

The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a dynamic, waving pattern. The colors are vibrant, with a deep blue, bright red, and crisp white.

# THE VOICE

July 2021

**Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist**

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

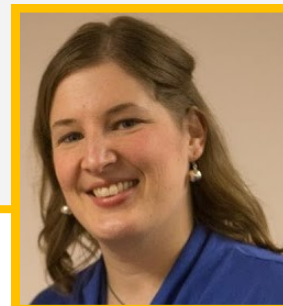
[Peoples Church UU Cedar Rapids, Iowa YouTube Channel](#)

[www.peoplesuu.org](http://www.peoplesuu.org)

Dear Peoples people,

When I found out David Wise was going to be your interim minister I was just thrilled! What a fantastic fit all around. I could not be happier for you or for him. David is a talented, pastoral, and trustworthy leader. Plus he already knows the church and all of you! For these reasons I believe the interim period you are entering into will be rich and fruitful! He is the right person for the job and will lead you well into your next chapter of search and preparation for calling a settled minister. Congratulations and good luck! I will be cheering for you from afar.

With best wishes for the journey,



Wise Words  
From David Wise  
Outgoing Director Faith Formation  
Incoming Interim Minister



I am humbled and honored to be embarking on this new path with the Peoples people! The new position was not something I ever imagined happening again in my life. I look forward to this new adventure and

challenge! The time I have spent at Peoples has been fantastic and I am sure this next portion of the journey will be as well!!

Thank you to all who have sent notes of welcome. I know there was quite a bit of concern before this transition was announced. I know from your notes that much of that tension has been relieved and for that I am thankful!

The rest of the Interim team will be announced soon. We are seeking help to assist with Faith Formation and Technology specifically. If you know of good candidates have them reach out to me at [dre@peoplesuu.org](mailto:dre@peoplesuu.org) !

The journey that lies before us is filled with possibilities and opportunities!!

## **Final Interim Minister Update**

### **Listening to the Still, Small Voice Within**

**Marion Patterson, Board President**

If nothing else, life is fluid. To move forward, we adapt.

Here is where we are and what changed.

The Interim Search Team and the Board of Trustees agree that David Wise, Director of Faith Formation is an excellent candidate to walk with us for the next year. The agreement is that he will return to Director of Faith Formation after this year when Peoples calls a settled minister in 2022. This idea was discussed by the search team early and ultimately became the best choice for Peoples.

Benefits: David knows us, has been on board with the values, mission, ends, and Faith Formation. He already knows the governance model that took much work to implement; tackled the AV-Technology matters in addition to the Faith Formation duties; has an excellent relationship with the staff; is experienced in pastoral care; and knows the wider community.

The church benefits by having a knowledgeable person step right in, no moving expense, and we can shift to a settled search this summer.

How did this option happen? We stopped struggling and listened to the still, small voice within. The team returned to the idea that had been floated early on and that is supported by Reverend Rebecca

Throughout, the Interim Search Team followed the process. They worked cooperatively with the UUA Transition office and inter-

viewed several likely candidates through rounds one and two of matching candidates and congregations. It didn't work.

Wondering, the Team asked "What did we do wrong?"

The answer from the UUA Transitional office: "Nothing."

Ultimately, the candidates selected congregations that offered more money, and ones other than in a mid-sized city in the Midwest.

We paused. Cleared our minds. Looked with soft eyes. Opened our hearts to possibilities. And, recognized that an excellent candidate was right before us.

So, we asked David to consider this interim position. Over the next several days we worked out details surrounding finances, duties, and future expectations.

We came to a happy agreement.

We also know that David cannot do all that he was doing and add this role to the mix. We have already started the process to find others to help with some of the tasks. These include a part-time Faith Formation and Technology people.

Our congregational job now is to continue working together this year as we select a settled ministry search team and let them do its work.

Building on the work of the Interim Search team's congregational profile, our challenge is to refine and present an accurate and exciting picture of our church and community, which will include a strong financial package for candidates who are in search next year.

M~





# Nurturing the Flame

Rest and Reflect

Marion Patterson, Board President

“We awaken to the sun’s glory of light praising...the morning.” Jacob Trapp

We step into the fullness of summer bringing fruits of our work from the past five years. Spreading them out, we appreciate how communally Peoples Church has transformed. And, we are grateful.

Although we have more to harvest and ground to prepare for seasons to come, we take time to rest and reflect. Let us join together at the annual “Scott Mansfield July Picnic” at Noelridge Park on July 4<sup>th</sup>. See the Voice/eweekly for details. Arrive early to play as you wish. Eat about noon. Laugh, talk, let ideas bubble up. Connect. Love.

I invite you to Rest and Reflect before we dig in to creating our future together.

Rest a while in the balm of good works and ease of summer.

Reflect on what you have valued in **our history** and past ministries; how our **mission statement** remains relevant today; ways you can **help Peoples Church** continue to move forward toward our ends – Policy governance, Financial stability, Communications, involvement in the wider Community and Membership. What does each of these mean to you? How will you be one of the helpers?

Love IS the spirit of this church and Service is its Law.

M~



If you’d like to attend our Board meetings, please contact David Wise [dre@peoplesuu.org](mailto:dre@peoplesuu.org). Past board minutes are here: **Peoples Board Minutes**

PEOPLES PEOPLE, YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# 4TH OF JULY PICNIC!



**When:** July 4, 2021 We will eat at Noon

Bring your own picnic lunch & tableware. (Please - NO DISH TO SHARE!) Feel free to bring a game to play or a holiday decoration to display.

**Where:** Noelridge Park ITC Pavilion

Pavilion available 9am-2pm to allow for time to enjoy the playground, walking trail, city flower garden, and best of all, catch up with friends!



Click on the image to the right for a video message from the Stewardship Team...



The Finance Team met on 6/17/21 to review bookkeeper reports and plan for 2022 budget, etc.

Cash flow for May was negative; May's higher expenses reflect this year's fair share payment to the UUA:

- May income \$7,628
- May expenses \$26,077



# Summer Clean Up time!

We are sending out a call for volunteers who want to get outside, enjoy some fresh air, and help with the annual clean up of the church grounds. Too hot for you? Come help touch up our interior paint and perhaps some other tasks!

Look for more details in the eWeekly beginning next week. We have been apart for a long time—we can't wait to see you!

Scheduled dates:

- July 20-23
- August 3-6

## **Attending Worship in Person—*UPDATED***

We are continuing our move into Phase III of our COVID19 church reopening plan. We are having up to a total of 20 people in the sanctuary at a time—this includes the worship team.

Usually, four to five people provide the service. (minister, worship associate, pianist, technology host) So, an additional 15 congregants can come in person. Masks. Distance. No hymnals.

***For each Sunday Worship you wish to attend, you must contact the office no later than 2:00pm the prior Thursday.***

You will receive confirmation that a seat has been reserved for you.

FYI—you may want to bring ear buds and a phone or tablet that runs Zoom in order to hear the musicians who play remotely.

Please watch this section in our weekly newsletters where we will post updates on in-person attendance.



# SOCIAL JUSTICE

**FIRST SUNDAY PLATE COLLECTION *on July 11:***

***Linn County Mental Health Access Center***

## **The 8th Principle**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Our Principles have changed in relation to society's demands in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. It could be time for a change in the Principles in the 2020s because recent events have shown us that many Americans are still deprived of access to liberty, equality, and justice.

UUs are actually a part of the problem. Our congregations are and have always been white centered and of European heritage in membership and leadership roles. For people identified as white, it is too easy to ignore issues of systemic racism in our congregations and in society. This is exactly what keeps the system of racism alive and, in fact, worsening right now. We need to de-center whiteness and other dominant cultures in UUism.

The 8th Principle came from a feeling that we need something to renew our commitment to this work, to hold ourselves accountable, and to fulfill the potential of our existing principles.

Our 8th Principle Task Force will be moving Peoples toward this goal of de-centering whiteness during the next 5 months. We thank Kris Davis, Laura McGraw, David Meissler-Kubaneck, Marcia Swift, Joye Winey, and Dick Woodward for their commitment to this work by serving on the Task Force.

*At the GA Assembly in June 91% of the delegates voted to include anti-racism and anti-oppression in the 8th Principles. 112 UU congregations across the country have voted to adopt the 8th Principle.*

**Caste Book Group July 6th at 7PM!**



## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Soup      Fruit      Canned chicken      Granola bars

Spaghetti Os      Fruit Juice      Packaged Potatoes      Cereal

Crackers      Applesauce      Bread/Muffin/Pancake mixes

*Please remember to check the expiration date on items you donate. Thank you!*

## WAYS TO GIVE WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCEING



Send in a check to:  
**PCUU**  
**4980 Gordon Ave. NW**  
**Cedar Rapids, IA 52405**



Give online from your  
laptop or desktop at  
**[www.peoplesuu.org](http://www.peoplesuu.org)** –  
go to the Donate Now tab.  
*This option does not work  
from your smart phone.*



**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 for  
Peoples Church.



Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	4	all day 11am	Independence Day Annual 4th of July Picnic at Noelridge Park
Tuesday	6	7-8pm	Book Group for Caste by Isabel Wilkerson
Sunday	11	11am 12:30pm	Worship Worship Associates
Thursday	15	6:30-7:30pm	Finance Meeting
Saturday	17	all day	Tisha B'Av Eve
Sunday	18	all day 11am	Tisha B'Av Worship
Wednesday	21	1-2pm	Social Justice Team Meeting
Thursday	22	7-8:30pm	PCUU Board Meeting
Sunday	25	11am	Worship



Our Minister and staff will NEVER email OR text you to ask for money or gift cards - do not respond to these communications.

NO ONE from Peoples Church will email you to ask for your social security number and/or birthdate.

It is increasingly common for people to be impersonated on social platforms. Please be aware of the possibility that you could be seeing/following a fake account on any social media platform. Feel free to check with the office when in doubt if an account belongs to Peoples Church. Thank you!

If you get an email or text like those mentioned above, do not respond. And by all means, call if you are unsure. 319-362-9827

## Community 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](http://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](http://www.foundation2crisischat.org)

[www.iowacrisischat.org](http://www.iowacrisischat.org)

[www.yourlifeiowa.org](http://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.

## OUR STAFF

Rev. Rebecca Hinds  
Developmental  
Minister  
(319) 362-9827(w)  
(319)-775-0113 (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**  
Marion Patterson  
(319) 362-1470

**Treasurer**  
Gary McGraw  
(319) 373-9449

### Board of Trustee Members

Kris Davis  
Sue Davis  
Steve Hershner  
Marcy Mattison  
Erin Ogle

# THE VOICE.

## PEOPLES CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

LEADING COMPASSIONATE LIVES THROUGH  
SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND JUST ACTION.



# CARING COMMUNITY

### Good Neighbors

Kris Davis | 361-0280 | daviskris49@gmail.com

### Paraministers

June 21-July 4 | Jan Federer

July 5-18 | Deb Booth

July 19-August 1 | Susie Hauter

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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