



Marquette  
Unitarian  
Universalist  
Congregation

December 2017

# CHRONICLE

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

Sundays in December	
3	11am Service:  "Chalica!" Service Leader: Heidi Gould
10	11am Service:  "Let There Be Light" Service Leader: gg gordon
17	11am Service:  Children's Service Service Leaders: MqtUU Children and Youth
24	11am Service:  "A Christmas Eve Service" Service Leader: Kathy Klos Campbell
31	11am Service:  "Congregational Wishes for Direction in the New Year" Service Leader: gg gordon

## A Big ❤️ Thanks to...



Our longtime member, Barbara Michael, will be relocating to Chicago for some months, maybe more. We are going to truly miss her presence in our community. Since the late nineties, she has been the backbone of our music program, playing piano and organizing our Sunday music and is a major presenter of Sunday services.

She has served on the Board of Trustees and the Social Justice, Religious Exploration, Music and Programming committees.

Barb has introduced us to many new ideas and social concerns by leading many adult forums over the years. She also is a regular attendee at the regional and national UUA meetings, and brings back so much from those contacts too.

She says music calls her spiritually and that social justice work is her passion. She has served as our contact to MUUSJN (Michigan UU Social Justice Network) and has traveled to Palestine to learn more about the lives, people and conflict there and has courageously presented on this controversial topic locally. Barb is now currently taking a Native American studies course at NMU and connecting with the Native Americans in the UP.

Some of my favorite memories of Barb include time spent at the Women's retreats held at her house; walking Wright Street property with her and her partner, Judy, when they were newcomers here; and just my general pleasure when she walks through the door to help at any of our church events.

Barb's presence in our community will be deeply missed while she is gone. We look forward to her returning to visit from time to time and making contributions to our congregational life where she sees fit.



Our Holiday Wish for You...  
The Fullness of the Web of  
Life to Sustain You and Lead  
You to Great Joy and  
Gratitude!





As time passes, just as in a garden, new growth and new plantings are necessary to season change in a spiritual community. The Marquette UU is no different and we are in the midst of big changes in leadership and membership of committees essential to the health of our “Spiritual Garden.”

In coming weeks you will be hearing more about these changes. Old and new members will be invited to consider various committees and positions and step in to give support as past members step away.

This is a great way to get to know other members better, come to feel more at home in the spiritual community and help make changes and add new dimensions to spiritual practice at the UU. Many people feel hesitant at volunteering for new roles as they are uncertain of what is required. This year we will be applying the “apprentice model”, that is, pairing new committee participants with experienced members to help answer questions and familiarize new folks with the “secret knowledge” necessary to perform well.

These are the committees and number of openings as well as a brief description of function. We also list some of the past committees that have grown dormant from loss of interest and membership decline.

**Building & Grounds:** The B&G Committee is responsible for the care and maintenance of the building and grounds (not including cleaning), and for planning improvements along with the BOT and the congregation.

**Community Support & Outreach:** Members find ways to strengthen and deepen the interconnections among MqtUU members and friends. This work includes embracing newcomers to the congregation and informing them about UUism, our MqtUU community and the process of joining. Committee members also develop means of mutual care-giving and plan social events to enliven and enrich our community life together.

**Finance:** The Committee meets at least twice a year to review financial reports and procedures, and formulate recommendations for the BoT on how the Congregation's financial resources are being managed.

**Membership:** Members greet visitors each Sunday, hold New Unitarian Universalist (UU) classes as well as membership ceremonies at least twice a year, help visitors and members find places to connect within the congregation, provide appropriate publications relating to membership, maintain contact with friends and members who come irregularly, provide caring for those in need.

**Music:** Members offer support to the Music Coordinator by planning music for Sunday services, working closely with service leaders; inviting special guest musicians; rehearsing with adults, children, and/or youth, and providing accompaniment on Sunday mornings. (The music folks always welcome instrumentalists and singers!)

**Sunday Service:** This committee plans and coordinates Sunday mornings, working with the musicians, speakers and RE to coordinate the services. They also plan the Forums that take place before the services, provide hosts and invite speakers on a wide variety of topics of potential interest to the congregation.

**Stewardship:** This Committee is responsible for creating the structure under which members and friends are asked to make personal financial commitments to support the Congregation's operations over the next fiscal year. Generosity is central to healthy spiritual life, and the committee works to help people make financial support of our UU community an intentional part of their spiritual practice.

Consider what interests you, what you excel at naturally, and what fits with your time available. Imagine yourself helping shape the upcoming year of Marquette UU and benefitting by a deeper spiritual practice through service and knowing your fellow members better. Reflect on how your participation can move the community in new directions.

When the call goes out, please consider responding with a big YES! We need you.

~ Jane Harris



## FROM: Religious Exploration

### 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

Religious Exploration in December is continuing with our “Love will Guide Us” theme and activities. December 9th is our annual Soup Dinner, with proceeds going to JJ Packs—a local organization that provides weekend food to kids in need. Our day/time to pack that food is 6 pm on December 14<sup>th</sup>, room 221 of the Graveraet school. This JJ Packs check presentation and volunteer activity is open to anyone who’d like to partake.

Also, don't miss the special R.E. service on Dec 17th, where we'll get a glimpse into our kids' minds and hearts in a service that reveals where they find love in our community.

Our 7th-9th graders are going strong in the OWL program for the first few weeks of December, but those classes will be cancelled December 24th and December 31st.

R.E. will be hosting two all-congregation/intergenerational events the beginning of next year: a game night in January, and a movie night in February, so please let Jamie know which evenings work well for you, your friends, and family!



Jamie Logsdon Kuehnl  
RE Coordinator



## You're Invited...

**MqtUU Soup Dinner/JJ Packs FUNdraiser**

**Saturday, December 9 @ 5 – 7pm**

**Hosted by the Children of MqtUU!**



Please join us for a variety of delicious  
homemade soups & desserts, music & community!

This worthy organization provides weekend food to local children in need. Our RE kids get to pack the foods and be a part of the giving process about a week after the soup event.

***Feeding weekend mouths for better learning and living!***



## FROM: Faith in Action

If you are concerned about some of the local, state, national, international and earth issues which face us today - please join Faith in Action (your MqtUU social justice team) as we look at the year and prioritize some issues which we shall address through services, actions, letter-writing, articles, films, displays, share-the-plate, etc. We include our intersectionality with inspiring music, relevant children and youth RE, the Michigan UU Social Justice Network alerts, the UU Service Committee updates, and your ideas which can bring a breath of fresh air to our work.

Join us at the round table before or after the service November 26  
or December 3 to sign holiday cards!



Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) members who are in prison have a very different experience of the holiday season than most of us in the free world. For the third year in a row each of CLF's incarcerated members (825 this year) will receive a holiday card from the larger CLF and UU community. We will use flat, non-glitter types of cards with white envelopes. Using pens only, we can sign our first names and/or write seasonal messages. The cards will be placed into stamped, un-addressed envelopes (not even a return address).

One of the Faith in Action folks will place all the cards into a larger envelope, and mail our package to CLF no later than December 7<sup>th</sup> to: CLF UU, Holiday Card Project, [24 Farnsworth St, Boston, MA 02210-1409](mailto:24Farnsworth.St.Boston.MA.02210-1409). (CLF staff and volunteers will address all envelopes by hand, hoping to bring a bit of cheer to our incarcerated members, many of whom are lonely and without support.)

## December “Share the Plate” Recipient:

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. Our innovative approach and measurable impact — in promoting economic justice, bolstering environmental justice, and protecting rights at risk — are grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights. [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)



## FROM: Music Committee



*Kerry Yost is back for music  
for Sunday services on  
Dec. 10th and 17th!*



*From out of the dark and cold,  
Light ...and hope return.*

*Wishing you a Merry & Very Blessed Solstice!  
Thursday, December 21*

# FROM: FAITH IN ACTION & RE COMMITTEES

## WHAT IS GUEST AT YOUR TABLE?



Guest at Your Table (GAYT) is our Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC's) annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about our work to **advance human rights**. Since UUSC works in over 25 countries, with over 75 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals involved in and who benefit from the work that our members make possible. GAYT is an opportunity to celebrate grassroots partnership, support human rights, and learn about the people in the *Stories of Hope* booklets. Make sure you pick up a booklet on any Sunday in December if you don't have one.

UUSC's grassroots partners make a big difference in their communities, and so does your participation in dropping coins in your GAYT box. That is why this year's program theme is "**Small Change is Big Change**." This year's guests in the *Stories of Hope* booklets include a leader of local efforts to respond to climate change in the South Pacific and a Burmese human rights activist.

Remember to bring your GAYT box back on the first Sunday in January or contribute online. Thank you!!



## FROM: Dave Stensaas, Vice President Board of Trustees

### B&G Committee



At its first two meetings this year, the Board of Trustees (BoT) resolved to undertake a signature project utilizing funds left to the congregation by the late Joan Steindler, and renovations to the sanctuary were selected as the project to focus upon. In early November the two principal architects from Studio RAD (Rom

Architecture and Design) met with a group of four MUUC members to view the building and hear what ideas the members had in mind for the project. For many years there have been attempts to undertake such a project, but no significant funding was available. The BoT voted at their regular November meeting (held Sat. 11/18) to go forward with a proposal for architectural services from Studio RAD (Rom Architecture and Design), which will provide design alternatives that will fit into various budget thresholds, including schematic building plans, interior computer visualizations showing the volume and organization of space, flooring and lighting options, and up to 3 plan options and up to 3 revision cycles of the singular chosen option.

The design work will begin with a comprehensive meeting with the congregation to explore ideas/desires for the space, and then floor plan studies to discover the optimal programmatic and design layout. A forum for the congregation will be scheduled, and at this time **Sunday, December 10th** is being considered for that forum/meeting after the regular service. The purpose of the project is for the design of interior renovations to the building that will embody our congregation's needs within the existing building site, focusing on the main sanctuary space and its adjacencies. The commitment to the design services does not commit the congregation to a construction project, but if we choose to go forward with renovations we will have a well thought-out plan to execute if and when we go forward with the work. Several alternatives will be produced for the psychic and/or physical separation/demarcation of the sanctuary from the rest of the space. The project schedule is 4-8 weeks for completion of the final design/pricing drawing set. Once completed it will be up to the congregation as to how to proceed, and another forum will be scheduled to review the options.

Thank you!



# 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 @ 12:30pm Sunday	Class Conscious: Class and Classism in UU Life Income Inequality
December 9 @ 5pm Saturday	Soup Dinner for JJ Packs! Come one, come al and bring a Friend!
December 10 @ 12:15pm Sunday	Forum on Design of Interior Space for the MqtUU Meeting House
December 16 @ 10am Saturday	Meeting of the MqtUU Board of Trustees @ Peter White Public Library
December 17 @ 12:30pm Sunday	Class Conscious: Class and Classism in UU Life Classism and Awareness Efforts in our Congregations



~\*~\*~\*~\*~ YOU ARE THE HOLIDAY MIRACLE ~\*~\*~\*~\*~  
By Gwen Matthews

As December opens up before us, we welcome in the gift of reflection. We turn toward our holiday celebrations and search for common threads of meaning.

We begin with Yule, the winter solstice, and we are invited to explore duality, cycles, and seasons, and to witness the Holly King being overcome by the Oak King. Yule reminds us that we all partake in the miracle of renewal.

Hanukkah, the festival of lights, commemorates a time of miracles when the faith of the Jewish people sustained them to reclaim their holy temple and keep the light of the menorah burning for eight days. Christmas, the celebration of Jesus' humble birth in a manger, offers us to revisit the miracle of birth and the desire to find saviors to heal the scars of humanity.

Here, in our church, you are just as much a holiday miracle as the turning of the earth, as persistence and dedication to a faith, as the creation of each new life. We see the love you give to others, the space you create to hold one another's joys and sorrows, and the generosity and spirit you entrust to this community.

You are the holiday miracle. This community is one of miracle-makers.



You are invited to share your thoughts, comments, favorite photos, favorite quotes, recipes, events, and articles of interest to your fellow UUs! What would you like to see in your monthly UU Newsletter? Email your submissions to Heidi at [mqtuadassist@gmail.com](mailto:mqtuadassist@gmail.com).





## **Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community- UUJEC**

### **"Worker Centers & Worker Organizing in the Current Political Climate"**

**UUJEC Sponsored Webinar: December 6th @ 8pm (eastern time)**

We are pleased to be joined by Magaly Licolli – Executive Director, Northwest Arkansas Worker Justice Center and Ahmed Ali – Executive Director, Greater Minnesota Worker Center for a discussion on worker organizing and economic justice. Learn how faith communities can work in solidarity with workers centers to advance our common struggle for dignity and equality.

**Time: Wednesday December 6 @ 8:00 PM eastern**

**Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:** <https://zoom.us/j/387214485>

*You should be at a laptop, computer or mobile device with a camera and internet access to participate. Plan to sign in early to make sure you have enough time to download the Zoom platform, if necessary.*

**You may also join by phone, if you prefer. Dial:** [1 669 900 6833](tel:16699006833) or [+1 646 558 8656](tel:16465588656)

**Meeting ID:** 387 214 485



**Northwest Arkansas Worker Justice Center:** Magaly Licolli was born in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico. She's been living in Arkansas for 13 years, and throughout those years working closely with the immigrant community, she learned the struggles of the immigrant community in this area. After hearing shocking stories of poultry workers, she began learning and being involved with labor organizing and became passionate about it.

Magaly achieved an Arts and Science degree in 2013, and thanks to her artistic career and love for social justice, she's bringing more artistic work for workers to use arts as a form of healing and empowerment; her passion and leadership working with immigrants are a key

element to continue growing the organization.

She's currently working to bring the GFPP (Good Food Purchasing Program) campaign to Arkansas by collaborating with local farmers, environmentalist and other allies to keep supporting workers efforts in quest of dignity and respect in poultry plants.



**Greater Minnesota Worker Center:** Ahmed Ali has been the Executive Director of Greater Minnesota Worker Center since January, 2017. He has served as the Lead Staff organizer from December, 2014 to December, 2016 and as a founding board member and the board vice chair for the two years before 2013-2014. He has a decade of experience in nonprofit management, planning, community and labor organizing. Ahmed serves on the board of various organizations including Centracare Health System, Stearns County Public Health and St Cloud Math and Science Academy, a

charter school in St Cloud.

Ahmed is pursuing Master of Business Administration at St Cloud State University and has studied Mass Communications (BS), Political Science (BA) and International Relations (BA) at the same university.

Ahmed lives in St Cloud with his wife, a social worker and three children aged 0 to 5 years of age.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS:

FRIDAY, December 1<sup>st</sup> @ 12pm: The last Climate@Noon seminar of 2017!



## ENERGY TRANSITION IN MICHIGAN: REGIONAL & STATE POLICIES AT PLAY

Margrethe Kearney will introduce and discuss a few of the most relevant policies influencing the transition to renewable energy in the state of Michigan. She will focus on PURPA (Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978), explain why it is important for distributed and renewable energy in Michigan and then discuss a few of the cases currently under review by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). The MPSC's mission is to protect the public by ensuring safe, reliable, and accessible energy at reasonable rates for Michigan's residents.

Ms. Kearney is a Senior Staff Attorney working in the Environmental Law and Policy Center's Grand Rapids office. Ms. Kearney was previously a Counsel at the Latham & Watkins firm in the Environment, Land & Resources Department, focusing on environmental enforcement, environmental litigation and advising on environmental aspects of corporate and finance transactions. She represented clients on cases involving the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, CERCLA and valuation of environmental claims in bankruptcy proceedings. Before attending Harvard Law School, she worked as an associate research economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.



## Choral Society Winter Concert

The Marquette Choral Society, directed and conducted by  
Dr. Erin Colwitz, will present  
***"Laudate Dominum: Cantatas at the Cathedral"***

on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday,  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. in a FREE concert at St Peter  
Cathedral in Marquette. Several traditional hymns are  
included for audience participation. There are no tickets for  
the concerts, but a free-will offering will be gratefully  
accepted.

The 100+ voices of the Marquette Choral Society plus  
orchestra and the Diocesan Children's Choir (prepared by  
Samuel Holmberg) will present Arthur Honegger's ***Une  
Cantate de Noël*** and Benjamin Britten's ***St. Nicolas Cantata***.

Tenor soloist for the Britten *St. Nicolas Cantata* will be  
**Brian White** (based in Ann Arbor) who has performed with a variety of choral and instrumental groups  
throughout Michigan and Europe – Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Russia, Ukraine, and Estonia. Baritone soloist  
for the Honegger *Une Cantate de Noël* will be **Wayne Hanmer** – a frequently heard soloist with the Marquette  
Choral society as well as a touring performer in Europe and at Carnegie Hall with Sir Neville Marriner, Andre  
Previn, Peter Schrier, Charles Detoit, and Helmut Rilling.

Mqt UU members and friends who will be participating in these challenging, musical works this holiday  
season include Gary Stark, Jeanne Trost, Anna Benjamin, and Barbara Michael. For more information, contact  
one of them.

