



## MINISTER'S REMARKS

The news from North Dakota begins to sound like a story from the Old Testament — disenfranchised people stand before a modern Pharaoh and demand that he let the land and water go. Huge building projects are very difficult to stop. Pharaoh said “No,” too, at first, and he had to experience ten plagues before he was convinced. I cannot even imagine what it would take to convince a corporation to consider human life or land in its pursuit of profit. Corporations are organized to protect their investors from the consequences of their actions, and the rulers of ancient Egypt were, after all, human beings, with something to lose. I cannot imagine the plagues that will beset us all if corporations cannot be persuaded to develop wind, water and sun energy.

Thousands of people are gathered in camping sites on the plains of the Dakotas, not to beg to leave, but to stay — to protect land and water. David Archambault, Chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux, gives their reasons: I’ve been told and taught that it is our responsibility to stand for our relatives, the ones that crawl, the ones that fly, the ones that burrow, the ones that swim, the ones that flower. These relatives cannot speak for themselves. Who will speak for them? We have to speak for those who are not here — our ancestors, for those children who are not yet born. Our ancestors left sacred sites for us. We have to speak for them. Children not yet born will not live without water. We have to speak for them.

No one knows the outcome at this time, but sympathy and agreement is growing, worldwide. Yet, the people and corporations with money to gain usually have their way. Frederik Douglass said that power never concedes anything without a demand. So, the Standing Rock people and more and more others in cities, states, and countries far away from the Missouri River are “Standing with Standing Rock” — demanding. The Rev. Peter Morales, president of the UUA, issued this statement: The construction of the massive Dakota Access pipeline, stretching from North Dakota to Illinois, is a textbook case of marginalizing minority communities in the drive to increase fossil fuel supplies. As people of faith and conscience, committed to protecting the interdependent web of all life and supporting indigenous rights, Unitarian Universalists cannot remain silent as land held sacred by our Native American siblings is threatened. We join other faith groups and native tribes to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe as they oppose the construction of this dangerous pipeline. I am proud to see that Unitarian Universalists in the region are already joining the protests. But I know that more is urgently needed. I urge you to join the effort to bear public witness to the injustice in North Dakota and add your voice to oppose the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The ancient protesters in Egypt had an advantage; the power they opposed had a human heart. Not so in America. These protesters/protectors face a heartless, nearly spiritualized and immortal entity. We bear witness to a momentous struggle between conflicting values. Time will reveal the rest of the narrative, and the story will be told. I pray it is one to rival Exodus, one to challenge and inspire all people to stand on their land and insist that human life and the needs of human life — land, water, clean energy — be foremost in all decisions about what can and what cannot be dug from the ground and transported over or under it.

## BOARD NEWS

The Church has started its new era with a half time minister. We welcome Armida Alexander. She will be in the pulpit twice a month and always available for ministerial needs. The child care area has been greatly improved thanks to Mark Haman. There are still items in the R.E area that need to be removed or thrown away. Volunteers are needed to help weed the east and west ends of the church and for the highway clean. A date and time will be announced soon so please consider helping out. Thanks to every one that hosted a showing of Ken Burns documentary " Sharps War ". The Harvest Potluck will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>. A committee needs to be established to organize the dinner and distribute pledge cards for 2017. There are several goals that the board has established, but to attain these goals we are encouraging all members to get involved with the talents that they have and take some time to help us achieve them. **1.** Become an official welcoming Church. **2.** Enlist tech savvy members to help with our technology needs. **3.** Continue involvement with the 6-church Northern Illinois Group that was started last year. **4.** Create a new Church directory. **5.** Update the membership book.

### USHERS NEEDED!

Thanks to Laura Brierre for ushering during the month of September and to Parry Stevens for signing up for October! We need ushers for November, December and into the new year. Please consider signing up for a month - it's easy and the reward is great!

### NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The Board is working on updating our church directory. Please be sure to verify your information and make any necessary changes on the old directory which is displayed in the Patterson Room. If you are unable to get to church and have some changes in your contact information (name, address, phone, email), please send the information to Sheila Haman, care of the church or email Sheila at [haman@att.net](mailto:haman@att.net).

## CARE COMMITTEE

The board of Trustees is concerned that the care committee needs to be revitalized. If you are on the committee or want to be on the committee please let Mark or Ted know so we can get organized. The first step is to have a chairperson who will work with Armida and schedule visits with our growing number of shut ins. In the meantime if you want or need a visit from a Church member please contact Mark Haman [haman@att.net](mailto:haman@att.net) 815-777-0493 Ted Davenport 815-238-8781 [tkdavenport@hotmail.com](mailto:tkdavenport@hotmail.com)

## CHURCH NEWS


**Ladies – Mark your calendars now! Ladies' Retreat**  
**Friday afternoon November 18 to Saturday afternoon November 19**  
**Sinsinawa Mounds Retreat Center What a perfect time for some “Me Time” before the**  
**Holiday Hullabaloo Session leader – Our own Armida Sign up at church or call/email Linda**  
**Weeder 815-777-0875 or [dlweeder@gmail.com](mailto:dlweeder@gmail.com)**



Many thanks to everyone who continues to support the Freeport Area Church Cooperative with donations of personal items and toilet paper. Though our donations have been increasingly generous the FACC always runs out of these all-important items quickly as there is great need in our community. Please continue to give generously and know how much our contributions are appreciated!


*Please join us  
for a celebration of*

*Jean Chapin Logemann's  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*



*Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Open House 2:00 - 4:00 pm  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Stockton  
219 N Pearl Street, Stockton, Illinois*

*Cards may be sent to  
2003 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt 112, Monroe, WI 53566  
Hosted by her family*



### **90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Jean Logemann**

On Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Jean Logemann held at the Church in the Patterson room hosted by Jean's family. Please omit gifts but cards would be greatly appreciated. The time for church members will be around noon and the public will be invited at 2:00 pm. Please stop in at your convenience and wish Jean a happy birthday. Jean is a lifelong member of Stockton UU. Let's make this a memorable celebration!

## UU FUNDRAISING!



### Great Beginnings & Chocolate Finales

Saturday, October 22, 2016

5-7 p.m. (new, earlier time)

Adults \$10      Children (6 to 11) \$5

### Appetizers~Sandwiches~Desserts

All served Buffet Style "Come for Supper"

Silent Auction Too!

Stockton UU Church, 219 N. Pearl, Stockton

Contact Leslie Hawley about volunteering and contributing food: 815-947-3389

Contact Nancy Schuldt about donating to the silent auction: 815-281-0034

## Council Hill Station Fundraiser

### Successful & Fun

Over \$2100 was raised on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Council Hill Station Service Partner Fundraiser. The mix of Council Hill Station's setting, great music, silent auction and GENEROUS FOLKS is hard to beat.

Thank you to all who contributed time, hard work, money & or items to this cause. Our 12 Service Partners will certainly appreciate getting additional support from our church.





## What Does It Mean To Be A Community of Healing?

*Cure may occur without healing; healing may occur without cure.*

*Cure alters what is; healing offers what might be.*

*Cure is an act; healing is a process.*

*Cure seeks to change reality; healing embraces reality.*

*Cure takes charge; healing takes time.*

*Cure avoids grief; healing assumes grief.*

*Cure speaks; healing listens.*

*~ Fred Recklau, "Partners in Care"*

Well this one certainly seems easy to answer: it takes work. To be a community of healing requires dedication and a willingness to dig in - to fix what's been broken, to listen away each others' pain, to battle the bad guys and gals, to ask forgiveness when we are not the good guys and gals we so want to be.

But, the truth is: healing always *begins* with perception and sight. When we see others as they are and ourselves as we are - with pain and joy, injury and health. When we see our "enemies" as human, when we name the power of our addiction, when we ask for help.

There is a magic in all this looking, seeing and being seen. Healing is not entirely up to us. We open the door to healing. And seeing healing as a partner - rather than solely as a product of our will and work - we are able to be more gentle with ourselves. In the end, maybe that is the most important thing to remember this month: besides always beginning with a wider view, healing also means making room for rest. Too often being a community of healing gets reduced to a matter of work, vigilance and never letting up. So we need these reminders that healing is a partner, not simply a product of our work.

- Scott Tayler and Matthew Johnson

## Spiritual Exercise

**A: Admit Exhaustion:** Too often pain, and the need to heal, is equated only with sudden loss or change. But often it's about the slow creeping of us never allowing ourselves to rest and replenish. So this month, finally do it: **Admit to yourself that you are exhausted! And do something about it!** Carry John O'Donohue's poem, A Blessing For One Who Is Exhausted (<http://www.dailygood.org/story/734/a-blessing-for-one-who-is-exhausted-john-o-donohue/>) with you throughout this month. Read it regularly. Meditate on it when ever you can. Come ready to share what brings you out of exhaustion.

**B: Healing Place** Share your healing place with your group. This of course will serve as a way of re-connecting you to this space and reflecting on why it means so much. Take a picture of your place and bring it into your group, or bring in an object from your healing place.

# Session plan

## **Chalice Lighting**

**5min**

When there's a fresh wound in your heart, keep it open until it heals. Air it out. Understand it. Dive into it. Be fierce enough to become it. If you ignore it, it won't be able to breathe. If you ignore it, it will merely deepen, spread and resurface later, wanting to release. And when later happens, it will hurt even more, because when later happens, you won't know what you're bleeding for. Remain with it until it clears, and watch the beauty pour into your openness. Remain open to feel lightness. Remain open to feel free. ~ **Victoria Erickson**

## **General Check-In**

**10min**

Question: *What was a moment you felt healed in the last week?*

**What Shall the Covenant of this Group Be?** If you haven't already, have a discussion, and take notes, about the promises you make to each other. Listening? Timeliness? Confidentiality? Honesty? What do you expect of each other? **10min**

**Exercise** - Each person share their responses. After sharing, discussion. **30min**

**Conversation** - a question that "grabs" you, and answer.

**40min**

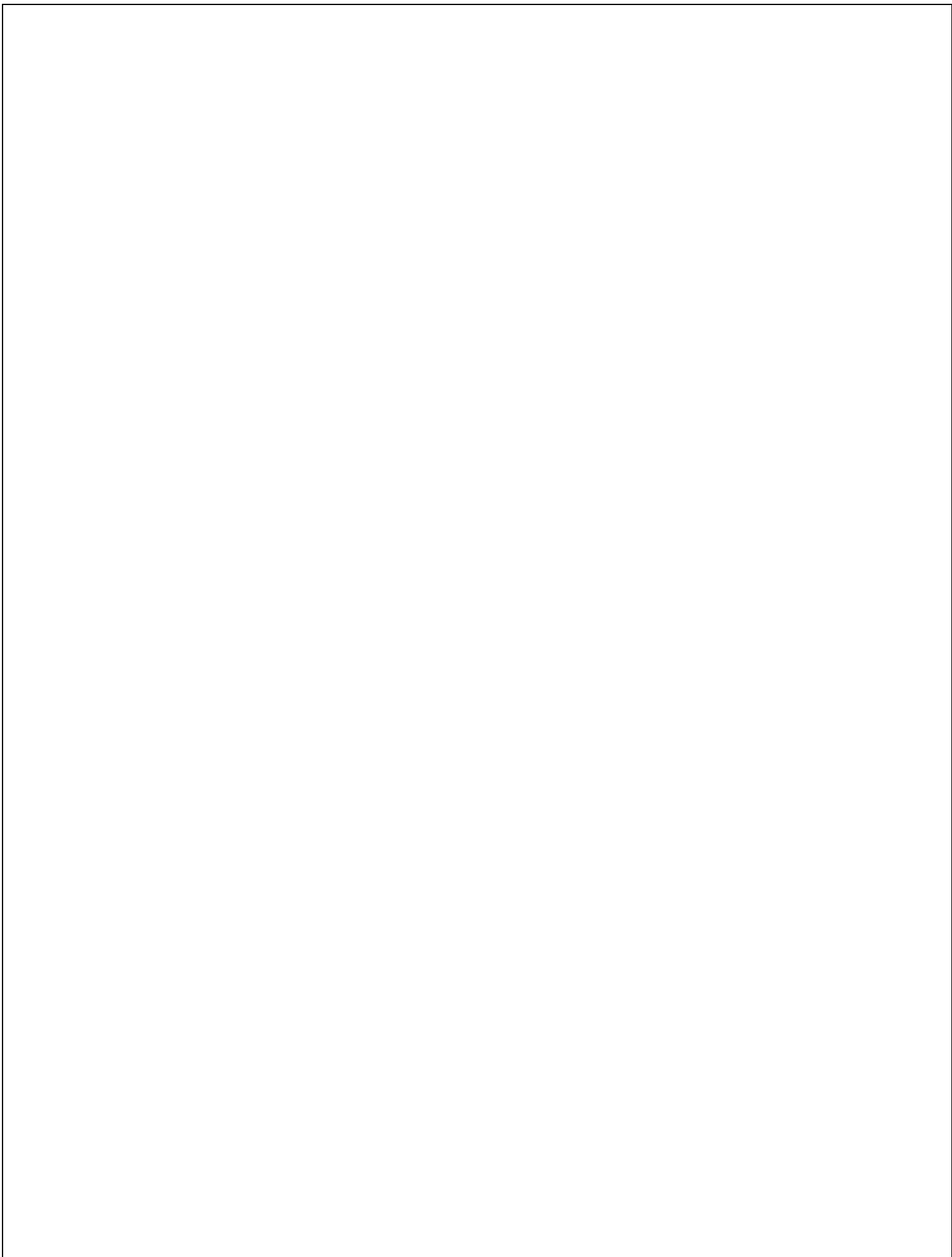
1. Have you been trying to change what can only be healed by embrace? ("Cure seeks to change reality; healing embraces reality." - Fred Recklau)
2. When was the last time you visited your "healing place"?
3. Are you ready to let yourself be forgiven? Is it possible that you are the only one who thinks you don't deserve healing?
4. What one small step can you make today toward healing your broken heart? It won't happen all at once. But it also won't happen on its own.
5. Is taking on the care of the broken things of the world breaking you?
6. Are you ready to heal from your failure? ("Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead end. Failure is something we can avoid only by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing." - Denis Waitley)
7. What if talk of healing needs to wait? ("Let us not rush to the language of healing, before understanding the fullness of the injury and the depth of the wound." - Dr. Yolanda Pierce)

**Check-Out** - What's your take-away about "healing"? Gratitude for this time? **5min**

## **Closing Words:**

It's not forgetting that heals. It's remembering. ~ **Amy Greene, Bloodroot**

Each of us has a unique part to play in the healing of the world. ~ **Marianne Williamson**



## CALENDAR – OCTOBER 2016

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30 a.m. - Service

October 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. - Service

October 16<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. - Service

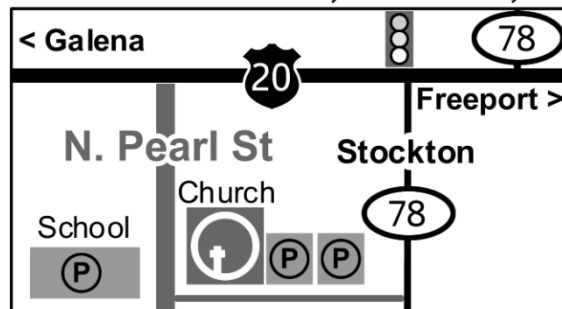
October 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 p.m. – November Newsletter Deadline

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:30 a.m. - Service

October 30<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. - Service

## CHURCH INFORMATION

219 N Pearl Street, Stockton, IL



Wheel chair parking and elevator access is available from the rear parking lot.

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 AM**

**CHILD CARE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:30 AM**

**REV. ARMIDA ALEXANDER, MINISTER**

**UUCHURCHOFSTOCKTON.ORG**

**UUCHURCHOFSTOCKTON.WEBLY.COM**



**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

**219 N PEARL ST, STOCKTON, IL 61085**



