

The Open Door Newsletter

January 2020



This Month's Fellowship Services

Fellowship Services are held at 10 a.m. on the Northland College Campus in the Alvord Theater of the Ponzio Center unless otherwise noted below. Find us on the web at www.chequamegonuuf.org

January 12—Installation Service for our New Minister, Stacy Craig



Members and friends, join together as we welcome Stacy Craig as the new minister for our Fellowship. The special service features speakers Rev. Marina Lachecki and Regina Laroche and a responsive litany to welcome a new minister. The hospitality hour will also give us time to welcome Stacy into our Fellowship. Please note, our Religious Education program will rejoin the service in time to participate in the welcome litany at the end of the service.

(Please remember to bring your non-perishable food donations to all regular services, including this one, for The BRICK. There will also be an additional collection at this service of food, new clothing, and toiletry donations for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day events scheduled for later in January—please see page 10 of this newsletter for more information.)

January 26—Speaker: Kevin McMullin—*Into the Black Sea: Stories of Darkness and Light*

For more than forty years, Kevin McMullin forged a successful career involving various combinations of music and storytelling. A series of derailing events, including a brain tumor and the caretaking of his dying father, left him looking at life from a new and still changing perspective. He has created a body of written and performance material, *Into the Black Sea: Stories of Darkness and Light*, reflecting those changes. Part theatre, part storytelling, part music, *Into the Black Sea* features tales of friends, relatives, literary figures, folk heroes, and McMullin himself. The effect is at once funny, tragic, hopeful, and inspiring.

We all walk dark roads at some point in our lives. This service will explore those dark roads and the surprising kinds of light that each of us brings to these journeys. Kevin will hold a discussion after the service during hospitality time for those who are interested in continuing the conversation.



The Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship welcomes people of any age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, ability, religion or cultural background.

CUUF Winter and Spring Service Schedule and Upcoming Events

January 12	A special service welcoming Stacy Craig as our new minister
January 19	The Other Sunday—Dr. Karl Solibakke—Discussion on <i>Letter From a Birmingham Jail</i>
January 26	Fellowship Service—Kevin McMullin— <i>Into the Black Sea: Stories of Darkness and Light</i>
February 9	Speaker: Stacy Craig
February 23	Speaker: Pat Shifferd—The Arts and Literature as Sources of Inspiration
March 8	Speaker: Jodi Supanich—Buddhism
March 22	Speaker: Stacy Craig—New Member Service
April 12	Speaker: Stacy Craig—Easter Service
April 26	Youth Speakers—Earth Day Celebration
May 3	All Music Service
May 17	Speaker: Stacy Craig—Flower Ceremony, Child Dedication, and Graduate Recognition

Welcome Stacy Craig!

On behalf of the Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, I would like to give an enthusiastic welcome to Stacy Craig as our new minister. Stacy has been an active and valuable member of our congregation for years, serving as the co-director of religious education and supporting our youth programming. She has also been a dear friend and confidant for many of us. I, personally, could not be more excited that it is Stacy who will be leading us into this New Year as she is one of the strongest and bravest people that I know.

Brene Brown, in her newest book *Dare to Lead*, says that the ability to be a daring leader can never be greater than our capacity to be vulnerable. Stacy's willingness to be seen, to open up and share the challenges, struggles and celebrations that accompany a human experience are what make her a cherished friend and I believe will serve her well in her new role as minister. So it is with a full heart and a big smile that I welcome Stacy and wish a happy New Year and new beginnings to the CUUF. I am looking forward to all of the familiar and new ways that we will grow together in 2020.

—Submitted by Kelsey Rothe

A Note of Thanks from David

Thank you to all of you for the kind words and cards. Janet and I hold you near to our hearts and will treasure your thoughtful support as we move along. Though we now take our leave from our regular participation in the life of the CUUF, our spirit remains. We are confident that this Fellowship is ready for a new step forward in its growth and ability to serve the greater Chequamegon Bay region. Again, words fail to express the depth of my gratitude to each of you, and to the Fellowship. May love abide, between me and thee, while we are apart, one from the other. Indeed!

With love,
David and Janet



From the Minister's Desk

“The eyes of the future are looking back at us and they are praying for us to see beyond our own time. They are kneeling with hands clasped that we might act with restraint, that we might leave room for the life that is destined to come. To protect what is wild is to protect what is gentle. Perhaps the wilderness we fear is the pause between our own heartbeats, the silent space that says we live only by grace. Wilderness lives by this same grace. Wild mercy is in our hands.”

— Terry Tempest Williams, *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*

Greetings!

I want to thank the CUUF community for the warm welcome as your new minister. Individuals have taken a moment to introduce themselves, committees have reached out to explain their processes, and more people than I can count have generously welcomed me to this role. I want to especially acknowledge David Saetre's thorough and profound preparations for this transition, including several meetings with me to share his wisdom of ministry. I am honored and excited to begin this work with you in the New Year.

I've been reflecting on what themes are important to CUUF that I could speak to in the next few months. CUUF is a diverse community, yet I hear and see themes of environmental justice, social consciousness and action, engagement with the arts, and care for each other, especially children and youth, flowing throughout. I've also found an intellectual curiosity and openness to explore how we make and affirm lives of meaning.

I was named to Governor Ever's Climate Change Task Force, and last week we had our first meeting. I've been in several climate change initiatives and recently I've noticed that the conversation has turned to grief, and even despair. I was not prepared for the dominant message that I took away from the first task force meeting: hope. Scientists and social activists emphasized that while we can't go back and undo what has been done, what we do right now matters.

This isn't something new. It's actually a very old message, yet I was struck by the way it shaped this conversation: to connect, to care, and to act matters for our interconnected communities now and in the future. Thinking of who we are and the context we are in as a global community, I look to Terry Tempest Williams for the cue, 'to protect what is wild is to protect what is gentle.' Topics that I hope to explore with you include pantheistic approaches to religion and nature, spiritual practices to help sustain social justice movements, and the imperative of strong spiritual and religious communities in an age of consumerism. The Worship Committee is working on the details to bring services focused on the arts, music, transformation, spiritual practice, and a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

In all these efforts, I hope to emphasize that knowing our stories and caring for ourselves and others is the unique space we hold as a Fellowship. What we do matters, but I believe this begins by embracing that everyone matters, including those yet to be born, and those who have come before us.

In peace and fellowship,
Stacy Craig

Guest Family Update

You're probably aware that our guest family—Judith and Luis, with Estrella—moved to California where they felt they could find work more easily without the challenge of the language barrier, and where they felt they would have easier access to legal representation. The news is not good. At Luis' first ICE check-in, he was detained and moved into the Adelanto Detention Facility. We then got the heart-breaking news that he has been deported to his very dangerous home country. This is a nightmare. We are face-to-face with the cruel immigration system.

Luis has told Judith he would begin making his way to the border again. Meanwhile, Judith and Estrella are living in a rented room in Long Beach, and Estrella has started school. Especially without Luis there to work, they will be struggling mightily to pay for rent and food.

During their time here in Ashland, the family became close friends with Steph and Doug Ament of Washburn. The Ament family is trying their very hardest to continue helping the family, as our community did together while they were here in Ashland. Steph wrote on the Chequamegon Border Justice Coalition Facebook page: "I know that you've all given so much of yourselves already, so please don't feel obligated... but if you'd been meaning to reach out and hadn't, there's still time."

If you would like, please go to gf.me/u/w7chbz. It will be so very much appreciated.

The Other Sunday

The Other Sunday in January will be Sunday, January 19, at 10 a.m. in the Alvord Theater on the Northland College Campus. Dr. Karl Solibakke, President of Northland College, will read from and lead a discussion about *Letter from a Birmingham Jail* by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Other Sunday occurs once each month as an informal gathering and discussion around a theme. The theme may include issues related to our Fellowship life, a contemporary social issue such as climate change and the environment, or personal faith explorations.

We welcome members and friends to this discussion. Please note that we do not provide child care and we do not have our regular Religious Education program on these Sundays.

Religious Education News

Thanks to all of the parents and others who volunteered many hours of time and energy to the holiday pageant *Baboushka*. The play and music for the holiday service were enjoyed by all. Thanks to Megan Perrine for her many hours of organizing and directing. Also, a big thanks to Nicole Brew who has so faithfully given her wonderful talents to lead the preschool program during our services.

Now that winter is officially started, we hope to return our focus to learning and experiencing new ideas and to continue our religious education curriculum, *Tapestry of Faith*.

Our K-2 class will focus on “Creating Home.” The program will help children develop a sense of home that is grounded in faith. They will explore the deep sense of sacredness, the beauty of hospitality, and the gift of loving relationships that home can represent. Our grade 3-5 class will work with “Toolbox of Faith.” This program invites children to reflect on the qualities of our UU faith, such as integrity, courage and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith. Our grades 6 and older will work with the “Coming of Age” program for the next two years. As youth prepare to leave childhood, they are maturing physically, cognitively, emotionally, and spiritually. This maturation opens the door for greater understanding of their faith. The program addresses changes in youth’s spiritual and faith development and offers new ways to experience Unitarian Universalism. It will ask youth to reflect upon what it means to be a UU and will provide a safe environment for questioning. Through activities, relationship building, and involvement in the broader community, the lessons will accompany youth on their journeys of spiritual self-awareness.

Remember, all children and youth are welcome to attend the RE program at any time throughout the year that CUUF is in session. Regular attendance adds to your child’s experience in more meaningful spiritual and moral exploration throughout their development. We are grateful for the enthusiasm of CUUF to support our children and youth in the RE program. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the co-directors.

Deb Aaron
David Skogen



Scenes from our Holiday Play—*Baboushka*

“It is said that Baboushka is still looking for the Christ Child, for time means nothing in the search for things that are real. At Christmas, when she sees a sleeping child and hears of good deeds, she will take a toy from her basket and leave it and sweep the room, for she never knows which child may be the baby King of Bethlehem. Then on she goes with her journey. The little children find joy in the poor but precious gifts she leaves behind in the silent night.”



Thanks to all of the parents and others who volunteered many hours of time and energy to the holiday pageant *Baboushka*. And thanks to Megan Perrine for her many hours of organizing and directing.



Support the BRICK food shelf regularly!

Giving is a habit. Let's get into the habit of regular support of The BRICK Ministries food shelf in Ashland by bringing non-perishable items to every worship service. Let's make 2020 a year of giving! The USDA defines "food insecurity" as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for all household members. In 2017, an estimated 15 million households were food insecure. That's 40 million neighbors who go hungry in the richest nation. The need for nutritious food and household food security in the Chequamegon Bay region is higher than national averages. Let's do more to meet that need with regular giving. Thank you.

Please note: donations will be collected at all regular Sunday services. Non-perishable food items only. Please see note on page 10 regarding additional donation request for MLK Day.

UU Women

UU Women will be taking a break until further notice while we figure out a new schedule. Please contact Jill Lorenz at jilljlorenz@gmail.com if you have suggestions about an alternative meeting time.

Hospitality Schedule

Hospitality hosts for upcoming services are as follows:

	<u>Contact Person and Set Up</u>	<u>Snacks and Clean Up</u>	<u>Snacks and Clean Up</u>
January 12	Kristin & Henry Quinlan 715-685-0041	Betsy & Jim Matzinger 847-651-6738	Rick Dowd & Joni Chapman 715-685-0076
January 26	Jacki Rae-Ledin & Terry Ledin 715-373-0347	Kristen Christensen 715-373-5972	Jill Lorenz 715-373-5908
February 9	Jan Perkins 715-373-5585	Julia & Hans Veenendaal 715-373-0361	Lindy Howey 651-343-2124 Diane Koosed 503-799-1239
February 23	Karyn Watters & Lee Stadnyk 715-682-6589	Kelsey & Todd Rothe 715-278-3383	Madeline Lee 303-319-5338
March 8	Kim Suske 715-373-5931	Courtney Remacle 920-860-6234	Angela Stroud & Cynthia Belmont 715-682-9155
March 22	Erin & Will Schlager 612-741-7970	Monica Lee & Matt Horning 218-591-7007	Aistis Tumas & Megan Salmon-Tumas
April 12	Beth Reed & Doug Liphart 715-682-8385	Deb & Jeff Lewis 715-682-5686	Volunteer needed
April 26	Heidi & Jeff Ungrodt 715-682-0103	Jo & Mike Bailey 715-779-9712	Volunteer needed
May 3	Youth parents providing treats	Youth parents	Youth parents
May 17	Sue & Roger Aiken 715-779-3579	Adam Haecker 651-303-6031	Marilyn Einspanier 715-372-5103 George Bussey 203-536-6990

Circle Suppers

Here is the schedule for the Circle Suppers for January 25, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Stadnyk at wrfarm@cheqnet.net or 715-765-4555.

Please note: Hosts provide entrée, other dish is a suggestion.

<u>Group I Participants</u>	<u>Please Bring</u>
Emily Schlager & Brian Clements—hosts*	Entrée/Bread
Jim & Betsy Matzinger	Side
Jo & Mike Bailey (gluten free)	Dessert
Madeleine Lee	Salad

*67240 Cross Road, Ashland 715-746-2627

<u>Group II Participants</u>	<u>Please Bring</u>
Lee Stadnyk—host*	Entrée
Karyn Watters	Side
Bob & Deb Aaron (vegetarian)	Salad
Stacy & Alan Craig	Dessert
Adam Haecker	Bread

*30815 Maple Ridge Road, Washburn 715-765-4555

<u>Group III Participants</u>	<u>Please Bring</u>
Kristin & Henry Quinlan—hosts*	Entrée
Julia & Hans Veenendaal	Salad
Mary Rehwald	Dessert
Deb & Jeff Lewis (gluten free)	Side/Bread

*1522 9th Avenue West, Ashland 715-685-0041

<u>Group IV Participants</u>	<u>Please Bring</u>
Linda & Ed Calhan—hosts* (vegetarian)	Entrée/Salad
Mark & Megan Perrine	Side
George & Dorota Bussey; Lewis Kubicek	Dessert/Bread

*1119 Ellis Avenue, Ashland 715-682-0446

News from the MidAmerica Region

Regional Assembly in Rockford, IL - April 18, 2020

Please save the date for our upcoming Regional Assembly which will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Rockford, IL, on Saturday, April 18, 2020. Our keynote speaker will be Taquiena Boston, Special Advisor to the UUA President for Institutional Inclusion, Equity, and Change. The day will feature worship, the annual business meeting, lunch, keynote presentation, and select workshops. On Friday evening, April 17, the UU Church in Rockford will graciously host an evening gathering for those in town.

***Journey to Justice, Journey to Healing*—Local and Regional Martin Luther King Jr. Day Events**

Martin Luther King Jr. Day community events, *Journey to Justice, Journey to Healing*, will take place in Bayfield on Saturday, January 18.

The first event will start at 9:30 a.m. with an outdoor opening ceremony at the National Park Service parking lot (415 Washington Ave). This will be followed by a walk to the Bayfield School (please consider the icy roadway, wear appropriate foot gear, and walk at your own risk). The healing vigil event (to be held indoors in the school cafeteria, 300 N. 4th Street) will begin at 10:30 a.m. with Anishinaabe and African drumming followed by several observances, teachings, and sung, spoken, and danced prayers.

The vigil will honor those who have brought us into a more just world and will also hold observances for a number of marginalized and at-risk communities. Included will be observances on behalf of Water, Sky, and Land; Those Who Have Lost Their Homeland (Anishinaabe/Native Americans, people of African heritage, refugees); Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women; those in the LGBTQ community, those who are hungry, and those who are vulnerable.

The last observance will be on behalf of our country and world. There will be teachings about Dr. King's idea that injustice for one equals injustice for all and about the indigenous idea of the web of interconnection. The event will end with invitations and pledges for further action and learning. Food, service agency tables, voter registration information table, the Harvard bias test, resources, and more will be available during the event.

All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Regina Laroche at reginalaroche@hotmail.com. In case of inclement weather, check for potential cancellations or updates here: www.facebook.com/BethesdaLutheranChurchBayfield/.

There will also be a MLK Day rally in Duluth on Monday, January 20. Please use these links to find more information about the Duluth rally: <https://decc.org/event/martin-luther-king-day-rally-3-2-2/> and <https://www.facebook.com/events/2544459038940990/>.

Special Request for Donations for the MLK Day Events

Part of honoring the legacy of Dr. King and others who have stood for a beloved community is a collection of food and other goods for local community support agencies. Please bring your non-perishable food items, new or like-new clothing, and donatable toiletries to fellowship next Sunday, January 12. They will then be taken to Bayfield School for students to organize for the service agencies who will in turn serve our community members most in need. This collection is in addition to the regular request to bring items for collection for The BRICK.

PFLAG Washburn will take part in the MLK community events in Bayfield, *Journey to Justice, Journey to Healing*, outlined above. These events are based upon Dr. King's idea that injustice for one equals injustice for all and on the indigenous idea of the web of interconnection.

PFLAG (Parents, Family, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)—Washburn reaches out to youth and adults throughout the Chequamegon Bay area. We are a local chapter of a national support, education, and advocacy organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered (GLBT) people, along with their families, friends, and allies. PFLAG is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any religious or political institutions.



We usually meet every other month—for dates and times, please check our website www.pflagwashburn.org or contact Nancy Hanson at 715-209-1100 or nancyhanson1958@yahoo.com. Meetings are generally held on the 3rd floor of the Washburn Cultural Center located at 1 East Bayfield Street in Washburn unless otherwise noted.

In Our Community

There are lots of things happening at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in the upcoming months!

Saturday, January 11, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Sleigh and Cutter Rally

Sunday, January 12, 12-3 p.m.—Cordage Demonstrations

Thursday, January 16, 7:00-8:30 p.m.—Just the Bear Facts

Tuesday, January 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m.—Eco-Anxiety: Dealing with Stresses of Climate Change
and Extreme Weather Events

Friday, January 31 through Sunday, February 2—Ma'iingan (Wolf) Symposium

And coming in February, winter tree identification, beavers, landscaping with native plants, and more. For more information, go to www.nglvc.org.

StageNorth and the Groundlings present *Circle, Mirror, Transformation* at StageNorth in Washburn, Thursday, January 9—Sunday, January 12 with evening performances at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2:00. “Come see this show. It’s funny, thoughtful, and you will find something of yourself in it.” More information and tickets at www.thegroundlings.org.

Northland Jazz Ensemble—Wednesday, January 15, 7-8 p.m. in the Alvord Theater. Join the Northland Jazz Ensemble for a great collection of tunes including Punta Del Soul, Satin Doll, Everyday I Have the Blues, That’s Life, and a couple of holiday tunes. There will be vocal and instrumental soloists, café-style seating, and refreshments for an authentic jazz scene.

Sara Thomsen will be leading a workshop for all those who love to sing with a group, no matter what your skill level is; this is singing for the fun of it—songs of peace and love. The workshop is planned for Saturday, January 25, from 1-4 p.m. at the Washburn Meditation Center. The workshop is by donation with a suggestion of \$20. Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Lorraine Norrgard for questions or to register at 218-428-4918 or by email at Lnorrgard@aol.com with your name, phone, and number of people attending. Please pre-register. Hope to see you there!

Check out *Going, Going, Gone: Artists Explore Disappearing Species*, an exhibit in the second floor gallery of the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Featuring the work of numerous regional artists, including our very own Jan Wise, the exhibit explores the impact of disappearing species and gives these beings a voice. The exhibit will be on display through May 17, 2020.

CHEQUAMEGON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

**We are a welcoming spiritual community that nurtures lifelong journeys of mind and spirit
in the liberal tradition.**

~ Founded, February 22, 1998 ~

Chequamegon Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 641
Ashland, WI 54806

**CUUF
CONTACT
INFORMATION**

PO Box 641, Ashland, WI 54806
Fellowship Website: www.chequamegonuuf.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Chequamegonuuf
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/chequuf>



Administrator/ Board Members/ Reverend

Adam Haecker, Fellowship Assistant,
cuufad@gmail.com (651) 303-6931
Zach Jurewicz, Co-President, (715) 685-2733
president1@chequamegonuuf.org
Heidi Ungrodt, Co-President, (715) 682-0103
president2@chequamegonuuf.org
Ed Calhan, Treasurer, (715) 682-0446
treasurer@chequamegonuuf.org
Evan Flom, Secretary, (612) 419-6730
secretary@chequamegonuuf.org
Jo Bailey, Board Member, (715) 779-9712
bdmember1@chequamegonuuf.org
Kristin Quinlan, Board Member, (715) 685-0041
bdmember2@chequamegonuuf.org
Lee Stadnyk, Board Member, (715) 765-4555
bdmember4@chequamegonuuf.org
Erin Schlager, Board Member, (612) 741-7970
bdmember5@chequamegonuuf.org
Stacy Craig, Minister
(715) 765-4214 (home/primary)
(715) 413-1593 (cell)
stacymariecraig@gmail.com
minister@chequamegonuuf.org

CUUF Committee Contacts

Caring Committee, Kelsey Rothe,
caring@chequamegonuuf.org
Facebook, Marilyn Einspanier, (715) 372-5103
Finance/Pledges, Ed Calhan, (715) 682-0446
treasurer@chequamegonuuf.org
Hospitality Committee, Betsy and Jim Matzinger, (847) 651-6738
hospitality@chequamegonuuf.org
Membership Committee, Kristin and Henry Quinlan, (715) 685-0041
membership@chequamegonuuf.org
Music Committee, Linda Calhan, (715) 682-0446
music@chequamegonuuf.org
Newsletter Editor, Kim Suske, (715) 373-5931
uunews@chequamegonuuf.org
Personnel Committee, Erin Schlager, (920) 860-6234
staff@chequamegonuuf.org
Religious Education Co-directors,
Deb Aaron, (715) 373-0201, re1@chequamegonuuf.org
David Skogen, (715) 209-8191, re2@chequamegonuuf.org
Social Justice Committee, Mary Rehwald, (715) 682-4662
mary.rehwald@gmail.com
Worship Planning Committee Co-chairs,
Megan Perrine, (715) 781-4123
Meghan Salmon-Tumas, (617) 866-3522
Webmaster, Dorota Bussey, (203) 536-9765
uonline@chequamegonuuf.org