

MAY 2004

# Allegheny ADVOCATE

monthly newsletter of allegheny unitarian universalist church

MAY 2

Radical Faith

Rev. David McFarland

Unitarians and Universalists have tried to get right to the root of faith. We have professed to be the religion OF Jesus rather than the religion ABOUT Jesus. As we gather to take that radical step of voting on the future ministry of Allegheny UU Church, our candidate for minister will share the vision of his faith, the faith of a radical, the radical faith.

MAY 9

World Community

Rev. Dave Lutz

The sixth principle says “we affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.” Of course we do. But this affirmation can appear huge, overwhelming and unreachable. Today we will be seeking a way to remember together how ordinary folks in a small congregation can be active in a meaningful way in a vision for justice for our world community.

MAY 16

Seeking the Welfare of the City (JEREMIAH 29:7)

Rev. Karen Battle

Karen came to Pittsburgh in 2001 as pastor of the newly formed Nia Community Lutheran Church in Wilksburg, a mission congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She is co-chair of the Economic Equity Task Force of PIIN, and will be speaking of her faith journey, PIIN, and her efforts to grow her church. Karen's congregants will join us for this Service.

MAY 23

Communion Service 10:00 AM

Reader: Jennifer Wood

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

Trashy Songs and Resonant Rubbish 11:00 AM

Armor and Sturtevant

Kelly Armor and Dave Sturtevant, UUs from Erie, will perform songs and tell stories that deal with stewardship of the environment featuring musical instruments made from found objects. This is an intergenerational Service.

MAY 30

Interdependent Web

Rev. Dave Lutz

The seventh principle says: “we covenant to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part” – and in our community people work at being ecologically conscious. At another level, this principle challenges us to loosen up around our instinctive and fearful drive to control. The principle calls for a radical way of thinking and acting that can be liberating not only for us but for those who come in contact with us.

Sunday Services

at Allegheny

Unitarian

Universalist

Church begin

at 11 o'clock.

All are welcome!

## ADVOCACY AND MINISTRY

*Rev. Dave Lutz*

### A Community With A Voice

I am writing before Allegheny's week with David McFarland, and my assumption is that by this point all of us will be celebrating our new beginning with a most capable new leader. Greetings and welcome, David! And once again, congrats to our pastor search committee. Time and again I hear comments from Allegheny members appreciative of the careful and diligent work they have done.

Now we can all look forward to the great possibilities that lie ahead.

As the transitional guy who will be out of here in a couple of months, I have to say I hold your community (I will continue to consider it – at least in spirit – mine, too) in high regard.

It's a great place! You're a great group!

I have to say that right now, as much as any time I can remember, is a time to be a part of a community such as this one: a community with a passion for justice, a community with a voice – a community that gives witness to a broader vision, it seems to me, than that represented by our current administration.

We haven't spoken much as a community about Iraq this past year, not because we don't care or because we haven't spoken up in the past. I suspect we'll speaking and acting again soon. Alone we can be silenced; together we can make a difference.

*Peace, Dave*

Armor and Sturtevant are upstairs at the DownUnder Coffee House on 22 May

## IN THE CHURCH

### Silent Auction/Talent Show A Success

Allegheny's annual spaghetti dinner/talent show/silent auction was, once again, a huge success, thanks to everyone's generosity in both donating to the silent auction and bidding on others' donated services.

A combined total of \$3,150 was raised during the evening.

A special thanks to the individuals involved in organizing this wonderful community event including: Rebecca Davis, Linda Deafenbaugh, Pat Downey, Kathy Graham, Cindy Madamma, Cheryl Napsha, Kate Tomlinson and Linda Voytko.

### Spring Tea Party

On Saturday, May 15 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in Founders Hall, a Spring Tea Party will be held to raise funds for the Church. Please come and invite your friends!

Experience homemade scones, made by one of our members – whose identity will be revealed at tea – as well as other sweets and treats. There will also be a presentation on *Tea, Both as a Beverage and Health Supplement*, and many other surprises.

Suggested attire is hat and gloves. Tickets are \$15 apiece, and can be purchased from Nicki Jo Perfetti after Sunday Service on May 2 or 9, or by calling 412/322-0170.

### Annual Canvass Completed

The Annual Canvass pledge drive was completed on April 18. Results will be tallied and input in the budget proposal to be ready for vote at the Annual Meeting.

Thanks go to task force members Linda Lefever, Jill Brethauer, Jennifer Wood, Peter Adams, Peter McQuillin, Bob Follette, David Lutz, and Rick Smith, and to the Canvass team participants Kathy Kozachenko, Pat Downey, John Engberg, Rebecca Davis, Diane McMahon, Andy Schwarz, Hazel Carr Leroy, Jeanne Zang, and Sheryl Rodriguez.

Preliminary results showed numbers were up from last year.

### Armor and Sturtevant

On Saturday, May 22, the DownUnder Coffeehouse will feature Armor and Sturtevant in a special "upstairs" concert at 7:30 pm.

The wonderful duo from the Erie UU Church interpret folk music from East Africa, Appalachia, and the British Isles and write songs inspired and influenced by various folk traditions, classical music, bluegrass, rock and roll, and jazz. Their collaborative work utilizes a plethora of instruments and has even been featured on NPR's *Car Talk!*

Advanced tickets are \$8 (\$10 at the door) for this special evening. See Steve Hirtle or Linda Deafenbaugh for tickets or more information.

## New Website

Due to the closing of the Three Rivers FreeNet project at the Carnegie Library, the Church has moved its website to the easy to remember address: [www.alleghenyuu.org](http://www.alleghenyuu.org).

Please visit it often for information about the Church. You can send any corrections, modifications, or additions to: [webmaster@alleghenyuu.org](mailto:webmaster@alleghenyuu.org)

We thank the Carnegie for their innovative hosting of nearly 300 organizations on their free, community-based website for so many years.

Note: The Church has a new web site address – See article for details.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

*Jill Brethauer, Treasurer*

### Nine-Month Update

For the first 9 months (through March) of fiscal year 2004, we had a cumulative operating deficit of about \$6,000. That is, our year-to-date expenses were \$6,000 higher than our income. During March, we incurred significant minister search expenses. Year-to-date search expenses are about \$4,900. Year-to-date offerings are about \$1,400 lower than budget.

Folks who attended the Service on April 18 may be wondering what the Church's policy is concerning socially responsible investing. Earlier this year, our Board of Trustees made the decision to invest \$25,000 in mutual funds. That amount was determined after projecting

the Church's cash needs for the next 5 to 10 years. The mutual funds must pass certain screens that were developed after the Trustees completed a survey several years ago. Screen out: companies involved in weapons industries. Screen in: companies that protect human rights, companies that respect and support minorities, companies that exercise environmental responsibility. In addition to the investment account, the Church maintains a checking account with a balance equal to about two months' operating expenses. Our remaining funds are deposited in an interest-bearing account with a local bank.

## SERVING THE CONGREGATION

### Greeters

#### May 2

Martha and Walter Brethauer

#### May 9

Jaime McLeod and Andy Schwarz

#### May 16

Pat Downey and Pat Snowden Dittig

#### May 23

Marie and John Engberg

#### May 30

Jeanne Zang and Peter Adams

### Refreshments

#### May 2

Kate Tomlinson,  
Alex West, & Linda Deafenbaugh

#### May 9

Pat Downey and Cheryl Napsha

#### May 16

Ed Kinley and Lynn Glorieux

#### May 23

Betty Schwarz and Jane Schwarz

#### May 30

Jane Dirks and Rebecca Davis

## DOING JUSTICE

*Rick Smith, Committee Secretary*

### Committee Projects

The Social Justice Committee met on April 18 and laid the foundation for transitioning from planning to action.

As mentioned in the April issue, a work party is being organized to clean up the playground area and equipment in the Commons, across the street from the church. The Church has a long history associated with caring for the playground and we would like to continue that effort. The date for the clean up will be Saturday, May 8 at 9 am. Supplies will be provided. Anyone interested in becoming involved should contact John Meikle.

The Committee will be looking through schedules for local groups that could use some help with assistance/staffing for upcoming events. Anyone who knows of a local organization hosting an event, please let a member of the social justice committee know.

Our application for the Veatch grant was submitted, thanks to Gregg Dietz, Jill Brethauer and David Lutz. That money will be used for our support of PIIN, Urban Disciples, and other local actions.

On April 22, seven people attended a PIIN core training, covering both work on local actions and techniques for getting people out to vote. More will be reported on that in the next issue.

The Central Northside Youth Community Summer Fun Fair happened in the basement of the Lutheran Church on April 3. It featured pizza and providers for summer camps and employment for kids. Marie Engberg will keep us informed of events coming up.

An idea was proposed to host an art project for people young, old, and anyone in between. Look for more information next month.

Volunteers are need to work cleaning up the playground and equipment in the tot lot across from the church

## SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

*Pat Downey, Committee Chair*

### The Final Update!

Eleven months ago we began the ministerial search process at Allegheny. Most of the congregation is familiar with the individuals who were on the Search Committee, but not necessarily with the behind-the-scenes individuals who have been so helpful in this process.

Therefore, with this last update, we would like to say “thank you” to the following people: Rod Thompson, District Consultant, who initially guided us in this process before turning us over to Rev. Carol Meyer, District Settlement Representative, whose input and direction have been invaluable; Glenn Solomon, District Compensation Consultant, who met with members of the Church to advise us on ministerial compensation; John Weston and Nancy Hazlitt, UUA Settlement Director and Settlement Assistant, respectively, who provided us with a thoughtful and thorough process;

The UU congregations at Kent, Ohio, Smithton, and Meadville, Pennsylvania, who

provided us with neutral pulpits and lots of welcome; Greg Weimerskirch, a good friend of DZ’s who assisted as a Pittsburgh tour guide to our pre-candidate’s families; Karl and Jeff, owners of *The Inn on the Mexican War Streets*, who, in the spirit of being good neighbors, provided our pre-candidates and candidate with comfortable accommodations at very affordable rates; our local YMCA, which also opened its doors to make our candidate and his spouse feel at home on North Avenue;

Our negotiating team of Ed Kinley, John Engberg, Betty Schwarz, and Donald Zeilman, who thoughtfully worked on the ministerial agreement; and the Board of Trustees for their trust and support throughout this process.

Lastly, “thank you” to our families: Dave Samuel; Janice and Scott Anderson; Betty Schwarz; Mark Tomlinson; Tim, Angelina, Gabriel, and Sophia Winbush; and Clara and “Mr. Bleeker” Zeilman.

## May 2004

						1 May Day
2 Giant Eagle certificate sign-up Choir 9:30 am District NA 1:30 pm	3 Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	4	5 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	6	7	8
9 Mothers Day G.E. cert. delivery Choir 9:30 am YM&WAHA Cooking Series 2:00 pm	10 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14 <b>Newsletter Deadline!!</b>	15
16 Choir 9:30 am Annual Meeting 12:30 pm	17 NA 7:00 pm	18	19	20 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	21	22 DownUnder Coffee House 7:30 pm
23 Choir 9:00 am Communion Service 10:00 am Finance 12:30 pm	24 NA 7:00 pm	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day Observed					

## June 2004

		1	2 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	3	4	5
6 Giant Eagle certificate sign-up Choir 9:30 am District NA 1:30 pm	7 Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	8	9	10	11	12
13 G.E. cert. delivery Annual Church Picnic 12:30 pm	14 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	15	16	17 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	18 <b>Newsletter Deadline!!</b>	19 Pride Parade DownUnder Coffee House 7:30 pm
20 Pride Sunday & Fathers Day Communion Service 10:00 am	21 Summer Begins NA 7:00 pm	22	23	24 General Assembly begins in Long Beach California	25	26
27 Finance 12:30 pm	28 NA 7:00 pm	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 Web Site

[www.alleghenyuu.org](http://www.alleghenyuu.org)



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