

UCC Community News

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

September 2023



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM

Sunday services have resumed in the building. Please join us in person or via [Zoom](#).

UCC COVID UPDATE: The UCC Board of Trustees has lifted Covid restrictions in the church. The congregation can determine their own level of risk and any need to continue to wear a mask in public settings. The only exception to this will be when we have in-church speakers who may request that congregants wear a mask during their service. We will notify you ahead of time if this occurs.

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES

Sept. 3 Leanne Mull

Title: "When Mental Health is More Important than My Carbon Footprint."

Many of us are conscious that the environment is so important for the future of mankind. How do we reconcile our desire to take care of the earth, our families, friends, pets, home and neighborhood with the necessity that we take care of ourselves? Join us as we talk about decision making and prioritizing our lives.

Sept. 10 Chief Jensen reads a sermon by Rev. David Pyle

Title: "Reflections in Seaglass"

What makes a spiritual practice, and how we encounter those practices, can happen in so many ways. Rev. David Pyle explores the nature of spiritual experience and religious community through the practice of finding glass on the beach.

Sept. 17 Rev. Denise Tracy

Title: "Beginning Again: Starting a New Year."

It is the season of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We are also beginning a new church year. How do we reflect upon beginnings?

Sept. 24 February Sky (presenters Susan Urban and Phil Cooper)

Title: "In Sweet Fields of Autumn - A Second Harvest Celebration." (Mabon or Harvest Home)

continued

February Sky continued

We will celebrate Harvest Home, saying a fond goodbye to Summer and reflecting on the winter to come.

Bring an Autumn Harvest fruit, food or decoration to church (e.g. apples, corn, wheat, squash, acorns, autumn leaves, pine cones, etc.).



First Sunday Potluck after worship September 3rd

Join us for this time of Fellowship!
Please bring a food item.

UU Connect Forum

"Report on General Assembly 2023"

UU Connect Forum returns on **Sunday Sept. 10**. Allan Lindrup, as UCC's sole delegate will be the main speaker, though we may also hear from Barb Morris and Rev. Denise Tracy. The forum will be held in Room 3, with the option to join via Zoom using the same codes as for that day's Worship Service. Allan Lindrup at uusj@sbcglobal.net or via phone 773-595-4921



Listening Hearts

Listening Hearts

September volunteers, Chief Jensen and Monica Regan, are available as a source for listening, support and resources.



The President's Column

September 2023

by Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo



Sixty years ago on August 28, 1963, the March on Washington took place with a quarter of a million people attending. It was a memorable and historic occasion on that day with speakers like Roy Wilkins, John Lewis, and actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee. Performers like Mahalia Jackson, Marian Anderson, Joan Baez, and Bob Dylan entertained the crowds. It was a hot day and many people sat with their feet in the reflecting pool near the Lincoln Memorial. But the most remembered event of the day was the iconic "I Have a Dream" speech given by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The words of his speech have been studied and memorized by school children across this country as a message of hope for racial unity and peace for the future.

Fast forward to now. On Saturday, August 26, this march was repeated to commemorate that event. The son and daughter of Martin Luther King Jr and his granddaughter, Yolanda Renee King, spoke, telling us that "past generations...have failed us" when it comes to fulfilling her grandfather's vision of America. And she is right, of course. It has been determined that for the first time our children have fewer rights than during her grandfather's generation. We are being stripped of the hard-earned rights that the Civil Rights Movement, the Women's Movement, LGBTQ+ Movement, etc., fought so hard to achieve.

In his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (1963), MLK Jr argued that we have a moral responsibility to break unjust laws and to take direct action rather than waiting passively and potentially forever for justice to come down from the courts. He wrote this in response to fellow clergymen who criticized his non-violent direct-action activities as "unwise and untimely." He knew that the white power structure in this country would not give up nor share power unless forced to do so. If they had been capable of compassion and equality, they would have been compelled to make fundamental changes already. It was naïve to think otherwise. "Justice too long delayed is justice denied", as Dr. King remarked. But real non-violent change would have to come at a cost.

And still it continues today. At the time that young Yolanda Renee King was delivering her speech, a 21-year-old white man in Jacksonville, Florida, was preparing to "kill black people" out of his hatred for them, with his legally purchased AK-15 and other guns. We have been seeing a huge increase in these unprovoked murders during the past decades directed toward black, Jewish, LGBTQ+, school children, college students, in stores, schools, churches and synagogues, shopping malls, grocery stores, theaters, etc. Our children now must undergo drill training on how to survive an attack in their schools as part of the curriculum. And yet, many politicians remain mute on this subject out of party affiliation or financial support from the NRA. The laws are not being changed to prevent this carnage as long as the white power structure is untouched.

Thus, one of our biggest challenges to our times is how to solve the problem of easy access to guns and too many guns already in the hands of our population. As long as our government is in control

continued

The President's Column continued

of politicians funded by the NRA, no real common sense gun laws will be passed. These politicians must be voted out of office in order to break this stalemate. But there may be some light on the horizon. As these conservative politicians and courts continue to strip the citizens of this country of their rights and rescind the laws that we have already fought for and won, much of our population is taking account of this and hopefully will vote for those who will bring true progressive change in the 2024 election. Therefore, the importance of voting has never been more important. We must break this vicious cycle of mass shootings.

As Dr. King wrote from that jail cell in Birmingham sixty years ago, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." We as Unitarian Universalists understand this, just as Viola Liuzzo and Rev. James Reeb, both UUs, understood this during the Civil Rights struggle. And we must continue to play a role in working to put an end to gun violence.

Celebrate the Autumn Equinox – September 23rd

<https://thenourishexchange.com/2020/09/autumn-equinox-ritual-celebration/>

The Fall Equinox, also known as Mabon, marks the beginning of autumn and is the second of three harvest festivals. . . . A time of equal day and night, the Autumn Equinox is a magical threshold for change. This mid-harvest celebration is about bowing to change, expressing gratitude for how far we've come this year and what we have, and — as a time of nearly equal light and dark — inviting in balance. It's a time for welcoming transitions and transformation, for getting closer to who we are at our core, and preparing to turn inward.



Spiritually, it encourages introspection and the recognition of the dualities within ourselves and the world around us.

Ways to celebrate:

Feasting – Have friends over to share in a harvest meal featuring seasonal foods, i.e. beet salad, corn bread, squash soup, apple pie, etc.

Yoga – Take time to practice your balance with yoga. You may want to try the [Sun Salutation](#) to give thanks to the sun for the energy that created our bounty of fruits and vegetables.

Dualities – Meditate on your dualities, i.e. masculine / feminine, parent / child, introvert / extrovert, giver / receiver, etc. Are they in balance? Do you need to focus on particular ones to achieve balance?

Bonfire – Fire is transforming, converting one thing into another: sand into glass; wood into ash; raw food into cooked. Build a campfire or even a fire in your weber grill to observe the dancing flames and to witness transformation. At this time of turning, ponder what needs to be transformed in your life and how to achieve it.

A tangerine and russet cascade of kaleidoscopic leaves, creates a tapestry of autumn magic upon the emerald carpet of fading summer.

Judith A. Lindberg

By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer.

Author Unknown

Financial Update

As of July 1st we began the new fiscal year and a new round of pledges has kicked in. Thank you to everyone who made a pledge. If you have not yet made a pledge, it is never too late! Please talk to Treasurer, Nancy Irons irons.nancy@gmail.com



Do you have a knack for numbers? Please consider joining the Finance Committee. The workload is minimal, with meetings quarterly or less. Come help set financial policies and procedures. The Board would love to appoint you!

Nancy Irons, UUCB Treasurer

UUCB 70th Anniversary

Did you miss the chance to order a T-shirt or a Sweatshirt? We ordered extras, just in case! You can purchase your shirt in the Gathering Room before or after Sunday service. Not all sizes are still available, please see Nancy Irons.



T-Shirts \$10
(Additional \$2.50 for XXL, XXXL)
Sweatshirts \$20
(Additional \$2.50 for XXL, XXXL)

Rummage Sale Results



The Rummage Sale was smaller than anticipated, but still brought in over \$800! Many thanks to everyone who contributed items or who helped with the setup, pricing and staffing for this event.

Well done everyone!



Autumn Fires Robert Louis Stevenson

In the other gardens
And all up in the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over,
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!

Volunteer Recognitions

Thanks go out to everyone who contributed items or volunteered to help with the UUCB Rummage Sale! Special thanks go to Jane Troesch, Irene van der Hoek, and Beryl Atchison, Darlene Obejda, Chief Jensen, Allan Lindrup, Virginia Jackson, Joyce Semmler, and JoJo Martin, who helped with setup, pricing and staffing. Well done all!!

Volunteer Opportunities!

There are many interesting tasks that need attention. Would you like to help?

Are you willing to commit to a Sunday or two each month? We need Ushers and Greeters, Zoom hosts and Sexton setup assistance. This is your church, help to make our Sunday services and events happen. Please get involved! Contact Marilyn Ragland mexmasrag@aol.com for details on the Sexton team; Joyce Sligar (jsligar02@gmail.com) for Ushers and Greeters; and Jodi Libretti (jilibretti@sbcglobal.net) for the Zoom hosts.

We need volunteers to change the message on the sign at Western Avenue each week.

We also need volunteers who are willing to help with setup, cleanup and to be on-hand for rentals. We need hospitable people to encourage and enable success of our rentals to help fund the church.

Do you prefer to work outdoors? We need ongoing litter patrol, trimming of overhanging branches in the parking lot, and along the sidewalk to Western Avenue. We also need leaf removal from around the building.

Please contact with the office (708-481-5339 or churchadmin@uucpf.org) for more information or

Petition to Prevent World War III

Please sign today



Please check the information table in the Gathering Room and sign the petition calling on our elected legislators to work towards "détente" (peaceful, respectful negotiations) between the three great nuclear powers – Russia, China and the USA. The UU Multi-Racial Action Council is counting on your support.



Connections

by Barb Anderson Morris



Ladies Night Out at the Grand Cabaret



Here's a picture of a dozen of Chris Ussery's "Ladies" who traveled Downtown to see him perform. Thanks to Lenore Rendina for organizing the trip!!!

L to R top: Nancy Irons, Monica Regan, Singer-Cheryl, Lenore Rendina, Chris Ussery, JoJo Martin, LeAnn Mull, Jane Troesch.

L to R bottom: Barb Morris, Beryl Atchison, Marilyn Ragland, Beccie Bruckner



Darlene Obejda invited the congregation to a Birthday Party for herself at our beautiful church.

Here are some photos taken by Jane Pask.



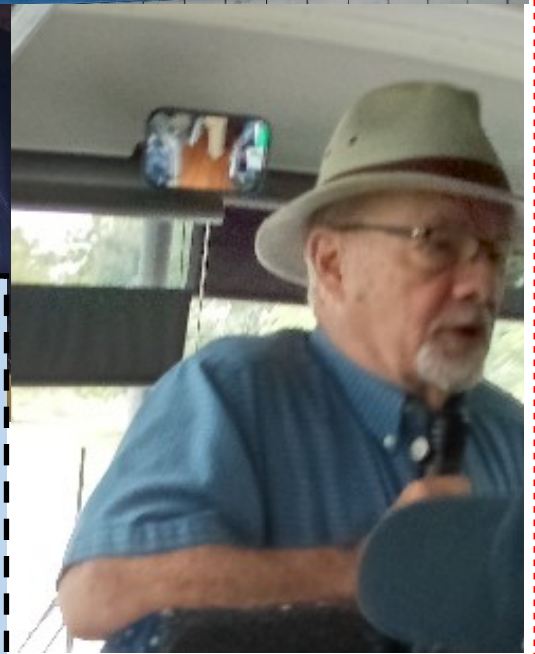
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Connections continued

Governors State University's "Knowledge Exchange" facilitated by Suzanne Patterson had a field trip led by our own speaker, Rev. Larry McClellan visiting sites on the Underground Railroad. Ten out of the thirty five people who went on the chartered bus are from UUCC. I am also proud to say the members of the 170 year old Congregational Church in Crete, sheltered and helped the runaway slaves (who were worth hundreds of dollars in 1853) seeking freedom.



**Rev. Larry McClellan
will be speaker at
UUCC on Sunday,
October 15th.
He will also hold a
discussion and book
signing after the
service.**



One of the stops on the "Black History, Freedom Seekers, and the Underground Railroad in the Chicago Southland" trip was the Crete Area Historical Museum, 550 W Exchange St. Crete IL 60417. It's the site of the old Marketplace Antiques, currently the Crete Area Historical Society (CAHS) www.cretehistorical.com bought the building and is restoring it as a Museum. Come visit us





GREEN SANCTUARY

BY JEFF GREEN - SEPTEMBER 2023



Hi everyone. With the El Nino coming on strong this summer, global warming is on my mind. With some of the conversations I have been having online, we started talking on the economy and how global warming would effect it. From the doubters point of view it won't be much of a problem. Sometimes that information is hard to find online. But I did run across this little nugget that made things really clear. I have this really great table summed up by Swiss RE. What I really enjoy is the credibility of this by a group that puts their actuarial scientists into this.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/06/impact-climate-change-global-gdp/>

	Temperature rise scenario, by mid-century			
	Well-below 2°C increase	2.0°C increase	2.6°C increase	3.2°C increase
	Paris target	The likely range of global temperature gains		Severe case
Simulating for economic loss impacts from rising temperatures in % GDP, relative to a world without climate change (0°C)				
World	−4.2%	−11.0%	−13.9%	−18.1%
OECD	−3.1%	−7.6%	−8.1%	−10.6%
North America	−3.1%	−6.9%	−7.4%	−9.5%
South America	−4.1%	−10.8%	−13.0%	−17.0%
Europe	−2.8%	−7.7%	−8.0%	−10.5%
Middle East & Africa	−4.7%	−14.0%	−21.5%	−27.6%
Asia	−5.5%	−14.9%	−20.4%	−26.5%
Advanced Asia	−3.3%	−9.5%	−11.7%	−15.4%
ASEAN	−4.2%	−17.0%	−29.0%	−37.4%
Oceania	−4.3%	−11.2%	−12.3%	−16.3%

Global temperature rises will negatively impact GDP in all regions by mid-century. Image: Swiss Re institute: The economics of climate change.

If you look at North America, by Swiss RE projections, we are in one of the better locations for taking the least hit on Global Warming economic consequences when we are in the most severe case.

If you look below the green column at the top of the table, everyone is below our 9.5% north American worst case. I hope you don't mind if I'm pessimistic on us staying below the green column and yet hopeful it can happen if you understand what I mean.

If we go to the severe case column, which I am optimistic won't happen. If we compare the different areas of the earth Asia at -26.% decrease in economy, Middle East and Africa at -27.6% and ASEAN at -37%.

There are lots of angles to this I haven't explored yet. Its one of things you put under your hat and see if it is unfolding. One easy little tidbit is that this enters into politics also. So this summer we are having some pretty strong heat waves. Some of the Texas cities are now making mandated water breaks during these hot times. The Texas state legislature has now overridden the cities

Continued

Green Sanctuary Continued

making it so they can't mandate these water breaks. I am all too familiar with how our country is divided on issues. This one is going to make people sick and some will die from heat exposure. Hopefully we can come to our senses on this issue.

I want to thank everyone for allowing me into your lives for this short little blurb. Take care of yourselves during this summer heat. The Green Sanctuary Team.

VIRTUAL RETREAT EVENT FOR UU MALES

Saturday September 9, at 10:00 AM via zoom.

Navigating Masculinity - Featured speaker Rev. Alex Ruth, D. Min, CPC, ELI-MP.

Many of the once-sure markers of being "a man" have shifted or disappeared completely. Coupled with a growing understanding of identity that transcends the binary and the prevalence of "toxic masculinity," the path to understanding our identity travels through uncertain waters. During our time together, we will explore some of the generational and cultural shifts in understanding gender identity and have conversations with our fellow travelers on life's journey. This is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of who we are and how we relate to the world around us in ways that breathe life into the world.

I envision beginning with some presentation, breaking off into small groups, reporting back from those groups, some final thoughts and then a time for questions and responses.

Approximate length of this event = 120 min.

OPEN TO ALL WHO IDENTIFY AS MALE.

REGISTRATION COST: FREE

TO REGISTER- GET LINK:

Send name & e-mail address to markeric-j@hotmail.com

Sponsored by the Men's Retreat committee: Mark Johansen, Rich Pokorny, Gerry Messler, Bob Innocenzi, Alan Johnson, Allen Lindrup, Nai Owens, August Staas, ralph Earlandsen & Ron Dubreuil.



We need your pictures for the Sunday December 3rd Water Service!

Ruth Halstead has agreed to do a Water Service on Sunday, December 3rd and Barb Anderson-Morris will be her Worship Assistant.

We would like a picture of each of you around water or using water. For example, swimming, fishing, kayaking, looking at a lake, taking a drink, even washing the dog.

The photos will be compiled into a slideshow for the Water Service.

Pictures can be given to Barb Anderson in-person at church or digitally sent to the church office email churchadmin@uuccpf.org

The photo submission deadline is October 10th.

CORN ROAST

When: Saturday, September 16th

Time: 4:30 to 8:00 pm

Where: Unitarian Universalist Community Church
70 Sycamore Drive, Park Forest

Burgers, Brats, Hot Dogs and Veggie Burgers,
buns and of course sweet corn will be provided.

Please bring a salad, side dish or a dessert
to share.

Sign up in the gathering room
or sign up online [HERE](#)

Suggested Donation: \$10.00 Age 6-Adult
Kids 5 and under eat free.

Seating outdoors weather permitting



**Denise Tracy will participate in the
Susan G Komen 60 mile walk
September 8-10**

Message from Rev. Denise Tracy:

After 30 years being cancer free, I had a second diagnosis for breast cancer 18 months ago. I have been feeling pretty good. I decided to participate in the Susan G Komen 3 Day, 60 mile walk and do 20 miles, each of three days. I am wondering if you might consider becoming a sponsor/donor. Half the money raised goes to re-search the other half goes to pay for treatment for the uninsured. Below is my personal link. Don't feel pressured. You can google Susan G Komen Chicago Walk, put my name in and you can read my information.

<http://www.the3day.org/goto/denisetrayc2023>

Or you can google Susan G Komen Walk-Chicago put my name in and you will get to my page. Thanks for your support, Denise



A Moment in Balance ~ Yoga Classes by Karen Nielsen

Monday & Thursday 9:30 – 11am

Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30pm

At UCC 70 Sycamore Dr. Park Forest

This class is for everyone, beginner to experienced.
No reservations needed. Drop-in fee is \$10 per class.
Call Karen (708) 755-3577

Timely Sex Education is the Right of Every Growing Teen!



O.W.L.

OUR WHOLE LIVES

**COMPREHENSIVE
SEXUALITY EDUCATION PROGRAM**

7th - 9th Grade Level

Age Appropriate ★ Certified Teachers ★ Parent Permission Required

VALUES

- SELF-WORTH
- SEXUAL HEALTH
- RESPONSIBILITY
- JUSTICE & INCLUSIVITY



TO SIGN-UP:



219-942-1611



office@firstunitarian-hobart.org



RAINBOW CAFE

Rainbow Cafe will meet on Friday, September 22, 2023.

Doors to the church open around 6:30 pm.

The film starts around 7:00 pm. Soft drinks and snacks are served.



LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation



DRAMARAMA

Synopsis: "Like a John Hughes movie reimagined for a queer audience, this wonderfully enjoyable comedy is a heartfelt love letter to all the misfits and outsiders."

Escondido, California 1994. It's the end of summer and Gene is preparing for his high school drama friends' final murder mystery slumber party. Before the group heads off to college, however, Gene wants to come out of the closet - but is terrified of what his sheltered Christian friends might think. What was planned as a celebration of friendship becomes a reckoning, and this formerly tight-knit group will have to decide whether to cling to the past or move forward in uncertainty.



Rainbow Café is a social event that provides a welcoming and safe environment for single or partnered gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender adults, and their allies. Group is open to anyone regardless of their sexual orientation.

We meet every third Friday at 7PM to watch a LGBTQ film.

Join the discussion after the film.

Invite friends!

Optional - bring snacks to share.



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

WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

IMMIGRANT LGBTQ
OF COLOR WITH DISABILITIES
OF ALL AND ANY FAITHS

UUA.ORG/IMAGES

Greetings Family,

Today's Conversant is Beverly Feldt, who previously appeared as a guest, together with Richard Oram, on The H3O Art of Life Show "Sticks and Stones and Names." The link is provided in the "Recommended Viewing" section of today's H3O Art of Life Blog, "Balance." Because she has such a command of the topic about which she spoke at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Park Forest (IL.), I asked for her permission to re-present it here.

There is really no need for a lengthy introduction but, as you prepare to click on the link below, I'd like to preface her remarks with a single observation which is to express my gratitude for the blessing of balance. We are all acquainted with the challenges associated with balancing our budgets and our diets, as well as Life's "ups and downs."

As time passes, one learns to value this gift more and more- especially in situations where the "downs" seem to overtake the "ups". It is during such times that we can turn to the One who is "able to keep us from falling." It is our hope that, through our combined efforts, we are able to "strike a balance" between our H3O Art of Life Blogs and H3O Art of Life Shows. Today's blog is linked below:

<https://www.theh3oartoflifeshowomni-u.org/post/balance>

As always, we welcome your comments and appreciate your support as you continue to share our content with more family, friends, and our community-at-large. Thank you. **Dr. Gloria Latimore-Peace**

Creator, The H3O Art of Life Blog. Host and Producer, The H3O Art of Life Show. Founder, Omni-U Virtual University.

What's Happening at UUCC?



First Sunday Potluck September 3rd after worship

At UUCC, the first Sunday of each month after worship service we share a potluck luncheon while we meet to conduct church business or just enjoy each other's company.

Please bring a food item to share. We especially need main dishes and vegetarian dishes. Be sure to list the dish's ingredients so all can enjoy a safe and delicious meal together. Please join us for this time of Fellowship!

UUCC Men's Group

UUCC Men's Group meets each **FIRST TUESDAY of the month** at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Men wanting to gather in person should contact Dick Lewis. Individuals identifying as male who have not been participating but would like to join the group should contact Allan Lindrup at uusj@sbcglobal.net or 773-595-4921

Connections Small Group

UUCC Connections Group Our meeting will start up again on September 14th from 1:00-2:30. and will be **meeting once per month on the SECOND THURSDAY** Please join this small group so we can connect and share to get to know one another. Questions? Contact Irene van der Hoek at tulip51girl@gmail.com



DO YOU LOVE STITCHING?

Join us on first Tuesday of the month from 10am-noon at UUCC classroom 3. Do you like to knit, and want to run some thoughts across others? Do you like to crochet, but want something new and not sure where to look? Do you quilt but need somewhere quiet to really get into your craft? Whether you knit, crochet, cross stitch, needlepoint, quilt, or any other hand stitch craft that you enjoy, let's get together to craft, talk and mingle.

For more information contact **KAREN BERAN 708-532-6024**

Multi-UU Church Environmental Book Club

Monday, September 18th from 7:00 - 8:15 PM **via Zoom**

This book club meets via Zoom, on the **Third Monday** evening of the month.

To join this book club contact Allan Lindrup at uusj@sbcglobal.net or 773-595-4921

The Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

UUMUAC Monthly **Third Wednesday** Worship Service

Wednesday, September 20th 7:00 pm Central Time

For Zoom information, please send name, email, and congregation (if any) to richard3point@gmail.com

For past services, type "Third Wednesday UUMUAC services" in the YouTube search box.



Join UUCC Respond Now Team

We could use a couple more volunteers to take turns at one of the Respond Now food pantries in Chicago Heights or Sauk Village. If you would like to help, talk to Darlene Obejda or email dobejda@gmail.com

UUCC has a donation bin in the hall for non perishable food items or self care essentials. Respond Now is always in need of Non perishable foods (not expired), toiletries and feminine hygiene products, NEW adult underwear & socks and school supplies.

You may donate directly at Respond Now, 1439 Emerald Avenue, Chicago Heights at the front door or back window. Questions please contact Carl Wolf cwolf@respondnow.org or Food



JOIN THE UUCC PADS TEAM

A group of 11 individuals, including 9 UUCC members plus two friends of the congregation, has begun to provide dinner for 50 South Suburban PADS clients, housed at a facility in South Holland, once a month, specifically on the first Thursday of each month. We will be providing an entree (meat, fish, chili, etc.), a vegetable, a starch (such as garlic bread), a dessert, and a drink for each client. If you would like to join our team, please contact Allan Lindrup at 773-595-4921 or uusj@sbcglobal.net

You may send donations to PADS, 414 Lincoln Highway, Chicago Heights IL 60411, or place your donation, marked to PADS in the memo line, in the donation basket during a church service.

67th Annual Park Forest Art Fair September 16 & 17 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

The second oldest juried art fair in the Chicago area where the finest artists in the Midwest show a variety of artworks. Free to attend. Downtown Park Forest, on Main St. between Western Ave. & Orchard Dr.

Tall Grass Arts Association tallgrassarts.org 708-748-3377

Chalk Art Contest

Additionally, the Tall grass Arts Association will hold a Chalk Art Contest on Sept. 16th during the Art Fair.

Questions about entry and prizes can be directed to Mary.joens@att.net

The South Suburban Dulcimer and Folk Music Society

Invites you to attend their meetings at the
Unitarian Universalist Community Church 70 Sycamore Drive, Park Forest IL
For information about joining, call 708-741-8301

OR write to SSDFMS PO Box 256 Olympia Fields, IL 60461

www.southsuburbandulcimer.com

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

In an effort to keep UUCC Members informed, meeting minutes are available on the bulletin board and can be emailed or mailed to any UUCC member who requests them.

Please contact the office 708-481-5339 or email churchadmin@uuccpf.org



In Loving Memory

We recently lost former members and friends of this congregation. Our hearts go out to their families, as we remember the times we shared.

June Garrish was a friend of UUCC and very active in the League of Women Voters, Sane Freeze and Peace Action. June combined her love of music and history by teaching classes at Moraine Valley, Governor's State and giving lectures at many area schools.



Kasey Kephart was a long-time member of UUCC, who sang in the choir and often led summer services such as Poetry Sharing and the Water Service. She was a professor of English at Prairie State College and encouraged everyone to journal daily.

Lynn Marie Hayner, daughter of long-time UUCC members Al and Georgia Weber. She worked in the field of law and more recently wrote for dog consumer magazines. She grew up in South Holland and raised her family in Arlington Heights, IL and Austin, TX. Her father Al, misses her deeply.



Shared Memories

This came in from Al Weber, a former long-time member with his wife Georgia. . . .

I'm remembering the first Unitarian Church that Georgia and I attended in 1983. UUCC was meeting in a strip mall in Park Forest IL. Georgia had gone into the women's restroom and had met Ellen Donner, the minister of the Church, putting on her robe. . . I remember that it was Palm Sunday and we were both impressed with the service/sermon and the members were very friendly. Shirley McDonald invited us to join them at a picnic in one of the nearby parks.

Plans were being made for a new Church building so we heard all about it from the McDonalds. During this time, Ellen and Nick were married and they even visited with me in Morocco. By the time I returned home from my two years living and working in Morocco the church had been built. . . . During that period Georgia and Ellen had many lunch visits together and Ellen knew quite a bit about us and our family. I'm remembering later when Ellen remarked "I cannot believe the kind gentle Al, served on a Destroyer."

We met many good friends at the Park Forest UU church and will always remember them.

Al Weber in Waco TX



Georgia Weber & Rev. Ellen Dohner



Rev. Ellen Dohner & Nick Livingston in Morocco



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of The Rev. Dr. Finley C. Campbell

In lieu of flowers, donations are being taken for the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council. Donations may be made out to our church UUCC with Rev. Finley Campbell in the Memo. The treasurer will send out one combined check to the UUMUAC.

On the evening of August 18, Rev. Dr. Finley C. Campbell passed away peacefully at his home in Hyde Park, Chicago, surrounded by family and friends. He is survived by wife Roberta (Bobbi); children Phillip, Paulette, and David; co-children Kathi and Mark; grandchildren Taylor, Bryanna, Lya, Lanny, Laissa, and Anastasia.

Finley was born in Anderson, South Carolina, on September 23, 1934. When he was 8, his family moved to Detroit, where he lived until 1952. Finley studied English and American Literature at Morehouse College in Atlanta from 1952 – 1958. In 1959, while earning his M.A. at Atlanta University, Finley spent a year studying French at the Sorbonne University in Paris, where he met his first wife Liliane, who lived in Geneva, Switzerland. After their marriage, she had to “pass as Black” for them to be able to live together legally in Georgia.

In 1961 he was ordained as a Baptist minister. In 1960 he started teaching at Morehouse College and became active in the Civil Rights movement after the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968. In 1969 he moved his family to Crawfordsville, Indiana, where he taught at Wabash College. He received a Ph. D with honors in English Literature from the University of Chicago in 1969, where John Hope Franklin helped supervise his dissertation.

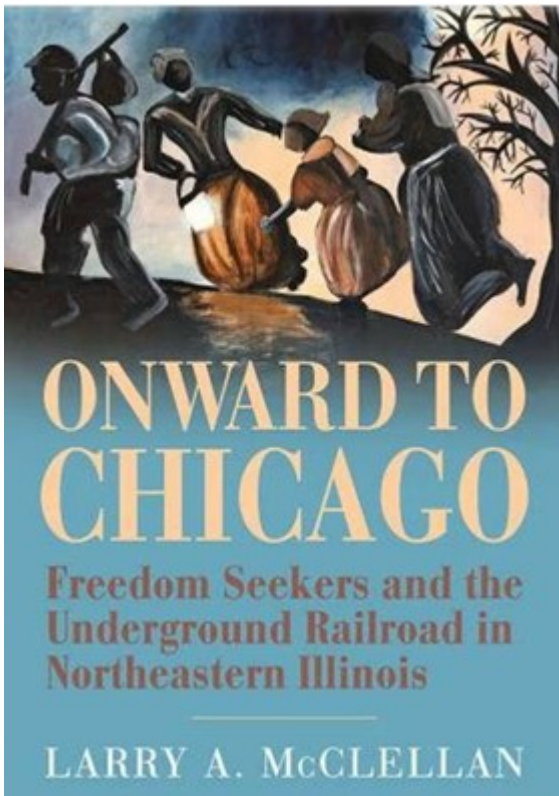
Finley was a co-founder of the InterNational Committee Against Racism. In 1972 he moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where he organized both the Black Studies department as well as a chapter of InCAR. In 1977 he moved to Chicago to work with InCAR. His teaching positions in Chicago included UIC and DeVry. In 1971 he married his second wife, Vicky. He married Bobbi, his current wife, in 1986. They both joined the First Unitarian Church in Hyde Park, Chicago in 1992.

Finley was influential in the church, joining the Social Justice Council, the Racial Justice Task Force, being very active in the Men’s Group, the Global Studies discussion group, and as a member of the church’s board of trustees. For many years he taught “The Nature of Racism” at the church, examining a different aspect of institutional racism each year. More recently he founded the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council.

Finley’s principled anti-racism, so thoroughly uncompromising, led him to an understanding that is still not grasped by many people: that racism in many forms globally is the obstacle that holds back all social progress. That the majority of people, working class people, from all racial and ethnic groups, are harmed by this division, and that it is foolish and dangerous to blame so-called “white” people as a whole for these problems. He fought for multi-racial unity against racism and all other forms of economic, political, social, and cultural discrimination. His work bore fruit, not just in UUMUAC, but in the tens of thousands who have been directly and indirectly influenced by his work and who, in turn, will carry that forward. He leaves a hole in the hearts and minds of all who knew him.

Finley’s dissertation, *The Bloody Chasms: A Descriptive Analysis of Reconstruction in American Literature 1865-1885*, will be published soon by Dorrance Publishing. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to UUMUAC (Box 267, 1448 E. 52nd St., Chicago IL 60615) and to a scholarship fund in Finley’s name for literature students pursuing topics of multi-racial unity at Wabash College (301 W Wabash Ave, Crawfordsville IN 47933).

Details regarding the memorial service will be forthcoming. Anyone wishing to send condolences to his widow, can mail them to Bobbi Campbell, 5222 S. Dorchester, Chicago, IL 60615.



**Rev. Larry McClellan Sunday Speaker
October 15, 2023 at 10:00 AM**

After the service Larry is scheduled for a discussion and book signing.

In a recent article in the Chicago Tribune, Rev. Larry McClellan, shared his thoughts on a recent tour he led of Underground Railroad sites in the south suburbs and on his new book.

In Larry's words, "In trying to understand the history of the Chicago Southland, I ran into these references of the Underground Railroad. Again and again in Underground Railroad accounts, the fugitive slaves are described by the way people did heroic things to help them. That's upside down. The really remarkable stories are the ones

of the people who made the decision to seek their freedom. We have to tell the freedom seeker stories," McClellan said. "That's where the real power is. That's where the whole process needs to be humanized."

The result of that realization became ["Onward to Chicago: Freedom Seekers and the Underground Railroad in Northeastern Illinois,"](#) just out from Southern Illinois University Press.



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September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Please note: Men's Group has resumed.		Please Note: Connections group Has resumed and will meet once per month.	1	2 Please Note: 9am Saturday Online Meditation this month to be announced.
3 10am Worship 11:30am Potluck after service	4 9:30am Yoga	5 10:00am Stitchery Group 7pm Men's Group	6 7:00pm Yoga	7 9:30am Yoga 3pm PADS Team	8 7:30pm Edgar's Place Switchback	9
10 10am Worship	11 9:30am Yoga	12	13 7:00pm Yoga	14 9:30am Yoga 1:00 Connections	15	16 4:30-8:00PM UCC ANNUAL CORN ROAST
17 10am Worship	18 9:30am Yoga 7pm Environmental Book Club	19 7pm Board Meeting	20 7:00pm Yoga 7pm UUMAUC online Worship service	21 9:30am Yoga	22 7pm Rainbow Café	23
24 10am Worship	25 9:30am Yoga	26	27 7:00pm Yoga	28 9:30am Yoga	29	30

Event Facilitators

Buddhist Meditation:

Yoga:

Rainbow Café:

Forum:

UU Environmental Book Club:

Edgar's Place:

Connections Group:

Men's Group:

Stitchery Group:

Beverly Feldt

Karen Nielsen

Charles Barnett

Allan Lindrup

Allan Lindrup

Dave Rudolf

Irene van der Hoek

Allan Lindrup

Karen Beran

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708-532-6024 greywolf2496@hotmail.com

Call the church office Mon. - Fri. 10:00am - 10:00pm with questions, to schedule a rental, or to make an appointment to view the building. 708-481-5339

Church Information

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Website: www.uuccpf.org

(Please contact the church office for anything related to the newsletter).

The 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.***



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**Unitarian Universalist
Community Church
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