

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF QUINCY

February 2022 Edition

UPCOMING SERVICES

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92938165235>

February 6th Service

Speaker: Susan Hebble

"2020, A Year of Joy (Really!)"

I will share unexpected and intentional ways I found joy during one of the most universally and personally challenging years in modern history, and I will explore what I have learned as a joy seeker as I reflect on that year.

February 13th Service

Speaker: Dr. Andrew Walsh

"Brute Force and Soulforce"

Is it better to be feared or loved? "Realists" like Calvin, Hobbes, and Machiavelli have made a strong case that love is shallow but fear is inspiring. Each of these figures also presented the image of a God who preferred to be feared more than loved. On the other hand, Gandhi, King, and others have argued that it is better to be loved than feared and this corresponds with their image of the divine as love. More recent thinkers question whether this is a false dichotomy. Is it sometimes necessary to appeal to force and other times and places where it is best to appeal to love? If so, what does this image of the Divine look like?

Donate-A-Plate will go to the Tri-State Diversity Coalition <https://www.tristatediversity.org/>

February 20th Service

Speaker: Steve Wiegenstein

"Power and Principle"

The UU Touchstones theme for February is "power," which calls to mind Frederick Douglass' memorable statement: "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will." In this talk, I will take a look at the question of power in light of the UU's Seven Principles, and ask how we reconcile our Unitarian desires for compromise and conciliation with a world that seems ever more focused on the attainment and keeping of power.

February 27th Service

Speaker: Jonas Magram

"The Power of Conscious Communication"

More often than not, we jumble our judgements and feelings with reality when communicating with others, leading to ineffective, incomplete, and inflammatory results. Learning to separate facts from our judgements and feelings is the key to more harmonious and more constructive relationships.

Also, beginning at 1PM, Jonas will lead a 90 minute workshop based on these principles of conscious, non-violent communication, by training us to express ourselves fully, clearly, and peacefully in a way others are most likely to hear.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to be the Second Adult for RE classes on February 6 and February 20.

Volunteers are also needed for greeters/offering: Each Sunday in February. Please use sign-up sheet available at the doors.

SUNDAY MUSIC SERIES

February 27th, Doris Sanders (Soprano) and Hedy Rothfuss (Piano) will be performing at the Unitarian Church at 4pm. There is no charge to attend this concert as the performers freely share their talents!

PFLAG

PFLAG Hannibal-Quincy will meet Thursday, February 10 at 7 pm. PFLAG provides support and education to members of the LGBTQ community and to their friends and family members.

LGBTQ People and their families deserve to be safe and secure. PFLAG works to make sure that all communities provide this type of security, and have the resources needed to help those communities thrive.

Get in Touch

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We prefer receiving e-mail messages to telephone messages.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the December board meeting, all unanimously voted to hold an April Plant & Bake sale. I guess that's a way of saying to please begin thinking about what plants in your garden you'd like to divide and bring to the sale. This month is the 5-year mark since I bought my house in Quincy so I'll have several plants to divide and gladly bring along.

I'm also looking forward to June when the stained/painted glass restorer that the board retained will begin work on our lovely Founder's Window. That is the window that we've given top priority to and it will be Phase 1 of her work. Rhonda Deeg of RLD Glass Art & Restoration has both a website and a FB page if you'd care to peruse her work.

<http://preservationrho.wix.com/rld-glass-art>

Covid case numbers continue at a too high rate in our area but I am hoping they will crest soon and begin declining. I am thankful that we are able to have zoom Sunday service but I'd much prefer having the choice of zoom or in-person. I miss our church but let us all continue to keep ourselves safe and healthy as well as those around us as our first priority.

Mary Beth Gapinski

BELOVED CONVERSATIONS - VIRTUAL

Beloved Conversations is a program for Unitarian Universalists seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice. In Beloved Conversations, we are here to heal the impact of racism on our lives, to get free together.

We are proud that our traditional, in-person version of Beloved Conversations has been offered in more than 250 congregations across the continent over the past decade and are grateful that so many communities have made our program a part of their faith formation and social justice work. We have always hoped to expand our program out further and to create an online version, for increased accessibility, and to include folks for whom our in-person program was not a good fit. In that spirit...

The Fahs Collaborative is thrilled to bring you the newest version of our curriculum: Beloved Conversations Virtual!

Designed and intended for Unitarian Universalists, with many updated and improved new features, this curriculum offers:

- A digital format that increases accessibility for many users
- An opportunity to engage in lots of different styles of learning and processing
- A developmental approach, that works to meet learners where they are and move forward together from there
- An explicit commitment to centering the spiritual needs of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC+), including explicit resources developed to meet the intellectual, historical, and spiritual needs of Unitarian Universalists of Color living in a world (and a religious community) that privileges white cultural norms
- A framework that acknowledges and honors the spiritual nature of this work and an understanding that it is essential to our personal and religious development

Beloved Conversations Virtual is a program in four parts:

- WITHIN (for individuals; open to all): Our program's first phase, focused on the individual, personal work we each need to do, and run in two sections: one for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and one for white people
- AMONG (for congregations whose members have participated in Within): Our program's second phase, focused on the institutional, systemic change needed in our congregations
- BEYOND (for congregations who have participated in Among): Our program's third phase, focused on the work outside our congregations, with our local communities
- WITHIN+: Exploration Stations (for individuals who have completed at least one term of Within): Additional learning and play spaces, for Within alums who are ready to go deeper

More than 2,000 people participated in the Within Phase in our first year of Beloved Conversations Virtual! The Gathering Our Selves programs brought together more than 250 BIPOC UUs to build community and focus on their spiritual needs! In Un/Learning for Liberation, more than 1800 white UUs learned spiritual skills for eradicating white supremacy in themselves and their culture! Collectively, we were from 8 Canadian provinces, 41 US states + DC, and 4 countries!

We are looking forward to a new year of programming, learning, and community building towards collective liberation! Spring 2022 registration is now open. Sign up here: <https://www.meadville.edu/fahs-collaborative/beloved-conversations/>