

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE UNITED UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION HISTORY

Many of the Unitarians and Universalists in Mukwonago contributed money and labor toward the building of the Congregational Church, with the understanding that they could use the building for their services.

- After holding two services and a funeral, the UU's were told they could no longer use the building.
- The two groups decided to join together to build their own church.
- The charter for the Unitarian and Universalist Society of Mukwonago was granted on December 17, 1877.
- The use of the two UU names in the church's official title anticipated by eighty-four years, their merger in 1961. However, in practice, the church was universalist until the national merger in 1961.
- The congregation paid \$77 for the land and \$2,000 to build a New England style church with the sanctuary upstairs, and a ground floor meeting room. The building was dedicated in 1879.
- The church became the hub of village life and provided a source of revenue for the congregation.
- In some years the church made more money from renting the hall than it did from the contributions of its members. It was used for auctions, elections, livestock sales, socials, dances, lectures, etc. It also housed the first village library.

WOMEN PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CHURCH

- As was the custom only men served on the church board, but they asked the women to help raise the money to build the new church+. Two women, Esther Blood and Ella Johnston, raised enough money to cover the cost of the building.
- Rev. Florence Kollock spend the summer of 1879 helping prepare for the 3-day dedication of the church.
- Rev. Carrie A, Rice (1889 – 90) was our first full time minister.
- Rev. Olympia Brown of Racine, Wisconsin, the first woman to be ordained a minister in the U.S. by a regular denomination and an important worker in the women's suffrage movement, served as a part time minister in Mukwonago from 1893 to 1895.

RECENT HISTORY

- **May 10, 2007** Sold the church building on Main Street.
- **January 2008** Congregation purchased 6.8 acres land on Miramar Road.
- **November 2011** Called a congregational meeting for **January 8, 2012** to present our new building plan.
- **December 2, 2011** Discovered Washington Avenue was for sale. Three weeks later we put in an offer to purchase the building, subject to congregational approval.
- **January 8, 2012** Congregation approved the purchase.
- **February 19, 2012** Changed our name to the United Unitarian Universalist Congregation.
- **February 24, 2012** Moved to Washington Avenue.
- **March 4, 2012** Held our first service in Waukesha.

Our new members still sign the original book that was used when the church was founded.