

## Services in February

All services begin at 10:30 A.M.

### **February 6**

*"Sacred Place and Space"*

Rev. Edward Searl

*Chris Garofalo, Piano*

We benefit by having a sacred place outside our home and by having a sacred place in it. Surely, our historic and carefully designed Church-home is one such place.

### **February 13**

*"A Pilgrim's Guide to Love"*

Rev. Edward Searl

*Lisa Menninger, Soprano & Chris Garofalo, Piano (Sponsor: Anonymous)*

I'm fond of the moniker *pilgrim*, which suggests one on not just a journey but a sacred journey. I'll weave the notion of pilgrim with the theme of the season—Love.

Visit Reverend Searl's blog,  
Ed Searl's Journal:  
In My Estimation, at [edsearl.blogspot.com](http://edsearl.blogspot.com)

### **February 20**

*"Wisdom and Inspiration from Nature"*

Rev. Ed Searl

*Celebration Singers & Chris Garofalo, Piano*

I've long collected Nature Essays, one of the genres that makes up our Unitarian Universalist, very fluid, sacred texts. I'll present some of my favorite selections to help us get over the final hump of a long winter.

### **February 27**

*Youth Sunday Service*

Junior and Senior High Youth

This service offers an eclectic combination of music, original writings, thoughts and ideas planned and delivered by the youth of our congregation. Participation in this special service will not only show wonderful support of our youth, but also provide congregants with a spiritually moving service reflecting by our youth's talents and ideas.

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THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HINSDALE  
*THE TOUCHSTONE*

## Children and Youth Religious Education

Pam Fodor, Director of Religious Education

### **Celebrating Me And My World**

Preschool ages 3-5; 10:30 A.M.

2-6	I Can Dance
2-20	I Can Pretend

2-13	I Can Love
2-27	My World Has Animals

This supportive atmosphere encourages children to feel comfortable in their own skin, reminds them that they are loved and that their love brings joys to others, and assures them that they can pretend; our goal is to help our young UUs feel that they are creative, imaginative, special and fun to be with.

### **Around The Church, Around The Year**

Kindergarten and first grade; 10:30 A.M.

2-6	Meet and Greet Games
2-20	OWL Our Wonderful Bodies

2-13	Let's Celebrate Valentine's Day
2-27	OWL Our Wonderful Bodies Part 2

The start of the second semester marks the beginning of the OWL curriculum for this age group. The curriculum is based on four primary goals: to provide accurate, developmentally appropriate information; to increase self-esteem and understand relationships with and responsibilities toward others; to develop interpersonal skills including communication, decision making, and problem solving; and to teach responsibility for personal health and safety.

### **Chapel Service**

Grades 2-6; 10:30 A.M.

2-6	Playing the Board of Trustees
2-20	Can You Vote?

2-13	Valentine's Day Workshop
2-27	Attend Youth Worship Service

This month the children in Chapel will examine our fifth UU Principle: the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. The children will learn about how our Board of Trustees works and will walk through US voting history. On the 27th, all Chapel children will attend the Youth Service with their families.

### **Junior High OWL**

Grades 7-8; 10:15 A.M.

2-6	Conception, Pregnancy, and Birth
2-20	Defining/Redefining Abstinence

2-13	Teenage Pregnancy
2-27	Youth Sunday—No Session

OWL is a comprehensive approach to human sexuality presented in an age appropriate manner. It is based firmly on the values of respect, responsibility, justice and inclusivity. Parental permission is required for participation in this course.

### **Senior High Youth Group**

Grades 7-8; 10:30 A.M.

2-6	Regular Programming
2-20	Regular Programming

2-13	Regular Programming
2-27	Youth Sunday Service

Senior High Youth will meet each week for regular programming, including work on their Sunday service, fundraising, friends, food and fun.

## Church Events and Announcements

### **Friday, February 4 - First Friday Fun Night, 7:00p.m.**

Join us during this Valentine Month! We'll look at why we love the things we do. So bring in PICTURES of the activities, people, places, movies, pets, etc. that you LOVE. We will share the pictures in small groups. A snack involving sprinkles will be provided. To learn more about FFFN, contact Kari Freeman (hollowcastle@gmail.com). Save the date for the next FFFN on March 4.

### **MANNA**

Manna orders will be due February 6, with orders ready for pick up on February 13. For more information, contact Dana White (630-910-6557). The March orders will be due March 6 and available March 13.

### **February 6 Social Justice Collection Recipient: Kids Off The Block, Inc. (KOB)**

KOB is a Chicago non-profit organization located on the far Southside in the Roseland community. The mission of this group is to provide at-risk, low-income youth with positive alternatives to gangs, drugs, truancy, violence, and the juvenile justice system. Diane Latiker, founder and director, will speak to the congregation during the February 6 service and be available for questions and conversation during coffee hour.

### **"Stuff and Sensibility: Making the Good Life Last" Chalice Circle/Adult RE Discussion Group Starts February 6**

What is a sustainable lifestyle, and why does it matter? Start the New Year by renewing your focus on the choices you make and the life you want to lead. This chalice circle/discussion group, sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Committee, will be held on six Sundays from noon to 1:30 p.m., starting February 6 and running through the middle of March. Participants should obtain a copy of the book, *Making the Good Life Last: Four Keys to Sustainable Living* by Rev. Michael Schuler, as each week's discussion will draw from the text. We'll focus on a reading assignment for the first session, with additional reading encouraged before each subsequent session. The book is available through the Suburban Library System, from Amazon, or via the publisher as a PDF file download ([www.bkconnection.com](http://www.bkconnection.com)). If you're interested in participating, contact Suzanne Williams (708-680-6680; [sdwillster@gmail.com](mailto:sdwillster@gmail.com)).

### **Meditation Wednesday February 9**

All are welcome for meditation the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Room 6 of the R.E. Building. For more information, contact Frank Wanderlich (312-693-5728; [frankwanderlich@yahoo.com](mailto:frankwanderlich@yahoo.com)).

### **Women's Alliance Book Discussion—Thursday, February 10**

This month the Alliance will discuss the book *Anne Frank Remembered* by Miep Gies. While millions all over the world know of Anne Frank, few know the story of Miep Gies, the woman responsible for taking care of the Franks during the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam. Like thousands of unsung heroes of the Holocaust, she risked her life each day to bring food, news, and emotional support to the Frank family. From her own remarkable childhood as a World War I refugee, to the moment she places a small, red-orange, checkered diary—Anne's legacy—in Otto Frank's hands, Miep Gies remembers her days with honesty and clarity. Please join the members of the Alliance as we revisit those riveting moments in history. Bring a bag lunch at 12:15, or join us in lively conversation at 1:00 p.m. in the Rutherford Room of the Church. Hostesses for the month are Velaine Carnall and Jackie Bruns. For more information contact Nancy Keane (708-352-0454; [nancy44k@aol.com](mailto:nancy44k@aol.com)).

*NOTE: All who would like to help assemble lunches for PADS should meet prior to the meeting at 11:30.*

### **February 13 is Heart to Heart Day!**

Don't forget your Heart to Heart Secret Friend! Be ready to reveal your identity to your friend on Sunday, February 13th. If you know you will not be attending church that day please call or send your friend a note. Enjoy your new friendships!

### **Animal Ministry Committee to meet February 13**

The new Animal Ministry Committee would like to thank all those who pledged Meatless Mondays and attended our first meeting. If you couldn't make the first meeting but are still interested in the committee, we will be meeting on the second Sundays of the month at noon in the R.E. Library, with the next meeting on February 13th. The committee focuses on animal issues, such as ethical eating, abuse, wildlife conservation and pet relations. We have many fun and educational activities in the works! For more info or to be added to our email list, please contact the committee chair, Tiffany Bohn ([AnimalMinistry@hotmail.com](mailto:AnimalMinistry@hotmail.com)).

### **Silver & Gold Dinners—Sign Up by February 13**

Join fellow members of our church community for an enjoyable evening of food, conversation, and camaraderie. Silver and Gold Dinners offer a wonderful opportunity for newcomers and longtime UCH members to get to know one another. Dinners will be held on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, March 4-6. What better way to brighten your weekend, as we look forward to spring's arrival, than an intimate gathering?

Dinners are held at members' homes, so please consider offering to host! The host sets the menu, provides the home, and asks participants to bring a dish to share (e.g. entree, appetizer, salad, side dishes, dessert, wine). The host sets the date and time and contacts the guests, using the list that will be provided by the Silver & Gold Committee.

To attend or host. . . .

Sign up by Sunday, February 13 by completing the form found near the Silver & Gold Dinner poster in the Alice Warren Room. Drop the completed form in the bag, also found near the poster.

Questions? Contact Deborah Stillman (630-908-7508)

### **Non Fiction Book Group 2011 Schedule**

Join the Non Fiction Book group at their regular meeting on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the Alliance Room, in the lower level of the church. Everyone is invited to participate in the lively discussion, whether or not you've had a chance to read the book.

**Feb. 17** *Doubt and Certainty: The Celebrated Academy Debates on Science, Mysticism, Reality . . .* by Tony Rothman and George Sudarshan (1998)

**Mar. 17** *Freefall* by Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize winner in economics (2010)

**Apr. 21** *In The Place of Justice: A Story of Punishment and Deliverance*, by Wilbert Rideau, autobiography (2010)

**May 19** *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Eric Roston (2009)

**June 16** *Galileo Goes to Jail and Other Myths about Science and Religion*, edited by Ronald L. Numbers, anthology of 25 essays/myths (2009)

### **The New UU Program Begins Sunday February 20th**

Sign up time is here! Be sure to reserve your space in the New UU Class, a series of four interactive sessions during which participants enjoy the opportunity to share their personal religious journeys and learn more about Unitarian Universalism and the various activities of the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale. Guests of the program will include Rev. Ed Searl, representatives of the Board of Trustees, and members of various church committees. The classes will meet on four consecutive Sundays right after church: February 20, 27, March 6 and 13. A light lunch and babysitting are provided. Facilitators will be Jodi Cicirello and Tiffany Bohn. To register, contact Coordinator Jane Foulser (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com) or the church office (630-323-2885; office@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

### **Lunch Bunch—Thursday, February 24**

The UCH Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, February 24 at 1:00 at William Tell Restaurant, 6201 Joliet Road in Countryside. It is located between Brainard and LaGrange Road on the north side of Joliet Road. (<http://www.williamtellbanquets.com/>)

Make your reservation with Betty Mathias (708-482-0892).

### **Thornton Quarry Tour Sign-Up**

Sign up to tour the Thornton Quarry on Saturday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This tour will provide an urban geological adventure into Chicagoland's largest stone chasm. One 45-seat bus has been reserved in UCH's name. The fee is \$20 per person, with a minimum age of 18. We'll carpool to south suburban Thornton and board the bus there. Registration/Payment deadline: Sunday, March 6, 2011. For more information or registration contact Charlie Fischer (cfis@sbcglobal.net; 630-734-8279). This field trip arises from UCH being a certified UU Green Sanctuary.

### **Micro Greens Available**

Get 'em while their fresh!! The UCH Youth Group will be selling delicious micro greens through the winter months. For just \$3 or \$5, you can have a container of pea, arugula, radish or sunflower micro greens to snip and enjoy. Come see us at the Youth Group table set up in the Alice Warren Room for more information. All proceeds benefit Youth Group activities and trips.

### **Dean's Beans Coffee for Sale**

Are you enjoying the fair trade coffee being served during coffee hour? Yes?! Then why not purchase some to make and enjoy at home? The Youth Group will be selling one pound bags of Dean's Beans coffee for \$10 during coffee service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. All proceeds benefit Youth Group activities and trips.

### **Worship and Music, and Ushers, oh my!**

The time we spend together in worship is full of what we all bring to it. In our church home, we have people of all ages, from diverse backgrounds, experience, and expertise. And there are many ways to enhance the Sunday Service for one another.

Being an usher is easy and rewarding. Along with greeters, they help set the tone for visitors to our church. Please look for the sign-up book to commit to one or more Sundays. If you are ready for a more serious commitment, we are looking for a volunteer coordinator for ushers and greeters.

Interested in being a part of the service or music? Let me know if you want to serve on the Worship Committee, or would like to make a one-time contribution to a service.

Finally, please remember to thank your church volunteers. We are us.

Thanks to everyone who contributes to Sunday Services. A special thanks to Julia Beckman, Karen Hays, Sara Teppema, and Octavoce. And I have to give a big shout out to Tim Dvorak and Coffee Hour Volunteers. Good to the last drop!

For more information on how to help, contact Kathy Salzano, Worship Trustee (630-202-1900).

### **Garden Committee**

The UCH Garden Committee is being reestablished. Contact Charlie Fischer for more information. (630-734-8279 cfis@sbcglobal.net)

## **Board Briefs**

Board of Trustees Report, January Meeting  
Submitted by Beth Staas, Secretary of the Board

#### *Earth Flag*

Charlie Fischer presented a blueprint of possible locations for the donated flagpole. Discussion included whether we would fly the American flag and whether there would be different times that one or several flags would be flown. Debbi Daniel-Wayman moved and Darline Petersen seconded that we approve installation of the flagpole and purchase the earth flag to be located as was determined through consensus. Motion passed.

#### *Fair Trade*

The Board discussed participation in a micro-finance program available on the Internet. Kiva was seen as an individualistic program and Oikacredit more project based; both aimed at funding start-up businesses in developing countries. Our participation might be begun with a website tutoring session and continue with a church-wide program. Alternatively, we could keep individuals apprised of such activities and encourage them to participate. Debbi Daniel-Wayman moved and Larry Price seconded that we recommend to the congregation that they consider making charitable donations to Kiva as an expression of furthering the concept of Economic Charity. Motion passed.

#### *Sanctuary Chair Fund*

Dave Lloyd reminded the Board about the fund for new chairs in the sanctuary. Ed Searl indicated that Dennis Mason had explored the financial aspect of chair replacement and will be asked to make a presentation to the Board at the February meeting.

#### *PADS*

Darline Petersen reported on a Women's Alliance project to provide some 29 brown bag lunches to PADS in Wheaton in December, which could continue on a once a month basis. The initial project was financed through the Alliance budget. Subsequent monies might be obtained from the congregation or through individual donations.

#### *Christmas Eve Service Crowding*

Several solutions to this service's overcrowding might be to make both services an hour earlier, to have the choir sing at the later service or to more effectively publicize the earlier service as being more child and family focused.

#### *Animal Ministry Committee*

The committee, formed in conjunction with the UUA organization called Animal Ministry, will send its comments to the UUA Statement of Conscience for its next annual meeting.

#### *Building and Grounds Activities*

Charlie Fischer was given a vote of confidence and applauded for his work in enhancing our physical facilities.

## General Announcements

### **14th Annual Parent University February 5 at Lyons Township High School**

Parent University is an informative educational half-day event, held annually since 1998 at the south campus of Lyons Township High School in Western Springs, IL. The agenda is again filled with great speakers discussing current issues facing today's parents and youth from pre-school through high school.

The cost is just \$15 (by 1/26) for keynote speaker and 3 breakout sessions. Limited childcare is also available. More information is available at: [http://www.lths.net/InfoFor/Parents/PCN/Parent\\_University.html](http://www.lths.net/InfoFor/Parents/PCN/Parent_University.html)

### **Asheville UU Home Stay Opportunity**

Here's a chance to travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals, or host travelers in your home to meet new friends and earn extra money. The UU bed and breakfast directory UU're Home (formerly Homecomings) offers a network of hosts in the United States (and a few abroad) who enjoy meeting new friends and are happy to open their home to like-minded people. Travel to different cities and stay in reasonably priced accommodations or become a host and enjoy meeting new friends.

([www.UUreHome.com](http://www.UUreHome.com); [info@uurehome.com](mailto:info@uurehome.com); 43 Vermont Court, Asheville, NC, 28806; 828-281-3253.)

### **Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly July 3-9**

MUUSA is a summer idyll for singles, couples and families, most of whom return year after year for fun, camaraderie, and personal and spiritual growth—all on a lake in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks. We invite you to join us! You will invigorate your mind and body, learn a hobby, from scrapbooking to rappelling, and make new life-long friends.

This year we are honored to have noted author Rev. Meg Barnhouse to lead morning celebrations on the theme *Living Out Loud: Defining Ourselves*. We will introduce new activities, including a camp art fair, a rafting trip, a visit to Elephant Rock State Park, and Segway tours. These activities combine with favorite traditions, such as entertaining coffeehouses, inspiring Vespers, and awesome youth programs, to provide something for everyone. Come bond with your family, friends and other UUs at MUUSA! See [www.muusa.org](http://www.muusa.org) or contact Luan Burton with questions ([office@hinsdaleunitarian.org](mailto:office@hinsdaleunitarian.org)).

### **WhaleCoast Alaska 2011**

Have you always dreamed of visiting Alaska? Are you curious about the lifestyles of Alaskan UUs? Do you enjoy getting to know your fellow travelers? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2011 is for you! Four Alaskan UU fellowships will host an eco-cultural and spiritual program this summer as we celebrate our 15th year. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bear, whales, bald eagles, seals, and caribou. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. Enjoy all that our beautiful state has to offer. Programs are led by Dave Frey and Bre Griffin, members of the northernmost UU congregation, with 36 years of Alaska living between them. To find out more about your Alaskan trip of a lifetime, visit [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org), e-mail [info@whalecoastak.org](mailto:info@whalecoastak.org), or call 907-322-4966. We would love to share our Alaska with you!

## Among Ourselves

### **"Thank you" and "Welcome" from R.E.**

The Religious Education Department would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all of our first semester teachers. Thanks to you, our year started off perfectly! Welcome to our new, second semester, teachers: Cathy Blanford, Susan Mooney, Linda Elliott, Mike Pabian, Gail Graziani, Susan Hebble, and Hans Lonnoth. Special appreciation goes out to our teachers, OWL Facilitators, and Youth Advisors who have committed to teaching all year: John Wayman-Dodd, Tony Meadors, Paula Sejut-Dvorak, Karin Janowski, Luan Burton, Mike Ferrando, Janice Lonnoth and Joe Saintcross. We are also grateful for our terrific childcare staff; Emily Ferrando, Emily Mooney, Kaitlyn Wayman-Dodd, Sam Tilbrook and Rachel Clivaz. Thank you for touching the lives of our children and helping to build a strong UCH family!

## Submission Guidelines

The deadline for the March Touchstone Quarterly is no later than **February 15**. Please keep all submissions under 150 words, and include a contact name and number/e-mail. Send submissions to Susan Hebble ([sjhebble@comcast.net](mailto:sjhebble@comcast.net)) and Luan Burton ([office@hinsdaleunitarian.org](mailto:office@hinsdaleunitarian.org)).

## Communications / Posting Policy

If any member objects to the posting of his or her name, image, actions or voice on the Church's website, *Twitter* or *Facebook* pages, or in Church-prepared press releases, please advise Steven Trout, Trustee for Communications ([steven\\_trout@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steven_trout@sbcglobal.net)).

## Contacts

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Minister—Reverend Edward Searl (ext. 111, [edsearl@gmail.com](mailto:edsearl@gmail.com))

Director of Religious Education—Pam Fodor (ext. 110, [re@hinsdaleunitarian.org](mailto:re@hinsdaleunitarian.org))

Church Administrator—Luan Burton (ext. 101, [office@hinsdaleunitarian.org](mailto:office@hinsdaleunitarian.org))