

# UU Update

March, 2009

Volume 13, Issue 3



We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

## March Sunday Services

### March 1: The Rev. Cynthia Johnson I Sing for the Animals

A reflection about humans, other animals, and all other sentient beings.

We ask ourselves whether our own great visions and wondrous dreams are true. A celebratory morning of poetry, story, and song. **You are invited to bring a photograph of your pet(s) or other sentient beings in your life.**

*Cynthia retired minister of the First Unitarian Church so that she and Al could move to Door County in 2000. Cynthia writes, paints, reads, travels and loves being a member of UUFDC, which she considers an unusually warm, effective and wonderful UU congregation.*

Music: Gerri Friedberg and UU Choir

### March 8: Estella Lauter Why Is Equality For Women So Important?

Nineteenth Century feminists thought that gender equality was a matter of principle. The winning argument for Female Suffrage, however, was that women would bring an essential "difference" to public life. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, conventional wisdom refers not to principles but to economic realities: funding for women in developing nations is more likely to make a difference in their communities. On International Women's Day, it seems appropriate to ask what it means to be equal, and why equality matters.

*Estella was a founder of Women's Studies at the University of Wisconsin Green*

*Bay. She taught courses focused on women in literature, art and mythology from 1972 to 2003 at the Green Bay, Madison and Oshkosh campuses of UW.*

Service Leader: Chuck Lauter  
Music: Gerri Friedberg

### March 15: David Clowers The Meaning of Silence & Meeting for Worship in the Manner of Friends

Silence possesses both physical & spiritual qualities: it is the space between the thoughts in Buddhist meditation and the moment before quantum potentiality collapses to an observable point. David will explore Quaker history, belief and practice, and the meaning of silence in a universe of distractions.

*Although David lives in a little cabin that he built in the Door County woods, he emerges on weekdays to practice law in Sturgeon Bay. A convinced Friend since 1962, he has been a member of the Milwaukee Meeting since 1972 and a member of the UU Fellowship since 2007. David reads widely in science, literature and Western Mysticism, and then tries to integrate everything he has read into a coherent system, a goal that leads him to appreciate the meaning of silence.*

Service Leader: Sheila Saperstein  
Music: Gerri Friedberg

### March 22 : Rev. Phil Sweet The Parable of Two Pockets

The most important problems we call perennial because they are insolvable.

You do not grow in wisdom to the point where they no longer disturb you. One of the most important problems is: How do you think of yourself? A reflection on an old Hasidic Jewish tale called "A Parable of Two Pockets".

*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: Ray Dilulio  
Music: Donna Russell

### March 29 (Justice Sunday): Social Responsibility Committee The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and UUFDC

"December 10, 1948 was a momentous day for human rights. The articles enshrined that day in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights clearly state the inherent value and rights of every human being." We will celebrate that declaration and connect it directly to the work of members of UUFDC. The discussion period will be a workshop on how to become involved. We encourage all to participate.

*Justice Sunday is presented annually by the Social Responsibility Committee, with material assistance from the UU Service Committee.*

Service Leader: Chuck Lauter, Chair of the UUFDC Social Responsibility Committee

Music: Kathy Toerpe

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

Are you a musician? If so, please 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.

Copies of the Sunday Sermons are available on CD.  
Contact Al Wittenkeller, 839-2800 or [alnjudv@dcwis.com](mailto:alnjudv@dcwis.com)

## GOVERNING BOARD

### Executive Committee

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#### Program

Lynn Olson

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#### Art Gallery

Julia Bresnahan

#### Denominational Affairs

Sarah Naber

#### Hospitality

Virginia Olson

#### Adult Enrichment & Long Range Planning

#### Cultural Affairs

Nancy Eriksson

#### Past President

David Hansell

## Vice-President's Message

By Cynthia Stiehl

These are exciting times at UUFDC and your Governing Board is working to see that all ideas are heard, discussed and implemented as needed. At our last meeting on Feb. 10 Cynthia Johnson, speaking for the Memorial Garden Task Force, presented a site plan for the Board to consider. We will do so along with a re-examination of our parking situation. Two more sound and video proposals are being considered from professional technicians. Because of the possibility of some over-crowding at services this summer, we want to have an alternate viewing area with a video monitor on which late-comers will see the service. The Nominating Committee is busy finding people to serve on the Governing Board and as committee chairs. We thank them for their service. Along with this, we are considering term limits for Board Membership and necessary bylaws revision.

Our wonderful building continues to serve us well. As part of the Chalice Lighters Grant Funds we are receiving, wood is being applied to the horizontal surfaces of the sanctuary ceiling to improve the room's acoustics. The Building and Grounds committee is managing the maintenance of locks, insulation and other things that need attention.

Because we are growing in so many ways, including size of membership, events and programming, the time for direction-setting and planning is upon us. We are contacting the Central Midwest District for help in this project to insure us of the best outcome. You will be kept up-to-date as we progress

I write this report in Garrett's absence while he and Myrna are enjoying the warmer climes in Florida. We wish them well and miss them at the same time. As President, Garrett gives great leadership as we consider challenges and solutions that affect UUFDC. This leadership, and the dedication of the members of the Governing Board, make this one of the best Boards on which I have ever served. The membership can feel pride knowing that our resources, programming and member's concerns are being fiercely and lovingly guarded and fostered by earnest, determined people. As we embark on planning and goal-setting, it will be necessary to hear all voices with thoughts, ideas and desires. Please, start now to imagine your ideal Fellowship. Soon, we will all want to hear about it. These are exciting times at UUFDC.

## Membership News

By Dottie Gerrits

I'm speaking for the Governing Board and the entire membership when I say thank you to all those who have been taking care of the business of the Fellowship on a weekly basis. This includes everyone who has contributed to the weekly duties.

Our cleaning teams are working out very well, but we could use a few more people who could be called when additional help is needed. The work can be done quickly if at least four people help every week. These volunteers save hundreds of dollars on professional help. I know that Team 3 needs a sub for part of March and April. If you can help, please contact Dottie at 854-2964 or [gerrits@dcwis.com](mailto:gerrits@dcwis.com).

Our coffee host schedule is working out fairly well, but there have been some glitches. It is necessary to contact Ginny Olson (854-2806 or [virginiaolson @ dishmail.net](mailto:virginiaolson@dishmail.net)), if you are unable to help on your assigned day. We can only raid the refrigerator if there is something in it to raid, and at this moment, it is completely empty. I know everyone enjoys the coffee/social time after our services and keeping it simple is the goal. This is the time we make our visitors feel welcome, and I have been told by many that our Fellowship is a welcoming place to be on Sunday morning.

## Dollars and \$ense

by Juliana Neuman, Treasurer

March 31<sup>st</sup> will be the one-year anniversary of our new building purchase and will also mark the end of our interest-only loan. Thereafter we will be paying both principal and interest each month, and to make that as affordable as possible we plan to make a substantial payment on the principal during March, using capital campaign pledge payments that have come in during the current fiscal year. **Do you have a payment scheduled for 2009 or 2010?** If so, please consider making that payment now. Interest rates are so low right now that you may not be earning much on your investment, but the interest rate on our mortgage is not so low—6.5% as of April.

At the March 10<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting we will be discussing the budget for 2009 - 10. Committee chairpersons will be submitting their budget requests. If you have a budget request or concern and are not represented on the Board, please contact me by March 6<sup>th</sup>.

There were no donations to report for the past month.

## Featured Art Continues through March

You know it is March in Door County when it seems that nothing new is happening. While new beginnings are beginning under the soil and the trees are preparing to burst into greenery, events planned by humans are often continuations of those featured in February. The art world is one area in which this is certainly true.

The UU Gallery will continue to exhibit the work of Margaret Lockwood through March. For more information on Margaret's artistic background and style or art, please refer to the February issue of UU Update.

Gallery hours are following Sunday services and Mondays 1-3 PM.

And, we are not the only ones extending exhibits. UUFDC member Sally Malm continues to be the featured artist at the Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library through the month of March.

## March Book Club

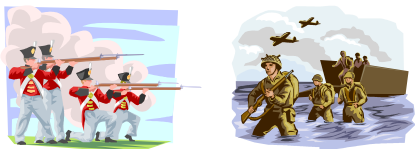
By Helene Dilulio

The next UU Book Club meeting will be Wednesday, March 4 at 4 PM at Ellie Kaage's home. For directions, call 421-1545.

The selection for March is *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak. See last month's UU Update for further details about the book.

## Movies That Matter

By Lu Schilling



On Tuesday, March 17th, "Why We Fight", winner of the 2005 Sundance Grand Jury Award, will be shown as part of our ongoing **Movies that Matter** series.

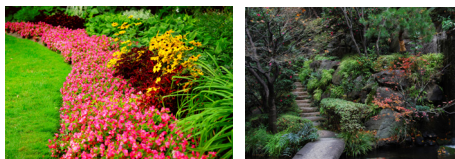
This is a documentary that dissects America's military machine and its industrial complex driven by corporate profit as President Eisenhower warned. Eugene Jarecki began making this film, committed to our country, to a conventional patriotic view and discovered a deeper patriotism - one of tough love; with a willingness to look at the country critically and

ask whether the decisions we are making are consistent with the principles we hold dear. The price of Liberty is eternal vigilance (and participation). The U.S. has 725 bases in 130 foreign countries. "Provocative yet even-handed," Marc Caro of the Chicago Tribune. 9/11 showed us that war and destruction can be privatized. Corporations in collusion with the military..."We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or our democratic processes." Eisenhower.

**Movies That Matter** is a monthly series sponsored by Social Responsibility Committee on the third Tuesday each month. at 7 PM.

## Status of Memorial Garden Task Force

By Cynthia Johnson



The Memorial Garden Task Force is formulating plans for a memorial garden in the meadow behind the Fellowship Building, a place to inter ashes in biodegradable containers and have plaques that list the name, birth and death dates.

We want these things reflected in our memorial garden:

- Beauty;
- Harmony with the emphasis on nature in Door County;
- An informal feel;
- A reflection of Unitarian Universalist values;
- Memorial plaques identical in size;
- A peaceful place that invites a meditative spirit;
- Handicapped-accessible and close to the parking lot;
- Benches;
- Space to accommodate 30 people for a service;
- Low maintenance;
- Have the policies and procedures about the memorial garden formally adopted and well-known to members and the person(s) or committee responsible for the memorial garden identified and integrated into the structure of the Governing Board's governance of the Fellowship, this

accomplished BEFORE the actual project is begun;

- And be a destination for people in Door County who may come to look at our gardens and also walk around our beautiful field with our peaceful memorial garden.

In addition to the memorial garden, the Task Force is considering the possibility of a labyrinth in an adjoining area, a design probably mown into the meadow initially. The Governing Board will designate an appropriate area.

The committee minutes are posted on a bulletin board in the foyer. The next meeting of the Memorial Garden Task Force will be Thursday, March 12. Members and friends are welcome to attend the meetings. We expect that we will hold a general meeting in late April to discuss our ideas so, as a congregation, we can be shape the project. In the meantime, you are invited to contact any of the members of the Memorial Garden Task Force: Cynthia Johnson, chair, Ray Dilulio, Dottie Gerrits, Lynn Lees, Sarah Naber, Cynthia Oliver and Garrett Cohn.

## UU B&B Directory

Do you dream of inexpensive vacation travel to interesting destinations where you can stay in the homes of friendly people who share your ideals and are happy to provide directions and advice for their area?

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) can fulfill your dream. For 29 years, we've provided a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and who are happy to open their home to like-minded people.

You can also become a host and be listed in the directory by contacting us at [info@uurehome.com](mailto:info@uurehome.com), or at 828-281-3253, and we will gladly send you information about listing your accommodations.

Host listings on the *UU're Home* website at [www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com) are updated whenever changes are made or new hosts are added. The paper edition is published once a year in April. For a copy of the 2009 directory and a year's access to the website listings, please click on "become a member" to pay by credit card or send a check for \$25 and your e-mail address to UU're Home, 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC 28806.

## Your Governing Board

By Helene Di Iulio, Secretary

The UUFDC Governing Board (GB), listed elsewhere in this newsletter, meets once a month, and if necessary, more frequently. The minutes of GB meetings are posted on the bulletin board. Financial reports are available upon request.

UUFDC members are welcome to attend board meetings as observers. If a member wishes to speak or make a presentation at a meeting, please notify the presiding officer (Garrett Cohn, President, or in his absence, Cynthia Stiehl, Vice-President) before the meeting.

## UUFDC Speaker Selection

By Lynn Olson



Perhaps you're wondering how selections are made for our Sunday speakers. First of all, we follow our mission statement:

"The mission of the UUFDC Program Committee is to provide a balance of programming which offers spiritual, intellectual and affirming content that informs and inspires us to increased spiritual awareness, greater knowledge and to be better citizens of the world."

The Committee meets regularly to discuss possible new speakers. Your suggestions are discussed and we try hard to respond to what you'd like to hear. Sometimes a suggested speaker is better suited to the Emerson Series, and we forward the name to that committee for consideration.

We try to maintain a balance of these topics within a calendar year. Here is our guideline:

1. Ages and Stages of Human Life
2. Arts
3. Environment/Web of Life
4. Humor
5. Justice/Social Responsibility – Local/State/National/International
6. Spirituality/Faith Development
7. UU Denomination Issues
8. UU History/UUism/Culture
9. Other

Since this is a lay-led Fellowship, all of the work in organizing our speakers is done by our Committee. We are grateful

to have excellent local speakers to come to us on a regular basis. While we realize many of you appreciate diversity, we also believe seeing familiar faces gives us a sense of having someone we "know" talking to us. Some of our members who would prefer a full-time minister appreciate the continuity of our regular speakers.

What about free speech? We earnestly believe that we welcome a variety of opinions and ideas. We limit only speech that promotes a specific candidate.

We know that we cannot always please everyone all of the time with our selection of speakers. But our full house – even in the winter – suggests that most of you like what we are able to offer Sunday after Sunday. We encourage you to let us know if you have ideas about speakers you'd like to hear. There is a suggestion box – our little white birdhouse – available for your feedback. Let us hear from you!

## Fellowship Establishes Poetry Series

By Chuck Lauter

Poetry nourishes us! So who better to highlight the value of poetry than Unitarian-Universalists. Our Fellowship has a number of talented poets whose work deserves to be shared and there is currently little opportunity for them to read publicly. Thus, UUFDC will launch a poetry series beginning in April, National Poetry Month. At 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month a UUFDC member or friend will be the featured poet, reading her/his poetry for 25-30 minutes, followed by an "open mike" when poets from the audience can read 1-3 poems, occupying another 20 minutes. The reading will close with the featured poet offering several more poems.

The readings will be open to the public with the hope of attracting other poets and those with a love of poetry. A flyer listing the poets for 6-12 months and distributed widely will advertise the series. Each month the reading will be publicized in the usual outlets, with perhaps a bio of the featured poet, if appropriate.

Already 10-12 UUFDC poets have been identified. They include David Clowers, Micheal Farmer, Gerri Friedberg, Hanne Gault, Phil Hansotia, Cynthia Johnson, Estella Lauter, Peggy Lott, Nancy Rafal, Henry Timm and Tom Toerpe. However, we do not wish to overlook any member or friend with a passion for writing and sharing poetry. If you wish to be included as a featured poet in the series, please

contact Chuck Lauter (839-2741) before March 15, 2009.

## UU Chess Group Forms



The UU chess group will meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 9:00 A.M. at the fellowship. Players of all levels are welcome!

Come join us on Thursday, March 5.

## Lighthouse Memorial Society

There will be applications available at the Fellowship in March for those interested. The Lighthouse Memorial Society provides access to affordable funerals and cremations. There are yearly dues. If you were a member of the Wisconsin Memorial Society, you must re-join the Lighthouse Memorial Society and pay dues.

## Rug-Hooking Group Forms



Do you enjoy rug-hooking or other hand work? There's a new group for you at UU! Anyone interested will meet at the Fellowship from 9-noon on

the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. This month we shall meet on March 12th and 26th. Optional lunch to follow. Questions: contact Ellie Kaage (920)421-1545.

## Caring Committee

The Caring Committee coordinates assistance and support to UUFDC members who have a need. Please contact Helene Di Iulio (854-2312) for northern Door and Judy Wittenkeller (839-2800) for Fish Creek and south. This includes meals, transportation, a visit, errands, household chores or any other needs that would make your lives a bit easier. We are here to help!

Books are the quietest and the most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers.

George Elliot

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY !



- 3 Shirley Stolley
- 5 Dave Vermillion
- 11 Marilyn Hansotia
- 14 Al Wittenkeller
- 18 Ellen Shahbazi
- 19 Dick Schultz
- 21 Margie Bock
- 25 Lloyd Gerrits
- 26 Judy Wittenkeller
- 28 Phil Saperstein
- 31 Jacquie Polzin

### Soup's On



March 6th, Friday, at 5:30 a soup supper will be served at the Fellowship. Please sign up to bring soup, bread, or a dessert.

Email Sally Malm ([rsmalm@dcwis.com](mailto:rsmalm@dcwis.com)) or call 854-7235 for further information..

Unrest of spirit is the mark of life; one problem after another presents itself and in the solving of them we can find our greatest pleasure.

Karl Menninger

### Laptop Computer Needed

The Fellowship is looking for a used laptop computer, IBM compatible with a CD drive. If you have an old one you are not using, or thinking about upgrading, please consider a donation to the Fellowship. Contact AL Wittenkeller 920-839-2800 [alnjudy@dcwis.com](mailto:alnjudy@dcwis.com).

### Choir Rehearsal Scheduled

Our next scheduled choir rehearsal is 8:15 AM on March 1st. If you enjoy singing, come join us!

### Isadoora Theatre's Emerson Program a Success

The hearty audience that was given a preview of Isadoora Theatre's "She Loves Me", an award-winning musical based upon the 1988 movie "You've Got Mail", were not disappointed that they braved the cold weather to attend.

After involving the audience in some warm-up exercises (to the delight of the rest of us), many of the cast, including Peggy Lott's daughter, Katie Schnorr, treated us to selections from the production. Then director Ginger Auld gave us insight into auditions and progressing through the rehearsal process. After the "formal" presentation, audience members and members of the cast were able to informally enjoy getting to know each other better.

Due to March being March in Door County, there is no Emerson program scheduled for this coming month, but we are excited to announce that Keith Harris, a graduate from Lawrence Conservatory who is currently pursuing an operatic career in New York City, will be sharing his rich baritone voice with us on April 23rd. (Note that this is a Thursday evening rather than following our traditional Tuesday night schedule.)

Below - and to the right - are photos from the last Emerson program taken by Sheila Saperstein, a member of the committee—and member of UUFDC.



### Governing Board Calls for Volunteers

The UUFDC Nominating Committee is looking for interested people to fill various positions on the Governing Board. Terms begin July 1. If you would like to become involved at another level in UUFDC, please contact Phil Hansotia (854-9360) or Diane Morgan (854-7869). Our lay-led fellowship of nearly 100 members and many more friends needs many volunteers to continue to provide the wide array of activities that we all enjoy. Consider joining the Governing Board team!

### Central Midwest District Annual Assemble

The UU Central Midwest District Annual Assembly will be held April 24-26 in Wausau. Contact Sarah Naber, (920) 854-9764, if you are interested in attending.





### UU Update

Mailed Subscription: \$15 per year

Emailed Subscription: No charge

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Submit information to

**Marilyn Hansotia**

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**Web page: [uufdc.org](http://uufdc.org)**

Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.

### In this issue

### Fellowship Establishes Poetry Series

### UUFDC March Calendar of Events

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

**Mondays** - 1:00 PM: Mah Jongg / Gallery Open (1 - 3 PM)

Sunday, Mar. 1 - 8:15 AM: Choir Rehearsal; Choir performs at service

Wednesday, Mar. 4 - (1-3) at Ellie Kaage's

Thursday, Mar. 5 & 19 - 9 AM: Chess Group

Friday, Mar. 6 - 5:30: Soup Supper

Sunday, Mar. 8 -11:30 AM: SRC meeting

Tuesday, Mar.. 10 - 4 PM: Governing Board

Thursday, Mar 12 & 26 - 9-12: Rug Hooking Group

Sunday, Mar. 15: Car Pooling

Tuesday, Mar. 17 - 7:00 PM: Movies That Matter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 SS Choir Rehearsal Gallery (11-12:30)	2 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	3	4 Book Club (1 - 3)	5 Chess Group 9 AM	6 Soup's On 5:30 PM	7
8 SS Gallery (11-12:30) SRC Meeting—11:30 AM	9 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	10 Governing Board 4 PM	11	12 Rug- Hooking Group (9-12)	13	14
15 SS Car Pooling Gallery (11-12:30)	16 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	17 Movies That Matter 7 PM	18	19 Chess Group 9 AM	20	21
22 SS Gallery (11-12:30)	23 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	24	25	26 Rug- Hooking Group (9-12)	27	28
29	30 Mah Jongg Gallery (1-3)	31				