

From the Minister



Rev. Dan Brosier

This story came from our own Paul Anderson.

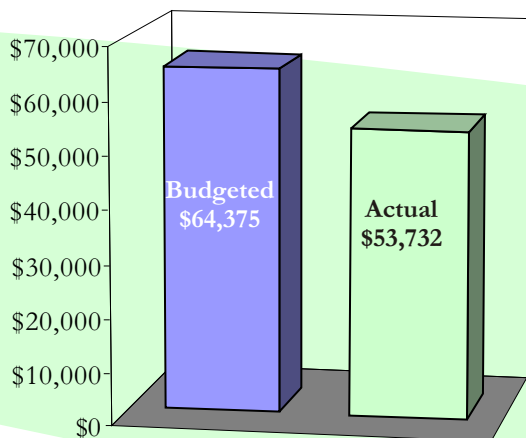
Years ago, my brother Jim, our friend Bruce and I went hiking in Devil's Lake, Wisconsin. At the close of that autumn day the three of us sat on a cliff edge to view the valley below. The wind picked up some leaves from behind us and dropped them down in front of us. An updraft then picked them up again and they danced suspended in air in front of us, catching the light of the setting sun. The "Dancing Leaves" story was special to all three of us.

So when Bruce died last year, Jim and I returned to Devil's Lake to look for that spot. Since it had been maybe ten years, finding it was a challenge. We hiked all day searching, climbing rocks and bush-whacking, broke through the forest to the cliff's edge. . . .we had found it! We took out a small container of ashes of our friend and performed a ceremony.

"May you dance on the wind just as those leaves did so many years ago."

And so he will.

Member Pledges—2006-2007 Fiscal Year



The 2006-2007 budget calls for \$128,750 in pledges. Six months' worth of this figure is \$64,375. Questions? Contact your Finance Coordinator, Alice Macy.

Month of Sundays

November

5 - The Heart of Community

Guest speaker Bill Wilson is affiliated with the intentional community of Stelle in central IL. Today he will speak to us about "what is at the core of building authentic relationships within families, groups, communities, and ultimately with oneself and all of life." The practice or use of permaculture is an outward expression of those authentic relationships. Service co-sponsored by the Green Sanctuary and Worship Committees and led by Elise C. Wall.

12 - Music Sunday

Come join us for our annual fall Music Sunday when we celebrate the music of this church. You are invited to sit back and let the spirit of the music move you. During the service we will have a special offering in support of the music program. Service led by the Rev. Dan Brosier.

19 - Communion

The heart of most churches, mosques, synagogues and temples is the community. In this service we celebrate the power of community in our lives through words and a bread communion ritual. Service led by the Rev. Dan Brosier.

26 - Do We Live with an Attitude of Gratitude?

"Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts."

- Henri Frederic Amiel

Service led by Paul Anderson

Services 10:45 A.M.
Fellowship Following

UUCE Calendar

November



Wednesday 1st

- 6:00 PM - Eat and Meet
- 7:00 PM - The Lessons of Loss - Room 301
- 7:00 PM - Committee on the Ministry - Dan's Office
- 7:00 PM - Spiritual Inquiry Covenant Group - 302
- 7:00 PM - Barn Bells
- 7:30 PM - Gardeners' Debriefing - FH

Thursday 2nd

- 7:00 PM - GLBT Young Adult Group - 301

Friday 3rd

- 6:00 PM - Women Cooking For Women - FH
- 7:30 PM - Candlelight Labyrinth Walk - Sanctuary

Saturday 4th -

Sunday 5th

- 9:00 AM - Unichords
- 9:30 AM - RE Council - Room 201
- 9:30 AM - Adult Sunday School
- 302 - Spiral Dynamics
- 9:30 AM - Worship Committee
- 10:45 - Worship Service - Rev. Dan Brosier**
- Coffee & Fellowship Following
- 12:30 - Permaculture Presentation - 302
- 7:00 PM - Full Moon Ritual - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday 8th

- 6:00 PM - Eat and Meet
- 7:00 PM - The Lessons of Loss - 301
- 7:00 PM - Finance Committee - Dan's Office
- 7:00 PM - Barn Bells
- 7:30 PM - APPLE - Room 302

Thursday 9th

- 7:00 PM - GLBT Young Adult Group - 301

Friday 10th

- 9:15 AM - E.T. Meeting

Saturday 11th

- 12 PM - Rental

Sunday 12th

- 9:00 AM - Unichords
- 9:30 AM - Adult Sunday School
- 302 - Bible Study
- 10:45 - Worship Service - MUSIC SUNDAY**
- Coffee & Fellowship Following

Wednesday 15th

- 6:00 PM - Eat and Meet
- 6:00 PM - Peace and Justice Colation Meeting
- 7:00 PM - Selling of Iraq - Film Screening
- 7:00 PM - Barn Bells

Thursday 16th

- 7:00 PM - GLBT Young Adult Group - 301
- 7:00 PM - Board Meeting

Saturday 18th

- 9:00 AM - Quilting Group - 302

Sunday 19th

- 9:00 AM - Unichords
- 9:30 AM - Adult Sunday School - 302 - Bible Study
- 10:45 - Worship Service - Rev. Dan Brosier**
- Coffee & Fellowship Following
- 12:30 - Green Sanctuary
- 2:00 PM - Corbin Talaga's Dedication
UNICHORD NEWS to Editor

Wednesday 22nd

- NO - Barn Bells

Thursday 23rd - THANKSGIVING

Sunday 26th

- 9:00 AM - Unichords
- 9:30 AM - Adult Sunday School
- 302 - Forum Discussion
- 10:45 - Worship Service - Gratitude**
- Paul Anderson

Wednesday 29th

- 6:00 PM - Eat and Meet
- 7:00 PM - Women's Spirituality - Room 301
- 7:00 PM - Barn Bells

Thursday 30th

- 7:00 PM - GLBT Young Adult Group - 301

News & Announcements



UUCE Library Update - Jackie Van De Warker

Our UUCE library is being expanded, updated and computerized and is ready for visitors and donations. We're using the Dewey Decimal Classification System and the Library of Congress numbering system that make us compatible with the rest of the country. Our goal is to eventually be able to order any book we need from anywhere. Note that word "eventually."

Most of the books we have are about Unitarian Universalist principles and history as well as other religions and their principles. Many also deal with spiritual, self-help, philosophical and psychological topics, and church organization and leadership. Some are "green," vegetarianism, landscaping, even a few cook books. There's a great one about labyrinths all over the world.

What we don't have, and don't have room for upstairs in the library room, are fiction and children's books. We will still accept them as donations and you can leave them at the library office. The novels and unrelated non-fiction and children's books will be circulated through the book cart in the Fellowship Hall. These are sold at bargain prices, as our only money maker. Those that are left after a period of time will be passed along to schools and other organizations.

Please stop by, check out a book or two, and keep us in mind when clearing out your bookcases. Your donations will be most welcome. Welcome too are your suggestions and requests. There's a place for that purpose on the table in the library.

Your Cooperation Is Needed

One of the biggest challenges to keeping the church building looking clean is coffee and other drinks being spilled on the carpet. This is why we encourage people not to consume such beverages on the second and third floors. The reality is that some people when they have gatherings before or after church do drink beverages in the classrooms. This is understandable and we encourage those people to be very careful. Where we ask beverages never be brought is into the sanctuary. Please, before entering the sanctuary, deposit your beverage container either downstairs in the kitchen, or if disposable, in a trash receptacle.

About Fundraising—Especially Bake Sales

A reminder that all fundraising activity within the church must receive prior approval of the Executive Team. Some fundraising activities are approved for an indefinite period of time—like RE bake sales and the Quilt Raffles. Recently we have had a couple of groups plan bake sales on the same Sunday. To avoid this any group given approval for holding repeated bake sales needs to get these on the calendar by contacting Mila Brinker, the Church Administrator.

Women Cooking For Women

The next "Women Cooking For Women" dinner will be held on Friday, Nov. 3rd, 2006. Women, 13 and older, are invited, asked to bring a dish to share for the potluck, and to donate money to add to the discretionary assistance fund we started in October. This fund will be used to help our members during hard times. Monies collected would be used to help pay bills or purchase food, gas, etc. when a crisis hits. We are still working out logistics, but the donations would be kept confidential, be small amounts, and only available to church members.

This month we will look back at some of the past topics we have covered. Some topics of discussion will include: What has happened to Mukhtaran Bibi and the two schools she started? What's happening with the Planned Parenthood Sex Education Initiative? Is it possible that UUCE members could start a micro-credit bank? What's going on with the women in Darfur? What's happening with Haba Na Haba? and more. We will also decide on the topic for the January "Night of Passion."

New time: Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Food should be ready to be served by 6:30 p.m. Friends and family members are welcome to attend. There is no sign-up or membership required. Just come! See Laurie Kiesewetter or Andrea Schmidlin if you have questions.

Keep your calendar free the first Friday of each month for WCFW dinners (no Dec. dinner meeting): Fri., Jan. 5th: "Night of Passion" — one woman will share a cause that she is passionate about. HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!

Supervising Our Children

There are a lot of activities and programs at the UUCE. The church attempts to provide childcare during a number of these activities but to do so for all of them is not feasible. For the sake of safety, when children are not in a childcare program or religious education program, we ask that they be supervised by their parent(s). This means children should be in proximity to their parents (at least on the same floor), with the parents knowing where they are and what they are doing. In general, children should not be roaming the building on their own. Conversation between adults is a big part of our community life, but this should not mean that children are unattended.

Second Annual Candlelight Labyrinth Walk

The Second Annual Candlelight Labyrinth Walk to remember ancestors and the beloved departed will be held on Friday, Nov. 3rd, 7:00-9:30pm. We begin in the Sanctuary with a "Ritual of Remembrance", then proceed to the Labyrinth. Bring a picture of your departed loved one to place on the altar and a candle in a jar for walking the Labyrinth. Children fourteen and older welcome. No childcare will be provided. Sandy Russel.



Kathy Underwood
Director of
Religious Education

Religious Education

They say there is a first time for everything. I have a new experience to deal with now, but hopefully it will be resolved by the time you read this. So why bother sharing this information, you might be thinking? Because you, as a participant in this congregation, need to be aware of what is happening, and ideally help in its resolution.

I've dreamt about this happening for 8 or so of the now 10 years I have been the Director of Religious Education. The kind of dream where you're taking a final exam and haven't been attending class all semester. This dream, however, is where I am meeting with the Religious Education Council to make final preparations for the coming year—in particular, teacher recruitment.

We realize that we are short a couple of teachers, and need to scramble to fill the positions. Ultimately, we fail, and have one class without a leader. We debate what we should do. Do we try to fill the spot, even though most of us are already teaching a class? Do we make parents do it? Do we not hold a class every other week, and have the young people sit in the service? Obviously, there are pros and cons to each of these scenarios. But for me, the issue is broader.

Whose responsibility is it to begin with? My tendency is to say that it is mine, since I am the paid employee who coordinates the program.

Some of my colleagues have pointed out though that it is a part of the ministry of the congregation, and that ultimately it is an issue the whole congregation should address and partake in. The "it takes a village to raise a child" philosophy, if you will. I don't have the answer. I just know that it is my reoccurring dream now-come-true. The Religious Education Council and I will resolve it one way or another, and it will work out fine. My concerns are in my fears: is this a trend that we're seeing? Are people too overwhelmed or over committed to devote another hour or so twice a month for another cause? Perhaps I'm just not doing a very good job? Or are people indifferent? We need to find out so we can find a way that works for us. On the positive side, the high school class is off to a wonderful start this year. They learned about paganism, and some of the youth shared their expertise in tarot cards, palm reading, and runes. They went to a local corn maze and had a lock-in at the church. There is renewed energy this year, which is wonderful to see!

The 6th-8th class is having a lock-in at the church on November 18.

They will also have an opportunity to work with the high school class on a service project at a local low-income housing development on November 12 after the service. Look for more details in the orders of service.

In Faith,
Kathy Underwood

November Religious education

November 5

Preschool: Making Chalice
K-2nd: A Fall Walkaround
3rd-5th: Stone Soup Sunday
6th-8th: Heresy Sunday

November 12

Music Sunday Intergenerational no classes
Public Housing Cleanup Project- 6th-12th grades

November 19

Preschool: Thanksgiving
K-2nd: Something Special
3rd-5th: Fannie Farmer
6th-8th: James Reeb

November 26

Preschool Hanukkah
K-2nd: A Gift Making Time
3rd-5th: Popcorn Sale
6th-8th: Hymn #169

Wish List - New floor pillows for RE classrooms

Adult Sunday School Schedule

First Sunday of each month Bob Sandidge and Anne Ward will present Spiral Dynamics—November 5th we take a closer look at the first two spirals. All are invited to come and learn what it is and how it applies to your life.

The second and third Sundays of each month Dan Hislip facilitates Bible Study. November 12 is the Book of Ruth - November 19th the Book of Jonah. Bring your Bible.

On the fourth and on the occasional fifth Sunday of each month Andrea Schmidlin facilitates a discussion Forum.

Do join this lively group any Sunday at 9:30 am on the 3rd floor.

New Member

In September Jen Smith signed the membership book. We joyfully welcome her into our community.

Who Am I?



This educator and civil rights leader was honored by President Johnson with the highest civilian award - the Medal of Freedom.

(answer will appear in the next Unichord)

October Who Am I is Arnold Lovejoy

HOW TO SAVE \$4.5 BILLION

- Donna Askins

Did you know? Phantom loads run up a \$4.5 billion tab for America every year. A phantom load is the electricity drawn by an appliance when the machine is turned off but still plugged in. Money is only part of the cost, though. Because most of our electricity still comes from the burning of fossil fuels, the cost to the earth is pollution spewed into the atmosphere—and that causes global warming.

The good news is that there are plenty of things you can do to avert this problem. Most simply, unplug appliances when they are not in use. Look out for those cube-type plugs, such as cell phone chargers. People frequently leave them plugged in, just for the sake of convenience, and they draw lots of energy. Unplug 'em.

If you aren't sure whether an appliance is an energy vampire, just touch the appliance plug or casing (such as the top of a computer monitor). If it is hot, it is wasting energy. You can also get a kill-a-watt. This little device will tell you exactly how much energy an appliance is using. Check the readout when the appliance is on, and when it is off but still plugged in. You may be surprised. The kill-a-watt can be rented through the UUCE for \$5/week, or purchased for \$30. Church members who wish to purchase a unit are encouraged to split the cost with 2 or 3 families. Rental is ongoing; the deadline to place orders for purchase is November 30. See Donna Askins to order, or sign up on the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall to rent.

You can also cut electrical usage by using timers (think Christmas lights). Such a solution is imperfect, but is good for appliances that you want to be certain are on for only part of the time, as in the case of a programmable thermostat. Speaking of xmas lights, they are now available in lean LED versions - you can even buy solar-powered ones! Other energy-saving tips:

The major energy-using culprit in running the dishwasher or clothes washer is heating the water. Use cold water if you can. You'll save. In addition, get into the habit of reaching for the right-hand faucet unless you're sure it's hot water you want. The hot water faucet chews up energy every time you turn it on, trying to do its job, even if you don't wait for the water to get hot.

The start-up of a desktop computer uses the same amount of energy as running it for 2 hours. That means it uses LESS electricity to simply leave it on, if you know you'll be turning it back on within 2 hours. A laptop computer uses about 1/5 the energy of a desktop.

So cutting one's electrical usage will not only save money—it will reduce global warming. The earth will thank you, and so will your grandkids

DONATIONS DOWN, NEED UP

The donations at the Interfaith Food Pantry are down, but the number of people being served continues to increase.

There is a special need for breakfast cereals, especially the ones that children like, and powdered milk. Of course, all non-perishable food items and toiletries are welcome,

Please bring your donations on Pantry Sunday, November 5. If this doesn't work for you, your donations are welcome anytime during the month.

Program Council

Our first full year of coordinating the programming efforts at UUCE was a successful one! Thanks to all who came to us with their passions and ideas, and helped put them in motion! We're hoping to continue that trend this year as well. We invite you to tell us what you'd like to see or share with the larger community. Is there something you're passionate about that you'd like to show others? Or perhaps you just want to know if there are others who share your interests? Maybe there is a topic you'd like to explore in a small group, but you don't know how to go about it?

Here is what you can do: Fill out a Program Proposal Form, located in the church office, or submit one online through the website at www.uuce.org and click the link "Get Involved". Submit the Program Proposal Form to the Program Council either in their church mailbox, located outside the office, or electronically. You will hear back from the Program Council within two weeks.

You can check the church calendar for space availability in the church office, or online by clicking "News" and then "Calendar". When your program is approved, you then submit a Room Request Form, located in the office, if you wish to reserve church space. Or you can submit one online in the same procedure as above. The Church Administrator will notify you if your request is accepted, or if there are questions about your request. Once you have a date, time and space, advertise your program in three of the following ways: order of service, newsletter, UUCE announcements e-list, dry erase board by the elevator, mailings, or the information table by the name tags. If you have any questions on this procedure, just ask one of us. We're glad to help! - Your Program Council,

- Kathy Hislip, Andrea Schmidlin, Kathy Underwood

CommUUnity Garden Wraps Up

On Saturday, October 14, a dozen or so hearty gardeners cleaned out the garden beds and picked the last of the harvest. Fresh manure and other compost was spaded in to mellow over the winter. This year's harvest included potatoes, broccoli, carrots, butternut squash, casaba melon, Blue Lake beans, heirloom tomatoes, lettuce, spinach, and zucchini. On November 1, the gardeners will meet to talk about what went well in this pilot year, and what needs to be improved. Whether you are a gardener, shareholder, or observer, your feedback is welcome. Send observations to Donna Askins.

An Inconvenient Truth Draws Audience

Jointly sponsored by the Green Sanctuary and APPLE (Alliance for a Post-Petroleum Local Economy), the screening of An Inconvenient Truth was an excellent success last month. Fifty-five people gathered in the sanctuary to watch the movie, many of whom were visitors to the UUCE for the first time, or who had heard about the screening at the Prairie Fest. Thanks to all who helped make the evening a success!

President's Reflections



Lydia Larrabee
Board President

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the congregational survey. As I write this we are just tabulating the results and will be sharing them with you soon. We appreciate your feedback and insight into how are currently doing as a church.

Answers often lead to new questions, and we do have some more for you, this time about the future. What do you want your church to be? What do you think UUCE should be in the world? What do you think UUCE should be known for?

These are all important questions for us to consider as we look forward to the future for our community. I mention this now because it is time to create a new strategic plan to guide us over the next 5—7 years. Our current strategic plan will be completed this spring. The Board has begun to discuss what process we can create to involve everyone in a dialogue about who we are and who we could be. It promises to be a very interesting discussion and *will be most meaningful if it includes the ideas of all who care about the church.* This is not just about what the Board or the Executive Team thinks. This is about what you think, what you want for the church, what you want for yourself in the church, and what you want for the church in the larger community and the world. This is the stuff dreams and visions and commitments are made of.

I hope that you will do some reflecting on this over the next few months. We will create a team to lead this all church reflection and discussion. We on the Board are committed to learning what you care about and what you think UUCE should become. We will be asking you to give your feedback, ideas, and inspiration to this process. More details to follow....

Lydia

Wheel of Life

We share in the joy at the news of the birth of Corbin Talaga to Brandi and Steve Talaga, and Caitlin Sweeney to Michelle and Kevin Sweeney.

We are shocked and saddened that long-time member Donn Branstrator was struck and killed by a car in Buffalo Grove October 29th.

Kudos to: to the following volunteers for picking up litter along Highland Avenue during our fall Adopt-A-Highway work day on Sunday, October 22: **Jack Berry, Tim and Chris Davis, Bob Jackson, Joe Masonick, Andrea Schmidlin, and Phil and Sandy Webster.** We appreciate your help!" ~ **Sandy Russel, Tanya Miller, Joy Shores** for coordinating the Halloween Party. ~ **Noreen Halberstadt, Bob & Anne Bedard, Sergio Hernandez, Bridget Lucas** for chaperoning the youth lock-in. ~ **Margot Cusimano** for soap dispensers; **Phil Webster** for making the new name tag holder; **Sandy Webster** for donating a cot for Prairie Fest; **Katherine Brosier** for repairing the curtain; **Kathy Hislip** for filling in for childcare during the Oct. 4 Eat & Meet; **Bob Sandidge** for setting up the movie projection for An Inconvenient Truth.



BOOK GROUP

You are warmly invited to join the members of the Book Group at any of their upcoming meetings, which begin at 7:00 p.m.

- December 1 - "Wicked" by Gregory Maguire - Alice Macy's home
- December 29 - We will each review a favorite book. Pat Pecho's home
- January 26 - "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards. TBA.
- February 23 - "Dreams From My Father" by Barack Obama. TBA.

Ways to Get in Touch

Church Office	847.888.0668
Web site	www.uuce.org
PodCast	uuce.libsyn.com
Schedule an event	uuce.org/event-scheduling.html
Newsletter submissions	newsletter@uuce.org

Board President:

Lydia Larrabee

Newsletter Editor

Bob Sandidge Newsletter@uuce.org

Deadlines

Order of Service	Wednesday PM
UNICHORD NEWS	November 19

November Birthdays

2	Henny DuBois	15	Andrea Schmidlin
2	Kerry Lantau	16	Camilla Rose Hussein
4	Eric Beatty	16	Sue Sitter
6	Mary Alice Masonick	19	Jim Navadomskis
7	Kay Kummerow	20	Louise Molitor
7	Miles Anderson	20	Bonnie Schwank
7	Draigh Olesch Williams	26	Norm Wilkinson
8	Cynthia Simmons	26	Helen King
10	Noreen Halberstadt	27	Elizabeth Olson
12	Emily Garman	27	Debbie Garman
12	Tyler Garman	29	Maureen Navadomskis
13	Betsi Waldron	29	Sara Mertens

www.uuce.org



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Meditation - Elizabeth Strong

Thanksgiving Meditation

Let us rejoice for the families who have gathered this Thanksgiving to express their thanks and to celebrate the bounty of their lives.

Let us join together in support of those whose families are far away, with distances in many forms.

Let us hold one another in gentle reverence this holiday of Thanksgiving for we are here to celebrate, to worship, to be thankful for what we have.

We have had life newborn among us this year that will carry our legacy into the future.

We have had death among us this year that has given us tears of sorrow and yesterdays to remember.

We have had illnesses, accidents, and surgeries among us this year that have reminded us of the fragileness of our lives.

We have had marriages, reunions, reconciliations. And, we have had, and still do have, our Beloved Community, our religious home where we come together in love and compassion.

For all these things, we give thanks this day.
Let us be silent together. So Be It.