From Our Outreach Steering Committee

Service Partner Expo ~ October 14
Join us from 11-12:30 in Atherton Hall to meet our three Service Partners: Partners for Our Community (POC); Faith in Place (FIP) and Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants (ICDI). These organizations are supported by CCUU through volunteers and fundraising events. Find out more about who they are and what they do for our communities as well as what you may be able to do for them through volunteer opportunities.

We Need Your Time & Talent Donations
The Time & Talent Auction, our largest fundraiser for our Service Partners is November 17. We need your donations by October 14. Please see the donation form in this newsletter for more info.

Resistance and Transformation

NEW Adult Faith Development Series
This series is part of the UUA Tapestry of Faith curricula and is grounded in Unitarian Universalist social history, theology, and current events. This series will be taught by various members of the congregation and some by Rev. Hilary and Kathy Underwood. Sessions will be held from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm; lunch and childcare will be available. Please register online so we have a better idea when ordering lunch: https://ccuu.breezechms.com/form/Resistance-Transformation

You do not need to attend every session; here is the list of sessions through December:
- Oct 14: Religious Freedom on the Margins of Empire
- Oct 28: Unitarian & Universalist Responses to Slavery
- Nov 11: Unitarian & Universalist Responses to War & Pacifism
- Nov 25: UU Visions of Utopianism and the Challenge of Idealism
- Dec 9: Free & Responsible Speech—past & present
(Note: topics may be rearranged, depending on availability of session leaders)

Beloved Conversations

Participate, learn, grow, make new connections
This year, our Board of Trustees is participating in the Beloved Conversations process. A second group has begun to form, but we need more folks to make it viable. This is an excellent opportunity, during a time of racist backlash, to keep pressing forward—particularly in terms of our own awareness and understanding of the culture within and around us that sustains and supports racism. Come follow our Board of Trustees, who has deemed this important enough to lead by example. For more info and to register, please contact Kathy Underwood at dldre@ccuu.org or Rev. Hilary at minister@ccuu.org.

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Cupcake War Returns Oct 27!
We had so much fun last year with our cupcake war, that we’re doing it again! This year, we are doing a Halloween-themed contest. Mark your calendar for Oct 27, 1-4pm & sign up to participate: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b45acaa2aaaafb6-ccuu.

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 the worship service.
From Your Board of Trustees

Greetings Friends,

A new season is upon us, and we are settling into the rhythm of a new church year. We look forward to several exciting developments on the horizon for CCUU.

As mentioned in last month’s Focus, the Board of Trustees is continually looking at ways to ensure our financial stability and overall wellbeing. It is with that responsibility in mind that we are undertaking an effort to pay down our mortgage, which is coming due at the end of 2018. Given that we are also celebrating our 25th anniversary in this property, we would like to honor our past and reflect on that milestone by making a significant contribution to future.

Our faith calls on us to be change agents in the world and move the needle closer to justice, compassion and equality. Paying down the mortgage will pave the way for Countryside’s future by freeing up funds to do more work toward those goals. Additionally, paying down our mortgage (and thereby refinancing with a lower principal amount) honors your generosity and commitment to this community while also ensuring that Countryside continues to serve area families and individuals into the future.

CCUU is much more than building -- it’s a community of people advancing UU principles and coming together to support each other in our faith journeys. The more robust our church finances are, the better we can serve each other and the community at-large, now and into the future. We are currently fiscally sound, but by reducing our annual interest payments, we can open the door for additional programs and initiatives that put our faith in action.

To date, contributions to the mortgage paydown effort exceed $50,000, and we are seeking participation from the entire congregation. You can indicate your commitment by emailing me at prez@ccuu.org or completing the form below. Please note that funds collected for the mortgage paydown are separate from everyone’s annual pledges. We count on and appreciate everyone’s ongoing generosity throughout the year to sustain Countryside.

This community continues to fulfill our mission, vision, and values with their generosity. In fact, the pledge contributions actually received last year increased over previous years.

We are what we bring to this place. We get from this community what we put into it. We receive the gifts we give. And we are a generous, thoughtful and visionary community. We honor our past, while also looking toward the future. We are engaged, committed, and faithful – to each other and to CCUU.

I, for one, couldn’t be more grateful to be a part of this enthusiastic and dedicated community.

In faith,
Christine Organ, President of the Board of Trustees

With Sincere Thanks

I was touched and moved by the 10 year honor that the congregation gave me at our ingathering service on September 9. For me, this congregation is a blessing as well as an adventure. The stole which I was given, covered with origami cranes in a rainbow of colors, is beautiful but also speaks to me of deep values and aspirations. The money that was collected and sent to the Living Tradition Fund was one of the greatest gifts I could have received. The Fund made a difference in my life. I left theological school with $50,000 in debt. Each year, I would apply to the Fund and receive a grant of $1,000-2,000. Those grants made a difference in the amount of time it took me to pay down that debt. When my friend’s son died, the Fund helped her to receive bereavement counseling. There are so many crises or challenges that clergy face which congregations cannot always adequately help with or that happen when clergy are not in a congregation but are either aspiring or retired. While the Fund cannot rescue and does not have the resources to ever fully address those crises or challenges, the difference that it makes is significant and tells clergy, who are willing to give so much on behalf of Unitarian Universalism, that they are valued and remembered.

...Hilary

To Judy Miller who researched and organized the installation of new sheds for the church, which included finding volunteers to empty the old sheds and a contractor to demolish & haul away the old & to build the new.

To David Williams, who week after week makes coffee and runs the dishwasher and cleans the kitchen so thoroughly it sparkles!

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Paving The Way For The Future
2018 Mortgage Paydown Contribution

The Board of Trustees invites the congregation to join them and several long-time members in making a commitment to Countryside’s future with a one-time gift earmarked to pay down the church mortgage. This contribution is separate from members’ annual pledge amounts, and payment is requested by Dec 31, 2018.

NAME(s) _____________________________
Address ______________________________
Email ___________________________ Phone# ____________________________

Yes, I/We would like to contribute to the mortgage paydown effort in the amount of $ ____________.
Signature(s) ____________________________
Minister’s Muse

We aren’t used to telling our stories. We tell some version of our stories, for sure, but most of the time there is tremendous pressure, as we just witnessed in judiciary hearings, to silence and omit the parts of our stories that challenge the various myths that power our power-hungry and consumerist culture. There is tremendous pressure to silence the parts of our stories that trace our passage through abuse, of course. First, there is the tremendous shame that survivors are made to feel and that is sometimes stated and sometimes loudly unspoken that survivors are somehow at fault for whatever they suffered. Second, there is the recognition that, for the most part, the stories will have to be told in the very places that rely upon silence – the survivor of sexual abuse having to speak to a male panel about that experience. Third, and no doubt not last, is the reality that having told the story, survivors will not be decorated as heroes for courage, strength, honor, or upholding goodness; rather, survivors are more likely to be branded as troublemakers, disturbers – of – the – peace. So, when we tell our stories – even to one another as we get to know each other – there are whole and critical aspects of ourselves and our lives that we may only reveal in the most intimate, safest, or long-standing relationships.

To tell the deeper wholeness of our story (not every single chapter of our story, I mean, but those omitted core pieces) and to be heard well grants both the teller and the hearer new strength. The teller is decorated, when heard well, as that hero and seen not as a victim or survivor but as a victor – and that is strength. The hearer is given an opportunity to see the teller not only in greater wholeness, but to see the world in greater wholeness, and by hearing well, to clear away myths, shame, and to take part – by accident or on purpose – in the dismantling of fake power (power that comes from muscle, convention, social position, etc.) while witnessing real power – power that comes from heart, courage, love, wisdom, a sense of connection.

I wish that one person telling their story, with courage, could instantly turn the tide, but I know that person after person could make a difference. It is not revolutionary, but it is Re-evolutionary. Changing the course of history not only story by story, but by gathering the stories, seeing the patterns, affirming our true power, and working persistently for change. Of course, I saw that in women's groups when I was much younger. They made a difference that was not socially revolutionary, but was socially re-evolutionary. And we are still in that struggle and process.

In the antiracism work that I have participated in and witnessed for many years, the same thing happens. Whether it is a group that is all white, a group that is racially diverse or culturally diverse, the results are similar. The hearers not only witness the power that comes from heart, courage, love, wisdom, a sense of connection, but the power that Brené Brown calls the power of vulnerability. It is a power given both to those who tell their stories and those who hear the stories. Sometimes it is hard to see with new eyes, to see through the myths, and sometimes it is hard to hear with the heart. The reward is always the reward of participating in liberation, which does not happen simply in great strides or legal measures, but which happens first in the human spirit.

In our Soul Connections groups, if participated in and conducted well, such liberation can happen. And in Beloved Conversations on Race I have also seen those times of liberation. We need that liberation. It is part of the core of Unitarian Universalism, that we should always seek toward the truth and especially the truths that make life whole – beginning with the life of one person or a whole people whose story or stories is/are finally heard so that they and the world are, at last, seen as whole. Not revolutionary, but re-revolutionary.

Calling All Creative People

If you have original artwork such as paintings, pottery, photography, sculpture, writing, etc. that convey our Soul Matters monthly themes for this coming year, and would be willing to display your work at our church during the theme month, please submit your pieces to Lois Phillips or Alison Vernon before the first of each month. The themes for 2018-19 are:

- October: Sanctuary  
- November: Memory  
- December: Mystery  
- January: Possibility

Minister’s Muse, cont’d

Join the Choir

Do you enjoy singing? Then perhaps you would enjoy singing with our choir. We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:15-9:15. Just come on in. We'll be saving a seat for you! Childcare is provided during rehearsals. For more info, contact Alison Vernon, 847-359-8440 ext. 5 or Music.Director@ccuu.org.

Children’s Choir

Young people in 1st thru 4th grades are invited to meet in the Music Rehearsal Room after Sunday School, about 11:15, for a 20-minute fun rehearsal. For more info, contact Alison Vernon.

Yoga

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6-7 pm

Join us in the Spirit Play Room (rm 9/10) for this all-levels class, which focuses on stretches and poses that calm the mind while increasing balance, range of motion, and core strength. Questions? Email Laura.Mandell@comcast.net.

Sunday Volunteers Needed

Can you make others who arrive on Sunday morning feel as welcome as you felt when you first arrived – or more so? Sign up online to help: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044ea4a72fa13-sunday. If you have questions about what is involved, please contact the church office. Thank you, all!

(continued...)
Upcoming Worship Services

Worship Services & Religious Education classes are on Sundays at 10:00 am.
Unless otherwise noted below, young people attend the beginning of worship with their families.
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/](http://ccuu.org/services/)

Oct 7

**Band-Aids**

Last spring, our former religious educator, Jules, and I discovered that all the multicultural Band-Aids in the building were gone. This sermon is about what makes a statement of sanctuary and safety in a congregation. It's about why those Band-Aids might be missing, why they might be important, and why, of course, Band-Aids are never enough.

Share-the-Plate: Half of the non-pledge income collected in the offering will be donated to Black Lives of UU: The Promise and Practice campaign.

Join us following the worship for a potluck lunch; bring a main dish, side dish, or salad to share.

Oct 14

**Torda 450, part 1**

2018 is the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda, when Unitarianism was officially recognized for the first time in the history of the world. In its time, the edict of toleration meant that people could live side-by-side with their different beliefs and not have to kill one another. That's good. But it's not enough. In this increasingly shrinking world, we need something more.

Join us following the worship for our Outreach Service Partner Expo.

Oct 21

**Torda 450, part 2**

The theme for this month is sanctuary. Because of the hatred in our society our sanctuaries feel less like sanctuaries, feel more vulnerable. How far have we come since that edict of toleration?

Share-the-Plate: Half of the non-pledge income collected in the offering will be donated to Mano a Mano, the only immigrant-serving agency in all of Lake County offering a one-stop-shop for health resources & services, educational classes & workshops, and immigration legal services. [https://mamfsc.org/](https://mamfsc.org/)

Oct 28

**TBA**

~ Note: Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov 4 at 2 am ~ clocks ‘fall back’ 1 hour ~

Nov 4

**Spiritual Journeys**

A few times each year, members of the congregation share stories of their faith journey during a Spiritual Journeys worship service. This Sunday, we will hear from Mike Berry and Leslie Vaughn. And Children’s Choir is singing today!

Share-the-Plate: Half of the non-pledge income collected in the offering will be donated to UU Advocacy Network of IL (UUANI), which empowers UUs in IL to advocate effectively for our values by strengthening UU congregations as connected communities and powerful agents of social change; connecting congregations with each other and with partners aligned with our values; mobilizing for collective action around issues of common concern.

Nov 11

**Pulpit Guest: Charley Earp**

Come to the indoor Farmers Market after the service.

Nov 18

**All-Church Thanksgiving Service**

This is an All-Church Service; young people attend the entire service with their families.

Share-the-Plate: Half of the non-pledge income collected in the offering will be donated to 2 Li'l Fishes, serving a nutritious, free, tasty lunch in a safe environment to over 500 guests six days/week at the dual UU-UCC People’s Church in Chicago.

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Green Sanctuary News: *Oct & Nov Walks in the Woods*

**Oct 21, 2—3:30 pm**

All ages are welcome to join Interfaith Green Partners, of which Countryside is a founding member, to explore the treasures of our local Deer Grove Forest Preserve. Walks are guided by stewards and naturalists who know how to find those treasures. Join us for our last walk of the season on Oct 21 at Deer Grove East (DGE Parking—off Dundee Road, left where road divides, meet at end of road ). [Download the flyer & map from the Green Sanctuary page on the church website (under the Service & Justice tab): [http://ccuu.org/green-sanctuary-committee/](http://ccuu.org/green-sanctuary-committee/)] or contact Gail at [GreenSanctuary@ccuu.org](mailto:GreenSanctuary@ccuu.org) for more info.

**Thanksgiving Day, 10:00 am**

Each year on Thanksgiving Day, Countrysiders gather for a walk in the woods. It’s a great way to celebrate the blessings of another year, commune with nature, and connect with old and new friends. Some will bring coffee or cocoa for the end of the trail. This is a church tradition going back many years and which many would not miss (including the cooks). You’ll be done in plenty of time to enjoy the rest of your holiday festivities.

The Trot through Deer Grove Forest Preserve will kick off at 10 am from Grove 5. *All are invited – large and small, young and old, and especially our 4-legged friends!*
From Our Interim Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE)

Sanctuary

...is our theme for this month. Again, it is a word with many meanings and conjures up many feelings. Like the word “God,” it’s meaning evolves as we age. And it’s meaning differs depending on what is happening in our life at that point in time.

As a child, sanctuary was the same as home for me. It was the like the “base” in the game of tag: the safe place you could run to so you couldn’t be tagged out. After running all day – at school, Girl Scouts, piano lessons, homework – I so looked forward to going home, getting a snack, and just collapsing for a bit to breathe.

As a teen and young adult, my sanctuary was not so much a place, but rather the people, my social circle. With the few good friends I had, they could lift me up when I was down on myself. They could empathize with my life experiences because they too were experiencing similar things. Life was getting more complicated. Trying to navigate the intricacies of appropriate behavior between the different groups of people at school was challenging and exhausting. My friends and I relied on each other to get through those challenges with a sense of humor and at times some tears.

When I was a young adult and newly partnered, my sanctuary was him. It didn’t matter what space we were in physically. No matter where life had taken us during our work day, I looked forward to reconnecting and sharing my trials and celebrations with him.

As I get older though, my sanctuary continues to change. I now have many places that are sanctuary to me: my home, anywhere in nature, places of architecture from ages ago, and at times, my office at Countryside – which brings me to another thought: my work is often a sanctuary. It not only provides a space for reflection and sanctuary, but it fuels me and allows me to go out into the world with more compassion and understanding. I am certainly blessed to have my occupation fill my soul!

Ultimately, I believe that we need to discover that it is we ourselves that are our own sanctuaries. We need to be truly comfortable with who we are, for when no one else is there, who is left to give us sanctuary but ourselves?

In faith,
Kathy

Journaling Circle begins Oct 4
Writing Together for Self-Discovery

Facilitated by Susan Auld, the Journaling Circle will meet the 1st Thursday of the month at 10 am in classroom 1. Each gathering will open with a short meditation. We will then free write and write from prompts related to our monthly themes. Through sharing our writings, we also share life’s journey and deepen relationships within our community. Bring a notebook/journal and a pen and your desire for personal exploration and growth. If interested, please sign up here.

Full Week Faith

Full Week Faith reminds us to carry our Unitarian Universalism faith into our daily lives. Try to take time each day, individually or as a family, to slow down and engage in spiritual and mindful practices to connect your mind, body, and spirit to our faith.

Chalice Lighting

Light a chalice to begin your day, before a meal, or before your spiritual practice...

- A Place for Our Whole Selves
  by the Soul Matters Team
  May the flame we now rekindle
  call us back to our center,
  and guide us back to our breath.
  May our chalice
  remind us that we are held
  and welcomed as we are.
  In this sanctuary of acceptance,
  may we remember
  that there is a place for our whole selves,
  a place where no piece of us has to hide.

Spiritual Reflections and Connections

Connecting with Our Unitarian Universalist Faith

Each month, we will connect our monthly theme to one of our Principles or Sources. This month, we explore our fourth principle: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

Each week try doing one of these practices either alone or with a friend, partner, or as a family:

- Reflect on this question: Is it possible to be free to search for truth and meaning if one doesn’t have sanctuary?
- Invite your partner, close friend, or family to think about the places that are sanctuary to them. Do you share any similarities? Try going to each of these places together this month. Did theirs feel like sanctuary to you?
- Consider this reading by Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, and ask yourself, “Do I fill my life with things and doings for the sake of filling my time? If so, why?”
  In fact, stop everything.
  Get rid of all the Stuff,
even religion itself.
  Shut down the hubbub.
Enter into the stillness
at the heart of everything,
the Sabbath that is the real temple,
the silence that is God.
Don’t run in the sanctuary,
you can’t hear the silence when you’re busy.
There’s no substitute for stillness.
The offering God desires is your presence.
Stop
and wait upon the Beloved.
Breathe. This is the holy of holies.
Destroy the temple of doing
and let the temple of being
rise up from within.
What does it mean to be a People of Sanctuary?

Just saying the word “sanctuary” brings one a sense of peace and safety. It can bring back conflicted memories for some, but for most of us the idea of sanctuary conjures up feelings of being protected. Like its close cousin refuge, it speaks to the universal longing for a space to retreat from the dangers and depletions of the world. One thinks of the family ties and friendships that protect, restore and heal us. The sanctuary movement and its refuge for immigrants is another powerful example of offering life-giving safe space. As the well-loved Irish proverb puts it, “It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” So, certainly, the hunger for protection and the call to protect each other is central to this month.

But as we dig deeper, we are reminded that the sanctuaries in our lives do more than simply protect us. They also send us. They don’t just help us heal from our journeys; they also strengthen us for the new journeys ahead. In their fullest, they are not escape houses as much as fueling stations. They don’t just whisper “Come and rest,” but also “Be filled and go!” The archetypal image of a toddler leaving and returning their parent’s leg comes to mind. That “home base” is not a tether but the very thing that allows us to venture out. Having been blessed with shelter, we are strengthened to offer that same gift of shelter to others. In other words, sanctuary always comes with a calling. And so the question for all of us this month is not just “Where do you find shelter?” but “Having been empowered by shelter, how can you share that same gift with others?”

Along the way, we also discover that our sanctuaries need sheltering and protection themselves. It’s a paradox: our sanctuaries can’t protect and repair us unless we also protect and repair them. The green sanctuary movement is a great example of this. The solace of nature and the life-giving interdependent web needs us as much as we need them. The same is true for the sanctuaries in our personal lives. Friendship, silence, stillness: these are all things that wither if we don’t tend to and make space for them. So, in the end, maybe the most important question this month is “How are we caring for our sanctuaries so they can take care of us?”

Sanctuary Questions to Consider

Don’t treat these questions like “homework” or a list that needs to be covered in its entirety. Instead, simply pick the one 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 vision means for you and your daily living. So, which question is calling to you? Which one contains “your work”? Where is it trying to lead you?

1. Who has most shaped your understanding of sanctuary? Which of their “lessons” is most relevant to you today?
2. When did you first discover that “sanctuary” was more than a physical place?
3. Which of your homes has felt most like “home”? How are you recreating that experience in your life right now?
4. Who is sanctuary for you? Have you told them lately how great a gift that is?
5. Have you ever found sanctuary for yourself in the midst of offering it to others? Might that again be the path back to sanctuary for you today?
6. What if sanctuary is something we build rather than something we find?
7. What do you want your children or grandchildren to know about “sanctuary”?
8. How is the season of fall offering you sanctuary? Or inviting you to think of sanctuary differently?
9. What if your place of sanctuary is not just saying “Come and rest” but also “Be filled and go”?
10. How would your life change if you visited your “sanctuary” twice as much as you do now?
11. Some say sanctuary is not a place but “the love between us.” How that been true for you?
12. When was the last time you restored yourself with the sanctuary of silence?
13. When was the last time you restored yourself with the sanctuary of music?
14. When was the last time you restored yourself with the sanctuary of beauty?
15. What if sanctuary isn’t a place, but that moment when you realize that you don’t have to keep trying to prove yourself? What if sanctuary is the awareness that we’ve already “arrived”? That we’re already enough?
16. When has someone saved you with the sanctuary of just sitting with you in silence rather than offering you advice or trying to fix things? Is someone in your life needing that same gift?

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Join a Soul Connections Group!

Soul Connections is a distinctive small group program whose central goal is to foster circles of trust and deep listening. A group of 8 to 10 people regularly meet for two hours once/month for 10 months. Working with material provided by a moderator, participants explore our ministry themes in more depth. There may still be space if you haven’t joined a group yet. Email Don Bussey, SoulConnections@cciu.org.

Movies with Meaning

Fri, October 12, 7 pm ~ ROOM

Please join us for Movies with Meaning the 2nd Friday of the month in Atherton Hall. This month’s movie is a unique and touching exploration of the boundless love between a mother and her child. View the official trailer here—https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_Ci-pAL4eE

Sponsored by Soul Connections, this movie is offered to more fully explore what it means to be a People of Sanctuary. Popcorn & beverages included for your enjoyment at this gratis event. For more info, contact Don Bussey at MoviesWithMeaning@cciu.org.
Social Action News

Monthly Fair Trade Sale: Oct 14
Once/month we offer fair trade chocolate, coffee, tea, cocoa, olive oil, and snacks for sale during our coffee-fellowship time. For each pound of foods purchased, 20 cents goes to the UUSC’s Small Farmer Fund.

20-30 Somethings ~ 1st & 3rd Sundays
If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us following the 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
The 40-50s group is for those too old for the 20-30s group and not yet ready for the Transitions group (and the ages listed are guidelines; if you're over 59, you're still welcome to join us!)
We generally meet the 1st Saturday evening of the month. This Saturday, Oct 6, we are dining together at PF Changs in Schaumburg. This is an adults-only event, but you may invite significant others and CCUU non-members to join us. RSVP by Oct 3 to 4050s@ccuu.org.

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

Monthly Program & Lunch: 4th Thurs, 10 am
Join us Oct 25 when Tom MacTavish will present a program on Rhetoric and Persuasion in Politics to get us ready for the elections! Potluck lunch follows the program; bring something to share or your own individual lunch. All are welcome—invite a friend!
NOTE: In November, we will meet on the 3rd Thursday (Nov 15) to avoid meeting on Thanksgiving.

Open Forum Discussion
Sundays, 9-9:50 am
Please join us in classroom 5 to discuss “the issues of the day” while respectfully welcoming different perspectives. Topics for the upcoming two Sundays are least likely to change, but current events developments or other factors sometimes inspire us to switch.
- Oct 7: Data Mining 2018—where are we now? Where are we going?
- Oct 14: When They discuss their disagreements, why are people so unpersuasive? Inspired by this article
- Oct 21: Aquifer Rights & International Relations
- Oct 28: Deterioration in Venezuela: Should the UN work with such a country to avoid collapse? By what process?
- Nov 4: Philosophy & Technology, from Aristotle to Heidegger, a miniseries in 5 parts; part 1: Aristotle

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. Our featured poet on October 26 will be announced. The readings are open to the public, and all who love poetry 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 October 9, we will watch and discuss a 1 hr video by Alex O’Connor, who has a YouTube channel called Cosmic Skeptic. The title of the presentation is "Why Smart People Believe Silly Things."

Book Discussions
Last Mondays Book Group: Oct 29
Join us at 7 pm in the Stokes Room to discuss Exit West by Mohsin Hamid.

Book Circle: Nov 4
All are welcome to join us in classroom 6 to discuss Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist by Kate Raworth. We gather at 6:15 pm, discussion begins at 6:30 pm.

Feminine Divine Women’s Group
4th Saturdays, 9:30 am
Join us in classroom 6. This year, we are reading some books with a feminine divine or feminine historical theme; The first book we are discussing is Men Explain Things to Me by Rebecca Solnit. This collection of seven essays, according to its publisher, "has become a touchstone of the feminist movement."

Drum Circle ~ Nov 24
Effective 2019, we will only have 4 drum circles, 1 for each season and we are moving away from meeting once a month. There is only one more drum circle to close out 2018—November 24. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you at the drum circles! For up-to-date information, please visit http://www.palatinedrumcircle.com

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 the Rev. Lindsay Bates. These are free, and registration is required. To register, email kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org or call 630-654-5197.
This calendar shows upcoming Church meetings & events. All meetings and events held in the building are listed on the church website, under Programs & Events - [http://ccuu.org/calendar](http://ccuu.org/calendar). 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.

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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 am Open Forum</td>
<td>7pm Stoking Justice</td>
<td>9am Worship &amp; Relig. Education</td>
<td>7pm Atheist-Humanist-Agnostic Discussion</td>
<td>7pm Finance Ctte</td>
<td>10am Mem- oir Makers</td>
<td>7pm Movies with Mean- ing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10am Congregational Potluck</td>
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<td>11am Intro to CCUU</td>
<td>10am Great Books Group</td>
<td>7pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>11am Path to Belonging</td>
<td>7pm Atheist-Humanist-Agnostic Discussion</td>
<td>11am Service Partner Expo, Fellowship, Fair Trade Sale</td>
<td>6pm Yoga</td>
<td>7pm Soul Connections Thrus grp</td>
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<td>9 am Open Forum</td>
<td>7pm Stoking Justice</td>
<td>7pm Outreach Steering Council Mtg</td>
<td>7pm Board of Trustees Mtg</td>
<td>6pm Yoga</td>
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<td>7pm Peter Mayer Concert @ Tree of Life UU in McHenry</td>
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<td>11am Fellowship</td>
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<td>7pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7pm Mary Oliver Poetry Series</td>
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<td>11:15am Children’s Choir</td>
<td>11:20am 20-30 Somethings</td>
<td>2:00pm Walk in the Woods</td>
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<td>7pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7pm Mary Oliver Poetry Series</td>
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<td>9 am Open Forum</td>
<td>10am Focus deadline</td>
<td>7pm GSC-sponsored program: Listen Lead Share</td>
<td>10am Great Books Group</td>
<td>10am Transitions</td>
<td>7pm Mary Oliver Poetry Series</td>
<td>9:30am Feminine Divine Women’s Group</td>
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<td>10am Worship &amp; Relig. Educ.</td>
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<td>Clocks Fall Back</td>
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Make sure the Time & Talent Auction is on your calendar. This is our largest fundraiser for our Outreach Service Partners* – Partners for Our Community (POC), Faith in Place, and Inter-faith Committee for Detained Immigrants (ICDI). We will soon begin taking reservations.

Right now, we need your donations to make this a successful Auction.

Think about what service or talent you might donate – for example, lead a workshop, teach a class, host a dinner, offer your finest handicrafts – and complete the donation form below by October 14.

If you have questions about your donation or an interest in helping with the event, email Mari Peckham at ccuu.time.talent@gmail.com.

*Meet our Service Partners on Oct 14, 11 am-12:30 pm, and learn about who they are and what they do for our communities as well as how you may be able to help them through volunteer opportunities.

---

**Time and Talent Donation Form**

**Donations are due by Sunday, October 14**

Name (please print):
Telephone:
Email:
Description of the time or talent you are donating:

Minimum # of guests:   Maximum # of guests:
Donation offered more than once? Y / N How many?
Minimum donation (if applicable) $ 
Approximate value* of your donation $

*Maximum amount taken as a charitable contribution. Personal time preparing your donation is not deductible. For example, food cost for a dinner in your home is deductible, but not your time shopping, cooking, etc.

**Know a local business contact interested in making an auction donation?**

**Please contact Mari, CCUU.Time.Talent@gmail.com**

Submit your donation form in the “Moved by the World” donation box located in Atherton Hall, or via email to CCUU.Time.Talent@gmail.com

Thank you!
Focus
Published by Countryside Church UU
1025 N Smith Rd · Palatine IL 60067
847-359-8440 · ccuu@ccuu.org · www.ccuu.org

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 10am-4pm; Fri 9am-Noon
Minister Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia
Interim Director of Lifespan Kathy Underwood
Religious Education DLRE@ccuu.org
Community Minister Rev. Dr. C. Scot Giles
Music Director Alison Vernon
Music Director Emeritus John Denny
Congregational Laurie Lantz
Administrator ccuu@ccuu.org
Religious Education (in search)
Assistant

Lay Ministers
Ken Bobbe, Coordinator Melanie Schikore
Karen Greenland Joy Simon
Barbara Griggs Chris Smith
For assistance from Lay or Care Ministry,
please call Ken or Rev. Hilary.

Our Covenant
We unite to strengthen the bonds of kinship among all persons, to
promote human dignity, and to increase reverence for life's creat-
ing, 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 intel-
  lectual growth and inspire lifelong learning. • Promote a sustainable
  future for our community and world by acting with a social, environ-
  mental, and global conscience. • Communicate and spread the
  message of Unitarian Universalism within and beyond our commu-
  nity. • 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
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.

Follow us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/pages/Countryside-Church