



The UU Circle

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of Fallston



You Are Welcome Here!

February 2010

A Month of Sundays

Sunday Services and Sunday School at 11:00 AM, 1127 Old Fallston Road, Fallston, MD (410-877-3773)

SUNDAY SERVICES

- Feb 7** **“Human” - Rev. Lyn Cox**
Humanism is an important thread in the tapestry of the UU tradition. We are inspired by the wonders of life revealed through science, by contemplating the gifts and limits of being human, and by our capacity for community.
- Feb 14** **“And the Greatest of These” – Rev. Mark Hoelter**
Well...it's Valentine's Day, after all! So we shall speak of (love), love, Love and LOVE. Oh, and by the way, bring a Valentine card, fellow lovers.
- Feb 21** **“We Remember Them” - Rev. Lyn Cox**
Each religious community offers unique resources for dealing with grief and loss. In our community, we find comfort in our memories, strength in valuing the time we have together, and resilience in the tenderness of our love. You may wish to bring the name of someone you would like to hold in memory during the services
- Feb 28** **“Reason in Faith: Faith in Reason” – Bill Feiss**
Holding one's faith to the rigors of reason is woven into the warp and woof of many, if not most, of our world's religions. From the simple observational spirit of Buddhism to John Wesley's quadrilateral where he observes theological truth without applying to scripture's inspiration tradition, experience and reason one could not possibly find the “whole truth.” Our humanist traditions ask the same of us by elevating reason and the human capacity as a path to this truth and understanding. But by this, do we place faith in reason? Do we merely replace one faith with another?

Our Happenings

- Feb 6** **UUF Social Group “Ethnic Dinner” – 4pm:** All are welcome to attend - more information below
Saturday
- Feb 7** **“Credo” - 1-3pm:** Rev. Lyn's six-session course for participants to articulate a spiritual path for themselves with a credo (an individual statement of belief).
Sunday
- Feb 13** **Board of Trustees Meeting – 1:30pm:** All are welcome to attend.
Saturday
- Feb 13** **Valentine Evening Baby Sitting for Parents Night Out– 5-8pm:** See details below.
Saturday

- Feb 13 Saturday Drum for Peace – 7pm:** All ages are welcome to the drumming circle and extra drums and other instruments are usually available for general use.
- Feb 13 Saturday Homeless Shelter Support:** Contact Paul or Maureen North for volunteer opportunities.
- Feb 14 Sunday Meeting to Discuss “Tea Party” Fund Raiser for Circle of Hope– 12:45pm:** If you would like to help see details below.
- Feb 21 Sunday "Credo" - 1-3pm:** Rev. Lyn’s six-session course for participants to articulate a spiritual path for themselves with a credo (an individual statement of belief).
- Feb 27 Saturday Murder Mystery Dinner Theater "Honky Tonk Homicide" – 5:30pm:** See article below.

News You Can Use

UUF SOCIAL GROUP “ETHNIC DINNER”

Attention UUF Social Group participants!! Dee Brown will take over where Gail left off as Singles Group chairperson. We made a couple of changes, such as, the group is no longer exclusive to singles and we will meet every other month instead of monthly. The first social event is an “Ethnic Dinner” at Café Italia on Saturday, February 6th at 4pm. The restaurant is located just off 152 on Pleasantville Rd across from Rite Aid. For a delicious meal, interesting conversation and all around fellowship please call Dee 410-692-5983 or place your name and number on the sign up sheet.

TEA FOR YOU! (and Circle of Hope)

A meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb 14th at 12:45pm to discuss a proposed May "Tea Party" fundraiser. We are in need of volunteers to help with this project. Anyone interested please call Dee 410-692-5983 or come to the meeting to hear more about this event to raise money for the Circle of Hope.

VALENTINES DAY BABYSITTING AT UUF: FEBRUARY 14th, 5-8pm

*Roses are red
Violets are Blue
On Valentines Eve
We'll babysit for you!*

Dear Parents,

Drop off your little ones at Church and we will keep them safe and entertained from 5-8pm so you can go out with your sweetheart. Please feed your child before you drop them off or bring a snack for them. If you have any questions please call us. We're looking forward to having a lot of fun!

Warmly,

Helen and Lucille

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER " HONKY TONK HOMICIDE"

It is "Last Call" for someone at Bubba's Bar in Cactus, Texas Saturday, February 27th. A nasty murder investigation sure can disrupt Karaoke Night, especially when everyone in town has a motive. The regulars at Bubba's Bar and the residents of the Cactus Court Trailer Park must find the murderer among them. For a small Texas town, Cactus has plenty of dirty secrets, double lives, torrid affairs and alien abductions! This is a one-of-a-kind party you won't forget! Meet the interesting characters at Bubba's such as: Twyla Fleetwood, Carney Folk, Sheriff Sissy Wesson, Rowdy Lawless, Rev. Jim Bob Eternity, and Mary Kay Eternity. Come 5:30pm to socialize at set up, 6pm Dinner, and 7pm Murder Mystery

Community Outreach

CIRCLE OF HOPE

Our Neighbor in Need in January is a single working mother who was referred to us for assistance by an Alliance counselor. She is being treated for severe depression and got behind in her rent. She turned to us for help in paying the landlord so she and the children would not be evicted. She was genuinely very grateful for the check we sent to the landlord.

Minister and Board President's Columns

MINISTER'S COLUMN

Human beings are amazing. Our bodies are amazing in the way they work, in the way evolution ties us to other living things, and the way physics ties us to stardust from the beginnings of the universe. Human beings have an amazing capacity to choose cooperation and altruism, although we don't always succeed at doing so.

In our congregation, while we may believe different things about the spiritual nature of the universe, there are some things about which we seem to have a consensus. As far as I can tell, we agree that it's important to solve problems caused by and/or affecting human beings. We find that science and rational thought are indispensable tools in solving those problems. We believe that our actions matter. This outlook is known as Humanism. While Humanism is sometimes thought of as a synonym for Atheism, it can also describe someone who believes in God or gods, someone who senses a spiritual nature in all things, or a happily ambiguous Agnostic. Humanism means we think human questions and answers are important.

Among ourselves in the congregation and listening to justice-minded people at work in the world, I continue to be awestruck at the human capacity for compassion. So many people are doing what they are able to support relief efforts in Haiti. I have also seen rational analysis at work in uncovering the roots of the problems that made Port-au-Prince so vulnerable, and how the world can support Haiti's systemic changes for a self-determined future. On a local scale, we bring our loving hearts and helping hands to church, ready to respond to each other's joys and sorrows. I think nurturing our ability to help one another and to heal our world is one of the best reasons to participate in a congregation like ours. Inspiration from our tradition and support from each other helps us sustain these gifts of being human. As always, I am proud to serve such a congregation.

Before I close, I wanted to share a happy (and human) announcement with you: I am pregnant with twins, due in the summer. Working with UU Fallston makes me optimistic about the world. Thank you for this gift you have already given to my family, just by being yourselves.

- Reverend Lyn Cox

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

You may have noticed (or not) that I have been absent from the newsletter for the past two months. My "just a little bit more" turned into a full plate and I missed the deadline! I don't spend a lot of time beating myself up over it though. Life happens and things come up that keep us from what we want or need to do. If you feel like you haven't given enough time or effort to what's happening at church, that's ok. Take a small step. We have openings for coffee hour. Go out with the social group. Attend a board meeting. The membership committee could use some help with compiling the data from the member info sheets. Dee is looking for help with the tea she would like to put together. You could also go big and help lead the RE committee. We certainly understand if a big commitment is not on your agenda right now, but think about the small ways you could help.

- Alison Elliott