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April 2012

Rev.Elations!

One of the readings that we share each year at our Passover Seder here at church is from the Jewish Revolutionary figure Bar Barochov. He writes eloquently of what makes Passover for him radically different from other holidays also associated with this season of the revival of life. For him, the genius of Passover is that it connects the rebirth of Spring not with a deity, but with all of humanity, by suggesting that spring is the most natural time for not only the contemplation of, but insistence upon, freedom.

I love that. This is a time when all the earth blooms without effort--especially in the unusual heat of this year. And yet there are many of our fellow beings that are not accorded the opportunity to grow and flourish unhindered according to their great and natural capacity. Indeed, the holiday message is clear: none of us can until all of us are free. I am once again delighted to celebrate a spring season with a congregation that understands that.

To Life,
Rev. Susan

InTurnings

Recently, I went to a hockey game with a Christian rock concert scheduled afterwards. My friends and I planned to stay for a song or two. Before the band came on stage a football player gave his testimonial. He told the story of his upbringing and his later discovery of his religious faith.

The football player had had a tough childhood. He witnessed his father abuse his mother. As a six year old,

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Easter/Flower Celebration

On **Sunday, April 8** we will celebrate our annual intergenerational Easter service. It is our custom to observe the Flower Celebration, where participants are represented by loose cut flowers which are collected and then redistributed during the worship. Please bring a cut flower for each member of your party if you are able-though extras will be

and later as an eleven year old, he felt powerless to save his mother. He assured the crowd, "I know many of you have had tough times in your lives. Maybe not the same as mine, but hard in your own way. We all have. You are not alone." The stadium was nearly silent with all the people listening to his words.

My friend leaned over and whispered, "What is this?" "Church." I said. "It is a kind of church." The people gathered. A moving story. Our lived experiences validated and reflected back to us. A moral lesson to take home and consider. Music to share. The immensity of the hockey stadium reminiscent of the grand cathedrals and glorious mosques of Europe.

The football player went off to college and later became a football player. Over the years he began to notice how his mother leaned into her religious faith. Through witnessing his mother's ability to forgive her ex-husband for the abuse she had suffered at his hands, the football player was able to heal some of the deep wounds he carried with him from his childhood. Eventually, he too found support and spiritual sustenance in his religious faith.

He told the gathered crowd that he feels called to share his sense of peace and fulfillment with others. The football player told the crowd that he is called to save souls.

Because the historical teachings of Universalism have taught me that all beings are already saved, I have tended towards saving or healing lives, rather than souls. What have you learned from the Universalist half of our UU faith? I invite you to come consider Universalism in a workshop on April 22 after worship. This workshop will look at Universalism through the theological lenses of two important figures in UU history and the present. We will learn about Hosea Ballou's Universalism of the 19th century and Forrest Church's Universalism of the 21st century. We will use these two as lenses to discover how Universalism influences our worldview or lifestance today. We will develop our own personal theologies, gain a deeper understanding of our Universalist theological heritage, and better understand the shifting and growing nature of our UU identity.

In faith,
Rachel
Intern Minister

Music Notes

The music program is bustling with excitement this month. Read on to find out more!

Music Sunday is May 6. Mark your calendars now for

available that day. Children will be in main worship (no Children's RE that day; nursery available in Fellowship Hall).

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 8

immediately following the service. Please bring a bag or a basket for each of your children. The field and the grounds around the church may be damp, so plan shoes accordingly. In case of rain or excessively wet conditions, the event will be held in the church with some modifications. For questions, please contact Jan Bourke at jdb135@wowway.com or 614-268-6390.

Social Justice

The NUUC Social Action Committee typically meets the first Sunday of the month after service. The next meeting will be on Sunday, April 1, 2012, after service in the vestibule off the sanctuary. For more information, please feel free to attend a committee meeting or talk to any member of your Social Action Committee. Contact Chair Tracy Steinbrenner at tracystein@att.net for questions or to reconfirm the next meeting date. Won't you join us?

Fair Trade Sale: April 8

The Social Action Committee will hold its monthly Fair Trade Sale on Sunday, April 8 (held the second Sunday of most months). Several varieties of coffees and

this special celebration of music in our congregation. The 10:30 service will feature musicians of all ages and instruments. Do you have a song in your heart or a tune in your fingertips that you would like to share? **Please let me know ASAP if you would like to be included on this year's program.**

Have you noticed the "third hymn" that we have included in many of our recent Sunday services? Because music is so central to our worship services, the worship committee and I feel that buying copies of the supplemental hymnal "Singing the Journey" will give us even more great songs to sing together. Beginning in mid-April, you will be hearing selections from this hymnal during our worship services. I hope you will contribute to the fund to bring copies of this book to a pew near you.

Thank you, Molly Watson, for filling in as music director while I was on vacation. Molly adeptly ran rehearsal and conducted the choir during the worship service on March 25.

The new NUUC Recorder Ensemble has been meeting regularly and will make their debut performance during worship on April 1. Rehearsals are twice a month on Tuesday afternoons. Anyone wishing to join the Recorder Ensemble should contact me for more information.

Here's a quick look at the music the NUUC Choir is preparing for this month:

April 1: For Passover, the Hebrew song "Vine and Fig Tree." NUUC Recorder Ensemble will play for the offertory.

April 8: Zulu folk song "Jabula Jesu" for a joyful, intergenerational Easter service.

April 15: Full choir arrangement of "Over the Rainbow."

April 22: "The Prayer," made popular a few years ago by Josh Groban and Celine Dion.

April 29: The NUUC Recorder Ensemble will be performing for the musical interlude to give the choir extra rehearsal time before Music Sunday (May 6!)

Musically yours,
Marlene Hartzler
marlenemetz@yahoo.com

President's Column

As a congregation we have been taking steps to be clear in our mission and vision. Our purpose is in the bylaws and also in every order of service as our covenant. Last year we agreed upon our mission statement. The proposed Vision and Core Values were shared at the recent congregational meeting. These statements help

teas will be available, as well as delicious chocolates. Coffee and tea flavors vary each month, so be sure to check back at each sale to see what is new. See Brandy or Paul Montgomery for more information (brandy.montgomery@gmail.com).

Passover Seder, 4/10

Join us for NUUC's annual Passover Seder--the traditional Jewish dinner on the theme of liberation! We'll have a Potluck style dinner (although Rev. Ritchie promises to bring her famous Smoked "not your Grandmother's" Brisket), and observe the ritual elements of the dinner in a family friendly style. Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Watch for details in the coming weeks about how to sign up and signify what you'll bring.

Lobby Day, May 16

Save the Date: Lobby Day is Wednesday May 16. Come join the many Ohioans and UU's while they talk to their State Representative and Senators about the rights of the GLBT community. Each year many UU's from across the state attend Lobby Day; this year we would like to see more UU's in attendance. If you don't have any plans for May 16, please consider attending. You may go to Equality Ohio's web site to register for the event come April 1st. For more information about the event see any member

provide a vision of what we strive to be and how we do that.

This year I would like to use our statements and core values. If you have feedback, please talk to me or any other board member.

Purpose (aka Covenant)

We gather together in love and fellowship to worship and to foster spiritual growth, to serve humanity, and to understand ourselves and our universe.

Mission Statement:

We are an inclusive community of seekers pursuing deeper meaning through the process of spiritual engagement, learning, reasoning, and action.

Proposed Vision:

NUUC's vision is to build and strengthen our spiritual community and practice our UU principles to influence the transformation of society into a place of justice and tolerance.

Proposed Core Values

We the members of NUUC will:

- * Provide for the spiritual growth and education of our community
- * Build our community and care for our members
- * Advocate diversity
- * Utilize the democratic processes in an atmosphere of respect
- * Strive for environmental stewardship
- * Focus on social justice, equality passions, and community outreach
- * Be fiscally and administratively responsible such that fair compensation, UUA participation, and key programs are not impacted.
- * Support the community's passion for arts, including music

Yours,

Laura Howe

President, Board of Trustees

Immigration as a Moral Issue: Education & Events

NUUC is offering an education class for **teens and adults** using parts of the curriculum developed by the UUA. The class will meet four nights in April on Sunday evenings from 7-9. Each week will be facilitated by NUUC members and a guest speaker from the community:

April 1: Why people immigrate and U.S. immigration policies - facilitated by Tracy Steinbrenner & Amy Bittner, immigration attorney. Please read the handouts from Week 1 of the UUA curriculum.

from your Social Action Committee or www.equalityohio.org.

Pride Parade, NUUC Organizer Needed

The Social Action Committee is looking for an organizer for the Columbus Pride Parade for our congregation. The parade date is Saturday, June 16. If interested in organizing the event for the NUUC congregation, please contact Tracy Steinbrenner at tracystein@att.net.

News Bytes



NUUC Directory

The winter/spring 2012 update of the NUUC Directory of Members and Friends was recently delivered to your mailboxes! Distribution is primarily by e-mail in order to save printing and postage. However, if you prefer, you can receive a paper copy of the directory at any time upon request. To make a request, please contact Jeri Dill in the office at nuucjdill@aol.com or call her at 740-657-8081, ext. 1 (please advise whether you are able to pick it up at church to

April 8: Easter - no class

April 15: Economic forces that drive immigration and the impact of low wage labor on working conditions - facilitated by John Rodeheffer & Erika Shell Castro, who has been involved with interpreter services and several Latino advocacy groups. Please read the handouts from Week 3 of the UUA curriculum.

April 22: Security, enforcement, and human rights - facilitated by Pam Patsch & Angela Johnston, Director of the Catholic Latino Ministry who often assists undocumented workers facing deportation. Please read the handouts from Week 4 of the UUA curriculum.

April 29: Who benefits from a broken system? - facilitated by Rachel Baker and guest speaker to be announced. Please read the handouts from Week 5 of the UUA curriculum.

We recognize that spring is a busy time of year and people may not be able to commit to all 4 weeks. Please feel welcome to join us for some or all of the classes.

Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Readings and handouts for the curriculum can be accessed on the UUA website

(www.uua.org/immigration/moral/guide/index). Go to the NUUC Facebook page for additional information and dialogue about the class and curriculum. For questions, contact Pam Patsch at pgp723@aol.com.

Immigration Panel Discussion May 6

Please join us after the service on May 6th for a Potluck Lunch and panel discussion to hear stories about those who are personally impacted by immigration injustice and hardships. Open to all NUUC members. Please sign up by Sunday, April 29 on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Adult Religious Education

Universalism, Yesterday and Today

Sunday, April 22, 2012

Potluck lunch followed by a workshop

Led by Intern Minister Rachel Baker

This workshop will look at Universalism through the theological lenses of two important figures in UU history and the present. We will learn about Hosea Ballou's Universalism of the 19th century and Forrest Church's Universalism of the 21st century. We will use these two as lenses to discover how Universalism influences our worldview or lifestance today. We will develop our own personal theologies, gain a deeper understanding of our Universalist theological heritage, and better understand the shifting and growing nature of our UU identity. Please sign up on the Sign-Up Board. We will share a potluck lunch first and then begin the workshop.

save postage or you need it mailed to you.)

To ensure the directory and church records are kept up-to-date, please notify Jeri if your address, phone, or e-mail information needs updating.

Interested in Membership?

If you would like to learn more about UU or join the congregation, watch for the next "Orientation to our Congregation" session. Join Rev. Dr. Susan Ritchie and a Membership Committee representative as they explain the denomination's (and our congregation's) history and the meaning of membership. If you would like to join the congregation after or prior to the next scheduled Orientation, please contact Rev. Ritchie RevRitchie@aol.com or 740-657-8081, ext. 2. Babysitter service available upon advance request.

NUUC Has Gone "Green"

Have you heard the saying: "When you throw something away, where is 'away'?"

By now you're probably aware of the recycling bins located in the kitchen off Fellowship Hall. Bins are available to sort and recycle glass, plastic (#1 & #2), aluminum, and paper/cardboard.

And new this month--Recycling at home? You can now bring your aluminum cans to church and they will be taken to be recycled for you! You may leave them in a bag on the back deck of the church. Bob Keith has graciously offered to take them

For more information or questions please contact Rachel at InternMinisterNUUC@gmail.com or (781)975-6662.

Treasurer's Report

Outlined below is a summary of the financial report presented to members of your Finance Committee and Board of Trustees for the month of February, 2012:

	Actual \$ Received and Paid	Budget (Planned Receipts and Payments)
February, 2012		
2011 Pledge Offerings	40	0
2012 Pledge Offerings	16,744	11,539
Non-Pledge Offerings	822	0
Rental Revenue	145	167
Transfer from Capital	0	476
Ways and Means - Fundraising	210	353
Total Income Total	961	12,535
Expenses	746	12,535
Year-to-Date		
2011 Pledge Offerings	2,710	0
2012 Pledge Offerings	23,542	23,078
Non-Pledge Offerings	1,459	0
Rental Revenue	258	333
Transfer from Capital	0	952
Ways and Means- Fundraising	223	706
Total Income	192	25,069

with the rest of the cans we are recycling. The cash back we receive will go back to the church and we will all be reducing our impact on the earth! It's amazing how much "trash" a small group of people can recycle! If you have questions or suggestions please contact Cathy Rodeheffer at rodeheffer_cathy@yahoo.com

Shop for NUUC

Delaware County Community Market

The Delaware County Community Market is a fascinating new venture in downtown Delaware. A year-round, non-profit market, you can shop there for groceries, handmade foods and other items, and household goods, and then direct 20% of the profits to your favorite non-profit. (Yes, NUUC is on the list of nonprofits to choose from!) The market is open 7 days a week (10-6 weekdays and 10-4 weekends). For more information, go to www.dccmc.com.

Kroger Plus Cards RENEW NOW!

If you haven't already registered (or renewed) your Kroger Plus card with the Community Rewards program, please consider designating NUUC as your recipient. Our Kroger rewards continue to add up...we recently earned \$123.08 for the period between Nov. 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012

Total	24,	
Expenses	063	25,069

Respectfully submitted,
Koralleen Stavish
Treasurer

Board of Trustee's Report

The Board of Trustees met on a special date of Saturday, March 31 (two weeks later than usual). You may request to see a copy of those Minutes by contacting the office at nuucjdill@aol.com or 740-657-8081, ext. 1.

Annual Meeting Held March 11

The NUUC Board of Trustees called a Congregational Meeting after the service on Sunday, March 11 for the purposes of: recognizing our able and worthy outgoing Board members Gary Rusk, Nina Webb-Lawton, and Darlene Tschudy; electing new members to the Board (Jeff Hill and Nathan Morse, who was already serving to cover the term vacated by Scot Danforth when he moved); and to deliver the Annual Reports of the committees.

Printed copies of the Annual Report are available from the church office upon request by contacting Jeri Dill at nuucjdill@aol.com.

Worship Committee Offers to Feed Two Birds with One Seed

The Worship Committee would like to invite the congregation to invest in the UUA's supplemental hymnal, *Singing the Journey*, known as the "teal hymnal." *Singing the Journey* has a wide range of modern, interesting, and multicultural pieces of music. The Foreword in the hymnal says this:

"In this small volume, you will find hymns that reflect our theological diversity and our respect for the variety of cultural expression. You will also find some new musical vocabularies and new rhythms. But a common thread binds these songs together. These hymns touch the heart as well as the head. They express a Unitarian Universalism that lives and ministers in this complicated world where freedom, peace, and justice are so hard to create and sustain."

Around the same time that the Committee decided that we would like to raise money for the new hymnals, the congregation passed a deficit budget. This left the Committee with an interesting conundrum-- how could

The Kroger Rewards program runs from May to May. So, April is our renewal month. All current participants MUST RE-ENROLL THIS MONTH (April) to continue earning rewards for the 2012-2013 enrollment period. New enrollees can enroll at any time but, once enrolled, will need to renew each April thereafter. If you haven't registered or need to update your participation, it's easy: go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click on "OHIO" and click on "Enroll." All participants must have a valid online account at Kroger.com and must sign up online to participate. Please don't delay; the sooner you enroll (or renew), the sooner your purchases start counting toward another donation for NUUC! (Should you need it, our NUUC Nonprofit Organization Number is 84869).

Thanks for Your Faithful Giving!

Your faithful and consistent giving is so appreciated and necessary to staying on budget. Remember: you can always mail in an offering or pledge check, even if your schedule keeps you away from services. Just mail it to: NUUC, Attn: JGD, P. O. Box 541, Lewis Center, OH 43035 (please note the postal service will NOT deliver to our physical address, so be sure to use the post office box address). Statements for the first quarter of 2012 (for giving

the congregation buy new hymnals when we already have a strapped budget, and now a deficit? Thus was born the idea that the new hymnals could be used to raise funds to help offset the deficit in 2012, while investing in a rich and diverse musical tradition for years to come.

The Worship Committee would like to invite members and friends of NUUC to buy each teal hymnal for \$30. This \$30 covers the actual cost of the hymnal, an inscription of your choice in the hymnal, and \$15 towards the 2012 deficit budget. The goal is to raise funds for 80 copies of the hymnal: a permanent investment in the future of our beloved music program and an immediate one fifth reduction of the 2012 deficit! Feeding two birds with one seed!

The Worship Committee will hold a second collection for the last three Sundays in April (April 15, 22, and 29). Each week a member of the Worship Committee will share a brief layview outlining why we would like to have the teal hymnal at NUUC, we will hear a selection from the new hymnal, and we will offer financial contributions for the new hymnal. You may also contribute to the teal hymnal fund online by [clicking here](#). We hope to purchase the new hymnals in time to present them to the congregation on Music Sunday, May 6.

The Worship Committee:
Rachel Baker, chairperson
Chris Aultman
Dick Leavy
Ken Watts
Teri Cornell

Opportunities to Lead Sunday Worship

Do you have a sermon bubbling out of the depths of your heart or mind? Having fantasies of speaking from the pulpit? Looking for a reason to finally compile those notes you've been taking? Did a fabulous book move you to tears? Have you recently found peace after wrestling with a sticky theological question?

The Worship Committee is looking for members and friends who are interested in leading lay led Sunday morning worship services.

Members of the Worship Committee are available to help develop lay led worship services, if you are interested. The Worship Committee will provide a template for a service and can offer suggestions for stories, readings, or hymns as needed. We are also available to brainstorm or listen to worship topic ideas. Please send your ideas or interest to Intern Minister

from January 1 through March 31, 2012) will be sent out in mid-April. If you have any questions about your 2012 planned giving or other pledging matters, feel free to call the church office at 740-657-8081 and talk to Rev. Ritchie (RevRitchie@aol.com) or Jeri Dill (nuucjdill@aol.com).

Rachel Baker at InternMinisterNUUC@gmail.com.
The Worship Committee:
Rachel Baker, chairperson
Chris Aultman
Dick Leavy
Ken Watts
Teri Cornell

Loose Change Collections

Your Social Action Committee will continue its "Loose Change" project by collecting your loose coins during the worship service on Sunday, April 1. **Please note: the Loose Change collection has shifted to the first week of the month in April because Easter Sunday falls on the second week.**

The February and March Loose Change collections benefited the "Solar Sister" arm of the Himalayan Light Foundation (www.hlf.org)--a nonprofit group based in Kathmandu, Nepal-which provides solar power generators to remote villages in the Himalayan foothills. The portable units are used primarily for lighting in schools and clinics. In late March, NUUC member Barb Lubberger and her son, Tom Tekieli, left for Nepal, where they will be helping to deliver and install two of these units at the Shree Janakeshari Primary School in Kumlung Village, northeast of Pokhara.

April's Loose Change collection will benefit "No More Deaths," a growing humanitarian aid movement and network of people working to challenge the US policies that have led to a human rights crisis on the borders of Arizona and Mexico. For more information go to www.nomoredeaths.org

Deserving recipients of our monthly Loose Change collections are always under discussion. For questions regarding the "Loose Change" project or to suggest a recipient, contact Chair Tracy Steinbrenner at tracystein@att.net or any member of your Social Action Committee.

2012 Loose Change Collection Recap

Month Collected \$ Amount Donated to: Total

January \$ 96.00 Out of the Darkness \$ 96.00

February \$128.53 Solar Sisters

March \$ 75.83 Foundation) \$204.36
(Himalayan Light

Up Coming Events for Youth

April 1: First Sunday at NUUC for worship or session, coordinate rides to Panera, eat and hang out

April 1, 7:00 - 9:00: NUUC, Understanding the Causes

of Migration

April 15, 7:00 - 9:00: NUUC, Economics of (Im)migration

April 22, 6:30 - 8:30: Fagan's House, Covenant Group. Rachel will program.

April 29, 7:00 - 9:00: NUUC, Who Benefits from a Broken System?

May 6: First Sunday at NUUC for worship or session, coordinate rides to Panera, eat and hang out.

June 3: First Sunday at NUUC for worship or session, coordinate rides to Panera, eat and hang out.

Mowing at NUUC - We Need Some Help

For this coming 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 \$2,400 in the budget.

We plan to do the mowing on a rotating basis with a little help from the congregation. Three or more Building and Grounds members will mow 3 weeks in each month and we plan to ask for volunteers from the congregation to handle the mowing 1 week or possibly 2 weeks each month depending if the month has 4 or 5 weeks. Our goal is to get enough congregational volunteers so they each would mow 1 time during the season. This plan 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. The area to be mowed includes both the church yard (bounded by the driveway and the parking lot) and the yard around Nielsen House. The field at the rear of our property will be mowed by Gary Rusk, who has volunteered to mow it for the season. 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 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 late March through early November. But volunteers from the congregation will be needed only for the months of April through October, which is 7 months. Two of those months have 5 weeks, so we need a total of 9 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.

Volunteers Needed

One NUUC tradition that carries on week to week is coffee, cookies, and conversation after services. A very special thank you to all of you who have taken a turn at setting up and clean-up after our weekly refreshment tasks this year.

Could you spare a bit of time some Sunday to help? The process is easy--all you have to do is follow instructions that are already posted in the kitchen on where everything is and how to make coffee (if you don't know how). And then clean up after and put things back. Everything is provided for you. (But, feel free to try out a new cookie recipe or bring a dessert left from a meeting or family function!)

This is the perfect opportunity to work as a couple, or grab a friend to help. If everyone took a turn, no one would have to do it every week. And it's fun! We are currently scheduling through April 2012-see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for available date. For questions, please contact Jan Bourke at jdb135@wowway.com or Teri Cornell at imuuteri@yahoo.com.

Guest at Your Table

The warmth of our congregation always has awed me. Members here care not only about each other, but also about disadvantaged and imperiled people all over the world. Social action issues, injustices, and national disasters get your attention and response. Of course, the case-in-point I have specifically in mind is our recent Guest at Your Table Campaign. You were generous, generous, generous, and I thank you!

To date, NUUC's contributions from our members total \$3,016. With the Manhasset, New York, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock's matching all gifts of over \$100, we are donating \$5,873 to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to use to secure environmental and economic justice, civil liberties, and relief in crisis situations during wars and disasters for those who need it.

Thank you again,
Marty Keith

Rummage Sale Update

We have the dates: Friday and Saturday, August 10 and

11. We have the place: Fellowship Hall. We hear people are gathering items to contribute to NUUC's fabulous rummage sale! Our rummage sale will be a significant fund-raiser, and its planning is moving forward well. We will create a regular "department store" in Fellowship Hall and fill it to the brim. So please, as you do your spring cleaning, set aside those clothes, books, knick-knacks, tools, dishes, glassware, furnishings, appliances, etc. that you no longer want or need and consider donating them to the rummage sale. We'll even have a truck to pick up your bigger items.

While you're thinking about this upcoming fund-raiser, please consider donating some time. This will be a big 2-day sale that will need days to set up. We'll need the help of many volunteers to do setup, display, pricing, sales, and cleanup. Once we begin setting up for the sale, we'll need some folks to arrange the items every afternoon and evening that we can display. Items will need to be priced as well. Also, if you have any ideas about how to increase our advertising, let Bob or Marty Keith know. Finally (but importantly), can you work a shift on the Friday and/or Saturday of the sale? Just be thinking about it now; in May, we will post a sign-up list. For questions, contact Marty martykeith@frontier.com or Bob bobkeith@frontier.com or by phone at 740-369-1919.

Rev. Ritchie to Lead DGSCA Worship Service

The Rev. Susan Ritchie will lead the Delaware Gay Straight Christian Alliance spring worship service on **Sunday, April 29, at 7 p.m.** at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO), 3081 Columbus Pike.

The service, "Voices Be Not Stilled," is being held in conjunction with an exhibit of the Shower of Stoles project, a collection of liturgical stoles representing the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of faith from over 30 faith traditions. The collection, which celebrates the gifts of LGBT persons who often serve their faith under the cloud of inequality, bears witness to those who must hide their identity and who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. MTSO will host the exhibit beginning April 9.

During the service, Rev. Ritchie will preach and prepare for the testimonies of the Rev. Heather Rittenhouse (American Baptist Church), the Rev. Leslie Taylor (director of student life at MTSO and United Church of Christ minister), and Terry Williams and Skylar Seward

(students at MTSO).

Please plan to arrive early to view the stoles and read some of the stories behind them. Refreshments will be served after the service.

The alliance is part of ACT OUT Delaware (www.actoutdel.org), a nonprofit organization aimed at creating an open and welcoming community particularly for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. The group hosts three worship services a year as well as educational and social events.

For more information on the service or the DGSCA, see the organization's website at www.dgsca.org.

Montana de Luz Orphanage

Are you looking for a way to connect to the global community in a way that makes a difference in the world and the life of a child? Are you up for a life changing and affirming experience? Montana de Luz is an orphanage in Honduras caring for children affected by HIV/AIDS. A service trip for Unitarian Universalists is being planned for August 8-15. The group will work at the orphanage on maintenance and other projects during the day while enjoying time with the children playing and interacting in the late afternoons. There is an excursion day included to travel and see nearby cultural sights. The all inclusive cost for this trip is \$1,800 and fundraising tools are provided. For more information please visit www.montanadeluz.org and contact NUUC member Erika Shell Castro at erika@montanadeluz.org.

Info Meeting on April 15 for August 2012 Trip

Interested in the Service Trip to Montana de Luz on August 8-15? Come get all your questions answered! After service, Sunday, April 15 at 11:45am . (Cookies will be served!) For more info, contact Erika Shell Castro at ecastro@montanadeluz.org or 614-403-8755 cell.

The Montana De Luz orphanage staff has put out a call for much-needed **personal care items and school supplies**. Collection will be ongoing; items will be delivered by folks making periodic trips to the orphanage (including our member Erika Shell Castro). See the bulletin board for "wish list" or visit www.montanadeluz.org.

Save the Date - Fiesta! Is right around the corner... Please join us to support the children of Montana de Luz.

What: Fiesta!

Date: April 14

Time: 6-10 PM

Location: 1899 McCoy Rd. St. Andrews Church, Parish

Hall, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43220

Price: \$75 per ticket/ \$600 for a table of 8

Evening Activities:

Buffet

Cash bar

Silent and Live Auction, Bids for Kids!

Whiskey Tasting

50/50 Cash Raffle- Tickets are 1 for \$20 or 3 for \$50

(Do not have to be present to win)

Great people who have one thing in common... a desire to save and transform the life of a child!

Contact info@montanadeluz.org or call 614-848-8077 for tickets, raffle tickets, information or to donate to the silent auction!

Share Project

Thanks so much to all of you who have been bringing in items for the SHARE Projects recently!

Spring has "sprung," but evenings are still chilly... so please continue to remember the "Share" health kit and sleeping bag projects which benefit the homeless in the vicinity of Delaware Co. and into Franklin Co.

The SHARE Health Kit items are so greatly needed.

There are virtually no public facilities for a homeless person to take a shower in the areas where the Health Kits are delivered. Imagine how nice it is to have your own items (towel, washcloth, soap, razor, toothbrush & paste, comb, deodorant, wet wipes, etc.). Many will simply have to use the small sink in a bathroom....some wash up in the local rivers.

You can view a list of the most-needed items on the "Share Card" found at the website at

www.shareyourbest.us.

Share is always in need of supplies to make more sleeping bags - please donate your used but clean bedding and towels. For additional details, visit the website at www.shareyourbest.us.

For info about these projects or other ways you can help, please contact Donna Imel at Share at donna@shareyourbest.us (177 N. Union St., Delaware, OH 43015) or contact our NUUC coordinator Lynn Foreman sbgmacb@hotmail.com or 740-513-4876.



Try it FREE today.