



New River News

October 2009

New River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
911 South Kanawha Street, Beckley

Email: newriveruuf@yahoo.com **Phone:** 304-252-4016 **Website:** www.newriveruu.org

May our hearts and minds be opened to the power and the insight that weave together the scattered threads of our experience and help us remember the Wholeness of which we are a part. Wayne B. Arnason from Rejoice Together

President's Update

Nature Spirituality Alliance Day was a successful event in terms of attendance, energy, and enthusiasm. In spite of rainy weather, over fifty followers and friends of nature-based spirituality came to learn, share, enjoy, honor the environment, and connect with one another. Many thanks to Cathy Abernathy and Teresa Rose for tirelessly preparing and selling food all day to hungry attendees. Many thanks also to Al Youmans for collaborating with so many others to put this event together. To me most memorable was the beauty of gathering in a spirit of harmony, joy, freedom and acceptance.

The estate of Julie Lee has generously donated \$2000 to the Fellowship. The money has been put into the CD. Many thanks to Bev and Tom Kinraide for their generosity.

A **Unitarian-Universalist Orientation Class** will be held **Saturday, October 17** at the Fellowship. The class will include the showing of a DVD followed by discussion and a wonderful brunch. Anyone considering membership or curious to learn more is welcome to attend.

Evelyn Phillips, President

Treasurer's Report

Last month, I began to look at where our money went during the fiscal year July 2008 – June 2009. Our biggest expense category was that of Reserves; our second biggest category (and the focus for this month) was our Utilities. This category made up 34% of our expenses for the total year. Like most folks, we spent the most on heat – a total of \$3,552 for Mountaineer Gas. (Currently, we are on a monthly budget plan so we pay some each month, instead of paying large amounts in the winter only). Our next biggest utility bill was for the phone, but that also includes our internet connection (\$853.23 to Verizon). Our Appalachian

Electric Power bill total for the year was \$582.91, and our Beckley Sanitary Board (sewer) bill total was \$372.08. Finally, we paid Oak Hill Disposal (trash removal) a total of \$312.51, and Beckley Water Company, \$257.72. All these are necessary to keep our building functioning smoothly – but we can all help by remembering to close that outside door, turn off that light, and shut off the water faucet!

Please let me know if you have any questions on this or any other financial matter and if there is a specific area you would like me to cover.
Cathy Abernathy, Treasurer

Thank You from Pine Haven Homeless Shelter

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the check we received for \$50 from your congregation. We appreciate each and every donation you have given for the service to our homeless population as we labor together for their good.

Thank you again.

Carol Edds, Director

Joys and Concerns

Please keep Burchell Pierce, Dolores Wender, Wally Johnson, and Sheila Hinchliffe in your thoughts and heart.

Upcoming Events

Our **Monthly Luncheon / Fundraiser** will be held on Sunday, **October 4** following our service. For more information, please call Evelyn Phillips at (304) 466-5787.

The **Pagan Circle** will have an informal gathering after the luncheon on Sunday, **October 4** at 1:00 pm.

Amnesty International

For information about activities and meetings, call John Newby at (304) 252-4016.

Board Meeting

The board meeting will be held at the Fellowship on **October 18** following the service. For more information, contact Evelyn Phillips at (304) 466-5787.

Pagan Circle Meeting

Sunday, October 25, 1:00 pm A formal meeting with a service and pagan ritual will be conducted. Members and non-members of the Pagan Circle are welcome to attend. Lunch will be served. For more information, contact Al Youmans at (304) 497-3810 or yurya2@yahoo.com.

Other Events of Interest

Beckley Drum Circle will host a closing percussion jam on Chili Night, Saturday,

October 3 from 9:00 -10:00 pm at Shoemaker Square in Beckley. Details at website <http://beckleydrumcircle.ning> or call (304) 222-6873. Bring a friend, a chair or blanket and your drum!

Sunday Services at 11:00

October 4 "Association Sunday" will be presented by Kelly Kaufman. A special collection will be taken up to support the mission and outreach of the Unitarian Universalist Association and its member congregations.

October 11 "What is Faith?" will be presented by Al Youmans. This will be an exploration of faith across diverse religious and spiritual traditions.

October 18 "Good Life, Good Death" will be led by Randy Grumpelt.

October 25 "Picking Cotton" will be presented by Jack Hickok, Commissioned Lay Leader from the UUC in Charleston.

Announcement

There will be a **Unitarian-Universalist Orientation Class Saturday, October 17** from **10 am - 12:30 pm** with a brunch provided. All interested parties are invited. Contact Al Youmans at (304) 497-3810 for further information.

We, THE MEMBER CONGREGATIONS OF THE

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION, COVENANT TO AFFIRM AND PROMOTE:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person,
Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations,
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth
in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
within our congregations and in society at large;
The goal of world community with peace, liberty,
and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence
of which we are a part.