

Workshop A

10:30 to 11:45 A.M., Saturday

A 1: Radical Hospitality

Maryann Caudill-LoGuidice

Clinton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Clinton IA

The workshop is based on the book Radical Hospitality by Father Daniel Holman. Several questions will be addressed with emphasis on “Why do we want our congregations to grow?” The categories of discussion include a.) Spiritual Practices.) Obstacles to Growth.) You Can Only Make a First Impression Once and d.) Everyone is a Greeter

A2: Was George Washington a Closet Unitarian?

Claire Keller

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Ames IA

A Readers Theatre presentation with Professor Clair W. Keller portraying George Washington in costume as he presides over the Constitutional Convention that debated issues crucial the development of our democratic values. George Washington will summarize events as they unfolded during the Constitutional Convention. Readers Theatre participants will represent reaction by ordinary citizens.

A3: Affirming Social Justice in Prairie Star Congregations

Vicki Pratt

Second Unitarian Church, Omaha NE

The role of social justice in PSD congregations is evolving from committee work to using democratic processes to effect systemic change. Members of the PSD Social Justice Network describe state-wide UU alliances, local interfaith partnerships, congregation-based community organizing, and national efforts (e.g. UUSC, UUJEC) currently underway in PSD congregations.

A4: Welcoming Children and Youth in Our Congregations: Creating and Practicing Multi-generational Community

Joan McDonald

First Unitarian Church, Des Moines IA

Our faith tradition's future is tied not only to the religious education of our children and youth but more essentially by our congregations' practice of intentional multigenerational community. How are children and youth viewed within our community? Are they noisy distractions in worship? Are they the unheard, unseen "underprivileged" class of people who reside in the church basement? Are our religious education teachers also an "underprivileged" class of people who have to choose between teaching and worship? Come join us in an exploration of visioning and practicing intentional multigenerational community.

A5: Growing Congregations in Small Cities

Rev. Roger Mohr

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Burlington IA

Growing UU congregations in areas of less than 50,000 persons is a special challenge. But a UU congregation can also be a tremendous force for good. And indeed, the more focused we are on making a difference in our communities, the more we prosper as a congregation. The key is to prepare the congregation first.

A6: Acting on Our Faith in Ghana: Promoting Democracy and Reducing Poverty

Charles Franz

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Topeka KS

The UU United Nations Office is connecting UUs to the UN Millennium Developmental Goals in Ghana. The "Every Child is Our Child" program is helping educate over 160 children orphaned by AIDS. Come learn how you and your congregation can get involved in reducing poverty, promoting gender equality and combating HIV/AIDS.

A 7: When Youth Lead: Intergenerational Social Justice Ministry

Jill Schwendenan

Unitarian Universalist Church, White Bear MN

Based on Jill Schwendenan's book, this workshop will offer guidance, suggestions and advice for constructing and maintaining a healthy and spiritually vital youth ministry. We'll explore how teens are an

enormous generative force for our faith communities and how adults have much to learn from youth about passion, friendship, discrimination, equality, faith and more. Social justice work is an effective tool for bringing the generations together and the items included in this workshop have the potential to build rich partnerships among children, youth, adults and elders.

A 8: Anti-Racist, Anti-Oppressive, Multicultural Unitarian Universalism for All:

Part One

Groundwork

Unitarian Universalist Headquarters

Boston MA

Learn how to educate yourself and others about race and racism so that you can better organize for racial justice in our communities and the world. Groundwork trainers will help us create anti-racists transformation personally, institutionally, and culturally. Groundwork is a UUA sponsored organization of trainers that helps UUs learn how to be more spiritually alive and justice-centered. This workshop is one of three being offered by Groundwork trainers and is sponsored by the PSD Board of Directors.

Workshops B

1:30 to 2:45 P.M., Saturday

B 1: Great Books for a Faithful Democracy

Tom Lo Guidice, Church of the Larger Fellowship

Boston MA

A round circle discussion and presentation by the attendees about “great books” that inspire your UU views about rebuilding a faithful democracy. The presenter will begin with Richard S. Gilbert’s *The Prophetic Imperative: Social Gospel in Theory and Practice*

B2: Understand Global Warming Issues

Fritz Franzen and Sam Wormley

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Ames IA

Thomas Jefferson placed education as the foundation of a democracy. Unfortunately sometimes our government gets in the way of educating the public-Issues about global warming are excellent examples. Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, Fritz Franzen and Adjunct Professor of Astronomy, Sam Wormley will provide you with background about the cause and effect of global warming and provide you with tools to help you sort thru scientific facts and *political propaganda*. *UU principles 4, 6, and 7 in particular apply.*

B3: Accessible Faith: Building Disability Awareness in the PSD

Amber R. Clifford-Napoleone and Caron Wells

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Warrensburg MO

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

Kansas City MO

This session has one mission: to develop full accessibility for disabled UUs within each congregation, and within the Prairie Star District as a whole. The workshop will explore the issues of disability awareness and accessibility among congregations within the PSD by introducing the disabled to the larger PSD community, creating a forum for PSD members to discuss accessibility issues, and providing attendees with the materials they need to encourage a greater awareness of disability and accessibility in their home congregations. Among the specific topics to be discussed are ADA compliance, universal design, and both district and UUA resources available.

B4: Resource Sharing Among Congregations

Dawn Cooley

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Northfield MN

Did you know that the PSD is a leader in finding ways to connect congregations to one another? Stone tree Congregational Resources (www.stonetreeuu.org) is a prime example. Come find out how Stone tree can help YOUR congregation, and, in turn, how you can help Stone tree fulfill its mission.

B5: Charting Self: A Way to Think About My Belief

Bob Williamson
Unitarian Unitarian Church
Hinsdale IL

*The **Beliefs Chart** offers a way to step back and look at the beliefs we've adopted or given up over the years in the context of changes in our relationships. This workshop will introduce participants to the design and use of **Beliefs Chart** as a tool for self-reflection, and will provide them an opportunity to begin a **Beliefs Chart** of their own.*

**B6: Anti-Racist, Anti-Oppressive, Multicultural Unitarian Universalism for All:
Part Two**

B7: Introduction to Healthy Congregations

Cheri Cody
Second Unitarian Universalist, Omaha NE
Nancy Heege
PSDUUA Office, Minneapolis Man

Based on the work of Rev. Peter Steinke, this workshop will be an introduction to the systems thinking. A preview of the Healthy Congregations workshop offered at various locations in Prairie Star District

B 8: The Legacy of Peter Sarpy

Darrel Draper
Second Unitarian Church, Omaha NE

This humorous, factual, audience-interactive, costumed portrayal of Nebraska pioneer/fur trader, Peter Sarpy, describes the transformation of the local area of Omaha and Bellevue into Nebraska Territory and eventually the state of Nebraska. Born a Roman Catholic in Louisiana Territory, Peter Sarpy applied Unitarian principles in dealing with the Native Americans and Mormons. The Chautauqua-style program has earned the Governor's award for contributions to the legacy of Nebraska and is the most popular program of the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Workshops C

C 1: Come into the Circle: Worshiping with Children

Michelle Richards

Central Midwest District

Rev. Phillip Lund

PSDUUA Office, Minneapolis MN

Based on Michelle Richards' new book, this workshop is about taking the worry out of planning children's worship and replacing it with wisdom and joy. From setting worship goals to choosing child friendly-hymns to finding stories that illustrate our UU principles, Come Into the Circle is for anyone who wants to create lively and inspired worship for children--and adults. Great for family worship, too!

C2: Campus Ministry in a Nutshell

Sherry Warren

PSD Office

Minneapolis MN

Curious about what it takes to run a campus ministry group? Want to know more about how to start, sustain, and incorporate a campus ministry group into your congregational life? Come meet Sherry Warren, Prairie Star District Youth and Young Adult specialist and learn what resources are available for your congregation to reach out to students in your area.

C3: Reclaiming Our Heritage: Leading in a UU Congregation

Cherie Cody

Second Omaha

Omaha NE

In the book ,The Almost Church, Michael Durall Challenges us to think in new ways about how we lead our congregations. Topics covered in this workshop will include what people are looking for in a church, how churches operate, the job of the leader and elements of leadership. This workshop is for all levels of leaders in a congregation.

C4: Breaking Through

Chloe Mason Seagrove

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

Kansas City MO

All Souls Kansas City was awarded “Breakthrough Congregation” status at the General Assembly in 2007. Breaking Through is not a one time event but a constant process of community evaluation and continuing growth. Learn how the enculturation of an atmosphere of risk taking and a “can do” attitude helps All Souls as it continues to evolve and develop as a congregation. Senior Minister Jim Eller and Director of Membership, Chloe Mason Seagrove will lead you through the steps you can take to Breakthrough as a Religious Community.

C5: Video-Editing for Beginners

Dee Smith

Unitarian Universalist Church

White Bear MN

Video cameras and editing software have added features and prices have gone down. But the editing of videotape is still challenging so this workshop is designed to help people getting started with video editing. I will be a hands-on experience of using Apple’s iMovie and Windows Movie Maker.

C6: The Foundation of UU and U.S. Democratic Principles

Carol Johnson and Jennifer Thomas

First Universalist

Minneapolis MN

The 2007 General Assembly passed a Responsive Resolution encouraging congregations to learn about issues in voting for people of color. The workshop will provide an overview of the issue of election integrity with a special focus on documented efforts to disenfranchise people of color and what we can do to stop it. We will review recent independent evaluations of voting systems that have revealed serious vulnerabilities in our most common voting systems. Learn what you can do to help at the local, state, and national level to make your voting systems more secure, so we can have confidence that the results of our elections reflect the will of the people. Progress on all other UU issues and Principles depends on our protecting this most fundamental cornerstone of our democracy.

C 7 Leading Earth Centered Rituals

Kitty Degler

Gia Community, Kansas City MO

If you wanted to lead an earth- centered ritual but are not sure how or your looking for ideas to improve the rituals you lead, members of the Gia Community's ritual teams will provide highlights from their eight-week Excellence in Ritual course required for aspiring ritualist to join Gia's ritual teams. Experiential activities will be included.

C 8: Anti-Racist, Anti-Oppressive, Multicultural Unitarian Universalism for All: Part Three