

THE VOICE



Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist

March 2020

Five years ago, the members and friends of Peoples Church discerned that it was time to enter Developmental Ministry, a time-limited, goal-oriented program designed to help struggling congregations stabilize, achieve their goals, and prepare to call a settled minister.

I know it would have been much easier not to do this. It would have been quicker and simpler to just ignore the underlying issues in the congregation and head right into search for another called minister; but of course, you didn't. You boldly made the decision to do the hard work of Developmental Ministry.

The Developmental Ministry Goals you came up with as a congregation in 2015-2016 were specific, thoughtful, and on point:

1. Establish church governance structures and practices that make the best use of church resources.
2. Develop, implement, and maintain a financial stewardship system based on generosity and stewardship as theological foundations understood by all members of the Peoples Church community.
3. Communicate positively and consistently among stakeholders.
4. Develop and maintain rich and vigorous processes for attracting and integrating members.
5. Develop and implement a plan for increasing Peoples Church presence and involvement in

“YOU CAN TELL
WHETHER ONE IS
CLEVER BY THEIR
ANSWERS.

YOU CAN TELL
WHETHER ONE IS
WISE BY THEIR
QUESTIONS.

-Naguib Mahfouz”

the geographical and religious communities of Cedar Rapids and beyond.

Four years later, how do you think we are doing?

I'd say we have made considerable progress on all of these goals, especially the first two. We have successfully transitioned into Policy Governance (a governance model with clear lines of authority and accountability, which is already liberating us for action and achieving results), and we have emerged from years of deficit budgets into a new era of financial stability (with giving up 29% since 2016, our endowment 50% larger than it was in 2016, our most recent fiscal year ending with a surplus, and a balanced budget for 2020).

The question before the congregation now is “How will we know when we are done with developmental ministry?” Or to put it another way, “how will we know when we are ready to call our next settled minister?”

The PCUU Board has started to think about these questions and is working on a Developmental Ministry Progress Report which will be released at the May Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 17th. And they are looking for input. So please talk to them about the accomplishments you have seen and been a part of these last four years, as well as the gaps in our efforts and the areas in which we still need to do some work.

I am also open to input and would love your feedback.

I look forward to discerning our future together.

In Faith,
Rev. Rebecca

MOMENT

Ministry's



Rev. Rebecca
Hinds

March 2020

Wisdom

March 1: Knowledge, Understanding, and Wisdom

What is the difference between knowledge, understanding, and wisdom? And if this is the information age, why are we so slow to get from one to the other? Service led by Rev. Rebecca. Music by Deb Hunemuller, Pete Kies, and Judy Mitschelen.

March 8: The Divine Feminine

In many cultures around the world, wisdom is both ancient and feminine. How can we tune into the divine feminine in today's world and how can it transform us? Service led by Rev. Rebecca. Music by Judy Mitschelen.

March 15: Wisdom from the World's Religions

Our tradition draws from six sacred sources, one of which is the wisdom of the world religion's. Where is the line between "drawing on the wisdom from the world's religions" and cultural appropriation? Service led by Rev. Rebecca. Music by the People Choir and Judy Mitschelen.

March 22: Balance

Service led by Paulette Montague. Music by Frank Rudolph and Judy Mitschelen.

March 29: Beyond the Binary

March 31st is International Transgender Day of Visibility. In this service we will celebrate the wisdom of our transgender, genderqueer, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming siblings. Service led by Rev. Rebecca. Music by Joan Jacobs, Lu Wilcox, and Judy Mitschelen.

Keep on casting
Your bread upon the water
Soon it's gonna come back home on
every wave
Keep on casting
Your bread upon the water
Soon it's gonna come back home on
every wave
Good measure pressed down
Shaken together running over
Soon it's gonna come back home on
every wave

This chorus from a song written by Janny and Bill Grein and sung by the Imperials in the late 70's was one of my favorites!

It is so incredibly simple and so very powerful. What we do is going to back to us.

As I think about Faith Formation and Peoples the message from this song is still powerful and important. We want the kids in the Faith Formation to learn the Principles, the Sources, and all of the positive things Peoples and Unitarian Universalism have to offer to this now as children and when they become adults.

The Faith Formation program is not just the Director of the program. It is not just the parents of the kids in the program. It truly needs to involve a good cross section of adults from the congregation. The children in the program need to see that the congregation cares for and loves them. They need to see members of the congregation giving of their time to help teach classes and lead programs.

As we begin planning for 2020-2021 Faith Formation classes I will be asking members of Peoples to step up and help. Will you be willing to cast some bread on the water?

Wise Words



David Wise, Director of Faith Formation

Will you shake things up? Will you see the good you do coming back on every wave?

TRIVIA RETURNS!!

Mark your calendars for April 4th!!! Get your teams together! TEAM MEMBERS DO NOT NEED TO BE FROM PEOPLES! 8 people maximum per team. The categories are: SPORTS, IOWA HISTORY, RELIGION, GEOGRAPHY, SCIENCE, MUSIC, HARRY POTTER and TELEVISION. Cost is the same as last year—\$ 80 per team. We will have snacks available with a basket for donations. To register call the office at 319-362-9827. We accept credit cards, checks, or cash. For more info talk to David or email dre@peoplesuu.org.

ADULT OWL TRAINING

We will be hosting an adult OWL training session for facilitators from across the region on July 31-August 2. Some of the participants might be looking for home hospitality. The training will be begin Friday around 5pm and go to about 10pm, start Saturday around 8am go to around 10pm, and Sunday start around 8am. Basically it would be offering a place to sleep and a bathroom. All meals are being covered by the training event. Let David know if this might be something of interest! dre@peoplesuu.org

David



◀ A visit to **Putnam Museum** in Davenport on **Saturday, March 28, 2020**

◀ Our **3rd Annual Trivia Night** will be **Saturday, April 4th, 2020**. Plan to come join in the fun!

◀ A trip to **Blank Park Zoo** in Des Moines on **Saturday, May 16, 2020**

◀ Join in our **All Church Camp Out** at Pinicon Ridge **June 12-14th, 2020**

◀ **Summer Camp for Kids!** is **July 11, 18, and 25, 2020**

**Spring will be here before you know it—
be ready with a new T-Shirt!**

We are able to continue selling t-shirts with our two designs. They make great gifts. Please share the link with friends and family! They are wonderful for UU friends and non UU friends!

Both the Question Everything and Only Kindness Matters are great for this continuing political season!!!

[Click here!](#)



Mike Meshak, Board President



One of my quirky favorite movies is "The Razor's Edge" that tells the story of a man in search of answers to life. I suppose I was in search of wisdom back in Guatemala in the early '90s, because I read esoteric books and questioned things beyond my sheltered life.

When I was in the Peace Corps I was exposed to people from Central America and from many US states. The sharp contrast meant I either had to defend my definition of myself, or listen to what the universe was telling me about the basic principles humans have in dealing with others.

I read a lot, traveled, and tried to keep my mouth shut and my ears open. Looking back, that was the most educational time in terms of learning about myself. And it was painful because I could not always rationalize why I

was the way I was. I read Zen quotes and mini-stories. Carlos Castaneda and others that I didn't even know existed. When the student is ready, the master appears kind of was true.

So it was no huge leap to Unitarian Universalism when my girlfriend Brenda suggested we go to her church. It had been there all along with these wonderful people full of wisdom from different perspectives in life.

I still love stories that tell an angle on life that make me think. And I love quotes because in a short snippet, a sermon is passed on. So, here is a good one:

Teachers open the door,
but you must enter by yourself.

Mike Meshak
PCUU Board President

Welcome New members!



Join together to learn more about Peoples Church, Unitarian Universalism, and what it means to be a Member. (*Spoiler alert—it's Great!*) [Contact Rev. Rebecca](#) to sign up!

Classes 7pm on Wednesdays March 18, 25, and April 1.

Those who wish to formally join the church will be welcomed into membership during worship on Sunday, April 5, 2020.

Girl Scout Cookies!



It's cookie time! Aida will be selling Girl Scout Cookies after church on **Sunday March 8th** outside the sanctuary. She will have boxes on hand but if we don't have your favorites in stock, she can also take your order to be delivered at church.

Boxes are:

- \$4 for Thin Mints, Tagalongs, Trefoils, Samoas, Do-Si-Dos and the new Lemon-Ups
- \$5 for S'mores and Gluten Free Toffee-Tastic

We can accept cash or check. ***Can't make it to church those days? No problem! Check out Aida's online sales option at: <https://DigitalCookie.GirlScouts.org/scout/aida798191>***

SPRING INTO FUN WITH FAITH FORMATION!



Please contact David Wise about
our Spring and Summer Faith
Formation activities.

dre@peoplesuu.org or 362-9827

FAITH FORMATION



All Church Camp Out!
Pinicon Ridge
June 20-21st, 2020



Summer Camp for KIDS!
July 11, 18, and 25, 2020

Social Justice

The next Social Justice Council meeting is March 18 at 2pm.

African American Museum Upcoming Events:

Our Sisters' Many Hats

Free Event

When we say a person “wears many hats,” we mean that person has many roles in society. This phrase originated in a time when everyone wore hats, and many of those hats were specific to a given trade, official position, or function.

It takes an extraordinary woman to wear all of these hats—professional, artist, citizen, entrepreneur, mother. But is she rare? No. You probably know ten women like her, just like your mother, grandmother, and her grandmother did before her.

March 12, at 6 p.m., in Hickok Hall on Coe College campus, the African American Museum of Iowa will offer a presentation about African American women of Iowa who have been doing amazing work in their many hats for over 164 years.

Who Was? A Story Time

Free Event

March 14 11am-12pm—Cedar Rapids Library 450 5th Ave SE.

We are partnering with the Cedar Rapids Public Library for a children’s story program based on the Who Was series of biographies. These sessions will feature a reading of a Who Was biography and a hands-

on activity to connect kids to the inspiring life of each story time’s subject. (*Join us on the second Saturday of each month to celebrate important historical and contemporary African Americans.*)

This month we’ll be celebrating the life of famous jazz musician Louis Armstrong with a reading of **Who Was Louis Armstrong?** and a fun craft that kids can take home.

1619 Project: Music

March 24 7pm—African American Museum

Join us for a discussion based on the New York Times Magazine’s 1619 Project. Karl Cassell, Managing Partner at Top RANK Talent Solutions will moderate **a panel discussion focusing on the appropriation of African American music.**

The panel will include: Myron McReynolds, Director of Education at Orchestra Iowa and Blake Shaw (Blake Shaw Music), Performing Bassist, Big(ish) Band Leader, & Music Teacher at Hiawatha/Cedar Rapids Day School.

The 1619 Project is an ongoing initiative from The New York Times Magazine that began in August 2019, the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. It aims to reframe the country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans at the very center of our national narrative. The AAMI will participate in this project with panel discussions that will feature a variety of community voices, in many cases Cedar Rapids/Eastern Iowa’s own experts on topics being discussed – topics like incarceration, music, democracy, and more.

Congregational
Meeting

**May
17
2020**

Andre Room

12pm

Potluck

12:30pm

Meeting

SAVE
THE
DATE

Passover Seder Dinner

Friday, April 10th

5:30 PM

Come enjoy a delicious Passover meal and participate in a traditional Jewish spring holiday! This family-friendly festival commemorates the exodus of the Jews from Egypt and our wish for freedom for all people throughout the world.

Menu: Chicken soup with matzo balls

Roast Chicken

Brisket

Roasted new potatoes

Vegetables

Dessert



Cost: \$15.00 per person (children 12 and under eat free)

Peoples Church UU

Service Animal, Support Animal, & Pet Policy

Service animals, defined as an animal that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability and licensed by the ADA, are always allowed in Peoples Church.

“Emotional support animals” are allowed in the building as long as the animal has at least basic behavior training. This includes, but is not limited to: they must not bark, bite, jump up, growl or show any signs of aggression toward others, they will stand or sit by the owner at all times, and they will signal their owner when they need to relieve themselves.

Trained and well-behaved pets, who meet the behavior conditions described above for support animals, are only allowed in the building with the prior consent of everyone who will be in the room.



All dogs in the building must be on a leash in common areas.

Any animal, service animal or not, who is disruptive may be required to leave with its owner.

THE VOICE

Have you heard?

e-Weekly February

February's **VOICE** email was opened by 32% of recipients;
23% of recipients clicked the link to open the publication.

The average February **eWeekly** email open rate was 21%.

Don't miss out on important information!



PRESCRIPTION DIRECTIONS:

If you feel under the weather, you have ~~Doctor~~
Rev. Rebecca's permission to stay home and
take care of yourself!



More spring and summer events for your calendar!

🌸 Passover Seder Dinner **April 10** 5:30pm Peoples Church

🌸 Juneteenth **June 20** 11am-4pm NewBo City Market

🌸 CR PrideFest **July 11** 11am-5pm NewBo City Market

The Finance Team met February 13, 2020 to review bookkeeper reports and related items.

Cash flow for January was positive when pre-paid pledges for 2020 are included:

- January income \$37,691
- January expenses \$19,932



DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday	1	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		9:45 – 10:45am	Parenting Group
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		12 – 1pm	Girl Scout Cookie Sales
Wednesday	4	4:30 – 5:30pm	Membership Committee Meeting
		6 – 7pm	Choir Practice
Sunday	8	all day	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS - SPRING FORWARD 1 HR
		9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		12 – 1pm	Girl Scout Cookie Sales
		12:15 – 1:15pm	Worship Associates
Monday	9	12 – 1pm	Van Vechten Guild <i>Chains Interrupted - Human Trafficking</i>
Tuesday	10	6:30 – 7:30pm	CUUPS Full Moon Ritual
		7-8:30pm	LGBTQ Support Group
		7pm	Stewardship Team Meeting
Wednesday	11	6 – 7pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	12	7 – 8pm	Finance Meeting
Sunday	15	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		9:45 – 10:45am	Parenting Group
		11am – 12pm	Worship
		4:30 – 5:30pm	Board Meeting
Monday	16	all day	David Wise Birthday
		9:30 – 10:30am	Archives Committee
		6:30 – 7:30pm	CUUPS Monthly Meeting
Tuesday	17	all day	St. Patrick's Day
Wednesday	18	6 – 7pm	Choir Practice
		6 – 7pm	CUUPS Ostara Ritual & Potluck
Sunday	22	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		11am – 12pm	Worship
Wednesday	25	6 – 7pm	Choir Practice
Friday	27	all day	April VOICE articles due
Sunday	29	9:45 – 10:45am	Faith Formation Class for children and youth
		9:45 – 10:45am	Parenting Group
		11am – 12pm	Worship
Tuesday	31	1 – 2pm	Paraministry Meeting

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

Custodian

Brian Reeves

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.



CARING COMMUNITY

Good Neighbors

Kathy Juba

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

Paraministers

March 2—March 15 | Dorothy Hershner

March 16—March 29 | Rose Gabe

March 30—April 12 | Jan Federer

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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



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