

Rev. Amy's Thoughts

Did you know that many UU churches close or reduce their ministry over the summer? We don't! I just ran this article a couple months ago, but here it is again, for the summer, too. See you in church if I don't hear from you first.

The Rev. Peter Lee Scott, a Unitarian Universalist minister I did not know, once put this list into the newsletter of his church, and we, his colleagues, have been borrowing it ever since. The following is his "now-famous" list, and at the end, I have added a few for our particular congregation.

CALL THE MINISTER WHEN...

When you don't know me, but would like to.

When you are having problems with your job, children, marriage, or anything else where a sympathetic ear might help.

When you are going to the hospital or know of someone else in the congregation who is.

When someone close to you has died or is critically ill or you're dealing with a significant loss of some kind.

When you are planning to be married or divorced.

When you would like your child dedicated.

When you or someone in your family has been arrested or is in jail.

When you feel ready to join the congregation.

When you have concerns or suggestions.

When you have religious or spiritual questions.

When you are seeking to deepen your spiritual life.

When you are upset with me or would like to express appreciation.

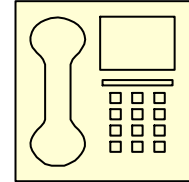
When you have won the lottery and want to make a large donation to the church.

I would add here:

When you have a musical talent to share with the congregation.

When you have an idea about children's Religious Education, or the burning desire to help our program.

If you need ideas for a picnic.



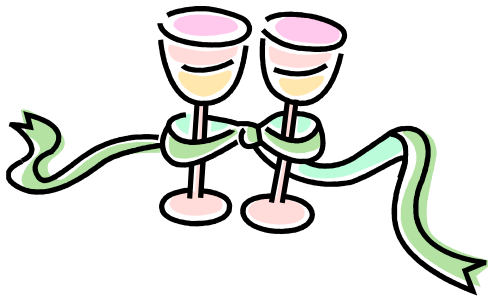
I look forward to hearing from you!

Reverend Amy

Newsletter Deadline

Please note, the newsletter deadline is the 15th of every month. Rev. Amy will collect the materials from the UUFE newsletter box and the information from the office calendar on **15th at noon**. Please feel free to email any articles or submissions to uufe@juno.com or place neatly typed or written submissions in the newsletter box. Articles will be forwarded on to the Newsletter Editor.

When submitting articles for the FOCUS please do not add clip art, fonts or stylized formatting.



Jenny and Bruce Bartlett celebrated two family weddings recently. Jenny's daughter, Rayna Gellert, was married to Jeff Keith in Lexington, KY on

May 31. They will move to Asheville, NC in July. Bruce's daughter, Olivia Bartlett, was married to Jesse Drake on the shore of Lake Superior (Hancock, MI) on June 13. Officiating the ceremony was the Rev. Jack Jobst of the local Unitarian congregation. Olivia, the daughter of Joleen Bartlett, grew up in the UUFE family and now works as a publication editor at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. Her email is obartlett@wesleyan.edu.

UUFE still needs some office help! Per our budget vote in May at the Annual Meeting, we chose to eliminate the office administrator position. Now we need to help Rev. Amy with the production of the weekly Order of Service and with the monthly Fellowship Focus. If you could be part of a team of rotating Friday volunteers, please call Rev. Amy with questions. 574-612-0729.

The Recorded Music Sharing group will meet at 5pm on Sunday, July 12 at Martha Pickrell's home. We invite anyone who enjoys listening to an eclectic collection of music to join us. For more information, call Martha at 574-273-0864 or email Phyllis Hostetler at phylfh@verizon.net.



J U L Y 2 0 0 9

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 med.gr p 6:30	7 COM mtg	8	9	10	11
12	13 med grp	14	15 Board mtg	16	17	18
19 Pot- luck	20 med grp	21	22	23 sen- ior lunch 11:30	24	25
26	27 ed grp 6:30	28 archives 10am	29	30	31	

We usually post the birthdays of our friends and members who have shared the information in our Birthday Book. Unfortunately, the book seems to have walked out of UUFE. If it left with you or a friend, could you please return it?

GATHERING PLACE NEWS UPDATE

Shari Mellin and Rich Hackel met with The Troyer Group last week, and the final plans are being sent to the state and the city of Elkhart for approval. Permits will also be applied for. The excavation area will be fenced in, and it will be the responsibility of the general trades contractor, as well as the church, to see that that area is secure.

There will be two pre-bid meeting times for any potential contractors. The church will be open from 10:00 until noon on July 2 and July 7. Bids on the project will be due on July 9 at 10:00 A.M., with construction to begin on July 16th or 17th. After that, Shari will attend weekly project meetings with The Troyer Group and the construction companies. Due to liability issues, as well as time issues (we don't want to hold up the construction process), volunteer labor from the church will consist of site cleanup each day any time after 3:30 P.M. This will involve sweeping up and general cleanup. We will also be responsible for checking the fence, signs and barriers on the weekends. The committee will have a sign up sheet so that we make sure these jobs are done.

After a year and a half of intensive planning, we are finally ready to begin the exciting construction process! In a few short months we will have a wonderful new space to celebrate! Thanks to all who have given so much of their time and talents to see this come to fruition.

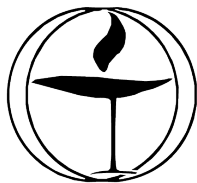
UUFE Men's Canoe Trip Opportunity!

David Ball and Kevin DeBeck sponsored a canoe trip for men on the Manistee River departing Thursday afternoon, August 6 and returning Sunday evening August 9 at the Ooey Gooey auction. All food, equipment, and canoes are provided. Participants need clothing and personal items only.

Several have expressed interest in participating even though they did not purchase the opportunity at the auction. Additional participants are welcome. However, there will be a greatly reduced fee of \$150 per person (normal fee is \$270) and if there is any money left after expenses, the additional resources will go to UUFE. A couple of people expressed interest, and Kevin and I thought this might work. At this point we have seven people. Contact David Ball at riverjourneys@mwconnections.com for details.

Saturday, August 1 from 2 PM – 5 PM CUUPS Ritual & Potluck Celebration @ Elliot Park

For information, contact Laura Snow at witchy_lj@hotmail.com



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart
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Elkhart, IN 46515-0584

From the Archives

This section will return in August when Kevin is back from Ferry Beach in Maine. He is looking for pictures of Bob and Helen Dick there, for they so loved Ferry Beach, especially Helen.

Please note the information below until then.....

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE SURVEY

If you have not responded to our survey, please do so—we want to hear from you!

- Survey was distributed at UUFE Annual Meeting on May 17, 2009.
- If you didn't pick up a survey copy one can be mailed to you.
- Fill out an online survey if you'd like to go to: <http://www.uufe.org/service-survey.html>
- Survey available to all current/past friends, members, visitors of UUFE.
- To include new visitors/friends, survey to be collected until Aug. 9, 2009.
- Completed copies of surveys are being placed in a special box in the foyer.
- Survey results will hopefully be shared in September *Fellowship Focus*.
- A special congregational meeting will be scheduled once survey results are announced in the *Fellowship Focus*.

The Committee On Ministry appreciates your time and thoughts on this matter.