

THE VOICE



Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
September 2019

In 1869, when a small group of people met in Brown's Hotel in downtown Cedar Rapids to form what eventually became Peoples Church, what were they expecting? What did they think they were creating and how long did they expect it to last?

Did they know they were founding a church that would last 150 years? Did they picture their little start up still going strong in 2019 and beyond? Would they even recognize it today?

Over the last century and a half, Peoples Church has gone through a lot of unexpected changes, including 5 different name changes (from The First Universalist Church to The Liberal Christian Church, to The Little Brick Church, to The Peoples Christian Church, and finally, to Peoples Church UU), three denominational or associational affiliation changes (from originally Universalist, to Unitarian in 1928, and to Unitarian Universalist in 1961), and one location change (from 3rd Ave in downtown Cedar Rapids to Gordon Avenue in Northwest Cedar Rapids).

Phew! That's a lot of change!

Life is full of unexpected twists and turns. Despite all of our best made plans and intentions you never really know how things

will work out.

In fact, if anyone had asked me 10 years ago if I ever thought I would live in Cedar Rapids, IA I would have laughed out loud- it never would have occurred to me. But today I can't imagine being anywhere else. Living in Cedar Rapids and serving Peoples Church is exactly where I want to be.

So today I look back to our Peoples Church founders with so much gratitude: they couldn't have known it then, but they started something that has radically and wonderfully changed my life for the better.

How about you? How has PCUU unexpectedly changed your life? And are ready to pay it

forward? Because it is our turn now to continue to create something worthy of our decedent's gratitude.

So, as we celebrate our 150th anniversary this month with an Open House, Celebration Dinner, Worship Service, and High Tea the weekend of September 14-15, let's not only honor the past but let's really focus on the future. We owe it to the ones who will be celebrating our tricentennial in 2169!

In faith, Rev. Rebecca

*I WOULD LOVE
TO LIVE LIKE A
RIVER FLOWS,
CARRIED BY
THE SURPRISE
OF ITS OWN
UNFOLDING.*

Ministry's MOMENT



Rev. Rebecca
Hinds

SEPTEMBER 1 | 11AM SERVICE: Expectation Vs. Reality

What do you expect of yourself? Is it realistic? If (and when!) you fail to meet your expectations can you let them go or do they haunt you? Come reflect on your expectations vs. your reality and engage in a ritual of self-acceptance and letting go. Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: **Greeters:**

SEPTEMBER 8| 11am Service: Water Ceremony Sunday: The Sea Will Hold You

We are all so busy taking hold of our lives it can be difficult to relax and let life hold us. So today, during our Annual Water Ceremony, we will practice trusting that which holds us afloat. We will also celebrate our second annual Blessing of the Backpacks to send our young people off to school with love and support. Don't forget to bring water with you to church and your backpack if you are a student! Service led by Rev. Rebecca .

Music: Peoples Choir **Greeters:** Kathy Juba and Bob Butikofer

SEPTEMBER 15 | 11am SERVICE: Nurturing the Flame: Happy 150th Birthday Peoples Church!

You don't want to miss this special homecoming birthday celebration! We are expecting a full crowd of current members, former members, friends, supporters, and anyone who has ever been involved at Peoples at any time. Guest preacher Rev. Linda Hanson will join Rev. Rebecca to deliver a joyful message and call to nurture the flame of our faith long into the future. Music by the band Pseudolaic. High Tea sponsored by the Van Vechten Guild will follow the service.

Music: Pseudolaic **Greeters:** Joye Winey, Jude Johnson, Kathy Juba

SEPTEMBER 22 | 11AM SERVICE: EXPECTATION RULES OUTCOME

Service led by Kathleen Mavity

Music: TBD **Greeters:** Joye Winey

SEPTEMBER 29 | 11AM SERVICE: A LIKE HEARTED PEOPLE

A lot of us come to church expecting to find "like-minded people." But as a community we have plenty of disagreements, don't we? And plenty of diverse points of view! So, what then? What can we expect from our faith and our faith community if we are not always "like-minded?" Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: Kris Davis **Greeters:** Sheryl Ochs

David Wise, Director of Faith Formation



WISE WORDS

What a busy and exciting time for Peoples!! We are gearing up for another church year, celebrating 150 years of ministry, and launching new programs to begin the next 150 years!

I am excited for all that is going on here at Peoples and am honored to be part of the evolving and growing ministry!

In October we launch ADULT FAITH FORMATION!!! We have an adult class and a parenting group that will kick off! They will be followed shortly by groups for couples and men! What a great way to get to know others and perhaps do a bit of learning or helping others!

Fall is a time of the year when we savor the things like the crispness of the weather and soon the changing of the leaves that make the Midwest unique! I encourage you to help us savor the things that makes Peoples unique as well. Things such as the openness, willingness to learn, and desire to help others! Make plans to join one or more of the opportunities that are coming your way!

Pancake Breakfast Sept 8th! Serving begins at 8:30 am. Menu is pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, milk, and coffee. Cost will be freewill offering.

September 8th is also the Water Ceremony and the Blessing of Backpacks during the service.

September 15th there will be no Faith Formation events because of the 150th Anniversary!

September 22nd will be a parents meeting and 1st session of classes. We will begin at 9:30 that day for the meeting with class starting at 9:45. Children must be registered. Once again this year we will use an online registration form at <https://form.jotform.com/82194913640155>

We will again have spaces for volunteers and snacks. A schedule will be sent to all registered families for snacks.

On September 29 we will have a naming ceremony for the rooms during worship. All of the rooms will have new names that will be shared in the coming days leading up to the celebration weekend.

Adult Faith Formation will begin Oct 6. It will be a 6 session class and meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays in October, November, and December. The sessions will be held in the Ely Room. The sessions will have a film component and a discussion component. The discussion component will begin at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. The film portion can be done individually through the week or at 8:45 on Sunday morning.

BASIC DETAILS

We will begin with **Transgender** Inclusion in Congregations produced by the Transforming Hearts Collective.

This course is for individuals, groups, and congregational teams who want to take their knowledge and skills to the next level in terms of trans identity and how to create congregations that are fully inclusive and affirming of the full breadth of gender diversity.

Instructions to enroll:

Go to the course page (<https://transforming-hearts-collective.teachable.com>)

Scroll to the bottom and select the \$500 option

Click "Enroll"

On the next page click the red text "Add Coupon"

In the box that appears, enter PEOPLESUU and click "Apply" (the total will be adjusted to FREE)

Continue with enrollment

For more detailed information [click here](#).

David

Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist Sesquicentennial Apparel Fundraiser

Unisex Tees:

- Super Comfortable
- Tri-Blend
- Standard Sizing



	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	Total
Grey (\$20*)							

*Add \$3.50 for XXL

Warm Options:

- Super Soft
- Unisex Sizing
- Heather Grey Color



	S	M	L	XL	XXL	Total
Hoodie (\$50*)						
Long-Sleeve Tee (\$30*)						

Womens Tees:

- Super Comfortable
- Tri-Blend
- Form Fitting
- (Junior Sizing**)



	S	M	L	XL	XXL	Total
Grey (\$20*)						

*Add \$3.50 for XXL

**S (0-2), M (2-4), L (4-8), XL (8-10), XXL (12)

15 Oz. Coffee Mug

	Total
15 Oz. Mug (\$15)	



Unisex Baseball Tees:

- Super Comfortable
- Tri-Blend
- Standard Sizing



	XS	S	M	L	XL	Total
Vintage White/Black (\$35)						
Vintage White/Grey (\$35)						

Kids Tees:

- Super Comfortable
- Tri-Blend
- Standard Sizing*



	XS	S	M	L	XL	Total
Grey (\$20)						

*XS (4-5), S (6-7), M (8), L (10-12), XL (14-16)

Make Checks Payable to the Church

Orders available for pickup from the Church on/after June 23rd.



One Mission™
www.onemission.fund

Name: _____

Total: _____

Mike Meshak,

Board President

Hi, everyone,

With our 150th anniversary approaching for PCUU, we are compiling a list of as many home improvements as we can remember. It shows how much we have done to make this location welcoming, inviting, and of value. We even have a second list of potential projects that will happen eventually. But, as Reverend Rebecca was quick to remind me, this weekend is about a celebration. The work will always be there. Some new task will present itself.

This Sesquicentennial is about reconnecting with each other to marvel at us being together for a century and a half. That is more than anyone's whole lifetime! Our shared values and commitment to our community speak volumes about who we

are and why we enjoy being together.

Honestly, I enjoy coming to services and events because of the people I meet, the smiles I get from Scott and Rose and Dorothy and Jim, ... well you get the picture. While I enjoy teaching, I await retirement if it means I can have more time to do church activities.

I look forward to our gala celebration and High Tea because I know 150 years is worth remembering. But every PCUU event with friends is also a joy and I'm so glad Brenda introduced me to the church all those years ago. Please join us in September for our celebration. And thanks to the Sesquicentennial Team for organizing this fiesta.

Mike



Do you like worship?
Would you like to get more involved?
Consider becoming a Worship Associate!

Worship Associates meet once a month on the 2nd Sunday at 12:30pm. We discuss the monthly theme through the lens of spirituality and plan Sunday services. Worship Associates are also invited to lead worship once a month. So if you enjoy public speaking and/or have ever wanted to try preaching this is the group for you! Interested members of the church are invited to check out our September meeting on September 8th at 12:30pm after church in the Ely Room. Hope to see you there!

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIONS AT PEOPLES

We are proud to have our Black Lives Matter sign in front of our church on Gordon Ave.

Our social justice goals are:

1. To learn effective ways to engage in conversations with people who have different views than oneself on racial issues. Develop responses to common refrains about race.
2. Formulate questions related to racial justice to ask of candidates for both federal and state office.



Save the Date of November 9, 2019 at 7 pm for a performance by Caleb Rainey.

Caleb, "The Negro Artist" is an award winning writer, performer, and producer. Caleb has performed his poetry around the world, including in London, England, NYC, and the midwestern states. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/thenegroartist/> to learn more about this outstanding performer.

In honor of the Peoples Church

SESQUICENTENNIAL Celebration

September 14 & 15



Unique jewelry from
Peoples Church
stained glass windows
by local artist
Diane Hoefer

Pendants will be on
sale beginning Sunday,
September 8th!! Sales
will continue through
September 15th.



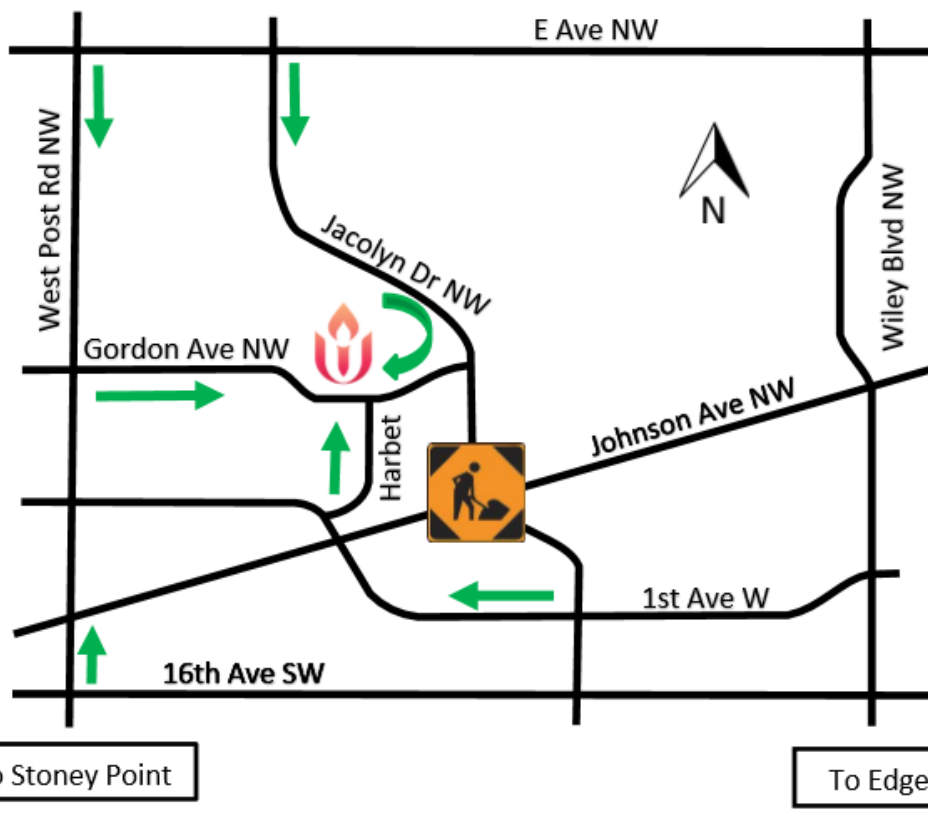
Van Vechten Guild - September 9 12pm

It's the start of our year and per usual it's time for a potluck lunch in the Andre Room. Bring you favorite food/s to share and enjoy getting back together for another year of great programs. All are welcome to join us.

Detours • September 2019

**Recommended Routes to People's Church Unitarian Universalist
4960 Gordon Avenue NW:**

- Via West Post Road NW from E Avenue or 16th Avenue SW
- Via Jacolyn Drive NW from E Avenue
- Via Harbet Avenue NW from 1st Avenue West



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 & Ice Cream Social (while supplies last!)
with Live Music and Special Guest Presenters**

1pm-3pm

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

Ann Harris as Ada Van Vechten



Sesquicentennial Invitations have been mailed!

You do not have to receive a formal invitation to attend! However, if you will be attending our celebration dinner, you will need to purchase a ticket(s) by September 10th. Please call the office if you have any problems purchasing your tickets—(319) 362-9827. We look forward to seeing you!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

Please join us for an evening of stories 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@peoplesuu.org.

***** PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS [HERE](#) BY SEPTEMBER 10TH *****

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

TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AFTER SEPTEMBER 10TH

**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

Date of Report: 9/4/19



Total Dollars 2020 Pledge Goal	\$163,000	
2020 Dollars Pledged to Date	\$149,909	92%
Remaining Dollars to Pledge Goal	\$13,091	8%

Total Pledge Number Forms Sent	93	
Number Pledge Forms Returned	78	84%
Remaining Number Household Forms to Participation Goal	15	16%

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

A Little Stewardship Humor

As we continue our shared progress through our 2020 pledge drive, I thought that a bit of humor might possibly be a relief. After all, pledging is an opportunity to celebrate whatever we have and to share it with the church, the congregation, and the larger world. So, here goes:

MONEY IN YOUR POCKET: The pastor stood before his congregation and said "I have bad news, I have good news, and then, unfortunately, I have more bad news." The congregation grew quiet. "The bad news is: the church needs a new roof!" the pastor said. The congregation groaned. "The good news is: we have enough money for the new roof." A sigh of relief was heard rippling through the gathered group, and then he said "The bad news is it's still in your pockets!"

I recently read a short story about giving, which impressed me with its message. Here is the closing line of that story: "there is one thing, among all other values and achievements, which is very important and irreplaceable for each and every person - actually, it is a true gift, and it is called Giving."

Please take this opportunity to give. Every contribution is important, even if your personal circumstances dictate that you only give by responding to your pledge steward and simply returning your pledge sheet. Thank you!

Bob Butikofer

The Ecumenical Community Center Foundation presents

EXPLORING POVERTY'S



OCT. 26, 2019 | 2 - 4 P.M.

at Westminster Presbyterian Church
1285 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids

Pieces of the puzzle include:

Affordable Housing
Transportation
Employment
Utility Affordability
Child Care
Health Care
Nutrition
Educational Opportunity
and more!

Fundraiser
Celebrating
33 Years!

RSVP to
319-362-4284 or
admin@ecc-cr.net



For more information, contact us at 601 2nd Ave SE,
319-362-4284, admin@ecc-cr.net, www.ecc-cr.net,
or on Facebook @EcumenicalCommunityCenter.



CELEBRATING

150
YEARS

1869-2019

PEOPLES
CHURCH

WWW.PEOPLESUU.ORG

NURTURING THE FLAME!

Finance Meeting Update:

The Finance Team met on
8/13/19 to review bookkeeper
reports and related items.

Cash flow for July was negative:

- July income \$15,218
- June expenses \$15,422



STATEWIDE INTERFAITH GATHERING

Join Iowa Interfaith Power and Light at a statewide interfaith gathering for climate action in Hiawatha, Iowa on October 26. This no cost, student led event includes an interfaith prayer service, a keynote by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, a widely known evangelical Christian and climate scientist, and a keynote response and discussion. Iowa college students of faith are organizing this event around the question "As I discern my calling, how does faith invite me into climate action?" Everyone is invited - students, faculty, professionals, parents, retirees, all people of faith. We are all called to climate action.



IOWA INTERFAITH
POWER & LIGHT

October 26
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hiawatha, Iowa

Elizabeth Ann Seton
Parish, 1350
Lyndhurst Dr.

Free Event Open To
Public



IOWA INTERFAITH POWER
AND LIGHT

505 5th Avenue, Suite
333
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
515.689.1112
director@iowaip.org
www.iowaip.org

September

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
1	Sunday	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
4	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
8	Sunday	8:30am-10:30am	Pancake Breakfast!
		9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		12:15 – 1:15pm	Worship Associates
9	Monday	12 – 1pm	Van Vechten Guild welcome back pot luck
10	Tuesday	1 – 2pm	Paraministry Team Meeting
		2:30 – 3:30pm	Stewardship Team Meeting
		7 – 8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group
11	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
12	Thursday	6:30 – 7:30pm	Finance Team Meeting
13	Friday	6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Full Moon Ritual and Baby Blessing
14	Saturday		<i>Happy 150th Birthday Peoples Church!!</i>
		9 – 11am	Band rehearsal
		1 – 3pm	Open House and Ice Cream Social - Live Music, Historical Information and a Historical One-Woman Play
		5 – 8:30pm	150th Dinner Celebration - Cocktail hour, dinner, silent auction, Sesquicentennial items available. Tickets must be purchased by September 10th!
15	Sunday	11am – 12:15pm	Sesquicentennial Worship Service - special guest Linda Hansen
		12:30pm	High Tea provided by the Van Vechten Guild
		4:30 – 5:30pm	Board Meeting
16	Monday	9:30 – 10:30am	Archives Committee
		6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Monthly Meeting
18	Wednesday	5 – 6pm	Membership Committee Meeting
		7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
22	Sunday	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
23	Monday	6 – 8pm	CUPPS Mabon/Fall Equinox and pot luck dinner
25	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
27	Friday	6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Drinks and Discussion
28	Saturday	10am – 5pm	Cedar Valley Pagan Pride
29	Sunday	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship

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

Alexis Wauford

Jenna Straatmann

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

September

1-22 Kathy Juba | 378-3116 | kathywilson@imonmail.com

23-30 Kris Davis | 294-5010 | daviskris49@gmail.com

Paraministers

September 2-15 | Dorothy Hershner

September 16-29 | Audrey Hauter

September 30-October 13 | Jan Federer

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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

the Voice

»—————«

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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