
THIS WEEK AT EMERSON – OCTOBER 23, 2014

Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel – A welcoming congregation of the UUA

...Celebrating 30 years of transforming ourselves, our community, our world...

If you've missed something - this week and last week editions are on the website: www.emersonuuchapel.org
Emerson Chapel is on Facebook and Twitter

Sunday, October 26, 2014

17815 Wild Horse Creek Road (Barat Academy)

10:00 AM - Worship Service

“Honoring the Ancestors” – Rev. Krista Taves and the Senior Youth Group

In the pagan calendar, October 31st is Samhain, the time of the year when the veil between this world and the next is the thinnest. We use this sacred time to reflect on those we love who have passed from this world, to honor their impact on our lives, and to hold up how they still live in our hearts.

The Senior Youth have been working with Rev. Krista all month to prepare for this service. Come and experience what they have created for you.

11:20 AM - Linger Longer

Everyone is Welcome and Invited to Bring Finger Foods and share in Fellowship



Trick or Treat for UNICEF Costume Parade (Bring your Change!!)

Photo opportunities for website

Our Outreach Partner is: UU Trauma Ministry
Serving this Sunday

Greeters: Dan Ryan, Kathy Ryan

Song Leaders: Lauren Lyerla, Manny Irizarry

Board Members: Jeff Gidday, Mary Murphy

Barb Brown, Kelly Waymire, Linda McAffrey, Ben Gleason, Jason Getz

[Our Minister's Message – This Week At Emerson UU Chapel](#)

Four weeks ago, the Senior Youth Group and I sat down to begin working on their annual Worship Service. This is a proud tradition at Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel. We believe that no matter what age we are, we have something special to offer to others in our beloved community. This year, the youth were offered the opportunity to create a ritual to help all of us name and honor our grief. This service happens every year, in honor of All Souls Eve, Samhain, and Halloween, the time of year when the pagan tradition tells us that the veil between this world and the next becomes thinnest.

You would think that a teenager wouldn't know much about grief. How could they, being so young? Well, they have a lot to say. In our first session, we explored Elizabeth Kubler-Ross's model of the five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, sadness, and acceptance. Each teen was invited to think about a loss they had experienced, and where they might be in terms of their grief process. The conversation was very real and very touching. From that place, they began to work on a service about grief and loss, one that allows us to touch our loss, to honor the things we that grieve, and to recognize how we have grown and healed from our losses. The grief process is about moving from despair to hope, and that is what this service will be about, our personal journeys from despair into hope.

I think you'll really appreciate what the youth have to say. They've worked very hard to create this service for you and they are excited about being able to finally share what they have created. There will be testimonies, even an original piece of music written by one of our youth and performed by the whole group.

I love this service because it is about the cycle of life and death. I love the opportunity to reflect in community about the things that we have had to say good-bye to, and to reflect on how we have changed for our losses, how we've become stronger, more empathetic, maybe even a bit wiser!

See you on Sunday.

Yours in faith, Rev. Krista.

Rev. Taves Office Hours: October 20-27 – Wed, Thurs, Sat,

Rev. Krista Taves is available for regular pastoral care on Wednesdays, Thursday, and Sunday afternoon. She is available for emergency pastoral care 24/7. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please leave a voice mail at 417-343-8657, 636-256-7393 and pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org. Someone should be in touch with you shortly. A pastoral care emergency includes death, the proximity of death, or a life-threatening emergency. If Rev. Taves is on her weekend, vacation or study leave, please contact either the Office Administrator (office@emersonuuchapel.org) Pastoral Care Team Leader Karyl Howard (pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org) or President of the Board Nancy Belt (president@emersonuuchapel.org). Visit Rev. Taves at her Facebook site, or her blog www.kristataves.wordpress.com



[Trick of Treat for UNICEF on Sunday during Linger Longer](#)

Bring your change and plan to share in the costume parade.

“It's scary how much Good you can Do! “

Trick or Treat for UNICEF began in 1950 as a way to help kids who need more than candy. Since then, children all over America have gone door-to-door on Halloween with UNICEF collection boxes. They have raised more than \$170 million for the U. S. Fund for UNICEF since then.



[Love to See You in Pictures!](#)

We hope you're getting ready for your cameo appearances in our website photo shoot this Sunday, October 26, during the "Linger Longer." Tom Kibby and perhaps others will be snapping away, taking both candid and staged shots. So all we need is for you, your children, and many others to show up so we can simulate a worship service and RE activities. We need to show diversity of all sorts and show persons genuinely engaged with each other. Wear your normal church-going attire and plan on having a good time and staying 'til about noon.

[From Board President Nancy Belt - Looking Forward, Looking Back](#)

Given Emerson's journey in recent months, there's value in pausing to look forward and to look back. From ancient times, people have honored transitions and beginnings, as well as passages and endings. The Romans thought it so important that they worshipped the god Janus, who could see forward and backward at the same time.

Looking back, we can see a move that evoked many emotions and many responses. We can take pride in the way so many stepped up to do the emotional and physical work required when our voting members approved the sale of 73 Strecker Road and the move to Barat Academy and Westwoods Business Park. We also can feel the loss of the 12 members who have resigned their membership in the months following that decision. Some resigned because they disagreed with the decision to sell and/or the process by which the decision was made. Others resigned for reasons not connected to the move. We respect their decisions, miss them a great deal, and wish them well.

The loss is both personal and financial. Comparing our pledge income of \$177,505 in fiscal year 2014, ending May 31, with the adjusted projected pledge income of \$154,600 for this fiscal year, there's a reduction of \$22,905. Because of reduced pledges, the board adjusted this year's original budget of \$165,200 for pledge income, approved by the congregation, to \$154,600. Budgeted expenses have been lowered via sizeable reductions in the number of guest speakers and the minister's professional expenses, as well as the decision not to continue seeking a Religious Education staff person for the rest of this fiscal year.

Looking forward, the board has approved a new staff position—Religious Education Coordinator—to help provide much needed assistance to the Religious Education team for children and youth. Its members have, in the absence of a Religious Education staff person, been shouldering too heavy a burden, and the reduced number of children and middle schoolers attending Religious Education classes reflects that.

Happily, Emerson's administrator, Randy Whitman, has accepted this new position as an additional position, beginning Oct. 20. She will be spending six hours a week in this position, gathering supplies for classes, communicating with parents, tracking attendance, and doing other duties as agreed on by the Minister and Religious Education team. She will continue spending 18 hours in her administrative position throughout this fiscal year. Both of these developments will be covered by money previously budgeted for a Religious Education staff person and by a portion of the \$5,100 in our money-market account prior to the sale of 73 Strecker. For FY16, the board has approved a plan to hire a half-time Intern Minister with primary responsibilities for religious education.

Looking forward longer-term, the board has authorized a visioning team to collaborate with the congregation to assess where we are now as a religious community, to re-assess our mission and vision statements, and to express our dreams and goals for the future. The combined effort will culminate in a new strategic plan to be presented to the congregation for approval at its annual meeting in May.

What we currently need most is having more persons who share Unitarian Universalist values to join us. We made a brave and visionary decision when we sold our building. We wanted to be closer to major interstates, more accessible to St. Charles County, less burdened by the demands of maintaining a building, and able to provide quality facilities for Religious Education. Now is the time to invite those we care about to share in what we have created. You can help by inviting friends, colleagues, and others to come visit us. Also of help will be our forthcoming new Emerson website.

Thanks to all of you who give so much of yourselves to Emerson—in time, talent, and treasure.

With appreciation, Nancy Belt, president

[FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24th – The first gathering](#) of a new Women's Spirituality Circle at 7:30 PM in O'Fallon. Contact Phyllis Guberman or call the office 636-256-7393. The evening will include a ritual to celebrate Samhain (Halloween). All women of Emerson are invited and welcome.

[SHOW YOUR FACE in New Directory](#)

If you're a member or friend who's been planning to submit a photo showing faces of all or some of those in your listing in Emerson's online directory, you still have until **November 1st** to e-mail it to the office (office@emersonuuchapel.org) or directly to Aja Lyonfields. She's the designer of the new website being built for Emerson. For more information, please contact the church office.



[We have received a gift](#) of \$500 from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Central Nassau in Garden City, New York for our Love First Team to use for relief for the ongoing struggles and tension in Ferguson. We have forwarded this gracious gift of caring and support to the St. Louis Area Food Bank, where local UU ministers have been sending people who are asking how they can help.

[On Saturday November 1st, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel will be hosting a vigil](#) for racial justice in the Chesterfield Commons at the intersection of Boone's Crossing and Chesterfield Airport Road. As we wait for the Grand Jury Reveal about the shooting of Michael Brown, it is important to witness to the truth that all is not well in our city. This is not just about Ferguson, this is about all of us, standing together, in solidarity. You are all welcome to join us. Wear your yellow Standing on the Side of Love t-shirts if you have them. If you wish to bring a sign, many of us will be holding signs that say, "Black Lives Matter." You are also welcome to create a sign that speak to the truth in your heart. After the vigil, we will rejoin at the Starbucks nearby to discuss our experience.



[Next M-SLICE Work Day - Saturday, November 8th](#)

Please arrive in the Kensington Neighborhood (Kensington Ave, which runs perpendicular and in between Union Blvd and N. Kings Highway Blvd) in North St. Louis around 8:45am.

We'll work from 9am-1pm, then we'll have a time of food and fellowship with M-SLICE representatives and neighborhood residents after 1pm.

Please bring a reusable water bottle, as well as garden supplies useful for clearing away branches (hand saws, chainsaws, clippers, etc).

In honor of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel's 30th Anniversary, congregations across the continent are sending us greetings and congratulations. These are wonderful expressions of care, gratitude and support.

**Ethical Society
of St. Louis**

To the Members of the Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel,

On behalf of the Ethical Society of St. Louis, we congratulate you as you mark your community's 30th anniversary. Your ability to thrive in a challenging era for religious commitment is a testament to your vision and leadership as well as the warmth of your fellowship.

It seems fitting that you have chosen this time in your life as a congregation to make the bold move of leaving behind your first home and striking out into the wider community.

This year the Ethical Society is marking 50 years in our current home on Clayton Road. Our choice 50 years ago to leave Sheldon Memorial Hall in Grand Center was a difficult one for our community, but it has certainly turned out to have been the best decision—both for the Ethical Society, and for our former home, which lives on as a cherished concert hall, as your first home will live on with a new mission.

We wish you a joyous and meaningful anniversary celebration and wish you well on your new adventure.

Sincerely,

Kate Lovelady, Leader

David Brown, President, Board of Trustees

9001 Clayton Road * St. Louis, Missouri 63117 *Phone (314) 991-0955

[Circle of Concern – Our community's food pantry](#)

Immediate Needs at the Circle include: Peanut Butter & Jelly

Please place your donated items in the red wheelbarrow on Sunday morning. Thank you for your ongoing support of our community's food pantry.

Circle's mission is to both feed the hungry and to provide opportunities for self-sufficiency...Reflecting that mission, offering packaged food addresses hunger. Offering additional fresh and frozen food helps sustain and foster long-term health. With your gifts, you help us provide food to help our clients stay healthier. Thank you for your support of the food pantry ... and our mission." Circle of Concern, 112 St. Louis Avenue, Valley Park, MO 63088

[Easiest Fund raising ever!! Grocery gift cards and GL Scrip are on sale Every Sunday](#)

Stop by the table during fellowship time and see how ALL your shopping can benefit Emerson. Gift cards are available from Dierberg's and Shop & Save. Spend what you normally spend each month and give 5% to Emerson. Emerson is also registered at AmazonSmile <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1364860>

[Notices & Invitations from our Outreach Partners, our Wider UU Community & Sister Congregations:](#)

Eliot Chapel invites you to a "Friday Night Film Series" – Remembering Rev. James Reeb, A witness to the Truth
All Films will be shown at 7:00 PM in Adams Hall at Eliot Chapel in Kirkwood
November 14th – "Inequality for All"
January 9th – "Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North"

[This Week's Calendar of Events](#)

FRI – October 24	7:30 PM - **Women's Spirituality Circle
SAT - October 25	3:00 PM – Sr. Youth Worship Rehearsal
SUN – October 26	10:00 AM – Worship – 17815 Wild Horse Creek Road, Chesterfield (Barat Academy) 11:20 AM – Linger Longer – stay for fellowship & finger foods; UNICEF Costume Parade; website photo session
WED – October 29	5:45 PM – Web Team 6:30 PM – RE Team Mtg
THUR – October 30	7:00 PM – Visioning Team Mtg
SAT – November 1	9:00 AM – Program Council 11:30 AM – **Vigil at Chesterfield Commons

Meetings are held at the Chapel Office, 16233 Westwoods Business Park in Ellisville unless indicated ** as offsite.

How/Where/When to find us:

Sunday Morning 10:00 AM
17815 Wild Horse Creedk Road, Chesterfield, MO 63005
(Barat Academy)

Mailing and Meeting Address:
16233 Westwoods Business Park Drive, Ellisville, MO 63021

The office is staffed
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM

Phone 636-256-7393

e-mail:

minister@emersonuuchapel.org

office@emersonuuchapel.org

Emerson UU Chapel 2015-2015 Board Members

President: Nancy Belt

President Elect: Mary Murphy

Vice-President: Jake Lyonfields

Vice President Elect/Secretary: Mark Fish

Members-At-Large: Debbie Baumuel; Jeff Gidday; Charles Landauer

Treasurer:

Assistant Treasurer: Melissa Grizzle

Minister: Rev. Krista Taves