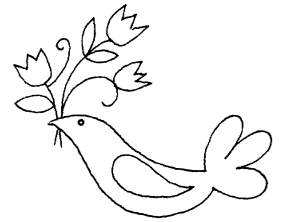


yUuper Newsletter

Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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



Sunday Mornings at 10:30 June 2017; Vol. 32, #6

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

Sunday Schedule for June 2017

June's Theme: Joy

June 4: "The Joy of Church" - In an age that is becoming increasingly secular, why keep going to church? In this service, Rev. Chris will challenge contemporary notions of what church means and get to the heart of what Unitarian Universalist worship really means.

KUUF Annual Meeting to follow this service.

June 11 (Forum): "Casablanca": The Back-Story of the 1943 Oscar-Winning Film about Love, War, and the Plight of Refugees. Jack Jobst narrates his heavily-illustrated talk, but will refrain from giving Bogart imitations.

June 18: "Summer 'Open Mic'" - By popular demand, the worship committee presents an opportunity for you to bring music and readings that are important to you for a much less structured service than usual. Potluck and Book Sale today.

June 25: "Exploring Concepts of Loyalty, Core Beliefs and Challenges" - What does it mean to be loyal, and what are some challenges to these concepts? In this service, the worship committee will explore these questions.

Regular Hospitality Key Remains Missing

The key used by hospitality teams remains missing. While a fellowship member with a spare key has allowed his to be used, all keys to the building should be accounted for. Check your Sunday clothes for the key.

KUUF Annual Meeting Set for June 4; Nominees Selected for 2017-8 Offices

The 2017 annual meeting will occur after the regular service on the first Sunday in June.

The Board Nominees include Amlan and Horst for President and VP respectively; they have agreed to continue in their positions.

Treasurer Cindy Enderby's term has expired, and Will Cantrell has agreed to assume this post.

Two at-large Board members' terms have ended—Shirley Galbraith and Nanno Rose. Lora Repp and Dave Watkins have agreed to be nominated. Nominations from the floor on June 4th for any position are also possible.

Lucinda Enderby Retires as KUUF

Treasurer



Cindy Enderby, CPA, of Great Lakes Accounting, has served as unpaid Fellowship Treasurer for the past four years, and during that time she has brought our accounting system into the 21st Century.

"The KUUF accounting requirements were not complex until the last few years," Cindy says, "when the group moved from one employee (the minister) to six, and the old manual system could not keep up. " This change," Cindy explained, "required a monthly, quarterly, and annual payroll tax payment, along with the accompanying bookkeeping."

(Continued on Page Two.)

Treasurer's Retirement (Cont.)

Besides this change, the Fellowship had to keep track of multiple, restricted contributions, such as the Boyce Scholarship, the Minister's Discretionary Fund, the Church Building Fund, and an office worker paid through a grant.

To handle all of this, and figuring that in the future non-accountants will likely be handling it, Cindy moved the bookwork to computer software, Quickbooks.

Cindy has owned Great Lakes Accounting for many years, but in January sold the firm as she begins moving towards full retirement.

"Harriet King, an employee of Great Lakes Accounting, has been working on the Fellowship needs, among other accounts," Cindy says, "and she deserves credit for her work, especially the training of Lisa Wiitala, in the Fellowship office, on how to use Quickbooks."

"Casablanca" Film Viewing Available Before the Talk

With news of the plight of Mediterranean country refugees appearing in the nightly news, the 1943 film "Casablanca" seems not to have aged.

For those who wish to view the film before the talk (recommended but not mandatory), call (482-7584) or email the speaker: jackjobst@charter.net. Jobst will choose an appropriately-sized location for viewing, depending on the numbers.

KUUF Highway Pickup Sponsorship Likely to End for Lack of Participation

KUUF has participated in the M-26 Highway Pickup program for over thirty years, but participation has dropped so low that coordinator Susan Hooker has suggested we end it.

"Only a few people signed up last fall," Hooker said, "and I don't sense we will regain the interest we used to have."

Hooker contacted the state officials in charge, but at this printing, they have not responded to discuss the issue.

Minister's Musings

"Why Go To Church?"

"Church is where we practice being human."

—James Luther Adams, Unitarian theologian

What does it mean to be a religious community of any sort? What is the value of religion in today's world?

Often, ministers and other religious leaders are trained to view churches as non-profits or businesses.

While this model does have some truthfulness, I think it's dangerous. It leads us to believe that the congregation exists to provide value to us, whether that be intellectual enrichment, community, social justice organizing, or care.

Don't get me wrong: each of these is a pleasant byproduct of a religious community. I want to push back against the notion, though, that congregations exist to provide something to us—what I recently called "consumerist Unitarian Universalism" in a blog post.

No, church does not exist to serve us. It exists to transform us.

On any given week in a Unitarian Universalist congregation, one can hear sermons on a wide variety of topics. While these sermons may be intellectually or spiritually uplifting, their primary purpose is to delve down into our souls and transform us from the inside out.

As Unitarian Universalist minister Erik Walker Wikstrom once said, "If you are who you were, and if the person next to you is who he or she was, if none of us has changed since the day we came in here—we have failed."

Think about it: there are many other places, sometimes even better places, we can go to find community, engage in intellectual endeavors, and even organize for justice. . .

(Continued on page three)



Minister's Musings (Continued)

There is only one place, however, where we can be challenged on a weekly basis to live up to our highest possible selves, to grow as people and figure out who we are in the **mystery** of the world.

Church prepares us to be better people. It reminds us of our highest values and challenges us to live up to them in ways that few other organizations can. It strengthens us so we can live our calling out in the world. It seeks to find meaning in a world that is, on the surface, meaningless.

Where has transformation occurred for you in our community? Maybe other people said you were okay just the way you are for the first time.

You might have found a place where you could explore your religious values. You may even have seen your life transformed much more radically.

Whatever our community has done for you in the past, know that we exist because of you. Only, together, will we have the opportunity to bless more thirsty searchers for generations to come.

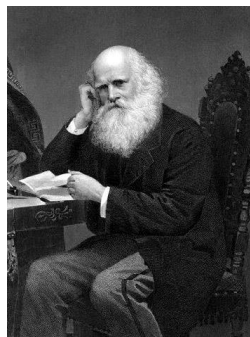
— Rev Chris

Listen to Rev. Chris's Sermons on SoundCloud:
<https://soundcloud.com/chrisrothbauer>

Rev. Chris Rothbauer
 Regular Office Hours:
 Wednesday and Thursday: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 Friday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, and by appointment

Tea with the Minister:
 Thursday: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 Friday: 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Rev. Chris's Blog: <http://www.radicalrev.com>



Did you Know?

William Cullen Bryant, well-known Unitarian and poet ("Thanatopsis") died in 1878.

Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan, next to the main NYC Public Library on 42nd and Fifth Avenue, is named for him.

Sherry Zoars Announces Retirement as Coffee and Chocolate Coordinator



Sherry has been the Coffee Lady for many years, but now must step away. She and Tony hope 1-2

others in the Fellowship will step forward and assume responsibility for completing orders and keeping the BHK coffee larder ready for Sunday morning services.

"This task is not difficult," Sherry says, "and it contributes to our principles in several ways."

Sherry points out that the coffee we use on Sundays, and that we buy through her Fair Trade network, does not cheat the farmers who grow the beans.

And the dollars the coffee and chocolate orders from everyone adds to the KUUF financial position.

If you are wondering what else you might do to support KUUF, contact Sherry for more info on this important but relatively easy task.

zoars@copper.net

Bill Fink responds here to a statement from the UUA Leadership on the term "White supremacy"

"I am deeply offended that the UUA leadership is using the term "white supremacy" to describe the reasons for our failure to develop balanced and representational leadership in our denomination.

"Such use of this term equates me, an older, white male, with the Klan, neo-Nazis, and other flavors of racism and hate simply because I am white.

"Also, such use of the term does nothing to constructively address gender inequity in our leadership.

"This absurd, inflammatory, reckless use of hurtful language, if it continues, will encourage me to renounce my affiliation with the UUA. I can certainly follow my personal journey of faith as a UU without the UUA."

Bill Fink, Member, Keweenaw UU Fellowship,



Library Briefs With Bob Fiandt

Do you have an interest in nature and the environment?

Our KUUF library has books on bird watching, the Great Lakes, and global warming.

Would you like to learn the titles of these items? For a quick and easy way, check our online bibliography at

kuuf.net/library.pdf,



Rev Gabi's News

Rev. Dr. Gabriele L Parks, shown here with Pete Ekstrom, served as the KUUF Interim Minister two years ago.

She has recently shared the news that she has been called as Senior Minister at the UU Fellowship in York, PA.

Congratulations to Rev. Gabi.



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