

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF YELLOW SPRINGS



**Newsletter**

**January, 2013**

## **Calendar of Programs**

### **Sunday, January 6**

#### **10:00—Standing on the Edge**

*Presented by Lathe S. a former Catholic Priest, now a Unitarian Universalist and a Buddhist.*

*As we stand on the edge between the last year and the next, we will look at our place in the wheel of the year through the lens of a Buddhist story and a story from the Hebrew Scriptures.*

#### **11:45—Potluck Luncheon**

*Please bring food to share, if you like, and your own table setting.*

### **Sunday, January 13**

#### **10:00—What It Means To Be a Lay-Led Congregation**

*In celebration of the new year, the UUFYS will be asking some challenging questions: What does it mean to be a lay-led congregation? What is the current status of our lay-led Fellowship? And how do we maintain our 50-year tradition of volunteerism in support of the common good, our democratic process, and enhancing our personal and spiritual growth as Unitarian Universalists? Come hear member's stories about their personal experiences and contribute your ideas about the gift of contributing to a lay-led fellowship*

### **Sunday, January 20**

#### **10:00—Recovering King: The Value of Historical Complexity**

*Presented by Kevin M., Assistant Professor of History at Antioch College.*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.'s work is often portrayed as a distillation of the "I Have a Dream" segment of the March on Washington speech, when in reality the speech and*

*his work challenged society in ways that made many people uncomfortable with him during his life. Gaining an understanding of the challenging parts of his life and work has relevance for those interested in social justice work today.*

#### **11:45—Souper Sunday**

*Soup and bread provided by various members. Please bring food to share, if you like, and your own table setting.*

### **Sunday, January 27**

#### **10:00—Reentering a Loving Relationship After Another Has Ended**

*Led by member Peter W., this program will explore important lessons we might learn from intimate relationships in our past, and how we can apply these lessons to build our current or future relationships.*



This newsletter is published monthly. Please submit material for it, no later than the **next-to-the-last Sunday of each month**, to Peg P. at:

[petefine@woh.rr.com](mailto:petefine@woh.rr.com)

## The Jacket Has Found a Home!

By Mary S.

Remember Syd W., the retired math professor who chaired the UUFYS Buildings & Grounds committee, designed the renovation of the bathrooms to include a coat room, and who designed and constructed the lovely bridge leading from the parking lot into the building?

Do you remember that Syd used to wear a safari jacket—light-weight beige jacket with lots of pockets? When Syd died, his son Ralph donated one of the jackets to the Fellowship and requested we find a good person to wear it.

So, recently, we presented the jacket to Al S. Al has been a stalwart supporter of the Fellowship and its individual members for many years—painting the highest parts of the exterior, presenting Sunday programs, cutting trees and clearing weeds on the grounds and cutting trees and shoveling snow at members' houses.

Al is not only the only member slender enough to fit into Syd's jacket, but Al is our only member who actually goes on safari in Arica!! Wear it in good health, Al!

## UUFYS Executive Board

### Officers Elected June 2012

President—To be determined

Secretary—Joann H.

Treasurer—Mary S.

Members at Large:

Bobbi T.

James O.

Veronica D.

Christina P.

## Committee Meeting Times

Here are the committee meeting times. All committees encourage new members; you may sit in on a session without committing to it.

**Board of Directors**—Meets the 2nd Sunday of every month.

**Member Services**—Meets the 4th Sunday of every month.

**New Members**—Meets last Sunday of the month.

**Program**—After November, 2012, meets first Sunday of the month.

**Social Justice**—3rd Sunday of the month [except July and August]

## Interested in Joining?

Are you a frequent visitor, new to UUism but interested in knowing more about this denomination or membership in the UUF? Or perhaps a previous UU who is new to this area? We have two programs for you.

- Monthly drop-in question and answer sessions during the potluck lunch on the first Sunday of each month. Look for the special table for an informal talk about UUism and this congregation.
- More structured information sessions about joining this Fellowship as a formal member.

Please contact Mary S., Chair of the Member Services Committee, at:

767-1603 or [shbuzz2001@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shbuzz2001@sbcglobal.net).

She is happy to answer your questions.

## Policy for the Social Responsibility Fund

### Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs

#### I. Establishment and Purpose:

The Social Responsibility Fund was established in 2005 by UUF members Harden B., Sandy L. and David W. They drew up a policy which stated in part:

“WHEREAS, stewardship involves the faithful management of all the gifts we have been given – time, talents, the created world and money, including accumulated, inherited and appreciated resources; and

“WHEREAS, we can support the religious mission and work of this Fellowship through transfers of property (cash, stocks, bonds, real estate), charitable bequests on Wills, charitable remainder and other trusts, pooled income funds, charitable gift annuities, and assignment of life insurance and retirement plans: and

“WHEREAS, it is the desire of the congregation to encourage, receive, and administer these gifts in a manner consistent with the loyalty and devotion expressed by the grantors and in accord with the policies of this Fellowship;”

and “the purpose of this FUND is to enhance the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs apart from the general operation of the Fellowship;[and] that no portion of distributions from the FUND shall be used for the annual operating budget of the Fellowship....”

#### II. Management of the Fund

The money in this Fund was invested in the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, P.O. Box 55, Yellow Springs OH 45387 or [yscf.org](http://yscf.org), which is completely and solely responsible for the administration, investment management and control of the Fund.

All assets are to be held in the name of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs Social Responsibility Endowment Fund.

The Foundation shall not be liable for any losses which may be incurred upon the investments of the assets of the Fund except to the extent that such issues shall have been caused by bad faith or gross negligence in security or in using generally accepted accounting procedures.

#### III. Distributions:

The Y.S. Community Foundation will make distributions from the Fund to the UUFYS annually by check sent to P.O. Box 480, Yellow Springs OH 45387. These distributions are the income from the Fund during the previous calendar year.

#### IV. Receipt and Use by UUFYS:

The annual money will be received as “Other Income” and placed in the liability fund designated as “Social Justice Endowment Board-Designated.”

The money will be used at the Board’s discretion to further the Fellowship’s mission of supporting individual and collective social outreach and service to Greene County, Ohio, and particularly in the Yellow Springs area. This fund is intended for social responsibility efforts in the broader community, not to support activities for the Fellowship itself.

#### V. Amendment:

Any amendment to this policy which would change, alter or amend the purpose for which the Fund was established must be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the annual UUFYS membership meeting or a meeting called specifically for the purpose of amending this policy.

#### VI. Disposition or Transfer of Fund:

In the event the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Yellow Springs ceases to exist either through merger or dissolution, disposition or transfer of the Fund shall be to the Yellow Springs Community Foundation.

**Approved by the Board: Date December 9, 2012**

Joanne H., Secretary of the Executive Board

# Pictures of Fellowship Life

by Peter W.

The *Poverty Simulation* program of December 9, led by Teresa M., got some interesting results. Congregation members working together on money management led to some interesting negotiations, thoughtful reactions and shared laughter.





**UUA President Morales on School Massacre**

The Rev. Peter Morales issued the following statement on Friday, December 14, 2012, in response to the day's tragic events in Newtown, Connecticut:

"I am shocked and profoundly saddened by the news of the massacre at a school in Newtown, Connecticut. My deepest condolences go out to the families and friends of those who lost their lives today. I know of nothing more tragic than a young life cut short by violence. This is a time for embracing one another and helping each other find strength and solace.

"This is just the latest horrific act of gun violence targeting innocent lives. Whether it's the mall shooting in Oregon or the mass murders in Aurora, Colorado or the shooting of Gabrielle Giffords and others in Tucson, Arizona or the Columbine school killings, these instances of violence continue to erupt in America. It is an additional tragedy that today's killings occurred in an elementary school where our youngest and most vulnerable spend their day. All Americans must reflect humbly and work to change the conditions that allow such violence to take place.

"We must rededicate ourselves to creating a society where differences are resolved without violence, where the mentally unstable do not have ready access to lethal force, where violence is not glorified, and where we can live, love, and work in safe places. Our task as a religious people committed to compassion and to peace is to show a better way."

**Take Action to Prevent Gun Violence**

In the wake of the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT, that killed 20 children and 7 adults, our hearts are broken. Although we are especially affected by the fact that so many of these victims were young children, we are mindful that this incident was but the latest in a long string of tragic and deadly incidents of gun violence.

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has assembled a page of resources, [Newtown Tragedy: Responding to Trauma](#), to help all of us process the Newtown shooting and its aftermath, emotionally and spiritually.

The purpose of this page is to help all of us understand how we can reduce the likelihood, or at least the frequency, of such tragic events by understanding the factors that lead to gun violence, what changes in public policy might mitigate or reduce gun violence, and how we and other people and communities of faith might advocate for such changes. UUA Witness Ministries will update it as additional resources become available.