

# East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church



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

Telephone  
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## *ESUUC Sunday Services*

**Sunday, March 7, 10:30am-** *“No Sweet Little Ritual”*- Every UU service begins with the lighting of the chalice; a powerful symbol of our liberal religion. The story behind this ritual is very interesting and spans centuries of meaning. Dr. Waun will take us through the events that led up to the official adoption of the chalice as our UU symbol in the 70’s. We will also welcome new members on this day.

**Sunday, March 14, 10:30am -** *“Chanting Connections”*- Our friend David Goldstein is the leader of the Tikkun Chant Circle of Pittsburgh which meets frequently at various area synagogues. David is a graduate of the Kol Zimra program, a 2-year course in Hebrew chant leadership, and is also a composer of sacred music for instruments and voices. He will present and lead us in a variety of chants.

**Sunday, March 21, 10:30 am –** *“Spring Celebration”*- Come celebrate and learn about the Spring Equinox with Leona Dunnett and Mary Kukura-Straw. Bring your singing voice, as we will be doing a couple of chants.

**Sunday, March 28, 10:30 am –** *“Women in History”*- To honor Women’s History month, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other significant women of the 19<sup>th</sup> century will be discussed.

**Sunday, April 4, 10:30am -** *“We’re Baaack!”*- On this Easter Day, Dr. Waun will reflect on a secular resurrection theme that sees how some of the important movements and activists of the 60’s are rising again in a newer, more urgent way. People in a certain age category will recognize themselves in how this trend is playing out in our church and society. We will also have an outdoor Easter egg hunt this morning, weather permitting.



## *Pastor's Column: Opportunism*

*by Rev. Renee Waun*

I have noticed about myself that I am an opportunist. It's the way I drive, the way I shop and the way I approach life. Most of the time it's a good thing. Once in awhile I find myself with a "What was I thinking" moment. But I have to say I'm downright inspired by the opportunistic behavior of the London Plane tree in my front yard. I think it must be part of a plot to take over the world.

When there was at least two feet of snow covering my entire front yard recently, I thought that every sign of plant life was obliterated from the face of my world (well, at least in my neighborhood). But then I was able to see, against that pure white mantel, bazillions of brown seeds all scattered evenly as if some giant pepper grinder had sifted them from above. Wow. What genius. What perfect timing. The tree is programmed to drop its seeds on the top crust of snow until it begins to melt, thus lowering them neatly into the moist ground, until the warm sunny days of spring can bring them to life. That's opportunism at its best!

Although I'm not blessed with the same kind of genius as the tree in the created order of things, I can be motivated to seek out more opportunities for creative living in my own sphere of things. How about you? How about our congregation? Can we be opportunists as we find new causes, new projects, and new programs to adopt? It sure is fun to try!

### *News from the Treasurer*

**By Marianne Jew, Treasurer**

Fund balances (total liabilities and net assets) as of 1/31/10:

ARSF:	\$ 12,236.54
Chalice Lighters:	\$ 1,330.00
Coming of Age:	\$ 1,763.41
General Fund:	\$ 164,578.47 (including \$160K building and land)
Green Sanctuary:	\$ 8.30
Labyrinth:	\$ 60.66
TOTAL:	\$ 179,977.38

Consider using Goodsearch for any online web searching. We get paid for every web search when you select "East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church" as your charity. To install the Goodsearch toolbar, go to <http://www.goodsearch.com/> and follow the easy instructions.

## *New Treasurer Needed*

We're still looking for an Assistant Treasurer after Chris Priano steps down the end of June. This is an important position that must be filled. Those of you who like working with numbers would enjoy being Assistant Treasurer.

Please e-mail Marianne Jew ([treasurer@esuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@esuuc.org)) or Chris Priano ([cpriano@alumni.duq.edu](mailto:cpriano@alumni.duq.edu)) if you have any questions.

## *Green Sanctuary Update*

The RE children are working hard at recycling your donated "stuff" into new, useful items on service project Sundays, but we're still in need of a few donations to complete our production. If you have any old/scratched CD's, DVD's, bras or silk ties we can make them new again. Please bring any donations to church prior to March 20th and place in the ECO box in the hall. Many thanks for all the contributions we have received already.

Green tip of the month: Spring cleaning is here, take the time to clean out all your old hazardous cleaning supplies and replace with more environmentally friendly products. We like Mrs. Meyers, Method and Seventh Generation brands to clean, but more old fashioned supplies like baking soda (a great cleanser) and vinegar coupled with some elbow grease work really well too! - And don't dump the old chemicals down the sink! Set aside for your community's hazardous waste collection day or leave out in the sun to evaporate!

The Green Queen

## *Ostara Celebration*

Our next Wheel of the Year celebration is for Ostara. This celebration marks the point in spring when the hours of light and dark are equal, thus it is a good time to balance the things we do in our lives. This is the time when the Earth really begins to wake up and nature is young and fresh. New life, green shoots and spring flowers are celebrated as the gifts of the Goddess and God. We repay the joy that they bring by working for the Earth's protection, and by sharing our gifts and caring for others.

This year's Ostara festivities will be held at the church, on Friday evening, March 19 at 7 PM. **All are welcome!**

You are invited to bring drums for the ritual and a dish to share as we dye eggs and continue our celebration following the ritual. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Begg, Leona Dunnett, Mary Kukura-straw, Dave Schwartz or Michelle Devlin. We hope to see you there! Blessed be!

## *Green Congregation Sponsored Movie Night*

Two thumbs up to the return of MOVIE NIGHT!!!! Yeah!!!!

On Saturday, March 13, at the church, the Green Congregation Committee is sponsoring an evening of entertainment plus. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Activities begin at 7:00.

We will be watching and discussing the movie "Who Killed the Electric Car?" This documentary delves

into the short life of the GM EV1 electric car -- a fuel-efficient auto that was once all the rage in the mid-1990s and now has fallen by the roadside. How could such a green-friendly vehicle fail to transform lives? Through interviews with government officials, former GM employees and concerned celebs, (like Martin Sheen and Tom Hanks), filmmaker Chris Paine seeks to find out.

We will have the movie “Ferngully: The Last Rainforest” for the kids. This film features a sprite named Crysta who shrinks a human boy, Zak, down to her size. Once transformed, Zak vows to help the magical fairy folk stop a greedy logging company from destroying their home, the pristine rainforest known as Ferngully. Zak and his new friends fight to defend Ferngully from lumberjacks -- and the vengeful spirit they accidentally unleash after chopping down a magic tree. This fun, animated film features the vocal talents of Tim Curry and Robin Williams.

For a small donation of \$5 each, our resident chef extraordinaire, and chair of the Green Congregation Committee, Merritt Bailey, has graciously offered to provide gourmet snacks – **AND YOU KNOW THEY WILL BE GOURMET!!!!**; pop, tea, and coffee will also be provided, along with snacks for the kids. There will be a care provider or two staying with the kids and facilitating their discussion of Ferngully. **Sleeping bags, pillows, Teddy Bears, etc. . . are encouraged!**

## *ESUUC Facebook Page*

Our congregation now has a Facebook Page. For those who are not familiar with how Facebook works, it is a networking website in which you can have your own home page and you can belong to "Groups" that also have pages. The benefit to joining and being part of the ESUUC Facebook community is that we can easily and efficiently exchange information with the whole congregation, and anyone else who has added our page as one of their groups. People outside the church can also join our group, or at least follow our activities. It's great for free publicity, for our own information exchange and for visibility in the greater community. This is not intended to replace our other forms of communication such as the monthly newsletter and weekly e-news, but rather, to enhance them.

Please consider joining our Facebook page. At our annual all-church retreat, this was one of our goals: to get everyone in our congregation connected on Facebook. To do so, simply visit [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com) then on the sign-up page enter your email address, a password that you select, and then set up your user profile. You can add as much or as little information about yourself as you wish, even a photo, if you like, and then be sure to look for the "search" box where you can type East Suburban Unitarian Universalis Church to find and join our group page.

If you have any questions or problems setting up your account, please email Rev. Waun [mwaun2003@yahoo.com](mailto:mwaun2003@yahoo.com). So far, we have about 50 people who are "Friends" of the ESUUC page! How about adding your name to the group? We encourage you to do so as an affirmation of our church and its ministry.

## *Caring and Concerns*

“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, and honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” - Leo Bucaglia

### **Happy Birthday!**

Renee Waun  
Wendy Noe

### **Happy Anniversary!**

Karen & Gerard Katilius

Susan Goodis  
Kate Zingarelli

### **Positive Energy Needed...**

As a community, we share our positive energies to help those who are having difficult times...  
For all those having difficulties due to the severe winter storms  
For the continuing clean-up efforts in Haiti  
To all our members having challenges at this time

### **Congratulations / Kudos**

Congratulations to Jane Longdon who has recently published her first *Lines Around the World* calendar, using photos of clotheslines taken by friends on their various adventures

### **Thanks!**

Thank you to Mary Kukura-Straw for five hours of watching over our building while the Life Line Screening event was here doing community-wide patient testing on February 25.

Thank you to John Graham, to Dave Schwartz and to Mary Kukura-Straw who have been shoveling the snow from our church sidewalks.

Each month, we will post this column for birthdays, anniversaries, honors, illnesses, or memorials. Please contact Susan Goodis at [Caring@ESUUC.org](mailto:Caring@ESUUC.org) or call 412-609-1232 with events you wish to have included in our newsletter. Thank-you.

## *Sunday Refreshments*

One of the most popular Unitarian traditions is the social hour after each service. At ESUUC, each adult member (or couple) takes a turn bringing refreshments. It works out, on average, to about one turn per person/couple per year. We also have Sharing Sundays, on which anyone who desires can bring in a goody or goodies to share.

To ensure fairness, we assign each adult member/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](mailto:brennyren@yahoo.com) or 724-334-1507. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me. The only thing I WON'T do is let you off the hook – we need your participation to keep this fun tradition alive (and everybody fed)!

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

March 7	Alan & Jennifer Halperin
March 14	Marianne Jew *
March 21	Gerard & Karen Katilius
March 28	Bill & Helen Kavalkovich

\* Because of Marianne's winning bid at the Service Auction, her refreshments will be provided by Brenda Shiring.

## *Book Club*

This month, the book club will discuss "Climbing the Mango Trees- A Memoir of a Childhood in India" on Friday, March 12th at 12:30 p.m. at Zaika's Indian Restaurant.

## *Ohio Meadville District News*

Our annual OMD Assembly will take place this year on Friday evening, March 26 through Saturday afternoon, March 27 at the Ohio University Eastern Campus, in St. Clairsville, Ohio. ESUUC is allowed two delegates from our congregation for this time of meeting, networking, decision-making and election of district officers. Dr. Waun will be there on Saturday.

### *Growing Branches, Strong Roots: Transformational Living*

District Assembly 2010 on March 26-27 will focus on social justice issues. We will have a special Interfaith Youth Leadership Training for youth and youth allies; theme speaker Rev. Meg Riley will talk about Standing on the Side of Love; the Friday night panel discussion will focus on anti-racism efforts; and workshops on anti-racism, peacemaking, the green sanctuary program and helping others during the current economic crisis will be offered. Additional workshops focusing on leadership development, multigenerational programming, covenant groups, pastoral care and healthy congregations will be offered. Early Bird Registration Ends February 26; Advanced Registration Ends March 13. For details visit <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/annmtg/index.html>

### *Transforming Whiteness*

Ohio Meadville District and West Shore UU Church are pleased to sponsor a day long workshop on April 24th using material from the new UU adult curriculum Transforming Whiteness by Rev. Bill Gardiner. The workshop will be led by the author Rev. Bill Gardiner and co-facilitator, Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer of Kent. Transforming Whiteness offers UU congregations, for the first time, a comprehensive overview of the evolution and workings of white identity both historically, as a current agency of oppression, and as a positive identity for the future. Youth and Young Adults are encouraged to attend. For more information visit <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/conference/transformwhite.html>

### *Find A Training!*

The OMD has lots of trainings, workshops and webinars on our calendar for March, April and May. The annual Curriculum Fair will be March 13th at the North Hills church. A Jr/Sr High Our Whole Lives Training has been scheduled for April 23-25, 2010. Chaplain Training for youth and youth allies has been tentatively scheduled for April 23-25, 2010. Webinars on Behavioral Covenants, Multigenerational Religious Education and Social Media Use in Congregations are also scheduled. Check the OMD website for details for all of these events and more. [www.ohiomeadville.org](http://www.ohiomeadville.org)

## Congregational Committees

### Committee – Chair (email)

Aesthetics – Jean Robl and Maureen Lilly Building and Facilities – John Graham Caring & Concerns – Susan Goodis Committee on Ministry – Gayle Pamerleau Community – Brenda Shiring Social Justice – Marylyn Devlin and Judy Graham Finance – Chris Priano	Green Congregation - Merritt Bailey Membership – Marylyn Devlin Music – Alan Halperin Religious Education – Mary Kukura-Straw Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Brien Palmer Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis
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### *On the funny side...*

←Senior Moment,  
How dinosaurs became extinct

Thanks to Rev. Waun for contributing this.



### *Newsletter Deadlines*

April 2010 newsletter deadline: **March 21**  
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, March 3

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club at Panera's in Penn Center

Sunday, March 7

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Saturday, March 13

6:30pm Green Congregation Movie Night

Sunday, March 14

10:30am Sunday Service

Wednesday, March 17

1:00pm Current Events Group

7:30pm Board Meeting

Friday, March 19

7:00pm Ostara, Eostre

Sunday, March 21

10:30am Sunday Service

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, March 28

10:30am Sunday Service

Sunday, April 4

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Wednesday, April 7

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, April 11

10:30am Sunday Service

Wednesday, April 14

7:30pm Board Meeting