

# EAST BREEZE

Newsletter of the James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, Wisconsin

Volume 23, Number 11 — November 2014

## From the Minister

There is a tension I feel during this time of year. The season urges me to slow down, to relax into the longer nights, to enter a form of hibernation. Despite the gorgeous fall weather and colors, I'm beginning to feel my annual urge to pull into myself – to curl up with a blanket and a cup of tea, and interact less with my human siblings. Many Pagan traditions acknowledge the darker part of the year as a time to rest and to stimulate the intellect with good books when the opportunities for physical stimulation decrease. I've always liked this idea in theory – but here's the tension – there's just so much to do! At the same time my body and mind want to slow down, the church year and the school year are getting into full swing, and who can afford an entire season of rest and reading?

So, instead of hibernating, I look for ways to keep myself engaged in all that is around me. One way is to stay in connection with other people, which can take more emotional and spiritual energy during these shorter days. Another is to practice remembering how much I appreciate the things and the people around me, to look for sustaining energy in that gratitude.

With these things in mind, I offer you a few opportunities.

Come to worship! Be surrounded by the beloved community of which you are a part. We'll be exploring many aspects of gratitude throughout November.

Come to the November 2 Listening Session! Last month's small group let me form deeper connections with a few of you – and let you know some new things about each other.

Consider being part of the pastoral care brainstorming team! We will envision and create a new way of helping each other when we're in need. Look for details in upcoming weekly emails, and contact me if you'd like to be part of this creative effort.

Or come to whichever event calls you to further open yourself to the possibilities of love and growth and community.

In faith and love,  
Karen



## November Services

### 11/2 “Gratitude: For Those Who Have Come Before”

**Karen Quinlan, Minister**

In the traditions of Samhain and All Souls Day, we'll consider the gifts of our Ancestors. Margaret Noll will provide the music. After the Service, stay for Karen's listening session.

### 11/9 “Gratitude: For Each Other”

**Karen Quinlan, Minister**

Our world, and our relationships, are complicated! Today we'll explore our appreciation of the gifts we bring each other, despite our differing perspectives on them. We'll also welcome new members into our community with a joining ceremony. Margaret Noll will provide the music.

### 11/16 “Gratitude: For Change”

**Karen Quinlan, Minister**

Gratitude? For change? Yes, there are gifts and blessings to be found in the midst of transition. This service will include time for congregational discussion of the topic after the sermon. Rachel Avery, Barbara Whitney and the JRUUC Choir will provide the music.

**11/23 “Gratitude: For Present and Future”**

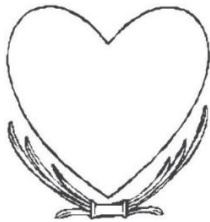
**Karen Quinlan, Minister**

We will consider relationship across generations in this multigenerational service. We'll start all together in the sanctuary, for our weekly music, rituals, and reflection. And then we'll break into all-ages groups to explore adding language about our children and youth into our Covenant of Right Relations. Margaret Noll will provide the music.

**11/30 “Speaking Our Gratitude”**

**Pat Schneider**

After spending time exploring many aspects of gratitude throughout the month, this service will be an opportunity to share those things for which each of us are grateful. People of all ages are invited to bring a written or drawn representation of something in your life for which you are grateful. We will speak our gratitude aloud in our sacred space. Margaret Noll will provide the music.



**President's Column**

Hello fellow travelers. I am deeply grateful that nature is taking some time to show off. I need the sparkle. I need the sharp colors. The boldness. The bright sun. The daytime sweater weather, the snuggly evening weather and the need for toasty fires. Autumn does my soul good.

I want to take a moment to thank Caroline Hardin. October 21<sup>st</sup> was her last day as our Director of Religious Education. Caroline often put our children's needs first and peppered everything she did with love and compassion. I know we all have a tremendous amount of gratitude for Caroline and that we will miss her in her official role at James Reeb.

Thank you to our RE Committee and our RE volunteers. They are taking on the efforts of maintaining our Children and Youth RE programs while we begin our search for both temporary and permanent replacements for our DRE. Please join me in wishing Caroline the best as she begins her next chapter and in thanking all the unpaid staff of our RE program.

Of course, there will always be change. Heraclites reminds us, “Change is the only constant in life”. I sort of want to kick him. Sure, I can get down with deep philosophical discussions about the universe and life. But sometimes, I just want everything to stay the same. I could use some monotony.

I'm building up muscles. Muscles that allow me some breathing space. Muscles that stretch and hold, so I can be. Not feel. Not do. Not analyze. Be. I seek the eye of the storm. Whether imminent, perceived, made up or waiting to pounce, I seek the center. When I am able to be, I am free to observe. When I am free to observe, I am free. When I am free, fear retreats and there is room for love.

My peers tell me they too are learning to ride the wave. They are building muscles with various practices in their life. Some say physical, some say spiritual, and for me they are both.

What's your spiritual practice? How do you stay in the moment? How do you “Be” instead of “Do”? How do you release fear? How do you embrace love? When I ask this question to folks, I get various answers. Here are a few: Mindfulness, Journaling, Art, Gardening, Reading, Puzzles, Cooking, Sleeping, Baths, Massages, Meditating, Sharing space and time with those you adore, Care for others, Exercise, Running, Yoga, Music, Song, Laughing, Crying and Breathing. Many answer that they enjoy the ritual of sharing sacred space and being together. Connecting with real people, in real space, with intention and love nourishes us and leaves us with a sense of being enough.

I look forward to hearing more about this. I wonder how you fill up your cup and how James Reeb fits into that practice. I'm grateful to do my searching next to you in our sacred space. May we all know that we are enough!

Kim Reain, President

## Financial Update

	September	Year to date
Income	\$9,157	\$41,617
Expenses	\$12,577	\$56,210

Income for the month of September was \$9,157.29 against expenses of \$12,576.80 for a net loss of \$3,419.51 Overall expenses are slightly over budget but some of that is due to refinancing costs on the building. Otherwise, total expenses are actually below where we were at the end of the first quarter of 2013. Because Rev. Karen has chosen to take advantage of lower cost health insurance through her husband's employer, we'll be spending about \$6,000 less than we were expecting for this fiscal year.

Elizabeth adjusted the budget to account for this which appears to give us a potential end of fiscal year surplus of \$5,370 as of June 30, 2015. It is the opinion of the committee that if that surplus materializes we should use it to rebuild the money market account which was drawn down to cover shortfalls during August and September.

On the income side, rental income is expected to be up in October and the weekly deposits for the first three weeks of Oct. are the largest in a while. There was a request for advance pledge payments in both the order of service and the weekly news email. Thanks very much to those who responded.

**Potential Rental Client:** Elizabeth still hasn't heard back from the daily AA group which is interested in daily use of the building. They have some concerns about the lack of windows in the multipurpose room which they would be using several days of the week. The committee discussed the implications of early morning use of our building during the winter when we use a snow lottery to clear the walks. I'm willing to take care of the front walk on days when there's an overnight snowfall. Of course, we have no control over when the city clears Fourth St.

This brings us to snow removal expenses. It's that time of year again. Last year's total plowing expenses were \$1,046. We have a different contractor than last year, someone who used to plow for us. He now has a new truck, so is in business again.

Art Hackett, Treasurer

## Reeb Rave Presents: Wild Kingdom!

It's our biggest—and wildest—fundraiser of the year!

5 to 8 pm Saturday, November 15  
At James Reeb UU Congregation

Bring your friends and family members! Come at 5 pm to register for the auctions! We'll have a/an:

- *Yummy buffet dinner starting at 5:30 pm*
- *Amazing silent auction from 5 to 7*
- *Exciting live auction at 6:30 pm*
- *Great entertainment by the James Reeb Animal Orchestra!*

All this for a suggested donation of \$10 per person, or \$25 for a family of three or more! *(No one will be turned away for being unable to afford the full donation.)*

Donation forms are available on the church website, Facebook and in the right rear of the Narthex (lobby). Please send your information to Tom at [tmcclin@wisc.edu](mailto:tmcclin@wisc.edu) now to get it in the online auction catalog!

Animal costumes, especially wild jungle animals, are encouraged! Wild Kingdom kids' games and movies in the Multipurpose room! If you need childcare for kids under age 5, contact Leila by Nov. 10 at [sabinosanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:sabinosanctuary@gmail.com).



## Joining Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup> During the Worship Service

Interested in Signing the Book  
and becoming a Member of  
James Reeb  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation?

Our next "Joining Sunday"  
Ritual is 11/9.

Please contact Jocie Luglio,  
Membership committee chair  
or Minister Karen Quinlan  
for more information.

## Submit your recipes to our JRUUC Cookbook!

**Calvin:** Why are you crying, Mom?

**Mom:** I'm cutting up an onion.

**Calvin:** It must be hard to cook if you  
anthropomorphize your  
vegetables.

—Bill Waterson, *Calvin and Hobbes*

If "We are what we eat" is true, then a  
JRUUC cookbook is the one  
Church directory  
We've never had, until now!

We are currently soliciting recipes.  
Please submit as many as you'd like, and  
encourage others to do the same.

We'll also accept gardening tricks, household  
tips, and wisdom of any kind.

Recipes can be submitted to Charlie McNulty  
at [charlesmcnulty@gmail.com](mailto:charlesmcnulty@gmail.com).

## Harvest the Power: Personal Journey as a Leader Classes

Are you wondering what it takes to be a  
leader at JRUUC or in other areas of your  
life? Have you said "yes" to a leadership  
role and wonder what challenges and  
opportunities are on the horizon? Are you  
curious about how traditional leadership  
norms fit within the context of our liberal  
religious tradition? Take the upcoming  
"Harvest the Power" classes and find out!

**Who:** Anyone who is a leader or may  
someday grow into a leadership role at  
JRUUC (in other words: any and all of us)!

**What:** Three 90-minute classes, developed  
by the Unitarian Universalist Association,  
centered on the personal aspects of  
leadership. Classes will be led by members  
of the Leadership Development/ Nominating  
Committee: Heike Saynisch, Mary Wagner,  
and Sarah Cook.

**When:** 8:00–9:30 a.m. Sundays. November  
9, November 23, and December 7.

**Why:** As we grow into our next iteration as  
a congregation, leadership development  
among those already in leadership roles as  
well as those who aren't yet on that path is  
an important component on the  
congregation's journey.

**Registration Fee:** \$5.00 (Covers all three  
classes.)

**Registration Deadline:** November 7<sup>th</sup> to  
Sarah Cook at [sarah\\_cook@charter.net](mailto:sarah_cook@charter.net) or in  
person.

# **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.



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

**Informational briefs** about ways in which the Department of Corrections should reform:  
<http://mosesmadison.org/a-call-for-accountability-in-doc-reformnow/>

**Inspirational action on October 1st** to stop the torture of Solitary Confinement. At least twelve members/friends of Reeb were present, along with WISDOM members from across the state. See photos at:  
[http://host.madison.com/gallery/news/local/photos-rally-for-solitary-confinement-reform/collection\\_2eceed92-49a8-11e4-b6d9-5f88147a52cc.html#0](http://host.madison.com/gallery/news/local/photos-rally-for-solitary-confinement-reform/collection_2eceed92-49a8-11e4-b6d9-5f88147a52cc.html#0)

## Upcoming MOSES Events and Actions:

**Sat. Nov. 1st, 10 am - 12 noon:** The monthly MOSES meeting will take place at First Congregational UCC Church, 1609 University Ave. MOSES Elections will be held.

**Fri. Nov. 7th, 5 - 8 pm: MOSES Annual Dinner & Fundraiser** at First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, 5-8 PM. Tickets are being sold on a sliding scale from \$25-\$75.

**Sat. Dec. 6th, 10 am - 12 noon:** The monthly MOSES meeting will take place at First Congregational UCC Church, 1609 University Ave.

**Wed. Dec. 10th,** time/place TBA. State-wide WISDOM action will consolidate previous actions and focus on an overall 11x15 agenda for 2015.

Questions? Contact Carin at [cmbringe@gmail.com](mailto:cmbringe@gmail.com)

## **Local Food Social Justice Last CAC collection for the Season! Saturday, November 8th**

For many years, JRUUC has participated in the Community Action Coalition's Farmers Market Collection at the Saturday Dane County Farmers Market on the Capitol Square. We meet at 11:50 am at the white CAC truck on the East Washington side of the capitol building, and collect leftover food or plants for about 60-90 minutes. The food is then distributed to local food pantries and shelters for meals. It is rewarding and fun! We need 8-12 people each Saturday; friends and kids are all welcome to help. This year our remaining date is **November 8th**, which is the last outdoor Saturday market for 2014! We only have a few folks signed up, so please contact Jocie Luglio ([jocie.jruuc@gmail.com](mailto:jocie.jruuc@gmail.com)) for more information.

## **The Peace, Justice, & Sustainability**

**Group** (PJS – pronounced “pea-jays”) are now meeting on the second Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be 7 pm November 10<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Barb at [bwhitney@chi-squared.org](mailto:bwhitney@chi-squared.org).

**Sustainable Saturdays**  
**The Fourth Sat. each month**  
**Saturday November 22nd at JRUUC**

3:30 pm: Action-taking

5:30 pm: Potluck set-up

6 pm: Eat

**7pm: A Buddhist Response to Climate**

**Change.** Join author and spiritual ecologist Heather Lyn Mann as she explores classical Buddhist teachings as they apply to the contemporary reality of a changing climate. You needn't be Buddhist to skillfully address the climate emergency but you'd be wise to understand the human mind - human heart - human environment connection. Heather Lyn Mann, a practicing Buddhist, is a Zen Master (Thich Nhat Hahn ordained her into the core community of the global Order of Interbeing in 2006). Mann is the author of *Ocean of Insight: A Sailor's Voyage Deep into the Climate Crisis*. Contact Tim Cordon 608-630-3633 or Beth Esser: 608-239-1353

**Stewardship Stirrings**

**An Endowment Fund: Strengthening  
Reeb's Future**

Reeb's Board of Trustees recently established an interim Endowment Committee, charged with drafting two documents to be voted on at the May, 2015, congregational meeting. They will propose amending the bylaws of the congregation to establish an Endowment Fund that will strengthen Reeb far beyond our annual contributions.

This Fund provides long-term stability and support that grows into the future. According to the Unitarian Universalist Association, it is a *vital* component of every healthy congregation's financial picture. It is somewhat similar to our personal savings for retirement while meeting our daily needs. The Fund allows us to improve the future world indefinitely by investing our gifts so that they provide reasonable returns. After it is

suitably large, the Fund can return part of its increase through interest and dividends to serve the annual needs and projects of the congregation, while the rest of the increase keeps the Fund growing. One possibility for investment is the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund, which has yielded an average return of 7.6% over the past 10 years from socially responsible investments. A dollar invested 10 years ago would now be worth \$2.08, yielding \$0.31 in return for the past year (a good one)!

Contributions to the Fund can be of any size. One example of a type of Endowment contribution is a gift from one's estate upon death. The Fund will allow us to contribute to our core causes, indefinitely into the future. We will provide more information and answer questions about the Endowment Fund before the congregational meeting in May. Stay tuned!

The Endowment Committee (John Mathis, Derek Peterson, and Barb Whitney)

**The Winter Holidays  
are on their way!**

The FUN(d)raising committee has set the date for the **Holiday Craft and Bake Sale: Sunday, December 14th**. We are looking for volunteers to make baked goods and contribute craft items to the JRUUC table. In addition, we are looking for artists/crafters to sell their own work and donate 20% of their profits to JRUUC. If you are interested in participating, need more information, or have questions, please contact Cindy Rudd at [ruddhaack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruddhaack@sbcglobal.net) or 608-244-8428.

**Special Winter Worship Planning**

We will soon begin planning for our beautiful and moving services for the Winter Solstice and Christmas Eve. If you would like to be part of the team that creates and leads these special winter celebrations, please contact Karen at [revkaren@jruuc.org](mailto:revkaren@jruuc.org).

Karen's Office Hours: Wednesdays, noon-2:00  
Thursdays 10:00-noon

Evening hours by appointment

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





### From the Office

In November, thanks to Karen Quinlan and the Executive Team, I will be paid to work extra hours to get caught up in the office. This may include writing a substantive article for the December *East Breeze* instead of a last-minute sentence.

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



**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**

**A Two & a Half Hour Drive  
from Madison!!**

**Mark your calendars now  
More information to come**

### **Join the Living Legacy Project for Marching in the Arc of Justice**

**Re-Visiting Selma:**

**A Conference Honoring the  
Fiftieth Anniversary of the  
Selma Voting Rights Campaign  
March 5-8, 2015**

March 7, 2015 is the fiftieth Anniversary of the history-changing March in Selma. Nearly fifty years ago, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. sent a telegram to faith leaders around the country, including Unitarian Universalists, calling on them to join him in Selma.

Now, Unitarian Universalists are once more being called to continue witnessing against the “disease of racism”: voter disenfranchisement and the eroding of civil rights, the lack of justice especially for the deaths of young men and transgender women of color, and escalating inequality in our country.

Thousands of people from around the world will be converging on Selma, Alabama, March 2015, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary Bridge Crossing. Join the Living Legacy Project as we invite Unitarian Universalists to Selma to honor our martyrs, the **Rev. James Reeb** and Viola Liuzzo, and reflect with one another about what their courage and the courage of countless others require of us in 2015.

More information is at:  
<http://www.uulivinglegacy.org/re-visting-selma-2015.html>



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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.

