

Services in March

March 7

10:30 A.M.

"Around the World Religions"

Rev. Edward Searl

Lisa Meninger, Soprano, and Chris Garofalo, Piano (Sponsored by an anonymous donor)

In Native American lore, each person has a natural orientation, her or his starting point. But each must journey around the "medicine wheel," experiencing the other orientations. Using this metaphor, each of us, from our own starting place, should experience other world religions. We can benefit, be made whole, through the insights of the several world faiths. Today's remarks will offer praise of religious eclecticism.

March 14

10:30 A.M.

"Actualization and Transcendence"

Rev. Edward Searl

Celebration Singers and Chris Garofalo, Piano

The second half of the Twentieth Century was an era that stressed self-actualization. (Remember Maslow's hierarchy of needs with self-actualization at the top?) Somewhat in opposition to actualization is transcendence. How do the two differ? Does transcendence introduce a religious dimension that actualization lacks?

March 21

10:30 A.M.

"The High Tide of the Year"

Rev. Edward Searl

Chris Garofalo, Piano

Given a long and dull winter, I can't wait for the ministrations of Spring. Playing on the contrasts of winter and spring, I'll offer a meditation of hope and possibilities for society as well as for the individual.

March 28

10:30 A.M.

"Journeys of Conscience"

UCH Social Action Committee

Music by Jeff and Sara Teppema

The UCH Social Action Committee will present a celebration of UCH's commitment to social justice, including accountings of "Journeys of Conscience" presented by committee members. We'll also enjoy inspiring historical and contemporary protest songs performed and led by Jeff and Sara Teppema and friends with opportunities for the congregation to sing-along or just listen. A time to reflect. A time to affirm.

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

Greetings

The Care Shawl Group in our church meets four times a year to knit and to bless the shawls made since we met last. Most knitting and crocheting takes place at home. All knitting and crocheting is done with intention. This means the knitter or crocheter thinks about the person the shawl is being made for and thinks positive and healing thoughts while the shawl is being created. Our next meeting is March 10 at 7:30 P.M. in room 6 of the RE building. All are welcome to attend.

When we gather, we work on shawls and talk about what we are making and who needs to receive a shawl. We meet for an hour and a half. At the end of the meeting, we gather in a circle around candles. Pam Fodor offers a reading, and then each person lights a candle and states their wish for the recipients of the shawls, for example, expressing love, good wishes, health, well-being, or knowledge of a caring community. Then each shawl is held, hugged, and passed to the next person until all the shawls have gone around the circle and have been held by all present. This is done in silence. Finally, together, we blow out the candles, and the shawls are blessed.

Some people who have received shawls choose to have their shawl blessed again. This can happen at any Care Shawl Gathering. The shawl is a "hug" from those who care. The shawl is the oldest form of clothing. The shawl is one way the church can reach out to its members.

Shawls originally were meant for those facing a medical issue. But we also make shawls for those involved in a life-changing situation, like the loss of a family member, a marriage, a graduation, retirement, or a new baby.

I don't know how many people actually are part of this group because not everyone comes to the gatherings. Some people just drop off finished shawls with Pam Fodor or Luan Burton. We do not have a budget. The people who make them donate all the shawls made. If you want to participate, but don't knit or crochet, you can donate three skeins of knitting worsted weight yarn or make a monetary donation. If you know someone who should get a shawl, please let me or someone else in the group know.

Our wish is that those who receive a shawl feel the love that comes through the shawl to them.

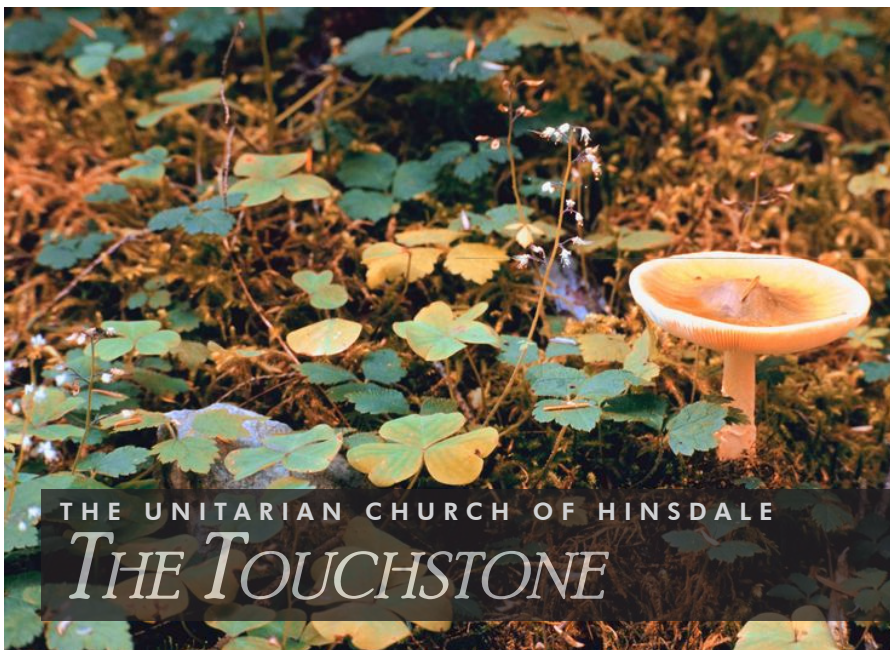
With Blessings, Nancy Weill

Volume 11, Issue 3

March 2010

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Children and Youth Religious Education

Pam Fodor, Director of Religious Education

Religious Education for March

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.	Senior High OWL Enrolled Students (9:00 AM)	Junior and Senior Youth Group (Grades 9-12), 10:30 A.M.
3-7 Wondering About Stars	3-7 Our Unitarian Heritage	3-7 Social Action Project	3-7 Faith Statements in Music	3-7 No Class	3-7 Regular Meetings
3-14 Wondering About the Moon	3-14 Ideas About God	3-14 Group Projects	3-14 Write Your Faith Statement	3-14 Communcation	3-14 Regular Meetings
3-21 Pussy Willows	3-21 Life's Ups and Downs	3-21 Stuff and Justice	3-21 When People Try to Convert You	3-21 Intimacy and Masturbation	3-21 Regular Meetings
3-28 Learning About Easter	3-28 The Mystery of Life	3-28 Connections	3-28 Planning for Coming of Age Sunday	3-28 Lovemaking	3-28 Regular Meetings

Chalice Children (Preschool Ages 3-5 Yrs)

The theme of the next set of lessons is wonder and wondering. When we give children a chance to wonder and ask questions and explore, we are bringing to life some of our UU principles and purposes. The significance of Easter for young children is joy and hope. Our youngest children will focus on returning life and new life in springtime.

Treasure Hunting (Kindergarten And First Grade)

One of the wonderful things about being a Unitarian Universalist is the ability to choose beliefs based on what is in our heart. How do we answer the question, "What is God?" How do we deal with life's ups and downs, and how do we explain the mysteries of life?

Chapel Service (Grades 2-6)

Do you know the mystery of the Co-Co birds? Come find out! Let's explore the notion of the "Haves" and the "Have Nots." Where do you fit in or where do you want to fit in? It is impossible to imagine living without being connected to other people and to living things. Chapel Service children will take a look both inside and outside themselves to find what connects us to each other.

Coming Of Age (Grades 7-8)

(Meets at 9:00 AM)

Music can be overwhelmingly powerful because music touches us like nothing else. Musicians sometimes write faith statements in music. Peter Mayer, a UU singer/songwriter, is one of them. After months of preparation, we arrive at the big day—the day the youth begin their faith statement! The purpose of the faith statements is to push the youth to articulate who they are and what they stand for. The essence of the Coming of Age experience in all cultures is to know yourself, to come into your own. Our youth are getting to the age where they may be invited to youth events at other churches, which is generally a good thing, but our youth may be pressured to convert. How can they respond effectively and respectfully in such situations?

Senior High Owl (Grades 9-12)

Youth enrolled in Senior High OWL will participate in a comprehensive age appropriate sexuality education course.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

Youth groups will meet each Sunday through this month to share community, talents and points of view; to discuss possible service trips, and upcoming fundraisers and events.

R.E. News and Announcements

Age Of Reason

For first graders, Age of Reason is a program which focuses on becoming religious. Through the program, children are affirmed in their UU faith and embraced by our church community. The children are provided a formal rite of passage to honor their religious growth and to foster their identity as young Unitarian Universalist. More information will be coming soon! Don't miss the warm All-Community Service on May 23rd in which our young people light the rainbow candles, share their first faith statements and walk under the rainbow arch!

Heart To Heart Thank You

Thank you and warm hugs to everyone who participated in our Heart To Heart Secret Friend program. We hope you enjoyed your experience and made some new friends! Be sure to contact your friends if you have not done so already! Thank you for making this project such a success!

Nike Reuse A Shoe Recycling Project

The Coming of Age Youth and their adult mentors are running an athletic shoe recycling project. Every year, millions of pairs of athletic shoes are thrown away, clogging landfills and wasting a lot of good material. The Nike Reuse a Shoe Program grinds up every part of recycled shoes to create high quality sport surfaces for athletes of all ages to play on. Nike has already turn more than 21 million pairs of shoes into basketball and tennis courts, running tracks and playgrounds for young people around the world. Beginning on Sunday March 21st our mentee and mentor team will be collecting any brand, and size worn-out athletic shoes. Please no cleats or shoes containing metal. Bring the shoes to church through April 11th and drop them in the marked recycling bin in the Alice Warren Room. Any lightly worn non-athletic shoes collected will be donated to a charity of our COA youth's choosing. For more information check out www.nikereuseashoe.com or for questions contact Pam Fodor (re@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

Church Events and Announcements

First Friday Fun Night—March 5

Announcing the very first 'All-Community First Friday Fun Night' (FFFN) on March 5th at 7:30 P.M. Studies show that children who grow up enjoying strong relationships with grandparents and other older adults are more emotionally secure than children without this bond, and they develop healthier attitudes toward aging and older people. Studies also show that older adults who are part of the lives of children and of young adults are more likely to live longer, healthier, and happier lives. Join us for an evening of activities suitable for all ages. This evening will consist of a short ice-breaking activity and easy-to-play games. Small snacks will be available. To learn more about FFFN, contact Kari Freeman (hollowcastle@gmail.com) or Pam Fodor (re@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

First Sunday Social Justice Collection—March 7

The March 7th Social Justice collection will go to the UUSC/UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund. Donations to this fund enables the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to get badly needed funds quickly to Haitian grassroots organizations that have set up relief programs amidst the devastation of the January 12, 2010 earthquake. UUSC chose this approach because Haitian grassroots organizations know best the situation on the ground and have community networks in place to distribute aid efficiently and quickly. UUSC's assessment team is currently in Haiti meeting UUSC partners and working with them to develop a mid- and long-term response to the devastation caused by the earthquake.

MANNA orders are due March 7. Cards will be distributed March 21.

Care Shawl Meets on March 10

Our next Care Shawl meeting is March 10 at 7:30 P.M. in room 6 of the RE building. All are welcome to attend, just bring your knitting/crocheting!

Women's Alliance—March 11th

Head Start is the most important social and educational investment in children, families, and communities that the United States has ever undertaken. It was launched in 1965 as a comprehensive child development program. Over the past 40 years, it has provided a beacon of hope and support to 22 million low-income children and their families. If you'd like to learn more about Head Start join the members of the Alliance on March 11 as we welcome Joy Aaronson, community partnership specialist for Life Link Head Start. Joy will give us a brief history of Head Start, explain how the program works, and will answer questions concerning its relevancy in today's challenging world. All are welcome to attend. Bring a bag lunch at 12:15 or come for the program at 1 P.M. in the Rutherford Room of the Church. Hostesses for the month are Sally Packard and Jeri O'Brien. For more information contact Joan Prims (630-323-5257; joanprim@comcast.net).

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository—March 13

This makes an excellent project to bond with friends, kids, and grandkids; kids must be over 13. Volunteer work 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, 1:30-4:30 P.M. Call Jean Noble (708-485-0281) for directions/further information.

Upcoming dates for 2010: April 10, May 8, June 12.

Advance Order Plant Sale Due March 14

Youth Group asks you to place your plant orders with them again this Spring. Orders from your neighbors and friends are welcome too. This year's choices include annuals, perennials, and herbs. Ted's Greenhouse will supply the plants. Pick-up is on Saturday, May 8th from 9 A.M. to noon. Donations from your garden are welcome on Friday night or early Saturday morning. Order forms and a drop box are at the Youth Group Corner in the AWR and UCH's web site. Please submit your order and payment on or before Sunday, March 14th. The proceeds will help fund Youth Group's summer service retreat. Questions? Contact Youth Group Advisor Roy Fleet (fleet112@sbcglobal.net).

UCH Nonfiction Book Discussion Group—March 18

The Nonfiction Book Discussion Group meets at 7:30, the third Thursday of the month in the Alliance Room (lower level of the Church). Join this lively discussion group to talk about the following books:

March 18—*The Irony of American History* by Reinhold Niebuhr, a prominent theologian in the 1950's;

April 15—*Cicero, The Life and Times of Rome* by Anthony Everitt. Cicero is said to be Rome's greatest politician. How can these two books about recent and ancient history inform us about political life today?

May 20—*The Moral Animal, Why We Are the Way We Are: The New Science of Evolutionary Psychology*, by Robert Wright. This book was written in 1994 and is not in wide circulation. Start early to track down a copy.

Questions? Contact Jane Foulser (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com).

Lunch Bunch—March 25

UCH Lunch Bunch's next excursion will be Thursday, March 25 at 1:00. This time we are going to Bok Choy Cafe, Chinese/Asian Restaurant, 2117 63rd St., Downers Grove, located in Meadowbrook Shopping Center on 63rd St. between Belmont and Woodward. As usual, we Unitarians have had many interesting conversations and discussions on just about any topic that you can imagine. Everyone welcome! Also we would welcome any new restaurant suggestions. To sign up contact Jackie Bruns (630-920-1603; butterfly@gmail.com).

Spring New Member Signing and Recognition Sunday—April 11

It is not too early to think spring! Have you been attending our church for quite some time now and feel you are finally ready to "sign the book?" Have you come from another Unitarian Universalist church but never got around to signing on as a member here? Do you feel you are well informed about Unitarian Universalism and do not need to attend our four week New UU classes? Sunday, April 11 during the regular service we will again conduct our New Member Signing and Recognition Ceremony. If you would like to be a part of this ceremony, contact the Church Administrator, Luan Burton (630-323-2885; office@hindsdaleunitarian.org) or Jane Foulser, Membership Chair (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com).

Ongoing Chalice Circles and a New Chalice Circle to Explore Grieving and Moving On

Echoing the Unitarian symbol of inclusiveness, small groups of 6 to 12 explore common concerns or spiritual interests with a facilitator in a non-judgmental setting. Also called small group ministry, several chalice circles are active at the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale. And, we are looking to start a new chalice circle that will explore grief issues. If you have lost a loved one, and you'd like to have a chance to explore your thoughts and feelings around death and loss and going on with your life, this might be the group for you. The Chalice Circle will be facilitated by UCH members Cathy Blanford and Carolyn Healy. Meetings will be arranged once or twice a month at a time convenient for the participants, during weekdays or Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings. If interested, contact Chalice Circle coordinator Marian Honel-Wilson (708-903-5370; mhonelwilson@gmail.com).

Flower Dedications

Flower dedications are still available for March, April and May. Commemorate a loved one, birthday, anniversary or important event with a flower dedication. See the sign up book at the Membership table or contact Jean Noble for details (708-485-0281).

Hello! Hello! Hello...

We are a congregation of seekers. The visitors who attend the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale on Sunday mornings are seekers as well. They have crawled out of their warm beds to explore unfamiliar territory, something you might have done on a Sunday morning in the past. Why did you come back? Was it to feed that certain something inside that was missing? Was it for a community of the like-minded? Was it for your children?

Our membership committee has embarked on a program to explore these questions and find more ways to spread out the welcome mat. But this has to be an all-congregation endeavor, reflecting our spiritual practice of reaching out. A single service has helped members be more aware of newcomers so we can reach out with a warm "Hello" and a handshake. But it shouldn't stop there. Take a moment to strike up a conversation with someone new. Ask about their interests, their neighborhoods, their jobs. Invite them to an event or a meeting. It's not being nosy or pushy. It's saying, "I care." If appropriate, steer them to the visitor's table and encourage them to sign up to receive the Touchstone. The visitor has taken the first step by being there. But our personal touch may make them come back.

Next month's Touchstone will describe what the membership committee is doing to bring visitors into our membership home. Sometimes it's as simple as saying "You're important to us. We'd like you to join."

Green Sanctuary Victory Garden Project

During the next several weeks, the Green Sanctuary Committee will be introducing its Victory Garden Project. The project has four main phases: Starting from Seed; Plant Sale and Exchange; Sharing; and Preserving. The project is designed to encourage first time gardeners by connecting them with veteran gardeners, sharing seedlings and produce, and preserving the art of preserving vegetables and fruit. More information on how to become involved will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Board Notes (February 2010)

Jane Foulser, Membership Committee Chair, said her committee will send out the new membership directory by e-mail to save on mailing costs and paper. It would be in PDF format to prevent conversion to mailing labels and contain only adult names, address, phone numbers and e-mail address. Members concerned about privacy can elect to not be included in the Directory. Directories will be printed for those members who prefer hard copy.

Dave Lloyd, Vice President, reported that Head Start will probably remain at UCH through the end of this fiscal year. We have also had some prospects looking at the space for next year.

Douglas Kaufman-Dickson and Karen McMillan, UUA Compensation Consultants for the Midwest District, gave a detailed presentation on the UUA Guidelines for Fair Compensation of Unitarian staff based on a compilation of salaries from all denominations and comparable non-profits. Factors included hours worked, job responsibility, and a church's financial ability. The Board instructed the Finance Committee to study the information and report on how this could be used in the future. The Board agreed that the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale Board of Trustees supports the values reflected in the UUA "Fair Compensation" guidelines for salary and benefits to be paid to minister and staff. The guidelines are contained in the UUA's "Salary Recommendations for Clergy and Staff of Local Congregations" effective January 1, 2008.

Because The UCH Office is experiencing a serious problem with its computer, the Board approved \$935 to purchase a Vostro 220 Mini Tower and three hours of technical support to be provided by Lou Coronado of Alchemy Tech to set up that new computer and to relocate the existing computer within the office.

Celebrate Your Special Green Space—Send in Your Photos and Stories

Where is your green sanctuary? What is the one place in nature that gives you a feeling of awe, of reverence, or serenity? This year's Green Sanctuary church service, scheduled for April, will honor the special natural spaces that each one of us finds as a refuge for our soul. We are asking everyone to send in a photo, and a brief description, of his or her favorite natural area. It can be a national park, a local forest preserve, or even a tranquil spot in your own garden. Here's an example to get you going, from Green Sanctuary chairman Dave Lloyd. It's a spot at Bemis Woods Forest Preserve, less than a mile from church, where flowers such as Spring Beauty and May Apple produce a burst of brightness after the long winter. Send your photo and description to davelloyd@mindspring.com. There's plenty of time before April's service, but why not send your photo and text now, while you're thinking about it?



Green Sanctuary celebrates 2009 accomplishments

The Green Sanctuary committee conducted a brainstorming session at its January meeting, seeking new ideas for environmental actions for the coming year. But first we reflected on the church's green accomplishments for the past year. These achievements include the following:

Landscape Garden Notes

Welcome Spring!

Spring begins this month, offering the promise of joy-filled gardening moments through the year. Here at UCH, watch for some of the earliest-season plant growth in all of Chicagoland—daffodils and other small plants emerging along the sun-drenched, heat-reflected south face of our Religious Education Building. Watch too for UCH's earliest blooming small trees: the hazy yellow of Corneliancherry Dogwood: we have five along the municipal sidewalk south of the R.E Building, one just east of the front steps of the church, and one along the north edge of the east lawn.

Leave No Child Inside

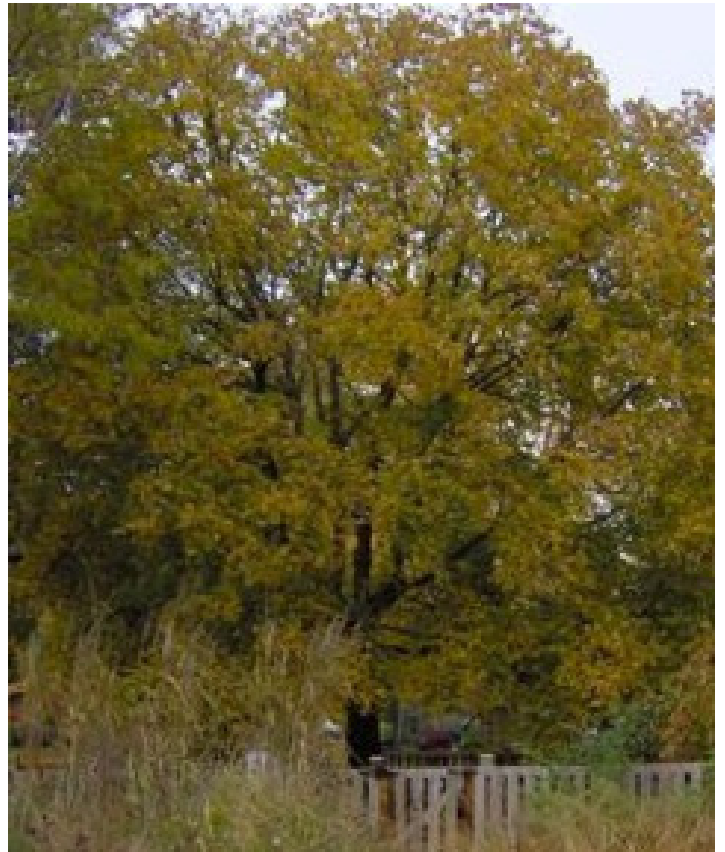
UCH joins forces with Chicago Wilderness and other organizations in promoting “Leave No Child Inside” (See <http://www.kidsoutside.info/>) This is part of a nationwide movement to “draw attention to the importance of unstructured playtime and other outdoor activities and to contribute to a culture in which children enjoy and are encouraged to be outside in nature.” In keeping with that idea, UCH happily provides the Children’s Garden, a naturalistic play lot west of the R.E. Building; we also offer the sturdy wooden play equipment (legacy of Head Start) just to the east of the church building. Further, UCH encourages children of all ages to revel and relax in the other outdoor spaces throughout the UCH grounds.

Climb a Tree

As of this writing, two trees on the UCH property are officially designated for recreational climbing: the Norway maple tree in the Children’s Garden and the linden tree in the middle of the lawn east of the main church building. These are our toughest and most-freestanding of all trees to climb. Please refrain from climbing any other trees or shrubs on the UCH property. Some of these trees and shrubs would suffer irreversible damage. Climb at your own risk and please note that UCH is not liable for any injuries sustained. UCH is a special green oasis in the heart of Hinsdale. Cherish and enjoy!



Norway Maple



Linden

Green Sanctuary celebrates 2009 accomplishments

The Green Sanctuary committee conducted a brainstorming session at its January meeting, seeking new ideas for environmental actions for the coming year. But first we reflected on the church's green accomplishments for the past year. These achievements include the following:

We conducted a tour of the Sims Recycling e-waste recycling plant in West Chicago

We shared the bounty of our gardens in our Produce Exchange Program

We held a Green Sanctuary service in April to celebrate hope for the future

We conducted a tour of the Morton Arboretum to view native plants

We participated in Green Festivals at Navy Pier and Cantigny

We celebrated traditional regard for the earth at winter solstice and Beltane

We started Cool Cities programs to work with several towns on reducing energy use

We took part in a 350 event in Warrenville to raise climate change awareness

We insulated the church attic and caulked windows in the RE building

We installed a bike rack at church to promote cycling to services

Our initial brainstorming meeting produced over 80 ideas for the coming year. The committee promises an exciting set of programs for 2010 and beyond!

General Announcements

Henry Pleas and Chris Garofalo in Recital March 6

Tenor Henry Pleas and pianist Chris Garofalo will present a vocal recital at the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale on Saturday, March 6 at 8:00 P.M. The program will include works by Britten, Ravel, and Owens. Henry Pleas has appeared as leading tenor in many operatic productions, including work as soloist for Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Grand Rapids, Skylight Opera Theater and Chicago Opera Theater. In orchestral performance, he has appeared as soloist in such works as the Beethoven Missa Solemnis, Mozart's Requiem, Messiah, Vaughan William's Hodie and Adolphus Hailstork's "Done Made my Vow". Tickets will be available at the door: \$20 adults / \$10 students.

UU Women as Agents of Change—Women's Leadership Day

Third Unitarian Church in Chicago

Saturday March 20, 2010

UU Women's Connection proudly presents a program to celebrate the 200th birthday anniversary of Margaret Fuller. We will honor this feisty and fearless UU foremother by honoring UU women in our congregations who have similarly stepped up in difficult times. One singular, outstanding woman from each congregation will be honored, and she will attend free of charge. Don't miss an opportunity to recognize your congregation's Agent of Change. All women from the district congregations may also register for a modest \$15, which includes: the celebration, Margaret Fuller Conversation Salons, lunch, entertainment by MOMSthatROCK (momsthatrock.com), and more. Materials for submitting an honoree story for recognition on March 20th, individual or group registration for the event and more about the day are available at www.womenandreligion.org or connections@uuwomensconnection.org.

Among Ourselves

Meet Three . . . Care Shawl Knitters

Suzanne Waskelis

1. Q. *How long have you attended UCH, and what do you most enjoy about our church?*

A. I guess I could be called a “lapsed Unitarian.” When we lived in Michigan, I attended the Ann Arbor church, and then joined Northwest UU in Southfield. After moving to Illinois in 1972, I joined Hinsdale and remained fairly active through the 70s, as my children went through the RE program. However, we bought a seven days a week newsstand in 1979, and I gradually stopped attending UCH until after we sold the store in January, 2003. I came back for Easter and re-signed the membership book almost immediately.

One of my biggest pleasures upon returning was actually being remembered by some of the long-time members. I rejoined Celebration Singers for a couple of years, and enjoyed the beauty of the music and the camaraderie very much. I really like looking around at all the people on a Sunday morning and appreciating the privilege of being among “my kind.”

2. Q. *How do you describe UUism to friends of other faiths?* A. I do my best to describe UUism in positive words, rather than by “what we’re not.” Among my non-UU friends, I always call it a religion, weaving the best of other religions, inclusive of science and nature.

3. Q. *What do you appreciate about being part of this project?* A. I like being part of small group of people who knit for this project, and I especially like the candlelight blessing ritual our larger group has every few months for our completed shawls.

4. Q. *What is something you’d like to do before you die?* A. See the Grand Canyon and Yosemite for the first time. Visit Italy.

5. Q. *Whom do you consider a great hero, alive or not? Why?* A. Right now, my daughter Lynn, for how she is dealing with her life challenges.

6. Q. *If a movie were made about your life, who would play you and what would the movie title be?* A. “Still Ticking”

Becky Carnall

To start with, my husband, Rich, and I were married at this church on October 23, 1976. We started attending more regularly when my eldest daughter was in about 5th grade. I had tried a few other churches, but felt most comfortable at UCH. I like the religious education my daughters received here. I enjoy most the feeling of general acceptance of all who come to our church. I describe Unitarian Universalism as having no creed, believing in one God (or no God), and we believe in the inherent worthiness of every person. The Care Shawl project is a group of members who want to give to the church by making shawls to give to fellow members who are in need of solace/comforting (illness, death in family, other losses/times of distress) or in times of joy (birth of a child, graduation, new job). We supply the yarn and give of our time to make the shawls. We currently meet quarterly to work on shawls together, then we have a ceremony to 'bless' the shawls we have finished and will then give to someone. The ceremony includes lighting candles and making some wish or hope for the person who will eventually receive it; then we pass each shawl around and silently give a thought/hope/blessing to go along to the recipient. One person who was not directly connected with the church so appreciated that someone they care about received a shawl, that they made some shawls for us to give away to others. I appreciate being part of something that will hopefully bring some comfort or joy to someone. I enjoy doing something that will let the recipient know that our church cares for them in good times or difficult times. The UU principle I find most compelling is the idea that we believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I use it when I feel depressed to give myself a mental boost, and when I deal with others. Everyone should be treated with dignity and respect. We are all just trying to live our lives, hopefully in peace. Before I die, I would like to retire and enjoy that period of my life for a while. I consider Eleanor Roosevelt a great hero. She did her best to make the world a better place for many different people. A movie about my life? No thank you.

Julie Oshen

I have been coming to this church for 6-7 years. I like that it is a bit smaller, but is very open and friendly, that it doesn't have a creed, and that it is open to beliefs of many other faiths. I explain to others that UUism is about appreciating the inherent worth and dignity of all mankind. I enjoy being involved in the Care Shawl Group because this project provides a hand-crafted shawl, each of which is individual, for people in our church. The shawls are blessed by the group and contain our thoughts and best wishes for the recipient for the difficulties or joys that are in their life at that time. I appreciate the purpose of the project, but I also enjoy getting together with the others of the group, and I enjoy having a worthwhile knitting project. My mother and grandmother always knit when I was young, and taught me at a very young age.

The inherent worth and dignity of all mankind is the UU principle I find most compelling. I always felt it was strange to say that one religion was right and all others were wrong. Over the years, meeting people of many backgrounds has reinforced that original instinct. There is humanity in each person that ties us all together when we don't focus on our differences. I have always admired Jimmy Carter. Whether he is a hero or not I don't know, but he is a good person, trying to do good in the world.

Upcoming Events

First Friday Fun Night—March 5, 7:30 P.M. at UCH

Contacts: Kari Freeman (hollowcastle@gmail.com) or Pam Fodor (re@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

Henry Pleas and Chris Garofalo Recital—Saturday, March 6, 8:00 P.M.

Tickets will be available at the door: \$20 adults / \$10 students.

First Sunday Social Justice Collection—March 7

UUSC/UUA Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund.

MANNA orders are due March 7. Cards will be distributed March 21.

Care Shawl Group—Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 P.M. Room 6, RE Building.

Women's Alliance—Thursday, March 11, 12:15 (bag lunch), 1:00 (program)

Hostesses for the month are Sally Packard and Jeri O'Brien.

Contact: Joan Prims (630-323-5257; joanprimis@comcast.net).

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository—Saturday, March 13, 1:30-4:30

Meet at GCFD, 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place (42nd Place), Chicago. Contact: Jean Noble (708-485-0281).

Orders Due for Youth Group Plant Sale Due Sunday, March 14

Contact: Youth Group Advisor Roy Fleet (fleet112@sbcglobal.net).

UCH Nonfiction Book Discussion Group—Thursday, March 18, 7:30 P.M. Alliance Room.

Contact: Jane Foulser (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com)

Lunch Bunch—Thursday, March 25, 1:00. Bok Choy Café, Downers Grove.

To sign up contact Jackie Bruns (630-920-1603; butterfly@gmail.com).

Spring New Member Signing and Recognition—Sunday, April 11

Contacts: Luan Burton (630-323-2885; office@hinsdaleunitarian.org) or

Jane Foulser, Membership Chair (630-833-3028; jfoulser@mindspring.com).

Touchstone Submission Guidelines

The Touchstone submission deadline for the March issue is March 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)

ADVANCE ORDER PLANT SALE
 Pick-up From 9 AM to Noon
 Saturday, May 8th
 Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
 Alice Warren Room, 11 W. Maple

SELLERS: UCH YOUTH GROUP
 C/O Roy Fleet
 112 North Lincoln
 Westmont, IL 60559
 Phone: 630/964-8100 FAX: 1355
 email: FRFINC@gmail.com

BUYER:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

FAX:

EMAIL:

FRONT TOTAL

+

BACK TOTAL

GRAND TOTAL

Special notes: > Please make checks payable to Unitarian Church of Hinsdale.
 > Put orders and checks into drop box at Youth Group Corner in AWR or send it in.
 > All orders and checks must be received by **NOON ON SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010**.
 > The form is posted on UCH's home page (www.hinsdaleunitarian.org).
 You can download it, fill out your order, and return it by email or fax.
 > Ask your friends and neighbors to join your order and please deliver their orders promptly.
 > Donations from your garden are welcome on Friday night or early Saturday morning.
 > Plants supplied by Ted's Greenhouse in Tinely Park.

Youth Sales
 Person:

FLOWERING BASKETS (10" baskets)	COLOR	#	PRICE	TOTAL
BACOPA	WHITE		\$18	
BEGONIAS: Non Stop	RED		\$18	
FUCHSIA	RED & PURPLE		\$18	
FUCHSIA	RED & WHITE		\$18	
IMPATIENS: Double	RED		\$18	
IMPATIENS: Double	PURPLE		\$18	
GERANIUMS: Ivy	RED		\$18	
GERANIUMS: Ivy	WHITE		\$18	
GERANIUMS: Ivy	LAVENDAR		\$18	
SCAEVOLA (Fan blooms along stem)	BLUE		\$18	

SALE NOTES:

Baskets provide the easiest solution to summer gardening

ZONAL GERANIUMS (4" pots)	COLOR	#	PRICE	TOTAL
	RED		\$3	
	WHITE		\$3	
	VIOLET		\$3	
	SALMON		\$3	

Decorate your decks and doorways with the bright colors of geraniums.

FERNS (4-1/2" Deep pots)	DESCRIPTION	#	PRICE	TOTAL
ATHYRIUM FELIX FEMINA: Lady	Lacy, to 30"		\$4	
ATHYRIUM NIPONICUM PICTUM: Painted	to 24"		\$4	
MATTEUCCIA STRUTHIOPTERIS: Ostrich	4 Qt Pot, to 5'		\$11	

Ferns provide a softening accompaniment to hostas and other shadeplants. These need moist conditions.

POTTED/ACCENT PLANTS (4" pot)	#	PRICE	TOTAL
DRACENA: Spikes		\$3	
SPRENGERII: Asparagus Fern		\$3	
VINCA VINES		\$3	

HERBS (3-1/2" pots)	DESCRIPTION	#	PRICE	TOTAL
	ANNUALS			
BASIL	SWEET		\$3	
CHAMOMILE: German	White Flowers		\$3	
CILANTRO: Slow to Bolt	PLAIN		\$3	
DILL	BOUQUET		\$3	
NASTURTIUM	EDIBLE		\$3	
PARSLEY	CURLY		\$3	

Enjoy the fragrance of herbs by planting together or alone in pots on your patio.

