

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

March 1, 2011

Dear UU Lay Leaders and Ministers:

The Mountain Desert District offers the finest means to Affirm, Deepen, Nurture, and Build effective leadership within your congregation – the Russell Lockwood Leadership School! Plan to send individuals from your congregation to RLLS and help them become the leaders your congregation and our religion deserve; it is an investment you won't regret!

The 2011 Russell Lockwood Leadership School will be from July 31-August 6, at Sunrise Ranch in the mountains just east of Loveland, Colorado. An experiential school where clergy-lay leadership collaboration and respect are modeled, RLLS provides instruction in effective leadership, powerful worship, group process, creating healthy congregations, systems thinking, and UU history. This is accomplished in an integrated fashion, utilizing current best practices. In addition, participants will experience a variety of "learning communities", allowing them the opportunity to practice these skills as they are introduced. You may find out more about the curriculum by visiting our website at <http://rlls.mdduua.org>.

Leadership school is a powerful experience; when I attended RLLS as a participant in 2007, I found it to be transformative, as well as educational and inspirational. It is, however, physically and emotionally demanding. Please consider this when choosing your candidates.

The following forms may be found and copied for your candidates at <http://rlls.mdduua.org>:

1. An **Information for Congregations** sheet that delineates the steps each congregation must take to send someone to Leadership School;
2. The **Information for Applicants** sheet containing basic information about Leadership School;
3. The **Designation of Applicants Form** that must be signed for the candidate your congregation wishes to endorse;
4. A **Registration Form** to be filled out and submitted by each applicant.

Each congregation in the MDD is reserved two spots. Congregations may send additional participants as space allows. **The 2011 registration deadline is June 15. Late registrations will increase by \$100.00.**

If you need further information please feel free to call or email me. I would love to talk with you!

Sincerely,
Julie Feuerbach
RLLS 2011 Dean
(719) 440-4058
julieaf@q.com

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 INFORMATION FOR CONGREGATIONS

The Mountain Desert District's Russell Lockwood Leadership School (RLLS) is committed to training leaders for local congregation leadership. Your congregation's board must designate the applicants you wish to send to RLLS 2011.

This year's school will be held **July 31 through August 6**.

Here's what your Board needs to do:

- Choose RLLS applicants who have leadership potential and the emotional and physical capability to participate in a high-energy, emotionally intense week with early mornings and late evenings, at elevation. Choose carefully!
- Pay a **Congregational Fee** of \$350 (no matter how many participants are sent).
- Send the **Designation of Applicants Form** and **Congregational Fee** to the RLLS Registrar at the address below by June 15. *Applicants are NOT completely registered until the registrar receives these items.*
- Encourage applicant(s) to register well before the June 15 registration deadline.

Fees:

- For registrations postmarked on or before June 15, the registration fee is \$900. *Each applicant must send a deposit of \$200 (or the entire fee) with his or her **Registration Form**.*
- After June 15, the late registration fee is \$1000.
- The registration fee is for double occupancy. Though we feel that rooming with other UUs can be a valuable part of the RLLS experience, singles are available for an additional \$250.

If you have questions about:

- The School – Check out the website rlls.mdduua.org.
- Whether your congregation or a particular applicant will fully benefit from and contribute to the School – Contact Julie Feuerbach at julieaf@q.com or (719) 440-4058.
- Financial grants – Grants of up to \$200 are available to assist congregations with special needs. Grants will be deducted from the individual fees of the congregation's RLLS participants, *not* from the congregational fee. Participants registering for single rooms do not qualify. Requests must be postmarked by June 15. Contact the Registrar for information.

Act now! Completed registration packets consist of:

- **Designation of Applicants Form,**
- **Congregational Fee,**
- **Registration Form, and**
- **Registration Deposit or Fee.**

Send completed registration packets to:

Vali Dugan, RLLS 2011 Registrar
5420 Darlington PL NW • Albuquerque, NM 87114

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The Russell Lockwood Leadership School prepares UUs for congregational leadership. RLLS is a powerful immersion experience: Participants are supported and encouraged to engage in deep exploration while also assimilating practical tools to take back home. Expect stimulating discussions, new friendships, collaborative worship, deep exploration of beliefs and values, singing and music empowerment, group process, laughter, congregational problem solving, examination of leadership styles, and refining of leadership technique. RLLS is information about Unitarian Universalism, a closer look at District policies and services, and hands-on opportunities for people to express their creativity and expand their leadership gifts.

The Russell Lockwood Leadership School is one of the most outstanding values to be found anywhere today. Consider the following financial comparison to a well-known and successful professional training school:

	<u>Learning Tree</u>	<u>RLLS</u>
1. Length of school	5 days	7 days
2. Typical number of participants	15	40
3. Typical number of staff	1	10
4. Staff-to-participant ratio	1 to 15	1 to 4
5. Lodging included in the registration fee	NO	YES!
6. Meals included in registration fee	NO	YES!
7. <u>Typical cost for each participant</u>	<u>\$2950</u>	<u>\$900*</u>

*(*Registration fee for registrations postmarked by June 15, 2011.)*

RLLS 2011 will be held at Sunrise Ranch in Loveland, Colorado, from the afternoon of July 31 through lunch on August 6. Sunrise Ranch is an intentional community, spiritual center, and working sustainable farm. Its loving community spirit makes it a perfect match for our School. Participants will share a room with one other person. (Single rooms available for an extra \$250.)

Members who are in, or are about to enter, positions of leadership in their congregations will benefit most from RLLS. The curriculum and pace of the School are intense. Persons who are struggling with health limitations, or who are in the midst of life changes, may have difficulty contributing to and gaining fully from the school. If you have questions about any of these issues, please contact Julie Feuerbach, 2011 RLLS Dean, at julieaf@q.com or (719) 440-4058 to discuss your situation more fully.

The altitude is 5000 feet above sea level. Arriving (and staying) well hydrated is very important. The Ranch is well equipped to provide vegetarian and special-diet meals; contact the RLLS Registrar to make arrangements. Smoking is allowed in designated outdoor areas.

- For registrations postmarked by June 15, the registration fee is \$900.
- On June 16, the registration fee goes up to \$1000.

*Each applicant must send a deposit of \$200 (or the entire fee) with his or her **Registration Form**.*

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

A NOTE TO CONGREGATIONS AND APPLICANTS

IRS Regulations allow individuals to deduct contributions to churches and other 501 (c) 3 organizations, such as the Mountain Desert District and Russell Lockwood Leadership School, on their tax returns.

But deductions cannot be taken if the individual has received goods or services in exchange for their contribution. Thus, tuition for RLLS is not tax deductible for participants.

However, it is appropriate for congregations to pay the tuition for their leaders. Should RLLS participants make a contribution to their congregation, in a similar amount to the cost of tuition, that contribution would be tax deductible for the individual.

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 APPLICANT FACT SHEET

- Participants are asked to arrive July 31 by 3 PM.
- Participants can plan on leaving before lunch on August 6.
- Sunrise Ranch is approximately 1 1/2 hours driving time north of Denver. If you plan to fly into Denver International Airport please contact Vali Dugan, Registrar, for shuttle information.
- Sunrise Ranch is at 5000 feet elevation: adequate hydration is important!
- Dress is casual; rain gear and sturdy footwear for walking or hiking are recommended.
- Vegetarian and special-diet meals are available by reservation through the RLLS Registrar, Vali Dugan, at (505) 818-7895 or atomicsupergirl@gmail.com.
- Cell phone reception at Sunrise Ranch is spotty (only AT&T works consistently), but several phones are available for guest use. If you will need to call long distance, bring a phone card.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout the buildings and a guest computer is available.
- Attendees are encouraged to bring musical instruments.
- A registration packet will confirm your registration; at check-in you will receive a binder with the full week's schedule and other resource materials.
- For questions regarding the school, contact Julie Feuerbach, 2011 RLLS Dean, at julieaf@q.com or (719) 440-4058.
- For questions regarding registration or facilities, contact Vali Dugan, 2011 RLLS Registrar, at atomicsupergirl@gmail.com or (505) 818-7895.

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 CONGREGATION DESIGNATION OF APPLICANTS FORM

We, the Board of _____,
(congregation)

designate the applicants listed below as candidates for the Mountain Desert District's 2011 Russell Lockwood Leadership School. The order as listed reflects the priority for selection:

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

- The required \$350 Non-Refundable Basic Congregational Fee is enclosed.

Signature of Congregation President:

_____ Date: _____

Make all checks payable to “Mountain Desert District” (marked **Leadership School**).
Send this completed form with the congregational fee to:

Vali Dugan, RLLS 2011 Registrar
5420 Darlington PL NW • Albuquerque, NM 87114

More information about the Russell Lockwood Leadership School – including registration deadlines, availability of financial grants, fee information, and additional registration forms – can be found on the MDD Web Site: rls.mdduua.org

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 APPLICANT REGISTRATION FORM

July 31 – August 6, Sunrise Ranch, Loveland CO

Name: _____ F M
(As you want it to appear on your name tag)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Congregation: _____

Roommate Request: _____

(Rooms are double occupancy. Roommates will be assigned unless mutually requested by both parties. Single rooms are available for a \$250 fee. Please contact the Registrar to make arrangements for a single room.)

Vegetarian meals requested: Yes No

Smoker: Yes No

Special Needs (diet or physical – limited handicap facilities are available). Please explain:

Your registration will not be valid until the registrar receives ALL of the following items:

- **The Designation of Applicants Form,**
- **The Congregational Fee,**
- **This Registration Form, and**
- **Your Deposit (or payment in full).**

Please check with the President of your congregation to be sure that the first two items are complete. Make all checks payable to Mountain Desert District (marked **Leadership School**). Send this completed **Registration Form** and fee payment to:

Vali Dugan, RLLS 2011 Registrar
5420 Darlington PL NW • Albuquerque, NM 87114

More information about the Russell Lockwood Leadership School – including registration deadlines, availability of financial grants, fee information, and additional registration forms – can be found on the MDD Web Site: rlls.mdduua.org

RLLS 2011: JOURNEYING TO LEADERSHIP

*Affirming Our Covenant
Claiming Our Prophetic Voice
Building Beloved Community*

*Deepening the Call to Leadership
Nurturing Our Faith as Leaders
Living Out Our Mission*

RLLS 2011 GRANT APPLICATION FORM

To apply for a financial grant to be applied towards an applicant's registration fee, complete this form and return to:

Vali Dugan, 2011 RLLS Registrar • 5420 Darlington PL NW • Albuquerque, NM 87114
(505) 818-7895, atomicsupergirl@gmail.com

Grant amounts depend on the funds available and number of applicants. If a congregation receives a grant, it will be deducted from the congregation's applicants' tuition.

Criteria for receiving a grant:

- Need expressed for registration grant – does the congregation need financial grant to the extent that the person would not be able to attend without a grant?;
- Need supported by signature of Congregation President;
- Congregation need for leadership development: a) congregation has not sent someone to RLLS in recent years or b) District staff recommends support due to known leadership development needs at a congregation;
- Availability of grant funds.

Name: (please print) _____ F M

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Congregation: _____

Years of membership in this UU Congregation: _____ Years as a UU: _____

Congregation President:

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Applicant's Current Congregation Leadership position, if any:

More information about the Russell Lockwood Leadership School – including registration deadlines, availability of financial grants, fee information, and additional registration forms – can be found on the MDD Web Site: rlls.mdduua.org