



REACH

The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northfield
A Welcoming Congregation

Childcare and programs for children and youth available during the service.

Now Holding Services at:

5785 Lonsdale Blvd E
(Hwy 19 just west of Northfield)
Northfield, MN 55057

Minister

Kristin Maier 651-285-0807
minister@uunorthfield.org

Director - Children/Youth Programs

James Coulter, 651-262-7939
jcoulter@uunorthfield.org

Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Whitson, (507)649-2756
jwhitson@uunorthfield.org

Nursery Teacher

Julie Baily

President

Beth Goodell, 507-301-3687
goodellb@gmail.com

Vice-President

Kevin Chapman, 952-652-1515
arkazae@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tory Borovsky
toryborovsky@gmail.com

Secretary

Karen Ratzlaff
karenratz@frontiernet.net

Board Members-At-Large

Paul Krause, 507-581-3069
paulkrause@callingpaul.com
Sharon Snyder-Thieding, 507-744-5124
sashappy1@hotmail.com

Sunday Services

Naomi Estes-Tullo, 651-258-4735
NaomiET@Sleepyeyetel.net

Music

Bev Topp 952-469-4859
bevorleetopp@icloud.com

Membership

Brynda McCoy, 618-520-4529
bryndamccoy@yahoo.com

Facilities

Open

Ministerial Liaison

Lee Topp 952-469-4859
bevorleetopp@frontiernet.net

January 2019

Theme: Service

Sunday, January 6th • 10 a.m.

“To Serve the Earth” • Rev. Kristin Maier

What would it look like if we all shifted our lives (even just a bit more) toward serving the good of the whole planet? If we were to live in service of life rather than mostly at its expense, how might we find ourselves transformed?

Sunday, January 13th • 10:00 a.m.

“Listening for Missing Voices: A Promise and Practice Service” • Rev. Kristin Maier

UUFN joins with hundreds of other UU congregations who have participated in The Promise and the Practice of Our Faith campaign. Through listening to the voices and experiences of Black Lives within our Association, we have the opportunity to hear truths that are sometimes hard to hear but help those with racial privilege be better allies, better siblings in faith, and even better citizens in our community.

Sunday, January 20th • 10:00 a.m. • “Martin Luther King’s

Legacy: How Can We Better Serve Others” • Nita Wolf

Using some of MLK’s quotes, Nita will talk about vision and service that exemplify “we are all in this together” as we rise and meet the current challenges of our times.

Sunday, January 27th • 10:00 a.m.

“To Serve with Angels” • Rev. Kristin Maier

What if angels weren’t so much mysterious and other-worldly beings, but instead were all around us, quietly working their magic in the duties of the day? What opportunities might there be for us to serve among them and participate in the everyday work of the divine?

The Practice of Keeping Promises

by Rev. Kristin Maier

In the wake of so many awful deaths of Black individuals by police and others and inspired by the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement, a new group rose up in Unitarian Universalism – Black Lives of UU.



Since 2015, Black Lives of UU (BLUU) has been working to organize and connect Black UUs, offering conferences in which Black UUs who are often isolated around the country can connect and receive support, develop authentic worship, and build capacity to work for liberation and justice within and beyond our religious communities.

The group initially began working with all volunteer staff, with a local (St. Paul) congregation that stepped up to be a fiscal agent. On a shoestring budget, BLUU began connecting Black UUs in ways that had never happened before.

The UUA Board of Trustees saw an opportunity to support something lasting and to meet a promise to support Black led UU leadership – a promise made and broken at a tumultuous time some 40 years ago.

Last year, the UUA began rolling out a program called *The Promise and the Practice of Our Faith* with the goal of raising 5.3 million dollars for Black Lives of UU. The .3 million was given immediately by the UUA to begin paying BLUU staff to sustain the work already underway. Another 1 million was given from the UUA's endowment.

Each individual congregation was asked to give \$10 per member – which together would raise an additional 1 million or more. A matching grant was offered by a wealthy UU couple for every congregation that could pledge and give \$10 per member (up to another 1 million). These efforts collectively would make dramatic headway in

creating the 5 million dollar endowment that would sustain BLUU into the future.

Last May, UUFN members at the Social Justice Meeting chose BLUU as one of our Share the Plate recipients and UUFN made a pledge of \$700 for *The Promise and the Practice* campaign - \$10 for each of the 70 people who were members at the time we pledged. When BLUU was chosen as the Share the Plate designee, we knew that \$700 was a high bar to reach. There are members of the congregation (myself included) who are ready to contribute after the Share the Plate is tallied to help make up any difference between the pledge and half of the collection for the month.

Money alone has never solved a problem as insidious as white supremacy and racial discrimination. Even so, there is tremendous value in putting one's resources where one's words (and heart) are. We won't just be pitching in financially (as we are able), we will also be pausing to take in the voices of Black UUs at the special *Promise and Practice* service on January 13th.

The Promise and Practice service and our participation in the BLUU endowment campaign are small ways in which we as a congregation continue to pledge our hearts to the ongoing work of dismantling white supremacy. I sincerely believe that together we can help create a more just world and shape a more truly welcoming religious movement. Thank you for your support, however you can offer it.



From the Children & Youth Programs Director

Hello,

A simple thank you this month to all of those who helped transition our congregation from the Mason's building to our new home. Although the move was unexpectedly hastened by something beyond our control, our new space feels so much like home. I'd like to give special thanks to Connie Wersal-LaVelle. She has committed so much time and effort to craft the perfect setting for our children and youth programs. It's been wonderful to witness her flair and be a part of her collaborative approach. Thank you so much, Connie!



Stay tuned for more information on programs in January!

James Coulter

Board Bits

This column is an ongoing feature regarding general business and actions taken by the UUFN Policy Board. Official minutes are filed by the secretary and are available upon inquiry.

At the Dec. 2nd board meeting a motion was passed to:

- 1) Install the lift immediately;
- 2) Proceed with the removal of the S-wall and stage from lower level - cost estimate to be provided to and approved by the board before beginning;
- 3) Hire architect to give us preliminary sketch and placement of septic system as it relates to possible future building project - cost to be approved by the board;
- 4) Consider transitional flooring at the back of the sanctuary and installing a door at the top of the stairs.

Karen Ratzlaff, Secretary

Children and Youth Programs

Sunday, January 6

K-4/5: Dr. Seuss and the 7 UU Principles
Youth Group: Youth Groups at Three Links

Sunday, January 13

K-4/5: Dr. Seuss and the 7 UU Principles
Youth Group: Three Links post-discussion

Sunday, January 20

K-4/5: Dr. Seuss and the 7 UU Principles
Youth Group: Bundles of Love pre-discussion

Sunday, January 27

K-4/5: Dr. Seuss and the 7 UU Principles
Youth Group: Life, Death, Afterlife



FROM THE TREASURER

A Quick Update

In early December an accountant from Goodney and Associates (our current bookkeepers) met with the UUFN board to discuss a new way of formatting and understanding the budget. Goodney and Associates recommended changing the budget format after our building purchase. The new format is in Quickbooks and reflects assets, liabilities and net assets. The Statement of Activities shows actual to date (what we have spent), our budget and the percent of the budget spent.

UUFN Social Group

Nine hungry members attended the Kings' Room buffet on December 18. I have compiled a possible schedule for the coming year. Here are the ones for January and February.

Saturday, January 12: Breakfast at The Brick Oven Bakery at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 22: Dinner at Fielder's Choice at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 9: Breakfast at Perkin's at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 19: Dinner at B & L Pizza (we haven't been there before)

Anyone is welcome to come and enjoy food and conversation. A small group makes it easier to have one on one conversations and get to know each other better. Contact Marcia if you have questions, would like directions or a ride.

Marcia (507-301-3160 / mjacobs1939@gmail.com)



Help UUFN Grow by Welcoming Newcomers

UUFN is growing!! Greeters are a critical part of that growth We're grateful to those who greet every Sunday. Ideally, two people greet each Sunday so one can take visitors with children to the nursery or RE. To help visitors feel more welcome, be sure they get an adhesive name tag and complete a visitor card. If you're not sure if someone's new or hasn't attended lately, just say, "I don't think I know you. Are you new?" If they say, "I'm a member", just say you are glad to meet them, direct them to the name tag board or offer an adhesive name tag. If you want to serve this critical function, please contact Katrina at: kdh5of9@gmail.com or 507-581-2530 or look for the sign-up sheet.

GREETERS FOR JANUARY:

January 6: Carol and Bob Spear

January 13: Open

January 20: Open

January 27: Open

Wanted: Coffee Hosts!

Java and treats are an essential part of after service coffee hour. A heartfelt thank you to all who provide delicious refreshments to the congregation every Sunday! There will be a sign-up sheet on a clipboard near the treat table on Sunday. Please check your calendars and sign up or let Marcia know when you can be hosts.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS FOR JANUARY:

January 6: Jeanne Agee and Marcia Jacobs

January 13: Open

January 20: Open

January 27: Open



Sunday Adult Services: A Look Ahead

SUNDAY SERVICES/ACTIVITIES JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2019

(Watch for updates - topics/speakers change)

January 6: Rev. Kristin Maier

January 13: Rev. Kristin Maier

January 20: Member Led—Nita Wolf
(Dr. MLK Service)

January 27: Rev. Kristin Maier

February 3: Member Led—Kevin Chapman
(Humor Sunday)

February 10: Rev. Kristin Maier

February 17: Member Led—Sharon Snyder
(Love Service)

February 24: Rev. Kristin Maier

March 3: Member Led
(Side with Love Service)

March 10: Rev. Kristin Maier

March 17: Member Led
(Spring Equinox Service)

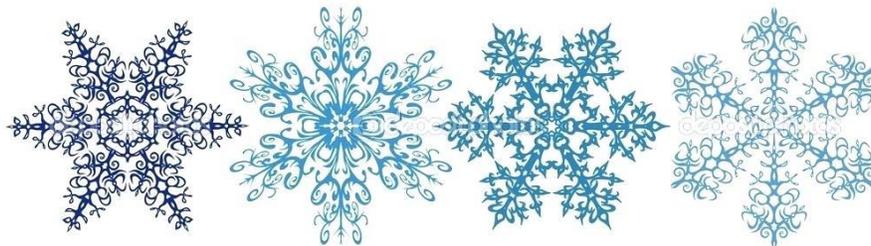
March 24: Rev. Kristin Maier

March 31: Rev. Kristin Maier

January Share the Plate

Half of everything placed in the offering baskets during the month of January (unless marked UUFN Pledge on the memo line) will be given to the new endowment fund for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) as part of the UUA-wide *Promise and Practice of Our Faith* campaign. (See this month's Minister's Column to learn more about the effort and UUFN's participation.)

Black Lives of UU provides information, resources and support for Black Unitarian Universalists and works to expand the role & visibility of Black UUs within our faith. Thank you for giving as you are able as UUFN participates in a UU-wide effort to create a more just world and a more truly welcoming Unitarian Universalist faith.



Dear Members and Friends of UUFN,

Just a note to let you know in more detail the progress that has happened the first two weeks of December in settling in to our new home. We were blessed with 13 volunteers to help with this project which included creating a new office space, AV room and preparing the Youth room for its furnishings.

The office is the small room in the front of the sanctuary on the left. While it is indeed small, it has lots of function! There are mailboxes for Board members and others, a desk for counters to use each week as well as the treasurer and minister, and a cabinet that holds the Sunday baskets. Greeters will find everything they need in this office. There is a mailbox with counter's items. It also has a hanging place for storing table runners, etc. Candles and lamp oil are in this cabinet as well.

AV room is on the right up front. The copy machine is there along with a cabinet to put paper and ink cartridges. Kevin is setting up the space for all AV items.

Youth room furniture will arrive in March. Please check out the presentation board in the entry to the room. It explains everything in detail. While the youth had total say in selections, they were given choices with the idea that this will be a multi-functioning space as well. Small groups and spiritual counseling can be other uses when the kids aren't in there.

Thank you to our volunteers: Larry, Karen, Sharon, Matt, Mairi, Lee, Bev, Bob, Carol, Wyman, Bill J., Jeff and Connie.

UUFN Social Group—Dining Out at the St. Olaf Kings' Dining Room

Pictured are: Larry Vorwerk and Nita Wolf, Karen Ratzlaff, Matt and Sharon Snyder-Thieding, Mairi Doerr, Brynda McCoy, Marcia Jacobs, and Jeanne Agee



Christmas Eve Service 2018

