

JANUARY 2017



PEOPLES CHURCH

the Voice

the Voice

JANUARY 2017

FORUM:

Post-Election America

January 22. 10:00 am Adult Forum: *Post-Election in America*. Join us in the Ely Room for a space to discuss the election, your fears, hopes, and visions for the future of our country.



Worship - 11 am.

RE will resume January 8, and will gather in the Sanctuary

Coffee Hour is in the Ely Room following worship.

It's an UNdecorating party!

Saturday, January 7
2-4 pm.

The holidays have come and gone, and now it's time to put away the festive decorations. Come help take things down and pack them away for another year. We'll have great Peoples people and treats, so it'll be fun. Promise!

ON SUNDAYS

JANUARY 1. *Cap'n Crunch and Saturday Mornings.* In this day and age, with all its hate, greed, environmental and race problems, and Trump, what we need now is a big bowl of Cap'n Crunch and some Saturday morning cartoons! Service leader Lance Maynard will discuss these thoughts and others.

JANUARY 8. *Why Are We Here?* Beginning early in 2017 Peoples Church will be renewing our mission. Rev. Rebecca will lead us in a service about mission. We will start thinking about who we are, why we are, and what we are doing at Peoples Church. **PlateShare collection to benefit Abbe Center for Community Health.** *Music by Deb Hunnemuller and Pete Kies.*

JANUARY 15. *Happy Birthday Dr. King!* This Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend Rev. Rebecca will lead us in a service dedicated to Dr. King and the Poor Peoples Campaign. *Music by the Peoples Choir.*

JANUARY 22.

10:00 am Adult Forum: *Post-Election in America.*

11:00 am Worship: *Imagination Ball* It's Inauguration Weekend in America. What if it were also *Imagination Weekend*? Come to church dressed as your favorite historical or contemporary liberation, Civil Rights, or social justice hero/ine, sing protest music with us, and get ready to engage your creativity and imagination! Led by Rev. Rebecca. *Music by Scott Mansfield.*

JANUARY 29. TBD Bryan Davis will lead the worship service. *Music by Johnny Lipford.*



Light a Candle labyrinth walk

Friday, January 20, Unity Center

This ecumenical program will explore ways we each can "light one candle" of activism to bring light and love as we enter a new governmental era, virtual or physical walking for illumination on ways we can be positive forces each day to improve our corner of the world. Details of time, location and fee to come in an upcoming eWeekly. Volunteers will be needed to help with smooth running of the program, too. Contact [Marion Patterson](#) with questions or to volunteer: 362-1470.



Social Witness Event

JANUARY 15, 2017 – 2 PM
Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

In part to address what happened to Jerime Mitchell, the primary focus of this gathering will be on broad systemic issues of more equitable policing practices and policies for Cedar Rapids and perhaps the state.

minister's moment

CHURCH STAFF

Developmental Minister

(319) 362-9827(w) (319)
200-7650 (h)

Tuesday - Thursday: 10-3
or by appointment

Church Office

(319) 362-9827

Office hours: 10-3,
Tuesday-Friday

Jamie Zaruba,

Director of

Religious Education

(319) 362-9827(w)
(319) 210-4239 (h)

Deborah Maynard

Childcare Manager

Childcare Providers:

Deneka Harris & Rachel Nading

Custodians

Jerry Morris & Bob Osborne

PEOPLES CHURCH

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

4980 Gordon Avenue
Cedar Rapids IA 52405

FIND US ONLINE:

www.peoplesuu.org

[Peoples Facebook page](#)

[Members & Friends](#)

[Facebook: PCUU](#)

[Peoples UU RE Facebook](#)

Newsletter Submissions:

voiceditor@peoplesuu.org



Rev. Rebecca's column will appear after she's returned safely from holiday travel adventures in the land of snow and ice. Hear her Yule sermon (and others) on the [Peoples web page](#) if you weren't able to attend. Happy New Year to everyone, and peace be with us.

Coffee with the Minister

Thursday, January 19, 3:30-5:30 pm
Brewed Awakenings | 1271 1st Ave SE.

After four months of wonderful weekly coffee gatherings in the community, I am going to continue this practice **once a month on the third Thursday** at Brewed Awakenings. Please join me if you can.

And remember I have office hours every week Tues. Wed. and Thurs. from 10am-3pm and by appointment. I can meet with folks at church or anywhere that is convenient for you: a coffee shop or the library for example. Just let me know when and where and we can make an appointment!

UUU 101:

A short course for new members – and others

Peoples Church New Member Class

7 pm. Wednesday evenings through February (1, 8, 15, and 22), Ely Room.

Rev. Rebecca will offer an Adult Education opportunity for all those who are interested in becoming a member of Peoples Church, those who recently became members but never made it to a new member class, and even those long time members interested in brushing up on UU theology, history, and practice. 4 sessions total. Contact [Rev. Rebecca](#) or the office.

*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.*



peoples news



*Christmas Eve service,
congregational meeting & RE
production photos by
Marion Patterson*

New Year, New Ideas, New Goals & New Staff!

2016 has been a year of reflection and transition for Peoples people. We will continue to reflect on what Peoples needs to become in the coming years of our Developmental Ministry. And our transition, which began with hiring Rev. Rebecca, will continue as we prepare to hire an Operations Coordinator.

You might ask, what's an Operations Coordinator? Or you might wonder why we aren't hiring another Office Administrator. Two reasons, primarily.

First, one of our developmental goals is to improve communication. One step in that process is to create a central hub that coordinates all the communication channels used by Peoples Church. It makes sense to locate that central hub in a staff position to improve accountability and consistency. We will still rely on volunteers to help with many communication tasks, too.

Second, the board and Rev. Rebecca have identified a need for a central hub to monitor our facilities and coordinate maintenance activities. It makes sense to locate this function in a staff position for the same reasons as above: accountability and consistency. Again, we will still rely on volunteers to help with maintenance.

At the same time, we still need someone to answer the phone, organize our files, and help our minister, DRE, and board with projects. So, as promised at the beginning of our Developmental Ministry, we're going to try something new. With the blessing of the board, Rev. Rebecca has revised the position description to reflect what our church needs now.

But remember: this is an experiment, and experiments sometimes work imperfectly at first or create unforeseen consequences. That's to be expected, and why we want to let everyone know about this change and why we made it.

We won't really know how this new position will work until we've tried it out for a little while. The board and Rev. Rebecca encourage everyone to pay attention to how things develop with our new staff, and to talk to Rev. Rebecca directly if they have questions or concerns.

We look forward to advertising the position in January and welcoming a new staff person soon. Keep an eye out for more updates.

– Robyn Meissler-Kubaneck, board president



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PEOPLES CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Robyn Miessler-Kubanek
(319) 594-3458

Treasurer

Gary McGraw
373-9449

Scott Gay

Geoff Johnson

Kathy Juba

Scott Mansfield

Kathleen Watson

The Board of Trustees
meets on the 3rd
Wednesday.

Board meeting
minutes are now
available
in two ways:

ONLINE

Archived minutes are
available at
www.peoplesuu.org.

PRINT

Copies are available
on an Ely Room table
in a folder marked
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes.



Let's go on a Mission!

We're looking for a few dedicated people to join the team that will help bring our church's new mission to life. We learned in November at the Developmental Ministry startup events that our congregation needs to decide:

"What is our church's reason for being?"

Our work at the startup events showed us our first priority to begin creating a stronger congregation is to create our church's mission. Creating our church mission will require developing a process to gather ideas from everyone in the congregation. And developing a process will require a small team of organizers who can:

Requirements include:

1. Plan and execute focused activities.
2. Interview, gather feedback, and build consensus within small groups.
3. Analyze feedback and develop actionable next step strategies.

To learn more about joining this important team that will help shape our Mission for Peoples, please contact Rev. Rebecca (minister@peoplesuu.org) or Scott Gay (barb-scot@imonmail.com) by January 15 to discuss the skills and ideas you can bring to the table.



Congregational Meeting Summary

December 4, 2016

- **Rev. Rebecca** reported the Developmental Ministry startup events in November showed us how to begin work on our developmental goals. We must start by **articulating the current mission of our church**, and everyone in the congregation must contribute to this effort. She and the board will begin working on this right away.
- The **finance committee presented the budget for 2017**, which the congregation **approved unanimously**. The new budget includes a deficit, but increased pledging from everyone in the congregation reduced the projected shortfall significantly.
- **Kathy Juba** presented information about the **Good Neighbors group** and asked for volunteers to sign up. This group helps build our church community by assisting people with errands, tasks, and other needs on an occasional basis.
- The **congregation voted on mental health** as our social justice focus area for 2017. This vote helps our congregation articulate our values both in educational activities in the church as well as service activities in the wider community.
- **DRE Jamie Zaruba** reported that youth in our Coming of Age group will take a **trip to Boston in 2017** as part of learning about Unitarian Universalism. He invited everyone to participate in upcoming fundraising events to help the youth and chaperones finance this exciting event.
- Robyn Miessler-Kubanek asked everyone to consider joining a new **hospitality planning team**. This team would evaluate our community goals and create a strategy to make Peoples Church a warm and welcoming environment for visitors

peoples learning



RE notes



Photos from the RE
Players winter play, by
Marion Patterson

Good day, Peoples Church members and friends!

This upcoming year, 2017, we will know that Rev. Rebecca Hinds jumped in head first in this great church full of ideas with a desire to help us make this church even more awesome. It is an exciting time for Peoples Church. This time of transition also has forwarded us even more exciting opportunities for our Religious Education Department!

Now, more than ever, **we need the commitment of the congregation** to actively support our young people in their faith development. It takes several people each year to support our Wednesday night and Sunday morning programs! Will you be one of those people?

RE Class Leader Recruitment Begins on January 1 before and after our worship service. Let's show our new Developmental Minister that our young people will be in good hands as she continues her young ministry with us!

Being a RE Teacher Means Learning at Least as Much as You Teach. It is *NOT* too early to start thinking about working with our UU children in Religious Education classes for the remainder of this year and continuing next year. Being a RE teacher means taking a curriculum and making it yours, so that in turn you can make it belong to the children you are exploring with.

Working with our children on Sundays allows you to learn from them and with them. Whether your subject matter is something you just learned or something you are rather expert at, you have the opportunity to see it in a new way as you see through the eyes of our children. Our classroom teachers must have been involved in the PCUU Religious Education program for one school year to be a lead teacher, but assistant teaching roles do not require this experience.

What Is the Time Commitment of a RE Class Teacher?

Our goal for our Teachers is that teaching will be shared by teams. Within the team, members will divide up and share the responsibilities according to each member's ability to participate. We ask that teachers volunteer for a minimum of two Sundays in a month so that relationships are built with class members.

What Is the Role /Expectations of a RE Class Assistant?

The primary role of an RE class assistant is to make it possible for the Class Leader to teach. This is an active position that requires initiative. We expect our assistants to check in with the teachers and determine how they can be most helpful each time they are in class. The assistants may be called upon to lead small groups, to redirect children in their behavior, to prepare materials, or to help little ones with projects.



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RE notes

RE COUNCIL

Co-Chairs:

Deb Maynard & Amber
Todd

Arianne Waseen

Jennifer Brade

Tristan Maynard

Sherri Martin

Danny Booth

Lance Maynard

Jamie Ray Záruba, DRE



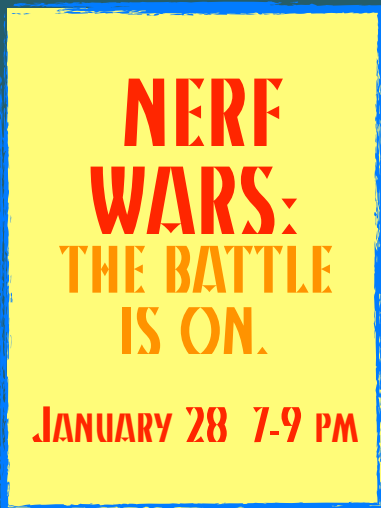
WE HAD AN AWESOME DECEMBER in the RE Department, from the Gingerbread House and Fire & Ice Parade, to the Pageant and Peoples Christmas Eve Service.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **January 11 & 25: *Spirit of Life* Religious Education for Adults, 7-8:30 pm.**
Spirit of Life workshops offer participants space, time, and community to explore their Unitarian Universalist spirituality. Each focuses on a different aspect of the spiritual life, framed by the lyrics of Carolyn McDade's song, "Spirit of Life." Like the song, the workshops are designed to be welcoming to Unitarian Universalists of many spiritual and theological persuasions. Participants are invited to claim an inclusive definition of spirituality and recognize the spiritual aspects of their lives. Presented by CUUPs.
- ◆ **January 8: *RE Council Meeting*, 12:30 pm, High School Room**
- ◆ **January 11 & 25: *Youth Activity Night* 6-9 pm**
Let's all get together for some board games, cards, table tennis, and socializing with some of our youth here at Peoples. Drinks and snacks provided, so see you all there.
- ◆ **January 21: *Hawaiian Luau*** Fundraiser for Boston RE Trip
5:30 - 9 pm. Food, drinks, activities, dancing and karaoke. \$20 Adults, \$10 Children ages 7-18. Free for ages 6 and under.
- ◆ **January 28: *Nerf Wars: The Battle is on!***
Join us at People's Church from 7-9 for this Saturday night Nerf Event! Teams will be formed and we count the number of hits to form a winning team. Fun, active, friendly – youth and adults welcome. **\$10 per entry** (Nerf guns are provided but may bring own nerf weapon).
- ◆ **February 18: *Mardi Gras Party*** for Boston RE Trip
- ◆ **March 4: *Gourmet Dinner*** for Boston RE Trip.



RE Classes should gather
in our classrooms by 10:55
am on Sunday mornings
unless notified of a
change.



Fire & Ice Parade, by Jennifer Remington Brade

peoples learning



Adult Religious Education

COME EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE while also strengthening ties with other Peoples people. We're hosting a series of workshops for adult faith development called **Lifespan** on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month through May 2017**. The workshops will be facilitated by **Amber Todd and Danny Booth** and begin at **7:00 PM in the Ely Room** across from the Sanctuary. [Click here](#) to learn about the curricula, or read on to learn more.

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January 11: *Come To Us: Closing and Continuing On*

Spirit in Practice (January - May)

Developed in response to many Unitarian Universalist adults' desire to engage in life-giving spiritual practices, the ten workshops of ***Spirit in Practice*** provide avenues for deepening spirituality and affirming spiritual growth in the congregation. Participants are invited to reflect, share, and grow together, exploring ways to nurture their connections with the sacred in everyday life. ***Spirit in Practice*** weaves Unitarian Universalist values, principles, and sources with four "strands:" spiritual development, ethical development, and Unitarian Universalist identity development, and faith development.

January 25: *Toward a Rich and Meaningful Unitarian Universalist Spirituality*

Spiritually Speaking

January: a speaker from the Zen Center

7 pm. Monday, January 23 (fourth Monday of the month)

This month, a representative from the Zen Center will be coming to speak on their faith and community. Childcare is available. Please come to welcome our guest. For details please contact Amber Todd, 319 775-0619. Next month, the Rabbi from Temple Judah will speak. Mark your calendars!

peoples together



The *Voice* and the *eWeekly* are YOUR best tools to share news and events with the wider Peoples Community!

To submit information to the *Voice* or *eWeekly*: use the e-FORM [here](#)

Please call the *office* at 362-3279 if you have questions.

The deadline for submissions to be included in the January *Voice* is *Saturday, January 24*.

eWeekly submissions are due *each Wednesday noon* for Thursday publication.



Groups at-a-glance

ARCHIVE & HISTORY COMMITTEE: Monday, January 9 at 9:30 am, Andre Room. Join us or contact [Clarice Krippner](#) for details.

BRIDGE: Friday, January 19, 7 pm at Village Ridge in Marion. New players welcome! Contact Rose Gabe at 396-5202 for details.

CUUPs ACTIVITIES (Childcare available) Contact [Deborah Maynard](#) for details.

FAITH EXPLORERS January 14 & 28, 9:30 am in the Ely Room

We will resume our normal schedule in January 2017 and meet on 2nd and 4th Saturdays (01/14 and 01/28). We are almost finished with our current book and will have a new title to explore. Contact [Nancy Kotalik](#) with questions.

GOOD NEIGHBORS: Need a hand around the house or for an errand? Call a Good Neighbor! In January, contact [Kris Davis](#), 294-5010.

PARAMINISTERS offer comfort, a kind ear, a strong shoulder. Contact [Kathy Juba](#), 378-3116.

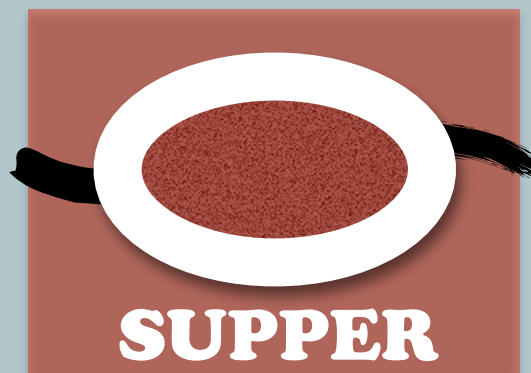
PEOPLES ORGANIC HOMEMADE JAM: January 4, 6:30-8:30 pm. Ely Room.

Mark your calendars for the first Wednesday night of every month. An informal night for musicians and singers who like to make music – together. A few rhythm instruments will be on hand for volunteer percussionists. Children are welcome. Please bring a song and a snack to share. Questions? Contact [Kris Davis](#), 294-5010.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Please continue your holiday donations to the **Linn County Food Bank**. The box for your donations is in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. Also bring gloves, hats, scarves, blankets, etc for the tree in the Sanctuary. These items will be taken to homeless shelters after the holidays. We are also taking personal item donations for **Community Health Free Clinic**.

VAN VECHTEN GUILD: No Guild this month - see you in February! Contact [Ann Woodward](#), 389-3025, or [Sue Davis](#), 981-4494 with questions.

Soup(er)



6 pm Friday, February 10, 2017
Andre Room

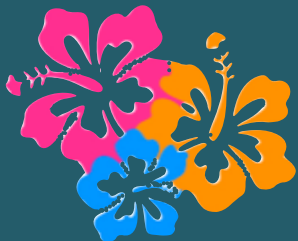
LONG COLD NIGHTS just beg for a bowl of hearty soup and some good conversation. Please join hosts **Sheryl Ochs** and **Jill Jones** on several Friday evenings this winter! Along with a variety of soups, you'll be served a salad, bread and yummy dessert.

The first features an Indian theme. **Nancy York** and **Tom Hess** will tell us about their two trips to India, including attendance at an Indian wedding. Watch for future themed suppers!

peoples calendar



100 Grannies protest Dakota Access Pipeline in Iowa City, including Bev Philpott. Photo by Andy Davis/Iowa City Press-Citizen.



Hawaiian
Luau
January 21,
5:30-7 pm

- 1 Sunday, 9:15 **OWL**
- 1 Sunday, 10 - 10:45 **Choir Practice**
- 1 Sunday, 11 am **Worship/RE**
- 2 Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 **WICCA 101**
- 4 Wednesday, 7 pm **First Wednesday Book Club**, CR Public Library
- 4 Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30 **Peoples Organic Homemade Jam**
- 7 Saturday, 2-4 pm. **Un-decorating Party**
- 8 Sunday, 9:15 am **OWL classes**
- 8 Sunday, 10 - 10:45 **Choir Practice**
- 8 Sunday, 11 am. **RE Classes resume**
- 8 Sunday, 11 am **Worship/RE**
- 8 Sunday, 12:30 pm **RE Council Meeting**
- 9 Monday, 9:30 - 11 am **Archives & History**
- 9 Monday, 12 - 1:30 pm **NO Van Vechten Guild** this month
- 9 Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm **CUUPs meeting**
- 11 Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm. **Spirit of Life Adult Ed class**
- 11 Wednesday, 6-9 pm **Youth Activity Night**
- 14 Saturday, 9:30 - 11 am **Faith Explorers**
- 15 Sunday, 9:15 am **OWL classes**
- 15 Sunday, 10 - 10:45 am **Choir Practice**
- 15 Sunday, 11 am **Worship/RE**
- 15 Sunday, 2-4 pm **CUUPS**
- 16 Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm **CUUPs monthly meeting**
- 18 Wednesday, 6 pm **Board meeting**
- 19 Thursday, 3:30-5:30 pm, **Community Coffee Ministry** with Rev. Rebecca, Brewed Awakenings
- 21 Saturday, 5:30 - 9 pm **Hawaiian Luau Dinner & Party**
- 22 Sunday, 9:15 am **OWL classes**
- 22 Sunday, 11 am. **RE Classes**
- 23 Monday, 7-9 pm **Spiritually Speaking**: rep from CR Zen Center
- 25 Wednesday, 6-9 pm **Youth Activity Night**
- 25 Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm **Spirit of Life Adult Ed**
- 28 Saturday, 9:30 - 11 am **Faith Explorers**
- 28 Saturday, 7-9 pm **Nerf Wars: The Battle Is On!**
- 29 Sunday, 9:15 am **OWL classes**
- 29 Sunday, 9:30 - 11:30 **Mystery Friends Kickoff**
- 29 Sunday, 11 am **Worship/RE classes**

All events are at Peoples Church unless otherwise noted.