

The UU News

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City
Founded in 1841



November 2014 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Childcare is available for infants and toddlers.
9:45 am to 10:45 am Childcare and multi-age children's programming.
11:30 am to 12:30 pm Religious Education programming.

November 2nd A Blaze of Glory

Rev. Steven Protzman

Robert T. Weston writes: "Out of doors the colors of bright autumn and the bright sun tell of the beauty of that which dies but always comes again." Together we will celebrate the completion of our annual stewardship campaign, acknowledge life's transience as the wheel of the year turns, marvel at the blaze of glory to be found in autumn's beauty, and seek to understand what living more fully means.

9:30 & 11:15 am Services in the Sanctuary
10:30 am Social Hour in Channing Hall

November 9th Making Peace

Rev. Steven Protzman

Poet Denise Levertov tells us that peace, like a poem, is not there ahead of itself, but must first be imagined and then created. During our annual peace service we will thank and honor our veterans for their service to our country, affirm our Sixth UU Principle, which asks us to work toward the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all, and renew our personal commitment to making peace.

9:30 & 11:15 am Services in the Sanctuary
10:30 am Social Hour in Channing Hall

November 16th A Time to Listen

Facilities Steering Committee

As we move toward a vote about our facilities, it is important to listen to one another and to make sure the congregation has plenty of opportunities to weigh in about its hopes and dreams for the future. In the spirit our Fifth UU Principle, using the democratic process to make decisions, the Facilities Steering Committee will host and facilitate forums at 9:30 and 11:15 in lieu of worship services.

9:30 & 11:15 am Facilities Forums in the Sanctuary
10:30 am Social Hour in Channing Hall

November 23rd The Bounty We Share

Rev. Steven Protzman

Mister Rogers says that: "The real issue in life is not how many blessings we have, but what we do with those blessings." What do we do with our blessings? On this Sunday together as a community of all ages, we will celebrate Thanksgiving by telling stories and singing songs that invite us to be grateful for all we have and to be actively grateful by sharing life's bounty with others.

9:30 & 11:15 am Services in the Sanctuary
10:30 am Social Hour in Channing Hall

November 30th Welcome Yule!

Rev. Steven Protzman

Percival Chubb's words set the tone for this festive day: "Welcome, rich season of bounty and good cheer! Crown with green wreaths of joy the brows of those we love; weave in red berries of health, and the bright star of hope." Please join us as we tell stories and sing songs of this joyful season and then deck the halls of UUSIC with green wreaths, red berries, bright ribbons, and shining stars.

9:30 am Service in the Sanctuary
10:30 am Social Hour in Channing Hall

NOVEMBER'S SOCIAL JUSTICE CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT THE FREE DENTAL CLINIC

The Dick Parrott Free Dental Clinic, named in honor of one of its founders, opened in 1995. Dentists, dental students, dental hygienists, and dental hygiene students volunteer their time to provide cleanings, cavity fillings, and tooth extractions. Care is provided to patients who do not have dental insurance. Please give generously to help these volunteers continue their good work. Cash or checks to UUSIC (Free Dental Clinic on memo line) may be given during Sunday offerings or sent to the office.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE FOR SEPT. 30 - OCT. 26

September 28th	--- total: 126 adults, 44 children
October 5th	--- total: 112 adults, 44 children
October 12th	--- total: 116 adults, 19 children
October 19th	--- total 66 (Apple Communion, no RE)
October 26th	--- total: 133 adults, 39 children

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From Our Minister



"In what the autumn colors say to me, turning from tired green to brilliant gold, scarlet and crimson, then maroon and brown, I hear a deeper voice than summer knew." —Robert T. Weston

As I write this column, I'm looking out at my backyard, where the trees are in various states of their autumn transformation. The maple's leaves are a beautiful orange-red, another tree's leaves are a dark reddish-brown, some leaves are still green, and the leaves on other trees have fallen. As I watch, the wind is blowing leaves off the trees; the world is changing before my very eyes. Autumn is a powerful and magical time of the year, a time of celebration as the harvests are gathered in and a time of reflection as we watch the world die around us and we are reminded of our own mortality. Autumn speaks to us with a deep voice that has a way of reducing life to its essentials. If we listen with our spiritual ears, we are told that life is fleeting and that it is important to treasure and enjoy every moment as a unique gift. Robert Weston tells us to:

Pluck this moment as you would a precious flower; share it as if it were love, and let it go. Beauty and wonder lie all about you even now; they too, even as you, are never final, but always in process of being and becoming. Take, then each moment as the perfect gift of life, knowing that you shall no more be able to hold it as it is than what is already past. Even as you let go, another and yet different moment comes...

Take the gifts of autumn- the blaze of color, the crisp days, the delicious crunch of leaves beneath your feet, the smell of wood smoke on cool nights, watching the flocks of birds fly south, the final tomatoes and vegetables from the garden- and enjoy them, for they will soon be gone, even as the leaves on the trees are will soon be gone. These gifts will give way to the gifts of winter, equally beautiful and unique moments which are also to be received and cherished.

The deeper voice of autumn also challenges us to reflect on how we must experience death in order to live more fully. I read a beautiful, powerful article this morning by Omid Safi, "The Autumn of Our Existence" (<http://www.onbeing.org/blog/the-autumn-of-our-own-existence/6967>). In this article, Safi, who is Muslim, talks about the magic of autumn and the truth that the trees are not turning colors but actually revealing what is already there:

The hidden secret of fall: the leaves don't actually "turn" colors. With the winter season coming, and the process of photosynthesis being without the key ingredients of warmth and sunshine, trees begin to break down chlorophyll. With the "green" gone, the other colors that have been there all along — the magical reds, golds, and oranges — begin to express

themselves. That's the secret: there is no turning, no changing. There's only the death of what has been masking the colors inside. The beauty has been there all along. And we as human beings are like this. Each one of us contains hidden jewels inside.

Safi speaks of the beauty hidden inside us as manifestations of God, qualities I speak of as being part of our truest and most authentic self. Qualities that make us most human and alive: generosity, gratitude, compassion, love, creativity and reverence. In order to reveal these inner jewels, we must experience an autumn of the soul, which means letting go of our egos, selfishness and greed. This is difficult spiritual work, for such letting go is a form of death. Safi speaks of our fear of death and how we spend our lives in denial of death in any form. He challenges us to embrace the death of parts of ourselves as necessary in order to make space for our best selves to be revealed. This is the spiritual mystery of autumn- how like the leaves reveal their true colors only when the green dies, it takes the death of ego, selfishness and greed to reveal the truth of our deepest selves.

Our November worship theme is "The Glory of Autumn." It will be a time of celebration and of reflection. Together we will praise the beauty of autumn and offer our thanks to life for its abundance and for the abundance of this diverse spiritual community. We will speak our yearnings for peace in a world torn by war. We will take time to listen to one another and be heard during forums about our hopes and dreams for the future of this community as embodied in a new facility. We will welcome the winter holidays by decorating our hallowed spaces with evergreens and lights. We will do the spiritual work of autumn- asking what we need to let go of in order that our truest and more authentic selves can be revealed in the same way that the true colors of the leaves is revealed. Omid Safi says of this spiritual work:

What beauty there is in letting go and accepting.

What wonder there is in embracing the colors inside.

What loveliness there is in the death of one color, and the shining through of all the divine colors.

How lovely is this human creature when the divine colors of compassion, kindness, mercy, justice, and forgiveness shine on through.

Bring on this Autumn of the soul.

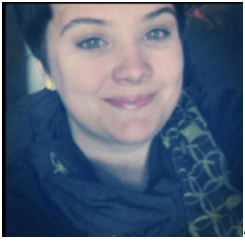
Welcome these colors shining through.

As our long and wondrous journey through continues, I invite you to reflect on these questions: Do I take each moment as a perfect gift from life and then let it go as the next, equally beautiful moment comes along? As the green dies so that the true beauty of the leaves is revealed, what in me needs to be let go of so that my true inner self can flourish?

Grateful to be here with you as our long and wondrous journey together continues,

Steven

Religious Education News



From Our RE Director GRATITUDE BOARD

*Mother Earth, we thank you for giving us everything we need.... Thank you, good foods from Mother Earth, our life sustainers, for making us happy when we are hungry... Thank you, all the birds in the world, for singing your beautiful songs for all to enjoy... We give thanks to you, gentle Four Winds, for bringing clean air for us to breathe from the four directions.*¹

In Chief Jake Swamp's book, *Giving Thanks*, he writes of the "Thanksgiving Address" from the Haudenosaunee Nation. Now, Thanksgiving for many of us refers to a day later this month where we will gather with family and friends to stuff ourselves to the brim with turkey (possibly Tofurkey for those non-meat eaters), sides-a-plenty, and way too many desserts. We might also take time that day to acknowledge the things we are grateful for. The words of Haudenosaunee do not refer to the holiday of Thanksgiving though. Rather they are words of thanks and appreciation that are used to greet the Earth and all of its inhabitants every day, since they believed everything we have, and are a part of, is a gift.

In that spirit I challenge you, the members and friends of this Society, to greet the day with your gratitude. Instead of taking November 27th to give thanks, I propose we take all of November. The RE bulletin board in Channing Hall will be turned into a Gratitude Board. Over the next month, I invite all members and friends to post things they are grateful for. It can be a word or two, a picture, a song, any gift that you would like to give thanks for.

Yours in faith, Jessica

¹ Selection from *Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message*, by Chief Jake Swamp and illustrated by Erwin Printup, Jr.

CONSIDER COA MENTORING

Not a friend. Not a teacher. Not an advisor. Not a coach. A mentor is one whose sole concern is the development of character in a young person. Acting on behalf of the community, the mentor's responsibility is to guide the young person on an inner journey of self-discovery, wherein one's unique gifts and insights can be claimed, and brought forth into the world. The mentor thus creates a bond of mutual benefit between a young person and the community; and by means of this bond, both the individual and the community are renewed. – David Oldfield

Why a Mentor? As our Junior High class continues on their Coming of Age (COA) journey, we will be starting our mentorship program. Having an adult mentor is an important and common aspect of COA traditions from around the world, and UU COA is no different. Mentor/mentee relationships are different than those between youth and their teachers or even youth and their parents. Mentors are able to provide the youth individualized attention that especially focuses on helping them understand their gifts and faith and make a smoother transition into a youth-hood equipped with the UU values and principles.

Mentors in UUSIC's COA program are also an important link to our congregation. Many of our youth do not know adults in our community outside of those in their families (and the same goes for our adults). As the youth's connections with additional adults in the congregation grow, they are able to identify more with UUSIC on the whole. Consequently, as mentors and mentees build their relationship, they are also building bridges between the whole congregation and the Children and Youth Religious Education program and growing a more caring Society.

What do Adults Get from Mentoring? It is not only the youth who benefit from the mentor/mentee relationship. Mentoring is also a rich experience for the adults. In addition to the joy that comes with getting to know a youth better—their personality, struggles, concerns and beliefs—those who mentor have also found that the experience has enhanced their own faith and ethical convictions, and that it can be deeply rewarding to craft meaningful rites and rituals for youth.

Who Makes a Good Mentor? It doesn't take years of training, specialized education, or any formal training to be a mentor, but good mentors have some common traits. Good mentors are mature, emotionally secure, and resolved in their personal journey. Good mentors uphold appropriate boundaries and abide by UUSIC's Safe Congregation Policy for Children and Youth. They have a sound understanding of Unitarian Universalism, and they are able to share their own stories and ideas about their spiritual path in a way that can help the youth develop their own. However, good mentors don't expect to be the captain of the mentee's journey. Good mentors are not in it for themselves, and can center the relationship on the youth's needs. Good mentors respect and affirm youth as they are, and do not require the youth to conform to the mentor's standards. Finally, a good mentor remembers that we have one mouth and two ears so we can listen twice as much as we talk.

What Are Mentor Responsibilities? The mentorship program will run from January until the COA Celebration in May. It entails mentors and youth meeting for planned activities a few times during class and attending the closing COA Celebration (all dates to be determined). Our great team of COA teachers will lead mentors and mentees in class activities—both fun and thoughtful—that will help mentors/mentees get to know each other better. Some of class-time will be spent sharing the mentor's experience of Unitarian Universalism and helping the mentee explore life issues that will lead to writing a credo to be presented at the COA Celebration.

Sign-Up! If you can offer some of your time, a little wisdom, and a willing ear for this gratifying and worthwhile experience, now is your chance to be a mentor to one of our COA participants! For mentors to be matched with the right mentee you need to complete and return the enclosed Mentor Information Form to the Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE) no later than Sunday, November 16th. Mentors will not be assigned; however, they will be chosen by COA participants and their families. Families are encouraged to ask for assistance in finding an appropriate mentor, and final approval of mentor choice will be made by the DLRE.

November Events

VEGETARIAN COMMUNITY POTLUCK, NOV. 1

The Vegetarian Community will meet for their monthly potluck on International Vegan Day, November 1st, at 5 pm in Channing Hall. Please bring a delicious, plant-based (vegan) dish to share and your own table service. Following our meal time, we'll view the video "Live and Let Live" (<http://www.letlivefilm.com/en/>). Reservations are not required. For questions, contact me at carolthrockmorton108@msn.com or 337-3030. Everyone is welcome.

—Carol Throckmorton

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE, NOV. 9

Join us for Dances of Universal Peace on Sunday, November 9th at 6 pm in Channing Hall. Participants gather for chanting and simple folk dance movements honoring various religious traditions. These prayerful, heart-opening dances foster connections between people. No experience needed. A free-will donation for this event is taken at the door. Future dances will take place on the second Sunday of the month in Channing Hall. Contact me at virginia-melroy@uiowa.edu or 338-1778 with questions.

—Virginia Melroy

UU BOOK GROUP, NOV. 10

Come and join in the discussion when the UU Book Group meets Monday, November 10th at 7:30 pm in the church library. November's selected book is *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert. Everyone can also start reading *12 Years a Slave* by Solomon Northup which is the book selected for discussion in December. Anyone who likes to read is welcome to attend our monthly group discussions. If you have any questions about the group, you can contact me at jayhawkeye@juno.com or 354-1231.

—Mary Lou Welter

VEGETARIAN COMMUNITY DINE IN, NOV. 15

The Vegetarian Community will dine in on Saturday, November 15th at 6 pm in Channing Hall. Chef David Burt will prepare a traditional vegan Thanksgiving gourmet meal. The cost is \$18 including tax. Reservations are required by November 14th at carolthrockmorton108@msn.com or 337-3030. Everyone is welcome.

—Carol Throckmorton

THEOLOGY ON TAP, NOV. 21

Theology on Tap will meet on Friday, November 21st at 8 pm at the northeast door of the church. From there we will walk or drive to the Sanctuary Pub, where we will enjoy lively theological conversation and refreshments.

—Rev. Steven Protzman

SECULAR HUMANISTS, NOV. 18

For our Tuesday, November 18th meeting, Brad McDowell will lead us in a discussion of Sam Harris' new book, *Waking Up: A Guide to Spirituality without Religion*. How do you define spirituality? How do you define religion or being religious? Can you be spiritual without any supernaturalism? Please join us for lively conversation; all are welcome. We meet at 7 pm in the Fireside Room.

Please contact me at resdoggie@aol.com or 321-2296 if you have any questions about this group or wish to be added to our email list.

—Mark Yuskis

UU GRIEF GROUP, NOV. 19

Dealing with the death of a loved one can be overwhelming. Sometimes we don't have anyone to talk to about our loss, or our friends may be tired of hearing us talk about it. The UU Grief Group (UUGG) offers a safe place to share our stories and support one another. Using UU Principles as our foundation, we meet monthly on the third Wednesday from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in the Henriksen Library at UUSIC. This free group is offered to all. If you think such a group might help you through the grieving process, please join fellow UUs and facilitators Gail Garwood and Marilyn Jennewein. No registration is required.

—Marilyn Jennewein

UU SCRABBLE GROUP, NOV. 20

The UU Scrabble Group will meet on Thursday, November 20th at 1:30 pm in Channing Hall or the library. Everyone is welcome to join, regardless of skill level. Beginners are welcome! Contact me for more information at 936-1291 or glawrenson@mchsi.com.

—Gary Lawrenson

GIRLS NIGHT OUT, NOV. 24

All UUSIC women are invited for conversation, lots of laughs, and refreshments on Monday, November 24th, from 5:15 - 7 pm at Casa Azul (708 1st Avenue, Coralville). Drop in as your schedule permits. Please RSVP to meatcarolthrockmorton108@msn.com or 337-3030.

—Carol Throckmorton

HANGING OF THE GREENS, NOV. 30

On Sunday, November 30th, instead of the second service, we will do our annual hanging of the greens, followed by a festive lunch. There will be holiday activities for everyone to enjoy.

—Rev. Steven Protzman

Committee Reports

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

We had around 60 people who attended seven small group dinners over two weekends. Thanks to all who participated. We would like all pledge cards turned in by the end of October. On November 2nd we will start contacting those folks who have not returned their pledge cards. Thank you to all who have already done so! If you have not received a pledge card please contact me (351-7617 or dndmartin1@mchsi.com) or the office and we will get one to you.

—Dave Martin for the Stewardship Committee

CCLAM

As part of its mission to “track the heartbeat of ministry” within our congregation, the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM) appoints liaisons to all committees and interest groups. Each member of CCLAM serves as a liaison to nine or ten committees or groups within UUSIC. The role of the CCLAM liaison is to touch base with each one periodically to learn more about its activities and hear what projects it is dreaming up to further the vision and mission of UUSIC. The liaison contacts the committee chair by phone or email and, if its members wish, may visit a committee meeting to listen and to observe firsthand the good work that is being done. Committees and interest groups are a vital part of the congregation’s ministry. We look forward to visiting with each of you over the coming year.

—Kären Mason

FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

Our Free Lunch Team served 137 plates of nourishing food to members of our community in October. The meal of homemade macaroni and cheese, vegetables, veggie and fruit salads and, of course, desserts was provided and prepared by our experienced volunteers. Many smiles and words of thanks were exchanged between our team and the diners.

We would like to extend our thanks to those who volunteer with the program and to the UU members and friends who contribute to our church and make things happen. It takes a congregation to support all the programs our church supports and we are grateful!

If you would like to assist in any way please contact Sue and Lee Eberly at susaneberly@outlook.com or Sherry Dolash at bridge_2_learning@yahoo.com. We always appreciate assistance with donations of food or time. Food can be dropped off at our homes the night before if needed. Also, if you do have a second Friday off sometime, you are welcome to join us for a day to see our team in action!

—Sherry Dolash for the Free Lunch Committee

SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

See the notice on page 9 of this newsletter about the talk on Saturday, November 8th. “A Workshop about Moving Forward,” which will focus on mass incarceration. Joel Gilbertson-White is coordinating this event.

Please start collecting new or gently used scarves, hats, decorative candles, tool, etc. to donate for the Gifts for Parents event sponsored by the Consultation of Religious Communities. We’ll collect these contributions at the Social Justice table in Channing Hall on Sundays, November 16th and 23rd. This event allows children from 3-14 to shop for the significant adults in their lives. In addition to donating, you can also help by volunteering to help set-up on Thursday, December 4th or Friday, December 5th, or by volunteering to help with the event itself on Saturday, December 6th (you’ll accompany a child as he/she selects gifts).

Watch the Social Justice Table for Project Holiday opportunities.

The next meeting of the Social Justice Coordinating Committee is on Tuesday evening, November 4th at 7 pm in the library. Please join us!

COVENANT GROUPS

In October, members thought about eulogies as a way of taking stock of their lives. In our gatherings we asked each other: What kinds of things have you heard in eulogies that you consider meaningful tributes to someone’s life? What would you like to have said about you? In what ways are you trying to live the life you want to be remembered for?

This month, we will be discussing “Authenticity and Sincerity.” Orlando Patterson has suggested that being genuinely, sincerely civil with each other is more important than interacting with “authenticity”—being true to our inner feelings and beliefs, even those that could cause offense. Where do you stand on this question?

If topics like these intrigue you, you might want to consider joining a covenant group. Covenant groups offer members the chance to express their views and deepen their understanding of a wide range of issues, while fostering closer ties to other UUs. If you’d like to find out more, please contact either me (530-4715, goodphilla@aol.com) or Jan Locher (354-6260, locherj@mchsi.com). We’re always eager to welcome new members!

—Phil Beck

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks again from the Endowment Committee for the contributions made to the General Endowment Fund. More than \$8,000 has been added to the fund as a result of contributions. The Endowment Fund is an important part of the UUSIC resources in supporting the Social Justice Fund and in looking forward to the financial support that will be needed for our new facilities.

—Endowment Committee: Alice Atkinson, Barbara Haring, Larry Audlehelm, Jerry Nordquist, and Tom Rocklin.

Committee Reports, cont'd

FROM WITHIN THESE WALLS

WANTED: UUSIC TREASURES

Some of our special treasures are the books that our members have written, especially those that are stories of their interesting lives. Most recently we have received memoirs written by Dr. Jeanne Montgomery Smith and Dr. Charles Reed. We also have books that members have written that are factual and/or historical such as Bertha Shambaugh's book about the early Amana Colonies. These books are stored in the Horak Bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. We continue to appreciate receiving donations of books that members of the congregation have written so that we can add to those already in our collection. If you want to learn more, email or talk to any member of the Historical Records Committee: Jeanette Carter, Sue Eberly, Marilyn Jennewein, Charity Rowley, or Faye Strayer.

—Charity Rowley for the Historical Records Committee

IUUWAN

The Iowa UU Network and Advocacy Network (IUUWAN) had a wonderful Launch Celebration on September 27th! Here are some of the things we're working on:

Affordable Care Act (ACA): Iowa is the next to last state in getting people signed up, so we're working to help expand healthcare to all Iowans. Starting November 15th, we will need volunteers to assist people to get signed up.

Anti-bullying: Iowa's anti-bullying law was passed in 2007 and needs updating. We want a law that incorporates best practices and that means the bill can't have parental notification (parents can be bullies too, especially for LGBT children). We are collaborating with Onelowa and Interfaith Alliance to help make this happen.

Driving Permits for Undocumented Immigrants: Everyone benefits when all drivers have legal identification, meet requirements for driving and carry insurance. To function in Iowa, driving is virtually a necessity. We can join a broad coalition to prod our legislators: the ACLU, law enforcement (who want positive IDs) and immigrant advocates.

Death with Dignity: First Unitarian in Des Moines has been working on Death with Dignity, but to make it happen, we need all Iowans to build a bigger coalition. We've just added Tami Haught to our team to make this happen. She is receiving the "Friends of Iowa Civil Rights" award along with Tom Harkin (<http://www.accesslineamerica.com/tag/friends-of-iowa-civil-rights/>). She was the lead lobbyist who got another long-shot law (HIV criminal reform) changed. Find an article about her work here: <http://thegazette.com/subject/news/new-hiv-transmission-law-makes-iowa-model-for-nation-20140529>.

Please contact Terry Lee Lowman at terryleelowman@gmail.com if you're interested in working for these justice issues or give him a call at 515-441-9844. —Sally Hartman

SHADOWS OF LIBERTY THANK YOU

On the afternoon of Sunday, October 5th, our congregation hosted a showing of the film documentary *Shadows of Liberty*, produced by Jean-Philippe Tremblay and brought to us by Debra Brown of DocFactory productions.

Despite a few scheduling and promotional issues leading up to the event, we had 70 people in attendance! We were joined at our event by Sen. Bernie Sanders, who gave a passionate speech for free and democratic media — arguably even more persuasive than the documentary — and by our own Nicholas Johnson, former FCC Commissioner.

Many members of our congregation volunteered their time and effort, in order to make this event run smoothly. Rev. Steven and Emma Barnum helped with the original connection and announcement. Charlie Eastham, Barbara Curtin, and Hilary Strayer circulated announcements among the Consultation of Religious Communities. Diane Martin, Deb Schoelerman, and Lori Enloe informed me of a misprint in the *Press Citizen* about the date of the screening. Adam Tatro and Phil Beck helped with sound and video. Carol Throckmorton and several others served food and refreshments for our guests. Jim Laughlin and Gary Lawrenson greeted visitors and helped set up chairs. Sally Hartman and several others stepped up at the end of the event to help clean up.

I just wanted us to provide a time and space for voicing the need for Media Reform. So many people joined to invest their energy to create a rich environment, my faith is renewed in the power of community acting in concert. In short, thank you to all who played parts in creating this successful event.

For any who want to view *Shadows of Liberty*, here is a the free online streaming version: <http://shadowsofliberty.org/watch/>.

—Joel Gilbertson-White



Film coordinator Debra Brown presenting Sen. Bernie Sanders with an award for his diligence at addressing media consolidation issues at the screening of 'Shadows of Liberty' on October 5th.

Please Welcome Our New Members!



Dayna Ballantyne lives in southeast Iowa City with her children, twins Amara and Aubrey (age 7), and Ian (4). Dayna serves as the Director of Development, UI College of Nursing at the UI Foundation. She was motivated to attend services at UUSIC because

of the open and accepting atmosphere and the “remarkable members” she has met throughout the community. She values the Seven Principles and the UU history of community activism. In a spiritual community, she is looking for a stimulating and supportive environment as well as religious education for the whole family. Her hobbies are hiking, kayaking, reading, and volunteering.

Tyler Ellis grew up in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and obtained a degree in Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at the University of Minnesota. He is a research associate and lab manager at UI. He previously was an ESL teacher and GED preparation class instructor. His talents are playing the piano, teaching music and language, graphic design, calligraphy, painting with acrylics, and writing poetry. In Unitarian Universalism, he values “service, community, and love.” In a spiritual community, he’s looking for guidance, acceptance, and honesty. Tyler lives in northeast Iowa City.

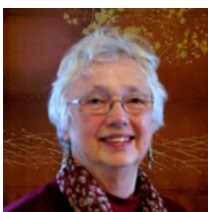


Kathleen’s involvement with the Special Needs Committee. In Unitarian Universalism, she values the thoughtful, welcoming affiliation with the First Unitarian Church in Des Moines, and Kathleen’s involvement with the Special Needs Committee and affirming environment. She appreciates UU’s commitment to positive actions that affect change and the Seven Principles. In a spiritual community she is looking for a place where her children can learn about religion and find their own path. She is looking forward to sharing spiritual rituals and experiences with her new UUSIC community, and feels blessed to be sharing this journey with Kathleen.



Kathleen Kingman lives with her fiancé, Sarah Holmes (see above) and her children: Audrey (14), twins Laura and Keith (11) and step-daughter Emma Jo (10). She is a special education para-educator with the Iowa City Community School District. She enjoys writing, teaching, singing, children, hiking, camping, baking pies, and reading. Kathleen was invited to serve on the Special Needs Committee and has served on it for the past

year. Through this involvement, as well as visits with Sarah to the First Unitarian Church in Des Moines, she became interested in making UUSIC her spiritual home. In Unitarian Universalism, Kathleen values the openness and inclusiveness of all people through radical hospitality. She particularly embraces the UUSIC commitments to celebrating diversity, reverence for the earth, and helping others in the community. She is looking forward to meaningful, thought-provoking dialog, religious education for her children, and participating in the community’s celebrations of life, love and the earth.



Winnie Ganshaw lives in Coralville, having recently moved back to the area. Prior to her retirement, she worked as a spiritual counselor at Hospice of Franklin County, Greenfield, MA. Winnie has a long history with UUism and was a member at UUSIC from 1976 to 1979, when she moved to Bedford, MA. In returning to live in the

Iowa City area, she looks forward to rekindling friendships and meeting new people. In Unitarian Universalism, Winnie values the emphasis that we are not alone, that we need each other, because of and/or in spite of our differences, and that we are encouraged to pursue an individual path to make sense and find meaning in our own life experiences. She enjoys a wide range of music (live and for listening) and drumming. Winnie has two daughters, Velvet and Heidi.



Sarah Holmes lives in northeast Iowa City with her fiancé, Kathleen Kingman (who is also joining today). Her family includes daughter, Emma Jo (age 10) and step children, twins Laura and Keith (11) and Audrey (14). She is a project coordinator for standardized testing with Pearson. She enjoys history teaching, writing, softball,

watching football (go Dolphins) and rooting for the Cubs. Sarah was motivated to attend UUSIC because of her parents’ affiliation with the First Unitarian Church in Des Moines and

Michael Honey-Arcement is a web developer with Enlighten Technologies, Inc. His intellectual curiosity motivated him to attend UUSIC. In a spiritual community, he looks forward to asking questions and exploring the answers with other people. He is already active in the Campus and Young Adult Community and the Communications Committee. He lives in North Liberty with his wife, Rochelle, who has been a UUSIC member since 1997.



Merle Ihne lives in southeast Iowa City with his partner, Lois Hughes. He also has a home in Muscatine. He is a retired teacher and fishery biologist. In Unitarian Universalism, Merle values that people can believe that with which they are comfortable. In a spiritual community, he is looking for community, companionship, and a sense of belonging. His hobbies are photography, birding, hunting, fishing, and travel.

Please Welcome Our New Members!



Emily Jones lives in southeast Iowa City with her partner, Andrew Primmer, who is also becoming a member today. They plan to be married at UUSIC next July. Their son, River, is two years old. Emily attends Kirkwood and ISU where

she is studying anthropology. She enjoys being a mother and describes herself as an animal lover. Her talents include playing clarinet and tenor saxophone. Emily attended UUSIC as a youth. In Unitarian Universalism, she values people's involvement in the community and looks for inclusiveness.

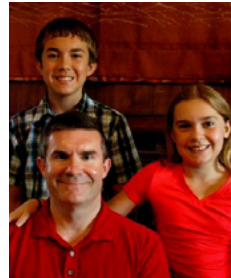
Andrew Primmer was motivated to attend UUSIC by his fiancé, Emily Jones (see above). Andrew works as a surgical tech at UIHC. He enjoys being a father to son, River. In Unitarian Universalism, he values acceptance, and in a spiritual community, he looks for open-mindedness. One of his talents is being a percussionist.



Haley Kamps works as a counselor for TRIO Student Support Services at Kirkwood Community College. In the past, she has served in AmeriCorps and worked in many other social work-related positions. She was motivated to attend UUSIC out of a desire to belong to an

open-minded spiritual community and to meet new people. In UUism, she values the commitment to social justice, acceptance of all people, earth-centered traditions, and belief in the inherent worth and dignity of and compassion for all people. Haley is looking for a welcoming community, a place to feel a sense of belonging and to get involved, especially with social justice-related issues. Her hobbies are yoga and meditation, cooking and baking, walking, and gardening. He enjoys volunteering and is "good with kids." Haley lives in North Liberty and recently became engaged.

Maureen Lonergan lives on the UI campus and is an anthropology student with an emphasis in archaeology. Her talents are researching women's roles in history and pre-history, and frame drumming. She volunteers at the UI Women's Center. Her original motivation for attending UUSIC was for an anthropology project profiling an Iowa City community. Maureen spent a lot of time at UUSIC and was impressed with how diverse, radically hospitable, and socially conscious the congregation is. In UUism, she values the strong commitment to social and environmental justice, women and gay/lesbian people, and how it makes possible for people with differing beliefs to all have space, a voice, and spiritual contribution. In a spiritual community, she is looking for a place where she can connect with the larger community, having found it difficult to continue one's spiritual journey all alone. Her personal spiritual practice is Dianic Paganism (a Goddess-oriented tradition).



Cory Manning is a financial aid counselor working through the UI Financial Aid Office. He was motivated to attend UUSIC because of its welcoming environment and open-minded beliefs. He's looking for a connection to a community that accepts everyone. He enjoys outdoors activities such as camping and hiking and lives in North Liberty. He has two children, Trent (age 13) and Lauren (10), who live in St. Louis.

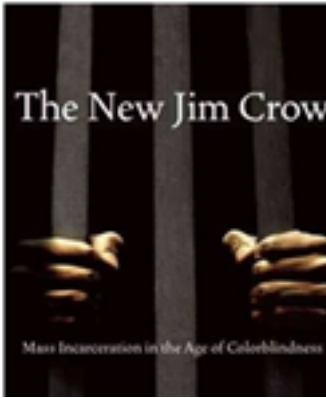


Terry O'Brien lives in southeast Iowa City. She began attending UUSIC at the suggestion of her friend and neighbor, Lois Hughes. Terry is a retired associate teacher, having served children and youth in the Iowa City School District. She particularly delighted in assisting children in the enjoyment of reading. Her talents are teaching, nursing, and volunteering. She dabbles in quilting and enjoys listening to music. Terry enjoyed being a stay-at-home mom for sons John, Matthew, and Tim. In UUism, she values inclusiveness of all people.

Katherine Otto lives in Iowa City and is a UI law student. Her hobbies are reading, baking, writing short stories, discussing politics, and volunteering. Katherine was motivated to attend UUSIC services because she felt that she was missing the spirituality she had experienced previously. She has enjoyed UU services in the past, having attended People's Church in Cedar Rapids. Katherine values that UUSIC is an open, welcoming, spiritual community without dogmas or judgments. She's looking for a spiritual community that recognizes each person's worth, respects that each of us is on our own journey, and puts its values into action.



Melissa Turner and her husband Tony live in Washington, IA and have three children, Ada (age 5), Hudson (2), and Sullivan (8 months). Melissa attended a few services at the Quad City Unitarian Church and was motivated to explore UUSIC because of the RE program. In a spiritual community she is looking to continue her own journey. She enjoys being with other seekers and the openness of Unitarian Universalism. Melissa is a self-employed massage therapist at Halcyon House. Her hobbies are yoga and learning about essential oils.



A Workshop about Moving Forward

Facilitated by Harvey Harrison

Saturday, November 8, 2014

This workshop is free, and will be held at the:
Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City
10 S. Gilbert Street, Iowa City, IA
Check in at 9 AM. workshop from 9:30 AM to Noon
Sign up by calling 319-337-3443

Creating Beloved Community

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander, is a stunning account of the rebirth of a caste-like system in the United States, one that has resulted in millions of African Americans being locked behind bars and then relegated to permanent, second-class status – denied the very rights supposedly won in the Civil Rights Movement. Since its publication in 2010, the book has appeared on the *New York Times* bestseller list for more than a year; been dubbed the “secular bible of a new social movement” by numerous commentators, including Cornel West; and led to consciousness-raising efforts in universities, churches, community centers, re-entry centers, and prisons nationwide. *The New Jim Crow* tells a truth our nation has been reluctant to face.

The book poses a question to Unitarian Universalists that it asks of all people of conscience dedicated to creating the Beloved Community: Can we stand in solidarity with incarcerated and former prisoners? In other words, can we stand on the side of love with the hundreds of communities targeted by the drug wars, and with the millions of individuals targeted as enemy combatants in those drug wars? Relegated by criminal conviction to the status of irrevocable, second-class citizenship, they are in effect condemned to a life sentence. As part of our commitment to respect and honor the dignity and self-worth of every individual, Unitarian Universalism specifically mandates us to abolish the New Jim Crow and mass incarceration.

The workshop will be devoted to an examination of the issues raised by MS. Alexander, and to considering our response to those issues.

Harvey is a retired lawyer living in Des Moines. He practiced law in a general civil law practice on the eastside side of Des Moines for more than 40 years, and retired in September 2011.

He will tell you, often without being asked, that he was truly enjoying retirement until he read Michelle Alexander’s book, *The New Jim Crow – Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. Reading the book has taken him away from his planned retirement path – travel, family (grandchildren in particular), friends and general relaxation.

Instead, he is now back at work: Doing research about the “Iowa Connection” to this problem, teaching classes on the book, giving talks such as this one, helping to set up programs locally that will change the matters that Alexander describes, and, hopefully, operating as an agent for much needed change.

UUSIC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Minutes from all regular Board meetings are reviewed by the Board members and are then made available to members and friends on the website and in the UUSIC Board of Trustees notebook in the Administration Office. Minutes may also be requested via mail or email from the UUSIC administrator.

October 9th, 2014

The Board met in its customary location in UUSIC's Henriksen Library. President Vicki Siefers called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 pm, and Rev. Protzman provided opening words.

The Board continued its discussion from last month on the Society's policies and procedures for requesting childcare at UUSIC congregational and committee functions. There is still work to be done to ensure that the DLRE and volunteers will be able to provide childcare once they commit to doing so, as well as outlining—very generally—which events and groups can expect to have childcare provided. The challenges of tracking the expense of such childcare were also discussed. DLRE Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman will present the Board with a revised draft policy in November.

Following its second reading and some minor changes, a policy governing vehicle use by Society staff on official business was successfully adopted.

Some time was spent discussing the deadline for Rev. Steven Protzman's final fellowship review. The Board and CCLAM evaluations and Steven's self-assessment will be submitted to the UUA by November 1st. Steven also shared some updates on staff, mentioning the DLRE's and accompanist's upcoming reviews, as well as updating the Board on the ongoing search for a new music director.

After a short break, Jessica discussed this year's safety audit, remarking that most of the problems were the same as last year's and largely arose from a lack of adequate RE space.

Treasurer Adam Ingersoll and Finance Trustee Pete Brokaw talked about the budget process for this year. They will be contacting groups and compiling data from past years in order to get a jump on the budget this time around. Several Board members were concerned with their own limited time/availability this fall and winter, but the Board agreed to share the load among its members.

Kirk Witzberger addressed the Board regarding the high cost estimates that FSC had been receiving from several architects. He stressed the need to identify a fairly solid upper bound to the facilities budget. After much discussion and polling of Board members, we arrived at a range of \$3 million to \$3.5 million. Kirk and Adam will share that with the architects and will instruct FSC to begin revising the architectural program toward something more manageable.

In offering process observations, Mary McMurray noted that discussions on policy often get bogged down in minor wording details instead of focusing on the intent of the policies in question. It was once again suggested that Board members send any suggestions on wording to the policies' author(s) prior to the meeting. Several members also pointed out that a centralized electronic editing process might be worth looking into.

By way of closing words, Pete Brokaw shared a very apt sailing metaphor, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 pm.
-Chris Taylor, Secretary

UUSIC Calendar for November 2014

(CH) Channing Hall (S) Sanctuary (L) Library (34) Room 34 (Sr. High Room) (F) Fireside Room

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (CH) 11:15 AM Service (S)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:30 PM Zumba (CH)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 PM SJCC (L) 8 PM Yahoo Drummers (Ped Mall or CH)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:45 PM Welcome Home Wednesdays 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Jr. High Room)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7 PM 1st Thurs. Covenant Group (L) 7 PM Choir (S) 7 PM Special Needs Committee (34)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5 PM Executive Committee (34)</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5 PM Vegetarian Community (CH)</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (CH) 11:15 AM Service (S) 12:30 PM UU CAYAC (L) 12:30 PM Discovering Unitarian Universalism (CH) 6 PM Dances of Universal Peace (CH)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:30 PM Green Sanctuary (L) 5:30 PM Zumba (CH) 7:30 PM UU Book Discussion (L)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 PM CCLAM (L) 8 PM Yahoo Drummers (Ped Mall)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:45 PM Welcome Home Wednesdays 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (Jr. High Room)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30 PM Membership Associates Meeting (L) 7 PM Fireside Choir (S)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11 PM Free Lunch Program (1105 Gilbert Ct.) 7 PM 2nd Fri. Covenant Group (L)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9 Mass Incarceration Workshop (CH)</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:30 AM Facilities Forum (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (CH) 11:15 AM Facilities Forum (S)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12 PM Newsletter Submissions Due 5:30 PM Zumba (CH)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 PM Secular Humanists (F) 8 PM Yahoo Drummers (Ped Mall)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12:30 PM UU Grief Group (L) 7 PM Buddhist Sangha (L)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1:30 PM UU Scrabble Group (CH) 5:30 PM Membership Associates Meeting (L) 7 PM Fireside Choir (S) 7 PM Board Meeting (L)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 AM Newsletter Folding (L) 8 PM Theology on Tap, Sanctuary Pub</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6 PM CUUPs Gathering (CH)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (CH) 11:15 AM Service (S) 12:30 PM UU CAYAC (L) 3 PM Harp Recital (S)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:15 PM Girls' Night Out! (Casa Azul) 5:30 PM Zumba (CH)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6 PM Youth Overnight (CH & RE Rooms) 8 PM Yahoo Drummers (Ped Mall or CH)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7 PM Buddhist Sangha (L)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Thanksgiving Office Closed 12 PM Thanksgiving Potluck (CH)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:30 AM Service (S) 10:30 AM Social Hour (CH) 11:15 AM Hanging of the Greens (S) 12:30 PM Festive Meal (CH)</p>						

Look for new events, updates or cancellations, and event details on the calendar and the Upcoming Events section at uusuc.org.

The UU News

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City
10 South Gilbert at Iowa Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52240

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Our Mission Statement:

We are a diverse spiritual community that touches hearts, changes lives, and transforms the world.

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Our Vision Statement:

Our vision is to be a loving, inclusive, and growing spiritual community. We celebrate life and a liberal tradition that leads social justice work, heals the earth, and nurtures the lifelong journey of mind and spirit.