



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF PETOSKEY

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2020



Hello Friends!

This is an exciting, scary and stressful time for us all with elections and the pandemic looming large on our horizon. Have you voted yet? Many of you have, from what I've been hearing. I will be heading to my little township office in the north woods of the UP to cast my vote on election day. I have never encountered a line or any trouble, so I am hoping for the same this year. If you haven't voted, get it done or make your plans to get to the polls. Voting is hugely important always, and especially this year. Vote your values!

Speaking of voting, if you know of anyone that needs a ride to deliver their ballot, there is a free service for that in the Petoskey area. Just call or text 231-838-0047 to find out more about this. Our UUA has a ton of info about voting on their website <https://www.uuthevote.org/> If you want to get more involved in promoting voting, there are many ways for you to do that.

Your minister search committee is done crafting our UUCOP profile for posting on the UUA minister search web site. We are hoping for a good review by our UUA minister search "coach" and then we will move towards clicking that important "publish" button. We will make the profile available to the congregation after our reviews are done. Stay tuned!

We have finished collecting for Michigan Covid-19 Initiative and Response Recovery. We will be sending them \$2963, which I'm sure will be well received to help support Covid efforts in our home state. This quarter, we are collecting for the *Petoskey Interfaith Common Ground*, a recently formed coalition of the Petoskey downtown faith-based congregations including pastors and lay leaders that are exploring ways that the downtown faith congregations might help the larger community mitigate the social and economic impact of the virus pandemic. We are a member of this group and will be reporting to you the specific covid related projects in our area. The recent water project was a big success and school children now have enough water to drink while at school. A solution was needed since they can't use the communal drinking fountains during the pandemic.

A few of us had a beautiful, long walk picking up trash near Cross Village in the tunnel of trees a few weeks ago. We actually made money for the congregation on the deal since we found \$20 on the side of the road! And we were brave enough to have an outdoor meal together after the pickup. My first restaurant meal since February! It was refreshing to be face to face with my UU friends and to get a tiny bit of normalcy back into my life.

Check out the great programs coming up in our zoom services. We will have a Dia De Los Muertos service on Nov 1 that will include traditions from other cultures and we will learn what it was like to grow up gay in Petoskey in the 80's from Greg Baird on Nov 8. More info is listed on our website.

In closing, I have this advice: get your vote in, keep your mask on, maintain your calm, get your flu shot, and stay healthy and happy until we can get together again.

See you in (zoom) church, Kim Nowack, your UUCOP Board President

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