

UU SPIRIT

Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead



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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

Dedicated to sharing the Unitarian Universalist message in the Red River Valley and beyond.

May 2011 Programs, Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday services are followed by coffee and conversation.

**May 1: Joy Zeidan,
Thomas Punton, Jaime Altringer
and Heather Garrett**

Family Beltane Celebration

The newly forming FMUU CUUPS chapter (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) will lead our celebration of spring with an original Beltane ritual, accompanied by the FMUU children.

FMUU Choir and special music by Kris Kitko

May 8: UU Panel

Raising UU kids:

Parenting with the Principles

Spirited discussion about what it means to be a UU parent and how, why and what we do to teach our values and principles. From infancy to college-age, our panel will share the experiences of living and learning with their children.

RE Teacher Appreciation Day

May 15: Immigration Stories in the Twenty-First Century

Real people, real stories of what it is like to immigrate to the United States in OUR day. These are not our grandparents' stories... or are they? Do we still live in the land of freedom and opportunity? Come and hear the true stories of recent immigrants and decide for yourself.

After our service we will have our Annual Meeting

May 22: Chris Hames

Another Perspective on Parenting

Chris Hames is a recent member to the FMUU. He has spent the past seven years as a social worker with Meritcare (now Sanford) hospital and will be sharing his reflections on being a father. In words and music, he will explore the role that sacrifice and commitment play in one's ability to parent with passion.

From Our Worship Coordinator

Thank you, everyone, for allowing me to be your worship and program coordinator over the last several years. I have loved the work and learned more than I can possibly convey. The challenge and responsibility of finding balance among the many spiritual and religious perspectives we have in our church community always was one of the highlights of the work and it has deepened my own spiritual philosophy in surprising ways. In April, Rev. Nancy Holden talked about the stages of spiritual development. In reflecting on these stages and on her wise interpretation of them, I became aware that working with and for you helped to prompt such a shift for me. Selecting readings to create a connected and flowing liturgy and especially the act of leading the service I felt both guided and led. The continuous repetition of this experience—of being servant to a spiritual process—has deepened my faith and given me confidence that we will continue to have strong leadership, powerful worship experiences, and joy in every moment so long as we are awake to it. I look forward to working with the Place Committee next year and to continued fellowship with you, my friends.

Blessed Be, Laurie Baker

May 2011 FMUU Church Calendar

Sat.	4/30/2011	7:30 p.m.	FMUU Spring Concert - Kris Kitko & Joseph DeMasi
Sun.	5/1/2011		Food Pantry Collection Day
Sun.	5/1/2011	9 a.m.	UU Regional Gathering
Sun.	5/1/2011	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sun.	5/1/2011	12:30 p.m.	New Member class, UU Pocket Guide
Wed.	5/4/2011	7 p.m.	FMUU Movie Night: <i>Heart of the Beholder</i>
Fri.	5/6/2011	6:30 p.m.	UUA Common Read
Sun.	5/8/2011	9 a.m.	FMUU Board Meeting
Mon.	5/9/2011	6:30 p.m.	Social Justice Council Meeting
Wed.	5/11/2011	6 p.m.	Pizza Social
Wed.	5/11/2011	6:30 p.m.	People & Program Cmte Meeting
Tue.	5/15/2011		June Newsletter Deadline
Sun.	5/15/2011	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sun.	5/15/2011	Noon	FMUU Annual Meeting
Every Sun.		11 a.m.	Worship Service
Every Sun.		11 a.m.	Children's RE ages 4-7
Every Sun.		Noon	Children's RE ages 8-12
Every Sun.		Noon	Children's RE ages 13 and up

FMUU Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 15

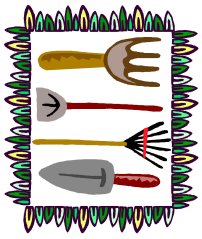
Sunday, May 15, after services, we will have our FMUU Annual Meeting. It is essential to have all of our members attend.

Worship

Coordinator

Job Opening

With guidance from the Program Committee and Program Committee Chair, serves as Worship Coordinator for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead. Coordinates the music program with the Music Director and Pianist. Using topics and themes developed by the Program Committee, plans, organizes, and implements Sunday Worship services; generates ideas for topics and speakers and presents them to the Program Committee. Responsible for worship administration tasks such as creating the Sunday Order of Service, and coordinating the printing with the Office Manager. Preferred individual has strong verbal and writing skills, self-directed and deadline driven, organized, creative thinker and problem solver, able to work collaboratively with many different stakeholders. Must possess a social justice consciousness, as well as education and event planning skills. College degree preferred but not required depending on other qualifications. Send resume and cover letter to Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead fmuu@fmuu.org.



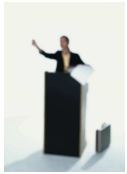
Gala Spring Cleanup Sunday, May 1

Join us after church on May 1 and bring your rakes, digging tools, gloves, kneeling pads...whatever works for you. We'll clean the yard and get the flowerbeds ready for spring planting. Watch for another day of yard fun to plant and finish any other jobs we need to do.



HELP WANTED

Place wants to put a magnetic dry erase board in the Community Room to announce and solicit help on projects from the congregation. We are looking for a 3 X 4 board and some markers. Cost is \$150 – 160.00. If a member would be interested in contributing to this project, it would be appreciated and soften the impact on the church budget. Contributions from one or more members could make this a reality. If interested, please contact Sid Morton smort@midco.net or Elwyn Krogh elwyn.krogh@ctusa.net. Thank you for your support!



ONE TIME OPPORTUNITY

As Place works to organize and order our storage, we are trying to eliminate any items that have no current or foreseeable future use for us. The lectern from 18 S. 8th St. is one such item taking up valuable space in our shed. Some members in the past have indicated that this is an historical piece and should be preserved. If there is anyone in the congregation, who would like to be its conservator, this is the time to step forward and take possession of it. Lacking a guardian, the lectern is going to the ReStore early this summer to begin a life in another appreciative organization. If you would like to adopt this piece, please contact Sid Morton smort@midco.net.

Thank you,
Place Committee



FMUU Choir May 1 and 15

All are welcome to join the choir - prior choral experience is not necessary. Choir meets in the church at 9:30 a.m. every first and third Sunday of the month for rehearsal, and performs that Sunday for the 11:00 a.m. service.

Please join us!



Dorothy Day Food Pantry

The FMUU Church collects non-perishable food on the first Sunday of each month for the Dorothy Day Food Pantry.

Please bring your nonperishable food donations to church on Sunday, May 1.

Donna Jones will take our collection to Dorothy Day this month. Thank you Donna, for volunteering your time and gas to help with this service!

Wednesday, May 11

Pizza Social at 6:00 p.m. People & Program Meeting At 6:30 p.m.

**Plug Into an FMUU Group
We Need Your Power!**

By joining a group, you are assisting the church to become vital and grow. In return, the group will give you a sense of accomplishment and community. At 6:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, everyone meets for a pizza social (free will offering and please RSVP). People and Program meet that same night at 6:30 p.m.



Contact the office by Monday, May 9 with your pizza RSVP. Please indicate if you need childcare for the meeting.

The Place group meets on the third Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

FMUU May Circle Dinner

A Circle Dinner is being planned for May. If you are interesting in hosting or sharing a meal and getting to know your fellow UUs in a different setting, please contact Stacy Nicholson at stacyn@q.com or 218-233-2001.

The hosts will provide a main dish and guests are asked to provide, side dishes, desserts and breads.

An announcement will be made in church and as part of the weekly announcement email once the date and location(s) are set.



FMUU May Movie
Wednesday, May 4
7 p.m.

Heart of the Beholder

Based on the true story of a family who opened the first videocassette rental stores in St. Louis in 1980. The family was ruined by a corrupt prosecutor who had been blackmailed by a religious group because the family refused to remove Martin Scorsese's controversial film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, from their stores.

Feature length movie—Run time: 106 Min.

Project Homeless Connect Wednesday, May 4

9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Fargo Dome

Be a part of a great collaborative event called Project Homeless Connect sponsored by the Fargo-Moorhead Coalition for Homeless Persons. Project Homeless Connect (PHC) brings together service providers from agencies all over the Fargo-Moorhead area to one location to provide a “one-stop shopping” experience for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or other crisis. By bringing together providers from mental health agencies, housing programs, emergency services, haircuts, food pantries and many other types of services, we are able to best serve people who need the services but face many barriers to accessing them. This great project helps to meet the needs of the people in our community who are in crisis!

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Project Homeless Connect is staffed primarily by volunteers from the community. Without the volunteers, we would not be able to make this happen! We have had fantastic volunteers in the past and I expect that this year will be no exception! If you would like to sign up to volunteer or would like more information about the event and ways that you can help, you may use the link below to take our volunteer interest survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6928XH7>

or contact Becki Johnson at (218) 291-5850 or email beckij@lakesandprairies.net



Walk for Autism 2011 Saturday, May 14

Aurora Elementary-Rendezvous Park

3420 9th St W, West Fargo
Registration at 9 a.m. Walk at 10 a.m.

Refreshments at 11 a.m.

Visit ndautismcenter.org or call 701-277-8844 to register.

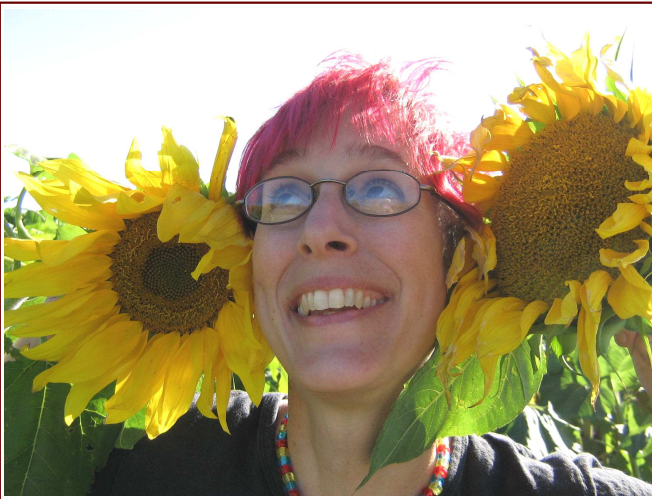
Proceeds help fund the AuSome Kids Day Program

Interested in Being a Host Family for German Band Members?

The Fargo Park District is looking for individuals to host German musicians who are coming to the FM area to perform for [German Folk Festival](#) and the Fargo VFW the weekend of July 23 & 24.

We are in need of individuals or families who are willing to open up their homes to two or more band members and provide meals and transportation. This is needed July 21-25.

If you are interested in learning more about German culture and hosting these German musicians, please contact [Allison Bakke](#) at 701-499-7782.



Kris Kitko

FMUU Spring Concert

7:30 p.m. on Sat., April 30

Tickets \$15

Tickets available at the church door and doors open at 7 p.m.

Kris is Rosie-the-Riveter with a guitar and a possessor of musical superpowers. Kris Kitko is a Troubadour for Troubled Times! Just when we think the world is spinning out of control, Kris spins it a new way and makes us all smile.



With Opening Guest Joseph DeMasi

An award winning singer, songwriter, recording artist and entertainer who has been delighting audiences throughout the world with his music, humor and talent for more than 25 years.



Minnkota Recycling

Aluminum, paper and plastic taken to Minnkota Recycling, 901 4th Ave. N., Fargo, 3501 S. University Dr., Fargo, or 1321 1st Ave. N., Moorhead, can benefit the church. Just use the church telephone number, 235-0394 or tell them Unitarian Universalist Church, and a check will automatically be sent to the church; you will receive a receipt for your records.

FMUU Fellowship: we gather in mutual support and exploration of spiritual development and community values.

A National Motto For All Of Us

By UU friend Jason Schoenack

On March 17, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee approved H.CON.RES.13, a measure that would reaffirm the phrase "In God We Trust" as our national motto, and encourage its display in all public and government buildings.

The resolution will now go to the full House of Representatives for a vote.

The problem with the phrase "In God We Trust" is that it is not inclusive of the beliefs of all Americans, specifically atheists, agnostics, humanists and other non-theistic Americans, but also the millions of religious Americans whose beliefs do not make use of the word "god."

The phrase was adopted as the official motto in 1956, at the height of McCarthyism and the Cold War.

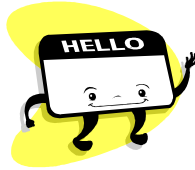
It is inaccurate and misleading to represent our secular nation with a religious motto, one that creates divisions among citizens and erodes the wall of separation between church and state.

The phrase "In God We Trust" does not represent me or my values or perspective, meaning that my own country's motto excludes me.

Our country's motto should use words that capture something that is important and meaningful to *all* of its citizens, words like peace and liberty and freedom.

May Sunday Greeters

- May 1 Theo Kirkley
May 8 Gail Wischmann
May 15 Carolyn Monzingo
May 22 Sheri McMahan



Please contact Stacy Nicholson at stacyn@q.com or (218) 233-2001 if you have any questions or are able to help with this important task.

WELCOMING CONGREGATION

We are a Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Congregation that seeks to be a spiritual home for people of free faith regardless of race, color, gender, affectional or sexual orientation, age, national origin, socio-economic status, physical or mental ability.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead is to provide to its members, and to the community, an environment of religious tolerance, a loving fellowship of diversity, an open forum for the exchange of social, political, and moral ideas and values, and a religious home for spiritual growth without fear of reprisal.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes are held for children of all ages Pre-School through High School. Beginning Sunday, January 9, children ages 4-7 will be meeting during the service at 11:00 a.m. These children will start in the sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. with their parents for the first 15 minutes of the service and then are escorted to their RE classes. Children 8-12 years of age will meet after Sunday services at noon.

The Teens (13-18) will continue to meet in their classroom at noon.

The curriculum covers UU Principles, World Religions, and Social Justice.

NURSERY ROOM

Child care is provided on Sundays at 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for children four years of age and under.



May Coffee Servers

- May 1 Jon and Cathi Tiedeman
May 8 Ruth and Sid Morton
May 15 Sheila Oye and Janet Paul Rice
May 22 Skip Wood and Thomas Williams

Contact Thom Richmond at (701) 235-3904 or richmond@cord.edu if you have any questions.

We would like to thank our congregation members who serve coffee each Sunday. All of our church members are placed automatically on the coffee server list and serve twice a year. We are grateful that our congregation is willing to help with this task.

If you are not a church member, but would like to volunteer serving, contact Thom Richmond at (701) 235-3904 or the church office fmuu@fmuu.org.

CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS

President, Mark Sinner	(218) 233-0337
President-Elect, Tim Peterson	(701) 532-0335
Treasurer, Elwyn Krogh	(701) 235-6632
Secretary, Brian Arett	(218) 236-1386
At-Large, Janice Johnson	(701) 237-4206
At-Large, Sanjay Lal	(218) 227-5662
At-Large, Stacy Nicholson	(218) 233-2001
At-Large, Thom Richmond	(701) 235-3904
At-Large, Jon Solinger	(218) 233-8001

CHURCH EMPLOYEES

Katie Christensen, Coordinator of
Children's Religious Education

Phone: (701) 235-5278

E-mail: kt_christensen@yahoo.com

Laurie Baker, Program Coordinator

Cell: (701) 866-1197 E-mail: emsdatter@gmail.com

Julie Allen, Office Manager

Office: (701)235-0394 E-mail: fmuu@fmuu.org

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

If urgent call cell: (701) 371-4481