



New River News

November 2009

New River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
911 South Kanawha Street, Beckley

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

The deep meaning of spirituality is breath. Breath is the taking in of life-giving essence from the world around us, and the release, in turn, of life-giving essence. It is a metaphor for our interdependencies: the fact that we change and are changed by our environment in a continuous play of creation. Susan Manker-Seale from Everyday Spiritual Practice

President's Update

Thanksgiving will soon be here, and after that the winter holidays. This year for the holiday season we are reaching into the wider community to give of ourselves. We are collecting personal care items/toiletries for veterans at the VA Hospital in Beckley. Travel-sized items are preferred when available. For more information, please see Teresa Rose or Cathy Abernathy (abergrump@aol.com). We also plan to give of our time to a local organization. We are considering the Womens Resource Center. A day of putting up a tree for the women and children – they've never had one at the shelter -- and doing an activity such as singing and playing music, reading stories, doing activities and giving toys to the children, and bringing refreshments

to share is one option. We also may coordinate with the Beckley Drum Circle as they are having a toy swap on December 6th. Another possibility is to visit a local center for older folks to talk with them and share holiday songs and stories. Please come to our meeting after the service on Sunday, November 15, to learn more and let us know how you would like to get involved. Cathy Abernathy will chair this meeting at which we will start finalizing plans. We need volunteers, so we hope you'll share of your time, talent and good will. Please see Cathy or me for more information.

If you are interested in our having a Thanksgiving Day dinner at the Fellowship, please email me at newriveruuf@yahoo.com or call me at (304) 466-5787. We will need folks to coordinate the dinner if

enough folks are interested. Thanks!

Evelyn Phillips, President

Treasurer's Report

Well – we're now 3 months into our 2009-2010 fiscal year – how are we doing? The good news is we've actually taken in a bit more than we've spent. So far, we've taken in about \$5,350 – mostly from pledges, but also from Maxwell Hill rent (\$700), our unpledged collection plate (\$260) and our Luncheon fundraisers (\$133). We've also made about \$55 from our Vendor table at the Nature Spiritual Alliance Day – wahoo!! Our City National Bank account has paid us \$8.62 in interest for these 3 months. Next month, I'll talk about where our money went - all \$4,563 of it. As always, please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Cathy Abernathy, Treasurer

Joys and Concerns

Please keep Burchell Pierce, Dolores Wender, Teresa Rose, and Wally Johnson in your hearts and prayers for the best possible health and well-being.

Upcoming Events

Our **Monthly Luncheon Fundraiser** will be held **Sunday, November 1** following our service.

Board Meeting

There will not be a board meeting in November. The next board meeting will be held in December. The date has not yet been set. For more information, please contact Evelyn Phillips at (304) 466-5787.

Pagan Circle Meetings

Sunday, November 1, 1:00 p.m. An informal gathering to socialize and plan the activities of the formal meeting.

Sunday, November 22, 1:00 p.m. A formal meeting with a service and pagan ritual will be conducted. All are welcome to attend. Lunch will be served.

For more information, contact Al Youmans at (304) 497-3810 or yurya2@yahoo.com.

Amnesty International

For more information, call John Newby at (304) 252-4016.

Other Events of Interest

November 8, 3:00 p.m.: The **Beckley Drum Circle** will have a percussion jam at Soldiers Memorial Theater at MSU. All are welcome. Free admission.

Sunday Services @ 11:00 a.m.

November 1:
Ten Famous Unitarians
An overview of well-known Unitarians whose lives have embodied UU principles. Cathy Abernathy and Al Youmans will present the service.

November 8:
Honoring Our Veterans
Please bring a photo of yourself or someone you know who is a veteran and tell us about this special person. Teresa Rose, a tireless volunteer at the VA Hospital in Beckley, will lead the service.

November 15:
How Not To Do a Tarot Card Reading
Many of you probably have had tarot readings or at least know what they

purport to do. Similarly, you may have had counseling by a psychiatrist or even a school counselor. The tarot is the perfect tool for helping a querent (one requesting a reading) to clarify her or his life path. Randy Grumpelt acting as tarot reader, and Gavin Frost acting as advisor, will do a tarot reading for Wilma Meadows, the querent. Be prepared for a light-hearted, all-in-good-fun expose.

November 22:
The Theology of Batman
Is it reasonable to believe in the inherent worth and dignity of all people when some are capable of such cruelty? Is it blind faith to believe in goodness when the darkness seems to rule? Using the very familiar character of Batman, we will take a hard look at these questions, and perhaps even find some answers. David Miller, a member of the UUC in Charleston, is our guest presenter for this service.

November 29:
Open Forum
The moderator is TBA.

*Happy
Thanksgiving!*