

	Sundays in December
2	11am Service: "Phil Ochs & His Powerful Songs of Protest" gg gordon
9	11am Service: "Laughter in the Abyss" Desi Mims
16	11am Service: Santa Lucia Pageant MqtUU Kids & Youth
23	11am Service: "Stillness at Solstice" Mary Maki
30	11am Service: "People of Mystery Small Group Service" Heidi Gould

Check us out on
the web at mqtuu.org



HOLIDAY SEASON PRAYER

By Wayne B Arnason

Spirit of Life,

The beginning of the holiday season is filled with temptations to conspicuous consumptions, and pleas for generosity. The contrasts between the values represented by this time of year, and our ability to fulfill them, remind us how great the distance can be between aspirations and actions.

The month has begun with the observance of World AIDS Day, and Human Rights Day follows next week. They remind us of those at home and abroad who are imprisoned by disease, poverty, and discrimination. The messages of liberation, dignity, and joy that come with Hanukkah and with Christmas are hard to hear unless they are conveyed by gracious acts of outreach to those who suffer.

Our prayer this day, then, is that we may be gentle with ourselves and with others as we do our best to navigate through the tricky shoals of December.

May we avoid being so distracted with our own problems and duties this year that we forget the wider web of life of which we are a part.

May we go about our rounds of preparations and festivities with a light heart and with boundless patience.

May the dissatisfactions that are part of our lot be our companions, but not our masters, as we cross the holiday threshold.

And may all the joys of the season be ours, this time around.

Amen.

FROM: Spiritual Exploration (SE)

Friday, November 30th at 4:30 we'll be decorating the UU holiday tree at the PWPL with homemade ornaments, scarves that Nichole taught us how to make, and a giant peace crane tree topper.

Saturday, December 1st is the Annual SOUP DINNER to raise money for JJ Packs! 5-7 pm, feel free to bring a dessert or soup to share (please write the ingredients of your soup or dessert on a card). Mike Waite will be playing music.

Sunday, December 2nd for SE, we will be outside, taking a walk or ideally, if there's enough snow, a snowshoe! So, please dress your kids nice and warm; and, if you have any extra snowshoes (any sizes) you wouldn't mind lending for the hour, that would be super!

Share in some of the authentic Swedish winter holiday traditions of Jul and Santa Lucia. The service at 11 am on Sunday, December 16th will include a beautiful procession of the "Queen of Light" and her candle-holding entourage, including Starboys and gingerbread kids. There will be beautiful Swedish songs, some history of the traditions, gnomes, predictions for the New Year with the classic tapping of the pepperkaker, and the sharing of some traditional foods and beverage of the season, like glogg, saffron bread, rice pudding, and more. The kids and youth should all be there at 10:30 am, if possible, to get their pageant outfits on & to practice. Any kids 5 & under might wear anything brown, and 6 & older, can wear white. We'll add the bling :)



And very importantly, after 3 mission trips meetings fine-tuning the details.....

WE ARE DEFINITELY GOING TO HAITI!



Partnering with which Organization: Soon to be Decided

Vision: Water-Protecting

Grounding Stance: In true-to-UU fashion, this trip is only about partnering with an established organization, with zero intent to change the people or the place, only to embody Lilla Watson's quote, "If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your

time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."

Who: Anyone with a shared vision and stance; this will be a multi-generational group

When: MAPS Spring Break, 2020

Duration of Trip: 11-14 days (depending on organization's needs)

Estimated Costs: Approximately \$2000/person

The raising of sacred money to help defray costs have begun!

Be on the lookout for a Haitian Pot Luck in January AND for the Haitian cultural table located in the sanctuary that will feature authentic Haitian art, information about Haiti as the youth research, and a lending library so that we can become knowledgeable.

*The group plans on keeping the momentum going strong, so if you are considering this trip, let Jamie know right away~

Save these December Dates!

Saturday, December 1st @ 5-7 pm Annual Soup Dinner Fundraiser for JJ Packs

Friday, December 7th Kids and Youth serve the Room at the Inn meal

Sunday, December 16th Kids & Youth Pageant Santa Lucia Service



**BOARD
OF Trustees'
MEETING**

MqtUU Board of Trustees Meeting

Saturday, December 15 @ 11am – 1pm

Peter White Public Library

You are invited to come, meet the board members and share your thoughts, concerns and suggestions on how to build and strengthen our Beloved Community.



Dave, Sari, Anne, Kathy, Mary

MqtUU Board of Trustees

Anne Stark, President

Dave Stensaas, Vice President

Mary Maki, Secretary

Kathryn Campbell, Trustee

Sari Embley, Trustee



Memories of Thanksgiving Potluck... 16 Adults & Kids! Thankful to and for all who contributed!



Billy & Boyana



Desiree & Sky



Kathy & Fred

December Special Collection Recipient



Community Action Alger Marquette

Meals on Wheels

Community Action Alger-Marquette Senior Meals Programs serve close to 100,000 meals a year to seniors in Alger and Marquette Counties, helping those seniors live longer, healthier, more enjoyable lives. Volunteers are needed in a variety of ways to continue providing these important meals.

communityactionam.org



What do wild flowers do in the winter? They feed the wild birds their seeds. Leave them stand through the winter and spring so migrating birds find them to dine again. – Sari Embley



SPECIAL THANKS!

New welcoming BLUE door for children and play Castle to climb. Put together in terrible UP challenging weather by Mike White and Raymond Lenberg and the UU moving & assembly crew. How cool! Thank you!

If you've ever felt the calling to deliver a service, but have no idea of what to say or how to choose readings or music, we now have amazing help. For more information about Soul Matters, click [HERE](#) or contact Heidi mqtuadassist@gmail.com.

Thank you!



DECEMBER THEME: Mystery

What does it mean to be a people of
MYSTERY?

Sunday, December 30

Unitarian Universalists love puzzles. We proudly announce that we are the religion that loves questions and questioning. Or to put it another way, we love figuring out life's mysteries. Join the discussion!

Gail D. Griffith, 84, of Marquette, passed away Monday morning, October 22, 2018 at U.P. Health System.

Gail was born on March 16, 1934 in Detroit, the only child of Clarence E. and Celia D. (Maki) Brown. She was a graduate of Centerline High School and received her undergraduate degree in Medical Technology from Michigan Tech University, ultimately receiving a PhD in Chemistry in 1961 from Michigan State University. She spent much of her childhood in Hancock, MI where she developed a deep love of the UP and the Great Lakes.



Gail and her late husband, Thomas, were both professors in the Department of Chemistry at Northern Michigan University from 1962-1993. She taught chemistry to several generations of nursing students as well as to NMU undergraduates and developed a curriculum in environmental and occupational hygiene. Gail's research interests spanned basic biochemistry and toxicology. She was an EPA fellow at MIT in 1980 and she later spent a sabbatical year at Michigan State University doing research on bacterial metabolism of chlorobenzoates, an important class of environmental pollutants.

During her retirement Gail enjoyed agate collecting, gardening, travelling, and spending time with her grandchildren. She was also very active in various environmental and political causes. In 2014 she received the Fred Rydholm Sisu Award from Save the Wild UP for her work in promoting environmental responsibility.

She served on the Michigan Toxic Substances Control Commission, K.I. Sawyer Restoration Advisory Board, Marquette Board of Light and Power and Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority. She was a member of Sigma XI, the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters, and was a founding member of the Marquette Unitarian Universalist congregation. She was the first executive director of the Women's Center at NMU and later served on its board.

Gail is survived by three children, Leslie (Eric Maskin) Griffith of Weston, MA, Lindsay Griffith of Marquette, and Lauren (Tim White) Griffith of Hamilton, Ontario; five grandchildren, Emma Griffith, Bennet Karel and Ian, Alexandra and Evan White. Preceding her in death besides her parents was her husband, Thomas Griffith on May 21, 2018.



Memorial Service

The Griffith family will greet relatives and friends on Friday, January 4, 2019 in the Great Lakes Rooms of Northern Michigan University. The celebration of Gail's life will begin at 1 p.m. with a reception. At 3 p.m., there will be remembrances with her children Lauren, Lindsay and Leslie Griffith officiating.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Canale-Tonella Funeral Home. Those wishing to make an expression of sympathy are kindly asked to consider the United Way of Marquette County, the Women's Center at NMU, the Chocloy Bayou Nature Preserve and the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve.

The Griffith family encourages former students, family and friends to share memories and photos they have of Dr. Griffith on the Canale-Tonella Funeral Home website, canalefuneral.com.

Giving Thanks at the Annual Traditional Bread Communion...



Don't Forget to Save your Econo Receipts!

Add your saved Econo receipts to those in the box in the entryway of the Meeting House to be redeemed for 1% of the total!

Last year, MqtUU received over \$500!



THANK YOU!



VOLUNTEERS are **WELCOME** and needed for continuing support of the MqtUU Congregation. Why **volunteer**? People choose to **volunteer** for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge. MqtUU offers many opportunities to volunteer! If you are interested in utilizing your skills and talents in service of the MqtUU Community please email Heidi mqtuuadassist@gmail.com for more information! **THANK YOU!**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: TREASURER

A Treasurer is typically charged with overseeing the management and reporting of an organization's finances. Please email Heidi mqtuuadassist@gmail.com for more information.



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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

CLIMATE@NOON

Models vs. People, Gloom vs. Success: Climate Change Stories from the Field

Friday, December 7 @ 12pm, 1318 Jamrich Hall, NMU
Wildfires, invasive species, flooding-we're increasingly hearing about these threats. How about the successes, and how scientists are grappling to understand the consequences of climate change? Randy Swaty of The Nature Conservancy will share relevant stories, present some of his favorite conservation strategies and provoke a spirited conversation!



OR...



MIF First Friday Meeting

December 7 @ 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Lion Room, Peter White Public Library

Discussion Topic: "Values of Particularism vs. Universalism and Why People Convert?"

Why join any one faith community and why convert if all values are universal? Our facilitator will be UP Health System-Marquette Chaplain Marlin Kilpatrick who will open our conversation.

Spirit of the Solstice, a New Age Fair

featuring readers and healers offering mini sessions so guests may sample different styles of healings, readings, and related services. Tickets: \$20

Hosted By: Michelle Nichols

[Littleowluna's Nest](#)



A Forest Roberts Theater tradition rings in the holiday season! The Dickens classic is brought to life once again by NMU students and faculty along with locals from the Marquette community. A musical retelling of "A Christmas Carol," Scrooge! shows us the journey of a bitter old miser's discovery of the true meaning of Christmas, courtesy of good folks and strange ghosts. Join the FRT in celebrating one of our traditional shows!

CHARLES DICKENS, another famous Unitarian! Check out **Ebenezer Scrooge's conversion** in the December 2005 UU World.

Check the weekly This 'n' That for more Community Events and share events of interest by emailing info to mqtuadassist@gmail.com. **THANK YOU!**



You're Invited to the
14th Annual Soup Dinner!

Saturday, December 1 @ 5 – 7pm

**Hosted by the children of
Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation.**

Music Provided by Mike Waite.

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



MqtUU Meeting House @ 1510 M-28 East
(2.5 miles east of the M-28/US 41 intersection in Harvey)
(906) 249-9450 ~ mqtuu.org ~ Find us on Facebook

Donations of all sizes are appreciated.

ALL Proceeds go to:



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

Feeding weekend mouths for better learning and living!