



NEWS & NOTES

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

January 28, 2022

www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

Theme: Power



January 30, 2022

CONFESSIONS OF A FORMER THEIST

Rev. Pam Rumancik

UCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 30th - February 13th, 2022

Sunday, January 30

10:30am Sunday Service
11:30 am Sr High Youth group zoom

Monday, January 31

7:00pm Buddhist Meditation

Tuesday, February 1

3:00pm Wise Elders Gathering
7:00pm Prison Ministry

Wednesday, February 2

7:30pm Green Sanctuary Meeting

Thursday, February 3

8:30am Breakfast Group

Sunday, February 6

10:30am Sunday Service

Monday, February 7

7:00pm Buddhist Meditation

Tuesday, February 8

3:00pm Wise Elders Gathering

Wednesday, February 9

7:00pm Board of Trustees

Thursday, February 10

8:30am Breakfast Group

Saturday, February 12

10:00am Worship Associates Mtg

Sunday, February 13

10:30am Sunday Service
12:00pm Men's Group

CARING CORNER

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

- Love and care to Gemma Guenther's grandmother, Alice, who is very ill. We hold her and her family in our thoughts and prayers.
- Good thoughts to Pat Gwozdz who is recovering from knee surgery. Speedy recovery!
- 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](mailto:Pam.Fodor@hinsdaleunitarian.org) or [Rev Pam](mailto:Rev.Pam@hinsdaleunitarian.org). Also email [Cherita](mailto:Cherita@hinsdaleunitarian.org) to be included in N&Ns.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICE - ONLINE ONLY

January 30: Confessions of a Former Theist

Rev Pam Rumancik

Theist, Atheist, Pantheist, Natural Humanist; ever wonder what all these labels say about the people that wear them? Some folks are still operating on the catechism they learned in second grade - God is the big father in the sky. Some have made decisions about the nature of reality in their 20s and have it all figured out. What does it mean for Unitarian Universalists to stay open to an evolving spirituality? Do we listen to our experiences or our brains? What is the nature of God - if there is one? What does that word encompass?

We will continue having Sunday services online only through the end of January.

The service will 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 during the meditation 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.

February 6th, 2022: The Power of Forgiveness

Dave Lloyd & Paula Sejut-Dvorak

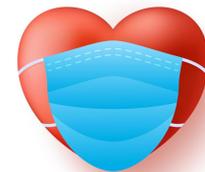
Dave Lloyd shares his unique perspective on the world in which we live.

COVID UPDATE Remote Services thru January

Covid Update from UCH Leadership

Dear Members & Friends,

Your church leadership continues to monitor the surge as it makes its way around the world. There are encouraging signs of dropping illness rates around the country but locally we are still in the severe risk level on the [Covid Tracking Act Now](#) website.



We are watching hospitalizations and the availability of ICU beds which are very high but seem to have just begun to drop. Thanks for your patience, your compassion and the precautions you are taking to remain healthy. This is a gift to everyone around you. We trust that it will continue to improve and we may gather in person as a community in the coming weeks.

Watch this space for updates. Be safe!

THIS WEEK IN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

SPIRIT PLAY and CHAPEL SERVICE

One of the ways Unitarian Universalists gather inspiration and wisdom is by listening to the stories of important people throughout history. You might say they are heroes and heroines because they believed in something important and worked to make our world a better place.

The heroine this week is Gaura Devi.



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C6OattPenm8Unew9MRm3jmxBo01_TUoP/view?usp=sharing

COMING OF AGE

Our Coming of Age youth will not meet this week.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Our Senior High Youth will meet on Zoom this week at 11:30. Contact Pam Fodor for the link.

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

UU RETREAT EVENT

We are excited to announce a Virtual Retreat Event: DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

The art and science of working together.
Join author Kern Beare for a three-part, interactive
Zoom event Saturdays



Feb. 19th, 26th & March 5th, 2022 10 am - 12:30 pm

This interactive workshop will explore principles and strategies that will allow you to approach difficult conversations in a radically new way.

[Please review the attached pdf for further details.](#)

OPEN TO PEOPLE OF ALL GENDER IDENTITIES.

REGISTRATION COST: FREE

TO REGISTER- GET LINK: Send name & e-mail address to markeric-j@hotmail.com

Sponsored by the Men's Retreat committee: Mark Johansen, Rich Pokorny, Gerry Messler, Bob Innocenzi, Alan Johnson, Doug Erickson & Ron Dubreuil.

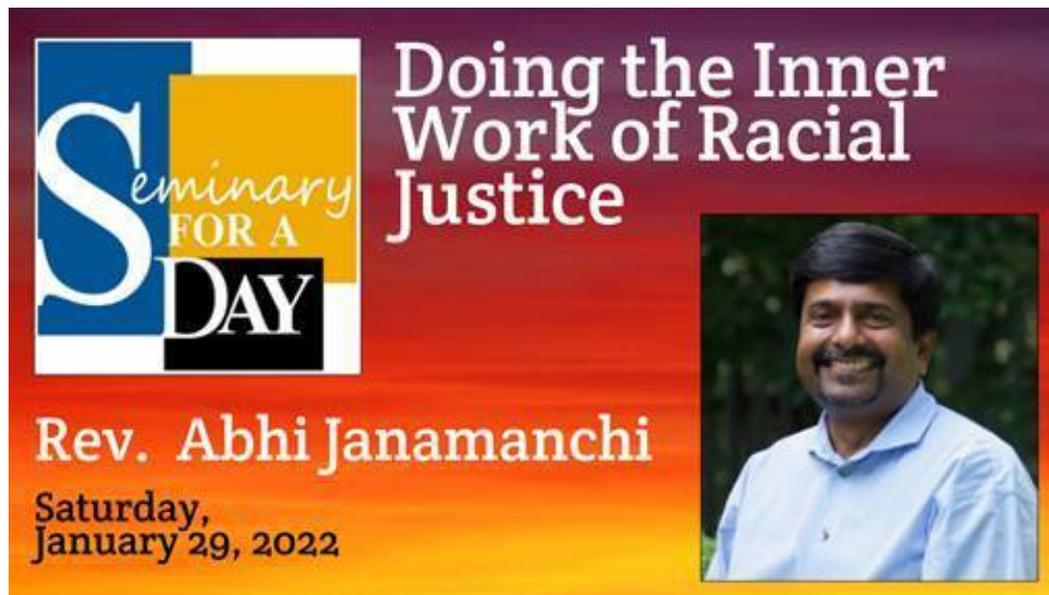
RACIAL EQUITY TEAM

[An old Virginia plantation, a new owner and a family legacy unveiled \(PDF\)](#) By Joe Heim — There was so much Fredrick Miller didn't know about the handsome house here on Riceville Road.

Rev Pam had letters printed in both the [Hinsdalean](#) and [Tribune](#) in response to the tumult surround the resignation of a Cultural Diversity trainer hired by District 86. She spoke at the District 86 board meeting on Jan 27th and is working with community members to continue the good racial equity work begun by the previous board of trustees. A few in the community choose to kill the messenger rather than explore how to become the welcoming community they believe they are. Anyone wishing to work with [Rev Pam](#) is invited to contact her.

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

Join VIRTUAL Seminary for a Day
First Unitarian Portland
Doing the Inner Work of Racial Justice
Saturday, January 29, 2022



Our keynote speaker is [Rev. Abhi Janamanchi](#) who serves as the Senior Minister of the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church in Bethesda, Maryland. He describes himself as a Hindu-Unitarian Universalist and says that his Unitarian Universalism makes him a better Hindu.

If you are engaged in the work of racial justice and long for spiritual connection in this work, join us for this year's virtual Seminary For A Day.

This is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how racism has shaped our UU faith and our congregations; how structural racism still operates today, often unnoticed; and what is involved in cultivating Beloved Community and working against racism and oppression in all of its forms.

We will practice mindfulness meditation, conversation, and experiential exercises that get to the heart of healing internalized racism and being anti-racist. We will seek to create brave space, engage in courageous conversations on what is healing and what is harming racial justice, and rest in restorative meditation and embodied practices.

Details: Saturday, January 29, 2022

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time

Registration is open until 11:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time on Friday, January 29th. You

will receive a Zoom link via email before the event.

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<https://www.firstunitarianportland.org/events/seminaryforaday22/>

Support for those Imprisoned

On Faith and Freedom: A Teach In on the Pretrial Fairness Act

Join us on February 15th at 6pm for a focused, energizing virtual teach-in for clergy and people of faith throughout Illinois on the Pretrial Fairness Act and the movement for pretrial freedom. We will give you an opportunity to reflect on how our respective faiths call us to defend this historic transformation of our state's pretrial justice system, with a presentation followed by time for discussion. We want you to be equipped with factual information on:

- The Pretrial Fairness Act
- The community effects of ending money bond
- The reason we need to continue engaging this movement as people of faith and conscience

We hope this time will inspire you to share this experience and knowledge with the communities you serve, and to join the movement for pretrial freedom in Illinois!

Click here to register:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2UDeb9W_uZE6-asnbsYbhqFpHdindji-GhYFtfr810wCWw/viewform

Struggling with Tax Bills?

Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes

Qualified senior citizens, aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Deferral Program. The program allows participants to defer property tax payments until the property is sold. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues 6 percent simple interest until paid. To qualify, the applicant's household income cannot exceed \$55,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for residential purposes.

The application period closes March 1, 2022. For more information, contact the DuPage County Treasurer's Office at 630-407-5900 or www.dupageco.org/treasurer. Gwen Henry, Treasurer.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLECTION

UUANI powers the justice work of congregations.

UUANI provides Unitarian Universalists across Illinois with advocacy and legislative leadership to effectively build community and power to promote justice and a healthy planet. They bring social justice into the heart of spiritual life of congregations and develop ways for church communities to live the UU principles. They help bridge communities and congregations and align spirituality with tangible actions to affect change.



UCH's Share the Plate collection this month will support the ongoing work of [UUANI](#). You can send a check to the church with UUANI in the memo line or click the [donate button](#) at www.hinsdaleunitarian.org and choose 'Social Justice' from the drop-down menu. Thanks so much!

Update on the Reunited Aurora Family Seeking Asylum

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous donations to this family! We have visited them several times (including dropping off wrapped presents on 12/19) and they have been so appreciative. Thanks to the generosity of many, they now have the household and clothing items they need.

The family still has ongoing financial needs as the process for getting work authorization is expected to take several more months. **To contribute, make a cash donation through the church by writing a check with "Aurora family" in the memo, or you may purchase VISA, Aldi's, Target or WALMART GIFT CARDS directly.**

Read more about families in this situation [here](#).

Anyone who would like to help coordinate UCH's work with this family, please contact Rev. Pam, Marian Honel-Wilson, or Bonnie Wayman-Dodd. At this time we are mainly looking for people to organize fund-raising efforts (perhaps a Go Fund Me?) and/or pledge monthly donations for January through April to assist the family until they are able to obtain employment and support themselves financially.

Read the upcoming January Touchstone for details.

CURRENT COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

Men's Group - Sunday, February 13 at 12:00 PM

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84412204653?pwd=K1dLbzBqU0VmbDR4M3M0b1JJa3B6QT09>

Wise Elders' Weekly Conversation, Tuesdays at 3 PM

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](#)

NEWS & ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

THE TOUCHSTONE
A monthly publication of the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale

Monthly Touchstone Needs Submissions

In-depth communication about all the

NEWS & NOTES

News & Notes Submissions should be sent to

Communication@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

All information for sharing with 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

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

www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

