

MAY 2005

Allegheny ADVOCATE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ALLEGHENY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Bits & Pieces

For all members and friends of Allegheny, please make time to attend the Annual Meeting this month on May 15. Your participation will help create the life of the church as we strive to be the blessed community

Part of what I've been hearing since being called to Allegheny is the desire to serve the community in some way. Keep your eyes and ears open for the many spring and summer events taking place here on the North Side, participate in those that meet your fancy, and seek out opportunities for Allegheny to serve the North Side community.

My college drama teacher taught that a tragedy is a calamity with something to teach us. A painful news story becomes a tragedy only if we learn from it. So I encourage you to talk to your partner, your family, and your minister about your feelings regarding extraordinary life-sustaining medical measures. Perti-

ment to that, I'm happy to receive copies of your "Living Will" to keep on file here at the church.

Summer is coming and so let me up-date you on travel plans. Tim & I will be traveling to Germany at the end of this month into the beginning of June. We then plan to be in Michigan with Tim's parents for most of the month of July. So I'll be around most of May and most of June, and then on break until August. As always, I'll be available for pastoral emergencies.

One more thing, as a reminder: On Palm Sunday, when invited to speak about what you experienced as "the Holy," folks spoke about music, children, animals, relationships, church, family, and nature. So remember to make it a priority to experience the Holy through whatever feeds your soul.

With blessings,
Rev. Dave

**Our 99th
Annual Meeting
will be held on
May 15.
All are welcome!**

IN THE CHURCH

Annual Meeting

Please plan on attending the 99th Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 12:30 PM. Items that may be discussed include: the establishment of an endowment fund, possible Bylaw change, and revised/reestablished Articles of Incorporation. Some of these items require two-thirds of the qualified members to be present for a vote.

Please consider putting some "legs" on your commitment to the democratic process and participating in this important event.

Membership Sunday

Membership Sunday, the day we officially welcome new members into the congregation, is scheduled for Sunday, May 8. There will be a formal welcome during the Service for all individuals who have signed the membership book in the last six months. If you are considering joining the Church and would like to sign the membership book, please talk with one of Allegheny's officers: Jennifer Wood, Peter Adams, Linda Deafenbaugh, Jill Brethauer or someone from the Membership Committee.

continued

**“Virtual” volunteers
needed to help in
the Church office**

Annual Picnic

Mark your calendars for June 12, when we will have our Annual Picnic held in North Park following the Sunday Service. It is a potluck with lots of games and fun for all ages. Please join us.

Veatch Application Completed

This week, the Veatch Grant application was submitted on time. Many thanks to Jill Brethauer, Gregg Dietz, Nicki Perfetti, Kris Thomas, Donald Zeilman, Rev. Dave McFarland, Linda Deafenbaugh, Jeanne Zang, Mac McMahon, Richard Scott, Peter Adams, and everyone else who helped the harried typist.

Do Volunteers Telecommute, Too?

Who says the church is just a rusty relic of the 19th century! If you're steeped in the computer age and have some volunteer hours you can spend helping out the Allegheny church office, we sure could use some help with computer tasks.

Things like working on our word processing program and dealing with our e-mail account would help tremendously. Some of it could even be done “virtually” from home.

So if you have time to volunteer in the church office or telecommute, please contact Andy or Hazel at: AUUChurch@yahoo.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kim Winbush, RE Committee

RE Update

On Saturday, April 16, the RE Committee sponsored a table at the Gay and Lesbian Family Festival in the South Side. We made rainbow bracelets and key chains with the many children who came to our booth, the seven colors corresponding to the Seven Principles, and gave out literature about our Church. It was a festive way to let the community know that we are an open and diverse congregation. Thanks to the kids who helped with this project!

In May we will be finishing this year's Workshop Rotation Series with three weeks

about famous UU Christopher Reeves. The children will be learning about his life, along with exploring physical disabilities through art and drama projects.

On Saturday, June 4, the RE committee invites all the children from the RE program to our First Ever Sleepover, to be held in the basement of the church. There will be refreshments, games, projects, and fun! Contact Kris Thomas, Lynn Yocum, or Kim Winbush for more info.

COMMUNITY VIEW

Heartseed Yoga

A beginners' Hatha Yoga class meets in Founders Hall every Thursday night from 7 to 8:30 PM. Newcomers are always welcome.

Save The Date!

With summer not very far off, the North Side Common Ministries' *Shelter Walk* can kind of sneak up on you. So please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 19, from 1 to 4 PM in the West Commons across from church.

MUSIC NOTES

Kiki Barley, Music Director

Choir News

Thanks to everyone who came out to support the choir on April 16, when we participated in the Second Annual Pittsburgh Area Unitarian Universalist Choir Festival, held at First Unitarian Church.

Also, there will be no choir rehearsal on May 1, May 8, and May 29, since I'll be away seeing my daughters graduate and perform their degree recitals.

SUNDAYS IN MAY

MAY 1

Do the Right Thing: Or Else! Tony Norman
Tony, General Interest columnist for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, will be talking about how inaction is the ultimate betrayal of the democratic process.

MAY 8

Praise Goddess Rev. David McFarland
Feminine energy has always abounded in traditional metaphors for the church. On this Mother's Day, member Pat Snowden Dittig will be the worship associate as Rev. McFarland reflects on church as an expression of Goddess. The Membership Committee will also be helping us welcome new members into the Allegheny community, so please plan to be there for what promises to be a great church event!

MAY 15

Communion Service 10:00 AM Reader: Rev. David McFarland
To Be Announced Rachael Goss
For the details on Rachael's address this morning, please refer to the Allegheny Church website.

MAY 22

The Medicines Of The Heart Carlo Hawkwalker
Carlo, an incredible Native American, will speak from his spiritual and cultural perspective.

MAY 29

To Be Announced
For the details on this Service, please refer to the Allegheny Church website.

**Sunday Service
at Allegheny
Unitarian
Universalist
Church begins
at 11 o'clock.
All are welcome!**

SERVING THE CONGREGATION

Greeters

- May 1**
Martha and Walt Brethauer
- May 8**
Leo Nagorski and Jill Brethauer
- May 15**
Andy Schwarz and Barbara Barnes
- May 22**
Pat Snowden and Greg Balckmun
- May 29**
Anne Thompson and Peter Adams

Refreshments

- May 1**
Hazel Leroy and Jeanne Zang
- May 8**
Linda Lefever and Steve Wertheim
- May 15**
Pat Downey and Janice Anderson
- May 22**
Ed Kinney and Linda Deafenbaugh
- May 29**
Ann Sitrin and Betty Schwarz

May 2005

1 May Day Giant Eagle certificate sign-up RE's Cinco de Mayo District NA 1:30 pm	2 Board of Trustees 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	3 Program Committee 7:30 pm	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 Yom Hashoah	7
8 Mothers Day Finance 9:30 am G.E. cert. delivery	9 NA 7:00 pm	10	11	12 PIIN monthly meeting RE Committee 7:30 pm	13	14 Youth Group- sponsored Karaoke Night fund raiser
15 Choir 9:00 am Communion Service 10:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting 12:30 pm	16 NA 7:00 pm	17	18	19 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	20 Newsletter Deadline!!	21 Coffee House 7:30 pm
22 Choir 9:30 am RE End-of-Year Program Party Social Justice Comm. 12:30	23 NA 7:00 pm	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day NA 7:00 pm	31				

June 2005

			1	2 Mother Earth Day	3	4
5 Choir 9:30 am Giant Eagle certificate sign-up District NA 1:30 pm	6 Board of Trustees 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	7 Program Comm. 7:30 pm	8	9 PIIN monthly meeting RE Committee 7:30 pm	10	11
12 Annual Church Picnic G.E. cert. delivery	13 NA 7:00 pm	14 Flag Day	15	16 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	17 Newsletter Deadline!!	18 Pride Parade and Festival
19 Fathers Day Choir 9:00 am Communion Service 10:00 am	20 NA 7:00 pm	21 Summer begins	22	23	24	25
26 LGBTQ Pride Sunday Choir 9:30 am fUUd For Thought 12:30	27 NA 7:00 pm	28	29	30		

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Jill Brethauer, Treasurer

Many Things

In terms of pledges and offerings, this is a time of transition – as we scurry to complete our fiscal year 2005 pledge payments and to return our pledge forms for fiscal year 2006.

You are encouraged to finish making your FY2005 pledge payments on or before June 30. If you need to delay making your final FY2005 payment, just let Kathy Graham, Ed Kinley, or me know so that we can make sure it is properly credited against your pledge.

Want to pay off your FY2006 pledge now and avoid the hassles of writing checks in the coming year? You can do it! Just write “FY2006 pledge payment” in the memo section of your check. Unless otherwise noted in the memo section, all checks dated on or before June 30 will be counted as a FY2005 payment, while all checks dated July 1 or later will be counted in FY2006. Not sure where you stand on your pledge? Contact Ed Kinley or me.

During March, we had receipts from operations of about \$9,400 and expenses of about

\$11,700, for a deficit of about \$2,300. March receipts included an additional \$550 received for the *From the Heart* celebration and \$961 from the spaghetti dinner. Thanks to everyone who participated in these events. Year-to-date for nine months, our cumulative receipts from operations exceeded our cumulative expenses by about \$750.

As this update is being written, it is still too early to say how we’re doing for April. During six of the nine months year-to-date, we’ve experienced operating deficits. Having the worst of the heating bills behind us should help us to minimize our expenses in the last three months. And the prospect of receipts from the silent auction and of members and friends doing year-end “catch-up” on their pledge payments should help on the revenue side. Wouldn’t it be great if we could end the year without a deficit?

**Annual Canvass
brochures are out.
Help us meet
our goal!**

BOARD BUSINESS

Jennifer Russell, President

Recently Honored, More Work To Do

Fair Compensation... Annual Program Fund... Honor Society... What does this mean to you? For all of us, it should be a great source of pride.

At the Ohio-Meadville District Annual Meeting in April, our congregation was recognized for compensating our minister, music director and religious education director within UUA guidelines; we also give our fair share to the District for dues; and are members of the annual program fund honor society. There are larger, wealthier churches out there who have not yet claimed these honors – we should celebrate!

What better way to shout it out than through our annual canvass? By now, you have received your brochure in the mail. I encourage you to take some time to study where our

funding comes from and where it goes. It is an aggressive goal this year – we must have a 30% increase to break even. I believe that you, who are the heart and soul of this congregation, can help meet this goal. We’re all in this together, and are stewards of this community.

In other Board news, we have a group of people in place preparing for Reverend Dave’s installation in November. They are in the “information gathering” stage right now and it promises to be a wonderful weekend. Save the date: November 4–6, 2005.

We are also preparing for the Annual Congregational Meeting this month – looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Have a wonderful May!

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
Universalist Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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Allegheny Web Site

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WE ARE A SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE, ACTIVIST CONGREGATION