



NEWS & NOTES

a whole-hearted community, feeding body, mind, and spirit

December 17, 2021

www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

Theme: Healing



UCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 17th - 30th, 2021

Saturday, December 17

7:00pm Winter Solstice celebration in Joshi Chapel

Sunday, December 19

10:30am Sunday Service
12:45 pm Animal Ministry Meeting

Monday, December 20

7:00pm Buddhist Meditation

Tuesday, December 21

3:00pm Wise Elders Gathering
7:00pm Racial Equality Team

Thursday, December 23

8:30am Breakfast Group
7:00pm Spirit in Practice

Friday, Dec 24

4:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, Dec 25

Merry Christmas!!!

Sunday, December 26

No Worship service - visit [Our YouTube channel](#) for past services.

Monday, December 27

7:00pm Buddhist Meditation

Tuesday, December 28

3:00pm Wise Elders Gathering
7:30pm Non-Fiction Book Group

Thursday, December 30

8:30am Breakfast Group

Sunday, January 2, 2022

10:30am Worship Service

CARING CORNER

The ripples of our lives touch those around us. We keep in mind all of our members and friends including...

- Bunny Corrough, mom of Sara Teppema, passed away on Tuesday following an extended illness. Bunny was an honorary member of UCH, creating many quilts for the annual auction and enjoying community events with Sara. We hold Sara, Jeff and all her family in our hearts during this sad time.
- Love and care to Tony Taylor as he finishes his move to a new home in Hinsdale across from his daughter.
- Love and care to Cathy Blanford as she mourns her sister, who passed last week.



- Remember those folks who have lost loved ones this year. Keeping them in mind, inviting them to events, sending texts and cards all help to let them know we still care.

Please let us know of folks we should add to our list and share with our Caring Circle Coordinators by emailing [Pam Fodor](#) or [Rev Pam](#). Also email [Cherita](#) to be included in N&Ns.

GOOD NEWS & GRATITUDES

The Entire Dvorak Family: Not being able to choose just one, the entire family was nominated. Tim for using his amazing talents to oversee everything that goes on in our kitchen and offering advice and management of our resources- quote "Tim Dvorak for his endless work in the kitchen, during coffee hour (when no one shows up to do it) and at all our functions." Paula for serving on the worship team and for being a lead on Auction events over the years and for always offering a positive attitude and willing spirit. Ben for helping out in the kitchen, teaching me how to make coffee well, and finally for Alex who is an integral part of our tech team bringing our service to folks virtually each week. Thanks Dvoraks!



Friday, Dec 17th at 7:30pm: Pagan Winter Solstice Celebration

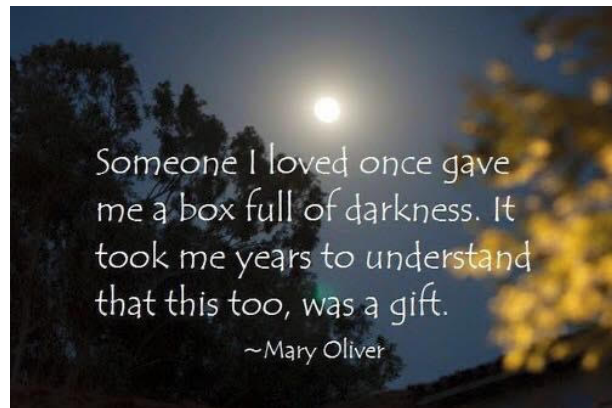
Lay Leaders

Gather as we approach the darkest night of the year to celebrate the returning of the light. A time-honored tradition at UCH, we celebrate with music, drums and readings.

This service will not be live-streamed.

Zoom link for the service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82473217730?pwd=OFNScmZBTkd1dCTkkyTDhmWmF2Zz09>



UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICE

Hybrid Worship Continues - Vaccinations & Masks Required

All attendees must wear a mask and be vaccinated. We will continue to share the service on YouTube for at-risk people and those who would rather wait for now.

Sunday, Dec 19th: No-Rehearse Church Pageant - The Grinch that Stole Christmas

We gather to celebrate the joy of the holidays with an all-community pageant. With many of us tired of all the Covid machinations and maybe feeling a little bit Grinchy ourselves, we look at what the true meaning of Christmas might be. Wear your favorite PJ's or Who costume to join in the merriment.

All vaccinated folks are welcome to join us in person with a mask. The service will also be shared on [YouTube](#).



You can view the Sunday service live and recordings of past services on our [YouTube channel](#).



Click [HERE](#) to Join Virtual Coffee hour on Zoom after Worship.

We are now *Live* to the world, we so ask that when discussing Cares and Concerns during the candle lighting time, you use only first names to protect the privacy of those you are concerned about, unless you are announcing public information such as a death or a memorial service.

Friday, Dec 24th at 4:00pm: Christmas Eve: Looking for Christmas

For the second year now we approach the holidays and wonder how it will work? Life has been challenging for eons though and our ancient stories often give us the tools we need to see that light and feel the love that always surrounds us. Join us for a quiet service, finding light and hope in our community. All masked and vaccinated folks are welcome to join us in person. The service will also be shared on [YouTube](#).

Sunday, Dec 26th: No Worship Service - visit our Youtube channel for past services.

COVID UPDATE

With the new variant, Omicron, in Illinois and Covid levels rising, we are inviting folks to be especially careful during the holiday season.

- Stay home if you're not feeling well
- Wear a well-fitting mask
- Get your booster shot.
- Keep your coat in the sanctuary as the windows will be open to maintain good ventilation.

Our goal is to keep everyone safe this season! Check out Bob Daniel-Wayman's article in the December Touchstone for more details.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING @ FAIR TRADE TABLE

The fair trade table will be here this Sunday, set up as a fundraiser for our church (all profits are donated to UCH) and a service project working to help eliminate poverty around the world. We'll be open for shopping at 10 and again after the service, so please plan to restock your coffee, tea and chocolate that you've been missing, and consider shopping for some of your holiday and other gift giving occasions. We'll have jewelry, home goods, toys and lots of consumables for you to choose from with new items every week. Stop by and say hello!



THIS WEEK IN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PLAY GROUP

Supervised play for our children ages three and under.

SPIRIT PLAY, CHAPEL SERVICE, COMING OF AGE, SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

All ages will gather in the Sanctuary for our Christmas Pageant, GRINCHMAS. Dress in your PJs as your favorite Who from Whoville and join in the merriment. Welcome Christmas!



All ages of RE will be taking a winter break. We will be back in session on January 9th.

For more information on RE programming, how to become involved, or on our Covid protocols please visit our website www.hinsdaleunitarian.org or contact Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org

GRINCHMAS 2021

Our annual pageant is back - live and in-person (and streaming)!

Join us in UCH Whoville on Sunday, December 19th at 10:30 a.m.!

Trim up your tree with fuzzle fuzz
And fluffer bloofs, and wuzzle wuzz
Trim up your uncle and your aunt
With yards of whoflut flay
For today is a silly Who Christmas day
With merriment and participation
For you and every generation!



**Wear your pjs or dress like your favorite Who,
and join us for a Sunday of great fun!**

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

**We are grateful for this upcoming Sunday's Hospitality Team!
Thank you for helping to make our church home a caring, welcoming community**

Team #7

Team Leader - Steve Trout

Julia Beckman
Mike Ferrando
Susan Hebble
Karin Janowski
Nancy Kranz
Rich Lomasney
Suzanne Lomasney
Susan Mooney
Linda Rio
Lynn Rotunno
Athena Trout



STYROFOAM RECYCLING

Collect your styrofoam from packaging and food containers. Please put the packaging and the food foam (no straws or lids) in separate bags. You can take it to Theater of Western Springs on Saturday, January 8, 9-noon, or bring it to church on Sunday, Jan. 2 (not sooner). There are some large bags in the RE vestibule you can use, but smaller plastic bags or paper bags with handles are OK, too; separating is most appreciated.



WHALECOAST ALASKA 2022



Have you ever wanted to visit Alaska? If so, **WhaleCoast Alaska 2022** is for you! 4 Alaska UU

congregations invite you to experience our unique environmental and spiritual tour program next summer. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and awe-inspiring tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, sea lions, etc. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. WhaleCoast Alaska is an inspirational way to visit our beautiful state. Complete info at: www.WhaleCoastAK.org. Proof of Covid-19 vaccinations required. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience you won't want to miss!

RACIAL EQUITY TEAM

Donations to Black-Led Food and Land Organizations Shift from Charitable Giving to True Reparations

<https://www.yesmagazine.org/social-justice/2021/02/18/reparations-black-led-food-land-organizations>

For more articles on Race Resources [please click this link.](#)

SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLECTION

DuPage PADS – The Solution to End Homelessness

The pandemic has forced all organizations, large and small, to make changes to the way they deliver services and maybe none more so than DuPage PADS. Before COVID, clients were housed at interim sites, mostly churches, throughout the county. When they were housed at Redeemer Lutheran here in Elmhurst, 30-40 members of our congregation would work together to house and feed up to 56 people. If you remember, we would set up pads for up to 40 men to sleep together, head to head, on the floor of the Fellowship room. This model was impossible to maintain during the pandemic.

To accommodate their clients safely during the pandemic, DuPage PADS has rented rooms at three motels in Downers Grove and Naperville. They are currently providing housing for 264 clients, including 98 children, which is 114 more than they served pre-pandemic. This has been a very costly venture as they continue to provide other services to help their clients move from interim to permanent housing. Because clients live in one location rather than travel from site to site each day, PADS has seen a 500% increase in the use of the support services.

To consolidate housing, PADS has made the decision to purchase a motel in Downers Grove and turn it into the Interim Housing Center. Our congregation has taken turns delivering food to the Naperville Red Roof Inn. The food is pre-packaged. We deliver it to the motel and bag it, with a water bottle, fruit, and an individually packed snack. It takes only four of us to take the bags to the rooms where the PADS clients are living. We will have more opportunities to serve at PADS as conditions change.

You can donate on Sunday by writing "PADS" in the memo line of your church or by clicking the [donate button](#) on our website and choosing 'Social Justice' in the drop-down menu.

Update on the Recently Reunited Aurora Family Seeking Asylum

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous cash and winter clothing donations to this family. They have been so appreciative.

Remaining household and clothing items needed: TWIN BOX SPRING AND FRAME; MEN'S SNOW BOOTS (size 8 for the 8th-grade boy and size 9 for the dad); WOMEN'S SNOW BOOTS (size 8 for the 7th-grade girl and size 8 ½ for the mom). This month we are collecting PERSONAL CARE ITEMS (such as toothpaste, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, laundry soap) as well as Christmas presents for the family and VISA and WALMART GIFT CARDS. The children's Christmas wish lists include a basketball for the boy and a hairdryer or

curling iron for the girl. The family has ongoing needs for financial support to cover rent, utilities, food, and miscellaneous. **Cash donations may be run through the church by writing a check with "Aurora family" in the memo.**

If you would like to join this effort, please contact Bonnie Wayman-Dodd or Marian Honel-Wilson. More info is in the November Touchstone.

CURRENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Vaccination Clinic - Walk-Ins Welcome - [more info](#)

Small Group Ministry

Meet via Zoom on the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11:00. The next meeting will be Saturday, Dec 4th.

Buddhist Meditation

Mondays meetings will be held virtually for the immediate future. We're currently reading and discussing the book **No-Nonsense Buddhism for Beginners** by *Noah Rasheta* instead of listening to a dharma talk after we meditate.

Wise Elders' Weekly Conversation, Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

Join the wise elders of our UCH community for wide-ranging conversations about life, memories, stories, and a dash of politics for fun. Use this [link](#) to join by video or join by phone. Contact [Tracey Olson](#) for the phone number. - [more info](#)

UCH members and friends, are all invited to join in on one or more of our non-fiction book discussions via Zoom. While those attending are encouraged to read the books listed and described, readership is not a requirement for attendance. Check the Friday before News & Notes for the discussion and Zoom connection

- **Tuesday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m. *You Don't Belong Here*** by Elizabeth Becker. (2021) The author uses three women's works and lives to illuminate the Vietnam War from the 1965 American buildup, the expansion into Cambodia, and the American defeat and its aftermath. Arriving herself in the last years of the war, Becker writes as a historian and a witness of the times.

NEWS & ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

THE TOUCHSTONE
A monthly publication of the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale

Monthly Touchstone Needs Submissions

In-depth communication about all the great things going on at church. Get your news and articles in by the **8th of the month** to for publication on the 15th to UCHTouchstone@gmail.com

NEWS & NOTES

News & Notes Submissions should be sent to

Communication@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

All information for sharing with the wider communication can also go to socialmedia@hinsdaleunitarian.org. The old office email now mainly pertains to business scheduling concerns. Thanks!

Love Reading [Board Minutes](#)? You can find them on our website [here](#).

STAFF CONNECTIONS
Office Hours M-Th 10am - 2pm

You can reach us at our regular email addresses:

- Rev Pam, Onsite Tuesday & Sunday, Available - Tuesday thru Saturday 9 - 5 pm. Other times by appt. Monday Sabbath. **Minister@hinsdaleunitarian.org** 440-570-9812
- Pam Fodor, Monday and Wednesday 9:30-11:30 am Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 am-3:30 pm, Friday and Saturday off. Available on e-mail other days and times. - **re@hinsdaleunitarian.org**
- Cherita Axel, Social Media, working virtually - **Socialmedia@hinsdaleunitarian.org**
- John Cooperrider, Facility Manager, available Fridays - **grounds@hinsdaleunitarian.org**
- Julia Beckman, Music Director - **beckman110@comcast.net**
- Jamie Pastman, Music Coordinator - **music@hinsdaleunitarian.org**
- Jeffery Moseley, Bookkeeper - **Finance@hinsdaleunitarian.org**

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