



April 2014

## Worship

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## Spring Spruce Up Day

Mark your calendar!

On Saturday **May 17th**, we will be holding Spring Spruce-up Day to get both the church and Nielsen House ready for summer. We'll be working in the morning and early afternoon and doing a variety of tasks both outdoors and indoors. Please consider helping out on this day. You could work for a few hours, half a day, or more... whatever works best for you. Any help will be appreciated.

If May 17th doesn't fit your schedule, you can select a task and do it when you can. Look for the sign up sheet and list of tasks posted in Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions about this event, please contact a member of the Building & Grounds Committee (Bob Keith, Brad Dana, Barry Fagan, Roger Orwick, John Rodeheffer, Jerry Schardt, or Gary Rusk).

## Ways and Means

The Rummage Sale Dates Have Changed!

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Change your calendar! The dates for the Rummage Sale have changed to

### RevElations

Hi all. After this past Sunday's sermon on Blessings, I had many requests for the poem I referred to in the sermon. This is by the poet Jane Kenyon. She wrote it when she was a cancer patient.

#### *Otherwise*

*I got out of bed  
on two strong legs.  
It might have been  
otherwise. I ate  
cereal, sweet  
milk, ripe, flawless  
peach. It might  
have been otherwise.  
I took the dog uphill  
to the birch wood.  
All morning I did  
the work I love.*

*At noon I lay down  
with my mate. It might  
have been otherwise.  
We ate dinner together  
at a table with silver  
candlesticks. It might  
have been otherwise.  
I slept in a bed  
in a room with paintings  
on the walls, and  
planned another day  
just like this day.*

*But one day, I know,  
it will be otherwise.*

Taking as little as possible for granted, may we learn to see blessings even in the smallest things.

**Friday and Saturday, July 25 & 26.** This date change avoids conflicts with Summer Institute.

This will be a fabulous rummage sale and significant fund-raiser for NUUC in which we will create a regular "department store" in Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary and fill them to the brim. We even will have a section for high quality items. So, as you do your spring cleaning, please consider setting aside those clothes, books, knick-knacks, tools, dishes, glassware, furnishings, appliances, etc. that you no longer want and donate them to the Rummage Sale. We'll even have a truck to pick up your bigger items. As the event approaches, we can arrange to have your big items picked up and taken to the church. Watch for future notices about this event.

**February Fair Trade Sales** Totaled \$144.25!

Share your passion for fair trade and UU-ism with others by giving gifts whose labels proudly display these values.

If you are interested in volunteering for these opportunities, or if you have other ideas for fundraising opportunities for our congregation, Please contact Becca Morse at [beccamorse@gmail.com](mailto:beccamorse@gmail.com). Thank you!

Sign up for the **Kroger Community Rewards card** Do your regular grocery shopping, and earn money for NUUC at the same time! If you need help signing up, someone will be available on the second Sunday of each month to walk you through the process.

#### **Did you know?**

We are a registered Non-Profit organization at the Delaware County Community Market. You can buy groceries from Local vendors AND have a portion of your purchase donated to us! Check it out! <http://www.dccmc.com/>

### **Threshold Congregation Committee (TCC) - Update**

Threshold Congregation Committee (TCC)\* is hosting a congregation-wide activity immediately following services

To Life!  
Susan

## From our Music Director

### MUSIC NOTES

Mark your calendar for **Music Sunday on May 4**. This is a wonderful service featuring the talents of musicians in the congregation. The **NUUC Choir** will be performing favorites from the 2013-2014 choir season. To round out the program, I'm looking for instrumentalists and vocalists of all ages. The music does not need to be from the classical sacred repertoire, but it should be spiritually meaningful. Please contact me by **April 15** if you would like to be included on the program.

Thank you, **Molly Watson**, for conducting the choir on March 23. Your generosity and talent are much appreciated.

I've been enjoying getting to know our new sound system. We've been tweaking it each Sunday to find just the right levels. The new digital recorder is making professional-sounding recordings of the choir. Did you notice that the choir used a wireless lavalier mic with a soloist last month? Most of all, I love hearing the voices from the pulpit, clear and resonant without distracting buzzing noises. Your Board of Trustees, Marty and Bob Keith, Bryan Hartzler, and Susan Ritchie have been instrumental (pun intended) in seeing this project come to fruition. Thanks!

Musically Yours,  
Marlene Hartzler, Music Director  
[marlenehartzler@gmail.com](mailto:marlenehartzler@gmail.com)

## Notes from the President of the Board

As I write this, I'm thinking that I have very little to write about. We're in a new congregation fiscal year and very little has happened since the Congregational Meeting. However, once I started writing, I realized that instead of reflecting on what has happened in the past month, we need to embrace the challenges that are coming our way.

Our first major challenge is the building addition. The board is talking with Bruce Gardner, an architect based in Delaware whose focus is on rehabilitation of historical buildings. We look for this to be a successful partnership and look forward to getting this project off the ground. Look for more information in the future.

Second, with recommendations from the Threshold Congregation Committee, we will be making changes to the way we do business. The purpose of this committee is to ways we can change the way we work to enhance growth. Change is always a challenge, but in order to succeed we must embrace it. An example of this change is the Leaders Council that started last month.

Finally, just prior to the congregational meeting, it was announced that Susan is a candidate for the presidency of the Starr-King Theological School. There has been no movement on this item at the moment, but we will keep you informed of when and if anything happens.

on Sunday, April 13, and encourages everyone to be present. All ages are invited to participate so plan to hang around after the service.

As part of our work on future planning, TCC is conducting listening sessions with the committees to learn more about their current work and goals, and to learn how each committee fits as a puzzle piece into the NUUC whole. Also, this past month we saw the first fruits of our year-long work - the launch of the Leaders' Council. The Leaders' Council is off to a productive start and improved communication thanks to these bi-monthly discussions. Leaders' Council includes all who serve on a committee and all who are interested. The next meeting will be in May - watch for an announcement from the Board.

As always, we look forward to fielding your questions, especially during our activity on April 13. Feel free to contact any of the TCC members: Laura Howe, Bob Keith, Cathy Rodeheffer, John Rodeheffer, Jen Aultman, Sydney Schardt.

*\* What is a Threshold Congregation? Threshold Congregations are basically healthy congregations who are poised and ready to strive for the next level of effectiveness. While "seats in the pews" are one aspect of growth, equally important is the offering of vibrant and challenging worship experiences, welcome and true hospitality, an effective system of governance with effective leaders, loving social action beyond its walls, and the inclusion of everyone of all ages in the work of the congregation. UUA/CERG (Central East Regional Group) awarded a three-year, non-monetary grant to NUUC in May 2013.*

## Board of Trustees

The NUUC Board of Trustees plans to begin a conversation with various members of the congregation; a conversation about establishing a new **Stewardship Committee** for 2015. The Stewardship Committee is integral to the successful operation of our congregation. In the recent past, we have happily completed years of

These are three challenges that we must embrace. I look forward to this next year and look forward to working with a very dynamic board and with all of you. Welcome to Barb Lubberger and Eileen Watters to the board. I would also like to thank Marty Keith and Laura Howe for their dedicated service to this Congregation.

Jeff Hill

## From your Social Action Committee

### April 2014 Newsletter

#### TAKE ACTION ON HUNGER SURVEYS:

Following our March service on hunger and the movie, ***A Place at the Table***, the Social Action Committee is seeking input from the congregation to help us plan for the rest of 2014. If you have not yet completed a survey, there are additional copies at the Greeter's table by the front door and on the SAC bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Completed surveys can be returned to the envelope on the bulletin board. You can also request and complete a copy through email by contacting Pam Patsch at [pgp723@aol.com](mailto:pgp723@aol.com).

Some of our ideas include: a letter writing campaign; participating in a food drive; raising awareness of the issue of hunger by hosting the movie in your home; participating in a book talk on [A Place at the Table](#); starting a community garden; and partnering with a community agency to provide ongoing support to local families.

We will be discussing ideas for further action at the next SAC meeting on April 6th and would welcome anyone who wants to get involved in addressing the social injustice of hunger in our community. The activities selected will be based on your input so please let us know how you would like to be involved.

#### LOOSE CHANGE DONATION:

Our Loose Change donations in February and March totaled **\$205.29** and went to **Andrews House**, Delaware's multifaceted community services center whose mission is "People strengthening people." Some of the services provided at Andrew's House include free meals, free legal advice, a computer learning center, and a medical clinic.

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE LIBRARY:

The Social Action Committee has started a lending library of books and DVDs on social justice issues such as immigration, poverty, LGBTQ, environment, and human rights. Some of our books include: [Behind the Kitchen Door](#); [A Place at the Table](#); [The Death of Joseline](#); [No Impact Man](#); and [Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair with Trash](#). Check out our selection on the bookshelf in Fellowship Hall and please consider donating appropriate books or DVDs to add to our collection.

#### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE BULLETIN BOARD:

Check out the folding divider in Fellowship Hall with information about upcoming SAC activities as well as issues and actions at the local, state, and national level. If you have information about social justice issues you want to share with the congregation, please post it on the bulletin board or email it to Pam Patsch at [pgp723@aol.com](mailto:pgp723@aol.com).

#### HELP WANTED:

Our Social Action Committee has some ambitious and creative ideas for this year, but we need your help. We would love to have new (or returning) members on the committee to help us brainstorm and implement activities related to social justice. We also welcome people who are unable to commit to being on the committee on a regular

successful pledge drives, thanks to the organized and thoughtful work of members. Even more recently, the Stewardship Committee was led by our own, Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie.

Planning a successful campaign that engages our membership requires a creative and energetic team. You may be approached by one of your Board members in the coming weeks, because you stand out as a leader, or because you are recognized as a well-respected member of this community.

But, if you already feel eager to bring your talents to the table, please don't hesitate to speak with one of your Board members. You can contact **Jeff Hill**, Board President at [jeffrey.hill@gmx.com](mailto:jeffrey.hill@gmx.com) or **Lauren Richards** at [laurichards@hotmail.com](mailto:laurichards@hotmail.com).

### Brown Bag Books

Meets at Noon the Third Tuesday of the month. Get all the details by [clicking here](#).

### NUUC Youth Group

For grades 6 through 12  
We will meet the  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**  
at 7pm!

The Youth is also collecting canned foods and gently used children's books for their service project to Appalachia this spring. Please leave donations in the bins in Fellowship Hall, or contact Melinda Rosenberg below to arrange a pick up.

Questions?  
Contact Kristin Grimshaw  
[grimshaw@wowway.com](mailto:grimshaw@wowway.com) 614-582-5747

or Melinda Rosenberg  
[melindarosenberg@gmail.com](mailto:melindarosenberg@gmail.com) 614-781-0166

### Ohio Meadville District of the UUA

[Click here for the Latest News!](#)

NUUC MEMBER DIRECTORY

basis, but are willing to help with a specific project. Contact Pam Patsch at [pqp723@aol.com](mailto:pqp723@aol.com) if you are interested in getting more involved in social justice at NUUC.

**NEXT SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING** will be on Sunday, **April 6th** following the service.

## Treasurer's Report of February 2014

The Junior Bean Counters had a month off since the Board met on March 9th the same day as the loose change offering was taken. But I'll be looking to them for help in April.

February 2014 financials for the month show Income of \$11,471 which is \$1,790 less than budget. Expenses of \$12,032 are \$1,230 lower than budget resulting in actual expenses exceeding income by \$560.

February YTD financials show Income of \$21,744 which is \$4,779 lower than budget. Expenses of \$25,251 are \$1,273 better than budget. YTD we have spent \$3,508 more than our income.

	North Unitarian Universalist Congregation		
	Month ended 02/28/2014		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
<b>INCOME</b>			
2014 Pledge Offerings	10,750.32	12,420.00	(1,669.68)
Non-Pledge Offerings	228.69	0.00	228.69
Rental Revenue	100.00	125.00	(25.00)
Ways and Means-Fundraising	6.62	716.67	(710.05)
Service Auction	385.00	0.00	385.00
<b>TOTAL Ways and Means-Fundraising</b>	<b>391.62</b>	<b>716.67</b>	<b>(325.05)</b>
_IntInc	0.60	0.00	0.60
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>11,471.23</b>	<b>13,261.67</b>	<b>(1,790.44)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administrative - Church			

Our **NUUC Member Directory** is now available online! Go to the "About NUUC" menu tab on our website, and select "Members Directory." You'll be asked for a password.

Please ask Susan in person or via email ([RevRitchie@aol.com](mailto:RevRitchie@aol.com)) for the password so that we can protect the privacy of our members. Also, please email her a digital photograph for inclusion in the directory if you can! She will also be roaming around this month, randomly terrorizing people with her camera.

### MOWING AT NUUC

#### Mowing at NUUC - **We Need Some Help**

For this mowing season, the Building and Grounds Committee plans to handle the mowing using the same approach as last year, which will avoid us having to contract out the mowing and save about \$2,900 in the budget. Our plan is for the B&G Committee to handle the mowing on a rotating basis with some help from the congregation. B&G Committee members will mow 3 weeks of each month, and the 4th week and sometimes the 5th week will be handled by a different volunteer from the congregation. This approach will spread the work so each committee member will mow only once a month, and each congregational volunteer would mow just one time during the season. Our approach will keep everyone's work commitments reasonable.

The area to be mowed includes both the church yard (bounded by the driveway and the parking lot) plus the yard around Nielsen House. The southern field at the rear of our property and the west side of the parking lot are excluded and will be mowed using a different arrangement. We have a riding mower, which is used for almost all of the mowing. For a few small, tight areas, which the riding mower cannot handle, we use a push power mower.

Therefore, we would like to get 1 or 2 volunteers from the congregation each month to mow one time in the season. The mowing season runs from mid-April through early November. But volunteers from the congregation will be needed only for

TOTAL Administrative - Church	167.61	560.85	393.24
Building & Property Insurance	0.00	308.34	308.34
Building Mortgage	825.00	816.67	(8.33)
Building Property Tax	0.00	21.25	21.25
TOTAL Building R&M	200.00	431.26	231.26
TOTAL Building Utilities	601.03	676.26	75.23
TOTAL Committees	131.89	158.36	26.47
TOTAL Compensation	9,199.60	9,360.92	161.32
Pledge Canvass	0.00	16.67	16.67
TOTAL EXPENSES	12,032.13	13,262.25	1,230.12
OVERALL TOTAL	(560.90)	(0.58)	(560.32)

North Unitarian Universalist Congregation			
YTD Ending February 28, 2014			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
<b>INCOME</b>			
2014 Pledge Offerings	20,627.32	24,840.00	(4,212.68)
Misc.	76.58	0.00	76.58
Non-Pledge Offerings	427.69	0.00	427.69
Rental Revenue	200.00	250.00	(50.00)
Ways and Means-Fundraising	26.93	1,433.34	(1,406.41)
Service Auction	385.00	0.00	385.00

the months of May through October, which is 6 months. Two of those months have 5 weeks and will require 2 volunteers, so we need a total of 8 volunteers.

Please consider volunteering to mow one time this season. If you would like to help the church handle the mowing, you can sign up on the mowing sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Just pick a date that works for your schedule. If you have questions or would like more information, just contact Bob Keith at 740-369-1919 or [bobkeith@frontier.com](mailto:bobkeith@frontier.com).

TOTAL Ways and Means-Fundraising	411.93	1,433.34	(1,021.41)
_IntInc	0.60	0.00	0.60
TOTAL INCOME	21,744.12	26,523.34	(4,779.22)
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
TOTAL Administrative - Church	541.22	1,121.70	580.48
Building & Property Insurance	0.00	616.68	616.68
Building Mortgage	1,625.00	1,633.34	8.34
Building Property Tax	146.90	42.50	(104.40)
TOTAL Building R&M	520.00	862.52	342.52
TOTAL Building Utilities	1,499.04	1,352.52	(146.52)
TOTAL Committees	216.89	316.72	99.83
TOTAL Compensation	18,888.63	18,721.84	(166.79)
TOTAL Dues	1,814.00	1,823.34	9.34
Pledge Canvass	0.00	33.34	33.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,251.68	26,524.50	1,272.82
OVERALL TOTAL	(3,507.56)	(1.16)	(3,506.40)

From Your Board of Trustees Meeting

[Click here for minutes from the November Board meeting](#)

[Click here for minutes from the December Board meeting](#)

January minutes pending