



Marquette
Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation

January 2018

CHRONICLE

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

	Sundays in January
7	11am Service: “Volunteering as Spiritual Activity.” Service Leader: Jane Harris
14	11am Service: “Stability Crossed with Dynamism” Service Leader: Hunter Wade
21	11am Service: “Martin Luther King” Service Leader: Jane Harris
28	11am Service: TBA



AS A NEW YEAR BEGINS

By Kate Lore

Great Spirit of Life, as a new year begins, we turn inward to reflect about the state of our lives:

- What lessons have we learned in the past year and which new ones now call us forward?
- To whom do we still owe an apology or expression of thanks?
- And with whom must we draw fresh boundaries?

Check us out on
the web at mqtuu.org



As we pause from our regular rhythms of rush-rush-rush, we open ourselves to new perspectives and possibilities. We give thanks for these moments and for the wisdom they afford us. May they help bring us together in the sacred dynamics of life so that we—as individuals and as members of this community—might reach our full potential.

As we step across this threshold, let this new year be a year of greater awe and gratitude, of deeper kindness and acceptance, and more courageous acts of conviction.

For a kinder, more equitable and sustainable world is not only possible, she is on her way. And in the quietness of this sacred community, we can ever hear her breathing.

Amen.

A Candlelight Vigil for America to be Held this New Year's Eve



You are invited to the Meeting House on New Year's Eve from 9:00 pm – 12:30 am for a drop-in silent candlelight vigil of prayer, meditation and/or focused positive attention for healing of America, its people and its government.

In this trying period of uncertainty, political distrust and fracturing of the American polity, citizens are troubled and confused at what they see happening in America since the 2017 election. Citizens on every side have expressed a desire to heal splits, come together again as a country and find a way back to honorable, trustworthy, and thoughtful governance that fully represents the interest of all citizens.

Many have expressed a desire to do something to make this happen but want a safe environment without controversy in which to express themselves. They realize how important democracy is to American life, but the hustle and churn prevents them from giving it full intention.

People wishing to attend can drop in at any time from 9:00 pm until just after midnight to turn inward and silently focus their hopes, prayers and resolutions for America and American government in coming year of 2018 as they light a candle symbolizing those fervent wishes.

One can stay the full time or pause between holiday activities to take some quiet personal time to focus and reflect. All are welcome.

The UU arises from a historical background of thoughtful reflection on the human condition and universal reconciliation, a belief that all humans will ultimately be restored to healing reconciliation with the universal greater than themselves, by whatever name they chose to call it. It is this desire to reconcile and heal that moves the UU to sponsor this vigil at this particular time. We grow spiritually through healing action.

If you have questions, you may call Jane Harris, organizer of the event at (703) 909-2766.



For everybody in the world whatever color their skin may be, whatever their religion may be, whatever their situation may be, good health, lots of love, of possibilities and...peace!!

FROM: Religious Exploration



Now that the holidays will be coming to a calm, throughout the month of January our RE youth and young adults will be furthering their “Love Will Guide Us” program with readings and plenty of fun activities. Dec 31st, we’ll do a **spiral walk** with cedar boughs and luminaries to set our intentions for the new year. The last three Sundays of January will involve making “**Freak Flags**,” (a super cool concept from the *Shrek* Musical!), and making **woven yarn charms** originally made by the indigenous Huichol culture (more often known as Christian “God’s Eyes” today).

Don’t miss the MqtUU **Game and Craft Night Jan 26th** at the Meeting House! There will be fun of all types for all ages: food, board games, action games (Humans vs. Zombies), Blanket Making for Room at the Inn guests, and a cake walk with Hip Hop music (please feel free to bring cakes/cupcakes), and much more. Bring a friend or neighbor or two!

There is growing interest in an MqtUU **Mission Trip**. Some parents of our young adults met in December to discuss the possibilities. Much more to come about this, but for now, please let Jamie know if you have ideas, previous experiences to share, or a general interest. In the meantime, Jamie has been reading *Journeys of the Spirit: Planning and Leading Mission Trips with Youth*, a text put out by the UUA.

An **Adult Religious Exploration** program will be starting up in February to explore and deepen our UU faith. We’ll meet at the homes of different hosts for some reading, talking, and spiritual practice. The RE Committee will be considering three different texts to guide our journey: *Backpacker’s Notebook: Exploring Unitarian Universalist Faith and Community*, *To This I Give My Heart: A Coming of Age Journal*, and *Emerson as Spiritual Guide: A Companion to Emerson’s Essays for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion*. These books are all available through the UUA bookstore, *InSpirit*: <https://www.uuabookstore.org/> if you’d like to check them out and provide feedback to any RE Committee members: Kathy, Sarah, Jamie, Teri, and Jill. ☺ ☺

Thank you, those of you who signed up within the last couple of months to help out with our RE youth. We are in the process of fully implementing the “MidAmerica Region of the UUA Child and Youth Safety & Protection Guidelines” and will be contacting you about potential volunteer opportunities.

As a reminder, the OWL program will resume January 7th.

The **next Religious Exploration Committee meeting is Thursday, January 4th 5:30** in the old café area of the lower level of the Peter White Library.

Jamie Logsdon Kuehn
RE Coordinator



IMPORTANT!!

**Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 21**

Agenda items will be posted soon!



The 13th Annual Soup Dinner was really good. Lots of people came and the food was delicious! I would like to give a round of applause for everyone who helped make soup or came out and gave donations. We raised \$1037.75 for JJ Packs!

On Thursday, December 14th, we packed food with JJ Packs. JJ Packs is important because it brings food to school-age kids like me that don't have food for the weekend. Did you know they send 223 packs of food home every Friday?

Packing food was very fun. 13 people came and the work was easy and fun. We gave JJ Packs the big check for \$1037.75 and they were amazed. They thanked us and fud us pizza. It was awesome.

Thank you, Ruby Jean Myron, age 8



*The 13th Annual
Soup Dinner*

*MqtUU Youth present
the \$1037 check to JJPacks!*



Starting in February, we are going to show a movie every first Sunday of the month in the early afternoon after services and coffee time. The first film will be Robert Reich's Inequality, which will be screened on Sunday, February 4th. Please plan to bring a lunch or a snack and join us! The film for March 4th will be from National Geographic entitled The Hajj. Please let Heidi or g.g. know if you have suggestions for future films.



“Live your values aloud, not alone. Our open-minded, open-hearted spiritual communities help people lead lives of justice, love, learning and hope.”
Uua.org

Your time, talents and treasure are vital to the wellbeing of the Marquette Unitarian Universalist Community!

Your presence at Sunday Service, community gatherings, committee meetings, board meetings and other events is more than greatly appreciated but necessary to sustain our congregation. THANK YOU!

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.

January “Share the Plate” Recipient:



The Women's Center provides 24/7 emergency-intervention and crisis-intervention services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, dating violence and stalking in Marquette and Alger Counties, providing individual/group counseling and advocacy through programs that Protect, Educate, Advocate, Counsel and Empower (PEACE). For 40 more than years, it has been our mission to support survivors, to increase public awareness and to change the attitudes which allow these violent crimes to continue.

MqtUU January Calendar

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

January 6 @ 10am Saturday	1 st January Meeting of the Board of Trustees @ the Stark's Home, 1036 Allouez Rd
January 7 after the service Sunday	Continued Discussion on Volunteering
January 7 @ 1pm Sunday	Class Conscious: Class and Classism in UU Life Classism and Awareness Efforts in our Congregations
January 14 after the service Sunday	Hunter Wade Presentation
January 20 @ 10am Saturday	2 nd January Meeting of the MqtUU Board of Trustees @ Togo's in Harvey
January 21 after the service Sunday	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
January 28 @ 12:30pm Sunday	Class Conscious: Class and Classism in UU Life Class Activism

COMMUNITY EVENTS:



The next "First Friday" meeting of the MIF will be January 5, 2018 in the Shiras Room of the Peter White Public Library from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Our topic will be CHARITY.

The topic was initially suggested by an article in the website Ecclesio about Marquette native and Louisville, KY Rabbi Joe Rapport on differing religious views on Charity and a book review of The Problem of Wealth.

In light of our society's & government's current struggle with funding social programs such as health care vs. a rising national deficit, the question of whether or not such programs are morally imperative and who has the responsibility to help those in need seems quite germane. Additional references and materials for our discussion are welcomed and should be sent to me at apsmd@aol.com for distribution.

I wish everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year,

Aaron Scholnik

SAVE THE DATE:

Racial Justice Conference "Healing Our Communities & Empowering Our People"

April 14th & 15th, 2018

An April conference for Anishinaabe, people of color, and allies will offer workshops, presentations, and coalition building on racial justice. We are working in collaboration with the following organizations: Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, Red Circle Consulting, Native Justice Coalition, Northern Michigan University - Center for Native American Studies, Michigan Technological University, Showing Up For Racial Justice - Keweenaw Chapter, and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

If you or someone you know is interested in presenting at the April Anishinaabe conference in Baraga, please check the following link for proposals: <https://www.nativejustice.org/conferenceproposal/>



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 mqtuuadassist@gmail.com.



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~Kate Lore

