

Who are we, how did we get here?

December 3rd

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato

Minister/Worship Leader

Diane Langeland

Welcome and Announcements: **Susan Chambers**

Good morning! I am [worship associate: **Susan Chambers**].

I am serving as Worship Associate this morning, alongside our guest worship leader, **Diane Langland**. Our minister, Rev. Diana McLean, will be back in the pulpit on **Wednesday December 6th for our Blue Christmas Service**. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato. All of you, whether joining us in person or on Zoom, are welcome in this time that we make sacred together.

We extend an especially warm welcome to you if this is your first time here. We know and appreciate that it can be difficult to cross the threshold of a new church for the first time, whether in person or online.

We humbly acknowledge that before European colonization, the Dakota peoples were stewards of the land on which our Fellowship building sits.

They teach us that the land does not belong to any of us, though it holds the history of our conflicts and our attempts at reconciliation.

And we commit to an ongoing and intentional journey of humble connection with Indigenous peoples, characterized by: understanding our shared history, accepting responsibility for restoration, and building relationships in the here and now. Thus, we seek to be good relatives.

Sunday Morning is a team effort and I'm grateful to all of you willing to serve.

Thank you to today's pianist, Nancy Cramblit.

Director of Children's Faith Development Macey Forsyth will share a story in worship. **This Sunday is a multigenerational service, so our children will remain in the sanctuary rather than going to Children's Chapel.**

Nursery Care is provided by nursery staff member **insert name: Alexander Cienciwa (pronounced sin-seh-wa) and/or Linden Anthony**, and volunteer **insert name. (VERIFY NAMES WITH MACEY)**

Thanks to the sound assistant **???** and Worship Tech Kat Clements.

Thanks to **Dennis Cramblit** for taking care of hearing assistance.

Thanks to our greeters, **insert name(s)**.

If you are new to the Fellowship, we are grateful that you are expanding the “we” who is “us”.

If you are attending by Zoom today, you are welcome to stay after the service to visit together. For those attending in person, we have **coffee and refreshments OR a luncheon** in the Fellowship Hall today thanks to **insert name(s)**.

We are always in need of more people to take turns in those roles that make Sunday mornings possible! We are especially in need of more people to take turns assisting Kat with sound during worship, but there are many

other opportunities as well. There is a clipboard on the hutch in the entryway for you to sign up for one or more ways to serve, and you can still also use SignUp Genius through our website.

Announcements:

Today Diane would like to ask you a favor- (Diane will explain) **A NUGGET**

Insert any announcements

(singing bowl—Diane)

Chalice Lighting (worship associate reads, Diane lights)

Together, let us kindle a flame symbolizing our co-creation of sacred space at home and in this place made sacred by years of love.

As you do, please write in the Chat that a chalice is lit on your street.

And please say the words with me, on the pew cards.

We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the
spirit,
broaden the mind,
nurture the earth, and
build community.

May this flame we kindle remind us to strive,
today and every day,
to love beyond belief.

Call to Worship - Diane

Our call to worship this morning is

“Our Lives Intersect and Intertwine”

by **author**: Author: Tania Marquez

It is a wonder and mystery that our paths have crossed;
That in the immensity of time, in the vastness of space, we coincide here.
I am in awe at the ways in which our lives intersect and intertwine,
at the beauty we create when we gather.
May our coming together make us more compassionate,
more just, more caring, and more loving.
May our hearts and minds be open to this offering.
I am so glad you are here.
Let us worship, let us marvel at the miracle of being here, right now,
and the Mystery that has brought us together.

Come, let us worship together.

Opening Hymn > Diane introduces

Please rise in body or spirit and join in singing our opening hymn “**Enter Rejoice and Come in**” **Grey Hymnal #361**

Story (Susan introduces)

And now our Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth will share a story for all of us.

Joys and Sorrows (Diane)

We arrive today, as we do every week, with both joys and sorrows in our hearts, and part of the promise we make to each other is that we will help celebrate the joys and bear the sorrows. As I share them, **worship associate (or guest of worship associate is speaking)** will light a candle for each of them.

(Read from email/slips)

We arrive here not only with our own personal joys and sorrows, but those from the wider world. This morning, we hold in our hearts (insert relevant current prayer)

For all the sorrows and joys, both those shared and those we hold in the silent sanctuaries of our hearts, we take this breath together, and then sing.

Hymn: Comfort Me Share my Joy

Introduction to the Offering - Susan

Generosity is one of the spiritual qualities we aspire to, and one of the practices we nurture in this community.

With our offering, we give of our resources to support the work of this church. We know that giving financially is only one of the ways we support

that work—we do it, too, with our time and our talents. All three are necessary for the vital work we do, for each other and for the wider community.

You can give in person, as baskets are brought around, or online, using either the QR Code on your Zoom screen and on the pew card, or the giving link on our UUFM webpage.

Please give as generously as you are able.

Offertory

Reading: Susann Author Paul Stephan Dodenhoff

The Freedom to Doubt

The freedom to doubt, to question, to be content to live in Mystery is central to the liberal religious tradition. Like the process of evolution itself, the path that we follow—our practice, if you will—is not easy or simple. It isn't without its dead ends or its disappointments. It doesn't guarantee that all our conclusions will be final or that we will ever find an answer to all of our questions. But also like the process of evolution, it is filled with great expressions of beauty and awe that are

sometimes born of great struggle and at other times come as unexpected Grace.

This morning we are going to explore a little bit into the inner workings of what makes this congregation thrive. We have many congregants serving in different roles and we want you to know who they are.

Who are we? Slide of rolls: board members committee's

Sarah Siefers-Brief description of Board roll. If present

Committee of Shared Ministry (CSM) Tony Filipovitch describes, if present.

UUFM Board Members 2023-2024

Member	Position	Phone Number	E-mail	Start Date	End Date
Sarah Sifers	President	(507) 469-4083	SarahSifersPhD@yahoo.com	2023 (July)	
Jon Grinnell	Vice-President	(507) 934-4838	grinnell@gac.edu	2023 (July)	
Linda Ganske	Secretary	(507) 380-9264	ganske56@gmail.com	2023 (Sept)	
Liz Kipp	Treasurer	(507) 382-0399	kipp.elizabeth086@gmail.com	2021 (July)	
Mike Ferguson	Member		draconiandruid@gmail.com	2023 (July)	
Jon Peterson	Member	(507) 947-3105	Jonmelinda1123@gmail.com	2023(July)	
Kathryn Vonderharr	Member	(507) 508-3071	kjvonder@hickorytech.net	2020 (July)	
Bob Finley	Past President - Ex-off.	(507) 380-1869	finbob@charter.net	2020 (July)	
Rev. Diana McLean	Minister - Ex-officio	(509-389-2927	revdiana.uufm@gmail.com	2023 (Aug)	

UUFM Board Committees and Task Forces—Responsibility of the Board (Fiduciary and Oversight)

Committee	Meeting Time	Chair/Coordinator	Phone #	E-mail	Since
Buildings and Grounds & Technology	3rd Monday, 5:30 p.m.	Dennis Cramblit	(507) 380-7209	cramblit@chartermi.net	2023
Committee on Shared Ministry (CSM)	Non-public	Tony Filipovitch	(507) 388-2264	tonyfil@hickorytech.net	2023
Communications TODD, SHELLY	No regular meetings				2020
Finance Committee	3rd Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.	Paul Murray	(952) 221-1053	PAUL@MCMdd.com	2023
Personnel	3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.	Nancy Cramblit	(507) 380-7202	cramblit@chartermi.net	2023
Membership	2 nd Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Tricia Nienow	(507) 340-7263	tnienow@hickorytech.net	
Stewardship Task Force	No regular Meetings	Tony Fliipovitch	(507) 388-2264	tonyfil@hickorytech.net	2016
	Rummage Sale	No regular Meetings	Linda Ganske (507) 380-9264 Nancy Cramblit (507) 380-7207 Karen Knox (208) 241-2088	ganske56@gmail.com cramblit@chartermi.net karenknox@gmail.com	
	Silent Auction	No regular Meetings	Susan Chambers (507) 387-8154	schambersmediator@yahoo.com	

UUFM Ministry Teams—Responsibility of Staff (Programs and Operations)

Team	Meeting Time	Team Lead	Phone #	E-mail	Since
Children's Faith Development (Director of CFD)	1 st Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.	Macey Forsyth	(507) 995-7929	cfddirector@uumankato.org	
Connections (Minister) PENNY	1st Wednesday, 12:00 p.m.	Tricia Nienow	(507) 340-7263	tnienow@hickorytech.net	2017
	Greeters	No regular meetings			
	Hospitality	No regular meetings	Sue Wiltgen (507) 387-3547	suewilt@hickorytech.net	
	Luncheons	No regular meetings	Lee Ganske (507) 766-5947	lee.ganske@gmail.com	2018
Lay Pastoral Associates	Meet 1 X / month	Nancy Cramblit Diane Dobitz Mary Beth Trembly	(507) 380-7207 (507) 995-9715 (507) 387-4747	cramblit@chartermi.net dianedobitz1@gmail.com mbrady@charter.net	
Pride Team	No regular meetings	Nancy Cramblit Nancy Blethen Diane Langland	(507) 380-7207 (507) 381-1652 (507) 583-3955	cramblit@chartermi.net njblethen@gmail.com dianelangland@gmail.com	
Care Team (Minister)	2nd Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Karen Knox (Chair) DeeAnn Nelson	(208) 241-2088 (507) 382-4687	kareneknox@gmail.com djnelson@hickorytech.net	
Safety (Office Administrator)	No regular meetings	Shelly Storm	(507) 381-3194	uumankato@gmail.com	
Worship (Minister)	2nd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.	Susan Chambers Liz Kipp Linda Ganske Diane Dobitz	(507) 387-8154 (507) 382-0399 (507) 380-9264 (507) 995-9715	schambersmediator@yahoo.com kipp.elizabeth086@gmail.com ganske56@gmail.com dianedobitz1@gmail.com	2021

GREEN Sanctuary Renewal Team: Current Membership. All are welcome to join and participate. Meetings are the 4th Wed. of every month.

Liz and Steve Kipp: lizandsteve.kipp@gmail.com

UU THE VOTE – core group

Bob Finley: finbob@charter.net

Kathy Brynaert: mnflipnb@hickorytech.net

Gail Finley: finleygail@hotmail.com

Sean Easton: seaneaston77@gmail.com

Dennis Cramblit: cramblit@chartermi.net

Dennis Siemer: dksiemer@gmail.com

Cathi Fouchi: cmfkend@gmail.com

Penny Herickhoff: phcanoe@gmail.com

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship: uumankato@gmail.com

Tricia Nienow: tnienow@hickorytech.net

Hymn (**worship associate** introduces)

#number 1074 Teal Hymnal “Turn The World Around ”

Sermon (**Diane Langland**)

Enjoy our closing song and indeed “Spread it around”

817 Oakland Avenue by Charlie Parr

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=kuOY8SoGqg8>

Chalice Extinguishing (**worship associate** speaks, **Rev. Diana or guest worship leader** extinguishes both chalice and candles of joy and sorrow)

As **Rev. Diana or guest worship leader** extinguishes the sanctuary chalice, please extinguish your chalice at home, and say the words with me:

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

Benediction - Rev. Diana or guest worship leader

**Singing Benediction: Rev. Diana or worship associate if guest speaker
not from UUFM introduces**

I now invite you to turn toward each other for our singing benediction,
blessing each other with these words, knowing that we are each a blessing
to each other and to the world.

May the longtime sun shine upon you

All love surround you

And the pure pure light that's within you

Guide your way home.

