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Pam's Peace



There is so much to say as I prepare for our parting at the end of May. I have learned much and given much, cared deeply and loved boldly. I have missed cues, made mistakes, and disappointed some of you. I have been touched by your warmth and your pain, and have been amazed at your faithful good work in so many areas. I have welcomed many smiles and kind words. And most importantly, I have tilled the soil that will be ripe for your next interim minister, who will plant the seeds that will bloom and prosper to welcome your settled minister.

I share words from the late Gordon McKeeman, a stalwart in our faith tradition, so it may be reminder from time to time as you move through this important process. He says:

Ministry is a quality of relationship among human beings that beckons forth hidden possibilities; inviting people into deeper, more reverent relationship with the world and with one another. It is standing for human dignity and equity, for compassion and aspiration.

Ministry is believing in life in the presence of death, struggling for human responsibility against principalities and structures that ignore humanness and become instruments of suffering and death. It is speaking and living the highest we know and living with the knowledge that it is never as deep or as wide or as high as we wish.

Whenever there is a meeting that summons us to our better selves, wherever our lostness is found, our fragments are united, our wounds begin healing and our muscles grow strong for the task, *there is the ministry.*

—Rev. Pam

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Claudia Schmidt in Concert – Friday, May 2, 8:00 p.m.



Michigan-native Claudia Schmidt has been perfecting her craft of performing for almost four decades. It is a quirky and wonderful hodge-podge of music, poetry, story, laughter, drama, and celebrating the moment. She has recorded fourteen albums of mostly original songs, exploring folk, blues, and jazz idioms featuring her acclaimed 12-string guitar and mountain dulcimer playing.

Tickets for the concert are \$12 if requested in advance or \$15 at the door. Call (269) 375-3262 for advance tickets or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Advance tickets can be picked up at the door on the night of the show.

Find an electronic version of this newsletter at www.peopleschurch.net.

Update from the Transition Team

Many good things are moving forward in our church community at this time. In addition to the blooming of our beautiful landscape, May will bring us the fruition and celebration of our stewardship to support the church program and building, and our annual gathering to review the accomplishments of our committees, staff and Board, conduct our church business and vote for new representatives. We will select the Interim Minister to lead us in the 2nd year of our interim process, hear from our Ministerial Settlement Representative from the UUA to guide us in our search for a new settled minister, and bid farewell from our community to Reverend Pam as she concludes her work with us at the end of May.

Looking back, on March 23rd, we held the third Transition meeting, addressing the UUA question to envision our future, entitled “Who Will We Become?” Focusing on the central purpose of the church, we asked people what the mission and ministry of the current church have meant to them, and then asked how the mission and ministry may need to be strengthened in the future. The results were extremely inspiring and very useful. **The responses below and on pages 8 and 9 provide every answer offered to that first question—**comprising a beautiful testimonial about the many ways in which the mission and ministry of our church has changed our lives. The results for the second question provide a potential skeleton for some new directions, which we will report in the next issue to consider in the fall during the second year of our interim process.

In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact a member of the Transition Team. We would welcome having a time to listen to you. Finally, please let us know if you would like to join the Transition Team. We especially hope that someone who is newer to the church might like to join this work.

With thanks, *Tim Bartik, Rochelle Habeck, Mary Lewis, Don Miller and Zoë Valette*

Responses from March 23rd Transition meeting:

During your time at People’s Church, in what ways has the church supported and transformed your life?

- Allowed me to build a community, an extended family for myself;
- Feel the support, caring and compassion of people who care;
- Opportunity to challenge beliefs;
- Counsel when a parent was very ill;
- Hospital visits;
- A place where I get evaluated as a worthy person;
- Introduced me to humanism—secular and religious;
- Supported my exploration of spirituality and beliefs;
- Encouraged me to develop connections to and in support of both church and larger communities;
- Emotional home;
- Challenged to explore own beliefs;
- My kids (then), fun with tools (now);
- I learned acceptance;
- I learned a broader view of what religion is and can be;
- I explored a mystic view of the universe;
- An important emotional home for me;
- Caring, committed community—being part of that gives me strength and joy;
- A place where I can practice behaving well;
- Helped me to grow as a person;
- Been my second family;
- Choir, drumming, and singing has given my life joy and given me a sense of community and acceptance;
- Welcomed me with smiles;
- Is always there for me, just knowing that in a time of need People’s people will be there is a big part of my life;
- Provided a community when I was new to this area, for friends and activities;
- Emotional support in times of need;
- A liberal place when I worked in a conservative town;
- The memorial garden is most meaningful to me because I have my husband close by;

Responses are continued on Page 8

Sunday Services—10:45 a.m.

May 4 – Inequality and Us – Guest Speaker, Allen Webb

The first two principles of the UU Association are affirming and promoting, "The inherent dignity and worth of every person" and "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations." Allen Webb will use these as themes in talking about his connections with Guatemala (a food exporting country where half of the children are malnourished) and other very poor countries, and how these connections have influenced his view on his responsibility as a teacher and as a world citizen.

May 11 – Mother's Day – Families of Choice, Reverend Pam

We know that not every woman is a mother, but every person had a mother. And not all children are parented by a mother. Reverend Pam will share stories of non-traditional families, and the podium will be open for others to share meaningful personal experiences of two minutes or so. Please let Pam know ahead of time if you plan to share. A bonus will be the children's singing, led by Choir Director, Ann Marie Boyle.

May 18 – Congregational Convocation, Reverend Pam

Please join us for this unique service, blending our beloved rituals of inspirational words and music with the annual gathering of our congregation to conduct the business of the Church. We will celebrate the vitality of People's Church and—in keeping with our democratic, free-faith tradition—cast votes and make decisions for our dynamic future.

We combine the service and annual meeting this year so that all may participate in the celebration luncheon hosted by the Combined Campaign Committee and attend the important presentation afterwards by The Reverend Barbara Child, our Ministerial Settlement Representative, who will inform the congregation about significant matters in the search for the next settled minister of People's Church.

Although only members may vote at the annual meeting, all are encouraged to attend and enjoy the morning events, the luncheon, the presentation, *and the comeback of our organ!*

How you can help: Please bring a dressed, ready-to-eat salad of any kind. Include labeled serving ware. Also label your salad contents as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, or containing meat or egg. Thanks to Martha Beverly and River Artz-Iffland for organizing the celebration lunch.

May 25 – Memorial Day Service, Reverend Pam

It has been a custom at People's Church to engage in a ritual to remember those among us who have died in the past year. In addition, Bob Friedel will reflect on his Vietnam days and Reverend Pam will bring a homily and her farewell to People's Church. You'll especially enjoy the music.

Memorial Services for Evelyn Anderson and Philip Dietrich

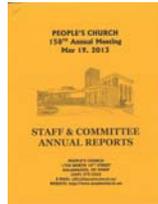


It is with heavy hearts that we announce the recent passings of Evelyn Anderson and Philip Dietrich (husband to Allene). Phillip's memorial gathering and reception will be held at the Radisson Hotel on **Saturday, April 26 from 12:30-3p.m.** The service for Evelyn will be held at People's Church on **Saturday, May 3 at 4 p.m.** Following Evelyn's Service, there will be a reception and potluck at Eastland Bowl, located at 5570 Gull Road, Kalamazoo Township. If you'd be willing to help with food for Evelyn Anderson's reception, please call Evelyn Husser and let her know. Thanks.



Committee Reports Due Sunday, May 10

Dear Committee Chairs, It's that time of year again where I'm collecting committee reports for the Annual Meeting. Reports should include names of members and chairs, the purpose of the committee, what the committee has done this year, and its future goals. Reports are due no later than **Sunday, May 10**, but the earlier they're turned in, the better. Please send to office@peopleschurch.net. Thanks so much!



—Chris Schleuder

Membership Matters



While the membership constitutional change proposed during the March 30 congregational meeting failed to pass by a slim margin, the Membership Committee greatly appreciated going through the voting process and listening to the congregational dialogue brought forth as a result of the vote. It is clear that we as a congregation need to clarify the definition of what it means to be a member of People's Church. After further dialogue, we may want consider changes to the constitution regarding membership. Look for future opportunities to join the discussion.

We continue to welcome newcomers and visitors to People's Church each week. If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a member at People's Church or about Unitarian Universalism, please join us for our next **Membership Orientation on Sunday, May 5** in Room 19 at 12:15. Bring a sack lunch. Childcare will be provided. Sign up by emailing Anna Shade (anna.shade@gmail.com) or sign up at the information desk.

One change to note: We've moved the **New Member Recognition from May 18 to June 8**. Please let Anna Shade (anna.shade@gmail.com) know if you are interested in joining on that day. We'll hold a Bond of Union signing ceremony before the service and then recognize new members during a special ceremony during the service.

In Fellowship,
Anna Shade

Women's Retreat Register By Sunday, May 4

People's Church women are "Coming to the Well," joining together to reconnect our spirits with community! Registrations continue for the People's Church Women's Retreat which takes place **Friday, May 9** (arrive between 5:30 – 6:30pm) – **Sunday, May 11** (depart between 10:30am – 12:00pm) at Circle Pines Resort in Delton, MI. A "Saturday Only" commuter option is available as well. You'll find the registration form and more information on the flyer at the information desks or on the display table in the foyer or on the website at: <http://www.peopleschurch.net/news/womens-retreat-coming-well/>.



You may visit the display in the foyer on Sunday if you have questions or contact Anna Shade (anna.shade@gmail.com), Dawn Shilts (dawn@shilts.org) or Kat VanHammen (artinkat@hotmail.com). Registrations can be turned in there on Sundays (4/27 & 5/4) or can be mailed to the church office.

Scholarship donations are needed and will be accepted in the foyer or can be mailed to the church office as well. Last year we received nearly \$250 in donations which helped make sure everyone who wanted to attend could. The registration deadline is **Sunday, May 4**. We look forward to joining in community during this time of re-connection with all People's women!

With our shared hope to connect with you,

Anna Shade, Dawn Shilts & Kat VanHammen

Social Justice Update

A couple of wonderful results to report. Our Loaves & Fishes appeal on April 20 garnered 150 lbs. of foodstuff, and our collection for the Douglass Community Center amounted to \$739. Thank you everyone for the support.

Saturday, May 11th Special Collection

Our special collection for May will go to Loaves & Fishes for their summer *Food is Fuel Kids Campaign*. According to the Michigan Center for Educational Performance study last fall approximately 72% of Kalamazoo's public school children benefit from the free or reduced price school lunches. During the summer months when these lunches are not available to most of these children, there is an increased demand for food at the food pantries and the Mobile Food Initiative. Typically summer is the slowest time for donations. To get food into the mouths of the children that need it the most, Loaves and Fishes holds this special summer campaign to help correct this supply/demand problem. Help fuel this campaign on **May 11th**.



ARAOMC News

In May, the Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression Multicultural Committee (ARAOMC) will continue showing: "Race: The Power of an Illusion" a 3-part video series which historically examines the concepts of race and racial differences and their perceived genetic and social aspects. There will be discussion following the videos. Please sign up on the sheet in the lobby.

Episode II – "The Story We Tell" shown **Friday, May 9th**, 6:30-8:30 pm, Room 19

Episode III – "The House We Live In" shown **Friday, May 30th**, 6:30-8:30 pm, Room 19

Sunday, May 4th will be the committee's next meeting, after the service in Room 11, if you'd like to join us.

Reverend Pam to Host Conversation Sessions

Rev. Pam is hosting three open-conversation sessions for anyone interested. The purpose of these sessions is to answer any questions you may have before her time as your interim minister comes to a close. The sessions will be on the following dates:

- **Monday, April 28**, 2-4pm, in Rev. Pam's Office
- **Saturday, May 10**, 10am-12pm, at Water Street Cafe on Oakland Dr.
- **Sunday, May 11**, 12:30p.m., in Rev. Pam's Office

House For Rent

Also, for anyone interested, a renovated historic home is available for rental in June. \$900 monthly. First floor. Rose Street, close to downtown. No garage. Di and Pam have enjoyed it very much and will be happy to tell any interested party about its features. The Landlady, Carol Mountjoy, grew up in the Religious Education program of People's Church. Carol has been an excellent Landlady, and the young woman upstairs is very nice. Call Carol at 269-218-0080.

Book Group—Wednesday, May 14

Does Rachel Carson have anything to say to us today, 50 years after the publishing of Silent Spring? Join us on **May 14 at 1:30** to discuss this and other interesting aspects of this ground-breaking book. Drusie Rosegrant will host us at her apartment in Friendship Village. Call her for directions. Looking ahead, we will discuss Barbara Kingsolver's Flight Behavior (from birds to butterflies) in June.

The Discussion Group Saturdays, May 3 & 17

The group's May 3 topic is "There Are No Absolutes." Bill Goodman will lead the discussion. On May 17, Lois Loeffler will guide a discussion of "UUs and Prayer."

The Discussion Group meets from 10 a.m. to noon in Room L2 on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. Light refreshments are served. All are welcome to attend and participate. For more information contact Dick Klade (r.j.klade63@gmail.com).

Change of Dates for Peace and Nature Camp

Camp was formerly scheduled for the week of June 16th, but due to the need to make up school days because of the snow, camp has been moved back one week. Peace and Nature Camp is a one-week day-camp at People's Church that runs **M-F, June 23-27, 9am-4pm** and is open to all children ages 6-12 years old.



Registration for camp has begun and it is limited to 30 campers.

The camp flyer and registration forms are available at the camp display board in the

foyer and online at peopleschurch.net. The cost of camp is \$110 per camper, if registered by May 25th. After that, the fee is \$120, and final registration is June 8th. You can drop off or mail your registration form to People's Church. Scholarships are available if registered by May 25th. Please consider making a donation to our scholarship fund. Thanks to the generous support of our church community, we have always been able to honor all scholarship requests and I hope to continue that trend. Anyone willing to help can make a check out to People's Church and note that it is for a camp scholarship in the memo line and mail it to the church office or drop it off there. If you have any questions, please contact me at 269-623-2932 or birdman@mei.net. See you at camp!

Thank You,
Jeff Kirkwood
Peace and Nature Camp Director

Car Found

Just to follow up on last month's note, a car was found for our People's person looking for one. Thanks to those who helped make it happen!!!

People's Church Social Justice Work Day

WHO: People's people of all ages are invited to join us for an RE Committee-sponsored social justice project



WHAT: Projects include outdoor clean-up after this long, harsh winter, including gathering tree branches and clearing trails, as well as some gardening work. There will also be indoor cleaning work.

WHEN: Saturday, May 3 - 10am-5pm (lunch included)

WHERE: Circle Pines Center,
8650 Mullen Rd, Delton, MI 49046

What is Circles Pines? It is a non-profit education and recreation center with a summer camp and year-round programs for families, children and adults. The center includes 294 acres of rolling hills and hardwood and pine forests as well as an organic garden and orchard. Their mission coincides with our UU principles.

Please sign up in the church foyer—be sure to include:

- the number of family members attending
- the ages of children attending
- dietary needs for lunch

You may also sign up with Stephanie Measzros by e-mail, measzros@yahoo.com.

Please join in as we gather together to offer our service to help others and put our religious principles into action!

We are Stronger Together

One thing for which I am grateful about this religious community is our perseverance. I am inspired by knowing that we have been a beacon of hope for liberal religious values in the Kalamazoo area for over 150 years. Over that time, there have been many ministerial changes, both times of ease when the community flourished and times of challenge when the community diminished. Knowing that this congregation is here for the long-haul gives me hope and sustenance.



The hope and inspiration our saving message has to offer the world about freedom, tolerance, and reason combined with compassion and love is desperately needed today. This message is more powerful when we are banded together than when delivered as individuals. Even though things may feel different during this time of transition, I hope enough People's people realize that what this community has to offer both to us as individuals and to the world is needed and valuable and that we are stronger together.

Blessed Be, Diane Melvin,
Director of Religious Education

Middle School UU Youth CON May 2-4 Indianapolis, IN

At this middle school election conference, all 6, 7 & 8th-graders are able to vote for their new Transitional Age Range Representative (TARR) who will work with the Heartland Area Youth Council in planning youth Cons for next year.

High School Bridging CON May 16-18 at People's Church

All 9-12th-graders are encouraged to attend this fun weekend conference where Seniors from around the region will be bridged out of youth groups.

Young Adult UU Group

All 18-35-year-olds are invited to participate in our young adult group on the first and third Thursdays at 8:00pm.

Enjoy fellowship with fun games, activities and meaningful discussions

For more information contact group coordinator, Fernando Ospina at faospina@gmail.com or 352-328-4964.

Thank you Religious Education Teachers!

With over 150 children and youth registered in our religious education program, if we couldn't run this outstanding program without all these fabulous RE teachers! Please take a moment to thank an RE teacher today!

2014 Preschool - H.S. RE Teachers:

Denise Valette, Teresa Klan, Rita Kling, Kimberly Payne, Eliza Measzros, Dawn Chamberlain, Sheri Notten, Gloria Baldwin-Wilson, Kimberly Gheen, Jen Lyle, Chris Measzros, Karen Friedel, Sue Cutler, Jeme Baker, Vincent Desroches, Emily Searles, Mary Kate Webster, Nicky Gates, Jeff and Jennifer Crouse, Julia Koestner, Ally Pye, Chris Semelbauer, Jeff Klan, Megan Reynolds, Joy Gardner, Beth Bullmer, Don Miller, Mark Gernsback, Jana Watson, Gwen Abney-Cunningham, Tom Cunningham, Ben Jones, Mackenzie Hatfield-Johnson, Sheila Reuther, Meghan Grabemeyer and Zoë Valette.

Thank you!

Chalice Sparx UU Family Camp
July 10-15, 2013

Camp Ronora in Watervliet, Michigan will be the location for the first year of this new UU family camp. All ages and family configurations are invited to participate in this fun week designed to bring UUs together for workshops, worship, campfires, swimming, great food and camaraderie with UU's from around the Midwest. Check it out at chalicesparx.org and on [Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/chalicesparx)

If anyone is interested in working with children or youth in exchange for registration fees please contact Diane Melvin as I have been selected to be the RE Director for the Chalice Sparx Camp this year.



Youth Group For all 9-12th-Graders May 4th and June 1st from 4-6pm

Enjoy fun games, worship, and social justice projects together!

For more information contact Wendy Dawson at wmdawson40@gmail.com.

During your time at People's Church, in what ways has the church supported and transformed your life?

- Support in raising family and facing life issues;
- RE helped us raise our children—a community where they could explore and share;
- New friendships;
- Given me a full-time religious life and integrated it all;
- Fed and grew my soul and spirit from a period of darkness into light;
- Provided a value-based substance to my family's life and relationships with each other;
- Vehicle to funnel my energy, talents, and strong convictions;
- A place where my values and practices are embraced and understood (though they may not be mainstream);
- Gave me roots, something to hold on to, keep me anchored in rough times;
- Gave me wings, doesn't confine my values, thoughts, dreams;
- Gave me community, a sense of belonging to something bigger;
- Helped me explore a variety of spiritual faiths;
- Explore the concept of death, especially now as I grow nearer to it;
- Gave me ways to be involved in the larger community, make it a better place;
- Joy of watching children grow;
- Place to be involved with children now mine are grown;
- Opportunity to be involved musically through the bell choir;
- Support through many of my life transitions—cancer, deaths, etc.;
- Support and inspiration from many others farther along the path;
- Led to a path for directly impacting social problems and needs at a level my work life did not;
- Led to a path of waking up and practicing getting past myself;
- A place to sing and share joy and fellowship with amazing people;
- Allowed me a direct way to live out my values; Invited and encouraged me to share my natural gifts and talents with everyone;
- Brought older people (70s-80s etc.) into my life and my children's life;
- Encouraged/allowed me to slow down at least once per week to think about what I'm doing and why, where I stand and why;
- Respect of nature and human existence within the natural realm;
- Enjoy being members of U/U group of people who share the same thoughts as my wife and I;
- Being on staff helped me realize how resources are important and that part of the mission of the church is stewardship;
- Participating in Feeding our Flame and building new building;
- Allows me to explore new ideas, practices, meet new people who represent diversity;
- Cultivated my patience for just being with other people, really meeting them, allowing people in;
- Given me leadership skills, and a chance to use them in teaching and mentoring our young people;
- Raised my conscience level on social issues and taught me how to use them in the community;
- Teaching RE and learning from them family relationships with youth and their families;
- Participating in Bazaar and working with others in kitchen and cooking together;
- Let me feel comfortable in my efforts to bring music when I didn't feel adequate elsewhere;
- Opportunities to meet new people has been rewarding and freeing from my shyness;
- The incredible amount of diversity in belief there is here, and that despite our differences we can all get along and create and inspire each other;
- Open, accepting, welcoming, allowing and encouraging spiritual growth;
- Weekly refocus of my actions to reflect my highest values;
- Given my family a "safe" space for growth and exploration;
- Times in the kitchen, Don's pasty baking is always a wonderful experience that I look forward to every year;
- Anti-racism education and work;
- Helping me after I lost the love of my life;
- Little things I do for the children and feeling appreciated;
- Singing in the choir;
- Helping people going through a transition;
- Visiting shut-ins;
- Chalice circles and all small group ministry;
- I am part of a community in which I am valuable and needed to help others;
- I learned as the AROMAC guest speaker a few weeks ago discovered, it wasn't until she realized the only person who she could transform was herself, despite work with "disadvantaged" populations whose lives she intended to transform;
- Forming relationships at church and on committees;
- Keeps me focused on what really matters;
- Spiritually alive;
- Socially connected;
- Provides an outlet for music as ministry;
- Helped me move past defensiveness about my core spiritual beliefs and freed me to be who I am in a public space;
- Through RE—spiritual growth for my kids and myself;
- Given me the time and space and community to share (in small groups) the challenges and triumphs in my world;
- Given me a place to contemplate who I am and who I want to be both at church and in the world;
- Teaching RE—I love working with People's kids;
- Knowing I can continue to seek;

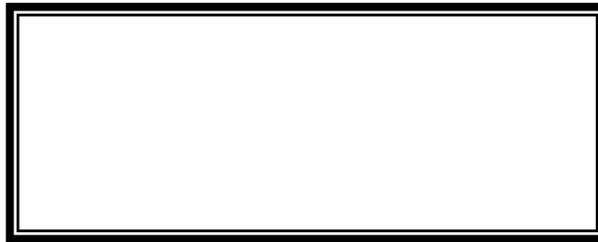
During your time at People's Church, in what ways has the church supported and transformed your life?

- Opened my awareness of the positive force and importance of the diverse values alive in this church community;
- Helping my children grow in their religious lives;
- To be accepted for different views;
- Offered a safe place for diverse/non-mainstream beliefs;
- Open invitation each Sunday to bring all of who we are to participate in our church community—gifts, talents, resources;
- Enabled me to enter community as an active participant;
- Depth of leadership and support which offers a springboard for my personal growth;
- Stable and consistent place to go for peace, acceptance, and spiritual growth during very hard personal times;
- Gain confidence and skills as a teacher;
- Realize how connected I am to others, that I'm part of something larger than myself, that we are each a part of the larger whole and can have more effect together than individually;
- Supportive foundation for my personal growth;
- Teaching in RE program forced me to think more about beliefs;
- Sunday service reminds me of need to live with more compassion, less self-centeredness;
- Open-minded, safe sanctuary for my children to explore their own values in RE;
- Space to grow as a facilitator, teacher and leader (RE, SSC, Chalice Circles);
- Opportunities to deeply listen to other people's journeys;
- Opportunities to bring meaning and beauty into the larger community (Martha's Table);
- Space to become/learn how to be a religious adult;
- Helped me grow into a more connected spiritual person;
- Emotional home;
- Humanism;
- Taught me how to be a religious adult;
- Help practice how to be decent and good;
- Challenged and encouraged me to explore my own spirituality;
- Get feedback, be evaluated as a person and personality;
- Moved into stating my own theology;
- Love and hugs (both literally and figuratively) are there when I need them;
- Friendship;
- Opportunity for growth;
- Feeling valued;
- Jill's sermons helped me claim that I am "religious" and not just "spiritual" by giving religion the meaning of "living in right relations with self, family, community, the world";
- Deepened values;
- Contact with compatible, different, questioning people, socially and to work with;
- Allowed me to know my strengths and then encouraged me to apply them in what needed to be done "within these walls";
- Teach, organize, and lead in RE, Adult Ed., traditional committees, special projects;
- Expand, change and affirm my life and world views;
- Forced to interact with others through committees (Aesthetics and Building and Grounds) caused me to become more open and less self-involved;
- Connection to a broader theology and community of similar seekers of personal truth;
- Made me more tolerant of differences;
- Meeting people who've served as examples of ones who are acting on their values;
- Gave me words for what I believe and a place for my children to hear and experience these ideas from teachers and other children;
- Reaffirmed the work I was doing for pay, as my life's work—I was living my religion;
- Helped me look for the positive, hope for the future, gave me support for my life struggles (music, women's retreats, fellowship, lunches and dinners, etc.);
- Friends and minister offered considerable support during this transition as my family has grown, which is support I did not have when my oldest was born;
- Emphasized, more than ever, the importance of family;
- My real friends are UUs; Supportive relationships with like-minded people have created opportunities to put my values into practice;
- Feel more hopeful and less powerless;
- The co-created Labyrinth and landscaping around the building, with grape trellis I enjoy eating;
- Given me opportunities to quickly become involved in committees and grow socially;
- Opportunities for group participation, honed my thinking about what's really important to me;
- Opportunity to attempt things/tasks I have not done before;
- Understanding;
- Helped me to connect with others and question what my main goal in life is;
- Inspiration from Jill;
- Community grounded in the heart recognizing the challenges of everyday life;
- My spiritual growth, being surrounded by others who care what I think;
- Discussion Group – challenged my intellect and encouraged open-mindedness through discussion of chosen topics;
- Book Group – widened my reading choices (and thinking);
- My family, feeling connected to a larger community, working with others on like goals, RE, and social justice;
- An environment that helps me act on my values in the world;
- Supported me in my beliefs and helped me to become more of the person I want to be;
- It has helped me to determine what is important in my life.

People's Church
News & Views
1758 N. 10th St.
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www.peopleschurch.net



ANNUAL MEETING—SUNDAY, MAY 18

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Sunday in May, and will be combined with the Sunday service this year. The Nominating Committee will soon be making its recommendations of nominees for the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee for the 2014-15 church year. Church members may be nominated by filling out a petition and collecting signatures from five other members. If you would like to be a nominee for the Nominating Committee or the Board of Trustees, please pick up a petition at the Information Desk in the reception area, and return it to the Nominating Committee before church on Sunday, May 11.

**Check out our Calendar of Events online at
peopleschurch.net/calendar-of-events!**