

ALL SOULS APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

Friends,

Happy April! Spring is everywhere! We have so much to be thankful for - the weather, our friends and ourselves. We see in the news messages of decline, messages of divides. We see terrorism and fear. We see violence and hatred.

But, we also see love.

With every act of terrorism, we see communities rally to protect and care for the victims. We see individuals choosing "Love" as their priority. We see folks looking beyond surface level tension, beyond stereotypes and litmus-test-like definitions, and we see them standing on the side of love.

Let us proclaim that LOVE WINS. Let us rally and support all of those who stand up against tyranny, who support the "least of these". Let us build partnerships to help our fellow humans, our communities and our ecosystems. Lessening suffering, and augmenting the peace and love within our connections to all.

May It Be So,

Pastor Will

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact our pastor, Will Humphrey, for pastoral care needs.

740-263-1171 or email will.allsouls@gmail.com

"WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY"

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers, President

THE CHICKENS AND THE PLEDGLINGS

A mild drought had reduced Farmer Jones' grain crop considerably. Farmer Jones discussed the situation with Mrs. Jones, and they decided that if they ran out of wheat before next year's crop could be harvested, probably at least some of the chicken flock would have to be sent to market, even though the eggs were needed.

They debated the procedure: Not wanting to split the flock, it was decided to keep the whole flock and maybe, just maybe, there would be enough grain.

Meanwhile, at one of the early morning meetings of the flock, one of the dominant hens announced that she had peeked into the granary and observed the level in the wheat bin. She clucked, "There is not going to be enough to provide for us until Farmer Jones can harvest again." One of the roosters crowed, "What are we going to do?" Another hen fluffed her feathers and cackled, "Let's everyone pledge a portion of our daily ration to be secretly stored in the extra grain bin for Farmer Jones to find when the main bin runs low." "Great idea," cooed a hen in the back.

About half the chickens became what the group called "Pledglings". They agreed to sacrifice a fraction of their daily portion of wheat (some pledged 50 grains, others 100 grains) and store it in the extra bin.

The others didn't want to make a commitment, but they would just put some of their portions in the extra bin each week, if they attended the meeting - or maybe sometimes they would help clean the nest boxes instead.

You have probably guessed the rest of the story: Farmer Jones found the wheat in the extra bin and was delighted and hopeful; but, a few weeks later, he regretfully informed his wife that the extra grain he had discovered wasn't quite enough. The flock would have to be sent to market.

Which are you going to be, a UU Pledgling or a Chicken?



FEB. TREASURER'S REPORT

Average
Attendance: 54

	FEBRUARY	Y-T-D
INCOME		
Pledges	1,656.00	18,601.00
Offerings	1,192.00	4,790.50
Maintenance Fund	.00	4,390.00
Kenya Coin Collection	138.61	737.32
Rummage Sale	.00	2,166.50
Recycle	.00	46.98
Minister's Discretionary Fund	.00	-400.00
Fundraising Expenses Account	-269.31	522.31
Sanctuary Renovation Fund	50.00	1,350.00
Other	.09	222.04
TOTAL	2,767.39*	32,426.65
EXPENSES	4,115.11**	31,838.87
DIFFERENCE	-1,347.72	587.78

*A monthly income of \$3,645.50 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$43,746.00.

**Expenses Other than "Usual":

Install 2 Custom Windows: \$1,100.00

Light Bulbs: \$112.20

FEB. PLEDGE REPORT

Total Units	31
Total Pledges	24

	FEBRUARY	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	1,926.00	19,910.00
Amount Received	<u>1,656.00</u>	<u>19,401.00</u>
VARIANCE	-270.00	-509.00

...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

Three procedures have been approved by the Church Board and will be effective March 31, 2016.

**Rental Policy and Procedure
Borrowing of Church Equipment
Key Inventory Control**

Rental Policy and Procedure: What constitutes a Renter, Rental Fees, Renter Rules and Rental Agreement.

Borrowing of Church Equipment: A list of approved items to be borrowed from the church will be developed in the coming month. In the meantime, if you have a question as to what could be borrowed, please see me.

Key Inventory Control: We will be conducting a key inventory/audit in June.

Copies of these procedures are in a three-ring binder located on the secretary's desk. Included in the binder is a copy of All Souls Bylaws. I want to thank the committee, Ann Kilgore, Bruce Kilgore, L.D. Ball and Mike Garber, for their help in preparing these procedures. A special thanks goes to Shelley Mauk for formatting and printing the procedures and making cover inserts for the binder.

Spring has arrived, and this means we will begin work on some of the unfinished outdoor projects.

- Design and organize plantings for the church sign planter.**
- Complete the leveling and seeding of the back yard.**
- Paint the new frames of the Fellowship Hall windows.**
- Trim the trees.**
- Paint the outside of the front door.**

If anyone is interested in taking on one of these projects, please let me know. It would be a big help!

...from Mike Garber, Finance Trustee

Pledge letters are being mailed early this month. Please return your pledge card promptly, so the planning and budget process can begin in early May.

The Sun Catcher Project to support the Sanctuary Renovation is winding down. 126 sun catchers have been made. The members of the congregation have reserved 22 during the March promotion. With one week to go, we are hoping to sell more.

All Souls will have a table at the OMD Assembly in Akron on April 2. Reed Richmond is making a story board with pictures of the Stained Glass Project. Chuck Rhodes has made a Plexiglas stand for displaying the Sun Catchers. We will also be selling Buckeyes, Cookies and Fused Glass Pendant Necklaces.

The UUA General Assembly will be at the Columbus Convention Center June 22 thru June 26, 2016.

All Souls will be represented in the Vendors Area. This is a rare opportunity to be a part of the denomination's national movement within an hour's drive. There will be about 5,000 UUs attending.

Check UUA.org/GA for information on housing, costs, volunteering, parking and transportation.

Scholarships are also available.

BELLVILLE "BLUE BRIDGE" REPAIRS

Ohio 13 in Bellville between Ohio 97 (Mill Run Street) and West Ogle Street will shut down on Tuesday, March 29, for approximately three weeks. The road is expected to reopen April 26.

...from Bruce Kilgore, Fellowship Trustee

Our next potluck will be Sunday, April 24. A big thank you to all who have signed up for coffee hour duties. Thank you, also, to all those who contributed ingredients for Buckeyes & Cookies for the sale's table at the District Meeting on April 2!

...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Committee Chair

The kids have had lessons 1 through 5 of the UUA developed curriculum "Love Surrounds Us", which introduces kids to the 7 Principles. Each Principle is assigned a color of the rainbow, as we learn it. We've covered the 1st Principle (red), which in youth appropriate language is "We believe each and every person is important", and the 2nd Principle (orange) "We believe all people should be treated fairly". Each principle is studied for two weeks using stories, songs, crafts and role play activities. Keep an eye out for youth created bookmarks in our hymnals, which feature one of the principles!

In Adult RE, starting on April 3 at 9:00 am, we are going to be exploring "Green Burials & Home Funerals". I'm guessing you are wondering "What's a home funeral?" According to "Undertaken with Love", the 40 page handbook we'll be using for the class: "A home funeral is a noncommercial, family-centered response to death that involves the family and its social community in the care and preparation of the body for burial or cremation and/or in planning and carrying out related rituals or ceremonies and/or in the burial or cremation itself. A home funeral may occur entirely within the family home or not. It is differentiated from the institutional funeral by its emphasis on minimal, noninvasive care and preparation of the body, on its reliance on the family's own social networks for assistance and support, and on the relative or total absence of commercial funeral providers in its proceedings."

This six week class will cover everything from why to consider a green burial or home funeral to legal aspects of what can be done. Please visit www.undertakenwithlove.org for more information or to print the handbook. No reading is necessary before the first class, just show up! Melanie Seaman will facilitate the first class, and then participants can rotate the roll as facilitator.

There are seven principles that Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

...from Art O'Leary, Social Justice/Social Action Trustee

Greetings from SA/SJ land! There is a busy schedule of events from the UUJO in Ohio and beyond. I'll try to summarize the high points and the nearby points.

April 2: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm at First UU Church in Columbus.....**"Move to Amend Ohio Network"**

April 2: **"March for Racial Justice"** beginning at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia and ending at the Capital in Washington D.C.

April 2: Beginning at 9:00 am. **District Assembly** at Akron First UU Church.
If anyone would like to go, let me know. There are several of us, and some space in the cars is available.

April 11 – April 18: A **sit-in** is planned in **Washington D.C.**
A "risk of arrest" is promised. Civil disobedience anyone?

April 12: **"Ohioans to Stop Executions Death Penalty Lobby Day"** at the State House in Columbus

April 13: **"Freedom of Choice Advocacy Day"** at the State House in Columbus

April 22: **"Earth Day"**...Let's plan a local event!

April 23: **"Faith Climate Action"** demonstration at the State House in Columbus

April 23: 9:00 am – Noon. **"Racial Justice Workshop"** at First UU Columbus

May 7: **"Race Matters; Let's Talk"** workshop at First UU Cleveland

Finally, in light of the tragic bombings in Brussels, I want to show support for our local Muslim community by attending the Mosque any Friday at 1:00 pm.

Wow! That's a lot of stuff! Contact me with any questions.

**Peace,
Art**

Sweet Success Fundraiser

To raise funds to help with our monthly contribution to the *Women for Women International* fund, we are selling **pie and pumpkin roll vouchers from Der Dutchman**. The vouchers are valid for one year from distribution date. **The customer should call Der Dutchman directly to place an order for their choice of pie or pumpkin roll, or the customer may use the voucher on any in-stock pie or pumpkin roll without a reservation.** Pies are either "regular" or "premium". The premium flavors are blueberry, German chocolate, pecan, blackberry and black raspberry cream. There are 16 regular flavors, with apple and cherry also available with no sugar added. **The regular pie vouchers will sell for \$12.00 each, the premium for \$13.00 each. Pumpkin roll vouchers are \$10.00 each.** We buy the vouchers at a wholesale price, and the difference between that and the selling price is our profit designated to go to the *Women for Women International* fund.

VOUCHERS ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 17.

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE VOUCHERS,
PLEASE SEE JOANNE GILLUM AT ALL SOULS OR EMAIL HER AT: jgillum34@embarqmail.com**

...from Melanie Seaman

Women for Women International

In countries affected by conflict and war, Women for Women International supports the most marginalized women to earn and save money, improve health and well-being, influence decisions in their home and community, and connect to networks for support. By utilizing skills, knowledge, and resources, she is able to create sustainable change for herself, her family, and community. Since 1993, Women for Women International has helped nearly 429,000 marginalized women in countries affected by war and conflict. They directly work with women in 8 countries offering support, tools, and access to life-changing skills to move from crisis and poverty to stability and economic self-sufficiency.

They bring women together in a safe space to learn life, business, and vocational skills. Once enrolled, each receives a monthly stipend – a vital support that enables her to participate.

Women increase their ability to earn an income with new skills that are in-demand. They learn about their legal rights, and they become knowledgeable about health and nutrition. The result: stronger women, stronger families, and stronger communities. This ripple effect is profound.

Our All Souls UU Social Action Group started supporting this project in 2004, and we have kept our commitment of \$30 per month since then.

THESE ARE THE WOMEN WE HAVE SUPPORTED OVER THE YEARS

Nasrin Ghulam haider: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Mar. 1, 2016 GRADUATION DATE: Feb. 28, 2017
MARITAL STATUS: Single - Never Married CHILDREN: 0 WOMEN'S GROUP 2353



Fatime Cerkini: KOSOVO

ENROLLMENT DATE: Jan. 1, 2016 GRADUATION DATE: Dec. 31, 2016
Married CHILDREN: 5 WOMEN'S GROUP Zaskok 100

Baz gul Hassin dad: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Oct. 1, 2015 GRADUATION DATE: Sep. 30, 2016
Married CHILDREN: 5 WOMEN'S GROUP 2287

OUR PREVIOUS SISTERS



Clarisse Mukarusangwa: RWANDA

ENROLLMENT DATE: Mar. 1, 2015 GRADUATION DATE: Feb. 29, 2016
Married CHILDREN: 1 WOMEN'S GROUP Rusenge 111



Jeannette Umutoni: RWANDA

ENROLLMENT DATE: Mar. 1, 2014 GRADUATION DATE: Feb. 28, 2015
MARITAL STATUS: Other CHILDREN: 1 WOMEN'S GROUP Cyabajwa 24

... Women for Women International (cont.)

Heela Ziaulhaq: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Aug. 1, 2013 GRADUATION DATE: Jul. 31, 2014
Married CHILDREN: 3



Angelique Mukandekezi: RWANDA

ENROLLMENT DATE: Oct. 1, 2012 GRADUATION DATE: Unable to Complete the Program
Married CHILDREN: 7 WOMEN'S GROUP Ruli 15



Zawadi, Ntakwinja M'Mufumu: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

ENROLLMENT DATE: Oct. 1, 2011 GRADUATION DATE: Sep. 30, 2012
Married CHILDREN: 2 WOMEN'S GROUP Nganiza/Kalehe



Julienne Maska Mukangae: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

ENROLLMENT DATE: Mar. 1, 2011 GRADUATION DATE: Feb. 29, 2012
Married CHILDREN: 0 WOMEN'S GROUP Muhawe/Rubare

Sardar Aul Peir Mah: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Apr. 1, 2007 GRADUATION DATE: Mar. 31, 2008

Nafisa Latif: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Apr. 1, 2006 GRADUATION DATE: Mar. 31, 2007

Aziza Gul Ahmad: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Apr. 1, 2005 GRADUATION DATE: Mar. 31, 2006

Zarghena Attah Mohol: AFGHANISTAN

ENROLLMENT DATE: Apr. 1, 2004 GRADUATION DATE: Mar. 31, 2005

Sweet Success Fundraiser

— Der Dutchman Bakery —

Few things in life are as irresistible as the sugary, warm scent of fresh-from-the-oven pies or that first bite of a home-style pumpkin roll. When you purchase these simple pleasures from Der Dutchman's Fundraiser program, you will be buying a quality product that you can enjoy or give as a special gift.



...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

How May I Serve?

We must replace personal desires with the Tao-centered question 'How may I serve?' By simply changing these kinds of thoughts, we will begin to see major changes taking place in our lives. Have you experienced hosting a coffee hour, helping with clean up? Volunteering for the highway cleanup or donating recycling? Volunteering for church clean and maintenance day, or helping at one of the bazaars and luncheons? How about attending a board meeting, running for or volunteering for a position on the board or a committee? Or being a pulpit leader or speaker? Or increasing your offertory?

Spring has sprung and soon enough we will be overwhelmed with more responsibilities that come with the nicer weather. It's difficult, and sometimes we think one more thing could be the breaking point. So how do we handle all our responsibilities and still find time to do more?

1. "By staying in harmony on the path of the Tao, all the contentment you could ever dream of will begin to flow into your life - the right people, the means to finance where you're headed, and the necessary factors will come together."
2. "Stop pushing yourself and feel gratitude for what is. Your life is controlled by something far bigger and more significant than your petty details of your lofty aspirations."
3. "When action is pure and selfless, everything settles into its own perfect place."
4. "Remind yourself daily that there is no way to happiness; rather, happiness is the way."

April Speakers

April 3

Speaker: Dr. Tim M. Berra

Title: "Wallace's Acceptance of Darwin's Priority in His Own Words"

Topic: This talk deals with the relationship between Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. They independently discovered the principle of natural selection. Darwin gets the lion's share of attention and Wallace was quite happy about that. The lecture is based on the letters they wrote to one another. These letters reveal their friendship and that Wallace generously acknowledged that Darwin provided 20 years of work on the topic, while Wallace had a flash of inspiration. Both are considered co-discoverers of evolution via natural selection, and there was no animosity between them. The talk demonstrates the civility and gentlemanliness of these two giants of science.

Leader: Cheryl Church

Music: Ayesha Manley

***Please Note:** This talk will require 45 minutes. Please plan for the service to run a little longer.

April 10

Speaker: Glenn M. Myers

Title: "The Life and Lyrics of Iconic Singer/Songwriter, Johnny Cash"

Topic: The lyrics of songs written by the late Johnny Cash reveal both the extraordinary and the ordinary man. He was a gifted man of great faith and humbling addiction. Johnny's search for truth and meaning began in his solemn but dutiful youth, as one of seven children spawned on a subsistence farm in Arkansas during the Great Depression. His life was tortured from the beginning by his own failures and by the many shortcomings of American society. Music permeated his soul even as a youth, when he sang gospel music in his church and listened to country on a battery-operated radio on Saturday nights at home. Music was Johnny's life blood, and he used it to soothe his personal conflicts and to promote what he thought was best for what would become a world-wide audience.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore

Music: Trio Alla Breve

...Pulpit & Worship cont.

April 17

Speaker: Sensei Dean Williams

Title: "Stop, and Take Care of This"

Topic: How does meditation practice connect with our ability to care for ourselves, others, and this entire planet that is our home?

Leader: Brian Moore

Music: Ayesha Manley

April 22 – Earth Day

April 24

Speaker: Pastor William Humphrey

Title: "Reason, the Results of Science, and Warnings of Idolatries of the Mind and Spirit"

Topic: We will explore aspects of the living tradition of human wisdom and spirituality, drawn of science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

Leader: Reed Richmond

Music: Trio Alla Breve

May 1 – Highway Cleanup

Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls

...from Irene Maginniss, Secretary

Coins for Kenya



Are You Saving?

Each month we take up a collection to donate for the education of children in Kenya, Africa. Here is a good way to remember each day to save spare change, so that on the last Sunday of each month, you have a generous amount to contribute.

This is a plastic jar covered in a paper that looks like Kente Cloth. If you would like to make your own, we will have papers, glue and scissors at church. Please bring a clean, empty jar or can.

Living Lotus Zen Sangha April Schedule

BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, April 11: 6:30pm - 8:00 pm
at Relax, It's Just Coffee - 105 N. Main St., Mansfield, OH

Sangha members and friends are invited for coffee and informal discussion over a case in this Zen book.

Books: "The Gateless Barrier" by Robert Aitken Transl. by Robert Aitken Roshi
ISBN# 0865474427 North Point Press (1991)
"The Hidden Lamp" Edited by Florence Caplow & Susan Moon
ISBN# 9780861716593 Wisdom Publications (2013)

Suggested Selections to Have Read before Discussion

"THE GATELESS BARRIER" - Case #10 – "Ch'ing-shui: Solitary & Destitute"

"A monk named Seizai said to Sozan, "I am alone and poor. I beg my teacher to bestow upon me the alms of salvation." Sozan said, "Acarya Seizai!" "Yes, Sir?" replied Seizai. Sozan said, "Someone has drunk three bowls of the wine of Haku of Seigen, but says that he has not yet even moistened his lips."

"THE HIDDEN LAMP": TBA

Bring your thoughts, notes, insights and confusions and a friend!



SIT & SERVICE

Monday, April 25 @ 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

The church is opened at 6:00 p.m., please enter from the side door. We sit upstairs. Loaner meditation cushions (Zafus & Zabutons) are available as well as pews for those who prefer/need to sit.

Everyone is welcome to practice with us! No previous meditation experience necessary.

Schedule

6pm-6:30pm - Church Opened - Fellowship & Intro to Meditation for Beginners
6:30pm-6:50pm - Zazen (Sitting Meditation)
6:50pm-7:00pm - Kinhin (Walking Meditation)...
7:00pm-7:20pm - Zazen – (Second Period of Zazen)
7:20pm-7:30pm - Liturgy – (Heart Sutra, Chanting and Prostrations)
7:30pm-8:00pm - Sangha Discussion & Business

Brief Beginner's guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

<http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/practice/zazen/howto/index.html>

In Gassho,
Jacqueline Moore
419-589-7707

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Jeanette Mirel – April 2
Walter Kania – April 4
Joe Connell – April 12
Darian Delbrugge – April 12
Benjamin Humphrey – April 19

Shawn Kendrick – April 19
Teasha Sargent – April 20
Will Humphrey – April 27
L.D. Ball – April 28
Leah Humphrey – April 29

.....clip and save.....

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR APRIL

April 3: Dr. Tim M. Berra
April 10: Glenn Myers

April 17: Sensei Dean Williams
April 24: Pastor William Humphrey

APRIL EVENTS

Adult RE: "Green Burials and Home Funerals" – Sunday, April 3 @ 9:00 am

Children's RE: "Love Surrounds Us" – Sunday, April 3 During the Service

Adult RE: "Green Burials and Home Funerals" – Sunday, April 10 @ 9:00 am

Children's RE: "Love Surrounds Us" – Sunday, April 10 During the Service

Buddhist Book Discussion "The Gateless Barrier" & "The Hidden Lamp" - Monday, April 11 @ 6:30 pm
at Relax, It's Just Coffee

Pagan and Earth Based Spirituality Group – Wednesday, April 13 @ 7:00 pm

Board Meeting - Sunday, April 17 @ 9:00 am

Children's RE: "Love Surrounds Us" – Sunday, April 17 During the Service

All-Inclusive Casual Get-Together for All Women – Wednesday, April 20 @ 7:00 pm

Adult RE: "Green Burials and Home Funerals" – Sunday, April 24 @ 9:00 am

Kenya Coin Collection & Potluck: Sunday, April 24

Living Lotus Zen Sangha – Monday, April 25 @ 6:30 pm

Questions for Your Answers Discussion & Breakfast - Wednesday, April 27 @ 10:00 am at Bob Evans-Hanley Rd.

William Humphrey, Pastor
will.allsouls@gmail.com
740-263-1171

Glenn Myers, Board President
glennmarq@yahoo.com
740-501-5990

website: allsoulsuohio.org

email: allsoulsohio@gmail.com