

THE CIRCUIT WRITER

OCTOBER 2019

October Sundays at First UU Wausau

"Life starts all over again
when it gets crisp in the fall."

-F. Scott Fitzgerald

October 1: "Adjusting Your Pace: Lessons Learned Running Hills" - 10:30a.m.

Randy Jefferson, preaching

What wisdom can running give us? What insights can we gain from living and jogging through the ups and downs?

October 13: "Kintsugi - The Art of Wholeness from Brokenness - 10:30 a.m.

The Reverend Jim Coakley, preaching

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing cracks in a bowl with lacquer mixed with gold or other precious metals which transforms a piece of broken pottery into a new art form.

Our minister, Brian, is headed to the Stevens Point Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for a pulpit swap with Jim Coakley who will explore kintsugi as a metaphor for converting our brokenness into wholeness.

October 20: Wisdom from Midwest Youth Leadership School

- 10:30 a.m.

Join us to hear from three high school youth about their experience at the Midwest Youth Leadership School.

This recipient of this month's Community Focus Collection, which is held the third Sunday of every month, is the Center for the Visual Arts.

October 27: The Reverend Brian Mason, preaching - 10:30 a.m.



FROM A WINDOW ON GRANT. . .

My third year as UU Wausau's minister is well underway. I continue to reap so many rewards from this work. But mostly, the rewards come from the friends and members of this church who are kind and gracious enough to invite me into their lives. I realize that we are a 225ish member church, with about 100ish kids in our religious education program. I mention this because even though we gather under the same umbrella, which we call the First Universalist Unitarian Church, we are all powerfully unique people. That's a gift, no doubt. But it makes for rather eclectic work, because we all know that unfortunately we can't please everyone. Yet, we stay together. For almost 150 years we've stayed together!

What holds us together is you, of course. But it's also all those unseen acts of cooking and cleaning and caring that stoke the fire of collective heart. That's why this month my question for you is, who have you thanked lately?

I know that I couldn't do this work without the support of this church's staff: Julie, Margaret, Peter, Rachelle, Katelynn, and Elizabeth. I also benefit from the Board and committees (Executive, Caring, RE teachers, Social Justice, Personnel, Property, Endowment, 150th Anniversary, Capital Campaign, Worship & Music, event hosts, and all of the other volunteers) who pour their hearts, concern, and time into this church. They live out their commitment to UU Wausau and Unitarian Universalism in real time. I get to watch this work up close and it's truly a sight to see.

That's why I want to say thank you for all that you do – thank you for being the glue that holds this unique, eclectic group of people together. This community needs this church. The people who call it their spiritual home need this church. And seekers who are simply passing through need this church. And with that, thank you for being the church.

So, who have you thanked lately?

See you in church,

Brian

REflections

Our church year is off to a great start in Religious Education (RE)! I want to thank our volunteer teachers who stepped up to help with our first session of RE classes. Sunday classes would not be possible without volunteers! Here are our teaching teams for the fall session:

Chalice Children (4K-1st grade) – Karen Peterson, Jen Anderson, Joni Hahn, & Lee Ann Venne

Moral Tales (2nd-3rd grade) – Christina Priewe, Kim Casey, Mary Pierce, & Meg Peterson

Harry Potter & UU (4th-6th grade) – Dawn Ashenbrenner, Sarah Thurs, Jefferson Le, & Kate Passineau

The Simpsons (7th-8th grade) – Josh Wright, Sarah Mason, Amy Place & Jeremy Trombley

Coming of Age (9th-12th grade) – Jaime Rannow, Karen Monarski, & Greg Zavadoski

Gross & Creepy Snack is coming! For families new to our church, Gross & Creepy Snack is a much loved tradition that takes place on the last Sunday in October (this year October 27th). That morning, in lieu of regular classes, all children and youth will be together in the basement commons for a Halloween themed celebration. The basement commons will be decorated and set up for a fun-filled morning. We ask everyone, no need to sign up, to contribute a gross or creepy (or fall-themed) snack and for all participants to wear a costume to the celebration. I'll need volunteers who want to help plan games/activities, decorate Sunday morning, and/or help supervise the festivities. To sign up email julie@uuwauau.org or see the sign-up sheet in the atrium, if you'd like to help.



Pictured: 2018's Gross & Creepy Snack Participants

REflections...for Adults

Soul Matter small groups begin meeting this month. Registration for those groups has closed. Our next round of small groups will begin in February. You'll have the opportunity to register in January. If you're curious and aren't in a group this session, Soul Matters small group packets will be available at church each month so you can get a feel for the type of information being discussed at group meetings. If you are in a group, your packets and information will be emailed directly to you. Contact Julie with questions.



October Adult RE Offerings:

First UU Wausau Adult Choir – Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00

Singing as spiritual practice. Join the choir to connect to yourself and others through soulful music.

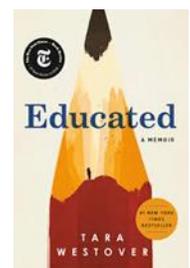
Drum Club – Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm

1005 Steuben Street, home of Margaret Jerz, Music Director

No previous experience in percussion is necessary – just a pair of hands and the willingness to listen, watch, focus, and match. All instruments will be furnished. The sessions will feature equal parts of community building, meditative drumming, and recreational activities along with the development of fundamental skills.

Minister's Book Club – Tuesday, October 29th at 6:30 pm

Join the Reverend Brian Mason to discuss Tara Westover's *Educated*. As her publisher notes, Westover was born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, and was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home. *Educated* is Westover's memoir about that journey.





The worldwide **Little Free Library** movement is 10 years old. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwiqv>



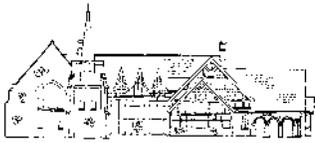
Remember that First UU Wausau has **Fair Trade coffee and chocolate** for sale on Sundays.

The products come from Equal Exchange: A worker owned co-operative founded in 1986. Take some home to share with friends and family.

The modest profits from these sales go to the Ari Schmidt Fund for Bus, Bail and Pizza – which offers funding to individuals from our church community wishing to experience, participate in or start social justice activities.

OCTOBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Qi Gong— 6:30	2 Shawl Time— 10:00 Adult Choir— 6:30	3 PFPL—6 Tai Chi—6:30 Ukulele Group— 6:30	4	5 Buddhist Meditation— 4:00
6 Service—10:30 Overeaters Anonymous—6:00	7 Women's AA— 6:00 Wausau Bird Club—6:30	8 Qi Gong— 6:30	9 PFPL—5 Adult Choir— 6:30	10 Tai Chi—6:30	11	12 Rosenberg Memorial— 10:00 Meditation— 4:00
13 Service—10:30 Overeaters Anonymous—6:00	14 Women's AA— 6:30	15 Qi Gong— 6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg—6:30	16 Shawl Time— 10 Adult Choir— 6:30	17 PFPL—6:00 Tai Chi—6:30	18 Eden Child Concert—7:00	19 Women's Early Risers— 8:00 Buddhist Meditation—4
20 Service—10:30 Faville Memorial— 3:00 OA—6	21 Women's AA— 6:30	22 Qi Gong— 6:30	23 PFPL—5:00 Adult Choir— 6:30	24 Tai Chi—6:30	25 Frisch Rehearsal—5	26 Frisch Wedding—4 Buddhist Meditation—4
27 Service—10:30 Overeaters Anonymous—6	28 Women's AA— 6:30	29 Qi Gong—6:30	30 Adult Choir— 6:30	31 Tai Chi—6:30		



First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau
504 Grant Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

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Newsletter of the First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau

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