



yUuper Newsletter

Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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



Sunday Mornings at 10:30 February 2018; Vol. 33, #2

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

February's Theme: Earth

Sunday Schedule for February 2018

Feb. 4: (Service) Rev. Mark Richards, our first guest minister, will speak to us on the topic of "A River of Regulation." If bad weather prevents his visit, Bob Wheeler will offer the service scheduled for 2/18, and Rev. Richards will take Bob's time slot.

Feb 11: (Forum) Carol Pfeffercorn, from Omega House, will discuss *Five Wishes*. Mike Lutz, executive director at Omega House, will be on hand to discuss the vision and plans for the future of Omega House

Feb 18: (Service) "Performance Art in Buddhism, Living in Happiness" is Bob Wheeler's topic. He will share some thoughts on Buddhism and read passages from Thich Nhat Hanh and the Dalai Lama. Potluck and book sale today. If possible, bring your own service to minimize the cleanup by the hospitality crew.

Feb 25: (Service) The Worship Committee will present a service from *FaithRocket*. Bill Fink is tentatively scheduled to lead.

Last Minute Open Hymn Practice

Before Service Sundays, when Sandra Loy, music director is present, everyone is invited to gather in the choir corner at 10:15-ish to run through the day's hymns.

No one will be obligated to join the choir by attending this hymn practice. Its purpose is to enjoy and strengthen our singing. Every voice is welcome!



KUUF Worship Committee Assumes Responsibility for Lay-Led Services

The newly reorganized Worship Committee has met twice to plan for KUUF services.

Members who attended the January meeting include Nanno Rose, Bob Wheeler, Bill Fink, Miriam Pickens, Shirley Galbraith, Jack Jobst, and Barry Fink, the committee chair.

The committee selects materials from FaithRocket.org, an on-line anthology of service materials that changes each month. The website provides 4-5 sermons, hymn suggestions, plus opening and closing words, and other elements needed for Sunday services.

The materials always coincide with the UU monthly themes, such as "Earth," for February.

The committee looks over the materials and selects which ones seem the most interesting for our group.

The Worship Committee is composed of members who want the best services possible, and they welcome others who wish to help. No one is required to read or otherwise participate as a leader of the Sunday services.

KUUF Board Happenings

By Amlan Mukherjee

You will be glad to know, that your KUUF Board has been quite busy the last six weeks. Chief among them were the formalities with UUA finalizing the departure of Rev. Rothbauer. We completed our exit interview with UUA on a very snowy, and stormy evening. To ensure the safety of the Board members, we did it virtually from the comfort of our living rooms, with Rev. Lisa Presley, our UUA district officer. The Board also met in a closed session to address matters around personnel management. Will Cantrell is supervising our office staff and choir director, while Lora Repp has graciously volunteered to help with RE and childcare needs during service. In an act of good will, the Board also decided unanimously to forgive Rev. Rothbauer's outstanding debt of ~ \$300 to KUUF. Meanwhile, the Worship Committee deserves high praise for stepping in to plan our lay led services. As a team I believe we have all worked towards ensuring that the absence of a minister does not negatively impact the morale of our community and all that it has to offer to all of us.



Barry Fink, chair of the KUUF Worship Committee, looks over the Winter/Spring scheduling at a recent committee meeting.

February Forum to Cover Omega House and Advance Care Planning

Advance care planning is about making end-of-life care choices now, while we are capable.

It is important because it helps provide the care desired, and not desired.

These decisions also relieve the burdens on one's family. A booklet titled *Five Wishes* is the heart and soul of advance care planning; it helps an individual make choices ahead of time, with the assistance of an advocate.

Green Sanctuary Book Group to Discuss Barry Commoner's *Closing the Circle* on Feb 27

The Book Group meetings are always at 7 p.m. in the KUUF Office, which is located in the Annex of Trinity Episcopal Church. Access is via the upper parking area.

A tie in the voting on book selections resulted in choosing 5 books instead of 4. Those who attended the January 2nd meeting voted to change the discussion date for the final selection, if it turns out that most regulars won't be able to make it due to travel plans.

The March selection will be *Coyote America: A Natural and Supernatural History*, by Dan Flores

For further information see Linda Belote.

KUUF Sweatshirt Order due 2/12

It's time to order new KUUF sweatshirts.

Crewnecks and hoodies will be available in green, blue, and garnet.

The minimum order for KUUF is 24 items.

The shirts are all 8.0 oz., pre-shrunk 50/50 cotton/polyester.

The KUUF logo will appear on each in ivory, centered on the shirt.

Please give your completed forms and payment to Lora Repp or Miriam Pickens by February 12.

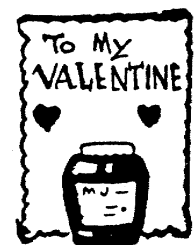
Prices are as follows:

Hoodie- \$22.50 ea.

Crew - \$19.95 ea.

XXL add - \$2ea. / 3XL add - \$3

Deadline for inclusion of your material in the March *yUUFer Newsletter* is Tuesday, February 20th, at noon.



Board President Amlan Mukherjee Discusses KUUF Plans

Dear Fellowship –

I hope this letter finds you negotiating the New Year well. I was gone for the first two weeks of the year, for two back to back meetings, and that left me a little under the weather, and definitely struggling to catch up with email, while relentlessly digging out of the ever-gathering snow.

I think of January as a month of quiet. The dust settles after the holidays, the rhythm of the uneventful daily returns, even as light and warmth eludes us. It is too early to plan for summer, and yet there is a growing urgency, as deadlines and milestones months away, beckon us to envision the year ahead. Even as we seek comfort and quiet, there is promise in this time, knowledge that under the deep snow, life sleeps only to bloom again, soon.

I believe we are in a similar space in the life of KUUF. The ministry of Rev. Rothbauer has taught us much about who we are and what we value in our ministry. As with any meaningful experience, it has also left us uncomfortable at times. At this time of quiet, it is important for us to reflect on what we have learned, and also find comfort in our Fellowship. It is time to regroup, to return to ourselves, in the comfort of the familiar (Worship Committee promises me that Announcements will be back!). If you have stopped coming on Sundays, for whatever your reasons may be, I invite you back to Fellowship. We miss you. It is also a time to reconsider who we are, and where we are headed. Spring is not very far behind. Who will we be when the buds start blooming in April. We must hear from all of you to answer these questions.

To that extent, the Board has decided to meet with KUUF members in small group settings. We want to hear from you about **your** vision of the future. We want to find out what emerges from the tapestry of our collective vision. Please sign up for no more than two meetings, by contacting

the hosts. Each group will have up to 8-10 participants. The times and dates for the meetings are as follows:

- 02/04: Hosted by Amlan and Lora –
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Location: Amlan's place
- 02/08: Hosted by Jenn and Tom –
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Location: Office
- 02/09: Hosted by Kelley –
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Location: Public Library (tentative)
- 02/13: Hosted by Lora and Will –
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Location: Lora's place
- 02/11: Hosted by Dave and Horst –
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Location: Bluffs (tentative)

We want to maximize participation, so please do let us know if none of the dates work for you. Online participation is encouraged (details to be provided on demand).

As we move forth from this time of rest, change will inevitably define us. A transition is an opportunity to find freedom from the past, let go of assumptions, and relieve us of the "this is how it has always been done"s. This change is critical. In order to survive, we must grow and adapt to the needs of our future membership. Hence, I invite new leaders to volunteer and bring new vision to the Fellowship. Our elders have laid the foundation for KUUF, it is again time to make the Fellowship in the image of the future.

On that note, I will have served as President for 2 years this June. While I do have one more year of my regular term left, I do not want to overstep the typical term a President serves. I have informed the Nominating Committee that I intend to step aside as President. Various Board members are also rolling off this June. What better time for new volunteers to step in with new vision, and enthusiasm to shape the future of KUUF. Please let the Nominating Committee know of your interest and help them shape our future leadership.

Brimming with optimism for the future, and in Fellowship,

Amlan Mukherjee

Library Briefs by Bob Fiandt



Do you enjoy reading biographies about interesting and noteworthy people? Our KUUF library has much to offer. I have listed below the biographies of people that I find most remarkable.

The first two listed are autobiographies, and, with the exception of Gandhi, all appear in the UU section of our library.

1. Cookie Johnson, KUUF member and author of a journal about her struggle with a brain tumor.
2. Henry David Thoreau, philosopher, poet, and journalist.
3. Olympia Brown, the first ordained woman minister in America, and women's suffragist.
4. William Ellery Channing, one of the leading Unitarian theologians of the early 19th century.
5. Dorothea Dix, nurse, social reformer, and advocate for the mentally ill.

6. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Unitarian minister, poet, philosopher, and essayist.
7. Sophia Lyon Fahs, revolutionary educator.
8. Harriet Grace Hayden, friend of the KUUF Fellowship, now deceased. Written by Catherine Leder about her and Bill Leder's mother.
9. Joseph Priestley, English theologian and scientist who discovered oxygen. (two items)
10. Mahatma Gandhi, Indian political activist.

KUUF Home Page:

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

On Facebook:

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

Koffee Klatsch: Thursday, 2/9 and Friday, 2/23;
10 AM, at Roy's Bakery on the Houghton waterfront.



Keweenaw Unitarian
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