

## Faith in a Time of Anxiety

This seems a unique confluence of circumstances at Emerson. Finally with a full-time minister, our own sanctuary and a full slate of programming, shouldn't we relax and enjoy the fruits of our labors?

Instead I am hearing money worries have assumed an elevated profile: a faltering economy is making everyone's savings smaller, jobs have been lost among our parishioners (thankfully VP has found new work), some external income sources have become unreliable. Should anxiety be taking the front seat and steering our church life away from the positive energy that brought us here?

Robert Rosen is a counselor and occasionally preaches, his sermon on "just enough anxiety" appears on the UUA [website](#): He suggests that we should not see anxiety as a sign of weakness or something to be avoided. Instead it can be a positive energy that motivates action. He suggests instead:

- Accept change and uncertainty as a fact of life.
- We can use our healthy anxiety as a force for positive change.
- Just enough anxiety is important for thriving in our complex world. It helps us perform at our best.

In this issue:

- Rev. Krista Taves examines when blame prevents healing following adverse events (page 2)
- President Leigh English addresses the state of the chapel from his Blackberry. (page 3)
- A full listing of UU programming (page 5)
- And the return of Father Guido Sarducci! (page 6)

*Tom Kibby, ed.*



*Photo by Katie Layne*

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# KRISTA'S CORNER

MINISTER'S NOTES FROM REV. KRISTA TAVES



## Laying the Blame

As I write this article, the media and public are aflame at the news that AIG continued to dole out bonuses as it received billions in federal bail out money. We all want someone to blame. I share the feelings of anger over this episode. But, I am also aware that during times of difficulty, we often seek to blame someone or something that allows us to separate ourselves from the origin of the problem. The bonus money should be returned. But, that alone will not save us. The truth of the matter is that our problem is systemic. From corporate greed on Wall Street to our willingness to finance our wants through credit we really can't afford, all of us hold a piece of responsibility.

We are entering a very holy month. Jews celebrate Passover. Christians celebrate Easter. Unitarian Universalists, with our diverse tapestry of personal theologies, honor that many people in our churches celebrate one or both.

Passover celebrates the release of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. According to Jewish scripture, on that fateful night, the angel of death settled

over Egypt, taking the eldest son in every household. The Jews having been instructed by the Prophet Moses to spread lamb's blood over their doorways, were spared. This was the final straw that persuaded Pharaoh to let them go. Significantly, Pharaoh blamed the Jews for the bad luck that he and Egypt have suffered, rather than seeing his own choices as the source of his suffering.

Easter celebrates the triumph of love over hate, good over evil. Jesus' ministry took place in troubled times, with the people of Israel feeling the brunt of an oppressive Roman Empire. Roman and Jewish leaders were threatened by his message of unconditional love and service to the poor. He was set up as a scapegoat, turned into the object of disdain, a symbol of oppression itself. His killing was seen as a way to redirect the people's anger away from the true source of their oppression. It didn't work. Jesus' resurrection is a symbol that you can't blame others into your own innocence. You can't kill the truth that the power of our love can work miracles, resurrecting all of us from lives of meaninglessness into lives of purpose filled with love and compassion.

In each of these stories, certain characters used blame to distance themselves from responsibility, and in so doing, they held themselves back from the resurrection and kept themselves locked in their own bonds of slavery. In Unitarian Universalist theology, we do not chain resurrection to the miraculous coming back to life of one individual named Jesus.

Nor do we confine slavery to literal chains. We are focused on what it is that will allow us to be resurrected out of slaveries imposed from without and within.

In the last few weeks, we've been talking a lot about money at the Chapel. We began our annual pledge drive on March 15th. Our leaders, in particular members of the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees, have also been speaking very frankly and directly about the financial challenges this congregation is facing. There is much about that in this newsletter and I encourage you to read their remarks carefully. There's a resurrection happening right here in this congregation, and that's just as it should be.

*In faith,  
Rev. Krista.*

## Rev. Taves Office Hours

Available by appointment:  
Mar. 30 - Apr. 5: We Th Sa Su  
Apr. 6 - 12: We Th Sa Su  
Apr. 13 - 19: We Th Sa  
Mar. 20 - 26: Tu We Rev.  
Taves will be attending the District Ministers' Retreat  
Apr. 27 - May 3: We Th Sa Su

## Pastoral Care

For emergency pastoral care please call 417-343-8657.

For regular pastoral care, please contact the Care and Concern Committee through the Church Office  
([office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org))

# LEIGH'S LINES

## President's Notes from Leigh English



I am in Florida as I write this brief note from my Blackberry. Yes, it is Spring Break and we are having a closer look at the state where my son Ian will be spending his college years, at least that is the plan. The thing about plans is they can rapidly change. Good and bad planning simply create new planning opportunities. I am sure I had a plan when I was in high school; what I would do, where I would go. Some of my planning was thoughtful but ran head-on into realities I could not put into the initial equation.

### **Emerson Emissary**

Serving the members and friends of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel. Editor: Tom Kibby

**All submissions are due by the 18th of each month. All groups are requested to send their meeting notices monthly to ensure their accuracy.** Send to: [newsletter@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:newsletter@emersonuuchapel.org)

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To be removed from our mailing list, please call the chapel office or email the administrator at [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)

Emerson is facing a number of new realities particularly with finances. Unfortunately, our Chapel is not a sanctuary from the harsh global economic downturn. Our canvass kick-off was a great service and an inspiration for all in attendance. We are all looking forward and planning forward. We are also still planning our response to needs for this year, a year that started before any one of us appreciated the extent or duration of the economic realities facing us today.

Our high school seniors are enthusiastically looking forward to their lives after graduation, but their responsibilities to the last few months of school are essential to realizing their next big move. This is Emerson's situation today. Our congregation is alive with plans for next year, but we too have to "graduate". We have to work through this year of serious economic shock, and pay all of our bills month by month or our plans for tomorrow will not make any sense at all. The congregation made resources available to hire a professional financial accountant. The up-side of this expense is that we have enormous confidence about our financial state. The down side is that the news isn't good.

Our ability to "graduate" through fiscal year 2009 will require a new plan. The finance committee and Board will be working to communicate more details about our short term financial needs and recommend how to manage them in the next couple of weeks.

Many of us have a lot invested in Emerson and have followed Emerson's growth and it's economic challenges of the past. Many of us are newly investing in Emerson and looking forward to the values we can bring to their lives. We know how hard it is to see investments threatened by changing economic situations. We know the challenges of holding on to long-term investments and the risks of new investments. Regardless of whether Emerson is an old or new investment for you, our faithful offering of inspiration, education, fellowship and service will require an added financial push to bring us through the remainder of this year. Our tradition is steeped in forward-looking action, so I look forward to presenting a last quarter 2009 plan to you.

In the mean time I will complete my scope-out of Florida Atlantic University, and work on a few projects for work and home. I will enjoy the beauty of spring and an upcoming visit from my daughter who is otherwise focusing on her future in California. The financial needs of organizations I love were not on the top of my list of spring joys but they are just part of moving it all forward and creating a new future. I hope you all enjoy your springtime with all the things you love about it and with all of the responsibilities it brings.

*Grace and Peace,  
Leigh*

## A Month of Services

All Sunday Services begin at 10:00 AM

### April 5— “Independence with a Twist” [Youth Pew]

Rev. Krista Taves.  
With live jazz music, the Child Dedication of Anna Covert, the recognition of our new members, and of course, an intellectually stimulating and spiritually inspiring sermon about the practice of responsible individualism, you won't want to miss this one...

**Musicians:** Jazz Quintet featuring Greg Hoeltzel and friends from FUSL, and our own Kevin Horth on percussion.

**Adult RE:** Rev. Taves

### April 10 “Good Friday Tenebrae Service”

Rev. Krista Taves.  
This evening service has become a unique tradition at Emerson Chapel. By candlelight, we will explore the universal meaning of life, death, and resurrection in our lives. We will



*Rev. Taves and guest vocalist:  
her father William Taves*

conclude the service with a communion, re-experiencing this centuries-old ritual in the context of our liberal religious and humanist values. (Childcare will be provided).

### April 12 “Easter Sunday Service”

Rev. Krista Taves.  
This special intergenerational service celebrates the coming of spring in word, story and song. Join us for a time of renewal as we walk into the resurrection of our own souls and our beautiful world.

**Musician:** Special Music by the Emerson Choir, Camille Herman, Director

**Adult RE:** No Adult RE

### April 19 “Unitarian Universalist Theology Part VI: Pneumatology”

Rev. Krista Taves  
Pneumatology is the theology of spiritual beingness. Every religion has its own pneumatology, the way it understands the divine and how it moves in the world. Unitarian Universalism is no exception. Even with our theological diversity, there are strong historical currents that have remained intact for hundreds of years and strongly influence how

we experience our liberal religious tradition today.

**Musician:** Ron McGowan, Piano

**Adult RE:** H. Shukla speaking on the Philosophy of Eastern Religions

### April 26 “TBA”

Revs. Julie Jennings and Susan Drake  
We joyfully welcome the return of the very special spoken and sung ministry provided by Julie and Susan.

**Musician:** Matt Krafcik, Cello

**Adult RE:** Susan Drake and Julie Jennings

### April 29 “Wednesday Vespers: Stone Communion”

Rev. Krista Taves  
Every Sunday our children participate in a Joys and Concerns ritual using stones and water. This service will include an adult version of that ritual.

## Programming

### **Spring Retreat** **Owning Your Religious Past** *April 3-4* *at Emerson Chapel*

Rev. Taves will be offering a weekend retreat beginning Friday evening, April 3rd and continuing through the day on Saturday April 4th.

The retreat offers participants the opportunity to explore who they are religiously, what their past religious perspectives and experiences have been, and who they hope to become as Unitarian Universalists.

This retreat provides some simple tools through which people may reexamine and retrieve positive aspects of past religious connections. It addresses the affective elements of these connections, rather than dogma. The workshop is designed to provide both group sharing and private exploration.

Deadline for Registration: March 31, 2009. Please email [minister@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:minister@emersonuuchapel.org)  
Times: Friday April 3, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday April 4, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### **Daytimers Club**

The next Daytimers Club will be held Thursday April 9, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The monthly Daytimers Group is now permanently meeting on the second Thursday of the month. Bring a brown bag lunch and be ready for good conversation.

### **Report of Kindling the Flame Committee**

The Kindling the Flame committee would like to thank everyone who participated in our brainstorming session in February. Here are the themes that came out in your discussions of the questions...

#### What is Emerson's purpose?

...to be a place of unconditional acceptance and open-mindedness, to provide tools for a spiritual journey, to promote social justice in the community and beyond, to be a shared community supporting one another, to challenge, to encourage questioning, to promote and celebrate diversity, to be an oasis, to educate and inspire, to powerfully impact lives.

#### What dreams and wishes to you have for Emerson?

...strong social justice programs locally, nationally and globally; strong, comprehensive activities—active church every night of the week; expanded religious education program both for children and adults; expanded facilities that could support RE and other Emerson activities, as well as those of other community groups; bigger music program—regular choir, opportunities for children; greater visibility in community—both literally and by what we do.

#### What will attract people to Emerson?

..how we meet the needs of our current members—so they become ambassadors for Emerson; strong, engaging Sunday services; dynamic educational opportunities; informative website; better and more frequent advertising.

We will be pulling together all the information we've gathered to this point and begin the construction of our new mission statement. We will be back soon for more response and reflection from the congregation, so stay tuned.

*Pam Foresman, Melissa Grizzle, Stan Herman and Susan Stafford*

### **Readers Circle**

Each April, we focus on a selection about science and nature, and these are invariably some of the most enjoyable books of the year. Join us on Monday, April 20th, to discuss Daniel Botkin's "Our Natural History: the Lessons of Lewis & Clark." Lisa Nansteel will lead our conversation and dessert will be provided. Come as early as 6:30 PM if you want to share a brown bag dinner, or at 7:00 for the sweets and discussion. We're finished around 8:00 or so. For those who like to read ahead, May's selection is "The Passion of Artemisia" by Susan Vreeland.

### CON Help Needed

Emerson is co-hosting with Eliot Chapel the next district Con "Once UCon a Time", which will be held at Eliot Chapel in Kirkwood on Fri. April 17 to Sun. April 19. Emerson is in charge of the meals and preparation, assisting with scheduling advisor/chaperones, and in helping with the workshops on Saturday morning, and the social action activities on Saturday afternoon.

Are you available to help with any of these?

- Assisting with set-up at each meal, any one or all of Saturday breakfast, lunch or dinner, or Sunday breakfast This will consist of coming early, and helping set-up with the food, drinks, etc.
- Making snacks for Friday or Saturday night
- Drivers on Saturday afternoon for some of the social action activities
- We will need chaperones for Friday and Saturday night. If you are willing to commit to 2-3 hours late at night, or during the overnight, so other advisors can sleep (as they maybe driving the kids back home) please let us know which night and what hours you prefer.

If you are willing to help with any of these, please contact either Taylor Paglisotti, or Sally & Leslie Armontrout. Thank you!



### Sunday Night Live

With our own  
"Father Guido Sarducci"

And the Emerson  
Irreverent Players

When:  
5:00 PM Sunday,  
April 5, 2009

Where:  
Emerson Sanctuary

What:  
A Feast of Fantastic  
Favorites Followed by  
"Emerson's Does Improv"  
& celebrity guest  
Father Guido Sarducci\*

Why:  
To wrap up Canvass &  
celebrate our commitment to  
liberal religion in West  
County

How:  
RSVP to Randy by  
calling 636.256.7393

### Photographic Exhibit Coming in April

Coming This Spring Emerson UU Chapel welcomes a photographic exhibit by Emerson members Bob Layne and daughter Katie Layne. The exhibit ([sample](#)) will be showing in Emerson's Sanctuary from Easter through May. Featured will be photos of New Orleans taken during the Chapel's Social Justice trip in 2007.

Past Emerson artists who have displayed their work include:

- Carole Behrer, Scherenschnitte in False Grain Frames
- Marcy Saphian paintings
- Phyllis MacLaren, fiber based and mixed media

### Women's Weekend at Eliot April 18-19, 2009

Women's Weekend is sponsored by the women of Eliot Unitarian Chapel and is open to other Unitarian women and their friends. We provide a wonderful variety of workshops, meditation, networking, Join us at Pallottine Renewal Center, 15270 Old Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO. Women can register on-line [www.eliotchapel.org/WW](http://www.eliotchapel.org/WW)

## Religious Education

### RE VIEW

Lauren Lyerla, DRE

Dear Emerson UU Religious Education Families,

Football coach Vince Lombardi once said, "Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." It makes churches work, too. I'm asking you to recommit yourself to Emerson -- and to Emerson's Religious Education program. April might seem a strange time for such a message, as the church year is winding down. So let me explain my request.

I need you to recommit to bringing your children to Sunday School as often as possible. Sometimes, missing church is unavoidable. But every student gets more out of classes when there is a vibrant, well-connected body of students each week. When your child is not in class, the whole class suffers. Please make RE a priority in your week.

I need you to recommit to being in the classroom yourself -- as a teacher next year, or as an assistant several times during the church year. We have the same small handful of people assisting each week, which is not healthy for them or for Emerson. Simply put: we need you. It's easy to get involved with Emerson's young people. Even when we aren't holding regular classes, we need people to help with parties and social justice projects. In warmer months, we need people to supervise the kids on our playground during coffee break and after church. We need people on our Religious Education Committee.

And of course, our church needs your financial commitment so we can continue to pay for our physical plant and the programming that makes Emerson a vital force for liberal religion in western St. Louis County. Please be generous with your pledge for next year.

All relationships are strongest if the commitment goes both ways, of course. Have no doubt that Emerson's Religious Education Program is committed to you and your child. We plan enriching classes and activities every week, with enough supplies for every student in the class. We constantly review our curricula, and evaluate new curricula as they become available. We celebrate your child's developmental milestones with special rites of passage. And coming this summer, for the first time ever: summer programming for preschool through middle school. More on that in next month's column!

### Youth Interface

It's April, and for the Youth Group, that means CON! Our Senior Youth Group has been very busy planning the Spring Youth Conference, which is being held April 17 - 19 at Eliot, with Emerson as co-host. Many of our youth plan to attend, with members Sally and Les Armontrout going as advisors. I am very proud of all the work our group has done in putting on this program, but more importantly, I hope our youth are proud of themselves. This experience has provided opportunities for leadership and growth, and our youth have responded with enthusiasm.

*In Peace,  
Lauren Lyerla*

### Mark Your Calendars!

**May 10:** Youth Pew including Bridging for Seniors and Coming of Age for 8th Graders, followed by party in the Youth Group room

**May 31:** Church picnic

### Religious Education Hour for Children and Youth: April 2009

#### April 5

Preschool - PreK: We remember what is important to us (about Easter)

K - 2nd: In Harmony

3-5th: The rights of all people Junior and Senior Youth

Groups: Youth Pew, followed by class time with Krista

#### April 12

No RE (Easter)

Immediately following service: Easter Egg Hunt for Nursery through 5th Grade

#### April 19

Preschool - PreK: We all belong to the family of Earth

K - 2nd: The Web of Nature.

3-5th: Louisa May Alcott, writer.

6 - 8th\* Love and Equality

Senior Youth Group: Spring Youth Conference at Eliot Chapel

#### April 26:

Preschool-Middle School: Nature day - Dress for the weather!

Senior Youth Group:

Articulating Your Unitarian Universalist Faith

\* 8th Graders have a choice: they may elect to go to the Junior Youth Group class/activity or the Senior Youth Group class/activity.

**Children and Youth Religious Education is every Sunday from 11:15 until 12:15**

**RANDY'S DESK**  
**Chapel Administrator's**  
**Notes - Randy**  
**Whitman**

**New Office Hours**  
**M,W,Th,F: 9:00 - 1:00**

In March this generous congregation donated a total of \$209.43 for Missourians Against the Death Penalty. In February we welcomed 6 visitors.

Randy is requesting that members and friends keep her updated of their current phone, address and e-mail to be ready for the next update of the Chapel Directory. Randy can be contacted by calling the chapel office at: 636-256-7393 or by e-mail at: [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)

**MONEY MATTERS**  
**Susan Bell, Treasurer**

Budget items. At times, we have unfortunately operated with the thought that if an item has been put in the budget, then we must be able to spend it. That might work in a corporate world, but we are working with a non profit budget that can be very unpredictable. Budget Chairs and others who spend money or authorize work to be completed should ask if we have the money before spending the money. This reminds me of the bad budgeting saying "but I must have money, I still have checks in my checkbook!"

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please return to Susan Bell or any member of the Board.

If you have a suggested cost saving idea, please email me at [treasurer@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:treasurer@emersonuuchapel.org)

<b>Finances as of February 28, 2009</b>		
	February 2009	Year to Date
Pledge Income	\$ 7,816	\$ 98,173
Other Income	\$ 2,065	\$ 31,852
Total All Income	\$ 9,881	\$ 130,025
Total Expenses	\$ 19,137	\$ 134,640
Difference	\$ (9,256)	\$ (4,615)

**Canvass News**

If you are new to Emerson, then this is the time of year when we ask every member and friend of the congregation to let us know what we can count on as your pledge for the coming fiscal year which begins July 1st. A budget is built based on your pledge so that we can project our expenses for the upcoming year. In round numbers, we spend about 40% towards worship related expenses, 40% towards religious education and 10% each towards fellowship and service. Most of our funding (86%) comes in the form of pledges from our members and friends. It is important to note, that our minister's full time compensation is still subsidized. Two years ago a core group of members promised to fund full time ministry at a decreasing level over three years, with the congregation as a whole taking on more financial responsibility each year. Last year this group provided \$17 000, this year \$12 000, and next year, we will receive \$6000 from this generous group. In year four, our goal is to have full time ministry completely funded by the congregation as a whole.

Our pledge goal of \$164 000 takes into account increases in five areas: The first comes from the congregation assuming

more of the cost of full time ministry, the second is a 3% cost of living increase for all paid staff, something we on the board and finance committee consider very important from a moral standpoint. The third is permanent funding for a book keeper. The fourth is a modest increase in funds for programming, such as adult education, summer services for children, and music. Our pledge goal also takes into account the reality that our income from rental of our building, fundraising and grocery certificates sales has decreased.

In order to achieve our pledge goal, we will need every one to do their part. That is how we have achieved what we've achieved so far, and it is how we will move into our future. We will need an average pledge of \$2,568 per pledge unit to get where we want to go. This means an average increase of 15% per pledge unit. We realize that this seems extraordinarily high in these economic times. We ultimately receive our pledge cards in and come up with a final budget that we believe is reasonable for the next year.

*Susan Bell*  
*Treasurer*

### Welcome to New Members

**Rick and Emily Covert** live in Wildwood with their eighteen month old daughter, Anna. They both grew up in the area and come from Catholic backgrounds. Rich is a computer specialist for Sara Lee and Emily is a Parkway art teacher currently on leave to stay home with Anna. Rich spends his free time swimming on lunch-breaks, playing with Anna and reading or watching science fiction. He loves computer-related technology and questioning most everything in life. Emily spends her time chasing Anna, teaching private art lessons and creating her own art. She loves to organize, dance and take care of others. Emily and Rich share a love and appreciation for nature, family and learning. The Coverts are very excited to find an open-minded, accepting religious community in West County where they can raise their daughter among like-minded individuals.

My name is **Claudia Hall** and I am a new convert to UUism. I served as a United Methodist pastor for five years and I serve currently as the chaplain for a disparate group of persons. Recently, I have begun to see a need for spiritual support for the families and loved ones of persons in traumatic professions, especially military, police,

firefighters and EMT's. Since this requires pastors to have a denominational affiliation. I began to look for an established denomination to call home. UUism offered the structure of a mainline denomination without the oppressive dogma I had previously experienced.

Hoping to find a church that would be willing to accept my desire for this kind of ministry, I came to Emerson, and fell in love with it. The people are warm, genuine and inviting, and the messages speak to a church that is reaching beyond itself to help everyone involved live into their fullest potential. My family is happy to see me in a place where I feel such kinship and commonality, and we are all looking forward to seeing what the future holds as my ministry unfurls.

My desire to join Emerson is about establishing roots in a church where I can offer my skills and talents as contributions to the bright future emerging here. I hope that what I bring will enrich the diversity at Emerson and continue to raise the standard for excellence that I have sensed in the people of this fellowship.

### UU Congregations Engage in Social Justice

From the Unitarian Universalist Association (AAU) [website](#) these are how other UU congregations are projecting their faith:

- The UU Society of East Manchester, CT, joins a coalition calling for universal healthcare in Connecticut.
- The Unitarian Church of Santa Barbara, CA, holds a special service in support of the Living Wage initiative, "\$10 in '10"
- Volunteers form the UU Church of Tucson joined a ministry called No More Deaths and delivered food and water to stranded border crossers.
- The Carbondale UU Fellowship has partnered since 2003 with a clinic in Zambia treating HIV-infected with donated medicines and supplies.



### Caregivers Covenant Group

Emerson's Caregiver's Covenant Group is always open for those who are currently, or have recently been, in a care giving role for a family member, partner, or friend.

We provide a safe space to talk about the problems caregivers face on a daily basis both for the loved ones they are taking care of and themselves. This year, we are especially concentrating on ways to help the caregiver. Group facilitator is Camille Herman.

The April meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at 7:30 PM. For more information, contact Camille or e-mail her at: [caregivers@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:caregivers@emersonuuchapel.org).

### Calling All Singers

Our "occasional choir" will sing on Easter Sunday, April 12. We will rehearse on Tuesday nights at 7:00 beginning Tuesday, March 3rd. If you would like to sing, and would like to join us, please contact Camille Herman at [Music@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:Music@emersonuuchapel.org) All voice parts are needed. No training necessary.

### Universalist Convocation 2009

Celebrating the religious heart of Unitarian Universalism  
May 15-17, The Unitarian  
Universalist Church of Birmingham,  
Alabama  
Information will be posted at  
[www.nmuc.org/Convo](http://www.nmuc.org/Convo)

### Green Thoughts

*I have heard several people mention that they have items they would like to get rid of, but do not know how to dispose of them in an ecologically safe way. The St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District provides information on their website--<http://www.swmd.net>—about disposal of a wide variety of materials. A partial list of items they discuss include computers, cell phones, chargers, batteries, CD s, tapes, tires, hazardous household waste, construction materials, clothing/textiles, appliances, florescent light bulbs, and holiday items. The website also provides educational material on ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle many common household items; provides links to additional resources; and provides a list of local recyclers. Please take the time to check out this great website.*

Susan Stafford

### New Member Sunday

April 5, 2009 Are you considering becoming a member of Emerson Chapel? Please be in touch with Rev. Taves.

The Music Committee is scheduling Special Music for next year. If you would like to reserve a Sunday or suggest a musician, please email Phyllis MacLaren.

The Aesthetics Committee has enjoyed hanging exhibits in our Sanctuary this year. We would like to continue by scheduling a Fall, Winter and Spring exhibit. If you have work that you think appropriate to hang in the Sanctuary, please let Marcy Saphian or Phyllis MacLaren know.

# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Movie Matinee 12N* Choir Rehearsal 7PM Men's Group 7PM	<b>2</b> Spiritual Journey CG 7PM	<b>3</b> Spring Retreat	<b>4</b> Spring Retreat
<b>5</b> Service 10AM Rev. Taves Sunday Night Live 5 PM	<b>6</b> Womyns Web 7PM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Choir Rehearsal 7PM	<b>9</b> Daytimers Club 11AM 7PM Voluntary Simplicity	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Service 10 AM Rev. Taves Easter	<b>13</b> M&Ms 7PM*	<b>14</b> Wyse Womyn 1:30PM* Living the Journey - Emerson 6:30PM	<b>15</b> Men's Group 7PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Service 10 AM Rev. Taves Board 1PM	<b>20</b> Readers Circle 7PM	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Wednesday Vespers 7PM Caregivers 7:30PM*	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Service 10 AM Revs. Julie Jennings and Susan Drake	<b>27</b> M&Ms 7PM*	<b>28</b> Wyse Womyn 1:30PM* Living the Journey - Emerson 6:30PM	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		

All events occur at Emerson unless noted with an \*  
 Child care may be provided to any Emerson Sponsored event, please call the Chapel office.  
 Confirm with Covenant Group (CG) leader for meeting location and time.

### Upcoming events:

- Emerson Spring Retreat April 3-4
- Canvass Dinner Celebration Sunday, April 5
- Youth Con, Eliot Chapel April 17-19

## Emerson Covenant Groups Invite New Members.

Emerson's Covenant Groups, our program of small group ministry, welcomes new members. Groups of up to ten people meet once or twice a month with a focus on deep listening and sharing personal experiences. Prepared session plans are used to guide each session, with topics such as forgiveness, gratitude, or saying good bye. Groups also do service projects for the church and community. Participants find that they get to know themselves, and often others, more deeply in these small groups. For more information about specific covenant groups, please see the church [website](#) or pick up a copy of the Emerson Program Guide at the visitor table. If you are interested in joining a covenant group, please email [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org) and we will be in touch with you.



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**EMERSON EMISSARY**

Congregation established 1994  
A newsletter for Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel  
A liberal religious voice in West St. Louis County  
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