

From the Minister

I share with you this short essay by David Hubner entitled "UU Humility". I found it interesting.

"Thirty years ago there was a survey of UU values that showed that the traditional religious value called "salvation" was definitely a nonstarter for UUs. Not only did it fall at the end of the list of things given value, but the survey was constructed so that people could paste labels with their top and less important values in a top to bottom listing. "Salvation" not only often came last, but some people felt the need to paste it upside down or along the margins of the page.

At the time, I loved the idea that we UUs were so determined to take responsibility for our own development that we didn't need to look outside of ourselves for positive change. Now, years later, I wonder if I read that ranking wrong. That rather than rejecting the need for salvation, we were so needful of being right, of being good, of being correct that we couldn't admit to our own need for help. Along the way I don't think that humility has been one of our strong suits. Generally I don't like UU jokes, but the one about Universalists being so sure of God's goodness that they felt all would be saved and about Unitarians being so sure of their own goodness that they didn't need to be saved comes to mind.

As I move toward my retirement from the UUA, probably my deepest hope for us is that we can ease up on ourselves a bit, admit more to our own failings and failures, and understand that being wrong is also part of the human condition. I am not being falsely humble when I tell people that I figure that I'm wrong about half the time. I've learned that one of the most rewarding and pastoral things I can do, both for them and for me, is to ask my colleagues and friends for help. They have always responded, never with exactly the same answer, but with enough guidance that I could move ahead despite my limitations. They have offered me salvation."



Rev. Dan Brosier

FROM YOUR CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Making Room

You may have noticed that both the church parking lot and the sanctuary have been filling up lately on Sunday mornings. This is great news—it means that more and more people are hearing about our church and coming to our wonderful worship services.

It does, however, present us with the dilemma of where do we all park and sit on Sunday morning. To better utilize our existing space, we are adding a few folding chairs to the sanctuary entry area (we used all the new chairs that were purchased last year in the sanctuary) so that late arrivals can sit just outside of the sanctuary.

There are also ways you can help:

- Consider car pooling. Is there someone in your neighborhood or who lives near you that you can offer a ride to church on Sunday morning?
- If you are a regular attendee, remember to use the spaces on the blacktop that run parallel to the church front when they are available. Pull off on the grass enough to allow others to get by.
- Fill in seats in the sanctuary from the middle of the row so that late arrivals can sit on the end. Fill in the rows completely.
- If you have a small child, hold them on your lap to free seats for others.
- Be willing to move over so that late arrivals have a seat.
- Finally, it is hard to hear Joys and Concerns in the foyer. Please speak into the microphone that is provided for that purpose at the chalice area.

Thanks for your help in making room for our growth.

Coming soon to a website near you!

An automated version of our Church Event Space and Calendar Request form will be available on the member section of our church website, uus@uuce.org, by the end of April. Hopefully, having the form automated will make scheduling events easier than ever.

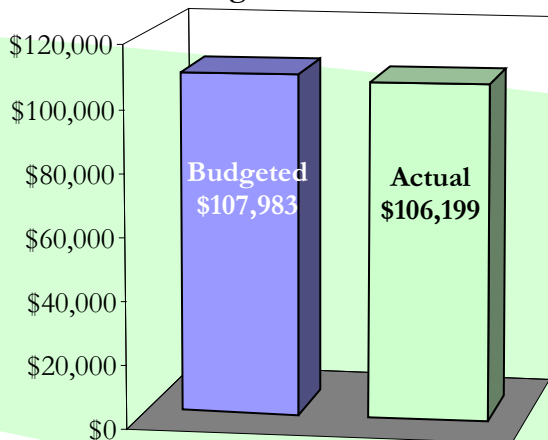
The paper forms will still be available for those who prefer not to use the automated form. The paper forms can be found now in the church office. When completed these forms should be placed in the Church Administrator's mailbox. Events will be scheduled and rooms assigned on a first come, first served basis; and you will be notified once your event has been placed on the church calendar. At times it may be necessary to adjust room assignments to accommodate larger groups. Just a reminder, that all new programs and special events need to be approved by the Program Council.

If you are not yet on our official church e-list and would like to be included, please send an e-mail to administrator@uuce.org. All members and friends are encouraged to join the list for announcements on church and member-related events.



Linda Porter

Member Pledges—2005-06 Fiscal Year



The 2005-2006 budget calls for \$117,500 in pledges; eleven months' worth of this figure is \$107,983. Questions? Contact your Finance Coordinator, Alice Macy.

UUCE Calendar

April

2006



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00a Unichords 9:30a Worship Com. -102 9:30a Adult SS 12:30p New UUs -301	3	4	5 6:45p Barn Bells 2 7:00p C.O.M. 7:00p APPLE 7:00p Cakes for the Queen of Heaven 7:15p Barn Bells 1	6 7:00p Spiritual Inquiry Covenant Group -301	7 9:15a Executive Team 11:30a Program Council 6:30p Women Cooking for Women -0	8
9 9:00a Unichords 9:30a Adult SS 12:15p RE Council 12:30p New UUs -301 12:30p Green Sanctuary Mtg.	10	11 7:00p Covenant Group	12 6:00p Eat/Meet 6:45p Barn Bells 2 7:00p Finance 7:00p Lessons of Loss 7:15p Barn Bells 1	13	14	15 8:00a Canvass Committee -0 9:00a qUilters -302
16 9:00a No Bells 9:30a Adult SS <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	17	18	19 6:00p Eat/Meet 6:45p Barn Bells 2 7:00p Cakes 7:00p Board Mtg 7:00p LessonsLoss 7:00p Compassion for Animals 7:15p Barn Bells 1	20 7:00p Intentional Living Covenant Group	21	22
23 9:00a Unichords 9:30a Adult SS 12:30p Landscape & Grounds Mtg.	24	25 7:00p Covenant Group	26 6:00p Eat/Meet 6:00p Art Showing 6:45p Barn Bells 2 7:00p Women's Spirituality Group 7:15p Barn Bells 1	27	28 9:15a Executive Team Meeting 11:30a Program Council 7:00p Book Group -0	29
30 9:00a Unichords 9:30a Adult SS 12:30p RE Council Birthday Potluck						

Month of Sundays

April

2 Religion (Spirituality) and Social Justice

One person's quest for improving human rights through fair trade. Ron Gole, a UUCE member, will talk about his recent participation as a member of a delegation to Guatemala that was sponsored by the UUSC and Equal Exchange. He will present it in the context of how it fits in with his past, present and future.

9 Loving Walter

This service is inspired by the book *Walter the Farting Dog*—a story of acceptance amidst adversity. Service led by the Rev. Dan Brosier.

16 An Easter Vesper

A service of words wrapped in music and silence to encourage the spirit of Easter. Service led by the Rev. Dan Brosier.

23 Mother Nature Rules

It's not nice to fool with Mother Nature, or what a healthy dose of respect, luck, and being in the right place at the right time will get you. Service led by Paul Anderson.

30 Why Don't We Take It Seriously

The issue is global warming. It is widely recognized that past and present human activities that produce green house gases are at least a part of the problem. What must become widely recognized is that starting now, human activities must be part of the solution. Service led by the Rev. Dan Brosier.

SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

FANNING THE FLAME—FUNDING OUR FUTURE

The Canvass Committee wishes to thank all of our members and friends who have generously pledged to support the Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin for the 2006-2007 church year. I also want to thank all of our 32 canvassers who gave of their time and energy to canvass you over the past several weeks. Our Canvass theme, "Fanning the Flame—Funding Our Future", challenged us to financially fund the future of our church. As of March 19, with 62% of our members and friends canvassed, we have received about \$109,000 in pledges, still considerably short of our goal of \$159,000 needed to operate our church this year. If you have not yet been contacted by a canvasser, please call Paul Anderson (847-214-8735) or Joe Masonick (847-931-4363). Thank you!

-Joe Masonick, Canvass Committee Co-Chair

COMMITTEE ON THE MINISTRY:

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?

The Committee on the Ministry (COM) is a committee consisting of four three-year-term members, the Director of Religious Education, and the Church Minister.

Our mission is to nurture and strengthen the ministry of UUCE by:

1. Maintaining healthy relationships involving staff, committees and congregation
2. Clarifying the roles and priorities of staff
3. Reminding the church community of its mission and covenant
4. Working with and advocating for the Minister and DRE regarding continuing education/professional development
5. Assisting the church community in the continuing development of leadership (lay, staff and ministerial) by providing educational opportunities

COM has worked this year to fulfill this role by:

1. Providing annual training for new committee chairs and church leaders
2. Assisting with the UUCE Fall Leadership Retreat
3. Improving the prominence of the UUCE Mission and Covenant statements
4. Selection of candidates to attend the Midwest Leadership School
5. Working with and supporting the Minister and DRE in developing professional/personal goals
6. Providing a "sounding-board" for committee chairs and church leaders needing support

If you still don't know what the heck the Committee on the Ministry is, please see one of our dedicated committee members for more information: Leslie Sawyer, Committee Chair, Joe Masonick, Laurie Kiesewetter, Brandi Talaga, Dan Brosier, Minister, Kathy Underwood, DRE.

2006 MEN'S BICYCLE TRIP

This year's annual UUCE Men's Bicycle Trip is officially scheduled and open to any interested men from the church. We will be leaving from Elgin on Thursday morning, June 15, and riding to downtown Chicago via the Illinois Prairie Path/Grand Illinois Trail. We'll stay at a hotel in the River North area that night and then ride up the Lakefront Trail the next day before cutting over to the Libertyville/Mundelein area, where we'll spend Friday night.

On Saturday, the 17th, we'll take roads over to Crystal Lake and then ride the Fox River Trail back down to Elgin. The whole three-day route is approximately 115 miles. For more information or to join us, contact Todd Underwood or Joe Masonick.

Announcements

NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter, Venita and Mark Larson have signed the membership book. We joyfully welcome them into our church community.

BOOK GROUP

You are warmly invited to join the members of the Book Group at any of their upcoming meetings, which begin at 7:00 p.m.

March 31 - "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck.
At the home of Helen Maxwell.

April 28 - "Bee Season: A Novel" by Myla Goldberg.
At the home of Margot Cusimano.

June 2 - "Collapse" by Jared Diamond. Place TBA.

June 30 - "Collapse", continued.

July 28 - "Collapse", continued.

BOSTON BOUND BABES

This all-girl quartet is raising money to go to Boston this summer to see some UU sites and have fun. They will be sponsoring the Eat & Meet on April 12 with a pancake dinner. Then on April 23, they are hosting a bake sale after the service. Donations of baked goods are appreciated, but not necessary. Your sweet tooth is, however! Hope to see you at both events!

THE LESSONS OF LOSS

Everyone experiences loss at some time in their lives. Whether you have recently lost a loved one, friend, or acquaintance or your loss was months or years ago, this beautifully written curriculum will help you explore and express the feelings and lessons connected to it. This four-session class will meet on Eat and Meet Wednesdays: April 12, 19 and May 10, 17 at 7:00 p.m. Sign up on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall or contact Elise Wall. Class limited to 10 people, age 15 and older.

ALTERNATIVE ASSISTANCE WELCOME

Please remember that as an alternative to buying/bringing goods for the Interfaith Food Pantry, you can also donate money. Please make your check out to the Interfaith Food Pantry and give it to me (Henny DuBois). Our Pantry Sunday is April 2, but your donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and baby needs are welcome anytime during the month.

VERY SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS MEETING

On Sunday, April 23, Liz Aicher, Land Protection Specialist for the Fox Valley Land Foundation, will be at church to meet with the Landscape and Grounds Team. She will be walking with us on our grounds and offering suggestions on how to enhance our prairie and other natural planting areas. We will gather in room 302 at 12:30 pm and move from there to the great outdoors. All interested church members and friends are invited to join the Landscape and Grounds Team for this special meeting. For more information, contact Linda Porter at administrator@uuce.org.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

The 2005-2006 Annual Reports are due from the UUCE Board, staff, councils, committees and teams on April 15. In addition, special groups in the church such as quilting, bells, APPLE, etc. are also invited to submit a report. Please send your report to administrator@uuce.org or place the report in the Church Administrator mailbox at church. If you have questions please contact Linda Porter. A copy of last year's Annual Report can be found at www.uuce.org/2005annual-reports.html.

Kudos to:

Joe Masonick and **Paul Anderson** for serving as Canvass Chairs, **the Canvass Committee, the Canvassers, and Cheren Waller** for coordinating the Canvass Luncheon; **Leslie Sawyer** for coordinating the showing of the Compassion for Animals documentary series; **Norm Wilkinson** for putting together the nursery furniture; **Edythe Nagler** for donating the beautiful quilt hanging in the sanctuary gallery.



COLLECT AND SAVE

When doing your spring clean up, save any of those articles that tie into the Prairie Fest theme to donate for resale at the Prairie Fest Boutique.

BECOMING A COMMUNITY GARDENER

Would you like to garden on the church grounds? This is your opportunity. The fee of \$10 entitles each gardener to share in the collaborative building, planting, tending and harvesting for the season. Gardeners are required to commit to some work time as well as ethical organic practices. Only 30 gardeners will be accepted this pilot year. Those not physically able to garden are welcome to participate anyway – just designate a proxy for the physical labor. Interested? See Donna Askins.

SHARES OF OUR GARDEN

In order to raise funds for garden supplies, the Gardeners invite you to purchase a share of the harvest. Only 20 shares will be sold. Just \$19.99, payable at the time of purchase, entitles the shareholder to an equitable portion of organic UU veggies, grown in principled dirt, by bona fide commUnity gardeners. Yes, \$19.99 for the whole season. That's a bargain! **DISCLAIMER:** Shareholders must understand that, due to Mother Nature or human nature, the physical yield may be slight, or even nothing. But this opportunity represents an even greater reward: a chance for investment in the soul of our community. Interested? See Donna Askins.

CommUnity GARDEN WISH LIST

Would you like to support the commUnity garden? Here is one way to do so:

- 1) Go to www.amazon.com and click on "gift ideas" (located near the top).
- 2) Locate the "wish lists" box on the right side of the screen.
- 3) Type APPLE-Elgin and click the Go! Button.

This works like a wedding gift registry. You will see a list of all the things that the garden currently needs. As of this writing, vermiculite, coir dust and organic compost are the highest priority. (Coir dust, made from coconut hulls, is a sustainable replacement for peat moss. Peat bogs are being harvested into extinction, so we want to avoid using peat.)

Gifts may be dropped off with any Gardener* and they will be put to use right away. Tip: to save shipping dollars and gasoline, purchase items locally instead of online. Thanks for your support! The gardeners, and the earth, are truly grateful.

*Andrea Schmidlin, Joy Shores, Andrea Shores, Louette Rogers, Babette Colburn, MaryAlice Masonick, Donna Askins, or Pat Pecho.

Religious Education

As I sit writing this, spring is officially here! Unfortunately, it is still cold and windy outside. But there are small signs here and there: crocus leaves shooting up from the ground, buds on trees, the return of sand hill cranes and red-winged blackbirds, the start of soccer and baseball, and of course spring break from school.

Here at UUCE, there are two signs of spring in the religious education program: the Easter Egg Hunt, and the May Day Birthday Potluck. On April 16, the high school class will help hide plastic eggs for the younger folks to search for after their program ends. If the weather is fairly dry, some of the eggs will be hidden outside. The preschool class will get to search first, and then will return to the classroom for a snack and for parents to pick them up. The older classes will hunt for eggs after that.

On April 30, join the Religious Education Council for a May Day Birthday Potluck in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share. After our meal, we'll have a birthday cake and sing "Happy Birthday" to each other. And don't worry about those calories, because there will be a Maypole dance too! We hope to see you there!

Here is what is happening in religious education this month:

- April 2 Preschool: "Trees Are Nice"
K-2nd: "God Comes To Us In Dreams"
3rd-5th: "Maulid al Nabi–Mohammed's Birthday"
6th-8th: "In the Name of God"
High School: Discussion of choice
- April 9 Preschool: "The Carrot Seed"
K-2nd: "The Spirit of God & Death"
3rd-5th: "Passover"
6th-8th: "Pillars & Principles"
High School: Discussion of choice
- April 16 Preschool: "The Golden Egg Book"
K-2nd: "The Spirit of God & Birth"
3rd-5th: "Easter"
6th-8th: "Pilgrimage to Mecca"
High School: Discussion of choice
- April 23 Preschool: "Do Not Disturb"
K-2nd: "Changing Woman/Changing World"
3rd-5th: "Earth Day"
6th-8th: "Introduction to Buddhism"
High School: Discussion of choice
- April 30 Preschool: "I Love My Baby Sister"
K-2nd: "The Healing Power of God"
3rd-5th: "Buddha's Birthday"
6th-8th: "The Story of Buddha"
High School: Discussion of choice

In Faith,
Kathy Underwood



Kathy Underwood
Director of Religious Education

GREEN CORNER

Green Tags–The Answer That's Blowin' In the Wind

You may remember that back in the 1960s, Bob Dylan sang to us that "the answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind..." But have you ever wondered, just what is the answer that is blowin' in the wind? Well, the answer, my friend, is Green Tags.

And what are Green Tags you might ask? Green Tags, also called wind energy certificates, are a way to help promote wind energy in Illinois. Through the purchase of Green Tags, individuals and organizations contribute toward creating and sustaining clean, wind-powered electrical generation as we reduce pollution and our dependence on non-renewable fossil fuels. Green Tags certify that for each 1,000 kilowatt hour wind energy certificate purchased, 1,000 kilowatt hours of wind power will be put into the Com Ed grid from the wind turbine facility at Mendota Hills.

Why is this important? Currently wind powered electrical generation costs about 20% more than conventional generation using oil, coal or gas. This is largely due to the fact that the cost of conventional generation doesn't reflect the "true cost" of such electricity: the cost of global warming, acid rain, and poor air quality. Wind energy is nearly 100% pollution free and is the fastest growing source of energy in the world. While the 20% surcharge may be needed now to support the conversion to wind energy, the "true cost" of using conventional fossil fuels will gradually convince everyone that wind energy is far more cost effective.

UUCE has an ongoing commitment to raise an amount equal to 20% of our current electric bill from the sale of Green Tags to fund the construction of wind turbine farms in Illinois. We were one of the first churches in the Chicago area to participate in this program. By purchasing Green Tags, we have an opportunity to support wind energy and have a direct impact on reducing the pollution which is undermining our natural world and our own health.

In conjunction with Dan Brosier's sermon about global warming on April 30, the Green Sanctuary Committee will again offer the sale of Green Tags. You can participate in the Green Tags program by filling out a pledge form or making a one-time contribution. Checks should be payable to UUCE with Green Tags written on the memo line. If you have questions, contact Joe or Mary Alice Masonick or Dave Segel.

Thank you! -The Green Sanctuary Committee



Who Am I?

This famous UU was born February 15, 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. She is well-known for public crusades on behalf of temperance and was honored by being portrayed on a U.S. Coin.

(answer will appear in the next Unichord)
March's *Who Am I* was Jane Addams



Dan Hislip
Board President

President's Report

I would really be remiss if I didn't use one of these columns to address another serious problem in our community—Adult Sunday School. Yes, that's right. You heard me. Adult Sunday School is becoming a huge issue that really requires your urgent attention. Why? I'm glad you asked.

First of all, space. I mean the church just built out the third floor to create space for groups like the Adult Sunday School (I was going to abbreviate it to conserve space but you figure out what the initials leave you writing so I'm not because I'm afraid of the censors). So what did they do? Started growing, that's what. Now every Sunday between 25 to 30 of these folks congregate on the third floor at 9:30 for class. While there seems to be plenty of room left, I'm beginning to believe that they are just trying to create trouble for the space planners. Keep your eye on this development.

Secondly, noise. They simply make a lot of noise. It seems that everyone in the class seems to feel entitled to share their story. Everyone knows that church is where you go to have someone tell you what's what and how you are supposed to think. These folks are not only thinking independently but are actually expressing themselves aloud to others. Plus, they don't all agree so others of this same group are replying with alternative positions and new things to think about. Can you imagine the nerve?! Confidentially, some even disagree with me. I tried playing the President card but it didn't work there.

Thirdly, subject matter. This group has the audacity to think they should study Speaking Peace. Some guy named Marshall Rosenberg has authored a book about Speaking Peace that purports to reduce conflict in interpersonal relationships. Can you imagine? Reduction of conflict? Then where would I be? What is a lawyer without a good conflict? And I went to school to learn how to take either side in a disagreement. This kind of radicalism should not be allowed to flourish in a real church congregation. Heck, without conflict how can we recognize the "bad" guys (I'm assuming you, like me, generally consider yourselves the "good" guys). Does anyone really believe that we are here to promote peace, when fear, guilt and anger are so much more easily added to any situation. The very thought of it makes me wince.

Last, commitment. This congregating on the third floor is not just an occasional act of rebellion. No, this is actually happening every Sunday morning. And it's spreading, because now they've taken over responsibility for the Eat and Meet dinners on every third Wednesday of each month as a class project. Their perniciousness is expanding. What's next?

So, I'm looking for some folks to assist me by dropping in on these entirely unnatural proceedings and monitor the activities. Remember if you feel compelled to join in, I'm only going to get others to come to watch you. And a warning to all, don't let me catch any of you Speaking Peace. It could catch on and I don't want our congregation to be responsible for ending the legal profession as we know it. Where would we be then? In a world of Peace?

Until next month,
Dan

WOMEN COOKING FOR WOMEN

The next "Women Cooking For Women" dinner will be held on Friday, April 7, at the Elgin Community Crisis Center. The Crisis Center is located at 37 South Geneva St., Elgin, in the Franklin School Building. Please arrive between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. so you can be greeted at the door and directed to our gathering space.



We will meet to enjoy a meal together, take a tour of the building, and discuss issues pertaining to sexual assault. Women 13 and older are invited, asked to bring a dish to share, and to donate (\$5) to the Elgin Community Crisis Center. You can come and not cook, but then we ask that you increase your donation to \$10 or more (please make any checks out to UUCE with "Crisis Center" in the memo section).

Food should be ready to be served by 7:00 p.m. This month we will not have access to ovens, etc. Friends and family members are welcome to attend. No RSVPs needed. If you have questions, or want to carpool, please contact Laurie Kiesewetter or Andrea Schmidlin.

Save these dates for future dinners:

Friday, May 5—Planned Parenthood

Friday, June 2—Just for fun!

HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!

Ways to Get in Touch

Church Office	847-888-0668
Web site	www.uuce.org
Newsletter Submissions	newsletter@uuce.org
Board President	
Dan Hislip	
Newsletter Editor	
Todd Underwood	
	Deadlines
Order of Service	Thursday PM
Unichord	April 16

April Birthdays

1 Daniel Hislip	14 Donna Askins
3 Nichole Ridley	14 Dan Brosier
4 Eric Prebys	15 Brianna Bedard
5 Sheena John	15 Reve Rogers-Bottino
6 Katherine Lucas	17 Bob Hamill
6 Bob Bedard	18 Charmaine Hamill
7 Donn Branstrator	19 Margot Cusimano
7 Marjorie Osborne	20 Ron Williams
7 Andrew Russel III	20 Kim Cecil
11 Mitch King	24 Chris Laux
12 Mark Braun	27 Karen Leyba
13 Nick Prebys.	29 Emily Webster

www.uuce.org



The Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

At the Annual Meeting on May 7, the Board of Trustees will be recommending the following revisions to the By-Laws:

Article IV Section 3 To increase the minimum annual contribution per member from \$50 to \$100 and to also increase the contribution for members aged 16-21 years from \$20 to \$40.

Article VII Section 3 the end of the third sentence in the first paragraph to now read “The chair of all board created committees, not appointed by the board, shall be selected by the committee.”

Article VII Section 3 delete subsection (a) as we no longer have a Church Council under our new Policy Governance structure. Subsection (b) would then become subsection (a).

Article XIV Section 6 to read “The (ENDOWMENT) COMMITTEE shall report on a semi-annual basis to the Board and, at each annual meeting of the congregation, shall render a full and complete audited account of the administration of the (ENDOWMENT) FUND during the preceding year.” The change is to require reporting to the Board on a semi-annual basis rather than quarterly. *Respectfully submitted by Debbie Prebys, Board Secretary*

SANCTUARY GALLERY OPENING

Henny DuBois requests the honor of your company to view a collection of her art work entitled “RETROSPECTIVE OF MY CAT PICTURES”, Wednesday, April 26, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the UUCE Sanctuary Gallery.

“Looking back at my years of study and working with photography and Photoshop, I noticed that each body of work had a picture with cats. I thought it would fun to display these. Ones from my first black and white photography class to this spring’s digital photo collage portfolio. I hope you enjoy them.” -*Henny DuBois*

Questions or interested in having a show? Please see Mila Brinker.

COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS DOCUMENTARY SERIES: An Eat & Meet Activity

Did you miss the last showings of “The Witness” and “Peaceable Kingdom”? Well, now you will have another opportunity to see these award-winning films about individuals helping animals in unique and inspiring ways. In sharing the life-changing journeys that brought these individuals to their calling, these documentaries demonstrate how one person can make a difference, and how each of us can play a role in creating a kinder world for both animals and people.

Wednesday, April 19—“The Witness”: Tells the story of a construction contractor's journey to compassion, from the unexpected love of a kitten, to his actions in awakening the public to the injustice of animal exploitation.

Wednesday, May 17—“Peaceable Kingdom”: Explores the interconnected life journeys of farm animals, former farmers, and animal rescuers struggling against an out-of-control factory farming system.

These films will be shown in the sanctuary at 7:00 following the optional “Eat & Meet” dinner at 6:00. Following the film, there will be time for open sharing and discussion. Free literature will also be available. Church members, friends, and guests are welcome, and there will be childcare available. Due to some sensitive material, this activity is not recommended for children under 13. Sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Committee and the Intentional Living Covenant Group. Questions can be directed to Leslie Sawyer.