



The Circuit Writer

Newsletter of the First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau

June 2017

9:30AM Services at UU Wausau

June 4

-Food and Spiritual Evolution

Worship Leader: Reenah McGill

This will be a brief exploration around how food can enhance or retard our spiritual growth, how we might possibly use this basic activity to move not only ourselves, but multiply communities we belong to forward.

June 11

-Theologophobia

Worship Leader: Richard Olson

A good part of our UU heritage included engaging in theological debate (note the use of the past tense). Did the rise of secular humanism in our ranks minimize or eliminate such debate? Has theology become a settled matter, a taboo subject, or simply of no consequence to us? How can we tout our theological diversity if we claim no theology?



June 18

-Energy

Worship Leader: Louis Pradt

Energy. What is it? How much do we use? Where do we get it? What does it cost? Issues. Discussion.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

June 25

-General Assembly Worship Service

Worship Leader: Jim Maas

Join us for the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will take place at the New Orleans Convention Center on Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. We will watch the live stream!

We will have coffee and conversation before the service, if interested. Baked goodies welcome.

This year's GA is taking place in New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information, check out the UUA's webpage: <http://www.uua.org/ga>





Office Space

It's Summer!

This year, the office hours will remain 9am - 2pm Tues, Wed, and Thurs as well as by appointment. However, because there will only be one staff person on duty (it's me!) there will be closings here and there for vacation time. I will send out an email notice and post information on the door when that occurs.



Bouquet, by Rev. Lynn Ungar (from Rev. Laurie's Flower Communion Service)

What a gathering—the purple
tongues of iris licking out
at spikes of lupine, the orange
crepe skirts of poppies lifting
over buttercup and daisy.

Who can be grim
in the face of such abundance?
There is nothing to compare,
no need for beauty to compete.
The voluptuous rhododendron
and the plain grass
are equally filled with themselves,
equally declare the miracles
of color and form.

This is what community looks like—
this vibrant jostle, stem by stem
declaring the marvelous joining.
This is the face of communion,
the incarnation once more
gracefully resurrected from winter.

Hold these things together
in your sight—purple, crimson,
magenta, blue. You will
be feasting on this long after
the flowers are gone.

Please remember: even though we are operating on a smaller scale during the summer, **your UU Wausau family is still here for you if you find yourself in need of help or community.** I will be checking my phone (715-842-3697) and email (anji@uuwausau.org) messages regularly and there are several people available to help with issues large or small. Don't hesitate to turn to the church.

See you in Church!

Anji Spialek

THE FIRST CHURCH (1872-1881)



Lifespan Faith Development



A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who have worked with children and youth over the church year! All of the activities we've offered for children and youth this year - Sunday morning classes, OWL, Gross & Creepy Snack, the Christmas Pageant, social events and a movie night - wouldn't be possible without each of our amazing volunteers. Volunteers have talked with youth about important life issues, made crafts, laughed and made meaning connections. Some volunteers were the lead teacher on several lessons over the year, others subbed one time. All of these contributions were important and appreciated.

Julie Trombley

Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Summer Schedule

Summer Services start June 4th. Childcare will be offered in the basement commons area for children up to 8 years old beginning at 9:25AM. Regular classes will begin again in September.

Upcoming Events

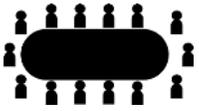
- **Bridging the Gap**

Someone once said that UU Wausau is the church whose God goes up north for the summer. Junebe so, but that leaves some of us behind, at least part of the time. Stay connected this summer by attending our **Bridging the Gap** sessions. As we UUs strive to live by our principles, we turn to many sources of inspiration, including the "Sources of Our Living Tradition". Join us as we consider our many sources, refine our personal connections with them, and develop ways to better draw on them for strength, comfort and hope. 10-11am, June 14 & 28, July 12 & 26, Aug 2. Sign up in the Atrium. Facilitated by **Richard Olson**.

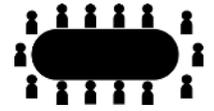


Many thanks go to:

Macia Anderson
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Nan Cedar
Sally Decker
Marguerite Donnelly
Trish Forbes
Melissa Goessel-Heiser
Linda Haney
Randy Jefferson
Beth Kind
Larry Kind
Joyce Kurth
Mary Beth Maas
Kati Maier
Mike Moen
Karen Monarski
Amber O'Casey
Ed O'Casey
Kate Passineau
Karen Peterson
Meg Peterson
Theran Peterson
Tim Peterson
Jaime Rannow
Sarah Rudolph
Sally Schmidt
Mark Schuler
Kelly Schultz
Jim Sheibley
Brian Stezenski-Williams
Sarah Thurs
Marla Tobalsky
LeeAnn Venne
Julie White
Kerry Wilson
Jodi Woellner
Josh Wright
Mandy Wright
Rose Young



Board Table



At our monthly board meeting last night, Jody spoke of how nicely the bits and pieces of last month's Circuit Writer came together—Laurie's message, Nancy's message and Josh's message. Each in its own way a testament to "Love is the spirit of the church and service is its gift". I was new to the board in January of 2016. And in actuality, I was new to any board in 2016. Although, as a retired high school teacher, I was certainly not new to moments of conflict and the need to work for the common good. But I was new to actually seeing the process being implemented by so many.

What I have been privileged to witness, and indeed be a part of, is a board of individuals not only committed to working things out but committed to working things out for the good of the whole. People willing — and able — to accept working through disagreements that always arise whenever two or more are gathered. People willing to listen to each other. People who reflect what our congregation looks like — men and women, young and not so young. My learning curve regarding board function has been steep and not always upward, but this I know—the dedication, commitment, intelligence and humor possessed by this group of people touches and warms me. We may not always make individuals happy. We may not always resolve issues in ways that suit everyone. But know that, our goal is your goal—the success and well-being of this liberal voice in the larger community.



And the gift I have received as a board member is to better understand that growth comes through the challenging times. Growth comes in new beginnings. Growth comes in saying goodbye. Growth comes when together we get through the hard things.

Growth comes through tears—of sadness, of pain, of despair as well as of happiness. The commitment to the good of the whole is essential.

-Joyce Kurth, Board of Trustees member

Congratulations to Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Ashland, Wisconsin! They have been awarded a Chalice Lighter Grant from the UUA MidAmerica Region 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. 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 .



First Universalist Unitarian Church

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

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News for UUs



☛ Women's Book Pack

Book Pack will meet June 27 at 2:00PM in Apt. 217 of Primrose Retirement community to discuss *Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig,

☛ Angel Study Group II

Join moderators Sharon Faville and John Pochinski for an on-going study of Angel Literature, Wednesday evenings at 7pm in Yawkey Hall. 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.

☛ 28th Annual Energy Fair

Join Midwest Renewable Energy Association in Custer, Wisconsin June 16 through 18 for the 28th Annual Energy Fair. There are hundreds of workshops and exhibits as well as speakers, entertainment, a clean transportation show, local food and beer. The Fair is family friendly and takes place at the MREA headquarters - 7558 Deer Rd., Custer. Day passes and weekend passes are available to purchase at the MREA's website: <https://www.theenergyfair.org/>

☛ Second Friday Nighters

Our last Second Friday Nighters of the church year will take place at 6:30PM on June 9 at the home of **Ingrid and Greg Zavadoski**, 720 E. Crocker St., Wausau. This is a child-friendly event. The Zavadoski family includes a dog, who will be put up for the evening.

Our hosts will provide drinks, please bring a snack to share!

☛ Creative Sharing Group Canceled

Thanks to everyone who gave it a go!

☛ Where Should the Birds Fly

On Sunday, June 11, 2017, from 2 - 4PM, Cassandra Dixon, a Wisconsin resident who has traveled repeatedly to the West Bank as a volunteer with Operation Dove, will lead a discussion after a viewing of the film *Where Should the Birds Fly*. Operation Dove is an Italian Human rights organization which provides international protective presence to Palestinian schoolchildren and shepherds living in the South Hebron Hills.

Where Should The Birds Fly is the **first film about Gaza made by Palestinians living the reality of Israel's siege and blockade** of this tiny enclave. It is the story of two young women, survivors of Israel's Operation Cast Lead. The filmmaker, Fida Qishta, was born and raised in Rafah, Gaza.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available.

June 2017 Membership Anniversaries



Margaret Carspecken	71 years
Andy & Jeanna McGivern	42 years
Sue Miller	19 years
Bob & Mary Judell	12 years
Jeff McDonald & Jim Mueller	3 years
Todd Walker	2 years
Danika & John Kozlovich	2 years
Karen Monarski	2 years



June 2017 Calendar

1 Thu	6:00PM	Unity Project	15 Thu	6:00PM	Unity Project
	6:30PM	Tai Chi		6:30PM	Tai Chi
	7:00PM	Table Tennis		7:00PM	Table Tennis
2 Fri	6:30PM	Community HU Song	17 Sat	8:00AM	Wmn's Early Risers
4 Sun	9:30AM	Church Service	18 Sun	Happy Father's Day!	
	4:00PM	People/Power of Love		9:30AM	Church Service
	6:00PM	Overeaters Anon		4:00PM	People/Power of Love
5 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg		6:00PM	Overeaters Anon
	6:30PM	Wausau Bird Club	19 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
6 Tues	6:30PM	Qigong	20 Tue	6:30PM	BOT Meeting
	7:00PM	Table Tennis		6:30PM	Qigong
7 Wed	10:00AM	Shawl Time		7:00PM	Table Tennis
	7:00PM	Angel Study Group	21 Wed	10:00AM	Shawl Time
8 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi		7:00PM	Angel Study Group
	7:00PM	Table Tennis 	22 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi
9 Fri	6:30PM	2nd Friday Nighters		7:00PM	Table Tennis
10 Sat	3:00PM	Buddhist Meditation	24 Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation
11 Sun	9:30AM	Church Service	25 Sun	9:30AM	Church Service
	2:00PM	Film: Where Should the Birds Fly		6:00PM	Overeaters Anon
	6:00PM	Overeaters Anon	26 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
12 Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg	27 Tues	2:00PM	Women's Book Pack
13 Tue	6:30PM	Qigong		6:30PM	Qigong
	7:00PM	Table Tennis		7:00PM	Table Tennis
14 Wed	10:00AM	Bridging the Gap	28 Wed	10:00AM	Bridging the Gap
	6:30PM	Eckankar Book Group		7:00PM	Angel Study Group
	7:00PM	Angel Study Group	29 Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi
				7:00PM	Table Tennis



Wausau Area Events has plenty of summer fun in store for June!

Summer's start is celebrated with the annual Summer Kickoff Weekend celebration, June 16 and 18! Friday night from 5-9PM at Oak Island is the Kickoff Celebration complete with kids games, a kids fun run, food, music, and crafts, followed by an outdoor movie. Sunday is Father's Day and what better way to celebrate than a classic car show on the 400 Block! All activities are free except the fun run which is \$3.

Concerts on the Square begin Wednesday, June 21st from 6-8PM on the 400 Block. Be on the lookout for this summer's concert lineup soon.

