

ALL SOULS SEPTEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

As I begin this new position, talking to so many and sharing laughter, insights, anger, and hope, I know that I am in the steepest part of my learning curve. The deep wounds that some have shared, the capacity of growth, forgiveness and community building that, like a Phoenix rises from the ashes, we can rise above, soaring ever higher.

I know that when we focus on the cessation of suffering, we can remove the obstacles to this transformation. I believe that partnering is a way to do this.

When organizations, groups and individuals partner, we can pool resources and burst through roadblocks. We are making some informal groups. Some of these are the pastoral care team, others are advocacy based, and others are social clusters based in geography. Each of these are designed to help us come together more, capitalizing on our greatest resource, our people. I, like most of you, look forward each week to the Sunday's coffee hour fellowship time.

I look forward to working with you, walking and talking with you, as we map out our collective and individual growth. If there are issues that arise, or time you need to talk, please call me.

At our last board meeting, Glenn was talking about the pastoral care contact. I responded that "for Pastoral Care needs, contact the Pastor".....just makes sense. I look forward to hearing from you!

William Humphrey
Pastor

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 Glenn Myers, President

IS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM A WEED IN THE GARDEN OF CHURCHES?

No, I haven't completely lost it. I'm thinking about the Seven Principles that we affirm and promote, and particularly Number Seven.

"We respect the interdependent web of all existence"

When we sow a garden, various domesticated species of plants are planted. Plants that produce fruits, seeds, or edible tissues that we desire. Then they are watered, sprayed, dusted, loved, and maybe even fondled - all good for the plants and the gardener's soul.

Before long other plants, not planted by the gardener, begin to grow. Wet season, or dry season, they grow. And grow and grow. They crowd-out or shade-out the gardener's pets. They will be hated, cursed, and physically attacked, and may be defeated for the growing season, if the gardener doesn't weaken. However, chances are after most of the harvest is accomplished, these party-crashers will cover the garden plot before winter. For certain, they will be back next year.

Some call these invaders WEEDS. I call them NATIVE PLANTS. Just as we are socially haunted by the treatment of Native Americans, gardeners and farmers are continually harassed by Native Plants. (Karma?)

Why are these "weeds" so persistent? Don't they get it? They are not wanted - the gardener wants tomatoes, strawberries, lettuce, peas, green beans, and other garden delicacies. And why don't they stay killed?

The answer is that the "weeds" are a natural part of the interdependent web of all existence. They have evolved over thousands of years with the climate, the soil, and the insects and worms (the key word is WITH). They are adapted for survival (and reproduction). Garden plants are selected and designed by man for specific purposes - to produce fruits and veggies for human consumption.

Now, which are the invaders? The native plants or the garden plants? Good question, but one thing for certain, the native plants have the home-court advantage.

In the church world, the denominations are based on beliefs, while Unitarian Universalism, guided by the Seven Principles, is based on humankind being a part of the natural evolving mix with the Universe God caressing every atom, every molecule, and every aspect of all things and beings.

Many denominations refer to the UU Church as the outcast (the "weed") in the religious world (some even declaring that it's not even a church) because it refuses to take part in a culture that worships the fruits of the man-made garden. (In this scenario, I'm happy to be a "weed.")

In Unitarian Universalism, the fruit is personal SPIRITUALITY which exists. It cannot be cultivated, rather it is to be sought and discovered.

See You in Church at All Souls!

JULY TREASURER'S REPORT

	JUNE	Y-T-D
INCOME		
Pledges	2,435.00	2,435.00
Offerings	553.00	553.00
Donations - Maintenance Fund	0.00	.00
Kenya Coin Collection	125.30	125.30
Rummage Sale	1,133.99	1,133.99
Recycle	0.00	0.00
Minister's Discretionary Fund	0.00	0.00
Other	<u>0.37</u>	<u>0.37</u>
TOTAL	4,247.66*	4,247.66
EXPENSES	3,012.08**	3,012.08
DIFFERENCE	1,235.58	1,235.58

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

**Expenses Other than "Usual"

Gay Pride Parade - \$150.00

Table Purchase - \$79.00

Computer Repair - \$100.00

Furnace & A/C Contracts - \$290.00

JULY PLEDGE REPORT

Total Units	31
Total Pledges	24
Average Attendance	65

	JULY	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	3,731.00.00	3,731.00.00
Amount Received	<u>3,235.00.00</u>	<u>3,235.00.00</u>
VARIANCE	-496.00	-496.00

...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

Jay Gilbert volunteered to prepare and paint the outside basement windows. Most have been scraped and primed. Several are in terrible condition, rotten frames, which will require some repairs before he can complete this project. Completion date is August 31.

Top soil has been spread along the edges of the sidewalks to eliminate the abrupt drop off, which has caused people to trip. This area has been seeded and, hopefully, we will see grass growing soon. Of course, rain would help. Anyone wishing to help water the planted grass, let me know. We have garden hose and watering cans.

Thanks to Sign Graphix, we have sandstone blocks for the planter at our sign. Sign Graphix donated the blocks, and all we had to do was pick them up. Thanks to Glenn Myers and Levi Waltz, we have enough stone to complete the sign project, maybe by the end of August.

We still have two more projects to complete before winter: painting of the front door (outside) and painting the handrail. October 10 is tentatively scheduled for our fall work day. Let me know of your suggestions for work projects or work preferences.

...from Mike Garber, Finance Trustee

The Board has approved the fund raising project developed and presented by Marjorie and Morley Smith. This project involves selling the following at General Assembly in Columbus: June 22-26, 2016.

Buckeye Chalice Cookies, Healthy Oatmeal Cookies

One of a Kind Note Cards (Suitable for Framing)

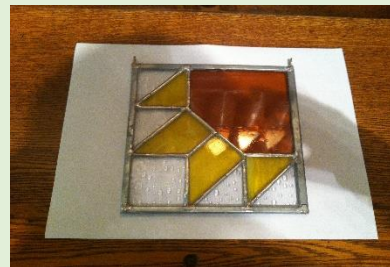
Fused Glass Pendants

Stained Glass Sun Catchers - Underground Railroad Quilt Code Patterns



Log Cabin

Safe to come in for food, rest and directions to the next step on the journey.



Bear Paw

Follow the bear footprints for the path through the Appalachian Mountains to Ohio from the South East States.

Seed money of \$500.00 has been donated. We are asking for donations to match that amount.

Please give any designated donations to Joanne Gillum.

The estimated income from this project is \$4,500 - \$5,000 for renovation of the sanctuary.

This project will require participation by most of the congregation.

Beginning Sunday, August 23, sign-up sheets will be available for choosing one of three tutorial workshops. The workshops will be held in M&M Smith's Mount Vernon studio. Participants will make a 6"x6" sun catcher. For details and more information, please check with the Smiths.

All Souls needs a new banner for the General Assembly Opening Banner Parade. Anyone interested in designing and making a banner, please contact a Board member.

...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Committee Chair

Adult RE - Racism and Reality

Facilitator: Glenn Myers

Sunday, September 27 @ 9:00 am

Session I

- A) Share personal life experiences with racism (positive and negative).
- B) Consider complexities of racism: personal (genetic, learned or both), systemic (evolutionary), or combination?
- C) Prejudice vs./Racism - - - Reverse racism?

Sunday, October 4 @ 9:00 am

Session II

The UU Church and Racism

- A) The UUA policies to alleviate racial problems in America.
- B) What can a local UU church do to facilitate better race relations?

Sunday, October 11 @ 9:00 am

Session III

- A) Interview Alice Williams, President Mansfield Chapter of the NAACP. Alice, 68, was born in Mississippi to parents who were sharecroppers, worked in the cotton fields as a child, and somehow eventually earned a college degree and taught in Mansfield City Schools for 30 years before retiring in 2003.

Sunday, Oct. 25 @ 9:00 am

Session IV

If necessary for summary and review.



Pastor Will Humphrey with his children, Olivia and Benjamin, light candles during Joys and Concerns, while Leader, Cheryl Church, looks on.

“WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY”

...from Bruce Kilgore, Fellowship Trustee

Thank you to all who have signed up for coffee hour snacks and clean-up. We will be needing some help with clean-up on August 30 at Palm Park. Remember, ham and drinks are furnished. Bring a dish to share and your own table service.

The church will once again have a produce display table at the Bellville Street Fair, September 16 - 19. Please bring any produce, fruit, flowers, vegetables, grains and herbs to the church at or before noon on Wednesday, September 16. Outdoor pots or hanging baskets with plants can also be used, along with cornstalks, dried beans, broom corn and sunflowers on long stalks. See Ann Kilgore or Bruce Kilgore for any questions.

The September covered dish will be Sunday, September 27. Coffee hour snack providers, please remember that our average attendance is now 65. Please adjust food amounts accordingly. Maybe two or more people could sign up together.



**ALL SOULS BLUE RIBBON AWARD
BELLVILLE STREET FAIR 2014**

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

As I am writing this, it feels more like early fall than mid-August, but that's the kind of year it has been. The "Each One Reach One" rally certainly felt like the dog days of late summer. Nonetheless, it was a pleasure and privilege to be there representing All Souls with Sandy and Glenn. If I missed anyone else, I apologize.

The event was a real success in the tradition of MLK and the non-violent change movement. I think it was a stitch or two in the process of mending Mansfield. The coalition will be having its next major event in October. I'll follow-up with details as they become available.

Since I have not had any suggestions for a planning/organizational meeting for the SA/SJ committee, I'm going to call for anyone who wants to be involved to meet after coffee hour on Sunday, September 20, at Brumby's.

PEACE

...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the pulpit committee. These are the leaders of our Sunday service. First, I will acknowledge our old school leaders who have been on the pulpit probably before I was a member of All Souls. They bring a lot of experience and talent to our Sunday service. Thank you Joan and Reed Richmond and Bruce Kilgore. Next, a big thank you to my new leaders who have been doing a terrific job as well. Thank you Teasha and Eric Sargent and Cheryl Church. Thank you for stepping up and taking on this very important responsibility.

With that, I would like to invite anyone who wishes to be an important part of our service and lend your talents and creativity to our amazing Sunday mornings to contact me (Brian Moore) if you think you would like to be a part of our wonderful group of pulpit leaders.

I would also like to thank all who step up and take the time to find and read a nice story for our Children's Moment. I would like to ask that all who do so in the future, make sure the leader has given you the microphone to speak in and that you read and speak loud enough for the entire congregation to enjoy the story.

Next, I would like to invite everyone to our annual U.U. Labor Day potluck party. AKA Bill Millikin Memorial Party. Bill was the moderator when I came to All Souls and was a huge influence in my joining and becoming active in the church. Bill and his wife, Lou, hosted the Annual U.U. Labor Day party until he became ill with cancer and asked if we could take it over for him. So, for many years now we have hosted this event at our property at 3072 State Route 430 Mansfield, OH 44903 (419-589-7707).

Monday Sept. 7 - rain or shine. Please bring a covered dish and BYOB. All are welcome.

Also, September will bring our recycling collection day on the 20th, along with our Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up. We did a great job in the spring. If we keep at it, it will be an easy hike and a great community service. Also, Tao Bridge will be playing music on the patio at the Oak Park Tavern Restaurant on Sept. 27, from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. If you have not been to the Oak Park, this will be a great opportunity. Or, if you have, either way a great night for fine dining, live music and fellowship. And this may be our last gig until May?

Looking Ahead to September

September 6

Speaker: Rev. Chris Mason, BCC, MDiv.

Title: The Broken Journey - Giving and receiving support during experiences of grief and loss.

Topic: People experience many kinds of grief and loss: death of a loved one, loss of job, loss of relationship, etc. So what can we say to them? Should we say anything? What are some things to avoid when helping others experiencing grief? What are some steps to take in processing our own grief?

Leader: Teasha Sargent

Music: Ayesha Fry

Monday, September 7 @1:00 pm

U.U. Labor Day Potluck Party

Jacqueline & Brian Moore

3072 State Route 430, Mansfield, OH 44903

419-589-7707

...Pulpit & Worship cont.

September 13

Speaker: Dr. Walter Kania

Title: Our Story and the Fiction of Religion

Topic: Is religion a fiction? Is it just a story made up for people to believe? Does it matter whether or not it is true? And how does one know? Does a religion work only if everyone agrees to believe the story that is told? What is the only religion or story in the world that is true, that is agreed to by everyone? You will be very surprised to learn what it is!

Leader: Eric Sargent

Music: Trio Alla Breve

September 20

Board Meeting @ 9:00 am

Speaker: Sara Brink

Title: Embrace the Natural Cycle at Foxfield Preserve

Topic: Make your final act on this earth a gift to those you leave behind. Allow your body to return to the natural cycle, nourishing the earth. Your final act will conserve resources, expand wildlife habitat, provide clean air and a cleaner watershed, and fund nature education and conservation. Join us for an informational presentation on natural burial at the Foxfield Preserve, Ohio's first nature preserve cemetery, and learn more about this unique option. Foxfieldpreserve.org

Leader: Brian Moore

Music: Ayesha Fry

Recycling Collection and Highway Cleanup

September 27

Speaker: Sally Whiston

Title: The Unsinkable Molly Brown

Topic: Most only know Mrs. Brown through the movie starring Debbie Reynolds, which is totally designed for entertainment. She was a very caring, charitable Victorian lady who was very much ahead of her time. Always concerned for those less fortunate, she organized food banks, clothing drives and participated in marches for women's votes and unionizing.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore

Music: Trio Alla Breve

Kenya Coin Collection and Potluck

Tao Bridge @ Oak Park Tavern 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Peace, Love, and Namaste to All Souls

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

Hello All Souls! Due to recent losses, including my mind, I have neglected to get us registered in time for a spot in the Bellville Street Fair. With the church's permission, I have a back-up plan to set up a table on our own property. If anyone is interested, or has any thoughts or ideas, call or email me. Thanks! Call 419-961-4711 or email purpledragonfly12@gmail.com.

Living Lotus Zen Sangha

We are a Soto Zen Buddhist group (*Sangha*) for North Central Ohio (greater Mansfield, Ohio) area. Our guiding teacher is Sensei Dean Williams. We are a community here to support & welcome any or all interested in the path and teachings of the Buddha.

Find us on Facebook and our website, where you can subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter.
<http://www.livinglotus.org/>

Monday, September 14
6:30pm - 8:00pm at Relax, It's Just Coffee

NEED NOT HAVE ATTENDED PREVIOUS SESSIONS to jump in!

BOOK: "The Gateless Barrier" by Robert Aitken

Suggested Selections to Have Read before Discussion: "Case 3-Gutei's Finger":

"Whenever Gutei Oshō was asked about Zen, he simply raised his finger. Once a visitor asked Gutei's boy attendant, "What does your master teach?" The boy, too, raised his finger. Hearing of this, Gutei cut off the boy's finger with a knife. The boy, screaming with pain, began to run away. Gutei called to him, and when he turned around, Gutei raised his finger. The boy suddenly became enlightened. When Gutei was about to pass away, he said to his assembled monks, "I obtained one-finger Zen from Tenryū and used it all my life but still did not exhaust it." When he had finished saying this, he entered into eternal Nirvana."

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

Monday, September 28
6:30pm - 8:00pm at All Souls

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

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 in a chair.

Schedule

6:30 pm-6:50 pm - Zazen (sitting meditation)
6:50 pm-7:00 pm - Kinhin (walking meditation)
7:00 pm-7:20 pm - Zazen (second period of Zazen)
7:20 pm-7:30 pm - Liturgy - Heart Sutra, Chanting and Prostrations
7:30pm-8:00 pm - Sangha Discussion & Business

Brief Beginner's guide to Zazen & Kinhin

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

All Souls U.U. Church
RECYCLING COLLECTION DAY
Sunday, September 20



Please bring your recyclables to the church,
and the truck will be there
for collection before and after service.

Listed below are the main items Milliron accepts.

Please keep them sorted by categories.

ALUMINUM CANS: Please rinse thoroughly.

STEEL CANS: Please rinse thoroughly, and remove labels.

FERROUS & NON-FERROUS MATERIALS: Aluminum, Steel, Brass, Copper, Silver, Nickel, Platinum, Pewter, Bronze, Zinc, Die Cast, Etc.

PLASTIC: Please rinse thoroughly and throw away lids. Only plastic bottles and jugs with the recycle emblem stamped on the bottom. #1 PETE - such as pop bottles, and #2 HDPE such as laundry products, milk, juice, and water jugs.

NEWSPAPER: **No** books or magazines, phone books, or mail.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD: **No** boxboard or chipboard.

OFFICE MIX: Please shred if able to do so.

AUTOMOBILE / FORKTRUCK BATTERIES

PLEASE NO GLASS & PLEASE SEPARATE ALL CATEGORIES

You are also welcome to bring recyclables to our barn prior to the collection date.

Contact Jackie or Brian Moore 419-589-7707

All of the proceeds go to All Souls U.U. Church

Thank you



**Our Annual U.U.
Labor Day Potluck Party**

Monday Sept.7, 2015
1:00 pm

Rain or Shine
(We will have the party in the warehouse if rain.)

at Jacqueline & Brian Moore's
3072 State Route 430
Mansfield, OH 44903
Phone: 419-589-7707

**Please bring a Covered Dish & BYOB.
Everything else will be provided.**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Analysa Kilgore – Sept. 1
Colin Nugent – Sept. 1
Dennis Mizer – Sept. 4

Liz Hansen – Sept. 6
Ariane Manley – Sept. 7
Lana McBride – Sept. 11

Nula Hansen – Sept. 19
Jane Price – Sept. 27
LaDonna O’Neal – Sept. 28

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

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR SEPTEMBER

September 6: Chris Mason September 20: Sara Brink
September 13: Dr. Walter Kania September 27: Sally Whiston

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Adult RE: Military Ministry Class with facilitator, L.D. Ball** – Sunday, September 6 @ 9:00 am
- Children’s RE: “World of Wonders”** – Sunday, September 6 During the Service
- Annual U.U. Labor Day Potluck Party** – Monday, September 7 @ 1:00 pm at the home of Jackie & Brian Moore
- Children’s RE: “World of Wonders”** – Sunday, September 13 During the Service
- Adult RE: Military Ministry class with facilitator, L.D. Ball** – Sunday, September 13 @ 9:00 am
- Buddhist Book Discussion “The Gateless Barrier”** - Monday, September 14 @ 6:30 pm at Relax It’s Just Coffee
- Bellville Street Fair** – September 16 – 19
- All Souls Recycling Collection & Highway Clean-Up** – Sunday, September 20
- Board Meeting** - Sunday, September 20 @ 9:00 am
- Children’s RE: “World of Wonders”** – Sunday, September 20 During the Service
- Adult RE: “Racism and Reality”** – Sunday, September 27 @ 9:00 am
- Children’s RE: “World of Wonders”** – Sunday, September 27 During the Service
- Living Lotus Zen Sangha** – Monday, September 28 @ 6:30 pm at All Souls
- Questions for Your Answers Discussion & Breakfast** - Wednesday, Sept. 30 @ 10:00 am at Bob Evans-Hanley Rd.

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