



The Chronicle

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MAY 2013

MARQUETTE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

The Balancing Act XI

Packing/unpacking,
laughing/crying,
mopping floors/cleaning appliances,
walking briskly/meditating calmly,
re-connecting/meeting new folks at UU services (Ft. Lauderdale, Chicago) and
the Heartland District Assembly (Muncie, IN),
guessing privately/planning together openly,
eating at a Haitian restaurant with one daughter (Miami Beach)/eating a meal
cooked by my other daughter's boyfriend (Chicago)
singing a prayer/listening to the rain on the window panes
packing/unpacking.



Though I love being with my daughters, it is always good to come home to my dog, Chum, cared for so lovingly by MUUC member, Shirley Zimmer. Good to come home to my *Soul to Soul* group and a beautiful service with our UU Congregation led by Nancy Irish (April 21). Good to come home to our UU Meeting House where we laugh and cry; re-connect and clean-up; guess a bit and plan some; eat Sari Embley's scones and drink sweetwater from the Doughlys; welcome new members and welcome Gail Griffith's hug to the whole congregation; acknowledge the talents of young adult members and youth and offer appreciation prayer flags to honor Alice McMahon's contributions; have Bodhi White walk in and say "Hi, Barb," and have Tom Sullivan call to say he found the banner poles to use with our banner at our final Central Midwest District Assembly - before the merger with Heartland and Prairie Star Districts to create the new MidAmerica Region of the UUA.

By the time you read this, Laura Nagle and I will be back from Waukesha, WI garnering ideas to share (from the District Assembly), particularly with the RE Committee and Board, our main focuses. Perhaps we'll also share ideas to carry out social action projects as we walk our faith - and perhaps a new song to share. With networking, workshops, services, and talks which cross over various ministries, we're sure to learn much to bring back to MUUC, a strong foundation in my life.

Thank you to all who made a monetary pledge to the congregation for 2013-14. On **May 19** we will be holding our **Annual Congregation Meeting** following the service. Lunch snacks will be provided, and child care will be available. In our lay-led form of ministries, there will be an opportunity for you to sign up to be on an MUUC committee and/or help with a special project or work with our children and youth. Setting a great example, as Cherokee Helms-Gleason prepares to end her time on the Board, she plans to join the Indoor and Outdoor Aesthetics Committee. The Board is planning a short meeting this year with a bit of MUUC entertainment you won't want to miss.

You will have two opportunities prior to the May 19 Annual Meeting to ask questions and offer comments regarding the budget for fiscal year 2013-14. The first will be at the **May 5 adult forum at 9:45 am** and another will be at the **May Board meeting at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 7**. Copies of the budget will be available at those times, from gg gordon or me, and at the Annual Meeting on May 19th. Please mark your calendars.

Mili White and Nell Gabell, this year's Nominating Committee for **Board members**, are proposing the following slate of members for the MUUC Board for two years: Mary Maki (new), Sarah Redmond (continuing after 10 mos.), and Teri Rockwood (continuing after 7 mos.).

The Nominating Committee for the **Mediation Council** is announcing Mona Varney as a nominee. (*Gary Stark and Paula Kiesling will remain on the Mediation Council.*)

There will also be a vote on some changes in our bylaws, which you will find in this issue of the *Chronicle* or in the May 2nd *This 'n' That*.

Happy Mother's Day to anyone who has ever served in a Mother, Grandmother or substitute-Mom role! As we balance creative ways to make Moms happy in the 21st century, let us remember this month that the first Mother's Day was one of peace brought to us by Unitarian Julia Ward Howe, who said in her 1872 Mother's Day Proclamation: "Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy, and patience. We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs"...and on Memorial Day let us remember those who were the victims of war and violence and all loved ones who have passed on. May we celebrate their lives and peace! As school psychologist and UU RE teacher, L.D. Moore, would remind kids: "Peace is fun!" Julia Ward Howe spent most of her life in Boston...perhaps little Martin Richard's thoughts ("No more hurting people. PEACE") were passed down through the ages or from his parents or from within.

In shared ministry,

Barbara Michael
MUUC Board President



Wendell Berry, poet, novelist, and Kentucky farmer, will speak at a public witness at the 2013 General Assembly (GA)...thinking of Sheila Devlin, Sarah & Dan Redmond, Nancy Sullivan, Heidi Gould, Michelle Halley and all of us!

Rev. Dr. Thandeka and a *Tapestry of Faith* Program:

The "What Moves Us" program peels back the doctrine-rich theological language that can prevent us from affirming our faith experiences with one another and in the wider world. Through shared direct experiences and reflection exercises, readings and lessons, and ethical deliberations, "What Moves Us" creates an adult faith journey for Unitarian Universalists who want to preach and teach what they already experience but have not been able to articulate: the spiritual power of our faith.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 19-23, 2013 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS

Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly

You are invited to attend the 2013 General Assembly
in Louisville, Kentucky

FROM PROMISE TO COMMITMENT

The theme of this GA is "From Promise to Commitment." Building on the experience of Justice GA, we will gather in Louisville to examine and renew our covenant to our faith, one another, our congregations and the larger world.

[Programs](#) will explore the kinds of promises our religious communities are called to make as we seek to live out our Unitarian Universalist values; how we make these promises, with whom, and how we hold ourselves and each other accountable. Here are just some of the topics that will be addressed: environmental justice, the next steps in immigration justice, anti-racism, anti-oppression multiculturalism, organizing for justice, multigenerational work, growing Unitarian Universalism, leadership education, spiritual growth and theology. There will also be many, many opportunities to [worship](#).

The 2013 [Public Witness](#) event at General Assembly is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, June 20. Join UUA President Rev. Peter Morales, Wendell Berry (author, spiritual environmental justice activist, economic critic, and farmer) and interfaith and community leaders in a witness for our Earth, our communities, and our future.

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING

[Register](#) for GA by April 30 for the lowest rates! Rates will increase on May 1.

[Housing](#) is still available; rates are guaranteed through May 16.

For more information, you may also contact Barb Michael locally at 361-7380 or michael.barbara.102@gmail.com



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



Alice McMahon's Retirement



The “Alice send-off” was a great success and the flags were well received. She will remain a dear friend to this beloved community. Thank you Alice for a great ten plus years of beautiful collaborative service, you will be missed.



RATI Dinner

Last Chronicle there was slight confusion on the Heifer dinner which does not take place this time of year. We are however scheduled to serve dinner at Room At The Inn on Monday, May 13 at St. Paul's. They have increased the number of beds to 20 and are currently full. We will be passing around a sign-up clip board and the children will be presenting this opportunity the first Sunday in May (5th).

The “Our Whole Lives” (OWL) program

OWL is a human sexuality education program that is offered as a free community service by the Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation. This established curriculum is offered to all 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th graders in the Marquette area. Since the last offering of the OWL program the curriculum has become out-dated. REC budgeted for an update to the curriculum and two of our UU members will be retrained on May 10-12th. The official date for the parent orientation and OWL program is TBA but participation at the parent orientation meeting is required of all OWL student guardians. Attending an orientation can help you decide whether to enroll your child. We look forward to working with open minds.



Shawls

The TLC and RE committee are looking for people to crochet or knit loving shawls. We are making the shawls for our ill congregation members. If you or anyone you know has an interest please contact Patty Sarvello at 906-360-2409



Earth - The UU congregation will be cleaning up Tourist Park for our Earth month contribution! Due to the weather we will be waiting until the snow melts (Hoping for May) to clean the park. The park provides bags and we do the clean up. People will need to bring gloves, clothes to get dirty in, and a dish/item to pass (REC will be taking care of the main dish) If you have any comments or concerns please feel free to contact Laura Nagle.



UU T-shirt Design Project

With all of the fun community service activities happening we thought it would be nice to have a way to identify us when out in the community. The



school age members brainstormed T-shirt designs ideas and came up with some very clever images. The T-shirts will be made for May. Big thanks to Tim and Molly-jo.

Fleece Tie Blanket Project for Camp New Day

The Community Development and RE committee are hoping to organize a Fleece Blanket gathering to make tie blankets for the children attending Camp New Day.



Camp New Day - UP is an ecumenical effort and offers a safe and loving camp environment for children with incarcerated parents. For many of these children, this is their first experience in the woods or in a camp setting. The camp is solely supported through donations and grants; the children attend free of charge. Several MUUC members have volunteered at the camp over the years and have seen the difference it has made in the lives of these children and teens.

Right now we need to gather funds to purchase fleece as well as donations of fleece. A blanket requires two pieces of fleece measuring 2 yards apiece. So if you have any fleece to donate or want to start shopping in anticipation of a fun intergenerational event, please contact Tim or Nancy Sullivan.



The RE committee has begun making **Michigan Mittens** with the older youth. We have made patterns and on May 19th we will finish the mittens. Those of you who would like to continue the project throughout the year to prepare for next winter season are encouraged to contact Laura Nagle at 248-321-2794

Laura Nagle, RE Coordinator

MENTORS NEEDED FOR COMING OF AGE PROGRAM

One component of the Coming of Age Program we are offering for our high school students this year is Mentorship: an opportunity for our youth and you to interact on a deeper, more meaningful level than is possible in our Sunday morning settings. We are offering this challenging, exciting program during the next church year from September 2013 to June 2014. Some aspects of the program may start sooner.

This is a great opportunity for involvement in a faith development program. This program, which acknowledges and honors the transition our high school students are making from childhood to adult responsibilities and status, can be very rewarding and spiritually fulfilling for our youth and those who help them on their journey.

We currently have about five students who are in need of mentors. If you are interested in being a mentor and/or would like more information about this opportunity, please contact Teri Rockwood at teri.rockwood@gmail.com or 906-235-8064.

🌿 2013 Empty Bowls 🌿

2013 marks the 6th year that North Star Academy will be inviting the community to participate in the Empty Bowls fundraiser. The event will take place in North Star Academy's multi-purpose room on May 1st from 11 am to 2 pm.

The goal of Empty Bowls is to raise awareness and funds for people who experience poverty and are facing hunger. This year, North Star Academy teachers and students are participating in the event by learning about hunger and poverty and crafting handmade bowls.

Participation in the event costs \$10, and tickets will be sold at the high school and elementary offices, Serendipity Salon, and at the door. The meal will include soup, bread, and dessert. After, there are homemade bowls for participants to take home as a reminder that there are too many people without enough food in the world. The event has been extremely successful in past years, raising over \$6000 for local organizations like The Salvation Army, Room at the Inn, Voices for Youth, and Operation Aoy. 2013's Empty Bowl's donations will go to Room at the Inn and Operation Aoy.

Empty Bowls is a great way to bring the community together to help make a difference. Let's make this year the best Empty Bowls yet!

Please let us know how you can support our event by contacting NSA high school student, Savannah Berthiaume, at smallblackroses2@yahoo.com or Empty Bowls Advisor, Sarah Johnson, at sjohnson@nsacd.com or 226-0156 x14

ANNUAL MEETING ISSUE

The Board of Trustees has revised and implemented changes to the Real Property Fund Charter, the primary thrust of which is to reduce the number of Real Property Fund Trustees from five to three and to simplify the procedures by which they operate. The changes to the Congregation's by-laws set forth below are needed to conform the by-laws to the new Charter. The Board of Trustees will ask the Congregation to vote on the language set forth below at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013. The Board of Trustees recommends that the language that is lined out be deleted and that the language in italics be adopted.

Article VII. Fund Trustees

1. The Fund Trustees shall serve as trustees of all endowment and other special funds of the Congregation. Except as specifically provided in this Article, the selection of Fund Trustees and their governance shall be set forth in separate guidelines established for each endowment or other special fund by the Board or Congregation.

2. The Fund Trustees shall consist of ~~five (5)~~ *three (3)* members, ~~two (2)~~ *one (1)* of

whom shall be a members of the Board of Trustees and ~~three (3)~~ two (2) of whom shall be non-Board members of the Congregation.

3. Normally, terms for Non-Board Fund Trustees shall be three years.

4. ~~Any decisions made by the Fund Trustees shall be by a supermajority in which at least four (4) of the five (5) Trustees must consent.~~ *Fund Trustees may, by majority, recommend Fund expenditures to the Board of the Congregation. The Board will decide whether any recommended expenditures will be made.*

RE Planters Needed this May with Adult Helpers

Our spring plants are arriving the last weekend in April. We even have Arctic Kiwis to plant this year! plus many other tiny treasures Cranberry, Serviceberry, Snowberry and a Mount Royal Plum tree . Keep an eye out for the announcement of the planting date this May in the This & That. It will be scheduled for a nice Sunday afternoon in May depending on the UP weather cooperating, bring digging tools and gloves to take part in expanding the UU garden.

Sari Embley UU Green Team

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Plant Exchange:
Sunday, June 9th
1 to 4 p.m.

Ornamental, vegetable, grasses, house plants, seeds, welcome. Bring yours, take home others. If no plants to share, some will be available for a donation.

Rain Date: June 16th

Where: Marquette UU Congregation,
1510 M-28th, Chocolay Twp. (2.5 miles past U.S.41

Other: For information, call: Sari at 225-1778



Re-do for Mqtuu.org, etc.

Sarah Redmond and Tom Sullivan are working to update our web presence via www.mqtuu.org and our Facebook page and group (right now its a work in progress, so be patient). We're looking for input from long term members, but more importantly newer friends and members as to what you would like to see and what will be helpful to those looking for us. As always, the most effective way for new comers to find us is by a current member inviting a friend, college, neighbor, family member, etc., to visit. Next most effective is via the internet, particularly younger people.

We have numerous ways to connect -- person to person, email, newsletter, Facebook, display ad in Mining Journal, webpage and phone calls. Market research shows it takes seven contacts before folks take action; most likely that's true for those looking for a religious home as well. We're looking for those who have an interest in having input on any of those topics to join Tom and me in fine tuning our message for the medium.

Sarah Redmond

Shelterbay2006@yahoo.com

Tom Sullivan

Getting to Know Heidi Gould

Heidi was born in Marysville, Ohio. As a child, she attended a Baptist church, but when she was about five, she told her great grandmother that she did not want to go to church anymore. Her great grandmother said that was all right, "as long as when the bus comes to pick you up, you are watching a church service on TV." Heidi and her family moved to the Upper Peninsula when she was 11 or 12 years old. They settled in Shingleton and attended a Baptist church there now and then. When she was in her teens, she became interested in vampires and monsters.

In her early twenties, Heidi moved to California where she met and married her ex-husband, an atheist and teacher in the Navy. She was taking classes, and when he came home, she wanted to go out and explore. He was tired, however, and wanted to go into his "man cave." Heidi began going to the Church of Christ in San Diego, a non-denominational Christian church. She began leading Bible studies and preparing those who wanted to be baptized. Whenever someone called to be saved, she went. Contradictions began emerging, and she found herself just going through the motions. It was not long before she left the church.

She soon became involved with the environmental movement and was active with the San Diego Green Party. They celebrated Earth Day, and she met others who were vegans. She liked the more nature-oriented religion and spirituality and considered herself a pagan/wiccan. When her husband was transferred to Hawaii, Heidi found a job there at a metaphysical gift store. She met psychics, and one who had a coven, and joined in the rituals. Eventually, she left her marriage and returned to the Upper Peninsula, pregnant with her daughter, Sky.

Heidi enrolled at Northern Michigan University and lived on campus for four years. Before long, she discovered the UUs and began attending when they were in the basement of the hotel on Third Street. She also came when UU was on Brickyard Road, not long after her son, Joe, was born and described herself as the one "standing in the back of the congregation, swinging her child up and over because he would not be still." She became a member and liked the UUs for the reasons most people do: acceptance, openness, diversity, all inclusiveness, respect, interconnections and different paths on a common ground. Heidi graduated from NMU in 2001 with a B.S. in Health Education.

In February 2004, Heidi considered going back to school to study clinical psychology. The program at NMU had been recently cut, so she went online to find one in a community that also had a UU congregation and an established Waldorf school (similar to the Montessori education program for children). Chapel Hill, NC, came up. Heidi contacted the UU congregation, and with their assistance, she connected with a host family, left her children with her parents for two weeks and took the bus to North Carolina. She introduced herself to the UU congregation, said she needed a job and had worked in a real estate office at one time. One of the members had her own real estate business and offered Heidi a secretarial position. She worked there for three

months before being hired at the University of North Carolina as an office assistant. Her children had joined her, and she held that job for two years while facing the challenges of a single mother with a daughter with type I diabetes and a son who had been diagnosed with autism.

In December 2006, Heidi and her children returned to the Upper Peninsula. Her parents and siblings ran a family restaurant in Shingleton and all eleven grandchildren lived on one block! Quarters were close, and it was not long before Heidi moved to Munising for a few years and then back to Marquette.

Heidi and her children currently share a house with two other women and another child. Sky is 17 now, attends the Alternative High School and is in the "out and about" stage but always keeps in touch by telephone. Joseph is in the fifth grade at North Star and tells his mother he loves her many times a day! Things have not been easy for Joe, but there has been some improvement these past few years. A new aid at school with the experience of raising an autistic child has been a huge factor in Joe's success as she is very intuitive, engaging and understanding.

Heidi has been working with the Marquette CARES (Communities Amending Recycling Efforts), a group she initiated, and has been invited to attend the Marquette Beautification and Restoration Committee's Spring Award luncheon to receive a "Green Spirit" award for her recycling efforts. She is also coordinating UP for Ending Corporate Personhood, a grassroots effort to stop the use of corporate money to finance political campaigns, affecting everything from the environment to medical care. Heidi is "one busy woman, living to Be the Change!"

Rachel Crary

MUUC Board of Trustees; e-mail addresses:

Barbara Michael, President michael.barbara.102@gmail.com

gg gordon, Vice President plumskiter@gmail.com

Sarah Redmond, Secretary shelterbay2006@yahoo.com

Teri Rockwood, teri.rockwood@yahoo.com

Cherokee Helms-Gleason, cherk71@gmail.com

Next Board Meeting: 6:30 pm, May 7, 2013, MUUC Meeting House

Staff:

Nancy Irish, Community Coordinator & Celebrant; Laura Nagle, Religious Education Coordinator

Other Positions: Tom & Nancy Sullivan, Building Use Coordinators; Sarah Johnson, Religious Education Chair; Tom Sullivan, Program Committee Chair; Michael Erdmann, Building Committee Chair; Tim Vanderveen, Community Development Committee Chair; gg gordon, Stewardship Chair; Teri Rockwood, Gary Stark, Paul Kiesling - Mediation Council; Gail Griffith, Social Action Chair; Dave Stensaas, Newsletter Coordinator; Vacant, Music Coordinator.

FEBRUARY SERVICE AND FORUM SCHEDULE

Date	Service (11 a.m.)	Forum (9:45 – 10:30a.m.)
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May 5	“Truth and Reconciliation— Looking Back to Move Forward.” Service Leader: gg gordon	“Congregational Conversation about...Input for the MUUC Budget—Covering All Bases.” Host: MUUC Board of Trustees
May 12	“Mother To Me.” Service Leader: Tim VanderVeen	"Reflections on Community Meetings: Climate Change workshop and Fr. Bougeis' talk about School of the Americas Watch and ordination of women in the RC church." Hosts: MUUC Members
May 19	“Flower Communion.” Service Leader: Teri Rockwood	NO FORUM TODAY (because of Congregational meeting after the service)
May 26	“ America and Empire.” Service Leader: Tom Spencer	TBA Don't forget to bring your Econo sales slips, used ink jet cartridges and used cell phones to the meeting house. We collect these items and get cash for the congregation in exchange!

MUUC is located at 1510 M-28 E, Harvey, MI; P.O. Box 687, Marquette, MI 49855
Phone 906-249-9450 www. MqtUU.org or visit us on Facebook

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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To: