

Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist

4980 Gordon Ave. NW ● Cedar Rapids ● Iowa ● 52405

Expanded e Weekly

May 7, 2020



PEOPLES CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

LEADING COMPASSIONATE LIVES THROUGH SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND JUST ACTION.

Our Ends Statements!

1. We partner with others to build a fair and just world.
2. We create a spiritual home that welcomes everyone of goodwill.
3. We articulate our UU faith, teach it to our children, and live it in the world.
4. We support our mission with compassionate presence, talented participation, and financial resources.
5. We create transformative spiritual experiences together that awaken our compassionate action.

Dear Ones,

This May is an exciting month for us at Peoples Church! We have Trivia Night on Friday, May 8th, a special service devoted to poetry on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th, and our Annual Flower Ceremony and Congregational Meeting on May 17th.

Don't forget to invite your friends and come to Trivia Night tomorrow evening – and all from the comfort of your own home! Please email David Wise in advance to sign up your team. This is a fundraiser for the church and there will be an opportunity to donate online during the event. David has promised the questions will be easy this year!

This Sunday, May 10th our service will be devoted to Poetry. And I need your help! Do you have a favorite poem? Would you like to read it as part of the service? Please let me know ASAP and send me your poem in advance. If you want to share a poem but are too shy to read it yourself, you can submit it to me and someone else will read it for you.

Next Sunday, May 17th for our Annual Flower Ceremony things will be a little bit different as we engage in this ritual virtually. I am asking everyone to please submit a photo of a flower to me by next Thursday, May 14th for inclusion in the slideshow and Flower Ceremony.

Finally, as I said last week, the Peoples Church campus remains closed. For now, and until you hear otherwise directly from me or the PCUU Board, all meetings, gatherings, and worship service will be held online. The Board and I are working on a reopening plan which we will publish as soon as possible. Please stay tuned. And stay safe!

In Faith,
Rev. Rebecca

MOMENT

Ministry's



Rev. Rebecca
Hinds

THIS Sunday
May 10

11:00am Poetry for Life In Between

We are living in a liminal time. What was can no longer be; what will be is yet unclear. At times such as these it is best to listen to the poets and sages. Join us in this service full of poetry and let it give you life and energy to face the unknown! Online service led by Rev. Rebecca with music by Deb Hunemuller, Pete Kies

NEXT Sunday
May 17

11:00am The Promise of Flowers

Every spring the world erupts in color as flowers bloom all around us. Once again, we will celebrate the beauty of spring and community in our Annual Flower Ceremony. This year it will be entirely online. So please send in a picture of a flower in advance so we can include it in the service! Service led by Rev. Rebecca with music by Bill Hart and Karen Pierce.

Wise Words



David Wise, Director of Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION

I am worried. I am writing just after the Governor lifted so many of the necessary restrictions on lowans and businesses in the state. Every day we see alarming numbers of positive cases and deaths! It worries me to see the restrictions lifted because so many people are going to see this as permission to start returning to normal.

Please be careful and smart! The virus is still incredibly dangerous and just because one can now go to a mall doesn't mean we have to! Protect yourself and the health care workers!

Faith Formation will not be meeting in person until, at least, this fall. And that will only be if we can do it safely! Yes, we are missing some classes and not all kids are Zooming in. We prefer to keep everyone safe rather than come back too soon and cause harm! Covid-19 is all around us! Please help keep it only around us and not among us! Wear the masks, stay on your property, limit trips to pharmacies (they often mail prescriptions) and grocery stores (Aisle's On Line is wonderful!!).

Please take care in these troubling days!

TRIVIA RETURNS!!!! MAY 8 the Friday night social hour becomes TRIVIA!!!

Get your team together. Max of 8 screens per team. **This is a fundraiser for Peoples.** You will be given opportunities to donate during the evening. You might even be given the opportunity to buy an answer or two LOL.

PRE-REGISTRATION is required!!!!

Normally we would love to have anyone and everyone join us for this event. With the issues that face us with Zoom bombing we want to be careful—so **please pre-register by reaching out to me at DRE@PEOPLESUU.ORG** You are allowed and encouraged to have folks not from Peoples on your team!!!

We currently have two teams registered. They need some competition. **Even if you can't assemble a team—come join the meeting and we will put you on a team and you can have some fun during this pandemic!!**

Zoom Faith Formation at 10 am on Sunday!! Rich and Marion Patterson will join us for a lesson on nature and creative ways to spend our time!

On May 17 we will have an end of the year party! More details to come!!

David

TRIVIA NIGHT



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IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER!

Registration is open until 7pm Friday.

Options for Giving while Social Distancing

Here are three options for paying your pledge and/or giving to Peoples Church:

1. Send in a check to PCUU 4980 Gordon Ave. NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
2. Give online at www.peoplesuu.org – go to the Donate Now tab.
3. Give Plus app on your smart phone. Go to the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and search “[give plus church](#)”. Download app and simply search

Congregational
Meeting

**May
17
2020**

12:30pm
on Zoom

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**Join us on Friday evening
for a special evening of Trivia!**

All from the comfort of your own home. See the flyer on the previous page for information on signing up. Here is the Zoom link for **Trivia Night**. See you there!

Topic: Trivia Night

Time: May 8, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/98003046591?pwd=NFNKeUhKSkZEaGhaZWxxRitHNUMwdz09>

(312) 626 6799

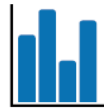
Meeting ID: 980 0304 6591

**Zoom
Event**
Tuesday
May 19
7pm CT



Integrity First for America is taking on the leadership of the violent white nationalist movement in court — sending a clear message that violent hate has no place in our country.

We live in fraught times. Anti-Semitism, racism, and other forms of hate are on the rise. From Charlottesville to Pittsburgh to Poway to El Paso, the crisis of violent white nationalism has gone unchecked.



The ADL found a 99% increase in anti-Semitic incidents from 2015 to 2018; anti-Semitic assaults more than doubled in 2018.



Right-wing extremists killed more people in 2018 than any year since 1995—the year of the Oklahoma City bombing.

IFA, in partnership with a world-class legal team, is leveraging one of the best tools at our disposal to take on the leadership of this violent movement: our justice system.

IFA's groundbreaking lawsuit seeks to hold accountable the neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other far-right extremists who conspired to orchestrate a weekend of violence in Charlottesville in August 2017, which resulted in Heather Hoyer's death and extensive injuries. This suit — scheduled to go to trial this October 2020 — has the potential to bankrupt and dismantle the leaders and hate groups as the center of this movement.

Join IFA Executive Director Amy Spitalnick for an overview of this landmark case — which is moving full-speed ahead — and the fight against white supremacy, anti-Semitism, racism, and other forms of hate.

ABOUT SINES V. KESSLER

In August 2017, neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other far-right extremists descended on Charlottesville, Virginia, for what they called "Unite the Right." This rally was not a peaceful protest but, rather, a meticulously planned conspiracy to bring violence to Charlottesville—the result of months of online organizing, fueled by bigotry and hatred. They chanted "Jews will not replace us" and "Blood and Soil." They carried swastikas and other Nazi symbols. And they murdered Heather Heyer and injured countless others.

As the attack unfolded, litigators Roberta Kaplan and Karen Dunn — in partnership with IFA — sprang into action, using the best tool at our disposal to fight back: our justice system.

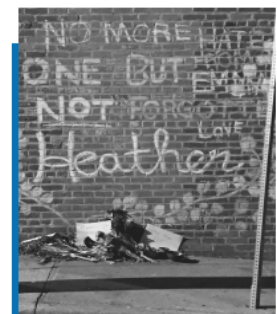
This landmark federal suit against the two dozen neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and hate groups responsible for the Charlottesville attack seeks to hold them accountable for their conspiracy to commit racially-motivated violence.

HOW WILL THIS CASE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The court has rejected the defendants' efforts to block this suit and trial is scheduled for October 2020.

This suit is the only current effort to use our justice system to take on the vast leadership of the violent white nationalist movement. It has the potential to uncover who's funding this infrastructure—and bankrupt it. And it sends a clear message: violent hate has no place here.

Once in a generation, there is a trial that fundamentally changes our nation. This will be that trial — laying down a clear marker against organized hate and violence here in America.



Calendar

Friday	May 8	7pm	Virtual TRIVIA NIGHT!
Sunday	May 10	All day	<i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>
Sunday	May 10	10am	Live Streaming Faith Formation—later posted to YouTube
Sunday	May 10	11am	Live Streaming Worship—later posted to YouTube

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Are you in need of assistance but can't make the trip to the church? We will deliver to you!

Please call or email Rev. Rebecca and we will make arrangements for a food delivery. 362-9872 or minister@peoplesuu.org.



Thank you for your generous donations to our food pantry and face mask materials drive.

Peoples' Mission in action once again!

Mental Health Resources

This is a difficult time for all of us. While it is perfectly normal to feel anxious and sad, if you start to enter a mental health crisis, where the stress, pressure, fear, or anxiety are too much for you to cope with on your own, please reach out for professional help. There are a number of resources available 24-hours a day. Here are two of them:

Foundation Two Crisis Hotline: 319-362-2147

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Foundation 2

www.foundation2.org

24 Hour Crisis Line—319-362-2174
Trained compassionate telephone counselors are available 24/7/365

Crisis Chat/Text—

www.foundation2crisischat.org

www.iowacrisischat.org

www.yourlifeiowa.org

J-Fast—319-247-0030

Juvenile & Family Assistance & Stabilization Track provides immediate crisis intervention & case management for youth who are struggling with self-harm, substance use, depression and thoughts of suicide.

Getting Restless? Bored with Self Isolating?

We hope you are keeping up with PCUU on our [Facebook Page](#) and in our [Facebook Group](#).

If you haven't already, please join the group—especially if you are feeling disconnected from community, it is a good place to check-in and discuss all manner of topics!



COVID-19 Iowa Hotline: 2-1-1 or 1-800-244-7431

CDC Website: [Coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Linn County Food Bank is distributing food in the parking lot of First Presbyterian Church from 1 to 3:15 pm Monday through Friday.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Thank you to People's members for contributing \$612 to the Catherine McAuley Center during our First Quarter Sunday Plate Collection. The center has been very busy translating COVID-19 information to immigrants in our community and will be most appreciative of our gift at this time.

The City of Cedar Rapids is seeking donated masks to be distributed to local service agencies and community members in need. Drop-boxes for masks are at City Hall (corner of 1st Ave SE and 1st St SE) & City Services Center front lobby (500 15th Ave SW).

Linn County Department of Public Health's mapping of the COVID-19 virus shows that it is concentrated in low-income neighborhoods

where black, brown, and immigrant individuals and families live. Of course, there are systemic social and political reasons for this but not everyone understands this. It is important for us to be vigilant as backlash is to be expected

About 17% of Iowans with confirmed cases of COVID-19 are Hispanic or Latino. Yet, they make up only 6% of the state's population. About

9% of the cases are African-American, though only making up 3% of the population. Latinos and African-Americans are doing the heavy lifting all over the country when it comes to this disease. Race is not to blame but racism that results in disparities in social and economic policies is. Ibram X. Kendi writes in *The Atlantic-Stop Blaming Black People for Dying of the Coronavirus*. Here is the [link for this article](#).

Book Recommendations: *Becoming* by Michelle Obama and *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Bryan Stevenson is the founder of the Equal Justice Initiative which is our second quarter recipient of our First Sunday Plate Collection. An excellent movie, *Just Mercy*, was recently released on DVD and Blu-Ray. The EJI has videos explaining their work on their website at www.equaljusticeinitiative.org.

Volunteers are being sought to sew masks at home. To sign up for this and other virtual volunteer opportunities go to www.uweci.org/volunteernow.

To make an appointment to donate blood go to www.bloodcenter.org.

A consortium of community agencies (Linn Area Partners Active In Disaster) is meeting electronically to determine the

needs in the community. Agencies that work with older adults are identifying food needs and assisting with delivery as grocery stores are swamped with these requests. One hundred inmates were released by the Linn County Jail but the shelters are at full occupancy. Homelessness will undoubtedly increase. Catherine McAuley Center is putting out information on the virus in languages spoken by our community members.

To learn about immediate emergency volunteer needs in the community go to <https://uweci.org/volunteer> now.

Iowa Legal Aid and the Iowa State Bar Association have a phone number people can call if they have legal issues during the pandemic. Either Legal Aid staff or a volunteer attorney will try to respond to questions. The phone number is 1-800-332-0419. The website is www.iowalegalaid.org/resource/2020-coronavirus-outbreak-what-you-need-to-know. Evictions and mortgage foreclosures for people who have lost employment due to the virus have been suspended by state order. This resource is there to help people understand their legal rights during this epidemic.

Join Sunday Morning Worship from Home!

Every Sunday at 11am

Peoples Church will be live streaming worship on Zoom and on YouTube.

You can join our **Zoom** Service on your computer *or* on your telephone.

Instructions will be emailed on Saturdays and will include:

- A link to the livestream video
- The phone number if you prefer to call in and listen to the service.
- The meeting password

You will be placed in a “waiting room” and we will manually welcome you in!

Worship will go live at about 10:30am so attendees will have time to make sure they can access the service. You will see the pulpit but you may not hear any sounds. If you are having difficulty and need some assistance call David at 515-599-0393 and he can try to help.

You can watch our service on **YouTube** by following this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrjLUXc-QpRCmLq1SepNDPg/videos?view=57&flow=grid>

CARING COMMUNITY

GOOD NEIGHBORS - May

Kris Davis | 294-5010 (h) | 319-361-0280 | daviskris49@gmail.com

PARAMINISTERS

April 27 - May 10 | Suzie Hauter

May 11 - May 24 | Rose Gabe

May 25 - Jun 7 | Deb Maynard

Voice & eWeekly SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Submit announcements and notice of events for publication in The Voice and the eWeekly by filling out the [Voice form](#).

eWeekly: **EVERY Wednesday at noon***

** unless noted otherwise in the Announcements and Notices section*

The Voice is temporarily replaced by our Expanded eWeekly

OUR STAFF

Developmental Minister

[Rev. Rebecca Hinds](#) (319) 362-9827

Director of Faith Formation

[David Wise](#) (319) 362-9827

Operations Coordinator

[Christine Kullander](#) (319) 362-9827

Pledge Treasurer

[Charlie Cizio](#)

Custodian

Brian Reeves

Nursery Attendants

Valerie Angerer Zieser

Alexis Wauford

Jenna Straatmann

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS:

office@Peoplesuu.org | (319) 362-9827