



MID-COLUMBIA UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

GORGE UU NEWS – August, 2010

WRITTEN OFFERINGS from Rev. Craig Moro

...will return next month!

LEADERSHIP LETTER

By Fyodor Dostoyevsky in Yosemite Meditations: "Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things. Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day. And you will come to love the whole world with an all-embracing love."

Hello, wonderful UU friends,

Today is gorgeous, though overall a bit cooler than I like for summer this year. But the world turns, and we turn with it and I accept it, and love it as it is. We have some exciting things coming up soon, our MCUUF Annual Picnic/Retreat on a Sunday is in September and more information about how it will work this year will be coming out shortly. Also we are working on new ideas for our Children's Religious Exploration program, which will also be starting a fresh program in September. Please look for upcoming information about this.

I am also including the 2nd part of the Bylaw Committee recommendations for your review and we are working with the district person to come for a workshop regarding this in the next few months. So, enjoy your summer and don't forget your water for the water communion at the Picnic/Retreat.

In Peace, Cynthia Horton

Article VI - The Board: Trustees and Officers

Section 1	Composition: The Board shall consist of four officers - president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer and three trustees-at-large. Board members must be members of MCUUF and be elected by the Congregation except where otherwise specified. The Board may also include, as non-voting members, the immediate past president and a youth advisory member designated by the board.
Section 2	Meetings: Board meetings shall be open to any member of the fellowship, except during an executive session. Formal action on matters discussed in such an executive session may only be taken after ending the session and resuming regular session. The quorum for board meetings is four (4) board members.
Section 3	Terms: Terms for officers shall be two years with election of the president, secretary and two trustees-at-large in odd numbered years and the vice president, treasurer and one trustee-at-large elected in even numbered years. Officers and trustees-at-large may be re-elected. However, to foster shared leadership, officers and trustees (except for the treasurer) are generally encouraged to take a one term leave if they have served two consecutive two-year terms. The membership may make exception to this re-election restriction in unusual circumstances.
Section 4	Vacancy: When a vacancy occurs on the Board it shall be filled by a member of MCUUF appointed by the Board until the next annual meeting, at which time a replacement shall be elected for the remainder of the term created by the vacancy.
Section 5	Resignation: A Board member may resign from the Board at his/her request. Moving from the area or failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board, shall be considered resignation, except in the case of illness or leave of absence granted by the Board.

Article VII - Responsibilities of Board

Section 1	The Board shall act as a policy-setting body and shall take actions as required to administer the affairs of the Congregation, and to manage its property and programs.
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Section 2	The Board shall establish any standing committees. All committees and auxiliary groups shall be subject to the approval and control of the Board.
Section 3	The Board shall approve all contracts with employees of MCUUF, independent contractors serving MCUUF and the minister. The Board may delegate this authority as necessary to facilitate the work of MCUUF.
Article VIII - Responsibilities of Officers	
Section 1	President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and the Congregation, and shall represent MCUUF on all appropriate occasions. She/he shall have authority to sign on behalf of the Congregation any contract or other legal instruments that the Board has authorized to be executed. She/he shall perform other functions and duties as may be specified by the Board and such other duties as usually appertain to the office.
Section 2	Vice-President: The Vice-President shall act in place of the president or the secretary during either's absence and assume such duties as the president may delegate.
Section 3	Secretary: The Secretary shall ensure that proper records of MCUUF and the Board are maintained (including minutes of congregational and Board meetings), that proceedings of the Board are regularly reported to the Congregation, and that Notices of Meetings are properly published prior to congregational meetings. The secretary in consultation with the treasurer shall be responsible for an accurate membership roster. The roster will be reviewed each January prior to recertification of MCUUF with the UUA and updated at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
Section 4	Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have custody and control of all funds, securities, and valuables of the church. The treasurer will insure that an account of all receipts, expenditures, and pledges is kept; that bills approved by the Board are paid; that state and federal financial reports are prepared and filed as required by law; that a current financial statement of MCUUF is prepared for the annual meeting; and shall see that the Annual Renewal of the Articles of Incorporation are filed with the Oregon Secretary of State as required by law. ¹ [1]
Section IX - Elections	
Section 1	Elections of trustees, officers, and members of the Nominating Committee shall take place at the annual meeting and shall require, for election, a majority vote of those present.
Section 2	Candidates for the Board and the Nominating Committee shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee. Names of the nominees shall be published, if possible, in the Notice of Meeting. Candidates may also be nominated from the floor at the time of the election. Any nomination must be with the consent of the person nominated.
Article X - Nominating Committee	
Section 1	Members of the Board and the Nominating Committee shall be elected by written ballot in all cases where there are more candidates than positions to be filled.
Section 2	The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Congregation who are not on the Board, plus one ex-officio, non-voting liaison from the Board. Terms for members of the Nominating Committee shall be one (1) year. Their job shall be to find candidates to fill vacancies of the Board and to nominate candidates to be elected to the next Nominating Committee. A vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by a member of the Congregation

¹[1] **Nonprofit annual report:** Nonprofit Corporations must complete a full annual report every year. Approximately forty-five days prior to the anniversary date, the Corporation Division will mail an annual report to the business' mailing address. This full annual report must be completed and delivered to the Corporation Division by the anniversary date and the information reported must be current within 30 days of the anniversary date.

	appointed by the Board.
Section 3	By July 1 of each year, the Nominating Committee shall meet and elect a chairperson from among its members.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our Children’s Religious Exploration program is moving into a new era. We now have a program for youth, led by Peggy Neuman and a program for our “tweens” age 10-13 led by Tamara Emler Ball starting in the fall. We would love to have more of you involved in the programs and are looking for 3-4 more volunteers to spend a Sunday morning downstairs with our youngsters. With this size of volunteer team, we’ll only need to schedule each volunteer once every 2-3 months. Nicole Schrankel will be leading the recruiting effort, so please contact her if you’d like to get involved!

FROM OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

As the newly-appointed volunteer coordinator, I would like to share how impressed I am with the commitment of our members and friends to volunteering to carry out the many functions of the Fellowship. The old saying, “Many hands make light work.” appears to be working for us.

People have recently volunteered for a couple of important positions. First, Jay Larsen has agreed to coordinate pastoral care. We have about eight people who have volunteered to be on the Pastoral Care Committee which provides care to families of members who are in the hospital. But we have needed a point of contact for people to call if they know of a family who needs such care. Thank you, Jay, for volunteering to be that point of contact.

Second, after serving us ably for many years as coordinator of our FISH volunteers and our representative to FISH, Tamara Thiel has asked to step down. Jane Fetisoff has volunteered to take over as our representative to FISH. Thank you, Jane. And Tamara, we greatly appreciate your wonderful service to the Fellowship and to the community in your years as Fish coordinator.

However there are a few areas where we need some additional support. First, although we have volunteers for teaching children’s religious education each Sunday, we need substitute teachers. If you would like to talk with someone about being a substitute teacher for RE, please contact our RE Liaison Nicole Schrankel or Steve Castles.

We have a similar need for substitute set-up persons. We have volunteers to set-up the Fellowship each Sunday but we need substitutes who are willing to fill in if someone will not be available on a particular Sunday. If you are willing to substitute, David Kao, our set up coordinator, will provide all the training that is required. If you would like to discuss being a set-up substitute, please contact David Kao or Steve Castles.

Our fairly small Fellowship is functioning very well. This is a tribute to the commitment of our members and friends. We should give ourselves a pat on our back for our level of volunteering. – Steve Castles

SUNDAY SERVICES

August 8 – Imagination, Patty Becker. The power of thought aided by a clear vision are key components of transformation, whether personal or global. What would you want to be different in your life, your family, your community? Whatever it is, let your spiritual faculty of imagination bring it forward. **This is a Youth Sunday. Meet downstairs to plan for the coming year, and bring your lunch, swimsuit, and towel for beach trip at noon!**

August 15 – Hospitality and Justice, recorded sermon Rev. Rob Hardies. Our movement is at the forefront of welcoming all souls, while others seem to make room for some souls only. Come hear this prominent minister speak on CD.

August 22 – Music and the Creative Process, Richard Tillanghast. Come enjoy the music and thoughts of this gifted local musician.

August 29 – In Praise of Crisis, Kristen Dillon. Our lives have each passed through times of crisis, and it shows no sign of going extinct. What does Unitarian Universalist history offer to guide us?

CALENDAR

Newsletter deadline for September edition – Sunday, August 29.

Youth Pool Party - 7th – 9th graders are invited to a pool party in White Salmon with the Bethel and Riverside UCC teens on Sunday, August 15th.

The **2010 MCUUF All-Fellowship Picnic** is coming! **Sunday, September 12** will be a day to reconnect, play and relax together. Our venue this year is Morning Song Acres just north of Lyle, Washington. Please check out their website to see how lovely it is and start getting excited! Registration forms will be appearing soon everywhere. Mark your calendars!

Water Communion Reminder

Please consider collecting a bit of special water on your travels or at a special place for you this summer, so that you can share it with all of us at our Water Communion ceremony again in the fall. Thanks, Cindy

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

U-PICK BLUEBERRIES at Gloria Krantz of Dee. Gloria is all set up, thanks to friends and supporters. Mid-season varieties may be ready by next week.

U-Pick for \$1.50 per pound. Open Tuesday thru Sunday, CLOSED MONDAY. 7 am to Noon or until 80 degrees, and 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Leave pets at home, thank you.

Location: 5000 O'Leary Road - At the Dee Mill turn up Lost Lake Road 1.4 miles, turn right on O'Leary Road when LL Rd. turns a 15 mph curve to the left. Gloria's is the second place on the left, just after the huge white pear box stack!

BEST Tues. to Thurs. route from and to Hood River is South on Hwy.35 to Right on Woodworth Road, and right on Dee Highway

WyEast Food Co-op. Good source of organic, some local, healthy food, cheaper than you can find at the supermarket. Deliveries every two weeks. Pick up at the Grange on UU Sundays (9:30-12:30). For information please email Linda Short. Catalogs available downstairs on the coat rack next to the WyEast Food room.

CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING, WHEN, AND WHERE? Go to www.mcuuf.org

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