

IN THE BUUF, The Newsletter of the
BUFFALO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2018



Compassion, Humanism, Idealism

*Our regular meetings are held at the Buffalo Community Center from September through May and begin at 7 p.m.
Please enter through the rear door.*



NEXT MEETINGS

- Wednesday, October 24 A discussion of our UU Principles led by David Boyer (see end of newsletter)
- Wednesday, November 14 Some Impressions from the UU General Assembly in Kansas City last June led by Marie Smith
- Wednesday, December 12 UU Spiritual Sources (see end of newsletter)



WHAT YOU MISSED IN SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER (so far)

At our first meeting of the new season on **September 12**, Duncan Fowler convened the meeting by outlining our present status:

Currently the BUUF has no President. Polly O'Brien is VP, Marie Smith is Secretary, and Dunc Fowler is Treasurer. Our current bank balances are: \$5,504.52 in checking and \$1,694.55 in savings. We are IRS 401(c)(3) tax exempt, Minnesota non-profit corporation (tax exempt), and recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Covenanting Community.

The question before the group was whether to disband, become inactive, change our structure, or something else. We have an obligation to the BUUFalo Gals. If we change our structure, we will need to change our Bylaws. If we do continue to operate, we need to have named officers as required by our status as a Minnesota Non-profit Corporation.

Dunc noted he had spoken with Phil Lund (UUA Midwest Region). Phil said what we have to have to remain the BUUF is three or four people who meet from time to time and to update our Bylaws.

Dunc had sent a letter to all the people on our email list (currently about 64, not all of whom are members) and had received replies from several. He distributed three pages with some of their comments. Some of them indicated they would not want to continue being in the BUUF, but some were positive and offered help.

The rest of the meeting was back-and-forth discussion about how we could continue. This is outlined in the minutes of that meeting which were distributed by email to everyone.

The following motion was made by David and seconded by Polly:

These people are nominated as officers of the BUUF: David Boyer, President; Polly O'Brien, Vice President; Duncan Fowler, Administrator/Treasurer; Marie Smith, Secretary.

Further, on Wednesday, October 10, at 7:30 p.m., the BUUF will vote for these officers and will vote to change our Bylaws as in the attached "Proposed Bylaws Amendments" sheet.

Further, BUUF members who cannot attend the meeting may vote electronically before Wednesday, October 10, at noon.

At our **September 26** meeting, we heard from Carolyn Grieve and Dick Puckett about how the small, lay-led UU congregation in Grand Rapids operated. It was interesting to hear how each member contributed at least one program and hosted at least one Sunday meeting. They set aside time for music, a reading, and meditation as well as a program and fellowship.

Our **October 10** meeting was very productive. We decided to participate in the final Baby Animal Fair on Sunday, May 5 at the Buffalo Civic Center. Marie will be coordinating volunteers to staff the Ecology Booth – handing out stickers to children (and even some adults) who can answer questions about ecology.

Maria passed along information about how to contact Betty Waldhauer. She is living at The Colony at Eden Prairie, 431 Prairie Center Drive, Room 315, Eden Prairie, MN 55344. The main telephone number is (952) 828-9500.

We discussed the proposed Bylaws changes and passed Numbers 3, 6 and 8. Number 11 did not pass. The revised Bylaws will be sent to our email list.

We elected officers for the remainder of our program year (through May 2019): David Boyer, President; Louise Markve, Vice President; Duncan Fowler, Administrator/Treasurer. Marie Smith had been elected Secretary last May.

David and Rosalie will be away during the winter months. The best way to reach him during that time is by email: DLBoyer@StCloudState.edu. The other elected officers can be reached at their email addresses, too: Louise Markve, loumar937@gmail.com, Duncan Fowler, DuncFowler@gmail.com, Marie Smith, buffalouufellowship@gmail.com.



BUUFalo GALS

The women of the BUUF meet the third Thursday of each month for lunch and conversation. Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 15 at 11:30 a.m., at a place to be determined. Louise Markve will contact us to confirm.



COME LITTLE LEAVES

By George Cooper

“Come, little leaves,” said the wind one day,
“Come over the meadows with me, and play;
Put on your dresses of red and gold;
Summer is gone, and the days grow cold.”

Soon as the leaves heard the wind’s loud call,
Down they came fluttering, one and all;
Over the brown fields they danced and flew,
Singing the soft little songs they knew.

“Cricket, good-by, we’ve been friends so long;

Little brook, sing us your farewell song –
Say you're sorry to see us go;
Ah! You are sorry, right well we know.”

“Dear little lambs, in your fleecy fold,
Mother will keep you from harm and cold;
Fondly we've watched you in vale and glade;
Say, will you dream of our loving shade?”

Dancing and whirling the little leaves went;
Winter had called them and they were content –
Soon fast asleep in their earthly beds,
The snow laid a soft mantle over their heads.



Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven **Principles**, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these Principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from [sources](#) as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

As Rev. Barbara Wells ten Hove explains, “The Principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a guide for those of us who choose to join and participate in Unitarian Universalist religious communities.”

1. [1st Principle](#): The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. [2nd Principle](#): Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. [3rd Principle](#): Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. [4th Principle](#): A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. [5th Principle](#): The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. [6th Principle](#): The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. [7th Principle](#): Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The seven [Principles](#) and six [Sources](#) of the Unitarian Universalist Association grew out of the grassroots of our communities, were affirmed democratically, and are part of who we are.

These are the **six sources** our congregations affirm and promote:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Rev. Kathleen Rolenz said, “Throughout history, we have moved to the rhythms of mystery and wonder, prophecy, wisdom, teachings from ancient and modern sources, and nature herself.”

