



THE OPEN DOOR

**CHEQUAMEGAN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
JANUARY, 2009**

JANUARY SERVICES:

**JANUARY 11, 10:00 A.M. IN THE PONZIO CENTER, NORTHLAND COLLEGE;
SPEAKER, DAVID SAETRE, "THE BETTER ANGELS OF OUR NATURE"**

The United States of America has been called a "nation with the soul of a church". If that is true, then inaugural speeches are surely the sermons to the nation. The tradition of inauguration speeches as a kind of testament to the challenges, hopes and dreams of the nation goes back to Washington, and runs through the presidents of the land to this day. Few have risen to the occasion, but there have been breathtaking speeches as well. Kennedy, Lincoln (twice), FDR, Washington (with his farewell address also), set the tone for a whole generation and more. The sense of anticipation for this winter's inauguration is palpable. We have weathered an era of deep political and social division, we are still at war on at least two fronts, Palestine is blowing up before a weary world's eyes, the economy is in the tank (recalling FDR)....shall I go on? Yet, we sense a swell of hope as well. This is a time for new beginnings. The nation begins a new year and a new era. We long to have our hopes lifted and our dreams renewed. Could it be? Perhaps so.

The talk for this first Sunday of the new year, then, will focus on great themes of presidential inaugural speeches, with an ear to the spiritual tones set forth in the addresses of so many Presidents. We will listen for the great themes of hope in the midst of trial that characterizes the vision set forth in the greatest inaugural addresses

**JANUARY 25, 10:00 A.M. IN THE PONZIO CENTER, NORTHLAND COLLEGE;
SPEAKER, PAUL BOGARD, "BLESSING FROM A SMALL HOUSE."**

Paul Bogard will share insights that he explores in his upcoming book "Blessings from a Small House". In times when the excesses of size, money, and self-interest are giving way to a renewed focus on the smaller rather than the larger, the spiritual rather than the material, and the understanding of our connections with the lives around us, Bogard focuses on recognizing the blessings we enjoy every day. He tells a story of savoring simplicity, community, and connection with the natural world .

Paul Bogard is a visiting assistant professor of English at Northland College. His first book, "Let There Be Night: Testimony on Behalf of the Dark", came out in September from the University of Nevada Press.

Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Website: <http://www.chequamegonuuf.org>

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A WORD OF THANKS FROM DAVID AND JANET

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you as we begin a new year of partnership and ministry together -- the Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and the Northland College Campus Ministry. I began the monthly talks at the Fellowship about ten years ago, while the fellowship still met in the Washburn Public Library basement. I thought I would lead these talk for about three year, and then the fellowship would either tire of me or (better) would have secured a part-time UU minister. Well, here we are, and what a blessing this partnership and friendship is to me.

I want to thank the members and friends of the Fellowship for your kind support, your listening ear, your friendship, and the kind gift offered to me at the December Solstice Children's Service. The gift of Forrest Church's book, *Love and Death*, was perfect. Church is an author and UU luminary I greatly admire, and the theme is right up my alley. You will probably hear a talk sometime soon reflecting on the themes in this book and on the great contributions of Forrest Church to the cause of liberal religion in America.

Many thanks and Blessed New Year to you.

THANKS AND A REQUEST FROM KARLA HASART

Thank you to all the people that have provided refreshments for the UU services. Thank you to Peggy Koehler, Megan Perrine, Karen and Mike Crowell, Stephana, Cindy VanHorn, Patti, Jan Perkins, and all the others that have helped in one way or another. We have people offering to bring refreshments for the first service in January. If you would like to bring refreshments for future services, please contact Karla Hasart at 682-

4012kkhasart@yahoo.com<<http://us.mc320.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=art@yahoo.com>> .

She can let you know when the next open date is for refreshments. Thank you and Happy New Year!

YET MORE THANKS!

I hope you all enjoyed our children's holiday production of "Return of the Light" as much as I did! It never ceases to amaze me how our children pull off such a quality production with beautiful sets and costumes each year. In case you aren't aware of how this comes to fruition in such a short time, I'll let you in on our secret: Megan Perrine.

(Thanks, continued) Megan has spearheaded our holiday program for many years and always puts in incredible amounts of energy, creativity and hard work to make the holiday program so remarkable. We are very grateful for all her efforts! Also, we'd like to thank Ruth Oppedahl for her efforts in selecting and leading the children's song, which is an integral part of our program. The parents of all the children in RE have also been very helpful during rehearsals and helping the children prepare for their roles. We couldn't do it without your help! Finally, a big thanks to all the kids who participated! You did such a wonderful job in learning your parts so quickly, in helping create the beautiful sets and props, and in being patient during rehearsals! I hope you enjoyed the experience.

Thank you to all those involved in making our holiday program such a delight!

FINAL THANKS

Thanks, Gratitude, and Kudos from CUUF Board

Many, many thanks to EVERYONE who gives so much to make our Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship a vibrant liberal religious and spiritual community. We are extremely grateful for our partnership with Northland College and the College's willingness to provide us with a space to continue our services.

On Saturday, December 13th, from 11:00 – 3:00, the board met with Tim and Karen Hirsch, our district UU resource liasons, to begin a leadership planning discussion for the future. The board is eager to help meet our fellowship's continuing needs for a more permanent sanctuary and a fellowship home. May we continue to move forward together in 2009.

REMEMBER to mark your calendars for our district annual conference in DULUTH on **April 3-5** to share our faith with UU fellowships and churches in our region.

NEW BOOKS AT THE BOOKSTORE

The UU bookstore has many new books on hand. The books will be on display for sale at the next UU service. Some of the titles of the new books are: 'In Defense of Childhood: Protecting Kids' Inner Wildness', 'Kindness: A Treasury of Buddhist Wisdom for Children and Parents', 'A Chosen Faith: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism', plus many other wonderful books. The price of the book is the listed price on the book plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. Please contact Karla Hasart or Cindy VanHorn if you would like to purchase one of these interesting books.

UU WOMEN

UU Women will gather at my home on January 8 at 6:30 pm. I'll prepare a light meal; there's no need to bring anything. The address is 79020 Big Rock Road. To get there, take Bayfield County Hiway C west out of Washburn. Turn right on Big Rock Road. you'll go down a big hill, cross the Sioux River, then go up a big hill on the other side. After that, it's the first driveway on the right.

Please contact me if you plan to come. jlorenz@centurytel.net or 373.5908

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE PROGRAM

Thank you to all who participated in the UUSC's Guest at Your Table program this year. The money you contribute goes to support UU social justice programs around the world. Hopefully, this program also helped to educate about the needs of people around the world for support in achieving basic rights. Please bring your contributions to one of the January services. Cash should be converted to a check made out to the UUSC. Also, fill in the information on the back of the box so that your contribution to the UUSC is recorded. I will collect all contributions and send them on to the UUSC by the end of January.

submitted by Kristin Quinlan