



Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church
1110 Resaca Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

1906-2006

WE ARE A SPIRITUALLY DIVERSE, ACTIVIST CONGREGATION

AlleghenyADVOCATE

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church's Monthly Newsletter

Bits & Pieces from Rev. Dave's Desk

Other than buying enough candy for Halloween (a.k.a., Feast of All *Saints'*) at the end of this month, preparing for the holidays at my house starts with preparing for the Feast of All *Souls*. That means getting out the photos of friends and family who have died, especially in the past year; gathering mementos of loved ones who have passed from this life, but not from my heart. I love All Souls. Honoring our Universalist heritage, many of our churches are named "Church of All Souls." It's a reminder that ultimately, we're all going to end up together, so we best get used to each other in *this* life. For those less sure of a life after this one, it's a reminder that we're all in this together *now*. Together even with those we don't want to be with. Whether it's that person who consistently drives me nuts; or the people who I think *are* nuts; or the political party on the other side of all my issues; they may just be the one last spark we all need to light the whole world.

As for other holidays: while the Feast of the Holy Consumption (a.k.a. Xmas) is safely at a distance, it's not too early to prepare for a simple, low-stress holiday. When I think of the Christmases I treasure most, they have nothing to do with "the stuff" I got. In fact, memories of "the stuff" are pretty sparse. The ones I cherish are when something special happened. Christmas Eve at Uncle Gary's bachelor pad. Putting the tree up with both Grandpas, and seeing the full-metal battle of tinsel-techniques. Singing carols together—corny as it was. Smelling cinnamon rolls one Christmas morning. Making

October 2006

**From Rev. Dave's
Desk
continued**

my first cookies with Mom. In short, they're about spending time with people I love. Check out *Unplug the Christmas Machine* for more on celebrating with comfort and joy.

And if holidays are near, then ballot day is nearer in this "even" year. And if ballot day is near, then the Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network's (PIIN) Public Action is nearer still. Keep the date, October 26th! More details will be available at the church as the date nears. But you can plan now to commit to being present and take the opportunity to invite spiritual companions for whom "values voting" includes values like ending wars of political expediency, care for the sick and impoverished and homeless, and work toward a life of dignity for *all* God's children. In other words, values like peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Blessings,

Reverend Dave

**Message from the
Board President**

Well, it's October and fall is upon us. This is probably my favorite time of the year; I enjoy the cooler weather, the crisp mornings, and all of the fall colors. I also enjoy seeing the return of all of our members and friends to church and the upsurge in church activities as the new church year gets into full swing.

Your Board of Trustees continues to move forward with its business also. The Budget Task Force has completed their work and their recommendations will be delivered to the Board at the October 2nd meeting. The task force looked at many things, and was able to make some recommendations to decrease our proposed deficit, but was unable to eliminate it. We are still facing a sizeable deficit in operations even with restrictions in spending and some projected increases in income.

One major recommendation that has come from the task force is that we spend less time on seeking cuts in spending and more time in reviewing our fundraising and pledge concepts. You may hear news in the near future of a new concept called stewardship which will be more comprehensive in scope than our old pledge/canvass system. The Board has been able to identify some individuals interested in pursuing this concept. If you are interested in any way in assisting please contact me or any Board member.

We have also completed new compensation packages for all three of our employees: David McFarland (Minister), Kris Thomas (Director of Religious Education) and Kiki Barley (Music Director). The Board is dedicated to keeping our employees within UUA designated fair compensation ranges and has done so. We also took in to consideration Kiki and Kris's years of service to our church community. Our employees have all been critical components of the growth and success of our congregation and we look forward to many more years of service from them.

Please remember the current 100 Bags food drive for the food pantry at North Side Common Ministries. This is a vital resource in our North Side community and is in need of our help. How appropriate that this drive occurs now, during the harvest time of the year. For more info see Gloria Skillings or Willie Dawson.

Our Racial Justice group is also exploring a relationship with Jefferson Recreation Center in the Central North Side. Ask Jay Poliziani or any member of the group about this proposed alliance. I am personally thrilled to see us making efforts to rebuild our connections here in our community.

May you all find time to get out and enjoy this glorious, bountiful and colorful time of the year!

Ed Kinley

**Message from the
Board President
continued**

**The Story of Rachel
Corrie: A Death in
Rafah**

What if someone wanted to destroy your friends' home? What if a military bulldozer was about to demolish their neighborhood? What if someone you loved was killed for standing in its path?

First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh presents a dramatic reading about the 2003 death of an American activist in Gaza.

"The Story of Rachel Corrie: A Death in Rafah" is taken from the writings of Rachel Corrie, her parents, Craig and Cindy Corrie, and other sources.

A moderated discussion will follow.

The presentation will take place on Friday, October 27, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, 605 Morewood Avenue, Shadyside.

Tickets cost \$10 for general admission, \$5 for students and seniors.

To order, call 412-621-8008, extension 314.

Proceeds will benefit the Committee for Justice in the Middle East at First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh.

Rev. David Herndon

**Racial Justice
News**

Exciting things are in the works!

The AUUC Racial Justice Ministry is back from a brief summer hiatus and we are getting started again in a big way! In the plans are a multi church vigil against gun violence, a partnership with the Jefferson recreation Center, A Black Heritage Celebration and another potluck supper. At this point all plans are tentative and exact details will be announced in church and via AUUC email.

Vigil against Gun Violence in our North Side neighborhood will occur on 2 November (All Souls Day) at 7pm.

Hopefully a large number of folks from several local churches will congregate at AUUC and from there visit the sites of fatal shootings in the neighborhood. We will lay wreathes, pray and sing.

Jefferson Recreation Center located close to the church has asked AUUC to help provide some ideas and energy to their project. This fall we plan to solicit AUUC members assistance in offering workshops (arts, crafts, sports etc.) and activities at the center. Start thinking now about what gifts you have and would like to share with the kids in the neighborhood.

Our first Black Heritage month celebration is in the works for this coming February. We are planning to sponsor a weekend long event celebrating the gifts and accomplishments of the Black community. At this point we are still in the planning stages and all ideas are welcome.

Bidwell Church has invited AUUC and New Hope Church to join them for a Potluck supper at their church on Nov 17th from 6-8pm. Mark your calendars now! Lets keep this connection with our neighboring churches growing!

Join us for our upcoming meetings - each from 6:30-8pm on the following dates :19 Oct, 20 Nov, 21 Dec. PEACE!

Jay Poliziani

**Racial Justice
News**
continued

UU-Palooza 2006

You are invited to a very special celebration! On Sunday 8 October 2006 the Pittsburgh area UU churches are hosting some dazzling festivities: the 40th anniversary of the East Suburban UU Church, the 25th anniversary of Rev. Renee Waun's ordination, the 100th anniversary of the Allegheny UU Church and the 10th anniversary of Rev. David McFarland's ordination. We hope you will attend as many of the events as you can, to make this day a very memorable one for all!

At **First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh**,
605 Morewood Avenue in Oakland.
(at corner of Ellsworth Avenue)

Featuring:



4:00-5:00pm Special Presentation by The Rev. Roy M. Oswald, 31 years Senior Consultant with the Alban Institute A topic from his upcoming book on polarity management: *"Polarities that Healthy Churches Must Manage!"*



5:00-5:20pm "Why Ordination?" - Reflections by The Rev. Joan Houk, Roman Catholic priest, ordained in Pittsburgh, July 31, 2006.

5:30-6:30pm Simple Supper - soup and bread-suggested donation \$5.



6:30-6:50pm "Unitarian Universalist Heritage in Pittsburgh" - Presentation by Kathy Parker, PhD based on historical research done for an upcoming book.

7:00-8:30pm UU Cluster Worship Service - with Pittsburgh Playback Theater, and Ordination Renewal Ritual for all clergy present.

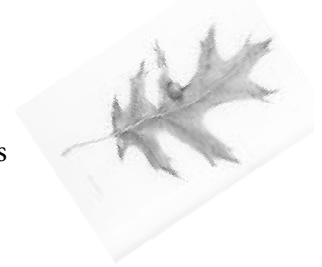
8:30-9:00pm Open Music Jam Session - Bring your drum, guitar, flute, folk instrument or clapping hands.

Please RSVP for the supper by Wednesday 4 October with <revmom@pitt.edu> or by phoning 412-731-2834.

Fall Fun Fest...mark your calendars!

Allegheny's annual Fall Fun Fest will again take place at the home of Jill Brethauer and Dave Samuel on **Saturday 14 October**. This is an outdoor, intergenerational cookout/bonfire that is known for good food and fun times. The event begins at 3 pm with pumpkin carving and face painting. Flyers with directions and details are available at church.

Fall Fun Fest



Several times throughout the year the Membership Committee sponsors a "What We Are About" session for newcomers to Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church. The next is scheduled for **Sunday 15 October** following the social hour at approximately 12:00 pm in the Emerson Room. This session will provide a brief history of Allegheny and information about becoming more involved in this congregation. Whether you have only visited once or twice or have been coming regularly for the last 6 months, please join us for this informative and enjoyable

What We're About

On Sunday 15 October, Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church will host a FREE showing of the movie on global warming, *An Inconvenient Truth*. This screening is made possible by a project of Interfaith Power and Light, to allow people of faith nationwide to see the film called "the most important film to be shown in America this year." The scheduled time is for 12:30 pm in Founders Hall. Contact Kathy Graham for more information.

An Inconvenient Truth



Unitarian House Work Day

Everyone is invited to a work day at Unitarian House on October 21. On that Saturday, between 9 am and 3 pm, we hope to do major clean up and clean out of the facility. Folks are encouraged to come for a few hours of work during the day. Please bring cleaning tools and supplies for yourself if cleaning is your effort of choice. Another significant task will be hauling out junk and trash. There will be some outside work as well. Bring your lunch if you're going to be there at mid-day, or join others in getting take-out. If there is enough interest, we would consider providing childcare in Founders Hall for part of the day.

Please sign up and indicate your probable hours, as well as the possible need for childcare. The list will be available in Founders Hall. Speak to Andy Schwarz or Donald Zeilman if you have questions or suggestions.

Remember, this is a great way to build community as well as help the Church.



The DownUnder Coffeehouse



Peter King Another local treasure, Peter has a unique style of blues and jazz that you won't forget. He will be featuring songs from his brand new CD, *On the Road to Ubatuba*. The DownUnder Coffeehouse is open once a month, September to May, in the basement of the Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church, 416 West North Ave, North Side.

Suggested donation is \$5.00. Call 412-322-4261 or see <www.alleghenyuu.org/downunder> for more details.

Peter King

There will be a Mozart Festival at First Unitarian Church on Sunday 5 November at 2:00 pm. There will be a concert in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth featuring a piano concerto performed by their music director, Bill Larsen, and the "Coronation" Mass, featuring the church choirs of First Unitarian and the North Hills church under the direction of Robert Page. Both will be accompanied by a festival orchestra. Tickets will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. It's a nice way to support local area Unitarian Universalist Churches!

Mozart Festival at First Unitarian Church



This year's used book sale was very successful, so we are again going to be able to order some hymnal supplements for the church (*Singing the Journey*). As announced during service some weeks back, you can help out by making a small donation to the hymnal fund. If interested, each \$16 will buy one additional *Singing the Journey*. Checks may be made out to Allegheny UU Church, but mark the note line with "hymnal."

In order to replace two missing pew hymnals, we will have to take \$60 out of our new-hymnal fund. Please, if you have hymnals number 4 or 28, return them so that we can use the money to purchase an additional four of the new hymnal supplements.

Hymnal Order



**Unitarian
Universalist
Service
Committee News**

UUSC has set its national advocacy priorities for the coming year. These are activities that UUSC is actively pursuing in Washington with the support and cooperation of the UUA Washington Office. The two issues at the top of the UUSC Agenda are:

1. Save Darfur

At the end of September, the African Union force will leave Darfur and the situation could get much worse very quickly. A U.N. protection force is supposed to be on the ground as of October 1. But confrontation is brewing as the Sudanese government says it will not accept any outside force and will fight against it. There is urgent need for us all to do something soon.

At the National Save Darfur Rally in New York City in September, UUSC staff joined with thousands of other activists gathered to demand that our government to do something about the situation in Darfur. The day started with UUs gathered for the "Rally Before the Rally" hosted by UUSC at All Souls. Speakers included Rosemarie Feigl, a Holocaust survivor assisted during World War II by UUSC founders Martha and Waitstill Sharp. UUSC is committed to involving UUs and other UUSC members and supporters in the fight to end genocide in Darfur.

What you can do:

- Participate in Justice Sunday 2007, which will focus on ending the genocide in Darfur. The suggested date for Justice Sunday is March 25, 2007. Visit www.uusc.org/justicesunday for more information.
- Visit www.darfurscores.org to find out whether your members of Congress have taken every possible step to end genocide in Sudan, and let them know if they've measured up or if they received a failing grade.

- Visit www.uusc.org/info/emailbulletin.html to sign up for UUSC's Save Darfur e-mail list. Receive regular updates on the crisis and what you can do to help bring peace and justice to Darfur.
- Learn more about the crisis in Darfur. Visit www.uusc.org/darfur.

2. Wage Justice: Work for a Living Wage!

This fall, UUSC will launch a Living Wage Initiative to make a difference to working families across the United States. In a time of unprecedented affluence, millions of U.S. workers are struggling in the grip of poverty not seen since the Great depression. As energy prices soar along with family debt, millions of hard-working families are forced to choose between basic needs like food and medical care, shelter and clothing. Full-time workers working minimum wage jobs still fall below the poverty line, while millions of other U.S. workers are watching their benefits and pensions shrink or disappear.

UUSC will provide free living wage tools to participating congregations, and help them connect with other UU activists and congregations working on strategic local and statewide living wage campaigns and more. We will soon send invitations to participate to all members of the Volunteer Network which will include information and response options. You will receive an invitation to join UUSC's initiative. "Wage Justice. Work for a living wage." The postcard will offer opportunities to connect with UUSC for information, materials and connections with Wage Justice initiatives. We hope many people will respond by checking out the Wage Justice page on UUSC Web site. People may also return a pre-paid postcard or call UUSC.

For more information, please contact Jackie Ladd at jladd@uusc.org or Johanna Chao Rittenburg at jcrittenburg@uusc.org.

**Unitarian
Universalist
Service
Committee News**
continued

**Unitarian
Universalist
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continued

More UUSC Activities:

1. Guest at Your Table 2006-2007

On 19 November 2006, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, celebrate Guest at Your Table along with hundreds of UU communities nationwide. Learn about human rights in the United States and around the world, while celebrating the interconnectedness of all life, through this special thirty-plus year UU tradition. To learn more, please visit www.uusc.org/guest.

I will have the Guest at Your Table materials for distribution on November 19th. Please participate - last year AUUC participation passed the 25% level which qualifies the Congregation for special recognition by UUSC. This year... the needs are greater and the challenge to participate and contribute all the more pressing.

2. Statewide Advocacy

In the past couple of years UUA and UUSC have come to recognize the need for effective advocacy on a broad range of UU social justice issues keyed to making an impact at the State Capitals. State Advocacy Networks are in formation or operation now in 15 states with resource, staffing, and grant funding through UUSC. You have already read in the Advocate about the efforts in formation for UU PA Legislative Advocacy Network, for which I am the co-Coordinator for Western PA. Watch this space for more information as Network development proceeds as to how we can coordinate all our activist communities around the state into a loud, effective, and distinctive UU voice in Harrisburg.

3. UUSC Membership

Many AUUC members have been UUSC Members in the past. Most of us let our memberships lapse. Please remember that UUSC is a worldwide advocacy voice for us and rejoin.

4. UUSC holiday cards

New holiday cards for 2006 will be available later this fall. Once available, you'll be able to view the cards at www.uusc.org/holidaycards. UUSC holiday cards are sold on consignment. Proceeds help UUSC advance justice and work for basic human rights in the name of UU principles.

Your UUSC Local Representative,

Barry Tepperman

The Fabulous Forty Anniversary party for East Suburban Unitarian Universalist Church is happening on 2 December 2006 at the church and Sunday 3 December at morning service. Kick off for the fall celebration began in Sunday services in September with a history, "This I Believe" statements and an opportunity to hear first church impressions in chronological order in an activity called a History-gram. Throughout the year, congregational members and friends are invited to share their belief statements during Sunday services.

During the month of November there will be a display of pictures and memorabilia from the life of the church on display in the sanctuary. Members and friends will be collecting their favorites. We have on our wish list the production of a commemorative DVD including historical documents, stories and song.

There are also plans for ESUUC to choose a symbol to be mounted outside the church with some funds that were provided by the Ohio-Meadville Chalice Lighters. We look forward to the exciting task of choosing what it will be. Watch our website at www.esuuc.org for updates. You're invited!

**Unitarian
Universalist
Service
Committee News**
continued

**East Suburban
Unitarian
Universalist Church
Celebrates its 40th
Anniversary**

AUUC November Events

Week of November 5th:

Sunday

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
 - **Speaker:** TBA
 - **Greeters:** TBA
 - **Refreshments:** TBA
- Pick up Giant Eagle certificates

Monday

- 7:30 - 9:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday – Election Day

- 12:00 pm Oakland Lunch Bunch

Thursday

- 7:00 pm PIIN Board Meeting - Bidwell Presbyterian
- 7:30 PM RE Committee Meeting in the U House
- 8:00 PM Tai Chi Class

Week of October 1st:

Sunday

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
 - **Speaker:** Rev. David McFarland

Who's the scapegoat this year?

Following on the previous Sunday's Yom Kippur service, Rev. Dave will explore the practice of scape-goating and its implications for individual and community spiritual life.

- **Greeters:** Pete McQuillin & Jill Wiggins
- **Refreshments:** Betty Schwarz & Kathy Kozachenko

Monday

- 7:30 - 9:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday

- 12:00 pm Oakland Lunch Bunch

Wednesday

- 7:00 pm AUUC Core Team Meeting - Founders Hall

Thursday

- 8:00 pm Tai Chi Class

Week of October 8th:

Sunday

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
 - **Speaker:** Rev. David McFarland

Will Work for Peace

“Pray for peace, Work for peace.” These were Rev. Dave’s words that hung on a banner across our church building last year. What does it mean to “work for peace”? Who does the work? How much does it pay? Where do we sign up? These and other ponderables will be the subject of Rev. Dave’s Sunday reflection.

AUUC October Events



Note: In order to provide a more stable and reliable schedule, the Advocate prints six weeks of upcoming events.



AUUC October Events

Week of October 8th: continued

- Greeters: TBA
- Refreshments: Lynn Glorieux & Nicki Perfetti
- Pick up Giant Eagle certificates
- 4:00 pm UU-Palooza - First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh

Thursday

- 7:00 pm PIIN Board Meeting - Bidwell Presbyterian
- 7:30 pm RE Committee Meeting in the U House
- 8:00 pm Tai Chi Class

Saturday

- 3:00 pm Fall Fun Fest! (*No rain date*)

Week of October 15th:

Sunday

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 9:30 am Communion Service
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
- **Speaker:** TBA
- **Greeters:** TBA
- **Refreshments:** TBA
- 12:00 pm *What We Are About* - Emerson Room
- 12:30 pm "*An Inconvenient Truth*" film showing in Founders Hall

Thursday

- 8:00 pm Tai Chi Class
- 9:00 pm Shelter Meal

Friday

Newsletter Deadline

Saturday

- 9:00 am - 3:00pm U-House Work Day
- 7:30 pm DownUnder Coffeehouse presents:
Peter King

Week of October 22th

Sunday

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
- **Speaker:** AUUC Core Team
Interfaith Work as a Spiritual Path
- **Greeters:** TBA
- **Refreshments:** Ellen Kerr & Michelle Quinlan

Monday

- 7:30 pm Program Committee Meeting

Thursday

- 8:00 pm Tai Chi Class

Friday

- 7:30 pm "The Story of Rachel Corrie: A Death in Rafah" at First Unitarian Church, Shadyside

Week of October 29th:

Sunday - *Daylight Saving Time Ends!*

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 10:30 am Sunday Service
- **Speaker:** TBA
- **Greeters:** *This could be you! See Andrew Schwarz or Chris Stygar to volunteer.*
- **Refreshments:** *This could be you! See Ellen Kerr or Pat Downey to volunteer.*

Wednesday

- 7:00 pm AUUC Core Team Meeting - Founders Hall

Thursday

- 8:00 pm Tai Chi Class

AUUC October Events



Interfaith Calendar



October 2006

- 1 • Navaratri ends** - Hindu
- 2 • Dasera** - Hindu
 - YOM KIPPUR* - Jewish
- 4 • St Francis Day - Catholic Christian
 - Blessing of the Animals - Christian
- 6 • St. Thomas Day - Orthodox Christian
- 7-13 • Sukkot* - Jewish
- 14 • Shemini Atzeret* - Jewish
- 15 • Simchat Torah* - Jewish
- 18 • St. Luke, Apostle & Evangelist - Christian
 - Confucius' Birthday** - Confucian
- 20 • Birth of the B'ab* - Baha'i
 - Laylat el qadr* - Islam
 - Jummatul Wida* - Islam
 - Installation of Scriptures - Guru Granth - Sikh
- 21 • DIWALI (DEEPAVALI)** - Hindu, Sikh, Jain
- 24 • EID AL FITR*/** - Islam
- 28 • Milvian Bridge Day - Christian
- 31 • All Hallows Eve - Christian
 - Reformation Day - Protestant Christian
 - Samhain* - Wicca/Neo Pagan no. hemisphere
 - Beltane* - Wicca/Neo Pagan so. hemisphere
 - Deep Diwali - Jain

**Holy days usually begin at sundown the day before this date.*

** *Regional customs or moon sightings may cause a variation of this date.*

CAPITALIZED bold titles are primary holy days of a tradition.

www.interfaithcalendar.org

Minister

Rev. David McFarland

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Director of Religious Education

Kris Thomas

Director of Music

Kiki Barley

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Social Justice

Jay Poliziani

Welcoming Congregation

Marie Engberg

Allegheny UU Web Site

www.alleghenyuu.org

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AUUC Contacts