

EVANSTON

UNITARIAN NEWS

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

This Sunday February 2, 2020

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

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

"The Will to Mutuality" – Reflecting on the book, *After the Good News*, by Nancy McDonald-Ladd. The liberal protestant view of human perfectibility, the notion of human development onward and upward forever, unchecked and unexamined leads to a myopic, self-satisfied and exclusive entitlement revealed in such things as the doctrine of Manifest Destiny and the many examples of failed utopian societies. What if the salvation of the world and our own souls was found, not in our perfectibility, but in our profound reliance on one another and our ability to share power?

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](#).

Forum Discussion Group @ 9:30 am, Rm 7

Join the Forum Discussion Group this Sunday with the topic: *White Supremacy at UCE*. The Forum Discussion group is self-managed, and participants are encouraged to propose topics, serve as moderators and present issues to discuss.

Worship Service @ 11 am - Rev. Eileen Wiviott

"The Will to Mutuality" - See above.

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

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.

Social Justice Sticky Notes

In case you were not able to make it to UCE the last couple of weeks, you might not have known that members have written their names and a brief description of the social justice activities in which they are involved outside of UCE onto stickies which were placed on panels just below the screen. There are different color stickies for these categories of activities: environmental, anti-oppression, economic justice/health care/voting rights, immigration, education, and prison related.



At this point there are over 200 stickies on the panels. If you haven't had a chance to look at them, please do so before or after service on Sunday. If you haven't had a chance to put a sticky to represent your efforts, please write your name and what you do in your job or as a volunteer to advance social justice on an appropriately colored sticky .

From the Executive Operations Director, Sandra Robinson



Thank you to everyone who attended the two townhall meetings on Sunday. There were many good questions and comments. It is a joy to see the interest and participation in what is happening with the Capital Campaign and the many improvement opportunities the campaign is making possible. The Capital Campaign Implementation Committee members are Janelle Brittain (chair), Sandy Danforth, Vickie Doebele, John LaPlante and myself. Carol Nielsen (Kitchen) and Greg Grabowski (Parking Lot) have been very active as Project Leaders assisting the CCIC.

As reported by Carol Nielsen in the town hall meetings the renovated kitchen is poised for opening mid-March if all continues to go as well as it has to-date. The parking lot reconstruction will begin late July. Electricity to the parking lot and drain sewers are part of the overall parking lot reconstruction plan. Please take a moment to look at the Capital Campaign timelines posted throughout the church. This timeline was discussed at the town hall meetings. If you have questions or need more information, please contact me at 847-864-1330 or srobinson@ucevanston.org. I can answer your questions or connect you with the appropriate committee member.

[Continue Reading](#)

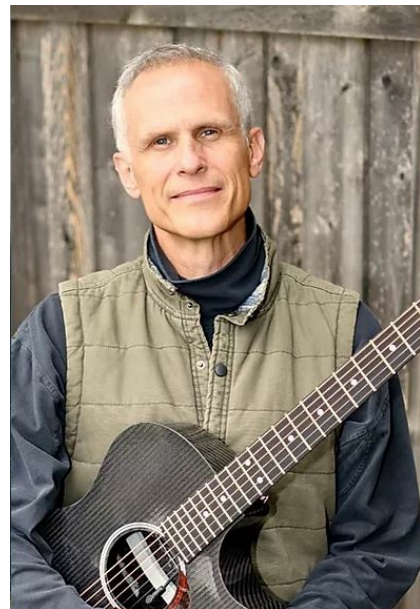
Important Save the Date!

“His guitar work is breath-taking, his lyrics mind-spinning, his singing soul-soothing and his feet-on-the-ground optimism nothing short of healing.”

--Marilyn Rea-Beyer, music director, WUMB Radio, Boston

Peter Mayer, the Minneapolis-based UU and singer-songwriter who wrote “Blue Boat Home,” will perform in our UCE sanctuary on **Saturday evening, February 22**. Tickets are on sale now.

Peter will also join us for a combined 10:30 a.m. worship service on February 23 as we kick off our 2020 Pledge Campaign. A Spiritual Practice session will be offered by Rev. Eileen at 9:15am on February 23, but we would love for you to stay for the festivities following the 10:30am service as we celebrate our rededication to UCE's mission and each other.



Mark your calendars and plan to join us! Tickets are available for purchase by clicking the button below.

[Buy your tickets today!](#)

You're Invited to Celebrate the Re-dedication of UCE's Mission and the Start of UCE's Annual Pledge Drive

“Nurturing the human spirit for a world made whole.”

On **February 23 at 10:30am** you are invited to participate in a worship experience celebrating and re-dedicating UCE to its Mission. This service will include the singer/songwriter Peter Mayer and stories from you of how your life is informed by the mission of UCE.

Please take some time to consider what about your connection to UCE nurtures your spirit.

Recall a time when a UCE-associated experience, relationship, enhanced awareness, or intentional practice fed your better self; when you have been inspired or found hope or restored confidence. Think about something that happened at UCE when you knew that you were not alone but part of something greater than yourself; when you experienced or witnessed the the “love that is the spirit of this church.” How has your spirit been nurtured?

[Read More!](#)

Hats Off to Lois Taft!



Our Hats are off to Lois Taft for her tireless efforts managing the Caring Committee of UCE, which she's done for many years. She makes sure that when someone needs meals after an illness or surgery, or when a child is born, or a member needs a ride to doctor's appointment or errands run, the caring folks of UCE are able to get the good deeds done. Of course, she provides much of the care herself and supports the nourishment of our spirits along the way. Lois, you are gentle, compassionate, organized and practical and we are so grateful for all you do to make UCE a caring community.

Save the Date!

Budget Town Hall Meeting at 10:30am and 12:30pm on Sunday, February 9, 2020.

Caring Committee and Pastoral Associates: Appreciation and Planning Dinner

Hosted by Lois Taft, Rev. Eileen and Rev. Karen

If you are or have been a Caring Committee volunteer or a Pastoral Associate, or if you are interested in participating in the future, you are invited to a dinner at UCE on Friday evening **February 21st 6-8:30 pm**. Rev. Karen will be joining us, and we will look at our activities from a transitions planning perspective.

After dinner, we would like to have a conversation on these topics:

- What would we like Pastoral Care to look like at UCE?
- How are the Pastoral Associates and the Caring Committee different?
- What's the best way to set up rides to church for those who aren't able to drive?
- What's the best way to welcome and support parents of new babies?
- Are there other ways to share some of the caring activities?

Please RSVP if you plan to attend by using the button below.

[RSVP Today!](#)

What's Happening in Lifespan Religious Education?

This Sunday in Religious Education

We begin exploring our theme of "Resilience" this month. Our young people will look at their "grit" and how that helps them be resilient. They will hear a story about a black man from Jamaica who needed a lot of grit and resilience to realize his dream of ministering a Unitarian congregation. Our middle school youth will be learning about the Black Church and looking at how resilience relates to it. The high school youth will begin planning their youth-led worship service.



9:15 am - All are invited to worship. Nursery care for 0-2 years old, and Pre/K/1 for 3-7 years old are available in the lower level.

9:30 am - Forum Discussion Group- *White Supremacy at UCE*

High school youth and adults are invited to join us in room 6 to continue the conversation on white supremacy. We will look at some graphics and terms related to this followed by a discussion on what we have seen or experienced at UCE, and how we can do better.

11:15 am - All young people and youth are invited to sit together in the Young UU section near the front and left of the sanctuary during worship, where the high school youth have offered to watch over the youngsters in this area so that parents who wish can enjoy worship hands/arms-free!

The young people will be sung out to their religious education program after the Time for All Ages. Nursery care for 0-2 years old and for 3-7 years old are available in the lower level for those who would like to use it. Children can be picked up at 12:15p after religious education.

If you haven't registered for RE yet, click the button below!

[Register for RE Today!](#)

Children and Youth

Next Sunday...

We continue exploring our theme of *Resilience*. The young people will be looking at how we help each other to become more resilient.

Adults

Current Programs and Events

Darwin

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 @ 7-9pm

Facilitated by UCE members Dick Whitaker and Bill Irons.

We will celebrate Darwin's birthday with a month-long series of classes on the history of his theory of evolution, from his time to the present.

Life Planning Series: Planning for What Matters Most

Wednesdays, February 5 & 12 @ 7-9pm

To register, [click here](#). Questions? Contact Carol Nielsen at carolnielsen2100@gmail.com

The next two sessions will focus on hospice and palliative care and considerations about death and dying. UCE Members Cathy Deamant, Bob Mesle and Ellen Rieger will be session leaders joined by psychiatrist, Dr. Lisa Gobbi. Even if you have done some of this preparatory work for serious illness and death, please join the presentation and discussion as it always helps to affirm what you have already done and discuss any new or lingering issues that you may have. There will be handouts, discussions and plenty to learn.

UCE Book Groups

The fiction book group will meet on **Friday, February 21 in Rm 2** to discuss *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver. This is a rescheduled meeting from January 17. The non-fiction book group will meet this **Sunday, February 23** at 12:30pm in room 13 to discuss *Hooked: Buddhist Writings on Greed, Desire and the Urge to Consume*. Copies of the books are available at the Book H and at public libraries. For more information about UCE Book Groups and upcoming books, [click here](#).

Upcoming Programs and Events

Next Sunday...

The Forum Discussion Group will have a presentation from participants in the *Beloved Conversations* program. Come hear how they were transformed through this UU program that explores race and ethnicity as individuals, and as a congregation.

Revisiting Lifespan Religious Education

February 15, 2020 at 9 am

Join Rev. Karen, Rev. Eileen, and Kathy Underwood as we look at our lifespan religious education program and formulate a new vision as we head into a ministerial search next year. [Click here to register](#).

Family Fun and Resources for February's Theme, *Resilience*



Soul Matters

Click [here](#) for ways to connect as a family to our faith!

Side with Love



...is an interfaith public advocacy campaign promoting respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Side with Love confronts issues of exclusion, oppression, and violence based on identity. With the goal of creating beloved community, the campaign pursues social change through advocacy, public witness, and speaking out in solidarity with those whose lives are publicly demeaned.

Families/couples can use [this calendar](#) as a guide to activities to do together.

Looking for Ways to Help?

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

- Help organize the RE book collection

- Be a helper with the 4th/5th grade room
- Serve on the Lifespan Learning Council - Meeting March 4



Upcoming Events and Social Justice Opportunities

Composting at UCE



The New Year is upon us, and it is time to make your New Year's resolutions. One resolution that we can help you with is to compost your food waste to demonstrate your caring for our green planet. Join with other church

members this year in using the church's composting service for a small annual contribution of \$60 per person (up to a \$180 maximum per household). You may have noticed the green containers at the southeast corner of our church parking lot. They are there for your use once you have committed to this service.

If you are interested in joining this movement for 2020, print and fill out the form and submit it to the church office (by mail or in person) and we will sign you up. And for an additional \$10, we will provide you with your very own kitchen counter composting bucket. (Most plastic bags are not acceptable containers unless you know that they are compostable.) If you have any questions about this program, please contact Compost Program Coordinator John LaPlante or check with the church office.

[Download the Composting at UCE form](#)

Do You Remember with Udumbara Zen Sangha

Udumbara Zen Sandha will have an extended Practice Period this **Saturday, February 1, 2020 from 8am to noon**. At 10am, there will be a Dharma Talk that all are invited to attend, even if you are unable to attend the rest of the extended practice period.

From Sensei Nehan Myoshin Tricia Teater on the Dharma Talk:

I am reminded that it is the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and Birkenau. Upon my return from Poland ten years ago, where I participated in a bearing witness pilgrimage with Roshi Bernie Glassman, I compiled a series of notes and paintings titled ***Do You Remember?*** My vow continues as i share these with you again, and continue to ask - Do you remember?

The Night of the Arts is February 8!

Reviving a tradition started by artist and UCE member Rosemary Zwick, The Rosemary Zwick Night of the Arts this year is **Saturday, February 8 from 6-9pm**. The cost is \$5.00 per person, or \$15.00 per family. The sanctuary will be filled with people of all ages enjoying a variety of art projects. Some projects will be individual for taking home, and some will be group projects for display. Make a valentine for your honey, enjoy music and noshes, and ward off the winter blahs. It may be cold outside, but we'll keep it warm and cozy inside

making art.

If you are interested in doing a project or volunteering, contact Johna Van Dyke 847.864.7852 or cell 312.399.5745, e-mail at johnavandyke@gmail.com or Will Van Dyke, cell 312.399.5734, e-mail willvd@sbglobal.net



Judicial Candidates Forum at UCE



On February 13, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., UCE will host a Judicial Candidates Forum, in which 10-12 judicial candidates will introduce themselves and answer questions from a moderator and from the audience. The event is sponsored by the Community Renewal Society, and is designed to inform voters about the issues and choices in this year's judicial elections. Please come and educate yourselves about these judicial candidates.

You're Invited to the Northwestern Women's Basketball Game!

Rainbow Alliance invites everyone to attend the Northwestern Women's Basketball game on **Feb. 16th at 2pm**. There is no sign-up, just show up, find the UCE folks, and have fun while we all watch the game together. Save the date now! Email Jeanne Kerl, figkerl@gmail.com with any questions.



Help us lobby to end the current Money Bond Bail System in Illinois

CRS

COMMUNITY RENEWAL SOCIETY

KNOWLEDGE ACTION CHANGE

More than a quarter million people are incarcerated pretrial every year in Illinois. Most of them are in jail because they cannot afford to post a money bond for bail.

We can change the law and end this unfair system. On **February 25** the Community Renewal Society is sponsoring a Lobby Day in Springfield, where we can directly ask our state legislators to support the Pretrial Fairness Act which will drastically reduce the number of people incarcerated in Illinois. Buses will leave from Evanston or Rogers Park early in the morning and return about 7 p.m. Please contact Dennis Wilson if you decide to attend or have any further questions.

New Scholarship Funds for Youth and Adults

Great news for youth and adults who need financial support to engage in some of our most exciting UU programs. Our Endowment Committee recently has made funds available for helping UCE get delegates to General Assembly in June, MidAmerica Assembly in April, MidWest Leadership School in July and also the workshops offered by the UU College of Social Justice. We will have online applications available in early February. Check your schedules and consider applying for scholarship funds to cover registration, transportation, housing and food. Funds available for youth and adults.



Schedule for Rev. Eileen Wiviott & Rev. Karen Gustafson

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

Rev. Karen Gustafson will return Thursday, February 13 and be with us through Sunday, February 23.

Feel free to e-mail kgustafson@ucevanston.org or call (847) 864-1330 ext 111.

[Learn more about the Interim!](#)

Welcome to 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? Scroll down for info on ongoing programs and useful information. Can't find your answers here? Click the button below to learn more on our website.

[More things to know about our UCE community](#)

Pathways to Membership



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 approximately every other month; the next date is **Sunday, March 22, 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 February 29, 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.

Our Giving House - February 2020

This month the Giving House will be collecting socks for Connections for the Homeless. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated!

Check out the [Giving House Calendar 2019-2010](#).



Giving By Text at UCE



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), **MUSIC** (music fund), or **BAGELS** (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.

Brighten Sunday Service with Flowers and Light

UCE needs volunteers to bring flowers and light the chalice during Sunday services. There are no sign ups for the next few months. Do you have a special occasion coming up? Do you have a holiday tradition that you are grateful for? Are you just missing a bit of Spring and want to share some hope and joy with the congregation? Whatever your reason, big or small, we would love to have you be a special part of one of UCE's Sunday services. Bring the flowers and your words for the order of service and we'll provide the rest.



Sign up on the button below or on the sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jessica at admin@ucevanston.org.

[Sign up to bring flowers and light the chalice](#)

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.

Opportunities For Spiritual Practice



Tuesdays at 6:30 pm Rm 2

Saturday, 9:00 am Rm 2

Udumbara Buddhist Zen Community

All Welcome. For more information, click [here](#).

Wednesdays at 9:30 am Rm 2

Yoga with Doug Erickson & Jessica Tomell-Presto

For more information, click [here](#).

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

Board Of Trustees

The Board of Trustees meets the third Thursday of every month.

The next meeting is on **February 20, 7:00 pm in Room 6.**

Questions for the board? Email BOT@ucevanston.org.

UCE Facebook Groups



Did you know that, in addition to the [UCE Facebook Page](#), there are three UCE groups that members can join - the [UCE Member to Member Group](#), the [UCE Children and Youth Religious Education Group](#), and the [UCE Social Action Group](#)?

These are closed groups that allow members to post directly to each other. If you have an event you want members to know about, or have a cause you hope to bring attention to, in addition to the newsletter and order of service, you can post to the Facebook Group. Click the links above or search for the groups by name when you are on Facebook and ask to join.

Quick Links

ucevanston.org

[Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Listen to Sermons](#)

[Facebook](#)

[UCE Member to Member Facebook Group](#)

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

[UCE Social Action Facebook Group](#)