



**CEDAR VALLEY
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS**

3912 CEDAR HEIGHTS DR. CEDAR FALLS, IA 50613

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

319-266-5640

WWW.CEDARVALLEYUU.ORG



***** 2024 *****

- JUNE 2 10:00 A.M. WHAT IS A MENNONITE? – Pastor Bob Brown, Lynn Brant ***
- JUNE 9 10:00 A.M. THE GOOD ENOUGH SAMARITAN – Russ Campbell, Karen Impola ***
- JUNE 16 10:00 A.M. FATHER’S DAY – Panel: Bob Robinson, Leigh Zeitz, Erik Norquest, Nick Reans; Dick Warhol ***
- JUNE 23 10:00 A.M. MY NEPAL JOURNEY: LESSONS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING
– Juanita Williams, Kathi Bower ***
- JUNE 30 10:00 A.M. STAR TREK SUNDAY – Jess Lieb, Callie Amiday ***
- 
- JULY 7 10:00 A.M. BEING ENOUGH – Rev. Diana Smith, Karen Impola ***
- JULY 14 10:00 A.M. CHEAP GRACE – Dennis Harbaugh, Callie Amiday ***
- JULY 21 10:00 A.M. TBA – Rev. Johnny Janssen, Kathi Bower ***
- JULY 28 10:00 A.M. THINGS I LEARNED ON MY WAY TO 80 – John Miller, Dick Warhol ***

* ~ denotes *Worship Associate*



The mission of this organization is to be an accepting and supportive community that nurtures spiritual, emotional, and intellectual explorations, articulates ethical values, and encourages actions based on personal beliefs. This community is a voice for religious diversity, human tolerance, improvement of the human condition, and preservation of our environment.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Pastor Emma is currently on Sabbatical through July 31st. We will welcome her words in this space when she returns and wish her well during her remaining months away.

MEMO FROM THE PREZ

Greetings to all!

June 30th marks the end of my term as CVUU president, and I want to shout out a huge ‘THANK YOU’ to everyone for your support and encouragement over the past twelve months! Being elected president was a humbling experience, and I’ve been amazed at how many folks have expressed their thanks and appreciation during the course of the year—and honestly, those sentiments have kept me going during the more challenging times.

Beginning July 1st *Carolyn Hildebrandt* takes the reins, and I know she’ll do a wonderful job as president! It’s a big volunteer job with lots of responsibilities, so share a kind word of appreciation with her when you get a chance—I’m sure what seems like a small gesture to you will mean a lot to her.

We’re used to hearing ‘State of the Union’ and ‘State of Iowa’ pronouncements from government officials, so I figure why not leave you with a ‘State of the CVUU’ column? Okay then, here we go:

Overall, the State of the CVUU is very good—and I’m not just blowin’ smoke!

We truly have a ‘shared ministry’ culture, where leadership, responsibilities, and initiatives are shared between the minister, Board members, Council chairpersons, committees, task forces, and members. There are many ways to become involved and provide meaningful input. This type of structure creates ongoing communication challenges, and we aren’t perfect on this front, but we’re increasingly aware when we fall short—and that helps us get better!

We do ‘welcoming’ well. We’re a (mostly) accepting community. We have an effective process to welcome and follow-up with visitors, and we consciously try to acknowledge, listen to, learn from, and integrate new members.

We have a stable, consistent minister who loves us and likes us! She is conscientious, works hard, and supports us—while also challenging us to live up to our professed principles and values.

We have a significant number of active Small Groups, which nourish our members.

We’re financially stable, due to excellent work by our stewardship team, generous donations from our members, and many hours of behind-the-scenes work by our Finance Council.

We encourage each other and generally like being around each other. This may seem like a ‘given’, but visitors from other congregations always comment about how “you really seem to enjoy each other!” Indeed.

Of course, self-critique is important and there’s always room for improvement:

We can increase and strengthen our nursery and religious education volunteer involvement.

The entire congregation could gather together more often to discuss and identify important issues facing our community and nation, and how we might engage together.

It would be helpful if we could expand our financial donor base, so we’re less dependent on large donors.

To wrap things up: we made good progress this year and are in good shape. It’s been a journey, and it was one of the joys of my life to be on this ride with you. I’ll see you down the road.

Dennis Harbaugh
CVUU President through June 30th

GREETINGS FROM OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT

Hello, everyone! I’m Carolyn Hildebrandt. I’m so happy to be your new president as of July 1st!

I’ve been a member of the CVUU (formerly the UUSBHC) since 1998. Before that, I attended the First Unitarian Church of Berkeley, perched high in the hills of Kensington overlooking the San Francisco Bay. <<https://uucb.org/>>

What are your plans for this summer?

I will be traveling—first to London to teach my UNI Study Abroad course, and then to the Netherlands to join my Dutch friend Sonja in Amsterdam, Delft and Groningen. Then I’ll drive to Oregon to visit my brother and his family in Bend, and to help with the making of an Italian-American film in Eugene. The rest of the film will be made in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region of northern Italy. Unfortunately, I can only help with the U.S. part because I have to return to Iowa to teach my classes at UNI!

Whenever I travel, I try to visit a Unitarian or Unitarian Universalist church along the way. One of my favorite Unitarian churches is the Rosslyn Hill Chapel in Hampstead, North London: <<https://www.rosslynhillchapel.org.uk/>>. Over the years, I’ve gotten to know some of the people there and look forward to attending their Sunday services.

One memorable visit to the Rosslyn Hill Chapel was on Flower Communion Sunday, where adults, children, and a member’s dog participated in the ceremony. The dog was off leash (as most good dogs in London are) and sported a large red flower on his collar.

Another memorable visit was during the weekend of the Summer Solstice. I had taken my students to Stonehenge the day before; while we were there, we saw a Druid Solstice ritual complete with a formal procession, white robes, and banners. Although the ancient Druids did not build Stonehenge, it is considered a sacred space for many modern Druids and members of other pagan religions.

After the service at Rosslyn Hill, I told a group of people during coffee hour that my students and I had seen a Druid ceremony the day before. One person said that I *MUST* meet Roger and Trish, two elderly pagans who were going to a Solstice ritual on Primrose Hill later that day. I chatted with Roger and Trish for a while and decided that it would probably be safe to go with them. I felt rather sheepish doing so, since I tell my students to NEVER ACCEPT A RIDE OR A DRINK FROM A STRANGER IN LONDON! But I figured if they were Unitarians, how could they be strangers? (Spoiler alert: I lived to tell the story!)

After Roger showed me how to extract a blessing from a tree, we hopped into his car and drove to Primrose Hill. The event was a lot like our pagan rituals, but with fewer native American elements and more Celtic ones. There were lots of foods, drinks, and candles spread out on a cloth underneath a tree. And yes, I did accept a chalice of mead from my new-found friends! A dog and his owner joined us for our walk to the top of Primrose Hill. He was, of course, off leash (as most good dogs in London are).

If you haven’t visited another UU church in the U.S. or abroad, I definitely urge you to go. The most impressive churches tend to be on the East coast, but there are some beautiful ones throughout the United States and Europe. I love walking into a new church and seeing how similar (and yet how different) it is from our church. When I introduce myself as a member of the CVUU in Cedar Falls, Iowa, I’m always welcomed with warmth and enthusiasm!

Which UU churches have you visited? I would love to hear about them when I get back in July!

In the meantime, have a wonderful late spring and early summer!

Wishing you all the best,

Carolyn Hildebrandt
CVUU President beginning July 1st



JUNE~JULY SERVICES

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. online and in person unless stated otherwise.

June 2nd

What is a Mennonite?

~~ Pastor Bob Brown, Lynn Brant (WA)

Anabaptists in the 1500s rejected creeds and also allegiance to the state from 500 years ago. What does that mean today? *Pastor Brown* is formerly of the Cedar Falls Mennonite Church.

June 9th

The Good Enough Samaritan

~~ Russ Campbell, Karen Impola (WA)

Luke 10:30-37 does not say how the Samaritan acquired the money with which he helped the victim of thieves. Can we judge a person based on a single action? Can we reach a net judgment based on differing actions? Join us to hear what *Russ* has to say.

June 16th

Father's Day ~~ Panel: Bob Robinson, Leigh Zeitz, Nick Reans, Erik Norquest; Dick Warhol (WA)

Perspectives on Father's Day from members of our congregation.

June 23rd

My Nepal Journey: Lessons on Human Trafficking

~~ Juanita Williams, Kathi Bower (WA)

Juanita will share her experiences from a New Community Project Learning Tour to Nepal. She will tell stories and show pictures of adventures into vibrant Hindu and Buddhist culture, meetings with human trafficking survivors, and prevention efforts aimed at helping impoverished girls get an education. Environmental issues facing the beautiful Himalayas and impacting people in big cities as well as those in higher elevation villages will also be discussed. Come and have a vicarious trip to multifaceted Nepal!

June 30th

Star Trek Sunday ~~ Jess Lieb, Callie Amiday (WA)



July 7th

Being Enough ~~ Rev. Diana Smith, Karen Impola (WA)

Reflecting on the messages our world gives us about perfectionism, what it means to be successful or to be enough, and celebrating how we can resist that, find our center, and learn how we want to be enough. *Rev. Smith* is minister of the UU Society, Coralville.

July 14th

Cheap Grace ~~ Dennis Harbaugh, Callie Amiday (WA)

Grace is commonly viewed as the highest expression of unconditional love and is treasured even more than forgiveness. But what does 'grace' really mean? Is grace all it's cracked up to be? *Dennis* will explore this topic, and those in attendance will be able to weigh in as well.

July 21st

TBA ~~ Rev. Johnny Janssen, Kathi Bower (WA)

Rev. Janssen is minister of the Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church.

July 28th

Things I Learned on My Way to 80

~~ John Miller, Dick Warhol (WA)

A longtime member of our congregation, *John* will share some of the wisdom he has acquired over the years.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Forums for the 2023-24 year ended on Sunday, May 26th. There may occasionally be a Forum scheduled during this summer, but it will be on a TBA basis. Thanks to everyone who supports the Forums with their presence!

Al and Pam Hays for Adult RE



MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Sunday morning meditation will continue at 9:00 a.m. Use this link to join us: <<https://meet.google.com/edc-tsvx-fbj>>. Look for group posts and updates on the Buddhist Path Facebook page.



CHILDREN'S RE!!

We made bracelets and necklaces for Earth Day! Thank you to the congregants who donated the supplies; everyone loved making them (myself included!).

We will have religious education and nursery throughout the summer. Our theme for June is *Renewal!* The Soul Matters themes take a break in July and August, but we'll be using them again in September. While the weather is wonderful, we'll be prioritizing playing together. I truly believe it feeds the soul on a primal level—simply playing and existing outside—and I want to facilitate that.

There will be a Family Activity in the afternoon on Saturday, July 13th from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome. I encourage folks who don't normally spend time with our young ones to attend so we can all get to know one another better! Let's meet in the Fellowship Hall, and based on what we end up doing we'll move from there.

Overall, philosophically, I'm really trying to incentivize analog play. It helps foster communication, problem solving, creativity, and a host of other wonderful attributes that help make humans distinctive and lovely. This has a basis in science, too, and if you're interested in learning more, I would suggest listening to an episode of Hidden Brain called "Parents: Keep Out!" <<https://hiddenbrain.org/podcast/parents-keep-out/>>

What I am trying to build is a place that our beloved children *actively want to come to, into their teen years and beyond*. I truly believe that is best done by building a foundation based in joy and fun; we can discuss the finer points of various theologies as they get older. Right now, I am convinced that making CVUU a place that they associate with feeling loved and having a blast is most important.

As always, we want RE at the CVUU to be a warm, nurturing, friendly place for your children.

DCRE-ly yours, *Kate*

BOARD BRIEFS

On May 9th your CVUU Board held its regular monthly meeting. A few highlights:

- ✦ Formally appointed three new Board members, beginning July 1, 2024, to complete the terms of individuals unable to finish their term on the Board.
- ✦ Heard an update from a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Children & Youth Supervision and offered ideas and input to the Committee.
- ✦ Received and discussed a detailed analysis of the recent stewardship pledge campaign.
- ✦ Discussed a variety of topics, including plans for the CVUU to be a polling place for the June 4th primary; CVUU delegate slots for the UU General Assembly; Sabbatical Team efforts; the upcoming May 25th Peter Mayer concert; Pridefest funding; and arrangements for the Board to handle hospitality during the June 2nd Coffee Hour.

Dennis Harbaugh



Summer is upon us so it's full speed ahead into vacations, travel, and maybe some well-deserved rest and relaxation. We hope everyone has a safe and memorable June and July. We'll be back in this space in August with more CVUU news and updates!

Again this year, the Waterloo Community Playhouse is presenting *Shakespeare at the Cedar Valley Arboretum* and this year's play is *Julius Caesar* performed June 19th – 23rd. In the cast are our own *Kat Beane Hanson* and *Kelsi Hansen*! *Robin Kime*, who you may recall presented an April Forum for us on ThreeHouse and is on staff there, is also a member of the cast.

Don't miss the Cedar Falls Community Theatre production of *Rent* that runs from June 14th – 23rd. Our own *Jess Lieb* and *Nate Smith* will be lending their talents!!

We have a number of members who are dealing with various types of health issues. We wish each of them a speedy recovery to good health. To those who have experienced the loss of a relative or dear friend, we send our deepest sympathy.

Contact the *Caring Connections Team* with pastoral concerns, or if you are in need of assistance.



We are renewed by so many things: nature, each other, memory, music, play, solitude, silence, and—of course—our faith. Through small groups, calls to justice work, worship, caring for one another, covenant and accountability, our faith breathes new life into us. If you find yourself in need of a little renewal in your life, the change of the season is a great opportunity to really dig down deep and listen to the wellspring of your spirit. As the Soul Matters curriculum takes a break in July and August, join us in a summertime of Renewal.

Kat Beane Hanson, Office Administrator

SOCIAL ACTION COLLECTIONS

The Social Action Collections are an important activity for the CVUU, and we have continued to do well in supporting worthy charities.

In April our Social Action charity was for *Planned Parenthood of the North Central States* and \$432 was collected.

Our May charity was the *Northeast Iowa Food Bank*, and we'll have that total for you in the August issue. [Recently there has been a CVUU volunteer effort to help at the Food Bank on the last Saturday of the month at 1:00 p.m., so now we have two ways to assist them!]

The June charity is for *Iowa Safe Schools* and the July charity is for *House of Hope*. Thank you to all who participate in supporting the charities each month in the name of the CVUU.

The Social Action Committee



Newsletter

JULY DEADLINES

FOR THE CALENDAR AND NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter will be the August issue. The calendar deadline for this issue will be **Wednesday, July 17th** (send info to the office); the newsletter deadline will be **Friday, July 19th** (send articles to me). This information can also be found in **bold type on the calendar page of this newsletter**.

Mark your calendars now for **July 17th and 19th**—the calendar and newsletter deadlines for the August issue. There are paper copies left at the church each month—some in the acrylic wall holder in the front entry and some at the foot of the stairs in the Fellowship Hall.

Committees and Contributors: thank you so much for sending in information to cover the two months of June and July for this issue! Communication is the key to making the CVUU and its events run smoothly.

Gerry Chamberlin, Editor
newsletter@cedarvalleyuu.org



CARING CONNECTIONS TEAM

The members of our Caring Connections Team are devoted to serving this congregation month after month in various ways as the needs arise. Many thanks to each of them! The contact person for **June** is **Stacey Bartz** and for **July** is **Linda Lechty**.



UU-related historical facts in our newsletters are contributed by *Mica Lorenz* and taken from *This Day in Unitarian Universalist History* by Frank Schulman – Skinner House Books.



David Rittenhouse died at age sixty-four on June 26, 1796. A devout Universalist, he was a mathematician and prolific astronomer and is credited with making the first telescope in America. He was also treasurer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and director of the United States Mint.



CEDAR FALLS WEEKLY COMMUNITY MEAL

At the April 30th Cedar Falls Community Meal, the CVUU provided thirteen of the twenty-seven volunteers who helped set up, prepare, serve, and clean up the meal!

The meal is served free to anyone every Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church at 718 Clay Street from 4:30-6:00 p.m. When there are five Tuesdays in the month, we work along with four other smaller churches to provide the meal.

The next time volunteers will be needed is Tuesday, July 30th. There will be a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Please direct any questions to *Shirley Whiteside*.



MOWING AT THE CVUU

It's that time of year again when the grass around our building will need regular attention. "Regular" will depend on what kind of weather we have in the coming months. There is a small group of volunteers who sign up to mow each year but to lessen the load on those members, we could use more of you!

If you could spare some time to help with this task, please contact me and I will give you the "CVUU Mowing Particulars" to get you started. We appreciate any and all help that comes our way during this mowing season.

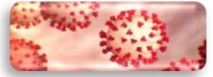


Roger Hahn
for the Building & Grounds Council



COVID-19 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

If we learn that there has been a possible COVID exposure at a CVUU event, we will send out an all-church email. To ensure that you receive these emails, verify that you are signed up on our newsletter and Weekly Update email lists.



Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 in the days after attending an event at the CVUU should contact the CVUU office at <office@cedarvalleyuu.org> and the Vice President, *Karen Impola* at <vp@cedarvalleyuu.org>.



SOME OBSERVANCES FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY INCLUDE:

June

National **Pollinator** month National **Rum Punch** month
National **Soul Food** month National **Safety** month
National **Accordion Awareness** month

July

National **Baked Beans** month
National **Deli Salad** month
National **Parks and Recreation** month
National **Wheelchair Beautification** month



Using Masonic rites, *Ohio Universalist* laid the cornerstone on July 4, 1871 for a main building for their new seminary and college. Named Buchtel after its primary donor, John Buchtel, it was located in Akron, Ohio. Buchtel was a strong advocate of women's rights and, as early as 1889, requested that a woman serve on the college's board of directors. Today the college continues as the secular University of Akron, part of the Ohio state university system.



BAYSIDE UU FAMILY CAMP

Looking for a great summer experience? Join us at Bayside UU Family Camp held at Lutherdale Camp on the shores of Lauderdale Lakes in Elkhorn, WI. This year, the camp will take place from Sunday, June 30th to Saturday, July 6th. This special week includes adult workshops, activities for children, free time for family fun and relaxation, and intergenerational activities.

The website at <<https://baysideuu.wixsite.com/baysideuu>> covers much information, and has answers to potential questions, but if you need to contact them, the email is <baysideuu@gmail.com>



The St. Lawrence Association of Universalists ordained *Olympia Brown* on June 25, 1863 making her the first woman in America ordained as a minister with full denominational authority.



YOUR LIFE IN SIX WORDS

At the May meeting of the “Age-ing to Sage-ing” Small Group, members were asked to sum up their lives in about six words. Here are their responses.

Enjoy, and maybe do the same for your life. *Pam Hays*

I loved to travel and laugh.

Tried to see humor when sad.

No more chicken or turkey.

Outdoor bookworm turned to responsible tryer.

Born, loved, journeyed kindly far and wide.

Followed a predictable path until 60.

Family Nature Dogs Kids Adventures Loved.

Mission Impossible – Amazing Daughter, Effective Advocate.

Pushing rocks up hills hopefully.

Love found everywhere along the way.



‘UNsung UU AWARD’ RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED AT CVUU ANNUAL MEETING

The 2024 CVUU Annual Meeting was held May 19th following the regular Sunday morning service. The meeting was led by President *Dennis Harbaugh*, and forty-nine members participated either in person or online. The slate of nominees for officer, Board, and Nominating Committee positions was approved unanimously, as was the Finance Council’s proposed FY 2025 budget.

The Board awarded the CVUU ‘Unsung UU Award’ to two deserving members, and both of them received raucous standing ovations when each name was unveiled! *Ken Taylor* and *Roger Hahn* each shared a few words with the those gathered, and their nameplates were added to the ‘Unsung UU Award’ plaque which hangs in the Fellowship Hall.

To reflect the ‘shared ministry’ culture of the CVUU, individuals were asked to stand if they served on the Board, a Council, helped with Hospitality, participated in a Small Group, volunteered in the nursery, made a financial donation, worked as a tech assistant or on a task force, or volunteered in any other way. It didn’t take long before every member present was on their feet, a visible demonstration of our shared commitment to helping the CVUU thrive!



GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024 “LOVE UNITES, STORIES IGNITE” Held Virtually, June 20th - June 23rd

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where attendees conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. The 63rd General Assembly will take place *virtually* Thursday, June 20th through Sunday, June 23rd.

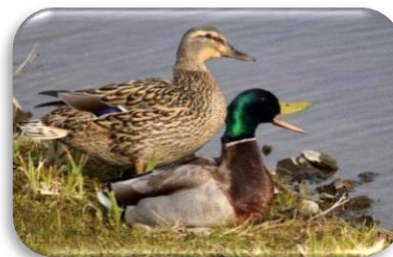
This will be an especially significant GA because a final vote on Article II changes—which embrace and outline a series of ‘values’ to guide UUs into the future—will be taken. (Note that this GA will be online only, with no in-person attendance.)



For more information, visit the UUA’s General Assembly webpage where you can also find *registration* details which are available now: <<https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>>. The *CVUU is allotted three delegates* who will be eligible to vote at the national GA and *two of those spots are still available* at the time of this writing. General registration is open to everyone, of course, but *if you’d like to be an official CVUU delegate at this summer’s General Assembly, please contact Dennis Harbaugh*.

CVUU member *Mary Kay Madsen* was a delegate at last year’s GA and here are some words of reflection from her experience. “Last year, participating in General Assembly virtually gave me the opportunity to take part in many of the activities of GA including the business meetings, voting on different amendments, moving the Article II proposal forward, workshops, and a variety of worship experiences. This year I have been following what is being proposed for the final version of Article II and I look forward to hearing and reading the debate on the amendments; I’m excited about many of the changes that are being proposed.

“In addition, last year we voted on several business motions concerning investments held in the UU Common Endowment Fund. We also had the opportunity to vote on Social Action Activities that would be taking place. The music led by Dr. Glen Rideout throughout GA was wonderful and inspiring. Attending GA reminds me of why I continue to choose to be a UU.”



Pair of Mallards
Photography by member *Elaine Hughes*



Dissenters were first admitted on June 22, 1854 to Oxford University, England. The term dissenters included Unitarians, who until then were denied degrees from Oxford.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Summer is upon us. . .the season of abundance: long-light days, garden bounty, colorful flowers, and also more PLAY (and less work, hopefully!). At the CVUU, we try to take it a little easier in the summer in order to rejuvenate and refresh for the next season.



While that is mostly true, there are still activities and events that continue steadily all year long. Ongoing activities include Sunday services, Greeting, Hospitality, Caring Connections, Outreach, and maintaining the grounds (which probably takes MORE work in the summer!).

There are also plans for enjoyable summer activities that are fun but require a little work. One of the activities that requires some volunteer elbow grease (but also is meaningful AND fun!) is PrideFest—this year held August 23rd-24th. The Membership and Marketing Committee and Social Action Council have been working on plans for this event for many months. If you have passion for this event and want to be part of the planning process, let *Austin Evens* or me know. We welcome many hands and ideas!

A new opportunity that the Membership and Marketing team has been pursuing is collaborating with UNI's ThreeHouse ministry. As you might remember from our Adult Forum on April 21st, this center aims to be a warm, welcoming place for students to process faith and value challenges that college life can bring. It also reaches out and supports international students who are navigating a new culture away from their families. In early May a small CVUU group helped with a ThreeHouse finals week breakfast. We donated food, cooked and served a nice hot breakfast to 50(+) students (and even had a chance to visit with a few!). We had a great time. There will be an opportunity to collaborate again in the fall when ThreeHouse holds a lively *Welcome Back BBQ* for students. We plan to build a more official collaborative relationship with ThreeHouse over the next few months. Let me know if you have passion for this and would like to participate.

As you can see, there's no lack of opportunity to play and work side-by-side with your CVUU friends this summer! So, enjoy the warmth and abundance of the season, and 'don't forget to smell the roses' (or zinnias or peonies or whatever your favorite summer flower is). See you around for all the summer pleasures!

Juanita Williams
for the Congregational Life Council Team

Meet Our New Members~ David Rutland and Laurie MacNider

David and Laurie are two of our newer members at the CVUU. David comes from the Pacific Northwest region (Washington State and Alaska) and Laurie lived in Dubuque before moving to Ohio where they met in 2006. Having been good friends for seventeen years, they decided to get married at the CVUU on February 4th of this year! David has been a spiritual explorer all his life and is familiar with Christianity, Buddhism, Paganism, Atheism, and other more esoteric beliefs. Laurie went to church as a child but was unsatisfied with the answers (or lack of them) that were provided to her questions. Now both of them are investigating Pantheism as a connection to nature and the universe. They are grateful to have a place like CVUU to support their spiritual growth and development, and to meet and make new friends.



"In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different." ~~*John Steinbeck*



RALLY HELD TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

A dozen CVUU members showed up to support immigrant rights at a rally May 1st in Waterloo, organized by the Queen of Peace church in Waterloo. The rally was in response to the Iowa legislature's new law scheduled to take effect July 1st—modeled on a Texas law currently blocked in court—that allows states to deport or jail people based on their immigration status.

Here is what Mark Stringer, ACLU of Iowa Executive Director says about SF 2340:

"The Iowa law enforcement and state judges tasked with authority to carry out this outrageous legislation are not trained in immigration law and have no proper authority to enforce it. This legislation encourages and facilitates racial profiling and stereotyping. It undermines—not promotes—public safety and the rule of law. It will consume already strapped state court and law enforcement resources. If enacted, this law will wreak havoc in Iowa families and communities and threaten Iowans who are citizens and noncitizens alike."



CVUU EMAIL ADDRESSES

This is just a reminder to be sure you are using CVUU email addresses for our pastor and staff. Due to longstanding problems we previously had with our emails, we've used a lot of different email addresses over the past couple of years, and we sure do apologize for the confusion! However, we're confident that those issues are sorted out now, and in order to foster healthy work-life boundaries for the folks who work for the CVUU and to follow employment law for our part-time staff, it's important to use only CVUU email addresses to communicate via email with *Pastor Emma* and the staff.

You can find those email addresses on our website <<https://cedarvalleyuu.org/about-us/our-congregation/staff/>>, on each week's Order of Service, and at the bottom of every Weekly Update email. They are also listed here:
Pastor Emma: <pastor@cedarvalleyuu.org>
Kate Flynn, DCRE: <dcre@cedarvalleyuu.org>
Kat Beane Hanson, Office Administrator: <office@cedarvalleyuu.org>
Jess Lieb, Music Director: <music@cedarvalleyuu.org>.

Thank you in advance for helping to make the CVUU a great place to work for our pastor and staff.

[Editor's Note: Pastor Emma is on sabbatical through July 31st so until August, please follow the protocol listed in the sabbatical article near the end of this newsletter.]

“In June, as many as a dozen species may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them.”

~~ Aldo Leopold



Le Christopher's Southern Cuisine is offered the second Sunday of most months at 12:00 p.m. at the Jubilee United Methodist Church, 1621 East 4th Street, Waterloo. In June the second Sunday is the 9th, and in July it is the 14th. The Rev. Abraham Funchess has graciously and personally welcomed us to join them and is appreciative of our support.

Adult plates are \$20 cash donation (\$15 cash donation for children twelve and under). Check out the church website at: <<http://jubileumc.com/>>.



Support for the CVUU's Little Food Pantry and Little Lending Library is ongoing throughout the year. Our neighbors, and the children this summer, can use nourishment for minds and bodies no matter if the weather is chilly, rainy, or sunny! The CVUU LFP is one of the Social Action charities we support once a year. If you have questions regarding this ongoing activity, contact me.

Thanks for helping us to help others. Priscilla Nieman for the CVUU's LFP and LLL



Nathaniel Hawthorne was born on July 4, 1804 in Salem, Massachusetts. He was an enormously influential early American writer. Hawthorne's Puritan heritage haunted much of his work, but part of his dour outlook might be traced to his mother's almost complete self-seclusion after she was widowed in 1808. Hawthorne married Sophia Peabody, sister of Elizabeth, and belonged to Transcendentalist circles. Hawthorne adored his family, but they were very poor. He worked at a variety of government jobs and served as American consul at Liverpool, England. He lived variously at Brook Farm, the Old Manse, and the Wayside in Concord, Massachusetts.



Canadian Geese (goslings)
Photography by member Elaine Hughes

ADMIN UPDATE

As I write this, I am wrapping up my portion of preparations for the annual meeting, which marks the beginning of “summer mode” for me as the CVUU's office administrator. In the summer months, I have fewer regular/urgent responsibilities and can do more project work, which I enjoy very much. Most of my work-product is invisible—it is not generally noticed unless it is incorrect or missing. However, if you keep a sharp eye out, you may notice some of the fruits of my labor pop up this summer. Stay cool, CVUUs! 😊

Kat Beane Hanson,
Office Administrator



IUUWAN NEWS

IUUWAN (Iowa Unitarian Universalist Witness Advocacy Network, <www.iuuwan.com>) is promoting a great opportunity from the UU Climate Justice Coalition <www.uuclimatejustice.org> for a “Climate Justice Revival” on September 28th and 29th.

Congregations are already registering nationally for this opportunity to come together to collectively envision a future for the world we want to create together. The Revival builds on decades of faithful and visionary UU climate and environmental leadership and is designed to encourage collaboration amongst congregational teams and break down silos. Together, we can move past systems and cultures of extraction to usher in a new era with love and justice at the center of our climate actions. While CVUU has not committed as of this writing, the Social Action Committee is supportive of it and promoting it to the Worship Committee. Participating congregations will receive everything they need to host a revival in their communities, including discussion guides and materials for all ages, training, worship resources, and advocacy actions designed to transform our communities through climate justice. Stay tuned!

Shirley Whiteside



Unitarian naturalist *Charles Darwin* presented his paper "The Origin of Species" to the Linnaean Society of London on July 1, 1858.



CRONING CEREMONY

Everyone is invited to *Floralyn Groff's* Croning Ceremony, to be held Friday, June 7th at 4:00 p.m. at the CVUU. All sexes, genders, and ages are welcome to attend.

****Note:** we need to begin right at 4:00 p.m. so please come early which will allow time for accommodating chairs as needed!

What is a Crone? It is not an old hag, as pictured in old folktales. Two thousand years ago, very old women were particularly important members of communities. They were leaders, counselors, and healers. They were the fulfillment of female experience and wisdom. As women aged, they used their experiences and memories to benefit the community, and Crones were revered and appreciated.

In recent years, some women have been reclaiming the name and status of Crone and commemorating this valuable stage of female development. Who decides who is a Crone? The woman herself. Usually, they have gone through the Maiden and Mother stages and have completed menopause, but a woman can declare herself a crone at any age.

What is a Croning Ceremony? It is simply a gathering of people who wish to commemorate the occasion of a woman claiming her Crone status. It can include readings, music, and sharing.

Floralyn has chosen her 77th birthday to have her ceremony (she was born on **June 7, 1947**), which will include a **seven**-circuit labyrinth experience for those who wish to walk it. Any woman who wishes to claim her Crone status is welcome to do so during the June 7th Croning Ceremony. *Marilyn Delange* will be claiming Crone status at this ritual. Contact Floralyn by text or e-mail if you wish to do so.

Plan to join the CVUU First Friday Potluck at 5:30 p.m., or just come for celebratory cake.



Comedian and filmmaker *Mel Brooks* was born Melvin Kaminsky on June 28, 1926 in Brooklyn, New York. He's known for off-the-wall comedies such as *Blazing Saddles* (1974) and *Young Frankenstein* (1974). When he was fourteen years old, he played the drums in a band that performed in summer lodges of the Catskill Mountains. One night a comedian called in sick, and the young Mel Brooks volunteered to fill in for him. The audience liked him so much that he gave up the drums and became a full-time comedian, working for \$25 a week. He came out with his first movie, *The Producers*, in 1968. He will be ninety-eight years old this year.



All of us, including the little mice, enjoy it when *Peter Mayer* comes to town for a concert and service! He certainly had our mice family swishing our tails and twitching our whiskers to the beat of several songs! What a talented, kind, and fun fellow he is who certainly puts on a very personable show. It's been a while since he performed here so we were delighted not to miss him.



The Church Mouse



STUFF ETC. FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Help the CVUU raise funds by taking your gently used, unwanted items to Stuff Etc., 1210 Flammang Drive, Waterloo, and donate them to the CVUU account. Our account number is 22564. NOTE: Items need to be taken directly to Stuff Etc. Do not bring your items to the church.

The income generated will go to the Generosity Fund which is used by the minister to provide financial assistance to people who need support from time to time.

Items can be donated from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday with a one tote limit. (A tote is about the size of a large laundry basket that you fill when you get there.) Unsellable items will be recycled. If you have more than one tote to donate, call ahead (319-233-8009). Furniture can be taken to their furniture store next to their main building, anytime during store hours. They accept clothing that is less than two years old, furniture, household goods, books, seasonal items, and more.

See their website for items they are and are not taking: <<https://www.shopstuffetc.com/consignment/stuff-we-need/>>.

Please remember, nothing should come to the church. Also, the CVUU will not keep track of what has been donated and items donated will not be reflected on the annual tax statement of CVUU donations that members receive. For questions, contact *Jill Miller*.



On June 1, 1803 *William Ellery Channing* was ordained as a Unitarian minister at the Federal Street Church and Society in Boston, the only church he ever served. He was twenty-three. The church was built in 1744 as Church of the Presbyterian Strangers. Later it became the Society of the Congregation in Federal Street and is now the Arlington Street Church.

FIRST FRIDAY DINNER: JUNE 7th

The next CVUU First Friday dinner is scheduled for Friday, June 7th, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will again be a family-friendly beloved community potluck dinner; see below for details. We hope everyone will join us and bring their family and friends. Everyone is welcome!

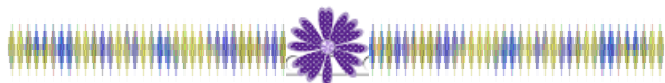
What is “First Friday”? Here’s how this will work in June.

- **The meal:** Since this is a potluck dinner, we ask everyone to bring some food to share if you can, even if it’s just a loaf of bread, a bag of chips, or something else that’s quick and easy. Since this is a **beloved community** dinner, we hope you’ll come even if you can’t bring anything to share.
- **The drink:** Water is available, or feel free to bring your own preferred beverage.
- **The fun & games:** After eating, people are invited to play games or socialize, hopefully with someone you haven’t had a chance to connect with yet. If you want to play games, please bring your favorite game (for children and/or adults). If the weather is warm enough to play outside, feel free to bring yard games.
 - **Bonus activity:** On June 7th, a labyrinth will be set up in the Sanctuary for a Croning Ceremony from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (see elsewhere in this newsletter for details about the ceremony). The labyrinth will also be available to walk during the Friday dinner and social time. If you have questions about the labyrinth or ceremony, or if you’d like to help set up the labyrinth or put it away after we’re done, please contact *Floralyn Groff*.
- **The cleanup:** To make cleanup easier going forward, we would like to ask people to bring their own dishes if possible (and take them home to clean up there). For those who don’t bring their own dishes, paper plates will be provided. We will still need help with cleanup, but we hope it will be minimal work: handwashing serving spoons, wiping off tables, putting tables and chairs back in place for Sunday, and vacuuming.
- **The schedule:** We hope to continue first Fridays in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. as long as we find help each time. Here’s the tentative schedule for the next few months:
 - Friday, June 7th—Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a labyrinth walk on your own (indoor and/or games (indoor/outdoor)).
 - Friday, July 5th—No First Friday Dinner this month (we suspect many people will be traveling).
 - Friday, August 2nd—Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m., Drum Circle at 6:30 p.m. (or indoor/outdoor games).
- **Help needed and how to help:** These dinners will continue as long as people are willing to help, so if you would like to help set up or clean up, please contact *Heather Flory*.



We look forward to seeing everyone at the CVUU for these fun-filled social opportunities!

This article was written by Heather Flory on behalf of the Engagement Committee: Heather Flory and Juanita Williams (co-chairs), Rita Waggoner, Mollie Wallsteadt, Rosa Torres, and Michael Jamosky.



GREEN LIVING CORNER

*Homegrown National Park:
21st Century Victory Garden Project*

Just as everyone in the US was encouraged during World War II to plant vegetables for food for their family and neighbors, to strengthen the home front, everyone can participate in the Homegrown National Park effort!

What’s the big idea?

“Our National Parks, no matter how grand in scale, are too small and separated from one another to preserve species to the levels needed. Thus, the concept for Homegrown National Park, a bottom-up call-to-action to restore habitat where we live and work, and to a lesser extent where we farm and graze, extending national parks to our yards and communities.”



~Dr. Douglas Tallamy,
professor of entomology
and author of
Bringing Nature Home,
Nature’s Best Hope, and *The Nature of Oaks*

Whether you have or are planning a few native plants in a pot, on the patio or balcony, in the corner of the yard, or much more, please Register Your Patch for Pollinators with the Homegrown National Park map of the country’s gardens for pollinators. Go to the website where you can find out more: <www.homegrownnationalpark.org>. As Dr. Tallamy says, “You are Nature’s Best Hope.”

If ‘video + listening’ are more your thing, check this out-- “Incremental efforts, incredible effects: Inside the Homegrown National Park movement.” KAXE
<<https://www.kaxe.org/show/91-7-kaxe-90-5-kbxe-morning-show/2023-10-10/homegrown-national-parks>>

Donna Davis for Green Living



Books by Dr. Douglas Tallamy

Henry Ford was born July 30, 1863 on a farm near Dearborn, Michigan. In 1903 he started the Ford Motor Co., which became enormously successful. Ford is the father of the Model T which sold for \$850 at first, which would be about \$16,500 today. The prices eventually dipped lower than \$280, which is about \$3,000 today. By 1925 he was producing almost two million a year and everybody had to have one. He died at the age of eight-three in 1947.



**SUMMER AT THE CVUU:
TIME OFF OR TIME TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?**

The Shared Ministry Council would like to thank everyone who helps keep the CVUU running throughout the year, especially those doing the heavy lifting. For example, the Finance Council, Religious Services worship team, Board, and all those in leadership positions at the CVUU put in extraordinary efforts of time and energy throughout the year. We encourage everyone who has been working hard this year (maybe a little too hard?) to schedule and take a break from church work this summer.

We also encourage anyone who is new to the CVUU, or anyone who is ready for a change (especially if you haven't already been working too hard this year), to step up and try something new this summer that might be fun and interesting to get out of your usual routine. For example, if you normally complete tasks at a desk or in meetings, you might want to try socializing with visitors as one of our greeters, providing treats during coffee hour, mowing the lawn, or caring for our garden as a relaxing way to take time off from your usual paid or church work.

- If you'd be willing to help with lawn mowing or other building and grounds tasks, please contact *Roger Hahn* or *Bill Brown*.
- If you'd like to help with our pollinator garden, contact *Sally Browne* or *Donna Davis*.
- If you'd like to help as a greeter on Sunday mornings, contact *Kathi Bower* or *Juanita Williams*.
- If you'd like to provide treats and coffee as part of hospitality on Sunday mornings, contact *Nick Reans*.
- If you'd like to play with the kids and youth on Sunday mornings (aka help with the Religious Education program), contact *Kate Flynn*.
- If you'd like to help with Sunday services, contact *Karen Impola*.

Tip: For a link to more information about volunteer opportunities/how you can help, see the "Links and Forms" section towards the end of each Weekly Update! Those who are reading this newsletter electronically can also [click here](#).

Throughout the summer, if you'd like to connect with other CVUUs as part of your own vacation, see the CVUU directory (online at the CVUU website: <www.cedarvalleyuu.org>, in the upper right corner by clicking on "Member Directory") and reach out to those with whom you'd like to spend social time.

We hope you'll all have a fun, relaxing, and meaningful summer as we work and play together at the CVUU.

This article is brought to you by the Shared Ministry Council, whose role at the CVUU includes working together to support and promote the growth and well-being of the CVUU congregation in all aspects of its community life. The Shared Ministry Council consists of Heather Flory (chair), Floralyn Groff (Board liaison), Debra Kyler, Nancie Groszkruger, (and Pastor Emma Peterson when she's not on Sabbatical Leave).



CEDAR VALLEY PRIDEFEST 2024

**Save the Dates: August 23rd and 24th
Where: Downtown Waterloo, Iowa**

Save the Date! Cedar Valley Pridefest will take place Friday and Saturday, August 23rd and 24th in downtown Waterloo. CVUU is excited to host a booth once again on Saturday, the 24th beginning at 12:00 p.m.!

We are looking for volunteers to staff the booth for a few hours at a time (paint rainbows on people, talk to people about how great the UU is, etc.). We are also looking for volunteers to provide baked goods/cookies, including some gluten free cookie options.



Here is the link to the sign-up sheet to help at the booth or to provide cookies that will be served: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/11ljznuUK2_PRaARtAXTqbLM5hTn79-5QEhtRN43GMbU/edit?usp=sharing>. Here is the link to the Cedar Valley Pridefest webpage: <<http://www.cedarvalleypride.com>>.

Please contact *Lizzy O'Loughlin* or *Austin Evens* with questions or for more information.



Through parades, parties, protests, and educational events, **Pride Month** (globally celebrated in June) underscores the rich diversity within the LGBTQ+ community, acknowledges the significant achievements made in the pursuit of equality, and highlights the ongoing struggles faced globally. It serves as an essential platform to increase visibility, encourage conversation, and further progress towards true equity and acceptance.



We were watching and cheering as the Unsung UU Awards were presented to *Ken* and *Roger* at your Annual Meeting. I can't tell you how often we've seen the two of them at the building taking their respective volunteer jobs seriously, so that everything is in working order. It was well-deserved recognition, for sure!



The Church Mouse



Frank Lloyd Wright was born on June 8, 1867 in Richland Center, Wisconsin. He began his practice of architecture in Oak Park, Illinois, and developed a devoted following. He lectured and wrote extensively, published an autobiography in 1932, and mentored many students. Wright is considered by many to be America's foremost architect, championing what is known as the Prairie Style. He built 532 homes and other buildings, including Unity Temple in Oak Park, Illinois; the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin; the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo; and the Guggenheim Museum in New York City. He believed that people should not have to be rich to live in beautiful homes, and he tried to design artistic, affordable housing that complemented its natural surroundings. Wright was an active member of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wisconsin.



The *first normal school* for training professional teachers opened on July 3, 1839 in Lexington, Massachusetts. It began with three women students and reflected principles of education developed by Unitarian Horace Mann.



Online shopping is easy at the UU Book and Gift Shop called *inSpirit*. Browse for items such as adult and children's books for your spring reading, clothing including *Side with Love* T-shirts, ball caps, and sweatshirts (also mugs, decals, totes, rally signs and bumper stickers with that logo), jewelry, and so much more at: <https://www.uuabookstore.org/>



The famous Unitarian philosopher and political economist *Jeremy Bentham* died at age eighty-four on June 6, 1832. Bentham had instructed that his body was to be embalmed, dressed, and placed in a chair. It now resides in a glass cabinet in a corridor of the main building of University College in England. At meetings of the governing body, he is recorded as "present but not voting".



MOVIE DISCUSSION SMALL GROUP

The Movie Discussion Small Group will be taking a break over the summer. Watch the newsletters and Weekly Updates for information on when they will start up again in the fall.

If this Small Group sounds interesting to you and you'd like to be added to the email list, or you have questions, contact *Nancie Groszkruger*.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PASTOR EMMA'S SABBATICAL

The first month of *Pastor Emma's* sabbatical is 'in the books', as they say, and things continue to hum along at the CVUU. The Sabbatical Team is meeting each month during the sabbatical, making sure that immediate needs of the congregation are being met.

The following 'rules of the road' and contact information will be in effect until Pastor Emma returns on August 1st:

- Congregation members are not to contact Pastor Emma directly during the sabbatical.
- If you or a CVUU member needs pastoral care or a visitation, contact the Caring Connection Team contact person, which rotates each month and is publicized each week in the CVUU Weekly Update and the monthly newsletter.
- If you have ideas, questions, or concerns about anything related to Sunday services, contact *Karen Impola* (Co-Chairperson of the Religious Services Council).
- If you have questions or concerns about anything related to the CVUU building, contact either *Roger Hahn* or *Bill Brown* (Building & Grounds Council).
- In case of a personal conflict or the need for conflict resolution within the CVUU, contact *Heather Flory* (Chairperson of the Shared Ministry Council).
- Inquiries about funerals or weddings should be directed to either *Heather Flory* or President *Dennis Harbaugh* (June) or President *Carolyn Hildebrandt* (July).
- If a pressing need arises which doesn't fall into one of the categories above, or in case of emergency (member death, fire, etc.), contact President *Dennis Harbaugh* (June) or President *Carolyn Hildebrandt* (July). If the president is not available, contact Vice-President *Karen Impola*.



During this sabbatical time, we encourage Council and committee chairpersons to be especially aware of how their decisions may impact others—excellent communication between Councils and committees is critical! If in doubt, reach out, make contact, and inform others. Our established communication processes (Weekly Email Updates, newsletters, calendar info), as well as Board, Council, committee, and task force meetings, are continuing during the sabbatical.

Pastor Emma will reenter CVUU life and resume regular ministerial duties beginning August 1st. However, due to an early August, out-of-town wedding of two CVUU members which she'll be officiating, and in an attempt to spread her Sundays in the pulpit more evenly throughout the year, her first Sunday preaching at the CVUU will be August 18th. A big 'Welcome Back Party' is planned for Pastor Emma on September 8th, which will also be our annual 'Kick-off Sunday' for the new year. **SAVE THE DATE: September 8th!**

If you have any questions or concerns during the final two months of Pastor Emma's sabbatical, don't hesitate to contact a Sabbatical Team member. **The Religious Services Council has lined up some exciting guest preachers during the sabbatical, along with very interesting layperson sermons as well—we encourage everyone to attend our Sunday services this summer!**

Thus far we're having an excellent sabbatical experience...let's continue to make the most of it!

Your Sabbatical Team, *Dennis Harbaugh*, *Carolyn Hildebrandt*, *Heather Flory* (Shared Ministry), *Karen Impola* (Religious Services), *Mike Knapp* (Personnel/Finance), *Betsy Brant* (Caring Connection Team)

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY

Social Action Collection for 2024-25

Follow the link to the ballot and select eight charities you would like to see receive a social action collection in 2024-25. The Social Action Committee hopes that all CVUUs take the time to vote this year to help us make that decision. Here is the link: <<http://bit.ly/CVUU-SA24>>.

Why vote on only eight when there are twelve months in a year? In three of those months, the collection will be taken for a charity designated by the committee: The CVUU Little Food Pantry, Cedar Falls Community Meals, and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The fourth month is CVUU Stewardship Month (February) when we suspend the social action collection.

Voting will close at the end of the day Sunday, June 30th. Thank you!

The Social Action Committee



Social Action Collection Ballot 2024-2025—Vote for 8

Black Hawk-Grundy Mental Health Center—UnityPoint Health. Services touch 72,000 individuals/families locally, including the low-income and underserved. Cash donations go to a fund for essential basic support in the way of clothing, bus fare to therapy, food, and housing. <www.unitypoint.org/waterloo/black-hawk-grundy-mental-health-center.aspx>

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley. After-school and summer programming for youth, such as life skills, art, music, Scouts, basketball, and computer science, at centers around the area. Participants get more physical activity and are more likely to graduate from high school. <<https://www.cedarvalleyclubs.org>>

Cedar Bend Humane Society. Shelter and medical care for homeless or neglected animals, as well as adoption services, pet therapy to nursing facilities, and programs educating on humane care and responsible pet ownership. <<https://www.cedarbendhumane.org>>

Cedar Valley Angels. Support (clothes and toys for kids, meals, transportation, etc.) for foster care families to increase the stability of caregivers and decrease the number of children moving from home to home. <www.cedarvalleyangels.org>

Cedar Valley Victim Resource Coalition. Various agencies—e.g. Dept of Corrections, CF Police, Riverview, House of Hope—collaborate to find resources for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault when there is a gap in services and no single agency can fill the need. <<https://www.facebook.com/vrccedarvalley/>>

House of Hope. Individualized support, including trauma-informed care, and transitional housing for single-mother families and women who age out of foster care. <<https://houseofhopeccd.org>>

Iowa Abortion Access Fund. Discreet and private financial assistance, in the form of interest-free loans, to Iowa residents needing abortions but unable to pay. <www.iaafund.org>

Iowa Safe Schools. The largest group supporting LGBTQ and Allied youth in the Midwest. Their best-known program, the Iowa GSA Network, assists student-run clubs in schools to support victims of harassment, build safe spaces, and create positive change. <www.iowasafeschools.org>

The Iowa UU Witness and Advocacy Network (IUUWAN). Creating collaborations among Iowa's UUs to amplify social justice work; advocating for policies of equity, fairness, and inclusion in Iowa. <<https://iuuwan.com>>

Northeast Iowa Food Bank (NEIFB). Governor Reynolds' decision to decline federal funding for the summer EBT program is likely to increase food insecurity in Iowa even more. NEIFB provides nutritious food and grocery products to 170 nonprofit organizations, both urban and rural. Last year they distributed 7.3 million meals within a 16-county service area. <www.neifb.org>

Planned Parenthood of the North Central States. Providing sexual and reproductive health care in our state; a visible advocate for policies that promote women's health and access to affordable contraception. <www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-north-central-states>

1619 Freedom School. A five-days-a-week, after-school program dedicated to delivering intensive literacy instruction and a culturally responsive curriculum to bridge the academic opportunity gap among low-income public school students in Waterloo. <<https://www.1619freedomsschool.org>>



**When the power of love overcomes the love of power,
the world will know peace. ~Jimi Hendrix**

