



yUuper Newsletter

Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

"We affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 January 2018; Vol. 33, #1

BHK Building (700 Park Ave., Houghton). Enter on North Side, off Waterworks Drive

January's Theme: Resistance

Sunday Schedule for January 2018

Jan. 7: "Awake in the Dark," by Cecelia Kingman. Bill Fink will read this Faith Rocket sermon.

Rev. Kingman is Minister for Faith and Justice at, Edmonds UU Congregation, Washington. She discusses the four spiritual practices that help us to stay awake and aware. She calls these "the four R's: Reflection, Repentance, Resistance and Resilience."

Reader #1, Jack; Story for all Ages, Miriam
Reader #2, Bob Wheeler.

Jan 14: Forum: "Sustaining Lake Superior," by Prof. Nancy Langston (Social Sciences Dept.), based on her recently published book. See more info in this newsletter.

Jan 21: "Beloved Community of Resistance." Jack Jobst reads this Faith Rocket sermon by Rev. Gretchen Haley.

Jan 28: "We are all old people in training." A worship service coordinated by Jan Dalquist. The focus will be on the young and middle-agers in KUUF, Jan says.
Reader: Leo Wheeler

"Keep Calm and Carry On": The Worship Committee Confronts the KUUF Sunday Schedule

The Worship Committee met in December to work on the Sunday schedule for January. With Rev. Chris gone, the KUUF has returned to a lay-led fellowship.

Board President Amlan Mukherjee stated in his message to the congregation that "The Board has recognized that the Worship Committee, with everyone's help, will plan and coordinate Sunday services at least until June of 2018."

Barry Fink has graciously offered to be the initial chair of the Worship Committee, and in December she introduced to those who attended the meeting, Faith Rocket, an on-line source of related UU monthly topics, sermons, and readings our fellowship may well rely on for the foreseeable future.

For details about Faith Rocket see the article on page two of this newsletter.

Besides Faith Rocket, the committee, through Barry, has contacted several upper Midwest UU ministers regarding their interest in leading a Sunday service for us. Three have agreed and will visit us early in the new year.

Several KUUF Members have also stepped forward and volunteered for Forums or as lay leaders during a regular service.

The second Sunday will continue to be devoted to a Forum as usual.

Your participation on the committee will help make our 2018 schedule a success. The committee would like to hear your ideas. The Weekly Bulletin will announce the date and time for the next meeting.

The Worship committee's responsibilities are to prepare the calendar of topics for the month, which the members will submit to the newsletter editor, generate the information for the weekly Order of Service, serve as readers for different components of the service and coordinate with the visiting ministers.

Faith Rocket Website to Assist with KUUF Service Planning

The KUUF Worship Committee has enrolled in "Faith Rocket," an on-line service offered by the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship, primarily to assist lay-led UU congregations and those who wish help in leading a detailed, faith-led life.

This service was formerly known as "Church in a Box," but, now, in our digital age, has moved to the internet. You may wish to explore a sample month's services at

<http://faithrocket.org/>

The website, for which the KUUF pays a small, monthly fee, offers complete Sunday Services a month at a time. These include opening words, sermons, and daily devotionals for those who wish them. The service also offers podcasts, videos, reflections and quotations, and even small group session materials and children's RE questions.

On or about the 15th of each month, subscribers may access information for the following month.

Except for the sample, which may be viewed at any time, the site is secured by a password that changes each month. Contact anyone on the Worship Committee for this password.



Choir Director Sandra Loy and her husband introduced Mattie Jean Loy Reno to the KUUF Fellowship in December. Mattie was born on Dec. 8th; 5 pounds, 6 oz.

KUUF Home Page:

<http://www.keweenawuu.org/>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/keweenawuu/>

Koffee Klatsch: Second Thursday of the month, and fourth Friday: January 11th & 26th. Group meets at Roy's Bakery, 10 am.



President Amlan Mukherjee presents Rev. Chris with several going-away gifts from the Board—a copper wall hanging image of the UP, and a clock. Chris gave his final Sunday as a presiding minister with the KUUF on December 17th.

MTU Social Science Prof to Speak on Lake Superior Ecological Issues

How can communities help sustain the health of Lake Superior in the face of mining, climate change, forest change, invasive species, and emerging chemicals of concern?

Our forum speaker, Nancy Langston, will answer this question for us on January 14th.

The challenges facing Lake Superior are many, Prof Langston says, yet local, regional, and international communities overcame enormous threats to the lake's ecosystems in the past century.

This conversation with us will explore what we can learn from the past to help sustain Lake Superior.

Letters to the Editor

The editor encourages letters to the yUUper Newsletter on UU or KUUF topics. The editor reserves the right to edit for space and clarity.

Greetings. As a member of the Fairbanks, Alaska UU Fellowship. I am the organizer of a unique Alaska UU fundraising tour program called "WhaleCoast Alaska."

The Fairbanks Fellowship offers an exciting summer 2018 program, and interested people in your fellowship might wish to register before the program fills.

Our fundraising tour program involves dozens of volunteers from four Alaska UU congregations: Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, and Sitka.

This is a fund-raiser with an all-volunteer cast. Any money above our operating costs will go entirely to UU enterprises, not to individuals.

The tour is a unique and wonderful opportunity for your members to visit our state.

For further information, call 907-322-4966, or email dfrey@WhaleCoastAK.

Dave Frey, Whale Coast Alaska
Program director

Editor's note: Former KUUF proto-member Barbara Clark attends the Anchorage fellowship.

Library Briefs

Editor's Note: This month's column ran in this newsletter several years ago; it seems as pertinent now as it was then. _Editor

Do you remember when you first came to our fellowship?

How were you treated?

What kept you coming back?

Now, as a member, how do you treat guests that visit us on Sunday? How can you do a better job of welcoming our visitors and supporting congregational growth?

Our library contains a wonderful DVD, "Ideas for Growth: Welcoming the Newcomer," produced by the Jefferson Unitarian Church of Golden, Colorado.

Jefferson is a large fellowship, and it did not achieve their size by accident.

The video includes concrete steps that can be taken to improve hospitality. For example, Segment #1 covers "Repelling Fewer Visitors."

This section states that the current growth of our entire denomination is a dismal 1% per year; "6% of churches account for 2/3 of national growth;" and our sluggish growth and slow decline nullify each other.

The video recommends three steps. First, say "Hello." Cordially greet unfamiliar faces--establish a bond--and offer to sit with them.

Second, "Let visitors know they are important and you are glad they came."

Above all, develop an atmosphere of welcoming.

The DVD offers a bonus sermon--"Reflections on the Experience of a Newcomer." Those in our Fellowship who have heard this sermon have agreed that it is a prizewinner. The video is ready for checkout.

_Bob Fiandt



The KUUF Committee on Ministry worked with Rev. Chris through his entire tenure with us, and to express their best wishes for his success as a chaplain in Louisville, KY, they presented him with a set of bookends from the MTU Seaman Museum store.

Rev. Chris hefted the ten pounds of polished stone and remarked, with a smile, that they will fit right in with the other heavy items in his personal collection, his boxes of books.



***Keweenaw Unitarian
Universalist
Fellowship
PO Box 276
Houghton, MI 49931***