

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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ESUUC Sunday Services

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**.

Sunday, August 13, 10:30 am – “*The Seven Principles in Kids' Songs*” – Join us in song! **Rev. Renee Waun** will share kids' songs that illustrate the Seven Principles.

Sunday, August 20, 10:30 am – “*Meditation*”- Join us for an intergenerational service using various forms of meditation. Led by **Jennifer Halperin**, ESUUC member and Director of Children and Youth Ministries at First Unitarian Church, Pittsburgh.

If you are interested in learning how to build a labyrinth from sticks, you are welcome to help us set up at 7:30 pm the evening before.

Sunday, August 27, 10:30 am – “*Scavenger Hunt*” - Join us for the nearly annual summertime scavenger hunt. **Maureen McHugh** will once again be sending us out on a fun hunt that will also make us think.

Sunday, September 3, 10:30 am – “*Annual Potluck Picnic*” - We will be meeting at **Bear Hollow Park** at our regular time for a service, then grilling, eating, and enjoying. Paper plates and such, as well as soap for handwashing at the little fountain will be provided. Electricity will be available as will some charcoal for grilling. Please bring beverages as well as your food goodies.

Bear Hollow Park is in Heather Highlands. To get there go from Sardis Road onto Heather Drive: 0.9 mile north of Old 22 and Sardis intersection. Turn right at the end of Heather Drive onto Forbes Trail Drive. Take the first left onto Truthaven Drive. Bear Hollow is on the right just before the end of that road. There are little brown park signs at each turn.



Pastor's Column:

by Rev. Renee Waun

We Are In Transylvania!

As you read this newsletter, a group from our church is having a Transylvanian pilgrimage, seeking the historical roots of Unitarianism and visiting our partner church in Kopec, Romania, with pastor Rev. Alpar Kiss. There are nine travelers from four UU churches. Those from ESUUC are Marylyn Devlin, Nancy Fitzgerald, Jean and Bob Robl, David Whaley and Renee Waun. Others are from Allegheny UU, Sunnyhill and Wheeling.

On Sunday, August 6 the group will be worshipping with our partner church in Kopec and presenting the banner that our children made for them. Rev. Waun will be preaching alongside a Hungarian translator. After the last division of countries, part of Hungary got included in Romania. Hungarian speaking Romanians are in the minority, and among those, Unitarians are in the minority.

We will have lots of stories to tell when we return in mid-August. A service for sharing our experience is planned for Nov. 5. Please light a candle for us on August 6!



mUUsings from the President:

by Matt Mathis

General Assembly

The General Assembly was awesome. There is nothing quite like sharing community with 4000 UUs. All were energetic, passionate people with extra deep commitments to our liberal religious principles. If you are thinking about any sort of leadership role in Unitarian Universalism, I encourage you try to find a way to attend GA. I am so glad that I was able to attend.

The overall lesson I took from GA was how much difference we can make in the world, even as a relatively small congregation. There were many examples of successful congregational projects to foster peace, justice and environmentalism. Clearly is it time for us to be thinking about some new activities, such as working towards a "green" congregation status.

I brought home a dozen pages of notes on things we might do to improve our community and quite possibly the world at large. In total this is far more work than we can reasonably take on at this time. Many of the items are very small steps towards improving ourselves and how our house of worship fits into our greater community.

One of the really neat recurrent themes of the GA was the idea of being in "right relationships". Right relationships between the people and the land, between parents and children, governments and the people, church and the community. In the same vein as "What would Jesus do", this idea served as a completely general way to frame questions to help recognize the best course of action.

Next month I will describe some of my lessons from UU University, a workshop for current and incoming presidents held the day before the opening of the general assembly.

Please feel free to contact me about anything at all church related:
412.654.7529, mathis@psc.edu, president@esuuc.org.

Pledge Payments

Starting this month, Chris Priano will be taking over part of the duties of the Treasurer's position. He will be responsible for collecting all the money while Cathy Serventi will continue writing reimbursement and other checks and reporting monthly to the Board. Chris will have the most up-to-date information about the status of your pledge although Cathy will still be able to answer questions as well. Please continue to send your checks to the church rather than to either Chris or Cathy's house. We think this change is both fiscally more responsible and will allow us to get information out in a more timely fashion.

If you have questions about your pledge, you can contact Chris at pledges@esuuc.org or Cathy at treasurer@esuuc.org.

New Editor for the eNews

Please welcome Kathy Ruffing as the new editor of the eNews starting in July. As the new Board Secretary, she will also be taking over the calendar and the eNews, so please be sure to send all your announcements and event requests to secretary@esuuc.org.

40th Anniversary Celebration

Symbol for the Church

What is ***your*** concept of the chalice or other symbol for the outside of East Suburban UU Church? We will be collecting ideas or drawings or concepts of what you think would be fabulous (for the 40th anniversary gift!). You don't have to be able to draw it all out, or form it in three dimensions, just put something on paper or email or tell Nancy Fitzgerald, Leona Dunnett, or Jean Robl. What site do you have in mind? Maybe the front window or the steeple or where else? A chalice is an obvious choice, but do you have other visions? The process will be to collect suggestions until mid-August then put together a request for proposals from artists and aim to contract the work by early September. Enjoy!

Special Invitations

Our 40th ESUUC anniversary party will be **December 2, Saturday evening** and **December 3, Sunday service**. Feel free to invite anyone you think would enjoy joining us and pass names to Nancy for official invitations which will come out later. If you wrote something on the poster paper, I already have it.

This I Believe

Pick up the page that explains the guideline for this exercise in articulating what you believe. It will be great fun and listening to "Our Voice for God" to hear what many different people have to say. Let your Self start incubating the ideas.....

Care Notes

Congratulations to Brian Ogle and Jun Deng on the recent birth of their second child Lyra.

Please keep Merritt Bailey and family in your thoughts for the recent loss of her father.

The mother of a former ESUUC member, Jenny Green, died suddenly from a stroke several days ago. For those of you who know Jenny, please keep her and her family in your thoughts.

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

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.

Blackburn Center Needs Volunteers

Rebecca Baker from the Blackburn Center Writes:

Your church community has been so good to us. Whether it's food, contributing household items, or financial support: we count on your congregation to support our mission. And that is why we know you will give consideration to helping us in our search for volunteers.

Blackburn Center depends greatly on volunteers to answer our 24-hour hotline, provide support in the shelter and to advocate for victims.

Basic training for these opportunities will begin in the fall. The 69 hour program, which is free, will be held twice weekly for 3 hours per session.

We are requesting your help with our attempt to recruit caring people who wish to support victims of domestic and sexual violence.

If you are interested in the training please contact Rebecca at (724) 837-9450 or RebeccaB@centeragainstviolence.org.

Travel Opportunity

ESCAPE TO VERMONT
September 22-24, 2006

Twelfth Annual B&B Weekend offered by the UU Church of Rutland, VT. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, canoeing, visiting the studios of local artists, touring historic sites and quaint towns, and much more. Registration by August 1, \$225 (single) and \$425 (double). After August 1, \$275 (single) and \$475 (double). For more information contact uufoliagevermont@yahoo.com or (802) 438-2095.

Lammas / Lughnasadh

The next Wheel of the Year celebration will be held on **Friday, August 4**, around **7:30 pm**. We will be taking a field trip to a new location. The Osborne's have generously offered to host our circle. The address is 3991 Sardis Rd. They are just a little ways down from the church on Sardis Rd. before the Municipal building. Their driveway is hidden but right near the stop sign. Please contact Leona Dunnett at ldunnett@alltel.net or cell : 412-818-7870 or Jenifer Trout -Osborne at jenifer.trout@adelphia.net Please dress according to the weather, bring lawn chairs, drums, and drink or food to share. Jenifer will also enlighten us on some circle dancing, chanting and drumming that she learned from her excursion to the 4 Quarters Sanctuary. Be prepared to have some fun!!

Please contact Leona Dunnett (ldunnett@alltel.net or 724-327-3841) if you have any questions.

Family Drumming and Drumming Circle

There will be drumming on **August 4** at the Wheel of the Year Celebration (see article in this newsletter). Everyone is welcome. All experience levels and ages can participate fully. If you don't have a drum, we have some to share. Or bring a bucket and a wooden spoon to beat it with.

Sunday August 6 is the "Drumming for Everyone" service facilitated by Jen Trout Osborne at 10:30 AM. Everyone means you, too. Any and all noise makers are welcome, including your ever-present body percussion potential. Come and see how fun and funky an impromptu rhythm ensemble can be!

August 19 and 20: Great Native American Drumming in Saltsburg! See article in this newsletter.

August 20, 7 pm. ESUUC Drumming Circle will host an open circle at the Edgewood Community Days celebration. Anyone who would like to participate can contact Drumming@ESUUC.ORG, or call Jen at 412-608-2725.

Regular monthly circles at ESUUC will resume in September. In the meantime, you can watch for an August circle to be posted at www.TheGreenBough.com. You can also go to www.Meetup.com and find the drumming circle group for Pittsburgh. Or go to www.JimDonovanMusic.com to see what your local drumming master is up to. Happy grooving!

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

Native American Festival & I Pow Wow

8th Annual Thunder Mountain Native American Festival & Pow Wow

August 19 & 20, 2006

Saltsburg PA

Vendors and Food Booths

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days

Grand Entry at Noon

Rain or Shine

Events & Activities

Shop for Unique Gifts & Collectibles: Native Arts & Crafts

Hear, See, Experience: Drumming, Dancing & Singing

Treat Your Taste buds: Native Foods

Have Fun: Children's Activities & Dances, Public Participation Dances, Storytelling.

Learn - Native American Heritage: Hands-on Living History Area Wigwams, Tipi, Reproduction Artifacts, Garden

Donation \$3 at the Gate, Children Under 12 Free

Proceeds Benefit Thunder Mountain Lenapé Nation Programming and Land Purchase

<http://www.thundermtlenape.org/Services.htm>

Book Club

The August book club meeting will be **Thursday, Aug 31 at 7:30 pm.** We decided to move the meetings back to the Penn Center Panera rather than Mary's house. 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 bookclub@esuuc.org

Also, in order to keep alive the tradition of keeping two months ahead in books we went ahead and chose a book for September (we don't have a date yet). Also, lots of people had expressed some desire to read some poetry, so we chose a book written in verse: "John Brown's Body" by Stephen Vincent Benet

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.

August 2006 Refreshments

We are going to pilot something different for refreshments at church during the month of August. There will be a sign up sheet with the Sundays in August posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen, if you would like to bring refreshments for one of those Sundays please sign up. You will then be taken off the next round of assignments. Providing a snack for a summer Sunday is for a smaller group and you have the ability to chose when you would like to do it, rather than to be assigned. If this idea works for you.....head to the kitchen and grab a Sunday before they are all taken.

Refreshments Roster

AUGUST: 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

NOTE: new time

Youth Group meetings (all are **Sunday evenings**, from **7-8 pm**): **August 6, 20**

Dates and times are subject to change, so please check for updates: contact Leona Dunnett, Youth Advisor (ldunnett@alltel.net).

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	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 – open	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 Kukura-Straw
Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery	Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

Calendar

Fri. Aug 4	Wheel of the Year: Lammas/Lughnasadh – 7:30 pm at the Osborne's house
Sun. Aug 6	Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 am at the church
Sun. Aug 6	Youth Group – 7-9 pm at the church
Sat. Aug 12	UUUFA Cluster Picnic – 1-5 pm at North Hills UU
Sun. Aug 13	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sat/Sun Aug 19/20	Native American Festival (see article in newsletter)
Sun. Aug 20	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Sun. Aug 20	Youth Group – 7-9 pm at the church
Sun. Aug 20	Drumming at Edgewood Community Days (see article in newsletter)
Sun. Aug 27	Choir Rehearsal – 12 noon at the church
Thu. Aug 31	Book Club “Johnstown Flood” – 7:30 pm at Panera in Penn Center
Sat. Dec 2	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Party
Sun. Dec 3	ESUUC 40 th Anniversary Commemorative Program

Newsletter Deadlines

September 2006 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, August 20**

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)