

SUMMER 2004

Allegheny ADVOCATE

monthly newsletter of allegheny unitarian universalist church

JULY 4

The Quintessential Revolution

Lawrence Wray

Lawrence will reflect upon, and respond to, recent events in Iraq.

JULY 11

Cry The Beloved Country

Rev. David Johnson

David will reflect upon the shadow side of this beloved land.

JULY 18

West Meets East

Pat Snowden Dittig

Pat will lead a meditation based on concepts of Chinese medical *Qigong*.

JULY 25

Searching For Higher Consciousness On Bourbon Street

Tom Roberts

Tom shares stories of discovering Sufism through the mysticism of sound & music in New Orleans.

AUGUST 1

Meeting Of Minds

Brian Weller

An interview of three historical figures that is both entertaining and thought provoking.

AUGUST 8

Meditation on Peace

Donald Zeilman

Our annual meditation Service in observance of Hiroshima Day – outside, weather permitting.

AUGUST 15

Do We Have A Prayer?

Leo Nagorski

Leo will examine the concept of prayer, and why UUs are uncomfortable with it.

AUGUST 22

A Press Conference With God

Jeff Huchinson

Jeff calls this Service “a bit of theological theater,” as he portrays God’s press secretary.

AUGUST 29

Blessing Of The Animals

Jane Dirks, CLL

Bring your pet to our annual appreciation & blessing Service in the Commons across from church.

Sunday Services
at Allegheny
Unitarian
Universalist
Church begin
at 10 o'clock during
the summer.
All are welcome!

BOARD BUSINESS

Jennifer Wood, President

President's Thoughts

Several years ago, when I was living in Norfolk, Virginia, I had one of those random, flying thoughts through my head: Someday, I will be a leader in a church. To this day, I'm not certain where the thought came from, but I have held it in my heart since. As life has taken me to Pittsburgh, and I have found this wonderful little church on the North Side, I couldn't think of a better place for this thought to manifest. I hope that I can return to Allegheny even a small part of what it has given me as we head into a new year. To simply tell you what this church has meant to me for the last two years would never be enough, so I will do my very best to show you. I am terrified, honored and thrilled to accept this post, and am so excited about what is to come this fall with our new minister, David McFarland, our hard-working and dedicated Board, and the congregation

that continues to grow both in numbers and among ourselves.

We have proven in the last year that Allegheny is resilient. Adaptable. Important for and to the community. How sad I was when Art and Melanie decided to leave! But I was never fearful – our spirit is indomitable, and I feel that everyone made a difference in the transition. I have said to my family and friends that I joined Allegheny because of Art; I stay because of the community. As we again anticipate change, we face it with more wisdom, strength and love. Together with the congregation, the Board and my partner, Vice President Peter Adams, we once more open our arms to change, to continue and expand our work for social justice and to invite one and all to sit at our own welcome table.

We have proven in the last year that Allegheny is resilient.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Jill Brethauer, Treasurer

End Of The Year

During May, our expenditures were approximately \$2,700 more than our receipts. Thus, for the first 11 months of fiscal year 2004 (through May 31), the church had a cumulative operating deficit of approximately \$7,500. Thanks to all who have "caught up" on and/or completed your pledge payments for FY2004, year-to-date offerings were very close to budget.

Expenditures during May included payment for a wireless microphone and other improvements to the sound system in the sanctuary, including the elimination of radio noise. These improvements were possible because of your contributions to the special collection taken during the *From the Heart* celebration for Walter and Martha Brethauer in February. The benefits of these improve-

ments were particularly apparent during the candidating week Sunday services, and during our recent congregational meetings.

Fiscal year 2005 will begin on July 1. Please remember to adjust your pledge payments in keeping with your pledge for the new year. Several members and friends have inquired about having their pledge payments automatically deducted from their bank account or charged to their credit card. After investigating, the Finance Committee has concluded that the set-up fees and monthly charges to accomplish this are too hefty and cannot be justified, given our relatively small size and the amounts involved. The Finance Committee will continue to investigate other possibilities.

IN THE CHURCH

Thank You!

Rev. Dave Lutz and Susan Nelson want to extend a big Thank You to the congregation for the cards and going-away presents that they received at the Annual Picnic.

Dave's time at Allegheny this year was a rich and rewarding experience for us. We hope that he and Susan will visit us often.

Directory Changes?

Over the summer the Membership Committee will be revising the *Directory*. If you have changes in your information, please let Ann Sitrin or Lynn Glorieux know. If you don't have a copy of the 2003-2004 *Directory*, some are still available at the church.

Updates

Seeking Fellow Driver

Member, Bev Darwin is seeking a driving companion(s) for separate trips to New York City and Baltimore. Bev will provide the car and is willing to do up to 50 percent of the driving (Bev has been accident-free for 43 years). Each trip will be for 3 to 5 days, but the companion(s) is responsible for their own accommodations in each city. If you are interested, please telephone Bev at 412/521-6667.

Annual Used Book Sale

Over the summer we will be collecting books for our annual used book sale that will be held during the Mexican War Streets Society's house tour. The event will be Sunday, 12 September – which is also Ingathering Sunday.

We welcome all varieties of books except textbooks, books that are badly damaged, or paperbacks without covers.

Book donations may be left at Unitarian House. If you have a question, or would like to arrange a time to drop them off, please see Donald Zeilman.

PROGRAM & MUSIC NOTES

Needed: Questions For God

On August 22, Jeff Hutchins, a UU speaker from the UU Church of the North Hills, will present *A Press Conference With God*, which he calls a "bit of theological theater." Jeff will portray God's press secretary, come to answer your questions for God.

What would you ask God if you had the chance? Your questions may be serious, silly or anything in between – all ages can participate. Jeff will pick about a dozen questions that he will "submit to God" before the Service.

Please write down your question or questions and send them to Jeff by mail (1171 Windmill Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237) or e-mail (nomadjeff@aol.com). Try to keep each question to less than 25 words.

Choir Rehearsal

There will be a rehearsal for current and prospective choir members on Wednesday, August 31 at 7:00 pm. We will be considering pieces for the upcoming year, and practicing something for our Ingathering Service on 12 September. If you are thinking of joining the choir, please come along!

Remember Your Water!

At our Ingathering Service on 12 September, we will be participating in our annual ritual of the gathering of waters. Everyone is encouraged to bring some water from their travels, or water that represents some particular aspect of their summer. We will pour the waters into a common bowl during Service.

Remember your
summer water
for the Ingathering
Service on
12 September

MILESTONES

Farewell, Jesse

Rev. Jesse Cavileer, our Minister Emeritus, died unexpectedly of natural causes on June 4, leaving the congregation, friends and Church neighbors with a deep sense of loss.

Jesse served the congregation for nineteen years from the mid-sixties until the mid-eighties. He was named minister emeritus in 1995. He continued to be an active member of the congregation right up until his death.

During his life, Jesse was an activist, a scholar, a laborer, an athlete, a spiritual leader and an inspiration to the countless lives he touched.

He will be sorely missed not only by the members of this Church, but by the numerous area UU churches he served following his retirement.

We will celebrate his life at a Memorial Service on July 10, 7:00 pm at the church. Rev. David Johnson, a long-time colleague, will officiate. A reception will follow in Founders Hall. Please join with us as we honor and remember Jesse.

To share a memory of Jesse, visit the guest-book at www.allegHENYUU.org.

We will celebrate Jesse's life at a Memorial Service on July 10, 7:00 PM at the church.

WELCOMING CONGREGATION

Jaime McLeod, Task Force Chair

Beginnings

The Welcoming Congregation Task Force officially met for the first time on June 26. The meeting was mainly informational as all members of the group became acquainted with the requirements of the process.

In the coming months, Task Force members will be conducting surveys and speaking individually to members in order to gain a greater sense of the Church's needs and perceptions in the area of GLBT concerns.

Toward the end of fostering greater awareness and discussion about GLBT issues, the Task Force will sponsor a series of five workshops, to be spaced approximately one per month, throughout the coming year. The workshops will use curriculum outlined in the UUA's *Welcoming Congregation Handbook*, though the exact topics chosen will depend on the interests of church members, as determined by the congregational survey. Anyone wishing to lead a workshop should contact Jaime McLeod.

The Welcoming Congregation Task Force hopes these activities will serve to strengthen the Church's already strong commitment to this area of social justice work. Anyone with ideas, questions or concerns about the

Welcoming Congregation process is urged to speak with a Task Force member in the coming weeks.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Soup Night Benefits Food Bank

Our North Side neighbor, *Ugly Duckling Gourmet Edibles* at 946 Western Avenue hosts a family-oriented "Soup Night" on the first Thursday of every month, from 5:30-7:30 pm. Half of the proceeds of this monthly event benefit the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank. Five different soups are available at \$1/bowl, and you are invited to bring your own bowl.

Along with a variety of great soups, there are kids' activities. Ugly Duckling's telephone number for further details is 412/231-2500.

Support Our Neighbors

Two North Avenue neighbors from Manchester have opened a yarn shop on Babcock Blvd. called *Dyed in the Wool*. Knitters, weavers and other yard aficionados can reach the shop at 412/364-0310.

July 2004

				1	2	3
4 Independence Day Giant Eagle certificate sign-up District NA 1:30 pm	5 Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	6	7	8 PIIN Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm Wesley Center AME Zion	9	10
11 G.E. cert. delivery OMD Summer Institute begins Finance 9:00 am	12 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	13	14 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	15 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	16	17
18	19 NA 7:00 pm	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 NA 7:00 pm	27	28	29	30	31

August 2004

1 Giant Eagle certificate sign-up District NA 1:30 pm	2 Board of Trustees 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm	3	4	5	6 Hiroshima Day	7
8 G.E. cert. delivery	9 Program Comm. 7:30 pm NA 7:00 pm	10	11 RE Comm. 7:30 pm	12 PIIN Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm Wesley Center AME Zion	13	14
15	16 NA 7:00 pm	17	18	19 Shelter Meal 9:00 pm	20 Newsletter Deadline!!	21
22	23 NA 7:00 pm	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 NA 7:00 pm	31 Choir Practice 7:00 pm				

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

© 2004
Allegheny Unitarian
Universalist Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Minister (Sept. 1)

Rev. David McFarland

Board of Trustees

Jennifer Wood, President

Director of Religious Education

Kris Thomas

Director of Music

Kiki Barley

Caring

Nikki Perfetti

Finance

Bob Follette

Fund Raising Task Force

Linda Deafenbaugh

House

Donald Zeilman

Membership

Ann Sitrin

Program

Jeanne Zang

Religious Education

Kim Winbush

Social Justice

John Meikle

Welcoming Congregation

Jaime McLeod

Allegheny Web Site

www.alleghenyuu.org



Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church
1110 Resaca Place
Pittsburgh PA 15212