



# THE CHRONICLE

Marquette  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation



## Services & Forums May 2015



Date	Service (11 a.m.)	Forum (9:45 – 10:30a.m.)
May 3	“Parenting.” Service Leaders: The Morski Family from the UU Bay de Noc Fellowship	“Congregational Conversations About How MqtUU, the Midwest Region, and the UUA Work Together.” Host: MqtUU Board of Trustees (Sarah Redmond)
May 10	“The Eve of Motherhood.” (and New Members Ceremony). Service Leader: Tim VanderVeen	“Cultural Literacy for Religion: The Foundations of Hinduism I” (video). Host: Tom Sullivan
May 17	“Building a Cathedral or Cutting Up a Stone” Presenters: February Sky (Phil Cooper & Susan Urban	Ministerial Educational Process (Wiccan, UU, etc.)” Host: Rev. Dea Kowalczyk
May 24	"A Memorial to Service, and to Peace" Service Leader: Tim VanderVeen	“Origins of Tradition: How People’s Personal Traditions Develop.” Host: “Mystery Presenter”
May 31	“Flower Communion Service”. Service Leaders: Barb Michael and Dharmini Robertson ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO FOLLOW THE SERVICE	"Flower Planting at the Meeting House" Host: Dea Kowalczyk

### MqtUU Hosts Last Week of Room at the Inn

MqtUU is hosting the final week of the 2015 season for Room at the Inn (RATI) from **May 10 - 17**. We need to fill approximately 90 volunteer slots and there is truly a job for everyone. Options include: preparing and serving a meal (continental breakfast OR dinner), washing linens, taking a shift (must have attended formal training), helping with set up after the service on 5/24 or clean up following departure on 5/17, and donating toiletries. MqtUU is hosting the final dinner and we would like to make it an intergenerational event. Please see Sarah Johnson, if you would like to help with this. Please see the sign up at MqtUU Meeting House or contact Sarah Johnson at 458-3915 or Michelle Halley at 361-0520 to let us know how you can support.



**FROM: MqtUU President, Sarah Redmond**



May Sunday Services will bring us celebrations with music, the honoring of our mothers and of service persons. We start the year with our In-gathering of Waters and conclude with the Flower Communion from our cultivated and wild gardens the last Sunday in May, the 31st.

Our Annual Meeting will follow the Flower Communion service on the 31st. It's later this year as many of us want to honor the memory of Alice McMahan by continuing her work participating in the Tourist Park clean-up on May 17th.

We will be voting on the Mission Statement that has been worked on throughout this past year. Look elsewhere in the Chronicle for text and possible modifications. If you'd like to see any of these changes, please do so before the Annual Meeting. We'll have 15 minutes of discussion pro and con, then the vote. Other business is as usual, the adoption of the budget for 2015-16 and election of three new Board of Trustee members. To vote you must have pledged and made a payment prior to the Annual Meeting.

Thanks to those who have stepped in to help while Dan and I have been away these past few months; particularly to Tim VanderVeen. See you on the 3rd of May.

**Thank you!**

*You are Invited to the Meeting House...*

**First Friday**

**Friday, May 1 @ 6pm**

Bring a dish, a friend,  
share great conversation!  
Come for the food, stay for fun!  
There's always cake to celebrate  
the Birthdays of the Month!



Spring is  
nature's  
way of  
saying,  
'Let's  
party!'

Robin  
Williams



United By Light & CUUPS invites you...

*May Full Moon Gathering*  
**Saturday May 2 @ 4pm**



Join us for a fun, laid back, fireside picnic  
followed by Beltane celebration @ 6pm.

Please bring: Campchair or other outdoor  
seat, a dish to share, and a small  
building/event donation.

*Beltane Celebration*  
*Come Dance Round the May Pole!*



## WE NEED YOU!

As a lay-led congregation, it is the members who lead Sunday Services! Perhaps you have something you want to share but lack the confidence, skill or experience to get behind the podium! We can change that!

### **“The Shared Pulpit: A Sermon Seminar for Lay People” by Erika Hewitt**

An introduction to the complete workshop to help lay people gain experience writing and preaching a full-length sermon for their congregation will be offered at the Meeting House Beginning **MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 12:30**. This easy-to-use guide for both facilitators and participants provides a step-by-step lesson plan. Workshop members learn about the theory and theology of preaching, then practice writing and speaking with authenticity, gradually building toward composing quality 20-minute sermons.

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 12:30 – 3:30pm**

MqtUU Meeting House ~ For more information call: Heidi Gould 226-0102 or email [qtuuadassist@gmail.com](mailto:qtuuadassist@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*



**The Mother's Day service on May 10th** will be special with gifts for all as we honor mothers. I encourage people to think about sharing a brief story about how their mother's impacted their lives and in what way their lives are reflected in the lessons taught to them by their mothers. The service will be conducted by Tim VanderVeen. There will be special music to commemorate the occasion.

The **New Member service** which will be included in the Mother's Day service will honor our new members; Dea Kolwalczyk, Jacob Studinger and Wayde Jackson. The congregation will be welcoming them as new members and the children will be singing a song that has become a tradition as we welcome new folks into our U.U. family. See Nancy Sullivan or Tim VanderVeen for more information.

**“A Memorial to Service, and to Peace.” May 24** ~ I am afraid my emphasis on those who have served takes the focus away from the true intention of Memorial Day; to honor those who have died serving in the military for our country. The history suggests several origins of the commemoration, but the paramount reason for "Memorial Day" which was to memorialize those who died in the battles of the Civil War, and has come to recognize all of those who have died in the many wars since then.

As a veteran in touch with other veterans on a regular basis, I want to connect with as many families who have lost someone in military service, as I can to prepare for the Memorial Day service. I would like to recognize those we have lost and to acknowledge the support of their families and the lasting impact such service has on all of us. Please chat with me if you like after the next few Sunday services about how Unitarian Universalists are impacted by military service and the resulting loss, and how we reconcile that with some of the most important principles we abide by as Unitarians. Your story is important and our gratitude should never be unspoken. We will honor all of those who have served and are serving when we meet around Veterans Day in November.

**Flower Communion Service, May 31** ~ will include the children's procession with flowers and beautiful music from Maitri White. Please bring a flower or something as simple as a twig to share.

## **FROM: Social Action Committee**

“Share the Plate” offers opportunities for our members to develop and deepen connections with non-profit organizations from the local, state, national and global levels. Your nominations of non-profit organizations for recipients are welcome! The May “Share the Plate” Recipient is:



**Mission Statement:** Inspiring sustainable growth of a healthy urban community through trees, green spaces, food, education, training and job opportunities. We aspire to provide a greener tomorrow for our Detroit.

**[greeningofdetroit.com](http://greeningofdetroit.com)**

The MqtUU Social Action Committee **NEEDS YOU!** The next SAC meeting will be held Sunday, May, at 12:30pm. Put your passion to action and get involved with issues of social and environmental justice! As a collective voice we can make a difference! Check us out on Facebook to get current on meeting dates and issues being addressed. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1404026069870621/>

## **FROM: Mission Statement Committee**

The Mission Statement Committee has drafted the following for the Congregation's consideration. What follows is a draft Mission Statement. A Mission Statement is defined as "a written declaration of an organization's core purpose and focus that normally remains unchanged over time. Properly crafted mission statements (1) serve as filters to separate what is important from what is not, (2) clearly state which markets will be served and how, and (3) communicate a sense of intended direction to the entire organization."

Ideally a mission statement is something a congregation can insert into its order of service, say in unison at services, and use to define our organization to outsiders.

### **The Committee's draft Mission Statement:**

**We, 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 Committee invites everyone in the congregation to offer feedback, reactions, suggestions, proposed edits, etc. on this proposal. Comments may be submitted via email to g.g. gordon, [plumskiter@gmail.com](mailto:plumskiter@gmail.com), or to g.g. or Nancy Sullivan in person. We will also have an upcoming Adult Forum dedicated to a discussion of the proposal. Any and all input is invited and welcome.

Please let us know what you think about this!





**Choir rehearsal at 7 pm, May 7** at the home of Jeanne Trost, 911 W. Kaye in Marquette. Just one rehearsal in May. Come and bring a friend!



**SAVE THE DATE:**

Our very own **SIMONE CHIODINI** will be signing her newly published book

***Infinite Power Defied***

At the Joy Center in Ishpeming  
May 14 @ 7pm  
Refreshments will be available.

**FROM: RE Coordinator, Lisa McKenzie**



What could be better than a picnic in the park with a wonderful community in the spring time? Not much! That's why RE will be hosting "A Picnic and Park Clean-up with Alice" on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3 pm at Tourist Park in Marquette. In celebration of the life of Alice McMahan, we will picnic together, enjoy nature and tend to our mother- the earth. RE will provide something wonderful on the grill for all to eat; please bring a dish to share, your own place setting and a beverage. Park clean-up will follow the picnic and clean-up bags will be provided.

May is a busy month for RE! In addition to our picnic and park clean-up, we will also be gathering for our Blanket Making Social on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 3pm at the meeting house where we will be tying fleece blankets for Camp New Day campers (we plan to make 15 or more blankets!), and on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be preparing and serving a dinner for our RATI guests.

Mother's Day is a big theme for RE this month, we will be making some special gifts for all the Mother's in our congregation and actively participating in the intergenerational service on Mother's day, May 10th.

We invite children of all ages to participate in any or all of these events. If you are new to our congregation, or haven't visited us in awhile, we welcome you anytime! If you have questions about any of this information, please contact Lisa at [lisamckenzie@charter.net](mailto:lisamckenzie@charter.net).

See you on Sunday! Lisa



**A Note of Thanks From Barb Michael:**



I want to thank all those who took the time during this past year to attend one or more of the 12 sessions, reflecting and understanding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. U.S. Rabbi Brant Rosen, Hebrew University Prof. Jeff Halper, Israeli historian and activist Prof. Illan Pappé, Bethlehem University Prof. Mazin Qumsiyeh, American commentator/journalist Phyllis Bennis, members of Jewish Voice for Peace, Christian and Muslim Palestinians, Israel/Palestine

Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church, Episcopal Peace Fellowship, and UU's for Justice in the Middle East were some of our many resources. If you missed any of the sessions and would like to borrow dvd's or books on the subject or have your own copy of one of the packets, please email me at [michael.barbara.102@gmail.com](mailto:michael.barbara.102@gmail.com) or catch me on a Sunday morning with a reminder note. The interfaith group gathering at First Presbyterian Church is continuing on Wed., May 6 at 6 pm. Join us!

## The Intergenerational Fleece Tie Blanket & Pizza Party...

Is Saturday, May 9th at noon to 4 pm at our Meeting House. Please join us for any or all of the time! Bring your friends too. We will make Fleece Tie Blankets for the campers at Camp New Day, a summer camp for kids with incarcerated relatives.



Janet Joswiak, Patty Sarvello & Teri Rockwood

No sewing skills needed! You just need the ability to make a six inch cut with scissors and/or tie simple knots. All ages are welcome. Please bring sharp scissors if you have them. We will have some extra scissors available too.

So far we have fleece for a dozen blankets prepared to tie. I expect we will get a few more donations of fleece or money in the next two weeks as well.

We will be serving pizza, lemonade and any other food you bring. Want more info? Contact Nancy Sullivan at 360-3790 or [nance249@gmail.com](mailto:nance249@gmail.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY</b> The ANNUAL MEETING of the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION	<b>Portland Oregon</b> JUNE 24-28, 2015	
--	--	---

**2015 WARE LECTURER: Dr. Cornel West**

*American philosopher, academic, activist, author, and public intellectual*

# MqtUU May Calendar

(See Forums & Services on pg. 1)

(Meetings and events will take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise specified)

May 1 @ 6pm Friday	<b>First Friday</b> Bring a dish to share, come for a meal, stay for a great conversation!
May 2 @ 5pm Thursday	CUUPS & United By Light <b>Full Moon Gathering</b>
May 17 @ 12:30 Sunday	<b>Social Action Committee Meeting</b>
May 19 @ 6pm Tuesday	<b>MqtUU Board of Trustees Meeting</b>
May 31 @ 12:15pm Sunday	<b>Congregational Meeting</b>

Heidi Gould will be in the field at the far end of the parking lot at the Meeting House Every Saturday in May with refreshing water! Come pull some knapweed, commune with nature, work on beautifying the property of our congregation!

## Next MARQUETTE INTERFAITH FORUM meeting ~ Friday, May 1

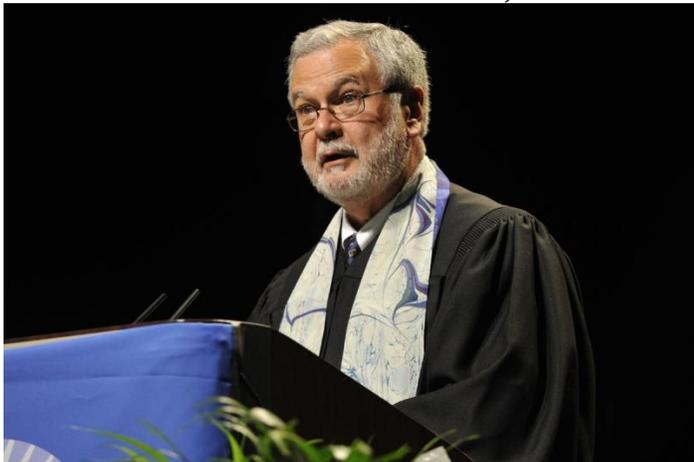
The May "First Friday" meeting of the MIF will be May 1 at "Little Jimmie's", the renovated St. James the Less Episcopal church building in Harvey. It is on the west side of US 41 S. just past the "Family Dollar" store sign and across US 41 S. from Shaw's Phillips 66 Service station

Our topic will be Native American Religion in the UP and our presenter and discussion guide will be Dr. Martin Reinhardt, Asst. Professor of Native American Studies at NMU.

We will decide at this meeting if this will be our last until September or if we will meet once more on June 5.

Aaron Scholnik

## FROM: UUA PRESIDENT, PETER MORALES



### UUA NEWS ALERT

The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), issued this statement following recent events and new developments in Baltimore, MD, following the death of Freddie Carlos Gray, Jr.

See full statement here:

<http://www.uua.org/news/press-release/statement-events-baltimore>



Welcoming Congregation

The Supreme Court of the United States recently heard oral arguments about whether states have the power to ban same-sex marriage.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4q3BXUt8II>

\*\*\*\*\*

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) online auction fundraiser "Bid for Justice" is up and running!

Our annual Bid for Justice online auction is officially under way! Get in on the action and [help us raise \\$20,000 for human rights](#).

- Here are a few featured items that are just waiting for your bids:
- Lunch with UUSC President and CEO Rev. William Schulz
  - Family pack of Red Sox tickets
  - Luxury condo vacation week in Jackson Hole, Wyo.



*Win a one-week condo stay on the slopes of the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. Bid today and help UUSC advance human rights around the world!*

Each item offers a win-win opportunity: you get an exclusive experience or item and a chance to share your passion for social justice, and we get vital resources we need to keep advancing human rights throughout the world.

We've got more than 30 special items — from Haitian art to fair-trade gift baskets — for you to check out and choose from. [Help us build a better world by bidding in our third annual online auction today](#). Thank you in advance for taking part and helping us meet this year's goal of \$20,000.

Sincerely,

Maxine Neil  
Director of Institutional Advancement  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

PS. The success of this online auction depends on spreading the word to as many people as possible. We need your help — **please send your family and friends the auction link ([uusc.org/auction](http://uusc.org/auction))** and encourage them to participate!

\*\*\*\*\*

**DOCUMONDAY FILM: BAG IT!**  
**May 4th, 2015 - 7:00 PM- 8:15 PM**  
**Peter White Public Library Community Room**  
<http://www.pwpl.info>

Not a radical environmentalist, but an average American, Jeb Berrier takes a closer look at our cultural love affair with plastics. He asks: Are plastic bags really necessary? What are plastic bags made from? What happens to plastic bags after they are discarded?



Looking beyond plastic bags, he discovers that virtually everything in modern society is made with plastic or contains potentially harmful chemical additives used in the plastic-making process.

When his journey takes a personal twist, we see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up with us and what we can do about it. Today. Right now.