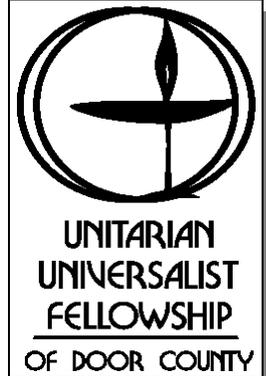


UU Update

December, 2009

Volume 13, Issue 12



The living tradition which we share draws from many sources. One is the direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.

December Sunday Services

Dec. 6th - Rev. Phil Sweet

CHRISTMAS AND A CHILD

The Christ Child and Christmas represents the heart and essence of being human. Jung put it this way: "The Christ Child represents the strongest and most ineluctable urge in every human being - the urge to realize itself".

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.

Music: Gerri Friedberg
Service Leader: Sheila Saperstein

Dec. 13th - Rev. Cynthia Johnson

WHAT CHILD IS THIS? WHOSE CHILD IS THIS?

Rutgers University published a major report about children and families:

Life Without Children: The Social Retreat from Children and

How It Is Changing America. The Christmas season invites us to think about children we know and love -- and all the other children, too. This is the tenth sermon related to my book-in-process about love and marriage.

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 writing, painting, reading, and traveling.

Music: Ellen Shahbazi

Dec. 20th - Rev. Joan Shiels

4PM HOLIDAY SERVICE IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR

All the familiar songs and stories tell us that something extraordinary happened one clear, starry Christmas night long ago. We'll look for the light in these beautiful songs

and stories and ask a simple question: What does THAT have to do with US?

Joan Shiels is a long-time friend and frequent presenter at the Fellowship. She assumes we are all familiar with the traditional interpretations of the Christmas story, and takes this opportunity to RE-interpret what we thought we knew.

Music: Gerri Friedberg and UU Choir

Dec. 27th - Phil Hansotia STORIES OF THE SEASON

The Winter Solstice and its stories and traditions will be presented by collaborating members and friends.

Phil has been a member of UUFDC since 2004 and serves on the SRC and Program Committees. After retiring from his neurology practice and moving to Door County, poetry, painting and politics are his avocations.

Music: Gerri Friedberg

Visit our website: uufdc.org

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

Copies of the Sunday Sermons are available on CD. Contact Al Wittenkeller, 839-2800 or alnjudv2@gmail.com

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President's Column

By Cynthia Stiehl

During the Board's November meeting, we approved the suggestion of the Program Committee to change the name of the "Statement of Purpose" to "Unison Affirmation." We hope this will fix the confusion concerning our Mission Statement. Also, we decided to mount our AED on the wall between the two rest rooms.

Most of our discussion time concerned our buildings. Conversation and information gathering continues with NWTC, exploring whether or not a collaboration for teaching space would benefit both organizations. Led by Garrett and Marilyn, they are spending much time and energy in this effort. Thank you both. By the time you read this the Building Expansion Task Force will have had its first meeting and it will be part of all planning. There was continued discussion of our Koessl Building and how to make it work for us in the best way until it is sold.

We approved Myrna's request for a fundraiser. Thanks to her for all the dedication.

As the Holidays approach I want to wish everyone the best for a happy holiday season and New Year. At this time of the year I like to take stock, comparing where I was a year ago to where I am now physically, emotionally and spiritually. This year, I feel better in every category and I have UUFDC to thank for much of it. In the physical category, perhaps the Y deserves more credit except, many of the people at the Y are UUs. We encourage each other. The same is true for me emotionally and spiritually. The Fellowship encourages, challenges, teaches and helps me to be the best person I can be. We all do this for each other. Here's to another year of our active, engaged community. Let's make it the best ever.

Dollars and \$ense

By Juliana Neuman, Treasurer

I can't believe that another year is ending soon! If you have a year-end contribution to make to UUFDC for 2009, it must be received at the Fellowship or postmarked no later than December 31st. We've been a little short on income during the past couple of months, so please catch up on your pledge if you've fallen behind.

Not sure where you stand with regard to your pledge? Just put a note in my box at the Fellowship, or send me an email (jneuman@dcwis.com) and I'll be glad to give you an update. [However, if you ask me on a Sunday morning, I'll probably forget—there's too much going on then!]

In January, everyone who has given money to UUFDC in 2009 will receive a letter acknowledging total contributions, and those who pledge will receive a second letter documenting the status of their pledge. Finance Committee member Helene Dilulio will help with the distribution of those letters.

In the meantime, best wishes to all in the holiday season!

DONATIONS

A generous contribution to be used for landscaping work was made in late October by Harry Chalekian, who was visiting from Nevada.

Contributions in memory of Margaret Fahning, mother of Marilyn Hansotia, have been received from Carol and Ken Boyd, Helene and Ray Dilulio, and Ginny Olson.

The Door Bluff Neighbors Association sent a donation recently in memory of Jill Berger.

Adopt a Kid

By Helene Di Iulio

This Holiday Season, the Social Responsibility Committee is "adopting" six children from five families referred to UUFDC by the Hispanic Center. All of the children need **jackets and snow pants, hats, scarves, mittens, and boots.**



There will be a "Mrs. Claus" for each child. Each Mrs. Claus will receive a portion of the money collected from members and friends, (snowbirds please send your checks by December 10). After December 13 the items will be purchased, wrapped and delivered to the Hispanic Center by December 20. We hope to be able to buy all of the items for each child.

Please put donations of money and checks into the decorated box in the foyer by December 13. Checks should be payable to UUFDC, Adopt a Kid.

The children are two boys, age 2; boy age 7; girl age 7; girl age 12 and girl age 15.

Let's make this their best Christmas ever! Thank you all for your help.

Other Holiday Gifting Ideas:

Continue to "feed" your Guest at Your Table box until January 3rd. The money collected will benefit UU Service Committee projects that strengthen workers' rights; protect the right to safe, affordable water; defend civil liberties and democratic processes and preserve the rights of marginalized groups in times of disaster and armed conflict. Contact Lynn Lees.

Remember to hang mittens, hats and scarves on our Mitten Tree. All items will be donated to Clothe My People. Contact Cynthia Oliver.



Music and Sunshine

Please contact Gerri Friedberg ASAP to volunteer your musical talents for Sunday mornings.

She may be somewhere sunny in March and almost unreachable if you wait. Thank you!

UU Art Gallery

By Jane Delcarson

Malin Ekman's exhibit *A Creative Journey Into the Beauty and Mystery of Door County* will be displayed at the UU Gallery December 13-January 11. Her collection portrays a personal story in the atmosphere and beauty of the Peninsula.

Her early years were spent in Evanston, Illinois and her early art education began at the Chicago Art Institute Junior School. She studied with Jens Jensen and Gerhard Miller at The Clearing in Ellison Bay. She then received scholarships and grants to the Chicago Art Institute School and graduated with honors.

Ekman was an Art Director and Designer in the Chicago and Milwaukee corporate environment for 15 years. She has specialized in illustration and accepted commissions from clients throughout the United States with international distribution.

In 1980 she moved to Door County and lives and works from her historic log cabin in Baileys Harbor. She has now entered into fine art painting full-time and has taught drawing at the Peninsula Art School for the past nine years. She is represented by the Edgewood Orchard Galleries, Fish Creek. Her work has been included in numerous invitational, juried and one person shows. She has received grants and awards. She has recently served on the Sturgeon Bay, Miller Art Museum board of directors.

Memorable Beads

By Mary Mitchell

Written to commemorate the UUFDC Women's Jewelry Gallery Walk conducted by Mary this fall

With threads of my existence
I am creating a necklace
From beautiful round
treasures in a jewelry box

Bead

by

Bead

Segments of my life
come to hang in balance
Sensitive fingers
going with the creative flow
string colorful memories together.
Black - Nana's jets worn in grief
Red - Grannie's corals from Japan
Aqua - striated turquoise
Yellow - tears of amber shed for wars
White - Vermeer pearl earring
Done when the last knot is tied
Hooking the clasp around
The slender neck
In the mirror
seeing that I am my mother's image.

Hansotia Featured Poet

Phil Hansotia will share his poetry in the next Dickinson Series event **Wednesday, December 9 at 7PM.**

Hansotia was born and educated in India. In school, he developed an interest in English literature and poetry that has lasted. After medical school he moved to the U.S. and practiced neurology at the Marshfield Clinic for 30 years. In the 1990's Phil joined a poetry group in Marshfield and rekindled his interest in poetry. After moving to Door County in 2004, he joined the Wallace group of poets and has been active on the poetry scene since then. His poems have been published in *the Wisconsin Poets calendar, Peninsula Pulse, Free Verse, Wisconsin Medical Journal, Decorah Magazine*, and in a chap book.

The Dickinson Poetry Series provides a forum for poets to share their works. Following the featured poet, audience members are invited to read their poetry. The series is named for Emily Dickinson,

a prolific poet who held a liberal religious philosophy. The monthly series is free and open to the public at the UU Fellowship.

Eco & Health Solutions

By Lu Schilling

The following is a video from Environmental Working Group, one of the most reliable and thorough research resources for information regarding environmental concerns. The pollution *in our blood* is measurable and the video compares them to therapeutic levels of prescription drugs. Parts Per Billion sounds insignificant. Pesticides banned 30 years ago were found today in blood from 10 babies' umbilical cords. The likable speaker presents this in an easily understandable way. Do set aside 20 minutes and view this. No video on your computer? Go to the library.

<http://www.ewg.org/kid-safe-chemicals-act-blog/kid-safe-chemicals-act/>

To minimize exposure, EWG suggests:

- Eat Organic (wine too)
- Won't avoid fish? Check mercury levels. Once in the human body, mercury acts as a neurotoxin, interfering with the brain and nervous system and is difficult to eliminate. Fish mercury guide at <http://www.nrdc.org/health/effects/mercury/guide.asp>
- Filter your Tap Water
- Cast Iron not Teflon, T.Fal, Non-stick, other PFC's.
- Avoid Fragrance

When we desire to help the environment (and our health), we will change what we eat.



Wild Rice and Soup Project

By Helene Di Iulio

The Mah Jong Players have presented

\$429.40 to the UUFDC Governing Board in honor and in memory of their best player and good friend, Jill Berger. The money is designated toward the purchase of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) recently authorized by the Board.

Thanks to everyone who bought the rice and soup, and thanks especially to those who said, "Keep the change".

Movies That Matter

By Lu Schilling

Rape of Europa will be hosted by Marty Lash, columnist of Advocate Arts and Music, **December 15th at 7 PM.**

Joan Allen narrates this documentary that chronicles 12 years of the Nazis' pillaging works of art throughout Europe and the international effort to locate, protect and return millions of valuable treasures.

The film traces the story of art lovers and everyday heroes who tried to thwart the looting Nazis and reveals how experts from Europe and the United States are working to recover priceless works of art missing or hidden for decades. This is a film that will appeal to both art lovers and WWII buffs. Who knew Hitler aspired to be an artist? The film tells the story of Hitler's plans to acquire all of the great artworks of Europe while systematically destroying the countries from which he would steal them. He did manage to accumulate quite a massive collection, a collection that included thousands of paintings from Italy, France, and even Russia. Mixed in are millions of dollars worth of plundered art from the private collections of wealthy Jews in Germany and beyond, including the Rothschild's. The heroes of the story are the "monuments men," a group of Army officers and enlisted men who were entrusted with the task of finding and returning as much of the plundered treasures as possi-

ble. One officer interviewed even mentioned that at the time he still was unaware of what Hitler had done to the Jewish population of Europe, but that everyone was aware of how he had looted the continent's museums... a chilling observation, indeed. Much of what was taken has been returned and restored, but the darker side of the story is the missing art that has not yet been found or that has not yet been returned to the rightful owners (usually prominent Jewish families). A few countries, particularly Austria, are still fighting to keep what they have in their state museums from the suffering descendants of the art's rightful owners. The story is still unfolding.



Emerson Features Vocalist

Award-winning **Soprano Alisa Jordheim** will perform a recital of vocal music including works of Grieg in Norwegian and Sibelius in Swedish **Friday, December 18, 7:30 PM.**

Alisa has appeared on *PRI's From the Top* and recently appeared in two operas at Central City Opera summer festival.

Donation \$10 adults — \$ 5 students
A reception with light refreshments will follow the performance.

Hospitality opening

We are in need of a new Hospitality Chairperson(s) starting January 1, 2010. Ginny Olson has been our Chair since she became a member Sept. 2008. As you know, she is also our UU Board Secretary. This could be a shared position so please try to find a partner you can work with. Please contact me at gerrits2732@gmail.com or call 854-2964.



The UU Book Club meeting will be held at UUFDC on **Dec. 2 at 12:00 P.M.**

We will be reading poetry or other short selections of each participant's choice. Those attending should RSVP to Martha Judd at 421-2715 by Nov. 24 and bring a sandwich or two to swap for lunch.

UU's really care!

By Bob Lindahl



THANK YOU to the FOURTEEN people who pitched in for our last Highway Cleanup of the

year. If you've never done it, watch for notes starting next April!

ARE YOU MISSING THIS ITEM?

Many months ago a very nice medium grey, street length cape was left in our coat closet. Call Dottie 920-854-2964.

Landscaping

By Carrie Link

With the help of a few volunteers, Peter Witt, the expert hired by us to maintain and improve our garden, did an excellent job this spring/summer/fall. The volunteers put in many hours on Fridays, beginning on April 17 and ending November 13, and they should be given a pat on the back for their efforts. Please acknowledge their commitment to keeping the Fellowship garden/grounds looking ship-shape by a thank-you the next time you see any of the following people: Helene Dilliuo, Diane Haldane, Dave Link, Jack Redell, Mary Rutter, and Lu Schilling. Jack also cleared leaves out of the gutters on the last work day. Meanwhile, Lloyd Gerrits is the sole gardener keeping our Koessl property looking ship-shape.

Thanks to all of these volunteers, and to those who were able to stop and give an occasional hand.



Our RE Poets

By Phil Hansotia

These are part of the Religious Education poetry-based curriculum to explore values and feelings. The authors were Anya Kopischke, Grace and Evan Toerpe with each contributing lines to the poems. They were written using the Malaysian technique of Haiku Naranga exploring the author's sense of what is beautiful and what beauty means to each of us.

AUTUMN

cookies and muffins-plenty of yummy food to eat,
sugar-cubes in the light reminds me of sparkles and crystals,
the eerie sky clashes beautifully with man-made buildings
sending shivers down my soul,
while red maples light up a fall day.

EPHRIAM

A busy town with people enjoying the sight of the lake,
renting paddle-boats and splashing around the water,
--the lake is what makes this town beautiful.
Lovely clouds shine over the boats.
The snow slips away on the soggy field,
revealing a bright rural spring.
On the edge of town, a desolate farmhouse
with an old silo—I wonder
where the people have gone?



Happy birthday to our December born members and friends...

- 2 Robert Fickes
- 4 Sheila Saperstein
- 5 Lynn Olson
- 5 Phil Sweet
- 5 Kathy Toerpe
- 13 Vicky Carmen
- 14 Sally Malm
- 15 Alison Greaves
- 15 Rob Story
- 17 Dottie Gerrits
- 17 Lynn Lees
- 17 Steve Uglinica
- 17 Chris Weidenbacher
- 18 Ron Stein
- 19 Anya Kopischke
- 31 Carol Stevenson

Midsummer's Music Festival
will return to the UU Fellowship for a performance of Renaissance Christmas featuring the Chicago Early Music Consort on **Sunday, December 13, 2 PM**, at UUFDC. A reception will follow.



UU Update

Mailed Subscription: \$15 per year

Emailed Subscription: No charge

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of
Door County.

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Email: uufdc@charterinternet.com

Submit information to

Marilyn Hansotia

mhansotia@charter.net

Web page: uufdc.org

Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.

UUFDC December Calendar of Events

For the most up-to-date calendar, please see our website: uufdc.org/calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 noon Book Club @UUFDC Martha Judd hosts	3	4	5
6 8:15 Choir rehrs! 10 AM SERVICE Rev Sweet 11-12:30 Gallery	7 1-3 PM Mah Jongg Gallery open	8 4 PM Govern- ing Board	9 7 PM Dickinson Poetry Phil Hansotia	10	11	12
13 10 AM SERVICE Rev Johnson 11-12:30 Gallery 2 PM MSM'sRenaissance Christmas	14 1-3 PM Mah Jongg Gallery open	15 7 PM Movies That Matter <i>Rape of Europa</i>	16	17	18 7:30 PM Emerson series: Alisa Jordheim	19
20 TBA Choir rehrs! 4 PM HOLIDAY SERVICE Rev Shiels	21 1-3 PM Mah Jongg Gallery open	22	23	24	25	26
27 10 AM SERVICE Phil Hansotia 11-12:30 Gallery	28 1-3 PM Mah Jongg Gallery open	29	30	31		