

THE VOICE



Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
August 2019



After time away for parental leave and study leave, I am thrilled to be back! As you can imagine, these last few months have been full and life changing.

I want to thank you for the generous parental leave you allowed me to take in late May and June in order to be present for the birth of my child, Madeleine (rhymes with win), to care for her (and Casey!) after the birth, and to bond with her as we became a family of three.

And thank you for the lovely Baby Shower on July 23. We are so lucky to be part of such a warm church family!

I also want to thank you for the time you allow me each July for study leave. Study leave is precious time that lets me engage the creative process and spiritual practice, exercise self-care, and prepare for the year ahead. I gratefully rest, research, and recharge in order to be more organized, present and spiritually grounded in my ministry throughout the rest of the church year.

This year I spent my study leave outlining services for the year ahead and reading *After the Good News* by Nancy McDonald-Ladd, *Shameless* by Nadia Bolls-Weber, *How to*

Preach a Dangerous Sermon by Frank Thomas (watch out!), *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, and many other wonderful books.

I was particularly drawn to texts about Human Nature this summer. Watching Madeleine slowly become a person right in front of my eyes, I've found myself thinking quite a bit about who we are and why. So much so that I am planning a

three-part series on Human Nature this month! I hope you will join in the conversation and join us in worship!

I've missed you all and I look forward to getting back into our routine. As of July 30, I will be back to my regular fulltime

ministry schedule. I will continue to be in the office on Tues, Weds, and Thurs from 11:30-4:00, with Friday as my sermon writing day. Please drop me a line to catch me up on what you have been up to and let me know if you would like to chat, meet for coffee, or anything else!

In faith,

Rev. Rebecca

“THE PROBLEM
WITH PEOPLE
IS THAT
THEY'RE ONLY
HUMAN.

-Bill
Watterson”

Minister's MOMENT



Rev. Rebecca
Hinds

AUGUST 4 | 11AM SERVICE: Good, Bad, or Otherwise: Human Nature Part 1

Human nature is mysterious. We have been known to be both kind and compassionate as well as cruel and violent. So, what gives? Are we saints or sinners? Are people basically good? Or inevitably evil? And what is the deal with original sin, anyway? Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: Scott Mansfield **Greeters:**

AUGUST 11 | 11am Service: The F Word: Human Nature Part 2

No, not that F word! One that we try to say even *less* than that one: Failure. For more than a century now the (white) American liberal church has focused almost exclusively on human goodness and the promise of progress (onward and upward!). So, what happened? Why is the world still not perfect? Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: Deb Hunemuller and Pete Kies **Greeters:** RC Eichacker

AUGUST 18 | 11am SERVICE: The Way Forward: Human Nature Part 3

Every day we hear more bad news and watch as more and more tension builds up around the world. There has to be a better way, right? There is and it evolves shifting the way we view our own humanity. Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: Arianne and Abram **Greeters:** Sheryl Ochs, RC Eichacker

AUGUST 25 | 11AM SERVICE: IT IS TIME NOW

Let us not be servants of the past tending our faded flowers. Let us all plant faithful seeds of change and together free the faith we love. Come celebrate gatherings of Unitarian Universalists both large and small, near and far by participating in portions of this year's General Assembly Sunday worship service. Service led by Robyn Miessler-Kubaneck.

Music: TBD **Greeters:**

David Wise, Director of Faith Formation



WISE WORDS

I am thrilled to share with you that we will be doing a one day **END OF THE SUMMER FUUN DAY CAMP** with Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City/Coralville.

It will be held August 16 at the Main Lodge at Lake McBride. The programs will be nature related—naturally since we are going to be at a lake. 😊 It will begin at 9:00 am for children 6-12. Families are invited to join starting at 3pm. We will share a potluck meal at 6 and a closing worship at 7pm. The cost is \$15.00 and that includes a t-shirt. Campers will bring their own lunch and snacks will be provided. Registration is limited. Contact David at dre@peoplesuu.org to register.

This camp is the result of a conversation that started in our Faith Formation Council and continued with my colleague in Coralville! Hopefully this is the beginning of several joint ventures between our two churches and hopefully as time goes on other UU churches in Iowa.

It is always good to get together with those that have similar beliefs and goals. It will be good for our kids to get

to know the kids from the church in Coralville. It will be good for them to know there are other kids their age facing the same issues and having the same concerns!

I look forward to this camp and more events to come!!

Harry Potter camp has been fun for the kids so far and I am sure they will have a great time this week as well! There will be kids Harry Potter trivia contest to conclude the camp!

Don't forget the PANCAKE BREAKFAST on September 8th.

There will also be a BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS in the September 8th service!

Faith Formation Classes will meet for the first time in the new church year on September 15th! September 8th all families and children will be helping with the Pancake Breakfast!

David

Faith Formation is having a fundraiser!

Everyone likes shirts right? We have 2 designs that can be ordered online.



Simply go to: <https://onemission.fund/support/pcff/?shopfor=173649>

Scroll down and you can pick out your favorite shirt or hoodie! You can choose between 2 designs or buy both! If shirts are not your thing coffee cups are also available.

We have partnered with a company from Mount Vernon called One Mission. We love that they are local and are committed to things that we at Peoples care about!

“One Mission is founded on strong values and a devotion to quality and service. We adhere to exceptionally high standards of production and sustainability for absolutely everything we make. This includes a commitment to Made in the USA, No Animal Testing, Recycled Corrugate & Shipping Material, and a whole list of other product standards that ensure the highest level of performance and safety for you, your family, and our planet.

Inspired by the simple goal of helping more people do more good, One Mission exists ultimately for missionaries, non-profits, and many other important groups and individuals that entrust us with their fundraising needs.”

There are 3 easy ways YOU can support our fundraiser:

1. You can purchase any of One Mission's great products and 40% of what you spend will be donated.
2. You can donate cash (One Mission doesn't charge a platform fee).
3. You can share this fundraiser with your friends and family.

Please consider doing all these of these things!

How will you help the Faith Formation fundraiser?

Mike Meshak,

Board President

Hi, everyone,

Even as I speak, I'm at school typing this two months before our beloved sesquicentennial, and yes I had to look that word up to spell it correctly.

You might think that as a teacher I would have the summer off and be relaxing next to a pool, evening out my tan and cool drink in my hand. Not quite. Like many others in our church, there is work to do for September. I can't fully thank all the people involved in planning the party, sprucing up the church and coming to terms with financing all the things we want to do. But thanks.

I hope everyone can participate in some way in the 150th year of our church's existence and beyond. I find it inspirational that only 50 years ago we walked on the surface of the moon, and now everyone just assumes it was inevitable. It took a force of will, a lot of math and science and perhaps some amount of luck that it all went right.

I see PCUU as poised to take our church to the next level. I find momentum in our actions, compassion in our members, and an ache for another 150 years of spiritual growth in our world. Please come rekindle the flame this fall.

Mike

PEOPLES CHURCH IS GETTING A MAKE OVER!

Our 150th Anniversary Celebration weekend is just around the corner and we want to look our best for the occasion. On September 14 and 15, when we host the whole church, any and all former members and ministers, Gordon Ave. neighbors, and the community at large to celebrate with us, we want our space to look and feel good.



So we are freshening up and painting the interiors. AND WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you are available to help paint in the coming weeks please sign up on the bulletin board across the hall from the Ely Room and/or contact the church office or Jan Federer (janetfederer@aol.com).

RELAXATION OPPORTUNITY

The Patterson's open their Phoenix Harmony Labyrinth for Peoples members to walk. Come at your convenience. This would be an informal time for you to enjoy the prairie blooms, look for Monarch caterpillars, and take in the quietude of the five-circuit, dual entry labyrinth.



Enter on the west side of the horseshoe drive by the mailbox. Pull around and park with driver tires on the grass. Walk and enjoy the labyrinth. By day the birds are active. You might catch the shadow of a vulture winging in to its nest in the nearby tree. At night - 9:00 p.m. or later - the fireflies are amazing. Come!

It's OK to call, email or text that you plan to come by--though it is not necessary. We do not need to be here.

You are invited to join in
the Peoples Church
**SESQUICENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION**

September 14 & 15, 2019

*Nurturing
the Flame!*



**You are invited to join us
as we kick off our weekend events
with an Open House!**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Open House with Special Guest Speakers

1pm-3pm

At 2pm—Ann Cejka
Program Coordinator at
Ushers Ferry Historic Village
and

Ann Harris as Ada Van Vechten



Formal Sesquicentennial Invitations will be in the mail soon!

Have you thought of a Peoples friend or former member who would like to join in our 150th birthday celebration weekend? Please share their name *and* address with us. We don't want anyone left out! Information should be submitted to office@peoplesuu.org or place in

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Please join us for an evening of stories, song, and celebration!

- **Where: The Flamingo, 1211 Ellis Blvd. NW in Cedar Rapids**
- **Social Hour - 5 pm. Cash bar.**
- **Dinner - 6 pm. Buffet with beef, chicken and vegetarian choices, with side dishes. Desserts created by Jill Jones**
- **\$35 for adults, \$17.50 under 6 years of age.**
- **Special 150th merchandise and Basket Auction**

Please let us know of special dietary restrictions.

Childcare at the Gordon Ave. building for children through age 10. For staffing purposes, please let the church office know your child care needs by September 6th at office@peoplsuu.org.

***** PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE BY SEPTEMBER 6TH *****

Unfortunately, due to the nature of this event we are unable to offer refunds.

TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AFTER SEPTEMBER 6TH

**We have a variety of items with which
you can commemorate our 150th Birthday!**



They are:

- A set of 4 coasters (\$20)
- An insulated travel mug (\$20)
- A coffee cup (\$10)

You may purchase these items at our office, *while supplies last.*
We regret that we are unable to ship these items to you.

You are invited to join in
the Peoples Church

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

September 14 & 15, 2019

*Nurturing
the Flame!*



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

11AM Celebratory Worship Service

Special Guest Rev. Linda Hansen

12pm The Van Vechten Guild High Tea



Attention
**Members &
Friends**

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

Sunday, September 8th

8:30am



150 years and counting!

PEOPLES CHURCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST



150 and Counting!

2020 PCUU Pledge Campaign

Date of Report: 7/16/19

Total Dollars 2020 Pledge Goal	\$163,000		
2020 Dollars Pledged to Date	\$34,500	21%	goal made
Remaining Pledge Goal	\$128,500		

For updated information, please check the pledge table on Sunday before and

Finance Meeting Update:

Cash flow for June was positive

- June income \$16,474
- June expenses \$14,841 The Finance Team met on 7/17/19 to review bookkeeper reports and related items.

Peoples landscaping and green spaces

A big shout out goes to the folks that have stepped in to help take care of and add to our yards and garden spaces. The Waste's, Kilbourn, Jill Jones, Charlie Cizio, our neighbors from St Marks with the African vegetable gardens, Rich Patterson and our board president Mike Meshak have all stepped in to keep the yard looking good and adding improvements. THANK YOU all and any other elves that may have slipped in to help.

150 years and counting!

PEOPLES CHURCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

PLEDGE DRIVES, EVOLUTION, AND OUR GRANDCHILDREN

As I sit and write this article in mid-July, our pledge drive is just getting under way. But, as you read this article in the August Voice, we will already be approaching the switch-over point (August 15) from the “No Hassle” pledge period to the Conventional portion of the drive. For Kathy and me this week in July is also the first week of the summer schedule, during which we have our grandchildren from the Twin Cities come and stay with us. Right now, the two youngest of our grandchildren, ages 5 and 7, are with us.

As I ponder the current chaotic management (or mismanagement) of our country and our world, I wonder a bit what the world will hold for Cam and Harper as they approach adulthood and ultimately middle age and beyond. I’d sincerely like them to have a better world than even I did as a kid and as an adult. Wouldn’t we all agree that should be a reasonable expectation of evolution?

While I know I’m not as socially active as I likely should be, one way I know I

can help contribute to a better future for them is by contributing to Peoples Church. I’d only ask that you consider doing the same for Cam and Harper (and for your own personal “Cam” and “Harper”).

A small additional request: If we do not hear from you by August 15, the Stewards for the pledge drive will start making a concerted and potentially time-consuming effort to contact you directly. If possible, please consider getting your pledge in during the next two weeks via one of the several “No Hassle” options. You can mail your completed pledge form to church, drop it in the collection plate or leave it at the pledge table on Sunday, email it back to the pledge treasurer at pcuu.pledge.treasurer@gmail.com, or hand it directly to one of the members of the Stewardship Committee.

In this, the 150th anniversary of Peoples Church, please join us by making a pledge and making the world a better place! The Stewardship Committee thanks you, the pledge stewards thank you, and, on behalf of Cam and Harper, I thank you!

Bob Butikofer



AUGUST



DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
3	Saturday	10am – 12pm	Faith Explorers
4	Sunday	11am – 12pm	Worship
7	Wednesday	5:30pm – 6:30pm	Membership Committee Meeting
11	Sunday	11am – 12pm	Worship
13	Tuesday	7pm – 8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group
14	Wednesday	6pm – 8:30pm	CUUPS Full Moon Ritual
15	Thursday	12pm – 1pm	Sesquicentennial Meeting
		7:30pm – 8:30pm	Stewardship Training Session
18	Sunday	11am – 12pm	Worship
		4:30pm	Board of Trustees Meeting—all are welcome
		6pm – 8pm	CUUPS Monthly Meeting
19	Monday	9:30am – 10:30am	Archives Committee
25	Sunday	11am – 12pm	Worship
26	Monday	12pm – 1pm	Van Vechten Guild Meeting - Silver Polishing & Prep for Sesquicentennial - brown bag lunch
30	Friday	6:30pm – 7:30pm	CUUPS Drinks & Discussions

OUR STAFF

Rev. Rebecca Hinds

Developmental
Minister

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

David Wise

Director of
Faith Formation

(319) 362-9827
by appointment

Christine Kullander

Operations
Coordinator

(319) 362-9827

Office Hours

Tuesday 8:30-2:30
Wednesday 8:30-2:30
Thursday 8:30-2:30
Friday 8:30-10:30

Childcare Providers

Valerie Angerer Zieser
Eva Devi

Custodians

Jerry Morris

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Mike Meshak
(319) 480-8202

Treasurer

Gary McGraw
(319) 373-9449

Board of Trustee Members

Charlie Cizio
Jude Johnson
Kathy Juba
David Miessler-Kubaneck
Samantha Wilson

THE VOICE.

PEOPLES CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

LEADING COMPASSIONATE LIVES THROUGH
SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND JUST ACTION.



Good Neighbors

August

Amy Bostwick | 775-2805 | sassafrass2011@gmail.com

Paraministers

July 22—August 4 | Audrey Hauter

August 5—19 | Scott Mansfield

August 20— September 1 | Rose Gabe

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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

the Voice

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A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



**PEOPLES
CHURCH**
4980 GORDON AVE. NW
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52405