



# The Circuit Writer

Newsletter of the First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau

April 2017

## 10:30AM Services at UU Wausau

**April 2**

**-Kindness**

Worship Leader: Rev. Laurie & Sally Schmidt

Music: Ray Kraemer

Palestinian American poet Naomi Shihab Nye's poem about kindness begins like this:

*Before you know what kindness really is you must lose things, feel the future dissolve in a moment like salt in a weakened broth.*

On this Sunday, we celebrate kindness and reflect on how it has changed our days. We will have activities to help us bring small acts of kindness into our community. NO RE. Children will begin in the service and then participate in Kindness Day.

**Potluck Sunday !**



**April 9**

**-Hope**

Worship Leader: Rev. Laurie Bushbaum

Music: Karen Zuidema

*"Hope is not a prognostication but an orientation of the spirit."* These words were written by Vaclav Havel, playwright, essayist, statesman, human rights activist, leader of the resistance movement in his native Czechoslovakia, and it's first president. How do we orient our spirits toward hope?

**Welcome of New Members!**

**April 16**

**-Easter: Telling the Story**

Worship Leader: Rev. Laurie Bushbaum

Music: Karen Zuidema and the church youth

In this service for all ages, Rev. Laurie, Julie, children and youth will

tell the story of Jesus' life and death and why his radical love still inspires.



**April 23 & 30**

**-To Be Announced**

The schedule for these two Sundays is currently flexible as we wait for the exciting news from the Search Committee on who the Ministerial Candidate will be and which 2 Sundays she or he will be at First UU. Stay tuned!

### NOTICE OF

### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Special Congregational Meeting is planned for **Sunday, April 30** for all UUA Certified members to vote on a ministerial candidate. There is a possibility that the meeting will be postponed until Sunday, May 7. If that is the case, further notification will be made.

This notice is being published 1 month prior to a Special Congregation Meeting pursuant to By-Law V Sections 3, 4 and 5. Notice shall also be given at the 2 church services preceding the meeting. Proxy votes are not permitted. Absentee votes are permitted and requests for absentee ballot must be made prior to the meeting.



## In the Interim...



Any day now the Ministerial Search Committee will announce the Ministerial Candidate! She or he will then come to Wausau to spend a week with you, lead two Sunday services, meet as many of you as possible, explore Wausau a bit, and imagine him or herself as the new called minister of First UU. I am thrilled for you.

My role here as the Interim Minister is nearly over. It is customary for the Interim Minister to be very scarce during Candidating Week. This time is for you and the Candidate to be together but I will be nearby should you need me. You may see him/her using “my” office; this is as it should be. Of course, this is a good time to remember that you, the congregation are the church!!

Please note that the week of April 24 I will be in Texas, at a required meeting for Interim Ministers.

My last Sunday in the pulpit will be May 21. We will celebrate Flower Communion that day and say goodbye. The last week of May I will be clearing out the office, packing, and creating files to leave for your new minister! In June, I will be using my last vacation time but returning briefly mid-month to officiate a joyous wedding for 2 church members.

A blessed and joyous spring to you all.

In faith, *Laurie*



## Worship & Music Ministry Team

With Spring upon us again, it's time to initiate the annual UU Wausau rite of seeking members and friends who are willing to lead a summer service. We need leaders to help us cover the June through August period between Laurie's last service and the first by our new minister. That's thirteen Sundays, so we have plenty of dates to choose from. While we still use a basic service structure, summer services are more flexible and informal than during the regular church year. Topic possibilities are endless, with leaders generally choosing something that is of interest to them, or they wish to explore more deeply. Summer services often involve a time of dialogue on the topic covered. Please give it some thought. If you are willing to step up, contact **Randy Jefferson, Jim Maas, or Kay Meyer.** Thank you.

THE FIRST CHURCH (1872-1881)



### **First Universalist Unitarian Church**

504 Grant Street, Wausau, WI 54403

Office Hours: Tue-Thu, 9AM-2PM

(715) 842-3697, [www.uuwausau.org](http://www.uuwausau.org)

#### **Board of Trustees:**

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Board meetings are held at 6:30PM on the third Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

#### **Staff:**

Rev. Laurie Bushbaum,	<a href="mailto:laurie@uuwausau.org">laurie@uuwausau.org</a>
Anji Spialek,	<a href="mailto:anji@uuwausau.org">anji@uuwausau.org</a>
Julie Trombley,	<a href="mailto:julie@uuwausau.org">julie@uuwausau.org</a>



## Lifespan Faith Development

Our last session of Sunday morning classes is about to begin. This means that I can shift more of my focus to evaluating this year and planning for next year. Along those lines I'll be asking for your feedback from a parent and/or volunteer perspective. Watch for a Faith Development survey to come at the end of April or beginning of May. This will be your chance to give me some feedback on this year and to help shape what programs look like next year. Your opinion matters to me! When that survey comes out please take the time to complete it and let your voice be heard.



### Intergenerational Easter Service

Do you plan to be in town and at church on Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>? We would like to make that service truly intergenerational with several children and youth participating. I'm looking for 3 youth readers to read from a script, 4 candle lighters who on their own or with the help of a parent can light a candle, and 3 youth musicians who'd like to share talents. There will be one brief run-through the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. You can either email me or sign up on the table in the atrium to express interest in helping with that service.

*Julie Trombley*

Director of Lifespan Faith Development

With our thoughts turning towards Spring its not too early to get the **annual UU camping trip** on your calendar! We have 6 sites (plus one group site) reserved from August 18-20 at Franklin Lake campground (10 miles East of Eagle River). We typically set up two families per site so the camping cost is approximately \$20 per family for the weekend. Meals are shared so that you put your effort into one and relax the rest of the time. Come join us and swim, kayak, hike, bike, run, or read a book by the continuous campfire.

Please email us at [gzavados@gmail.com](mailto:gzavados@gmail.com) to sign up on a first come, first served basis. We especially encourage new members or families with young children to join us. This event has been a touchstone for several generations of UU families and some of the current families have spent over 10 summers in those woods. Please come join us!

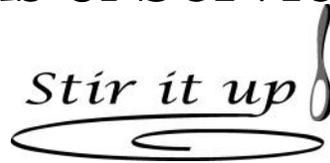
Greg and Ingrid Zavadoski

## Upcoming Events

- No regular Faith Development classes on April 3 due to Spring Break. A large group activity will be held in the basement commons for any children and youth in attendance.
- **Toward One Wausau**, an organization that aims to open conversations in our community about racial and ethnic diversity issues, will be holding a **community dialogue** here at UU Wausau on April 3 from 6:30 to 8:30pm. This will be a structured dialogue in which participants consider possible options and conclude with a resolution for action. Please contact the church office to register or sign up at the atrium table.
- **Stations of the Cross**—April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. This traditional Christian experience of the last week of Jesus's life is a collaboration of seven Wausau churches, including First UU Wausau. Stations start at St. Stephens Church and move through the participating churches, concluding at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church.
- **Intergenerational Easter Service** on April 16<sup>th</sup>—no regular Faith Development classes. Children and youth needed to participate in the service.
- **Angel Study Group II:** An on-going study of Angel Literature. Whether Angels are Metaphors or Manifestations, we all have opinions about their purpose, powers, and participation in our spiritual and physical lives. This open-ended Study Group will explore the perspectives of various authors whose books have popularized this topic: Theolyn Cortens, Jean Slatter and Doreen Virtue among others. This group will meet at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings starting April 19th in Yawkey Hall. Sharon Faville and John Pochinski will moderate.



# 2017 Goods & Services Auction



**Friday, April 21, 6:00–10:00 p.m.**

A big *THANK YOU* to all of you who have already contributed goods and/or services to the upcoming UU auction.

**Still thinking about what you could contribute for people to bid on?** Don't take too long! We need to put our catalog together soon. Send your offering description to Jerry Phelan ASAP (gcphelan@gmail.com).

**Get your tickets now!** Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Purchase tickets: (a) on Sundays in the Atrium, (b) from Anji during the week, or (c) by mailing your check & name(s) to church.

**Save Friday, April 21, for a fun-filled evening!** Wander throughout the church bidding on silent auction items. There will be hearty hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, other refreshments, lots of fun, and plenty of time for hanging out.

## **The Ari Schmidt Fund for Bus, Bail and Pizza**

The Ari Schmidt Fund for Bus, Bail and Pizza assisted four fifth grade UU students who attended the Montessori Model United Nations in New York during the second week in March. **Lily Casey, Maggie Schmidt, Madelyn Schultz, and Ragnar Spialek** will be reporting to the congregation on Sunday, April 2 during and after the service. Come hear about their experiences preparing and presenting position papers, negotiating/drafting resolutions, and visiting the UUA's United Nations Office and the UN General Assembly.

The Ari Fund was established in memory of **Ari Schmidt**, a longtime church member and social activist. Ari started the sales of Fair Trade coffee which has grown to offer chocolate and a number of other items. The fund is replenished through the profits on your purchases of Fair Trade products at church and individual donations.



*Ari Schmidt unloading boxes of Fair Trade items*



*Maggie Schmidt & Lily Casey presenting the flag of the People's Republic of Korea at the Montessori Model UN.*



# News for UUs



## ☛ Poetry Reading

The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, mid-central region, is holding its next quarterly poetry reading on Thursday, April 27, at 6:30PM in Yawkey Hall. The featured poet will be Robert Nordstrom, followed by an open mic. The event is free and open to the public, and you are cordially invited!

## ☛ Community Focus Collections

April's Community Focus Collection will take place on the 17th, and the proceeds will go to the Growing Faith Community Garden.

## ☛ Women's Book Pack

Book Pack will meet April 25 at 2:00 p.m. in apt. 217 of Primrose Retirement community to discuss *Vintage* by David Baker.



## ☛ Care Ministry Meeting

"How are you?" – we really want to know.

The CARE MINISTRY is a committee that supports members and friends who are ill, bereaved, homebound, hospitalized, getting married, having a baby or going through other life passages. This personal brand of church ministry provides a point of contact with those in need of a visit, a meal, a birthday card or loving support in time of need or celebrating other "milestone" events.

If you would like to take part in the Care Ministry, the next meeting will be on April 11 beginning at 5:15PM.



## ☛ Second Friday Nighters

The April Second Friday Nighters will take place at 6:30PM at the home of Heather and Kent Busig, 2201 Elmwood Blvd, Wausau East.

Here's a message from your hosts:

*"UU friends, please join us for a casual evening of fellowship and good food. We will have sparkling water, juice, soda, beer and wine. You just need to bring a hearty appetizer to share. It's probably not necessary to eat supper before you come. Children are welcome. We have no pets."*

## ☛ Creative Sharing Day Change

The Creative Sharing Group is moving from Wednesdays to the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month from 10AM—noon. Creative Sharing is for anyone with a portable hobby or craft. The idea is to practice the hobby or craft while communing with other artistically inclined folks. Coloring, crocheting, creative journaling, water coloring, miniature painting, carving and scrapbooking are just some examples of portable, creative activities.

### Caring Corner

**Mary, Wayne, and Kira Pierce**

welcomed the newest addition to their family, **Runi Duncan**, on February 24.

Congratulations, Pierce family!

**Nancy Frawley**, 58 year member of UU Wausau, passed away March 16. Nancy was 90.

Beloved UU Wausau member, **Ralph Buechler**, passed away March 25.



# April 2017 Calendar

2 Sun	10:30AM	Church Service	16 Sun	10:30AM	Church Service
	11:45AM	First Sunday Potluck		4:00PM	People/Power of Love
	4:00PM	People/Power of Love		6:00PM	Overeaters Anon
	6:00PM	Overeaters Anon	17 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
3 Mon	5:15PM	Comm. Garden Mtg	18 Tue	6:30PM	Qigong
	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg		6:30PM	BOT Meeting
	6:30PM	Toward 1 Wausau		7:00PM	ADHD Parent Group
	6:30PM	Wausau Bird Club		7:00PM	Table Tennis
4 Tue	6:30PM	Qigong	19 Wed	10:00AM	Shawl Time
	7:00PM	Table Tennis		3:30PM	Proud Theater
5 Wed	10:00AM	Shawl time	20 Thu	6:00PM	Unity Project
	3:30PM	Proud Theater		6:30PM	Tai Chi
6 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi		7:00PM	Table Tennis
	7:00PM	Table Tennis	21 Fri	6:00PM	<b>Goods &amp; Services Auction</b>
7 Fri	6:30PM	Community HU Song	23 Sun	10:30AM	Church Service
8 Sat	3:00PM	Buddhist Meditation		6:00PM	Overeaters Anon
9 Sun	10:30AM	Church Service	24 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
	6:00PM	Overeaters Anon	25 Tue	10:00AM	Creative Sharing
10 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg		2:00PM	Women's Book Pack
	6:00PM	Stations of the Cross		6:30PM	Qigong
11 Tues	10:00AM	Creative Sharing		7:00PM	Table Tennis
	5:15PM	Care Committee Mtg	26 Wed	3:30PM	Proud Theater
	6:30PM	Qigong		7:00PM	Angel Study Group
	7:00PM	Table Tennis	27 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi
12 Wed	3:30PM	Proud Theater		6:30PM	Poetry Reading
	6:30PM	Eckankar Book Grp		7:00PM	Table Tennis
13 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi	29 Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation
	7:00PM	Table Tennis	30 Sun	10:30AM	Church Service
15 Sat	8:00AM	Wmn's Early Risers		6:00PM	Overeaters Anon



## April 2017 Membership Anniversaries



Jack Williams, 67 years

Louis & Sandra Pradt, 48 years

Nancy Hollis, 35 years

Kris Weirauch, 26 years

Sharon Faville, 16 years

Elnora Buechler, 65 years

Russ & Kerry Wilson, 37 years

Linda Alfinito, 30 years

Karen Pleuss, 17 years

Collin Csuy, 6 years

Marianne Pickering, 60 years

Tom & Sara Eberlein, 36 years

Mike Moen, 26 years

Dawn Ashenbrenner, 16 years

Carol Kraemer, 2 years