



Brockport UU News

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Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship www.brockportuu.org 637-6374
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Organizing Minister pmeeker@frontiernet.net 224-6312
David G. Markham, Steering Committee Chair davidm@brockportuu.org

Reflections on Joy

By Rev. Peggy Meeker

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Our worship theme for June is joy, and one of the biggest joys in my life is gardening. So today, Memorial Day, I planned my day so that around mid-afternoon, as the mid-day heat was beginning to subside, I could head down to the bottom garden and finish digging and preparing the soil for our pumpkin and melon patch. All went well until about ten minutes ago, when at 2:45 it started to rain! My first thought was dismay; my second thought was that I needed to run out and bring in the garden tools and the trash can; my third thought, as the gentle rain hit my back and shoulders, was “oh, *this* is joy!” What I had carefully planned wasn’t joy, but what I was feeling right then truly was. Yes... a warm day, with a slightly cooling rain, even the first bright red poppy, which has finally opened up, is nodding at me in agreement.

We have a choice in life, they say. We can choose to love and enjoy the passing moments, or we can be pulled through them, kicking and screaming. In this moment, at least, I choose joy. May it be so for you also.

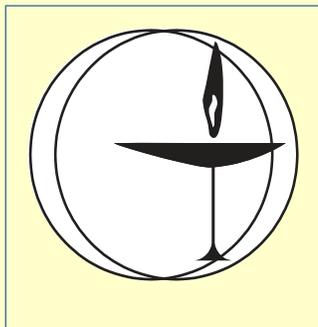
Can You Find More in Your Pocket than Lint?

By George Miller

As the economic world continues to reel from Wall Street’s meltdown a call for investment at this time may seem untimely. We are all feeling the effects brought on by institutionalized greed and mismanagement. Our frustrations are tempered by our individual reality. We must bear down and get along with our lives. In other words, in spite of the problems, we restart our individual investment in the future. We know that growth and health cannot flourish without our care and nurturing. We know that in order to secure a brighter tomorrow we must make a giving investment today. We know that we must give before we can expect a return.

The hope for the future of our fledgling Church, the Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, is in need of an influx of compassionate care if it is

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to survive and prosper. It needs your investment. What we have accomplished thus far is the direct result of our investments in time and effort and money. Our spiritual mentor has been a key element in our promising success. Over the past year Peggy Meeker our pastor has DONATED much of her energy and care to oversee BUUF's continued welfare. As you can imagine her stewardship has generated expenses. Offsetting her Sunday service compensation she herself has absorbed many of these expenses.

We, as a Church community, can no longer allow or expect her unaccounted giving. If we want BUUF to grow; if we want our Minister to serve our needs; if we want our Church to be healthy and vibrant; we must find the financial resources to make it happen.

Your investment is vital.

Traditionally UU's invest in causes for freedom and equality. We give our time and we talk the talk. I think we, members of BUUF, all feel our shared fellowship at Sunday services and workshops where everyone has been gracious and loving. And now we need our collective financial support for our well-being and our survival. Our acceptance of diversity, and our belief in conscience and basic equality are at the core of our coming together. Our conviction is that the voice of even a small group can call awareness and kindle a difference in each other and in the world.

Please help us now with your generous contributions so that the seed of our fellowship can set roots and grow with strength.

Flower Communion and Summer Services

Sunday, June 20th, will be our last "regular" Sunday morning service before switching to our summer schedule, which will be one service per month during July and August. The Worship Committee is working on plans for services on July 18th and August 15th. Stay tuned for more information, but it's looking like July 15th will involve a picnic!

On June 20th, we'll have an intergenerational service that will celebrate the summer solstice and will feature a flower communion, a ritual created in 1923 by Norbert Capek, who founded the Unitarian Church in Czechoslovakia. The flower communion is traditional in many UU churches at the last service before "summer recess." People are asked to bring a flower of their choice to church, either from their garden or from a field or roadside. The flowers will be combined in one vase, blessed, and then redistributed so that each person will take home a different flower than the one they brought. Thus we join and give, and thus we share. And as a special treat, the children will lead us in lighting our chalice and in our closing words.

Please bring a flower of your choice on June 20th, either from your garden or from a field or roadside.

The Wider UU World (and Beyond UU)

ROCLA (Rochester Committee on Latin America) Meeting: Wed., June 2nd, 7 p.m., Downtown Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St., Rochester; “People to People” Video: Civil Disobedience Breaks the US Embargo of Cuba—the story of Pastors for Peace and the Latin American School of Medicine in Havana, Cuba.

Judicial Process Commission 38th Annual Luncheon: Wed., June 9th, 12 noon to 2 p.m., Downtown Presbyterian Church, 121 North Fitzhugh St., Rochester; Speaker, Amy Bach, local lawyer and author of *Ordinary Injustice: How America Holds Court*; the cost is \$30; email your reservation to info@rocjpc.org and mail a check to JPC, 285 Ormond St., Rochester, 14605 or donate online at www.rocjpc.org.

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester’s Annual Celebration: Sunday, June 13th, 3 p.m., Shults Center, Nazareth College; Speaker, Tom Proietti; “Media & Politics: Marriage or Mess?”; no charge.

General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations: June 23rd-27th, Minneapolis, MN; thousands of UUs from across the U.S. gather for worship, workshops, speakers, and business meetings; follow online coverage of events at www.uua.org/events/generalassembly.

Brockport Bienvenida: Sunday, June 27th; a community welcome for the workers whose efforts put food on our tables, sponsored by the Brockport Ecumenical Outreach Committee; 1 p.m., Mass at Nativity Church; 2:30 p.m., Mexican Dancers outside Nativity Church; 3 p.m., dinner at First Baptist Church; 4 p.m., breaking of the piñata, First Baptist Church.

BUUF News

The BUUF Book Group will be reading *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko for its discussion on June 8th, a novel about a Native American Indian returning home from being imprisoned by the Japanese in World War II. Our July 13th book is *Farm Hands*, by local author Tom Rivers, about farm labor and the people who do it. The author will join the book group for a discussion at 6:30, to be followed by a more general talk at 7 p.m.

From Ron Beiswenger, our financial report for September through May:

<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>Sep. –May</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2009/10 Budget</u>
Worship	\$2633.69	\$2845.00	\$3040.00
Rent	\$1420.00	\$1100	\$1240
Music	\$150.00	\$300	\$250
Supplies	\$100.00	\$270	\$300
Hymnals/Equipmt.	\$963.69	\$1175	\$1200
Pulpit	\$3315.00	\$3285	\$3765
Religious Education	\$331.73	\$375	\$400
Operations	\$509.28	\$1800	\$2000
<u>Social Outreach</u>	<u>\$147.00</u>	<u>\$923</u>	<u>\$1022</u>
Total	\$6,936.70	\$9,228	\$10,227

RECEIPTS

General Collection	\$6544.70
Hymnals	\$520.00
Social Outreach	\$147.00
<u>Grants</u>	<u>\$5000.00</u>
Total	\$12,211.70

Local author Tom Rivers, author of Farm Hands, will meet with the BUUF Book Group on Tuesday, July 13th.

If you are experiencing difficulties in your life, or if you or someone in your family is in the hospital and you would like a pastoral call, please let Rev. Meeker know, at pmeecker@frontiernet.net or 224-6312.

BUUF Calendar

Sunday Morning Services—10 a.m. on June 6 and 20, Brockport Exempt Association

Second Sunday Sampler—10 a.m. on June 13, Brockport Exempt Association

Steering Committee Meeting—Thursday, June 17 (third Thursdays), 7-9 pm

Soul Matters Meeting—Thursday, June 3 (first Thursdays), 7-9 pm (contact Rev. Meeker for more information)

Book Discussion Group—Tuesday, June 8 (second Tuesdays), 6:30-8 pm, Lift Bridge Book Shop; discussing Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony* (and you're welcome to come even if you haven't read the book!)

We would love to have you join us at these activities, and even better, bring a friend or family member!

Action Alert

Congress took important steps this past week toward ending "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the policy banning homosexuals from serving openly in the U.S. military. The full Senate is expected to take up the bill sometime this summer.

Unitarian Universalists affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and the UUA advocates full equal rights for all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Let your senators know that we want DADT repealed and that we want training and policies put in place that will respect and protect gay service members and their spouses and families.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, 202-224-4451
Sen. Charles Schumer, 202-224-6542

Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Mailing address: 6558 4th Section Rd, Box 211,
Brockport, NY 14420-2477

Sunday morning service address: Brockport
Exempt Assoc'n, 248 West Avenue

Phone: 585-637-6374

Web: www.brockportuu.org