



June Sunday Services

June 6-"Ask Me What I'm Living For." This Circle Worship was first designed by Rev. Glenn H. Turner and will be facilitated by Hopedale member Genevieve O'Malley Knight. This service will provide time to consider and share what each of us cares about most deeply. In this time of graduations, fresh starts, and summer projects, how do we each want to direct our energy? What do we really know about our community members' cares and dreams? Questions will include "What are you living for?" and "What do you think is keeping you from living fully for the things you want to live for?" Service Leader: Ann Fuehrer.

June 13-"Blessing of the Animals." Rev. Linda Eppert will lead a service to honor our beloved pets, remembering that all animals are a part of the interconnected web of life. We will bless every pet who attends with its owner provided dogs are leashed, cats are in crates, fish are in bowls, and hamsters, guinea pigs, and reptiles are in cages. This is an intergenerational service. Children and youth are invited to participate. Childcare will be provided for the youngest among us. Potluck after Sunday Service.

June 20-"Father Sun, Mother Moon." Fathers and Father's Day have a variety of meanings for us. This service will follow the previous night's Solstice celebration with a weaving together of readings (Pagan, Aboriginal, and children's book) and a UU minister's prayer that link the Father and the Sun, as well as the Mother and the Sun, and virility, strength and creativity. For this intergenerational service, we will share photos and stories of our fathers, mothers, or other significant men in our lives who have been creators. Please bring a photo of your father, mother, or other significant creative person in your life, to share with the rest of us. Service leader: Ann Fuehrer ****Service preceded by continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m.**

Community Campout: Join us at Hopedale on Saturday night, June 19, at 6:00 pm. (See full description on next page.)



June 27-"Summer Readers' Theatre." Howard Zinn is perhaps best known for his tome, *A People's History of the United States*, however, Zinn was a playwright as well. Zinn died in March of this year. What better way to honor his work as a social activist than to read aloud portions of his play, "Emma," a play about Russian Anarchist and activist Emma Goldman? Often during the summer, we do a readers' theatre performance by way of trying new genres, and getting more active community participation in our services. Zinn's play is humorous, and prompts us all to put our values into action. Come participate as a reader or, an equally important role, as a member of the appreciative audience. Service leader: Ann Fuehrer.

Consulting Minister's Meanderings



There was a balance to life at Hopedale on Sunday May 16 as we welcomed George Knight as a member and planted bulbs in memory of a beloved member, "Vicky" Lynn Roark. (Judi Hetrick has also signed the membership book and will be recognized as a new member in the late summer or early fall.)

I heard there were many enjoyable times at the drumSTRONG, fund and "fun" raiser. Kudos to Peter Carels, and all of you who participated in that event. I have been so inspired by your fund raising efforts I have decided to auction off a Sunday Service. On June 13, I will put out a box for folks to place their bids for a Sunday Service theme and/or sermon topic. I will do the Sunday Service topic of choice for/with the highest bidder. The date of the service will be at my and the winner's discretion.

Sunday, June 13, will be my last Sunday with you until August. In July, I will take my two weeks study leave, working more deeply with the World Café model which will be employed for the congregational, "Covenant of Right Relations" in the fall. I will be recruiting table facilitators for the World Café; folks who can deeply listen and evoke conversations. I will be on vacation for two weeks in July as well. (July 4-17 vacation and July 18-31 study leave.)

Whether you are traveling this summer or you're planning a "stay-cation," remember to collect a small sample of water to share at the ingathering service in September. Happy Summer!

-Linda

Community Campout: Join us at Hopedale on Saturday night, **June 19, at 6:00 p.m.** for a potluck dinner, a Solstice celebration and campfire, and a campout. We will share dinner, a Solstice celebration, a campfire, games, and overnight community. The entire Community is invited to join overnight campers for a continental breakfast, provided by Hopedale, on Sunday morning at 9:30. Please RSVP to Amy Fox at tna.fox@gmail.com, 889-1398, or Ann Fuehrer at fuehrea@muohio.edu, 756-1963, if you plan on attending the campout—bring camping gear, something to cook over the fire, and a dinner dish to share.



Prez Message

Hopedale, Sanctuary and Home

In ancient times, when darkness ruled the night and travel was fraught with danger, the concept of offering a safe sleeping place and a meal to strangers was practically a biblical mandate. Hopedale is a sanctuary of worship, learning and sharing. We easily open our spiritual home to others who come to our door. We all are a part of this age-old practice in small ways that make a difference overall.

We intentionally greet our members, friends and guests as they enter each Sunday morning. It is a joy to say hello to everyone and a pleasure to locate stray name tags, help with children, and meet someone new. Our presence at the door helps make each entry a homecoming.

We offer some coffee, tea and food to share for those who linger after the service so no one has to hurry off to lunch. Some of those shared offerings are quite modest while others are so delicious they have become legend. We enjoy your company at coffee hour and potlucks.

We take care of our building because it is the site of so many meaningful events in our lives. We humbly take our turns in sweeping, dusting, mopping, doing dishes and straightening-up because we love our shared home and acknowledge that its upkeep is a gift to all.

You may already be a spontaneous part of these small kind ways in sharing welcome, hospitality and comfort to all in our midst. You may also take the pre-meditated route by signing up as a Greeter, Hospitality Host or Cleaner as often as you are able. We enjoy these tasks whether done alone or in the company of others and will enlist others as needed.

Rev. Linda's June Office Hours

Rev. Linda will be at the Hopedale Office on **TUESDAY, June 15 1-3 pm. and WEDNESDAY, 3-5 pm.** During the rest of the month, you can reach Rev. Eppert at 513-378-5769 (cell.) or via email: eppert@fuse.net

Leadership School and a Special Collection

**From Genevieve O'Malley Knight,
Outreach Services VP**

As we move into summer, the time for UU Mid-West Leadership School (MWLS) in Beloit, Wisconsin, approaches. MWLS is a collaborative effort by the three Midwestern districts to provide an intensive week of leadership development, UU study and community experience to individuals selected by our member congregations. I had the privilege to attend MWLS as a student in the summer of 2009, and I have the continuing privilege to serve MWLS as one of nine volunteer staff members for this and the next two years. This year, Hopedale will be sending Cindie Ulreich to Beloit to take part in this transformative and energizing experience, and we need your help to make it happen!

Our budget contains only about half of the \$995.00 needed to pay the congregational fee and tuition for MWLS. MWLS staff are doing everything we can to keep our costs low and maintain this reasonable fee structure. Hopedale's goal is to raise \$500 toward the MWLS fees from you, our members and friends, over the next month and a half. Any amount we raise over \$500 will allow us to use more of our budgeted money toward other leadership and congregational development opportunities. There will be special collections during services on June 13 and July 11. You can also make a contribution during any offertory or by mail to Hopedale's PO box (#625); just include a note that your contribution is for MWLS.

Mid-West Leadership School is a fantastic UU experience whose participants come home with lots of fresh ideas, confidence, great contacts and resources, as well as renewed energy. Thank you most sincerely in advance for your contributions to help Hopedale send another member to MWLS.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Let us know your joys and concerns. Call Caring Committee coordinator **Mary Fox**, .

⌘ Congratulations to Adriane and Drew Ruther on the birth of Flora Ruther, born April 24th! We look forward to seeing her at Hopedale.

⌘ Many thanks to Judy and Richard Schlub for providing piano/violin duets during the service on May 2nd. It was lovely and we hope to hear more!

⌘ A big hurrah goes to Cindie Ulreich who was awarded an associate's degree by Miami University on May 8th. Way to go, Cindie!

⌘ Did you see Kiefer Armstrong-Bell in the Hamilton Journal-News and Oxford Press? He was shown with several other children in support of the recent Lane Libraries' levy. Kiefer portrayed the man in the big yellow hat from the Curious George story. Thanks, Kiefer, for your help with this important issue!

⌘ Alex and Kenneth Danielson have been busy this spring. On May 1st at a junior concerto competition at Otterbein College Alex, accompanied by Kenneth, won 2nd place. Kenneth, accompanied by Jerry Stanley, won 1st place. In April Alex and Kenneth won honorable mentions at a young musicians concerto competition in Dayton. Hopedale certainly has appreciated the opportunities we've had to hear the boys during Sunday services. Best wishes to Kenneth, who graduates from Talawanda in June and will attend Indiana University in piano performance.

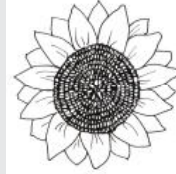
⌘ Congratulations to Lindsay Ross who will graduate from Talawanda in June. She plans to attend Miami, starting at the Hamilton campus, majoring in middle childhood education with concentrations in social studies and English. She will continue working at Miami while taking classes. You may remember the excellent presentation Lindsay gave us during a Sunday service -- she'll make a good teacher!

Susan and I have enjoyed working with the Caring Committee, particularly the contact it's given us with many of you. Now it's time for a change. Mary Fox is stepping into the leadership of this Committee (of which we are ALL a part). Even if you haven't volunteered specifically, Mary may be calling on you! It will help her greatly if you let her know what things you might do to help, if needed, such as transportation (generally for medical purposes), meals, perhaps shopping or a house or yard chore for someone who's ill. Thanks for all your support to the committee over the years. -- Jane Flueckiger.

GREEN CORNER

Will There Be Enough?

from Gisela
Bahr



The Magazine *Yes!* devoted its entire Summer 2010 issue to the topic of water, a precious resource and possibly soon to become as serious a problem as energy is right now. Perhaps even more serious because for our energy needs we can turn to solar, wind and other non-carbon energy sources. But water has no substitutes, and unlike oil and coal, it is much more than a commodity. Water is the basis of life. A human being can live for only five to seven days without water. Similarly animals and plants die if deprived of water. Hence our decisions about water - how to use, allocate, and manage it - will determine the survival of most of Earth's species, including our own.

Due to the growth of the world population and the increased demand on water, the groundwater tables have been falling for quite a few years now, affecting food production. For example, the previously existing grain reserves of three years are almost used up. Which means we are meeting some of today's food needs with tomorrow's water.

But we can no longer count on familiar patterns of rain, snow, and river flow to irrigate our farms and fill our cities reservoirs. Without establishing a direct connection to climate change, climate scientists warn of more extreme droughts and floods, and of changing precipitation patterns making weather, storms and natural disasters more severe and less predictable. That means planning for dams, flood control, diversion projects et al is no longer reliable. Some planners and policy-makers are viewing desalination as a solution to water shortages. But this would create more problems than it could solve. Producing one cubic meter of drinkable water from salt water would require about 2 kWh of electricity.

Recently, a new way of thinking about water came up among citizens, communities, farmers, and corporations. They are asking: what do we really need the water for, and can we meet that need with less? The result are solutions that work with nature, rather than against it. Communities find that protecting watersheds is the best way to ensure that water supplies are clean and reliable.

GREEN CORNER Continued

A healthy watershed can even replace a water treatment plant: filtering out pollutants, and at a lower cost, too. To prevent damage from heavy stormwater runoff, communities can turn roofs and streets into water catchments. Chicago boasts more than 200 green roofs. Many communities are revitalizing their rivers by tearing down dams, opening up habitat for fisheries, improving water quality, and returning aquatic life to rivers.

As individuals, we'll also need to make more conscious choices about how we use water in and around our homes. Turf grass covers some 40.5 million acres in the U.S. Particularly in the western parts where outdoor watering typically accounts for at least 50% of household water use, converting green lawns into native drought-tolerant landscaping can save a great deal of water. The water crisis calls upon us to consider how we value and use water. We'll need to learn to take care of the ecosystems that supply and cleanse water, to live within our water means, and to share water equitably.

Yes! Issue 54, Summer 2010

Linda and all of Lynn's UU family,

I would like to share my happiness at being able to celebrate my sister, Lynn Roark, and at having the opportunity to understand the part of her, your love and friendship helped shape. Thank you so very much for making me feel at home, I hope at those lunches you will continue to celebrate her, yourselves, and the blessing of friendships, while I will attempt to face the issues in my life (like falling houses) with as much Vicky Lynn calmness as I can muster.



May Spring bring you many wonderful reminders of Lynn and all the others you have celebrated in this beautiful way. For humans, like flowers, are beautiful alone, but together in groups, we can be breathtaking!

-Mina Davis

Family Ministry Program Coming to Hopedale

Outreach to children and their families is an area that Hopedale members and friends would like to see strengthened, as is clear from the Commission on Opportunities' Report. To that end, the Hopedale board is taking steps toward developing a family ministry program, which will include the hiring of a part-time coordinator. Family ministry programs focus on giving parents of school-age children a network of support and interaction, as well as helping children develop a sense of their place in the community. Some family ministry programs provide events for children and their families, such as dinners, social activities and discussions about parenting within the context of UU values.



While the family ministry coordinator would be familiar with Children's RE programming, religious education activities would still be planned and implemented by an RE Committee. The family ministry coordinator would provide broader programs for families, as well as serve as an outreach coordinator to families who visit or who might be interested in visiting or joining us. Should you have any questions, please contact Rev. Linda Eppert, Kim Jacobs-Beck, Ann Fuehrer or Celia Ellison, members of the task force.

SUGGESTIONS WANTED!

Following up on one of the **Provocative Propositions** which emerged from our March Appreciative Inquiry, I have put a suggestion box on top of the cupboards against the east wall of the sanctuary. We are looking for suggestions for themes for Sunday services, religious education, or community activities. Some of us would like to work towards creating an annual calendar of regular worship themes and community events. We would like this calendar to reflect, in part, desires of members of the community. So, if you have an idea, please write it down on an index card—a stack of them is near the box—and put your suggestion in the box. I will check the box regularly and pass your ideas along to the appropriate committee—Sunday Service, Religious Education, Social Action, or the Board.

Thanks, and I hope to hear from you soon!

-Ann Fuehrer

A little Review of Our Efforts to Include Families with Children on Sundays

-Liz Woedl

The Board agreed on a strategy supporting both Sunday Services and families of small children. We want to clarify, for guests, members and friends, the part of the service that is considered intergenerational and the part that is for adults. We also want to explain the ways Hopedale has provided upstairs and downstairs options for families, including the new "Whisper Room" off the sanctuary, the Nursery and Childrens' Lifespan RE. We will supply signage for the named rooms.

Periodically, you will see the following blurbs in our Sunday Service bulletins:

Bulletin insert for a non-intergenerational service:

The opening part of our service is intergenerational, family-friendly and is experienced with adults and children together. Parents are accompanied by their children. We offer a "Whisper Room" at the rear of the Sanctuary as a quiet place to soothe a baby or distract a restless child for a few moments. Throughout the service we offer childcare and play in the downstairs Nursery. Religious Education classes are available for preschool through eighth grade students after the "Children's Moment."

Bulletin insert for an intergenerational service:

Today's service is intergenerational and family-friendly. These services offer challenges and surprises. It is a time that offers our children some insight into adult religious doings in an atmosphere that says, "Little ones, you matter in our community. We value you as people and support your family's participation."

We offer a "Whisper Room" at the rear of the Sanctuary as a quiet place to soothe a baby or quietly distract a restless child for a few moments. Throughout the service we offer childcare and play in the downstairs Nursery.

Gathering to Give update

Gathering to Give is not giving up just because we lent our seed money to businesswomen in Senegal and El Salvador! We will continue to meet, collect donations and find deserving Kiva entrepreneurs to support elsewhere in the world.

Anyone can participate by writing a check to Hopedale and putting "Gathering to Give" or "Kiva" in the memo line. One person's small donation may not do much by itself, but added to modest donations from others, we can supply capital to help women support their families and change their lives for the better. Join us Sunday **June 6** right after church for a pitch-in lunch and chat about the G2G project.

We'll gather at the home of **Judi Hetrick, 209 Beechpoint Drive in Oxford**, no later than noon and stay no longer than an hour. All are welcome.

-Judi Hetrick
juhetric@yahoo.com 523.4298

Hopedale Provocative Propositions by Rev. Linda Eppert

If you are interested in participating in any of the following Appreciative Inquiry Provocative Propositions, please contact the convener:

-Because we view Hopedale as our home, we attend regularly and participate whole-heartedly. (Convener: Elinor Loucks)

-The energized small groups in our congregation partner with like-minded community groups, visibly showcasing our values, cosponsoring programs and bringing visitors to our building. (Convener: Judi Hetrick)

-We are increasing the intentional use of our natural surroundings in Sunday Services and community outreach. (Convener: Mary Fox) Thanks to Peter Carels for DrumSTRONG and thanks to all of you who participated in this fund and "fun" raiser.

-We have an annual calendar for diverse Sunday Services and Religious Education highlighting holy days, holidays, rites of passage, Welcoming activities and our Green Sanctuary, as suggested by members and friends. (Convener: Ann Fuehrer) Thanks to Ann for putting out a suggestion box.

-Once every other month the ARTS are a vehicle for the Sunday Service at Hopedale. (Convener: Liz Woedl) Thanks to Judy and Richard Schlub for playing during a recent Sunday service. And thanks to Wayne Copenhaver for issuing them the invitation!

Happening at Hopedale this month...

Grief Support Group will meet on three Sundays, June 6, 13 and 20th at 5 p.m. at Hopedale. See details below.

POTLUCK will be on **Sunday, June 13th** after Sunday Service.

Board meeting Wednesday, June 16th (6:30-8:30 p.m.)

Community Campout Saturday, June 19th beginning at 6 p.m. with a potluck, followed by overnight camping at Hopedale and breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. Join us for part or all of the festivities.



Newsletter deadline is **Sunday, June 20th**.

New Support Group

There will be a grief support group, led by Cynthia Kelley, for anyone who has experienced the recent loss of a loved one. The group is open not just to the Hopedale Community but also to the larger community. We will meet for three **Sundays, June 6, 13, and 20th, at 5 p.m.** If you have questions, call Linda Amspaugh, 756-0242.

Volunteers Needed To Have Some Fun

What: Spend time with the Hopedale kids. Activity is up to you: art, stories, outdoor activity, lesson from Between Sundays.

When: 10:30 - 11:30 Sunday mornings; **June 6 through July 25**

How: Contact Celia Ellison (513-461-1204 or knightcm@muohio.edu) to volunteer and pick your Sunday.



Sunday Service Schedule-*Monthly Rhythm*

Services and children's religious education classes are held Sundays at 10:30 am at the Hopedale Community building, 3870 Millville Oxford Road. Nursery and child care available.

1st Sunday Food Drive (Oxford Community Choice Pantry)

Everyone is encouraged to bring canned goods and nonperishables.

3rd Sunday Special Collection.

Hopedale Unitarian
P.O. Box 625



Universalist Community
Oxford, OH 45056