



NEWS & NOTES

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

March 12, 2021

Theme: Respect



UCH Community Calendar Mar 13 - Mar 23, 2021

Thursday weekly

Breakfast Group Meets via Zoom

Saturday March 13 @ 10:00am

Stateville Calling Documentary
via Zoom

Sunday March 14 @ 12:00pm

Pi Day Pie Exchange at church

Tuesday Mar 16 @ 3:00pm

Weekly Wise Elders Meeting
via zoom

Tuesday Mar 16 @ 1:30pm

Spiritual Book Club via Zoom

Saturday March 20 @ 10:30am

Worship Associate Team Meeting
via Zoom

Tuesday March 23 @ 1:30pm

Non Fiction Book Club

Caring Corner

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

- Darren Howard's mom is recovering from a cardiac episode. Prayers would be appreciated and good thoughts of love and light to Darren and his mom as she recovers.
- Love and care to Suzanne Williams as she recovers from hip surgery.
- For all our members and friends who are suffering loss or struggling with the complications of Covid. Please be safe!

Please let us know of folks we should add to our list and share with our Caring Circle Coordinators by going to our [Caring & Comments](#) page on our website.



Worship on March 14: Pi Day - Grab a Slice!

Love doesn't divide, it multiplies. We live in a world of numbers where anything we see can be translated into a mathematical equation. Pi represents the mathematical language of a circle- both present in everyday reality and infinite. What is the spirituality of Pi? ~Rev Pam

Share the Pie!

What: Pie Sharing for Pi Day

Where: Unitarian Church of Hinsdale

(Parking lot or inside Alice Warren Room with doors open if raining.)

When: Sunday March 14 @ 12:00pm

(We'll stay till 1:00pm or all the pie is gone- whichever comes sooner!)

Why: Community Building & Good, Clean, Yummy, Fun!

What do I do? Bake or purchase a pie. Bring to church.

Wear your mask. Maintain 6' Distance from others.

Drop off some yummy pie. Pick up some yummy pie.

Note- Everyone can have pie! Even if you can't make or buy pie please do come!!! Rev Pam is making a lot of extra pie and wants it to be enjoyed.



Click [HERE](#) to Join on Zoom

Services will be uploaded to
Youtube by Tuesday morning.
You can view past services
[here.](#)



March 21: What Makes Our (Church) Garden Grow?

This church is really an amazing place - one of the best-kept secrets around! Let's count our blessings and figure out how to shine the light of love and care that live at UCH out into a wanting world. ~Rev Pam

DON'T FORGET TO...
**SPRING
FORWARD**
BEFORE GOING TO BED THIS
SATURDAY **SET YOUR CLOCKS
AHEAD ONE HOUR**



EMERGENCY APPEAL

UUA DISASTER RELIEF FUND

Winter storms devastated Texas. Infrastructure failures knocked out access to heat, electricity and clean water for millions. Food supply chains were disrupted, pipes burst in homes, and scores of Texans have died. As is often the case, low-income communities and communities of color have been impacted most acutely.

Many Unitarian Universalists have reached out to us, wanting to know how they can help.

In times of crisis, UUs and congregations turn to the [UUA Disaster Relief Fund](#), which helps cover the cost of food, water, shelter and sanitation—basics that are now riskier to find for those of our neighbors who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 infection.

[Will you make a gift today to help Texans recover?](#)



THIS WEEK IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FAITHFUL JOURNEY

This week on our faithful journey we will highlight our first principle, the inherent worth and dignity of all people and learn a lesson from our Universalist Heritage. Through the story of Hosea Ballou, we will learn the U for Universalist reminds us that there is the wonderful feeling of unconditional love.

Lesson Link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u3iuEG7z8jMnP8MsNM_a1JBCEVjiBu9I/view?usp=sharing



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Youth and advisors will meet in person on the church lawn to share laughter, conversation and fellowship on Sunday March 21st from 3:00-4:00pm.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Youth and advisors will meet in person on the church lawn to share laughter, conversation and fellowship on Sunday March 21st from 3:00-4:00pm..



For more information on RE programming and how to become involved, please contact Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org.

GREEN SANCTUARY NEWS

The One Earth Film Festival begins today! Virtual Events, March 5–14, 2021



Enjoy the latest films on solutions and actions addressing climate, environmental justice, conservation, waste and more. Watch online from the comfort of your own home, and participate in filmmaker and expert Q&As. Be moved. Be amazed. Be ready to create change!

Most film watch parties are free (suggested \$8 donation). Advance registration is highly recommended.

Learn more and register for movies at <https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org>

PRISON MINISTRY

Penpals

We have five new UCH pen pals who are establishing a relationship with their pen pals who are incarcerated. There is patience, sharing, testing, and excitement in this process. All of the UCH pen-pals, old and new, are supported in a monthly online discussion with Rev. K Mooney, as well as a quarterly meeting with the Church of the Larger Fellowship, Chicago.

You can join this ministry at any time. Please [contact us](#).

Advocacy - Elder Parole for Illinois

This legislative session, we are again working to pass legislation bringing parole back to Illinois. There are bills in the Illinois Senate and House focused on giving the opportunity for a parole hearing for people who are incarcerated those 60 years and older who have been incarcerated 20 years or more and those incarcerated at least 25 years, As of this writing, we don't have the bill numbers.

Our group is called Citizens for Parole, and is a coalition of people on the inside, returning citizens, long-time advocates, attorneys, parents of people who are incarcerated, your UCH Prison Ministry advocates and more. If you want to be more involved please reach out. Here's the website elderparole.org

We can use your help this spring when we need you to turn in a witness slip electronically to the committees, or contact your state senator or representative.

Cathy Blanford
Tracey Olson

Elder Parole for Illinois

Excerpts from, " Why do I Deserve Parole?" by Anthony Jones.



You ask me to answer the question: " Why do I deserve parole". Well, I would answer that by saying that if parole *could* be earned then I have earned it by my consistently sustained lawful behavior and actions. I have been incarcerated for the past 29 years - since I was 20 years old. I've come to understand that my destructive actions and behavior led me here. And by self-reflection, education, maturity and the divine intervention and grace of God, I am no longer the young man that committed this crime.

All throughout my 29 years, I've made a real commitment to positive change through serving others, higher education (earning my GED, Associate Degree, paralegal certification), peer-health educator certification through the IDPH, Clinical Service volunteer, Chaplain Volunteer in Stateville and Pinckneyville and working as a law clerk at Stateville and now here at Dixon.

I've faithfully done all of this without any other incentive other than having a desire to be a better human being and to give back to a world that I foolishly took from.

If I deserve parole - a second chance - it is because I am no longer a threat to anyone. I do not wish to commit any crimes or harm anyone. I only wish to share whatever time that I have left on this planet with my granddaughter, son, family and friends. I want to continue serving my community and offering my life story as a cautionary tale for others.

elderparole.org

CURRENT COMMUNITY NEWS

GA Registration: Virtual General Assembly will be held this June. Register now to get ready for workshops, worship, and association business. - [more info](#)

Saturday, March 13 at 10:00 a.m - Stateville Calling

You are invited to attend a Virtual Screening and Discussion - [more info](#)

Sunday, March 28th, 2021: Forest Walks

Join fellow UCH members on a walk in a forest preserve or natural area- [more info](#)

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.

RACIAL EQUITY TEAM WEEKLY LINK

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

Transferring wealth to Black-led groups is a particularly potent form of reparations with immediate benefits to communities of color. [Read Article](#)

My Grandparents' Redlining Story Shows Why We Must Do Better

"I share this part of my grandfather's story to illustrate the real and lasting impacts of institutional racism: The same policies that cultivated wealth for White people in the United States prohibited the accumulation of wealth for Black people. And so today, as we face the impact of COVID-19 and the racial inequities it is revealing, our leaders have an opportunity to do better. Meaning now is an opportune time to create equitable housing policies and other policies that can close the yawning gaps created by racial inequity."

[Read Article](#)

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



We need your help! We can sustain this ministry only if we have the support of people who care about our shared humanity with people in prison. Your contribution will help fund our half-time minister's salary, benefits, and travel costs, plus the costs of our education offerings to congregations.

The **In Prison Ministry** works to create a spiritual space where all people can come as they are and be affirmed in their inherent worth and dignity, no matter their identities or past harm they may have caused.

The outside work of the UU Prison Ministry focuses on **preparing our congregations** to become radically welcoming places for formerly incarcerated and convicted people. We embrace the call of Unitarian Universalism to make our congregations accepting of all people.

The Prison Ministry will also **connect Unitarian Universalists** to local and state-level policy initiatives that seek to build a world community of peace, liberty and justice for all.

UUPMI Director, Rev Allison Farnum, is grateful for the kind response she received from last week's service. You can donate via our website (see donate button below) by clicking Social Justice and adding UUPMI or you can mail a check to 17 W Maple St, Hinsdale, IL. 60521. Thanks so much!

2021 Pledge Drive Coming Soon!

Watch your mailbox for details and keep April 10th open for some good community fun!

Welcome to our annual stewardship drive! As we begin to come out of a year like no other, we are **Not Just bouncing Back, but LEAPING FORWARD!**

For 151 years, our members have supported the good work of this church. This year the generosity of our members and friends has been amazing! Thank you all so much. Now we need to look to the future and look forward to your continued support of our wonderful community.

This year, given our unusual circumstances, we'll offer several ways to submit your pledge: Here's what to expect over the next few weeks:

- In your email box: A message with all the information you need to understand the church's budget and our pledge needs. This email will also provide a link to an online pledge form.
- In your mailbox: An informational packet that includes a hard copy pledge form with a reminder of the amount you pledged last year.
- On our website: A pledge button for easy pledging.

Please join us on April 10 for a virtual fun trip through time with a time machine! Come meet some famous UUs, celebrate our own church history AND the successful conclusion of our stewardship drive!

Building An Anti-Racist Community Together: Action for All Ages

SAVE THE DATE: Sat. April 24, 2021 9am – 1 pm

Join us for an antiracism conference with multiple virtual and in-person workshops for all ages: adults, teens, kids, caregivers, parents and families together!



COMMUNITY Diversity
Group of La Grange



The LeaderShop



Lyonsville Congregational
United Church of Christ

Our February Social Justice Collection Total: \$1,210
We collected \$1,210 to benefit Third Unitarian Pop Up Pantry in February.

Office Phone system issues. Our antiquated phone system in the church continues to have issues so while we look to upgrade the service, you may not be able to get through to leave a message. While staff is working from home, it will be quicker to email staff members with questions. Contact information is on the website; www.hinsdaleunitarian.org under the Connect button at the top right of the page.



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 20th of the month to UCHTouchstone@gmail.com

STAFF CONNECTIONS

Your staff will continue to work from home. You can reach us at our regular email addresses:

- Rev Pam, Usually onsite Thursdays. Available Tues, Wed, Friday virtually or by appt: Feel free to call or text -Minister@hinsdaleunitarian.org 440-570-9812
- Pam Fodor, Tuesdays, on-site from 10am-3pm. Available on e-mail other days and times. - re@hinsdaleunitarian.org
- Lily Field, Wednesdays & Fridays on-site, 8 to 1 -finance@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
- Joe Saint Cross, Youth Leader -jsaintcross@juno.com

