

MARCH 2004 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Allegheny ADVOCATE

monthly newsletter of allegheny unitarian universalist church

MARCH 7

Falling Upward Into Secrecy

L. Patrick

Boris Pasternak, Russian author once said, "I don't feel comfortable around those who haven't fallen." What does it mean 'to fall'? Who falls? What's falling all about? What secrets might 'fallen' members of a UU congregation hold and why might they choose to hold these secrets close?

L. Patrick, permaculturist, organic farmer, professor and philosopher shares thoughts and insights.

MARCH 14

Permission To Lighten Up

Rev. Dave Lutz

A bumper sticker says: "Jesus is coming – look busy!" UUs might revise it: "The world is a mess – get busy." Conscientious people who take responsibility for their world sometimes feel irresponsible if they are to lighten up and go off duty. Today we affirm this necessary balance for the soul.

MARCH 21

Communion Service 10:00 AM

Reader: Mac Mahon

Monthly gathering that celebrates our community of faith in action—please join us.

Oestara Service – Vernal Equinox 11:00 AM

Jennifer Wood

An eclectic, earth-centered celebration of the sacred day when dark and light are perfectly in balance.

MARCH 28

What If The World Has No Lining? 11:00 AM

Dr. Susan L. Nelson

What if the world has no lining? If the "cry from the hill" is merely a cry and not a sacrament, and a momentary act of resistance, an ordinary act of kindness, is all we've got? What if? Dr. Nelson is currently doing sabbatical research on the problem of evil.

Choir Festival 4:00 PM

Allegheny will be hosting a concert that will feature the choirs from the Pittsburgh-area UU churches. This informal event will begin at 4:00 pm. Please join us!

APRIL 4

Significance Of Place

John Meikle

John will share some ideas developed from life experience growing up in a traditional farming community in Scotland, more recent thoughts developed through travel back to those roots, and attempts to find connections to the land in the North Side. In particular, these ideas will relate to issues where we (Allegheny) 'are' in the literal sense.

Sunday Services

at Allegheny

Unitarian

Universalist

Church begin

at 11 o'clock.

All are welcome!

ADVOCACY AND MINISTRY

Rev. Dave Lutz

Embracing Change

Transition times – not everyone’s favorite, unless you’re sick of what you’re leaving behind. Allegheny people are moving through this year of transition rather cheerfully, don’t you think?

Pema Chodron, a Buddhist, wants us to get comfortable with uncertainty (in fact she has a book out now with that title). She would have us believe that certainty isn’t all it’s cracked up to be; it’s a kind of hiding in a false cocoon, resisting life itself.

It is her conviction that if we slow down and calm down (meditation can help) we will discover that we are always “standing in a sacred place.” She writes:

A warrior accepts that we can never know what will happen to us next. We can try to control the uncontrollable by looking for security and predictability, always hoping to be comfortable and safe. But the truth is that we can never avoid uncertainty. This not-knowing is part of the adventure. It’s also what makes us afraid.

So this year is our ‘adventure’ year at Allegheny. And, since uncertainty is the nature of all our lives, may you remember the adventure in your own life. Sharing our common life at Allegheny is a way to do that.

Peace, Dave

So this year is our ‘adventure’ year at Allegheny

SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

Pat Downey, Committee Chair

Pre-Candidates Update

The Search Committee has identified three pre-candidates at this time. We are in the process of bringing these individuals to Pittsburgh to spend a weekend interviewing, getting to know each other, and showing them around the neighborhood and larger

Pittsburgh area. Without exception, we have been very impressed with the qualifications and backgrounds the pre-candidates possess.

We hope to have more details to share with the congregation next month!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kris Thomas, DRE

Our Young Leaders

In January, I attended a weekend-long Leadership Development Conference in Erie with three of our youth, Caitlin Thomas, Zoe Engberg, and Tamon Oshimo. This small conference was led by UUA-trained facilitators, who helped us to learn concrete leadership skills.

We practiced meeting facilitation and consensus building, learned about the components of a healthy youth program and the stages of community building, and our youth came up with a great idea for a future service project. This was a lot of intense work and we should all be very proud of Cait, Zoe, and Tamon.

The Ohio Meadville District periodically hosts both leadership development and spirituality development conferences for youth and advisors. We will be certain to send other members of the Allegheny youth group in the future.

Spring Basket Planting

All children should bring an Easter basket to church on or before March 21. On that day, we will plant our spring grass. Children will take the grass home with them and bring the baskets back for our Easter Sunday Intergenerational Service.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Jill Brethauer, Treasurer

Generous Support!

“Thank you” to all who responded so generously to two recent appeals:

- Members and friends contributed a total of \$2,550 to the year-end appeal. Your contributions will help the Church to continue offering great programs, complete the minister search process, and minimize its projected operating deficit for the current fiscal year.
- Folks enthusiastically dug deep into their pockets and purses when Kathy Kozachenko passed the fancy hat around the room during the *From the Heart* celebration on February 7. Approximately \$725 was raised toward improving the sound system in the church sanctuary.

IN THE CHURCH

Talent Show Date Change

Due to the conflict with PIIN’s fundraising dinner featuring Carol Moseley Braun on Saturday, March 20, the date of the Spaghetti Dinner/Talent Show/Silent Auction has been changed to Saturday, April 3.

This allows everyone an additional two weeks to practice their acts. The dinner will start at 5:30 pm, with the talent show following at 7:00. In addition, a silent auction will be ongoing throughout the evening.

Ticket prices are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children over 5 years of age. Families can opt for a \$28 ticket to feed everyone.

See Linda Deafenbaugh for silent auction service items and Jane Dirks or Pat Downey for Talent Show sign up.

Address Update

Peter McQuillan’s new address:
204 Forest Hills Road, Pittsburgh PA 15221.

DENOMINATIONAL DOINGS

OMD Annual Meeting

The Ohio Meadville District Annual Meeting is being held at Pittsburgh’s First Unitarian Church on April 23 and 24. The theme is *Building Our Congregations*. There will be a Service on Friday evening, and the business meeting, keynote address and workshops on Saturday. Look for registration brochures with the detailed information.

Charity Fundraiser At Ligonier

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Ligonier Valley is sponsoring a series of events.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to the Latrobe Area Hospital’s Camp Focus, held in the summer months for children with school behavioral problems. This *Charitable Events Series* is scheduled for the third Fridays of March and April.

March 19 – French and Indian War lecture and discussion by Dr. Frank Cassell, President of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

April 16 – Cello concert: Boris Khusid, first chair Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra.

The time will be 7:30 pm and the church is located 1.5 miles east of Ligonier on Route 30. Refreshments will be served. The donation is \$5.00 for each event. For more information, please call Fran Lynch at 724/836 7380.

DOING JUSTICE

The Social Justice Committee met on February 1. Current issues that we are working on include voter registration, the upcoming PIIN meeting and increasing involvement in our neighborhood, including homeless issues, youth mentoring projects, and coordinating issues with the Central Northside Neighborhood Council.

The Committee agrees that we would like a large part of our focus to be on North Side projects. If you know of a need in this area or have some ideas, please join us for our next meeting on March 7 after the Sunday Service.

The date of the Dinner / Talent Show / Auction has been changed to April 3.

GREEN PERSPECTIVE

Lynn Glorieux

Next Steps in Recycling

Recycling newspapers, cans, plastic and glass bottles is a great way to cut down on the amount of garbage your household sends to the landfill each week. But if you are ready to take your recycling to the next level, you can make an even bigger difference.

Agents of Change Recycling will take your junk mail, magazines, office paper, and all kinds of cardboard, including cereal boxes, egg cartons and pizza boxes. They are open on Saturdays from 9 am to 4 pm and are located at 1101 William Flynn Highway (Route 8), just south of Glenshaw Glass and on the left as you head north. Their phone number is 412/487-5885. To save on gas and time, you could join with a couple of neighbors and take turns transporting your combined recycling to the center.

Hi-Tech Scrap will take computers, circuit boards, and just about anything electronic. Construction Junction takes construction-related items that can be re-used. Both are located at 214 N. Lexington in Point Breeze. It is recommended that you call ahead to discuss your donations. The number for Hi-Tech Scrap is 412/731-5805. Construction Junction is 412/243-5025.

Used cell phones can be dropped off at any Verizon Wireless store. They ask that you include the batteries and chargers, if possible.

Used household batteries can be taken to IKEA in Robinson Township. The collection area is at the exit of the store. Jeanne Zang is also willing to take batteries there for you – just bring them to church.

Radio Shack will take used cell phone and rechargeable batteries and other 'high tech' batteries.

You can obtain a free *Recycling Resource Directory* from the Allegheny County Health Department by calling 412/578-8390. If you have comments or questions, please call Lynn Glorieux at 412/322-8056.

If you are ready to take your recycling to the next level, you can make an even bigger difference.

JUST FOR FUN

Members and friends are invited to participate in an informal weekly volleyball evening at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School. This is a friendly pick-up game where all levels of play are welcome. If you are interested, please see Donald Zeilman for the details.

SERVING THE CONGREGATION

Greeters

March 7

Barb Stolarz and Ed Kinley

March 14

Andy Schwarz and Jill Brethauer

March 21

Jennifer Wood and Hazel Leroy

March 28

Leo Nagorski and Jeanne Zang

Refreshments

March 7

Kathy Graham and Charlie Snowden

March 14

Betty Schwarz and Kate Tomlinson

March 21

Lynn Glorieux and Jane Schwarz

March 28

Ann Sitrin and Sara Lickey

March 2004

	1 Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	2	3	4	5	6
7 Giant Eagle certificate sign-up Choir 9:30 am District NA 1:30 pm	8 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	9 Search Comm. 6:00 pm	10 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	11	12	13
14 G.E. cert. delivery Choir 9:30 am YM&WAHA Cooking Series 2:00 pm	15 NA 7:00 pm	16	17	18 PIIN Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm UUA Conference on Urban Ministries begins in Boston	19 Newsletter Deadline!! OMD Men's Retreat in W.V. begins	20 PIIN Dinner featuring Carol Moseley Braun
21 Choir 9:00 am Communion Service 10:00 am	22 NA 7:00 pm	23	24	25 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	26	27
28 Choir 9:30 am Finance 12:30 pm Choir Festival at Allegheny 4:00 pm	29 NA 7:00 pm	30	31			

April 2004

				1	2	3 Pasta Dinner/ Silent Auction 5:30 pm Talent Show 7:30 pm
4 Palm Sunday Giant Eagle certificate sign-up Choir 9:30 am District NA 1:30 pm	5 Passover begins at sunset Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	6	7 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	8	9 Good Friday	10
11 Easter Sunday Easter Breakfast G.E. cert. delivery YM&WAHA Cooking Series 2:00 pm	12 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	13	14	15 PIIN Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm	16 Newsletter Deadline!!	17 DownUnder Coffee House 7:30 pm
18 Holocaust Remembrance Day Choir 9:00 am Communion Service 10:00 am Choir Festival at Allegheny 4:00 pm	19 NA 7:00 pm	20	21	22 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	23 OMD Annual Meeting at Pgh First Church	24 OMD Annual Meeting at Pgh First Church
25 Choir 9:30 am Finance 12:30 pm	26 NA 7:00 pm	27	28	29	30	

CONTACTS

The *Allegheny Advocate* is published monthly (except August) by Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church. Submissions must be received by the third Friday of the month preceding publication. Contributions or inquiries may be directed to Jaime McLeod or Donald Zeilman

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Allegheny Unitarian
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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church
1110 Resaca Place
Pittsburgh PA 15212