

Cultivating
Religious Freedom, Diversity,
Inquiry, and Community



The Weekly Expression

Newsletter May 6, 2010

Upcoming Services:

May 9: *Flower Communion Sunday*

May 16: *Youth ROOTS Ninth Grade Graduation Service*

May 23: *“Kite Sunday”*

May 30: *Memorial Day Sunday*



New Member Sunday

We will be recognizing new members during the worship service on **June 6th**. If you joined All Souls (or would like to) during 2010 please contact Barb Lafler (wblafler@yahoo.com or 616-902-3288) or stop by the Welcome Table. To our longer standing members, please join us on this day in welcoming our new members.

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. *We also have a page on Face Book. Check it out!*

Special Collection

Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan

This Sunday, May 9

In our tradition of giving away our collection plate on a quarterly basis, we will donate this quarter's plate, on Mother's Day, to Planned Parenthood. Lets support this wonderful organization and help them continue to fulfill their mission: "***To promote and ensure reproductive and sexual health, responsibility, and freedom.***" Flyers with further information on Planned Parenthood will be available at the Welcome table. Please support this worthy organization that provides health services and education to so many women and men in our community.

A quick history lesson on the long relationship between Planned Parenthood and UU's, provided by Brent Smith

Planned Parenthood has historic origins tied to Unitarian Churches, clergy and laypersons. The theological thread running through our history has always been self-determination, both in theology and in societal life. That was the "reason" for our forbears starting the women's suffragist movement in the mid-1800's, along with the temperance movement (self-determination for the wives whose husband took the family finances, by law the husband's property, and drank them away leaving wife and children destitute!). The same is true of family planning, which was the impetus in the early part of the 20th century which led to Planned Parenthood's founding.

Margaret Sanger was the driving force. While not a Unitarian, it was our own Community Church in NYC which gave her a public forum to air her views, and our Unitarian Church in Brooklyn was the site of the first family planning clinic in the US. Margaret Sanger's grandson is head of the NYC Planned Parenthood affiliate and a committed Unitarian Universalist.

So, our 16th century theological interest in reading and interpreting Scripture for one's self, evolved into the 19-20th century interest in women's rights, then family planning (which freed up women to pursue individual interests), then a women's control over her body before, during, and after pregnancy. Unitarian Universalists from Texas and Oklahoma were the chief parties in Roe v Wade.

This is the origin of our concern, which led us to be at the forefront of starting Planned Parenthood and defending its mission and seeking to insure its continued strength. The head of PP's national Clergy Advisory Panel is the minister of our UU church in Kalamazoo, Rev. Jill McCallister.



Please support our special collection in honor of all Mothers!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY JUNE 19TH AT IN THE IMAGE

On the third Saturday of every month, 12 volunteers are needed at In The Image to hand out food that is provided by the food pantry. The volunteers take the food out of the truck, place it on a table, and people pick out what they want. No food package weighs more than 10# (like a sack of potatoes). The time frame is 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Contact person is Mary Blackwell, 616/334-8811 or mblackwell1938@mac.com. The location is 1823 South Division. See you there!

Church Directory is On Line!

The 2010 All Souls Church Directory is online and available for download! We are using an online service for maintaining the church directory, and the directory is available on this site for downloading.

To download the directory: Click [here](#) to download the file. It is in PDF format and you will need [Acrobat Reader](#) to open the file. To open the directory: You will need a password to open the directory file. To insure privacy of members, you can get the password from the Stewardship or Newcomers table.

The Stewardship committee is aware that there are some members without Internet access, and a hardcopy will be made available to them. If you would like a hardcopy version, you can purchase one. Please see the Stewardship committee or the Newcomers reception for assistance.

Many thanks to the Stewardship Committee for all their hard work in collecting the information, taking pictures and uploading the information for the directory! Please check your listing for accuracy and send any updated contact information to Jackie Vines (jackievines@sbcglobal.net).

All Souls Softball Game Schedule May 26, 7:30 @ Manhattan



June 2, 6:15 @ Manhattan

June 9, 6:15 @ Wealthy

June 16, 7:30 @ Wealthy

June 23, 6:15 @ Manhattan

June 30, 6:15 @ Manhattan

July 7, 6:15 @ Manhattan

July 14, 7:30 @ Wealthy

July 21, 6:15 @ Wealthy

July 28, 7:30 @ Manhattan

August 4, 6:15 @ Manhattan

Wealthy Elementary School is at 1961 Lake Dr.

Manhattan Park is at 3180 Cascade Rd

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Dr. Brent A. Smith, Minister:
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Visit Us Online!
www.allsoulscommunity.org

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)

May 2010- Calendar

Saturday, May 1 8:30 am: Cultural Competency Workshop, Dickenson and Wright Law offices

Sunday, May 2 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - The Future Speaks: High School Senior Sermons - Dr. Smith and HS Seniors

Tuesday, May 4 7 pm: Adult Ed Meeting, Walburn's home
Thursday, May 6 7 pm: BOT Executive Meeting, Coleman's home

Sunday, May 9 - Mother's Day 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am: Teens and Tweens Knitting, Ahavas Classroom 11 am: Worship (Intergenerational) - Flower Communion - Dr. Smith 12:15 pm: Newcomers Board Meeting, Ahavas Classroom 6:00 - 7:30 pm: ASCC Softball Team Practice, Manhattan Park

Tuesday, May 11 5:30 - 7:30 pm: Covenant Board Meeting 7 pm Branch X at Andy Truax and Annie Logan's home.

Thursday, May 13 7 pm: BOT Executive Meeting, Coleman's home 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, May 16 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am: Teens and Tweens Knitting, Ahavas Classroom 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - Youth Roots Graduation - Dr. Smith 12:05 pm: 9th Grade Reception 12:15 pm: Music Board Meeting, Ahavas 6:00 pm: Elgin's Birthday Bash, Ahavas Social Hall 6:00 - 7:30 pm: ASCC Softball Team Practice, Manhattan Park

Wednesday, May 19 6:30 - 7:30 pm: B2?! @ Kids Food Basket, 1203 Butterworth SW - Contact Jackie Vines for further information

Thursday, May 20 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas 7 pm: BOT Meeting, Ahavas Meeting Room

Saturday, May 22 3:30 pm: Program Council meeting/retreat, Coleman "Conference Center"

Sunday, May 23 9:45 am: Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am: Teens and Tweens Knitting, Ahavas Classroom 6 11 am: Worship (Intergenerational) - Kite Sunday - Dr. Smith 12:15 pm: Congregational Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 pm: ASCC Softball Team Practice, Manhattan Park

Thursday, May 27 7 - 9 pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal, Ahavas

Sunday, May 30 11 am: Worship and Children's RE - Memorial Sunday - Dr. Smith 11:00 am: RE Year-end Celebration 6:00 - 7:30 pm: ASCC Softball Team Practice, Manhattan Park

Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day

