



The UU News

The Unitarian Universalist Society
Founded in 1841

September 2017

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September's Social Justice Offerings Benefit THE EMMA GOLDMAN CLINIC

Founded in 1973 in Iowa City by a group of women driven by feminist ideals, the clinic continues to serve men and women of all ages. Clinic staff and volunteers promote respectful, client-centered, and participatory health care through informed decision making, client rights, advocacy, and support of pregnancy choices. Cash or checks to UUS (Emma Goldman on memo line) may be given during Sunday offerings, online or sent to the office. Thanks for your support.

Upcoming Sunday Services

at Kirkwood Regional Center (2301 Oakdale Boulevard, Coralville, IA 52241)

Services will be at 9:30 am in the main gathering space at the Kirkwood Regional Center. Social hour will follow each service.

***Religious Education & Childcare:** Our nursery is open from 9:20 am to 10:45 am for infants through preschoolers. For the month of September, we will have all-ages worship for kindergartners and up, and we will have in-worship activities available for wiggly hands and bodies. Religious Education classes for children and youth will return later this fall after we move to our new building.*

September Theme: "What Does It Mean to Be a Community of Welcome?"

September 3rd: Labor Day Picnic of Love and Hospitality

The Worship Associates and UUS Membership as a whole will host our annual Labor Day potluck picnic instead of a service on Sunday, September 3rd, at Shelter #6 in Lower City Park, Iowa City. We will have a theme of Love and Hospitality, wrapping up the summer theme of Love as a Muscle. There Is No Hospitality Team—Everyone attending is the "Hospitality Team." Together we will begin the hospitality (setup, cleanup, greeting, and serving) at 11 am and end it when the picnic is over.

Please bring your own table service and beverages, along with a favorite dish to feed 10-12 people. (Suggested categories: Bread/ rice/noodles (if your last name begins with A-E), Veggies & Fruit (F-J), Proteins (K-O), Desserts (P-S), and Salads (T-Z)). Please label ingredients on a small card if possible to accommodate anyone with dietary restrictions (vegetarian, vegan, gluten- or dairy-free, or other food allergies).

September 10th: "Many Streams Make One River," Rev. Steven Protzman

As many streams come together to make a river, we come together to make a community. As we return from our summer adventures, bringing water and stories to share, this festive multi-generational service of water communion and ingathering invites us to once again blend our lives together and renew our connections with each other. Please bring a small amount of water for the water communion ritual. During this service we will also commission our Board Trustees.

September 17th: "Spirit, Make Us One," Rev. Steven Protzman

As part of our year-long celebration of the 175th anniversary of our congregation's founding, we commissioned a new hymn, "Spirit, Make Us One," written by UU ministers Kendyl Gibbons and Jason Shelton. As a community of all ages we will learn this hymn, which invites us to be bold and wise, reminds us that we are here for one another, and calls us to join in the work of making justice. During this service we will also commission our choir.

September 24th: "The Radical in Radical Hospitality," Rev. Steven Protzman

What makes radical hospitality radical? Using a piece of music written by Rev. Jason Shelton titled "The Walls," we will reflect on our shared work as Unitarian Universalists to heed love's call to break down the walls that divide us by practicing radical hospitality and entering into deeper, more reverent relationships with one another. During this service we will have a blessing of the backpacks and, as part of our adult enrichment, Rev. Steven will host a sermon discussion after the service.

From Your Minister



*Would you harbor me? Would I harbor you?
Would you harbor a Christian, a Muslim, a Jew, a heretic, convict or spy?
Would you harbor a run away woman, or child, a poet, a prophet, a king?
Would you harbor an exile, or a refugee, a person living with AIDS?
Would you harbor a Tubman, a Garrett, a Truth, a fugitive or a slave?*

Would you harbor a Haitian Korean or Czech, a lesbian or a gay?

Would you harbor me? Would I harbor you?

—Song by Ysaye M. Barnwell

Would you harbor me? Would I harbor you? Providing a refuge, a place of safety, offering hospitality to the stranger is ancient in its origins. The ancient Greeks welcomed the stranger because they believed that their guest could be a god or goddess, and treating them poorly would have serious consequences. The Jews were commanded by biblical law to treat others—family, neighbors, and strangers—not just with hospitality but with love, compassion, and justice, because as it is said, “you were once strangers in a foreign land.” Jesus taught us to love not just our neighbors and strangers, but even our enemies! As Unitarian Universalists, one of our highest values is expressed by our first principle which affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Our response is to live out this truth by opening our doors and our lives to everyone who seeks shelter with us, always guided by the meaning of Unitarianism: we are one—there are no “those people.” Many people who come to our spiritual community are refugees of some kind, having been treated as “those people”: GLBTQ people and people of color who seek shelter from bigotry, racism, and hatred; people who have rejected, or been rejected by, another religion; undocumented immigrants who face crushing poverty and oppression in their native countries; and people seeking refuge from loneliness, isolation, and alienation.

As we begin a new liturgical year and gather together as a community once again, our September worship and covenant group theme question is: “What does it mean to be a people of welcome?” This theme will challenge us to think about the kind of community we want to be. We’ve talked for years about offering radical hospitality, but do we really understand what that means? Radical means “out of the ordinary,” “revolutionary,” even. The words hospitality, hospital, and hospice all have their root in the word “hospe,” which means to save a life, to provide something someone needs to live. That something might be a meal, a safe place to sleep, the support and care needed to weather a crisis, the space to share a triumph or reflect about a failure, or simply receiving a warm, genuine welcome that accepts a person for who they are and makes them feel included. The word “hospe” also means both guest and host. As one writer says, “Hospitality requires that we welcome the stranger, but if we remain unchanged by the encounter, that in itself does not constitute Radical Hospitality.” Radical hospitality is mutual, an opportunity to practice being our most authentic, fullest human selves, not



only by giving of the best of who we are, but by opening our hearts to fully receive what others have to offer us as well. It also offers us the opportunity to grow spiritually. In the book *Radical Hospitality*, Father Daniel Homan writes: “Hospitality is a spiritual practice, a way of becoming more human, a way of understanding yourself. Hospitality is both the answer to modern alienation and injustice and a path to a deeper spirituality.” It’s something our world desperately needs. Writer Henri Nouwen says that “hospitality is critical because we live in a world of strangers, people estranged from their own past, culture and country,

from their neighbors, friends, and family, from their deepest selves and from the sacred. Hospitality is the creation of a free space where connections with others are made and strangers become friends.”

Radical hospitality needs to be at the heart of our shared life, and it can help us better live out our mission to touch hearts, change lives, and transform our world. My colleague Marilyn Sewell writes that: “People don’t dress up and come downtown to church on Sunday morning on a whim—people are here because they need to be here. Churches typically offer personal support to their members, but often stop there. A congregation committed to radical hospitality would go beyond seeking out others like themselves, for mutual support—such a congregation would recognize the humanity of anyone who walks into that church. And such a congregation would concern themselves with people who feel beyond the reach of organized religion. The public theology of such a church would not be limited to charity—which is not a relationship of equals—but would also be committed to justice.” A justice that begins by living our right relations agreement¹, accepting and respecting one another, celebrating diversity, modeling the behaviors we all aspire to, working to sustain a safe environment that encourages us to share our values and beliefs and nurtures our spiritual and ethical growth, communicating with mutual respect, and being accountable for our words and actions. A justice that calls us out into the world to end the oppression, the bigotry, the hatred, the othering of people who are different. A justice that challenges those of us who are white to see our white privilege and to leverage it for bringing about true racial equality. And perhaps even a justice that invites us to offer our building as a Sanctuary Church, a place where someone in danger of being deported could take refuge.

As we begin a new liturgical year, continue to celebrate the 175th anniversary of this congregation’s founding, and as we do the work of tending our roots and discovering how we will spread our wings, may we truly be a people of welcome, offering the gift of radical hospitality.

Grateful to be here with you as we journey together as a people of welcome, Steven

¹ Our Right Relations Agreement can be read at <http://www.uusic.org/about-us/groups-activities/board-of-trustees-and-governance/uus-right-relations-agreement/>

Congregational News and Events

From Your President

We are standing at the brink of our future. After many years of dreaming, our shining new home is almost complete. Anticipation is growing by leaps and bounds. Where are we going? What new visions await us there? Who are we now and what can we become together?

Our mission statement (*We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world*) says a lot about UUS.

We are young and old, straight and gay with many gender identities. We are humanist and spiritual with roots in many world religious traditions.

We touch hearts through our compassionate following of our principles of inherent worth and dignity of all, seeking justice and equity in our relationships, and our acceptance of one another as we encourage spiritual growth.

Our lives are changed by our collective free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

We help transform the world through democratic processes with the goal of world community peace, liberty and justice for the interdependent web of which we are a part.

There will be changes in our identity, however. Nothing will be familiar. While we are excited about our new home, some long-time members may feel 'lost' in our new spaces. We will have new members as well, and familiar faces may seem elusive at first. All members have differing connections to UUS and need for them to grow. I encourage all of us to help each other find our way together. We are becoming a new congregation. Remember our mission and live it to the best of your abilities. Our shining new home is a wonderful place for us to do this!

—Jim Laughlin, President of the UUS Board of Trustees

New Time and Location for Sunday Services Beginning in September!

Sunday services on September 10th, 17th, and 24th will begin at 9:30 am in the lobby area of the Kirkwood Community College Regional Center, located at 2301 Oakdale Blvd. in Coralville, followed by a social hour at 10:30. The services will be for all ages above nursery, with children's activity packets available to pick up in the lobby. There will be nursery care available in a side room on the same floor.

We will offer information sessions for visitors after each service, as well as an opportunity to discuss the September sermons with Rev. Steven after the service on September 24th.

The Kirkwood Regional Center is just north, and just west, of our new building at 2355 Oakdale Road. Oakdale Road runs into Oakdale Blvd. on the south. Being so close to our new building, it will be easy to drive or walk by, on your way to or from Sunday services, to see how the new building is progressing. According to Google, it is a 1-minute drive or a 9-minute walk between the Kirkwood Regional Center and our new building.

From Your Director of Congregational Life

When I first began working here at UUS last September, we did not have a permanent home. So I have never been part of this congregation when we had a place to which we could really welcome the community. We still don't have a definite date yet, but we are expecting to be in the new building in October, and I look forward to being able to offer Radical Hospitality in a fresh way!

We are pulling together a team under the leadership of Steve Vincent to plan an Open House for the community once we can use the new building, and we hope to set the date for that shortly. We expect to have food, entertainment, tours of the land and building, information about green elements incorporated in the building process, hands-on activities especially for children, and information about our groups and programs. If you are part of an interest group or spirituality group, or other group that might have an appeal to the community at large, I invite you to start thinking about what kind of display you might make about your group for the open house.

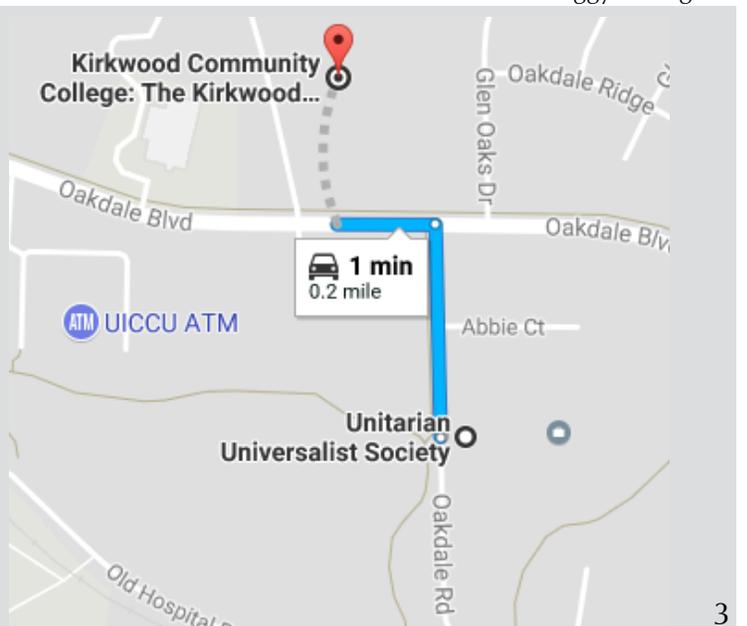
The Publicity Committee is hard at work creating a variety of ways to let people in the area know about our new building, our 175 years of service to the Iowa City area, and both continuing and new programs.

We will also be having a more formal Building Dedication with representatives from the wider Unitarian Universalist community on Sunday afternoon, November 5th, so save the date for that!

With a building of our own, we will have new opportunities for programs and groups and outreach to the community.

With more flexibility on rooms available, we plan to offer a variety of opportunities for adults, children, and youth after our Sunday morning (yes, I said morning!) services. Watch for details on those opportunities!

Just a few more weeks of temporary gathering space at Kirkwood Regional Center, and then we can celebrate once more having our own welcoming space to offer to the community, for our work of touching hearts, changing lives, and transforming the world!
—Peggy Garrigues





New Facilities Committee: Construction Update

Much progress has been made in the last month—both inside and out. All of the concrete work (driveway, parking, and side-walks) and the grading of the grounds has been completed. The grounds have been seeded with a mixture of buffalo grass and blue grama. Construction will begin soon on the bioretention cells. September 23rd is the date set for planting the plants and grasses in the bioretention cells. The metal storage shed has been sold, de-constructed, and moved. The new shed is finished and ready for “occupancy” of our tools and outdoor equipment.

In the interior, the concrete floors are being polished, and kitchen floor will be installed by the end of August. Most of the large windows of the sanctuary, narthex, and fellowship hall have been installed. The wood paneling on the ceiling in the sanctuary and narthex is complete and is beautiful!

Drywall work continues in the classrooms and offices in preparation for painting. The white boards are installed as well as the fixtures in the restrooms.

Heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) training for the new building will be held the 2nd or 3rd week of September. Anyone who is interested in being on this team and attending the training, please contact Deb Schoelerman at dschoelerman@gmail.com

It is still difficult to determine a specific date the building will be ready for occupancy. We are hopefully still looking at a late September finish date to be followed by inspections by Neumann-Monson and Coralville officials for temporary occupancy permit. Until we have occupancy, Sunday services and programming will be held at The Kirkwood Community College Regional Center, located at 2301 Oakdale Blvd., Coralville.



Left: The stone wall and wood ceiling of the sanctuary. Below: Looking from the sanctuary toward the fellowship hall and kitchen.

Bio-Retention Cell Planting, September 23rd

Volunteers are needed to help plant the over 800 pots of grasses and flowers in the three bio-retention cells on our grounds. Instructions and guidance will be given by Sean and Meredith Pearl of Sustainable Solutions and their staff. Volunteers should bring a trowel, wear closed-toed shoes, and gloves. Long pants are recommended.

Work will begin at 9 am and end when all plants have been planted. We anticipate the project to take 5 to 6 hours with a dozen volunteers. If you cannot come for the entire time, come when you can and stay as long as you can. Families and children are welcome. Questions and to RSVP please contact Deb Schoelerman at dschoelerman@gmail.com or Mary McMurray at mary_mcmurray50@hotmail.com.



One of the 3 bio-retention cells on the grounds

Land Ministry

The Land Ministry Committee is working on policy for the grounds that will be recommended to the Board. The Landscape Committee has been meeting to create a plan for the front of the building. The Community Garden Committee is hoping to build the raised beds this fall to be ready for spring planting. The Play-scape Subcommittee has received the concept design and will continue planning its implementation. The Trails and Woodlands Subcommittee will be planning a fall workday to continue to remove invasive plants. Stay tuned for other updates and opportunities to volunteer!

View of the building from Oakdale Road



Transition Task Force 2.0 (TTF2)

This is a very exciting time for UUS because, believe it or not, we are approaching the home stretch run of the construction of the new building. Great progress is being made, and, as of this writing, we are still looking to take possession in late September or early October. However, we will not know the exact date for a few more weeks. There will be many opportunities for volunteers to help with the transition in the coming weeks—both before and after we occupy the building. A recent opportunity was on August 26th and 27th, when we moved UUS possessions out of Sanctuary Church. Doing so prepared us to temporarily move to the Kirkwood Learning Center starting September 10th. At Kirkwood, we will once again be able to hold services on Sunday mornings, starting at 9:30 am. Thanks to all who came out or stayed after services to help us with the move from Sanctuary!

We have been told that we will be able to move some items into the new building for storage before inspections are completed for occupancy. This will probably be sometime in mid to late September. Also, we have been assured that the Oakdale House will not need to be removed before we have moved all items into the new facility. However, we will both need and want to do so quickly! The Oakdale House has not been sold as of mid-August, and the likelihood of someone buying it to move to a different property is becoming slim. If unsold, volunteers will be needed within a short time after we move into our new home (about two weeks) to help dismantle parts of the house and prepare it for demolition. Consistent with our values, we want to limit the quantity of “trash” that goes to the landfill. We will remove items and materials that can be sold or recycled. Yes, it is a big job—but ...

*“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
Helen Keller*

We want to Thank All of You for your help and offers to help! Watch for announcements in the coming weeks regarding work days, volunteer opportunities, and how to signup. If you have questions, please contact us by email or catch us during Sunday social time: Peg Voelker, peg.voelker@gmail.com and Kris Barrash, kris.barrash@mchsi.com.

Financial Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee plans and carries out the pledge campaign that determines the amount of pledges we will have for the operating budget for the following year. The Board of Trustees then uses that information to help inform their work in developing a budget for the year. This committee has begun working on the pledge campaign this fall for the 2018 operating budget. Our theme this year will be "Tending Our Roots, Spreading Our Wings." Since we will be celebrating our 175th anniversary as well as moving into a new building, we have lots to be grateful for and much to celebrate. Our plan (right now) is to send out pledge cards with a brochure in late September. Then during October we expect everyone to turn in a pledge for 2018! You will be able to use the pledge card OR you can use Realm to make your pledge. To celebrate this congregation's generosity, we plan to have the first ever potluck dinner in our new building on Saturday, October 28th. Stay tuned for more information about using Realm as well as information about the pledge campaign.

Capital Campaign Committee

*And we're almost there, we're almost there
People gonna come here from everywhere
And we're almost there, we're almost there*

Yes, I have appropriated "Almost There" from Disney's *The Princess and the Frog* to update you on the progress we have made on the Capital Campaign for our new church home. Just as the building is nearing completion, so is the Capital Campaign. WE ARE ALMOST THERE. Nearly 83% of our pledges are in. That is \$1,716,534.62 in the bank and being used to pay for the roof, windows, walls, floors, etc.

BUT we are also still \$363,516.40 shy of paying off our pledges. We still need to pay for the heating and cooling, and the sound system, and the pulpit! The new facilities are fantastic and I believe people will come from everywhere to experience them. But we have some work to do in order to welcome them.

*You gotta make 'em happen, it all depends on you
So we work real hard each and everyday
Now things for sure are going our way*

Each and every pledge is critical to the financial success of the project. 95% of us have made a partial or complete payment on our pledge. We are almost there, but we really need to persevere. After all, what is a church building without a pulpit or a sound system, let alone no heating and cooling!

I am confident we have made a great decision for the future of UUism in the area; if we work real hard each and every day, we can ensure a strong future for liberal theology in the community.

If you have any questions about your pledge balance, PLEASE contact our UUS Administrator, Emma, at admin@uusic.org. Thank you!
—Submitted by Jeffery Ford

Special Commissioning Services in September

Recognizing the need to not only affirm but celebrate the many different ways in which we as a congregation share ministry, the work of serving others, we will have two commissioning services in September. On September 10th we will commission our Board of Trustees and on September 17th we will commission our Choir. Please join us for these affirmations and celebrations of our shared ministry. In October as our Religious Education program begins in our new building, we will commission our RE teachers, leaders, and childcare providers.



Water Communion and Ingathering, September 10th

On Sunday, September 10th, as a gathered community of all ages, we will celebrate water communion. People bring a small amount of water from a place that is special to them. During the service, the water is poured into a large bowl. The combined water is symbolic of our diverse faith that comes from many different sources and the sharing of our unique talents and gifts for the greater good of the community and the world. Please bring a small container of water from your summer adventures to share for this festive service.

Monthly Board Meeting, September 14th

The UUS Board of Trustees holds a meeting, open to all members, each month at 6:30 pm on the second Thursday at the Oakdale House. Look for an agenda in the weekly email or on the website before the meeting.

Blessing of the Backpacks, September 24th

Some of our Unitarian Universalist congregations have begun holding a backpack blessing at the beginning of the school and congregational year. This year we will have a backpack blessing for the first time. We invite all learners and educators to bring their backpacks (literal or figurative) to our service on Sunday, September 24th, for a blessing that affirms that they are significant members of our congregation and that we care what happens at school and want to be with them in spirit.

Sermon Discussion, September 24th

On Sunday, September 24th, as part of our adult education and spiritual enrichment, Rev. Steven will lead a sermon discussion after the service. Please refer to the front page of this newsletter and to Rev. Steven's column on page 2 for a description of the service topic and some of Rev. Steven's thoughts about radical hospitality.

175th Committee

Women's Work

Those of the gentler sex in our congregation have long demonstrated their "thorough-going devotion to the cause of liberal religion," and that will be the focus of a workshop, "Prophetic Sisterhood—Now More than Ever," on Sunday, October 15th, with author Cynthia Grant Tucker.

In view of that, it seems appropriate to look back on some of the remarkable activities of women's groups in our congregation over the past 175 years. As was true in so many frontier (and later) congregations, these groups played a crucial role in sustaining UUS.

In our congregation, they have had a variety of names over the years. In the 1800s they called themselves the Women's Industrial Group (starting in 1870), the Ladies Working Society (1879), and the Women's Alliance (1901-1960s). From the 1960s to the 1990s, when gender boundaries had begun to fade, they were the UUSIC Women's Federation.

A key function for these groups was fundraising. For many years in the 1800s, they served a noon meal—25 cents a plate—every Saturday to the many farm families who came to town to shop. They also served a Thanksgiving meal, but back in the day it was yet another way to raise funds. In November of 1879, the Women's Working Society served a dinner that turned a remarkable profit, \$12.25, in part because so many folks were in town to enjoy P.T. Barnum's "Show Day" (by the way, Barnum himself was a Universalist).

Other fundraising activities included "Sociables, Fairs, Festivals, Exhibitions, Tableau Parties." The women made quilts and took in sewing; in the 1870s, the minutes of the Women's Industrial Group record that they "finished off ... one undershirt for John Irish" in December and "worked on drawers for Mrs. Dietz" in January.

What did they do with their hard-earned cash? Over many decades, it went to cover congregational expenses both large and small. For example, in 1952 the Women's Alliance bought tables (5), chairs (50), and our building's very first automatic hot water heater. (Imagine heating water on the stove to wash all the dishes generated by those Saturday meals!) When times were hard, the money raised was even used to pay the minister's salary.

Our building at 10 South Gilbert was the product of collaboration between Eleanor Gordon, who had been minister here from 1896 to 1900 (and who was a guiding light among the Prophetic Sisterhood), and our then current minister, Rev. Robert Loring. Their goal was to create a building whose "domestic idiom" would literally be home to a congregation that was "a source of good" for the larger community.

And the women's groups were indeed active in that larger community. Some examples: The 1918-19 Spanish flu epidemic killed more than 500,000 Americans, among them 38 University of Iowa faculty and staff. Our building served as an annex to University Hospital during this time, and in 1918 our Women's Alliance served more than 3,500 meals to health care staff. In 1956-57, they gathered 1,400 pounds of clothing to send to Hungary; in '62, they donated bedding to Johnson County Home and spoke out about the need to improve conditions there. In '66, the Women's Federation sent clothing to Spanish refugees.

Our October 15th workshop, "Prophetic Sisterhood—Now More than Ever," will provide an opportunity both to look back at the roles women have played in nurturing liberal religion, and forward to ways we can build on this legacy in the 21st century.

—Submitted by Jeanette Carter and Susan Eberly

Sunday Attendance for July 30th through August 20th

July 30th: 71 total: 62 adults, 10 children

August 13th: 96 total: 90 adults, 6 children

August 6th: 85 total: 76 adults, 9 children

August 20th: 103 total: 92 adults, 11 children

UUS Members & Friends With September Birthdays

*Carol Adamson
Ike Barrash
Kris Barrash
Robert Burdinie
Maryellen Cazanans
Aster Cox
Sofia Cox
Andy Douglas
Lori Enloe
Pralhad Gupta*

*Barbara Haring
Laurel Haverkamp
Diana Henry
Haley Kamps
Melissa Lehan Mackin
Stephen Locher
Mary Losch
Robby Marvin
Gail McClure
Otis Miller*

*Paula Miller
Deb Moore
Lula Palmer
Virginia Stamler
Judy Tokuhisa
Ethan Trepka
Kai Trepka
Ed Wolfe
Susan Kasal Young*

Spirituality & Religious Education



From Your Director of Religious Education

Hello Friends! It is wonderful to be back, especially at such an exciting time for UUS! I am in awe of how far the new building has come, and cannot wait for our first Religious Education program in the new spaces.

I know there are a lot of questions about what that program will look like, and while at the time of this writing a lot of the plans are still being worked out, I can tell

you that much of the format will resemble that of years past with some key improvements and additions. So, for instance, children will still start with their families in worship for the all ages portion of service, but the staff is working to develop a more deep and meaningful experience for families. Children will then be dismissed to their classes, and this year we are going to focus on environmental and social justice, including a Harry Potter and UU class I'm really excited about! We will again be offering a youth program on Sunday mornings (this year we will be learning about and visiting faith communities around us), but we are also adding more opportunities for worship and mentorships for youth to participate and contribute to all areas of UUS—more to come on this soon! We will be offering Jr. High OWL for 7th-8th graders starting this fall, and we'll be offering an elementary level OWL class later this spring. Something brand new is the Religious Exploration hour that will take place after social hour. We will be adding Adult Religious Education and programming after the social time, and to enable parents and caregivers to take part in the classes, we will also be offering a supervised children's activity time with indoor and outdoor play for ages 0-12. We will be needing adult volunteers to help supervise on a rotating basis. So if you have ever wanted to help in RE but don't want to teach, this would be a great way to support the program and have a reason to play at church!

Again, there will be many more details coming soon, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to me: education@uus.org or 337-3343.

Yours in Faith,
Jessica

Kiirtan, September 4th

The Kiirtan will meet at 6 pm on Monday, September 4th, in a new location: The Sycamore Rooms (on the basement level of Acupuncture of Iowa) at 2412 Towncrest Drive in Iowa City. Kiirtan is a combination of music and spiritual practice—it is the chanting or singing of a certain phrase that is charged with meaning. Kiirtan uplifts the spirit, calms the mind, and opens the heart. It is a wonderful prelude for meditation and a good practice in its own right. It can be combined with a variety of instruments (we'll start out with guitar) and also with dance. Done within a group of people, powerful healing energy is generated. If you would like more information about this event, contact Andy Douglas at andy.c.douglas@gmail.com.

Don't forget about us when making your fall schedule! Children and Youth RE Classes to return in October!*

9:20-10:45 – Child Care ages 0-3

9:30-10:45 – Youth Religious Education Program

9:30-10:45 – Children's Religious Education Classes (start in worship with families and are dismissed to attend social hour)

11:00-12:15 – Children's Religious Exploration Ages 0-12

Time/Start Date TBD – Jr High OWL on Sunday evenings

*This is a tentative schedule and may change based on the construction timeline and as new opportunities arise.

Covenant Groups

Covenant groups did not meet for discussion in August, but will come back together this month to recommit to our groups and begin another year of discussion, activities, and service. Our topic is "What Does It Mean to be a Community of Welcome?"

The Covenant Group program offers members the opportunity to express their views and deepen their understanding of a wide range of issues while fostering closer ties to other UUs. If you'd like to learn more about what we do, please contact Jan Locher (354-6260, locherj@mchsi.com).

Buddhist Sangha, September 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

The UU Buddhist Sangha is a community of people that gathers weekly to explore contemporary Buddhist practice and teachings in the context of Unitarian Universalist principles and for meditation. The Sangha is currently reading Pema Chodron's best-selling book, *When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times*, a collection of talks filled with radical and compassionate advice for what to do when things fall apart and our lives go against the grain of our usual habits and expectations.

We meet weekly on Monday evenings at 7 pm at Oaknoll. To find out more, please contact Brian Glidewell (brianandmark711@msn.com), Cindy Spading (mandcspading@southslope.net), or request to join through your Realm profile.

Fireside Choir, September 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

The Fireside Choir rehearses weekly on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 pm at the Sanctuary Church (where they will continue to meet until our new building is ready). The choir is open to all singers (high school and beyond). No auditions or experience required. The choir sings in unison, two, three, and four parts (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass). The Fireside Choir often contributes to the Sunday worship services. If you have considered joining us, don't think twice, just show up and we will go from there. If you have any questions, give Gloria Corbin a call at 338-5012 or email her at cgorbin@mchsi.com.

Singing Bowl Meditations, September 12th & 24th

Judi Clinton hosts a Singing Bowl Meditation on the second Tuesday (6 pm) and last Sunday (12:30 pm) of each month at her home (945 Applewood Court, #4, Coralville). The harmonics of the bowls are used to amplify intention and focus as participants create a healing, relaxing field for all present. Plan to arrive 5 minutes before the start time to get settled and comfortable, and bring your water bottle. If you would like to participate, contact Judi (judiclinton@gmail.com or 541-6957) to reserve your space.

CUUPs Stone Soup & Pebble Pie Community Celebration of Abundance, September 17th

Meet your Owl Moon CUUPs (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) Group at a community celebration on Sunday, September 17th, at approximately 11:30 am (following social hour after services) at the Kirkwood Community College Regional Center, located at 2301 Oakdale Blvd. in Coralville.

The story of stone soup is one of community coming together to celebrate abundance. Everyone adds a little bit to the soup to create a glorious feast. We will create a large pot of soup and a pie from the ingredients everyone brings for our feast. The soup and pie will be vegetarian. We will also sing, dance, and play to celebrate abundance and our community. Family and friends are welcome.

Bring 1 or 2 cups of diced vegetables for the soup and 1 cup of diced fruit for the pie. You can also bring cooked diced meat, cheese, croutons, or other garnishes to add to individual bowls of soup. We will provide vegetable stock for the soup, table settings, and beverages.

Also bring a jacket if you think you might get cold, and a portable chair in case we can be outside. Drums and rattles are also welcome.

Contact Dawn Marshall (materursasum@gmail.com or 430-1338) or Marsha Cheyney (marsha-cheyney@gmail.com or 321-2307) if you have questions.



Fireside Choir Spotlight: Kaye Winder, Soprano I

Think back when you were a youngster and how you entertained yourself. One could jump on a bike and ride all over the place with not a concern. Nearby were trees to climb, fields and woods to traipse through, and the little local grocery with special treats. There was a lot of music making in small town America because there was time.

Kaye Winder fondly recalls that her grandfather performed in a church quartet. She remembers how pleased she was to observe her mother sing onstage in a town production. And when Kaye had the opportunity to sing in a Webster, Iowa grade school program she was not only comfortable but enjoyed the experience. The family piano was of great interest to Kaye and frustrating as she had to wait until age seven to start taking lessons. The music bug had bitten. When it came time to start an instrument she played the piccolo first and later added the flute. In marching band she played the drums and bell lyre (of course, she could read music). The band shell in Rockwell City provided summer employment. During Kaye's junior and senior years in high school she had a summer job playing in the town band for the weekly concert series. Kaye's mother encouraged her to begin taking voice lessons while still in junior high school.

Her interest in choral music found Kaye joining the Methodist Church choir in Rockwell City. This aspect of her musical interest proved to be an important choice as she began singing solos and duets for the church and was invited to perform for other groups.

Each Saturday Kaye's father drove her to Sioux City to study organ with Dr. Robert Jewett at Morningside College and while still a student in Primghar High School, the Methodists asked

her to play the organ for their services. Then, when the organist at the Congregational Church retired she was asked to play for them as well. Kaye reports that the two church jobs including various weddings and funerals provided a boost to her college education savings account.

Kaye chose The State University of Iowa (UI after 1964) to work on her art degree. She sang with the Methodist church choir and remembers sitting through two Sunday services and actually hearing the second sermon. It was during this time period she recognized she no longer was comfortable belonging to the Methodist Church and was drawn to the Unitarian Society of Iowa City (not UU, yet). Rev. Khoren Aresian was the minister at that time and Kaye was immediately "at home" even though there was no choir.

After graduating Kaye taught K-12 art one year in the Mt. Vernon School District. The next two years found her living in Rhineland-Pfalz, Germany where she taught GED courses to enlisted soldiers and joined the local area (German) chorus. While there she took advantage of proximity of other European countries and traveled to Holland, Denmark, France, Austria, Belgium, Luxemburg and Yugoslavia. The travel list also included Syria and Lebanon. Her daughter was born while in Germany and years later she returned to Scotland to visit that daughter who was performing in the Edinborough Festival Fringe. On that trip Kaye saw 53 performances in 8 days.

After returning from Germany Kaye taught art in public school for a decade in the Iowa City area and then began teaching at the college level at Mt. Mercy, Iowa State and then Illinois State. Garnering a teaching assistantship at the UI she worked on an MA and MFA and polished off that effort with a PhD in Art/Art Ed and a secondary area in Anthropology. In 2011 Kaye retired from 25 years of teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Subjects taught included art studio areas, art education and art history, especially Ethnic art in the US and Native American Art. Just when you may think this article has strayed from music, not so, as after just a year at Platteville she was able to arrange scheduling so that she could make it back to Iowa City for Thursday night UU choir rehearsal. Kaye calls that, "A pleasurable part of her week." As the readers of this newsletter know, Kaye still sings in the Fireside Choir and still finds it a very pleasurable part of her week.

Interest & Activity Groups

UU Free Lunch Program, September 8th

"Thanks for a great lunch." "Have sloppy joes more often." "You all made a great meal." These were all things that Free Lunch patrons had to say to the UUS Free Lunch team on August 11th. We served 133 meals, which included sloppy joes, mixed cooked vegetables, a variety of special salads, fruit salad, desserts, and ice cream. We feel we can speak for our team in saying that it is very gratifying to prepare and serve lunch to an appreciative and hungry crowd. There are many ways to be involved with Free Lunch, so let us know if you want to be a part of the team by donating money, donating groceries, preparing or serving food, or helping to clean up. Our next Free Lunch will be on Friday, September 8th. Email Sue Eberly if you want to receive the Free Lunch emails (susan17eberly@gmail.com) or Diana Miller if you want more information about contributing or volunteering (dkmilleriowa@gmail.com). Thanks very much to all our UUS Free Lunch team members.

Vegetarian Community Lunch, September 10th

The Vegetarian Community enjoys a 12 pm lunch on the second Sunday of each month at the Trumpet Blossom Café (310 E. Prentiss Street, Iowa City). Please make your reservation with Carol Throckmorton at carolthrockmorton108@msn.com or 337-3030. **Please note the time change as we move back to a morning service schedule.**

UU Book Discussion Group, September 11th

The first meeting of the UU Book Discussion Group for this year will be Monday, September 11th, at 7:30 pm. We meet at Oaknoll (735 George Street, Iowa City) on the 4th floor in Meeting Room A. Our discussion book for the month is *The Butterfly Mosque* by G. Willow Wilson. For our October group we will be discussing *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead.

Even if you have not read the book for September you should come join us, as we will be selecting the books we will discuss for the months of November through May. A list of ideas compiled by group members will be provided to help us in our selections. Everyone is welcome to attend each month or just when a book interests you.

If you have questions, want to submit book ideas, or want more information about our group, contact Mary Lou Welter at 354-1231 or welteremig@hotmail.com.

UU Grief Group, September 20th

Loss affects people in different ways. We're fortunate at UUS to have such a loving, caring community. If somebody you loved has died, you are invited to join other UUs and friends in a supportive Grief Group (UUGG). The UUGG meets the third Wednesday of every month from 12:30 to 1:30 pm at the Oakdale House. Contact Gail Garwood at ggarwood42@gmail.com if you need more information. Registration is not required.

UU Scrabble Group, September 21st

The UU Scrabble Group will meet Thursday, September 21st, at 1:30 pm at Kim & Lula Palmer's (803 McCollister Ct.). Everyone is welcome to join in regardless of skill level! Beginners are welcome! Contact Gary Lawrenson at 936-1291 or glawrenson@mchsi.com for more information.

Vegetarian Community Potluck, September 23rd

The Vegetarian Community will meet for a potluck at 5 pm at Natural Grocers Market (1404 S Gilbert Street, Iowa City). Please bring a whole-foods, plant-based dish to share. Contact Carol (337-3030, carolthrockmorton108@msn.com) to RSVP and get directions.

Girls' Night Out, September 26th

All UUS women are invited for conversation, lots of laughs, and refreshments from 5 to 7 pm for Girls' Night Out on Tuesday, September 26th, at Red Vespa (208 E Main Street, Solon). Contact Anna Rode (acbphoto@hotmail.com or (520) 979-8404) if you plan to attend.

Secular Humanists, September 19th

The UU Secular Humanists will begin our 14th season of monthly programs, along with our SecSI cohorts (Secular Students at Iowa), at 7:30 pm at Old Brick's Common Room on Tuesday, September 19th. Brad McDowell and Paul Pomrehn will lead an open discussion on the topics: "Who We Are as Secular Humanists," "What is Our Positive Message," and "A Consideration of Religious and Nonreligious Terms and Labels."

We especially invite UUS members, new and long-termers, who have questions about a "secular" group in a "religious" community. All are welcome! For more information contact Mark Yuskis (resdoggie@aol.com).

Social Justice News and Events

Racial Justice study/ACTION Circle

The Racial Justice study/ACTION Circle (RJC) is UUS's next step to visibly and responsibly answer the call from communities of color to stand and act in solidarity for racial justice. The RJC has decided that we will be taking a break from meeting in September but will be continuing to work and communicate by email and our group Facebook page (to join, search in Facebook for "UUSIC Racial Justice study/ACTION"). Please join us as we collaboratively build our vision to effectively engage in racial justice efforts in our community. If you have any questions, please contact Alison Oliver (alison-oliver@uiowa.edu) or Rev. Steven (minister@uusic.org).

Social Justice Coordinating Committee (SJCC)

SJCC coordinates our congregation's community service and social action activities in Iowa City and beyond. Our meetings are informal and fun, and we welcome new faces and ideas. SJCC's September meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5th, at the Oakdale House. Please join us!

Winter Clothing Drive

Sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC), this annual event will take place on Saturday morning, October 14th, at the Community of Christ located at 2121 South Ridge Drive in Coralville, same location as last year.

Volunteers are needed for sorting and sizing on Thursday and Friday of that week, as well as on the distribution day itself. Sign-up hours for helpers will be available by mid-September.

More information will follow, but for now, please start collecting new or gently used winter clothing for ALL AGES (Jeans, snowpants and boots are especially welcome).

Highlights from the August Board Meeting

Minutes from all regular Board meetings are reviewed by the Board members and made available to members and friends on the website and in the UUS Board of Trustees notebook. Minutes may also be requested via mail or email from the UUS administrator.

Present: Jim Laughlin (President), Kelly O’Berry (Past-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer elect), Peg Voelker (Secretary), Steve Locher (Trustee), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Rev. Steven Protzman (Ex officio), Peggy Garrigues (DCL), and Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman (DLRE)

Absent: Jane DeWitt (Vice-President), Adam Ingersoll (Treasurer), Sara Feldmann (Trustee), and Kris Barrash (Trustee)

Guests: Winnie Ganshaw, representing the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM)

President Laughlin called the Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Protzman provided opening words, followed by the lighting of the Chalice.

Consent Agenda: Consent agenda items and other documents are uploaded to Dropbox for review by Board members prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved by the Board.

Consent Agenda items: Board Agenda; July Board Highlights & Minutes; August Executive Committee Minutes; Treasurer Financial Statements & Report; DLRE Report; DCL Report; Office Administrator Report; and the TTF2 Update (Voelker/Barrash). Other items included: Proposed Guidelines for UUS Affiliated Groups (Garrigues).

Affiliated Group Policy & Procedures: Garrigues provided an overview of the draft policy. She clarified that “affiliated group” refers to UUS groups like the Scrabble Group or Book Discussion Group—groups that are an integral part of our congregation and do NOT exist completely on their own, or as a separate nonprofit. It was noted that the document is exceptionally well done. There was agreement though that further clarification is needed around how groups report about how they are doing and how they interact with CCLAM and the program councils. It was suggested that Garrigues solicit feedback from CCLAM. Garrigues will revise the document, addressing these concerns, and bring it back to the Board.

Defining Goals: The development of goals was briefly discussed at the Board retreat. Laughlin asked Board members to come to tonight’s meeting with goal suggestions for the coming year. Discussion of this agenda item began with opinions being expressed as to whether the goals developed should be Congregational or Board Goals and which strategy the Board has taken in the past. Voelker asked that attention be redirected to allow Board members to suggest action items or goals. She suggested that through the discussion of those, common themes will likely emerge that point to broader goals—pertinent to both the Board and Congregation.

Locher, Honey-Arcement, and Voelker each shared specific goals they felt should be addressed during the coming year. Progress was made toward identifying central themes. Board members will continue to collaborate on developing potential goals by sharing ideas online via Dropbox. Those will then be discussed at an upcoming Board meeting to define a final set of achievable goals.

Revisit New Sunday Schedule: In response to member feedback, staff and the Board revisited the proposed Sunday morning schedule that will be implemented when UUS occupies its new home. It was agreed to extend social time to 30 minutes as shown below. The tentative schedule for Children and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) programming is also outlined below. While temporarily at the Kirkwood Learning Center, the new time for Sunday Worship service of 9:30 am will begin. Children and youth are invited to join their families for all ages worship there. Childcare will be available from 9:20 through 10:45 am for ages 0 to Pre-K.

Sunday Adult Schedule to Implement in New Facility

9:30 - 10:30 Worship Service
10:30 - 11:00 Social Time
11:00 - 12:00 Adult Religious Education (ARE)

Children and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Schedule

9:20 - 10:45 Childcare Ages 0-Pre-K
9:30 - 10:45 Youth Religious Education
9:30 - 10:45 Children’s Religious Education Classes
(start in worship with families and dismissed in time to attend Social Time)
11:00 - 12:15 Children’s Religious Exploration Ages 0-12
Jr. High OWL on Sunday evenings (Time/Start Date TBD)

Role of Process Observer & Timekeeper: The UUS Board has utilized a Process Observer (PO) during its meetings for a number of years. The Executive Committee decided it would be good for the Board to review this role. In particular, Laughlin asked that it be decided whether the PO also serve as timekeeper, or to assign that role to someone else. Rode and O’Berry shared relevant resources via Dropbox. Rode also developed a one-page draft overview of the UUS PO role. There was agreement that the PO should watch and note the group dynamics during the meeting. Time is allotted at the end for the PO to summarize observations so the Board can reflect on, and if needed, improve its process. There was consensus that the PO also serve as timekeeper. New members should rotate into the role only after they have attended several meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm. The next Board meeting is Thursday, September 14th, at 6:30 pm at Oakdale House.

Board Retreat

A Board retreat was held from 4 to 8 pm on July 26th at the Eastside Recycling Center. In an effort to deepen relationships, all members spoke about who they are, where they came from, and why they are on the UUS Board. After sharing a potluck meal, members engaged in a team-building exercise called the Zin Obelisk. Board members then shared and discussed what they saw as the purpose of the UUS governing Board and their role on it. The Board covenant was reviewed, and Protzman led Board members in an affirmation of their covenant with one another.

—Submitted by Peg Voelker, Secretary

The UU News

The Unitarian Universalist Society
2355 Oakdale Road
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jwl@lcom.net

Vice President: JaneDeWitt.....337-8549
jane.dewitt@drake.edu

Past President: Kelly O'Berry.....541-0326
kelly-oberry@uiowa.edu

Secretary: Peg Voelker.....330-2393
peg.voelker@gmail.com

Treasurer: Chris Rode.....520-241-1431
ccrode@gmail.com

Trustee: Kris Barrash.....541-9363
kris.barrash@mchsi.com

Trustee: Steve Locher.....331-1863
lochers@mchsi.com

Trustee: Sara Feldmann.....331-7756
sara.feldmann@gmail.com

Trustee: Michael Honey-Arcement.....563-289-7153
mike@gwn-ws.com

UUS Staff

Website: www.uusic.org
Office Phone: 319-337-3443

Minister — Rev. Steven Protzman
Email: minister@uusic.org

Administrator — Emma Barnum
Email: admin@uusic.org

Interim Director of Lifespan Religious Education —
Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman
Email: education@uusic.org

Director of Congregational Life — Peggy Garrigues
Email: dcl@uusic.org

Music Director — Gloria L. Corbin
Email: music@uusic.org

Accompanist — Peng Zhang
Email: accompanist@uusic.org

Publicity Coordinator — Bailey Kelley
Email: publicity@uusic.org

Administrative Assistant — Nik Jakob
Email: admin.assistant@uusic.org

Childcare Coordinator — Anna Rode
Email: nursery@uusic.org

Mission: We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world.

Vision: Our vision is to be a loving, inclusive, and growing spiritual community. We celebrate life and a liberal tradition that leads social justice work, heals the earth, and nurtures the lifelong journey of mind and spirit.

UUSIC Calendar for September 2017

(KW) Kirkwood Regional Center, 2301 Oakdale Blvd, CV (SC)

Sanctuary Church, 2205 E Grantview Dr #200, CV

(OH) Oakdale House or Grounds, 2355 Oakdale Rd, CV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 12:30 PM Singing Bowl Meditation (Judi Clinton's home) 1:30 PM Service (SC) 2:45 PM Social Hour (SC)	28 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll)	29 6 PM Secular Humanists Kick-off Party (the Eberlys' home)	30	31 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (SC)	1	2
3 11 AM Labor Day Picnic (Shelter #6, City Park)	4 6 PM Kiirtan (The Sycamore Rooms) 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll)	5 7 PM Social Justice Coordinating Committee (OH)	6	7 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (SC)	8 11 AM Free Lunch Program (1105 Gilbert Ct.)	9
10 9:30 AM Service (KW) 10:30 AM Social Hour (KW) 12 PM Vegetarian Community Brunch (Trumpet Blossom Cafe)	11 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) 7:30 PM UU Book Discussion Group (Oaknoll)	12 6 PM Singing Bowl Meditation (Judi Clinton's home)	13	14 6:30 PM Board Meeting (OH) 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (SC)	15	16
17 9:30 AM Service (KW) 10:30 AM Social Hour (KW) 11:30 AM CUUPs Stone Soup Celebration (KW)	18 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll)	19 7:30 PM Secular Humanists (Old Brick)	20 12 PM October Newsletter Submission Deadline 12:30 PM UU Grief Group (OH)	21 1:30 PM UU Scrabble Group (The Palmers' home) 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (SC)	22	23 9 AM Bio-Retention Cell Planting (OH) 5 PM Vegetarian Community Potluck (Natural Grocers Market)
24 9:30 AM Service (KW) 10:30 AM Social Hour (KW) 12:30 PM Singing Bowl Meditation (Judi Clinton's home)	25 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll)	26 5 PM Girls' Night Out! (Red Vespa)	27	28 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (SC)	29	30

Look for updated event details through the month at uusic.org.



Dear Members and Friends,

For more than 30 years, Unitarian Universalist Society members and friends have come together to participate in and enjoy the Annual UUS Treats and Talents Auction. For those new to UUS, the Treats and Talents Auction is a fundraising event, with proceeds going to the UUS operating budget, and a fun event for member and friends of all ages. This year our theme is Stories of Our Past, Dreams of Our Future.

The key to a successful auction is participation of all, both in donating items that can be auctioned, and in bidding on and purchasing items that have been donated. Last year's event raised over \$18,000 and 30% of that amount was designated for UUS social justice endeavors. Auctioned items included Hawkeye football tickets, a theme for the minister's sermon, homemade jams, professional nature photographs, as well as a number of event held at members' homes, such as a Margarita Mamas event.

Co-chairs for the 2017 event are Judy Tokuhisa, Brigette Ingersoll and Brenda Linley. Together with returning and new auction committee members, we have planned a fun-filled event with activities for adults and children. ****Please note that we have decided to move the event to our "rain date".**

SAVE THE DATE
2017 UUS 34th ANNUAL TREATS AND TALENTS AUCTION

All events will be held in the new facilities in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, October 21

10 am-4 pm: Silent Auction Opens
1 pm-4 pm: Family Fun, including Cake Walk
6 pm-end: Dinner and Live Auction. Meal catered by Maribitos, vegan and gluten-free options. Tickets will be \$20.

Sunday, October 22

9 am-12:30 pm: Silent Auction Concludes

DONATIONS

To make a donation to our event, please use the form on the reverse side, pick up a form at our table during Sunday services or go to www.uusic.org to make your submission online.



DONATION FORM

SILENT AUCTION Saturday, October 21, 10 am-4 pm & Sunday, October 22, 9 am-12:30 pm	LIVE AUCTION / DINNER Saturday, October 21 6:00 pm	FAMILY FUN & CAKE WALK Saturday, October 21 1:00-4:00 pm
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DONATION: _____

DESCRIPTION: _____

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS / ITEMS: _____ Estimated Value: _____

FOR AN EVENT: DATE: _____ TIME: _____ LOCATION: _____

IS THE LOCATION ACCESSIBLE? Y N

DONOR(S): _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PHOTO: PLEASE PROVIDE A PHOTO OF ITEMS (not necessary for events, dinners, activities or services/lessons). NEED HELP? Contact Judy Tokuhisa: judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com 319-351-5470

RETURN FORM / PHOTO by Sept. 17 to the Auction table during our Sunday Services **OR** Submit electronically via the UUS website **OR** mail to: Brigette Ingersoll, 925 Meadowlark Drive, Iowa City 52246 **OR** email to Brigette at bdingersoll@gmail.com. Can send a cell phone photo to Brigette at: 310-308-2171

WONDERING WHAT TO DONATE?

Painting, afternoon tea, cookies, game night, knitted cap, dinner, gift certificate, small furniture, computer lessons. Questions about donations? Judy Tokuhisa: judy.tokuhisa@gmail.com 319-351-5470

FIND the ON-LINE AUCTION CATALOG: www.uusic.org