

**Workshop Title:** Web Fest

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-1

**Principle Presenter:** Ben Stallings

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** This will be an informal opportunity for the maintainers of UU Web sites to learn from each other, ask questions, show off successes, and fix problems.

**Suggested Reading:** <http://www.uuism.net/uuwiki>

**Workshop Title:** A National Agenda for the UUA? A Conversation with our UUA Trustee.

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-2

**Principle Presenter:** John Blevins, UUA Trustee

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** Trustee John Blevins will bring you up to date on current topics at the national level. The Excellence in Ministry initiative; reframing and reforming GA (Fifth Principle Project); UUA

**Suggested Reading:** *Getting Started with Policy Governance* by Caroline Oliver *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Leadership* by Dan Hotchkiss

**Workshop Title:** The Healing Power of "YES:" Communicating Effectively with Persons with Alzheimer's

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-3

**Principle Presenter:** Rev. Jade C. Angelica

**Co-Presenter:** Amy Ressler

**Abstract (Description):** This workshop weaves together information about Alzheimer's disease, quality of life for persons with Alzheimer's and their care partners, and spiritual practices as a way of finding healing and meaning in the presence of an incurable illness. Through the use of creative drama and improvisational theatre exercises, participants will learn to observe, listen and respond to persons with Alzheimer's in life-affirming ways, and to ease some of the difficulties that can arise in interactions with this population of patients. This program will be informative, inspirational and fun!

**Suggested Reading:** *Learning to Speak Alzheimer's* by Joanne Koenig Coste

**Workshop Title:** Introduction to Stonetree Congregational Resources, version 3

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-4

**Principle Presenter:** Diana Allen, Director of Stonetree Congregational Resources

**Co-Presenter:** TBA

**Abstract (Description)** Good things are always learning and growing, and so it is with Stonetree Congregational Resources. We have learned much as we've served all those congregations needing Sunday morning speakers, musicians and presenters. This year we are launching a new version of Stonetree built in an open source content management software called Drupal. This version will have an enhanced, streamlined recommendation process, allowing recommenders and their comments to be published for each presenter. Version 3 will also include a more powerful editor to make your resource description stand out. Behind the scenes, it will allow tracking connections that are made among users of Stonetree. Come and experience the wings that have sprouted from this deeply rooted resource for Prairie Star District.

**Workshop Title:** Worship Matters

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-5

**Principle Presenter:** Reverend Tom Capo

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** This presentation will include putting together a worship team (including a youth and a religious educator) and looking at the flow of the worship service to create new styles of worship. This workshop will also look at ways of bringing new media that add to the overall worship experience. We will also look what multigenerational worship really means.

**Workshop Title:** Small Congregations (TBA)

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-6

**Principle Presenter:** Lisa Presley

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** Description to Follow

**Suggested Reading:**

**Workshop Title:** Spreading Your Wings: Youth Involvement in Congregational Life

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-7

**Principle Presenter:** Maddie Hite Youth, Adult Sponsor is Laura Smidzik

**Co-Presenter:** Laura Smidzik

**Abstract (Description):** In this workshop, presenters will describe ways that youth and young adults have contributed to essential concerns of church life in areas such as worship, antiracism work and fundraising. This workshop is from the perspective of individuals involved as members and youth at Unity Unitarian. It is an opportunity to dialogue with youth and young adults who have been welcomed into traditionally “adult” areas of church life.

**Workshop Title:** Spreading Your Wings: Youth Involvement in Congregational Life

**Workshop Slot Number:** B-8

**Principle Presenter:** John McCutcheon

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):**

**Workshop Title:** Truth, Justice, and the Unitarian Way: Comic Book Superheroes and Multigenerational Worship

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-1

**Principle Presenter:** Steve Klien

**Co-Presenter:** Allen Bertsche

**Abstract (Description):** In this workshop, we will share our experience in and resources for preparing a multigenerational worship service that examines myth, heroism and the lessons we learn about ourselves and our values through the concept of heroes. But, rather than discuss the values of Emerson or the virtues of other famous Unitarians, this worship workshop will explore the powerful symbolism found in the adventures of our imagined white and dark knights of justice, those spandex-clad icons of virtue, the superhero. What might we, as Unitarian-Universalists, learn from the mythos of these fictional heroes, the community values they exemplify, and the pitfalls we, as a culture, might encounter by relying too much on those to whom we entrust our faith? So, if you are a fan of the Man of Steel, the Caped Crusader, or just a friendly, neighborhood Unitarian, join us as we explore the tri-color mythic world of comic book heroes

**Suggested Reading:** Oropeza, B.J., Ed. *The Gospel According to Superheroes: Religion and Popular Culture*.

**Workshop Title:** Perspectives on Race from Six Months to 106 Years

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-2

**Principle Presenter:** Sharon Blevins

**Co-Presenter:** Cheryll Wallace

**Abstract (Description):** In this interactive workshop we will look at research on how very young children perceive skin color, how youth and adults of all ages absorb the cultural messages around us, and how we can be advocates for racial equity in our families, our congregations and our

communities. Facilitators: Cheryll Wallace, Chair of the PSD Growing Racial and Cultural Equity (GRACE) Team and Sharon Blevins, member of the UU Allies for Racial Equity (ARE) Executive Team

**Workshop Title:** Breaking Through in Des Moines

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-3

**Principle Presenter:** Ellen Taylor

**Co-Presenter:** Sally Boeckholt

**Abstract (Description):** In 2000, First Unitarian Church of Des Moines made an intentional decision to grow out of a 30-year/250-member plateau. Eight years later, membership had grown to over 400, and the congregation was recognized by the UUA as a “Breakthrough Congregation” at General Assembly June 2009. Join representatives of the congregation to learn what happened - and how their story intersects with the story of YOUR congregation.

**Workshop Title:** Humanist Camelot in Western Wisconsin

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-4

**Principle Presenter:** Victor Urbanowicz and the PSD Heritage and Archives Committee

**Co-Presenter:** Tim Hirsch

**Abstract (Description):** The PSD Heritage and Archives Committee will present a dramatized history featuring Unitarians who lived in Menomonie, WI, in the second half of the 19th Century. Playwright Victor Urbanowicz has created scenes featuring Unitarians Bertha and Andrew Tainter, and their Minister, Henry Doty Maxson. The lives and work of these three persons were imbued with the humanistic spirit of the Western Conference and had lasting effects on the economy and culture of the region. Rev Maxson was a leader in the Western Conference of Unitarians. The program will include human voices and other multi-sensory images.

**Suggested Reading:** *Freedom Moves West: A History of the Western Unitarian Conference, 1852-1952* by Charles H. Lyttle, 2006

**Workshop Title:** What Difference Should PSD Make? For Whom?”

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-5

**Principle Presenter:** Kathy Bowman

**Co-Presenter:** Kathy Burek

**Abstract (Description):** What difference in the world do you expect the Prairie Star District to create? Whether you are attending this conference as a delegate or as a member of a district conference, the District Board exists to represent your voice and act on your behalf. To do that effectively, the Board needs to clearly understand and document your expectations into formal Ends policies under our emerging Policy Governance© model of organization. At this workshop, members of the Prairie Star District Board will share draft Ends statements and actively seek participant feedback.

**Suggested Reading:** *Getting Started with Policy Governance* by Caroline Oliver

**Workshop Title:** Creating Dynamic Lay Led Worship

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-6

**Principle Presenter:** Cindy Sadlek

**Co-Presenter:** Ellen Kelley, MBA

**Abstract (Description):** This workshop is for congregations ready for dynamic worship services led by a truly collaborative team of lay leaders. You will learn the process our congregation used to move from providing informational programs to providing diverse, high quality, complete worship services the Sundays our minister is not in the pulpit. Learn the key ingredients to the success of

our Religious Services Committee (RSC) in providing worship year round and attracting the same number of attendees as the minister's Sundays in only a few short years.

**Workshop Title:** Children and Spirituality

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-7

**Principle Presenter:** Lori Allen

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** Teaching and growing our children in spiritual ways can seem a daunting task. Lori Allen, long time children's religious educator, shares insight on the spirituality of children and appropriate and meaningful ways for adults to nurture the spirit of the child they are teaching while growing their own spirituality. Lori draws on the wisdom and teachings of Rabbi Sandy Sasso (SOF - Spirituality and Parenting) and Parker Palmer (A Hidden Wholeness).

**Suggested Reading:** *A Hidden Wholeness* by Parker Palmer *And God Remembered, In God's Name, In God's Hands, Butterflies Under Our Hats, Noah's Wife, Cain and Abel, God's Paintbrush, Adam and Eve's New Day* - all by Rabbi Sandy Sasso.

**Workshop Title:** Live from the Kitchen: Locavoring by Cooking, Canning, and Eating from your Neighborhood

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-8

**Principle Presenter:** Mark Runquist and Linda Barnes

**Co-Presenter:**

**Abstract (Description):** At home, we all tend to gravitate towards the kitchen for food and fellowship. Why not extend that to the conference? Join us as we take over a kitchen to prepare food for immediate and future consumption. Along the way we'll share joys and struggles of using local ingredients. Families and children are especially welcome, but certainly not required!

**Suggested Reading:** *Real Food for Healthy Kids: 200+ Easy, Wholesome Recipes (Hardcover)* by Tanya Steel

**Workshop Title:** The Discipline of Peace: A Seed Planting

**Workshop Slot Number:** C-9

**Principle Presenter:** Diana Allen

**Co-Presenter:** Ted Harrison

**Abstract (Description):** Peace is more than the absence of war. Living peace in the self is the first step to creating peace as a reality in our world. This workshop will present a universal approach to the discipline of peace, including an overview of the 8 sequential steps of peace grown from ancient earth wisdom (North American native perspective). These teachings were developed by RainbowHawk and WindEagle, Keepers of the Teachings of the Delicate Lodge and founders of The World Foundation for a Discipline of Peace. These teachings were launched in New Mexico in August 2009 to a gathering of all ages from nine different countries. As Oglala Elder Black Elk tells us, the most important peace is the first peace, which is in the soul of the human.