

Cultivating
Religious Freedom, Diversity,
Inquiry, and Community



The Weekly Expression

Newsletter September 10, 2009

Upcoming Services:

September 20: Service at New Branches School, 256 Alger Street SE with Guest Minister Rev. Jill Terwilliger

September 27: at Ahavas Israel with Dr. Brent Smith

October 4 and 11: at New Branches School with Dr. Brent Smith

WELCOME TO THE MOST EXCITING YEAR EVER!!! An inspirational Music program, Religious Education featuring “live visits” by historical Unitarians and Universalists and a 9th grade ROOTs program, insights and learning through Adult Education , Covenant Board activities, Community Life Events, and many other opportunities for participation.

And of course, All Souls will take a giant leap towards fulfilling its vision of being the voice of liberal religion in this area through the calling and settling of its Minister, an act that Unitarian Universalist churches have done on this continent for nearly 400 years!

Special Note:

All Souls Community Church services will NOT be held at Ahavas Israel on September 20, October 4th and October 11th. Instead we will be having Worship Service and Religious Education at New Branches School, 256 Alger, at 11:000 AM.

Please also visit the website at www.allsoulscommunity.org and specifically the new calendar at <http://www.allsoulscommunity.org/Calendar/Calendar.htm> for this weekend's as well as important upcoming events.

Music Program Update

from Dr. Monique Salinas-Stauffer

Adult Choir rehearsals are beginning---on Thursdays at Ahavas Israel from 7-9 pm and all are invited to participate!

This year we are going to concentrate on the CHILDREN'S CHOIR and its development. The Children's Choir is for any and all children grades K through grade 4. You do not have to be a member of All Souls in order to participate. We will have our first rehearsal on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 at 9:45am-10:30 am in the Church, classroom TBA. We will be singing in Church in October, November, and twice in December.

The Children's Choir will be combining aspects of KODALY music education in our choir rehearsals this year, and I will explain just what Kodaly is next week (its very cool!!!) If you have a child that falls into this age group--expect some contact from me in the next week in order to invite you and your child to participate in this opportunity!! More information next week.

See you in Church!! Call Monique 890-1164 if you have any questions!!

All Souls Community Church ROOTS Program

The next Roots Classes will be held on Sunday evenings from 6-8pm at Ahavas on October 25, November 1, 8 & 15. Child care will be provided but we ask that you let us know the number & ages of children so we can plan appropriately. If you are interested and have not signed up yet please stop by the Newcomers' Table.

We are in need of a child care provider to assist us during the Roots Classes (Oct 25, Nov 1, 8 & 15 from 5:45-8:15pm). One of the Newcomer Board members will be there but we will need one youth (or adult) to help out. If you are interested please stop by the Newcomers' Table or contact Barb Lafler (616-902-3288) or wblafler@yahoo.com).

Volunteer Opportunity Fair

On Sunday September 27th, members and friends of All Souls will have an opportunity to learn about all of the different ways they can put their talents and interest to work for All Souls Community Church. Please plan on staying after the service on this day and participate in this wonderful opportunity. If you are a member of a board, committee or other group that would like to reserve a place for this event please contact Barb Lafler or Jock Ambrose.

All Souls Community Church Directory

Note from Teri Davis

The new ASCC photo directory is taking shape. If you have a digital photo you would like to use please email your photos to jazzebloos@msn.com with ascc and your family name in the subject line (ex. "ascc davis"). Photos will be taken at Ahavas as needed by appointment with Teri Davis. Simply call my cell (616-262-7829) and I will plan to meet you before or after service on a Sunday.

Please report any changes to your information by using the above email and subject line.

Social Action at All Souls Community Church: from Georgine Linart Bello, glbello@hotmail.com

ASCC is a member of the Michigan UU Social Justice Network (MUUSJN). I encourage you all to check out MUUSJN's website, if you have not already, to stay informed on various social justice issues and to participate in their campaigns -if you so desire. Here is a link to their website. <http://www.ujustice.org>. You can also request to receive their e-newsletter if you would like a monthly update.

Something to think about: MUUSJN's annual conference will be on Oct 10th in Flint this year. If anyone is interested in going let me know at glbello@hotmail.com. The title of the conference is *Building Power for Justice: Yes, UU's Can!* You can find more information on the website.

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general email:
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Dr. Brent A. Smith, Minister:
(616) 954-1673
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All Souls Community Church is a church dedicated to religion, but not to a creed. It is a liberal religious community of free individuals of all ages walking together in relationship to one another, to our larger community and to the transcending mystery of the universe. Our community is based on open communication, democratic process and a belief in the capacity for goodness in all people. Our spiritual health and our growth as a church community are intimately connected with the spiritual growth and development of our children. We pledge to develop our church community with this always in mind. This church aims at celebrating and cultivating community, a sense of inquiry, moral character and insight, religious freedom, and helpfulness to humanity. That is, it aims at liberating and cultivating the human spirit.

Upcoming Events

(ALL EVENTS HELD AT AHAVAS ISRAEL AT 2727 MICHIGAN AVE. NE, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

September Calendar

13 11 AM Worship and Religious Education (RE); Adult Choir Rehearsal 10:15am : HOMECOMING SUNDAY; Newcomer's Board meeting (9:15am); RE Children's Registration; Adult Choir and Instrumentalists Party 7-9pm, at Smiths home, 4130 Baywood Drive SE; Drop off items for Garage Sale on 9/19 to Busby Home, 1835 Belden Ave SW, Wyoming

14 Adult Education Board meeting, at Coleman's house, 2454 Richards SE; Drop off items for Garage Sale on 9/19 to Busby Home, 1835 Belden Ave SW Wyoming

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17 Adult Choir rehearsal 7pm

19 Community Life Garage Sale 8am -2pm Fifth Third Ballpark; Community Life Campfire S'mores 7 pm Duke Creek Campground, Cedar Springs

20 11 AM Worship and Religious Education (RE) AT NEW BRANCHES SCHOOL, 256 Alger St SE; RE Children's Registration

22 Community Life Game Night 6:30pm , Busby Home, 1835 Belden Ave SW, Wyoming; BRANCHES X at Heckamans 7642 Thornapple Club, Ada; Humanist Covenant Group 7pm

24 Adult Choir rehearsal 7pm Ahavas; Board of Trustees meeting 7pm

27 11 AM Worship and Religious Education (RE); RE Children's Registration; CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS! 9:45-10:30am; Adult Choir rehearsal 10:15am ; Newcomer's Board VOLUNTEER FAIR after worship; All Souls Ministerial Settlement meeting; High School Youth Group (6pm) Ahavas

30 Community Life Dinner Out 7pm , Olive Garden on 28th St. Please RSVP to Amy & Linda 551-1358 by 9/29

October

1 Adult Choir rehearsal 7pm Ahavas

4 11 AM Worship and Religious Education (RE) AT NEW BRANCHES SCHOOL, 256 Alger St SE; Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45-10:30am; RE Children's Registration