

EVANSTON

UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

This Sunday September 29, 2019

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

Worship Service @ 9:15 am - Rev. Eileen Wiviott

"Anger and Forgiveness: Inscribing Our Names in the Book of Life" - In keeping with our Judeo-Christian ancestry and one of the Six Sources of our faith, we honor Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish High Holy Days. Jewish tradition says that on this day God inscribes the names of those who are righteous in the book of life, those who do evil in the book of death, and those who fall somewhere in between have ten days to atone. As a Unitarian Universalist, I believe we each hold the capacity to act with love and compassion or fear and hatred and that the book of life remains open as long as we live. In our human struggle to live with integrity in a complex world, anger is part of the package. Is there a place for righteous anger and compassionate judgement? Can we hold anger with our fierce love for this world and our hopes for peace? How do we move from impotent rage to restorative forgiveness?

Bike the Ridge @ 9 am - 1pm

Make a special plan to bike to church. Decorate your bike on UCE's lawn. At 10:30 there will be a "blessing of the bikes."

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 - Rev. Eileen Wiviott

"Anger and Forgiveness: Inscribing Our Names in the Book of Life" See above.

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.

Interim September Report Update

Dear ones,

In the days since I was with you in Evanston, I have been winnowing and sifting through the many pages of notes from small groups and retreats with your elected leaders and staff, from individual conversations and email messages. I have completed a first draft of my observations of the assets, challenges and strategies for addressing those challenges as they relate to the Interim Tasks (listed below this article). I have submitted that draft to the members of the Interim Team, (Margaret Shaklee, Judy Holeman, Dave Schroeder, Shirley Adams and Barb

Ghoshal) and to Board Chair, Martha Holman and to Rev Eileen for feedback and corrections. Jessica Meis, UCE Communications Coordinator is working on a graphic of the report. Once it has been reviewed I will make appropriate revisions and the report will be available to everyone followed by a plan for the rest of this Interim year. We will continue to pose questions and to offer opportunities for anyone to weigh in and to participate in the implementation of the plan.



Thanks to all of you who were able to engage in the September conversations. I look forward to being with you again from October 10-20. Please feel free to address questions and concerns about the Interim Tasks and process to me at kgustafson@ucevanston.org. I will do what I can to stay current with e-mails on Tuesday or Thursday mornings. In addition, please note the Transitions workshop that will be available on Saturday morning, October 12.

Autumn blessings to all,
Karen

[Click Here to Review the Interim Tasks](#)

Updates From Sandra Robinson, Executive Operations Director



REALM – UCE Membership Database

Tom Carlton has volunteered many hours dedicated to transferring data and working with Melanie Kitchner to get us closer to our REALM launch. Tom has been working with our Staff Accountant Vickie Doebele to refine reports from Quickbooks to REALM so that our financial reporting and transfers to REALM are in good shape before launch. Adam Gough and Jessica Meis have been working with Melanie to learn reporting of membership information. Next week all administrative staff will begin watching training videos to familiarize ourselves well enough to assist members as we move toward launch. This database will allow members to enter their own personal data, make changes, make pledges and payments and communicate with other groups within UCE, among other features. It has taken much longer than we hoped, but each day efforts continue to make this system work for UCE and provide valuable tracking information. Thank you for your patience. Thank you Tom Carlton and Melanie Kitchner for continuing to devote your time and energy to pulling all of the puzzle pieces together.

Website Insights and Improvements

Staff has been working with the Ministerial Search Committee and others to take a close look at the website to determine where refinements can be made to improve navigation and to make the site more robust. Adam Gough, Congregational Life Assistant and Jessica Meis, Communications Coordinator have begun to make changes based on a spreadsheet Jeanne Kerl assembled and we have been adding to over a period of months...

[Continue Reading](#)

Lifespan Religious Education Updates

This Sunday, September 29:

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 are invited to begin in worship, and are sung out to their program around 11:15 am. Nursery and Pre/K/1 are available on the lower level for those who prefer. High school youth begin in room 13 on the lower level.



We just need a few more helpers!

- Be a leader or helper in the middle school room and learn about other religions and how they connect to UUism.
- Help decorate and create welcoming spaces.
- Serve on the Children and Youth Program Team or the Lifespan Learning Council.

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

Youth Lock-In this Saturday! High school youth are invited to gather at 3 pm, when we'll have some fun activities, dinner with Rev. Eileen, a special program with Bonsai Bermudez, and planning for our hosting of the fall youth con.

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 **Oct. 12 from 9am-noon.**

Sunday Lobby Staff Wanted



Do you know someone who is usually free **8:30am to 2:30pm on Sundays** and sometimes on an evening during the week? UCE is looking to hire more lobby staff. We are looking for responsible, outgoing, reliable, and friendly individuals. This would be a great position for a trustworthy young adult who would like to make a bit more money each week. We would like to hire someone immediately.

If someone comes to mind, please contact Sandra at 847-864-1330 or srobinson@ucevanston.org for more information about the position.

Memorial Service for Lucia Miller

We will celebrate the life of our beloved Lucia Miller on **Saturday, October 5, at noon**, with a reception to follow. As we customarily do, we will gather as a church community to present the reception. We welcome your participation. Sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer to greet, setup, serve, cleanup, or (and?) bring food. Your reception mavens are Lynn Kendall, Lois Taft, and Margaret Shaklee, any of whom can answer questions or take your request to help. Thank you!

Missing Raincoat

My raincoat went missing after service September 8. It is a solid black, fully waterproof, knee-length, three-season coat. It has a zip-in lining, although I had removed the lining, and a hood. I believe it is an Eddie Bauer.

Its return would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks, Elaine Siegel
(312)339-8088

Two Important Housekeeping Messages!

If you are making a purchase for UCE please use the UCE Tax Exemption certificate so that we avoid paying taxes. Several check requests are coming through with taxes to be reimbursed. Vickie Doebele, Staff Accountant and I want to abide by our financial procedures and encourage you to pick up this certificate before shopping.

If you use the webcam in Room 3 or Room 6 please return it to the office. We have purchased new ones for Room 3 twice now and they are missing again. If you know where the webcam might be, please contact Adam asap at agough@ucevanston.org.

Thank you
Sandra Robinson, EOD

Update Your Contact Info

Please let the office know if you have changed your address or phone number in the past several months. We have found that some landline numbers are no longer functioning and some of our information is out of date. Feel free to call the office at (847)864-1330 or email admin@ucevanston.org.

Thank you for helping us be as efficient and helpful as possible!

Jessica Meis,
Communications Coordinator



Bike the Ridge this Sunday!



Bike the Ridge is Sunday, September 29th! Ridge will be closed to vehicular traffic between Howard and Church Street from 9:00-1:00pm. Make a special plan to bike to church. Decorate your bike on UCE's lawn. At 10:30 there will be a "blessing of the bikes." Everyone is welcome. A caregiver must accompany children. Don't forget to wear your helmet!

[Click here for more info!](#)

Thank you for supporting the Giving House!

Thanks so much to all who donated to the Giving House in September. If you continue to be so generous, we may need to build an annex to the house! In October, we will be collecting personal items for struggling refugees in the north shore area. Please bring in toiletries, including feminine hygiene pads, shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, and razors. And again, thank you for your generosity.



Witnessing Whiteness – October 8, 15, 22, 29 — 7-9 pm at UCE

If you've done some learning about racism and white privilege and are ready to go a bit deeper, plan to attend the [Witnessing Whiteness workshop in October](#), sponsored by the REAL team (Racial Equity Action and Leadership). Based on Dr. Shelley Tochluk's book of the same name, this 4-session dialogue-based workshop focuses on increasing white people's capacity for identifying and addressing racism. Participants will discuss white culture, explore how white privilege can show up in everyday interactions and cross-racial relationships, build new skills for addressing racism in everyday life, and develop a personal plan for continued anti-racist work. The workshop is free and a small amount of preparation prior to most sessions will be required. Facilitators are Dr. Gina Logan and Beth McDonald. Registration is now open, space is limited.

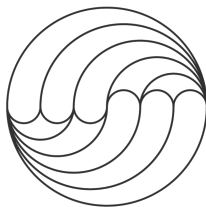
[Register Here!](#)

Update from Ministerial Search Committee

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 o'clock 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.

[Click here](#) to find out more and to RSVP for the workshop.

Planning for What Matters Most starts October 2



Planning for What Matters Most: Living in the Present, Preparing for the Future will be starting on [October 2](#). Life planning occurs at many different stages of one's life: going to school, getting married, starting a family, buying a house, and, as you move along life's path toward retirement—acknowledging the need for planning and acting on housing, healthcare, financial and legal decisions. We do this to protect our assets and maintain or improve the quality of our lives.

The seminar has been designed to encourage participants to take proactive steps for life planning. For example, you can plan to meet with an attorney to document your will or trust, explore investments needed to reach your financial goals, and make and record decisions regarding your future health care needs. Please plan to register online by going to the URL: 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

Help with the Soup Kitchens October 2nd and 9th

UCE will host Soup Kitchens on **Wednesday, October 2nd & Wednesday, October 9th** this Fall. We typically feed dinner to about 100 people from Evanston and surrounding communities and we provide them with a lunch to take away as well. The soup kitchen leaders are making a concerted effort this year to provide our guests with healthy food. Please click on the appropriate link below to sign-up for helping with food, set-up, serving, or clean-up. Contact Winnie Stevenson (wstevenson4@gmail.com) or Maggie Weiss (mstmaggie6@comcast.net) with any questions. Thanks, as always, for your generosity!



Click on the date on which you would like to volunteer:

[October 2](#)
[October 9](#)

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

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!](#)

Beloved Conversations: Meditations on Race and Ethnicity

This learning opportunity is being offered again in 2019-2020 with a kick off retreat on **Friday, October 4th from 6 pm – 9 pm and Saturday, October 5th from 9 am – 5 pm** at Hinsdale Unitarian Church. It is followed by eight two-hour sessions here at UCE co-facilitated by Chris Allender and John LaPlante. Dates for the eight sessions are as follows: October 9, October 23, October 30, November 6, November 13, December 4, December 11 and December 18. The sessions are from 7 pm – 9 pm. Beloved Conversations is an in-depth and small group series of discussions and exercises that help participants reflect on race and ethnicity in their individual and congregational lives with an eye towards change and healing. Groups are comprised of 8 – 12 people. More information about the content can be found at www.meadville.edu/beloved. This course is open to UCE members or those on the path to membership and requires a degree of openness, willingness to engage in deeply personal conversations and a level of comfort with potentially difficult interactions. More than 35 members of our congregation have already participated in Beloved Conversations. If interested, please contact Susan Carlton, at susan.carlton@sbcglobal.net.

News from Endowment

By Jane Kenamore, Chair

Thanks to the generosity of many church members, the UCE Endowment Committee has been able to distribute funds for more projects than ever in our history. Two of the projects funded capital expenses, and the rest were for educational and social programs, none of which could have been funded in the regular operations budget.

We've been fortunate to enable several learning opportunities, such as member scholarships for the Midwest Leadership School; Beloved Conversations, a series devoted to race relations; a presentation by Oscar Chacon on migration from Central America; Transforming Hearts, a course on transgender inclusion in congregations; Building a Vocal Community, a weekend of African American music and rhythm; an Upswing Workshop to build a gender-affirming community; and A Life Planning Series, twelve sessions on essential life planning topics...

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

Join the Green Team at OAKtober - Oct 5



Join the Green Team at OAKtober: A Celebration of Trees and Evanston becoming a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat, on **Saturday October 5 @ 9:30am-12pm** at the Ecology Center. Admission is Free!

Engagement tables to learn about how you can help trees, birds, pollinators and other wildlife and enhance their habitat. Information on many topics, including Environmental Justice in Evanston, the City Climate Action plan and Evanston's own Repair Clinic. OAKtober will be

giving away native trees and shrubs (one to each attendee), first come first served. OAKtober will include food, music, kids' activities and a chance to explore trees in the

Ladd Arboretum. This event will take place rain or shine.

Serendipity Auction is coming up!

The Serendipity Auction is November 16; have you looked at the auction catalog or bought your tickets yet? Or donated something to the silent or live auctions? Don't wait too long! Be on the lookout for emails from the Serendipity Auction Team.



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 Sue Larson



Sue Larson is an incredible force in the Children and Youth RE program! She chairs the Children and Youth Program Team, coordinated the summer program this year, and chaired the DLRE Search Team. Most recently, she has helped to find people to fill the many volunteer spots that make our program run smoothly. She is a wonderful asset to our program and to UCE!

Capital Campaign Update

As of September 25, our gift total is:

\$940,374

We're at 94% of our goal of \$1 million! Help us reach -- or exceed -- that goal with your gift today. THANK YOU!

If you haven't yet heard from the Campaign Leadership team, someone will reach out to set up a meeting with you between now and early October.

If you've already had a visit with a Captain, but haven't had a chance to submit your pledge, please take the time to do it today.

And if you have additional questions or need more information, let us know. One of us will be happy to visit with you again.

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

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, Sept. 29** at 12:30pm in room 13 to discuss *How Democracies Die* by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. Copies of the book are available at the Book H and at public libraries.

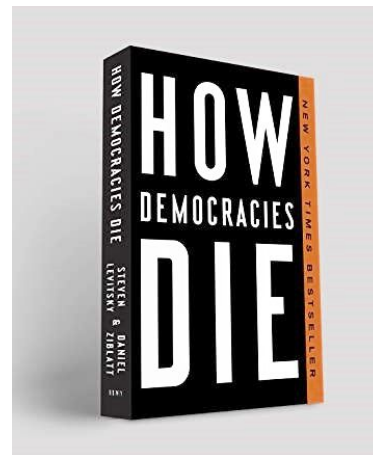
Oct. 27, 2019

Despite the Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools by Amanda Lewis and John Diamond. 2015. 249 p.

Nov. 24, 2019

Cooked: a Natural History of Transformation by Michael Pollan. 2014. 468 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 Retzliff 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 dates **THIS Sunday September 29 and 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.

September Schedule for Rev. Karen Gustafson

Rev. Karen Gustafson can be contacted by email with questions or to request an appointment anytime. Rev. Karen will return Wednesday Oct 9 and be with us through Friday Oct 20.

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

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 - September, 2019

This month we're asking for canned hearty soups and stews, which will be donated to the pantries at Connections for the Homeless. These are crucial, because both pantries, at 2121 Dewey and at Lake Street Church, regularly run out of protein items between deliveries from the Chicago Food Depository. 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.

[Click here for sign-up](#)



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](#)