

# EAST BREEZE



Newsletter of the James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, Wisconsin  
Volume 24, Number 2 — February 2015

## From the Minister

Love is one of the grounding concepts in my theology. My understanding of God is as the energy that arises within and between us, and love is one of the best words I know to describe how that energy feels when we are fully engaged with it. Love fills us as it moves through us, in ways that range from personal to pastoral to prophetic.

One of the ways that love manifests in our lives is through taking care of each other, and this congregation has several ways to do that. This past month, I've found myself in deep gratitude for the opportunity to facilitate your giving and receiving through the Minister's Discretionary Fund. The Fund is set up through a line item in our annual budget, and I use the money in it to help our members and friends in times of financial hardship. I encourage anyone who could use help to talk with me about what they need – and I encourage those who can to consider making a donation. We took a special collection on Christmas Eve that doubled the Fund's capacity, and I've also received a private contribution toward it. It is a blessing to be able to say yes to people in our community when they need help.

Justice work is another way that love manifests in our lives; Dr. Cornell West has said that "justice is what love looks like in public." This offers us another frame in which to continue our conversations about race and equity. March 11 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of James Reeb's death, and it's in this context that we'll be talking about his work as an ally in the fight for economic and racial justice.

And, on a personal level, I continue to be grateful to be your minister. I am learning to love this community for your depth of heart, your radical welcome, and your commitment to justice. And I hold deep appreciation for the trust you are showing me, and for your continued openness to walking together in faith and love. Thank you.

In faith and love,  
Karen

## February 10 AM Sunday Services

- 2/1 "The Full Heart"**  
**Karen Quinlan, Minister**  
Many faith traditions, including Unitarian Universalism, consider love to be the force that can best move us into justice. The first step is to allow love in. We'll start our February theme of love with an exploration of what it can look like, and how it can feel, to allow our hearts to be filled with love. Margaret Noll will provide the music.
- 2/8 "Random Acts of Kindness"**  
**Patricia Schneider, Worship Associate**  
We will explore how unexpected gestures, no matter how small, help build a compassionate world. Margaret Noll will provide the music.
- 2/15 "The Perfect Heart"**  
**Karen Quinlan, Minister**  
Is there such a thing as a perfect heart? This multigenerational service will focus on ideas of what love can look like, using story, music, and movement. Margaret Noll will provide the music.
- 2/22 "No Greater Love"**  
**Karen Quinlan, Minister**  
Fifty years ago this week, an Alabama state trooper killed Jimmie Lee Jackson for being part of a voting rights march in Marion; two short weeks later, white segregationists fatally beat James Reeb for showing up as an ally in Selma. While Mr. Jackson's death caused heartbreak in his community, it was Rev. Reeb's death that broke open the nation's heart to the possibility of justice and equity. We'll explore some of the dynamics around this phenomenon today. Rachel Avery and the JRUUC Choir will provide the music.



**Listening Session with the Minister  
Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30**

Join Karen in her office for a  
Small group meeting to discuss  
Our hopes and dreams for JRUC.

**Karen's Office hours for January**

Wednesdays, 12:30-2:00pm

Thursdays 9:30-noon

Evening hours by appointment

Please call me ahead of time  
so I know you're coming!

Please note that Karen will be out of town  
for a ministers' conference from Monday,  
February 2 through Saturday, February 7.  
She will be available by email and phone  
during this time.



**President's Column**

Greetings, members and friends of the James Reeb  
UU Congregation Beloved Community.

We are on the other side of the winter solstice  
which makes thinking of Spring a common theme.  
In fact, it may be a requirement for living in  
Wisconsin. May the thoughts of Spring carry you  
until May.

I want to clarify the following sentence from my

December column: *We will continue to look at  
policies, procedures and structure through the lens  
of Governance (how we do things) and Ministry  
(why we do things).*

This sentence should read: **We will continue to  
look at policies, procedures and structure  
through the lens of Governance (why we do  
things) and Ministry (how we do things).**

The Board of Trustees (BOT) provides Authority,  
Accountability and Guidance to non-BOT groups,  
who will then decide the "how we do things" which  
may or may not be written out in procedures or  
guidelines or policies. The BOT follows the  
guidelines of JRUC's Bylaws.

I hope you all are feeling the love here at James  
Reeb! We all come with our own set of beliefs and  
rules about how to move through this world. We  
come with expectations, dreams, and needs. Often,  
these are layered with pain and wounds. And  
collectively, we make a conscious decision to join  
this Beloved Community as part of our journey,  
bringing all those things with us.

We are learning the dance of relationship here. How  
do we live our truth and honor another's truth? How  
do we make room for someone who doesn't agree  
with us? How do we reconcile when conflict  
happens?

I have been touched by discussions I have been part  
of when we gather either on a Sunday or for other  
Sacred Work. This idea of a higher power comes up  
when we talk about why we are working together  
for this community. You may call this God or  
Universe or Love or dozens of other concepts and  
ideas.

What I am learning is that when two or more people  
come together, whatever that higher power is, it is  
most alive when we are in relationship together. It  
calls us to be our best selves. It calls us to walk into  
our fears. It calls us to embrace others. It calls us to  
be vulnerable, show up and choose compassion and  
kindness. It calls us to choose love. Can you hear  
the calling?

*Hush, hush, somebody's callin' my name,  
Oh my Lord Oh my Lord what shall I do,  
What shall I do?*

Kim Reain, President



Thank you again to all of the volunteer teachers who make this program run on a weekly basis. You are the glue that holds us together!

Sara Goodman  
Acting Director of Religious Education

### **A Youth Conference May 1-3 DuPage UU Church in Naperville, IL**

A youth conference is being planned for the first weekend in May. Please contact Charlie McNulty at [charlie@kzmf.com](mailto:charlie@kzmf.com) for more information

## **Religious Education**

We got the spring semester off with a great start at our well attended and well received Kid Re-connection in mid-January. Thanks to Stephanie Thurow and Mary Anglim for planning a great event, and for all of the adults who volunteered to be in the room with the 30 kids!

The RE committee and I are still working to make sure we have enough assistants in our classrooms, so if you are interested in taking a secondary role in the classroom, please let me know right away and we can get you set up in one of our great classes!

The 7-9th grade Our Whole Lives class is off to a great start, with a successful Lock-in last weekend, and there is still room for more youth to participate! Please contact me at [re@jruuc.org](mailto:re@jruuc.org) before February 15th to find out how to get your young person registered.

Speaking of the youth, our youth room has come together, but we are still looking for some select pieces of furniture to be donated. Please contact Pam Younger or Andy Soth for the details.

In the coming months you will begin to hear about the search process for the next permanent Director of Religious Education, who we hope to have on board by mid-summer. I will be leaving my role as Acting Director of Religious Education on March 15th to prepare for the birth of my first child. After I leave, the RE Committee will be taking on the responsibilities of DRE for several months. The RE committee can use as much help as you can give to make this transition a smooth one. Check in with Co-Chairs Mary Anglim and Kelly Kearns to find out what you can do to help.



## **Financial Update**

	<b>December</b>	<b>Year to date</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$23,191	\$93,675
<b>Expenses</b>	\$10,944	\$77,182

Income for the last two months of 2014 was exceptionally strong. We would have set all-time records in both months save for December of 2008 when there were contributions to the capital drive for the remodeling in addition to regular contributions. Total December income was \$23,191 against expenses of \$10,944. We have a \$16,492 surplus for the year to date. We currently have \$55,883 in outstanding pledges. Assuming those all are paid we should be in good shape through the end of the fiscal.

**Rental Income:** Rental income is about 25 percent below budget but should be on target once UW Continuing Studies in Music pays their bill. We have been renting to more groups holding classes such as Tai Chi and now drumming.

**Budget Adjustments:** The addition of line items for the Ordination Ceremony and Operating Reserve have been added to our 2014-14 budget per the BOT's request. We are able to do this because of an anticipated surplus.

Art Hackett, Treasurer

## Justice at JRUUC



### Update from MOSES

JRUUC is a congregational member of MOSES -- an interfaith coalition working to increase justice in our state. From numerous angles we are working to decrease the Wisconsin prison population. We are also exploring the idea of expanding our work to include immigration and transportation issues.

#### *Recent Successes:*

- The **WISDOM Annual Leadership Retreat** happened in mid-January. Folks came back inspired to use their spiritual roots to nurture their social activism.
- The **Jail Task Force of MOSES** continues to engage Dane County Supervisors about the desire NOT to build (or study building) a new jail.
- New video about **Solitary Confinement** is now available at:  
<http://mosesmadison.org/solitary-confinement-cell-replica-reformnow-video/>

#### *Upcoming Opportunities:*

- **Monthly meetings** at First Congregational Church, 1609 University Ave. will be Saturdays **February 7th and March 7th** 10 am - 12 noon.
- **Conference Calls** allow folks to learn about a particular 11x15 Campaign Work Group. Ask MOSES VP Bev Buhr for details.
- **Advocacy Day at the Capitol** to talk with our legislators Wednesday **April 29th**, 9 am - 4 pm. Details TBA.

Questions? See <http://prayforjusticeinwi.org/> or <http://mosesmadison.org/> or contact Carin B. at [cmbringe@gmail.com](mailto:cmbringe@gmail.com)

## **Sustainable Saturdays** **The Fourth Sat. each month**

**February 28th at JRUUC**

3:30 pm: Action-taking

5:30 pm: Potluck set-up

6 pm: Eat Dinner

7pm: Program and Community-building

Everyone is welcome

For more information, contact

Tim Cordon at 608-630-3633

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

**Group** (PJS – pronounced “pee-jays”) meet the second Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be 7 pm February 9<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Barb at [bwhitney@chi-squared.org](mailto:bwhitney@chi-squared.org).

### Adult RE Class

#### **Traveling to Selma in Spirit** **Sunday, February 22 8:00 – 9:30 am**

Join Carin Bringelson and Karen Quinlan in a conversation about the Unitarian Universalist response to Selma 50 years ago, and our continuing work toward racial justice.

Karen, Carin, and others who will be traveling to Selma for the Living Legacy Project's “Marching in the Arc of Justice” Pilgrimage in March hope to bring Madison Reebbers to Selma in spirit. This conversation is the beginning of ongoing dialogue about our part in this work. Please follow this link for more information, and for links to four articles to read in preparation for the conversation: <http://www.jruuc.org/traveling-selma-spirit-adult-re-offering>

## New Member Spot Light



James Phillips

James Phillips started coming to JRUUC in February 2014. He had just moved back to Madison from Ames, IA, where he also attended a UU congregation. James thought Reeb would be the right size for him, a congregation where he would be able to find his place. James is a retired scientist (an x-ray crystallographer). He also dabbles in writing and is currently taking a writing course at Madison College. In addition, James enjoys doing the cooking and shopping for his family. He plays bridge twice a week and participated in a lot of political actions before the most recent elections. James is part of Reeb's Peace Justice and Sustainability Group. You may have seen him helping with the November 2014 Reeb Rave. He looks forward to finding more ways to be useful to the congregation.

### ***Tai Chi & Range of Motion Class***

**9:30 to 11 AM Tuesdays through March 31<sup>st</sup>**

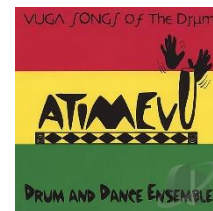
Sarah Watts leads this fun way to learn The Fundamental Form of Tai-Chi, which is good for improving balance, flexibility and strength. For anyone with a "maturing body," this class is excellent for keeping the juices flowing and staying limber in joints. Please bring a blanket or yoga mat for floor stretches. Chairs are available for seated and standing movement. This is an opportunity to lift your arms and your spirits.

Sarah has over 20 years' experience leading classes in Range of Motion and Tai Chi. Contact Sarah with questions: 244 9424 or [bbcsw@aol.com](mailto:bbcsw@aol.com).

## Calling All Leaders

This is an exciting time to be a member of the Board of Trustees of our beloved community! The Board of Trustees encourage the work of our mission and watch over our property and operations. Currently, they are looking at their own process, making it more effective and meaningful. The Nominating Committee is looking to fill positions on the Board of Trustees that will become open as of the end of this fiscal year (June 30). Those positions are: President-Elect, Treasurer and three At-Large members. The congregation will also be electing an Assistant Treasurer at its Annual Meeting.

Does this sound good to you? If you are interested in a nomination to a position, or know someone who would be an asset to this endeavor, let the Nominating Committee know. To do that, contact committee chair Sarah Cook at [sarah\\_cook@charter.net](mailto:sarah_cook@charter.net) or 608-846-2812. If you have questions about the Board in general, contact Board Liaison Virginia Harrison at [harrisonvirginia@rocketmail.com](mailto:harrisonvirginia@rocketmail.com) or 608-699-2822.



### **Ghanian Drumming Class**

**4:30-5:30 pm Sundays Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - March 29<sup>th</sup>**

(No classes 2/22 and 3/8)

Taught by Djam Vivie of

Atimevu Drum and Dance Group

Learn rhythms and songs from all over Ghana.

Kpanlogo, Djembe, Dun-Duns, congas, Ahshiko, bells and shakers will be used.

**Cost is \$10 dollars per class for James Reeb members & \$15 dollars a class for the public.**

All ages are welcome but children under 14 must be accompanied by a parent.

Some drums will be available to rent for \$5 dollars a class.

Drums are also available for purchase.

Contact Nicky Zongar for more details:

[nicky.zongar@gmail.com](mailto:nicky.zongar@gmail.com)



**Save the Date!**  
**Annual Budget Drive Kick-off**  
**11:30 AM Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

***We are a Congregation of Great Strength!***

Consider again this Provocative Statement which was gleaned from our Appreciative Inquiry process for our future as a congregation: **“Our financial stewardship is strong, consistent, and sustainable.”**

We are busy these cold winter days planning the Annual Budget Drive (ABD), which is one opportunity to make that statement a reality! This month we work with Rev. Karen to train Visiting Stewards. Visiting Stewards will contact as many members of the congregation as we can to hear your stories and give you an opportunity to commit to a financial pledge at a level that fits into your budget and helps the Board of Trustees create a JRUUC Operating Budget that reflects our values and visions.

**The annual budget drive kicks off on March 1<sup>st</sup>** after the worship service, with lunch and a program not to be missed! Following the kick-off event, a Visiting Steward will invite you to meet for a one-on-one conversation. If you are not contacted by a Visiting Steward by March 15, and would like a visit, please let either of us know.

People give to JRUUC for a range of reasons. Tell your Visiting Steward what those are! Do you want an extended family of people you trust to help raise your children with values you believe in? Or are you interested in the social justice work done by our congregation? Maybe you treasure the worship services and the opportunity to share the joys and concerns of others?

Whatever your reason for giving, your gift is much appreciated. We hope you will commit to being a Fair Share Giver. UUs ask each other to take their relationship with their congregation into account and, after figuring their adjusted gross income, pledge to donate between 2 and 10% of that income. That is a Fair Share Gift.

Remember, your generosity now (which can be changed at any time) helps the Board of Trustees create a budget that reflects our values and visions. By making a financial commitment, you become one of the cogs that power our great machine.

With much appreciation,  
Heike Saynisch [heikesay@gmail.com](mailto:heikesay@gmail.com) and  
Mary Wagner [marycwagner@frontier.com](mailto:marycwagner@frontier.com)  
Co-chairs, Annual Budget Drive

*[Editor's Note: An updated Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide is on the next page of this newsletter.]*

## **Upcoming Events from the FUNdraising Committee**

Mark your calendar now for the following exciting fundraising events!

**Chili and Cornbread** Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Soup and Bagels** Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Rummage Sale** Saturday, April 11 8am -- 2pm

We will need assistance with setting up for the Rummage Sale Friday, April 10 from 5-9 pm and staffing the rummage sale Saturday, April 11 from 8am -- 3pm. If you are able to help out, please contact Cindy Rudd at 608-244-8428 or [ruddhaack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruddhaack@sbcglobal.net). We will place a Sign-up sheet in the Narthex at a later date.

Lastly, the JRUUC Annual 50/50 Raffle will begin April 11 and end at the May 17 Congregational Meeting.



The Stewardship Team recently noticed that the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has updated its recommended contribution guide for individual congregants, also known as the Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide. The **new guide** looks like this:

Adjusted Monthly Income	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge
\$1,000	2%	\$20	5%	\$50	7%	\$70	10%	\$100
\$1,500	2%	\$30	5%	\$75	7%	\$105	10%	\$150
\$2,000	3%	\$60	5%	\$100	7%	\$140	10%	\$200
\$2,500	3%	\$75	6%	\$150	8%	\$200	10%	\$250
\$3,000	3%	\$90	6%	\$180	8%	\$240	10%	\$300
\$3,500	4%	\$140	6%	\$210	8%	\$280	10%	\$350
\$4,000	5%	\$200	7%	\$280	9%	\$360	10%	\$400
\$5,000	5%	\$250	8%	\$400	9%	\$450	10%	\$500
\$7,000	6%	\$420	8%	\$560	9%	\$630	10%	\$700
\$10,000	6%	\$600	8%	\$800	9%	\$900	10%	\$1,000
\$15,000	6%	\$900	8%	\$1,200	9%	\$1,350	10%	\$1,500

The changes we see include:

- the new guide is based on a *monthly* income rather than an *annual* income
- the new guide does *not* include incomes over \$15K/month (\$180K/year)
- the new guide *increases* the starting % of fair share giving for certain income levels

There may be other changes, too. Here's the **old guide** to compare:

### Suggested Fair-Share Giving Guide

Adjusted Annual Income	Supporter The church is a significant part of my life and promotes my spiritual growth.			Sustainer The church is central to my identity, and I am committed to sustaining our programs			Visionary I am committed to both the present and future growth of my church.			Full Tithe I designate 10% of my income to the church as a way to live out my spiritual principles		
	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment
\$10,000	2%	\$16	\$200	3%	\$25	\$300	5%	\$42	\$500	10%	\$83	\$1,000
\$25,000	2%	\$42	\$500	3%	\$63	\$750	5%	\$104	\$1,250	10%	\$208	\$2,500
\$50,000	3%	\$125	\$1,500	4%	\$167	\$2,000	5%	\$208	\$2,500	10%	\$417	\$5,000
\$75,000	3%	\$188	\$2,250	4.5%	\$281	\$3,375	6%	\$375	\$4,500	10%	\$625	\$7,500
\$100,000	3.5%	\$292	\$3,500	5%	\$417	\$5,000	6.5%	\$542	\$6,500	10%	\$833	\$10,000
\$150,000	3.5%	\$438	\$5,250	5%	\$625	\$7,500	6.5%	\$813	\$9,750	10%	\$1,250	\$15,000
\$200,000	4%	\$667	\$8,000	5.5%	\$917	\$11,000	7%	\$1,167	\$14,000	10%	\$1,667	\$20,000
\$300,000	5%	\$1,250	\$15,000	6%	\$1,500	\$18,000	8%	\$2,000	\$24,000	10%	\$2,500	\$30,000
\$400,000	6%	\$2,000	\$24,000	7%	\$2,333	\$28,000	8.5%	\$2,833	\$34,000	10%	\$3,333	\$40,000
\$500,000	7%	\$2,917	\$35,000	8%	\$3,333	\$40,000	9%	\$3,750	\$45,000	10%	\$4,167	\$50,000

**For discussion and/or reflection:**

- What additional changes do *you* notice?
- What are the pros and cons of such a guide?
- In what ways, if any, does this new chart impact your plan for giving to JRUC?
- Does the context of the Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide help you? See: <http://www.uua.org/finance/fundraising/budget/151840.shtml>

The Stewardship Team is dedicated to helping Reebers create a culture of spiritual generosity all year round. We invite you to plan your contributions from a place of **joy and collective vision**. Feel free to speak with Minister Karen Quinlan or any member of the Stewardship Team.



## From the Office

First, please note that a Ghanaian drumming class begins at JRUUC Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> with a special discount for Reeb members. It is a last-minute addition to this newsletter with more details are on page 6.

I'm typing this as Sara Goodman and the OWL teachers are getting ready for the Youth lock-in. Today's teenagers seem to have such complicated lives; I hope they enjoy this lock-in as a time to unwind and begin to delve into the OWL curriculum. Both our cleaner (Gen Parmentier) and I are scurrying to leave before the Youth arrive in all their glory.

In addition to work being busy with the special January duties I mentioned last month, my husband and I have hosted two vegan soup dinners this month.. One was for First Unitarian Society's Cabaret fundraiser and one for Reeb Rave. Both times, we cooked everything from scratch, including the rolls and the veggie stock, cleaned our downstairs, de-iced the front steps, and more. We had a great time at each dinner, of course.

How did the two parties differ? The group from FUS discussed other countries at length because several of them had recently been in Italy, Australia, or England. And they devoured the vegan chili. The Reeb group concentrated more on current events here in Madison and preferred the split pea and Thai butternut squash soups. Both groups laughed long and loudly, accompanied by yours truly. If you have never hosted a Reeb Rave event in your home, I encourage you to think about doing it.

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



## **"Legends of the Celtic Harp" at JRUUC 7:30 PM Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

"Legends of the Celtic Harp" is a musical journey into the heart of a legendary instrument. Three of the premier Celtic harpers in the world: Patrick Ball, Lisa Lynne and Aryeh Frankfurter have created a dramatic ensemble that takes you deep into the myths, stories, magic and fabled history of this most captivating instrument. For more information, go to:  
[www.LegendsOfTheCelticHarp.com](http://www.LegendsOfTheCelticHarp.com)  
Advanced Tickets for this concert & storytelling event can be purchased online at  
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1178942>

Tickets for general admission are \$20;  
\$15 for seniors and students.





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

# Regional Assembly

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## April 17-19

**MidAmerica Regional Assembly  
at the  
Marriott Hotel in Naperville, IL**

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

<http://www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly/1723-workshop-list-2015>

**Join the Living Legacy Project  
Marching in the Arc of Justice  
A Conference Honoring the  
50th Anniversary of the  
Selma Voting Rights Campaign  
March 5-8, 2015**

Thousands of people will converge 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 martyrs Jimmie Lee Jackson, and Unitarian Universalists **James Reeb** and Viola Liuzzo, and to reflect with one another about what their courage and the courage of countless others require of us in 2015.

<http://www.uulivinglegacy.org/marching-in-the-arc.html>



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A February Blizzard