General Assembly is Upon Us!

It’s sometimes easy to forget that we at UUCC are members of a larger group, the Unitarian Universalist Association. The UUA functions as the umbrella organization for all the churches that ascribe to our common principles and have met the other qualifications necessary to join the association. Of course, there are annual dues involved and for the last several years we’ve had to cut back on our contribution to the association. However, there must be some financially strong congregations out there because the UUA continues to function and provide a voice for all of our congregations on the world’s stage of events.

One of the benefits of belonging to the UUA is the opportunity to help decide policy for the organization. The annual General Assembly is coming up in Louisville, KY, June 19-23. There will be several issues to be discussed and voted upon at that meeting, including an election of the leadership for the UUA. Based on its size, each congregation is awarded a certain number of voting delegates to the meeting. In our case, we have two delegate credentials to be distributed. At this time, Barb Anderson is planning to attend the General Assembly and she will be given a credential to vote. We hope to find another representative as well. Some of the more prominent issues include a draft Statement of Conscience “Immigration as a Moral Issue” and several amendments to the UUA Bylaws and Rules. The entire agenda can be found at [UUA Agenda](https://uu.org/assembly). It’s worth your time to read it and become familiar with the issues that our association grapples with.

As summertime arrives and we take full advantage of the gifts that nature has to offer, I’d like to express my best wishes to a great steward of the earth, Robin Barrett. I join with everyone’s hope and prayer for a full and complete recovery from her illness.

~Bruce
The following are some of the highlights from the Board of Trustees meeting May 14th:

- The Board passed a proposed budget for the 2013-2014 church year.
- The Board approved a motion to repair the sliding glass doors in the sanctuary, using the same glass panels. Because of the cost involved, two of the panels will become fixed rather than operable.
- The Board approved the hiring of Dorea LaPorte to the part-time position of Marketing Coordinator, to generate opportunities to produce income for UUCC.

Summer Retreats at Siena Retreat Center
5635 Erie St, Racine WI
For info, contact
retreats@racinedominicans.org or 262-639-4100 x1234 or visit www.SienaRetreatCenter.org. Costs include non-refundable deposit, accommodations and meals.

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Midwest Leadership School 2013 for Youth and Adults
Find room to grow in a safe, immersive environment.
Experience an intense week of small-group activities.
Nurture your sense of the sacred through personal and shared theological exploration. July 14th –20th (At the beautiful Beloit College Campus). Register at mwls.org.

Don’t forget to -
Check out our Website AND
Check out our Facebook Fan Page.
Click on “Like” to join and receive church updates. If you like a post, click on “share” and share the post with YOUR facebook friends so that we can spread the word about all of the great things we offer here at UUCC.

Service Donation Form and Service Book
Barb Morris is going to General Assembly in Kentucky, June 19th to 23rd. Barb received a matching fund scholarship from the UUA for $200. She wants to pay the church back the $200 and would appreciate any service that members can donate.

The forms will be placed in a book in the gathering room. Extra money will go to the church and could be used for Lay Ministry Training.

The “Service Book” will be kept by our church. Having a resource like the book might be a fun and social showcase of talents. We all need to be lay ministers to each other.

FORUM will not be meeting this summer, but will resume in September.

Piano Recital at Church of the Holy Family
June 9th @3:00 pm
102 Marquette St. Park Forest, IL 60466
Ben Amenta will perform works by Mozart, George Gershwin, Scott Joplin and Chas Daniels. This free recital is open to the public. He will play on a Niemeyer Grand Piano.

Needed: Director of Membership at Third Unitarian Church
Third Unitarian Church seeks a dynamic, inspired UU leader to assume its Director of Membership position. Since the position’s inception at Third Unitarian Church in Fall of 2008, the DOM has assumed a key role in all aspects of member and friend integration into the spiritual life of this 100-member congregation. The DOM does this chiefly by highlighting opportunities for prophetic and pastoral lay ministries to others, and by providing critical program support of Sunday morning activities. This is a part-time 12 hour per week position. Previous experience in non-profit management is preferred. Send inquiries to Reverand Brian Covell at MinisterThirdChurch@gmail.com.

This position will start on August 19, 2013.
Special Collections in June 2013

The UUCC Board of Trustees announces that special collections will be taken at each of our Sunday worship services in the month of June. The collections will support the two important causes described below.

Oklahoma Tornado Relief
In response to the loss of lives and the massive destruction caused by the recent tornados in Oklahoma, a special collection will be taken on Sunday June 2. The money received will be sent to the UU Oklahoma Relief Fund.

Sanctuary Window Project
The much needed repair and replacement of our church windows will soon begin with work on the large patio doors of the sanctuary. The wood frames surrounding the windows have rotted considerably leaving the glass in a very precarious state. The window on the far left side of the sanctuary will be kept as a sliding glass door and the other two will become stationary. The special collections taken on Sunday June 9, 16, 23 and 30 will be used for this project.

Contributions to these special collections can be made on the appropriate Sunday by placing cash or checks into the offertory bowls as they are passed around. Checks with Oklahoma Tornado Relief or Sanctuary Window Project written in the memo line will be given to the specified cause. All other checks received will be given as always to our operating fund budget.

Thank you for your care and concern.

Sacred Communication” Workshops
by Rev Henrietta Byrd

June 22nd at 11am to 12:30pm
A Love Offering will be taken.
More future workshop dates to be announced.

Henrietta Byrd is an ordained New Thought Minister who’s focus is in metaphysics or “What is Beyond the Physical.”

“As an entertainment stylist, I have experienced some of the greatest people, and I have traveled some of the most wonderful places in the field of Cosmetology Sciences. My ordination increased my opportunity to work with families that were experiencing the transition of a loved one. As I began to work with these families, my interest in FORGIVENESS increased. The need for people to forgive themselves and other as well as the need to know how to forgive became more and more apparent to me. My ministry became focused on the power of self-forgiveness.

Through transformation workshops, I focus on self-forgiveness. Self-forgiveness is transforming and leads to transformation. Transformation is freedom. Transformation is growth. Transformation is allowing God, the Creator, the Divine Mind, the Absolute, and the Almighty to move in and through you in such a way that your experiences become unlimited.

I regularly use my forgiveness tools that lead me to the realization that I create my own Reality. This realization has literally set me free. In the transformation workshops the forgiveness tools are given, explained and the participants’ use of them is monitored for weeks. Forgiveness is a love and practice of mine. I cherish even more the opportunity of sharing what I’ve learned with others. The transformation workshops help me to help others transform their lives by giving them a deeper understanding of how to use the forgiveness tools, and how to use with understanding the principle.”
On the Light Side….
A traveler couldn’t find the local Unitarian Universalist church. After looking in the centre of town, in the suburbs, and out in the surrounding countryside, the traveler asked a farmer “Am I too far out for the UU church?” The farmer’s reply: “Nobody is too far out for that church.”

Mark your calendars!!

Coming soon to a church near you! The epic adventure drama, The Journeys Up the Mountain. This is an action-packed adventure, telling the story of the world religions’ race to the top. Don't miss our heroes facing daunting dangers, extreme cold and heat, and wild animals. Be there to witness the momentous conclusion when the world religions find common ground on the mountainside.

Be there!!! June 9 at the 10 o'clock showing. It’s general admission, so come early for the best seats.

Seriously, the Religious Education classes will be part of the June 9th service. Our presentation will be a recap of the many world religions that we studied this year.

On other religious education matters, please check out our display in the hallway, which is a pictorial summary of the religions in our curriculum. The children did a lot of really interesting work, and I think gained some knowledge along the way about the various religions people practice around the world.

Please check out our Native American garden in the back of the church. The corn, beans and squash are starting to come out of the planting mounds that we started a month ago.

Marti Blaies will be taking our kids on a nature walk at Thorn Creek on June 16 as part of their final RE class of the season. We will continue to meet during the summer, but in a much less structured format.

If you wish, please feel free to join us on the nature walk. I’m sure the kids would enjoy having your company.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Robin Barrett, who is experiencing health problems. She’s always willing to lend a hand and support to our RE program.

~Dan
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.

RAINBOW CAFÉ will NOT be meeting this summer, but will resume in September.

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

Free Movie & Discussion
Saturday, June 22 7:00 p.m.

6pm Raw Vegan pot luck (optional)

7pm Movie Raw Food Made Easy
Nationally recognized Raw Food chef Jennifer Cornbleet show us how to prepare delicious, nutritious raw breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and desserts to obtain maximum nutrition and health benefits.

8:30-9:15pm Discussion: sharing of tips and recipes

Optional: Bring a raw vegan potluck dish or snack to share. Join in the lively discussion. Invite friends! Donates welcome.

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.

Sacred Communication Workshops
Saturday June 22nd 11:00am-12:30pm.

This Transformative Talk will help you in identifying and dissolving mental and emotional blockages, learning to use your authentic voice, defining authentic friendships, and more. For more information call Rev. Henrietta Byrd at 312-593-4732

Free Sing Along
Preschoolers (3-5 year olds)
Child must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday mornings starting June 1st thru July 20th
10:30 – 11:15
Contact Dan Feldt for more information: 708-212-3637

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 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: June 15th 10am-12pm
"Member Musings"  (Share Your Thoughts!)

This is your opportunity to get on the soapbox and share your thoughts with UUCC members and friends. We will run an article every month written by a member or friend of our congregation. The article could be a personal statement and it should be in good taste and related to one of our seven principles. If you are interested, send your name to Bruce at swicengineer@sbcglobal.net. We will randomly pick a name at the beginning of each month. Articles should be received by the 15th of each month and will be reviewed for appropriateness of content and edited where necessary.
Soon after we moved here in 2009, I was invited by Rosalie to come to Pads. I spent some evenings with Arlene and Rosalie at First Christian Church, and they showed me the ropes. I had no idea what I was getting into. Karin Gerson was buying the food then and when she could not longer do that, I was asked to do it.

We have been very blessed in our lives and it gives me a such a good feeling to be able to help these men who have had a series of unfortunate events in their lives. Our whole team from church gives their time very generously to Pads.

Our Pads season starts in October and lasts till April. Another church does the cooking from October till the end of December. Our supper team includes, Synthia Noble and Pat O’Leary on intake when the men arrive. Ted Morrison, Barb Morris, Sid Doty, Carol Heckenberger, Leo Arms, and myself, prepare the supper and serve it and clean up. Valerie Birk and Irene van der Holk work at toiletries and clothing, and bedding.

Karin Gerson, Andrew and Heather Hoffle, Jennie Bohlman, and Sid Doty make the meat loaves for our supper. This begins in January and lasts through April.

Thanks again to our great team for all the time and hard work which is given to Pads. The men appreciate it! And they love the meat loaf!

If anyone would like to come visit on a Pads evening please feel free to do so.

Carol Mortensen
Writing for the Green Sanctuary column, I am open to topics that people might want to see discussed. You can email me or meet me at church. One little ditty I enjoyed on the web was this quiz from NASA.
http://climate.nasa.gov/interactives/quiz_global_temp/quiz

Let's see how you do and let's talk about it. I got an 8 out of 10 on it.

ON THE NATIONAL NEWS:
The world is now at 400ppm co2. As long as humans have been on earth, we have never experienced levels of co2 this high. According the people in the know in science, the arctic was ice free at 400ppm co2 3.6 million years ago. We can replicate this climate of even more co2 or we can push our society to change in the opportunities that are in front of us.
http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=ice-free-arctic-in-pliocene-last-time-co2-levels-above-400ppm

ON THE STATE LEVEL:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--uJNjE-nIWc

Illinois State University now has a program that has renewable energy classes. I found out about this through my wife’s Alumni Magazine. You might find this video interesting.
http://www.illinoisrenew.org/

This year the Illinois Renewable Energy Fair will be held on the third weekend of August. That will be August 17th and 18th.

Something we can do on a local level is be aware of plastic around us and its effect on us.

How does this fit into our 7 principles? Let’s have a discussion sometime soon.

~Jeff
Board of Trustees
President: Bruce Swiecicki
Vice-President: Darlene Obejda
Treasurer: Rich Treptow
Trusted: Marilyn Ragland, Jeff Fields, Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo, Laura Shahtaji

Member Integration
Suzie Brown, Marilyn Ragland, Joyce Semmler

Worship & Music Team
Barb Morris, Pat Segner, Jeff Fields

Choir Director
Bev Feldt

Pianist
Chris Ussery

Hospitality
(Kitchen Helpers)
Darlene Obejda, Sherri Haas, Barry Vronay, Marilyn Ragland, Carol Mortensen, Barb Morris, Carol Hechenberger, Damon Lucero, Doris Knight

Care & Concerns
Pat Segner, Laura Shahtaji, Joyce Semmler, Jodi Libretti, Joyce Sligar, Irmgard Faulkner, Colin Kirchner, Robin Barrett, Doris Knight, Darlene Obejda

Mediation Ministry
Pat Segner, Dave Matteson, Darlene Obejda, Gail Roy, Bruce Swiecicki

Convener Council
Community Ministry: Vacant
Congregation Ministry: Jessica Carter
Resource Convener: Vacant
Environmental: Jeff Green
Website Convener: Andy Stevens
Buildings and Grounds: Marti Blaise
Publicity: Oye Scott

Nominating Committee
Irmgard Faulkner
Beverly Feldt
Carol Mortensen
Joyce Semmler
Alternate: Suzie Brown

Committee On Ministry
Janet Moffat
Jeff Green
Colin Kirchner
Carol Hechenberger
Ralph Mortensen

Religious Education Advisory Group
DRE - Dan Feldt, Jeff Green, Irmgard Faulkner, Pat Segner, Janet Moffat

Publicity/Marketing
Dorea LaPorte

Greeters (Welcoming)
Dan Feldt, Dan Hechenberger, Nancy Irons, Jessica Carter, Joyce Sligar, Barb Morris, Andy Stevens

Worship Assistants
Joyce Semmler, Pat Segner, Andy Stevens, Colin Kirchner, Beverly Feldt, Marilyn Ragland, Barb Morris, Janet Moffat, Dan Hechenberger, Nancy Irons, Jessica Carter

Sexton
Marilyn Ragland

Adult Forum
Carol Hechenberger, Nancy Irons, Dave Matteson, Pat Segner, Barb Morris

Interest Groups
Movie Night - Darlene Obejda
Family First Fridays - Andy Stevens
Drumming Circle - Dave Matteson
Rainbow Cafe - Pat Segner
Dances of Univ. Peace - Karen Nielsen
Yoga - Valerie Birk
Edgar's Place - Vacant
Green Sanctuary - Barb Morris
Adult Game Night - Barb Morris

Office Administrator: Diane O'Connor

Note: The Convener Council is currently in flux and may undergo some changes to meet our current needs. We are looking for anyone who may be interested to fill the Resources and Community Ministry positions. We are also looking for someone to replace our Website Convener position.
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, W, F 10:30am - 3:30pm

(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.