



THE UUS NEWS

A DIVERSE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY THAT TOUCHES HEARTS, CHANGES LIVES, AND TRANSFORMS THE WORLD.

May 2018

Upcoming Sunday Services

Services begin at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary, followed by a social hour in the Fellowship Hall

What Does it Mean to Be a Community of Creativity?

May 6th: "The Spark of Creativity," Rev. Steven Protzman

Addie Johnson says: "Change can be a source of anxiety in our lives, but if we can embrace change as constant growth through creation of new things, we can be comforted and inspired by the unexpected." As we reflect on the changes ahead for UUS, we'll ask how Unitarian Universalism invites us to embrace change and let the spark of creativity help us grow and create new things.

The Endowment Committee will hold a brief ceremony during the service for the Chalice Society. There will be cake/punch after the service to celebrate.

May 13th: "A Bouquet for the Eyes and Heart,"

Rev. Steven Protzman and Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman

Rev. Lynn Ungar writes of flowers: "Hold these things together in your sight: purple, crimson, magenta, blue." Today we gather to share a bouquet of flowers and celebrate Flower Communion, a Unitarian Universalist ritual created by Rev. Norbert Capek in Czechoslovakia in 1923. Together as a community of all ages we will offer one another beauty and hope as we renew our commitment to cherish each other and all of life. Please bring cut flowers to share.

May 20th: "Fulfilling the Vision Divine," Rev. Steven Protzman

Our sixth principle holds before us the invitation to create a world where there is peace, liberty, and justice for everyone. As we gather once again to do the work of this covenanted community, both through worship and our annual meeting, we will reflect on how UUS has been living out our mission to touch hearts, change lives, and transform the world and remind ourselves of the ancient and eternal vision for the Beloved Community.

A Congregational Meeting will follow the service at 11 am in the Sanctuary.

May 27th: Memorial Day Picnic

Today we will have our annual Memorial Day potluck picnic instead of a regular Sunday service. For the first time, it will be on our new property! There is no Hospitality Team—everyone attending is the Hospitality Team. Together we will begin the hospitality (setup, cleanup, greeting, and service) at 10:30 am and finish when the picnic is over. We now have a few outdoor tables and chairs, but bring your own camp chairs or picnic blanket if you want to be sure to have a place to sit comfortably outdoors. (In case of rain we will eat indoors.) Please bring your own table service and beverages, along with a favorite dish to feed 10-12 people. Please keep in mind that some people eat vegetarian, vegan, or gluten-free diets, and consider bringing something that can be eaten by those with dietary restrictions. If possible, please label ingredients on a small card so people are clear on what dishes they can eat.

May Social Justice Offerings

Benefit The Crisis Center

"Every individual in our community has support in a time of need." This is accomplished by a staff of caring professionals and volunteers who provide immediate support through our Crisis Intervention, Food Bank, Emergency Assistance, and Community Intervention Programs.

Cash or checks to UUS (*Crisis Center* on the memo line) can be given on Sundays, online through Realm, or mailed to the office. You can also text "GivetoUUSIC Offering \$--" to 73256.

Sunday Attendance for April 1st through 22nd

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| April 1st: | 181 total: 171 Service, 10 RE (Intergenerational Service) |
| April 8th: | 221 total: 168 Service, 53 RE |
| April 15th: | 189 total: 145 Service, 44 RE |
| April 22nd: | 224 total: ~170 Service, 54 RE |

UUS Members & Friends with May Birthdays

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Lily Bohlen | Elaine Mahler |
| Aidan Burdinie | Lauren Manning |
| Ian Cawley | Terri O'Berry |
| Laura Christophel | Keegan O'Berry |
| Sam Cochran | Tom Oetting |
| Henry Gilbertson-White | Marguerite Oetting |
| Brian Glidewell | Sally Peck |
| Trudy Gullette | Alex Penno |
| Sally Hartman | Bonnie Penno |
| Carolyn Howe | Dale Prediger |
| Jan Hubel | Charity Rowley |
| Teddy Ingersoll | Dick Siefers |
| Nik Jakob | Mary Kathryn Wallace |
| Cassie Kaminsky | Doug Wallace |
| Doris Levsen | Mary Lou Welter |
| Brenda Linley | Haven Witherspoon |

From Your Minister



*It comes to me when I am most
creative,
When I am thinking things and
doing things
That reach beyond myself
—not knowing,
only hoping, dreaming—
wanting revelations to connect,
support and nourish.*

*And when the energy surges up
and lifts me
Toward the light
Into space
Where sparks ignite
And inspiration crackles
From the brain into the heart and
back,
Then everything around me sings.*

—From *Divinity* by Dorothy Boroush

Our worship and covenant groups theme from Soul Matters for May is creativity. Creativity is defined as “the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality, turning something invisible into something visible.” When you’re creative, you have the ability to see the world in new ways, to discover hidden patterns, to make connections between things that seem unrelated, and from these connections, making something. When we’re asked about creativity, according to an article in Huffpost, we often don’t think of ourselves as creative. Instead we think of famous people, usually artists or musicians, but, as the article says, “the real truth is that every one of us is a born creator. That’s the hallmark of being human: the ability to create, to turn something invisible into something visible, to forge a poem out of a feeling or a song out of a sorrow.” We create all the time with our very lives—in our jobs and relationships, in our parenting or family life, the choices we make for using our gifts, skills and resources, in the ways we seek to make the world a better place.

In our covenant group materials each month, there are always a series of questions and activities offered as ways to engage with the month’s topic. I was particularly inspired by this exercise that invites us to reframe our life by seeing every day as an invitation to create. The exercise says: “Too often our days dictate and create us rather than us creating them. For this exercise, treat each day like a blank canvas. First thing in the morning, set aside some time to ask yourself, ‘What is it that I want to create today?’ It doesn’t have to be a work of art in the traditional sense of a painting, poem, sculpture, or song. Maybe it’s a moment of joy for yourself or an experience of kindness for another. It might be helping someone else discover their creativity or inviting them to join you, because One day it might be ‘create an adventure;’ another day it might be more tangible, something like an actual painting. It might even be something you were going to do anyway but now you’ve transformed your relationship to it by seeing it as an act of your creativity.”

One part of our lives that invites us to be creative is Unitarian

Universalism, which has always been a creative faith. In response to the dominant Calvinist theology that only the elect would go to heaven, Universalism declared that everyone would be saved, that God’s love for humankind was infinite. Unitarians imagined God as one, not three, and then imagined all of life as one, interconnected, as our Seventh Principle (and quantum physics) teaches, in one great web. Our Fourth Unitarian Universalist Principle, a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, is both a challenge and an opportunity for us as individuals and as a community to draw on the world’s spiritual wisdom to create new ways of answering life’s deepest questions. Grounded in a theology of all-embracing Love and the unity of all of life, today Unitarian Universalism continues to be creative as we imagine a world where there is peace, liberty and justice, and we seek new ways to be in community together as we work to bring an end to systemic evils such as poverty, racism, war, economic inequality, and the destruction of the earth.

As we reflect on creativity, perhaps the question to ask is not “Am I creative?” but rather, “What inspires me to create?” In the poem “Divinity,” Dorothy Boroush sees creativity as a spiritual experience that begins when we think, dream, and hope beyond ourselves. Our spiritual is about reaching out to something greater than ourselves seeking the connections, support, and nourishment that sustain and challenge us and then responding to that connection. The Soul Matters packet for this month talks about creativity beyond expressing ourselves; it says that: “Often the creative impulse involves expressing yourself, but it’s also about using yourself for the sake of others. Another way to put this is to say: we create in order to heal and help. Creativity is not just about bringing something new and original into the world; it’s also about bringing beauty, kindness, joy and affirmation to others.”

There are many different ways to live out Unitarian Universalism creatively. The Winter 2015 *UU World* is filled with articles about people who live out our values in a variety of creative ways, including giving away Christmas trees, protesting by spending time suspended from a bridge, being active in the Black Lives Matter movement, making a film in an environmentally sustaining way, and returning to New Orleans year after year as volunteers to assist in the city’s rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina. Link to the article: <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/surprising-people>. In this congregation, we have so many ways to be creative, whether it’s by serving a delicious meal for the Free Lunch Program, being part of a hospitality team that offers a wonderful spread after the service, caring for our property and adding beauty by planting flowers and growing food, leading art and music in our religious education classes, or being part of our social justice and racial justice work, to name a few of the many opportunities.

As we explore creativity this month, I invite you to reflect on these questions: What inspires us to create? How do we use our gifts, including our creativity, to help and heal ourselves, others, and the world? As a community, what are we called to create together, and how are we willing to join in the work of creating?

Grateful to be here with you as we seek to be a people of creativity together,

Rev. Steven

Congregational News and Events

Worship Associates Seek Summer Speakers

“The truth is rarely pure and never simple.” —Oscar Wilde

Summer service planning has begun at UUS. The theme this year is *The Quest for Truth*. We'd like to hear your stories and reflections on this topic. The Worship Associates invite you to submit a proposal for a service rooted in this theme. Unitarian Universalism's fourth principle is the “free and responsible search for truth and meaning.” It is a vast subject, but questions for exploration include:

- How do you know truth?
- Where do you find it?
- What is a free and responsible search?
- What impedes the quest for truth?
- How have your “truths” evolved?
- How has truth affected you?

Share your thoughts and sources of inspiration while helping to build our loving community of seekers. To propose a summer service topic, please request a form from a Worship Associate, from the office (admin@uusic.org), or find it online: www.uusic.org/worship-associates-seek-summer-speakers. Copies of the form will also be available on Sunday mornings. The Worship Associates are:

- Sam Cochran (samcia1232@gmail.com)
- Laurie Cummins (cummins4@gmail.com)
- Dan Gall (dpgall@gmail.com)
- Carolyn Johnson (cjiowa@gmail.com)
- Virginia Melroy (virginia-melroy@uiowa.edu)
- Alison Oliver (iasw.alisonoliver@gmail.com)
- Susan Salterberg (susansalterberg@gmail.com)
- Rev. Steven Protzman (rev.s.protzman@gmail.com)

Wholehearted Leadership Workshop, May 5th

Join workshop leader Kirk Witzberger on Saturday, May 5th, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm in the RE wing of UUS for a few short, fun, interactive hours that could make a difference in your leadership and your life. You'll be able to use what you learn anywhere as you discover how valuable and rejuvenating it is to:

- Bring your whole self to your work—heart, mind, body, and spirit—wherever and whenever you are.
- Work with others, being able to freely express all of who you are.
- Appreciate the wisdom of uncertainty and the value of humility.
- Use language that spurs action and is aligned with stages of change.

The workshop, which includes lunch, is free and open only to members and friends of UUS. The UUS Leadership Development Committee offers this workshop as a personal and professional growth opportunity (not a covert attempt to get you to lead a committee!). RSVP through Realm now (preferably by May 1st) to reserve your place, choose your lunch option, and request childcare: <https://bit.ly/2FV3nGj>.

Inquirer Sessions in May

Anyone who wants to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation, and our programs is welcome to attend an Inquirer Session. Inquirer Sessions take place after each Sunday service, at around 10:30 am in the Conference Room. Feel free to grab some refreshments first and bring them with you. The Inquirer series includes sessions on eight topics. Here is the May schedule:

- **May 6th:** Introduction to Volunteering Opportunities
- **May 13th:** Introduction to Social Justice Opportunities
- **May 20th:** (Tentative) Q&A with a Membership Associate (Congregational Meeting happens at 11 am)
- **May 27th:** No regular service, 10:30 am Picnic Potluck Brunch, with a tour of the building and grounds offered after the picnic

Chalice Society Celebration, May 6th

Each year, the Endowment Committee recognizes the people who have made deferred gifts to the Unitarian Universalist Society. These gifts can make a significant difference for UUS, and we are extremely grateful for the generosity of each donor.

This year, please join us in recognizing Amy Fretz and remembering Jean Reese for their gifts to UUS. We will present Amy with her Chalice Society pin and recognize Jean during the service on Sunday, May 6th. We will celebrate during the social hour with cake and punch.

If you are interested in learning more about the Chalice Society, please ask anyone on the Endowment Committee for details. We will also be publishing an article in an upcoming issue of this newsletter about deferred giving.

UUS Trails and Woodlands Work Day, May 9th

Join the UUS Trails and Woodlands Committee for an afternoon of grooming our trail system and pulling mustard garlic from our grounds. We'll be working from 4 to 6 pm on Wednesday, May 9th. Contact Mary McMurray at mary_mcmurray50@hotmail.com for more information.

Cook's Night Off! UUS Community Meal, May 9th

Kids, grown-ups—everybody come! We're hosting a series of springtime suppers for all members, friends, and families of UUS that will offer casual dining at its best with meat, vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options. Our next Community Meal will be at 6 pm on Wednesday, May 9th, in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be enjoying a meal of (mild) Cincinnati Chili over spaghetti or zucchini noodles. Don't miss this chance to get out of the kitchen and get to know each other a little better! There is no set charge, but donations are always welcome to help cover costs. RSVP after services or online, and let us know if you can help with setup and cleanup: <https://bit.ly/2oxPljn>.

UUS Board of Trustees Meeting, May 10th

The UUS Board of Trustees will hold their next meeting, open to all members, at 6:30 pm on Thursday, May 10th, in the Conference Room. Look for an agenda in the weekly email or on the website before the meeting.

Ordination of Lois Cole, May 12th

Come celebrate the fulfillment of UUS Community Minister Lois Cole's call to ministry, which began with this congregation where she served for many years as the Director of Lifespan Religious Education. Share with UUS members, friends, and guests from near and far in this inspiring service and religious rite, as we consecrate her as a clergy to Unitarian Universalist ministry. The ordination will take place at 2 pm in the Sanctuary. Rev. Kathy Schmitz, Minister of First Unitarian Church of Orlando will give the sermon, "Blessing the Journey." A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. Childcare is available upon request. Please email community.minister@uusic.org if you would like childcare. Children are welcome and are invited to participate in the service.

Congregational Meeting, May 20th

The next UUS Congregational Meeting will be held at 11 am on Sunday, May 20th, following the service. As part of the meeting we will vote on candidates for elected positions, including the Board of Trustees. Short biographies of those nominated by the Leadership Development Committee appear on an insert in this newsletter. UUS bylaws provide that candidates may also self-nominate, or be nominated from the floor with the consent of the nominee. The meeting agenda will also include a vote on proposed bylaw revisions, a report from the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry, and recognition of our delegates to General Assembly. A list of all voting members can be found on the back of the Nominee Bios insert and will also be posted at Sunday services. Please contact the office if you feel your name has been omitted in error.

UUS Work Day, June 9th

On Saturday, June 9th, UUS will come together for a Work Day on a variety of projects with a focus on cleaning and organizing our building and grounds. Currently we have the following projects planned:

- Organize Storage Room A: A team will work on re-organizing the storage room off the Fellowship Hall. This will involve moving everything out, taking the large carpet out to re-purpose or sell, cleaning chairs as needed, replacing missing chair leg caps, and putting things back in a more functional arrangement.
- Trail Maintenance and Improvement: A team will work on grooming our trail system, pulling mustard garlic, and helping with other improvements.
- Other Outdoor Clean-up: There are stones and small rocks in the front of the building that need to be picked up, along with various other projects to beautify our grounds.
- Manual Organization: Volunteers will help with scanning and printing pages from the various paper and electronic manuals we have on our equipment and mechanical systems, in order to assemble a binder for easy reference.
- Patio Furniture: A team will move the patio furniture out onto the back patio (if it has not already been done) and wash off the tables and chairs.

Look for more information on these and possibly other projects, as well as sign-up sheets, later this month in the weekly emails and on Sundays. Contact Peg Voelker (peg.voelker@gmail.com) with any questions.

Social Justice News and Events

Social Justice Coordinating Committee (SJCC), May 1st

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. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 1st, at 7 pm in the Conference Room. Contact socialjustice@uusic.org to get more information about the committee.

UU Free Lunch Program, May 11th

The objective and mission for the Greater Iowa City Free Lunch Program (located at 1105 Gilbert Court, IC) is to provide free hot meals six days a week for the needy in our community. UUS supports the Free Lunch Program by sending a group of volunteers to prepare, serve, and clean up after a lunch on the second Friday of each month.

On Friday, April 13th, the dedicated volunteers of the UUS team served 140 lunches to happy diners. Lunch was meatloaf, potato salad, deviled eggs, mixed vegetables, fruit salad, and desserts (mostly chocolate cake and brownies this month). Our team had lots of volunteers and everyone got to take a break at some point to chat with other team members, which pointed to a great benefit of volunteering for Free Lunch: social interaction with a small group of UUS members who are engaged in service.

UUS has a great Free Lunch team. If you want to join the team as a cook, a server, a grocery-buyer, or a dish-washer, email Diana Miller at dkmilleriowa@gmail.com. Our next service day is Friday, May 11th.

Plant Sale to Benefit Chico Mendes, May 20th

Dividing plants in your yard? Bring your extras to the plant sale at UUS to support the Chico Mendes Reforestation Project in Guatemala. Drop off your hostas, irises, and other bedding plants on Saturday, May 19th, from 2 to 5 pm, near the new raised beds on the north side of the building, or bring them before services on Sunday, May 20th. Then come shop for the perfect addition to your garden before or after the Congregational Meeting!

Donate shoes for Guatemala

Guatemalan children and teenagers often do not have shoes, or they have shoes that don't keep them dry during the rains that come this time of year. Help the UUS Guatemala travelers bring them better shoes by donating children's shoes and adult women's shoes size 8 and smaller and men's shoes size 9 and smaller. Used shoes or new are welcome. On all Sundays in May, we will have a box labeled "Shoes for Guatemala." Please consider donating!

We will take the donated shoes to Guatemala on our service trip in June and distribute them to families in need. For more information contact Deb Schoelerman at dschoelerman@gmail.com or Sally Hartman at sallyhartman@hotmail.com.

Religious Education & Spirituality

Summer Accompanist: Mr. Arlen Ottmar

This summer our staff accompanist, Peng Zhang, will be traveling to China to visit his parents and compete in the Wiener Musikseminar in Wiener, Austria. We wish him safe travels, brilliant playing, and a safe return in August.

It is our very good fortune to welcome an experienced church musician and a UUS friend, Mr. Arlen Ottmar, as our summer accompanist in Peng's absence. Arlen has been our substitute accompanist in the past, tunes our Steinway, and is reconditioning the Rasmussen grand piano in the Fellowship Hall. Arlen, raised on a farm in North Dakota, earned his music education degree from Wartburg College and taught instrumental music in Atlantic, IA, Rapid City, SD, and West Branch, IA. He is the owner of Noteworthy Music Services, Inc. and works as a piano tuner/technician covering the eastern half of Iowa and into Illinois and Missouri. Arlen is a member of the Noteworthy Music Quartet, a jazz combo that plays for area events including ballroom dance clubs. He enjoys playing racquetball, pickleball and spending time with his family, including two grandchildren. Welcome aboard, Arlen!

UU Wellspring Course Info Session, May 6th

We are planning to offer a new program called UU Wellspring for those who want to go deeper in their spiritual life, develop a supportive community in a small group, and grow deeper in their understanding of UU values. UU Wellspring incorporates five elements designed to balance a knowledge of UU history/theology with personal spiritual practice and engagement with the world:

- A commitment to daily spiritual practice
- Participation in a small-group community
- Individual work with a spiritual director
- Readings and resources for knowledge and reflection
- Reflection and commitment to live out our values in the world

The program will begin with a Saturday retreat in September, then meet for two hours every two weeks, on a weeknight yet to be determined, from September through June. There will be articles to read and/or video clips to watch before each session.

Put Sunday, May 6th, at 11 am in the Sanctuary on your calendar for an opportunity to learn about this new program. Contact Peggy Garrigues (dcl@uusic.org) with questions.

Kiirtan, May 7th

The next Kiirtan will be held on Monday, May 7th, from 6 to 7 pm at the Sycamore Rooms in the basement of Acupuncture of Iowa (2412 Towncrest Dr). 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. For more info, contact Andy Douglas at kiirtan@uusic.org.

Covenant Groups

In April, covenant groups considered what it means to be a people of "Emergence." As a rule, we say "no" to opportunities and experiences more often than not. There are plenty of "good" reasons: I don't have enough time, I have to prioritize, it's too risky, I've got to be realistic, etc. But too many "nos" cut us off from life and inhibit the possibility of personal growth. The emergence of Spring invites us to leave our safe zones and say "yes" to more things, to see what kind of new life emerges as a result.

In May we'll be sharing ideas on what it means to be a people of "Creativity." Ideas about creativity are plentiful. There are many ways to describe what it is and how it works. One is that it's the imagination producing ideas and images that have not previously existed. We naturally associate such activity with the work of artists. But what about others? Does creativity have anything to do with daily living? In our groups, we will try to make connections between the abstract notion of creativity and action in the world. In what ways are we creative, both in our individual lives and as members of a community committed to spiritual investigation and social progress?

If subjects like this intrigue you, you might be ready to join one of our covenant groups. Covenant groups are small groups of 8 to 12 people who meet monthly for discussions aimed at fostering emotional, intellectual, and spiritual growth. As a "community within a community," covenant groups give members a special way of belonging to UUS. If you'd like to learn more, please contact Jan Locher (354-6260 or covgroups@uusic.org).

"So You Want Me to Lead a Worship Service" Class, May 8th

Ever wondered how to plan a UU worship service and write a sermon? If so, please join Rev. Steven Protzman and the Worship Associates on Tuesday, May 8th, at 7 pm in the Conference Room for a class that will offer some basic skills, resources, and guidelines for planning a worship service and writing a sermon/presentation. Everyone is welcome, and we especially encourage people who will be leading a worship service this summer at UUS to attend. Please RSVP to Rev. Steven at minister@uusic.org.

"Resilient Democracy for an Uncertain World," Discussion with Dr. Michael Hogue, May 12th

Join us on Saturday, May 12th, at 10 am in the Sanctuary for a discussion with Dr. Michael Hogue on his new book, *American Immanence: Democracy for an Uncertain World*. In his book, Hogue shows how the aim for simple solutions to complex problems often leads to catastrophic consequences. He argues that this aim reflects assumptions about the nature of power that have deep theological roots in the idolization of a supreme, divine power. In *American Immanence* Hogue integrates a theology "of, by, and for the planet" with radical democratic politics committed to "generating, guiding, and sustaining efforts to enhance social, economic, and environmental justice." A professor of Theology, Ethics, Religion, and Philosophy at Meadville Lombard Theological School, Dr. Hogue is here to attend Lois Cole's Ordination. All are welcome. Books will be available for purchase.

Interest & Activity Groups

Buddhist Sangha, Mondays in May

The Sangha gathers every Monday evening at 7 pm at Oaknoll for silent meditation and discussion of contemporary Buddhist teachings. We are currently discussing the book *Seeking the Heart of Wisdom: The Path of Insight Meditation*, by Goldstein and Kornfield. To find out more, contact Cindy Spading (buddhistsangha@uusic.org).

Green Sanctuary Committee, May 1st

The Green Sanctuary committee invites you to join us from 5:30 to 7 pm in the Conference Room the first Tuesday of each month as we collaborate on ways to live our 7th Principle in the life of our community, in our personal lives, and in our world.

CUUPs Beltane Ritual, May 5th

Celebrate the coming of Spring and the fertility of the Earth with the Owl Moon Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs)! This ritual will involve singing, dancing, and exploring our passions through meditation and flower divination. After the formal ritual, we are planning to have a maypole dance.

The ritual will be on Saturday, May 5th, and will be held outside, assuming normal spring weather (including light rain)—please dress for your comfort. In the case of heavy rain, we will move indoors to the Fellowship Hall. Gathering begins at 1:30 pm, and the ritual will start promptly at 2. All who wish to participate are welcome!

After the ritual, we will socialize and share our favorite snacks/appetizers (a mini-potluck)—please bring one of your favorites/specialties to share. If you have any questions, please contact Marsha (marshacheyney@gmail.com or 321-2307).

Vegetarian Community “Smooovie” Night, May 5th

The Vegetarian Community will meet for ‘Smooovie Night’ on Saturday, May 5th, at 7 pm. We’ll start in the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen for social time: participants are asked to bring ingredients for their favorite smoothie. Several blenders will be available for preparing them. We’ll sample one another’s creations and exchange recipes. We’ll then move to the Hickory and Oak Rooms to view “The End of Meat,” a documentary that reveals the hidden impact of meat consumption, explores the opportunities and benefits of a shift to a more compassionate diet, and raises critical questions about the future role of animals in our society. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plant-based movie snack to share. Contact Carol Throckmorton (337-3030 or vegcommunity@uusic.org) with questions.

Friends of Friends, May 6th

Friends of Friends is a support group where people with a disability and their friends and caregivers can swap stories and share coping skills. We meet on the first Sunday of the month at 11 am in the Hickory Room. To learn more, contact Michael or Rochelle Honey-Arcement at accessibility@uusic.org.

UUS Racial Justice Circle, May 6th

The Racial Justice study/ACTION Circle (RJC) meets on the first and third Sundays of most months during the liturgical year, from 11 am to 12:30 pm in the Oak Room of UUS. (In May we will NOT meet on May 20th, due to the congregational meeting taking place at the same time.) 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 group’s work includes critical reflection and discussion in conjunction with the development, implementation, and evaluation of actions that emerge out of our discussions. Please join us as we collaboratively build our vision to effectively engage in racial justice efforts in our community. Contact Dave Martin and Peg Bouska at racialjusticechair@uusic.org with questions.

Shelter House Luncheon, May 11th

Please join us for the popular annual fundraiser on Friday, May 11th, from 11:30 to 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a meal of delicious homemade salads and desserts, breads and beverages. This will be the 13th benefit luncheon UUS has offered to the Iowa City/Coralville community to support Shelter House. Many of you have helped for all those years, and to others it will be new. It is exciting to picture this annual event in our new building. Invite your friends to come! Tickets will be available in advance and at the door for a \$10 donation.

The UUS Social Justice Coordinating Committee (SJCC) encourages you to jump in and volunteer with homemade salads and desserts of your choice. We’re also looking for volunteers to work one-hour shifts for the set-up, serving, and clean-up for the event. Several UUs will be making calls to solicit help; you can also stop by the SJCC table on Sundays to volunteer, or call Gay Mikelson at 354-1160.

UUS Board Gaming Club, May 14th

Join us for an evening of gaming on Monday, May 14th, from 6 to 9 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This month the “library” will be mostly contemporary games (Settlers of Catan, Mysterium, Azul, etc.). Don’t worry if you’ve never heard of any of those; there is a wide variety of new games with different learning curves and accessibility levels—we can find and teach you something you’ll enjoy! A few classics will also be available, but bring your own if you want to play something specific! There will be no childcare for this event, but older children are welcome to join. Bring a snack or nonalcoholic drink to share if you’d like—we’ll buy a Costco pizza to share! Contact Emma Barnum (admin@uusic.org) with questions.

UU Book Discussion Group, May 14th

The UU Book Discussion Group will have its last meeting of the year on Monday, May 14th, at 7:30 pm at Oaknoll (735 George Street, Iowa City) on the 4th floor in Meeting Room A. *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough is our book for discussion. We will also start gathering ideas for the next year’s book list and will choose the books for discussion for September and October of 2018. For more information, contact Mary Lou Welter at 354-1231 or bookgroup@uusic.org.

CUUPs By the Dark of the Moon Ritual, May 15th

Under the dark moon the Owl Moon Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) will gather to plant the seeds for personal work we each wish to accomplish this month, then nurture their growth using the phases of the moon as a guide. After we harvest the fruits of our labor, we'll keep what worked, and compost what did not, as we prepare for the next moon cycle. We will meet on Tuesday, May 15th, in the Conference Room. If you would like to review ritual format and etiquette please arrive at 6:30 pm. Otherwise, please arrive by 6:45 to greet each other and get settled. We will begin the working promptly at 7 pm.

UU Grief Group, May 16th

The UU Grief Group (UUGG) meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in the Oak Room at UUS. The group is open to those mourning the loss of a family member or friend. We provide a safe and supportive environment where you can talk about your loss confidentially to other UUs who have also experienced loss. You may come away from the group feeling more reconciled about your loss or with helpful ideas about how others are handling their grief. The group is led by Gail Garwood. While you do not need to pre-register, it is always nice to hear from you if you think that you may want to join us. Gail can be reached at griefgroup@uusic.org.

UU Scrabble Group, May 17th

The UU Scrabble Group will meet Thursday, May 17th, at 1:30 pm in the Walnut Room. Everyone is welcome to join in regardless of skill level! Beginners are welcome! Contact Gary Lawrenson (936-1291, scrabble@uusic.org) for more information.

Vegetarian Community "Plantluck," May 19th

The Vegetarian Community will enjoy a "plantluck" on Saturday, May 19th, from 5 to 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Following dinner, Wendy Zimmerman, owner of Get Fresh at the NewBo Market in Cedar Rapids, will give a juicing demonstration. She will go through the entire juicing process, from choosing whole fruits and vegetables, preparing them for juicing, the actual juicing process, and consuming and storing the juice. Participants will have the opportunity to sample the juices she prepares. For the plantluck, please bring a favorite vegan dish for 8-10 servings and your own reusable/recyclable table service and beverage. Everyone is welcome. Contact Carol Throckmorton (337-3030 or vegcommunity@uusic.org) for questions.

Dances of Universal Peace, May 20th

Participants will gather in the RE Commons at 3 pm on Sunday, May 20th, for chanting and simple folk-dance movements honoring various religious traditions. These prayerful, heart-opening dances create a sense of inner peace and foster connections between people. No experience is needed. All are welcome to attend. Contact Virginia Melroy (338-1778 or dancesofpeace@uusic.org) if you have questions.

LGBTQ and Allies Potluck and Conversation, May 22nd

All are welcome to join LGBTQ folks and allies from UUS as we talk about possible LGBTQ related programming at UUS and enjoy a potluck on Tuesday, May 22nd, from 6 to 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We have been a Welcoming Congregation since 1997, we regularly march in the Iowa City Pride parade, and we have many members who identify as LGBTQ. But we don't currently have an active group to focus on programming or advocacy. We will have plenty of time for informal conversation and connection over dinner, then we will have discussion after dinner to see if there is interest in creating a group to work on programming or advocacy. Bring whatever food you would like to share for the potluck, but keep in mind that we do have folks who follow vegan, vegetarian, or gluten-free diets, so having a variety of options for them, as well as labeling what is in your food, is very helpful. You are also invited to bring your own place setting if possible, to save both on waste, and time needed for cleanup.

Girls' Night Out! May 23rd

All UUS women are invited for conversation, lots of laughs, and refreshments at 5:30 pm for Girls' Night Out on Wednesday, May 23rd, at Tin Roost in North Liberty (840 W Penn St). Contact Jamie Sharp (girlsnightout@uusic.org or 400-2551) if you plan to attend.

CUUPs Full Moon Ritual, May 29th

We are beautiful, wild, rational, divine beings. Our experiences are individual, yet when shared we meet each other and ourselves in the fullness of all that we are. Together the Owl Moon Covenant of UU Pagans (CUUPs) will hold safe space for each other to express our experiences as we are living them. Group agreements of confidentiality and nonjudgement will be reviewed at the beginning. Each person will have time to be truly and honestly heard while the group bears safe and confidential witness. Drumming, singing, and howling at the moon is encouraged following the sharing, so if interested bring a drum if you have one.

This gathering may be held outside, so please come dressed for the weather. Location will be determined on the day of the event based on attendees' mobility and weather conditions (If we meet inside it will be in the Conference Room). If you plan to attend and have mobility concerns, please contact Dawn Marshall (materursasum@gmail.com) prior to the event or arrive by 6:30 pm. If you would like to review ritual format and etiquette please arrive at 6:30. Otherwise, please arrive by 6:45 to greet each other and get settled. We will begin the working promptly at 7 pm.

The UUS News

The Unitarian Universalist Society
2355 Oakdale Road
Coralville, IA 52241
Website: www.uusic.org
Office Phone: 319-337-3443

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jwl@lcom.net

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jane.dewitt@drake.edu

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kelly-oberry@uiowa.edu

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peg.voelker@gmail.com

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ccrode@gmail.com

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

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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

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

Congregational Administrator — Emma Barnum
Email: admin@uusic.org

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

Facilities Coordinator — Lori Marshall
Email: facilities.coordinator@uusic.org

Community Minister — Lois Cole
Email: community.minister@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.*

UUS Calendar for May 2018

A- Atrium
C- Conference Room
CW- Church-Wide

FH- Fellowship Hall
H- Hickory Room (Sr. High)
J- Juniper Room (Pre-K)

K- Kitchen
M- Maple Room (3-4)
N- Nursery

O- Oak Room (Jr. High)
OW- Office Workroom
R- Redbud Room (1-2)

REC- RE Commons
S- Sanctuary
W- Walnut Room (5-6)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29 9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (FH) 10:30 AM Inquirer Session (C) 11 AM JC Interfaith Cluster Forum (S) 12:30 PM Singing Bowl Meditation (Judi Clinton's home) | 30 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) | 1 5:30 PM Green Sanctuary (C) 7 PM Social Justice Coordinating Committee (C) | 2 | 3 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (S) | 4 | 5 9:30 AM Wholehearted Leadership Workshop (RE Wing) 2 PM CUUPs Beltane Ritual (FH) 7 PM Vegetarian Community "Smoovie" Night (FH, H&O) |
| 6 9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour & Chalice Society Reception (FH) 10:30 AM Inquirer Session (C) 11 AM Racial Justice Circle (O) 11 AM Friends of Friends (H) 11 AM Wellspring Course Forum (S) | 7 6 PM Kiirtan (Sycamore Rooms) 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) | 8 7 PM "So You Want Me to Lead a Worship Service" Class (C) | 9 4 PM Trails & Woodlands Work Day (UUS Grounds) 6 PM UUS Community Meal (FH) | 10 6:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting (C) 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (S) | 11 11 AM Free Lunch Program (1105 Gilbert Ct., IC) 11:30 AM UUS Shelter House Luncheon (FH) | 12 10 AM "Resilient Democracy for an Uncertain World" Discussion (S) 2 PM Ordination Service and Reception for Lois Cole (S & FH) |
| 13 9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (FH) 10:30 AM Inquirer Session (C) | 14 6 PM UUS Board Gaming Club (FH) 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) 7:30 PM UU Book Discussion Group (Oaknoll) | 15 6:30 PM CUUPs By the Dark of the Moon Ritual (C) | 16 12:30 PM UU Grief Group (O) | 17 1:30 PM UU Scrabble Group (W) | 18 12 PM June Newsletter Submission Deadline | 19 2 PM Drop off donations for Chico Mendes Plant Sale (UUS Grounds) 5 PM Vegetarian Community "Plantluck" (FH) |
| 20 9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (FH) 10:30 AM Inquirer Session (C) 10:30 AM Chico Mendes Plant Sale (UUS Grounds) 11 AM Congregational Meeting (S) 3 PM Dances of Universal Peace (REC) | 21 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) | 22 6 PM LGBTQ and Allies Potluck and Conversation (FH) | 23 5:30 PM Girls' Night Out! (Tin Roost, North Liberty) | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 10:30 AM UUS Memorial Day Potluck Brunch (UUS Grounds) | 28 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Oaknoll) | 29 6:30 PM CUUPs Full Moon Ritual (UUS Grounds or C) | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |

Find more events by visiting our website calendar (www.uusic.org/upcoming-events) or by signing up for our weekly emails (www.uusic.org/news/weekly-email).

Nominees for Elected Positions at UUS

The Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is pleased to present the following talented candidates for the Board of Trustees and the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM), Endowment Committee, and LDC. We ask you to thank these members for their willingness to serve and contribute to our community, and to endorse them with a “yes” vote at our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 20th, at 11 am in the Sanctuary.

Al Thomas, Endowment

Al Thomas, along with his late wife, Betty, joined UUS in 1983. He has served as chairman of the Membership Committee and also the Building and Grounds Committee. He worked for several years on the Treats and Talents Auction Committee and also the Sunday Summer Services Committee. He graduated from the UI College of Pharmacy in 1955 and owned and operated the Village Pharmacy in Coralville for many years. He is the father of three grown children.

Jean Hood, Leadership Development

Jean’s family started coming to the UUS in 1965 when they moved to Iowa City, and she signed the membership book in 1970. She has had four children go through the RE program here, and she was a teacher during some of those years. She has served as Secretary of the Board of Trustees, as well as Finance trustee, and as Board Treasurer. She has co-chaired the Membership Directory three times, served on the Membership Committee, and currently serves as a member of the Pastoral Care Committee. She looks forward to planting the hosta gardens as a member of the Garden Committee. Perhaps one of her most rewarding volunteer experiences at UUS was serving for five years as chair of the Endowment Committee. She also had the opportunity to serve as president of the Worthley Club, a supper club for members. One of the challenges for her will be getting to know as many members as possible and encouraging them to take leadership responsibility within the Society.

Cindy Spading, Leadership Development

Cindy has lived in rural Solon for the last 25 years. Her family includes her husband, Mike; two grown sons, Jonathan and Matthew; a dog and a cat. She loves the out-of-doors and you can often find her going for long walks in the woods, hunting for edible food, enjoying her prairie, or bird-watching. She is a registered dietitian and currently works in long-term care. She joined UUS in 2013 after becoming involved in her two favorite groups: the Buddhist Sangha and the Vegetarian Community. She is now a co-leader of the Buddhist Sangha and leader of a hospitality group. She is also active on the Kitchen Committee, helps staff the Welcome Table on Sundays, and is in a covenant group.

Susan Krohmer, Congregational Life and Ministry

Susan is a 68-year-old woman with a head injury disability and an abiding interest in social justice issues, feminism, and LGBTQA rights. She is an outspoken feminist lesbian who believes that all people deserve the same opportunities and privileges without prejudice. In her younger years, she was the main organizer of the Iowa City Free Medical Clinic and was its first director. She served as Board Chair for the Domestic Violence Intervention Project when they raised enough money to buy a shelter house through a community block grant. She has volunteered at the Rape Victim Advocacy Program and the Crisis Center, both as phone interventionist and as food bank worker. She is presently a member of the Social Justice Coordinating Committee. She believes she can bring a perspective that is often lacking in volunteer positions as she is both disabled and low income. She has a background in social work and nursing. She has lived in Iowa City since 1969. She loves to read and attend cultural events, especially in dance. She has a son who attended RE at UUS and now lives in Iowa City.

Dave Tokuhisa, Congregational Life and Ministry

Dave Tokuhisa has been a member of UUS since moving to Iowa City about 11 years ago. He is married to Judy Tokuhisa. Dave has been both a Junior and Senior High RE teacher. He enjoys provoking thought and using group dynamics tools to build a sense of community and encourage diversity in ideas. In 2008 he became very involved in the great flood preparation and clean-up.

He is in a covenant group and helps with the Auction. Dave has studied biology and engineering/computer science. His experience in the Army and National Guard centered on communications and information. Both Judy and Dave enjoy walking/skiing in the woods, cooking, and photography.

Amy Fretz, Board Vice President

Amy joined UUS in 2016 after attending with her partner, Maureen Patterson, for many years. Her first service position was on a hospitality team, which she still enjoys. She also serves on the Community Garden, Woodlands, and Meditative Spaces Committees. In addition, she co-leads a covenant group.

In her professional career as a registered nurse in Indiana, Amy worked in intensive care. She also managed three outpatient medicine clinics and gave home treatment to many AIDS patients. She has lived in the Denver, Colorado, area, where she was on the board of a homeowners association for a 242-unit condominium complex for six years, serving as president for three. During her tenure, she guided a transition to a new management company; dealt with a storm disaster that tore up the roofs, siding, and grounds; and successfully fought several lawsuits. She will bring dedication, as well as an open heart and mind, to the UUS Board.

Colleen Higgins, Board Trustee

Colleen chose UU and never looked back after her mother started attending the Unitarian Church in Des Moines when Colleen was 10. She joined a commune in Virginia in 1978 and found a UU fellowship had already roosted there. Though the fellowship was inactive, UU principles were actively practiced in the 18 years she lived in the community.

She has attended UUS since returning to Iowa in 2006, happy to find another community that “fit.” Colleen helped welcome the last three Love Buses from St. Louis before gay marriage was legalized nation-wide. She joined in hosting our friends from Janosfalva in 2016, including spending a day showing them Chicago with Joe Brisben. She has also led knitting groups for previous Days of Service. She loves singing in the Fireside Choir and with the children in RE. Colleen has gained so much by being UU and looks forward to finding more ways to give back. Next step, perhaps, is serving on the Board.

Paul Pomrehn, Board Trustee

Paul has been a UUS member since 1982. He has been elected to serve as a Board Trustee twice in the past. He has also served as a member of the Leadership Development Committee. Currently he is a member of the Pastoral Care Committee and represents UUS on Lois Cole’s Committee on Ministry. He volunteers with hospitality, audio-visual teams, and on occasion picks up a rake or a shovel. He is probably best known as the person who gets Deb Schoelerman to the church on time.

Voting List for May 20th Congregational Meeting

According to UUS's bylaws, members are eligible to vote at the Congregational Meeting on May 20th, 2018, if they: 1) have signed the membership book, 2) are over 14 years of age, 3) have made an annual financial contribution of record to the annual operating budget or are Life Members of the Society, and 4) have been members at least 30 days prior to the meeting. If you think your name has been omitted from this list in error, please contact the office (admin@uusic.org or 337-3443)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Dean Abel | Rob Dietrich | Carolyn Howe | Nancy Lynch | Dorothy Paul | Alan Swanson |
| Carol Adamson | Sherry Dolash | Jan Hubel | Caryl Lyons | Amy Pearson | Liz Swanson |
| Tim Adamson | Lee Eberly | Kenn Hubel | Elaine Mahler | Gerry Pearson | Dan Tallman |
| Bobbe Akre | Susan Eberly | Kathy Huedepohl | Cari Malone | Natalie Pearson | Danielle Tallman |
| Bruce Alexander | Bill Eginton | Lois Hughes | Heather Marshall | Emily Peck | Christopher Taylor |
| Alice Atkinson | Kay Eginton | Merle Ihne | Lori Marshall | Kathy Penningroth | Vanessa Taylor |
| Ken Atkinson | Jonni Ellsworth | Lynne Ikach | Lynette Marshall | Bonnie Penno | Al Thomas |
| Julia Audlehelm | John Elson | Adam Ingersoll | David Martin | Mark Penno | Sharon Thomas |
| Larry Audlehelm | Irvin Emig | Brigette Ingersoll | Diane Martin | Ron Pile | Peter Thorne |
| Joe Barrash | Lori Enloe | Isaac Ingersoll | Matt Martin | Paul Pomrehn | Carol Throckmorton |
| Kris Barrash | Jim Ephgrave | Kate Ingersoll | Hilary Marvin | Dale Prediger | Dave Tokuhisa |
| Kara Beauchamp | Pat Ephgrave | Katrina Ingersoll | Robby Marvin | Steven Protzman | Judy Tokuhisa |
| Barbara Beaumont | Christine Etler | Nik Jakob | Karen Mason | Judith Quinn | Jim Trepka |
| Philip Beck | Sara Feldmann | David Jepsen | Marianne Mason | John Raley | Emily Uhl |
| Daniel Benton | Mike Fenneman | Mary Jepsen | Kathy Mathews | Bruce Randall | Theresa Ullerich |
| Aiden Bettine | Betsy Fischer | Carolyn Johnson | Mary McCann | Christina Randall | Carly van der Heide |
| Allison Bettine | Linda Fisher | Chris Johnson | Jake McCusker | Joe Rasmussen | Dana van der Heide |
| Alan Bohanan | Dawn Fitzpatrick | Debbie Johnson | Jess McCusker | Martha Rasmussen | Stephanie Van |
| Sharon Booker | Jeffery Ford | Donna Johnson | Kathy McDonald | Tabitha Rasmussen | Housen |
| Peg Bouska | Amy Fretz | Emily Johnson | Brad McDowell | Tony Razavi | Mary Vasey |
| Susan Boyd | Donna Friedman | Nicholas Johnson | Janet McKee | Jacqueline Reger | George Verhage |
| Joseph Brisben | Dan Gall | Susan Kaliszewski | Gail McLure | Linda Rice | Steve Vincent |
| Pete Brokaw | Meredith Gall | Haley Kamps | Mary McMurray | Tom Rocklin | Tova Vitiello |
| Wendy Brown | Winnie Ganshaw | Miriam Kashia | Tom McMurray | Anna Rode | Peg Voelker |
| Margaret Burchianti | Ava Su Gan-Wei | Sandy Keller | Virginia Melroy | Chris Rode | Terry Lynn Wahls |
| Kris Canfield | Gail Garwood | Bailey Kelley | Gay Mikelson | Shona Roeder | Jeff Walberg |
| Lynne Cannon | Joel Gilbertson- | Larry Kent | Diana Miller | Jaia Rosenfels | Doug Wallace |
| Theresa Carbrey | White | Kathleen Kingman | Paula Miller | Sarah Ross | Mary Kathryn |
| Jeanette Carter | Stephanie | Margaret Kinsman | Tony Miller | Rhonda Rowden | Wallace |
| Dixie Cassidy | Gilbertson-White | Garry Klein | Virginia Miller | Charity Rowley | Elaine Waples |
| Ian Cawley | Brian Glidewell | Margaret Koenig | Deb Moore | Susan Salterberg | Julia Wasson |
| Michael Cervantes | Carmen Griggs | Juanita Kosier | Carol Moreno | Ricardo Sauro | Connie Webb |
| Kirk Cheyney | Prahlad Gupta | Susan Krohmer | Ed Moreno | Kay Schneider | Mary Lou Welter |
| Craig Christophel | Kurt Hamann | John Lanaghan | Ruth Muir | Deb Schoelerman | Jerry Wetlaufer |
| Laura Christophel | Julie Hammer | Pat Larson | Shelby Myers | Hazel Seaba | Kristin Wildensee |
| Marsha Cheyney | Barbara Haring | Barbara Laughlin | Leigh Nida | Jamie Sharp | Faith Wilmot |
| Lucy Choisser | Claudine Harris | Jim Laughlin | Carol Nordquist | Nicole Sheldon | Glenn Wiltgen |
| Rachel Clark | Sally Hartman | Gary Lawrenson | Gerald Nordquist | Dick Siefers | Kaye Winder |
| Judi Clinton | Lisa Haverkamp | Dave Leavitt | Jim Norris | Vicki Siefers | Ruth Wirtz |
| Sam Cochran | Mike Haverkamp | Judy Leavitt | Nancy Noyer | Katherine Simmering | Scott Wittenkeller |
| Cathy Cole | Diana Henry | Kirk Leiffert | Liz Noyes | Jane Slaymaker | Kirk Witzberger |
| Chris Coretsopoulos | Colleen Higgins | Russ Lenth | Kelly O'Berry | Jean Snodgress- | Star Wojciak |
| Ernie Cox | Sarah Holmes | Lisa Lepic | Terri O'Berry | Wiedenheft | Edward Wolfe |
| Ron Crawford | Michael Honey- | Doris Levsen | Alison Oliver | Jerry Snodgress- | Ron Wright |
| Dan Cummins | Arcement | Carol Liguori | James Olson | Wiedenheft | Rich Young |
| Laurie Cummins | Rochelle Honey- | Brenda Linley | Sue Otto | Cindy Spading | Susan Kasal Young |
| Jo Cunningham | Arcement | Jodi Linley | Cecile Owings | Renee Speh | Mark Yuskis |
| David Curry | Al Hood | Marta Little | Ron Owings | Virginia Stamler | Lenda Zelinskas |
| Jane DeWitt | Jean Hood | Jan Locher | Kim Palmer | Jill Stephenson | |
| Monique DiCarlo | Keri Hornbuckle | Stephen Locher | Lula Palmer | Faye Strayer | |
| Peggy Dietrich | Peggy Houston | Mary Losch | Maureen Patterson | Hilary Strayer | |

295 Members

Welcome To Our Newest Members!

Congratulations to those who completed the New Member Covenant Ceremony on Sunday April 15th.



Bruce Alexander

Bruce grew up in Montezuma, Iowa. He did his undergraduate work at Drake University in Des Moines and received a graduate degree from the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. After serving on the UI faculty in both the College of Pharmacy and the College of Medicine, he is now retired. Bruce has volunteered with the Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity for many years and currently serves on their construction committee. At UUS, he's looking forward to meeting new people and to applying his Habitat experience with our new UUS Habitat for Humanity group. Bruce enjoys database programming, woodworking, and playing pickleball. His wife, Mary Losch, introduced him to UUS. He appreciates the congregation's diverse and liberal religious outlook.

Ian Cawley and Emily Johnson

Ian grew up in Cedar Falls and went to Luther College in Decorah. He moved to the Iowa City area in 2014 and works in sales for a scientific supply distribution company. Though religious and spiritual practices haven't played a major part in his life since childhood, Emily introduced him to the principles of Unitarian Universalism. He appreciates the opportunity to explore these ideas without having to agree to a dogma. Ian values our inclusivity, tolerance, community, environmental activism, and equality. He looks forward to volunteering at UUS—especially on projects that benefit less-advantaged members of the community. He has been a longtime volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Johnson County. Ian also enjoys reading, golf, biking, playing cello, spending time with family, and "Go Cubs!"



Emily grew up in East Moline, Illinois, and attended Augustana College in Rock Island. She worked in admissions at Augustana for eight years and earned a master's degree in library and information science through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2017. She now works for the University of Iowa Honors Program and is also a certified yoga teacher. Emily spent part of her childhood in the Catholic church, occasionally attended services at the UU Congregation of the Quad Cities, and attended a Lutheran college. Though she loved the lessons she learned about social justice from all of those experiences, she didn't feel a strong connection to Christianity. She is glad to be reconnecting with a UU congregation. She appreciates that here she is pushed to think about bigger issues, and she looks forward to volunteering. Emily is a big (pre-2016) Chicago Cubs fan and tries to catch as many games as she can!

Ian and Emily are looking forward to their wedding in September, and they enjoy spending time with their awesome dog, Mary.

Star Wojciak (not pictured)

Star was born in Pennsylvania and has lived in Maryland, Florida, Wisconsin, Tennessee, and North Carolina. After Star's husband passed away, she moved to Iowa City to be near her son and his family. Star is now enjoying retirement—she loves being near her grandson! She worked for 20 years in greyhound rescue and adoption and has also done work with Compassion & Choices helping people determine end-of-life options. Her son attended the UU Congregation of Las Vegas when he lived there, and Star enjoyed attending when she visited him. So when she moved to Iowa City, UUS was the first church on her list to visit. When she came here she felt right at home and decided not to look further! She values the Seven Principles and our involvement with social justice, and she appreciates how the UUS community welcomed her at a very difficult time in her life. She plans to volunteer with Free Lunch and to help with UUS woodlands and gardening projects. She enjoys gardening, cooking, sewing, and dressmaking.