

Sunday, November 13, 2011

“European Unitarian Roots” Rev. Ralph Tyksinski

Unitarianism was born in Poland within the liberal and radical wings of the Protestant Reformation in the second half of the 16th century. Between 1562 and 1565 as the result of religious discussions independent congregations of Polish Brethren were established. The first independent General assembly (synod) of Polish Brethren - Unitarians on June 10, 1565 is considered the historical beginning of Unitarianism as an organized movement. We will be exploring some of the influences this movement has had on subsequent Unitarian history; referencing historical documents/resources we have that disclose the persons and events that shaped Unitarian history in the 17th and 18th centuries in Poland, Transylvania, Holland, and England.

Ralph and his wife, Karleen, just visited Poland in September. Ralph has been interested in and a student of Unitarianism in Poland for more than 25 years. His studies at The Divinity School of the University of Chicago, and at Meadville Lombard Seminary have allowed him access to the rich and varied kinds of resources that make Unitarian history so fascinating and rewarding of study. As a UU minister he has served congregations in Delaware, Texas, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Wisconsin (Lake Country UU Church and Prairie UU Society). He and his wife, Karleen, have three grown children, and three grandchildren.

The children's 1st through 4th grade religious education program is schedule to learn about Lydia Maria Child.

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is located at 3116 Algoma Street, Stevens Point, WI. Services and religious education for children both start at 10:00 AM. Childcare is available during the service. The UU Fellowship is dedicated to the acceptance and participation of persons in the full range of our Fellowship and society without regard to race, age, sex, disability, sexual identity or orientation, or national origin.

Questions contact: Rae Canfield 715-341-5597 / raeacanfield@yahoo.com