

Services in May

May 2, 10:30 A.M.

"Coming of Age"

Rev. Ed Searl and Pam Fodor, DRE
Chris Garofalo and Celebration Singers

The 7-8th graders in our Coming of Age class have been exploring and seeking answers to life's big religious questions during the course of this year. This Sunday service celebrates the work they have done and honors their individual searches for truth. Each of the youth will share his or her individual statements of faith, and the congregation will affirm them and welcome them into our adult circle of community.

May 9, 10:30 A.M.

"Wisdom of Joseph Campbell"

Rev. Edward Searl
Celebration Singers & Chris Garofalo, Piano

I've been rereading Joseph Campbell's *Power of Myth*, a chronicle of Campbell's conversations with Bill Moyers. Campbell's "universalist and essentialist" approach to the substance of Religion has even more relevance today than it did a generation ago.

May 16, 10:30 A.M.

"The Common Good"

Rev. Edward Searl
Chris Garofalo, Piano

On Annual Meeting Sunday, the theme of the common good seems particularly relevant. Is the notion of the common good in peril in contemporary society?

May 23, 10:30 A.M.

"Rainbows and Bridges"

Rev. Ed Searl and Pam Fodor, DRE
Roger Birkeland, Saxophone & Chris Garofalo, Piano (Sponsored by Catherine Menninger)

This last All-Community Service of the church year will offer a special celebration and will include two rites of passage for our children and youth. To formally recognize our young Hinsdale UUs, our Age of Reason graduates will pass under the rainbow arch into our church family, and our graduating seniors will cross over a bridge from being a youth member to young adult members of our congregation. Both of these ceremonies will provide warm and meaningful moments for our children, youth and our church family.

May 30, 10:30 A.M.

"The Beloved Community: Our Members, Friends, and Loved Ones"
Membership Committee
Sara Teppema, Piano

The UCH Membership Committee will present a celebration of our long-time members and friends, with special recognition of the five women who have been members for over 50 years! Also, on this Memorial Weekend, we pause to remember those loved ones we have lost.

Ed Searl Online

For a listing of Ed Searl's various online sites, including his ongoing blog on Religion and the American Experience as well as a sermon cache, go to <http://edwardsearl.wordpress.com/>.

Greetings from the Finance Committee

Leading the Pledge Drive is one of the main activities of the Finance Committee, so we offer our sincere thanks to all who have pledged to and/or supported the 2010-2011 budget by contributing to our Church Vision service, participating in the Vision Town Hall meeting, and volunteering time to help with the pledge drive.

The Finance Committee works with the Board of Trustees, the Finance Trustee, and the Treasurer to insure the financial health of the Church. In addition to the Pledge Drive, we work with the Board to draft the annual Church Budget for approval by the membership at our annual meeting. Since we cannot spend more money than we collect, we are vigilant in maintaining a balanced budget.

Once we have completed the annual pledge drive and budget process, we meet monthly to review the financial statements of the Church to determine that the pledges and donations are spent according to the approved budget. This oversight provides the Board and the membership with early warnings if our expenses are exceeding our revenues.

Since we work with a balanced budget mandate, shortfalls in promised pledges can easily throw our budget into the red. Correcting a potential shortfall usually involves the Finance Committee making reminder calls to the members who have not fulfilled their annual pledges.

Finally, the finance committee seeks new sources of revenue through rental of the Church buildings and fund-raising activities. These tasks are extremely important right now as we desperately need a replacement tenant for Head Start, which leave us at the end of June.

We welcome all who would like to visit our meetings for informational purposes and those who would like to join our membership.

Thank you!
The Finance Committee

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May 2010

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Children and Youth Religious Education

Pam Fodor, Director of Religious Education

Religious Education for May

Chalice Children, Preschool, 3-5 yrs, 10:30 A.M.	Treasure Hunting, Kindergarten & 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 A.M.	Youth Group (Grades 7-12), 10:30 A.M.
5-2 May Day	5-2 Thanks to the Animals	5-2 Attend church with families	5-2 Coming of Age Sunday	5-2 Power and Control	5-2 Attend Coming of Age Sunday
5-9 My Shadow	5-9 Points of View	5-9 Life Quests	5-9 No Class	5-9 Equality	5-9 No Meeting
5-16 Teddy Bears	5-16 Search for the Truth	5-16 Teddy Bears	5-16 No Class	5-16 Family Breakfast	5-16 Highway Cleanup
5-23 All-Community Worship	5-23 All-Community Worship	5-23 All-Community Worship	5-23 All-Community Worship	5-23 No Class	5-23 All-Community Worship
5-30 Teddy Bears	5-30 Our Need for Each Other	5-30 Game Day	5-30 No Class	5-30 No Class	5-30 No Meetings
Age of Reason (Grade 1, 11:30 A.M.)		5-16 No Class			
5-2 No Class		5-23 All-Community Worship			
5-9 Catch Up and Rehearse Day		5-30 No Class			

Chalice Children (Preschool Ages 3-5 Yrs) (Meets at 10:30 AM)

What better way to celebrate the arrival of spring, but to celebrate May Day and to make the May flowers that the April showers brought! Most small children enjoy playing with their shadows. It is a great way to celebrate the wonder of self! The rest of the month will be Teddy Bear Month! Through the love of teddy bears the children will explore the ideas that church is a place to make friends, help others, learn about being afraid, and having a place to dream.

Treasure Hunting (Kindergarten And First Grade) (Meets at 10:30 AM)

Unitarian Universalists treasure the earth and our animal friends. So we will make gifts for the birds! UUs also treasure each person's special way of looking at things. What is your point of view? We UUs are also lucky to be able to search for our own truth, even though to do so is not always easy. We also treasure our need for each other and celebrate our interconnected web.

Chapel Service (Grades 2-6) (Meets at 10:30 AM)

All year long the Chapel Service children have been engaged in taking Inner Quests, UU Quests, Mystery Quests and Action Quests. This month we will review what we have discovered about ourselves during these quests and take a look at how to continue them throughout our lives.

Coming Of Age (Grades 7-8) (Meets at 9:00 AM)

Our Coming of Age year will come to a close with our Coming of Age Sunday Service and celebration. Coming of Age class will not meet the special May 2nd service, but COA-ers may attend youth group at 10:30 A.M.

Senior High Owl (Grades 9-12) (Meets at 9:00 AM)

Youth enrolled in Senior High Owl will participate in a comprehensive, age appropriate, sexuality education course. The OWL culminating celebration will be a family breakfast.

Youth Group (Grades 7-12) (Meets at 10:30 AM)

Youth group will attend the May 2nd Coming of Age youth Sunday Service, will meet to clean their adopted section of Ogden Avenue, and will support their graduating seniors during the All-Community Worship.

Age of Reason (Grade 1) (Meets at 11:30 AM)

Age of Reason is a program of religious becoming for first graders through which the 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 foster their identity as young UU's. The children will rehearse for their special Sunday service on May 23rd.

Religious Education Social Service: Party-In-A-Box

Our Chapel Service children are assembling "Party-In-A-Box" kits to be given to local impoverished children to help them celebrate their birthdays. Each box represents one entire party for 6-8 children and should include:

Cake mix	Frosting	Candles
Balloons	Cups	Plates
Napkins	Streamers	

Please look for the party box in the Alice Warren Room for you to drop off your donations! We will also accept monetary donations to be used to purchase the supplies. Please make checks payable to UCH and mark PIAB in the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Did YoUU Know?

On May 1st, 1933, a Universalist minister and seven Unitarian ministers joined 28 scientists, philosophers, and academics in signing The Humanist Manifesto, which became a central point of reference for religious liberals as it presented 14 points celebrating and affirming religious humanism.

Belgian-born poet May Sarton, born in 1912, escaped with her family to America during World War II. In Cambridge, MA, she often attended the Unitarian church, and although she never officially joined the church, she often shared her thoughts and poetry with Unitarian churches, even speaking at a Unitarian General Assembly, proving you don't have to be officially Unitarian to be Unitarian! You will find her poetry in our hymnal.

Over 150 years ago, in 1849, Chicago hosted the first Western Conference of Unitarian Ministers.

Annual Meeting Sunday, May 16

A Meeting Not to Be Missed

It's been more than a year, and much has happened in our world. Who can forget that wonderful night in November 2008 when crowds in Grant Park gathered to celebrate American democracy, the election of Barack Obama, our 44th President? It was an electric moment, one that will be remembered forever.

Hinsdale Unitarian also provides a lesson in democracy. Encompassing congregational polity, we govern our own affairs within the greater organization headquartered in Boston. Stated simply, we run our own show. That includes designating who will shovel the snow, which committee will call on the sick, and how much to pay the staff. At its best, this democratic process taps into our best natures to bring us together. This year, Hinsdale Unitarian is facing a series of decisions, not the least of which involves passing a 2010-11 bare-bones budget without losing our identity as a viable church. The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee have worked hard to make it so. In addition, there will be the election of Board members to fill open positions. Beyond that reports from various committees and trustees are available, so that members and friends can keep up to date on happenings within the church. So plan on attending this year's annual meeting to be held after the regular service on May 16th. at 11:45. It will provide our own version of Town Hall, a civil interaction with those who have made a commitment to strengthen the liberal cause, our Unitarian church for which we stand.

Annual Reports Available on UCH Blog

The annual reports of the church officers, trustees, and staff, as well as the proposed budget for 2010-11 will be posted again this year to a blog. Please check the Back Page announcements in the Sunday Order of Service and the weekly Friday e-mail announcements for instructions for accessing the blog.

This conversion from paper to electronic reports serves our Green Sanctuary goal of reducing paper use. If you treasure the tactile sensation of paper annual reports, don't worry; we'll have a few copies at the May church services and at the Annual Meeting on May 16.

Babysitting Volunteers Needed for Annual Meeting

We like to offer childcare during the church's annual meeting to allow parents to attend. However the DRE and members of the RE Committee also need to be in attendance, so we are looking for a few adult members who would be willing to provide supervision for our children during the annual meeting. Please contact Pam Fodor for more information (re@hinsdaleunitarian.org).

Annual Meeting Alliance Café

In conjunction with the Annual Meeting, the Alliance will again sponsor the Alliance Cafe. We will sell a variety of sandwiches, beverages, fruit, veggies, and tempting desserts. The Alliance would greatly appreciate contributions from all Church members for this fundraiser. Please help support us in this delicious endeavor by indulging your palate in our delectable selections.

Church Events and Announcements

Manna Orders

MANNA orders for May are due MAY 2, with orders available for pick-up in the AWR May 16. For more information, contact Dana White (ddws69@earthlink.net).

Summer Starts with Beltane—Celebrate on Sunday, May 2

The traditional start of summer is the beginning of May, called Beltane by our ancestors and now remembered as May Day. We will hold our annual Beltane Festival on Sunday, May 2, at 12:00 noon, on the church lawn. There will be music, frolicking, a Pageant of the Turning of the Seasons with the Green Man, Snow Queen, and Flower Children, people—maybe including you—wearing masks, and of course, dancing around the Maypole! There will be lots of food and drink, more if you bring a flagon or dish to share. Who said religion can't be fun! For more information, contact Dave Lloyd (davelloyd@mindspring.com).

First Friday Fun Night - May 7

Our First Friday Fun Nights (FFFN) in March and April have been fun! Almost 30 people came to the last event and had a great time! Check out Facebook to see videos and pictures of the FFFN events. First Friday Fun Night provides a night for people of all ages—grandkids to grandparents—to get-together and participate in activities. On May 7, we will get to know each others' families better (just in time for Mother's Day, too). Bring along some family pictures, including baby pictures and pictures of grandparents and great-grandparents. Arrive at 7:00 P.M. for a short ice-breaking activity, participate in the main event, and then enjoy small talk and snacks until 9:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to come, including friends and neighbors! Hope to see you there! To learn more about FFFN, contact Kari Freeman (hollowcastle@gmail.com).

Women's Alliance Meets on May 13 and May 18

It's May! It's May! The month of yes you may! Yes, you may join the members of the Alliance as we travel to Elmhurst and indulge our senses in one remarkable garden. You've probably already guessed that we will meet at the home of our own Jane Foulser on Thursday, May 13. Jane has graciously invited us to lunch on her oh so charming patio surrounded by the sights and scents of this delightful garden space. The program is officially entitled "Identifying Weeds," but there's sure to be much more in store. Bring a bag lunch at 12:15 P.M., or come for the program at 1:00 P.M. All green thumbs and wannabes are encouraged to attend. Grace Abrahamson will be our hostess for this much anticipated spring event. For more information contact Grace (708- 485-5983; teacherspr@aol.com).

On Tuesday, May 18, the Alliance will meet at the Briar Place Nursing Facility at 6800 Joliet Rd. in Indian Head Park at 2:00 P.M. Residents really seem to enjoy our annual visits. In preparation for this event, please save small items (scarves, socks, notebooks, pads of paper, stamps, cards, brushes, combs, water bottles, and pens) for distribution to the residents. Contributions are most appreciated. Please mark your calendar for this worthwhile activity. For more information, contact Nancy Keane (nancy44k@aol.com).

Estate Planning Discussion—Sunday, May 23

Need to learn more about estate planning? The Endowment Committee has arranged for Joel Stein and Noreen Costelloe, both attorneys, to be available immediately following the May 23 Sunday Service. They will discuss estate planning in general terms and then be available to answer specific questions publicly or in private.

Lunch Bunch—Thursday May 27, 1:00 P.M.

This month UCH Lunch Bunch is on its way to Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant in Burr Ridge, 510 Village Center Dr. Go south on County Line Rd, (Past 75th) to Burr Ridge Pkwy. Turn Left (East) on Burr Ridge Pkwy, and take another left into the shopping center. The date is the usual 4th Thursday, May 27 at 1:00. To sign up, contact Cathy Goering (815-761-7322; cathgoer@aol.com) or Jackie Bruns (butterfluffy@gmail.com).

Our Community is Growing!

April's membership-book signing ceremony was enough to bring a lump to the throat as new members committed to an open minded, inclusive, reasoned, seasoned, compassionate and contemporary approach to life. Suddenly, "you" became "us," happily adding to our church family, all eager to get to know one another. The process could be as simple as sharing a hymnal during a church service or sending a cheerful nod across the way, followed by a warm handshake after the service. The process then continues as new members try out the various groups and those more settled reach out and encourage participation. Think of the possibilities of involvement: committees like Green Sanctuary or Social Action; small groups like chalice circles, book or movie discussions; volunteer opportunities as usher, greeter or maker of coffee – the list goes on. The more involved, the greater the benefit.

We need one another and look forward to fresh ideas and new input. Let us all work together to make our church community a haven for the like-minded, shining a beacon of hope to each other and to the world wherever we happen to be in our spiritual journey. A hearty welcome to the following: Cynthia and Daniel Bennecke, Jodi Cicirello, Frank Costanza, Jim Danbury, Joanne and Peter Krouwer, Amanda and Kenneth and youngsters Eli and Weston Mathieu, and returning members Deborah and Thomas Stillman. And we offer a very special welcome to Dan Cicirello, our newest youth member.

Emergency Information Contact Form

The information on this form, available in the Living Room or through the Church Office, will be kept in a confidential file in the minister's office. In case of an emergency, the information you provide will allow us to help contact important persons in your life. This one page, concise form may also be downloaded as a PDF on an information website created by Ed Searl at <http://sites.google.com/site/endoflifedirectives>. On this site you will also find a variety of up to date State of Illinois end of life directives.

As You Travel (to UU Events), Tell Us

This year's General Assembly for the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is scheduled for June 23rd through 27th in Minneapolis. If you are planning to attend, please contact Paula Sejut-Dvorak, Trustee with the Denominational Relations portfolio, so that she can coordinate such matters as voting, participation in the Banner Parade, and transportation. Contact Paula as soon as possible with your plans (psejut-dvorak@sbcglobal.net). In fact, why not do it now, while you're thinking about it? And if you would like information about the General Assembly, check the UUA's website at www.uua.org.

Web Committee Happenings

The Unitarian Church of Hinsdale has been busy building a vibrant electronic presence on the Web and on-line social networks. These media allow the Church to reach more people at lower cost than could be done using traditional communication outlets. Here's what we've been up to:

- www.hinsdaleunitarian.org has served as the Church's website for many years. Dan Speziale administers the site as Webmaster. Beth Staas and Steve Trout assist Dan in developing content, responding to posting requests and monitoring the site's currency and accuracy.
- UUHinsdale is the Church's new Twitter account, which Kari Freeman administers. Kari posts frequent "tweets" regarding recent and coming events, news and topics of interest.
- Unitarian Universalist of Hinsdale is a recently launched page on Facebook that Rich Lomasney and Kari Freeman administer. Rich and Kari contribute frequent postings of text, photos and videos of recent events. The page has quickly attracted 67 "fans," who can submit postings to the page. To encourage more Facebook participation endeavors, the Committee will be offering a prize to one of its fans in the coming months. Stay tuned...

Committee members include Kari Freeman, Rich Lomasney, Dan Speziale, Beth Staas, and Steve Trout. The Committee meets once or twice a month after the Sunday service and is always looking for additional members.

Help Determine Future Recipients of Monthly Collections for Social Justice

UCH's Monthly Collections for Social Justice add an increasingly popular and appreciated component to UCH's worship services. This year's UCH Annual Meeting will feature an excellent opportunity to submit your ideas for future collection recipients. Be prepared to indicate your suggestion(s) for future recipients along with your email address and phone number. Suggestions will be processed during a summer meeting open to all UCH members and friends.

UCH Makes BIG Appearance at Green Fest

Unitarian Church of Hinsdale members hosted a display at the Believe In Green environmental fair at the Clarendon Hills Middle School on Saturday, April 10. Our table featured home gardening, do-it-yourself grow light stands, and the information on the value of a Green Sanctuary program at a church or school. Of course, we also told people about how ecologically minded people may find a home at UCH. With hundreds of folks, including kids and parents, touring the displays, we reached a lot of people with our message of our connection with the web of life.



April Board Meeting Notes

Larry Price, Finance Trustee, presented the Pledge Drive Status indicating that the anticipated final figure would be \$20,000 under the "survival" budget that had been presented to the congregation earlier this year, despite the average increase of 11½ percent per pledging unit. After discussion, it was moved that we remedy the shortfall in the "survival" budget with enough money from the Holiday Harvest funds to balance the budget. Motion passed.

Chris Hainey, Finance Committee Chair, reported that given the 2010-11 pledge prospects, his committee will have to re-write the budget for the congregational meeting in May. Board consensus was that since pledge funds are our only income, we need to budget accordingly. Meanwhile, we might look toward an expansion of activities in the coming year that could be remunerative. A fund-raising committee might concentrate on implementing that as a goal during the coming year.

Fred Zimmerman, President, reported a Board appointed vacancy on the Ministerial Committee (COM) and is asking Board members and the Nominating Committee to think of a replacement for Nancy Holt, who has resigned. Current members are Bob Daniel-Wayman, Suzanne Williams and Julia Beckman.

Beth Staas, Secretary, proposed establishing a committee that would review the bylaws on an annual basis, adapting them to reflect changes in the governance and activities of the church. The Board was asked to review the proposal for further discussion in the coming year.

A full copy of the minutes may be read in the office at any time during office hours.

The next Board meeting is at 7:30 P.M., May 4th in the Alice Warren Room. Visitors are always welcome to either present information or observe.

Landscape Garden Notes

Thank-A-Gardener

The extra warm spring weather in 2010 has given weeds a strong start. Likewise, the dedicated team of volunteers who so lovingly tend to specific UCH garden spaces is off to a strong start, keeping those weeds in check! Charlie Fischer encourages your personal thanks to any and all of the following UCH Volunteer Gardeners: Grace Abrahamson, Julia Beckman, Noreen Costelloe, the Daniel-Wayman Family, William Deihl, Betty Fischer, Charlie Fischer, the Fodor Family, Jane Foulser, Mary Getty, Cathy Goering, Laurie Goshorn, Karin Janowski, the Johnson-Yerger Family, the Lonnoth Family, Jim Murray, Jean Noble, Joe Saintcross, Dennis Sejut, Beth Staas, Steve & Athena Trout, and Nancy Weill.

General Announcements

Sustainable Saturday in Lisle— May 1

The Village of Lisle, Benedictine University, and DuPage County encourage all DuPage residents to bring electronics, car/boat/sump pump batteries, bicycles, documents, scrap metal, cell phones, and more to its Sustainable Saturday In Lisle event from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 1st. The free of charge, drop-off event will take place in the Dan and Ada Rice Center parking lot located on the campus of Benedictine University, 5700 College Road, Lisle.

For additional information, including a complete listing of acceptable items, please visit the Village of Lisle website.

Justin Roth • House Concert in Downers Grove— May 25, 7:00 P.M.

Get your mid-spring folk music fix in the intimate and gracious setting of a Tuesday evening house concert featuring accomplished guitarist and singer/songwriter Justin Roth: <http://www.justinroth.com/> All UCH members and friends are cordially invited to attend this “private house concert.” You may recall Justin’s appearance during Sunday morning worship at UCH a few short years ago. A suggested donation of \$12 includes refreshments. All non-refreshment proceeds go to Justin. Performance begins at 7:00 P.M. Doors open at 6:15 to mingle and meet with Justin. The performance will wrap up by about 8:30, and will be followed by a social hour, including opportunities to purchase CDs and visit with Justin and fellow patrons. Seating is limited. Reserve your space soon! Contact Charlie Fischer (cfis@sbcglobal.net) and/or Laurie Goshorn (laurie.goshorn@yahoo.com) a.s.a.p. to RSVP and learn address details.

Would You Like To Make A Difference In The Life Of A Child?

Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage, in partnership with Willowbrook Corner Coalition, is urgently seeking adult mentors (ages 18 and over) to meet weekly for one hour with a selected boy or girl, ages 7-14, in a neighborhood community resource center (Willowbrook, IL) beginning June 4, 2010. Mentors will provide a child with a good role model, support the child’s academic success, and demonstrate good problem solving skills, as well as share new skills you may possess (such as sports, games, crafts, cooking, etc.). For more information, or to apply, please contact Marsha Ndoko at ndokom@metrofamily.org or 630-784-4836. Mentor applicants will undergo an interview, screening and background check. A brief training class will be provided. Male mentors are especially needed and encouraged to apply!

Among Ourselves

Meet Three . . . Finance Committee Members

Dean Nerad

1. Q. *How long have you attended UCH, and what do you most enjoy about our church?*
A. Jane & I have been members since 2003. We most enjoy the Sunday Services and the RE program for our kids.
2. Q. *Other than participating in the Finance Committee, how have you involved yourself (and your family) in the church?* A. Jane was involved in the New UU class early on (2004 & 5); I have been involved with Finance now for 3 years, and both of our kids have been in the RE program from Day 1. And we help with general volunteerism when needed (Holiday Harvest setup, Garage collections, etc.)
3. Q. *How do you describe UUism to friends of other faiths?* A. UUism is a set of inclusive values/guiding principles that help drive the way we live. Beliefs can be exclusionary and the agreement on the values drives an inclusive religion that values varied beliefs.
4. Q. *Explain the role of the Finance Committee in UCH. What do you want members and visitors to know about the Finance Committee and its members?* A. The role of the finance committee is to manage the churches finances and advise the board on financial decisions around planning and budgeting for the church. The Finance Committee is very hard working and is always looking for ways to make sure the church is making sound decisions from a financial perspective. Especially in these trying times, please do not shoot the messenger (the Finance Committee); we are doing our best to be fair and open, as the current pledge campaign has demonstrated.
5. Q. *What do you appreciate about being part of this Committee?* A. The openness of the discussions and the care of its members about the future of our church community.
6. Q. *Which of the UU Principles is the most compelling for you and why? (Here's a cheat sheet: 1)The inherent worth and dignity of every person; 2) justice, equity, and compassion in human relations 3) acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations; 4) a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; 5) the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our community and in society at large; 6) the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; 7) respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.)* A. 1, 2, & 4 are the most compelling principles from my perspective because they are foundational for the other principals. The first two are directly tied to the golden rule, and the fourth addresses the constant change in our society and the ability to have an open mind to new ideas and new ways of thinking that go beyond beliefs that cannot be proven. A quote by Arthur C. Clarke from "Profiles of the Future" (1961) captures a perspective of searching for truth and meaning that is very appropriate for UUs—"Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic."
7. Q. *Given the choice of going to the Opera or a Cubs/ White Sox game, which would enjoy more and why?* A. Not quite as easy of a choice this year, since the Cubs and White Sox are doing so poorly, but I would definitely go in the sports direction. Now it would be a slam dunk (insert sports metaphor here), if it were a Bears' or Blackhawks' game.
8. Q. *Do you have a favorite Unitarian Universalist (alive or not, someone you know or not)? If so, please tell us who this person is and why you admire him/her.* A. This was a hard one to answer, but as I looked at a list of famous UUs, Charles Darwin stood out the most to me because of what I have read and understand about him and his work around evolution. His search for truth and meaning stands out, but I also appreciate his courage to challenge accepted beliefs in striving toward this truth. He had to challenge his own internal and personal conflicts before he could publish his ideas.

Regina DeLorenzo

I have been attending the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale since 1994. I had searched for a new spiritual home for several years, and after spotting an ad in the paper for our church, I decided to come for a visit. My family and I have been here ever since.

I was pregnant at the time and had Evan in 1995. When Evan turned 2, Marilyn Ludwig promptly got me involved in teaching in the RE program. I fell in love with the kids and continued to teach year-round until Evan moved into the youth group. The time I spent teaching and watching the kids grow into lovely young adults has probably been the most rewarding and fulfilling experience I've had here. Because I was raised Catholic, the RE program here really gave me an opportunity to understand what being a UU is about. Over the years, it has also gotten us involved as a family, participating in The Greater Chicago Food Depository, Christmas Caroling, enjoying the kids read-a-thon, helping with church clean-up and volunteering for the Holiday Harvest.

Over the years I have also served on the Board, the RE committee, and currently the Finance Committee. I agreed to participate in the Finance Committee about six years ago when it re-formed in an effort to support a balanced budget. Years ago, our church did not follow this tenant, and so I take great pride in the participation in making that come to fruition. The thing I would like our members and visitors to understand about the Finance Committee is that our function is to advise the board and congregation in making financial decisions that ensure the financial health of our church home. Currently, most of the committee members have backgrounds in either finance, business management/ownership, or law and have been serving on this committee for many successive years.

I find it difficult to choose one UU Principle to be most compelling as they are all interwoven ideas for me. If I had to pick, the inherent worth and dignity of every person would be my choice. I believe we all have a mission on this journey we call life, that makes us all equally valuable and indispensable.

Given a choice between the Opera or a baseball game, I have to say baseball, Cubs or Sox. It's all good!

Darline Petersen

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

A. My husband, Gene Parvin, and I began attending UCH in 1991 or 1992 and after a lot of thought, we signed the membership book in September, 1993. I have always enjoyed the thought-provoking services and truly enjoy our friends there.

2. Q. *Other than participating in the Finance Committee, how have you involved yourself (and your family) in UCH?*

A. I'm a member of the Women's Alliance. I've helped with the paper work for Holiday Harvest and have prepared food for it for several years. I proofread the "Touchstone" and help in the office if needed.

3. Q. *Explain the role of the Finance Committee in UCH. What do you want members and visitors to know about the Finance Committee and its members?*

A. The Finance Committee oversees the finances of the church and manages the Pledge Drive. We propose the yearly budget to the Board for their approval and for the approval of the membership. We review income and expenses frequently to make sure we are managing consistently with the budget in place. We all come from business or management and use our knowledge to guide the business of the church.

4. Q. *What do you appreciate about being part of this Committee?* A. While the work of the committee can be frustrating at times, I appreciate the combined work of all of the people on the committee as well as those who help with the pledge drive. I appreciate being able to contribute to the wellbeing of the church through the work we do together.

5. Q. *Which of the UU principles is most compelling for you and why?* A. The inherent worth and dignity of every person is the most compelling principle for me. I strive to put it to work in my life each day as I deal with people of varying ages, races, beliefs and abilities. I wish more people would practice this belief especially at this time in our country.

6. Q. *Given the chance of going to the opera or a Cubs/White Sox game, which would you enjoy more and why?* A. I'd choose the Opera, but I'd prefer the Symphony or a Packers game.

7. Q. *Do you have a favorite Unitarian Universalist (alive or not, someone you know or not)? If so, please tell us who this person is and why you admire him/her.* A. I admire Susan B. Anthony for her intelligent and persistent work as an abolitionist and advocate for the right of women to vote. When I became a UU I was delighted to find out that she was a UU too.

Upcoming Events

May 1— Sustainable Saturday in Lisle

May 2— Manna Orders Due

For more information, contact Dana White (ddws69@earthlink.net).

May 2— Beltane Festival immediately following Sunday Service.

For more information, contact Dave Lloyd (davelloyd@mindspring.com).

May 7— First Friday Fun Night, 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Everyone is welcome to come, including friends and neighbors! To learn more about FFFN, contact Kari Freeman (hollowcastle@gmail.com).

May 13--Women's Alliance Meeting 12:15 P.M. (bag lunch), 1:00 P.M. (program)

At the home of Jane Foulser. For more information contact Grace Abrahamson (708- 485-5983; teacherspr@aol.com).

May 16— MANNA orders available for pick-up in the AWR.

May 18— Women's Alliance

Visit to Briar Place Nursing Facility 2:00 P.M. 6800 Joliet Rd. in Indian Head Park. Please bring small items for residents. For more information, contact Nancy Keane (nancy44k@aol.com).

May 23— Estate Planning Discussion immediately following Sunday Service.

Joel Stein and Noreen Costelloe, both attorneys, will be available to discuss estate planning in general terms and then be available to answer specific questions publicly or in private.

May 25— Justin Roth • House Concert in Downers Grove, 7:00 P.M.

Contact Charlie Fischer (cfis@sbcglobal.net) and/or Laurie Goshorn (laurie.goshorn@yahoo.com) a.s.a.p. to RSVP and learn address details.

May 27— Lunch Bunch, 1:00 P.M. at Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant in Burr Ridge.

To sign up, contact Cathy Goering (815-761-7322; cathgoer@aol.com) or Jackie Bruns (butterfluffy@gmail.com).

Touchstone Submission Guidelines

The Touchstone submission deadline for the June issue is May 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.

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