6th Annual

MUSIC with a MISSION

March 17 at 7:00 pm

Join us on St. Patrick’s Day, as we turn Countryside Church into our very own nightclub/coffee house/open-mic event! Our 6th annual Music with a Mission benefits our Outreach Service Partners—Faith in Place, Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants and Partners for Our Communities—through the $10 cover charge, a 50/50 raffle, and other giving opportunities.

Gray Rock, our “house band” will start the festivities off, and then YOU and your friends and neighbors are encouraged to bring your guitars, violins, accordions or whatever musical instruments you may have AND your voices. Have a song you want to sing but need accompaniment? To sign up to sing, especially if you need accompaniment, contact Jeff Phillips.

You say you want to help out but you’ve got Stage Fright? Is that’s what’s troubling you, Bunky? No worries. Edie needs assistance with Ticket Takers, Snack Makers, Decorators, and Clean Up Crew.

From Your Board of Trustees

The past month has been a busy and invigorating one at Countryside Church. We set an ambitious goal of completing our annual pledge drive in just three weeks – The 18th for ‘18 – and the congregation showed that it was up to the task. If you returned your pledge, thank you. If you have not yet submitted your pledge for the 2018-19 church year, please do so as soon as possible. Every person, and every contribution, helps make Countryside the wonderful place that it is – and we rely on each and every one of you.

Throughout February, we heard from representatives from each ministry – Worship, Kinship, Service, and Study – and hearing their compelling words was both inspiring and motivating. It is obvious that Countryside is filled with a number of dynamic programs and sustaining ministries, and your contributions are necessary to sustain these offerings – and bolster them in the future.

Last month, 10 people attended the Path To Community Class – a testament to the welcoming and supportive presence of this community and the voice and value of Unitarian Universalism. Each week, there are new faces at the service and you can often find visitors lingering at coffee hour, chatting with Countryside members and friends alike, who are all too eager to share their love of this congregation, the gifts of our faith, and introduce visitors to others. This is not only a welcome sight to see, but this is essential to our viability as a faith community and to boosting our presence in the community. Your contributions of time, talent and treasure are the lifeblood of this community, and are truly valued.

There are a number of exciting events happening at Countryside over the next several weeks – including the Indoor Farmer’s Market, “Tearing Down Walls” conference hosted by the UU Prison Ministry of Illinois, Music With A Mission, and the Solar Panel Dedication – each of which could not be possible without YOU.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me at prez@ccuu.org. ...Christine Organ, On behalf of the Board

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Minister’s Muse

This is wading into shark infested waters – but, in good conscience I have to speak to the violence in Parkland, Florida. The mass killing left the country shaken and surfaced the rift in American society – a rift that serves no one who cares about the safety of our children, the freedoms of American citizens, or the continued thriving of what is left of the American Project.

I was walking in the warm water pool for physical therapy when a conversation began among some folks treading water in the deep end (no – really). It was only a couple of days after the shooting and the trauma was still at its rawest.

“It’s so terrible what happened – they say 17 dead, now!” Person one.

“Yes! I hear they’re thinking of putting armed teachers in the classrooms!” Person two.

“Maybe that’s the way to keep them safe!” Person three. “Terrible!”

The conversation faded from my ears as my brain began melting down. Well, my mind was racing about what to say, how to say it, what do people really feel and think?

Somewhere, I started thinking about the leak in my daughter, Chava’s bedroom ceiling. We’d just, finally, had the sheetrock replaced and the ceiling painted. We tried everything to stop the leak. It’d taken a couple of years. We got many diagnoses for costly solutions. There are two layers of roofing up there, already, in good shape. Finally, a reasonably priced and skilled gentleman discovered the tricky source of the leak. He fixed it. We’re leak free.

And I remembered a house I’d seen while house hunting many years ago. It was charming from the street – but one corner was, literally, falling apart – the two walls that met in the corner were separating because some generations of homeowners had re-roofed 5 times. Yes. There were five (maybe more but -- trying to be conservative) heavy layers of roofing on the house and the weight was pushing the walls out. The new homeowner would need to rip off the layers and pull the walls back together. FYI – decided not to take that on.

Something about the gun reform debate reminds me of that house. The steady increase in violence, the “butter-battle” (ref. Dr. Seuss) of arming more and more. Until we look at the deep issues that are eating away at our society we are just adding another level of roofing. It’s not a simple security problem but a symptom of a society that is insecure in a profound way. It’s not only about the glorification and social saturation of portrayals of violence or a negligent security guard or the easy access to weapons. It’s those things and so much more. It’s not even gun people versus gun-free people. There is no simple fix here.

There is a rush to blame the mentally ill or label the act a privately sick one – and a wide unwillingness to take responsibility for social suffering and a societal sickness – individual and widespread – from social injustice to personal domestic suffering – from hopelessness to powerlessness – to delusion and paranoia. Schools, police, communities all with dwindling resources – are neither equipped nor, in many cases, willing to step outside their

(continued…)

Minister’s Muse, cont’d

official mandates — to offer compassion, to refer to treatment, to remove from abuse, to redress in justice, to facilitate reconciliation, healing, restoration.

I’m not suggesting that school shootings are simply the acts of individual sick persons – nor am I saying that the individuals hold no responsibility. Guns do kill people and people kill people. I am saying that I believe, when a negative societal trend begins – it is a symptom of a deep dis-ease in that society – not simply the behavior of the few people who act out. US society likes simple answers – but the violence in our society won’t yield to simple answers. Our “security” problem needs a deeper response.

What are my hopes: that, as the brave young people of this come forward to speak out about guns and about the militarization of their schools, that we will support them; that we will always respect the grief of those who survive such trauma and listen to their pain and their hope; that, when we have dialogues on this topic, we listen to others whose opinions are different from our own and make agreements for that to go both ways; that, as a faith, we will think and talk deeply about the causes of violence and the did-ease in our society and respond in ways that are timely, effective, compassionate, relevant, and principled. I believe that we, Unitarian Universalists are, at our best, well equipped to do just that. To address this issue – which is many issues together.

We have been working on our own security needs here at CCUU. If you are interested in helping with this effort – from a thoughtful, realistic, principled, and effective perspective, please contact me.
We are Family…
Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist is a family. We are a group of people "living" under one roof, united by certain convictions or a common affiliation. Together, we strive to nurture our minds, bodies, and spirit so that we can flourish in our faith and make a difference in the world. And with all families, there are times when we need to focus attention towards individual family members for them to thrive. Family Ministry is a response to that need.

After years of research and evaluating congregational life, Unitarian Universalism has gained a new understanding of the importance of ministering to families. For our families with children, our Sunday RE program and teachers offer an important Unitarian Universalist faith foundation, but parents are their children's primary religious educators. Family Ministry purpose is to provide the resources and support for parents to have confidence in that primary religious educator role. Raising Unitarian Universalist children require more than a message for all ages and a weekly Sunday school lesson. It means that parents and caregivers need to be grounded and confident in their own faith to be able to live it and articulate it in their homes so that their children can do the same in their lives. Family ministries intention is to create support systems for families to connect with one another, develop confidence in their role as UU parents and primary religious educators of their children so that their families can grow and flourish as Unitarian Universalists and as committed members of Countryside Church.

The creation of Family Ministry only adds to the wholeness of Countryside Church, creating balance in our congregational health. While we care for our families, we continue to nurture our adult faith development with opportunities like the Turning Points in Unitarian Universalism classes scheduled for March and April. Our annual adult Journeys retreat: Creating Your UU Faith Affirmation planned for May 4 & 5. We have thriving Study Ministry groups that intentionally make connections to Unitarian Universalism through our minds, bodies, and spirits. Ministering to specific groups in our congregation is only one piece of who we are.

While creating balance in how we approach congregational life, we also are mindful of how we may fully embrace Countryside Church as a multigenerational community. Judith A. Frediani, the 2016 Recipient of the. Angus MacLean Excellence in Religious Education wrote:

What Might Living in a Multigenerational Community Look Like? It would be the ultimate committee of the whole: a community in which everyone is seen as teacher and learner; in which every age and stage of life is equally valued and equally supported by whatever tangible and intangible resources the community has to offer; in which every age and stage of life is allowed to contribute whatever tangible and intangible resources it has to offer; a community in which no decision is made about the life of the community—whether in the area of worship, physical plant, fundraising, budgeting, social action, the arts, education, or any other—without consideration of its impact on and opportunities for every member of the community. (from Essex Conversations)

Countryside Church is our faith family. From our elders to our babies and all the generations in between. Living in a faith family means we must intentionally take time and make space for opportunities that bring all our people together- regardless of age. A place where we, together, share and learn from the insights, history, and perspectives of each generation, creating balance and wholeness. ...Jules

Family Ministry Pizza & Games Night: Fri, March 9, 6:30-8:30 pm
All in the congregation are welcome to this event hosted by Family Ministry. Sign up online to let us know how many are attending and what your pizza topping choices are: www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b45acaa2aaf6-family1. Bring your favorite all-age board game to share.

Turning Points in Unitarian Universalism: An Adult Faith Development Series
There are issues that are pivotal in the history of Unitarian Universalism and in our lives as Unitarian Universalists. Through the exploration and discussion of important themes and challenges in UUism, this series will provide an opportunity to deepen your understanding about UUism, as well as to help you to articulate your faith. The three sessions offered this spring will introduce an adult faith series that will continue into the 2018-19 congregational year. The course will be led by Jules Jaramillo, our Director of Lifespan Religious Education, and Rev. Hilary Krivchenia.

- Weds, Mar 28, 7pm: The Divinity School Address, Pt.1
- Weds, April 11, 7pm: Divinity School Address, Pt. 2
- Weds, May 23, 7pm: The Elevator Speech

Journeys Adult Faith Development Retreat: Creating Your UU Adult Affirmation, May 4-5; Register by Apr 8
Join us on the beautiful grounds of University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein as we share time together taking a closer look at our stories, identity, practices in connecting our minds, bodies, and spirits; and creating UU personal adult affirmations. The retreat will be held Friday evening, May 4, and Saturday, May 5. Participants may stay overnight or commute. Register by April 8. Registration forms are available at church on the Study Ministry table in Atherton Hall or on the church website, http://ccuu.org/journeys/.
Upcoming Worship Services

Our Worship Services are held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 and 11:00. Unless indicated otherwise below:

- At 9:00, all young people attend the service with their families; childcare will be available.
- At 11:00, young people in kindergarten through grade 6 attend the beginning of the service with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. Religious Education classes are offered for infants through senior high.

NOTE: Announcements begin 5 minutes prior to the start of the worship service.

Worship descriptions are also on the church website: http://ccuu.org/services/

**Daylight Saving Time Ends March 10-11 ~ Clocks Spring Forward**

Mar 11 Dreaming on the Mountain
The Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia
Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Clearbrook.

Mar 18 Unitarianism & Universalism: The Dance of Balance
The Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Mar 25 All-Church Service: Our Six Sources
Rev. Krivchenia & Jules Jaramillo, DLRE
This is an All-Church Service; all young people attend the service with their families; childcare will be available at both services. Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to our UUA dues, to bring us closer to fair share.

Fri, Mar 30 at 7:30 pm  Good Friday Tenebrae Service: Good News & Bad News
The Tenebrae (Latin for shadows) Service will begin in light and end in darkness. It is a time to acknowledge the struggles we face individually and globally in order to understand the pathway to hope symbolized on Easter.

Apr 1 Easter Service
The Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia
Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to the Minister’s Discretionary Fund, used to help those in need in our congregation.

Apr 8 Skandal: Explorations of Self
The Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia
Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to the Rohingya Culture Center on Devon Ave in Chicago, which seeks to start an interactive English language class for mothers and their small children. Against all odds, about 1,000 Rohingya have made it to the USA and resettled in Chicago after fleeing their home country of Myanmar (Burma), the government of which continues the genocide of this stateless Muslim minority.

Child Dedication: April 22

One of the most important traditions in a religious community is celebrating life transitions with meaningful rituals. Child dedications are one rite-of-passage offered as a celebration of children in our congregation. A child dedication allows parents an opportunity to express their hopes and dreams for their children and allows the congregation to welcome children and dedicate themselves to the spiritual nurturing of each child.

On April 22, during the worship services, we will dedicate any child (infant-age 12) whose family has recently joined our congregation or who has not yet had the opportunity to be dedicated.

Please contact Jules Jaramillo, DLRE@ccuu.org, or Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, Minister@ccuu.org, for more info. We look forward to celebrating this special day with you!

The Sixth Annual Unitarian Universalist Western Crescent Choral Festival

PLEASE JOIN US!

Sunday, April 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin
39W830 Highland Avenue, Elgin, Illinois

nuce.org

A freewill offering will benefit the Community Crisis Center
Featuring choirs from:
Countrywide Church Unitarian Universalist, Palatine
Prairie Circle Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Grayslake
The Unitarian Universalist Church, Rockford
Tree of Life Unitarian Universalist Congregation, McHenry

Sing with Choir

For more info, contact Alison Vernon, Music Director@ccuu.org or 847-359-8440, ext.5.

Adults: Thursdays, 7:15 pm
Join us for rehearsal on Thursday evenings in the music rehearsal room - just north of Atherton Hall. Childcare is available if requested.

Children: Sundays, 12:15 pm
1st through 4th graders are invited to join us in the music rehearsal room (the room immediately north of Atherton Hall) on Sundays at 12:15 pm (after Sunday School).
Green Sanctuary News

If you have questions or would like to help with any of our Green Sanctuary happenings, contact Mark Krivchenia or Don Bussey, co-chairs, at GreenSanctuary@ccuu.org.

Monthly Meetings: 2nd Sundays, 12:30 pm

All are welcome to join us for our next monthly meeting on March 11 at 12:30 pm in Classroom 6. We are continuing to work on the public side of our Sustainable Energy Expo (see below and p.14) We need help with event day! Please consider offering the gift of volunteer time to help make this an extraordinary event.

Vegetable Garden Plots Available

If you would like to be a CCUU gardener, we have organic vegetable garden plots available. No experience is necessary; you only need a commitment to maintaining your plot through the season and the desire to grow and share delicious vegetables. Much of the produce we grow is donated to the Palatine Food Pantry. For more info, email Mike Calwas, anitasdad@earthlink.net.

Garden Work Party: March 24, 10 am

All are welcome to attend the garden Spring work day. (Rain date Sat, March 31, same time) We will prepare the garden for planting by cleaning up any debris left over from the winter and rototilling the garden plots. If the weather is good, you can also help the gardeners plant early crops. No RSVP necessary, just meet at the garden plots directly north of the church building.

Farmers Market: March 25, 10am-2pm

Mark your calendar for the Spring Farmers Market in Atherton Hall. Meet up to 14 vendors selling organic produce to homemade products. Be sure to tell your family and friends about the market.

Sustainable Energy Expo: April 21; Get Tickets Now!

This event aims to catalyze action for sustainable energy and punctuates completion of the church’s solar panel project with a special public dedication ceremony. Highlighting the event is a discussion on climate change featuring two distinguished speakers: WGN meteorologist Tom Skilling and Argonne National Laboratory’s Seth Darling, director, Institute for Molecular Engineering. The expo also features a robust agenda of workshops, exhibits, and interactive displays.

The free, ticketed event will take place here, 12-4pm. Space is limited and a large crowd is expected. Congregants are encouraged to reserve tickets now, before the event is publicized to the general public (starting March 22): https://sustainableenergyexpo.eventbrite.com/

Do you know the potential of the Sun? View Our Solar Panels Production

Check out the “eGauge” on the home page of www.ccuu.org. It shows real time data for the electricity produced by our recently installed solar panels on the roof over Atherton Hall. Click on the graphic and explore various data functions.

Social Action News

SAC Meetings: Last Sundays, 12:30 –2 pm

All are welcome to join us. Send agenda items to SocialActionChair@ccuu.org.

Social Action Updates

Send information for future Social Action Updates to Vince Unger. Put “SAC Update” in the subject line. Include pertinent details (dates, times, locations, etc.), contact person information, website links, etc. All submissions will be considered.

UU Justice Event on March 23-24

The new year brings a new focus to Countryside Church’s social justice efforts as the new Poor Peoples Campaign (PPC) becomes a beacon for putting UU values into action through a variety of activities and networking opportunities. Get grounded in the Campaign’s core issues of racial and restorative justice & advocacy while networking with UUs from throughout northern Illinois at an upcoming program of speakers and workshops hosted by UUANI and UUPMI at Countryside Church:

• Tearing Down Walls | Building Up Connections, Community and Solidarity, March 23 (evening) and 24. See the flyer on p. 13. Register for this free event at http://bit.ly/2DPkpo

• If interested in planning and/or participating in the church’s efforts centered around PPC’s pillars of economic justice, racial/restorative justice and environmental justice, email socialactionchair@ccuu.org.

Supporting Rohingya Refugees

A newly-scheduled share-the-plate collection scheduled for April 8 will raise funds for important programs in support of Rohingya Refugees. To learn more about the refugee crisis and how to help visit http://bit.ly/2I46cPn

Descriptions of our upcoming share-the-plate collections can be found in a brochure on the Study Ministry table in Atherton Hall; upcoming organizations are:

Mar 11: Clearbrook
Mar 25: Unitarian Universalist Assn
Apr 1: Minister’s Discretionary Fund
Apr 22: Citizens for Conservation
May 6: Chicago Area Center for Arts & Technology
May 27: Heart of a Marine Foundation

Your Vote is Your Voice

As UUs, we affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. The Fifth Principle is the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

The primary election for governor, national, state, and county offices gets underway with early voting March 5 through March 19, and Election Day is March 20. It’s not too late to register to vote. Illinois allows 17-year olds to vote in a primary if they will turn 18 by the general election. Register right up to voting day.

- Easy, online registration: https://ova.elections.il.gov/
- Cook County voter info: www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections
- Lake County: www.lakecountyil.gov/161/County-Clerk
Intro to CCUU ~ 1st Sundays
Newcomers are invited to attend a brief orientation to Countryside Church and Unitarian Universalism. It is offered the 1st Sunday of each month following either worship service.

Soul Connections
Still Room for You in New Soul Connections Group
We’ve had enough interest to be able to start two additional Soul Connections groups this spring, and there are still a few spots available if you’ve been considering joining. There will be a group on the 3rd Friday and one on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Soul Connections is a terrific gateway to church community as well as to our UU faith itself. For more information or to join one of these groups, please contact Don Bussey, SoulConnections@ccuu.org, by April 7.

A Soul Connections Testimonial
by Vince Unger, Group Participant, Soul Connections Third Tuesday Morning Group
For me, attending a circle of strangers, and revealing deep personal experiences and feelings, is almost as terrifying as climbing a 24 story tower and sliding down on two sticks at 65 mph, perhaps even more so. But through radical listening and the guidance of our group leader, Sue Montgomery, I learned to deep listen, and to shed my fear of sharing and soon the others were like long time friends.

The monthly themes and exercises draw you to places of marvel, reflection, and insights. You can put you toe in, wade or dive, all at your own pace. Each month has a cornucopia of poems, songs, videos and other inspiring resources. Like much of my UU experience, it gently tugs at you to explore your own being, and help guide your becoming. You do this with a group of other souls doing the same with very different journeys, but connected in sharing the challenges and inspirations of the life giving space we inhabit.

Being new to UU I also am learning that this like many other activities is very well thought out, respectful and sensitive to individual dignity. I have not encountered anything like this in my other church affiliations.

It’s called Soul Connections but it could also be called Soul Renewal, or Soul Tune-Up in my opinion, and I would recommend it for anyone at any stage of their journey.

Welcome Our Newest Members
Please welcome those who signed the book in February. They will formally be welcomed during worship services on March 18.

Jen Grey
Diane and Alan Johnson
Leslie Luther
Sue Montgomery

[contact info omitted from newsletter posted on website]

Transitions
The mission of the Transitions group is to provide a forum for mature adults to explore life transitions with a supportive community during daytime hours.

Monthly Program & Lunch: 4th Thurs, 10 am
Join us on March 22 to hear Jules Jaramillo, our Director of Lifespan Religious Education, speak on Creating Wholeness in Congregational Life & Learning. Potluck lunch follows the program; bring something to share or your own individual lunch. All are welcome—invite a friend!

Memoir Makers: 2nd Fridays, 10 am
All are welcome to join us in classroom #1. In addition to sharing any new writings by members, we will start our new venture in viewing a workshop conducted by Donald Davis and sponsored by the Timpanogos Storytelling Institute.

Great Books Discussion Group Beginning New Book on March 28
The Transitions Great Books Discussion Group will begin a new book on March 28; this would be a good time for anyone wishing to join the group to transition in. We meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10am – Noon, in the Stokes Room.

Her Own Accord: American Women on Identity, Culture, and Community is a collection of speeches, memoirs, short stories, essays, and poetry by acclaimed authors. Discussion of each selection is led by a different member of the group; there are questions in the book to promote a lively discussion. If you would like to join us, email Krista MacTavish, putting ‘Great Books’ in the subject line.

Sharing What We’ve Found
Having found stillness, may we share peace.
Having received connection, may we reach out to others.
Having heard the call of our deepest self, may we live in greater alignment.
Having returned to our center, may we expand the circle of love.
Feminine Divine Women’s Group  
**Last Saturdays, 9:30 am**  
This year, we are discussing *Warrior Goddess Training* by Heatherash Amara. On March 24, we will discuss chapter 7. Newcomers are welcome to join us in classroom 6.

Atheist, Humanist, Agnostic (AHA)  
**Discussion ~ 2nd Tuesdays, 7 pm**  
All are welcome to join us in classroom 4. On March 13, Jim Peterson will give us an update on things happening within the atheist movement. Additionally, after a brief presentation on the fundamentals of Mormonism, Bill Marsh will lead a discussion on the role and implications of Mormonism for our society today.

Book Discussions  
**Book Circle: April 15**  
All are welcome to join us in classroom 6 to discuss *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by Arlie Russell Hochschild.  
We gather at 6:15 pm, discussion begins at 6:30 pm.  
**Last Mondays Book Group: March 26**  
Join us at 7 pm in the Stokes Room to discuss *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

Warm-Up Yoga  
**1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6:20-7:05 pm**  
A gentle yoga class will be held on the first and third Thursdays of the month, through May, in the Spirit Play Room (rm 9/10) from 6:20 - 7:00 pm. The emphasis is on stretches and strengthening poses that reduce tension and calm the mind. Class will end at 7 for those attending Soul Connections. Email Laura.Mandell@comcast.net with questions.

Open Forum Discussion  
**New meeting time starting March 18**  
The new, later time will be from 10 to 10:50 AM. We are hoping the later start time will make it easier for regular participants to attend and more inviting for newcomers and the curious. For now, we’re treating this as an experiment to make sure that it will work well for everyone. Please join us!  
We meet in classroom 5 to discuss “the issues of the day” while respectfully welcoming different perspectives. Future topics are tentative. The upcoming two Sundays are least likely to change, but current events developments or other factors sometimes inspire us to switch. Contact Vid Axel to be added to our email list to receive notices and suggested readings.  
- Mar 11 at 8:45am: civil discourse now and in the future  
- Mar 18—1st date at new time: how do we define patriotism?  
- Mar 25: “Thank you for your service” - Origins, Meaning, Implications—and the Movie  
- Apr 1: EB-5 US Visas  
- Apr 8: Is English Deteriorating?  
- Apr 15: The Future of Language Translation and its Cultural Implications

20-30 Somethings ~ **1st & 3rd Sundays**  
If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us following the 11:00 worship service in classroom 4. Childcare is available during the meetings. We also meet at other times during the month for socializing and service. For more info or to be added to our email list, email 2030s@ccuu.org.

40-50 Somethings: Sat, March 10  
This newish group is for those too old for the 20-30s group but not yet ready to retire and attend Transitions. To subscribe to our group email list, go to [http://ccuu.org/mailman/listinfo/4050slist_ccuu.org](http://ccuu.org/mailman/listinfo/4050slist_ccuu.org).  
Please join us for a game night on March 10 at 7 pm at the home of Mike and Laura Corrigan. Feel free to bring a snack or dessert or just yourself. Newcomers and late-comers welcome! For more details, please email laura.corrigan@gmail.com. Our next games night will be Sat, April 7 at the home of Mary Beth & Theo Van Wijk.

Mary Oliver Poetry Series  
**4th Fridays, 7 pm**  
Each evening a featured poet will read his/her own poetry followed by an opportunity for others to read during an open mike session. *The readings are open to the public, and all who love poetry are welcome to join us in classroom 6.* Our featured poet on March 23 will be Edward Schwartz, who finds humor & pathos in everyday happening & adds a little philosophy or a twist.

Buddhist Study Group ~ **2nd Sundays**  
All are welcome to join us on March 11, 12:30-2 pm, in the Sanctuary. We are discussing the ancient values and the book *Living Kindness* by Donald Altman. Reading the book is not necessary for participation in the group.

Drum Circle ~ **4th Saturdays**  
Adults & teens are invited to join us on Feb 24 at 7 pm in Atherton Hall for free-style drumming in a low key, peaceful, welcoming environment. No drumming experience necessary! Please bring your instrument(s); some limited hand percussion is available to share. Go to [www.PalatineDrumCircle.com](http://www.PalatineDrumCircle.com) for more info.

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"We all have two religions: the religion we talk about and the religion we live. It is our task to make the difference between the two as small as possible."

~ William E. Gardner
Full Week Faith

Full Week Faith reminds us that our Unitarian Universalism faith is a part of our daily lives and we nourish it by practices we create in our homes. Creating rituals at home help us slow down, create mindfulness, and teach us to connect our minds, bodies, and spirits to Unitarian Universalism. I invite you to take time daily; individually or as a family, to create rituals and practices in living your Unitarian Universalism faith.

As we bring the idea of balance into our lives in March, let us remember that balance is not something we hold onto as an accomplishment. Balance is a never-ending shift, a give and take—a sense of ongoing release and recovery. Our goal is not to remain perfectly balanced but to become an accomplished practitioner of creating balance. As long as we practice finding balance in our lives, we will move closer to it.

Connecting to our Unitarian Universalist faith is a wonderful opportunity to bring us back to center. When we create rituals within our homes that remind us of the importance of living our UU principles and the values, hopes and vision, we create space for balance. The symbol of Unitarian Universalism, our chalice, is a way to bring us back to center on a daily basis.

31 Days of Chalice Lightings

This month, Lifespan Religious Education Full Week Faith encourages all families, couples, and individuals to participate in 31 days of Chalice Lightings. Each week, we will share two different chalice lightings. Choose a time of day for you or family to light your home chalice with your own words or the chalice lightings below. After you light your chalice spend a few minutes reflecting or sharing ways your faith creates balance in your life.

If you or your family do not have a home chalice, please join us after services in Atherton Hall, where we will be providing the materials to make your own chalice to bring home with you.

Learn more about the UU Flaming Chalice at https://www.uua.org/beliefs/who-we-are/chalice/flaming-chalice-learning

Children Stories about UU Flaming Chalice: https://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/home/session2/flame-learning

Chalice Lighting 1

Pulled in many directions by the demands of our days, we light this chalice to remind us of the still point deep inside. Made unsteady by the winds of unpredictable paths, we light this chalice to remember the shelter of each other. Longing for lights that lead us back to our most authentic selves, we light this chalice to illuminate the faces of friends and sacred companions, recalling once again that we find our way through the willingness to take each other’s hand.

Chalice Lighting 2

We light this chalice with open minds, loving hearts, and willing hands. We work to make the world a better place, using the power of love.

What does it mean to be a People of Balance?

When we talk of balance, it’s natural for calm and rest to be the first things that come to mind. There’s no getting around it: many of us are tired. We’re overworked, over-busy, over-committed. Striving and stress have become the badges we wear to prove that we are of worth. We are often so weighed down by responsibility and worry that it only takes one drop of something unexpected to tip us over. So, yes, we long for rest. Yes, we want less to manage and juggle. Yes, we need balance’s reminder that a place of calm and peace is possible.

And yet, pointing us to peace and calm is not all that balance is about. Remembering this is at the center of this month’s work. Indeed, there is no better month than March to help us embrace balance’s many meanings.

For instance, take the religious holidays in March. Lent reminds us that balance is a place reassessment, renewal, preparation, and even repentance. It honors the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert preparing for his ministry and the path to the cross. The balance he sought in the desert was not that of restful escape, but that restorative re-centering. Balance got him ready, rather than simply offering him relief. Passover also puts its own spin on balance. It is a time to retell the story of the exodus of the Jews from Egypt after centuries of slavery. For it, balance is a matter of remembering, of pausing to put yourself back into a story that connects you with others and anchors you in a counter-cultural narrative. During Passover, the balance one finds is not that of calm but that of reconnection. There’s also Ostara, the Pagan celebration of the Vernal Equinox. It honors the balance of day and night, but more importantly it celebrates the way this balance is a tipping point on the way to Spring. It’s a reminder that stillpoints are rarely still. They are a place of turning, a space where shifts happen and new life emerges. And finally the Hindu holiday of Holi also needs held up, with its ritual of restoring one’s belief in the power of good over evil. It’s a reminder that balance and calm isn’t just found by taking a break from life, but by trusting in its goodness once again.

March is also the month in which we honor many people who gave their lives to the cause of justice. The list is large:

- The Selma–Montgomery March happened March 21-25, 1965
- James Reeb was murdered on March 11, 1965
- Viola Liuzzo was murdered on March 25, 1965
- March is Women’s history month with its call to remember the long history and continuing work for Women’s equality.
- Susan B. Anthony’s death was March 13
- Archbishop Oscar Romero was killed on March 24, 1980

These anniversaries remind us that being a “people of balance” is often the opposite of keeping things calm. In order to move toward a balance of justice, we have to upset the current state of things. Oppressive systems need challenged and toppled. We need to sacrifice our calm and comfort, and instead “go all in.” Achieving a balance of equality requires us to be purposefully off-
March Ministry Theme: Balance, cont’d

March 7, 2018

balance with our culture, or as Martin Luther King Jr. said, we need people who are “maladjusted.” Being out of sync with “the way things are” is the first step toward a better balance for all.

Add all this up and suddenly “balance” takes on a new meaning. Actually, it takes on many new meanings. The observances of March remind us that balance is not simply a destination, but also a place of invitation. It’s not a static space of peace, as much as a stillpoint on which we pivot and turn to something new. It’s not just about rest, but about resting up for a journey. Yes, balance allows us to catch our breath, but it’s also about finding our center so we can end all our aimless wandering around. It’s fine to think of balance by imagining the Buddha sitting peacefully under a tree, but we can’t let that overshadow the image of a diver balancing way up there on her diving board, pausing to re-gain her composure and courage so she can leap and go “all in.”

Another way to put all this is to ask, “What is your balance for?” Maybe instead of asking each other, “Have you found balance?” we need to ask “Where is your balance taking you?” “Yes, balance sometimes can be an end in itself, but this month and its observances remind us that more often balance is a means to a greater end. In other words, maybe balance isn’t the prize but the springboard. Maybe balance isn’t the goal, but the source of strength that gets us where we need to go.

Which means that our most important questions this month might actually be, “Do you know where you’re trying to get to?” and “Which kind of balance will help you along your way?”

Questions for Considering Balance
Pick the single question that speaks to you most and let it lead you where you need to go. The goal is to figure out what being a part of a people of intention means for you and your daily living. So, which question is calling to you? Which one contains “your work”?

1. What if the problem is not about being busy and all those balls you’re juggling? Could the balance you seek be about connecting who you are inside with how you use your time outside? Are you sure that you are overwhelmed, or just out of alignment?

2. What “congruence” is calling to you? What “alignment” is your deepest self longing for?

3. As a kid, when did you have that feeling of everything being in perfect balance? Is that just a nice memory? Or might it be a guidepost to what you need in your life right now?

4. What happens when you sit quietly in a room? Do the voices you hear center and balance you? Or leave you off-balance and pulled off-center?

5. We struggle between our desire to save the world and savor the world. But what if it’s really a matter of listening better to both of them? How is what you savor calling you to save or protect something? How are your efforts to save world asking you to get better at finding moments of personal balance and joy?

6. Psychologists say we need a balance of work, love, and play. Which of these legs needs more of your attention? Have you become a one or two-legged stool?

7. Are you trying too hard to make something work? Might balance for you be a matter of accepting defeat or finally letting it go?

8. Are you off-balance because you’re in a tug-of-war? You do know that you’re allowed to simply let go of the rope, right?

9. What if balance isn’t about doing a better job juggling what is, but instead a matter of returning to something that was?

10. Is it time to give up one of your passions so the other can fully live? Is trying to balance them all cutting you off from connecting fully with any one of them?

11. Are you out-of-balance because you’ve taken on too much or taken on too much that is not really yours to do or fix?

12. Is your life out of balance because you are taking on too much or because you want too much?

13. Do you really need better time-management? Or could better boundary-management be your true work?

14. Is time to toss balance to the side and go all in?

15. Do you ever get sick of people telling you that you need more balance in your life?

16. Are you trying to both hold on to and let go of someone at the same time?

If you would like to request a complete theme resource packet or obtain more info about the Soul Connections program, email Don Bussey, SoulConnections@ccuu.org
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Movies with Meaning
Sat, March 31, 7 pm ~ Romero
Please join us in Atherton Hall to watch this story about the fight to balance a world of violence and injustice with the witness of love and sacrifice. The official trailer can be viewed online: https://vimeo.com/67565728
Sponsored by Soul Connections, this movie is offered as companion to our March ministry theme journey, to continue considering and thinking about what it means to be a people of balance. Popcorn, cold and hot beverages included for your enjoyment at this gratis event. For more info, contact Don Bussey at MoviesWith Meaning@ccuu.org.

Create Monthly Themed Art
Congregants of all ages are invited to create an original piece of art that represents what the monthly theme means to you in any medium. Bring your original artwork to church the last Sunday of the preceding month. Artwork will be displayed in the Sanctuary or elsewhere in the building as appropriate.

Upcoming themes are:
April—Emergence May—Creativity June—Blessing

For more info or if you have questions, contact Alison Verner, music.director@ccuu.org, or Lois Phillips.
Don’t Miss the Passover Seder!

*Friday, April 6, 6:00 pm*

Come to Countryside’s annual Passover Seder. This is one of our major all-church events of the year. We’ll be taking reservations and donations after both services from March 18 through April 1. It will be held on Friday, April 6, starting at 6:00 pm. Recommended donations are: $10 per adult, $5 per child or $30 per family. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share that follows basic Jewish tradition (described below).

**What is a Passover Seder?**

It’s a ritual banquet which includes a retelling of the Exodus. ‘Seder’ refers to the order of the ritual. ‘Passover’ refers to the night that the angels of death passed over Jewish homes just before the Israelites won their freedom, fled after parting the Red Sea, and escaped from Egypt. The evening service includes wine (or grape juice) and special foods. There are readings in English and Hebrew and we even sing songs. Anyone who is willing can read. Once the ‘service’ portion is over, a meal is shared by those attending and then another short service follows to end the Seder. While the Seder takes a while, it is a family friendly event and is most often conducted in homes with children taking part in the reading or sharing of the story.

**Why do Unitarian Universalists celebrate the Passover Seder?**

As UUs we recognize, respect, and turn for wisdom to the traditions of other religions – like Christmas and Ramadan. In this case we are celebrating a sacred Jewish tradition. The main messages of the traditional Jewish Passover Seder are freedom and gratitude. We focus on these messages in our version of the Seder while retaining much of the traditions. Even today we need to be grateful for our freedoms and continue to protect them.

**What will it be like?**

You’ll arrive by 6:00 PM and bring a dish to share. That dish should meet general Seder guidelines – no pork, dairy, bread, or yeast. We’ll then begin our service by following a book called the Haggadah which tells the story of the escape from Egypt. The word *Haggadah* means ‘the telling.’ Our Haggadah includes an interesting Unitarian Universalist story as well. We’ll have some coloring to help occupy the children, but everyone is included in the evening. Since we will not eat for almost an hour, you might give your kids a small snack beforehand (though getting hungry is part of the tradition for many folks). During the service we share food from the Seder plate which includes matzo, hard-boiled eggs, and oranges. Bring the whole family and your friends.

Later, at a break in the Seder, we’ll serve vegetarian matzo ball soup and then share a meal. We’ll provide baked chicken as a main dish. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to complete the meal.

Once the meal is over, we’ll have a brief service to complete the Seder. There will be goodie bags for the kids and the exciting search for the Afikomen. If you don’t know what that is, join in and find out!

**For Questions or to make reservations**

Reservations will be taken at church during coffee hour on March 18, March 25, and April 1. Or contact Carol Bobbe

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**UU General Assembly: All Are Called**

**June 20-24 in Kansas City, MO**

General Assembly is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates. The 2018 General Assembly will be June 20-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Most General Assembly events will be held in the Kansas City Convention Center.

- **Registration and Housing Open March 1 at 9 am CST:** [www.uua.org/ga/travel](http://www.uua.org/ga/travel)

- **GA Theme: All Are Called:** Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, “How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?” The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals.

- **Excellent Programming:** GA will offer more than 175 programming selections over the course of five days. Major worship services this year will be led by UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Rev. Sofia Betancourt. More programming details are available at [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).

- **Financial Aid Available:** The UUA is committed to the goal of making GA accessible to as many attendees as possible. Go to uua.org/ga in the month of March to learn about scholarships to support delegates - particularly those from marginalized groups - and volunteer opportunities (work in exchange for registration). Some assistance may be available from CCU’s Minister’s Discretionary Fund; speak with Rev. Hilary.

If you plan to go to General Assembly, please let a staff member or Board member know, so we can coordinate carpools or meals together – or a team approach to all GA has to offer. If you want to speak with Countrysiders who have attended previous General Assemblies: Martha Atherton, Judy Ball, Lisa Bohné & Mike Gilley, Barb Braje, Gloria Kinney, Laura Mandell, Ian Michalec, Karen Noorani, Chris Smith, Greg Sweigert, or staff members: Rev. Hilary, Jules Jaramillo, Laurie Lantz.

**MidAmerica Region Annual Business Meeting** will be held in conjunction with 2018 General Assembly in Kansas City – at 4:30 pm on Weds, June 20. You do not need to be registered for GA in order to attend the meeting. Keep this in mind—we want to see you there! SAVE THE DATE for NEXT year - the 2019 Regional Assembly will be held in St. Louis, April 5-7, 2019.
UU Experiences Beyond Our Walls

March 7, 2018

Adult Midwest Unitarian Universalist Singles Enrichment (AMUUSE): The purpose of AMUUSE is to enrich in all ways the lives of single persons. We are dedicated to promoting spiritual, intellectual, and social exchange for all interested single adults 21 years of age or over regardless of religion, gender, sexual orientation, race, or political persuasion. We hope to provide a nontherapeutic environment bringing men and women together to interact in open, nonthreatening interpersonal situations. Dates for 2018: March 23-25; May 4-6; June 3-7; Aug 12-18; Oct 26-28. Visit www.AMUUSE.org for more info and to register.

MidAmerica UU Buddhist Fellowship (UUBF) Daylong Retreat: May 5. Attend the first ever one-day MidAmerica UU Buddhist Fellowship retreat at Lake County UU Church in Heartland, Wisc (half hour west of Milwaukee). Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Zenshin Florence Caplow, the minister at the UU Church of Urbana-Champaign and a Soto Zen priest and teacher in the Shunryu Suzuki Roshi lineage. Home stays available. Further info, email Terry Kinsey, mindful@unitytemple.org. To register: https://goo.gl/forms/7HOYIdXs9t0EYbAWE2.

WhaleWatch Alaska. Four UU Fellowships in Alaska invite you to our awe-inspiring 25th annual Alaska tour program. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and unique tour activities. Tours led by a longtime member of the Fairbanks UU Congregation who is an Alaska travel expert. Tour #1: National Park Tour, June 9 to 19 -- $3,135; Tour #2: All-Alaska Tour, July 6 to 18 -- $3,843. For complete info, go to www.WhaleCoastAK.org.

Midwest UU Summer Assembly (MUUSA): July 1-7. Consider joining fellow UUs this summer in the Missouri Ozarks. The weeklong camp offers many workshops and activities for families, couples, and singles of all ages. Rev. Nic Cable will lead the daily morning celebration service on the theme Living Between Worlds. Registration now open: www.muusa.org.

MidWest Leadership School for Youth and Adults: July 15-21 at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Grow, Thrive, and Renew ~ Explore your spirituality and nurture the gifts you bring back to your congregation. MWLS is an immersive and rigorous week of learning in classroom and small-group settings. Our program blends the practical with the spiritual and experiential (small-group challenges) in a safe, welcoming environment. For more info and to register, go to www.mwls.org.

Chalice Sparx Family Camp & Retreat: July 12-15, 2018 in Sturgis, Michigan. This camp and retreat is for people of all ages. Programs & workshops for children, youth, and adults; multigenerational worship; and fun group activities such as canoeing, archery, s'mores around a campfire and popcorn popped in a kettle over an open fire. A variety of accommodations from dormitory-style lodging to hotel-like rooms in the Retreat Center. Tent & RV camping also available at nearby Amigo Park. Registration is now open www.chaliceparx.org

Camp Unistar: Belonging at Camp, Cherishing the Island, Inspiring Action in the World. Enjoy a week on a beautiful island retreat where you can unplug, unwind, and enjoy nature; a place where you can learn something new and engage, when you want to, with a village of old and new friends who are largely rooted in Unitarian Universalist values. Camp UniStar is a special week-long rustic retreat for individuals, couples, and families with shared values. Reachable only by water, the camp is surrounded by the Chippewa National Forest on Star Island in Cass Lake, one of the largest lakes in northern Minnesota, near Bemidji.

During the season, camp offers 12 weeks with various programs – some for youth only, some for adults only, most for a combination of individuals to family groups. The season opens with a work week fixing up the camp, and two youth weeks for people entering 7th through 12th grades. In addition to staff, camp capacity each week is up to 70 campers, who are housed in sleeping rooms in the cabins and the upstairs of the main lodge, or in a tenting area beside the lake. For more info and registration instructions, visit www.CampUniStar.org.

Leadership Schools for Youth of Color. Thrive Youth is for youth in 9th-12th grade during the 2017-2018 school year (or the equivalent for home school) and any youth who bridge into young adulthood in the summer of 2018. Thrive participants will be guided by experienced co-facilitators as they worship, feast, play, explore racial and ethnic identities, practice transformative leadership skills, and create authentic, supportive community. Thrive Youth East: July 25-29 at First Parish Cambridge, MA, Thrive Youth West: August 1-5 at UU Church of Long Beach, CA. Learn more and apply today at www.uua.org/Thrive.

Meaning Makers for UUs ages 18-24. uses in-person retreats, virtual small groups, and mentorship to support emerging adults in deepening their faith and staying connected to Unitarian Universalism. This year, the program will focus on exploring spiritual practices, engaging with community, and living UU values. Kick-off retreat outside San Antonio TX, June 5-9. Scholarships and travel subsidies available. Learn more: www.uua.org/young-adults/events/meaning-makers

Journey with the UU College of Social Justice (UUCSJ). UUCSJ has opportunities for youth and adults – both individuals and groups – who are looking to deepen their work for justice. UUCSJ programs create partnerships with people who are directly impacted by current justice struggles. Hear their stories firsthand, share their labor and their food, worship with them, directly encounter their struggles & victories, and share aspirations for justice. Adult experiential journeys include Nicaragua (Climate Justice, Economic Justice, Feminism); Arizona/Mexico Border (Immigration Justice, Solidarity Through Sanctuary); West Virginia (Economic & Climate Justice). Learn more: www.uucsj.org/journeys.
Wellness House Offerings at CCUU

Hypnosis Group & Reiki Sessions

Held here at CCUU the 1st Saturday of the month, these offerings are open to anyone in our geographical area who has or had cancer of any kind. The hypnosis program is led by our community minister, the Rev. Dr. Giles, and the reiki sessions are offered by his wife, the Rev. Lindsay Bates. These are free, and registration is required. To register, email kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org or call 630-654-5197.

CCUU No Photo List

We are maintaining a No Photo List of people who want to opt out of having their image used by and for the benefit of CCUU in internal and external publications including print, digital, and social media. Any person may instruct CCUU to place their name and/or the names of any of their children on our No Photo List by advising the Congregational Administrator in writing, ccuu@ccuu.org. Be sure to include the date of your request.

Methods of Giving to CCUU

If you prefer credit card or online giving to writing a check, there are a couple of options for giving to CCUU:

- Countryside Express: To make regular payments via credit card or automatic withdrawal from your bank account, a form is available on the church website or in the church office. Submit the completed form to the congregational administrator for processing.
- Giving online allows you to make one-time or recurring contributions and to view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Visit the church website; click Donate Now button; click Create Profile; then follow the onscreen instructions.
- Give by Text: Pick up a yellow card from greeter table or back of sanctuary, or contact the church office.

Support CCUU through GoodShop

Raise a tiny bit of green for CCUU. Through GoodShop, many of the retailers you use are likely to give a small amount per purchase to a non-profit of your choice – CCUU! Go to https://www.goodsearch.com, search for Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, select us as your non-profit. Whenever you shop online, go to goodsearch.com before you shop, go from there to the retailer. Tell your friends and family to shop through GoodShop too, and you can multiply your impact. If you shop online, Goodshop for CCUU!

Used Bookshelf

This small fundraiser for the church operating budget is in Atherton Hall. If you have books which you no longer want, you may place them on the shelf. If you see a book on the shelf you’d like, we ask that you leave $1 per book in the box on the shelf. Periodically, it is refreshed by donating all the books to Palatine Library book sale.

Welcoming is very important work. Hospitality, and especially ‘Radical Hospitality’, refers to the conscious and intentional generosity of spirit that exists in people’s behaviors and attitudes, conveying that all are truly welcome. The presence of our Hospitality Teams, which are made up of church members & friends who take responsibility for one Sunday each month, ensures that all are welcomed warmly on Sunday mornings. Think about when you first came to Countryside Church. Who welcomed you (or didn't)? Can you make others who arrive on Sunday morning feel as welcome as you felt – or more so? Being part of a Hospitality Team is a way to get to know other church members while making newcomers feel welcome. The more members we have participating on a team, the less frequently any one person has to show up.

If you are already part of a Hospitality Team, please remember to sign up online to help - http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044ea4a72fa13-sunday

If you are not yet part of a Team, please contact the church office and we will connect you with one, or feel free to sign up to help at the link above.

Thank you, all!

Reminder: Nut-free Practices

This information is also posted on the kitchen door and on the bulletin board near the microwave.

Countryside Church has put into place restrictions around peanuts and tree nuts in our building. This practice reflects our desire to be a welcoming and safe congregation for members, friends, and visitors that have potentially life threatening allergies to peanuts or tree nuts.

- Please do not bring any food item that contains nuts or has allergen warnings that it may contain nuts. If you are unsure, do not bring it to church.
- Check and recheck labels on all food.
- Bring snack foods that ARE peanut & tree nut safe. We ask that everyone work together to remind each other not to bring or serve anything with peanuts or tree nuts. If a snack or food item has nuts, we will ask that it be removed and returned to your car. If we do not know who brought the nut item, we will place the item in a labeled Ziploc bag and if no one retrieves the item, it will be discarded.

Empathy and compassion are the key elements to understanding the reason behind these practices. Thank you for assisting to make Countryside Church a more welcoming and even safer place for everyone who walks through our doors. Further details are posted in the kitchen and at http://ccuu.org/peanut-treenut-practices/.
TEARING DOWN WALLS BUILDING UP
Connections, Community and Solidarity
Friday | March 23 | 6 to 9 p.m.
Saturday | March 24 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Countryside Church UU | 1025 N. Smith Street | Palatine IL

Gain knowledge on the issues.
Leave with ideas to put into action.

Session Tracks

Featured Speakers
Circles and Ciphers | Ethos
Moms United Against Violence & Incarceration | Monica Cosby
Live Free Chicago | Marlon Chamberlain
Nehemiah Trinity Rising | Michelle Day
Faith In Place | Rev. Booker Vance
New Poor Peoples Campaign | Rev. Saeed Richardson

Registration, event details and full agenda at UUPMI.org

Hosted by:
UU Prison Ministry of IL | UU Advocacy Network of IL | Youth & Young Adult Visioning Team
Moving together toward a healthier future

Sustainable Energy EXPO

Climate change is now. What can we do about tomorrow?

Chicago’s Very Own
TOM SKILLING
WGN - Meteorologist

Argonne National Laboratory
SETH DARLING
Director - Institute for Molecular Engineering

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 | NOON TO 4 p.m.
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
1025 N. Smith Street, Palatine, IL

Exhibits | Workshops | Interactive Displays
Climate change updates. Energy efficiency and solar energy ideas and incentives for home, business and community.
ISEA’s Solar House | Electric Vehicle Demo

Free ticketed event. Space is limited. RSVP at:
SustainableEnergyExpo.eventbrite.com

Hosted by:
Countryside Church UU | Illinois Sierra Club | Citizens Utility Board | Faith In Place | IL Solar Energy Assoc.
### Upcoming Church Meetings & Events: March-April

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This calendar shows upcoming Church meetings &amp; events. All meetings and events held in the building are listed on the church website, under Programs &amp; Events - <a href="http://ccuu.org/calendar/">http://ccuu.org/calendar/</a>. If your meeting or event is not listed, please submit a room reservation form (available in the office or on the website with the calendar) to the office.</strong></td>
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<td><em>“Daylight Saving Time Ends”</em></td>
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<td><em>7pm Atheist-Humanist-Agnostic Discussion</em></td>
<td><em>10am Great Books Group</em></td>
<td><em>6:20pm Warm-up Yoga</em></td>
<td><em>7pm Soul Connections Fri group</em></td>
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<td>8:45 am Open Forum</td>
<td><em>Rem’s Class: Styles of Governing</em></td>
<td><em>Soul Connections Tues day-time group</em></td>
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<td>9am Worship, Nursery, Chalice Children</td>
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<td><em>Rem’s Class: Styles of Governing</em></td>
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<td><em>Board of Trustees Mtg</em></td>
<td><em>Transitions</em></td>
<td><em>Mary Oliver Poetry Circle</em></td>
<td><em>UU Justice Event at CCUU</em></td>
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<td>9am Worship, Nursery, Chalice Children</td>
<td><em>Soul Connections Tues eve group</em></td>
<td><em>Soul Connections Weds group</em></td>
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<td><em>Focus deadline</em></td>
<td><em>Rem’s Class: Styles of Governing</em></td>
<td><em>PADS meal delivery</em></td>
<td><em>Choir Rehearsal</em></td>
<td><em>7:30pm Ten- brae Worship Service</em></td>
<td><em>9:30a Feminine Divine Women’s Grp</em></td>
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<td>9 &amp; 11am All-Church Worship, Nursery, Chalice Children</td>
<td><em>Last Mondays Book Discussion</em></td>
<td><em>Great Books Group</em></td>
<td><em>Choir Rehearsal</em></td>
<td><em>7pm Movies with Meaning: Romero</em></td>
<td><em>7pm Movies with Meaning: Romero</em></td>
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<td>10 am Open Forum</td>
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<td><em>Turning Points in UUism</em></td>
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<td>10am-2pm Indoor Farmers Mkt</td>
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<td><em>Rem’s Class: Styles of Governing</em></td>
<td><em>Ministry Council Mtg</em></td>
<td><em>Focus publication</em></td>
<td><em>6:20pm Warm-up Yoga</em></td>
<td><em>Annual Passover Seder</em></td>
<td><em>10am Wellness House Hypnosis Group &amp; Reiki Sessions</em></td>
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<td>9am Worship, Nursery, Chalice Children</td>
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<td><em>Office meeting</em></td>
<td><em>6:30pm Seder set-up</em></td>
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<td><em>Rem’s Class: Styles of Governing</em></td>
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<td>12:30pm Buddhist Study Group</td>
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Our Covenant
We unite to strengthen the bonds of kinship among all persons, to promote human dignity, and to increase reverence for life’s creating, sustaining, and transforming power through worship, study, and service.

Our Mission
We are a spiritual community actively answering the call for love, compassion, reason, and justice.

Our Vision
Countryside is committed to being a voice of and active presence for liberal religion in the northwest suburbs. Empowered by our Mission Statement, we endeavor to:
- Create a welcoming place of connectedness, compassion, and respect for people of all ages. Advance inclusivity and diversity within our congregation and community.
- Care for each other in times of joy, sorrow, and transition.
- Provide for spiritual and intellectual growth and inspire lifelong learning.
- Promote a sustainable future for our community and world by acting with a social, environmental, and global conscience.
- Communicate and spread the message of Unitarian Universalism within and beyond our community.
- Promote peace and justice in our congregation, communities, and the world.
- Engage in thoughtful stewardship of our resources to achieve our mission and carry out our vision.

Upcoming Focus Deadlines
Submit all articles by 10 am to ccuu@ccuu.org
Mar 26 (publ. Apr 4) Apr 23 (publ. May 2) May 21 (publ. May 31)
Between Focus issues, written communication is via E-Updates & the Sunday Times insert to the Order of Worship. Deadline for e-updates & Sunday Times is Weds at 9 am.