

ALL SOULS FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Sunday Service at 10:30 am

Friends,

Time sure does fly. It is already February! We are so blessed by so many people and so many different things happening! We are working together to improve our world, build relationships, and advocate for Justice.

Our Board of Management just approved 2017 to be our year of Racial Justice. We will do our part to engage our hearts and minds and our communities to challenge what we think and feel regarding the role of our principles and the issues of race. Sociologist Arlie Hochschild asks us in her book, *Strangers in Their Own Land*, to look at our own stories, *Deep Stories*, as she calls them.

Deep Stories are the stories about identity, and the stories of hope and disappointment within the American Dream and the American Experience. As we engage our faith, the ways our principles intersect with our lives, it behooves us to look at our stories of meaning and identities. This can be hard work, but it is needed work.

Let's share these stories together, shouldering these difficult tasks together, looking at who we are, who we were, and who we are becoming, as both individuals and as a church. Regardless of our source- traditions, it is individuals that fellowship to become a church and in sharing these *Deep Stories* we strengthen each other and ourselves.

Peace,

Pastor Will

PASTORAL CARE

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

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

Greetings to All Souls Members, Friends and Interested Visitors,

This month is a busy and exciting one, with lots to tell you about. The board has designated Racial Justice as an area of special emphasis for 2017, and there's lots happening! We have already had MLK Day and participated in an interfaith celebration of the holiday and the legacy of the civil rights icon. It was a beautiful example of many perspectives on Dr. King, and many of us were there to appreciate and participate in the event. I had never seen Pastor Will in a clerical collar! He did a great job of presenting UUs as a force for civil rights, and we were proud to be there. The next day, the first event of Black History Month occurred at "the branch", with a rally presented by Cheryl Carter entitled "We Choose Community". Several of us enjoyed her moving invitation to follow through on Dr. King's famous challenge to choose chaos or community. A talk on inclusive language occurred on January 24 at 12:30 pm at the branch in Eisenhower Hall in Room #113. The topic was LGBTQ and gender. The next talk is February 7 in the same location on race and ethnicity, and the third in the series is on privilege and poverty on February 21 and the last is March 8 on religion and morality.

Other events for Black History Month include a town meeting on Mental Health and the African American community, which will be held at the Mid-Ohio Education Service Center, 890 W. Fourth St. in Mansfield from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm on February 9. On February 23, two events will happen at the branch. The Power of the Negro Spiritual: Make a Joyful Noise at 12:30 pm in the Reidl Hall auditorium and the 16th Annual Soul Food Dinner from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the Eisenhower Center. I hope you will mark your calendars and attend as many of these events as possible. I'll be counting!

Peace,

Art



from Jay Gilbert - Vice President

I was pleased that when I wanted to discuss an issue with our pastor, I got rapid email responses and found out he was obviously thinking about the subject. Will and I don't agree on every single issue, but I want to say that Will Humphrey is really tuned into what he's doing, and we should each appreciate his dedication.

DEC. TREASURER'S REPORT

Average
Attendance: 39

	DECEMBER	Y-T-D
INCOME		
Pledges	1,842.00	14,842.00
Offerings	331.00	2,038.90
Kenya Coin Collection	144.85	522.49
Rummage Sale	-39.94	857.95
Recycle	.00	78.61
Rental Income	.00	100.00
Maintenance Fund	600.00	600.00
Sanctuary Renovation Fund	802.70	2,679.38
Minister's Discretionary Fund	.00	100.00
Other	1,500.16	2,994.80
TOTAL	5,180.77*	24,814.13
EXPENSES	3,095.47**	18,542.34
DIFFERENCE	2,085.30	6,271.79

*A monthly income of \$3,759.46 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$45,113.50.

**Expenses Other than "Usual":

Bonuses: \$350.00

Fellowship: \$82.39

CURRENT BALANCES

Sanctuary Renovation Fund - \$7,267.53

DEC. PLEDGE REPORT

Total Units	31	
Total Pledges	25	
	DECEMBER	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	2,039.00	15,372.00
Amount Received	1,842.00	15,242.00
VARIANCE	-197.00	-130.00

...from Bruce Kilgore – Fellowship Trustee

Our potluck for February will be on Sunday, February 26. Please sign up for two kitchen cleaners and for social hall and bathroom cleaning. One area where we need more involvement is social hall and bathroom cleaning. This can be done on Sunday or any other time. Thank you to Mike Garber for kitchen floor care last month.

New lists for March and April will be coming around in church soon. Thank you for all who have helped.

Unitarian Universalist History James Reeb, Social Worker and UU Minister: 1927-1965

Reeb died of head trauma two days after being beaten by white supremacists. He went to Montgomery, Alabama following a nationwide call by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. following "Bloody Sunday". He was accompanied by fellow UU Ministers Clark Olsen and Orloff Miller.

Reeb was born to poor parents who often moved, finally settling in Wyoming. He was a bright student and excellent debater. He served in World War II, then went to St. Olaf College in Minnesota and then to Princeton Theological Seminary. He went to serve All Souls UU Church in Washington, DC, then to Boston to work the Quaker run American Friends Service Committee. He walked with and lived with poor black communities. His death led to protests to support the Civil Rights Movement.

...from Chuck Rhodes - Building & Maintenance Trustee

Last month, the prioritized maintenance projects were submitted to the Board for their review and approval was received to proceed. This list was presented to the Sanctuary Renovation Committee to approve the distribution funds to each project in the Sanctuary Renovation Project. As indicated in last month's report, we raised enough money to complete the renovation of the sanctuary. The Board approved the action and permitted the project to proceed.

Work on the sanctuary will begin January 30, 2017, with:

- a) repair of the ceiling and walls and painting the same
- b) removal of the ceiling fans
- c) begin to refinish woodwork where needed
- d) rewire/replace the three hanging lights and convert to LED

During this week the sanctuary will be closed.

Following the repair and painting of the ceiling and walls, the pews will reupholstered.

In addition, we will be able to replace two more basement windows, thanks to the generous donation by a member of our congregation.

We are going to replace the dehumidifier/HVAC lines with tubing and a small sump pump.

One of our Green Projects is to convert all lights to LED beginning with:

- a) replacing current incandescent bulbs with LED
- b) retrofit existing fixtures to accept LED lamps
- c) replace selected fixtures with LED fixtures and lamps

On Sunday, February 5 at 12:30 pm, Mark Walling, a representative from Third Sun Solar, will present the proposed solar energy plan for All Souls UU Church, which is our other Green project. Mark your calendars and bring your questions.

We still have several projects left to complete, which will require additional funds. Grants, Capital Campaign and sponsorship from individuals/families are options we are exploring. The next several months are going to be very busy, and your patience will be appreciated.

...from Liz Hansen - Religious Education Trustee

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



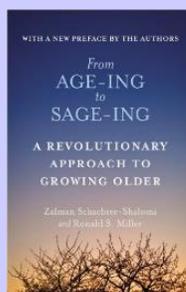
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Our Rainforest Celebration was a smashing success! We had 14 kids participate in the service and party. The kids had a rainforest animal parade, read a poem, shared rainforest facts, sang and then taught a song to the congregation AND afterwards threw a rainforest party complete with decorations and snacks from the rainforest! We also raised \$30 to donate to a rainforest conservation organization. We haven't had the kids this involved in a service for a long, long time, and many folks agree we need to make this something we do a couple times a year!

I want to thank our teachers, Leah Humphrey and Jackie Moore. This curriculum was intense on crafts, as you can see from the decorations from the party, and took a bit more planning than some of our other classes. I also want to thank Kayt Gerhart & Karen Gotter for stepping in and helping out during our sessions!

We are going to take a mid-winter break for a few weeks. There will be announcements at church and through email when the Youth RE starts back up.

As always, if you are interested in helping out with the Youth RE, please see Liz Hansen. Even a one day commitment is much appreciated, and we have a lot of flexibility in how you can help! And you don't have to do it alone!

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Sundays at 9:00 am, Joan Richmond is facilitating our Adult RE using the book "From Age-ing to Sage-ing" by Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and Ronald Miller. The authors introduce the concept of "eldering", or mentoring, each other. They contend that we are at the cutting edge of the next stage in our evolution, and that elders will bring us into this more compassionate, intuitive, and caring era. This class will run every Sunday through March, except the third Sunday of each month due to the board meeting.

If you are interested in facilitating an Adult RE program, please see Liz Hansen. I'm open to any and all ideas!

RAINFOREST CELEBRATION

Photos by Jacqueline Moore



...from Brian Moore – Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

COURAGE

“Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage.” – Anais Nin

“When we are overwhelmed with the world
And cannot see our way clear,
When life seems a struggle between tedium and apathy
Or frenzy and exhaustion;
When today seems a punishment and tomorrow a torment,
May we find the courage of patience.
May we recognize courage in ourselves and our companions;
That is not dramatic, that elicits no fanfare;
That commands little notice by the world,
That is forgotten and taken for granted.
May we learn how to cope
Like those who live one day of pain at a time,
Who see the long path of suffering and do not despair,
Who inspire us by their patient courage,
When we are impatient and afraid.
May we know such courage
And quietly celebrate its presence among us. Amen”

Source – In the Holy Quiet, by Richard S. Gilbert

“Courage to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love.”

February Pulpit Schedule

February 2 – Groundhog Day



Sunday, February 5

Kenya Coin Collection

Speaker: Aloys Kamwithi

Title: “Existentialism as Affirmation and Critique of Religion: Application to Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning”

Topic: Aloys is inspired by a brave and learned Unitarian Universalist, Francis David, who in the 16th Century made the statement: "We need not think alike to love alike." Aloys’ presentation will borrow heavily from the thoughts of the Danish theologian, Soren Kierkegaard, whose thoughts and writings, though originally meant to further the cause of theism, ended up influencing the thoughts and writings of some of the greatest critics of religion in the 20th Century. The presentation will focus on arguing the case for freedom of thought as espoused by Kierkegaard in matters theological as a basis for authentic existence. Additionally, Aloys will attempt to highlight the pitfalls of collectivized and stereotyped thinking and its negation of the search for God.

Leader: Karen Gotter

Music: Ayesha Manley

...Pulpit & Worship cont.

Sunday, February 12

Speaker: David FitzSimmons

Title: "Curious Critters Marine!"

Topic: Following nine national book awards and over 100,000 copies sold of the volumes one and two, *CURIOUS CRITTERS Marine* features a spectacular spoonbill, a proud puffin, a rare blue lobster and other stunning photos of Atlantic and Pacific Ocean sea life.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore

Music: Trio Alla Breve

February 14 – Valentine's Day



Sunday, February 19

Speaker: Crystal Oertle

Title: "From Addiction, to Recovery, to the White House"

Topic: Her active addiction years, attempts at recovery, shame and stigma, and her accomplishments since entering recovery this time.

Leader: Joan Richmond

Music: Ayesha Manley

February 20 – Presidents' Day



Sunday, February 26

Kenya Coin Collection

Speaker: Pastor William Humphrey

Title: "Parinirvana, the Death of the Buddha, and the 4th Principle"

Topic: A look through our UU sources and traditions on Nirvana Day (February 15) - the day the Buddha died—and finding the Fourth Principle in the celebration.

Leader: Teasha Sargent

Music: Trio Alla Breve

Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls

Living Lotus Zen Sangha February Schedule

BOOK STUDY DISCUSSION

Monday, February 13: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Relax, It's Just Coffee - 105 N. Main St., Mansfield, OH



All are invited for coffee and informal discussion over a case in this Zen book.
Look for others with books!

NEED NOT HAVE ATTENDED PREVIOUS SESSIONS to jump IN!

BOOKS

"The Gateless Barrier"

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 Reading: Case #20

Sung-Yuan's Person of Great Strength

"The priest Sung-yuan asked, "Why can't the person of great strength lift up a leg?"
Again he said, "It is not with the tongue that you speak."

"The Hidden Lamp"

TBA

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

LIVING LOTUS ZEN SANGHA SITTING AND SERVICE

Monday, February 27: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church



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

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 need to sit.

SCHEDULE

6:00pm-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

Upcoming practice opportunity hosted by Crooked River Zen Center located in Cleveland, led by Sensei Dean Williams. Soto Zen Priest Ben Connelly of the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center will visit Cleveland (location TBA) the final weekend in April. There will be a public talk Friday evening, an all-day zazenkai Saturday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm and a half day on Sunday from 8:30 am until Noon. Sensei Dean will keep us posted as more details fall into place.

Brief Beginner's Guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

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

In gassho,
Jacqueline Moore

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Ann Kania – February 4
Paula Sauder – February 5
Tara Smith – February 14

Glenn Myers – February 19
Karen Gotter – February 20
Sahvanna Macpherson – February 28

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

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SUNDAY SERVICE @ 10:30 AM

SPEAKERS FOR FEBRUARY

February 5: Aloys Kamwithi February 19: Crystal Oertle
February 12: David FitzSimmons February 26: Pastor William Humphrey

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- Adult RE – “From Age-ing to Sage-ing”** – Sunday, February 5 @ 9:00 am
- Kenya Coin Collection** – Sunday, February 5
- Presentation by Mark Walling – Third Sun Solar** – Sunday, February 5 @ 12:30 pm
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- Adult RE – “From Age-ing to Sage-ing”** – Sunday, February 12 @ 9:00 am
- *****
- Buddhist Book Discussion** - Monday, February 13 @ 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Relax, It’s Just Coffee
- *****
- Racial Justice Team Meeting** – Wednesday, February 16 @ 6:00 pm
- *****
- Board Meeting** - Sunday, February 19 @ 9:00 am
- *****
- Questions for Your Answers Discussion & Breakfast** - Wednesday, February 22 @ 10:00 am at Bob Evans on Hanley Rd.
- *****
- Adult RE – “From Age-ing to Sage-ing”** – Sunday, February 26 @ 9:00 am
- Kenya Coin Collection** – Sunday, February 26
- Potluck** – Sunday, February 26 Following the Service
- *****
- Living Lotus Zen Sangha** – Monday, February 27 @ 6:30 pm
- *****

William Humphrey, Pastor will.allsouls@gmail.com 740-263-1171 website: allsoulsuohio.org	Ann Kilgore, Board President 419-961-6870 email: allsoulsohio@gmail.com
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*“If you smile at me I will understand
‘Cause that is something
Everybody everywhere does in the same language.”
Wooden Ships...Crosby, Stills & Nash*