

MATT'S MUSINGS



As I read the last UUYO *Steel Chalice* newsletter at home recently, I was surprised by all that is going on in the church and in our community. No, I don't read the entire newsletter in advance (Diane prepares it, Martin proofs it, Luanna helps fold it). I'm happy to see so many activities, and I'm also delightfully satisfied that I don't know everything that is going on in our church.

One of the books on my shelf (well right now it's out on loan) is a short gem called "Improv Wisdom: Don't Prepare, Just Show Up" by Patricia Ryan Madson, an improvisation teacher at Stanford. Madson tells us that the first maxim of improv is to say "yes." She says, "The world of yes may be the single most powerful secret of improvising. It allows players who have no history with one another to create a scene effortlessly, telepathically. Safety lies in knowing your partner will go along with whatever idea you present."

Based on my brief encounter with improvisation through Interplay, I agree completely. You develop trust by doing together, by adding your creativity to ideas already in motion. The results can be beautiful and rich and completely unexpected.

But sometimes the idea is not well thought out, or maybe it's an idea we don't feel we can do. Here we need to say, "Yes, and" and add some variation that perhaps brings clarity or points the idea in the right direction (In church, the "and" may bring the idea in line with our mission). "Yes, and" builds engagement and trust. So, for example, we could say "Yes, a children's museum visit and sleep-over sounds great; and we need to make sure the children are safe." Or "Yes, we can have that event; and we need to clean up the space afterward."

We try very hard to say "Yes, and" here at UUYO, to create a place where people are able, with minimal bureaucratic interference, to respond to their passions and create things of worth and meaning. We strive to create what in church-speak is a "permission granting culture." "Yes, and" begins to transfer the ownership of an idea or a program from a single person to the congregation as a whole. It's the same thing that happens in an improv troupe, where the ideas begin to flow fast and furious, and the troupe works as a nearly seamless whole.

We have many newer people becoming part of our community; and many longer-time people trying out new things, all of you taking risks to be part of the whole. All of you bring passions and talents and time and resources. Our communal task is to help discover the gifts you bring that may best serve the mission of this church. We need to learn how to say "Yes" and "Yes, and" more often.

I'm sad to report that my dad passed away early Saturday, September 24, after a long illness. After many weeks in the hospital, he was able to return to his home in Houston under the care of hospice. He died peacefully, and I am grateful for that outcome. I appreciate your thoughts, concern and forbearance during this time.

See you in church! Matt

SUNDAY SERVICES - 11 AM

CHANNING HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME.

October 2: "Extreme Interconnection"

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

When we try to understand the world, we often oversimplify -- we divide things into parts and look for direct cause and effect. In doing so, we tend to lose deeper understanding of the world in all its chaotic, emergent, and interconnected nature. How can we look at the world with different eyes? (Children will start in RE.)

Worship Associate: Melissa Smith

October 9: "Hope for a Happy Valley"

Worship Leader: Sarah Lown

Times are changing faster than ever. Economies are shifting. This affects the workplace, family life and future prospects. For many of us, the future feels threatening. How can we shape a future that brings hope instead of despair? Authors of utopian and dystopian visions have guided us in shaping various visions. We will explore the bright and the dark sides of social visions in recent decades so we can decide for ourselves what it will take to make the Mahoning Valley a happy valley. (Children start in the service, then leave for RE.)

Worship Associates: Ivan Dementiev and Michael Hill

October 16: "Back to the Roots"

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

Many Christians talk about getting back to "the religion of Jesus" (which would really be Judaism) or at least the religion of the early church. We'll examine what early Christianity might have looked like (warning: it's more radical than you'd expect!) Why did Christianity change? How might those early teachings lead a more authentic understanding of Christianity? (Children will start in RE.)

Worship Associate: Jan Elias

October 23: "Asking Your Forbearance"

Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Alspaugh

A spiritual attitude closely related to generosity is forbearance, which can be interpreted as taking less than you are entitled. This applies not just to material things (stewardship of the earth, for example) but to relationships with others. We may demand less airtime, or let go of needing to win an argument. How might forbearance be helpful in a community like ours? What are its limits? (Children start in the service, then leave for RE.)

Worship Associate: Margaret Haushalter

October 30: "Dia De Los Muertos"

Worship Leaders: Rev. Matt Alspaugh & Becky Harker

In our annual Day of the Dead service, we remember those among us who have died. **You are invited to bring a photo or a memento of those who have passed to place on the altar (they will be returned at the end of the service).** We'll explore how we die, how we embrace death or deny it, and how our culture around death is evolving. (The children will be participating in this multigenerational service.)

Worship Associate: Audra Carlson

November 6: Celebration Sunday

Worship Leader: Rev. Robin Zucker

This Sunday is the culmination of our Annual Stewardship Campaign. Rev. Robin Zucker, who will facilitate our Vision and Goals Discussion (Saturday, Nov. 5) will preach. Please bring your pledge cards to offer as part of a Celebration Ceremony. (Children will start in RE.)

Worship Associates: Sarah Jordan and Karen Stangl

ADULT FORUMS - 9:30 AM

October 9 - "Gender in the Jungle: Excavations and Identity in Guatemala"
Archaeologists know a good deal about the male rulers of the ancient Maya of Mesoamerica--but what about Maya women? Molly Toth, a member of our church, will discuss recent excavations at Cancuen, Guatemala, and give a brief presentation on ancient and modern Maya society and gender roles.

October 16
"Small Farmers Who Produce Locally Grown Food"
Jim Converse will lead a discussion of an upcoming Congressional farm bill and will encourage people to contact their lawmakers urging them to make the bill more friendly to small farmers who produce locally grown food. We will also get an update on the church's farm to table project at Martin Luther King School. This session is brought to you by the Church's Social Action Committee.

October 23 - "Chanting" Sarah Jordan
"Sacred Singing" -- We will spend a few minutes discussing the Women with Wings organization, the meditative and healing aspects of simple songs, chants, and the relationship to spirituality. Then let's get singing. If desired bring your drums or hand percussion instruments. Sarah has attended the Singing in Sacred Circle Workshop put on by Women with Wings three times.

October 30 - "Jubilee Gardens" is one of Youngstown's urban gardening programs, and the beneficiary of an upcoming Give Away the Plate collections as part of our social action program to support local food production in the Youngstown area. We will learn about Jubilee Gardens' goals and challenges.

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE 2012 UPDATE

The stewardship "kick-off" this past Sun., Sept 25, was a big success. About 75 adults, children and youth enjoyed a wonderful meal of soup and bread in Channing Hall. What was even more wonderful was the feeling of fellowship among all who attended.

We also learned about the three "T's" of stewardship: Time, Talent and Treasures and were introduced to a mission-based budget during Karen Stangl's informative and inspiring presentation.

Thanks to all of you who picked up your pledge packets. The remaining packets will be available for pickup for another week or so in Channing. After that, they'll be mailed.

The upcoming stewardship events:
On Oct. 23 after the service, we will have a series of roundtable discussions. The topics will center around our mission and the 7 UU principles. The purpose is to share ideas on how UUYO can better exemplify these principles through our programs and outreach.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, there will be an all church goal planning retreat facilitated by Rev. Robin Zucker. Nov. 6 will be Celebration Sunday. During the service led by Rev. Robin Zucker, members and friends will have the opportunity to bring forward their pledge cards in a special ceremony. Following the service, there will be an ice cream social in Channing Hall.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend all these events. More information will be in the Orders of Service and Weekly Updates.

Take joy in your giving
You not only enrich your soul,
you also enrich all of creation.

Giving is a simple act
that becomes a great occasion,
for the benefits are incalculable. -Fia B. Scheyer

Thank you for your generosity during this crucial time of growth and vitality for UUYO. Let's not just keep our doors open but truly open our doors! Brian A. Selius

Reflections



We are off to a great start of the RE year! We have four classrooms plus the nursery; and the first week of RE, we had 28 kids! We welcome our new families, and we are happy to see all of our old friends. By now, the teachers and kids are falling into a routine.

With the help of Jim Converse, they have made apple-sauce and will be making salsa using vegetables that they planted last year. This salsa will be served at Coffee Hour on October 16. On that day, be prepared for a different Coffee Hour experience. RE will be hosting it in a "Progressive Coffee Hour" format. Coffee and other beverages will be offered in Channing Hall, and different snacks (including salsa) will be offered in the various RE classrooms. Consider it an RE Open House/Coffee Hour! Come and see where the other half live, and enjoy tasty treats while you're at it!

Also on the agenda: Save the Date!!! On November 12, Roger and Gloria Jones have graciously offered the use of their new science museum, called "Oh Wow!" to all UUYO families. We will have pizza and get to play in the museum after hours, from 6-9 PM. Everyone is welcome. Following this, the Middle School and High School youth are invited to return to the church for an overnight "Lock-in." More information will be available closer to the date.

BeckyAnn Harker

INTRO TO UU - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 12:15 PM

This will be a short presentation and discussion about Unitarian Universalism, UUYO, and you. This is a particularly useful gathering for visitors and newcomers. Grab a cup of coffee or tea and join us in Schweitzer Lounge, for this 20-minute presentation, led by Rev. Matt Alspaugh and Carole McWilson.

BELONGING TO UUYO CLASSES

Our next Belonging to UUYO class is on three Tuesday evenings: October 18 and 25 and November 1 from 7 - 8:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to learn about this church, about Unitarian Universalism, and to meet other newcomers to the church. This is open to all newer people in the church whether or not you are ready to join the church. We hold these classes in the fall and in the spring.

Matt Alspaugh, Carole McWilson and others will lead this program.

SOCRATES CAFÉ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 - 7 PM

All are welcome. We're bringing our minds together to discuss important things. We select the topic of the meeting (by a vote) when we meet.

Discussion is fast paced as each person is only given a minute to make his or her point and then we move on. The goal is to think, discuss, laugh and ponder.
Roger Jones

NORTHSIDE FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAYS FROM 10 AM - 1 PM

Last day -- October 29

NEW: WE ACCEPT EBT

WICK PARK -- ELM AT ILLINOIS
First Unitarian Universalist Church

3 bonus EBT tokens with purchase of 10

BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK PARTY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 10 AM - 1 PM

There's much work to do both inside and outside. Come out and help and enjoy the company.

BITS FROM THE BOARD

A very big Thank You and Congratulations to the Arts & Lectures team that organized this year's fun and enlightening Universal Cafe series. The diversity of programs and number of new faces from the community in attendance are a testimonial to our true ability to reach out and embrace diversity and innovative thinking. We are glowing from this experience and look forward to it growing again next year.

Our host relationship with Christian Life Ministries has come to an end as they have found a new home on Glenwood Avenue. We wish them the best and appreciate having had them under our roof to share in spirituality and worship.

We have begun our Stewardship campaign for the 2012 Church Year, and appreciate the support from Board members and other lay leaders who have stepped up to ensure that the new approach will be both engaging and enriching for our congregation as a whole. Thank you, Brian Selius, Finance Chair, for taking the helm and donating your time, thoughts and talent into this new frontier in mission-based budgeting.

The Growth and Vitality team members, Rev. Matt Alspaugh, Tim Raridon, Karen Stangl and Carole McWilson, attended the 4th of 6 regional meetings on Sept. 16-17 at the UU Church of Wayne County in Wooster, Ohio. The team reported on their last set of 6-month goals: a logo has been created, selected and instituted and New Member/Visitor information has been created and is ready to disseminate. It is an exciting time to create another set of goals for the next 6-month interval between meetings. The next meeting will be held in the beginning of March in the Pittsburgh area.

The remodeling of the Church kitchen is nearly completed: there is a new refrigerator/freezer, cupboards have been painted and new (and newly placed), hardware was installed on doors and drawers, and the countertops have been set, the floor has been updated and the island has been expanded to include a sink. Martin Berger also informs us that the old gray and orange carpets have been removed from Schweitzer, and the shopping/pricing stage of finding a replacement solution has begun.

Please also look for details regarding the Give-Away-the-Plate Sundays coming up this fall. The Social Action Team will identify community organizations that partner in our mission who will receive our plate contributions on three Sundays.

It is an exciting and busy time here at UUYO, where growth, generosity and possibilities abound!

Blessings, Karen Stangl

*The thoughts of the Board are with Rev. Matt Alspaugh and Liz Hill on the passing of Matt's father the last weekend of September.

MONTHLY THANK UU'S

We will be writing a monthly "Thank UU's" column to acknowledge members and friends' **donations of time, energy and financial support** to UUYO.

We invite everyone to let **Ellen Ford**, ellen_ford@sbcglobal.net, our Thank You Chair, know about people's contributions before the 15th of the month, so that she can write the column.

(Check Newsletter online for more information.)



GROWING COFFEE SALES PROGRAM FROM EQUAL EXCHANGE

Welcome to cooler autumn temperatures, and to Organic Love Buzz, the special ON SALE coffee for the month of October. Bags of Love Buzz (10 oz. ground, 12 oz. whole bean) will be on sale for \$7.00 instead of the usual \$8.00 for the entire month of October. Love Buzz is a post-roast blend of Full City and French roasted beans with an aroma of toffee, molasses, pipe tobacco, cocoa, cinnamon, and brown sugar, with a complex flavor and a chocolatey, bitter aftertaste. It is one of our most popular coffee choices, due in part to the appealing name. This variety and all Equal Exchange coffees are 100% Arabica beans. If you drink another variety of Equal Exchange coffee, now is a good time to try a new, bolder taste. And if you have never bought our coffees, you are in for a treat.



The coffee cart will be in Channing Hall during coffee hour on Sunday mornings after the worship service, and products will be available at Saturday morning's Farmers' Market from 10 AM to noon. This long-standing Fair Trade project of our church raises funds for the church operating budget and supplies our kitchen with coffee for regular coffee hour and for other church events. Also, for each pound of products we buy, Equal Exchange donates \$0.20 to UUSC, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, our denomination's social service arm.

But best of all, the Fair Trade model assures that coffee growers around the world receive a fair price for their products and are able to make a living and support their families by participating in the Fair Trade system. Join us to grow these coffee sales by purchasing Love Buzz coffee during the month of October.

With a tip of a cup of Fair Trade coffee, from Ellen Satre and the Equal Exchange sales team

DREAMS OF HOPE

This is a performing arts group created by and for Queer Youth and Allies. They will be performing at the UUYO on Saturday evening, October 22. Please mark your calendars, and let's show our support for our BLGTQ community. Thank you, Diana Shaheen.

COFFEE HOUSE—THE COCOA-MOCHA FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, FROM 7-10 PM

Cocoa Mocha is a family-friendly gathering that provides a safe space for all BLGTQ youth and allies. We get together every third Friday of the month in Channing Hall for workshops, music, dancing, and good food.



STRETCH & CREATIVE MOVEMENT CLASS Tuesdays - 6 - 7:30 PM---Channing Hall

Classes include yoga, stretching, muscle strengthening/toning, creative movement and simple choreography.

Join us and take some time for yourself to focus on posture, breathing and the joy of movement.

Suggested donation to defray costs will be \$20 per month. Call Susan Callen Miracle.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19 - 7:30 PM

We will discuss Cold Comfort Farm by Stella Gibbons.

This book is a wickedly funny portrait of British rural life in the 1930's. Flora Poste, a recently orphaned socialite, moves in with her country relatives and becomes enmeshed in a web of violent emotions, despair, and scheming until Flora manages to set things right.



WOMEN'S ALLIANCE



Women's Alliance will have our first meeting of the year on Saturday, October 8, at 12:30 PM. All women of the church are welcome, and we especially welcome new faces.

For further information, contact Margaret Haushalter at 330.757.8979.

CIRCLE SUPPERS

The next circle supper will be on November 12. The deadline to sign up is October 30. For more information, contact Sarah Jordan at ms_jordan_debruin@hotmail.com. Poster in Channing Hall.

**THE PHILOSOPHICAL ROOTS OF UU
OCTOBER 26 - 7 PM**

The UU Philosophy group will be exploring early American Unitarians, starting with William Ellery Channing, and his sermon "Unitarian Christianity" (link is <http://www.channingmc.org/channingspeech.html>). All are welcome, even if you have not attended previously. The group will be led by Rev. Matt Alspaugh/Alan Tomhave.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

This group is meeting on Tuesday nights at the church at 7 PM in Schweitzer Lounge.

NEWS - MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



New Members:

Bradley and Maria Barefoot
127 Danbury Dr., Boardman, OH 44512
724.448.4350/barefoot.maria@gmail.com

Bradley is a free-lance web designer and magician. Maria is a librarian at YSU and loves to sew. They have two cats and a dog that take up most of their time. They moved here from Pennsylvania in 2008.

In Our Thoughts:

Terri Rivera and Lei Gigax, members of the church, moved into a home recently but were terrorized by anti-gays and had to move back to their apartment. They are now safe but would appreciate your thoughts.

Brea Loewit, a friend of the church, is having a difficult pregnancy. Please keep her in your thoughts.

Do you know of anyone who is in need of a card or a call? Please notify Luanna Jacobs, Chair, Caring Committee (330.758.4142).

DREAM GROUP - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 6-8 PM

This is a chance to explore as a group the insights and messages of our dreams.



Bring a dream to share. Contact Liz Hill liz@lizhill.net if you have questions.

October 2011



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
All events are held at the church unless otherwise stated.						1 Farmers' Market <u>10-1</u>
2 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> Adult Forum 9:30 AM	3 Manjushri Study Group-5:30-7:30 Committee on Ministry - 7 PM Treez Please Board Meeting - 6 PM	4 AA meeting <u>7 PM</u> S&CM class <u>6-7:30 PM</u> Dream Group 6-8 PM	5 Socrates Café 7 PM	6	7	8 Farmers' Market <u>10-1</u> Women's Alliance 12:30 PM
9 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> Adult Forum 9:30 AM Intro to UU 12:15 PM	10	11 AA meeting <u>7 PM</u> S&CM class <u>6-7:30 PM</u> Board meeting 6:30 PM	12	13	14	15 B&G work party <u>10 AM</u> Farmers' Market 10-1
16 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> Adult Forum 9:30 AM	17 Manjushri Study Group-5:30-7:30 WPNA meeting 6 PM	18 AA meeting <u>7 PM</u> S&CM class <u>6-7:30 PM</u> Belonging to	19 Book Discussion Group--7:30 PM	20	21 Cocoa Mocha 7-10 PM	22 Farmers' Market <u>10-1</u> Dreams of Hope
23 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> Adult Forum 9:30 AM	24 <u>Newsletter deadline</u> Manjushri Study Group-5:30-7:30	25 AA meeting <u>7 PM</u> S&CM class <u>6-7:30 PM</u> Belonging to	26 UU Philosophy 7 PM	27	28	29 Farmers' Market <u>10-1</u>
30 Sunday Service <u>11 AM</u> Adult Forum 9:30 AM	31					

NOTIFICATION OF BOARD PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS CHANGES

The Board has endorsed the following amendments to the Constitution and ByLaws for UUYO. These will need to be ratified by congregational vote at the Annual Meeting scheduled for January 8, 2012. We are bringing these changes to your attention now as to ensure the minimum two-month notification of such proposed changes, highlighted in **bold** below:

Constitution- Article VII. Amendment.

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those active members present at the annual meeting **or any specially called congregational meeting** of the Church, provided that the proposed amendment has been circulated in writing to the active members at least two months before the meeting.

*This change was proposed to alleviate having to wait until the Annual Meeting to make a Constitutional Change, if there were ever a situation when a change at another time would be necessary.

Bylaws-Article IV Section III.

The annual meeting shall be held **at such time and place as determined by the Board.**

*This change was proposed because the original wording states that the Annual Meeting is held in November/December; the change reflects our current practice of holding it in January, and allows room for scheduling it at another time if necessary.

ATTENTION!

UUYO will be hosting an earth-friendly event on Wednesday, November 30, 2011. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available. Please contact Susie Beiersdorfer for more information. (slbeiersdorfer@neo.rr.com [330.881.1050](tel:330.881.1050))

Global Singer-Songwriter, James Durst with Special Guest Vocalist Madhumita Chakrabarti



Saturday, November 19, 2011-7:30 PM

Original songs and some collected from numerous cultures (in some 2 dozen languages) reflect James' global perspective.

**First Unitarian Universalist Church
Elm St. at Illinois Ave.**

BUDDHISM IN A NUTSHELL – PART IV MONDAY EVENINGS 5:30-7:30 PM

Dates: Oct. 3, 17, & 24

This FPMT study program presents basic Buddhist philosophy and principles with the Tibetan Mahayana context, and provides simple meditation instruction. It also includes audio recordings, readings, and discussion questions.

Suggested donation: \$10 per session or \$5 if you are a student or laid off. All are welcome. You do not have to be Buddhist to attend!

TARA DANCE

Immerse your body, speech and mind in meditation through simple, powerful dance and chanting. The Mandala Dance of the 21 Praises of Tara has been taught all over the world as personal practice and communal offering. The dance involves simple, tai-chi-like movements.

Fall Date: (come rain or shine!) October 23
12-2 PM at Gazebo or Kidston Pavilion at Fellows Riverside Gardens, 123 McKinley Ave., Yo.

Fee: \$5 for students; \$10 for adults
For more information, contact Julie Thomas at jethomas@ysu.edu or 330.941.1735.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Why are you here, and what are you doing? Sounds like a direct enough question; and at this year's General Assembly in Charlotte, N.C., we got some answers from a variety of presenters. This quote is from Victor Carpenter, Minister Emeritus at First Church in Belmont, Mass., and this year's Distinguished Service Award recipient. This is the highest award our denomination offers. Mr. Carpenter ministered in Cape Town, South Africa, secretly working as a courier to jailed anti-apartheid activists, organized anti-war efforts, helped secure rights for hotel and hospital workers, protected women's rights, halted corruption, protected victims and worked on death penalty cases. When he accepted the award, Mr. Carpenter seemed surprised and humbled and insisted that if your beliefs don't lead you to action, then what good are your beliefs; and I couldn't agree more. That same day I saw Mr. Carpenter at the beautiful Bechtler Art Museum in Charlotte and personally thanked him for his service. Now I'd like to know why you are at UUYO and what are you doing?

For the past three GA's, I have attended workshops by Rev. Galen Guengerich of All Souls Unitarian in Manhattan, NYC. This year the two-part presentation was about the future of our faith, "Church of the New Millennium." Right out of the gate he stated that since the merger of the Unitarians and Universalists 50 years ago, our denomination has not grown but has gotten smaller. He then sets out to explain the tensions between our different factions and how we run away from certain ideas like the word God or spirituality. He goes on to recite research figures like the fact that 94 percent of Americans believe in God; and if we only want to appeal to the remaining 6 percent, we will have a hard way to go. According to Rev. Guengerich's Christianity, Judaism and Islam are wedded to an outdated interpretation of God as an object or a person that in a modern world makes no sense. Somehow we must stop other faiths from owning the word God and to help others understand the proper meaning to be that of experience such as beauty. This transformative experience is what connects the present with the past and the future. He also states that religion as practiced in some faiths is used to enslave; but when practiced correctly, religion can be meaningful. This can be done by being relevant and willing to change. One of the obstacles to our growth is overstimulation in our culture, and this often leaves us emotionally dead. The cure for this is personal connection and sense of community.

On the final day of the convention, the Rev. Karen Anderson gave a powerful sermon that got the auditorium rocking, to say the least. Ms. Anderson is minister of First Unitarian Church of Rochester, NY; and I urge everyone to go to the Unitarian Universalist website and find her sermon. She has a good message. Her talk was on the same topic as the Ware lecture the night before by Karen Armstrong, which is compassion. Similar to Mr. Carpenter's thinking, she asked, "Does your belief lead you to a higher purpose and more importantly does your belief get you out of yourself?" One of my favorite lines is that compassion and connection are not tied to a God, an observation which speaks to the standoff between theists and humanists, which she says is getting smaller and smaller because as Unitarian Universalists we have found our center; but we just haven't named it. She states that when new people visit our churches, they don't ask, "Do I leave my brain at the door; but do I leave my pain at the door." "This is the main component of a good religion, is it about compassion for the stranger. The next time a stranger shows up at UUYO are you willing to help them?" Jim Rogers

PS. "The Rev. in front of a minister's name should stand for revolution." Rev Mark Morrison-Reed

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday -- 9 AM - 3 PM

THANK UU'S

Thank you to and from **Jan Schnall**: Judging from the positive comments we received from both the conference leadership as well as the 70 participants, the OMD Leadership Conference hosted by UUYO this past Saturday was a great success! We should all feel a great sense of pride in our church as those of us helping with the Conference were repeatedly told how beautiful our church is and how fortunate we are to have a facility like Channing Hall. As the "logistics coordinator" for the conference, it was my responsibility to make sure we had meeting spaces prepared and to provide breakfast and lunch for the participants. When the conference concluded it was wonderful to receive so much praise for my efforts. Well, I can only take a small part of the credit for the success of this event.

Without the help of **Martin Berger** and **Kadey Kimpel**, this would not have been such a successful event. Martin was instrumental in getting the kitchen put back together Friday night prior to the arrival of the district planning team. At 4 PM, the new kitchen floor was finished; but the stoves and the refrigerator were not in place. Panic was about to set in on my part, but Martin calmly went about the task of moving the appliances back into the kitchen. Then he set up tables and chairs and stayed to meet the conference planning team. About 8:30 Friday evening, I discovered that one of the patio doors was open; and I had no way to lock it as I am not a "key-holder" (by choice...). What to do? The only answer I could think of was to call Martin, which I did; and he graciously returned to take care of the situation. Martin and a core group of Building & Grounds workers are instrumental in maintaining this beautiful facility, and I do want to let all of them know how much their efforts are appreciated.

When I asked Kadey if she could help me with the breakfast for the conference, she immediately agreed. Kadey didn't just assist, she took responsibility for the entire breakfast. I couldn't have done this without her. Kadey most likely set a new church record for coffee preparation--the amount of coffee and tea that 70 UU's can consume during a conference is astounding!! While I was running from room to room, Kadey had the kitchen under control.

Speaking of the kitchen, I must also thank our caterer, **Adam Lee**. The compliments on Adam's food were heard for the rest of the day! What impressed me even more is that here is a young man who not only cooks; but he cleans up, too!! Between Adam, Kadey, and Adam's assistant, **Molly Toth**, I was spared all panic attacks on Saturday.

Even though his father had passed away a few hours earlier, **Matt Alspaugh** opened the conference with a beautiful worship service. Working with so many wonderful folks in facilitating this event has been a most rewarding experience.

Gene Pusateri for organizing the kitchen remodel, and serving as either General Contractor or Owners' Representative, or both (depending on which day it was).

Martin Berger for dealing with so many of the kitchen details and coordinating other UUYO people to help: prepping, cabinet doors, repairing the dish machine, shelves, and more.

Tim Raridon for doing the hard work to put in wiring to support WiFi wireless internet, which now covers most spaces in the building.

Karen O'Malia for designing the Stewardship Brochure on short notice.

Special thanks to **Martin Berger** for innumerable daily maintenance chores and to **Jim Zupanic**, for mowing lawn and shoveling sidewalks.



First Unitarian Universalist Church

of Youngstown
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

1105 Elm St.
Youngstown, OH 44505 330-746-3067

office@uuyo.org www.uuyo.org

Time Dated Material

Staff:

Rev. Matt Alspaugh, Consulting Minister
BeckyAnn Harker, Director of Religious Education
Diane Thomas, Church Administrator

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LEADERS:

Board Members
Karen Stangl, President
Karen O'Mahia, Vice President
Joan Bushey, Secretary
Joshua Corrette-Bennett, Treasurer
Brian Selius, Finance Chair
Larry Wire, Trustee
Tim Rardon, Trustee
Jim Rogers, Trustee

Committee Chairpersons
Martin Berger, Building & Grounds
Luanna Jacobs, Caring
Carole McWilson, CHALICE Team
Lowell Sate, Endowment
Art Hewitt & Ralph Malmer, Green Sanctuary
Roger Jones, Ministry
Pat Rosenthal, Nominating
Stephanie Corrette-Bennett, Religious Education
Steve Oravec, Social Action
Diana Shahaen, Welcoming Congregation
Margaret Haushalter, Women's Alliance
Sarah Lown, Worship Associate Coordinator

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to build a diverse and transformative spiritual community, help people live lives of wholeness, and promote justice, peace, and religious freedom.

Unitarian Universalist Association Principles and Purposes

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalists Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

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