The UUCC community lost another dear friend with the passing of Fen Taylor. Although Fen was only with us for a relatively short while, we were very fortunate to benefit from his energy and talents as an environmentalist, a sailor, a physicist and friend. His energy and commitment to beautifying the UUCC building and grounds was contagious and when he spoke, people listened. I suppose that came from the many years he spent teaching physics at Moraine Valley Community College. Although Fen will no longer be with us, he left a legacy that includes a generous financial contribution to the health and wellbeing of the UUCC building and grounds. We will do our best to deliver on the faith that he showed in us all.

As we are heading towards spring, we are planning for our annual renewal of commitment to the UUCC. Rich Treptow and Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo are heading up the effort for the Pledge Drive and the Fellowship Dinner, respectively. The dinner will feature fine Italian Cuisine from a local caterer and of course, great entertainment and inspiring talks from many of our own church members. I hope you will join us on the weekend of April 6-7 for these two very important events in the life of our church community.

In closing, I’d like to thank all those who give of themselves and their time to make our church “go.” Your efforts and passion are well appreciated and serve as inspiration to the rest of us as we reflect on the value of the liberal and creative church community that we are all a part of.

~Bruce

"Fenwick was a wonderful father, son, husband, grandparent and friend, and will be fondly remembered as an intellectual, philosopher, truth seeker, teacher, sailor, volunteer, trivia expert as well as for his generosity and witty sense of humor."
Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Park Forest

Annual Fellowship Dinner

SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 2013
Cocktails at 6:00 pm
Dinner at 7:00 pm
Program at 8:00 pm

This Event serves as a Prelude to our PLEDGE DRIVE 2013-2014
Join us for Wonderful Fellowship, Inspiring Speakers, and Fabulous Entertainment
All Members & their Guests are invited to this Celebration of our Community of Faith

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
70 Sycamore Drive, Park Forest, IL 60466

Tickets: $20.00
(Please Reserve Your Tickets Now)
(If help is needed in purchasing a ticket, please contact our office)

For Information, please call 708.481.5339

Eat, Drink, and Be Generous!

We invite you to join us on
Pledge Sunday - April 7th, 2013
to make a pledge of
your financial support
for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

During the Community Sunday lunch following the church service you will have an opportunity to meet with a member of the Pledge Drive Team to discuss the role of our community of faith in your life and the need for a sustainable budget for promoting our many programs. If you are comfortable signing a pledge card at that time you may do so, or you may request time for further thought.
March 3: No Forum, Community Sunday.

March 10: “Care of the Earth” - Rich Treptow will give a slideshow presentation which will review the causes, consequences and cures for climate change. It will be followed by a discussion of current climate change issues, such as fracking, the Keystone XL pipeline, and the proposed carbon tax.

March 17: 17 “Journey to the Universe” is a film presenting evolutionary philosopher Brian Thomas Swimme's suggestion that the evolution of the universe and its life is as powerful a "myth" for inspiring awe and reverence as the two creation myths in Genesis. Dave Matteson will lead the discussion.

March 24: June Gerrish will present “The Tradition of Non-violent Resistance, as demonstrated in the Life of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi of Myanmar (Birma).” June has been a peace activist for decades, and is the former co-chair of Illinois Peace Action. She has spent much time studying the life of this courageous and inspiring living example of creative non-violent activism.

March 31: To Be Announced

Canvass Team Meeting
Sunday, March 24th
at 11:30 am

Our Canvass Team will have a brief meeting after church on March 24th. We will make plans for the annual Pledge Drive coming up on April 7th.

You are invited to attend the meeting if you are committed to serve as a pledge canvasser or if you would like to share your thoughts and encouragement.

For more information—call Rich Treptow 708-747-0649.

Report on February 12th
Board of Trustees Meeting

The following are some of the highlights from the Board of Trustees meeting February 12th:

- The Board gratefully received a generous contribution from Fen Taylor, to be used for the beautification of the UUCC building and grounds.

- Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo will lead a task force that will continue working on the building and grounds.

- The Board continued its planning for the annual Pledge Drive and Fellowship Dinner.

- A visioning and planning workshop will be held for board members on March 30, to be led by Ralph Mortensen.

Catherine Blaire will be going to St. James Olympia Fields hospital on Monday, March 4th for surgery. Please send cards to Beecher Manor, or call ahead if visiting the hospital.
As I predicted in my last column, we found the United Methodist church quite different from the Ukrainian Orthodox church. St. Andrew has some beautiful stained glass windows which were created by an Evanston artist, Italo Botti. The service was familiar to us, as it followed the same general outline as our service. We were invited to join in the open communion that the Methodist church offers. In the end, we decided not to.

In order to decrease the likelihood of spreading flu germs within the congregation, the church was using for the first time what the minister called a “snack pack” for communion. It was a small cup of grape juice with a foil top and attached to the foil was the communion wafer. The congregation discussed this new item at some length (which made us feel right at home), and then the service continued smoothly.

What we’ve found to be universally true during our visits to the synagogue and the Orthodox and Methodist churches is that people are warm and friendly and interested in sharing their joy in the faith that sustains them.

The next trip this Sunday will be to the Hindu temple in Lemont. It promises to be a fascinating experience.

Are you interested in a very special trip to the middle-east that looks at the Palestinian issue from both sides, as well as visiting the places of importance in Christian tradition and history? The trip Dave Matteson presented (slide shows at 2 Forums) is being repeated, leaving North America on April 1st and will include 7 days in Egypt and a cruise down the Nile from Aswan to Luxor. There’s room for a few more participants. The evening sharing group makes the trip more personal. Contact Dr. Garth Mundle, trip director, by email soon.
exploremore@yahoo.ca
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 Cafe is open every 3rd Saturday of the month from 6:30-10:30 pm. More info: Dave Matteson 708-672-8837 or 708-408-1421.

This month Rainbow Cafe will meet on March 16th at 6:30pm

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. A $10 love offering is requested.

Do you like to sing?
Come join the UUCC choir! You don’t have to read music, have a trained voice, or have sung in a choir before. All ages and ranges of musical experience are welcome. The choir sings in the service on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. We practice at 8:30 a.m. on those Sunday mornings and every Tuesday evening at 7:30. Hope to see you! Questions? Email Beverly Feldt at 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 - 8:30 p.m.

UUCPF Social Issues
Free Movie & Discussion

NO Movie Night in March.
The next Free Movie & Discussion Night will be Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m., showing Dr. Joel Fuhrman's "Cook to Live!" (two 40 minute cooking films) preceded with an optional vegan Pot Luck dinner at 6 o'clock.

Free coffee, tea, and popcorn. Join in the lively discussion following the film. Invite friends! Optional donations welcome. Optional: Bring a snack or non-alcoholic drink to share.

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 UUCC. Nancy Pfalscraft, a certified D.U.P. teacher, is our primary leader.

For more info call: Pat Segner 748-2217
Next Dances of UP: March 16th 1-3pm

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On the Light Side….

**HOW MIGHT YOU KNOW THAT YOU’RE A UU?**

You might be a Unitarian Universalist if you think the Holy Trinity is “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.”
Take a mindful journey with Unitarian Universalists and their friends to India, November 5-18, 2013:

Visit the renown Golden Temple in the Punjab, and experience the incredible one-of-a kind, once-a-year Pushkar Camel Fair in Rajasthan. Art and frescos, ornate palaces, spectacular hill top forts -- the varied architecture and art on our journey will be memorable. Visiting Hindu, Sikh, and Jain temples, we'll learn their history and beliefs. We'll stay in small Heritage Hotels and two nights in a tented camp. At the end of our journey it will be possible for you to add the Taj Mahal or other places in India.

Taking a mindful journey is about being alive in the moment, being wide-awake, being present to what is on our path. No better place to do that than India! This will be the Best Exotic Marigold adventure ever! Email beverlz@me.com or see www.nuuc.ca Mindful Journeys, for more information. UU Rev. Wayne Walder will accompany us. -- Beverly Carr, Neighbourhood UU Congregation, Toronto, Canada.

Lenten Taize Prayer Service

Date: Thursday, March 7th Time: 7:30pm
Location: Infant Jesus of Prague 1131 Douglas Avenue Flossmoor, IL

This one hour service consists of simple songs, scripture, a service of light, periods of silence and meditation, and a time for voicing our petitions. All are warmly invited for this opportunity to rest and reflect during this season. For more info: Amy Pellettiere at mamie@wans.net or 708-754-6351.

WINE COUNTRY HOLIDAY

The UU’s of Napa, California proudly announce the eighth season of our Wine Country Excursions. Again, we offer several options for an inside look at one of America’s most beautiful areas, internationally known for fine wines, gourmet dining and spectacular vistas.

There is much to see and do in the Napa and Sonoma valleys, e.g. wine tasting at renowned and boutique wineries; visits to art galleries and museums; exploring the natural beauty of our hills and valleys on miles of hiking and bike trails or by car on our highways and back country roads. Napa is an hour from San Francisco by car or ferry.

We offer two choices: Both start with comfortable lodging in members’ homes with full breakfast (up to 3 nights). You can choose a 2-day “Wine Country Excursion,” (a guided, personalized tour conducted by one of our members--some with wine industry experience) or lodging and self-guided touring. If desired, we provide guidance, maps, etc. UU ministers will be personally guided by our minister, Rev. Bonnie Dlott.

The program runs from April through October. Our fees are well below market rate for comparable services and all proceeds go to our small fellowship. For complete details contact: Iris Barrie at 707.363.7552 or barrie001@comcast.net. We look forward to sharing our lovely “home” with you!
Church Camp Out

Saturday, June 1st - Monday, June 3rd (Noon)
Indiana Dunes State Park
Chesterton, IN

- Nissaki Group Camp #1 (across from the regular campgrounds)
- Entrance Fee: $15 per car
- Camping paid by the church
- Bring your own food and equipment
- There are hotels in Chesterton
- Shared campfire cook-out Saturday Night / Nature center on Sunday

Camping will be free at Nissaki Group Camp 1. The site is only for tents but there are washrooms and shelter with electric. If you do not want to camp, you can set up rooms at the Spring House Inn.

www.springhouseinn.com  219-926-8258

Directions: Take 94 East to 49.
Follow the signs to the State Park.
(Sign up sheet on bulletin board)
Dennis Fisher is a long time member of the Joliet Unitarian Universalist Church who has led dozens of services over the years in the Chicago area.

Dennis is a retired educator with interests in creating music, art prints, plays, and sermons - all of which focus on the spiritual journey. He is particularly interested in the intersection of science and affairs of the spirit, as well as what genetic research tells us about the human experience.

He will be leading a workshop called "Documenting the Journey - Creating a Record of our Spiritual Equity" which will give participants the opportunity to record the experiences in their spiritual journey that led them to where they are today. Workshop participants will do exercises and be given guidance on how to get their story on paper.

Reserve your spot now for this workshop by calling Diane at 708-481-5339. A $10 donation and a dish to share are requested for this 5 hour seminar and pot luck lunch. The workshop is from 10am - 3pm on Saturday, March 9th. The journalists have the option of sharing their work at our service the next morning. Space is limited to 20 people. (We will include other churches if we do not fill 20 spaces).

The Unitarian Universalist Community Church
70 Sycamore Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
708-481-5339
www. uuccpf.org
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