



*Bismarck -Mandan Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship and Church*

818 East Divide Ave.

Bismarck, ND 58501

E-mail: office@bismanuu.org

January 2010

Website: www.bismanuu.org

Phone: 701-223-6788

Sunday Coffee: 10:30 AM, Sunday Service: 11:00AM,

Sunday School: 11:00 AM

The Beacon

OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SHARING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST VALUES IN THE CAPITAL CITY AREA

Sunday, January 3, 2010

"THIS, BECAUSE THEN I DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO"

Janelle Masters

Janelle will discuss the origin and creative process of one of her songs on her CD, *Out of a Troubled Sky*. She is a member of this Fellowship and Dean of Academic Affairs at Bismarck State College.

Sunday, January 10, 2010

"THIS I BELIEVE – A JOURNEY TO JUSTICE"

Tom Disselhorst

Tom, a long time UU member, shares his story in the, "This I Believe" series. Taking off from the UU principles of affirming and promoting, "*The Inherent worth and dignity of every person*" and "*Justice, equity and compassion in human relations*", Tom will share how and where he developed his social justice concerns and how they led him to our Fellowship. As a pianist, Tom's story will include several musical interludes. Come and enjoy!

***Guest at Your Table* box collection

Sunday, January 17, 2010

"REFLECTIONS ON DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY"

Rev. Lyn Burton

The language of race is relational and systematic and we are participating in an ongoing conversation about race with our very lives. As we commemorate the life and work of Dr. King, Rev. Burton reflects on lessons learned since 1968 and challenges that remain. Join the discussion.

**Soup & salad lunch conversation on the "Passion Survey"

Sunday, January 24, 2010

"WE ARE STARDUST: DARWIN AND A NEW CREATION STORY"

Rev. Lyn Burton

Is supporting evolution compatible with faith? Can spiritual practice represent evolution in action? Might an exciting new, science-based creation story help our children think about and relate to God with joy and wonder? Join Rev. Burton to discuss Darwin's great paradigm shift in both scientific and religious thought.

Sunday, January 31, 2010

"THE HEADING"

Rev. Dr. Wade Schemmel

Having a compass in hand or in our head, helps us find direction in a storm, or, for Wade Schemmel, on the hilly roads in Wisconsin where he grew up. Our founding fathers were correct about separating church and state, but religion provides an important compass or "heading" for us to see through the confusion, bigotry, and false statements on public issues. Rev. Schemmel is the Conference Minister of the Northern Plains Conference of the United Church of Christ.

OUR FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

An asterisk (*) indicates, *See an article for details*

Jan. 9 10:30 AM	*Welcome Orientation for Seekers
Jan. 10 11:00 AM	<i>Guest at Your Table</i> Box Collection
Jan. 12 6:30 PM	Board of Trustees meeting with Rev. Burton online. Guests are welcome.
Jan. 12 7:00 PM	*Online leadership workshop for Board members and those interested in leadership opportunities.
Jan. 15 - 24	Rev. Lyn Burton in Bismarck
Jan. 15 & 16	*Circle Suppers & Lunches. Sign up!
Jan. 17 12:30 PM	*Follow up on two more "Passion Survey" categories
Jan. 18 7:00 PM	Program Committee Meeting
Jan. 20 5:30 PM	Board of Trustees mini-retreat with Rev. Burton
Jan. 22 & 23	*Circle Suppers & Lunches. Sign up!
Jan. 24 11:00 AM	*Potential new member Ingathering and Child Dedication

Rev. Lyn Burton in Bismarck, January 15 – 24:

Personal appointments? Please contact her directly or our UU office.

Interested in membership or dedicating your child? Please contact Rev. Burton directly or our UU office by Friday, Jan. 8 if you wish this to happen on Sunday, Jan. 24 while she is in Bismarck.

Rev. Burton: cell 651-336-4493 or uulyn2008@aol.com

UU Office: 223-6788 or office@bismanuu.org

“What is UUism About?”
A Welcome Orientation for Seekers
Carol Jean Larsen

January 9, Saturday: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Childcare and snacks provided if RSVP to UU office by Thursday. Call 223-6788

Have you been seeking a caring, open-minded religious home? After reading our seven UU principles as well as the many sources of our faith, are you ready to deepen the conversation?

Welcome to the journey. I hope to see you on January 9. If you have questions, contact me at my home 258-6824.

“What is a UU Child Dedication?”
Upcoming Opportunity

Unitarian Universalists believe that every child brings new life and hope into the world. We set aside a special time for our church community to bless the child and celebrate with the parents this blessing of the gift of life.

January 15 – 24, our consulting minister from St. Paul, Rev. Lyn Burton will be in Bismarck. She would like to meet with every family interested in knowing more about child dedication. Her contact information is on page one below the calendar box.

January Circle Suppers or Lunches

We can get to know one another better by sharing a Potluck Meal together in a host's home with 6-8 people. The host provides the main dish and then suggests a food item for each guest to bring.

These events are for adult members, friends and seekers. The time frame is about 2 hours. If you participated in the December Circle Suppers, you are welcome to sign up again.

Are you available to be either a guest or provide a host home on any of the following dates:

Jan. 15, Fri. supper	6:00 pm
Jan. 16, Sat. lunch	12 noon
Jan. 16, Sat. supper	6:00 pm
Jan. 22, Fri. supper	6:00 pm
Jan. 23, Sat. lunch	12 noon
Jan. 23, Sat. supper	6:00 pm

Please contact the UU office as soon as possible at 223-6788 or office@bismanuu.org

UUA 2010 General Assembly in Minneapolis -
IMPORTANT! Please Read

We are hopeful that many members will participate in the 2010 UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis from June 23-27. We hope to support that participation with congregational resources. As the Board begins to plan for this exciting opportunity, we need to know who is interested in attending so we can allocate available resources to best advantage. Please contact the UU office to express your interest.

<http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml>

Funding Our 2010 Budget
Is Your Help on the Way?
Steve Crane

All 87 members and many active friends received a mint green pledge card in November with a self-addressed envelope.

One-half of our membership responded quickly. As Board treasurer, I thank you so much for sharing your financial gift and helping fund our vision.

A pledge is an estimate of what you believe you can fund in a 12 month period. Of course, if your circumstances change, you can alter your gift. Our annual request of a written pledge from each member and active friend is how your UU Board plans its expenditures. My question to the one-half who are still thinking: Is your help on the way? There are extra pledge cards on the lobby counter. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Crane (255-6979) or the UU office (223-6788).

Ten Good Ideas about Good Governance
Online Leadership Workshop

Join Us! On January 12 (Tuesday) at 7:00 pm, the UU Board invites you to join them in the church office for a 90 minute online leadership workshop. Let's all learn together!

Have you volunteered for a simple task in our church and found yourself frustrated amidst lack of clarity? In this online workshop, the presentation and discussion will focus on relatively simple ideas for making work flow better in the service to mission.

The workshop is repeated on January 21 but not at the church. Call the church office ASAP at 223-6788 and express your interest to Tammy.

“Passion Survey?”, You Ask!
Next Conversation: January 17

Background

On the Sundays of September 13 and 20, the bulletin inserts were titled “*Passion Survey*”. The name certainly got attention! Folks checked their three top passions (strong interests), from a list of 10 categories all related to our UU community. An astounding 60 people responded passionately!

As promised, the UU Board is scheduling follow-up conversations. Two categories, “*Welcoming the Seeker*”, and “*Caring for One Another*” were the focus of a December soup & salad lunch with 30 talkative new and long time members.

If you did not submit a “*Passion Survey*”, it's not too late to catch up. Join Us!

January 17: 12:30 pm Soup & Salad Lunch

Discussion Categories: “*Religious Growth & Learning*” and “*Deepening the Spiritual Conversation*”.

Come prepared to share your responses to these questions:

1. What does each of these categories *mean to you*?
2. What are your own needs related each category?
3. How can you personally enhance our congregation's efforts in either category?

Are You Reading UU World Magazine?

Jim Lennington

One of the benefits of UU membership is receiving UU World, a quarterly UUA publication. I believe the writing has improved in this last year. Take the latest issue for example. I really liked *Ghosts of Unitarian Christmas* and not just because my family does not practice much of a commercial Christmas. I also thought the analysis in the excerpted article *Breath is Life, A Christian Rationale for Abortion* was well done. Plus, I did not know that the early Catholic Church considered 'ensoulment' to occur when an expectant mother first feels movement of the fetus. And did you catch the Table Graces in the glossy Kid's insert? These are a breath of fresh air. UU World - check it out.

A Day of Celebration December 6, 2009

Rev. Lyn Burton and our congregation welcomed eight new members, invited them to take up the authority and responsibility of shared leadership, and to join together in a free and responsible search for meaning in our own lives and in the world.

Welcome to the journey:

Lauren & Robin Bosch
Sarah Goethe
Kelly Hagen
Valeria Howard
Heather & William Solig
Dan Tokash

Rev. Lyn Burton and our congregation welcomed seven children and dedicated each child to a life of love and service.

Welcome to the journey:

Quinn and Kaiden Goddard Hathaway, sons of Tim Hathaway and Tammy Goddard Hathaway
Cyrus and Lucea Hagge-Goethe, children of Sarah Goethe and Matthew Hagge
Audrey and Adam Mack, children of David and Amanda Mack
Sky Solig, son of William and Heather Solig

Annual Meeting December 13, 2009 Action

Vice President Greg Enerson presided at the Dec. 13 annual Meeting attended by 24 members and three friends.

Elections: Patricia Conrad was elected to the Board of Trustees for the unexpired one year position held by Aruna Seth. Janet Merrill was thanked for filling in for Aruna during her absences out-of-state due to family issues. Vote: Unanimous

Jean King and Amanda Mack were elected to the open seats on the Nominating Committee. Patricia Conrad and Vicki Voskuil were thanked for their service. Diane Chielens remains as the third committee member. Vote: Unanimous

2010 Budget – January 1 – December 31: A balanced, calendar year budget of \$53,055 was approved as printed and presented by Treasurer Steve Crane. Vote: 23 Aye; 1 Abstain

Candles of Joy; Candles of Concern for Our UU Families

- + Congratulations to Shivani Seth on her December graduation from Butler University in Indianapolis. Her family joined her for the celebration.
- + Welcome to the world baby Theresa "Tess", born to Katie & Dana Aitchison, Dec. 24. Grand parents Sherry & Tim Moore and Great Grandma Betty Mills are beaming non-stop.
- + Continue to hold Sonali Seth and her family in your hearts and prayers. They have appreciated so many cards and notes. Sonali's radiation treatments conclude Jan. 6. She and her family will fly to India Jan. 8 for one warm month. Cards of support can be sent to Sonali Seth, 58 Boynton St., Jamaica Plains, MA 02130
- + Bill Christensen, young adult son of Mary Mitchell, is dealing with a difficult personal issue at this time. Hold them both in your hearts and prayers. Contact Bill at 2109 12th St. SE, Mandan, ND 58554 or email comesinsixcolors@gmail.com Contact Mary at 910 E. Avenue F, Bismarck, ND 58501 or email hopefulinnd@yahoo.com

Volunteers Needed to Learn Our Sound System

Steve Crane would like to develop a pool of people interested in learning to operate our sound system. If you are interested, please contact Steve at 255-6979 or contact the UU Office 223-6788. Thank you!

The UU Mitten Tree A Gift of Warmth

The Mitten Tree is loaded with warm hats, gloves, scarves and mittens. The tree will be taken down following the service on January 3rd. Lavonne Scott and Pat Conrad will deliver the items to the Mary Stark Elementary School in Mandan. In 2009 our donations went to the Ruth Meier's Hospitality House, and in 2008 to BECEP. Thanks to everyone who participated in this holiday activity.

More Photographs Needed

The photo display of members and friends is one half complete. Shutterbug Steve Crane will be on duty each Sunday in January. So line up at his improvised studio in the back room. You STILL know who you are!

Coffee and Fellowship Hour Treats

Treats this month are lovingly provided by the families and friends below.

Jan. 3 Carol Jean Larsen
Jan. 10 _____
Jan. 17 Susan Thomson
Jan. 24 Monica Wilkinson
Jan. 31 _____



Please volunteer to provide simple snacks to go with coffee and fellowship. A sign-up sheet is posted in the back room.

Office Administrator

Tammy Hathaway

Regular Office Hours: Mon. from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Tues & Thurs from 12:30 – 3:30 PM

Building Use & Schedule

The schedule for use of the church building is being maintained by Tammy Hathaway, our Office Administrator. If you would like to schedule an event or activity, contact Tammy. Phone: 223-6788 or email: office@bismanuu.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Janis Cheney jcheney@bis.midco.net

VICE PRESIDENT:

Greg Enerson enersgreg@netscape.net

SECRETARY:

Carol Jean Larsen cjlarsen43@bis.midco.net

TREASURER:

Stephen Crane scrane@bis.midco.net

DIRECTORS:

Beth Nodland bnodland@aol.com

Jim Lennington jimlenn@bis.midco.net

Pat Conrad patriciaryanconrad@msn.com

Below are Informative and Useful Links to Check Out!!

<http://www.uua.org/>

<http://www.psduua.org/AnnualConference2010/AnnualConference2010>

<http://clf.uua.org/index2.html>

http://www.uua.org/documents/aw/100101_news.pdf

http://www.uua.org/documents/ssl/100101_ssl_day_flyer.pdf

Chair in Snow

*Quiet upon the terraces,
The garden chairs repose;
In fall they wore their sooty dress,
Now the lees of snows.*

*How like the furnishings of youth,
In back yards of the mind:
Residuals of summer's truth
And seasons left behind*

-E.B. White

