

ALL SOULS NEWSLETTER

WHAT KIND OF FUTURE?

Rev. Karen Bruno

I am gathering volunteers who want to serve on the “Visioning Task Force”.

The primary questions to be answered....

- Do we want to grow or stay about the same?
- What kind of leadership do we want?
- Are we here to comfort each other and/or challenge the larger community?

I am hoping for team members who have different views on these questions! How boring if we all agree after the first meeting!

If you are willing to consider being part of this group, please sign up on Sunday morning by mid-October.

OUR BEAUTIFUL BUILDING!

Rev. Karen Bruno

We are blessed with our historical building. There is so much to love about it.

Many church groups struggle each month to pay a mortgage, but ours was paid for more than a century ago.

We have members who have worked hard to give us wonderful pews, remodel the organ, upgrade the furnace, install a new roof and so much more.

Old buildings are a blessing and a challenge. We have a long list of projects that would improve our meeting space and prolong the life of our church building.

Please consider helping with projects or offering special financial support for one of the items on the ‘to do’ list. Chuck has the list and would welcome your support!

“WE TAKE INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY SERIOUSLY”

MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD

...from Glenn Myers, President

The Exciting Pathway of Learning

We Unitarian Universalists share a covenant defined by a set of seven “Principles”. The crowning arch linking the other six is Principle Number Four: “We affirm and promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.”

Learning is the heartbeat of Unitarian Universalists and gives life to studying, discussing, searching for life’s meaning and the pursuit of spirituality. Ja far al-Sadig, eighth century religious scholar and descendant of Muhammad, said, “A scholar is worth a thousand worshippers”. (We take our wisdom from wherever we find it.)

At the heart of our church services is the “Message”. It is delivered by guest speakers who present a variety of topics (our minister speaks one Sunday each month). Each Sunday the speaker’s topic is enhanced by supporting and/or related music and readings.

When the service ends at 11:30 a.m., most folks migrate to the Fellowship Hall for coffee and snacks (real meal potluck lunch once each month). Lively interaction concerning the Message, catching up on each other’s lives and getting acquainted with visitors accompany the refreshments. Each Sunday is different, but learning and warm fellowship are constants. UU coffee is always good, too.

If you are searching for truth and meaning, come join us, and we will walk the pathway of learning together.

...from Ann Kilgore, Vice President

Sandy Macpherson and Linda Wilson are serving on the Committee on Ministry. We will have our first meeting after church on Sunday, October 5. Anyone else is welcome to attend. If anyone has a question, please write to me or call me at 419-961-6870.

...from Renie Maginniss, Secretary

Minutes from August that were approved at the September 21 meeting will be placed in the folder downstairs for viewing. Our September meeting was lively and filled with much old and new business, so we continued on September 30. Anyone is welcome to join us at the Board meetings and become familiar with all the exciting things going on at All Souls. Maybe YOU will learn of something of which you want to become a part!

...from Joanne Gillum, Treasurer

AUGUST 2014 REPORT

	August	Y-T-D
Income:		
Pledges	2,270.00	5,041.00
Offerings	628.60	1,172.11
Kenya Coin Collection	61.81	176.81
Rummage Sale	10.00	900.50
Recycle	61.38	61.38
Total	3,031.79	* 7,351.80
Expenses:	3,911.31	6,462.91
Difference:	(879.52)	888.89

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

To date expenses paid beyond the normal include removing a tree from the grounds, painting outside windows and entering into service contracts for the furnace and A/C.

AUGUST PLEDGE REPORT

Total members	27
Total pledges	21
Amount Pledged	2,052.00
Amount Received	2,270.00
Variance	+218.00
Average Attendance	52



...from Mike Garber, Finance Trustee

“I’m New Here, Won’t You Please...”

Smile at me when I walk in the door. You are my first impression of All Souls during the first few moments. I am in your building, and this first impression will probably last a long time.

Help me find my place in the service. I will not find your help an intrusion; in fact, I will remember your kindness.

Speak with me after the service or during the coffee hour. I know you want to see your friends and settle that piece of committee business, but I may find it hard to believe that you truly care for one another unless I first see evidence that you care for the “stranger in your midst”.

Tell me the good things about your congregation and your leaders. I want to believe I have come to a place where people love each other and where they believe they are doing something for the cause of truth.

Notice me even if I am not a “family”. I don’t want to feel I am invisible just because I am unmarried, a single parent, a teenager or an older person.

Talk to me again the second week when I come back...and the third and fourth. I am still not a part of the congregation family.

Invite me to become part of some group or organization that meets my needs and interests based on your conversations with me. I need more than weekend worship. I need to know that I am accepted and affirmed by a group of people within All Souls who know me by my first name and who care about me as an individual.

If you find it in your heart to do these things for me, I will likely keep coming back. I will join your choir, work at your suppers, and become a highly involved member of your congregation and, in doing so, I will find my own life immeasurably enriched as a result of having become a member of your congregation. Thank you!

Adapted from a writing of the UU Church of Halifax, Nova Scotia



...from Bruce Kilgore, Fellowship Trustee

Our next pot luck is scheduled for Sunday, October 26 and will be the All Souls Annual Halloween Party. The church will furnish ham & bean soup, and we are asking everyone to bring a covered dish or dessert to share. Come to church in your costume for an opening Costume Parade. Bring your pumpkins for display at the opening of service for a Jack-O-Lantern Contest. Games and fun are scheduled for after the pot luck.

Call Bruce at 419-886-4797 for information, ideas and kid’s games...or to help.

...from Reed Richmond, Social Action Trustee

Thanks to all who attended the “Godzilla” movie on September 4. There was a suggestion to have a regular movie night with UU relevant movie topics and possible discussion after. If this is appealing to you, let Reed know.

Thanks to a donation, we now have four “Standing on the Side of Love” posters, and we are hanging two of them outside to let passersby know where our church stands on all issues. We hope you like them.

The next Social Action/Justice Discussion meeting is Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 pm. Please come and share your concerns and where you think we should focus some of our Social Action attention. I can promise some lively discussion.

...from Chuck Rhodes, Building & Maintenance Trustee

The exterior frames of the stained glass windows have been painted. It has been reported that there is some soft wood on the west side window frames. This must be regularly inspected to prevent any rot.

FALL WORK DAY
Saturday, October 11
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Coffee and donuts will be ready at 8:30 am. A signup sheet will be circulated listing the tasks to be completed.

The church furnaces will be inspected and serviced in October as part of the preventive maintenance program for the HVAC equipment.

A PROPOSED MAINTENANCE PROJECT list has been drafted and is available for your review. The list identifies some of the projects and expenses we will be facing in the future.

Remember to have your furnace checked before winter.



...from Judy Shaffer, Pastoral Care Trustee

PASTORAL CARE DUTIES

Teasha Sprague is assisting me 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 Dates to Remember

October 1 & 8 (Wednesdays) 6:30 - 8:30 pm: "Speaking Peace: The Art & Science of Compassionate Nonviolent Communication (NVC)" with Lisa Kreischer.

October 5, 12 & 26 at 9:00 am: Adult Religious Education – DVD/Discussion course on Islam.

October 5 During the Service: Religious Education for 5-10 year olds. Dr. Seuss curriculum: "And to Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street". If you forgot when you signed up to teach, the schedule is posted on the large bulletin board in the fellowship hall under the "Religious Education" section.

October 12 During the Service: Religious Education for 11-18 year olds. Popcorn Theology: "Apollo 13".

Adult Fall Religious Education will explore the book "Lifecraft: The Art of Meaning in the Everyday" by Forrest Church, a UU minister. This book is very short and features activities to be done outside of the Religious Education time. It is only 4 sessions and includes a very nice lesson plan. If you are interested or just willing to facilitate this class, please let Liz Hansen know as soon as possible so we can get the details of the class finalized. There are used copies of the book available for purchase on the bookshelf at the bottom of the stairs in the Fellowship Hall.

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

As I try to settle into my new position, I mostly am observing and taking note of opportunities that life brings my way. At this time, one thing I am sure about is having a table at the next Richland County and Bellville Fairs. I am not sure if it costs anything to have a table/booth, but I feel this is a great way to get our name out there.

- We could pass out free coffee and pamphlets about our church.
- Maybe have some home made goods, foods and crafts to sell to raise some money.
- Have a can out for our Coins for Kenya Collection.
- Have a calendar of upcoming events/speakers to pass out.
- Can do this at other local fairs/public gatherings.

I will be more than happy to run it and, of course, anyone who wants to help can.

Also, I have some contacts in media and will try to get a hold of them for ideas to get us in the paper, though at the board meeting it was discussed that we already get in the Bellville Star a decent amount.

Still, the thought I have is to be more active in the community and more politically active. What rights does the church support? Women's? Gay/Lesbian? Medical Marihuana? Organic Farming Rules and Regulations? Solar or Other Alternative Energy? I feel we should have a louder voice on these matters.

As well as having a community clothes drive or food drive... maybe have a free meal /soup kitchen day for the community.

I am planning on quitting my job somewhere around February. I am planning on going back to school for psychology and some field of ministry. I feel that is where my heart belongs. I bring this up only to say that I will have more time for these church suggestions/activities.

But, the number one thing is that we should have a table at the local fairs. That is what I am most focused on at this time.



**ALL SOULS BLUE RIBBON AWARD
BELLVILLE STREET FAIR 2014**

...from Brian Moore, Pulpit & Worship Trustee

Greetings from the Pulpit Chair

Looking back at September, we learned how to improve our health. Dr. Walter Kania did his standup act of humor and laughter proven to be the best medicine, and we all got a good vaccination of the healing power of humor. Also, Teri Cornell talked about how helping others is also proactive and healthy.

Looking ahead...October 5, Rev. Karen Bruno is the speaker with Joan Richmond leading the service and Ayesha Fry providing our music. Also, Sunday Oct. 5, you are invited to "All Souls 201" @ 12:30 pm at Brumby's. Considering joining our church or want to learn more about our history, current and future visions? Lunch is compliments of All Souls.

October 12, Mary Holm is the speaker with Reed Richmond leading the service and the Trio providing music. Ms. Holm visited Israel and the Palestinian territories in May of this year as part of a peace delegation organized by "Project Peace" of Tiffin, Ohio. Her topic Oct. 12 will be "My Palestinian Experience". In the eleven days of her journey, the delegation of six met with over 20 Palestinians, a Rabbi and an Israeli citizen. The group asked each person they met how they could help. The common thread of their answers was not to forget them and to share their stories with others. Ms. Holm's talk will speak to the following Unitarian Universalists principles:

First Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Second Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

Sixth Principle: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Seventh Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

October 19, John Gardner is the speaker with Brian Moore leading the service and Ayesha Fry providing our music. The title of the message will be "Go Ahead. . . Make My Day!" Also, the Board Meeting is October 19 at 9:00 am.

October 26, Genevieve Knight is the speaker with Bruce Kilgore leading the service and Ayesha Fry providing our music. "Baseball, Instant Replay, and the Subjectivity of Reality." This year Major League Baseball has begun to use instant replay in some situations. Genevieve O'Malley Knight will preach against this practice and explore what baseball teaches us about the subjective nature of human experience of reality and what this might mean for our behavior. Oct. 26 is also our Kenya Coin Collection and our U.U. Halloween Potluck Party (wear a costume) during coffee hour. I hope everybody has their Halloween costumes picked out and ready for some fun and party time.

Anybody who would like to join the pulpit committee and be an "Order of Service" Leader in the New Year, please contact Brian Moore via email midohiosupply@neo.rr.com , phone 419-589-7707 or Facebook.

Until next time...Peace, Love and Namaste to All Souls

Living Lotus Zen Sangha

We hold regular sittings, which include a service and Dharma Talk, every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month from 6:30pm-8:30pm at All Souls Unitarian Church, 25 Church St. in Bellville, Ohio.

The church is opened at 6:00 p.m. Please enter from the side door. We meet upstairs.

We would request that you please plan to arrive before 6:30 pm to allow everyone to begin Sitting Meditation Zazen at 6:30 pm.

Loaner meditation cushions (Zafus & Zabutons) are available. In addition, for those who prefer or need them, upright church pews are available to sit on during the sitting meditation (Zazen) periods.

Regular Sittings/Service Schedule

- **Zazen (sitting meditation)**
We begin first period of Zazen at 6:30 pm (25 minutes)
- **Kinhin (walking meditation)**
Walking meditation, following Zazen (10 minutes)
- **Zazen (Sitting meditation)**
Second period (25 minutes)
- **Liturgy**
Heart Sutra, chanting and prostrations** (approx. 10 minutes)
- **Dharma Talk**
Shared by Sensei Dean Williams (approx. 1 hour)
Current Study Book/Text: "Inside the Grass Hut Living Shitou's Classic Zen Poem", by Ben Connelly
- Beginning in November, we will meet the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm for a book study group at Relax It's Just Coffee in Mansfield. For more details, contact Jackie Moore.

**In Zen and other traditional Buddhist services, there is a lot of bowing. Note that this act in Buddhism has very different meanings than traditional Western associations.

"In Buddhism it's not divinity we're acknowledging, but our capacity for awakening and the non-duality of existence. It's a spiritual exchange in which we recognize the unique importance of each being in the universe as well as the smallness of the Self." -Seth Segall

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PRACTICE WITH US :)

No previous meditation experience is needed.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Joyce Fenton – October 5
Shelley Mauk – October 8
Levi Waltz – October 19

Deborah Mattix – October 23
Renie Maginniss – October 27
Reed Richmond – October 27

Avery Smith – October 29
Reid Gallion – October 30

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

JUST SO YOU KNOW

SPEAKERS FOR OCTOBER

October 5: Rev. Karen Bruno
October 12: Mary Holm
October 19: John Gardener
October 26: Genevieve Knight

OCTOBER EVENTS

Speaking Peace: The Science of Compassionate Nonviolent Communication:

Wednesdays: October 1 & 8 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm

R.E. Dr. Seuss Curriculum (ages 5-10): Sunday, October 5 during the service

All Souls 201: Sunday, October 5 @ 12:30 pm at Brumby's

Social Action/Justice Group Discussion: Tuesday, October 7 @ 7:00 pm

R.E. Popcorn Theology (ages 11-18): Sunday, October 12 during the service

Sangha Sit & Dharma Talk: Monday, October 13 @ 6:30 pm

Board Meeting: Sunday, October 19 @ 9:00 am

Pot Luck/Halloween Party: Sunday, October 26

Sangha Sit & Dharma Talk: Monday, October 27 @ 6:30 pm

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