



UNITARIAN CHURCH OF QUINCY

JANUARY 2025
NEWSLETTER

CONSIDERING MEMBERSHIP?

In the Unitarian Universalist tradition, membership is open to all who choose to walk with us in the spirit of love and fellowship.

If you are considering membership in the Quincy Unitarian Church, please send a message to Dienna Drew, Membership chair – dienna2900@att.net – or phone, 217-223-4144, with any questions you have, or speak to any board member.

UU Quincy Newsletter

Date: January 5

Speaker: Eric Thorsen

Title: Feeding the Hungry... and More

Join Eric Thorsen, the Director of Operations at Horizons Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry for his talk.

Date: January 12

Speaker: Terrell Dempsey

Title: TBD

Date: January 19

Speaker: Sharon Buzzard

Title: A Matter of Faith

Today I will reflect on what Unitarians mean when we think about our faith. Faith in what? Is it God? In human kindness? What sustains us in troubled times?

Date: January 26

Speaker: TBD

Title: TBD

Happy
New Year

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING COFFEE HOUR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The January 19, 2025, Semi-Annual Meeting will be held immediately after the services. There will be No Coffee Hour in the Garden Room.

Those members who plan to stay for the meeting may choose to bring a snack to share along with coffee, of course. It will be served in the Heritage Room next to the Sanctuary so that you can grab a bite to eat prior to the meeting. This plan helps to make an efficient use of meeting time.

Fellowship committee

SUNDAY MUSIC SERIES

Pianist Dr. Dylan Marney, Culver-Stockton music faculty, will carry on the tradition of performing at the Unitarian church in the new year.

Please join us and enjoy the music of Dr. Marney on Jan. 14th at 4pm.

FIRST FRIDAY

A very happy New Year to everyone! It has fast become our newest tradition to make January our combined First Friday with the taking down of the holiday greenery that we adorned the church with. There's always more than you think but many hands make the work go quickly and knowing there is food and wine at the finish line is a strong incentive to move the work along!

Please join us on January 3rd at the church at 6pm and bring something sweet or savory to share and whatever you'd like to drink.

Fellowship Committee

MINISTERS' MESSAGE

It was wonderful to see such a full house on Christmas Eve, and to have the chance to say hello to our members and friends on Zoom as well. Putting together that service required the contributions and cooperation of many people, and we are grateful at how everyone pulled together to create something special. The party afterward was terrific, too! Everyone went home with such warm feelings.

Our condolences to the family of Claire Myers on their recent loss. We have many memories of Claire through the years -- her warmth, her friendliness, her open-hearted and genuine smile. We will be thinking of you in the days to come.

See you all when we are up in January!

Sharon: sharon_buzzard@yahoo.com

Steve: swiegenstein@yahoo.com

RE SUPPORT TEAM

Greetings from the RE (aka Sunday School) Support Team! We are so grateful for how many people have given it a go supporting Sami and the kids in RE these past couple of months! If you haven't yet discovered this particular joy, please contact Liz (510-926-1213, lizwieking@gmail.com) to sign up for an opportunity.

TECHNOLOGY QUESTIONS & REQUESTS

With the advent of our digital wayside pulpit, the technical improvements to our services, and our overall increase in the use of technology, more and more members are having ideas and requests to make use of these items. This is great, and the use of these resources is encouraged. However, these requests accumulate quickly, are difficult to keep track of, and can become a lot to bear. So, going forward, all technology-related requests need to be sent in a brief email to contact@uuquincy.org. This includes slide requests for the wayside pulpit, audio/visual services, Facebook posts, blast emails, etc. Also, please remember that Taylor is a contracted employee of our church. This means that any requests that require her time and efforts are a church expense that will require approval by the board. Thanks for your cooperation!

Aaron Arnold - President - Board of Trustees

CANDLELIGHT DINNER

The Candlelight Dinner and Concert is fast approaching, Friday, February 14, 2025. The committee has been busy planning the menu so that we can begin advertising the event to the public. The Concert will feature Emily Dozier, a local vocalist with Cathy Flick as her piano accompanist.

The Candlelight Dinner committee is requesting volunteers to join in the preparation of this fundraising event in the hope that they will gain the experience to continue this tradition. In addition new volunteers will have new ideas for an even better Candlelight Dinner!

This fundraiser brings in a good sum of money that our treasury depends on each year. It is a popular event in the community that brings in people not already affiliated with our church. We won't lie--it is a lot of work, but working together is an important aspect of hosting this event for our church & our community.

Be thinking of how you might help by looking over the following categories of jobs:

- 1.Planning, Reservations, & Advertising
- 2.Setting-Up
- 3.Cooks for: Appetizers, Salads, Main Courses, & Desserts
- 4.Servers: Wait & Buss
- 5.Clean-Up Crew

A perk for working the event is that everyone is welcome to eat together after the concert. The musicians and the workers gather in the Garden Room for a late dinner & conversation.

Those “new” people agreeing to "shadow & volunteer" will also be invited to the tasting dinner on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 6:00PM at the home of Terrell & Vicki Dempsey,1680 Maine St. All cooks bring their assigned portion of the dinner to taste before we finalize the menu for our paying guests. (We also bring our own beverages—many of us like wine!)

Please consider joining the Candlelight Dinner Crew to keep this amazing event part of our Unitarian Church traditions.

Please contact Mary Beth, Mike, or Leann for more information.