

EVANSTON



UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

This Sunday October 13, 2019

Services will be held at 9:15 am AND 11 am this Sunday

Worship Service @ 9:15 am - Jerry Carden, Kathleen Robbins

"Getting Beyond Categorical Thinking" - "Will the new minister hear me? Will MY concerns and needs be met? Will the minister understand what I'm living with? How will the community respond to our new minister?" These are questions that when answered, a picture of the 'ideal minister' (categorized by age, gender nationality, physical ability, race and sexual orientation) comes to mind. With this picture in place, it can be easy to unintentionally exclude ministers who fall into certain categories. At times we get caught up in comparing candidates to our "picture." We can even forget what it is we hoped for in a minister. This Sunday, our congregation is participating in the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop offered by the UUA for congregations involved in a ministerial search. The program includes the Sunday morning services and a three hour workshop following the 11am service! Both are designed to help prevent unfair discrimination in the search process and to promote inclusive thinking about the kind of minister our congregation is looking for. In the workshop we will consider the concerns, expectations, and hopes we have for a minister, and how thinking categorically about people can sometimes interfere with choosing the best candidate.

The Chris Isely Cancer Support Group @ 9:30 am, 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](#).

Worship Service @ 11 am - Jerry Carden, Kathleen Robbins

"Getting Beyond Categorical Thinking" See above.

"Beyond Categorical Thinking" Workshop - after 11 am service

We all wonder about who the next minister will be and have a picture of an "ideal minister" in our heads. To keep these mental pictures from getting in the way of a productive ministerial search, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) offers the Beyond Categorical Thinking (BCT) workshop, which is designed to promote inclusive thinking and prevent unfair discrimination during the search. This program will be offered at UCE on **Sunday, October 13** following the 11 am service. Please join the search committee to find out more about the ministerial search process and discuss your own hopes and expectations for the new minister. [Learn more and RSVP!](#)

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

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.

From Rev. Eileen Wiviott, Acting Senior Minister

One of the first times I felt I belonged in this church was in a small group discussing whether we would call Barbara Pescan as our senior minister after her partner and co-



minister, Ann Tyndall, announced she would be stepping down from her role. I couldn't believe my opinion mattered in this place I had so newly discovered. It was so different from the faith of my childhood. Not long after, I joined the choir and I didn't feel I belonged there either. Not for about two years. Talk about imposter syndrome! I'd never sung in any choir and I was sure when they figured out I didn't read music they'd ask me to leave. Over time and after many small yet significant moments of connection, my sense of belonging to this faith and this community grew and deepened.

Do you know you belong at UCE? When did you first feel it? What are the on-ramps to belonging here? In what ways have you helped someone else know they belong? Have you ever felt the sting of exclusion or the fear of rejection among members? These are questions we can consider as we strive to expand our welcome and build our capacity for inclusion.

[Read More](#)

Lifespan Religious Education Updates

This Sunday...

- **9:15 am Worship** – All young people are welcome to stay in worship. Nursery and Pre/K/1 are available on the lower level for those who prefer.
- **11 am Worship** – All young people and youth are invited to begin in worship (**feel free to sit in the Young UU section in the front-left side**), and are sung out to their program around 11:15 am. Nursery and Pre/K/1st are available on the lower level for those who prefer.
- We continue exploring our theme of “Belonging” this month in religious education. This week, we will be looking at “Belonging to Yourself” – knowing who you are, how we are all unique, and what makes us special in our own ways.



We just need a few more helpers!

- Be a leader or helper in the Preschool/K/1st room
- Help with the Christmas Pageant
- Help plan a special event during the year

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

The Way of Transition : An Interim Opportunity Workshop with Karen Gustafson

On Sunday, September 15, the sermon focused on transition, the emotional aspect of both personal and institutional change. The source of the sermon content was a book by William Bridges entitled *Transition: Making Sense of Life's Changes*. As we embark upon a deeper understanding of the many changes which are shaping past perceptions and future possibilities for UCE, it might serve us to look at the ways in which the invisible impact of transition may be at work.

Topics will include an overview of Bridges' theory, a chance to reflect on personal styles of transition, and some group musing about how transition styles impact group participation in decision making.

In case you are interested, copies of Bridges' book are available on the Book H and

available to be checked out on the book cart in the hallway in the wing. Whether or not you can make the Workshop, it is an easy and informative read. **No need to read it before the workshop!** The workshop will be held **TOMORROW Oct. 12 from 9am-noon in room 6**. No RSVP necessary. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Meet with Rev. Karen Gustafson Next Week



All are welcoming to join Rev. Karen Gustafson in Brown Bag Discussions next week:

Tuesday, October 15 @ 7-8:30pm in Room 6
Thursday, October 17 @ 10-11:30am in Room 6
Friday, October 18 @ 12-1:30pm in Room 6

Rev. Karen Gustafson can also be contacted by email with questions or to request an appointment anytime. She will be with us through **Friday Oct 20**.

Please call 847-864-1330 ex.111 or email
kgustafson@ucevanston.org

We're delighted to welcome back Henry Pleas III at this Sunday services!

Henry Pleas III, tenor, has been recognized for his robust, brilliant voice. He has performed leading roles with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Grand Rapids, and Chicago Opera Theater and has appeared as soloist with many ensembles including the Grand Rapids Symphony, Ars Viva Symphony and Chicago Modern Orchestra Project.

Henry Pleas is a graduate of Brown University (B.A.), Northwestern University (M.M) and did graduate work at University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana in Vocal Performance. He is a frequent recitalist and interpreter of music from a wide variety of styles. Henry Pleas served as regular soloist/section leader at UCE for several years in the early 1990's. More information about Henry Pleas and his work is available at www.henrypleas3.com.



Message from the UCE Board President:

If you have a question or a suggestion for the UCE Board of Trustees, it's easy to connect. Just email us at BOT@ucevanston.org. Someone from the board will respond!

Save the Date!

Please put **Sunday, November 3rd** on your calendar. Join us to celebrate the Capital Campaign's amazing progress! We will serve brunch after the first service and lunch after the second. Stay tuned for more details. If you have questions, please contact Jessica Tomell-Presto at prestomgk@comcast.net.

All are welcome!

Transgender Day of Remembrance



Vigil at UCE November 20 at 6:30 pm

Transgender Inclusion in Congregations - Starts Nov 5



Transgender Inclusion in Congregations is a 6-part series created by the Transforming Hearts Collective and offered at UCE by Rev. Eileen and Christine Peters. This course is for anyone who wants to take their knowledge and skills to the next level in terms of gender diversity and trans identity and learn how to create congregations that are fully inclusive and actively affirming. Over six sessions we will deeply explore the intersection of trans identity, spirituality and faith community in order to gain grounding, context and skills to transform ourselves and our congregation. The course meets people

where they are and will move us toward welcoming, relationship-building, and skills-building. Each session will include a webinar video, individual and group reflection, and discussion on topics ranging from what does Beloved Community really mean; the ways trans folks have been and remain marginalized; and ways our congregation can more fully celebrate and nurture the spirits of all people. **Tuesdays November 5th – December 10th from 7-9pm.** We, of course, hope that you will be able to attend all six sessions but will accept participants for any part of the series.

New Member Reception - Nov 10

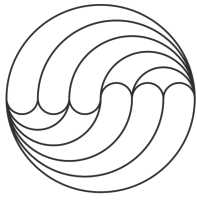
If you've joined UCE since June 2018, then you're invited to gather with other members (new and not-so-new), for a casual get-together on November 10, 2019. We'll enjoy refreshments and conversation at the home of one of our members.

If you haven't received an email invitation, please check your spam folder OR email Marianne Griebler at mariannegriebler@gmail.com for details and location. Hope to see you on Nov. 10!



Planning for What Matters Most:

Living in the Present, Preparing for the Future



The Planning Series will be taking a break until October 23 when we will start again with a session titled *Will there be enough? Financial planning: budgeting, and retirement savings*. That session will be followed by *Geriatric care management: professionals, family helpers, advocates, alert systems, frailty management* on October 30. Even if you only want to come to one session, please register and see the notes, handouts, and other resources on the website: To register go to: <https://ucevanston.org/religious-education-adults/> and clicking on the yellow "Learn More" button. Brochures about the program are

available at the back of the church or on the bulletin board. Questions: write to Carol Nielsen at carolnielsen2100@gmail.com.

You can help refugees stay warm this winter!

The Immigrant Solidarity Team needs your help. We are gathering donations to help refugees stay warm and safe this winter.

We will be collecting the following items and delivering them to **Refugee One**.

Items Needed - must be clean, gently used or new:

- 500 Waterproof Winter Coats (All sizes; men, women, & children)
- 500 pairs of snow boots (All sizes; men, women, & children)
- Hats, gloves, scarves, and wool socks (all sizes)

Many congregations and individuals will be donating these items, so let's do our part! Please place items in the bins under the coat racks in the lobby. All items must be donated by **October 15th**. Thanks for helping out refugees who are making Chicago their new home. Questions? Email Jeanne Kerl at figkerl@gmail.com



Green Team Meeting - Oct 20



Plan to attend our next Green Team meeting on **Oct 20th** after the worship service. We have many important updates and leadership elections to discuss. Questions? Please contact John Bartok (jbartok@comcast.net). See you there!

Building a Vocal Community: Registration now open!

"Building a Vocal Community: The Power of Singing in the African-American Tradition" is a workshop planned for October 25-27, 2019. The group will explore from an African American world view:

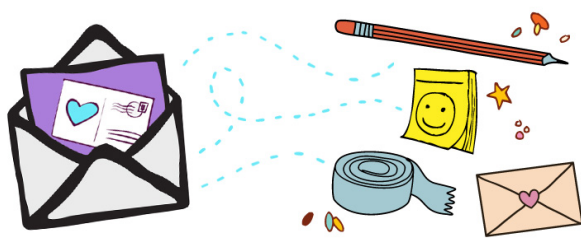
- The values embedded in the music,
- The role of cultural and spiritual traditions and rituals,
- Ways in which leadership emerges and can be shared by and among community members,
- The nature of cultural responses to and influences on political and social struggle.
- And finally, the significance 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/>

Register Here!

UUPMI Pen Pal Training - Oct 20



Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois will conduct a Pen Pal Training session here at UCE on October 20th at 12:30PM in Room 6. According to UUPMI, for persons who are incarcerated, corresponding with someone on a regular basis is itself a vital harm reduction strategy, giving that

person a support network outside of prison. When someone hears their name called by a prison guard during mail call, it is a reminder that people on the outside care about that person. It is also a message to the guards that this person has support and is not forgotten. We hope to see you there!

Never been to the Serendipity Auction before? Here's why you'll have a great time!

The Serendipity Auction is often called the “social highlight of the church calendar,” and for a good reason. If you’ve never been to this spectacular event, you may be wondering why it’s so popular—so let’s share with you what the evening is like:

- On November 16, 2019, at 5:30 pm, the sanctuary doors will open to reveal an elegant auction hall. Prior to that, you’ll register in the lobby and receive your bidding paddle, enabling you to bid.
- You may get to know someone new over a delicious dinner. Curt’s Café will be providing the food again this year, and we are so pleased to be supporting such a great organization.
- You may decide to buy some raffle tickets to have a chance to win some terrific prizes.



Follow the link below to continue reading about this special night at UCE!

[Click here](#) to make your dinner reservation and reserve free childcare.

[Click here](#) to view the auction catalog.

Find out more!

Memorial Service for Liz Stout

A memorial service for Interfaith Minister, Liz Stout, will be held on **Sunday, November 10th at 1:30pm** at Alice Millar Chapel located at Chicago Ave. and Sheridan Rd. A reception will follow with refreshments.

Hats off to Lynn Kendall

As chair of many committees, Lynn Kendall has shown her great skills at leadership. Meetings under her enthusiastic and well-organized leadership are run efficiently and accomplish so much to serve our community. Lynn has served and/or is serving on the Music Committee, the

Worship Arts Committee, and virtually every other committee at UCE at one time or another. She has spent countless hours as head of the committee coordinating the upcoming "Building a Vocal Community" workshop that Dr. Ysaÿe Barnwell will be leading later in October. In addition to being the first "Worship Associates Wrangler," Lynn was instrumental in helping the Worship Associates program get started. Lynn is a highly trained musician and strong contributor to the UCE Choir - as an alto and a soloist - for many decades. Thank you for all you do for UCE!



Capital Campaign Update

As of October 7, our gift total is:

\$965,990

We're at 96.6% of our goal of \$1 million! Help us reach -- or exceed -- that goal with your gift today. THANK YOU!

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

Capital Campaign Q & A

Q. Now that the Capital Campaign is coming into the home stretch, when will the congregation begin work on the proposed projects?

A. The Board of Trustees has created the Capital Campaign Implementation Committee to oversee the implementation of the capital improvement projects. These volunteers will work closely with Sandra Robinson, the Building and Grounds Team, and the Project Coordinators...

[Continue Reading](#)

Fiction Book Club

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

October 18: Orhan Pamuk, *The New Life*

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

Nonfiction Book Group

The nonfiction book group will meet **Sunday, Oct. 27** at 12:30pm in room 13 to discuss *Despite the Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools* by Amanda Lewis and John Diamond. Copies of the book are available at the Book H and at public libraries.

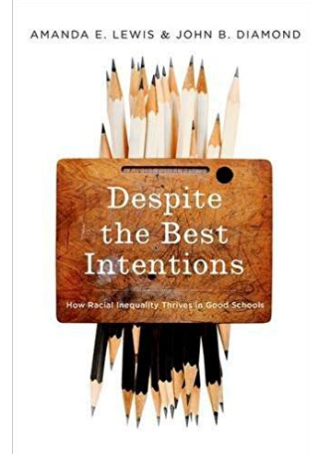
Nov. 24, 2019

Cooked: a Natural History of Transformation by Michael Pollan. 2014. 468 p.

Dec. 22, 2019

Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann. 2017. 338 p.

Click here to view the entire year's list.



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.

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 November 17, 12:30-2 pm, 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 23, 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.

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: 10 AM - 5 PM

Friday: Writing Day (Offsite)

Saturday: By Appointment Only

Please contact Rev. Eileen via email at ewiviott@ucevanston.org

UCE Community News

Our Giving House - October, 2019

This month we're asking for canned toiletries: Feminine hygiene pads, shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, razors. Items will be donated to the Refugee RoundTable. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Check out the [Giving House Calendar 2019-2010](#).



Yoga at UCE - Wednesdays @ 9:30 am - 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 @ 7:15 pm, 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.

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. We are looking for volunteers for the rest of October and most of November.



[Sign-Up Here](#)

Opportunities For Spiritual Practice

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm Rm 2

Saturday, 9:00 am Rm 2

Udumbara

Wednesdays at 9:30 am Rm 2

Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto

Thursdays at 5:30 pm Rm 2

Buddhist meditation with Andrea DeMers

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

The next meeting is on **October 17, 7:00 pm in Room 6.**

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](#)