



2018 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our Spring Stewardship Campaigns: “Growing 2030 Possibilities”



On Sunday, April 8th, 2018, we will kick off our annual Stewardship Campaign, “Growing 2030 Possibilities.” This fundraising effort supports the values, mission, and ends of our church at our new location (2030 Wayzata Blvd) and with an eye to the future (the year 2030). The campaign comes at an exciting time for UUCM, as we welcome many new members, find great opportunities to use the new building, and plan for our ministerial transition.

During this Stewardship Campaign we ask our members and friends to pledge their financial support for the church budget during the July 2018 to June 2019 fiscal year. These pledges make up 90% of our annual income, so they are vital to our financial planning.

As we shared during last year’s campaign, our budget will grow again in 2018-19 to cover increased operating costs, and payments on our building loan. To meet this challenge, our pledge goal will be 10% larger than last year. If we all participate, that goal is well within reach! In early April you will receive a pledge packet with more details on the campaign, and the ways that you can participate.

We ask that you make your pledge by April 30th. Thank you for your support of UUCM and our “Growing 2030 Possibilities” initiative.

Fred Hulting, Stewardship Chair
Finance Ministry Facilitator
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The Congregational theme for April is EMERGENCE.

Maybe you went through it so it would awaken you.

~ Lalah Delia

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UUCM MISSION STATEMENT

“In a spirit of wonder and with courageous love, we connect, grow, and act”.

NEW WAYS EMERGE

The April Soul Matters reflection topic is *Emergence*. Emergence comes from the Latin *emergere*, to bring to light. Peggy Holman in *Contemplating Leadership in Complex Times* describes emergence in some detail:

“...For most of us, the notion of emergence is tough to grasp because the concept is just entering our consciousness. When something new arises, we have no simple, shorthand language for it... Strong emergence occurs when a novel form arises that was completely unpredictable. We could not have guessed its properties by understanding what came before. ...Letting go of how things were opens the way for engaging emergence.”

<http://peggyholman.com/papers/engaging-emergence/engaging-emergence-table-of-contents/part-i-the-nature-of-emergence/chapter-1-what-is-emergence/>

Or, as Benjamin Franklin said: *When you're finished changing, you're finished.*

HAPPENINGS

--Interim Minister

One of the tasks of an interim minister is to identify things that a congregation might not see about itself. This will help us to allow new ways of seeing to emerge. The Interim Minister Search Committee has begun its work. Members are Mike Elliott, Robert Brooks, Mary Cotton, Laurie Moser and Karen Hulting. The application for an Interim minister is due on April 17th. An interim minister would begin work in the fall.

--Board Personnel Subcommittee

An interim Personnel subcommittee was appointed to review and revise staff job descriptions and update contracts. Members include Jackie Smolen, Bill McKnight, and Lisa Stock.

--Transitional Leadership Team

This team is in charge of operations and includes Mike Elliott and Fred Hulting. A board member will be assigned each month to attend a Council meeting to assure good linkage between the Board, staff, and ministries.

As our April Soul Matters curriculum advises: *“Make a bit of room. Leave a little space. Keep a lookout for the unexpected. These directions may not sound like anything radical or revolutionary. But it turns out that these are often Life's favorite ways to help us emerge into something new.”*

Sharon Charles
UUCM Board Member
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2018 CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

The congregational survey is the most important annual instrument for the Board's monitoring of how we are living into our new mission. It is now available for members and friends to complete, at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LCD5HL7> or at church in paper copy after services, for the next month. Your responses are requested and will affect how we work over the next few years. We ask that you all contribute the 20-30 minutes to take part in guiding our congregational life. The past six months have been unusually busy for the board with many extra meetings.

Sadly, this past month, Mike Kost and Aaron Stille have resigned from the board. Their thoughtful measured contributions have been greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed. Many thanks go out to Jackie Smolen for agreeing to fill out one of these vacancies for at least the rest of the church year.

Last spring I got some herb seeds from a friend right after I had finished planting my vegetable garden. I wondered where to plant them, having used all the available garden space. In fact I unfortunately spent the whole summer wondering. Then I really didn't know whether I should just compost them, being a full year old, or if I should put them in the freezer and hope they might grow the next spring. I was still wondering when the hard freeze came and I had to take action.



I was out in the garden with one of my grandchildren cleaning up the dead plants, when I decided it would be fun for the child to learn

how nature plants seeds. So I planted those herb seeds as though they had just fallen to the ground from the parent plant, as well as watered and mulched them. There they have been through the winter. Now I am waiting with hope to see what will emerge.

April is a month of emergence, with several holidays expressing that theme in various ways. Easter is the Christian celebration of life emerging from death in the story of Jesus. Passover celebrates the emergence of a people from slavery and oppression to freedom and a land of promise. The Vernal Equinox is the time of year in which day and night are equal in length, before the days finally start to get longer. Light emerges in victory over the darkness of winter. It won't be long until emerging greenery will be a testament to that.

Earth Day 1970 gave voice to the emerging consciousness of the time, channeling the energy of the Viet Nam anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns at the fore. Today there is further urgency in Earth Day's focus which, this year, seeks to End Plastic Pollution, with global efforts to eliminate single-use plastics plus global regulation for their disposal.

What is the lesson of emergence for us? One thing those herb seeds taught me is that it is important sometimes to save space for the unexpected. I neglected to do that in terms of saving room in my garden, plus setting aside the time to plant them. Perhaps they will sprout – mother nature has often worked miracles. And emergence is like that – you really don't know what will emerge until it happens. As expressed by Katie Covey, "being a people of emergence involves doing all we can, trusting the process and keeping an eye out for unexpected opportunities to emerge".

Of great importance now are the emerging conversations and actions regarding racism within Unitarian Universalism itself, much less throughout this country, as well as the mounting acts of violence that terrorize our children. We are all called to save time and space for the emergence of advocacy against such threats to our common good.

As always, I am grateful for your love and support of children and youth ministries. As we enter the Spring season, I hope that many unexpected gifts will emerge in your lives.

Andrea Heier,
Director of Religious Education
dre@uucmtka.org

2018 OWL FACILITATOR TRAINING

UUCM needs more trained adults to continue to offer the *Our Whole Lives* important curriculum at the many different age levels. This training will be for adults, 21 and older, who are sponsored by their congregations to become facilitators of the 7-9/10-12 or Young Adult portions of this

curriculum. It will be held **Friday, May 18th at 1:00 PM to Sunday, May 20th at 1:00 PM** at Pilgrim Point Camps & Retreats in Alexandria. Registration will be covered for anyone who agrees to teach OWL at UUCM. Please contact Andrea at dre@uucmtka.org with your interest.

FIRST HOUR IN MARCH

**Sunday, April 1st –
NO FIRST HOUR**

**Sunday, April 8th
Exploring UU History & Beliefs**

This class is part 1 of a 2-part class on a path to membership at UUCM, allowing participants to share their own spiritual journeys and to interactively explore a broad overview of Unitarian and Universalist history and what it means to be a UU. Current members and friends are very welcome to join in the class also. Facilitated by Melissa Martinson, Membership Ministry.

**Sunday, April 15th
Emergence of the Inner You**

We will discuss what we mean by the Inner You and talk about ways to encourage the emergence of the recognition of and connection with your inner you. Facilitated by Bruce Lehrer.



**Sunday, April 22nd
Play Games and Explore Yourself**

Examine the ancient and communal act of storytelling through the lens of player

agency in a game setting and what it reveals about psychological and aesthetic reactions to narrative. Facilitated by Paul Winchester, Music Director.

**Sunday, April 29th
How Can We Bridge the Partisan Divide**

We have become more divided than ever, and it can be hard to know what to say to those who have a different political leaning, or any difference. Look at some models that others use and talk about how we can do it. Facilitated by Susan Goll.

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

The **UUCM Annual Variety Show** on **Saturday, April 21st** at 5:00 PM at UUCM brings exciting participants and special guests. This year we are very privileged to host a press briefing by Deputy White House Press Secretary, Sara Huckabee Sanders. To get us in the proper mood, we have a visit by three old church biddies to share an important “spiritual” message. Among others, we have the famous musical



Brandt family; a creative story by Noel Martinson; a display of art work by Christy Dachelet and Cindy Bush; and poetry by Bruce Kelly and Laurie Moser. For a complete list of participants please see

the Variety Show sign up sheet in the Community Room. There is still time to add your name if you would like to share your talent. Otherwise, please bring some food, refreshments and join us for a festive entertaining family oriented evening.

The **Minnetonka Civic Orchestra** returns to UUCM on Friday, May 4th at 7:00 PM. Created in 1976, the Minnetonka Civic Orchestra provides enjoyable, educational and artistically

solid musical experiences for its members and audience. Concerts are free and open to the public and are held here at UUCM in the Sanctuary.

MATCHING LEGACY GIFT

Wonderful Opportunity for a Matching Legacy Gift to UUCM! Matching Gifts Distributed in 2019-2020!



If you have made a legacy gift to UUCM in your will or estate plan or if you are considering doing so there is a wonderful opportunity right now to have your bequest matched by the Unitarian Universalist Collaborative Campaign, *Wake Now Our Vision*, underway.

In order to inspire new legacy gift commitments a cash match made possible by a grant from the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock will match your bequest up to 10% of the amount of your legacy gift. The match will be paid to the church or UU organization of your choice in 2019 and 2020. For example, if you make a legacy gift of \$10,000 to UUCM or one of the joint UU partners collaborating

in the campaign, a \$1000 match will be paid in 2019 or 2020 to the church or organization named.

To apply for the matching funds simply fill out the Legacy Challenge form and include the page(s) of your will or estate plan that indicates the amount of your legacy gift and the UU organization(s) you have named as recipients of your legacy gift. Simple as that! Gifts made through a life insurance policy or a retirement account also qualify for the match.

For more information contact Christy Dachelet at czdachelet@comcast.net or Fred Hulting at fhulting@comcast.net.

The website for the campaign is:
<http://wakenowourvision.org/>

For answers to FAQ's go to:
<http://wakenowourvision.org/documents/unitarian-universalist-association/our-vision/wnov-legacy-challenge-faq.pdf>

This is a wonderful opportunity to see your legacy bequest to UUCM and other UU organizations increased by 10% and put into action right now!

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES - EXPLORING UUism

In these classes, you'll have an opportunity to briefly share your individual spiritual journey and to explore whether membership in UUCM feels right for you. There are two classes in this series both offered during *First Hour* on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 AM. Visitors and friends who are interested in membership at UUCM should take both of these classes, in any order. The class called "Exploring UU History and Beliefs" allows participants to interactively explore a broad overview of Unitarian and Universalist history and what it means to be a



UU. In the class called "Exploring UUCM", we will continue to respond to your questions, and explore information and opportunities about our particular church and how we relate to the wider UU Region and the Unitarian Universalist Association. Please

mark your calendars. We hope you can join us! Here is the upcoming schedule:

Exploring UU History and Beliefs:

Sunday, April 8th at 9:00 AM

Exploring UUCM:

Sunday, May 20th at 9:00 AM

MOVIE NIGHT

Please join us on **Friday, April 13th at 7:00 PM** for Movie Night here at UUCM in the sanctuary for a showing of the movie *Iron Jawed Angels*. This movie takes a fresh and contemporary look at a pivotal event in American history and tells the true story of how defiant and brilliant young activists Alice Paul, (played by Hilary Swank) and Lucy Burns, (played by Frances O'Connor), took the women's suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to



help American women win the right to vote. Originally shown on HBO, the film would be appropriate for people as young as 12 or as old as 99. It brings to life issues beyond the fact that women could not vote in national elections as well as how laws are originated and passed in Congress. Humor and reality make this a gripping historic film. Contact Amy Putkonen at amyputkonen@gmail.com or Bev Montgomery at bevmontgomery@comcast.net with questions.

NEW GODDESS GROUP

Please join us for a new Goddess Group to explore themes of women's equality and empowerment. We will meet monthly at UUCM on the second Tuesday of every month from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in the Chapel on the lower level **starting on Tuesday, May 8th**. This event is free to anyone who wants to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Putkonen at amyputkonen@gmail.com or Cyndi Barthel at cyndibarthel@gmail.com. We will have a sign up sheet in the Community Room so please sign up if you are interested in attending so we can contact you if needed.



FROM THE CARE TEAM

Would you be willing to provide a ride to a member who would love to attend Sunday service? Would it be convenient if the person lived in your same direction or area? What if you could provide a ride on just one Sunday or several Sundays, and on the date of your choosing? If you are willing to provide a ride, please contact Marci Theisen at marcithaisen@hotmail.com and a sign-up genius invite will be sent to you. Otherwise, feel free to talk with any member of the Care Team and we can get you signed up. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR APRIL



Sunday, April 1st | 10:00 AM
EASTER SUNDAY - Choir Sings
Deep Easter: Why do we Bother?
Speaker Lisa Myers;
Laurie Moser, Worship Associate

Sunday, April 8th | 10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE - Choir Sings
Emerging into Life, Emerging into
Death: Grief and Loss
Speaker Lisa Myers

Sunday, April 15th | 10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE
Is there truly a moral basis for Universal
Health Care in MN and the US?
Speaker John Crosson;
Laurie Moser, Worship Associate

Sunday, April 22nd | 10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE
Emergent Narrative
Paul Winchester, Music Director
Paul Thorbeck, Worship Associate

Sunday April 29th | 10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE
April in Orwell
Speaker Jeffrey Hatcher;
Laurie Moser, Worship Associate

APRIL SOCIAL GENEROSITY

Our APRIL social generosity offering will go to support the **Great Expectations** initiative sponsored by IOCP and the Wayzata and Orono school districts. This program targets the 1600 children in these two districts who have already fallen behind their peers, academically.



Almost all of them are kids on free/reduced lunch and from minority or immigrant families. Great Expectations is an exciting, outcome-driven

initiative that coordinates the efforts of our excellent Wayzata and Orono school districts with the goodwill and resources of our community so that every single child has the cradle-to-career support needed to succeed in school and community and life.

Our February collection for CAIR Minnesota (Council on American Islamic Relations) was \$590. Thank you for your continued generosity!

UUCM AFFINITY GROUPS

Venerable Women Group

The Venerable Women will meet in the Community Room at UUCM on **Friday, April 13th** at noon to celebrate our 13th birthday. The hosts this month are Judy Kaster and Sue McKnight. Please bring a bag lunch; dessert and beverage will be provided. RSVP to Judy Kaster judykaster3@gmail.com / 952-935-3873 or Sue McKnight billsuemcknight@me.com / 952-938-1583. The topic this month is *How do you keep hope alive in your daily life? The dictionary defines Hope as “grounds for believing something good may happen” or a “feeling of trust.”*

Venerable Men Group

Each month, on the first Tuesday, the Venerable Men meet at the Original Pancake House on Hwy 101 and County Road 6 in Plymouth. The next meeting is planned for **Tuesday, April 3rd** at 8:00 AM. The group of 8 to 10 men always welcome more breakfasters! If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Johnson at jnanjer@icloud.com.

Women Who Read Book Group

The *Women Who Read* Book Club will meet on **Monday, April 9th** at 7:00 PM at UUCM in the Community Room to discuss the book *Homecoming* by Yaa Gyasi. Please contact Christy Dachelet at czdachelet@gmail.com if you have any questions. New members are always welcome!

Monday Morning Book Group

The *UUCM Monday Morning* Book club meets next on **Monday, April 16th** at 11:00 AM at UUCM in the Community Room. The group will be discussing *What Comes Next and How to Like It* by Abigail Thomas. Please direct any questions to Bev Montgomery at bevmontgomery@comcast.net. New members are always welcome.

Men's Book Group

The Men's Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at church. They next meet on April 10th, at 7:00 pm to select their book choices for future, monthly meetings. Please send your nominations (title, author, brief description) for the selection voting to Gary Charles (gcharles.mn@gmail.com) by April 8th. On Tuesday, May 8th they will discuss the book, *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, by John Irving. If you have questions, please contact Adam Schenck (schencka1@gmail.com) or Gary Charles.