



June 2016 Newsletter

All Souls Church
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www.sfuu.org
allsoulsfinfo@gmail.com

All Souls is a welcoming spiritual community. We seek truth, practice love, and celebrate life.

June Worship Schedule

Theme: God and Wonder

June 5
10:00am

A God as Big as Lake Superior, Revisited

Rev. Kraemer describes his sermon as: A naturalistic, humanistic view of the cosmos and how we might understand it. I preached a version of this sermon when I first arrived here two years ago. It's been a touchstone throughout my ministerial development, changing as my theology has changed. Now that our time together is drawing to a close, I thought I would check in again on how it has developed, in light of, and because of, this congregation.

Minister: Rev. David Kraemer
Coordinator: Scott Kunze

Musician: Kristi Holler

June 12
10:00am

Living at Cause: Modern Brain Science Teaches Us How

Long-time member Dr. Wynkoop will explore advances in brain science and what we can learn. He will explore the "wonder" he finds in the brain.

Speaker: Dr. Walker Wynkoop
Coordinator: Chris Provance

Musician: Kristi Holler

All Souls member, Dr. Walker Wynkoop is a previous high school and junior high science and math teacher with the love of brain science, now a semi-retired hand surgeon.

June 19
10:00am

A World of Difference

Borrowing from poet Heather McHugh, this service will build on Lawrence Ferlinghetti's "rebirth of wonder," and take us in the direction of renewing our welcoming stand as a congregation.

Minister: Rev. David Kraemer
Coordinator: Dan Davis

Musician: Kristi Holler

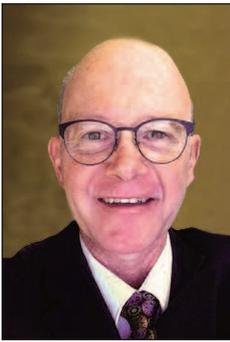
June 26
10:00am

What Say You?

All this month we have explored the theme of God and Wonder. So, what say you the congregants? What are your visions of Wonder, of God. Is it a big "G" or a little "g"? What causes you to stop and pause in wonder?

Speaker: All
Coordinator: Julia Tibbetts

Musician: Kristi Holler



From the Minister Rev. David Kraemer

Editor's Note: Mark your calendars! After two great years, Rev. David will be leaving us on July 31. A farewell picnic is planned for Saturday, July 16. See Rev. David's letter on page 7 for more details.

*... I am waiting for the Second Coming
and I am waiting
for a religious revival
to sweep thru the state of Arizona
and I am waiting
for the Grapes of Wrath to be stored
and I am waiting
for them to prove
that God is really American
and I am waiting
to see God on television
piped onto church altars
if only they can find
the right channel
to tune in on
and I am waiting
for the Last Supper to be served again
with a strange new appetizer
and I am perpetually awaiting
a rebirth of wonder ...*

That passage is from a poem by Lawrence Ferlinghetti. It is one of my favorites. Rev. Ron Knapp used it

last month to introduce the service he led here, and it serves as a great introduction to our theme for June – Wonder and God. (I would have used this poem myself in June had not Ron beaten me to it.)

Wonder is an interesting word. On the one hand, it's a journey with an end in mind. We can say, for example, I wonder what will happen if I microwave a marshmallow. If I try it, I will find out. On the other hand, it's a synonym for awe, a journey without end. We can, for example, stand in wonder under the night sky and feel ourselves part of a universe far more vast than we can imagine and certainly more vast than we can travel.

"God" is a word that UUs sometimes avoid. I think to our detriment. Even if you do not subscribe to traditional notions of a supernatural being in charge of everything, the word "God" has been used in so many different ways by so many people, including some really smart ones, that there's room to find your own sense of what this means. Once in a while, it's simply necessary for the conversation.

Another favorite passage of mine comes from science writer Chet Raymo, who describes knowledge as an island in an infinite sea of mystery. Two things follow, he says: one is, that increasing knowledge does nothing to decrease the size of the mystery; and two is that increasing the size of our island increases the interface, the shoreline along which we encounter the sea. We are at our human best, he says, with one foot on the solid ground of knowledge and one foot in the sea of mystery.

David's schedule in Sioux Falls is June 5-19, 2016.

Office hours by appointment. (515) 231-2536
or email suurev@gmail.com.



From the President Paul Thompson

June 2016

We are coming to the end of our stewardship campaign. It has been and remains an important one. We are hoping to call a minister for our church for the next period, and are in discussion with a person at this time. More than

that, I can't say.

To date, our campaign is a little short of the stated goal of \$80,000. That is not a criticism of the membership. In about 80% of the pledges received to now, there was an increase in pledged amount. The increase averaged 7%, which is about what was requested. For this generosity, the church thanks you, our members. Without the dedication and commitment of our members, we would not have a successful drive. The main reason for our inability to achieve the final amount for our drive has much more to do with the number of pledge "units" – single or pairs of persons who choose to make a financial commitment. We have, in

the last years, lost some very important members. Two years ago, we had 58 pledge units, and now we have fewer than 50. The exact number is a little unclear, but it is certainly fewer. Thus, achieving a larger stewardship campaign goal with a smaller number of pledge units was a daunting task. We on the board are looking at options for working with a slightly smaller amount. We will be able to cover the key costs, but possibly some choices and decisions will need to be revisited.

My time as president is now coming to an end. It has been a quiet year. We were fortunate to have David Kraemer to lead us during this year. As most of you know, he has accepted a position in Wisconsin as a contract minister in Waukesha, which will enable him to reassemble his family. We are considering a candidate for our joint position. We have done a few fun things. We had a good trip to Omaha to go to the zoo. This was very interesting, and will be repeated. We will finish the year with a farewell picnic for David Kraemer on July 16 (Saturday), to which all are invited. I have enjoyed my time in the president's office. I look forward to the next president, Claudia Dail, who I am sure will do a great job.

So long, and thanks for all the fish.



Mid America UUA Conference Report - Part 1

Submitted by Joy Hembel

In late April, I attended the UUA Mid America Regional Assembly in St. Paul. This is a summary of what I heard in the workshop on small congregations—defined as congregations under 150 members. The focus was on how small congregations can do a better job attracting the “millennial” generation. However, I view the information as useful in telling us how we can be of more service to people of all ages in our community. Ellen Germann-Melosh, a long-time UUA consultant to small congregations, gave the workshop. She is the co-author of *Big Ideas for Small Congregations*, a book I have read and will soon donate to our church library. Check it out to learn more! Some of her points include:

1) Continually update your congregation’s electronic presence: To survive in the future, all churches will need to attract “millennials”—defined roughly as people born between 1982 and 2004. To do this, churches need to have an effective and frequently updated “on-line front door.” Not only should the church and its programs be present on the web, Facebook, Twitter, etc. but the content must also be readable on mobile phones. The UUA now has a group to help small congregations create more sophisticated websites at a very low cost.

2) Offer social justice programs, small group discussions of spiritual approaches to life, and programs open to the public on critical issues: These types of programs, usually on weekends and evenings, appeal especially to the interests of millennials as well as to the interests of other age groups. Millennials do not typically attend Sunday morning church services; rather, they prefer poetry readings with music, coffee houses, food, and programs like the UUA “Our Whole Lives” program on young adult sexuality. Congregations should offer programs appealing to millennials and make their community actions better known through constant communications. For visibility, invest in T-shirts (for example saying, “Standing

On the Side of Love”) which members can wear when going out in public as a group.

3) Ask members and friends why they stay and focus on doing one or two things well: Many will say they stay for the social connections, the challenging environment to continually “improve” themselves, or the social justice work. Once you know the reasons members and friends value the church, the church leaders can focus on doing one or two of those aspects extremely well. A small congregation cannot do everything well. Hiring a full-time minister needs at least 125 active, pledging members; a half-time minister needs at least 63. And, a group of 40 or 50 people should not have 15 committees!

4) Tell the Mid America Region staff members how they can best help: The UUA Regional staff is there to fill congregational needs. Congregations should think about how the staff can best help them and ask for that help.

5) Make the congregation accessible to more people: Offer more programming and extend the congregational presence beyond Sunday mornings. Use the church website effectively, from welcoming guests, to providing information, to fundraising. Use 24/7 social media. Have more week-end and evening events, so more people can participate.



Above: Attending the Mid-America UUA conference April 29 – May 1 from All Souls where (left-right) Terry Lang, Sue Ann Lang, Joy Hembel and Paul Thompson. Not shown, but also attending, were Mark Sanderson and the Rev. David Kraemer.

Where can you find us?

www.sfu.org • twitter.com/AllSoulsUU • www.facebook.com

www.facebook.com/pages/All-Souls-Unitarian-Universalist-Sioux-Falls/177302048964724

Our private member Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/66794055861/>





Theology on Tap

All Souls invites you to a Wednesday night social event: Theology on Tap. Come for snacks and beverages of your choice and imbibe in a little theological discussion. Enjoy a good time together, good conversation on a worthy topic, with a little enjoyment, as well.

Theology on Tap will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month. This month it will be on June 8. Please, bring your own beverage of choice.



Meditation Group to Meet in Parsonage

An established meditation group, the Lay Buddhist Meditation Community, meets at 6pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month, in the parsonage just north of the church.

All Souls members are welcome to join them. The fee is a free-will offering, so it is hoped our members take advantage of the opportunity. Here is a link to their Facebook page if you'd like to check them out or "like" them:

www.facebook.com/LayBuddhistMeditationCommunity



Fun Night June 22 Fun on the Lawn

Come join the fun on Wednesday, June 22, 5 to 7 p.m. for a light supper on the green and a bean bag toss tournament. All ages welcomed. Come to play or watch. (Every tournament needs an audience as well as

players!)

"Look at everything always as though you were seeing it either for the first or last time: This is your time on earth filled with glory."

~ Betty Smith



NPR Sponsorship

Do you already contribute to NPR? Please consider directing your donation to NPR through the church, so that All Souls can sponsor a program and receive some extra exposure. The \$800 contract for the radio

show is due in January; a special fund has been set up for this. If you would like to contribute, please contact Joy (605) 332-1587 or email joyhembel@gmail.com.



Journey Toward Justice on National UU Website

CHECK US OUT!

The Unitarian Universalist Association has a new web page dedicated to the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, which has been a focus of our Journey Toward Justice campaign for the past three years. A profile of

our work is included.

Go to <https://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod>, browse to the "Congregational Stories" section and find us there. Congratulations to the Social Justice Committee and especially Susan Randall, who worked with the UUA's Gail Forsythe-Vail in developing this information.

Learn more about the "Journey Toward Justice" program at All Souls on our own website: www.sfu.org/journey/



Continuing a timeless tradition of interesting discussion and fascinating ideas without having to clean up afterward.

Men's Un-Group

5:00p.m., Wednesday, June 15

Monk's House of Ale Repute,
420 E 8th St, Sioux Falls



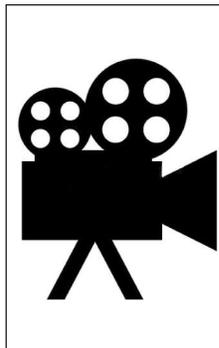
July 1 Banquet Serving

All Souls and Spirit of Peace will again serve at the Banquet on Friday, July 1, 2016.

We are the supporting sponsor this time. Mark your calendars and look for the famous green clipboard on Sunday mornings and sign up to

help. We serve 5:15-8pm.

Sign up directly by contacting Mark Sanderson at marksanderson@sio.midco.net or 334-0726 (leave a message if I'm out and about). The process: not just a hand-out, but a hand-up. Please help make it happen.



Digital Copies of Services Available

Submitted by Terry Lang

Several people have asked about either DVD or CD copies of our services. While my original idea was to film and record the services so that they could be put on the web, this does not seem to have materialized. Therefore, I

would be happy to make copies (within reason) of various services for the use of people who were not able to attend or for whom the material was especially meaningful. You can email requests to terrylang@mac.com.

WONDER [wuhn-der]

verb (used without object)

1. to think or speculate curiously:
to wonder about the origin of the solar system.
2. to be filled with admiration, amazement, or awe; marvel (often followed by at):
He wondered at her composure in such a crisis.



Join Us for A Building Work Session

Submitted by Susan Randall

All are welcome to lend a hand with keeping our building in tip top shape. On Monday, June 20, we will gather from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a building work session. (Please note

that we have moved away from the usual Saturday morning cleaning time to better accommodate member schedules.)

Tasks include vacuuming, mopping, dusting, and light repairs/maintenance.

We invite you to mark your calendar and lend a hand!

--The Facilities Management Committee

Cleaning - Then & Now

THE SATURDAY
EVENING
POST



BEGINNING DEATH ON THE NILE By AGATHA CHRISTIE



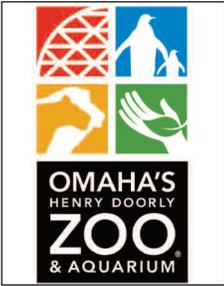
(Eh, not much has changed.
It's still a lot of work!)

Volunteers Needed!
Monday, June 20
at 5:30pm



Above: May Volunteer Cleaning Team. Shown are (left to right) Ken Abbe, Joy Hembel, Nelson Vollink, Sue-Ann Lang, & Paul Thompson.

*"Write it on your heart
that every day is the best day in the year."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Omaha Zoo Trip Enjoyed by Many

Submitted by Joy Hembel

Many joined us for our recent multi-generational trip to the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, NE, on May 7. We had a fantastic time and hope others will join us in 2017, as we probably go again next year! There were many members and friends who attended the zoo outing, including Chelsea Pierce & Miles; Linda Hallstrom & Autumn; Marsha Vickland, Janelle Lenser & Nadyia; Walker Wynkoop & Yoshiko Sato; Sandy Thompson, Rev. David Kraemer; Joy Hembel & Paul Thompson; and Sanjiv Behl.



Above: All Souls members take a break while touring the Omaha zoo.



Above: All Souls members enjoyed dining together in Omaha on May 7. Every one agreed it was a fun trip and are hoping for a repeat trip in 2017.



June Fundraiser at Keller's Green Grocery

Those who attend the June fundraising event will be in for a treat. Cena Keller, a friend of All Souls, will be opening the doors to Keller's Green Grocery in June and is inviting us in for a sampling of menu items on Friday, June 24, at 7 p.m. Cena's son, Addison, is the chef and will be preparing vegan and vegetarian dishes. We will have a chance to check out the items and food that will be available in this new Sioux Falls business. (See accompanying menu) Cost is \$25. Keller's Green Grocery is located at 221 S. Phillips in the old Carpenter Bldg.

On Saturday, July 30, member Chris Provance will host a patio barbecue at her home. In addition to barbecue fare, Chris will serve s'mores for dessert. Guests can also play badminton and bean bag toss. Cost is \$25 per adult, \$5 per child less than 12 yrs. of age.

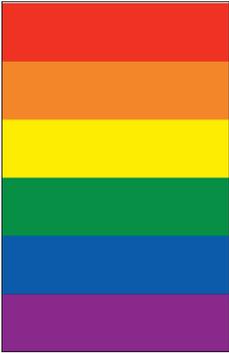
KELLER'S GREEN GROCERY FUNDRAISER MENU

Potato, Kale and Bacon Salad
Fennel and Lentil Salad
Blackened Tofu Po' Boy
Flat Iron Street Tacos

It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere!

All Souls Women's Group
Tue., June 14th at 5:00pm
Kaladi's, 26th & Minnesota, Sioux Falls

NOTICE: For security reasons, the church basement door will be locked on Sundays from 10:00-11:00am. Please plan to use the front door if you will arrive during that time. Thank you!



Sioux Falls Pride Festival Saturday, June 19

Submitted by Susan Randall

All Souls Church is a Silver Sponsor for the 2016 Pride Festival—come enjoy activities and sign up to help with the All Souls booth (contact is Mark Sanderson 334-0726). This year's Sioux Falls Pride Festival is from noon

to 7 pm on Saturday, June 19 at Terrace Park, 1100 W. 4th Street, Sioux Falls.

Sioux Falls Pride is a community celebration that honors lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) culture and pride. Sioux Falls Pride has grown from 600 to over 5,000 attendees in the past two years and we only hope that number to grow as we increase the festival offerings: specifically, more Pride week events, entertainment, food and sales vendors, family-friendly activities, and more ways to show your support of the LGBT community.



Elections 2016 Living Our Values

All Souls can be proud that its accessible building was chosen by election officials to serve as a precinct voting site for this year's 2016 elections.

Tuesday, June 7, is Primary Voting Day in South Dakota. The main floor of our church will be dedicated to voting throughout the day.

Offering our church building for a voting site affirms one of our core UU principles: promoting the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

Please also exercise your right and responsibility to vote on June 7 at your assigned precinct location. To find out your voting location and see a sample ballot, put the following address in your browser:

<https://sos.sd.gov/Elections/VIPLLogin.aspx>

GET INVOLVED!

Make the most of your experience at All Souls. Get involved in the many groups and committees here. There is something for everyone.



Rev. Kraemer to Leave All Souls July 31

(A letter to the congregation)

Dear All Souls,

As the end of my contract approaches, I want to thank you all for a great two years together. We have accomplished great things. We have worshiped, we have celebrated, we have shared good food and good company. We have paddled down a couple of rivers and sometimes found ourselves up a creek. But we've always managed to find our way home. We've struggled with a quite a few things, sorted out how we do things, and I hope we have asked ourselves why. We have increased our presence in Sioux Falls, and we've continued our sense of community.

My contract with you ends on July 31. Currently, I am scheduled to lead worship here for the last time on July 24. The board asks me to ask you to save the date for July 16, a Saturday, as both the congregation here and in Sioux City plan a farewell picnic. Details will follow.

I want to let you know that I have found a position for next year at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Waukesha, Wis., which is within a couple of miles of my wife's mother – a major reason we remain in the Midwest. The move means that Mary will join me in Waukesha, letting us begin to knit our family back together. We have now lived apart for at least half the year for three years running, counting my internship in Rockford, Ill. It will be good to reunite. We are blessed that Mary's employer, Mayo Clinic, will allow her to take her job with her and work online in the coming years.

You all have been so gracious and accommodating.

Thank you for having me.

In spirit,

Rev. David Kraemer

God [god]

noun

1. the one Supreme Being, the creator and ruler of the universe.
2. the Supreme Being considered with reference to a particular attribute:
the God of Islam.
3. (lowercase) one of several deities, especially a male deity, presiding over some portion of worldly affairs.
4. (often lowercase) a supreme being according to some particular conception:
the god of mercy.



PO Box 400
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 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated material:
 Please Deliver Promptly

Submissions, comments or questions
 about the newsletter?
 allsoulsnews@gmail.com



All Souls Calendar

June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 6:00 pm Meditation	3	4
5 10:00 am "A God as Big as Lake Superior, Revisited" with Rev. Kraemer	6 5:45 pm Finance 7:00 pm COC	7 7:00 am event - polling site	8	9 7:00 pm Board	10	11 9:00 am Worship Team Meeting
Rev. Kraemer in Sioux Falls from June 5 - 19						
12 10:00 am "Living at Cause: Modern Brain Science Teaches Us How"	13	14 5:00 pm Women's Group	15 5:00 pm Men's Un-Group	16 6:00 pm Meditation	17	18 12:00 pm SF Pride
Rev. Kraemer in Sioux Falls from June 5 - 19						
19 Father's Day 10:00 am "A World of Difference" with Rev. Kraemer	20 5:30 pm Cleaning Church	21	22 5:30 pm Fun Night	23	24 7:00 pm Keller's Green Grocery Fundraiser	25
26 10:00 am "What Say You?"	27	28	29	30		