

# EVANSTON

## UNITARIAN NEWS

November  
2011

### CHURCH TO REPEAT “FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY”

by Barbara Butz

UCE will again offer “Financial Peace University,” beginning January 7, 2012. We first offered this financial management class in January-March 2011. The 18 people who took it included singles and couples of all ages, many of them parents.

FPU is a 12-part video and small group discussion-based program on financial management. The creator and presenter is Dave Ramsey. Though an avowed Christian, the only “evangelical” approach Ramsey takes in this program has to do with money: how to budget, get free from debt, save for retirement and college, and end up able to spend on the people, things, and causes most important to you. FPU is plenty entertaining. You will not be bored! But it also challenges people to look clearly at their values and goals relative to money, and to change their behavior as needed to reach those goals. For a good look at how he operates, go to [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com) and watch the 23-minute introductory video. Highly entertaining!

UCE’s Integrated Stewardship Committee is sponsoring FPU as part of the adult RE curriculum. Classes will be **Saturdays, 10 am-noon, from January 7-March 24. Childcare will be provided.** The cost per individual or family is just \$100. This is a great class for parents! Partners or spouses who take it together will wind up with a common language and approach to finances. Individuals will also benefit, especially those beginning their work lives. Even a mature teenager attending with a parent will learn valuable “life lessons.” Yes, it’s a commitment, but one with a big payoff. Think about it! Look for me and others who took FPU this year in the lobby after church on November 20. Look for brochures on church bulletin boards. Contact me, Barbara Butz, at [bkbutz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bkbutz@sbcglobal.net) with questions or to sign up.

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**SERENDIPITY AUCTION** is less than three weeks away! Please, this week, **go to [www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org) and click on the Auction website link to submit your auction donations.** It’s easy--the last four digits of your phone number are your PIN. Your donations will take care of the supply side of the auction equation. On November 19 at the auction, we will take care of the demand side of the equation. Both supply and demand must be high for the Serendipity Auction to make a meaningful financial contribution to our church. If you will not be able to attend the auction, you can authorize a friend to bid for you--using a separate bidder number issued to you. Check the auction catalog on-line now to see what appeals to you. A printed catalog will be available Sunday, November 13.

**IN THE INTERIM ...**

*by Janet Newman, Interim Senior Minister*



The historical timeline of the Unitarian Church of Evanston will be available for your post-it notes until the middle of November. So I encourage you to write about the events or decisions made by the congregation that made you proud of your church

(pink notes) or disappointed in your church (green notes). And post yellow notes on the opposite wall – your hopes and dreams for UCE. Even if you are brand-new in the church, surely you can come up with some dreams for its future!

I hope that you engage in soul-searching as you post your “prides,” “disappointments,” and “dreams” about your congregation. I hope you use your comments on the time line as a spiritual exercise.

In order for this exercise to help you learn about yourselves as congregants and your past as an institution – and this is indeed the goal of the exercise – the Transition Team and I encourage you be authentic about your feelings about events in the life of the church. The notes you post must be expressed with civility and can be anonymous, but they are most authentic if they rise from the depth of your relationship with the church; only thus can you examine your past as a congregation and learn from it.

Then the Transition Team and I will reflect back to you perceptions that are contained in the time line to help you move forward into your future with insight, courage, and commitment. If feasible, small group discussions of time line responses can be arranged.

Soon, the Team and I will offer you a chance to explore the meaning and depth of your recently-adopted Covenant of Engagement so that it becomes part of your identity and life as a congregation. Be sure to take advantage of the opportunity!

**Faithfully, Janet**

**EDUCATING RELIGIOUSLY ...**

*by Connie Grant, Minister for Lifespan Religious Education*

**What about Jesus?**

The question was raised by our skeptical fifth- and sixth graders as they began learning about the life and times of Jesus: If Jesus wasn't divine, why is Jesus important to us?



Christianity developed around the life, teachings, and stories of Jesus, and Christianity is an important part of our religious heritage as Unitarian Universalists and our cultural heritage as Americans. Unitarian Universalism developed out of Christianity, and has expanded to encompass wisdom from other religious traditions.

Most Unitarian Universalists are in agreement that Jesus was a human being, "divine" in the same way every human being is "divine," not the "son of God" in a supernatural sense but in a natural sense. Jesus was an actual person, as documented by the historian Josephus. Many (if not most) Unitarian Universalists respect Jesus as an influential teacher and an example of a good person.

One of the goals of our Unitarian Universalist forebears (the Christian ones) was to restore the religion "of" Jesus, not the religion "about" Jesus. As our forebear William Ellery Channing asserted in his 1819 sermon titled "Unitarian Christianity," "the meaning of the Bible 'is to be sought in the same manner as that of other books.'" The class uses a curriculum titled "Jesus and His Kingdom of Equals," written by Unitarian Universalists and based on contemporary biblical research, principally from the Jesus Seminar.

The questions that our fifth- and sixth graders are addressing are not so much about whether Jesus was "divine," but about why the teachings of Jesus have survived for 2000 years: what are the messages he taught (love, as in "love thy neighbor as thyself," justice, equality), and what meaning do those messages have today?

**In faith, Connie**



**WORSHIP SERVICES**  
10:30 a.m.

**November 6, "Remembrance"**  
by Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman

This Sunday is mid-way between "Dia de los Muertos" and Remembrance Day, Nov. 11. I want to see if the life lessons from these two cultural commemorations of death can bring us a better understanding of Veterans' Day.

**November 13, "The Handwriting on the Wall"** by Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman and the Transitions Team This service will be a first look at the congregational time line and what can be learned from it.

**November 20, "Breaking Bread Together"** A Thanksgiving worship service for all ages. Please bring a loaf of bread representing your heritage and the sustenance we share. We'll partake of the bread together during the service, and we'll share a simple lunch of bread and other accompaniments you bring (such as cheese, jam, or fruit). Guest at Your Table boxes will be distributed. **Rev. Connie Grant and Rev. Janet Newman.**

**November 27, "Inherent Worth and Dignity' and the Problem of Evil"** Do human beings, without exception, have "inherent worth and dignity"? What about "evil"? **Rev. Connie Grant**



**CRACKERBARREL DISCUSSION GROUP**  
9:15 a.m.

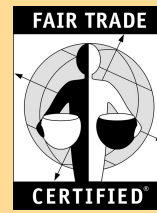
**November 6, "Fooled by Randomness"** The ability to make sense out of our experience and make models from our observations is a valuable human skill. However, this can also lead us to

find patterns and attribute causality where none may exist. It may also cause us to overlook rare events that may have massive impact. Using Nassim Taleb's books, *Fooled by Randomness* and *The Black Swan* as background, we will explore what application this human deviation from rationality may have on our lives, both individually and collectively. - **Scott Campbell**

**November 13, "Taking it to the Streets"** From the "Tea Party Express" on the right to "Occupy Wall Street" on the left, populism has again emerged in American politics. Historically, these movements have dissolved or have been co-opted in the dynamics of more mainstream electoral politics. Is there any reason to think that this time will be different? - **Larry Jordan**

**November 20, "The Better Angels of Our Nature"** The subtitle of this new book by Steven Pinker is "Why Violence Has Declined." Pinker, Professor of Psychology at Harvard, addresses such questions as "Are human beings essentially good or bad?" "Has the past century witnessed moral progress or a moral collapse?" "Do we have grounds for being optimistic about the future?" He asserts that violence has indeed declined and gives his opinions on why this is so. - **Alex Sproul**

**November 27, "Outlawing Gravity: Are Legal Constraints on Immigration a Lost Cause?"** Short of paying people to stay put, is it likely that the lure of a significant wage differential will overwhelm any public policy intended to restrict immigration? - **Larry Jordan**



**Annual FAIR TRADE FAIR is NEAR!**

by Betty Walker

UCE's Annual Fair Trade Fair is Sunday, November 13, after the worship service. Fair Trade programs give life-saving support to thousands of artisans and small farmers around the world, including some here in the U.S. As in past years, proceeds will provide holiday funds to needy families here in Evanston who are suggested by Randy Barrenegos, social worker and UCE member.

Every item offered at the fair is handmade or grown by someone who has been paid a living wage for his/her work and creativity. There will be *foods, winter accessories, jewelry, handmade soaps, toys and many other gifts.* Some of these are old favorites and some will be new this year.



Come to find something beautiful for yourself or loved ones, and to help families in need both here and far away.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

by Mike Tracy, President

I hope many of you had a chance to listen to Paul Beckel, our Ministerial Settlement Representative from the UUA, last Sunday at UCE. Now would be a good time to ask yourself if you'd be willing to make the time commitment necessary to serve on the Search Committee. If not, please give some thought to the question, whom would I *trust* to be on that committee? The Board of Trustees, working with the Nominating and Recruiting Committee, hope to canvas the *entire* congregation with that question in the spring.

At the October meeting, the Board approved the appointment of three members of the congregation to the Compensation Advisory Committee: Trudi Westwood, Jinny Niemann and Irv Badr. Their work will be important as the Executive Team prepares its three-year staffing plan for the December Board meeting.

The Board also made a formal request from the Endowment Committee for:

- \$6500 for the Ministerial Search and Settlement Process; and
- \$400 for new software for the Serendipity Auction.

Lastly, the Board listened to a report from the new Transition Team, particularly with respect to the Time Line on the west

wall of the sanctuary. If you haven't visited it yet, please do. And please contribute your thoughts – pleasant and/or not-so-pleasant – so that we can do an honest assessment of who we are as a church and where we want to go.

As always, I welcome your comments (and concerns): [mtracy84@comcast.net](mailto:mtracy84@comcast.net).

## ENDOWMENT NEWS

by Barbara Butz, Chair

### New Memorial Envelopes

UCE has recently designed new memorial envelopes to use when you want to make a gift to UCE in memory of a family member or friend. Memorial gifts are a special way to remember someone you care about who has passed away.

The memorial gifts you make to UCE will help make sure our Memorial Fund always has sufficient funds to help with memorial services when needed. And, memorial gifts will add to our Endowment Fund as a legacy for the person you're remembering.

You'll find these special envelopes in the kiosk in the lobby and the office. If you ever need to plan a memorial service, please tell the minister or funeral home that you would like memorial gifts to go to UCE.

We hope you will remember UCE when you want to make a memorial gift!

## Thank You!

**Mike Takada** made a gift to Endowment in memory of **Betty Bannor**. Betty and husband Norm were members of UCE for decades. Their son Lee, and his wife Jane, are carrying on the tradition by serving in any number of church leadership roles. Thank you, Mike, for your visible token of appreciation for the Bannor family.

**Trink Newman** has made several gifts to Endowment in honor of her birthday and in honor of **Betty Bannor** and **June Carvell**, long-time church members who recently died. Betty and June were both honored with Endowment gifts recently by other church members as well. Happy Birthday, Trink. Thank you for your thoughtful generosity.

Like Mike, any of you out there may make a small gift to Endowment at any time during the year in honor of someone, or a special event in your life. You can give on [www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org) by clicking on "Giving," then "Endowment," where you will see a description of the fund as well.





## Spectrum:Arts

Our fall term of Spectrum:Arts features theater games and improvisation activities that encourage participants to express themselves individually and work together creatively. Explore characters and spaces, create and act out comedy sketches, and build quick-thinking skills. Leader Diego Colon is a professional actor and singer who has performed at Steppenwolf Theater and is on staff at Davenport's Cabaret in Chicago. Diego has been with the educational theater company **Play On** since its inception in 2007, and has taught acting, improv, musical theater and cabaret classes with adults and children. 9:15 –10:15 Sunday mornings, for children in kindergarten – sixth grade.

## Parents' Forum

An opportunity for parents to learn from each other and discuss books and articles of interest. We're exploring themes from the book "Tending the Flame: The Art of Unitarian Universalist Parenting" by Michelle Richards (available at the Book H), but it's not necessary to read to participate in the discussions! Facilitated by Andrew and Julie Bernstein and others, 9:15 – 10:15 Sunday mornings.

## Sunday Morning Yoga Practice

Designed to reduce stress, bring relaxation, increase range of motion, and find balance, Yoga is learned by doing. Drop in, wear comfortable clothing for stretching, and try it. Community yoga mats provided if needed. Sundays 9:15 – 10:15 am.



## FUN & GAMES AT BOARD GAMES NIGHT!



From "Sorry" to Scrabble, Candyland to "Apples to Apples," have fun with people of all ages who enjoy playing games together. Bring a game and a snack to share, or just bring yourself.

Friday, November 11, 6:30 – 9:00 pm. Fun for all ages, sponsored by the Religious Education Board.

## "CELEBRATION" SERIES PLANNED

The Learning Associates Committee is working on a "Celebrations" series for people of all ages, to be held on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 to 8:00 pm, November 29 - December 27. The idea is to learn about and demonstrate celebrations of the winter holidays from several religious traditions, all of which include "light" as a theme.

### Our planned schedule:

**December 6, Bodhi Day (Buddha's Enlightenment)**

**December 13, Hanukkah (Jewish Festival of Lights)**

**December 20, Solstice (Shortest Day/ Longest Night)**

**December 27 Kwanzaa (African-American Heritage)**

We are planning to have informational presentations on each holiday during the first half of the program, followed in the second half by traditional rituals etc. If you have knowledge or experience in any of these celebrations, and are interested in helping with planning, please contact Dick Whitaker at [dwhitaker4@comcast.net](mailto:dwhitaker4@comcast.net) or Rev. Connie Grant at [cgrant@ucevanston.org](mailto:cgrant@ucevanston.org).

## KATHY TALMAGE Kitchen Staff



Kathy Talmage  
Photo by David Linsell

UCE is a great spiritual home for me, as I have had teaching in Southern Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, and Christian Scientist traditions.

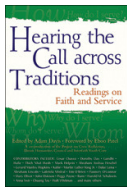
My early years were in Michigan with Mom and Dad and hunting dogs, flying squirrels, and finally Murphy, my Siamese cat who lived to be 22 years old. Later, in Chicago, we had a pet tarantula, 6 cats, 7 kittens (I'm sure Alex Sproul remembers the cats!) and a boa constrictor named Lassie.

In the early 70's I had a drapery-wallpapering-painting-landscaping business. In 1976, while attending Harrington Institute of Interior Design, I met Libby Sohn-Hirsch. At that time her son Matt Sohn was a UCE member. She joined, then convinced me I needed to be there also, and we did. At the time, my son Sean was 11 and his sister Shannon, 9. Sean went to Boston with the UCE young people that year, by AM-TRAK, and stayed with a terrifying family, an experience he still remembers. Nevertheless, Sean, his wife Susan, and children Logan and Calvin are UCE members today.

In 1985, my business Pordible Edibles, was born on Central Street in Evanston. Jerry Galich designed our logo, and UCE love and generosity gave me over \$1700 to buy a deli case.

The kitchen is my comfort zone. Good friends, warmth, and positive thoughts have kept me coming back to UCE for the last 34 years.

And by the way, I'm now blessed with one bratty cat, Simon. He's a character!



**HEARING THE CALL ACROSS TRADITIONS: Strengthening Our Values in Action**

This monthly discussion group, facilitated by Cathy Deamant and Eileen Wiviott, meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, now through May 2012, 7:30 – 9 p.m. Using the book, *Hearing the Call Across Traditions: Readings on Faith and Service*, which draws from diverse literary genres, religious and philosophical perspectives, and historical periods, we will explore the connections between faith, service, and social justice. We recommend that you purchase the book at the book H, though we will have copies of the readings available at each session. Contact Eileen Wiviott at ewiviott@hotmail.com if you have questions or to register.

**OUR GIVING HOUSE**



This month's collection for Hilda's Place food pantry is **canned protein** – tuna, chicken, salmon. Please bring in your donations and put them in the wooden house by the front door.

**SATURDAY MORNING BAKING**



Join us as we bake with children living in the Jonquil Hotel of Good News Partners. We have a new, easy-to-work-in kitchen, and it is a joy to share in the meaningful experience of making and sharing food. Saturday, November 19, 9:45 – 12:15.



**SOCIAL ACTION FILM SERIES**

**“Waging a Living”  
Friday, November 18,  
7 p.m. at UCE**

**From Homelessness to Hope –  
UCE Lends a Hand  
by Carol Nielsen**

Often when we think about our social action work, we hope that we are providing systemic change—lasting change. We are pleased to be a part of the work of Good News Partners (GNP) as they move families from shelters into apartments. GNP recently purchased an apartment building just east of the Jonquil Hotel. Now families who qualify by having a job and the hope for a stable environment, are able to move out of the shelter or the single room occupancy hotel into an apartment with more space and a kitchen. UCE was asked to help one family, a young woman named Tabatha and her six year old son, by donating some of the items she would need to set up their new home. We were generous, and Tabatha is busy settling in to her new home. *Thank you to everyone who donated and helped in other ways.*

**Art Night at the Jonquil Hotel, 9/24/11  
by Sharon Hyson**

*[Ed. Note: Ms. Hyson is a professional art therapist educator who worked with our UCE group. Read her full article on the Social Action bulletin board.]*

The Art Night started slowly at the Jonquil Hotel, but a crowd quickly developed. All of the projects looked inviting, including Connie Grant's Paper Jewelry project, Sandpaper Drawings with Lorna Galich, Maggie Wilson's workshop on drawing the missing half of the animal, and Dick Whitaker's masonite tile paint project, with Johna and Will Van Dyke.

My project, the Bottles and Jars Project, gained momentum. People of all ages decorated jars and bottles by gluing on materials or painting the jars. Others built the bottles into dolls and assorted characters such as superheroes. One hour into the evening, a resident standing at the table said to me, "It's been a long time since I sat down and made art ... Everyone is ... having a ball ... why am I here? Should I sit down or leave? I [took] a risk and sat down. I had fun, and it was very magical, a real treat."

A man was deep into painting his (empty) vodka bottle with bold, solid colors. "I used to drink this stuff, now I'm making art from the bottle." At the cluttered table, amidst the materials and palettes of assorted colors, he became so focused on his bottle that he rarely looked up for hours.

Thank you to Eileen Wiviott for coordinating this much needed and appreciated program. At closing time, I heard Eileen tell a participant, "We'll come back if you come back."



## FROM UCE'S PEACE & JUSTICE PROGRAM

by Gini Sayad



### VETERAN'S DAY

Veterans Day (Friday, November 11) becomes more poignant each year as war continues and more die and are wounded. After the Peace Treaty ending World War I was signed, President Wilson designated Armistice Day as a day of reflection, filled with solemn pride for the heroism and sacrifice of those who died or were wounded in the country's service. In 1938 the name was changed to Veterans Day, dedicated to the cause of world peace as well as a celebration of veterans of all wars. Today, as November 11 approaches, we are inundated with ads to "purchase, purchase, purchase." It is difficult to keep the true meaning and purpose of remembering and honoring the ever present sacrifices of the military and their families and the lasting impact on their lives.

**"We Remember Them"** — *adapted from Roland Gittleson*

*In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.*

*In the opening of buds and the rebirth of spring, we*

*remember them.*

*In the rustling of leaves and the beauty of autumn, we remember them.*

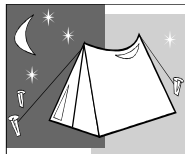
*When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.*

*So long as we live, they too shall live . . . for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.*

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### REMEMBERING WANGARI MAATHAI

In 2004, Wangari Maathai was the first African woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She was chiefly known for her work creating the Green Belt Movement in Kenya, enlisting other women to plant trees to reverse the catastrophic deforestation. It encouraged Kenyan women to stand up for themselves and participate in the legislative process. Maathai won a seat in Parliament and served as a deputy minister. She wrote many books and gave many speeches around the world, on a wide range of subjects. She died September 25 at 71 years old.



### OCCUPIED

**[Ed. Note - I sent an email to a few friends, including some UCE staff members, and was urged to put this in the newsletter. My arm was twisted. — Judith Ramey]**

I am thrilled that a new (or continuing) progressive movement is growing and gaining energy in our country. I truly believe that the forces for compassion, justice, and equality are at least as strong as those that would undermine those true American values. Those forces, that energy, have repeatedly risen up throughout our history when necessary to right what is wrong -- think civil rights movement, women's rights movement, gay rights movement, workers' rights movement, and more -- and I believe that is what is happening now.

Our protest efforts sometimes seem futile. (Think anti-Iraq war rallies in Chicago, trips to D.C. , standing on street corners in Evanston . . . . ) Reading these words from Wendell Berry can help. This is why we keep on doing it. It all adds up.

*"Much protest is naive; it expects quick, visible improvement and despairs and gives up when such improvement does not come. Protesters who hold out for longer have perhaps understood that success is not the proper goal. If protest depended on success, there would be little protest of any durability or significance. History simply affords too little evidence that anyone's individual protest is of any use. Protest that endures, I think, is moved by a hope far more modest than that of public success: namely, the hope of preserving qualities in one's own heart and spirit that would be destroyed by acquiescence." — From A Poem of Difficult Hope, by Wendell Berry*



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARY

by Margaret Shaklee

UCE is wonderfully blessed to have folks who come and stay and cherish our community for years on end, until, voila! it's been 50 years and they're our most beloved members.

This year, these stellar folks are celebrating their fiftieth year of membership with UCE: Lynn and Courtney Lawson, Mary and Alex Sproul, and Cammie Sibley.

They came to Unitarian Universalism as young adults and stayed to raise a family in this family-rich community. They pitched in for a wide variety of jobs and roles, from the rummage sale to the choir to the Board of Trustees, making friends into the bargain. They continue to nurture our community and move us toward living into our principles. Lynn and Alex have taken on the stewardship of our building, working toward a toxin-free, healthy, and socially responsible environment for our community through the Green Sanctuary Project.

**We say, "Well done!"**

## JOYS & SORROWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

*Members & friends may share personal news by writing brief notes to be read at Sunday morning services or by sending items to the church office by email or another legible form. Joys and sorrows are also posted weekly on the UCE website, [www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org), in the member protected area.*

[Ed. note: This information has been redacted to respect the privacy of individuals who have shared it with their church community.]





## Welcome New Members to UCE - October 2011



*Standing, left to right: Lisa Coveliars, Christine Allender, Maria Laubhan, Tom Ticknor, Shirley Adams.  
Seated, Austen Erickson, Katy Bridgers, James Egbert, Dominique Martin, Monica Blacconeri*

**Shirley Adams** has been a member of a UU congregation for the past 30 years, about half of her life. In 2009, she left her hometown of Decatur GA to move with her partner first to Berkeley and now to Evanston. Shirley's favorite job is teaching couples to dance (swing, salsa, etc.). She loves music and theater and is interested in the issues of ethical eating, immigration reform, the environment, and peaceful solutions to conflict.

**Christine Allender** lives in South Evanston and works at **Specials Agent**, a dot com start-up in Evanston. In her spare time, she does her best to keep up with her partner, Lisa Coveliars, and her 2 boys.

**Monica Blacconeri** and **Dominique Martin** are delighted to be joining the UCE congregation! Monica and Dominique met at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI where they both earned degrees in music education and attended the Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Upon graduation, they moved to Chicago to be near Monica's family. They were married in 2008. Currently, both Monica and Dominique are public school music teachers and they continue to enjoy singing as members of the Chicago Chamber Choir.

**Katy Bridgers** is originally from Oswego, NY and moved to the Chicago area in 2006 and is currently living in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood. The Navy brought Katy to this area by the Navy, where she spent 6 years as a singer. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Music Education at VanderCook College of Music. Her mother and sister are both Unitarian Universalists, which prompted her to seek out our congregation.

**Lisa Coveliars** is the proud mother of two spirited boys, Jayme, age 14, Josh, age 10, Jessie, golden retriever and Lola, a golden doodle. She is the Physical Education Teacher at Sauganash Elementary School in Chicago. A

favorite family activity is improv games and attending improv shows. Lisa recently purchased a new boat, she says that boating is my new study and next adventure with her partner, Chris.

**James Egbert** moved to Evanston with his family in 1971, graduated from Park School in Evanston in 1981, and has lived in Skokie for a number of years. He likes hard work and has held several jobs in the area, presently at Shore Training Center in Morton Grove. James is a great sports fan, most particularly of the Bears and the Cubs, and has a special love for the music of Michael Jackson. He has attended UCE for many years and is happy to officially become a member.

**Austen Mendel Erickson** was born in Rochester, NY, and spent four years in Sydney, Australia where he became a dual citizen. He moved to Evanston to pursue his PhD in Applied Mathematics at Northwestern University and is very excited to become a member of UCE!

**Maria Laubhan** is the eighth of nine children and was born into a devout Catholic family in Northern Mexico. Maria immigrated to the U.S. in the late 70s and is now a political scientist teaching at the College of Lake County (currently on medical leave). She has been married to her amazing husband, Dan for 21 years and together they have a bright and active 6 year-old boy, Daniel who is being raised as a Unitarian. The family lives in Highland Park, IL.

**Tom Ticknor** has recently moved back to Evanston and is rejoining UCE after a 16-year absence. Nature, classical music, and travel in Europe give him great pleasure and spiritual nurturing. He works as an independent economic development consultant to non-profits and governments in the US and Canada. He looks forward to being an active member of the UCE fellowship and thanks you for welcoming him.

## BOOKS & TALK at UCE



The **Non-fiction Book Group** selections for the rest of the church year are: November/December, *The Art of Happiness* by the Dalai Lama. In January we will discuss *Radical Disciple* by Robert McClory. The February/March book is *Super Cooperators* by Nowak/ Highfield and finally in April and May we will discuss *Consider the Lobster* by David Foster Wallace. Generally we meet on the 4th Sunday of the month after the worship - unless there is a holiday conflict. Questions? Contact John Poust [poustus@hotmail.com](mailto:poustus@hotmail.com).

The **Fiction Book Group**, will discuss *This Side of Brightness* by Colum McCann on Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the church. For more information: Hillis Howie at [howshak@att.net](mailto:howshak@att.net)

The **Intergenerational Book Group** will discuss *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead on Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 - 8 pm at the church. Parents and children are encouraged to participate but you don't have to be a parent or a child to enjoy this group. Contact Eileen Wiviott at 847-864-1330 x111 or [ewiviott@hotmail.com](mailto:ewiviott@hotmail.com) for more information.

**Book groups are open to all and the books are usually available at the Book H Bookstore.**

## BPA for KIDS??

*Ecotips*, by Lynn  
Lawson



October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the San Francisco-based Breast Cancer Fund wants us to be aware that it found bisphenol A in six different canned foods marketed to and consumed by children. BPA, used in can linings, is the estrogenic chemical linked to early puberty in girls and an increased risk of breast cancer in adulthood. The foods it tested are Annie's Homegrown Cheesy Ravioli; Campbell's Disney Princess Cool Shapes, Shaped Pasta with Chicken in Chicken Broth; Campbell's Spaghettios with Meatballs; Campbell's Toy Story Fun Shapes, Shaped Pasta with Chicken in Chicken Broth; Chef Boyardee Whole Grain Pasta, Mini ABC's & 123's with Meatballs; and Earth's Best Organic Elmo Noodlemania Soup.

So much for enticing names! "Tell Campbell Soup Company, ConAgra (maker of Chef Boyardee), Annie's Homegrown, and Hain Celestial (maker of Earth's Best) to stop marketing BPA to kids. Early-life exposures to toxic chemicals are critical to later-life breast cancer risk, so let's protect kids now," urges Melissa Walthers, MPH, Policy Coordinator Breast Cancer Fund.

**TIP: For complete test results, go to [breastcancerfund.org](http://breastcancerfund.org).**

## THE CARING CORNER

Much of the caring within UCE takes place through an informal network of "helping one another". **The Caring Program** offers a more formal network of volunteers to meet the temporary needs of members. Volunteers in the Caring Program provide meals and rides to medical appointments; they run errands, visit members who are sick or isolated, and help with memorial services. Thank you to the Caring Program volunteers who play this important role in our church community. Your ability to take the time to care for others is greatly appreciated!

If you know someone who would benefit from the services of the Caring Program or if you would like to be a volunteer, please contact the Caring Program Coordinator, Lois Taft at [taftlb@uwec.edu](mailto:taftlb@uwec.edu). You can also leave a message for Lois at the church office.

## HOLIDAY HEADS-UP

Holiday cards designed by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) are available at the Book H Bookstore after service beginning November 6. The UUSC is our denominational arm gathering funds for many social justice projects around the world, supporting civil liberties, environmental justice (especially the right to water), rights in humanitarian crises such as natural disasters, and economic justice (workers' rights). Cards are ten to a packet for \$10. Check them out!

## NOVEMBER NEIGHBORHOOD GET-TOGETHERS



UCE CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK – November 6, 5:30 pm at the home of Lorna and Jerry Galich, 2409 Hartzell, Evanston. This group includes those living north of the Church(Greenwood) and east of McDaniel. Let Jill Van Wagenen, [jvwag@aol.com](mailto:jvwag@aol.com), know if you are attending or have any questions.

SOUTH EVANSTON NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK - November 6, 6 p.m. at the home of Barbara Butz and Robb Geiger, 1106 Brummel St. in Evanston. UCE members who live South of Greenwood Ave. in Evanston are invited. Contact Mary Sproul, [marysproul@gmail.com](mailto:marysproul@gmail.com).

LINCOLN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP – 6 p.m. Sunday, November 13 at the home of Kristin Larsen and Craig Spidle, 4725 N. Rockwell, Chicago. If you live in Lincoln Square or nearby and can come, contact Kristin at [klarsen4725@gmail.com](mailto:klarsen4725@gmail.com).

## UCE WINTER WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT

Date: Jan. 27 -29, 2012 (Friday night to Sunday afternoon)

Location: George Williams College Conference Center in Lake Geneva, WI

Activities: Lots of fun indoor & outdoor activities. An open gym will be available for indoor play. A group meeting room will be available all weekend long for games and crafts. Other indoor activities are being planned, to include some combination of swimming, bowling, roller skating, and other local options. Outdoor winter activities, if the weather permits, could include cross country skiing, sledding, ice skating ,

and hiking. (Bring your own skis, sleds and/or skates.)

Purpose: Good times together with UCE families. Good conversation, meals and activities. A nice getaway to cure the winter blues and to get to know other UCE families!

Cost: Ranges from approximately \$250 to \$540 per family depending on # of people and includes option of sharing a room with another family. Rooms include two queen beds that accommodate four people comfortably, and it is possible to have a fifth person (child) sleep on a cot or on the floor in a sleeping bag.

How: Sign-up in the lobby on Sundays (in October and 1<sup>st</sup> half of November) or contact Bill Hayward directly via email or phone: [billhayward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:billhayward@sbcglobal.net)

## HOLIDAY WREATHS



UCE's Food and Shelter Team (FAST) will be taking orders for festive wreaths Nov. 6, 13, and 20 in the lobby. Part of each order helps support UCE's continuing efforts to combat hunger and homelessness in and around our local community.

You may be pleased to know that these top-quality wreaths will once again come from Anton's, a local greenhouse. They will be delivered Sunday December 4 after the worship service.

A variety of wreath options, as well as poinsettias and other seasonal floral decorations, are available. Stop by the lobby on an upcoming Sunday to see a price list and speak with a FAST team member who can help answer your questions and take your order. Payment must accompany all orders.

## EVANSTON UNITARIAN NEWS

The UCE newsletter is published monthly. All newsletter articles should be sent to *Editor Judith Ramey* at [jramey@ucevanston.org](mailto:jramey@ucevanston.org). Submissions may be sent by email (preferred), or as legible 'hard copy.' **WANT MORE NEWS? Join the UCE Announcements list for email news items throughout the week. Call or email the office, [uce@ucevanston.org](mailto:uce@ucevanston.org), 847-864-1330. Also consider the UCE website, [www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org), as a regular source of information.**

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EVANSTON  
1330 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201  
[www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org)

**Ministers:** Rev. Dr. Janet E. Newman, Interim Parish Minister (ext. 201); Rev. Ms. Constance L. Grant (ext. 103) **Staff:** Bart Bradfield, *Director of Music*; Gregory Shifrin, *Pianist*; Sandra Robinson, *Executive Operations Director* (108); Chris Isely, *Accounting Manager* (109); Judith Ramey, *Communications Director* (114); Eileen Wiviott, *Membership Director* (111); Carli Magel, *Administrative Assistant* (102); Brenda Dunkins, *Church Assistant* (101); Lindsey Kennedy, Liz Kennedy, and Jonathan Motley, *Lobby Staff*.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Sandy Danforth  
[danforthsc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danforthsc@sbcglobal.net)  
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JoAnn Schalk [j.schalk@att.net](mailto:j.schalk@att.net)  
Betty Walker [blw35@comcast.net](mailto:blw35@comcast.net)  
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Michael Takada [mdtakada@gmail.com](mailto:mdtakada@gmail.com)

### SECRETARY

Jim Clark [james807@sbcglobal.net](mailto:james807@sbcglobal.net)

### TREASURER

Marc Rolfes [marcrolfes@aol.com](mailto:marcrolfes@aol.com)

## THE MINISTERS' SCHEDULES

**Rev. Dr. Janet Newman** is generally in the office during the day Monday thru Thursday and often has evening meetings on those days. She takes Friday as her Sabbath day.

Please call or email for an appointment. In an emergency, the office will know how to reach her.

[jnewman@ucevanston.org](mailto:jnewman@ucevanston.org)

847 864-1330 ext. 201 (office)

**Rev. Connie Grant** is generally in the office during the day on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and often has evening meetings on those days. She takes Mondays as sabbath days, and works at home on Fridays.

Please email or call for an appointment. In an emergency, you may call her at home at any time.

[cgrant@ucevanston.org](mailto:cgrant@ucevanston.org)

(847) 864-1330 ext 103 (office)

(847) 222-0457 (home)



**JUNIOR MANCE  
to  
PERFORM  
JANUARY 14**

Junior Mance, Jazz Piano  
Legend, performs at UCE on Saturday,  
January 14.

You can purchase tickets on our  
website at [www.ucevanston.org](http://www.ucevanston.org).

Select donations/tickets on the top  
bar. You can also purchase tickets on

Sunday morning  
from Lindsey Kennedy  
in the lobby.

See you there!

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UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EVANSTON  
1330 Ridge Avenue at Greenwood  
Evanston, Illinois 60201