



August, 2011

# Second Thoughts

Second Unitarian Church of Omaha

**Inside this issue:**

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Minister's Musings               | 2  |
| Board of Trustees                | 3  |
| Share the Plate                  | 3  |
| Treasurer's Report               | 4  |
| Two Services Coming in September | 5  |
| Ethical Eating Discussion        | 6  |
| Annual Paint-a-Thon              | 6  |
| 35th Anniversary                 | 7  |
| Library & Book Sale              | 9  |
| Calendar                         | 12 |
| Church Information               | 13 |

**Join Us This Sunday!**

First Hour Discussion 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship and Refreshments 11:30 a.m.

**August 7 Galoshes and Raincoats: Reflections on Dancing in the Rain**

Rev. Sarah Gettie Burks

*The storms of life swirl about us much of the time, affecting our lives or those around us. Some come on quickly, without much warning, hit hard and then disappear out of sight. Others brew for weeks or months, giving us the chance to prepare and "batten down the hatches" for what is to come. Whatever form they come in, we can learn how to better respond to life's storms, perhaps even with a little dance in our step! This Sunday, bring your raingear, sit back, and get ready to feel the rain on your skin.*

First Hour

**Writing for Spiritual Growth**

David Martin

**August 14**

**Got Stress?**

Dan and Kelly Hanneman

*Inspired by life experiences as human beings, massage therapists, yoga instructors, and parents, Dan and Kelly Hanneman discuss how stress affects peoples lives and spiritual growth. Ideas for dealing with your stress will be discussed as well.*

First Hour

**Our Unitarian Universalist Story**

Stu Burns & Anita Jeck

**August 21 If I Hide Myself Wherever I Go, Am I Ever Really There?**

Rev. Scott McNeill

*This line from the song "For You" by the Barenaked Ladies has stuck with me for years. It is, I believe, the crux of Unitarian Universalism, and so on this Sunday in worship, we will talk about vulnerability and risk and presence, and coming out from hiding.*

First Hour

**Our Unitarian Universalist Story**

Stu Burns & Anita Jeck

**August 28**

**Long Sermon on a Pretty Sunday**

Rev. Scott McNeill

*Country singer Brad Paisley (yes, the minister listens to country) sings a great song about wishing the minister would speed it along. This summer sunny Sunday, join us for a fun worship discussing importance of faith in a world gone chaotic. (Note, title of sermon may or may not be indicative of the length of Scott's actual sermon.)*

First Hour

**Response to Ethical Eating Statement of Conscience**

Marcia Leise



**Help Celebrate  
Second Unitarian's  
35th Anniversary!**

*(see page 7)*

**COMING NEXT  
MONTH:  
Two Sunday  
Morning Services!**

*(see page 5)*

**Second Thoughts is a monthly publication of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha.  
Please send your articles and submissions to: [info@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:info@secondunitarianomaha.org).  
Deadline is the fifteenth of each month.**



# Minister's Musings

By Reverend Scott McNeill



The summer is heating up and I am so very excited about the work going on at Second Unitarian Church of Omaha! I am privileged to have served you and this congregation for a year now – can you believe it's been a year? It was just a minute ago that our resident historical figure **Darrel Draper** was teaching us about the settling of Nebraska.

As we gear up for the fall, there are exciting plans that I want to share with you as well as some notes of gratitude. First, to **Tom Peterson** and **Carol Johnson** (and their respective partners), they provided great leadership on the board of trustees. This is a fantastic way to serve our congregation, especially if you are a big picture sort of person. The current board is chaired by the wonderful **Cheri Cody** and everyone on the board is eager and excited to work this year!

Starting on the second Sunday of September (the 11<sup>th</sup>), our congregation will launch **two worship services**. This is both exciting and cause for some nervousness! Everyone I've mentioned this to in the area (Rev. Lisa Schwartz being one in particular) has wished us luck and given some good pointers on the challenges. Hopefully we will learn from their lessons. Among them: have **Religious Education** at both services, encourage some people to **try both services** for a few weeks to see what fits better (and to see everyone!), and make sure there are **LOTS of potlucks** and opportunities to get together.

We will certainly plan social events and I thank the Fellowship committee (**Janet, Betty and ALL** of the others) who work so hard every week for us. We also hope to start **small groups** in the fall – to make sure people are connected with one another (we would be doing this with or without two services). Some small groups will discuss theology and be a mix of people (called **covenant groups**). Other small groups will be focused around age, stage in life, or needs (such as a group for those **retired** from work but still working hard, those caregivers of people with **autism**, and so on).

Busy busy busy! But wait, we're not done! Starting on the fourth Sunday of September (through May), we will begin a new worship service unlike Sunday morning. This service, **Vespers**, will be led by a variety of people in our church and community and will focus on different topics. Some ideas for this year are: **silence, guitar, Taize, UU Communion, The Beatles, poetry** and more! Suggest your ideas to fabulous chair of Music and Worship **Julie Kirn**, or join music and worship to work on a month of your own!

As usual, the Religious Growth and Learning Committee, with dedicated leader **Jaime Short**, and a group of faithful, committed people behind her, are working on programming for children, youth and adults alike. Some programs like the **Cornerstone Events** happen once every three months as a way of bringing the whole community together and learning more about our history (with some fun and food mixed in).

**Kathy Bell** has been volunteering as a membership coordinator for the past several months and has done a fantastic job of continuing our great membership program and welcoming new folks! I'm happy to say that we are building connections with newcomers and settled members and I am delighted at how friendly we are.

There is so much more that I could highlight and name and pump up (how about the **community garden** which has gotten off to a FANTASTIC start and hopefully will grow). But I can't because this page will run out of room annnny minute now. But next month and the month after that, look to this column as a way of hearing about our wonderful people and programs, with a dash of pastoral messages in between.

It is truly my pleasure and privilege to serve this congregation and to companion each of you as we make life's journey together. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In faith,

**Rev. Scott McNeill**



## Planks and Slivers from the Board

By Cheri Cody, Chair, Board of Trustees



This month we celebrate our 35th anniversary at Second Unitarian Church. We were fortunate to be the beneficiaries of the vision of Rev. Robert Weston, minister at First Unitarian, and the support of members from First Unitarian Church in Omaha as they made the leap to expand to west Omaha. Although their original dream of a large, new church out west didn't develop, we were lucky to have our start in this debt-free church building so we could carry on the dream of growing Unitarian Universalism in Omaha.

The years have brought many changes both in worship style and leadership. We were blessed to have professional leadership for the first third and the last third of these 35 years. We have also benefitted from the dedication, commitment, and abilities of the many members who honed their organizational and leadership skills as they planned worship services, grew the religious education program, arranged social events, and promoted membership. The church is strong today because of the professional and lay leaders who loved and love Second Unitarian.

Our dreams are still around growth, both within and without the walls of the building. As we move to the future, may the church be a place that comforts us and challenges us as we grow in faith and action. It is with gratitude that we celebrate these 35 years and appreciate that we again have a settled minister to lead us on the journey.

### Share the Plate



In an effort to further our work of changing the world through acts of love and justice, the Finance Committee, Social Justice Coordinating Council, Board, and by virtue of the budget, YOU, all voted to start sharing our generosity with local and national partners.

Here comes the fun part, where **you get to help!** Please fill out a request to nominate a group or organization you feel truly aligns with the whole church's views. Forms are in the sanctuary and on the church website. These should generally be local groups where someone can come and speak about their organization for a couple of minutes once a month. Groups will be selected by the Social Justice Coordinating Council and Minister and approved by the Board.

Each month, we'll give them one-half of our offering proceeds as a way of supporting their work and partnering more long-term. If you have questions, please see Rev. Scott, Pat Caffrey, or others on the Social Justice Coordinating Council or Finance Committee.

**Please nominate a group soon – *Share the Plate starts in September!***

In faith,

***Rev. Scott McNeill***



# Treasurer's Report

By Pat Caffrey, Treasurer

## **Second Unitarian Church Treasurer's Report Month End for June 30, 2011**

*Your generosity and stewardship are appreciated as we close the fiscal year for the church and look forward to 2011-2012 which began on 7/1/11. You should have received your contribution statement in July.*

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

|                | <u>June</u>  | <u>Year-To-Date</u> |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Income         | \$ 2,113.49  | \$168,434.70        |
| Expenses       | -\$14,899.33 | -\$168,352.32       |
| Net Over/Short | -\$12,785.84 | \$ 82.38            |
|                |              |                     |

**Additional Note:** \$6,000.00 was transferred to a Reserve Fund for future use.

**YTD Pledge Income/Current Year:** \$142,591.42 reflects 96.22% of \$148,196.00 Total Pledged for 2010-11. \$983.00 was received in New Pledges for the current year. In addition, \$3,110.00 was received in Pledges for the Previous Year.

**Offerings year to date:** \$8,241.89

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

**Thank you!**  
Treasurer  
Pat Caffrey

## **Communications Committee**

By Nancy Amsler, Chair

### ***Don't Forget Our New Sunday Worship Service Times In Your Ads!***

As we move towards two Sunday morning worship services in September, all are reminded to check any committee and program communications, including year-long advertising you may have placed. Be sure that the service times are accurate. This should help avoid any confusion – thanks!

Also, please be sure the office has the list of your current group members and especially your current chair. There are a lot of communications that go out regularly to committees, and we want to get them to the proper persons.

Thanks for your help!

### ***Shop at Amazon.com and help Second Unitarian Church***

**Your online purchases can help the church! Here's how: Visit the church web site at**

**<http://www.secondunitarianomaha.org/>, click on Bookstore, and then click on Shop Now @ Amazon.com. Up to five percent of your purchase will be donated to the church.**

**What a great and painless way to shop and help the church at the same time!**



# Two Service Sundays to Begin September 11

By Rev. Scott McNeill

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On May 22, 2011, thirty-five years after Second Unitarian Church of Omaha was incorporated, at the congregation's Annual Meeting, we held a discussion regarding growth. As weekly attendance continues to increase, Rev. Scott McNeill engaged the congregation, various committees and individuals over the course of a year to discuss the different possibilities to maintain and encourage membership growth at Second Unitarian.

After a discussion of various possibilities (renting space, two services, making no changes), following a congregational survey and individual meetings, a member of the congregation made a motion to approve the beginning of two worship services starting in the Fall of 2011. The motion was seconded and approved 43-2.

As we head to the thirty-fifth anniversary of our congregation (our first members signed the membership book on July 25, 1976), we are moving toward an exciting potential for our church.

We will celebrate **Water Communion on September 4, 2011 at 10:30 a.m.**, followed by our annual Ice Cream Social. On the **following Sunday (September 11, 2011)**, we will proceed with two worship services on Sunday morning. In the months that follow, you will see opportunities to connect through potlucks and small group discussions.

In the winter of 2011/2012, Music and Worship, Membership, Fellowship and Religious Growth and Learning will evaluate how Sunday mornings are faring and if we need to make changes. At any point along the way, Rev. Scott welcomes feedback, knowing that the change will be difficult while we settle into a new way of being. Our tradition tells us that truth is forever unfolding, and as such, we will try to learn from whatever we try in the fall to make this congregation available for its members and those in the community who need our faith.

After reading through survey responses, talking with the pertinent committees and evaluating other congregations' success, we will adopt the following schedule in the fall. Please contact Rev. Scott McNeill if you have any questions and he will help answer them or direct you to the relevant parties.

## Schedule (September 11, 2011-May 20, 2012):

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>Worship</b><br><b>Religious Education</b> (Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten-1 <sup>st</sup> grade, 2 <sup>nd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades) |
| <b>10:30 a.m.</b> | <b>Coffee Hour</b>   |
| <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | <b>Worship</b><br><b>Religious Education</b> (Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten)   |
| <b>12:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Adult Religious Education</b> (previously, "First Hour")  |

Making this change is not an easy proposition for the staff, the leadership of the congregation or you, the members. We are incredibly lucky you are willing to sacrifice and work hard in order to strengthen the congregation and its potential for growth. Please take advantage of all of the opportunities to connect with one another as they arise, so that we may stay united as a caring community growing with and because of one another.

In faith,

**Rev. Scott**



# UUA General Assembly Approves Ethical Eating Statement of Conscience

By Marcia Leise



On June 24, the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly delegates passed by an overwhelming majority the approval of the Statement of Conscience on Ethical Eating. In the past three years, approximately 400 UU congregations have provided input for this document. This number is nearly double the number of congregations that usually respond to the Statements of Conscience.

This statement calls on UUs to “eat ethically” and become aware of the food choices that we make. This document condemns mistreatment of farm workers and of farm animals, and encourages a plant-based diet. “As congregations, we aspire to provide and sell more plant-based, organic, locally produced, and fair trade foods at congregational events.”

Come to **First Hour, Sunday, August 28 at 9 a.m.** and share your thoughts on the Call to Action Response to the Ethical Eating Statement of Conscience.

Here is the link to the final text of the Statement of Conscience approved by the 2011 General Assembly, “Ethical Eating: Food & Environmental Justice”.

<http://blogs.uuworld.org/ga/2011/06/30/final-text-ethical-eating-statement-of-conscience/>

## **Unitarian Artists Wanted**

***We'll feed you so you won't be starving!***  
**Friday & Saturday, August 19 & 20**



Our annual **Brush-Up Nebraska Paint-A-Thon** provides an excellent opportunity to practice your paint scraping and brushing skills while helping an elderly and/or disabled homeowner maintain his/her property and beautify the community. Instead of being confined to a small canvass, our volunteer artists have an entire house to paint!

Second Unitarian Church has participated in the annual Paint-A-Thon since 1997. Participation in the Paint-A-Thon is one of the charity projects organized by the Social Justice Coordinating Council, but we seek volunteers from all members and friends at Second Unitarian.

Join us Friday and Saturday, August 19 and 20. We try to beat the heat by starting early -- about 7 a.m. On Friday we scrape the peeling paint, remove fixtures, make minor repairs, and apply primer. Saturday we primarily paint, reattach the fixtures, and clean up.

Our assigned home is located in northeast Omaha on the 4000-block of Laurel Ave. about two blocks north of the Sorensen Parkway. Photos of the home and a map will be available on the “Events & What’s New” page of the church website.

Brush-Up Nebraska furnishes the paint, and we provide the rest of the supplies. Volunteers are welcome to bring their favorite brushes, scrapers, etc. Although we have a few ladders, we always need more, especially long extension ladders. Bring work gloves and wear appropriate footwear -- no sandals or flip-flops!

**Come join the fun!** If you would like to help, contact Clyde Anderson or Melissa Konecky. We also need volunteers to bring snacks, beverages, and lunch to the workers both Friday and Saturday. Because this is a work site with hazardous tools and equipment, children must be 12 or older **with a parent present** to participate.

-- Melissa Konecky & Clyde Anderson



## Help Celebrate the Thirty-Fifth Anniversary of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha!

Unitarian Universalism has been around in different forms for centuries, but in 1976, the first members of the Second Unitarian Church of Omaha signed the membership book and the rest was history!

On July 25, 1976, several members (formerly of First Unitarian Church of Omaha) made a move to worship and make community "out west" as a way to spread Unitarian Universalism. In October of 1976, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations welcomed Second Unitarian as a congregation!

Join us on **Saturday, August 6**, as we celebrate Second Unitarian Church's 35th Anniversary as a religious community. Come for an evening of fun, food, and history! We'll have stories, a little ritual to celebrate the years, and many trips down memory lane – and hopefully imagine the next 35 years.

Starting at 6 p.m. we'll have a potluck supper. Fellowship will provide chicken and beverages. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket. Don't miss the Anniversary!

***Celebrate with us August 6 at 6 p.m.!***

### ***Do You Know Your Church History?***

- What was the first date that anyone signed the Membership Book?
  - What unusual thing was found in a classroom?
  - How many settled ministers have we had?
  - When did the church move to the present building?
- **WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO BE AT 6 P.M. AUGUST 6?**



# The Name Game

By Stu Burns, Chair, Endowment Fund

2010-2011 was a good year for Second Unitarian's Endowment. The fund grew over 30% from both gains in the stock market and from a number of generous contributions in memory of Gail Harrison and Rev. Nancy Haley. We would like to keep this bedrock fund growing, and planned giving (such as through estate planning) is recognized as a great strategy to do so.

Since First Unitarian's Sarah Joslyn Society has had great success encouraging people to remember the church in their wills, we are organizing our own group of like-minded folks. The question now is what to name this circle of great people who designate Second Unitarian for a bequest. So, we are turning to our creative congregation.

**What should we name the Second Unitarian members and affiliates who include the church in their estate planning?** Let us know (on or before August 25) by contacting Stu Burns with your ideas. The winner will be recognized in service, at the annual meeting, in the newsletter, and any other place we can think of. Thanks all for your help, and let the name game begin!

## 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.



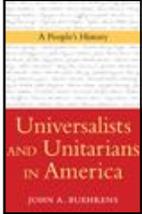


# New to Our Library

By Vicki Pratt, Library Committee

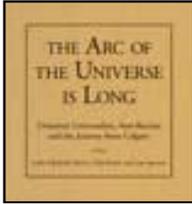
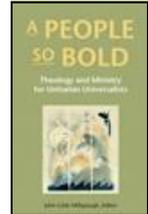
Our Library houses nonfiction that is not readily available from public libraries. Everyone is encouraged to browse the shelves (feel free to move the chairs out of the way) to find something of interest. Our library operates on the honor system -- write your name on the card at the back of the book and put the card in the blue box in the shelf. Then return the book to that shelf and the Library Committee will put it away.

Thanks to your generous contributions to our annual fundraising book sale, the Library Committee has added several newly released books this year. A small sample:



*Universalists and Unitarians in America*, by former UUA President John Buehrens. This history of UUism highlights the lives of people whose names we recognize as leaders in our faith as well as grassroots lay people.

*A People So Bold*, edited by John Millspaugh. Essays from 22 UUs discuss the future of social justice work, including their thoughts on "How do we develop a prophetic voice?"

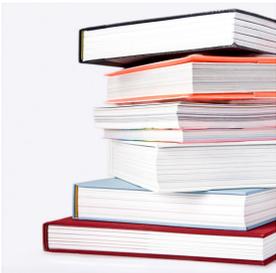


*The Arc of the Universe is Long: Unitarian Universalists, Anti Racism and the Journey from Calgary*, by Leslie Takahashi Morris, James Rousch, and Leon Spencer. This work traces the UUA's journey to becoming an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, multi-cultural movement.

The annual book sale continues. We'll start accepting donations in early September. Sales are September 25 and October 2. (see the article below)

## It's Book Sale Time!

By Melissa Konecky, Chair, Library Committee



It's almost time for the annual Second Unitarian Macyl Boruff Library Committee book sale. Have you been looking for a great excuse to get rid of some books you no longer need, or have already read? We want your unwanted books! If you want to get rid of some books, just bring them to the church and set them near the library. Videos, DVDs and magazines are welcome also! You will have an opportunity to purchase some "new" material or simply browse. So, dust off those old books that are taking up space and make room for some new purchases. The cost is simply a free-will donation.

### 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 not want your photo published (including in the newsletter or on the website), please inform the Office Administrator in writing. Thanks!



# Membership Journeys

By Kathy Bell, Volunteer Membership Coordinator

We invite all newcomers to attend "Getting to Know UU" at noon on **Sunday, August 21**. (Normally held on the second Sunday of the month, this month it will be on the 21st.)

This informal monthly gathering is an opportunity to visit with Rev. Scott and to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and our local church. Childcare will be available.

If you would like to attend, simply let the person at the Welcome Desk know on the morning of the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Be sure to let the church know if you move or change email or phone numbers. Why not take a moment right now and check the latest church directory to make sure your listing is correct? Thanks!

## Returning Members

Over the past several months we have enjoyed welcoming back members Frank and Dawn Marie Dilley and their daughter, Laura. And, recently, Jim Flanery has reinstated his membership after moving back from California. Please extend a hearty welcome to our returning members!

| Attendance |                   |                |                  |                        |
|------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Date       | Adults in Worship | Adults in R.E. | Children in R.E. | Youth in Second Circle |
| 6/26       | 57                | 3              | 8                | --                     |
| 7/3        | 62                | 5              | 9                | --                     |
| 7/10       | 55                | 4              | 8                | --                     |
| 7/17       | 60                | 3              | 9                | --                     |

- Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals
- Learn about hosting people in your home to earn extra money

The UU bed and breakfast directory *UU're Home* (formerly *Homecomings*) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people. Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.



For more information, visit [www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com) or write to [info@uurehome.com](mailto:info@uurehome.com)

[www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com)  
43 Vermont Court  
Asheville, NC 28806  
828-281-3253

# Meditation Reincarnated

By Kevin Dunlop

# Immigration Reform Forum

By Vicki Pratt

Have you ever tried meditation before? Do you know what meditation is or how to do it?

Each month, a group of church members and friends of the church meet to learn and practice the art of meditation. We study the writings of accomplished meditators and discuss how to apply these teachings in our own lives.

We are now studying the book *Taking The Leap* by Pema Chodron.

**Meditation Reincarnated meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 25.**

Please join us in learning what can become a very fulfilling practice in your life. It's a wonderful way to learn relaxation skills and to grow spiritually. No previous meditative experience is required.

Delegates to the 2010 UUA General Assembly selected "Immigration as a Moral Issue" as the topic for congregational study and action. One of the topics attempts to move immigration enforcement from the federal level down to state enforcement. Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina have recently enacted state legislation. Many provisions have been blocked as unconstitutional.

Similar legislation is pending in Nebraska's Legislature (LB48). The Judiciary Committee has asked for public response to this bill so OTOC's Immigration Reform Action Team is sponsoring an information forum.

**Join us on August 28, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., location to be determined -- watch your weekly enews for an update. Learn about impacts to:**

- everyone stopped for any traffic violation
- the economy
- business owners
- law enforcement
- service providers
- transportation workers, neighbors, family, and friends who might be subject to a year in jail or \$1,000 fine for "concealing, transporting, harboring, or moving"

**Do You Have Your New "Key" Yet?**  
**New Church Key Codes for 2011-12 Are Being Issued**

These codes allow access to the front and lower level doors.  
**Current codes will be deactivated in early August.**

Please contact the Office Administrator if you do not yet have your new key code and require access to the church.





# Second Unitarian Church Calendar

August, 2011

Sun., July 31 - Fri., August 5, Camp StarTrail (offsite)  
 Mon., August 1, 7 p.m., Fellowship (FH)  
 Tue., August 2, 7 p.m., Newsletter Focus Group (DNW)  
 Wed., August 3, 7 p.m., Social Justice Coordinating Council (DNW)  
 Mon., August 8, 5 p.m., Executive Committee (offsite)  
     7 p.m., OTOC Steering Committee (offsite)  
 Wed., August 10, 10 a.m., Communications (DNW)  
     6:30 p.m. Finance Coordinating Council (DNW)  
 Thu., August 11, 7 p.m., Board of Trustees (DNW)  
 Fri., August 12, 6 p.m., Private Event (SA)  
 Mon., August 15, 6:30 p.m., Library Committee (FH)  
 Tue., August 16, 7 p.m., Membership (FH)  
 Thu., August 18, 7 p.m., Music & Worship (offsite)  
 Fri., August 19-Sat., August 20, Paint-a-Thon (offsite)  
 Tue., August 23, 7:30 p.m., Blackstone Book Club (FH)  
 Thu., August 25, 7 p.m., Endowment Committee (DNW)  
     7:30 p.m. Meditation (SA)  
 Tue., August 30, 7 p.m., Advertising Advisory Council (FH)

Tuesday Lunches at Church are taking a break until fall. Please join us again for lunch beginning Tuesdays in September!

## COUNTDOWN TO TWO-SERVICE SUNDAYS

August 7  
 August 14  
 August 21  
 August 28  
 September 4

## **SEPTEMBER 11: TWO SERVICES**

### **Regular Events:**

Sundays, 9 a.m., First Hour  
 Sundays, 10:30 a.m., Worship Service  
 Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship & Refreshments  
 Second Sunday, Noon, Getting to Know UU (MO)  
**15th of Every Month: *Second Thoughts* deadline**

### **Off for the summer:**

*Second Circle, YRUU, Tuesday Lunches, Choir rehearsal*

### **Coming this fall:**

*Two services each Sunday (see page 5)*

### Calendar Codes:

*RE=Religious Education, (FH)=First Hour Area, (SA)=Sanctuary, (DN)=Downstairs, (DNW) = Downstairs Worship Area (OS)=Offsite, (WH)=Whole Church, (PR)=Private Rental, (KI)=Küchen, (MO)=Minister's office: scheduled by Minister only.*

### **Save These Dates Next Month:**

*September 11: Two Sunday Services start (9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.)*  
*September 13: Tuesday Lunches resume*  
*September 25: Annual Book Sale*  
*September 25: 5 p.m. Vespers Service starts*

**Let us know how you use this calendar.** Do you post it on your refrigerator? Do you use it to remind you of a meeting you need to attend? Or perhaps do you prefer to check the online calendar which is updated regularly, not just once a month like this calendar in the newsletter? Please let us know how important this calendar is to you, and if you have suggestions for improvements. **Thank you!**

### **All events are subject to change.**

To check the latest church calendar updates anytime, visit [www.SecondUnitarianOmaha.org](http://www.SecondUnitarianOmaha.org) and click on CALENDAR OF EVENTS in the left-hand column, or call the church if there is a question.

# Contact Us

## Staff

**Church Phone (402) 334-0537**

**Rev. Scott McNeill, Minister**

Office hours by appointment  
402-334-0537 ext. 111

[minister@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:minister@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Rev. Sarah Gettie Burks, Community Minister**

[communityminister@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:communityminister@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Director of Religious Education**

402-334-0537 ext. 112

[dre@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:dre@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Gary Emenitove, Office Administrator**

402-334-0537 ext. 114

[info@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:info@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Music Director**

[music@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:music@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Kirsten Stiles, Childcare Coordinator**

[childcare@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:childcare@secondunitarianomaha.org)

**Second Thoughts**

Staff: Rev. Scott McNeill, Nancy Amsler, Richard Koelling, Betty Segell, Gary Emenitove

## Board of Trustees

[board@secondunitarianomaha.org](mailto:board@secondunitarianomaha.org)

### Trustees with terms expiring June 30, 2012

Kathy Bell  
Lorraine Duggin  
Don Shennum, Secretary

### Trustees with terms expiring June 30, 2013

Cheri Cody, Chair  
Laura Neece-Baltaro  
Nancy VanderSluis, Vice-Chair

### Trustees with terms expiring June 30, 2014

JoAnne Draper  
Anita Jeck

### Appointed by the Board of Trustees

Pat Caffrey, Treasurer

Second Unitarian Church Of Omaha

3012 South 119th Street

Omaha, Nebraska 68144

(402) 334-0537

[www.secondunitarianomaha.org](http://www.secondunitarianomaha.org)

## Committees

### **Building and Grounds**

Chair to be announced

### **Caring**

Chair to be announced

### **Committee on Ministry**

Richard Koelling, Contact

### **Communications**

Nancy Amsler, Chair

### **Denominational Connections**

Cheri Cody, Contact

### **Fellowship**

Janet Nichols and Betty Segell, Co-Chairs

### **Finance Coordinating Council**

Vicki Pratt, Chair

### **Endowment Fund**

Stu Burns, Chair

### **Fundraising**

Chris Peters and Stephanie Peterson, Co-Chairs

### **Stewardship**

Clyde Anderson, Chair

### **Library**

Melissa Konecky, Chair

### **Lifespan Religious Growth and Learning**

Jaime Short, Chair

### **Membership**

Kathy Bell, Volunteer Membership Coordinator

### **Music & Worship**

Julie Kirn, Chair

### **Aesthetics/Second Showing**

Dodie Robison and Pam Curtiss-Smith, Contacts

### **Nominations/Leadership Development**

Chair to be announced

### **Personnel**

Nancy Amsler, Contact

### **Social Justice Coordinating Council**

Pat Caffrey, Chair

### **Care for the Environment**

Julie Carda, Chair

### **Closing the Economic Gap**

Pat Caffrey and Cheri Cody, Contacts

### **Welcoming Congregation / LGBTQ Beacon**

Tammy Hunter, Contact

### **Technology**

Bill Kuhn, Chair

### **Writing for Spiritual Growth**

David Martin, Contact

Many church communications are sent via e-mail. A weekly e-news update is transmitted each Wednesday. If you have no access to a computer, please let the church office administrator know the best way to convey information to you.

**Second Unitarian Church**

3012 S. 119th Street

Omaha, NE 68144

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**MISSION STATEMENT  
SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH OF OMAHA**

*“Second Unitarian Church of Omaha is an inclusive and nurturing religious community engaged in thoughtful pursuit of truth and meaning. Our mission is to grow as a beacon of hope – sharing a vision of a world community that embraces diversity and promotes justice and respectful stewardship within the interdependent web of existence.”*

*Adopted May 16, 2004*