



yUUPER Newsletter

Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

"We affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 July 2017; Vol. 32, #7

BHK Building (700 Park Ave., Houghton). Enter on North Side, off Waterworks Drive

Sunday Schedule for July 2017

July 2: "Independence in Community": The values of independence and community are both important to Unitarian Universalists, but are often seen as contradictory. Can we find any common ground between these competing goals?

July 9: The July Forum will feature an MTU student environmental initiative. This will be followed by a picnic at the Ekstrom's house, and then a Green Tour in Hancock on *Backyard Composting*. Hope you can join us.

July 16: "A UU Theology of Sin": UUs are often uncomfortable with the idea of sin. After all, it has been used to oppress so many and demand conformity. In this service, Rev. Chris will reexamine sin and ask what sin means in our tradition. Potluck and Book Sale today.

July 23 - "Kids These Days: Rebellion, Newness, and Growth in Pop Culture": Some have said that one sign you're growing old is when the younger generation does things that seem foreign and wrong. In this service, Rev. Chris will examine how new and rebellious actions have enabled humanity to grow by examining the era's popular culture.

July 30: "This I Believe" was a 1950s radio program of the same name, hosted by acclaimed journalist Edward R. Murrow. Each day, Americans gathered by their radios to hear

compelling essays from the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson, Helen Keller, and Harry Truman, as well as corporate leaders, cab drivers, scientists, and secretaries—anyone able to distill into a few minutes the guiding principles by which they lived. These essayists' words brought comfort and inspiration to a country worried about McCarthyism, the Cold War, and racial division."

(<http://thisibelieve.org/about/>)

yUUPER Campout Set for August 4-6: Back to Bewabic State Park

Last year's summer YUUPER Campout was a hit, so we're doing it again this year.

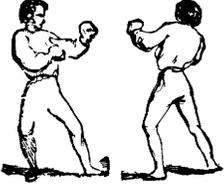


The Houghton Sunday service has been cancelled to encourage attendance, so plan to camp out with us or at least stay at a nearby hotel the weekend of August 4-6th.

We encourage you to make your campsite reservations online now (they go fast!) at Bewabic State Park.

This year, in addition to the UP UUs, we're inviting nearby Woodruff, WI Fellowship, truly making it a Northwoods UU bonding experience! <https://www.midnrreservations.com/BEWABICSTATEPARK>

Minister's Musings



"Conflict and Beloved Community"

As I write this, I'm preparing for travel to New Orleans and General Assembly. So much has happened within both our congregation and the wider movement in the last year, and many of these issues will be present with us as we do the work of our association. Some would run away from the challenges presented, try to avoid conflict at all costs, seeing it as something to be avoided and minimized.

I can understand this to a degree. No matter how much we hear about the unavailability of conflict, that doesn't make it any the less stressful. It's only natural that our instinct is to run as from whatever is bringing this disequilibrium. We try to minimize conflict because it disrupts our lives and reminds us that maybe things aren't so peaceful after all.

Actually, we do ourselves a great disfavor by not handling conflict. I'm reminded of this on a larger scale after the recent fire at the Grenfell Tower in London, where over sixty people perished, largely because the borough council refused to address residents' safety concerns and, instead, avoided, ignored, and minimized the issue.



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It's an extreme example, but people died because this conflict went unresolved.

Fortunately, we'll (hopefully) not face such extreme circumstances, but it does show why ignoring conflict can lead again to anger and distrust.

I want to propose that addressing conflict is an important part of building Beloved Community, where various perspectives are aired, grievances are addressed in a reasonable matter, and relationships have room to grow.

Overall, I've been very pleased with how our congregation and the wider movement have addressed the challenges of the last year, and I've certainly seen community building in the midst of what could have become irresolvable situations.

Let us not grow weary, though. We should definitely take care of ourselves to ensure we are ready for the next challenge, because part of life is that challenges remain around every turn.

Rev. Chris

Library Briefs, with Bob Fiandt.

Have you ever wondered about the overall development of our UU faith throughout the years?

Our KUUF library has 16 different history books about Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism, along with related commentary.

For more information, check our online bibliography: kuuf.net/library.pdf