

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, November 1, 10:30 am – *"Why Do They Hate Us So Much?"* - There are parts of the world where Westerners can't travel any more. There are whole countries that love our dollars but hate our values and our freedoms, and harbor terrorist cells training to destroy everything we stand for. **Dr. Waun** will address this issue using concepts from *The Looming Tower* by Lawrence Wright.

Sunday, November 8, 10:30 am – *"It's All Good..."* -- Singer/song writer and guitarist Judith Avers will focus on, "It's all good...even when it isn't." With the recent increase in fear-based media and fear-based thinking, it can be difficult to get your mind around faith and hope. Judith will be sharing some personal stories and songs that focus on one's ability to see the good around us. Jenifer Ewart will facilitate.

Sunday, November 15, 10:30 am – *"Translators & Traitors"*-- Many people (particularly Protestants) grew up with the King James Version of the Bible, and by some form of osmosis imbibed the idea that it was the version written by God Himself. As it turns out, behind this particular version lies a great deal of scheming and politicking, masquerading under the umbrella of religion. We will take a look at how the KJV came to be and consider why it became so popular.

Sunday, November 22, 10:30 am – *"Stone Soup Sunday"*- Please bring a non-meat item to go into our Stone Soup pot. The price of your lunch is a cash (or check) contribution to the Westmoreland County Food Bank. More details are provided in the newsletter a few pages ahead.

Sunday, November 29, 10:30 am -- *"Intergenerational Service Project"*- In lieu of a service, we will meet in the Community Room to prepare simple treats to donate to Murrysville Meals on Wheels. Please join us as we make cookies, trail mix, and other tasty treats which will be distributed to shut-ins in our area. Help these local residents know that they're still in our hearts as a part of the community.

Sunday, December 6, 10:30 am -- *"Friends in High Places"*- Who are your he-roes and she-roes? Who stirs you to greater action and expansion in your life? Who are the people—living or dead—who have helped you to set your moral or spiritual compass? We will identify an impromptu panel to lead an

interactive discussion on this topic, inspired by lives of famous figures such as Gandhi, Helen Keller, M. L. King, Jr., Susan B. Anthony, the Dalai Lama, Jesus, and Diana, Princess of Wales. **Dr. Waun** will facilitate.



Pastor's Column: Caring and Sharing

by Rev. Renee Waun

Our congregation has always been a place of great caring and sharing with one another. Our Sunday Joys and Concerns reflect this, as we bring what is on our hearts and minds before the community of faith. Friends reach out to friends in times of special need. We also have a column in this newsletter, written by Susan Goodis, that lifts up caring and sharing notes each month. Now we are fine tuning how we do this important work in two ways:

1. Sunday Joys and Concerns—when it is time for this poignant ritual during our Sunday services, the facilitator will ask people with something to share to simply stand and speak from where they are, and the facilitator will light the candles. By sharing in this way, we will be streamlining the service to allow adequate time for the speaker of the day.
2. Pastoral Care Training at ESUUC -- —it has been noted that we need to rebuild our Pastoral Care Team. These are people who are trained to take phone calls of people in our congregation who are experiencing pastoral emergencies, to make hospital and home visits when needed and to organize caring gestures such as meal deliveries and occasional transportation. I am available to do these things, but as your part-time minister, we need a team of compassionate people who can help with these duties when necessary. If you are interested in being on this team and taking part in the Pastoral Care Training on please contact me (see related article).

Pastoral Care Training at ESUUC

Do you have a listening ear? Are you a person with a caring heart? Would you like to become part of a group at our church that will help Dr. Waun with occasional pastoral care situations? She is in the process of identifying a “few good people” who can be available to make home and hospital visits, and help to organize practical responses such as meal delivery, childcare or transportation to the doctor.

Please call her if you are interested in seeing if your gifts are good match to the Pastoral Care Team, and to register for the class. Training will be offered at a time convenient to all participants. This is such an important ministry. Caring for one another is what makes ESUUC such a great community of faith and

Service Auction

East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church will presents its third Biennial Services Auction on Saturday, November 14th from 6:30 - ?. For more details or to make a donation, talk to Leona Dunnett or Merritt Bailey.

Stone Soup Sunday.

As many of you know, Stone Soup Sunday is the day we do our best to help the needy in our own community by donating to the Westmoreland County Food Bank. On November 22, please bring something (non-meat) to add to our soup pots, so that our head Stone Soup Chef, Mary Kukura-Straw, can make some delicious soups for the annual Stone Soup Lunch. And don't forget some cash to buy your admission to the lunch itself! All cash will go to the Food Bank.

Another important way you can help the Food Bank is to bring in a grocery bag (we have some in the church lobby, but of course you may use your own bags too) filled with nonperishable groceries and other staples. Desired items include, but are not limited to: canned fruits, vegetables, soups, and meats; non-sugary cereals; boxed potatoes, rice, or pasta; peanut butter; baby foods, juices, diapers, wipes, or other supplies; paper products such as toilet paper or tissues; household cleaning products; personal care items such as soap, shampoo, or toothpaste. Please, no items in glass containers.

This year more than ever, your donations are important. Please give what you can to help the people of our community.

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!

Karen Katilius

Brendan Straw

Caitlyn Mendik

Happy Anniversary!

Dan & Kate Begg

As a community, we share our positive energies to enhance our personal joys and to lessen the burden of those who are having difficult times...

Mary Warwick for her 15-year-old nephew who has cardio pulmonary hypertension and Shones syndrome
Mary Kukura Straw for her help at the inter-faith ministerium luncheon in September (sorry so late to offer the recognition that you deserve)

Kaitlyn Ruffing, a 9th grader who participated in the National Flute Association Competition

Rayna Faigen for passing her driving test

We welcome Michele Devlin as a new member of ESUUC

Chris Priano for getting the accounting system up and running

Jen Cheripka and Steve Ewart are expecting their first child (a future Steeler fan, no doubt)

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

Evening Book Club

The evening book club is reading "Shadow of the Silk Road" by Colin Thurbron. Book club will be hosted at the home of Susan Goodis and Matt Mathis on December 12th at 6:30PM. Potluck will be Chinese food.

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 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.

Nov. 1	Kathy & Lew Ruffing
Nov. 8	David Schwartz
Nov. 15	April Soule
Nov. 22	Stone Soup Sunday
Nov. 29	Sharing Sunday

Dec. 6	Mary Warwick
Dec. 13	Kate Zingarelli
Dec. 20	Sharing Sunday
Dec. 27	Sharing Sunday

Ugandan Crafts for Sale

Watch for the arrival of new crafts from Uganda in November. We will have a new supply of stuffed jungle animals, wooden and paper bead jewelry, carryall bags, bowls, batiks, and other colorful items at great prices. The proceeds of all sales support the school we help to sponsor in Uganda. A display will be set up in the back of the sanctuary, using the honor system for payment. For information about the school see www.africanruralschools.org

Annual Thanksgiving Service

The Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium, of which we are a part, is holding its annual Thanksgiving Gathering on Monday, Nov. 23 at 7pm at the Garden City United Methodist Church in the Garden City shopping plaza of Monroeville. This is an opportunity to celebrate various faith traditions (Sikh, Jewish, Muslim, Christian, Unitarian Universalist, Hindu) as they offer various expressions of thanksgiving, through song, chant and the spoken word. This is a really great opportunity to share an American holiday observance that is truly representative of our modern multi-faith culture. Refreshments will follow.

News from the Treasurer

By Chris Priano, Assistant Treasurer

Following is summary financial data for the month ending 9/30/09. Now that we're using the web-based "Icon" system – which lets us do fund accounting – I'm reporting our finances in terms of the various fund balances (total liabilities and net assets):

ARSF:	\$ 15,642.73
Chalice Lighters:	\$ 1,330.00
Coming of Age:	\$ 1,615.66
General Fund:	\$ 159,876.51
Green Sanctuary:	\$ 8.30
Labyrinth:	\$ 60.66
TOTAL:	\$ 178,533.86

The General Fund balance now includes our land + building as an asset, valued at its original purchase price of \$160,000. The General Fund's portion of the checking account is actually in a negative situation at the moment (-\$123.49). What's helping our cash flow is that ARSF is running a large balance, but that won't last forever as we continue to transfer money to Uganda for the school building project there. So please, if you're not up-to-date on your pledge payments, now would be a good time to get current.

Now that Marianne Jew has returned from handling some family matters in California, she and I will be spending time together to complete the treasurer transition. I'll be staying on until June 30, 2010 as assistant treasurer. If anyone with a head for numbers would be interested in assuming the role of assistant treasurer after I step down, please let me know. The assistant treasurer position exists to help ESUUC maintain a separation of financial duties, and to ease the treasurer's workload. For the most part, the assistant treasurer handles receipts while the treasurer handles disbursements and all other financial matters. As assistant treasurer, you're mostly processing weekly collections and bank deposits. With the Icon system finally in place, these tasks are actually kind of fun now, and much easier to handle than they had been in the past. Please e-mail me (cpriano@alumni.duq.edu) or Marianne Jew (treasurer@esuuc.org) if you have any questions.

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 – Open	Green Congregation – Merritt Bailey Membership – Marylyn Devlin Music – Alan Halperin Religious Education – Kate Zingarelli Sunday Programs/Celebrations – Mary Kukura-Straw Welcoming Congregation – Matt Mathis
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Newsletter Deadlines

December 2008 newsletter deadline: **Sunday, November 15th**.

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

Sunday, November 1

9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Program Committee

Wednesday, November 4

1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, November 8

10:30am Sunday Service

Wednesday, November 11

7:30pm Board Meeting

Saturday, November 14

6:30pm ESUUC AUCTION!

Sunday, November 15

10:30am Sunday Service

11:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, November 18
1:00pm Current Events Group

Sunday, November 22
10:30am Sunday Service

Sunday, November 29
10:30am Sunday Service

Wednesday, December 2
1:00pm Wednesday Book Club

Sunday, December 6
9:30am Choir Rehearsal for today's Service
10:30am Sunday Service
12:00pm Program Committee

Saturday, December 12
6:30pm Evening Book Club

Sunday, December 13
10:30am Sunday Service

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

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

Sunday, December 27
10:30am Sunday Service