



Creating community, deepening our spirit,
bringing our UU faith to action on behalf of women

Association of Universalist Women

AUW POTLUCK SOCIAL

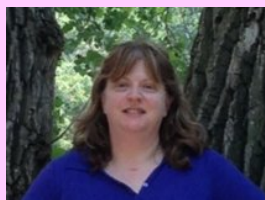
Jody Beresford and
Colleen Cavell are hosting
an afternoon potluck on
Saturday, September 7th.

Come for a relaxing
afternoon with friends.
We will talk about our
best summer adventures
and strategies for getting
through winter!

**Appetizers at 4:00,
Potluck at 5:00 pm**
Appetizers provided.

Bring something to share
and your favorite

The Editor's Corner



by Rita Peterson

Hi! I am the new AWW
Newsletter Editor starting
with this issue. The Board and
members give a big thank you
to **Theresa Jarosz Alberti** for
her writing and commitment
to our newsletter for the past
year. I thank Theresa for

helping me with the transition and getting this
September newsletter out!

I joined AWW shortly after moving back to the Twin
Cities in 2011. While I was away for a 12-year period I
lived in Portland, OR, Memphis, TN and Casper, WY.
I experienced many different places but I always felt a
pull back to Minnesota. I am SO glad to be back in the
Twin Cities where I feel at home. Going to AWW
events and becoming a member has been one of the
best things I could have done for myself. I have met
many wonderful women and it has helped me to
connect with others at the church and to navigate the
events and offerings AWW provides. I hope to meet
many more of you in this heartfelt organization.

beverage. Soft drinks and tea will be provided.

Hope you can join us!

Let us know if you need a ride or directions.

RSVP to:

Jody 612-669-9977

or

**Colleen 612-323-4486,
952-927-4703/home.**

Location:

Colleen Cavell's,
6009 Wooddale Avenue
Edina, MN 55424

**SUPPORT AUW
BY BECOMING
A MEMBER**

AUW memberships run
from September 2013 to
September 2014.

Our fiscal year runs from
September to September
every year.

WHY JOIN?

AUW organizes
meaningful programs
throughout the year for
the women of the First

many more of you in this newsletter organization.

We have a busy and exciting season ahead of us.

Please take some time to read about the upcoming Potluck Social, the Annual AUW Kick-off, the Fall Retreat and our new Board Members and President. We also have news regarding the history of AUW and our ongoing relationship to 1st Universalist church.

At AUW we like to share events and/or achievements about each other. Don't be afraid to toot your own horn!

In this issue you will read about where you can watch **Fawzia Khan** on TV and view **Marilyn Lamoreux's** photography. Congratulations to both of you!

Contact me when you have anything to contribute to our October Newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you!

Rita

musicallysound@hotmail.com

612-875-3691

2013 Annual Kick-Off

Join AUW for our 2013
annual kick-off dinner on
September 20th at
5:30 pm in the Social Hall
at First Universalist.



Leave your virtual social network aside. Come revel in the energy and joy of the real social network found within the AUW community.

Universalist community and also financially **supports local women's social justice programs**. In addition, A UW provides **scholarships** that enable our friends with limited incomes to participate. **YOUR membership fee** is directly responsible for ensuring these opportunities continue.



A UW Online

Next time you're surfing the Internet, be sure to **stop by the A UW website** at 1uauw.org.

Add a bookmark and/or make us one of your favorites for a handy reference.

Also, share and read up-to-the-minute news and opinions via the **"Association of Universalist Women (Minneapolis, MN)" page on Facebook**.

Our theme this year is:
"Connections: New and Renewed"

Enjoy a delicious dinner while you socialize with A UW members and friends. Learn about the events and programs A UW organizes and supports, including monthly Friday "Get Connected" events, book club, the annual fall and spring retreats, social justice work, friendship groups, and many other activities. You do not need to be a member of First Universalist to join A UW or attend its programs.

A UW is vibrant and welcoming, committed to serving and reflecting the needs of its members. Come be a part of the joy, the community, and the energy that A UW has embodied for over 100 years!

For more information and to RSVP, please contact us at auw.firstuniv@gmail.com or stop by the A UW table in the Social Hall on Sunday mornings.

A Message from the President



by Suzann
Willhite

As your new A UW President, I want to hear from you about your ideas and interests for A UW. As you know, A UW is a member-driven organization. Our mission is: "Creating community, deepening our spirit, bringing UU faith to action on behalf of women." We create and participate in the events that members

Please "Like" us so you can share photos and posts.

Babysitting Reminder



Free childcare is available at all A UW events. Please send in your request at least a week in advance to Emma Schlatter in the church office at Emma@firstuniv.org (612) 825-1701 x135.

support. The main events for A UW are currently the Fall Kick-off, Holiday Tea, Poinsettia Promotion, Spring Women's Retreat, Friendship Groups, and Friday-Get-Connected. In the past there were A UW Sundays and the Mother/Daughter Banquets. What would you like from A UW?

I have heard from some of you that you would like to connect with other women for spontaneous social events such as going to a play, movie, event, or out to dinner. How can we have members initiate and invite other members to attend? Facebook is one way to connect A UW women. What are other ways?

Another idea is for A UW to start a formal mentoring or sharing program. Women may need help or resources such as housing, furniture, babysitting, legal references or job opportunities. I know that there is tremendous talent that can be shared and connections that can be made with our members for all kinds of interests, skills, training, housing, etc. It can be anything we want it to be. It can also be a good way for our membership to build community, make connections, and attract younger women to A UW. What are your thoughts?

Friday Get Connected

Join us the first Friday of the month for various activities with other A UW women!

Friday Get Connected met twice over the summer months.



Friday Get Connected met in July at the Lake Harriet Bandshell for an outdoor

concert .



Fawzia Khan organized the Hopkins Art Crawl event in August. 18 women met for dinner then toured outdoor sculptures in the downtown area and viewed art that was submitted for the State Fair Fine Arts exhibition.

Many thanks
go out to
Velma Wagner
and
Judith Grittner

for leading Friday Get Connected during the 2012-2013 year.

Due to their creative ideas and hard work we had many activities including art talks with women artists, crafting project nights, social media educational sessions and learning about the Myers-Briggs Inventory.

AUW BOARD MEMBERS

***Suzann Willhite, President**

Evelyn Brown, Secretary

Rise Nybakke, Treasurer

Carol Gilbert

****Jane Hallas**

****Mary Helmin**

Fawzia Khan

Marilyn Lamoreux

****Jean Ramlow**

Kristin Siegesmund

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS and NEW PRESIDENT

*A UW's New President, Suzann Willhite

I have been involved with AUW events and membership since I first began attending First Universalist Church in 1989. One of my first and best memories of AUW was attending the Mother/Daughter banquet and the warm welcome both my mother and I received from **Mary Djerf** and **Arlene Jacobson**. That first welcoming experience is what I would wish for others who come to AUW. I have attended many AUW Retreats over the years and served on the planning committee for the 2010 retreat. I have been on the AUW Board for two years and have truly had a fun time, learned a great deal and worked with wonderfully talented women. Professionally, I am happy working for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, where I recently was promoted to a Regional Operations Manager position that allows me to do my part to conserve and manage the state's natural resources.

**A UW's New Board Members:

Jane Hallas

I've been a member of First Universalist for over 30 years but am only now becoming active in AUW. I am really looking forward to digging in, getting to know this wonderful group of women better and making a contribution to the organization.



Jean Ramlow

I moved back to Minneapolis in February of 2012. I wanted to come home after living in Pittsburgh for 6 years and then in Michigan for 22 years. I am glad to be back! I sing in the First Universalist choir and joined AUW last fall. I am glad to be able to serve on the board and learn the ropes!

AUW Fall Retreat with keynote speaker Ann Reed

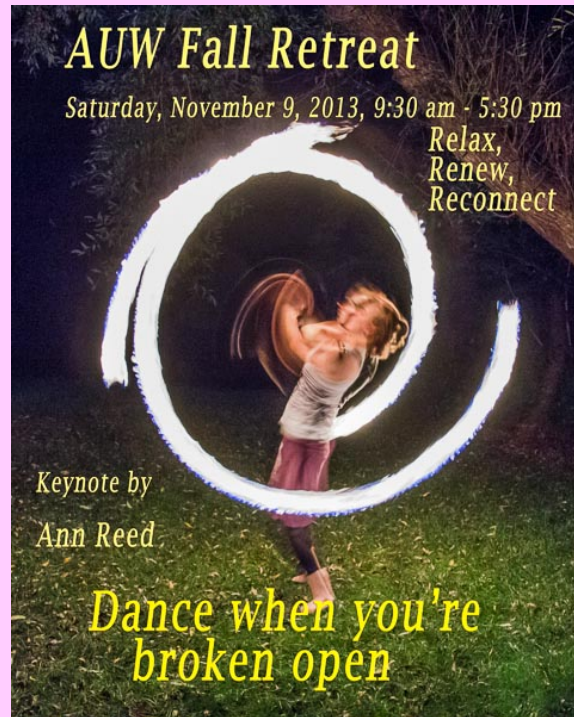


Photo Design by Marilyn Lamoreux

From the committee of Marilyn Lamoreux, Jean Ramlow, Kathy Urberg, and Rebecca Pournoor

This year we are planning a **longer fall retreat** with more choices and it is sure to be an exciting, inspirational, and relaxing experience. Some of the programming and workshops are still being crafted, but we are excited to announce:

- **"Dance When You're Broken Open"** is our theme for the retreat. It is from a Rumi quote: "Dance, when you're broken open. Dance, if you've torn the bandage off. Dance in the middle of the fighting. Dance in your blood. Dance when you're perfectly free."
- **Ann Reed** will be our keynote speaker.
- **Tracy Yue** will be catering a healthy and delicious lunch.

You will not want to miss this opportunity to refresh and renew your spirit.

Registration for the retreat will open at the AUW Fall Kickoff Dinner

(registration is open to **members of A UW** for the first 2 weeks).

An update on A UW's Relationship with 1st Universalist

By Kristin Siegesmund



Last spring we started asking questions about the relationship of A UW to the church and whether A UW should become an official program of the church or remain, as it has for 100 years, an independent women's group strongly affiliated with First Universalist. Issues were raised about A UW's status as a non-profit entity, its tax status and issues of liability for board members since these were the main benefits we could see from joining officially as a church program. If these could be resolved there was no strong reason to give up our independence. At the annual meeting it was agreed that more information was needed. Since the annual meeting the following has happened.

A UW has been renewed as a non-profit. A UW was first organized as a non-profit about 100 years ago. However, that status was dissolved in about 1998. We have learned that in about 1992 the law changed and required all non-profits to reregister annually. Those that failed to do so after a short period of time were dissolved. Obviously A UW was unaware of this legal change back in the 90's and had not made the annual registrations. Happily it was easy to reregister now and A UW was reactivated retroactively.

There is information regarding our tax status. A UW spoke to an attorney that does non-profit work. Being a non-profit does not give an organization tax free status. Technically A UW should have filed tax returns for the last 100 years. But as a practical matter we have no income since our expenses almost always offset our income. So failure to file in the past is not really a problem. We could consider getting some type of exemption from filing tax returns. The easiest is to self-declare as a 504(c)(4) organization. These are not charitable organizations but ones that work for community benefit. Such organizations do not have to pay income taxes and can file a 990N postcard every year. To get this status we need to restate our articles to fit within IRS standards. The lawyer can help us do this for a modest fee. To become a 503(b) (3) which allows us to avoid paying sales tax and to have people donate to A UW tax free is difficult. This process requires an application and proof that we are truly religious or charitable. It's not clear that A UW would qualify for this or that it is worth the effort. We are going forward with the small change needed to become a 503(c)(4) so we do not have to file annual tax returns.

Information on Board Liability-Minnesota law provides that A UW must indemnify any board member who might be sued. This does provide some protection.

However, because the assets of AUW are modest the board has decided to explore the exact cost of officer and director liability insurance which should be less than \$1000 a year.

More information will be available at the fall kick-off.

A History of Our Own



This month we have the next section on AUW history excerpted from the book "100 Years of Liberation 1905-2005 AUW Association of Universalist Women - Minneapolis" by Mary Junge.

Thanks to Mary for her work in documenting our history.

Biography of Mary Garard Andrews (1853-1936) (8)

AUW activist Mary Garard Andrews was an important local and national figure in "Woman suffrage," the temperance movement, the Universalist denomination, and as one of the first women ministers in the United States.

Mary was highly independent and mobile for a woman of her time; she was born in West Virginia in 1853. She supported herself after being orphaned at age twelve, attended two of the first colleges to admit women in Michigan and Illinois—one while she held her first ministerial job at the Free Will Baptist Church in Hillsdale, Michigan. Mary soon converted to Universalism and was ordained as a Universalist minister in 1881; she served Universalist churches in Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois. Mary Garard continued working part-time after marrying Isaac R. Andrews, a lawyer from Omaha, in 1888. In 1911, six years after her husband's death, Mary and her son, Rollin, settled in Minneapolis in order to live near a strong Universalist Church. Active in women's clubs wherever she lived, Mary was a devoted temperance worker, president of the Nebraska Suffrage Association, a national officer of the National Suffrage Association, national chaplain of the Woman's Relief Corps of America, and a Grand Army worker. In Minneapolis, Mary joined Church of the Redeemer (predecessor to First Universalist) and became active in Redeemer's women's group and the statewide Women's Missionary Association. She also joined the Equal Suffrage Association, the Political Equality Club, the Lewis Parliamentary Law Association, the Columbian Club, the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts, Women's Co-operative Alliance, and the Business and Professional Women's Club.

Mary Garard Andrews died in her Minneapolis home in 1936, sixteen years after woman suffrage was achieved. This pioneering woman minister is fondly remembered for these inspiring words: "I never spent much time over the oft controversial question, 'Shall women preach?' I thought the most satisfactory solution of the problem would be for each woman quietly, without ostentation or controversy, to assume her place and let her work speak for itself". (9)

FOOTNOTES:

(8)Written by Mary Junge, 2004, from obituaries and documents from the

Minnesota and Nebraska Heritage Societies and the Harvard School of Divinity. Also see Catherine F. Hitchings, *Universalist and Unitarian Women Ministers*, 2nd ed. (Unitarian Universalist Historical Society, 1985). Photo source: Frances E. Williard and Mary A. Livermore, *A Woman of the Century; Biographical Sketches of Leading American Women* (Buffalo; Charles Wells Moulton, 1893).

(9)Williard and Livermore, *A Woman of the Century*, page 29, quotes Mary Garard Andrews.

Hats for the Homeless



From Barbara Melom

We are beginning our fifth year of knitting hats and scarves for the homeless people in our community. I have been pleasantly surprised at the number of hats that have been dropped off at the church over the summer. The big push comes in November and December when winter is approaching and hats and scarves are delivered to area shelters. However, we have an event on October 28th for homeless teens, and we will need about 100 hats to have on hand (some for babies too). It is time to get out the knitting needles and yarn and start knitting. Last year we collected close to 1600 hats! Please share what we are doing and tell all your knitting friends about the project too.

We are now knitting with a group of women at Vale Place. We are no longer knitting at Ascension Place. Several of the women in our new group knit, but a few need help transitioning from knitting scarves on straight needles to working on circulars for hats. Over the summer, we have been meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm. However, the day and time is flexible if you are interested in knitting with us. Vale Place is on 36th at Hennepin. It is a program for people experiencing mental health issues. Yarn donations are also needed for Vale Place.

To read more about the history of Hats for the Homeless go to:
www.hats4thhomeless.blogspot.com

If you have questions about the project please feel free to contact:
bjm@visi.com or 612-925-3459.

Lastly, watch for upcoming information on Cybercoffee-hour regarding a fall gathering of all the charity knitters.

AUW Voting Rights Working Group

From Jenny Jewell Thomas, Co-Chair Voting Rights Working Group



Join us for a planning meeting at First Universalist Church on September 24, 12:00-1:30 pm (lunch provided) to identify our priorities for 2013-2014. We remain committed to two overall goals grounded in our UU Principles:

1. Protect the right and access to voting for all citizens.
2. Ensure that votes cast are counted and reported accurately.

Our group played an important role in defeating the MN Voter Restriction amendment and we're eager to hear your ideas on where to focus next to strengthen democracy.

Current interests include:

- partnering with MN non-profits to promote turnout for 2014,
- restoring felon voting rights in MN,
- supporting national Move to Amend efforts to reduce the impact of corporations on our democracy (and environment!).

Please RSVP and send questions to

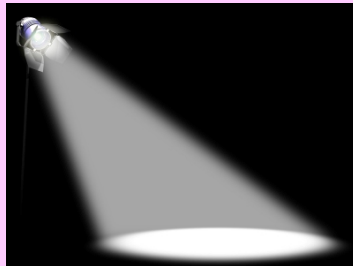
Jenny Jewell Thomas jjt@jjthomas.net or 612-386-5724.

Some other sites of interest may be:

Association of Universalist Women: <http://1uauw.org/>

Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance: www.muusja.org

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



We are featuring AUW women who have successes and/or events to share.

MN Original will feature Artist and AUW board member **Fawzia Khan** on **Monday, October 21 at 7:00 pm on TPT Minnesota.**

Fawzia talks about her background, how she came to make art and reviews her body of work.

Marilyn Lamoreux Photography has an exhibit of her "**Timeless Hawaii**" photos at **Three Sisters' Sludge Coffee Shop**, 4557 Bloomington Ave, Minneapolis during the month of **September.**

Marilyn also teaches **Fall Photography Classes** starting the week of September 16.

Visit her website at www.marilynlamoreux.com to find out about her **Beginner's Mind Photography class**



and

Using Adobe Lightroom class.



Contact Marilyn at marilyn.lamoreux@comcast.net

Shop for Marilyn's photos at her Etsy shop at www.etsy.com/shop/chasedbybeauty

Owner Marilyn Lamoreux Photography LLC

Words to Ponder.....



Photo by Jeanne Verdick

The connections between and among women
are the most feared,
the most problematic,
and the most potentially transforming force on the planet.

[Adrienne Rich](#)

2013 AUW Fall Calendar

- Sept 7th-Potluck hosted by
Jody Beresford and Colleen Cavell
Appetizers at 4:00 pm, Potluck at 5:00 pm
- Sept 20th -Annual AUW Kick-off 2013:
"Celebrating New and Renewed Connections"
6:00 pm in the Social Hall
- Oct 4th -Friday Get Connected-TBD
7:00 pm-Location will be announced
- Nov 1st- Friday Get Connected-TBD
7:00 pm-Location will be announced

NOV 9th-AUW Fall Retreat
9:30 am - 5:30 pm

The newsletter editor is Rita Peterson.

Email Rita at auw.firstuniv@gmail.com with "newsletter" in the subject line.

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