THE LIGHTED CHALICE NEWSLETTER

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA: 27 APRIL

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS Sunday Service & Religious Exploration Classes begin at 10:30 am; Nursery & Childcare Available.

MAY 4 ALL AGES SERVICE "OUR UU FAMILY: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUNDAY" Worship Leader: Sheila Garrett, DRE Worship Associate: Rev. Daniel Charles Davis Pianist: Richard Maddux Sound: Mary Finley Fellowship: Beth Misner & Barny Dunning, Mark VanMeeter Pulpit Preparation: Kat Braz Sharing of Joys & Sorrows Potluck; Membership Class Following Service

MAY 11 MOTHER'S DAY "WHAT TYPE OF MOTHER ARE YOU?" Worship Leader: Rev. Daniel Charles Davis Worship Associate: Kat Braz Pianist: Richard Maddux Sound: Carl Seese Fellowship: Andrea and Gary Burniske Pulpit Preparation: Nina Kirkpatrick

Parents need to be breadwinners, caregivers, comforters and protectors. Some of these roles are culturally assigned to women or men. But the lines between fathering and mothering are breaking down. MAY 18 "ARE YOU TRANSGENDERED?" Worship Leader: Rev. Daniel Charles Davis Worship Associate: Michael Lewis Pianist: Richard Maddux Sound: Jason Dufair Fellowship: Lorraine & Randy Myer Pulpit Preparation: Michael Lewis New Member Welcome! As being gay and lesbian are becoming more acceptable in society, the transgender

acceptable in society, the transgender community is starting to be heard. They are telling us that gender is not binary. Each of us is proclaimed to be male or female at birth. Yet, the truth is more complex. What is your physical gender? What is your cultural gender? What is your psychological gender? How are your various genders related?

MAY 25 MEMORIAL DAY "MARTYRS OF WAR & PEACE" Worship Leader: Rev. Daniel Charles Davis Worship Associate: Dianna Poindexter Pianist: Richard Maddux Sound: Gary Mueller Fellowship: Alice Pawley & Stephen Hoffmann Pulpit Preparation: Robin Poindexter What does it mean to die for a cause? There seems to be nobility conferred even if the cause was unjust. Is it better to go down fighting or like a lamb led to the slaughter?

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

For much of the year, the board has remained focused on church finances. At our April meeting, we reviewed expenses from the first quarter. Not surprisingly, the cold winter has resulted in our utility and snow removal expenses to be higher than expected. In response, we will be looking into options for reducing energy usage going forward. The focus of this effort will be to do a better job of heating and cooling only those areas of the building that are in use. The board is committed to keeping overall expenses in line with our 2014 budget.

The first two fundraisers of the year will take place this month - the Rummage Sale on May 10th, and the Plant Sale on May 17th. Please help make these events a success with your donations and your purchases.

The next congregational meeting will take place after service on May 18th. At this time, new candidates for the Board of Trustees, Nominating committee, and Endowment committee will be submitted to the congregation for election. Please plan to attend if you are able.

Best wishes, Mark VanMeeter President, Board of Trustees

SUNDAY MORNING FORUM

Sunday Morning Forum meets at 9:00 am in 101/103. Everyone is welcome! Childcare is provided. Co-chairs: Jim Anderson, Tom McConville, and Bill Welge

MAY 4 Denise Laussade: "Tour the Town." CityBus guided tours, May through October.

MAY 11 UU Church Youth Group: "Youth Group and Their Activities."

MAY 18 Chris Funk & Bill Welge: "The Future of Artificial Intelligence."

MAY 25 tba

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board President Mark VanMeeter mvanmeeter@comcast.net

Board President-Elect Gale Charlotte galekchar@gmail.com

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Pianist Richard Maddux rchrd.maddx@gmail.com

Nursery Administrator Elizabeth Cohen contact dresheila@gmail.com

Newsletter articles due 3rd Thursday of month. E-mail articles to uuc@uulafayette.org with "Newsletter" in subject box.

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS: "WALKING THE TRAIL"

To walk the trail, I step off the parking lot and into the past, A past where the walls between humanity and nature are gone. Modern life is independent of nature. We control all our environments by connecting to a thermostat. It cools and warms to comfort our skin. We are being disconnected from the nature which comforts our being. We were once wild and one with nature. We were wandering, hunting gathering nomads. Following the weather, following the food, we blazed the trails. We lived in nature. Our gods and food were plentiful but inconsistent Then we settled into the land. Growing crops we became dependent upon nature. Cradled by Mother Nature, Gaia. Dependent upon a Father Sky God to send rain and sun. We lived under the rule of nature. The rise of cities, even in ancient times, separated us from nature. Nature was no longer the source of life. Nature merely contained resources we could capture and exploit. Warriors took and claimed the food that others had grown or gathered. Tribute was paid to the feudal lord of the castle. Industrialization allowed more people live independent of nature. We think we rule over nature. The modern factory farm delivers food to market. It is wrapped in plastic for our convenience. We are the lords of the supermarket. We are blissfully unaware of the struggle. We know not the suffering of the workers. They bring us our food while others profit from their labor. Are we on the road to perdition? A deer path became a Shawnee trail, then a wagon road, then a highway, then a freeway. I take the exit and travel to this park. To walk the trail, I step off the parking lot and into my present trial. I cannot be one with the wilderness like a hunter gatherer. I am afraid to be dependent upon the weather like a farmer. I resist the feudalism of the overlord. I do not want to become an overlord independent of nature. Interdependence, is the path I seek. Maybe I will find harmony with nature. A renewable energy is wanted. A renewable spirit is needed.

To walk the trail, I step off the parking lot and into the future. A world where people and things are not exploited Each thing, living or dead shall be appreciated All people and things shall be respected. Let us live in partnership with nature.

Blessings, Rev. Charlie

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

"May the light we now kindle Inspire us to use our powers To heal and not to harm, To help and not to hinder, To bless and not to curse, And to serve in the Spirit of Love"

During the recent children's Spirit Circle on Easter Sunday, we talked about blessings. The kids were given the chance to offer a written (or drawn) one to someone or something special in the world, which they placed in a basket, much like lighting a silent candle—only I got to take a peak. Their responses were touching—a childish drawing of a pet, wishes for a particular family member to get well, the hope that sadness over the recent death of a loved one would soon ease, for a parent to be blessed with less stress,



Barny Dunning with the first and second grade class considering Thoreau and signs of spring—

and another drawing—this one of trees and a bird with the words, "the world." Even though we had a lot planned to do in that short block of time that day, making sure we prioritized lighting the chalice and worshiping together was important. We all need to allow time to center and remind ourselves of our connections. I wonder: how does your family worship together?

On the horizon:

Can you believe we're nearing the end of the regular church year? **R.E. Sunday** is fast approaching! On **Sunday, May 4th**, families of preschool-8th grade are asked to *please be at church at 9:30* so kids can do one last practice for the service that day. Please note: The first few pews in the front will be reserved for our R.E. students to sit with their guides or teachers during the service.

May 11th- Happy Mama's Day! The kids will begin in the sanctuary through TTime for All Ages. Afterwards, Rae Schnapp will be leading an R.E. day with everyone preschool-8th grade meeting together for an intro to our summer gardening project and some cooking with fresh ingredients.

May 18th- While high school youth and their chaperone(s) travel home from a weekend youth con, **Beth Hoffman** is coordinating R.E. today. Due to the sensitive nature of today's sermon topic, no time for all ages is planned in the sanctuary. Kids are asked to report directly to the fellowship hall.

May 25th- Happy Memorial Day! RE Break—No class

June 1- Flower Communion- All Ages Service, Annual Church Picnic at Happy Hollow Park afterwards

See you ín church, Sheíla

UNDER OUR ROOF

UU FLAMES SOFTBALL TEAM!

Now that Spring has finally arrived, it's time to start thinking about softball! If you are interested in joining the UU Flames co-ed softball team, please contact Mark (765-448-9807 VanMeeter or mvanmeeter@comcast.net). The League play will begin on May 5th. Last season the UU Flames finished an exciting run in 4th place, winning 4 games as well as 2 in the closing tournament! Come help start this season out right with an exciting tie-dye party Sunday, April 27 immediately after church in the Fellowship Hall! For further information about the tie-dye party, contact Cindy team artist Krulitz, ckrulitz@gmail.com.

ALL CHURCH SPRING CLEANING WORK DAY SUNDAY MAY 4!

This will mainly be an outdoor activity, taking place after potluck Sunday May 4 from noon until 3pm or thereabouts. We want the grounds to be as attractive as possible before the plant sale so that our visitors will be extra impressed. We will clean up and spruce up the church grounds and do some building maintenance as well. Please bring or wear old clothes and work gloves if you can. We can use: rakes, leaf blowers, trowels, paint brushes, paint rollers, hacksaw, drill, and caulk guns. For further information, contact Exteriors Committee Chairperson, Rae Schnapp, Ph.D., Wabash Riverkeeper at raeschnapp@gmail.com, 765-714-4829.

UUC PLANT SALE

The UUC Plant Sale will take place Saturday, May 17 from 9am-noon, in the front yard of the UUC. We will have vegetables, herbs and flowers. This is a total church effort that relies on church members donating plants from their gardens, or seeds that have been started indoors. Please begin planning for your donations, so we have a successful fundraiser. Please pass the word to friends and family. Plants are to be dropped off the week before the sale, May 11-16. Pots will be available in the playground area. More details to follow as we get closer to the date. We will need volunteers the day of the sale and a few days before to help sort and price plants. For further information contact Lisa Pantea, lisapantea@gmail.com.

UU CHURCH PICNIC HAPPY HOLLOW PARK SHELTER #1, JUNE 1 AFTER CHURCH!

Come join us immediately following service on Sunday, June 1 at the Happy Hollow Park, Shelter #1 for the annual all church picnic (in lieu of the potluck regularly scheduled for first Sundays). Bring dish to pass, we will supply drinks and hot dogs, cutlery, plates. Bring friends, family, dogs, Frisbees, balls, bats, croquet, whatever to help us have fun! Fellowship group that Sunday will be asked to help at the picnic. The picnic will disperse at 3pm. For further information contact Lisa Pantea, event coordinator, at Lisapantea@gmail.com. Thankshope to see you there!



UU Church photograph & cover photo© by Charles Reynolds.

RUMMAGE SALE COMING SATURDAY MAY 10!

The youth will begin accepting donations of gently used baby and toddler clothes, toys, books, power tools, sporting equipment, bicycles, electronics, jewelry, furniture, household items, and unused beauty products for the UU Rummage Sale beginning Sunday, April 13. We will be storing donations in the attic room above the Fellowship Hall in preparation for the sale. If you need assistance unloading anything from your vehicle, youth will be on hand to help immediately following service on April 13, 27, and May 4. Deadline for donations is Wednesday, May 7. If you have more valuable items or larger items/furniture to donate, please make arrangements with Kat Braz before dropping it off at the church. We hope to see everyone at the sale on Saturday May 10 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.! If you would like to help sort and price items, set-up, work the sale, tear-down, and/or haul away please contact Kat Braz at kat@purdue.edu or 532-9678.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE VISION 2014

The Membership Committee's vision is to nurture and support members through all stages of their membership journey. As a part of this vision we would like to encourage the entire church to participate in growing and sustaining our congregation.

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

The Membership Committee is composing biographies of every church member, placed each month on the Membership bulletin board and then published in the newsletter. As new biographies are added to the membership board, old biographies will be "archived" in a scrapbook in the library.

New members will be a priority for biographies so we can get to know our newest congregants quickly. Concurrent with publishing biographies of new members, we'll also be publishing biographies of "old" members.

If you have not yet completed a biography or are a new member/ friend of the church, notify Joshua Prokopy, <u>josh@prokopyfamily.com</u> and he will contact you regarding how to contribute your information for publication in the *Lighted Chalice* Newsletter. Many thanks to Joshua for writing these biographies!

Sarah Cooke Membership Chairperson sallie@frontier.com

UU MEMBERSHIP CLASSES, FIRST SUNDAYS, 2014

UU Membership Classes now meet each first 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 the class. Child care will be available if requested one week in advance. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Sallie Cooke, Membership Chairperson (sallie@frontier.com) one week prior to class, so we have an accurate count for child care.

•EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP: PARTICIPATING AT UUC, WEST LAFAYETTE May 6. 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 June 8. 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.

•UU HISTORY September 7. 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.

TALK AND TOUR ON SECOND SUNDAYS AFTER SERVICE

Please join us immediately following service each 2nd Sunday for "Talk and Tour," next on **May 11.** 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!

PHOTO DIRECTORIES

We will be printing another edition of our UUC picture directory soon, hoping for an April production date. If you would like your picture added or updated, contact Rosemary Leary at 463-4246 or <u>rleary207@aol.com</u>. We will be taking pictures at church on Sunday mornings, or you can send her a jpeg format digital picture that you would like to have us use.

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, May 8 at 7:00** pm in Room 101-103. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, contact co-chairs Joan Marshall, <u>imarshal900@yahoo.com</u>, &Tom McConville, <u>tmcconville1200@comcast.net</u>.

•CHANGE FOR CHANGE: The theme for 2014 is "Helping Our Community." The May/June C4Crecipient is Home with Hope. The Home With Hope is the only facility of its kind in the Lafayette area that provides a continuum of care, often following primary treatment or detox for alcoholism and other drug addictions, for men and women age 18 and older. "We help our clients learn how to live their lives as acceptable members of their communities, free from addiction and substance abuse, by providing an environment conducive to recovery. We provide strict monitoring and structure, case management, random drug and alcohol screening, and the opportunity to seek employment and work in the community. Further, we require daily 12-step meeting attendance, acquiring a 12-step sponsor and 'home group' within their first 30 days of residency, as well as daily accountability."

•WOMEN'S SHELTER COLLECTION The UU Church at all times has a bin located in the Fellowship Hall to collect items for the local Women's Shelter. Please consider donating new underwear for women and children (all sizes), shirts for women (all sizes), pens, hand sanitizer, small pocket memo pads. Thank you.

UU SERVICE AUCTION!

The UU Service Auction is quickly approaching. This year we are holding our Service Auction on the Summer Solstice, June 21st, starting at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person and will include dinner. Child care will be provided.

Service Auction donation forms, which will soon be available, can be submitted to Julie Rubsam. Donation items need to be dropped off to the "Upper Room" of the Fellowship Hall by June 13th to be included in event program.

DATE:	June 21st, 2014	
TIME:	6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	
PLACE:	UUC	
CONTACT:	Julie Rubsam 765-412-2967 julie@rubsam.net	

LEADERSHIP LAFAYETTE VOLUNTEER EXPO

FREE community event Presented by Bison Financial. Hosted by YWCA Greater Lafayette. Engage with Greater Lafayette nonprofit organizations to give back and make a difference in our community. Expo is May 8, from 4- 6 pm at YWCA, 605 N. 6th Street, Lafayette.

DATE:	May 8, 2014
TIME:	4-6 pm
PLACE:	YWCA
CONTACT:	Leadership Lafayette Kitty Campbell, Executive Director Connect@LeadershipLafayette.org https://www.facebook.com/ events/473803156055193/? ref=notif¬if_t=plan_user_invited

ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

•THE CONVERSATION PROJECT: MAKING OUR WISHES KNOWN -GIVE A GIFT TO YOUR LOVED ONES! What would you want if all of the sudden you were taken to the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital? Does your family know? Does anyone know? If you were headed into major surgery and someone would need to "speak" for you afterward even for part of a day...or longer...would s/he know what to say?

There are a million reasons to avoid having the conversation. "I'm not sick!" "I'm too young to think about things like this." "I'm living to 100!" or, "I just don't know how to get the conversation started...it's uncomfortable."

We can help with this last one! Join us for The Conversation Project.

Part I	May 8th	10:00 a.m 11:30 a.m.	
	Or 6:30-8:00 p.m.		
Part II	May 15th	10:00 a.m 11:30 a.m.	
	Or 6:30-8:00	p.m.	

Limited to 30 participants, so register by calling Karin Bergman at 765-743-8812 or email her at <u>uuc@uulafayette.org</u>.

We'll have documents to lead the process, a facilitator from A-REC to manage the time, a couple of short videos, personal stories, activities to help identify our wishes and time to share (if we wish) our thoughts, ideas and questions.

The Conversation Project was started by Ellen Goodman (Pulitzer Prize winning columnist) and colleagues after experiencing the confusion, pain and grief of trying to help a family member or friend during a critical time....not knowing what the person really wanted. They vowed to let someone know their wishes so the same thing wouldn't happen to others they loved. In doing so they decided to share what they learned and tools for having much needed conversation. They (and we) believe that the place for this to begin is at the kitchen table (or on a walk, or wherever) with the people we love, before it's too late. Hope you join us on May 8th and 15th. *Suzan Windnagel. Sponsored and facilitated by UUC's Adult Religious Exploration Council.*

> "Spiritual growth and creativity are two sides of the same coin." ~Lada Ray

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Church Tippecanoe County

We are a vibrant and growing religious people building toward the future, yet mindful of the richness of the past.

We welcome diversity-race, gender, sexual orientation, vocation, class, religious origin, theology, political views, age-and we affirm that diversity enriches our community.

Therefore, we welcome you. We believe that every person brings gifts into this community and that we create and sustain its living spirit together–

We invite you to join us in membership– to develop and offer your gifts, to grow along with us, to bring your best visions and dreams into this place.

> To contribute your strengths, to share your struggles, to share your path with us.

Welcome!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2014

Please join us in the sanctuary immediately following service on Sunday, May 18 for the Spring Congregational Meeting. Quorum of 25% total membership is necessary to pass vote.

BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

Board Meetings take place each third Tuesday at 6:30 pm in Conference Room 101/103, next on Tuesday, May20, 2014. Church members are welcome to attend and are encouraged to speak with members of the Board of Trustees regarding congregational questions and concerns.



April 25, Friday 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson

April 26, Saturday Rev. Charlie in Kenosha WI 6:30 AM Young Adult Coffeehouse/Openhouse (Playground & 210) 8:00 AM Zen M

April 27, Sunday Rev. Charlie in Kenosha WI 9:00 AM Forum (101/103) 9:30 AM Preschool Parent Coffee for parents of preschool through 4th grade (FH RE Corner; double click for more info) 10:30 AM Worship & RE 11:45 AM UU FLAMES SOFT-BALL TEAM TIE-DYE PARTY (S) 1:00 PM Lafayette Chamber Singers Rehearsal (S)

April 28, Monday 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson 5:30 PM Strolling Singers Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM Monday Meditation (101/103)!

April 29, Tuesday 1:00 PM Buddhist Study Group (101/103)

April 30, Wednesday 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson 12:00 PM "The Principled Group" (101/103) 2:30 PM Girl Scout Troop (FH)

May 1, Thursday 5:30 PM Zazen Sitting, Chanting & Reading (M) 6:30 PM PFLAG meets at PRIDE now 1st Thursdays 7:30 PM SHM (Spontaneous Hopeful Monster)

May 2, Friday 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson **5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal** 6:00 PM Lafayette Chamber Singers Rehearsal (S) 6:30 PM PRYSM (102)

May 3, Saturday 8:00 AM Zen M 2:00 PM Emily Grey WEDDING 6:00 PM Lafayette Chamber Singers Rehearsal 8:00 PM Lafayette Chamber Singers Concert (S);I Rehearsal at 1pm, concert at 3, reception in Fellowship Hall and Kitchen

May 4, Sunday **RUMMAGE SALE SET UP ALL WEEK--UU YOUTH UU GROUNDS CLEAN-UP DAY DURING & AFTER POTLUCK!** 9:00 AM Forum (101/103): 10:30 AM Worship: RE SUNDAY 12:00 PM UU Membership Class: Exploring Membership: Participating at UUC, West Lafayette (104) 7:30 PM Lafayette Area Peace Coalition 101/103



7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson (101/103) 1:30 PM Writers' Group 101/103 5:30 PM Strolling Singers Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM Monday Meditation (101/103)!



May 6, Tuesday 1:00 PM Buddhist Study Group (101/103) 6:00 PM Program Council (101/103) 7:00 PM Lafayette Chamber Singers (S)

May 7, Wednesday 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson to 12:00 noon today (101/103) 12:00 PM "The Principled Group" (101/103) 2:30 PM Girl Scout Troop (FH)

May 8, Thursday **10:00 AM "The Conversation Project" (101/103)** 5:30 PM Worship Committee (106) 5:30 PM Zazen Sitting, Chanting & Reading (M) **6:30 PM "The Conversation Project" (101/103) 7:00 PM Social Justice Committee Meeting (104)**

May 9, Friday RE Youth Lock In Pre Rummage Sale Festivities!!! 7:30 AM Taiji Qigong with Lisa Peterson (101/103)

May 10, Saturday Purdue Spring Semester Ends 9:00 AM RUMMAGE SALE! UU YOUTH TO COORDINATE AS FUND RAISER 8:00 AM Zen M

> "Beauty is the illumination of your soul." ~John O'Donohue

"We know what we are, but not what we may be." ~William Shakespeare

"My mother said to me, 'If you are a soldier, you will become a general. If you are a monk, you will become the Pope.' Instead, I was a painter, and became Picasso." ~Pablo Picasso

"When we walk to the edge of all the light we have and take the step into the darkness of the unknown, we must believe that one of two things will happen...There will be something solid for us to stand on or we will be taught to fly." ~Patrick Overton

Our Covenant

Love is the spirit of this church and service is its law. This is our covenant: to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Our Mission Statement

The Unitarian Universalist Church is a nurturing religious community that celebrates diverse beliefs and encourages spiritual growth through lifelong learning. Guided by our Unitarian Universalist Principles, we support each other in our life journeys and work toward social justice in the local and world communities.

The Seven Principles Which Unitarian Universalist Congregations 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.