

The Fellowship Focus

of the

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart

"A safe community nurturing individual spiritual and ethical growth"



May 2014

Sabbatical? Sabbatical!

For the next several months we will be talking about some terms we will come to know well: sabbatical, Lilly Grant, and clergy renewal. When I came on six years ago we mutually agreed that for every year served, one month of sabbatical leave would accrue; now it is time to think about what we will do when I go on sabbatical. First, the nuts and bolts about what a sabbatical is NOT: time for me to look for another job, time for you to look for another minister, time that the church will fall apart without me, and lastly, it is NOT time that I *simply must* write a book or publish something.

Many ministries last about six or seven years but I would like to stay with you for 20 years or more if the fates allow. This means that we will have several ministries in a row, because about every six or seven years the congregation changes and so do I. For instance, I moved here with a preschooler and 3rd grader and all of the parenting skills required for that job. By the time I go on sabbatical they will be in 6th and 10th grade with those skills needed. And the congregation has changed in that we will have lost many of our former leaders and gained new ones, plus having become Welcoming, built an addition, and so on. We are different, which is good, and should embrace with enthusiasm how to keep the minister-congregation relationship alive and fresh.

The Lilly Foundation is an organization that, among other things, grants money to clergy and congregations (deadline is each April) for renewal through sabbatical. Whether the clergy studies or travels or rests or researches, the congregation has time to get in touch with themselves too, and the rejoining should be glorious! Soon a committee will form on how to “cover” my sabbatical, and we will determine how to write this grant (or others) so that our time apart is as mutually beneficial as can be. I am looking at taking off from January 2016 to May of 2016 and we will have lots of time to dream and plan. I look forward to dreaming and planning with you.

In Peace, Rev. Amy



Inside this issue:

Service topics	2
Committee news	3
Special events	4
Summer events	5
Meeting Bulletin	6
Calendar	7
Archives	8

Sunday Mornings (See Service time change on May 25th)

Service with nursery care 9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Adult Forum 10:00 a.m.

Youth Religious Education 10:45 a.m.

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Our Month of Sundays

“May the Fourth be with you”

Guest speaker Rev. Chip Roush from South Bend UU. From Star Wars to the Grateful Dead, from the Hebrew Bible to Ken Wilber, we can find inspiration in many places. Seeking the universal in the particular, here is the tale of one spiritual journey.

Join the Town Hall Meeting today after the Service.

May 11 “Mothering Sunday”

Rev. Amy invites everyone to investigate the role of mothering in our lives.

May 18 “Five Smooth Stones”

Theologian James Luther Adams said that liberal religion is based on the principles of 5 smooth stones. Come to learn, share, and explore these ideas.

Potluck and Annual Congregational Meeting today after the Service.

May 25 “Meet the Intern”

From September to May for the next two years we will be a teaching congregation for Meadville Lombard student Jenny Peek. Come to our first **ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10AM** to meet Jenny as she and Rev. Amy share a sermon duet.

What about the kids?

School age children (K-6) will start each Sunday in the service, then may be invited to our RE classes which offer lessons, discussion, and art. Nursery care is available during the services for the younger children.

Our planned school year programming continues through May with Art 1st and 2nd Sundays, Tapestry of Faith 3rd and 4th Sundays.

The Forum

Join our open discussions on **Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** We meet downstairs in room A, courtesy of UUFE’s Heart of the Circle Pagans Group.

Everyone is welcome. With so many different but like-minded folks, the topics for discussion are endless. Bring your thoughts and ideas and see where they lead.



*Love is the spirit of this church
and service is its law.
To dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love,
and to help one another,
This is our covenant.*

The Fellowship Focus is published monthly by members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart. All members and friends are invited to submit articles and news items for inclusion by the 15th of each month. Send materials to Katrina Wilson at katskirx@gmail.com.

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Book Recommendations

for May:

- Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther by Roland Bainton
- Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex by Mary Roach
- Lulu in Marrakech by Diane Johnson
- Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life by Richard Rohr
- I Fired God by Jocelyn Zichterman (Also available in the Uufe library)
- Field Notes From a Hidden City by Esther Woolfson

All books are available through the Elkhart Public Library. If you would like to recommend a book, contact Gloria Salavarría at 343-0310 or e-mail skaggscat1@gmail.com.



Reverend Amy's Week-At-A-Glance

Monday—Office hours 9:00a.m.-noon, often meetings in and out of the church

Tuesday—Reading day, often evening meetings

Wednesday—Office 9:00a.m.-noon, often meetings in and out of the church

Thursday—Office 9:00a.m.- noon, often evening mtgs

Friday—DAY OFF

Saturday—Church activities, Administrative duties

Sunday—at Uufe most weeks, most of the day

Call or email for appointments—I want to talk to you!

Worship & Arts

We will ring in the month of May with a guest sermon by UU Minister Reverend Chip Roush, from our neighboring church in South Bend. Come on May 18th to hear Reverend Amy talk about “Five Smooth Stones” and then stay for potluck and our Annual Meeting. On Memorial Day Weekend, we will begin our summer schedule with ONE SERVICE beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 25th.

Looking ahead to June, we invite your input for our annual Thank-you Service on June 1st and/or for a Poetry Service on Father's Day, June 15th. Contact Rev. Amy or Genee to nominate your “thank-ee”; contact Michelle Richards or Peg Cook to propose a poem.

Bring in personal care items (full or travel size) on the third Sunday for a collection that goes to our neighbors at AIDS ministry/AIDS Assist. These will be delivered to their office each month.

Uufe Grounds Work Day – Volunteers Needed!

To all able bodied members: On Saturday May 3rd, weather permitting, we plan to hold our annual Spring clean up day of our grounds starting at 9:00am and running to about noon. (Rain date: the following Saturday). Men and women including teens are welcome to help rake leaves and pick up debris all along our walks and in our gardens and wooded areas. We also will be planting annual flowers in our gardens. Please come out to help, even if it is only for an hour or so.

Art Beutler, Grounds Chair

UUUs: Heart of the Circle Pagans

#1 Beltane

Join Heart of the Circle Pagans for a Beltane celebration on Saturday May 3rd from 5 - 9pm at UUFE. We will celebrate the warmer weather and the coming of the planting season with merriment, music, and the may pole. The ritual will be held outside, so bring a chair or blanket. Ritual will start at 5pm with a potluck feast to follow.

#2 Faery Garden Workshop

Hearth of the Circle Pagans will be hosting a Faery Garden Workshop on Saturday May 31st from 3 - 6pm in the Gathering Place at UUFE. Bring a container you would like to transform into your own personal faery garden. We will also be creating a UUFE faery garden for everyone to enjoy. Class fee is \$15 and will cover soil, plants, and other supplies. There will be a sign-up sheet by the name tags. Please sign up and submit the class fee by Sunday May 18th. Please contact Amber Ferree at amber5150@frontier.com with questions.

KEEPING BRIDGES OPEN: STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We were able to get to 93% of our goal this year (\$82,000 actual versus \$88,000 goal). Thanks to all of our members and friends who have pledged treasure, time, and talent to UUFE for the 2014-2015 church year. The final budget is being prepared and will be presented to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting on May 18th. A final report from the Stewardship Chair will be available at that meeting as part of the annual report for the congregation.

A big “thank you” also to the Committee: Kevin DeBeck, Phyllis Hostetler, Annette Long, Holly Vernon and Zanzer Anderson for all the help during this Stewardship Season.

Respectfully,
Ken Clayborn

“A thing of beauty is a joy forever. . .”

Throughout history and in all cultures, poetry has been a way to invoke feelings and give deep access to memories. Perhaps you might even say that poetry can be defined as a language which says more and gives one a greater awareness of the world.

**To celebrate the importance of poetry in our individual lives,
we will share a poetry worship service on Sunday, June 15th (Father’s Day).**

**If you have a poem (or poems) you would like to read (or have read by someone) as part of this poetry service,
please send a copy of the poem(s) by June 1st to:**

Michelle Richards (Richards.michelle@frontier.com) or Peg Cook (macpegcook@msn.com)

PLAN NOW FOR ONE OF THESE GREAT SUMMER EXPERIENCES!

Several UUFE families will travel to Saco, Maine for

Ferry Beach — Work & Play Week

June 22-28

And continue on to Providence, Rhode Island for

UUA General Assembly

June 25-29

Event details and registrations available online.

Come and gather with other UU families from across the Midwest for great food, great times and great experiences at **Ronora Lodge & Retreat Center in Watervliet, MI** for

Chalice Sparx Family Summer Camp

July 10-15

Early-bird registration (with a \$25 discount per person) is now open. Tent camping as well as lodging ranging from dormitory-style to private rooms in private buildings is available. We're also still looking for volunteers which will get you an additional \$100 off your registration/lodging & meals. For more information, look for printed brochures in UUFE's vestibule, go to our website at www.chalicesparx.org or contact Michelle Richards at [574-266-7710](tel:574-266-7710) or richards.michelle@frontier.com.

Stay up-to-date with developments by liking us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/chalicesparx>.

The Living Legacy Project (www.uulivinglegacy.org) is excited to announce that registration is now open for the

Mississippi Civil Rights Journey

July 5-12, 2014

On this multi-generational trip, co-sponsored by the [Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice](http://www.unitarianuniversalistcollegeofsocialjustice.org), travelers will meet in Memphis, Tennessee, on July 5, 2014, and leave from there to visit key sites and learn from people directly involved with Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964. They will return to Memphis on July 12, 2014. This summer's Mississippi Civil Rights Journey is ideal for teachers, students and others who aren't available to travel on a spring or fall Civil Rights Pilgrimage. The trip is open to high school youth and adults of all ages. What better way to expose the younger generation to the important lessons of the Civil Rights Movement! Limited financial aid is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Register now at: [Mississippi Civil Rights Journey Application](#). **The registration deadline is May 19, 2014**, and may fill before then.

Submitted by Gordon Gibson (who serves as one of the program leaders)

BULLETIN BOARD

Meeting room moved to the Children's House!

The **Science and Society** group meets on **first and third Tuesday evenings in the Children's House**. This month...

May 6th at 7pm: We will continue "The Great Courses" lecture series: *Leonardo Da Vinci and the Italian High Renaissance*. Two half-hour lectures will be viewed. These are "Return to Florence-Sfumato and an Exhibition" and "Leonardo, Cesare Borgia and Machiavelli".

May 20th at 7pm: We will continue "The Great Courses" lecture series: *Leonardo Da Vinci and the Italian High Renaissance*. Two half-hour lectures will be viewed. These are "Michelangelo and Leonardo" and "Mona Lisa-La Gioconda".

For further details please contact Ken Clayborn at KClayborn@aol.com or at mobile number 574-596-7855.

Music Listening met Sunday April 6th at Dale Kern's house. There were 11 of us there and we brought a wide variety of music as usual. The music ranged from Percy Granger to Bruce Springsteen with stops on the way in North Africa, electronics, overdubs, trombones, guitars, etc.

Our next get-together will be **at UUFÉ on May 11th at 5pm**. (Jim Todd may host at his apartment and if so we'll post the change.) Jim's phone is 612-9207. All are invited to bring up to 10 minutes of recorded music to share. If you have not been attending these sessions, please give the host a call so that appropriate plans can be made for seating and the light meal provided by the host.

Our June meeting will be hosted by Doris Stickel and Dave Stokely on June 8th.

UUFÉ Feasters will be gathering at the following locations. If you are interested in attending any of the upcoming gatherings, email Kathy Lantz (ktwlls@hotmail.com) to reserve your spot.

Wednesday May 28th at 6:30pm
Fat Cams's at Garver Lake
25020 May St. Edwardsburg, MI
www.fatcamsatgarverlake.com

Great Place that feature Cajun Comfort Food, yummy Shrimp & Grits, Crawfish Etoufee, and Gumbo are a few of their special menu items.

Wednesday June 25th at 6:30pm
Moser's Austrian Cafe
127 E. Michigan St. New Carlisle, IN
www.mosersaustriancafe.com

This is a bit of a drive but well worth the trip! Moser's offers a menu of authentic Austrian food and beers, including Gulasch, Schweinsbraten, Schlemmerpfandl and numerous Schnitzels.

Senior Lunch Thursday, May 22nd at noon.

There will not be senior lunch in June or July so come see friends before taking off for the summer!

May 2014



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 7p Adult Discussion	2	3 Adam Patti 9a-12p Grounds Work Day 5-9p Beltane Ritual and Potluck ?p Breaking Bread Dinners @Homes of Members
4 9a Service 10a Forum 10:45 Service/RE Town Hall Meeting	5 Peg Cook 6:30p Buddhist Society of Elkhart	6 7p Science and Society	7	8 7p Adult Discussion	9	10 Marj Hershberger
11 Martha Pickrell 9a Service 10a Forum 10:45 Service/RE 5p Music Listening	12 6:30p Buddhist Society of Elkhart 7p Worship & Arts	13	14 Olin Zuercher Katie Louie Gurka 6:30p Board Meeting	15 Laura Lawson 7p Adult Discussion	16 Isabella Lindzy	17
18 9a Service 10a Forum 10:45 Service/RE 12p Potluck Annual Meeting	19 6:30p Buddhist Society of Elkhart	20 Patrick McLaughlin 7p Science and Society	21	22 12p Senior Lunch 7p Adult Discussion	23	24
25 9a Forum 10a Service/RE	26 Joe Rueff Jake Wilson 6:30p Buddhist Society of Elkhart	27	28 Vern Thomas 6:30p Feasters at Fat Cam's	29 7p Adult Discussion	30	31 Chris French 3-6p Faery Garden Workshop



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart

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with love to:

FROM THE ARCHIVES

By Kevin DeBeck

Recently, in the United States Senate, a bill called The Paycheck Fairness Act, failed to get out of the Senate due to a Republican filibuster. The idea behind the bill was to make illegal the practice of paying women less than men for doing the same job. Unfortunately, this is an old fight. From the early 1970's until 1982, the Equal Rights Amendment was put out to states to ratify so that the amendment would become part of the Constitution. Between 1972 and 1977, 30 states ratified the amendment. (For what it's worth, you need 38 states for an amendment to take effect.) At that point, momentum slowed down. The reason I'm giving you this mini history lesson is that in the May 1980 edition of the Focus, the fight for ratification of ERA came not to Indiana, but Illinois:

“On Saturday, May 10, there is to be an ERA march and rally in Chicago, to give impetus to the drive to get the Illinois Legislature to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. People are to assemble at 9:30 AM, go south on Columbus to the Old Band Shell Area, Roosevelt Dr. end of Grant Park. . .”

In June of that year, ERA passed, but according to the Illinois state constitution, it needed to pass by a 3/5ths majority. It failed by a total of 5 votes. The deadline for passage was June 30 of 1982; unfortunately, ERA died just 3 states short of ratification. There have been lawsuits and court cases since that time questioning the legality of the deadline—in fact, Illinois tried again in 2003 but failed to secure the right amount of votes. Who knows? Just maybe, if the political winds blow just right, ERA just might become a part of the Constitution. In time for our first woman President perhaps? As Dr. Seuss once said in *The Butter Battle Book*, “We shall see my friend, we shall see. . .”