

EVANSTON

UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation



**Capital Campaign Town Hall Meeting
Sunday, Decemember 16 - 12:30pm - Rm 3**

This Sunday, December 16, 2018 at UCE

Worship Services - 9:15am Carols & Christmas Story, 11:00am Pageant!

At **9:15am** We'll tell and sing the Christmas story. All Ages service.

At **11am** our annual do-it-yourself improv Christmas pageant! Come hear – and help tell! – the story of the birth of Jesus. A bit unorthodox, but make no mistake: you'll find the heart of the season here. Come get your Christmas on! Service led by Dr. Mary Shelden. All Ages service (sanctuary).

The Chris Isely Cancer Support Group - 9:30am, Rm 2

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 anytime. Questions?

Contact [Renee Hoff](#)

Invitation to Membership - 10am & 12:15pm - Minister's Study

Forum (formerly Cracker Barrel) - 9:30am - Rm 6

Topic: UCE's Green Team Carries On. Even though our president pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Agreement, hundreds of private corporations, cities, counties, and faith associations, including UCE's Green Team, continue to work toward reducing greenhouse gases. Learn how. Leader: former team chair Michael Drennan.

Boston Bound Bake Sale & Cookie Exchange - 10am & 12pm - Sanctuary

Capital Campaign Town Hall - 12:30pm - Rm 3

We will have a congregational information meeting after the 11am church service to share with you the rest of the research results about the Feasibility Study.

**Join Us to Stand in Support of Black Lives Matter
12:10pm - 12:30pm**

You are invited to stand on Ridge Ave. 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. Sponsored by the REAL team.

Card Writing Parties - 10:15am & 12pm - Back of Sanctuary

Join us in sending holiday cards to incarcerated UUs. CLF's Ambassador Program of Illinois has 30+ incarcerated members who would love to receive some holiday love. Blank cards will be provided along with more about how to get involved including how to become a penpal. This will be one of three UU holiday card writing parties held Sun 12/16 in Illinois.

Christmas Eve Services

**Candlelight services
at 5pm & 9pm at UCE
December 24th**



From The Assistant Minister

“Look for the Helpers” ~ Fred Rogers

I think of this quote from Mr. Rogers often. It's good to see Mr. Rogers finally in vogue. I don't mean his fashion sense but his spirit, his gentleness, and his genuine kindness. I think he was under-appreciated in his time. With the recent documentary and biographies of his life, I think he's getting his due. [[Click here for more](#)]



Holiday Greeting

As we begin to celebrate the Holiday Season, the Board of Trustees wishes each UCE member and friend a very Happy Holiday Season and a Peaceful and Healthy 2019. The Board is especially grateful for our wonderful and caring staff and the generous support they provide to make UCE a beacon of light in the Evanston community and beyond. We also wish to thank the volunteers who donate so much of their time, talent, and energy to make UCE what it is.

UCE's Sunday Forum – What It Is and How It Works

Forum meets at 9:30am and ends at 10:30am. We begin on time and end on time. Forum is a Sunday morning, lay led program that has contributed to UCE's rich community for more than a half century under a variety of names; Forum replaces the

former Crackerbarrel. It depends for its success upon its discussion leaders and is grateful to those UCE members and invited guests who help facilitate timely and relevant conversations. Topics generally but not always focus on the humanities, natural and social sciences, and elements of secular humanism. Forum attempts to address issues that relate to the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism (www.uua.org), which allow for a broad spectrum of interpretations. Forum's moderators welcome suggestions both for topics and discussion leaders.

This is Forum's format:

We begin with a couple of minutes of brief announcements. The discussion leader for the day's topic speaks for about fifteen to twenty minutes laying out a framework for discussion, and then we open up the conversation with questions, comments, and an exchange of views. Discussion is always civil and respectful; it is the responsibility of the moderators to make certain that differing outlooks and opinions are courteously heard and that everyone who wishes to speak has opportunity to do so. Those who want to comment are asked to raise a hand so that the moderators can ensure broad and orderly participation. Guidelines for meaningful and polite discussion are posted in the meeting room and are followed.

Forum moderators are Julia Takarada and Jim Kepler.

Sharing of Holiday Treats! Sun Dec 16: 9:15 Carols! and 11:00am Pageant!

Sun Dec 16: 9:15 Carols! and 11:00 Pageant! Sharing of Holiday Treats! With Bake Sale & Cookie Exchange (by Boston Bound Youth & Mentors) For our early service on December 16, we'll assemble to sing our way through the service. Come sing with us as we ready ourselves spiritually for the holidays.



At our second service, then, we'll re-enact the Christmas story and consider what it means to us. Susan Frances, our intern, will be our Narrator, and we'll improvise the rest. No advance prep required: we'll supply costumes and give stage directions on the spot. A worship service for all ages. Childcare will be available as usual in our Nursery and Pre-K classrooms, 9:00-12:30 but, of course, all are welcome to stay and participate!

After the services, we will celebrate the sharing and community of the season with our annual sharing of holiday treats. We invite everyone to bring a special treat to pass -- cookies or quickbread or pastry, special candies or crackers and cheese -- whatever brings back special memories and puts you in the holiday mood. PLUS SPECIAL BONUS: Our Boston Bound Youth, Parents, and Mentors will offer a Bake Sale and Cookie Exchange, with a variety of treats plus holiday cookies by the dozen to take home! Come and get your neighbor and party gifts here and help our crew make their heritage tour in Boston, Plymouth, and Concord! Our holiday repast will warm our hearts and lighten our spirits as we move into the darkest part of the year to strengthen our faith and hope.

Message FromThe Executive Operations Director

Ater many weeks of exploring causes for the parking lot light outage, we have discovered that the electricity is not being carried from the building to the poles.

In order to get to the source of the problem the lot would need to be broken up and the electrical line pipe would need to be inspected.

Due to the fact that we will be replacing sewers and repairing the lot as part of the capital campaign, tearing up the lot and exploring is premature.

We have been advised, and are moving forward with a plan to install temporary lighting on top of the existing poles and running overhead lines from the building to the poles to provide temporary lighting.

The Immigrant Solidarity Team Movie showing - PBS Frontline series "Separated: Children at the Border" January 6 & 10 - 6:30pm - Rm 6

Please join us to see this film about the consequences of the Trump administration's policy to separate children from families seeking to immigrate into the United States.

The film will be shown at UCE in Room 6 at 6:30 p.m. on January 6, a date long associated with the end of the journey of the Three Wise Men to visit Jesus. Another showing will be on Thursday, January 10 also in Room 6 at 6:30. The film lasts for 55 minutes, and will be followed by a discussion of what we can do to stop this policy and to help the families who are suffering as a result of it. We are asking for donations to cover the cost of the film. Please join us to learn more about the problem of immigrants in our country.



Beyond #MeToo- Sunday January 6 - 12:30pm - Rm 6

Continuing the conversation about gender and power, reducing harm, establishing consent, and moving toward repair, join Rev. Eileen and UCE members in sharing space for sensitive conversations.



Creative Spiritual Practice Open Space

Saturday, January 12 (and monthly on the 2nd Saturday)

9:30am to Noon - Rm 5

If you enjoy creating art and would like to develop your spiritual practice through creative means, join for this opportunity to share creative ideas, energy and supplies. If you have art supplies or a snack to share, please do. Questions, contact Rev. Eileen at ewiott@ucevanston.org.



Emergency Overnight Shelter Volunteers Needed

Our hosting dates are

January 13 through January 26.



Are you wondering what you can do to help those who have no warm place to return to at night? UCE is one of the 6 faith communities in Evanston providing warm shelter to those who are homeless this winter. We've done this in past years, and those who stay with us are always very appreciative.

Volunteer shifts include:

- The 8-9:30PM - Set Up Cots; Prepare warm drinks, greet guests and help them get settled.
- The 9PM-7AM - Spend the night. Generally, they have a chance to sleep, and a cot or chair is always available. They are there to assist the paid overnight staff person.
- The 6AM.-7:30AM - Help to waken guests, move or fold up cots, clean up, serve hot drinks, and help the guests feel welcomed as they leave.

[Here is a link to sign up:](#)

If you haven't been to a training, please contact us and we'll arrange to have you trained. If you have questions please contact Toni Rey at 847-847-7644. We need you and the homeless people in our area need you. Please help UCE offer this service to those who need it in Evanston.

Worship Arts Jam - Saturday, January 19 - 7pm - Sanctuary

Have you been inspired by something you heard in a worship service? Would you like to reprise it for others? Do you have a favorite reading, song, or dance - maybe something you created - that you think is inspirational? Would you like to share it with others? Well, you can! Come to the premier Worship Arts Jam on January 19, 2019, at 7:00 pm, at UCE.

This event is the UCE coffeehouse reimagined. You will provide the music, poetry, short stories, spoken word, even dance and reader's theater; anything that you find stirring and worshipful and that you want to share. Sponsored by the Worship Arts Committee: to participate, contact Robb Geiger at rjg6177@gmail.com. Keep your eyes peeled for more announcements, we have more surprises to share around this new event.

Ministerial Search Committee

One of the most important responsibilities of each UU congregation is the selection of a Settled Senior Minister. We are about to embark on this process.

In a few weeks you will have an opportunity to nominate members of the congregation, including yourself, who you believe should serve on the Ministerial Search Committee. Please give serious thought to those members you wish to nominate. They should have your utmost respect and your belief that they will work diligently to select the most qualified candidate to serve UCE as its Senior Minister.

Additional information about the process will come from Interim Senior Minister Greg Stewart and Board of Trustees President Jeanne Kerl. In addition, the congregation will hear a presentation from our UUA Transitions Coach, Reverend Amy Shaw on January 6 outlining the process in more detail.

If the individuals recommended wish to be considered for the selection committee, they

will complete an application and submit it to the Board. More details on the voting and application process will follow.

Right now, we'd like you to reflect upon the names of members who you think would be dependable, thoughtful, and even-minded members of the search committee. You'll be asked for your ideas soon.

The Stewarts Film Now Available

Many of you have asked to see the film, "Preacher's Sons" in the comfort of your own home. UCE now has copies that can be checked out, similar to library books. To reserve a copy, please contact the church office at tdeville@ucevanston.org or 847-864-1330.



Coffee At Curt's With Rev. Greg

Rev. Greg is available for informal discussion every Thursday morning from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at Curt's Cafe on Dempster in Evanston. What a great way to get to know our interim senior minister; what a great way for Rev. Greg to know you. All are always welcome!

Upcoming Forum Topics

December 23 Topic: Taking Holiday Break

Add your Photo to the Photo Member Directory

Do you appear in our member directory? If not, send us a jpeg photo and we'll include it, so folks can know you better. Photos can be emailed to Communications Coordinator, Tamiko Deville at tdeville@ucevanston.org.

Fair Trade For the Holidays

The holiday season has arrived and the Fair Trade Cart is bursting! We hope you will stop by to see the beautiful and delicious items created by the artisans and farmers who enjoy the benefits of fair trade. We also want to remind you that all proceeds go to help children and families in our community.

Adult Religious Education

For many years we have provided gift certificates to Chute Middle School for selected families at holiday time and funds in the spring to support their Healthy Living Club and garden. Since last year we have been volunteering at Family Focus and providing scholarship funds and support for their after school and summer school



programs. Please check out the pictures of our happy kids!

The Fair Trade Cart sells only products that are made by artisans and grown by farmers around the world who get a fair wage and who are ensured good working conditions. No child or forced labor is ever used and environmentally sound practices are required to maintain fair trade certification.



Available Serendipity Group Events

Did you miss the Serendipity Auction this year? We still have spots available for some of our very fun group events. It's a great way to enjoy the company of other people from the church, visit somewhere you haven't been, or try something completely new. [Click here](#) for the details.

Pathways to Membership at UCE

Newcomers Orientation: Are you new to the Unitarian Church of Evanston, or still feeling new? Meet with Rev. Greg in his study after Sunday services to learn more about this church and Unitarian Universalism. Offered on the first Sunday of every month. Bring the kids, too! Offered at 10:00 a.m. and at Noon.

Introduction to Unitarian Universalism: Want to know more? This introduction takes an in-depth look at our progressive faith, including Unitarian Universalist principles, sources, and covenant. Offered by Rev. Eileen quarterly; the next class meets January 13, 12:30 p.m. Childcare available upon request. Future dates are February 24, and April 14



Journey Toward Membership: Wait! There's more! The Journey includes the exploration of our spiritual lives and what it means to be a member of an intentional community like the Unitarian Church of Evanston. Led by Rev. Eileen; meets Jan. 26, April 20 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. You can take this before or after you sign the book. If Saturdays don't work, let Rev. Eileen know. Childcare available upon request.

Invitation to Membership: Are you ready to join the membership of the Unitarian Church of Evanston and make a financial pledge to the work of this church in the world? Meet with Rev. Greg in his study after Sunday services to sign our historic membership book. Offered on the third Sunday of every month at 10:00 a.m. and Noon.

Several times a year we celebrate those who have signed the membership book in a new member covenant ceremony during the worship service.

Schedule for
Rev. Eileen Wiviott

Schedule for
Rev. Gregory Stewart

Rev. Eileen Wiviott office hours,
Sunday: By Appt. Only

Rev. Gregory Stewart office hours,
Sunday: By Appt. Only

Monday: Sacred Day Off
Tuesday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Thursday: 10AM - 5 PM
Friday: Writing Day (Offsite)
Saturday: By Appointment Only
Please contact Rev. Eileen via email
at ewiviott@ucevanston.org

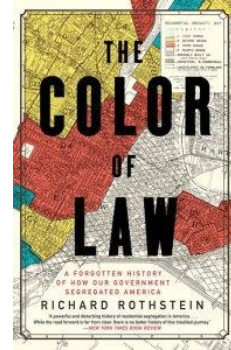
Monday: Sacred Day Off
Tuesday: 9 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday: 9 AM - 4 PM
Thursday: 9AM - 4 PM
Friday: Writing Day (Offsite)
Saturday: By Appointment Only
Please contact Rev. Gregory via
email at gstewart@ucevanston.org

UCE Community News

REAL Library

Three new books of note are now at the Racial Equity Lending Library.

The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America by Richard Rothstein brilliantly describes the unconstitutional actions of our government during the 20th century, which put in place the ghettos we find today in our cities. This book is a selection of the Nonfiction Book Club at UCE.

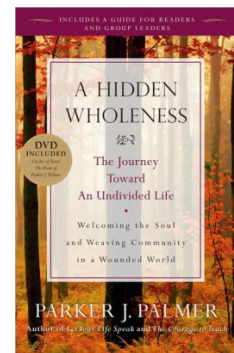


A More Beautiful and Terrible History by Jeanne Theoharis discusses the intentional distortion of civil rights history and reveals a fresh understanding of our present situation. Suggested by Ms. Betty Ester, Evanston activist.

Lastly, *Race and Reunion : The Civil War in American Memory* by David W. Blight is a winner of the Frederick Douglass Book Prize and “shows what was remembered, what was forgotten, and why.” This book was suggested by Rev. Wiviott after her memorable sermon last Memorial Day.

UCE Addictions & Recovery - Every Thursday - 7:15 pm

The Thursday evening Addictions and Recovery Group would like to invite those interested to our weekly examination of the book *A Hidden Wholeness* by Parker Palmer. We will discuss this book from perspectives that include but are not limited to addictions recovery frameworks. We begin our meetings with a check in, during which everyone has an opportunity to talk about whatever is important to us then. We will progress through the book by reading and discussing a subsequent section each week.



Yoga at UCE - Wednesdays 9:30am - Rm. 2

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.



UCE Food With Spirit Group

Do you have a longstanding and complicated relationship with food? The UCE Food with Spirit group meets to discuss our relationship with food, nutrition and health. Join us on the first and third Thursdays at 5:30pm at UCE. All are welcome. For more info, contact Peggy Bocard or Julia Takarada or Shirley Adams.



Our Giving House - November



Items: Mitten Tree (No Collections)

In January we will be collecting Canned Tuna, Salmon & Chicken

The Giving House Needs Help!

The Hospitality Center at St. Mark's Church offers many services to the homeless, but especially during these cold months, hot drinks are appreciated. The Giving House collects coffee, tea, and cocoa in November, but there were not many items in our little house when we checked. So if you forgot to contribute, it is not too late. It's easy; save yourself a trip to the supermarket and pick up any or all of the items at the Fair Trade Cart on Sunday. And thanks so much for your generosity!

Questions? Please contact Betty Walker
at 847-328-6332,
or blw35@comcast.net.

Click [here](#) to access 2018-19
Giving House Calendar.

Worship Service Flowers & Chalice Lighting

Brighten our worship service with flowers and chalice lighting. 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 tdeville@ucevanston.org with the date you'd like to bring flowers and dedication words for the order of service.

[Click here for sign-up](#)



Opportunities For Spiritual Practice

Tuesdays at 6:30pm Rm. 2
(1st timers, 6) Zen Meditation with Udumbara

Wednesdays at 9:30am Rm. 2
Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto

Thursdays at 5:30pm Rm.2.
Buddhist meditation with
Andrea DeMers

Saturday, January 12th and monthly on the 2nd Saturday
Art & Spirituality Space with
Rev. Eileen Wiviott

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!](#)

Board Of Trustees

The Board of Trustees meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be on December 20. Questions for the Board of Trustees can be sent to bot@ucevanston.org.

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.

Quick Links

ucevanston.org

[Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Listen to Sermons](#)

[Facebook](#)

[UCE Member to Member Facebook Group](#)

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

[UCE Social Action Facebook Group](#)