

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of LAWTON

A family of faith valuing diversity, community and religious growth



Volume 11 Issue 05

May 2005

A Month of Sundays

May 1st

Rev. Tim Wilkins

The Four Faces of Faith

What is faith? Is it applicable to a religious liberal? This sermon will explore these and other questions related to this topic. It will address misconceptions about this term and offer alternatives that a religious liberal can make their own.

May 8th

Mother's day

A HISTORY OF MOTHERHOOD AND MOTHERS DAY

The children will present this program guided by Jackie Bricco.

May 15th

Food bank Sunday

Kade McClure

Kade will read two essays by Richard Dawkins on "Evolution and Religion" Dawkins is an English professor and scientist who appeared on Bill Moyer's show.

*Annual meeting – potluck
at CCM*

May 22nd

**Phyllis Bernard
M.A., J.D.**

Darwin's Lost Theory of Love: A Healing Vision for the New Century

from the book by David Loye. Dr. Loye's work

returns to Darwin's original texts –both The Origin of Species and his later work, The Descent of Man.

The commonly held interpretation of the Origin is "we are told that ... by necessity we are ... aggressive and violent; ... driven by selfish genes, ruthlessly competitive and exploitive. We are told that only in this way can our species evolve according to the sacred Darwinian principle of survival of the fittest."

When Darwin saw what people had done with his ideas, he was horrified, and took pains to rearticulate his vision in terms that would be less likely to be corrupted. The Descent of Man attempts to rebalance the focus. Darwin's fuller, mature theory identifies "the superstructure of a psychological system,

scientific, humanistic, and morally-grounded "higher" half -- of which today we know almost nothing."

Prof. Bernard holds a J.D. from the Univ. of Penn Law School an M.A. (history) from Columbia University, and an A.B (history, *cum laude*) from Bryn Mawr College. She is the Robert S. Kerr, Jr. Distinguished Professor Law at Oklahoma City University School of Law.

May 29th

Scot Harvey

PASSIONS OF FAITH

Join guest minister Scot Harvey on this Memorial Day weekend and explore how Americans have dealt with love, hope, fear, grief, and other aspects of life. How have these experiences affected the American Religious sensibility?

May Birthdays



10 Dan Scrapper
10 Quinn
30 Vinnie Howell

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2005

TEEN DISCUSSION GROUP (ages 12-17) 9:30AM EVERY SUNDAY MORNING:

May 1st: Intro to our new discussion group; practice for Mothers Day service next week

May 8th: Practice for Mothers Day service today; all young adults in this class will be reading an essay or poem for today's service: The History of Motherhood and Mothers Day

May 15th: "The Best of All Possible Worlds: What Rights Should Be Guaranteed For All?"

May 22nd: Building a Utopian Society
May 29th: Promoting Our Ideas of Utopia

I need all of our teens to attend this month's classes! If any of you have a problem getting to the church at this time, please call me. I can give you a ride or arrange one for you with another family. I believe this is going to be a great discussion group, but we need involvement. This class is mandatory for the Coming of Age program, which is designed to help

each of you find and develop your own spiritual path and become more involved in the UU church as young adults. Call me with any questions. (Jackie, 357-6030)

CHALICE CHILDREN (ages 2-4) 10:15 AM EVERY SUNDAY MORNING:

May 1st: Introduction; practice for Mothers Day service next week

May 8th: Younger children may remain in nursery today or attend adult service for Mothers Day celebration

May 15th: "We Are the Chalice Children"; making a welcome poster with fingerpaints (we will have plastic aprons to cover Sunday clothes!)

May 22nd: Tour of the church; story reading
May 29th: "Wonder"; making clay chalices

UU KIDS (ages 5-11) 10:45 AM EVERY SUNDAY MORNING:

May 1st: Introduction; practice for Mothers Day service next week; games

May 8th: No class today; all children will be attending adult service for Mothers Day

May 15th: "Defining Peace", with meditation and games

May 22nd: "Defining Justice", with meditation and games

May 29th: "Peace and Justice: personal and global"; *please give children a photo of themselves that we may keep for the mural we will be making today.*

CHILDREN'S NURSERY: is open every Sunday morning from 9:30am until noon. It is free of charge. It is for children age 0-4 or 5.

Parents and adults:

The children and teenagers involved in the Education classes will be helping out for the Mothers Day service on May 8th.

Children under 5 may remain in the Nursery if you would prefer, but the older kids will be attending the entire adult service for this day to help out and to honor their moms.

Younger kids will be handing out flowers and lapel stickers. Older kids will be participating in the actual reading of the service. The theme for this day is: A HISTORY OF MOTHERHOOD AND MOTHERS DAY. Please be sure to bring your children to the previous class on May 1st so we may prepare them. We'll try to keep the service

short and simple to prevent antsiness for the kids - and undue stress on moms and dads! We hope to see you all there!

Also, we ask that each of the parents please donate a snack or juice (enough for about 10-12 children) once per month - if you are able. Favorite snacks include fruit (oranges and apples), cookies (without nuts), graham crackers, and muffins. Please, no soda or candy. We truly appreciate it! All of the kids in each of the classes and in the nursery have snacks and juice unless we're told otherwise by the parents. Please let us know about any dietary restrictions, allergies, etc. And thank you to all of you who brought snacks and juice last month!

CCM

CCM will hold its annual CLEAN UP DAY starting at 8am, May 21st.

All are welcome. Donuts at 8 and pizza at noon. Please bring tools: rakes, hoes, clippers, trimmers, shovels, hammers, screwdrivers, rags, etc.,,

Don't forget the annual banquet. We hope to have our new UU banner waving (no promises but we're hopeful) and a new stove for the Galloping UU Gourmands. We'll have a

heck of a time! Please join us for either/or or both! This is a wonderful opportunity for UUs to mix and mingle with members of other Lawton and area congregations. Putting a face and friendly smile on others gives one a whole different perspective. Hope to see you all!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MAY 15TH

In accordance with church by-laws, the annual meeting of the membership of the Lawton UU is set for **Sunday, May 15, 2005 at 1:30 PM.** The meeting will be held at Cameron Campus Ministry, 500 S. W. 27th Street (27th and C Ave), Lawton, OK. We will have "potluck" dinner for all members and friends of the church. We will adjourn after the service on May 15 and reassemble at CCM. So bring your best potluck dish or dessert and your appetite!

IT'S TIME TO HIKE!

Our spring picnic and hike will be May 1 (weather permitting). We will meet at Sunset Camp in the refuge after church for a "bring a sack lunch" picnic, then Kade McClure will lead a two-stage hike, those who want can turn back half way, the heartier souls will continue on.

LUNCH BUNCH



By Al

- 01 bring a sack lunch/hike
- 08 Fire Mountain
- 15 Potluck @ CCM
- 22 Luigi's 207 SW Sheridan
- 29 Medicine Park Hall

Sunday's Schedule
Religious Education 9:30
Fellowship 10:15-10:30
Worship 10:30
Discussion 11:30-11:45

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Mondays
Meditation Covenant
Group
7:00-9:00

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"You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand."

Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)
28th US President (D)

Unitarian Universalist Church


701 B Avenue

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May Flowers



- 01 – Marilyn**
- 08 – Linda**
- 15 – Karen & Bill**
- 29 – Marge & Al**

DUNCAN DINERS

The Duncan Diners will be eating May 12, Thursday, at 6:30 pm at the Chuckwagon in Velma OK. The best barbeque around. All are welcome.

Dates to Remember:

- 01 - Hike in Refuge**
- 03 – Makin' Music**
- 05 - Evensong**
- 06-08 - Arts for All Weekend**
- 15 – Annual Meeting @ CCM with potluck**
- 21 - CCM clean up day**



Musical Talent Search Still On....

If you miss out on last month's survey, there's still time. Chuck Thomas is seeking vocalist to lead hymns, musicians for keyboard, organ or other instruments. If you have any questions, contact Chuck Thomas at 357-8428

BENNETT'S BUMBLINGS

May, 2005

May Day! May Day! May Day! I'm in trouble ... it's May already? What happened to April? Time flies when you're having fun; or, maybe, it just flies, period. Well since it is May, don't just sit there. Put up your Maypole, grab a ribbon and start dancing round. Maypole? Do our current versions of grade schools still celebrate Spring's advent with a Maypole? I remember Maypoles back in my formative years at Horace Mann Grade School (you see, I had Unitarian leanings very early) in 1950's Oklahoma City ...

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, May brings us: the annual congregational meeting of the membership of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lawton, OK. Our annual meeting is stark recognition of one the most basic elements of our UU denomination (assuming the UUA is a "denomination"), namely, our method of church governance. UU churches, fellowships and societies operate under the system of congregational polity. The UUA does not dictate our church's operations. We are the captains of our fate. We decide our own budget and raise the monies to fund it. We decide our programs and order of service. We decide whether to call a minister and who that person will be.

In short, if you want to know who runs this church, look no further than the nearest mirror. Or, as the saying goes, "**YOU** are the **YOU** in **UU**!" So, mark down **May 15, 2005**.

I'm please to announce that our annual financial canvass, conducted during March, in support next year's budget was the most successful in our church's history. A great deal of the increase reflects our membership growth. Lawton UU membership presently stands at 43!!

After fiddling with the figures, the Board of Trustees at its April meeting put together a recommended budget for upcoming church year (July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006). One significant feature in the Board's recommendation is an increase in "social action" spending. The recommended budget will be voted on at the annual membership meeting. Also the membership will elect four (4) church officers for the next church year, along with one person to serve as a Trustee for a 3-year term.

Due to the new tenants in our present building space, I was a little fearful that we might have to forgo (or reduce) our usual potluck dinner held before the annual meeting. However, thanks to the efforts of Linda Von Tunglen and Rebecca Zittle, we will hold our annual congregational meeting at the building of the Cameron Campus Ministry (CCM). CCM has kitchen facilities and a great dining area. Of course, this was an "inside job" since Linda and Rebecca are our church's representatives on the CCM Board.

Be ready for a little eatin' and meetin' on May 15, 2005!

Faithfully yours,

Russell Bennett

Russ Bennett, President