# Second Unitarian Church of Omaha Second Thoughts

May, 2014

Join Us This Sunday! Worship Services 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.	May 4	Rev. Scott McNeill <b>Is the Bible Right? Do the 'Merciful Receive Mercy'?</b> In the Beatitudes, Jesus offers that those who show mercy will have it returned; but, we've all experienced times we've given grace without receiving it ourselves. How do we strike a balance – or perhaps, that's not what we should do.
Fellowship and Refreshments 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.	May 11	Rev. Scott McNeill Arise, then, Women of this Day! In 1870, Julia Ward Howe wrote, "A Mother's Day Proclamation," urging the world to create peace. Americans use
Annual Congregational Meeting		the second Sunday of May to recognize the role of mothers; this Sunday, we celebrate the work of women in different roles, and seek to grow the spirit of peace for all.
Sunday, May 18 (see page 3)	May 18	<ul><li>Rev. Scott McNeill</li><li><b>To Stop One Heart From Breaking</b></li><li>This Sunday, the choir will serenade us with the poem from</li><li>Emily Dickinson, calling us to help one another through life. We</li></ul>
<i>Silent Auction Fundraiser</i> Starting May 11		create and support our church in order to save our own hearts from breaking and to get courage and strength to "ease the aching."
(see page 4)		The May 18 service is followed by the Annual Meeting at 1 p.m.
Cinco de Mayo Curriculum Festival Monday, May 5 (see page 8) Upcoming Retirees' Group Events (open to all)	May 25	Shawna Foster <b>Step 1: Human Rights, Step 2: ???, Step 3: Peace</b> For the last fifty years, social justice has been about agreeing and advocating for human rights. The next fifty years will be about implementing those rights. Shawna Foster will share with us what the missing link is to effectively implement everything from human rights to honoring that New Year's resolution. Shawna's call to ministry comes from social justice. She graduated Meadville Lombard Theological School in May, 2013, and is a member at First Unitarian Church.
(see page 10)		

Second Thoughts is a publication of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha. Please send articles and submissions to <u>info@2Uomaha.org</u>. Deadline is the fifteenth of each month.

# **Minister's Musings**



By Rev. Scott McNeill



May is always a particularly busy month with holidays and graduations, along with the general joy of it being Spring and nice enough to be outside (well, okay – sometimes – who knows when it'll snow next). While you may have a lot going on, I want to update you on what's happening at the church and around town, and invite you to participate!

**May 1** will host the first church meeting of the month, and it's appropriately Social Justice! May 1 is also May Day, both a celebration of Spring and of worker movements. What better time to encourage people to think about Caring for the Environment and Closing the Economic Gap!?

On **May 5**, Molly Kliment-Jenkins and the Religious Growth and Learning Committee will be talking with parents to celebrate the past year of classes and to plan for the summer and coming church year. This year, we were very privileged to have so many volunteers as teachers and guides for the children. If you can volunteer again (or for the first time) over the summer or next year, we'd be delighted and the children would be lucky to have you!

Saturday, **May 10** (the second Saturday of the month) is when the Writing for Spiritual Growth group meets. This group presented a fantastic worship in January (connecting to our theme of Creation), and offers a way to grow in your creativity.

**May 13** is the second Tuesday, which is the day for the Retirees' Group – in May, they're learning about gardening with master gardener, Mary Anna Anderson!

On the next Saturday, I've been asked to speak on a panel about religion for youth who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, and/or transgender. The Nebraska LGBTQ+ Emerging Leaders Summit is hosting "Corn This Way" (what a great title!) for young people between the ages of 14-24. Over the past couple of years, I have been lucky enough to meet and work with fantastic leaders across Omaha and hope to use this conference as a way to connect with young people in Nebraska, letting them know about our religious tradition.

The main event of May takes place on Sunday, **May 18**. You'll read about it in other parts of the newsletter, but we cannot talk enough of how important it is for members to attend the congregation's Annual Meeting beginning at 1 p.m. This is an opportunity to connect with other members and to hear about our work in the past and help shape our work in the future.

After the Annual Meeting, we still have a full calendar – the Library Committee meets (**May 19**), both the Caring Committee and Worship Committee will meet (**May 20**), as does the Meditation Group (**May 22**). Each of these groups would love for people who are interested to check out the meetings or committees and help them continue their work for the church.

Believe it or not, this probably accounts for 50-66% of the programs we offer in May (and during most months). Each month, we balance a variety of programs – with monthly committees and small groups meeting regularly and other special programs, like Adult Religious Education classes. Spring brings a new energy to many of us, so it's a good time to jump in and work with a program of the church!

Hope to see you around, *Rev. Scott* 



By JoAnne Draper, Chair, Board of Trustees



Hear ye! Hear ye! Please mark your calendar for this year's Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 18, starting at 1 p.m. The Board will be providing lunch with the business meeting to follow. Members who can vote have signed the Membership Book and made a recorded financial contribution to the church by March 18. Members not able to attend may obtain an absentee ballot from Board Secretary Anita Jeck. Of course, all are welcome to attend and childcare will be provided. Please make time to participate in our democratic process.

Second Unitarian had a good turnout at the MidAmerica Regional Assembly at Topeka, KS, on April 11, 12, and 13. Those who attended were Carol Johnson, Vicki Pratt, Cheri Cody, Pat Caffrey, Darrel & JoAnne Draper, and Phil & Donna Dudley. It is always enjoyable to be around lots of Unitarian Universalists, catching up with old friends and making new ones. There was even a special song developed for this event called, "Bending Toward Justice" which was inspired by a quote from Martin Luther King, Jr.: *The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice*.

JoAnne

## NOTICE OF SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, May 18, 2014, 1:00 p.m.

## Absentee ballots are available by contacting Anita Jeck.

## **Check your Weekly eNews for updates**



## Share the Plate for May: Girls Inc.

#### One half of Second Unitarian's offering received in May will go to Girls Inc.

Founded in 1975 as Girls Club, Girls Incorporated of Omaha is the place for girls age 5 through 18, inspiring all girls to be "strong, smart and bold." Girls Inc. has centers in North Omaha and South Omaha, with art rooms, computer labs, a library, a woodshop, a sports field, and a playground. Girls Inc. serves hundreds of girls every day and 1,000+ girls annually. Girls participate in activities including sports, meditation, visual and performing arts, science, nutritious eating, public speaking, reading, and homework help. Visit **www.girlsincomaha.org**.

To nominate an organization for our Share the Plate program, visit the church website or contact the Social Justice Coordinating Council or Rev. Scott.



# **Treasurer's Report**

By Pat Caffrey, Treasurer

#### <u>Second Unitarian Church</u> Treasurer's Report Month End for March 31, 2014

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>March</u>	Year-To-Date	
Income	\$14,416.41	\$167,665.77	
Expenses	<u>-\$17,846.43</u>	<u>-\$149,158.87</u>	
Net Over/Short	<u>-\$ 3,430.02</u>	<u>\$ 18,506.90</u>	

YTD Pledge Income/Current Year: \$139,522.23

reflects 76.73% of \$181,841.00 Total Pledged for 2013 -14. YTD New Pledge Income/Current Year: \$6,604.00

reflects 69.78% of \$9,464.00 (8) New Pledges for 2013 -14.

Contribution Statements for 07/01/13 through 03/31/14 will be emailed or mailed if email not available during April, 2014.

If you would like more detailed financial statements, please contact me.

**Thank you!** Treasurer Pat Caffrey

## **Silent Auction Fundraiser**

By Vicki Pratt, Finance Committee

The 2013-2014 operating budget assumes \$7,500 in income from fundraisers. With two months left in this fiscal year, we've raised about half of this amount. You can help make up the difference by participating in our in-congregation Silent Auction. Last year we raised \$2,500 so we're looking for a few more items and bidders this year.

#### Donate to the Silent Auction!

Your donated items will be accepted through May 8. Our goal is *things that no one can live without*. Items can be gift certificates, "coupons" for your expertise, or a gift basket. Examples: UU jewelry, 2-hour "How to Use Facebook" lesson, 2-hours of easy home repair, 1 lawn mowing, a home cooked meal. To donate an item, contact Clyde Anderson. Please include a description of the item, minimum starting bid, and a *Buy It Now* price.

#### Bid at the Silent Auction!

*Bidding starts Sunday, May 11.* Bid sheets will be at the back of the sanctuary. There are two ways you can bid:

• Make your starting bid (minimum amount is on the bid sheet), come back often to check if someone outbid you, and make your final bid before **noon on Sunday, June 1**. Winners will be announced at the end of second service.

• **OR**, be the first to put your name in the *Buy It Now* section of the bid sheet and pay the designated price.

## Up for Auction So Far

- Two reserved parking spaces at church
- Fair trade gift basket Be watching the Weekly eNews for an updated list.



The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee is pleased to present an outstanding slate of candidates for the Board and Endowment and Nominations Committees. Members will vote for the candidates at our May 18 Annual Congregational Meeting. Following are short biographies from each of the candidates.

# **Board of Trustees**

#### Pat Caffrey

A special thank you to all for being Second Unitarian Church! I joined you in November, 2005, and have served as a member and chair of the Social Justice Committee and OTOC leader, Auction Fundraiser co-chair, Treasurer, and member of the Committee on Ministry team. In April of this year, I participated in the Unitarian Universalist Association MidAmerica Regional Assembly in Topeka, KS, where I was reminded of one of the reasons for choosing to become a Unitarian Universalist -- the Hunger for Justice! My commitment to justice was sparked once again. It is my hope that we work together to build strong relationships, which is pivotal to a strong faith community, in order to carry out our mission within and beyond Second Unitarian Church.

## **Judy Eller** (final year of term vacated by Bill Kuhn; Judy was appointed for second year of term)

I have always been Unitarian – I just didn't always know it! For many years I searched for a church home, a community of people who knew that there is not just one right religion. I knew there had to be other people who respected all religions and knew that you didn't have to recite a creed or be "saved" to be a good person. The first time I walked in the door at Second Unitarian I knew this was a place I could call my spiritual home. I signed the membership book in August of 2009 – it was a life-changing decision.

I have been actively involved in the Fellowship committee and have served as co-chair for 2 years. Fellowship provides an opportunity to serve others while fulfilling an important social function for our community. It is a ministry of giving, but what I get in return far outweighs what I give. When I was approached by the board to step in and finish a term on the board, I was honored and a little overwhelmed by the responsibility. I appreciate the confidence the board has placed in me. I have learned a lot about the workings of Second Unitarian and have great respect for the people who serve in a volunteer capacity as well as the salaried professionals who guide our community. I feel that my experience in public service (I have been a school teacher for 30 years), my experiences on the board for the past 7 months, and my commitment to Unitarianism make me a good candidate to continue to serve on the board.

## Anita Meyer

My husband Gary Toth and I joined the church in 2002. Our son Alex was very young at that time and my first involvement at Second Unitarian was volunteering in the nursery. Since then I have taught religious education, been a committee member, served as a co-chair, and am currently chair of the Religious Growth and Learning Committee. I was co-chair during the initiation of Service Learning Projects where learning takes place once a month doing work for others outside of the classroom. During my position as co-chair, we transitioned from one director of religious education to our current interim DRE. I also serve on the Personnel Committee and was involved in creation of new personnel evaluation forms and determination of pay for our staff.

In my professional life I am a toxicologist for the Army Corps of Engineers and serve on various workgroups composed of Department of Defense Service representatives as well as workgroups composed of staff from various federal and state regulatory agencies. I lead a group of service toxicologists that reviews EPA toxicological reports and I work with EPA to resolve differences.

I am grateful for the opportunities I've had for personal and spiritual growth at Second Unitarian and also for the relationships I have here. I would be honored to serve our church on the Board of Trustees and especially in this first year of implementing the new strategic plan.

## Nominations and Leadership Development

#### Janet Nichols

I became a Unitarian Universalist in 1984 by joining the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Topeka, KS. I was raised a Methodist. While at Topeka, I held various positions in the church including co-DRE and teaching Religious Education at various levels. My co-DRE and I organized a summer Peace Camp for elementary children, which over the years became a community event.

I came to Second Unitarian in 1997. I have been a part of this growing community at various levels as well. I have been co-chair of the Fellowship Committee serving several terms. I have served on the Religious Growth and Learning Committee and have taught Religious Education at various levels. I was also on the YAC (Youth Adult Committee) when my son was in the youth group. I have served on the Nominations Committee. Professionally, I am an Early Childhood Special Education teacher.

This is an exciting time with the new long range plan direction toward leadership growth in our spiritual community. I am challenged and excited to be a part of this leadership path to serve on the Nominations and Leadership Committee.

#### **Endowment Committee**

#### Cheri Cody

I joined Second Unitarian Church in 1977 and my children grew up in this church. I have served on four boards and was president for three of them. I have chaired Music & Worship, Membership, Social Justice, Denominational Connections, and the 2004 Long Range Planning Committee. I have worked on special efforts such as multiple long range planning committees, the extension ministry task force, and two search committees. I co-chaired the local arrangements host committee for the 2008 Prairie Star District conference in Omaha.

Since 1989 I've been involved in a number of committees and positions with Prairie Star District (now MidAmerica Region). In 2007 I completed the certification training as a facilitator for the Healthy Congregations curriculum. I continue as a lay consultant doing board retreats and other workshops with congregations.

Three years ago I was appointed to the Open UUA Committee which works to achieve transparency in the work of the UUA Board and associated committees. Earlier this year I was trained to be a UUA Compensation Consultant and I serve a portion of the MidAmerica Region. When assistance is requested, I work with congregations which are in search for professional ministers to help them determine optimal salary options.

I look forward to working with the other members of the Endowment Committee to enhance our planned giving possibilities.

Consider joining fellow Unitarian Universalists June 29-July 5 this summer in the Missouri Ozarks at the annual **Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly (MUUSA).** 

The week-long camp offers many workshops and activities for families, couples and singles of all ages. This year Reverend Amy Shaw will lead the daily Morning Celebration service on this year's theme: "Sailing Strange Shores: The Wisdom of the Weird."

Come gather in the beautiful forests and rolling hills of the Missouri Ozarks at YMCA Trout Lodge, where you can connect with old friends, make new ones, and participate in a wide variety of activities.

Get all the details at <u>http://muusa.org/</u> or see the notice posted on our Community Bulletin Board downstairs.





# **Connecting Our Congregation to Our Larger Faith**

by Vicki Pratt, Denominational Connections Chair



Seven members of our congregation traveled to Topeka for the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalist congregations in our MidAmerica geographic region: Carol Johnson (delegate), Pat Caffrey (delegate), Vicki Pratt (delegate), JoAnn and Darrel Draper, Cheri Cody, and Donna Dudley.

Our delegates represented Second Unitarian at the business meeting (simulcast to four cities) where delegates of 129 congregations from 13 states elected new members of the MidAmerica Board of Trustees.

We came back from this "Hunger for Justice!" conference fired up to grab the arc of the moral universe and bend it toward justice.

Visit http://www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly/1651-regional-assembly-2014-videos and you can:

- Watch Rev. Dr. Paul Rasor's keynote address reminding us that UUs have a long heritage of commitment to justice. Each of us has a duty to embrace the trajectory of this commitment and move it along so the arc remains within reach of those who come after us.
- Watch Ann Zimmerman singing her justice song commissioned for this conference
- Watch Jim Coppoc's awarding-winning "The Justice Table" sermon. By exponential justice, when one person reaches out to two people and those two reach out to two others, it only takes 33 "turns" to touch everyone in the world. Justice making can be a bridge across the moat of creeds.
- Watch the Sunday worship service

Saturday afternoon's March To Stop Bullying from the hotel to the state capitol got good TV news coverage.



Next up is the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly of all congregations, **June 25-29, in Providence, Rhode Island**. Information is at <u>http://www.uua.org/ga/</u>. "Love Reaches Out" is the theme of this year's General Assembly.

It's your opportunity to attend many informative workshops and network with UUs from across the country.

## Women's Alliance

By Mary Bort

Women from First and Second Unitarian Churches are invited to attend the Women's Alliance monthly get -together on the evening of Monday, May 12.

Details pertaining to the meal and program will be announced .

We ask for \$12 which goes to the cost of dinner and our education fund. If this will be your first time attending an Alliance get-together, please let us know and be our guest

RSVP to Janet West no later than Friday, May 9. Please indicate if you want a vegetarian entrée. RSVPs are necessary so that we can order the correct number of entrées from the caterer.



# Cinco de Mayo Curriculum Fiesta

By Molly Kliment-Jenkins, Interim Director of Religious Education



So, you're asking yourself, "Self, how am I going to celebrate Cinco de Mayo?" Well, your Religious Growth and Learning Committee has a great idea: come to our Curriculum Fiesta! It's in the Sanctuary, **Monday, May 5** (CINCO DE MAYO!), from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

We'll have a taco/nacho/taco salad bar and non-alcoholic, zero calorie margaritas. If you think that sounds like fun, there's more!

We will be discussing our curriculum selections for the 2014-2015 school year. We'll look at where we've been, where we're headed and whether we're addressing our Strategic Plan.

We have childcare, food, and a reason to gather. What more do we need? We need *YOU*!

## **Building & Grounds**

By Clyde Anderson, Co-Chair

#### SAFETY FIRST: Building Lock-Up

If you are the last one to leave the building, please be sure to close all windows, turn off lights, and make sure all exterior doors are locked, including the downstairs doors. If you're part of a group leaving the church after a meeting or event, make sure there is a clear understanding who is taking responsibility for locking up.

#### SAFETY FIRST: Be Cautious in the Parking Lot

Don't leave valuables in your car. If you see someone you don't recognize watching the parking lot or behaving in a suspicious manner when you arrive for Sunday service, please notify a greeter or the volunteer at the Welcome Desk. If arriving or leaving after dark, please watch your step on the stairs and parking lot. Please report any exterior lights not working to the church office.

## **Meditation Reincarnated**

By Kevin Dunlop

Our meetings are composed of two parts. First, we discuss a meditation/Buddhist related text, then we follow with an actual meditation. We discuss the text at the meeting by bringing up interesting points and asking questions of each other about the text. We also discuss any other miscellaneous meditation-related issues that anyone would like to bring up. We end the meeting with a group meditation, usually about 20 minutes or so in length. Sometimes it is a silent meditation, and sometimes we use meditation-related music or vocally guided meditation.

We have begun reading the book <u>10% Happier: How I Tamed the Voice in My Head, Reduced Stress</u> <u>Without Losing My Edge, and Found Self-Help That Actually Works--A True Story</u> by Dan Harris. You can read the book ahead of time if you like, but it's not necessary. We'll read and discuss the book at our monthly meetings.

Meditation Reincarnated meets in the church downstairs on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:45 p.m. to learn about and practice meditation. This group is designed for everyone, whether monk or beginner. No previous meditation experience is necessary, and we invite you to come and check us out. Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 22.



## Stewardship Task Force Update

By Clyde Anderson, Chair



#### You Are Called Stewardship Campaign – Almost Done! Now It's Time to Budget

On March 31, our annual pledge drive ended, and the Budget Team\* wants to update everyone on our progress. Our congregation has a history of incredible generosity, although this year has been a little different. As of April 23, we had 80 pledge units pledging a total of \$180,634. Not only is this way short of our \$195,479 goal, it is also less than last year's pledge total of \$181,841 from 88 households!

Many people are contributing significantly and with a generous spirit. We are extremely thankful that people pledge 3%, 6%, even 10% of their income – it is what keeps our ministry alive and thriving, offering Omaha a hopeful, vibrant religious community! However, for various reasons some members pledged less than last year or not at all.

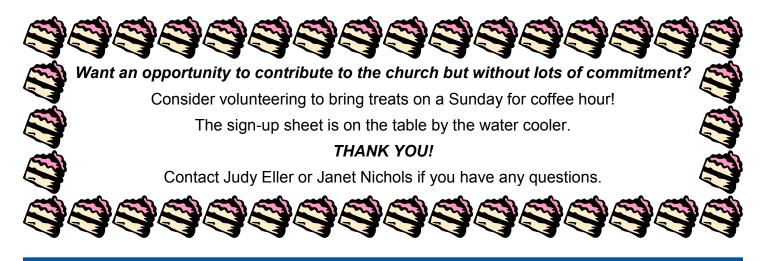
We provide excellent programming through the work of our volunteers and staff. Our commitment is to provide for programs that further the mission of the church and to pay our staff fair wages. However, our pledge income isn't enough to uphold this commitment next year.

The Budget Team meets April 30 to finalize the 2014-2015 Budget which will be presented at the Annual Meeting May 18 for congregational discussion and approval. Given the unavoidable increases in some expenses like utilities and insurance, it's obvious that we will be unable to fund any increases in wages and benefits for our minister and staff next year.

Help make our task easier! If you have not pledged yet, or if you are willing to increase your pledge, please consider doing so by May 9. Pledge forms are available in the gold pledge box in the back of the sanctuary, from the church office, or on the website under "Office Forms."

You will soon be able to view the Proposed 2014-2015 Budget on the church website. Select MEMBER RESOURCES, then GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, then Proposed Annual Budget 2014-2015.

\* - Budget Team members: Cheri Cody, Rev. Scott McNeill, JoAnne Draper, Craig Piquette, Pat Caffrey, and Clyde Anderson



#### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT OF RIGHT RELATIONS Adopted May 23, 2010

To strengthen the bond of peace within and beyond the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha: We pledge

- to create a religious community where we freely explore our values and honor our diversity as a source of communal strength.
- to build healthy relationships by respecting our differences and assuming good intentions.
- to listen appreciatively and endeavor to speak directly, honestly, and compassionately, particularly when we are in conflict.
- to do our best to forgive if we hurt one another, to make amends and to reconnect in a spirit of gratitude and generosity.
- to abide by this covenant in celebration of the common purpose that unites us.

Faithfully done, our work carries forward the ministry of this church to create loving community and supports our mission to grow as a beacon of hope—sharing a vision of a world community that embraces diversity, justice, and respectful stewardship within the interdependent web of existence.

# Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU)

By Ben Wallace

YRUU youth and their adult chaperones from First and Second Unitarian Churches will be traveling to Colorado this summer to learn about Service, Teamwork, Leadership, Spirituality, and themselves! The trip will be June 15-21, 2014, and will include a Service Project in the Loveland, CO, area as well as time in Estes Park at the YMCA of the Rockies. Youth Trips are an important component of the youth community and a celebration of the blessed community that we create throughout the year in YRUU. In order to make the trip affordable to those attending, there will be a set of fundraising events throughout the next few months including a **Book/Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at First Unitarian**. To help out or donate to help keep the costs affordable for those attending, please contact the YRUU Youth Group at <u>OmahaYRUU@gmail.com</u>. Thank you as always for the amazing support received from First and Second Unitarian Church members, friends, and parents. Your support is investing in the ongoing existence of this blessed community for our youth!

## **Retirees' Group**

By Carol Johnson

Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, May 13, from 1 to 2 p.m.** for "The Friendly Side of Vicious Weeds." We'll hear from Mary Anna Anderson, a Master Gardener recently retired from Nebraska Extension Services. She has written a monthly column about weeds for the UNL Acreage Insights website (<u>http://acreage.unl.edu/</u>) and will share her knowledge about using weeds for herbal healing, food, ink, and many other practical purposes.

Come find out what "friendly" weeds you have in your yard or garden and how you might benefit from them. Everyone is welcome!

Also - save **Tuesday, June 3, 4 to 5 p.m.** for a Lifesaver Party presented by AlegentCreighton Health. Learn life-saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillators (AED) for children and adults, win door prizes, have fun, and learn to save a life! Certification is available for \$5.00 per individual; there is no cost if you are not getting certification. Register by calling 800-253-4368 or visiting <u>the</u> <u>AlegentCreighton website</u>. Everyone is welcome, but please register!



Attendance							
Date	Adults in Worship	Adults in R.E.	Children in R.E.	Service Learning			
3/30	68			15			
4/6	66	9	11	_			
4/13	71	10	12				
4/20	92	Intergenerational					

Second Unitarian Church of Omaha 3012 South 119th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68144 402-334-0537 www.2Uomaha.org

# Staff

Rev. Scott McNeill, *Minister* Office hours by appointment 402-334-0537 ext. 111 <u>minister@2Uomaha.org</u>

Rev. Sarah Gettie McNeill, Affiliated Community Minister communityminister@2Uomaha.org

Molly Kliment-Jenkins, Interim Director of Religious Education 402-334-0537 ext. 112 dre@2umaha.org

Gary Emenitove, Office Administrator 402-334-0537 ext. 114 info@2Uomaha.org

Donna Zebolsky, Music Director music@2Uomaha.org

Katie Tessin, Connections Coordinator membership@2uomaha.org

Second Thoughts Staff: Rev. Scott McNeill, Nancy Amsler, Richard Koelling, Betty Segell, Tom Peterson, Gary Emenitove

## **Blackstone Book Club**

By Gwen Eurich

Our next book discussion will take place on **Tuesday, May 27**. Please note that we are changing the meeting time to **7:00 p.m.**, which is a half hour earlier than we have met previously. We will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Our book selection for May is <u>Beyond Belief: My Secret Life Inside</u> <u>Scientology</u> by Jenna Miscavige Hill.

We invite and welcome anyone who would like to attend our discussions. If you would like more information, please contact Gwen Eurich.

## PRIVACY POLICY FOR CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

As stated in church policies: Respect for the privacy of members, friends, and visitors is a primary consideration. When newsletter submissions contain personal information (phone number, street address, email address, etc.), it is the author's responsibility to get the subject's permission to publish this information. Since many of our communications are transmitted electronically and information therein may more easily be re-transmitted, it's essential that any personal information be approved for inclusion.

In general, it's preferable to omit personal information, but in those cases where it's necessary (such as a location for an offsite meeting), those who submit articles should ask for permission to publish the personal information. An alternative is "Please call or email the church office for contact information." Contact the Office Administrator for more information.

**Regarding published photographs**: If you do <u>not</u> want your photo published (including in the newsletter or on the website), please inform the Office Administrator in writing. Thanks!

#### Second Unitarian Church

3012 S. 119th Street Omaha, NE 68144

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## MISSION STATEMENT SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH OF OMAHA

"Our Mission is to be Authentic, Compassionate, and Transformative in our lives, in our faith, and in the world."

Adopted May 20, 2012