



# The Pathfinder



A Publication of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb

Volume 60, Issue 5

158 N. Fourth St.

DeKalb, IL 60115

Oct-Nov 2019

## OUR MISSION

*Together as a religious community, we put our liberal faith in action, striving to nurture our families and our spiritual lives, protect the earth, eliminate poverty, and stop oppression, while offering love and hope for all.*

*(UUFDeKalb mission statement adopted May 17, 2009)*

### DEADLINE

The deadline for the December/January edition of the Pathfinder is **November 17**. Please note that this is the third Sunday of the month. Submissions are to be sent to the church office via email: [office@uufdekalb.org](mailto:office@uufdekalb.org) or hard copy left in the Office Manager's mailbox in the library.

## Sunday Services: Service 10:00 A.M. till 11:15 A.M.

### October Theme: Democracy

Our fifth principle commits us to the use of the democratic process in our congregations and society. This is one of the ideals of America, and yet it is under attack. Democracy is messy, but essential. The last 3 years have taught us that democracy is fragile. It requires the right to vote, free speech and assembly, a free press, and, among other things, bipartisanship.

#### Oct 6 – *What Democracy REALLY Looks Like*

Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Worship Leader  
Ed Miguel, Assistant

#### Oct 13 – *Can Votes and Voices Speak our Values?*

Rev. Allen, Worship Leader  
Dorothy Coleman, Assistant

#### Oct 20 – *Democracy and You*

Diane Johns, Worship Leader  
Dorothy Coleman, Assistant

#### Oct 27 –

Kriss Olsen, Worship Leader  
Vanstrom Dracul, Assistant

### November Theme: Mission & Vision

Mission asks, “Why do we exist?” “What is our purpose?” “Whom do we serve?” Vision asks, “What is the picture of the future that we want to create?” “What do we want to become?” Mission is a congregation’s North Star. Vision describes the distant horizon envisioned. Both are essential. Some say that the mission of our congregations is to transform people who will transform the world.

#### Nov 3 –

Ed Miguel, Worship Leader  
Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Assistant

#### Nov 10 –

Rev. Allen, Worship Leader  
Ed Miguel, Assistant

#### Nov 17 –

Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Assistant

#### Nov 24 –

Dorothy Coleman, Worship Leader  
Vanstrom Dracul, Assistant

### CONTACTS:

MINISTER: Rev. Allen Harden ([awhinchicago@gmail.com](mailto:awhinchicago@gmail.com) or 773-288-2394)

OFFICE MANAGER: Kathryn Jones

PRESIDENT: Jenny Stamatakos

TREASURER: Ashley Ford

Office Manager Office Hours: Wed 10 - 3 and Fri 10 - 3

Church Office phone number: 815-756-7089

email: [office@uufdekalb.org](mailto:office@uufdekalb.org)

Web site: [uufdekalb.org](http://uufdekalb.org)

*In case of an emergency, call Board Past President Laura Gillberg, or President Jenny Stamatakos.*

# Minister's Message

Hey UUFD,

I can't wait to see you! I am your (still absentee) quarter time Minister, and have been since mid-August. Except for one brief appearance, I have been out of sight due to a very untimely injury and knee surgery. The good news is that I am healing well, the bad news is that it will still be 6-8 weeks before I can drive. Once I get my mobility issues solved, I will have a more regular and predictable schedule in DeKalb.

And I will work with you to continue to sustain and enrich the church community that you have built over the years, and together, we will continue to work through who we are, what we are about, how we go about life as a religious community, how we feed one another's deepest needs, and how we continue to be a force for change and justice in our community. These are big issues – we cannot do them all well and we cannot do them all at once. But we can aspire to do so, and we can make decisions about what is most important to us now, and what we think will be important five years from now.

I finally will get to show up this past weekend, Sept 20-21. I met with the Worship Associates on Saturday, and I led worship on Sunday. The theme this past month was 'Covenant', and that was a wonderful place for me to start. "Why Are We A People of Covenant?" What does this mean? How do we covenant, and with whom? What can you expect of me, and me from you? How do we promise to be with one another? Why is this religious?

I am excited to get started. Because I am part-time and I am starting with some limitations, it is more important than ever that I hear your interests and concerns by phone or email. Please feel free to contact me at [awhinchicago@gmail.com](mailto:awhinchicago@gmail.com) or 773-288-2394 for anything that is on your mind.

Rev. Allen Harden



## UUFD Staff News

### Rev. Allen's schedule

- Rev. Allen is scheduled to be in DeKalb on October 13 and November 10. Watch for additional scheduled days as Rev. Allen continues to recover from knee surgery.
- Please contact him at [awhinchicago@gmail.com](mailto:awhinchicago@gmail.com) or 773-288-2394 with anything that's on your mind.

### Office schedule

- Office manager Kathryn Jones's hours are Wed 10 - 3 and Fri 10 - 3. ***Please note the change to Wednesday hours!***



## Mark Your Calendar For These UUFD Events



### October 2019

- October 2 – Yoga with Ed Miguel 5:30 and 7 p.m. (Wednesdays)
- October 4 – Restorative Meditation 5:30 p.m. (Fridays)
- October 6 – Buddhist Study Group and Meditation 11:45 a.m. (1st and 3rd Sundays)
- October 12 – SPOOKATHON! 2—4 p.m.
- October 13 – Social Justice Committee meeting 11:45 a.m. (2nd Sundays)
- October 13 – Ordinary Folk Musical Gathering 2 p.m. (2nd and 4th Sundays)
- October 15 – Hope Haven Meal 6:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesdays)
- October 27 – Green Sanctuary Group 11:30 am (4th Sundays)

### November 2019

- November 9 – UUFD Gala and Chili Cook Off—Watch the eNews for more information!
- November 10 – CONGREGATIONAL MEETING following a short worship service.
- November 19 – Hope Haven Meal 6:30 pm
- November 24 – Green Sanctuary Group 11:30 a.m.
- November 30 – UUFD Welcome Essentials Panty 9:30—11:30 a.m.

- October and November board meetings: We're working with Rev. Allen to set dates that work for all. See the weekly eNews or reach out to a board member for schedule updates. As always, please feel free to reach out to Board President Jenny Stamatakos or another board member if you'd like to put a proposal on the board agenda.

### Save the date for the November Congregational Meeting! Sunday, November 10 after a short worship service

Agenda items will include:

- Minister's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Religious Education Update
- Update from Ministry Teams
  - If your committee would like to present an update, please let a board member know! We're especially looking forward to hearing from the Worship and Arts Committee and the Green Sanctuary Group (part of the Social Justice Ministry Committee).
- Introduction of the Nominating Committee Slate and Vote on the Nominating Committee
  - This is the group that will be charged with researching and nominating potential board members to vote on at the May 2020 congregational meeting.
  - If you're a signed member, you'll be asked to vote.
- New Business

New to UUFD? You are welcome to come and find out how we govern our congregation! You do have to be a signed member to vote, but all are welcome to attend.

Have an agenda item you think we should discuss? Please reach out to a member of the board of trustees: Jenny and Tom Stamatakos, Laura Gillberg, Ashley Ford, Beth Schewe, Donna Veeneman, and Sumiko Key

### The worship theme for October is Democracy; for November the theme is Mission & Vision.

The worship leaders will use these themes to guide their services throughout the month. We encourage you to take a look at the Touchstones Journal on our website at [uufdekalb.org/touchstones](http://uufdekalb.org/touchstones) (or pick up a copy at the table by the magazine rack) and hope it will lead to deeper discussions!

# JOYS & SORROWS



With hearts full of love and gratitude, we said goodbye to two long-time members of UUFD this fall: Cele Meyer and Estelle Von Zellen.

These two wonderful women, aged 96 and 95, both passed away on August 13. It was a blessing to be able to celebrate their lives at memorial services held at UUFD. We are grateful for all they've contributed to our community.



From UUFD Office Manager Kathryn Jones: On Sept. 21, two people who are very near and dear to my heart, Heather and Jackie Shered, held their wedding ceremony at UUFD! It was a beautiful and touching ceremony and we would like to thank UUFD for making it all possible.



*Do you have a joy, sorrow, or milestone to share with the congregation?  
Contact the church office and we will share it in the eNews and Pathfinder.*

## Are you looking for another way to support UUFD?

If you're on Facebook, you now have the opportunity to use our **new Facebook donate button**, which you'll see on the main UUFD Facebook page.

Here are a couple of things the board would like you to know about donating through Facebook:

- You have the option to create your own online fundraiser to celebrate your birthday or other special event!
  - Just click on the Facebook donate button, and choose the fundraiser option.
- If you donate through Facebook, please let Kathryn Jones, our office manager, know. We don't get a notification until the donations reach a certain total amount, and we don't want to be remiss about thanking you!
- Because we're a registered non-profit, your donation will be given entirely to UUFD, with no fees taken by Facebook.
- However, it can take several months for Facebook to process the payment, so if you have any time-sensitive donations, a check sent to the church office is your best bet.
- Have questions? Please don't hesitate to reach out to Beth Schewe, UUFD Board Secretary. She's happy to help.

### Hope Haven News

Kudos to Danica Lovings and Cathy Schneider, our new co-coordinators of the Hope Haven meal. Let's all support them by volunteering to help! The meal is always on the third Tuesday of the month, so mark your calendars and sign up!

Kudos as well to a number of people who helped with the meals in August and September: Beth Schewe, Mary Von Zellen, Ed and Chris Miguel, Bonnie Anderson, Sharon Blake, Sheryl Nak, Virginia Wilcox, Kim Myers, Maylan Dunn-Kenney, Gretchen and Charles Sigwart, Cathy Schneider, and Kathy Clark.

## Remembering ESTELLE VON ZELLEN



Estelle von Zellen, 95, passed away August 13, 2019 in the Kishwaukee Hospital Emergency Room in DeKalb, Illinois.

Estelle was born August 12, 1924 in Virginia, Minnesota to Ruth Bullard and Frank J. Rosemeier. She received her B.A. from Carleton College in Northfield Minnesota 1946, majoring in Sociology. She married the late Bruce von Zellen in Virginia, Minnesota on December 19, 1949.

She taught kindergarten in Michigan and Kentucky, and was on the staff of the Women's College Library at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Her one daughter, Mary was born in 1958.

She earned a Masters Degree in Library Science at Northern Illinois University in 1967 and was employed in the children's department for several years at the NIU Laboratory School. She was employed as a Children's Librarian in Rochelle at the Flagg Township Library. She established Rose-Zell Children's Books business which mainly served school book fairs, workshops and influences in surrounding areas. She was a charter member of the Children's Literature Conference at NIU.

She and her husband enjoyed many trips to woods and water in Minnesota and Wisconsin and cross country skiing in the winter. She enjoyed book clubs, Thursday Arts, Columbia Book Club and the University Women's Club. She was a silver duplicate bridge master, played mah jongg and participated in Lifelong Learning classes. She was a founding member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in DeKalb in 1960 and became a member of the Prairie Buddhist Sangha in 1989.

She is survived by her daughter, Mary of DeKalb; a sister, Ruth G. Saranen and niece Kathy Rice of Virginia and Tower Minnesota; included are numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins, Susan Kreiger of Madison, Wisconsin, John and Linda von Zellen of Romeo, Michigan, and Mike and Marlene Schuele of Liberty, Missouri; also surviving are Sandy D. Johnson of Bumsville, Minnesota, John 'Jack' Jeffery of Ely, Minnesota, Ann M. Tarango of Cypress, California and Paul and Carol G. S. Ciolino of Nashville, Tennessee.

Special Thank You to Oak Crest Retirement Center.

A Celebration of Life was held on Wednesday, August 21, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb, 158 North 4th Street in DeKalb.



## Book Talk

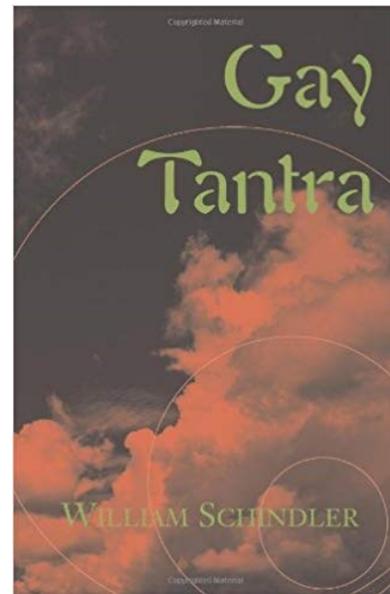
Beau Anderson, Librarian and Archivist

Book Talk has been on a hiatus due to lack of things to say. However, several things happened during this interim worthy of mention. First, I would like to thank Arthur Shimkus for his purchase of two books that were sent to the library in the form of a gift. The books are Rob Bell's *Love Wins: a book about heaven, and the fate of every person who ever lived*. Bell says, "I've written this book because the kind of faith Jesus invites us into doesn't skirt the big questions about topics like God and Jesus and hell and salvation and judgment and heaven and hell, but takes us deep into the heart of them." The other is William Schindler's *Gay Tantra*, a book that reveals how traditional Hindu Tantra may be adapted to serve the unique spiritual aptitudes and needs of gay-identified persons of any gender. The book demonstrates how a fully integrated gay identity can be a positive aid in the quest for enlightenment. Thank you Arthur for these gifts which fit well into the library collection. *Love Wins* is in the Inspirational section and *Gay Tantra* is in the LGBTQ section.

Next, I would like to highlight a donation of thirty eight books on Buddhism. These were donated by Estelle Von Zellan prior to her recent passing. I plan to add these to the Buddhist collection in the library, but first will have to shift things around in order to find space for these and then prepare each book with their cards.

Finally, I would like to thank the person who donated seven books having to do with Hinduism, for example, *Talks with Sri Ramana Maharshi*, *The Mystic Christ—the light of non-duality and the path of love according to the life and teachings of Jesus*, and *Changing Lenses—essential teaching stories from Ram Dass*.

It will take me some time to get these books on the shelves ready for circulation. In the meantime, if you would like preview a certain title or peruse the titles in general, see me.



## Congregational Care News!

We want to take this opportunity to thank all the UUFD folks who help make coffee hour and greeting a warm, welcoming experience every single Sunday!!

Greeters for the last few months have been Carey B, Virginia W, Sumiko K, Dorothy C, Ed M, Beau A, Kim Myers, Elisa Woodruff and Chari Haines.

Coffee hour hosts were Kriss and Ed W, Kathy and Lon, Congregational Care for Rev Jenn's last day, Mary Von Z, Beth S and Vanstrom D, Dave and Teri D, Bonnie and Beau, Jenn and Tom, Sharon Blake, and Donna V. And, of course, special kudos to Beau, coffee king of UUFD!

It is quite an undertaking to fill the volunteer list every month. We need YOU to help us fill out our list, through February. PLEASE call us, text us, talk to us at church, or check the table in the Fellowship Hall to sign up. I'm going to be around hounding people (gently) on Sunday mornings so we can get this done and know that everyone's needs will be taken care of every Sunday.....as we say in the offertory words, "We are now the keepers of the dream"....and a quick paraphrase...."We are also keepers of the coffee pot!"

So, sign up soon!

Thanks, from Congregational Care. Until next time, be well, but if you are not, be sure to let us know! Sharon Blake (815-757-2444) and Florence Gerlach, your congregational care committee!!!

## Remembering CELE MEYER



Cecile Paul Meyer, 96, died in her sleep on August 13, 2019 at the Oak Crest Retirement Center in DeKalb, IL. Cele lived a full and active life as a passionate advocate for social justice, environmental protection, civil rights, peace, and nuclear nonproliferation. Her family and friends spanned the globe, and she particularly cherished her friendships in DeKalb, IL, her home since 1967.

Cele was born Cecilia Dawson Paul on December 6, 1922 in Jacksonville, Florida to Roberta Lachlison Clark and James Carruthers Paul. She grew up in Jacksonville, Fort Pierce, and Fort Lauderdale, FL. She graduated as valedictorian from Fort Lauderdale High School in 1940.

Inspired to defeat Hitler, she served in the Fleet Marine Force Pacific during World War II, stationed in Washington, DC and Hawaii. She then benefited from the GI Bill to attend Mercer University, where she founded the Independent Coeds Association and graduated summa cum laude in 1947. With more support from the GI Bill, she earned her Masters in Social Work at Columbia University in 1950.

Cele met her husband Axel Meyer in New York City in 1949, and they married in 1950. Cele first worked in Atlanta, Georgia, as a social worker in a family service agency, where she promptly ensured that racist compensation policies at the agency were eliminated. She and Al then moved to Chicago, where she worked as a social worker in a community service society. Cele and her family next moved to Gainesville, Florida, where she joined the Human Relations Society, which was an early civil rights organization, and she protested segregated seating on busses by sitting in the back of the bus with her young daughters. Cele and her family then moved to Oak Ridge, TN. Cele founded the Oak Ridge Federation for Equal Public Services, and working together with the Congress of Racial Equality, they organized a successful city-wide desegregation of laundromats, restaurants and schools, often directly facing off against the Ku Klux Klan. In 1967, Cele and her family moved for the last time to DeKalb.

Cele worked in the DeKalb public schools as a social worker for 20 years. She was known for working tirelessly to support and advocate for students. Along with her husband, Al, Cele was a founder of the DeKalb Interfaith Network for Peace and Justice. Her experiences in the Marine Corps, seeing wounded soldiers and writing letters to families of deceased servicemen changed her perspective from defeating evil with war to advocating for global peace. She and Al, a physicist, advocated for nuclear non-proliferation, and together they were an impressive and loving team. She was a frequent writer of letters to the editor to local newspapers, often writing about injustices, be they local, national or international. For fifteen years after 9/11, she protested US wars in Afghanistan and Iraq every Friday evening at the Interfaith Network vigil. She was arrested in peaceful protests several times in her life. She was also an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of DeKalb.

No cause was geographically beyond her care. It's not a surprise that she felt compelled to help the people of Nicaragua after the US-backed Contra war against the democratically elected Nicaraguan government. She visited Nicaragua and identified several non-profit groups helping the most disadvantaged. She founded the Central American Fund for Human Development, and for the next 30 years, worked tirelessly to raise funds for their programs. No matter how much she did for others, she never thought that she was doing enough.

She is survived and is greatly missed by her sister, Sarah Kise, her children Carla, Linda and Fred, grandchildren, Nick Ryan, Madeline, and Sarah Meyer, and great-grandchildren, Axel Ryan and Juniper Rodgers as well as their families, nieces, nephews and step grand and great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents, her sister, Mary Ann Gillespie and her beloved husband of 58 years, Axel Meyer.

## Spookathan 2019 is FREE – so please invite your friends!

**Saturday, Oct. 12, 2—4 p.m. at UUFD**

Join us for some Halloween fun and friendship!

In our fifth year, we're changing things up a bit!

- We'll have a guided live action role play (LARP) in the sanctuary. You and two or three of your friends become adventurers, solve puzzles, defeat monsters played by UUFD kids, and hopefully achieve victory!
- Little ones can visit warm and friendly Pumpkinland in the nursery for reading and playtime or do some Halloween coloring.
- We'll have soup and chili for sale as well as a fantastic little bake sale. Help us raise funds for our children's programs!
- Meet and mingle, show off your costume and admire others.
- Costume contest at 2:30, so be sure to arrive early!
- Get daring with our kid-friendly Creepy Challenges!
- So much to see and do! Join us!
- Did we mention **entry is FREE?!**