

UU Update

February 2011

Volume 15, Issue 2



Our mission is to be a community of faith committed to the freedom of intellectual and spiritual inquiry and to the promotion of the worth and dignity of all persons, through service to its members, friends and the larger community.

February Sunday Services

February 6

The Rev. Cynthia B. Johnson

DISCERNING WHAT MATTERS

A friend I saw at our 50th high school reunion told me she is a nihilist who tries to stay out of the way of everybody who is working pointlessly to make the world a better place. Our lives have taught us different truths.

Cynthia, a member of our Fellowship, is a retired Unitarian Universalist minister. Among her greatest pleasures are family and friends; reading, writing, and painting; and pondering.

Music: Bob Judd, piano and Cyndy Stiehl, mezzo-soprano



FEBRUARY 13

Rev. Phil Sweet

MINDFUL LOVING

The poet Rilke wrote, "For one human being to love another, this is the most difficult of all our tasks". Part of the difficulty resides in the fact that most people feel they are not truly loveable as they are. The second fact is that people look for love in the wrong places.

Phil Sweet is a long-time friend of UUFDC and a marvelous and insightful story-teller. He served as minister for Hope Church in Sturgeon Bay and two rural churches in western Minnesota.

Music: Trio: Dottie Gerrits; David Hansell; Lolly Lebovic

Service Leader: Helene Di Iulio

February 20

Estella Lauter

A NON-SCIENTIST LOOKS AT EVOLUTION

A scientific understanding of evolution has become the foundation that underlies all thought about life on our planet. Some people claim that these ideas are an affront to religious belief about the exceptional nature of mankind. In our discussions with people who do not accept evolution, might we make more headway and have more fun if we talked about "the secret life of plants"? With the help of a BBC production we will consider the potential benefits of exploring evolution from the point of view of plants.

Estella Lauter is Professor Emerita of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She retired to Door County in 2004 and became a UUFDC member in 2005. Her strong suits have always been in the Humanities and Arts, but her immediate family members are scientists, and she has become increasingly curious about and receptive to science.

February 27

Bill McConkey

FIVE WAYS TO FIND HAPPINESS

Happiness for an hour, a day, a month, a year, a lifetime. The deeper meaning of simple steps to finding happiness.

Dr. Bill McConkey, Political Science Professor at UW-Oshkosh, is an educator and social activist. He has worked for several government agencies and is the owner/operator of a communication research and consulting firm.

Music: Gerri Friedberg, piano, Sarah Meredith, vocalist, and the UU Choir

Service Leader: Toby Mason

Visit our website: uufdc.org.

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

Listen to or download Sunday sermons on our website uufdc.org.

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Dottie Gerrits

Program

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Social Responsibility

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Chuck Lauter-winter

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Garrett Cohn



President's Report

By Cyndy Stiehl

Your Governing Board met on January 11 to do the work of UUFDC. First on our agenda was a report on the Memorial Garden. We hope to have policies in place next month.

We discussed workers compensation and how the laws affect the Fellowship. Also, we decided to formally list our Koessl building for sale for six months. Please let's all appeal to whatever power we espouse for a quick sale so that we may move ahead with other plans. Tell people, email and Facebook anyone who might want such a building. We are all hoping to sell fast. An information sheet is being sent as a separate attachment. Please help us spread the word about selling the Koessl building. Either print the attachment or forward it electronically to anyone who might have an interest in the property.

The Board approved a bid to perform necessary work on the attic and back walls to make the building considerably more energy efficient. Thanks go to Bob Lindahl for his work and time on both buildings.

Programming for our Sunday services is booked through August. This is wonderful. And, U-Night, an enrichment program for teens, hopes to start up again soon.

Membership was our last subject. It began specifically with the subject of hospitality; goodies on Sunday morning and after special events. We are always in need of more volunteers to help organize hospitality. Then the conversation turned to the fact that we have a number of Friends who support the Fellowship financially but have not yet decided to formally join UUFDC. Helene Dilulio and Lynn Lees have written a beautiful article about this that appears in this newsletter. Please consider their suggestions. UUFDC is a great investment!

Celebration Sunday Revisited

By Helene Di Iulio and Lynn Lees

Fourteen years ago on Sunday, February 23, 1997, when Lynn Lees was Governing Board President, 37 UUFDC Charter Members participated in a special service. We called this day Celebration Sunday. The Rev. Robert C. (Bob) Clarke, our mentor and guide during the previous formative year, spoke the following words.

Recognition of Charter Members:

"What does it mean to be a community of seekers? It means to live always on the edge of uncertainty, to embrace without fear the new insight that will wash away what we once believed to be true. We gather in community so that we may gain strength from one another as we travel this road into the unknown. Recognizing and respecting individual differences, we move beyond these to celebrate the joys and wonderings of our common humanity."

The Charter members responded:

"We seek membership in this community as evidence of our commitment to the search for that which our hearts and minds tell us is true. We would share our journey with you, in a spirit of mutual respect and open dialogue. We wish to be supportive of you, in whatever ways we can."

Services were held in the Gathering Room at Scandia Village. We had a small closet to house our hymnals, our membership book, and a few supplies. Ruth Neuman, (Juliana's mother) was our pianist and Bob Clarke delivered many of the Sunday messages. On other Sundays, a member read a sermon, or a video featuring a UU minister was shown.

In 1999, we bought our first building, in Sister Bay. We also acquired a new Steinway piano, a great joy for everyone. This move increased our visibility and credibility and our membership began to grow so that in 2008, needing more space, we moved to our present site in Ephraim.

We have come a long way since 1996-97. We have prospered. Our membership grew

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to 100. Dottie Gerrits, Membership Chair, reports that UUFDC gained four new members last year, but also lost four. Of the 37 charter members, seventeen are still members. Twelve resigned, mostly due to moving away, and eight have died.

UUFDC has wonderful "friends", many who contribute financially and in a myriad of volunteer capacities that keep us running smoothly and in the black. It would be so nice if some of these good friends would decide to make the same commitment the 37

did in 1997 and become members. The Membership Book, a gift from Anne and Bob Clarke, has this inscription on the first page: "To you who join the faithful spirits of the ages in the religious quest, through free inquiry, love, and service, we dedicate this book."

Please think about it.

Our membership reached 100 on 1-23-11 with Dick and Mary Smythe and Betsy Warren joining!

Student Poets Featured at Dickinson Series

Six accomplished Gibraltar High School poets will read their poetry at 7 PM February 9 at the Fellowship. As you can see from the biographical information, these young people are multi-talented and bring the enthusiasm of youth to the Series!

Junior Brandon Bogenschütz has been involved in drama, forensics, school newspaper, show choir and math team. He hopes to study writing and literature in college. Brandon finds poetry and other forms of writing useful for expressing his opinions, observations, and emotions.

Sophomore Alexis Janssen is in Karate, track, cross country, and forensics. In college she would like to pursue writing and is presently working on a number of stories. Lexie characterizes her poetry as "quite random" and finds that it shifts between dark and happy emotions.

Sophomore Lena MacDonald likes theater, forensics, show choir and Ecology Club. While she has always enjoyed writing, this year Lena has developed an interest in poetry and song writing; she has found support from her family, school, and community.

Senior Rachel Mickelson participates in volleyball, track and field, student council and DECA. She will attend college this fall. Writing is one of Rachel's favorite hobbies; she writes both to relax and to express her thoughts and feelings.

Senior Morgan Petersilka is active in Varsity Letter Club, National Honor Society, softball, and volleyball. She plans to study biomedical engineering in college. Morgan writes free verse exploring issues and feelings that she encounters in her life.

Sophomore Caitlin Weber enjoys

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Dollars and \$ense
by Juliana Neuman, Treasurer
CASH FLOW – July thru December, 2010

<u>Income</u>		<u>Outflows</u>	
Pledges	46,299	Program/Music	7,531
Donations	2,868	Memorial Services	300
Offering	4,784	Administration	7,599
Space Use	3,770	Committees	1,592
Fundraising	681	Publicity/Website	2,354
Investments	566	UUA Dues	3,465
Other	<u>287</u>	Maintenance	5,603
		Insurance	2,590
Total	59,255	Interest on Loan	7,638
		Property Tax	1,310
		Utilities	<u>2,473</u>
		Total	42,455

THE BOTTOM LINE: \$16,800

This positive balance is due primarily to pledges received at calendar year-end. Administrative expenses have increased as planned, due to the very welcome addition of our new Administrator, Pat Crow.

BUDGET PREPARATION

The Governing Board will begin discussing our 2011-12 Budget at its meeting on February 8th. If you have suggestions about budget line items for the next fiscal year, please contact one of your Board members right away!

DONATIONS

UUFDC Friends Roger Benedict and Bob Judd made special year-end contributions to UUFDC—thank you both!

The Guest at Your Table collection came to only \$553.58 this year (as against \$770 last year). Several of the donations entitled UUFDC contributors to qualify as members of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). In addition, the Fellowship budgets \$1 per member for UUSC annually, and the Social Responsibility Committee often directs its budgeted contributions to that organization as well.

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acting and cross-country. She plans to attend college, perhaps to study photography, psychology, acting, or computer science. Caitlin finds poetry to be one of the most beautiful arts and enjoys using words to express her feelings.

An open mic opportunity will follow the students' presentations for others to share their works. Join the poets for a reception at the conclusion of the readings.

Fahrenheit 451 Reading

As one of the highlights of Door County Reads, participants in the Clearing Class "Burning to Read Fahrenheit 451" will present a staged reading of Ray Bradbury's play adaptation of his book "Fahrenheit 451" at the UU Fellowship Feb 15 at 7:00 p.m. Peninsula Players Development Director Alan Kopischke will direct the class in the study, rehearsal and presentation of the play. Kopischke has directed play adaptations of The Big Read books each year since he began the program in 2008.

UU Hosts Reading of *The Cemetery Club*

By Patti Podgers

Once again, a unique theatrical reading will be presented at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. *The Cemetery Club*, under the direction of Dr. Arthur "Doc" Hopper, will feature Dee Hopper, Pamela Johnson, Lynn Olson, Patti Podgers, and Michael Brecke. The performance is scheduled for Friday, February 18 at 7 pm.

Although the premise of *The Cemetery Club* is based on loss, the play is anything but maudlin. Visiting their husbands' graves each month, three Jewish women form a club based on their common widowhood. With humor, poignancy, spirit, and spunk, the women share the intimacies of mar-

riage and fears of being alone, their friendship grows stronger...and they learn that life is for the living.

Retired Chairman of Theatre and Dance, U.W. - Stevens Point, "Doc" has directed *Glass Menagerie* and *Tuesdays with Morrie*, and "acted" in a reading of *I Never Sang for My Father* at the UU last year. "It was so well received that I wanted to do another reading, something not so serious, yet a story that also spoke to an

audience", "Doc" explained.

Donations will be accepted in appreciation of the UUFD's hospitality in hosting this event. Refreshments will be served.

Getting to Know Karon

Karon Winzencz joined our UU Fellowship last April. She has become involved with the Book Club and other UU activities and submitted this infor-



Seasons of Door County Featured at UU Gallery

By Jane Delcarson

Artist Dee Sinnett's works are inspired by the natural beauty that she sees all around her. Dee paints mainly in oil colors and occasionally in watercolor.

Painting is more than a hobby--it is her life. Her colors show the bold approach that she takes in capturing the beauty of a landscape or still life. She likes to add an element of mystery beyond the subject matter, showing her vision as different than an illustration.

Sinnett's Sweet Meadow Gallery/Studio, Baileys Harbor, is set in the middle of a meadow that in the summer is full of wildflowers. The woodlands that surround her meadow are always a source of inspiration. She navigates the roads of Door County where she finds subject matter year-round. Dee is a full time resident and her gallery is open May through October and in the winter by appointment.

Having moved to Door County in 1984 as a watercolorist Dee became a student of oil painting. She attended many classes at the Peninsula Art School and The Clearing. She refers to herself as a "colorist interested in creating a color scheme".

The opening of this exhibit is Sunday, February 6 and the show will run through March 27. Gallery hours are Sundays 11 am - 12:30 pm and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 1-3 pm.

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mation so we can all come to know her better.

As a practicing artist I have worked in various media over the years, primarily in textiles, painting, and painted sculpture and often mixing them in the same piece. At U.W.-Green Bay I taught studio courses (painting and textiles-as-art) and art history (modern art, ancient Mesoamerican Maya art) for over 30 years. I also served as the Curator of Art and Director of the Lawton Gallery at the same institution for 14 of those years. After retiring I pursued a life-long passion and returned to graduate school to study ancient Maya art. I consider myself to be a "born-again" Maya scholar and currently present and publish papers in the field.

The urge to paint again had led to the start of a series of paintings based on the worn and layered textures and texts of the old walls that I had I photographed in China. I collect ethnic textiles from the present-day Maya of Guatemala and from Chinese minority cultures and assisted with the Linden Centre tour of southwest China in 2008 that focused on ethnic textiles of the region.

My husband and I moved to Door County at the end of 2005. I spent two years on the gallery committee at the Peninsula Art School.

Energy Efficiency On Its Way

By Bob Lindahl

There are a lot of improvements currently being made to our building, most of which won't be seen, except in our heating costs. Responding to recommendations in a recent energy audit, about two dump truck loads of former restaurant ductwork was removed from the attic, several holes filled where ductwork and pipes had formerly breached a ceiling or exterior wall, a minimum of 10 inches of additional insulation blown into the attic, and insulation and drywall added to the furnace room in the attic. In order to cover

patches, a "skip coat" of plaster has been placed in the back area that is used for by the U-Night High School coffeehouse and for storage. In the near future, new, more efficient light fixtures will be added. Whew!

Book Club

By Karon Winzenz

The book selection for February 2 is titled *The Secret Scripture* by Sebastian Barry about a woman (now 100 years old) wrongly committed to an insane asylum fifty years earlier by a Catholic clergyman who deemed her licentious--thus a threat to society--and took away her illegitimate newborn child for adoption. She decides to write an autobiography that she keeps hidden. The counter narrative is in the daily journal of the current chief psychiatrist of the hospital who is concerned about his elderly patient.

Note the new start time for the Book Club is 1:30 pm at the home of Cynthia Johnson, 7455 HWY. 57, Baileys Harbor. Please let Cynthia know if you are attending. cbjohnson@itol.com or 839-9298. Please contact Karon for more information at winzenzk@msn.com.

Happy Birthday to our Members and Friends with February birthdays:

- 5-Billie Ryan
- 6-Cindy Taubert
- 6-Paul Soper
- 9-Jutta Hansell
- 12-Larry Eriksson
- 12-Don Polzin
- 13-Gerri Friedberg
- 18-Chuck Berger
- 18-Mary Rutter
- 19-Toby Mason
- 21-Jim Smith
- 22-Diane Morgan
- 27-Jack Redell

Living Wills Part Two

The second workshop on developing your Living Will is scheduled for Sunday, February 6, 2-4 pm. Participants began the process Jan. 16. At the upcoming session, questions raised earlier will be answered and those who missed it may attend and enter the process.

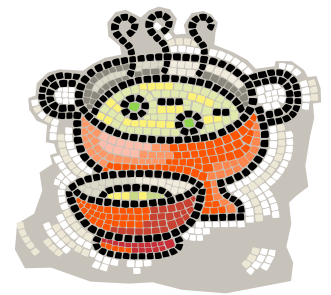
This written, legal document spells out the types of medical treatments and life-sustaining measures you do and don't want, such as mechanical breathing (respiration and ventilation), tube feeding or resuscitation. In some states, living wills may be called health care declarations or health care directives.

Movies That Matter

By Lu Schilling

Smoking Teeth=Poison Gas will be screened February 15, 4:30 pm at the Fellowship.

Silver dental fillings have been the norm for many years. They are economical, fill the hole, and stay put. Or do they? Mercury comprises one-half of the amalgam components. It vaporizes at room temperature causing toxic exposure to the patient, dental workers and then down the drain into the environment via the sewer treatment that does not filter the mercury before the treated water is released into our system. We might want to encourage our dentists to use safe disposal methods to protect our water and fish boils. Come see this film and learn more.



Soup's On

What better way to spend a cold winter evening than at the Fellowship with friends for a soup supper. Please sign up to bring soup, appetizer, bread, butter or dessert at the Fellowship or call Sally Malm (854-7235).



UU Update

Mailed Subscription: \$15 per year

Emailed Subscription: No charge

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Door County.

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Sunday Services: 10:00 am

UUFDC February 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 Conversation Partners 9:30 am	2 Book Group 1:30 pm 1-3 PM Gallery	3 Clearing Class 1 pm	4 1-3 PM Gallery SOUPS ON 6:00 pm	5
6 SRC meet 11:30 10 AM SERVICE Rev. Cynthia Johnson 11-12:30 Gallery 2 pm Living Wills Wksp	7 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	8 2 pm Governing Board	9 7 pm Dickinson Poetry 1-3 PM Gallery	10 Clearing Class 1 pm	11 1-3 PM Gallery	12
13 10 AM SERVICE Rev. Phil Sweet 11-12:30 Gallery	14 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	15 4:30 pm Movies That Matter <i>Smoking Teeth=</i> <i>Poison Gas</i> 7:00 pm <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	16 1-3 PM Gallery	17 Clearing Class 1 pm	18 1-3 PM Gallery 7:00 pm Cemetery Club	19
20 8:15 Choir Rehr 10 AM SERVICE Estella Lauter 11-12:30 Gallery	21 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	22	23 1-3 PM Gallery	24 Clearing Class 1 pm	25 1-3 PM Gallery	26
27 8:15 Choir Rehr 10 AM SERVICE Bill McConkey 11-12:30 Gallery	28	 <p>Super Bowl Party February 6, 5:00 pm at UU Fellowship Admission = hearty appetizer + your beverage + \$3.00</p>				