



THE Chalice

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ELORA & FERGUS UNITARIAN CHURCH
JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2009

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We freely gather to explore spirituality, truth and meaning in our lives, and to provide a base for our children's spiritual growth. We welcome the free exchange of ideas in an environment of respect for diverse beliefs, backgrounds and theologies. We join together in fellowship to celebrate our uniqueness as individuals and to reach out to our community guided by the principles of Unitarian Universalism.

From the President:

HAPPY NEW YEAR

It's time to reflect on the year just past and look forward to what we can do in 2009. (I'm writing this on New Years Eve) Last year we had lots happening in our small community. Let's review some of the things that we've accomplished:

- The yoga on Sunday mornings was one of my personal favourites.
- We had two people attend CU*UL school in the summer.
- The OWL program has going great guns now that we have a trained facilitator in our group
- We have adopted a highway and made this community a nicer place in which to live.
- We marched down the middle of the streets of Elora and Fergus in the Santa Claus Parades displaying our banner and showing the community how proud we are to be Unitarian.

Not to mention the yard sale, the bean project and the wonderful Sunday Services that we have had. I'm sure there are others that escape me at the moment but we have done so much last year! I am so looking forward to 2009 with optimism and enthusiasm as we continue to grow our small group.

Catharina Walhout, President

RE/SUNDAY SCHOOL CHANGES

I owe a great thank you to Miranda and Kelsey. They have done a great job with the Sunday School program! My children are always looking forward to going to church thanks to their efforts and dedication.

And because they have laid the foundation of the program, I am comfortable enough to take on the role as one of the (part-time) teachers of Sunday School. Kelsey will remain 'full-time' and Miranda and I will be alternating Sundays. I am convinced the three of us will be able to provide a great program in 2009!

Louisa Kuitert, RE and Communications

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

President	Catharina Walhout
Lay Chaplain	Ellen Papenburg
Secretary	Kelsye Coulter
Treasurer	Nardo Kuitert
Sunday Services	Dwight Pile
Social Action	Leigh Brownhill
Communications	Louisa Kuitert
Memberships	Kerry Boyle
Sunday School	Miranda Holmes

WHAT'S ON AT CHURCH IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2009

Community Yoga class starts at 8:30 followed by the Church service at 10:00 am

Jan. 4 OUR RELIGIOUS PATHS
For many Unitarians, theology is a product of life experience. Therefore, if you have 50 Unitarians in a room, you have 50 unique theologies as well. Today we will invite the congregation to participate in the exploration and description of some of those paths.
Service leader: Dwight Pile
Speaker: The congregation
Note: we may also be recognizing and welcoming new members this Sunday.

Jan. 11 A PILGRIMAGE OF THE HEART, THE SOUL AND THE FEET
Orsi Baird, an Aura-Soma practitioner, will speak of her experience during her Camino de Santiago pilgrimage.
Service leader: Dwight Pile

Jan. 18 CHAPLAIN JILL'S INSTALLATION
We are privileged to have Jill Davey join Ellen as a Lay Chaplain to our church. This service will be her 'official' installation. The nature and approach to Unitarian Universalist rites of passage is unique in our community's religious offerings. We will talk about that approach, and what it can mean to those who are looking for a rite that is right for them. Dwight Pile, former Chaplain, Ellen Papenburg, current Lay Chaplain, presiding.

**Jan. 25 THE WELCOMING CONGREGATION
A path to Acceptance**
Leigh Brownhill will present a service that explores our awareness of the issues and challenges faced by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community.

Feb. 1 USING NATURE AND THE UNIVERSE AS A SPIRITUAL PATH
An address by Dr. Paul Harrison presented by David Steuernol.

Feb. 8 UNICAMP AND SHARE THE FAITH COMBO SERVICE
Service leader: Ellen Papenburg

Feb. 15 ALL ABOUT LOVE
Corny as it sounds, Love needs some love and attention every so often. This Sunday, the day after Valentine's Day, we will lavish appropriately with words and music. Cynics, devotees, and other strangers welcome.
Service leader: Dwight Pile

**Feb. 22 CUUL SCHOOL
A Celebration of Leadership**
Service with Catharina, Ellen and Helen Prinold from Guelph – all graduates of the Canadian Unitarian Universalist Leadership School. They will talk about what the experience offered them as individuals and as members of a church community.

UPCOMING POD DUTIES

POD #1 Kerry*, Karen, Dwight, Kim and Jill.
Dates: Feb. 1, March 8, April 12, May 17

POD #2 Anna* & Don, Rob, Miranda, Louisa & Nardo.
Dates: Jan. 4, Feb. 8, March 15, April 19, May 24

POD #3 Kelsye* & Paul, Jennifer, Leigh & Terisa.
Dates: Jan 11, Feb. 15, March 22, April 2, May 31

POD #4 David*, Ineke, Arwa, Catharina and Julie.
Dates: Jan. 18, Feb. 22, March 29, May 3, June 7

POD #5 Chris* & Norm, Deborah, Ellen & Jim.
Dates: Jan. 25, March 1, April 5, May 10

* denotes contact person for the POD