



White
Bear
Unitarian
Universalist
Church

THE WEEKLY NEWS

April 22 - 28, 2018

328 Maple Street | Mahtomedi, MN 55115 | Phone: 651.426.2369 | wbuuc.org

TODAY

9am & 11am Worship Service—Sanctuary
9am & 11am Religious Education—RE Wing
12:15pm Earth Day Lunch—Social Hall
12:30pm Wellspring—Wheatley
12:30pm Gallery Committee—Iowa Sisterhood

After Each Service

Visit the Earth Day tables in the Atrium and Social Hall to learn more and get involved.

TODAY

After Services in the Atrium and Social Hall

Earth Day Committees and Organizations

12:30pm Earth Day Soup and Bread Lunch

Everyone welcome!

After Lunch:

Conversation Circle led by Rev. Victoria

In conversation today, explore new ways for WBUUC to embody the UU Seventh Principle in active conservation and stewardship.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday

7pm Men's Group—Quiet Room
7pm Adult Children/Alcoholics—Ballou

Welcome Table Wednesday

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5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner—Social Hall

Menu: Chicken with Dumplings, International Salad, Roast Vegetables, Gluten Free Vegetarian Grain, and Dessert

6:30pm Wednesday Night Forum—Wheatley
Apr. 25 | Earth Day Film: *Hometown Habitat*

Join us for a film viewing and discussion of *Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home* (2016), a documentary on native plants and critical to the vitality of local ecosystems. *(More inside).*

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NO CHOIR REHEARSAL

5:30pm Youth Programming—Iowa Sisterhood
6:30pm Homework/Soulwork—Dietrich
7:00pm Financial Oversight—Office Work Room
7:15pm Executive Committee—Victoria's Office
8pm Young Adult After Hours—Off Site

Friday

5pm Pedal to DC: Book Tour to Save the Boundary Waters (see right column)—Sanctuary

COMING UP



Book Tour to Save the Boundary Waters

AT WBUUC
APRIL 27, 5PM



Pedal to DC: Book Tour to Save the Boundary Waters

Friday, April 27, 5-7pm in the Sanctuary

Join explorers Amy and Dave Freeman as they bike 1,750 miles from Minnesota to Washington, DC. Hear the story behind their book, *A Year in the Wilderness*, and learn how you can help protect the Boundary Waters, our nation's most popular Wilderness area. For more information, go to:

bit.ly/pedaltodc

Justice

SAVE THE DATE

Kids of All Ages!

Make Your Bike Helmet a Honey Bee! Workshop
Sunday, June 10, 11:30am
(after 10:00am service)

Bring your own helmet and we will help you fashion it into a honeybee. The following week you can join the ceremonial swarm at The Honeybeelujah! Show!

The Honeybeelujah! Show!
with The Reverend Billy
and the Church of Stop-Shopping Choir
Concert: Saturday, June 16, 7:00pm
WBUUC Sanctuary

Rev. Billy and his troupe are New York City based musicians and activists, winners of an OBIE and the subject of the 2007 Morgan Spurlock film *What Would Jesus Buy*. Half of their singing activists have been jailed, most recently during Occupy Wall Street. Reverend Billy will be in the Twin Cities in June with select members of his choir and band for three performances, including Saturday night at WBUUC!

At **The Honeybeelujah! Show!** we will praise our pollinators and celebrate our cultivators with amazing music in this family-friendly performance. Do not miss this show! \$10 tickets go on sale soon at wbuuc.eventbrite.com.

Lifespan Spiritual Development for Adults

WomenSpirit Circle

Tuesday, May 1, 7-9pm Alcove

WomenSpirit meets the first Tuesday of the month through May. Focused on empowering and supporting women in exploring their spirituality in community with others, WomenSpirit is open to all women. For more info, contact Carol Marsyla at carol.marsyla@gmail.com or 651.253.4200.

Men's Groups

The daytime group meets on the first and third Tuesday at 12:30pm. The evening group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday at 7pm. No meeting on the fifth Tuesday. All Men's Programs are open to all interested men, no sign up required, new members always welcome. Contact Steve Kahn at 651.426.4297, stevekahn@comcast.net.

Upcoming Wednesday Night Forums

Every Week | 5:30pm Dinner | 6:30pm Forum

Apr. 25 | Earth Day Film: *Hometown Habitat*

Join us for a film viewing and discussion of *Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home* (2016). *Hometown Habitat* is a documentary focused on showing how and why native plants are critical to the survival and vitality of local ecosystems. It features renowned entomologist Dr. Douglas Tallamy, whose research, books and lectures on the use of non-native plants in landscaping, sound the alarm about habitat and species loss.

May 2 | Boston Bound | Join us as youth present on the Boston Bound pilgrimage. Come see pictures, hear stories, and learn how youth connected to their faith.

May 9 | 6:30-8:00pm | Electric Car Forum

Are you curious about electric vehicles? Meet in the Wheatley Room for a short presentation about the advantages of climate-friendly EVs. Then move to the parking lot for hands-on learning from owners about a Prius Prime, a Tesla model X and model S, and a Nissan Leaf. Kick the tires, sit in the driver's seat and ask questions. How soon will WBUUC need an EV charging station? Hosted by the Global Climate Change Committee.

Online Giving for Collections

An app called Give+ is now available specifically to donate to collections. To use it, please download Give+ for Android or Apple. On the first screen, enter the church name to find WBUUC. Then the app will walk you through making the donation with or without setting up an account. Please note: this is a separate app and you should continue to use your Vanco account through our website for pledges.



Sign up for
CHURCH LIFE
the WBUUC Online Directory

Contact Betsy Bance, WBUUC Communications and Data Coordinator at bbance@wbuuc.org.

Religious Education for Children & Youth

Wednesday Night Programming

***For Babies and Toddlers:** Nursery Care provided by our loving staff from 6:15pm to 7:45pm.

***For School-age Children:** Homework/Soulwork—Spiritual practice, homework help, and crafts from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Interested in tutoring or sharing your spiritual practice? Contact dre@wbuuc.org.

***For Teens:** Grow and serve with PeaceJam, YAC, social justice projects, and other opportunities. For more information contact youth@wbuuc.org.

Music and Arts



"Composition with Colors" by Edith Estrin

Art Show: Through May 13

The Northstar Watermedia Society

NorthStar Watermedia Society, the oldest watermedia society in MN, was formed in the White Bear Lake area in 1975. NSWS promotes the artistic use of water-based media with approximately 225 members from the Twin Cities area, outstate MN and WI. For this exhibit, 80 members each submitted one painting created using watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache, water-soluble inks and/or egg tempera. You're invited to join us at a reception held here on May 10 from 6–8:30pm. A presentation of awards will take place in the Sanctuary at 7pm with juror, Tara Sweeney, discussing her chosen pieces.

Show Your Soul

In the new season of Spring and renewal, April's theme is Promises: The Practice of Creating the World. What promises are you keeping to yourself or others right now, to make the world anew? You're invited to reflect on the new season and the monthly theme in art or writing and submit to: showyoursoul@wbuuc.org. View the current and archived *Show Your Soul* online journal at: wbuuc.org/show-your-soul. And don't forget! We are looking for a cover image for the next newsletter.

Community Announcements

Park at the Dist. Ed. Center—Ride the Shuttle

As you know, our church parking lot is quite small and we prioritize those spots for families with small children, folks with physical needs, and visitors. We ask most of you to park in the District Education Center at the corner of Maple Street and Mahtomedi Avenue and let us shuttle you to church and back to your car after the service. No need to deal with the elements at all. It's the warmest and safest way and it's even a chance to meet a new person or two. **Most important, it is part of our plan to be a welcoming community.** Try it once and you will be hooked. And if you are a regular shuttle taker, please consider joining the ranks of shuttle drivers. Here is the link to sign up: bit.ly/WBUUC-Shuttle. For more information, please contact Steve Kahn at stevekahn@comcast.net.

General Assembly 2018: June 20-24

Many Ways to Participate

General Assembly, the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association is June 20-24 this year. Travel to Kansas City, MO: Contact Shay McKay (shay@wbuuc.org) for details. Click on the "GA Online Forum" link to find rides and rooms to share. You can be a delegate for WBUUC. Off-site registration: Participate on-line. You can be a delegate for WBUUC. Watch GA: See some of the events in real time or at your convenience. More information: www.uua.org/ga.

Dining for Dollars Is Coming!

Dining for Dollars is a fundraiser for WBUUC where members host dinners, parties and other entertainments, and the church auctions off seats at the table. Bidding is between and after services on May 6th, 13th and 20th. We need events! So, all you who enjoy entertaining (and we know you're out there!), please contact Mark King for details (marktking@mac.com).

Calling Gardeners of All Ages!

Do you love digging in the dirt and growing fresh herbs, fruits, and vegetables? Sign up to be on this year's garden team and get to know other passionate growers of all ages. For more details, contact Amy Peterson Derrick at dre@wbuuc.org.

Bookstall New Additions

Check out the new book selections for kids of all ages! *Mindful Kids* (good for kids up to 99 years); *Sitting Still Like A Frog*; *Ancient Stories for Modern Times*, *What Do You Believe?*—a book about world religions and more. PLUS! The special “seeker edition” of the *UU World: The Journey Is the Joy*, a collection of essays, \$3.

Stock Gifts

We have received an anonymous gift of 3M stock in March. Please contact Anna Gehres (agehres@wbuuc.org) in the office if this is from you and you would like it applied to a pledge. Our website also has a Stock Donation Form you can use to inform us of donations and how to allocate them: www.wbuuc.org/donate. *Thank you for your generosity!*

“This I Believe” Talks Are Online!

Have you visited our “This I Believe” webpage? Decades of almost all “This I Believe” talks are now archived at: wbuuc.org/this-i-believe. Volunteers continue to format and upload the remaining few “This I Believe” documents members have submitted for the webpage. Visit the page and spend some time reading an amazing array of beliefs and ideas from people you sit next to on Sunday mornings!



**Spring
Work Day**
Saturday, May 5

Spring Work Day

Saturday, May 5 from 9am to 1pm

Please join the Land Stewardship committee for a morning of fun, work, food and fresh air as we undertake our annual spring cleaning effort. Grab your work gloves, tools, water bottle and head on over to church. You can choose to work indoors or out, doing yard work, pruning, planting, mulching, building repair/maintenance and more. Families are welcome. Lunch will be provided by Men’s Programs. Rain date: Saturday, May 12. Direct questions to Jerry Condon at gerald.condon@gmail.com.

Fellow UUs Need a Place to Stay

Mark Johanningmeir and Judith Jenya of the UU Fellowship of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico are coming to visit family in Vadnais Heights. They are hoping to find WBUUC members who would be willing to offer a room in their home to them for their visit from June 27 - July 8. If you are interested, please email office@wbuuc.org.

Welcome Home Snowbirds!

If you’ve been away for part or all of the l-o-n-g winter, join your Board and Lead Minister for a Snowbird Reunion here at church on **Sunday evening, May 20 at 6:00pm**. We’ll share a potluck dinner and bring you up to date on all that’s been happening here at WBUUC while you were away. Feel free to bring a flash drive with a few photos from your travels, including pics of other UU congregations you have visited! Note: No parkas, snowshoes, mukluks or mittens allowed.

Last Week at Church



Despite spending the majority of last weekend shoveling and snow blowing at WBUUC, Custodian John Sisterman found time to snap this beautiful photo. **Thanks for your hard work, John!**

Earth Day—April 22, 2018

WBUUC Conservation and Stewardship: From the Backyard to the Boundary Waters

Members of this church community have long been engaged in conservation and stewardship of our Earth. This year, on the Honor Roll of WBUUC Stewards in the Atrium, we celebrate the memory of deceased members who brought us closer to nature and led the church to be stewards of our 4.5 acres, as well as WBUUC's current conservationists, protecting the natural world from the backyard to the Boundary Waters. WBUUC needs new conservation/stewardship leaders, in addition to the Climate Change Committee, to keep the spirit of Earth Day alive and our Green Sanctuary Accreditation well deserved.

WBUUC is an Accredited Green Sanctuary

Over four years, the congregation, led by Janet Kortuem and her Green Sanctuary team, completed 12 projects and a formal application to earn accreditation by the UUA as a Green Sanctuary in May 2017. Expanding the Earth Day Service into an Earth Day Celebration was a successful part of the Action Plan. So was the Phenology Board (by Religious Education office door), which won acclaim from the UUA for its “multi-layered ways of teaching.”

Green Sanctuary Goals

- Strengthen the connection between spiritual practice and earth consciousness
- Build awareness of the significance and complexity of environmental issues
- Encourage personal lifestyle changes
- Engage in community action on environmental issues
- Work to heal environmental injustices

Earth Day Schedule of Events

7:45am: “Bird Talk and Gawk” with ornithologist Joanna Eckles in the Emerson Alcove. Rain or shine. Learn what birds to look for this time of year. Coffee and muffins provided.

After services today in the Atrium: Chat with WBUUC's Land Stewardship Committee and visit exhibit tables staffed by employees from 4 non-profit organizations: Izaak Walton League, Land Stewardship Project, Minnesota Land Trust, and Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness. See back of this page for more information.

After services today in the Social Hall: Visit the Global Climate Change table to write postcards to elected officials.

12:30pm: Earth Day Soup and Bread Lunch—Everyone welcome!

After Lunch: Conversation Circle led by Rev. Victoria—Now that we have achieved the Green Sanctuary accreditation from the UUA, what's next? What team or committee will take us into the future, holding fast to standards set by the Green Sanctuary Process and addressing new environmental challenges? Many Christian and UU congregations have Creation Care Teams or Environmental Committees engaging members in service and advocacy. In conversation today, explore new ways for WBUUC to embody the UU Seventh Principle in active conservation and stewardship.



Environmental Committees engaging members in service and advocacy. In conversation today, explore new ways for WBUUC to embody the UU Seventh Principle in active conservation and stewardship.

Learn about conservation on farmland and natural areas from the backyard to the Boundary Waters. Find out how you can volunteer or support these organizations.

Izaak Walton League of America, Minnesota Division (the “Ikes”)

www.minnesotaiques.org

The Izaak Walton League, founded in 1922, is one of the earliest conservation organizations to set an aggressive course to defend wild America by changing public policy. The Minnesota Division of the “Ikes,” has played a leading role in the protection of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from the 1920s until the present-day fight to stop sulfide mining on its borders. In 1964, founders of the Jacques Chapter, which now meets monthly at the Wildwood Library in Mahtomedi, included members of WBUUC, one being wildlife painter Francis Lee Jacques, for whom the chapter is named. **Dioramas he and Pat Young painted for the old church’s youth classroom are now in the Bell Museum.**

Minnesota Land Trust

www.mnland.org

The Minnesota Land Trust protects and restores Minnesota’s vital natural lands in order to provide wildlife habitat, clean water, outdoor experiences, and scenic beauty for generations to come. The organization works with landowners, communities, and partners to accomplish: 1) Direct land protection, working primarily with landowners to acquire permanent conservation easements; 2) Restoration of key habitats; and 3) Engagement with communities to increase connections between people and natural systems.

Land Stewardship Project

www.landstewardshipproject.org

The Land Stewardship Project is dedicated to creating transformational change in our food and farming system. With core values of stewardship, justice, and democracy, LSP’s work has a broad and deep impact, from new farmer training and local organizing to federal policy and community-based food systems development. Caring for our shared resources requires more successful stewardship farmers raising both livestock and crops on the land. By working together, culturally and racially diverse rural and urban people can take practical steps that result in greater stewardship of the land, more family farmers, healthy food for all and resilient, racially just communities.

Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

www.friends-bwca.org

For over forty years, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness has worked to protect, preserve, and restore the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the Quetico-Superior ecosystem. Currently, a major focus of the organization is to prevent proposed sulfide mining projects from negatively impacting area waters, cultural resources, and human use and enjoyment of the region. The Friends also dedicates time and resources to preserving recreation resources within the wilderness, building conservation capacity in communities surrounding the BWCAW and fostering the next generation of wilderness enthusiasts through volunteer and youth engagement programs.

WBUUC Land Stewardship Committee

In 1995-96, members taking care of the church grounds chose the name Land Stewardship Committee, because they took their role seriously. When WBUUC expanded its church building in 2007, the committee worked closely with the building committee to minimize the impact of construction on the site’s natural woodlands and wetlands and tended gardens, and in 2008 created a formal landscape Master Plan for the entire property. The committee meets and plans during the year, but depends upon lots of volunteers through the growing season to help with weeding and invasive species control. Visit the committee table today and find out how you can help with a new planting of native grasses and forbs by the Sanctuary in 2018-19.