



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF THE QUAD CITIES
 3707 EASTERN AVE
 DAVENPORT IA 52807
 563-359-0816
 WWW.QCUU.ORG

“A Welcoming Congregation” ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DUUE DATES	Silent Announcement Deadlines:
The FEBRUARY 2012 Newsletter deadline:	THURSDAY, JAN. 5 AT 9 A.M.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 at 9 A.M.	THURSDAY, JAN. 12 AT 9 A.M.
	THURSDAY, JAN. 19 AT 9 A.M.
	THURSDAY, JAN. 26 AT 9 A.M.
	THURSDAY, FEB. 2 AT 9 A.M.

The mission of our Unitarian Church is to create a vibrant, welcoming, diverse church family
 Which embraces individual searches for meaning and devotes itself to community good.

Our vision is to be recognized in our community as a beacon on the hill— a vibrant, welcoming, thriving church that:

- Reaches out to members and community with a clear, concise, and inspiring message about Unitarian Universalism and its Principles
- Attracts and embraces people of diverse groups, ages and family types
- Feeds the mind and spirit regardless of individual pathway
- Supports social justice and social action initiatives in our congregation and the greater community
- Encourages responsibility for the earth and its creatures

BOARD MEMBERS

Minister and Staff

Rev. Jay Wolin, Minister.....minister.uu@mediacombb.net
 Sarah Moulton, Director of YRE.....youthRE.uu@mediacombb.net
 Kylee DeCuir Mattioli, Substitute Assistant DYRE
 Stephanie Lannoo, Office Administrator.....qcuu@mchsi.com
 Sheila Doak, Director of Music.....musicdirector.uu@mediacombb.net
 Mike Condon, Custodian/Factotum
 Tamara and Geoff Kelly, Child Care
 Rev. Alan Egly, Minister Emeritus.....iowastreet@sbcglobal.net
 Rev. Charlotte Justice Saleska, Minister Emerita

Contact information

Chair	Gary Anderson
Vice Chair	Beth Kundel Vogel
Clerk	Judy Teeple
Treasurer	Steve Burke
Trustee	Emily Smith
Trustee	Tyson Danner
Trustee	Elaine Kresse
Trustee	Wayne Oberle
Trustee	Linda Goff

SERVICE, 11 A.M.

01/01/12 "New Year, New Day, Every Day"

Just writing the year 2012 takes some getting used to. It is just another day in our lives, but the turning of the calendar has many looking back on the year passed and making resolutions for the upcoming year. I will look back on my first 5 months here and what I have learned about myself and the congregation and I will look forward and share what resolutions I am going to make for the upcoming year and the benefits of making resolutions.

01/08/12 "Intentions"

Does one's intentions, their actions, or the result of their actions determine the ethics of a given situation? There is the old adage that "the road to hell is paved with good intentions" Do intentions matter?

01/15/12 "What's Race Got To Do With It"

Starting February 1st we will be starting a five part adult religious education class based on the DVD, "Race the Power of Illusion". I will share some of my experiences with Race and how the social construct of Race impacts our relationships to society and each other. What can and should we do to end racial oppression?

01/22/12 "Chop Wood, Carry Water"

Just saying the word spirituality can conjure up various images and meaning for different people. I will explore the meaning of spirituality and how spiritual practices can be integrated into your everyday life.

01/29/12 "Don't Wish Away Winter."

Join Dee Oberle and Cathy Weideman as they explore the meaning and messages of solitude and snow

FORUM, 10 A.M.

January 8: Todd Cleveland, Augustana Professor of History: The Arab Spring and Sub-Saharan Africa: Lessons and Misunderstandings

January 15: Augustana Religion Professor Cyrus Ali Zargar: Shariah Law

January 22: Tesi Klipsch: Wine into Water. Tesi will describe the national organization and what is being done locally to support this effort to bring clean water to people in need.

Jan 29: Alta Price: Health Care Update

Nursery

Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Religious Education Classes

Kids start in the church service at 11 a.m. on most Sundays. They are sung downstairs after the first 15 min. to begin class until the end of the church service.

The Mind of the Minister – January 2012

It is very strange writing an article for 2012. Where did 2011 go? I guess the old saying that “time flies when you are having fun” is true. It seems like just yesterday that I was moving to Iowa, buying snow boots and an ice scraper and starting as your Settled Minister. The beginning of our journey together has focused on our starting to get to know each other, as well as for me to become familiar with the larger community. It is through building relationships that will allow us to build a trust with each other and that trust will build a stronger religious community. Good relationships allow us to share openly without fear of judgment and we will know that our voice has been heard. I look forward to all of us deepening those relationships and I look forward to continuing to hear about your hopes and dreams for our congregation. So I encourage you to continue to build your relationships, your religious life, this religious home and to share our message with others in the community through our welcoming nature and through our actions in the community. By doing so, we will give ourselves the opportunity to live into and make real those hopes and dreams and Build the Beloved Community.

We will make mistakes along the journey, but if we trust each other, we can learn from our mistakes. There is much I have learned since I have been here. I have learned the geography of the area with the help of my GPS on my phone. I have learned when not to try to cross the Arsenal bridge. I have learned about good restaurants, good music and good hairdressers. I have learned I have to be more discriminating while eating at our many potlucks, or my waist size will increase too rapidly!! But the primary lesson I have learned in my first five months is that this congregation is filled with passionate, energetic, and generous people. It is filled with people who are not only generous with their time, with their talents, and with their treasures but also with their spirit. A spirit to improve themselves, a spirit to improve the congregation, and a spirit to make the world a better place. But even as we strive to improve we should remember that we are already excellent at so many things. There are so many things that I can point to (come to my service January 1st to hear more) but the one thing I especially have found heartwarming is the Welcoming Nature and Hospitality this congregation extends to visitors. Often after service, I try to spend time in coffee hour meeting new and recent visitors, and without fail, they always tell me that they have already be warmly greeted by multiple people. When our Stewardship Consultant visited in the fall, he had us share a powerful moment we had experienced in the congregation. Many of those powerful moments were about the first time the person visited the congregation. Those people have not forgotten that experience and are paying it forward now to new people who are visiting and it has become a part of who we are as a congregation.

One of my spiritual practices before I go to sleep is to think about what I am grateful for. (In the morning I am grateful for waking up). Every evening that list includes being grateful for the opportunity you have provided me to serve as your Minister, and the support you have given me on our journey together. Thank you.

With a grateful heart

Rev. Jay Wolin



Gratitude . . . Sharing . . . Justice . . . Guest at Your Table

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world, working through four focus areas:

- § Rights in Humanitarian Crises
- § Civil Liberties
- § Economic Justice
- § Environmental Justice

Its work is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly.

Each year in our congregation we celebrate these holidays by inviting people from around the world to be **guests at our dining room and kitchen tables** so that we can get to know them and share something of our lives, from Thanksgiving Day until Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) provides small coin boxes and envelopes for our contributions.

We will collect the coin boxes on Sunday, January 15, 2012, the weekend of **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday** weekend. Those families with children are invited to bring boxes of coins to the service. (We'll count the coins.) Please, everyone else, convert your donation into a check and send it directly to the UUSC. I have envelopes for you!

Donations of \$100 and above may be matched by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y.

GTF (Governance Task Force) NEWS

The Governance Task Force reported the following to the Board of Trustees on December 11th.

Our Policy Book will have these policy sets:

- ◆ Governance
- ◆ Discernment
- ◆ Strategy
- ◆ Management
- ◆ Oversight

We will develop a numbering system and Table of Contents for our Policy Book.

Our current Board Covenant was adopted in 2004; this Covenant and samples from the Hodgekiss book, *Governance and Ministry* were given to the board. The board of asked the GTF to come to the January 15, 2012 board meeting with a recommended Covenant. Members of the GTF will facilitate the adoption of the new Covenant, editing the recommended version as needed with input from the Board.

Linda Goff

Member of the Board of Trustees and Governance Task Force

Our UUCQC Caring Team seeks to bind us together as community and will respond to personal needs if you let us know about them. As these arise do be in touch with Jackie Erikson, (309)-797-3760) Joanne Maciejko,(563)-332-9927), Sue Witte (563)-332-4063) or Rev. Jay Wolin (563)-359-0816) or cell (407)-497-8113. Warm good wishes for the New Year....Thanks for everyone's caring and sharing throughout the year as we're ALL members of this team!

Adult Religious Education - RACE: THE POWER OF ILLUSION

Why discuss Race? The United States as a culture is hesitant to discuss race. At times it seems too overwhelming to deal with. We want to believe we are beyond it. Yet like any journey, it requires ongoing awareness of where we are on the path. We as Unitarian Universalists as a liberal religion have committed ourselves to use new information as it becomes available to us to re-evaluate our understanding of the world. If we are to live in congruence with our principles, we should continue to address the issue of race.

These

discussions need to be done in a safe environment where everyone can share their perspectives and listen to others' perspectives without judgment.

Barack Obama in his speech on Race said "I have asserted a firm conviction...that working together we can move beyond some of our old racial wounds, and that in fact we have no choice if we are to continue on the path of a more perfect union" and James Baldwin said "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced"

So let us face these issues together with an open heart and an open mind. I invite you to join me on the path

Wednesday nights over a five week period starting **February 1st from 7pm-9pm** in viewing the movie **Race: The Power of Illusion** and having related discussions. The sessions will be set up so that you can attend one without having attended others, but I encourage you to attend as many as possible.

Rev. Jay Wolin

Mus N^{otes}

Many thanks to all who have provided music for our services this past month. Your dedication and willingness to offer your gifts are greatly appreciated!

Choir rehearsals begin again Wednesday, Jan. 4th, 5:45-6:45pm. All are welcome!

Special instrumentalists and band members will be contacted individually for rehearsal times. Please let me know if you are willing to share your musical talents!

Children's Choir will begin Sunday, Jan. 8th, and will rehearse every 2nd and 4th Sunday, under the direction of Lorna Johnson, assisted by Joe Witherow. See Sarah Moulton or Kylie to sign your child up!

Sheila Doak

THE ART WALL NEEDS YOU!

Who will be next to hang their paintings, drawings, collages, photos, quilts, wall hangings, or needlework on our Art Wall? Please share your creativity with the congregation! The space is available to all ages, and the next opening occurs in February 2012. Please contact Judy Kasper to reserve the space:

stengel.jm@mchsi.com or 309-788-8167.

Building Beloved Community

In this season of gratitude and reflection, when our building is decked out in holiday finery and winter's darkest days are upon us, we have, as a congregation, so much to be thankful for:

Stimulating, Joyful Worship – Our new settled minister, Rev. Jay Wolin, assisted by the Religious Services Committee, is deepening our worship with wonderful sermons, good humor, and insight from many traditions.

Great Religious Education for Children, Youth and Adults – Classes and programs stimulate spirituality and creativity. Examples: Time for All Ages, OWL (Our Whole Lives), Children's Chapel and a wide variety classes for adults.

Great Fellowship – Examples: Circle Suppers, Saturday Christmas Workshops, Games Night, and Hanging of the Greens.

Great Music – Our Music Director, choir, and guest musicians continue to deepen and broaden their performances. And in January, a new children's choir will sing for us.

Social Justice – Our newly organized Social Justice Council will focus first on improving the lives of homeless teens. Ongoing efforts continue, e.g. Salvation Army meals, Fair-Trade Coffee, Green Sanctuary program, education on Immigration issues, Centro Maya Project and more.

Governance and Communications – Based on best practices at other churches and in support of our covenant of right relations, we are reorganizing to make our governance structure and communication channels clear to all.

Much More – There's much more we could do. We'd appreciate your ideas. During our upcoming Annual Budget Drive, you will have the chance to make your suggestions directly to your visiting steward, who will pass them on to the Board, Staff, Minister or other appropriate group.

All of this and more stem from our mission and vision and our desire to impact our lives, our community, and the world. And all of this depends on us, the individuals in the congregation, for support. It's our people who stoke our collective engine, with time, talent and treasure. That's us!

A Quick Peek at the 2012-2013 Annual Budget Drive

This year's Annual Budget Drive has two major goals:

To gather your thoughts on our hopes, dreams, and joys. What do you want for the congregation in the next year? What would make it more meaningful for you?

To secure the financial and volunteer resources to reach our goals during the July 2012 - June 2013 fiscal year.

We will kick off this drive **on Sunday February 5th** and complete it on **Sunday March 4th**. Working with Stewardship Consultant, Mark Ewert, who met with many of us last fall, we have determined that a **one-on-one campaign** will best meet our goals. This will let each of us share our hopes and dreams for our congregation, in a comfortable setting, with another member of the congregation.

Here's what we'd like you to know now about the one-on-one stewardship visits:

Visits are usually fun and rewarding, comfortable and enjoyable, informative, and helpful in connecting each of us to the congregation and other members.

This year's visiting stewards will benefit from training offered by Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Consultant Mark Ewert, who will offer several training sessions on January 27- 29. Attending one of these sessions will qualify you to volunteer as a visiting steward. No need to commit until after training. Mark your calendars!

Stewardship Thought for This Week: Keep an open mind and heart: if asked in early January to be a visiting steward, look on the invitation as an opportunity to get to know others better. When your own steward calls, please respond positively. This is about money, yes – but much more. It is about our congregation's vitality and future.

Your Annual Budget Drive Team will keep you posted via silent announcements and newsletters as we move forward: Barb Robinson, Mona McCray, and Amber Laughead.

Just 30 minutes of your time:

January 8, 2012, we will have a Denominational Affairs meeting in the lounge at 12:25. We will vote by consensus on the 5 issues to be presented at the GA in 2012.

Proposed CSAI's (1)—Ending Slavery(2)Climate Action (3) Exploring Class Barriers (4)Families, Population, and the Environment (5) Reproductive Justice: Expanding Our Social Justice Calling

It will also be a chance to discuss award nominations for the Prairie Star conference April 13th-15, 2012, Minn. Please see the enclosed flyer with the list of possible awards.

Elaine Kresse
563-391-4361
563-320-3325

Who in your congregation deserves an award?

Every spring, at the district conference, Prairie Star District acknowledges those hard-working UUers who bring life and vitality to our congregations. If you believe that someone from your group qualifies for one of these awards, nominate him/her!

Prairie Star District Awards

Download nomination forms at: <http://www.psduua.org/Awards/>

Complete and send by: January 31

1. PSD Social Justice Award:

For someone who witnesses to the ideals of social justice and responsibility. (youth or adult.)

2. Unsung UU Award:

For a UU whose lifetime actions inspire, support, and express Unitarian Universalism.

3. O. Eugene Pickett Award:

For a congregation which has made an outstanding contribution to the growth of UU.

4. Keeping the Faith Awards:

For someone who has worked to keep UU alive in his/her community and who touches the lives of congregation and community members in a positive way.

5. Ellie Morton Award:

For a person who has made a significant contribution to UU religious education.

6. Betty Gorshe Heritage Award:

For someone who has made a significant contribution to preserving, understanding, and celebrating our UU history.

Elaine Kresse
563-391-4361

Prairie Star District Awards

Who in your congregation deserves an award?

Every spring, at the district conference, Prairie Star District acknowledges those hard-working UUsers who bring life and vitality to our congregations.

If you believe that someone from your group qualifies for one of these awards, nominate him/her!

1. PSD Social Justice Award:

For someone who witnesses to the ideals of social justice and responsibility. (youth or adult.)

2. Unsung UU Award:

For a UU whose lifetime actions inspire, support, and express Unitarian Universalism.

3. O. Eugene Pickett Award:

For a congregation which has made an outstanding contribution to the growth of UU.

4. Keeping the Faith Awards:

For someone who has worked to keep UU alive in his/her community and who touches the lives of congregation and community members in a positive way.

5. Ellie Morton Award:

For a person who has made a significant contribution to UU religious education.

6. Betty Gorshe Heritage Award:

For someone who has made a significant contribution to preserving, understanding, and celebrating our UU history.

Download nomination forms at: <http://www.psduua.org/Awards/>

Complete and send by: January 31

UUCQC Adult Religious Education

Coming Events

ARE offerings for winter/spring are being planned. We hope to continue offering "First Friday Films," an environmental series, and Rev. Jay will do a special series on racism. In addition to these and other plans, we have invited Marg and Vince Thomas, and a colleague, to report on their upcoming trip to Cuba to study social change underway.

To pique our attention, here is a poem Marg wrote to alert us to what is happening in today's Cuba.

Reflections on the Communist atheist path to social justice

as a Buddhist deist UU believer that
we are all one
in the face of our undeniable diversity,
I want to pay tribute to
the secular belief that religion is the opiate of the people;
and that individuality can be excessive
in spite of its necessity.

To see Fidel as a hero
of the 20th century,
Cuba as on a hero's journey
to justice
through the expulsion of the mafia
and gambling exploitation and prostitution
of the people to the god of easy money.

How is it going now?
no more Soviet subsidies;
replaced by organic farms,
a model of health care training,
tribute from Michael Moore,
Che lives.

Paulo Freire showed us a way to free our minds
from the hegemony of the dominant culture.
An ongoing process,
not to say struggle
to free our minds from
materialism,
selfishness and
submission to false gods
of nationalism and conventional wisdom.

Social correctness and Buddha
require that we offend no one
intentionally.

I want to know
how's it going now, Raul?
Are you ready for normalization of
relations with your brothers and sisters
to the north? We're coming.
Not for the cigars,
but for the music,
and to celebrate, with you,
the anniversary of the Revolution
January 1.

Not to corrupt you with money,
but to look at your art and history,
and to find the beauty of
your experience.

Upcoming UUCQE Special Events



WOW
A social gathering
**WOW will not meet in
January and February.**

See you in March!
Sarah Smet



Friday January 27, 2012
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

FREE PIZZA at Games Night on January 13,
the second Friday
Bring in your new games and we'll try them out with you.
Old games welcome too. Friendly opponents!
Conversation too... And bring a dish to share, if you like.
Happy New Year!
George Robinson, 563-381-3561.

