

OCTOBER 2024



THE

CHANTICLEER

The First Unitarian Society
of Milwaukee

nurture. engage. inspire.



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Monthly Theme

*What does it mean
to be a people of*

Deep Listening

Inside News

by *The Chanticleer* Editors

This autumn is brimming with wonderful church activities where you can connect with church friends to nurture your spirit and make a difference in our world.

Here are a few highlights.

Oct 5-6 UU Climate Justice Revival weekend! Including Irma Morter Lecturer and music activist Lea Morris. (pp. 9-10)

Oct 13 Bad River film screening. Continue our focus on climate justice with the film *Bad River* followed by discussion with native activists. (p. 11)

Defend Democracy actions you can take for the election this fall. (pp. 12-13)

Guest House Sandwich-Making. The Religious Education program needs supplies. Please sign-up. (p. 6)

Ongoing groups for nurture, exploration, and fellowship. (p. 17)

Sign up to receive weekly announcements about church activities [HERE](#).

Share the Plate

October 2024

by Lynde Uihlein, Share the Plate Team Member

The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa is in litigation with the Canadian oil giant Enbridge over a 12-mile stretch of pipeline that runs through their reservation. Legal fees will continue until a final ruling is reached. Other environmental justice activities are ongoing and financial support is valued.

Defend the Bad River is a non-profit entity of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribes of Chippewa Indians. Your support in defending the Bad River is crucial for the well-being of our environment and communities. The Bad River Band plays a significant regional role in protecting clean water, supporting diverse wildlife and plants, and offering numerous cultural opportunities for people to sustain their way of life. By donating to Defend the Bad River, you are not only safeguarding a vital ecosystem but also ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Established by the 1854 Treaty of Lapointe with the U.S. government, Bad River is the largest Chippewa reservation in the state at 124,459 acres. The reservation boundaries encompass lands in two counties and six municipal townships with 36 miles of Anishinaabeg-Gichigami (Lake Superior) shoreline and over 488 miles of rivers and streams, over 30,000 acres of wetlands including the Kakagon Sloughs. Learn more at <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov>

Contribute securely on line below or mail your check to First Church made payable to: Defend the Bad River and we'll forward your contribution to them. Please be generous in your support. Donations are also accepted during the Church service.

[Donate to this STP Partner](#)



Words on the Wind

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

We often practice our October theme, deep listening, in our church community. We listen to one another, to our deepest longings, and to silence. Most of all, we listen to the holy, as it comes through things like our communities' voices, or music, or even the wind.

The first weekend of this month, we have the pleasure of listening to Lea Morris, joybringer, singer-songwriter, and community music activist, who will be giving our 2024 Irma Morter lecture as part of our October 5 Climate Justice Revival and October 6 worship services. You might remember Lea from the many times she visited us as a virtual guest musician in worship and religious education during the pandemic.

The second weekend of the month, we will honor Indigenous Peoples' Day in worship on Sunday, October 13, followed by a 1:00 p.m. film screening of Bad River, about the Bad River Tribe's fight to protect Lake Superior from the Enbridge pipeline. There will be a panel discussion afterwards with indigenous water protectors from Milwaukee and Bad River.

As we move together in this final month before the November election, deep listening can help us connect. When we really listen to other people

with respect and care, we build the kind of trust that creates change. All month, our social justice leaders will be hard at work Defending Democracy through voter registration, getting out the vote, and canvassing.

As always, dear ones, we are in the work of change and the practice of love for the long haul. May we listen deeply to one another, to members of our community, and to our own souls this month, knowing that relationships of love and care change the world.

With love,
Jennifer
Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister

Dena's Digressions

by Rev. Dena McPhetres



While hanging laundry on the clothesline in the backyard recently, I heard something I couldn't identify at first. Then I realized it was the sound of a gentle breeze moving the leaves of the trees –so welcome after hearing the hum of my window air conditioner for so many weeks. Earlier this summer, I began a new habit of walking at twilight to see the fireflies winking above the grass lawns and gardens in the neighborhood. Although I was using my eyes, it felt like I was listening to the fireflies making me aware of other dimensions of life.

"The Other Way to Listen" by Byrd Baylor and Peter Parnall is one of my favorite children's picture books. It starts like this, "I used to know an old man who could walk by any cornfield and hear the corn singing. He was so good at listening once he heard wildflower seeds burst open, beginning to grow underground." It takes a long time to learn deep listening like that! I can only aspire to it and practice listening with my whole self.

We usually think about listening with our ears but noticing someone's body language and facial expressions during a conversation, or the energy

in a group is listening, too. Noticing silence and honoring it is another way to listen. What is your favorite way to listen?

During this month when our theme is Deep Listening, I encourage us to slow down and listen in different ways. And at the same time, allow ourselves to notice surprises coming in during the regular course of our activities, because that is listening, too. One of the most helpful spiritual practices I follow is to listen to the wisdom of my body and the group body of the people with whom I'm in community. And, of course, the leaves and the fireflies. This month, may we hear the wisdom of all bodies.

Yours,

Rev. Dena McPhetres, Associate Minister

Fall seems to be the season for joint replacements and other surgeries. Our healing thoughts are with several of our members who had surgery this fall. May your recovery go smoothly and see you back in action very soon!

From your pastoral care team.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

6

I'm Listening

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Lea Morris, Musical Guest

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

Nancy Spransy, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

13

Listen to the Silence

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

Trudy Watt, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

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Do You Trust Me?

Steve Sieck

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

Teresa Drews, pianist

Don Weimer, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

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A Clearing for the Soul

Rev. Dena McPhetres

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

The Chancel Choir

Desiree Pointer Mace, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

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

OWL Facilitators Needed

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

Our Whole Lives (OWL), is a comprehensive, lifespan sexuality education curricula we are proud offer to our children and youth here at First Church. We believe everyone has the right to know how human bodies work and OWL offers honest, accurate information that empowers our young people to make informed choices and share this information with their peers. We know OWL saves lives and it is a service we are uniquely able to provide to our community.

We are currently seeking to add new 7-9 OWL facilitators to our team of trained OWL facilitators that do this volunteer work at church. Training courses are now offered online and in-person. If you go to the links below you will see the training offerings. Please note that the church can cover expenses for this intensive training. The church makes an investment when they train OWL facilitators; we have a responsibility to use the church's resources wisely. We ask that if you become an OWL facilitator that you make a three-year commitment to teach in our OWL program at First Church.

OWL Training: <https://www.uua.org/re/owl/trainings/calendar>

We hope you will consider serving our faith community in this way. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to me.

Guest House Sandwich Making

On Sunday, November 10, our Religious Education program is partnering with Guest House to learn about homelessness in Milwaukee. Guest House of Milwaukee provides shelter, housing, education, and services to Milwaukee's homeless who seek to transform their lives with dignity and purpose. Guest House provides approximately 300 sandwiches every day to people in our community. Our goal is to make enough sandwiches for one day.

Christine Jacobs is visiting from the Guest House that Sunday to talk with us about the people they serve and what we can do to help people in need. Everyone is welcome to join us after the first service to make sandwiches and help feed the hungry from 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Sliced bread, meat and cheese are needed for our big sandwich making day! To make 300+ sandwiches, we will need approximately 36 lbs. of sliced deli meat, 40 regular size loaves of sandwich bread, 300 slices of cheese, and 300 zip-top bags. We hope you will consider donating sliced bread, cheese or meat for our sandwich making day.

Let us know what you can donate by signing up:
[SIGN UP HERE!](#)

Donations can be dropped off at church in the downstairs RE refrigerator between Nov. 5-9. All donations need to be at church by Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on November 10. THANK YOU!

Invitation to Shawl Ministry

by Juliet Hills

Do you like to knit or crochet? Grow a shawl at home, or at church with us now and then. We meet once a month Sundays after second service.

You can keep your hands busy and wrap someone in friendship. Experienced yarn workers can help a new knitter with acrylic yarn, needles, and support to think through a project. Our group makes lap robes, shawls or blankets for adults or children who might need something comforting at times. We can tell you the ideal sizes to make.

These are portable hobbies, from room to room, on a trip, outside in the sun, or at a friend's house. If you can knit, you can make a rectangle to keep a baby warm in a car or a stroller or crib. If you can purl you can make seed stitch or stripes or lace patterns. You can use these skills while you listen to music or a talk or book, or while you chat or drink coffee with friends anywhere.

Gifts of acrylic yarn are also welcome as we work at home or together. Join us or contribute your pieces to the church. Ask for the sizes we hope to receive, and when you finish an item, make sure it is washed through a regular machine cycle so that it will not change once it is given by the church pastoral care team member.

Our first meeting of this church year will be in the Leenhouts Common Room after the second service on October 6. If you have questions, come and ask them at that time. We hope you will sit with us and see what we do.

Annie Dillard and Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

by Dennis Conta

A group of 12 to 14 members of First Church is being organized to study Annie Dillard's nonfiction book Pilgrim at Tinker Creek. Told in first-person, the book details Dillard's explorations near her home, and contains a series of chapters on features of the natural world and ruminations on her personal life. Separated into four sections that signify each of the seasons, the narrative takes place over one year.

The book records Dillard's thoughts on solitude, writing and religion, as well as scientific observations on the flora and fauna she encountered. It touches on themes of faith, nature, and awareness, and is also noted for its study of theodicy and the cruelty of the natural world. Dillard describes her ruminations as a "book of theology", and she rejects the label of nature writer. The book is similar in design to Henry David Thoreau's Walden.

Contact Dennis Conta for more information and let us know if you'd like to join us.

Reimagine Together
From An Extractive
Age To A New Era



October 5 & 6

Join UU Climate Revival and Lea Morris Morter Lecture October 5 & 6

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom
Senior Minister

Our congregation is joining UUs across the land to revive our commitment to climate justice. Join us for two days of all-ages activities, reflection and song at the intersection of climate and justice.

SATURDAY, October 5

- 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.: Interactive workshops for adults and activities for children and youth ages 5 and up, including collective visioning, making connections and nourishing relationships, and charting a course forward together
- 2:00-4:00 p.m.: Lea Morris, joybringer, singer, songwriter, choral composer, and community music activist, gives our 2024 Irma Morter Lecture and Songversation, “Ordinary Magic”

SUNDAY, October 6

- 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.: Climate Revival Worship, featuring Lea Morris
- 1:00 p.m.: Climate Advocacy Hour with UU the Vote, UUs for Social Justice, UU Service Committee

The UU Climate Revival will help us envision climate action that weaves together our deepest commitments and cultivates relationships. It will bring together people who are brand new to the work with those who have been working on particular issues for years to create new visions together. Sign up today for any of the Saturday events at the Climate Revival RSVP.

Climate Revival RSVP



See
Page 11
for this
October 13
Event.

ORDINARY MAGIC with Lea Morris

by Alissa Rhode
Lead Music Director

Irma Morter Lecture, SoulFolk and Songversation

A featured event of our UU Climate Justice Revival weekend!

Saturday, October 5

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

This event is free and open to the public, but please kindly RSVP [HERE](#).

Join the extraordinary Lea Morris for an interactive afternoon of wisdom and music, as she shares her unique insights during the Irma Morter Lecture, followed by a thought provoking Songversation. Get ready to be enchanted by Lea's original words, music, and her signature SoulFolk style!

Lea Morris is a joybringer, singer, songwriter, choral composer and community music activist. She was commissioned to write a song especially for the UU Climate Revival. She currently resides in Germany and travels the world sharing songs and experiences to lift hearts and connect communities. Lea's latest album "Ordinary Magic" will be released September 20th, and we are honored to be a rare United States stop during her Fall tour.



First Church established our relationship with Lea during the pandemic, frequently featuring videos of her original music during online church services, as well as presenting Lea in a virtual online concert. Now, we are thrilled that she will join us in person for this special event during our UU Climate Justice Revival weekend!

Learn more and connect with Lea at:

<https://www.thisislea.com/>

Child Dedication on Nov. 24

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson
Minister of Religious Education

On November 24, a Dedication of Parents and Children will take place during our 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday 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 holding 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. Please read our UU Child Dedication website link for a full description [HERE](#).

The ceremony is a public declaration by parents dedicating themselves to faithfully nurturing and supporting 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 November 24, fill out [this online form](#) by Sunday, November 17 or email Rev. Kimberlee.

Xmas Eve Reception Volunteers Wanted

by Fiona Higgins
RE & Membership Assistant

We have a wonderful opportunity for a volunteer or two. There is a tradition here that the Christmas Eve services have a wonderful, decorated Coffee Hour reception for the congregation complete with snacks and a holiday punch.

We are looking for some volunteers who are willing to lead this. The tasks are listed in a nice binder I would provide for the volunteers. Inside the binder is everything you'd need from timelines to samples of emails to the recipe for the punch. I am also able to help the volunteers with contact information or help set up sign-up sheets as needed. This is a great way to not only connect with other congregants but also a great opportunity for anyone looking to take that first step in volunteering here at First Church. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at Fiona.higgins@uumilwaukee.org



Fall Journey to Membership

Saturday, October 12, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
and Tuesday, October 15, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
More information and registration can be found on the church website [HERE](#).

Bad River Film Free Screening October 13

by Jenny Abel, Member of Social Justice
& Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

For Indigenous People's Day, join us at church for a free screening of Bad River, a film that details the Bad River Tribe's decades-long fight to shut down the Line 5 oil pipeline that travels through their land on its journey from Canada to Michigan.

Told through the voices of tribal members and other indigenous attorneys and activists, the film relates their struggle to protect the health of the land, water, wildlife, and people of Northwest Wisconsin, along with the drinking water of millions of residents that would be impacted by an oil spill from this more than 50 years old infrastructure.

Free popcorn from the Oriental Theater will be provided. A freewill offering will be taken to support the Bad River "Defend the Bad River" non-profit group. Learn more about the film:
<https://www.badriverfilm.com/>

Following the movie, we will be joined by three panelists who will answer questions about the fight to stop Line 5 and protect our waters. One panelist will be a Bad River tribal member who will be traveling to Milwaukee to join us. The others will be local activists Mark Denning and Susan Simensky Bietila.

Marin (Mark) Denning, an enrolled tribal member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, who has been involved in public education programming for over 40 years. From his time as a student at Marquette University to being an adjunct lecturer at a university in Milwaukee, Mark has spent the time speaking for and about Native issues. A community organizer, he is generous with his time while working to protect Milwaukee's rivers and waters. Recently, he has been instrumental in efforts to publicize and nurture the recent resurgence of sturgeons in the Milwaukee River.

Susan Simensky Bietila, a longtime activist-artist and author, has been making art in collaboration with frontline Water Protectors against the mining and oil pipelines that threaten Wisconsin's Great Lakes and rivers.



**Free
Popcorn
donated by
the
Oriental
Theater.**



First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee

DEFEND DEMOCRACY

Take Action NOW on Your Election Day Plan

by Dave Umhoefer
Co-Leader, Defend Democracy

Please consider volunteering at polling places, or in the community, on November 5, to ensure everyone has a chance to cast a ballot.

Here are some options:

Poll Worker

If you're looking for a way to make an impact in 2024, becoming a poll worker is one of the most vital roles you can play. Sign up online at

<https://myvote.wi.gov/> or

<https://city.milwaukee.gov/election>

Tabulate/Count Votes

By working at Milwaukee Central Count. For info on signing up write to electionworker@milwaukee.gov or call the Milwaukee Election Commission at 414-286-3491.

Help voters with transportation through Souls to the Polls

Sign up to drive voters to the polls for voting or to schedule drivers on election day. Training provided. Sign up at www.soulstothepollswi.org or by calling 414-742-1060

Voter Rescue at Early Voting Sites on Election Day

Help direct voters to their correct polling place. You can potentially save a few hundred votes.

Contacts: Mary McGrath,

marymcgrath5144@gmail.com

Dave Umhoefer, dave.umhoefer@gmail.com

Election Observer/Election Observation Program

(through League of Women Voters - Wisconsin)
More information at www.My.lww.org/Wisconsin,
Employment and Volunteer Opportunities
Training is conducted via online webinar.
Training scheduled for Oct.24. If you have any questions, reach out to the LWVWI Voter Education Manager, Eileen Newcomer, at enewcomer@lwwwi.org or (608) 256-0827.

Taking Inspired Action Before Election Day

by Dave Umhoefer
Co-Leader, Defend Democracy

Join the growing ranks of First Church members helping people register and vote on or before November 5. Activities range from at-home and in your circles, to church actions and community events.

Upcoming opportunities in this final five weeks:

Get-Out-the-Vote Canvassing with Common Ground

Visit Milwaukee public housing sites assisting residents with improving conditions in their homes and registering to vote. Jerry Frederickson, bikehead5@yahoo.com, Ann Ritchey, annkrans@gmail.com

Schedules and sign up at:

www.commongroundwi.org/gotv-2024

**Zoom Parties for Making GOTV Calls to People
You Know.** Sunday, 10-6, 6:30 to 8:30. Common Ground sponsors.

<https://tinyurl.com/CGGOTV2024>

**League of Women Voters and Supermarket
Legends,** in-community leafletting and voter registration. Ask Juanita Mast, juanita.mast@gmail.com

On your own and with friends, be mindful of assisting first-time voters, voters who've moved or changed their name, people with disabilities or in

the hospital, as they navigate voting challenges. Questions? Ask Dave Umhoefer, dave.umhoefer@gmail.com.

UU the Vote Mobilization Weekend, 11- 1 to 11-3. At First Church, join in the Pep Rally and Action Sunday, 11-3-24, after each service as we celebrate Election Day workers. UU The Vote Rally, Sunday, 11-3, 1:00 to 3:00 with lunch, training, and canvassing with Nora Rasman from UU The Vote.

A vote is a voice in action!

Walk & Rolls are Great



by Bruce Wiggins
Earth Justice Ministry Co-Chair

The Earth Justice Ministry had a wonderful time at our September 14 Walk & Roll. We met in Lincoln Park to view the new pollinator garden and talk with the Friends of Lincoln Park about their work to maintain and rejuvenate this park along the Milwaukee River.

EJM started these Walk & Roll outings during the pandemic as a way to gather in the outdoors and get some exercise plus learn about nature in our city. We have continued them monthly since then. We have had a variety of wheels -- the "roll" part -- including wheelchairs, walkers, baby strollers, scooters, and a Segway.

We welcome any and all First Church members and friends to join us. Watch for announcements in the Chanticleer and weekly announcements of these monthly outings. If you love a local park with an ADA-accessible trail, let our organizers Jackie Zandi and Paula Anderson know. We would love to have you host a Walk & Roll at your favorite park.

October Walk & Roll

by Jacki Zandi
Earth Justice Ministry Member

Please join us on Saturday October 12 from 10:30-noon at Kletzsch Park in Glendale, located along the Milwaukee River Parkway, accessed from Bender and Green Tree Roads.

Let's park in the lot at Kletzsch Park Area/Shelter 8 and meet in front of the building (6560 N. Milwaukee River Parkway). From there we will Walk & Roll to the waterfall viewing area where the salmon may be running and enjoy the Oak Leaf Trail. We always see more together! Your hosts are Paula Anderson and Jacki Zandi.

Sign up to help with Cathedral Center Meal

by Treenut Wilson

Please sign up during Sunday coffee hour at the Social Justice Table to help with the Cathedral Center Meal on Wednesday, September 25 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at 845 N. Van Buren St. Milwaukee, WI.

The menu for that day is Breakfast for Dinner: Pancakes or waffles, fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, and sausage and bacon.

continued on page 16

The Greeter Lectern is Calling You!

by Rev. Dena McPhetres
Associate Minister

Our beautiful Greeter Lectern, designed and built by member Pete Hill, is calling to you! Are you someone who enjoys smiling, saying “good morning,” and talking to guests at church? Perhaps you’d like to volunteer at our Greeter Lectern in the main hallway on Sunday mornings.

The role is fun and easy! Show up twenty minutes before service begins on Sunday, pull the lectern into place, and get ready to offer a hearty hello, personal connection, nametags and basic information about our church (like how to find the nearest restroom, water fountain, door to the sanctuary, and where to connect with children’s religious education).

We are down a few staff people, so we need to open this lovely opportunity to our members. Please contact Steve Sieck, our Ministerial Intern, (steve.sieck@uumilwaukee.org), if you are interested and he will get you signed up with much appreciation.

Are You Interested in Fostering Belonging at First Church?

by Rev. Dena McPhetres
Associate Minister

We are delighted that so many people are finding or returning to First Church—and we want to make them feel welcome, connected, included, and help them along the path to belonging. Are you a “people person?” Do you enjoy listening to someone’s story, connecting them to other people and activities, finding ways to help “make things obvious” at First Church so that everyone can engage at whatever level works for them? If so, please consider joining our Membership Team! We meet once a month on the Second Sunday of the month at 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. at church or you could join the meeting via Zoom.

Our team focuses on welcoming people on Sundays and following up with guests. We support the Journey to Membership classes three times a year. We brainstorm and implement good ideas to engage folks from the first day they find us to decades-long members. We’d love to hear from you! Contact Rev. Dena if you are interested: dena.mcphetres@uumilwaukee.org.

Splinters from the Board

by Sarah Richards
Member of the Board

The first Board meeting of the church year was held on August 27.

The Board voted to adopt a revised Policy Monitoring schedule going forward, which will allow for more generative and visioning work by the Board.

Finance Team leader Noreen Gilbertsen presented the 2023-24 Fiscal Year Q4 Financial Report. Background was provided for new Board members about policy monitoring language and, based on the evidence presented, the Board voted unanimously to determine compliance with policies 4.4 and 4.5 pertaining to Financial Planning / Budgeting and Financial Condition & Activities, respectively.

The Anti-Racism Team report focused on the success of their August 22 workshop and highlighted events happening this fall. The Board voted to approve the purchase of a BLUU Box subscription for learning and growth through Black-centered spiritual resources. Board members look forward to sharing their learnings with the congregation on a regular basis.

Highlights from the Senior Minister's report include: a robust flow of visitors to First Church

this summer; Journey to Membership class numbers; Social Justice Council and Defend Democracy team collaboration; and several upcoming events related to voting, climate change, Indigenous Peoples' Sunday, and more. Finally, the Board designated Board liaisons and task group roles for the coming year.

continued "Cathedral Center Meal"

You'll need to fill out a quick volunteer application if you haven't volunteered with us previously, I'll email it to you.

Please prepare your dishes at home and please make them hot (if served hot) as there is no kitchen available for us to use there. Each person will be asked to make enough of a single dish for at least 12 people.

Contact Treenut Wilson at scoobert92@gmail.com or 262-442-8721 if you need to coordinate an early drop off or have her pick up ahead of time. Please drop off your dishes at the Cathedral Center around 6:00 p.m.

When you sign up, please leave me your email and set a reminder in your phone and/or take a reminder slip I've provided.

OCTOBER EVENTS



Buddhist Study Group

Wednesday, Oct. 2 & 16, 6:30 pm
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, October 13
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us as we discuss October's read, *Except for Palestine: the Limits of Progressive Politics*. Contact Barbra Lancelot for more information at uubarbra@gmail.com.

Chancel Choir

Oct. 3, 17, & 24, 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 Tristan Strelitzer: for more information or to join at tristan.strelitzer@uumilwaukee.org.

The Chronologically Gifted Potluck

Sunday, October 27 at 12:30 pm
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.

SWANS (Seasoned Women Are Naturally Social)

Sunday, October 6 at 1:00 pm

This month we will meet at the Charles Allis Art Museum, 1801 N. Prospect. \$12.00 for seniors. We'll check in on the recent exhibit, *Left With Your Memories* by Artist-in-Residence Tracy Keller Nickolaus. Contact Barbara Collignon at bjcollig@gmail.com.

Endowment Fund Trust Update

by Ron Oshima

Endowment Trustee

We're excited to share that we're making great progress on getting The FUSM Endowment Fund Trust up and running! Here's what we're currently working on:

State Registration

We've submitted our application to register the Trust with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions. Our attorney expects to hear back by the end of September.

Setting Up Financial Accounts

The trustees started working with FUSM's admin team to establish separate financial accounts for the Endowment Trust. This will include:

- A checking account
- A brokerage account to convert donated securities into cash
- An investment account with the UUA Common Endowment Fund

Of course, the devil is always in the details! The endowment trustees are also drafting a document to designate the FUSM admin team as an agent of the Trust, outlining their role in processing contributions, just like they've been doing for the past two years.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support! Let's work together to reach our pledge goal of just under \$3 million!



Support the Endowment Fund!

Goal: \$3,000,000

As of September 23, 2024

Dollars pledged: \$2,822,233

Fulfilled Amount: \$1,685,452



It's never too late to pledge!

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





Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE



OCTOBER 6

VP Harris' Path to the Presidency

Dennis J. Conta, member of First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee.

Mr. Conta will review the 2024 Presidential Election including issues such as the importance of the electoral college and swing states in determining the outcome of the election. He'll also review the campaign strategies that the Harris campaign is using to advance key issues and maximize voter turnout.

OCTOBER 13

Advocating for Peace & Justice Using Non-Partisan Relationship-Building

Barbara Markoff, Milwaukee FCNL Advocacy Team Facilitator.

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is the oldest faith-based (Quaker) non-partisan lobby organization on Capitol Hill with 135 advocacy teams in 47 states. Founded in 1943, it is highly respected by members of Congress and their staff for its consistent reliability working together over many years.

Learn how the local Milwaukee FCNL reaches out to offices of Wis. Senators and Representatives and how the relationships we build influence members of Congress regarding legislation on important issues of peace, justice and environmental stewardship. The specific topic for 2024 is targeting a budget requirement that bloats the military budget by about \$23 billion dollars.





Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE



OCTOBER 20

Understanding Intersectionalities within the Deaf Community

Katy Hagmeyer, MSW, LCSW.

Ms. Hagmeyer will cover several topics that create a Deaf experience, including cultural identity, cultural norms and values, intersectionalities, and community connections. The goal of this presentation is to increase and recognize the importance of inclusivity and cultural awareness.

OCTOBER 27

The Future of Democracy and Maps in Wisconsin

Nick Ramos, Executive Director of Wis. Democracy Campaign.

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign is one of the premier democracy organizations in Wisconsin. Mr. Ramos will discuss the significance of the upcoming election at the federal, state, and local level. The Forum will review potential themes and projections over the years to come and how Wisconsinites can stay vigilant.



Staff Directory

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom
jennifer.nordstrom@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 201

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev. Dena McPhetres
dena.mcphetres@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 202

MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Rev. Kimberlee Carlson
kimberlee.carlson@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 204

MINISTER EMERITUS

Rev. Andrew C. Kennedy, D.Min.

INTERN MINISTER

Steve Sieck
steve.sieck@uumilwaukee.org

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Jean Johnson
jean.johnson@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 203

OFFICE MANAGER

Shari Wright
shari.wright@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 207

YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Deb Solis
deb.solis@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 209

RE & MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANT

Fiona Higgins
fiona.higgins@uumilwaukee.org ext. 210

FACILITIES MANAGER

Ken Liddell
ken.liddell@uumilwaukee.org ext. 206

FACILITIES & TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Jim Spice
jim.spice@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 215

LEAD MUSIC DIRECTOR

Alissa Rhode
alissa.rhode@uumilwaukee.org

CHORAL DIRECTOR

Tristan Strelitzer
tristan.strelitzer@uumilwaukee.org

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

Teresa Drews
teresa.drews@uumilwaukee.org

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

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How to Reach Us

414.273.5257

first.church.office@uumilwaukee.org

1342 N. Astor St. Milwaukee, WI 53202



uumilwaukee.org

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

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