

UU SPIRIT

Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead



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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

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

October 2010 Programs, Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday services are followed by coffee and conversation.



Oct. 3: Erik Hatch, *Homeless and Hungry in Fargo-Moorhead*

Homeless and Hungry is a movement fueled by youth that is driving an entire community to have eyes for things beyond their own walls. Youth raise money and food for area homeless causes and food banks as they replicate for themselves the experiences of people who are homeless and hungry. Erik Hatch is the local organizer of Homeless and Hungry program and is in his 8th year as director of youth ministries at First Lutheran Church where the driving forces of his ministry are on empowerment, outreach, and social justice.

Oct. 10: Claudette Peterson, *The Role of Compassion in Being an LGBT Ally*



Drawing on her long experience working within LGBT communities, NDSU Professor Claudette Peterson will talk about how to be an ally to those in minority and oppressed groups, specifically LGBT friends. Putting ourselves in another's shoes through empathy rather than identification is a difficult but vital life lesson for UUs as we strive to live our principles. Compassion is the key to understanding inherent worth and dignity.

Oct. 17: Katie Christensen, *On a Foundation of Faith Hope and Love*



We will focus on the children of our congregation and how each of us can help lead them. Working with our children will help strengthen your own knowledge of UUism while creating meaningful relationships with our youth. Our children are the future of our church and community, let's work together to prepare them to be active members. Katie Christensen lives in Fargo with her husband, two sons and cousin. The whole family attends the FMUU Church regularly. Before staying home with her children, Katie taught middle school and high school Spanish for six years.



Oct. 24: Carol Engelhardt, *Margaret Fuller and Feminist Transcendentalism*

The 200th anniversary of the birth of Margaret Fuller affords us to celebrate her life, work and legacy. Fuller turned Transcendentalism toward a feminist critique of American society, arguing that female equality would elevate American women, men, and culture. Carroll Engelhardt, professor emeritus of history at Concordia College.



Oct. 31: Jennifer Moldenhauer and Laurie Baker *Samhain for Grownups: How Pagan Practice Exemplifies UU Values*

Our UU principles and the values of our fellowship fit hand in glove with the imperatives of earth-based spirituality and the practices of paganism. Discussed from the perspective of two long-time practitioners, the women's spirituality movement was the most significant influence for Baker, while Moldenhauer's primary influences came from within her family.



CHURCH CALENDAR

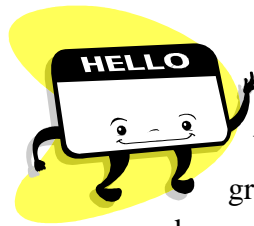
EVERY SUN. @ 10:00 AM	CHILDREN'S RE CLASSES
EVERY SUN. @ 11:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
EVERY SUN. @ NOON	TEEN RE CLASSES
FRI. OCT 1 @ 6:30 PM	ADULT RE CLASS
SUN. OCT 3	FOOD PANTRY DAY
SUN. OCT 3 @ 9:30 AM	CHOIR
FRI. OCT 8 @ 6:30 PM	ADULT RE CLASS
SUN. OCT 10 @ 9:00 AM	BOARD MEETING
SUN. OCT 10 @ 3:00 PM	DRUMMING CIRCLE
WED. OCT 13 @ 5:30 PM	LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MTG
WED. OCT 13 @ 6:00 PM	PIZZA SOCIAL
WED. OCT 13 @ 6:30 PM	PEOPLE & PROGRAM MTG
FRI. OCT 15	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FRI. OCT 15 @ 6:30 PM	ADULT RE CLASS
SUN. OCT 17 @ 9:30 AM	CHOIR
SUN. OCT 17 @ 12:30 PM	PLACE COMMITTEE MTG
WED. OCT 20 @ 7:00 PM	FMUU MOVIE NIGHT
FRI. OCT 22 @ 6:30 PM	ADULT RE CLASS
SUN. OCT 24 @ 9:45 AM	SUNDAY MORNING FORUM
SUN. OCT 24 @ 3:00 PM	DRUMMING CIRCLE

FMUU MOVIE OF THE MONTH

Wed., October 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Feature Film: *Ocean of Pearls*

A good story that explores values, family, faith and identity. Set in Toronto and Detroit, a young Sikh surgeon must decide whether or not to compromise his values to advance his career. As a Sikh, raised in Canada, Dr. Amrit Singh is of two worlds, but belongs to neither. "To my father, the turban is an article of faith" says Amrit, "To me, it means I better make damned sure I'm not late for my flight." When he is offered a prestigious position at a Detroit hospital, the young surgeon sees an opportunity to start fresh, only to discover that his appearance may threaten his success. What happens when our dreams seem to clash with our heritage? Perhaps it is through the collusion of the old ways and the new that we find out who we are.



Sunday Greeters Needed

We are looking for volunteers to greet people as they arrive on Sundays. Greeters no longer have to water the plants. All is required of you is to:

- Arrive by 10:30 a.m.
- Greet Visitors
- Encourage visitors to make a nametag and sign the guest book.
- Count the number of adults and children in attendance.
- Tell visitors thank you for attending after the service and invite them downstairs to coffee.

Please contact the office or Stacy Nicholson at stacyn@gomoorhead.com or (218) 233-2001, if you are willing to be put on a rotation for this duty or how often you are willing to volunteer.

October Sunday Greeters

Oct. 3	Diane Krogh
Oct. 10	Jim Fremstad
Oct. 17	Nancy Saeger
Oct. 24	Greeter Needed
Oct. 31	Greeter Needed



Drumming Circle

Announcing a Sunday afternoon drumming circle for those who like to lift their spirits with a beat. The second and fourth Sundays at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. Some extra instruments are provided but bring drums, rattles, and other rhythm instruments if you have them. No experience necessary.

Sunday Morning Forum October 24 at 9:45 a.m.

This adult education discussion group will meet on the fourth Sunday of each month. Everyone is invited to attend. The October discussion topic will be announced in the weekly church email announcements.



Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to shovel our walks during snowfalls of less than two inches. Snowfalls more than two inches are done by a local service. If you are able to volunteer to shovel for one or two weeks, please contact the office.



FMUU Programs

Who would you like to hear from?

What special music are you longing for? Please send program ideas to Laurie Baker at emsdatter@gmail.com or Carol Kapaun at lunasight@gmail.com.



Adult Education and Online Spirituality from the CLF

Upcoming online courses available at the Church of the Larger Fellowship:

Welcome In: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism and the Church of the Larger Fellowship (free)

In Our Mothers' Footsteps (free)

Action and Reflection: Living Our Seven Principles taught by Rob Moore: Oct. 2 – Nov. 20 (\$40)

Humanism Today: Issues and origins, taught by Kendyl Gibbons and Bill Murry: Jan. 17– Mar. 14 (\$40)

The Soul of Nature: A journey into the poetry of Mary Oliver, taught by Amanda Aikman: Feb. 7– Mar. 14 (\$40)

For information about these courses and more, contact The Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) www.clfuu.org/learn

Wednesday, October 13

FMUU Pizza Social at 6:00 p.m.



People & Program

Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Our People and Program committees will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. for pizza (free will offering) and social time. At 6:30 p.m., each group splits off to meet until 7:30 p.m.

There is a large sign up sheet to join a group on the church community room bulletin board or contact the office, (701) 235-0394 – fmuu@fmuu.org, if you would like to join a group. Membership is not a requirement to join a group and childcare is provided by request for these gatherings.

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.

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

If you need childcare for this meeting, please contact the office by Noon on Thursday, Oct. 7.

Please RSVP to the office with your pizza choice by Noon on Tuesday, Oct. 12.



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 non-perishable food donations to church on Sunday, October 3.

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

FMUU Choir

The FMUU Choir needs more voices!



Rehearsals are the first and third Sunday at 9:30 a.m. We also sing on those Sundays. Everyone is welcome.

UNITARIAN JIHAD

The following article is from the San Francisco Chronicle by Jon Carroll and was sent to the church from former FMUU member Bill Treumann for our amusement.

The following is the first communiqué from a group calling itself Unitarian Jihad. It was sent to me at The Chronicle via an anonymous spam remailer. I have no idea whether other news organizations have received this communiqué, and, if so, why they have not chosen to print it. Perhaps they fear starting a panic. I feel strongly that the truth, no matter how alarming, trivial or disgusting, must always be told. I am pleased to report that the words below are at least not disgusting:

Greetings to the Imprisoned Citizens of the United States. We are Unitarian Jihad. There is only God, unless there is more than one God. The vote of our God subcommittee is 10-8 in favor of one God, with two abstentions. Brother Flaming Sword of Moderation noted the possibility of there being no God at all, and his objection was noted with love by the secretary.

Greetings to the Imprisoned Citizens of the United States! Too long has your attention been waylaid by the bright baubles of extremist thought. Too long have fundamentalist yahoos of all religions (except Buddhism -- 14-5 vote, no abstentions, fundamentalism subcommittee) made your head hurt. Too long have you been buffeted by angry people who think that God talks to them. You have a right to your moderation! You have the power to be calm! We will use the IED of truth to explode the SUV of dogmatic expression!

People of the United States, why is everyone yelling at you??? Whatever happened to ... you know, everything? Why is the news dominated by nutballs saying that the Ten Commandments have to be tattooed inside the eyelids of every American, or that Allah has told them to kill Americans in order to rid the world of Satan, or that Yahweh has instructed them to go live wherever they feel like, or that Shiva thinks bombing mosques is a great idea? Sister Immaculate Dagger of Peace notes for the record that we mean no disrespect to Jews, Muslims, Christians or Hindus. Referred back to the committee of the whole for further discussion.

We are Unitarian Jihad. We are everywhere. We have not been born again, nor have we sworn a blood oath. We do not think that God cares what we read, what we eat or whom we sleep with. Brother Neutron Bomb of Serenity notes for the record that he does not have a moral code but is nevertheless a good person, and Unexalted Leader Garrote of Forgiveness stipulates that Brother Neutron Bomb of Serenity is a good person, and this is to be reflected in the minutes.

Beware! Unless you people shut up and begin acting like grown-ups with brains enough to understand the difference between political belief and personal faith, the Unitarian Jihad will begin a series of terrorist-like actions. We will take over television studios, kidnap so-called commentators and broadcast calm, well-reasoned discussions of the issues of the day. We will not try for "balance" by hiring fruitcakes; we will try for balance by hiring non-ideologues who have carefully thought through the issues.

We are Unitarian Jihad. We will appear in public places and require people to shake hands with each other. (Sister Hand Grenade of Love suggested that we institute a terror regime of mandatory hugging, but her motion was not formally introduced because of lack of a quorum.) We will require all lobbyists, spokesmen and campaign managers to dress like trout in public. Televangelists will be forced to take jobs as Xerox repair specialists. Demagogues of all stripes will be required to read Proust out loud in prisons.

We are Unitarian Jihad, and our motto is: "Sincerity is not enough." We have heard from enough sincere people to last a lifetime already. Just because you believe it's true doesn't make it true. Just because your motives are pure doesn't mean you are not doing harm. Get a dog, or comfort someone in a nursing home, or just feed the birds in the park. Play basketball. Lighten up. The world is not out to get you, except in the sense that the world is out to get everyone.

Brother Gatling Gun of Patience notes that he's pretty sure the world is out to get him because everyone laughs when he says he is a Unitarian. There were murmurs of assent around the room, and someone suggested that we buy some Congress members and really stick it to the Baptists. But this was deemed against Revolutionary Principles, and Brother Gatling Gun of Patience was remanded to the Sunday Flowers and Banners committee.

People of the United States! We are Unitarian Jihad! We can strike without warning. Pockets of reasonableness and harmony will appear as if from nowhere! Nice people will run the government again! There will be coffee and cookies in the Gandhi Room after the revolution.

Startling new underground group spreads lack of panic! Citizens declare themselves "relatively unafraid" of threats of undeclared rationality. People can still go to France, terrorist leader says.

Caring and Sharing Corner



If you would like to submit an announcement for the caring and sharing corner, the deadline is the 15th of each month. Please email your submission to the office at fmuu@fmuu.org. Please include a photo if you have one.

The church will send cards for important life events (birth, death, illness/hospitalizations and weddings) of our UU members & friends. Please help us in identifying those who are experiencing life changing events in their lives or may need a message of cheer and hope by contacting the church at fmuu@fmuu.org or (701) 235-0394.

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. Classes for children (ages 4-12) will meet on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and the teens (ages 13-18) will meet after Sunday services at Noon. The curriculum covers UU Principles, World Religions, and Social Justice.

NURSERY ROOM

Child care is provided on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for children four years of age and under. We do not have child care for children over the age of four during our services at 11:00 a.m. Older children will be expected to attend the service.



October Coffee Servers

Oct. 3	Nancy & Ron Saeger
Oct. 10	Barbara Honer Solinger & Kurt Huseby
Oct. 17	Liz Johanson & Tarver Mathison
Oct. 24	Donna Jones & Mac Butler
Oct. 31	Claudia English & Diane Krogh

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