

April 2007 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

REMINDER: The *Movie that Matters* for April is *Who Killed the Electric Car?* It will be shown on April 7th at 7:00 pm. In 1996 the EV1 was available for lease in California; in 2003 a decision was made to not renew any of the leases. What happened? Come find out for yourself.

NOTE: There will be no *Movie That Matters* in May. Come to the Brew Fest the first Saturday of the month instead!

Third Sunday April Outing – Sunday, April 15th

We've been there before but let's try to catch those gorgeous spring wildflowers in full bloom! The Carl Schurz section of the Ice Age Trail near Monches is a wonderful example of a healthy mature hardwood forest with hardly any invasives to clutter the understory. Pack in a picnic lunch to eat beside the Oconomowoc River. We may even seek another geocache.

We'll leave the church at 11:30 and carpool to the intersection of Hwys Q and K. See the bulletin board or talk to Liz K. at the church office for more information.

Spring into Action! Come to the Activity Fair!

Sundays, April 29th and May 6th
after the service in the social hall

Do you wonder how to use your time, talents and skills to keep our church the vibrant place that it is?

Do you wonder about how to get to know more people at church?

Do you have ideas for ways to improve church life?

Do you want to have fun working with others here at church?

Do you wonder what the different committees actually do at church?

Are you ready to try out a different committee?

If the answer to any of these questions is YES, then the Activity Fair is for you!

LEARN ABOUT THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES,

Sign-up to help!

Spring into Action!

Our first Annual **Harvest Art Fair**, to be held on September 8th, has opened even more doors of opportunity for involvement. To make this a successful event, we will need everyone's help. Please take some time at the Activity Fair to learn about the help that is needed.

CHORALFEST 2007 Has Been Rescheduled!

Choralfest will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 29, at UUCW, 13001 W. North Ave., Brookfield. Choirs from the seven SEWUUC churches will perform. Admission is free but a good will offering will be taken. Refreshments are served after the concert. The music is always superb. Save the date and invite your friends and relatives!

Rummage & Plant Sale May 18-19

Our 2nd Annual LCUUC Rummage & Plant Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 18 and 19, at our church. It's time to start putting things aside to sell. Merchandise which sells well at rummage sales are furniture, lamps, decorative items, small electronics, kitchen items, toys, tools, sporting goods, antiques, infant items, books, bikes, games, and lawn and garden equipment. Items should be priced, and in clean condition - they will sell better.

Plants of all types are welcome for the plant sale. Some examples are: outdoor flowers, shrubs, prairie plants, vegetable plants, herbs, young annuals, and houseplants. Plants may be individually potted or in flats. Larger perennials may be in double plastic grocery bags. Please identify with the common name and flower color (if applicable), and indicate if for sun, shade, or both. Also, as part of the plant sale, we can include items for the out-of-doors such as birdhouses, rain barrels, feeders, and whirligigs, for those of you who are handy at making such things. Get your creative juices flowing!

We will need your help organizing, selling, and advertising this sale. There will be a signup sheet for helpers in May. If you have any questions please contact Rummage Chairperson Kay S at the church office.

HomebrUU II

With the aromas of hops and barley and good cheer in the air, the 2nd Annual LCUUC HomebrUU Competition takes place on May 5, beginning at 7:00 pm. For the teams, and you know who you are, please note that over the next couple weeks, competition guidelines will be emailed out, and a sign-up sheet will be posted in the Social Hall. Please sign up for a job to help with the event, munchies that need washing down, and of course, a designated driver, which all teams are required to have. For the rest of you, you are all welcome to come (and so is your wallet, as it is a fundraiser). There is no charge to attend, and snacks and beverages are provided. There will be a silent auction, a "name the imposter" competition, live entertainment, witty mock commercials/skits, wild and crazy label art, and the opportunity for YOU TOO to vote on the best frothy goodness that LCUUC has to offer. This event is limited to LCUUC members and guests, 21 years of age and older. Remember: Don't brew, ferment, and keep it all bottled up inside. What good is a full head if you have no heart, or great worts but no action? Open up to others! Come share our good spirits!

Friends, Food and Fun!

A big thank you goes out to the families who hosted our very successful "Friends, Food and Fun" nights this year. Many of us enjoyed their gracious hospitality and had a great time getting to

know each other, sampling some delicious appetizers, and playing Charades, Up the River, Bunco and more!

Our heartfelt thanks go to Karen and Al H, Lynne and Phil S, and Kay S for hosting the "adults only" evenings, and to Kristin and Greg S and Colleen and Brian K for hosting the "with kids" events. All were a lot of fun with friends old and new.

Art Fair Update

The art fair is definitely going forward! Please save the date--Sept. 8th--for this fun filled day. We will have artists, entertainment, food and more! This is an exciting and huge opportunity for our church and we will need (and be willing to beg for!) everyone's help. Please look for sign-ups at the upcoming activity fair. We are interested in adding to our number of artists. Please call Joanne at the church office if you know of some talented artists you'd like us to contact.

It's a Mini General Assembly! **Submitted by Rev. Green**

Last month I oh-so-subtly mentioned the upcoming Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly, being held in Portland, Oregon, this summer. If that seems out of reach for you why not give the district assembly a try? We are part of the Central Midwest District and our assembly will be held in Oak Brook, Illinois (not nearly as far away as Portland!) April 13-15. It promises to be a wonderful event with workshops, worship, and fellowship with other UUs in our district. Please check out the district's website <http://www.cmwd-uaa.org/> for registration info. Feel free to contact me at minister@lcuuc.org with questions. Hope to see you there.

Meditation News

In April we will restart our monthly meditation classes led by Paul Norton, M.D., Order of Interbeing. Although we will usually meet the second Monday of each month, in April we will meet on Monday the 16th. We meet from 7:00 to 9:00 pm and will loosely be using the book *A Path With Heart*, by Jack Kornfield, as a guide over the next year. Paul will offer instruction in meditation from 6:30-7:00 pm each month. Meditation Mondays are free and open to all members, friends, and community members. Please call Joanne N at the church office with any questions.

Other Announcements:

Mother's Day For Peace **Sunday, May 13 - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at LCUUC**

Help us reclaim the original spirit of Mother's Day, a day of peace activism, conceived in 1870 as a response to the carnage of the Civil War. Show that you support peace by bringing your whole family for an afternoon that will include music, inspiring speakers, a children's "peace

bike parade", peace volleyball, creating a peace mural, and more. Join us for the 3rd annual Mother's Day For Peace and make this a special day for you and your family.

For more information, or to get involved, please contact Kerry D at the church office.

Sponsored Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church and by GrassRoots of Waukesha County (GROW)

Notes from the Board

Our March meeting proved relatively productive. We approved a reworking of the Covenant for Times of Disagreement, adding an ethics statement. We will return to the practice of reading the covenant at the annual meeting. We approved an email policy that will cover the member list and the board list. It will be posted on the member list soon. We also approved an alcohol policy that will be placed in the policy book and distributed to committees and members.

There was discussion about ministry for next year, and we decided to apply for a half-time interim. We will continue to explore other options that include a Mod Minister who would do two services a month. We also approved the preliminary 07-08 budget which will be finalized after the stewardship campaign. The budget was submitted by the finance committee after input from the church committees. When it is finalized, copies will be available for members.

RE News

Earth Day Activities: The middle school class will study earth-centered religions this spring as part of the Neighboring Faiths curriculum. On April 22nd, with the assistance of teachers Liz K and Kerry D, the class will put some of what they have learned into action by leading a Joint RE session for Kindergarten – fifth grades. They will tell the Lakota legend of White Buffalo Woman, and consider the great age of Earth and the immense impact humans have had on Earth during the short time we have walked upon it. Thanks to all the middle schoolers for this contribution towards helping LCUUC become a Green Sanctuary.

REMINDER: 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. Requests may be submitted by committees or individuals who have ideas for one-time programs or improvements for LCUUC. For more information, or to see a copy of a sample proposal, please contact Sonia W, the Finance Committee Chair, at the church office.

Fundraising

Equal Exchange Coffee, Tea and Chocolates: We are offering a selection of fairly traded organic coffee, tea, and chocolate bars through the UUSC Coffee Project. Prepaid (only) orders will be taken in the Social Hall after the service. Delivery will be at LCUUC in late April.

Father Dom's Duck Doo: The sale is under way! This is a natural compost made from duck poop and cranberry waste. It is recommended for any kind of plantings, especially roses. It is made in Paris, WI, and distributed by Fr. Dom's "The New Earth Store" in Kenosha. We will be selling the Duck Doo at \$6 per 20-quart bag (same as last year), which will result in a \$2/bag profit for LCUUC. Prepaid (only) orders will be taken in the Social Hall after the service. Delivery will be at LCUUC on Sunday, April 22.

Social Action

Food Pantry Collection: Our next monthly food pantry collection will be during the service on Sunday, April 1, for the Waukesha Hebron House. (In addition to monthly food pantry collections, LCUUC also helps to contribute to some of the shelters in the Waukesha County area.) Since the spring season is a time to celebrate the renewal of the earth and spirit, we would like to ask for food contributions that you might share with your family during this time. A sweet treat is welcome by many, once in a while. When you are out shopping, please consider that in your donation. Monetary donations as well as food contributions are always appreciated.

Outreach Meal: Thank you to the volunteers who helped serve the Outreach Meal on February 23 at St. Matthias Church in Waukesha. Several of our newest members, Patty W, Jennifer and Richard S, and Terry and Tyler C, joined veterans Gerry and Esther F as volunteers and brought donations of 4 gallons of milk and dessert for the clients.

LCUUC volunteers several times annually to help Cooperating Congregations of Waukesha County serve a hot and healthy meal to those in need in Waukesha County. In addition to serving the meal to clients, volunteers give minimal assistance with food preparation, clean the tables and dishes, and put away chairs. LCUUC's next scheduled date to help is in late August. The request for volunteers for that date will go out in the June newsletter. Contact Helen B at the church office.

FROM THE MINISTER'S MAILBOX

Dear Ones,

As I am writing this column, I am preparing to leave for San Diego and candidating week where I hope to be officially called as the settled minister of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. When you receive this newsletter, I will have returned from my trip and hope to have good news to share with you on April 1. Let's celebrate! On April 1, we will welcome nearly a dozen new members to LCUUC in a special ceremony during the worship service. We're edging towards that 100-member mark. Let's celebrate! Our stewardship campaign has kicked off and you have been hearing testimonials from members of LCUUC whose lives have been impacted by this Beloved Community and Unitarian Universalism. Eric Larson and I are asking that you please remember to bring your pledge cards to the worship service on April 1 as we take a special collection of the generosity to come in the next church year. Let's celebrate! Yes, let's celebrate all that we have been given and all that we can give, on April 1 – Celebration Sunday.

The generosity I have witnessed at LCUUC is praiseworthy. Generosity comes in many forms and a congregation requires as much generosity as its members and ministers can muster – and then some! In January, I read the offertory words of Michael A. Schuler. I include them here for your reflection:

*If you are proud of this church, become its advocate.
If you are concerned for its future, share its message.
If its values resonate deep within you, give it a measure of your devotion.
This church cannot survive without your faith, your confidence,
your enthusiasm, and your resources.
Its destiny, the larger hope, rests in your hands.*

May the outcome of our stewardship campaign far exceed our expectations, may Celebration Sunday stir in our hearts and imaginations the idea of a glorious future for this liberal religious home, and may we all continue to be blessed by the Beloved Community that is Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church.

Your MOD Minister,
Rev. Kathleen A. Green