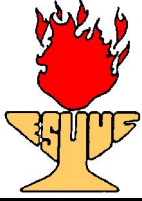


# East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



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

Telephone  
(724) 327-5872

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

Volume 45 No. 6

January 2008

Editor: Mary Warwick  
[newsletter@esuuc.org](mailto:newsletter@esuuc.org)

## ESUUC Sunday Services

**Sunday, January 7, 10:30 am** – “*Sex and Spirituality*”-- We don’t usually address this subject in church, but perhaps it is time to explore how sexuality and spirituality are related, especially in our culture at a time in history when sex is such a central and formative focus. **Dr. Waun** will venture carefully into this minefield of a topic.

**Sunday, January 13, 10:30 am** – “*Less Safe, Less Free*”- Presented by Jules Lobel, Professor of Law, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, a constitutional lawyer and expert on emergency powers and the laws governing war. Jules will discuss his new book about the effect of 9/11 on the Rule of Law. In his view the Rule of Law should be an asset not an obstacle, in the struggle to keep us both safe and free.

**Sunday, January 20, 10:30 am** – “*Imbolc*”- In the second of Mary Kukura-Straw's two-part series "Better Know a Pagan Holiday", we will learn about the Celtic holiday of Imbolc, which falls on the first of February.

**Sunday, January 27, 10:30 am** – “*Annual Pancake Breakfast*”-Organized by Alan Halperin, the men of the church band together to cook breakfast. Offers of extra griddles, syrups, etc. are welcome.



## Pastor's Column: *Finding the Right Words*

by Rev. Renee Waun

This feels to me very much like a month of new beginnings as I prepare to travel to Uganda once again—this time with two other volunteers, to help lay bricks, train teachers, film a documentary, dedicate our newly purchased 5-acres of land and present gifts of computer equipment to kids and school staff over there.

Some of you have given financial support to this trip which I deeply appreciate. The African Rural Schools Foundation (ARSF) is a venture which I helped to start in 2005, in working with my teacher friend Hanan Bulime, whose vision of education for all African children is manifesting in positively beautiful ways.

The children are currently on summer vacation (southern hemisphere seasons are reversed) but last year’s school enrollment was around 300, with a staff of 10. Before I leave Uganda for Pittsburgh on February 13, I hope to be able to speak to some of the returning students, and express to them our continuing support, love and partnership.

A high school senior and active UU named Will Delphia is one of the volunteers going with me to Uganda. He will be presenting the Sunday program on February 24, when he will tell us all about his great Ugandan adventure!

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## *Religious Education*

### Nursery

- Jan 6 Merritt Bailey
- 27 No provider needed – Pancake Breakfast!

### Elementary

- Jan 6 Children's Chapel
- 13 In Harmony – Instructor to be named
- 20 Web of Nature – Natalie DeFee Mendik
- 27 NO RE – Pancake Breakfast!

### Middle

- Jan 6 Children's Chapel
- 13 Respect and Care for Our Planet Earth – Tabitha Riggio
- 20 Family Religious History – Instructor to be named
- 27 NO RE – Pancake Breakfast

### COA

- Jan 6 Children's Chapel
- 13 Birth Legends – Mary Kukura-Straw
- 20 Hymn No. 169 – We Shall Overcome – Marianne Jew
- 27 NO RE – Pancake Breakfast

## *All Church Annual Retreat - Sunday, January 12*

Every January we gather as a congregation to have fun, food and fellowship on a Saturday designated as our annual All-Church Retreat. It is a day when we can spend more time getting to know one another and looking ahead to a vision for the coming months.

This year's theme is "Weaving the Web: Exploring Our Interconnectedness". So we are calling on all members, regular visitors and friends, fun-lovers, 7<sup>th</sup> Principle lovers, spiders and spinners of dreams to join us from 9-3pm on Saturday, January 12; a special day set aside as our investment of time and synergy for the church we love.

The interconnectedness we will explore will be with each other as fellow UUs, with our community as an outpost of progressive religion, and with the earth as we move forward with the Green Sanctuary program.

Child care will be available if you let us know in advance. Please contact Leona Dunnett if you will be needing child care: 724-327-3841.

## *News from the Treasurer*

by Chris Priano

On November 25, 2007, the Finance Committee completed its annual internal review, and found no discrepancies pertaining to ESUUC's overall finances. Bank account balances are accurate and core record-keeping functions are in good order, including the proper tracking of profit and inventory associated with the Great Lakes Scrip (gift cards) fundraising initiative. The profit from scrip sales benefits ESUUC's Coming of Age program.

At the start of the previous fiscal year (July 2006), when Cathy Serventi was treasurer, I began to process bank deposits, while Cathy took care of disbursements and the majority of ESUUC's financial record-keeping. Such a "separation of duties" helps to further safeguard church funds. Due to the present shortage of "people power," I'm now handling all receipts and disbursements. If you'd be willing to assist with the income side of the equation (the "fun" part, in my estimation), please contact me at [treasurer@esuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@esuuc.org). Prospective candidates must have 1) an e-mail account, 2) a computer (ideally, with a scanner) and 3) be willing/able to process Sunday and other collections in a timely manner. Regular attendance at Sunday services is necessary, as bank deposits must be made quickly in order to prevent cash flow problems. If you

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can't be available on a given Sunday, another board member or I will gladly fill in for you, provided we're notified in advance.

Did you know...ESUUC now has an online brokerage account through Scottrade? If you'd like to make a donation of stock to the church, our Scottrade account makes processing such transactions quick and easy. For more information, feel free to call or e-mail me.

Finally: By the end of December, many of our pledging members and friends had already paid at least 50% towards their current fiscal year pledge. THANK YOU!!

## *Kopec Greetings, Part I*

Our partner congregation in Kopec, Transylvania (Romania) has received a financial gift from us and our sister church Sunnyhill. Each Christmas the pastor there, the Rev. Alpar Kiss gives baskets of food and simple gifts to each of the Kopec members, which helps to make their season brighter. There will undoubtedly be photos of the Transylvanian holiday service and celebration posted on our bulletin board, so please have a look.

## *Message from Kopec, Part II*

Dear Partner Churches,

Yesterday I cashed your check without any problem and this way I would like to thank you ALL your great generosity. Many people will benefit from this money as we are going to make Christmas packages for all people for the Home, for the personage and Unitarians in Kopec. After the Holiday I will send you pictures, a thanks card and the receipt of the money. I will be quite busy in the following days, so that is why I send you our best wishes today.

MAY THE CHRISTMAS SEASON BRING YOU JOYFUL MOMENTS,  
WARM MEMORIES AND VERY SPECIAL HAPPINESS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of the Unitarians in Kopec and people of the Home: Rev. Alpar Kiss

## *Sunday Refreshments*

To ensure fairness, we assign each adult member or couple a date on which to bring refreshments. These don't have to be homemade or fancy; store-bought treats work well, too. If you haven't brought refreshments before, or are unfamiliar with how things are set up, you may want to come in the weekend before your turn to see how it's done. There are also instructions in the kitchen on how to use the coffeemaker and hot water pot. If you are still confused, or need assistance, contact Brenda Shiring at brennyren@yahoo.com.

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

|         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| Jan. 6  | Chris Priano      |
| Jan. 13 | George Ratliff    |
| Jan. 20 | Tabitha Riggio    |
| Jan. 27 | Pancake Breakfast |

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| Feb. 3  | David Schwartz |
| Feb. 10 | John Shea      |
| Feb. 17 | Brenda Shiring |
| Feb. 24 | April Soule    |

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# A MARTIN LUTHER KING EVENT

## LET FREEDOM SING!

Live the Dream: an Urban-Suburban Celebration of Community Jan. 21

Seven urban and suburban choral ensembles will join forces at **7pm on Monday, January 21**, to present a **concert at Franklin Regional High School** in celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Proceeds from the concerts will benefit the "Build the Dream" project to construct the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

The participating groups are:

- The Afro-American Music Institute Boys' Choir –Pittsburgh
- The St. James AME Church Choir – Pittsburgh
- The Franklin Regional High School Choirs – Murrysville
- The Sixth Mt. Zion Baptist Church Choir – Pittsburgh
- Dr. Sheila L. Johnson & 'Young People For Christ' – Penn Hills
- Rev. Deryck Tines & The OneVoice Choir – Pittsburgh
- The Western Pennsylvania Region Chapter Choir of the Gospel Music Workshop of America

Nationally recognized performing artist **Vanessa German** will narrate the event. The concert conductor will be **Rev. Dr. Herbert Jones**, national officer of the Gospel Music Workshop of America. Collaborating with Dr. Jones in **organizing the Festival is a fellow UU Kris Rust, Director of Choirs at Franklin Regional High School.**

## Congregational Committees

### Committee – Chair (email)

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly   | Membership – Marylyn Devlin           |
| Building and Facilities – open   | Music – Alan Halperin                 |
| Caring & Concerns – open   | Pastoral Care – Maria Luczkow         |
| Committee on Ministry – open   | Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli |
| Community –  | Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnett     |
| Drumming – Frank Nemeth ( <a href="mailto:drumming@esuuc.org">drumming@esuuc.org</a> ) | Social Enrichment – Brenda Shiring    |
| Finance – Chris Priano   | Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary   |
| Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery  | Kukura-Straw                          |
|  | Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis  |

## Newsletter Deadlines

January 2008 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008.** Please email your articles to [newsletter@esuuc.org](mailto:newsletter@esuuc.org) or call Mary Warwick (724) 327-3092 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](mailto: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.

## Calendar

Wednesday, January 2

1:00pm

Wednesday Book Club - "Middlesex"

Thursday, January 3

7:00pm

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"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

Sunday, January 6

9:30am

Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am

Sunday Service

12:00pm

Program Committee

5:00pm

OWL 7-9 (tentative)

8:00pm

\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Wednesday, January 9

7:30pm

Board Meeting

Thursday, January 10

7:00pm

"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

Saturday, January 12

9:00am

Annual Retreat

Sunday, January 13

10:30am

Jules Lobel "Less Safe, Less Free"

5:30 pm Youth Group

8:00pm

\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Thursday, January 17

7:00pm

"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

Saturday, January 19

9:00am

Non-ESUUC Event (Mixed Media Art)

9:00am

OWL gr7-9 (tentative)

7:00pm

Light Book Club - "Three Cups of Tea"

Sunday, January 20

10:30am

Learn About Imbolc

2:00pm

Non ESUUC Event

7:30pm

Drumming Circle

8:00pm

\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

11:00pm

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, January 24

7:00pm

"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

Sunday, January 27

10:30am

Pancake Breakfast

5:00pm

OWL 7-9 (tentative)

5:30pm

Youth Group

8:00pm

\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program

Thursday, January 31

7:00pm

"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

Saturday, February 2

9:00am

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OWL gr7-9 (tentative)  
Sunday, February 3  
9:30am  
Choir Rehearsal for today's Service  
10:30am  
Sunday Service  
12:00pm  
Program Committee  
8:00pm  
\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program  
Wednesday, February 6  
1:00pm  
Wednesday Book Club  
Thursday, February 7  
7:00pm  
"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)  
Friday, February 8  
7:30pm  
OMD YAC meeting  
Saturday, February 9  
» 12:00pm  
OMD YAC meeting  
9:00am  
OWL gr7-9 (tentative)  
Sunday, February 10  
10:30am  
Sunday Service  
5:30pm  
Youth Group  
8:00pm  
\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program  
Wednesday, February 13  
7:30pm  
Board Meeting  
Thursday, February 14  
7:00pm  
"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)  
Saturday, February 16  
9:00am  
Non-ESUUC Event (Mixed Media Art)  
Sunday, February 17  
10:30am  
Sunday Service  
5:00pm  
OWL 7-9 (tentative)  
7:30pm  
Drumming Circle  
8:00pm  
\* Spirit Progress Radio is an online streamed audio radio program  
11:00pm  
Newsletter Deadline  
Thursday, February 21  
7:00pm  
"A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)  
Saturday, February 23  
9:00am  
OWL gr7-9 (tentative)  
Sunday, February 24  
10:30am  
Sunday Service (Will Delphia)  
5:30pm  
Youth Group  
Thursday, February 28  
7:00pm "A Course in Miracles" reading group (contact Nancy Fitzgerald)

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