



# The Leaf

The Newsletter of the First Universalist Church

Sept./Oct. 2005

## Sunday Services 10AM

**Sept. 18: Richard Venus**

**Sept. 25: Richard Venus**—  
Child and Stained Glass  
Window Dedications

**Oct. 2: TBA**

**Oct. 9: Richard Venus**

**Oct. 16: Roland Marcus**

**Oct. 23:** Installation of the  
Rev. Richard Venus

**Oct. 30: Richard Venus**

Childcare starts at 9:50 AM

## **Spirited Welcome for Richard and Marcia Venus**

On Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, a beautiful late summer morning, the Reverend Richard Venus began his tenure as minister of the New Madison First Universalist Church. Richard's sermon, "*Reflections on Enormous Events*," challenged the congregation to reflect on both America's role and our individual responses to events such as the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and hurricane Katrina. Richard's remarks elicited spirited response during congregational feedback.

"Spirited" also describes the energy level present in our fine old church building on September 11<sup>th</sup> as the congregation

welcomed Richard and Marcia Venus. During the service, Helen Geyer and Rick and Hillary Wagner provided beautiful special music in addition to Lloyd Ketring's musical offerings. Afterwards, Richard, Marcia, musicians, and church guests joined the congregation for a carry-in lunch. "Spirited" discussion filled the church basement as those present enjoyed the food and each other's company.

The Reverend Venus and the New Madison church community will further formalize their commitment to each other at Richard's formal Installation on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Upcoming Events at the First Universalist Church of New Madison

### **Board of Directors Meetings**

Everyone is welcome!  
September 27, 7 PM  
October 25, 7 PM

### **FISH Offering Sunday**

October 3  
Items frequently asked for:  
Toilet paper, diapers, baby  
food (no jars), pork & beans,  
canned fruit, canned vegeta-  
bles, canned soup (especially  
chicken noodle), boxed maca-  
roni & cheese, cash for eggs &  
milk

### **Time Change**

October 30, 2 AM

### **Fundraisers benefiting the American Red Cross**

September 22, 6 PM—  
Pampered Chef Party and food  
demo  
November 13, afternoon—Fall  
Concert

### **Union Service with Eldorado**

November 20

### **Church Retreat (Herman II)**

December 2 & 3 at the Brooks  
Barn—more information in an  
upcoming Leaf

The above events will take  
place at the church unless oth-  
erwise stated.

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

- 4 Ellen Teller
- 5 Laura Moeckel Willis
- 6 Louie Leedle
- 7 Della Cassity
- 8 Dennis Burns
- 11 Paul Britner
- 15 Barbara Burns
- 18 Bill Burkett
- 18 Lori Lucas

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:**

- 5 Craig & LuAnn Dubbs
- 5 Janet & Roger Cassity
- 23 Jon & Tammy Ketring

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:**

- 7 John Searls
- 11 Jennifer Hamelberg
- 12 Linda Searls
- 18 Ray Michel
- 22 Wells Behee
- 26 Sara Hamelberg

**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:**

- 3 Janet & Kenny Baker



**COFFEE HOUR:**

- Sept. 18 Janet & Kenny Baker
- Sept. 25 Christel & Dick Brooks

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**ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY:**

The Church held its annual congregational meeting on July 17th. The biggest news was that the Reverend Richard Venus has been called as our new minister. He started September 1st.

The 2005-2006 budget includes \$10,500 for the Building and Property Fund. The majority of this money will be used for repairs to the steeple. The budgeted deficit for the fiscal year is \$16,728. The Board will be planning a capital campaign during this fiscal year to help offset the deficit.

Elections were held for the Board of Directors. Officers for 2005-2006 are President Christel Brooks, Treasurer Lloyd Ketring, and Secretary Claire Brooks Williams. Roberta Feltman and Fred Meyer were elected to the board positions vacated by Dick Brooks and Dede Wissman.

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