

JUNE  
2018

# THE VOICE



## OUR STAFF.

Rev. Rebecca Hinds

Developmental  
Minister

(319) 362-9827(w)

(319) 200-7650 (h)

Tuesday – Thursday:  
by appointment

David Wise

Acting Director of  
Religious Education

(319) 362-9827  
by appointment

Cathy Fischer

Operations  
Coordinator

(319) 362-9827

Office Hours

Tuesday 9-3:30

Wednesday 9-3:30

Thursday 9-3:30

Childcare Providers

Valerie Angerer Zieser  
Shyla Morrow

Custodians

Jerry Morris  
& Bob Osborne

## OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

**President**

Kathleen Mavity  
(319) 270-1214

**Treasurer**

Gary McGraw  
(319) 373-9449

**Board of Trustee  
Members**

Geoff Johnson

Jude Johnson

Kathy Juba

Mike Meshack

# the VOICE.

PEOPLES CHURCH

## MISSION STATEMENT

LEADING COMPASSIONATE LIVES THROUGH  
SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND JUST ACTION.



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# CARING COMMUNITY

Good Neighbors

Kathy Juba | 378-3116 | kathywilson@imonmail.com

Paraministers

May 28—June 10 | Audrey Hauter | 448-4490

June 11—June 17 | Dorothy Hershner | 393-6617

June 18—July 1 | Rose Gabe | 396-5202

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

OFFICE@PEOPLESUU.ORG | (319) 362-9827

*Beauty*  
IS ONE OF THE  
essential necessities  
OF HUMAN EXISTENCE.

- Von Ogden Vogt (1921) -

To learn more about this concept, David Wise and I recently attended the Worship Design Studio, a workshop led by world-renowned worship designer Marcia McFee. We discovered that high-quality worship is like a film—every element contributes to the overall feel of the experience, including the worship space. The colors, décor, seating, cleanliness, energy and feel of the sanctuary communicate more than we realize in worship. A film director wouldn't film a light, uplifting part of a movie in a dark cave, nor what she film an intimate, tender moment in a stark, sterile room. Setting matters. Space matters. Beauty matters.

For these reasons, not to mention the rich connection with our history the windows provide, I am absolutely thrilled that we are moving forward with installing the Rose and Star stained glass windows in the sanctuary. The design the Aesthetics and Windows Teams came up with and the congregation voted on is absolutely gorgeous and I believe it will make a huge difference in our worship lives! Making our sanctuary more beautiful has the power to elevate souls, connect us with the Holy and help facilitate rich, healing, inspiring, transformative experiences in worship. So, next time you see a Windows or Aesthetics Team Member be sure to thank them for all the good work they are doing!



Rev. Rebecca

# Minister's MOMENT



Have you ever paid \$12 to see a two-hour movie in the theatre and had a spiritual experience? What made this experience so powerful? Did you even realize how much time went by?

I am willing to bet you were completely immersed in the experience, never once taken out of the moment to notice what time it was. You were fully engaged through beautiful images, music, and drama, captivated by the story, and, by the end of the film, given new eyes to see the world a little bit differently. You were transformed through art.

There is no reason why worship can't be just like this.

Like a good film, good worship engages all of the senses to tell a story and inspire people through beauty and art. It uses music, visual arts, spoken word, and action or "drama" to create an all-inclusive, transformative experience.

This is not a new idea. In *Art and Religion* (1921) Unitarian minister and worship theorist Von Ogden Vogt said that "beauty is desirable and good" and that good worship engages beauty in every way. He said, "the art of worship is an all-comprehending art. No other art can satisfy the demand of human nature for an all-inclusive experience."

This is possible at Peoples Church. Sensory-rich, all-inclusive, don't-care-what-time-it-is worship is possible when we approach it as an art form and pay attention to beauty.



# Sunday Worship

JUNE'S THEME: *Beauty*

## **JUNE 3**

### **11am Service: Flower Ceremony**

Join us for this colorful ritual that gives concrete expression to the humanity - affirming principles of our liberal faith. We will honor and celebrate the inherent worth and beauty of every human being. Bring a flower with you from home and receive a different flower in return. This will be a day of beauty and gladness! Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

**Music:** Arianne and Abram

**Greeters:** Robyn Miessler-Kubaneck

**Flower Ministry:**

**Coffee Hour:**





## **JUNE 10**

### **11am Service: A Beautiful Gift**

Life itself is a beautiful gift. We didn't ask for it or do anything to deserve it, but we do get to choose how we respond to it. So how can we honor this gift, preserve it and pass it on? How can we use it for good? As we prepare to kick off our 2019 Stewardship Campaign we will explore the beauty and call of passing on life's gifts for the good of the whole. Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

**Music:** Scott Mansfield

**Greeters:** Kathy Juba and Bob Butikofer

**Flower Ministry:**

**Coffee Hour:** Brenda and Mike Meshak



## **JUNE 17**

### **11am Service: Gems and Geodes**

Like a geode, plain on the outside but filled with magnificent, sparkly crystals, each one of us contains our own unique inner beauty. Can you see it? Can we learn to see it in one another? Can we break open our tough exteriors and delight in our own wild magnificence? Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

**Music:** Peoples Choir

**Greeters:** Sheryl Ochs and Robyn Miessler-Kubaneck

**Flower Ministry:**

**Coffee Hour:** Brenda and Mike Meshak

## **JUNE 24**

### **11am Service: What is Beauty?**

Service led by Jude Johnson.

**Music:** Megan and Tim Jones

**Greeters:**

**Flower Ministry:**

**Coffee Hour:**

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*Cookies, Coffee, and Conversation following Service.*

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# WISE WORDS

“I hate change!”

“Change is hard!”

“Change stinks!”

“We have always done it this way!!”

Those are all comments that are often heard when the possibility of change is afoot. Change can be difficult. The reality of our world is that change is constantly around us. When I preached last month, I talked about the streets downtown and how they have changed. It can be frustrating to remember which ones are two-way and which ones are still one-way. It is even more difficult when it changes from one way to two way and back to one way in a space of a few blocks! The city did not make the change to frustrate and annoy. They did it to meet the evolving needs of a modern citizenry.

The same is true for a church. The life and times of congregations must evolve in order to meet the needs of the individuals and families who seek their comfort, solace, growth and spiritual feeding. The way we have always done things may not be the best way in our modern times. In years past, churches were the center place of community and socialization for many. The church was always busy with people and events that were totally filled with people. Times are different now. Churches struggle to meet the needs of people! The message has not and cannot change. The method of delivery must change to keep the church vibrant for generations to come

As you may have heard in worship, some changes are coming to Religious Education here at Peoples! We are going to try some new things, perhaps some old things that went by the wayside, some cutting edge ideas, and some of the same things we are doing now. A task force has been working hard the last few months discussing Religious Education. They have developed some super ideas to better serve the children of the church and possibly draw more children to the church. They have also looked at and talked about ideas to help energize and bring in adults as well. I have had a great time working with them and I appreciate their hard work.

As time goes by, you will see several ideas from the task force come into play here at the church. One that I am really excited about is Whole Week Faith Formation. This program is not just for families with children. It is a program that can be embraced and used by virtually everyone in the congregation! It takes our faith from just being a Sunday event and makes it a part of our everyday lives.

Change is difficult! In many cases, it is necessary. This is one of those times. We truly want the children and adults of the congregation to claim and live the Unitarian Universalist faith. We also want new people to come and engage that faith with us. We want to share what we have and believe with others who are seeking and looking for answers and support. Will you help us change so we can be stronger and grow?

*David Wise* | Acting Dir. Of Religious Education

## SUMMER HOURS

Similar to last summer, I will not be keeping any office hours on Friday's so that I can spend more time with my children. Below will be my adjusted hours starting next week through July 31st.

**Monday:** Church Closed

**Tuesday:** 9-3:30pm

**Wednesday:** 9-3:30pm

**Thursday:** 9-3:30pm

**Friday:** Office Closed

## CHECK REQUESTS

This is a reminder regarding the check request or reimbursement process.

1. Obtain and Complete the Check Request Form
  - There are hard copies in the file bins outside of the church office or email the [office@peoplesuu.org](mailto:office@peoplesuu.org) to request an electronic copy.
2. Have the request approved by the minister, board president, or treasurer.
3. Submit the form and reimbursement support (invoices, receipts, etc.) to Cathy in the office.
4. Cathy will submit the approved invoice for payment to our accountant and file the request and support with our other invoices.

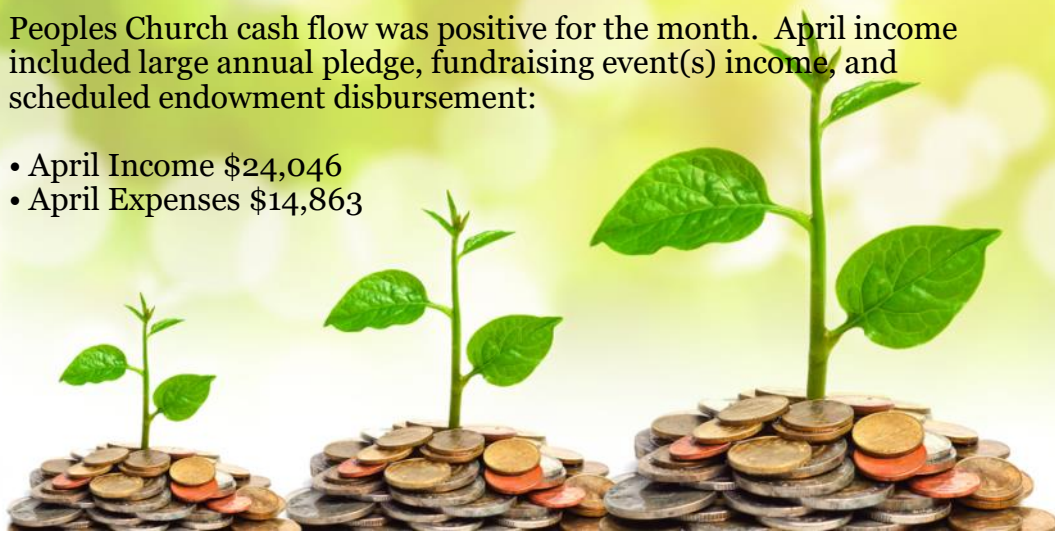
This process is in place to ensure that we have the support for any payments in our records and is part of our record retention policy. Thank you for your compliance.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Finance Committee met on 5/10/18 to review financial reports and discuss report for Annual Meeting.

Peoples Church cash flow was positive for the month. April income included large annual pledge, fundraising event(s) income, and scheduled endowment disbursement:

- April Income \$24,046
- April Expenses \$14,863



Cathy's COLUMN



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's really real. The title "President of the Board of Peoples Church UU" is now mine.

*What the hey?!?*

I find I'm alternating between energized excitement ("Wow! I get to be part of really moving Peoples forward!") and dismay ("What makes me think I've got what it takes to do a good job here?").

I've finally realized I'm perfect for this or any leadership position at Peoples, because:

- I'm excited and energized
- I'm dismayed
- I'm doing it anyway

In other words, I'm doing exactly what every team chairperson in the history of our church has probably done: acknowledged they may not know exactly what they're doing, but choosing to do it anyway because they're committed to Peoples.

This is a not-so-subtle way of letting everyone know that "Oh, I don't know enough to take that leadership role" is not gonna cut any ice with me. We all get to step up into leadership positions, no matter how little we may feel we know about what that entails, because:

- Peoples is worth it
- We can be confident we're going to have a whole bunch of excellent company in those feelings

And my definition of "leadership role" is pretty darn flexible. Leadership is not just being a member of the Board. In my view, a leader at Peoples is anyone who:

- does more than just go through the motions (think of church Operations Manager Cathy Fischer, who creates not just informative Voices, but beautiful ones)
- finds a way to contribute their skills to Peoples, despite the crazy busy-ness of their lives (think of Arianne Waseen, Abram Doval, and Megan and Tim Jones, parents working around kids' needs to practice so they can provide delightful special music at services)
- agrees to join a team for the first time (think of new-ish member Lu Wilcox joining the Nominating Committee)
- sees an opportunity to introduce more people to Peoples and works to make it happen (think of Jude Johnson spearheading the effort to bring The Vagina Monologues here)
- speaks up for herself with a comment, question, or concern (think of new member Florencia Lynch) mentioning to me at a service how she likes to slowly settle in to a new situation, at her own pace, and how she appreciates not feeling "pressured" into trying new activities before they're a good fit for her
- supports Peoples activities, even if she doesn't often participate in them (think of Linda Levy being one of the planners for Peoples' participation in Cedar Rapids PrideFest, even though she's not a member of the LGBTQ community)
- finds a way to participate as a member of Peoples outside Sunday services (think of newer members Sarah Hermann and Kate Martinek choosing to become HomeChurch facilitators)

See? There are a ton of leaders at Peoples, and equally many ways to step up into some form of leadership in this beloved community. So don't do yourself – or Peoples – the disservice of saying, "Oh, I'm not cut out to be a leader." Because you so are.

Life is good.





# embrace THE MISSION.

## **Peoples Church Stewardship Drive for 2019**

July 1 will mark the beginning of our stewardship drive for 2019 entitled “Embrace the Mission”. This will be our shared opportunity to do exactly as the title says by sharing in the financial support of the recently adopted Peoples Church mission statement.

Our shared goal this year is to raise \$160,000 in pledges, which represents a 7% or \$10,400 increase from our 2018 pledges. The good news here is two-fold. First, when successful, we will completely eliminate the use of Unrestricted Fund dollars for our general operating budget, preserving them for future needs. Second, we have demonstrated that we can do this! If you look at the past two years we have increased our pledging on average at a rate of \$10,600/year.

As in the past two years there will be a “No Hassle” portion of the campaign (Jul 1 – Aug 15) where you can quickly and easily complete the entire pledging process via US mail, email, or at a staffed pledge table on Sundays. This will be followed by a “conventional” pledge campaign (Aug 15 – Sept 30)

where you will be contacted, if you have not yet pledged or responded.

Unlike the past two years we are not asking that every individual increase their pledges by a specific percentage or dollar amount. Rather, we would ask that you thoughtfully consider the overall 7% increase goal for the congregation, what this continued success would mean to Peoples Church, and what Peoples Church means to you or your family.

In addition, this year there is an exciting pledge matching program. If you were a member and did not pledge to Peoples Church for 2018 for any reason, and you now pledge for 2019, your pledge will be matched up to \$50/pledge unit.

The time to step forward and show your support for Peoples Church is coming soon. Won't you please join us in taking this important financial step to “Embrace the Mission?”

## **Stewardship Committee**

Bob Butikofer | Charlie Cizio | Bryan Davis | Sue Davis | Ann Gruber | Judy Price | Rev. Rebecca Hinds

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

"INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE."

~ REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

## **Juneteenth Volunteer Meeting**

**Sunday, June 3 | 12:15pm**

If you want to volunteer at our table for the Juneteenth celebration, please attend this meeting to learn more. Two hour shifts from 10:30—4:30pm are needed. Contact [Marcia.swift@gmail.com](mailto:Marcia.swift@gmail.com) to volunteer.

## **Juneteenth Celebration**

**Saturday, June 16**

PCUU will be participating in the Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 16. As we learned from reading Reverend Dyson's book, *Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America* our purpose at this event will be to share in celebration, to see, to listen, to ask in respectful curiosity, and to honor. We can also eat, enjoy entertainment and meet new people.

## **UU Allies for Racial Equity**

UU Allies for Racial Equity is a Facebook discussion group for UUs who identify as white and are working on racial justice issues and questions. It is a good place to seek information and discuss how we can become more effective allies.

## **Third Quarter Book Selection**

Our third quarter book is *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy* by Ta - Nehisi Coates. Toni Morrison says about this book; "I've been wondering who might fill the intellectual void that plagued me after James Baldwin died. Clearly it is Ta-Nehisi Coates." The book features Coates's iconic essays from *The Atlantic*, including, "Fear of a Black President," "The Case for Reparations," and "the Black Family in the Age of Mass Incarceration."

Four copies of the book are available from the public library. The library also has the book available for loan in all electronic formats. The book can be purchased electronically for around \$14.

In lieu of reading the whole book participants can read one or more of Coates's essays published in *The Atlantic* during the last seven years. We will be planning at least two group discussions on this book/essays during the months of July, August, and September.

## **Offeratory**

The offertory for the First Sunday Plate Collection on June 3 will go to the ACLU of Iowa.





## Quire Concert: Eastern Iowa's GLBT Chorus

This concert will feature the Iowa premiere of Bayard Rustin: The Man Behind the Dream, a choral work by Cincinnati composer Steve Milloy, honoring the life of civil rights leader, Bayard Rustin through story and song. Rustin, an openly gay black man and member of the Quaker faith, is best remembered as one of the key organizers of the 1963 March on Washington. He was a friend and mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., introduced nonviolent protest techniques to the American civil rights movement, and persevered through harassment, arrest, imprisonment and physical aggression, largely in response to his refusal to be closeted and his drive to speak out wherever he saw injustice.



## Saturday Summer Social

Saturday, June 9 | 7pm | Coralville Center for the Performing Arts | 1301 Fifth Street, Coralville

## Farmer's Market

**free fruits & veggies**

Passes can be picked up on Friday, June 1st, at the Heritage Agency on Aging. The agency is located at 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. Southwest.

Or the Olivet Mission will have passes at their offices from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. June 5 through June 9. The Olivet Mission is located at 230 10th Street Northwest.

To qualify:  
60 years or older with  
an annual income less  
than \$21,000.

### Farmer's Market Dates

**May 26 | June 2 | June 16**

**July 7 August 4 | August 18**

**September 11**







### **Feed Iowa First Fundraiser**

**Sunday, June 3**

Thanks to everyone who bought pie, jam or a plant last month. We raised \$135.25. Our church rhubarb and other plants will help provide fresh fruits and vegetables to Linn County residents who use food pantries to supplement their needs. If you still wish to contribute see Tim Merfeld or Sue Davis to add your check made out to Feed Iowa First, to the card and check being sent next Sunday.

### **Van Vechten Guild Meeting**

**Monday, June 11 | Noon | Andre Room**

This is our last meeting for the year and it will be our annual potluck luncheon. Please bring a tasty dish to share and an idea for next year's programs. All are welcome! To all members and friends: have a great summer if you are unable to join us on the 11th.

### **UUA General Assembly**

**June 20—24 | Kansas City, MO**

During this annual conference, the UUA holds the annual business meeting of the denomination. General Assemblies make overall policy for carrying out the purposes of the Association and directly control its affairs. Voting at each regular and special General Assembly is by accredited delegates from certified member congregations, certified associate member organizations, and trustees. As a certified member congregation, Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist will have delegates attending this year to vote on the policies of the denomination. To ensure our delegates truly represent our congregation, we urge you to review the annual agenda and provide any feedback you have to Rev. Rebecca prior to the General Assembly. In addition, please follow the weekly eBlast communications for additional information. The agenda can be found through the following link:

<https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/finalagenda18.pdf>.

### **Mission in Action Retreat**

**Saturday, June 9 | 10—2pm | Andre Room**

At this congregation-wide event, we'll continue to examine how our new Mission will shape our church's future. Lunch and childcare will be provided. RSVP by June 6 to 362-9827 or [office@peoplesuu.org](mailto:office@peoplesuu.org) with the number of attendees and any dietary restrictions. Bring your ideas about how each of us will lead compassionate lives through spiritual growth and just action at Peoples Church.

### **CUUPS Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, June 11 | 6:30pm | Ely Room**

If you are a member or are interested in being a member, please attend this meeting to vote on the new leadership structure for our Cedar Rapids Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans.

- Local/ National CUUPS Administrator - Handles public outreach, fundraising, and local/national membership
- Church Connections Coordinator - Handles connections to Peoples Church committees and church newsletter
- Ritual Celebrations Coordinator - Organizes and coordinates rituals (esbats and sabats)
- Classes Coordinator - Organizes and coordinates monthly classes and workshops

We will vote on these positions and on the individuals wanting to fill them. At this time, we have one individual nominated for each of the positions. Other nominees are welcome. If you are interested in nominating someone or being nominated for any of these positions, please send an email to [CR\\_CUUPS@yahoo.com](mailto:CR_CUUPS@yahoo.com) prior to Monday, June 11 to be included on the ballot.

### **June Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 27 | 6:15 PM | Ely Room**

The Board of Trustees meets every month to conduct the business of the church. Peoples people are always welcome to observe and learn about the topics at hand.



# June

Date	Time	Event
	9:30 – 10:30am	Social Justice Book Discussion
3-Jun	11am – 12pm	Worship
	12:15pm	Juneteenth Volunteer Meeting
6-Jun	6 – 7pm	Membership Committee
	10am – 2pm	Mission Retreat
9-Jun	7 – 9pm	The Quire Concert - Second Week
		Summer Social
10-Jun	11am – 12pm	Worship
11-Jun	12 – 2pm	Van Vechten Guild
12-Jun	7 – 8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group
	All day	Father's Day
17-Jun	11am – 12pm	Worship
	12:15 – 1:30pm	Worship Associate Meeting
20-Jun	All day	General Assembly
	All day	General Assembly
21-Jun	6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Litha Ritual
	7 – 8pm	Finance Committee Meeting
22-Jun	All day	General Assembly
23-Jun	All day	General Assembly
24-Jun	All day	General Assembly
	11am – 12pm	Worship
26-Jun	2:30-3:30pm	Stewardship Meeting
27-Jun	6:15 – 8:15pm	PCUU Board Meeting
	6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Full Moon
29-Jun	7pm	Movie Ely Room

June						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## FATHER'S DAY

June 17 | 2018



# the Voice



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



PEOPLES  
CHURCH

4980 GORDON AVE. NW  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52405