



# New River News

August 2009

New River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
911 South Kanawha Street, Beckley

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"We come together today seeking a reality beyond our narrow selves that binds us in compassion, love, and understanding to other human beings, and to the interdependent web of all living things." — Wayne B. Arnason

"We did not weave the web of life. We are merely a strand in it." — *Chief Seattle*

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## **President's Update**

There are many joys as well as concerns affecting the members and friends in our congregation. Our hearts go out to Cathy Abernathy and Randy Grumpelt whose daughter-in-law recently passed away. Our loving concern continues to be with Burchell Pierce and Michael Lilly. We also hold in our thoughts Wally Johnson, Dolores Wender, and other members and friends facing various challenges. May full health and healing be theirs. The upcoming wedding of Amanda Lilly and Bobby Stowers on August 28<sup>th</sup> is a joy, and we wish them every happiness. Another joy is the return of several members from Summer Institute. We enjoyed learning about their experiences there in a service last month. The Pagan Circle is vibrant and growing; several new people took part in July's service with ritual. We are pleased to have new friends visiting our congregation, and we

welcome their questions about our faith tradition and their involvement in the life of our congregation. A special "thank you" goes to Dolores Wender for donating \$50 to be used toward spay/neuter procedures for the two kittens we are fostering.

I hope to see you this month at the Fellowship!

*Evelyn Phillips, President*

## **Treasurer's Report**

Hello there – I hope you are having a wonderful summer, even if it is a bit soggy. This is the first in a series of brief articles for our newsletter – to keep you in touch with where your money to support NRJUF is going. We have just finished our annual fiscal year (July to June), and I wanted to summarize for you some of the information that I presented at our July Board meeting. We had a terrific year financially – we took in more money than we hoped for (\$21,048) and spent less

than we thought we would (\$17,582).

This month, I will look at where we got the money we had. Most of our income (80%) came from pledges (thanks, everyone!), with rental monies (from Maxwell Hill and Covenant House, for 8% of income) and the plate (5%) as the next 2 biggest categories. Other sources of income were our luncheon fundraisers (4%), the Holiday Fair (3%) and miscellaneous contributions (Native American group, union ceremonies - 1%). We also took in \$140 from our Birdhouse, which counted against Maintenance costs.

Next month, I will discuss where our money went this past fiscal year. If you have any questions about this, please let me know. Thanks again!

*Cathy Abernathy, Treasurer*

## Upcoming Events

Our **Monthly Luncheon / Fundraiser** will be held on Sunday, **August 2** following our service. Members can call Evelyn Phillips at (304) 466-5787 with offers to bring food.

**The Pagan Circle** will have an informal gathering after the luncheon, **August 2** at 1:00 pm. The gathering is for those who already are members of the Circle.

### **Amnesty International**

The next meeting of AI will be held **August 2**, 2:00 pm. For more information, call John Newby at (304) 252-4016.

This month's **Board Meeting** will be held **Sunday, August 16th** at **1:00 p.m.** at the home of Wally and Joy Johnson. For more information, contact Evelyn Phillips at (304) 466-5787.

### **Pagan Circle Meeting**

**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 email him at [yurya2@yahoo.com](mailto:yurya2@yahoo.com).

### **Sunday Services** **@ 11:00**

**8-2 Messages from Water**  
Evelyn Phillips will present the service.

**8-9 Sustainable Living: Going Green**  
Al Youmans will lead the service on living green.

**8-16 Kelly Kaufman** will preside over the service.

**8-23 Understanding Dreams** Teresa Rose will lead the service and discussion.

**8-30 A Candlelight Service à la Star Island** Bev and Tom Kinraide will present the service and discuss Star Island experiences from a recent conference.

Amanda Lilly and Bobby Stowers will be married Friday, August 28, 2009.

The service will be held outside at 2:30 pm, 299 Raleigh Ridge Road, Raleigh, WV.

All members of the congregation are invited to attend. **Please RSVP 304-894-8043.**

*If you would like to submit something for an upcoming newsletter, please email it to [newriveruuf@yahoo.com](mailto:newriveruuf@yahoo.com) and [apuzzuoli@frontiernet.net](mailto:apuzzuoli@frontiernet.net).*

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## **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.

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and justice for all;

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