



News for Lake Country UUs

Lake Country Unitarian Universalists
rejoice in life, find the sacred, seek justice,
with open minds and hearts.

JUNE 2010

Rev. Jane Esbensen, Minister
Kerry Duma, Director of Religious Education
Karen Haskell, Choir Director

**Summer Schedule for Sunday Services
and Religious Education for Children/Youth—10:00 a.m.**

W299 N5595 Grace Drive, Hartland, 53029

At the intersection of Hwy E and Hwy K

Services will be held on:

June 6

July 11

August 15

Weekly services resume in September

June 6: "Flower Communion Sunday," by Rev. Jane Esbensen

Please join us as we celebrate our traditional Flower Communion service. Everyone is invited and reminded to bring a fresh flower. Together, these different flowers will become a beautiful bouquet. From the bouquet, people will be invited to take a flower different from the one they brought. Our Unitarian Universalist tradition of the Flower Communion lifts up the idea that our common bouquet would not be the same without the unique addition of each individual flower, and thus it is with our church community – it would not be the same without each and every one of us. All are welcome to this intergenerational service. Let's pray for good weather so that we can experience this service in our beautiful memorial garden, where reflection on hope springing eternal is the theme.



Worship Committee Survey – Your Input Is Needed!

As we approach the end of this church year, it is a great time to reflect on how you feel about our worship services at LCUUC. Your thoughts will help the Worship Committee in our quest to bring you the most meaningful and satisfying services possible.

By now you should have received the survey via email. Please take a few minutes to fill out as much of the survey as you can. There will also be paper copies available in the Social Hall after the service through June 6. Completed paper copies can be deposited in the suggestion box in the foyer, in the Worship Committee mailbox in the church office, or returned to any Worship Committee member.

Thank you for helping make LCUUC the best it can be!



Journeying: One Minister's Thoughts

Time is a relative thing, isn't it? Just a few days ago – or was it really 11 months ago? – I first threw my hat in the ring to be considered your next minister. And now, suddenly, for all intents and purposes, the church year is over and what a lot has happened between that time and this. Where did the time go??

The first year of anything takes a lot of work, and the learning curve is high. For me this year has been no exception to that rule! It has been a year of lots of hard work and a lot of learning curves. And not just for me, I imagine. Having someone new, especially in a leadership role, can take some getting used to, calls for myriad adjustments, both internal and external, for individuals, for the congregation, and within each of the committees. And no less so for the Board, of course, as the keepers of the vision for the congregation.

One of the most effective and healthy ways to create a good environment, be it at home, in school, at work, or in any organization, including a church, is through direct, honest communication. I hope you know by now that I speak my mind and that I listen with an open heart and with a willingness to see things clearly, with a goal toward understanding and finding a resolution to whatever the issue(s) may be. I hope you also know by now that I want to hear what you have on your minds, even if you don't agree with me, even if there's something you don't like, even if there's something I've done that you wish I would do differently or better. I can't guarantee that I'll make the changes you may be seeking, but I can guarantee that I'll want to talk with you, to listen to you, about whatever is on your mind. It's not easy to be the giver of critical feedback, no less to receive it, but it's absolutely vital to our future together that we all know that we can talk to each other, to know that we all care.

I am looking forward to entering into the stream of flow that a second year brings, excited about the new church year coming up, excited to be the minister you have asked to be in your midst once again. I hope you are excited, too!

Thank you for your openness, for your amazing love and support and encouragement and belief in me as your minister. There's not a day that goes by that I don't get emails, or phone calls, or people stopping by, just to tell me how glad they are that I'm here at LCUUC. It brings tears to my eyes, for I feel exactly the same way about all of you. I couldn't feel luckier to have been given this opportunity to serve you this year and again next year. You are a wonderful congregation, filled with such energy, with such a call to make a difference in the world. The future is ours and it is today. What shall we do to contribute to its betterment? The only thing stopping us is our imaginations.

Most affectionately,
Jane

Summer newsletter deadline

The final summer issue of the newsletter will be a combined July/August one. Because the July service will not take place until the 11th, we will not be sending out the issue right at the start of the month. This means we are moving back the deadline for sending material to **June 25**. If you will be away on vacation in the week leading up to this deadline but anticipate having something to submit, please send it along before you go!



On Board!

The end of the fiscal and church year is nearing, turning the Board's attention to needed bylaws revisions, budget approval, and salary adjustments for our salaried employees.

Bylaws changes approved by the Board on May 13th will be brought to the congregation for a vote at the annual meeting on June 6th, immediately following the service. The first of those changes is the addition of a statement that affirms that LCUUC will strive to maintain our fair share status with the UUA. LCUUC has always been dedicated to fulfilling our fair share commitment, and we will continue this commitment by paying dues to the UUA for every member of the congregation.

Collection of dues each year has become an increasingly difficult process and requires a significant investment of time by the Treasurer and Membership Committee. The new bylaws changes, if passed, will take effect in the 2011-2012 church year and will include your dues payment in your annual stewardship contribution.

~~Another proposed change resolves a bylaws conflict in article XI regarding how Ministerial Search Committee members are nominated. This revision keeps the nominating responsibilities with the Nominating Committee.~~

Under old business, the Board voted to adopt the Committee on Ministry policy and discussed the Minister's contract in relation to priorities for the coming year.

The 2010-2011 budget was presented by Treasurer John Staudt. Pledges are up, and they total \$131,000 with estimated additional income of \$5,500 from basket donations and \$8,500 from fundraising.

The Stewardship drive was a huge success. Thank you, Rob S and his Stewardship team members, also all canvassers, and most of all each and every person who came through with generous donations to the church. The budget was approved and included the administrator position as well as salary increases for our minister, DRE, and music director.

The UUA General Assembly is quickly approaching. The Board approved Lynne S as a delegate to the UUA and allocated \$125 to pay for her GA conference fee.

In other business, the Board voted to waive the rental fee for Elizabeth Lewis to allow her to present a visual journaling workshop as an adult RE offering. The Board also approved two dues waiver requests.

The meeting was very full and very productive, and marked the final Board meeting for outgoing members Tim P (Past President), Liz K, and Kaz S. I would like to formally thank each and every one of them for the extraordinary level of commitment to LCUUC over the past 3 years.

In addition, Mike S has tendered his resignation from the Board. With input from the Nominating Committee, the Board has appointed Mike G to take Mike S's position per Article VII, Section 8b of the bylaws. Thanks, Mike S, and congratulations, Mike G.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the annual congregational meeting on June 6th following the service. You will get to see the budget up close and personal, vote for your leadership, and vote on bylaws changes.

Respectfully submitted by Christopher P

Happy Birthday Wishes to:

June

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 2 Marie-Claude M | 21 Lis T |
| 4 Mike G | 21 Janica Y |
| 7 Dana E P | 24 Kelly L |
| 10 Helen B | 25 Barbara B |
| 10 Andrew P | 25 Regan C |
| 13 Cole P | 27 Johnny T |
| 14 Gretchen M | 28 Nathaniel P |
| 16 Kerry D | 29 Terry C |
| 17 Joshua K | 30 Christina J |
| 19 Lynne S | |
| 20 Alex N-Z | |
| 21 Blake M | |



(Please contact Kirsten J if your name is not included in the birthday congratulations.)

☪ June Calendar of Events ☪

(all events at LCUUC unless otherwise noted; see elsewhere in newsletter for details)

Every Tuesday	SOS*	7-8:30 p.m.
Sunday, 6	Food pantry collection	During the service
Tuesday, 8	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7-9 p.m.
Monday, 21	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 22	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7-9 p.m.

* **Secular Organizations for Sobriety**, also known as Save Our Selves, is dedicated to providing a path to sobriety, an alternative to those paths depending upon supernatural or religious beliefs. SOS respects diversity, welcomes healthy skepticism, and encourages rational thinking as well as the expression of feelings.



Annual Meeting

LCUUC's annual meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 6th** after the service. There will be a review of the year's highlights and our finances, plus a look at the year ahead. You will have the opportunity to vote on three new board members, the church president, and a few changes in our bylaws. Please join us if you can!

Reminder: Members need to pay their 2010 annual dues (\$78.50/member) or obtain a waiver/extension prior to the meeting in order to count toward our quorum and vote.

Lori Hlaban's Ordination Follow-Up

Dear LCUUC,

I want to express my deep gratitude one more time to everyone involved in the service of ordination held on May 1, 2010. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a community to plan a special celebration!

Thank you to Yvonne F, Joanne N and the Rev. Jane Esbensen who formed the core of the ordination committee. Yvonne and Joanne worked diligently and tirelessly, paying careful attention to all the details and ensuring that everything would run smoothly. Jane offered her experience, ideas, guidance and support.

Thank you to those who made everyone welcome: greeters/ushers Dave C, John K, and Blake and Marie-Claude M, as well as home hospitality hosts Kirsten and Collin J and Jennifer and Richard S. Guests appreciated the child care and availability of children's activities, provided by Kerry D and Helen B, and raved about the delicious food and beverages prepared by members and friends – all coordinated by Barb A and Ginger G.

Thank you to the talented musicians, including: Nancy B, Karen H, and Tracy M (piano); Holly E (French horn) and Morgen M (trumpet and percussion); the fabulous LCUUC choir; and the very special musical selection provided by Karen and Michelle H. I was spellbound during Michelle's haunting, prayerful solo. And to the other artists: Laurie S, for flowers and other decorations that made the church festive; Gerry F, who ran the sound system; and Bill L, whose photos of the event are wonderful.

Finally, thank you to the congregation of Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church. As the Rev. Suzelle Lynch said in the ordination prayer, the act of ordaining me to the ministry moves the church to another level – one of active engagement in the affirmation and support of professional ministry. To all of you, and especially to anyone whose name I have failed to mention, I'm most grateful.

Many have asked what's next for me. I have a couple possibilities I'm pursuing at this point, but am unable to discuss. I'm hopeful, though, and I'll keep you posted!

Blessings,
Rev. Lori Hlaban

Church Happenings/Things to Do

Tuesday Evening Meditation

Terrific Tuesdays lay-led meditation sessions will continue through the summer, due to the regular attendees' requests. We would be very happy to have new folks meditating with us also. As usual, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month; June's sessions will be at 7 p.m. on the 8th and the 22nd at LCUUC.

Call Diane M if you have any questions.



Friday Golfing 6/11, 7/16, 8/13, and 9/17

Twelve players teed off this past Friday May 14th for a "spirited" swat and walk at Kettle Moraine Golf Course, to chase the small round white ball around the links. To play and join in on the fun, all you need is a good attitude.

I will be arranging tee times 2 weeks before each of the selected Fridays: June 11, July 16, August 13 and September 17.... So please CONFIRM EARLY!!!!!!

If you want to play, please fill-in the Excel sheet sent out via email with your name, e-mail address, and cell number. Please don't delay.

Fore,
A/H

Hartland Hometown Celebration Parade

Remember the 2007 Hartland Independence Day parade, where about 30 of us LCUUCers marched with our banner, placards with our 7 Principles, and a Statue of Liberty carrying a Compact Fluorescent Lamp instead of a torch, spreading our message of Energy Independence? Plans are being made for LCUUC to participate in the Hartland Hometown Celebration Parade this year. The

parade will be at **1:30 on Sunday June 27**. Watch for details...your participation in the planning and the march will be most welcome!

Submitted by Gerry F

Youth Group Coffee House



The coffee house last week Saturday was a resounding success! With help from the youth group and volunteering adults, the rummage sale was cleaned up in no time. Decorations, candlelight, and a stage took a little longer, but the result was worth it. Artisan inspired treats were served, and were met with great enthusiasm, while the gentle murmur of extremely intelligent conversation was backed by the sounds of the seven performing acts. Two of the youth group members, Will and Morgen, played in the coffee house, with the other six acts coming from a variety of friends and local connections. Overall, the coffee house raised \$156 dollars for the Hebron House, and was generally a night of camaraderie and enjoyment. We look forward to making next year's an even greater success.

Submitted by Alex M

Socrates Café

Just a reminder that Socrates Café will take its annual hiatus and will not resume meeting until the autumn.



Social Action/Green Sanctuary

Social Action Report

Make Sure Clients Have Access to New Food Pantry

The Food Pantry of Waukesha County is moving, with concern that clients may have difficulty getting to the new, less central location at 1301 Sentry Dr. To ensure that pantry clients can access the new pantry location by bus or on foot, Southeastern WI Common Ground will be researching the issue. Common Ground, a broad-based social issues organization, will have a research group meeting in early June at the new pantry location for interested people to sign up for research tasks (tentatively June 8 at 4-5 p.m.). If you are interested in attending, or in being involved in research on this issue during the month of June, please contact Betsy F-C.

Update on the Affordable Housing Task Force in Waukesha County

The Affordable Housing Task Force in Waukesha County is a coalition of affordable housing advocates, promoting more affordable homes in Waukesha County communities.

The task force is currently changing its focus, making a housing trust fund a longer-term goal in light of current economic conditions for local governments. The shorter-term goal will be to work toward decreasing barriers to affordable housing in one of the county's municipalities. The task force is researching current zoning requirements in eight of the county's larger municipalities to determine what can be done to improve local housing policy. If you are interested in participating, go to a monthly meeting of the group on the first Wednesday of the month at 10-11:30 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Brookfield. Or contact Betsy F-C for more information.

Submitted by Betsy F-C

Green Sanctuary Update

More about recycling

The March newsletter included an article about Waukesha County recycling, and the April 18 Order of Service included a brochure from Waukesha County describing what they do and do not accept for recycling. These brochures are available for the taking on the table near the Green Sanctuary bulletin board in the Social Hall. Notably absent from the "do" list is plastic number 5 (polypropylene). This plastic is considered "generally safe, generally recycled," but Waukesha County doesn't accept it because the price they get for it is not high enough.

Gina M has set up a bin for #5 plastic containers under the table in the Social Hall. It is clearly labeled, only clean and dry #5s please. She will pick up the contents of the bin as necessary and get them to a neighbor who will take them to Whole Foods in Milwaukee. If we can demonstrate a need, Waukesha County might include them in curbside pickup. In the meantime, now you know what to do with all of those sour cream, yogurt, and deli containers!!

Also, just a reminder that spent fluorescent lamps contain mercury and should be disposed of properly. There is a box in the Social Hall for compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), and a box just inside the furnace room door for fluorescent tubes. I take these to Waukesha County Hazardous Waste for disposal as they fill up, usually about once a month.

Submitted by Gerry F



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church is a religious community that encourages spiritual growth in compassion, wisdom and understanding. We draw inspiration from the principles of Unitarian Universalism, diverse religious sources, and the breadth of human experience. We seek to live in accordance with this inspiration, working for positive change in our community, country and the world.



Printed on recycled paper.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Submit all articles by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Mail items to: LCUUC—Newsletter,
PO Box 437,
Hartland, WI 53029-0437
Or email to : newsletter@lcuuc.org

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