



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PETOSKEY

NEWSLETTER - JUNE/JULY 2020

Greetings Friends,

Summer is certainly upon us and I hope you are enjoying it. I know many of you are growing your usual gardens full of produce and tending your flower beds. Others are planning camping trips, outings on the boat and delayed graduation parties. All good things for us to occupy our minds and bodies on and to look forward to. It is good for our spirits and mental health.

Lots of news since our last newsletter so let's dig in! We had a very productive annual meeting in June with some by-law changes approved, an almost full slate of officers elected (still need a program chair) and a healthy budget passed by the congregation for the coming year. We heard the final tally of our charitable giving and it is shown below. We should all be very proud of these generous donations. You'll notice that we stayed close to home and concentrated on our own community during this past year.

UUCOP 2019-2020 FY Charity Support

1st Qtr.: July - Sept. 2019	-	NCMC Solar Project	-	\$ 485.00
2nd Qtr.: Oct. - Dec. 2019	-	Crop Walk (Bayview)	-	338.00
3rd Qtr.: Jan. - March 2020	-	LGBTQ Books for Petoskey Library	-	398.00
4th Qtr.: April - June 2020	-	MANNA	-	1,620.00

TOTAL FY 2019 - 2020 Contributions \$2,841.00*

***This is based on amount contributed by individuals, plus a UUCOP treasury matching fund of up to \$200 each quarter. It should also be noted that UUCOP supported the UUA "Guest at Your Table" project with a special member-designated donation of \$200.**

One very important topic discussed at the annual meeting was the end of our rental of the Chapel. We were asked to move our services out of Sunday mornings into the afternoon and to give up our 4th Sunday use of the upstairs for board meetings and to have a rent increase. We have respectfully declined these changes. We are moving out our items this week except for the piano, which will come later, and temporarily storing them until we find another place. As a reminder, the UUA recommends to us that we not meet in person until March of 2021. If you spot a building for rental that you think might work for us, please contact a board member and we will investigate it.

We had a great programming workshop the other day and have programs planned, pretty much, through the end of the year. We will have visiting zoom ministers and other special speakers. Please look at unitarianpetoskey.org often to find out what is coming up and to get the link to each service. We are zooming services the first 3 Sundays of the month and having "Zoom coffee" on the 4th Sunday of the month, all at 1pm. If you need help zooming in, just let us know, and we can walk you through it. We'd love to see you.

Are you into your stack of summer reading books? You could include the next UU book group selection of "An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States", which is also the UUA common read for 2020. You can order the book from the UUA's bookstore. We will meet by zoom on July 26th at 2:30pm.



Speaking of books, we listed the LGBTQ books donation we made to the Petoskey Library above and you will be reading about this soon in the Petoskey news. Here is a nice picture with the Petoskey Library Director Val Meyerson and our own Audrey McMullen in front of some of the books we donated. Good cause, good books and a virtual high five to our UUCOP Welcoming Committee and the UUCOP members who donated to this project.

Our charity for this quarter is the **Michigan COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiative**. Donations will help leverage federal resources, including FEMA funds, that require a match. We are still checking our mailbox regularly, so please send in your check for the quarterly charity and for our other church obligations. We are still paying speaker fees, etc.

I'll leave you with a Haiku poem by Paul Holmes.

***Calm as a river
Tranquility in my heart
Blue summer skies reign.***

I wish you all tranquility in your hearts as we pass through these difficult months of covid divisiveness, racial distress and political atrocities.

See you in (zoom) church, Kim

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