

Yes! I want to be a Chalice Lighter!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Congregation: _____

Email Address: _____

Please send calls by: Postal Mail Email

The Ohio-Meadville District is a district of the Unitarian Universalist Association serving 46 congregations in western Pennsylvania, western New York, West Virginia and most of Ohio.

The Ohio-Meadville District exists to provide information, resources, assistance, and leadership to its member congregations. Its goals, as stated in the by-laws, include cultivating cooperative relationships among the member congregations and their constituencies; promoting the religious life of these congregations; assisting member congregations in conducting active and effective programs within their respective communities; and assisting with the formation of new congregations within the geographical limits of the District.

Services not provided by the District Committees are offered by paid and volunteer district staff, including:

District Executive Rev. Joan VanBecelaere; Program Consultant for Lifespan Faith Development Karen LoBracco; Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Intern Michelle Buhite; Social Witness Coordinator Rachel Baker; District Administrator Beth Casebolt; Ministerial Settlement Representative Rev. Daniel Budd; adjunct congregational consultants and small congregation growth consultants.

To learn more about the district and its programs, visit our website at

www.ohiomeadville.org

or contact the district office at:

PO Box 157

St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Office Phone: 740-252-5980

Email: office@ohiomeadville.org

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!



THE OMD CHALICE LIGHTER'S PROGRAM:

SUPPORTING THE
VITALITY OF OUR
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATIONS

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

"You possess only a small light, but uncover it, let it shine. Use it in order to bring more light and understanding to the hearts and minds of men and women. Give them not hell, but hope and courage."

-- John Murray -- Founder of Universalism in America

Are you willing to let your light shine? Would you like the opportunity to support Unitarian Universalism in a larger way that goes beyond the walls of your local congregation? In these times of cultural anxiety, we need to let our light shine to speak the message of liberal religion loudly and clearly.

A very important way in which we let our light shine is by participating in the Ohio-Meadville District Chalice Lighters program.

An OMD Chalice Lighter is an individual who pledges to respond with a \$10 contribution when the call comes to help a congregation in our district.

Through this program, you can directly reach out and help an OMD congregation realize its dream to expand its outreach into the community, make its building accessible, improve religious education for its children, create new programs for growth, develop new social justice outreach or strengthen some other vital part of its ministry. This is a way to immediately support our fellow OMD congregations in their work to grow and nurture our faith.

As John Murray has said, we want to spread the message of hope and courage to our larger communities. If we enroll 2,000 people in the OMD Chalice Lighters program, we can provide \$20,000 to a congregation in need of a building! We can provide a start for a new UU society. \$20,000

could help a congregation call a minister! Just imagine what YOU-combined with the efforts of other Chalice Lighters-can do!

Here's how the program works: A congregation sends a proposal to the OMD office. The OMD Resource Development Team reviews the request to make sure it meets program guidelines of scope and accountability. Then the request goes to the OMD Board for approval.

When a request receives Board approval, the OMD sends out a "call" to all Chalice Lighters in the district. Each OMD Chalice Lighter has pledged to send a minimum donation of \$10 to the OMD Office for the congregation named in the "call."

There is a maximum of four "calls" per year. Consequently, the Chalice Lighter commitment for each year is \$40 to help our OMD congregations grow and thrive.

Of course, Chalice Lighters are encouraged give more if they are inspired by the project named in the call. \$10 per call is the requested minimum commitment.

2011 Chalice Lighter Grant Recipients

- Two St Lawrence District congregations received assistance for repairs after flooding from two tropical storms and a hurricane.
- First UU Church, Columbus OH received a grant to help jump start their Campus Ministry Program - FOCUS
- UU Congregation, Charleston, WV received a grant to repair and improve their entrances to the congregation's building and property.
- UU Fellowship of Morgantown, WV received a grant to support their Campus Ministry program at WVU

Yes! I want to become a Chalice Lighter!

To join this program:

Visit www.ohiomeadville.org, click on Chalice Lighters under Programs and register online to join. You can also donate at this site with a credit card.

~or~

1. Fill out the form on the reverse.
2. Check the box to receive future chalice lighter calls by postal mail or email .
3. Mail the form and a check (if you are responding to a current Chalice Lighter's call) to:

Chalice Lighters
Ohio-Meadville District
PO Box 157
St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Need more information or have a question?

Call or email the OMD office at:

740-252-5980

office@ohiomeadville.org

You can also give yearly and have your donation divided over the 4 calls. See the website or contact the office for details.

The Ohio-Meadville Board and staff thank you for your generosity and your support of our district and our congregations.