

Music Schedule

November 4

Roger Birkeland , Saxophone

November 11

Celebration Singers

Chris Garofalo, piano

November 18

Chris Garofalo, piano

November 25

TBD

Services

Sunday, November 4

9:30 and 11:00 AM

"Days of Memory"

Rev. Edward Searl

I will explore how memory plays in our lives. In the cycling wonder of Nature, early November (a cross quarter day) is particularly suited to the graces of memory.

Carolyn Healy and Cathy Blanford will offer a brief grief seminar immediately after this sermon.

Sunday, November 11

9:30 and 11:00 AM

The Life Beautiful I: Getting What You Already Have

Rev. Edward Searl

What a personal parlay for me during this church year: I turn 60. I'll celebrate 25 years as minister of UCH. And I pass the threshold of 30 years as a UU minister. So I'll offer a 5 part sermon series—a whirlwind tour of what I've cobbled together in my years of experiencing, learning, and thinking. I have found a Natural Religion true to Nature and Human Nature. I call it the Life Beautiful.

Sunday, November 18

10:00 AM, *One Service Only*

"All Family Thanksgiving Service"

Rev. Edward Searl, Ms. Pam

Fodor, Ms. Lynne Garner

The service will be followed by a sumptuous communal pot of stone soup. Bring vegetables, pasta, rice, to put in the pot before the service begins! Bread and Cheese are also welcome.

In recent years the center of our all church family celebration of bounty and gratitude has been the story of stone soup.

This year we'll all reflect some on the web of connection that supports and sustains us in every aspect of our everyday lives.

Added Attraction: 12 noon in the Sanctuary Marie (Culbert) Smith will reprise her program of Cello music and Spoken Word: *"Weaving: An Inspirational Journey"*

Sunday, November 25

9:30 and 11:00 AM

The Life Beautiful I: Getting What You Already Have, Part II

Rev. Edward Searl

In this second offering in a five sermon series about Natural Religion, I'll describe three journeys that frame every life: the personal odyssey in the world, the journey of individuation (becoming one's true self) described by Carl Jung, and the journey through the stages and changes.

Volume 7, Issue 9

November, 2007

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Religious Education

Celebrating Me and My World

November

- 4 I Can Taste
- 11 I Can Say Thank You
- 18 All-Community
Worship
- 25 Deck the Halls Party

UU's believe in celebrating diversity. The world is full of wonderful things to taste. One of the things that makes us special and unique is that we like the taste of some things and not others. UU's believe in being kind to others. Learning to express gratitude is a significant step in developing sensitivity toward people in our community. Saying thank you because it makes someone feel good is a simple but important act of kindness.

The Discovery Year

November

- 4 It's Fall
- 11 Gifts of Thanksgiving
- 18 All-Community
Worship
- 25 Deck the Halls Party

Being outdoors in a beautiful

place, especially in the fall months can truly be spiritual. The children will have such a moment before collecting nature treasures. We should all be grateful for the many gifts in our lives! The children will have a chance to share what they see as gifts.

Chapel Service

November

- 4 Meet a Firefighter
- 11 Meet Clara Barton
- 18 All-Community
Worship
- 25 Deck the Halls Party

We will continue our study of medicine and continue discussing how medical professionals help people in our communities. We will first meet someone from our own congregation that is a firefighter and the following week the students will be introduced to Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, and an outstanding Unitarian woman.

Coming of Age

November

- 4 Who wants to be a Donut-aire?
- 11 Bad Things (part 1)
- 18 All-Community
Worship
- 25 No Class

The youth will play a game of "Donut-aire" reviewing their UU history and world religion expertise. The youth may draw upon some of the information as they write their faith statements later in the year. There's an old say, "Into each life, some rain must fall." How do we understand and respond to the rain in our lives is important. The purpose of this session is to explore why bad things happen. We will define bad things and examine how we respond to them.

All-Community Thanksgiving Worship Service And Stone Soup Luncheon

Be sure to join us on Sunday, November 18th at 10:00am for our third annual STONE SOUP SUNDAY! Bring and drop off in the kitchen before the service a cut up vegetable,

pre cooked beans, rice, or small pasta to add to the soup. Upstairs all ages will gather to worship, and enjoy the smell of our Stone soup as it cooks! After the service all are invited to a luncheon of delicious, vegetarian soup! Please bring bread and cheese to share. For more information please contact Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

Deck The Halls

On Sunday, November 25 all children ages 3 and up will meet in Joshi Chapel for our annual Deck the Halls Party. They will rotate around stations where they will make a variety of holiday crafts to decorate our hallways and classrooms as well as some to take home. If you have a great holiday craft and you would like to share your time and talent with the children please contact Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

Parent Forum

Many UU parents have a difficult time answering their children's "Big Questions." I have often heard parents asking others, "What do I say to my children about hate, war, death.....?" No one has the "right" answer, but it might

be helpful to talk with other parents as you search out what the answer is for your family. Please join me as I host a series of open discussion Parent Forums. This month's featured theme will be death and will be open to the discussion of the parents attending. Each session will stand alone and child care can and will be provided. Please RSVP to Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org or on the sign-up sheet in the living room.

Coming Of Age Chalice Circle Retreat

The COA Retreat was a huge success thanks to everyone who participated! Special thanks to Bill Wilson and Mike Ferrando for spending the better part of their weekend with us as workshop facilitators. Kudos to Susan Mooney for her expert food shopping! Without her talents we all would have been very unhappy! Thank you to Tim Mooney and Fred Zimmerman for their late night commitment as "night watchman." And a special thank you to Nancy Holt for designing and sewing our ceremonious stoles. It is commitment and connections like these that build memories!

Coat Drive

The youth group is collecting coats and other warm clothing for Head Start throughout the year. You can help by donating clean items you no longer need. Look for the collection bin in the Youth Group corner of the Alice Warren Room.

Youth Group

For new readers

Activities include community service/social action, education, worship, leadership, and recreation. As always, the emphasis is on having fun while applying UU Principles and Purposes. Roy Fleet is the YG Director.

YG's community service/social action efforts include Crop Walk, a coat drive, IDOT's Adopt-a-Highway, a team building course for the Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education Program (OWL), and gifts to OWL and graduating members. YG is also looking into an out of state service trip. YG's education efforts include discussion of current events vis-a-vis UU Principles and Purposes, use of curricula relevant to current events, Coming of Age and Bridging programs, and OWL. JYG and SYG have worship during meetings and lead two Sunday services in February. YG members have hosted weekend diversity conferences and have other opportunities to hone leadership skills. Finally, YG's recreation activities include conferences, lock-ins, and a year-end trip to Boston.

While YG activities are partially supported by the church budget, YG fundraising supports the majority of its activities – including snacks. Our fundraising includes sales of coupon books, seasonal wreaths, and a variety of plants in the spring. Each YG member has a fundraising account to support his/her participation in conferences and the Boston Trip. As in the past, general YG funds will be prorated by level of participation (weekly attendance counts).

Coming of Age for Grades 7 and 8

Beginning in September and continuing into May, a new Coming of Age program will be available for JYG members. More information is in the RE section.

OWL for Grades 10 through 12

Beginning in January and continuing into April, OWL will be available for YG members in grades 10 through 12. Parents of candidates will receive a registration packet in November.

Meetings for Junior Youth Group

JYG is for youth in 7th and 8th grades. JYG meets on Sundays at 11 AM in Room 5. Mike Ferrando and Bill Wilson are the advisors. Check the calendar below for details.

Meetings for Senior Youth Group

SYG is for high school youth and YG alumni. SYG meets on Sundays in the Room 6 at 11 AM. Luan Burton and Roy Fleet are the advisors. Check the calendar below for details.

Youth Group News

YG = Youth Group
GCFD = Greater Chicago Food Depository
COA = Coming of Age

Youth Group Activities for November:

November

2 - 4	Fri - Sun	Senior Youth Group:	Fall Con In St. Louis
4	Sunday	Senior Youth Group: Junior Youth Group:	No Meeting COA Session 8
11	Sunday	Senior Youth Group: Junior Youth Group:	Meeting: Popcorn Theology COA Session 9
17	Saturday	Youth Group:	GCFD: Leave UCH@12:45 PM
18	Sunday	Youth Group:	No Meetings – All Community Worship Service
25	Sunday	Youth Group:	No Meetings

Entertainment Books available at the Youth Group Corner

The Youth Group is selling "E" books covering Chicagoland's West/Central, North/Northwest, and South/Southwest areas. The 2-for-1 coupon books offer great savings on dining, movies, attractions, travel, and shopping. The books are at the table in the Alice Warren Room.

Seasonal Wreaths Sale Through November 11th

YG is selling natural balsam wreaths, swags, garlands, mantelpieces and candle rings this fall. Wreath prices start at \$14 for a 20" diameter wreath and scale up to \$60 for a 60" wreath. The products will be available for pick-up by the first Sunday in December. Stop at our table in the Alice Warren Room.

Attention Moms and Dads of younger kids

A special chalice circle time just for you is being considered. A couple of parents who have young kids are interested in a chalice circle early on Saturday mornings. Does this special time sound good to you? If so, let me know and we will get one started. We need a few more people to make it work. Call Cathy Blanford at 708 246-8960 or email cathy.blanford@sbcglobal.net with your interest.

Church Business

Women's Alliance Meets On November 8

Did you know that our intern minister, Lynne Garner, spent two years living on a Navajo Indian Reservation? If not, join the members of the Alliance as Lynne travels back to 1974 and revisits the rewards and challenges of a unique teaching experience. Also Lynne will bring us up to date on issues that plague Native Americans even today. Bring a bag lunch at 12:15 or come for the program at 1 PM. Our hostess for the November meeting is Betty Mathias.

In January, the Alliance will discuss The Crucible by Arthur Miller based on the intriguing events surrounding the 1692 witch trials of Salem, Massachusetts. So dust off your copy or head to the library to reserve a copy of this great American classic.

Western Springs Members Gather At The Osborns

Twenty or so members of the Church who live in Western Springs gathered at the home of Phyllis and Tony Osborn on a Saturday evening late in August. The hosts were assisted by Steve Trout, Kelly and K P Lansing to organize the social event. It was good to make the connection with friends from Church at the end of the summer. The Western Springs group plans another party in February. Ask any one of the hosts of the parties in Western Springs---the Osborns, the Masons or the Holts---how easy it was to plan the event at their homes. Area parties could sprout like dandelions this spring if just one person in each community would say, "yes, I will!"

Volunteer Greater Chicago Food Depository - November 17, 2007

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 plenty of camaraderie. Plus, for every hour/person worked, \$5 in food credits is given to the Canaan Food Pantry.

Volunteer hours are 1:30 - 4:30 pm. Meet at GCFD, 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place (42nd Place), Chicago. Call Jean Noble (708-485-0281) for directions/further information.

Upcoming dates: December 8, 2007

Interested in Joining a Food Cooperative?

Liberal Pantry has called UCH its home for over 10 years and draws its membership from the congregation and surrounding communities. The coop buys organic and environmentally friendly produced products in case lots from United Natural Foods and repackages the products according to advance orders. Deliveries are received and processed in the Alice Warren Room every 4 weeks on a Monday. Contact Jeanne Fleet through the church office for membership information.

This Old House

The Church is an old house. It creaks and groans and has a lot of little things that don't work well any more. Big projects like the recently painted walls in the Rutherford Room (thanks again, Kent Bredrup) are quickly noticed. But all the little things that Herb Hiestand does often go unnoticed. Here is a partial list of the things that Herb has done recently:

- Replaced the water supply line to the coffee maker in the Church kitchen
- Made a repair to a section of the aluminum counter-flashing on the RE Building
- Investigated the origin of leaks on the northeast side of the Church
- Flushed, with the assistance of Tony Taylor, an underground drainage system
- Worked with Bud Poulson to do a safety check of the exit and emergency lights
- Supervised the installation of a new water heater in the RE Building
- Replaced the "dawn-to dusk" lights outside the front of the Church with energy-efficient lights

The next time you see Herb, thank him for all he does around the house.

Board Briefs

All Trustees and staff were present at the September BOT meeting. The Board learned that three pledge units (which had pledged \$6,190) are moving. We wish them well, and hope we will quickly recoup the deficit with new members. This led to a discussion of the new member pledging process. Chris Hainey (Finance) said once the new member packet has been sent and a phone call has been made (Membership) to greet new members, his committee can oversee and follow up with pledging as needed. Fred Z. said he will make Welcoming a priority sign-up at the first Sunday. Susan Hebble presented the policy for using email blast notices and received Board approval. Pam Fodor reported the four single service (10:00) dates will be Nov. 18, Jan. 27, April 6, and June 8. Susan Hebble will work to publicize these in advance to avoid confusion about service times. With Tony Taylor's test of window modifications completed on windows in the office, the Board realized the need for some plan to have professional replacements done for Joshi Auditorium (and ideally all windows) in the RE building. We thank Tony and Mona for being dedicated to providing more energy efficient prototypes, and the installation team of Tony Osburn and Bob Gardner who assisted this summer. Complete minutes are on file in the office. Visitors are welcome at Board meetings, which are the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 in AWR.

November Collection For Social Justice: **Hinsdale Food Pantry**

This year we embark on an exciting new opportunity to extend our support to greater society. The first Sunday of every month, all non-pledge money collected during the offertory will be given to a chosen organization, initiative, or institution. The UCH Social Action Committee has come up with a broad array of recipients. On November 4, in honor of Thanksgiving month, we continue this new program with a collection benefiting Hinsdale Food Pantry and its parent organization Hinsdale Community Service, a non-profit incorporated in 1937 near the end of the Great Depression. Mark your calendar and watch for a brief presentation during services illuminating the endeavors of Hinsdale Food Pantry and Hinsdale Community Service. If so inclined, be prepared to make a donation.

UCH Social Action Committee (SAC) Meetings

Currently the SAC meets at the church at 12:30 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month, however the November meeting will take place on November 18 with respect to the last Sunday of the month occurring on Thanksgiving weekend. The meetings are open to all UCHers.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)'S Annual Drive: **Guest At Your Table**

Watch for the boxes and associated information, and consider contributing your spare change.

Help Needed!

Help get the word out about our church by volunteering to maintain the church sign at Maple & Washington! We post our upcoming church happenings--sermons, dates and times--each week on this corner sign. Here's the commitment: come into the office after the Sunday service or on Monday to get the key and letters for the sign. Take down the information from the most recent sermon, and replace it with the title and time(s) of the upcoming week's sermon. This is a fairly easy job, but one that requires a weekly commitment, unless two or more people would care to share duties. If you are able to help with this essential job, please contact Kathie Schiffman or Susan Hebble (708) 784-1688.

Green Sanctuary

Recycling Events A Great Success!

Hinsdale Unitarians conducted two very successful recycling events in September. On September 23, we collected 42 bicycles to contribute to Working Bike Cooperative, a Chicago non-profit that distributes bikes to people who need them. At the time of our recycling event, the cooperative was putting together a shipment to Peru (the country, not the Illinois city). Many thanks to Brant Abrahamson, who made three trips in his van to tote the bikes to Chicago.

The next Sunday, September 30, we held an electronics recycling day. We collected over a half-ton of old electronics, and they were picked up by United Recycling of Wheaton. There they will be disassembled, the useful metals and plastics recycled, and the residue disposed of legally and responsibly. The items brought in included an Apple 2e computer and a hand-held CB unit. Ten-four to all the good buddies who brought in their old electronics, and special thanks to Bill Burton, who brought in a working laptop that will be used by our intern minister, Lynne Garner.

Green Sanctuary Movie Series

This month's green movie is *The Future of Food*, which examines what the movie's website calls "the complex web of market and political forces that are changing what we eat as huge multinational corporations seek to control the world's food system.

Tour of Morton Arboretum

The Green Sanctuary Committee is sponsoring a tour of the Morton Arboretum, including the prairie restoration project, on Saturday, November 10, starting at 10:00 A.M. We will meet at the church at 9:00 and head over to the Arboretum. Admission is \$10, and this includes all areas of the Arboretum. We need a count of guests in advance, so please contact Dave Lloyd at davelloyd@mindspring.com or 708-485-2296 if you plan to attend.

Habitat Restoration Workdays

Get out and make a hands-on difference for the environment! Habitat restoration projects are held every weekend of the year, and this month we highlight two nearby events: Saturday, November 3, at Bemis Woods on Ogden Avenue between I-294 and Wolf Road, and Saturday, November 17, at Santa Fe Prairie, off 75th Street east of I-294. The Bemis Woods workday starts at 9:00 A.M.; for details call Dave Lloyd, 708-485-2296. The Santa Fe Prairie workday starts at 10:00 A.M.; for details call Greg Starr or Karen Stasky, 708-598-6139.

The film also explores alternatives to large-scale industrial agriculture, placing organic and sustainable agriculture as real solutions to the farm crisis today." The movie night is Tuesday, November 13, starting at 7:30 P.M., in the Alice Warren Room. We will also have another episode of "Living With Ed."

Denominational Relations Events

“Denominational Relations” is the official term for “getting together with other UUs about stuff.” This month there is a “cluster congregation meeting” at Unity Temple in Oak Park, on Saturday, November 3, from 9 AM to noon. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss social justice and action programs and UU congregations all around Chicagoland. If you are planning to go, please contact Charlie Fischer at cfis@sbcglobal.net AND Dave Lloyd at davelloyd@mindspring.com or 708-485-2296.

We will be posting a schedule of events at other UU churches on the Denominational Relations bulleting board in the front of the Alice Warren Room. Meeting other UUs and advancing our congregation’s ideals is fun, good for you, and good for everyone!

November 9-11, 2007

UU Women’s Connection Fall Retreat
A musical retreat to Lake Geneva
<http://www.uuwomensconnection.org/retreat.php>

Keynote speaker, Judy Piazza
(www.resonanceandrhythms.com).

See www.cmwd-uua.org for more news of the Central Midwest District of the UUA.

We’re All Greeters—Thoughts on Hospitality and Community

Have you ever been surprised to meet someone “new” at church, only to learn that he or she has been a member for a long time? Please introduce yourself to at least one person you don’t know, every chance you get. We gather to be visible and known.

A Special Note to Recent Guests

You’re invited too! If you signed our guest register recently to receive *The Touchstone* for a few months, please know that we invite you and your family to “test drive” not only our Sunday morning services, but any of our programs and events. Contact the person noted in the article. And Welcome!

Third Tuesday Film Series, Presented by Ed Searl

This year’s theme is 7 principles of Unitarian Universalism:

Tuesday, November 20, 7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary:
Twelve Angry Men (for the 5th principle “the right of conscience and the use of the democratic principle.”)

Tuesday, December 18, 7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary:
Joyeux Noel (for the 6th principle “the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.”)

All are welcome to any film.

Nonfiction Book Discussion Group on Early Christian Origins

Jack Uretsky and Dave Foulser will lead this discussion group again on Thursdays, November 15 and December 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Alice Warren Room, lower level of the church. If there is interest, the group will continue through 2008. In September and October the group reviewed *The Pentateuch*, Joseph Blenkinsopp and *Who Wrote the New Testament*, Burton L. Mack. During the coming months they will examine *The Incredible Shrinking Son of Man*, R.M. Price, *Beyond Belief, the Secret Gospel of Thomas*, Elaine Pagels, and *When Jesus Became God*, Richard E. Rubenstein.

The Purple People Greeters Are Coming!

Monday, November 5

7:30 – 9:00pm

Joshi Auditorium, RE Building

We're about to go Radical about Hospitality at UCH. Get ready to don a purple scarf one Sunday a month and carry on in the warm welcoming tradition of our late and loved Bill Carnall.

Class will cover principles, including some do's and don'ts with role playing.

We'll also welcome YOUR creative ideas on greeting and making guests feel included, how we do name tags, how we follow up with visitors, what is the difference between an usher and a greeter, and more. All are welcome to attend.

**An RSVP to Sue Waskelis is appreciated--
swaskelis@comcast.net**

About Our New Membership Book

Kim Krueger had an idea—our membership signing book was coming apart and she offered to rebind it. Sue Waskelis added an idea—why not get all our membership signing history into one book? Jay Hazdra built on that, volunteering to scan and digitize our past membership book pages for safekeeping, and reproduce them for the new book.

Kim and Jay donated the materials, time, talent, and energy to produce our new red book. Our church membership history going back over 100 years is now all in one beautiful volume.

You can view it on Sunday mornings by asking at the guest table.

Our Newest Members

We're honored to receive these new members who signed the membership book in September:

April Wren, of Brookfield (and RE children **Anthony Colon** and **Madelyn Wren**)

Farida Shariff, of Elmhurst

Melissa Boughnert and **Bert Bishop**, of Brookfield (and RE child **Savannah Bishop**)

Please introduce yourself and personally welcome them.

This is Hymnal Amnesty Month

Actually, every month is Hymnal Amnesty Month at UCH. Our services are well attended and we are short on hymnals. Please look around your home for one you may have borrowed and bring it back to church. Hummin' those hymns is OK, but singing the words is better.

Thoughts on How We Park

When parking at a curbside for Sunday services, please pull ahead close to the village parking signs. Subsequent cars please move up a little closer behind (imagine that the spots are striped).

And to those of us who need to burn a few more calories, please consider leaving the spots closest to the church open for our less limber congregants and for visitors.

Remember also that we have two reserved handicapped spots next to the RE Building.

Everyone Who Is Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand

With two services, we can too easily lose connection with one another. So, here is a fine way to use your beautiful new UCH photo directory (many thanks again to Pat Miller and Jane Foulser for the directory project).

Sit down with your directory, your telephone, and, perhaps, your beverage of choice. Find one person whom you haven't seen at church in a while. Call that person. You know what to do from there. You'll both be glad.

How to be a Clandestine Evangelistic UU

Remove your name from your monthly copy of UU World and recycle the ideas therein by leaving it in a waiting room of your choice.

Yoga at UCH

The Yoga Teachers Group is offering six week Yoga sessions here in our Joshi auditorium. Some of our members have been enjoying the program for many months now. You may work at your own pace while learning from their very knowledgeable and experienced instructors.

The classes are on Mondays and Fridays 8:30 – 9:30 am or Thursday evenings 6:30 – 7:30. There are also class times at other locations throughout the western suburbs. You may pay as you go, or join for unlimited attendance for one year. Contact Kathie Schiffman, Church Administrator for details.

New Members' Recognition

Our All-Community Worship Service on November 18th will include a ceremony of recognition for our newest members and their families. As established members, your presence to welcome the newcomers matters at this important time. We hope you will be there.

To anyone who joined before September 9 and has not been officially welcomed during a previous service, we want to include you too. Please notify Sue Waskelis at swaskelis@comcast.net

Church Administration Matters

The new church year is now well underway and some new procedures are also in place. You may have noticed that the Sunday Announcements are now in a much more abbreviated format. Please send me only the necessary details for the Announcements. If your group wishes to provide additional information, beyond the name of the event, date, time, location and contact information, you will need to prepare flyers for distribution elsewhere in the church buildings.

Of course the best method for getting the word out remains our monthly *Touchstone* newsletter and our web calendar. The calendar allows for you to include additional information to be posted in a box which is displayed when you run your cursor arrow over the notation. Jay Van Cura continues to provide his expert service to our congregation by managing our online calendar, so please contact him with all program events and calendar details at jvancura@sbcglobal.net.

A note to the facilitators of our many evening programs and committees: Please designate one person who will be responsible for verifying that **all doors are locked and the lights are turned off at the conclusion of your meetings**. Remember there is a door bell on the RE building, so no one can be locked out of a meeting if the outside doors are locked.

There are still many who have not yet picked up the new **Picture Directory**. If you have not done so, please check for your copy in the boxes in the front hall of the church across from the double doors. If there isn't one labeled with your name, there are extra copies at the back of the box, so please sign for one.

Touchstone Information

Please send your articles to Dan Speziale at: dan.speziale@gmail.com with a copy to the church at: office@hinsdaleunitarian.org. A copy also should be sent to Jay Van Cura at: jvancura@sbcglobal.net so that he can enter event dates into the calendar. Please keep in mind that articles for the *Touchstone* need to be submitted by the 15th of the month. We will continue to do our best to include items submitted by the deadline of the 15th of the month. For all events, be sure to include date, time, and location.

Treasurer's Corner

Charitable IRA Rollover Gifts – Tax Benefit to Expire 12/31/07

Currently, IRA owners age 70 ½ and older may make gifts directly from IRAs to qualified public charities (such as UCH). The gifts were authorized for the years 2006 and 2007, and may be as much as \$100,000 per year. The gifts also qualify towards the IRA owner's required minimum distribution, yet are not included in taxable income, thanks to a provision in the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Unfortunately, that provision is set to expire on December 31, 2007. IRA owners should take advantage of the tax savings this year. You can contact your IRA administrator and request a check be made out directly to the charitable organization (to be considered a "rollover"). Please consider making a contribution to UCH's Capital Fund, Endowment Fund, or General Operating Fund.

For more information, please contact Donna Milord,
UCH Treasurer

Pledge payments, thus far, are coming in strong. In addition, unpaid prior year pledge balances have been collected at a higher rate than in years past. Collection plate and 'non-pledge' gift income, as well as Religious Education tuition payments were greater than budgeted for the 1st Quarter. All controllable expenses have been kept to a minimum, resulting in savings of almost \$9,900 for the 1st Qtr.. *I'm very glad to report such good results for our 1st Quarter...it seems everyone has 'heard' our message. Please continue to support your church home.*

Pledge Payment REMINDER

When making a pledge payment, please note, on the check, the Pledge Year that you are paying. Our system is set up to pay arrears (i.e. unpaid) balances first, unless otherwise specified. If, for some reason, you cannot pay your prior year balance, please let us know.

1st Qtr. 2007-08 (July – Sept.) Financial Highlights:

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Total Revenues	\$106,759	\$ 84,800	\$ 21,959
Total Expenses	\$ 64,919	\$ 74,805	(\$ 9,856)
Net Operating Inc./ (Loss)	\$ 41,840	\$ 9,995	\$ 31,845

Ana Levy-Lyons's Ordination







