

# EVANSTON

## UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation



### This Sunday, 2018 at UCE

#### **Worship Services - 9:15am & 11:00am**

*Embracing Mystery*: An exploration of religious mysticism throughout the ages and how Unitarian Universalism aligns with this theology of oneness. Way Cool Worship (downstairs). Service led by Rev. Eileen Wiviott

#### **Religious Education 9:15am & 11am, Downstairs**

#### **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](#)

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

**Topic:** Is College Worth It? Obama said “folks can make a lot more” by learning a trade “than they might with an art history degree.” The best paid jobs need a college degree but student loan debt is now a massive \$1.5 trillion. Is the payback worth it? Leader: Brenda Russell Cooksey

#### **Mitten Tree, 10am & 12pm, Back of Sanctuary**

#### **Ornament Sunday with Chalica Chili Bar - 12:15pm - Sanctuary**

#### **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.

#### **Non-Fiction Book Group - 12:30pm - Rm**

We'll be discussing Michael Eric Dyson's book *What Truth Sounds Like*: Robert F. Kennedy, James Baldwin and *Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America*.

## From The Interim Minister

### Christmas and Unitarian Universalists

When I first discovered Unitarian Universalism, I was at first taken aback that we celebrated holidays like Christmas and Easter. How could this be? Historically, Unitarians believed in one God at most, and Universalists didn't believe in hell. So what's the point of celebrating births and resurrections of a so-called savior? [[For More](#)]



## Capital Campaign Town Hall Meeting December 16 - 12:30pm - Rm 3

Grab some cookies or bagels and join us in Room 3 where you will hear Consultant Steve Pratapas present a power point and answer questions about [feedback gathered from the member survey](#) regarding UCE's Capital Campaign. The committee will be present to provide information on projects and answer questions as well. For more information: Contact Ann Peterson at [apeterson2769@comcast.net](mailto:apeterson2769@comcast.net).

## Message From The Executive Operations Director

After 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.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact me at 847-864-1330 or email me at [srobinson@ucevanston.org](mailto:srobinson@ucevanston.org).

## Creative Spiritual Practice Open Space

Saturday, December 8 (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 [ewiviott@ucevanston.org](mailto:ewiviott@ucevanston.org).



## 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](mailto:tdeville@ucevanston.org) or 847-864-1330.



## Mitten Tree Update

1. The wrapping party will occur after church on December 9 as part of Ornament Sunday.
2. Supplies are needed—several rolls of heavy duty wrapping paper like Sally Foster, Big Bows, a little scotch tape and a little tissue paper, and some ribbon.
3. Questions: Please call or write Carol Nielsen, 847-869-1177 or [carolnielsen2100@gmail.com](mailto:carolnielsen2100@gmail.com)
4. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your generosity. It is always fun to imagine the pleasure of someone opening their gifts.

## 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!

## Retired(But Never Retiring!) Women - Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 5pm - Back of Sanctuary

After our potluck (perhaps an even more delicious one, if that is possible, for the holidays!), we will have some good, delicious fun by having a "White Elephant" evening! This means that everyone brings a wrapped, small gift, something they want to get rid of from their house or a silly gift that does not cost more than \$5-\$7. And then, Let the "stealing" begin! For more information, please contact, Margie Rogasner contact [Margie Rogasner](#).

## Upcoming Forum Topics

### **December 16 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.

## 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.

## Member Directory Photos

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](mailto: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.

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.*



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.



### 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.](#)

### 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.

**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**

Rev. Eileen Wiviott 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](mailto:ewiviott@ucevanston.org)

**Schedule for  
Rev. Gregory Stewart**

Rev. Gregory Stewart office hours,  
Sunday: By Appt. Only  
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](mailto:gstewart@ucevanston.org)

**UCE Community News**

**REAL Library**

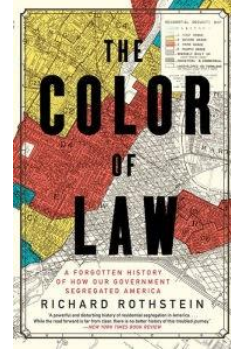
Three new books of note are now at the Racial Equity Lending Library.

*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

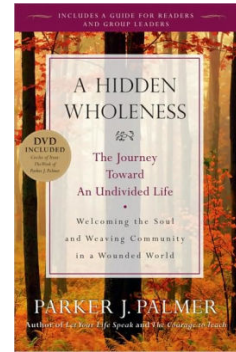
the intentional distortion of civil rights history and reveals a fresh understanding of our present situation. Suggested by Ms. Betty Ester, Evanston activist.

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 Boccard 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](#)