

Lakeland UU Fellowship Is Revitalized

When the Lakeland UU Fellowship (Wayne NJ) resumes regular Sunday services on September 9, it will mark a victory of spirit and will over desperate circumstances.

A year ago, the board of directors believed the 45-year-old fellowship would have to close due to a lack of leadership, membership, and operating funds. But when they realized that also would mean the sale and possible destruction of their historic building – parts of which date back to the 18th century – they determined to give it one more try.

The fellowship's goals happened to dovetail with those of the Rev. Ann Benedetto, a Ringwood resident who had often spoken at LUUF as a guest minister. LUUF needed a minister who could inspire the present members and attract new ones, and the Rev. Benedetto rose to the challenge. Longtime members also stepped up to oversee challenges regarding fundraising and building maintenance.

New members brought with them fresh ideas and fresh energy, generating more positive momentum. During the summer, LUUF has made important upgrades to its building, established a professional web site, and begun a fellowship newsletter.

This fall, in addition to a full roster of Sunday services, LUUF will offer many new programs for members of all interests and ages, including cafe programs on Thursday and Friday nights, and an open house dance party on the third Saturday of each month. LUUF is located at 231 Parish Drive, Wayne NJ. For more information, call 973-696-6362 or visit the web site www.luuf.org.