

# UUCC Community News

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

June 2025

HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY

## Sunday Worship Service 10:00am

### Sunday Services

**June 1** Rev Denise Tracy  
Kindness 101

**June 8** Rev. Robert Moynihan  
It's All About Soul and Spirit

As much of the Christian world observes Pentecost Sunday and ponders the powerful albeit nebulous entity called The Holy Spirit, we will consider our own spark, soul, and Spirit.

**June 15** February Sky  
(presenters: Phil Cooper & Susan Urban)  
For All Our Dads – A Father's Day Tribute to Fathers and Father Figures  
Both men and women seem to have an innate need for nurturance from males as well as females. If someone's biological father is absent or unavailable, they will often seek out other men to fill the "Dad Gap." These surrogate fathers can be as important to a person's development as "real" fathers. We will celebrate both types of father figures, and also reflect on what can happen when a father is distant or emotionally unavailable.

**June 22** Rev Henrietta Byrd  
TBA

**June 29** Pride Sunday: Thomas Vizzard  
Pride Month is celebrated each year in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan which was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States.

### First Sunday Potluck JUNE 1st after worship



At UUC, the first Sunday of each month after worship service we share a potluck luncheon. Bring a dish to share. Join us for this time of Fellowship!

### The You and UU Forum returns Sunday June 8th at about 11:30 a.m.

It will be held in Room 3, with the option to join **via Zoom**. Our guest speaker will be Doug Kenshol, the Executive Director of South Suburban PADS (SSPADS). He will be updating us on SSPADS current operations, its challenges, and its plans for the future. **As SSPADS is one of the two local social service agencies that UUC has consistently supported, it will be good to get this update, and we encourage as many UUC members and friends as possible to attend.**

### Religious and Character Education

Classes for elementary school children have resumed. We offer classes on the first and third Sundays of the month using a curriculum based on the creation stories from different world religions and cultures.



Listening Hearts

### Listening Hearts

**June** volunteers, Darlene Obejda and Jodi Libretti are available as a source for listening, support and resources.



Please follow us on **Facebook** for UUC event reminders.



## The President's Column JUNE 2025 by Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo



(Revised Edition of President's Annual Meeting Speech)

Your Board of Trustees takes their responsibility for this church very seriously and works hard. When I became board President in June of 2022, my concern was for us to remain financially stable even though our membership numbers have not seen a significant increase in number in the past few decades. In fact, the average age of our membership continues to increase. This is a concern, and we must continue to strive for ways to attract new members, but I must state here that if there was an easy means to do this, we would already be doing it. However, this must always remain a priority for us.

We present an important alternative to the conservative evangelical Christian churches in America as we offer a liberal, democratic community of like-minded people who are mostly highly educated and intelligent. We look to the world's religions as sources of wisdom and faith that offer us solace in our lives. We are not governed by endless rules and dogma. Our goal is simple: to live our lives with love and to help one another. That is a crucial point of view in today's world.

The first thing that occurred to me when I became President was that I wanted to leave my mark on this church by helping to ensure our economic stability for the future. While we do not have hundreds of folks clamoring at our doors each Sunday, we do need to continue our work and to keep the lights on. That takes money. And I would like to tell you all how impressed I have been with your generosity over the years. This congregation shares its wealth with our church through monthly pledges and donations, as well as donations of both time and money to the organizations we support, principally PADS and Respond Now. The Board thanks you for your continued support.

To achieve financial stability, we have had to increase our revenue coming in and not rely on our endowment funds to bail us out during lean years. We have witnessed a major flood that significantly damaged this building as well as a global pandemic that closed us down for months until we deemed it safe to return. But we have survived, and, in fact, according to our Church Treasurer, we are doing well. So, at the beginning of my term, I appointed a team of individuals to look at our building and grounds and bring it back to the standard that it once was. This was done with the objective of renting the building out for events and services within the community. Our building sits empty for much of the time, and it is a beautiful church in an idyllic forest setting that could be rented for a variety of reasons and help to keep us solvent.

So, to achieve this I appointed Irene van der Hoek to chair this Rental Team. It was obvious to me that she would be the right choice, and she has absolutely surpassed any expectations we might have had. Irene made her own choices for the Rental Team, and they have worked tirelessly to transform our kitchen, various rooms, and the surrounding grounds back to their former glory. This has been, without a doubt, the most successful action of my presidency. We owe a big debt of gratitude to Irene and the other members of the rental team.

The Rental Team has now completed their work and the next order of business I envision is to appoint a Building & Grounds Team to oversee the work that needs to be done both indoors and out should the need arise. I am calling for volunteers to get this started. As many of us are no longer young or fit as we used to be, we intend to hire outside help to do much of the physical labor. So, we need volunteers to help facilitate this. If you are interested in helping, please contact Virginia, Nancy, or me, or give your name to a board member.

I have one last year to serve as your board president and I want to thank you for the privilege of doing so. I appreciate all that you do for the continued success of our church.

## Financial Update –

The Solidarity Circle is still accepting donations to help cover anticipated expenses supporting Roger Lewis in his return to civilian life. Donations can be made out to UUCU with "Solidarity" in the memo line. One congregant has offered to match Solidarity donations from members and friends, up to \$1,000! Let's see if we can raise that amount.



At the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>, the proposed 2025-26 Operating Budget was approved, as submitted. Given our increased long-term rentals, and non-pledge giving, we anticipate about \$8,000 more in income for next year. However, expenses will also be up, particularly for our Insurance, Utilities and Accounting software. Our four part-time staff were each given a 3.5% cost-of-living increase. As has been the case for the past several years, our predicted income did not match our predicted expenses. The congregation approved up to \$22,825 from investments could be used, if needed to meet our expenses. So far, we have had five or more years with this sort of "stop-gap" permission to use funding from investments. However, we have not needed to tap the investment funds. We expect that trend to continue, with every effort being made to not need to utilize the authorized investment funds.

## Volunteer Recognitions

At the recent Annual Congregational Meeting, the entire Rental Team (Irene van der Hoek, Candy Allen-Smith, Tina Clegg, Beryl Atchison, Virginia Jackson, and Jane Troescher) were all recognized for their incredible efforts to fix up our building and find long-term renters. The Board gave each member a gift card as a Thank You! Well done all! Do you know of someone who gives tirelessly and is deserving of recognition? Please clue us in as to whom we should be thanking. Everyone's efforts count!

## Volunteer Opportunities!

Are you willing to commit to a Sunday or two each month? We need Ushers and Greeters, Zoom hosts and Sexton setup assistance. Please get involved! Contact Marilyn Ragland ([mexmasrag@aol.com](mailto:mexmasrag@aol.com)) for details on the Sexton team; Joyce Sligar ([jsligar02@gmail.com](mailto:jsligar02@gmail.com)) for Ushers and Greeters; and Jodi Libretti ([jlibretti@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlibretti@sbcglobal.net)) for the Zoom hosts.

There are many interesting tasks that need attention. Would you like to help beautify and maintain our building and grounds? Please get involved. Adopt a spot or task that you will be responsible for.

Please contact with the office (708-481-5339 or [churchadmin@uuccpf.org](mailto:churchadmin@uuccpf.org)) for more information or to arrange access to the building and supplies.

## News from the Rental Team Task Force

Almost 2 years ago, the Rental Team Task Force was created. The team was formed in order to identify projects that would make the church more appealing to possible renters.

A long list of wide-ranging projects was made. And one of the latest projects is to get the Music office ready for rental.

With Board approval and full support from Chris Ussery and Bev Feldt, the work to clear the space has begun.

In consultation with Chris and Bev, we have created a space in classroom 1, suitable to their needs as Music and Choir directors.

***Do you know someone who might be interested in renting the Music office?***

***The space measures 190 sq feet and will be available per July 1.***

***The rental fee will be determined by the Board in the near future.***

Contact Virginia Jackson (708/481-5339) or Irene van der Hoek (708/305-4913).





## Support the Solidarity Circle

### Solidarity Circle Report

On January 22nd, 50 year old Roger Lewis, was released from prison after 35 years of incarceration. On February 9 many of UUCC's members, plus a few friends, attended a forum where Roger told his life story, plus his hopes for the remainder of his life. At the end of May Roger had his 51st birthday, his first since regaining his freedom. Roger has secured a state ID, and hopes to get a driving learners permit. Roger has gotten on the waiting list for the Michael Barlow Center's Culinary School, which includes a food handler's certification. His sister is a big support and they talk by phone virtually every day.

Roger's miscellaneous expenses, which at this time are generally paid by Allan Lindrup, are reimbursed out of UUCC's Solidarity Circle fund. *To make a contribution to that fund, make your check or other donation payable to UUCC, with Solidarity Circle in the Note section.*

To contribute to that fund make your check payable to UUCC and put Solidarity Circle in the Memo line.

Thank you, Allan Lindrup



### Sorrow and Grief

It is with great sadness and heavy heart that we share that **Amanda M. Thomas**, former UUCC choir director and wife of former UUCC President, Heather Godbout, has recently died from cancer. Amanda is remembered fondly for her enjoyable Sunday services and her incredible love of music and singing. May she be at peace. A memorial service will be held for Amanda at Unity Temple in Oak Park on July 12<sup>th</sup>. More details will be provided as we learn them.



## PULLING POP TABS FOR A PURPOSE



Across the Chicagoland area, hundreds of individuals, schools, and companies are working together to collect pop tabs to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana (RMHC-CNI). Those pop tabs are recycled by United Scrap Metal, and the charity will receive the market value of the recycled metal, plus a charitable match from United Scrap Metal.

There is a pop-top collection jar located in the kitchen at UUCC. Please bring in your pop tops to contribute to this worthwhile charity.



RonaldHouseChicago.org 630-527-3800





## GREEN SANCTUARY BY JEFF GREEN – JUNE 2024



I put into Deep Seek the comparison of buying a used gas car to a used electric vehicle. Below is a way to lay a foundation to further explore your options. AI is not always right and geographic areas differ in support.

When deciding between a **used gas car** and a **used electric vehicle (EV)**, several factors come into play, including cost, maintenance, environmental impact, and lifestyle needs. Below is a detailed comparison to help you make an informed choice:

### **1. Upfront Cost**

#### **Used Gas Cars:**

- Generally cheaper to buy upfront. For example, a 5-year-old Honda Civic or Toyota Corolla might cost **\$12,000–\$18,000**.
- Wider selection of models and price points.

#### **Used EVs:**

- Higher initial cost than gas cars, but prices have dropped as older models depreciate. A used Nissan Leaf (2018–2020) costs **\$15,000–\$22,000**, while a Tesla Model 3 (2018–2020) ranges **\$25,000–\$35,000**.

- **Incentives:** Some regions offer tax credits or rebates for used EVs (e.g., up to **\$4,000** in the U.S. via the Inflation Reduction Act).

### **2. Fuel & Maintenance Costs**

#### **Gas Cars:**

- **Fuel:** Costs depend on gas prices (e.g., \$3.50/gallon). A 30 MPG car driving 12,000 miles/year costs **\$1,400/year**.

- **Maintenance:** Higher due to oil changes, transmission fluid, belts, and exhaust systems. Average annual cost: **\$800–\$1,200**.

#### **EVs:**

- **Charging:** Electricity costs are lower. Charging a Nissan Leaf at home (12,000 miles/year) costs **\$450–\$600/year**.

- **Maintenance:** No oil changes, fewer moving parts. Annual costs average **\$300–\$600** (tires, brakes, cabin air filter).

- **Battery Degradation:** Check battery health (most EVs retain ~80% capacity after 8–10 years). Replacement costs **\$5,000–\$15,000** if out of warranty.

### **3. Environmental Impact**

- **Gas Cars:** Emit CO<sub>2</sub> and pollutants. A typical sedan emits **4.6 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>/year**.

- **EVs:** Zero tailpipe emissions, but environmental impact depends on how your local grid generates electricity (e.g., coal vs. renewables). Even on a fossil-fuel grid, EVs often have a **lower lifetime carbon footprint**.

### **4. Range & Charging**

#### **Gas Cars:**

- No range anxiety. Fill up in 5 minutes at any gas station.
- Average range: **300–400 miles** per tank.

#### **EVs:**

- Older models (e.g., 2017 Nissan Leaf) have **~150 miles** of range; newer used Teslas (2018+) offer **250–300 miles**.

#### **Charging Time:**

- Level 1 (home outlet): ~5 miles/hour.
- Level 2 (home/public charger): 25–30 miles/hour.
- DC Fast Charging: 80% in 30–60 minutes (costs \$10–\$30 per session).
- **Infrastructure:** Requires access to home/work charging for convenience.

**continued**

## GREEN SANCTUARY continued

### ### \*\*5. Depreciation & Resale Value\*\*

- **Gas Cars**: Depreciate steadily but predictably. Reliable brands (Toyota, Honda) hold value well.
- **EVs**: Depreciate faster due to battery concerns and tech advancements. However, this makes older EVs **bargains** for budget buyers (e.g., 2015 Nissan Leafs sell for **\$8,000–\$12,000**).

### ### \*\*6. Reliability & Repairs

- **Gas Cars**: Easier to find mechanics, and parts are widely available. Complex engines/transmissions can fail.
- **EVs**: Fewer parts to break (no engine, transmission), but battery/motor issues require specialized (and costly) repairs. Check warranty coverage for batteries (often **8–10 years**).

### ### \*\*Who Should Buy a Used Gas Car?

- **Budget under \$15,000**.
- Need long-range driving or lack home charging.
- Prefer familiar maintenance and repair networks.
- Drive infrequently or prioritize upfront savings.

### ### \*\*Who Should Buy a Used EV?

- **Commute short distances** (under 100 miles/day).
- Have access to **home charging**.
- Want lower long-term costs (fuel/maintenance).
- Care about reducing emissions.
- Can afford a **\$20,000+** budget for a longer-range EV (e.g., Tesla, Chevy Bolt).

### ### \*\*Key Questions to Ask

1. **For Gas Cars**:
  - Mileage, service history, and timing belt/transmission condition.
  - Fuel efficiency and emissions standards in your area.
2. **For EVs**:
  - Battery health report (remaining capacity).
  - Charging cable included? Warranty status.
  - Availability of public charging near you.

### ### \*\*Final Recommendation

- **Prioritize a used gas car if**: You need affordability, long-range flexibility, or live in an area with poor charging infrastructure.
- **Prioritize a used EV if**: You have home charging, drive mostly locally, and want lower operating costs/environmental impact.

Test drive both types, compare total 5-year ownership costs, and factor in incentives. Either way, get a **pre-purchase inspection** (for gas cars) or **battery health check** (for EVs) to avoid surprises. 🚗 ⚡

**Jeff Green**

**JUNETEENTH**  
CELEBRATE FREEDOM



**UUCS COVID UPDATE:** The UUCS 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.



# Connections

by Barb Anderson



UUCC hosted a Maypole Ceremony with the Pagan group Sylvan Sanctuary (CUUPS).



There will be a Summer Solstice Celebration with a craft, ceremony and feast on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, from 2 to 5pm. Bring a dish to share. Free will donation.



The rental team used the landscaping stones that Chief Jensen salvaged from the back of the property to make a garden bed around UUCC's new 'Event Rentals' sign. Irene van der Hoek and Tina Clegg planted native plants under it.

continued



## Connections Column continued

Some of our recent Guest Speakers.



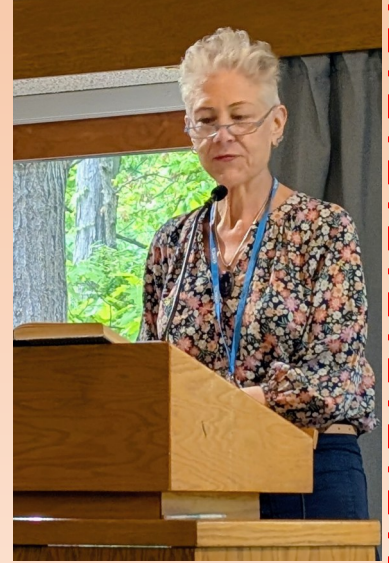
Emily Mace  
Meadville Lombard  
Theological student



Rev. Henrietta Byrd



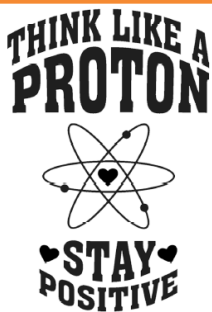
Rev Denise Tracy  
and Jodi Libretti  
on Mother's Day



Leanne Mull



## A POSITIVITY PROJECT SUMMER SCHEDULE



### Feeling overwhelmed? Looking for a BRIGHT SPOT?

The **POSITIVITY PROJECT** meets the **FIRST MONDAY EACH MONTH AT 6:30PM. Doors open at 6pm.**

Join folks who are sharing positive experiences and ways to see our world in a more satisfying light. Enjoy a soft beverage and a short meditation sending our most loving thoughts to the planet and inhabitants. All are welcome.

For more info contact Michele at 708-748-0362 Follow us on [FaceBook](#)

**~POSITIVITY PICK-UP is the last Sunday of the month~**

**HELP US BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH GROUNDS SUNDAY June 29th AT 11:30**

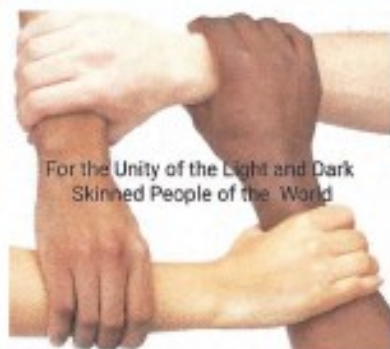
The Positivity Project plans to have another Sycamore Drive cleanup on Sunday June 29th after the service from 11:30-12:30. You may have noticed there is often debris strewn along the street, so we want to clean up around the church.

Come join us if you can. Bring gloves.

Contact Michele Johnson at 708-748-0362



[Image by macrovector](#)



## ***Race and Class:***

### ***Intersections and Differences***

A Convocation of the

Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

**Saturday, June 7, 2025, 11 a.m.-1:00 pm Central time  
(Starts at Noon Eastern, 10:00 am Mountain, 9:00 am Pacific)**

### **3 Authors are the Featured Speakers**



Professor **Toure' F. Reed**, who has a PhD in History from Columbia University (NY), teaches 20th Century US and Afro-American history at Illinois State University. He is a third generation African American professor, son of the renowned activist professor Adolph Reed. He is the author of *Toward Freedom: The Case Against Race Reductionism* (2020) and other books.



**Olufemi O. Táíwò** is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy at UCLA. Táíwò's theoretical work draws liberally from the Black radical tradition, anti-colonial thought, German transcendental philosophy, contemporary philosophy of language, contemporary social science, and histories of activism and activist thinkers. His public philosophy, including articles exploring intersections of climate justice and colonialism, has been featured in at least 10 magazines, plus several academic journals. He is the author of *Elite Capture: How The Powerful Took Over Identity Politics* (2022) and other books.



Rev. **Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove**, a graduate of Duke Divinity School, is a spiritual writer, preacher, and community cultivator. He serves as Assistant Director for Partnerships and Fellowships at Yale University's Center for Public Theology and Public Policy. He co-authored *The Third Reconstruction* and *White Poverty* with **Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II**, plus has written several book on his own.

**TO REGISTER send an email to [UUMUAC@gmail.com](mailto:UUMUAC@gmail.com);  
Zoom codes will be sent the day before the Convocation**





## North American Unitarian Association

*Helping Liberal Religion Thrive*

The **North American Unitarian Association (NAUA)** bi-monthly newsletter is called the Liberal Beacon. Click on this link to download the newsletter. <https://naunitarians.org/liberal-beacon/> A sample Liberal Beacon Newsletter is in the Gathering Room.

### NAUA Monthly Academy is on Summer break.

#### Program Fall Kick-Off

Sep 9, 2025 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Details to be Announced.

The NAUA Academy provides courses to Members of the NAUA and others interested in Unitarianism, Unitarian Universalism, and Liberal Religion. Single-session and multiple-session courses deal with the history and development of Unitarianism and Liberal Religion, as well as with issues of concern in contemporary society from a liberal religious perspective. Participation in courses is virtual, using Zoom. Sessions consist of a presentation followed by small group discussions.

### The NAUA 3rd Saturday of the month Worship Service June 21st at 12:00 Noon Central Time

Details to be announced. Check back [HERE](#) for updates.

Zoom access to the Worship Service <https://tinyurl.com/NAUAService>

**NAUA Conversation/Discussion CIRCLE:** This recently launched CIRCLE meets on the **First Wednesday of each month (6:00-7:30 PM Central Time)**. The CIRCLE is designed for NAUA members and friends to gather, share ideas, spark meaningful conversations, and deepen connections. It will be facilitated by a member of the NAUA Board of Trustees, is open to all members and friends, and does not require an RSVP. The zoom link is: <https://tinyurl.com/naua-circle>.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
ADVOCACY NETWORK  
OF ILLINOIS

Do you have an hour or so a month to help us put together our Actions of the Week? Please contact us if you do. Thanks!

You can take action and sign up [HERE](#) for [UUANI Actions of the Week](#)



## Side With Love Action Center

“There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.” — Audre Lorde

[Action Center Guide](#)

The work that we do together to build a world in which all of us are free and thriving is interrelated. When we ground our spirits, grow our skills, and act strategically for justice in deep relationship with each other and our Movements, we choose to Side With Love.

Action Center is a place where we unite in work towards a world where we all thrive. Together we take action, Side With Love, and make deep impacts in this critical moment.

**Our intersectional justice priorities are: Climate Justice, Democracy and Electoral Justice, Decriminalization, LGBTQIA+ and Gender Justice**

**Will you join us?**

[Subscribe](#) to our newsletters

[Join](#) one of our volunteer Squads, the backbone of the Action Center





## MESSAGE FROM THE REVEREND MS. DENISE TRACY

***Now is the time to join our movement.*** If you are not already on our email list, I urge you to go on our website to sign up for our newsletters and join as a member. If you want to meet fellow activists, build connections and hear about the good work happening in our networks, attend our twice-a-month Zoom gatherings. <https://www.intlwomensconvo.org/>

As bad as it looks, as hard as this moment is, we must keep pushing for change.

Women and girls cannot wait for another 30 years for equal rights.

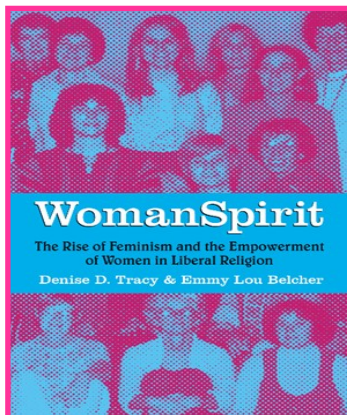
Please give generously so we can persist and resist.

Thank you, Rev. Denise Tracy

**ICE Deportation of Immigrants** – Are you concerned about the mass deportation of immigrants and what it means for our communities? President Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo ([lurquizo@gmail.com](mailto:lurquizo@gmail.com)) is looking for people who want to get involved on this issue. Please be in touch with her to find out what volunteers can do to help protest and/or mitigate deportations.



## ~~~~~ RECOMMENDED READING ~~~~~



***WomanSpirit*** is a collection of twenty essays by extraordinary Unitarian Universalists who illuminate their journey of empowerment and evolution. It's a tribute to their dream of a more inclusive, equitable future and, in doing so, reshaped the very fabric of the denomination. The number of women serving as ministers in North American Unitarian Universalist congregations grew from less than 1% to almost 50% between 1970 and 1990. In this important book Denise Tracy and Emmy Lou Belcher tell how this change came to be.

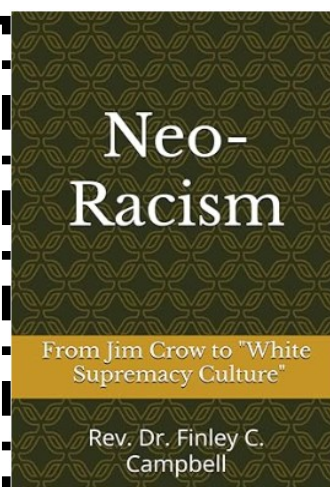
Available for purchase on Amazon and InSpirit Bookstore

Price: \$24.95 Pages: 396

## NEO-RACISM

**By the late Rev. Dr. Finley C. Campbell**

We believe that the way to promote multiracial unity in UU congregations and elsewhere, is to LIVE the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism. We are dismayed to see that our Association of congregations is being taken over by an ideology of neoracism. The articles in this book will help UUs understand this issue better. 258 pages. Available from Amazon, \$15



This book, written from a Unitarian Universalist and Marxist perspective, exposes the reactionary and divisive philosophy and consequences of what the author called *neo-racism*, and describes a multi-racial alternative--for "the unity of the light and dark skinned people of the world."



Finley Campbell, ordained a Baptist minister, was an African-American professor of Black Studies and the founder of the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council.



# What's Happening at UUCC?



## UUCC Men's Group

**JUNE 1ST AT 6:30 PM**

Meetings are on the **FIRST SUNDAY of the month.**

Anyone identifying as male who would like to join us should contact

Allan Lindrup at [uusj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net) or 773-595-4921.

[www.freepik.com](http://www.freepik.com)



## Tuesday, June 3rd at 10:30 am

This group meets the **FIRST TUESDAY of the month from 10:30am-noon** at UUCC. 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**

## Summer Hiatus UUCC CONNECTIONS SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

REMINDER: **No Connections Small Group Meetings during June, July and August.**

**We will meet again in the FALL 2025**, on the **2ND WEDNESDAY** of each month in person at the church with an option to join via Zoom. All participants will receive an email with the topic information and the Zoom link ahead of each meeting. The Connections conversations are offered as a way to get to know each other better, as we explore various topics. The topics we choose relate to our life experiences, questions, joys and challenges. Participants are free to share their thoughts and feelings, joys and struggles, as they choose. The group is there to listen, to share with and care about each other. The Connections group is NOT a therapy group. All are welcome ! If you would like to join us, please contact the facilitator, Irene van der Hoek at: Cell 708/305-4913 or email [tulip51girl@gmail.com](mailto:tulip51girl@gmail.com)

**We look forward to welcoming you in our midst in September 2025**

## **ATTENTION! Are you concerned about the environment?**

Join the Multi UU Church Environmental Book Club

on **Monday, June 16th starting at 7 p.m., via Zoom**

Meetings are **via Zoom** on the **THIRD MONDAY EACH MONTH** 7pm to 8:30pm

The groups is currently reading and discussing *The Three Ages of Water*. If you would like to join or try this group contact Allan Lindrup at [uusj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net) or 773-595-4921.



Photo by [Mohamed Nohassi](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## Buddhist Meditation

**Saturdays at 9:30am -10:30am**

Learn and enjoy the simple, straight-forward practice of meditation. Please join us for sitting and walking meditation in the Zen & Theravadin Buddhist traditions. This is an ongoing event led by Steve McCabe.

**Location:** Online

**Cost:** Free will offering

**Contact:** Steve McCabe [steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com](mailto:steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com)



# JAZZ IN THE AFTERNOON RETURNS!

With our own Chris Ussery & Friends  
Sunday, June 8th, 2025  
4PM till 6PM



Peg Shaffner



Patti Shaffner



Chris Ussery



Lisa Schwartzkoff

Chris will be joined by a vocalist and  
other musicians.

\$20 donation requested  
Snacks and drinks are provided

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
70 Sycamore Drive  
Park Forest, IL



## The Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

UUMUAC Monthly **Third Wednesday** Worship Service at **7:00 pm Central Time**

For Zoom information, please send name, email, and congregation (if any)

to [richard3point@gmail.com](mailto:richard3point@gmail.com)

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



### A Moment in Balance weekly Yoga Classes by Karen Nielsen at UUC 70 Sycamore Dr. Park Forest

**Monday & Thursday 9:30 – 11am**

**Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30pm**

This class is for everyone, beginner to experienced.  
No reservations needed. Drop-in fee is \$15 per class.

Call Karen (708) 755-3577

# RAINBOW CAFE

Rainbow Cafe will meet on Friday, June 20, 2025

Doors to the church open around 6:30 pm. The film starts around 7:00 pm.

Soft drinks and snacks are served.



## Dramarama

A nostalgic coming-of-age comedy set in the summer of 1994, 'Dramarama' follows a group of high school theater friends who are enjoying their final murder mystery-themed slumber party before college sends them all off in different directions.

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](http://uuccpf.org)



# LGBTQ

Welcoming Congregation



## WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

**IMMIGRANT LGBTQ**  
**OF COLOR WITH DISABILITIES**  
**OF ALL AND ANY FAITHS**

UUA.ORG/PAGES

**CUUPS Sylvan Sanctuary LITHA Celebration**  
**Celebrate the Summer Solstice – Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm at UUCC**



Summer solstice celebrations can be traced back to pre-Christian times and mark the longest day and shortest night of the year. The Summer Solstice reminds us to turn inward and find the nourishment needed to grow and evolve. It is a time to pause and wait for the energy planted in the Spring to reach full bloom. If the Spring represents action, the Summer represents patience.

Here are several blessings for the Summer Solstice:

**Blessings of Abundance:** May the summer solstice bring abundant blessings, prosperity, and growth into your life. May you reap the fruits of your labor and experience abundance in all areas of your life.

**Renewal and Rejuvenation:** On this solstice, may you be filled with renewed energy, vitality, and a sense of inner joy. May the warm rays of the sun revitalize your spirit and bring you a fresh start.

**Inner Light and Illumination:** As the sun reaches its zenith, may you also connect with your inner light and wisdom. May the summer solstice illuminate your path, guiding you towards your highest purpose and truth.

**Help Send Paloma to Abroad this Summer!**



Paloma Chavira, our very own violin prodigy, is once again looking to raise funds for a summer abroad, where she will take lessons and play concerts. Upon her return,

Paloma and Rev. Denise Tracy will collaborate on a special Sunday service in September. UUCC members are asked to

help sponsor this summer tour. If you are willing to contribute, please make your check out to UUCC with Paloma in the memo line. This will count as a tax-deductible contribution to UUCC. Please turn your contributions in by the end of May. If you have questions, Treasurer Nancy Irons, can provide additional information.



**Broken Arrow Horseback Riding Club**

36th Broken Arrow Speed and Action  
Rodeo Horse Show



**Sunday, June 15, 2025**

South Shore Cultural Center  
7059 S. South Shore Drive  
Chicago IL, 60649

Show starts at 3 PM

Teens and Adults \$15, Seniors \$10

The UUMUAC Chicago Area Chapter is encouraging its members and others to attend the annual rodeo show put on by Chicago's black Broken Arrow Horseback Riding Club. It will happen on Sunday, June 15, beginning at 3 p.m., at the corral on the lake side of the South Shore Cultural Center. Those with UUMUAC t-shirts are encouraged to wear them and sit on the east side of the stands. Those who drive and arrive after 2 p.m. are likely to need to park on the streets south of Cultural Center grounds.

See flyer for further details.





## Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS

Monthly meetings are the **FIRST SUNDAY of the month at 12:30pm**. Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS is an open, eclectic, Neo-pagan circle affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Park Forest. For more information or to join the group contact Angela at [sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com](mailto:sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com)

[Follow us on Facebook](#)



# Sabbats 2025

## Ostara

Sat., 3/22 6 - 9 p.m.

## Mabon

Sat., 9/20 6 - 9 p.m.

## Beltane

Sat., 4/26 2 - 5 p.m.

## Lughnasadh

Treibh na Tintean  
TBA

## Litha

Sat., 6/21 2 - 5 p.m.

## Samhain

Sat., 10/25 6 - 10 p.m.





<https://www.freepik.com>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am Worship <b>POTLUCK</b>  12:30p CUUPs Meeting  6:30p Men's Group	2 9:30am Yoga  6pm Positivity Project Group Share Meeting	3 10:30am Stitchery Group	4	5 9:30am Yoga  3pm PADS team  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	6	7 9:30am Online Buddhist Meditation
8 10am Worship 11:30am <b>FORUM</b>	9 9:30am Yoga	10  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	11  7pm Yoga	12 9:30am Yoga  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	13	14 9:30am Online Buddhist Meditation
15 10am Worship	16 9:30am Yoga  7pm Environmental Book Club (Zoom)	17 7pm Board Meeting (Zoom)  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	18  7pm UUMUAC <b>online</b> Worship Service 7pm Yoga	19 9:30am Yoga  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	20  7pm Rainbow Cafe	21 9:30am Online Buddhist Meditation  2:00pm CUUPs LITHA Summer Solstice Celebration
22 10am Worship	23 9:30am Yoga	24  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	25  7pm Yoga	26 9:30am Yoga  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	27	28 9:30am Online Buddhist Meditation
29 10am Worship  11:30 Positivity Pick-Up garbage around the church	30 9:30am Yoga	July 1  10:30am Stitchery Group  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	July 2  7pm Yoga	July 3 9:30am Yoga  7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts	July 4  <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>	July 5 9:30am Online Buddhist Meditation

## Event Facilitators

Buddhist Meditation:

Yoga:

Rainbow Café:

Forum:

UU Environmental Book Club:

Connections Group:

Men's Group:

Stitchery Group:

A Positivity Project:

CUUPs - Sylvan Sanctuary

Steve McCabe

Karen Nielsen

Jerome Rowley

Allan Lindrup

Allan Lindrup

Irene van der Hoek

Allan Lindrup

Karen Beran

Michele Johnson

Angela Denk

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[greywolf2496@hotmail.com](mailto:greywolf2496@hotmail.com)

(Meetings, Sound bath, Labyrinth)

[sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com](mailto:sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com)

Call or email 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 [churchadmin@uuccpf.org](mailto:churchadmin@uuccpf.org)

**Church Information**

70 Sycamore Drive

Park Forest, IL 60466

Office Phone: 708-481-5339

E-Mail: churchadmin@uuccpf.org

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.***



Visit us on the web @ [www.uuccpf.org](http://www.uuccpf.org)

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