

Services in January

January 3

10:30 A.M.

"The Quest for a Universal Ethic"

Rev. Edward Searl

Octavoce

This is a good topic for the beginning of a new year: a renewed and earnest quest for a universal ethic that will cross world religions and various philosophies and join all people together. Among the efforts is a new movement headed by Karen Armstrong called the Charter for Compassion. This renewed quest is Religion's answer to the tensions and perils of globalization.

January 10

10:30 A.M.

"Making a Difference:

Strategies and Associations"

Rev. Edward Searl

Goran Ivanovic, Guitar & Chris Garofalo, Piano (Anonymous Sponsor)

So, society and the world need to be transformed. But what can little, old you (and I) do that can really make a difference?

January 17

10:30 A.M.

"Envisioning The Future of the Church"

Carolyn May, Flute & Chris Garofalo, Piano

January 24

10:30 A.M.

"Instinct and Odyssey"

Rev. Edward Searl

Celebration Singers & Chris Garofalo, Piano

I maintain we're all inherently religious. And I have a scheme for a culture of Natural Religion, a matter of instinct and odyssey.

January 31

10:30 A.M.

All-Community Worship:

"The Ever Changing Stream"

Pam Fodor, DRE

Chris Garofalo, Piano

January is a time of making promises of change. Often it is easier to make the promise than it is to follow through and complete that change. This service for all ages will offer the motivation needed to help make those transformations in ourselves.

Visit Ed Searl's Journal: In My Estimation: edsearl.blogspot.com.

Greetings

Greetings for the New Year from the Worship Committees. The Worship Committees are responsible for bringing hospitality and warmth to our Sunday Services. Committees include ushers, coffee servers, flower donors and providers of Fourth Sunday church services and music. Without these volunteers, we would not have coffee hour or donut holes, people to facilitate seating and collect the offering, or beautiful flowers to gaze upon each Sunday. Nor would we have live music or lay services on Sundays that Ed or Chris have off.

January is a time for reflection and to put our New Year resolutions into effect. My resolution is to improve my quality of life, i.e. to eat better, get more sleep, and spend more time on activities that are fulfilling or make me happy.

One way to do this is to volunteer. Studies in medical sociology show that there are physical health benefits to volunteering. By helping others, individuals develop stronger networks that buffer stress and reduce disease risk. Additionally, volunteerism makes people feel good about themselves, provides a way to meet new people and affords an opportunity to feel needed and valued. So please consider volunteering for one or more activities at UCH as one of your resolutions this year. By helping others, we also help ourselves.

"Love cannot remain by itself – it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action and that action is service." – Mother Teresa

Jean Noble, Trustee for Worship



Volume 11, Issue 1

January 2010

In This Issue

Sundays in January	1
Religious Education for Children and Youth	2
Church Announcements	3
General Announcements	7
Among Ourselves	7
Upcoming Events	11

Children and Youth Religious Education

Pam Fodor, Director of Religious Education

Religious Education for January

Chalice Children, Preschool, 10:30 A.M.		Treasure Hunting, Kindergarten And First Grade, 10:30 A.M.		Chapel Service (Grades 2-6), 10:30 A.M.		Coming Of Age (Grades 7-8), 9:00 A.M.		Youth Group (Grades 9-12), 10:30 A.M.	
1-3	A Special Jigsaw Puzzle	1-3	Dreams for the Future	1-3	Outstanding UU's	1-3	Community Service	1-3	Regular Meeting
1-10	A Snack for our Families	1-10	Our Ability to Learn	1-10	Outstanding UU's	1-10	After Death Beliefs	1-10	Regular Meeting
1-17	Feeling Sad	1-17	People with Special Needs	1-17	Dreaming of Change	1-17	No Meeting	1-17	No Meeting
1-24	Weddings and Services of Love and Union	1-24	The Importance of the Arts	1-24	Why People Act	1-24	After Death Beliefs (cont'd)	1-24	Regular Meeting
1-31	All-Community Worship Service	1-31	All-Community Worship Service	1-31	All-Community Worship Service	1-31	All-Community Worship Service	1-31	All-Community Worship Service
								Senior High OWL (8:00 AM)	
								1-3	No Meeting
								1-10	Learning about Ourselves
								1-17	No Meeting
								1-24	Making Safer Choices
								1-31	All-Community Worship Service

Chalice Children (Preschool Ages 3-5 Yrs)

The activities in the first two weeks of this month will help the children feel as if each of them is a part of a wonderful variety of UU families that make up our whole church family. Over the following two weeks, the class will focus on feelings of both sadness and joy, and we will discuss how sharing these feelings in ceremonies at church can bring solace and happiness. All ages are welcomed to worship in the All-Community worship service.

Treasure Hunting (Kindergarten And First Grade)

With the new year upon us, we will look toward our dreams of the future. Unitarian Universalists treasure our dreams and our ability to work at making them come true! UU's also treasure our ability to learn, which is, after all, one of our seven principles. Another of the principles honors all people, whatever they look like, whatever they can or cannot do. UU's also treasure the arts as a way to share feelings and emotions. All ages are welcomed to worship in the All-Community Worship service.

Chapel Service (Grades 2-6)

A good way to illustrate our Unitarian Universalist principles is to introduce our young people to UUs who have done great things. During this month we will learn about many outstanding UU men and women, highlighting five or six especially special UUs. Chapel Service children will remember Martin Luther King, Jr. and consider their own dreams for a better world. Chapel goers will also determine what leads people to greatness: who knows, maybe we will read about one of them in future curricula! Chapel Service children are welcomed and encouraged to worship in the All-Community Worship service.

Coming Of Age (Grades 7-8)

(Meets at 9:00 AM)

What happens to us after we die? This question is often central to a faith statement as it ties into our beliefs about God, spirituality, the web of life, and many other spiritual considerations. The purpose of these sessions is to get the youth thinking about the possibilities death may bring—heaven, nothing at all, reincarnation, or something in between or beyond. All ages are welcomed and encouraged to worship in the All-Community Worship service.

Senior High Owl (Grades 9-12)

The Our Whole Lives program is a comprehensive sexuality education program that our church is proud to sponsor. Starting in January we will offer this program to our Senior High youth who have chosen to participate and whose parents have attended an orientation. The first three sessions will focus on the Youth getting to know themselves and each other and will include an overview of the sessions to come.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

The Junior and Senior High youth groups will have regular meetings as shown above. Each group will continue to worship, check-in with one another and work on their social action projects. During the month of January the youth will also begin planning their Youth Sunday worship service. All youth are welcomed and encouraged to worship in the All-Community Worship service.

Church Announcements

First Sunday Social Justice Collection - January 3

The January 3rd Social Justice Collection will go to Planned Parenthood of Illinois. PPIL's 19 health centers deliver vital health care services, sex education, and sexual health information to over 80,000 women, men, and young people each year. For more than 60 years, Planned Parenthood of Illinois has promoted a common sense approach to women's health and well-being, based on respect for each individual's right to make informed, independent decisions about sex, health, and family planning.

The February 7th Social Justice Collection will go to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository—January 9, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.

NO COMMITMENT - COME ONCE AND TRY US OUT. This makes an excellent project to bond with friends, kids, grandkids; kids must be over 13. Volunteer work is not strenuous and includes packing boxes, sorting food items and lots of fun. Plus, for every hour/person worked, \$5 in food credits is given to the Canaan Food Pantry. Meet at GCFD, 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place (42nd Place), Chicago. Call Jean Noble (708-485-0281) for directions/further information.

Upcoming dates for 2010: Feb 13, Mar 13, and Apr. 10.

Manna orders are due Jan. 10, and cards will be available Jan. 24.

Women's Alliance Meets on January 14

Did you know that homeopathy is the second most widely practiced system of medicine in the world? It is commonly used in Europe; in fact, the family doctor to England's Queen Elizabeth is a homeopathic physician. By 1900, about 20% of doctors in the U.S. were homeopaths, but due to various political and social changes homeopaths were relatively unknown in the U.S. until recently. If you'd like to learn more about homeopathy, plan to attend the Alliance's January 14 meeting where Sally Tamplin, a church member and classical homeopath, will do a presentation on this thought-provoking subject. Bring a bag lunch at 12:15, or come for the program at 1 P.M. Hostesses for the month are Velaine Carnall and Darline Petersen. For more information contact Grace Abrahamson (708-485-5983; teacherspr@aol.com).

In February, the Alliance will discuss *Someone Knows My Name* by Lawrence Hill. Be sure to reserve a copy at your local library and join us in lively conversation.

Lunch Bunch News

Our October Lunch at Morton Arboretum was a success, despite the lack of sunshine and sprinkling of rain. After lunch, we had a pleasant, relaxing halcyon drive through the beautiful golden woodlands, before the white winter coats appeared on the trees. The Lunch Bunch took a brief respite in November and December, but we look forward to re-convening after the holidays.

So mark your calendars for Thursday, January 28 at 1:00 P.M. The place to be is Wok 'n Fire, 108 Schiller St., Elmhurst, (630) 993-0888. With excellent fresh Pan Asian cooking, Wok 'n Fire is located between North Ave. & St. Charles, closer to North Ave. and just East of York Rd. in downtown Elmhurst. To get there, drive North on York Road, passing St. Charles and also passing over the railroad tracks in downtown; then turn right onto E. Schiller St. The restaurant is on the right (south side of Schiller), just beyond York. A free city parking ramp is just east of the restaurant, which you may enter from the alley east of Wok 'n Fire. To sign up, contact Jackie Bruns (630-920-1603; butterfly@gmail.com)

Holiday Harvest Reaps Benefits for UCH!

Thanks to the generosity of donors and bidders, Holiday Harvest netted \$19,452.55, which seems to be our highest profit ever. (Karen and Jay are still aiming for that elusive \$20k!) This is vital income for the church, and the evening and its subsequent get-togethers build community throughout the year. A list of all the sign-up events is posted behind the coffee table. In planning ahead, we've checked all the pens, and Tim promises a return of the pizzas, so mark November 13th for Holiday Harvest 2010!

Holiday Harvest 2009 Donor Tax Receipts Now Available

Donors to Holiday Harvest 2009 may pick up their tax receipts, which are stored alphabetically in the brown accordion folder beneath the name tags in the church basement. We thank you, again, for the kind donations that made Holiday Harvest 2009 so successful!

Heart to Heart 2010

Make a new friend at church! Be a secret friend in our Heart to Heart project!

Fill out the form at the end of the newsletter, and put it in the Heart to Heart box located in the Alice Warren Room on January 17th or 24th. After you have put in your form draw one out. Please do not draw a name if you have not put in your name, or vice versa! The name you choose will be your secret friend. Do something nice for your secret friend at least once a week from January 17th or 24th to February 14th. Send a card, draw a picture or leave a small gift on the Heart to Heart table in the Alice Warren Room on Sunday mornings. There are no rules, just please commit to your friend so that s/he does not feel left out! On Sunday, February 14th during a potluck luncheon after the service, we will reveal ourselves to our secret friends. For more information, contact Pam Fodor (re@hinsdaleunitarian.org; 630-323-2885, ext. 110).

The New UU Program

Are you new to our church or denomination? Have you been looking for more information about Unitarian Universalism? Are you thinking about becoming a member? If so, the New UU course might be for you. In four interactive sessions, participants will 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. We will meet on four consecutive Sundays, February 28, March 7, 14, and 21, 12 -2 P.M. Class facilitators will be Marian Honel-Wilson and Joey Yerger. To register, contact coordinator Jane Foulser (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com) or the church office (630-323-2885; office@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

Donate a Car, Help out UCH

You can now support UCH by donating a car. We will make all the arrangements for the pick-up and sale. All proceeds will be returned to the church general fund. You will receive a tax receipt for your donation for the amount received by the church. For more information, contact Dana White (630-910-6557; ddws69@earthlink.net).

Bring in your Foam Plastic Packaging for Recycling

Sure, gifts are great, but what to do with all that packaging? That white foam plastic stuff that takes up most of the space in every box, and that many people call Styrofoam? Well, it's recyclable, and if you bring it to church and deposit it in the bin in the Alice Warren Room downstairs in the church, we'll take it to a recycling center and you'll feel much better—and your house will have much more room in it! The bin will be at church through January 17, so don't miss your chance.

Time to Think about Gardening? Why Not?

'Tis the season for seed catalogs. And when you're paging through the gorgeous pictures of vegetables, flowers, and herbs, don't forget to set aside some space in your garden plan for the Produce Exchange Program. Last year's PEP was a great success: church members brought in their extra carrots, herbs, peppers, potatoes, squash, tomatoes, and zucchini. And we'll have even more this year—especially if YOU participate. Here's how it works: just plant some produce, sign up in the spring, and bring in some of your extra vegetables or herbs at harvest time. You get to take your share of everyone else's bounty. It couldn't be easier! (Well, it could be easier, if you have your butler bring in your produce while you lounge around the verandah with Daphne and Algernon, eating cucumber sandwiches and drinking Pimm's, but come on.) So pick out some luscious edibles for planting and show some PEP!

Does UCH Have a Vision of Itself?

Submitted by Larry Price, Financial Trustee

The Finance Committee is charged by the Board to make the church work financially. It raises funds for the church operation through pledging and special fundraisers (which are often led by others in the church). It proposes budgets to the Board which (with modifications) are adopted at congregational meetings. With the Treasurer, it tracks income and expenses throughout the year.

For several years, our fundraising and budget cycle has had a tone that we think has not been positive for the overall life of the church, with a focus on scarcity of funds and inability to meet goals. We have come to understand that there is not really a shared consensus on what kind of church we want to be.

Budgets have been developed during this time based on a picture of what a "full" program is for our church that has generally been agreed on at the level of the church Board. This intended program includes full time professional clergy and professional (but part time) RE and music leadership, all compensated at fair levels. With this professional leadership and active congregational involvement, the program is expected to include stimulating worship experiences supplemented on occasion by outside speakers or other special programs, inspiring music with a reasonable mixture of visiting performers, and a rich religious education program that will introduce our children broadly to the world of religion and ground them spiritually and philosophically for the challenges and opportunities of life.

It appears that in recent years we have not been willing to pay fully for this program through our pledges and other giving. Nor have we developed an effective means of dialog within the congregation to confront the twin questions of what we want the church to be and what we are willing or able to fund.

In the hope of promoting more constructive dialog more broadly in the congregation, the Finance Committee and the Board are now constructing budgets for the NEXT church year that will provide a better understanding of the tradeoffs of the richness of our church life vs. the cost of what we want. During the next month, before the pledge campaign begins in February, we will be providing this budget information to the congregation and promoting discussions about it. This approach is a departure from recent practice during which the budget has been developed only after the pledge results were known. That procedure was fiscally prudent but did not permit members to understand budget requirements when deciding on their pledges. We trust that more knowledge will be a good thing! And we hope that the process will lead to a better common understanding of what we want for the future of our church. Questions? Contact Larry Price or Chris Hainey.

December Board of Trustees Meeting

Submitted by Board Secretary, Beth Staas

Paula Sejut-Dvorak, Denominational Affairs Chair, reported that Nancy Holt, Nominating Committee Chair, had been consulted regarding the Membership Trustee vacancy. Ms. Holt had suggested the name of Laurie Culbert, who in turn indicated her willingness to serve. Debbi Daniel-Wayman moved that Ms. Culbert be appointed to fill the remainder of the term. Dave Lloyd seconded. Motion passed.

Dave Lloyd, Vice President, described a conversation with Kim Perez at Life Link including a suggestion that the impasse regarding Head Start occupancy in our Religious Education building might be resolved through barter of remaining rent against their equipment and furnishings. Board discussion included the possibility of pursuing legal action. Mr. Lloyd stated that we would continue to follow the process, seeking a firm date for their move. It was agreed that Pam Fodor, DRE, would be part of future rental negotiations.

The Finance Committee has accepted the approximately \$11,000 donation from Larry Price to complete the “Council Ring” or “Conversation Circle” on the UCH grounds in memory of Sandy Price. Dave Lloyd moved that the Board accept the donation with our thanks and consider payment of any further funds, should they be needed.

Hans Lonroth, Building and Grounds Trustee, reported that UCH member Eliot Stein expressed concern about the possible presence of lead, radon and even asbestos in our buildings or property. Board consensus viewed that possibility as remote, finding immediate action unwarranted. The Reverend Ed Searl asked that Mr. Lonroth construct a timeline for exploring this further. Mr. Lonroth added that an emergency fund for such action might be a good idea.

Jane Foulser, Membership Committee Chair, had sent an e-mail to Shelly Hendrickson, Treasurer, asking for monies to pay for the New UU class, New Member Signing Ceremony, new Directory and New Visitor Pamphlets. The amount came to slightly under \$500. Some of these monies had already been spent. Since the Treasurer was not in attendance, the request was tabled.

Landscape Garden Notes

Watch this space in the Touchstone for periodic landscape garden updates throughout the year.

DID YoUU KNOW?

Unitarians have long been active in protecting civil rights—for themselves and others! In 1819, The Unitarian Association for Protecting the Civil Rights of Unitarians protested the persecution of Unitarians in England, where, at the time, professing Unitarian beliefs could result in criminal charges. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Unitarians worked actively for the women’s suffrage movement, both in the UK and the USA. And Unitarians and Universalists actively participated in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s in the United States.

General Announcements

13th Annual Parent University at Lyons Township High School

Sponsored by Parent Community Network, Parent University is an informative, half-day event held at the south campus of Lyons Township High School in Western Springs, IL. Scheduled for Saturday, February 6, 2010, Parent University presents great speakers discussing current issues facing today's parents and youth of all ages. More information is available at <http://www.lths.net/InfoFor/Parents/PCN/>. Registration forms will be online in late December. Cost is just \$15 for keynote speaker and three breakout sessions. Limited childcare is also available.

Among Ourselves

New Year Garden Thanks

Submitted by Charlie Fischer

In this time of the change of the calendar year... many, many heartfelt thanks to the seemingly countless volunteers who helped to improve and keep the UCH grounds looking their best in 2009: **Grace Abrahamson, Julia Beckman, Jackie Bruns, Bill Burton, Luan Burton, Noreen Costelloe, Laurie Culbert, Bob and Debbi Daniel-Wayman and Family, Al Fischer, Betty Fischer, Charlie Fischer, the Fodor Family, Pam Fodor along with "a cast of thousands" UCH young people, Dave Foulser, Jane Foulser, Mary Getty, Elizabeth Gillette, Cathy Goering, Laurie Goshorn, Stephanie Kirk, Herb Hiestand, Eric Hendrickson, Nancy Holt, Karin Janowski, Dave Lloyd, Hans Lonnroth, the Lonnroth Family, Brian McElwain and crew, Jean Noble, Sally Packard, Joe Saintcross, Dennis Sejut, Beth Staas, Michael Sternberg, Tony Taylor, Jeff Teppema, Athena Trout, Steve Trout, and Nancy Weill.** . . phew! Thank you!!! Did I neglect to list anyone who helped? If so, please let me know right away. May the New Year bring us continued joy and pride in our special spot in the Chicago region!

DID YoUU KNOW?

The founder of the American kindergarten, Elizabeth Palmer Peabody (1804-1894) was a close friend of William Ellery Channing and became an active part of the American Transcendalist inner circle.

Suzanne Williams Brings Home Award for Brookfield

The Village of Brookfield is the winner of one of the 2009 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Chicago Wilderness Native Landscaping and Conservation Awards for the Savanna Restoration Project at Brookfield's Kiwanis Park. Our own Suzanne Williams is the chairman of the Brookfield Conservation Commission and has been responsible for restoring the savanna for the last four years. The park was once a typical urban park, with well-mown grass in between old trees; now it is a vibrant natural landscape, with dozens of species of native grasses and wildflowers, numerous tree saplings, and wandering paths, all within a hundred yards of ball fields and the village hall. In the photo below, Suzanne is accepting the award with Jeff Swano, another member of the commission, at the Chicago Botanic Garden on December 10. Congratulations, Suzanne! We love seeing UCHers live the Principles!



DID YoUU KNOW?

Paul Revere (1735-1818), silversmith and very active patriot, was a member of the Second Church in Boston (Unitarian), where he and his wife paid 15 pounds sterling annually for rent of their pew.

Meet Three . . . Touchstone Volunteers

Jean Noble

1. *Q. How long have you been a member of UCH and what was it that drew you to this church?*

A. I have been a member of UCH for the last 10 years. I attended UCH as a child, then attended Unitarian Church in Evanston for a few years while I was living in Rogers Park. When I moved back to the suburbs, I returned to UCH.

2. *Q. Briefly describe your religious background.* A. My parents were long-standing members of UCH and I attended Sunday School here from kindergarten through high school. I remember learning about dinosaurs, evolution, Egypt and the pharaohs, and attending churches of all different religions as part of my Sunday School experience. UCH has changed a lot since then. In those days the religious paintings in the Joshi chapel were behind the altar in the Sanctuary. Wednesday nights they used to push all the chairs to the side and perform Folk Dancing in the sanctuary. Every Christmas Eve service we would be given little cups of vanilla ice cream and a keepsake ornament. I still have several of those ornaments today.

3. *Q. Which of the UU Principles is the most compelling for you and why?* A. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. One of the things I like most about the church is that we are free to evolve our own spirituality and are provided assistance to do so – Chalice Circles, meditation groups, journaling, thought-provoking sermons and Coming of Age to mention a few.

4. *Q. In what ways do you volunteer on Sunday mornings? Describe your "job" for us.* A. The Worship Trustee is responsible for coordinating ushers, flower donations and coffee service in addition to securing speakers and musicians for the days that Chris and Ed have off. As a Board of Trustee, I also attend monthly Board meetings. My Sunday mornings are often very busy. Twice a month I serve as a mentor for the Coming of Age Youth, helping our teens find their own Unitarian voice and spirituality. Then I may substitute as an usher or help out with the coffee service. Being an usher/coffee server helps me meet new people and feel more involved in the UCH community.

5. *Q. What would you like our church members and visitors to know about ushering or serving coffee on Sunday mornings?* A. Both ushering and serving coffee are fun ways to volunteer with minimal time commitment required. Ushers volunteer once a month and arrive 15 minutes before the service. They hand out Orders of Service, seat latecomers, and collect the offering. It is a great way to meet the wide variety of people in our congregation. Coffee servers sign up for a given Sunday. They arrive 15 minutes prior to the service and start the coffee. After the service they put out cookies or donuts, refill the coffee and clean-up. During that time the server also has the opportunity to chat with everyone moving through the coffee line. Anyone is welcome to stop by in the kitchen anytime to chat, learn how to make coffee or help clean-up. We always appreciate the help.

6. *Q. If someone wrote your biography, what would you suggest as a title? "Volunteers Wanted."*

Tim Dvorak

1. Q. *How long have you been a member of UCH and what was it that drew you to this church?* A. 8 years.
2. Q. *Briefly describe your religious background.*
A. Brought up Catholic by Unitarian parents that didn't know it or wouldn't admit it.
3. Q. *Which of the UU Principles is the most compelling for you and why?* A. Being in foodservice, I believe every chef should know where all his or her ingredients come from. If you cook or eat meat you should know how that animal was raised and slaughtered. The same goes for plants. You should be a farmer. I believe if you cannot grow or kill your food or at least do not know how, you shouldn't serve or eat it. Thinking this way gives me greater respect for the world around me. I understand what wasting really means when I know what was given up.
4. Q. *In what ways do you volunteer on Sunday mornings? Describe your "job" for us.*
A. Chair of the coffee committee.
5. Q. *What would you like our church members and visitors to know about ushering or serving coffee on Sunday mornings?* A. Like most everything at church it is run by volunteers. We make and serve coffee because we can and want to help out at church. If you want to volunteer just see me on Sunday.
6. Q. *If someone wrote your biography, what would you suggest as a title?* A. "Oui Chef"

Gerry and Jerry Shipton

Submitted by Gerry Shipton

UCH has been our church home for forty-six years. In 1963, Jerry and Gerry were told that most of the Hinsdale Central teachers attended Union church, and we knew then where we belonged and where to raise our children. Both families were Methodists but we chose to attend the UU church at the University of Iowa where we first met—Jerry in the music program and I in the art program. We have loved Ed's saying "to make the world more beautiful, more often," and we consider carefully the inherent dignity and worth of every person. Jerry would encourage everyone to be free in their search for truth and meaning.

We enjoy meeting the visitors and greeting everyone who comes to UCH. In a morning service each person receives an Order of Service and a reminder to sit up front as the church fills. Since going to one service, it is helpful to move to the center seats so latecomers can be more easily accommodated. The ushers take the offering and make sure it is counted, notated and put in the church office. If visitors have questions about their children's Sunday morning they receive an RE brochure and if possible a meeting before the service with Pam Fodor, RE director.

Jerry and I decided that the title for our biography should be *Sure, We Can Do That*.

Upcoming Events

First Sunday Social Justice Collection – January 3

The January 3rd Social Justice Collection will go to Planned Parenthood of Illinois.

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository – January 9, 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.

Meet at GCFD, 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place (42nd Place), Chicago. Call Jean Noble (708-485-0281) for directions/further information.

Manna orders due Jan. 10 and cards available Jan. 24.

Women's Alliance – January 14, 12:15 P.M. (lunch), 1:00 P.M. presentation.

Sally Tamplin will offer insights about homeopathy. Hostesses for the month are Velaine Carnall and Darline Petersen. For more information, see article in "Church Announcements" or contact Grace Abrahamson (708-485-5983; teacherspr@aol.com).

Plastic recycling deadline Sunday, January 17th. See article on page 4.

Heart to Heart sign-up January 17th-24th (See attached form.)

See article in "Church Announcements" section of the Touchstone, and use the order form included at the end of this issue.

Lunch Bunch – January 28, 1:00 P.M. Wok 'n Fire, 108 Schiller St., Elmhurst, (630) 993-0888. See article in "Church Announcements" for details. To sign up contact Jackie Bruns (630-920-1603; butterfly@gmail.com).

- **Travel and stay in homes of people who share your ideals**
- **Learn about hosting people in your home to 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.

For more information, visit
www.UUreHome.com
or write to
info@uurehome.com



www.UUreHome.com
43 Vermont Court
Asheville, NC 28806
828-281-3253

New Touchstone Submission Guidelines

The Touchstone submission deadline for the February issue is January 15. E-mail submissions to Susan Hebble (sjhebble@comcast.net) and copy Office Administrator Luan Burton (office@hinsdaleunitarian.org). Article submissions should be no more than 150 words and are subject to editing for length and/or clarification. Always include specific contact information (name, e-mail address, and/or phone number) for readers' reference. We format the Touchstone draft using size 11 Arial font, so we would appreciate receiving articles using this font to save some editing time!

Order of Service Announcement Deadline

The Order of Service is printed weekly on Thursday, so announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be received at the office by Wednesday. Send the text to Luan Burton at office@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

Contacts

Unitarian Church of Hinsdale, 11 West Maple, Hinsdale, IL, 60521
630-323-2885 www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

Minister — Reverend Edward Searl (ext. 111, minister@hinsdaleunitarian.org)

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

Church Administrator — Luan Burton (ext. 101, office@hinsdaleunitarian.org)

HEART TO HEART

Make a new friend at church! Be a secret friend in our Heart to Heart project!

Fill out the form below. Bring it to church on January 17th or 24th. and put it in the Heart to Heart box located in the Alice Warren Room. After you have put in your form draw one out. Please do not draw a name if you have not put in your name, or vice versa! The name you choose will be your secret friend. Do something nice for your secret friend at least once a week from January 17th or 24th to February 14th . Send a card, draw a picture or leave a small gift on the Heart to Heart table in the Alice Warren Room on Sunday mornings. There are no rules, just please commit to your friend so that they do not feel left out! On Sunday, February 14th during a potluck luncheon after the service we will reveal ourselves to our secret friends. Please direct any questions to Pam Fodor re@hinsdaleunitarian.org.



I would like to have a Heart to Heart Secret Friend.

My name is: _____

My address is: _____

My phone number is: _____

I am _____ years young.

Some of my favorite things are: _____