



News for Lake Country UUs

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

FEBRUARY 2010

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

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

W299 N5595 Grace Drive, Hartland WI, 53029

At the intersection of Hwy E and Hwy K

Feb. 7: "Depression – the Reality" by LCUUC friend Mark Brewer

We see depression everywhere, including TV commercials for prescription medicine and the headlines. Some of us get "depressed" this time of year with the colder weather and shorter days. Isn't our faith/spirituality supposed to help us not be depressed? I will explore this thing called depression, and mental illness in general, to help us better understand each other and ourselves.

Feb. 14: "Love and What the Heart Can Bear," by Rev. Jane Esbensen

In this February service we will focus on the re-imagining of Valentine's Day by celebrating National Standing on the Side of Love Day. The UUA in Boston has created this social justice Sunday for February 14th of this year, and UU congregations across the nation are being invited to participate in this day of worship and practice of the works of love. I hope you will join us for a full day of listening, discussing, sharing, and learning what the challenges are for this chosen religion we call our own: a religious life that centers squarely upon social justice issues, here and abroad. We care, but what is possible? How much can we really do?

Feb. 21: "Sallying Forth: A Religious Venture – Auction Sermon #1," by Rev. Jane Esbensen

What does our UU religion have to offer our nation? How does our Judeo-Christian heritage position us realistically today? In these times of stronger and more vocal utterances by the Christian right in this country, on this Sunday I will be speaking about the future of faith, the Christian faith, and how our religion either resonates with that future, or it doesn't, and what that will mean for us in the long run.

Feb. 28: "Being There," by church member Mike Santo

This sermon explores the awesome fact that we are being there in the world and responsible for the world as existence itself. We are the beings who ask "Why is there anything rather than nothing at all?"

Food/Needs Collection

The first Sunday of the month is our food pantry collection. Please bring your contribution to church with you on **Sunday, February 7.**





Journeying: One Minister's Thoughts

Now we are in the month of February. Gone are the dark days of December. Done is the mid-winter landscape called January. A month situated exactly in the middle of the Winter and Spring Equinoxes. A month where we notice the change in the light, notice the subtle differences of temperature upon our skin. A month where we look backward at the Winter that came and forward to the Spring that we can now almost smell arriving.

Now we are in a month comprised of hearts and shadow: Light and dark, love and despair, happiness and sorrow, good days and bad days, ups 'n downs, laughter and tears...the human condition. We ask the age-old questions: Do I love the world enough to do what I can to help alleviate the suffering, the injustices, the pain? Do I have the time, the energy, the motivation? Is there love for me at the end of it all? And what about the coming of Spring? Will that fat groundhog in Pennsylvania see his shadow, portending a longer wait for Spring, or will these almost balmy days that we are having now be the foreteller we should pay attention to of an early Spring? I am almost tempted to stand on a tree stump myself!

In our church this month, while we are looking toward Spring, we will continue to learn about each other through the myriad church social events that are being held, and we will also learn about ourselves, as we partake in writing courses and discover what our own theological core is. On February 14th, we will have a special afternoon with a Valentine's Day Potluck and internationally famous filmmaker, photographer, author and President of The Duncan Group, Inc., Chip Duncan, who will be speaking to us, among other things, about his work in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Darfur. His theme is "Enough To Go Around." It is our theme, too, is it not? And at the end of February, it's possible there will be one more special event when the Festival Choir from Madison comes here for a Sunday afternoon performance. Stay tuned for more information about that!

What more can we create this February? How about Wednesday night potlucks? Or movie nights? Or a book club focused on the UU book "A Chosen Faith?" Or? Or? Or? I am so lucky to be able to be in the church so many days, every single week. I have come to love this church – not only the people in it (which is a given!), but the building itself. Oh, the ideas I have about how we can use it even more than we do! It's here. Standing like a sentinel on the corner of E and K, a round beacon of light and hope and openness and companionship and welcome ... to all of us and to those we haven't even met yet. I would love to see the lights in the windows shining every night, because the church is being used, energy given and received. I would love to see the parking lot filled with people of all ages, coming and going, laughing and talking – a place that radiates the message: "There's something going on here! Come in and see!" So, don't be shy. This church is your church, is it our church. If you have an idea for how we can use it more, name it! And then let's see how we can make it happen!

Happy Groundhog Day! Happy Valentine's Day! Happy Days in Hartland!

Affectionately,

Jane

February Happy Birthday Wishes to:

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-----------------|
| 2 | Karla Strand | 14 | Alec Pla |
| 4 | Aria Moraine | 15 | Earl Jacob, Jr |
| 5 | Jeff Kroening | 16 | Jim Tyler |
| 6 | Emily Kroening | 17 | Fran Bills |
| 7 | Mike Bera | 18 | Mike Campbell |
| 7 | Paul Fackler | 21 | Hudson Kroening |
| 11 | Judy Illes | 24 | Carlyn Wagner |
| 12 | Erich Moraine | 25 | Debbie LaCombe |
| 12 | Madeline Rose Hoyt | | |

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



On Board!

This month the Board continued with the preparation for the ordination of Lori Hlaban. It will occur on May 1st at the church and be conducted by our Board President, Chris Peske.

The Board agreed to allocate \$200 from our UUA funding to the Publicity Committee for the February 14th event, "Enough to Go Around," a special talk accompanied by short film clips by famed documentary filmmaker, author, and WI resident Chip Duncan. The film clips will show Chip's work in the world's most ravaged spots, and will include time for questions and discussion. The funds are exclusively for promoting our church and encouraging membership. The event will be open to the public and will provide an opportunity to invite individuals into our church for a meaningful and timely presentation. (See page x for more information about this event and about how you might volunteer to help.)

The content and distribution of the church directory was discussed by the Board, and it was determined that members and committed friends should be listed together and that the directory should be available to both groups. Its primary distribution will be electronic with paper copies available to those who desire them. We also decided that a review of email communication is necessary, and a draft policy will be prepared for our next meeting.

The Stewardship Committee presented a desire to canvass this year during our stewardship campaign, in order to garner support for full-time ministry. Volunteers and training will be necessary, and will be researched before our next meeting.

With peace and compassion,

Canceling Service Policy

With winter firmly ensconced, we offer a reminder of LCUUC's Canceling Service Policy. A decision about canceling services will be made at least 2 hours before the service begins (i.e., by 8 a.m. or earlier for the 10 a.m. service). Very soon thereafter:

- 1) A closing announcement will be posted with WTMJ at <http://closings.todaystmj4.com>.
- 2) A closing message will be posted on the LCUUC voicemail at 262-369-1703 ext. 600.
- 3) A closing email will be sent to member_list@lcuuc.org.



☞ February Calendar of Events ☜

(all events at LCUUC unless otherwise noted)

Every Tuesday	SOS*	7–8:30 p.m.
Sunday,	No choir rehearsal Food pantry collection	During the service
Thursday,	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Saturday,	Socrates Café	7–9 p.m.
Sunday,	Choir rehearsal	8:25am
	Treble Choir	9:20 a.m.
	OWL orientation	Noon to 2:00 p.m.
Monday,	Mindfulness class, Intra-vaganza	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Tuesday,	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7–9 p.m.
	Worship Committee	7 p.m.
Thursday,	Board meeting	6:30 p.m.
Friday,	Women’s Social Gathering	7 p.m.
Sunday,	Choir rehearsal	8:25 a.m.
	Green Sanctuary	11:45 a.m.
Monday,	Mindfulness class, Intra-vaganza	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Thursday,	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Friday,	World Religions Group	7–8:30 p.m.
Sunday,	Choir rehearsal	8:25 a.m.
	Sing for service	
Monday,	Mindfulness class, Intra-vaganza	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Tuesday,	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7–9 p.m.
Sunday,	Choir rehearsal	8:25 a.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.

Hold the date:

Saturday, March 13: Day-long, In-House Multigenerational Retreat

Church Happenings

UU Orientation March 6 and 7

If you are interested in learning more about LCUUC, you are invited to our Spring UU Orientation Sessions. This is a great way to learn about our church and meet other folks. The first session will be held on Saturday, March 6th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and will focus on our spiritual journeys. The second session will be on Sunday, March 7th from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. During this time our minister, Jane Esbensen, and others will talk about the history of Unitarian Universalism, LCUUC's history, governance, current programming, what it means to be a member, and ways to get involved. A light lunch will be provided on Sunday for participants. Childcare will be available for those who request it in advance. Please let us know by Feb. 28 if you are interested in attending. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table in the foyer. Contact Yvonne Fort (968-3276) or Lynne Smith (510-2157) if you have questions.

Day-long Intergenerational Retreat

Plans are beginning to come together for our day-long intergenerational retreat at LCUUC on **Saturday, March 13**. We hope you can join with your friends from LCUUC for a special day:

Unmasking the Magic Within

Saturday, March 13, 2010

10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

More details will be forthcoming. Please mark your calendars!

From your planning group,

Bill Lizdas, Ann LaForce, Laura Levenhagen, Diane MacBain, Chris White, Rev. Jane, Kerry Duma



Childrens RE

Popcorn Sale!

The 3rd to 5th Grade RE Class will be selling popcorn during social hour on **Sunday, January 31st** to raise money for the Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha.



Heifer Ranch Trip This Summer

Middle and high school youth and their parents are invited to experience the Global Challenge at the Heifer Ranch in Arkansas. For many of the world's people, cooking a meal is fairly simple. But for the world's poor, everyday conveniences, like water from a sink, ingredients from a refrigerator and a stove, are unavailable. This program at the Heifer Ranch challenges participants to experience what it is like to have little. Participants are given little to eat and must find a way to build a fire and cook their meal. The challenge continues on into the night as they sleep in simple housing, such as a Zambian hut. By living the lessons of poverty first-hand, participants will better understand the complications of hunger and poverty and see they can create change that brings possibility and hope to millions around the world.

We have reserved a spot for our group on Thursday, July 22 starting at 5 p.m. to Sunday, July 25, leaving in the morning. There will be an organizational meeting in late February/early March to plan the trip down and back, with the possibility of taking one or two days on either side of the trip to drive there and back. For now, we just wanted to get the dates out to you. The cost of the program is \$155/person. There will be other expenses related to travel there and back. Please contact Kerry Duma with any questions.



(continued next page)

Upcoming Neighboring Faiths Field Trips



The Middle School RE class will be traveling to the following houses of worship as they continue to explore various world religions.

Adults in the World Religions study group are welcome to come along. Please contact Kerry Duma if you are interested.

Sunday, February 7 – Visit to the Hindu Temple of Wisconsin in Pewaukee. The group will leave from church at 11:30 a.m. and travel to the Hindu Temple in Pewaukee. There is a cafeteria there that serves lunch, or you can bring a bag lunch. We will hear a presentation about the Hindu faith and then tour the beautiful temple. The trip will finish up around 2:30 p.m..

Sunday, March 7 – Visit to the Islamic Society of Milwaukee. We will be meeting with Dr. Shah, their Religious Director from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Carpools will leave from the Park n Ride at Hwy 83 and I-94 at 10 a.m.

Warmly in faith,
Kerry Duma
Director of Religious Education

Get Involved / Things to Do

Sharing the Ministry

Looking for some easy ways to help out at church? Here are a couple of suggestions:

The people preparing coffee and juice on Sunday mornings could use a few more hands. It takes only a few minutes, there are no meetings, you'll have help learning the ropes, with a few more helpers the rotation is once a month, and people are ever so grateful to have that cup of coffee. Contact Carlyn Wagner (968-3214) if you're interested.

We also need a Chalice Lighters contact person for our congregation. Thanks go to Robin Reed who has been that person for several years. Chalice Lighters is a program of the Central Midwest District that serves congregations in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Three times a year a call is issued to provide funds for a congregation in the District. Funds go toward new congregation starts, adding professional staff, building new or enhanced space, or helping with outreach and public relations programs. People who sign up to be a Chalice Lighter are contacted three times a year and asked to send \$10-\$15, or more if they would like, to support the congregation that has been chosen. LCUUC has received two grants, one to help us support a Director of Religious Education and another for our building. What may be change to individuals adds up to a sum that makes a real difference for a congregation. A Chalice Lighter contact person's job is simply to provide information about the program, remind the congregation when a call has been made, and occasionally communicate with the District Office if there are questions. It's another relatively easy but important job. Contact Yvonne Fort (968-3276) if you're interested.

Writing as a Spiritual Exercise

We welcome all writers or wanna-be writers to drop in on the first and third Thursday of the month (in February that's **the 4th and the 18th**) for 2 hours of writing time, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. No need to reserve a spot or show up on a regular schedule, just drop by if you can. We start with a brief exercise to warm up the writing muscles and then enjoy quiet time to

write in the fellowship of others. Call Joanne with questions at 262-367-2031.

Socrates Café

Socrates Café will take place on the second Saturday of the month, **February 13**, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Milwaukee Street Traders (523 Milwaukee St) in Delafield.

If you're not familiar with Socrates Café, it consists of a casual, lively philosophical discussion! 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, you might want to participate in discussion. Either way, we hope to see you there! Contact Greg Valde with any questions at gvalde@wi.rr.com.

Tuesday Evening Meditation

We are continuing with our lay-led Meditation sessions on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. February's sessions will be on the 9th and 23rd. We have sitting and walking meditations, read from the book "Wherever You Go, There You are" by Jon Kabat-Zinn, and have an interesting discussion afterward.

Terrific Tuesdays are free and open to all members, friends, and community members.

Note, because of the Monday classes Paul Norton, M.D. will be teaching starting this month, he will not be joining us for Tuesday meditation.

Continuing Mindfulness In Everyday Life Class

Winter 2010 The Intra-vaganza

Led by Paul Norton, M.D., Order of Interbeing

The class is ongoing, 11 weeks total, of which 8 remain. Feel free to join in at any time, for one or all of the remaining sessions.

Mondays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Remaining topics:

Feb 1 Mindfulness of Feelings
Feb 8 Mindfulness of

Get Involved / Things to Do (*continued*)

Thought

Feb 15 Mindfulness of the World
Feb 22 Gatha Practice/ Guided Meditation
Mar 1 Four Noble Truths
Mar 8 Lovingkindness
Mar 15 Compassion and Joy
Mar 22 Equanimity / Graduation

\$15 for an individual week. Contact milwmindful@hotmail.com or phone 414-962-8678 with any questions.

World Religions Adult Study Group

The next meeting of the World Religions Adult Study Group will take place on **Friday, February 5** from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The group will discuss Hinduism. If possible, read Chapter 2 in "The World's Religions" by Huston Smith prior to the class.

Also, please note that the middle schoolers will be touring the Hindu Temple of Wisconsin the Sunday immediately after our class (on Feb. 7), and those participating in the World Religions Study Group are welcome to go along.

Please contact Patty Walker (airwalker@wi.rr.com) or Kathie Gorski (kgorski@execpc.com) if you plan to attend the Friday evening discussion and Kerry Duma (dre@lcuuc.org) if you are interested in joining the Sunday morning tour.

Enough To Go Around

Please join us on Valentine's Day, **Sunday, February 14**. It will be a very special day at church.

10 a.m. – Rev. Jane's sermon, "Love, and What the Heart Can Bear."

11:30 a.m. – a special "Enough to Go Around" Valentine Potluck Brunch (see separate announcement)

12:30 p.m. – "Enough to Go Around," a talk, and short film. Famed documentary filmmaker, author, and WI resident Chip Duncan speaks on his work documenting the human experience in nearly all of the world's most ravaged regions – and the hope he sees

for the future. Chip's new book is a photo-essay memoir of times in Darfur, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Chip has spent much time in Haiti, as well, and has many insights to share.

Chip's talk at 12:30 p.m. is free and open to the public. Our friends from St. Anskar's Church have been invited to join us for this event, so it is sure to be a moment of community and caring.

Please Be My Valentine Volunteer?

"Valentines" needed Sunday Feb. 14 for a fun, simple Valentine Brunch for LCUUC members and friends.

This Valentine Brunch will be pleasantly sandwiched between Jane's morning sermon and filmmaker Chip Duncan's very special first "LCUUC Lecture Series" presentation, "Enough to Go Around."

In keeping with this theme, the brunch will be a simple shared potluck – hopefully there will be "enough to go around."

Needed food categories include:

Breads/rolls/muffins

Simple main dishes (small sandwiches, or egg dishes such as quiches, and stratas)

Salads – green and fruit

Look for sign-ups in the social hall on Sunday, or email Sally at sallyjpla@gmail.com.

Thanks!

Winter WomanSpirit 2010

Join us for our annual women's retreat held in 2010 at First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee. World-renowned author and activist Starhawk will keynote and will be one of our workshop presenters. She will also give the sermon at three Sunday services. Joyful ceremonies, juicy workshops, the jangle of vendors, and more!

Read the brochure online! Find details at www.womenandreligion.org. Register online at www.regonline.com/WWS2010.

Winter WomanSpirit registration is filling up fast!

(continued on next page)

Social Action Update

We expect to be at capacity before the February 10th deadline, and may end up putting people on a waitlist. If you want to be sure you can attend this extraordinary event, register as soon as possible.

Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee

The following information has come from Janet Nortrom, SEWUUC Representative to Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee.

First: The Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee's 40th Anniversary celebration and Annual Awards Luncheon will be held on February 4, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. at the Italian Community Center, 631 E Chicago, Milwaukee. Featured Speaker is David Beckmann, President of Bread for the World and Bread for the World Institute. Lunch is \$36.00 per seat or \$280 for table of eight, Entree selection is Chicken, Fish, or Veg. Please RSVP by January 28 to the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, 1442 N Farwell, Suite 200, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 or call 414-276-9050.

Second: the Annual Interfaith Luncheons in March, hosted at the First Unitarian Society by the Peace and International Committee will take on the title "The Times they Are A-Changing" and will also have a 5th Tuesday, which will be an evening with Richard Thieme, futurist – "Entering Scared Digital Space." More details will come through shortly.

Third: Margaret Fuller, the first Unitarian writer, feminist, transcendentalist, friend of Thoreau and Emerson, has the UU communities celebrating her 200th anniversary this Spring. The national UU Woman and Religion Committee has a traveling exhibit of 11 panels on her life. We would like to bring them to the Midwest and to our District Women's Conference at First Unitarian Society at the end of February. The producers, from out east would like us to share with some of the district SEWUUC churches and keep in the Midwest for a while. Do you think your church would be interested in hosting the exhibit also?

Fourth: There are a few spaces remaining to register for the UU Women and Religion conference at First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, February 26-28. (See article below for more information.)

Submitted by Gerry Flakas

General Assembly, A Meeting of Congregations

General Assembly 2010

Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 23-27

Join thousands of Unitarian Universalists (UUs) from across the United States for the 2010 General Assembly (GA) in Minneapolis.

You'll experience wonderful and uplifting worship services – morning and night – led by some of our best worship leaders, with glorious music and inspiring messages. Worshiping together with thousands of fellow UUs at our Sunday Worship Service is an experience that should not be missed.

General Assembly is the way that our faith does business. Actions of social witness are passed at GA, elements that make up future policies are discussed... and YOU have a voice in the discussion.

You'll hear terrific speakers. There will be hundreds of entertaining programs and informative workshops, offering excellent support and learning for leaders in our congregations.

Minneapolis is an ideal setting for GA. It is a progressive, culturally diverse, LGBT friendly city that is rich in cultural arts and has a stunning natural environment. There are 900 lakes and 170 parks within the Twin Cities area.

Registration and housing open March 1. Children's Programs, Financial Aid, and Accessibility Services are available. The 2011 GA will be in Charlotte NC.

Visit www.uua.org/events/generalassembly for more detailed info about workshops, times, cost, etc, and info for first-time attendees.

Note: from Helen Bera LCUUC member.

WHO'S WHO AT LCUUC

If you have any questions regarding Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church, feel free to call 262-369-1703.

Board Members:

Chris Peske, President	262-820-2697
Kathie Gorski	262-628-7523
Liz Kreml	262-567-8515
Tim Putra	262-968-4986
Greg Sanden	262-369-8697
Mike Santo	262-442-6981
Kay Scherer	262-376-3276
Lynne Smith	262-510-2157
Patty Walker	262-966-3357



Printed on recycled paper.

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.

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

Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church
P.O. Box 437
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News for Lake Country UUs

