



**UNITARIAN SOCIETY of
MENOMONIE ~ WISCONSIN
SCHEDULE AND NEWSLETTER**
www.menomonieuu.org

Nov / Dec 2011 & Jan 2012

*Sunday services are held on **2nd & 4th** Sundays of each month at 10 am at the Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts in downtown Menomonie. Child care & religious education available; coffee hour follows service. Informal social activities are often scheduled for 1st & 3rd Sundays; see details below. *UU Office phone = 715-235-0001 ext.111*

November 6 -- Social Sunday -- Historical outing

Dave Williams will lead us on a walking tour of history (of Menomonie and Unitarians in Menomonie) in Evergreen Cemetery. We will gather at 10 am at the parking lot by the cemetery entrance. (Directions: turn north off Stout Rd on 13th St. When it ends, turn right and follow to parking lot). If the weather is nasty, we will retreat to the Golden Leaf Cafe on Stout Rd. for coffee; if the weather is amenable, coffee at the Golden Leaf will follow the tour. CHECK YOUR CLOCKS -- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDED TODAY!

November 8 -- Tues -- 7 pm -- UU Board Meeting at the Tainter

November 11 -- Fri. -12N - Program Cmte. meeting at the Golden Leaf Cafe

- November 11 is Veterans Day -

***Nov. 13 -- Sunday, 10 am -- "Peak Oil & its implications for food security, the economy, the environment & the poor"**

Facilitator: Elizabeth Spader

Our visiting speaker this morning is the Rev. Dr. Bob Salt of Menomonie. He is Chair of the Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies at UW-Stout, where he is in his 25th year as a professor; he is also an ordained interfaith minister, as well as chair of the Council of Interfaith Communities-USA (a national organization of interfaith congregations and seminaries). He is on the Steering Cmte. of Sustainable Dunn, and is Chair of the West Wisconsin Peak Oil Alliance.

Nov. 20 -- Sunday, 10 a.m. - Socrates Cafe

-- A "3rd Sunday" discussion group meeting in the meeting room of the Golden Leaf Cafe on Stout Road (Hwy. 29 East). Discussion of current topics of interest; no preparation necessary!

***November 27 -- Sunday, 10 am -- "On the Path"**

Facilitator:

Unitarian Society of Menomonie member Dennis Peters shares his spiritual journey. **Thanksgiving Potluck** follows service -- bring your leftovers! :)

December 4 -- Social Sunday -- Holiday Gift Wrapping

Wrapping of Gifts for a "Christmas Family", at the Tainter. Dunn Co. Human Services has assigned us a family of 3 -- Juliana will soon have post cards listing gift suggestions for each member of UU who wants to participate in this social action; anything over and above that would be great since this family is asking for so little. On Dec. 4 we'll convene to wrap the gifts and be festive -- please bring Christmas cookies to share during the coffee hour! :)

- December 10 is Human Rights Day -

***Dec. 11 -- Sunday, 10 a.m. - a focus on human rights...**

Facilitator: Juliana Schmidt

We are pleased to have as our guest speaker today Dr. Eleazar Fernandez, professor of theology at United Theological Seminary in St. Paul. He was ordained as a UCC minister in the Phillipines, and has published a great number of books and articles concerning theology.

December 13 -- Tues. -- 7 pm -- UU Board Meeting at the Mabel Tainter.

***December 18 -- 10 am -- Holiday / Solstice service**

Facilitator: Elizabeth Spader

- Dec. 20 -- Hanukkah begins at sundown -

- Dec 21 -- Winter Solstice -

Dec. 25 -- Sunday -- Christmas -- No service

Jan. 1 -- Sunday -- New Year's Day -- No service

Happy Holidays!

New Humanism is a religiously oriented positive humanism that seeks to avoid the antagonism toward religion that some humanist groups have promoted. <http://www.thenewhumanism.org/>

"Religious Naturalism for All" is a website for those of us with a spiritually oriented worldview that is devoid of supernaturalism. It appears to be affiliated with the Institute for Religion in the Age of Science. <http://religiousnaturalism2.ning.com/>.

"The Humanist Contemplative" is my favorite website. It contains what the author, Daniel Strain, calls "essays on spiritual naturalism." Strain is a humanist chaplain in Houston, TX, and his ordination (if that's what you can call it) is from the American Humanist Association. Strain's writing is deeply spiritual without any hint of supernaturalism--that's not a contradiction. <http://humanistcontemplative.blogspot.com/>.

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SOCIAL JUSTICE / SOCIAL ACTION :

The Social Action Cmte. reports that recent UU donations to the Stepping Stones Dunn Co. Food Pantry totalled \$86 and 30 - 40 lb of carrots, squash and other items. And that doesn't include donations received from the Los Cabos diinner evening! Thanks to all who donated!

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WORDS FROM PAUL

It is November and the "Theatre of the Seasons" marches on. We snow birds are making plans to join the other migrating birds and head for warmer climes while the hardy among us are digging out the winter woolens, skis, and snow shoes.

Your board of directors has established a committee to consider ways that the Unitarian Society of Menomonie might move towards some level of professional leadership. The committee, consisting of Hank Thomas, Jill Smith, Dennis Peters and me, will make recommendations to the board at

He knows that every being is born
of the womb of Tao.

This means that his enemies are his enemies
second, his own brothers and sisters first.

Thus he resorts to weapons only in the direst
necessity, and then uses them with
utmost restraint.

He takes no pleasure in victory, because
to rejoice in victory is to delight in killing.
Whoever delights in killing will not find
success in this world.

Observe victories as you observe a
death in the family: with sorrow and mourning.
Every victory is a funeral for kin.

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## ***Words of Wisdom***

### *"A Prayer for Generosity"*

To give and not to count the cost  
To fight, and not to heed the wounds;  
To toil and not to seek for rest;  
To labor and not to ask for any reward.

-- by Saint Ignatius of Loyola

**By Thomas Traherne, 17th Century English Poet and Essayist:**

Till your spirit filleth the whole world, and the stars are your jewels; till you are as familiar with the ways of God in all ages as with your walk and table; till you are intimately acquainted with that shady nothing out of which the world was made; till you love (others) so as to desire their happiness with a thirst equal to the zeal of your own; till you delight in God for being good to all; you never enjoy the world.....