

ALL SOULS NEWSLETTER

TASK FORCE STARTS

Rev. Karen Bruno

Thanks to those who expressed interest in joining the **VISIONING TASK FORCE!**

An organizing meeting will take place after church on November 9.

This is a short gathering to discuss the format for meetings. Do we want a few longer meetings or several shorter meetings? Evenings or weekends? Etc.

If you are interested and didn't sign up, please attend this organizing gathering.

The Primary Questions to be Answered

Do we want to grow or stay about the same?

What kind of leadership do we want?

Are we here to comfort each other and/or challenge the larger community?



MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers, President

Financial Stewardship for UU Churches in the 21st Century

I attended an all-day seminar held at the UU Church of Akron on Saturday, October 18.

The seminar was sponsored by the Ohio Meadville District (OMD) of the UU Association of Congregations in North America (UUA). The UUA is the source of the magazine, "UU World", which is received by All Souls members. The OMD includes our own All Souls Church and 45 other UU Congregations in Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Western New York State.

The seminar was designed to provide interaction among leaders of UU Churches in the OMD. The subject was "Financial Stewardship". Participants included representatives from the largest UU Churches in the district (Columbus) to one of the smallest (All Souls of Bellville).

I heard about many plans and methods used in persuading Congregations to support their churches and the principles of Unitarian Universalism. When all reports and discussions were considered and boiled down, the most effective approach seemed to be direct, honest communications between Congregation Members and their leaders.

Being a recognized UU Church, All Souls is creedless - but not needless! That is to say, All Souls does not require its members to contribute a particular amount of money, but the church does have bills to pay. The basic expenses include utilities, insurance, maintenance of our beautiful, historic building, paying guest speakers, musicians, church secretary, part-time Minister and incidentals.

All Souls has a relatively low budget because there is no building mortgage and a full time Minister is not employed. However, since our membership is small, the financial responsibilities fall on fewer individuals.

So, you ask, "How much should I contribute per year?" The short answer is "nothing", because contributions are voluntary and up to you. However, most members do contribute because they want to.

To determine the amount of your "fair share", divide the amount of the church budget by the number of members. Then decide if that amount is more or less than you can give or want to give.

Whatever you decide to contribute will be deeply appreciated by the Board and will be used democratically for the good of your church.

...from Ann Kilgore, Vice President

The Committee on Ministries has been re-established and is ready to listen to comments, suggestions and respectful complaints. This committee consists of a Behavioral Covenant and Covenant of Respectful Relations. We will listen with an open mind to the opinions, ideas and concerns of others, and we will respond with thoughtfulness and sensitivity. We will honor the confidentiality and private disclosures of others. You may contact Ann Kilgore, Sandy Macpherson or Linda Wilson to present any issues you feel may need addressed.

...from Joanne Gillum, Treasurer

SEPTEMBER 2014 REPORT

SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

	September	Y-T-D
Income:		
Pledges	1,945.00	6,986.00
Offerings	323.00	1,495.11
Kenya Coin Collection	73.50	250.31
Rummage Sale	0.00	900.50
Recycle	0.00	61.38
Total	2,341.50 *	9,693.30
Expenses:	2,834.01	9,232.05
Difference:	(492.51)	461.25

* A monthly income of \$3,064.33 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$36,772.00

SEPTEMBER PLEDGE REPORT

Total members	27	Average Attendance	52
Total pledges	21		

	September	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	1,659.00	6,245.00
Amount Received	1,945.00	6,986.00
Variance	+286.00	+741.00

...from Bruce Kilgore, Fellowship Trustee

You all have a great opportunity to help with our next money-making event. Our annual Holiday Bazaar, Luncheon and Bake Sale! Many levels of help and/or contributions are needed. If you have already signed up, thank you! Three days of help are needed.....

Saturday, Nov. 1 from 3:00 pm - ?.....We will start the afternoon making Buckeyes and peanut butter ball rollers and chocolate dippers are requested. After making Buckeyes, let's order pizza and then start on hard tack candy. Cutters of candy and powdered sugar sifters would be a big help. I will do all the cooking. If candy making isn't your idea of a good time, we could use one or two people to wrap silverware in napkins.

On Sunday, Nov. 2.....Please bring evergreens and pine cones for Holiday Swag making after coffee hour. Please stay to help if you desire.

Friday, Nov. 7 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Holiday Bazaar Set-Up

Bring your like-new treasures, antiques, collectibles, special clothing or other items that could make nice gifts. Any donated food items for the lunch or bake sale may be brought to the church on this evening.

Saturday, Nov. 8 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.....Pie cutters, dish washers, food servers, clean-up people, etc. are needed in the kitchen and bazaar. Please see the sign-up sheet for times. Monetary donations may be made for supplies, food and advertising expenses. We would like to make available someone for lunch take-out delivery.

We hope to see you there for one of these times!

Sunday, Nov. 30...The Pot Luck this month will be a Baked Potato Bar. The church will furnish the baked potatoes, and a sign-up sheet will be circulated for the toppings.

...from Reed Richmond, Social Action Trustee

We had a lively meeting on the first Tuesday of October at 7:00 pm.

The group thought that having a social action night with "Candles for Peace" would be a nice event. We will try to find a date to organize that. Would a summer night work better for most? This is something we would announce in all the area papers. The last time I went to an event like this in Bellville, it was well attended.

We thought it would be fun to have peace signs at the 13 & 97 intersection. What days would work for most people: weekdays? Saturdays? Sundays from 11 am to 1 p.m.? Signs can be made for "Honk for Peace" or whatever you'd like to hold.

One of the items that came up was what has happened to our FINCA fund. The answer came in the mail that week. The FINCA Bank is asking for more donations, of course, but our original \$5,000.00 is still in the bank and being loaned out to women around the world to start their own businesses to support their families and help their communities. They pay back the loan, and it continues to another woman in need.

I am still dragging my feet on getting information about becoming a Welcoming Church, but I hope to have that in hand soon and presented to the Board.

One last item: We have heavy blank white boards downstairs to draw signs on. We are looking for a couple of hardy souls to stand on the corner of 97 & 13 and 97 & Bell Street to wave people into the Bazaar and Luncheon on November 8 from 10 am to Noon. Of course, we still have to make up the signs, too. Let me know if you can help! (see Reed)

...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

The fall work day was held on Saturday, October 11, beginning at 8:30 am with coffee and donuts and ending at noon. 13 volunteers completed 12 jobs. I want to thank everyone who participated. Though everyone worked hard, I want to recognize Jay Gilbert, who painted the vestibule. This was on the list of proposed maintenance projects and suggests that we may be able to complete some of these ourselves.

With the flu season coming, it is important that we sanitize the nursery on a regular basis. If anyone would like to volunteer for this project please let me know. Regarding the proposed maintenance projects, I will be obtaining cost estimates for each project with the idea in mind that in 5 years we will be celebrating the 125th birthday of the church building; and, hopefully, some of these improvements will be completed.

We have several months before we can begin the construction of a new church sign. Send me your ideas/suggestions on the design of the sign or its location by November 15. At that time, a meeting will be scheduled to begin the process of design recommendations, cost estimates and board/congregational approval.



...from Judy Shaffer, Pastoral Care Trustee

PASTORAL CARE DUTIES

Teasha Sprague is assisting
with the Pastoral Care Duties.

If you cannot reach Judy, please contact Teasha at 440-622-1611.

Please contact Judy Shaffer for the following areas of Pastoral Care:

- coordination of welcome and follow up with visitors
- coordination of cards and visits to shut-ins
- gathering of concerns about members: health, family and individual issues
- organizing a list of members willing to do visits when needed
- coordination of general contact and check-ins with members and friends

Please contact Rev. Karen Bruno for the following areas of Pastoral Care:

- significant life changes: divorce, serious illness, hospitalization, surgery, a close friend or family member dies or is hospitalized
- you are experiencing some kind of loss, stress or minor mental health concern
- you are spiritually or emotionally searching and want a listening ear

...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Trustee

Adult Religious Education just wrapped up its video & discussion on Islam. From what I've heard, it was a very interesting and lively class. The two DVDs used are available for members and friends to borrow.

Starting November 2 @ 9:00 am, the adults will use the book "Lifecraft: The Art of Meaning in the Everyday", written by Forrest Church, a UU minister, to explore the meaning of life. From a review by "Booklist"..."Lifecraft" is a profoundly moving book that brings to the surface many issues most people think about only when away from the din and clatter of daily living. What is the meaning of life? Where did we come from? Why did we turn up when and where we did? Why are we born only to die? By questioning what life means, Church observes, we try to create meaning. In his view, life becomes a series of works in progress, each not inherently more important than any other, perhaps, but together giving our limited time on Earth form and ultimately a sense of purpose. "Lifecraft" is full of wise and wonderful moments, in which varied and often conflicting sides of life receive their proper due." This is a four-session class. Books are available for sale on the bookshelf at the bottom of the stairs in the Fellowship Hall (used copies range in price from \$4-\$8). The book is rather small and not a difficult read. Please read the first chapter before the first session, if possible. If you need to borrow a book due to financial hardship, please let Liz Hansen know.

The youth will continue their once a month Religious Education, which runs during our worship service on Sundays. The younger children will continue with the Dr. Seuss Curriculum and the older children with "Popcorn Theology", using popular movies to explore UU principles.

If you have any ideas for religious education or would like to lead/facilitate a class, please let Liz know!

Bromfield's Thoughts on Thankfulness...submitted by Ann Kilgore

Well-loved American novelist, Louis Bromfield, wrote this prayer for the Thanksgiving Season.

Oh Lord, I thank you for the privilege and gift of living in a world filled with beauty and excitement and variety.

I thank you for the gift of loving and being loved, for the friendliness and understanding and beauty of the animals on the farm and in the forest and marshes, for the green of the trees, the sound of a waterfall, the darting beauty of the trout in the brook.

I thank you for delights of music and children, of other men's thoughts and conversation and their books to read by the fireside or in bed with the rain falling on the roof or the snow blowing past outside the window.

I thank you for the beauties of the four seasons and of the churches and the houses built by fellow men that stand throughout the centuries as monuments to man's aspirations and sense of beauty.

I thank you for the powers of mind which find in the universe an endless and inexhaustible source of interest and fascination, for the understanding of so many elements which make life precious.

I thank you for all the senses you have bestowed upon me and for the delights which they bring me. I thank you for my body itself which is so wonderful and delightful a mechanism.

I thank you for the smile on the face of a woman, for the touch of a friend's hand, for the laughter of a child, the wagging tail of a dog and the touch of his cold nose against my face.

I thank you for all these things and many more and above all I thank you for people with all their goodness and understanding which so far outweigh their vices, their envy, their deceits.

Thank you, God, for life itself, without which the universe would have no meaning.



...from Mandy Waltz, Media, Advertising and Growth Trustee

I contacted my uncle, who has been in media for many years, for advice. I asked him about getting our name out there by getting more active with rights and campaigns because he is also very active in supporting gay rights. He says, "Marketing can be tricky. One misstep can be blown out of proportion and make other groups avoid ours. So it's good to be careful and do some planning before jumping into a campaign". He says he is willing to help if he can, and he can look into a few things for us if needed."

He wanted to look up our mission statement and asked if we were on Facebook and Twitter and if we had a website. I gave him the Facebook page, and he said it was very good. But, he also said he didn't see the website on the Facebook page. So we need to correct that.

Another good thing is that when he googled churches in Bellville, ours was one of the few to come up! And that's good. But, the web link goes to some other site in Chinese or Japanese or some other language.

I didn't know we had a Twitter account because I'm not on Twitter so I didn't give him that info, but he said that we did good being on Foursquare & Yelp. However, he did find us on Twitter and said "yay! You do have a Twitter account, it's easy and it looks like someone already has FB posts automatically tweeting! @AllSoulsOhio which is great...but, the Twitter account also gives the wrong web address, and that might be where Google is getting it". So, we need to contact Google and get the website they give out for our church changed to the correct one.

I then gave him the correct website address and he said it looked really nice. (Although it's registered with Go Daddy, which is inexpensive, but has a conservative/sexist owner. Might shop around for a host that's more like-minded to our church and inexpensive.)

He said we should be starting with basics before talking about any kind of campaign we might want to start. Get ducks in a row first.

- So we need to put our web address on our Facebook page.
- Put the correct address on Twitter.
- Contact Google so they have our correct web address in the search engine.
- Find a more like-minded host for our website than Go Daddy.

That's it for now.



...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

Time is going by very quickly, and the time to book new speakers for the new year is bearing down. I have been spending a lot of time getting information on our current, past and possible new speakers organized. We will see some of our familiar faces coming back in the first half of the year, but my goal by June is to start to introduce some new speakers and mix it up a little more.

Looking into November.....

Saturday, November 1 @ 3:00 pm, we will be making candy for the Bazaar.

At 7:00 pm Nov. 1, everyone is invited to a wild and rocking Halloween Party at Jacqueline & Brian Moore's Barn 3072 State Route 430, Mansfield - PH 419-589-7707. Wear a costume, and BYOB and treats to share. Karaoke inside the barn and bonfire and fun music outside.

Sunday Nov. 2: Karen Bruno is the speaker - "Moving from Grump to Gratitude". Sandy Macpherson is leading the service and the Trio will provide the music. Reminder, also bring evergreens for swag making.

Friday, Nov. 7: 5:00 - 8:00 pm is the set up for the Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon.

Saturday, Nov. 8: 9:00 am -2:00 pm Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon.

Sunday Nov. 9: Dr. Walter Kania is our speaker, and Joan Richmond is leading the service with the Trio providing the music.

Sunday Nov.16: Rev. Karen Bruno is our speaker, and Reed Richmond is leading the service with Ayesha Fry providing the music.

Sunday Nov. 23: Glenn Myers is our speaker - "Kokosing History", and Brian Moore is leading the service with the Trio providing the music.

Thursday Nov. 27: Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday Nov. 30: Julia Corbett-Hemeyer is the speaker, and Bruce Kilgore is leading the service with Ayesha Fry providing the music. Also, Kenya Coin Collection and the Potluck Baked Potato Bar.

I was approached by Teasha Sprague and Eric Sargent expressing interest in joining the Pulpit Committee and being service leaders. We will welcome them into the rotation after the first of the year. Thank you!

Until next time...Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls.



HOLIDAY BAZAAR & LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

You may have heard a word or two about the Holiday Bazaar on November 8. Here are a few more . . .

This is one of the two biggest fundraisers for the year, so your participation is a must. You can participate in several ways:

1. Bring nice items (the kind you would feel good giving to a friend) for the bazaar sale. No dusty, soiled, tattered, not sure if it works items.
2. Bring a baked good – homemade pies, cookies or candy for the bake sale (specialty breads are fine, too).
3. Bring nice (clean) used clothing (anything not sold will go to the BNOC).
4. Bring nice (clean) children's clothing.
5. Bring yourself as a volunteer to help either with the sales or in the kitchen. We will especially need people after the activities to help with clean-up.

If you bring items for the bazaar, please put a price on every item you bring (this includes ALL clothing items – bonus if you mark sizes!).

When to bring items:

- 1) Bazaar Items
 - Sunday, November 2. In fact, make an effort to bring something Sunday, November 2, and we'll be ahead of the game!
 - Friday, Nov. 7 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 - Saturday, Nov. 8 from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- 2) Luncheon/Bake Sale Items: salads, soups, pop, etc.
 - Friday from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm or Saturday morning, Nov. 8, before 9:00 a.m.

GOOD SELLERS: CDs/DVDs/VHSs, current/classic novels & books, kid's toys, board games, power tools, artwork, jewelry and sporting equipment, etc. Remember holiday items like decorations. Mugs are okay if Holiday-oriented. Any item in good working condition or in original packaging that would make a good gift is okay.

POOR SELLERS: DO NOT BRING magazines, old textbooks and encyclopedias, items not working at all or completely trashed, or dirty cookware.

NO PRESALES TO MEMBERS: If you are interested in an item you see in advance of the Bazaar, come to the sale and get it. While you are here, you might just want to have lunch, too!

Everything (Bazaar/Bake Sale/Luncheon) will be in the Fellowship Hall.

Clothing in the Children's room.

Questions?

Ask Bruce Kilgore, Ann Kilgore, Judy Shaffer, Chuck Rhodes, LD Ball, Mike Garber or Reed Richmond. They've worked the last several Bazaars from start to finish.

THANK YOU!

Reed Richmond

NOVEMBER LIVING LOTUS ZEN SANGHA SCHEDULE

Mon. Nov. 3: 6:30pm-7:30pm (?)

Informal Text Group Discussion *Inside the Grass Hut*: Chap. 1-3
Relax Coffee Shop, 105 N. Main St., Mansfield

Mon. Nov. 10: 6:30pm-8:30pm, Sangha Sit & Dharma Talk
All Souls Unitarian Church, 25 Church St., Bellville

Sat. Nov. 15: 8:30am-5pm, Zazenkai (day long retreat)
1016 Cutters Creek Drive, Cleveland

Mon. Nov. 24 - NO SITTING (Due to Thanksgiving Travels)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PRACTICE WITH US :)
(No previous meditation experience is needed.)

The church is opened at 6:00 p.m. Please enter from the side door. We meet upstairs. *We would request that you please plan to arrive before 6:30 pm to allow everyone to be settled to begin sitting Meditation Zazen at 6:30pm.*

Loaner meditation cushions (*Zafus & Zabutons*) are available.

In addition, for those who prefer or need them, upright church pews are available to sit on during the sitting meditation (*Zazen*) periods.

Regular Sittings/Service Schedule

- *Zazen* (Sitting Meditation) - We begin first period of Zazen at 6:30 p.m. (25 minutes)
- *Kinhin* (Walking Meditation)- Walking meditation, following Zazen (10 minutes)
- *Zazen* (Sitting Meditation) - Second period (25 minutes)
- Liturgy - Heart Sutra, chanting and prostrations** (approx. 10 minutes)
- Dharma Talk Shared by Sensei Dean Williams (approx. 1 hour)

**In Zen and other traditional Buddhist services, there is a lot of bowing. Note that this act in Buddhism has very different meanings than traditional Western associations.

"In Buddhism it's not divinity we're acknowledging, but our capacity for awakening and the non-duality of existence. It's a spiritual exchange in which we recognize the unique importance of each being in the universe as well as the smallness of the Self." Seth Segall - "Why Do Buddhists Bow?"

Please contact Jackie Moore if you would like more information. Thank you!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Alden Hansen – Nov. 1
Bryan Bartsch – Nov. 3
Morley Smith – Nov. 3

Alasdair Nugent – Nov. 4
Ed Fox – Nov. 5
Jacqueline Allen – Nov. 19

Carol Bernhardt – Nov. 25
Eric Sargent – Nov. 26

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

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR NOVEMBER

November 2: Rev. Karen Bruno
November 9: Dr. Walter Kania
November 16: Rev. Karen Bruno

November 23: Glenn Myers
November 30: Julia Corbett-Hemeyer

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Candy Making for Holiday Bazaar: Saturday, November 1 @ 3:00 pm

Bring Evergreens for Swag Making: Sunday, November 2

R.E. Dr. Seuss Curriculum – “The Lorax” (ages 5-10): Sunday, November 2 During the Service

All Souls 101: Sunday, November 2 @ 12:30 pm at Brumby’s

Social Action/Justice Group Discussion: Tuesday, November 4 @ 7:00 pm

Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon Set-Up: Friday, November 7 – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon: Saturday, November 8 – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

R.E. Popcorn Theology – “Fellowship of the Rings” (ages 11-18): Sunday, Nov. 9 During the Service

Sangha Sit & Dharma Talk: Monday, November 10 @ 6:30 pm

Board Meeting: Sunday, November 16 @ 9:00 am

Kenya Coin Collection: Sunday, November 30

Pot Luck: Sunday, November 30 – Baked Potato Bar

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