

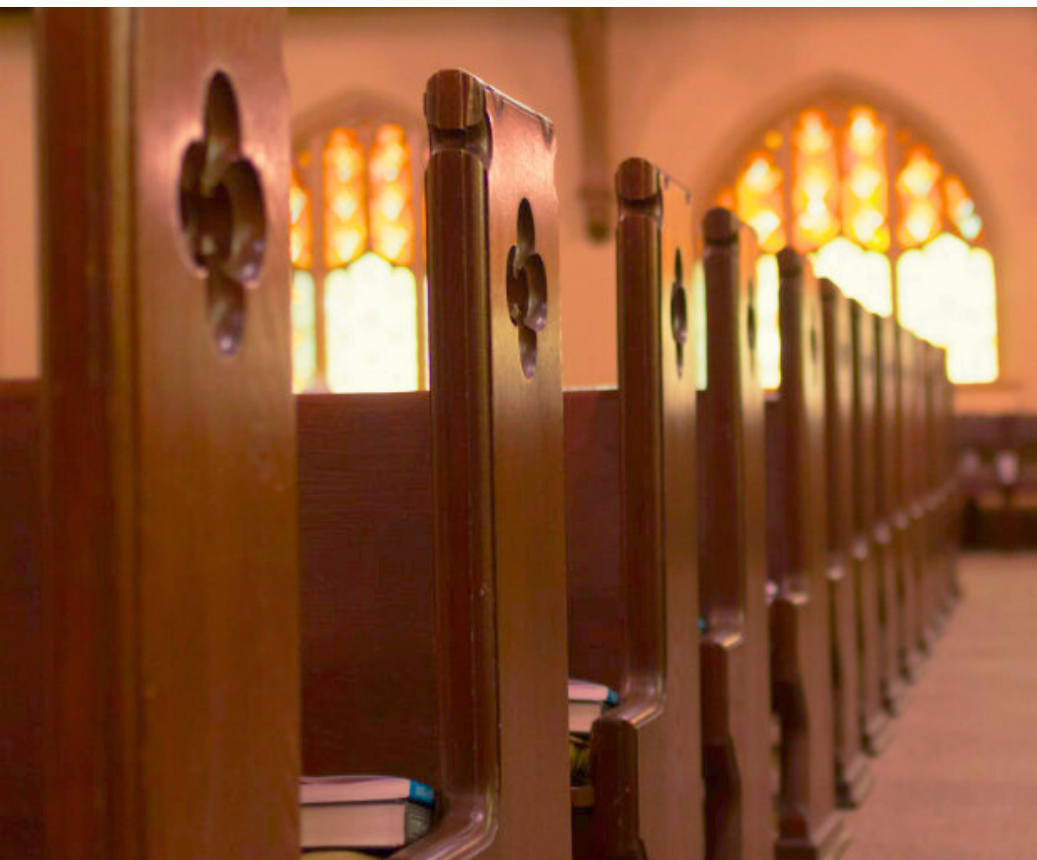
APRIL 2024



THE CHANTICLEER

The First Unitarian Society
of Milwaukee

nurture. engage. inspire.



This Issue:

Words on the Wind	3
Kimberlee's Contemplations	4
Sunday Services	5
Our People, Our Community	6
Adult Spiritual Development	7
Membership	8
Children & Families	9
Social Justice	11
Get Involved	12
News	13
Annual Meeting	14
Forge our Future	16
Calendar of Events	17
Forum	18



Monthly Theme

*What does it mean
to be a people of*

Interdependence

Inside News

Annual Meeting Set for May 19

by Patricia Geenen
Board President

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee to be held Sunday, May 19 at 12:45 p.m. This year's meeting will occur in person in our Sanctuary and will also be available simultaneously via Zoom.

Learn about significant First Church accomplishments over the 2023-24 church year and hear about our financial condition. Vote on new Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee members for next church year and use the opportunity to raise issues and ask questions.

Members are eligible to vote if they became Members of the congregation on or before 60 days prior to the meeting date and have made a financial pledge or contribution of record in the past year. A list of voting members will be posted on the website and the church bulletin board 15 days prior to the meeting.

Stay tuned for information on Zoom registration and mark your calendars in the meantime!

Share the Plate April

by Lynde Uihlein
Share the Plate Team Member



Groundwork Milwaukee is a nonprofit organization and land trust. Their mission is to bring about the sustained regeneration, improvement and management of the physical environment by developing community-based partnerships that empower people, businesses and organizations to promote environmental, economic and social well-being.

The work is primarily done through (1) the transformation of brownfields into community spaces including gardens, orchards, art exhibits, and gathering places; (2) the facilitation of programs that are designed to educate, train, and empower youth, community members, veterans, and volunteers; and (3) the protection of urban waters through the installation of rain water harvesting structures, the strategic integration of green infrastructure, and habitat restoration for aquatic native species.

Their current report, Milwaukee Flood Health Vulnerability Assessment, and the Storymap that accompanies it tell of the history of housing discrimination in Milwaukee, and the impacts of climate change in one neighborhood, Metcalfe Park. They have spent the last year assisting neighbors developing and installing green solutions in areas which are vulnerable to flood and extreme heat. Learn more at www.groundworkmke.org.

Donate to this STP Partner



Words on the Wind

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

There's a game where everyone stands in a circle and throws a ball of yarn across the circle, person to person, until they create complicated interconnected web. When someone pulls on their piece of the web, the whole web moves. If someone lets go of their piece of the web, the whole web suffers. In communities, ecosystems, even our own bodies, there is an interdependent web of connection, where symbiotic entities influence and rely on one another.

In Unitarian Universalism, we honor the interdependent web of all existence. Recognizing our interdependence pulls us back from the brink of isolation and invites into covenant with the larger whole of which we are just one part.

When we create covenant, we commit to practicing right relationship and repairing damaged relationships. We return to covenant and repair over and over again in the long and complicated life dance of interdependent relationships among our beloveds, our communities, our own bodies, and the earth itself.

This month at church, let's explore together what it means to hold up our part of the yarn, and hold our people, non-human beings, and the land well. On Earth Day, our Earth Justice Ministry will be writing postcards connecting climate and democracy. Throughout April, our Board of Trustees will be asking your opinion about how the church is doing in our web of relationships with their congregational survey, found on page 13. In Religious Education (RE), we will be hiring a new RE and Membership Assistant to join our team. Let's keep holding our piece of the yarn, and one another, this month!

With love,
Jennifer
Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister



Kimberlee's Contemplations

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson



At General Assembly this summer, UUs will vote on expressing our faith with values, rather than just with principles. This is often referred to as **Article II**, since that is where our principles and purposes are in our UUA bylaws. If you would like to read the proposed revision to Article II, you can find it [here](#).

The values start with a word, then a statement expanding on the value, followed by action. As an example, our theme this month is Interdependence, which is one of the proposed values. Here is the language: Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it. We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged relationships.

To help our children engage in this process and important discussion, UU religious educators around the world have been utilizing an acronym of the values centering on love—JET PIG. JET PIG flies around love sharing the values of Justice, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Interdependence, and Generosity.

Our JET PIG lives on the lower level in my office. They have an adorable helmet and jet backpack filled with wooden hearts with each of the values written on them, a water bottle and notebook. The children adore JET PIG! What I am most delighted by is that the one-word values have been a marvelous tool for our children to help understand and articulate Unitarian Universalism.

As a seasoned religious educator who has taught the principles to young people for the past 20 years, I find few of our young people know our principles. There have been songs, there have been lessons, there has been much, but overall they remain unknown. I've been teaching the values and this potential change for less than a year and many of the children can now list the values and have some understanding of their meaning. This is an unexpected joy and to hear the next generation of UUs be able to articulate their faith using these cornerstones is powerful!

Interdependence is all about understanding how we belong to one another. I am trying to embrace our interdependence with fellow UUs and I encourage you to join me in staying open to whatever outcome we decide on together.

I invite you to come meet JET PIG who will be at the RE table this month!

In faith,
Rev. Kimberlee

7

Interdependence Is a Given

Rev. Dena McPhetres

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Ryan Pawlowski, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

14

Life and Death Are Twinning

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Erik Alexander, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

21

Climate and Democracy and Ancient Zombie Viruses, Oh My!

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Desiree Pointer-Mace, Worship Associate

Earth Day Service

[Click for info about this service](#)

28

The Myth of the Rugged Individual

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

The Chancel Choir

Jeremy Koenen, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

Sunday services at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.



In Memoriam

Margo Frey

July 1, 1941 – February 15, 2024

Margo Frey died in her home on Thursday, February 15, 2024, her loving husband Jim Frey was with her.

Margo had struggled bronchiectasis, for over 20 years, and had been receiving hospice care this month. She was 83 years old. Margo and Jim were married for 63 years, they have been members of First Church for the past 29 years. Margo was a respected Career Counselor and wrote articles for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

We lit the Candle of Life in memory of Margo at both worship services on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024. At this time the family asks that condolences be sent though emails only.

Join her family for a celebration of her life Saturday, May 11, anytime between 1-4 p.m. at The Milwaukee Friends Meeting House (3224 North Gordon Place, Milwaukee, 53212). Those who wish to honor Margo's memory are encouraged to donate to her favorite charity, Our Next Generation (www.ongkids.org).

In Memoriam

Nelson Kading

**February 3, 1942 –
November 29, 2023**

Nelson Kading died peacefully, without pain, on November 29, 2023, at Columbia Saint Mary's after a long struggle with COPD. Nelson had been living in assisted living at Saint John's on the Lake. St. John's chaplain, Nancy Leafblad, accompanied and supported Nelson at the end of his life sitting with him and holding his hand in his final hours of consciousness.

Nelson died without living relatives, and Saint John's recently learned of his connection with us and shared the news of his death. Nelson was 81 years old and a member of First Church since 2004. He was a reserved, kind man, who was part of the second-service coffee hour crew for many years. We lit the Candle of Life for Nelson during worship on Sunday, March 3, 2024.

All in the Family

We send our condolences and care to the **Schultz family** on the loss of their beloved matriarch Emma, mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother to Duane, Katherine, and Bizzy.

Is the Spirit Calling You to Become a Pastoral Care Associate (PCA)?

by Lynn Connolly

Pastoral Care Associate Coordinator

I know from personal experience that life can be challenging at times—we can experience sickness, job loss, other life transitions, broken hearts and/or bodies. Life can also bring much joy, as in the birth or adoption of a child. Here at First Church, we want to support you during these times of joy and sorrow. A PCA offers a compassionate presence and a listening ear and connects with members in-person or via email, text, and phone calls. Sometimes a PCA connects via FaceTime, Skype, or Zoom, depending on the situation.

PCAs serve for 3 years, and this fall 2024, we would like to recruit 10 new PCAs. If you are interested or contacted, you will be asked to complete an online application and will be interviewed. If you are selected, you will be required to attend 20 hours of training in September and October. Following the training, you can make a final decision to proceed as a PCA. Here is the link to the online application:

<https://form.jotform.com/210336285250044>

I hope you will consider becoming a PCA and help our team "nurture the spirit" of our church members during the ups and downs of life. If you have further questions, you can find more information on our church website and feel free to call or email me at 414-573-9823 or fuspastoralcare@gmail.com.

Pastoral Care Associate Information Sessions

Our Pastoral Care Associate (PCA) Team is offering information sessions in April. We would like to recruit 10 new PCAs this fall. If you feel called to a ministry of presence and quiet listening or would like to learn more about our PCA work, please come to one of our listening sessions listed below:

Sunday, April 7, 2024, in-person in the Parlor – 10:00-11:00 a.m. OR

Monday, April 15, 2024, on Zoom – 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Please RSVP here:

<https://form.jotform.com/202604519857965>

Membership Update

by Rev. Dena McPhetres
Associate Minister

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 28 when we will celebrate our newest members at both worship services during our New Member Ceremony. We have over 20 people registered for the Spring Journey to Membership class and look forward to officially welcoming many of them into membership. Look for the folks wearing flower boutonnieres and please give them a hearty warm handshake at Coffee Hours on April 28. There will be some treats to share near the Membership Table, and hopefully, a poster of their photos so we can get to know their names and faces.

Big thanks to the Membership Team (Paula Anderson, Rod Botts, Sharon DePue, Dave Hoover, Jeanne Kowalski, Laurie Petersen, Kathy Rivera, Ben Trubach, and Steve Sieck) who make our Journey classes and New Member receptions such friendly events.

Journey to Membership

Spring Membership Classes

Four Evening Classes on Wednesdays April 3, 10, 17 & 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
In-person, at First Church

Led by our ministers and staff, this series explores our theology, history, principals and social justice framework, as well as the meaning of membership and connection at First Church.

The class is a prerequisite to membership, but joining is not a requirement to take the class. Learn more about membership or register at uumilwaukee.org/get-involved/become-a-member/. For questions? Email dena.mcphetres@uumilwaukee.



New Members who recently joined in the winter 2024

UU Summer Camps In the Midwest

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

It is camp season and there are many UU camp opportunities right here in the Midwest that you might want to consider attending this summer.

Bayside UU Family Camp held at Lutherdale Camp on the shores of Lauderdale Lakes in Elkhorn, WI. This year, this camp will take place June 30th - July 6th. This special week includes adult workshops, activities for children, free time for family fun and relaxation, and intergenerational activities. For more information visit website:

baysideuu.wixsite.com/baysideuu

Camp UniStar: Think rustic beauty and simplicity. It's a camp for Unitarian Universalist individuals and families and other like-minded people, nestled in the Chippewa National Forest on Star Island, surrounded by the clear waters of Cass Lake in northern Minnesota. The lake encourages water activities; the forest trails attract hikers; sunrises and sunsets invite meditation. Each year they welcome campers of all ages to this place out of time where the beauty of nature is rich, life is simple, and community is cherished. More info at:

<https://campunistar.org/>

MUUSA: Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly, is an annual intergenerational Unitarian Universalist retreat for fun, fellowship, and personal growth. Meeting this year in Bloomington, Indiana Wednesday, July 3 through Sunday, July 7, 2024. More information at <https://muusa.org/>

For a complete listing of UU summer camp opportunities throughout North America visit the UUA website at

<https://www.uua.org/beliefs/get-involved/where/camps-retreats-and-conferences>.

Friends & Family Singers in April!

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

Join us in raising your voice to celebrate the Earth! We will sing "This Pretty Planet" by Tom Chapin as the Prelude for our 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Earth Day Services on April 21. Singers Grades 1 to Adult are invited to join the Family & Friends Singers in rehearsal April 7 and 14 from 10:15-10:30 a.m., at the end of RE in the Young Room with Alissa Rhode, our music director.

On April 21, we will rehearse at 8:30 a.m. sharp in the Sanctuary, so please be in the building and ready to sing! If you and/or your child(ren) would like to take part, please email alissa.rhode@uumilwaukee.org so that she can know who to expect.



We had a wonderful St. Patrick's Day themed Mystery Friends party last month where all our friends were revealed! We are so grateful for all the parents, and Mystery Friends who participated. A big thank you to Kaitlin Barron, who organized this opportunity for First Church!

Child Dedication Ritual in May

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

On May 12, a Dedication of Parents and Children will take place during our 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. The Child Dedication Ceremony is a time for celebrating the birth or adoption of a child in a ceremony of naming and dedication. It is a time for welcoming our children into the world, into the family and into the church community. It is a time for acknowledging that each child's life is sacred and hold that truth in the light of our faith.

This simple ceremony is related to the Christian "baptism" or "christening," though the meanings we attach to it are significantly different.

The ceremony is a public declaration by the parents to dedicate themselves to faithfully nurture and support their children. The congregation recognizes your child's original blessing, and we dedicate ourselves to nurturing your child and you. Because of the promises our congregation makes to the family during the ceremony, child dedications are available only to members of the church.

If you are interested in having your child dedicated on May 12, fill out this [online form](#) by Sunday, May 6 or email Rev. Kimberlee at Kimberlee.carlson@uumilwaukee.org.

Earth Day is Every Day

by Bruce Wiggins
and Barbara Leigh, Co-chairs

... but Earth Month only comes once a year – April!
So much to do! How you can help!

Get-Out-the-Vote and Defend Democracy: We need good environmental policy! In April, you can write postcards to GOTV. We'll use Environmental Voter Project cards and lists of known environmentalists who are not regular voters. Help send postcards with "Change for Change." Donate your spare change – fill jars on the postcard writing tables. We'll accept spare change, but with postcard stamps costing 53 cents, and having 1000 cards, we'll accept bills, too.

Clean up a River April 20: Are you disturbed by plastic in our waterways? Join a river cleanup Earth Day weekend. Though First Church membership spans Milwaukee County and Riverkeeper has a hundred sites where you can volunteer, we ask folks to join the group at Kern Park, along with our young church families. Register at [milwaukeekeeper.org](https://www.milwaukeekeeper.org). You will receive a bag, gloves, and a tee shirt. Grab some friends and receive the satisfaction of being part of this event.

And ... Movie Time! Two films offered virtually by the One Earth Film Festival will be shown on April 22 & 23 at 6:00 p.m. at EJM members' homes. See <https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org/> for descriptions of the films Patrol, and Carbon, The Unauthorized Biography. Locations where you can watch with a group will be in the weekly announcements.

Vote "NO" on April Referendums on Elections

by Dave Umhoefer
Defend Democracy Co-Leader

The Wisconsin Constitution would be amended if two election referendums on the April 2 election ballot were approved by voters. One amendment would bar the use of private funds or donations by municipal election administrators. The other would underscore that only election officials designated by law can run elections.

Supporters of the constitutional amendments say their motivation is to increase election integrity or reduce the appearance of impropriety. The non-partisan League of Women Voters of Wisconsin recommends a "no" vote, saying the referendum questions are rooted in disinformation, could decrease election funding, lengthen waiting times at the polls, and make election clerks' jobs harder.

The changes to the constitution were proposed by Republican legislators after the 2020 elections, when private donations helped many municipalities in Wisconsin navigate election administration challenges early in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin also urges a "no" vote on both questions, saying their vague wording "could prevent election officials from using polling places in non-public buildings or even using tables, chairs, electrical

Vote "NO" continued on page 13

Your Summer Service Proposal Needed

by Michelle Naples
Pulpit Guest Team

Do you have a compelling message for our First Church community that would nourish, engage and inspire? Yes? Excellent! The pulpit is calling you!

The Pulpit Guest Team is actively seeking proposals for summer worship services led by church members. Worship helps us reflect on the meaning of our own lives and how to align our actions with our core values.

To submit a proposal, fill out the form on our website [HERE](#) by April 15. The brief form asks about your proposed topic that relates to our UU values and First Church mission, your sources of inspiration, and experience with public speaking.

We will notify you by early May if your proposal has been selected. Rev. Dena works one-on-one with those selected to develop your sermon. Reach out to Pulpit Guest Team members Anne Alexander, Juanita Mast or Michelle Naples with questions.

Sunday Morning Forum Preparing for Change

by Loraine Jacobs
Forum Co-Chair

We are building the Sunday Morning Forum Planning Group and welcome you to join a drop-in session to learn more. Spring and summer offer opportunity to share the time-tested process with you. Building group membership ensures a broader variety of topics as well as comfortable shared responsibilities.

We welcome you to attend one or all of these drop-in Forum sessions. This is a casual chance to learn and ask questions, to help you decide if Sunday Morning Forums is a place for you. Bring your time and skills, join the Co-Chair team and ensure consistent support. We also welcome those who are interested in hosting and supporting a Forum Presenter at a future date.

Sunday mornings, April 14, 21, & 28 at 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in Max Otto Hall. For questions, contact Lorraine 414-378-7887 or by email at jacobslm@sbcglobal.net.

Splinters from the Board

by Stacey Thieme
Board of Trustees

In February Dave Becker of the Endowment Fund Task Force joined the Board of Trustees to discuss the communication plan for explaining the structure of the Endowment Fund trust to the congregation and how the concept of principle protection was enacted. Details forthcoming.

The Board determined Church compliance with Limitations 4.8 and 4.9, which have to do with Minister Well-Being as well as Communication and Support of the Board. Staff Compensation and Staffing Changes were also considered. The Board discussed the options of working toward compliance with the national Unitarian Universalist Association's cost of living and compensation guidelines, while also closing the gap between our church's expenses and revenue stream. The Board will vote on this in March, when the pledge drive amounts have been submitted.

In committee updates, the Anti-Racism Team is nominating local black lead and POC focused organizations for Share the Plate. The Board's Congregational Survey Committee has finalized the new Congregational Survey, which will be released soon.

Make a Difference! Take the Congregational Survey

by Dana Brooks
Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees wants to know how you view your experience of attending First Church. Do you believe that the Church is making progress toward our Ends, or do you think that there is room for improvement? The Annual Survey gives you the opportunity to let us know what is important to you, and how you think your needs and concerns are met.

Please complete the survey online here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CMM3R8V> or

if you prefer a paper copy, please email vctrdnbrks@gmail.com. The deadline for your response is April 18, 2024, so please let your voice be heard!

Vote "NO" continued from page 11

electrical outlets, or any other equipment or facilities present at polling places that are privately owned, such as churches, private school buildings, community centers, or other privately owned locations."

In line with our Unitarian Universalist value of democracy, the Defend Democracy Team encourages us all to vote our values by voting "no" on these referendums.

Candidates for the Board of Trustees

Mark Chambers



Mark's UU life began in 2005 at All Souls Church, Washington D.C. In 2018, when he and his wife Janine moved back to Milwaukee, they became

members of First Church. At First Church he's been a member and chair of the annual pledge team and co-chair of the Forge Our Future Endowment campaign. He sings with the Chancel Choir. He also serves on the stewardship committee of the Forward Scholars program of Common Ground. Mark is a native of Milwaukee but spent most of his work life out of state. His career has been primarily in non-profit health care administration and also in affordable housing and homeless services in Washington D.C. Sailing, the culture of Milwaukee, and politics occupy the rest of Mark's life.

Elizabeth Hayes



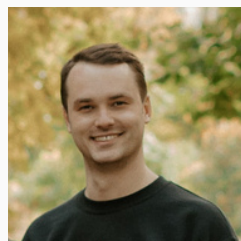
Elizabeth is a proud third-generation Unitarian. Though her membership officially started in 2024, she was dedicated at First Church in 1998 at 6 months

old. As a young person, Elizabeth participated in RE, OWL, and Youth Group and served as Chair of the Youth Steering Committee. She is an active musician with the House Band. Elizabeth graduated from UW-Madison in 2019 with a degree in Elementary Education. In her

Elizabeth Hayes continued

professional life, Elizabeth has worked in education, voter protection, outdoor ed, restorative justice, and national non-profit spaces. Elizabeth is excited to turn her UU life experience into action by serving on the Board.

Ryan Pawlowski



Ryan and his soon-to-be husband, Austin, joined First Church in 2022, shortly after beginning to attend services. Raised in Cleveland in a Polish and

Irish Catholic household and educated in Catholic Schools his entire life, he was incredibly excited to have found a diverse and inclusive spiritual home that he could bring his whole queer atheist humanist self to. He quickly jumped into a role as Worship Associate Team Co-Chair and began Adult Spiritual Development through the Buddhist Study Group, UU Wellspring, and Paul Tillich Study Group. Outside of church, Ryan is an IT Project Manager, avid yoga practitioner, smart home guru, and politically active with the Democratic Party of Wisconsin & the Human Rights Campaign.

Candidates for the Nominating Committee

Lisa Koneazny



Lisa joined First Church over 25 years ago with her husband, Pete. They found a welcoming community that encourages growth and action. Over the years, she has served on a variety of committees including RE, the 2001 building renovation committee that improved accessibility to the building, the Board, and Heritage Society. She also served on the search committee that brought Rev. Dena to First Church. Lisa is a retired nurse. She spent 43 years in various pediatric positions. In retirement, she has found a new way to spend time with children and is in her second year as a Forward Scholars tutor (a program of Common Ground). She is looking forward to working with the Nominating Committee and discussing leadership roles with First Church members.

Laura White



Laura has been a member of First Church since 2016. She currently serves on the Finance Team and as a Pastoral Care Provider. She is a Senior Frontend Software Engineer. She volunteers in various coding communities in which she hosts career events, helps aspiring developers resolve technical issues with their projects, and reviews contributions for open-source projects. When she is not working or volunteering, she enjoys spending time with friends and family and going for long walks along Lake Michigan.

Update on Endowment Fund

by Jean Johnson
Director of Administration

First Church is grateful for the expertise and service the three Board-appointed inaugural trustees are bringing to the new endowment. Dave Becker, Ron Oshima, and Betty Schroeder bring experience in business management, banking product management and marketing, and finance. We'll have profiles of each of these long-time First Church members in next month's *Chanticleer*.

Once the Trust Agreement is finalized and executed, they'll file an application with the IRS to have the Trust certified as a 501c(3). A plan to communicate the key aspects of the Trust Agreement to our congregation is being developed.

Ways to Pay Your Endowment Pledge

We are also grateful for your endowment pledge payments. Thanks to your generosity, we have collected about half of the pledged amount! These funds are earning interest in a special Forge Our Future Endowment account until the Endowment Fund Task Force and Trustees have completed their work establishing the new endowment.

Choose the method to pay your pledge that is most convenient to you. Payment options details are found on this [web page](#). Choose to pay: by check, monthly EFT, via the member portal, on our website, or by donating appreciated stock or mutual funds.

Thank you for your generosity! Together we can reach our goal!



Support the Endowment Fund!

Goal: \$3,000,000
As of March 25
Dollars pledged: \$2,819,433
Fulfilled Amount: \$1,412,691



It's never too late to pledge!

Pledge to our principal-protected endowment fund with the online pledge form with this QR code.





Buddhist Study Group

Wednesday, April 3 & 17, 6:30 p.m.
At Church

Join us as we meet to share our thoughts and interpretations of Buddhist teachings and ideas. Then we meditate as a group for a short while and have fellowship. Contact is Mark Miller at gatheringwaterssangha@gmail.com.

Book Discussion Group

Sunday, April 14

[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us as we discuss April's read, *Untold Power: The Fascinating Rise and Complex Legacy of First Lady Edith Wilson* by Rebecca Boggs Roberts. Contact Barbra Lancelot for more information at ubarbra@gmail.com.

Chancel Choir

Every Thursday, 7:15 -9:00 pm
At Church

Sing with us on Thursdays as we prepare to perform for Sunday services. Open to all singers high school age and up (no previous experience or audition required). Contact Teresa Drews: for more information or to join at teresa.drews@uumilwaukee.org.

The Chronologically Gifted Potluck

Please join on April 28, 2024
At Church

Reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Bring a dish and join your contemporaries for a potluck after the Sunday service, in Otto Hall. We may even have some entertainment! Plan ahead! Show up! Enjoy!

Poetry Contemplation

Every Wednesday, 9:00 am

[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us online as we listen, respond, and rest with the words of selected poets. Come listen for what resonates and illuminates. Members, guests, and visitors are welcome to join this open, weekly, drop-in practice.

The Practice of Silence

Monday, April 8 , 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
At Church

Join us for a new meditation hour on second Mondays in the Sanctuary to practice silence. You can join and leave at any time.



Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE



APRIL 7

Feeding America: Together We Are Solving Hunger

Satira Lord, Director of Advocacy & Outreach.

Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is the leading local hunger-relief organization in the state. The organization operates food banks in Milwaukee and Appleton and receives food from retailers, wholesalers, farmers and donors. The food is transported, sorted and stored at each campus before it is distributed to nearly 400 pantries and meal programs across 35 eastern Wisconsin counties.

APRIL 14

Democracy Is Not Unity

Rev. Mark Richards, President of Wisconsin UU State Action Network.

After each Presidential election, we hear calls for our nation to unify behind the elected candidate. But unity is not a compelling feature of democracy. Democracy calls for each elector to make thoughtful decisions and to speak the truth as they see it. It creates a structure for rigorous debate so that the voter has a clear understanding of a representative's stand on important issues. We will discuss how our system is working, or not, today. We'll discuss how UU's can engage with voters and how Wisconsin UU State Action Network is helping.





Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE



APRIL 21

Fair State Voting Maps & Fair Elections in Wis.

Jay Heck, Executive Director of Common Cause Wis.

Jay has been the executive director of Common Cause Wisconsin since 1996. With more than 8,800 members and activists in every county and corner of Wisconsin, CC/WI is the state's largest and among the most effective nonpartisan citizens reform advocacy organizations. Jay will describe how much more fair state legislative voting maps became law in Wisconsin in early 2024 and how that impacts the critical upcoming November election for President and for the future of democracy in the state and the nation.

APRIL 28

Not So Rational After All: A Response to Humanism

Dennis Merritt; Jungian Analyst.

Rev. Michael Schuler, retired senior minister of First Unitarian Society Madison, recently spoke at our Sunday Forum on the topic "Humanism: In Command or Crisis?" based on his new book on humanism. Today's presentation is a response to Rev. Schuler, particularly with reference to humanism's emphasis on rationalism. Dr. Dennis Merritt, Milwaukee-based Jungian analyst and ecopsychologist, will explore the powerful realm of the irrational and transcendent as experienced through Big Dreams, vision quests, synchronistic experiences, and the totally random process of consulting the Chinese book of wisdom, the I Ching. He'll also consider Native American philosopher and writer Vine Deloria, Junior's statement that Jungian psychology is the best western framework for relating to indigenous spirituality and shamanism.



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Staff members have varying hours.
Please contact them directly to set up an appointment.

Board of Trustees Officers

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How to Reach Us

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1342 N. Astor St. Milwaukee, WI 53202



uumilwaukee.org

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Church Building Hours

Sundays: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm
Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm
Monday - Wednesdays: 5:00 - 8:30 pm

If you are attending a scheduled group, ring the bell. If you need access to the building at other times, please make an appointment at first.church.office@uumilwaukee.org.

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