



NEWS & NOTES

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

September 3, 2021

Theme: Reason



UCH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 5th - 12th, 2021

Sunday, September 5

10:00 am Sunday Service
3:00 pm Music Com Mtg

Tuesday, September 7

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

Thursday, September 9

8:30 am Breakfast Group

Monday, September 6

7:00 pm Buddhist Meditation

Wednesday, September 8

2:00 pm Health Screening
7:00 pm Board of Trustees

Saturday, September 11

10:30 am Worship Associates Mtg

Sunday, September 12

10:00am Sunday Service

CARING CORNER

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

- Remembering the family of Sally Packard who died after a long illness on Aug 24th. Cards can be sent to her daughter, Alice, at 1132 Curtiss St, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Sally was a longtime member of the Women's Alliance and will be missed.
- 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.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICE

Hybrid Worship Continues - Masks Required

Vaccinated individuals are welcome to attend worship in the church. All attendees must wear a mask. We will continue share the service on Zoom for at-risk people and those who would rather wait and be safe for the time being.

Sunday, September 5th: Goodness and Mercy

Rev. Allison Farnum (she/her/hers)

In a dominant culture that fetishizes crime and punishment while remaining apathetic to the failures of the penal system, our Unitarian Universalist theologies remind us that we can rely on deeper truths of goodness and mercy that still hold each of us accountable in and to the interdependent web of life.

On-Site for Vaccinated and Masked People. We will share the video from the chancel.



Click [HERE](#) to Join on Zoom

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



Sunday, September 12th: Water Communion Ingathering Service

Rev. Pam Rumancik (she/theirs)

We begin our church year with an all-community Ingathering service. Everyone is invited to bring in a small amount of water that has some meaning in your life. It could be from a trip to Lake Michigan, the backyard spigot of a favorite grandparent, some virtual water that represents someplace you wish you had been able to go. Bring your water and your story. We will collect them all and then filter and purify the water to be used in rituals in the coming year.

All vaccinated folks are welcome to join us in person with a mask. The service will also be shared on Zoom. There will be a picnic in the yard following the service. Hope to see you there!

On-Site for Vaccinated and Masked People. We will share the video from the chancel.

JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATORY BACK TO CHURCH PICNIC!
IT WILL BE SO GREAT TO BE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN!!

Sandwiches of all kinds will be provided and we invite you to bring a salad, chips, fruit, snack to share.

You won't want to miss the amazing entertainment, games, activities, and extra surprises!

Maple Street will be blocked off so kids are invited to bring their bikes, scooters, etc.

An event like this takes many hands to make successful! If you are willing to help please sign up here.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49AAA82CA0FB6-back>

Back to Church Block Party / Picnic Invitation RSVP

We are working to make this a COVID-safe outdoor event and need to know how many will attend (this will also help with sandwich ordering and game planning too!).

If you plan to attend please RSVP below.

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

TENT NEEDED: The membership committee block party picnic is in need of a medium to large awning type of tent for the event. If you have one we can borrow or know how we can gain access to an affordable tent for the day please contact Darren Howard at DARRENHOWARD1981@hotmail.com or 815-383-1065

Grief Workshop Sept 14 @ 7:00pm

UCH will host the Rev Elizabeth Harding in presenting a workshop on the stages of grief and the tools we have to help us make our way through. Our community has suffered a lot of loss this year and this will begin a series of opportunities to mourn our losses and find a way through to new life and hope.

Our presentation \ Q & A will offer perspectives and stories about coping with the first year after a loss. I will offer a timeline, coping strategies, and reflections about what grief teaches us. As the pandemic continues, there may be more recent loss in your lives; we will touch on trauma and potential responses as a part of grief education. Questions and learning from each other are most welcome!

Blurb about me: Rev. Elizabeth Harding is a life-long UU, serving as an affiliated community minister with Second Unitarian Church of Chicago. Elizabeth has worked as a parish minister, hospice chaplain, hospital chaplain and most recently was a bereavement counselor in the Chicago suburbs. She is married to Kevin and together they have Lucas, Simon and Adam, the immortal fish.

Join us via [zoom on Tuesday September 14th at 7:00pm](#)

Calling all Gardeners!

Fourteen landscape garden volunteers are signed up! And that number continues to grow!!

UCH is seeking your help in sprucing up the grounds before regular services resume in September. Widespread tree and shrub shaping have recently been completed across UCH's entire acre. As a result, UCH's landscape garden beauty is re-revealed. For the finishing touch, we are scheduling a "weeding party" and we need your help. On **Saturday, September 11, 2021**, we will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at noon or whatever shorter time frame you individually would like. Bring your favorite weeding device, work gloves, kneeling pad, sun hat, and drinking water. Join us in the joy and pleasure. ALL AGES! Contact / RSVP to Steve Trout or Thom Brackett at Steven_Trout@comcast.net or thombrackett@att.net and/or just show up!

ESCORTING AT WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC



Escorting at Women's Health Clinic Volunteers Needed

We serve in pairs on Saturday mornings about once per month.

For more information, please contact:
Mike Pabian • pabes6711@aol.com • 708-246-1153

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUMMER HIATUS

Child Care will be available during the summer months but regular programming is on hold until September 19th. Keep watching this space in the fall for news regarding our fall program. For information on RE programming and how to become involved, please contact Pam Fodor at re@hinsdaleunitarian.org.



ANIMAL BLESSING



Inherent Worth And Dignity of Every Being

September 26th at 2:00 pm in Conversation Circle east lawn of the church

UCH will hold its annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, September 26, 2021, at 2:00 pm. All friendly and non-aggressive animal friends are welcome to join us on the lawn for a short ritual and blessing. We celebrate our interdependence with all life and gratefully make time together to acknowledge the tremendous blessings animals bring to our lives.



GREEN SANCTUARY TEAM

Share a Row with the Hungry

Now that vegetable gardens are bursting at the seams with produce, we have a chance to share some of that bounty with people who don't have enough. Green Sanctuary is asking everyone with a produce garden to share a portion with the hungry, and we have made a list of the food pantries in the western suburbs that accept fresh produce. The list is available on paper at church and will be posted in the Green Sanctuary portion of the church website. And hey, keep track of how many pounds of food you have delivered to food pantries, and we'll all share our stories at church.



Pollinators Say Thank You to UCH!

Our distribution of butterfly milkweed plants and pollinator-friendly flower seeds was a huge success, with hundreds of new sources of nectar and host sites planted in our members' gardens. If YOU have a story, or, better, a picture, of blooming native plants, especially being visited by wildlife, send us a note at UCHinsdaleGS@gmail.com, and we'll post people's stories and photos on the Green Sanctuary page of the website. Thanks again to all our pollinator friends!

Do you want to be more "green" but aren't sure where to start? Maybe you are already doing things to recycle and conserve energy, but you want to do more. Did you know that the Western Suburbs has an amazing resource for recycling, education and community outreach? Maybe you've heard of SCARCE but never really poked around on their website. Consider this your invitation! Based in Addison, IL, SCARCE provides a plethora of resources and education for helping to create a greener, more sustainable world. Check out their website and watch for an article in the next Touchstone about the many things SCARCE has to offer.



Check them out here: <https://www.scarce.org/>

RACIAL EQUITY TEAM

How Citizens and Companies Can Support Antiracism in Chicago

by Claire Young

“The good news? The city has a vast network of organizations already doing the work of dismantling our dangerously biased systems. The great news? While racism and systemic oppression is very complex, we’ve made it quite simple for you to take positive, immediate action.”

How Citizens and Companies Can Support Antiracism in Chicago (“Not being racist” is simply no longer enough)

[Read Full Article](#)

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

CALLING ALL JARS

Save your empty pickle, pasta sauce, salsa and other jars. No need to wash them out, just put the cap on and deposit them in the box available in the Alice Warren Room. They will be born again as solar jar lights.

Any questions or if you would like your jar back as a solar jar light, please contact Dennis Sejut at 630-917-1183. Texts welcome.



CURRENT COMMUNITY NEWS

CommUNITY Diversity Group's 2021 Awards and Updated Diversity Days

The CommUNITY Diversity Group of La Grange is sponsoring its Diversity Days events, including our 30th Annual Race Unity Rally on Sunday, September 12th at 3:00 p.m. at La Grange Village Hall. This event features information about African Americans in historic La Grange, a youth choir with Rev. Shawana McGee, youth reading diversity essays, and a Village of La Grange Race Unity Day proclamation. In addition, we will hear from La Grange Police Chief Jason Cates and the new LTHS Superintendent Dr. Brian Waterman as to diversity and inclusion efforts ongoing in their organizations. -

[more info](#)

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

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](#)

UU Class Conversations - [more info](#)

- Response to the Book Caste by Isabelle Wilkerson
- Volunteer Opportunities

2021 Illinois Rental Payment Program

For residents who are behind on their rent payments, due to the COVID-19 pandemic: [more info](#)

* September Men's Group - Sept. 19, 2021

Due to the block party picnic, the men's group will be moved from September 12th to September 19th

Still Looking? "FindVaccineIL.com"

Church members Leo Monroy & Darren Howard created <http://findvaccineil.com>, a website search engine designed to assist Illinois residents with locating COVID 19 vaccination sites and securing vaccination appointments.

You can help by referring your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers living in Illinois who are eligible for the vaccine and need assistance navigating the many, difficult web sites.

Another way to volunteer is to help others get their appointments

Please complete the volunteer application form at <https://tinyurl.com/Vax-Volunteer-Form>



FindVaccineIL

NEWS & ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

THE TOUCHSTONE
A monthly publication of the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale

NEWS & NOTES

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

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!

SUMMER BUILDING HOURS

Mon - Wed, Thurs, Fri 10-12pm

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

STAFF CONNECTIONS

Summer Staffing Hours begin June 20th. You can reach us at our regular email addresses:

- Rev Pam, On site Tuesday & Fridays - Available via email & other times with appt. Monday Sabbath. Minister@hinsdaleunitarian.org 440-570-9812
- Pam Fodor, Mon -Wed - Fri, on-site from 10am-12pm. Available on e-mail other days and times. - re@hinsdaleunitarian.org
- Lily Field, Wednesdays & Fridays on-site, 9 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

