



What*s Happening

MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH

September 2010

OFFERING OUTREACH

Judy Wilson, Chair

Offering Outreach is our name for our practice of donating one half of each Sunday's offering to an outside non-profit organization whose work is consistent with our core values. During the past year this program has supported eleven different organizations, both local and international, with contributions totaling more than \$25,000.

These organizations were selected by a small group of members of our church working with our senior minister. Some of the organizations, such as the Interfaith Hospitality Network, were chosen because of our church's prior or ongoing involvement with them. Others, such as the Main Line Youth Alliance and the Green Belt Movement, were suggested by members of the church. All of the organizations are registered non-profit organizations and were investigated to ensure that they are good stewards of the money contributed to them.

This year we will continue to examine and select organizations which support human rights in the broadest sense, including ones which help those affected by poverty, those whose rights and freedoms are being denied, and those who would prefer to live in a healthy and nonviolent environment. We now have an official policy for the selection of recipients of our *Offering Outreach* along with a form which any member of the church can fill out in order to nominate an organization to be a recipient of this program. Both the policy and the form can be found on our Web site at www.mluc.org.

We look forward to hearing about organizations that inspire you!

PARADISE OF TREASURES! ENTERTAINMENT AND FUN FOR ALL! MLUC'S ANNUAL AUCTION IS COMING! NOVEMBER 6!

It's a Pirates' Paradise of Treasures! Entertainment and fun for all! MLUC's Annual Auction: November 6! Mark your calendars and save the date! Auctioneers Ron and Joanne Rose will join us again for a treasure-and-fun-filled evening as together we raise funds for MLUC's many worthwhile initiatives. Here's how you can be a part of our auction's success:

Volunteer: Like to pitch in and help? We need many people to assist with pre-planning, phone calls, advertising, and specific tasks on the night of the event. Inside sources confirm there is no committee more fun than the auction committee! Please contact Joyce Alexander.

Donate: What service or precious item can you offer? Vacation homes are always popular ... might you have one to share? How about preparing a gourmet meal for a group? Can your business donate a service or gift certificate? Do you have a special talent to offer? Begin thinking now about that perfect contribution! Please contact Laura House-Kelly (laura@mluc.org).

Attend: This is the most fun of all! Plan a night out and attend the auction on **Saturday, November 6**. Share food, beverages, and fellowship, check out the silent auction treasures in "Pirates' Cove," and bid on exciting items and services, from vacation homes to gourmet dinners.

Ahoy maties! Come join the fun! Look forward to seeing you there!

WHO WE ARE

Main Line Unitarian Church is a diverse and caring religious community engaged in a liberating ministry of spiritual growth, human compassion, and universal justice.

At our church we:
embrace all people, regardless of age, race, ability, politics, financial situation, or sexual orientation; encourage and nurture every individual in his or her own search for meaning in life; and commit to serve local and world communities in promoting peace, social justice, and responsible stewardship of the earth.



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RUMINATIONS



Rev. Dr. Justin Osterman
Senior Minister

It was nice to be in church last Sunday, after being out of town for two consecutive weekends. I enjoyed experiencing the worship service as part of the congregation, rather than as the leader, as it reminded me that long before I entered seminary, I was an active churchgoer.

I've been thinking a lot about why people come to church, especially as first time visitors. You've got to be seriously searching for something to enter an unknown congregation full of strangers for the very first time. I believe that attending church has more to do with what an individual needs and longs for than anything else. Congregations can make themselves more visible to the public and attractive to visitors, but we can only attract people who are already seeking something.

I asked our church staff why they thought people come to church and their replies included "learning to be our best selves, experiencing God, moral grounding for our children, social connection, learning about other faiths, quiet reflection" and "to center ourselves." I think that these are all fine reasons to be part of a religious community, and they may be the very reasons you attend MLUC. At its best, a vital community of faith offers all these things and more.

I'm looking forward to the new church year at MLUC because I believe that ours is just such a vital community. We're moving in exciting new directions with our social justice work and our programs for adult faith development among other things.

It will be great to be all together again on Sunday, September 12. Be sure to come yourself, and bring a friend; we may be just what they were looking for.

Yours in faith,
Rev. Justin Osterman

CRAIG'S COLUMN



Rev. Craig C. Roshaven
Associate Minister

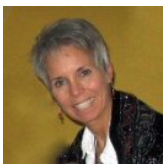
In 1993, the United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalist Association began to work together on a comprehensive lifespan sexuality education curriculum. This curriculum, which is called Our Whole Lives (OWL), was launched in 1999. More than 1500 teachers have been trained, and two-thirds of Unitarian Universalist congregations are using the middle school program today. OWL takes a progressive approach to sexuality education, recognizing the importance of sexual health for people of all ages and developmental stages (our whole lives). In addition to the 8th grade program, there are five other modules: K-1, 4th-6th, 10th-12th, Young Adult, and Adult. MLUC offers OWL to the 1st, 5th, and 8th graders every year.

I am certified to teach the 8th grade and the Adult program. I have taught the year long 8th grade program several times. Sandra Greenfield, our interim Director of Religious Education, is certified to teach the primary and secondary elementary modules. In addition, Sandra is a doctoral student at Widener University in Human Sexuality Education and has led workshops and classes for adults for the past twelve years in a variety of settings. It's unusual to have two religious professionals with this amount of experience in sexuality education. Accordingly, we thought that while we are here we should offer the Adult version of OWL. The class will be held on seven Friday evenings at 7:30 this fall beginning on Friday, October 1.

Though sexuality education is certainly important for our children and youth, it is perhaps even more important for adults. Sexuality is mostly expressed in adulthood. In addition, adulthood is often accompanied by long-term relationships, breakups, parenthood, illness, and the challenge of living a balanced and healthy life in the face of all the obligations adults often take on.

Yours in a shared faith,
Rev. Craig Roshaven

REFLECTIONS FROM "DR. DRE"



Sandra Greenfield
Interim Director of Religious Education

What would it feel like to arrive on Sunday knowing exactly what was happening for your children and youth, where to take them, or where to find them at the end of the morning? How would your children feel about coming to church if they knew exactly what to expect?

I reflected on much of the past year and one notable experience was the challenge many parents (and sometimes teachers) had entering the building. There was confusion – is it an all church service today? Are the children starting in the McGinness Room for worship? Do I take my child directly to class? Is YUUM meeting today? Is the 8th grade OWL class on a field trip?

As the Church School Committee and Youth Adult Committee reflected on this observation during their retreat in June, they committed themselves to providing more and better support to parents and teachers. But I wondered about the support already being provided. So I checked into the weekly RE News statistics. Each week there were 234 emails sent carrying RE details. At its peak in September, 47% of recipients opened this email. This figure gradually decreased over the church year to 30%.

Is it time to stop sending RE News and find an alternative to communication? Or is it time to completely change the RE News format? What works best? This observation is important as MLUC launches into a new Web site design. I ask you to think about whether accessing the Web site at your convenience would be more helpful in keeping informed and connected.

In faith,
Sandra Greenfield

SUNDAY SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 5: "MARY OLIVER, MYSTICISM, AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM"

Last summer service at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Elizabeth Ellis

Music: Laurie Rogers, piano

Mary Oliver is one of those poets who, with a sudden word or phrase, can suddenly transport the reader to another, deeper place. Like some of our Unitarian Universalist foreparents, she is a true transcendentalist and mystic. Mysticism is an experience of Mystery, of knowing beyond knowing. There are many, many forms of mysticism. How does it fit into Unitarian Universalist experience – and what about Mary Oliver?

SEPTEMBER 12: "WHY AM I HERE?"

Rev. Dr. Justin Osterman

Music: Vincent Craig, piano and organ

This morning we will officially launch our new church year with intergenerational services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., during which we will celebrate through word and song our community and shared faith.

SEPTEMBER 19: "TWICE BURDENED"

Rev. Dr. Justin Osterman

Music: MLUC Choir

One of the most difficult requests another person can make of us is, "Please forgive me." Sometimes we can oblige with ease, while at other times forgiveness seems beyond our ability.

SEPTEMBER 26: "THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE AGAINST RESENTMENT"

Rev. Craig C. Roshaven

Music: Maureen Osborne and Topper Roth, guitar and vocals

Practicing the Spiritual Discipline Against Resentment is how I guard against the spiritual scourge of bitterness and resentment.

PATHWAY OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Faith in Action – Instructive Self-Development

301 Adult OWL

Rev. Craig Roshaven and Sandra Greenfield.

Seven Friday sessions at 7:30: 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 11/5, 11/12, and 11/19.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Doug Wendell

It is with deep sadness that we share with you news of Doug Wendell's death on Sunday, July 18, at age 88. In addition to being a fine man and much beloved by his family and friends, Doug was a founding member of our congregation and a pillar of MLUC for more than 50 years. We will miss him terribly. A memorial service will take place on Saturday, October 2, at 2:00 p.m. at MLUC.

Kathryn (Kay) Wilbur

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of MLUC member Kathryn (Kay) Wilbur on Wednesday, August 4, at age 101. A memorial service is being planned for Saturday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m.

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x12; justin@mluc.org

Rev. Craig C. Roshaven

Associate Minister
x13; craig@mluc.org

Sandra Greenfield

Interim Director of Religious Education
x11; sandra@mluc.org
(Tuesday–Friday, and Sunday)

Dr. Vincent Craig

Music Director
x22; vincent@mluc.org
(Thursday, Friday, and Sunday)

Arley Styer

Youth Program Director
x23; arley@mluc.org
(Thursday and Sunday)

Laura House-Kelly

Membership Coordinator
x26; laura@mluc.org
(Friday and Sunday)

David Arnold

Director of Administration
x15; david@mluc.org
(Monday–Friday)

Jan Cauffman

Parish Nurse
x16; jan@mluc.org
(Tuesday and Thursday)

Kiran Qureshi

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(Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

Doreen Jackson

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Carol Beaton

Accountant
x17; carol@mluc.org
(Tuesday)

Alonzo Hughes

Facilities Coordinator
x20; alonzo@mluc.org
(Sunday–Thursday)

Henry Long

Facilities Associate
x20

Will Quay

Assistant Custodian
(Saturday–Tuesday)

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SERVICE COMMITTEE**
Priscilla Osgood, Liaison



UUSC JustJourney to Uganda

JustJourney to Uganda, Witness to a Return Home: A Trip to Uganda, November 4-16 will include visiting the cities of Kampala, Gulu, Pader, Kabarega National Park, and Masaka where we will be meeting with leaders within the communities, visiting internally displaced people, resettled villages in northern Uganda, and important cultural sites to experience Uganda's wildlife diversity at Murchison Falls in Kabarega National Park.

There is also an optional excursion to Kidepo Valley National Park, November 16-19. This will be a great opportunity to see UUSC's eye-to-eye partnership model at work. **The application deadline for this trip is October 15 (September 1 for early registration discount).** Attendance is limited. Find more information on the UUSC Web site:
<http://www.uusc.org/justjourneys/uganda>

IMPORTANT RE DATES

September 5 – Last Summer RE
September 12 – All Church Homecoming Service
Sundae Sunday Courtesy of Church School
Committee (see p.7)
Parent/Youth Night 7th-12 grades
RE Registration DEADLINE
September 19 – 8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation
Workshop Rotation Begins 1st – 6th graders
September 24-26 – Youth Retreat/Camp Dark Waters
October 3 – 8th Grade OWL begins

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dave VanOcker, President **Diane Kyker, Vice President**

Staying in touch these days has gotten so much easier, and yet so much harder as well! Email, text messaging, social networks, Skype, Twitter, blogs. Hand-held devices with amazing download speeds providing instant access to your news and mine. Gotta love it! Personally, I spend a fair amount of time just trying to stay abreast of these changes in communication means. And I consider myself lucky to be only a little bit behind – 20ish daughters and an IT department at work sure help.

But what happens when your organization has members spanning 3-4 generations, with a wide range of attitudes and acceptance of such changes, and financial and technical ability to support them? Are you reading this message on your computer, or did you receive it in print? When were you last on the MLUC Web site? If you miss a Sunday service, do you catch up online at a later date? How do we communicate effectively to let you know what's happening, and listen to what's going on with you? It's a real challenge to stay connected, but essential if we're to truly feel a part of this vital faith community.

One of our goals for the coming year is to improve communications within and without MLUC. The strategic use of technology will be an important part of that effort, but certainly not the only vehicle for connecting the Board and the Congregation. We're committed to keeping members informed and to hearing your feedback. Please let us know the best ways to do that.

On the NEWS front, JB Hillman and Pam Kosty have been appointed to fill vacancies and round out our nine-member Board along with recently elected trustees Nuala Carpenter and Rob Williams. Please join us in welcoming them to your leadership team!

And stay in touch!

NEWS FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Music Director's Wish List for 2010-11. We need more people for all of our choirs:

Adult Choir — 3 additional sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses, for a total of 12, to attend a weekly evening rehearsal and sing at the Sunday morning worship service approximately twice a month.

Men's Choir — at least 6 new voices needed. Men all ages are welcome, as well as all youth with changed voices. This ensemble sings at the worship service approximately 3 times a year, usually with 4 rehearsals in a 2 week span for each service.

Intergenerational Choir — 10 new voices needed. This ensemble rehearses on Sunday mornings between services, and sings at intergenerational services. All ages, all voice types. Bring your children and sing as a family!

Children's Choir — 10 children needed. The children's choir had very low participation last year. Shouldn't we be giving our children the opportunity to be a part of the church's Sunday morning music program?

Betsy's Bells — 6 ringers needed. Although there is a maximum number of people (13) that ring handbells, we need extra people who can play when others are not available, and who can substitute at rehearsals.

Other needs — Pianists who can potentially accompany our choirs and play hymns for the worship services.

Adult choir begins on Thursday, September 9, at 7:45 p.m.



Dr. Vincent Craig
Music Director

WHAT IS A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST?

At this year's General Assembly, several attendees were asked what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist? View the video to hear their responses: <http://blog.speakingoffaith.org/post/823219123/what-is-a-unitarian-universalist-nancy-rosenbaum>.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT FROM MINNEAPOLIS

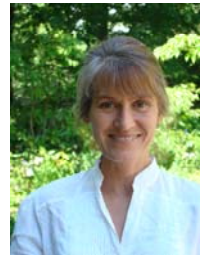
Social and environmental justice were major themes of this summer's General Assembly, the yearly gathering of our UU congregations. Brought into sharp focus after recent Arizona legislation, "Immigration as a Moral Issue" was selected for future congregational study. A proposed boycott of Phoenix as the site for GA in 2012 was resolved after lengthy debate when delegates overwhelmingly endorsed a special justice-oriented meeting in that city. The Assembly also adopted a Statement of Conscience, "Creating Peace," and called for economic and environmental justice in the gulf coast as well as expansion of the Clean Energy Bill and addressing sexual orientation and identity discrimination. A large group participated in Minneapolis Pride, witnessing for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender rights.

In other important business, delegates voted to accept changes in the election of Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President and Moderator. Candidates for a six-year term will now be chosen by a nominating committee, five members selected by election in the Assembly and two by UUA Board appointment. Representing MLUC were Rev. Dr. Justin Osterman, John and Susan Smith, and Mary Stromquist. Next year's General Assembly, June 22-26, 2011, in Charlotte, NC, will mark the 50th anniversary of the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist denominations. This will be a very special celebration of our faith. Visit www.uua.org/ga for information.

WORDS FROM YOUR PARISH NURSE

I'd like to touch on the subject of insomnia, defined as difficulty falling or staying asleep. Untreated insomnia is more serious than you may think and not something with which you must simply live. A letter from the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Psychiatry's Behavioral Sleep Medicine Program states:

"Insomnia is a significant source of concern to many people and it is estimated that as many as 50% of patients seen in the primary care setting have insomnia ... [which] is associated with increased daytime fatigue, irritability, and decreased concentration and memory. ... It is a significant risk factor for new onset and recurrence of depression and new onset of anxiety disorders. There is also growing evidence that insomnia may exacerbate chronic pain conditions and be related to the development of hypertension and pre-diabetic syndromes. Effective medical and behavioral treatments exist ... behavioral treatment is significantly longer lasting."



Jan Cauffman
Parish Nurse

The Behavioral Sleep Medicine Program and Insomnia Clinic is here in Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania. One way to access services is to participate in research. The clinic mentioned above is seeking volunteers to participate in their studies about the causes and consequences of untreated insomnia and the effectiveness of current and new treatments. If you volunteer and are eligible for research, you may receive, at no cost, one or more of the following: a sleep disorder evaluation, an overnight sleep study, treatment with standard or novel interventions, and long-term follow-up assessments. If interested, you can find more information at <http://sleeplessinphilly.org>, or www.med.upenn.edu/bsm, or by calling Ms. Barilla, the program's Study Coordinator, at 215-746-4384.

SOUL SISTERS AND YOU: A MAGICAL EXPERIENCE

Have lunch with your MLUC Soul Sisters on Sunday, September 19, and take the first step on "a journey to the realm of magic, healing, and action." Soul Sisters' major activity for the new church year will be an exploration of *The Twelve Wild Swans* by Starhawk, author of the best-selling feminist spiritual text, *Spiral Dance*. Our meeting will include an introduction to her remake of this classic fairy tale and a conversation with Sandra Greenfield, our Interim RE Director, who will share her experiences with *Swans'* rituals and exercises. There will also be a chance to offer ideas for other Soul Sisters activities, outings, and programs in the months ahead. Join us at 12:30 p.m. in the McGinness Room. Bring a brown-bag lunch; beverages and dessert will be provided. Contact Kathy Landay with questions.

JOB SEARCH WORK TEAM

According to US Labor Department statistics, the unemployment rate for Philadelphia and its surrounding area is 9.5% (July, 2010), the same as the national average. And yes, while we're all living and feeling the "recession," it is especially hard on those who are out of work. In fact, you may be one of those 9.5% who are unemployed, and if not, chances are you know someone who is.

To help, MLUC offers a weekly job search work team using a method outlined in Orville Pierson's book, *Unwritten Rules of the Highly Effective Job Search*. Pierson takes a systematic approach to the job hunt, and outlines how to make a project plan, create a core message and track weekly progress. The weekly meetings also provide a time for members to share what's personally working for them and what isn't, and to pass on personal success stories, best practice strategies, and helpful resources, all while cheering on one another. To date, the group has had one successful graduate and we hope to have many more in the coming months. You can help us by passing on tips about job openings or by offering to meet with members of the group in order to help them better identify resources in your business or personal network. E-mail Rev. Craig Roshaven (craig@mluc.org) with these tips and/or offers. If you are unemployed or underemployed, or fear you soon may be, consider joining our Job Search Work Team. We meet very Monday (except holidays) from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Last September, I began my Membership Coordinator position, marking another new role at MLUC. Over the past six years, I've been a visitor, a new member, a volunteer, a committee chair, a board member (albeit briefly), and now a staff member. With each role, I've spent time feeling like a stranger, unsure of my place, of what to expect, of who may lend a helping hand. And while I may appear an insider, that stranger feeling is never too far away. Isn't that a common feeling? Feeling, at times, like a stranger, perhaps even among our friends? I think everyone can relate, and likewise, recall a moment when we felt especially welcomed. So much so, that the stranger feeling was washed away and replaced with a deep sense of belonging.



Laura House-Kelly
Membership Coordinator

The best part of my job is welcoming visitors with our Greeter and Visitor Table volunteers. Some visitors are particularly out-going, but many feel like a stranger. Understanding that uneasiness, I gain a wonderful sense of purpose when I connect with a visitor. Being a welcoming force makes me feel like a good Unitarian Universalist. I want every visitor to feel especially welcomed, to return, to gain a sense of belonging, to become a Unitarian Universalist.

As good hospitality requires a congregation-wide effort, I offer you this challenge: introduce yourself to at least one person every Sunday. Of course, look for folks holding a green Visitor mug, but don't stop there! The person right beside you, who may be a long-time member, could be feeling like a stranger. You'll be pleasantly surprised by how much your own sense of belonging grows as you spread your warm welcome to others.

See you Sunday!

Laura

YRUU BOSTON TRIP

Arley Styer, Youth Program Director

610-688-8332 x23; arley@mluc.org

This summer has been very eventful for the YRUU who took their triennial Boston trip. From July 8-11, the 17 YRUU members experienced their UU roots on a heritage trip to Boston. We visited the first Unitarian churches and learned the rich history of King's chapel and other historical sites. In addition, visits were made to UUA headquarters and the UUSC. For many of the participants the trip was an opportunity to revisit our Coming of Age experiences. A lot of learning took place and fun was had by all.

Following a great trip to Boston, the MLUC youth groups will be kicking off another busy year with the annual youth retreat to Camp Dark Waters in Medford, NJ. The retreat (September 24-26), is open to all youth in grades 7-12. Dark Waters is a great opportunity for new and old youth group members to make new friends, reconnect with old ones, and have fun with youth advisors. Registration packets will soon be arriving in the mail for all interested youth and their families. You are also encouraged to attend Parent Youth Night on September 12 at 6:00 p.m. for more information about the Dark Waters retreat and MLUC youth programs.

NEWS FROM THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Barbara Bugliani, Co-Chair

Mary Kane, Chair, Artist of the Month

Artist of the Month: Florence Putterman

September 10 through October 17

**Opening reception Saturday, September 11,
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**



Florence Putterman won our one person show award at the Salon Des Refuses show of Artists Equity Members held last September at MLUC. We are delighted to bring her work to MLUC this fall. Please plan to attend and hear her talk about her art and journey on September 11.

Putterman's art is a bewitching brew of fantastic imagery. Her floating forms of animals and humans is sometimes schematic and often more symbolic than real. Her surfaces, rough and fissured, are built up with sand and shells. The carefully prepared surfaces control the evolution of the image by the way paint is absorbed on this surface. Her work is in corporate and university collections as well as museums such as the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Philadelphia Museum, and the Ringling Museum in Florida to name a few. She has also received many purchase awards.

Putterman received a National Endowment Grant in 1979 and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Penn State in 1988. She is listed in *Who's Who in American Art* and *Who's Who of American Women* and *Who's Who in America*. She lives in Selinsgrove, PA.

MLUC VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

J.B. Hillman is our Volunteer of the Month for September!

J.B. and his wife, Carol, joined the church in 2003. They found MLUC after deliberately searching for a church that matched their vision and values and would help educate and nurture their daughters, Taylor and Vaughn.

J.B. has served the church in many ways: Social Action Committee Chair, Youth Advisor, 7th grade Coming of Age class teacher, Chair of the Stewardship campaign, and, as of July 1, MLUC Board Member. In addition, everyone in the family has been trained and has served as a volunteer for the Main Line Interfaith Hospitality Network even before MLUC became a host church last year.

His work on the Stewardship Campaign was the most meaningful and the contribution of which he is most proud. Recently, J.B. has taken up the sport of rugby again, after a hiatus of many years. He is an executive with a regional IT Consulting firm, and has been in the IT industry for more than 25 years.

When asked what MLUC means to him he replied, "A wonderful grounding and foundation building for my daughters' values and a refuge of common sense, liberal thinking, and peace in a hectic world."

Thank you J.B. for all that you have done and continue to do!

WELCOME BACK SUNDAE SUNDAY!

Be sure not to miss the annual homecoming event on September 12. The Church School Committee will be offering yummy ice cream sundaes and assisting those who need help completing the required RE Registration Forms for nursery through senior high. Registration forms are on the MLUC Web site; send in the completed form to the RE office as soon as possible!

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

Several church members have expressed an interest in contemplative prayer and would like to form a spiritual practice group. Rev. Craig Roshaven will convene a meeting on Sunday, September 12, at 10:15 a.m., in his office for any church members who might be interested in being part of such a group. Contemplative prayer is similar to Eastern meditation. It is a practice which seeks to expand one's awareness beyond the working of the mind so that one may experience the Divine.

PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP CLASSES: FALL SESSION

MLUC's four-part Membership series will begin in October. The series is designed for any visitor or friend interested in exploring membership at MLUC and is led by Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Justin Osterman, Associate Minister, Rev. Craig Roshaven, and Membership Coordinator, Laura House-Kelly. The series culminates with an opportunity to sign the membership book during the final class. Classes are conveniently held on Sundays, between services, and childcare is available. Please contact Laura House-Kelly (laura@mluc.org) for additional information or to register.

- October 3, 10:00 a.m.: History of Unitarian Universalism
- October 10, 10:00 a.m.: Our Faith Community
- October 17, 10:00 a.m.: Q&A
- October 24, 9:30 a.m.: Exploring Membership

NEXT ISSUE OF *WHAT'S HAPPENING*

Submissions of 225 words or less are due on September 10 for the October issue. Submit material to news@mluc.org.

PARTNER CHURCH COMMITTEE

Jon Bass, Chair

Partner Church Luncheon, Sunday, October 10, 12:30 p.m., McGinness Room

Guest speaker: Cathy Cordes, Executive Director of the Unitarian Universalist Partner Church Council

Come and learn more about the Partner Church movement in India, Eastern Europe, and the Philippines. Enjoy a special lunch of Hungarian cuisine, honoring the ethnicity of the congregation of MLUC's Unitarian Partner Church in the Transylvanian village of Várfalva. The church traces its roots to the sixteenth century, when Transylvania was a Hungarian principality.

The lunch is free, though donations to support our Partner Church program are welcome. The Partner Church Committee (PCC) will hold its annual fundraiser during October. The financial support that MLUC provides to the church in Várfalva helps support the ministry, the Sunday school, and building maintenance. Funds are also used for scholarships to the Unitarian high school in the city of Kolozsvar, where youth from the congregation board during the academic year.

Visit the PCC table in the Atrium on Sundays, October 3 and 10, to learn more about the congregation and community in Várfalva, and the UU Partner Church movement, which is celebrating its 20th year. To sign up for the luncheon, please contact Jane LaMotte or visit the PCC table in October. For more information about the PCC, please contact Jon Bass.



Várfalva Unitarian Church



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

Sunday, September 12, 10:15 a.m. (See page 7).

FAITH DEVELOPMENT-SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

301 *Simply Pray*

Sunday, September 26, 12:30 p.m.

Explore prayer as a personal spiritual practice.

MLUC ANNUAL AUCTION

Saturday, November 6. (See page 1).

ON THE WEB

The complete MLUC calendar of events is online at www.mluc.org. Members can simply click to request a room for their meeting or event. While you're there, you can listen to past sermons and learn more about MLUC.

ECO NEWS

Don and Mary Kane, Co-Chairs

Tuesday, September 14, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., McGinness Room (please arrive by 5:45 p.m.)

6:00 p.m.: Screening of the Documentary *Chemical Reaction*

This 70 minute feature documentary tells the story of one of the most powerful and effective community initiatives. Dr. June Irwin, a pediatrician, noticed the health effects of pesticides and herbicides on her patients. She fought relentlessly to ban their use in her town. It was a "true green revolution." Winner of multiple awards. "Director Paul Tukey is the Al Gore of lawn care" - Philadelphia Inquirer.

7:30 p.m.: Speaker Larry Weaner on Eliminating Your Lawn. *Techniques and Strategies for Achieving a More Sustainable and Beautiful Landscape.*

Increasingly, Americans are realizing that the national love affair with our more than 40.5 million acres of turf has significant negative consequences for the health of our environment and our communities. Larry Weaner, a nationally recognized pioneer of landscape design, will explore practical ways to replace lawn by adapting the plant communities of our native woodlands, wetlands, and meadows to the residential landscape. Examples shown will range from estates to intimate properties and will illustrate all facets of creating landscapes that are low maintenance and affordable as well as ecologically sound and visually striking. Visit www.lweanerdesigns.com.

8:30 p.m.: Informal Comments by Invited Guests and Discussion

Sponsored by ECO and the Main Line Interfaith Green Group (MIGG). Questions? Contact Mary Kane or Marilyn Furfari.