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○ MARCH/APRIL | ○ 2011



# Stevens Point Unitarian Universalist *fellowship*

## Spring Traditions

"All major religious traditions carry basically the same message that is love, compassion and forgiveness. The important thing is they should be part of our daily lives." **Dalai Lama**

Each spring, the Fellowship observes and celebrates many traditions. These traditions reflect our seven principles in practice. Join us!

### Justice Sunday

The annual Justice Sunday service is promoted by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC describes Justice Sunday as a "highlight of ongoing human-rights work. It provides learning, advocacy, and action resources to help organize members of your congregation to reflect, understand, and take action on pertinent humanitarian issues." Our Justice Sunday service is March 27 and is called "Us and Them Jeopardy." Throughout history, different groups of people have suffered oppression and intolerance by a "dominate" cultural group. Race, religion, gender, national origin, and sexual orientation have all been used to oppress. Challenge yourself on your knowledge of the history of intolerance in America and ways the UUSC is working to provide rights to all people through our own Us and Them Jeopardy. Presented by our Welcoming Congregation Committee.

### Earth Day Intergenerational

Each year, SPUUF celebrates Earth Day with intergenerational activities, stories, and lessons. This year, the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth is focusing on water justice. UUMFE is asking us to explore water issues that are relevant to our area, as well as impact on food, energy, public health, bottled water, immigration, climate change, and more (Check out [www.uuministryforearth.org](http://www.uuministryforearth.org) for more information). Our Earth Day Intergenerational service is April 17. Whether we explore water issues or some other aspect of the interdependent web, it will be a service not to be missed!

### Canvass

Spring marks the annual Fellowship canvass. The canvass is an important time to reflect on the work of the Fellowship over the past year, offer suggestions that will shape our future, volunteer for something that you feel passionate about, and offer a pledge of support to continue the good work of our Fellowship. The canvass truly reflects our commitment to democracy. Your voice is important! Look for your canvass in your email or snail mail soon.

# 2011 General Assembly Information

General Assembly (GA) 2011 in Charlotte will mark the [50th anniversary](#) of the merger of the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America.

Join thousands of fellow Unitarian Universalists from across the country as we remember the persons and events that brought into being the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in May 1961, to reflect on our denomination's relevant achievements and struggles since then, and to chart new aspirations for the future we are determined to shape.

Experience wonderful and uplifting [worship services](#)—morning and night—led by some of our best worship leaders, with glorious music and inspiring messages.

Participate in our [democratic process](#). General Assembly is the way that our faith does business, bringing together the distinctive character of our individual congregations.

Hear [terrific speakers](#). There will be hundreds of dynamic, entertaining programs and informative workshops.

Connect with craftspeople and artisans, social action groups, professional and educational resources, theological schools, UUA organizations and staff, Beacon Press, and the UUA Bookstore in the General Assembly [Exhibit Hall](#).

Network with other congregation leaders, share best practices, and learn from one another. Return to your congregation reinvigorated and inspired to put your [values to work](#).

Witness for our faith in moving and exciting ways as we look forward to and prepare for a special "Justice" [General Assembly in Phoenix](#), AZ in 2012.

For more information, visit: <http://www.uua.org/ga/index.shtml>

## CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHARLOTTE?

The UUA is seeking General Assembly delegates to participate in the off-site participation trial for GA 2011. Off-site delegates can watch and listen, speak during debates, and vote in General Assembly business sessions from their home, office, or congregation.

The GA 2011 off-site trial provides an alternative way for delegates to participate in GA when they cannot attend physically. The trial will include lay, ministerial, and religious educator delegates to reflect the whole potential delegate pool, with special care to include those who have historically been unable to attend in person.

If you are interested in being a delegate, please contact an officer of the board!

## Central Midwest District Assembly

The district assembly is April 29 and 30 in Bloomington, IL. Hundreds of UUs from across the Midwest will gather for worship, fellowship, learning, and fun. The theme is "The Perversity of Diversity", presented by keynote speaker Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed. In addition to the keynote presentation and an all day workshop on the topic, there is an opening celebration, annual meeting of CMwD business, and lunch table topics. There will also be a vendor fair and a selection of popular books from the UUA bookstore.

Registration is \$80 before April 11 and \$95 after. The fee covers admission, district assembly events, and Saturday lunch. A volunteer rate of \$60 is available (until April 11) to those who contribute two hours of time during the District Assembly. Register online at [www.regonline.com/DA2011](http://www.regonline.com/DA2011).



Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed

# Meet a Member!

## Peg Harthun and Bev Ross

Peg Harthun's hometown is Oshkosh, WI. She and her husband came to Stevens Point in 1977 because of his work. Her favorite color is blue, the last movie she saw was *The Proposal*, and her favorite book is *The Snow Leopard*. Peg likes to read, and has a very fine teddy bear collection. She is also a spinner and a knitter, and plays the autoharp. Peg has traveled to Greece, where she enjoyed the friendly people, the food and the music, and the breath-taking views. She has never been to Alaska and would like to go (but not in the winter months).



Please welcome Beverly Ross to the Fellowship the next time you see her. Bev joined the Fellowship on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Bev moved to the Stevens Point area in 1983. She has a degree in Food Systems Management. She managed the College Of Professional Studies cafeteria for a number of years and worked at Riverview Hospital. Bev has two grown daughters and two grandchildren. One daughter lives in Michigan and one in Australia. She enjoys traveling (especially visiting her daughter in Australia), gardening, working with fabric, and walking her dog. She enjoys reading and collecting old books. In fact, at one point in time she owned a bookstore. Bev describes herself as having an "ironic sense of humor." Once while doing a survey on the Internet, her religious beliefs fell into the categories of agnostic, Buddhist, atheist, Taoist, and theist. Her friend said she must be a Unitarian Universalist. And that's how she found the Fellowship!

Welcome Bev!



# Service Schedule

Up-to-date information about services can be found at [www.spuuf.org](http://www.spuuf.org).

- March 6**—*"Politics, Spirituality, and Ecology"*, Lois Lawler  
**March 13**—*"Liberation as Spiritual Vocation"*, Laelia Tawnamaia, Student Minister  
**March 20**—*"Why Do Atheists Go To Church?"* - Rev. Lavanhar (DVD)  
**March 27**—Justice Sunday  
**April 3**—*"Perspectives on Immigration"* - Richard Olson  
**April 20**—*Topic TBA*, Rev. Don Wheat  
**April 17**—Earth Day Intergenerational  
**April 24**—*Topic TBA*—Rev. Glenda Walker

## Summer Services

Traditionally, during the summer months, we have one service per month at a member's home or at the Fellowship. Do you have any ideas for a summer service topic or would you be interested in hosting a summer service? Please contact Shannon Williams at [swilliam@uwsp.edu](mailto:swilliam@uwsp.edu).

## Strategic Planning

The Fellowship Strategic Planning Session has been scheduled for Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 4:30 PM. If you are interested in attending, contact Carol Weston, 715-345-1735

STEVENS POINT  
UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
FELLOWSHIP



Services are held at the Stevens Point Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, located at 3116 Algoma Street, Stevens Point, 54481. Services begin at 10:00 a.m.

Child care and Religious Exploration classes for children are available.

Visit [www.spuuf.org](http://www.spuuf.org) for more information.

### Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

3116 Algoma St.  
P.O. Box 361  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
[www.spuuf.org](http://www.spuuf.org)



**The Uncommon Denomination**