

A newsletter for Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel  
A liberal religious voice in West St. Louis County [www.emersonuuchapel.org](http://www.emersonuuchapel.org)

## TALE OF TWO CHAPELS

Our family visited one of the oldest Unitarian congregation in the USA this summer. King's Chapel has been serving Boston since 1686 when it was first established to hold Anglican services for the English administrators and soldiers. Later as the English left it continued with its own unique form of American liturgy. Today King's Chapel holds the same Christian-based liturgy as first adopted in 1785, yet is a faithful member of the UUA.

As a Boston tourist I was welcomed to sit for a summer Sunday service, and I was amazed at the contrast from my familiar Emerson service. The liturgy was as Christian as the last Episcopalian service I attended. The pews were the square 'boxes' meant to seat one family together. And the entire building was colonial American gothic that represented generations of faithful preservation of its founding traditions. How could this place be the same denomination as Emerson?

It was not hard though to see that both chapels reflect the congregational character of UUism: we define ourselves collectively as well as individually; we invite the spirit of Jesus (or Buddha or Gandhi) into our lives; and we take pride in maintaining our traditions (look at our Bread Service and Madrigal Dinner).

Join us in creating our own congregational life and traditions.

*Tom Kibby, ed.*



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### Important Dates in November

- Bread Service Nov. 22
- "Candle of Hope" service of seasonal music Sun., Nov. 29

# KRISTA'S CORNER

MINISTER'S NOTES FROM REV. KRISTA TAVES



## Room For All

Did you know that Charles Darwin's wife was a Unitarian? In a recent PBS movie, he is portrayed in a memorable scene with his father when he announces his engagement. "She's a Unitarian!" exclaims his father, "which is no more than a feather bed for wayward Christians!"

We have often been a feather bed for people who can find a religious home no where else. Our religious practice is to cultivate an open heart and an open mind so that we are prepared to welcome a wide diversity of people. We seek to provide room for all.

Room for all isn't just a spiritual exercise. There are practical logistics as well. We need parking, Sunday school rooms, enough coffee and cups, enough orders of service, and enough chairs in our sanctuary.

Our sanctuary is feeling cramped. Attendance has been so high that we have set up extra metal chairs. Still, it can be hard to find a seat. We are struggling to find room for all. Except for one thing. There are many empty seats in the front. If the back is full, it's hard to see those seats. We also know that guests prefer to sit in the back. A first visit to a

congregation can feel intimidating. If a guest arrives and is forced to search for a seat, it can feel unwelcoming and unnerving. So I would ask all members to make a commitment to provide room for all by sitting closer to the front. Also, please sit in the middle of the row rather than on the aisle so others do not have to climb over you to find a seat. Eventually we will need to buy more chairs, but for now, let's use the ones we have!

Parking is another way you can do your part. It can be disconcerting for a guest to have to park way in the back. It gives the impression that there is no room for them. If you are able bodied please consider dropping your family off at the back door and then parking in the back half of the parking lot. Or, you can park your car in the front by Strecker Rd. This last option kills two birds with one stone. You leave a closer spot for guests and create the visual of an active church to passersby. Would it surprise you to know that even on a busy Sunday, we look empty because most of our parking is in the back? Filling those front spots gives a passerby a sense that things are happening here.

There are so many small things we can do to be good hosts. It is up to each of us to do our part to provide room for all, to be that featherbed, so that those who honor us with their presence on Sunday mornings will find a place here

*In faith,  
Rev. Krista*

## Rev. Taves Office Hours

Available by appointment  
Nov 2 - 8: We, Th, Sa, Su  
Nov 9 - 15: Rev. Taves is in Ottawa Canada for the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association Convocation  
Nov 16 - 22: We Th Sa Su  
Nov 23 - 30: OFF

## Pastoral Care

If you wish to meet with Rev. Taves she can be reached at [minister@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:minister@emersonuuchapel.org) or 417 343 8657. She is available 24/7 for Emergency Pastoral Care. She is available for non-emergency pastoral care the weeks she holds office hours.

Visit Rev. Taves at her [Facebook](#) site!

# CAMILLE'S LINES

OBSERVATIONS FROM BOARD PRESIDENT CAMILLE HERMAN



## Sunshine!

I woke up this morning to sunshine! It's a great day!!! Of course, I realize we should all be capable of making our own sunshine, but that big red ball in the sky really helps. My life inside and outside of Emerson seems to get busier every day, and as the official holiday season draws near time will really begin to fly. I am truly one of those people who has trouble enjoying the present moment because there always seems to be a "big list" of TO-DO's in front of me. All I can say is, "I'm working on it."

We had a great 25th Anniversary Party complete with good food, great pictures of the long and recent pasts, and lots of laughs. I was very happy to see so many new faces enjoying the evening. There were lots of good things to eat and drink. And – for an Emerson first – we actually ran out of food! We invited founding members Pat Baker, and Walt & Janie

Fowler to get up and tell us a few stories about the "good old days." Times have certainly changed.

Last Friday was our Annual Fall Festival complete with a "bonfire" in a fire pit, chili, a pumpkin decorating contest and s'mores. Even though the weather was not very pleasant, everyone had a good time and ate until they were stuffed.

This month we have our Annual Family Thanksgiving Bread Service to look forward to which will be followed by a sandwich making social project. It also marks the beginning of Circle Suppers. (More on all of these inside this newsletter.) We will not only have a lot to celebrate – but also much to be thankful for – not the least of which is this community called Emerson that brings us so much comfort and happiness.

Next month brings our 8th Annual Madrigal Dinners and all the religious holidays that fall in December. Our days will continue to get busier and busier. But – let's not lose sight of each other and how what we do together makes all of us stronger. I will look forward to seeing more of all of you in Sunday service and many of our other activities. This home is what we make it and our participation shows how much we care.

Speaking of participation, with the current health concerns, please remember to use the hand sanitizers we have scattered about for you and your family. I'd hate to see anyone sick for the holidays.

In case we have more gray days, I leave you with these words from a song that was popular in the 50's.

"Just let the sunshine in, face it with a grin.

Smilers never lose and frowners never win."

Just open up your heart and let the sunshine in."

*Yours in Spirit,  
Camille*

## Programming

### **November 1** **"Living through Loss and Grief" (Youth Pew)**

Rev. Krista Taves, Matthew Barker, Debbie Baumel, Soledad Villagomez

Grief is an emptying process. Something that is intrinsic to who we are is no longer there as it was before and we have to learn to live in a new way. Members will tell stories of living through loss into new life. We will also honor those who have passed from our midst..

Ron McGowan, pianist  
Special Music: Rev Taves  
Adult Ed: Susan Stafford,  
Part II of UU Principles

### **November 8** **"Unitarian Universalism and Judaism"**

Rev. Krista Taves

There is a story of a Jewish man in a nameless American city who said that he always felt more secure when there was a Unitarian Universalist church in town. We will explore the long relationship between Unitarian Universalists and the Jewish community.

Special Music: Greg Hoeltzel

Adult Ed: Allen Schwab on "Meeting Expectations of Others"

### **November 15** **"Music and Spirituality"**

Allen Schwab

It turns out Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin are not the only historical figures to be receiving bicentennial recognition for having February 1809 birthdays. There was an internationally revered composer born that month and year, hailed as a child genius to rival Mozart and who went on to produce arguably the most popular march ever written, but who was dead at age 38. Who was this fellow, and what can we learn from his life and work?

Ron McGowan, pianist  
Special Music: Johnathan Terhune  
Adult Ed.: Maury Boehmer:  
"To Love and Be Loved:  
Exploring Life's Greatest Gift"

### **November 22** **"Bread Communion"**

Rev. Krista Taves

In this annual Thanksgiving service, we celebrate abundance, generosity and gratitude. You are welcome and encouraged to bring home baked goods for the fellowship hour that follows.

Special Music: Ron McGowan, pianist

Adult Ed: Lauren Lyerla:  
Intergenerational Service Project

### **November 29** **"Candle of Hope"**

Camille Herman, Director

This is our annual music filled service with songs of the season. Come and join us as we sing of love, joy, happiness, and a wish for peace.

Ron McGowan, pianist  
Adult RE: No program

### UU Wings

If you have recently begun participating in our church life or are seeking to deepen your spiritual practice, this is the course for you.

We will meet one Thursday a month for two hours through December. You may join the group at any time. To register for the course contact [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org).

Please let us know if you require childcare.

### November 5 Giving Life the Shape of Justice: Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself

This workshop helps participants understand and experience connections between spirituality and action for justice. The activities help participants recognize and claim the wisdom of loving their neighbors and loving themselves.

### December 3 Wings Set Me Free: Hopes, Dreams, and Expanding Vision

This workshop invites participants to envision the next chapters of their spiritual journeys and to affirm one another's hopes and dreams.

### Coming This Winter Principled Commitment: A Program for Couples offered by Rev. Krista Taves.

This program is for adult couples of all sexual orientations who have made vows or pledged to spend their lives together. Six Thursdays. January 7, 14, 21 February 4, 11, 18 7-9 p.m. Register at: [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)

### Candle of Hope Service

Sunday, November 29 is our annual choir holiday service. The Emerson Singers are rehearsing some wonderful songs of the season for your enjoyment. I urge you to join us on this Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend for a service that is filled with song and a message of peace and joy. There will be children's chapel and children's RE so you can bring the whole family. Then, why don't you stay for an extended coffee hour and a few moments of peace between holidays?

### Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

**Tickets are now on Sale for the 8th Annual Emerson Elizabethan Evening.**

It will take place on December 11 & 12. Emerson Chapel will be transformed into a 16th century castle complete with lords & ladies, serving wenches, wine stewards, a troop of strolling players, and even a FOOL! Use the form found in your newsletter, or get your tickets on Sundays beginning November 1.

We also need our usual assortment of cooks, servers, performers – and this year – costumers to sew some simple hats and aprons. Since this is Emerson's biggest fundraiser, we need everyone to invite their friends. It usually works out well if members/friends can attend one night and work the other.

To participate in any way, please contact director, Camille Herman at [Madrigal@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:Madrigal@emersonuuchapel.org).

The Drum circle met two weeks ago and it was hugely successful! We have decided to gather once a month – the second Sunday of every month, 7:00PM at the Chapel. Thanks to Katie Jones, a music teacher and new friend to Emerson there were plenty of drums available for everyone. Katie and Linda Gidday will be "co-chairing" this group. One does not need a drum to participate and all are welcome. Next meeting is November 8 at 7:00pm.



## Noble Lords & Ladyes, all...

That ye may be Merrie in this goode Season of Christmas  
prithce travel with us in Spirit & Fancy to  
a court in Elizabethan England on  
December 11 or 12, 2009 (as it may please ye)  
to the Great Hall of Emerson Chapel  
73 Strecker Road, Ellisville, MO

... there to be royally feasted, and entertained by Ye Singers Greenleaf,  
Jesters, Fools, Musicians, Players, and surprise guests,  
all assembled for the  
**Eighth Annual Elizabethan Evening**

With beautiful viands, prepared in the Elizabethan Style, served by  
comely wenches and sturdy lads to keep thy wine glasses filled.  
Partake joyously with the Lords & Ladyes of the Court

The Great Hall shall be hung with Elizabethan Banners as befits this festive  
and holy Occasion. Carols shall be sung by all gathered here.

If thou plannest a Company Christmas Party, an entire table seating eight  
may be reserved. All seats shall be reserved on a first-come, first-paid basis.  
Reservations will be held for 3 days without payment. Mail the form below  
with your cheque, or send an e-mail request to:  
Madrigal@emersonuuchapel.org.



To assure thy place at a table on the day of thy choice, pray inscribe thy hand legibly  
below and the names of thy guests, that place cards may be made.



**Tariffe is \$40/per person \$300/table of 8**

Evening thou wouldst like to attend (Circle One):

Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

# desired \_\_\_ x tariffe above = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# desired \_\_\_ x tariffe above = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation will be mailed to:

Thy Guests

Thy Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Add you to our e-mail list? \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this form with thy cheque to: Emerson Elizabethan Evening,  
409 Thunderhead Canyon Drive, Wildwood, MO 63011**

Reservations required and seating is limited: act now.

Refund Policy: Full refunds will be made for cancellations received by Nov. 27  
No refunds given after Nov. 27 unless tickets can be resold.

Fifty percent of the ticket price is tax deductible.

## Programming and Events



### Outreach Partners

The selection of our outreach partners for FY10:

- Fortress Outreach (July)
- Missouri Health Care for All (August)
- Habitat for Humanity (September)
- Circle of Concern (October)
- Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (November)
- 100 Neediest Cases (December)
- Faith Aloud: The Religious and Ethical Voice for Reproductive Justice (January)
- Lift for Life (St. Louis youth)
- Missourians Against the Death Penalty (March)  
PROMO (Personal Rights of Missourians), an advocacy organization for LGBT rights (April)
- Heifer International (May)
- Unitarian Universalist Project (June)

### Growing Pains

When I was a kid, I grew rapidly for a little while and experienced the agony of what was referred to as growing pains. My mom told me to be excited, because it meant that I was growing. I moaned in my distress that being tall wasn't worth it, and that I would rather be small than hurt this bad!

Well, maybe I should have watched my words, because I did stop growing at a lovely 5'3", meaning that I am a good 6" shorter than the rest of my family. Height of course is not everything, but in hindsight I wish I had understood that the temporary pain of growing was worth it to be able to reach the top shelves (instead, I married a wonderful man who reaches them for me. :)

At Emerson we are experiencing growing pains, and like my mother before me, I am here to say that we should see these as a blessing! As worship chair it makes my heart glad to see the ways new people are coming into our community and growing in this liberal, diverse, nurturing spiritual environment. Seeing the crowd of children for the story, seeing the bowl full of candles during Joys & Concerns, having to weave my way through the crowd at coffee hour, these are all good things!

But, like my younger self, it gets easy to focus on the pain and not the growing. Dodging people in the Hearth Room, almost catching a sleeve on fire lighting your candle, having someone drink the last of the coffee just as you were going to get yours...these are all pains, at least for me. I believe that the pain is worth the price, and I am looking forward to the ways our growth stretches us and strengthens us as a community. I encourage you not to stop at seeing the pain, but to look beyond it to what the pangs signify, and that is the growth of a vibrant, healthy faith community that is

servicing the spiritual needs of people in our area, including ourselves!

Some suggestions for lessening the pain as a kid included stretching, exercise, and anti-inflammatories. Some suggestions for lessening the growing pains as a church include the following:

**Share your joy with newcomers!** You love Emerson, help other people love it too! Newcomers want to know what keeps you coming back, so hearing the stories of fellowship, and meeting those involved, will help them get involved too. Also, it reminds each of us of what we love about this church.

**Share your program!** We have a chronic shortage of Sunday morning Orders of Service. Please, if you attend with others and can share, do so. New people usually show up real early or real late, so having some left to hand out once service has started is a way of letting new people know that there is a place for them at the table. Sit in the middle! New people usually sit at the back or on the edges of rows. They do not know anyone and want to slip in and out as easily as possible. This is even more true when they have children, since the kids may fuss and they wish easy access to the exit. So, for those who are able, slide towards the middle, freeing up the outside seats for those who are new!

**Lend a hand!** Don't be afraid to say hello, ask someone who looks new if they need help with anything, take them to the greeters or the DRE. This way we are all caring for the new people, since in a crowded room the greeters might not catch every new face.

I may never be more than 5'3" tall, but we at Emerson have the potential to be very great indeed. I thank you all for making this a church home that I cannot wait to tell my friends about, and I look forward to growing with you in the years to come.

*Peace!*  
*Claudia Hall*

**RE VIEW**

Lauren Lyerla, DRE



Dear Emerson UU RE Families,

On Sunday, October 11, I made a special announcement, reprinted here:

"Being the Director of Religious Education at Emerson these past few years has been an interesting, exciting, and very educational experience. I have grown very much in my time here, and we have accomplished wonderful things together. This is truly a church that loves its children and it has been an honor to serve you in this capacity. But I have come to the realization that I am ready to move onto something new\*. I will be leaving this position effective June 1, 2010 and that means this will be my last church year as your DRE. Beginning June 1, I will take a leave of several months from the congregation to let the next DRE get his or her feet wet, and then I definitely plan on returning to Emerson's Religious Education Program as an active volunteer. I believe strongly in what we do here and I want to support it and be a part of it, but as a full member, rather than as staff.

I encourage each of you, if you know someone who would be a good candidate for the DRE position, to pass along the news of this new opening. If you are interested in being part of the Search Committee, please be in touch with Board

President Camille Herman. We will be posting a job description soon to help spread the word. We would love to get the position filled early so that there is plenty of time for training before the next church year starts up.

In the meantime, I am here as your DRE through this entire church year, and my commitment to the program has not wavered at all. We've got a strong start to the year, with great teachers and lessons, fun special events on the horizon, and many different social justice activities lined up so that we can put our values into action. I look forward to the continuing support of this wonderful community as I finish my term as your DRE and prepare the position for the next person who will serve in this important and enriching post."

\*In response to the many questions I've gotten since that date, regarding what I plan to do next: I'm going to write, edit, and teach writing – it's my first love, and my educational background.

*In peace,  
Lauren Lyerla, DRE*

**Religious Education Hour for Children and Youth:**

**November 1**

Preschool-Kindergarten: Celebrate their ability to give to others.

1st – 4th: Exploring Principle 5: We have a right to vote.

5th – 7th: Learn about individuality and diversity within Unitarian Universalism.

8th: Discuss Youth Pew topic with Claudia Hall

Senior Youth Group: Youth Pew 10 – 11, then discuss Youth Pew topic with Susan and Harry.

**November 8**

Preschool-Kindergarten: Celebrate sharing.

1st – 4th: Exploring Principle

5: We can make decisions.

5th – 7th: Introduction to UU sources of personal beliefs.

8th: Meet with mentors to work on affirmation / credo.

Senior Youth Group: Fall Youth CON at Evanston, IL: Here CONs the Sun

**November 15**

Preschool-Kindergarten:

Celebrate the ways in which they can help others.

1st – 4th: Exploring Principle 3: We accept each other.

5th – 7th: Consider the nature of holidays and holiday rituals.

8th: Meet with mentors to work on affirmation / credo.

Senior Youth Group: Begin exploration of personal ethics with Susan and Harry.

**November 22**

All levels – participate in all-church social justice project, making sandwiches for Salvation Army. Our goal: 100 bag lunches!

**November 29**

Preschool-Kindergarten: Celebrate the things for which we are thankful.

1st – 4th: Exploring Principle 3: We learn and grow together.

5th – 7th: Explore the mystery in religious holiday stories.

8th: Meet with mentors to work on affirmation / credo.

Senior Youth Group: Continue to explore personal ethics with Susan and Harry.

## Administration

### Youth Interface

*Notes for and about our Youth  
(Senior High)*

We are going to CON! We had all forms and money in to DRE Lauren Lyerla with enough time for her to get it all entered on-line at the CMwD website to register us. Not all congregations in our area were this lucky.

Fundraising has been amazing! We are delighted that not only did our congregation respond so positively to our two bake sales (raising over \$800 in the two bake sales), but also the hard work of last year's youth group and the generosity of Eliot Chapel that provided an additional \$1,000 to our youth group coffers.

Attendance in October (which is not finished as I write this mid-month) was amazing considering all the homecoming events that have taken place. We are averaging five per Sunday.

In November, we continue Youth Pew discussions, BYOT Ethics curriculum, go to CON and have a social action/justice day. All is well and exciting in Youth Group!

I am delighted to work with our youth and their parents as we continue to build a strong and vibrant program.

*Yours in Service,  
Barb Brown,  
Youth Coordinator*

### Note:

**Pat Everett** is coordinating the general cleaning of the Chapel. Please contact Pat directly by e-mail [cleaning@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:cleaning@emersonuuchapel.org) or sign up in the Hearth Room to volunteer.

### The Building Care Committee needs your recommendations

We know that you know people who do a great job in their business. People who may give Emerson a price break in return for a donation letter from us and who you know do good work.

So we need a referral from you for the following:

1. New commercial grade carpeting for the hearth room, hall and big classroom
2. Repair of the foundation cracks that leak water into our basement.
3. Evaluation of the mold and smell in our old building once the repairs are completed.
4. Repair of the ceiling cracks in the sanctuary and paint the Ceiling.
5. Clean the gutters and install Lowes leaf guards.

If you can recommend someone who will be forgiving on their pricing, please send their name to Stan Herman use the e-mail address: [building@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:building@emersonuuchapel.org) for your reply.

*Thanks in advance,  
Stan Herman  
Building Chair*

### Treasurer's Note

Our September expenses to-date total approximately \$10603 with income of \$11107. Thank you to everyone who is sending in pledges on a regular basis. It is extremely helpful! Again, I encourage anyone who pays bills online and who has not set up Emerson as a recurring payment to consider doing so.

*Melissa Grizzle  
Treasurer*

### For Care & Concern

If you know of someone in need of food, transportation, a visit, or a phone call – please notify Administrator Randy Whitman in the church office – 636.256.7393.

### RANDY'S DESK

#### Chapel Administrator's Notes – Randy Whitman

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

In September we welcomed 15 visitors. Our September outreach donations of \$254.41 were designated for Habitat for Humanity.

Please keep the office updated with current phone, address and e-mail 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)

**Emerson Chapel Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**October 13, 2009**  
(abridged for space-ed.)

**Present:** Camille Herman (President), Larry Foresman, Melissa Grizzle (Treasurer), Rebecca Langrall (Secretary), Jim Lyonsfield, Charlie Lewis, Nancy Russell (Vice President), Rev. Krista Taves.

Camille opened the meeting at 7:10 PM. Becky read a poem called "Jerusalem" for the opening words.

Krista read words from Section Two of the Board covenant, then the board briefly checked in.

**Approval of September minutes**

Nancy Russell moved that the September minutes be approved. Larry seconded and the motion passed with a voice vote.

**Consent Agenda**

Nancy Russell moved to approve the consent agenda. Melissa seconded and it passed with a voice vote.

**Financial Update/Report**

Treasurer Melissa Grizzle shared a balance sheet for September and a chart of accounts used to track the various buckets into which and out from which money flows.

**Old Business**

Strategic Planning Committee

– The Board reviewed the Long Range Planning Committee Report on Facilities Recommendations from 2003. Krista would like to see the next long range plan mirroring the structure of our new mission and vision: Worship, education, outreach. The goal would be to have this in place for the Congregational meeting

in May, along with an implementation plan.

"Protected" Directory on Website – Barb Brown took responsibility for posting this on the website. The PW will be shared with members and pledging friends.

Review of Annual Goals / Participation Chart Discussion

– There is a need to notice people's participation to do a good job of meeting their needs, understand what patterns there are, and what patterns need to change to fulfill the mission of the church. It could help with tracking congregational growth. Discussion is tabled until next month.

Emerson "Advertising" – Jim conducted a survey of new members to determine how many found Emerson from a directed web search, a random search or from the newspaper. The majority of respondents found Emerson through a directed search.

Gifts vs Donations for Unbudgeted Items - Discussion took place about how we handle payments for our 'needs' that are not budgeted for vs a gift for an individual donor's 'wants.' Charlie will draft a revised version of the October 2005 policy about giving gifts to the church to clarify how we will address this distinction.

**New Business**

Sustaining Membership Committee – We need to resurrect it, as it is a crucial part of the church. Camille will look for a chair for this committee

New Membership category/ Member Emeritus - We need to discuss a new category for

older members who do not pay pledges, but wish to remain members.

Staffing - With Lauren's resignation at the end of June due to changing circumstances in her life, a search committee to find a new DRE will be needed. In other staffing news, Randy has been offered a permanent contract here at Emerson.

Carpet Issue – the mold has returned since the last rain. Camille requested permission from the Board to obtaining quotes for indoor/outdoor carpet, as we pose a health hazard because of the mold. Charlie will send an email to Randy on companies that do air quality assessments.

New Pledges – One aspect of becoming a new member is making a pledge. Based on a recommendation from Charlie, Becky moved that the funds obtained through new pledges stay as pledge income to address possible shortfalls through pledges not collected throughout the year. Charlie seconded the motion, which passed with a voice vote.

The Board discussed plusses and changes we could make to have an even better outcome for our meetings. Larry recommended that we do need to make deadlines by which tabled items will be addressed.

Charlie read the closing words.

Camille closed the meeting at 9:42.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca Langrall*  
*Secretary, Emerson Board of Trustees*

### Reader's Circle

Join fellow book-lovers to discuss Sue Miller's novel, "The Senator's Wife" on Monday, November 16th. Come to the chapel at 6:30PM to join other brown-baggers for dinner, or at 7:00 for dessert and discussion. Please note that Readers Circle doesn't meet in December, but will gather again in January to discuss "The Worst Hard Time: the Untold Story of Those who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl" by Timothy Egan. Contact Pam Foresman for more information.

### Poinsettia's for Sale!

Poinsettia's will be on sale from Sunday, Nov. 8 through Sunday, Nov. 29. Prices will be the same as last year - \$10 for a 6.5" poinsettia with 5-6 blooms and a foil cover. The price includes a \$2.00 donation to Emerson which covers the cost of the greenery used to decorate the sanctuary. Look for the order forms in your Order of Service and This Week at Emerson.

### Green Thoughts

With these five kitchen gadgets, making food at home can be healthy, save money and time, and still be good for the environment.

1. Slow cookers can use less expensive ingredients for a great tasting meal and can be ready when you come home from work.
2. Bread machines make great bread, pizza dough, and desserts that cost less and taste better than most store bought breads without those preservatives.
3. Coffeemakers can save about \$100 a month over buying coffee from a coffee shop.
4. Soda makers are fun, easy to use, inexpensive (25 cents for a 12 oz. soda), have a wide range of regular, diet, and caffeine free flavors, and no high fructose corn syrup!
5. Water filters can make your tap water taste better than any overpriced, bottled water.

### Kudos to...

- **Andrew Dickson** for fixing the sanctuary sound system!
- **Stan Herman and Lisa Parnell** for taking out the air conditioner for the winter
- **The Eliot Youth Group** for their generous gift of \$1000 to our Youth Group for their help in last year's youth conference.
- **Our '08-'09 Youth Group** for all the hard work that led to this donation.
- **This year's Youth Group** for all the hard work on fundraising, and their parents and other adults for supporting them!
- **Dorothy Newell** for reminding us to keep the Red Wheelbarrow full; and **Phyllis MacLaren** for taking the donated food to the Circle of Concern.
- **Phyllis MacLaren**, who has done an AMAZING job of filling in the calendar of special musicians at virtually NO COST to Emerson. This was an incredible undertaking and Phyllis has done it with charm, wit, and grace. Thank you so much Phyllis!
- **Marianna Montero & Joe Paglisotti** for child care during the 25th Anniversary Party
- **Soledad Jarmillo** the 25th Anniversary slide show
- **Chris VanMierlo** for organizing food & drinks for the 25th Anniversary party.
- **Aesthetics & PR Committees** for our new Bulletin Board Look
- The many **providers** of Sunday music
- The **dads** who manned the fire pit for s'mores

If you'd like to nominate someone for KUDOS, please send their name(s) to: [newsletter@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:newsletter@emersonuuchapel.org)

# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 Womyns Web 7PM	3	4 Movie Matinee 12N  Men's Group 7PM	5 UU Wings CG 7PM Emerson Singers 7PM	6  Circle Suppers	7  Circle Suppers
8 Service 10AM  Drumming Circle 7PM	9  M&Ms 7PM*	10 Wyse Womyns CG 1:30PM CG Living the Journey @Em 6:30 PM Board Meeting 7PM	11	12 Daytimers 11AM  Emerson Singers 7PM	13	14
15 Service 10AM	16 Readers Circle 7PM	17	18 Men's Group 7PM	19  Emerson Singers 7PM	20	21
22 Service 10AM	23  M&Ms 7PM*	24 CG Living the Journey @Em 6:30 PM Emerson Singers 7PM	25	26	27	28
29 Service 10AM  Mitten Tree 2:30PM	30	1	2 Men's Group 7PM	3 UU Wings CG 7PM Walden Pond 7PM	4	5

### Upcoming events:

- Madrigal Dinner Dec 11-12
- RE Holiday Make It and Take It Party Dec. 6

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.

## 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

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



**EMERSON EMISSARY**

Congregation established 1994  
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A liberal religious voice in West St. Louis County  
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