

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



Sunday Services - 10:30 AM
Religious Education - 10:30 AM

Telephone
(724) 327-5872

Website
<http://www.esuuc.org>

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Editor: Marianne Jew
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, June 3, 10:30am- *"Crossing the Threshold"*- It's that time again—the time when we honor our terrific group of youth who are “coming of age” and crossing the threshold into young adulthood. This service will highlight the 2-year long journey that our COA youth have taken with teachers, mentors and parents, culminating in statements of faith, tributes and gifts. It's such an important milestone in the lives of these youth and their families. Please join us for this special celebration. **Dr. Waun** and **Kathy Begg** will facilitate.

Sunday, June 10, 10:30am- *"Flowers Fulfilled"*- In the UU child dedication ceremony we are told that whether a flower fulfills itself or not; whether it comes into full bloom or not depends upon the care and nurture it receives. On this annual Flower Communion Sunday we will reflect again upon our own individuality and growth with a time of interactive sharing from our sense of lifetime journey and fulfillment. **Dr. Waun** will facilitate. Please bring a stemmed flower as an offering.

Sunday, June 17, 10:30am- *"The Changing Face of Fatherhood"*- Gone are the days when most dads were sole breadwinners, most moms were homemakers, and most people assumed that "Father Knows Best." How have fathers changed to meet the demands of our contemporary world, and what does it mean to be a good dad today? On Father's Day, **Brenda Shiring** looks at shifting roles and expectations for dads, stepdads, foster dads, and granddads (and other father figures) in the 21st century.

Sunday, June 24, 10:30am- *"The Macro and the Micro"*- The universe is a puzzle, where it's come from, where it's going and what's happening in the meantime. String theory has possibly given us an answer, but it's unprovable. So where does that leave us? And can we do anything about it? Join Dave Schwartz for this interesting program.

Sunday, July 1, 10:30am- *"The Common Bowl"*- in this informal summer service in the round, there will be a common vessel filled with quotations about “Patriotism” that we will take turns reflecting upon as we begin Fourth of July week. We will also have a special guest who is visiting from the Sunnyhill UU Church to tell us about the work he is doing and the trip he is leading to Katrina country with volunteers in mission this October. **Dr. Waun** will facilitate.



Pastor's Column: What I'm Learning From My GPS

by Rev. Renee Waun

In January, when I flew down to Florida to pick up the used car I purchased on EBay, I also bought a GPS (global positioning system) to put on my dashboard so I would be able to find my way back home. I have decided that I *love* having this very calm and friendly (woman's) voice in the car as my companion, to guide me each step of the way, wherever I want to go. And I *love* knowing that I will never get lost again! No more squinting at shadowed house numbers in the dark. No more driving around and around and asking for directions! This is great for getting around traffic jams, too.

One of things that is most endearing about the system is that it never scolds me for getting off track: overriding the directions to make a side trip to a gas station or restaurant, for turning to avoid road construction, or for making a wrong turn altogether. It never says, "Where have you been!" or "You didn't listen to me!" or "Why should I tell you which way to go today, you went astray yesterday!" It simply says, very pleasantly, "Recalculating", and then gets me back on track every time.

It's just great—to be feeling that sense of pure grace and acceptance—a feeling that doesn't always come easily when we have human companions who sometimes get flustered, impatient or passive aggressive with us. In fact, I've learned something about life from this. I've come to appreciate the style of my GPS so much that I would like to be more like that myself.

This summer, whenever I have opportunities to be a traveling companion, to be a visitor to new place, or simply to be with a friend sharing time on a beautiful day I will try to be as grace-filled and accepting as my GPS is. I like to think grace prevails in life. But I also know that I could probably be more intentional about it as I speak and act and create my own life and relationships with others. How about you?

Have a great summer, wherever and with whomever you happen to be!



mUUsings from the President

by Matt Mathis

We are fast approaching our Annual meeting, which marks the end of our church year, and the start of the next. Every new year is a time to reflect on the past, and the to go forward with renewed focus and energy. We also use the time to pick some new leaders and to adjust our priorities. After the service on Sunday June 3rd, we will have an informal "Town Meeting" style discussion of all of the business at hand. We will use this meeting to strengthen our understanding and consensus within the congregation. The Annual Meeting and potluck dinner will be at 6:00 on Sunday, June 9th, and will be as much a celebration of our community as a business meeting. All of our members should have received a meeting information packet by this time. If you did not for some reason, please contact me or Kathy Ruffing as soon as possible. Please plan to attend or arrange to have somebody carry your proxy vote.

There are two special items on the Annual meeting agenda: We are planning to initiate our formal entry into "Green Sanctuary" process. This will help us, both as individuals and as a congregation, reduce our environmental footprint in the world.

We are also considering the purchase of a gift for ourselves, a new stained glass window for the sanctuary. This is a big decision because the window will be quite expensive and has some long-term implications. But first I need to tell a little story: Some time last year I took a wrong turn in Ligonier and got lost. As I came around a bend, there I saw it, a spectacular window. There was no question, quite by accident, I had found the Ligonier UU church. Their window is stunning - it just jumps out and grabs your eyes as you drive by. Our proposed window would be by the same Artist, Terry Bengel, and would be a huge symbol of us out in the community. In the end, the question is likely to be how much can we afford to spend on beauty, where there are so many other pressing needs?

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me at 412.654.7529 or drop me a note at mathis@psc.edu or president@esuuc.org .

Caring and Sharing

If anyone has any news that they want to share, please send it to newsletter@esuuc.org

Spring Rummage Sale

Thanks to all who helped make the Rummage sale a rousing success, especially to Cathy Serventi for her multiple nights and crack-of-dawn dedication to lead all of the volunteers! We earned over \$500 and succeeded in paying for our new electric piano!! Thank you everyone!

Looking for "Assistant" Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairperson

HELP WANTED (unpaid, of course)

"Assistant" Treasurer: not an elected position

At this year's annual meeting, ESUUC members will be electing a new treasurer to replace our illustrious current treasurer, Cathy Serventi, who'll be stepping down after four years of hard work and dedication. Cathy's successor will likely be me (Chris Priano)...unless another member has a burning desire to be treasurer. :-)

In order to maintain a system of "checks and balances" with respect to ESUUC's finances, we've maintained a separation of the treasurer's functions since last July. Chris acts as "assistant treasurer," processing receipts and making weekly bank deposits. Cathy handles disbursements, along with all other treasurer's duties, including the majority of recordkeeping.

We need a new assistant treasurer, beginning in July. This is a great way to learn the ins and outs of how ESUUC's finances work, while fulfilling a function that ensures a smooth day-to-day operation of the church. Requirements are 1) regular attendance at Sunday services, 2) fanatical attention to detail/accuracy, and 3) a commitment to making a weekly bank deposit every Monday (Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday). Training cheerfully provided.

Also starting in July, we need someone who can take over as chair of the Finance Committee. Duties include presiding over at least two meetings a year: one in May to develop/review the budget for the following fiscal year, and another in July/August to conduct an annual review of the church's financial records and recordkeeping procedures. We really can't have the treasurer chairing the committee that's supposed to be overseeing the treasurer. So please help!

Please contact Chris or Cathy with any questions. Thanks!

Now, More Than Ever: Keep Recycling Paper

Abitibi has informed us that if we recycle eight tons of paper between May and August, we'll win \$200 in addition to our normal "payout." Spring cleaning is a great time to get rid of old papers. Please bring them to church and deposit them into the green & yellow bin at the back of our parking lot. In addition to helping the environment, it's an easy way for ESUUC to earn some extra money.

What we CAN recycle: catalogs, magazines, newspapers, junk mail, office paper, fax paper, notebooks, folders. Shredded office paper in clear plastic bags is acceptable. Soft-cover books can be recycled as-is. With hardcover books, please remove and discard the covers first

What we CANNOT recycle: cereal boxes, chipboard, milk cartons, soda cartons, or food cartons. These items cannot be used to make newsprint. This is considered contamination and may ruin an entire load of material.

**** IMPORTANT **** I called Abitibi and asked them about phone books. Even if we remove the covers and binding adhesive first, phone book paper is unacceptable. Since it's already been recycled so many times, it typically turns to mush. So no phone books!! Abitibi did tell me that IKEA in Robinson Twp. has a bin where phone books can be deposited. Also: no cardboard.

If you have any questions, please leave a message for Chris Priano (724-327-5872).

Global Connections: Transylvania Update

We received lovely Easter and Mother's Day greetings from Rev. Alpar Kiss, the pastor of our sister congregation in Kopec, Transylvania. We now have some photos that Rev. Kiss sent to us, and they will be on display on the bulletin board beside the furnace room.

Global Connections: Uganda Update

The final few contributions have been received toward the purchase of the last two acres of the 5-acre plot needed for the school we are building in the jungle east of Kampala. The closing for the land will be on June 15. Future contributions will go toward the actual building costs and school development. The Pen Pal letters that were sent to the States in April from the African children were delayed or lost, we're not sure which. It could be that they were mistakenly sent "the slow way" (which probably means "by boat"). So Director Hanan Bulime quickly asked the African children to write more letters that he then sent "the fast way" at the end of May. We hope the American children all receive their letters before school is out for the summer! Dr. Waun now has three people going with her to Uganda to dedicate the new school in January, including a UU high school youth and a retired couple from North Carolina.

UU Regional History Project – Stories Needed

Your stories of the early years of ESUUC are needed to round out a regional history that is being written which includes all area UU churches and fellowships. Ms. Kathy Parker, PhD from First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh received a grant for the writing, has been working on the project for about three years and is getting ready to publish it. She would like to include more stories that involve ESUUC.

If you are an early member (having joined between the years of 1966 and 1971) or are familiar with the beginning of this congregation, please visit our church website (www.esuuc.org) and find the link that leads to a description of the project so you will know what Dr. Parker is looking for. Please contact Dr. Waun at 412-731-2834 or revmom@pitt.edu if you would like to contribute a memory or story to this historical document. Thank you so much!

Join the Choir

Join the Choir on **June 3** for their next rehearsal (**9:30 am**) and performance (**during Service**). All are welcome! Contact Brian Ogle if you have any questions.

Sunday Book Club

When: **June 3 at 7 pm**

Where: Home of Susan Goodis & Matt Mathis
408 Alpine Village Drive
Monroeville

Book selection: "The Glass Castle, a memoir" by Jeannette Walls. This book is an autobiography about growing up in a homeless, nomadic lifestyle with an alcoholic father and dysfunctional mother. It had been chosen as the "One Book - One Community" for the city of Pittsburgh for the month of April. The author, Jeannette Wells had even made an appearance at the Joseph-Beth Booksellers on April 5th for a crowd of 150. Google this book for more info and photos of the author. I encourage all to read this book. Hope to see you on Sunday. For more info, contact: SunBookClub@esuuc.org

Musical Jam Session

Open Jam Session on **Sunday, June 3 at 7:30 pm**. If you like to make music, this is for you! Eclectic and welcoming - all instruments, ages and voices will be included, beginning at 7:30 PM at ESUUC.

Thursday Book Club

We'll be meeting at the Penn Center Panera (near Sears) on the following **Thursdays at 7:30 pm:**

June 7

July 7

August (tbd)

(break)

October (tbd)

November (tbd)

If you need a ride, would like to borrow a copy the book from someone who has finished it, or have any questions, the address bookclub@esuuc.org sends email to the all the active members. If you want to be added to the book club reminder email list, send email to treasurer@esuuc.org and we'll add you. The book club is open to anyone who is interested. Books generally alternate between fiction and non-fiction.

Drumming News

Groove and Meditate Drumming Circle: NOW EVERY 3RD SUNDAY (**June 17 at 7:30 pm**). Drum, chant, meditate and groove with new and old friends as we relax and rejuvenate in the power of creating music together. No experience necessary and no skill required. Bring your drums or use ours. Why not give it a try?

Family Drumming Circle - No Family Drumming Circle for June! There just isn't enough time this month!!!

Other area drumming opportunities - Three Rivers Thunder meets every Saturday at 3 pm at the Grotto on the top of Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park in Oakland. Info at <http://drumcircle.meetup.com/20/> 4 Quarters Interfaith Sanctuary of Earth Religion is having its 13th annual Drum & Splash event starting on the 4th of July. Info at <http://www.4qf.org/DrumSplash/index.htm>.

Summer Institute: Ohio-Meadville District

Make plans now to attend Summer Institute!

Sunday, **July 15** through Saturday, **July 21** 2007

Kenyon College, Gambier Ohio

Theme: **The Dharma of Living: The Ongoing Prescription for Happiness**

Speaker: Ven. Shih Ying-Fa, Founder of Zen Society of Cleveland

More info: www.omdsi.org

Teen Book Club

For more information, please contact Julia via email: redirector@esuuc.org

Sunday Refreshments

A time-honored tradition among Unitarian Churches is to gather for “social hour” immediately following Sunday service. At ESUUC we gather in the community room for coffee, juice, something tasty to eat and spirited conversation. It is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet some new friends at church. Each member is asked to take a turn throughout the year providing, serving and cleaning up refreshments. With everyone taking a turn it is usually once a year that we are called upon. The schedule tends to go alphabetically, **although I have had a request from those in the middle of the alphabet who always get to bring food in the snow to move things around, so we are starting roughly in the middle of the alphabet this calendar year.**

Don't worry if you are not a cook---store bought treats work quite well. There is a “guide to setting up refreshments” posted in the kitchen and in the September 2006 newsletter. If this is your first time you may want to review it a couple of weeks before you take your turn to get an idea of the flow. If you have any

questions or are daunted by the thought of serving refreshments, please call Kate Codd-Palmer at (724) 325-3903. Don't think she will let you off the hook, however, we all seem to like to eat.

The refreshment table is located in the far corner of the community room. This area also serves as a religious education room for the children during service. You may consider preparing the table before service starts. There is also a cart in the kitchen that can be used to place food items on and be wheeled into the community room after service.

See you around the kitchen----Kate

Summer – no schedule - BYO

There will be no schedule for Sunday refreshments for the months of July and August, however we all enjoy beverages, snacks and conversation in the community room after service---even in summer! Please consider bringing along something cool to drink or tasty to nibble on during the summer months. Feel free to make a pot of coffee as well. If you have any questions, call Kate Codd-Palmer (724) 325-3903.

Refreshments Roster

If the week you are assigned doesn't work with your schedule, please switch with someone else for that month.

June 3	(Maureen Lilly will coordinate)
June 10	Kate Codd-Palmer and Brien Palmer
June 17	Marylyn Devlin
June 24	Leona Dunnett

JULY and AUGUST: no refreshment schedule, simply "bring your own" & visit. See note above.
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Update from the RE Director

As I write this we are nearing the end of May, the end of the Church Year and the end of the RE year. My heartfelt thanks to everyone for the generous support and help received this year. I could not have done it without you!

June marks the end of the RE program for the 2006 to 2007 year. We will finish with two celebrations. At our **Sunday, June 3** service we will have a special celebration to honor our 8th and 9th grade youth as they finish the year-long COA program. On **Sunday, June 10**, a part of the service is set aside to honor the many volunteers who give their time and energy to RE. Without their generosity, we would not be able to have a program. Please plan to attend both Sundays. COA is an important Right of Passage for our Youth; and our wonderful volunteers deserve our recognition and support of their very worthwhile efforts. Thank you!

Information of the 2007 to 2008 program will be distributed shortly - including Registration forms and details on next years program. I can tell you that we will be covering UU Identity, but we haven't selected the curriculum as of yet. New sources should be available shortly, and we are hoping to take advantage of them. If you are interested in volunteering to teach or help in the program in some other capacity, please let me know. We would love to have you!

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Begg
DRE

RE Class Schedule

Nursery:	Day	Teacher
	June 3	all children attend Coming of Age service
	10	all children attend Flower Communion service
	17	no nursery during the summer; see you in September!
	24	no nursery

Elementary:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	June 3	all children attend Coming of Age service	n/a
	10	all children attend Flower Communion service	n/a
	17	no classes during the summer; see you in September!	n/a
	24	no class	n/a

Middle:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	June 3	all children attend Coming of Age service	n/a
	10	all children attend Flower Communion service	n/a
	17	no classes during the summer; see you in September!	n/a
	24	no class	n/a

Coming of Age:	Day	Class Description	Teacher
	June 3	all children attend Coming of Age service	n/a
	10	all children attend Flower Communion service	n/a
	17	no classes during the summer; see you in September!	n/a
	24	no class	n/a

Youth Group

Youth Group meetings (2nd and 4th Sundays each month, from 7-9 pm): **June 10, 24**

This will be a steady schedule until further notice. Please contact Leona Dunnett 724-327-3841 (ldunnett@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.

Barter Board

If you have items to trade/sell, or have needs, you can post to the Barter Board.

The Board is located in the RE hallway on the Community Bulletin Board. To use, fill out a card (available on the Barter Board itself) describing your item or need, then pin it up in the appropriate column of the Barter Board.

Want your item listed in the weekly newsletter? Fill out an extra copy of the card and give it to Kathy Ruffing, put it in the Secretary's mailbox, or e-mail the info to Kathy at secretary@esuuc.org .

Experimental Online Calendar

For immediate access to the most up-to-date information on ESUUC events, go directly to:
<http://www.esuuc.org/calendar.htm>

Calendar

Sat Jun 2, 2007

[COA Closing](#)

Sun Jun 3, 2007

9:30am [Choir Rehearsal for today's Service](#)

10:30am [Sunday Service](#)

12pm [Budget Town Hall meeting](#)

7pm [Sunday Book club](#)

Thu Jun 7, 2007

7:30pm [Board Meeting \[More\]](#)

7:30pm [ESUUC Bookclub](#)

Sat Jun 9, 2007

6:30pm [Annual meeting](#)

Sun Jun 10, 2007

10:30am [Sunday Service](#)

Sat Jun 16, 2007

8am [*Non-ESUUC Event](#)

Sun Jun 17, 2007

10:30am [Sunday Service](#)

11pm [Newsletter Deadline](#)

Sun Jun 24, 2007

10:30am [Sunday Service](#)

Sun Jul 1, 2007

9:30am [Choir Rehearsal for today's Service](#)

10:30am [Sunday Service](#)

7pm [Book Club](#)

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly	Membership – Marylyn Devlin
Building and Facilities – Jim Osborne	Music – Alan Halperin
Caring & Concerns – Maria Luczkow (caring@esuuc.org)	Pastoral Care – Maria Luczkow
Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau	Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
Community – Kate Codd-Palmer	Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett
Drumming – Jen Trout-Osborne (drumming@esuuc.org)	Social Enrichment – open
Finance – Chris Priano	Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery	Kukura-Straw
	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Newsletter Deadlines

July 2007 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, June 17**

PRIVACY: Our newsletter is posted on the ESUUC website. If you don't want your phone number to be published, please don't include it in any newsletter submissions. Instead, use the church phone number. If you would like an email alias (format is "<your choice>@esuuc.org"), please contact president@esuuc.org .

Please email your articles to newsletter@esuuc.org or call the church and leave a message with your news, stories, and other information.

Get the Weekly Email News

If you would like to receive a weekly email that includes items not in the newsletter and reminders of upcoming events for the week, please send an email from the address you would like subscribed to esuuc_news@esuuc.org. You can also send a message to that address if you would like it included in the weekly email announcement to the congregation. If the message can't wait for the weekly announcement, please contact Kathy at secretary@esuuc.org . No attachments please.