



# The Pathfinder



A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb

Volume 58, Issue 4

158 N. Fourth St.

DeKalb, IL 60115

October/November 2017

## 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.*

*(UUF DeKalb mission statement adopted May 17, 2009)*

### DEADLINE

The deadline for the December/January edition of the Pathfinder is **November 19, 2017**. 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](mailto:office@uufdekalb.org) or hard copy left in the Office Manager's mailbox in the library.

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

### October Theme: Hospitality

Hospitality is a complex issue. There is one's individual responsibility to extend hospitality, but what of the responsibility of society? How do we / how should we respond to the immigrant, the refugee, those mired in poverty, the homeless person, the disenfranchised, or those who are discriminated against? It is not enough to be a Good Samaritan again and again and again. We are also obligated to work to eliminate the causes, to go beyond band aids to systemic solutions. Clearly, the quality and extent of hospitality is crucial to the common good. Hospitality is an act of love. It cannot exist in hate's shadow.

### October 1 – *Radical Hospitality*

Rev. Jennifer Gray, Worship Leader  
Sue Willis, Assistant

### October 8 – *Always Room for One More*

Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Worship Leader  
Sue Willis, Assistant

### October 15 – *No Longer Strangers*

Dave Becker, Worship Leader  
Ed Miguel, Assistant

### October 22 – *Welcome the Stranger*

Sue Willis, Worship Leader  
Diane Johns, Assistant

### October 29 – *Welcoming the Spirits*

Jack Lazzara, Worship Leader  
Sue Willis, Assistant

### November Theme: Faith

Most of the time people use the word faith as if it were a synonym for belief. It is not.

Wilfred Cantwell Smith, a historian of religion, draws a vital distinction between belief and faith. For Smith, belief was "the holding of certain ideas." He wrote, "Faith is deeper, richer, more personal. It is engendered by a religious tradition in some cases and to some degree by its doctrines, but it is a quality of the person and not the system. It is an orientation of the personality to oneself, to one's neighbor, to the universe; a total response, a way of seeing whatever one sees and of handling whatever one handles; a capacity to live at more than a mundane level; to see, to feel, to act in terms of a transcendent dimension.... Faith, then, is a quality of human living."

### November 5 – *Harvest at the Vineyard*

Susan Dorbeck, Worship Leader  
Sue Willis, Assistant

**\*\* Clocks fall back one hour on Nov 5!**

### November 12 – *The Promise and the Promise*

Rev. Jennifer Gray, Worship Leader  
Diane Johns, Assistant

### November 19 – *A Mighty Fortress*

Diane Johns, Worship Leader  
Dave Becker, Assistant

### November 26 – *Faith, Believe It or Not*

Jack Lazzara, Worship Leader  
Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Assistant

## CONTACTS:

INTERIM MINISTER: Rev. Jennifer Gray ([minister@uufdekalb.org](mailto:minister@uufdekalb.org), 815-408-1079 )

OFFICE MANAGER: Beth Schewe      MUSIC DIRECTOR: Bonnie Anderson

PRESIDENT: Jack Lazzara      TREASURER: Kristina Olsen

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR: Gladys Sanchez

Office Manager Office Hours: Wed 9 - 2 and Fri 10 - 3

Church Office phone number: 815-756-7089

email: [office@uufdekalb.org](mailto:office@uufdekalb.org)

Web site: [uufdekalb.org](http://uufdekalb.org)

*In case of an emergency, call Rev. Gray, the Board President Jack Lazzara, or the President Elect Laura Gillberg.*

## Gray Areas: Thoughts from the Minister

### Hospitality and Faith

This past month, you all have welcomed me with warm, open arms. As we forward, I wonder - What has your own experience of hospitality been here at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Dekalb? Who else is welcome in our Fellowship? Do we welcome people of different political leanings? Do we welcome people who love hugs and people who don't like to be touched? Do we welcome people with PhDs and those who dropped out of high school? Do we welcome people with different physical and mental abilities? Do we embrace a variety of theologies, even if they include beliefs we don't agree with or understand? Is the Fellowship a place where people of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds can find a home?

Over the next two months, we are exploring two themes. In October, we are exploring the theme of Hospitality. In November, we are exploring the theme of Faith. Our faith calls us to consider how we offer hospitality to one another and to people outside our walls.

The principles of Unitarian Universalism call us to-

ward justice, compassion, and equity. Our shared faith reminds us that we are all connected to one another and that, as Henry Nouwen says, "Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place." When we live these values, our principles, how does that impact our hospitality? If we truly welcome everyone and celebrate what they bring into our Fellowship and our denomination, how will that impact our faith?

*Rev Jennifer Gray*



### Worship Themes

In 2017, UUFD began using Touchstones monthly worship themes. Touchstones provides UUFD – as well as other UU churches around the country – with a set of readings and other worship and religious education materials each month. The materials are related to a monthly theme, which guides our worship leaders as they prepare services. The theme for October is Hospitality, and November is Faith.

The monthly Touchstones Journals related to each theme are available at [uufdekalb.org/touchstones](http://uufdekalb.org/touchstones). We invite you to read, reflect upon, and share your thoughts about the journal with other UUFD members and friends. We hope these monthly themed resources will enable us to have deep conversations and strengthen our spirituality and community.

Hard copies of the monthly Touchstones Journal are also available on the table just inside the entrance to

### UUFD Staff News

- On August 15, we welcomed Rev. Jennifer Gray as our new interim consulting minister! Rev. Jenn will usually be with us on the first and third Sundays of each month and will be available by phone and email at other times ([minister@uufdekalb.org](mailto:minister@uufdekalb.org), 815-408-1079).
- Office manager Beth Schewe's hours are Wed 9 - 2 and Fri 10 - 3.



## Mark Your Calendar For These UUFD Events



### October

- October 1 – Buddhist Study Group and Meditation 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month)  
 October 1 – Discussion: Hospitality and Sanctuary 1:30 – 3 p.m.  
*All are invited to join UUFD's Social Justice Ministry for a discussion of hospitality and sanctuary.*  
 October 2 – UUFD Board Meeting 6 p.m.  
 October 4 – Yoga with Ed Miguel 5:15 and 7 p.m. (Every Wednesday)  
 October 6 – Restorative Meditation 5:15 p.m. (Every Friday)  
 October 7 – RE Haunted House Design Meeting 1 p.m.  
 October 8 – Wiccan Study Group noon (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month)  
 October 8 – Humanist Discussion Group noon (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month)  
 October 8 – Ordinary Folk Musical Gathering 2 – 3:30 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month)  
 October 10 – Welcoming Western Counties Meeting 6:30 – 9 p.m.  
 October 11 – Stitch and Witch 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
 October 14 – UUFD Board Retreat 10 – 3 p.m.  
 October 17 – Hope Haven Meal 6:30 p.m.  
 October 21 – Disability Awareness Month Assistive Device Drive 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
 October 26 – Beloved Community Friendship Revolution 5:30 – 7 p.m.  
 October 28 – Welcome Essentials Pantry 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (note new time)  
 October 28 – SPOOKATHON 4:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### November

- November 6 – UUFD Board Meeting 6 p.m.  
 November 8 – Stitch and Witch 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
 November 11 – Winter Farmers' Market with Book Sale 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
 November 21 – Hope Haven Meal 6:30 p.m.  
 November 25 – Welcome Essentials Pantry 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Coming soon:** On November 19, Rev. Jennifer Gray and Dave Becker will host a Pathways to Membership meeting for all who are interested in finding out more about our UU denomination and how to join or become more involved at UUFD. Watch the eNews in October and November for more details, or contact the church office.

### **Remember, many hands make light work, and, with a small congregation, that means we need every hand to do a little lifting!**

Right now, we need someone to step into our Congregational Support and Development team! CS&D enables members to help other members through difficult times by providing occasional meals, transportation, cards, as well as managing the greeter program and coffee hour each Sunday, so organization and a willingness to contact people is important. Interested in offering (and participating in!) support groups, fun, relaxing activities and retreats, and welcoming new members? This is the ministry for you! Contact Dave Becker or any board member or ministry leader and we will get you all set up.

If CS&D doesn't feel like the right fit for you, but you want to pitch in somewhere, please contact anyone in leadership and we will work with you to find the best places for your skills and interests! Thank you; we love you!

# JOYS & SORROWS



Thank you so much to all who donated to the UUFD/CRMS school supply drive. As you can see, we are stocked up and have already begun to get supplies out to kids! Thank you from all of us at Clinton Rosette Middle School!!!



From Tree of Life UU in McHenry: It was such a wonderful day yesterday (Sept. 10)... and made possible by your help and participation. I can't believe how joyfully grateful I'm still feeling -- practically weepy - and I just wanted to tell you again how much I appreciate your gifts of creativity, time, energy, and good will. DeKalb people, please pass along to your choir and congregation that all of us at Tree of Life deeply enjoyed having all of you join us -- such an amazing gift of friendship!

Wishing you joy,  
M. E. (Emi) Tanabe



## UUFD Selects Special Collection Recipients for 2017-2018

Each year, the Social Justice and Outreach Ministry requests nominations from the congregation for organizations that exemplify our UU principles. From these nominations, the ministry selects seven organizations, which along with the NPR sponsorship and the Welcome Essentials Pantry, become the recipients of nine special collections during the year. The special collections program gives UUFD a way to contribute as a congregation to the larger community. Each month on the first Sunday, all the cash in the collection plate and any checks made out to the organization (or as directed in the bulletin) go the special collection. On subsequent Sundays, one tenth of the cash and appropriately designated checks go to the special collection. (On all Sundays, checks made to UUFD with no special instruction are considered contributions to the UUFD general fund.) This year's schedule is:

September – Northern Public Radio sponsorship  
 October – Hope Haven  
 November – UU Military Ministry (Great Lakes)  
 December – WE Pantry  
 January – Friends of Jane Adeny Memorial School (Kenya)  
 February – Barb Food Mart  
 March – Camp Woodbrooke  
 April – Safe Passage  
 May – DeKalb County Community Gardens

### Thanks to Hope Haven Volunteers

Thanks to all those who helped with the Hope Haven meals in August and September.

In August, Sharon Blake and Sheryl Nak provided the entrée and other parts of the meal were provided by Kim Myers, Bonnie Anderson, Cathy Schneider, Mary Von Zellen, and Virginia Wilcox.

In September, Judy Krajewski and Mary Von Zellen provided the entrée with other parts of the meal provided by Dan and Maylan Kenney, Bonnie Anderson, Sharon Blake and Sheryl Nak, and Virginia Wilcox.

## Music at UFD

We are having a lot of fun with music this fall. Ingathering featured the children singing with choir members. So delightful! We will have to do a number together for Christmas Eve... I've got just the thing. September will have Bill Lamb soloing and Ordinary Folk sharing in a service. During October there are a couple of nice music numbers planned with talented UFD people, and the choir will perform for three of the five services.

You will notice I am playing songs from our hymnal for the Offering and the Postlude. Beth and I are including the hymn numbers in the bulletin in the chance you would like to look at the songs (sing along if you wish!).

**CHOIR** Several members of the choir participated in the joint service, potluck, and concert at Tree of Life September 10. It was a beautiful filled with inspiration, laughter, and wonderful music. I just burst with pride with how well our choir performed during our musical moments. Here are the October/November rehearsal dates. We will be participating in the worship services as well:

October 1 – “Take up the Song”	November 5 - Choir
October 15 – TBA	November 19 - Choir
October 29 – “The Dark”	November 26 – Chimes (to be discussed)

Save the Date for the 2018 Choir Festival! The planning team met on September 9 and has chosen April 15 for the Festival. It will be held at Elgin UU again this year. Two new churches plan to join the event – Prairie Circle (Grays Lake) and Countryside Church UU (Palatine). This will be an amazing day of music.

Again, if you have comments or questions, I'm available.

*Bonnie Anderson*

## RE News

I'd like to offer heartfelt thanks for the congregation's wonderful response to RE's call for volunteers during the Ingathering Service. Within the hour, we had enough volunteers to cover our staffing needs all the way through December. As Gladys reminds us, “Team Work Makes the Dream Work,” so Go, Team! Don't forget that additional volunteer training is available any time; e-mail [ashley@peregrin.org](mailto:ashley@peregrin.org) to set up a session. During training, we'll discuss: different roles, time management, lesson plans, positive discipline, inclusion, and more! You each bring fresh perspective to enrich the children's world views, and it's beautiful to see.

Our next “Whole Congregation” (intergenerational) service will be December 24th. We would like to have your feedback as to whether it is preferable to have the children coloring at a table in the back, as we have done for recent services, or to have them sit with their families in the pews. What do you think? Find Gladys or myself and let us know.

The older children are currently studying different world religions during Sunday class time. Each week is packed with information, but we rarely have time to delve into the rich culture and mythologies of various traditions. If your tween-and-older child is interested in learning more, I heartily recommend the “Crash Course World Mythology” series on YouTube. You can see a 2-minutes description of the course here: <https://youtu.be/iRCVcuA6yZQ>. Adults will enjoy it, too!

Enjoy these beautiful Fall days, and we'll see you at SPOOKATHON.

*Ashley Ford*

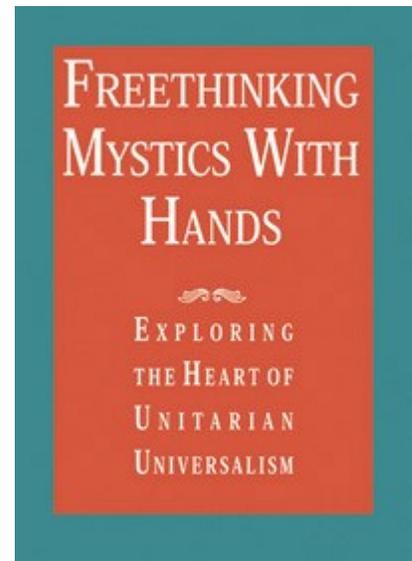
## Book Talk

### Beau Anderson, Librarian and Archivist

Among the books that make the UUFD library relevant and interesting for church members and friends are those located on the shelves marked “UU Theology.” Books here cover Unitarian Universalist history, theology, church development and sustainability, and more. Some of these books provide a through coverage such as the two-volume *A History of Unitarianism*, and others provide a more focused coverage such as *Free Thinking Mystics with Hands: Exploring the Heart of Unitarian Universalism*.

A lot has been written about Unitarian Universalism and the books in the library are a very small percentage of these. Still, these books can help one embark on an inner voyage of spiritual discovery. Unitarian Universalism is a “real” religion with a distinct history and culture. A wide range of theological beliefs are supported including theist, atheist, humanist, pagan, Buddhist, Deist, nature mystic, and more. Original writings from the history of liberal religion go back to the sixteenth century and can be found in the book, *The Epic of Unitarianism*. Sometime after the Civil War, the two religious traditions of Unitarian and Universalism gradually evolved on parallel paths, though it took nearly a century before the Unitarian Universalist Association was established in 1961. The path taken over the centuries is a fascinating journey.

If you want to look a little deeper into Unitarian Universalism, the library is a valuable resource. For example, if you’re looking for inspiration, try *The Almost Church: Redefining Unitarian Universalism for a New Era*. If you’re looking for strengthening the church, try *The Congregational Handbook: How to Develop and Sustain Your Unitarian Universalist Congregation*. Hopefully we can add to this collection and keep it relevant over time, but remember all books are donated. If you have some interesting books that you would be willing to donate, please bring them to the library for consideration.



### AS THE WHEEL TURNS, by Jack Lazzara

October 31 is the Pagan Holy Day of Samhain. “So who is this Sam Haine guy?” you ask. It is pronounced SOW-WIN. It is the Pagan New Year. The time between the seasons from Fall to Winter. The days are growing shorter. The veil between the worlds (the living and the dead) is at its thinnest. How do we celebrate this time of year? Children will dress up in costumes to represent spirits and go door to door for candy treats. Real spirits will also be out and about so some people will leave cookies at their graveside or fava beans outside their front door. Set a place at the dinner table for your spirit relatives. Attend the SPOOK-A-THON at the UU church on October 28. At the very least, be sure to say a prayer to those who have passed on to tell them you still love them, wish them peace and appreciate their guidance and protection in the coming year. Remember, THEY’RE LISTENING!

Blessed Be.

## Spookathon 2017! October 28

Help us raise funds for our children's programming and have an awesome time! We are requesting a donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family at the door and will provide you with all this:

Enjoy our kid-designed, kid-run Haunted House (large room, actually)! We may be tiny, but we're terrifying!

In our beautiful Sanctuary:  
Thrill to the magic of 9 year old magician Finn the Fantastic @ 5!

Enjoy a concert by our own Ordinary Monsters band @ 5:30!

Watch a Scary Silent Movie @ 6:30pm!

In the Library:  
We have not one, but two people doing readings! You can consult either Madame Wren's Unique Bird Oracle or Black Jack's Tarot Cards or Palm Reading!

In the Fellowship Hall:  
Buy some tasty chili or delicious soup for dinner and check out our bake sale full of yummy, creepy goodies!

Make Your Own Monster! A fun collage craft for all ages.

Meet and mingle, show off your costume and admire others!

Enter our Costume Contest and win fabulous prizes!

Just be there at 6:15 for judging; winners get a free bake sale item!

**So much to see and do! Join us!**



**Want to do more with your UU World than just recycle it?** Take an old issue or two with you next time you go to the doctor, dentist, optometrist, hair stylist, etc, and leave them behind! (Bonus points if you put a label with UUFU's contact info on it before you go! :))

**Lots of great (and free!) webinars coming up!** Check out <https://www.midamericauua.org/events/webinars> for details!

## **UUFD Social Justice Sponsors Disability Awareness Month Event**

On October 21st, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, UUFD will open its doors for an Assistive Device Drive, collecting all kinds of assistive devices for people with disabilities (mobility, visual impairment, hearing impairment, etc.). Items collected will go to Mary's Lending Closet in Sycamore which loans the items to anyone in need of them. If you have items to donate, please bring them during those hours or make special arrangements by contacting Maylan Dunn-Kenney, [maylan.dk@hotmail.com](mailto:maylan.dk@hotmail.com) or [\(815\) 501-1028](tel:(815)501-1028). If you can help for an hour or two during the drive, also contact Maylan!