

ALL SOULS JULY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Friends,

July is a month where we Americans often recall freedom, the sacrifice of those who've come before and the benefit of our citizenry. Despite our beginnings, our country has, as years march on, consistently extended liberties to more groups and individuals. We celebrate independence, not only from a monarchy, but from persecution of the masses. We celebrate freedom to express our belief and non-belief in deities. We celebrate the bill of rights. Moreover, we celebrate democracy, free experience and free expression, a right to love whomever, pray to whomever, but also to explore together.

This Fourth of July, please think of those who do not have freedoms and liberties: the modern day slaves, the second class citizens and residents who do not have a full voice or agency, and the leaders we the people appoint to represent the common good.

Let us raise not only a glass to all of these people, but also let us raise our voices. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all!

Peace and Happy 4th,
Pastor Will

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact our pastor, Will Humphrey, for pastoral care needs.

740-263-1171 or email will.allsouls@gmail.com

“WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY”

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers, President

BUMPER STICKER SLOGANS FOR ALL SOULS CHURCH

We Unitarian Universalists sometimes have difficulty explaining who we are and what we believe. Questions may come from individuals who are sincerely interested in learning about our church, or they may be proposed as a confrontation to the often perceived UU concept of religion. In either case, the onus is on us to clarify the characteristics of our church. And we must remember to do it with love, whatever the attitude of the questioner.

In this day of bumper sticker communication, complex situations or problems are often solved for many by catchy one-liners. Of course, if the slogan stimulates further study or discussion of the matter, it's a good thing.

Perhaps we can use this modern method of communication to stimulate interest and curiosity concerning All Souls UU Church of Bellville. Some examples follow.

Bumper Sticker Slogan: **ALL SOULS OF BELLVILLE IS AN ALTERNATIVE CHURCH.....**

The ellipsis points beg further information. Rationale: The other 20-plus churches in the Bellville area are denominational or independent and all have various interpretations of the Christian Dogma or Doctrine, i.e. the Bible is the Word of God and Jesus Christ is a personal Savior. Whereas, there is no religious test for All Souls membership.

Bumper Sticker Slogan: **ALL SOULS IS A LIBERAL CHURCH, BUT.....**

The "but" invites some questions. Rationale: All Souls is a liberal church, but not a church for liberals. It is liberal in that all are welcome - liberals, conservatives, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, all races and ethnic groups, LGBTQ individuals, rich, poor, et al.

Bumper Sticker Slogan: **ALL SOULS CHURCH OF BELLVILLE STANDS ON SEVEN PRINCIPLES.....**

Rationale: Unitarian Universalists are bonded by a belief in basic human values, as outlined in the Seven Principles, not by Dogma or Creed. The individual is encouraged to pursue his/her own pathway to spirituality by actively seeking the truth (Principle Number Four). Principle Number One expresses a belief in the inherent worth and dignity of **every person**.

Bumper Sticker Slogan: **ALL SOULS CHURCH ---- SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL.....**

Rationale: The All Souls Congregation is strongly committed to the secular mission of supporting equal justice under the law for every individual regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation - locally and around the world.

The Adult RE session scheduled for July 3 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall is billed as:

"Bumper Sticker Slogans for All Souls UU Church of Bellville".

Talking points for explaining and promoting All Souls at the **Gay Pride Event July 22 & 23** and the **Bellville Street Fair September 14-17** will be discussed.

Everyone is invited!



MAY TREASURER'S REPORT

Average
Attendance: 49

	MAY	Y-T-D
INCOME		
Pledges	2,476.00	27,620.00
Offerings	420.00	6,224.00
Maintenance Fund	.00	4,390.00
Kenya Coin Collection	63.07	1,052.50
Rummage Sale	50.00	2,216.50
Recycle	.00	46.98
Minister's Discretionary Fund	.00	-400.00
Fundraising Expenses Account	.00	522.31
Sanctuary Renovation Fund	589.50	3,065.84
Sweet Success Fundraiser	12.00	136.00
2016-2017 Pledges	400.00	400.00
Other	69.87	507.09
TOTAL	4,080.44*	45,781.22
EXPENSES	4,870.50**	42,086.03
DIFFERENCE	-790.06	3,695.19

*A monthly income of \$3,645.50 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$43,746.00.

**Expenses Other than "Usual"

Gay Pride Parade - \$225.00

UUA Dues - \$795.00 OMD Dues - \$335.00

MAY PLEDGE REPORT

Total Units	31	
Total Pledges	24	
	MAY	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	3,160.00	28,222.00
Amount Received	2,471.00	27,564.00
VARIANCE	-689.00	-658.00

...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

The focus during the month of June has been three fold.

1. Prepare for and clean up after the Summer Bazaar on June 18. This was completed June 25.
2. Conduct a Key Inventory according to the recently established procedure. Those having assigned keys are being contacted and numbers assigned. We have several keys that had been issued, and those individuals have either moved or are deceased. The initial survey looks good, and sign out sheets should be completed by mid-July.
3. Complete lawn project south of the church. On June 27, a load of top soil was delivered and spread in the area where the pine tree was removed. Grass seed spread on the top soil, watered, and covered with straw. The areas on either side of the front entrance, as well as by the side entrance, were also given the same treatment. Hopefully, within 14 days, grass should be showing. These areas have been taped off to reduce traffic flow.

Until next time, enjoy the warm weather.

All Souls Public Screening of "Dream On" with John Fugelsang An Epic Road Trip in Search of the Vanishing American Dream Wednesday, July 13 @ 6:00 pm at All Souls



Brian Moore will be creating a public event with detailed information via Facebook, made open for the public to share with friends of friends.

Pagan and Earth Based Spirituality Ceremony, Drum Circle & Potluck Saturday, July 23 @ 6:00 pm at the Home of Jacqueline & Brian Moore 3072 State Route 430 – Mansfield, OH

Following our Potluck at 6:00 pm, we will share together in an Earth Based Pagan Ceremony led by Rev. James "Seamus" Dillard at 8:00 pm, which will be a druid style ritual for "Lugh", and then the Drum Circle. Please bring a covered dish. Drinks are welcome, but please BYOB. Tents for overnights welcome, and don't forget your drum! For more information, please contact Brian Moore at 419-589-7707.

Rev. James "Seamus" Dillard has been active in the Columbus Ohio Pagan community for over 17 years and has been a member of ADF (Ár nDraíocht Féin: A Druid Fellowship), RDNA (Reformed Druids of North America) and founder of The Columbus Sanctuary. He has served ADF both locally and internationally, including as Vice Arch Druid, Warrior Guild Chief and Senior Druid. Seamus has co-written or contributed to three books, "Fire on our Hearth", "Call of the Crane" and "Pagan Fires: Ritual Fundamentals" and wrote the ADF Warrior's Guild 1st Circle Training Program and companion book "Modern Day Warrior". He is currently writing a book on root-working. Seamus has also given workshops around the US, including Universal Life Expo, Earth Warriors Festival, Desert Magic Festival, Trillium Gathering, Wellspring Festival, Summerlands Festival, Sirius Rising Festival, and Starwood Festival, among others. He follows Hoodoo, Asatru' (Norse) and Druid paths.

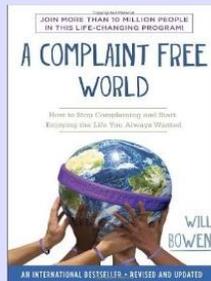
...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Trustee

CHILDREN'S RE

The kids have just finished up their class "Love Surrounds Us", which introduced kids to the 7 Principles. Each Principle was assigned a color of the rainbow as we learned it. The 1st Principle (red) which in youth appropriate language is "We believe each & every person is important". The 2nd Principle (orange) "We believe all people should be treated fairly." The 3rd Principle (yellow) "In our congregations, we accept all people & we learn together." The 4th Principle (green) "We believe each person is free to search for what is true and right in life". The 5th Principle (blue) "Everyone deserves a say about the things that concern them". The 6th Principle (indigo) "We believe in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world". The 7th Principle (violet) "We believe in caring for our planet Earth and every living thing that shares it with us". The kids will be sharing a little of what they have learned during an upcoming service.

For the remainder of the summer we won't have formal class for the kids, but if you are interested in leading an activity with them during service (either the entire service or half), please let Liz Hansen know. If you are interested but not sure what to do, see Liz!

ADULT RE



The Adult RE session scheduled for Sunday, July 3 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall is billed as:

"Bumper Sticker Slogans for All Souls UU Church of Bellville". Talking points for explaining and promoting All Souls at the Gay Pride event July 22-23 and the Bellville Street Fair September 14-17 will be discussed. Everyone is invited!

On June 12, we had an interesting discussion about Will Bowen's book "A Complaint Free World". On July 10 at 9:00 am, we will be watching a YouTube lecture by Will Bowen, which overviews the 21 day complaint free challenge but focuses on the five reasons people complain and how to deal with those complaints/complainers. If you haven't started your 21 day complaint free challenge by the next meeting date, you can start that day (or any day before then). We'll meet again on July 24 to see how we are doing with our 21 day complaint free challenge.

As always, please let me know if you are interested in facilitating an adult religious education class. I can help you find something which would be a good fit for you.



...from Art O'Leary, Social Justice/Social Action Trustee

Greetings everyone! What a month it has been. Contrasts in weather and events have been numerous. I'll open on a personal note. I finally have a diagnosis for my mobility problems. I have normal pressure hydrocephalus. The cause is unknown, and the treatment may require surgery. I am to see a neurosurgeon next month, so keep me in your thoughts. You have all been so very kind, and I appreciate being a part of All Souls so very much.

We continue our dialogue with the Islamic Society of the Mansfield Area (ISMA). Chuck and I attended Friday prayers on the first Friday of Ramadan. The Imam made the point that good deeds and prayers "count double" this month. He observed that the reason fasting is special is that no one knows you are doing it except you and Allah, so it is not a prideful form of worship.

The monthly meeting of the NAACP was taken up with Glenn's report of school board issues and the lack of racial justice in Mansfield. What a surprise! The other main issue was the upcoming national convention in Cincinnati in late July. Several board members will be attending and hope to bring back knowledge and insight in the continuing struggle for equality and justice.

On July 13, All Souls will host a public showing of the film "Dream On", which retraces the visit to the U.S. in the early 19th century, describing the American Dream. The film asks the question "What has happened to that Dream?"

The 2nd annual Gay Pride Event, including a parade from the Square to South Park and various performances, talks and appearances, is on Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23, with the parade on Saturday. We will have a booth and be very visible again this year. A sign-up sheet will be circulated to be at the booth passing out information about All Souls and the UUA and talking with the crowd. It was a lot of fun last year, and I'm looking forward to doing it again this year...and I'll have my scooter! So, I encourage everyone to take a turn at the booth talking to folks who come by...a great opportunity to showcase our commitment to diversity.

Finally, we will be hosting the statewide meeting of FaCT (Faith Communities Together), an environmental faith-based group for promoting social justice. Website: www.factohio.org.

Ron Prosek (phone: 440-974-2035 and email: rprosek.factohio@gmail.com) is president of the organization. He is a long-time member of East Shore UU Church in Kirtland, OH, where he is currently the Social Justice Chair. The event will be September 24 from around noon until mid-afternoon. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend. This is another opportunity to be visible as a church that stands for progressive values and issues.

Until next time.....

**Peace,
Art**

ALL SOULS BOARD OFFICERS (2016-2017)

Ann Kilgore – President Irene Maginniss - Secretary
Jay Gilbert – V.P. Joanne Gillum – Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Kristy Mandeville – Finance Chuck Rhodes – Bldg. & Maint.
Liz Hansen – RE Art O'Leary – Social Justice/Action
Bruce Kilgore – Fellowship Karen Gotter – Pastoral Care
Brian Moore – Pulpit & W'ship – Media, Adv. & Growth

...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

“THE INHERENT WORTH AND DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON”

The first Principle is the one that affirms and reminds us that all people have inherent worth and dignity. It is this Principle that recognizes our common humanity, our common worth, and even our common ability to screw up. In an address to a large group of Unitarian Universalist ministers a few years ago, the great Christian preacher and social activist, William Sloane Coffin, reminded his listeners that St. Paul was right by noting that “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”. “At least we’re one in sin,” said Coffin, “which is no mean bond, because it precludes the possibility of separation through judgement. That’s the meaning of the scriptural injunction ‘Judge not, that ye be not judged.’ Love is really what the first UU Principle is all about. It is a radical love that challenges us to seek not separation, but relationship and connection.

July Pulpit Schedule

July 3

Speaker: Laura Burns

Title: “Action Needed”

Topic: Each person is responsible to care not only for themselves, but for each other. All too often we forget the actions needed are ones based in respect and care for treasures within our souls, shared with others.

Leader: Teasha Sargent **Music:** Trio Alla Breve

July 4 - Independence Day

July 10

Speaker: Dr. Walter Kania

Title: “Why Be Nice?”

Topic: Every day we make choices about how to act or how to react to whatever is occurring in our lives. Every encounter we have with others is either a "Holy Instant" or a "Holy Encounter". The word "Namaste" that is used as a greeting in the Near East includes a forward bending motion with clasped hands and honors the essence of Spirit in both persons. Each encounter that has this greeting acknowledges the "Oneness" of the two parties and indicates that all meetings between people are "Holy Encounters". Following Game 7 of the NBA finals, Steph Curry and Kyrie Irving, Draymond Green and LeBron James each hugged the other. Weren't they warriors in a fierce athletic combat of skills? Does being nice make you a loser? Does forgiveness become a powerful dynamic of human life? Discover now for yourself "The Power of Nice".

Leader: Brian Moore **Music:** Ayesha Manley

...Pulpit & Worship cont.

July 17

Speaker: Prof. Ric S. Sheffield

Title: "Into the Light: A Look at Modern Day Slavery 150 Years after Emancipation"

Topic: Consistent with Unitarian Universalist guiding principles, this talk will emphasize the First Principle, "The inherent worth and dignity of every person". Given that last year this nation celebrated the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the 13th amendment in 1865, an act thought to have forever banished slavery from the United States, it seems appropriate to raise questions about whether such was the case. While by constitutional mandate slavery is no longer legally permitted in this country, there is substantial evidence that the enslavement of human beings has persisted. I will offer some remarks about the forms in which slavery continues to plague our nation and why we must all commit ourselves to its eradication.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore **Music:** Trio Alla Breve

July 24

Speaker: Aloys Kamwithi

Title: "God without Religion and Religion without God"

Topic: The contents of Aloys' presentation will be faithfully informed by the breadth and depth of intellectual and practical parameters encompassed by the 4th Unitarian Universalist Principle: "Engagement with a Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning".

Leader: Cheryl Church **Music:** Ayesha Manley

July 31

Speaker: Pastor William Humphrey

Title: "Deeds Not Creeds- A Talk on Social Justice"

Topic: We will explore aspects of the living tradition of human wisdom and spirituality, drawn of science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

Leader: Reed Richmond **Music:** Ayesha Manley

Kenya Coin Collection & Potluck



Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls

...from Renee Maginniss, Secretary

All Souls Bazaar & Luncheon

That's all she wrote...glad that's over!

Thank you to ALL! Our new date, coupled with the city wide sale, created some new challenges, but most would agree we were again reminded of a vibrant group of volunteers who put forth strong and supportive efforts that were needed to make that day a success. Every effort, sale, donation, bit of help, participation, sale, etc., upstairs, outside and downstairs— Supports our Church!

People Liked Everything but especially:

Displays on the Lawn (like we used to have) and Tao Bridge Music!

Rain Drop Sun Catchers & Beautiful display! *Great Food and Hospitality Downstairs (more about that elsewhere)

An impressive collection of Fine Jewelry, many Handcrafted!

Creative Customers with Repurposing and Decorating Ideas liked our unique mix of Old Windows, canning jars and more.

Members and friends welcomed the push to get that attic and closet cleaned out and started long before the event - bringing their unique items labeled and ready for the sale.

Our crew sorted, priced, labeled, cleaned & shined, organized, arranged, and tagged the variety of donated items. Saturday we carried, arranged, displayed, clerked, took cash, talked, sold, and bargained.

Much appreciation goes to the Bazaar Crew: LD, Sandy M, Savannah, Ed F, Johnnie, Mike G, Joanne G, Karen G, Charity J, Darian & friend, Catherine M, Brian M, Jackie M, Glenn M, Marqua M, Chuck R, Judy S, Marjorie S, Morley S, Linda W (and Luncheon Crew Ann K, Bruce K, Kristy M, Art O, Shelley M, Cheryl C, Jay G, Joan R and Reed R).

Many folks continue to help when and where as needed, and do double duties!

Not all names are known or acknowledged. Please remember that your presence is always welcomed just to check us out! (I know one person that would come for just that butterscotch pie.) Most would agree that just coming to chat can be welcome. A small crowd draws a bigger crowd. If you were not able to attend the sale, but still want to help, some small items might be downstairs and available with a donation that could help us get closer to our Bazaar budget. Look for fused glass pendants, Rain Drop Sun catchers, All Souls window cards, etc.

You are valued and appreciated for ALL you do for All Souls!

Living Lotus Zen Sangha July Schedule

BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, July 11: 6:30pm - 8:00 pm
at Relax, It's Just Coffee - 105 N. Main St., Mansfield, OH

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

Books: "The Gateless Barrier" by Robert Aitken Transl. by Robert Aitken Roshi
ISBN# 0865474427 North Point Press (1991)
"The Hidden Lamp" Edited by Florence Caplow & Susan Moon
ISBN# 9780861716593 Wisdom Publications (2013)

Suggested Selections to Have Read before Discussion

"THE GATELESS BARRIER" - "Case #13- "Te-shan: Bowls in Hand"
"THE HIDDEN LAMP" - TBA

NEED NOT TO HAVE ATTENDED PREVIOUS SESSIONS TO jump in!
Bring your thoughts, notes, insights and confusions and a friend!



ZAZEN & SERVICE

Monday, July 25 @ 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm 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.

Everyone is welcome to practice with us! No previous meditation experience necessary.

Schedule

6:00pm-6:30pm – (Church Opened – Fellowship and Introduction to Meditation for Beginners)
6:30pm-6:50pm - Zazen (Sitting Meditation)
6:50pm-7:00pm - Kinhin (Walking Meditation)
7:00pm-7:20pm - Zazen – (Second Period of Zazen)
7:20pm-7:30pm - Liturgy – (Heart Sutra, Chanting and Prostrations)
7:30pm-8:00pm – (Sangha Discussion & Business)

Brief Beginner's guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

<http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/practice/zazen/howto/index.html>

For more info, find us on Facebook or visit our webpage, and request to be added to our monthly newsletter.

In gassho,
Jacqueline Moore

