

Sundays in July & August

Casual Summer Sundays

Sunday, July 12

10:30 A.M.

"Nothing But Miracles"

Rev. Edward Searl

In *Leaves of Grass*, Walt Whitman penned a famous litany following this declaration: "As for me I know nothing but miracles." Building on that idea, I offer an extended meditation of words and images (maybe recorded music, too) of natural miracles.

Sunday, August 2

10:30 A.M.

"What I Did on My Summer Vacation"

Led By Church Members

This service will be presented by church members with details to be posted on the church website.

Sunday, August 9

10:30 A.M.

"Where Are They Now?"

Rev. Edward Searl

During my tenure as minister of UCH, I've mentored a number of intern ministers. A member has suggested that a review of their careers would be interesting, and I agree. Therefore, I will offer such a review in this service, including readings from the writings of these interns.

Note: Please visit Reverend Searl's blog (edsearl.blogspot.com) and sermon cache (searlsermons.blogspot.com), where you'll also find his June 14 sermon recommending journal keeping during our summer hiatus.

Sunday, August 30

10:30 A.M.

Speaker to be determined.

Watch the website for details!

Note: If you are interested in helping with these services, including providing music, please contact Trustee Fred Bloss (membership@hinsdaleunitarian.org; 630-243-7541).

Please note that neither childcare nor religious education programs are available during summer services.

Regular church services will reconvene at 10:30 A.M. on Sunday, September 13.



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Upcoming Events – July

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository

Saturday, July 11, 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 2009: Sep 12, Oct 10, Nov 21, Dec 19 (we will not meet in August)

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, July 23, 1:00 P.M.

Unitarian Lunch Bunch. Open to all. Our July outing is to the Public Landing Restaurant in Lockport. The restaurant, a historic site, is located at 200 W. 8th Street. The Public Landing specializes in American cuisine with old world influences. You'll enjoy the picturesque setting, with canal museums a short walk away. Check out the website at www.publiclandingrestaurant.com. Sign up with Cathy Goering (cathgoer@aol.com; 630-325-0310 [home] or 815-761-7322 [cell]).

Social Action Retreat

Saturday, August 15, 9:45 A.M.

All interested church members are invited to a Social Action Committee morning retreat at the Foulser, 384 Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL. The committee will set up programs for the year and establish recipients for our monthly Social Justice collections. Church members are welcome to suggest charitable organizations for consideration by the committee. If you are inclined toward social activism, you are the right person for this committee. Come join us! Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Jane Foulser, 630-833-3028.

Lunch Bunch

Thursday, August 27, 1:00 P.M.

Contact Cathy Goering for details! (cathgoer@aol.com; 630-325-0310 [home] or 815-761-7322 [cell])

Church Announcements

Summer Office Hours

During the summer, our staff will hold the following office hours:

Church Administrator Luan Burton—Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 A.M.– 1:00 P.M.

Treasurer Shelley Hendrickson and Financial Assistant Ellie Searl—Mondays from 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Flower Dedications for 2009-2010

The Flower Dedication book has been updated so that sign-ups can be made for the 2009-2010 church year. This is a great way to honor birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions or loved ones while beautifying our sanctuary. We are seeking dedications for the entire year, but especially for Sundays in September and October. Contact the church office to sign up (office@hinsdaleunitarian.org or 630-323-2885), or contact Trustee Jean Noble for more information (jeannoble03@hotmail.com).

Neighbor Nights: Past, Present, and Future

Our series of Neighbor Nights in the Winter and Spring brought together over 160 members of our church community. We hear there were many interesting conversations and opportunities to get to know each other better. So we would like to see these gatherings continue! The Membership Committee is recommending late fall and late winter as the best times to host gatherings in the coming church year. And we already have one host signed up for the fall!

Hosts are asked to open their home to area members, send out invitations and provide coffee or tea. Guests each bring an appetizer or dessert, wine or beer, or other suggestions from the host. If you feel your home is too small, we encourage you to host your area gathering at the church to accommodate your guests. Call or e-mail Jane Foulser (jfoulser@minspring.com or 630-833-3028), if you would like to host a gathering for UUs in your area or if you would like to share comments or ideas about this project.

Help Greet and Usher In the 2009-2010 Church Year!

It is time once again to look forward to the upcoming church year at the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale, which will run from Sunday, September 13, 2009 through Sunday, June 13, 2010, with single services each week at 10:30 A.M. And UCH needs volunteer ushers and greeters each week to provide friendly and efficient Sunday mornings. With one service each Sunday, ushers and greeters, working as a team, will have a great opportunity to meet and greet all of your fellow congregation members! And don't forget that greeting and ushering present our best chance to welcome our guests!

Volunteers are asked to commit to either the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of each month. Another team will be needed for the occasional 5th Sunday (November, January, and May) and to act as substitutes.

To volunteer or to request more information, contact Fred Bloss (membership@hinsdaleunitarian.org or 630-243-7541).

Remember, volunteering is a great way to serve your church home and family! Many volunteers will make the load lighter for us all! Sign up today! And thank you.

Touchstone Rehab

Look for a new and improved Touchstone in the Fall! Editor Dan Speziale and his team (Susan Hebble and Darline Petersen) are working to make the Touchstone more user-friendly to those who receive our newsletter on-line and more stream-lined for those who receive it via US Mail. Suggestions or thoughts to share? E-mail Susan (sjhebble@comcast.net) no later than July 15.

Board Business

On June 2nd, the Board of Trustees held its first meeting of fiscal year of 2009-10, welcoming its new Board members: Fred Bloss, Membership; David Lloyd, Vice President; Hans Lonnroth, Building and Grounds; Larry Price, Finance; Beth Staas, Secretary; and Steve Trout, Communications.

Treasurer Shelley Hendrickson reported that \$14,000 was still uncollected from 2008-09 pledges, mindful that any salary bonuses would be based on monies received over budget. Letters indicating pledge status were to be mailed before July 1, 2009, with a notation at the top if the recipient is in arrears. This date is important since contributions afterward would be considered as servicing next year's pledge.

Julia Beckman, member of the Ministerial Liaison Committee, came as a guest to report progress within this newly constituted group, indicating its purpose as that of bringing the congregation and minister into closer proximity and preparing for eventual changes that might take place. As of now, the Committee is Ad Hoc, but when fully functional, it would be under the aegis of the Executive Committee of the Board.

Because we have not designated any delegate to the UUA General Assembly taking place the end of June, the following was decided: If anyone approached the Board wanting to be our voting delegate, that person would be entrusted to vote his or her conscience on matters relating to the congregation. If there were no delegate, we would vote absentee for Peter Morales as UUA president.

Minister Ed Searl announced that there would be one summer church service in July and one in August, dates yet to be determined (*note updates to this report in the newsletter*). The Board has scheduled its regular meetings over the summer for July 7, Aug. 4, and Sept. 1 at 7:30 in the Alice Warren Room. In addition, there are to be monthly retreats to plan for the coming year: June 28th at the home of Pam Fodor, July 19th at the home of Debbi Daniel-Wayman, and Aug. 23rd at the home of F. Bloss. Retreats take place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. President Fred Zimmerman asked Board members to think about ways we can not only grow membership, but also serve the broader congregation more fully. This will constitute the program for the first Retreat.

Among Ourselves

Welcome Baby Bridget!

On June 4, Ed and Ellie Searl became grandparents for the second time. Weighing in at a healthy 7 pounds, Bridget Mary Katherine Bodnar was born to Katie and Mike Bodnar in California. Baby Bridget, Mom Katie, Dad Mike, and Big Brother Brett are all well.

Art with Heart a Heart-Warming Success!

**Submitted by Carolyn Sibr,
Chair of Art with Heart**

Our June 7 art showcase was a success due to the participation of all members of the Arts Council with the special efforts of Judy Jeske, Betty Mathias, Marvin Young, Sally Tamplin, Bonnie Wayman-Dodd, Luan Burton, Beth Staas, and Ron Solberg. It proved to be a community effort with a large turn-out of our membership. We earned \$376 for the Endowment Fund and found it to be a wonderful way to network with our talented artists as well as socialize with new or old friends. It was great fun to greet you all.

For the Good of the World Beyond Our Walls

Following is a comprehensive list of organizations that have benefitted from UCH's program of Special Collections for Social Justice since the program's beginning in 2007. With many thanks for the generosity of all UCH members and friends, may we take pause to realize our positive impact on causes beyond our walls, an impact that, notably, has sustained itself in spite of and perhaps in part because of the current economic turmoil.

2007/2008

Amnesty International's Maze of Injustice
Austin Outreach Scholarship Committee
Du Page Public Action to Deliver Shelter, Inc. (PADS)
Greenpeace Fund, Inc. – as selected by UCH Youth
Hinsdale Community Service
Institute of Women Today
Literacy Volunteers of Illinois
The Night Ministry
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)

2008/2009

Breast Cancer - Access DuPage
Conservation Foundation
Equal Justice Initiative
Family Shelter Services
Knoxville Relief Fund
Pillars
Sudanese Community Center
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)
Walk-in Ministry of Hope
West Suburban Humane Society

General Announcements

Westward Ho, Colorado

September 22-28, 2009

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Pueblo Colorado is hosting an excursion September 22-28, 2009 on the front range of the Rocky Mountains. Experience the history, art, and geographical features of this southwestern community in the company of fellow UUs. Excursion cost of \$775 per person includes pick up and drop of at the Colorado Springs Airport, Bed & Breakfast accommodations with a UU host family, welcoming dinner, three restaurant dinners, and a barbecue on a working ranch; lunches on day trips; air conditioned van transportation for day trips with tour escort; and all admissions fees. For further information and registration forms, contact Pat Spahr (729-543-5249) or Dan Stone (dhstone@aculink.net; 719-542-4882).

Vermont B&B Weekend

October 9-11

Join the Fifteenth Annual B&B Weekend offered by the UU Church of Rutland, VT. Enjoy the beauty of Vermont, UU hospitality, and a choice of guided activities: hiking, kayaking, bicycling, browsing antiques/arts, touring historic sites and quaint towns, and much more. Registration by August 15, \$275 (single) and \$475 (double). After August 15, \$325 (single bed) and \$525 (double bed). For more information, contact uufoliagevermont@yahoo.com or (802) 353-7969. Check out our website at <http://fallweekend.wordpress.com/>

2nd Annual Katrina Project

November 14-20

Please consider joining DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church of Naperville on a repeat visit to the Mississippi Coast. Since the first days after Hurricane Katrina, Camp Coast Care has offered help to survivors by providing a distribution center for food, clothing, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products and free medical services. The focus now is on renovations and building of homes.

We will be staying at the same camp as last year, but at a different location. Efforts have been consolidated with a local Presbyterian Church, Habitat for Humanity and Camp Coast Care. The new location is in Hancock County, ground zero for Hurricane Katrina, where the greatest part of the rebuilding remains to be completed. This larger, better-equipped facility enables aid workers to be better stewards of their limited resources. The camp provides housing, three meals, water and paper products for their volunteers. To help cover costs, they request a \$125 donation. Volunteers need to provide their own bedding and water bottles. No laundry facilities are available.

Interested volunteers need not have special skills for carpentry or other building trades. Just ask any of the 19 church members that volunteered last year. Please do not let a lack of skills dampen your enthusiasm for this project. Each site has an experienced supervisor. Check out the camp website at www.campcoastcare.com

This event is sponsored by the community action group of DUUC which will assist with group rides for those interested. Estimate travel costs will be shared by those traveling via vans. Total costs for transportation, room and board are expected to be approximately \$400 for the week. We plan to depart Illinois on Saturday, Nov 14th, stopping for overnight in Memphis, arriving mid afternoon in Bay St. Louis, MS. We will work Monday to Friday.

If you are interested in participating or if you have questions, please contact Jane or Joe Gano (janefgano@gmail.com; 630-961-9528) no later than July 30th.

New Touchstone Submission Guidelines

Touchstone Guidelines— for September Touchstone send articles to Susan Hebble (sjhebble@comcast.net) and copy Darline Petersen (genenpd@msn.com) and Luan Burton (office@hinsdaleunitarian.org) no later than August 15.

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)