2007 version. 5) Approximately \$1,100 will be required to pay for internet service, a new printer, and computer software. George proposed that three checks be issued for these purchases and Stacy seconded; the motion passed unanimously. Toby will check with the Treasurer about availability of funds.

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[Left Front] **Debbie D.** (secretary),
Martha G. (member at large). [Back]
Mary D. (president-elect), **George K.** (president), **Marianne W.** (member at large), **Louis S.** (treasurer).

Below is the TENTATIVE agenda for the January board meeting:

- Chalice lighting and check-in
- Review of the December minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Office Update from Administrative Coordinator
- Apartment/Space usage Report
- 50th Anniversary photo album project
- Green Sanctuary Committee
- Committee oversight
- Board transitions and responsibilities
- Stewardship Committee
- Leadership Development
- Pat O. situation

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- Personnel Committee: Martha indicated that there are no paid holidays for the Administrative Coordinator. Regarding Religious Education, she reported that when the basement painting is done, the teen room furniture will be moved to the apartment living room, and chairs and a table will be placed in the old storage area for group meetings and teen activities. David K., DRE is thrilled with Stacy's work with the Younger Group.
- Review of meeting minutes: The 10/14/07 board meeting minutes were unanimously passed with one abstention by a member who did not attend.
- Treasurer's report: As Louis was absent, the treasurer's report was tabled.

Old Business

- Apartment/Space Use and Report on the Progress of the B&G Committee and Architect: Martha reported that B&G is waiting to hear from the architect.
- 50th Anniversary photo album project: No news to report.
- Media publishing policy: The board approved the draft media publishing policy, which was developed to augment the Newsletter Publishing Policy. The draft of this policy will be published in the Dec. newsletter for congregation feedback.
- Committee oversight and volunteer recruitment: There was a discussion about how much structure Fellowship Committees. General consensus was to be "hands-off" unless guidance was needed.
- Stewardship Committee: George identified Stewardship as a top priority and candidates for a Stewardship Committee are being sought.
- Board Transitions and Responsibilities: Tabled until next meeting.
- Leadership Development: Tabled until next meeting.
- Agenda items for the December meeting were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at about 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie D., Secretary with assistance from Stacy A.

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February Black History Month Programs.

Saturdays, February 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd @ 4pm, Little Art Theatre. Elaine Comegys Black Film Fest. 4 Black Documentaries bringing the untold stories to fill in the gaps in history. Sponsor: The Black History Committee (UUF is one of the sponsors) See Joan to volunteer to help put this Film Fest in motion. SoJus Education.

Many other Black History events are being planned by the Black History Committee. See Joan C. for how you can get involved.

The Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.



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