



# yUUper Newsletter

**Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

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



**Sunday Mornings at 10:30 September 2018; Vol. 33, #9**

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

## Sunday Schedule for September 2018

**Sept 2: "From Raising a Roof to Raising a Child: My Experience with a Haitian Orphanage."** Karen Wheeler will describe her work assisting an orphanage in Haiti.

**Sept. 9: "MTU's Sustainability Demonstration House."** A Green Forum. Rose Turner, an Environmental Studies senior at Tech, will speak to us about the University's new Sustainability Demonstration House, where Rose lives. See info in this newsletter on what will follow Rose's talk.

**Sept 16:** Educator of Life-Long Learning, Deborah Massarano, from Temple Jacob, will speak to us.

**Sept. 23:** Itinerant UU musician Ben Weaver will provide a service for us.

**Sept. 30: "The Importance of Pastoral Care."** Paul Mitchell will discuss why Pastoral Care will help us build the *inreach* we want for KUUF's future. Preliminary plans are for the service to be held at the Marsin Center, west of Houghton.

## Board to Meet with Candidate on 8/26 to Discuss Possible Lay Ministerial Position

Paul Mitchell, a candidate for the position of Lay Minister at KUUF, will meet with the Board on August 26 to discuss his qualifications.

If the Board decides to move forward on his candidacy, the group will ask the Personnel Committee to check on the candidate's background and references.

The next step is with the Finance Committee to determine what funds are available for a lay minister, and for how long. Presumably, if a hire occurs, it will be for the remainder of the fiscal year, but it could be shorter.

Finally, if the candidate successfully reaches this point, he could be hired as an independent contractor, according to Horst Schmidt, Board VP.

## Board Establishes Ad Hoc Committees to Consider Future Ministry Leadership

According to Dave Watkins, Board President, the KUUF Board has begun investigating options regarding ministerial leadership.

"We have set up two ad hoc committees," Watkins says. "The first, composed of Horst Schmidt and Jenn Donovan, will interview candidates for a lay ministerial position." At this time, Paul Mitchell has shown interest, and the Schmidt/Donovan committee has met with him.

"The second," Watkins says, is the Ministerial Task Force. It is much larger and will review all options relating to the Fellowship's plans for spiritual leadership in the future."

The second committee members are Horst Schmidt, Jane Hiltunen, Sharon Levine, Barry Fink, Miriam Pickens, and Tammy Gajewski. Harriet King will chair this group.

This Ministerial Task Force (MTF) will begin their work with a survey, according to Horst Schmidt. "Each MTF member will be assigned four UU congregations similar in size to KUUF, and ask them what ministry system they use, and whether it works well for them. The MTF will then meet on

September 6 to compare notes on what we have learned."



*Rev. Gabi, a former KUUF interim minister, provided an inspiring service for us this summer.*

### **Green Talk, Green Lunch, Green Tour on September 9th**

After the Green Forum presentation by Rose Turner on Sept 9, KUUF is invited to a picnic at the home of Pete and Carol Ekstrom (1410 Sugar Maple Lane, behind Shopko). Bring your own sandwich; the hosts will provide drinks and a tossed salad.

At 1 PM the group will head to the Tech campus to tour the University's Sustainability Demo House at 21680 Woodland Road. If you plan to come to the picnic, please RSVP to [cekstrom3@gmail.com](mailto:cekstrom3@gmail.com)

### **Habitat for Humanity Prepares for Major Local Effort**

Copper Country Habitat for Humanity has partnered with the Portage Health Foundation to help rebuild the Copper Country community damaged by the Father's Day flood, according to Carol Ekstrom.

"Projects could include building a new home or completing critical repair projects on damaged homes," Ekstrom says.

"We will receive additional help from *Habitat MI* and *Habitat International*. They will send a Blitz Build team or Caravan team up to help with new

home builds and possibly one or more critical repairs," Ekstrom says. "We will still need plenty of local volunteers. Updates will be posted when we have more details."

### **New Hospitality Director Releases Survey Results**

By Miriam Pickens

After passing around a survey during the Annual Meeting, and talking to people afterward, I learned several important points about hospitality.

1. Only about 35 people/couples are willing and able to do hospitality. Thus, to staff for services every Sunday, volunteers are must sign up approximately every two months.

2. Many find it difficult to come in on Saturday for set-up.

3. Some prefer the physical part of hospitality, while others prefer the food preparation.

Based on these results I modified the sign-up sheets so people are aware of the service/forum topics, thinking that might help them decide which date to choose.

Contact me if you need assistance in finding a co-worker.

Sheets are now available through December, so don't hesitate to sign up a few months ahead.

Performing hospitality helps in many ways. Individuals may learn about the interests and skills of other KUUF members, and a committee or task group can develop skills in working as a team.

[mpickens1@charter.net](mailto:mpickens1@charter.net)



*Karen Boutilier, in town to visit her mother Phyllis, stops by during a summer service to visit with KUUF-ers, including Dave Watkins, Board President.*

## From the KUUF Library



Meditation has a long history of comforting ruffled souls, but how many of us have tried combining that with chanting? You might not know that several years ago the KUUF choir created a CD of chants. Here is some info on the contents:

### *Chants for Meditation*

The Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Choir Recorded this on November, 2009 by engineer Damon Morris at the E. L. Wright building lobby in Hancock.

The chants include "Meditation on Breathing," "Om Shanti," "Earth Air Fire Water," and "Dona Nobis Pachem," among others.

While the technical information on the CD is not entirely known, the recording engineer might be the son of former minister, Sydney Morris, whose office was in the E.L. Wright building.

Our Choir Director, Sandra Loy, says that "Chants for Meditation" is a diverse compilation spanning several traditions. Chant and mantra have been practiced for thousands of years to promote spiritual awakening, mental discipline, emotional health and physical wellness—and these benefits are accessible to everyone."

We have three copies: one in the meditation room at the office, and two in the library at BHK that can be checked-out.

*—Bob Fiandt*



*Dave and Mary Kuure, formerly of Houghton, met the Ekstroms for lunch at the end of June in Traverse City, where the Kuures now live. Their new house is conveniently located, says Carol Ekstrom, and the Traverse City community center is quite active. They are enjoying being close to family and meeting new people.*

## **Karen Wheeler (Bob's sister) to Speak on 2 September about her work with a Haitian Orphanage**



*Photo courtesy of Karen Wheeler*



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