

Stevens Point
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
April 2007 Newsletter



Presidents' Report – *Carol Weston*

You know that old saying, “Time Flies When You Are Having Fun”? This comes to mind as I realize that we are just a little over a month away from the end of this fiscal year’s weekly Sunday services! I can’t believe it is already April. Before we get too caught up in thinking about and planning for next year, lets take time to reflect about the wonderful successes we’ve shared this year!

- A 40th anniversary celebration
- Wonderful services lead by UU ministers from around the state
- A strong RE children’s program with a large number of volunteer teachers
- The start of a successful adult RE discussion group
- Six new members join our Fellowship
- Beautiful use of decorations to improve the aesthetics of the sanctuary

It has been a good year! I sense a lot of excitement for what is happening in the Fellowship by our members. Based on the number of visitors we’ve had this year, I’d say there is also an increase interest in and awareness of the UU Fellowship in the larger community. With our **combined** efforts, we can keep this momentum of the Fellowship going. We will become a stronger and more viable force in the community and a nurturing thought provoking center for our members.

So now is the time for the board and members alike, to shift gears and start planning for next year. Hopefully by now all members have sent in their canvass materials and pledge cards. **If you have NOT sent in your canvass materials, please do so ASAP! This information is important!** Between now and the annual meeting, the board must use our vision statement and strategic plan, combined with the feedback from the canvass to set program priorities and create a budget for the 2008 fiscal year. Your involvement in the process is welcomed and appreciated. The next board meeting is Sunday, April 15th. We will set a budget meeting at this board meeting. Thanks Everyone!

Committee News

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is set for Sunday, April 15th at 9:00 am. Please send the board your agenda items and budget items by Wednesday, April 11th. **Committee chairs and members, please send any specific budget requests the board ASAP!** As soon as the budget meeting is set, we’ll send out an announcement.

RE

Thanks to all the wonderful RE volunteers for their hard work this year! Thank you to the SPUUF community for your generous donations to the RE book drive. These children’s book purchases will be made soon.

Social Action / Green Sanctuary

The Social Action Committee and the Green Sanctuary Committee have joined forces. The next combined meeting is Monday, April 16th at 5:30 pm, Jenny Howards house, 1601 Fremont Street, Stevens Point. Please contact Jenny at 715-341-5805 if you have questions.

Women’s Luncheon

Join the women of the Fellowship for lunch on Wednesday, April 25th at 12:00 noon at the Wooden Chair. Contact Arlene Heig if you have questions: 715-592-4239.

Member News

- Thank you Jenny Howard for writing the wonderful article for the Stevens Point Journal. Jenny focused on the UU Green Sanctuary initiative that our Fellowship has set for a strategic goal for ourselves. Jenny's article is still available online at:
<http://www.stevenspointjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007703310371>
- Please keep Phyllis Holmes in your thoughts and prayers as Phyllis deals with the unexpected death of her son Randy.
- For those of you who have been members of the Fellowship for a few years, you might remember our past student minister Ruth Jacquot, who is now Ruth Gnagey. Ruth is keynoting the UU Women's Group spring conference "Connections: The 7th Principle in Action." Ruth is now affiliated with the UU Congregation of Bloomington Normal Illinois and with her husband, winter minister at Hildago County UU Fellowship and All Souls UU Church on Brownsville – both in Texas.

Community Events

First UU Church of Wausau Goods and Services Auction

Saturday, April 21st join our friends at the First UU in Wausau for their "Goods and Services" auction at the Rose Garden, 131 West Thomas Street, Wausau. The evening includes dinner and dancing to music the incomparable Ray Kraemer, live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$35 per person. Proceeds go to finishing the RE classrooms.

Global Warming/Peak Oil

Our Fellowship is co-sponsoring a local public forum on global warming and peak oil, Wed., April 25th, 6:30 pm at the Portage County Public Library. Featured speakers for the evening are Anna Haines, UWSP Center for Land Use Education, Alan Haney, former Dean of UWSP-CNR and Jeremy Solin, Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education. Additional information and flyer available at:
<http://spuuf.org/newsletters/06-07/FlierRevisedPeakOil.pdf>

Portage County Cultural Festival

Saturday, May 5th, join thousands of central WI residents for the 15th Annual Portage County Cultural Festival; 10:00am - 5:00pm, Stevens Point Area Senior High (SPASH) **The event is Free.....**and open to the public, thanks to the generosity of numerous sponsors, and food and crafts will be priced very reasonably. The whole purpose of the gathering is to break down stereotypes and reduce apprehensions. Additional information is available at:
<http://www.portagecountyculturalfestival.org/>

Social Action Committee

Community Collections

- April 8th – House of Hope
- April 22nd – Second Harvest

The Second Harvest Food Pantry schedule for April is: April 8th & 22nd. There is a sign up sheet on the UU bulletin board in the church vestibule. Volunteers are always needed. Contact Joanie Hanson if you have questions. The Food Pantry is located at 2820 Post Rd, Plover. The Tuesday schedule is:

- Set up 4:30 – 6:00 pm
- Food distribution 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Close 8:00 – 9:00 pm

Volunteers are needed for any shift or for the entire evening.

Point of View

Point of View is the member section of the newsletter. Information shared in the Point of View is diverse and does not reflect the official position of the Fellowship on any topic. The intent of this section is to provide a forum for sharing all points of view on spiritual, religious and other issues which relate to our 7 Principles, in order to facilitate continued personal search for truth and discussion among members and friends.

Here is a link to an article “*The Easter of the Old Gods*”, by Kendyl Gibbons www.clfuu.org/quest/2007/04/#gibbons from April 2007 Quest, a publication from The Church of the Larger Fellowship.

*“Help us to be the always hopeful Gardeners of the spirit
Who know that without darkness
Nothing comes to birth As without light
Nothing flowers.”* By May Sarton

Both contributions this month were submitted by Carol Weston; contact her at 715-345-1735 if you have questions or comment on these submissions.

CMwD News

- “*Mango Thoughts in a Meatloaf Town...*” May 5, 2007. A UU Women’s Connection. Park Place, 405 W. Woodstock St, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 Additional information at: http://www.cmwd-uua.org/pdfs/0207-Mango%20Flier_BW.pdf
- “Leading your Congregation Effectively” May 7-8, the Pyle Center, Madison, WI.
- “*Connections: The 7th Principle in Action*”, UU Women’s 2007 Spring Conference. June 8-10, 2007, Princeton, IL. Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ruth Gnagey Additional information at: <http://www.uuwomensconnection.org/>
- Midwest UU Summer Assembly, July 1-7 Oconomowoc, WI Additional information available at: <http://www.muusa.org/>
- Midwest Leadership School 2007 – July 21 – 28 Beloit, WI Additional information available at: <http://www.psdoua.org/mwls/>

New Members Join Fellowship



Beverly Pede, Ron Tschida, Kelly Mortenson, Erin & Joey Mortenson-Tschida, Sarah & Tate Michelson, Rae Canfield, Carolyn & Danielle Greenlee

Schedule of Services

Date	Service
4-8-07	" <i>The Miracle of Renewal</i> " Rev Glenda Walker, Wausau topic TBA
4-15-07	" <i>Life Gets Messy</i> " Rev Don Wheat
4-22-07	Earth Day Intergenerational
4-29-07	" <i>Work That is Real</i> " Rev. Dottie Mathews, Appleton UU Topic TBA
5-6-07	TBA
5-13-07	Annual Meeting
5-20-07	Intergenerational Flower Communion and RE Appreciation

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