



# THE CHALICE NEWS

Unitarian Society of Menomonie  
*A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

## June 2023 Newsletter

### SEVEN PRINCIPLES

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
3. Acceptance to one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

### CALENDAR

10 AM IN OUR MEETING ROOM  
(ZOOM CONNECTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED)

**June 4 – Service with Bruce Siebold, author and photographer**  
Bruce Siebold has written a third book, *Stories*, which reflects upon his time on his 80-acre homestead in Dunn County. Bruce is also a photographer and will present some of his photos for our service. His book will also be available for sale after the service.

**June 11 – Service with Dennis Peters, “The Mountain”**  
Each of us has our own personal mountain to scale. Is it a positive experience? What does it entail for you? When you reach the summit, and look down, what do you see?

**June 18 – Father’s Day – Happy Father’s Day! No service, go forth and do good work!**

**June 25 – Service with Dennis Peters, “Barbara McClintock”**  
What does it take for a woman to succeed, to excel, in the world today? What did it take a century ago? Barbara McClintock was a cytogeneticist who won the Nobel prize in 1983, in Physiology or Medicine.



## DAVE WILLIAMS, Grace



It's sometimes intriguing how in my stumbles and rambles around in life, and in reading, a concept leaps off the page—or at least keeps intruding itself enough to catch my wandering attention. The concept I've most recently encountered, in two very disparate pieces, is "grace."

I'm mostly through reading western Wisconsin author Michael Perry's *Roughneck Grace*, which is a compilation of columns he wrote for the *Wisconsin State Journal*, and copyrighted in 2016 through the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. In his introduction, Perry notes in reference to the book's title, "I try to attend to that second word as best I can, as I have long been allowed more grace than I've earned, including the freedom and opportunity to weekly write up a few hundred words about anything I wish." Perry further notes, "I hoped pairing those two words (Roughneck Grace) might convey the idea of grace—given and received—beyond the purview of priests or perfection. That perfect things emanate from imperfect people."

Grace intruded itself again as a concept in an opinion essay on the editorial page of the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* on May 7 in a column by Jack Uldrich. Uldrich entitled his essay "How Tucker Carlson inspired a change of heart." Uldrich recounts reading about Fox News' firing of Carlson, digging in to the salacious detail of that messy breakup, and thinking "I hope this buries the S.O.B. forever—the guy epitomizes everything wrong with today's media." Uldrich pressed on expecting to find even more outrageous racism, misogyny and xenophobia, sure he would uncover even more reasons than he already had, to justify utter contempt for Carlson.

But he didn't.

Instead, in reading Carlson's statement about how he felt when three Trump guys were beating up an anti-right wing Antifa supporter, he was taken aback by Carlson's comment that "... this is not good for me. I'm becoming something I don't want to be." And "I should be bothered by [this gloating], " and "if I reduce people to their politics, how am I better than he is?"

Uldrich was deeply touched by that last question of Carlson's. "The truth is that I am not—and never was—better than Carlson, and his question forced me to look within myself. When I did I found something I was not expecting—grace." For him grace was the possible avenue to hope that Carlson and others like him would go on to open their hearts and continue to explore their consciences.

Uldrich concludes by writing, "I honestly don't know if extending grace to Carlson will help him become a better person, but I do know this: Extending grace to others—especially those with whom I disagree, those I dislike or find difficult to love—can change me. And, if we change ourselves, we will begin to change our politics. A little grace can go a long way."

Through Uldrich's last paragraph, I kept thinking of our Unitarian Universalist first principle, the ultimate worth and dignity of every person, even the Tucker Carlsons of the world. How much grace can I offer and how much does he deserve? And is my grace conditional on Carlson truly making changes? How long do I wait and hope?

## Summer Get Togethers are Coming Soon!

Services with Dennis Peters will continue this summer on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Other social events are in the works. The program committee (Juliana Schmidt and Mary Beth Lvoncek) are working on a pool party, an ice cream social, a special speaker in August, and the benefit for homeless kids. (See below)

## Another Benefit for Homeless Kids

Jason Dea West will perform again for us on July 29 (tentative date) to benefit our Homeless Kids Project. The location is tentatively Wilson Park, in Menomonie, at 4 pm. We are waiting for confirmation from Jason.

## Have content for the next newsletter?

Please email events, news, poems, stories by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the next newsletter to [kwiersgalla@gmail.com](mailto:kwiersgalla@gmail.com).

## **Nothing So Rare As A Day In June**

Nothing so rare as a day in June,  
the air so fine and the blossoms all  
blue.

The weather just perfect, the skies  
never gray  
The bugs always buzzing and the trees  
seem to sway

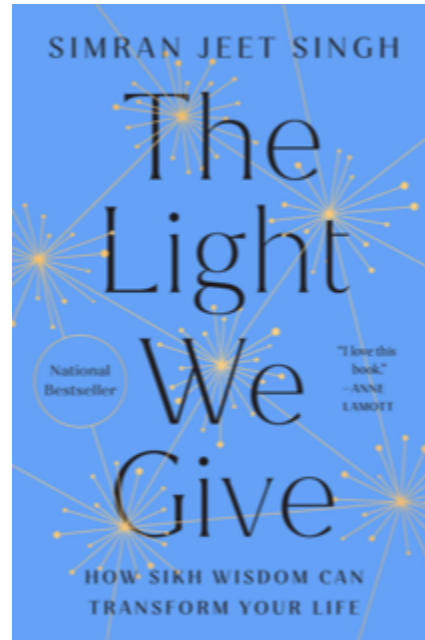
The sun beats so warmly on the  
tenderness of my skin,  
and the birds...they fly far away in the  
wind,

June is the month that carries a tune,  
its beautiful melody floats like a  
balloon.

Danielle Owens. "Nothing So Rare As A Day  
In June." [Family Friend Poems](#), Apr 2009.

## Book Recommendations:

**The Light We Give** lays out how we can learn to integrate ethical living to achieve personal happiness and a happier life. It speaks to those who are inspired to take on positive change but don't know where to begin. To those who crave the chance to be empathetic but are afraid of looking vulnerable. To those who seek the courage to confront hatred with love and compassion. Singh reaches beyond his comfort zone to practice this deeper form of living and explores how everyone can learn the insights and skills that have kept him engaged and led him to commit to activism without becoming consumed by anger, self-pity, or burnout.



Part memoir, part spiritual journey, **The Light We Give** is a transformative book of hope that shows how each of us can turn away from fear and uncertainty and move toward renewal and positive change. ([Amazon.com](#))

Book recommendations by Sherry Hagen:

**"You're Likely Not a Racist" Answers for Curious White People** by Teresa L. Reed, PH.D.

Excellent friendly read. From the UU Book list

**"Sapiens: a Brief History of Humankind"** by Yuval Noah Harari

Great book that explains with ideas on how we got how we are as a culture in the world.

# Tie Dye Workshop

Learn Basic and Advanced Tie Dye Techniques. Use string, rubber bands and folding. We will be applying the dye solution directly.

Create your own Wearable Tie Dyed Garment.

Blue, red, yellow, green, orange, purple, black and brown colors are available. Use as many colors as you like.

Sunday Tie Dye class can be available

Sat. June 3 from 2pm-4pm

Pick a time to arrive:

2pm\_\_\_\_\_3pm\_\_\_\_\_

Sun. June 4 rinsing time from 2pm-4pm

Sat. June 10 from 2pm-4pm

Pick a time to arrive:

2pm\_\_\_\_\_3pm\_\_\_\_\_

Sun. June 11 rinsing time from 2pm-4pm

Garments that are dyed need to be kept in a bag (ideally in the Sun) while it's up and then taken out and rinsed after about 24 hours. For best results let the garment dry before doing a final wash.

NOTE: If you are bringing your own shirt for best results pick up a pre-wash detergent or bring the shirt to us by the Thursday before your workshop.

Cost:

\$25 per Adult including a shirt (we have a limited supply)  
{check if we have your size}

\$20 per Child including a shirt (we have a limited supply)  
deduct \$5 off if you bring your own shirt

Dress for accidental dying. The event will be in our backyard. Park in the street.

1613 Mathews St.

Menomonie, WI (near Wakanda school)

RSVP: [sherryhagen0115@gmail.com](mailto:sherryhagen0115@gmail.com) by May 31st