

# EAST BREEZE



Newsletter of the James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, Wisconsin  
Volume 27, Number 10 — October 2018

**October theme: What does it mean to be a people of sanctuary?**

“Worshippers never leave church...we carry our sanctuary with us wherever we go.” – Aiden Wilson Tozer

## Connections

Sanctuary, for me, has always meant the outdoors. I feel safe in the woods, in the presence of an energy that I can only feel when I’m out there with an open heart. I hug the trees, I close my eyes and breathe, and I am home. This used to be enough. All through my adult life, whenever I needed solace, I headed outside. Even in those unchurched years, when I called myself “spiritual but not religious,” I went to sit by the ocean when I felt unsettled. And then, one day during my internship, I was sitting in the sanctuary of the church I was serving, attending worship. I was alone, as my family had chosen to not attend that particular Sunday, and that suddenly mattered when the minister said something that was an invitation to personal growth for me. I wanted so badly to reach out and grasp the hand of my partner, and when it wasn’t there, I was left shaken.

Since then, I’ve had lots of time to reflect on what I need to feel safe and held. And I’ve realized that, as much as I still find solace and healing in nature, it’s not fully a place of sanctuary until I’m sharing it with someone. I need the presence of my human siblings. I need to feel that I’m not alone. There’s a song that has been a comfort to me that articulates many of the ways we are sanctuary for each other. Carrie Newcomer is a Quaker activist and singer-songwriter, and this is her piece called “Sanctuary” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjOioWTVAl4>).

In these deeply troubling times, I want to remind us that this is what we are here for, in our religious community. Please call on each other, or on me, if you need sanctuary.

In faith and love, Karen

## 10 AM Sunday Services

### 10/7 “Being Sanctuary”

**The Rev. Karen Armina**

Our congregation is part of the Dane Sanctuary Coalition, and we’ve committed time and energy into becoming a host site for a person threatened with deportation. This morning, we’ll remind ourselves why we said “yes” to this action, we’ll celebrate the steps we’ve taken toward our building renovations, and we’ll bless the banner that proclaims our commitment to immigration justice.

### 10/14 “Circling Up”

**The Rev. Karen Armina**

One of the functions of community is to provide a space of sanctuary for its own. In this morning’s multigenerational service, we’ll explore how being part of this liberal religious community can help us find what we need to live bravely into making positive change in our world.

### 10/21 “In Pursuit of Solace”

**The Rev. Karen Armina**

We all need to feel safe in order to make space in our hearts for the personal transformation that can happen as a result of working for change in the world. Today we’ll explore the idea of sanctuary as a personal spiritual practice.

### 10/28 “Sanctuary Seekers: Apprehension and Detention in the United States”

**Christopher Sims**

This service will highlight the struggles of migrants and immigrants in northern Illinois.

Their stories are gripping as they hope for freedom and personhood in a country that is increasingly hostile to women, men, and children seeking new homes and protection from various harms.

**Check-in question:** What is sanctuary for you?



### Minister's Office Hours in October

Rev. Karen is in the office on Thursdays from 10:30 am until 2:30 pm. She can also be found at Café Brittolli (formerly Café Zoma) on Tuesdays between 1:00 and 3:00. And she's more than happy to meet with you for a cup of coffee/tea or a walk at any other mutually agreed-upon time – just call to set it up!



### Wednesday Evening Vespers Service October 3 at 7 pm

Join Rev. Karen for a quiet service of reflection. Vespers services will continue the first Wednesday of each month through May 2019.



### President's Column

Happy Autumn!

The Board of Trustees was quite busy in September. We had a great board retreat and got to share some extended reflection time, clarify our congregational structures of governance and ministry, discuss being an Anti-Racist congregation that works toward dismantling White Supremacy Culture, and plan for our board goals. There was also delicious potato salad and Kringle.

**BOT = Kringle!**  
**Governance Rocks.**

#### **Everyone wants to run for the board now!**

So what are the 2018-2019 Board Goals, you ask? This year the BOT will **continue** to:

- Support the Congregation in defining our **mission** statement
- Support the Sanctuary Leadership Team
- Support the Building Oversight Group

This year the BOT will:

- Create a group to work on Sustainable Giving
- Investigate ways to increase non-pledge income, including rental income

How can you help? Always feel free to talk to a board member about what we do, or even come to a meeting. **Please plan to attend our Mission 25.1 congregational workshop on October 20.** Read the "Mission Statement Musings" column for more details. Thank you for all you do for our congregation.

Peace,  
Jocie

Jocie Luglio, President of the BOT



Where have you seen these symbols at Reeb and what do they mean?

## 25 Years: the story continues...

### Who are we ... *Seekers of Justice*

Do you recognize these symbols?

Look for the full image and description in the lobby case, with photos of JRUUC members working for justice.

If you have photos of our community to share please contact Colleen O'Hara: [ohara1945@gmail.com](mailto:ohara1945@gmail.com). To read more of our history or view the timeline visit [jruuc.org/history](http://jruuc.org/history).

*Celebrating 25 years of nurturing spirit,  
working for justice, and building community.*

### **Soup & Bread Fundraising Lunch** **Sunday, October 14**

The FundRaising Committee invites you to lunch after service October 14. Please contact Ginny Scholtz, 262-490-2865 or [vscholtz@charter.net](mailto:vscholtz@charter.net) if you are willing to provide soup or bread. Suggested donation, \$6/adult and \$3/kid.



### **Mission Statement Musings**

By now we hope you've heard the word on the street: During this congregation year, JRUUC is revisiting our mission statement. In last month's "Musings," we noted that we believe the process of creating a new mission statement will help us learn to articulate why this congregation exists, discern how we might act collectively, and generate some inspiration and enthusiasm. We also gave you an overview of the mission statement revision process.

Here is the detailed timeline for the exciting work the JRUUC BOT and congregation endeavor to do together:

- Kickoff – Sunday, September 23 in worship
- Congregational workshop -- **Mission 25.1**, Saturday, October 20, 9 am-4 pm, including breakfast, lunch, and breaks
- Refining Team creation – October 20 (at the end of Mission 25.1), to be announced Sunday, October 21
- First draft statement completed December 14 for January newsletter
- Cottage meetings – will end by January 20
- Second draft statement completed February 20 for March newsletter
- Congregational feedback meetings (one Sunday and one evening) – will end by March 31
- Final statement completed April 19 for May newsletter
- Congregational adoption – at our Annual Congregational meeting May 19!

In preparation for the "Mission 25.1" workshop Saturday, October 20, we want you to begin thinking about the following:

- **What should be in our mission statement?**

We also encourage you to revisit our [Provocative Statements](#), which were drafted based on the congregation's responses to Appreciative Inquiry interviews conducted in November 2013 as part of the process of discerning who we are in the search for our new minister. The overarching categories for the Provocative Statements include:

- Welcoming
- Worship and Celebration
- Justice, Sustainability and Community Involvement
- Living our UU Values
- Leadership
- Life-long Learning
- Stewardship

These Provocative Statements are like a vision statement for our JRUUC community. A vision statement looks ahead and imagines our future state. A mission statement is a statement of who we are and why we exist and provides a grounding for fulfilling our vision. We believe that our JRUUC Provocative Statements will help inform the mission statement we are developing together as a community.

We invite you to be part of this exciting process—please come to the October 20 workshop with your reflections and aspirations. **We need you – the more Reebbers involved in this process, the more our mission statement will represent the whole congregation!**

Article submitted by Rev. Karen, Beth Esser, Sarah Hallas, and Jean Skinner

**Be sure to attend  
Our Mission 25.1  
Congregational Workshop  
Saturday, October 20  
9 am to 4 pm  
Breakfast, lunch, & Breaks included**

## Sanctuary Resources

**“Here Is My Home”** by Si Kahn  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmpwTC9HKNk>

***Home: The Making of Sanctuary*** (audio book) by Gunilla Norris

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/8128/home>

<https://www.amazon.com/Home-Making-Sanctuary-Gunilla-Norris/dp/1564553647>

“Psychotherapist Gunilla Norris reads on these tape selections from her four exquisite books on the spirituality of place.... Through the spiritual practices of attention, mystery, wonder, and silence, Norris draws out the inner life of rooms, objects, and household tasks...filled with marvels that will enable you to see your home as sanctuary — a holy place.”

**TED talk: What we are missing in the debate about immigration?** by Duarte Geraldino

[https://www.ted.com/talks/duarte\\_geraldino\\_what\\_we\\_are\\_missing\\_in\\_the\\_debate\\_about\\_immigration](https://www.ted.com/talks/duarte_geraldino_what_we_are_missing_in_the_debate_about_immigration)

A powerful call to rethink the immigration debate. Learn more about the wider impact of forced removal (deportation) as Geraldino explains how the sudden absence of a mother, a local business owner or a high school student ripples outward and wreaks havoc on the relationships that hold our communities together. His is a call for us to change the immigration debate from a discussion about individuals to one of the social ripples.

**“You Belong Here: Exploring the Heart of Beloved Community”** by the Rev. A. Burnette

<http://www.vuu.org/sermons/you-belong-here-exploring-the-heart-of-beloved-community/>

“Feeling we don’t belong some place costs us something.... Every person is welcome in beloved community, but every behavior is not...”

**Stop** by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

*“Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!”*

—John 2.16

In fact, stop everything.

Get rid of all the Stuff,  
even religion itself.

Shut down the hubbub.



Enter into the stillness  
at the heart of everything,  
the Sabbath that is the real temple,  
the silence that is God.  
Don't run in the sanctuary  
you can't hear the silence when you're busy.

There's no substitute for stillness.  
The offering God desires is your presence.  
Stop

and wait upon the Beloved.  
Breathe. This is the holy of holies.

Destroy the temple of doing  
and let the temple of being  
rise up from within.

**We are all longing to go home to some place we  
have never been — a place half-remembered  
and half-envisioned we can only catch glimpses  
of from time to time. Community. Somewhere,  
there are people to whom we can speak with  
passion without having the words catch in our  
throats. Somewhere a circle of hands will open  
to receive us, eyes will light up as we enter,  
voices will celebrate with us whenever we come  
into our own power. Community means  
strength that joins our strength to do the work  
that needs to be done. Arms to hold us when.**

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Starhawk



## **Financial Update**

**August 2018**

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$15,076</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,086</b>

Our congregation is a proud member of the Dane Sanctuary Coalition and the New Sanctuary Movement to provide refuge to immigrants contesting their deportation orders. Vigorous fundraising efforts for our Building Sanctuary Project have been underway for months. Their receipts are being deposited in our standard bank, very strictly separated in our books from our usual operations. This month, I will start reporting on the sanctuary accounts as well as on our standard finances. I will always clearly label sanctuary funds in my remarks, but not our standard transactions.

In July, our income (\$15,151) exceeded our expenses by \$295. The sanctuary income was \$960, with no listed expenses! In August, our income was \$15,076, exceeding expenses by \$1068. Jeanne Lydon reported to me that the sanctuary team had raised \$18,357 by September 23. Wonderful!

We like to think of our banked assets as being composed of unencumbered funds, free to meet expenses, (\$37,834 on August 31), plus accounts we mentally reserve for specific future needs. On August 31, these accounts were an Opportunity and Reserve Fund (\$3,844), a Maintenance and Repair Fund (3,142), and a Sabbatical Fund (\$750) for replacing Rev. Karen's services while she chooses to go on leave (while receiving her standard benefits). For this fiscal year we budgeted an additional \$500 to the Sabbatical Fund. If there are unbudgeted expenses that can fit into any of these categories, the Finance Committee can vote to pay them from the appropriate fund.

With best wishes,  
John Mathis, Treasurer

## Membership Events

**October 6-7, Saturday afternoon until Sunday morning -- James Reeb Annual Camp-Out** at Lake Farms Park Group Camp Site. It's great FUN and you can bring the whole family, even friends. Don't want to camp-out? That's OK, too. Come for a hike with friends in the afternoon, or join in our potluck supper and/or a campfire under the stars. Lake Farms Park is just outside of Madison so you can come for all or part of this weekend. Sign up in the foyer at Reeb.

### **Saturday, October 27, 9 am – 1 pm Exploring Membership Class (includes lunch)**

**If you've been thinking about joining our congregation, this is the day for you!**

Rev. Karen, Membership Committee members, and Congregational Leaders will engage you in some deeper thinking about your spiritual path and provide information on what it means to be a member to help you in your discernment process.

If you have questions about any of these events, talk to one of us on the Membership Committee:

Kelly Kearns or Mary Wagner, co-chairs;  
Peggy Haack; Sarah Elmore; or  
Kirsten Johnson

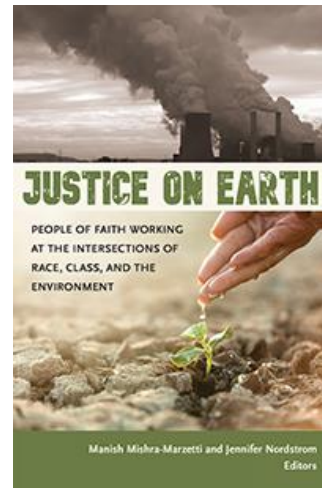
## **Calling All Book Lovers**

Our JRUUC library is in need of some organization and care. We have lots of resources on a wide range of topics: Unitarian Universalism and other world religions, theology and spiritual practice, race studies and queer studies and gender studies, societal issues, parenting, education, works for children -- and we'd like a couple of book-loving humans to take charge of sorting them and making them more visible and available to our congregation. Please contact Rev. Karen if you're interested in this.

## Adult Learning and Reflecting

This year's **Covenant Groups** have been formed and will begin meeting this month! There will also be a new opportunity – **Covenant Café** – which will be a less formal way to gather and talk through some of life's big questions, based on the themes for the month. **Covenant Café will happen at Mickey's Tavern on the second Thursday of the month, starting October 11.** Matt Finesilver will be the host.

We may form a short-term group that will follow the Membership Committee's "Exploring Membership" classes; this group will be for people new to JRUUC and others who want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and their connection to it. See Rev. Karen for more information.



## Adult Religious Exploration

The order for *Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and Environment* edited by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom has been placed. Learn more at: <https://www.uuabookstore.org/Justice-on-Earth-P18357.aspx>. We will have three discussion sessions, beginning this month. For session dates and times, watch your weekly email and listen for announcements on Sunday morning.

# Justice at JRUUC



## **Courage for Racial Justice Courage for Collective Liberation Led by Chris Crass Saturday, November 10 9 am to 2 pm** (includes lunch)

This interactive workshop will build up local capacity for anti-racist/ racial justice work, with a focus on developing white people's resilience and abilities for this work.

National anti-racist organizer **Chris Crass** is a UU father, organizer, educator, and national speaker **who has worked extensively with various faith communities**. His work is dedicated to bringing powerful working-class based feminist multi-racial movements for collective liberation. His talks and workshops focus on themes of anti-racism, social justice organizing, feminism for men, creating healthy activist culture, and spiritually grounded leadership for liberation.

## **MOSES Fundraiser Luncheon Women Behind Bars: Breaking the Chains Tuesday, October 16, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm Bethel Lutheran Church, 312 Wisconsin Avenue**

Melissa Ludin, President of EXPO (Ex-incarcerated People Organizing), and Sarah Ferber, Associate Director of EXPO, will present from both personal and advocacy points of view. Please join us to learn more about the increasing number of women in prison, the racial disparities and the gender specific issues they face.

Tickets are \$30, available until October 8 at **Eventbrite**

For more information contact Mary Anglim, [mtanglim@gmail.com](mailto:mtanglim@gmail.com) or 249-0031.



## **Trans/forming Allyship – Friday, October 26, 9 am to 4 pm From Awareness to Action for Trans Inclusion**

*Professional development training for service providers and community leaders*

Want to learn more about how to support transgender community members? Trans/forming Allyship is a unique opportunity to dive deep, zoom wide, and practice concrete ways to make a difference right now – while connecting with likeminded people who are working on the same issues.

In spite of increasing acceptance of transgender identities, trans community members still face intense stigma, violence and barriers to participation. Many service providers and community leaders have good intentions about trans inclusion, but don't always know what to **do**. With a deeper understanding and expanded toolbox, they can build on those intentions to create truly trans-inclusive practices and policies.

Through a lively combination of presentations, small- and large-group discussions, practical exercises and collaborative problem-solving, participants will:

- Gain understanding of trans identities and experiences
- Examine personal, organizational, and community barriers to inclusion
- Develop strategies to support trans people in everyday interactions and in their professional roles
- Plan next steps to put their allyship into action, while staying in touch with the needs and priorities of trans communities

Find more information & register here:

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3582193>





## **The Wizard of Oz Reeb Rave Saturday, November 17 Beginning at 5 pm with dinner**

Our Annual Auction Dinner, Party,  
& major fundraiser needs your donations!

Some ideas for donations include  
dinner parties and other types of gatherings,  
artwork, gift baskets, newer electronics,  
donated services, and delicious desserts  
for the live auction.

We also need help with decorations  
and other fun planning.

Join us on the yellow brick road!

Contact Tom McClintock,  
tom.mcclintock@wisc.edu



## **Music Notes**

Where is your sanctuary? Is it a secret place? I am curious. Sometimes I arrive in Sanctuary, unexpectedly, in the least likely of places. At other times, I run towards it with myopic intensity, as if in there, might be my last breath. Though the golden hour is but a few minutes, it never fails in providing me sanctuary. A most beautiful tone or carriage of a musical phrase, an intoxicating melody or the rhythm of the breath these things have all provided sanctuary. A simple moment as one pulls the curtains and turns off the lights, wordlessly whispers.....sanctuary. A Holy Place. Home.

Have you been attending services? Wow, thanks to choir members, there has been a steady stream of excellent music. Not just music, but sound, mind body music, delivered from the heart.

This season you will hear some of the works discovered during my attendance at this year's UU Musician's Network conference. In October, "The Tide Is Rising"! And we will find "The Road Home." "Let This Be a House of Peace," and of sanctuary in song.

Join us in preparing this month's hymn of the month: #1056 "Thula Klizeo," written by Joseph Shabalala in 1947. Translation: "Be still my heart, even here I am at home."

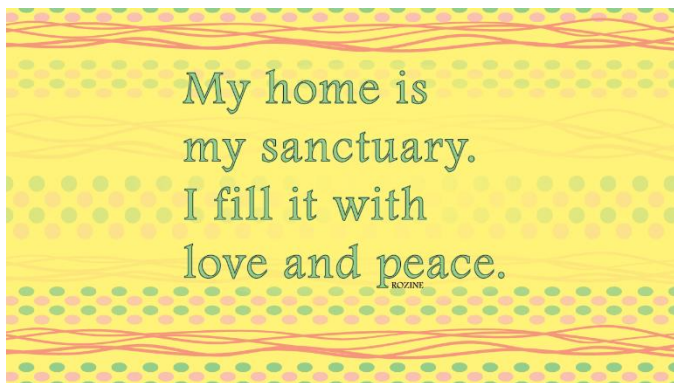
### **Pronunciation guide:**

*Too-lah klih zee-oh, nah lah pah sey ky – ya, Ey ky-ya. , nah lah pah sey ky-yah.*

May our time together be another step on our journey home.

Heather Yonker, Music Director





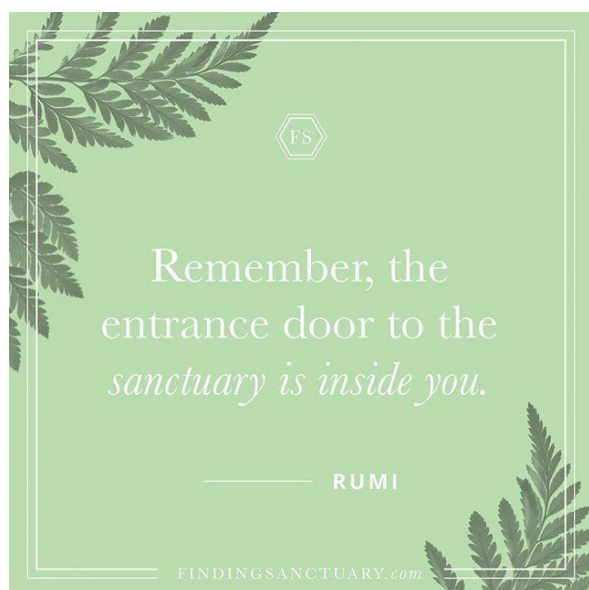
## **Administrator's Thoughts**

Sanctuary, eh? I'm longing for a kind of sanctuary that many don't have yet – the kind of sanctuary that allows us to feel safe from human harm, no matter where we go, what we wear, or who we are.

I do find sanctuary at home, especially during the fall when I get out some blankets, light candles, and finish reading books before they're due. My favorite candle smells like an evergreen tree – a fir – and the scent leads me to imagine that my house is surrounded by peaceful and protective conifers. Sharing space with my husband and cat adds love.

Our religious movement offers sanctuary too. Unitarian Universalism brings love and hope into our lives because our faith accepts our whole, albeit flawed, selves at the same time as it calls us forward.

Yours in growing faith,  
Elizabeth Barrett, Congregational Administrator



## **The Compliment**

By Misha Sanders September 26, 2018

"You have beautiful hair. If you slim down, Honey, you'll have to fight off the men." A very old woman standing behind me in the pharmacy line said that.

"Thanks," I said gently, searching for the way to say what came next. "For the hair compliment, I mean. No thanks on the slimming down part. In fact, please never say that to anyone again. It's not okay. Neither is having to fight off men."

I wanted to talk to her about fat-phobia and how harmful it is, specifically to women in our culture. I wonder how her life would have been different if she had seen representation of people living joyfully in the glorious array of real bodies, just the way they are.

But mostly I wanted her to know that the literal trauma of women fighting off men is no joke. It is not desirable. And it is not ever about hair, body shape or size, or any other measure of perceived desirability.

I was fifteen years old, wearing a long, body-covering dress that my conservative faith deemed modest enough for a proper young lady. My fat body, my harsh up-do, my plainness, and my innocent naïveté did not prevent me from having to try to fight off a man. And there was nothing flattering about the fact that I had to.

I am okay now, with a burning in my soul to speak up for other girls and women who too often fall into the path of well-meaning people whose words do harm. And for their sake, I cannot always just smile and say "thanks" if I think you meant well.

I trusted the kind old woman at the pharmacy to be capable of hearing hard truth, no matter her age; perhaps because of it. Bless her wounded heart with its internalized misogyny, the myriad causes of which I will never know.

She just wants women to love and support each other. Thank you. Me too. That's why I said something. Me too.

Rev. Misha Sanders is mostly a mom, but also a hospital chaplain and a fiery preacher of the good news of Unitarian Universalism.

<https://www.uua.org/braverwiser/compliment>

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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 (Elizabeth).
- ❖ Newsletter submissions may be emailed to office@jruuc.org. The **deadline for submissions** is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month at 5 pm. Please limit articles to 200 words. Please be careful not to include sensitive information.
- ❖ Read *East Breeze* online at [www.jruuc.org](http://www.jruuc.org).

**Religious Education (RE) & Childcare:** Childcare & Children's RE are available most worship services.

\*Karen Armina takes Mondays off and reserves Fridays for sermon-writing.