

ALL SOULS NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year!

It's a great time to take a look at ourselves, our journey and our church. We will FINALLY start the Task Force to Vision our church's future!

We will have our **First Meeting January 25 from 1:00 to 3:00** after the Potluck. I am guessing one additional meeting in February of about the same length. We need to be well fed to take this on! Plus, it's the Sunday between the NFC/AFC Championship Games and the SuperBowl!

If you are interested and didn't sign up, please attend this gathering.

The Primary Questions to be Answered

- Do we want to grow or stay about the same?
- Do we gather to comfort each other and/or challenge the larger community?
- What kind of leadership do we need to accomplish these goals?

This will be open to the first 8 people; hopefully, with a good mix of age and history with the church.

Hard Choices for Loving Families

This is a book by Hank Dunn and will be the starting point for our class on "End of Life Choices". This class will most likely take place in February or March and will be a mini retreat of about 4 hours on a Saturday. Suggestions for a date or location are welcome.

This book is short and excellent. Everyone should read this book, even if you don't attend the class. If you want one please let me know, they are cheaper if more are ordered. From \$4 to \$6, depending on how many are ordered at the same time.

I want to place the order by mid-January so folks have time to read it BEFORE the class. If you want a copy please let me know!

"WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY"

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers: President

All Souls . . . and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)

Questions: Why is All Souls a member of the UUA? Don't we have to pay dues? Doesn't this organization tell us how to run our church? Why do we even need it?

Answers: All Souls is a member of the UUA because our own By Laws require us to be a member. Yes, we pay annual dues which fund UUA provided services.

The UUA is not a denomination, rather it is a liberal association that welcomes people with different beliefs and are united by shared values, not by creed or dogma. The UUA is divided into 19 districts. Our District is the Ohio-Meadville District (OMD) and includes All Souls and 45 other UU Churches. The association does not tell us how to run our church.

As for the need, I don't see a downside to our membership. However, there are many benefits. All Souls is isolated by distance and by local philosophy, and we are a small congregation without the wherewithal to conduct extensive religious education programs and social action/social justice activities. The support, comradery, and program offerings of the UUA gives us strength in numbers and in credibility. We have a big brother.

Most members of the UUA are in the U.S. and Canada, but some congregations from other countries have been admitted. Over 1,000 congregations consisting of approximately 165,000 certified members populate the 19 Districts of UUA. There are over 1,600 certified ministers.

If my math is correct, on the average, one would have to sort through 2,000 Americans before coming upon a Unitarian Universalist.

Our group is small, but we have some powerful things going for us: As a church, we respect the dignity of every individual to the ultimate level. Choose your own pathway to spirituality, and you will be supported. Spirituality has no ethnicity, race, gender, prejudice, or bias. There is only peace and love.



NOVEMBER 2014 REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME	NOVEMBER	Y-T-D
Pledges	1,748.00	10,504.00
Offerings	435.00	2,879.76
Kenya Coin Collection	64.50	379.81
Rummage Sale	1,296.15	1,354.15
Recycle	.00	169.21
Other	70.00	120.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,613.65*	\$15,406.93
EXPENSES	\$3,543.32**	\$15,941.69
DIFFERENCE	\$ 70.33	(\$534.76)

*A monthly income of \$3,064.33 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$36,772.00.

**Expenses not 'regular': Organ Maintenance - \$382.50
Ohio-Meadville District Dues - \$576.00
Hahn Pest Management - \$53.50

NOVEMBER PLEDGE REPORT

Total Members	27
Total Pledges	22
Average Attendance	45

	NOVEMBER	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	\$2,187.00	\$10,284.00
Amount Received	\$1,748.00	\$10,504.00
Variance	(\$ 439.00)	\$ 220.00

NOVEMBER HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Rummage	\$568.00
Food	\$549.00
Donations before & after	\$237.15
TOTAL	\$1,354.15

...from Reed Richmond: Social Action Trustee

There will be no Social Justice meeting on the first Tuesday in January due to a conflict.

Reed Richmond and Liz Hansen are in discussions about an Adult Education class with a Social Justice theme to run on consecutive Sundays at 9:00 am starting as early as March. Please check the February newsletter for more details. These classes will be viewing social justice themes from popular movies and seeing where we can follow through, even in our own congregation.

Please Mark Your Calendar for the Following Event

Memorial Day Candlelight Peace Gathering

Sunday, May 24 @ 8:00 pm in Bellville

We will gather by the gazebo on the day before Memorial Day in a demonstration for peace. We will invite the public to attend and to share the names of family members or friends that have been lost to war, to honor the memory of the dead and to offer prayers for peace. More information as details develop.



...from Chuck Rhodes: Building & Maintenance Trustee

During the second weekend of December we had a little problem with the city sewer system, which was corrected on December 7. The restrooms were cleaned and sanitized by Teasha Sprague. The carpet in the Fellowship Hall, Nursery, and landings were cleaned and sanitized by Eric Sargent. Thanks for the help.

The replacement window for the south kitchen has arrived and was installed December 29. What a difference!

I want to thank Ann, Bruce and Analyssa Kilgore and Kristy Mandeville for all the work decorating the church for Christmas. It looked beautiful.

The church sign committee will be meeting on January 3 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. The intent is to have a sign design selected and a plan for erecting it by May 1, 2015. Committee members are Reed Richmond, Ann Kilgore, Bruce Kilgore, Sandy Macpherson, Mike Garber and Chuck Rhodes. Your thoughts and suggestions may be given to any committee members.



...from Judy Shaffer: Pastoral Care Trustee

PASTORAL CARE DUTIES

Teasha Sprague is assisting
with the Pastoral Care Duties.
If you cannot reach Judy, please contact Teasha at 440-622-1611.

Please contact Judy Shaffer for the following areas of Pastoral Care:

- coordination of welcome and follow up with visitors
- coordination of cards and visits to shut-ins
- gathering of concerns about members: health, family and individual issues
- organizing a list of members willing to do visits when needed
- coordination of general contact and check-ins with members and friends

Please contact Rev. Karen Bruno for the following areas of Pastoral Care:

- significant life changes: divorce, serious illness, hospitalization, surgery, a close friend or family member dies or is hospitalized
- you are experiencing some kind of loss, stress or minor mental health concern
- you are spiritually or emotionally searching and want a listening ear.

...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Trustee

Religious Education for young children (5-10) will continue with the Dr. Seuss curriculum during service on January 4. Kayt Gerhart will be presenting "Oh, The Things You Can Think".

Youth ages 11-18 will have their Popcorn Theology class on Sunday, January 11, during service. Linda Wilson will lead the youth in discussion after they view a scene from "Dances with Wolves".

Just a reminder about our bookshelves downstairs. The bookshelf at the bottom of the stairs includes books to purchase (if it has a price tag or sign) and books to borrow with a specific UU perspective or written by one of our speakers. The books on the large bookshelf next to the coffee station are also for borrowing and contain a wider variety of topics, all somehow relating to our 7 principles. If you want to donate a book appropriate for our UU library, make sure to attach a label on the inside cover that indicates to return to All Souls when finished. (There are many sheets of these labels on the bookshelf at the bottom of the stairs.) Also, if you realized you've borrowed a book for a really long time, the good news is we don't have late fines, so feel free to bring it back when you have the opportunity!

We also have a bookshelf dedicated to children's books. This can be found in the far corner of the basement. The books found here will be about Unitarian Universalism or related topics. This is a great area to look when you are preparing to present the Children's Moment. Many of the books are anthologies of stories from world religions. Many books would not fit within the 5 minute time limit for the Children's Moment, but a section could easily be presented or pages skipped. I suggest you read the book aloud and assume a 1 minute time allowance for "disruptions". Feel free to borrow these books, but please return them timely so others may enjoy. If you have any questions about our books, feel free to ask Liz Hansen.

...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

First and foremost, a thank you to Joan Richmond for having nearly all the speakers booked from July through January, making the first six months of my new position a much easier transition. Now with the New Year, I embrace a new responsibility and challenge with help from my pulpit committee and others to make 2015 a great year at All Souls.

.....Looking at Our First Month

Sunday, January 4

Speaker: Rev. Karen Bruno Title: "Change Your Life with Just One Word"

Topic: Lose the long list of resolutions- all your sweeping promises to change - and do something about one thing this year instead of nothing about everything. Choose just one word that represents what you most hope God will do in you, and focus on it for an entire year. This single act will force clarity and concentrate your efforts. As you focus on your word over an extended period of time, you position yourself for God to form your character at a deep, sustainable level. Growth and change will result. Based on the book, "My One Word", Karen will help you consider what ONE WORD might change your life.

Leader: Joan Richmond Music: Trio Alle Breve

"ALL SOULS 101" @ 12:30pm at Brumby's. Get acquainted with your minister and ask your religion and spirituality questions. Lunch is self-pay.

Sunday, January 11

Speaker: Aurelio Diaz Title: The Richland Newhope Dance Troupe is very excited about speaking at All Souls UU Church for the New Year, when the dancers share their Anti-Bullying and People First Language.

Bio: The Richland Newhope Dance Troupe has performed at numerous conferences, schools, and community events. They were recently bestowed the American Red Cross Hero Award for Community Educators.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore Music: Ayesha Fry

ALL SOULS RECYCLING SUNDAY

Sunday, January 18

Speaker: Opossum and Friends Title: "Stories 'Sung' and Songs 'Told' on Life, Love and Personal Evolution"

Bio: 100% of all of the proceeds of all Opossum's performances go into his "Winds of Good" fund and are donated to grass-roots non-profits and charitable causes.

Leader: Brian Moore Music: Trio Alle Breve

Board Meeting @ 9:00am. All are invited to attend.

Sunday January 25

Speaker Brian Moore Title: "Sympathy for the Devil and the Power of Duality"

Topic: Why have sympathy for the devil? And, why is the Yin and Yang symbol of the Tao the most powerful symbol in the universe? To learn the answer to these questions and more, you will not want to miss this message.

Leader: Sandy Macpherson Music: Ayesha Fry

POTLUCK SUNDAY AND KENYA COIN COLLECTION

**I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Peaceful, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!
Peace, Love, and Namaste to All Souls.**

Living Lotus Zen Sangha January Schedule

Monday, Jan. 5th, 6:30pm - 8:00pm - Book Study Chapters 8 - 12

At Relax, It's Just Coffee -105 N. Main St. Mansfield OH 44902

Sangha members and friends are invited for coffee and informal discussion over a Zen book.

This will offer Sangha members and friends an opportunity for intensive work with a text to supplement our regular 2nd & 4th Mondays' sittings.

BOOK: "inside the Grass Hut: Living Shitou's Class Zen poem" - by Ben Connelly (2014) Wisdom Publications
ISBN#978-1-61429-121-3

Bring your thoughts, notes, insights and confusions!

Monday, Jan. 12th, 6:30pm - 8:30pm Sitting & Dharma Talk

At All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church. The church is opened at 6:00 p.m. Please enter from the side door. We sit upstairs. Loaner meditation cushions (Zafus & Zabutons) are available as well as pews for those who prefer/need to sit in a chair.

Monday, Jan. 26th, 6:30 - 8:30p Sitting & Dharma Talk

At All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church - The church is opened at 6:00 p.m. Please enter from the side door. We sit upstairs. Loaner meditation cushions (Zafus & Zabutons) are available as well as pews for those who prefer/need to sit in a chair.

Schedule for January 12 & 26

6:30pm-6:50pm - Zazen (sitting meditation)

6:50pm-7pm - Kinhin (walking meditation)

7pm-7:20pm - Zazen - second period of Zazen

7:20pm-7:30pm - Liturgy - Heart Sutra, chanting and prostrations

7:30pm-8:30pm - Dharma Talk delivered by Sensei Dean Williams

Current Book/Text/Discussion – "Inside the Grass Hut" – Connelly

LIVING LOTUS & JIJUYU-JI SANGHAS WINTER SESSHIN (WEEKEND RETREAT)

Friday, February 27 – Sunday, March 2

Mohican Outdoor School - 5370 Bunkerhill North Rd., Butler, Ohio 44822

COST: \$85/person [includes lodging and meals]

Contact fortunasantwiches@gmail.com to RSVP

DETAILS SUBJECT TO REVISION

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Living-Lotus-Zen-Sangha/221565108160>

Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/livinglotuszensangha/>

Brief Beginner's guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

<http://global.sotozennet.or.jp/eng/practice/zazen/howto/index.html>



All Souls U.U. Recycling Collection Day

Sunday, January 11

Please bring your recyclables to the church parking lot.

The truck will be there for collection before and after the service.

Listed below are the main items Milliron accepts. Please keep them sorted by categories.

Aluminum Cans: Please rinse thoroughly

Steel Cans: Please rinse thoroughly and remove labels

Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Materials: Aluminum, Steel, Brass, Copper, Silver, Nickel, Platinum, Pewter, Bronze
Zinc, Die Cast, etc.

Plastic: Please rinse thoroughly and throw away lids. Only plastic bottles and jugs with the recycle emblem stamped on the bottom. #1 PETE – such a pop bottles and #2 HDPE such a laundry products, milk, juice and water jugs.

Newspaper: No books, magazines, phone books or mail

Corrugated Cardboard: No boxboard or chipboard

Office Mix: Please shred if able to do so

Automobile/Forktruck Batteries

PLEASE NO GLASS & PLEASE SEPARATE ALL CATEGORIES

You are welcome to bring recyclables to the Moore's barn prior to the collection date.

Contact: Jackie or Brian Moore at 419-589-7707.

All of the proceeds go to All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

THANK YOU!



Joan and Reed Richmond are announcing a new 2015 venture for Meadow Rise Farm. The farm is re-starting its CSA program. CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture and, according to the website Local Harvest, “for over 25 years, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to buy local, seasonal food directly from a farmer”.

In our CSA, the basics are that we offer a certain number of shares to people, which consist of 8-12 different vegetables (full share) per week of the 20-week season, running June-October. Interested partners purchase a “share”, paying for it early in the season when the farmers (that is, us) have most of our expenses. We will offer a full share, half share, and mini share (a half share every other week). Prices are, in order, \$500, \$375 and \$250 for the shares, and the agreement specifies ways partners can pay between Feb. 1 and the time delivery season begins.

This arrangement creates several rewards for both the farmer and the consumer. In brief, from Local Harvest’s description:

Advantages for Farmers

- Get to spend time marketing the food early in the year, before their 16 hour days in the field begin.
- Receive payment early in the season, which helps with the farm's cash flow.
- Have an opportunity to get to know the people who eat the food they grow.

Advantages for Consumers

- Eat ultra-fresh food, with all the flavor and vitamin benefits.
- Get exposed to new vegetables and new ways of cooking.
- Usually get to visit the farm at least once a season.
- Find that kids typically favor food from "their" farm — even veggies they've never been known to eat.
- Develop a relationship with the farmer who grows their food and learn more about how food is grown.

Deliveries will be late Wednesday afternoon in the UU church parking lot (25 Church St., Bellville) from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

If you’d like more information about Meadow Rise Farm CSA, please go to Localharvest.org and just type our name or zip code (44813) in the search box. We have more details there on our listing, and then you can contact us for an application.

Thanks for your help in spreading the word!

Joan



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Melanie Seaman – January 14
Bruce Kilgore – January 22
Kristy Mandeville – January 26

Courtney Lower – January 27
Tom Miller – January 30

.....clip and save.....

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR JANUARY

January 4: Rev. Karen Bruno January 18: O’Possum & Friends
January 11: Aurelio Diaz January 25: Brian Moore

JANUARY EVENTS

R.E. Dr. Seuss Curriculum – “Oh, The Thinks You Can Think” (ages 5-10): Sunday, January 4 During the Service

All Souls 101 – Sunday, January 4 @ 12:30 pm at Brumby’s

R.E. Popcorn Theology – “Dances with Wolves” (ages 11-18): Sunday, January 11 During the Service

All Souls Recycling Collection Day: Sunday, January 11

Sitting & Dharma Talk: Monday, January 12 @ 6:30 pm

Board Meeting: Sunday, January 18 @ 9:00 am

Kenya Coin Collection: Sunday, January 25

Pot Luck: Sunday, January 25

Sitting & Dharma Talk: Monday, January 26

Karen Bruno, Minister
revkarenbruno@gmail.com
419-612-9318

Glenn Myers, Board President
glennmarq@yahoo.com
740-501-5990

Judy Shaffer, Pastoral Care Trustee
419-886-3261

website: allsoulsuohio.org email: allsoulsohio@gmail.com