

# NORTHERN L

Newsletter of the North Unitarian Univers

October 2013

## Worship

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

## Join us on Facebook!



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## Ways and Means

### Service Auction November 24th

On Sunday, **November 24th** (the weekend before Thanksgiving) we will be holding our Annual Service Auction. This is a great opportunity to connect with your congregation, as well as get some great stuff from our very talented members!

Popular services offered in the past have included dinners, baked goods, babysitting services, and "classes" teaching knitting, bellydancing, or beer making. Check out Last year's catalog for some great ideas! To submit a donation, simply fill out the Service Auction Donation form online or use a paper copy of the form and submit it to a member of the Service Auction Task Force (Laura Howe, Bob Keith, Marty Keith, and Becca Morse).

## RevElations!

October is always a full month; it is so especially for me this year.

October 20 will be the kick off Sunday for our Annual Stewardship Campaign and Pledge drive. Look for more information about that soon. Although, if you would like to get a head start indicating your preferences around being contacted, and/or make an early pledge, we are thrilled for you to do so! Information and forms can be found at [www.nuuc.org/stewardship](http://www.nuuc.org/stewardship). In the meantime, thanks for all the many kinds of support--tangible and moral--that you offer this special congregation.

One additional source of personal excitement for me this month is that I will be traveling a great deal, hitting the lecture circuit hard, in support of advance publicity for my book. I am thrilled that Skinner House Press will soon be releasing Children of the Same God: Unitarian Universalist History in Relationship to Judaism and Islam. If you'll forgive me for being so very tacky as to quote the back cover: "This work makes the ground breaking argument that Unitarianism is inherently multi-religious, demonstrating how Unitarian identity in Eastern Europe was forged by small groups of liberal Christians defending a perceived kinship between Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. This theological and historical underpinning in turn engendered actual engagements between living Unitarian and Jewish and Muslim communities, which in the increasing tensions between the East and West (Christianity and its Others), were forgotten for centuries. "

One down side is of this tour is that I will be out of the pulpit two times more than is usual in October, and once more in November. I am extremely grateful to the support of your Board of Trustees in allowing me to adjust my schedule this way (I will make up the services in December and January). I am also touched by how many of you have made inquires about the book. I will have a flyer with more information available during services in October, and will include a link to ordering information in the November newsletter.

#### Important dates to know:

Monday, **November 4**: Donation Deadline. Submit your catalog entries by Monday, November 4 so we can include your donation in the catalog.

Friday, **November 22**: Early Bidder Registration. In order to get the Auction started on time, please let us know you will be coming!

Friday, **November 24**: Auction Time!

If you have questions about this annual tradition, please feel free to check out our FAQ sheet or to approach any of the members of the Service Auction Task Force.  
Thank you!

#### Also in ways and means:

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea and Chocolate sales will be held on Sunday, **October 13th** in Fellowship Hall after the service.

Interested in buying Fair Trade Halloween Candy? Contact Becca Morse By Friday, **October 4** to have your chocolates ready on the 13th!

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/>

#### Brown Bag Books

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

#### NUUC Youth Group

I hope you are having a rewarding fall! It is my favorite time of year, with its precious reminder to love every moment not in spite of, but because, of the change we see everywhere.

To Life!  
Susan

## From our Music Director

### MUSIC NOTES

The NUUC Choir rehearses every Sunday morning to bring you the best and most diverse music in Central Ohio. Be sure to say "thank you" to your favorite sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses on Sunday morning.

Here's a sneak peak at the music we are preparing for worship services this month:

Oct. 6: Several soloists will lead the choir in singing "Who Will Buy" from the musical Oliver!

Oct. 13: "Shenandoah" is a much loved folk song. The choir will perform a gorgeous full choir arrangement.

Oct. 20: The choir tackles our most ambitious piece of the season "Elijah Rock."

Oct. 27: As part of an ongoing commitment to explore the "teal" hymnal (aka "Singing the Living Journey") the choir will sing #1074 "Turn the World Around."

Musically yours,  
Marlene Hartzler, Music Director

[MarleneMetz@yahoo.com](mailto:MarleneMetz@yahoo.com)

## Notes from the Board President

Hello, all. If you were at NUUC for In-gathering, you saw an idea for a building addition with restrooms and religious education/meeting space. In the past, we've had groups working on different aspects of building plans. This time, your Board of Trustees wants to take on the project-starting it, finding out needed information, and moving forward through steps of the process. But congregation input and approval is essential from Step One to completion.

The sketch presented at In-gathering was a starting point, something to get us all thinking and talking here at the beginning of our church year. As stated, the Board needs comments and suggestions. Board meetings are open, and they are good opportunities for ideas to be shared and discussed. The Board had "guests" at our last meeting, September 16. I hope more of you come to future meetings. I'll even bring cookies....

At some point, I definitely want the Board to meet with congregation members who worked hard on the other incarnations of a building

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

Sunday, **October 20**, 7pm at the  
Rosenbergs:  
1609 OAKVIEW DR. COLUMBUS OH  
43235

We will be baking cookies to sell the  
following  
week after church to benefit a social  
justice organization

Sunday, **November 17**, 7pm, location  
TBD

Sunday, **December 15**, 7pm, location  
TBD

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!](#)

## Threshold Congregation Update

The Threshold Congregation Committee  
has been meeting monthly  
understanding our congregation and  
what we need to grow. We have been  
working on refining the goals and  
determining action plans. In doing this  
work, our covenant (which is also our  
purpose in the bylaws) continues to  
provide guidance.

As part of the overall regional Threshold  
Congregation program, we have  
completed a self assessment which  
included areas such as Mission, Adaptive  
Learning, Leading Change, Conflict  
Management, Leadership Development,  
Welcoming Visitors, Multiculturalism,  
and use of Technology. We are also  
working on introducing NUUC to other  
congregations in the program. This  
allows us to highlight our history and  
challenges.

project. Last year's Futures Task Force did have a couple of plans for restrooms, and at one time, for RE rooms. They represented both much effort and expertise. The diagram shown on In-gathering does draw on the Task Force's plan for southern-extending restrooms, and in the interest of not reinventing a wheel, I'd love to have even more Task Force advice brought into the mix! The architectural plans of a few years back also had some intriguing parts. I'm envisioning a melding, eventually, of many concepts, past and present, for our future home.

Eventually...yes. It is going to take time, but I think someday we'll have the building we need: restrooms, religious education space, sanctuary, kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and a partridge in a pear tree, if we want that, too. What is it I've heard? *Together we can.*

Until later, dear friends,  
Marty Keith

## From your Social Action Committee

### **CROP HUNGER WALK:**

Sunday **October 6th**, 2013, 2-4pm, Delaware, Ohio. CROP Walk raises funds to assist hungry people here and around the world. Don't wait - you can register as a walker or make a donation by going to: <http://www.cwsglobal.org/>. Choose Crop Hunger Walk and then Find a Walk. Choose Ohio or input Delaware's ZIP code, 43015. Select the Delaware CROP walk. Choose Sign Up (if you plan to walk) and/or Donate. Choose Support a Team and select NUUC. So far, NUUC is the biggest contributor to the Delaware CROP Walk. Help us meet our NUUC goal of \$1200! More information and forms to donate or walk are available on the SAC bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

NUUC contact: Ulrike Martin, [ulrikem@peoplepc.com](mailto:ulrikem@peoplepc.com), 740-965-6720.

### **LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING:**

Our September Loose change collection of **\$108.67** will go to the Crop Walk for hunger.

In October, the Loose Change offering will go to Our Lady of Guadalupe Food Pantry which provides emergency food assistance to the Hispanic Community. You can also bring in a food donation during October.

Needed items include: dry food (bags of rice, dry black or pinto beans, cooking oil, flour, sugar, salt, cookies/crackers, spaghetti); canned food (tuna, chicken noodle soup, chicken broth, mixed vegetable, corn, fruit, baby food, tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce), and hygiene items (dishwashing and laundry detergent, dish soap, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, diapers, diaper wipes).

A collection box for food donations will be placed in Fellowship Hall.

### **"A Place at the Table" book and documentary series:**

This fall the Social Action Committee is focusing on hunger since it is an issue that never goes away. Our congregation annually participates in the Delaware County CROP Walk and Empty Bowls with the proceeds making a difference to feed the world's hungry and locally feeding our neighbors.

After the holidays, the SAC will be offering a book club/documentary discussion on America's hungry. The book and documentary

Here's some insight on how our congregation became part of the program:

*CERG Threshold Congregations are basically healthy congregations who are poised and ready - with a little help- to break through to the next level of activity and effectiveness. While the aspect of growth that is easiest to measure is "seats in the pews" (and this is a critical component of success), it's not the only ingredient. Of equal importance is that the congregations offer 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. (CERG 2011)*

Soon we will visit a similar congregation and learn from them. Please share your thoughts and questions with us!

Cathy Rodeheffer, Bob Keith, Sydney Schardt,  
John Rodeheffer, Kim Poderys, and  
Laura Howe

are called A Place at the Table: the crisis of 49 million hungry Americans and how to solve it by Peter Pringle. Watch for more information in the coming months.

Contact Tracy Steinbrenner for more information.

**EMPTY BOWLS** will be held on November 10, 2013. Look for more information in the November newsletter, the Order of Service, and bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP GROUP:**

The next meeting of the Adventures in Green group is scheduled for Wednesday, **October 16th** at 7:00 PM in Nielsen House.

Has the holiday season become a time of stress, crammed with parties, fighting crowds to find just the right gift, overspending, sending cards, wrapping presents, and entertaining family and friends? In October, we will be talking about Green Holidays - environmental pitfalls and ideas for having a more eco-friendly season that focuses on the true spirit of celebration and gift giving.

At our November meeting, we will share our discoveries and successes. Check out the NUUC Adventures in Green Facebook page and the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for more information and ideas.

If you are interested in joining the group, please come to a meeting or contact Pam Patsch at [pgp723@aol.com](mailto:pgp723@aol.com).

**"TRASH TALK"**

You can still take the Recycling Quiz to find out what your curbside recycling service accepts (and what you may be sending on an "at our expense" detour to the landfill). Look for other recycling tips on the bulletin board, on the NUUC Adventures in Green Facebook page, and in the Order of Service.

**UU JUSTICE OHIO:**

UUJO Justice Assembly and Stand on the Side of Justice Rally on November 2, 2013. UUJO will hold the first annual meeting at First UU in Columbus from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Register now for JA at <http://ohiomeadville.org/uujo/> to indicate workshop preferences, meal selection, child care needs, and T shirt orders.

Civil Rights attorney Al Gerhardstein will deliver the JA Keynote address at **10 am**. A member of 1st UU Cincinnati, Al recently won a preliminary injunction requiring Ohio to recognize the marriage of a gay couple as well as a settlement obligating the Cleveland police department to undertake reforms and pay damages to a man beaten while handcuffed.

JA will feature workshops on UUJO's priority issues -- Immigration, Economic Justice, Environment, LGBTQ, and the new Jim Crow. Congregational representatives will consider issue priorities for the coming year, the annual budget, community based organizing, UUJO network affiliations, leadership and governance. Detailed program information can be found on the UUJO website.

It would be wonderful to have a strong representation from NUUC since the meeting is in Columbus. UUJO would also welcome help with some of the housekeeping tasks (sign-in, lunch, clean-up, etc.).

Please contact Pam Patsch if you are able to help.

### **STANDING ON THE SIDE OF JUSTICE:**

Following the Saturday **November 2nd** Justice Assembly, UUJO is inviting organizational co-sponsors for a **4 pm** Capitol Steps rally calling on state lawmakers to

- Halt the Death Penalty
- End the War on Drugs and Mass Incarceration
- Break the jobs barriers for returning citizens
- Stop the Stand Your Ground proposal, HB 203

Reverend Dr. Susan Ritchie will deliver the opening welcome at the rally! UUJO organized the rally which is co-sponsored by numerous groups including the ACLU, Stand Up for Ohio, Columbus NAACP, Nuns on the Bus, Columbus Metropolitan Area Church Council, and NUUC! Consider the statistics below. Join the rally and wear your Standing on the Side of Love/UUJO yellow shirt to provide a strong UU presence and support for our UU principles of justice.

### **Statistics about incarceration in the U.S. and Ohio**

Did you know? The U.S. has 5 percent of the world's population but 25 percent of the world's prison population. As of April 1, 2013, there were 50,140 adults in Ohio's prison system. Since the war on drugs started in 1970, America's prison population has surged 700 percent to 2.4 million. Combining the number of people in prison and jail with those under parole or probation supervision, 1 in every 31 adults, or 3.2 percent of the population is under some form of correctional control.

About \$70 billion dollars are spent on corrections yearly. In 1980 there were 691 inmates on death row in the U.S. - currently there are 3,189. Since the death penalty was reinstated in Ohio in October 1981, 52 people have been executed. There are currently 139 prisoners on death row in Ohio which places the state as 8th in the nation. The U.S. is the only country in the Western industrialized world that still uses the death penalty.

Employment rates and earnings histories of people in prisons and jails are often low before incarceration as a result of limited education experiences, low skill levels, and the prevalence of physical and mental health problems - incarceration only exacerbates these challenges.

Although individuals identifying themselves as African-American make up just 13 percent of the overall population, they account for 40 percent of US prisoners. The U.S. has the largest immigration detention infrastructure in the world, including 961 sites either directly owned by or under contract with the federal government.

Nearly 10 percent of US prisons and jails are private, dominated by two major firms - Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) and GEO Group whose combined revenue in 2010 was nearly \$3 billion.

Through involvement in the leadership of ALEC (American Legislative Exchange Council), private prison companies have played a key role in lobbying for and passing harsher sentencing for non-violent offenses including three-strike laws, mandatory sentencing, and anti-immigrant state laws by spending millions of dollars to push for policies that support their bottom line and strategically supporting political campaigns.

### **STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE/UU JUSTICE OHIO TSHIRTS:**

Let your UU values show! These yellow shirts are a great way to make us visible at social justice events and to demonstrate to others

our UU principles. Additional shirts are being made for UUJO Justice Assembly.

If you would like to order a shirt (even if you don't plan to attend the Justice Assembly), go to <http://ohiomeadville.org/uujo/>

Contact Pam Patsch for additional information.

**WE WON'T GO BACK OHIO - REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE RALLY:**

At the State House on **October 2nd** at **11:30**. Join a coalition of individuals and organizations for the "We Won't Go Back" Rally to address Ohio HB 200 which further infringes on reproductive health care options. This coalition was formed after HB 59, the state-operating budget, was signed into law, containing five anti-women provisions. In addition, four other anti-women bills were signed into law in the last General Assembly.

We Won't Go Back Ohio will work to inform and educate Ohioans on this type of activity and work to promote policies and ideas that enhance women's health care quality. We Won't Go Back Ohio believes that women should have access to quality diagnostic, preventative, and reproductive health care services; health care organizations should not be discriminated against based on the fact these entities refer patients to agencies that conduct abortions; the medical decisions a woman makes with her doctor should be private and the government should not intervene in this relationship; and that a woman's right to end a pregnancy should be preserved.

More information about the rally is available on the bulletin board.

**MARCH AGAINST MONSANTO ON OCTOBER 12th:**

Join the international movement to protect our food supply; support local farmers; spread awareness about the harmful effects of genetically modified foods; promote organic solutions; expose the cronyism between big business and the government; and bring accountability to those responsible for corruption.

People around the world will be participating in the March Against Monsanto on **October 12th**. The march in Columbus will be at City Hall on the corner of Broad and Front Streets at **2:00 PM**.

See the SAC bulletin board for more information.

**NEW MOVE TO AMEND STAMPS:**

Let your money speak for you. Look for members of the Social Action Committee after Sunday services to get your money stamped with "A corporation is not a person. Money is not speech", "Not to be used for bribing politicians," or "The system isn't broken, it's fixed."

When you spend your money, you spread the word.

**MONTANA de LUZ** is hosting a fund raiser on **November 14th** from **7:00-8:30 pm** at Our Lady of Victory, 1559 Roxbury Road, Grandview, OH 43212. There is no cost to attend and the focus will be on God's Gift sponsors, kicking off our campaign of 100 new GG sponsors in 100 days and promoting the Service Team experience.

Kids' art, a Honduran store of unique items such as pottery, bags, jewelry and Honduran coffee will be available for purchase.

Our committee is working hard to make it a unique and fun evening! Appetizers and desserts will be served as well as wine and soft drinks.

Bring your friends and family to learn more about Montana de Luz!

**SOCIAL JUSTICE LIBRARY:** The Social Action Committee is starting a lending library of books and DVDs on social justice issues such as immigration, poverty, LGBTQ, environment, and human rights.

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).

**The next SAC meeting** will be on **October 13th** at **11:30**. We welcome new members.

For more information about the Social Action Committee, contact Pam Patsch at [pgp723@aol.com](mailto:pgp723@aol.com).

## From Your Board of Trustees Meeting

### Board Minutes

[August Board Minutes Click Here](#)

[September Board Minutes Click Here](#)

### Committee News:

Building Committee is looking to such future projects as replacing the uneven sidewalk sections in the front-side of the church, and taking care of problems with the seals and mounting of two of the large windows in the sanctuary. Worship Committee is taking the month off, happy that all services are covered through the end of 2013 and their new guide on how to do lay services is done. Ways and Means is moving the date of the Service Auction back from September to November, to have more time to prepare. The new date-Bread Communion Service-might work out just super. Social Action is such a whirlwind I can hardly keep up and refer you to their good information in the newsletters. A new initiative for them is a "take one leave one" library on social justice issues. Also, Pam is bringing to this board meeting (through Marty) a proposal for us to sponsor the Ohio UU social Justice group.

### Treasurer's Report for August 2013

Outlined below is a summary of the financial report

presented to members of your Finance Committee and Board of Trustees for the month of August, 2013:

	Actual \$ Received and Paid	Budget (Planned Receipts and Payments)
August, 2013		
2013 Pledge Offerings	8,173	12,259
Non-Pledge Offerings	282	0
Rental Revenue	200	154
Ways and Means - Fundraising	16	361
Total Income	8,671	12,774
Total Expenses	13,172	12,726
Year-to-Date		
2012 Pledge Offerings	6,187	0
2013 Pledge Offerings	91,144	98,070
Non-Pledge Offerings	3,866	0
Rental Revenue	1,075	1,233
Ways and Means-Fundraising	2,026	2,890
Total Income	104,299	102,293
Total Expenses	97,448	101,808