



NEWS & NOTES

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

January 7, 2022

www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

Theme: Renewal



January 9, 2022

GO SLOW

Our culture urges us to be going, going, going. Even when on vacation we follow the protestant work ethic and make sure we see everything there is to see - or feel like we're failing. Where does renewal really come from?

UCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 8th - 13th, 2022

Saturday, January 8, 2022

10:00am Worship Associates Mtg

Monday, January 10, 2022

7:00pm Buddhist Meditation

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

7:00pm Board of Trustees

Sunday, January 9, 2022

10:30am Sunday Service

12:00pm Men's Group - Zoom

1:00pm COSM Mtg - Zoom

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

3:00pm Wise Elders Gathering

Thursday, January 13, 2022

8:30am Breakfast Group

7:30pm Care Shawl Group (Virtual)

CARING CORNER

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

- Gene Parvin is in Bella Terra Rehab Center located at 420 W. Butterfield Rd, Elmhurst, IL 60126, his phone number is: 630-832-2300
- Jerry Shipton suffered a fall and is at LaGrange Hospital. No visitors at this time but keep him, his daughter Pam Fodor and their family in your thoughts.
- 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@uchinsdale.org) or [Rev Pam](mailto:Rev.Pam@uchinsdale.org). Also email [Cherita](mailto:Cherita@uchinsdale.org) to be included

GRATITUDE

Ron Solberg has contributed to the health and well-being of this congregation for many years. He's served as Board president, general manager of the renovation of the church's front entrance back in the 80's, and more recently as the Stewardship circle coordinator, a leader in the non-fiction book club, a long-time member of the worship team and a wonderful purveyor of thoughtful and inspiring services. Since we are not together, make sure you send Ron a thank you for his generosity to this community.



UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICE - ONLINE ONLY

January 9, 2022: Go Slow

Rev Pam Rumancik

Our culture urges us to be going, going, going. Even when on vacation we follow the protestant work ethic and make sure we see everything there is to see - or feel like we're failing. Where does renewal really come from? There are movements afoot such as the Slow Food movement and Slow TV. There is a way to be a human being rather than a human doing. Let's explore our own paths to living at a slower pace.

The service will be shared on YouTube.

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 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.

January 16, 2022: Honoring Dr King in 2022

Rev Pam Rumancik

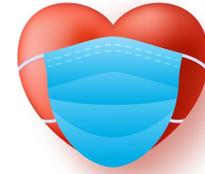
It is encouraging that MLK day is no longer the one day in the year when we talk about racial justice and pat ourselves on the back for work done 50 years ago. Much of our society has woken to the fact that there is still a long way to go in creating a truly just and fair country which values the worth and dignity of every person. We'll look at where we've been and where we have yet to go.

The service will be shared on YouTube.

COVID UPDATE

Remote Services thru January

In the spirit of loving care for our community, we will continue having Sunday services **online only** through the end of January.



While it is hard to be apart, community spread continues to accelerate in our communities with the highly transmissible Omicron variant. In addition, we are aware of breakthrough infections among vaccinated members and the low availability of tests. While we are saddened to not be physically together, we feel that ensuring the safety of our community is the loving response.

We will continue to monitor the situation throughout January and hope to return to in-person services when case rates moderate and risks become clearer.

If you haven't already, *please* get a booster shot and wear a mask in public at all times.

This too shall pass and we look forward to being together as we have been.

There is **some** good news about where we find ourselves today:

<https://yourlocalepidemiologist.substack.com/p/there-is-good-news>

Don't despair - we'll make it through this and create a strong and loving community in whatever reality we find ourselves.

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 Ruby Bridges.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ONpPE-AXqeTJELzl6WGMOfnCak4xtCdu/view?usp=sharing>

COMING OF AGE

Our Coming of Age youth will meet via Zoom this Sunday at Noon. Contact Pam Fodor for the link.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Our Senior High Youth will meet to share fun and fellowship via Zoom on Sunday, January 16th 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

ANIMAL MINISTRIES

Tiff Schafer is representing UCH and Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry in a special conference on Faith in Food.

Jan 12, 2022 03:30 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Industrial farming has a profound effect on earth's resources and the natural world. It produces enormous quantities of waste and pollution while threatening the health of workers and nearby residents and damaging ecosystems.

Faith in Food: Adopting Earth-Friendly Practices in Religious Communities will include perspectives from religious leaders who represent Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Unitarian Universalist communities. The panelists will explore how religious communities can take action in solidarity with climate, farmed animals, and food justice advocates.

This will be a 90-minute zoom webinar, where the first 60 minutes is focused on learning from panelists and the last 30 are focused on Q&A from the audience. See our panel of experts below.

Program sponsored by the Better Food Foundation. Register [here](#).

TIFF SCHAFER IS AN ATTORNEY FROM CHICAGO AND A LONGTIME ANIMAL ADVOCATE. SHE IS SECRETARY OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ANIMAL MINISTRY (UUAM) AND FOUNDER/CHAIR OF UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HINSDALE'S UUAM CHAPTER. SHE DRAFTED AND IMPLEMENTED A VEGAN MEAL OPTION POLICY AT HER CHURCH.



FAITH IN FOOD:
ADOPTING EARTH-FRIENDLY PRACTICES
IN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES



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. Separating is greatly appreciated. Everything we can do to show our love and care for mother earth strengthens our connection to the web of life.

Thanks for all you do!



RACIAL EQUITY TEAM

Race Resources Article of the Week:

Families separated at the border are being reunited but still face many challenges.

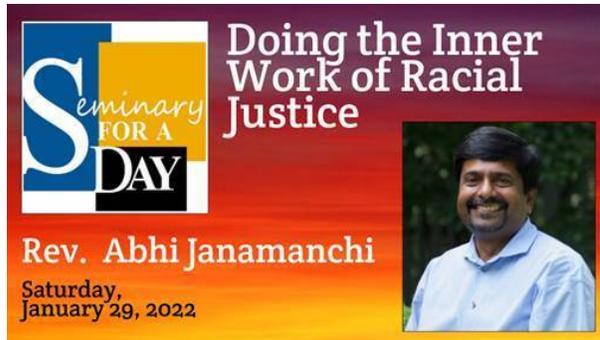
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/12/23/mexico-trump-separated-family-reunification/>

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

Join VIRTUAL Seminary for a Day

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.

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

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](#).

We are looking for families to consider making a monthly pledge of \$20 - \$50 per month for at least 6 months, to make sure they can meet monthly obligations. If you are willing to take this on, please contact [Marian Honel-Wilson](#) or [Rev Pam Rumancik](#).

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

CURRENT COMMUNITY NEWS

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, January 8, 2022.

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, January 9 at 12:00pm

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84412204653?pwd=K1dLbzBqUOVmbDR4M3M0b1JJa3B6QT09>

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

www.hinsdaleunitarian.org

