

Decorah ❖ Unitarian ❖ Universalist ❖ Fellowship

Sunday, February 6, 2022

Gathering virtually since 2020!

decorahuu.org

Otter Dreaming, Fellowship Coordinator

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Welcome and Announcements

Today's service relates to our 2nd UU Principle Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

Chalice Lighting *Come, Gather Light to Build*

...[Kiakiali Bordner](#)

Come together, again
Gather in Love
Light the fire of Hope
Build the foundation

Commit together, again
Gather in Truth
Light the fire of Freedom
Build the entryways

Continue together, again
Gather in Community
Light the fire of the Future
Build the shelter

Moving beyond Land Acknowledgements as a congregation

Opening Words

...Carolyn Corbin

Opening Song *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

...J. Rosamond Johnson & James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring

Ring with the harmonies of Liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies.

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,

Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod. Bitter the chastening rod

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died.

Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,

Thou who has brought us thus far on the way,

Thou who has by Thy might led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray,

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,

Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.

Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,

True to our God, True to our native land, our native land.

Joys and Sorrows You may raise your hand to share a joy or concern with the Fellowship.

Silent Meditation/Response Your joy is my joy; your sorrow, my sorrow. Together we live our days,
together we love this place. In beloved community, we are not alone.

...Ellen Rockne

Offering/Offertory For all that is our life, we sing our thanks and praise; for all life is a gift that we are
called to use to build the common good, and make our own days glad. ...Bruce Findlow/Patrick Rickey

Lifting Every Voice

Carolyn Corbin

We consider the words of Angela Davis, Imani Perry, bell hooks, and Cornel West as they lead with love in the face of the ongoing struggle for justice.

Consideration of the proposed 8th UU Principal Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Extinguishing the Chalice Sorrow will one day turn to joy. All that breaks the heart and oppresses the soul will one day give place to peace and understanding and everyone will be free. ...Paul Robeson (1898-1976) American bass baritone concert artist, actor, athlete, and activist famous for his cultural accomplishments and for his political stances

Closing Song *Ella's Song*

...Bernice Johnson Reagon, sung by *Resistance Revival Chorus* originally recorded by *Sweet Honey in the Rock*



Announcements

Thank you to Carolyn Corbin for leading our discussion today; to **Julie Fischer**, service leader; and to Karen Esterl, service support. ❖ After our gathering, please treat yourself to a little something, and we'll be in touch again soon.

Share-the-Plate - Our plate recipient for January-February is [The Raptor Resource Project](#). RRP's mission is to preserve and strengthen raptor populations, expand participation in raptor preservation, and help foster the next generation of preservationists. To donate to the plate recipient, see Decorah UU Giving, below. Or, if sending a check, please note "Share the Plate" in the memo line. Donations may be mailed to Decorah UU, PO Box 382, Decorah, IA 52101.

Share-the-Plate Recipients - If you'd like to suggest a 501(c)(3) organization as a possible recipient for Share-the-Plate, please send your idea to any Board member or to Otter.

Decorah UU Covid Precautions for In-Person Services, when we resume again

- Masks are required for everyone at this time.
- Please join the service remotely if you:
 - are unvaccinated;
 - have any signs of illness now or in the last five days (feeling "bad," cough, runny nose, fever, headache, body aches, intestinal symptoms, loss of taste or smell, etc.);
 - have known exposure within the last week;
 - have increased vulnerability;
 - are uncomfortable gathering in public.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact a Decorah UU Board member. Board members for 2021-2022 are Julie Ohde (Chair), Beth Wahlberg (Treasurer), Maggie Hayden, Lynn Pleggenkuhle, and Lyra McKnight.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee - Carolyn invites others to join her in the creation of a *Decorah UU Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee*. If you are interested, please email Carolyn at carolyn@corbingroup.biz.

Decorah UU Board of Trustees - The next meeting of the Board is **Thursday, February 10**, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. If you wish to attend, please let Otter know so that we can send you the Zoom link.

Upcoming Sundays

February 13 - No service.

February 20 - *Side with Love Sunday*. Since our congregation will not have a service on February 13, we will celebrate **Side with Love Sunday** on February 20 as part of **30 Days of Love** (see description below). We will enjoy a service featuring stirring music, deep-hearted reflection, and moving testimonies from a range of UU leaders in addition to our congregation's communal sharing of announcements as well as Joys and Sorrows. Visit sidewithlove.org to learn more.

February 27 - No service.

March 6 - *Considering growing community and moving beyond Land Acknowledgements*.

30 Days of Love, January 16-February 14 - **Side with Love** is the Unitarian Universalist Association's public advocacy campaign that seeks to harness love's power to stop oppression. It sponsors an annual celebration called **30 Days of Love**, an opportunity to collectively nurture our spirits, deepen our understanding, and take action on our values for collective liberation. Each week of the celebration offers a "playlist" of multigenerational activities on four intersectional justice priorities. Visit **30 Days of Love** to learn more and get involved!

Decorah UU Support - As we continue to find our way through this challenging time, please remember: **if you need help**, let Otter know via phone 563-387-6050 or email otterdreaming@gmail.com. We'll all need support of one kind or another during this time. Please don't hesitate to ask.

Decorah UU Giving - We deeply appreciate the gracious gifts of our members and friends, whether given on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis. We understand that present circumstances and uncertainty may affect your ability to make a financial commitment to Decorah UU. Know that we value your "gracious gifts" to our fellowship, in whatever form they may be. **Decorah UU has set up online payment primarily for donations you might otherwise make in person at fellowship**. Go to our **Decorah UU** homepage and click on the "Give Online" button, which will take you to the Giving page. There, you'll find the "Donate" button which will send your payment through PayPal. You do NOT need a PayPal account. You'll be asked to choose whether your donation is for **Share-the-Plate** or for **Decorah UU**. You can only choose one, so if you want to donate to both, you will have to repeat the process. You can use a debit or credit card. Below the "Donate" button on the Giving page, you may also consider two options for recurring donations. Donations can also be mailed to PO Box 382, Decorah, IA 52101.

Decorah UU Service Archive - Did you miss a service we conducted by Zoom? Or did you attend but would like to watch it again? You can! Go to **Decorah UU**. There are two links to our new YouTube channel: a small YouTube icon in the upper right and a button in the middle that says "Watch past services on YouTube." Once on the YouTube channel page, you can choose the service you want to watch. We will try to post the link within one week of each service. Tip: If you want to see the bulletin or other information about the service, you can click on the SERVICE ARCHIVE button on the homepage. From there you can click on a service and then the "read more" link.

Member Emergency Fund - Unforeseen troubles come our way from time to time. If you or someone you know in the fellowship could use some help, please let Otter know. We may be able to provide support or short term monetary assistance. Confidentiality will be respected.

Decorah UU online - For more information, please visit our website **Decorah UU** or go to our **facebook** page.

Mail Cheer - Green Iowa Americorps has made a program for people who feel isolated during the pandemic. To give or receive these friendly letters, call **Green Iowa Americorps** at 563-293-5075, or visit the **Decorah & Winneshiek County Mutual Aid Network**.

Decorah Community Food Pantry - The Decorah Community Food Pantry invites you to our annual meeting on Monday, March 7th at 4:00 p.m. in the Spectrum Kitchen. In 2021 we faced the ongoing challenge of COVID, but we were still able to provide over 215,000 pounds of food to more than 1300 of our neighbors. The generosity of faith congregations was one reason we were able to serve food insecure people and we are grateful to you. The need continues and donations can be sent to PO Box 26 or go to Decorahpantry.org.

