

Stevens Point Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

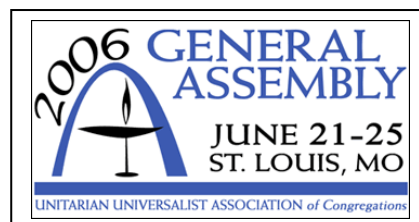
February 2006 Newsletter

Presidential Notes

Carol Weston.....

Two exciting UUA conferences are coming up that provides us with an opportunity to connect with other UUs and learn from other UU churches. The first is the CMwD Annual Meeting, in Madison, April 21st through 23rd. Featured keynote Speaker is Rabbi Michael Lerner. Rabbi Lerner founded the Tikkun Community, an international interfaith organization dedicated to peace, justice, non-violence, generosity, caring, love and compassion, which he chairs with Cornel West. Rabbi Lerner has been the editor of TIKKUN Magazine since 1986. TIKKUN was created as "the voice of Jewish liberals and progressives" and has become an influential publication in political and progressive circles. More information on the District Assembly can be found at: www.cmwd-uua.org/index.html. We will share additional information on the conference when it is available.

The second conference is the UUA General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri June 21st through 25th. This is the closest the General Assembly has been to Stevens Point in a very long time. Being in St. Louis provides our Fellowship with the opportunity to participate in this important annual meeting of the UUs. In late February, we will receive a comprehensive GA packet which will include registration forms, housing forms, and the tentative business agenda. Additional information will be posted at <http://www.uua.org/ga/> when it is available.



The Board encourages as many members as possible to attend these events. The Fellowship cannot pay for all costs for all members to attend these conferences. However, the Board is interested in offsetting the costs for members to attend these events to the extent that the budget will allow. Please contact members of the Board if you are interested in attending one or both of these conferences.

Second Harvest

Since 2001, The Springs volunteers have been coordinating a Second Harvest Food Pantry on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. [Second Harvest](http://www.secondharvest.org/) is the nation's largest charitable hunger-relief organization. (<http://www.secondharvest.org/>) The pantry at The Springs is a part of the Portage County Hunger Prevention Program. In 2005, 2,101 families (6403 individuals) were served at the local Springs Second Harvest Pantry. Last month 119 families (279 individuals) received food through the pantry.

We have been invited to join The Springs in supporting the Second Harvest Food Pantry. Opportunities to help include: set-up, clean-up, distribution of food, donations of food and/or money. The Tuesday schedule is:

- Set up 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- Food distribution 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Close 8:00 – 9:00 pm

Volunteers are needed for any shift or for the entire evening. If you cannot volunteer your time, donations of food and/or money are also needed. Food items can be perishable or non-perishable. Fresh perishable items need to be purchased on the Tuesdays they are donated. Checks can be made to "Second Harvest Food Pantry."

Second Harvest dates in February are: Feb 14th & 28th. Please contact Mary Wright 341-5655 if you have questions on the program. Otherwise step right up and get involved!

SPUUF Discussion List Serve

Based on feedback from members and friends requesting the down sizing on the number of emails received from SPUUF, the Board approved at the January 15th meeting, the development of a new "discussion" list serve for the Fellowship. There are two distinct communication interests amongst the members of the current list serve:

1. the desire to be kept informed of SPUUF and UUA services / activities
2. the desire to discuss, share and promote points of view, current events and political activities

Each type of communication is important. However, it is understandable that not all members and/or friends are necessarily interested in or have the time to read both: thus the need to separate the two. A new "discussion" list serve (SPUUF Discussion) has been created to provide members with the ability to share, discuss and promote points of view, current events and political activities. The Board is asking that all informal discussion, as outlined above, be shared through SPUUF Discussion. PointUU will be used to communicate SPUUF and UUA sponsored services and / or activities only.

You can join this discussion forum at: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SPUUF_Discussion/

Please contact Carol Weston if you want to join SPUUF Discussion or if you have any questions.

Soup Sunday

Please join the Fellowship on Sunday, February 5th immediately following the service for Soup Sunday. Everyone is asked to bring either a soup, bread, or dessert to pass. It is a time for relaxing, enjoying great food and fantastic company!

Welcome to New Child Care Provider

Bobbi Rohrs is our new child care worker for the Fellowship. Bobbi is a music education major at UWSP. Bobbi will be working with Emily Pocket to ensure a safe and fun child care program for the youth in this Fellowship. Please welcome Bobbi to the Fellowship and let her know how much the work she and Emily do is appreciated!

Program Committee Meeting

There is a program committee meeting on Sunday, February 5th at 9:30 in the basement of The Springs. All are welcome to attend.

Board Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next SPUUF board meeting is Sunday, February 12th at 9:30am. at The Springs. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please send Julia or Carol any agenda items for the meeting. The agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Calling All Musicians

Music Sunday will be February 26. All of you, young and old, who play instruments and sing are invited to participate. You do not have to be a professional, there is no judging, and memorization is not required. To volunteer to play that Sunday, please contact Julia Weiser who is coordinating the service this year. It would be really fun if we could find an ensemble piece to play, so if you have any suggestions, call Julia!

Covenant Agreement

Thank you to all members who submitted suggestions for our covenant. Julia and Carol will review the suggestions and incorporate suggestions into the DRAFT covenant and will re-submit the covenant to the membership for final review in February. After the second editing process, the covenant will come before the membership for official vote of approval. Contact either Julia or Carol if you have any questions about this process or the covenant.

Thanks to.....

- Carol Weston for coordinating the January services.
- Julia Weiser for her presentation in January on Universalism.
- All who have helped open, close and bring snacks for our weekly services.
- Jane Shoup for coordinating the Program Committee and getting so many presentations scheduled in the coming months.
- Jean Rumsey, Clara Cleve and Dorothy Ginnett for leading RE programs.
- Ron Chapman for providing piano music all month.

News From the UUA and CMwD

- The UUA has changed the image of the chalice logo used on all official communication. According to the UUA, the elements of the traditional chalice, two circles and flame, were taken to create a logo and name representation that is “modern and engaging.”
- Thursday, Feb 16-18, 2006 ; **Meadville Lombard Winter Institute**, [“Bringing It Home! New Family Rituals for our Living Tradition”](#) Featured Presenters Meg Cox, Rev Phillip Lund and Julie Tallard Johnson. More information is available at: www.cmwd-uua.org/pdfs/1205-Winter-Institute-2006.pdf
- Friday, Mar 10th, 5:30pm – Sat, Mar 11, 5:00 pm; **CMwD Religious Education Committee** Presents: [“Religious Education & Lifelong Learning Workshop”](#),. First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee. More information is available at: www.cmwd-uua.org/pdfs/1205-306REALLRegistrationFlyer.pdf
- Friday, Apr 21 thru Sunday, Apr 23; **District Assembly 2006**, The Madison Concourse Hotel, Keynote Speaker: Rabbi Michael Lerner; Rabbi Lerner founded the Tikkun Community, an international interfaith organization dedicated to peace, justice, non-violence, generosity, caring, love and compassion, which he chairs with Cornel West. Rabbi Lerner has been the editor of TIKKUN Magazine since 1986. TIKKUN was created as “the voice of Jewish liberals and progressives” and has become an influential publication in political and progressive circles. More information on the District Assembly can be found at: www.cmwd-uua.org/index.html



Calendar of Events

- Feb. 5: Program Committee Meeting, 9:30 am
Service - Paul Mertz “Civil Rights”
Soup Sunday
- Feb. 12: Board Meeting, 9:30 am
Jane Shoup “Happy Birthday, Chuck (Darwin)!”
- Feb 16-18: [“Bringing It Home! New Family Rituals for our Living Tradition”](#)
- Feb. 19: John Blakeman “ Intelligent Design & the Politics of Church & State”
- Feb. 26: Intergenerational Music Sunday
- Mar 5: TBA
- Mar 10-11: [“Religious Education & Lifelong Learning Workshop”](#)
- Mar. 12: Jane Jones “Forgiveness”
- Mar. 19: Chuck Rumsey “Theodore Parker”
- Mar. 26: Lloyd Dlack “Nicaragua in the Past”
- Apr. 2: Pat Hoehn “Islam”
- Apr. 9: Rev Don Wheat “TBA”
- Apr.16: Rev Paul Beckel “TBA”
- Apr 21-23 CMwD District Assembly
- Apr. 23: Intergenerational Earth Day
- Apr. 30: TBA
- May 7: TBA
- May 14: Annual Meeting?
- May 21: TBA

STEVENS POINT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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The Uncommon Denomination