

# *The Open Door Newsletter*

## *May 2017*



### **This Month's Fellowship Services**

*Fellowship Services are held at 10 a.m. on the Northland College Campus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Commons of the Ponzio Center. Find us on the web at [www.chequamegonuuf.org](http://www.chequamegonuuf.org)*

#### **May 14, 2017 — Annual All-Music Service — Sing Out!**

Please join our fellowship for a morning of music that will inspire us to stand strong and Sing Out! Our featured musicians will be the duo Chance, with vocalist Cheryl Leah and vocalist/cellist Ed Willett. Cheryl and Ed will sing and lead us in songs that uplift and challenge us in this time of social and political uncertainties.

Cheryl and Ed have been partners in music and in life for the past 27 years. Together they have developed a style that is completely their own, one that's forged from one simple precept: "If you step just a little bit off the trail, everything gets a whole lot more interesting." From 1994 to 2011 they performed with The Blue Canvas Orchestra, the house band and touring ensemble for Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua. In 2011, Ed began a two-year stint of touring worldwide with pop/rock icon Rickie Lee Jones. Cheryl and Ed created the lyrics and music for the production *John Muir – University of the Wilderness*; they toured *John Muir* in 2015 through Scotland with violinist Liesel Wilson and actor/percussionist Thomas Clyde Mitchell. The foursome performed *John Muir* 32 times across 12 states in celebration of the 2016 centennial of the U.S. National Park Service.

Our own CUUF members and friends will also bring their talents to the All-Music Service. They include folk singer and leader of rounds Don Christensen, singers Kristi Kiel and Erica Rosenfeld of Braided Sweetgrass, versatile pianist Joni Chapman, Master of Ceremonies Scott B. Burchill and, of course, the CUUF Children's Choir with Zach Jurewicz, song leader.

**Note: The All-Music Service will be held in the Northland College Alvord Theatre**

#### **May 21, 2017 — Annual Flower Ceremony and Child Dedication**

This day will feature the annual Flower Ceremony. First celebrated in Prague in 1923, the Flower Ceremony honors the universal beauty of nature and serves as a reminder of the unique gifts and talents that each person brings to this fellowship. Just as the individual flowers make a bouquet that is more beautiful than any single flower, it is the presence of every person that makes this a beautiful fellowship. Please bring flowers to share on this day—from your garden, the store, or from the forest. All types are appreciated.

CUUF member Kristi Kiel will lead our Child Dedication, and our minister, David Saetre, will offer the message. His message is a reminder that each child born into this world is a unique and precious human being, worthy of love and care. All of our principles can be seen as expressions of love and justice, and every person – every child – is worthy of our celebration and support. Our Child Dedication is the perfect way to conclude our worship year and send us off into the summer months of renewal and adventure, with each child (and the child in all of us) sent forth with blessings.

**The Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship welcomes people of any age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, ability, religion or cultural background.**

## FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Attention UU Women!!

UU Women will meet on Sunday, May 28 at 10 a.m. We're doing something a little different this month. We'll meet at the Old Beaser School, at the corner of 6th Street and Beaser Avenue in Ashland, where we will be treated to a tour of Patra Holter's art studio. After that, we'll head to Freehands Lakeside (formerly the Blue Wave) for brunch, coffee, and conversation.

We welcome anyone who identifies as a woman in a way that's significant to them. If you have questions, please contact Jill Lorenz at [jlorenz@centurytel.net](mailto:jlorenz@centurytel.net).

**The Great CUUF Garage Sale** will be on Saturday, May 20, 2017, at Karyn and Lee's splendid garage, 901 9th Avenue West, Ashland. Turn south by Arby's and you'll find them! This coincides with the Ashland city-wide garage sale. Money raised from this event helps to fund our Religious Education program.

If you have items to donate please drop them off on Friday, May 19, between 4 and 6 p.m. at Karyn and Lee's house.

Garage sale hours are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you can help that day, even for a few hours, please contact Birgit Wolff at [birgithwolff@gmail.com](mailto:birgithwolff@gmail.com)



### Chalice Lighter Grant Award

Based on membership input from several planning events held over the past 5 years, our CUUF leadership recognized that the most influential factor in the growth and well being of our fellowship (our membership and friends) is competent, considerate, and intelligent professional leadership. We applied for a Chalice Lighter grant from the UUA MidAmerica Region to address our need for paid professional ministerial services and pastoral care. We are pleased to report that the Chalice Lighter grant program recently committed CUUF with \$8,000 to support a part-time paid minister over a two-year period.

From the UUA MidAmerica Region website:

April 2017 - Dear MidAmerica Chalice Lighter,

Chalice Lighter grants are funded by small donations from Unitarian Universalists across our large MidAmerica Region of the UUA, pooled together to help congregations with specific growth projects.

The MidAmerica Regional Chalice Lighter Committee, comprised of representatives from all three of the former districts, considered the four applications that were received. We are pleased to announce the results of the Spring Regional Chalice Lighter call:

Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Ashland, Wisconsin, will be awarded funds to assist their growing congregation in increasing professional staff by calling their first part-time minister. The fellowship has enjoyed steady growth over the past several years, has considerable enrollment in their RE programs, and recognizes their need for competent and considerate professional leadership.

This is great news for our fellowship! Not only will the funds be beneficial, but it feels so good to have this support from the MidAmerica Region and from the individual Unitarian Universalists who donated the money to make this grant possible. **Thank you!** To read about the other fellowships that received Spring Chalice Lighter Grants, please visit <https://www.midamericauua.org/programs/chalice-lighters>.



## May 21 Child Dedication Ceremony: Please let us know by May 14 if you would like to participate

A Unitarian Universalist Child Dedication Ceremony welcomes a child into the fellowship. Through this ceremony we recognize the gifts that children bring to our fellowship and express our willingness as a community to support them as they grow. This is a chance for us to recognize individual children in our fellowship and to pledge our support to their spiritual growth.

This year's child dedication will be on Sunday, May 21. The ceremony is brief but meaningful; children (infant to twelve years) who participate will come forward with their parent(s) or guardian(s) during this part of the service. There are no special requirements of the children or their parents.

For more information, or to express your intention to participate in the Child Dedication Ceremony, please contact Krisit Kiel by May 14 at (715) 292-6219.

## On Children

by Kahlil Gibran

Your children are not your children.  
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,  
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,  
For they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,  
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them,  
but seek not to make them like you.  
For life goes not backward nor carries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children  
as living arrows are sent forth.  
The Archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,  
and he bends you with his might  
that his arrows may go swift and far.  
Let your bending in the Archer's hand be for gladness;  
For even as he loves the arrow that flies,  
so he loves also the bow that is stable.

## Welcome Baby!!

CUUF member and Duluth resident Ashley Kamantauskas and her husband, Michael, welcomed their son, Perrin Alexander Kamantauskas, on March 16, 2017.

Ashley was diagnosed with pre-eclampsia at 33 weeks and underwent a caesarean section after which she required several blood transfusions. Perrin went home on April 9 after a 3 ½ week stay in the NICU at St. Mary's Children's Hospital in Duluth. The family is doing well.



A GoFundMe page has been set up to support the family. Additionally, a meal wheel is being organized. Please visit the below links to participate.

<https://www.gofundme.com/kamantauskas-family-medical-fund>

<https://mealtrain.com/dm3q03>

For more information, please contact Dana Churness at 715-813-0411. Thank you!

## MORE FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Highlights from the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting

CUUF membership voted unanimously to endorse the UUA Declaration of Conscience and the Northland College Sanctuary School declaration.

We had a brainstorming session to generate ideas to support our Seventh UUA Principle - Caring for Our Planet Earth. Here is a list of the ideas that were mentioned:

1. Reduce number of Sunday service programs through use of electronic devices (tablets, smart phones, projection units, etc.)
2. Explore use of recycled paper for Sunday programs
3. Partnership with Northland College to cost share and purchase automated window blinds for Ponzio Center meeting area
4. Track CUUF conservation actions
5. Initiate a solar power demonstration project
6. Hold workshops with local organizations (e.g. Alliance for Sustainability, Bad River Watershed Association) that practice conservation efforts
7. Consider support for CAFO ordinance in local counties
8. Utilize resources and materials of the UUA, such as the Green Sanctuary Program
9. Seek suggestions for minimizing use of resources
10. Establish a ride-share program to Sunday services
11. Work with Northland College to improve efficiency of heating/cooling on weekends - our space is often too warm in winter and too cool in summer
12. Establish a Go Green section in the newsletter with examples or recommendations for conservation actions
13. Explore hospitality conservation opportunities—increase use of re-useable cups, plates, etc., bring own coffee mug/water bottle, ensure recycling bins are available by the hospitality tables
14. Learn about green burials

### Treasurer's Report

For those that missed the April 19 CUUF Annual Business Meeting, here is a brief summary of the Treasurer's Report. Totals are as of April 17, 2017. Our budget for this fiscal year (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) is \$41,728, compared to \$26,459 last year. Spending to date is \$26,478 (63% of budget). Income this year is \$34,132, compared to \$17,529 last year. We have received 90% of our pledge total of \$28,371. Our checking balance is \$11,391 which, with contributions from the remaining 4 services, is expected to be sufficient to cover expenses over the 3 summer months when we have minimal income.

### Hospitality Hosts for Upcoming Services

	<u>Contact Person and Set Up</u>	<u>Snacks and Clean Up</u>	<u>Snacks and Clean Up</u>
May 14	Nicole & Alan Brew 715-746-2224	Heidi & Jeff Ungrodt 715-682-0103	Karyn Watters & Lee Stadnyk 715-682-6589
May 21	Birgit & Roland Wolff 715-765-4888	Jill Lorenz 715-373-5908	Deb & Bob Aaron 715-373-0201

If you are unsure of what to do, please refer to the CUUF Hospitality Host Information Sheet on our website, [www.chequamegonuuf.org](http://www.chequamegonuuf.org). If you have a conflict with your scheduled service date, please call another member to facilitate a swap or fill-in. You can also contact Betsy and Jim Matzinger at (847) 651-6738 or [hospitality@chequamegonuuf.org](mailto:hospitality@chequamegonuuf.org).

## Community Outreach Social Justice Group

**Community Action Committee:** Please join us for the third and final meeting (of the 2016-2017 season) of the Community Action Committee on Sunday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m. on the 2nd floor of the Ponzio Center, Northland College. We will discuss the organizational ideas at the end of Richard Gilbert's book, *The Prophetic Imperative*, and plan for how to cover social justice issues for next year. Would people like to invite Karen Gustafson to lead a workshop on empowering the fellowship through social justice? This is one of several ideas we will talk about. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to have read the book or have attended the first two meetings in order to contribute.

**St. Andrew's Church Community Dinner** - Our fellowship will be helping with the Community Dinner at St. Andrew's Church in Ashland on Friday, June 2, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Please call Mary Rehwald at 715-682-4662 to volunteer to bring a dish and/or assist with set up and serving the meal (first shift) or serving and cleaning up after the meal (second shift).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### What was in the Easter eggs?

We had an Easter egg hunt with a twist this year. Instead of a competition to get the most eggs, we asked the RE participants to collaborate to help each other find all of the eggs. We told them we would all come together at the end and open up the eggs. And we asked the older kids to buddy with the younger ones with one very special rule: don't open the eggs until we're all together!

Instead of a mad dash for the eggs, we saw older kids taking eggs out of their baskets and rolling them on the floor for the younger ones to find. We saw buddies pointing to eggs, and everyone working together to make sure we found them all. I think all of the adults in the room were reminded about what a special group we have in RE.

What did they find in the eggs? Dog treats. This egg hunt was a service project for the Chequamegon Humane Association. In addition, some eggs contained money that members of the fellowship donated to the cause. And some included candy, which we put in one big basket and shared with the rest of the fellowship at snack time.

The kids were invited to deliver the dog treats and donations to the Humane Association on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. As the Easter story is about everlasting life, we were proud to support our no-kill facility which works so hard to find forever homes for pets.

### Reflecting Back and Looking Forward: Notes and Updates from RE

As the rhythms of spring hint at the coming of summer, we reflect back with gratitude for all of our RE program volunteers this year. Our Sunday teachers, holiday program coordinators, music leaders, craft volunteers, and all those who support RE created a space of welcome, inclusion, learning, and safety for our participants. We can't thank you enough. As we begin planning for next year, we ask all parents and guardians in RE to keep an eye out for a survey which will be sent out in May. This survey will help us understand what class groups we'll need for next year and what curriculum we'll be teaching. We're especially interested in feedback about the Our Whole Lives and Coming of Age preferences for our middle and high school students. We'll also be recruiting teachers for next year and if you are interested, please talk to Deb or Stacy. Teacher training will be in September. Another way to support RE is to help at the garage sale on May 20<sup>th</sup> by donating items to sell or by donating time at the sale. All proceeds go to benefit RE, and we greatly appreciate all of the support!

We hope you'll enjoy the special music performances by the RE participants at the All-Music Service. They've been working hard to learn two songs this year to share with you.

In peace,  
Deb and Stacy

## IN OUR COMMUNITY—DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

**The Brick Ministries will be having a fundraising pizza buffet on Tuesday, May 2** from 3:30-7:00 p.m. at Hugo's Pizza, 221 Sanborn Avenue in Ashland. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for kids.

The Brick Ministries is a partnered effort between its member churches, businesses, and residents who share the mission and vision of compassionately helping people in need in Ashland and Bayfield Counties. The Brick offers a Food Shelf Program that distributes food and personal care items at locations in Ashland, Cable, Cornucopia, and Mellen. The Brick's Benevolence Program assists with emergency financial resources and provides referrals.

### **Regional Workshop on Parkinson's disease**

Thursday, October 12, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Location—Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

Come and learn more about Parkinson's disease through speakers, videos, movement activities and singing events.



**Letters to Prisoners** is continuing, and it's been exciting to see some UU faces there at the last several letter-writing events. New folks are always welcome, and experienced volunteers are at every gathering to answer questions and help newcomers get started. Writing letters to prisoners is not an act of charity but an important act of solidarity that actively resists a system that seeks to dehumanize and disconnect those that are behind bars. The words you write might have a lasting impact on someone who feels neglected or forgotten due to being incarcerated. The next dates for letter writing are:

Thursday, May 11, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 28, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 8, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 25, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

We meet in the community room of the Chequamegon Food Co-op on the second Thursday and fourth Sunday of every month. We provide all supplies and materials. We also have coloring supplies for kids and strive to make our events family friendly. If you are unable to attend but interested in sending letters, please contact Courtney Remacle at [courtneyremacle@gmail.com](mailto:courtneyremacle@gmail.com) or at 920-860-6234. We also always welcome donations of stamps, envelopes, pens and loose leaf paper.

### **Family Farm Days** with Todd and Kelsey Rothe of River Road Farm in Marengo

If you are looking for a fun way to spend some quality time with your family outdoors and away from screens we've got a just the thing! Come on down and experience the messy, tasty and wild side of life on a farm. We will be hosting monthly tours to see how our plants, animals and natural landscape change throughout the season. Each family day will run from 9:30 – 12:00 and will have hands-on facilitated activities, time for free outdoor play and always a tasty snack. We are charging \$15/family to cover the cost of our take home activities and snacks. This event is open to the first 10 families who register each month. Call 715-278-3383 or email [rothesrrfarm@gmail.com](mailto:rothesrrfarm@gmail.com) to reserve a spot for your family. More information at [riverroadfarmwi.com](http://riverroadfarmwi.com).

May 13—Baby Animals

June 17—Earthworms and Transplants

July 15—Strawberry Picking

August 12—Tomatoes and Toes (in the river)

September 23—Bounty of the Farm

October 18—Pumpkin Picking

## IN THE GREATER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY



MidAmerica  
Region



### UU Women's Connection Spring Retreat

The UU Women's Connection Spring Retreat will be held in Princeton, IL, June 2 – June 4, 2017. The theme will be As Above, So Below, with presenter Molly Remer. More information can be found at <https://www.midamericauua.org/events/eventdetail/639/-/uu-women-s-connection-spring-retreat-princeton-il>

### MidWest Leadership School

July 9–15, 2017, Luther College Campus, Decorah, Iowa

Part of the Unitarian Universalist Association's nationwide network of leadership schools, MidWest Leadership School is a week-long intensive program in leadership and group dynamics. Led by lay and ordained staff with a deep understanding of UU congregations, MWLS



- ◆ develops both youth and adults into congregational leaders
- ◆ provides leadership tools and skills, and
- ◆ deepens Unitarian Universalist identity.

Explore your spirituality and nurture the gifts you bring back to your congregation. MWLS is an immersive and rigorous week of learning in classroom and small-group settings. Our program blends the practical (leadership tools and best practices) with the spiritual (theological exploration and worship) and experiential (small-group challenges) in a safe, welcoming environment.

Leaders trained at MWLS have gone on to help their congregations through growth challenges, building new programs, expanding outreach, and confronting social justice issues head on.

This is an extremely intense week of workshops, discussions, intimate small groups, worship preparation, personal theological exploration and growth. In exchange for wholehearted commitment to a strenuous schedule, MWLS offers a life-changing and congregation-nourishing opportunity. (Plus, they have these really cool turtle logos.)



**Completed registrations are due by June 1; scholarships are available and scholarship applications are due by May 15.**

More information can be found at [mwls.org](http://mwls.org).

### CHEQUAMEGON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

**We are a welcoming spiritual community that nurtures lifelong journeys of mind and spirit  
in the liberal tradition.**

~ Founded, February 22, 1998 ~

Chequamegon Unitarian  
Universalist Fellowship  
P.O. Box 641  
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**CHEQUAMEGON UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**

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