November Services

Date: November 5 Speaker: Tricia Dietrich

Tricia Dietrich will share her unique journey of discovering faith and art, as she found solace and spirituality during a very challenging period in her life. Don't miss this opportunity to be inspired.

Date: November 12 Speaker: Doug Muder Title: My Humanist Afterlife

The ideas of Heaven and Hell I was raised with became unbelievable to me a long time ago, and I find notions of reincarnation equally hard to accept. But popular UU thoughts of how we might live on after death — in the consequences of our actions, in the memories of others, etc. — have never given me much comfort. Is there any vision of what might happen after my death that is satisfying without being unreasonable?

Donate-a-Plate for November is Adams County Suicide Prevention Coalition

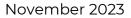
Date: November 19 Speaker: Sharon Buzzard Title: Caught in the Web

A paradox is a verbal conundrum-two ideas may seem contradictory yet are nonetheless true. We value reason and science as our sources and allow each seeker to create an independent path to their own truth. Yet. we also foster a faith in our interdependence. Today's talk will explore some of the mysteries therein.

Date: November 26 Speaker: Padraic Rohan Title: The Pre-Liberal and the Post-Liberal

Synopsis - We need to take more seriously those who reject liberalism, and to pursue a more effective wedge strategy by which we can counteract fascist tendencies in the United States today.

UU Quincy Newsletter





Minister's Message

Thanks to all who came to the "YRUU" Workshop in October. We appreciated the opportunity to share stories and learn more about each other. It was a well-spent afternoon!

Reconciliation Workshop

In her 2004 UU World article "Reconciliation as a Spiritual Practice," Paula Cole Jones observes that reconciliation is both a personal practice and a community practice. "Reconciliation is a competency that takes work to develop, and it requires commitment," she writes.

Join Steve and Sharon on Saturday, November 18, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., to talk about reconciliation as a personal and collective act. While a single workshop is not enough to engage in full acts of reconciliation, we hope that this workshop might get the conversation started about reconciliation in our personal and community lives. As always, the workshop will be informal.

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 – <u>dienna2900@att.net</u> – or phone, 217-223-4144, with any questions you have, or speak to any board member.

New Church Members!

We give a warm welcome to Gerry & Nathalie Dincher and their four children. Gerry and Nathalie have been married since 2005.

"After 15 years of being on our own, we adopted Leo. Then the kids kept coming! We also have Violet, Pearl, and Bobby. Gerry is from South Williamsport, PA, and Nathalie is from Lumberton, NC. Gerry teaches 6th grade science at QJHS while Nathalie stays home. We enjoy reading, history, cooking (and food in general), good conversation, and we look forward to our family's future here in Quincy. We moved to Quincy this past June."

Reminder to Everyone!

It is our tradition during the service to set aside a time for questions and comments. Please follow these guidelines:

- Say your name (first, last) clearly before you speak and keep the mic close to your face
- Keep your comments brief so others can also have a chance to ask a question or comment
- Keep your comments relevant to the topic
- Expect to speak only once

On another note: Please refrain from using the Internet during the service. This takes bandwidth away from Taylor's efforts to keep Zoom running smoothly.

Thank you for your attention.

Open Mic @ Calftown

The Open Mic at Cafetown Coffee will be held **Wednesday November 1** rather than the regular first Thursday of the month. Please join us from 7-9 and enjoy music, poetry and magical fellowship. So mark it down, Wednesday November 1, 7-9 at Cafetown Coffee, next to the State Theater on So. 8th Street. Quincy.

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November First Friday

We will have a special treat and meet up at Jim and Kate Daniels cabin in the woods 3 miles SE of Quincy for First Friday! Google S 78th St. and White Oak Rd. Turn onto 78th and go until you see a sign that says Road to Shambala. Turn left and follow the driveway to the cabin!

As usual with our First Fridays, please bring something sweet or savory to pass and whatever you'd like to drink, bundle up, and let's all have a good time!



December First Friday

Yes, I'm a month early but First Friday in December is December 1st and I have to stay on top of things so you'll always know! Anyway, last year, the Fellowship Committee combined First Friday and the Hanging of the Greens at the church and it was a huge success. So huge that we're doing it again this December with complimentary greenery from Paul and Alice Miller. There's something so soothing about the sanctuary in the evening with its gentle lighting and perhaps there's the element of gaiety that a little wine brings and the anticipation of the holidays to come of Hanukkah, Yule, Christmas, to name a few.

We will meet in the Garden Room at 6:00pm where you can bring your dish to pass and your drink also. We tend to decorate the sanctuary first along with the foyer and hallway leading down to the Garden Room (which doesn't get neglected!) Paul and Alice Miller bring ALOT of fragrant greenery and usually, there's enough to take some home for any who want some. We usually clean up as we go as it makes the job easier as long as everyone pitches in and we don't have to rush about on Sunday morning.

See you on December 1st for the First Friday!

T-Shirt Orders!

Wearing a Unitarian T-Shirt at the plant sale, rummage sale, or anytime is a good way to identify yourself as a Quincy Unitarian Church member or friend. It could also provide an easy way for a customer to find help or ask a question at one of our events.

The Unitarian Church T-Shirt Order Forms are available if you are interested in purchasing one or more. The Social Action Committee would appreciate all orders completed by Sunday, November 12. Please note the last page of this newsletter is a copy of the order form! For more information please contact Leann Flanagan.

Personal Information Forms

Several years ago our church asked the Membership Committee to provide this service to our members – "Information and personal wishes for procedure at death". Although it is not a requirement in any way, we hope that you will be interested in this. This information will be helpful to your family and our church. Please take as much time as you wish.

This is your opportunity to give your thoughts and suggestions (non-binding) to your family and friends.

To get a copy of this form, go to our website (uuquincy.org) and select "Members Only" from the menu on the upper lefthand side of the site. Enter the monthly password, sent out with your copy of the newsletter. Click on – PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATE FORM and print the 3-page form. If you cannot print it, phone me (217-223-4144) and I will mail it to you.

1. Write in your information.

- 2. Make a copy for yourself to keep.
- 3. Make copies to give to your loved ones the people you have chosen on the third page.
- 4. Give a copy to our church office to keep in a secure file.

Dienna Drew, Membership Chair

AD HOC Committee forming to review By-laws

Periodically, the Unitarian Church By-laws require a review by an Ad Hoc committee. The board is seeking volunteers to read and evaluate our current by-laws. If everything looks fine, then the committee will submit a short report to the board of trustees, and the Ad Hoc committee is dissolved. If the committee decides to suggest any changes to the by-laws, then the written recommendation is put forward to the board of trustees.

Dona Reinertsen has volunteered to lead. Please contact Dona at (217) 779-8087 (text messages are OK), or speak with Dona at church, if you are interested in helping. We need about 3 members, and maybe another board member. And, Dona may reach out to you for volunteering. Volunteers are appreciated!

Dona Reinertsen

Women's Alliance

The November 4th meeting of Women's Alliance is coming up soon! Guests and new members are welcome. We meet and socialize in the Garden Room at 12:00 PM noon on Saturday with our lunches. Mary Beth Gapinski is hosting with dessert. Susan Dege has invited a representative from Blessing Hospital to present after the business section of our meeting.

The 1:00 PM agenda will include discussion about the December 11th Christmas Lunch Party at Tiramisu Restaurant and December 16th assembly of gift baskets. If you haven't paid already, please bring your \$20 annual membership dues (checks to "Unitarian Church Women's Alliance").

A representative of Blessing Corporate Services will talk about the hospital's very effective volunteer program. Updates about the programs as well as the types of positions volunteers perform will be discussed. We should wrap up at 2:00 PM.

See you on the 4th!

An Invitation to Friends

To my joyful surprise, there was quite a bit of interest in participating in a Quaker meeting among the congregation; I am ecstatic. I hope to be able to meet this month. I have chosen two possible dates, and if they are agreeable to most people interested, we can go with one of them. Either at 9am, before church on Sunday, November 12th, or the day before church on Saturday, November 10th (at 10am? Flexible on the timing!). If those options are not suitable, I am open to suggestions.

To give a brief overview, it will be an unprogrammed (traditional), Quaker meeting. This should look like a circle of people, seated, with open hearts and minds, silently trying to channel That Of God which resides within all of us. All are welcome to participate, including those who don't feel particularly in tune with "That Of God", and those who don't believe in it at all. The only requirements are openness to the customs and the ability to sit quietly for about 40 minutes straight. Ministry may be given by anyone, at any time, throughout the course of the Meeting, but only if they feel moved by God to give it. Knowing our lovely congregation as well as I do, I figured it would be nice to set aside about a 15-20 minute period to discuss what comes up for us during Meeting, whether we feel it came directly from God or otherwise.

If interest persists, maybe we could establish regular meeting times. Weekends are widely free for me, and I encourage everyone to suggest a time that works comfortably for them. I would also be open to meeting more than once a month if some find it particularly moving or fulfilling! I am available for any questions or concerns at 315-489-4741, or in person at church!

With love, Chaunie

President's Message

Happy November, everyone!

My first message as president! Where to start? Firstly, I want to say how honored I am to hold this office and that the amazing members of the board have found me worthy of leading them. I sincerely hope I can meet expectations and fulfill the obligations of this position during this exciting time for our church and difficult time for our world. Though we have only officially met twice, I am confident this will be a productive and successful group.

As the days shorten and nature prepares to go dormant for the winter, I feel like our church stands in stark contrast. We have had a vibrant start to the new church year! From carry-in luncheons, to Pride in the park, to the YUU workshop, to some great First Fridays, we are a hive of activity. These events are, of course, in addition to the fascinating and thought-provoking talks at the weekly services thus far and yet to come and the charitable events with our social action committee. Our members also continue to engage and take public stands on vital issues that effect our community, such as reproductive rights and safe and affordable housing.

Perhaps most exciting is the addition of many new faces to our congregation. Whether through the summer discussion series or simple networking of current members, it's always great when those on their spiritual journey come to discover and explore Unitarianism with our congregation. And I have to say, I love that we have an increasing number of children at our services and such an accommodating and productive R.E. and child care program. Their presence and participation during the early portion of our service provides a boost of youthful energy that always makes me smile.

This is a particularly special time to be a member of this church. Our principles of free thought and social justice are desperately needed locally and the world over. During tumultuous times, it is so necessary to have a community such as ours where we can gather for comfort and work together toward change. I am thrilled to be a part of that community and proud to play a part in its leadership.

Aaron Arnold, Board President

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