



## Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Petoskey

### June 2018 Newsletter

The circle of life was well represented for us lately. As I welcomed a new granddaughter into the world, we said goodbye to some old friends from our UU community. We lost Bob Pritchard, one of our early members and a past board president, and we lost Raechel Alberts, another early member and strong supporter of UUCOP. UUCOP was well represented at Bob's memorial service which also honored his late wife Jeanne, another UUCOP member and past historian for our congregation. Warm stories were shared, along with hugs, tears and laughter; all the building blocks of one's life. Bob, Jeanne and Raechel were good friends to us and they will be missed.

We had a rousing good time at our annual meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. We heard reports from past board members and committees, approved a budget and gave the incoming board some direction for things to work on. Results from our high-tech, on-line survey were discussed and this prompted those present to vote for the board to explore the sale of our Wildwood property, to explore hiring a part time minister and to join the Michigan Interfaith Power and Light by accepting its covenant. We also elected a new board and are happy to welcome Tom Beukema as secretary, John Lake as Vice President and Joe Palm as website trustee. I will remain as President, with Roger Srigley continuing as treasurer. We were unable to elect a program committee chair. I think you could do that job for us, don't you? Why do I hear crickets after that question? Perhaps being a committee member is more your speed. There are a lot of committees to choose from and you can find one that suits your interests on our website. As they say, "It takes a village....", and this is certainly true for our lay lead congregation.

Did you hear the singing bowls? We were treated to a wonderful collection of Tibetan singing bowls this past Sunday with Alan and Allison White. We learned the history of the bowls and how they are constructed and used. We were also welcomed to ring them ourselves, which takes a bit of skill to get it right. The chapel was alive with musical vibrations as we had a meditation with the bowls sounding in the background. If you missed it, you will be seeing some [photos](#) and maybe a video of the bowls on our website soon.

This Sunday we will enjoy a Father's Day service with Hilary Lake and July 1 will be our annual Freedom picnic at the Lakes' home (rain or shine). Come around 11:30 am, bring a dish to pass, a lawn chair, a musical instrument, a poem to share, a friend, etc. etc.... Hope to see you all there!

Sincerely, Kim Nowack