

EAST BREEZE



Newsletter of the James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, Wisconsin
Volume 23, Number 10 — October 2014

From the Minister

I'm grateful for many things that have happened during the first month of our ministry together – for your welcome, for kindnesses you have shown to me and my family, for the beginnings of many conversations. While appreciate all these signs of an auspicious beginning, I want to remind both myself and you that healthy relationships don't maintain themselves. They require a shared understanding of guidelines and boundaries, and a willingness to stay in relationship when we make mistakes despite that understanding. As you might have heard me say in worship last month, your Covenant of Right Relations is a tool to help you with this.

There's a place for me in this covenant, as well. I'm committed to the same principles of right relationship as you are. And even though my role in our congregation is different from yours, I'm still part of the whole. My role is to look at the different pieces we all bring and speak the truths I can discern when I look at them together. I'll walk with you through your joys and sorrows, holding your hand when you're sick or scared, celebrating beginnings and mourning endings with you. I'll help you find meaning/wholeness/sacredness in the ordinary events of daily life. And sometimes, when I feel you're in the right place for this, I'll push your growing edges. I promise to bring my whole self into this role, to hold what you tell me in confidentiality, to hear you when you need to be heard, and to speak what I'm called to speak.

Just like all those boxes still in my living room, unpacking all of this is a process. It's going to take me a while to get to know everything I need to about all of you, and I need your help figuring it out. Please come and meet with me when you can – help me get to know you, what you bring and what you need. Specifically, please come to the Listening Sessions I'll be setting up after worship on some Sundays –the first of these will be on October 5th.

In faith and love,
Karen

Office hours for October:

Wednesdays, noon-2:00

Thursdays 10:00-noon, 7:00-9:00 pm

Please call me ahead of time so I know you're coming and can let you into the building!

Contact Karen:

revkaren@jruuc.org

Call or text 219-221-3371

Karen is off Mondays and devotes Fridays to sermon-writing; she is available only for emergencies on those days.



October Services

10/5 **At-One-Ment"**

Karen Quinlan, Minister

The central themes of Yom Kippur, one of the Jewish High Holy Days, are atonement and repentance. We'll explore what it might mean to atone or repent in the Jewish context of sin as "missing the mark." How might Unitarian Universalists ponder atonement. Rachel Avery and the JRUUC Choir will provide the music. After the Service, stay for Karen's listening session.

10/12 **"Learning, Unlearning, Relearning"**

Karen Quinlan, Minister

Indigenous Peoples Day was started as an alternative to Columbus Day. Its purpose is to promote Native American culture and celebrate Native American history. With this in mind, we'll explore the process of unlearning and relearning as change happens. Margaret Noll will provide the music.

10/19 "Love Reaches Out"

**Karen Quinlan, Minister and 2014
General Assembly Participants**

Rachel Avery, Joan Kemble, Tom Kemble, and Terri Pepper will share their reflections on the many ways our congregations have reached out in love and how we might do so in the future. Rachel Avery and the JRUC Choir will provide the music.

**10/26 "My Journey, Your Journey, Our
Journey"**

Carin Bringelson

What's it like to experience history book timelines and archival photos up-close-and-personal by meeting people who actually lived through the Civil Rights Movement? As a White person dedicated to racial justice, Carin Bringelson participated in a Unitarian Universalist group's Civil Rights Pilgrimage this past July. Come explore the meaning-making from this journey that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the "Mississippi Freedom Summer. Margaret Noll will provide the music.



President's Column

Hello JRUC friends and members!

I hope you have had the time and the opportunity to attend Sunday Services to reconnect with our beloved community, our ministry and our newly called minister Karen Quinlan. Karen has been getting to know us and we have been getting to know her. If not, do not worry, we are here every Sunday at 10 am.

Did you know that Karen has one Sunday off a month as part of her contract with our congregation? This means that we have wonderful opportunities to hear from guests and our lay leaders. September 28th was "Service Sunday" hosted by our Peace, Justice, and Sustainability

Group. October 26th will be about the Mississippi Civil Rights Journey presented by Carin Bringelson.

Our Sunday Order of Service (OOS) has information about the Sunday Service but also includes announcements and dates to remember. You can also find information in our weekly email and our monthly newsletter. Elizabeth Barrett, our office administrator, would be happy to help enroll you onto our mailing lists. Send her an email at office@jruc.org.

I invite you to introduce yourself to our minister Karen Quinlan and to share with her both who you are and what you dream for JRUC. Come to her Listening Session Oct. 5th or speak to her another time. Karen's office hours are listed on Page 1 of this newsletter. Please remember that she is off Mondays and devotes Fridays to sermon-writing, so is available only for emergencies on those days.

Here is what our Covenant of Right Relations states in the section of Member to Minister:

I will:

- **Value and appreciate the Minister's gifts, experiences, and knowledge both professionally and personally.**
- **Acknowledge and accept the limitations and boundaries of the Minister's roles, responsibilities, and time both professionally and personally.**
- **Financially support the Minister with fair compensation, professional development and a safe and efficient work environment.**
- **Engage from a place of authenticity, assuming best intentions and avoiding triangulation, while honoring and respecting the appropriate channels to pursue projects, requests and concerns.**

Practicing this covenant is one of many ways that we can support Karen, her ministry and the shared ministry of our beloved community. I hope you will be able to find opportunities to get to know her and to help her get to know James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Lots of good stuff is coming down the calendar trail. Your Board of Trustees knows how challenging it is to stay on top of the information

exchange at JRUUC. We encourage everyone to make a commitment to reading the weekly announcements and the monthly newsletter, as well as inviting you to come to the events at JRUUC. We also have a beautiful website www.jruuc.org that is full of wonderful information and can keep you up to date on all things James Reeb.

This is a great time to share with those who may not know or have forgotten that our congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Check out their website www.uua.org. The UUA has our country separated into five regions. We are part of the MidAmerica Region, which includes 194 congregations in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kentucky, Michigan, western Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Mid-America comprises the former districts of Central MidWest, Heartland, and Prairie Star.

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend. The next GA is in Portland, Oregon June 24-28 2015 and the theme is *Building a New Way*.

Regional Assembly (RA) is the annual meeting of our MidAmerica Region. The next RA will be in Naperville, Illinois April 17-19, 2015. theme is *The New in the New Era of Unitarian Universalism*. I hope we have a caravan from Madison to Naperville this spring.

These are just some of the ways for you to get connected, stay informed and actively participate in your Unitarian Universalist community.

The future work of James Reeb UUC is to solidify how we organize ourselves, empowering our members and friends to do the work that inspires them and creating simplicity and transparency in the various channels to get this work done. Dan Hotchkiss's book, *Governance and Ministry*, and the workshop he led are helping to inform our board and our minister on this journey. Ministry is the practical work we do as a congregation through our programs with the support of a structure. Governance is articulating our mission, selecting a strategy for getting there, making sure it happens and ensuring responsible stewardship of resources.

Governance and Ministry are two spheres of leadership that do not work in isolation but collaboratively.

Remember all the work we did with our interim minister? Your board of trustees and minister are keeping track of those discussions. The Appreciative Inquiry (AI) process and the Provocative Statement we created will continue to inform not just our ministry but how we will organize our congregation. We will be talking more about Governance and Ministry throughout the next church year with many opportunities for input and discussion.

A little about me: A JRUUC member since 2004, I enjoy exploring leadership as a spiritual practice and find participating in this Beloved Community to be very rewarding. You can contact me at kim@reain.net or by calling 243-8621.

-- Kim Reain, President of the BOT

Financial Update

	August	Year to date
Income	\$9,722	\$26,812
Expenses	\$12,693	\$29,020

During the month of August income was \$9,722 against expenses of \$12,693 for a net loss of \$2,951. We have a current deficit of \$2,200 for the year due to bank fees and closing costs incurred when we re-financed the mortgage in July. We are confident our finances will improve and we keep going through the year, but currently we have a slight cash flow problem. We are asking everyone to pay your pledge monthly and consider paying a bit ahead on your pledge. We're not asking anyone to raise your pledges, just to consider paying ahead.

Good News: due to changes in Minister Karen Quinlan's health insurance, we expect to end the year about \$4,000 below our health care budget. Even if health care costs rise in January, we have enough to cover any increases. Also, it turns out that we have budgeted a bit more than we need for our new mortgage. And we are getting more inquiries from groups wanting to rent from us long-term.

Art Hackett, Treasurer

Stewardship Stirrings

Back by Popular Demand! The Wi\$dom Path Class: Part 2!

The Stewardship Team invites YOU to join us as we continue our **intentional, covenanted and faithful** conversations about money together. Three sessions of *The Wi\$dom Path* -- an adult religious education program that explores our attitudes and behaviors toward money in our everyday, spiritual, and congregational lives -- will be held at JRUUC:

- **Sun. Oct. 12th @ 8am:** "The Many Meanings of Money"
- **Fri. Oct. 17th @ 6pm:** "Money and Society" (with potluck dinner)
- **Sun. Oct. 19th @ 8am:** "A Network of Mutuality"

Register by Tuesday, October 7th by emailing beth_esser@hotmail.com with the following information: Your name, phone number, email address, and the # of kids for which you're requesting child care (and their ages). Registration fee of \$5 covers the costs for the Sundays' refreshments and can be paid at the first class. (Checks can be made out to "JRUUC" with "Adult RE" in the memo line.) Fee waivers are available, as we do not want anyone to avoid a class due to financial difficulty.

All are welcome! You do not need to have attended the first three sessions in order to participate. If interested in learning more about the first three sessions you can listen to the Stewardship Team's July 2014 worship service or review the curriculum on the UUA website. Details are available at: <http://www.jruuc.org/wisdom-path-part-two>



Nurturing Generosity in Your Congregation

A webinar offered twice
By our MidAmerica Region:
**Thursday, October 16th and
Tuesday, October 21st
6:45 pm (Madison time)**

Learn about ways to encourage and support generous giving. This workshop will be presented with visual and audio components on a web site. Participants will need a computer with high speed Internet access. Workshop will be about 75 minutes long. Registration is required but free.

Register for October 16:

<http://www.midamericauua.org/events/webinars/eventdetail/335/52/webinar-nurturing-generosity-in-your-congregation>

Register for October 21

<http://www.midamericauua.org/events/webinars/eventdetail/336/52/webinar-nurturing-generosity-in-your-congregation>

Justice at JRUUC

News, Announcements, & Volunteer Opportunities for Social Justice Work

Serving Breakfast to Homeless Men at Grace Episcopal downtown: The first Saturday of every month volunteers from the James Reeb Breakfast Crew join some volunteers from Prairie UU to prepare and serve a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs at the men's shelter in Grace Episcopalian Church on the Square. We arrive bright and early at 5 am; our work is complete by 7:30 am. Peggy Haack would like to have someone new take the lead on the shelter breakfasts. Let her know if you are interested in taking over or just cooking a breakfast occasionally.
peggyhaack@gmail.com



JRUUC is a congregational member of MOSES -- an interfaith coalition working to increase justice in our state. From four angles we are working to decrease the Wisconsin prison population.

Recent Successes

- **Ban the Box:** Thanks to the advocacy of MOSES, the City of Madison recently voted to eliminate the box which asks about previous criminal convictions on city employment applications.
- **New videos:** Learn about Old Law Prisoners at: <http://vimeo.com/106200266> and about Revocations & GPS Monitoring at: <http://vimeo.com/104371646>
- **County Jail Task Force** formed to research and educate about the proposal to build a new Dane County Jail. At the end of September, the proposal was dropped!!

Upcoming MOSES Events and Actions:

1. **Sat. Oct. 4th, 10am - 12noon:** The monthly MOSES meeting will take place at Fountain of Life on Badger Road.
2. **Sat. Nov. 1st, 10am - 12noon:** The monthly MOSES meeting will take place at First Congregational on University Ave.
3. **Fri. Nov. 7th, 5:30pm - 8pm:** Annual Dinner/Fundraiser at First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, 5:30-8 PM. Tickets will be sold on a sliding scale from \$25-\$75. Contact Carin about tickets.

Questions? Contact Carin cmbringe@gmail.com

The Peace, Justice, & Sustainability

Group (PJS – pronounced “pee-jays”) are now meeting on the second Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be 7 pm October 13th. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Barb at bwhitney@chi-squared.org.

Sustainable Saturdays The Fourth Sat. each month Saturday October 25th at JRUUC

3:30 pm: Action-taking

5:30 pm: Potluck set-up

6 pm: Eat

7pm: Program and Community-building

Everyone is welcome

For more information, contact

Tim Cordon at 608-630-3633

United Church of Christ (UCC) is a faith community we partner with on various justice initiatives. Consider attending this event:

A Conversation with Dr. Edith Rasell Economic Justice Minister for UCC Justice and Witness Ministries Friday, October 26th from 4 to 6 pm Lake Edge United Church of Christ

The gap between the rich and poor is widening. The middle class is disappearing. Why is there so much poverty and economic distress in our world?

Join Dr. Rasell at a faith community meeting to:

- Learn about the causes of economic inequality
- Strategize about ways to faithfully work for a more just society
- Discuss how UCC congregations and other faith communities can work together
- Learn what Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice and the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice of South Central Wisconsin are doing to combat income inequality

Minister of Economic Justice Edith Rasell works with UCC congregations around the country as well as national and international organizations to educate and mobilize the faith community. She also advocates for greater economic justice in the U. S. and around the world, especially the poor and marginalized. She is known as a dynamic speaker and has the ability to make economic matters understandable, relevant and interesting.

RSVP by Oct. 20th to: lakeedge@lakeedge.org

Many Hands Coalition

Saturday, October 11

9 am to 1 pm

All are welcome and invited to join as we spruce up our building and grounds!

Please bring a dish to share

Questions? Contact Mark Lydon,

Safe Congregation &

Facilities Planning Committee

at lydon.mark@gmail.com



A Taste of *Moving from Within*

Dance Class

Sunday, October 26th 11:30 am

Reeb Sanctuary

A taste of *Moving from Within* is being brought directly to you, free of charge! Instructor Dianne Brakarsh will offer this free dance class for JRUUC members and friends. *Moving from Within* is a fun, funky, soulful movement class blending choreographed movement with improvisation and interpretive dance. It provides a non-impact workout while increasing fluidity and relaxation in the body. It's appropriate for all ages, sizes and fitness levels, because you move at your own range and pace.

Dancing has been shown to strengthen your heart, slay depression, form new neural pathways in your brain, stave off dementia, reduce stiffness, deepen social bonds and make you laugh...and it's FUN!

Please contact Dianne with any questions at movingfromwithin@gmail.com or at (608) 322-0063, or check out www.movingfromwithin.net
Hope to see you Oct. 26th in comfortable clothing!



From the Office

Autumnal Greetings! (I wait all year to type this phrase.) I've spent the last month with several groups of potential long-term renters, including an AA group looking for a place to meet 365 days a year. I'm very grateful to all the people who have helped in discerning potential logistical and other challenges that may come up – many thanks to Caroline Hardin, Evan of 4&20, our Board of Trustees, and Karen Quinlan. Renting to this group may not happen, but this work will inform our policies for future renters regardless.

Yours in growing faith,
Elizabeth J. Barrett, Office Administrator



**KEEP
CALM**

AND

**WELCOME
OCTOBER**

The **NEW** in
The New Era
of
Unitarian
Universalism

Regional Assembly

2 0 1 5

April 17-19

MidAmerica Regional Assembly
Will have Two Outstanding
Keynote Speakers:
The Rev. Marlin Lavanhar and
The Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt
at the
Marriott Hotel in Naperville, IL

OMG This is going to be fabulous!
Mark your calendars now
More information to come



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East Breeze is published monthly by James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation. To subscribe, unsubscribe, or change your mailing address, contact the newsletter editor (Office Administrator Elizabeth J. Barrett).

Newsletter submissions may be emailed to office@jruuc.org. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month at 5 pm. Please limit articles to 200 words. Please be careful not to include sensitive information.