



THE BEACON

Unitarian Church
of Lincoln

<p>Sunday Services <i>Including "Air: Element of Spring" March 20</i> Page 2</p>	<p>Settled Minister Search Committee <i>Are you ready for the Call?</i> Page 5</p>	<p>Share the Plate <i>It is time to nominate your favorite organizations</i> Page 6</p>	<p>Family Open Circle <i>Starting up in March</i> Page 9</p>
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2016 Annual Church Auction: Putting the 'FUN' in Fundraising

Each year we carry out this traditional fundraiser in a little different way. This year we will include both silent and live auction elements. What remains the same is our need for everyone's help to make the auction a success. You will NOT want to miss out on this year's fun and fellowship!

FIRST...

Stop by the auction table in March and fill out a donation form.

Silent Auction: We need people to offer meals, events and services for other members and friends to bid on and purchase. Bid sheets will be attached for ease of use.

Live Auction: This year, instead of donating assorted unique items, we ask you to get creative and put together a basket full of related items for bidding at a live auction. The baskets can be offered by individuals or groups. The baskets may have a "theme" such as: children's activities, dinner and a movie, outdoor adventure, discover Nebraska, book worm, pet supplies, poetry and romance, or foreign movie classics. Let us know if you want other ideas!

At the **Kickoff Social Event** on Friday, April 1, you will get a bid number and enjoy a light meal. We will explain the auction procedure and shortly afterward, the fun will begin with the Tasty Treat Table silent auction, followed by the opening of bidding on the meals/events/services.

THEN...

If you are unable to attend the April 1 kick-off event, don't worry! Bidding numbers will be

available throughout April and the posters and tables will remain on display each Sunday April 3 to April 24.

FINALLY...

During the first week of May, the people with the highest bid on the posters will be contacted. On

Friday, May 6, we will host a Payment Party and Live Auction of baskets from 5:00 – 7:00PM. On that evening the fun will continue with another Tasty Treat Table, a live auction of baskets as well as the opportunity to pay for all your purchases.

AUCTION KICKOFF SOCIAL EVENT

Friday, April 1
beginning at 6:00PM

TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE AUCTION WE NEED YOU TO:

1. Offer meals, events, services and baskets for people to purchase. Stop by the Auction Table during March and fill out a donation form.
2. Bid on the meals, events, services and baskets during April.

Please join in the fun by contributing, attending and bidding. Together we can raise funds and have 'fun' doing it!

If you have questions, please contact one of the members of the auction team:

Karen Heafer kheafer@neb.rr.com,

Barbara Pearson barbarapearson@neb.rr.com,

Cyn Monohon cynmonohon@hotmail.com,

Jackie Egan egan@neb.rr.com

WORSHIP

A Month of Sundays

10:00AM at 6300 A Street

Sunday, March 6 -

"The Impact of Women on UU Ministry"

Worship Leaders: *Julie Enersen, Chelsea Krafka, Gretchen Woods*, editor of the book, [Leaping from Our Spheres: the Impact of Women on Unitarian Universalist Ministry](#).

Worship Associate: *Sheila Thomas*

Music: *Nancy Marshall, Jazz Vocalist*

Sunday, March 13 - "The Other U: Universalism"

The Universalist perspective has had significant impact upon Unitarian Universalism. Let's explore this internationally and right here in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Worship Leaders: *Julie Enersen, Chelsea Krafka, Gretchen Woods*

Worship Associate: *KK Munson*

Music: *Dean Haist, trumpet; Nancy Vogt, piano*

Share the Care: *Green Sanctuary*

Sunday, March 20 - "Air: The Element of Spring"

In honor of the vernal equinox, we remember the power of air.

Worship Leaders: *Julie Enersen, Chelsea Krafka, LauraLee Woodruff*

Worship Associate: *Barb Brant*

Music: *Great Plains Chamber Winds*

Share the Plate: *Friendship Home*

Sunday, March 27- "Whom Do Men Say That I Am"

Yes, an exploration of Jesus, including thought from the Jesus Seminar and other sources, just in time for Easter.

Worship Leaders: *Julie Enersen, Chelsea Krafka, Gretchen Woods*

Worship Associate: *Wesley Botham*

Music: *Unitarian Choir*

Worship Arts News

by Julie Enersen, Worship Arts Director

Sing With the Choir!

The Unitarian Church Choir is open to all of our members and friends. If you like the challenge of reading music and would enjoy singing in Sunday services, then simply come to our rehearsals in the church auditorium:

Mar. 16 & 23 - 7:00 PM rehearsals

Mar. 27 - 8:30 AM rehearsal, 10:00 AM Easter service

Apr. 13 & 20 - 7:00 PM rehearsals

Apr. 24 - 8:30 AM rehearsal, 10:00 service

Apr. 27 & May 4 - 7:00 PM Women's Choir rehearsals

May 8 - 8:30 AM Women's Choir rehearsal, 10:00 AM Mother's Day service

June 5 - One-Hour Choir, 9:00 AM rehearsal, 10:00 AM Flower Communion

Willingness and enthusiasm are the two major requirements! We need all kinds of voices in our group and yours is most certainly welcome here.

Order from Chaos

Do you love diving into piles of papers and emerging with neatly sorted files? Then you need to be part of the Music Librarian Team. A group of willing volunteers will be gathering in the Music Room at the following times to get things organized.

Sunday, Mar 13, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Monday, Mar 14, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Sunday, Apr 10, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Monday, Apr 11, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Monday, May 16, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

If wrangling order from chaos brings you joy, please join us! Contact Julie Enersen at worshiparts@unitarianlincoln.org to be added to the email reminder list.

WORSHIP

Woods Working: "New Awakenings"

Since the New Year, some people tell me that so much is going on at the church, they can't keep up with all of it. Of course, the weather has not helped one bit. I find the cold more tiring than I used to. Many have had flu in addition. Me, too. Maybe we are all in a "slough of overwhelm." Did you know that the early Romans did not even name the months of January and February, other than "the time of illness." March was the first month named in the calendar. Happily, we are entering that time of awakening now.



To contribute to the awakening, Cottage Meetings are already about half finished, and, if you have not already attended one, your voice is needed to help determine the Vision/Mission/ Covenant and Main Thing that are awakening here during ministerial transition. Please find a way to participate in a Cottage Meeting by March 6. Sign-ups are still going forward. Your voice and views are needed.

Your voice is also needed when a Board or Nominating Committee member phones you to determine the members of the church you trust the most. Those trusted members will be asked to serve on the Ministerial Search Committee next

year as the Nominating Committee develops the slate for the election in April. There is more information about this in this newsletter. Check it out!

Some ask, "Why try so hard to get everyone to participate in direct conversations? Why not an online survey?" OR – "Why not just let a few committed members work it out for themselves?" Well – Is that really the democratic process?

Plainly put, the face-to-face discussions lead to deeper thought and better ideas. Sharing your truth refines others' truths and adds to the excitement of the group, which increases the likelihood that something will actually get done. What you say matters. Come and say it!

And please don't forget the wonderful Services Auction coming up in April and May. Lots of awakenings yet to share! All of this is essential to your new awakening during this ministerial Transition.

Yours for the interim,

Gretchen Woods

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Telephone Poll** - Settled Minister Search Committee March 1 - March 20 (see page 5)
- **Town Halls:** Sunday, April 10 and Sunday, April 17
- **Special Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, April 24 (Members will vote on Settled Minister Search Committee, potential Bylaws changes, and other items TBD)
- **Town Hall:** Sunday, May 1
- **Spring Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, May 15 (Members will vote on Board members, Bylaw changes, Nominations Committee members, Share the Plate nominees, Annual Reports from key Church Leaders, and our Main Thing)

Our Main Thing is an extension of the Mission of the church, a concrete project or program or creative activity that brings our Unitarian Universalist values out into the larger community so that those who are not UU may be able to identify more accurately what Unitarian Universalism is about.

RELIGIOUS GROWTH & LEARNING

DREAMING OF SPRING

Arg. February. In my opinion, this last month has been gloomy and gross. We got a little glimpse of Spring with a few days of sunshine and 60+ degree weather. What a tease you are, Nebraska!

Too many days inside. A sick baby. Snowy/slushy glop. I'm ready for Spring. My guess is that many of you are ready for nice weather as well.

With my new role as a mother, I am now in the position of trying to find ways of keeping Logan happy during Winter. He loves the outdoors, too, and seems to get cabin fever rather easily.

We've spent a lot of time at the Indoor Playground. We've visited a number of coffee shops. We even hung out in a greenhouse for a while pretending we were some place tropical. Nothing compares to the real thing.

During one of our 60 degree days, we stopped by a local playground. Logan was testing out walking on the uneven ground. We got muddy. We both fell a couple times. We had hope. Adding to the anticipation, I even photographed the start of a crocus emerging from the cold soil.

Spring will be here soon. In the meantime we make due. Here at church we are finding ways to bring smiles despite the Winter cold as well. We recently held our Secret Friend luncheon. Adults and children were paired together to exchange letters for three weeks and then were revealed during lunch after church. We also sent off a number of envelopes of Valentines to people on our church Pastoral Care list.

A little goes a long way. Thank you to everyone who participated in these events. An extra special thank you to Shelly Fowler for leading the Valentine Ingathering!

Peace, Faith and Love,

Chelsea

EASTER CANNED FOOD HUNT

Please bring us your cans of non perishable food items! The canned food hunt has been a tradition at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln for a few years. In order for it to happen again we will need a ton more cans. At Easter, instead of hunting for eggs children will search for these cans of food which will then be donated to the Eastridge food pantry. Please help us make this tradition happen again. A bin for your donations is in the front hallway.



MARCH RGL CALENDAR

*Preschool Class and Nursery Care are available every Sunday
for younger Pre-K children in the Preschool Room.*

MARCH 6	INGATHERING: PEACE PROJECT
MARCH 13	REGULAR CLASSES
MARCH 20	REGULAR CLASSES
MARCH 27	INGATHERING: EASTER

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SELECTING MEMBERS FOR THE SETTLED MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE: ARE YOU READY FOR THE PHONE CALL?

WHICH THREE CHURCH MEMBERS DO YOU MOST TRUST?

The calling team (made up of members of the Board of Trustees, Management Team and Nominations Committee) will start calling on March 1. Every Congregation member will be contacted. And you will be asked which three church members do you most trust to serve on the settled minister search committee?

You may need to do a little homework, however. Not all people you meet at church are members. Some are “friends” who have yet to sign the membership book. A church member is one who has signed the membership book at least 30 days ago and who has made a financial contribution to the church during the past year or has pledged to do so for the coming year. Check the most recent church directory to determine who is a current member. Please note that some members of the congregation are not eligible: church staff and their significant others and members of the nomination committee (Duncan Case, Pam Wakeman, Joan Anderson, Debbi Barnes-Josiah, and Steve Enersen).

Upon completion of the all congregation phone poll (March 20), the Nominations Committee will create a slate of candidates for the Settled Minister Search Committee from the tabulated results. Seven church members will be selected from the most frequently mentioned persons in this telephone poll. These individuals will be identified for the congregation April 10. Two town hall meetings will be held to present the slate and to facilitate congregational discussion.

QUESTIONS FOR CALLING MEMBERS REGARDING THE SETTLED MINISTER SEARCH

Each member in your household will be called and engaged in a conversation around these questions. A slate of candidates for the Settled Minister Search committee will be presented to the members for a vote at the Special Congregational Meeting on April 24.

- What are the good qualities needed for someone to serve on a Ministerial Search Committee?
- Who in the congregation works well with others?
- Who can represent and serve the whole congregation well (including looking out for the needs of children) and not just a piece or “faction” of the congregation? Who would have no “axe to grind”?
- Who knows the history and culture of the congregation, whether a member of long standing or relatively new?
- Who has been and/or is active in the congregation and has demonstrated both responsible participation and responsible leadership?
- After a high salary, the most attractive quality a congregation can have is self-awareness – awareness of strengths and weaknesses, what the congregation is like at its best and at its worst, as well as on an average day. Who would be able to know and relate all this to potential candidates?
- After thinking about all of these questions, who would you trust to serve on the Search Committee on behalf of the congregation?

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

UU Women Gathering: Vulnerability

The UU Women gathering meets once a month, on the first Saturday, March 5, 2:00PM. Rotating leaders choose the topic and location. This month's gathering on Vulnerability (Authenticity II) will be facilitated by Michelle Liebgott-Osinga. All UU women (members and friends) are welcome to participate. RSVP for the location, to be added to the Facebook Group or to the Email Reminder List. Contact the Church office or email LauraLee at holybear47@gmail.com.

Unsung Unitarians

It's that time of year again: time to honor one among us as the 2016 Unsung Unitarian!

The Unsung Unitarian Award is annually conferred to a church member demonstrating amazing leadership ... but having done so *quietly* and behind the scenes. For a reminder of the award's past honorees, visit <http://www.unitarianlincoln.org/unsung>.

Nominations are offered by the congregation -- but it is the board who votes upon the winner. The 2016 Unsung Unitarian will be announced at the Spring Congregational Meeting. Nominate someone by emailing the Church office admin@unitarianlincoln.org by May 8.

Note that staff members and current church governance (Trustees and Management Team members) are traditionally exempt.

Share the Plate Nominations

It is time to nominate local non-profit organizations and/or national Unitarian Universalist related organizations that express our principles to be considered for Share the Plate for June 2016 through May 2017. Each year, we select one Sunday a month in which the offering is given to a local or UU organization. Email admin@unitarianlincoln.org or pick up a paper form and provide three pieces of information on or before Sunday, May 8:

- **Nominator's Name (you)**
- **Nominee (the organization)**
- **A short, descriptive paragraph** (200 words or less of your nominee's activities, goals and/or purpose.)

Past Share the Plate recipients can be found on the church's web site under [Ministries - Outreach](#). Ten Share the Plate recipients will be voted on during the Congregational Meeting on May 15.

Newcomer Programs

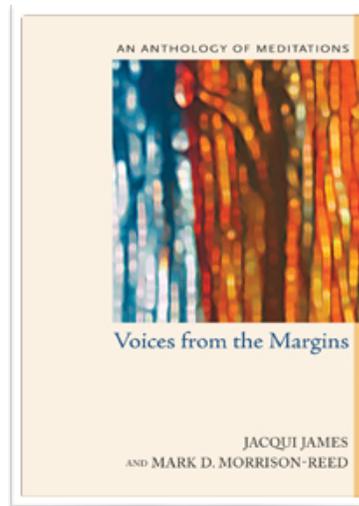
First Sunday Chat and Nuts and Bolts are two programs specifically designed to introduce newcomers to Unitarian Universalism and to our church programming. All newcomers are encouraged to take advantage of these two programs. They are short but effective and a good way to meet others new to Unitarian Universalism and our church. Look for information in the orders of service and listen for trustee announcements at the beginning of each church service.

UUA BOOKSTORE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH:

Voices from the Margins: An Anthology of Meditations

These writings remind us of both what we miss when we don't listen to marginalized voices and the amazing insights we stand to gain when we do. "In order to create a beloved community, one that shares a powerful love and shapes a common purpose, we must know one another. In order to know one another, we must hear each other's stories, see the world through each other's eyes," quips Rev. Peter Morales. Jacqui James and Mark Morrison-Reed have compiled a remarkable collection of reflections and meditations from voices often left unheard in Unitarian Universalism.

www.uuabookstore.org Price: \$8.00



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notes from the Transition Team

submitted by Jerry Petr, Transition Team

Your Transition Team is enthused by the congregation's solid progress as we move through our two-year interim process. As scheduled, we are thinking through our vision, mission, and covenant, and identifying our "main thing" for the next several years. And, importantly, we are on the path to identifying the Search Committee that will ultimately bring us our next settled minister.

The focus on our motivating Main Thing is developing through the Cottage Meeting process in which many of you have participated. The final two Cottage Meetings will take place on March 3 and March 6. If you have not yet had an opportunity to share your enthusiasms, you may contact Evelyn Weymouth, 402-327-9406, weymouth5@gmail.com to sign-up.

The Transition Team is helping to develop an appraisal of the first six months of Rev. Woods's time with us. It seems apparent that there is general agreement among church leadership and with Gretchen on most areas of evaluation. As a congregation, we are assessing our past and anticipating the possibilities for our future. Our leadership groups are considering alternate management ideas and avenues for expanding participation in leadership activities.

And finally, we encourage you to be thoughtfully responsive to a member of the Nominating Committee or Board of Trustees who will call you in March to solicit your suggestions for persons to be placed on our Ministerial Search Committee. When you are called, you will be asked what qualities you consider most desirable in such "searchers," and to offer names of persons who have broad awareness, are cooperative, are knowledgeable about this church, have demonstrated responsible participation and leadership, and are worthy of congregational trust in this search. No surprises there, right?

The success of this process rests upon your considered responses. For the Transition Team: Evelyn Weymouth, B. J. Wheeler, Becky Seth, Wesley Botham and Jerry Petr

March Art Gallery: Suxan Anderson

For me, creativity is another sense, one that encompasses all others. To create is to smell, touch, see, hear, even taste something and be moved to the point of "pouring" that experience into existence. I create to touch others in a language of the senses. It is a spiritual experience.

Often I use natural images such as trees, flowers or shells, as symbols to touch upon a larger meaning. Trees have a significant meaning to me. A tree reaches and touches the inner earth and stretches to touch the sun and the stars. A tree connects. It is an image that fits my sense of self and my creations.

A life-long resident of Lincoln, Suxan Anderson has received honors dating back more than a decade. These include: 2000 Nebraska State Fair (Lincoln) People's Choice Award, Best of Lot and a Fine Arts First Place; 2001 Nebraska State Fair (Lincoln) awarded a Fine Arts First and a Fine Arts Second; 2010 Association of Nebraska Art Clubs, Inc. Award of Excellence and the 2012 Gwen McKenzie Fellowship Award.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Capital Campaign News

by Mary Sommermeyer, Cap. Campaign Treasurer

In December we paid \$11,199 in interest on the member loans, and a loan of \$10,000 was forgiven by the member lenders. We paid the remaining \$15,355 balance on the Union Bank construction loan in January.

A special collection at the last Sunday service in January netted over \$8,000, about \$2,280 of which came from people who had not previously made financial commitments or contributions to the original campaign.

Our capital campaign liabilities now total \$420,000 in member loans plus ongoing interest costs. Interest of \$11,207 will be due in December 2016, which will be lower if any loans are repaid early or are forgiven.

As of 2-10-16 the balance in the Capital Campaign Fund was \$44,924, and unpaid financial commitments totaled \$61,341 (5.85% of the original \$1,048,462 committed).

Financial commitments to the capital campaign were originally scheduled to be paid by January 2016. When the "close the gap" campaign was held in May 2013, those

extra commitments were allowed to be paid through December 2016.

The annual statements that were mailed at the end of January show the status of your capital campaign financial commitments and 2015 mortgage pledges. If you still have an unpaid amount and are able to pay, you are encouraged to do so. The money will be used to pay off member loans.

If you discover any errors on your statement, please let me or Church Treasurer Hess Dyas know.

In addition to the Capital Campaign Fund, we account for mortgage pledge payments in the Mortgage Fund. The balance as of 2-10-16 was \$1,899. 2016 income to that fund may total \$9,000 more based on current pledges. Eventually we will combine the two funds and pay principal and interest on member loans from the combined fund. Clearly more contributions will be needed to satisfy our total mortgage (member loan) liabilities.

More details about the Capital Campaign Fund and expenses paid are available on the church website (www.unitarianlincoln.org) in the "Members Only" section (contact the church office for login information). You can also contact me at 402-489-8213 or sommerlaw@neb.rr.com.

Cole Bequest Options Committee

The Board of Trustees has created the Cole Bequest Options Committee to research and present options on how to handle the donated funds from deceased member Judy Cole. Members of the committee include church Treasurer Hess Dyas, Worship Arts Director Julie Enersen, Property and Finance Coordinator Christine Starr Davis, Lincoln Unitarian Foundation members Alan Worth and Bruce Raymer, and Board of Trustees members Kristi Wamstad-Evans and Jamie Radcliffe. This is an ongoing process, and they are open to suggestions regarding the best use(s) of this unexpected gift. These options will then be presented to the congregation for final approval.

Red Striped Mugs

To better welcome newcomers on Sunday's, any individual that feels so inspired is invited to grab a red-striped mug for coffee hour following the service to engage in conversation about our church. Board members are still available, however all are encouraged to engage in newcomer conversation.

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD an hour at midnight Saturday, March 12 (or you could just reset your clocks before you go to bed!). If you forget, you might miss Church!

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROAD TRIP - North to Minnesota

Registration is open for Regional Assembly! This year, the MidAmerica Regional Assembly will be held April 29 - May 1 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The theme of this year's assembly is "The WHO in the New Era of Unitarian Universalism". Our three keynote presenters will share their thoughts on how Unitarian Universalism could be exactly what current religious explorers want from faith communities. There will be many great workshops and outstanding worship services led by ministers from across the region.

For complete information and a link to register, please visit their website: www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly. Be sure to check out the volunteer opportunities for a reduced rate when you register. Regional Assembly is always very informative and enriching and if many people go, think of how many great ideas we can bring back! If you are interested in carpooling, contact Kathy Disney at kedisney@hotmail.com 402-560-0358.

The Grounds Beneath Our Feet

Martha Horvay has capably coordinated the restoration and rejuvenation of our grounds during our capital construction phase. She has also overseen our grounds for a number of years (not to mention her considerable sweat equity) and deserves to pass the torch to another church member. If you would enjoy guiding the efforts of volunteers who are already committed (in writing!), visioning ways our grounds can fully contribute to our mission, doing some planning/budgeting, interfacing with green sanctuary and pantry garden efforts and generally ensuring our grounds are well-maintained and thoroughly enjoyed, please contact Christine Starr Davis, Property and Finance Coordinator, to find out more. It sounds so appealing, I just might take the job myself!
chopestarr@mac.com or 402-450-4450.

Spring Grounds Cleanup

Last summer marked a major milestone in renovating our church grounds and play areas. Please join in helping prepare our new landscape for the upcoming growing season. Sunday, April 3 from 11:30 to 1:00, we will collect winter debris, and spread mulch, followed by a potluck lunch. Raindate: Sunday, May 8. We still need volunteers to do routine landscaping tasks in 2016. Please email or phone Martha Horvay marthahorvay71@gmail.com or 402-432-4823.

Family Open Circle

As parents it's often a challenge to make deeper connections with other families in the congregation. Our lives are busy ones, but we still need time and space for meaningful conversations with other adults! A new Family Open Circle group is beginning in March, with a potluck meal, followed by adult conversation, with childcare provided. We've scheduled for the second Friday of each month from 6:00-8:30, and hope you will join us! The first meeting will be Friday, March 11.

Topics range from deep and introspective (joy, grief, anger, mindfulness, letting go) to more lighthearted like the sharing of family holiday rituals. We share ideas, tell stories, listen deeply, and grow in community. For more information, or to express an interest in joining, please contact John john.sangster@unl.edu or Kerry Sangster klsangster@yahoo.com.

CSAI Polling Results

On January 17, members of our congregation met to vote on the Congregational Study/Action Issue. Our congregation voted to forward all four issues. The national polling is now complete and all the issues proposed for four years of study and action were accepted for admittance to the agenda for the 2016 Unitarian Universalist General Assembly (GA). At the GA in Columbus Ohio in June of 2016, delegates will select one of these four issues as a congregational study and action issue (CSAI). Those issues are:

- 1) Climate Change and Environmental Justice
- 2) A National Conversation on Race
- 3) Ending Gun Violence in America
- 4) The Corruption of Our Democracy

To learn more about the process, go to www.uua.org/statements/current

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PAGE 10 ONGOING ACTIVITIES PAGE IS ON THE FLIP SIDE OF THE INSERTED CALENDAR

New Member: Wally Martin

Wally has lived in Lincoln for 25 years. She has known about the church since arriving and over the years has had some experience being among us from time to time. She is friends with many other people who have a connection to the church.

She has been attending church regularly since last fall and joined us in membership in January. She is interested in learning more about Healthy Human Systems and looks forward to taking Gretchen's workshop on the topic. She says "Before becoming a member, I was thankful that the Unitarian Church of Lincoln existed providing a welcoming home for the alternative community in and around Lincoln. I was grateful that the Unitarian Church was not just a welcoming congregation but actually embraced many within the LGBT community with love and without judgement. I know the Unitarian Church and its members have made a huge difference in many LGBT lives."

Wally has three grown daughters and three grandchildren elementary age through college. She owns and manages rental properties in Lincoln and is in the process of renovating a house. She is also interested in healthy lifestyles and in healthy cooking. She enjoys hatha yoga, working out, meditating, and she likes to garden. She will be bringing after church snacks for her volunteer work at church. As she has time she may delve into other church activities.

Please look for Wally in the Gallery room after church and welcome her as a new member.



Native American/Celtic Spirituality

Saturday, March 26 • 10:30AM • Auditorium

We can expand our understanding of spirituality radically through trying out different modalities for their compatibility with our own learning styles and access to our inner knowing. Let us know of childcare needs by Friday, March 18.

The class will be facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Gretchen Woods, a trained spiritual mentor and long-time eclectic practitioner of multiple yogas. Please bring a bag lunch. Juice, fruit and pastries will be provided. All are welcome.

Food Bank Donations

The eagerly-awaited conclusion to this year's Secret Friends program was a lot of fun, and also generated a nice batch of donations to the Lincoln Food Bank. Unfortunately, aside from special events like Secret Friends and the Stranger Share Our Fire service in December, the donation basket in the first coat rack has been pretty empty most weeks. Please consider picking up a can or box of a basic food item at least once a month when you do your regular shopping. I know all too well how easy it is to buy something and then forget to bring it to church, but it's bound to get there at some point. The Food Bank is chronically low on staples for an ever increasing need. Contact [Debbi Barnes-Josiah](mailto:Debbi.Barnes-Josiah@unitarianlincoln.org) 402-327-8140 if you have any questions.

Sunday Morning Coffee Changes

We are moving to a new system where Sunday morning coffee and tea service will mostly be done by groups rather than individuals. If you are in a committee or activity group, you will be asked to join with those folks one Sunday this year. This plan for changing how we do Sunday morning coffee and tea service will reap these benefits: increased camaraderie among committees and activity groups as they serve coffee together, an increased sense of shared community as we all pitch in, an atmosphere of friendliness and accessibility for newcomers, and not having to make the devastating decision to discontinue coffee service due to lack of volunteers. We UU's love our coffee! Stop by and see which group is on board next week!

THANK YOU

Please look for newcomers to strike up a conversation with them for at least the first 15 minutes during coffee hour. Introduce them to some of your church friends. Look for people wearing a paper or white name tag or no name tag at all. All of these categories are folks who are just beginning to come to church. Newcomers are eager to make new friends and to hear from you why you decided to make this church YOUR church home. Make it your charge on Sunday mornings to look for newcomers – offer to “buy” them a cup of coffee at the UU coffee bar, have a conversation with them and make a new friend!

Thank you to all who volunteered to help with the Sunday Hospitality during February. The work you do is appreciated by our members and friends! You help to convey the fact that we value and welcome everyone who comes through our doors.

Very special thanks to the anonymous donors for new church kitchen flooring! Everyone come see. Sincerely, Church Kitchen Clean-Up crew

Thank you to everyone who worked to get the Library functional. Volunteers have re-shelved books, organized, drywalled, revamped bookshelves, and found a solution for hanging the TV.

SUNDAY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

	February 28	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27
Pulpit Decoration	Barb Brant	Leona Braziel	Molly Klocksinn	Carol Kendrick	Geri Cotter
Greeters	Mary Sommermeyer, Molly Klocksinn	Gary Colvin, Shelly Fowler	Deb Bevard, Mary Jane Gruba	John Atkeison & Kelly Carstens	Tim Johnson, Martha Horvay
Coffee Hosts	Jamie Radcliffe, Debbi Barnes-Josiah	Cole Estate Options Committee	Green Sanctuary Committee	Auction Committee	Management Team
Trustees	Amy Birky	Leslie Ryan	Leslie Ryan	Kristi Wamstad-Evans	Reed Maly
Ushers	Earl Kramer, Noreen Carpenter	Les & Lee Manns	Jerry & Mary Ann Petr	Orvis & Sheila Wall	Janine Copple, Marj Willeke
Audio-Visual	Don Pinkley, Keith McGuffey	Keith McGuffey	Michele Dobszewicz, Michael Reinmiller	Don Pinkley, Harry Heafer	TBA
Welcome Table	Gene & LaVonne Hanlon	Sandy Scott, Jan Buffum	Jan Hostetler, Sheila Thomas	Marj Willeke, Tricia Monzon	Molly Klocksinn, Amy Birky

OUR COMMUNITY



Milestones, Millstones, Stepping Stones

Julie Gibson is settling into her new apartment. She welcomes visits from friends and rides to church. She can be reached at 402.202.4221.

Barbara Kuhn would like cards and visits from friends. SouthLake Rehabilitation Center, 9401 Andermatt Dr. RM 312, Lincoln, NE 68521.

Our sympathies go to the McGuffey family after the passing of Keith's grandmother recently.

There is a rumor going around that Denise Dickeson's Meniere's disease is active right now. This rumor is true. If history repeats itself, she will be down for about a month. Love, rides and shopping help is appreciated, offers of cures are not.

Eileen Durgin-Clinchard has a recurrence of breast cancer. She is determining next steps for treatment. Please keep her in your thoughts.

STAFF & LAY LEADERS

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The Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Church. Any member or friend of the church is welcome to attend these meetings.

Church Office

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Lincoln, NE 68510



Office Hours

August 15 - June 14:

Sunday: 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

Tues-Fri: 9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Closed Monday & Saturday

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