

# THE VOICE

## January 2022

### Table of Contents

[Pastor's Page](#)

[January Service Information](#)

[Nurturing the Flame](#)

[Ministerial Search Team](#)

[Imposter Scam hits Peoples Church!](#)

[Faith Formation](#)

[Endowment Information](#)

[Inclement Weather Policy](#)

[Meals for Pastor David & Karen](#)

[Realm Database information](#)

[Social Justice](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Helpful Information](#)

[Peoples Church Contact Information](#)



# Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist

4980 Gordon Ave. Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

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





## Pastor's Page

Dawna Markova, writes in  
"I Will Not Die an Unlived Life":

*I will not die an unlived life  
I will not live in fear  
of falling or catching fire.  
I choose to inhabit my days,  
to allow my living to open me,  
to make me less afraid,  
more accessible,  
to loosen my heart  
until it becomes a wing,  
a torch, a promise.  
I choose to risk my significance;  
to live so that which came to me as seed  
goes to the next as blossom  
and that which came to me as blossom,  
goes on as fruit.*

---

The poem is a candle that my soul holds out to me, requesting I find a way to remember what it is to live a life with passion, on purpose. There is only enough light to take the journey step by step, but that is all any of us really needs. [...]

When you have the courage to shape your life from the essence of who you are, you ignite, becoming truly alive. This requires letting go of everything that is inauthentic. But how can you even know your truth unless you slow down, in your own quiet company? When the inner walls to your soul are graffitied with advertisements, commercials, and the opinions of everyone who has every known and labeled you, turning inwards requires nothing less than a major clean-up.

Traveling from the known to the unknown requires crossing an abyss of emptiness. We first experience disorientation and confusion. Then if we are willing to cross the abyss in curious and playful wonder, we enter an expansive and

untamed country that has its own rhythm. Time melts and thoughts become stories, music, poems, images, ideas. This is the intelligence of the heart, but by that I don't mean just the seat of our emotions. I mean a vast range of receptive and connective abilities, intuition, innovation, wisdom, creativity, sensitivity, the aesthetic, qualitative and meaning making. It is here that we uncover our purpose and passion.

She makes some really good points in that passage! We need to live with passion and purpose. It gets hard to do that at times but if we are able to focus on that as goal we become better people. What is the passion you bring to life? How can you make it even better in 2022? What is your purpose? How can you act on that in 2022?

Happy New Year!!

On the personal side. We were in Des Moines for a check up this week and heard the words I have been waiting for from the doctor! The kidney is working!! It is starting slow but getting better with each lab test. No more dialysis! Less trips to Des Moines for check-ups. The infections I had to deal with are under control (thanks to who knows how many anti-biotics LOL). I am feeling good and continuing to work at home on a daily basis.

Thank you for all the cards and notes. When we were finally able to go through them all we were overwhelmed with the love and concern of the Peoples people!

And finally, thank you for all the meals! As I learn to eat differently it has been quite the treat to enjoy the food provided to us!

*Pastor David*

### ***It is happening again!!!!***

I would never text anyone and ask you to buy gift cards. That is not something we do at Peoples. Please delete any text or email that comes your way!

We take care of the needs of Peoples people with the magnificent Discretionary Fund available to the pastor. If you would like to contribute to the fund you can do so in the usual ways!

# January 2022



## **The Varieties of Awe 3**

- 2** Our musical potpourri of joy and inspiration will start 2022 on a high note and celebrate once again the awesome ingenuity, resilience, generosity, and just plain gumption that has carried us through yet another amazing year at Peoples Church. Sit back, relax, and enjoy this all-music service as we ease into the new year with the musicians that have delighted us through the past 12 months. Service led by Bryan Davis.

## **What kind of path are you paving with your good intentions?**

- 9** A cheery old proverb claims that "the road to hell is paved with good intentions," which is perfectly true. It's also perfectly untrue. Nothing of value gets done in the world without dreams and the intention to make those dreams real, but we've all had to deal with situations which we've made worse by trying to make them better. So how do we maintain the courage to keep trying to do good? How can we minimize the chance that dreams achieved might ultimately turn into nightmares? How do we find the oomph to thoughtfully and effectively act on our good intentions when we're already so flippin' tired? Come explore these questions and more as we head into a new – and hopefully less exciting – new year. Service led by Kathleen Mavity.

## **Living with(out) intention**

- 16** This week we take a contrarian view of living with intention. What does it mean to live without intention? To paraphrase John Lennon: Life is what happens while we're making other plans. Service led by Cate Sheller.

## **Why I said Yes to the Doughnut and No to My Watch**

- 23** Living intentionally" has become a buzzword recently. I invite to you to join us as we take the phrase back to basics, looking at what such a philosophy can mean for us in our everyday lives. Service led by Andrea Hawkins-Kamper.

## **I and UU**

- 30** As an old-new comer to our Sunday service, my presentation will concentrate on the "I" in each of us. Service led by RC Eichacker.

# Nurturing the Flame

Living with Intention!

**Marion Patterson, Board President**



*“When Your Intention Is Clear, So Is the Way.” Alan Cohen*

Agreed. In the long term. In the short-term navigating the details of “the Way” can get messy.

What seems like a good way to go might not be. So, as one past president from yonder years pointed out it’s good to Stop. Breathe. Reassess. Back up if you need to. Re-set the path. Appreciate the journey. Learn from it.

Going into 2022, and year three of this global pandemic, may we all walk gently and with compassion. Remember we are good folks, just walking each other home. (Ram Dass)

M~

## Ministerial Search Team Update for January 2022

Happy New Year!

By the time you read this, we have probably received the names of our ministerial applicants. It’s now time to move into the next phase: discernment.

During December, we began preparing for the discernment phase by:

- developing criteria to complete our initial applicant review
- developing questions for the first round of prospect interviews

These criteria and questions were all based on what you indicated is important to our congregation. Thank you all again for your input!

We plan to review all our applicants and create a list of prospects by January 7. Once we have our list of prospects, we will begin scheduling screening interviews to identify our pre-candidates.

**As a reminder:** the Search Team cannot share any information about applicants to our position until we have identified and announced our candidate.

We will continue to post regular updates on where we are in the process, so keep reading the Voice. And if you have any questions for the Search Team, you can reach us at [pcuu.search@gmail.com](mailto:pcuu.search@gmail.com).

Warm Regards,

Kathleen, Laura, Robyn, Steve, & Susan





**Once again, we have reports of fraudulent texts being sent, in Pastor David's name, to congregants asking for gift cards. This is NOT from Pastor David or anyone else from Peoples Church. *Our Minister and staff will NEVER email OR text you to ask for money or gift cards - do not respond to these communications! If you receive such a communication, please let the office know.***

NO ONE from Peoples Church will ever 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.



# Faith Formation

Greetings all and Happy (early) New Year!

Like many of you, I'm a little bit in awe that 2022 is just a few days away. The last two years have been a time blur of pandemic stress, family isolation, community tragedy, and so much more that the traditional joy of a new year is understandably a bit tempered. That's real stuff, beloveds, and it affects us in ways we can't even tell.

One way to help handle the weight of the transition from year-to-year is with a Fire Ritual. My Welsh ancestors still do these, albeit on a larger scale, and there is a real catharsis and bonding in them. Here is a simple one you can do solo with your family:

## Materials needed:

- Flash Paper (or tissue paper, if flash paper is unavailable)
- Fire safe container
- Ignition source
- Fire extinguisher, in case of emergency

## Ritual:

Take a piece of paper, hold it to your heart  
Visualize everything you wish to let go of in the last year being written on the paper  
When everything is there, crumple the paper into a ball and place in the container  
Ignite the ball, breathing deeply as the burden you are carrying is lightened.

May 2022 be a year of blessing to you and yours, and may the Universe shine upon you everywhere you go.

## ***BIG NEWS!!!***

January 16, 2022, we will return to pre-service, in-person Faith Formation!!!

That's right: On January 16th, 2022, at 9:45am, in-person Faith Formation returns to Peoples Church!! We are all incredibly excited at this milestone, but it does come with some wariness.

First, all children must be masked and remain socially distanced.

Second, Peoples will not provide a snack as has been done in the past. We are sorry for this inconvenience.

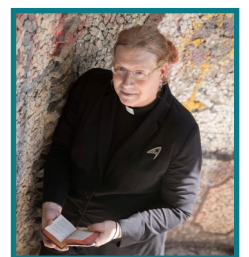
Three, if your child is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, we strongly encourage them to receive at least the first dose prior to attending.

Four, Faith Formation will be held as long as the Linn County COVID numbers indicate it is safe to do so, as has been done previously.

Five, and lastly, I would greatly appreciate at least one adult be downstairs with me helping as we return to normal.

I am so excited to welcome our beloveds back to church on the 16th. This is going to be fantastic!

In faith,  
Andrea



## ***Meals for Pastor David and Karen Wise***

Pastor David Wise recently was miraculously given a new kidney. Through Good Neighbors at Peoples, we are providing a few meals. Dates that are left are Friday, Dec. 31 and Monday, Jan. 3.

To sign up to be responsible for a meal please click on this link which will take you to a Meal Train website that David and Karen have set up:

<https://mealtrain.com/oqo094>

Due to David's compromised immune system, special care must be taken with food preparation. This makes it difficult to receive food prepared by others. Karen and David request only non-refrigerated ingredients for a low-sodium-if-possible meal (and the meal's recipe). Please leave outside David's office door. Call Karen at 319-936-3359 if you need the entrance door code or if there are any questions.

Please note: as you plan your meals, please try to keep them low-sodium, low-potassium, low-phosphate.

Thanks to everyone for your support of David and his wife, Karen!

# Peoples Church Endowment Made Simple

Thanks to the generosity of Peoples members of the past and present the annual budget ended the year with a slight surplus.

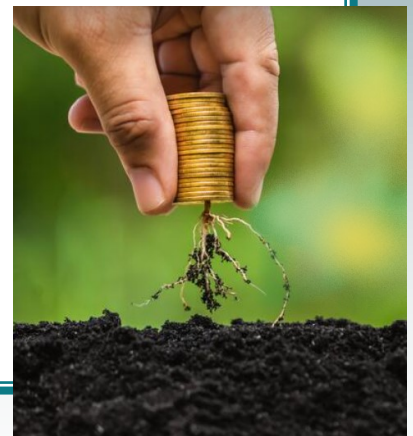
Traditionally most Church income came from pledges. It still does but in the modern era most nonprofits, including Peoples, need more than annual member donations to be financially healthy. Enter the endowment.

An endowment is a pool of money, invested by a foundation, that has only one purpose...to yield an annual distribution to support operations or special needs.

Peoples has endowment assets invested with the UU Association in Boston and the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. Most recent endowment gifts have gone to the local foundation.

Over the long term the CR Foundation's average growth has averaged 7.4% in the general pool and a bit higher in the new ESG Fund. This stands for Environment, Social, Government and invests in socially responsible companies. No gun or tobacco companies.

Contributing to an endowed fund is a way to perpetually give to Peoples Church and can create family legacies. Interested? Give Rich Patterson a call.





## Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of bad weather, everyone is encouraged to prioritize their own safety and the safety of their family. Only come to church if you are comfortably able. An official decision on canceling Sunday morning activities (including worship, Faith Formation, and anything else on the calendar) will be made by 7:30 AM. Cancellation information will be posted as follows:

- a notice will be posted on our PCUU website
- a notice will be posted on our facebook page
- scrolling on KCRG TV and published on the KCRG website
- scrolling on KGAN TV and published on the KGAN website

*Adopted 2019*



## Winter Solstice Service





# SOCIAL JUSTICE

**First Sunday Plate Collection:  
*Iowa Unitarian Universalist Witness & Advocacy Network***

**BLM Yard Signs are available outside the Church Office door!  
First come first serve.**

**All things politics in Iowa:**

**A conversation with Art Cullen**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 7 12:00 PM**



Art Cullen, Editor, The Storm Lake Times

Art Cullen has been the editor of The Storm Lake Times for more than three decades, and he's seen a lot of politics (and politicians) across Iowa in those times. A recent documentary on PBS highlights Cullen's passion for good journalism and the importance of small town newspapers to our democracy. Indeed, it is the free press that shines a light on the darkness and the promises of our democracy. It provides an avenue for its citizens to be informed and navigate with knowledge, including the politics embedded so deeply in our society.

**Join us for Intersections/Crossroads on Friday, January 7, at noon on Zoom for a conversation with Art Cullen. You will not want to miss this one.**

**[Please register in advance for this meeting.](#)** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## **PETITION REQUESTS AMENDMENTS TO IOWA'S NEW VOTING LAWS**

The League of Women Voters of Iowa and eight Iowa-based co-sponsors—including Interfaith Alliance of Iowa Action Fund—will present petitions to the leadership of the 89th General Assembly at Iowa's Capitol. The petition, which contains signatures of Iowa voters, urges legislators to repeal sections of the newly-enacted voting laws.

Iowa's new voter laws make voting harder, disqualifies voters more easily, shortens the voting time by 31%, makes elections more difficult to administer, and invites interference by political parties in elections. **[Registered voters can sign the petition online.](#)**

# Allen Lincoln Douglass

Save the date!! This event will  
have a silent auction and  
food for your soul.

**5 FEBRUARY 2022**  
12 pm -2 pm



First Presbyterian church  
310 5th St. SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

For more information  
**[bethelministriescr.org](https://bethelministriescr.org)**



BETHEL  
MINISTRIES



## Tickets

Adults: \$50  
Youth: \$20  
Toddlers: Free



## Soul Food

Take a bite.

### LINK FOR TICKETS:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/allen-lincoln-douglass-196-years-soulfood-banquet-tickets-234025435377?aff=esli&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=li&utm-term=listing>

## Realm Database

We are asking you to ensure your Realm profile is "opted into" the directory. Only your contact information will show in the directory, and only to those in our church.

This is particularly important in times such as the Derecho and again with our recent high winds storm. We are a compassionate community and there are times we feel a strong need to reach out and check on everyone's well being and offer our assistance. Please help us stay in touch with you and your family!

### How to Set Your Privacy Preferences in Realm

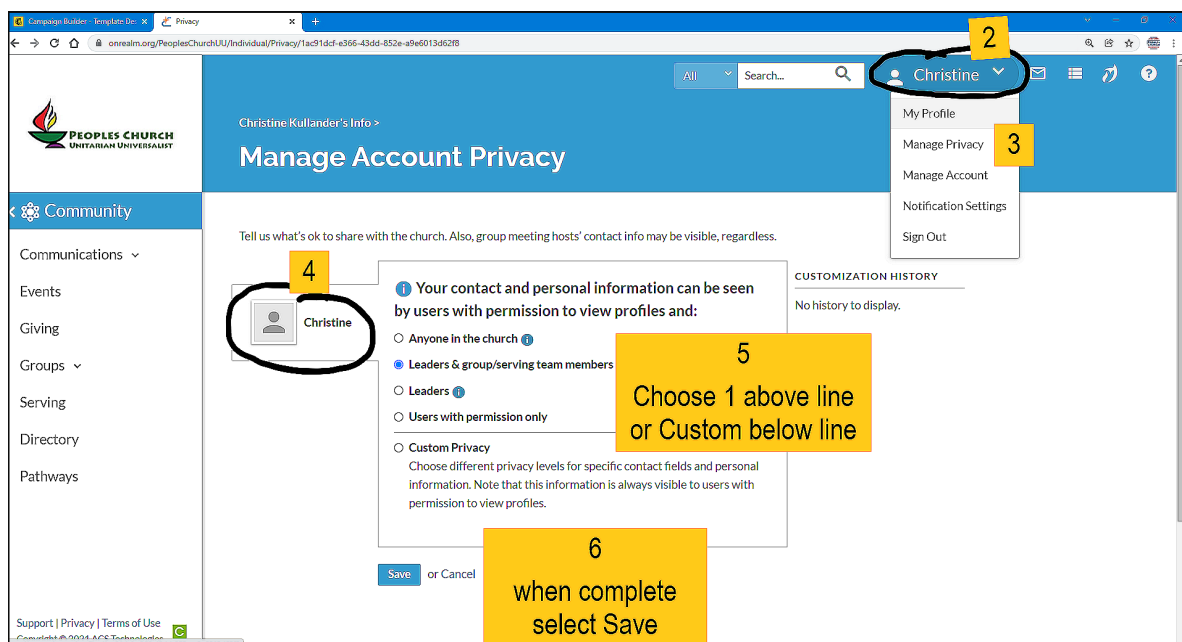
By default, the viewing of your personal and contact information is limited to members of groups you are in, group leaders, and staff members. If you choose to, however, you can make your information visible to all registered users of our church's website.

1. Log into the site.
2. Click your name in the upper-right corner and select My Profile.
3. On the Info tab, next to Edit Profile, click to the privacy icon.
4. Select a family member (if more than one). NOTE: anyone with a "Family Position" of "Child" cannot be opted into the directory. Please ensure Family Position is correct.
5. Click one of the buttons above the line to apply that setting to all information in the profile, *or* click Custom Privacy and select a setting for each field.
6. Click Save.

While you can hide the majority of your information from most of your church, you should know that, regardless of your settings, contact data will still be visible to certain members of your church staff.

A family member with a primary position such as "Head" or "Spouse" can also change privacy settings for other members of the family.

Please call the office if you need assistance.



# January

Day	Date	Time	Event
Saturday	1	all day	New Year's Day - welcome 2022!
Sunday	2	11am	Worship
Thursday	6	all day	Epiphany
Sunday	9	9:45am 11am 12:30pm	Social Justice Forum Worship Worship Associates
Sunday	16	11am	Worship
Monday	17	all day all day	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Tu Bishvat
Wednesday	19	1-2pm	Social Justice Team Meeting
Sunday	23	11am	Worship
Thursday	27	6:30-8pm	Board Meeting
Sunday	30	11am	Worship

**Iowa public health officials continue to report on cases, hospitalizations, and even deaths due to the coronavirus.**

**If you haven't yet, please consider getting vaccinated!**

**Don't forget to get a booster shot if you are eligible!**



After several years absence, Peoples Church has submitted an ad again in the Gazette in the bi-weekly section called 'Sharing Faith'. Our initial ad was included in the Saturday December 18 newspaper along with 19 other local religious communities. These ads are provided every first and third Saturdays of each month. Our ad will continue for multiple weeks. Look for it again on Saturday January 1.

## WAYS TO GIVE WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING



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.*



**Vanco Mobile app**  
on your smart phone.  
Go to the **App Store**  
or **Google Play** and  
search "**Vanco Mo-**  
**bile**". Download app and  
simply search for  
**Peoples Church Unitarian**  
**Universalist. \***

**\* Vanco Mobile is free!**  
Members' log-in credentials in Vanco Mobile are the same as they are in GivePlus Mobile.  
*Recurring gifts will continue to be made as scheduled.*

## 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

### David Wise

Interim Pastor  
(319) 362-9827  
Tuesday, Wednesday,  
and Thursday usually  
10am-3pm or  
by appointment

### Andrea Hawkins- Kamper

Faith Formation Director  
(319) 362-9827

### Christine Kullander

Congregational  
Administrator  
(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

### Jackie Wedeking

Digital Media Specialist

### 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.



### Good Neighbors

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

### Paraministers

January 3-21 | Deb Booth

January 22-February 6 | Dorothy Hershner

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS.

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