

# OPEN CIRCLE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Open Circle,

This has been a busy fall. It has been great to see everyone. Busy, active, engaging – there is so much going on. Wednesday nights have been busy the past few months – at times our building is abuzz with Sara & Paul's CSA, an AAUW gathering, and a board meeting. It is good to see people using our space for yoga and book discussions and so many other activities that bring groups of us together to learn, share, and be of service.

We welcomed Jim Jaeger as our consulting minister. His first two sermons, "My Spiritual Journey" and "Challenges of the Free Religious Community," were very thought-provoking and engaging. We have also been blessed with presentations by Dr. Brian Smith, "Celebration of International Peace Day;" Madonna Bowman speaking on OCUUF 2.0; Bev Gudex, "Stigma and Grace: Living with Mental Illness;" and Rev. Scott Prinster, "The Challenges and Blessings of Theological Diversity."

The Board has met with several committees – Décor, New to UU, Religious Education, and Service Planning. Our goal was to understand and document the mission of each committee and its scope of operation. We discussed regular activities, adequacy of their budget, and plans for the future. These meetings have been beneficial in developing lines of communication and delineating areas of responsibility for the board vs. each committee. We have also begun discussions of small group ministry – watch for a future announcement.

We have developed job descriptions for key Open Circle positions – Board President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-At-Large, and Nominating Committee members.

The Décor committee has been busy rearranging, with the assistance of the RE Committee. The Elementary RE Room has been relocated. We have a new Office for the Minister. Re looks forward to receiving a proposal from the youth for decorating a room for our young people.

In September, the Board and several committee chairs engaged Jim Jaeger in a Start-up Conversation. We shared expectations and talents. In addition to providing spiritual leadership in our Sunday services, he will be assisting us in many other ways - developing an Adult Religious Education program, assisting with the Youth RE program, supporting our Service Planning Committee, helping us develop a program for pastoral care.

Thanks to the Eco Food Committee for organizing our Harvest Brunch and the Men's Group for assisting. Thanks to all who help make our community vibrant and strong. Have a great fall.

*Jeffrey Reed*

## MINISTERIAL MEANDERINGS

The work of Unitarian Universalism extends beyond our individual congregations. It also involves activities at a National Level—The Unitarian Universalist Association-- (such as General Assembly) and at a Regional Level (we are part of the newly formed "Mid America Region"). Over the course of this year, I plan to provide information about many of these programs and services and encourage your participation.

This month I would like to describe the "Chalice Lighters" program and how you can support Unitarian Universalism in our Region and the work of this fellowship. The Chalice Lighter Program provides financial support to congregations in the Region in the form of grants. These grants, generally in the range of \$3,000-\$8,000 each, are designed to assist congregations that are seeking to grow. The funds could be used to: Hire additional staff or increase hours of existing staff; Purchase new facilities or expand or improve existing facilities; Initiate outreach programs for existing congregations to increase membership or programming; and Support the founding of new congregations.

The way that this works is that individuals sign up to be "Chalice Lighters." This is entirely voluntary and done on an individual basis. Then, three to four times a year, after evaluating grant requests, you would get a "Chalice Lighter Call" (a letter from the Chalice Lighter Program). This letter will describe the congregation that is to be the grant recipient and the purpose for which the grant is being made. Generally the gift requested is in the \$10.00 to \$20.00 range (though, needless to say, larger contributions will be accepted). Whatever amount is raised through the "call" will fund the grant.

What is the benefit to you and OCUUF in participating? Well, first of all, this is a tangible and affordable way for you to support the growth of Unitarian Universalism. If we believe that Unitarian Universalism has an important message for our world, then we should have an interest in supporting it beyond the walls of OCUUF. It is a way to be part of the larger Unitarian Universalist movement.

Secondly, your participation could, at some future date, directly benefit OCUUF in the form of a grant. When a congregation applies for a Chalice Lighters Grant, one of the criteria considered by the committee is the degree of involvement of members of the applicant congregation in the Chalice Lighters project. What is important is the number of people from the applicant congregation who are involved as Chalice Lighters, not necessarily the amount contributed. Thus at some point in the future, OCUUF could benefit from one of these grants if we support the program now.

In the near future, we will be offering all of you an opportunity to become "Chalice Lighters." I strongly encourage you to become a Chalice Lighter. For more information about the program check out <http://www.midamericauua.org/programs/chalice-lighters/491-chalice-lighters-midamerica>

*Jim Jaeger, Consulting Minister*

## ***STOP BY FOR A VISIT!***

.As many of you are aware, OCUUF now has a lovely minister's office (or "study" as some would call it). I want to thank the Fellowship and particularly the Décor Committee, for the lovely space they have provided me. While this office has been provided so that I can have a work space while I'm at the Fellowship it is not just really my space. Rather, it also can provide a place where I can have a private conversation with members of the fellowship as needed.

As I indicated in my recent sermon, I will be having "office hours" on the Tuesday following the Sunday when I preach. (I will generally be preaching on the 3d Sunday of the month, though this could change from time to time). Normally, I will be here from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on those days. However, my personal schedule is flexible enough that I could come earlier or later. In addition, we can schedule other days or times on an individual basis. It's not really that far for me to drive from Madison to meet with you and this is part of my role here at OCUUF—and something I would very much like to do.

So, why would you want to meet in person with the minister? There are a number of reasons I can think of:

You would like to get to know me better and would like to have more time than we have on a Sunday morning or at a committee meeting;

You have questions about our Unitarian Universalist faith that we share or other questions about matters of faith (or lack of faith) or spirituality or the like;

You have issues of a more personal nature and feel a need to talk with someone about them;

Any other reasons you can think of.

As I mentioned in the sermon, I am not a trained psychotherapist. I have had training in pastoral care but I am not truly a counselor. I believe I know enough to know when I don't know enough and will be able to help you find the kind of assistance that you need or want.

So I hope that over the upcoming year, we will have a time to sit down and talk and so you can enjoy this lovely space that we have. To Contact me either leave a confidential e-mail at [opencircleminister@gmail.com](mailto:opencircleminister@gmail.com) or call me at 608-240-9316 (this is my personal cell phone number but I'm the only one who uses it.)

***Jim Jaeger, Consulting Minister***

## ***OCUUF LOAN FUND***

In the past, we have had a small amount of money (\$400) in our annual Operating Budget for a loan fund. We receive frequent requests for financial assistance. The board has found it difficult to make decisions about loans. Do we or don't we make a loan? Whose need deserves a loan? How much should we loan? What do we do if someone receives a loan and is unable to repay the money? What do we do when the fund is empty? And so forth.

The board determined that we should not be in the business of making loans. As a result, that line item is no longer in our Operating Budget.

## ***RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)***

The past few months have been very busy for our Religious Education (RE) Committee. This summer Board Member-At-Large Linda Kirk agreed to serve as board liaison to the RE Committee. People working on this committee include Jane Dennis, Paisley Harris, Lisa Hunt, Terry Keuler, Helen Moll. They have examined our RE program and devised some improvements. They determined that we need an RE Coordinator and developed the job description that was reviewed and approved by the Board. They then defined the responsibilities of the Elementary RE Teacher in a new job description. They then conducted the searches and interviews for people to fill these positions.

In late September, Steve Cornelius accepted the position as RE Coordinator. He is an educator, former pastor, and former chaplain.

Recently, Sara Huber accepted the position as Elementary RE Teacher. Many of us know Sara as co-owner of Shared Seasons Community Farm CSA. She has a degree in education and experience in activities such as libraries, theatre, and food service. We are delighted that Steve and Sara have accepted these positions and believe that they will help us provide an outstanding RE program to our children. Welcome!

## GET INVOLVED AT OCUUF!

**Women's Coffee Group—WOW (Women of Wisdom)** usually meets on the first Monday of each month at Gift and Gab, 10 AM. The group will meet on Monday Nov 4th & Dec 2nd.



**Men's Coffee Group - MOP (Men of Power)**  
The OCUUF Men's Group usually meets on the first Sunday of every month at OCUUF at 8:00 AM. Please contact John McDowell for further information regarding events for this group. He can be reached at [eastbrook06@gmail.com](mailto:eastbrook06@gmail.com). The group will meet on Sunday Nov 3rd & Dec 1st.

**RE (Religious Education)**  
RE classes will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays for elementary age children, and child care is available every Sunday, September through June. This includes childcare for up to 10 when there is no RE class.

**Book/Video Club:** Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. The book selection for the November 19th meeting "Half the Sky" by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. December 17th selection TBD.

**The Eco-Food Group** will meet on Saturday, Nov 2nd at the Belzer home. 8-10 AM. All are welcome. Call 921-3605 for directions. December meeting TBD.

**EarthSpirt is a group for those who have an interest in Earth/Nature-centered spirituality**, including Wiccan, Native American and other Pagan paths. The groups celebrates the eight Pagan Sabbats with a gathering, ritual and potluck feast.

*For additional information, please see the calendars provided in this newsletter and more up-to-date information provided on the OCUUF web-site calendar at [www.ocuuf.org](http://www.ocuuf.org)*

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

### NOVEMBER

**11/3 Jim Jaeger**  
"All Souls"  
Coordinated by Sylvia Reed

**11/10 Barbara Lukas**  
Atheism  
Coordinated by Mary Arrigoni

**11/17 Musician Bill Kehl**  
Coordinated by Audrey Linn

**11/24 Dr. Brian Smith**  
Coordinated by Audrey Linn

### DECEMBER

**12/1 Margaret Jarek**  
Native American Spiritual Journey  
Coordinated by Paisley Harris

**12/8 Fox Valley UU Panel**  
Congregational Growth  
Coordinated by Madonna Bowman

**12/15 Jim Jaeger**  
Christian Scriptures  
Coordinated by Sylvia Reed

**12/22 Kelly Crocker**  
Coordinated by Paisley Harris

**12/29 Potluck**

## OCUUF ON YOUTUBE

OCUUF now has a YouTube site page. Additional material will be added on a regular basis. The videos will typically be loaded by the Thursday morning following the service.

Check it out.

Here is the link to the OCUUF YouTube site:

<http://www.youtube.com/ocuuf>

## GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Open Circle is participating in the UUSC's (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) Guest at Your Table campaign from Nov. 17-Dec 15. Guest at Your Table fosters understanding and awareness of UUSC's human rights work. In this annual tradition, congregation members learn about several people with whom UUSC is working.

This year, we will learn about people who have empowered others to realize their human rights. These people are our "guests," and we will be asked to share our blessings with them to support our shared mission. If you have questions, feel free to contact our new RE Coordinator Steve Cornelius. [stevecorrine@hotmail.com](mailto:stevecorrine@hotmail.com). or check out the website: <http://www.uusc.org/guest>

## UUSC – FAIR TRADE FOOD FOR THE HOLIDAYS

November is here and many people are already meal planning as holidays approach. Unitarian Universalist of San Marcos (SMUUF) has told us about an online store that supports a number of worker-owned, local producers, including many small cooperatives. These companies are in danger of being replaced with multinational corporations that have little respect for workers' rights. UUSC's online store provides delectable offerings that were fairly or directly traded, meaning workers all along the supply chain receive a living wage.

Purchases through [shop.uusc.org](http://shop.uusc.org) has hundreds of food products, including Southern Alternative pecans, sweet and savory spreads from the Jam Stand, and Fair-trade spices from Fair Seas Spice Company. Also available are holiday gifts and holiday cards. Choose compassionate consumption and shop at [shop.uusc.org](http://shop.uusc.org). They offer ethically-sourced products that are sweatshop-free, union or cooperative-made, and environmentally sustainable. (Submitted by Jane Dennis)

## EARTH SPIRIT GROUP

Earth Spirit is an open group for members and friends of Open Circle Unitarian Universalist Fellowship who have an interest in Earth/Nature-centered spirituality including Wiccan, Native American and other Pagan paths. The group celebrates the eight Pagan Sabbats with a gathering, ritual and potluck feast. Children are welcome to Earth Spirit gatherings if supervised. Earth Spirit gatherings are alcohol-free.

### *Upcoming Rituals:*

- 11/2: Samhain Ritual:** OCUUF's Earth Spirit group will host a Samhain ritual on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gathering-4:30 PM; Ritual around 6 PM; Feasting after. Dress warm as they hope to have the ritual outside around a big bonfire. In the event of rain or snow, you'll squeeze inside. Gather at the home of John Morris and Paisley Harris, W4124 Kiekhäfer Parkway. Kids are welcome, but please let us know if they are coming. Please be sure to RSVP to Paisley ([paisley.harris@uwc.edu](mailto:paisley.harris@uwc.edu); 924-9497) in case any changes need to be made.
- 12/21:** Please mark your calendars now and plan to join the Earth Spirit group for a **Winter Solstice/Yule gathering on Saturday, December 21st at Open Circle**. Gathering and socializing at 5:30 PM, Ritual 7 PM, Potluck feast to follow. Children are welcome if supervised, and if you would like to have childcare provided, please contact Jane Dennis, 923-6394 at least one week prior to the event.
- 12./20:** Another possible Winter Solstice Event will take place on Friday, December 20, 7-9 PM as the Circle Sanctuary holds a multicultural **Winter Solstice Pageant at First Unitarian Society in Madison** in the New Auditorium at 900 University Bay Drive. Several members of OCUUF Earth Spirit are considering attending. If you would be interested in attending and possibly carpooling, please contact Paisley Harris at 924-9497 or [paisley.harris@uwc.edu](mailto:paisley.harris@uwc.edu)

## OCUUF 2.0 COMMITTEE UPDATE—EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF OPEN CIRCLE UU

The OCUUF 2.0 Committee coordinated hosting of a number of dinners for 8 with over 60 participants. These dinners provided opportunity to discuss the future of Open Circle. There was discussion of growth, social justice, common ground, and much more.

On September 22, Madonna Bowman shared thoughts about the future. People were invited to respond to the questions: If I were to create a church, you might not see..., but you would see. As a church, "Who do we intend to be?" Thirty-four written responses were received.

*Continued on Page 5.....*

Also, the Committee and the Board have been reading *The Growing Church: Keys to Congregational Ministry*, by Thom Belote, Editor (2010).

OCUUF Ministerial Leadership Committee was charged (Feb. 2012) as follows:

*The Ministerial Leadership Committee is charged with leading the Open Circle UU Fellowship in the consideration of retaining ongoing ministerial leadership for the Fellowship. The committee will lead a Fellowship conversation and assessment relating to views within the Fellowship regarding the pros and cons of seeking ongoing ministerial leadership and the skills, traits, and expectation the Fellowship would have for a staff minister. The Committee will work with the Central Midwest District staff to obtain information about the costs and process of obtaining ministerial leadership and educate the Fellowship on these matters. The committee will reach out to neighboring fellowships to explore the possibility of shared ministry and lead the discussion of how a shared position might work if there is identified interest in pursuing this option.*

On Sunday, Nov. 3, the OCUUF 2.0 Committee and the Board met to discuss the report of the Committee. A summary of discussions from the dinners and the September 22nd service feedback were shared with the Board. (We will make these available at the Fellowship.) Committee members participating in discussion with the Board were Madonna Bowman, Jerry Danner, Pete Doll, Mary McCutcheon, and Josh Moss.

### **Observations / Patterns – responses from Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.** (Compiled by Madonna Bowman)

#### What you might not see:

Nine respondents indicated you wouldn't see doctrine, dogma, or rigidity; four said you wouldn't see crosses/ crucifixes; one additional person said you wouldn't see religious symbols. (It is noted that currently there is a cross visible in our worship space in the painting of the chalice surrounded by symbols of major faiths which we identify as Sources for the UU faith.) These two responses appear to be the most frequent for this question.

#### What you would surely see and What we intend to be:

Spirituality and Faith/religious: Seventeen responses, given by 15 different respondents, referenced "spiritual or spirituality" when responding to these two questions. Only two used the term "religious."

There were numerous references to love, compassion, community, the environment/ sustainability.

Five respondents made reference to "social justice" apart from environmental /sustainability, although one of these responses simply asked that we talk about what social justice means. Since the discussion of "Beacon churches" related to social justice, additional support for this work was expressed in those terms.

Five respondents mentioned "beacon" or both "beacon" and "haven" church in responding to what we intend to be.

Those who supported being a "haven church" did so suggesting that a church can / should be both haven and beacon.

Three people made reference to UU's Seven Principles.

Two respondents expressed explicit support for professional leadership / having a minister. One respondent identified "pastors" as something you might not see. Several respondents referenced "growth" or "growing" as desirable. There was no expressed opposition to growth comments linking small size to desired intimacy.

There is a great deal of variation in responses to "Who do we intend to be?" It ranges from: "A warm, welcoming, free thinking people" and "A group of free thinkers," to "A dynamic incarnational community who expresses and participates in the divine spirit as the foundation for loving oneself and one's neighbors."

#### Issues confronting us (summarized by the OCUUF 2.0 Committee):

Lack of clarity regarding what it means to be a "religion" and the divide between religion and "spirituality." What does it mean when someone says "I'm spiritual, but not religious" and what does that mean if we say that as a Fellowship?

Role of social justice, what does "social justice" mean to different people? What is the relationship of our social justice work and being a "beacon church"?

Does Open Circle have a "saving message" to proclaim to the world? If so, what is it and how do we proclaim it? (Growing Church, p. 45)

Can Open Circle be/ Is it a place of "transforming spirituality" If not, what must change to become that? (Growing Church, pp. 8 – 9)

What can we do to become more truly welcoming?

[Some months ago the OCUUF 2.0 Committee met with Rev. Roger Bertschusen, Senior Minister at FVUUF, and began a conversation regarding possible collaboration. After much discussion at the Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the Open Circle Board approved the recommendation of the OCUUF 2.0 Committee that further discussion take place to explore the possibility of working more closely with Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship \(FVUUF\).](#)

## MEATLESS MONDAY INTERVIEW

*Submitted by Jeanne McDowell*

A recent interview Howie and Liz Woodworth-Zanto!

**First a Factoid:** According to the Water Education Foundation, it takes 2,464 gallons of water to produce one pound of beef in California. This is the same amount of water you would use if you took a seven-minute shower every day for six entire months. In contrast, only 25 gallons of water are needed to produce one pound of wheat.

### **Q: How are your “Meatless Mondays” going?**

**A:** Every day is Meatless Monday for us. Howie is a Lacto/ova vegetarian. He eats products that contain milk and eggs, along with veggies. Liz says that she is a Pescatarian and includes fish in her diet about once a week.

### **Q: How long have you been eating this way?**

**A:** Howie: It’s been about 40 years. In 1974 I decided I didn’t need to take another sentient being’s life. I picked up on the Taoist philosophy; many Taoists are not meat eaters. I was also influenced by the TV show Kung Fu. The main character was a Taoist, vegetarian and a Pacifist.

Liz: I was in college at UW-Madison in the 70s and had my consciousness raised through meeting other vegetarians and reading Mollie Katzen’s Moosewood cookbook. It was probably 1976-1978 and I had a roommate who was vegetarian. It was easy in Madison because there were lots of alternatives. However, when I got married my ex-husband was a hunter. I started to eat meat again then because we lived with his mother and I ate what she served which was a traditional American meat-centered diet. After 3 years I divorced. When I met Howie in 1986, it became easy again to be vegetarian. About 13 years ago I began eating fish. I was peri-menopausal and started craving fish to get in touch with my inner otter!

### **Q: Are there other reasons for your food choices?**

**A:** It is clear that this is the way to go for health reasons. In the past several years we have both become more aware of the environmental impact meat eating has on the planet.

### **Q: What are your favorite meatless breakfasts?**

**A:** Howie - I go in spurts. I may have an eggless tofu spread on toast. Also, I like peanut butter on toast. I’ll also have fruit and coffee.

Liz: I’ll have either an organic free range egg sunny side up on whole wheat dry toast with fruit or I’ll have a bowl of plain yogurt mixed with ½ Kefir topped with fruit, nuts, and granola sprinkles

After a healthy breakfast and on a fairly regular basis, we have an after breakfast dessert. Howie loves homemade chocolate chip cookies smeared with peanut butter and Liz loves 2-6 or so dark chocolate covered almonds.

### **Q: What are your favorite lunches?**

**A:** Howie – I don’t eat lunch. That’s also part of my way of making a smaller environmental footprint.

Liz – I eat several times during the day. I usually pack a lunch and bring food to nibble on every 3-4 hours. I might have something like a handful of nuts or an apple. Sometimes I might have a Greek Salad or a SLT (soy bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich). I might have a PB&J or PB and honey. Another time I might have tahini on bread. I mix it up.

### **Q: What sort of dinners do you have?**

**A:** During the week we can’t eat together because of work commitments but we do eat together on weekends.

Howie - I start with a few salted peanuts that I shell. Then, I mainly have a big, big, BIG salad. I’ll have a salad for myself that most people would think was for 4 people. I’ll have organic lettuce or spinach, shredded carrot, sunflower seeds, crushed croutons, cut up red pepper and so on. I use Ken’s light Caesar dressing. I may have a pizza once every two weeks or so too.

Liz – I do cook for both of us occasionally. I created a recipe for an enchilada casserole that contains almost all organic ingredients: black beans, roasted zucchini, red peppers, sprouted corn tortilla, rice, cheddar cheese and a little jack cheese. I use a commercial Enchilada sauce that I like. I do a mix of green and red sauce. I also love big salads and I use a homemade salad dressing using 18-year-old aged Balsamic vinegar and a very good quality extra virgin olive oil. I get both from Cujaks.

Tip: If you first use olive oil and coat veggies with that, you can use much less oil. Then, I’ll add the vinegar.

About 5 days a week or so, we’ll watch movies or a TV program at night and air pop organic popcorn. We’ll spray a little olive oil on that.

### **Q: Do you have any recommendations for people who are just getting started with “Meatless Mondays”?**

**A:** Yes!

**(1)** Join a CSA (community sponsored agriculture). We really like Shared Season CSA because you can choose the vegetables you take home with you each week. It’s also very convenient having the pick up here at OCUUF!

**(2)** Roast vegetables. This is so easy. Use some olive oil and seasonings, toss the cut up veggies, and then roast them in an oven at 400F for 10-15 minutes. Stir, check for doneness, and you’re set.

**(3)** Liz said that one thing she wishes for everyone on the planet is that they drink enough high quality clean water. If you don’t own one already, think of investing in a water purifying system for your home and use good quality refillable bottles. Commercial bottled water in plastic containers is wasteful and may contain impurities. Water is important for joints, muscles, and most importantly for proper healthy brain function. Drinking more water is painless and pleasurable.

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

- 11/2: Eco Food Meeting—8 AM
- 11/2: Samhain Ritual—4:30 PM (Morris/Paisley Res)
- 11/3: Men's Coffee Group—8 AM
- 11/4: Women's Coffee Group—10 AM (Gift & Gab)
- 11/6: OCUUF Youth Group assisting at Loaves & Fishes
- 11/10: Eco Food group presents Part 5 of Health Eating Series, 9 AM
- 11/12: Books Between Bites—12:10 PM (Salem United Methodist Church)
- 11/13: Board Meeting—6:30 PM, Hospitality Cmte Mtg
- 11/17: Eco-Food Committee Meeting—11:30 AM
- 11/17: Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting—12:15
- 11/21: Eco Food Group sponsors CASH MOB! At the Just Fare store located in Peebles
- 11/25: RE Committee Meeting—6:30 PM



- 12/1: Men's Coffee Group—8 AM
- 12/2: Women's Coffee Group—10 AM (Gift & Gab)
- 12/11: Board Meeting—6:30 PM
- 12/17: BookVideo Club—6:30 PM
- 12/20: Winter Solstice/Yule Gathering hosted by Earth Spirit Group, 5:30 PM

## OCUUF CARING CIRCLE

Open Circle is preparing to launch its newly developed Caring Circle to provide short term member-to-member support as needs arise within the congregation. Support will include such things as meals, transportation, child care, respite care, and notes and cards.

Caring Circle coordinators will match an incoming request with a member who has previously volunteered to provide such a service on an occasional basis. Contact information for the coordinators will be shared with the fellowship when it becomes available. Requests may also be submitted by filling out a form and depositing it in a pocket on the OCUUF office door.

Volunteer forms are available at this time from interim coordinators, Mary Arrigoni ([arrogonis@juno.com](mailto:arrogonis@juno.com)) and Karen Lindberg-Schuppe ([klindberg-schuppe@charter.net](mailto:klindberg-schuppe@charter.net)), or look for the sign-up sheet at the fellowship.

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

For the past few years, we have taken a special offering on the third Sunday of each month. We have donated half of the non-pledged contributions to a charitable (non-profit) organization to support their efforts. The board has decided that we should continue this practice. Over the next few months we plan the special offerings:

November 17, 2013: Fond du Lac Food Pantry

December 15, 2013: Guest at Your Table

January 19, 2014: Fond du Lac Food Pantry

February 16, 2014: Fond du Lac Humane Society

# NOVEMBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Eco Food 8 AM @ Belzer home  Samhain Ritual/Gathering at Harris/Morris home
3 Men's Coffee 8:00 AM  10 AM Service, Jim Jaeger 'All Souls'  RE Class	4 Women's Coffee 10 AM Gift & Gab	5	6 OCUUF Youth Group Assist Loaves & Fishes	7	8	9
10 9 AM-Eco Food Healthy Eating Series  10 AM Service, Barbara Lukas, 'Atheism'	11	12	13 Board Meeting 6:30 PM Hospitality Cmte Mtg	14	15	16
17 10 AM Service, Musician Bill Kehl  RE Class— Board meets w/Eco Food & Green Sanc. Committees	18	19 Book/Video Club 6:30 PM, "Half the Sky"	20	21 CASH MOBBING! Sponsored by Eco Food Group-Just Fare Store in Peebles	22	23
24 10 AM Service, Dr. Brian Smith	25 RE Cmte Mtg 6:30 PM	26	27	28	29	30



# DECEMBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Men's Coffee 8:00AM  10 AM Service , Margaret Jarek  RE Class	<b>2</b>  Women's Coffee 10 AM Gift & Gab	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10 AM Service, Fox Valley UU Panel	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Board Meeting 6:30 PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>  10 AM Service, Jim Jaeger  RE Class	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Book/Video Club 6:30 PM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Winter Sol- stice/Yule Gathering 5:30 PM
<b>22</b>  10 AM Service, Kelly Crocker	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>  10 AM Potluck	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

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# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GUIDING PRINCIPALS

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

## OPEN CIRCLE MISSION STATEMENT

*We come together as Open Circle Unitarian Universalist Fellowship open to experiencing transcendent mystery and wonder, honoring diversity and religious freedom. We come to pursue Unitarian Universalism's prophetic vision of peace, justice, compassion and sustainability and to create Beloved Community.*

## OPEN CIRCLE VISION STATEMENT

*To be a  
transforming  
presence in the  
lives of individuals  
and the  
Fond du Lac  
community.*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### Consulting Minister

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#### Board Members:

**President:** Jeff Reed  
**Vice President:** Josh Moss  
**Secretary:** Tracy Abler  
**Treasurer:** Jeanne McDowell  
**Members-at-Large:** Mary Arrigoni, Linda Kirk, Sylvia Reed

#### Committees and Chairs

**New to UU Team:** Lisette Aldrich and Madonna Bowman  
**Religious Education Contact:** T. Keuler  
**Service Planning:** Audrey Linn  
**Hospitality:** Jane Dennis  
**Facilities:** John McDowell  
**Eco Food Group:** Karen Lindberg-Schuppe  
**Men's Group:** John McDowell and Tom Schuppe  
**Green Sanctuary:** John McDowell  
**Décor:** Barb Moss  
**Book/Video Club:** Bev Gudex  
**Women's Coffee Group:** Mary Arrigoni  
**Nominating:** Judy Goldsmith, Paisley Harris, Earl Jewett  
**Earth Spirit Group:** Josh Moss

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please send submissions for the newsletter to Jane Ricchio via email at [ocuuf@tds.net](mailto:ocuuf@tds.net) Please include the word "newsletter" in the subject line.

**OPEN CIRCLE IS ON FACEBOOK! 'LIKE' US AT:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Open-Circle-Unitarian-Universalist-Fellowship/115997188421362?fref=ts>

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT:** <http://www.ocuuf.org>