



# Minister's Moment

“The earth is a forgiveness school,” Anne Lamott says. It is that simple and it is completely terrifying. We are here to learn how to forgive. Across our lifetime we are given lesson after lesson, day after day. We are hurt and disappointed over and over again. We get angry and jealous time after time. Countless moments bring us to our knees and, if we are paying attention, quietly offer us another chance to try forgiveness. So why is it so hard?

Forgiveness is one of the most difficult of all spiritual practices. Just thinking about it this month has caused me to tense up inside and wish desperately that the theme for October was something easier like Friendship or Happiness. It is not pleasant to think about all of the times I have been hurt or wronged and it feels even worse to think about all of the times I have hurt or wronged another. I keep these memories and feelings locked down, out of reach and would really prefer to keep it that way.



So I need your help. This month at Peoples Church as we bravely face forgiveness, I need to know you are in it with me. Forgiveness is real and requires us to be really vulnerable. Please come along with me as we spend the month exploring how to prepare our hearts for forgiveness, the process of forgiving, the freedom it offers, and the concept of forgiveness in community.

I have a lot to learn about forgiveness. We all do. I wish I could say it was an easy, straightforward process, but in the forgiveness school there is no orientation or training manual, no set curriculum or specific assignments, and there is no graduation. But by the grace of God we can never flunk out. We are always already held in love, our hearts capable of softening, and our lives rich with opportunities to forgive and begin again.

After all, the earth is a forgiveness school.

In Peace,

*Rev. Rebecca Hinds*



# Sunday Morning Worship

## OCTOBER 1

### **Preparing to Forgive**

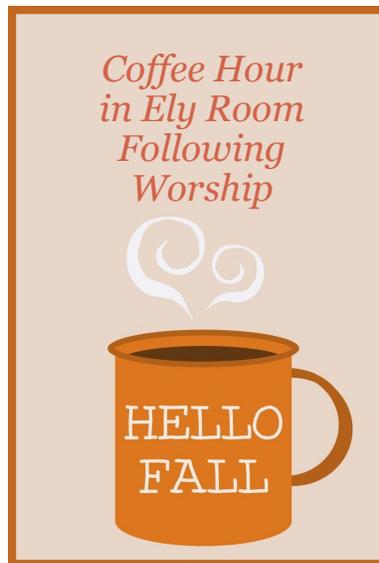
What do we need to learn about ourselves and our own ego before we can begin to forgive? What spiritual disciplines can help us prepare? We will start this month on Forgiveness with the inner work of self-awareness and self-reflection. Service led by Rev. Rebecca and music by Scott Mansfield.



## OCTOBER 8

### **The Art of Forgiveness**

Desmond Tutu believes that forgiveness is always possible. In this service we will learn about Tutu's Fourfold Path for Healing and his work on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa as a model we can use to practice forgiveness in our everyday lives. Service by Rev. Rebecca and music by Arianne Waseen and Abram Doval.



## OCTOBER 15

Service by Deb Maynard and music by Peoples Choir.

## OCTOBER 22

### **Dismantling White Supremacy Teach In Part 2**

Do we really have to talk about race during worship? Yes. For the oppressed, there is no such thing as separating social justice and spirituality. Combating overt white supremacy and white supremacy culture is a theological endeavor for our faith--from the top of the UUA, to each individual in every congregation and community. This is Part 2 of a conversation on race we started last May. Service led by Rev. Rebecca and music by Joan Jacob.

## OCTOBER 29

### **Forgiveness in Community**

We have all been both unconditionally loved and deeply hurt in community. Whether it was at Peoples Church or somewhere else, at some point we all get wounded. But a strong faith community is made up of good forgivers. So come engage with forgiveness at a community level as we let go of past hurts and prepare to move forward. Service by Rev. Rebecca and music by Tara Bauer.



## WISE WORDS

As summer ends and autumn begins, we see changes all around us in the world. Students return to school and enter new classes. The green life of the trees transitions to the gorgeous colors of dormancy. Stadiums that were quiet for months come to life with cheers for players, cheerleaders and bands. The warm summer evenings give way to cooler evenings where sitting outside is welcome.

Just as seasons evolve and life changes, so do congregations and churches.

Change is an inevitable part of the ebbs and flows of a congregation! Yet change is one of those things in life that can cause discomfort. As a new RE year begins with a new Acting DRE, some change in the program is going to occur. Some will view the change as troublesome. Others will view the change as no big deal. While others will welcome the changes that occur. The important thing for all of us to remember—no decision is made without lots of thought, processing and conversation. The decisions are made with the children of the congregation in mind and what is best for them. They are part of the current church and are key to the future of the church. They must be at the forefront of all that is done in children's Religious Education.

German-born spiritual author Eckhart Tolle said, "Some changes look negative on the surface but you will soon realize that space is being created in your life for something new to emerge."

So, look forward to the coming months and years with expectancy and hope, while remaining grateful for our foundation.

In faith,

*David Wise*

## RECAP

### EVENTS

#### **K-1st and 2nd-3rd Grade O.W.L. Parent/Child Orientation Wednesday, October 4th, 5:00-8:00pm, Andre Room**

Parents of kids in Kindergarten through third grades are asked to attend the parent/child orientation with this kids on Wednesday, October 4 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Andre Room. If you have not gotten an email with the details, please contact David Wise, DRE or Deborah Maynard, OWL Facilitator.

### PARTICIPATE!

- The nursery is taking shape. New flooring, new lights, new paint and overall a new appearance! Thanks for your patience as we have undertaken this project to revitalize an important part of the church building! If you would like to help paint please contact David at [dre@peoplesuu.org](mailto:dre@peoplesuu.org).
- Volunteers are still needed to help with the RE classes! You can help teach, help the kids stay on focus, assist with crafts or snacks! Contact me at [dre@peoplesuu.org](mailto:dre@peoplesuu.org) for more info or to put your name on the list!
- Do you have a talent or knowledge about an area that would be fun or beneficial for the children in RE to learn about? Let me know and ***we can see how it can fit*** into upcoming RE programming!



DAVID WISE

# Cathy's Column

## WELCOME TO REALM!

Our church is moving to a new kind of church record keeping solution called Realm®. It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in our church. Not only will this improve work life for our ministry staff, it will make it easier for our church family to connect with each other, keep up with what's going on, and grow as a connected community.

## LET'S CONNECT!

Stay connected to our church wherever you go by downloading the free Connect—Our Church Community app for iPhone and Android devices. Use it to communicate with your groups, RSVP to events, update profile information, and more. It makes it easier for us to connect throughout the week and know what's happening.

- News—Keeps everyone up-to-date with the latest posts, photos, and events for your group and for your church as a whole.
- Posts—Post messages to your group and comment on posts by others in your group.
- Photos—Capture your moments together and share them with your group.
- Events—See event details, submit your RSVP, and sign up to bring something.
- Files—Access shared group files.
- Messages—Send your entire group, or select individuals, a message that starts a conversation.
- Participants—see names and basic profile details for the people in your church or group, based on their privacy preferences.
- Notification Settings—Manage your preferences for group notifications and emails.

## UPDATE YOUR PROFILE!

Everyone in our church gets a unique profile. Your profile contains everything you want people in our church to know about you. Each person can decide what data you want to hide online by setting your privacy preferences. By keeping your information current, you are helping our staff, group leaders, and our church community. Your profile includes:

- Contact Information (name, address, email, phone)
- Photo
- Family Members
- Personal information (marital status, birthday but age nor year will be displayed)
- Connected Social Media accounts

Next week look for an email with an invitation to join Realm. Please take some time to follow the link in that invitation to sign up and join Realm . Make connecting easier by downloading the free Connect—Our Church Community app to your smart device. Once you connect either online or through your smart device, update your information and privacy settings for our online directory.

I look forward to connecting with you!

*Cathy*



# Flower Ministry

Peoples Church would like to invite YOU to donate flowers for Sunday Worship. Flowers can be dedicated to celebrate a special occasion; like your birthday, anniversary, in memory of a loved one, or simply as an offering to the church.

## To Participate:

- Sign up at the table by the name tags
- Email the office@peoplesuu.org to have your dedication included in the Order of Service by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday you are bringing your flower donation
- Place flowers on the front flower stand in the sanctuary
- Take your flowers home or gift them to a friend following service



# Love, of Course

Ever considered an in-depth discussion of love with six other adults?

This will soon take place at Peoples Church. Retired therapist RC Eichacker, has offered to bring back a short course he originated and conducted many times for adults over the last forty years.

Details for church members or guests:

- Six individuals, no couples. He prefers a group of at least two men, four women. A couples group will be offered at a later date.
- There will be four sessions of two hours each.
- Possible times, before or after Sunday services. Or week nights or afternoons if available.
- A short individual interview with him before the first session in Oct. or Nov.
- Fee, \$20, payable to Peoples Church. (Church fund raiser.)
- He guarantees the course or will refund individual fee.



**Questions, concerns or to register: 319-622-3908 or rceye@southslope.net**

# PRESIDENT MESSAGE

## 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

### Office Hours:

Thursday: 10-6

Friday: 10-6

Or by appointment

### Cathy Fischer

Operations  
Coordinator

(319) 362-9827

### Office Hours

Tuesday 8:30-3:30

Wednesday 8:30-2:30

Thursday 8:30-3:30

### Childcare Providers

Tristan Maynard,

Deneka Harris

& Rachael Nading

### Custodians

Jerry Morris  
& Bob Osborne

## MISSION WHEN? MISSION NOW!

From the President, October 2017

It's October already! Can you believe it? The days march on as we continue the work to complete our Mission in time for our congregational meeting in December.

We've got our values, we talked about our vision, and now the Mission Team needs feedback to help them craft the Mission.

Everyone in the congregation should plan to come to an upcoming Mission Event to provide this critical input and feedback. That means Peoples Church needs **YOU** to put the life of the church first on your list on one of these days:

- Sunday, October 8 at 10:00 AM
- Thursday, October 12 at 7:30 PM

Both events will be held in the Ely Room at Peoples Church. You only need to attend one, though you're welcome to come to both.

Our Mission is critical because it's only the first step. We need our Mission to guide us as we work on our Developmental Ministry Goals. We need our Mission to help us become a stronger, more inviting, more engaged faith community. And we want to lay this cornerstone in December with a vote to approve our Mission.

So here's the bottom line: plan to participate in one of the upcoming Mission events. The dates and times are listed above. If neither of those dates work for you, contact the Mission Team at [missionteam@peoplesuu.org](mailto:missionteam@peoplesuu.org) or 319/538-3700 to find out how to give your feedback in other ways.

**Help our church succeed at this first step in our Developmental Ministry.** Come participate in a Mission Event in October.

~ Robyn Miessler-Kubaneck



## OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

**Minister's Office, Sunday, October 22nd @ 12:30 PM**

The Board of Trustees meets every month to conduct the business of the church. In October, we will begin reflecting on our Common Read, continue working on policy, and discuss church leadership. Peoples people are always welcome to observe and learn about the topics at hand.



SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

- Treasurer Gary McGraw reported a small deficit in August due to lower pledge and other income. Our overall balance for the year is still positive in part since we did not pay a Director of Religious Education salary over the summer.
- We approved expenditures for the Nursery Revitalization Project proposed by David Wise, our new acting DRE. This project will address safety in the nursery, as well as freshen up the room and make it more inviting for newcomers and current members alike.
- We began discussing what a policy on policy for Peoples should contain. A policy on policies will explain what situations should be governed by policies, how policies will be structured, and how they will be created, reviewed, and implemented. This

groundwork will aid the board's future work on our governance Developmental Ministry goal when we have our mission.

- We discussed our Board of Trustees common read for this year, *Leading Change in the Congregation* by Gilbert Rendle. Members of the board will read and discuss one chapter per month. Other members are welcome to read along with the board; talk to Rev. Rebecca about how to get a copy of the book.
- Rev. Rebecca reported the Mission Team has two upcoming events where congregants can provide input on the mission: October 8 @ 10:00 AM and October 12 @ 7:30 PM. Both will be in the Ely Room.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Finance Report for August 2017

Finance Committee met on 9/19/17 to review financial reports and discuss continued income diversification plans for Peoples Church.

Peoples Church cash flow for August was negative:

- Income \$12,365
- Expenses \$12, 617



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### President

Robyn Miessler-Kubanek  
(319) 594-3458

### Treasurer

Gary McGraw  
(319) 373-9449

### Board of Trustee Members

Geoff Johnson  
Kathy Juba  
Scott Mansfield  
Mike Meshak  
Kathleen Mavity

BOARD MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
[WWW.PEOPLESUU.ORG](http://WWW.PEOPLESUU.ORG) OR PRINTED AND KEPT IN THE ELY ROOM.



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*We are rich only through what we give, and poor only through what we refuse.*

*– Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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Have you pledged yet for 2018? If yes, thank you for your help with this campaign. If no, please do yourself, Peoples Church and your steward a favor by replying to their telephone calls, texts, or emails promptly. Please turn in your completed pledge form by **October 8<sup>th</sup>** to help Peoples Church UU chart our course for 2018.

As of September 25, 2017, the pledge treasurer has had seventy-five (75) responses from the one hundred twelve (112) households. We are 77% of the way towards our goal of \$166,074.

Your generosity with your time, talents, and money:

- Grows this spiritual community
- Nurtures and educates children
- Strengthens social action and UU denominational presence in the world

The *RENEW OUR MISSION 2018* Campaign Team

Bob Butikofer Charles Cizio Bryan Davis Sue Davis Rev. Rebecca Hinds Judy Price



Based on who we are (our values) and who we want to be (our vision) it is time to decide what we should do (our mission)! Toward that end, the Mission Team has been busy analyzing the values and vision information we have gathered from you all and will continue to gather input from the congregation about mission throughout October. Please join us for one of the following two mission meetings this month:

- Sunday, October 8th at 10am: Mission & Muffins
- Thursday, October 12th at 7:30pm: Mission & Muffins (well, maybe snacks is more like it)

You only need to attend one session and we hope everyone will participate! There will also be an opportunity to contribute your thoughts on mission electronically later this month.

We are getting close to articulating a renewed Peoples Church Mission! This is a very exciting time in the life of our church and we are so glad to be a part of it with you. See you soon!



## Social Justice News

The Social Justice Council has been discussing which issues and actions we wish to recommend to the Congregation for 2018. Our proposals and recommendations will be presented for vote at the Congregational Meeting on 12/3.

The SJC has decided it will be presenting Racism/White Privilege/Supremacy as the social justice issue for our involvement and intervention in 2018. The SJC asks members of the church who wish to do so, to suggest and nominate other social justice issues for 2018. Recommendations can be sent to [marcia.swift@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.swift@gmail.com) or can be made from the floor at the 12/3 meeting.



## Save the Dates

**Mental Health Awareness Event**  
**Thursday, October 5, 6pm, Mercy Medical Center, Hallagen Center**  
October 1-7 is Mental Health Awareness Week. On October 5, the Linn County Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness is holding an event to mark the week. Jerry Foxhaven, Director of the Iowa Department of Social Services is the featured speaker. Iowa is in a state of crisis in terms of the number of mental health practitioners and facilities. The privatization of Medicaid has created many concerns in terms of mental health care availability. This is an opportunity to advocate for improved mental health care in Iowa. All are welcome.



## Social Justice Forum with Tanager Place

**Sunday, October 22, 10am, Ely Room**  
Okpara Rice, CEO of Tanager Place will speak to us about the mental health needs of children and youth in our community. Mr Rice serves on many community Boards and committees and is a strong advocate for youth with mental and behavioral challenges and their families. Mr Rice will explain the many programs of Tanager Place, which is the recipient of our fourth quarter First Sunday Plate Collection. Expressive Arts Therapy is one of their programs and we will learn how our church may be able to participate in this valuable service.



# EVENTS

## **CUUPS Full Moon Ritual**

**Thursday, October 5th, 6:30-8:00pm, Bever Park**

Its the dark half of the year and the veil between our world and the spirit world is thin. The CUUPS group will be holding a Full Moon Ritual on Thursday, October 5 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Bever Park to celebrate the Blood Moon. All are welcome to attend. If it's raining, we will be meeting at Peoples Church.

## **Van Vechten Guild**

**Monday, October 9th, 12:00pm, Andre Room**

Van Vechten Guild will meet noon October 9 at noon. Please bring your own lunch. Dessert and drink provided. New faces are always welcome. Hope to see you there.

## **CUUPS Meeting**

**Monday, October 9th, 6:30-8:30pm, Ely Room**

Are you interested in walking in the First Annual Cedar Rapids Halloween Parade?! If so, attend the CUUPS meeting on Monday, October 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ely Room. We will be making plans for the parade as well as the annual chili cook-off.

## *Harvest Soup Supper*

**Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

**In the Andre Room at Peoples Church**

Another yummy Soup Supper by chef Jill Jones is coming soon! But this time lots of locally sourced produce will be used, much of which will come from the bountiful harvest of Laura Krouse of Abbe Hills CSA.

And have you ever arrived at one of Jill's suppers that didn't have several choices of mouth watering homemade bread? Doesn't this all make you want to run out and buy a ticket or two? If so, tickets at \$10 each will be on sale after church during the first three Sundays in October and also at the door. In addition, you can email Sheryl at [sochs1224@gmail.com](mailto:sochs1224@gmail.com) for tickets or questions.

If desired, bring your own wine or beer. Coffee, tea and water will be available. See you at the supper.

## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Peoples Church Chili Cook-off**

**RE Costume Contest and Haunted Room**

**Sunday, October 29, 2017, 12:30 p.m.**

**Only \$5 per person (children 12 and under free)**

Find your best chili recipes to brew up and submit in the contest. There is no cost to enter; two entries per family. Participants can also bring bread or other food items to share. **Voting for the chili is \$1 per ticket or \$5 for six tickets.** The chili with the most votes wins a trophy and bragging rights.

After the chili cook-off, we will have our annual costume\* parade and contest for all ages. (**\*Remember costumes must not be too scary.**) Judges will be awarding first, second, and third prizes to the best costumes for preschool, K-6 grades, and 7-12 grades.

Following the parade, everyone is encouraged to attend our annual Haunted Room hosted by the Middle School and High School students. The level of scariness is adjusted to be age-appropriate. Enter often to experience the fun. All proceeds will be split between the CUUPS group and the Peoples Church general fund.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **New Member Class**

New member classes will be offered the first three Thursdays in November at 6pm. Please contact Rev. Rebecca Hinds to participate.

### **Congregational Meeting**

Mark your calendars for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 3. We'll discuss and approve the budget, present updates on current activities, and conduct other business of the church such as voting on our new Mission! Things will start out with a potluck right after the Sunday service, followed by the meeting to begin no earlier than 12:30 PM. Keep an eye out for more info.



— Here's What's —  
**GOING ON**  
**AT PEOPLES CHURCH**

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun Oct 1	11:00am – 12:00pm	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Religious Education	RE Classrooms
Wed Oct 4	6:30pm – 7:30pm	Membership Meeting	Grin N Goose, 227 2nd Ave SE
	5:00pm – 8:00pm	K-1st, 2nd-3rd OWL Parent/Child Orientation	Andre Room
	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
Thu Oct 5	3:00pm – 4:00pm	Aesthetics & Design Team Meeting	Sanctuary
	6:30pm – 8:00pm	CUUPS Full Moon	Bever Park (Ely Room rain location)
Sat Oct 7	9:00am – 8:00pm	Church Craft Day	Ely Room
Sun Oct 8	10:00am – 11:00am	Mission & Muffins	Ely Room
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Religious Education	RE Classrooms
Mon Oct 9	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Van Vechten Guild	Andre Room
	6:30pm – 8:30pm	CUUPS Meeting	Ely Room
Tue Oct 10	7:00pm – 8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group	Ely Room
Wed Oct 11	All day	National Coming Out Day	
	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
Thu Oct 12	7:30pm–8:30pm	Mission & Muffins	Ely Room
Sun Oct 15	10:00am – 11:00am	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Worship - Multigenerational	Sanctuary
	12:15pm – 1:15pm	Social Justice Committee	
Mon Oct 16	6:30pm – 8:00pm	CUUPS Spirituality Class	Ely Room
Tue Oct 17	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Ely Room
Wed Oct 18	7:00pm – 8:00pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
Fri Oct 20	5:00pm – 8:00pm	Soup Supper	Andre Room
Sun Oct 22	10:00am – 11:00am	Social Justice Forum with Tanager Place	Ely Room
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Religious Education	RE Classrooms
	12:30pm–1:30pm	Board Meeting	Minister's Office
Sun Oct 29	11:00am – 12:00pm	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00am – 12:00pm	Religious Education	RE Classrooms
	12:00pm – 3:30pm	CUUPS Chili Cookoff/Halloween Party	Andre Room

## OUR CARING COMMUNITY

### Good Neighbors

Gina Molby ~ 210-2605 ~ [rnkroemer@gmail.com](mailto:rnkroemer@gmail.com)

### Paraministers

October 2—October 15 ~ Jan Federer ~ 213-6205

October 16—October 29 ~ Dorothy Hershner ~ 393-6617



**Peoples Church**  
Unitarian Universalist  
4980 Gordon Ave. NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

Phone: 319-362-9827  
E-mail: [office@peoplesuu.org](mailto:office@peoplesuu.org)



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE