



NEWS FROM UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH WEST

WE ARE A PEOPLE OF CURIOSITY

Sunday, May 5, 2019 — 9:15 and 11:00 am **"Moving at the Speed of Trust"**

**The Rev. Ashley Horan, Executive Director, MUUSJA (Minnesota UU Social Justice Alliance)
and the Rev. Suzelle Lynch**

In a world on fire, we often want to hurtle headlong into action because the stakes seem so high. However, the slow and intentional building of deep trust may be our most effective strategy for upending systems of oppression and building the resiliency and vision that can save us and our planet. This morning, we will explore trust, leadership, healing, and radical imagination, and how their powerful alchemy can move us closer toward a world in which we're all more free and more whole. *Lively music today from the UUCW Kaleidoscope Band.*

Sunday, May 12, 2019 — 9:15 and 11:00 am **"Tangled Blessings"**

Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson, Intern Minister

This Mother's Day (or Nurturing Caregiver Day One of two) we will explore the complexity of our human relationships, how we love one another fully and flawed. How does our foundational bond with our parents shape who we are and how we love? Let us respectfully bear witness to our families, inherited and chosen while honoring our need to be known and loved. *Beautiful music provided by jazz pianist Dan Dance.*

Sunday, May 19, 2019 — 9:15 and 11:00 am **"The Gifts You Bring"**

The Rev. Suzelle Lynch **Multigenerational Flower Communion**

We celebrate the time-honored ritual of Flower Communion today with all ages — it's a ritual that affirms each person's individual way of being, but helps us see all the blessing and power we have when we join in community. Please bring a flower to church for each member of your family, and get ready to enjoy music, stories, and inspiring songs! *Special music provided by the UUCW Choir — it's also Teacher and Volunteer Recognition Sunday!*

Sunday, May 26, 2019 — ONE SERVICE ONLY - 10:00 am **"Where Have All the Flowers Gone?"**

Steve Frey, Worship Leader **A Service for Memorial Day**

Memorial Day is a time to remember those who died while serving in the United States military. Though Unitarian Universalists have worked for peace and protested war for generations, we too have lost children, parents, siblings, ancestors, friends and other beloveds to our nation's armed conflicts. Today, with songs and readings, music and stories, we do the work of peace-building that is remembrance. *Music today from Lead Music Director Jennifer Nicolosi.*

Flower Communion — May 19

Bring a Flower for Each Family Member to be Shared During the Service!





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- A COLUMN FROM THE REV. SUZELLE LYNCH -

We Are a People of Curiosity!

Here at UUCW for the month of May, our Soul Matters theme is curiosity. Curiosity, that inner drive to know, and to know more — our “inner questioner” who always wants to know WHY — that’s what our Soul Circle and other groups will be exploring, and what we’ll note in our Sunday services as we are able.

Curiosity is a core part of human nature because it helps us survive. When we discover something new, our brains release dopamine and other neurotransmitters that make us feel good. Scientists posit that this process evolved because the urge to explore and gain knowledge about the world around us helps us stay alert and aware of potential dangers.

A study by Todd B. Kashdan, Paul Rose, and Frank D. Fincham (in the Journal of Personality Assessment) indicates that curious people are happier, too. Curiosity also fosters achievement. Other studies reveal that when we’re curious, we participate more in learning opportunities. It makes sense, right? When we are curious about and interested in what we are doing, putting in the effort to do well is effortless!

But did you know that curiosity can also expand your empathy? It’s something to try. The next time you talk with a stranger — someone who seems quite different from you, consider being more personal in your approach. Ask how they are, and listen with interest and warmth. Share a bit of your own life with them, too. When we engage with people beyond our familiar social circle in a caring way, we become more able to understand and relate to lives far different from our own. In truth, this approach helps to strengthen familiar relationships, too. It helps us make friends, heal arguments, and build community with our neighbors and fellow congregation members! Being vulnerable with someone, as well as curious about them, is a lovely way to grow your closeness with them.

What’s spiritual or soulful about curiosity? If we think of spirituality as a sense of connection with something larger or deeper than ourselves or if we think of it as the meaning-making dimension of life, then our curiosity becomes a tool for those explorations as well. We can be curious about our experiences; ask ourselves “Did what I just see or feel or hear expand my heart? Did it send shivers down my spine? Did it leave me with a feeling that the Universe is holding me with care? Did it send me into a sad place?” These, and questions like them, are ways to open the spiritual dimension of our everyday experiences.

We truly are a People of Curiosity at UUCW. I look forward to exploring with you!

Blessings to you,

Suzelle

The Rev. Suzelle Lynch, Minister

Intern Insight

Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson, Intern Minister

I remember well sitting in the sanctuary during worship service right after finding out that the UUCW Board had approved my request to be your first intern minister. I wondered: who are these people, will I know them, what will I learn, and will they accept me as a minister? I was curious imagining this part of our shared journey.

Now it is two years later, and time has flown by — even in graduate school! Here I am at the end of my internship at UUCW filled with love and gratitude for all the opportunities, warm, guidance, and trust you have shared with me. I have found a sanctuary here, a place to learn and worship, a community that stands up for the common good and a people who refuse to live in fear and find strength, comfort, and wisdom in each other. I have witnessed a myriad of moments filled grace and beauty in my time here with you all. I have watched you take care of one another, stretch and educate one another and risk being truly known. You have built more than a church community, together you have built a sanctuary where reason, love, and faith coincide. It has been a privilege and honor to know you and serve you.

The next step in my ministerial journey is preparing to meet with the UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee in September. Hopefully, they will approve me for preliminary fellowship as a Unitarian Universalist minister. I can be then be ordained and officially become a reverend! Meanwhile, as I finish with seminary and will need to repay graduate school student loans, employment opportunities have been foremost on my mind. I am pleased to announce that beginning this fall I will begin at First Milwaukee Society as the Director of Religious Education.

Even with this good news, it is bittersweet to leave you all and say goodbye. You have helped me become the minister I dreamed I might someday be.

I will always cherish and be grateful for our time together!

Blessings,

Kimberlee

P.S. from Rev. Suzelle — We'll celebrate the completion of Kimberlee's internship on Sunday, June 2 during and after the service. Please join us!



DreamBikes is the Split the Plate Recipient for May



DreamBikes is a non-profit organization of bicycle stores operating in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods to refurbish used bikes, return them to the community, and provide hands-on, paid job training to youth ages 15-21. Working in conjunction with local youth organizations, DreamBikes employs teens from the area to work in their store. Local teen employees learn how to refurbish bicycles, use point-of-sale software, and to deliver great customer service. DreamBikes provides lifelong skills to their teen employees, helping them to find a bright future, and changing kids' lives one bike at a time.

In addition to monetary support, DreamBikes accepts donations of bikes and cycling-related items including parts, tools, accessories, and clothing. Since 2008, DreamBikes has refurbished and returned over 10,000 used bikes to the community and provided jobs for more than 80 teens. Today, there are a total of 5 DreamBikes stores in operation across the country, with one in Milwaukee, two in Madison, and one each in Rochester, NY, and Knoxville, TN. To learn more, visit their website at dream-bikes.org

Split the Plate is one of UUCW's programs of outreach and generosity. Each month we give half of all undesignated offering monies to a non-profit organization as a way to help us live our Unitarian Universalist values and serve our community.

For additional information, please contact Split the Plate member, Kathy McKinney via the church office.



Men's Breakfast Group

Join this early-rising group on the second Tuesday of the month. The next gathering is **Tuesday, May 14 at 7:45 am at Bakers Square at 15300 Bluemound Rd., Elm Grove.** Come again or for the first time for conversations on current events, philosophy, or movies, in a small group. Contact facilitator Jerry Kashmerick via the church office.

Article Key:

Church Life



Fellowship & Learning



Living Our Values





Build 2020 Update

Phil Kroner, Chair of the Build 2020 Task Force

What's new with the Build 2020 project?

After the Board of Trustees approved a \$1.2 million project budget, the amount raised in the Build 2020 Capital Campaign, the Build 2020 Task Force worked with PRA, our architect, and Berghammer Construction Corp. to bring the scope of the project in line with the budget. The project still includes upgrading the HVAC system, repairing the roof, installing an elevator, remodeling the bathrooms on the Main Level, adding a new all-gender-inclusive bathroom, and remodeling the foyer. To meet the budget requires the task force decided to replace the windows at a later time and to put off repair of the parking lots until after the upcoming reconstruction of North Avenue is completed.

When can we see the plans? What will it look like?

PRA is preparing schematic drawings as well as views of the completed project for the congregation, and those will be completed by early May. We will show the drawings to the congregation as soon as they are ready. Dan Effenheim, the PRA designer, will also prepare a sample board showing the preliminary materials chosen for the interior design with input from the task force.

When will construction begin?

Once the project scope was aligned with the \$1.2 million budget, the schematic designs, design development, and preparation of construction plans were completed by PRA. Berghammer Construction Corp is now in the bidding phase of the project to identify sub-contractors to complete the work. After the sub-contractors have been chosen the prices will be locked in, and the project schedule will be finalized. It is expected that construction will begin in June and last through the summer.

Is it too late to increase my pledge for the Build 2020 Capital Campaign, or to make a new pledge if I haven't done so already?

Of course not! It's never too late to contribute to this important project. Contact Vicki Banville, Church Administrator, to make a pledge or adjust an existing pledge at vickib@uucw.org or 262-782-3535x17. Any additional funds received will be put to good use and may expand the amount of work we can do. We can also accept donations of materials and/or labor if you are associated with a business that is in a position to do so. Please contact UUCW Treasurer Leslie Peterson if that is something you are interested in pursuing.

What if I have more questions?

If you have more questions, or simply want to discuss the project in more detail, contact Phil Kroner, Chair of the Build 2020 Task Force via the church office.



Reflections

Marsha Thrall, Religious Education Coordinator

As the 2018-19 season of Religious Education nears its end, I want to take a moment to thank all of the really wonderful volunteers who dedicated themselves to making this RE season a success. Your commitment to Religious Education at UUCW is the greatest contributor to our meaningful and successful program.

And as this season winds down, it is, of course, time to begin thinking about preparing for next season's RE experience. While final decisions are being made about curriculum and classroom structure, I'm reminded that the 2019-20 Religious Education season will only be successful with support from continued, renewed, or even brand-new program volunteers.

All of this said, if you are continuing within the Religious Education experience here at UUCW, please know that I'm grateful for your dedication. Perhaps you have participated as a volunteer in UUCW's RE program in the past and are rested, restored, and ready to teach again – if so, I can't wait to work with you! Finally, maybe you'd like to help and don't know where to start – no worries – there's space for you, too! No matter where you are on this RE journey, if you're interested in helping, please reach out to me. I'm grateful and excited for all the ways that you are able to help.

In the spirit of UU principle number three, which compels us towards acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations, a Religious Education family summer kick-off and potluck is being planned for the end of May. This gathering time is intended to be a community building event; one where RE families and those interested in volunteering within the Religious Education program at UUCW will be able to spend time together, learn more about UUCW's RE program, make new friends, and share in a meal together. Details will be following soon.

I'm looking forward to developing our next season together. Contact Marsha Thrall, RE Coordinator, via the church office.



Earth Ministry Says Farewell to Amy

With great sadness, Earth Ministry Team members must say goodbye to longtime member **Amy Taivalkoski**, who, with husband, Paul will be moving to Boise Idaho at the end of May. Amy's unwavering dedication and creativity have been an inspiration to our church community. She encouraged us to become more environmentally conscious through the presentation of many classes, films, and other events. Since joining the team, Amy also helped persuade UUCW's Campus Team to install 42 solar panels, LED lighting in the sanctuary, community room, and some offices; low flow toilets, and a filtered water filling station.

We are all grateful for the many ways Amy inspired us to care for our Mother Earth. And we commit ourselves to continue the work. With the effects of climate change becoming more and more evident and impacting earth's most vulnerable, there is much work to be done. Yes, caring for the Earth requires taking steps to minimize the effects of Climate Change. And it also means entering into a deeper relationship with the Earth. The Earth is us, and we love her, and with evidence all around us, we know the Earth loves us back. Won't you join us in our work? Monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Please watch the announcements and e-news about future Earth Ministry events, including

Hike with Eddee Daniel: Location TBD Sunday, May 12, 2:00 pm

What better way to step into a deeper relationship with the Earth than by taking a springtime hike? And who is better equipped to lead this hike than Eddee Daniel? Eddee is a UUCW member, a renowned environmental photographer and the author of the book "A Wealth of Nature: Parks and Wild Places in Southeast Wisconsin." Working with Preserve Our Parks, a non-profit dedicated to the preservation and the promotion of parks and open space in the Milwaukee area, Eddee has been traveling throughout the six-county regions of SE Wisconsin documenting the abundance of nature and recreational opportunities that can be found here. Eddee led a UUCW hike last fall, now join us for a spring hike and see Nature being reborn.

Location of the hike to be determined. If you cannot make the hike check out: <http://awealthofnature.org/> for the location of parks in the area. For more info on either event, contact Almuth Soffee via the church office.



Relational, One-To-One Meeting Training Workshop

Thursday, May 30, 6-7:30 pm

Relational One-To-One Meetings provide the foundation for growing, strengthening, and unlocking new ideas and leaders in organizations. Relational organizing invites church members to engage in church community service and leadership in a way that honors their skills and interests. Two organizations to which UUCW belongs, "Common Ground" and "MICAH," teach the utilization of One-To-Ones to grow member organizations and expand social justice work. Our experience at UUCW has confirmed this strategy works.

The workshop is sponsored by Membership Committee and Common Ground. It is open to all church members and friends. Larry Krolikowski, a former UUCW member, now a member of First Unitarian, and active in Common Ground will lead the workshop. Contact Brianna Laux Kocis, Community Builder, at via the church office to register for the Workshop and/or if you have questions.

Deadline for registration is Thursday, May 23.



Children's Summer Program to Start Sunday, May 26

Join us for a summer filled with games and activities. Look for the E-news and Church Foyer fliers for program details.

Friendship Finders Nursery — Pre-K

Let's discover new friends as we read stories, play games, and sing songs, all while learning about our Unitarian Universalist faith. Each session is based upon a UU Principle. Great summer-time themes include sharing and caring, families, animals, and nature.

UU Play! Kindergarten — 5th Grade

Children experience true learning when they are having fun so get ready this summer for sharing, games, and activities. Through team-building games and group activities, we'll develop the skills of cooperation, communication, empathy, and conflict resolution. Selected games will require the skills of everyone in the class and give opportunities to work together toward a common goal.

For more information, contact Lead Summer Program Coordinator Kelly Bognar via the church office.



The 2019 Annual Meeting and Nominees of Elected Offices

The UUCW Annual Meeting will convene at **11:30 am on Sunday, June 2nd, 2019**. Voting Member registration for the meeting and distribution of ballots will begin shortly after the end of the 10:00 am service. Only voting members are eligible to participate and vote at the meeting. Information about the Annual Meeting and nominees for open positions was mailed several weeks ago to all church members. The Nominating Committee's nominees for trustee and committee member positions are as follows:

Board of Trustees

Laurie Boddie (3-year term) made UUCW her spiritual home in 2016 and has increasingly become involved in the community. Many Sundays you'll find Laurie serving as a greeter at the front or downstairs doors. She's thoroughly enjoying this great way to meet both visitors as well as long-time Church members. Laurie participated in, then facilitated, a Soul Matters Circles; she has also participated in some of our racial justice and LGBTQ educational opportunities, Dinners in The Home, volunteered with Guest House and has assisted at our Church Picnic. Prior to moving to the area, she belonged to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, MI for several years. While Laurie may be relatively new to UUCW, she's been a student of religious studies and spirituality most of her life. She has a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Notre Dame and worked in several ministerial positions early in her career. She has also been a student of Buddhist meditation for 20 years. Currently, Laurie is a Director of Organizational Effectiveness with Humana Insurance based in Louisville, KY.

Greg Kohnert (3-year term) and his wife, Terri, joined UUCW in 2017 following their retirement and relocation to Brookfield in order to be closer to their three daughters and grandchildren. Previously, they were members of the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Wausau for over 40 years. In Wausau, Greg served a long tenure as Chair of the UU Endowment Board, as well as stints as Board of Trustees member, Treasurer, Finance Chair, and RE teacher. Within the broader community, he also served on the boards and in leadership positions for United Way, the Performing Arts Foundation, Central Wisconsin School of Ballet, and the YMCA. His career was spent primarily as an Investment Officer/Portfolio Manager for the two largest Wisconsin based banks, M&I and Associated. Greg has participated in campus clean-up efforts and the monthly

Men's Breakfast group, while Terri has joined the choir. Both enjoy Dinners in the Home as well as other opportunities for interaction and connection. The past couple of years have been packed with various life-cycle transitions and it now seems timely to broaden the engagement.

Stephanie Wahlen (3-year term) and her husband Mike began attending UUCW in 2009 and became members in 2017. She has helped with campus clean-ups and this past fall served as the organizer of Dinners in the Home. She has very much enjoyed getting to know other members and is looking forward to making a bigger contribution to the church by serving on the Board. Stephanie is an occupational therapist and case manager at Froedtert and the Medical College.

Pam Beattie (1-year term) graduated from UW-Milwaukee with an Education Degree and Communication major. She worked as a professional model and commercial actress with Milwaukee and Chicago agencies. Pam was an active member of AFTRA and SAG and the Vice President of the Milwaukee Society of Models. Pam taught personal and professional development to youth and young adults over many years throughout the community before becoming the agency director at John Casablanco Modeling, Acting and Career Center. She retired a year ago from this position but continues to do some part-time mentoring work for the company. Pam has been a member of PFLAG, PTO, served on a Parent Advisory Board for the Elmbrook Schools, and taught religion classes at her prior church for twenty years. Pam and her husband Rick joined UUCW fourteen years ago after finding this Church was a perfect fit for them. They have four adult children and two grandchildren who all live out of state. Their biggest joy in life is travels to visit them. Pam is inspired continuously by this church and looks forward to the opportunity to serve in a leadership position.

Endowment Committee

Lee Huempfer (3-year term) joined UUCW in 2005, having become skeptical of the religious beliefs of his youth and looking for a place to explore alternatives. He has ever since enjoyed the wide variety of Sunday services. He became an usher within a few months of joining UUCW and has served meals at Guest House on numerous occasions. Lee has served on the Nominating Committee, twice on the Bylaws Review Committee, on the Board of Trustees, including one year as congregation President, and on the Vision 2020 Long Range Planning Committee. Lee was also an original member of the Stewardship Committee. In his

professional life, Lee is an attorney and has worked for the Walworth County Corporation Counsel for 20 years. Lee is the beloved person for three adorable and spoiled cats and hopes to once again become a serious runner.

Mark Steinberg (3-year term) was initially a member of UUCW from 2006 through 2013 and resumed his membership in 2018. His volunteer activities at the church between 2006 and 2013 included the usher team, coordinating the driver pool to help get elderly members to services, and 2- and 3-year stints on the Committee on Ministry and Finance Committee, respectively. Mark is currently a member of the usher team and Finance Committee. Regarding outside volunteer activities, he has served on the Elmbrook Little League Board of Directors, tutored for the Waukesha Literacy Council, and served on the Federation of Environmental Technologists Board of Directors (FET is an environmental trade organization). Mark currently volunteers as a dog walker for the Elmbrook Humane Society, an election poll worker for the City of Brookfield, and a FET Finance Committee member. Mark lived in Brookfield for the past 40 years. His career consisted of 41 years in the EHS (environmental, health and safety) field, primarily working at Wisconsin Electric Power Company and SC Johnson. For the past 6 years, Mark has been working part-time as a consultant for TRC Environmental in Brookfield.

Eric Hoaglund (1-year term) joined UUCW in 2011, having been raised in a liberal Presbyterian church in Waukesha County. Eric is married to Susan (who is not yet a member of UUCW). They have two adult children—Ryan and Kathryn. Eric and Kathryn went with the Brigadistas to Nicaragua in 2012, and Eric participated in Wellspring in 2013-14. Eric has been a member of the Adult Enrichment Committee and has participated in several adult enrichment programs. Eric is a regular at the Tap Roots discussion group and has participated in several marches in support of immigration reform and other issues. Eric is an attorney and works full time for Brookdale Senior Living, a publicly traded senior housing company. Eric's interests include sailing, downhill skiing, photography, good coffee, and politics. UUCW's social justice emphasis was a major factor in Eric joining the church.

Nominating Committee (2-year term)

Jane Browne and her husband, Jeff, have been members of UUCW since 2005. Jane is a member of the UUCW Board of Trustees and is nearing the end of her 3-year term. During her term Trustees have been involved with the Build 2020 church building project, church safety, congregational assessment, fiduciary oversight, and

proposed Bylaws changes, among many other issues affecting the church. Prior to Board membership, she was a member and the chairperson of the Worship Ministry Team for about seven years. Jane also participated in church life by being a Religious Education teacher when her two sons were in elementary school. Jane lives in Elm Grove with Jeff, their two teenage sons, and an exchange student. She works as an assistant teacher for the Elmbrook School District at Tonawanda Elementary School. She holds Master's degrees in Social Work and Business Management.

Kathy Herrewig joined UUCW with her husband Dave early in 2010. They participated in a New Member Unity Circle and were Nicaragua Brigadistas in 2012. Kathy ran the auction boutique in 2012 and 2014 and is a member of the Split the Plate Team. She prepares food for Guest House, serves as a greeter and coffee-maker, and is an eager participant in Dinners in the Home. With a Doctorate in Sociology, Kathy worked as Development Director at several local health-related nonprofits. She is now retired, which allows time for gardening, hiking, snowshoeing, and book club participation. Kathy lives on Milwaukee's northwest side.

Beth Zaretzke lives in Glendale with her family and has been a member of UUCW since 2010. She was overjoyed to be introduced and learn about the UU faith and the caring community of UUCW, which has filled a need to nourish her soul and join with others to work for environmental and social justice. Born and raised in the Philadelphia area, she received her B.A. in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico and spent 12 months working with a hunter-gatherer group in Paraguay. While studying natural healing in NM she met her husband in and relocated to Milwaukee where she has enjoyed being a stay at home mom to Zoe, Eva, and Stella. She has been an active school volunteer, Art for Youth coordinator, caregiver, and loves cooking (especially for those with food sensitivities) and time in her garden. Church life activities have included; teaching Religious Education classes, taking part as well as facilitating for UU Wellspring, greeting at the doors; serving coffee; attending Black Lives Matter events; and participating in various events and activities through the years. She is excited for the opportunity to be a Brigadista this June with her oldest daughter, Zoe, and looks forward to connecting with other church members.

Wow, That Person Should Get an Award – a UUCW Service Award!

How often have you said that about an amazing person at UUCW who is deeply involved in the life of the Church? Someone who gives very generously – although maybe very quietly – of their time and energy to a variety of different committees and workgroups? Or someone who takes the initiative to begin an important project that is central to our values? Or who represents our congregation in the community in a manner that had definable results or outcomes? Or someone who has worked tirelessly for many years on a particular service or project, or on multiple activities and projects over a significant period of time?

You're right, that person (or group) should get an award and you can make it happen! Send your nomination for either an Annual Trustees Award (three will be given) or for the Long Term Service Award (one will be given). Submit the name and up to 75 words describing what the individual or group has done to merit the award to the Board of Trustees by **Sunday, May 12** via email at board@uucw.org. Award winners will be selected by the Board of Trustees and announced at the **UUCW Annual Meeting on June 2, 2019**. Questions? Contact David Feil or Kathy Herrewig via the church office.

UUCW Welcomes New Members and Celebrates Anniversaries

Please welcome our newest Members:

Derek Smith	Alyson Moeller	Neal Styka
Susan Goldsmith	Chelsey Nisbet	Mary Ross
Joanne Kopischke	Scott Kopischke	

Congratulations to all the UUCW Members who are celebrating their membership anniversary this May!

2 Year:

Steve Korthof	Fran Korthof
Tom Kruse	Kathy Kruse
Aimee Dellemann	Stephanie Richardson

10 Year:

Kate Hensleigh	Julie Rowley	Joe Lange
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For more information about UUCW membership, contact Brianna Laux Kocis, Community Builder, via the church office.

Father's Day Children's Choir

Young singers are invited to join the Children's Choir for a final performance on **Father's Day, June 16**. The performance will include two songs; one called "Welcome" and another called "Best Friends." **Rehearsals will be Sundays, May 26 and June 2 following the service** in the Lower Gathering Area. Singers need to attend at least one rehearsal. Rehearsal tracks will be available. To sign up, or for more information, contact Lead Music Director Jennifer Nicolosi via the church office.

Brigadistas Need Your Donations for Dominican Republic Trip

Sixteen Brigadistas are busy preparing for their trip this summer to the Dominican Republic and they could use some help with donations. When you clean out your basements and closets this spring keep your eyes open for: old suitcases, baseball supplies, summer clothes for kids and adults, shoes, computer disks and CD's, laptop computers, and school supplies. Look for later announcements or e-news emails for a time and place to drop off donations in June. Gracias!

For more information, contact Andy Beorner via the church office.

Develop a Meditation Practice

"Every day spend some time sitting in silence... sit with a straight back and relaxed body. Feel the nobility, patience and strength of the posture. Allow your identification to broaden out beyond the ego with its constant thoughts and its shifting likes and dislikes. Just observe everything... this is the practice of meditation."

— R. Rohr, Franciscan Friar and founder of Center for Action and Contemplation

**Morning Meditation Group meets:
Every Wednesday - 10:00 to 11:00 am**

**Evening Meditation Group meets:
Every Tuesday - 5:30 to 6:30 pm**

Join us to sit 20 or 45 minutes on a chair or the floor. We start promptly and permit late entry. For more info, contact Helen Klimowicz via the church office.



Q Youth Club Hosts Pride Prom

The Q Youth Club youth had a lovely time in April with their guest Ben Ludwig/Miss Birdee. Ben spoke with them about his journey as a gay man, the power of performance, gender fluidity and having the confidence to be their authentic selves. We are so grateful to Ben Ludwig/Miss Birdee for sharing their story and talents with Q Youth!

For the month of May, the youth are planning to host their very own Pride Prom. There will be music, dancing and rainbow decorations galore! All LGBTQ Youth ages 13-18 are invited to attend as we celebrate Prom season in our own, especially welcoming way! Join us Friday, **May 10 from 6-9 pm** for Q Youth Club Pride Prom!

Parents are welcome to attend, Lynn Dusold from Pathways Counseling will be leading a parents group while the youth socialize. Questions? Check out the Q Youth Club on Facebook or contact Brianna Laux Kocis, Community Builder, via the church office.



It's May... and It's UU Wellspring Month At UUCW!

It's spring! Nature is blooming and budding all around us. UU Wellspring is blooming, too! We're at a table in the Community Room each Sunday during May, inviting you to consider participation in this deeply meaningful experience.

UU Wellspring is a 10-month journey of spiritual exploration, guidance and deepening for Unitarian Universalists. The UU Wellspring experience draws upon our abundant UU history, Principles and faith Sources as the foundation for our personal and communal spiritual journeys. Here at UUCW, we are completing our seventh year of offering UU Wellspring programs.

We invite you to consider joining a UU Wellspring group for the 2019-2020 church year. Registration for all groups is happening during May. At our table in the Community Room, you'll find information about the program, and UUCW members who've participated and can answer your questions. Information is also available at the UU Wellspring website: www.uuwellspring.org.

For more information, contact Patricia D'Auria, UU Wellspring Program Coordinator, via the church office.



Pride Parade 2019: Join the UU Presence!

COMING SOON IN JUNE! PrideFest Milwaukee is three days of fun music, comedy, food, self-expression, and family-friendly activities held on June 6-9, 2018. This exciting community experience produced each year by the non-profit organization Milwaukee Pride, Inc. PrideFest is a celebration of the culture and accomplishments of our local LGBTQ+ community, a time for needs and issues to be communicated, and for networking and support to be shared!

For the past several years, UUCW has organized the SE Wisconsin UU presence in the Milwaukee Pride Parade, which steps off at 2:00 pm on Sunday, June 9, on S. 2nd St. near Lapham Blvd. in Milwaukee. Trevor Murbach will be our Parade Marshall this year, you can contact via the church office with questions. He will be taking responsibility for communicating with interested participants from local UU congregations and will be on site at the parade to marshal our group.

Interested in taking part in the parade? SIGN UP at <http://bit.ly/2GGRYbZ> and be prepared to get all decked out in your best rainbow gear (optional)!

Join us in continuing our UU tradition of celebrating people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and the joyful work of linking communities, generations, and diverse groups at Pride!

This year, once again UUCW will be a part of the Blessed@Pridefest booth in the Health and Wellness Commons alongside our many Milwaukee-Area LGBTQ+ affirming faith communities. We're partnering with the Queer and Allied Faith Leaders of Milwaukee (QAFL) to host a part of the festival where attendees can know they are "blessed and beloved."

We'd love to have your help as volunteers in the booth — sign up at <http://bit.ly/2UBBrd0>

Read about 2018 Blessed@Pridefest at <http://bit.ly/2KZeZ3> and check out the Blessed@Pridefest Facebook page at <http://bit.ly/2vfNPVY>

If you have any questions, please contact Brianna Laux Kocis, Community Builder, via the church office.



Gen UU Shares Friendship... and Beer

Join the young adult (18-35 years-old) community at UUCW. Gen UU will gather for socialization, camaraderie, and craft beer at **Westallion Brewing Co., 1825 S 72nd St, West Allis at 1:00 pm on Sunday, May 19.** Families and children are welcome! Contact Brianna Laux Kocis, Community Builder, at via the church office for further information or questions.



Show Your Patriotic Spirit on the Fourth of July

Interested in showing your UUCW pride at the Wauwatosa 4th of July parade? Sign up to be a parade participant! The parade assembles on **Thursday, July 4th from 7:00 to 8:15 am, with step off at 9:00 am.** For more information or to RSVP email Brianna Laux Kocis via the church office by Sunday, May 12th.



Tap Roots Takes Hiatus Until June 26

Tap Roots, A Pub Spirituality Group, will skip their meeting in May but will reconvene on **Monday, June 26 at 7:00 pm at Benno's 7413 W Greenfield Ave, Milwaukee.** This convivial drop in affinity group is for anyone, member and non-member alike, who likes dialog, not debate, over deeper philosophical, ethical and theological issues. Jim Gerber will host. RSVP's unnecessary but appreciated via the church office.



Mark Your Calendar for the YRUU Spring Car Wash

The YRUU youth group's spring car wash fundraiser is on **Sunday, May 19th**, weather permitting. Bring your car to the west parking lot before the service of your choice and the YRUUs will give your vehicle an environmentally friendly hand wash and dry while you enjoy UUCW's wonderful Sunday service.

You choose the donation amount. Proceeds support the 2020 Heritage Trip to Boston and other activities. For more information, contact Natalie Fleury via the church office.



MICAH Offers Two Events in May

MICAH Annual Celebration

Thursday, May 23, 2019

6 pm: Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres

7-8:30 pm: Program

Cost: \$50.00 per person

Location: St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church; 1615 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI (access west side entrance and parking lot from Milwaukee Ave.)

To purchase tickets: MICAH office 414-264-0805 or office@micahmke.com

Implicit Bias Training

Saturday, June 8 at 8:30 am

Cost: FREE!

Training and Lunch: 9:00 am -1:00 pm (potluck, please bring something to share)

Location: Welford Sanders Enterprise Building; 2821 N. Vel R Phillips Ave; 1st-floor conference room

RSVP: MICAH office 414-264-0805 or office@micahMKE.org

Trustandjustice.org defines implicit bias (also known as implicit social cognition) as "...attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner. These biases, which encompass both favorable and unfavorable assessments, are activated involuntarily and without an individual's awareness or intentional control." Implicit bias' is operational in every member of society. MICAH offers an opportunity to learn more about ways that implicit racial bias affects us in our everyday lives.

For more information about the above events, contact Stephanie Richardson via the church office. Thank you for your contributions to this crucial work for justice!



It's Time to Help at Guest House!

Every month the UU churches of Milwaukee provide a meal to over 100 homeless at the Guest House, a shelter for men in downtown Milwaukee. We need volunteers to provide food or soda and servers and adult assistants to help with transportation and serving on **Saturday, May 18.** Look for announcements about sign up opportunities in upcoming e-news or contact Eileen Gleeson via the church office. Children are welcome to help serve but consult with us before signing them up.



Wisdom & Whimsy Group Welcomes Marsha Thrall

On **Wednesday, May 8**, Wisdom & Whimsy will meet with bag lunches for conversation at **11:30 am**. Coffee, tea, and cookies will be provided. Our program for the closing meeting of the year will be a question and answer session with our Religious Education Coordinator Marsha Thrall about what topics we would like to see covered in the Adult Education portion of church activities next year. All ideas are welcome! The meeting will end at 1:15 pm.

This fun and lively group has had another great year and we look forward to sharing experiences (and wisdom) with all comers next year! The group welcomes anyone over 50. Contact Charlene Carter via the church office if you have questions.



Campus Clean Up Day: More Hands Mean Less Work

Here's an opportunity to help care for the church property and socialize with fellow church members. The goal is to get 40 people to participate!

Join other church members **Saturday, May 18 from 8:30 am - 2:00 pm** to prepare the church property for the summer season. Volunteer for an hour or five hours, whatever fits into your day!

Tasks include weeding, clearing plant debris, laying mulch, and picking up sticks. Tools are available, but anyone is welcome to bring their own. Tools needed may include work gloves, rakes, shovels, wheel barrels, pruning shears, and leaf blowers. Children ages 7-and-up are invited to work alongside their family.

A pot-luck lunch will be around noon. If you can't help with the workday, consider providing something to feed the hard-working crew. See you there! Contact Vicki Banville via the church office.



Heads Up! Donation Rotation

It's time for Earth Ministry's next Donation Rotation on **Sunday, May 12 after services**. Please bring all types of headwear, including hats, caps, scarves, ear muffs, and headbands to the tables set up in the Community Room. All ages welcome to browse and choose your favorite headwear! Everything is FREE! For more info, contact Almuth Soffee via the church office.



UUCW Donations Support Menomonee Falls Food Pantry

For May, the Cart with a Heart (Menomonee Falls Food Pantry) will receive non-perishable food donations and \$100 from the Social Action Council. All types of food are needed!

Volunteer Needed: Is there a member who lives in Menomonee Falls and would be willing to take the food and a check to the pantry during the week after May 26? Please call Ellen, via the church office, for details. Thank you! Ellen Newbauer and Melanie Weston, Co-chairs.



The Great Books Group Discusses Strangers in Their Own Land

Great Books is discussing *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Russell Hochschild on **Monday, May 13 at 10:00 am**. Using her sociology background and research, Arlie Russell Hochschild aims to explain the world view of the Tea Party Movement in Louisiana based on the stories of the people and families she met there.

Looking ahead... Great Books will be discussing *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo* by Zora Neale Hurston on **Monday, June 10**.

If you have any questions, please contact co-facilitator Joyce Prewitt or Kit Hansen via the church office.



Song Circle Celebrates Spring Friday, May 17, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Let's gather to celebrate our connected lives and the approaching warm summer months. Singing is good for your spirit, and it's a fun social time, too!

Song Circle is not a concert and no instruments are required! Easy to learn songs will include classic songs of peace, nature, social justice, hymns and rounds. This adult Song Circle is open to the public, so bring your friends, too! Contact Sarah Stokes via the church office.

Article Key:

Church Life



Fellowship & Learning



Living Our Values





Women’s Book Group Discusses Author Gertrude Bell

Gertrude Bell (1868-1926), at one time one of the most influential women in the British Empire, was the best-known traveler in the Middle East and Arabia before World War I and helped to establish the state of Iraq. In May, members of the Women’s Book Group may read or watch anything about or by Gertrude Bell. We will meet on **Wednesday, May 8 at 7:00 pm** to share our thoughts. All adults are welcome. Questions? Contact Kathy Schwei or Marilyn Swanson via the church office.



UUCW Hiring Additional Sound and Set-Up Person

The church is seeking a part-time employee to join our Sexton Team. A Sexton’s schedule is based on church activities; however, the Sexton will work at least one Sunday per month. Responsibilities include operating the sound system, lighting, and audio-visual equipment for services and events. The Sexton may also be scheduled to set up and/or take down room furniture configurations as needed. For Sexton job description and/or to apply, send resume, cover letter, and references via the church office.

Come As You Are, Leave Inspired!



Bill Staines in Concert

Thursday, May 30 at 7 pm - Doors open at 6:30 pm

Bill Staines is one of the most beloved singers on the folk music scene today. Staines has twenty-six recordings to his credit and has written over three hundred songs.

On stage, Staines is an intimate, compelling performer, encouraging his audience to sing with him on his chorus songs. He will mix in traditional tunes with his own contemporary folk ballads. His humorous tales of life on the road and observations of everyday people provide an entertaining blend of story and song.

Purchase \$15 Tickets at <https://stainesatuucw.bpt.me> or at the door (cash or checks only)



**Unitarian
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Church West**
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262-782-3535 uucw.org

**General
admission
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