

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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July 2006

Editor: Marianne Jew
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, July 2, 10:30 am – “*Animal Blessing*” - **Dr. Waun** presents this popular summer worship event where you may bring your favorite animal(s) to church for an intergenerational time of honoring and blessing the creatures with which we share our planet.

Sunday, July 9, 10:30 am – “*Schinchy Suzuki and the Suzuki Method*” - In his book *Nurtured By Love*, Schinchy Suzuki wrote, "...once born we must live with ourselves until the day we die. There arises, then the inevitable question of how to live. If our ability was not nurtured properly, we have to develop it for ourselves. Instead of being defeated by misfortune, we have to make something good of our lives. There is no reason to give up in discouragement; it is possible for every person to improve himself."

Dr. Suzuki is a violinist who founded the educational method called "Talent Education," which puts environment as the foremost condition in a person's success in any particular subject. **Brian Ogle** will present a program about this important figure in the field of music education and hear young players performing music taught under the principles of this educational method.

Sunday, July 16, 10:30 am – “Where We Stand” - One of our traditions is to have a service every few years that lets everyone in the congregation take a stand, literally. We form a line in the church with opposite views at the ends of the line and moderate or neutral views spread in between. If you have an issue you would like to see polled, notify **George Ratliff**.

Sunday, July 23, 10:30 am – “(to be announced)” – program description not available at press time – please see website for updates.

Sunday, July 30, 10:30 am – “*Family Improv (Improvisation, that is)*” - In a time-honored tradition, we will be doing paper bag skits. Our theme this year is the Seven Principles. **Mary Kukura-Straw** will be bringing props. Addition props are always welcome. This program is for the entire family.

Sunday, August 6, 10:30 am – “*Drumming for Everyone*” - Come for an all-drumming service that is family friendly! Bring your own drum or percussion instrument. It's sure to be fun and exhilarating. No prior training necessary. Facilitated by **Jen Trout-Osborne**.



Pastor's Column:

by Rev. Renee Waun

Life-Changing Summer Adventure

“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness...Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” -Mark Twain

Traveling changes your life. The group that is traveling to Transylvania (in Romania) and Hungary this summer is gearing up for a wonderful, life changing adventure. It will change us as travelers and them as our hosts and we will come back with an expanded worldview as well as an expanded sense of the Unitarian connection across the world.

Wherever you go this summer—even if it is to the municipal playground and park, may you feel the expansion and newness of adventure! Remember to collect a vessel of water from your summer experience to share with us at the annual Water Communion service on Sept. 10.



mUUsings from the President:

by Matt Mathis

Looking Forward

I am honored to be able to serve ESUUC as President of the Board. It is really special to be part of such a wonderful group of energetic and inspired people. I hope I can help to focus us on a relevant and effective agenda to improve ourselves, our own community, and the world at large.

Summer is traditionally a quiet time at our church. This year might be just a little bit different: we have a 40th anniversary to plan and an upcoming election which is likely to turn out to be a referendum on the unethical misapplication of moral principles. We cannot be complacent about letting narrow-minded people trample the incredible diversity that makes our community so rich.

The board will start this summer by reflecting on our strengths and weaknesses and inventorying opportunities for us to spend our most precious resource, our own time and energy. It is my sense that ESUUC is poised to make big advances in the next few years. We have a good solid foundation, an active and engaged membership and an abundance of opportunities for growth and improvement in ourselves, our communities, and our world.

Yes, we live in interesting times!

Please feel free to contact me about anything church related.

Matt Mathis

412.654.7529 mathis@psc.edu

Welcome New Officers

At the June 10 Annual Meeting, elections were held and the following persons were affirmed in new roles. Let us congratulate them and support them with our good wishes, energies and ideas.

President: **Matt Mathis**

Vice President: **Leona Dunnett**

Secretary: **Kathy Ruffing**

Program Co-Chairs: **Jean Robl and Mary Kukura-Straw**

Banner to Make Long Trip

Shown here in this photo are the two matching banners made by the children, under the supervision of RE Director Kate Begg. One banner will stay at ESUUC, the other will be making a long trip across the Atlantic Ocean and into Transylvania, where a group of our members will be making a Heritage Trip this summer.

Our congregation, along with the Sunnyhill UUC in the South Hills of Pittsburgh, shares a partnership covenant with the Unitarian Church in Kopec, Romania. The group will be visiting our partner church and taking gifts to them as we stay in Romanian homes and get to know the Unitarian people there. Those in our congregation who will have taken this pilgrimage will lead a Sunday program about the trip in November.



Dr. Waun's Uganda Project Now Has a Website

Please visit <http://www.africanruralschools.org> to see the progress of the African Rural Schools Foundation, which is the project Rev. Waun is helping to start in Uganda. There are several ways to offer support for this worthy project. It is amazing to see what little effort it takes to make such an enormous difference in the lives of children in Africa!

Celebration of Our 40th Anniversary

The fall of 2006 marks 40 years since the founding of the East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church. That's US! We plan to kick off a fall of celebration at the September 10th Sunday Service along with our Water Communion and the beginning of our program year. We need you to start collecting your ESUUC stories, pictures and memorabilia. We have a display in the sanctuary during November.

We are also going to have as segment of Sunday services for sharing with each other, This I Believe. Watch for guidelines for a 350- to 500-word statement that summarizes your belief and for a summer session of guidance on how to write it.

The big party will be Saturday, December 2nd with games and food and fun. The official commemoration will be Sunday, December 3rd. Put it on your calendar and tell past members they are invited too.

Take a look at the ways in which we need help. If everyone takes a small part, the whole thing will be a piece of anniversary cake! Volunteering, questions & comments to Nancy at 412-732-2994 or nmeyerfitz@verizon.net.

Care Notes – New Members

Please offer your friendship and welcome to the following new members:

Frank Nemeth
Wendy Noe
Pat Cassidy
Melissa Alcorn-Ferry

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

“Thank You” Note

To ESUUC members and friends,

I want to thank all of you for your kindness and thoughtfulness. This past weekend, after attending the North Hills UU Church for about 9 months on and off, I decided to sign the book with their congregation. Although my "ship" has not come in yet, I am grateful for all the support that the National UUs, in all the areas in which I have lived or sought to live, have shown to me. The spirit of the ESUUC has, and will always continue to be, a source of inspiration for me. I do hope that we see each other again while I am in this area, and say thank you...thank you...thank you!

Sincerely,
Steven Davis

Join the Choir

The choir welcomes new singers and will now meet at 12:00 to 12:45 every Sunday after church except the first Sunday of each month when we meet at 9:30 am. We will be exploring UU choral music and will eventually be singing at most of the services. Please share your singing talents with the UU community and help make this group blossom.

Garlic Potluck!

Come and join us in a celebration of the powers of the stinking rose, and Matt's new position as president of ESUUC. We are having our 4th annual Garlic party, **Saturday, July 1**. Please bring a dish featuring garlic or for the faint of heart, you can substitute chocolate, kid friendly food. Everyone is welcome to bring drums and other musical instruments for jamming. The party will start at **6:00 pm** at 408 Alpine Village Dr (Monroeville). Please contact Matt (412.654.7529) or Susan (724.325.8048) for directions.

UUUFA Cluster Picnic

The date and place for our second annual UUUFA (UUs United in Faith and Action) Cluster Picnic has been confirmed.

Saturday, August 12 from 1-5 pm

North Hills UU

Bring side dish or dessert

All UUs welcome

We will be making a peace dove

Book Club

The August book club meeting will be **Thursday, Aug 31** at **7:30 pm** at Mary Warwick's house. We'll send out directions closer to the date. The book is David McCullough's "Johnstown Flood".

At the August meeting we will draw names for each month of the person who will pick the books for the upcoming year. If you can't make the August meeting and still want your name in the hat let us know and we'll make sure everyone gets included. For more information, contact Cathy at treasurer@esuuc.org

Family Drumming and Drumming Circle

Both Family Drumming Circle (very kid-friendly) and Drumming Circle (think "groove and meditate") are on their traditional summer break for June, July and August. Regularly scheduled monthly drumming events at the church will return in September.

However, that doesn't mean there are no opportunities to drum! Several gatherings of ESUUC drummers will be materializing throughout the summer at different locations to allow us to drum in various natural settings (weather permitting). If you are interested in hosting a gathering, please tell a drummer so we can pull that together. A Sunday morning program on drumming is tentatively scheduled for August at ESUUC. In addition, many drumming events are being held in the region. A couple of sites to watch are:

www.TheGreenBough.com, www.jimdonovanmusic.com and www.4qf.org

Please check the weekly email updates for up-to-the-minute drum info, or email drumming@esuuc.org, or call Jen at 412-608-2725.

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 so you can get a rough idea when your name may come up.

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 at the end of the September 2005 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, so the children are not interrupted during class time. 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.

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 and/or share 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

JULY and AUGUST: no refreshment schedule, simply “bring your own” & visit. See note above.

Registration For RE 2006-07

We have only received a couple of registration forms for the fall. Please turn yours in as soon as possible. We need to finish planning and getting next year’s schedule set.

A copy of the 2006 to 2007 RE Registration Form is located at the end of this newsletter. If you would like to register your child(ren) and/or have any questions, please contact Kate Begg at redirector@esuuc.org

RE Class Schedule

NO NURSERY DURING THE SUMMER; Please register now for the Fall

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Youth Group

Youth Group meetings (all are **Sunday evenings**, from **6-8pm**): **July 9, 23**
Dates and times are subject to change, so please check for updates: contact Leona Dunnett, Youth Advisor (secretary@esuuc.org).

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 Leona Dunnett, put it in the Secretary’s mailbox, or e-mail the info to Leona at secretary@esuuc.org.

Congregational Committees

Committee – Chair (email)

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

Sat. July 1	Garlic Potluck Party – 6 pm at the Mathis-Goodis home (see info above)
Sun. July 2	Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 am at the church
Sun. July 9	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sun. July 9	Youth Group – 6-8 pm at the church
Sun. July 16	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sun. July 23	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sun. July 23	Youth Group – 6-8 pm at the church
Sun. July 30	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sat. Aug 12	UUUFA Cluster Picnic – 1-5 pm at North Hills UU
Thu. Aug 31	Book Club “Johnstown Flood” – 7:30 pm at Mary Warwick’s house
Sat. Dec 2	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Party
Sun. Dec 3	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Commemorative Program

Newsletter Deadlines

August 2006 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, July 16**

Please email your articles to newsletter@esuuc.org or call Marianne at (724) 325-1548 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 Cathy at treasurer@esuuc.org. No attachments please.

Registration Form ESUUC RE Program 2006 to 2007 Year

Childs

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Grade on Sept. 1, 2006: _____

Please note any allergies or other special conditions: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Are you interested in teaching/participating in the RE program? Yes No

My preference would be to teach the following section: (Please circle all that apply)

Nursery :	Elementary:	Upper:	Coming of Age:
Through 3yrs	4 yrs – 3rd grade	4th – 7th grade	8th and 9th grade

Class assignments are based on age on Sept. 1, 2006.

Do you or your children have any concerns we should be aware of?

Any other comments?

Would you be interested in having you child attend OWL? (No OWL sessions are scheduled for this year – but we are planning for the future.)

(Class parameters are subject to change depending on number and ages of children registering for the program)