



# THE CHRONICLE

Marquette  
Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation



## Services & Forums January 2015



Date	Service (11 a.m.)	Forum (9:45 – 10:30a.m.)
Jan. 4	“Turning of the Year.” Service Leader: Sarah Redmond Tally of the Year of significant events—deaths, marriages, births, beginnings, endings—for congregational members.	“Congregational Conversation About Our Mission Statement” Host: gg gordon
Jan. 11	“Why Beliefs Matter.” Service Leader: Tom Spencer	“Going Solar at the MqtUU Meeting House.” Host: Sarah Redmond
Jan. 18	“Fires of Commitment.” Service Leader: Barb Michael	“Welcoming Congregation Refresher Course, Part I” Host: gg gordon and the MqtUU Social Action Committee
Jan. 25	“When You Were Me and I Was You – Dismantling Gender Stereotypes” Presenters: February Sky (Phil Cooper & Susan Urban)*	“Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know” (video).

\*Unitarian Universalism supports the right of LGBT folks to be who they are. But we also need to be mindful of female or male heterosexuals whose tastes, talents, or behaviors do not fit the outline of what is considered appropriate for their gender. This service will encourage compassion, sensitivity and support for these individuals (and, yes, Phil and Susan are two of them).

*You are Invited to the Meeting House...*

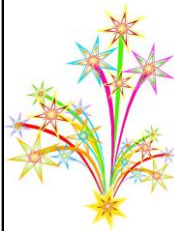
## First Friday

Of January...OF 2015!!!

**New Year's Party!**

**Friday, January 2 @ 6pm**

Bring a dish, a friend,  
your favorite beverage, your favorite  
music and share the ups and downs of  
the last year and your hopes and  
dreams for the new!!



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## Full Moon Gathering



Saturday, January 3

@ 6pm

Topic: How to utilize the energies of the  
Full Moon.

Please bring to the Meeting House, a small  
building/event donation and a snack to  
share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

## **FROM: MqtUU President, Sarah Redmond**



What happened? Doesn't it seem that we were just holding our collective breathe at Y2K? Yet for the younger among us, they probably don't know what Y2K means. At any rate we're now half way through the 20 teens. From your Board of Trustees, a Happy New Year and may 2015 bring you peace, happiness, love, fellowship and all those things a beloved community can add to your life.

More transitions as we say goodbye to Laura Nagle and welcome Lisa McKenzie as our Religious Exploration coordinator. The RE interview team and RE committee are excited about Lisa joining us and we're confident we'll share their opinion as we get to know her and see the impact she'll have on our RE program.

Our mid-year Congregation Meeting following the service will take place on January 25th. Agenda will include a financial update by our treasurer, a presentation and vote on Mqt. UU going solar by our Green Team and a presentation by our Mission Statement group. A new Fund Trustee was selected last year but a vote was needed to confirm, which we'll also do in January.

As we move into 2015 we'll be looking to our 2015-16 leadership with our Nominating Committee identifying, recruiting and proposing three new Board of Trustee members. Teri Rockwood, Mary Maki and I will be rotating off the Board the end of June, with Tim VanderVeen and Chris Wagner staying on. Please consider saying 'yes' when asked. We are a small, lay-led congregation and our Board plays a key part in holding MqtUU together, and moving ahead, as do our various committees. Time, talent and pledge is what it takes for use to thrive.

May 2015 be a great year for one and all.

Sarah Redmond

## **MqtUU & RATI**

The Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation will host Room at the Inn (RATI) during the week of **January 11th-January 18th**. Room at the Inn is rotating homeless shelter that operates October through May. While several members of MqtUU have supported RATI through volunteerism, it is the first time MqtUU is hosting.

We will need approximately 90 volunteers to execute this project. There is a volunteer opportunity for everyone from cooking and serving a meal, assisting with set up or break down, doing loads of laundry, covering a shift (MUST attend training--see below), providing snacks, and more. Michelle Halley and Sarah Johnson are our UU Coordinators, with additional support provided by Darlene Dreisbach and Kim Frost, Guest Advocate at RATI.

Items needed: night lights, two wash tubs, toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine sanitary products).

Sign ups will be available on Sundays with the goal of having all slots filled by Sunday, December 14th. You may also contact Sarah Johnson, 458-3915 or [iamsarahjeanjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:iamsarahjeanjohnson@gmail.com) OR Michelle Halley, 361-0520 or [michelle.halley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michelle.halley@sbcglobal.net).

The next training is December 18th at the Warming Center at 6pm. Training lasts approximately 1 1/2-2 hours.  
<http://www.roomattheinn.org/>

## FROM: MqtUU Treasurer, gg gordon

There is now a purple binder on the desk in the seating area behind the sanctuary which contains a copy of this year's budget and copies of the Treasurer's reports for the end of the last fiscal year and for this fiscal year. If you have questions about our finances, please feel free to look at these reports and/or contact g.g. gordon, plumskiter@gmail.com, for answers.

## FROM: Social Action Committee

### January 2015 "Share the Plate" Recipient:



<http://www.splcenter.org/>

The Southern Poverty Law Center is dedicated to fighting hate and bigotry and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of our society. Using litigation, education, and other forms of advocacy, the Center works toward the day when the ideals of equal justice and equal opportunity will be a reality.

**December "Share the Plate"** ~ If you didn't go online to offer a gift to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) through the Guest at Your Table program, you can **bring your checks made out to UUSC on Sun., Jan. 4th**. If you have time, please convert your cash into check-form. Barb Michael will make sure they get sent in to UUSC's new address. Hope your understanding of these partnership human rights efforts were expanded by reading some of the Stories of Hope. The Social Action and Religious Exploration Committees - and certainly the people directly affected - thank you for making a special contribution for this year's Guest at Your Table!

"Share the Plate" offers opportunities for our members to develop and deepen connections with these non-profit organizations. Your nominations of non-profit organizations for next year's recipients are welcome!

#### 2015 "Share the Plate" Recipients:

January:	Southern Poverty Law Center
February:	Transgender MI
March:	MUUSJN
April:	Bay Cliff Health Camp
May:	
June:	
July:	
August:	
September:	Doctor Without Borders
October:	Mqt Women's Center
November:	
December:	UUSC Guest at Your Table

#### 2014 "Share the Plate"

February:	UP Rainbow Pride	\$168.40
March:	MIUU Social Justice Network	\$146.19
April:	Camp New Day	\$201.55
June:	Nothing But Nets	\$204.86
July:	UP Region Alzheimer's Ass.	\$91.50
August:	Save the Wild UP	\$222.70
September:	Doctors Without Borders	\$256.58
October:	Women's Center/Harbor House	\$248.58
November:	Marquette Ending Hunger	\$193.96
December:	UUSC "Guest at your Table"	\$104.37

The MqtUU Social Action Committee **NEEDS YOU!** Put your passion to action and get involved with issues of social and environmental justice on a local, state, national and global level! As a collective voice we can make a difference! Check us out on Facebook to get current on meeting dates and issues being addressed.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1404026069870621/>

## **FROM: Barb Michael**

The service on Jan. 18, "Fires of Commitment," will celebrate Martin Luther King Day through inspirational music and reflections on Cornel West's Black Prophetic Fire, which highlights six significant leaders.

“A fascinating exploration of the black prophetic genius and fire of [Frederick] Douglass, [W.E.B.] Du Bois, [Martin Luther] King, Ella Baker, Malcolm X, and Ida B. Wells, this book reminds us what true leadership, sacrifice, and courageous, inspirational truth-telling looks like and why it is so urgently needed in the quest for justice today.” - Michelle Alexander, author of The New Jim Crow

### **MqtUU Representatives:**

President

Sarah Redmond

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Vice President

Chris Wagner

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gg gordon,

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Religious Exploration

Coordinator

Lisa McKenzie

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Cornel West currently serves Union Theological Seminary as a professor, after teaching at Yale, Harvard, and Princeton. The recipient of more than twenty honorary degrees, he has written many books, including Race Matters and Democracy Matters. He appears frequently on national and international media. Christa Buschendorf is the chair of American Studies at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. She has published on the transatlantic history of ideas and on African American literature. She comments and poses questions to Dr. West throughout the book.

## **FROM: The Community Development Committee**

### **New or Newer to our Marquette UU Congregation?**

A two part “New to UU” class will be offered  
**January 20th and February 10th from 5-7:30 pm**  
at the MqtUU Meeting House.

A light supper will be offered to sustain you as we explore our faith tradition. We plan to cover a bit of the history of Unitarian Universalism, our theology and worship practices, where we come from, how we grow in faith, our social justice philosophy, how decisions are made and how we govern ourselves, and what membership means.

We encourage those newer to the congregation, visitors, and new members to join us. It is an opportunity to learn about our great faith tradition, reflect on your own inner path, and meet others who are seeking a religious home.

Please let the class leaders, Tim VanderVeen ([timhvv@gmail.com](mailto:timhvv@gmail.com)) or Nancy Sullivan ([nance249@gmail.com](mailto:nance249@gmail.com)) know if you would like to attend. We may adjust the time and dates somewhat to accommodate those interested.

**CHAIR YOGA resumes at the Meeting House  
on Wednesday, January 7 @ 5:30!**

## Child Dedication Being Offered in Early 2015

In early 2015, a Child Dedication Worship Service will be offered to those families who want to participate. A Child Dedication is a ceremony that takes place in the context of the Sunday service, and the congregation declares its dedication to the nurture of all children who are part of the religious community. This service can include infants to older children. Water may be used to symbolize the source of all life in the world. A rose may be presented to the child or the family to represent the beauty and fragility of life and its unfolding promise. Our hope for the child is that he or she will feel the support of the family and church, and grow into an adult who will fulfill our dreams of a more loving existence together. In the words of the Zuni tribe:



“Our child, it is your day. This day. May your road be fulfilled. In your thoughts may we live. May we be the ones whom your thoughts embrace. May you help us all finish our roads.”

Please contact Teri Rockwood if you are interested in the Child Dedication Service. [teri.rockwood@gmail.com](mailto:teri.rockwood@gmail.com)

### January Meetings & Events (See Forums & Services on pg. 1)

(Meetings and events will take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise specified)

January 2 @ 6pm Friday	First Friday of 2015! Bring a dish to share, come for a meal, stay for PARTAY!
January 3 @ 6pm Saturday	CUUPS & United By Light Full Moon Gathering to learn about how to use the energy of the Full Moon.
January 7 @ 5:30pm Wednesday	Chair Yoga
January 7 @ 7pm Wednesday	Stewardship Committee Meeting to plan the annual budget drive
January 8 @ 7pm Thursday	Choir Rehearsal
January 10 @ 10am Saturday	Community Development Committee Meeting
January 11-January 18	<b>ROOM AT THE INN</b>
January 13 @ 1pm	Sunday Service Committee Meeting at TBA.
January 22 @ 6pm Thursday	MqtUU Board of Trustees Meeting
January 24 @ 10am Saturday	Men's Group
January 25 @ 12pm Sunday	Mid-Year Congregational meeting

Check us out on the web @ [mqtuu.org](http://mqtuu.org) and “Like” us on Facebook and join the Facebook group!

**Thank you!**



**Here are some creative ideas from the UUA for New Year's resolutions that reflect our seven principles:**

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person  
Use these [365 Days of Love resources](#) to Stand on the Side of Love all year. Mobilize your congregation to Stand on the Side of Love for an important justice issue in your area.
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations  
Commemorate the 50th anniversary of the historic Selma to Montgomery March by participating in [Selma Sunday](#). Reflect on the progress that has been made, and discuss what you and your congregation can do to continue to work for racial justice. [Want to go as a group to see "Selma" - then discuss the film and future actions? gg will be leading the "Selma Sunday" service March 8.]
3. Acceptance of one another, and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations  
Participate in a religious education class, perhaps one using the UUA's online religious curricula [Tapestry of Faith](#). Or use and share readings, meditations, music, and worship resources on the [Worship Web](#).
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning  
Read and discuss great books about social justice, history, theology, and more from Beacon Press and Skinner House, available through the [UUA bookstore](#).
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large  
Come to [General Assembly 2015](#) in Portland, OR, (or participate virtually) to have a say in the business of our Association. Participate in advance by encouraging your congregation to vote in [congregational polls](#).
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all  
Promote world community by traveling on a service learning trip with the [UU College of Social Justice](#). Registration is open for upcoming trips to Haiti, the U.S./Mexico border, and a new trip to Washington State to explore U.S. policy toward Original Nations with the Lummi people.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part  
Sign up to be a part of [Commit-2-Respond](#). This coalition of UUs invites people of faith and conscience to work for environmental justice and advance the rights of people impacted by climate change.

**FROM:**



**STANDING ON THE SIDE OF  
LOVE**

Right around this time of year, many of us are thinking about resolutions we want to create and honor to improve our lives and the lives of those around us. How about making one of your resolutions to stand on

the side of love all year round? Want help in sticking to your resolutions? We've got you covered! Add these dates and commitments to your calendar and you will be doing your part to harness the power of love from January through next December.

First, check out our resources that you can access [365 Days a Year!](#)

## January

- Sign up to join our webinar with **Groundswell to learn practical tools for online organizing** on January 14 at 2pm EST/11am PST. Interested in joining? [RSVP here](#). This will be the first in a series of webinars on **Justice Tools: Love in Action!**
- Honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in a new way this year. Renew your commitment to civil rights and racial justice work in your congregations, family, and community!

## February

- Celebrate **Share the Love Sunday** on February 15. Check out resources [here](#).
- Last year, close to 1,500 UUs joined together in Raleigh, NC, to join with the state NAACP and the Fusion Coalition at their Mass Moral March. Many UUs will join the march again this year. Sign up to join our webinar with **Faithify to learn more about how to fund your social justice work** on February 11 at 8pm EST/5pm PST. Interested in joining? [RSVP here](#).

## March

- Check out the resources available to commemorate [Selma Sunday](#) in your congregation.
- Join Commit2Respond for [Climate Justice Month](#) from World Water Day (March 22) to Earth Day (April 22)! Individuals, families, congregations, and groups will get faith-filled resources, engage in powerful practices, and begin to take action in new ways to shift our energy, advance human rights, and grow the climate justice movement. Don't miss it! Save the date now by [joining Commit2Respond](#).

## April

- Close out Climate Justice Month by celebrating Earth Day. Commit to a future of clean, renewable energy using resources from UU Ministry for Earth.
- Consider registering for the [UUA General Assembly](#) in Portland, OR! This year's theme will be "Building a New Way" and will feature a public witness event focused on climate justice in partnership with Native peoples at the frontlines of our collective struggle.
- Join with our partners at [Interfaith Worker Justice](#) on April 15 to advocate for an increase in the minimum wage to \$15/hour.

## May

- Consider taking up a [donation](#) to support the work of Standing on the Side of Love!
- If you are headed to the UUA General Assembly, consider the theme this year of Building a New Way. What is your congregation doing to assess and invigorate your role in building the Beloved Community?

## June

- June 26th marks the 2nd Anniversary of the gutting of the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court. How are you staying committed to [voting rights work](#)?
- Join us in person or in spirit at General Assembly. We're excited to be offering a program we're calling: **Building a New Way through Arts, Partnership & Justice**. We'll be exploring all year long how to bring more creativity into our social justice work, and we'll be sharing resources throughout the coming year so you can join us on this journey.
- Many pride events across the country are held in June or July. How are you celebrating Pride in your community? If you are part of a congregation, check out [10 ways for your congregation to celebrate Pride!](#)

## July

- Check out a regional camp/conference in your community to restore your heart and soul! [Click here](#) for details on UU camps, retreat centers and conferences taking place throughout the Summer.

## August

- Our partners at the UU College of Social Justice are launching the first youth trip to the Border, called Activate Southwest Border from August 1-9. Learn more about the Youth Border trip here or check out [www.uucsj.org](http://www.uucsj.org) to learn more about all of the great service learning opportunities available!
- Following the murder of Michael Brown on August 9, 2014, people rallied across the country to launch the nation-wide #BlackLivesMatter movement calling for an end to white supremacy and justice for victims of police brutality. What will your congregation or community do to recommit to working for racial justice? Check out resources [here](#).

## September

- If you weren't able to celebrate Share the Love Sunday in February, consider kicking off the congregational year with a justice themed worship service! Materials are available [here](#).

## October

- Mark your calendars for [National Coming Out Day](#) on October 11 and don't forget to wear purple on National Spirit Day Oct. 16!

## November

- While 2015 will be an off year for federal elections, there will be several state and local ballots to watch out for. Don't forget to vote on the side of love every election, and stay up to date on our [voting rights work!](#)
- Honor [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#) this year, and join the transgender community in mourning violence against trans people worldwide.

## December

- International Human Rights Day is December 10. What organization will you support on this important day? In 2014, we lifted up the important work of [No More Deaths](#), a Ministry of the UU Church of Tucson.
- You can get all your Holiday Shopping at UUA Bookstore, including lots of great [Standing on the Side of Love gifts!](#)

Of course, as we move throughout 2015, we will have tons more info to share. But for now, mark your calendars and let's set some new years intentions together!

