



# New River News

May 2010

New River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
911 South Kanawha Street, Beckley

Email: [newriveruuf@yahoo.com](mailto:newriveruuf@yahoo.com) Phone: 304-252-4016 Website: [www.newriveruu.org](http://www.newriveruu.org)

---

## President's Update

A big "thank you" and hugs to everyone who helped with our intensive clean-up project a couple weeks ago. We made room for the Mpowerment Project and cleared out unneeded clutter as well. Special thanks to Bob Worth for attaching the tracking to the new sign so we now can use our lettering. Our first event to be displayed is the **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** to take place **Sunday, May 16** at the Fellowship. The meal plus beverage costs \$6; if you add cookies, the cost is \$7. All proceeds will help us support folks' attendance at Summer Institute. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Annual Congregational Meeting on April 11. The new budget was approved and we had the election of the Board and one trustee. Your elected Board members are: President – Evelyn Phillips; Vice President – Tom Kinraide; Treasurer – Cathy Abernathy; Secretary – Teresa Rose; At-Large Members – Wilma Meadows, Wally Johnson, and Bob Worth. Randy Grumplet was re-elected to

serve a three-year term as a trustee.

Many thanks to Dave Gellman, as well as to Tom and Bev Kinraide, for working so competently and quickly with me to finalize and deliver all needed paperwork by a firm deadline concerning the sale of property to Bob Worth. Well done!

*Evelyn Phillips*

## Treasurer's Report

It's that time of the year again – we are conducting our annual Pledge Drive! This is when we indicate how much financial support we can commit to supporting our Fellowship during the 2010-2011 fiscal year (which runs July – August). We all know times are tough, and some people are not able to commit to as much as they wish – but believe me, EVERY bit helps! If your situation changes (for better or worse) and you need to adjust your pledge, that's fine too. But without our financial support, our church can't function – it's as simple as that. If you didn't get your pledge card at the annual meeting, please see me or contact me at [abergump@aol.com](mailto:abergump@aol.com) (304-772-5856) and I'll get one out to you. If you did get your card but haven't had a chance to turn it in yet,

please do – so I'll get off your case! If you did turn your card in – thanks VERY much.

I was pleased at the annual meeting that the congregation voted to start a "Share the Plate" program. As I said last month, this is a program that has been very successful in other UU congregations and lets us give short-term support to worthwhile causes. The congregation voted to share 30% of the monthly plate (i.e., non-pledge monies), and our first cause (for April) will be to support the families of the Montcoal miners. Now we need ideas for next month – who would you like us to support? Please give your ideas to any Board member – we'll decide at the next Board meeting.

The budget was passed at the annual meeting. If you didn't get a copy and would like one, please let me know. Because times are tough, we really tried to reduce expenses and expected income. At the same time, we have to be realistic about what we need to spend to keep the doors open and the lights on.

As always, let me know if you have any questions related to the financial state of the church. Finally, thanks for re-electing me – it is an honor to serve as your Treasurer.

*Cathy Abernathy*

## Upcoming Events

**May 2** Our **Monthly Fundraiser Luncheon** will be held following our service.

**May 16** We will have a **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** at lunchtime after the service to help raise funds for Summer Institute. The meal will consist of spaghetti w/sauce, salad, bread, cookies and beverage. In addition to the modest cost of the meal - \$6 without cookies, \$7 with cookies - extra donations to help us support sending folks to SI would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

### **May 16 Board Meeting**

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

### **Pagan Circle Meetings**

For information, contact Al Youmans at (304) 497-3810.

### **Sunday Services**

**@ 11:00 a.m.**

### **May 2 *The Origins of***

***Virtue*** by Tom Kinraide is based, in part, on the book *The Origins of Virtue: Human Instincts and the Evolution of Cooperation* by Matt Ridley.

### **May 9 *Open Forum***

**May 16 *Experiences with West Virginia's Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA)*** by Alison Jo Miller-Frost.

### **May 23 *Solving Problems with Laughter***

– ***SERIOUSLY*** by Dave Gellman.

### **May 30 *Perry Mann***

Educator, attorney, and progressive thinker and writer, Mr. Mann is our guest presenter today.



## Principles and Purposes

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.

**My Church is preaching different kinds of Religion. Mostly because they want you to choose your own path and live your life happily. We share Joys and Concerns. My favorite Joy is having guests, because I think people should take interest in Religion to live happily ever after. Like fairy tales~ by Autumn, 9 years old**

Another young person in our congregation, Tianna took the initiative during a recent service to write very expressively and creatively on the dry erase board her heartfelt thoughts about the importance of caring for the environment. She included drawings of animals and grass to illustrate what she wrote. Tianna, who is 7 years old, then requested permission to present to the congregation what she had written and did a wonderful job. We are so proud of her and thankful for her insightfulness. Thank you, Tianna and Autumn, for sharing your hearts and minds with us! We would like to encourage all of our youth and children to continue doing so, for we are all thereby enriched.