

Allegheny **ADVOCATE**

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church's Monthly Newsletter

**From
Rev. Dave's Desk**

Congratulations! At this year's Annual Meeting, you won a great vote of confidence in yourselves. Thanks to the Board's diligent preparation, Treasurer Mac's fiscal reality check, and President Chris's expert and sensitive leadership, the congregation voted to take the informed, thoughtful (for some, prayerful) leap of faith into taking the next steps toward becoming a fully ministering church.

Now we as a congregation get to explore the ways we'll become the mission-driven community that will make us a sustainable 21st century church. What will have to change for each of us to bring growth and health and vitality? Which of our patterns or cultural inhibitions or institutional biases or addictions to smallness will we have to transform in order to fulfill our mission? What sacrifices do we need to make as individuals and as a congregation in order to fully minister? Which are the great things that we're doing now that we'll need to do more of? How will we work creatively with the resources we have to provide the best possible ministry in our time and place? In short: Now that we've taken this leap, how do we make sure we're there on the other side?

I'm put in mind of Tony Kushner's closing of his magnum opus, *Angels in America*:

More Life. The great work begins.

This vote wasn't a completion, but a new beginning. Keep breathing. Keep caring. Keep growing. Keep sharing. Keep loving. Keep doing our great work.

June 2009

Rev Dave

**Spring Food Bags
(more accurately -
late spring /early
summer)**



Our church youth will be coordinating this years Spring food bag collection for the North Side Common Ministry Food Pantry. Beginning in June and ending on the first day of Summer. Help our youth help families in our area who are food insecure.

Take a bag - fill it with boxed and canned goods and bring it back to church before June 21st. We won't run out of bags - so take as many as you can fill.

Even with a college education and two jobs, Connie finds it difficult to consistently provide food for her three active sons all on her own. Connie's financial troubles began almost 10 years ago when she left an abusive relationship and moved to be closer to her mother and sister.

Through the food pantry at the local church, Connie receives the necessary food staples to ensure that she and her three children maintain a healthy diet. Fruits and vegetables are among her sons' favorite foods, and they can eat any time they want because of the pantry services offered at the church.

In addition to the food, the church and their friendly group of staff and volunteers have become a strong support system for Connie and her boys-offering a nurturing place for them to learn and grow together. "This place (the food pantry) is great," said Connie. "They have no idea how they have helped me."

Learn more about the increasing need for food assistance in our area by visiting www.pittsburghfoodbank.org

At this years General Assembly, two important events will take place - a vote for the next president of the UUA and changes to our UU "Principles & Purposes". For your information, below are links to the presidential candidates web sites and the proposed text for the new "Principles and Purposes."

Presidential Candidates

Rev. Laurel Hallman

<http://www.hallmanforuuapresident.com/>

Rev. Peter Morales

<http://www.moralesforuuapresident.org/>

Proposed Changes to "Principles & Purposes"

"Grateful for the gift of life, we commit ourselves as member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association to embody together the transforming power of love as we covenant to honor and uphold:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The right of conscience and the use of democratic processes;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Reverence for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

As free yet interdependent congregations, we enter into this covenant, pledging to one another our mutual trust and support. Capable of both good and evil, at times we are in need of forgiveness and reconciliation. When we fall short of living up to this covenant, we will begin again in love, repair the relationship, and recommit to the promises we have made."

UUA General Assembly Topics



**Save the Date!
Saturday 6 June**

On Saturday 6 June, the Northside Common Ministries will have their annual Shelter Walk. Shelter Walk '09 registration and activities will begin at 8:00am at the Pleasant Valley Men's Shelter at 1601 Brighton Road. The walk begins at the Pleasant Valley Shelter and usually proceeds through North Side neighborhoods, where the shelter's homeless lodgers walk. Call 412-323-1163 to pre-register.

**Save the Date!
Sunday 7 June**



Mark the date on you calendars: Sunday 7 June will be our annual summer picnic in North Park. We will have the same shelter we had last year; lots of picnic tables, lots of sun and shade, and a playground with swings and slides. Refreshments after the service will be canceled that day and the potluck picnic will begin at 1 pm. Look for a sign-up list in the next week or two to see what you can bring to this annual fun filled event.

**Save The Date!
Sunday 14 June**



Who doesn't love a parade? Sunday June 14 will be our annual Pride Day Breakfast, Service, and March festivities. After a light breakfast the worship service begins at a special time of 9:30 am, followed by our own bus from church to the march. The downtown Pride March begins at 12 pm. We'll be marching with other Pittsburgh area UU's so make sure to wear a UU t-shirt. The bus will return to the church after the march. This is one of our biggest public events of the year so please come out and show your support of our local LGBT community!

For more PrideFest details check out:

<<http://pittsburghpride.org/>> or

<<http://www.alleghenyuu.org/prog/pride2009.html>>

Every Sunday at Allegheny UU:

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service except where noted

Sunday 7 June

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

Worship Leader: Alex West

Speaker: Kiki Barley & Choir

Music Sunday and RE Appreciation

Come join us for music and merriment!

Wear your UU Shirt to Worship!

Greeters: Matt and Tiffany Merriman-Preston, Jackie Svitek

Refreshments: Annual Church Picnic

- Pick Up Giant Eagle certificates
- 1:00 pm Annual Picnic at North Park - Flagstaff Hill
- 2:00 pm NA Regional Meeting
- 6:30 pm Theologies Small Group

Sunday 14 June

- 8:30 am Pride Day Breakfast, Service, and March
- 9:30 am Note - Service is early this week for the Pride Day March - Wear your UU- Shirt again!

Worship Leader: Donald Zeilman

Speaker: Rev David McFarland

Liberty for All: Stonewall at 40

Join our celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion, credited with igniting the modern BGLT Liberation Movement.

Greeters: Hazel Leroy, Nicki Perfetti

Refreshments: None today because of Pride March immediately following service

AUUC June Events



AUUC June Events

Sunday 21 June

Worship Leader: Kate Tomlinson

Speaker: Rev Mark Belletini

What I Learned About Fatherhood When I Became a Father

Mark Belletini brings his magic - our magic - back to the Allegheny pulpit.

Greeters: Carol-Jean McGreevy-Morales, Pete McQuillin

Refreshments: Betty Luff, Laura TaVoularis

- 12:00 pm Allegheny Leadership Council meeting

Sunday 28 June

Worship Leader: Cameron Uslix-Booth

Speaker: Dave Whaley

Summer Solstice

Now when the days are longest we'll celebrate the Summer Solstice with elements of Pagan and Druid worship.

Greeters: Leo Nagorski, Karen Zoller

Refreshments: Doug and Holly Stewart

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



June 2009

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 7p NA Mtg 7p BOT Mtg	2 5:30p Jef Rec AUUC Night 6p Sandwich Making	3	4 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg 8p Tai Chi	5	6 11a Northside Peace Vigil
8 7p NA Mtg 7p GBP Fundrais- ing Meet- ing	9 5:30p Jef Rec AUUC Night 6p Sandwich Making	10 7:30p Choir Practice	11 7p PIIN Board 8p Tai Chi	12	13 9:30a Small Groups 11a Northside Peace Vigil
15 7p NA Mtg	16 6p Sandwich Making 7p MWSS Gen. Mem. Mtg 7p Finance Cmtee Mtg	17	18 8p Tai Chi 8:30p Shelter Meal	19	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 11a Northside Peace Vigil
22 7p NA Mtg 7:30p Worship Cmtee	23 6p Sandwich Making	24 7:30p Choir Practice	25 8p Tai Chi	26	27 9:30a Small Groups 11a Northside Peace Vigil
29 7p NA Mtg 7p Exe. BOT Mtg	30 6p Sandwich Making 7p Social Jus- tice Council Mtg	1	2 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg 8p Tai Chi	3	4 11a Northside Peace Vigil

Save the Date

Celebrate LGBT Parents on National Parents Day!

Fun activities!!! And a chance for you and your kids to meet other LGBT families and make new friends!



BYOP - Bring your own picnic! We'll provide the space and you provide the picnic- each family should plan to bring their own picnic.

When: Sunday, July 26th 1-4pm

Where: West Park - Along West North Ave and behind the Aviary

For more info visit www.alleghenyuu.org

Save the Date



Please join Central North Side neighbors on June 17th, 6:30PM, at the Mattress Factory, for the Wrap-Up meeting of Phase II of our neighborhood's first comprehensive community plan. Come provide your input and insights into the possible solutions to the neighborhood's challenges. Whether you live here or not, you are an important part of this neighborhood. Every perspective matters!

RE is Taking a Break for the Summer

Our children's Religious Education Program is taking a break for the summer. During summer services, childcare will be available in Founders Hall for children ages eighteen months to twelve years. Please contact Kris Thomas if you are interested in assisting with Sunday morning childcare. Also, please join us during the Sunday service on June 7th, when we will honor our RE volunteers.



Radical Hospitality Small Group Ses- sions Begin

The Saturday morning Small Group is starting a new 6 week series on June 13 at 9:30am. Please join us as we discuss the concept of "radical hospitality" as it relates to our daily lives, our communities and our congregation. As a congregation committed to social justice and a church settled in a rich, complex neighborhood exploring how we can open ourselves more fully to the world around us has special resonance. And in the spirit of "radical hospitality" our group, already a wonderful source of cross-generational perspectives and varied life experiences, wishes to be especially welcoming. Even if you are only able to attend one or two sessions hope you will join us and Saturday morning.

"Radical hospitality" as an idea originates from the book *Radical Hospitality: Benedict's Way of Love,* by Father Daniel Homan and Lonni Gollins Pratt. They write:

“When we speak of hospitality we are always addressing issues of inclusion and exclusion. Each of us makes choices about who will and who will not be included in our lives.... Hospitality has an inescapable moral dimension to it.... All of our talk about hospitable openness doesn't mean anything as long as some people continue to be tossed aside.... “

Sessions will be held June 13, June 27, July 11, July 25, Aug 8 and Aug 22 from 9:30am - 11:00am in the front room of the church.

If you have any questions about the program or Small Group Ministries in general please contact the small group facilitators:

Fran Quinlan

Pete McQuillin

Cathy Serventi

Minister

Reverend David McFarland

Board of Trustees

Chris Stygar, President

Director of Religious Education

Kris Thomas

Director of Music

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Membership Committee

Betty Schwarz & Lisa Carvajal

Worship Committee

Mark Tomlinson

Social Justice Committee

Liz Dell

Ministry Committee

Lynn Glorieux

Allegheny UU Web Site

www.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.

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WE ARE A SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE, ACTIVIST CONGREGATION

