



Marquette
Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation

December 2016

CHRONICLE

1510 M-28 East, Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 249-9450 ~ mqtuu.org

Sundays in December	
4	11am Service: "Chalica." Service Leader: Heidi Gould
11	11am Service: "Storytelling as a Life Tool" Service Leader: Chris Rothbauer
18	11am Service: "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Service Leaders: Jamie Kuehnl and the MqtUU Children and Youth
25	11am Service: "Christmas and Hannukuh." (Intergenerational). Service Leader: Kathy Klos



12th Annual Soup Dinner

Hosted by the children of Marquette Unitarian Universalist
Congregation.

Please join us, Saturday, December 3 from 5 – 7pm for a variety of
delicious homemade soups & desserts, music & community.

Donations of all sizes are appreciated.

ALL Proceeds go to JJ Packs

A local nonprofit that packs nutritious food and snacks
for school kids from low income families to take home
from school for the weekends.



Happy Chalica!

CHALICA!

**Monday, December 5 – Sunday, December 11
6 – 7pm**

Chalica begins on the first Monday in December and lasts seven days. Each day, [a chalice](#) is lit and the day is spent reflecting on the meaning of that day's principle and doing a good deed that honors that principle.

You are invited to celebrate with us! Members will be volunteering to open their home for one evening during the week from 6 – 7pm to share in the celebration with food, fun, fellowship and focus on the principle of the day. A booklet with suggestions for music and stories and other resources is available! For more information please see page 6.



FROM: Dea Kowalczyk, MqtUU President



The holiday craze is upon us: Music on the radio, in the stores, and many, many, advertisements (in all media) for consumerism. Buy, buy, buy! It can be difficult to not get caught up in all of this - To lose sight of what is meaningful this time of year. Good friends, family, community, love & compassion. I have a good friend who is always a bell ringer for the Salvation Army, or volunteers in a soup kitchen, every single year. Some years, she does both. A true gift isn't necessarily one bought at a store, or online, but is given from the heart. That friend of mine is giving a handmade crocheted blanket to a friend in another country, whom she's never met in person. Whether we give from the heart this way, or donate to a charity in another way, or smile to a stranger when you yourself are hurting inside, there are so many wondrous ways to honor the caring and love that is the soul of this season.

Even though my own home is currently cluttered and dirty, I am opening up my personal space and sanctuary to all of you for an evening in honor of Chalica. –Hopefully no one will know the state the house was in, by the time that evening comes! Five other families are opening their homes for the celebration of our 7 Principles. We need one more family to host Friday Dec 9th. Please check with Heidi if you are interested in being a host for this potluck UU community event. If you haven't heard of Chalica feel free to pick up some of the informational packets Heidi has at the Meeting House, and you could read this short article she wrote last year: <http://www.mqtuu.org/mqt-uu-blog/happy-chalica.html>

Our Annual Soup dinner is also fast approaching. Another wonderful example of community bonding merged with selfless giving. Your Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation has been providing this opportunity of a good hearty meal paired with the warmth of community for twelve years! Please join us over a steaming mug of soup on Saturday, December 3rd, 5-7 p.m.

How will you make this December meaningful to you? Feel free to share with us stories, or traditions that you and your family have experienced, this year or from previous years. I know it warms my heart when I hear of the good we do for each other and our community, and I know it will warm other's hearts too.

A few reminders: the Deadline for the weekly *This 'n That* is 5pm, Wednesdays, and the deadline for the monthly *Chronicle* is the 25th of the month. Please honor these deadlines as Heidi's time is valuable and she needs time to put these together.

For our MqtUU Sunday Service Leaders: When creating a service you are planning to lead please remember these important considerations: 1) How is this spiritual? How does this transcend you? 2) Tell a story (we connect through stories). 3) Keep the message of the morning to 15-20 minutes. 4) How does it relate to the 7 principles or UUism? 5) How can people feel engaged or personally invested? How can I feel connected to this topic? 6) Please include references to the source for any information not original to you.

Thank you!
With Love,
Dea





Holding Hearts Dates

Dea: Dec 18 after Sunday Service.

Dharmini: Dec 25 after Sunday Service.

Sunday, December 11 with Rev. Chris Rothbauer, KUUF

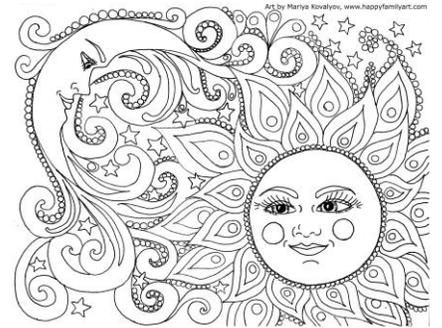
"Storytelling as a Life Tool" From cultures around the world to modern narrative therapy, people have long recognized the healing value in telling our stories. But, in today's hustle and bustle world, we often forget how important story telling can be to our lives. How can we regain a sense of our stories and make them a part of our lives again?

United By Light invites you...

Coloring For Meditation

Tuesday, December 13 at 6-7:30 pm, at the Meeting House.

During the busyness of the Holiday season, let's take some time to quiet Our minds and hearts with some meditation through coloring. Coloring media and pages provided, but feel free to bring your own. We will be listening to Liquid Mind radio on Pandora, coffee & tea will be provided. Please bring a snack to share and a monetary love donation for the event.



Yule

Sunday, December 18 at 3-5 pm, at the Meeting House.



We'll gather together in honor of the longest night of the year (coming up in the week following this event), and the celebration for the return of the sun. This is also our annual found object, crafted, or inexpensive gift exchange. Please bring 15 to 20 small individual gifts (found object, homemade, or inexpensive) to be gifted to those in attendance. Plus a dish to share for our pot-luck meal, and a monetary love donation. Ideas for gifts include: bookmark, pretty rock, meditation stone (rock with a word written on it), handmade ornament, incense, tea-light candle, cookies, candies, etc. Feel free to post any ideas below to help people get their creative juices flowing!



FROM: Faith in Action

Faith in Action will gather at the round table at 12:30 pm on Sunday, December 18 to meet briefly, including hearing from gg gordon on her "take-away" from the annual conference for U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights. All are welcome!

December Share-the-Plate: Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Now is an especially important time to raise up human rights and protect the inherent worth and dignity of every person – whether they be in this country or in another. Here's the thing: anti-immigrant sentiment, bias based on skin color and religion, and violence toward LGBTQI communities are not unique to the U.S. In fact, these can be dangerous issues to even discuss in some parts of the world. UUSC believes it is important to recognize the connections between domestic and international issues and to defend human rights on both fronts and to defy hate wherever it materializes, in whatever form it takes.

To do so, UUSC partners with community organizations around the U.S. and the world that provide direct services, counteract damaging rhetoric, and help communities work together to access their rights in the face of Islamophobia, xenophobia, and other forms of hate and bigotry. The inspiring work of UUSC's partners, the support of our members, and the fact that we are not working alone - is something real to celebrate. Please join us in this year's [Guest at Your Table celebration](#) and learn more about our inspiring partners in [Stories of Hope](#). Please join us in defying hate.

FROM: Barb Michael, Music Coordinator



The song, "Winter Night" by UU Shelley Jackson Denham will be our song of the month for December (#256).

It is part of the RE "Best Christmas Pageant Ever" service for Dec. 18 and is a sweet, sweet song which would lend itself to our meditation time or offertory music on other Sundays. It ties in with the first night of Chalica where we affirm and promote the dignity and worth of every human being with lyrics like "Holy Child, Every Child" - and hearts of grace and peace and reason. It also speaks to many of us who are hearing that a "weary world" and "humankind, so frail, unkind" unfortunately describes what we are seeing an increase in these days. It ends positively, looking toward "each new day."



7 Principles of UU
Children
We believe:

that each and every person is important;
that all people should be treated fairly and kindly;
that we should accept one another and keep on learning together;
that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life;
that all persons should have a vote about the things that concern them;
in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world;
in caring for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things

FROM: Religious Exploration

We are looking forward to MqtUU's 12th Annual Soup Dinner, Saturday, December 3 from 5pm-7pm. and hope you plan to join us!

- Kids, soups and desserts should arrive 4:00-4:30.
- Traditionally, children wear black, red and/or white.
- Before event, we will prep kids so they understand the various "jobs" and so each can explain the Soup Dinner event and our benefactor, JJ Packs, to our guests.
- For soup donations, please bring soup in a crock pot with ladle.
- The kids will sing Love Grows and then we will take the traditional group photo after. If you have not completed a Photo Release (or if you don't want your child/ren's photo used), please let us know.

Finally, on Thursday, December 8th at 5:30pm, you are invited to help JJ Packs prep food items for weekend deliveries. We will meet at Graveraet Elementary (Hewitt entrance). Last year, we had a lot of fun and it was a great way for kids to see the impact of the event. There was a job for kids and adults of all ages.

~Sarah Johnson



Sunday, December 4 in RE, we will be discussing Chalica, doing some planning for the play they'll be putting on for the service December 18th: The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, and making holiday cards for incarcerated Church of the Larger

Fellowship (CLF) members.

~Jamie Kuehnl



Our Mission Statement:

We, the members of the Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation, are:
Brought Together by a Core Belief in the Power of Love
and are Committed to Building Beloved Community.

We Care for, Nurture and Support the Spiritual Growth of One Another:

We Share Reverence for our Natural Environment and are dedicated to the
Respectful Stewardship of the Earth: and We Work Together to Bend the Moral Arc of the
Universe Toward Justice, Fairness and Compassion.

The Proposed "Bumper Sticker Version:

MqtUU...Building Beloved Community for ourselves and all beings.

MqtUU December Calendar

Sunday Services are listed on the front page and all other events scheduled are at the MqtUU Meeting House (unless otherwise noted).

December 3 @ 5 – 7pm Saturday	12 th Annual Soup Dinner
December 11 @ 12:30pm Sunday	MqtUU Board of Trustees Meeting
December 18 @ 12:30pm Sunday	Faith in Action Committee Meeting

Chalica!...(con't from page 1)

Everyone is welcome to bring a dish to share and please, do call the hosts to RSVP and for more directions if needed!

Monday, December 5 will be hosted at the home of Jon & Dharmini Robertson, 165 Sandy Lane, Marquette 251-0032.

Tuesday, December 6 will be hosted by the Starks at the home of the Wright Family, 251 County Road 550, Marquette, 250-6367.

Wednesday, December 7 will be hosted by Jamie Kuehnl, 695 County Road 492 #15 362-2082
From US-41, take County Rd. 492, where the old John Deer dealer used to be. On 492, pass Lost Creek on your left. Then, JUST after you pass Weiland Drive on your right, take the very first road on the left that you see. It's dirt, unmarked, and directly across from a yellow 45 mph sign. The road will curve around, and when you see the pond in front of you, turn left. Head up the hill past the pond, and turn right immediately after the first cabin on the right past the pond. This little dirt road winds around, and it might not feel right, but keep straight on it; past a maintenance building on your right; it's only about 1/5 mile. We are the last cabin on the right.

Thursday, December 8 will be hosted at the home of Dea Kowalczyk, E824 State Hwy M94 Skandia, 439-5170.

Friday, December 9 will be hosted by Jill Malin at the home of Ed Malin, 2090 US 41 South, 236-2535
Driveway between the Birchmont Motel & Econo Lodge, up the hill.

Saturday, December 10 will be hosted at the home of Barb Michael, 102 Wintergreen Trail, Marquette, 361-7380.

Sunday, December 11 will be hosted at the home of Kathryn Klos, 507 Globemaster, Gwinn, 361-4850.

Happy Chalica!



**Special Thanks to Sari, Dea, Rolf, Rodeo Queen and Nancy Sullivan
for the awesome, festive spirit created through decorating our Meeting House!**



Let the Holiday Campaign Begin for Rev. Edward Pinkney!

by Polly Hughes
November 26, 2016

Recently, [Michigan political prisoner] **Rev. Edward Pinkney** was abruptly transferred out of West Shoreline Corrections Facility in Muskegon Hts to **Brooks/Fremont Correctional Facility** in Muskegon Hts. He was driven around in a van for about 30 min before ending up at Brooks/Fremont, which is basically across the street from West Shoreline! Both facilities are at 2500 S. Sheridan!

[He] reports that Brooks/Fremont is worse than the Marquette facility - a fact that is difficult to comprehend. We all know the conditions at Marquette: walls covered with black mold, unsanitary conditions, rotten and inedible food, hostile prison officials, a warden with an iron fist...and more.

Rev. Pinkney is always just as interested in the lives of his visitors, in their opinions and activities, as he is in talking about the deplorable conditions he has endured over the past two years. He is genuinely appreciative of others, and every time I speak with him, it is a lesson in self-sacrifice, devotion to others, and compassion.

Rev. Pinkney has repeatedly expressed his gratitude for all the birthday cards he received...He told us that the cards and letters he receives give him great joy, hope, and a real connection with others, and the communication lets him know that many individuals are aware of the injustice so many are suffering.

He...must continue to speak out, and one means is by writing blogs and articles. Therefore, if you can, along with any card or letter, please include 3-4 sheets of lined paper that he can use for his writings. If we all write to him and send paper to him every month, he would be kept busy with his reading, research and writings until his 2.5 years are up in June 2017 - a day we are all looking forward to celebrating with him. His freedom, his life, his family have been sacrificed for far too long. #FreeRevPinkney

Please remember to send Rev. Pinkney a holiday card to:

Rev. Edward Pinkney, #294671
Brooks/Fremont Correctional Facility
2500 S. Sheridan Dr.
Muskegon Hts., MI 49444



FROM: Marquette Interfaith Forum

Friends of the MIF,

We will meet Friday, December 2 in the Shiras Room of the Peter White Public Library this Friday from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Our topic, stimulated by recent events of intolerance locally and nationally and inspired by the Evening of Thanks last Tuesday, is "**how can the MIF spread a message of friendship and comradery amongst the various religious and cultural communities in our area?.**"

Some have suggested working with the print media (Mining Journal and Marquette Monthly) and others have suggested broadcast media. There has also been the suggestion of partnering with other groups in the area. This would seem to be an appropriate effort for this holiday season.

Aaron Scholnik

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COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Seed Co-op Work Session: *Tuesday, Dec. 6th @ 5:30 . . . [lower level of the Peter White Library]*

A few times a year, Seed Co-op members are asked to "work cooperatively" so that seeds can be prepared and made available to the membership. If you can help the Seed Co-op by putting in an hour at the upcoming Seed Work Session, let us know: Click transitionmarquette@gmail.com. The Seed Co-op will offer you a seed incentive for your time: Up to **7** seed packets of your choice — **free** !



HAPPY NEW YEAR