



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA: 22 DECEMBER 2013

### 15 DECEMBER 2013 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS

Board President Mark VanMeeter opened the meeting after distributing copies of the proposed budget and the minutes from the last congregational meeting. Mark provided a detailed overview of the budget. With the current level of pledges and non-pledge income projected there will be a short fall in revenue for 2014. The estimated \$6357.00 would have to come from the remaining capital funds. A motion to operate under an interim budget until late January opened further discussion.

The discussion led to suggestions for generating non-pledge revenue:

- Form a group to generate ideas for increasing non-pledge and building use revenue. Mark agreed to be the point person and Beth Misner agreed to be on the committee.
- There will be a brainstorming session in mid-January exploring revenue sources.
- There will be a congregational meeting in late January, tentatively scheduled for January 26, to approve the revised budget

Motion was made to defer the vote on the budget until the congregational meeting Sunday, January 26. Motion carried.

*Mark VanMeeter, President, Board of Trustees  
Dorothy Hughes, Board Secretary*

**DECEMBER 22 SUNDAY MORNING FORUM** Previously scheduled Forum on “Tour the Town on the Trolley” will be rescheduled for a future date. This Sunday’s Forum topic to be arranged, possibly a Bill Moyers video. Forum Co-chairs are Jim Anderson, Tom McConville, and Bill Welge.

**DECEMBER 29 SUNDAY MORNING FORUM** Joel Ebarb, Associate Professor and Chair, Purdue University Department of Theatre, presents “Behind the Scenes at Purdue Theatre.” Joel is a theatre “maker.” His costume design credits include a myriad of productions in a variety of venues, including Jean Cocteau Repertory (Off-Broadway), Eclipse Theatre Company and Vittum Theatre (Chicago), Indiana Repertory Theatre, Phoenix Theatre, and ShadowApe Theatre Company (Indianapolis), Boarshead Theatre (Lansing, Michigan), Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston), and twenty-two seasons with the Texas Shakespeare Festival. As a playwright, four of his plays for young audiences have been produced at Texas Shakespeare Festival: *The Firebird*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *The Snow Queen*, and *Aesop’s Fables*, which he also directed. Joel is an accomplished puppeteer, occasional director, and novice actor. A native of Shreveport, Louisiana, Joel has a B.A. in English from Northwestern State University of Louisiana and an M.F.A. in Theatre from the University of Houston, where he served as a production intern with Houston Ballet. He was a 2011 recipient of the Charles B. Murphy Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, Purdue University’s highest undergraduate teaching honor. His research and teaching specialties are the history and development of period and regional style and adornment in Western civilization. Joel and his partner Michael Wallace live in West Lafayette. Forum Co-chairs are Jim Anderson, Tom McConville, and Bill Welge.

**DECEMBER 21 6PM SOLSTICE SERVICE** Please join us in the Fellowship Hall from 6-7:30 pm on Saturday, December 21 for our annual Winter Solstice Service. Kirsten Reynolds, Rae Schnapp, Rachel Smith, Kalina Harden, Janice Thiel, and friends will lead us in an intimate, family-friendly evening with singing and short readings honoring the return of light. Come join us in this pagan-style service. Fellowship, sharing of light refreshments, and a bonfire will follow!

**DECEMBER 22 SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE** Rev. Daniel Charles Davis presents “HumanLight.” HumanLight is a festival created by the New Jersey Humanist Network in 2001. It was celebrated at over 20 locations last year including 5 UU congregations. Worship Associate is Dianna Poindexter. Choir Director & Pianist is Shellie Johnson. Fellowship Team Leader is Susanne McConville. Sanctuary Preparation is by Robin Poindexter. Sound Technician is Carl Seese.

**DECEMBER 24, 6PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** Please join us in the sanctuary at 6pm on Tuesday evening, December 24 for a special candlelight service with Rev. Charlie Davis. Special music written by Michael Lewis, *Driftless*, will be premiered—a duet sung by Julia Colby and Shellie Johnson, accompanied by , Elena Escudero on cello, Michael Lewis on guitar and Denise Wilson on Irish flute.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## STAFF

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### Choir Director & Pianist

Shellie Johnson  
shelliekjk@gmail.com

### Nursery Administrator

Elizabeth Cohen  
contact dresheila@gmail.com

### Newsletter Deadline:

**3rd Thursdays, 5:00 pm**

E-mail articles to [uuc@uulafayette.org](mailto:uuc@uulafayette.org) with  
"Newsletter" in subject box .

### Unitarian Universalist Church

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[www.uulafayette.wordpress.com](http://www.uulafayette.wordpress.com)

## DECEMBER 29 SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE FOR ALL AGES

Worship Leader Janice Thiel, topic to be determined. Pianist is Yue Jiang. Fellowship Team Leaders are Linda and Joshua Prokopy. Sanctuary Preparation tbd. Sound Technician is Noemi Ybarra. No Religious Exploration today.

## CHILD AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

DRE Sheila Garrett is recovering from knee surgery. RE council members Cheryl Fowler ([cherylafowler@gmail.com](mailto:cherylafowler@gmail.com)), Kathy Coder, Rae Schnapp, Frank Arnold, Kirsten Reynolds, and Rev Charlie Davis maybe contacted if you have any questions.

**December 22-** Everyone starts out together in the sanctuary. After time for all ages, kids and teacher head to their regular classrooms for attendance, etc. At app. 11 am, classes move to the fellowship hall for holiday crafts from diverse traditions. Special shout out Sunday morning to Kathy Coder (DRE for the day) Gale Charlotte (time for all ages), Elizabeth Lincourt, and Rae Schnapp (coordinating the crafts)

**December 29-** Holiday Break, *NO RE today*

## RE Has Volunteer Opportunities for the Spring!

Classroom guides help create the structure for their 1-4th grade class. They begin each period leading the chalice lighting, an optional check-in, and lighting the chalice. They share a short biography of a notable UU and introduce the workshop teacher. After that, they are on hand to help as needed to help out with the workshop. Guide teams for each class work out a schedule on a rotating basis, optimally serving about once per month. Right now, we could use one extra guide in the 1st-2nd grade class. We also need 2-3 helpers for the middle school classroom to be a second adult presence in the room each week.

Workshop rotation teachers share a passion or something they have knowledge about with our 1st-4th graders. Optimally, teachers will volunteer for three weeks, rotating between the three classes (1st-2nd grades meet together).

**Special Projects:** \*Clean, re-organize, and help inventory our supplies in the r.e. closets and classrooms \*Create Spirit Play story baskets for the preschool room \*drive and/or chaperon youth for overnight lock-ins and events sponsored by the district

Please contact Sheila ([dresheila@gmail.com](mailto:dresheila@gmail.com)) or a member of the r.e. council (Kathy Coder, Cheryl Fowler, Frank Arnold, Beth Hoffmann, Kirsten Reynolds or Rae Schnapp) if you are interested in helping in any of these areas, or if you have something else that you would like to help out in with R.E.

FINANCE COMMITTEE will be meeting on January 7, 2014, in Room 104 at 6pm. The final, revised budget to be voted on at the 26 January Congregational Meeting will be the topic of discussion. Congregants are welcome to attend this meeting.

### ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION (A-REC) PROGRAMS

- **Monthly Structured West African Drumming Sessions (2nd Tuesdays), 7:30-9:00 pm, January 14.** Learn about drumming in the West African style, facilitated by **Sundee Rao and Robin Pickett** of the local West African percussion ensemble *circAfrique*. Bring your drum, or ask if a drum is available for use (there are about 6-8) for a small, extra donation. Your drum will need to make at least two distinct sounds. Bells, shakers, and other percussive instruments are welcome! \$10 requested donation per session. Some scholarships available so let us know of your needs. RSVP & details: <http://goo.gl/2gw2I>. For information email [info@circafrique.com](mailto:info@circafrique.com), call Suzan at 765-714-6173 or see Facebook pages for UUC or *CircAfrique*!
- **Journey to Mecca Film & Discussion About Islam, 6-8 pm, January 22, 2014.** A-REC will sponsor a showing of "Journey to Mecca," a 45-minute movie about young Ibn Battutah, the 14th century Muslim explorer. The movie will be followed by a discussion about Islam, lead by Ahmed Idrissi Alami, Director of Purdue's Arabic Program. For more on the film, please see [http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1235836/?ref=ttexrv\\_exrv\\_tt](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1235836/?ref=ttexrv_exrv_tt). The movie and discussion will take place on January 22, 2014, from 6-8 pm, in room 101/103. For questions, see Beth Hoffmann ([elizabethhoffmann1@mac.com](mailto:elizabethhoffmann1@mac.com)).

### ONGOING AT UUC!

- **Monday Meditation** Mondays, 7:00 p.m. with Larry Hicks
- **Zen Meditation:** Thursday, 5:30 pm, sitting, chanting & reading
- Saturday, 8:00 am, with Russ Flynn
- **Taiji Qi Gong:** Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 7:30 am with Lisa Petersen



*Suzan Windnagel, A-REC Chair, Suzan\_windnagel@yahoo.com, 765-714-6173.*

UU MEMBERSHIP CLASSES, FIRST SUNDAYS IN 2014 UU Membership Classes now meet each 1st Sunday on a rotating basis after service, presented by Rev. Charlie Davis and the Membership Committee. Sessions will be held in rm. 101/103; please select your meal from the potluck and bring your food to class. Child care will be available if requested one week in advance. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Rev. Charlie Davis, [uurevcharlie@aol.com](mailto:uurevcharlie@aol.com), one week prior to class, so we have an accurate count for child care.

• **UU HISTORY January 5.** This class will cover topics such as: How did this denomination get to where it is today, and how did Unitarian Christianity and Universalist Christianity evolve into the free religion we have today? By reviewing some of the controversies of the past we see how they shape our present. Intended for everyone new and old to UU congregations.

• **EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP: PARTICIPATING AT UUC, WEST LAFAYETTE February 2.** Learn more about the history of our UU church and what it means to be a member. This course is intended for visitors who are interested in learning more about membership.

• **DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL PATH March 2.** What gifts have you kept from your religious heritage? What have you discarded? How do you wish to improve yourself and the world? Come explore and share your stories with others. By speaking our truth and listening to others, we can deepen the meaning of community. Intended for everyone.

**TALK AND TOUR, SECOND SUNDAYS AFTER SERVICE** Please join us immediately following service each 2nd Sunday for "Talk and Tour," next on January 12. This 15 minute guided walk through the building is designed to familiarize newcomers with our congregation and facilities. Participants do not need to sign up in advance—simply gather at the Newcomers Table outside the Fellowship Hall at 11:45. Thanks!

**ATTENTION AMAZON SHOPPERS...** Your online purchases at Amazon.com can now benefit the church. If you open the UUC website at [uulafayette.wordpress.com](http://uulafayette.wordpress.com) and select Links from the menu you'll see an Amazon.com logo. Clicking on this will take you to Amazon.com, where your online shopping experience will be the same as usual - with one key difference. Amazon will pay the UUC a 6% commission on all purchases made in the session. You pay the same Amazon prices and use your normal Amazon account information when checking out. This program has the potential to be a significant revenue source for the church. All you need to do is remember to use the link on the UUC website. Once you've navigated to Amazon from the UUC website, you may also bookmark the page in your browser for later use. If you have any questions about this program, please contact Mark VanMeeter, President, Board of Trustees - [mvanmeeter@comcast.net](mailto:mvanmeeter@comcast.net).

**THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE** There is much to be done in the social justice arena; if you are interested in becoming involved in our activities, please join us at our next meeting--Thursday, January 9 at 7:00 pm in room 101-103. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, contact co-chairs Joan Marshall, [jmarshall900@yahoo.com](mailto:jmarshall900@yahoo.com), & Tom McConville, [tmconville1200@comcast.net](mailto:tmconville1200@comcast.net) or .

•***CHANGE FOR CHANGE: NICHES*** The theme for Change for Change in 2013 is "Social Justice and Climate Change." All loose coins in the Sunday offering will go to organizations striving to address social justice issues in these areas. Our November and December recipient of C4C is NICHES, "Northern Indiana Citizens Helping Ecosystems Survive." This nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation was formed in 1995 by a diverse group of concerned people acting to protect natural spaces in the face of increasing threat. It recognizes that a strong economy and a continued high quality of life in our area of Indiana is ultimately dependent upon and related to the state of our environment. NICHES protects, restores and sustains Northern Indiana's ecosystems by providing habitat for native species and offering natural places for the education, appreciation and enjoyment of current and future generations. The Northern Indiana landscape is home to ecosystems of native plants and animals that should be protected. Access and connection with natural areas and open space improves the quality of people's lives. People in our region should be able to live among sustainable, healthy, attractive landscapes.

•***WOMEN'S SHELTER COLLECTION*** The local Women's Shelter is running low on personal products as well as blankets and towels. If you have new bottles of shampoo for adults and children, rinses, soaps, toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs, new socks, personal products including feminine items, be sure to leave your donations in the labeled plastic bins in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider giving generously to those less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you.

**INTER-RELIGIOUS NETWORK (IRN) DINNER & CONVERSATION CIRCLES** Interfaith conversation dinners are sponsored by the Inter-Religious Network Conversation Circles of the Abrahamic Faith Traditions. They occur twice a month at various faith communities in the Lafayette area, and are led by Cem Akatay, a Turkish graduate student at Purdue. People of the Turkish community at Purdue are committed to interfaith dialogue between Muslims and other faiths. Our Unitarian Universalist Church hosted an IRN Dinner on Oct. 26, and will again host dinners on *February 8, March 29, and April 26 at 6:00 pm*. Delicious Turkish food will be provided; suggested donation \$2. For further information, or to register to attend a dinner, please visit [www.facebook.com/interreligiousnetwork](http://www.facebook.com/interreligiousnetwork). Thank you.

*"A sensible man will remember that the eyes may be confused in two ways--  
by a change from light to darkness or from darkness to light;  
and he will recognize that the same thing happens to the soul."*

-Plato

**STEWARDSHIP 2014: ABUNDANT HEARTS, ABUNDANT LIVING** As of November 19, we have collected 61 pledges, from approximately 30% of our membership, for a total of \$156,649. Please take the time now to look into your hearts to determine the abundance you can share. Think about all that is important to you in our church community. What do you want to continue to support? What would make your heart broken if we could no longer provide it? Please consider pledging today—cards are available at the office.

**PLANNED GIVING AT UUC** It is often difficult to think about planning for death, but it is one of those things that makes life easier for friends and family dealing with an emotional time. If you would like to include UUC in your will or living trust, please use our full legal name, Unitarian Universalist Church. Your attorney may find the following language helpful:

I hereby give, devise and bequeath \$\_\_\_\_\_ (a dollar amount, percentage, remainder) of my estate to the Unitarian Universalist Church. Now or formerly at 333 Meridian, West Lafayette, Indiana, for its general purposes.

The IRS recognizes the Unitarian Universalist Church as a tax-exempt not-for-profit organization. Our federal tax ID number is 35-6023509.

### UU CHURCH OUTDOOR GROUP WINTER ACTIVITIES!

- **Boxing Day Hike** - Every year on the day after Christmas, the Delphi Canal Center hosts a hike/tour from the museum to the spectacular High Bridge (a railroad bridge spanning the gorge over Deer Creek. December 26 at 1pm. Please contact Rae Schnapp at [765-714-4829](tel:765-714-4829) if you plan to attend.
- **Eagle Viewing Trip** - The hot water discharged by the Duke Energy power plant in Cayuga provides a year-round feeding ground for eagles. On Sunday, January 26 Duke opens its doors to visitors for its annual Eagle Viewing Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will carpool to Cayuga after church that day. Please contact Rae Schnapp at [765-714-4829](tel:765-714-4829) if you plan to attend.

Rae Schnapp, Ph.D., Wabash Riverkeeper, [765-714-4829](tel:765-714-4829)

*"At the right time, you will be able to break through to the state of nothingness. You will attain this realization because of some thing and you will know with your entire being that you are at the center of absolute nothingness, at the center of an infinite circle. To be at the center of an infinite circle in this human form is to be Buddha himself. You have been saved from the beginning. You will know all these things with certainty."*

-Omori Sogen Roshi (大森 曹玄, 1904—1994)







# DECEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS



## Weekly

Sunday, December 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
 9:00am, *Forum*, 101/103  
 10:30am, *Worship & RE Magazine Exchange, & Potluck*, December 1 (1st Sunday of month)  
*Membership Class*, 1st Sundays, December 1  
*Talk and Tour*, 2nd Sundays, December 8

Monday, December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
 7:30am, Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson (anyone may join at any time; FH)  
 7:00pm, *Monday Meditation*, 101/103

Tuesday, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wednesday, December 4, 11, 18, 25  
 7:30am, Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson (anyone may join at any time; FH)  
 12:00pm, *The Principled Group*, 101/103  
 7:00pm Choir (S)

Thursday, December 5, 12, 19, 26  
 5:40pm, *Dinner @MCL*  
 5:30pm, *Zazen; Zen Chanting & Reading; sitting; M*

Friday, December 6, 13, 20, 27  
 7:30am, Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson (anyone may join at any time; FH)

Saturday, December 7, 14, 21, 28  
 8:00am, Zen, Meditation Room

## Weekly

Monday, December 2, 16, 1:30pm, *Writers' Group*, 106  
 Thursday, December 5, 19 7:30pm, *SHM/UU House Band, S*  
 Friday, December 6, 20, 6:30pm, *PRYSM*, 102

## By Date

19 Thursday, *Newsletter Deadline*  
 21 6pm **WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE (Fellowship Hall)**  
 24 Tuesday, 6pm, **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**  
 25 Wednesday, **CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED**  
 31 Tuesday, **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

## 1 JANUARY 2014, HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Office Closed)

Sunday, January 5  
 9:00am Forum (101/103)  
 10:30am Worship & RE  
 11:45am POTLUCK FOLLOWING SERVICE  
 12:00pm UU Membership Class: UU History (104)  
 7:30pm Lafayette Area Peace Coalition 101/103

