

# EVANSTON



## UNITARIAN NEWS

Join us for worship!  
Services take place on Sunday morning at 9:00 and 11:00 am

### UCE Holiday Office Hours

The UCE Office will be closed for the holidays beginning at 1pm on Wednesday, December 24. We will reopen at 9am on Monday, January 5.

The church will be open for Christmas Eve services at 5 and 9pm on December 24. We will also be open for services on Sunday, December 28 and January 4.

December 19, 2014

### This Sunday at UCE

**Sunday, December 21**

**Worship Service - 9 and 11am  
"Participatory Pageant"**

We'll enact the Christmas story and reflect on its meaning. Have you always wanted to be a star? Or maybe an angel, a wise person, or a shepherd? This is your chance! No advance preparation is required: costumes, props, and stage directions will be provided on the spot. A worship service for all ages. Please bring a plate of your favorite holiday treats or other finger food to be shared after the services.

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Stewardship Committee**

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Relations Team**

**Crackerbarrel - 9:30am**

**"Mass Immigration and the National Interest. Jobs Americans won't do? A nation of immigrants"**

Consider some facts and ideas outside the Wall Street Journal or the New York Times or the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, from Frederick Douglass and Barbara Jordan to George Borjas and Norman Matloff. Discussion Leader: Jack Cooksey



**Holiday Treat Celebration  
12:30pm**

Celebrate the winter holidays with a little treat! Please bring your favorite holiday treat or finger food to share with the congregation.

Please attach a note about anything others might want to know about your treat, for example, "contains nuts" or "gluten free."

**From the Board of Trustees**

**Submitted by: Janet Hartmann, Board Member**

**A personal view of 'policy governance'**

You have read a number of board newsletter posts about our undertaking of policy governance. I'm a big fan of policy governance but I hope that case has already been made. Instead, I want to write about trust and respect as essential elements in policy governance. [Click here to read more.](#)

**News from the Integrated Stewardship Council**

**Submitted by Jane Kenamore, ISC Co-Chair**

**Ann Peterson to Chair Phase I of Capital Campaign Effort**

We are happy to report that Ann Peterson will chair Phase I -- the investigative phase of the upcoming Capital Campaign. Ann has been a member of UCE since 1985 -- in her words, she "went for something spiritual and found a community...and a husband!" Recently retired, Ann was formerly the Customer Contact Director for the National Safety Council, a position that involved supervising some 150 people. [Click here to read more.](#)

**News from the Endowment Committee**

**Submitted by: Jim Clark, Endowment Chair**

As you think about honoring or remembering that

**News from the UCE Mentoring Program - Mentor Post**

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**Upcoming UCE Events**

Click each event for more information.

[Sunday, Dec. 21, 10 and 12pm  
Holiday Treat Celebration](#)

[Sunday, Dec. 21, 12:30pm  
Rainbow Alliance Meeting](#)

[Wednesday, Dec. 24, 5 and 9pm  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services](#)

[Sunday, Dec. 28, 12:30pm  
Non-Fiction Book Group](#)

[Fridays, Jan 2 and 16, 7:30pm  
Bridge](#)

[Saturday, Jan 3, 7pm  
UU Wanna Dance](#)

[Sunday, Jan 4, 12:00  
Haitian Independence Luncheon](#)

special person for the Holiday Season, read why UCE member Roy Carlson believes in the power of the Endowment Fund. [Click here to read more.](#)

## News from the Congregational Relations Team

Submitted by: Brian Meister, CRT co-chair

### Gratitude and February Workshop

It has been my honor to be part of the process of forming and implementing the Congregational Relations Team. I am now co-chair of the team with Carla Leone-Sands. Our work as a team is derived from the UCE Covenant of Engagement. The Covenant of Engagement can be found on the UCE website in the link, [Living our Covenant of Engagement](#), for those of you have not yet memorized it.

As one who has not memorized the Covenant I like to go back to it as a source to ground myself both in my UCE life and as a member of society. It seems to me I need special grounding during the holidays though I know that the principles of being in healthy relations are a 24/7 lifelong process. [Click here to read more.](#)

## News from the UCE Mentoring Program - Mentor Post

Submitted by: Michael Anderson

### President Obama Praises OneGoal

You may know that UCE has a fledgling mentoring program called Mentor Post. You may not know that one of the programs we're linked with, OneGoal, recently got a nod from President Obama. (See the attached video link). OneGoal is a program that helps under-served high school students in Chicago, Houston and New York enter, persist in and graduate from college. Hence: OneGoal. The program was founded by Jeff Nelson, the son of former UCE members, Sherry and Bill Nelson. Proud of them! And proud to be supporting OneGoal!

For more information about Mentor Post, please contact one of our Steering Committee members: Ann Peterson, Dana Deane, Eileen Wiviott, Robb Geiger or Michael Anderson.

[Click here to view the video.](#)

## News from Rainbow Alliance

Submitted by: Yael Fuerst

The Rainbow Alliance, in collaboration with the Food

[Sunday, Jan. 4, 12:30pm](#)  
[Divorcing Women's Group](#)

[Tuesdays, Jan 6-27, 7:00pm](#)  
[The Transcendentalists and the Unitarians: Challenge and Change](#)

[Tuesday, Jan 6, 10am](#)  
[Common Threads](#)

[Friday, Jan 9, 6:30pm](#)  
[Game Night](#)

[Tuesday, Jan 27, 7pm](#)  
[Common Threads](#)

[Friday, Feb 20 - Saturday, Feb 21](#)  
[Income Inequality Workshop](#)

## Community Involvement

Click each event for more information.

[Monday, Jan. 5, 6:30pm](#)  
[Volunteer Training for Evanston's Emergency Overnight Shelter](#)

[New Volunteer Opportunities at Connections for the Homeless](#)

[Connections for the Homeless Take-Action Lunch Club](#)

[Evanston School Circle Volunteer Opportunity](#)

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

**Wednesday, December 24**  
**5 and 9pm**



Stories, carols, and music of the season.

**Pledge Payments up to Date?**

and Shelter Team, hosted a great panel discussion on LGBT Youth and Homelessness on December 5th. Check out the coverage on the [Windy City Times](#) and on [The Youth Project](#).

Three of the panelists are involved in the Youth Empowerment Performance Project (YEPP), which engages LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness. Both the Rainbow Alliance and the Food and Shelter teams are currently partnering with YEPP on a variety of projects. [Click here to read more.](#)

### News from the Food and Shelter Team

**Connections for the Homeless Take-Action Lunch Club**, had its first meeting on Wednesday, December 10th to present some of the initiatives to end homelessness locally and nationally.

Speakers from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, and the Housing and Grants Administrator of the City of Evanston explained the need and their cooperative efforts to prioritize and target who receives help in order to have the greatest impact; the effectiveness of rapid re-housing, housing-first, and permanent supportive housing approaches to ending homelessness; and the need for more affordable housing in our communities.

[Click here to read more about the plan to end homelessness and what you can do to help.](#)

### News from Community Renewal Society Submitted by: Dale Griffin

#### Make Martin Luther King Day count!

Momentum is growing to make it easier for people with records to find employment thanks to a hearing attended by UCE members. We are meeting with local legislators to invite them to the CRS Martin Luther King Jr. Day event January 19th. You come too! [Click here to read more.](#)

### News from Green Sanctuary Submitted by: Heather Brown

#### We're dreaming of a green Christmas...

Happy holidays from the Green Sanctuary team. As Christmas rapidly approaches, we encourage our congregation to be mindful of how much additional waste is typically generated during the holidays. It's

**Please try to bring your pledge payment up to date by December 31. Your payments will be tax deductible in 2014.**

**Thank you!**

**December Sing Thing  
Monday, December 29  
7:00pm at the Nielsens' House**

Special date, special program! UCE's Sing Thing will be featuring HOLIDAY SONGS for at least part of the evening. There will be song sheets, food and drink. **This special December Sing Thing will be at the Nielsens' house, 2100 Noyes Street in Evanston.** Bring some sweet or salty snack to share!

**Dance into the new year at UCE**

**Saturday, January 3, 7pm**

Cha cha dance lesson for beginners, then dancing from 8pm til 10pm to a variety of music.

BYOB. Some snacks provided.

No fee for the dance but donations welcome for the church.

Come alone or with a partner. Bring Friends!

**Seeking Home Hospitality for the UU Conference on Pay Inequality**

We are seeking home hospitality for the UU Conference Escalating Inequality or Opportunity for All? to be held at the church, February 20-22, 2015. Having enough home stays will make the conference more affordable for everyone and will help us make full use of the grant we received to support scholarships.

estimated that most households have a 25% increase in waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.



We'd like to encourage everyone to make some simple changes in how we celebrate Christmas, which collectively, can make a big difference. For example, as most wrapping paper is not recyclable, this year, think outside the (gift) box. Use reusable/recyclable paper gift bags instead of gift wrapping paper. And skip the bows and ribbons! Buy rechargeable batteries. The possibilities are endless.

We'd also like to remind you about two of Green Sanctuary's favorite topics--how to recycle items that are difficult to recycle and how to compost, both right at our church! [Click here to read more.](#)

## UCE's Annual Rummage Sale

UCE's annual Rummage Sale is a long running tradition. For decades UCE has provided its members, neighbors and their friends an opportunity to donate, and thus RECYCLE no longer needed items. The Rummage Sale is a massive effort and brings us together as a community.

Save the dates, May 1-2 for the sale; save the week before to help sort and set up. Our first organizational meeting is Jan. 25 at 12:30 at UCE. This first meeting is for department chairs and anyone interested in participating in the presale planning and preparation. Nancy Lee and Maggie Wilson have been co-chairs for several years, and would like to expand the leadership team.

Contact [Nancy Lee](#) or [Maggie Wilson](#) if you would like more information.

## Intergenerational Book Group Saturday, December 20, at 2:00pm

The Intergenerational Book Group will be discussing "Speak" by Laurie Halse Anderson. The meeting will be held at the home of Jeff Halldin and Marybeth Burdelak, 749 Asbury Ave., Evanston (about five blocks south of UCE). Copies of this teen-level book are still available at the book cart.

If you have any questions or need directions, contact [Jeff Halldin](#). We look forward to an interesting

To find out more about the conference go to the website: <http://uujec.com/purposeAndGoals>. If you wish to attend, you can sign up at the website above. If you can offer home hospitality, please complete the form located at: <http://tinyurl.com/uujec-hospitality>. Contact [Carol Nielsen](#) for questions on home stays.

## Bundled Blessings Diaper Pantry



Donate diapers to benefit low-income families in the Evanston area. UCE is partnering with the Bundled Blessings Program at First United Methodist Church to keep babies in clean diapers. The collection bin is located in the lobby opposite the coat rack.

The Bundled Blessings Program helps low-income families by supplying diapers that are not covered by the Illinois LINK card. If you have unused diapers your child has outgrown or if you can purchase new diapers, please donate to the Bundled Blessings Program.

## UCE Game Night Friday, January 9, 6:30-9:00pm





discussion!

## Non-Fiction Book Group Sunday, December 28, at 12:30pm

The non-fiction book group will be continuing its discussion of "Capital in the 21st Century" by Thomas Picketty. If you want to wrap your head around some knotty issues of income and wealth inequality, whether or not you've read the book, please join us.

## Bridge Fridays, January 2 and 16, 7:30pm

Calling all bridge players, old or new, rusty or active. Come and play bridge at UCE on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month. We start around 7:30pm or as soon as 4 players arrive. No partner? That's no problem. We guarantee partners.

## Common Threads Tuesday, January 6, 10am and Tuesday, January 27, 7pm

Common Threads, the UCE knitting and crocheting group, meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10am, and the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm. every month, usually in Room 2.

We make hats and blankets for babies and scarves and shawls for people who we think would like a hand-knitted or crocheted care shawl. Sometimes, we also work on our own projects. We have a huge stash of donated yarn, needles, and directions, as well as people who can help you improve your knitting and crocheting skills.

Contact [Joan Horberg](#) with any questions. See you there!

## Composting at UCE

At the south end of the parking lot, there are two green totes for compost. If you would like to participate in this composting program for church members and friends, please remember to contribute for this valuable service by making automatic payments through our website or sending in semi-annual or annual payments in the amount of \$5 per person, per month. If paying by checking make it out to UCE and write "composting" in the memo line. Thank you for caring for our planet by diverting waste from our landfills.

Bring your favorite games, a healthy snack, a fun-loving friend, or just your own winning spirit and good sportsmanship! This is an all ages event.

## Sign up to make bag breakfasts for Connections

We will be assembling 40 breakfasts to bring to Connections for the Homeless on 3 dates on the 30 Days of Love Calendar. Please sign up now to bring items and help us assemble them into brown bags. This is a great activity for families with young kids. Visit the [Volunteer Page](#) or the [Food and Shelter Page](#) on our website for more info and to sign up.

## 30 Days of Love returns - MLK Day to Valentine's Day

Look for the Calendar, coming soon, loaded with lots of ways you and your family can participate in actions to Stand on the Side of Love. The 30 Days begins with our Social Action Fair after the 2nd service on January 18th. Don't miss it!



## YOGA

### 8am on Sunday Morning

Yoga at UCE is designed to reduce stress, bring relaxation, increase range of motion, and find balance - restorative yoga. Enjoy doing yoga before the service. If you never have done yoga before, this is your opportunity. Drop in, wear comfortable clothing for stretching, and try it. Yoga is learned by doing. Community yoga mats provided if needed.

Contact [Doug Erickson](#) or [Jessica](#)

## Upcoming Membership Classes

[Tomell-Presto](#) with any questions.

**Intro to Unitarian Universalism - Sunday, January 11; 12:30 - 2pm.** Led by Rev. Bret, we'll look at our history, our principles, the sources of our faith, and the meaning of covenant. This is the first step in the membership process.

**Orientation Toward Membership - Saturday, January 17; 9 am - noon.** Led by Rev. Connie and Membership Director, Eileen Wiviott. An interactive morning exploring our spiritual journeys, the diversity of our beliefs, and what it means to be a member of this congregation. This is the second step in the membership process.

Sign up at the Guest & Member Table in the lobby or email [Eileen Wiviott](mailto:Eileen.Wiviott).

### Ministers' Schedules

**Rev. Bret Lortie** is available on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and by appointment. Monday is sabbath and Friday devoted to writing. To send a message, read Rev. Bret's blog, or sign up for a weekly meditations, visit [www.liberalfaith.org](http://www.liberalfaith.org).

**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 off and works at home on Fridays. Please email or call Connie for an appointment. Contact [cgrant@ucevanston.org](mailto:cgrant@ucevanston.org); (847) 864-1330 ext. 103 (office); (847) 840-8542 (cell).

### Rainbow Alliance Presents Crys Matthews Benefit Concert

**Saturday, January 10  
7pm at UCE**

Crys Matthews is an eclectic blend of Americana, folk, funk, blues and jazz and with influences ranging from Otis Redding all the way to Ani DiFranco.

Proceeds benefit YEPP, an LGBTQ youth theater initiative. They will perform a selection from their Faces piece.

[Click here to purchase tickets](#)

### Quick Links

[ucevanston.org](http://ucevanston.org)

[Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Listen to Sermons](#)

[Joys and Sorrows](#) (protected documents)

[Facebook](#)

**KEEP  
UCE**  
THE ENDOWMENT FUND

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