



Allegheny **ADVOCATE**

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church's Monthly Newsletter

**Message from
Rev. Dave**

When Tim & I were looking at Pittsburgh, we figured that one of the great things about living in the church's neighborhood was that we would be part of a community that had learned how to live with black and white, middle-class and poor, homeless and homeowner all living together. From the distance of Germany, looks can really be deceiving. Once here, we quickly learned that fear of difference had not passed over this little corner of the world after all.

At a recent community meeting, we were speculating on how our neighborhood is a microcosm of at least the country, if not the world: People living in close (and on a global scale, ever-closer) proximity who have widely different values, experiences, and expectations. A deep challenge, but an awesome opportunity: Just imagine if we could move through the distrust, fear, anxiety, toxicity, and resignation that is so easy to indulge when faced with the Gordian knot of racism, classism, homophobia, xenophobia, and generational pain. If we could fray even one strand of that knot, we may actually make our little neighborhood a better place. And the world would be better for it.

Next autumn, the Racial Justice Ministry will bring a Unitarian Universalist Association-sponsored workshop that engages the congregation in creative reflection on the role of race and racism. The intent is to bring some healing to the racial divide, part of which runs smack through our little neighborhood. Join Racial Justice and start thinking out loud and in community about how to make the most of this opportunity.

April 2009

Rev Dave

The DownUnder Coffeeshouse



Riveting Rosies

On Saturday 18 April at 7:30pm, the DownUnder Coffeeshouse will feature the Riveting Rosies, a collective of Pittsburgh's finest women singer-songwriters consisting of Heather Kropf, Eve Goodman, Sue Gartland, Tracy Drach, and Janet Ingram. In addition to their own songs, the Rosies will be weaving some Patty Griffin tunes with their own special harmonies and arrangements. All ages are invited.

The April show will also be the final performance of the DownUnder Coffeeshouse Concert Series under the coordination of Steve Hirtle. We welcome all to join this special celebration of seven years of music on the North Side.

There is a suggested donation is \$5.

Easter Sunday



It's hard to believe that Spring is already here and with it has arrived that first harbinger of spring. No, not the robin; the Easter bonnet! Allegheny UU has a proud bonnet tradition, and you are cordially invited to join us in yours for our annual Easter parade, which takes place during our intergenerational service on Easter morning. There will also be an egg hunt for the children. And, no Easter at Allegheny UU would be complete without our pre-service Easter breakfast beginning at 9am.

Easter Breakfast



Mmm....danish...

For Easter Breakfast this year, we're going give all the cooks a chance to get out the hot kitchen and take off their aprons. This year's breakfast will be a somewhat traditional "potluck" style!

Bring your favorite morning danish, scones, biscuits, fruit salad, etc. Breakfast will begin at 9:00 am (set-up will be at 8:30). There will be lots of coffee and tea.

Bring friends or family and join in our fun.

The Racial Justice Ministry has some exciting events for the congregation and the community this summer and fall. On Saturday 2 May from 9:30-noon we are sponsoring a showing of the movie “Making Whiteness Visible” with the Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF). After the movie, there will be a discussion. Stay tuned for more events, including a June-teenth celebration and an anti-racism workshop in the fall. We are also continuing our work to build relationships with other churches in the neighborhood, starting with Metropolitan Baptist, the church that helped us celebrate Black Heritage Month in February. Join us at one of our upcoming meetings to help us achieve our goals! We usually meet the third Thursday of every month from 6:30-8pm in the Emerson Room at the church. However, our next meeting will be on Thursday 23 April and then Thursday 21 May.

Racial Justice



Coretta King at WILPF in 1968

We have had a great couple of months with the kids at Jefferson Recreation Center. Many people from the congregation have been joining in the activities, and the kids really look forward to our visits! Upcoming projects include decorating Easter eggs, as well as a summer mural project to honor Jolesa Barber, a young girl who was shot and killed in the neighborhood in January 2008. Join us on Thursday 2 April and Thursday the 9th from 5:30-7:00pm for more fun!

Tuesdays at the Jefferson Recreation Center



We would love volunteers from the congregation to come along with us and we are always looking for new project ideas as well. Send an email to Jay Poliziani or Kim Winbush for directions and/or any questions.

We can't wait to see you there!

Allegheny UU 2009 Directory



If you are a Member or if your name is listed as a Friend in our printed 2009 Directory, and you have not yet received a copy, please see Betty Schwarz at Church on any Sunday to receive your directory.

Allegheny UU Technology Update



In order for members to have better access to each other, the Membership Committee has begun using software called Congregation Builder.

Congregation Builder is a web-based directory of our church's member information. Members will soon receive an e-mail with log-in information and directions for use. You will be able to get directory information from any computer that has Internet access. Our on-line directory will be updated when the Membership Committee receives a change in your information so please keep us up-to-date and let us know if you have any questions.

Small Group Ministry News



Theologies Small Group Ministry will meet twice in April on the following dates:

Sunday 5 April at 6:30 pm

Sunday 26 April at 6:30 pm

Every Sunday at Allegheny UU:

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service

Sunday 5 April

- 10:00 am Family Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Story for All Ages Service

Worship Leader: Mark Tomlinson

Speaker: Rev. Dave McFarland

Passover - Story for All Ages

Rev. Dave explores the meaning of Passover in an age of interdependence.

Greeters: Cathy Serventi and Gene Wilson

Refreshments: Hazel Leroy and Jay Poliziani

- Pick Up Giant Eagle certificates
- 2:00 pm NA Regional Meeting
- 6:30 pm Theologies Small Group

Sunday 12 April

- 9:30 am Communion Service

Worship Leader: Alex West

Speaker: Rev. Dave McFarland

Easter Resurrection Myth and Promise:

Join the Religious Education Department and the Worship Ministry as they join Rev. Dave celebrating the Easter story in community.

Greeters: Andy Schwarz and Rick Smith

Refreshments: *Easter Breakfast before service.*

AUUC April Events



AUUC April Events

Sunday 19 April

Worship Leader: Jeanne Zang
Service: *Earth Sunday*

Join us for a service that celebrates our connections and commitments as individuals and as a congregation to the natural world and to environmental justice in our communities.

Greeters: Kristee and Lily Blanciak & Pete McQuillin

Refreshments: Jill Brethauer and Darrin Tidrick

Sunday 26 April

Worship Leader: Jennifer Russell

Speaker: Jay Poliziani
Unitarian Taize

This Unitarian version of a traditionally Christian Taize service is designed to create a quite meditative space through a combination of prayer and calming chant music. Candles, Icons and periods of silent meditation create an environment that allows participants to connect with the Holy.

Greeters: Martha and Walter Brethauer

Refreshments: Jane Schwarz & Jenny and Adam Stout

- Order Giant Eagle Certificates
- 6:30 pm Theologies Small Group



April 2009

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1 7p Square Dancing 7:30p Choir Practice	2 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg 8p Tai Chi	3	4 11a Northside Peace Vigil
6 7p NA Mtg 7p BOT Mtg	7 5:30p Jef Rec AUUC Night 6p Sandwich Making	8	9 7p PIIN Board 8p Tai Chi	10	11 11a Northside Peace Vigil
13 7p NA Mtg	14 5:30p Jef Rec AUUC Night 6p Sandwich Making	15 7:30p Choir Practice	16 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg 8p Tai Chi 8:30p Shelter Meal	17	18 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 11a Northside Peace Vigil 7:30p Down Under Coffee House
20 7p NA Mtg 7:30p Worship Cmtee	21 6p Sandwich Making 7p MWSS Gen. Mem. Mtg 7p Finance Cmtee Mtg	22	23 8p Tai Chi 6:30p Racial Justice. Mtg	24	25 11a Northside Peace Vigil
27 7p NA Mtg 7p Exe. BOT Mtg 7:30p Worship	28 6p Sandwich Making	29 7:30p Choir Practice	30 8p Tai Chi 8p Anne Feeney		

Dinners for Eight: Part Two

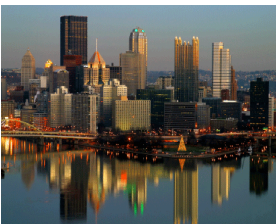
Last fall four groups were set up for Dinners for Eight at AUUC. At least three of these groups got together and had a good time having dinner together. Now it's time to form new groups for the spring/summer.

These dinners are an informal and fun way to get to know other church folks better. Here is how they work. Interested people can sign up by contacting Jeanne Zang or signing up on the sign-up sheet in Founders Hall. Jeanne sets up groups of approximately eight. One person in each group will volunteer to serve as host. It is up to the host to contact all the group members and arrange a time when everyone can meet at his/her home for dinner. Each person brings a dish - appetizer, main course, salad, or dessert.

It is each group's responsibility to set up and attend the dinner. If a group so chooses, they can arrange a second dinner (at another person's home).



Welcome Back Rick Smith!



Rick Smith, who moved away 4 years ago, is glad to be here this month, on a sabbatical from his work, studying the works of Myles Horton, who worked in the 40s through 70s on social change education, and also studying Restorative Justice Circles, a community conflict resolution process.

If you have projects or activities you think he'd be interested in, please let him know.

Pennsylvania is one of the 12 states that has a statewide legislative ministry encouraging UUs to take the public square.

The Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN) was formed in 2007 to bring UUs together to advocate for progressive change at the state level. We believe that sustained, positive change is built through the work of organized activists with the courage to challenge and confront oppression. UUPLAN provides a means for members of the 40 Pennsylvania congregations to come together and leverage the strengths of our individual churches and members.

We are building a network of congregational liaisons around the state. The liaison's job is to communicate UUPLAN action alerts to congregation members and coordinate advocacy efforts. For instance, in the spring the liaison would sign people up for our annual lobby day and facilitate carpools. Or get information in the newsletter and email chains regarding letter writing campaigns. Like any advocacy group, we need to build a membership base and be able to communicate quickly with this base. The liaison helps us do that.

Our issues in the 2009-2011 legislative session are: extend basic rights to the GLBT community; expand access to affordable health care; and reduce the state's carbon footprint. These are all issues that resonate with UU congregations. Join us in helping UUs be a visible force for change in Harrisburg! Email us at: <info@uuplan.org> or call UUPLAN President Casey Aspin at 610-503-6167

*Casey Aspin, President
UUPLAN*

**Unitarian
Universalist
Pennsylvania
Legislative
Advocacy
Network**



*Harrisburg Capitol
Dome*

April 2009
Interfaith Calendar

- 3 • Ramanavami - Hindu
- 5 • Palm Sunday - Christian
- 7 • Mahavir Jayanti - Jain
- 9-10 Pesach (Passover) first two days - Jewish
- 9-12 Theravadin New Year - Buddhist
- 9 • Lord's Evening Meal - Jehovah's Witness
Christian
 - Maundy Thursday - Christian
 - Hanuman Jayanti - Hindu
- 10 • Good Friday - Christian
- 12 • Easter - Christian
 - Palm Sunday - Orthodox Christian
- 13 • Easter Monday Christian
- 14 • Baisakhi - Sikh
- 15-16 Pesach (Passover) final two days - Jewish
- 11 • Lazarus Saturday - Orthodox Christian
- 17 • Holy Friday - Orthodox Christian
- 19 • Easter/Pascha - Orthodox Christian
- 21 • Yom HaSho'ah - Jewish
 - First Day of Ridvan - Baha'i
- 23 • Saint George's Day - Christian
- 29 • Yom Ha'Atzmaut - Jewish
 - Ninth Day of Ridvan - Baha'i
- 30 • St. James the Great Day - Orthodox
Christian



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Allegheny UU Web Sitewww.alleghenyuu.org**Allegheny UU YahooGroup**groups.yahoo.com/group/auuc/*Email <p_mcquillin@yahoo.com> to join the group***Church Phone**

412-322-4261

AUUC Contacts

Our mission is to create a caring, nurturing liberal religious community centered on the celebration of life; to deepen awareness of the history of our Unitarian Universalist movement, its principles, and sources of wisdom; to engage in ethical discourse and action in order to maintain social justice as a central concern.

The *Allegheny Advocate* is published monthly (except August) by Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church.

Submissions must be received by the third Saturday of the month preceding publication. Contributions or inquiries may be directed to Lisa Carvajal or Chris Stygar at stygarjal@comcast.net © Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 2009



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WE ARE A SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE, ACTIVIST CONGREGATION

