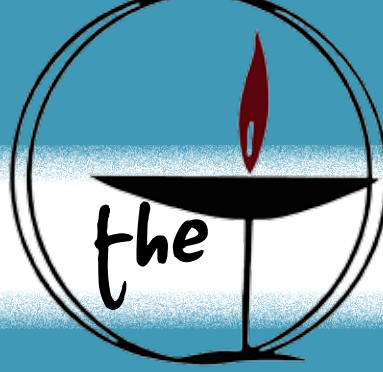


June 2011

# the Flame and the Chalice



*In this Issue:*

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## *Upcoming Sunday Services* *Join us ... 10:30 a.m.*

### *Flower Communion*

Sunday  
June 5  
10:30AM

### *Annual Meeting*

Sunday  
June 12  
12 - 1PM

### June 5

Flower Communion Sunday  
Rev. Lisa Friedman  
New Member Celebration

Each flower is a delicate piece of creation, a statement of individuality amid a garden of beauty. Join us as we celebrate the unique Unitarian tradition of the Flower Communion, created in Europe and shared throughout the world. Please bring a cut flower to share as part of this service. This morning we will also honor our new members and welcome the members of the Nora Church in Hanska as they join our UUFM choir in song.

### June 12

“Question Box Sermon”  
Rev. Lisa Friedman  
Annual Meeting Sunday

What probing theological, ethical, and spiritual questions are on your minds? What have you always wished to ask your minister, but haven't had the chance? In this annual service, I will shape my sermon around your questions. Look for the “Question Box” in the narthex, or send them to me at [lfriedman@uumankato.org](mailto:lfriedman@uumankato.org) by Wednesday, June 8.

### June 19

Information is coming please check  
[www.uumankato.org](http://www.uumankato.org)  
for up to date information

### June 26

Information is coming please check  
[www.uumankato.org](http://www.uumankato.org)  
for up to date information

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# *Lisa's Letters*

*“This house is for the ingathering of nature and human nature. It is a house of friendships, a haven in trouble, an open room for the encouragement of our struggle. It is a house of freedom, guarding the dignity and worth of every person... This house is a cradle for our dreams, the workshop of our common endeavor.”*

Kenneth L. Patton

On the Sunday morning after the Minnesota House narrowly approved the ballot measure proposing a constitutional amendment to define marriage as only between a man and a woman, I was heartened to see so many of you arrive to worship in your Standing on the Side of Love T-shirts. There will be work to be done in the days ahead, but may we remember that we do not stand alone in such times. We will join hands with others who stand on the side of love and work together for the dignity of all. One place to begin can be found on the website of the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance ([www.mu-usja.org](http://www.mu-usja.org)), where you can sign up to receive regular updates on this issue. And we will keep you updated on ways that we can make a difference in our corner of Minnesota.

For me, this is the ongoing gift of congregational life – to be part of a religious community where we can bring the most important issues of our hearts and engage the most critical issues of our day. To be a place where we can acknowledge our deepest disappointments and speak of our brightest hopes. To be a people who dare to dream together of a beloved community where all people will be valued for the unique gifts they bring. To be a house, whose doors and vision are open to all.

Such a community does not exist by chance. It is created out of the dreams of our humanity and the work of our hearts and hands. It is created by you. It is created by children, youth, and adults alike. It is created each time we come together freely to worship, study, and serve something greater than ourselves. For ours is a free faith. We do not gather because someone tells us that we must. We gather, because we believe that how we live matters.

As our church year draws to a close, I am deeply grateful for the dedication and love which you bring to our congregation and spiritual home. Thank you to the board, who meets for long hours each month to provide us leadership, vision, and stability. Thank you to the committees, who care for our institution and who provide us with wonderful services and programs and opportunities for food, fun and fellowship. Thank you to the choir, who meets every week to share the gift of music with us. Thank you to our wonderful staff – to Joe, Kristi, Michelle, Nancy, Cally and Sierra – who all work tirelessly and faithfully on our behalf. Thank you to each of you who has gladly taken up a task, whether it be greeting people on a Sunday morning, pulling dandelions, leading our children in song, and so much more. Thank you to each of you for being who you are and for helping to create the congregation we know and love.

I wish you all a wonderful, adventurous summer, and look forward to seeing you in church!

Blessings,

Lisa

# What's going on @ the UUFM

New Member Sunday  
June 5

Thank You

Have you considered becoming a member of the UUFM? We welcome your interest and invite you to join our active and growing Fellowship by signing our Membership Book on June 5th. Membership brings with it the support of our larger community, as well as the opportunity to support others who are motivated by our principles and values.

Contact

Jeremiah Myer: 461-4144 or luckylyre@yahoo.com,  
Karen Knox: 387-6599 or kareneknox@gmail.com  
with your questions and comments.

A big Thank You to all who generously donated books for the April book drive for Project READ! These books will be distributed through community agencies like the Salvation Army, WIC, ECHO, and Lincoln Community Center who serve at risk children. The books are accompanied by the message that reading to babies and preschoolers is the most important step to school readiness. The lovely books you have given will help to make a difference for children in our community.

Thank you for your support,  
Jane Schostag, Project READ team leader



The deadline for anything that needs to be included in the Sunday Order-of-Service is noon on Wednesdays.

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## MEMO: To all committee chairs

Please contact Joe at the UUFM or Laura Bealey with the status of your committee chair/co-chairs so we can recognize past service at the annual meeting and we will know where vacancies are. Also, please let either Joe or Laura Bealey know whether you plan to present a written and oral report at the June 12th annual meeting or just a written report. It will be of great assistance in preparing the agenda.

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## FINANCIAL REPORT April 30, 2011

Year-to-date budgeted expenses	\$114,603.55	
Actual expenses		\$109,784.84
Year-to-date budgeted income	\$114,896.67	
Actual income		\$115,095.89
Actual (shortage)/excess		\$ 5,311.05
Year-to-date In-Kind Donations		\$ 9,316.33

[www.uumankato.org](http://www.uumankato.org)

# From the President

Please remember the annual meeting on June 12th after the service and make every effort to attend. As our congregation evolves and grows, it is increasingly important that new members attend the annual meeting to have their voices heard. We are a democratic congregation and participation in the process keeps us vibrant and in tune with the needs, wants and visions of our members. We will have reports from the committees and staff, a recap of the year's events, recognition of outgoing board members, an election of new board members including president and vice president and we will have a presentation of the 2011-2012 budget. Our fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th so, we're rapidly approaching the end of the 2010-2011 year.

It's with great pleasure that the board extends its sincere welcome to all the new members and families. We are genuinely happy you're here! It's with pleasure that the board extends recognition to those members who have been part of the UU family for quite some time because it's your energy that has sustained this growing congregation. Because we are growing in numbers, we will need to put forth a new energy toward building our common vision for the future. We briefly discussed the potential of a name change but it occurred to me that a name change is just part of a new visioning process. We have a strategic plan that has served us well but, it's time to vision again and involve everyone in the process. We've met many of our goals in the strategic plan but to meet the demands of growth, we would be well served to gather together again this fall to dream and vision. As part of the process, we can revisit our mission statement, our name and make decisions about where we want to be five years from now.

So, mark your calendars for June 12th and together, let's take a position of strength toward building this spiritual community to be a liberal beacon of hope and light in Mankato, in Minnesota and in our world.

See you there.

Laura Bealey

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## Board Notes

April/May 2011

Summary Board Meeting Discussions  
Submitted by Barbara Brindle

Finance Committee Handbook and UU FM Bylaws:

The Finance Committee has drafted a handbook to guide many financial planning and decision-making. The Board is in the process of reviewing and making suggestions for this Handbook. In addition, the Bylaws are being revised by the Bylaw committee. The procedures contained in both of these documents will need to be coordinated.

Budget:

For the current year, projections indicate that expenses will exceed income by around \$2000. This is a significant improvement over previous years.

The 2011-2012 budget is going to be a challenge. Overall pledges for next year are down. The challenge for the Board and for the congregation will be developing a budget for next year that is within our means without compromising what this fellowship has to offer its members and community.

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting is scheduled for June 12, after the service. The Board hopes that attendance for this meeting will be high in order to get feedback on the budget that we decide to present to the Fellowship for input. We will also be discussing and presenting some ideas for the coming year.

Membership:

On June 5, we will be welcoming 16 adults and 12 children. This reflects the continuing trend of young families joining the congregation.

Worship Committee:

The Worship Committee held a retreat in March and developed a year-long series of themes that will be used starting in July of this year. The theme for July of this year will be "UU Identity" and for August, it will be, "What is worship".

# Calendar of Events June 1st - 30th

Wednesday, June 1

5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 2

7:00 PM Insight (Vippassana) Meditation

Sunday, June 5

Choir Performs  
Flower Communion  
New Member Sunday  
10:30 AM Sunday Service  
11:30 AM New Member Reception

Monday, June 6

6:00 PM Adult Programming committee

Tuesday, June 7

5:45 Choir Practice

Friday, June 10

7:30 PM Circle of the Oak and Raven

Sunday, June 12

2nd Collection  
9:00 AM Social Action Committee Meeting  
10:30 AM Sunday Service  
**12:00 PM Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, June 15

6:30 PM UUFM Board Meeting

Sunday, June 19

10:30 AM Sunday Service  
Newsletter Deadline for Submissions

Sunday, June 26

ECHO FOOD COLLECTION  
10:30 AM Sunday Service

Tuesday, June 28

7:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting

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## Lifespan Faith Development [RE] News

Exploring religious truth, meaning and experience in our liberal religious education.

### What exactly happens during the summer in the RE rooms?

Just to remind you all, that we will have care available and fun and safe activities planned to engage the children downstairs after the "Story for All Ages" during the summer while adults enjoy the service upstairs.

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\*\*denotes an event to which more information can be found in this issue of *The Flame and the Chalice*

*The Flame and The Chalice* is published monthly and distributed electronically by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato. Direct submissions, questions or comments about *The Flame and The Chalice* to Kristi Schuck, Editor (Kristi@twofishstudios.com)

Submission deadline for *The Flame and The Chalice* is the 20th of the month prior to publication.

# *Where to find us*

The UUFM is served by :

## OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 8 to noon  
Wednesdays 12:30 to 4:30

Phone 507-388-5022  
uufm@hickorytech.net  
www.uumankato.org

937 Charles Ave,  
Mankato, MN 56001

## Minister

Rev. Lisa Friedman 507-469-4027 lfriedman@uuma.org

## Director of Religious Education

Kristi Schuck 507-382-4951 kristi@twofishstudios.com

## Choir Director

Michelle Sturm 507-720-0137 michelle\_sturm@yahoo.com

## Administration

Joe Anderson 507-388-5022 uufm@hickorytech.net

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# JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

# SUNDAY JUNE 12

*(after the service)*

**TO REVIEW  
THE PROPOSED 2011-2012  
BUDGET AND HEAR UPDATES ON OUR UUFM  
COMMITTEES AND BOARD.**

[www.uumankato.org](http://www.uumankato.org)