

EVANSTON

UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Join us for worship and religious education at 9:15 and 11:00am on Sunday Morning!

March 30, 2018

Deadline to have articles included in newsletter and order of service;
send to uce@ucevanston.org by 2pm Wednesdays.

This Sunday at UCE

April 1 at 9:15 and 11am Rev. Lortie

"Stories of Emergence – Stories of Easter" The story of Easter is an ancient one and modern one, from pre-Christian fertility tales to reinterpretations of the resurrection story in universal forms. **And don't forget our Easter Egg Hunt at 10:20 on the southeast lawn, and Brunch at noon.**

Crackerbarrel April 1, 2018

News Bias - How do we build trust in what some have called a post-fact world? Is bias between conservative and liberal a meaningful? Would a globalization vs. nationalism offer a more useful framework? No one has all the answers. So come prepared to share your thoughts and strategies for feeding your worldview with complete and reliable information. Come prepared to listen and learn from the insights, stories, and strategies that others share. Discussion Leader: George Monical

Join us to Stand in support of Black Lives Matter Sundays, 12:10pm-12:30pm

You are invited to stand on Ridge Avenue between 12:10pm and 12:30pm to support the Black Lives Matter movement. Signs and buttons are available for purchase at the back of the sanctuary. Signs and song lyrics will be provided for use today. Sponsored by the REAL team.

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The Chris Isely Cancer Support Group Sundays - 9:30am

The group is open to anyone facing cancer, either personally or through a family member or friend. This lay-led group is a safe place for sharing and hope. Interested participants are encouraged to drop in any time. Questions? Contact [Renee Hoff](#).

Endowment Fund Gift Announcement

\$1,000,000!

We are thrilled to announce that the Endowment Fund recently received a \$1,000,000 donation from some very generous UCE members. This amazing gift will allow our congregation to further live out our UU values and principles-to unite as a church community and dream together about how we can do the most good, who we can impact, and where we can effect change. [read more...](#)

Upcoming Worship Services

April 8 at 9:15 and 11am
Ministerial Intern Susan Frances
"Shaping Our Future Together"

Easter Activities

Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch, Sun Apr 1

UCE will host a children's egg hunt between our Easter services April 1st, starting at 10:20. In fair weather, families should meet us on the southeast lawn behind the sanctuary; in case of rain, an alternate location will be announced during the service. Please bring your little ones to join in the fun!



We will also host a congregation wide Easter Brunch Potluck to follow the second service at noon. If you plan to join us, please sign up to contribute to our brunch potluck <http://bit.ly/2tTOHSm>. Come on and join us for our Easter celebrations!

Easter Service Music

**Marybeth Kurnat (soprano) and
Matthew Agnew (cellist) will join the UCE
Choir on Easter Sunday at 11am.**

Education Classes

Midwest Leadership School
Scholarships

UCE Caregivers Group
Special Guest Speakers

'Insist on Justice! Resist
Inequality!' Apr. 21

Camp Unistar in Minnesota

New Tax Law Information

Composting at UCE

[Easter Egg Hunt April 1, 10;20](#)

[Easter Brunch April 1 at noon
to bring food \[click here:\]\(#\)](#)

[Daring Democracy in
Today's Political
Environment Tuesday April 3,
7-9pm](#)

[Paganism Tuesdays, April 10,
17, 24, 7-9pm](#)

['Insist on Justice! Resist
Inequality!' Saturday, April 21
9:30-3:00](#)

[Simplicity Tuesdays, May 8, 15,
22, 7-9pm](#)

[Hannah Arendt and the Banality
of Evil Tuesdays, May 29, June
5, 12, 7-9pm](#)

[UCE Addictions and Recovery
Group Thursday Nights, 7pm](#)

[Yoga Sunday Mornings,
9:00am & Wednesday
Mornings, 9:30am](#)

One-on-One meet ups on April 8th at coffee hour

Build connections and power through a one-on-one conversation. You may have heard about the practice of one-on-ones many of our members engage in. These are intentional and personal conversations about what matters most to us, so that we may find ways of working together. There will be a table once a month on Sundays in the back of the sanctuary by the coffee urns. Meet here to be paired with someone for

[click here for details.](#)



a one on one conversation, to learn more and to ask questions.

Rummage Sale
May 4: 9-5 and May 5: 9-12
Celebrate spring!
Make way for the new!
Clear out unused but still useful stuff!
Bring it to UCE's Annual Rummage Sale
When to bring your donations:
Sunday, April 29: 2-8;
Mon-Tues, 9-8.

A Farewell Potluck to Rev. Bret and Cindy

**Friday, April 27th,
5-8pm.**

Help us celebrate Bret's ministry, wish him well and say goodbye.

[Click Here to sign up to bring a dish.](#)



Brighten our worship service with flowers and light. Mark a special occasion or honor a loved one. Bring flowers for our chancel and tend the chalice flame in our worship services. Contact the UCE office at uce@ucevanston.org with the date you'd like to bring flowers and dedication words for the order of service. [click here](#) to go to the website sign up page.



From the UCE Board President

Your Input on Interim Minister

As the board moves forward with the Interim Minister search process, we'd like your input. Just [click here to answer this one question survey](#). We will be filling out the application form in the next couple of weeks, so we'd appreciate your quick response. [\[read more\]](#)

**Daring Democracy in Today's Political Environment
Tuesday April 3, 2018**

Creating Political Solutions Together, discussion Daring Democracy, pp. 79-163, 7 pm Tuesday, April 3. Books are available at UCE office or through Amazon. Tom Ticknor Discussion Leader

A Message from UCE's Racial Equity Action and Leadership team (REAL)

Recently, a shocking racist incident occurred at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church (TJMC) in Charlottesville, Virginia. Read what happened, and how the recipient of the racism responded, and how the church itself responded. What does this mean for us at UCE? Might this kind of thing happen here? If it did how would we handle it?

Our Giving House



This month we are collecting cleaning supplies for the Evanston Interfaith Refugee Round Table. Thank you, as always, for your generosity.

Community Involvement

Click event for more information.

[Traffic Changes Lake and Ridge Start April 4.](#)

[YWCA Let's Talk @ Lunch Third](#)

Do you think TJMC handled it well or would you have done something differently? Please [click here](#) to read the article.

News From the Board of Trustees Volunteers Make It Happen

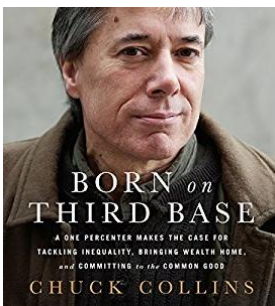


Volunteers are the life-blood of any non-profit organization. The paid staff and clergy keep the body healthy, of course, and the Board of Trustees through policy-making builds the skeleton on which the church can grow, but its volunteers who put flesh on the bones and make it come alive.

Volunteers give any program or project its human touch - they infuse their work with beauty and humor and fun. They bring skills to the tasks, they bring energy, and they bring the wisdom of the crowd. [read more](#)

Born on Third Base

The Nonfiction Book Group will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 22, in room 3 to discuss Chuck Collins' book "Born on Third Base: A One Percenter Makes the Case for Tackling Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home, and Committing to the Common Good." The author presents the case for why the privileged and



powerful must act to reverse widening inequality of income, wealth, and political power in America. Copies of the book are available at the Book H and at public libraries.

Author Chuck Collins will be joining our discussion

after being the keynote speaker at the justice workshop at UCE on Saturday, April 21.

Light refreshments will be served at our meeting and everyone is welcome to join us.

Upcoming Adult Religious Education Classes

Daring Democracy in Today's Political Environment

[Thursday of the Month](#)

UCE Food With Spirit Group

Do you have a complicated relationship with food? Join us at UCE, 5:30pm every other Thursday to discuss nutrition, eating patterns, emotional triggers, recipes, or whatever comes up among the group members. We have read a couple of helpful books together recently. Talk to [Peggy Bocard](#) or [Julia Takarada](#) if you want to know more. All are welcome.

Upcoming Membership Classes

Intro to UU
Sunday April 15, 2018
12:30 - 2:00 pm
Room 3

Orientation
Toward Membership
Saturday, May 19, 2018
9:00am - noon
Room 3

Even if you didn't sign up but would like to attend, please join us. This is a meaningful and engaging way to learn about what it means to be a member and how to become more deeply involved in the life of the congregation. Led by Assistant Minister, Rev. Eileen Wiviott.

Sign up at the guest table in the lobby or email Rev. Eileen at ewiviott@ucevanston.org. Childcare available upon request for both of these classes.

Connecting UU: a path to belonging at UCE

45 minute discussions; Sundays at 10:15 in Room 12. These sessions are open to all, no matter where you are on your journey. Childcare available. No need to sign up in advance.

UU Principles - Understanding the seven principles, an enlightening discussion led by members of the New Member Committee.

Tuesdays, March 20, 27, April 3, 2018
Facilitated by Tom Ticknor

Paganism
Tuesdays, April 10, 17, 24, 2018
Facilitated by Taryn Nelson Seawright and
ministerial intern Susan Frances

Simplicity
Tuesdays, May 8, 15, 22, 2018
Facilitated by Dick Whitaker

Hannah Arendt and the Banality of Evil
Tuesdays, May 29, June 5, 12, 2018
Facilitated by Julia Takarada and Dan Solomon

[Click here for more information on these classes
and to sign up.](#)

Midwest Leadership School

We are pleased to offer youth and adult scholarships to the Midwest Leadership School



- a week-long intensive program in leadership and group dynamics led by lay and ordained staff. Those who have attended from our congregation have found it to be a powerful experience. Participating

in this program will help you to gain tools and skills for congregational leadership and deepen your sense of UU identity. The week takes place in Decorah Iowa from Sunday, July 15 through Saturday July 21st. Scholarship applications (for [Adults](#) for [Youth](#)) are due by April 15th. You will be notified by May 1st and registration for the leadership school is due by June 1st. To learn more about Midwest Leadership School, visit <https://www.mwls.org> or contact Margaret Schatz at mesharbor@gmail.com from the Leadership Development Team if you have questions.

Join UCE Caregivers Group for Special Presentations

The larger UCE congregation and members of the community are invited to join the UCE Caregivers Group on **Tuesday, April 10, 7-9 pm, room 6: Challenge of Change - healthy tips for finding joy and peace in everyday life, even in the midst of major changes.**
Eileen Boggins

UU Sources - A discussion of the six sources from which we draw wisdom and spiritual nourishment.

Spiritual Journeys (4 parts) - take any one or all of them in any order. Explore your religious and spiritual background, where you come from, what you want to cherish and what you want to release, and how you practice your spirituality.

How to Get Involved - Learn how to become more engaged in the life of the church, find groups and activities of interest, discover the way things get done, answer your questions about belonging in our community.

UCE History and Tour - Learn more about the history, architecture and art of our building through a guided tour led by one of our long-term members. Tour begins at the back of the sanctuary near the large mural.

Things to Know About our Community

Interested in knowing more about UCE? How to submit something to Joys and Sorrows? How to get a nametag, or a rainbow or pronoun sticker for your nametag? Interested in bringing flowers and lighting the chalice on a Sunday? [Click here for more information about our community!](#)

Yoga at UCE



Join us every Sunday at 8:15am and every Wednesday at 9:30am.

Yoga at UCE is designed to reduce stress, bring relaxation, increase range of motion, and find balance - restorative yoga. 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.

If you have questions, contact [Renee Hoff](#) or [Joyce Lofstrom](#).

Organizing Team Events

CRUNCH TIME FOR ADVOCACY

Now, near the end of the Illinois legislative session, is the time to take action on CRS and UUANI issues of race, poverty, gun safety and the climate. Please join us for any of these:

- CRS bus trip (from UCE) to Springfield April 17 on Fair Tax, gun safety, and restorative justice
- Faith in Place trip to Springfield April 26 on Fair Tax and environmental issues
- Local meetings with legislators on these issues next week
- Sign up for UUANI weekly action alerts at [UUANI.org](#).

RSVP or more information with Dale Griffin at DaleCGriffin@comcast.net.

Join us April 21 to "Insist on Justice! Resist Inequality!"

"Insist on Justice! Resist Inequality!" is the workshop at UCE on Saturday, April 21 9:30am-3pm. Come and share ideas and best practices with Ralph Martire of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability and with Fred Tsao of the Center for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. They'll be joining with representatives from other local social justice groups to help us improve our organizing skills and become more effective activists. [to register and get more info.](#)

UU Summer Camp Unistar in Minnesota



Are you interested in a great summertime UU experience? Camp UniStar is a UU camp for individuals and families, in the Chippewa National Forest on Star Island in northern Minnesota. The summer long program has different program weeks all summer, cabins to sleep in, terrific meals served in the lodge, many activities enjoying the great outdoors. This is not rustic so you don't need to worry that you might sleep on the ground. Carol and Brian Nielsen

UCE Facebook Groups



Did you know that, in addition to the [UCE Facebook Page](#), there are three UCE groups that members can join - the [UCE Member to Member Group](#), the [UCE Children and Youth Religious Education Group](#) and the [UCE Social Action Group](#)?

These are closed groups that allow members to post directly to each other. If you have an event you want members to know about, or have a cause you hope to bring attention to, in addition to the newsletter and order of service, you can post to the Facebook Group. Click the links above or search for the groups by name when you are on Facebook and ask to join.

Post Your Reviews of UCE on Social Media

Whatever app you use, post a review of your experience at UCE. We hope you find meaning, joy and healthy challenge in our community. And we hope that others who would benefit from a community like ours will find us. If you want to share the impact that our congregation has had on your life, consider writing a quick, positive review of our church on Facebook, Yelp, Google maps, Twitter, Instagram or whatever apps you use.

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 or read Rev. Bret's blog, visit www.liberalfaith.org.

Rev. Eileen Wiviott has office

went last summer for a week-long study of the poetry of Mary Oliver. They will be going again this year to talk about Social Justice and UU values. The Niensens recommend this experience for anyone with interests in spirituality, science, sailing, social justice, self-reflection, yoga, dance, music or crafts. Ask Carol or Brian about it, or visit www.campunistar.org.

New Tax Law May Make Giving A Qualified Charitable Distribution From Your IRA a Viable Option for Giving to UCE For Those 70 ½ or Older

The new tax law, which begins with 2018, increases the standard deduction to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples. That may mean that those people who itemized deductions in the past may not have enough deductions, including charitable contributions, to exceed the standard deduction allowances, and will lose the tax benefit of such contributions. However, there is a way to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an IRA that will not count as income if certain requirements are met. [Click here to read more.](#)

Composting at UCE

Join with other church members this year in using the church's composting service for a small annual contribution of \$60 per person (up to a \$180 maximum per household). You may have noticed the two green containers at the southeast corner of our church parking lot. They are there for your use once you have committed to this service. For an additional \$10, we will provide you with your very own kitchen counter composting bucket. (Plastic bags are not acceptable containers because they are not compostable.)

If you are interested in joining this movement for 2018, if you have any questions about this program, please contact Compost Program Coordinator John LaPlante at johnlaplante73@gmail.com.

Board of Trustees

The UCE Board of Trustees meeting is held the third Wednesday of each month in Room 3. All members are welcome to attend.

hours most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and often evening meetings on those days. Mondays are sabbatical days and Fridays she works from home. Please contact her via email at ewiviott@ucevanston.org, or via phone at (847) 864-1330 x111 (office), or (224) 565-3952 (cell).

Opportunities for Spiritual Practice

[3rd Mondays at 6:30pm](#)
[Ecstatic Dance with Cindy Lortie](#)

[Tuesdays at 6:30pm](#) (1st timers, 6)
[Zen Meditation with Udumbara](#)

[Wednesdays at 9:30am](#)
[Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto](#)

[Saturdays at 9am](#) (1st timers, 8:30)
[Zen Meditation with Udumbara](#)

[Sundays at 8:15am](#)
[Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto](#)

[Quarterly](#)
[Dances of Universal Peace](#)

Quick Links

ucevanston.org

[Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Listen to Sermons](#)

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

[Facebook](#)

[UCE Member to Member Facebook Group](#)

[UCE Children and Youth Religious Education Facebook Group](#)

[UCE Social Action Facebook Group](#)

