

Northeast Iowa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Sunday, October 30, 2022

218 W Water St. The Lingonberry

www.decorahuu.org

Decorah, Iowa 52101

Call to Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Words

Today's service is our annual ancestor remembrance service, calling to mind many of our principles and sources.

Chalice Lighting We light our chalice in honor of all who no longer walk this earth with us: teachers, mentors, partners, parents, friends, and all who we hold dear who have loved and nurtured us, making it possible for us to become who we are. Blessed be their memory.

Land Acknowledgement

With this land acknowledgement, our congregation is engaging in a practice of truth telling and reconciliation. As part of that practice, we recognize that Northeast Iowa was home to the Baxoje, the Sac and Fox or Meskwaki, the Dakota and the HoChunk, peoples whose relationship to the land continues to this day.

Let us pause for a moment as we commit our hearts to uplifting, standing with, listening to, and following the lead of our Indigenous brothers, sisters, and friends as they continue to seek justice. May their ancestors be forever honored on this and every day!

Opening Song Oh, We Give Thanks Wendy Luella Perkins, adapted

A Reading #171 This Moment Mark Belletini, adapted

Joys and Concerns You may light a votive candle as you share any personal joys or concerns with the Fellowship

Silence/Response As one body, we rejoice in each other's blessings, and we grieve with one another where there is sorrow. May we all be surrounded by the comfort, love, and peace that community brings.

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. ...Findlow/Rickey

Reading #7 To Be of the Earth

John Soos, adapted

Touching the Roots of Our Ancestors: Re-Enchanting our Lives without Leaving our Minds Behind

Sue Otte

Speak Their Names

Closing Song I Walk in the Spirit

Maggie Wheeler

I walk in the spirit, I walk in the Light
[I walk through the darkest hours of night]
And I call on my ancestors to my left and my right
To walk with me, to walk with me.

2. I walk in the service of doing what's right.
3. I walk with the knowledge that we'll be all right.
4. I walk with the promise of healing in sight.
5. I walk through the darkest hours of night.

Extinguishing the Chalice Fire

We extinguish this flame, knowing that its energy and the energy of all of our ancestors goes on in the universe, lighting the way for us into the future. We go from this beloved community, open to life, expecting to love, and prepared to serve. Let us go in peace.

Announcements

Thank you to our speaker today: Sue Otte, a founding member of Decorah UU, continues to enjoy creating rituals which respect our heritage while remaining relevant to our ever-changing present. Inspired by a favorite poet, Marge Piercy, Sue tries to imagine new ways of being in the world, honoring our history, and reaching out to make our circle wider still. As Piercy says, if we cannot bless it, we must make it new.

Share-the-Plate - Our plate recipient for September/October is the Meskwaki Language Preservation. To donate to the recipient, simply designate so on your check or offering envelope. Loose cash in the offering plate goes to Decorah UU.

Upcoming Sundays

November 6 - *Vote Love Defeat Hate: Organizing for the Long*

November 13 - *Working for Justice* with Kirk Witzberger from IUUWAN, Social Justice and Outreach Coordinator

Decorah UU Board of Trustees - Board members for 2022-2023 are Julie Ohde (Chair), Maggie Hayden (Treasurer), Lynn Pleggenkuhle, Lyra McKnight and Shawn Dettmann. The next meeting of the Board is Thursday November 3, 7p at the home of Maggie Hayden.

Fellowship Coordinator & Accompanist- If you or someone you know is interested in becoming our new coordinator (10hrs/week) or Sunday Accompanist, please contact board chair Julie Ohde at DecorahUU.Board@gmail.com or call 563-299-1854.

Annual Auction - *This year's UU Auction we will feature Experiences!* (Please note: We are *not doing vintage items this year.*) Dinner at your house, a picnic, an outdoor adventure, tickets to a performance, game night, movie night (at your home or the theater), a bonfire, a sing-along, etc. If you have an idea, contact Julie Ohde at littleredkayak@gmail.com.

Decorah FUUN Committee - Stay tuned for upcoming announcements about an upcoming bowling night and Winter Solstice event. To get involved, contact Lyra: lyramcknight@gmail.com

Decorah UU Greeters - We would like to have a greeter at each service. If you would like to be a greeter, please contact Beth Wahlberg or Julie Ohde. Thank you!

Decorah UU Giving - We deeply appreciate the gracious gifts of our members and friends, whether given on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis. **Donations can also be mailed to PO Box 382, Decorah, IA 52101.**

Immigration Working Group - The Guatemalan Basics initiative delivers 50 pound bags of rice and 25 pounds of beans and corn flour tortilla mix to our immigrant families in need. To send a check, write it payable to Decorah UCC with "Guatemalan Basics" in the memo line, and send it to Decorah UCC, PO Box 470, Decorah, IA 52101.

Decorah UU online - For more information, please visit our website decorahuu.org or go to our Facebook page.

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Touching the Roots of Our Ancestors

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