

UU Update

March 2011

Volume 15, Issue 3



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.

March Sunday Services

March 6 – Kärin Kopischke

FINDING DOOR COUNTY'S FOUNDING MOTHERS

March is Women's History Month, which often prompts reflections on famous women, but it is also a time to celebrate the lives of obscure women who were remarkable in their own right. Kärin Kopischke reflects on the inspiring Door County women she found while researching "Garments of Our Foundation" that had been omitted from local history books, but who deserve to be honored and remembered.

Kärin is an artist and costume designer. Her extensively researched exhibit, Garments of Our Foundation, has been seen in several galleries around the county. The exhibit depicts founding mothers of Gibraltar in clothing appropriate to their circumstances and time period. Ephraim and other Door County communities are in the planning stages.

Music: Gerri Friedberg, Anya Kopischke, Jess Holland
Service Leader: Alan Kopischke

March 13 – The Rev. Phil Sweet

THE WONDERS AND DANGERS OF AN OPEN MIND

It takes a rare venture of will and imagination and intelligence and courage to live with an open mind, to deliberately look for that which is difficult, dangerous, new or disturbing. Rilke, the poet, says life is a journey of being defeated by greater and greater things.

A graduate of Andover Newton Theological Seminary near Boston, Phil Sweet is described by Norbert Blei: "He feels he went into the ministry partly because he wanted to somehow confront the kind of established conservative form of religion grounded on nonsensical dogmas and formulated long before man was aware of any physical laws."

Music: Gerri Friedberg

March 20 – Jim Coakley

DON'T THROW BABY JESUS OUT WITH THE BATH WATER: CHRISTIANITY WITHIN THE UU FAITH

Many come to Unitarian Universalism from Christian backgrounds and sometimes struggle to reconcile their past heritage with their current faith journey. Jim will share his own experiences and those of several authors who found ways to express their Christian faith within a diverse world view.

Jim Coakley lives in Appleton with his wife of 25 years and their two teenage children. His family has called the Fox Valley UU Fellowship home for 15 years and he currently serves as a lay minister. In his spare time, Jim is in his second year as a part time seminarian at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago.

Music: Gerri Friedberg

March 27 – Door County Poets

POETRY OF THE EQUINOX

We all know that the Vernal Equinox is the date when night and day are equal and that it marks the beginning of spring, but what does it actually mean to us? In this service we will hear poems by UU members and friends.

Participating poets include Sharon Auberle, David Clowers, Larry Eriksson, Estella Lauter, Cynthia Oliver, Nancy Rafal, Jack Redell, Henry Timm and Tom Toerpe. They all believe in the power of poetry to voice experiences that might otherwise remain invisible.

Music: Gerri Friedberg and the UU Choir
Service Leader: Estella Lauter

After this service, celebrate the publication of *Memory Keepers*, a collection of poetry from the Dickinson Series. See page 4 for more information.

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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President's Report

By Cyndy Stiehl

Your Board met on February 8 to do the business of the Fellowship. It is budget time so much of our discussion was devoted to money matters. After a lengthy, intense and good process we accomplished the task and you will be seeing it soon. Juliana will have more explanation then.

Also discussed was the idea of promoting/ advertising the Fellowship more including availability of the Koessl building. No proposal was made but we realized that we need compelling programs that would attract and appeal to new people first. To that end, I spoke with Ian Everson from the UUA Central Midwest District who gave great ideas that we are working to employ. Most important is making new people feel welcome. Talk to them when they enter and especially engage them immediately after the service, perhaps with an invitation to stay for coffee or by mentioning our next event. If we all do this, our congregation will continue to grow.

A policy for the Memorial Garden was confirmed and will be posted soon. The use of the Memorial Garden will be a benefit for members of record and their immediate families. The Memorial Services policy has been conformed to this standard.

Many thanks go to the family of Louis Smolak who offered some of Louis's books to us. Some already grace the bookshelves of the sanctuary.

This time of the year many of us seek the comfort of warmer climes. It is lovely to be removed from and relieved of below freezing temperatures, snowstorms, heavy coats and slippery sidewalks. That being said, I am delighted to be staying here—for the most part—this winter. The cold binds us in a way that summer's warm breezes do not. Winter in Door County at UUFDC feels like home.

Social Responsibility Committee

By Chuck Lauter

Contributions on behalf of UUFDC are made quarterly by the SRC to organizations focused on social justice causes. The committee is concerned that this approach insulates the Fellowship from this important activity. Thus, in the future we will provide more info in the newsletters, put inserts in the Order of Service and make announcements at services about groups we support and will invite members to supplement the Fellowship gifts and to propose other worthy organizations and causes. SRC has also requested a budget increase to continue this social justice commitment on behalf of UUFDC. Recent recipients include: UUSC for its continuing work in Darfur, post-Katrina, Pakistan flood relief, Youth Haiti and Doctors Without Borders. Locally, contributions have been made to: the Community Clinic, the Wellness Center, HELP of Door County, and Loaves and Fishes.

Major current activities are the planning of Justice Sunday (April 10, 2011) and Earth Day Sunday (April 24, 2011). For Justice Sunday we will focus on Immigration as a topic. This fits well with our continuing outreach to the local Hispanic community, connects to the UUSC general focus on "Rights in Humanitarian Crises," and joins the UUA 2010-2014 study/action commitment to immigration. (See the Winter 2010 issue of UU World).

In May, SRC will hold a special meeting in preparation for the Annual Meeting to set priorities among its 20 active and potential projects. Our regular meetings are following the service/discussion on the first Sunday of each month. Please provide feedback, or better yet, join us!

What is your favorite UU Principle?

At the Sunday Service on February 6, a vote was taken of people's favorite UU Principle. Here are the results:

Inherent worth and dignity	21
Justice, equity...	5
Acceptance of one another...	3
Free and responsible search...	11
Right of conscience...	1
Goal of world community...	1
Inter-dependent web...	7

Conversation Partners

By Meg Vermillion

The most recent Social Responsibility Committee program is doing exactly what was hoped for. Our Fellowship has for several years been supporting a growing Hispanic community in Door County with financial allocations as well as holiday gifts to families through the Hispanic Resource Center. SRC was looking for a way to develop a relationship in a more meaningful, useful way beyond gift giving. A program to fulfill this aspiration came about as a result of a working presence by SRC at a Hispanic celebration last September. Between Karen Cruz, NWTC teacher Renee Honold-Smith and other SRC members, supporting English language development quickly emerged into a vital program. Under the skilled leadership of UU Friend, Jami Hanreddy, who is training volunteers as tutors, UU's and several community folks have been taking part in monthly orientation sessions to gain or rejuvenate their abilities in supporting English competency. To date, there are 12 Hispanic persons meeting with "gringo" partners. It is the hope of SRC, that through word of mouth throughout the Hispanic community and your support that this program will continue to grow.

Dollars and Sense

By Juliana Neuman, Treasurer

Budget planning for the next fiscal year was initiated last month by the Finance Committee (Helene Di Iulio, Al Johnson, and Tom Toerpe). Suggestions from that committee stimulated much discussion at the February Governing Board meeting. A final budget draft is to be presented at the March meeting. We are focusing on Adult Enrichment, Youth Programming, and Musicians' compensation as program areas in need of budgetary increases. We are also mindful of our responsibility to maintain our buildings and grounds and have agreed to set aside funds for future maintenance by

means of small annual increases.

DONATIONS

January Artist-of-the-Month Don Fundingsland expressed his appreciation of the Art Gallery with a contribution to UUFDC. Joan Shiels has again demonstrated her ongoing support with a donation, and monies were collected at the Super Bowl party to be used for U-Night.

Facebook for the Over 50 Crowd A UU Adult Education Offering

If you are wondering what Facebook is good for — how, when, and if to start, or just want to learn more about it, attend a free two-hour seminar on Thursday, April 7 from 1 – 3 pm, presented by UUFDC member Stephen Kastner.

Kastner says, "With more than 600 million users worldwide, there is a media shift taking place." Find out how to use the social network to read, subscribe, sort and talk with your friends about world and local news on Facebook. Also covered will be privacy issues and how businesses are now reaching out in a different manner than the old "tell-and-sell" method to promote their products.

Kastner's firm, DesignWise Studios of Door County, provides a portfolio and blogazine about social media and web-marketing strategies. Practicing what he preaches, Kastner's clients are coached to achieve success with inbound advertising through the use of social media and digital content creation including dynamic web design, earned media and video production.

Contact Helene Di Iulio, helenediulio@hotmail.com, for more information and to register.



Farmer Featured Poet

By Chuck Lauter

Michael Farmer, a poet from Baileys Harbor, describes himself in the brochure for the 2010-2011 Dickinson series as "short and sweet." This is true in person, personality, and poetry. His writing is characterized by and noted for an American style of haiku, short, but very penetrating. Here is an example of the way in which he jars one to think differently:

*Perennial crop
The garden fares far too well
White marble crosses...*

While his haiku will be featured in the reading, many other poems will turn your head, especially in the last line. The twinkle in his eye when he reads is a delight. There is much mischief in his poetry, as well as sobering thought.

Farmer is also intrigued by and devoted to Native American music, especially the flute. He has led many workshops to teach people to construct and play the Native American flute. These rhythms also infuse his poetry.

His reading concludes the 2010-2011 Emily Dickinson Poetry Series on March 9, 7 pm, at the UU Fellowship. An open mic will follow Farmer's reading.



Emily Dickinson Poetry Series for 2011-2012 Announced

Dickinson

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County is pleased to announce an exciting list of featured poets for the 2011-2012 season. Eleven new voices, plus youth poets, will highlight the series. The series begins each year in April to commemorate National Poetry Month.

Emily Dickinson Poetry Series 2011—2012

2011

April 13- Norert Blei

May 11- "Obvious Dog"

June 8- June Nirschl

July 13- Sarah and Al Stuart

August 10- Judy Roy

September 14- Edward Dimaio

October 19*- Bruce Dethlefsen

November 9- Henry Timm

December 14- Marybeth Mattson 2012

January 11- David Clowers

February 8- Youth Readers

March 7- Francha Barnard

* This reading is the third Wednesday of October in conjunction with a reading for the Friends of Door County Libraries at the Sturgeon Bay Library on Thursday, October 20.

The poetry community in Door County is extremely vital. The Dickinson Series features both beginning and established poets and provides a comfortable setting for the reading of new work. These evenings also attract new listeners, some of whom then become readers. The series is intended to enhance both the appreciation and the writing of poetry.

Fellowship Celebrates Publication of Poetry Book

Poets and lovers of poetry will celebrate the publication of a compilation of poems entitled *Memory Keepers* on

Sunday, March 27 at 11:30 am, following the UUFDC's annual Poetry Sunday service. This is the inaugural event in Door County's celebration of National Poetry Month, which begins April 1.

Memory Keepers is Volume II of poems read by featured poets during the previous 12 months of the Fellowship's Dickinson Poetry Series. This book includes 28 poems by 15 poets. The title is a variation of the title of one of the poems in the book and reminds us that good poetry is indeed a repository of observations, ideas, and feelings we have all experienced. The poets featured include Katie Schnorr, Barbara Larsen, Nancy Rafal, Ellen Kort, Ralph Murre, Loraine Brink, Jack Redell, Sharon Auberle, Caleb Whitney, Gary Jones and Michael Farmer; plus Gibraltar High School students Caitlin Weber, Brandon Bogenschütz, Morgan Petersilka and Rachael Mickelson. The poems reflect on the local scene, travel, language, social issues, nature and human interactions – subjects with a long history in poetry.

The publication celebration will include refreshments, music, impromptu readings of poems by their authors, and opportunity for the poets to autograph their pages in the books that have been purchased. The cost of the book is \$10, with proceeds funding community service activities as well as promoting interest in poetry. *Memory Keepers* will be available at poetry events county- and state-wide as well as at UUFDC events.

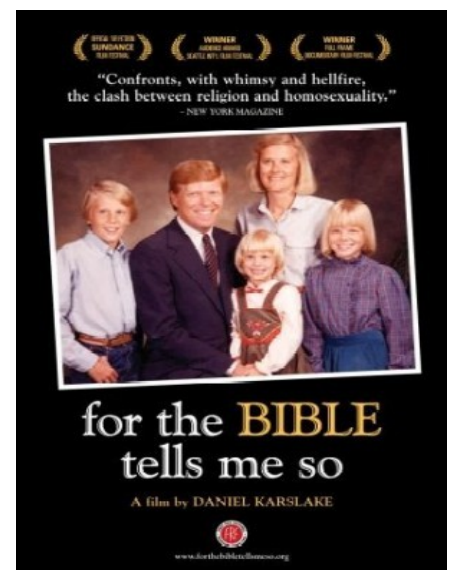
The issuance of this Volume II confirms the intention to make poetry collections from the Dickinson Series an annual publication. Volume I, released in April, 2010 was *No Breath is Lost*. Both volumes were produced by Helene Di Iulio.

Movies That Matter Presents

For The Bible Tells Me So

For The Bible Tells Me So will be screened on Tuesday, March 15 at 4:30 pm.

This American documentary premiered in competition at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and went on to win a number of prestigious awards at film festivals around the country. It was named by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as one of 15 films on its documentary feature shortlist but did not make the



final cut for an Oscar nomination.

For The Bible Tells Me So, directed by Daniel Karlslake, deals with homosexuality and its perceived conflict with religion. Karlslake examines the ways in which conservative Christian groups have used – and sometimes exploited – Holy Scripture to deny human rights to gays and lesbians around the world. The film features lengthy interviews with several sets of religious parents about their personal experiences of raising homosexual children as well as interviews with those adult children. *For The Bible Tells Me So* also includes an animated segment "Is Homosexuality a Choice?" directed by Powerhouse Animated Studios.

Book Club

By Karon Winzenz

For the March 2nd (1:30 pm) meeting of the UU Book Club the group will be discussing *Sarah's Key* by Tatania de Rosnay. Jami Hanreddy will be the host and moderator. Please contact her if you plan to attend at (920) 854-6387 or at hanreddy@uwm.edu.

For the April 6th meeting hosted and moderated by Toby Mason, the book will be the *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson. The first of a trilogy, the novel features the exploits of an unlikely heroine, Elizabeth Salander who is portrayed as having suffered every kind of abuse in her young life, including an unjustly ordered commitment to a psychiatric clinic and sexual assault suffered at the hands of her court-appointed guardian. Since she holds others responsible for their actions she takes revenge on those who abuse others. Critic Robert Dessaix lists the major themes examined by the author as: holding criminals responsible for their crimes, violence against women, the incompetence and cowardice of investigative journalists, the moral bankruptcy of big capital, and the virulent strain of Nazism still festering away in Swedish society. Contact Toby if you plan to attend: tlmason@hotmail.com, phone 773-653-3941.

From The Fair Trade Cart

By Meg Vermillion

This is the time of year for hot chocolate and baking. We have an ample supply of coca drink mix and cocoa baking powder. If you don't have time for either, pop a chocolate candy bar in your mouth. There are several new bars with the caramel fast becoming a favorite. As to coffee and as an experiment, Breakfast Blend is replaced by Tanzanian Jubilee. Since Tanzania is one of the five poorest countries in the world, it seemed deserving of more support. Please give me your feedback and I will accommodate what I hear.

Meet Mary and Dick Smythe: UU Members #99 and #100!

Mary Smythe

I was born in Alliance, Ohio. My mother was a teacher and my father was a minister, professor, member of the Methodist Board of World Peace, then head of the Methodist Office for the United Nations. I grew up in Detroit, outside Chicago (in the second deliberately integrated community in the U.S), and in New York City. I majored in Russian History at the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, met Dick there and we married after I graduated in 1962. I spent my salaried years in Minneapolis/St. Paul, on the Nursing Services, Volunteer Services, and Public Relations staffs of the University of Minnesota Hospitals and Clinics, and as an elected member of the Mounds View School Board. Volunteer service has been an important part of my life--church, family planning, hospice, native plant societies. Currently I am a member of the Board of Visitors for the Organization of Tropical Studies, serve on the Woodcrest Village Condominium Association's Board of Directors, and as chair of the WVCA Grounds Committee.

We have two daughters. Kathleen, a professor of African History at Xavier University, lives in Cincinnati, Ohio with her husband and two children. Laura lives in Appleton with her two daughters. She is an attorney, mediator and professor, teaching for the University of Phoenix on their Appleton campus and on-line for the University of the Rockies.

Dick Smythe

As a young boy my life revolved around baseball and collecting feathers and insects--especially butterflies and dragonflies. For a number of years I was a regular contestant at county fairs with my insect collection. I attended the College of Wooster where--in order of importance--I met Mary and majored in biology with a minor in chemistry. I then earned a PhD in entomology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



My entire professional career was spent with the U.S. Forest Service, first as a research scientist, then in a series of administrative positions in Gulfport, Mississippi, northern Virginia, Washington, D.C., and St. Paul where I was Assistant Director for Research, then Deputy Director, both at the North Central Forest Experiment Station. The Station had research responsibility for several Midwest states. My final position was Director of Wildlife, Fish, Water, Soils and Atmospheric Science Research in Washington, D. C.

After retirement in December of 2000 I became active in monitoring populations of birds, butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies. I have been involved for many years with the Organization for Tropical Studies, a consortium of universities and institutions promoting research and education in the tropics. I am on the Newport Wilderness Society Board of Directors and am involved with a number of other environmental activities.



UU Update

Mailed Subscription: \$15 per year

Emailed Subscription: No charge

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Sunday Services: 10:00 am

UUFDC March 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 10:00 am	2 Book Group 1:30 pm 1-3 PM Gallery 7 pm U-Night	3	4 1-3 PM Gallery	5
6 8:15 Choir Rehr SRC meet 11:30 10 AM SERVICE Kärin Kopischke 11-12:30 Gallery	7 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	8 2 pm Governing Board	9 1-3 PM Gallery 7 pm Dickinson Poetry Michael Farmer	10	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>For The Bible Tells Me So.</i>	16 1-3 PM Gallery 7 pm U-Night	17	18 1-3 PM Gallery	19
20 10 AM SERVICE Jim Coakley 11-12:30 Gallery	21 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	22	23 1-3 PM Gallery 7 pm U-Night	24	25 1-3 PM Gallery	26
27 8:15 Choir Rehr 10 AM SERVICE Door County Poets Poetry Book Party 11-12:30 Gallery	28 1-3 PM Mah Jongg 1-3 PM Gallery	29	30 1-3 PM Gallery 7 pm U-Night	<p>Happy Birthday to our Members and Friends with March Birthdays: 3-Shirley Stolley 5-Dave Vermillion 11-Marilyn Hansotia 14-Al Wittenkeller 18-Ellen Shahbazi 19-Dick Schultz 20-Tom Toerpe 21-Margie Bock 23-Gerhard Bernhard 24-Karen Eriksson 25-Lloyd Gerrits 26-Judy Wittenkeller 28-Phil Saperstein 31-Jacque Polzin</p>		