

UUCCPF Community News

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

November, 2012

Park Forest, IL



The President's Column by Bruce Swiecicki

Sunday Worship Schedule 10:00 AM

November 4:
"You Say potato. . .
I Hear Apple."
Musings on the Word GOD"
By Nancy Irons

November 11:
"Doing The Right Thing:
Dietrich Bonhoeffer"
By Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo

November 18:
"For the Love of Quirks"
By Dave Matteson

November 25:
"The Poor Have Only
**Christmas" (A Service on
Awareness and Compassion)**
By The Bittersweet Christmas
Band: February Sky (Susan Urban
& Phil Cooper) plus the marvel-
ously talented Margaret Nelson &
Kate Early).

Bruce Swiecicki
President

Darlene Obejda
Vice-President

Richard Treptow
Treasurer

Diane O'Connor
Office Administrator

Musings at 33,000 Feet

On a four and a half hour flight to Portland from Chicago, one has plenty of time to reflect on things, and such is the case with me today.

"Let us endeavor to live so that when we die even the undertaker will be sad." - Mark Twain

I greatly lament the fact that my job requires me to travel today, because otherwise I'd surely be attending a memorial service for one of the pillars of UUCC. Pat Humbert truly exemplifies the person Mr. Twain describes. Her unyielding cheerfulness and optimism, combined with a willingness to share her natural gift as a creator of artwork that served the purposes of the church, has set an example that we should all strive to emulate. And she maintained her attitude and talents while she struggled mightily against the debilitating physical afflictions that sapped her strength and mobility. In the end, her courage was made evident as she chose to forego further medical treatments that could possibly prolong her life, in favor of a peaceful passing from this existence. It was so heartwarming to hear Ellen Livingston describe that courage and ingenuity during a time when Pat served as the church secretary in the 1960's, and she was the only person who was able to coax the building's heating system into operation when it would stop working during the cold winter months. I have been blessed for having known Pat and I hope that Dick and the rest of the Humbert family know they can count on UUCC to support them as they move forward without their beautiful matriarch.

This past weekend we celebrated in grand style the 60th anniversary of UUCC. It was an enriching experience hearing from Ellen Livingston, Martin Steindler and Martin Woulfe, some of the ministers and members who served our church in past years, as well as Suzie Brown's reading of Edgar Peara's contribution. And of course, the musical performances were supremely entertaining. Congratulations to Catherine Blair for her years of showing "true grit" in maintaining a relationship with our church even under the most adverse of circumstances. I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the event in any way, including Colin Kirchner for his mastering of the ceremonies and good natured humor, and especially Pat Segner for demonstrating once again why she is so valued and appreciated by the members of UUCC.

Bruce

Report on October 9th Board of Trustees Meeting

The following are some of the highlights from the Board of Trustees meeting October 9th:

- The Board is reviewing material sent from our insurance agency, Church Mutual, to insure that we have in place the proper insurance to protect members of the church who volunteer to serve in leadership positions.
- The Board voted to approve a request from Miracle Center Church to change the due date of its rental payment from the 8th of the month to the 19th of the month.
- The Board will be considering bids to replace the furnace serving the sanctuary.
- The Board agreed that in order to receive the widest input from church members on efforts to “beautify” the church grounds, it would hold an “idea solicitation session” on December 2 in conjunction with Community Sunday. An opportunity will be given to any person or group that would like to make a presentation on how best to utilize the property. More details will follow.

Day of Zen

Saturday, December 8, 2012 at
The Unitarian Universalist Church

Steve McCabe from the Wetlands Zen Group presents a day of meditation that includes instruction in sitting meditation, walking meditation, and support through sharing of experiences.

Time: 9am to 4pm includes a lunch break from 12 noon to 1pm. Please bring your own food and beverage or something to share with the group.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Park Forest

Cost: \$15 To register call 708-481-5339
Or email diane@uucpf.org.
All proceeds go UUCCPF.

Board Solicits Proposals on Grounds

UUC will be holding a special session during **Community Sunday on December 2** for members that are interested in sharing ideas about what we can do to make our church building and grounds more attractive and useful. We have already taken steps to eradicate the poison ivy on our property and have cut down many of the weeds that were growing immediately adjacent to the building. The Board of Trustees is soliciting input on what additional steps are needed and will make available the guidelines that will be used to compare proposals to one another. If you are interested in presenting a proposal at the December 2 Community Sunday, please **contact [Bruce Swiecicki](#)** to receive the guidelines for proposals.

IN MEMORY OF PAT HUMBERT JUNE 9, 1932 - OCTOBER 11, 2012



On Oct. 22, 2012 a heartfelt Memorial Service was held for a long time member of UUC, Pat Humbert. Pat died of congestive heart failure in Hospice care on October 11, 2012. Her family was by her side. Her Memorial Service was conducted by Rev. Ellen Livingston, former UUC minister. Rev. Livingston had been our minister in the 1970's when Pat was the church secretary.

Each of her daughters, Jennifer Humbert, Johanna Humbert, Melissa Humbert and son, David Humbert as well as Kelly Hallin gave a memory or reading at the service. Friends shared memories of Pat's art work and her sense of humor. Dick Humbert, husband, now 88 years old and recuperating from an illness at Prairie Manor, was able to attend the memorial service and greet people. There were about 100 persons at the service with reception to follow.



November Forum Sundays @ 11:30am

November 4: No Forum, Community Sunday.

November 11: "Care of the Earth." Hurricane Sandy in relationship to global warming and why

this is the "new normal."

November 18: "The Compassionate Use of Medical Marijuana for Seriously Ill Patients." A personal testimony and a defense of the Illinois House Bill 30, by Joy Grainge and Maryann Lancar. joygrainge@me.com

November 25: THANKSGIVING WEEKEND, NO FORUM

The Chalice Lighter Grant by Barb Morris

My vision, when I saw the application for the Chalice Lighter Grant, was to fix up our building and grounds as a community service center. We could rent our church for events and have extra income plus expanding our mission. Service is our prayer. We can reach out to "The Church of the Larger Fellowship" - people who are seekers of spirituality. The possibilities are endless - After School Tutoring, Peace Rallies, Jazz events, Corporate Retreats, Social Justice Rallies, a Connection with PADS, Aunt Martha's to name a few.



With beautiful grounds, we could host weddings outside like the Palos Community Center Chapel and use the \$500 for our ministry. We could expand our services to the community to include Education, Music, Art, Diversity, Green Sanctuary and Social Events incorporating our Seven Principles. We can have a safe sanctuary where people will feel accepted. Everyone wants to belong.

A team of us have been working on the formal grant. Come join us. Add your vision to the collective consciousness. Become a Chalice Lighter. I see our Unitarian Universalist symbol (Flaming Chalice) as: we are the cup, and Courage & Enlightenment are the flame.

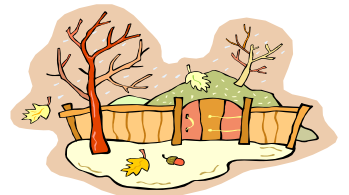
A table will be set up in the Gathering Room on Community Sunday, November 4th to sign up Chalice Lighters. Bring your written ideas to scan into the Grant. ~Barb Morris

Chicago Live! Coming to Center of Performing Arts on Nov 1st!

Get your tickets to *Chicago Live!*, a live stage show, coming to the Center for Performing Arts on Thursday, November 1, at 7 p.m. This is a unique opportunity to experience the live taping of a radio show and enjoy exceptional talent, conversation, and entertainment.

Chicago Live! is produced by the Chicago Tribune for WGN-AM Radio. Participating in this 90-minute live taping, hosted by veteran reporter and author Rick Kogan, are Second City, Cliff Kelly, WVON radio host and former Chicago alderman; Barnaby Struve; vice president of Three Floyds Beer; travel and beer writer Josh Noel, Tribune columnist Dawn Turner Trice and hip-hop artist Psalm One. The show will be broadcast on WGN-AM on Nov 3rd at 11 a.m.

[Tickets are \$20]





Our 60th Anniversary Celebration



What's going on in RE? Dan Feldt, Director of RE



I want to thank everyone who helped create “Zombies for UNICEF.” There was one group who read through the UNICEF material and came up with the facts that were part of the presentation. Another group created the punishment warnings for non-generous giving. Our only rehearsal was in classroom 1 during the first part of Sunday’s service. But like the troupers they are, the cast of zombies and humans did a great job, as you can see from the pictures.

We all had a wonderful time. I'll be submitting this article before Sunday, October 28th, but I'm sure it will be a successful start for our collection campaign. I feel that service projects are an important part of a religious education program, and I hope to do a few more this year. Thanks for your generosity in advance.



As part of our curriculum “Neighboring Faiths,” we'll be visiting Temple Anshe Sholom on November 9th. This will be the service that honors their veterans. I'm interested to find out how this service differs from others. After the service, the children are invited to join the congregation for refreshments. The rabbi has agreed to sit down with them and answer their questions about the Jewish faith. We'll be creating those questions during class the previous Sunday. As the initial field trip, I think this will be a very rewarding experience.

I'm still looking for a few more classroom assistants, so if you are interested, please let me know. FYI – First Friday is on November 3rd. Come join the fun, and bring a friend!

~Dan

Around UCCPF

Rainbow Café

Rainbow Cafe is a social event that provides a safe and welcoming environment for single or partnered gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender adults and their allies, by creating a space where they are able to socialize outside of the usual bars.

The Café is open every 1st Saturday of the month from 7:30-9:30 pm. For more info contact Dave Matteson. 708-672-8837 or 708-408-1421.

Note: This month Rainbow Café will meet on November 17th at a new time: 6:30pm

Choir Rehearsals



Please join us for choir practices on **Tuesdays at 7:30pm.**

For more info contact bevfeldt@gmail.com.

Silent Meditation



Silent Meditation is being held in the gathering room every **2nd and 4th Mondays of every month from 7:30 - 8:30p.m.**

For more information, contact Diane between 10am & 4pm at 708-481-5339 on Mon, Tues, Thurs or Friday.

A Moment in Balance



Yoga Classes by Karen Nielsen
Monday and Thurs
9:30am – 11am
Wednesday evenings
7:30pm – 9pm

No reservations needed. Drop in fee is \$10 per class and the 6th one is FREE. Call (708) 755-3577 for information

Drum Circle



3rd Friday of each month: 7-9pm

Come enjoy the soothing therapeutic effect of our open drum circle.

Drumming is fun and good for you. The circle is "zero level," requiring no experience. Please bring a drum if you have one. We will have a small selection of community drums just in case.

A \$10 love offering is requested. For more information email Andy at:

DrumUCC@yahoo.com

Community/Potluck Sunday

Community/Potluck Sunday is the first Sunday of each month. Join your friends after church for a light lunch. We especially need main dishes.”

UCCPF Social Issues Free Movie & Discussion

There will not be a movie night in November or December due to the holidays.

We need help getting posters for RAINBOW CAFÉ into coffee shops, bars, music spots, movie theaters, etc. in the surrounding suburbs.

Please pick up poster(s) in the Gathering Room, and list (on the clipboard page on the round table) the places where you will take a poster. Clarify that it should NOT be removed as we meet monthly. Please return extra posters to Gathering Room as they are costly.

Dave Matteson

Dances of Universal Peace...



...are Circle, Meditative, Prayerful dances to the mantras from all World Religions. They originated with Murshid Samuel Lewis, a Sufi teacher, in San Francisco in the late 1960's. We meet from 1pm-3pm at UCC. Nancy Pfalscraft, a certified D.U.P. teacher, is our primary leader.

For more info call: Pat Segner 748-2217

Next Dances of UP: November 17th 1-3pm

November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30am Yoga	2 6:30pm Family First Friday	3
4 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Community Sunday - No Forum	5 9:30am Yoga	6 ELECTION DAY 7:30pm Choir	7 7:30pm Yoga	8 9:30am Yoga	9	10 8pm Edgar's Place "Mustard's Retreat"
11 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum	12 9:30am Yoga 7:30pm Meditation	13 7pm Board Meets 7:30pm Choir	14 7:30pm Yoga	15 9:30am Yoga	16 7pm Drumming	17 9am Yoga Workshop 1pm Dances of UP 6:30pm Rainbow Café
18 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum	19 9:30am Yoga	20 7:30pm Choir	21 7:30pm Yoga	22 Thanksgiving Day 	23	24 7pm Bittersweet Christmas Band Concert
25 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum	26 9:30am Yoga 7:30pm Meditation	27 7pm Council Meets 7:30pm Choir	28 7:30pm Yoga	29	30	



"A few days ago I walked along the edge of the lake and was treated to the crunch and rustle of leaves with each step I made. The acoustics of this season are different and all sounds, no matter how hushed, are as crisp as autumn air."
- Eric Sloane



Green Sanctuary Committee - by Robin Barrett

Five of us met during the First Sunday Community Potluck in Classroom 3. Our new member, Ben, shared a bit about his interest in Native American Spirituality. He mentioned the book, "Brother Wolf" that sparked his desire to learn more.

DeAnn Wilson brought, "Safe Shoppers Bible, A Consumers' Guide to Non-Toxic Household Products, Cosmetics and Food" by David Steinman and Samuel Epstein, M.D. Many thanks to her for the following recommendation.

"My motivation for reading this book was to find safe products for use in my home. I have experienced respiratory problems as a result of using some cleaners. I wanted to share the information with folks at church through the Green Sanctuary. Healthy people who want to stay that way, in addition to environmental activists and those who are chemically sensitive will find this book helpful. When we are proactive consumers, we let our dollars speak for our values.

This book recognizes escalating concern for making informed shopping decisions. We all know that some of the products we use can cause physical reactions. Now, more concerns are being raised about undisclosed chemicals. The current state of the art is to push for legislation that requires full disclosure of all ingredients.

Items were evaluated by obtaining information from MSD sheets, World Health Organization, International Agency for Research on Cancer, National Toxicology Program, EPA, FDA and utilization of The Freedom of Information Act. Resulting charts were easy to interpret, shopping cart symbols indicated levels of risk and recommendations. Check out the appendix for resources, activities and organizations. I found the sample letter to the White House helpful.

Originally written in 1995 most of the information is still relevant today. However, I am sure there are more recent resources available. Please let me know of any you have come across." DeAnn Wilson

(At this point products with triclosan are being avoided at church).

Ever since using the beeswax candles, we have saved the drippings. We had a good time making recycled candles two years ago. The closet in classroom three has a nice honey smell from our storing the used wax. We are in the process of setting a date for another candle making party. Please let us know if you would like to come play.

November 15th is International Fast for World Hunger sponsored by Oxfam.

"...Let our thanksgiving for Life's bounty include a commitment to changing the world, that those who are now hungry may be filled and those without hope may be given courage. Amen." Congregation of Abraxas

This month's full moon is The Beaver Moon, time of preparation for winter and reminder to recreate ourselves.

Our thoughts are with committee member, Dick Humbert, in the passing of his wife, Pat. We look forward to his joining us soon.

~Namaste

UPCOMING CONCERTS AT UUCC

Mustard's Retreat



For the past four decades, Mustard's Retreat (David Tamulevich & Michael Hough) has been entertaining audiences with its special brand of folk music. Highly acclaimed as not only songwriters, but as interpreters of traditional and contemporary songs and stories, their show is full of enthusiasm, good humor and fine musicianship.

November 10th 8PM

Adults: \$15.00 Kids: \$10.00



The Bittersweet Christmas Band

The holidays are a mixed bag and so is the Bittersweet Christmas Band!

From Thanksgiving through December 25th, traditional artists Phil Cooper, Kate Early and Margaret Nelson join forces with songwriter and "wise" woman Susan Urban for a show that presents every possible perspective on the holiday season from the reverent to the ridiculous.

Two to four-part harmonies and masterful instrumentation on guitar, banjo, mountain dulcimer, hand drum and other percussion instruments make the Bittersweet Christmas Band an act not to be missed!



November 24th 7PM

Adults: \$15.00 Kids: \$10.00

Church Information

70 Sycamore Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
PHONE: 708-481-5339
E-Mail: diane@uuccpf.org
Web: www.uuccpf.org

Office Administrator

Diane O'Connor
Office Hours:
M, T, Th, F: 10am - 4pm
Wednesdays: Closed

(Please note from time to time some office hours vary)

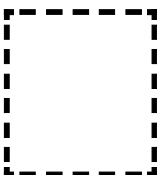
Newsletter deadline is always the 20th of every month

****You can help save a tree and a stamp by simply picking up your newsletter or receiving it electronically via email.***

Visit us on the web @ www.uuccpf.org



Return Service Requested



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