“And Service is Our Prayer”

Summer is on the horizon and it looks like UUCC is continuing on its path of recovery for the coming fiscal year! That is certainly encouraging news for our congregation because it reflects the faith that we have in our own ability to make things work, even in the face of adversity. Of course, this all boils down to each and every one of us doing our part to contribute where and when we can to assist in the workings of the church.

Just think of all the signs of love that you see when you enter into the UUCC building on a Sunday morning. From Marilyn and her assistants who set the chairs up in the sanctuary and the beautiful flower arrangements; to Darlene, Barry, Jo-Jo and others who get the coffee and treats started; to Bev, Chris and the choir who are there early many Sundays to learn and practice musical pieces; and those who make a special effort to assist folks who need help in getting to the service.

Once the service starts, our giving never stops, including Pat and Barb and others who schedule our speakers every week; our cadre of Worship Assistants working under the direction of Marilyn; the ushers and greeters who are managed by Joyce Sligar and Dan Feldt; the several members who have contributed their talents to delivering services; the many people who assist Leo in putting the chairs away after the service and bringing out the tables when we have a special event; the folks responsible for making sure we have Adult Forums every week; and certainly Darlene and Barry and all those that assist in clean-up duties after the service and coffee hour are over.

I wish I can name everyone who contributes to making our church “go.” But please know that your efforts do not go unrecognized and that I am grateful for your contributions.

~Bruce
Pastoral Care: Listening Hearts

Hearts Two Listening Hearts, or members of the Lay Pastoral Care team, are on hand each month to serve your needs. They are not acting as professional counselors, but rather a source for listening, support and resources. They have participated in training to become Listening Hearts.

Listening Hearts will soon have a ribbon on their name tags to identify them. If you do not spot one of them at church, or if you wish to talk to one of them in particular, please contact the office. The Listening Hearts for June:

Jodi Libretti and Joyce Semmler

Chicago Area Unitarian Universalist Council Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 30th, 2015
Held at UU Church of Elgin
39 W. 830 Highland Ave.
Elgin IL 60123

9:40 –10am  Sign in
10am - Noon  Program
“Making Our Social Action More Effective” (An interactive workshop on increasing congregational involvement in social action, led by Rev. Scott Aaseng).

Noon-12:45 Lunch
($5 contribution)
12:45-2pm Annual Business

The Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly Annual Retreat

The Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly (MUUSA) is an annual retreat for fun, fellowship and personal growth. A summer camp where more than 400 UUs get together every year to reenergize with like-minded people.

This year’s camp will be held:
July 12-18 at Kettunen Center, MI
Aug 30-Sept 5 at Kettunen Center, MI
Oct 30-Nov 1 at Tower Hill, MI

You can register online at www.muusa.org.

Summer Solstice Celebration – Saturday June 20th, 4:00 pm

Join us for a family friendly ritual to welcome summer. Children welcome! Bring memories of your favorite summer vacations, outings or activities. Potluck to follow. Please bring a dish to share, or an item for the grill.

For more information contact Nancy Irons (irons.nancy@gmail.com)

Come Help Spread the Word... oops! Make that Woodchips!
While our church will never ask you to go out and spread the “Word,” we would appreciate your help spreading the Woodchips! Join us for work sessions 9 to noon on Saturday mornings, June 6th & 13th. Please dress for outdoor work; bring gloves and rakes.

Refreshments will be available. For more information, please call Nancy Irons 708-712-3228

Pastoral Care: Listening Hearts

Two Listening Hearts, or members of the Lay Pastoral Care team, are on hand each month to serve your needs. They are not acting as professional counselors, but rather a source for listening, support and resources. They have participated in training to become Listening Hearts.

You can register online at www.muusa.org.
An Employment Opportunity at UUCC

UUCC PART-TIME OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Applications are currently being accepted for the part-time position of Office Administrator at UUCC. Strong computer skills are a definite plus, especially experience with Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Word, Mail Merge, Outlook, and Excel. A demonstration of computer skills may be requested. Also, good communication skills, the ability to manage several projects at once, and a willingness to be a team player are necessary for the person who fills this position, which will represent UUCC to our members and the public.

Applicants should submit their resume and a cover letter addressed to the Board of Trustees, through the UUCC office.

Under the coordination of Pat Segner, our church has developed a tutoring project in the Park Forest Elementary Schools at Blackhawk School and Mohawk School. We read with children in their classrooms or they read to us. We began the week of April 13th, after Spring Break. We plan to go every two weeks for about two hours. Approximately eight people are involved. We would like more volunteers, so if you are interested contact Pat Segner (708-748-2217).

The school principals and children were very appreciative of our efforts and pleased to connect with us. I am thankful that experienced congregants are willing to offer this community service. Hopefully we will be expanding our service in the future. In Fellowship, Pat Segner

NO Healthy Living Group in June, July, and August.

The UUCC Healthy Living Group at UUCC on May 14th was attended by 27 participants. Adeline Anderson conducted an introduction to the Alexander Technique, which teaches postural habits to improve mobility, posture, and performance, with relief of pain, chronic stiffness, tension, and stress. Adeline may come back in the Fall to coach us in practical applications of the Alexander Technique.

Welcome to Garden of Peace Ministries, Inc!

As of July 1st we will once again be sharing our church space with another congregation. Pastor Christopher Castile and his Garden of Peace Ministries, Inc. congregation will be renting our space on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 6 pm. As was the case with previous rentals, this congregation will be provided with storage space in the refrigerator, kitchen cabinets and back storage room. They will also be given a designated bulletin board in the hall and mail slot near the office. Please be welcoming to them and respectful of their materials. We ask that all of UUCC activities, including cleanup, be finished prior to the start of their 2:00 pm rental time. Also, with the nicer weather, please make an extra effort to secure any doors or windows which may have been opened while you were here. Thank you for your consideration!

We regret to announce the passing of Helen Hughes

Helen Hughes died in her sleep on the evening of May 27th, 2015 in her own home. Helen took a position as head of Governor State University’s School Counseling program soon after she graduated from University of Chicago. She also edited a small feminist magazine called “The Creative Woman.” She regularly attended the UU Church in Belfast Maine, only a couple blocks uphill from her home which overlooked the Belfast bay on the coast of Maine. Helen served as President of UUCC at least once. Helen was also active as a leader of the pagan group at UUCC.
UUCC Fellowship Dinner Success!!

Our annual Fellowship Dinner was a wonderful success! Thanks go out to everyone whose efforts made it possible. In particular, this includes, but is not limited to:

- Nancy Irons – Overall event coordinator & decorations
- Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo – Food coordinator
- Fattoush Restaurant in Worth, IL - Caterer
- Bruce Świececki – Drinks coordinator
- Dan Feldt – Program coordinator
- Dorea LaPorte – Raffle coordinator

Additional thanks go to all those who donated items for the raffle; or helped with decorations, setup, serving, or cleanup; and of course to all those who shared their talents in the program.

Well done everyone! Thank you! Thank you!
Beverly Hill: Beverly has lived in Homewood for 3 years. Prior to that Punta Gorda, FL 2 1/2 years, prior to that Hyde Park, Chicago over 20 years. Born in Muskegon, MI. She is the owner/designer of Beverly Hills Jewels (handcrafted semi-precious gemstone necklaces, bracelets, earrings and pendants). She sells her jewelry on three websites and at local arts & crafts fairs. She is also in the process of launching a wellness products line of hand-made organic skincare and natural remedies company. Products include lotions, moisturizers, milk-based soaps, salves, ointments, etc. Beverly has two sisters and a mom who also live in the south suburbs. One sister lives in Michigan. She has two sons, one is an IT professional who resides in Huntington Beach, CA and the other is a physical education teacher who resides in Baltimore, MD. She has three grandsons.

Beverly was raised as a Christian Baptist but moved away from that in early adulthood. She tried African Methodist, and several non-denominational churches. She also was a Buddhist (Nam-myoho-renge-kyo) for a short while. She no longer claims a religion but is very spiritual. Her beliefs closely align with what use to be called New Age. She believes in one Divine Being that's too big to fit into one religion.

Beverly first attended a couple of the jazz concerts at the UU in Hyde Park. When she moved to Florida she found Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County about 10 minutes from her house. She liked the liberal aspects and felt welcomed there. When she moved to Homewood she went online in search of a UU in the area.

She has attended different events like the Parisian Night, The Middle Eastern Fellowship dinner, a couple of Healthy Living sessions, Qi Gong, Yoga and a few of Rev. Henrietta Byrd’s communications sessions. So far she has joined as a Worship Assistant and would like to work on the Membership Committee.

Frank & Maria Markowicz: Frank and Maria have lived in Tinley Park for the last 27 years. Frank is a retired forklift mechanic and semi-retired auto mechanic who likes fishing and yoga. Maria works as a network administrator for a company in Bedford Park and likes reading, shopping at art fairs and spending time with their grandchildren and kids. They have 3 self-supporting children, a terrific daughter-in-law and son-in-law and 3 grandchildren.

Frank borrows this from George Carlin but it applies: "He was born and raised Catholic until he reached the age of reason!" Maria also went to Catholic schools and found the rules of the church no longer applied to today's alternative family situations. Seeking something more inclusive led them to UUCC which they found through the church in Hyde Park after attending a meeting regarding divesting from fossil fuels that was advertised in the newspaper.

Since coming to this community in December, they have enjoyed the Forums on climate issues and movie nights. Maria has done the worship assistant training and will start to assist in July. Frank has helped out at several PADS nights.

They find that their passion for climate issues and other social justice issues are shared by many members of our church and they are to glad to find a community of like minded individuals that make it easy for them to share their commitment to help benefit future generations. They also find it extremely interesting to go to church as you never know what each week will bring.
Rainbow Café

Rainbow Café 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 3rd Friday of the month from 6:30-10:30 pm. More info: Call Dave Matteson 708-672-8837 or (714) 930-6134.

RAINBOW CAFÉ will meet on June 19th at 6:30 pm. The movie shown will be Albert Nobbs.

Having for decades disguised herself as a man while working as a butler in a posh 19th-century Dublin hotel, a woman calling herself Albert Nobbs reconsiders her charade when a handsome painter arrives on the scene. 2011 R 113 mins

Cast: Glenn Close, Mia Wasikowska, Aaron Taylor-Johnson.

A Moment in Balance

Yoga Classes by Karen Nielsen
Monday and Thurs
9:30am – 11am
Wednesday evenings
7:00pm – 8:30pm

No reservations needed. Drop-in fee is $10 per class and the 6th one is FREE.

Free Healthy Living Group

NO Healthy Living Group in June, July and August

(This group may possibly resume in the fall)

Sacred Communication Workshop

June dates: 6th & 20th at 12pm.

These Transformative Workshops 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: 312-593-4732.

Buddhist Meditation

Learn and enjoy the simple, straightforward practice of meditation. Please join us for sitting and walking meditation in the Zen and Theravadan Buddhist traditions. This is an ongoing event led by Steve McCabe and Beverly Feldt.

When: Saturdays at 9am to 10:30am
Location: UUCC
Cost: Free Will offering, (proceeds go to UUCC)
Contact: For questions, contact Steve McCabe (708) 465-3116 or Beverly Feldt bevfeldt@gmail.com

Dances of Universal Peace:
3rd Sunday of the month.

Dances of Universal Peace are held on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 2-4pm at UUCC. We join our voices in singing sacred phrases and Divine Names from many spiritual traditions while moving in circle dances and walking meditations. For more information contact certified dance leader, Pat Segner, at 708-748-2217.

Next DUP meets on June 21st.

Love to Sing??

Join the UUCC Choir! The Choir sings on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, with rehearsals on those days at 8:30am and one weekday evening per month. No experience required. If interested email our choir director Bev Feldt at bevfeldt@gmail.com.

QiGong with Jim Kobus

Most Thursdays @5pm

(This class will be held typically every Thursday of the month but there will be exceptions so you must send Jim your email if you are interested in participating.)

It is suggested that you not eat before class. Please bring your own water. $5 suggested donation per class.

QiGong

Email Jim: emiton1@aol.com
For questions call: 708-799-1925
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| 7            | 8            | 9            | 10           | 11           | 12           | 13           |
| 10am Worship/RE Canvass Sunday 12pm Medical Cannabis Meeting | 9:30am Yoga |              | 7pm Yoga     | 9:30am Yoga  |              | 9am Buddhist Meditation 9am Work Day 12pm Sacred Communications Workshop |
| 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum | 15           | 16           | 17           | 18           |              | 19           |
| 9:30am Yoga  | 9:30am Yoga  | 7pm Yoga     | 9:30am Yoga  | 9:30am Yoga  | 6:30pm Rainbow Cafe  |
| 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum 2pm Dances of Universal Peace | 22           | 23           | 24           | 25           |              | 20           |
| 9:30am Yoga  | 9:30am Yoga  | 7pm Board Meeting | 7pm Yoga     | 9:30am Yoga  |              | 9am Buddhist Meditation 12pm Sacred Communication Workshop 4pm Summer Solstice |
| 10am Worship/RE 11:30am Forum | 28           | 29           | 30           |              |              | 21           |
| 9:30am Yoga  |              |              |              |              |              | 10am Buddhist Meditation  |

Please note that the office email address has changed. The church office email address is now admin@uuccpf.org.
This is such a wide area for so little space to write. But I would like to introduce the concepts of the planetary boundaries of which so far there are 9. Biodiversity loss. Andy Stevens and I were at the Climate Reality conference in Cedar Rapids Iowa May 5, 6, 7. Al Gore made the statement that the earth has lost ½ its animals in the last 40 years. That is just incredible to think about. How to move to a wiser use of the earth. That is a real challenge to consider. When we think of abundance, what kind of abundance comes to mind for ourselves. Let's have a conversation on this and see where this takes us.

The green areas represent human activities that are within safe margins, the yellow areas represent human activities that may or may not have exceeded safe margins, the red areas represent human activities that have exceeded safe margins, and the gray areas with red question marks represent human activities for which safe margins have not yet been determined.

The conservation ecologist Gretchen Daily claims that “it is time to confront the hard truth that traditional approaches to conservation, taken alone, are doomed to fail. Nature reserves are too small, too few, too isolated and too subject to change to support more than a tiny fraction of Earth’s biodiversity. The challenge is to make conservation attractive—from economic and cultural perspectives. We cannot go on treating nature like an all-you-can-eat buffet. We depend on nature for food security, clean water, climate stability, seafood, timber, and other biological and physical services. To maintain these benefits, we need not just remote reserves but places everywhere—more like 'ecosystem service stations’.”

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3f/Planetary_Boundaries_2015.svg

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planetary_boundaries#Biodiversity_loss
What’s going on in RE?
by Dan Feldt, Director of RE

Our Religious Education year is coming to a close. The 2nd to 5th graders have completed the “Toolbox of Faith” curriculum and moved on to studying bees and promoting Harriet Tubman to replace Andrew Jackson on the twenty-dollar bill by 2020. Check out the display on the bulletin board outside Classroom Two. Sam and Quinn Kirchner are finishing up their family photo documentary project. Look for an installation from them soon.

There are exciting plans in the works for next year! We’re emphasizing World Religions for young and old this coming September. For youth, we’ll use an excellent curriculum entitled “Neighboring Faiths.” Part of its design is to visit different places of worship. We might visit a temple, a mosque or a powwow. For adults, I’m planning to offer another series of the discussion group based on Huston Smith’s “World Religions.” The idea is to coordinate our visits so they become an intergenerational experience.

Another exciting idea in the works for the younger children is a curriculum called “Spirit Play.” It’s based on a Montessori instructional design. The kids are told a story; then they interact and interpret it through various media at their disposal. The structure of the classroom is a rich environment for self-discovery. This class is on the wish list. I hope to make it happen. If you’re interested in helping, let me know.

During the Fellowship Dinner, many of the dreams and wishes expressed the desire for more young families with children. I believe that by promoting the Religious Education offerings to the larger community, we can meet this goal. I propose that we write material for brochures and the website that focuses on the positive values that all religions profess, such as justice, peace, and fairness. The emphasis would be on these values – not on any creed or set of religious practices.

One way of distributing the brochures would be to set up tables at farmers’ markets in the area. I believe that in Homewood these types of informational tables are free for non-profits. If you’d like to write copy or spend a morning or two in the sun, please let me know. Let’s help make our dreams come true.

Sacred Communication Workshops with Rev. Henrietta Byrd
Saturday June 6th & 20th
12 noon to 3pm at UUCC

These transformative workshops will help you in identifying and dissolving mental and emotional blockages; learning to use your authentic voice; defining authentic friendships; and more. All are welcome; you need not have attended before. For more information, contact Rev. Henrietta Byrd: 312-593-4732.
The following are some of the highlights from the Board of Trustees meeting held on May 19th:

- The board has negotiated renting space to a new congregation (Garden of Peace Ministries, Inc.) beginning July 1st. We will be renting our space on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 6 pm.

- The Fellowship Dinner was a success and brought in a total of $432.

- The Board approved the 2015-2016 proposed budget which will bring the church a surplus of over $2,000.

- The Board is considering a request made by JoJo Martin to bring a paper recycling bin on the church premises. This will create more income for UUCC.

REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN for the June 12-14 Young Adult Spring/Summer Conference!

Join us for a weekend of creative, spiritually engaging community building with other UU Young Adults (18-35) across North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan!

We will enjoy contemporary worship, play, learn, eat, and enjoy fellowship together, interspersed with engaging workshops and social justice activities.

Meals are provided, and we love to accommodate our vegetarian and vegan friends! Participants may sleep at the church or make other arrangements for overnight lodging.

Our sliding scale registration, to be paid at the door, is $25-$75 for the weekend. Scholarships are available! If you feel called to engage in this experience, but need financial assistance, we encourage you to apply!

This event is open to individuals aged 18-35.

LOCATION:
Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
656 West Barry, Chicago, Illinois 60657

Get Certified to Do Business with the State of Illinois

- This event is open to the public at no cost
- Light refreshments will be served

Free parking available at venue parking lot
Monday, June 8, 2015 @ U. S. Bank, 815 W. 63rd Street, Chicago, IL 60621  10am - 12pm

Registration is recommended: To register call (773) 908-8971

Hosted by: The Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) and The Greater Englewood Community Development Corporation
**Dear Folks,**

May 9th was the final show for Edgar's Place Coffee House 2014-2015 season. We all had a great time with the group Dangerous Folk, who put on a joyous show. I'd like to recap last season and thank all of the talented musicians who graced our stage:

- October 11th, 2014: **Brian Cutean**
- November 8th, 2014: **Buddy Mondlock**, accompanied by Mike Lindauer, with **Donna Adler** opening
- December 13th, 2014: **Dave Rudolf** with the Three Wise Guys **Completely Cracked Christmas** show
- February 14th, 2015: **Michael Smith**
- March 14th, 2015: **Danny Fox**
- April 11th, 2015: **John Kimsey and the Twisted Roots Trio**
- May 9th, 2015: **Dangerous Folk**, **Blowing in the Wind** show

Thanks to each and every one of these talented and diverse musicians.

**Thank you to Edgar's wonderful volunteer staff:**
Darlene Obejda, Dave Bartlett, Dorea LaPorte, Elaine Moore. Thanks to Bruce Swiecicki, Chris Ussery and especially Dave Rudolf for helping on sound. Thanks to Diane O'Connor and to Nancy Irons for helping put together our flyers. I couldn't do this without all of your help!

And of course, thank you to everyone who attended our shows last season! We need an audience to keep the music going. Please pass the word along to anyone who would appreciate acoustic music!

~Valerie Birk

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**Free Movie & Discussion**

**Friday, June 26th -7pm**

**"The End of Poverty?"**

2009 1 hour, 44 minutes
With so much wealth in the world, why is there still so much poverty? Poverty is not an accident. This comprehensive documentary looks at the root causes of poverty.

Free coffee, tea, and popcorn.
Join in the lively discussion. Invite friends!

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**Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice**

**Spring Quarter Meeting**

Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 2 to 5 p.m.
at UUCC (in the Gathering Room)

**Light Refreshments Provided**

3:20 to 4:50 p.m. - U.U.s for Social Justice Board Meeting. This is an open meeting, so any interested person is invited to attend.

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**The Medical Cannabis Education Association** meeting is being held on June 7th in Classroom 1. **This month’s topics are:** Health benefits of THC, Drug Scheduling, & Identifying your Illinois legislators. **Attendance is Free!**
Church Information
70 Sycamore Drive
Park Forest, IL  60466
PHONE:  708-481-5339
E-Mail:  admin@uuccpf.org
Web:  www.uuccpf.org

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.