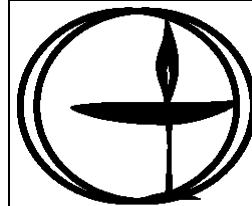


UU Update

December, 2008

Volume 12, Issue 12



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP
OF DOOR COUNTY

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations.

December Sunday Services

December 7: The Rev. Cynthia Johnson

What Matters Most?

The John Michael Kohler Art Center extended an invitation to artists: "Utilize imagery or objects in a collage or an assemblage representing what matters most in your life." It's a good question to ask ourselves in this reflective season of Advent, in this pause between a presidential election and the inauguration.

Cynthia Johnson, a retired UU minister, served congregations in Texas and Oklahoma before moving to Door County in 2000. Cynthia preaches regularly at UUFDC and occasionally at other UU congregations but spends more time these days reading, writing, and painting.

Music: Gerri Friedberg

December 14: The Rev. Phillips Sweet

The Marvelous Fairy Tale of Christmas

Every child feels neglected. Santa Claus is a symbol of warmth and caring. He knows where you are, even if you've moved. And he doesn't come

from next door, but all the way from the North Pole. A reflection.

Rev. Sweet is a popular and frequent speaker at UUFDC. He served as minister for two rural churches in western Minnesota and for Hope Church in Sturgeon Bay.

Service Leader: Chuck Lauter

Music: Gerri Friedberg

December 21: The Rev. Joan Shiels

4 PM Holiday Service

No Morning Service

A Light in the Darkness

All the songs and stories tell us that something extraordinary happened one clear, starry night long, long ago. We'll look for the light in these beautiful songs and stories and ask some questions---- like What does THEN have to do with NOW? And what does THAT have to do with US?

Rev. Joan Shiels is a long-time friend of the fellowship. She serves Unitarian and United Church of Christ congregations all over Wisconsin.

Music: Gerri Friedberg and Choir

December 28: Henry Timm Our Myths Delivered: The Necessity of Metaphor in a "Rational" Age

The impact of the age of reason was to advance the scientific method as the final arbiter of the ultimate nature of reality. Yet even with science there are hidden variables that can only be experienced through metaphor. Henry will explore some of the ways that we express these mysteries in our literature.

Henry C. Timm is co-editor of the Peninsula Pulse Literary Pages. His column, "Authors and After Words" appears regularly therein. Along with criticism he has written poetry, plays, short stories, and novels. He has acted, produced and/or directed a lifetime of theater with professionals and amateurs, children and adults. He regularly teaches craft courses at Third Avenue Playhouse, Great Books seminars at The Clearing in the summer and film appreciation with his wife Joan at The Clearing in winter.

Service Leader: Garrett Cohn

Music: Gerri Friedberg

Services are Sundays at 10:00 AM at 10431 Water Street (Hwy 42) north of Ephraim.

Are you a musician? Do you enjoy music? If so, here are two opportunities for you to contribute to the enrichment of our Sunday services. Contact Gerri Friedberg at 868-1342 if you would like to either share your musical talents or have a favorite piece of music you would like to hear during a Sunday service. The latter will, of course, depend upon the fit of such a piece to the topic being presented. Become involved - offer your input and your talents.

Copies of the Sunday Sermons are available on CD. Contact AL Wittenkeller, 839-2800 or

aljudy@dcwis.com

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President's Message

By Garrett Cohn

It is hard, nay impossible, not to notice the U.S. economy is in full retreat. The victory by Barrack Obama has done nothing to prop up the economics as the unemployed percentage keeps climbing towards 8% and beyond.

But at the UUFDC there is plenty of work. Take a look at the Sunday Service list of announcements on the back page. Isn't there something in which you would like to be involved? Or see the month's calendar in this UU Update.

We are not isolated from the rest of the U.S. here in Door County. Plenty of us are noticing the impact of the economy on our savings, 401K, etc. Even with dropping gas prices approaching 2003 levels, this is about the only information that can bring a smile to our face.

So what answer is there from the UUFDC to dispel (or lessen) these times of concern and despair. The answer is to immerse yourself in one of the UUFDC's various projects—or start your own. Really, do you have an idea or previous experience that can add to the palette of opportunity here? Just email me your thoughts. I will pass them on to the Governing Board.

And by the way, hats off and a big shout of THANKS to Bob Lindahl for donating the fabulous digital piano now residing in the Gathering Room. Thank you Bob from the Governing Board and all UUFDC members.

Follow my suggestion and allay your economic fears by becoming involved in a UUFDC project of your choice. Just let me know what you would like.

Our Mitten Tree

By Cynthia Oliver



Around December 1, Bob Lindahl and Ray Dilulio will be cutting down our Holiday Tree and putting it up in our Gathering Room. The trees are volunteers on Bob's property and now we need *Our Volunteers* to donate **MITTENS** and **HATS** and **SCARVES** to decorate the tree. These Mittens, Hats and Scarves will ultimately be donated to Clothe My People. Any Size, Shape or Color will be appreciated - girls and boys of all ages will be the recipients! You may buy them OR knit them Or crochet them OR take them from your stash of new winter clothes.

Let's fill our Mitten Tree for all those who need warmth from our hearts and from the clothes we donate.

Cynthia Oliver Joins UUFDC

By Dottie Gerrits



Cynthia joined UUFDC on May 4, 2008. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, raised in a Chicago suburb and graduated from the University of Illinois.

In 1999, Cynthia retired from her massage therapy practice in a northern suburb of Chicago to live on the road. She sold her condo, giving away her furniture and everything that couldn't fit in her car or her small rented storage unit. She gave some of her paintings to her children and lent others to friends for safe keeping. Originally, Cynthia thought she would be on the road for two years; however, she discovered she loved traveling throughout the United States - house sitting, animal sitting, taking temporary jobs and living in her tent.

Cynthia fell in love with Door County when she worked for The Clearing in 2001 and 2002. Nevertheless, the road beckoned her again and she continued her travels, house sitting in Port Townsend, Washington for a year and working for the YMCA of the Rocky Mountains.

In the fall of 2005, she returned to Door County and now lives in Sister Bay (furnished thanks to the generous furniture donations of friends and thrift stores). Cynthia has a son, daughter-in-law and one year old twin granddaughters outside of Dallas, Texas and another son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons near Albany, New York.

Cynthia enjoys painting with a variety of media, creating with polymer clay, carving birds, writing poems, updating and tweaking her memoirs. She belongs to the Northern Door Storytelling Guild and plays a little on her handmade and carved Native American flutes.

Cynthia was raised Catholic and has spent years searching for a spiritual practice and a community she feels comfortable with. The Unitarian Universalist philosophy, and particularly, the Door County Fellowship, are filling that need.

December Artist: Beth Ciesar

By Meg Vermillion

Beth relates that she has "always had (my) fingers in art." She began at the age of 5, when Beth and her two sisters visited the Art Institute of Chicago. From that early beginning, Beth always had a paint brush in her hand, graduated in Fine Arts from Purdue University and used her art education in whatever setting she was in. After a career in design in Chicago, she settled in Fish Creek where for 22 years she owned Founders' Square, using those same artistic skills.

Embellishing upon her painting and interior designing in 2001, she began rug hooking after a class in Williamsburg, VA. Still connecting with her sisters through art, together they have all become "hookers". Beth likes a "whimsical" look and has designed many of her own rugs, wall hangings, purses, pillows and art frames. Her folksy scenes of Fish Creek and a humorous piece titled "Pioneer Woman" are amongst viewers' favorites. From time to time, Beth will do commissioned pieces and give classes out of her home.

Memorial Garden Task Force

By Cynthia Johnson

The Governing Board authorized the creation of a Memorial Garden Task Force to explore the possibility of creating a memorial garden on the site of our Fellowship, somewhere in the field/meadow behind our building. The Memorial Garden would be a beautiful, peaceful, spiritually-significant, environmentally-sensitive, community-enhancing, low-maintenance area where members and friends could arrange to have their ashes/cremains placed in the Memorial Garden and have a simple plaque with their name and dates of birth and death located there. People who prefer that their ashes or coffin be physically located somewhere else could have a plaque of remembrance in the garden. Within these general parameters, we will explore alternatives. The Task Force will have its first meeting at the Fellowship on Thursday, December 4, from 3:30 to 5:00 P.M. At this important meeting, we will identify some key principles that will guide this project. We will plan the steps that will help us achieve our goal. We will set up some sub-committees, plan a field trip to see other memorial gardens in Door County, etc. We will keep the con-

gregation and the Governing Board informed of our progress and have a good process for feed-back along the way. Our time frame is to have a final proposal for the congregation before the Annual Meeting in June 2009. If you are interested in working together to achieve these goals, efficiently and collaboratively, we hope you'll be part of the Task Force. Let me know if you're interested in coming on December 4, and I will mail or email you the document about the proposed task force that the Board adopted. Cynthia Johnson, Chair of the Memorial Garden Task Force 839-9298 or cbjohnson@itol.com.

Southern Love Story for December Book Club



December's Book Club will be hosted by Peggy Lott (854-9209) on December 3rd from 1 - 3 PM.

One of the most important works of twentieth-century American literature, Zora Neale Hurston's beloved 1937 classic *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is an enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose. A true literary wonder, Hurston's masterwork remains as relevant and affecting today as when it was published -- perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in the entire canon of African American literature.

Future selections slated to be discussed include:

January 7th: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain (Door County's "The Big Read")

February 4: *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

March 4th - *Bridge of Sighs* by Richard Russo

December Event for UU Women



All women (members and friends) in the Fellowship are invited to go on an outing to Sheboygan on Wednesday, December

10. We will carpool; perhaps one car would leave from the Fellowship and another car would leave from my house south of Baileys Harbor. We would leave the carpool meeting places at 7:45 am. Details will be worked out when we know who is going and how many are going.

Two major activities are planned: 1) John Michael Kohler Art Center, where we will see several exhibits and eat in their Art-cafe. It's one of my favorite art centers in the world because of its ability to keep expanding my understanding of art and the creative spirit. 2) Then we'll go to the Kohler Design Center, a stunning showroom for Kohler products. (If you've been there recently, you may want to go to Woodlake shopping area instead.) After that, we'll see.

We would plan to leave Sheboygan about 3:00 pm so that most of the trip back to Door County would be in daylight.

Questions? Please call Cynthia Johnson at 839-9298 or email me at cbjohnson@itol.com ASAP, definitely before December 4 since I have to let the Art Center know our plans.

Emerson Series Report

The 2008-2009 Emerson Series began with the popular Todd Buffa Trio on Tuesday, November 11th. Buffa was joined by pianist Le Tombouliau and bassist John Gibson. Those in attendance were treated to two hours of lively music and delicious treats.

The next engagement will be An Evening with Isadoora at 7:30 PM on January 27th. In addition to a sneak preview of their upcoming musical, there will be insights provided by their director. Save the date.

Travel Opportunity

Is anyone interested in a trip to Costa Rica during 3/17-30 (or that last wk)? The tour is The Best of Costa Rica and includes a tour of all of its national parks. Contact her at 868-1342 for details.

Dollars and Sense

by Juliana Neuman, Treasurer

December, traditionally a time of gifts and donations.... This year many of us are looking closely at our personal financial resources and considering changes in our spending patterns. Nevertheless, the Fellowship continues to receive pledges regularly, without interruption. We are a community that takes its obligations seriously.

With that in mind, I want to call your attention to the Capital Campaign we launched about a year ago. By the end of March, when we closed on the new building, we had collected almost \$116,000 in capital pledges, with a total of \$261,000 committed over three years. A number of you pledged a second installment by the end of 2008, and about a dozen of those are now due. If you do not remember where you stand with respect to your capital campaign pledge, please send me a note or an e-mail (jneuman@dcwis.com) and I'll be happy to provide the information.

On October 12th we participated in the UUA's Association Sunday and collected \$536 to send to the Stewardship and Development office in Boston. Those whose contributions were identifiable will be receiving acknowledgments from that office.

On the local level, the collection of Piggly-Wiggly receipts provides a steady source of income for the Fellowship. Carrie Link, who has taken on the task of tallying those receipts, informs me that we turned in \$29,468.25 in receipts during this 6-month period. We'll receive a check in the amount of 1% of the total, just for shopping there and saving receipts. Thank you for your efforts, Carrie!

Social Responsibility Committee

By Chuck Lauter

The Mission of the Social Responsibility Committee is two-fold: to provide information and education that supports the exchange of ideas on local, national, global and denominational issues of social justice and to recommend and provide occasions for members of the Fellowship to engage in social action in the community and the world. This month the committee wishes to highlight the opportunities upon which we are currently focused: Adopt a Family, Mitten Tree, Recycling of batteries and cell phones, Food Barrel contributions to the local food pantry, the local Loaves & Fishes dinner and fellowship program in

co-operation with other Northern Door churches, Movies That Matter, Workforce Housing, and affordable local transportation.

Additionally, we've recently made contributions on behalf of the Fellowship to the Wellness Center, Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public TV. We are also reviewing the Green Sanctuary program of the UU Ministry for the Earth to determine whether to recommend to the Governing Board participation in the program. In the process of deciding whether and/or what to select as a theme for 2009 (Health Care and Sustainability have been suggested.), we are evaluating our 2008 theme "Economic Injustice." Since SRC initiated the "Reflecting on UU Principles", we have responsibility for continuing that practice and we currently need a co-ordinator. Several activities under the purview of SRC are carried out by Fellowship volunteers who are not members of the committee: Adopt a Family (Helene), Highway Clean-up (Marilyn and Phil), Fair Trade sales (Meg), Guest At Your Table (Lynn Lees), and Eco-Solutions (Lu, who is on SRC). If YOU wish to join in any of these activities, please speak to me or any committee member. We always need more help!

Two items are of special note. The food barrel was delightfully overflowing this past Sunday and the food has been delivered to Koinonia Kupboard. The holiday season is especially difficult for families in need, so please keep filling the barrel in the cloakroom. Second, SRC has recently learned that Ace Hardware in Sister Bay will recycle used compact fluorescent light bulbs. They contain mercury and must be recycled properly.

Movies that Matter

By Lu Schilling



Join us for **Sicko** Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 P.M. when the controversial/humorous Michael Moore takes us to Canada, England, France and Guantanamo seeking medical aide. Prescriptions for pennies on the dollar, at-home doctor visits are common, doctors are content with two A udis in the garage of their quarter million dollar home and no one gets a bill that bankrupts them and forecloses their home as collateral. No one waited unduly. Stop, do they omit the health insurance companies? Wow! maybe that is the ghost cost that is undermining our health care indus-

trial complex. Moore pulls back the curtain on the greedy HMOs, drug companies and congressmen who keep us ill. Universal health care works, why not in the U.S.?

In November we viewed the National Media Reform speakers Bill Moyers, who cautioned us that reform movements sometimes "push each other off the bridge"; Van Jones, who noted that Martin Luther King would not have been as memorable if his speech claimed "I have a complaint!" and that the digital age of cell phone cameras have had a profound impact on independent news reporting; Amy Goodman, of Democracy Now urges us to become involved because democracy is an action of the people by the people and decisions are made by those who show up; Geena Davis, the actress, has played some parts that have moved her fans to open their eyes to the harm done by gender bias in our communities, jobs, homes and families. She directs a project called **See Jane** to help eradicate this iniquity. Her website is <http://www.thegeenadavisinstitute.com/>.

We generated some electricity and are encouraged to write WPT and WPR to request they program **Democracy Now** for truth and pertinence in reporting so we can make better informed decisions when we vote, write our representatives and choose investments.

Help UU Adopt a Family

By Helene Di Iulio

This holiday season we are participating once again in **HELP of Door County's Adopt a Family** project.

UUFDC's adopted family consists of a mom and her twelve-year-old son, who live in the Sturgeon Bay area.

A list of their needs and modest wishes is posted the Fellowship.

Please sign up to purchase a gift or gift card that the child or the mom would like to receive.

Any cash contributed will be used to buy gift certificates.

All gifts are given and received anonymously.

The HELP staff states that "the adopted families are always overwhelmed with joy and humbleness at the generosity of the community" when the gifts are received.

Thank you, one and all!

Helene Di Iulio, coordinator, 854-2312

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !



- 5 Lynn Berger
- Phil Sweet
- 13 Vicky Carmen
- 14 Sally Malm
- Sheila Saperstein
- 17 Dottie Gerrits
- Lynn Lees
- Steve Uglinica
- 18 Ron Stein
- 19 Anya Kopischke
- 31 Carol Stevenson

Donations and Gifts



UUFDC offers several opportunities for donations:

The Social Responsibility Fund -- Contributions disbursed annually to worthy charities under the direction of the Social Responsibility Committee;

The General Fund -- Contributions support all programs and activities.

To donate to any of our funds, make a check payable to "UUFDC" and send with instructions about the gift to:

UUFDC
P.O. Box 859
Sister Bay, WI. 54234

Winter Solstice Celebration is at 4 PM on December 21st. There is no morning service.

Michele Bronsky Speaks to UUFDC Women

By Lynn Berger



During the Nov. 12 Ladies Lunch, Michele Geiger-Bronsky spoke about the wonderful work done at the Wellness Center of Door County. She explained that the Center serves women – and men – of all ages. The Center is non-profit, and provides affordable sexual, reproductive and related health care. Michele explained the great need for this work and her hopes for expanding services. When asked, "What can we do to help?" Michele responded that secretarial work is badly needed.

So, a group of us gathered on Tuesday, Nov. 20th to stuff envelopes and put together folders for the staff. We agreed to meet a few hours, once a month, to continue to do this work. Stay tuned for a regular schedule!

The Wellness Center runs a satellite clinic in Sister Bay on Tuesdays from 10 am – 4 PM. Call them at 746-9444.

Food Needed for Winter Solstice Celebration



Please email or call Ginny Olson if you are able to provide a heavy appetizer, casserole, salad, or dessert for our Winter Solstice celebration following the 4 PM service. thank you! virginiaolson@dishmail.net or 854-2806.

Events Calendar Procedure

Helene has offered and her offer has been accepted to take responsibility of updating the UUFDC Official Events Calendar

As you decide to plan an event using the building, or parts of it, email her and she will (1) clear it on the calendar for schedule conflicts, (2) officially add it to the calendar and (3) ascertain if there needs to be a document on file regarding the use.

Thanks again Helene for stepping forward.

Guest at Your Table

By Lynn Lees

Each year the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) sponsors the Guest at Your Table (GAYT) fund drive to support world-wide programs of assistance to people in developing countries. Each child in RE is given a GAYT box to place on the family dining table in hopes that contributions will be placed in the box at each meal. Several of our members also took GAYT envelopes on November 9 in order to contribute to this cause.

We ask all of you to consider this as part of your holiday giving. Just put a small dish or bowl on your table and think of deserving people struggling for hope where there has been little as you enjoy our bounty.

All contributions should be converted to a check to the UUFDC and clearly noted as a GAYT donation. We will then write one check from the Fellowship to the UUSC. Any family donating \$100 or more will get membership in the UUSC and those funds will also be eligible for a matching donation from the UU.

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee coordinates assistance and support to UUFDC members who have a need. Please contact Judy Wittenkeller, 839-2800 through December 20th and Helene Di Iulio (854-2312) after the 20th if you have needs or know of others who do (if you have their permission).

Remember the Christmas family.



UU Update

Mailed Subscription: \$15 per year
 Emailed Subscription: No charge

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of
 Door County.

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Mailing Address

P. O. Box 859

Sister Bay, WI 54234

Phone: 920-854-7559

Submit information to

Marilyn Hansotia

mhansotia@charter.net

Web page: uufdc.org

Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.

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UUFDC Calendar of Events

Sundays - 10:00: Service;
 11:00: Gallery Open

Mondays - 1:00 PM: Mah
 Jongg / Gallery Open

Sunday, Dec. 7 - 8:15
 AM: Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Dec. 9 - 4 PM:
 Governing Board

Wednesday, Dec. 10 -
 7:45 AM: Women's Outing
 to Kohler

Tuesday, Dec. 16 - 7 PM:
 Movies That Matter

Sunday, Dec. 21 - 2:45
 PM: Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, Dec. 21 - 4 PM:
 Winter Solstice Service
 and Celebration

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	2	3 Book Club	4	5	6
7 SS Choir Re- hearsal Gallery (11-12:30)	8 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	9 Governing Board	10 Women's Trip to Kohler	11	12	13
14 SS Gallery (11-12:30)	15 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	16 Movies That Matter	17	18	19	20
21 Choir Re- hearsal SS (4 PM)	22 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	23	24	25	26	27
28 SS Gallery (11-12:30)	29 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	30	31			