## What's going on at 2U this month?

October 1st - 2U Book Sale (page 13)

October 2nd - Committee Spending Plans due (page 7)

October 7th - Fall Church Cleanup (page 9)

October 7th - EnqUUiring Minds returns (page

October 7th - POP's Potluck (page 12)

October 8th - Bystander Intervention workshop (page 9)

October 9th -Women's Alliance (page 10)

October 9th - Dementia Caregivers Support Group

October 10th - Retirees' Group (page 10)

October 14th - Writing for Spiritual Growth

October 15th - Social Justice Committee

October 15th - Teen Movie Night (page 11)

October 18th - Meditation Group (page 13)

October 21st - Open Arms Trans Support Group

October 22nd - Program Council (page 13)

#### **UPCOMING SERVICES**

#### Courage

October 1st: *Heart of Courage* 

October 8th: The Man Who Lost

**Everything** 

October 15th: Courage of Our

**Convictions** 

October 22nd: White Supremacy Teach-In

October 29th: I Would Do Anything For You

See page 19 for more details.

Join Us This Sunday!

**Worship Services** 

10:30 a.m.



#### **REVEREND CYNDI**

## COURAGE

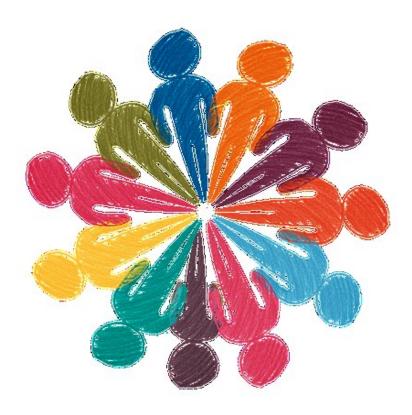
Dear Friends,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying what the early Autumn is bringing you – besides a late hot spell! Now as I write this it has become cool and more seasonal – so refreshing!

Our worship and community theme this month is *Courage*. Courage is needed to make any change in ourselves, in this religious community or in the wider world.

One overarching question we can ask is: *What does it mean to be a people of courage?* This question reminds us that courage is not just about ourselves as individuals, but that courage is something we have and live <u>together</u> as a religious community.

A beautiful aspect of our communal courage is that it means we are not alone and that we do not have to be brave and courageous at all times. In community we can learn from one another about what courage means and we can step forward in courage when another person cannot. We can act together, supporting one another in our shared courage. We never have to go it alone.



Our Unitarian Universalist history is filled with lives and acts of courage. From Michael Servetus to Katarzyna Weiglowa to John Murray to Theodore Parker to Florence Nightingale to Frances Ellen Watkins Harper to John Haynes Holmes to Torbio Quimada to Martha and Waitstill Sharp to James Reeb to Viola Liuzzo to Christina Rivera to Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe, our faith is filled with people of exceptional courage who have accomplished profound changes in the world around them.

MICHAEL SPRENS HAS DE ANAGONA

And - we don't need to compare ourselves negatively to these exceptionally courageous people! We don't need to look up to them; rather, we need to look over at and gain strength and courage from one another. And we need to remember that others are looking over to us for strength and courage as well.



These are indeed times requiring us to remain courageous in our heart and in our living.

May we remember these words of the Reverend Jane Ranney Rzepka:

O Spirit of Life and Love, we aren't the giants we'd like so much to be, and the world can loom so large.

When all is quiet and we are small and the night is dark, may we hear the tender breathing of all who lie awake with us in fear, that together we may gather strength to live with love, and kindness, and confidence.



So may it be; blessed be,



Cyndi

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It takes a village, not only to raise a child, but to continue to lift up an ideal, to help each and every member of that community realize the values that community holds precious.

Our community at Second Unitarian has long held that the children and youth in our midst are valued parts of the church community. This value is reinforced with a paid DRE position that was started in 1979. Off and on since then, we at Second Unitarian have put our budget dollars behind this.



But the job of lifting up our younger church members cannot be done by the DRE alone. It takes a village of volunteers to accomplish this ministry. This year we reached a breaking point with our needs versus the adults who were readily willing to step up.

I'm glad that many additional adults heard the call. Many do not have children in the program. They are actively living our third and seventh principles:

"Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part."

As many of you have discovered, the commitment is not great. Only one or two Sundays over the course of a few months can help us greatly. The materials and lessons are done. You just facilitate the class.

Please continue to back this very important ministry that we do at Second Unitarian.

In January, the call will go out again.

Will you add your name to those living our principles and join the village?

With the light of learning-Molly Kliment-Jenkins, DRE



#### Planks & Slivers

by Carol Johnson, Board Chair

Your 2017-2018 Board of Trustees are: Carol Johnson, Chair; Greg Minter, Vice Chair; Steve Abraham, Secretary; Don Mundy; Lolly Thomas; and Joe White. Lolly Thomas and Pete Miller will be co-chairing Program Council.

The Board held a full day retreat on Saturday, September 2nd. Leading up to the retreat, the Board utilized a portion of their regularly scheduled meeting to learn in depth the steps taken by previous Boards to arrive at our current Developmental Goals and Outcomes. This year, the Board will be focused on understanding, committing to and beginning implementation of our congregation's developmental goals.

For any of you who may be new to the congregation, developmental ministry is a special type of ministry focused on goals that a congregation has set for itself. The Second Unitarian Goals and Outcomes (what we would see/ experience/ or be if we were successful in achieving the goal) can be found on our <u>website</u>.

During our retreat, the Board received orientation on our Safe Congregation policy and the Board's role in implementing this policy. Being a covenantal organization, we began work on developing a Board Covenant for this year. We explored what we mean when we say "our Unitarian Universalist identity" and we identified our priority areas for the upcoming year. We accomplished a lot in one day!

Our next big task is identifying action plans and next steps for our priorities to include when and how to share them with the congregation. There are exciting times in store for us as we delve deeper and more meaningfully into this congregation's developmental goals.

# SEPTEMBER SERVICE ATTENDANCE

Attendance		
Date	Number in Worship	
9/03	62	
9/10	62	
9/17	60	
9/24	60	

#### Property Improvement Ministry by Pat Caffrey

Clyde Anderson, Janet Doan, JoAnne Draper, Gene Kopecky, Tom Rundquist, Rick Bell, Justin Short, Rev. Cyndi Simpson, and Pat Caffrey are the members of this ministry. We have met a couple times already to set the foundation for our ministry together.

The purpose of this team is to:

- Move forward on replacing the parking lot and adding a restroom on the main floor.
- The team will develop proposal(s) to the Board to include work to be completed, strategies to cover the costs, communication with the congregation and the Board and implementation plans.
- This team will also facilitate implementation following Board Approval of any proposal(s).
- We expect this initiative to connect to the Key Outcomes of our Developmental Goals and the meaning it has for us at Second Unitarian Church.

So far, we have created a name for this initiative - the Property Improvement Ministry (PIM) and have been identifying values and prioritizing them as part of the initiative. In our last meeting we accepted assignments in the areas of: Communications, Financial Information, Getting Expertise to assist, Research Grants & Other Funding Opportunities, Historical summary.

We are excited about the possibilities as part of our Developmental Goals and Key Outcomes and will work to keep the congregation and the Board connected to the work as we move forward.





Reverend Cyndi will be out of the office Tuesday, October 3rd and Wednesday, October 4th.

You may reach her for pastoral crises at 402-639-7001.

## Treasurer's Report of 2017-18 Operating Budget

Cheri Cody, Treasurer

In August, we had a deficit of \$6,967.36 partly due to one-time payments for insurance and OTOC dues. We still have a significant surplus year-to-date resulting from prepaid pledges recorded in July.

	August 2017	Year to Date
Income	\$12,403.56	<b>\$53,714.45</b> (24.5% of budget)
Expense	19,370.92	<b>35,401.13</b> (16.1% of budget)
Net Over/Short	\$-6,967.36	\$18,313.32

Income came from Stewardship Campaign Pledges (\$11,393.33); Pledges for Previous Year (\$.00); Offering (\$1,008.00); Other Income (\$2.23).

Expenses were from Salaries and Benefits (\$5,537.70); Minister's Compensation (\$7,260.15); Administrative Expenses (\$106.08); General Expenses (\$5,309.35); and Committee Expenses (\$1,157.64).

If you would like to see more detailed financial reports, you can join the Finance Committee, contact me at 402-210-9029 or email: **treasurer@2uomaha.org** 



## Spending Plans due October 2nd

All church committees that have a budget line in the Annual Operating Budget must complete a Spending Plan form to indicate how the budgeted funds are to be spent and identify any risks of expenses exceeding budget. If you are responsible for a budget line and have not yet received your spending plan, please contact Clyde Anderson at ClydeLAnderson@cox.net.

## Look For Your First Quarter Generosity Statement

**Finance Coordinating Council** 

About October 10<sup>th</sup> members should receive their First Quarter Generosity Statements by either email or snail mail. Please check your statement to be sure we have properly logged your donations to the church since July 1st – payments towards your pledge, offering, etc.

If you have any questions or spot an error, please contact Cheri Cody, Treasurer, at <a href="mailto:treasurer@2uomaha.org">treasurer@2uomaha.org</a>. Thank you for your generosity!

#### First Hour schedule for October

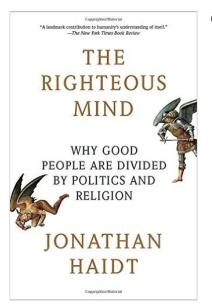
- October 1st Fascism and Antifa Doug Patterson, Local Educator and Activist
- October 8th Paganism 101 Barbara May
- October 15th The Stories We Live By Our Polarized Society "Can't We All Disagree More Constructively?" Part 1 (see below for more information)
- October 22nd A Yin and Two Yangs Our Polarized Society Part 2
- October 29th Success and Failure in Engaging Others Our Polarized Society Part 3.

First Hour runs from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning. Childcare is provided.

Sunday First Hour series: Our Polarized Society - "Can't We All Disagree More Constructively?" October 15th, 22nd, 29th at 9 a.m.

The holidays are around the corner! A time of celebration, joy, being with loved ones ... and often for many of us – dreadfully awkward political conversations. This is a time when we come together with people we care deeply about, but sometimes just don't understand. The goal of this discussion series is to gain some understanding of this great divide, and perhaps point a way toward disagreeing more constructively.

Discussion will be based on the book by Jonathan Haidt titled *The Righteous Mind – Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*. We will especially be focusing on the chapter titled "Can't We All Disagree More Constructively?" This chapter is available as a 'vintage short' download from Amazon for 99 cents. It is advisable to read this chapter in preparation for discussion. Unfortunately, this 'vintage short' chapter is not available in hard copy. However, the book is readily available at most booksellers, and does provide a much greater depth of understanding. Discussion will be facilitated by Anita Jeck.



Our focus each week:

October 15th: *The Stories We Live By* – exploring our life narratives

October 22nd: A Yin and Two Yangs – the gifts different political perspectives bring to the table

October 29th: Success and Failure in Engaging Others – exploring strategies for engagement

### **Bystander Intervention**

Rev. Cyndi is leading another Bystander Intervention workshop **Sunday, October 8th from 3 p.m. to 4:30** at First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass Street. Participants will learn and practice the basic steps to make a safe and effective response in situations of public harassment around perceived ethnic identity, race, religion, sexual identity or gender orientation. Whether you are on the street, on public transportation or at public gatherings, learning how to give an effective response to harassment makes our public spaces safer for everyone!

### It's Time for Supper... Circle Supper

Circle Suppers are a great opportunity to connect! Circle Suppers are held in the homes of Church members/friends. Guests contribute to the meal and gather to enjoy one another's company. The first round of suppers this year will be scheduled in late October or early November. If you are interested in hosting or attending a supper, please look for the sign up sheet on Sunday mornings, or contact Stephanie Peterson at <a href="mailto:stephanicalarge-stephanic

or 402-672-1326.





# Fall Church Cleanup Saturday, October 7th!

Our Fall Cleanup Day is scheduled for **Saturday, October 7th from 8 a.m. to Noon.** We will have plenty of tasks for everyone!

#### Retirees' Group

Please join us for Retirees' Group **Tuesday, October 10th at 1 p.m.** in the sanctuary for a presentation about local care facilities by Teresa Jordan. Theresa is the owner/ president of a company that matches needs of patients and their families with organizations and facilities that can meet those needs. She will describe levels of care available as well as the indicators of quality care.

Retirees Group meets monthly for socialization and learning. All are welcome—you don't have to be retired to attend!

#### Women's Alliance

Women, and those who identify as women, are invited to attend the Women's Alliance gathering on Monday, October 9th. Socializing and beverages start at 6:30 p.m. with dinner following at 7.



Our October program will be presented by the local CUUPS chapter. The presentation, *The Art of Divination* will be presented by Barbara May from Second Unitarian. Warm up with a cup of tea and learn the Victorian art of tea leaf readings. Along with a chance to experience this long standing divination practice, members of our local chapter of CUUPS will offer tarot and runes readings.

Need childcare to join us? No problem! Women's Alliance now offers

childcare. When you RSVP please include if you need childcare, how old your child(ren) are and any dietary needs they require. Snacks will be provided for the children.

We ask for \$15 which goes to the cost of dinner, the Merritt Education Fund, and the Partner Church scholarship. If this will be your first time attending a WA get-together, please be our guest.

October's dinner will be a saulecker, koestlich Octoberfest menu from Gerda's German Restaurant. A more detailed menu will be available soon. When you RSVP, please indicate whether you prefer VEGGIE or MEAT.

Please RSVP via the Facebook event page on First Unitarian's page, or by emailing <u>Jeri Thurber</u> no later than October 5th. We look forward to seeing everyone on October 9th!

## October Share the Plate Hurricanes Harvey & Irma Relief Funds

Due to the emergency situations in Florida and Texas our offering will be shared with the Hurricane Irma Community Recovery Fund via The Miami Foundation and the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund via the Greater Houston Community Foundation. The focus of these two organizations is to get immediate relief directly to individuals and supporting grassroots organizations as quickly as possible. Both have committed to passing through 100% of donations to recipients. **This collection will be collected until November 26th.** 

HARVEY: This fund was set up by Houston's Mayor, the Honorable Sylvester Turner. The funds will go directly to affected individuals and organizations, filling gaps left by other relief efforts.

IRMA: These funds will be administered through the Miami Foundation on behalf of a coalition of local labor, faith, student and immigrant organizations that serve marginalized populations, such as homeless people and undocumented people. The funds will go to support basic needs, such as healthcare, housing, transportation and legal representation.

If you know of a worthy charitable organization that you would like to nominate for Share the Plate please complete the nomination form. <u>Here is a fillable PDF form for Share the Plate.</u> If you'd like help completing the form, contact Cheri Cody, Carol Johnson, or Pat Caffrey.

## **EnqUUiring Minds Returns this October**

This course, sponsored by the Membership Committee and led by Reverend Cyndi, is being offered again in October. We will meet to discuss and share our Unitarian Universalist faith and our own spiritual journeys **Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon October 7th, 14th and 21st.** Whether you have been a longtime member OR are thinking about joining Second Unitarian, then this class will intrigue and surprise and delight you! Please join us! You may register with Membership Committee Chairperson Donna Dudley at ddudley@hastings.edu.

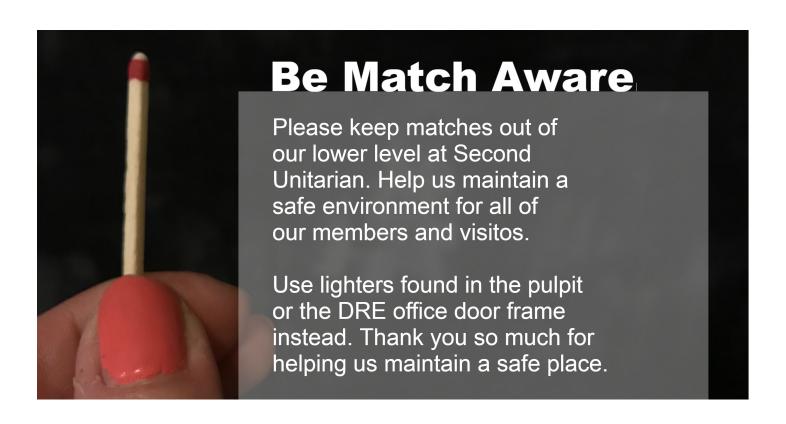
## Teen Movie Night

Teen Movie Night is back to its "regularly scheduled broadcast" and will be meeting **October 15th at 4:30 p.m.** in the church sanctuary. This month we will watch the biopic "Steve Jobs" and explore several UU Principles with the story of this complex person who was an Apple executive: Principles surrounding the search for truth and meaning, the inherent worth and dignity of every person, as well as justice, equity and compassion in human relations. Please join us for the show followed by a discussion facilitated by Bob Fishbach. Snacks and drinks are provided, with a free will offering taken for pizza.

## POP's (Parents of Preschoolers) Potluck Night Saturday, October 7th

All parents of preschoolers (from littles through primary grades) are invited to attend POP's Nights to connect with other parents from both First and Second Unitarian communities. Childcare is provided on-site (please RSVP). Arrive by 5:45 p.m. and bring a dish to share. Grown-ups will gather in the 1st U common room (3114 Harney Street). Kids will eat and play in the 1st U nursery.

Kindly RSVP (for adults and children) to Monica Meier (call/text 402-676-2011 or email: <a href="mailto:mmeier@heartlandfamilyservice.org">mmeier@heartlandfamilyservice.org</a>).



## Leadership 101 Saturday, December 2nd - 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is the fourth generation of a workshop that provides an exciting opportunity for all members. The day is full of activities designed to educate, inform, and involve people in gaining skills, confidence, and comfort with leadership in multiple situations. There will be a focus on developing Second Unitarian as a church that is welcoming to all and a community leader as well as developing the skills of individuals.

### **Program Council**

Committee chairs, you are invited to attend the next meeting of Program Council. October is abnormally busy so we're meeting at a different time than usual - **Sunday, October 22nd from 12:15 p.m. to 1:45.** (We hope that gives people enough time to grab food between the service and the meeting.) We're going to be discussing the Fellowship Committee and how we can help it transform and thrive. It should be very interesting. We want to keep the momentum of that discussion going so the next meeting will be soon after that - **Saturday, November 11th from 9 a.m. to 10:30.** We'll send out reminders and an agenda as we get closer, but please put it into your calendars. We look forward to seeing everyone!

#### **Meditation Group**

A wonderful group meeting takes place on the third Wednesday of each month. The Meditation Group is a loving, caring, and spiritually nurturing group of people who learn about and practice meditation. Meditation is a practice that can be easily learned by anyone and is very helpful in dealing with negative emotions and an over-active mind.

Please feel free to drop in and join us. Meetings start at 8 p.m. in the sanctuary. No previous meditation experience is needed. Upcoming meetings will be on **October 18th and November 15th.** 

## Calling All Youth - Check out YRUU!

Join in fun, fellowship, and faith development at the YRUU youth group! Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. from September to May, the youth from Second Unitarian join First Unitarian youth for YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists). Youth 7th grade to 12th grade meet in the Common Room at 1st. Check it out!



#### **Book Sale Continues October 1st**

Browse the 2U Book Sale Sunday, October 1st. Cost is free will donation. (Rain date is October 8th.)

#### IN THE COMMUNITY

## Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) Update

By Vicki Pratt, Social Justice Committee

Our church is a member of Omaha Together One Community (OTOC), local congregation-based community organizing. After summer training sessions OTOC has turned to planning for 2018.

#### **Delegates Congress November 13th**

A key step is congregation approval of goals on November 13th, 7 p.m., location TBD. Mark your calendars now and be ready to answer "yes" when someone from our Social Justice Committee asks for your commitment to attend this Delegates Congress.

#### **Action Team Updates**

- Environmental Sustainability: OTOC congregations endorsed the Citizens' Climate Lobby plan for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by potential federal legislation to create the Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. The legislation would put a fee on fossil fuels at their source, examples are mines, wells, and ports of entry. Collected fees would be divided equally and a monthly dividend passed on to each household in the US.
- Immigration Reform: Dozens of OTOC representatives participated in a rally at the State Capitol in support of DACA recipients.
- Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization: Team members testified at the City Budget hearing to promote money for demolition of condemned structures and additional Housing Code Inspectors. Their focus has now shifted to enforcing code violations in rental housing.
- Pay Day Lending Regulation: The team is organizing House Meetings to educate voters on pending LB194 in the Nebraska legislature. Vicki is hosting on October 25th and facilitating First Hour discussion on November 12th.
- Medicaid Expansion: The team continues to promote state acceptance of federal money through the Affordable Care Act so low income Nebraskans can have health insurance.

#### Organized Money Update

OTOC raises operating money through member dues, contributions from individuals, and community fundraisers. Our congregation's annual dues are budgeted and were paid in August. Nearly \$900 was contributed by our congregation members over the summer. This is less than our goal and less than previous years. There is still time to contribute. Make out a check payable to OTOC and put it in the Sunday collection plate. The OTOC major fundraiser is March 8th, 2018 at Kaneko Art Gallery.

#### **Other News**

Organizer Joe Higgs will spend a few weeks in Houston to help coordinate hurricane disaster relief. Greta Carlson has been hired as an intern from Lutheran Volunteer Corps to work with the Institute for Public Leadership and OTOC.

#### IN THE COMMUNITY

# Experiences of a Palestinian Christian: Oppression and Hope for Peace Speaker: NORA CARMI

Wednesday, October 4th, 7 p.m. Room 3028 Harper Center at Creighton University 620 North 20th Street, Omaha

Thursday, October 5th, Noon Soup and Substance Presentation

Warde Conference Center, Mercy Hall at College of St. Mary

72nd & Mercy Roads, Omaha RSVP Required: <u>csm.edu/Soup</u>

Friday, October 6th, Noon Lunch for faith leaders and social justice members

Pacific Springs Retirement Center, 805 S. 173 Court

RSVP 402-333-7466 or marshall@pcoc.us

Born in Jerusalem in 1947, Nora Arsenian Carmi, is a Palestinian Christian who became a refugee in her own city, divided after the establishment of the Israeli State. Nora has served as community builder in Palestinian society in both professional and voluntary capacities, advocating for a just peace and empowering women and the community through skill development and spirituality. Her career has included leadership with the YWCA of Palestine, Sabeel Liberation Theology Center and Kairos Palestine. Nora has served on the Steering Committee of the Christian Peace-Makers Team (CPT) and currently serves on the Palestinian Islamic Christian Commission, among other boards. She represents Palestine and the Middle East on the Executive Committee of World Day of Prayer International and is a member of the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum (PIEF) of the World Council of Churches. Nora has received multiple honors for her empowerment of women and community work.

In 2009 Nora was chosen to address His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to the Holy Land and in 2015 she was among the delegation privileged to meet His Holiness Pope Francis. Despite the pain of Palestinian suffering, Nora believes that peace begins with a smile (Mother Theresa of Calcutta) and continues to contribute as long as she is able. She was married for 45 years to the late George "Yorgho" Carmi and has two children.

# Frustrated by all the Political Arguing? Join Conservative-Liberal Dialogues!

October 29th to December 3rd (6 Sundays), 2 p.m. – 3:30 in the Common Room at First Unitarian Church (3114 Harney Street)

Sometimes it feels impossible to talk with people who see things differently.

Still, many people from various political perspectives want to solve problems.

The Conservative-Liberal Dialogue process provides a safe way to share your experiences, concerns, differences and solutions. Here's how it works:

- 1. An equal number of Conservatives and Liberals are invited
- 2. "Speed Friending" exercise connects people personally
- 3. Rules of respectful communication are taught in a fun, interactive way
- 4. Experts will present facts on economic opportunity, climate, and immigration
- 5. We discuss topics 1-to-1, so EVERYONE gets to talk and be heard
- 6. We begin by talking about how we developed our beliefs and values, then grow our ability to deal with controversial subjects.



Come even if you think you don't have the courage, or the patience, or the ability to communicate with folks who are different from you. Do your part to generate understanding and cooperation, and you may be surprised how much we all have in common.

There is no charge, but registration is necessary. Go here: <u>bit.ly/</u> <u>CLDialogues</u> or call Elaine Wells at 402-415-9500 for more information.

#### PRIVACY POLICY FOR CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

Church policy states: Respect for the privacy of members, friends, and visitors is a primary consideration. When newsletter submissions contain personal information (phone number, street address, email address, etc.), it is the author's responsibility to get the subject's permission to publish this information. Since many of our communications are transmitted electronically and information therein may more easily be re-transmitted, it's essential that any personal information be approved for inclusion.

In general, it's preferable to omit personal information, but in those cases where it's necessary (such as a location for an offsite meeting), those who submit articles should ask for permission to publish the personal information. An alternative is "Please call or email the church office for contact information." Contact the Office Administrator for more information. **Regarding published photographs**: If you do not want your photo published (including in the newsletter or on the website), please inform the Office Administrator in writing. Thanks!

## **CONNECTIONS**

## The Land of Can By Lolly Anderson Thomas

The land of Cannot was a difficult place To create my new tales with a measure of grace. No matter how much I would try to adjust, The time finally came when to leave was a must.

Deciding to move to a land far away, I traveled to Can (which took more than a day). And when I got there – though not really a shock – I heard nothing but *cans* everywhere I would walk.

"You can write. You can paint. You can be a success. You can be an inventor. Design a new dress. You can climb a tall mountain or swim 'cross the sea. You can even write books for the babes who are three."

My days were so happy, and so was each night, As I pushed to create, as though that was my right. While in bed in the dark, a new story would spill Into mind from deep space, until I'd had my fill. I'd flip on the light and I'd frantically find My ink pen and notebook to write line after line.

In the morn, as I fixed myself oatmeal and juice, I'd have word fun like, "Who put the goose on the moose?"

To the whirring and sloshing of washing my clothes, I'd create all the names of my new book's heroes.

As I walked to get coffee at my favorite shop, I would count all the ways I could say the word "hop." From the mouths of reporters on daily news shows, I'd catch words I thought clever and verses of prose.

I've decided no matter the place that I am, I'll continue to live in a place I call Can. Someday I'll be published 'cause I left behind The land of Cannot – a mere state of mind.



#### **Second Unitarian Church**

3012 S. 119th Street Omaha, NE 68144

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### **Courage**

**October 1st:** *Heart of Courage* - What does it mean to be a people of courage? That's not the courage of an individual alone, but the courage of a group! Especially in these challenging times, what is essential to our personal and shared courage?

**October 8th:** *The Man Who Lost Everything* - In 2004, the Reverend Carlton Pearson, a Bishop in the African-American Pentecostal tradition, was declared a heretic by his peers. His heresy? He renounced his belief in Hell. We will hear what happened after that and why it matters to us!

**October 15th:** *Courage of Our Convictions* - It is possible that over a half-million US residents identify strongly with Unitarian Universalism. *Where are they?* What is it that keeps us from sharing our faith, inviting people to join us and generally tooting our own religious horn?

**October 22nd:** White Supremacy Teach-In - Last May, at the request of Black Lives of UU, we held our first White Supremacy Teach-In. We will reflect, learn more and also hear about our responses to critical questions from last Spring's Teach-In.

**October 29th:** *I would do anything for you.* - I've heard that before. Have you? Perhaps you've said it. But what does it really mean? Come journey with me as I explore and challenge the many interpretations of that statement. Together we will look courageously into the face of what it means to be human and what we might consider "the ultimate sacrifice". Barbara May.