

The Unitarian Church of Underwood is a welcoming community of diverse people where our celebration of life and common search for meaning bind us together.

Unitarian Church of Underwood

206 North Main Street

Underwood

Phone: 218/826-6553

Website: www.ucofu.org

www.facebook.com/www.ucofu.org

Services

*November 5- Jay
Johnson, Propect
House*

*November 12 Bob
Worner, "Giving
Thanks & Making
Plans"*

November 19 - TBA

November 26 - TBA



Fall Bouquet & Photo courtesy of
Mikkel Thompson & Florance Thompson

November 2017 Newsletter

**Sunday Services Begin at
10:00 a.m.**

November 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Jay Johnson Story of Prospect House CST**	6 AA 7 pm	7	8 Alexandria U Group 7 pm @ Widseth... Office Bldg/ Membership Committee 4:30 pm Fall Workshop TF 6 pm	9 Perham U Group @ 6:30 pm @ Stan Carignan's	10 Executive Committee 9:00 am SS #300.	11
12 Bob Worner "Giving Thanks & Making Plans"	13 AA 7 pm	14 Battle Lake/Underwood U Group 3 pm @ Joanne Cress' & Luke Anderson's	15 Board of Directors 5:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19 TBA	20 AA 7 pm	21 Fergus Falls U Group 6 pm @ Diana Ziesemer's	22	23 	24	25
26 TBA	27 AA 7 pm	28	29	30		

****Spring Ahead
 Fall Behind
 DST Ends and CST Begins November 5!**

November Speakers/Presenters

November 5 – Jay Johnson, “The Story of Prospect House.” Jay will enlighten us about his relatives’ history using Principle #3 and Living Tradition One. Once upon a time, this mansion was a hotel. It is now a museum with family collections and Civil War relics of his great grandfather who served as a Union soldier. Jay and his wife Abby live in Battle Lake.

November 12 – Celebrant, Bob Worner, “Giving Thanks and Making Plans,” – UU Principle #4

November 19 – To be announced (Tentative return of Pastor Danny Givens, MUUSJA)

November 26 - To be announced (Tentative return of David Grant, Author)



Besides the beautiful fall bouquet provided by Florance Thompson and Mikkell Thompson featured on the front page, Bev Parks provided this equally awesome flower arrangement. Many thanks!

Notes from October Speakers/Presenters



October 1, Celebrant, Ellen Eastby’s talk was titled “Grieving Losses, Celebrating Gains.” Recently three members of UCU have passed away – Louise Lovdahl, Ed Wise, and Mickie Edmonds. We feel a loss because part of us has left with them. But they also left part of themselves with us. They left behind many gifts including chocolate, caring, music and art.

Even though we have lost three members, we have gained today six new members who will share this community.

We are part of a special community, in which each of us has found a special connection. We have many reasons to celebrate. UCU is a loving, caring community that affirms who we are. It is a sacred and supporting community. And it is an active, courageous community as we work together on many things including social and environmental issues.



Bernice Johnson gave an update on the teachers of the Shan Schools. See October Newsletter for details.



October 8, Julia Nerbonne, from the MNIPL (Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light) spoke; the title was **“Climate Conversations: Connecting Head, Heart and Will.”**

Julia began by asking us to think of something that we had recently experienced that had made us feel truly alive. Examples shared included the full moon; the Otter Tail River; and attending the final championship game of the MN Lynx.

Secondly, she asked us to share thoughts about climate change. Comments included:

- Weather/ climate change being used as a weapon
The element Carbon is ubiquitous – the problem is partly that the in-ground/in atmosphere balance is out-of-wack. Increase of carbon in the atmosphere is causing unprecedented increases in global temps.
- Climate change/weather change (increase in drought, floods, storms) impacts humans – including displacement, famine, poverty, and war.
- Climate change impact on nature – includes insects’ life cycles responding to temp. cues are changing; bird migration (in response to photo cues) – sometimes not changing as rapidly; botanical changes – in response to temperature and moisture changes

Thirdly – our emotional responses ranged from fear and anger, helplessness, frustration to feeling empowered.

Responding to climate change issues can be compared to a 3-legged stool. One leg is the personal, practical changes we can make in our daily lives. A second is working for system change – through Citizen Climate Lobby, getting involved with legislative action, and being involved with discussions about pipelines (such as Enbridge Line 3). The third is building relationships and being involved with community. One place that we can work together to affect change, is in our faith communities. Many religions have stories that demonstrate responses to injustice and to protecting our natural world.

Attendance: 53



October 15 – Willard Yellow Bird, AKA Bear Shield of the Arapaho Tribe, with his father's ancestors going back many generations as Medicine Priests and his mother's ancestors going back as many generations as Chiefs. Willard is a shaman – he has to work for a living but when called, he goes. He is called by the VA hospital, Sanford's ICU, St. John's mental health agency to work with both native and non-native individuals seeking healing.

Native America traditional practices are based on spirituality, not religion. The Creator, the Supreme Being is the wholly (holy) energy of consciousness – who created all so **“we are all related.”** The sweat lodge is a purification rite. Spirituality goes back 10,000 years +. Whereas, religions of Judaism, Islam, Christianity go back only 3-4000 years.

There is one creator for all people and our culture and traditions dictate practices. Jesus can be regarded as the strongest spirit – the same spirit is around us – our own self.

Willard gave several examples of his helps with spiritual healings. Faith – energy connected to the source, the creator. His father suffered a severe stroke in 1997 but a talking circle and a healing circle of his family called his father back. He woke up and the family laughed, teased, sang and visited and had time to say goodbye. In that and his other stories, there was whole hearted faith in the nature and healing powers of tradition and spirit.

Willard's contact information is: WYellowBird@cityoffargo.com

Attendance: 49



October 22 – Rev. Ian Evison, “Small but Mighty.” It has been said that every preacher speaks one sermon and the theme of Ian's one sermon is to live from a sense of gratitude – both as individuals, and as congregations.

Every congregation is unique and special. There is no way to describe an ‘average’ congregation; because often congregations self-reflect on the description and feel less than adequate. Instead, each congregation needs a starting point – where we embrace who we are. We need to identify what is important, our strengths and our reasons for being. Then, we can move on and grow based on this understanding.

Often the ones most involved in a congregation do not always feel nourished. They see all the things that need to be done; and have a hyper-activated sense of what is not OK. It is important to nourish ourselves; to feel a sense of gratitude for what we are and have; to ground ourselves in the positive; and

understand our role(s). Each of us needs to own how small but mighty each of us is (as individuals and as congregations).

Attendance: 41

October 29 – Chris Schelke’s talk was entitled **“Interpreting Sensitive Matters in History.”** Why are we (generic) often hesitant about talking about uncomfortable pieces of history, and the murky morality of historical events? Where does truth (historic) lie?

It turns out that history is not ‘black and white’. Sometimes there is pressure to keep quiet because sometimes people are offended. Sometimes people prefer to ignore history and sweep it under the rug. This can be true of family history, community history, and national history.

Examples in OTC include the fact that the KKK has had a presence in OTC. There are many examples surrounding the 100-year +history of the Regional Treatment Center. Often, the tour of the interior painted a good picture of the treatment. However, the history is a long, complex mirror of the evolution of mental health care in the late 19th, and 20th centuries. Chris has led 20 tours around the RTC, sharing some of the better and worse aspects of the RTC. Other controversial areas of history include infamous events such as crimes, murders, and lynching.

Also, historic preservation of buildings (and landscapes) can be controversial and divisive – is preserving old buildings more economically than building new? Have old ones outlived their usefulness? Or do the old ones give us important history lessons and grounding to local events?

**Adult Religious Education
Classes
September – May
Mindfulness Sitting Year Round**

1st Sunday of the month, 8:45 - 9:45 a.m. – John Minge leading discussion from: *"A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota."* The book consists of 16 or 17 essays written recently by people with different racial/ethnic backgrounds with a strong connection to Minnesota, most live here. It challenges the assertion that we are as "nice" as we claim to be. "How can a place renowned for its hospitality and its progressive values have proven to be so profoundly inhospitable toward its people of color?"

2nd Sunday of the month, 8:45- 9:45 a.m. – Sandy Barnhouse leads the Ancient Religions Class. The broad question of the year is, “Did religion begin as a survival strategy, as a teaching on how to stay alive? Was earth worship a universal tendency?”

Our overall study connects us to the environmental movement and the ***spirituality evolving with our need to preserve the planet as a livable place.***

Every other month, we'll have a book report by one of the readers who selected that subject, and on alternate months we'll have guest lectures by Tim Hunt, Richard Kagan, and (still to be found) a spokesperson for North American tribal religious beliefs; sharing what they individually know about early Hinduism, Judaism, pre-Buddhist Chinese and Japanese religion, and modern tribal practices.

3rd Sunday of the month, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Stan Carignan leads Mindfulness/Quaker Quiet Time Sitting. "It is a wonderful feeling to let go of all your stress each day. To let go of the petty hurts, jealousies, or sadness from the day. To let go of all the worries about the next day or the next week. To simply give yourself the gift of being for just a few minutes."

4th Sunday of the month beginning October 22, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Bob Worner uses the book studied by the Celebrants, *Fluent in Faith* by Jeanne Harrison Nieuwejaar. It is "A Unitarian Universalist Embrace of Religious Language." There will be discussion of our beliefs using and redefining traditional religious language.

Children's Religious Education September – May 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.



New Space for Children's Religious Education in Sverdrup Suite #300

November 5

Dance & Song with Mikkel Thompson

November 19

**Decorating head wreaths and sharing stories of the three wise men
with Kris & Wally Warhol & Bonnie Albers**

December 17

**Children's Program @ Sunday Service
Child Care Other Sundays**

After a long wait, the weight of so little space for our UU kids is lifted and opportunities abound as the kids bounce with excitement in their new space at Sverdrup Suite Apartments. Their room is set up, songs & chalice lighting posters are hung, the kitchen is ready for messy activities and messy snacks. Check in your kids and check it out! Non-RE Sundays, the kids will be sung out prior to the offertory to be attended in their new space. On RE Sundays, Kids will gather in the sanctuary and then be led out by RE leaders prior to the announcements. Kids are vital to our church and are a joy to us all!

U Group Schedule

- Alexandria U-Group: 2nd Wed @ 7:00 pm @ the office building of Widseth, Smith & Nolting Office Bldg., 610 Fillmore, Alexandria: Facilitators: Lee Becker/Susan Sanford
- The Battle Lake U Group, the 2nd Tuesday @ 3:00 p.m. @ home of Joanne Cress and Luke Anderson. Facilitators: Bob Worner and Joanne Cress. When Joanne and Luke are gone for the winter, Kris Warhol will co-facilitate with Bob and the group will meet with a host to be announced.
- Fergus Falls U-Group: 3rd Tues @ 6:00 pm @ Diana Ziesemer's, 934 W. Linden St., Fergus Falls. Facilitator: Jacob McKnite with Mary Worner.
- Perham U-Group: 2nd Thursday @ 6:00 p.m. at Stan Carignan's. Facilitator: Stan Carignan.

Each group holds an empty chair for anyone who wants to come and join the group.

To learn more or join a group, contact Luke at luka@arvig.net or 218/209-7809 or Stan at Stanley.a.carignan@gmail.com or 218/841-2657.



Welcome to UCU Twelve New Members!!



Celebrant, Deb Ferguson welcoming Robbyn Iverson Navatta, Tim Lanz, Lorene McIntosh (& Lotus)

Over the past few months, twelve new members have signed the membership book. Three were officially welcomed in October and the rest will be welcomed the first Sunday in March, 2018. New member welcoming is held twice a year. Here's an introduction of some of our new members, with more on others to follow in later newsletters:

Amy Beckman- "I'm a native of Underwood and was raised as a Lutheran. I found UU while I lived in Illinois and found myself seeking a supportive and uplifting community. I found it there and wanted to continue in that when I moved back to Underwood. I'm back in the area to help my dad with the family farm after living in Minneapolis for the last four years. I enjoy reading, snowshoeing, biking, and listening to podcasts. I have a lab/shepherd/terrier mix named Rosie who loves chasing squirrels and rabbits and is enjoying life on the farm!



Marianne Fleming Bryan is thrilled to be joining the Unitarian Church where she has been so warmly welcomed. Marianne is currently splitting her time between living and teaching piano in St. Paul and knitting and enjoying her "tiny house" on Swan Lake. She earned a doctorate in piano performance at the University of Minnesota and taught for 20 years at the University of Saint Thomas. She loves sharing her music and looks forward to getting more involved in the church and meeting new friends.



Barb Honer – "I grew up in Dent, MN. I lived in the South West for a few years and then moved to Fargo, ND. That is where I first joined the UU church and met my husband, Jon. We live outside of Pelican Rapids with our daughter, Violet, on Lake Lida. We own and operate Solinger's Resort where I practice massage therapy.



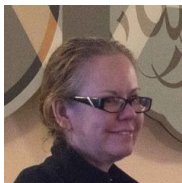
Tim Lanz – is a retired state department of corrections manager (he worked on statewide offender reentry initiatives). He moved with his wife, Pam, to a house on Sybil Lake, near Vergas about five years ago and is loving the relaxed, rural lakeside lifestyle. He greatly appreciates the Underwood Unitarian church for its lively personalities and wonderful approach to maintaining a vibrant, meaningful spiritual community. That community keeps him

engaged with the world and regularly challenges him to be his best self. *(Editor's note: And check it out – Tim has a wicked sense of humor and he is a regular on the Habitat build).*



Lorene McIntosh: "I am a lifelong Minnesotan with two great children and three amazing grandchildren. I am usually seen with my support animal "Lotus." I am an artist and art educator with a BFA in drawing/painting and a BS in K12 art education. I have used my arts education mostly in advertising/graphics and taught for several years on the Canadian border always keeping my personal studio arts going. I lived for a couple of years in Fergus Falls at the Kaddatz Artist Lofts and attended the Underwood Unitarian Church before moving to Saint Paul ArtSpace where a fellow artist taught me how to spin beautiful fibers into yarn.

I have moved back to Fergus Falls and the Kaddatz where my passion for fiber arts has only increased. I am dyeing fibers, spinning and weaving to my heart's content. I am delighted to be back at the Underwood Unitarian Church filled with intellectuals and dreamers; thinkers and questioners without dogma or judgment. Real people. I am finally planted and will not be moving again." *Lorene*



Robbyn (Iverson) Navatto – was born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota. She attended Chisago Lakes Baptist School and lived most of her younger, adult years in St. Paul (Grand/Dale). She attended Lakewood Community College and the University of St. Thomas. (Liberal Arts and business). She studied at MacPhail School of the Arts for voice. She is a professional singer and recreational drummer.

Robbyn continues the rest of the story: "I Worked for John Casablancas Modeling and Career Center, then became co-owner of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Fargo franchises. After success with those 3 franchises, I purchased another one in Queens, NY, where I moved and became a NY resident. (John Casablancas is a training career center for models, actors, personal development, and career enhancement; Elite Model Management/MTM, the Agency placement side). I held several personal career instructional licenses as well as school Directors licenses. I lived in Queens and the Lower East Side of Manhattan for a combined 20 years.

I married and loved life in NYC, but missed my Minnesota home. After 9/11, my businesses slowly collapsed...as did my marriage. I had earned my respect in the industry and decided to become a personal manager. I joined efforts with a television and film agent from LA and operated the NY side (Tory Christopher Group); then partnered (with MoonStar

Management), conducting workshops, seminars, scouting, and placing models/actors/singers/dancers nationwide.

My mother declined in health roughly 5 years ago, and my need to be more available to her seemed more appealing to my soul than being on another airplane. I resigned myself to doing local jobs for supplementary income during her last period of life here (local bar, waitress, cook). 😞

Mom passed February 21, 2017. I am still mourning her loss horribly, but I am enthused and grateful for finding the UU church in Underwood. The time has come to accept the loss of 'what used to be and start a new chapter.'

I am presently cooking at the Broen home, and I am working on launching a consulting business locally for those who wish to get into the entertainment industry. Just last month I got private auditions for American Idol, so I really want to bring my connections and abilities to this highly talented market.

My religious background is a mix: baptized Lutheran, parents became Jehovah's Witnesses, graduated from Baptist School (and was saved there), joined St Paul Catholic Cathedral and choir, studied Judaism with courses at Bet Shalom, studied Hinduism/LA, went to Buddhist Temple/NYC China Town, studied Catholicism/ St Paul/NY, married Catholic/NY, moved to Underwood where I met Miriana Ivanovik who introduced me to the Unitarian Church and UU beliefs.

Here we are today... Believing strongly in learning and respecting all religions (or none). In the end: understanding, being compassionate, and respecting and appreciating the overall unity of mankind.

My passions are: art appreciation, music, ethnic foods, business, and travel." - Robbyn

Other new members who will be featured in a later newsletter include: Richard Kagan (new – old member), Jacob McKnite, Jon Solinger, John & Terry Shaw, Shirley Spanhanks.

“Growing in Presence! Growing in Justice! Growing in Spirit!”

UU Area Fall Workshop Hosted by UCU on October 20-21, 2017

Social Justice

The state in a society in which all people and communities have access to the resources and freedoms necessary to survive and flourish, regardless of identity or background.

Social Service vs. Social Justice

Provides direct services for people/ communities impacted by social problems (shelter, food, clothing)	Seeks to change the systems, structures and institutions responsible for social problems (racism, sexism, poverty)
Primarily concerned with helping people affected by problems (catching babies downstream)	Primarily concerned with addressing root causes of problems (stopping babies from being thrown in river)
Private, individual acts	Public, collective actions
Responds to immediate needs	Responds to long-term needs
e.g.: homeless shelters, soup kitchens, clothes drives, tutoring projects	e.g.: legislative advocacy, grassroots community organizing, direct action

Three special guests: Pastor Danny Givens from Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Alliance (MUUSJA), Rev. Phil Lund and Rev. Ian Evison, Congregation Consultants from UU MidAmerica Region; 16 members of other UU churches: Willmar UU, St.Cloud UU, Sioux Falls All Spirit UU, Grand Forks UU and Northwoods UU (serving Brainerd, Pequot and Pine River Area); and 37

UCU members and friends attended the UU Area Fall Workshop on October 20-21. Here is a recap in pictures and quotes:



Pastor Danny Givens



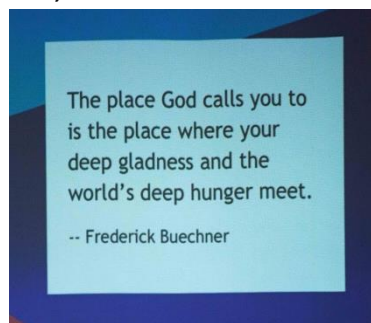
Pam Peterson, St. Cloud UU Welcomed



Celebrating UU



Meeting & Greeting



Social Justice Presentation



Waiting to begin

Quotes from Attendees

“This Workshop stimulated my thinking of ways my UU Fellowship can connect what we do with the UU Principles.” *Ozzie Mayers, St. Cloud UU Fellowship*

“This was a wonderful workshop! The breakout sessions were very helpful and many ideas can be put in action soon. The hospitality of Underwood was superb as well as the opportunities to interact with other UU groups. THANKS MUCH!” *Pam Peterson, St. Cloud UU Fellowship*

“The Workshop was filled with good presentations, inspiring interactions and fun! During one of the interactive exercises defining our assets, deficits, fears and hopes someone made a notation: “live in abundance and not in scarcity.” Though I have heard this phrase before, it seems so apparent that this should be a phrase to live by. It’s not a reference to finances necessarily but rather our attitude toward life.” *Susan Groff, Unitarian Church of Underwood*

“I want to express my appreciation to Underwood for offering the workshop. I know it was a lot of work and we are so grateful at St. Cloud UU Fellowship for the opportunity to meet other UUs outstate and share ideas and activities. As a MUUSJA Board member I was especially grateful that Danny Givens could attend and spread the word about MUUSJA, as it seeks to extend its reach beyond the metro area and become more visible statewide. The Visibility session was useful to me as a member of our UUF Communications Committee, which is responsible for our newsletter, website, and social media presence. Your team did an excellent

job of organization and communication. We enjoyed our visit and appreciate the opportunity!"
Judy C. Foster, St. Cloud UU, Book Blog: <http://yourbrainonbooks.blogspot.com/>
Follow me on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jfoster58>



Work at the Workshop



Work Group



Evening with Pastor Danny Givens and Rev. Phil Lund



"I was impressed with the team work among our church members. I am grateful for the UCU community. Thank you for all your efforts." *Diana Ziesemer, UCU*

"Thank you to the Unitarian Church of Underwood and Betsy Wells who brought out a hot meal of Cajun food from the NP Depot." *Stan Carignan, Habitat for Humanity Executive Director*



Visiting, Fun, Food and MUSIC!!



Photos Courtesy of Norm Kolstad

Meeting together just 3-4 times and doing the rest of the work via email and phone calls, the UU Area Fall Workshop Task Force was: Mary Anderson (Chair), Ellen Eastby, JoAnn Larson, Janell Miersch, Alisha Piekarski, Bob Worner and Diana Ziesemer. Prior to her death, Louise Lovdahl was also a member of the task force. Also consulted from other UU churches were: Judy Foster from St. Cloud UU, Janis Cheney from Bismarck-Mandan UU and Kay Slama from Willmar UU. You could not ask for a better team!

From Mary: "Yes, I did a lot of the plan, the forms and contacts but had it not been for the task force members, it would not have been done to the perfection it was. They brought good ideas and thought of the little things that made the event special. They prepared and did the behind the scenes work and stepped in wherever there was a void. Bob and Ellen knew just the words to say for openings. Alisha and Janell purchased the drinks and food items, carted, served and cleaned up. All brought other food and supplies and acted as hosts and overseers for the event. Diana brought us supper twice for our meetings. Jo kept track of and got the copies made. Bashful Bonnie reluctantly stepped forward to lead a workshop session with Phil Lund and made us proud. And the input from Judy, Kay and Janis was most worthwhile.

I was even especially how the UCU newcomers merged with older members to pitch in and be part of the UCU community. By having the workshop at UCU, we gained collective consciousness of the learnings to be gained. Learnings we only gain partially when just a few of us attend outside offerings so I saw that as an extra bonus to UCU hosting the Workshop.

Thanks to each of you!!" *Mary Anderson*

Still, at a time when the status quo is fundamentally broken, there are leaders at every level of society who are creating other possibilities – and those emerging approaches weave together the multiple systems and stories that make up a just and sustainable society. Sarah Van Gelder, YES Magazine and referred to by Mel Duncan in his January 17 Talk at UCU

Some lessons learned at the Fall Workshop was the importance of having a presence through social media, work that had begun and continues for UCU.

“Like” UCU on Facebook: see www.facebook.com/www.ucofu.org



Message from Melody Shores and Bonnie Showers

“Hello Unitarian Church Members,

Bonnie Showers and I are endeavoring to create a social media presence for the Unitarian Church of Underwood using a Facebook Page. We believe strongly that this is a good way to reach potential new members and let them know what we are about. There is indeed a lot of cross over with our website, but we believe this is a good thing and can reach additional people.

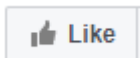
Bonnie has already set up the page and has been posting some general posts from the national Unitarian Church's website.

We would like to have it get more specific and local and we are planning to start posting the following items:

- Sunday speaker topics with their pictures (most recent and upcoming)
- Any upcoming UU Events will be created as Facebook Events that you can invite people to
- U Group topics and quotations (not discussions)
- Anything else you can think of that would make sense, be of value and interest.

What we need from you:

- If you are on Facebook, please go to the [Unitarian Church of Underwood Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/www.ucofu.org)
- "Like" the page by clicking this button:



- Send any UCU pictures, articles, notes that you think are appropriate for posting to: Bonnie Showers @ showersbonnie@gmail.com or Melody Shores @ mshores@tunebeach.com.
- Visit the page often, or just watch for UCU events and postings which will show up in your newsfeed.
- Invite others to events, as desired (simple, just click our event & invite)

- Invite others to "like" our page
- Share any of our postings that you like on your own timeline
- Check in on Sunday mornings.

Thank you for your assistance in this valuable outreach program!" *Melody Shores and Bonnie Showers*

Note: Be sure to check out the "We are Unitarian Universalists" Video



"Hospitality Team" Coordinators

Who and what is needed: Individuals or couples to rotate on a weekly or monthly basis as kitchen coordinators for set-up, serving, clean-up for social hour following Sunday services. Time spent in or near the kitchen means you get to visit with everyone in line, meet newcomers, cajole others to bring treats, "supervise", work and have fun. There will still be regular treat sign-up but this will help assure that someone signed up!! To volunteer: contact Mary Anderson @ maryanderson8380@mns.com or 218/346-6638 or Kris Warhol @ Mwarhol7up@gmail.com or 218/205-1644.



Work that is fun and rewarding!!



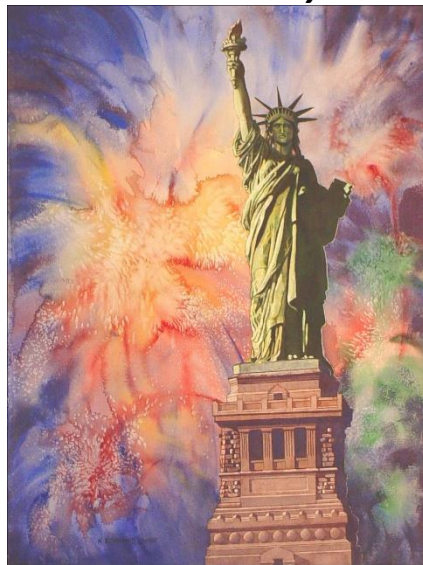
Celebration of 50 over 50 Award to Bernice Johnson



**Mary Anderson, Bernice, Mary Worner
Award Luncheon, October 17, 2017**

See November Newsletter for more details.

In Memory "Sweet Liberty"



Painting by Mickie Edmonds

**Marilyn (Mickie) Hurlburt Edmonds
January 23, 1936 – August 26, 2017
Life Celebrated October 6, 2017
Unitarian Church of Underwood**

Console my soul the loveliness of youth,
So brief its hour, it lives but a day.
The busy years of maturity
They too end and fade away.

And then old age;
Where did the time go?
And now death takes you away.
I wish it were not so.

Console my soul for the woman who paved a way for us;
Who shaped our lives yet fostered independence.
Who communed with nature and demonstrated love for the world and compassion for those in it.
Who inspired the freedom in us to find our own paths,
But left doors open, always welcoming us back.

Console my soul for Mickie lived a long, full life, with courage
Filled with family, friends and love.
Taught in schools and universities in Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, West Virginia Ohio and
Nebraska,
And traveled to the far corner of the world.
Her old age steeped in riches of art, and new challenges as her abilities were transformed.
We, her family and friends can learn from her.

Console my soul for Mickie lived a long, full life
Filled with love, with family, and with friends.
Blessed be her spirit now and in the years to come.
By her daughter, Robin MacLauchlan

**Celebration of the Life of Louise Lovdahl
(December 4th, 1947 – August 31st, 2017)
At her home near Perham
September 30, 2017**

Louise Lovdahl, 69 of Perham, MN formerly of Kenosha, WI, died peacefully in her home surrounded by family August 31, 2017 from an unforeseen illness. Louise touched the lives of so many students, co-workers and lost souls. She remains a fine example OF LOVE FOR HUMANITY. Her life was full of goodness and wisdom.

Louise grew up in Crosby, ND and graduated from high school with honors in 1965. She received a Bachelor of Music in Pipe Organ from Concordia College in 1969. She also received Master in Computer Education (Carthage College) and Master in School Counseling (University of Wisconsin at Whitewater). Louise sought out every learning opportunity she could and took many courses in education, music, counseling, computer, and multicultural issues.

With her education, Louise taught for 39 years. During that time, she taught music for K-9, was a counselor for Peer Helping Program, a grant writer, a counselor for K-12 and a student advisor for many student groups at Kenosha Unified School District. She also was the organist for several years at the Congregational Church in Kenosha.

In addition to her education career, Louise was very accomplished in originating and planning programs for issues she believed in. Some of these programs include: I Took the Pledge program, Pride in Identity program, Mankind project; Issues and Isms; Women Within; and the MKP Multicultural Council.

She is survived by her brother Ervin (Sarah) Lovdahl of Duncanville, TX, her eldest sister, Yvonne (Joe) Carlson of Perham, MN and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Hilma Lovdahl and her nephew, Jim Lovdahl. She is also survived by her very special girls, her two miniature schnauzers, Susy B and Cady. These girls brought great joy and companionship to Louise's life.

A Celebration of Life was held at her home September 30, family and friends gathered together to share memories of Louise. In lieu of flowers, the family asked that donations be given to the Unitarian Church of Underwood – several people commented to her friends from UCU who attended, that Louise had told them how much this church meant to her.

“Uncle” Edward Wise



Uncle Edward celebrating his 90th birthday at UCU

Edward Arthur Wise was born 31 May 1926 and died on 5 Sept. 2017. He graduated from Washington High School in Milwaukee in 1944. He was in the US Army from Dec 1945 to Nov 1948 serving in Korea and WWII.

He received his Bachelor of Music at the Conservatory of Music in 1953 and a Masters in Musical Arts at Northwestern University in 1956. He spent most of his life involved in music in one form or another. He taught piano, voice and organ. He was employed by the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and for a time was the director of that school.

He was a member of many organizations including American Organist Guild; Arion Chorus; Charles Allis Art Museum; Milwaukee Music Teachers Assn; Milwaukee Liedertafel.

Edward performed with several choral groups in the Milwaukee area. As director of a German Men's choir, he toured Europe on several occasions. During his career he always was the music director, organist and choir director of one of several churches. He didn't limit himself to any specific denomination, he could do all from Catholic to Baptist although he spent most of his time in Lutheran churches.

Edward also enjoyed all the other arts and volunteered at several museums and made many friends throughout the arts community in the Milwaukee area.

After a long illness Edward came here to Fergus Falls to be near family. Though limited physically he enjoyed what was offered in the area and especially UCU. *John Miersch, Nephew*

Editor's Note: Thank you's and memorials have been received by the Unitarian Church of Underwood in memory of Mickie, Louise and Uncle Edward.

Forest Bathing



"You don't need soap and water for this type of bathing. Instead, your senses will bathe, figuratively speaking, in all that a mindful nature walk has to offer: hearing the ruffled feathers of a loon in the distance, spying the wing flutters of a late-season Monarch, or picking up the scent of a balsam fir. Move slowly, with intention, and luxuriate in a bath of the myriad sights, sounds and smells of the forest. It can be done in any kind of weather, as long as you're dressed to remain comfortable.... To experience this walk, contact Joan Vorderbruggen @ 701/238-7358 or jofarch@gmail.com. See full article at: <http://www.exploreminnesota.com/travel-ideas/forest-bathing-minnesota/>

Charles Beck Fergus Falls artist

He sold nature woodcut prints to admirers around the globe

By BRANDON STAHL • brandon.stahl@startribune.com



Charles Beck started selling his drawings in grade school for candy and marbles growing up in Fergus Falls. Some 90 years later, his prints and paintings of nature and landscapes are displayed around the world.

Beck, 94, died Sept. 12 after a prolific career during which he became one of the state's most well-known

artists.

"His work is timeless," said Scott Gunvaldson, a Fergus Falls artist who was once Beck's student. "His work wasn't photographic. His whole approach was to distill everything down to its essence."

Beck studied at Concordia College in Moorhead. He would later say in a television interview that he knew nothing about art until he met Prof. Cyrus Running, himself a renowned artist for whom Concordia's art gallery is named.

Beck said his professor started taking him out to sketch nature and farm scenes. "That was my interest, and it never left," Beck said in the 2014 interview.

He joined the Naval Air Corps in 1943 and trained as a pilot, though the war ended before he could serve in combat. In 1960, Beck began teaching art at the Fergus Falls Community College.

In the 1970s, Beck started working primarily in woodcut prints, which would become the medium for which he gained acclaim.

Typically using a piece of soft basswood, he would carve an intricate image in reverse, then coat the wood with ink. After pressing a paper or canvas onto the wood block, the ink would display the first image. If he wanted another color, he would need another block. He would sometimes carve up to six different blocks to create a single image, a process that would require precision in matching the carv-

ings and often mystified his fans as to how he did his work.

"That's the genius of it," said Dick Crockett, who has been buying Beck's pieces since the 1970s and has more than 50 of them on display at his home and lake cottage. "Each image had to be different, and yet they all had to connect."

Beck would get the inspiration for his work by driving his pickup truck around the rolling hills, wheat fields and serene country of rural Fergus Falls and Otter Tail County.

Gunvaldson said Beck's work, influenced by modernist artists at the beginning of the 20th century, was accessible to both those who studied art and those who knew little about it. And because he made prints, his work was also affordable.

"Charles Beck is an artist whose work we want in our homes," Crockett said.

His daughter, Carolyn Glesne, said Beck made more than 250 wood prints and sold thousands of copies of them to buyers around the globe.

In 2016, Beck suffered a stroke, robbing him of the ability to walk and use his arms for woodcuts. He went back to painting, where he continued to be just as prolific. He had an art gallery opening in Fergus Falls in June 2016, where 50 of his paintings were displayed, said Glesne. He had another show in July, where he displayed another 50 works.

That night, he injured his back getting into the nursing home van. The pain forced him to stop painting, and his health deteriorated rapidly, his daughter said.

In a 2014 Prairie Public Broadcasting feature of Beck's work, he said there was nothing better than to create an image and have someone say, "I've never seen anything like that before."

"Well, that's the essence of it," he said. "It's new. It's enlightening and exciting."

He is survived by his wife, Joyce, and three children, Karl Beck of Fergus Falls, Glesne of Underwood and Paul Beck of Lafayette, Colo. Services have been held.

"Charles Beck is an artist whose work we want in our homes."

— Dick Crockett, a collector of Beck's work

In our home of the Unitarian Church of Underwood is a Charles's Beck work of art, our Sanctuary Symbol:

"Conglomerate of World Religions"



What Does It Mean?

Taken from a design from a Unitarian Universalist Christmas card in the mid 60's, Fergus Falls artist, Charles Beck created *Conglomerate of World Religions*, the art piece that hangs in the front of the sanctuary of the Unitarian Church of Underwood.

The flaming chalice – official symbol of UU church representing the search for truth and service to the world.

The Cross – Christianity. The Latin Cross represents Jesus Christ, divine and human, who died on a cross to save a sinful humanity.

Magen David (or Star of David)-Judaism. Represents King David's Shield. Unity is key feature, with each triangle representing opposites.

Om-Hinduism. Signifies the primordial breath of creation, symbolizing the unfolding and expansion. Each part represents the four states of human awareness: deep sleep, ordinary waking, absolute conscience, and dream state.

Dharmachakra, or Wheel of Truth/Law- Buddhist. Symbolizes the Buddha's doctrine and the endless circle of birth and rebirth.

Islamic faith forbids pictorial renderings of living things. This led to a tradition of ornate calligraphy that includes the name Allah (resembling a "w" and "j").

Yin/Yang – Taoist. Represents two poles of existence, opposite yet complimentary, achieving idealized balance of force-equilibrium in the universe.

The painting was commissioned as revealed in the hand-written minutes of UCU Annual Meeting, May 6, 1966—that were uncovered by Norm Kolstad, UCU Historian and record keeper.

60

page #2 Annual Meeting, May 6, 1966

Total of the regular Church Account
and our Cemetery fund was 3238.16

Motion by Ervin Larson and seconded by
Maurice Thompson to accept the Treasurer's
report. Carried.

Jenny Kolstad reported for the
Women's Alliance. She reported that
the Alliance had had seven meetings
during the year. She reported a total
of 1599.20 at the beginning of the year, i.e.
Jan 1, and a total of 1651.75 at present May 6 '66

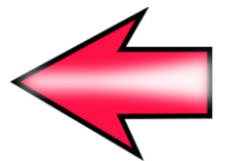
Kathryn Newberry reported for the Sunday
school. She reported that Uziel and she
took Turna Teaching (text)
and that they had about (three) twenty three
dollars in the bank

Molla had left her Sunshine Committee
report with Minnie

Dr Jack and Delia reported in
connection with the Fellowship meetings.
Jack urged everyone to come out and
share in the many good tape recordings
and pictures that are available. Dr
Newberry has been appointed and authorized
by the Board of Trustees to work with
Charles Beck of Fargo to develop a design
embodying the symbols of all religions. The
work has been completed.

A decorating Committee was appointed at
our Board of Trustees' meeting May 1, 1966
This Committee consisted of Delia Eggen,
Minnie Kolstad, Agnes Carpenter, Catherine
Gronner and Dr Newberry. After the
Committee report and a lengthy discussion
it was moved by Kathryn Newberry and
seconded by Sophie Larson to authorize Delia
(authorizing) Eggen Maurice Thompson and
John Gronner to meet with a painter, Mr J
Evans of Ashby on Saturday morning.
The motion authorized the above Committee

Paint inside
of church



page #3 - Annual meeting, May 6, 1966

to go ahead and authorize the work providing that the cost would be within reason.

Motion Carried.

Election followed on basis of the new Constitution, which called for all officers being elected at the first Annual meeting following the adoption of the ^{new} Constitution. Three members to be elected for three years, two for two years and two for one year.

Moved by Maurice Thompson, seconded by Ervin Larson that we vote by ballot and that the three receiving the highest number of votes be elected for three years, the next two high for two years, and the next two in order for one year.

The following were nominated: -

Dr. J. Newberry	Maurice Thompson
Johs Eggen	Otto Kolstad
Art Kolstad	Henry Moen
Rodney Larson	John Gronner & Ethel

Elected for three years were:

Henry Moen
Johs Eggen
Art Kolstad.

Elected for two years:

Maurice Thompson.

Dr. Jack Newberry
Elected for one year
Rodney Larson
John Gronner.

Johs Eggen and Rodney Larson were elected as ushers with Henry Moen as alternate.

Organists

Ethel's last record, health failing, hit a sad action by congregation in not re-electing her after 26 years of faithful service as secretary. Respectfully submitted
Ethel Gronner.

**Habitat for Humanity
Build Progressing**
Follow the Build Progress through emails from Stan Carignan or at
www.ucofu/Facebook



Late September/early October 2017



October 26, 2017

Photos courtesy of Stan Carignan, Habitat for Humanity Executive Director

“If you are an individual that wants to help, no notice or reservation is necessary, just show up and we will integrate you into what is being done that day. It is always great to have unexpected people show up and say, ‘I’m here to help’.

Thank you to all the groups and individuals who are making this community effort successful. This has been the most enjoyable time for me in the last two years. It has been so encouraging that we have had so many volunteers from across the community. We have been supported by businesses, faith groups, service clubs, and dedicated individuals. This gives me great cause for hope that our Habitat affiliate will continue to be successful and make a difference in the lives of more families in our community.” encouraging that we have had so many volunteers from across the community. We have been supported and make a difference in the lives of more families in our community.

Stan Carignan
Executive Director
Fergus Falls Area Habitat for Humanity Affiliate, Inc.
421 W. Fir Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
(o) 218-736-2905
(c) 218-841-2657
www.fergushabitat.org
fergushabitat@gmail.com

It is noted that UCU members regularly are at work on the build and support Habitat’s efforts in many other ways, ie., Empowerment Grant Award, Habitat 500 Bike Ride, other gifts.

And from the Habitat Builders:

*“It has been fun working on the build with some terrific volunteers and has been great to have both Kwende and Heather working too! They are a wonderful couple and will be very good partners with us.
Desta” (Hunt)*

“I would echo Desta’s comments about how much fun it was to work on the build and experienced that directly with our Bank of the West team yesterday. It was a very fulfilling day to see how all volunteers pitch in to perform the tasks that are needed even when it may not be their typical strength and something they do on a regular basis. Our team had a fun time getting out into the community to help with this project and was still talking about it this morning when we got back to our normal jobs. It was very well organized with something for everyone to do. It was great to see Kwende there helping after he got off work as he was preparing for the rafters to be set in the next day or two. You can certainly see the pride he and his family are taking and doing their part to make this their home. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful, caring community and to have had the opportunity to work on seeing through such a worthwhile project.” *David Schneeberger, Area Manager, Bank of the West*

“Stan Carignan, I commend you! You truly are a commander. You have built infrastructure, mobilized your troops and led them into action. This is nation building in its truest sense. OUR nation building in one small community with great heart and for one family of our heart.

Thank you, Colonel Carignan and thank all who have helped.”

Mary Anderson

Board President

Unitarian Church of Underwood

Kudos to the Facilities Committee and Helpers

The Facilities Committee of Susan Groff, Katy Olson and Kris Warhol have done much this year to maintain and improve the church facility. As of October 1, there was also work to do to set up the available apartment in Sverdrup Suites to accommodate long awaited space needs. Please give them and their helpers your thanks for making our facility functional, clean and attractive!!



Back entry installation of crash door and terraced area to reduce moisture issues. New full-length step installed at sanctuary dais for safety, function and attractiveness.



JoAnn, Administrative Consultant in office reconfigured with fireproof file purchased by Norm Kolstad and bookcase of Uncle Edwards donated by John & Janell Mirscsh.

Environmental Justice



From MINNESOTA Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL)
A note to the Unitarian Church of Underwood community!

So wonderful to be with you this past Sunday (October 8). And a gift to be in the lakes country camping and fishing as well. I am excited to have the Unitarian Church of Underwood as part of the community of congregations working for change. And so glad so many of you signed the pledge to go Beyond Paris and reduce your own personal and congregational footprint 50% by 2030. We hope you'll gather as a family and talk about what that looks like for you.

This fall there are two very important campaigns that would be a good place to plug in your energy and spirit.

1) We are hoping to have dozens of congregations work on hosting a meeting with their elected officials to let them know that renewable energy and climate justice is something that is important for you. The exact format of these conversations would be something we could work with you on. Some folks are hosting a breakfast at their congregations. Others meeting their decision makers at their office. Some groups have specific proposals they are supporting, others are meeting to express their clear values, and are asking to hear from their legislators about how those values are showing up. This is about building a lasting relationship. Would Underwood Unitarian Church host a meeting? **Please let us know right away and we can help you set up this meeting.** We might have others in your broader community interested in attending as well.

2) Please take a minute to make a public comment opposing the permit to build Enbridge Line 3. Visit [here](#) to learn more about this process. You can also watch a video of MNIPL pipeline organizer Brent Murcia speak on behalf of the youth climate interveners. He's a powerful young man, and we are hoping to help him organize not only youth but faith communities.

(Editor's Note: Judy invited comments at church on October 29 for the St. Cloud PUC hearing, hopefully to be rescheduled).

Thanks again for hosting me. Looking forward to continuing the conversation about climate justice.

Best Wishes,
Julia Nerbonne

PS Here is more on the pipeline:

Tell the Public Utilities Commission: People of Faith Oppose the Line 3 Pipeline

It's an important time for stopping Line 3, after a powerful rally, march, and hearing with more than 1,000 people in St Paul singing and marching into the world we know is possible: one free from pipelines. [Check out pictures from our day together here.](#)

We are closer than ever to stopping the Line 3 Pipeline. It's like an open door, the pathway to victory is visible on the other side, and the opportunity to seize that victory hinges on our ability and readiness to walk through that doorway. Are you ready?

Submit written comments on Line 3 [here](#) then download this [printable version](#) to share in your faith community:

I oppose the proposed Enbridge Line 3 pipeline and believe it should not be granted a Certificate of Need. Pipelines endanger our clean water and air; they're an investment in the toxic fossil fuel infrastructure that's driving the climate crisis.

As a person of faith, I care about the health and safety of the environment, and all who live in it. We stand on the side of our indigenous brothers and sisters as they powerfully and prayerfully lead, and we stand on the side of healing and hope.

We need clean water and a safe and livable future for all, that's a future without the line 3 pipeline. It's time to invest in clean and equitable energy, not toxic infrastructure that threatens everything we love.

Take action today and demand that our elected leaders hold the line to protect our communities, and say NO to Line 3 pipeline.

[If you would like to write your own detailed public comment, click here](#) and **[click here for more information](#)** and sample messaging.

And here is more on a lunch we are hosting in the twin cities to launch our campaign to contact decision makers around meetings we are encouraging people to set up in order to move climate justice into the hearts and minds of our decision makers.

Message from UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray

Dear Colleagues, Religious Professionals and Lay Leaders,

I am thinking of all of you. It is now three months into my term as UUA President, and it has been a time of repeated tragedies and traumas. These have included political traumas including the Transgender Military Ban and the rescinding of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. They have also included the devastating natural disasters of fires out West and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria that devastated parts of Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. And there have been the violent human tragedies of Charlottesville and now Las Vegas.

I hold you all in my heart as you are called to speak to these events in your communities. You nurture communities where people can bring their heartbreak, their pain, their anger, their confusion, their despair. Through your leadership you are asked to create a container for all of our human reactions, a place where families might get support talking to their children, a place where our children can come bringing their sadness, confusion and worry.

As your colleague, your President, your fellow leader in faith, I want you to know that I am grateful for your ministry. I am grateful that you keep showing up with words of comfort and hope, of courage and challenge. This past Sunday, I spoke to a congregation about how this is no time for a casual faith – how the very real challenges and heartbreak of this time in this country and the world require a deep practice of our faith. These realities require a practice that makes room for us to bring our pain and our anger and our vulnerabilities, but one that also continually calls us back to love and to our human capacity for compassion and hope.

You all are on the front lines – providing ministry and leadership to people of all ages, helping us all not to lose our humanity in this very inhumane time, helping us all not to lose hope. Today, as I awoke, the words of Adrienne Rich were on my heart:

*My heart is moved by all I cannot save:
so much has been destroyed
I have to cast my lot with those
who age after age, perversely, with no extraordinary power
reconstitute the world.*

My fellow leaders, I cast my lot with you. We will not give up hope.

Yours in love and faith,

Susan Frederick-Gray

A copy of this message with additional resources is available on UUA.org



Church of the Larger Fellowship Quest for Larger Meaning

Dear Fellowship:

The Church of the Larger Fellowship is sending 825 holiday cards to CLF members experiencing incarceration, and we need your help. As a free-world pen pal, you will surely understand the loneliness many of our members behind bars experience. We're trying to get the word out to all CLF members, but I thought I would specifically tell you about our project. We want to send mail to all of our incarcerated members, not just those with pen pals. Can you help? Here's what you could do –

- Find a simple, flat, non-glitter card with a white envelope
- Using a pen only, write a seasonal message
- Sign your first name to the card, and place the card into a stamped, un-addressed, white envelope (not even a return address)
- Invite your friends to join you! If you belong to a brick and mortar congregation, get your youth, or your Social Action Committee to help
- Place all the cards with sealed envelopes into a larger envelope
- Mail your package to the CLF

We need to **receive your package no later than December 7**. It would be great if you could get **your cards into the mail by the end of November**

Here's our address

CLF UU

Holiday Cards

24 Farnsworth Street

Boston, MA 02210-1409

[A more detailed list of Do's and Don'ts can be found at this link.](#) I have also attached the Do's and Don'ts to this email. CLF staff and volunteers will address all envelopes, hoping to bring a bit of cheer to our incarcerated members, many of whom are without support.

As always, thank you for your continued care. We carry the flame!

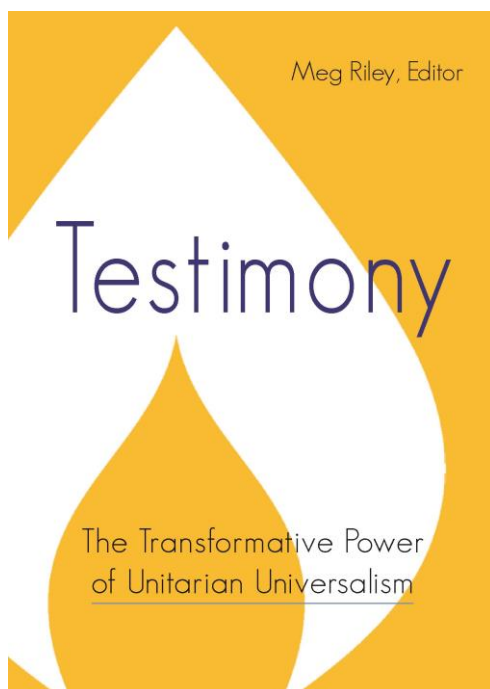
Beth Murray

CLF & Quest for Meaning

617-948-6150

We are a global spiritual community, rooted in love, cultivating wonder, imagination and courage.

We carry the flame of love for all.



Did your introduction to Unitarian Universalism spark a transformation? Did it usher profound change into your life, or shift how you view and interact with the world? The discovery of Unitarian Universalism has long been the source of individuals' epiphanies or catalysts for personal change, and now we have a book documenting some of those stories with Skinner House's newest publication [Testimony: The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism](#), edited by Meg Riley.

This dynamic collection of personal stories spotlights those whose lives have been dramatically changed by Unitarian Universalism. Some have returned from the brink of despair, others have found renewed purpose and discovered the saving power of community. Together these vignettes paint a

portrait of the real, felt impact of Unitarian Universalism. Readers can find a new appreciation for the ways Unitarian Universalism makes a tangible difference in the lives of real people who are struggling. Meg Riley is the Senior Minister at the Church of the Larger Fellowship, a congregation without walls, with more than 3,500 members around the world.



BEACON PRESS

IGNITING HEARTS & MINDS

Beacon Press is offering a list of resources in response to the current issues surrounding gun control, sexual assault and healthcare in America.

The **Las Vegas shooting** that killed fifty-eight people and injured more than five hundred has us talking about gun control again. Even though, just a couple of weeks later, the media seem to have moved on to other topics, we need to keep the conversation going.

Every day, there seems to be new cases of individuals from different professions speaking up about their experiences with sexual assault. Allegations against **USA gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar**, film producer **Harvey Weinstein**, and others highlight, again, how rape culture is still pervasive in all industries. As more and more women come forward to say, "Me Too," now is the time for us to say, "I believe you."

And access to the healthcare services we need is in a precarious state. The Trump administration has issued a **healthcare executive order** to dismantle the Affordable Care Act and rolled back the Obama-era **birth control mandate**. So much is especially at stake for vulnerable populations who don't have healthcare.

We hope you find these resources helpful. See: <http://www.beacon.org/Politics-and-Current-Events-C1252.aspx>

Unitarian Church of Underwood

Approved Board Minutes

September 20, 2017

Board members present: Mary Anderson, David Sanderson, Norman Kolstad, Kris Warhol, Ellen Eastby, Stan Carignan, Bob Worner, John Miersch, and Connie Stigen. Absent: David Wass. Also present: Administrative Consultant JoAnn Larson.

The Board of the Unitarian Church of Underwood was called to order at the church by Board President Mary Anderson at 5:30 p.m. Mary Anderson shared a reading/meditation. The agenda was approved (Eastby/Sanderson). Minutes of the July 19, 2017 meeting (August meeting lacked a quorum) were approved (Warhol/Eastby).

Reports:

Finance Committee/Treasurer: Mary Anderson - \$3000 for lift repair, \$800 taxes on

Sverdrup Suites, \$10,000 invested in Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund; collections lagging budget.

Speakers Committee: JoAnn Larson - working on Fall Area Workshop, new member welcome, decision needed on Christmas Eve (a Sunday) service.

Foundation/Stewardship Committee: David Sanderson

Program/Worship Committee: Kris Warhol - parents surveyed about kids R.E., possible dismissal earlier in service; mindfulness space in vacant Sverdrup Suites apartment, U-Groups starting new season.

Community Outreach: Kris Warhol - Underwood Harvest Festival parade evaluation, \$500 raised for Shan during Festival, bike ride for Shan September 30, speaker Carol Rojas (anti-militarism feminism in Columbia) October 10, Celtic music festival October 13.

Facilities Committee: Kris Warhol - 'no guns' signs to be installed; UCU outdoor sign installed; back entrance repair, dais step in progress.

Safety Committee: Norman Kolstad - reduced water heater temp in lavatory.

Sverdrup Suites: apartment vacancy October 1.

Membership Committee: Mary Anderson - new member orientation; visitor packet.

Communications Committee: Mary Anderson - technical assistance for recording.

Fall Area Workshop: Mary Anderson - registrations mailed, volunteers needed, Rev. Danny Givens, MUUSJA also to attend.

Unfinished Business:

Memorial service for Mickie Edmonds scheduled for October 6, 2017.

New Business: 'Love Your Neighbor' lawn signs to be purchased (Sanderson/Worner).

The next board meeting is set for October 15, 2017 with a possible executive committee meeting October 8, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned by Board President Anderson at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Kolstad, secretary.