

THE Voice

July 2023



Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist
4980 Gordon Avenue NW Cedar Rapids IA 52405
www.peoplesuu.org





Sunday Worship

July 9, 2023

11 am Worship led by Pastor David Wise
Healing in the World Today
Special Music by Karen Mueller

July 16, 2023

11 am Worship led by Pastor David Wise
Special Music by Bryan Davis

July 23, 2023

11 am Worship led by Pastor David Wise
Special Music by Judy Mitschelen

July 30, 2023

11 am Worship led by R.C. Eichacker
Special Music by The Ranters



PEOPLES
CHURCH UU IS
A WELCOMING
CONGREGATION

Join us for coffee and treats in the Andre Room after worship!

Sign up here to be a Worship [GREETER](#)

Use [THIS LINK](#) to the Peoples Church home page to join a live stream of Sunday Worship, or access video through any of the links below:





Pastor's Page – David Wise, Interim Minister

SIX YEARS seems so short, yet so long!

It seems like only yesterday that I walked through the door of Peoples as the Acting Director of Religious Education. As you may have heard me say in the past, the Postlude at the first service I attended (before accepting the position) was *Great Balls of Fire*. When Scott was playing that song, I took it as a sign that this was an OK place to be. As I end my time here, I still feel the same!

I have been so appreciative of the Peoples people throughout the years! Your openness, your willingness to try new things, your honesty, your love and your appreciation have been amazing and wonderful. Whether it was something simple, like helping with snacks, or a bit more difficult, such as learning how to Zoom, you have tackled it with grace! You were there with me in the some of the darkest days of my life and in some of the best.

Thank you!!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here. I am so thankful that Rebecca hired me, and I am grateful that the Interim Search Team asked me to step into that role for these last two years. These six years have literally been some of the very best in my years of professional ministry and I thank you for that!

As I begin a new portion of my journey at Gentiva Hospice I am sure I will see some of you around town. I look forward to chatting with you. I will not be your pastor ,but I will continue to cherish our relationships.

Peoples people will always have a special place in my heart. You have, time and time again, proven what a church is supposed to be — a place that cares for ALL people and our amazing world!

Thank you for being you!!

– Pastor David Wise



Faith Formation



It's been so much fun – thank you, Ryan!



Board News

I'M NOT SURE who should be attributed for the quote, "The only constant in life is change," but it is certainly applicable to this summer at Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist!

We said goodbye to **Ryan Roth-Klinck** on June 30 in his full time Interim Faith Formation Director role, but are likely to have him still involved in some capacity on several specific tasks going forward – more on this in the coming months.

Pastor David Wise is with us through July as our Interim Minister, but he too will be moving onto another position outside of PCUU.

We at Peoples Church have been so fortunate to have the dedication, service, and passion that David and Ryan have brought to their work in the church over the past year. David's previous work as Faith Formation Director, and his two years as our Interim Minister have been particularly vital as we navigated life before and after COVID, the departure of Rev. Rebecca, and numerous other adventures and challenges.

We are so looking forward to the arrival of Rev. Carin Bringelson in August - I know that our members and friends are eager to welcome Rev. Carin to the pulpit at Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist!

There will be opportunities over the next few months to get our building and grounds in good shape for our members, friends, visitors, and community. Work has already begun on a memorial garden that will enhance our North entrance off the parking lot.

One quick note - with the street work taking place on Gordon Ave NW you'll need to use West Post Road NW or Jacolyn Dr NW to get to Harbet Drive and access Peoples, but with all that is going on at church it will be worth it!

Thank you to all who are helping and contributing during this summer of transition at PCUU!!

– Steve Hershner



OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President
Steve Hershner

Treasurer
Gary McGraw
(319) 373-9449

Board of Trustees:

Kris Davis
Sue Davis
Marcy Mattison
Cate Sheller
Lu Wilcox

If you'd like to attend our monthly Board meetings, please contact David Wise at minister@peoplesuu.org.

Past board minutes are on the Peoples Church website [here](#).



Social Justice News

CROSSROADS
a civility project of Interfaith Alliance of Iowa

**Reproductive freedom
on the line in Iowa:
What's next?**

FRIDAY, JULY 21
11:45 AM (in-person), 12:00 PM (YouTube)

Senator Janet Petersen
Des Moines

Mazie Stilwell
Planned Parenthood
Director of Public Affairs –
Iowa

Dr. Deborah Turner
retired OB/GYN
and attorney

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
4126 Ingersoll Ave, DES MOINES

In-person and virtual options

What is the state of reproductive freedom in Iowa and where are we headed given today's political environment? A panel of experts will discuss reproductive rights in Iowa, including the outcome and impact of the six-week ban case, access to safe and legal abortion, other reproductive healthcare concerns in our state, and what is on the horizon for Iowans legislatively. And of course we'll discuss how we can and will work together in the coming months and years to champion reproductive rights for all Iowans.

There are three ways you can join us for Crossroads:

- **Attend in person (with lunch)** by [clicking here](#). Four bag lunch sandwich options are available: turkey, roast beef, ham salad (new offering!), and vegetarian. **You must pre**

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Social Justice News

Continued from previous page

- **order and pay for your lunch by 12:00 PM on Wednesday, July 19.** Late orders or walk-in requests for lunch will NOT be available.
- **Attend in person (no lunch) by [clicking here](#).** There is no cost for this option, but we do need your RSVP to ensure we have enough seating.

Watch via YouTube by [registering here](#). This virtual presentation will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel.



Sign the IOWANS FOR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM Statement!

There are a lot of rumors swirling about a special session of the Iowa Legislature and the possibility of limiting access to abortion in our state.

One of the quickest ways you can use your voice is to sign **our Iowans for Reproductive Freedom statement!**

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign!

EVERY IOWAN who supports reproductive freedom can sign the statement.

SHARE this link widely and as many times as possible via email, text and social media.

The sign-on statement will remain open until the day of the special session: July 11. We will present the statement and the signers' names to the lawmakers and the media that day.



Social Justice News

Dear fellow UUs:

In response to Iowa's new laws affecting LGBTQ+ youth, Iowa UUs are joining together to support youth and allies. **The Iowa UU Witness Advocacy Network (IUUWAN)** invites all Iowa UUs to get involved.

ONE STEP is to join a team that shares resources, plans actions, provides speakers, and distributes yard signs. To add your name to receive an email about this team, contact Sally, IUUWAN board secretary (sallyahartman@hotmail.com).

ANOTHER SUPPORTIVE STEP involves checking **out the Faithify fundraising website** to see IUUWAN's plan and, should you have spare change, to donate to the campaign. Your contribution will be matched! **The Faithify Fundraiser ends July 5.** Here is the link: [Faithify fundraiser project](#)

It is imperative for the well-being of Iowa's LGBTQ+ youth to respond. We can do more together.

Join us!

The Social Justice Team can always be reached by email at: PCUUSocialJustice@gmail.com

Iowa Unitarian Universalist Witness Advocacy Network

The Iowa Unitarian Universalist Witness Advocacy Network connects and collaborates with Iowa's Unitarian Universalists to amplify social justice work.





Church Notes

BLAST OFF! with the Stewardship Team

Look your 2024 pledge campaign form soon to continue your financial commitment to Peoples. Soon we will have a settled minister and will be ready to "BLAST OFF" into our future. If you can increase your donation, please do! The more money we raise, the more "fuel" we have to fulfill our mission statement of leading compassionate lives through spiritual growth and just actions. Thank you for your support!

Welcome, Littlest Ones!

Bryan and Kris Davis welcomed granddaughter **Ivy Irene Lynch**, on May 23, 2023. **Marta and Steve Hershner**, and Steve's mother, **Dorothy Hershner**, welcomed their newest granddaughter/great-granddaughter, **Mina Beth Hershner-Feldmann**, born 6/22/23. Congratulations to all!

Good Neighbors

July 1—31 Kathy Juba | 378-3116 |
kathywilson@imonmail.com

Paraministers

July 3 - 16 | Rev. Rosie Rimrodt
July 17 - 30 | Rose Gabe
July 31 - August 13 | Deborah Booth

Book Study

Mary Magdalene Revealed
by Meggan Watterson

Join **Kristina Roth-Klinck** and **Angie Pierce-Jennings** on Saturday, July 22 at 10 am, 3300 Carroll Drive SE in the garden. For more info, email: kristina@nourishedcr.org

PEOPLES FOOD PANTRY needs the following items:

Cereals, crackers, soups, canned meats and canned vegetable (but not green beans)

THE LEA MORRIS CONNECTION:



Lea's song for July is a mother/son duet bound to add charm and grace to your day.

Honeysuckle Rose:

https://youtu.be/Ku8BPP53N_U

For Patrons only:

[Lyrics to print, Songs to Sing](#)



July - August Calendar

JULY

- 8 PRIDEFEST, NewBo City Market, 11 am - 7 pm*
- 19 Social Justice meeting, 1 pm*
- 22 *Mary Magdalene Revealed* book discussion *
- 23 Pastor David's final worship service,
- 20 Board of Trustees meeting
- 31 Pastor David's last day with Peoples

AUGUST

- 1 Pastor Carin begins her ministry at Peoples
- 11 Faith Formation Trip to the State Fair!
- 30 Paraministers meeting

*See related item in this *Voice* details

Stop by
the Peoples Church
booth
at PRIDEFEST
Saturday, July 8
11 – 7
NewBo City Market!



Peoples Church Mission Statement:

Leading compassionate lives through spiritual growth and just action.

Publication Deadlines

eWEEKLY Deadlines: The deadline for submissions is NOON each Wednesday unless notice is given otherwise e.g., *in the event of holidays*.

The Voice Deadline: The deadline for submissions for the next Voice is August 28th, 2023

PEOPLES Directory

Click [Online Directory](#) to access the directory for Peoples Church.

New users: email the office at office@peoplesuu.org to request an invitation from Realm to join and access the online directory. The invitation will be sent via email with instructions on how to create and log into your account.

[Sign up here to help set up Coffee House before Sunday Worship](#)

[Sign up here to bring SNACKS for Coffee Hour after Sunday](#)

PEOPLES STAFF

CHURCH PHONE: (319) 362-9827

office@peoplesuu.org

INTERIM PASTOR

[David Wise](#)

FAITH FORMATION: TBD

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

[Christine Kullander](#)

Temporary Office Manager: *Tricia*

OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday & Thursday: 9 am - 3 pm

Tuesdays: volunteer office hours 10-2

Summer hours subject to change

DIGITAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

[Jackie Wedeking](#)

PIANIST

[Judy Mitschelen](#)

CUSTODIAN

[Walter Robidoux](#)

NURSERY ATTENDANT

[Jordan Wylie](#)

Our Principles:

1. Each and every person is important.
2. All people should be treated fairly.
3. Our churches are places where all people are accepted, and where we keep on learning together.
4. Each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.
5. All people should have a voice and a vote about things that concern them.
6. We work for a peaceful, fair and free world.
7. We care for Planet Earth.
8. We work together for diversity, and against racism and oppression.

Our Ends Statements

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