

February '07 Newsletter

For questions or details regarding any activities listed below, please send an email to church@lcuuc.org or call our church office at 262-369-1703

Get Involved/Things to Do

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on **Wednesday, February 14, at Noon**, at Palate Pleasers, 870 Rose Drive, Hartland. Palate Pleasers is located at the intersection of Hwy. 83 and KE (where there is a traffic light), south of Hartland. Palate Pleasers faces Hwy. 83, but you have to enter from Rose Drive. On KE, east of Hwy. 83, turn north on Rose Drive, and then left by the day care center. Proceed to the front of the building. This is a great opportunity for members and new friends to get better acquainted! If you have questions, contact Yvonne F, or Mary P at the church office.

February's Third **Saturday** Outing Saturday, February 24th

Let's go see something really neat! The Chicago Museum of Science & Industry is hosting BODY WORKS 2. This is an exhibit of 20 whole-body plastinates and 200 fascinating human specimens that have been preserved through the process of "plastination," a technique that replaces bodily fluids and fat with plastics. Yes, these are actual human bodies that have been preserved and posed so that anatomical features and functions can be observed. Tickets to BODY WORKS 2, which includes general admission to the museum, are \$23 for adults, \$12.75 for kids under 12 and \$19 for seniors, and advance purchase is recommended (showings do sell out). We'll leave the I-94 & Hwy 83 Park 'n Ride at 8:00 am or meet at the exhibit at 10:00 am. See the events bulletin board, visit msichicago.org or talk to Liz K at the church office for more information.

February's **Movie that Matters**

On February 3rd at 7:00 pm we will be showing *Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers*. This is "[t]he story of what happens to everyday Americans when corporations go to war. Acclaimed director Robert Greenwald (*Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price*, *Outfoxed*, and *Uncovered*) takes you inside the lives of soldiers, truck drivers, widows and children who have been changed forever as a result of profiteering in the reconstruction of Iraq. *Iraq for Sale* uncovers the connections between private corporations making a killing in Iraq and the decision makers who allow them to do so." As always this film is presented free of charge and you are welcome *and encouraged* to invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, relatives, and people you hardly know.

March's **Movie that Matters**

On March 3rd at 7:00 pm we will be showing *Outfoxed*. This movie speaks to the issue of corporate control of media as mentioned in our recent sermon by the Rev. Dr. Bobbie Groth. *Outfoxed* examines how media empires, led by Rupert Murdoch's Fox News, have been running a "race to the bottom" in television news. This film provides an in-

depth look at Fox News and the dangers of ever-enlarging corporations taking control of the public's right to know. The film explores Murdoch's burgeoning kingdom and the impact on society when a broad swath of media is controlled by one person. Media experts, including Jeff Cohen (FAIR), Bob McChesney (Free Press), Chellie Pingree (Common Cause), Jeff Chester (Center for Digital Democracy), and David Brock (Media Matters) provide context and guidance for the story of Fox News and its effect on society.

As always this film is presented free of charge and you are welcome and encouraged to invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, relatives, and people you hardly know.

Friends, Food and Fun!

Would you like to spend an evening hanging out with other UUs, enjoying hors d'oeuvres, conversation and fun? Then sign up for our "Friends, Food and Fun" evenings. On **February 10** and **March 10**, you can sign up to bring an hors d'oeuvre to a host's house and spend an evening talking, playing games, looking at the stars, playing music, whatever.

Sign up in the social hall to attend and/or to host an evening, and indicate if you'd like to bring your children or attend an adults-only evening. Contact Kerry D at at the church office if you have any questions.

CHORALFEST 2007

Choralfest will be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday, February 25, at UUCW, 13001 W. North Ave., Brookfield. Choirs from the seven SEWUUC churches will perform. The music is always superb. Put the date on your calendars and invite your friends and relatives!

Join us for Socrates' Café!

Join us for a casual, lively philosophical inquiry! Bring a question (if you'd like), such as "What is courage?" or "What is enough?". Using the Socratic method, in which the meanings of the words and the underlying assumptions in the question are examined, we will perhaps not answer the question, but it will be explored from many angles. You might come to listen, or you might want to participate in the discussion. Either way, we hope to see you there!

When: The 3rd Saturday of the Month (Feb.17th, March 17th, April 21st, May 19th)

Where: Milwaukee Street Traders (one block west of Hwy C, on Milwaukee Street, in Delafield) Time: 7 - 9 pm. If you have any questions, call Phil at the church office .

NEW MEMBER PARTY!

When: Friday, February 23rd **Where:** LCUUC

Time: 7-9 pm

Bring: an hors d'oeuvres to share

Join us to celebrate your membership and to get to know your new church community, as well as some "old" members. We hope you can join us! Questions? Call Lynne S at the church office.

P.S. As much as we love our children, this is intended as an adults-only event.

Other Announcements:

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 24, 6:30 pm

Plan to attend our Spring 2007 social event for an evening of hors d'oeuvres, games, desserts, and socializing; with special activities for the children. Don't miss it! Watch for more details later this month...

UU Orientation Class

New members, friends, and anyone thinking about joining the church are encouraged to attend a two-part UU Orientation Class. Part One part will be on Saturday, March 3rd, from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. We will focus on our ongoing spiritual journeys. Part Two will be Sunday, March 4th, from 11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. During this time we will briefly share the history of Unitarian Universalism, as well as LCUUC's history, culture and governance. Included will be information about current programming, what it means to be a member and ways to get involved. It is a great opportunity to connect with others, ask questions and learn about our church. A light lunch will be provided on Sunday for participants. Childcare will be available for those who request it in advance. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please sign up February 25th if you are interested in attending. Contact Yvonne F or Lynne S at the church office if you have questions.

Chancel Table Decorations

Do you have flowers to share? Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, ceremonies commemorating a loved one or other special occasions are often celebrated with a floral arrangement. Or maybe you have seasonal flowers from your garden that you would like to bring for the chancel table. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to bring flowers on a particular Sunday. Contact Yvonne F at the church office if you have any questions.

REMINDER: Rev. Kathleen Green's sermons are available on our website, and printed copies are available at church.

From the Board

ATTENTION COMMITTEES and INDIVIDUALS who have ideas for one-time programs or improvements for LCUUC: The Finance Committee and the church board will be reviewing all CAPITAL REQUESTS for the 2007-2008 church year which are SUBMITTED BY APRIL 15th.

We have been in our new church home for nearly a year and as we continue to put our personal touches on it, we want to make sure that all voices are heard and that all ideas are considered before we allocate capital funds for the 2007-2008 church year.

Please put this on your committee agendas and/or bring your ideas to the appropriate committee chair (see your directories or ask a board member who you should talk to about a proposal). If your proposal falls outside the scope of a currently existing committee, we may direct you to get some cost estimates on your own, but please talk to a board member about this first. Some things will overlap - such as acoustics, for example, which would involve both the facilities committee and the musicians, so many of these things will need to be a coordinated effort with other church committees. We also recommend that all committees consult with the green sanctuary committee, to see if they have any energy saving ideas for you to consider, before submitting your proposal. This will all take time!

Proposals should include a committee's prioritized list of wants and needs (beyond annual budgetary needs), approximate cost estimates for each item, and any additional information that you believe to be relevant. If you do not submit a proposal by April 15th, you will likely not have the funds available that you want or need for the 2007-2008 church year.

Please note: Capital fund requests are for one-time expenses and are separate from a committee's on-going budgetary needs - budget request for next year must be submitted by February 15th.

For more information, or to see a copy of a sample proposal, please contact Sonia W the Finance Committee Chair, at the church office.

Thank you for your involvement! The possibilities are endless.

From the President

It's a bit past the midpoint of our fiscal year, time for an update on board activity and church life. We are in the process of changing our meeting dates from the last Monday of the month to the first Thursday of the month. Our changing and packed schedules dictated the switch. We will begin the Monday meetings the first of February, and January's meeting will be at 1pm on Saturday, the 20th, to facilitate meeting with Reverend Green. We can say "reverend" now because Kathleen was ordained on the 13th of January at the Evanston UU church. It was a privilege to attend along with Yvonne F and Lori H.

We are all excited to welcome the new members here at LCUUC. When the Roots and Wings strategic plan committee completed its task three years ago, there was a hope that some parts of the plan would be completed close to the time frames set out. Though we UU's are loath to use the term "miracle," at times our progress with the plan seems to be just that. We were on track with the building, we are very close to our five-year goal for membership growth, and we now find ourselves preparing to address our goals for ministry. The plan calls for a full time minister by 07-08 though it is somewhat flexible. There are a number of ways of getting there, and our religious services

committee along with the board is looking at the options and preparing to make a recommendation.

The board has been working on a couple of policy and procedure initiatives involving ethical behavior and email use—sometimes distinct, sometimes directly connected. There has been much discussion and several longer than usual meetings have resulted from the endeavor. The energy and commitment of your board members continues to impress me. Our enthusiasm stems from the vitality of the LCUUC congregation.

Tim Fuller, Board President

Social Action

Food Pantry Collection: Thank you to the congregation for the January donation of three full bags of groceries and \$189 in cash donations. Thank you to Wendy R, who donated her time to take the items to the Sussex Food Pantry.

Our next collection will be on February 4th and is designated for the North Lake Food Pantry. This pantry is located at W314 N7462 Hwy 83 (inside St. Clare's Parish) in North Lake, 262-966-2191. Pantry hours are Saturday 9-9:30am and Tuesday 8:30-9am. Canned fruit, diapers and canned meats are always welcome. However, with Valentine's Day approaching clients might like to receive some valentine treats as well as packages of valentine cards for children to distribute at school. Monetary donations are also welcome as that helps round out the needs of the household.

Outreach Meal: Approximately 8 volunteers are still needed to help serve the next Outreach Meal on **Friday, February 23, 5pm**, at St. Matthias Episcopal Church, 111 E. Main Street in Waukesha. Youth (7th grade and older) are welcome to help with adult supervision. Please contact Helen B at the church office to volunteer.

Guests served at the meal include the homeless, those living in rooming houses without cooking facilities, working families trying to stretch food dollars, persons from the local shelters, or the elderly on a fixed income.

Each host congregation is asked to supply 4 gallons of milk and dessert for 60. After volunteers help serve the meal, they are asked to carry dishes into the kitchen, wash off the table cloths, put up chairs on the dining tables, sweep the floor, wash counters, and carry out some trash to the dumpster. Cooperating Congregations of Waukesha County coordinates the food preparation and other needs of guests.

Future dates when LCUUC is scheduled to serve are 8/31/07 and 11/23/07. Please mark your calendars and consider volunteering.

UU-Ministry For Earth/Green Sanctuary: Our Green Sanctuary group met for the first time on January 4. We found that we have a great mix of interests and backgrounds for making a difference in energy conservation and environmental outreach. Dennis Briley of UU Church West gave us some background about UU-MFE, and what UUCW is doing as a Green Sanctuary. We reviewed some of our works in progress to improve the energy-efficiency of our facility, mainly in the area of identifying our major energy users, and the results of our December energy audit with WE Energies identifying Focus on Energy and WE Energies financial incentives for facility upgrades.

- We have retrofitted the EXIT signs with LED's (light-emitting diodes), which will reduce our annual electric consumption by over 2,000 kWh at no cost to LCUUC after rebates.
- We plan to replace all inside light bulbs with CFL.
- We have submitted a proposal to upgrade the Social Hall and Kitchen fluorescents to high efficiency lamps and ballasts, with 2/3 of the cost paid by rebates.
- We are working on proposals to upgrade the ceiling insulation and the heating/ventilation plant efficiency, again partly paid for by rebates.
- We are considering participation in the WE Energies "Energy For Tomorrow" program to promote and support renewable energy in southeast Wisconsin.

Of course, improving the energy efficiency of our building is important, but is not by any means the whole story. The goals of Green Sanctuary go far beyond that, to educate ourselves, our members, and our community about societal environmental issues and to encourage commitment to lifestyle changes and connection to spiritual practice to protect the earth around us. Some

"non-energy" things we have done so far in the spirit of Green Sanctuary are:

- We are using paper products from recycled, unbleached paper.
- We are serving organic, fairly-traded coffee for our coffee hour.
- We have a compost bin, located next to the utility shed, for food and yard waste.
- We have installed a low-flow aerator on the kitchen sink fixture.

We came up with numerous ideas on how to use our talents and our facility for ecologically-friendly landscaping, indoor environment, renewable energy, education, and community outreach. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday Feb. 13 at 6:30 PM, at LCUUC. Anybody who is interested in learning about or participating in this program is invited to attend. Please contact Gerry F at the church office for more information.

FROM THE MINISTER'S MAILBOX

Dear Ones,

I spoke to you recently about the idea of being 'called', and was delighted to share with you the joy of my recent ordination. This prompts me to relate a true story from our rich religious history:

The Universalist Church of the Good Shepherd in Racine, Wisconsin, was having trouble paying its bills and keeping its ministers in its early years (late nineteenth

century). A lay leader, Abner C. Fish, put his last hopes in a call beyond the accepted norms of the day—that a minister should be male and not too politically radical. He wrote to the Rev. Olympia Brown, the fiery suffragist and the first woman minister ordained by the Universalists, then in Connecticut and seeking a settled ministry. Soon the Racine church received the following letter:

*Bridgeport
Feb. 14, 1878*

Bro. Fish,

Yours just rec. I infer that there is no objection to a Sunday's service in Racine, therefore I shall be there one week from next Sunday, Feb. 24th. You will oblige me by giving the proper notice. I will preach morning, afternoon, or evening or all three, as the people may desire.

*Yours for the good cause,
Olympia Brown*

She came, preached morning and evening, brought in the suffragist spirit, won the hearts of the congregation, and had a very successful ministry. A call outside the norms paid off. And, the Church of the Good Shepherd now bears her name.

Let me once again thank the children and leaders of the 3-5 religious education class for the very special stole that they presented to me (what a great surprise!) in honor of my ordination. I will be spending time each month, for the next five months, with you all and hope that we will find time during coffee hours and between meetings to engage in conversation about your personal call and the call of LCUUC. There are so many wonderful blessings in store for this Beloved Community.

Yours for the good cause,
Rev. Kathleen A. Green