



News for Lake Country UUs

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

MAY 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

May 2: "The Spiritual Practice of Leadership," by Chaplain David Pyle

Why is it that we spend so much of our time and our energy working in the leadership of our churches and our liberal faith? Perhaps an answer can be found in the examples of many of those who have been leaders of our liberal faith movement, and in the struggles that they faced. We will look at the leaders of our faith during the Civil Rights and Black Empowerment movements. David Pyle is a UU minister in Preliminary Fellowship, and Chaplain Resident in Park Ridge, Illinois.

May 9: "Celebrating Transitions: Mothers, Children, and Seniors," by Rev. Jane Esbensen

Mother's Day, Child Dedication, and High School Senior Transitions Sunday is upon us. Please come and celebrate moments of transition in the life of various people in our church as we call them out and celebrate their existence in our midst.

May 16: "Voices in the Wilderness," by Rev. Jane Esbensen

We may know some of our UU history, the important people of the past who have made our denomination the relevant one that it is. But how many of us know the lives of people right here at LCUUC who are also contributing to the creation of this denomination by the lives they lead? Come and hear their stories, as we add their names, and yours, to this historic enterprise called life.

May 23: "RE Sunday – Religious Education Is All Around Us," by our RE Class Members

Whether experiencing the web of life, having adventures, learning about interesting Unitarians from history, or taking time to learn about other faith traditions, our children know that religious education is all around us. In this service, we will enjoy the creative talents of our children and youth as they share some of the highlights of their RE year.

May 30: "Practice Random Acts of Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty," by Rev. Richard S. Gilbert, presented by LCUUC Worship Committee

On this Memorial Day weekend, although most of us are not in a position to make the ultimate sacrifice for our country, there are certainly other ways in which we can make the world a better place for our fellow travelers on the journey of life. Join with us to share these thoughts by Rev. Gilbert, brought to us through the resources of the Church of the Larger Fellowship. Rev. Gilbert served 44 years in UU ministry, and is the author of the "Building Your Own Theology" adult religious education series.

Our summer services will be held on these Sundays: June 6, July 11, and August 15.

You will receive a June newsletter and a combined July/August one.



Stewardship: A Gift from ALL of Us!

The Stewardship Committee and team of canvassers would like to thank everyone for opening their doors and their hearts to talk about our collective involvement in the church and making our dreams come true. We appreciated the community-building that came from our one- on-one conversations and the insights shared through testimonials. All of our contributions, especially those of a financial nature, will make a difference as we make our Pathways goals of hiring a part-time administrator and, ultimately, a full-time minister a reality.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You have contributed to the Common Good! We'd like give you a hand!

**Note: If you still haven't sent in your pledge card, please do so now. The Board needs the clearest financial picture possible in order to make decisions for the next church year's budget.



Journeying: One Minister's Thoughts

May is here signaling the near end of the church year, summer is just around the corner, and then a new church year will be starting up again. It is, therefore, not too early to start thinking about next year, what you want to achieve, what you hope for the church year and for your own personal lives to focus on. I have my own hopes and dreams, thoughts, desires, determinations, and focus. But my role as minister is not one that exists in a void, but is one that can only exist in conjunction with each and every one of you. I would, therefore, love to hear from you in the next few months. Tell me what you've liked about this year, what you were disappointed in, what you hope for next year, and what you would like to help put into place as we, all of us together, forge a solid existence for LCUUC.

I am excited about what lies ahead. I feel a renewed energy and a great amount of drive toward my goal in getting more involved in the local community, and continuing my work with you in the things that matter. I hope you are feeling excited, too!

Thanks to the Board for rehiring me. It makes me very happy to know that I get to stay in your midst for one more year at least – let's make the most of it. The world awaits!

Affectionately,
Jane

Contacting Rev. Jane:

Rev. Jane's office hours are Tuesdays 9-3 and Thursdays 1-9.

The office phone number is 262-369-1703. Rev. Jane is also available via email at minister@lcuuc.org and cell phone at 608-843-7554.

On Board!

At our April meeting, the Board reviewed and discussed many issues relating to church life. We heard from Gerry F on two items. The **church refrigerator** died recently, so we put in a scratch and dent Energy Star model, thanks to the quick research and setup by Esther and Gerry! We would also like to thank Diane M for donating the money for the refrigerator in memory of Wally. LifeWays and LCUUC are once again “keeping it cool” thanks to you. The second item we reviewed with Gerry related to the upcoming General Assembly in Minneapolis. **SEWUUC will organize a bus** at \$100 round trip cost per person, with a deadline of May 15th for signing up (see page 11 for more details and a sign-up sheet).

With John S, we reviewed our **Earth Day events**. The April 17th, Food Inc. showing had a \$75 fee that was covered by Green Sanctuary. The Board approved \$125 to advertise for this event, producing posters, which were placed in local businesses. We also obtained postings in local papers.

We had a review discussion surrounding our **definitions of “Member” and “Friend”** and some proposed by-law changes to address how we codify our Fair Share congregation status. This is regarding the way we pay our dues as members of LCUUC. Lynne Smith and John Staudt will work to revise our bylaws, and we intend to review the proposed changes at our next meeting.

We discussed and agreed to **add a Board page on our web site** that will include bylaws, Board meeting minutes, the Pathways report, and the church’s Annual Report. We had heard from members on this request and agree it’s an important missing communication link.

We voted in the following new members: Mark B, Loei and Jenny B, Stacy C, Barbara A, Linda F, and Joan R.

We learned that the **Garden of Good** would like to put in an herb garden, and we agreed to defer judgment to the landscape committee.

We are in the process of finishing up the **minister’s contract** for the upcoming year, and await the results of our Stewardship campaign to help us determine what is possible for the upcoming year.

Among other items we voted on this month:

- We voted on the revised Committee on Ministry policy that we had discussed and reviewed the previous month.
- We authorized Suzanne B to be Assistant Treasurer.
- We reviewed the revised rental agreement and approved a clarified cancellation method.
- We approved the following people as rental coordinators for quicker response times: Board members, Minister, DRE, Treasurer, Kirsten J, and Admin Assistant. We still need to discuss bylaws changes to allow others besides the Board to approve contracts.
- We discussed the One Step Closer end of life documentary sponsorship topic, where the group requires a Waukesha County non-profit in order to get grants. We voted to approve sponsorship, and they can list us as sponsor and cite it on the web site.

Submitted by Greg S

Happy Birthday Wishes to:

May

1	Jeff B	15	Caroline S
4	Betsy F-C	17	Dave J
7	Tom H	17	Ann L
8	Emma G	18	Grace G
8	Kristen S	29	Janis T
11	Zoey K	30	Gina M
11	Caitlin W		
14	Beth L		
15	Jake K		



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

Lori Hlaban's Ordination—May 1st at 3 p.m.

Join us for the ordination ceremony for Lori Hlaban. The sermon information:

Title: "But Mostly in People," by the Rev. Dr. Gordon Gibson

Among the diversities that enrich Unitarian Universalist communities are diversities of how or even if we refer to God. Among the core values that hold us together are principles that point to shared perceptions about the holy, the sacred, the ultimately worthwhile, whether or not we use the word "God." Creative ministry embraces both our diversities and those factors that unify us.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon Gibson served Unitarian Universalist congregations in Massachusetts, Mississippi, and Indiana prior to his retirement in Knoxville, Tennessee. He is currently President of the Unitarian Universalist Historical Society. He is continuing research and writing on southern Unitarian Universalists in the civil rights era, and is recognized for discovering the extensive personal papers of 18th century Universalist feminist Judith Sargent Murray.



Child Welcoming Ceremony - May 9

Every child needs to be welcomed into this world and guided into adulthood with loving kindness. Unitarian Universalists do this with a Child Welcoming Ceremony in which the family and religious community accept their responsibility to help each child in this endeavor and welcome them into the guardian fellowship of the church. If you are a LCUUC member and would like to participate in the ceremony or want more information, contact Rev. Jane Esbensen.



☯ May Calendar of Events ☯

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

Every Tuesday	SOS*	7–8:30 p.m.
Saturday, 1	Lori Hlaban’s Ordination	3 p.m.
Sunday, 2	No choir rehearsal Food pantry collection	During the service
Thursday, 6	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Sunday, 9	No choir rehearsal Child Welcoming Ceremony	During the service
Tuesday, 11	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7–9 p.m.
Thursday, 13	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Friday, 14	Rummage & Plant Sale	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, 15	Rummage & Plant Sale Youth Group Coffee House	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 7 p.m.
Sunday, 16	Choir rehearsal Adopt-A-Highway Collection for Hebron House	8:25 a.m. 11:45 a.m. During the service
Thursday, 20	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	6:30–8:30 p.m.
Sunday, 23	Choir rehearsal	8:25 a.m.
Tuesday, 25	Lay-led Mindfulness Meditation	7–9 p.m.
Sunday, 30	No choir rehearsal	

* **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!

Children's RE News

The RE year is starting to wind down, but we have a lot still happening in May. Please continue bringing your children on Sundays as we wrap up our learning and make plans for sharing what we've learned with the congregation.

It has been a great year. Our RE teachers have done a magnificent job of engaging our children on Sunday mornings with ideas, questions, concepts, activities, and fun. Our youngest children have spent most Sundays outside, exploring and experiencing the magnificent web of life that is all around us. Our 3rd to 5th graders have been having adventures learning about famous Unitarians in sports, medicine, science, art, building, and more. Our middle schoolers had a very full year learning about many other faith traditions in our area. And our high schoolers focused on connecting with what they believe and what really matters.

We will have an opportunity to hear from all our children and youth on two different Sundays this year. In the **Sunday service on May 9th**, the high schoolers will share some of the process they went through to create a credo statement that expresses their most deeply held convictions. Our high school seniors who have completed the Senior Transition program will be recognized at this service, and they will share their faith statements with us.

The rest of our RE classes will share some perspectives on their RE year on **Sunday May 23rd**. I hope you can be with us at both of these services to get an appreciation for the amazing insights of our children and to help us thank those who help make RE happen every week.

Our Whole Lives for 7-9th graders endorsed by students and parents

This year, LCUUC offered the 7-9th grade version of the Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education program for the first time. In the past, we have offered the 10-12th grade program. The program helps youth gain the knowledge, values, and skills to lead healthy, responsible lives. Thanks to the excellent curriculum and the outstanding teaching

done by our trained facilitators, Terry, Phil S, Carlyn, and Paul F, the program won praise from both the students and the parents. Our deep thanks go to these teachers for giving of their time and talents to our youth. And a big thank-you to the families as well for making time for this program outside of Sunday mornings.

We do not plan to offer any level of OWL next year, since most of our youth have had one or the other program. We intend to offer the 10-12th grade program in 2012, and potentially the 7-9th in 2013.

If you have any questions about the OWL program please let me know.

Thinking about getting involved with RE next year?

We are always looking for people to teach our Sunday morning Religious Education classes. Teaching is a great way to learn more about our faith and to get to know our wonderful children. It is a very rewarding experience.

If you aren't ready to teach a class (and that means teaching about nine Sundays a year), please consider volunteering to help with a "Joint RE," where all the children spend a Sunday morning RE time together. We are also looking for a few individuals to serve on the RE Committee.

If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please let me know. I'd love to talk to you about ways for you to be involved with our youth.

Warmly in faith,
Kerry Duma,
Director of Religious Education



Social Action/Green Sanctuary

Social Action Report

LCUUC is a generous congregation. Food pantry donations were \$373 for March 7 (Pewaukee Food Pantry) and \$234 for April 4 (Food Pantry of Waukesha County), also \$422 for February 21 (HOPE Sock it to Poverty).

The **May 2 collection will be for the Oconomowoc Food Pantry** and the **May 16 collection for Hebron House**.

Support more affordable homes for people in your communities! Attend an Affordable Housing Forum sponsored by the Affordable Housing Task Force in Waukesha County and SOPHIA on May 8th at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with a continental breakfast beforehand at 9:30 a.m. The forum is at Steinhafel's Furniture Superstore, W231N1013 County Hwy F in Waukesha. LCUUC endorses the efforts of the Affordable Housing Task Force, so let's turn out a number of people to learn more about the problem and what we can do. The Keynote speaker will be Bernie Juno, Director of Hebron House of Hospitality. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Betsy F-C.

Submitted by Terry C



Adopt A Highway

Join our spring LCUUC Adopt A Highway cleanup on **Sunday May 16** after church/coffee. Meet in the church foyer at 11:45 a.m. Our stretch of road is Highway E, from the intersection with K (northwest corner of LCUUC property) north to where E turns sharply to the west. It takes about 1-1/2 hours total, and is a nice sociable walk in addition to doing something to help our environment. Per Waukesha County rules, children participating must be at least 11 years old or in 6th grade. Wear good walking shoes and gloves. We supply the bags, orange vests, and refreshments! Questions? Contact Gerry F.

Hartland Hometown Parade

The Hartland Hometown Parade will be on Sunday, June 27, at 1:30 p.m. We LCUUCers fielded a unit in this parade in 2007, and plans are getting in place for doing it again this year. The Green Sanctuary committee is looking for your ideas and energy to put it together. Keep posted for details on future meetings and a sign-up sheet. About 25 of us participated in this parade three summers ago, got some valuable exposure for LCUUC and our ideals, and had a great time! Let's do it again!

Submitted by Gerry F

Become a Peace Pedaler!

At this year's UPAF Ride for the Arts on **Sunday, June 6th** you can team up with UUs from around the metro area on a team called, UU Peace Pedalers.

This is the first year for this new UU team, but it is the 30th year for the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF) Ride for the Arts, which has generated more than \$6.7 million for the member arts groups. With nearly 250,000 participants since 1981, UPAF's Ride for the Arts is regarded as one of the nation's largest one-day recreational bike rides.

The Ride offers a 5-, 12-, 25-, 65- and 75-mile bike routes that all start and finish at the Summerfest Grounds. Our team members can choose the ride that works best for them. We will be in touch with team members to determine a meeting time and place at the after-ride party at Summerfest Grounds.

If you are interested in joining our UU team, or making a donation to support the team, please go to <http://events.upaf.org/ride/teams/uupeacepedalers>





LCUUC Rummage/Plant Sale

Fri, May 14 (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)
Sat., May 15 (8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)



Our fourth LCUUC Rummage & Plant Sale will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 14th and 15th** at our church. It's time to start putting things aside to sell. Merchandise that sells well at rummage sales includes clothing for the whole family, 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 that way.

Delivery of rummage items to the church can begin before/after church services on May 2nd and 9th. Place items along the back wall of the Social Hall. You can also bring items to the church Monday May 10th and Wednesday May 12th from 5 to 6:30 p.m. or call Diane M or Kaz S to make other arrangements.

Plants of all types are welcome for the plant sale. Some examples are: perennial flowers, shrubs, prairie plants, vegetable plants, herbs, and young annuals. Plants may be individually potted or in flats. Larger perennials may be in doubled 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 outdoors such as bird houses, rain barrels, feeders, and whirligigs, for those of you who are handy at making such things. Get your creative juices flowing!

Please deliver your plants to the church Sunday May 9th through (early) Friday May 14th. Place them behind the garden shed or see Gerry F if the sale has already started on Friday.

We will need long tables for displaying items. Please put your name on the underside and place in the first classroom.

We will need your help organizing, selling, and advertising this sale! Sorting will take place on Monday the 10th from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Tuesday the 11th from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Wednesday the 12th from 6:30 to 9 p.m., and Thursday the 13th from 6:30 to ?

There will be a sign-up sheet for helpers in the Social Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Rummage Chairpersons: Diane M or Kaz S, or the Plant Chairperson, Gerry F.



Sharing the Ministry May 16, 23, and 30

People offering their time, talents, muscle power, and creativity is what keeps this church alive and strengthens bonds within the community. We call it sharing the ministry, where we work together to fulfill our mission and vision. As we start planning for next year, we hope you will consider how you would like to be involved. Whether you love what you're already doing or want to try something new, there's something for everyone. It's a great way to meet new people, share your talents, learn something new, and help our church community thrive. Sharing the Ministry sign-up sheets will be **posted in the Social Hall on May 16, 23, and 30**, and people will be there to answer your questions. All members and friends of LCUUC are encouraged to participate.

Church Happenings/Things to Do



Lawn Mowing

Happy spring, fellow LCUUCers!

Isn't spring great?! But it does mean that the church grass will need mowing. Last year we had great volunteer support for mowing the lawn, and were able to avoid the expense of hiring a contractor. With the church's riding mower, my recollection is that it takes about 3 hrs to complete each time. There is a signup sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. Thanks for the signups so far! There are still some open dates: April 21-30, all of May, June 1-10, July 1-10, all of August, and all of September.

Please let me know if you are interested, even if you are not sure about exactly when you can commit. Thank you in advance for the help!

Submitted by John K

Youth Group Coffee House



Saturday May 15th, 7 p.m., in the Social Hall

Please join us on Saturday May 15th for a steaming cup of joe, live music, and excellent conversation! The LCUUC Youth Group is putting on a rocking evening of revelry and rare refreshments. Various beverages and treats will be available for a small fee, and admission is free, although donations are appreciated. Come and support your youth group while simultaneously listening to the finest local talent, sipping the freshest and most ethically produced coffee, nibbling on the most exquisite sweet and savory offerings, and discussing the most interesting topics with the most amazing people in Lake Country. We welcome you!

Submitted by Anoush C

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 May that's **the 6th and the 20th**) 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.

Tuesday Evening Meditation

Terrific Tuesday enthusiasts will continue to meet for meditation sessions, reading our excellent book aloud (some day we will finish and start another), and discussion afterward, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m. at LCUUC. In May, we will meet on **the 11th and the 25th**. Any and all are welcome from our church, friends, the community!

Questions? Call Diane M.

Socrates Café

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

Monday Morning Meditation

Kathy Levac, who led a weekly Buddhist meditation gathering at LCUUC last year, has begun holding a similar series nearby*. The group meets every Monday from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. The first half is meditation, the second half a dharma talk. Everyone is welcome!

*Tai Yoga Massage and Yoga
418 Merton Avenue
Hartland, WI 53029-1524

It is between the Village Cafe and Martinizing Dry Cleaners in the mini-mall across from Walgreen's (near Hartbrook Mall) in Hartland, just off Highway 16 at County Road KC – Merton Ave.

2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Join thousands of fellow UUs for our Annual General Assembly (GA) held close by this year in Minneapolis, MN, from Wednesday June 23 through Sunday June 27. If you've attended GA in the past, you know the routine – terrific workshops, outstanding speakers, uplifting music, inspiring workshops, all in the company of Unitarian Universalists from around the country! If you're a GA "novice," you will NOT want to miss this opportunity practically in our backyard. In addition to everything mentioned above, this year will include making some really important decisions for our movement. Gini Courter, UUA Moderator, has said that GA participants will be making "increasingly complex decisions ... some of the biggest business ... since the consolidation of Unitarians and Universalists." Take a look at the UUA website (www.uua.org), register to attend, and arrange for your housing. SEWUUC (Southeastern Wisconsin Unitarian Universalist Council) is making it easy for you to join dozens of others for transportation to Minneapolis via a chartered bus. The expectation is that many will want to take advantage of this offer, and a minimum of 40 riders will ensure this opportunity.

Advantages of taking the bus?? Among them are the ease of travel, no wear and tear on your own vehicle, no paying to park at the hotel, which can cost as much as \$30 per day, the bus is very reasonably priced, and you'll get to hang out with other fun and interesting UUs!! Checking the Greyhound Bus website shows a comparable cost, but with a longer ride, and times that are not compatible. The details you need to know:

1. We will leave the morning of Wednesday, June 23 to arrive on time for the GA Orientation at 4:00 p.m.
2. Based on where participants live, two or three pick-up spots will be used.

3. The return trip will be on Sunday, June 27, leaving around 2:00 p.m. (The last Plenary session and evening Closing Celebration will be missed in order to get people home on Sunday evening.)

4. If you have questions, contact Lois at loisw99@hotmail.com or call 414-963-9590.

5. The cost for transportation is only \$100 payable to "SEWUUC."

6. You'll receive all the details you need to know 10 days – 2 weeks prior to departure

7. Send your check and filled-out form below to Lois Wesener at 1202 East Kenmore Place, Shorewood, WI 53211 no later than May 15, 2010. Register early as space is limited.

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City/State/
Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email
(s): _____

Make check payable to SEWUUC and mail to the address above.

Reservation is for (how many) _____ at \$100 each: \$ _____

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

Lake Country Unitarian Universalist Church
P.O. Box 437
Hartland, WI 53029-0437
262-369-1703
www.lcuuc.org

News for Lake Country UUs

