

EVANSTON

UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

**Congregational Meeting September 8th in the Sanctuary
immediately after the 10am Worship Service**

**Interim Minister Rev. Karen Gustafson will lead us in a discussion of interim work.
See detailed article below.**

This Sunday August 25, 2019

Rain Garden Service of Remembrance @ 9:00am, Room 2

For the fourth year in a row, the Chris Isely Cancer Support Group will sponsor a Service of Remembrance to honor loved ones we have lost. Rev. Eileen and members of the group will lead the brief ceremony, beginning **today at 9:00 a.m.** We will meet in Room 2 before walking outside to the Rain Garden. Anyone who wishes to honor the memory of a loved one is invited to attend. In the event of rain, the ceremony will take place in Room 2.



Worship Service @ 10am - Rev. Eileen Wiviott

"Our Faith in Truth and Meaning: moving from certainty to curiosity."
Bring your Backpacks, Bookbags and Briefcases to be Blessed in this end of summer ritual. As we get ready to go back to school or more fully back to work, we invite people of all ages to bring your backpacks and brief cases on Sunday, August 25th to be blessed in our service. Carry the love, wisdom and courage of Unitarian Universalism with you through your week of learning, growing and working.

Religious Education @ 10am, Rm 3

Blessing of the Backpacks, with Linda Herreid, Gillian Lawrence and Virginia Bahena:
Go to the Sanctuary at 10am for the blessing. We will go to Room 3 from there.

Join Us to Stand in Support of Black Lives Matter @ 11:10am- 11:30am

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.

The Capital Campaign Continues

A message from Co-chairs Martha Holman, Dan Lawrence, Gillian Lawrence

As we enter the remaining two months of the capital campaign, the leadership team will continue to reach out to our members, including you! If you haven't heard from us already, you can expect to receive a letter and a brochure in the mail sometime in September or early October. Please say "yes" to an invitation to learn more about the projects and fill out a pledge card! We'll be wrapping up the campaign on November 3rd with a celebration event for everyone in the congregation.

Thank you for being part of this important initiative to enhance our beautiful spiritual

home. If you've already had a chance to make your gift, thank you for your generosity! We wanted to remind you that **you have three years in which to fulfill your pledge**, and we'll be happy to send you a reminder when a payment is due. You can elect to pay monthly, quarterly, annually, or in one full payment ... whatever works best for your budget.

While we are still working on meeting with all congregants, planning for the projects the campaign will fund continues.

The Board of Trustees has appointed a team that will manage the implementation of capital projects over the next several years. That team, called the *Capital Campaign Implementation Committee*, includes Janelle Brittain, John LaPlante, Ann Peterson, CJ Presto, and Vickie Doebele. We thank them for taking on this time commitment, and we can all support them in their role! More information on this committee and progress on the projects will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, rest assured the leadership team will be contacting you by October! The campaign continues in support of our abundant future – for justice, for growth, for everyone!

Beyond the Binary of Bathrooms



Thanks to all who participated in the conversations about the gender inclusive bathrooms in the lower level. There have been good questions raised and thoughtful sharing of feelings and ideas. Starting this Sunday, August 25th, the two restrooms on the lower level will be labeled gender inclusive, indicating each person can use the bathroom they feel most comfortable using.

You may wonder why your minister is devoting her newsletter column to bathroom signs, but this is an issue of justice and inclusion, central to the shared ministry of this church.

If you've read the signs posted in our bathrooms over the last year, you know:

One of the places where oppression happens is in bathrooms...and... there are real impacts when bathrooms are labeled for women or men only.

[Click here to read more](#)

Rabbi Peter Knobel

With great sadness we regret to inform you that Rabbi Peter Knobel, husband of Elaine "Goodie" Knobel, father of Jeremy (Alyssa) Knobel, and Seth Knobel, and grandfather of Leah, Alana, Heather, Stephen, Lily, and Oliver, died August 20, 2019. The funeral will be held Monday, August 26 at 10:00 a.m. at Beth Emet. The interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery in Skokie. The funeral service will be livestreamed on the **Beth Emet Facebook** page. The family will be sitting shiva at Beth Emet on Monday, August 26 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. and from 7:00-9:00 pm. and on Tuesday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Minyan services will be held at 7:30 p.m. both nights. Donations can be made to **Beth Emet The Free Synagogue**.

His memory will forever be a blessing.

Save the Dates: October 25, 26, & 27, 2019

"Building a Vocal Community: The Power of Singing in the African-American Tradition" is a workshop being planned for October 25-27, 2019. The group will explore from an African American world view, the values imbedded in the music, the role of cultural and spiritual traditions and rituals, ways in which leadership emerges and can be shared by and among community members, the nature of cultural responses to and influences on political and social struggle, and finally the significance of a shared communal experience in ones' personal life. All that is required is a willingness



to sing. Workshop led by Dr. Ysaye Barnwell. <https://www.ymbarnwell.com/>
Registration will be open soon.

Social Justice Council Selects Shared Plate Recipients 2019-2020

Thank you to those who submitted applications for our shared offering recipients. As you know, each week in the Sunday worship services, we collect an offering that we split 50/50 with a worthy organization that shares our values. The Social Justice Council met this week to vote on the organizations submitted by UCE members and reviewed and vetted by a sub-team: Sarah Vanderwicken, Jane Bannor, and Joe Romeo. The vetting team rated whether and how the organizations fit within 14 different criteria and offered the council their rating to inform but not determine the council members' votes. We strive for a balance of organizations that address a wide variety of local, state, national and global issues.

We are hopeful that our new **Text-to-give** program will enable the congregation to be even more generous in their Sunday morning offerings to these worthy organizations and the UCE budget. Here is a list of the organizations that will receive one month of the shared offering, plus one organization that will share the offering on the four 5th Sundays in the year. [Click here](#) to see the list

Caregiver Support Group hosts speaker – OPEN TO ALL

Please join us on **Tuesday, 9/10/19 from 7-9 p.m. in Room 6** (lower level) at UCE. Diane Barounis, LCSW (and a member of our congregation) will lead a presentation entitled ***The Caregiver's Journey: Some Roadblocks to Watch Out For and Guideposts for Finding Your Way***. The program will look at care-giving through the metaphoric lens of a journey. The first part of the program will address three roadblocks caregivers can encounter: 1. Going it alone, 2. Perfectionism, and 3. Lost in the land of 'It shouldn't be like this.' The second part will explore three guideposts for getting back on track: 1. Asking for help, 2. Finding beauty and balance, and 3. Practicing Mindfulness. We will spend some time working on how to ask family members for help and will end the program with a guided imagery meditation. Although not required, RSVPs would be much appreciated – please email either Renee Hoff at rdhoff99@yahoo.com or Joyce Lofstrom at JoyceLofstrom@gmail.com.

Retired (But Never Retiring!) Women

Join us on **Tuesday, August 27, 5:00 Potluck then Discussion, Room 3**. Come celebrate the end of summer (is that a celebration?) and the beginning of a new year of meets, greets and eats! Let's get reacquainted and then get acquainted with what will be happening this coming year. All women in this wonderful category are welcome! For more information feel free to contact Margie Rogasner.

CONGREGATION EVENT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8th - After 10am Service



*Are you looking forward to digging into some real, congregation-wide interim work?
Do you want to be a part of the conversation we have before we determine a called minister?*

Stay after service on Sunday, September 8th and meet our new interim minister, **Rev. Karen Gustafson**. She will co-lead the service with Rev. Eileen, and then lead us in a discussion of interim work – what it is, where we are, and what we have left to do. Bring your questions, your dreams, your concerns, and we will talk together with spirit and care.

You are invited to the...

Welcome-to-the-Choir-Season party (2019-2020 edition)

Date: Thursday, August 29, 2019

Time: 7-8:15 pm

Where: UCE Room 3

Who: All are welcome! We'd love you to be there if you've sung in the UCE Choir. We'd also love you to be there if you have *not* sung in the choir but are thinking you might like to give the UCE Choir experience a "test drive."

What: Beverages and Snacks! Info about this upcoming choir season! A chance to have your choir-related questions answered! Choir Schedules and Choir Info Sheets will be available! A chance to get a bit more acquainted with UCE Choristers and prospective UCE Choristers!



A bit o' singing and a lot o' Fun!



Hats Off to Robb Geiger and Linda Herreid



Once Upon A Time -- UCE member and skilled wood worker **Robb Geiger**, wondered what he could create to donate to the 2018 Serendipity Auction. He'd heard about the Little Free Libraries that people across the country have made and filled with books. When neighbors walked by, they place their donations into the Little Free Library and perhaps take a book to read.

Linda Herreid attended the auction and was very pleased with the idea Robb presented, and had the winning bid. She decided she wanted her Little Free Library built in the shape of our church, which she then donated to UCE.

Robb installed the Little Free Library between the entrance and exit to our parking lot. It looks very empty in this photo, but there are dozens of books waiting to get to their new forever home! **Thank you, Robb and Linda**

Expanded Choir for Ingathering Service, Sept. 8th

Have you wanted to sing in the choir but don't have the time to make the commitment? **-or-** Have you wanted to "test-drive" singing in the choir to see if it's a fit for you? **-or-** Would you like to sing with the choir once just for the heck of it?

Well, have we got a deal for you! You are invited to join us in singing the choir pieces for our 10 a.m. Ingathering service on Sunday, September 8th.

Here are the particulars: Participation is open to ages 12 and up. Auditions are not required. Simply attend the evening rehearsal on **Sept. 5th (starts at 7 pm)** and the 8:30 a.m. rehearsal on Sept. 8th and then stay for the service and sing with the choir



This is a no-obligations opportunity for you to get the chance to sing with the choir once (though you'd be welcome to keep singing with the choir if you find it to be a good fit for you).

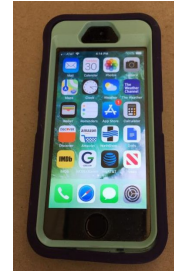
We invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to sing shoulder-to-shoulder with our UCE Choristers. Whoohoo!

Got questions?

Contact UCE's Music Director, Vickie Hellyer, at vhellyer@ucevanston.org

Giving by Text

Giving by Text is now possible for four areas:
Shared Plate Offering, Coffee & Bagels, UCE Operating Fund
and Capital Campaign.



Send a text message to **312-584-9160** with the amount you would like to contribute and *the code* for where you would like it to go (e.g., **50 OFFERING**). Valid codes are **OFFERING** (Shared Plate Offering), **PLEDGE** (Pledge Payment), **CAP** (Capital Campaign), or **BAGELS** (for coffee/bagels). Example text: **50 OFFERING** (give \$50 to the shared offering). If you forget the funds, simply type in **FUNDS** and the list will pop up.

Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and debit or card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via e-mail. For future giving, send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! You can even text "repeat" to make it a recurring donation. Text giving is one of the fastest, easiest ways to give. We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity, and we thank you for supporting the church. To read more, **click here**. If you experience any issues, contact Adam at agough@ucevanston.org.

Once you have completed this process successfully, you can save the number in your text as UCE Donation and giving becomes one simple step. Please note: You can still pay for Fair Trade Cart and Book H items at those locations on Sunday morning. Joan Retzloff and Margaret Shaklee have an iPad and card reader for those accounts.

*Thank you Adam Gough, our Congregational Life Assistant,
for helping UCE launch this new Give by Text program.*

Capital Campaign Update

As of August 21, 2019, the total pledged is

\$853,814!

Thank you!

Q. When will I be contacted about making my gift to the Capital Campaign?

A. If you haven't already heard from the Capital Campaign Leadership Team, you will receive a letter and a brochure in the mail from them between now and early October.

Because we believe it's important to be in conversation with each other about this important initiative, we have taken a phased-in approach to talk with our members. Given the size of our congregation, it's take awhile to reach everyone ... as you can imagine!

Your ideas, input, and generosity are essential to the success of the campaign, and we are eager to hear your thoughts. Decisions about which projects will be funded will be guided by your feedback as well as consultation with the board.

Have any questions right now? Please reach out to the Capital Campaign co-chairs: Martha Holman, Dan Lawrence, and Gillian Lawrence. Thank you!

Former Sunday Lobby Staff Pam Means died

Elizabeth Edelen (former UCE Lobby Staff) called to share that Pam Means, also former Lobby Staff, died last week of throat cancer. Her funeral will be held at the House of Thompson on Friday 8/23/19 at 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Fiction Book Club

The Fiction Book Club has made their selections for this fall:

September 20: Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon*

October 18: Orhan Pamuk, *The New Life*

November 15: John Irving, *The Hotel New Hampshire*

Nonfiction Book Group to Meet

The nonfiction book group will meet at **11:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 25 in room 13** to select our books for the coming church year. Everyone is welcome to attend. If possible, please bring a copy of the book(s) you recommend for others to peruse. We'd like to read a variety of books so bring anything of interest to you. Hope to see you there.

Loss Through Suicide Grief Group

Tuesdays July 30 through September 17 @ 6:30pm, Rm 13

Co-led by Ellen Rieger and Rev. Eileen Wiviott. If you have lost someone through suicide, whether your loss is recent or many years ago, we invite you to be a part of a safe, supportive and healing environment. This professionally led group is designed for UCE members and friends but is open to the wider community and will help you navigate through this particular grief. Please contact Ellen Rieger at ellenerieger@gmail.com or 847-791-8602 to register or for further information. You need not sign up for all sessions, but do contact Ellen to let her know who is attending.

Executive Operations Director Vacation

Sandra Robinson is away through Aug 27. While she is away from her email, you can write her at srobinson@ucevanston.org and she will catch up on correspondences when she returns.

Update from Ministerial Search Committee

The ministerial search committee is slowing down our process a bit to allow the new interim minister, Rev. Karen Gustafson, time to assess the interim work that needs to be undertaken. We'll schedule the next steps of the search process—sending out a congregational survey and scheduling focus groups and cottage meetings to gather feedback from the congregation—in collaboration with interim activities. In the meantime, you can find a broad overview of the ministerial search team's work [Click here](#). We also encourage you to participate in as many of the interim conversations as you can and to save the date for the **Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop, which will take place Sunday, October 13th from 12:30-3:30.**

Summer Religious Exploration 2019



**Religious Education Fun
this summer!**
Some Updates from
Kathy Underwood, DLRE

Sun Aug 25: Blessing of the Backpacks, with Linda Herreid, Gillian Lawrence and Virginia Bahena: [Go to the Sanctuary at 10am for the blessing, We will go to Room 3 from there.](#)

Sun Sep 1: Morning on the Lakefront at Burnham Shores Park, with Carolyn and Hope Leman, Maddie Finkel, and Virginia Bahena. [Parents, please bring your children/youth directly to the park, and pick them up there at 11:15am.](#) Feel free to contact Kathy at 847-338-8276 during the outing if need be. [Click here](#) for a link you can use for the park too:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Burnham+Shores+Park/@42.0405432,-87.6701039,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xc624f5f1509eed!8m2!3d42.0405432!4d-87.6701039>

Sun Sep 8: Ingathering and Water Communion – join Rev Eileen and Rev. Karen in the UCE sanctuary for this beloved annual intergenerational service, and bring some water from your travels!

Want to help, but not sure how? A few possibilities:

- Be a teacher or helper in a classroom
- Help decorate bulletin boards, make posters and signs, and create welcoming spaces
- Serve on the Children and Youth Program Team or Adult Program team to plan programs
- Have an idea for a fun event or activity? Make it a reality by joining others to make it happen!

If any of these opportunities spark your inner light, email Kathy at kunderwood@ucevanston.org.

Interfaith Block Party on Sept 14th

Rev. Christina Garza of Unity on the North Shore invites the UCE community to an Interfaith Block Party on Sat. Sept. 14, 2019. Goal: gathering stakeholders in our local communities that wish to serve and uplift youth and families by delivering fun and engaging activities and performances. Contact: RevChristinaUnityNS@gmail.com

Some REAL Summer Reading

Suggestions for your reading pleasure and enlightenment over the summer – fill in some of those blank spots we all have in understanding American history.

Despite the Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools
By John Diamond and Amanda Lewis

On the surface, Riverview High School looks like the post-racial ideal. Serving an enviably affluent, diverse, and liberal district, the school is well-funded, its teachers are

well-trained and many of its students are high achieving. Yet Riverview has not escaped the same unrelenting question that plagues schools throughout America: why is it that even when all the circumstances seem right, black and Latino students continue to lag behind their peers? **[For More]**

Pathways to Membership at UCE

Introduction to Unitarian Universalism:

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 date **Sunday September 29, 12:30-2pm, Rm 3**. Childcare is available upon request.



Journey Toward Membership: 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; next meeting date **Saturday November 17, 9 am to Noon, Rm 3**. You can take this class before or after you sign the book. 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? You are encouraged to let Rev. Eileen know when you are ready to sign the membership book and submit a pledge.

The next **New Member Covenant Sunday**, when we welcome new members, is September 22, 2019.

Schedule for Rev. Eileen Wiviott

Rev. Eileen Wiviott's 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

UCE Community News

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 have never 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 Addictions & Recovery, Thursdays @ 7:15pm, Rm 2

**Zen and Alcoholism?
Zen and Eating Disorders?**

Zen and Co-Dependence? How about The Zen of Recovery?

The Thursday evening Addictions and Recovery group is exploring the book of that title by Mel Ash. If you are interested and active in a program of recovery from one addictive issue or other, (or would like to be), we would welcome you. We meet every Thursday evening, 7:15pm – 8:45pm, and will consider topics brought up in this book for as long as we find our discussions interesting.

The books we have looked at so far have provided good topics for discussion for six months to a year. This is the third book we have explored together, so we'll probably find another.

Our Giving House - July & August, 2019



This summer, the congregation is collecting disposable diapers for Bundled Blessings, which makes monthly distributions of diapers to twelve social service agencies in the Evanston area, and has diaper drop-off barrels in five locations throughout Evanston and one in Morton Grove.

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 admin@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

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Rm. 2

Closed AUGUST for Summer Break

Udumbara resumes full schedule Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Wednesdays at 9:30am Rm. 2

Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto

Thursdays at 5:30pm Rm.2.

Buddhist meditation with Andrea DeMers

2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30am Rm. 5

Art & Spirituality Space

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 the third Thursday of every month.

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](#)