



July 2012

Staff and Board Reports

[Susan Ritchie, Minister](#)
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Board/Committee Happenings

Social Action:
[Empty Bowls info here.](#)
[See SAC announcement here.](#)
Ways and Means:
[Report on Service Auction](#)

Fair Trade sales:
Nov 11, Dec 9

Board of Trustees:
next meeting:
Nov 17, 9 AM
[Meeting Minutes](#)

Upcoming Worship:

[Click here for upcoming worship topics!](#)

November Concert of Classical Music for Keyboard and Strings

We will host the November Concert of the Full Sound Chamber Group on Friday, November 9 at 7:30 p.m.

The concert, which is free and open to the community, will begin with the piano "Prelude

Greetings!

Fall is here (or is that winter?) and with the turning of the weather and the trees comes a bustling active church. Read all about it here!

RevElations!

By Rev. Susan Ritchie

A few weeks ago, as a kick off to our annual stewardship drive (where we ask our members and friends to let us know what financial contribution we might look to in 2013), I offered my vision of what Unitarian Universalism might look like in the year 2050. I thought it would be fun and potentially helpful to look at the big picture even as your board has been working hard to hone our congregational vision. My assumptions were that these next years would see both an increase in the income gap between our poorest and richests citizens and that religious participation would continue to decline, but that actually, Unitarian Universalism could do very well in such circumstances. I thought we might very naturally offer educational and enrichment experiences to persons who define themselves as spiritual but not religious, and that we might provide prophetic voice against growing economic injustice. I also thought too that Unitarian Universalism has the flexibility to approach a lot of the challenges that the new times will offer. We can expect that people will have ever more multi-religious expressions--and we can honor that like no other tradition. It also seems likely that family structures will change by becomingly increasing large and intergenerational for mutual support (economic and otherwise). Who but us, with our experience with marriage equality, to honor in sacrament and community new definitions of the family? But now I would love to hear from you: what role do you see for Unitarian Universalism in 2050? I'll find a way of compiling and sharing our mutual observations. Please send your thoughts to RevRitchie@aol.com.

But most of all, thank you for your many generousities, past and present, in time, talent and treasure. To make a pledge to the congregation, please visit here: <http://nuuc.org/about-nuuc/stewardship/>. Or at any point you can request a personal visit, just write or call me.
To Life!

Susan

REcognition

By Lily Shahar Kunning, Director of Religious Education

and Fuge in E-minor" by Mendelssohn. The ensemble continues with "Concerto Grosso in G-minor" by Corelli (arranged by Tsidqah Loritsch), "Romanze" by Wilhelm Popp, and a "Serenade for Strings" by Tchaikovsky. The hymn "Ode To Joy" (orchestrated by Shalem Loritsch) will complete the concert.

The Full Sound Chamber Group is a group of classical musicians including Shalem Loritsch, violin; David Schlub, violin; Chayah Loritsch, viola; Racham Loritsch, cello; Tsidqah Loritsch, double bass, piano.

A free will offering will be received.

Those are the details, but here are The Top Ten Reasons You Should Come To This Concert:

1. Because you want to show off your church to your co-workers and neighbors. It's an easy way to get them here to see your awesome church!
2. All your friends are going to be there.
3. You love being in the church at night and it's a long time until Christmas Eve.
4. Because the live music experience is so much better than a CD.
5. Your kids don't know what a double bass looks like.
6. You believe it's important to support local musicians in the same way you support local foods.
7. Music is good for the body and soul.
8. You can pay what you feel the concert is worth to you.
9. There will be tasty goodies at the reception.
10. In a few years, you will be able to say "I saw those guys before they became world famous."

Living Our Faith- "Deeds not Creeds":

Social justice work has historically been an integral part of Unitarian Universalism. In the NUUC covenant, we pledge "to serve humanity" and one of our congregation's proposed

Brrr. As someone who was living in California for the last 18 years, I was surprised at how quickly the leaves turned and fell (and today that there is snow on my car as I drove to church to work!). Fall is butting up against winter in late October, for sure.

Curricula: This November, we focus on gratitude and acts of service. Two acts of service that the RE program will provide to the church are 1. taking over a couple refreshment shifts for social hour and 2. planning the December 2nd Chalica worship service.

Our children and youth will be designing the worship service themselves, with guidance from the adults who volunteer in the program. Teaching our children about how to design an engaging worship service not only teaches organizing, leadership, and cooperation- it fosters a Unitarian Universalist identity. So on Nov 11 and 25, we will plan and rehearse for our big day! You'll see the results in early December.

Moving to Nielsen: We are working out the last few kinks about our final classroom assignments at Nielsen House. Having no permanent classroom space for our classes and traveling between buildings has been challenging, but will end very soon.

Busy Bags: Sarabeth Mahusky-Petras (Thank you!) has kindly made the program some sewn bags. Soon, you will find "busy bags" in the sanctuary for times when we have multi-generational services or your kids want to remain with you in worship. Inside will be quiet activities to keep them entertained!

Safety Policy: Julianna Nemeth (thank you!) has kindly offered to help the RE Committee upgrade and refine our safety policy, as it is her area of academic and professional expertise. This month, our newly formed RE Committee will meet to discuss this and other things.

OWL: Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education has begun for our youth and the congregation should extend a big thank you to our volunteer teachers: Paul Montgomery, Tony Marconi, Lyn Herron, Maria Calderone, Lily Shahar Kunning, Eileen Watters, and Kyle Yaggi.

With an eye on the prize,
Lily Shahar Kunning, DRE

Music Notes

By Marlene Metz Hartzler, Music Director

I love that our music program is expanding outward in delightfully unexpected ways. It's easy to count four new ways that music at NUUC is thriving:

1. Last month, singer/songwriter/comedian Roy Zimmerman played a hilarious concert after the October 21st worship service.

2. On October 27, the NUUC Recorder Ensemble performed at Willow Brook Village in Delaware for member Joan MacLaughlin and friends. The children of the Morse and Hartzler families also played on the collage concert. Thank you, Rebecca and Nathan Morse, Ruth Rusk, Laurie Clark, and Ken Goodrich, for bringing the gift of music to Joan and the other folks at Willow Brook. The NUUC Choir is planning a caroling party at Willow Brook in the near future.

3. The Full Sound Chamber Group will be playing a concert at NUUC on Friday, November 9 at 7:30pm. This concert is so special that it merits its own newsletter article. Read on!

core values is to "focus on social justice, equality passions, and community outreach."

Through our Social Action Committee, our congregation has contributed generously to a variety of social causes including Guest at Our Table, the school supply drive, and Montana de Luz. Individual members of the congregation also participate in many social action projects independent of the church such as the summer lunch program at a local school and the Nepal mission.

However, participation in SAC meetings as well as activities such as the Pride Parade or Crop Walk has been very limited this year. If you are interested in becoming involved in revitalizing the Social Action Committee, please contact [Pam Patsch](#) or [Tracy Steinbrenner](#).

Brown Bag Books

Brown Bag Books met last Tuesday for a Discussion of *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. It was the consensus of the group that this book was interesting and well written about a time period that I personally did not know a lot about. It gave a vivid portrait of Berlin during the first years of Hitler's reign, brought to life through the stories of William Dodd, who in 1933 became America's first ambassador to Germany, and his scandalously carefree daughter, Martha. In November, we will review *The Age of Miracles* by Karen Thompson Walker. From Amazon.com: Amazon Best Books of the Month, June 2012: *In The Age of Miracles*, the world is ending not with a bang so much as a long, drawn-out whimper. And it turns out the whimper can be a lot harder to cope with. The Earth's rotation slows, gradually stretching out days and nights and subtly affecting the planet's gravity. The looming apocalypse parallels the adolescent struggles of 10-year-old Julia, as her comfortable suburban life succumbs to a sort of domestic deterioration. Julia confronts her parents' faltering marriage,

4. Our NUUC Choir will be joining with the Asbury UMC Choir at the end of February to present a joint concert on Asbury's Music Series. Stay tuned for more details!

At NUUC, we have a deep love of music. Enthusiastic listeners and extremely talented volunteers make our music program shine. Thank you!

Here's a peak at the music we are preparing for November worship services:

November 4: If there's only one piece you hear this month, make it "O Magnum Mysterium." I am helplessly in love with this composition by Morten Lauridson. Breathtakingly beautiful in its lyrics and harmonies, this is an experience that should not be missed.

November 11: The choir will sing "Calypso Allelu," a fun and uplifting favorite.

November 18: For our annual Thanksgiving service, the choir will sing John Rutter's setting of "All Things Bright and Beautiful."

November 25: "Sing" (popularized by Sesame Street) will be the featured selection on this Intergenerational service.

See you Sunday!

Marlene Hartzler, Music Director

Treasurer's Report, September 2012

By Koraleen Stavish, Board Treasurer

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

	Actual \$ Received and Paid	Budget (Planned Receipts and Payments)
September, 2012		
2012 Pledge Offerings	16,537	11,539
Non-Pledge Offerings	516	0
Rental Revenue	130	167
Transfer from Capital	0	476
Ways and Means - Fundraising	128	353
Total Income	17,311	12,535
Total Expenses	14,640	12,535
Year-to-Date		
2011 Pledge	3,282	0

illness, the death of a loved one, her first love, and her first heartbreak. "Karen Thompson Walker is a gifted storyteller. Her language is precise and poetic, but style never overpowers the realism she imbues to her characters and the slowing Earth they inhabit. Most impressively, Thompson Walker has written a coming-of-age tale that asks whether it's worth coming of age at all in a world that might end at any minute. Like the best stories about the end of the world, *The Age of Miracles* is about the existence of hope and whether it can prevail in the face of uncertainty."--Kevin Nguyen
 December's book choice will be *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schroff.

Remember to mark your calendar for the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 12 noon. Come when you can for great discussion and a walk after if you want!

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Offerings		
2012 Pledge Offerings	94,216	103,853
Non-Pledge Offerings	6,254	0
Rental Revenue	1,048	1,500
Transfer from Capital	0	4,282
Ways and Means-Fundraising	3,927	3,176
Total Income	108,726	112,811
Total Expenses	112,046	112,811

Loose Change Report

Both September and October Loose Change went to Helpline of Delaware and Morrow county. In October, we raised \$80.03. Helpline of Delaware and Morrow County is a local toll free crisis support and information referral hotline for local residents. For more information about Helpline go to www.helplinedelmor.org

Service Auction Report

by Rebecca Morse

Thank you for participating in the 2012 Service Auction! This Auction was a huge success with a total of \$3018 in sales!

I created two reports from the auction - a "Sale Summary" (Who got my stuff?) and a "Purchase Summary" (What did I Win?). Each report includes the contact information you provided. If you need a report on who won your items or what items you won, please email me personally.

If anyone has questions/concerns about this year's auction, or suggestions for next year's auction, Please feel free to contact me! Thank you again for helping to make this happen!

Board Minutes, October 2012

NUUC Board meeting: October 20, 2012
 Attendees: Nathan Morse, Jeff Hill, Kim Poderys, Mary Ann Wojton, Laura Howe, Nina Webb- Lawton, Marty Keith
 Absent: Susan Ritchie, Koralleen Stavish

1. Chalice Lighting by Laura Howe

Quorum Check: Yes

1. 2. Acceptance of minutes of previous board meeting

- Motion to accept minutes from August (no minutes from September) by Jeff Hill, seconded by Nathan Morse. Motion passed.

1. 3. Treasurer's report

- September report does not include any of the collections on September 30 (regular and special)
- Service Auction was budgeted to bring in \$2500, auction exceeded that bringing in \$3018.

1. 4. Minister's Report

- Interfaith congregational meeting included spiritual conversations, logistical, and social justice issues.

1. 5. Old Business

- Special THANKS to congregation for sharing their generosity. Finances are looking good.

1. 6. New Business

- Proposed Lease: Someone in congregation would like to rent space in Nielson House for business purpose. We are looking into tax, insurance implications. No action taken at this time.
- Threshold Congregation: Marty motioned, Jeff seconded that Kim Podereys will take lead on application for initial application of Threshold Congregation program.
- December Board meeting will be December 8.
- Ways and Means continues to consider fund raising opportunities

1. 7. Important Dates

- District Assembly 2013 will be April 26-27, 2013. Keynote speaker Rev. Peter Morales, President of UUA
- General Assembly 2016 will be in Columbus OH June 22-26, 2016
- Next scheduled Board Meeting: November 17, 2012-9:00 a.m.
 - o Newsletter deadline: 4Th Wednesday Oct 24, Nov 28
 - o Announcements:

Oct 28 Mary Ann Wojton

Nov 4 Marty Keith

Nov 11 Jeff Hill

Nov 18 Nathan Morse

Nov 25 Laura Howe

1. 8. Adjournment

Nina moved, Jeff seconded that the meeting adjourn at 10:17 AM.
Meeting adjourned.

Volunteers of All Stripes Needed

Our active and vibrant congregation needs volunteers of all kinds to do the work of building beloved community and social justice within our congregation and out in the world. Take a look at the opportunities available and see which opportunities appeal to you!

Religious Education: We need substitutes to fill existing vacancies and act as last minute subs when someone gets sick. We are asking members of the congregation with a special talent for art, performance, and/or activism to step forward and help with guest appearances for our spring semester. We have an RE Rep of the Day most weeks, but also need subs for that position as well.

[Email Lily](#) for information or to make a commitment.

Refreshments for Social Hour: Can you bring snacks and refreshments for social hour after worship? It requires purchasing items, coming in early for set up, and helping clean up afterwards. Sign ups are in the Fellowship Hall on the bulletin board nearest the kitchen.

Empty Bowls Fundraiser

We all have to agree this time of year is soup weather. How many of you have already made a pot of soup or chili because the day's weather said to you this is a soup day. And maybe you will go home today and make a pot of soup. I guess that is why the Columbus Park and Recreation holds their Empty Bowls event during the fall season. Nothing says soup better than a cool fall day.

This year on November 11th (please note date- this is a new date), our congregation will be participating in Empty Bowls sponsored by Columbus Parks and Recreation. The proceeds from Empty Bowls go to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. The Mid-Ohio Foodbank provides food for 559 emergency food pantries, soup kitchens, and other agencies throughout central Ohio. They provide over 101,700 meals each day. For every \$1.00 donated the Mid-Ohio Foodbank is able to provide 3 meals with that one dollar.

A Michigan school teacher started the tradition of empty bowls for his school that grew into a national event that sponsors community's local food pantries. While we enjoy making our soups and sharing them together the idea of the empty bowl that you receive is also a reminder that there are many individuals and families in our communities who may have empty bowls on their tables, not by choice. While we enjoy each other's company and all the wonderful soups on this Sunday of empty bowls, please take the time to remember those whose empty bowls, we will be filling with our donation to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. When teaching RE one of the books I like to read from is called Unitarian Universalism is a really long name. There is a section that talks about social justice and charitable work that we as UU have put into our 7 principles. I would like to share a small section of this book with you. It's not enough just to talk about what we think is right. We should work to make the world a better place. Everyone has the right to a safe and happy life.....You don't have to be famous to do the right thing. You don't have to be powerful to make a difference.

Please join your Social Action Committee on Sunday November 18th in making a difference in the fight against hunger through your donation to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and Empty Bowls.

With every breath and every step, may we be working to create the Beloved Community we all strive for!
Sincerely,

Susan Ritchie and Lily Shahar Kunning
North Unitarian Universalist Congregation

