



# THE NUUSLETTER

NORTHWOODS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

We are a Welcoming Congregation.

*A Beacon of Light in the Northwoods*

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Volume 11, Number 2

September 15, 2009

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## Coming Sundays

Services at 10 AM.

September 20: Adult Religious Education: Religions of the Axial Age

September 27: Sister Ann Wittman

October 4: Adult Religious Education:  
Religions of the Axial Age

October 11: Rev. Glenda Walker

October 18: Adult Religious Education:  
Religions of the Axial Age

October 25: David Foster

*“Worship is the central act of the religious community.... The root of the word worship is the Anglo Saxon for worth, and worship is the way we celebrate what we hold worthy.”*

**---Rev. William Sinkford**

## From the President

This year at the General Assembly in Salt Lake City the UUA announced the “Standing on

the Side of Love” public advocacy campaign. SSL, or “Sizzle” as it has come to be known, is based on our first principle—promoting respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Prompted by the attack on the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville in July 2008, the initiative will try and accomplish two goals: carry our message of inherent worth and dignity to a broader audience, and mobilize quick and effective responses to incidents of exclusion, oppression or violence based on intolerance of people’s identities. There is a very nice article about this advocacy effort in the Fall issue of UU World, or you can check out the website [www.StandingonthesideofLove.org](http://www.StandingonthesideofLove.org).

Thanks to Tom and Elinore Sommerfeld, we have a local connection to this campaign. This summer, organizers hung a large “Standing on the Side of Love Banner” from the Salt Palace Tower to welcome this year’s GA delegates. About midway through the convention, a strong thunderstorm with high winds ripped the banner down. The banner was cut up and distributed at the close of the convention, and Tom and Elinore were able to obtain a section. They had it framed and presented it to the Fellowship at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It will be displayed in the Founder’s room along with an explanation of its significance.

As UU’s we can be proud that our denomination has taken such a forthright stand in favor of inclusion, equality, peace, and justice for all. We should look for opportunities to join with other like-minded members of our community who share our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of all, and be quick to respond when individuals and groups are marginalized or attacked on the basis of their social identity. “Sizzle” is an idea that is too good to keep to ourselves. Spread the word.

## **Adult Religious Education**

On alternate Sundays we meet at 10 AM to discuss topics relating religious and ethical issues to current events and considering ideas that contribute to the spirit and meaning of our group.

We are currently exploring a new series entitled, "Religions of the Axial Age". Here is the website describing the program we are using:

<http://www.teach12.com/ttcx/CourseDescLong2.aspx?cid=6312>

We usually view two lectures each week because each is 30 minutes long. When they are 45 minutes, we do only one.

# **News and Announcements**

## **Food Pantry News**

Donations of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items are needed and welcome. For your convenience, a drop-off box is located in the Fellowship vestibule. Thank you for your continuing support of the Lakeland Food Pantry.

## **Alzheimer's Walk**

I hope that your calendar is marked for Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> to join the "NUUF Trotters Team" at the Annual Alzheimer's Memory Walk. Registration 9:00 a.m. – Walk 10:00 a.m. at the Marshfield Clinic, Minocqua. Center. We've been a winning team and hope to be again this year! Thanks! Bev Strauss 356-9307.

## **Forum on Simplicity**

A forum on simplicity will be held on Saturday, October 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Holy Family Church in Woodruff. Sponsored by Marywood, the forum is titled "Living Simply in an Anxious World," and features presentations by Adele Svetnicka and LaVon Radar. There is no admission charge and lunch will be furnished. For further information call 715-385-3750.

## **KIDS AGAINST HUNGER Food Packing Event**

The United Nations World Health Organization reports that every day more than 40,000 children die from starvation and diseases caused by hunger. Incredibly, one child dies every five seconds from starvation, 12 children every minute, hour after hour, day after day. More than 6 million children under the age of 5 die every year from hunger.

On October 31 the Lakeland community will team up with non-profit organization "Kids Against Hunger" to package meals for hungry children in the United States and around the world. Our goal is to package 100,000 meals in three hours. Each meal will cost only 15 cents! Here's where you come in: to make 100,000 meals for hungry children we need to raise \$15,000 and sign-up 450 volunteers to work 90-minute shifts at the Lakeland Union High School cafeteria, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 12:00 a.m. Nationally, Kids Against Hunger volunteers packaged nearly 40 million meals last year that were distributed in more than 40 countries.

Our NUUF Social Justice Committee has generously committed \$1,000 to this event including \$723 raised at the Spring Fling fund raiser. On October 11th and 25th we will have a table in the Founders Room for anyone who wishes to sign up to help and/or contribute money. Donations can also be mailed to Kids Against Hunger, P.O. Box 10, Hazelhurst, WI 54531

The NUUF committee members are Joyce Barnes, Bev & Joe Strauss, Barb Logan and Mel Hoff.

## **Seeking Nostalgia**

Marilyn Pingle, Director of Pastimes at Ascension Lutheran Church is looking for readers to read nostalgia for half an hour or so followed by discussion on Monday or Thursday at 11:00 a.m. The material can be either the reader's own experience or the experience or others. Call her at 715-358-3404 for more information or to volunteer.

## **NUUF Dates of Importance**

**October 8:** Katie Egan-Bruhy will speak on the "Origins of Agriculture" in Eastern North America at the UU Women's Circle. The program begins at 10:30 and will be followed by a potluck.

**October 16:** The NUUF Board will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 16 at the Fellowship.

## **Remember, When You Shop at Trig's, You Can Help Our UU Fellowship**

Trig's Food and Drug helps our Fellowship earn money with its "Trig's Supports Local Churches and Schools" Program. Three times a year receipt totals are tabulated and 1% of the total for our Fellowship is returned to us by check. You must record our Fellowship number, 27B, on your register receipt before depositing it in the "barometer" at the exit door for this to work for us. Our receipts this last year totaled \$346.08. So, remember, 27B.

## **Membership News Check Out Our Website**

I just completed a lot of work on re-vamping the look of the website. And at long last the

pictures are back up. Next I will be working on archiving more of the old NUUSLETTERS (as memory size will permit.) (Many of the NUUSLETTERS are already archived, but there are a few of the oldest editions that I will try to get on there.) And putting up a directory in webpage format. (The site already includes directories in rich text and PDF formats.) Check it out at [Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#) and if you have any questions you can contact me at [future\\_blasts@yahoo.com](mailto:future_blasts@yahoo.com)

Dan Rondello

## **News from England**

My husband, Richard Thieret, and I enjoyed our time as NUUF members when we lived at Conserve School from 2001-2004. NUUF is one of the best congregations we've ever experienced, and we've experienced many since our births into Unitarian families in the mid-1950's. Congratulations on the 20th anniversary of NUUF!

P.S. We're now living, teaching, and dorm parenting at a boarding school outside London, England. You're welcome to read <http://wendasheard.blogspot.com/> for a peak into our lives in England.

Sincerely,

Wenda

P.S. Hi Paul! Hi Irma!

## **Spotlight on New Members**

Welcome Cathy Peterson

I came to the U.S. in 1987 as an exchange student on an English Language scholarship from my university in Krakow, Poland. I married in 1988 and we had a daughter, Sophie, in 1993. In the meantime I learned how to make custom furniture and run a very successful small business with my now ex-husband. In 2003 I married my wonderful husband and friend Dion, and gained a set of loving and wonderful in-laws and two stepchildren, one of whom, Tom (now 18 years old and attending UW Stevens Point) has become dear like a son to me. As many of you know Sophie attends the Conserve School as a junior this year, and plans to spend her senior year abroad as an exchange student.

I grew up in the traditional Catholic faith, but very early in life begun questioning its tenets and voraciously reading about other religions of the world. I had made my final break with the Catholic church over the issues of priestly abuse of minors, the inability of women to become priests, and the exclusion of gays/lesbians/transgendered people as "sinners". I am proud to be a member of our wonderful and welcoming Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and plan to take more active roles as my time allows.

My interests include Bible studies, languages, art, poetry writing, reading, studying our natural world (herbalism) and Eastern philosophies. My goals include being the best mom and wife I can be by obtaining a Master Herbalist certificate and a Medical Assistant diploma as well as furthering my personal growth through meditation, qui-gong/yoga and also being my own case study for natural healing.

"Make a commitment to yourself that once a day, you will tell the truth when you ordinarily would have lied, by speaking the truth when you would have otherwise adorned it."

### **From the Editor**

Just a reminder that the deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the fifteenth of each month. Please send newsletter items to my e-mail address. Please send them as an attachment to your e-mail as that makes them much easier for me to cut and paste. I can be reached with questions, suggestions, or reactions at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net) or by phone at 715-356-5797.

I apologize for any errors or omissions in this newsletter. Please let me know if I inadvertently omitted your submission or if you spot any errors. I will make corrections next time.

Carol Ann Amour

## **UUA News**

### **Reciprocity**

Below is a link to Bobbie Groth's great great grandfather Nute's bio-posting on the Online UU Biographical Dictionary. The more hits (goes to) the site receives, the better, perhaps, the chances for Bobbie's book proposal on Nute that now sits with the editorial board of Skinner House Books.

<http://www25-temp.uua.org/uuhs/duub/articles/ephraimnute.html>

### **Book Reviews from UUA**

[Confessions of an Eco-Sinner](#)

*Tracking Down the Sources of My Stuff*

Fred Pearce

Where does everything in our daily lives come from? The clothes on our backs, the computers on our desks, the cabinets in our kitchens, and the spices behind their

doors? Under what conditions—environmental and social—are they harvested or manufactured? *In Confessions of an Eco-Sinner*, Fred Pearce shows us the hidden worlds that sustain a Western lifestyle, and he does it by examining the sources of everything in his own life.

### [Agenda for a New Economy](#)

#### *From Phantom Wealth to Real Wealth*

David C. Korten

Korten identifies the deeper sources of our recent economic failure: Wall Street institutions that have perfected the art of creating "wealth" without producing anything of real value: phantom wealth. Our hope lies not with Wall Street, Korten argues, but with Main Street, which creates real wealth from real resources to meet real needs. He outlines an agenda to create a new economy-- locally based, community oriented, and devoted to creating a better life for all, not simply increasing profits.

### [Animals Make Us Human](#)

#### *Creating the Best Life for Animals*

Temple Grandin

Drawing on the latest research and her own work, Grandin identifies the core emotional needs of animals. Then she explains how to fulfill them for dogs and cats, horses, farm animals, and zoo animals. Whether it's how to make the healthiest environment for the dog you must leave alone most of the day, how to keep pigs from being bored, or how to know if the lion pacing in the zoo is miserable or just exercising, Grandin teaches us to challenge our assumptions about animal contentment and honor our bond with our fellow creatures.

### [Turning to One Another](#)

#### *Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future*

Margaret J. Wheatley

"I believe we can change the world if we start talking to one another again." With this simple declaration, Margaret Wheatley proposes that people band together with their colleagues and friends to create the solutions for real social change, both locally and globally, that are so badly needed. Such change will not come from governments or corporations, she argues, but from the ageless process of thinking together in conversation.

### [Beyond Tolerance](#)

#### *Searching for Interfaith Understanding in America*

Gustav Neibuhr

In this insightful, deeply felt examination of the nature of community and religion, former New York Times religion reporter Gustav Niebuhr traces the roots of religious freedom in America and the setbacks and triumphs it has encountered along the way. From Hindus and Quakers in Queens to Catholics and Jews in Baltimore, to black Baptists and Catholics in Louisville, to Catholics and Buddhists in Los Angeles, Niebuhr focuses on the ways people build ties between groups. He looks at why this movement is a particularly American endeavor and how it can save us all. *Beyond Tolerance* is a handbook for religious cooperation in our fractured times.

*All the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action.*  
*James Russell Lowell*

## **Milestones**

Eric Boustead	9-16
Betty Frisbie	9-23
Tim Muench & Trish Kirk	9-26
Jim & Audrey Williams	9-27
Betsy Schussler & Rick Foral	9-30
Eileen & Thomas Schultz	10-04
Rick Wambach	10-07
Jean Polfus	10-10
Avery Koblings	10-13
Barbara & Dwight Logan	10-14
Mel Hoff	10-19
Greg Holt	10-23
Tim Muench	10-24
Irma Braunstein	10-24
Tara Reed & Jerry Woolpy	10-25
Charmaine Winters	10-26
Ethan Sites	10-26
Myrle Wasko & Dawn McCusker	10-31

*You have to live spherically in many directions...*  
*Frederico Fellini*

*A Foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of small minds.*  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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Place  
Stamp  
Here

*I have learned...that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.*

*Henry David Thoreau*

The NUUSLetter is published monthly.

**Next Deadline: October 15, 2009.** Send submissions to Carol Ann Amour, editor, at [writer65@verizon.net](mailto:writer65@verizon.net),

**For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Alan VanRaalte at [vanraalte@klinktech.net](mailto:vanraalte@klinktech.net).**



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