

ALL SOULS JUNE 2015 NEWSLETTER

“Nobody Likes Money”

It has often been said (almost nowhere) that “nobody likes money”. It is sometimes said, “I don’t like that I love money”. And too often it is said, “I want more money!” I mean, “money makes the world go round” right? So where does nobody like money? Well, nobody at All Souls likes to TALK about money. It’s just about the only taboo subject in this hippie place. And that’s too bad, because just like generations ago when folks were not allowed to talk about feelings, or ask hard questions in a church, we perpetuate secrecy when we choose a topic to make ‘off limits’.

So here I go breaking the final taboo, charting a new course, exploring a new frontier. Money - the church needs it. Period. Shocking I know.

A few folks in our midst carry the weight of the costs of the church, and we thank them. We do not ask them to do more. We can maintain (barely) with the funds we now receive. But we can’t really deal with issues of our aging building (heck, our freaking old building). We can’t look seriously at expanding with advertising. We can’t offer funds to special interests for social justice or mission. And, yes, we probably can’t afford a minister unless we pull from savings.

Some folks say, “heck yes, we don’t need a minister, we don’t need advertising, we don’t need anything more than we have now”. And a church can survive for a little while when stagnant. But in the long run, having an extended future relies on planning more than one year at a time.

So is it that you can’t afford to give more (honorably reason) or you resent giving more? And if it’s about resentment, we need to talk. And of course the all-important question is how much is enough? In the olden days, and in some fundy churches today, the 10% rule was king. That’s ridiculous. I do think it is an honorable goal to give 10% of your wealth to causes that are important to you. But that includes political parties, environmental groups, animal rescue, child protection, helping the poor, etc. etc. etc....

But to just one place? I suggest 1%. That means, over time and with practice, we can add 1% per year to our budget for things we care about. Because it is unrealistic to think we can change our life style overnight and suddenly take a huge chunk for donations. Rich or poor we never seem to have enough money. Weird isn’t it?

So, if you make \$20,000 a year, that’s \$200 a year to the church. If you make \$10 an hour, that’s 10 cents for each hour you work. Maybe you can’t do it today, but you can make it your goal. If we all shared at least 1% the church would have the funds needed to take All Souls into the next phase of development.

Expansion of programs, leadership, building improvements, social action, mission and education. We can dream about it, but to make it happen we need to make a commitment to it.

Giving freely is great, but pledging makes the job of planning possible. Please consider a goal of 1%.

Blessings to you all, and keep dreaming about the amazing future All Souls can have and all it can give to a hurting community.

Karen

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers, President

TOO SMALL TO FAIL

Remember what was said about Freddie Mac and Fanny Mae? “Too Big To Fail.” But they did fail.

Is All Souls UU Church of Bellville “too SMALL to fail”? In a word, no. Small churches fail every day. Members leave and often go to other churches. Usually, the underlying reason is financial, because the average cost-share is so high. Small congregations simply cannot afford a building, a minister, programs that nurture spiritual needs, and a religious education program for different congregant age groups.

The answer for survival, of course, is to increase the number of members. For example, the average cost-share per member of All Souls is about \$800 per year. If we doubled our membership, this figure would be between \$400 and \$500 per year, requiring significantly smaller donations by individuals.

There is, however, a “catch 22”. We need more members to generate more money; but, we need more money to develop a program that attracts new members. Obviously, the horse must come before the cart, and this is why the Board has been stressing the need for members to pledge as much as they can (pledges provide the backbone of our financial support system). The pledge is the Horse.

The Cart will include:

- 1) Paying a minister to spend more time with church affairs
- 2) Spending more on advertising the unique characteristics of the Unitarian Universalist Church
- 3) Spending more on social justice/social action projects

(In my opinion, publicity concerning social action supporting injustice and the oppressed is the most powerful form of advertisement for the UU Church -- because this kind of activism appeals especially to individuals in All Souls’ extended community who are attracted to our brand of religion.)

See you in church. Bring your thoughts, ideas, and your love.



“WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY”

APRIL TREASURER'S REPORT

	APRIL	Y-T-D
INCOME		
Pledges	1,693.00	20,354.00
Offerings	1,024.00	5,565.76
Donations - Maintenance Fund	0.00	3,080.00
Kenya Coin Collection	71.43	711.53
Chair Fund	195.00	985.00
Rummage Sale	0.00	2,203.40
Recycle	69.23	295.95
Minister's Discretionary Fund	-70.00	-70.00
Other	<u>139.00</u>	<u>360.25</u>
TOTAL	3,121.66*	33,485.89
EXPENSES	4,519.77**	32,861.45
DIFFERENCE	-1,398.11	624.44

*A monthly income of \$3,039.33 is required in order to meet annual expenses of \$36,472.00

**Expenses Other than "Usual" Chairs - \$1,936.00

APRIL PLEDGE REPORT

Total Members	27
Total Pledges	22
Average Attendance	50

	APRIL	Y-T-D
Amount Pledged	1,659.00	19,107.00
Amount Received	<u>1,743.00</u>	<u>20,354.00</u>
VARIANCE	84.00	1,247.00

...from Mike Garber, Finance Trustee

A special thanks to members who have returned their pledge sheets. A reminder to all others... pledges are due May 31.

Summer Institute is July 12 - 18 at Oberlin College. Summer Institute is a family friendly UU camp of more than 600. Faith Evolving: How American Religion IS Changing and what it means to Unitarian Universalists. Daily activities include worship, workshops, theme talks and lots of fun.

Click the link for more information.... www.OMDSI.org

It has been announced that General Assembly will be in Columbus in June 2016.



...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

Maintenance Report Fiscal Year 2014-15

The following is a summary of work completed in the maintenance area during the past fiscal year. These accomplishments could not have been completed without the support and help of the Board and members of the congregation. Thanks to everyone for your help.

- The old pine tree and stump were removed.
- Removal of the shrubs by the alley.
- The exterior frames of the stained glass windows were scraped, primed and painted.
- A preventive maintenance program for the HVAC (heating/air conditioning systems) was established and the equipment is inspected and serviced annually.
- The A. B. Felgemaker organ had its annual cleaning, inspection and tuning by the Leek Organ Company.
- Fall work day had 13 volunteers completing 12 tasks, including the painting of the vestibule.
- Replaced the south kitchen window.
- Blockage of the sewer line in the alley caused backup into the restrooms. Clean up took several days.
- Repaired door closer on side door.
- Additional snow guards installed on church roof.
- Gutters cleaned.
- Framed poster of the 7 Principles installed in sanctuary.
- Maintenance performed on the chair lift.
- Spring work day had 13 volunteers completing 11 tasks.
- Maintenance Project List has been established and will be used as a guide for future project decisions.
- Received 62 new chairs to replace the old metal folding chairs in the Fellowship Hall. Donations from the congregation covered over half of the cost.
- New sidewalks were installed by the city that included the planting of a tree on the tree lawn.
- The church sign is at the final stage of design and should be installed this July.
- Snow removal and grounds maintenance (mowing, trimming and sweeping) were done by church members.

...from Liz Hansen, Religious Education Trustee

Current Adult Religious Education is the Military Ministry Class. This class will meet on May 31 and will continue on Sunday, June 7, 14 & 28 at 9:00 am. They will be learning about issues related to military service. Respectfully discussing issues of war and peace. Preparing as individuals and as a faith community to welcome and support military personnel, veterans, and their families.

Looking back over the last "school year", here's a recap of the religious education offerings we've had here at All Souls.....

Starting in September 2014, Religious education for our kids has been taking place one time a month during our worship service. For our youngest members (5-10), we've been using a Dr. Seuss curriculum (specifically for UUs) and will continue it through the summer for ALL YOUTH because it's been so much fun! For our older youth (11-18), we offered Popcorn Theology, which explores issues of theology and ethics for Unitarian Universalists through popular movies.

For adults, here are some of the programs we've offered (I'm sorry if I missed any).....

September - October - "Speaking Peace: The Art & Science of Compassionate Nonviolent Communication (NVC)" with Presenter Lisa Kreischer. The NVC two-hour class met once a week for six weeks.

September - two video series on Islam with discussion.

November - "Lifecraft - The Art of Meaning in the Everyday" - discussion/class using a book by a UU minister.

November 13 - Dr. Walter Kania presented an evening class "Personality Style and Your Personal Spiritual Journey".

We took an extended holiday/winter break due to bad weather.

January 25th – Lowry Gilbert presented "Giving: Part 2" about her time spent in Togo, Africa as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

March - We had two sessions celebrating Earth Day early. One about the Volt electric car and the other on Green cleaning & gardening.

April & May - Popcorn Theology for the youth was so interesting. Reed led a few sessions for adults!

May 21 - Dr. Walter Kania presented an evening class "A Unique Near Death Experience with Insights and Messages about Life, and Other Dimensions of Reality".

May & June - Military Ministry Class (see description above).

In the past we've taken a break over the summer, but I'm planning on keeping us going, since we had so many "snow days" this winter! ;-)

Thanks to all the facilitators/teachers/leaders . . . without you we have NO religious education program! Please feel free to give suggestions for future classes to Liz Hansen, and let her know if you'd be interested in facilitating a class!



Dr. Walter Kania speaking at All Souls May 17

...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 Bruce Kilgore, Fellowship Trustee

Thank you to all who have signed up for coffee hour treats and clean-up. The covered dish dinner will be Sunday, June 28. Remember that extra help with kitchen clean-up is helpful for covered dish dinner days.

Saturday, July 11, is the All Souls Luncheon & Rummage Sale. Plan now to help in the kitchen, bring food to serve or make a donation for the beef and noodles.

All Souls History

Recently, when looking up past minister information, I found out some interesting statistics. A new roof for the church in 1967 cost \$2,499.60. The church sold their parsonage (Andy Fulton's house on Main St.) for \$1,893.29 (it needed a lot of work!). An antique sofa from the parsonage sold at a special auction for \$14.25. In April 1968, a new water line to the church cost \$141.43. An organ tuning in December 1972 cost \$48.80. In 1975, stained glass windows to the west were damaged, and the repair bill was \$12,000.00. Church members and a few Bellville citizens contributed money to cover the glass repair and almost all of the new Lexon plastic window covering.



Bruce Kilgore leading the service at All Souls on May 10

...from Irene Maginniss, Secretary

There are many good reasons to become a member of All Souls. One of these is you will receive a publication called *UU World* which is filled with articles about life, spirit, news and ideas. I am reminded of this each and every time I receive my copy. Wisdom, story sharing, lessons to learn and much more. Articles can be personal and gentle, as in "Don't Forget Your Belongs" or bold and far reaching as in "Reckoning with Selma" and "Partners Forever"--both in the latest summer 2015 edition. Also, this issue has a pull out section called *Families: Weave a Tapestry of Faith*, about the environment: climate change, habitat maps, "fuel for thought"---I could not put it down! Just another magazine? It's so much more! I find myself reviewing and renewing our UU principles as I read and discover more about the many facets of this unique theology that is Unitarian Universalism.

All Souls Welcomed New Members on Sunday, May 10



Deborah Mattix, Courtney Lower, Joe Connell, Tara Smith & Ariane Manley

...from Mandy Waltz, Media, Advertising & Growth Trustee

June is here, the month of roses, month of brides and month of bees,
Weaving garlands for our lassies, whispering love songs in the trees,
Painting scenes of gorgeous splendor, canvases no man could brush,
Changing scenes from early morning till the sunset's crimson flush.

June is here, the month of blossoms, month of roses white and red,
Wet with dew and perfume-laden, nodding wheresoe'er we tread;
Come the bees to gather honey, all the lazy afternoon;
Flowers and lassies, men and meadows, love alike the month of June.

Month of love and month of sunshine, month of happiness and song,
Month that cheers the sad wayfarer as he plods the road along;
Spreading out a velvet carpet, green and yellow, for his feet,
And affording for his rest hours many a cool and sweet retreat.

...by Edgar Albert Guest

...Media, Advertising & Growth cont.

Hello church family and hello June! I wish to say happy birthday to all this month, especially my Grandma (where ever her soul may be exploring).

Now down to business...

With warmer weather and summer time fun right around the corner, there will be many opportunities to make our presence known. If anyone knows of upcoming events in Richland County, or neighboring counties, where we could show our support and love, please bring them to my attention or to the attention of any member of the church board.

One upcoming event that I am thrilled about is Mansfield's first Gay Pride! 1000+ people are expected to show. I think this is a wonderful opportunity for the church to show support. I have sent a message to see what the cost of having a table or booth would be and am waiting for a reply. This event isn't until July 25, and I hope to have more information then. My thought was to have plain shirts that we could paint with loving and supportive messages, our church info, and anything else you can think of (a cheaper more creative option then ordering printed shirts). Have a table with pamphlets, cards, calendar of events/speakers. And march in the parade. I was thinking of passing out little packs of skittles (it's a gay thang) with our card stapled on them.

Thoughts and suggestions are always welcome!

The May newsletter contained the first half of a list of growth ideas from the UUA website. Please click the following link to see the list in its entirety...growthresources@uua.org

...from the UU Fellowship of Wayne County

CRAFTERS AND ARTISANS

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Wayne and Holmes Counties (UUFWC), is holding a craft fair on September 19 from 10 AM to 4 PM in their fellowship hall. Large tables (which may be shared) are \$25.00 and small tables are \$15.00. All proceeds from the table fees go to UUFWC. The youth group will have a light and reasonably priced lunch available. If interested in securing a table, please contact Cherrill Wertz by e-mail: tcwertz@frontier.com or text: 330-465-1364, and an entry form will be mailed to you.

...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

Well, May will be nearly gone by the time you are reading this. On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for the cards, hugs and condolences Jacqueline and I received from the loss of our very loved Boomer. Many members knew and met Boomer and know how wonderful he was. Also, I know most of our members understand the heartache of losing a loved pet and have had to endure that heartache for themselves. It is hard to lose a friend like that. May also brought us Mother's Day, and I hope everyone had an enjoyable day with their Mother or honoring past Mothers. Many of us, I'm sure including myself, will be very busy this month putting in gardens, planting flowers, mowing grass, mulching, etc.

May also allowed us to welcome back Dr. Walter Kania as our speaker on May 17, and we can look forward to hearing Walter speak on the second Sunday of each month through December.

Memorial Day weekend brings Jacqueline and my annual Euchre Tournament and Potluck, which is attended by many UUs. But let us not forget the main reason of Memorial Day weekend, also recognized as the official start of Summer!! Yea!! But more importantly, let's make sure we remember those who have died in service of the United States of America.

...Pulpit & Worship cont.

Looking Ahead to June

Sunday June 7

Speaker: Tim M. Berra, Ph.D.

Title: "Darwin & His Children: His Other Legacy"

Topic: Charles Darwin and his Unitarian wife, Emma Wedgwood Darwin, produced 10 children. Three died in childhood, three were knighted, and three were elected Fellows of the Royal Society. Prof. Berra examines the life of each child from birth to death and answers the question "who were these people and what did they become?" Darwin's religious views are also discussed.

Leader: Eric Sargent Music: Trio Alle Breve

Sunday June 14

Speaker: Dr. Walter Kania

Title: "Recovering Reality"

Topic: What is reality? What is really real? Is it only that which we experience with our five senses? Is love real? Is feeling sad real? Is the number 9 real? Are you real? And who is the real You? If you have already answered all of those questions and are satisfied with your answers, you need think no longer. If your past learning and conditioning lock you in a box, you may want to open yourself to some new information and some new ways of thinking about who you really are! You are much more than you think.

Leader: Brian Moore

Music: Ayesha Fry

All Souls U.U. Church Recycling Collection Day

Contact Brian more for more info: 419-589-7707

Saturday June 20

Tao Bridge plays at The Vault in Shelby 7-10pm

Sunday June 21

Speaker: Aloys Kamwithi

Title: "Progress Review on Huruma Rescue Mission in Kenya"

Topic: A case of operationalizing the principle of inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Leader: Bruce Kilgore

Music: Trio Alle Breve

Happy Birthday to our speaker Aloys

Happy Father's Day to all Fathers

Happy First Day of Summer

Sunday June 28

Speaker: Sister Paulette Schroeder

Title: "Living the Life of Personal Nonviolence"

Topic: Nonviolence begins within, with a moral imperative to the likening of Gandhi and King.

To treat all brothers and sisters and creation with the utmost respect. WE ARE ALL ONE.

Nonviolence implies a life of prayer - aligning ourselves with the Spirit of God - no judging or putting into categories. A nonviolent life involves studying, informing ourselves about the situation before acting or giving conclusive statements. This kind of life involves nonviolent language and asks the practitioner to step forth and speak truthfully and courageously when called for.

Leader: Cheryl Church

Music: Ayesha Fry

Potluck and Kenya Coin Collection

Peace, Love, and Namaste to All Souls

Living Lotus Calendar

MAY- JUNE 2015

ALL events FREE & OPEN TO ALL!

MAY 25 Sitting -- CANCELED

(due to Memorial Day Holiday)

JUNE 8 - INFORMAL BOOK DISCUSSION

6:30pm-8pm, Relax Coffee Shop

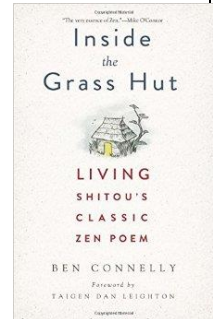
105 N. Main St., Mansfield, Ohio

Inside the Grass Hut -Connelly: **Chapters 18-32 wrap-up**

need not have attended previous sessions to join in -- bring your questions/confusions/insights etc...

We will also determine next book study book starting in July.

Look for others with the book.



JUNE 22 - REGULAR SANGHA SITTING & SERVICE

6:30pm-8pm, All Souls Unitarian church,

25 Church St., Bellville, Ohio

No previous meditation experience necessary.

The church is opened at 6:00 p.m., please enter from the side door and 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:

- 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-8pm - Sangha Discussion/ Business

Brief Beginner's guide to Zazen & Kinhin:

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

All Souls U.U. Recycling Collection Day

Sunday, June 14

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!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Jenny Bartsch – June 5
Ruth Wachtel – June 15
Rev. Karen Bruno – June 19

Pamela Mozzillo – June 21
Ayesha Fry – June 26
Joanne Gillum – June 29

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

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR JUNE

June 7: Tim M. Berra, PhD
June 14: Dr. Walter Kania

June 21: Aloys Kamwithi
June 28: Sister Paulette Schroeder

JUNE EVENTS

Congregational Meeting & Election of Board Officers and Trustees – Sunday, June 7 Following the Service

Adult R.E. – Military Ministry Class - Sunday, June 7 @ 9:00 am with facilitator, L.D. Ball

Children’s R.E. Dr. Seuss Curriculum – “If I Ran the Zoo” (ages 5-10): Sunday, June 7 During the Service
with teachers, The Kilgores

Book Discussion “Inside the Grass Hut - Monday, June 8 @ 6:30 pm at Relax It’s Just Coffee in Mansfield

All Souls Recycling Collection Day – Sunday, June 14

Adult R.E. – Military Ministry Class Sunday, June 14 @ 9:00 am with facilitator, L.D. Ball

Children’s R.E. Popcorn Theology – “Life of Pi” (ages 11-18): Sunday, June 14 During the Service
with teacher, Reed Richmond

Father’s Day – Sunday, June 21

Board Meeting - Sunday, June 21 @ 9:00 am

Living Lotus Zen Sangha Sitting & Dharma Talk - Monday, June 22 @ 6:30 pm

Questions for Your Answers Discussion & Breakfast - Wednesday, June 24 @ 10:00 am at Bob Evans-Hanley Rd.

Adult R.E. – Military Ministry Class - Sunday, June 28 @ 9:00 am with facilitator, L.D. Ball

Pot Luck & Kenya Coin Collection - Sunday, June 28

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

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740-501-5990

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