



September 2010

Ministers, DREs, church administrators, executive directors, newsletter editors, presidents, treasurers, social justice and denominational affairs people will receive the monthly congregational packet electronically as a PDF document. This not only reduces the cost of sending the packet, but ensures everyone on the distribution list gets the information as soon as it is available. If you cannot open a PDF document or prefer the information be mailed, please contact the District office at office@heartlanduu.org.

Remember, all packet contents can also be found on our website at www.heartlanduu.org (see Downloads-Forms).

Packet Contents:

- Letter from District Executive
- Setting the Welcome Thermostat
- The Vision to Embrace Change
- UUA Trustee Election
- Teacher Development Renaissance Module (Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2010)
- CONtagious 2010 – 4th Annual YRUU Kick Off (October 8-10, 2010)
- Leadership Day Online Workshop (October 9, 2010)
- Mystic Lake Retreat for Middle School Youth (October 15-17, 2010)
- Monthly Online Workshop Series
- Immigration Reform & LGBT Justice Conference (November 20, 2010)
- RE Express Plus
- 2011 Heartland District Assembly (April 1-3, 2010)

Contact the District office at 888-948-4883, or office@heartlanduu.org with any questions or comments.

Thank You!



Heartland District of the UUA
5351 E Thompson Road, #229
Indianapolis, IN 46237
248.514.5458 (cell)
de@heartlanduu.org (email)

September 2010

Dear Friends,

Fall is certainly here, and if you've been reading the Heartland e-newsletter, you'll know that I love this time of year. There's something about the crispness of the days that brings me alive—in my private universe, it should never be above 74 degrees! I'm stepping out with a bouncier step and am thrilled about what's happening in the congregations around the District.

Most exciting was the conversation I had earlier this week with some of the presidents of our congregations. For too long, I've been waiting for you to come to me with questions, concerns, conversation. But I realize that often presidents or other leaders don't know when to call the District Executive (or Faith Development Director, either), and so I'm reaching out to you. With our budget constraints, the hoped for "tour" around to see you all in person that I had envisioned for this fall cannot happen; so the next best thing is phone conversations with you. If you're a president and haven't signed up for a conversation yet, please be in touch. There are two more scheduled: September 22 and October 7.

What I realize from the conversations is what I've always known: talking with one another as leaders is a marvelous thing! It allows you the chance to learn from others, to understand the various stages of congregational life from a fresh perspective—how others have tackled the same things you are facing. So based on these conversations, I'll be figuring out how to help connect you all better. It would be lovely if we all lived around the corner, but since we don't, we're going to have to figure out ways for that to happen through the miracle of technology. Our webinars try to address the various areas of congregational life, but sometimes you need to be in groups of similar size or at similar stages of development. I'm thinking that perhaps we could set up a regular "meeting" of small congregation leaders for you to talk about resources, worship, and the like. We could help finance committees create budget processes that are easy to employ; we could help worship people navigate the thrills of the UUA's Worship Web and other resources. Let me know what you think—what connections you'd like to be making, and we'll try to help get it started.

Transition seems to be at the heart of what's happening in many of our congregations. Three congregations are welcoming newly called ministers this fall: UU Indianapolis, Lafayette, and Brighton, in order from south to north. And we have many interim ministries going: St. John's and Grosse Pointe are entering their second year with their interims, while new interims and/or consulting ministries are starting in Fort Wayne, Detroit, Portage, Grand Rapids, Birmingham, Flint and Midland. That's a lot of change for our District of 54 congregations! Several congregations are also facing changes in their Lifespan Religious Education programs, either through new people coming on board, or long-serving DREs reaping the benefits of sabbaticals.

For other congregations, the changes might be more subtle—changes from new people coming in, long time people leaving, the impact on the economy, and the like. But for whatever reason, it's good to remember that "change" is constant—that the outside world will keep throwing us curve balls or ones right over the plate. We can't control that. But we can control how we respond to the changes, and

that's what "transitions" are about—meeting the challenges that come through change, and deciding how to respond. Remember, we have resources at the District level to help you with these changes and your transitions! Be in touch if you have questions: we are here to serve you. When asked what I do, my elevator speech is that my job is to help you congregations do what you want to do better.

Remember that: we're here because of you, and to serve you. Thank you for your commitment to Unitarian Universalism, the Heartland, and your own precious congregations!

In faith,

Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley
District Executive

Setting the Welcome Thermostat

by Sarah B. Drummond

On the cubicle where she works all day, Abby pinned a picture of a church. Where many would keep a photo of family members or beloved pets, Abby has an image of a brownstone building on the Cambridge Common, and she looks at it whenever she feels anxious or unmoored. At 25, Abby has seen more life than the average young adult. She moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts from the West Coast when her high-school sweetheart husband had an opportunity to pursue a graduate degree there. Not long after they relocated, however, the marriage fell apart and left Abby in a city with no stable job, no friends, and no family. What she did have, though, was First Church in Cambridge (FCC), a church she had first found with her husband and that had later helped her through the transition to singlehood. She now views the church as her anchor, and as she considers options for graduate school herself she is seriously considering staying in Cambridge so she does not have to leave the church behind.

FCC is, in many ways, a typical mainline congregation. The music is usually classical, the liturgy rooted in Christian history and decidedly traditional. Boards and committees make many of the church's decisions through a conventional governance structure. The ministry staff includes a senior pastor, an interim associate pastor, and a lay minister of religious education. The community where the church is located is highly-educated and liberal, and the church's stance on social issues reflects this environment. What makes the church truly different from many of its peers is not just that it is growing—many churches do that—but the demographic category that is growing most quickly: Post-collegiate adults in their 20s and 30s. At one New Member Sunday in early 2008, out of 30 new members, 27 were under the age of 35.

What is their secret?

There is no easy answer to that question. But many religious leaders would like to have at least an inkling as to how this mainline Protestant church has been able to attract a critical mass of new members from such a fluid and complex population.

In 2007-2008, FCC designed and implemented a church-wide program on Christian “faith practices” for all of its members, offering them the opportunity to explore the ways in which they were living out their faith through Christian practices such as hospitality, keeping Sabbath, and testimony. Building on this study, in 2008-2009 they initiated a second faith practices program focusing specifically on younger adults. They deployed seminarians toward the purpose of reaching out to the younger adults who had found their way, through various means, to the church. The seminarians each designed a program, implemented the plan, and then reported back to each other and church leaders about what they did and what they learned.

Here's a summary of some of the issues that emerged through interviews with the program leaders and several of the participants. These tensions, surfaced by the interviews, give helpful food for thought to congregations that seek to engage younger adults.

Tension #1: Flexible, But With High Expectations

One of the basic questions one must ask when considering the faith lives of younger adults is who, exactly, is in this demographic category? In this case it was younger adults who had finished college but not necessarily put down roots. They saw their lives as transitory, not just because they had moved a lot (although they had), but because they had not yet made long-term commitments to a neighborhood, vocation, or in many cases a life partner. They all described the population into which they fall as one that is in flux and not yet peacefully ensconced in a way of life. They spoke of a sense of yearning for meaning and community that they thought they could find in a church. They described having arrived at what one might call a younger adult plateau, where “you've done all your 'firsts' and you feel a little settled and willing to grow.”

They also spoke of a sense of busyness that made conventional church participation difficult for them. The seminarian who created a program on parenting for younger adult parents bemoaned the fact that many potential participants simply could not make the time to participate. “It seemed to me that people were sincere in their desire, and yet the hurdles were also very real.” All involved agreed that some form of a “ladder” approach to program planning had been essential, where there were different levels of involvement from which participants could choose. Ultimately, program leaders concurred that they had to, as one put it, “be intentional about offering diverse ways of plugging in.”

Tension #2: Welcoming, But Not Desperate

All interview participants and program leaders at some point spoke about the hospitality they found at FCC. They described having needed, in a tumultuous or tenuous time in life, to have a place where they felt they belonged and where the community was glad they were there. Yet the nature of the welcome they received had a particular flavor to it that many found essential to their comfort in the church: The welcome did not feel needy.

Many program participants reported that one of the things that drew them to FCC was the presence of others in their age group. Some pointed out the chicken/egg irony, where a church needs to have younger members to attract younger members. Even so, FCC seems to have set the hospitality thermostat to just the right temperature to help a younger adult feel welcome without feeling pressure. By appearing joyful themselves and also happy to welcome newcomers, FCC members caused younger adults to feel embraced out of a sense of abundance, rather than scarcity.

Tension #3: Believing, But Not Dogmatic

Many participants in this study described a sense of comfort they derived at FCC from knowing where the church was coming from theologically. Though one might conjecture that younger adults, often fresh out of secular colleges, would feel most at home in a setting where the Christian message was watered down, the younger adults interviewed appreciated that the church knows who and whose it is. This comfort seemed to have many layers to it. First, they appreciated the church's honesty about its Christian worldview and would not have cottoned to a cloaked message. Second, they commented on the integrity of the church's purported vision and how it was reflected in the way church members behaved toward them. Tying back to the example of the welcome they received, several indicated that the church's intentional vision—which was generated out of a great deal of work on the part of the church's leaders and members—is a way of hospitality. The younger adults interviewed understood that the welcome they received was part of the church's effort to live out its stated vision. This congruence between what the church did and what it said was highly attractive to what one participant called “cynical Gen-X types.”

They also, however, appreciated the way in which the church welcomed their doubts and questions. One described her decision to join FCC this way, “I got sucked in by a sermon.” She went on to describe a sermon that questioned whether a just God would have crushed Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea. She had never heard a minister openly question the Bible, and she found this freeing. Her comments reflected what those who study faith development might consider common knowledge: younger adults redefine the faiths of their childhoods as they formulate their adult belief systems. Perhaps because of the relatively highly-educated population from which FCC draws, this permission to question seemed particularly important. Participants indicated that they could not have felt comfortable in a church that required them to withhold questions and forego critical thinking.

What does it take for a church to be attractive to a younger adult? By no means an exhaustive answer, the initiative at FCC brings to light that churches should consider how they might be

1. flexible while honoring the importance of commitment,
2. welcoming but not desperate-sounding, and
3. overt about theology while making room for doubt.

Clearly, these tensions present more questions than they do answers. But as many churches are led to believe that following fads is the only way to reach younger adults, these tensions present opportunities for a more nuanced conversation. Younger adults are savvy when someone is trying to sign them up for something, draw them into something, or sell them something. May they also be savvy to how much they have to gain, and how much is at stake for them, as they seek to join with a community to find meaning in their lives.

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The Vision to Embrace Change

by **Kenneth J. McFayden**

I had always thought I had perfect vision—or at least near-perfect vision. As an adolescent I sometimes “manipulated” my eyes a little during eye examinations to read the 20/20 line on the eye chart. Corrective lenses? I wanted nothing to do with them. Perhaps this reluctance was vanity, or simply a desire not to be encumbered with glasses.

During a visit to an ophthalmologist during my second year of seminary, the diagnosis was clear: I needed corrective lenses. I vividly remember putting on my glasses for the first time. Walking out of the doctor’s office, I looked at the grass, at the leaves on the trees, at the clouds in the sky. The colors were vivid, the details sharp. By alternately removing the glasses and putting them back on, I could see major contrasts. I did this several times as I looked around. With these new lenses, I could see things in a way different from before. I had no clue what I was missing until I began to wear corrective lenses.

Vision is a key factor in how congregations embrace change, move beyond the intense pain of loss, and rediscover their capacity to hope. Congregations that remain in the grip of loss and grief and anxiety are unable to see the present clearly—or to envision the future.

Clearly, vision points to what the future may hold. The process of casting a vision may be creative and hopeful and provide a source of considerable energy and enthusiasm as a congregation considers future ministry opportunities. The most effective “visioning processes” typically look forward and backward, learning from the past without being restricted by it.

Some leaders ignore the congregation’s rich past in casting a vision. Hoping to move boldly into the future, they may overlook the voices and traditions of the past and proceed too quickly with new initiatives. In doing so, they place the congregation at risk—and their capacity for effective leadership in peril.

The first task for leaders who seek a new direction for their congregations is to uncover vision in existing values and stories. This task will take the conversations about the future back to the past and will entail remembering the joyful moments and painful losses, memories of former members and staff, the congregation’s central place in members’ lives, some of the congregation’s most deeply held traditions, and structural supports for congregational life that no longer exist. The purpose of this task is not to reopen grieving processes or to recreate the past. Rather it is intended to identify values that are deep in the history of the congregation and central to its present identity.

Strategic leaders seek to cast a vision that builds upon the best of the past as a congregation moves toward the future. They understand that a degree of continuity with the past allows members to “connect the dots” between past, emerging, and future realities. They know that appropriating the past diminishes unnecessary risks and enables “measured” change. They are sensitive to the negative impact of discontinuities between the vision and the past and recognize that the greater the dissonance, the more likely it is that members attached to the past will resist the vision.

Yet strategic leaders are equally aware of the dangers of remaining fixed on the past and avoiding the difficult task of casting a vision. Staying focused on the past may reflect a wish to relive it and lead to missed emerging opportunities for ministry on the congregation’s doorstep or on the other side of the world.

Wise leaders understand that vision provides a crucial source of power for embracing change. Vision by itself, however, is insufficient. Leaders must be adept at linking a vision to key attributes of the congregation’s identity.

Effective leaders realize that a vision for the future is often embedded in values and stories that are only beginning to emerge. Because of the emerging dimension of these values and stories, leaders are asked to see around the curve, anticipating what may be coming without any assurance that it will materialize.

What leaders often do not do well is to consider God's vision for the congregation. To be sure, they may frame their work as a "discernment" process. Yet, their intent may be to discern what the members want (and will follow) rather than to discern what God hopes and what mission God is calling them toward. Aligning a congregation's vision with God's vision for the church and world is a congregation's best chance of inspiring the hearts of people. And it is the most faithful.

What could energize a congregation more than a vision for its future that is focused in Scripture, relevant to its historical and contemporary contexts, and faithful in its service to God in the future? An inspiring vision enables us to see beyond the painful losses and overwhelming challenges that have caused us to flounder; it prepares us to find a new way.

In the face of change, congregational members and leaders want to find the "perfect" vision. An imperfect vision, they fear, will not be successful and will lead to more loss. In the face of the losses the congregation has already endured, the stakes are too high for the congregation to get it wrong. The pressures to cast a perfect vision, I fear, keep congregational leaders and members from engaging in a visioning process that is bold, creative, and ultimately life-giving.

Congregational leaders cannot guarantee the perfect vision. What leaders can do is to underscore the importance of casting a vision that encourages the vitality of the congregation and the purposefulness of its ministry.

Casting a vision is hard work. The leader who rises to the challenge to cast a vision that truly inspires a congregation empowers members to embrace change. Wise leaders understand that the power of vision stems more from the vision itself than from the visionary. They realize that an inspiring vision mobilizes congregations to work through substantial challenges and to make significant choices as they seek a future to which members will attach anew.

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Heartland District of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
5351 E. Thompson Road, #229, Indianapolis, IN 46237-4094
317.788.4883 (phone) 888.948.4883 (toll free)

September 20, 2010

Dear Heartland District Congregation:

The Heartland District Board of Trustees is pleased to invite you to participate in electing a UUA Trustee representing the Heartland District of the UUA. The term of the current trustee will expire at the end of the 2011 General Assembly.

Your participation in this election contributes to shaping the direction of the Unitarian Universalist Association in the coming years. In addition, your participation affirms the use of the democratic process within our congregations, an expression of the UUA's fifth principle.

Enclosed in this packet, please find the following information related to the election:

- ❖ Rules of Procedure, including:
 - General Information
 - Election Timetable
 - Nominating Petition Rules
- ❖ Nominating Petition Form

Please read through these Rules of Procedure and distribute the Rules and the Nominating Petition form to all interested congregation members. Also, please take note of the Election Timetable, and schedule any necessary meetings related to the election with this Timetable in mind.

Thank you for your participation in this election and for your ongoing involvement in the Heartland District!

Sincerely,

Frank Nye

Frank Nye
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Heartland District of the UUA

Enclosures

RULES OF PROCEDURE for ELECTION OF HEARTLAND DISTRICT UUA TRUSTEE

Adopted August 2010

This election is for a four-year term as UUA Trustee representing the Heartland District beginning at the final adjournment of the 2011 General Assembly, currently scheduled for June 22 to 26, 2011.

The Rules of Procedure for this election are as follows.

Nominations

Nominations for Heartland District UUA Trustee shall be made through petition, according to the criteria provided on page 3, "NOMINATING PETITION FOR HEARTLAND DISTRICT UUA TRUSTEE."

Election

- If no petitions are received for properly nominated candidates, the Heartland Board of Trustees will select a candidate, who will be certified as elected, in compliance with the Bylaws of the Heartland District and of the UUA.
- If petitions are received for only one properly nominated candidate, the Heartland Board of Trustees will certify the election of the candidate without balloting, in compliance with the Bylaws of the Heartland District.
- If petitions are received for more than one properly nominated candidate, ballots will be mailed to congregations according to the Timetable described on page 2.

Ballots

If balloting is required, ballots will be mailed to all eligible Heartland District societies according to the Timetable on page 2 and 3. Eligible societies will be those societies in the Heartland District that have been duly accredited to send delegates to the 2011 UUA General Assembly. The number of ballots a society receives will be equal to the number of votes to which a society would be entitled at the 2011 UUA General Assembly.

Timely receipt of ballots

Please see the Timetable on page 2 and 3. Close of nomination and balloting will be strictly followed.

Run-off ballots

If no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in the first ballot, run-off ballots will be mailed to congregations in the same numbers as the first ballot. Run-off ballots will bear the names of the top two candidates on the first ballot.

Certification of winner

The Heartland Secretary will certify the results of the election and notify the Secretary of the UUA no later than May 6, 2011.

Election Timeline and Rules of Procedure

October 6, 2011 **Start of Nominations.** Nominating Petitions and Rules of Procedure will be sent to all member congregations of the Heartland District.

In order to be nominated for UUA Trustee, petitions bearing signatures of at least six (6) members from each of at least ten (10) congregations must be submitted to the Secretary of Heartland District Board.

January 15, 2011 **Close of Nominations.** All nominating petitions must be received by the Heartland District Office no later than close of business on this day.

Non-Balloting Certification*

- If there is only one nominee for UUA Trustee, the Board of Directors will certify the election of the candidate without balloting
- If there are no nominees, the Board of Trustees will nominate a candidate forthwith, who will thereby be certified by the Secretary of the Heartland District as elected.

February 1, 2011 **Start of Balloting.** If required (see “Non-balloting Certification” above), ballots will be mailed to congregations. Congregations will receive ballots equal to the number of delegates to the Annual Meeting.

March 12, 2011 **Close of Balloting.** All ballots must be received at the Heartland District Office no later than close of business on this day.

*March 20, 2007 **Start of Run-off Balloting.** If required, run-off ballots will be mailed to congregations.*

April 2, 2011 The Secretary of Heartland Board will notify the Secretary of UUA Board of election or non-ballot certification results (if there is no run-off balloting).

*April 24, 2007 **Close of Run-Off Balloting.** All ballots must be received at the Heartland District Office no later than close of business on this day.*

May 10, 2007 Secretary of Heartland Board notifies Secretary of UUA Board of election results from run-off balloting

NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR HEARTLAND DISTRICT UUA TRUSTEE

The Heartland District is seeking qualified and dedicated individuals interested in serving as the Heartland District UUA Trustee for a four-year term beginning with the adjournment of the UUA General Assembly in 2011, currently scheduled for June 22-26. The Heartland District UUA Trustee may serve two consecutive terms. The Trustee serves as the district's direct link to our national organization and as such, must be available to attend Heartland District Board Meetings, held in several different locations around the district, UUA Board Meetings in Boston or other locations as that Board may decide, and the UUA's General Assembly. The trustee has the opportunity to interact with congregations throughout the district and with UUs across the nation providing support and impetus to the Unitarian Universalist movement.

ELIGIBILITY

Any member of a Unitarian Universalist church or fellowship in the Heartland District who complies with the eligibility provisions of the Bylaws of the UUA for trustees representing districts may submit to the Secretary of the Heartland Board of Trustees a properly executed Nominating Petition on the form provided. Not more than one UUA Trustee shall be a member of the same member congregation.

QUALIFICATIONS

The person who is selected Heartland District UUA Trustee must, at the time of his/her nomination and election, be a legal member of a UU church or fellowship located in the Heartland District and must continue as such during his or her term of service. Such person must, at the time of nomination, election, and during his/her term of office, comply with the eligibility provisions in the Bylaws of the UUA for trustees representing districts.

PETITION REQUIREMENTS

Each candidate must provide the endorsing signatures of at least six (6) members from each of at least ten (10) UU societies in the Heartland District, on the form provided. One (1) of the societies may be the home society of the member seeking nomination. The nominating petition must also bear two certification signatures: (1) the presiding officer or the Secretary of the applicant's home society attesting to the membership status of the applicant, and (2) the presiding officer or the Secretary of the petitioners' home society attesting to the membership status of the petitioners. Please use one or more separate sheets for each congregation, and double check that both certification statements are signed and dated.

RETURN OF PETITIONS

Petitions should be returned to the Heartland District office.

Please mail completed petitions to:

Heartland District of the UUA
ATT Board Secretary
5351 E. Thompson Rd., #229
Indianapolis, IN 46237-4094

Questions? Contact:

Heartland Board Secretary
Frank Nye
Frank.Nye@insightbb.com

or
Heartland_District Executive
Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley
248.514.5458 or de@heartlanduu.org

Thank you for your participation in this election!

Timeline and Procedures for District's UUA Trustee Election

Term will run from July 2011 through June 2015

October 6, 2010 Nomination petitions will be sent to member congregations.

In order to be nominated for UUA Trustee, petitions bearing signatures of at least six (6) members from each of at least ten (10) congregations must be submitted to the Secretary of Heartland District Board.

January 15, 2011 Nominations closed; all petitions must be received by the Heartland office by close of business.

*Non-balloting certification**

- *If there is only one nominee for UUA Trustee, the Board of Directors will certify the election of the candidate without balloting.*
- *If there are no nominees, the Board of Trustees will nominate a candidate forthwith, who will thereby be certified by the Secretary of the Heartland District as elected.*

February 1, 2011 Ballots will be sent out to congregations. Each congregation will receive ballots in numbers equal to number of delegates to Annual Meeting.

February 27, 2011 *If the Board certifies a candidate through May 13, 2011 non-balloting, the notification to the Secretary of the UUA must be made between this time period.

March 12, 2011 Close of balloting - all ballots must be received by close of business. The Secretary of the Heartland District (or designate) will tabulate results, and determine if one candidate has received a majority vote.

If there is no clear winner, then a run off procedure must be followed.

March 20, 2011 If no clear winner, run-off ballots will be submitted to congregations with names of top two nominees.

April 2, 2011 The Secretary of Heartland Board will notify the Secretary of UUA Board of election results (if there is no run-off balloting)

May 7, 2011 Close of run-off balloting; all ballots must be received by close of business. Secretary of Heartland District (or designate) will tabulate results.

May 10, 2007 Secretary of Heartland Board notifies Secretary of UUA Board of election results from run-off balloting.



TEACHER DEVELOPMENT RENAISSANCE MODULE

(Sponsored by the Heartland, Central Midwest and Prairie Star Districts)

September 30 – October 2, 2010

(Starts with dinner at 6pm Thursday – Ends with lunch at 1pm Saturday)

Registration Deadline: **September 24, 2010** – Earlier is better!

Facilitator:

Nancy Combs-Morgan

Heartland Faith Development Director

Benedict Inn Retreat Center

1402 Southern Ave.

Beech Grove, IN 46017

Click [HERE](#) for more information & directions.

THE TEACHER DEVELOPMENT RENAISSANCE MODULE HAS AN EMPHASIS
ON A SMALL GROUP MINISTRY METHOD OF ENGAGING AND
SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS IN YOUR CONGREGATIONS.
THE CONTENT FOR THIS MODULE IS BASED ON THE TREMENDOUS WORK
OF PARKER PALMER, FROM HIS TEXT, "THE COURAGE TO TEACH."

Registration cost is all inclusive:

15 hours training, meals, housing and materials

Cost: \$300.00

[Register & Pay Fees Online](#)

contagious 2010

Heartland District's 4th Annual

YRUU Kickoff Con!

Get excited for the conference season at CONtagious with...

+CON BANDS- small assigned groups designed to help newcomers and old comers alike get to know people

+WORKSHOPS- Play games, watch and discuss movies, learn about social justice, and much more

+CAUGHTY HAUS- A goofy talent show where youth and adults present their wacky and amazing talents

+WHEN: October 8-10, 2010

+WHERE: First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit (4605 Cass Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201)

+WHO: Senior High Youth (9-12th grade) and their advisors

Check-in starts at 7:00pm on Friday

Registrations due by October 4, 2010

Fee: \$30.00

Email your questions or concerns to Scott Jackoway at sjackoway@gmail.com
or Karalyn Grimes at karalyngrms@gmail.com

Register by mail or online & pay by check or credit card at:

http://www.heartlanduu.org/reg_services.html

HEARTLAND DISTRICT FALL RETREAT

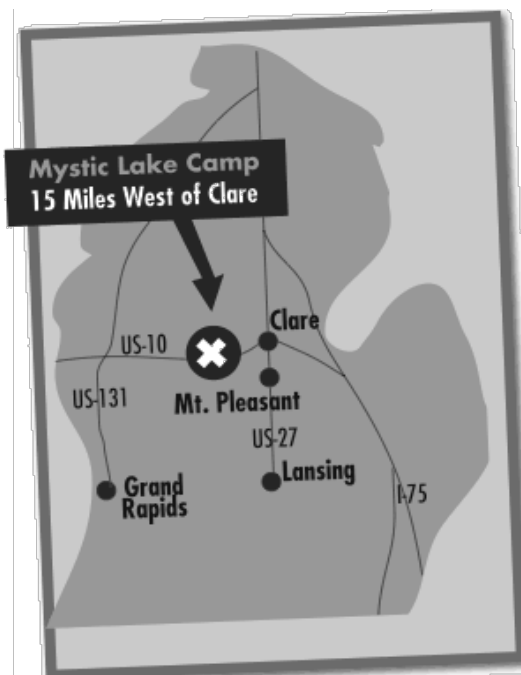


FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH
(6th – 8th grades)

October 15 – 17 2010

Outdoor fun, new friends and old, run and play, worship, create!

Located at the Mystic Lake
(YMCA) Camp
Lake, Michigan
On US 10, 15 miles West of
Claire



Tentative Agenda:

Friday:

7p – 9p	Meet at Mystic Lodge at Lodge (FIRM)
7p-9p	Check-in
9-9:30p	Ingathering, rules, logistics
9:30 – 10:30	Getting to know you
10:30 pm	small affiliation groups meet (Touch Groups)
10:45 ish	Off to cabins
Midnight	Lights out & quiet

Saturday:

7:30 am	Wake
8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am	Team initiatives, challenge course/low ropes
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 3:45	Activity
3:45 – 5p	Activity
6 pm	Dinner
6:45 – 7p	Touch Groups
7p – 8p	Activity
8:30 pm – ?	Campfire, worship, skits and songs
11:00-ish	To cabins
Midnight-ish	Lights out and quiet

Sunday:

8 am	Wake-up, showers and cabin clean up
9 – 10 am	Breakfast and final clean-up
10 – 10:30a	Closing service and goodbyes
10:30 am	Leave for home (FIRM)

Heartland District Fall Retreat for Middle School Youth

(A.K.A. the Mystic Lake Camp)

October 15 – 17, 2010



It's time once again for a little fall fun

LOCATION: Mystic Lake YMCA Camp of course! Camp facilities include heated cabins with showers, a lodge for meals and indoor recreation, large sports fields, a challenge course, hiking trails, archery, a natural bog and much more.

REGISTRATION & FEES: The price for the weekend retreat is only **\$65.00 per person***. This covers lodging in heated dorms (with showers), all activities, snacks, Saturday meals plus Sunday breakfast.

**Fees include lodging Friday & Saturday nights, 3 meals on Saturday, breakfast Sunday, snacks and all activities including but not limited to the challenge course, campfire and cooperative games. Dinner will not be provided Friday night.*

Registration Deadline: October 6, 2010

- ❖ Register and pay fees online at www.heartlanduu.org
- ❖ Or, mail the registration form with a check made payable to the Heartland District. Mail to: Heartland District, 5351 E. Thompson Rd., #229, Indianapolis, IN 46237.
- ❖ Permission and Health Form **MUST** be presented at time of check-in at the retreat.
- ❖ We must have a registration and health form for each person attending – youth and adults.
- ❖ You must inform your DRE that you have registered to ensure she/he can coordinate transportation and chaperone responsibilities.

WHAT TO BRING: Sleeping bag or blankets, pillow, jacket or sweatshirt for cool nights, toiletries, appropriate clothes for the weather, extra socks, raincoat or poncho (just in case). You might want to bring a camera, appropriate CD's, cards, a frisbee or football, a good book, a favorite game, etc. Please *do not* bring electronic equipment i.e. video games, CD players, iPods, PSPs etc.

DETAILS, DETAILS: We must have a adult to youth ratio of 1:7 *and* there must be at least one adult from each congregation. Financial aid may be available from your congregation. Contact your DRE for details.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Michael Moreda, ripperx95@gmail.com, or
Nancy Otto, otto.dydc@gmail.com, (248) 227-4159

CHECK LIST FOR FALL RETREAT

- sleeping bag
- small pillow (optional)
- sleep wear
- towel and wash cloth
- deodorant
- soap
- shampoo
- hair brush or comb
- toothbrush and toothpaste
- large plastic bag (for wet things)
- extra pair of shoes (in case shoes get wet while canoeing)
- rain gear
- gloves (it gets chilly at night, especially if it's rainy or damp outside)
- warm jacket, sweaters or sweatshirts
- clothes for Saturday and Sunday (morning)
- extra socks
- camera (optional)
- books, magazines, CDs, and cards
- water bottle with you name on it
- medications. Medications must include clear instructions for use and must be given the accompanying adult upon arrival at camp

DO NOT BRING:

Electronic games, i.e. Video games or hand held games

Electronic equipment, i.e. CD Player, MP3 player, IPod, PSP, etc. The camp will have a boom-box for use at appropriate times.

Cell phones are to be left with your chaperone and are only to be used in an emergency.

Food or drinks other than water. We do not want mice in the cabins.

Retreat coordinators will provide plenty of snacks.

Weapons (real or toys) or anything that could be used as a weapon, i.e. no pocket knives, water guns, etc.

DIRECTIONS to Mystic Lake Camp

Directions from Detroit Area

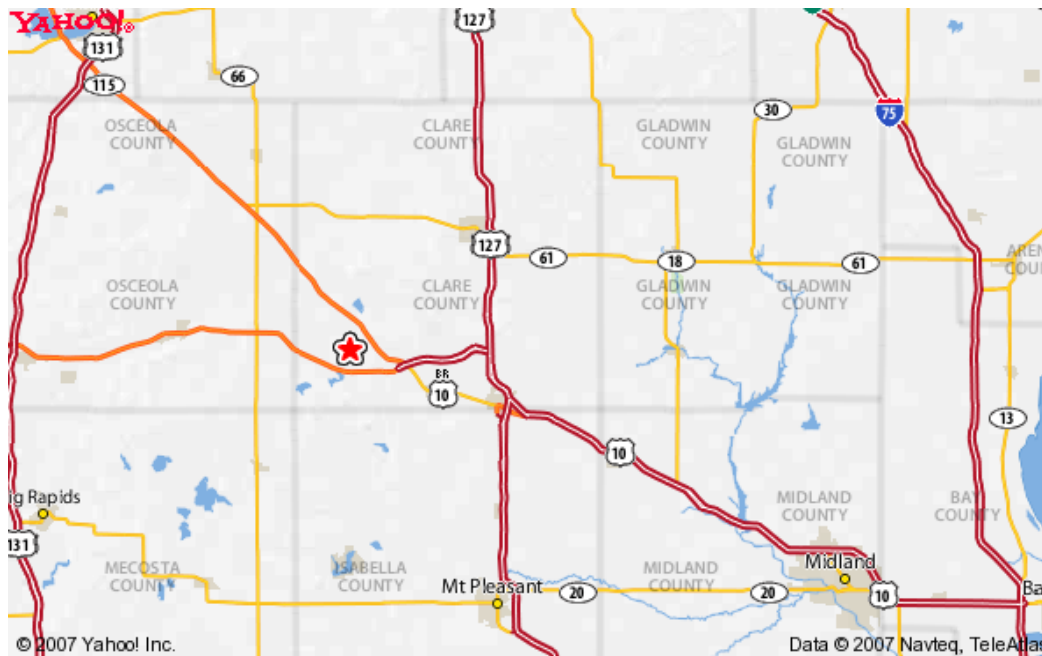
Take I-75 North, merge onto US-10, Exit #162B towards Midland. US-10 West will merge into I-127 near Clare. Just past Clare take the US-10 West exit towards Ludington. Continue on US 10 West, eventually the road will change from two lanes divided to just 2 lanes. The next town will be Lake. Camp is located a little over a mile from the blinking yellow light on the left (there is a big gray sign on the left hand side of the road).

Directions from Lansing Area

Take I-127 North to Clare. Take the US-10 West exit towards Ludington just past Clare. Continue on US 10 West. Eventually the road will change from two lanes divided to just 2 lanes. The next town will be Lake. Camp is located a little over a mile from the blinking yellow light on the left (there is a big gray sign on the left hand side of the road).

Directions from the North

Take I 75 South until the 127 South break off. Take 127 South to US 10 West towards Ludington. Follow US 10 West until the Village of Lake. Camp is located 1.2 miles West of Lake on the left hand side





Leadership Day 2010

The Fall Leadership Day will be online rather than in-person and will include participants from three districts.

When: Saturday, October 9, 2010

Workshops Offered

Workshop descriptions and information about leaders are available at www.psduua.org/Workshops/LeadershipDay2010

Session 1: 9:00 to 10:30 AM Central Time/ 10 to 11:30 Eastern Time.

Choose one.

- New Membership Committee Members
- New Worship Coordinators

Session 2: 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM Central Time/ 12 to 1:30 Eastern Time.

Choose one.

- New Treasurers
- New Social Action Chairs

Session 3: 1:00 to 2:30 PM Central Time/ 2 to 3:30 Eastern Time.

Choose one.

- New Presidents
- New DREs

General Information

- Workshops will be 90 minutes long, with a presentation and time for discussion.
- Participants will need a computer with high speed Internet access and a separate phone line.
- Individuals can participate from their home or office. Small groups could gather at their church with a large screen and speaker phone.
- A tutorial on how to participate in an online workshop is available. It is a slideshow, less than five minutes long, which explains what to expect and how to use the workshop software. See it at www.psduua.org/Workshops/HowToTakeAnOnlineWorkshop

Registration

- To register go to www.psduua.org/Workshops/LeadershipDay2010
- There is a limit to the number of people who can register, and only one computer can be connected per registration.
- Registration is required by 4:00 PM on Thursday, October 7, 2010.
- The registration fee is \$10 for each computer connection for each session. Participants will **not** incur long distance charges on their phone bill for the phone call.

Cancellation

If you need to cancel your registration, please notify us at info@psduua.org or 612-870-4823.

Sponsored by

Midwest UU Leadership: a resource for UU congregations in Central Midwest, Heartland, and Prairie Star Districts of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Questions

Contact Lisa Presley at de@heartlanduu.org or call 248-514-5458
This flier can be downloaded from www.psduua.org/Workshops/LeadershipDay2010

Monthly Online Workshop Series

(Sponsored by the Central MidWest, Heartland, and Prairie Star Districts)

As workshop details become available, they will be posted in the Heartland District e-newsletter and on the district website.

Online: Any location with high speed Internet connection and phone line.
6:45 – 8:00 PM Central Time (7:45–9:00 PM Eastern Time)
Each workshop offered twice.

Exploration of Social Media in Congregational Life

October 12 & 14, 2010

Money

November 9 & 18, 2010

Growth

January 2011

Youth Ministry

February 2011

Dealing with Conflict Positively

March 2011

Worship

April 2011

Lay/Ordained Partnership

May 2011

Click the workshop title for more information. If the title is not a link, the information will be available soon.

Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE ON



Standing on the Side of Love for
Immigration Reform & LGBT Justice

Saturday November 20, 2010
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church
23925 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, Michigan 48075

Highlights:

- Inspirational keynote: Gini Courter, Moderator, UUA Board of Trustees
- Hear immigrants and LGBT people tell how they have been affected by oppression.
- Workshops on the issues by Immigration Reform for America & Equality Michigan.
- Discover what a congregation can do AFTER becoming a welcoming congregation.
- FREE exhibition tables on a variety of programs and issues!
- ***Early registration: \$30 (before 11/6/10).*** Meals, child care, home hospitality included.

CO-SPONSORED BY: Heartland District – UUA; Immigration Reform for America; Equality Michigan; Interweave, First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor; with support from Oasis TBLG Ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan.

Register/pay on-line: www.uujustice.org or
Mail check to: MUUSJN, Randy Block, 4220 Arlington Dr., Royal Oak, MI 48073
(Make check out to Heartland District – UUA; write “MUUSJN Conference” in memo line)
For more information, call Jeannie (517-927-3453) or Randy (248-549-5170)



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF
LOVE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

Religious Education Lesson Plans and Worship Resources from the Church of the Larger Fellowship

RE Express Plus

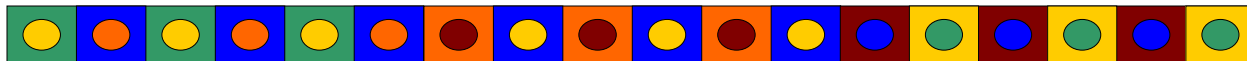


Religious Education Resources Available at the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF)

Looking for high-quality religious education resources for your family, small group or congregation? RE Express Plus offers tools to create a complete RE program for a small group, or to creatively expand a larger program. This year's curriculum: World Religions.

Sent via monthly emails, RE Express plus includes week by week lesson plans, a searchable index, links to activities, and more!

**\$129 for a one-year congregational subscription
at www.clfuu.org/re/express.html**



Make Your Own Sunday

Worship Resources Available at the Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF)

Choose a topic. Choose opening words, chalice lighting words, meditations, children's stories, readings, sermons, or closing words. Choose a format, choose a season, choose a holiday . . . Add a cherry! You choose the components of your worship service!

**\$129 for a one-year congregational subscription
at www.clfuu.org/myos-join**

To subscribe to RE Express, Make Your Own Sunday, or to learn more about the Church of the Larger Fellowship,
contact CLF: clf@clfuu.org, 617-948-6150



All proceeds from the sale of CLF resources support the many ministries of the Church of the Larger Fellowship.
Learn more about CLF at www.clfuu.org

2011 Heartland District Assembly and Spring Conference

April 1-3, 2011

Keynote Speaker



Gini Courter

UUA Moderator

The moderator's chief role is presiding at General Assemblies and at meetings of the Board of Trustees. It is the UUA's highest volunteer position.

Horizon Convention Center

Muncie, Indiana

