



CUF Links

Monthly Newsletter of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship
A Welcoming Congregation

- a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist association -

January, 2011

SUNDAY SERVICES

Held in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m.

1/2 Bill Sasso "Question Box Sunday"

Within each one of us, there hides at least question about Unitarian Universalism that we've always wanted to ask, and here's our chance! Bring your best question(s), and see what kind of response(s) our minister can come up with. You can send your question(s) to Bill in advance, or you can bring them the morning of the service.

1/9 Father Roger Karban: "Creating Peace: a Roman Catholic Perspective"

We continue our exploration of "Creating Peace" as a religious task! This time, we welcome Father Roger Karban, well known by those who have attended the Ralph Anderson Interfaith Dialogues. Father Karban will share his personal insights concerning the ways in which the Roman Catholic faith can support the creation of peace, and the ways in which it may counter that creation. Bill Sasso will coordinate this service.

1/16 Bill Sasso: "One Man Said 'Yes.'"

As we celebrate the accomplishments of the civil rights movement on the eve of the Martin Luther King holiday, we remember, too, the work yet to be done! We'll examine the story of one individual whose life changed when he said "yes" to an invitation to play a role in the integration of schools in Little Rock, Arkansas. Our children will be with us in the opening of the service.

Don't forget: Along with Rock Hill Baptist Church, the Fellowship will co-host a Southern Illinois Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the Carbondale Civic Center at 4 p.m. Plan to be there!

1/23 Kim Magwire: "Creating Peace: a Christian Perspective"

As former pastor of Carbondale's Church of the Good Shepherd, U.C.C., our friend and colleague Kim Magwire has graciously agreed to offer her sense of the ways in which liberal Christianity can support the creation of peace, as well as the ways in which it may counter that creation. Bill Sasso will coordinate this service.

1/30 Bill Sasso: "Humans, Humanism, and the Care of the Earth"

How might a religious humanist best understand our human relationship to the Earth? What unique wisdom about the environment might Ecohumanism have to teach us, and where might we encounter its limitations? Plan to be there to help Bill explore these questions!

And coming up . . .

2/6 Religious Education Sunday

Since last September, the children of our Fellowship have been learning about Unitarians and Universalists, about other faith traditions, and about how to make a difference in our world. In this intergenerational service, each of our classes will share its insights and challenge us on these topics. Bill Sasso and Roy Sumner will coordinate this service. Due to the intergenerational nature of this service, it will not include announcements.

OPEN MINDS

This presentation/discussion program meets at **8:45 a.m. each Sunday** in the Commons Area. Topics "To Be Announced" in weekly bulletins. Contact Terry Elliot at elliott1@wildblue.net if you would like to lead one of these Sunday discussions, or for more information.

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE



At the Turning of the Year

Happy New Year! As the old year ends, and the new one begins, I am usually struck by a two related thoughts. First, I often find myself thinking how arbitrary this demarcation of time is: after all, why choose this particular

time to mark one year from another? Why not choose the solstice itself, or for that matter, the summer solstice? I have no real answer for this question, other than my recognition that it would require a lot of work to change all the calendars, and all the technology that uses calendars, and all that effort might as well go into more important use. If you offered me a choice between reducing global warming and changing calendars, I'd certainly choose to reduce global warming. If you offered the same choice about putting significant effort into the improvement of practically any aspect of life here on Earth, or putting that effort

into "rationalizing" the calendar, my answer would have be the same.

Curiously, while I recognize that the choice of December 31st as the end of the year is simply a convention, the second thought that typically occurs to me is that it still matters. In other words, I find the end of a given period of time of significance, even if the boundaries of the time period seem artificial. Where the year ends may be an arbitrary choice, but that the year has ended is meaningful to me. The passing of 2010 into 2011 takes me momentarily back to the beginning of 2010. I find myself recalling the hopes and the fears that I felt at that time. I think back to the context of my life, and the challenge and support that it contained, and I contrast that time with the present. Some years, I have had a sense of what was coming in my life, and in others, life has presented significant surprises. At the turning of the year, I find myself reflecting upon the past

year's experience, and what I think I can see of the year about to begin.

In our experience as a faith community, we find a similar form of periodic reflection on our past and present contexts, and our movement from the past into the future. The new year represents the final period of a strategic plan that we created as a congregation in 2006. We have made significant progress toward some, but not all, of the objectives we expressed in that plan. As we move forward into 2011, we will reexamine our goals and objectives. The Fellowship Board has begun to consider this, and we encourage you to join the conversation, sharing your perspectives. In particular, to help us form a broad, systematic understanding of what the Fellowship has

achieved, we invite you to complete a survey on our Strategic Plan objectives. You can pick up a paper copy of the survey at the Fellowship in the sermon racks and other locations. It's also present at <http://www.cuuf.net/> (Click the link on the bottom of the page). Both hardcopy and softcopy forms of the survey include instructions about how to return it.

At this time of the turning of the year, I hope that you can pause, at least briefly, for reflection on the blessings of the past year, and the possibilities of the year to come.

Yours in anticipation,

Bill Sasso

FROM THE STUDENT MINISTER

Beginning a New Year in Gratitude

Here we are at the start of a new year. It has arrived so quickly that my head spins! I started this internship with you in September, introducing myself to you at the "How I Became a Unitarian Universalist" service. Since then I've been present with you each Sunday and have stood before you on a handful of occasions, including Association Sunday and the Sunday before the Winter Solstice when I had the honor of presenting the message.

I feel blessed that you have welcomed me into the life of this congregation in numerous ways, sharing with me what this faith community means to you. I am grateful that you have accepted me among you in your joys and in your sorrows – as well as in the work of this community. You have shared with me in interfaith meetings, social action, adult education, Pastoral Friends, board and committee meetings, the December congregational meeting, the fall fellowship cleanup day, and worship. And you have encouraged me.

I am especially grateful for the commitment of the Rev. Bill Sasso. Bill sets aside time each week to guide me in my training as a minister. I am also particularly grateful for the support of the members of the Student Ministry Committee – Samir Aouadi, Miriam Link-Mullison, Kathy O'Laughlin, Susie Phillips, Ken Starbuck, and Carrie Vine. They meet with me each month to encourage and evaluate me in this internship. I feel very blessed that I have the guidance this wonderful team.

Through all of January I will be in Chicago for a convocation and intensive classes at Meadville Lombard Theological School. While I am away I will remain available to you by e-mail at poakley0615@charter.net. I am looking forward to being back with you all in February to work together with you in this wonderful, welcoming congregation.

Happy New Year!

Paul Oakley, Student Minister

FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR



I was listening to a journalist on NPR describe the many stories and meanings of this time of year. He mentioned that besides celebration of birth, is the celebration of rebirth. That though this time is dark, it is necessary, and it is temporary, just part of the

cycle. That the season of nature is not unlike the seasons of our lives, when we experience growth and joy and progress, and the other times when we are stunted, suffer loss, and reflect.

The narrator's words reminded me of a book that I shared a few weeks back with the Fellowship during the chalice lighting. The setting was the great depression, Christmas, 1933, and a man was going to anonymously help 75 families by giving them each \$5. He himself had suffered from the depression, but at that time he had recovered sufficiently to be in a position to help. But what I admired most about this man, was his attitude and character, summarized in his personal slogan. "Each night I bury the record of today, for every morning a soul is born anew, and I do not permit the disappointments of today or yesterday to reflect on the possibilities of tomorrow." – Sam Stone, from *A Secret Gift*.

While I like this slogan, I realize I have never come close to experiencing the depth of loss and suffering that was common in the 1930s. I can

only imagine the true optimism and strength that must have been at the core of this man, and many others, to keep looking forward to the possibilities.

It is with a measure of hope and optimism that I believe we can all look forward to the possibilities, and not be dismayed by the setbacks that we encounter. That we pull together, and when we are able, to lend a hand. And to remember that even if we are in a good place at the moment, that someone else might be in that dark place, and that we can call or visit or write, to in some way reach out to share hope, and caring, and love.

Among all the lessons our children should learn from us, is the lesson of caring and compassion. Like everything else of value, it is something that should be a concrete lesson, with actual examples to make the point clear...that everyone should be regarded with dignity and respect. The descendents of Sam Stone, as well as so many other descendents of people who lived through the "hard times," unanimously agreed that the greatest thing they learned from their elders was caring and compassion. They were taught, and they remember. In this new year, take the time to point out to children how important caring and sharing is...and demonstrate it for them. They will be grateful, they will remember, and we'll all be a little richer.

Happy rebirth,

Roy Sumner

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our January 16th Social Action Offering will benefit Gaia House Interfaith Center, which offers programming, staff, space, and interpersonal support to SIUC students. As a welcoming community, Gaia House seeks to encourage spiritual awareness, and to integrate that awareness with peace, justice, and ecological sustainability. Contributions in the form of checks should be made payable to "Gaia House Interfaith Center."

MLK Community Choir! Sing in the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., on Sunday afternoon, January 16th, at the Carbondale Civic Center! All interested singers are encouraged to participate! Choir rehearsals are now confirmed for 10 a.m., Saturday, January 8th; 7 p.m., Thursday, January 13th; and 10 a.m.,

Saturday, January 15th at Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church (at the corner of Marion and Monroe in Carbondale, just west of First Southern Bank).

Make-Up Congregational Meeting! Those who were unable to attend the December 12th Congregational meeting due to the inclement weather have another chance! We'll present the same information and opportunities for discussion at a "make-up" congregational meeting following the service on Sunday, January 23rd. Board members will report on the implementation of four new Communications Committees, a progress of the Building and Grounds Planning Committee, and our progress on achieving the goals and objectives in our 2006 - 2011 Strategic Plan. The newly revised and more user friendly Building Use Policies will be introduced. If you weren't able to be present on December 12th, plan to catch up on January 23rd!

Your Feedback Is Needed! As reported at Sunday's congregational meeting, you are invited to give the CUF Board of Trustees your feedback on how well we have done on the objectives in our Strategic Plan! You can pick up a paper copy of the survey at the Fellowship (sermon racks and other locations) or access one online at <http://www.cuuf.net/> (Click the link on the bottom of the page). Please return your survey by Sunday, January 30th! Thanks!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

It is that time of year when we focus on what the Fellowship means to us and make a commitment to support it. It means something different to every member, but all believe it is important to support. Our commitment and generosity help to maintain its current level of service and activity, and to make it grow.

Support comes in different ways – time, talent and money. Each of us has 24 hours per day, with the amount of available time varying by the commitments we have and how we prioritize them. Each of us has talents, which we share to enrich our own lives and to offer many activities and services for the community. Finally, we give generously from our financial resources according to our means and the value we place on our membership in this community.

Our Fellowship thrives and grows due to the generosity of its members. As a mid-sized congregation, we support a minister, a religious education director and an office manager, as well as child care for Sunday services and special events. Our Fellowship building hosts a large number of activities, in addition to the weekly Sunday service. A modest part of our resources support the programs, opportunities, and activities provided through many volunteer hours.

To continue and expand our work as a faith community, we need members to give generously. We each need to step up our pledges when we can, recognizing that costs increase each year and that as our membership changes, our individual roles in giving must evolve. Our Stewardship campaign challenges us to face these realities each year.

So we begin the campaign with an appeal to one of our greatest resources, the talent we possess as individuals and in community. We need many hands and many talents to execute a successful Stewardship campaign.

HELP WANTED

Stewardship Co-Chair – Assist with this year's Stewardship campaign in preparation for taking the lead next year, preparing a Co-Chair to assume the following fiscal year.

Stewardship Publicity Committee – Designs and implements publicity and materials for the Stewardship campaign.

Stewardship Event Committee – Designs and organizes the stewardship kickoff event on Saturday evening, April 9th, showcasing the talents of our members.

Please contact me to volunteer for one of the opportunities listed above. If you don't contact me, please be open to volunteering when asked.

The combined talent and resources of our Fellowship community will again demonstrate the abundance of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship.

Email me today. jmolumby@midwest.net Don't make me come get you!

Yours in Abundance,

Jerry Molumby and _____, Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs

THE CUF ARTISTS' SERIES

Our Artists' Series will open the new year with two presentations by the SIU University Press:

Wed., January 26 - Karl Kageff, PhD, Editor-in-Chief of the Press, will combine forces with a local author to talk with us about the process of writing and editing a book. They will discuss how the author works with the Press, and how the author and Press, together, make a book happen.

Wed., February 23 - Graphic designer Mary Rohrer, and Barb Martin, Editorial Design and Production Manager for the Press, will show us **examples of graphic design** and discuss the process of designing book covers and interior illustrations and the production process.

Both presentations will begin at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Commons, and will be followed by refreshments.

NEW YEAR UPDATE ON THE ZAMBIAN HIV/AIDS PARTNERSHIP:

As we begin another year in the fellowship, we also begin our 8th year of partnership with Ranchhod Hospice and Orphan Care in Kabwe, Zambia. This is truly amazing and a testament to the UU principles we try to adhere to and the ongoing commitment of the members of CUF.

Debbie Czarnopys-White has joined me as co-chair of the partnership. This only seems fitting, as her love for our dear friends across the continent grows deeper with each visit. She has spearheaded several projects on her own, including the nightgown and knickers and doll programs. She has traveled to Kabwe 3 times, carrying medical supplies and her compassion and unique skills. I am VERY grateful that Debbie has agreed to co-chair.

As many of you know, during my September 2010 visit to Kabwe, my sister and I helped to establish a Library/Literacy Center with grant money from The Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation. Following are words from a final report, written by Mimi. The report was submitted to UUWF in December 2010:

Before our arrival in Kabwe, the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship had sent a couple boxes of books. Carla and I together brought 5 suitcases filled with books. Many other boxes of books had been sent via a shipment through Children's International, but did not arrive in Kabwe until after our departure. This turned out to be for the best.

Upon our arrival at the Chililalila Center, we were greeted by chanting grandmothers who sometimes sit on the grounds making craft projects. We met Mavis Nakomba, an attractive bright 26-year-old woman who had been appointed the full-time librarian. For the weeks before our arrival, she had begun to arrange some books onto the lovely blue-painted bookshelves that had been constructed for the library.

The library was a lovely room, and all of the staff stood to watch our expressions upon seeing it. Painted a kind of robin's egg blue, it was fresh and clean. In one corner was a large cabinet with lockable doors. This is something that we had not requested, but immediately seemed like a good thing. As it turned out, the cabinet was used by the Director for extra clothes for the children. The room had good ventilation and light, with windows on both short walls. A new desk and two chairs were in the room. Shelves lined one of the long walls.

Within a couple of days, we hired a carpenter to make and paint additional shelves for the other long wall. We also hired him to build a small computer table...and a large cabinet to put in the director's office, so that the children's clothes could be there, and the library would have a good space to store new books that were not yet processed. We also hired a man to sew curtains and put up curtain rods. Eventually, we added a lovely rug and a wicker loveseat with cushions, to put under one of the windows with the desk opposite it on the other window wall.

There was a lot of excitement in the air as Mavis and I got to know each other and began the large task of processing the books for shelf-readiness. All of this was new to Mavis, but she caught on quickly to a kind of organization and detail and thoroughness that may never have been required of her in previous work. For the last two years, Mavis had been volunteering as a teacher helper in the preschool classes. Her growing pride was evident.

Processing books required making determinations about the genre of the books. I introduced a very simplified cataloging system... based on color codes. Green, red, orange, blue dots and other symbols on spines indicated different genres. Even the distinction between fiction (story books) and non-fiction (information books) took a lot of practice for Mavis to get right.

Fortunately, Cherry, the director, called forth volunteers to help, so that by the end of week one, all of the books and teaching materials were stamped, spine-labeled, card pocketed, carded, entered into the shelf list and placed on the shelves by categories. It was great that we had no more books to process, as we needed the next week for intensive training. I needed to train Mavis, and she needed to train some volunteers to help her. I had come to see that Mavis had great rapport with children and adults. She is warm, friendly, clever, and dynamic. I knew she had the capacity to be a great "Story Lady" to encourage early literacy skills. I had brought along a simplified visual to display in the library, to show the various literacy skills that children need before they actually read. Our targets were the teachers of the 140+ preschoolers in the four preschool classes...two at Chililalila and two at Ranchhod. In addition, staff from some outlying village schools, from a nearby adult literacy program, from the hospice and from the AIDS/HIV follow-up groups would have access to the library!

During the second week, I trained Mavis as a Story Lady by having her watch me do story time with the classes. I also helped her to create numerous lesson plans, using a simple form. I watched and critiqued her do lessons. We created her weekly schedule, so that she would be in the classrooms at both sites two days each week, with a morning and an afternoon lesson for each class. I taught her how to keep a daily log, and to tally up circulation weekly and monthly. I taught her how to do an inventory annually. There was a lot to cover and fortunately we would have email to continue our training in the months ahead.

Before leaving, I learned how to access the Internet in Kabwe, and bought a modem for the computer and the start-up sim card. As it turned out, the Internet service was not yet up and running near Chililalila, but it is in the works. Mavis clearly had had little experience on the computer. Since my return, we have sent money to Mavis, so that she has enrolled in a computer class. The computer...when Mavis attains more skills.... is a valuable research tool, word processing tool, and communication tool. I will be able to SKYPE with her and continue on-going training.

On the last Friday, a celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony was held. We brought in a cake with the words: WE LOVE TO READ! The baker from the Kabwe Bakery even came to see what it was all about! There were speeches and lots of happiness. Not only had we brought fantastic books for the teachers to use, we also brought about 30 different flannel board sets of characters, to use to retell stories and make lessons interactive. Carla made four while we were in Kabwe, so that each of the preschool classrooms had this new "technology."

One of the oldest grannies was asked to cut the ribbon. I think the best moment of the party was when Mavis spoke. She fought back tears (and so did I) as she told that she never thought she would be a librarian...that she really thanked everyone for giving her this opportunityand that she was very happy.

The major accomplishments were:

The establishment of a functional circulation library for use of the Kara Counseling-Kabwe staff to enrich their literacy lessons with AIDS/HIV preschool orphans, illiterate women, school-age AIDS/HIV orphans, and street children of Kabwe;

The empowerment of women including Mavis Nakomba, Librarian, and the teaching staff at all of the

Kara Counseling-Kabwe facilities, and the women in the adult literacy program.

All of the goals of this grant were met or exceeded. We were able to do this in only two weeks because Carla already had a strong relationship with Kara Counseling-Kabwe that enabled us to “hit the ground running.” Before our arrival, all of the parties were on board. They wanted the Library, they understood the role of the Librarian, they had prepared the space, and they understood the value this would add to their existing programs.

Before leaving, we worked with the leadership of Kara Counseling-Kabwe to ensure a fair salary for the Librarian with back pay to Sept. 1. We planned for the future by providing funds for on-going Internet service and for on-going training for the Librarian. We worked with a volunteer from New Zealand, who had a very strong background in literacy, to help the Librarian when the new books arrive, to categorize them correctly and to offer the Librarian on-going training as Story Lady. We committed to funding the Librarian’s salary for three years.

In the brief time we were there, we also saw other areas of women’s education that need attention. The Adult Literacy Program is very weak. It is without good materials, trained teachers, or focus on everyday skills.

In addition, women in Chililalila are in great need of economic development opportunities. We are beginning to incubate some ideas for future projects that would target Adult Literacy and Economic Development through the creation of easy books for children. The easy books would be photographic and tell of their own lives such as “how to make “nshima”, “how to make mud bricks”, “how to catch a fish.” etc. The books could be printed on strong paper, laminated, bound, and sold at a market. We think that there are many, many schools in the area that would gladly buy these.

DISPATCH FROM SIAM

Part 2

By Joseph Robbie, CUF member working in Saudi Arabia

My meager research has indicated that there exist no Unitarian Universalist fellowships in the entire country of Thailand. Weird, eh? Sure, it’s a Buddhist nation, but they have a lot of Muslims in the South, where the trouble is. In addition, many Christian churches are to be found. So why no UU’s? Maybe someone should start a fellowship there. Maybe I’ll do it!!! Maybe Bill Sasso will advise? Anyhow, back to the dispatch:

So, there I was, six hours after touchdown at Chiang Mai “International” Airport, rested, showered and shaved. It was time to head in for a night on the town. My Brit friend, his Thai wife, and multi-national me, piled into his Honda, with the steering on the right, and left the countryside behind. The bright lights of the big city, about 500,000 people, beckoned.

I had quickly made quite a few acquaintances during my visit there last year, and I knew where I would find most of them: at the Hash Pub. It’s named after the Hash House Harriers, a widespread running/beer-drinking club. There’s no hash involved, except the corned beef variety. This bar is owned by an Aussie who also owns the largest fly-fishing business in the world. It’s a small place, with a kitchen serving both Thai and Western dishes, and was half filled with Thais and expats gathered to welcome me back. It was a wonderful moment for me. I distributed some stuffed camels and small prayer rugs and then enjoyed free beverages the rest of the evening.

Due to my enforced abstinence in Saudi Arabia, I had reached my limit by midnight. So, we motored back out of this Northern metropolis. On the way home, the wife suggested we stop at her friend’s

place for a nightcap. They told me it was a musicians' hangout, so I was game. It turned out to be an illegal, unlicensed, and totally uncontrolled bar set up in a regular house in a small village. Everyone there was Thai – not a foreigner in sight. Also, everyone was young. I felt uneasy. But then the owner came out in his wheelchair and warmly welcomed us. He had been a working guitar player until his car accident. We drank and talked awhile, until he handed me a guitar and said, "Play for us." I guess I'm a fair rock and blues guy, and I managed to entertain

through a few songs. A long-haired Thai hippie came up with another guitar, so we jammed together and the crowd gathered round us. We were a big hit. It was an authentic, amazing, cultural experience for me. You won't find this hole-in-the-wall by reading a travel guide! We finally got back to the Roman-style mansion at around 4:00 a.m. Wow! What a first day in 'the land of smiles'.

To be continued...

CUF REGULAR PROGRAMS & MEETINGS

WOMEN'S GATHERING *Next Women's Gathering will be held on Wed., Feb. 19 at 7:00 at CUF.* Contact Cathy Kline at klinejc@earthlink.net for more information.

SISTERHOOD OF STITCHERS *This group meets weekly on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m., in the Commons area.* All are welcome, from persons learning knitting or stitching crafts to those well practiced and knowledgeable. Come to work on your projects, learn from others, share your ideas, and enjoy the camaraderie! For more info, contact Pam Jacobini at PJacobini@siu.edu or Gloria Smiley at smileyspins@yahoo.com.

CUF DRUMMING GROUP *This group meets on the third Saturday of each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Commons.* **Meets this month on January 15.** For more information, contact Debbie Czarnopys-White at bdcw@frontiernet.net, or call 787-2929.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION *This group meets every Saturday in the Fellowship Commons from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.* If there are other activities scheduled in the Commons, we meet in the RE area. For more information, contact Joy Price at 457-2405 or joyfully2356@yahoo.com.

THE AWAKENING HEART DHARMA GROUP (formerly known as the BUDDHISM STUDY & PRACTICE GROUP) *This group meets every Sunday in the Fellowship Commons at 7:00 P.M.* Insight Meditation, study, and discussion in a free flowing format. Everyone welcome. For more info, visit www.shawnee-dharma.org or contact Jo Kilmer at kilmer@shawneelink.net.

DREAMWORKS *This group meets the first Sunday of each month in 06 (RE wing) at 12:00 noon.*

Meets this month on January 2. Using Jeremy Taylor's view of dreams, we share and contemplate our dreams in a non-threatening, comfortable, and we hope enlightening manner. For more information, contact Nillofur at cadfael07@yahoo.com or Janet Harris at jea49@Care2.com.

PSI SYMPOSIUM has recently been disbanded.

ROUNDTABLE READERS *This group meets on the fourth Sunday of the month after the Sunday Service at Noon.* Round Table Readers will meet on Sunday, January 23, to discuss The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver. Author of The Poisonwood Bible, Kingsolver returns to fiction after the creative nonfiction Animal, Vegetable, Miracle with this major new novel, which was awarded the Orange Prize. It is a historical novel, set in the Mexico of Frieda Kahlo and Diego Rivera, and in the United States during World War II and the McCarthy era. Please address questions or send book suggestions to Janet Levie at jmlevie@frontier.com.

SCIENCE IN SOCIETY *This group meets some Fridays of the Month in the Fellowship Commons at 5:00 PM.* Contact Gina Paul at 351-1064 or rpaul@siumed.edu if you have questions.

VIDEO CIRCLE *This group meets on the third Friday of each month in the Fellowship Commons at 7:15 PM.* **Meets next on January 21.** This month's special movie will be Cache Girl Saves the World. Here is a description from the official website of filmmaker Adam E. Stone who is from Mt. Vernon (and is a Unitarian): "Bold, provocative, and highly experimental, Cache Girl Saves the World introduces a new medium for literary fiction: the "novel in visions," which combines audio of the novel's text with still photographs of some of its action, packaged in DVD format. The novel tells the story of Ta'li, a young runaway whose Cherokee ancestors died on the Trail of Tears. Searching for peace for her and the world, Ta'li finds herself in the swamps of Southern Illinois' Cache River, where, with the help of the Swamp Asp and the legendary Big Muddy Monster, she embarks on a daring quest to bring her vision of empathy, empowerment, unity, social justice and ecological wisdom to a humanity seemingly bent on self-destruction. Shot predominately on location in Southern Illinois by principal photographer Sarah Dalby, Cache Girl Saves the World features stunning photographs--both abstract and concrete--of the area's natural beauty, and of Grammy Award-winning musician, American Indian Film Award-nominated actress, storyteller, and renowned dancer Thirza Defoe, of the Ojibwe and Oneida Nations, who portrays Ta'li, and who co-produced the novel with author Adam E. Stone." As always, free popcorn will be provided. For more information, contact Amy Weber at amyweber1@msn.com.

UNITARIAN FOLK ORCHESTRA *practices at 10:00 a.m. Saturdays, at the Fellowship.* For info contact Bill Sasso at bsasso@juno.com.

CUF LINKS HARD COPIES are available at the Fellowship on the visitor table.

Deadline for February CUF Links: Wednesday, January 26.

Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship,
105 N. Parrish Lane, Carbondale, IL 62901
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www.cuuf.net, carbondaleuu@frontier.com
The Rev. William Sasso, Minister

*"Well done is better than well said."
- Benjamin Franklin*

