



The Pathfinder



A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb

Volume 64, Issue 1

158 N. Fourth St.

DeKalb, IL 60115

Feb-Mar 2023

OUR MISSION

Together as a religious community, we put our liberal faith in action, striving to nurture our families and our spiritual lives, protect the earth, eliminate poverty, and stop oppression, while offering love and hope for all.

(UUFD mission statement adopted May 17, 2009)

DEADLINE

The deadline for the Feb edition of the Pathfinder is **Mar 19th**. Please note that this is the third Sunday of the month. Submissions are to be sent to the church office via email: office@uufdekalb.org.

Hybrid In-person & Online Worship

UUFD is holding in-person worship services at our usual time – Sundays at 10 a.m.

We will also share the service via Zoom. Join the service each Sunday at uufdekalb.org/live or in person. Zoom access for Sunday services begins at 9:30 a.m. and service will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Services: Service 10:00 A.M. till 11:15 A.M.

February Theme: Resilience Special Collection UUANI

Children can't see their budding lives through the long lens of wisdom – the wisdom that benefits from years passed, hurdles overcome, strength summoned, resilience realized, selves discovered and accepted, hearts broken but mended and love experienced in the fullest, truest majesty that the word deserves. For them, the weight of ridicule and ostracism can feel crushing and without the possibility of reprieve. And, in that dark and lonely place, desperate and confused, they can make horrible decisions that can't be undone. - Charles M. Blow

Feb 5 *Bending Like a Willow*
Ed Miguel, Worship Leader
Dorothy Coleman, Assistant

Feb 12
Rev. Julia Jones, Worship Leader
Kim Myers, Assistant
Choir Performance

Feb 19
Dorothy Coleman, Worship Leader
Vanstrom Dracul, Assistant

Feb 26
Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Worship Leader
Ed Miguel, Assistant

March Theme: Trust

*Special Collection Barn on Baseline
Animal Shelter*

Spiritually speaking, where—or in what, or in whom—do you place your trust? Do you place your trust in God? Goddess? Spirit? Do you place your trust in the universe? In Nature? Do you place your trust in yourself? Do you place your trust in family, friends, neighbors? Do you place your trust in the people sitting around you—the members and friends of this congregation? I ask because where we place our trust matters. It shapes who we are and whose we are. And it shapes how we are in the world. Spiritually speaking, where do you place your trust? - Rev. Josh Pawelek

Mar 5 *Trust in Yourself*
Ed Miguel, Worship Leader
Kim Myers, Assistant

Mar 12
Rev. Julia Jones, Worship Leader
Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Assistant

Mar 19
Dorothy Coleman, Worship Leader
Vanstrom Dracul, Assistant
Choir Performance

Mar 26
Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Worship Leader
Dorothy Coleman, Assistant

CONTACTS:

MINISTER: Rev. Julia Jones (minister@uufdekalb.org or 301-717-8509)
OFFICE MANAGER: Kathryn Jones (**Please contact her online or by phone**)
MINISTER EMERITA: Rev Linda Slabon (revslabon@aol.com or 815-501-4788)
PRESIDENT: Kim Myers
TREASURER: Ashley Ford

Office Manager Office Hours: Wed 10 - 3 and Fri 10 - 3
Church Office phone number: 815-756-7089
email: office@uufdekalb.org

Web site: uufdekalb.org
In case of an emergency, call Board Past President Ed Miguel, or President Kim Myers.

Minister's Thoughts

Dear Friends,

It is now three years since the COVID pandemic began. While the disease is still with us, we have seen a curbing of its most dire effects for most of the population. There are those still at greater risk and there are good reasons to continue to be mindful, considerate, and to change our behaviors according to the current level of risk in our area. It is also wise to notice the ways that the necessary changes to our patterns have impacted us as individuals and as community.

Few can go through times like these without taking a bit of a hit to the heart, the spirit, the will. And often, times of isolation breed more isolation. We become habituated to our silos and feel the effort that change would require.

The truth as I see it, however, is that we are not meant to do our lives alone – at least not entirely. Even those of us who prefer a lot of solo flying find ourselves benefited from some time with the flock. And dare I say all of us can benefit from taking the time to notice how we are interacting with the world and ask if we are making choices that are best for us – for heart, for mind, for spirit, for the world.

UUFD is here for all of that and UUFD is you. We weave our interdependent web and strengthen its

capacity with intention and action together. How can you reach out to other folks in this community? Who have you missed? What would you like to do together as the seasons prepare to change yet again? It's time.

In Faith,
Rev Julia



UUFD Staff News

Minister's "office" hours:

Rev. Julia will be in DeKalb Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will be working remotely Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please feel free to email, text, or call to schedule an appointment to meet with her. Her phone number is 301-717-8509, and her email address is minister@uufdekalb.org. Please note that she is a part-time employee and therefore may not respond to e-mails immediately. For urgent pastoral care needs, please call her on her cell phone and leave a message if you do not reach her directly. Thank you.



Mark Your Calendar For These UUFD Events



We're beginning to have more in-person events, but things may still change in response to the current COVID situation. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more updates. And please reach out to the church office to subscribe to the weekly electronic news if you haven't already done so.

Ongoing Events

Yoga with Ed Miguel – Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

Craft & The Craft – Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

Buddhist Study Group via Zoom – 1st & 3rd Sundays at 11:45 a.m.

Zoom links are sent to everyone on the Buddhist Group mailing list. If someone not on our mailing list would like to join us, please contact Howard Solomon at dochoward00001@gmail.com.

Restorative Meditation – Fridays 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Julia's Virtual Drop-in Lunch via Zoom – Tuesdays 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WA Book Club – 2nd & 4th Thursdays – 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 pm

February 2023

Feb 05 – UUFD Choir Rehearsal – 8:45 a.m.

Feb 11 – UUFD Winter Farmers Market – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Feb 12 – UUFD Choir Rehearsal – 8:45 a.m.

Feb 16 – ZSGD – 7:00 p.m.

Feb 19 – Board Meeting – TBD

Feb 21 – Hope Haven Meal – 6:30 p.m.

Feb 25 – Drive-thru WE Pantry – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

March 2023

Mar 12 – UUFD Choir Rehearsal – 8:45 a.m.

Mar 19 – UUFD Choir Rehearsal – 8:45 a.m.

Mar 19 – Board Meeting – TBD

Mar 21 – Hope Haven Meal 6:30 p.m.

Mar 25 – Drive-Thru WE Panty 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



Restorative Meditation Returns!

Friday, February 17, 2023, at 6 p.m.

I know we've missed it and it will be so lovely to see everyone again and to spend an hour calming our minds and re-centering ourselves.

All are welcome to join!

The worship theme for February is Resilience; for March the theme is Trust.

The worship leaders will use these themes to guide their services throughout the month. We encourage you to take a look at the Touchstones Journal on our website at uufdekab.org/touchstones (or pick up a copy at the table by the magazine rack) and hope it will lead to deeper discussions!

Hi Folks,

During the January 8th service I had a Winter Haiku poem challenge.

Here are the results of that writing. Some wrote a few; some wrote many like me and Jack .

Since Mary and Gretchen wrote a Haiku about hoarfrost, I remembered I took some photos during our last hoarfrost along the prairie path so I put them in with the poems.

— Ed Miguel

Haiku poems on Winter

Ed Miguel:

The trees shed their past
Naked as skeletons are
Nothing have they to hide

The earth freezes up
And drags us kicking, screaming
To deal with ourselves

Ullr, God of snow
Son of Sif and Thor's stepson
Winter's family

Christmas, Hanukah
Oh, great joy the winter brings
Then slams the trap door

The monks meditate
Snow on the pagoda's roof
It gives them focus

The old Russian stops
Pondering the ice hole's slush
And jumps anyway

The snow fort was built
Frozen hands and jaws too numb
Hot cocoa waiting

The way down was fast
Shrieking with fear and delight
The hill taught them joy

Donna Veeneman:

So Unexpected
A heart drawn in driveway snow
We drive around it

Bonnie Anderson:

Cold enters our lives
It comes unasked, unbidden
Welcome it with love

Anonymous:

When warmth went away
The whole community gathered
And asked Joy to stay

Howard Solomon:

This is my Haiku
I don't know why I am writing it
But it's my Haiku

Friday night vigil
Winds blow fifty miles-per-hour
Twenty two below

Sharon Blake:

Winter is for rest
Retirement is also
It's (a) win-win for me

Danica Lovings:

Winter can be good
Portable fridge in your trunk
Your food will not spoil

Every flake unique
So tiny they look the same
So short is their life

Susan Dorbeck:

Snow boots on the mat
Window's frost glazed, fingers stiff
Who can hear snow fall

Mary V. and Gretchen Sigwart:

A hoarfrost is white
Most fluffy and clean it sticks
You are invited

Jack Reich:

Complain of winter
all you like, but look: when else
will you see such snow?

Mary V. and Gretchen Sigwart:

A hoarfrost is white
Most fluffy and clean it sticks
You are invited

*Some pics of hoarfrost by Ed Miguel
(Taken on the prairie path between Sycamore Rd. and 1st street in 2021)*





******NOTE REGISTRATION EXTENDED & DATE CHANGE******
CROSSING CULTURAL BORDERS CLASS TRAINING AT UUFD
by Rev. Karen Mooney, co-director of UU Advocacy Network of IL
Three Sundays in 2023 - March 12th, April 16th & May 7th
2:00-5:00 p.m.

For three years the UUFD Live Love (formerly Vote Love) team has met to study, discuss and act on issues of social justice. We are proud to extend an opportunity to UUFD members & friends to join us attending the 3 session class & Crossing Cultural Boundaries & The UU Advocacy Network of IL offers this class for FREE. It will be taught by Rev. Karen Mooney, a Co-Director at UUANI.

The class will help participants explore their internal beliefs, preconceptions, strengths, and weaknesses in a supportive and brave-space environment of respectful, covenanted listening and learning. The need to deepen our consciousness about internal bias when interacting with people of different backgrounds is an on-going journey. This class is a tool to strengthen us in our faithful work to address racism.

Course Expectations:

Prerequisites for the class include a good faith effort to attend all three class sessions in person at UUFD. There is homework for the first session which will be sent to you in 2023 once you RSVP.

Homework will need to be completed prior to each class. The materials are engaging and require about an hour or so of reading and writing for each class.

Rev. Mooney wants to be as flexible as possible to encourage participation. Therefore, acknowledging that we all have possible conflicts, the following are true only when wholly necessary:

- OK to arrive late / leave early
- OK to Zoom in if you are geographically distant but please contact organizers
- OK to miss one of the sessions if an impossible conflict arises

Please contact organizers if any of these situations arise (Rev. Linda 815-501-4788 or Toni Tollerud 815-501-4784)

If you are interested in joining us, please register with Kathryn at UUFD Church Office, office@uufdekab.org, and/or with Rev. Linda 815-501-4788.

****REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED to MARCH 5th****
So, mark your calendars NOW and REGISTER for Cultural Border Crossing
Training at UUFD:
Sunday March 12, Sunday April 16, 2023, and Sunday May 7, 2023
1:30-4:30 pm

UUFD Farmers' Market News

A Successful December Market

The December UUFD Winter Market, our first market since our hiatus due to COVID, was a great success! We had 180 shoppers, not including children, volunteers, and vendors. Virginia Wilcox, the Market Banker, reports that after adding in the table fees to what we made from vendor sales, we took in \$1747.61. Those are strong earnings comparable to previous successful markets! And here is a **special shout-out to Susan Dorbeck, who donated 100% of her proceeds to UUFD in memory of her mother, Grace.**

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the market a success, many serving multiple roles:

Hot Soup and Baked Goods--Maylan Dunn-Kenny, Coordinator, with Mary Von Zellen, Sharon Blake, and Donna Veeneman staffing the counter; and Maylan, Danica Lovings, Mary Von Zellen, Diane Johns, Bonnie Anderson, Sharon Blake, Jack Reich, Donna Veeneman, Dan Kenny, and Dorothy Coleman donating baked goods

Used Book Sale: Danica Lovings, Coordinator, with Maylan Dunn Kenny, Chris Hoyle-Miguel, Ed Miguel, Keven Vancil, Team Sigwart, Ed Miguel, Dorothy Coleman, Carey Boehmer, Dave Diaz, and Gwen helping with setup, and Danica, Jack Reich, Team Gerlach, Gretchen, and Khat helping with staffing.

Admission Tables: Beth Schewe, Teri Diaz, Ashley Ford, Ed Miguel, Virginia Wilcox, Sumiko Keay, and Khat

Banking: Virginia Wilcox and Ashley Ford

Set-up and/or Takedown: Carey Boehmer, Coordinator, with Dorothy Coleman, Ed Miguel, David Diaz, Tom Stomatakos

Publicity: Danica Lovings, Coordinator, with some help from Dorothy Coleman, and our Office Manager, Kathryn

General Coordinator: Dorothy, with more help from our wonderful Office Manager, Kathryn!

If I missed anyone, please forgive the omission, assured that your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Something New This Year!

Because setting up and taking down the used book sale is so labor intensive, we decided to leave the book sale in the library open until the close of the next market in February. After Sunday services or when you are in the building, we invite you to spend some time browsing the books. You can put cash in the jar/box provided to pay for the books you decide to take home.

Upcoming February Market

The second and last market of the winter season will be held on Saturday, February 11, in time for Valentine's Day and early Easter shopping. We are excited about the new vendors that will be joining us, as well as our deeply appreciated returning vendors.

Once again, the success of our market depends on the help of UUFD volunteers. Shifts are 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 12:00 pm to 3:00pm. Stations include the **two admissions tables, the food counter, and the book sale.** We could also use a **swing person** to give the other volunteers shopping and restroom breaks. Carey and Dorothy need two additional strong hands for setup and takedown. Danica will need several volunteers for boxing up books at the end of the market.

To volunteer, please email Dorothy at dcoleman405@gmail.com.

Joys and Sorrows



*Do you have a joy, sorrow or milestone to share?
Please email Kathryn at office@uufdekalb.org and we'll include your joy or sorrow in the next Pathfinder.*

Hope Haven News!

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb, along with many other congregations around the DeKalb County area, provide meals once a month to the residents and visitors of Hope Haven.

Hope Haven's mission is to provide shelter, meals, & life skills programs for homeless individuals & families while preparing them for re-housing. Hope Haven will advocate for the rights of the homeless, and those at risk for becoming homeless, while working in collaboration with others to end homelessness in DeKalb County.

Recognizing our December/January Volunteers!

December

We had no open spots in December and were able to provide a full meal of meatloaf and all of the sides, dessert and staples! A special heartfelt thanks goes to Maylan Dunn-Kenny. Maylan had already signed up to make two meatloaves and when my mom was admitted to the hospital just before the meal, Maylan took my spot and made 4 meatloaves! Thank you!

Many thanks also to the rest of the December Hope Haven helpers!: Beth Schewe, Kim Meyers, Charles Sigwart, Mary Von Zellen, Rev. Julia Jones, Gretchen Sigwart, Rev. Linda Slabon, Toni Tollerud, Sharon Blake, Sheryl Nak and Virginia Wilcox. You all were a real gift!

January

Thanks to donations to our Hope Haven fund, we were able to give our frequent main dish volunteers a break, and I ordered fried chicken from Jewel. Other volunteers contributed the rolls, veggies, fruit, dessert and staples. Volunteers included: Mary Von Zellen (who took two veggie spots to serve 60!), Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Gretchen Sigwart, Sharon Blake, Sheryl Nak, Charles Sigwart, Virginia Wilcox. Also a big thanks to Gwen Gregory, who was a first-time volunteer. We were thrilled to have your support - especially since several of our regular volunteers were out of town!

Upcoming Meals!

February - Mardi Gras!

This year our monthly meal falls exactly on Mardis Gras, Tuesday, February 21st. In true spirit we will provide Jambalaya (using Zatarains Jambalaya mix and smoked sausage for simplicity), corn bread, southern green beans and king cake. If you are willing and able to contribute, Please see the February Hope Haven sign-up sheet to volunteer!

March - Easy Chicken Pot Pie

Using canned soup, frozen veggies and crescent roll dough, we will provide an easy, but hearty main dish of chicken pot pie along with all the sides, dessert and staples. Please see the March Hope Haven sign-up sheet to volunteer!

In April we will serve large-batch lasagna. The April sign-up sheet is ready to go!

If you have not volunteered before and are interested, it's easy! Contact Danica Lovings with any questions or to sign up! My number is 815-901-4625. Text or call any time, or see me at church.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for their generosity and kindness!

Danica Lovings

UUFD Hope Haven meal coordinator

danica855@gmail.com



UUF Winter Farmers' markets feature organic, non-GMO, natural food products by local farmers as well as a large variety of artisan crafts by local vendors

- Baked goods, beverages and a hearty soup and bread lunch available in the commons area.
- The always-popular used book sale includes plenty of new inventory this year.
- Local musicians share their talents, from piano to steel guitar and more.

Shop for your sweetheart and support local growers and artisans in a festive atmosphere!

Where: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb

When: 09:00AM - 03:00PM on Feb 11, 2023

\$1.00 Admission, Children are FREE!

Out of respect for the more vulnerable among us, masks are required.
