

# THE FELLOWSHIP FOCUS

of the  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart

*"A safe community nurturing individual spiritual and ethical growth"*



January 2020

## Integrity

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, the movie about Mister Rogers, is not only doing well because of Tom Hanks being a great actor, or Fred Rogers having been a great guy, but because our country needs to see anybody model some integrity so badly. So many national news stories make us feel ashamed, embarrassed, angry—we keep watching people represent us on the world stage who do not have high moral integrity. Or barely any at all. Mr. Rogers, the soft-spoken man who famously changes shoes and sweaters before he talks to us, is a superhero.

In my own life, I have been blessed to have some morality superheroes, people who exhibited integrity—this month's theme. People who have integrity not only possess a habit of being honest, but also a stable and high moral character, and they are consistent about it. My friend's mom, Jean, was like this for me. I could count on her to be honest with me and help push toward the right thing. After I lost my mother, and my dad worked odd hours, it was good to have Jean down the street. I had pretty good common sense but I could always double check with her.

High moral character does not mean unapproachable, or set apart; a person with integrity gets that way by having multiple challenges and learning from them.

How interesting that our first theme in the new year is integrity! How fitting! What a great goal and focus for the year! Who do you think of whose best quality is integrity? Probably somebody you talk to often. Or maybe you are the one that has great integrity, who is always the same person wherever they go—the one who can be counted on to be honest and think of the morality of a situation. That is somebody we want for a neighbor!

In 2020 may you have that guide or even be that guide. When everything else seems chaotic, find goodness consistently and you will be ok. I wish you Happiness and the Best of Health in the New Year!

In peace with love,  
Rev. Amy



### Sunday Mornings

9am Adult Forum (Children's House)

10am Service (Sanctuary)

2nd Hour Enrichment (varies, see schedule)

Find us at:

1732 Garden Street, Elkhart, IN 46514

[www.uufe.org](http://www.uufe.org)

 /UUFElkhart  @UUFE

# News & Events at UUFE

## Youth Group First Sunday from 3 - 5 PM

Youth Group is held the first Sunday of the month at UUFE from 3 to 5pm. Also on potluck Sunday of the month, they gather for a mid-month check in from about noon to 1. Leaders are Oxana and Zanzer, with Rev. Amy dropping in on some of the meetings. Anyone in school or home school equivalent of 7-12th grade is welcome, roughly 12-18 years.

## Women's Poetry Group at Black Crow Cafe 10 AM Jan 4 & 18

Bring 2 poems written by women. This group is open to all genders; we are focused on women poets that we read aloud and discuss.

## Meditation Group at 11:30 AM Sundays in the Learning Center

We will meet on three Sundays in January: the 5th, 12th and 26th. We generally have a short "guided meditation", a silent personal meditation and a short discussion of our individual practices. Please plan to join us if you are interested.

## Close the Camps - Sundays at 2 PM

Join Rev. Amy and others as they hold signs with sentiments like "Close the Camps" and "Families Belong Together" on Elkhart's Main Street. Look for us on the Civic Plaza and join our witness against the inhumane concentration camps along our nation's southern border.

## UUFE Calendar

Terry Mark is managing the UUFE Calendar. We have transitioned to include more events on the [uufe.org](http://uufe.org) website calendar, which is found by clicking [Upcoming Events](#) or other page links. We will rely on [uufe.org](http://uufe.org) to track events, building rentals, etc.

To reserve for a UUFE event, contact Terry (574-361-6210).  
To rent our space, contact Dwight Fish (574-536-9973).

Terry will periodically print 2-3 months ahead and post in the church office. Please do NOT write anything on the printed calendar. Additionally, if your event requires posting in the weekly email sent by Ron Gill, please notify Ron separately via email at [uufeupdate@gmail.com](mailto:uufeupdate@gmail.com)

## Support UUFE through your Kroger Plus card

If you ever shop at a Krogers, you could be donating a small percentage to UUFE simply by registering your Krogers Plus card with Kroger.com. Within 10 days after registering, your Kroger grocery purchases will provide a small donation to UUFE!



UUFE is a  
Welcoming Congregation  
member of the Unitarian  
Universalist Association.

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*Love is the spirit of this church  
and service is its law.  
To dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love,  
and to help one another,  
This is our covenant.*

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**The Fellowship Focus** is published monthly. Members and friends are invited to submit news and photos. Send text or attachments via email to editor Jess Galicia monthly by the 15th ([news@uufe.org](mailto:news@uufe.org)).

Send address changes and subscription requests (email or print edition) to Katrina Wilson ([katskirx@gmail.com](mailto:katskirx@gmail.com)).

**UUFE**  
(574) 264-6525  
[UUElkhart@gmail.com](mailto:UUElkhart@gmail.com)

**President of the Board**  
Terry Mark  
574-361-6210  
[klagmorn@gmail.com](mailto:klagmorn@gmail.com)

**Minister**  
Rev. Amy DeBeck  
574-304-1282  
[amydebeck@gmail.com](mailto:amydebeck@gmail.com)

**Minister Emeritus**  
Rev. Gordon Gibson  
Knoxville, Tennessee

**Rental Agent**  
Dwight Fish  
574-536-9973  
[fish73@comcast.net](mailto:fish73@comcast.net)

## Volunteer of the Month | December

The Board voted unanimously for this month's volunteer. If there was a picture of a "Volunteer of The Month" in the dictionary this month's honoree would have her picture there. You have all noticed that it seems like T.J. Shaum is everywhere, She is highly visible, taking out the trash and otherwise helping out on Sundays after coffee hour (or potluck), but many of you don't see what she does on the other days of the week. She comes in and cleans out cupboards, arranges the kitchen, works as an assistant treasurer in the office and generally makes our surroundings, at the fellowship, more friendly and welcoming. Next time you see T.J give her a pat on the back; she sure deserves it!



### Family Connections Night - 5-8 PM Jan 22 & 29

Drop in for fun, fellowship and potluck! Please bring a dish to share, and all are welcome.

### Indoor Play Time - Tuesday January 28 from 10:30 to noon

For little ones and their folks. Come inside where it is warm and play on our wonderful carpeted floor of the Gathering Place. . We have some blocks and some soft indoor balls...let's play! No charge, and this is not a drop-off, it is for adults and kids together. Tell anyone you know with babies or toddlers and cabin fever.

### Everybody's Birthday Party at UUFE - February 29 from 3 - 5 PM

Let's gather from 3pm to 5pm and spoil dinner by eating birthday cakes. If you were either born after February 29, 2016, or have had a birthday since then, come to this party!

### Learning Center Classes start this January!

To register, contact Mary Adams at [uuelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:uuelkhart@gmail.com) with name of class, your name, and your best contact info. Class sizes are limited and already starting to fill.

- **Jan. 6, 4-6 pm - Basic Automotive Repairs with Randy Demerly**  
How to check your auto fluids, change your brakes, jump-start your car, and change a tire.
- **Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 7-9 PM - Basic Computer Skills with Dane Campbell**  
Basic computer skills in accordance with student needs. Must bring your own laptop or device.
- **Jan. 13, 20, 27, 4-6 PM - Effective Communication Skills with Mary Perron**  
Use of reflective listening, "I" messages, and exploring alternatives for problem solving.

You can also register online through our Facebook page.

### Spirit Seekers - Thursdays in the Children's House from 3-5 PM

Spirit Seekers is a weekly facilitated discussion group exploring a variety of spiritually related topics, often with videos. Open to all. Further information available at [uuelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:uuelkhart@gmail.com).

### Tai Chi Classes, Fridays from 10-11 AM

*Beginners Welcome.* \$10 per class, focusing on Serenity, Balance & Coordination. All levels welcomed. Instructor Alyse Knepple (269-42q76-9509) has 25 years of experience studying/teaching Tai Chi. Contact Emily Morrison at [esmorison@icloud.com](mailto:esmorison@icloud.com) for more information.

## **UU The Vote - January 12th at 4 PM**

The UUA has issued a challenge to UU congregations, as we move into the most important political year in recent memory. The Board of Trustees of UUFE reviewed the information provided by UUA and voted to put our support behind the effort to encourage and support voters as next year's election approaches. Hard copies of the eight page toolkit will be made available in the foyer beginning Sunday, January 5th for those interested in joining the discussion.

The service on January 12th will discuss the specifics in more detail and there will be a live video from the UUA on the subject January 12th at 4 pm in the sanctuary.

The efforts of the UUA leadership are targeted towards:

- Mobilizing voters
- Challenging voter suppression
- Holding values-based conversations to persuade our neighbors on the issues that matter
- Opening the doors of our congregations to the activities of front line communities and justice partners
- Providing the spiritual sustenance and movement chaplaincy to ground our faith and respond to the injustices we confront through the work

## **UUA Webinar Series, “Small Numbers, Infinite Possibilities” - January 15 at 7 PM**

Everyone at UUFE is invited to a viewing party of a five-part webinar series brought to us by the Unitarian Universalist Association's regional congregational life staff. The series is titled, “Small Numbers, Infinite Possibilities,” and is specifically geared for smaller congregations. Viewings will be at 7 p.m. ET on the following dates (archived video will also be available):

- Oct. 16, Smalls Making a Big Difference | [View Webinar and PDF at uufe.org/small-numbers](https://uufe.org/small-numbers).
- Nov. 13, Right Sizing Your Congregation's Operations | [View Webinar and PDF at uufe.org/small-numbers](https://uufe.org/small-numbers).
- Jan. 15, Stewardship and Sustainability for the Long Haul
- Feb. 12, Being Beloved Community

Bring snacks and gather in the Learning Center (formly the Children's House). The series will culminate March 14 (Pi Day) with special in-person events across our region for us to meet UUs from other fellowships and to eat pie, of course. More details on Pi Day festivities will be announced as they are available.

## **Science & Society - January 7th & 21st at 3 PM in the Learning Center**

For January only we will switch from the “One Strange Rock” series to view two segments of the Cosmos series with Neil DeGrasse Tyson.

### **Tuesday January 7, 2020 at 3:00 PM - “The Clean Room”**

This episode explores the methods and processes used to measure the age of the Earth. The episode also pays tribute to geobiologist Clair Patterson in his quest to remove the neurotoxin, lead, from gasoline in the middle 20th century. The episode is an instructive example of scientists who follow the evidence rather than listening to large companies who have a financial interest in suppressing evidence.

### **Tuesday January 21st at 3:00 PM - “The Electric Boy”**

This episode provides an overview of the nature of electromagnetism, as discovered through the work of Michael Faraday. Tyson explains how the idea of another force of nature, similar to gravitational forces, had been postulated by Isaac Newton before.

## **UUFeasters - January 8 at 11:30 AM- Red Lobster 3009 Brittany Ct., Elkhart**

This lovely group of UU friends continues to meet the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. RSVP with Mary Adams at [createnjoy@yahoo.com](mailto:createnjoy@yahoo.com) or 619-921-0613, so that group reservations can be made by the Monday preceding the luncheon, please.

Here are the proposed Feasters luncheon destinations for Feb through April, 2020.

- Feb. 12 - Bent Oak Restaurant, 3610 Bent Oak Trail, Elkhart
- Mar. 11 - Tradewinds Elkhart, 3147 Northview Drive, Elkhart
- Apr. 8 - Chubby Trout, 3421 Plaza Ct., Elkhart

## **Music Listening Group - January 19th at 4:00 PM**

Seven Music Listeners met at Ken and Deb Inglefield's on Sunday evening, December 22. We listened to a wide variety of music relating to the Christmas season and a bit on Trump's new Space Force. Christmas pieces we listened to were: World Christmas music from Bulgaria, Hungary and USA, Windham Hill acoustic music, Harry Belafonte, Loreena McKennitt, Manheim Steamroller. Music relating to space were two items by John Williams, Close Encounters of the Third Kind and Star Wars. We also listened to and watched Michael Tilton Thomas direct the San Francisco Symphony playing the third movement of the Beethoven Eroica Symphony.

Music Listeners will next meet on January 19 at 4 PM at UUFE hosted by Jim Todd and Mary Adams. The February meeting, also at UUFE at 4 PM on February 9 hosted by Dave and Doris Stickel Stokely. All who read this are invited to attend and bring up to 10 minutes of recorded music to share. Coming just to listen is also ok. If you are new to Music Listening please let the host know that you will be attending so that appropriate arrangements can be made for the snack at the break. Jim Todd's phone is 612-9207 and Doris and Dave are at 522-5430.

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## **December Board Update**

Summary of Board Meeting on December 11, 2019

- The board approved the General Gallery Guidelines as written. The board agreed that the Gallery is beautiful and a significant contribution to our space. The guidelines will be posted outside the Gallery area and will help to preserve the space for its intended purpose. For example, we will not be placing any chairs, benches, tables, or other furniture in the gallery space.
- The board decided that we would develop policies for online payments and for the use of the sustainability fund. Ken stated that he would work on both.
- The board is planning for two Town Hall Meetings in the first part of 2020 to discuss the long-term direction of UUFE. One outcome of the Town Hall Meetings will hopefully lead to the creation of a strategic plan for the next three to five years.
- The board was informed of a bequest of \$1,400 from the estate of Mary Ann Carroll with the stipulation that it be used for educational purposes. The Religious Education Committee will be approached regarding possible uses of the generous gift.
- The board encouraged participation in UU The Vote, which is a civic engagement campaign by the UUA that will begin in January to encourage voting and civic engagement in the 2020 election. To participate we would be involved in voter registration, educating citizens on policy initiatives, advocating for issues that reflect UU values, etc. Leadership of the effort will be sought with that possibly falling to the Social Justice Group.

## **Yoga Class, Thursdays from 6-7 PM**

Taught by Kristin Smith. The charge is \$10 per class - you do not have to come to all classes. Please bring a yoga mat. No prior experience needed. Yoga is an excellent program for increasing flexibility, strength and balance, as well as reducing stress. Contact TJ Shaum at 574-536-7057 for more information.

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## **Building on the Dream**

By Terry T. Mark, president, UUFE Board of Trustees

Each week, we begin our worship service with a prelude, a time for quiet reflection and centering, usually accompanied by a beautiful piano piece; a chalice lighting with words that help bring our time into focus; and the ringing of the gong.

For the first gong strike, we recognize those who came before us and made a place for us. That would be people such as Dorothy Boynton, who donated the land, and Jack and Shirley Ivey, the Robinsons, the Snows, the Hershbergers, the Arbogasts and many other families who came together in part because they wanted to create a space in which their children could learn about faith and spirituality from a UU perspective.

The second gong strike recognizes those who are here now. We all contribute in ways small and large, from those who serve on committees, participate in weekly meditation sessions or hand out orders of service and greet on Sunday mornings.

And then we ring the gong a third time, for those who will come after us and build on the dream.

But who are those people? Perhaps we haven't met them yet, or they haven't entered our space yet. Or, they could be people we're acquainted with — someone we work with, or a neighbor, or someone with whom we play cards.

Will you be around to help “those who come after us” and “build on the dream”? One day, our names will be remembered by others with the same fondness and affection that I hear when we talk about Shirley Ivey.

What dream will they be building, however? In 1961, it might have been hard for our founders to envision the campus we have now, or that we host Elkhart Civic Theatre staged readings, or that a yoga group meets weekly, or meditation happens on Sunday afternoons.

What will UUFE look like 50 years from now?

The board of trustees has been working this year to create that space so that we as a group can envision what that future looks.

We need your help, your creativity and imagination, your passion for social justice, community and this neighborhood. What could UUFE offer to this community — sanctuary? Education? Understanding?

I invite all of you to town hall meetings that will be scheduled later this winter to have these conversations, and to envision how we will get there. We'll share more details in the coming days, but please plan for a lively discussion about what the future holds.

As I reflect on the possibilities, it's hard for me not to feel excited.

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 3p Spirit Seekers 6p Yoga	<b>3</b> <b>John Dolezal</b> 10a Tai Chi	<b>4</b> <b>Emily S. Morrison</b> <b>Doris Stickel</b> 10a Women's Poetry Group
<b>5</b> 9a Forum 10a Service 11:30a Meditation 2p Protest 3p Youth Group	<b>6</b> <b>Mike Puro</b> 4p Learning Center Class 7p Learning Center Class	<b>7</b> <b>Gloria Salavarría</b> 3p Science & Society	<b>8</b> 11:30a UUFeasters 6p Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>9</b> 3p Spirit Seekers 6p Yoga	<b>10</b> 10a Tai Chi	<b>11</b> <b>Linda Arbogast</b> <b>Phyllis Hostetler</b> <b>Carl Rust</b>
<b>12</b> 9a Forum 10a Service 11:30a Meditation 1p Social Justice 2p Protest 4p UU the Vote	<b>13</b> <b>Keira Wilson</b> 4p Learning Center Class 7p Learning Center Class	<b>14</b> <b>Barb Kindel</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Chad Crabtree</b> 6p Board of Trustees Meeting 7p Webinar Series	<b>16</b> 3p Spirit Seekers 6p Yoga	<b>17</b> 10a Tai Chi	<b>18</b> <b>Hank Skinner</b> <b>Bri Tribbett</b> 10a Women's Poetry Group
<b>19</b> 9a Forum 10a Service 11a Potluck 2p Protest 4p Music Listeners	<b>20</b> 4p Learning Center Class 7p Learning Center Class	<b>21</b> <b>Phil Campagnoli</b> 3p Science & Society	<b>22</b> 5p Family Connections day	<b>23</b> 3p Spirit Seekers 6p Yoga	<b>24</b> 10a Tai Chi	<b>25</b> <b>Kathy Harbaugh</b>
<b>26</b> 9a Forum 10a Service 11:30a Meditation 2p Protest	<b>27</b> 4p Learning Center Class 7p Learning Center Class	<b>28</b> <b>Andi Lane</b> 10a Indoor Playtime	<b>29</b> 5p Family Connections night	<b>30</b> <b>Diane Larimer</b> <b>Ken Clayborn</b>	<b>31</b> 10a Tai Chi	



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Elkhart

1732 Garden Street

Elkhart, IN 46514

with love to:



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## Our Month of “Integrity” Sundays - January 2020

### **January 5      Coffin and Cradle**

Led by Chad Crabtree and Lorna Lane, this service invites us to lay to rest the things we should and give birth to the things we want to make real in the new year.

### **January 12      UU the Vote**

Terry Mark, Ken Clayborn, and others who help or give input will link us into the National Movement of UU congregations gearing up to Rock the Vote all over next November

### **January 19      MLK Weekend**

“MLK Weekend” with the Almost Rev. Charlie Earp visiting us to preach on this special weekend. Stay for potluck!

### **January 26      Whole and Undivided**

Integrity means to be whole and undivided—is that possible in our current times? Rev. Amy will delve into it with you. Come and bring a friend.