



The Circuit Writer

First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau

June 2019

June 10:30AM Services at UU Wausau

June 2

- Take Part in Social Justice

UUC Social Justice Committee

Part of UU Wausau's Social Justice Committee's purpose is to bring light to social justice issues. Our active SJC is taking this opportunity to share with the congregation our efforts toward a campaign for reinstating driver's licenses for undocumented workers in Wisconsin. You'll learn the why and how as we ask for your support in helping live our UU principles. Guest speaker- Andrea Oyuela.

June 9

-Bridging

The Rev. Brian Mason and Julie Trombley, DRE

This Sunday we will celebrate the growth of our congregation's children and youth. This is an opportunity to recognize the young people of our community; to applaud their success thus far, to acknowledge them and to wish them happiness and satisfaction. It is to make sure they know we are with them. All children and youth in the congregation will have the opportunity to participate in our bridging ceremony, following a message from our Director of Religious Education.



June 16

-Flower Communion



The Rev. Brian Mason

At the beginning of summer, in UU churches throughout the world, Flower Communion is celebrated. Flower Communion is an annual intergenerational ritual that celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. Remember to bring a flower to this service. Any flower will do. Buy one from a florist or a gas station, pick one out of your garden, or even out of your neighbor's yard. Together we will bless the flowers, our year together, and many more to come.

June 23 at 12:00PM

General Assembly

Service organized by the Worship & Music Committee

UU Wausau will livestream the General Assembly Sunday Morning Worship service from Spokane, Washington. This is largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. Please join us for this powerful, communal worship experience right here in Wausau. Feel free to pack a lunch.

June 30 at 9:30AM

-UU Wausau will kick off its Summer Worship Series with a sermon by Rachel Carter who serves as the ministerial intern to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Eau Claire

*Please note the earlier/later start time.

From a Window on Grant



As hard as I try to develop a deep sense of calm and presence of mind, I fail, and far more frequently than I would like. I was thrilled to discover failing-at-being-calm

discussed during Krista Tippett's On Being interview with the Jewish-Buddhist teacher and psychotherapist Sylvia Boorstein. Boorstein is the founding teacher of the Spirit Rock Meditation Center and the author of "That's Funny, You Don't Look Buddhist" and "Making Friends with the Present Moment."

Boorstein describes how hard it is to maintain "equanimity," which is what we might also call "composure" or "calm," perhaps even "level-headedness" or "presence of mind." Boorstein says, "I tell people that I could have the most profound equanimity, and I am two words away from losing it completely. Then they say, 'What are those two words?' I'd say, 'Well, you have to understand that first the phone has to ring. Ring, ring and you pick up the phone, and a voice says, 'Hello, Ma?'"

Each of us has our own version of "Hello, Ma?" For you it might be someone you work with who can knock you off balance and destroy your sense of calm and presence of mind. It might be the nightly news, particularly the segments about politics and disaster. Maybe it's your children or parents or self-image that have a tendency to wreck you. And that's okay. All of us struggle. All of us experience pain. All of us try to achieve a presence of mind that will insulate us from the assaults of the world, but none of us are strong enough to keep it going all the time. We're human after all. Heartbreak is only a phone call away.

Boorstein practices Lovingkindness Meditation. What she recommends is that whenever we experience pain or anxiety, we stop for a moment and say to ourselves, "Sweetheart, you are in pain. Relax. Take a breath. Let's pay attention to what is happening. Then we'll figure out what to do."

I know that I will fail to live up to my highest aspirations, and that my presence of mind will, at times, melt away. But I have a choice. We have a choice. So, before you make it, relax, take a breath, and pay attention to what is happening. Then try to figure out what to do.

See you in church,

Brian



Office Space



Hello everyone! I am the new congregational administrator. I have taken over for Anji as she is moving out of state. I'm very thrilled to be in this role and to meet all of you.

My background is mostly in human resources. I have a Bachelor's in Human Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. I also have an Associate's in Supervisory Management from NTC. I've spent a lot of time working in employee relations, benefits, and payroll.

Office hours have been extended. They are now Monday through Thursday from 9AM to 2PM. Please feel free to stop by! I'm always happy to help in anyway that I can.

Best,

Courtney



REflections

I'm looking for volunteers to be in RE classrooms next church year! Do you have some time and energy to give to the children and youth of our congregation? Volunteering in an RE classroom is all about helping children and youth feel welcome and special in our church community. It's about building relationships and offering support. It's taking the time to get to know the kids you're working with and letting them know there are adults in this community who care about them. Can you spare a little time to make a big difference? See the sign-up sheet in the atrium or contact me at julie@uuwausau.org to express your interest. I'll be in touch over the summer to discuss details and what age group might be the best fit for you.



Youth Leadership School

Ruby Fischer, Danika Monarski, Alek Zavadoski, and I would like to thank the congregation for their generous financial support of Youth Leadership School! Through fundraising efforts and direct sponsorships the congregation donated \$1,265 toward their tip to Midwest Youth Leadership School July 14th-20th. Thank you for so generously supporting the youth of our congregation! Mark your calendar for August 4th when these youth will lead a summer service and share their Leadership School experiences.

Thanks for a fantastic church year!

Julie

VOLUNTEER



Religious Education is looking for volunteers to facilitate adult RE offerings next church year. If you are interested see the sign-up sheet in the atrium or contact Julie at julie@uuwausau.org.

Upcoming events in RE

June 2nd—Summer Kick-Off! RE party. Join us for food, games, and fun!

June 9th—Bridging Service. Join us as all children and youth in the RE program will get to walk across our bridge, signifying another year of RE completed.

June 16th—Flower Communion. This multigenerational service is a special end of the church year tradition.

Summer Services and RE

Summer services begin June 23rd. In general, summer services begin at 9:30 am and are more informal than during the church year. No RE is offered during summer services. The nursery is available to children 8 years old and younger. Children and youth 9 and older are welcome to attend services.

Adult Religious Education

Summer Solstice Contemplative Collage

Friday, June 21, 6:30-9:00 pm

Back again by popular demand! Join us to celebrate the turning of the season. Art-making is a contemplative practice that affects us internally, through our thoughts & emotions, as well as externally, through the creation of object & imagery which can serve as a source of inspiration & healing.

Collage is a playful, eclectic, & liberating medium for any-and-all skill levels.

Bring your favorite beverage and a light snack to share. You're also invited to bring craft paper, old magazines, stamps, or any other potential collage materials that you're willing to share with the group. And of course, still come if you don't have any of those things to contribute.

Minister's Book Club

The minister's book club will read "The Farmer's Son: Calving Season on a Family Farm" by John Connell. We will meet for discussion on Tuesday, June 25, at 6:30 p.m.



News for UUs

☛ June First Sunday Potluck

Our wonderful UU Choir is hosting June's potluck! There is no particular theme, just bring your favorite goodies. The choir will set-up and take care of clean-up, but as always, help is appreciated. See you there for good food and fellowship.

☛ June Second Friday Nighters

Jim Sheibley and Macia Anderson will host the June Second Friday Nighters, June 14 beginning at 6:30pm. This is an adults only event. Jim and Macia have a dog. Beverages will be provided, please bring a hearty appetizer to share. 1312 Green Vistas Dr., Wausau. 715-459-9132.



☛ Community Ukulele Strum

Area ukulele players are invited to a Community Ukulele Strum on Monday June 17th, to be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at First UU Church, 504 Grant Street. All abilities are welcome and music will be provided. Hoping there will be interest in making this a regular event.

If you have questions please call Kay at 715-843-7873 or email kmeyer1104@gmail.com.

☛ ALS NY Marathon Fundraiser

Meridith Wentz, daughter of our own Karen Wentz, is running in the New York City Marathon on Nov. 3, 2019. She will be running in memory of her dad, Jan Wentz, on behalf of the ALS TDI (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Therapy Development Institute) to raise money for research for ALS.

Any donations are appreciated, for more information or to make a donation, see Meridith's page here:

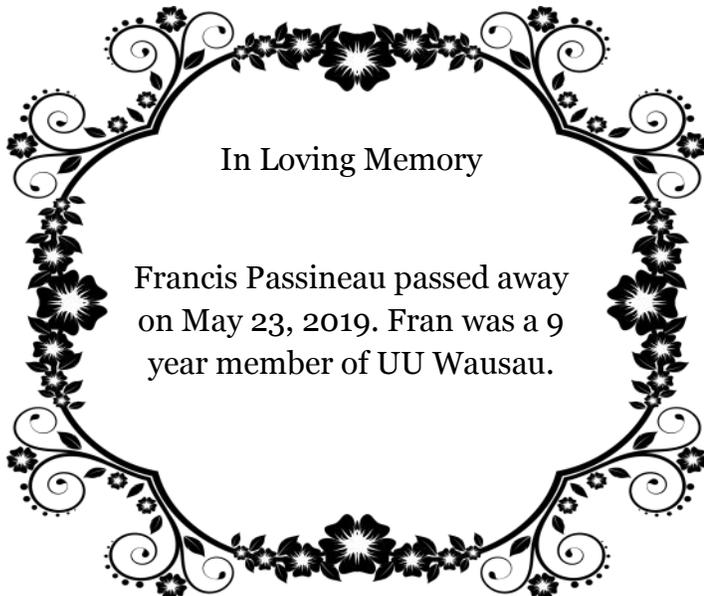
[Meridith Wentz NY Marathon for ALS](#)

☛ SJC Driver's License Campaign

Our letter writing campaign toward passing legislation to reinstate conditional driver's licenses for undocumented workers in WI can use your help. We, along with other churches, hope to flood our representatives in Madison with letters regarding this issue during the month of June. Personal letters to representatives hold much more weight than emails, phone calls or form letters. Spend 5 minutes writing your letter. Paper, envelopes, pens, information, addresses are all provided at the letter writing table in the atrium after church services all month long. Learn the benefits. Learn how you can help. Learn how you can be an ally.

☛ Buddhist Meditation.

Come join us any Saturday at 4:00 PM for 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by tea, readings, and discussion. This group is free and open to the public. Paul Hagstrom, 715.536.9608.



The Board Table



Happy Spring/almost Summer from the Board of Trustees! It has been a long winter and a slow spring season and I know we are all looking forward to consistently nice weather. Having grown up

in the Midwest I am used to our complicated seasons and I have to admit that I welcome them-in all their glory. I have definitely found ways to make the best of each day and to be thankful for the interesting world that Mother Nature creates for us.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to highlight a few things that we are especially thankful for.

-- Once again we had an amazing goods and services auction. This every other year event has become a highlight of our church. It is an amazing time for socialization and gathering. It is also a time to sign up for dinners that continue this socialization well into the next year. It is really a hallmark of our congregation. We offer our special thanks to Jerry Phelan who has been a part of this process probably since its inception. He and the other auction volunteers truly make this event happen.

-- We also offer our thanks to all of our dedicated RE teachers. Throughout the church year they have been instructing and guiding the children and youth of our congregation. This is an invaluable gift! Adult RE teachers have also been offering an array of classes and opportunities for other members of our church. As a small token of our appreciation we will be hosting a breakfast for them on Sunday, June 9. If you see any of our teachers please offer them a hand or a pat on the back. Of course none of their volunteerism would have happened without the extraordinary leadership of Julie Trombley. She is amazing!

-- And how does one say thank you to Anji? Her service and dedication to our church have been something that we all could always count on. Her competence and kindness has set a standard that will be hard to match. We on the board offer her a special thanks for keeping us organized and focused. We truly wish her well in her new community and new endeavors. You will be missed!!

-Sheryl Hemp

Coin War Results



High school youth raised ~\$100 in their coin war this spring. They used that money to purchase high need items for the Women's Community.

2019 UU Goods & Services Auction

The 2019 "Under the Big Top" Goods & Services Auction event is now history; however, we look forward to lots of the resulting events, services, and connections throughout the coming months that will keep this circus flying high. A big *THANK YOU* to all who contributed, bid, and attended. The auction accounting book never closes, but we are now at \$16,500 raised!

There are lots of people who went above and beyond in bidding, contributing, and helping. You know who you are, but here are a few special awards for 2019.

- The Mister Rogers Award, for creatively engaging children in the auction: **Christina Priewe** (Fashion Fun for a Young One, plus dishes painted by her daughter Charlotte) and **Zina Harrington** and **Sally Schmidt** (desserts and cookies made by their daughters).
- The Evil Knievel Award, for a daredevil leap in bid where seemingly unnecessary: shared by **Brenda Schumacher**, **Jody Maier**, **Greg Zavadoski**, and **Lanore Rusch** (who, after a \$327 jump in her absentee bid, didn't even win; be there next time!).
- The Half-K Award, and, yes, this is a fundraising event, so there are no apologies for honoring those who get their invoice and say, "Whoa, how did I manage to spend more than \$500!": **Anne & Randy Jefferson**, **Barb & Mark Klinner**, **Kati & Jody Maier**, **Leslie Ross**, **Carolyn and Dan Schaut**, **Joyce & Jim Schneider**, and **LeeAnn & Greg Venne**.
- The Mostest Hostesses Award is shared by **Anna Gresch** and **Heather Busig**. Anna (with help from Barb Drake and Roxann Bornemann) offered two separate dinner events that brought in a total of \$937. Heather is involved in three separate food events, including two at the Busig home (with help on the first from **Kent Busig**, and **Kati & Jody Maier**; the second gets help from **Kent Busig**, **Jody Krieg**, **Jeff Leigh**, and **Ramona Winter-Leigh**; and thirdly, Heather is a FUUDIE, so catch her helping at the Food Through the Generations dinner).
- The Bilge Pump Award, for doing way more than your share to keep the auction afloat: **Mike Wasilczuk** (his kayak raffle brought in \$1900 and his two canoe paddles brought in \$460).

Thanks to all those who helped put the event together and clean up, including (but not limited to) **Laura Syring**, **Sarah Thurs**, **Lila Hobson** (circus wrangler/decorator extraordinaire), **Bart Hobson**, **Sheryl Hemp**, **Mike Moen**, **Marsha Fitzgerald**, **LeeAnn Venne**, **Greg Venne**, **Christina Priewe**, **Matt Priewe**, **Erin Verley** (a.k.a. **Madame Luminita**), **Heather Busig**, **Jeannie Russell**, **Wolfram Weinberg**, **Anji Spialek**, **Diane Walker**, **Karen Peterson**, **Tim Peterson**, and **Bill Schumacher**. And thanks for the great food by **Clint Schultz**/Urban Street Bistro.

- Jerry Phelan & the Auction Committee



June 2019 Calendar

1	Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation	15	Sat	8:00AM	Women's Early Risers
		7:30PM	Proud Theater			4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation
2	Sun	9:45AM	Youth Choir	16	Sun	10:30AM	Church Service
		10:30AM	Church Service	17	Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
		11:45AM	First Sunday Potluck			6:30PM	Ukulele Strum
3	Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg	18	Tue	6:30PM	BOT Meeting
4	Tue	6:30PM	Qigong			6:30PM	Qigong
5	Wed	10:00AM	Shawl Time	19	Wed	10:00AM	Shawl Time
		5:00PM	People/Power of Love			6:30PM	Adult Choir Practice
		6:30PM	Adult Choir Practice	20	Thu	6:00PM	People/Power of Love
6	Thu	6:00PM	People/Power of Love			6:30PM	Tai Chi
		6:30PM	Tai Chi	21	Fri	6:30PM	Collage
8	Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation	22	Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation
9	Sun	9:00AM	RE Teacher Breakfast	23	Sun	9:30AM	Church Service
		9:45AM	Youth Choir	24	Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg
		10:30AM	Church Service	25	Tue	6:30PM	Minister's Book Club
10	Mon	6:00PM	Women's AA Mtg			6:30PM	Qigong
11	Tue	6:30PM	Qigong	26	Wed	6:30PM	Adult Choir Practice
12	Wed	6:30PM	Adult Choir Practice	27	Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi
13	Thu	6:30PM	Tai Chi	29	Sat	4:00PM	Buddhist Meditation
				30	Sun	9:30AM	Church Service

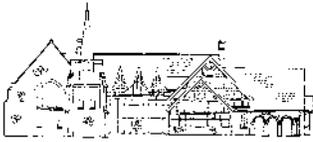


Happy Membership Anniversary!



Margaret Carspecken 73 years
 Andy & Jeanna McGivern 44 years
 Sue Miller 21 years
 Mary Judell 14 years
 Jeff McDonald & Jim Mueller McDonald 5 years
 Danika Kozlovich 4 years
 Karen Monarski 4 years
 Faith Wilfley 1 year
 Julie & Jeremy Trombley 1 year





First Universalist Unitarian
 Church of Wausau
 504 Grant St.,
 Wausau, WI 54403

The Circuit Writer - June 2019

Newsletter of the First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau

Inside this Issue:

June Services	1
From a Window on Grant	2
REflection	3
News For UUs	4
Board Table	5
Auction Update	6
June Calendar	7

Office Hours: Tue-Thu, 9AM-2PM
 (715) 842-3697, www.uuwausau.org

Board of Trustees:

Kevin Briquetlet-Miller, President	
	briqmill5@aol.com
Jody Maier, Vice President	
	jody.maier@wausausupply.com
Sheryl Hemp, Secretary	wishemp@aol.com
Tim Peterson	timnp67@aol.com
Joyce Kurth	joyce.kurth@gmail.com
Josh Wright	joshuawright888@gmail.com
Heather Busig	hbusig@gmail.com
Karen Monarski	krmon12@gmail.com
Brian Stezenski-Williams	BS-W@outlook.com

Staff:

Brian Mason, Minister	brian@uuwausau.org
Courtney A. Kramer, Admin	courtney@uuwausau.org
Julie Trombley, Dir. RE	julie@uuwausau.org
Margaret Jerz, Music Dir.	margaret@uuwausau.org