

The Open Door Newsletter

November 2013

Fellowship Services for November will be held at 10 a.m. in the Alvord Theatre, on the Northland College Campus



This Month's Fellowship Services

November 10 — Annual Day of the Dead Service

10 a.m. in the Alvord Theatre, Northland College



The Mexican tradition of the Day of the Dead is a rare opportunity in our often death-denying society to acknowledge those who have died—to honor those who still live in our thoughts and memories. This will be a service dedicated, in part, to sharing our experiences. Everyone is encouraged to bring artifacts of remembrance to place on our common altar, and to share stories and reflections of your loved ones. It is a special occasion that we can celebrate together as a family of faith. The dearly departed belong to all of us. They want to visit us, and not be forgotten.

Erin Tenney and A.J. Galazen are planning this colorful, playful and moving experience. Joni Chapman will provide our music. Everyone is invited to help in the preparation of this special service. Please contact A.J. – ajgalazen@hotmail.com – or Erin – etenney@gmail.com – if you would like to help with decorations and set up.

November 24 — Claudia Schmidt — “A Harvest Of Hope”

10 a.m. in the Alvord Theatre, Northland College

"We put a lot of work into growing the food we eat, leading to the harvest that gets us through the long winter. Hope, too, needs to be cultivated and tended to get us through the winters of the heart. It doesn't just happen. What are the ways we can quietly and steadily nurture hope in the face of cynical cultural messages and the angst of the world?"

Claudia Schmidt has been perfecting her craft of performing for almost four decades. It is a quirky and wonderful hodge-podge (her word) of music, poetry, story, laughter, drama, and celebrating the moment. Please join us in a special service with Claudia, sharing both her music and her personal message of hope.



Saturday night, November 23rd Claudia will present a concert at the Northland College Alvord Theatre.

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

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FELLOWSHIP EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



SIGN UP FOR CIRCLE SUPPERS

Great food, great company, great camaraderie—that’s what Circle Suppers are all about. Circle Suppers are dinner gatherings of 8 to 10 adult members. The dinners are potluck with the host providing the main course and others bringing an assigned dish. Circle Suppers are scheduled one per month during January, February, March and April, with groups rotating every month.

Consider signing up for any or all of the Circle Suppers. If you can only make certain months, feel free to sign up for those months only. If you cannot host, no problem, there are others who won’t mind hosting for you. Don’t be concerned about planning so far ahead, a substitute can be found if you can’t make it due to unforeseen commitments. Don’t miss this opportunity for fun and delicious evenings out with some of the best people you will ever encounter ...

fellow CUUF members! Call June Bavlnka
715-209-1622 or email
jbonline08@gmail.com.

Bon Appétit!

CUUF GOODIE GUIDE REMINDERS!

It’s easy to forget to bring the cookies! That’s why each issue will now list this **Goodie Guide Reminder** for the upcoming two months. If you have questions or conflicts regarding your assigned week, please get in touch with the **Contact/Set-up** person listed for that month.

November 2013 — Bavlnka/Fernandez (contact / set-up)

Nov. 10: Bavlnka/Fernandez, Calhan
Nov. 24: Granger, Quinlan, Bergerud/Quamme

December 2013 — Dufek (contact / set-up)

Dec. 8: Dufek, Bunch, Carver
Dec. 15: Einspanier, Galazen, Dowd

The snack schedule is also posted on our website www.chequamegonuuf.org. Go to “Services” and click on “Snack Schedule” to find the updated list.

Tapestry of Faith: World of Wonder **An Introduction to the K-3 Level Religious Education Curriculum**

— submitted by Deb Aaron

During the 2013 – 2014 season, the CUUF’s younger students’ religious education classes will be using one of the Tapestry of Faith Programs for Children titled *World of Wonder*. The curriculum was written by Rev. Alice Anacheka-Nasemann, Pat Kahn, and Julie Simon, and published by the Unitarian Universalist Association in 2011. This program and additional resources are available on the UUA web site at www.uua.org/tapestryoffaith.

The *World of Wonder* curriculum promotes learning and development regarding nature and our world as young children can relate to and experience in a supportive spiritual environment. “Studies show that, almost to a person, conservationists or environmentalists ... have had some transcendent experience in nature when they were children.” While we understand that many of our children in the CUUF have families who do activities and recreation in natural surroundings, there is nevertheless so much to learn and appreciate. The children also learn from each other. What one child has experienced, another has experienced something else. As a long term educator, I feel strongly that children learn best by learning from each other and from real hands-on experiences. This is something that this curriculum strongly promotes. We can share some difficult stories with children—particularly stories of environmental degradation—by giving them something meaningful to consider and do about the issues. And we can do so in a supportive, positive, hopeful manner. Finally, this curriculum also promotes and applies many of the seven Unitarian Universalist principles upon our faith is based.



The children in our fellowship are such thoughtful, wonderful, young humans who will more than likely benefit from regular RE involvement. Thank you for the opportunities.

Special Presentation: Wills & Advanced Directives

Do you have questions about wills or advanced directives? Attorney Julia Veenendaal will present a talk on wills and advanced directives on Sunday, November 24, after the fellowship service. Preparing an advanced directive gives your medical provider guidance, and it gives you and your loved ones peace of mind. Learn about the requirements for making your will and advanced directives legally binding.

CANDID CUUF PHOTOS

Elder John Anderson “Little Bird—Bonajonce” held a small gift giving as part of the October 13 Fellowship Service. Here Henry Quinlan beams with pride over his new gift.



To the Raking Brigade . . .

Thanks go out from Faith In Action to the CUUF Religious Education youth for raking for a senior. The senior was impressed with the great job done and appreciated the help very much. Faith In Action appreciates the CUUF Religious Education program taking on FIA community service projects!!

- Megan Perrine, FIA Program Coordinator

“Northland Seasons”

– Grace Vosen

Oh, the summer is fading; the hill ‘cross the bay is peaked with gold.
We turn away from the people and places whose stories have all been told,
And head north to the Great Lake whose waves ring with promises,
Good times ahead.

Chorus 1:
New friends and knowledge,
Bonfires burn,
A fine crop of apples,
The leaves they all turn.
There is music here.

Winter comes steadily; soon you’ll be wearing your warmest gear
So little time has passed, yet your spirit has taken root here.
One evening you look out to see the first snowflake,
Your world transformed.

Chorus 2:
Ice on Chequamegon,
New games to play,
And the cold’s just begun
On the year’s shortest day.
There is music here.

And just when you think the snow will be endless, the lake opens wide,
The sap starts to run and a sweet ancient rhythm awakens you deep inside,
The dancing of spring bringing new hope and fervor,
All is renewed.

Chorus 3:
Music and twirling,
Breezes and blooms,
Throw open the windows
Of stuffy old rooms:
There is music here!

Soon golden sunlight soaks into your bones; see green all around
Euphoria, freedom skim over the water; you feel you could leave the ground
All your work done; now to gather your dear friends,
Say your goodbyes.

Chorus 4:
The story is ended,
The seasons have turned.
Yet your spirit remains here,
So much you have learned.

Above all you’ve learned:
There is music here.



Jan Wise, another lucky recipient at the give-away.



Elder John Anderson “Little Bird—Bonajonce” during his presentation with Sara Balbin at the October 13 Fellowship Service

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Boutique and Bake Sale to Support Local Artists and Hospice

Want to treat yourself to something special? Looking for a unique, locally-made gift for someone on your Holiday list? Can't find the perfect teacher appreciation or hostess gift?

Whatever your reasons, be sure to make your way to **Hospice's Fourth Annual Boutique and Bake Sale**. The sale will be held in the lower level of Memorial Medical Center between **10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20**. You'll find a dozen local artists selling their handmade pottery, soaps and lotions, gourmet chocolates, jewelry, note-cards, ornaments, photo-cards, and much more. If fuel will help you do your best shopping/supporting, there will be an abundance of baked goods to choose from. Fifteen percent of all artists' earnings and all earnings from the bake sale will help support special programs and projects Hospice. If you have any questions or would like to contribute a baked goodie or snack, please call Nicole Brew at 715-685-5151 (office) or 715-746-2224 (home).

Variety Concert Benefits Faith In Action

Faith In Action-Ashland County will be having a concert at the Great Lakes Visitors Center on Sunday, November 3rd from 12:30 – 4:00 p.m. Polka favorite Jeff Walker will kick off the music at 1:00 followed by the Sons of the Voyageurs singing songs of the fur trade, logging and Great Lakes sailing days. Hot beef sandwiches, along with coleslaw, chips, and homemade desserts will be sold starting at 12:30. A \$7 admission fee will be taken at the door. Enjoy an afternoon of good music and support a good cause! For more information call 682-4414, ext. 3 or email <mailto:fiavolunteer@ashlandaging.org>.



PFLAG Fundraiser November 23rd: “Dollars for Scholars”

Last spring PFLAG Washburn award scholarships to three impressive high school seniors for outstanding work in their efforts to support and advocate for the LGBT community. These seniors were students at Ashland, Park Falls, and Washburn High Schools. Two received \$500 each and the third, \$1,000. Each was presented the scholarship at the awards assembly, a public venue that let everyone know how important their work was.

On Saturday, November 23 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Stagenorth in Washburn, PFLAG Washburn will be raising funds to replenish its scholarship fund so that additional scholarships can be awarded next spring. Liz Woodworth will perform and there will be a silent auction. This event is free and open to the public. Every dollar donated goes directly into the scholarship fund for area students. Please join us!

If you wish to donate to the silent auction, please drop it off at Bill's Collision Center in Washburn (across from the Holiday Station) or contact

Mary Wichita, mary.wichita71@gmail.com for pick up. Items are welcome anytime, but the earlier the better. Thank you, and we hope to see you there.



PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) — Washburn reaches out to youth and adults throughout the Chequamegon Bay area. We are a local chapter of a national support, education and advocacy organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people, their families, friends and allies. PFLAG is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political institutions. We meet at 7 pm, on the 4th Tuesday (usually) of each month on the 3rd floor of the [Washburn Cultural Center/Museum](#) located at [1 E Bayfield Street in downtown Washburn](#). Check monthly announcements to reconfirm times and location. For more information contact Mary Wichita, mary.wichita71@gmail.com or 715-765-4132, or visit our website <http://pflagwashburn.org>.

Saying Grace In a UU Style Tradition

-submitted by Jan L. Perkins

As we move into the season of holidays that people most often celebrate indoors, I think of my family and the traditions we shared. My birth family was quite small and quite scattered, so it was always an extra-special occasion when we could share a holiday meal together. This always meant that some of us traveled to Charleston, West Virginia, by car, train, and, eventually by plane.

Whenever we gathered for a meal, my Grampa Kemp would say grace for us. He was very religious, Baptist, 32nd degree Mason. This is the grace he said, which I understand was common in British religious schools (and the Kemp family is of major British Isles stock):

For what we are about to receive, may the Lord make us truly thankful. Feed our souls, and help us to grow in Grace. In God's name, Amen!

Before the "Amen," he would thank the Lord for our safe travel, and **always** added, "Please bless our far-flung family."

I never thought too much about incorporating grace into my meals until about nine years ago when I took my Level I Healing Touch class at (St. Mary's) Essentia Hospital in Duluth. I noticed that at each meal, my instructor Jackie Mielke would say her grace silently with one hand cupped over her plate, and the other upraised as though gathering blessings from above with which to infuse her food.

By the time I took Level II Healing Touch with Jackie, I was developing my own version of a grace, which I have since then offered every day prior to starting my breakfast:



For what we are about to receive today, help us indeed to be truly thankful. Feed our Souls, and help us to grow in Grace. In the name of the Great Mystery: Amen!

(I most always give specific thanks for family, work, home, and also to others who are in need of positive energy, which sometimes includes me!)

I love this new Grace. If you feel so moved, I encourage you to develop your own!

MidAmerica Regional Assembly 2014

- adapted from *The MidAmerica Messenger*, Volume 1, Issue 2

Full editions of this newsletter can be found on-line at <http://midamericauua.org/services/newsletters>

In last month's MidAmerica on-line newsletter, there was an article about the first ever MidAmerica Regional Assembly, being held next April in four locations - Bloomington, Indiana; Ann Arbor, Michigan; Topeka, Kansas, and a location in the former Central Midwest District.

This event will replace the Heartland and Central Midwest District Assemblies and the Prairie Star District Annual Conference. The theme of the Regional Assembly is "Hunger for Justice." The schedule will vary depending on location; see www.midamericauua.org/RA for details on the schedule.



Using live streaming over the internet, two of the events will bring together people on Saturday, April 12. Rev. Dr. Paul Rasor will give a keynote address in Topeka, Kansas, which will be broadcast live on the internet so that participants in the other three locations can view the talk. Later that morning, the first ever MidAmerica Business Meeting will be broadcast live from Bloomington, Indiana. Congregational delegates sitting in all four locations will be able to see the meeting and participate in discussing, asking questions, and voting.

In addition to the two events being streamed live, there will be worship, workshops, social justice activities, and opportunities for getting to know other UUs in each location. While logistics are still being worked out, it's very exciting to be able to offer a conference that will serve people all over the Region. Stay tuned for more information in coming newsletters, and put April, 2014 on your calendar.

CHEQUAMEGON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 2013

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES

Both November services will be held at 10 a.m. in the Alvord Theatre, Northland College

November 10 **Annual Day of the Dead Service**

November 24 **Claudia Schmidt — “A Harvest of Hope”**

CUUF & COMMUNITY EVENTS:

November 3 **Faith In Action Variety Concert** 12:30—4 p.m., Great Lakes Visitor Center

November 20 **Hospice’s 4th Annual Boutique & Bake Sale** 10 a.m.—1:30 p.m., Lower Level of Memorial
Medical Center

November 23 **PFLAG Fundraiser: “Dollars for Scholars”** 6—8 p.m., Stagenorth, Washburn

November 24 **Special Presentation: Wills & Advanced Directives**, following the CUUF Fellowship Service

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

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