

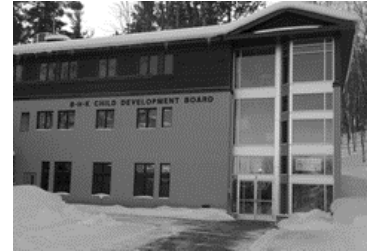
# yUUper Newsletter

**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 October 2018

**This month's Theme: *Persistence***

**Oct 7:** Prof. Veronica Webster, MTU Civil & Environmental Dept, will speak to us on **Clean Water Issues**.

### **Oct 14: *Truth and the Elephant in the Room.***

Visiting minister, Rev. Emmy Lou Belcher, says that many roads lead to an understanding of Truth. But certain factors influence our ability to understand it, regardless of how it is presented. What do we need to make good decisions and to be good detectives of the truth?

A Congregational Meeting will follow the service, at noon.

**Oct 21:** The KUUF Membership Committee asks **Who Are UU?** This is *Visitors Sunday*, so we ask all regular members and friends to bring someone who hasn't attended UU before. We are preparing a *reaffirmation* of "who we are."

**Oct 28: Transmogrifying our Principles.** Jack J. will lead us, assisted by a FaithRocket sermon based on Calvin & Hobbes; the two cartoon characters will define the term for us. Today's service will include our annual **Water Ceremony**, hosted by Horst Schmidt, so please bring your water sample today.



## Of Windows and Orphans

Last month, Karen Wheeler described her work with a Haitian orphanage.

KUUF people in attendance were so moved that they placed \$223 in a special

collection plate. Two other contributors boosted the final tally to \$423, according to Bob Wheeler, Karen's brother. He also said that Karen added her speaking stipend to that figure.

"Karen is very pleased," Bob reports. "This is almost enough to complete construction and installation of three 4' X 3' windows in the orphanage. (Photo courtesy of Bill Fink.)

## Congregational Meeting Set for 10/14

Dave Watkins, Board President, has announced a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 14, at noon, BHK. Goal: To consider hiring an *Interim Consulting Minister*, aka Part-Time Lay Minister, who would lead services twice a month and provide other ministerial services.



**Koffee Klatch Anyone?**

## **KUUF Board Considers Paul Mitchell for Part-Time Lay Minister Position**

According to Dave Watkins, KUUF Board President, soon after Paul Mitchell led a service in July several fellowship members encouraged the KUUF Board to consider him for a lay ministry position,

“The Board initiated a task force as authorized during our annual meeting, one of which was the Ministerial Task Force. Its mission is to look at options for our future ministerial needs,” Watkins says.

“The Board has been considering Paul’s potential role as an interim ‘consulting minister’ (as defined by the *UUA Transitional Ministry Handbook*).” Watkins says that “The Board feels we should engage the KUUF membership formally in this decision process.”

The Board’s Congregational Meeting after the service on October 14<sup>th</sup> will ask the KUUF membership to vote on suspending the bylaw requiring that a search committee be appointed and approving the Board to continue the process of hiring Paul Mitchell as a part-time consulting minister. Arrangements will be made for absentee ballots.

Additional information will be provided by October 2nd regarding the general terms of the contract being considered, including Paul’s duties and compensation.

Information about Paul’s background and qualifications will also be made available. Contract details will be arranged by the Board if the Congregation approves of the Board’s wish to move forward.

Watkins feels that a part-time lay minister could play several important roles in the Fellowship. For example, a lay minister would give sermons on a regular basis and provide pastoral care.

A lay minister could also represent KUUF in the local community and at regional and national UUA meetings. Such a person could also organize the Fellowship in social justice work, help with the RE program, and perhaps perform some administrative tasks, depending on his or her interests.

Essentially, a lay minister could perform many of the functions of an ordained minister, but the Board, of course, would not expect the person to do everything.

Watkins reports that a recording of Paul’s July 15th sermon, *Five Smooth Stones*, is available on the KUUF website:

(<https://www.keweenawuu.org/sermons/speaker/paul-mitchell/>).

## **KUUF Annual Goods & Services Auction Set for October 27<sup>th</sup> in BHK Community Room**

Members of the Committee on the fall fundraiser have announced that this year’s event will occur at our usual Sunday location, BHK, rather than The Bluffs.

The dinner will begin with appetizers and drinks at 5 pm, with live, traditional, Oktoberfest music.

Dinner will follow at 6:00 featuring delicious chili (meat or vegetarian) with salad, crusty bread, and a variety of desserts.

The Live Auction will follow dinner with one intermission, during which our musicians will have another opportunity to entertain us.

The Silent Auction will open at 5:00 and will close after the intermission.

Committee members are hoping that fellowship members will contribute goods and services for both auctions. Contact Laura Repp with your questions and/or a list of your auction contributions: [lorarepp@yahoo.com](mailto:lorarepp@yahoo.com)

## **Membership Committee Requests Bring-a-Guest for 10/21 Service**

The KUUF Membership Committee hopes that the congregation will bring guests to the Sunday service on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Chairperson Linda Belote says that “The person you bring does not have to be a prospect for membership, just a person who is curious about who we are and what we believe.”

Other members of this important committee are Jenn Donovan, Bob Drake, Peggy Hill, Grace Parikh, Miriam Pickens, and Lora Repp.



## Some Thoughts on Lay Ministry with Paul Mitchell

*This article is from two telephone conversations between Paul and Jack Jobst in late September, 2018.*

"I am quite excited about the possibility of being a lay minister with KUUF.

"I am drawn to lay ministry because we all become more fully human when we are in a relationship with others. The ministry helps me develop as a person, helping me become more fully human.

"I have not had experience with a whole congregation ministry, of course, but I have had related experiences, such as the time I spent in Arizona, visiting different UU congregations and discussing issues that were important to them. I was paid by a grant to do this.

"With regards to giving a sermon I have my teaching background, which has provided skills in presenting information in an understandable way.

"One method I use for sermons is to take a recognizable, simple element, and explain how it is relevant to everyday activities: how an idea evokes a broader issue. I can take a task I accomplish and show how this has greater meaning than merely finishing a project. In the essential element of ministry, the minister should not be the magistrate but the facilitator of thoughts that the people can take and form for their own needs.

"I love the act of writing and reading. I enjoy distilling thoughts that are interesting to me and, I feel, to others.

"My skills are a good fit for the KUUF. Here in Houghton is a good time and a good place for a developing minister.

"I am looking forward not only to offering two sermons a month that the Board has said they wish for the person taking this position, but also

to help the KUUF in moving forward. I want to help KUUF with the goals the fellowship feels are important.

"I currently have a job with the Democratic Party, traveling around the western UP, energizing the electorate. The job will end on election day.

"I am settling into this area for the long term. I have recently purchased a house on South Avenue in west Houghton, not very far from BHK."

## Any Questions on Composting and MTU Sustainability Demo House?

Over forty people attended a Sunday forum on composting, held last month. The subsequent visit to Tech's Demo House, on Woodland Road, may have raised some questions not covered by the talk. If so, you can get answers from the speaker, Rose Turner, [roset@mtu.edu](mailto:roset@mtu.edu)

## Peace-Building Circle Set for Thursday, October 25th

A KUUF fellowship group has set Thursday, October 25 for a Peace-Building Circle, according to Harriet King.

"This event will be a retreat with an outside facilitator that will allow fellowship members to come together, examine our differences that have emerged over the past year, and define who we are now," King says.

"The facilitators of this event," King continues, "are Jill Hodges and Rob Bishop, both trained in restorative justice."

The event will run from 6-8 pm at a location to be announced. Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

Harriet says that this event is in response to the Board's request that the fellowship "schedule one or more workshops/retreats with an outside facilitator.

"This will hopefully be a healing process, an affirmation of our values, and a reminder of why this Fellowship exists."

## **KUUF Says “Thanks” to Leo Wheeler, and Requests Help in Finding A New Child Care Provider**

Elen Maurer reports that “Leo Wheeler, our fun and nurturing child care provider, and college freshman, has left his KUUF position to concentrate on his studies.”

“Leo,” Elen continues, “has been a consistent part of Sunday morning for many UU children and their parents.”

Leo’s departure, however, has left an opening for a Sunday morning child care provider. Elen asks for help in locating someone for this important job. To offer suggestions or obtain more info, contact Elen: [emaurer@up.net](mailto:emaurer@up.net)

## ***New DVD Series Available for Viewing***

A second DVD series, “The Bible and the Qur’an: A Comparative Study” has been purchased by Bill Fink and will be offered for group viewing.

The series offers twenty-one lectures led by Prof. Gabriel S. Reynolds, Ph.D.

Those with an interest in this topic may join the group, which will meet over several weeks, probably from 11 to 1pm on Fridays at the KUUF office, starting early November.

Let Bill know if you are interested in joining any or all of the sessions: 482-4632, [billfink@chartermi.net](mailto:billfink@chartermi.net).



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

## **Keweenaw UU Fellowship**

### **Home Page:**

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

### **On Facebook:**

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

Deadline for the November *yUUpper Newsletter*:  
Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9 am. [jackjobst@charter.net](mailto:jackjobst@charter.net)



The **Koffee Klatch** traditionally met at Roy’s Bakery every second and fourth Fridays, 10 AM. Those interested will meet this month on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Those who do not attend will be the topics of discussion.