

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: Mary Warwick
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ESUUC Sunday Services

Sunday, August 30, 10:30 am – *“The Value of Awareness”* - As our children gear up to go back to school, Mary Warwick will present concepts written in a commencement speech originally presented by David Foster Wallace.

Sunday, September 6, 10:30 am - *“Annual Potluck Picnic Lunch”* -- Murrysville's **Bear Hollow Park**. Bring a dish to share, plates and flatware. There is a playground and a stream for the children to play in. Grills/charcoal will be provided.

Directions: Follow Sardis Road as if going to ESUUC but turn left into Heather Highlands onto Heather Drive. Go one block to end in a T-junction. Turn right onto Forbes Trail Road. Take the first left onto Trouthaven Drive. Go almost to the top of the hill. On the right will be a driveway leading into the park. See brown sign: Bear Hollow Park.

Sunday, September 13, 10:30 am – *“Four Spiritualities”*—Who we are is how—or if—we pray. This is a well-known tenet from Jungian psychology and today **Dr. Waun** will use this concept to correlate the four basic temperaments to four moral pathways. Also, remember to bring water from your summer adventures for our shared Water Communion ritual. Choir will resume this day.

Sunday, September 20, 10:30 am – *“Our Tapestry of Faith Journeys!”* – Part II, What can we learn from the spiritual traditions symbolized on our church tapestry? ESUUC members discussing Paganism, Taoism, Christianity, Hinduism, and Native American Spirituality will present five Panel Reports. Justin Markel will provide musical interludes.

Sunday, September 27, 10:30am -- *“Getting into the Write Spirit”*— From the dawn of civilization, people have used stories to make sense of life and the cosmos. Sharon Lippincott, a life writing coach and author of *The Heart and Craft of Lifestory Writing*, will explain how to transform your memories into stories of healing and growth for personal benefit and a legacy of values and insight for future generations.

Sunday, October 4, 10:30am – *“That’s My Story And I’m Stickin’ To It!”* -We tend to think of our lives as a story, with chapters, characters, plotline, etc. How we tell our story shapes our lives. **Dr. Waun** will use wisdom from author/lecturer Byron Katie to bring new insights into how things might be different if we change the way we tell our story

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Pastor's Column: Thank You!

by Rev. Renee Waun

Those of you who were able to attend the August 2 service know what a special day it turned out to be for everyone as we celebrated the 10th anniversary of my ministry here at ESUUC. There was a “Walk of Fame” of photos from the parking lot to the front door; balloons; floral arrangements; a presentation of framed photos from Uganda; gifts; a song written and sung for me; many stories, memories and tributes; wonderful decorations and elegant refreshments—some folks even came the day before and weeded the flower beds! The whole thing was a complete surprise to me, and really “over the top”.

So, a big heartfelt “thank you” to all those who had a part in the planning and the making of such a splendid day. I was moved to tears for much of the time. I can’t imagine being part of a more marvelous, kind, loving and generous congregation. You are amazing! I hope we can share ministry together for many more years to come!

Fiscal Year 2009 Report

News from the Treasurer

By Chris Priano

Following is summary financial data for fiscal year ending 6/30/09:

Liquid assets, 7/1/08: \$ 4,311.14

Liquid assets, 6/30/09: \$ 6,953.18

Increase (decrease) in liquid assets: \$ 2,642.04

Net inflows: \$ 2,642.04

Prepaid mortgage funds, 6/30/09: \$12,327.08

Mortgage principal balance, 6/30/09: \$ 27,743.32

In August, Marianne Jew (your new treasurer) and I will begin the process of implementing a web-based church accounting system called “Icon.” To simplify the conversion, we may end up sending you two separate donation statements for the tax year: one for January – June (from the old system) and another for July – December (from the new system). Keep in mind that while the tax year runs from January 1 – December 31, our fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30.

I’m grateful to those of you who begin to pay your new fiscal year pledge during the old fiscal year, but it’s difficult to track pledge progress when payments are received outside of the current fiscal year. For those of you who made 2009-2010 pledge payments prior to July 1, I’ve booked those donations to the 2008-2009 fiscal year, and will reduce the amount of your 2009-2010 pledge accordingly. For example, if you pledged \$500 for 2009-2010, but paid \$100 of it 5/31/09 (before the new fiscal year actually started), I’ll reduce your 2009-2010 pledge to \$400, and credit you with a \$100 overpayment for 2008-2009. Ultimately, you’ll still receive proper tax credit for anything you contribute.

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Thanks also to those who made donations toward our UUA dues. We were able to raise an additional \$684 over and above the \$500 I had sent them earlier. Unfortunately, we didn't meet our "fair share" commitment of \$3,360. The UUA needed to receive our donation by no later than 7/1, so I mailed our check 6/24. Any UUA-specific donations received after that date have been applied to your 2008-2009 pledge and will be used to pay general operating expenses.

This will be my final newsletter column at treasurer. It has been my privilege to serve ESUUC as treasurer. I'll remain as assistant treasurer for another year. We'll be looking for a new assistant treasurer to start next July to ultimately succeed Marianne Jew as treasurer. In this way, we ensure that the role of treasurer doesn't become too burdensome and that knowledge of the church's finances doesn't rest solely with one individual.

July 2009 Monthly Fiscal Report

News from the (Assistant!) Treasurer

By Chris Priano

Following is summary financial data for the first month of our new fiscal year (month ending 7/31/09):

Liquid assets, 7/1/09: \$ 6,953.18

Liquid assets, 7/31/09: \$ 6,016.92

Increase (decrease) in liquid assets: (\$ 936.26)

Net inflows: (\$ 936.26)

Prepaid mortgage funds, 7/31/09: \$12,327.08 (estimate)

Mortgage principal balance, 7/31/09: \$ 27,188.42 (actual)

The conversion to the new, web-based "Icon" church accounting + membership system is in progress. So far, so good. I hope to be running a July report out of Icon soon, and making sure the figures, etc. match the July report from the old system. There's A LOT of data entry that's required to set up Icon, but I'll use PennDOT's old adage: "temporary inconvenience, permanent improvement."

Pledge payments usually slow to a trickle over the summer, and this year has been no exception. To help the church avoid cash flow challenges, please stay on track with your pledge payments. If you still owe anything on last fiscal year's pledge, I'll cheerfully accept it. ☺

Committees

The summer is coming to an end and the committees are beginning to buzz! What is a committee anyway???? I'm bad with definitions, so I just looked it up. A committee is a group of people who perform some service or function, investigate, report on or act upon a particular matter. Simple enough. We have a number of established committees that have a board representative. The chair of the committee is the one who communicates to the board the goings on and the need of that committee. I wanted to answer some

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How do I join a committee? You can join by signing up on the time and talent forms or just tell others on the committee you would like to join.

Do I have to attend all the meetings? No. Some committee's don't have meetings on a regular basis but get together to do things for example, the garden. Even if there are meetings you are not required to attend every one. We all appreciate any time and talent that you can give. Some are more structured such as the Programs and Sunday Services but the maintenance committee doesn't meet regularly but talk when things need done around the church.

Is the chair person ultimately responsible for getting things done? No. All committee members are volunteers and we appreciate what time they can give. Anyone on the committee can organize a meeting or work day. If the committee needs extra help it is great to ask others in the congregation who may not be members of a committee but would love to help out.

Here is the ESUUC committee family tree:

Building and Facilities (John Graham)

Aesthetics

Landscaping

Maintenance

Signs and Symbols

Community Cluster Facilitator (Brenda Shiring)

Community Enrichment

Cares and Concerns

Social Justice

Membership

Publicity

Religious Education (Mary Kukura-Straw)

Adult and children's religious education

Committee on Ministry (Gayle Pamerleau)

This is special and all by itself

Treasurer (Marianne Jew)

Finance

Fundraising

Programs and Sunday Service (Brian Palmer)

Music

Information Management (Matt Mathis)

This is a committee that includes things like e-news, the calendar, newsletter, website and church records.

The Green Sanctuary reports to the board but is self-funding so it isn't connected to any one board member. Ad hock committees pop up for special projects that don't necessarily go with another committee such as the Labyrinth.

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I learned a lot over the summer so if you have more questions please find me. I'd love to chat with you!
Look for updated committee information on the board in the community room.

Blessed Be,
Melissa Alcorn-Ferry
Your Vice President

Creating a Culture of Peace Training

CCP is a nationwide program in active peacemaking. It is about transforming violence at the personal, interpersonal and cultural/systemic levels. It goes beyond personal transformation to group and community transformation and action. The training is open to anyone, but designed to be of special benefit to the social service, educational, and service related community.

Facilitated by the Social Justice Committee, ESUUC will be sponsoring this training at our church in October. The dates and times are as follows:

Friday, October 9 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Saturday, October 10 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday, October 11 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm
Saturday, October 17 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The committee will be soliciting helpers to assist with food preparation, etc. Please contact Marylyn Devlin or Judy Graham for more information.

Drum Spirit Yoga

Welcome to Drum Spirit Yoga! Come and enjoy Meditative Drumming combined with Rhythmic Flow Yoga" Participants may have their choice of just Drumming while others may opt to engage in the Yoga Postures. The drumming is meant to follow a tribal rhythmic beat that facilitates a meditative state and also creates a background for the Yoga Asanas. The postures will be modified so that most will be able to participate. Bring your own drums, cymbals etc. with you if you have them. Wear loose fitting clothes for modified yoga postures. Facilities contribution will be \$5.00 per session. Sessions will begin on Monday September 14 at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. If you have any questions, please call Frank Nemeth @724-681-3954.

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. And please don't think you have to provide a lunch – a snack is really all we're asking. If you haven't brought refreshments before, or are unfa

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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 or 724-334-1507. If I'm at the service and you want a hand, just come and get me.

Refreshments Roster

If the week you're assigned doesn't work for your schedule, please switch with someone else for that month. If you need help finding someone to cover, let me know.

Sept. 6	Church Picnic at Bear Hollow
Sept. 13	Wendy Noe
Sept. 20	Gayle Pamerleau
Sept. 27	Mike Pasipanki

Oct. 4	Chris Priano
Oct. 11	George Ratliff
Oct. 18	Tabitha Riggio
Oct. 25	Nancy Ritsko

New UUA President

New President of UUA Was Elected June 27 at General Assembly



Rev. Peter Morales, senior minister of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO, was elected to be the eighth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA) at the Association's General Assembly (GA) in Salt Lake City. Speaking of his aspirations for Unitarian Universalism, Rev. Morales said, "I want to grow our faith, to reach all those people who are looking for non-dogmatic, liberal religious community. I look forward to working with partners in many other progressive and justice-seeking religious groups. There are tremendous issues that we'll be facing in the coming years and we're going to need one another." Rev. Morales is the first Latino to be elected president of the UUA. He succeeds Rev. William Sinkford, who was the first African American to lead a historically white denomination in the United States.

Interfaith Ministerium Breakfast Needs Volunteers

It's that time again....when the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium (to which Rev. Waun has belonged since 1999) will be coming to our church to meet and share a meal on October 7. This year, it will be a breakfast meeting, beginning at 8am. Rev. Waun will be arriving early that day to set up tables and get the coffee started, but she will need about two other folks to help prepare and serve a simple breakfast menu for about 15 people. If you are able to help please contact Rev. Waun 412-731-2834, or mwaun2003@yahoo.com.

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Global Connections: Exciting Uganda News!

There are so many things happening so fast in Uganda that it is quite amazing:

- The Buy a Brick fundraising goal has been raised from \$23,000 to \$30,000 because of the promise of some large contributions coming in for the new classroom building
- A high school student in Ohio has refurbished and donated five complete PCs which he is shipping to Uganda via some contacts he has who are going to Tanzania. The school may be able to teach computer classes to the public to help pay for the electricity to power the computers
- A woman from the Sunnyhill Church visited the school and took some photos of the building project while on business in Kampala last month
- With a recently purchased webcam, Hanan has learned how to do three-way live video chats on his computer, with a fifth grade class in Tampa and Rev. Waun
- Rev. Waun has five volunteers committed to going on the next trip in January
- The volunteers will set up a Nurse's Office at the school and help to furnish it with used medical equipment they are collecting to take with them
- More than 200 of the Ugandan students now have American sponsors.

Celebrate All Your Life Day

Forbes Trail Faith in Action, in partnership with the Murrysville Recreation Dept. and Murrysville Senior Center is hosting a special event on Friday, Sept. 25 at Townsend Park from 11:30am to 4pm. "Celebrate All Your Life" is a day of entertainment designed for our community's older adults. All are welcome. For ticket and schedule information, please contact Phyllis Morgan at Forbes Trail Faith in Action at 724-327-3353

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
 Landscaping – Laurie Montgomery

Membership – Marylyn Devlin
 Music – Alan Halperin
 Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli
 Signs and Symbols – Leona Dunnet
 Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary Kukura-Straw
 Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis

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Newsletter Deadlines

October 2009 newsletter deadline: Sunday, September 20, 2009. Please email your articles to 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**. 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, September 2
1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, September 6
10:30am Sunday Service
12:00pm Program Committee

Sunday, September 13
9:30am Choir Rehearsal for 's Service
10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, September 14
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, September 16
1:00pm Current Events Group
7:30pm Board Meeting

Sunday, September 20
10:30am Sunday Service
11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Monday, September 21
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Sunday, September 27
10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, September 28
7:00pm Drum & Yoga

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Sunday, October 4

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Monday, October 5

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, October 7

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, October 11

10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, October 12

7:00pm Drum & Yoga

Wednesday, October 14

7:30pm Board Meeting

Sunday, October 18

10:30am Sunday Service

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

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