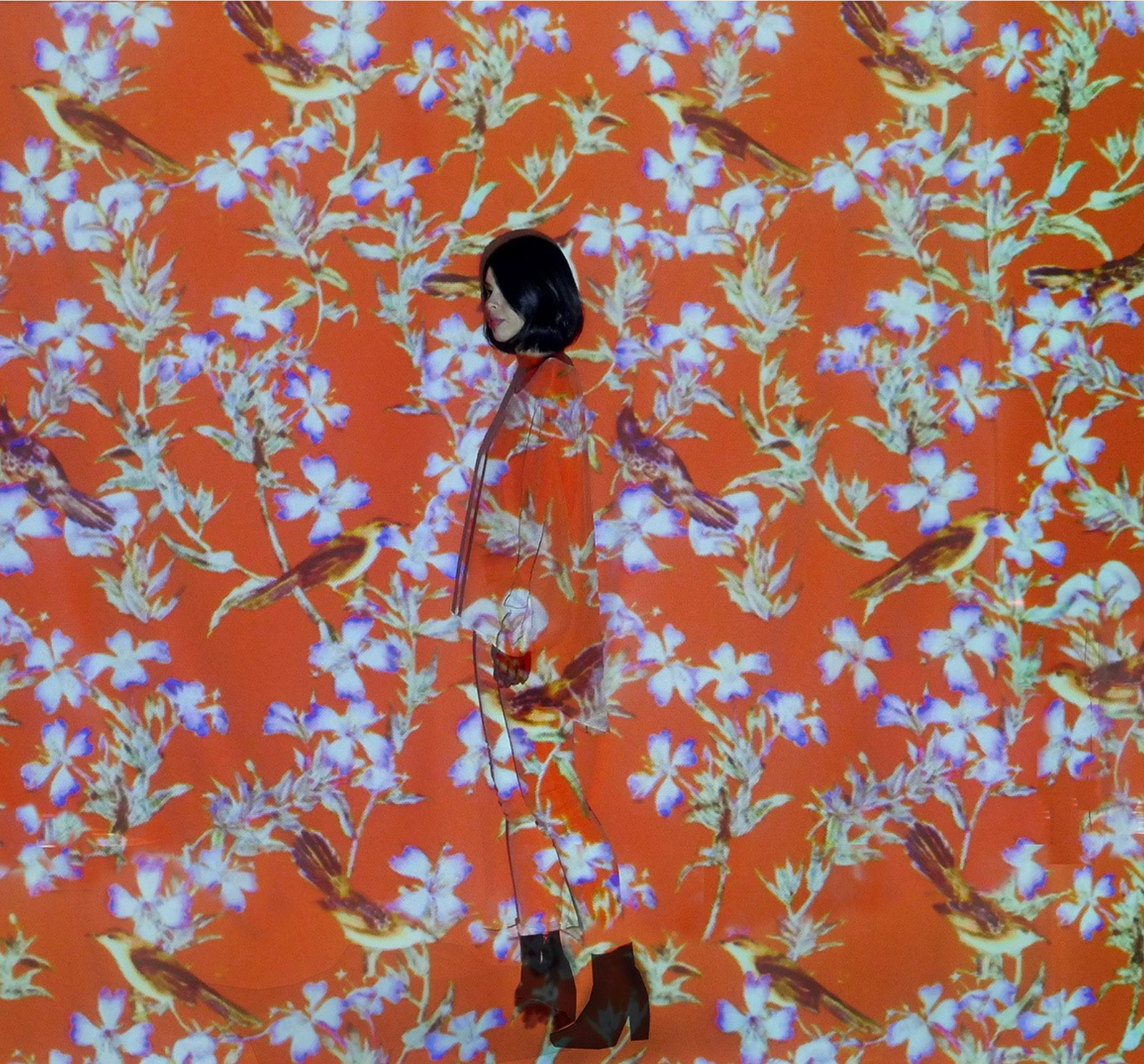


THE VOICE



Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
October 2019

Ministry's

MOMENT

Phew! What a wild and wonderful month it was at Peoples Church. Our Sesquicentennial Celebration was a huge success! Old friends, former members, former ministers, current neighbors, community supporters, and so many more joined us for a fabulous weekend of events. It was a real Homecoming celebration!

Not only was it a joy to be together that weekend, but it was a delight to experience such a well-coordinated effort over the last six months. Everyone pitched in and truly did their part to make it happen! Thank you all for helping to create and being part of something so magical.

One thing I kept hearing over and over again all weekend was just how special Peoples Church is to so many people. Nearly everyone I spoke with described it as a spiritual home and a place of true belonging. I love that. Belonging is an amazing feeling and experience. So of course, I want everyone to feel like they belong here at Peoples Church. We all do!

And yet I know that “true belonging is something you give, not just get.” True belonging is a gift that ignites gratitude and generosity. Once you have it, you must always keep it moving forward. It is a

gift that has to be shared.

Have you ever shared your Peoples Church belonging? Have you done so lately? If not, would you be willing to try this month? Would you be willing to (gasp!) invite someone to church with you?!

I know it can feel awkward and strange to invite someone to church, but remember that we are a life-affirming, life-saving

faith. We have good news to share. We have core values of community, compassion, spirituality, and justice that call us to cast the circle wide. So why keep Peoples Church to yourself?

You can do it; it is not as hard as you think. In fact, as the Soul

Matters Team points out, you can do it with just two short sentences: “I think you’d enjoy my church because _____. Want to join me this week?”

The belonging you have found here is a gift too good not to share. So please give it a try and invite a friend to church with you this month! We will be exploring the concept of belonging from many different angles and enjoy simply being together in our beloved community open to all.

In faith,

Rev. Rebecca

*TRUE
BELONGING IS
SOMETHING
YOU GIVE, NOT
JUST GET.*

**Soul Matters
Team**



Rev. Rebecca
Hinds



**Rev. Rebecca will be out of the office
on the following dates:**

- October 7-9 for a Midwestern UU Clergy Retreat
- October 20-26 for vacation
- October 28-November 3 for a retreat

This Sunday, October 6th, we will have a gathering at 10am in the Ely Room for all who wish to simply be together in our time of sadness and share memories and stories about Scott Mansfield.

Please join us.

OCTOBER 6 | 11AM SERVICE: HOW TO STOP FITTING IN AND TRULY BELONG

We all know what it feels like to not belong somewhere or not fit in. But what if “fitting in” is actually a barrier to our own true belonging? How can we let go of our desire to fit in and embrace our true self? How can we extend true belong to others and pass on the wisdom of this path? Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: **Greeters:** Linda Levy, Jude Johnson

OCTOBER 13 | 11am Service: RETURNING TO THE EARTH

We belong to the Earth. It is our one true home, the source of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat. But our home is at risk. Climate change is unfolding all around us and the alarm bells are blaring. So how can we return to right relationship with the Earth? Service led by Rev. Rebecca.

Music: Jonny Lipford **Greeters:** Jude Johnson

OCTOBER 20 | 11am SERVICE: “NEPANTLA” - THE LAND IN BETWEEN

A look at the immigrant experience discovering belonging in the land in between. Service led by Bryan Davis.

Music: Peoples Choir **Greeters:** Sheryl Ochs, Jude Johnson

OCTOBER 27 | 11AM SERVICE: BELONGING WHEN YOU DON'T BELONG!

All too often in our world children get pushed to the side. Adults are important. Children are just there! Is that fair? Is that right? How do we help everyone have a sense of belonging? How can we help children and other marginalized groups have the belonging that comes so naturally to many? Service led by David Wise

Music: TBD **Greeters:** TBD

Wise Words

David Wise, Faith Formation Director



What an exciting month in September. It is rare that we get to celebrate milestone anniversaries! It is even more rare when multiple celebrations go off with out problems!! What a great time!

It was also exciting as we begin a new year of FAITH FORMATION!! I am excited about what this year can bring for Peoples in continuing to develop who we are as individuals and as a congregation.

The formation of our faith does not magically end when we turn 18 or graduate from high school. For many that is where we start taking what we learned as children and deepening our belief system. I believe that even those of us in middle age and beyond can still learn and develop our faith even more than it is already!

I am thrilled that we are beginning a formal program of ADULT FAITH FORMATION! Whether it is a class or an affinity group this is an opportunity to go deeper, stretch ourselves, and learn things that might be new to us! I urge you to take advantage of the classes and groups that are be offered now and in the coming months!

October 27 is the annual costume contest. This year we are going to let the adults in on the fun as well with an adult category! Get your best costume on and come join the fun! Details are elsewhere in the Voice.

As we enter the fall and think of large family celebrations there are those friends of ours who need a hand from time to time. We have a great food pantry here at Peoples to help those who are food insecure. As we begin this time of bounty for many let's not forget those who might need some help! The food pantry is located near the Gordon Avenue entrance. Please make sure the things you bring to share are still in date and able to be safely eaten.

Parenting group will begin on October 13th in the Andre Room. All who are actively parenting (grandchildren) children under 18 are welcome to join the discussion group! It will typically meet at 9:45am the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

David

Children's Faith Formation has started!!

We still have room for volunteers to help with the classes! NO experience is needed! Just a desire to help!!

Adult Faith Formation begins ~~October 6~~ October 20

Adult Faith Formation will begin Oct 20. 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.

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 and when completed you can view videos from home.

Mike Meshak,

Board President

October 13th marks a step forward on our progress towards Policy Board Governance. We will be voting on revisions to our church's by-laws.

Bylaws are the code of rules that spell out how we regulate and govern the internal affairs of People's Church. Our last revision was in 2015 and there are only a few differences besides rewording.

Many of the differences are because some by-laws can now be placed in Board policies. Our Policy Governance can best be stated as allowing the Board of Trustees to govern at arm's length from operations, which fall under the Minister's responsibilities.

The Board encourages members to look at the online 2015 by-laws and compare

them to the 2019 proposed by-laws. To aid in this we have created a comparison guide, which lists additions, deletions, renumbering or ways that the older by-laws have been cleaned up. A printed copy may also be obtained at the church office.

We need a quorum of members to be able to vote on this, so please, stay after service, or give your proxy vote to someone you trust to vote for you. This should not take too long; however, we will answer questions both before and during open discussion.

We have already done so much to define our core values, craft a mission statement and our ends statements. We hope to see you there

Mike

Dear Friends,

It is with great sadness that I write you with some very unfortunate news I wish I never had to share. Scott Mansfield collapsed while at the downtown public library late Sunday afternoon, September 29th. Bystanders responded, immediately started CPR when they couldn't find a pulse, and called 911. When medical professionals arrived, they continued CPR, brought Scott to Mercy Hospital, and proceeded to try everything possible to restart his heart, but to no avail.



Jerry Morris, friend Kevin, and I met at the hospital around 5pm. We spoke to the doctor, who informed us that Scott had died, and were given the opportunity to sit with Scott's body for a while and say our goodbyes.

To say I was in shock and deeply distressed is putting it mildly. I have spoken to many of you on the phone and received emails from even more of you and I know I am not alone in feeling this way. This is a huge loss for us.

I have been in touch with Scott's brother, Mike, and sister-in-law, Annabel, who live in New Mexico. Together we have decided to have the Memorial Service for Scott here at Peoples Church. However, we don't have a date yet. Mike and Annabel would like to be here for the service, but they are unable to travel here very quickly, so the service may be in a few weeks or even a month's time. I will communicate any updates as soon as I have them.

Beloveds, our hearts are broken, and we are devastated. It will be hard, but the only way we will get through this is if we face our grief *together*. So please don't hesitate to reach out to me, your friends, and other Peoples people for support. At times such as these it is good to share our grief and our love with others.

As such, we will be pushing out the first session of the Transgender Inclusion in Congregations Adult Forum series. That series will now begin on October 20th before worship. **This week we will open a space at 10am in the Ely Room for all who wish to gather to simply be together in our time of sadness and share stories about Scott. Please join us.**

In faith,

Rev. Rebecca

Congregational Meeting

October 13 | Sanctuary | Immediately After Worship

Please plan to attend this brief meeting following Worship. We will be voting on revisions to our church's bylaws. It is important for you to participate in voting on these revisions. Please see our website to view the proposed changes.

Social Justice

The next Social Justice meeting is Thursday, October 17th at 2pm.

The Social Justice Council will be presenting a 3 part series this fall:

So You Want To Talk About Race!

October 27 at 9:30 am in the Ely Room---We will watch short videos followed by discussion. How To Talk With A White Supremacist and The Sky Didn't Fall...How I Learned To Call Out Race.



November 9 at 7 pm a performance by Caleb Rainey, "The Negro Artist." Caleb 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.

November 10 at 9:30 am in the Ely Room---Own Your Own Behaviors, Master Your Communication, Determine Your Success. We will actually practice talking to others about race as we learn to feel more comfortable in responding to racist statements as well as recognizing our own microaggressions.

Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism is holding a 3 day conference in St Paul, MN. The dates are 10/30 to 11/2. All are welcome, but the symposium is prioritizing spaces for black people, indigenous people, and other people of color. The goals of BLUU are to expand the power and capacity of black UUs within the faith; to provide support, information, and resources for black UUs; and to focus on justice-making and liberation through the faith.

16th Annual Peoples Church **Chili Cook-off**

Sunday, October 27, 2019
Starting at 12:15 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 – maximum of two entries per family. Participants can also bring bread or other food items to share. **Voting for your favorite chili is \$1 per ticket or \$5 for six tickets.** Trophies for third, second, and first place will be awarded based on the number of votes – so vote often!

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 under 1 year old, 1-4 years old, 5-9 years old, 10-14 years old, 15-17 years old, and adult.

All proceeds will be given to Peoples Church general fund.

The Finance Team met on September 12, 2019 to review bookkeeper reports, etc.

Cash flow for August was negative:

- August income \$9,429
- August expenses \$12,974

Please remember to complete your 2019 pledges! Thanks!

SESQUICENTENNIAL COFFEE CUPS

With the Sesquicentennial celebration complete we still have a few pieces of merchandise left. One generous person bought 10 of the coffee mugs for use by Peoples people during coffee time and meals. Is there someone else who might like to help add to that collection? If so, reach out to David on Sunday or by email at dre@peoplesuu.org. We might even be able to make a deal!

Time to Update our Members Board!

It's time to get your story and photo up on the member board in the Andre Room. Marion (Manny) Patterson will be around after church Sunday, October 6th to take pictures and have congregants fill out a short bio note. She then crops the photo, does a short write up, and sends to each person to edit. When everything looks right, she sends to the office for printing, formatting, and posting. Join us throughout the fall as we recognize more of our church members.

Climate Change Event

Steven Chu will speak on "Climate Change and Innovative Paths to a Sustainable Future" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, in King Chapel at Cornell College. Free tickets are required. Tickets (and more info) are available online. crnl.co/delt

Chu is a Nobel Laureate and was the U.S. Secretary of Energy. He has worked in industry, government, and academe.

Chu will present old and new evidence of climate change, and show recent findings that the system is more sensitive than we thought 10-20 years ago. He will discuss weather changes, water, agriculture, and clean energy. He will talk about some exciting opportunities to address climate change, including using technology to increase the productivity of arable land. He'll also address the issue of climate refugees in developing countries.

150 years and counting!

PEOPLES CHURCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST



Total Dollars 2020 Pledge Goal	\$163,000	
2020 Dollars Pledged to Date	\$156,174	96%

Goal for Pledge Returns	90	
Number Pledge Forms Returned	86	96%

Thank you to everyone who participated in Peoples Church pledge campaign this historic year!!! We couldn't do this without each one of you! As I write this for the Voice, there are six (6) more days of the campaign. Although we have not reached our goal nor matched what we raised last year, we are very, very close...

In the past four (4) years working on these campaigns, I've learned that not everyone can make their pledge by September 30. If this is like last year, pledges will continue to arrive at the church office and, sometime in December, someone will let out a, "Whoop!" when they see that Peoples Church surpassed the goal!

So why do we end the campaign by September 30 when some people need more time? The short answer is volunteers. Volunteers have limited time they can devote to the next steps which are:

October—Treasurer and finance committee meet to decide what amount can go in each of the church's many line items and still balance in the end

November—Board of Trustees meets and reviews the budget, making any changes needed

December—On December 8th, after the service, the congregation meets to review and approve the budget

While poring over figures and stretching dollars to breathe life into our dreams may give anyone a brain cramp, the end results are worth it. Retaining valued staff, educating our children and adults, connecting with the community, providing a safe, nurturing environment to all, changing the world one day at a time---this is what your gifts support. Thank you for your generosity which breathes life into this church and into this world!

JUDITH A. WALKER-RIGGS (1939-2019)

In Memory of the Rev. Judith A. Walker-Riggs (Judith Urquhart), who died on July 8, 2019, at the age of 79.

Judith was born on August 4, 1939, in Baltimore, MD, to Charles and Marjorie Louise Walker. From 1957 to 1958, she studied Comparative Religion at the University of Rochester, NY, following which she earned a Certificate in Theology from Manchester College, Oxford, England, in 1964. Judith also took courses on modern theology at the University of Oxford, while being at Manchester College. On leaving Manchester College, she was given status as a Unitarian Minister. Later, in 1987, Meadville Lombard Theological School, IL awarded her with honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Rev. Walker-Riggs was ordained on June 24, 1964, by the General Assembly of Unitarian Churches, Great Britain. Following her ordination, she served the Cairo Street Unitarian Chapel, Warrington, England for a year. In 1965, she accepted a call from the First Unitarian Church, Reading, England and served the Reading congregation until 1967. From 1968 to 1970, Rev. Walker-Riggs ministered at the First Unitarian Church, Stoneham, MA, and then at the UU Fellowship Brussels, Belgium (1971-1972). In 1972, she was again called to the First Unitarian Church, Stoneham, MA, where she would serve for four years. Thereafter, Rev. Walker-Riggs executed her vital Parish ministry at the following congregations: The Peoples Church UU, Cedar Rapids, IA (1976-1983); Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, Alexandria, VA (1984-1985); All Souls Unitarian Church, Kansas City, MO (1986-1991); and Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel, London, England (1991-1998).

From 1998 onwards, Rev. Walker-Riggs was drawn to interim ministry and served as an interim minister for the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, NY (1998-2000); Main Line Unitarian Church, Devon, PA (2000-2001); Fountain Street Church, Grand Rapids, MI (2002-2004); and finally at the UU Community of El Paso, El Paso, TX (2006-2008).

Rev. Walker-Riggs carried out a great deal of services on behalf of the denomination. She functioned as LRY (Liberal Religious Youth) local and Federation officer (1954-1957); and as President for the MBD UUMA (1975-1976). She was actively involved in the UUA Extension Training (1978); and served the UUA Board of Trustees (1981-1989), Ministerial Fellowship Committee (1979-1986), the UU Ministers Association, and the

UU Women's Federation. She chaired the UUA Long-Range Planning Committee (1982-1984); and was a board member for the Governing Body of British Unitarians (1993-1998) and Starr King School for the Ministry. Furthermore, Judith served the British Unitarian Finance and Administration Committee from 1995 to 1998. She was adjunct professor at the Meadville Lombard Theological School and was one of the writers for UUA Kit, "Liberal Religion- Our Mission for the Future".

In addition to her ministry, Judith belonged to several community organizations. She served on the boards for the League of Women Voters; United Way; Red Cross; Planned Parenthood; Council of Churches; Council on Aging; Emergency shelter; Camden Ecumenical Refugee Network; and many more organizations. She was appointed to the Civil Rights Commission (1979-1983) and the 8th Circuit Court Desegregation Monitoring Committee (1987-1990). She was instrumental in setting legally required Religious Education in Schools for the London Borough of Camden. In her spare time, Judith enjoyed theatre, music, reading, walking, swimming, and crossword puzzles.

Judith's son James had these thoughts to share in reminiscence of his mother:

The thing I remember the most (and that people often mention first when remembering her services) was her "Freddy the Frog" stories. The way in which they brought children into adult service, and the opportunity for her to use her voice performance skills was legendary.

Personally, her drive for justice in the world around her really affected my brother and me. She was committed to understanding the ways in which UUs could help drive fundamental change. She influenced countless others in her congregations and in the denomination as a whole.

Judith is survived by her sons Iain Urquhart and James Urquhart; and her stepson Steven Riggs.

A celebration of Judith's life was held at 10 am on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at the Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 1025 Mt. Vernon Highway NW, Sandy Springs, GA 30327.

Notes of condolences may be sent to James Urquhart at 3208 Fairview Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501.

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.

This fundraiser/symposium explores the puzzles of poverty in Linn County. Many pieces of the puzzle will be addressed by about a dozen local non-profit leaders to help envision how to meet people's basic needs. The keynote speaker is Jane Drapeaux CEO of HACAP, Hawkeye Area Community Action Program.

Addressing poverty is also the work of ECCF; Peoples Church is active on that board. A table will be reserved for each church and we invite our members to attend. Treats and drinks will be provided at no cost. Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at 1285 3rd. Ave SE, Cedar Rapids. Contact Jim Federer with any questions.

Sesquicentennial Merchandise Still Available

Please contact the [office](#) or [David Wise](#) if you are interested in purchasing a coffee mug, travel mug, or coaster set.



Join us for a workshop inviting you to see the possibility of reversing global warming.

Introduction To Drawdown is a 2 hour workshop that invites you to see both the possibility of reversing global warming and the important role you play in that process, based on the findings of Project Drawdown (www.drawdown.org), a comprehensive scientific study of 100 solutions that together could actually begin to reverse global warming by 2050.





10 AM, Saturday October 19, 2019
Ahrens Family Center, 1436 Penrose St. Grinnell, IA 50112
12 noon, Sandwich Bar Luncheon, suggested donation \$10
12:30- Green New Deal presentation by Matt Orloff of Citizens for Community Improvement
1:00 to 2:30 Presidential Candidate Forum on Climate

To reserve space and lunch go to IUUWAN.com

Sponsored by the Iowa Unitarian Universalist Witness and Advocacy Network

October



DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
2	Wednesday	4:30 – 5:30pm	Membership Committee Meeting
		7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
6	Sunday	8:45 – 10:50am	Fall Forum Series: Transgender Inclusion in Congregations
		9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		10 – 10:50am	A gathering time to come together in our sorrow and to share memories and stories about Scott Mansfield. Ely Room
		11am – 12pm	Worship
8	Tuesday	7 – 8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group
9	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
13	Sunday	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		9:45 – 10:45am	Parenting Group
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		12:15	Congregational Meeting - <i>in Sanctuary immediately following Worship</i>
		following Congregational Mtg.	Worship Associates Meeting
14	Monday	12 – 1pm	Van Vechten Guild - Rob Hogg Climate/Water Issues
		6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Full Moon Ritual
15	Tuesday	2:30 – 3:30pm	Stewardship Meeting
16	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
17	Thursday	2 – 3pm	Social Justice Meeting
		4 – 5pm	Sesquicentennial Team Post Event Meeting
		6:30 – 7:30pm	Finance Team Meeting
19	Saturday	9am – 6:30pm	2nd Annual Midwest Witches Conference
20	Sunday	8:45 – 10:50am	Fall Forum Series: Transgender Inclusion in Congregations
		9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		4:30 – 5:30pm	Board Meeting
21	Monday	9:30 – 10:30am	Archives Committee Meeting
		6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Monthly Meeting
23	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
25	Friday	6 – 7:30pm	CUUPS Costumed Pub Crawl
26	Saturday	6:30 – 8pm	CUUPS Halloween Parade
27	Sunday	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		9:45 – 10:45am	Parenting Group
		10 – 10:50am	Social Justice Forum
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		12:15 – 2:15pm	CUUPS Chili Cook-Off
		following Chili Cook-Off	Annual Costume Parade for ALL ages!
30	Wednesday	7 – 8pm	Choir Practice
31	Thursday	all day	Halloween

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

October

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

Paraministers

September 29—October 13 | Jan Federer

October 14—27 | Rose Gabe

October 28— November 10 | TBD

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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

the Voice

»—————«

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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