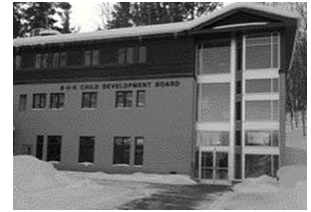




yUUper Newsletter

Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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



Sunday Mornings at 10:30 June 2018; Vol. 33, #6

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

Sunday Schedule for June 2018

June 3: Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher will discuss "Touched by Fire." There is an old story about some people who felt abandoned. Then a great wind blew upon them and they were caught up in something bigger than their lives. Poet Mary Oliver asked, "What will you do with your one wild and beautiful life?" Those are my themes for this service.

June 10: Forum. Barry Elizabeth Fink and Linda Belote will discuss the upcoming bond vote on changes to the county jail. **Note: the KUUF Annual Meeting will follow.**

June 17 (Father's Day); Miriam Pickens Presents "Canadian History Gets Interesting: Personal Reflections on a Revolution." See details on page four.

June 24: Live-Streaming of UUA General Assembly from Kansas City. NOTE: This begins at 10 am at BHK, but since the streaming is continuous, you may come and go as you wish.



Potluck Planned for Rev. Belcher's Visit

Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher's visit on the first weekend in June will include a Saturday night potluck, according to Miriam Pickens, coordinator.

Place: BHK Meeting room

Date: Saturday, June 2nd

Time: 5:30 - 7:30

Please sign up by emailing Miriam (mpickens1@charter.net)

Nominating Committee Announces Recommendations for Next Board

The KUUF Nominating Committee is recommending several new and some returning people for the next board, to be voted on at the June 10th annual meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Board President: Dave Watkins (if elected, he will fulfill the remainder of Amlan's term as President;

Vice President: Horst Schmidt (continuing);

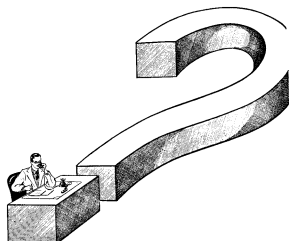
Secretary: Jenn Donovan;

Treasurer: Cindy Enderby;

At-Large Board Members: Connie Sherry, Grace Parikh, and Elen Maurer.

KUUF to Send two Representatives to UUA General Assembly in Kansas City on June 20-24

Amlan and Horst will represent KUUF. Locally, the Fellowship may view and hear activities on Sunday morning, the 24th, with live streaming from Kansas City to BHK, beginning at 10 am.



“About the Woodlands I will Ride”: Thoughts on Spring and Cherry Trees by Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher

As I turned out of the parking lot of my building in Chicago on a Friday in May, I noticed the pear trees that graced the area with blooms were now holding only leaves. The blossoms had finished.

I was headed for Traverse City, Michigan for a weekend. "I have missed the cherry orchards blooming," I thought. But not so. Just enough further north, the orchards rolled over the hillsides in puffs of flowers, each tree a perceptible ball of white amidst a community of its kind.

Woodland floors were still carpeted with trillium as though stars had fallen all over the ground. Living in Chicago, each blooming tree is a highlight amidst small lawns, arching trees and miles of flat pavement. In contrast, Traverse City's orchards in bloom are an orgy of fertility tumbling over the land.

On the long drive back to the city, I thought about that blooming land and my all-too-brief visit there. I had just seen a movie that emphasized happiness, explaining that it is not a state achieved, then held forever. It is a moment to be remembered and savored.

Expecting perpetual happiness is only a set-up for failure.

We should feast when it comes, then store this experience in memory. The poet William Blake advises us to "kiss the joy as it flies" for if we try to grasp it, it dies. Blake, an 18th Century Christian, offers us a lesson from Buddhism in accepting constant change by not trying to arrest it.

Water Communion Service Set for September

KUUF members are encouraged to save a water sample over the summer in preparation for a Water Communion service planned for early fall.

Members bring to the service a small amount of water from a place that is special to them. At the service, the congregation will pour their water together into a large bowl and briefly explain why their sample was special to them.

Recent Pledge Drive Tentative Results Show \$4,000 Short of Goal

The audit of this year's pledge activity has not yet been performed. Thus, the dollar amount and number of pledges are tentative at this point.

The last canvass report to the Fellowship, in late April 2018, was \$63,180 from 46 pledges. Those values compare to \$76,376 from 48 pledges last year.

This year we have 60 pledge units compared to 65 last year. (Generally, a pledge unit is either a single person or a couple that considers their contribution to KUUF as a single unit.)

The canvass goal is \$67,000. With \$63,180, the Board decided during its May 12 meeting that the only cut will be to the line item titled "Investment in the Future." Thus, if the pledge total holds steady at \$63,180, "Investment in the Future" would decrease from \$17,000 to \$13,180. All other line items would be fully funded, including Sunday services, with at least one visiting minister per month on average.

As a reminder, Fiscal Year 2018/19 begins on June 1. Final canvass results and a summary financial report will be presented during the June 10 Annual Meeting.

As is customary, those Voting Members attending will have an opportunity to vote on the budget recommended by the Board. The budget may be found on the KUUF website.

Bill Leder

Ware Lecture at General Assembly Will be Live-Streamed to KUUF Office

This one-hour talk will occur on Saturday, June 23rd, from 7:30-8:30. The speaker will be civil rights leader and Ted Talk veteran, Brittany Packnett.

Ms. Packnett serves as *Teach for America's* Vice President of National Community Alliances, where she leads partnerships and civil rights work with communities of color.

Besides this work, she was a Ferguson, MO protestor and continues in activism as, among other things, co-founder of Campaign Zero, a policy platform to end police violence.

New KUUF Committee Forms to Promote Social Activities

Last fall, the Board approved the formation of the Social Activities Committee as a replacement for the Celebrations Committee, which ceased to function last year.

The role of this new committee is to plan social gatherings for KUUF members and friends. These activities include 7+Suppers, Game Night, and events at the Marsin Retreat House.

Lora Repp is chairing this committee, with help from Miriam Pickens.

"As the members and friends of the Fellowship take on new challenges," Lora says, "it is important that we get together socially just to enjoy each other's company. The gatherings will energize us and reinforce why we enjoy being part of KUUF. "

Friends and Family of Audrey and Paul Frair Prepare for Memorial Event

Many in KUUF will recall Houghton cultural supporters, Paul and Audrey Frair, who passed away not long ago. Their children have planned a Memorial Service for them at Portage Lake United Church, June 22, at 6 pm.

The church will open in mid-afternoon for people to view photos and share remembrances. For further information, contact Jan Dalquist.

Adding Machines and Econo Receipts

On May 9th, the Econo Receipts party at the KUUF office attracted six math majors who added up the bills. These are the receipts collected in the plastic jar that commonly sits atop the table in the vestibule of BHK each Sunday.

Bill, Barry and Sara Fink organized the event, and they were joined by Jack Jobst, Miriam Pickens, and Lora Repp.

"We collected \$19,000 worth of receipts," Barry reported. "From that we will receive 1%, or \$190, from Econo that will go into the Minister's Discretionary Fund."

Since we have no current minister, the fund is directed by committee members Linda Rulison and Jack Jobst. The money is used in making small emergency loans to KUUF members.

For KUUF to receive the 1%, the sponsoring organization's members must add up individual receipts into bundles of \$2-3k and bind with a calculator's paper strip showing the bundle's total.

Last month's *yUUPER Newsletter* asked KUUF members who own calculators with paper rolls to help in adding the receipts, and one machine appeared from an unusual source: Mark McGee, owner of the Book Concern, which prints the *yUUPER Newsletter*. He read the article and offered the use of his machine.

Three New Members Added to KUUF Rolls

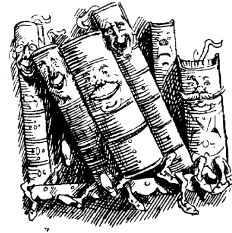


Craig Alding has recently moved to Houghton from Salt Lake City, where he was a UU. He signed our book with Board member Lora Repp looking on.

New KUUF members, Carol and Steve Maas, discuss with David Watkins the finer points of Unitarian Universalism. The Maas family had belonged to KUUF in the past, and now have rejoined.



Pictures by Bill Fink and Jack Jobst

Keweenaw UU FellowshipHome Page: <http://www.keweenawuu.org/>**On Facebook:**<https://www.facebook.com/keweenawuu/>**Koffee Klatsch:** Every 2nd and 4th Fridays at 10 AM.
Roy's Bakery, on the waterway in Houghton.**A UU Book of Poems:
Worth A Look**

A book review by Bob Fiandt
Does poetry interest you? If so, you might want to look at an outstanding book of poetry—probably the best

that we have: *The Unitarian Universalist Poets: A Contemporary American Survey*, edited by Jennifer Bosveld, (1996, 202 pages).

The book contains poems from 120 writers aligned with a UU perspective. These have been chosen from 30,000 received over a two-year period. The editor believes that these poems declare our values and our questions.

Editor Bosveld says that “The primary reason I wanted to build this book is to demonstrate how important a Unitarian Universalist life-approach has been to some creative artists, activists, teachers, healers, writers,” with the goal to “accept the best poems that represent many schools of thought, writing style, and life choices.”

Of particular interest to me are the poets’ biographies, a well as information on why the editors selected a poem, and sometimes a written response from the author.

**Miriam Pickens to speak on
Experiences Growing up in Quebec**

Miriam Pickens will speak at the June 17th service about her impressions living through a time of turbulence in Canada.

“Between the 1960’s and the late 1970’s. when I left,” Miriam says, “the province experienced a separatist revolution, elected its first Parti Quebecois candidate as premier (like governor), and became the only unilingual province in the country.”

“This presented a lot of interesting challenges for the residents of Montreal, a large bilingual cosmopolitan city.”

Miriam says she assembled this talk when she attended a class on sermon writing with Chris Rothbauer last fall. The class may be offered again this coming fall with Miriam and Jack Jobst leading it.



**Keweenaw Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
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