

EAST BREEZE



Newsletter of the James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, Wisconsin
Volume 24, Number 7 — July 2015

Connections

I'm writing this in Portland, Oregon, where it was 95 degrees today. This reminded me of my time in Kentucky, where I learned several ways to adjust to the heat. The first was to force myself to go outside so I could acclimate. The second was to search for streams or pools while out hiking, and dip my head down into the water and then straighten up, letting the water run from my hair down my body, giving me sweet relief. The third was the art of sauntering – slowing down drastically so that it took less energy to move, and so generated less heat. It was hard to saunter, at first. But my natural pace just didn't work in this climate, and so, with practice, I learned to appreciate slower movement. I found myself automatically moving into a saunter when leaving the convention center today.

Sometimes we can change the situation we're in to make things more comfortable. And sometimes we have to learn how to deal with the discomfort, because it's not going away, and we can't leave it. We can find ways to acclimate, we can find resources to help us deal with it, and we can make changes in ourselves that make it easier to be there.

Our lives together are like this. One of the key characteristics of the liberal religious tradition is the understanding that revelation is not sealed – new ways of understanding arise with every experience, every reading and interpretation of sacred texts, every discovery about how the world works. We move. Sometimes that movement is toward an external goal, like our racial justice work in Madison – and sometimes it's internal, like a change in understanding of who or how we can be together. Often, they go together.

During this summer, may we remember that it takes movement to realize our hopes and dreams.

In faith and love,
Karen

July 10 AM Sunday Services

- 7/5 “Beyond *The Daily News*”**
John Mathis
Bad news dominates today's media. How much worse is the world today than it was 25 years ago? We'll consider that question as regards several important issues. Where do we actually stand? What might the future hold? Are we making any difference? Margaret Noll will provide the music.
- 7/12 “Belonging”**
Kim Rain and Virginia Harrison
“To say that we have found where we belong is to name one of the most powerful kinds of relationships it is possible to have as a human being. It is to point to a sacred quality within community.” This morning, we will explore what it means to belong through the lens of Universalism. Doug Erickson will provide the music.
- 7/19 “Generations”**
The Rev. Karen Quinlan
While the Starship Enterprise's mission remained the same over time, Captains James T. Kirk and Jean-Luc Picard certainly had very different perspectives of how to carry it out! Today we'll explore how our hopes and dreams – and how we live them out – evolve. We'll also celebrate the arrival of a new generation for one of our families, with the dedication of Alan Dobbe. Rachel Avery will provide the music.
- 7/26 “Rejuvenation: Not Just Vacation”**
Mary Wagner
As we pass the middle of summer vacation season we will explore different types of rejuvenation and what they mean to us. Margaret Noll will provide the music.

Minister's Office hours for July

Rev. Karen will be in the office July 14-16
Please call or text for an appointment.

Out of office:

June 29-July 5: Rev. Karen will be on vacation away from email and phone. Please call Marla McFadden at 279-0785 if you have a pastoral emergency, and she will contact Jim Jaeger.

July 6-13: Rev. Karen will be on study leave away from email. Please call or text her for emergencies only.

July 20-31: Rev. Karen will be on vacation away from email and phone. Please call Cindy Rudd at 244-8428 if you have a pastoral emergency, and she will contact the minister on call during this time.

The Caring Tree Pastoral and Parish Care at JRUUC

Our Caring Tree is almost fully established!
Coordinators Marla McFadden and
Cindy Rudd
are learning their new “jobs” –
To take your calls when you need something
and to contact a Care Team member.
They will also take your calls for emergencies
while Rev. Karen is on vacation
and contact an on-call minister
if you need one.



President's Column

Postcard from General Assembly

Last month, six JRUUC members, Rev. Karen and daughter Catherine, and our office administrator attended the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association. General Assembly convened in Portland, OR this year, and was very well attended. The estimate was close to 4000

attendees – nearly 300 of them being youth and young adults. UUA President Peter Morales said these numbers give him hope for the future of our denomination.

Having had the good fortune to have attended “GA” once before, I went into this year’s with many hopes and aspirations for my time in sessions, worship, and conversation with fellow UUs from around the country and the world. I was not disappointed. I left Portland with my heart overflowing and my mind swirling with all of the inspiration and ideas I soaked up there. I also came away with more questions than I had come with — more challenges before me than I had expected — both as a UU, as an incoming congregational president, and as a citizen of this country and world.

Here is a sampling from the notes I took — quotes from leaders of workshops, lectures and worship services — that I thought you might want to ponder in your heart as well:

- A young woman said that having been raised UU, she spent her childhood wrapped in a warm blanket of loving, authentic, and inclusive interactions in her congregation. She felt once she came of age, she no longer had that warm blanket and advises congregations to find ways to continue those feelings children and youth have into young adulthood in order to keep this population coming back.
- It is okay for allies working for social justice to make mistakes, as long as they are aware of the difference between intention and impact — just because we have good intentions does not mean the impact is positive. Check this out and apologize and own mistakes with humility.
- The best actions to choose when selecting climate justice projects are those that have economic, social, and environmental impact.
- Faith is not a statement, it is a practice. And a practice is not just a feel-good experience, but a struggle, too. We need to dive in.
- Don't ask how many people of color are in your congregation — ask “How much damage can our congregation do to white supremacy?” White people need to stop feeling guilty and start feeling enraged,

because they, too, are victims of the supremacy system. We all need to be liberated.

- It takes the financial resources of eight Millennials or Gen-Xers to replace the giving power of one Baby Boomer.
- Many liberal Christian churches have begun offering creedless services or even church-wide mission statements in order to attract the growing population of people who do not identify as having any religious affiliation. Therefore, we need to find ways beyond our creedlessness to attract new people to our UU congregations.

If you want to know more about any of the above statements, send me an email or find me after service sometime. You can also seek out the other Reeb members who attended General Assembly: Rachel Avery, Sarah Hallas, Craig McComb, Leila Pine, and Terri Pepper.

On a more personal note, there were moments that were so moving and powerful, I wept. As Catherine and I were marching in the banner parade, carrying the JRUUC banner high, a man rushed up to me and told me he was with James Reeb the night he died. I ran into former Madisonian Diana Vezmar-Bailey and was able to tell her all that I have learned and contributed as a member of Reeb, all because she told me about Unitarian Universalism at her kitchen table one night many years ago. Sarah Hallas and I tearfully walked onto the stage in front of a cheering crowd of UUs as UUA President Morales congratulated us on the decision by the Supreme Court to make marriage legal for same-sex couples in all 50 states. The massive hall was filled with our voices joined in singing "Standing on the Side of Love." Later that day, I was moved and awed as I watched with dozens of other UUs while President Obama eulogized the Rev. Pinkney of the Charlotte, SC AME Baptist Church. What a week! What great energy and love all around.

I look forward to bringing that love and energy and inspiration to the year ahead as president of your Board of Trustees.

Blessed Be,
Virginia

Financial Update

	May	Year to date
Income	\$10,470	\$152,402
Expenses	\$14,272	\$138,549

Income for the month of May was \$10,470 against expenses of \$14,272 for negative cash flow of \$3,802. The added expenses were related to Rev. Karen's Ordination-Installation. The Board approved increasing the budget for that by \$1,200 to \$4,200.

Surplus: None the less, we are \$13,853 in the black as of the year to date although the end of year surplus will be less than that. The board recommended shifting \$2,000 to the Money Market Account. That will be reflected as a debit on next month's treasurer's report although it will remain an asset on the balance sheet.

Pledge payments: Elizabeth has reviewed the pledge accounts and most people have paid them in full. There should be little additional pledge income this month other than the direct deposits.

Minister's Life and Disability Insurance: We overpaid the UUA for this at the beginning of the year because Rev. Marlene's new church sent in a payment at the same time we did. We have been drawing down the credit the UUA gave us over the course of the year and will start seeing those expenses on a regular basis a few months from now once the credit is exhausted. The activity was all within the same fiscal year so there was no impact on the bottom line but it is a potential cash flow issue. It was suggested that if this happens in the future the credit should be shown on the balance sheet.

Loans with Park Bank: The committee reviewed the mechanics of renewing the line of credit with Park Bank and exploring refinancing the mortgage at the same time since there's a possibility of obtaining a lower interest rate. There was a consensus at the meeting that this was worth checking into since the \$300 fee for the refinancing would likely be less than money saved over the remainder of the mortgage.

Art Hackett, Treasurer

Children's Religious Education

The RE Committee recently finished a busy spring semester, offering 16 weekly sessions to three groups including at least 59 different children. This spring we covered topics from three UUA curricula: *Wonderful Welcome* (Pre-k to grade 1), *Moral Tales* (Grades 2-5), and *Amazing Grace* (Grade 6 and up). In addition, Grant Dobbe and Laura Yin led the first half of the OWL program for our 7th through 9th graders. (OWL will resume in the fall.)

Each Sunday that RE classes are in session at least seven teachers and assistants (plus a coordinator) staff the program. The Committee is deeply grateful to the 31 (at least) people who generously gave of their time to help our children expand their moral and religious understanding:

Adije Podebradsky, Jill Barasch, Cynthia Rudd, Anna Rue, Charlie McNulty, Beth Esser, and Derek Peterson, together with other parents of infants and toddlers, kept our nursery welcoming and safe. Mary Schaper, Shaili Pfeiffer, Peggy Haack, Noelle Livingston, Jessica Romick, Jocie Luglio, and Megan Barry worked with the Pre-K-1 group. Sarah and Steve Elmore, Stephanie Thurow, Erik Saynisch, Laura Ragland, and Dan Reain taught the grades 2-5 children.

Andy Soth, Grant Dobbe, Jerry Sullivan, Pam and Jim Younger, and Alex Zimmerman helped our youth group create a new space.

Larry Orr, John Koch, Alice Shuman-Johnson, Tom Kemble, and Susan Podebradsky stood ready to help as subs as needed.

Summer RE will offer 11 topics from *Keepers of the Earth*, a curriculum featuring Native American culture and environmental stewardship. Our teachers and assistants are "guest stars" from the congregation, trying their hand at teaching and talking about the subjects that they are drawn to. Watch the Wednesday Weekly News and Announcements for a complete list of topics.

In mid-July we will gratefully welcome back our Director of Religious Education, Sara Goodman, who will work twelve hours per week. Meanwhile, the RE Committee is seeking people interested in teaching or assisting in our classrooms next fall or becoming members of our committee. There's room for YOU! Please talk with Kelly Kearns, Stephanie Thurow, Anna Rue, or Mary Anglim.

JRUUC Mallards Game Sunday, July 12 4:05 pm

The Membership Committee
Invites you to enjoy a Baseball game at
the Duck Pond at Warner Park
Contact Jocie Luglio if you don't have a
ticket yet: jocie.jruuc@gmail.com

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.

Mark Your Calendars

Monthly meetings usually happen on the first Saturday of each month from 10 am - 12 noon. Upcoming dates are **July 11th** (due to the holiday) at Zion City and **August 1st** at JRUUC.

The MOSES Annual Celebration will be **Saturday, October 10th** 5 to 8 pm at Zion City Church, 1317 Applegate Rd Madison 53713

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

MOSES is Hiring MOSES has extended the application deadline for the Community Organizer position to **July 31, 2015**. In addition, the position description has been modified recently, so please see <http://mosesmadison.org/moses-is-hiring/>.

Sustainable Saturdays

The Fourth Sat. each month

July 25th at JRUUC

3:30 pm: Action-taking

5:30 pm: Potluck set-up

6 pm: Eat Dinner

7pm:

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 July 13th. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Barb at bwhitney@chi-squared.org

Recent Share the Plate Totals

Men’s Shelter Grocery Fund \$181.55
Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC \$242.50



Yin Yoga Classes Thursday Afternoons

Thursdays through July 30th. 4:45– 6:00 pm in the JRUUC Sanctuary. These classes include: Practicing yin yoga poses, mindful breathing practices, meditation, and discussion of functional and philosophical aspects of yoga. The cost for JRUUC members is ½ price, paying \$5 for each drop in class. Led by JRUUC member Bev Buhr, these classes are appropriate for all, regardless of yoga experience. See Bev or call her with

questions: 608-239-2324.



Madison Pride Parade

August 9th at 1 pm

We will again march as
STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE

Along with First Unitarian Society and
Prairie UU Society folks

**We will form a UU Planning Team
for participation in this.**

If you want to be part of the planning,
please alert Elizabeth Barrett
office@jruuc.org

All marchers, including cars and floats,
will gather at noon between the
500 and 600 blocks of State Street.
The march up to and around Capitol Square
will begin at 1 pm.
A rally will follow at approximately 2 pm.
The area has been reserved until
5:00 for entertainment.
Vendors and food carts will be available
<http://lgbtoutreach.org/>

Stewardship Stirrings:
A Congregation of Great Gratitude!

The Fiscal Year started July 1st, so a great big THANK YOU goes out to the following folks who made a financial commitment and/or donation to JRUUC for the 2015-2016 year. Please note that, due to their desire to remain anonymous, some pledgers' names are not listed below. If your name is not listed below but should be, please contact office@jruuc.org so we can rectify our error.

Aldrich, Jane	Meade, Marilyn
Anglim, Mary & John Koch	Mitchell Molly
Anonymous (three households)	O'Hara, Colleen
Avery, Rachel & Terri Pepper	Orr, Larry
Barrett, Elizabeth	Owen, Amy
Barry-Luglio, Megan & Jocie Luglio	Parrott, Jeri
Breisch, Bill & Dorothy	Person, Sandra
Bringelson, Carin & Bev Buhr	Pfeiffer, Shaili
Buckwalter, Nancy	Phillips, James
Cechvala, Julia	Pierson, Roger & Susan Cook
Cook, Sarah	Pine, Leila & Craig McComb
Cordon, Timothy	Podebradsky, Susan
Crawford, Martha	Pridgen, Elaine
Dew, Jim	Quinlan, Karen & Paul
Dobbe, Grant & Caroline Hardin	Ragland, Laura
Elmore, Steven & Sarah	Reain, Dan & Kim
Erickson, Doug	Reger, Laura
Esser, Beth & Derek Peterson	Riddell, Ian
Falk, Carol & Alan Johnson	Romick, Jessica & Nathanael
Flanagan, Ruth & Andy Soth	Saynisch, Erik
Glad, Christine	Saynisch, Heike
Gordon, Glen & Jan	Schaper, Mary
Haack, Peggy & Cindy Rudd	Schneider, Pat
Hallas, Sarah & Laura Yin	Scott, Kelly & Michael
Harp, Suzanne	Shuman-Johnson, Alice
Harrison, Virginia	Simon, Rene & Stephanie Thurow
Hill, Rand	Stephens, Catherine
Jenkin, Barbara	Sullivan, Jerry
Johnson, Kirsten	Thexton, Arthur
Johnson, Richard	Tuttle, Betsy
Kearns, Kelly & Tom McClintock	Tyksinski, Adam
Kemble, Joan & Tom	Wagner, Mary & David Barton
Kirby Zimmerman, Hannah & Alex Zimmerman	Werhane, Amanda
Kuharski, Ed & Liz Green	Whitney, Barbara
Lund, Thomas	Wisniewski, Deb
Lydon, Jeanne & Mark	Younger, Pamela & James
Mathis, John & Carol	Zick, Cynthia
McFadden, Marla	
McNulty, Charlie & Anna Rue	



From the Office

Before UU General Assembly began, I attended the Association of UU Administrators' Professional Days, where I learned about ways to maximize our rental potential, avoid burn-out, and achieve excellence while maintaining equanimity. I also learned about changes for employers that Rev. Karen and I will need to discuss.

Thanks to Virginia Harrison for being such a great roommate during GA. Our religious faith is full of innovative leaders, inspirational story-tellers, and compassionate people of all kinds.

Now I'm back working to close out our Reeb year 2014-15 while beginning 2015-16.

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



SAVE The DATES:
Saturday Sept. 19th --
Sunday Sept. 20th

**JRUUC Campout
Lake Farm County Park
More details to follow!
Hope you all can make it!**

Questions? Contact Sarah Elmore
sselmore@sbcglobal.net or 257-2712



James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation

2146 E. Johnson St.
Madison, WI 53704-4727
(608)242-8887
office@jruuc.org
www.jruuc.org

Minister
(219) 221-3371

the Rev. Karen Quinlan
revkaren@jruuc.org

Office Administrator
(608)242-8887

Elizabeth J. Barrett
office@jruuc.org

Religious Education Committee Co-chairs
Mary Anglim & Kelly Kearns re@jruuc.org

President
(608)669-2822 harrisonvirginia@rocketmail.com

Virginia Harrison

President-elect
(608)334-6060

Charlie McNulty
charlie@kznf.com

Secretary
(608)221-3938

Barbara Whitney
bwhitney@chi-squared.org

Treasurer
(608)957-9320

Jeanne Lydon
jeanne_lydon@yahoo.com

