

BISMARCK - MANDAN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP & CHURCH

818 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501
701-223-6788

WEBSITE: bismanuu.org • EMAIL: office@bismanuu.org



Sunday Services & Children's Programs: 10:30 AM
Fellowship & Refreshments: Following Service

The Beacon

*The BisMan UU Monthly Newsletter—Sharing Unitarian
Universalist Values in the Capital City Area*

Sunday, March 3

BULLYING: IT'S NOT JUST FOR KIDS ANYMORE

Tim Hathaway

As people of a liberal faith, bullying happens to all of us at different times and in different forms; from our workplace to our playgrounds. Sometimes it's obvious, sometimes it's not. Join Tim as he talks about bullying and what we can do about it.

Tim Hathaway is the VP of the BisMan UU Board of Trustees, is on the Human Rights Coalition Board and the Executive Director at Prevent Child Abuse ND.

Sunday, March 10—*Daylight Saving Time Begins—Spring Ahead!*

INTELLECTIVE OBSESSION: HOW THE FOCUS ON INTELLIGENCE UNDERMINES LIBERAL AND SECULAR CAUSES

Sara Arline-DiGaetano

What is intelligence and why is it so prized in liberal and secular circles? In this talk we will explore how the social privilege associated with high IQ serves as a barrier to forming humanistic communities, and also how the issue of intellect serves as a distraction from addressing more important ethical, social, and political issues.

Sara Arline-DiGaetano is a fourth generation humanist with a long standing interest in social justice. She holds a doctorate in clinical psychology and her studies have led her to explore the ecosystemic effects of privilege and oppression.

Sunday, March 17

**BUMPER STICKER THEOLOGY AND THE LOVING
FUTURE OF OUR UU FAITH**

Karen Van Fossan

If you could put all your beliefs and principles into just one bumper sticker, what would it say? Would it be exactly like your neighbor's, your co-worker's, your best friend's? What does our UU faith mean, when we each have a right to our own bumper sticker? Or to no bumper sticker at all? Together, we will consider a shared vision of Unitarian Universalism, even while—and because—we do not always agree.

Karen Van Fossan, enthusiastic member of our congregation, is in her second year at United Theological Seminary of the twin cities, preparing to become a UU minister.

Sunday, March 24

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FROM THE FOUNDING FATHERS
TO THE PRESENT**

Clay Jenkinson

Clay has been studying the idea of religious freedom for thirty years. His principal research has been on Thomas Jefferson's Virginia Statute for Religious Liberty and the letter Jefferson wrote to the Baptists of Danbury, Connecticut, on January 1, 1802. If the Enlightenment principle of a "wall of separation between church and state" meant something serious in the early 19th century, it is much more important now, when the United States embraces more than 300 million people of every faith, creed, church affiliation, and sensibility. Clay will discuss the history of religious freedom in the United States and provide analysis of the current state of the "wall of separation" debate.

Clay is the Theodore Roosevelt Center Scholar at DSC and Distinguished Scholar of Humanities at BSC.

Sunday, March 31

EASTER BRUNCH

Janis Cheney, Pat Conrad & UU Brunch Team

Join us for our celebration of spring! We'll enjoy a delectable Easter Brunch and reflect on the blessings of this season of light and growth and hope.

The UU Traditional Easter Brunch will be followed by a celebration of the season in words and music. Our UU chefs prepare the tasty pancake, fruit & sausage meal. There is a free-will offering. Your relatives and friends are welcome.

There is no children's Sunday school today, however children are very welcome to join their families for the celebration and brunch!

Church Calendar

An asterisk (*) indicates related article

Sun Mar 3	11:45 AM	Social Justice Meeting
Sun Mar 3	12-3 PM	UU Board Retreat
Sun Mar 10	2:00 AM	Daylight Saving Time Begins
Thurs Mar 14	7:00 PM	Meditation with Elicia Faul
Sun Mar 17	11:45 AM	Program Committee Meeting
Mon Mar 18	6-8 PM	* OWL Parent/Child Meeting
Thurs Mar 21	7:00 PM	* Writing & Reflection Small Group
Fri Mar 22	12:00 N	Women's Lunch at Minerva's
Wed Mar 27	5:30 PM	* Men's BBQ at the Hathaway's
Thurs Mar 28	7:00 PM	Meditation with Elicia Faul



New Era in UUism

Carol Jean Larsen
Board President

For the past 3 years the staff of our UUA Prairie Star District has been collaborating with staff in both the Central Midwest and Heartland districts. Here in Bismarck, I have seen the benefit of effectively using technology to share a district staff person's expertise.

On "webinar night" several people gather in our church Bismarck office to participate in topics on leadership development, fund raising, conflict resolution, board governance models, or membership growth. It's been interesting to hear UU voices from Kentucky or Kansas sharing about common issues.

I believe this use of technology has helped "shrink" the boundaries of our current 8 state Prairie Star District. Rather than drive to Kansas City, MO or Lincoln, NB for a 2 day workshop, we could sit in Bis-

marck as a team and learn together in one hour spurts over time from a facilitator in Michigan (Heartland Dist.) Thus I have seen our UU congregation's knowledge base blossom.

These 3 UUA districts have actually been collaborative pioneers for many years in the creation and operation of Midwest Leadership School each July in Beloit, WI

Now all 3 district boards are asking delegates to district conferences in April to formally vote on merger.

As delegates from this UU, Janis Cheney and I will travel to Iowa for the PSD Annual Conference April 3-5. Please contact us with your questions or comments: jcheney@bis.midco.net or cjlarsen43@bis.midco.net.

Go to www.MidAmericauua.org for additional background.

OWL Parent/child orientation session

Monday, March 18 from 6:00-8:00 PM

This session will be foundational for parents and children who wish to be a part of the eight session program beginning in March and continuing into the early summer. This evening will include an hour in which parents and children meet separately and an hour in which parents and children participate together. Parents will have the opportunity to reflect on their experiences, attitudes, and concerns about sexuality education; think about the messages they received as children and practice messages that they feel they would like to give their children. Children will learn about the OWL curriculum and begin introductory activities. Janis and Steven Crane will host the 3-7th grade kids and Don Morrison and LaVonne Aull will host the K-2 grade group. In the second hour, parents and children together gain additional understanding of the OWL program.

We will have pizza and drinks for everyone so don't worry about supper. Please respond to Tammy at the office to let us know if you will attend. 223-6788 or office@bismanuu.org.



Happy Sunday School Kids!



Men's BBQ Society

The Men's BBQ Society will meet at Tim Hathaway's home, 2800 Susan Dr. in SE Bismarck on **Wednesday, March 27 at 5:30**

pm. This group is open to anyone (well, of the male persuasion) interested in good eating and good conversation. Please bring food or drink to share and RSVP to Tim:

hathaway.timothy.l@gmail.com or 426.9306

Writing & Reflection— Small Group Opportunity

"The journey through life can take one in all sorts of unexpected directions."

"My mother taught me to write, but she is gone now - will letter writing become a lost art?"

"I write because it offers me a path through the turbulence of existence."

Intrigued? These are just a tiny sampling of the reflections created during our inaugural writer's group meeting on February 21. Ronya Hoblit and Janis Cheney facilitated introductions and brief discussion of our background / interest / experience of writing. Brief readings provided a time for centering and focus prior to writing.

The good news? The next meeting will be March 21 at 7 p.m. at the church. All those with an interest in writing or exploring the craft are welcome to join us! Questions, contact Janis or Ronya.

Janis (jcheney@bis.midco.net or 426-6950) or Ronya (hoblit2001@yahoo.com), or contact Tammy at the church office (office@bismanuu.org or 223-6788).

UU Sunday Treat Teams

If any of the following March treat teams cannot work their Sunday, please contact coordinator, Janet Lucas: janetlucas317@gmail.com or 223.2053

March Dates & Teams

3	Jean King & The UU Freezer
10	Mary Mitchell & Anessa Pfeifer-Johnson
17	Diane Chielens & Joanne Ashley
24	Janis Cheney & Stephen Crane
31	EASTER BRUNCH

Team Duties (Posted in kitchen)

Provide simple treats for about 48

Arrive at church at 10:00 AM

Empty dish washer, check the tea items.

At about 12 noon, clean up.

Thank you to those folks who provided treats so far this year!

Register Soon Camp UniStar



Camp UniStar is our district's summer camp near Bemidji, MN. It is nestled in a pine forest on Star Island and surrounded by the clear waters of Cass Lake. Unitarian Universalists and like-minded friends gather to relax and rejuvenate. www.campunistar.org.



Gathering Information on Congregational Needs

The Sacred Space Task Force has finished the first round of information-gathering regarding the needs of the congregation in the areas of Religious Education, Program, Hospitality, and Music. This information will be compiled and presented to the architects in March for a more thorough, refined set of drawings. Thanks to all those who have participated so far in the process. For the rest of you - your time will come!

Look for more from the SSTF folks in the months to come.

Important UU Parking Information

We have been notified by the State Land Office (the building and parking area to our east) that we must be mindful when using their large lot or the 3-space small area off 9th St. Their snow removal contractors come on the weekends to plow. If there are cars there, they can't do their job. Typically it's not a problem to park there **but if it is snowing or there is fresh snow in the lots, PLEASE choose a different spot to park.** We don't want this to BECOME a problem and they are forced to tell us to not to use their lot at all. We all know how much snow we can STILL get before spring! Thank you!

Thank You for Your Service

Thanks to the following individuals who helped fulfill the congregation's role in serving the noon meal at Ruth Meier's Hospitality House on January 31st. - Keith Bayley, Kristi Harms, Dennis Nunberg, and Connie and Jim Hildebrand. The facility's kitchen remodeling had not yet been completed, but the Ruth Meier's staff prepared a nutritious meal anyway, and Kristi even brought home-baked cookies. The next noon meal we serve will be on May 30, the Thursday after Memorial Day.

Thank You for Sharing

Thank you so much to the folks who make this church such a wonderful place to be by sharing time, their homes, supplies and financial gifts!

Circle Supper Host Homes: Brenda Stone, Dean & Pat Conrad, and Angela Harmon & Family.

Conference table and chairs—Wayde Schafer

Office supplies—Jim Dawson

Office supplies—Ed Dyer & Anne Summers

You are all greatly appreciated!

Candles for the Journey

We light a candle for Tom Disselhorst and Arlene Andre. Arlene's mother, Gen Andre died on Feb. 18 after a long battle with cancer.

We also light a candle for the Benjamin Family. Bill's sister Marna passed away on Feb. 24 in Texas after a very long illness. Marna was in the first wave of Peace Corps volunteers to go abroad.

And we hold Colleen Reinke close as one of dear friends died suddenly last week in Wisconsin.



Board of Trustees and Staff

President, Carol Jean Larsen cjlarsen43@bis.midco.net
Vice President, Tim Hathaway hathaway.timothy.l@gmail.com
Secretary, Marnie Piehl marnie.piehl@bismarckstate.edu
piehl.patch@gmail.com
Treasurer, Lisa Omlid omlid.lisa@gmail.com
Director, Rick Makelky rmakelky@hotmail.com
Director, Beth Nodland bnodland@aol.com
Director, Colleen Reinke cjreinke@gmail.com

Office Administrator

Tammy Hathaway
Church phone: 701-223-6788 • Cell phone: 701-426-9307
E-mail: office@bismanuu.org

Bis-Man UU Fellowship & Church

P.O. Box 297
Bismarck, ND 58502

[We are on Facebook!](#)

Check out our Website!

www.bismanuu.org



REGULAR UU OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00—2:00 PM

Vision Statement

*We will be a vibrant, caring, spiritual community
for all who seek an inspirational and
religious home.*

Mission Statement

*We are a fellowship of free minds, welcoming
all, a beacon of enlightenment and sanctuary,
and offering a call to build a better self,
community and world.*

Religious Education Mission Statement

*The Bismarck-Mandan Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship seeks to provide a path for spiritual
inquiry for people of all ages.*

Welcoming Congregation

*We are a Unitarian Universalist Welcoming
Congregation that seeks to be a spiritual home
for people of free faith regardless of race, color,
gender, affectional or sexual orientation, age,
national origin, socioeconomic status,
physical or mental ability.*

Very Useful Links

[Unitarian Universalist Association](http://www.uua.org)

www.uua.org

[Prairie Star District](http://www.psdoua.org)

www.psdoua.org

[Quest for Meaning](http://www.questformeaning.org)

(Church of the Larger Fellowship Young Adult Forum—VERY cool!)

www.questformeaning.org