

Summer stream: Morgan Creek, by Marcy Mattison



AUGUST 2016

PEOPLES CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
4980 Gordon Avenue NW
Cedar Rapids IA 52405
319-362-9827
www.peoplesuu.org



Peoples Church • ***the Voice***

Peoples Church • *the Voice*

SUNDAYS

August 7: *GoodBye*, led by Robyn Meissler-Kubanek. Saying goodbye isn't easy, but we all face it throughout our lives in big and small ways. Come explore good-byes in daily life, and how they can help us make room for change. Music provided by Megan & Tim Jones.

August 14: TBA

August 21: TBA

August 28: *Mindfulness*, led by Scott Mansfield. Mindfulness is being in the present. This is an audience participation service. Be prepared to be mindful.

Worship - 11 am.



Coffee Hour in the Ely Room follows worship.

Religious Education registration

August 21
10:30 am
Ely Room Hall

**PLEDGE
HERE!**

Dear People's People,

The time is finally here!



Next week I will arrive in Cedar Rapids to serve Peoples Church as your Developmental Minister. As I sit here amongst full boxes preparing to move, I feel energized and truly blessed to have been invited to serve Peoples Church. I am so excited to meet you, get to know the Peoples community, and get going. My first month in Cedar Rapids I will be at your service, on boarding as your minister. At the same time, you may be curious to know, my personal life will be quite full. My partner, Casey, and I are moving to CR from the Boston area the first week of August. Then we are getting married over Labor Day

weekend and will be away the week before for that occasion. So maybe by September, I will be able to develop a routine!

I can't wait to dive into this ministry with you. I am committed to shared leadership and committed to intentionally meeting with each committee, group, and as many of you as possible as early as possible this year. As we begin to make that happen I thank you all in advance for your patience and flexibility with my schedule as I make some exciting life changes and adjustments.

People, it's going to be a great year! Let's see what we can do together!

Peace,
Rebecca



Congratulations

Jamie Zaruba!

After one busy year* as Coordinator of RE, he's now the Director of Religious Education – Congratulations and thanks for all your hard work, energetic leadership and imagination!

**A float in the parade, hosting a youth con, movie night and so much more!*

Peoples News

PEOPLES CHURCH TURNING POINT 2017

Why does Peoples Church matter to me? . . . My Testimonial

By Robyn Miessler-Kubanek

I grew up in a conservative Christian household, and I absorbed and accepted the implicit message relentlessly reinforced within our culture: There is only one way to be religious, and that way is conservative Christianity. It took me many years to learn that there were more possibilities.

I feel I cannot be the only person who yearns to have a place to be religious without being constrained by a particular understanding of faith. To enjoy a setting where ethics and meaning matter without being shoehorned into a particular way of exploring those ideas. And I want to make sure people like me have a place where they can experience the same affirming community.

For me, Peoples Church is a way not just to participate in fellowship, but also a way to help fill a great need. I feel it's vital in this time of increasing religious tension to work to enlarge our cultural religious imagination. I want Peoples to proactively and enthusiastically engage with the wider community, both to invite seekers in, as well as to affirm with our presence that we do exist. That we can make a difference.

To do these things, though, every one of us must support our mission. Our presence in the life of the church, our participation in the work and leadership of the church, and our pledging to the budget of the church – these are what create a vibrant and impactful faith community.

We're in the midst of the annual pledge drive, a time when we should all be asking ourselves: "Why does Peoples matter to me?" What's your testimonial?



Rev. Rebecca Hinds,
Developmental Minister
minister@peoplesuu.org

Pam Edwards
Administrator
office@peoplesuu.org
319 362-9827

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday:
11 - 4 pm
Sunday:
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Jamie Ray Zaruba,
Director,
Religious Education
dre@peoplesuu.org
319 210-4239

Custodians
Jerry Morris & Bob
Osborne

PEOPLES ONLINE:
www.peoplesuu.org

Find us on Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
peoplesuu](http://www.facebook.com/peoplesuu)

Or join our private
Facebook pages:

PCUU
PCUU Social Justice
Peoples UU RE



Day Camp - did you RSVP??

Day Camp is coming fast, so please make sure to RSVP to *Jamie*, (319) 210-4239. The event is **this Saturday, July 30** at 2:30 pm at the Davis/Oydgard home, 1274 T Avenue, Amana!

Peoples News

PEOPLES CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President
Robyn Miessler-Kubaneck

Treasurer
Gary McGraw
373-9449

Scott Gay
Geoff Johnson
Kathy Juba
Scott Mansfield
Kathleen Watson

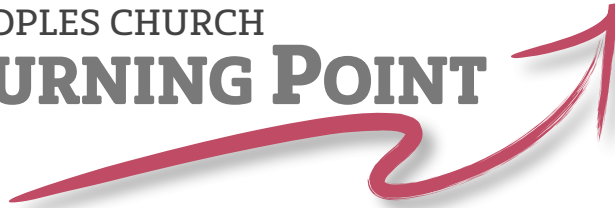
The Board of Trustees meeting minutes are available two ways:

- **ONLINE:** Go to the Peoples Church website at www.peoplesuu.org.
- **PRINT:** Copies are also available on the Ely Room table in a folder marked **Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**.



PEOPLES CHURCH

TURNING POINT 2017



A Collective “Gulp”

If you heard something in Cedar Rapids on July 7 that sounded unusual, it may have been the collective gulp at our house as Kathy and I filled out our 2017 online pledge, complete with a 25% increase over last year, and hit the “submit” button. 25% is a big increase, and it wasn’t done at our house without some serious consideration. After all, now that we’re both retired, we are living on the proverbial “FIXED INCOME”.

Kathy and I discussed the fact that, in the past, neither of us would have ever predicted we would support a church, any church, to this level. So why did we, Kathy, a long term People’s member and I, a relatively new People’s member do this?

The bottom line is that we are committed to seeing this church succeed, flourish, expand, and

continue the good things that we have seen taking root in the past year and we feel there is reason to believe what we have seen is only the beginning!

Here are the reasons we feel this way: [bullets]

The past year marked a vigorous reawakening of social justice activities in our church. As members, we all continue to support one another through the active Good Neighbor’s program. It seems we are all beginning to embrace our new church building and make it our own.

Our church has a renewed commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Finally, in August, we, as a church, and Rev. Rebecca Hinds, as our leader, embark on our own Developmental Ministry journey. How exciting!

So, please consider joining us by taking your own personal gulp, then completing and submitting your pledge card – hopefully with a 25% increase from last year – or whatever your budget might allow?

The future is bright – we are at The Turning Point!

Bob Butikofer

Turning Point Stewardship Chair

GOOD NEIGHBORS

We offer a helping hand with things like chores, and errands.
In August, call or email *Kathy Juba* at 378-3116.

Peoples *Activities*

Board Meeting Summary

July 17, 2016

- Treasurer Gary McGraw reported that June ended well. There has been less of a summer dip in income than in previous years, which may be due to a larger number of people using automatic payments.
- We congratulated Jamie Zaruba on his promotion to Director of Religious Education (DRE). He was hired as the RE Coordinator in 2015 with the understanding he would become Director upon successful completion of his first year at Peoples. The Board applauds and recognizes Jamie for a rockin' first year in this position.
- We postponed making a decision on whether to fund the Event Coordinator part time position proposed by DRE Jamie Zaruba. The delay will allow Rev. Rebecca to participate in the discussion with the Board about whether this fits into our Developmental Ministry goals.
- We reviewed the draft Ministerial Transition Team overview and discussed ways to help Rev. Rebecca integrate into the church community quickly and smoothly.
- Geoff Johnson agreed to investigate feasibility of piping Sunday services down to the nursery, similar to the way it is broadcast in the Ely Room.
- Kathy Juba agreed to investigate current energy usage, heating, and cooling questions for the building.

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Margaret Bock Housing: *A Home on Third*

Submitted by Jim Federer

Margaret Bock Housing (MBH), a two-story building at 1021 Third Ave SE., provides housing for low-income single adults seeking independent living. They may be leaving a shelter, or may be on parole or probation.

MBH provides 35 rooms, generally for 30 men and 5 women. It began operation in 1996 in the current building, formerly used as a correctional facility. At that time it became a program of the Ecumenical Community Center (ECC), a 501(C)3 nonprofit. Peoples Church has helped support ECC and its programs since 1998, along with other churches.

In 2000, MBH became an independent secular 501(C)3 nonprofit, which allowed the MBH Board to seek federal grants to improve the facility. It remained associated with ECC, as several persons (including myself as president of MBH) are members of both boards. An action in process is to receive a Warranty Deed from ECC in 2016 which would provide MBH independent ownership and operation of the building. It is currently operated by a volunteer board and part time property manager.

Tenants must come to MBH with some source of income, as MBH depends on rent to exist. For about \$310 per month, a room with a bed, wardrobe, free utilities and cable are provided. It is a facility not duplicated anywhere else in Eastern Iowa. Upcoming improvements include flooring renovation, a new fire alarm system and tuck-pointing the exterior. Several times a year a picnic is provided for the tenants at our location. The need for such housing is great and MBH is typically fully occupied.

Please contact PCUU member Jim Federer at 362-6936 to visit this facility.

GOT NEWS?

Remember to submit your news and photos. Everyone benefits when we share the great activities of Peoples Church!

The DEADLINE for submissions to the September *Voice* is AUGUST 27.

The deadline for the October *Voice* is September 24.

eWeekly submissions are due each Wednesday noon.

SEND SUBMISSIONS to voiceditor@peoplesuu.org

Peoples Church is a vibrant, welcoming spiritual community that empowers and encourages its members to develop and explore more sacred, positive and healthy lives through reflection, education and community outreach.

PLEDGE
HERE!

Peoples *Growing*



PARAMINISTERS ON CALL

July 27 - August 9:
Scott Mansfield

August 10 - 21:
Call Rose Gabe, 396-5202

August 22 - September 4
R.C. Eichachker
319-622-3908

Next Paraministry meeting: Saturday, August 22, 1 pm

Mark Your Calendars

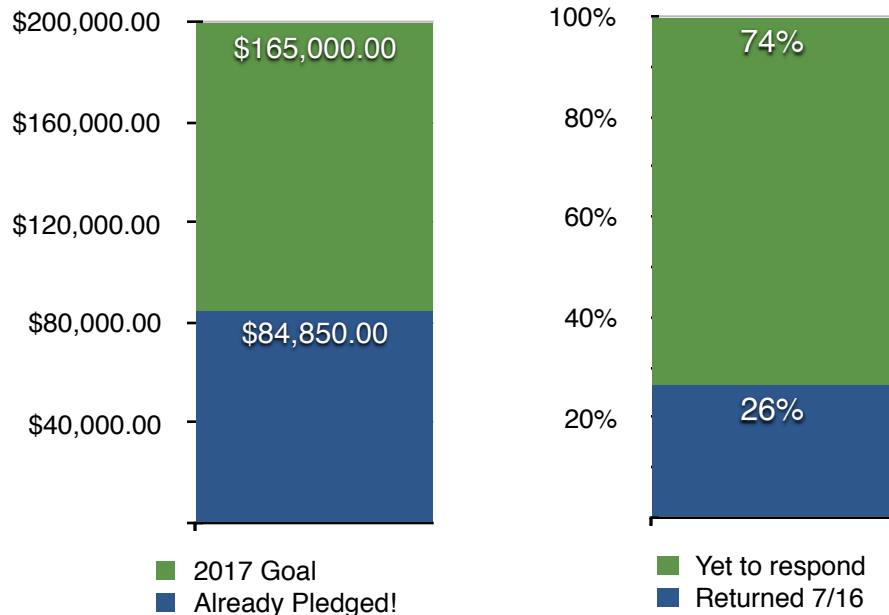
for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 4.

We'll discuss and approve the budget, present updates on current activities, and conduct other business of the church.

Join in a potluck right after the Sunday service. The congregational meeting will begin at 12:45 pm.

PEOPLES CHURCH TURNING POINT 2017

Great progress toward our goal!



We are over halfway to our goal!

As of July 24, thirty-one households have returned their 2017 pledge forms, representing a committed a total of \$84,850 to the **Turning Point Stewardship Campaign – a 22% increase in dollar amount from 2016!**

Please keep those forms coming in!

Thank you!

YaRD SALE



August 13, 12-5 pm, Peoples parking lot

We are accepting donated items: new, used, handmade and even cooked for the sale. Donations are always welcome, and if you would like to volunteer to help in any way just drop a line or see me in my office. *Jamie Zaruba, (319) 210-4239. Thanks!*