

**Upcoming Worship Services**

**Sunday Worship begins at 10:30 am**

*Unless otherwise stated below, childcare and religious education classes are provided for all children and youth during Sunday morning services.*

**March 22 Women's Heritage Service  
Marianne Solome**

A celebration of Liberal Religion's influence on the Women's Rights/Suffrage movement as illuminated by individual members of those faiths.

**March 29 UUSC Justice Sunday  
David Cohen & Social Action Ctte**

This year's Justice Sunday service will focus on environmental justice uniting Unitarian Universalist congregations nationwide in standing and taking action together on this pressing human rights issue. The human right to water entitles everyone, without discrimination, to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible, and affordable water, for personal and domestic use. Yet water injustice is a grim reality for millions of people around the globe, particularly for low-income communities. On Justice Sunday, you will learn more about environmental justice issues and the simple steps you can take to have real impact on our world. In addition, our congregation will be presented with 2 awards relating to our social justice work.

*Share the Plate:* Half of the cash collected in this morning's offering will be donated to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

**April 5 Passing Over/Moving Forward  
Rev. Hilary Krivchenia**

A sermon about the metaphors of the season  
*Meet the Minister.* Following the service, newcomers, visitors, and the simply curious are invited to grab a cup of coffee or tea and then return to the sanctuary for a brief discussion and question & answer session with Rev. Hilary.

**April 12 Easter: Arising  
Rev. Hilary Krivchenia**

*This will be a Family Service - first 20 minutes in the Sanctuary for grades 2-8.*

**Sleep-Out Saturday**

**March 21, 5 pm 'til  
morning of March 22**  
(Rain date: May 9)



On Saturday, March 21,

UU churches throughout the Central Midwest District will participate in concurrent "Cardboard City" events, to raise awareness about the growing number of people who are homeless, and raise support for local shelters & services. The evening includes learning opportunities for all ages! We hope you will join us for as much of the program as possible. **If you plan to attend and have not turned in a volunteer/participation form, please let Colleen know: 847-359-8440 x4.**

Saturday	5:00 pm	Home Building
	5:30	Soup Dinner
	6:30	Worship
	7:00	Activities & Discussion
	8:00	Movie & Reflection
	10:30	Campfire & Hot chocolate
	11:30	Lights Out
Sunday	8:00 am	Wake up
	8:30	Breakfast, Discussion & Reflection
	9:30	Prepare for Service/Classes

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## The Minister's Muse

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I remember when I signed my first membership book. I was sixteen. I don't think that I took it very seriously. I hadn't been given any membership information and I had never attended a Sunday service. I had been to many conferences and to youth group meetings - Liberal Religious Youth, we were called - LRY. It was a lifesaving activity for me. I learned a lot and was able to feel connected and cared for by a large group of people. I suppose that I snuck into the sanctuary with my friends Marian and Heather in the middle of the night and signed the book because I was grateful for everything I had discovered in LRY and at Rowe Camp in Massachusetts. Today I am still grateful — even more in some ways. And I understand a lot more about congregational life.

First I understand that congregational life is like youth group taken to the max. When they show up on Sunday or other times they are totally there for their congregational brothers and sisters - they care, work hard at not judging one another - or discover total acceptance, they participate and help to organize things, and they work hard to raise money for their activities. They don't see their leaders as apart from them but as a part of them. And when it comes time, these days for youth to join churches, they do so very seriously and begin to participate in very active ways in the larger congregation. They have an impact on the future of our religious movement in ways we don't always see in the present - but we will feel in the future.

It's a time of year - Canvass season - when I find myself reflecting on pledging and on membership and on the difference between them. Members and friends both support the work and life at Countryside. They both can take part in most committees and help out with activities and festivities of all kinds. Both members and friends pledge and pledge full heartedly. The category of Friend was really invented so that people with an allergy to signing a membership book could feel comfortable. But the responsibilities of friends and members is pretty similar. Friends can't serve on the Board and chair a number of committees. They don't get to vote and they don't get counted as part of the membership numbers of Countryside - that's important because we are part of a larger movement and that larger movement relies on our membership count to give us a vote and representation at our General Assembly. If you want an exciting experience - go to General Assembly as a delegate and participant. The debate is invigorating, the learning is fabulous, and the company of a few thousand UU's can't be beat. We get one delegate for every fifty members and, I have to say, it's truly inspiring to see congregations with 10 or 25 delegates and 25 members attending. It's true democracy in action and faith in democracy as a religious exercise. Membership is also precious because it signals a willingness to be written into the history of a church - this church. Once your name is on the book you are part of the roll call and record, the posterity - the legacy of commitment. Membership is a deeper pledge to walk in commitment. But whether or not you are a member or a friend - when it comes time to pledge - you are called to express not only the value of the congregation to you - but also your highest ideals about what the congregation could become - as a center in your life, a source of support in the community and a force for progressive ideals in the world.

I remember going into that sanctuary in the middle of the night and signing the book without really understanding the amazing nature of the movement I was joining. But over the years I have learned. And every year my commitment grows, my pledge grows, and I find myself more and more grateful for the impulse that lead me there and now here. Perhaps this is the year that you will sign the membership book and be counted as part of our spirited religious democracy. It is my hope that this will be that year. It is also my hope that this is the year that each of us will assess our pledges - whether we have really pledged until it feels great in the past and begin to do it in the present. That's a relative sum for each of us depending upon our circumstance - but the more proportionally generously we give - the more proportionally, we each receive the gift of being in covenant with one another.

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### Path to Membership Classes

This three-session class covers UU history, traditions, Principles, practices and beliefs, as well as Countryside history, society, stewardship, and more. The classes include time for discussion, socializing and refreshments. The next classes will be held from 7-9 pm on Tuesday, March 31; Wednesday, April 8; and Thursday, April 16. It is led by members of the Membership Committee and Rev. Hilary. Sign up on the kiosk near the greeter window.

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### Song Circle March 20

You are invited to a Song Circle on Friday, March 20 at 7 pm in Atherton Hall. This is an informal gathering of singers and musicians. Bring an instrument if you play one, your voice, lyrics and music if you want others to sing and play with you, and your own beverages and snacks. Any questions, contact Jeff Phillips or Tom Dempsey.

## Rev. Hilary Invites You to the Seder!

I've been getting ready for Passover. It's not a high holiday, but it's been important to me since I was a kid. I loved the stories, the sense of tradition, the waiting and waiting for food, the delicious food and an elusive matzoh ball. As an adult, I have continued to celebrate the holiday and to bring it to every setting I have been in in my ministry. I am very excited to be part of a congregation that already has this treasured tradition. I have a Haggadah I put together over time, myself. Every year I pare it down, and every year I want to make it fresh and current. It's especially important that children and young people enjoy the evening. A Seder is meant to be a family event - a time for children to learn about waiting and reflecting. It's a time to be connected with the world through reflection on stories of justice and freedom.

I have made it a tradition to have bags of small gifts for the children and each year I delight in bringing together all the many treat for our young people. I am putting together a whole bunch this year. I hope that many families will participate, making it a great family and lifespan learning and play opportunity.

### The Logistics

Countryside's Passover Seder will be Sun, April 5 from 5 to 7:30 pm in Atherton Hall. Sign-up on the bulletin board across from the office or after service in Atherton Hall. Seder essentials, soup and roasted chicken will be served. Please bring a vegetable, salad, side dish or dessert to share. All dishes should comply with Passover traditions (i.e. no dairy, flour products, yeasts, etc). Suggested donation: Children under 12 \$5; Individuals \$5 - \$10; Families \$30 - \$40.

## Are you creative and do you like to plan year-round fun?

We are seeking Countryside's 2009-10 Fundraising Coordinator! With a team of assistants, use your creativity and event planning talents to build community and raise money for Countryside's operations. Continue traditions such as the long-loved Time and Talent Auction and Pancake breakfast. Create memorable events such as this year's new Soup-er Sundays and Bingo! To express interest or get more information, contact Greg Blus.

*Countryside Church  
Unitarian Universalist  
requests the honor of your presence  
at the Installation of  
The Reverend Hilary Landau*

*Krivchenia  
as the settled minister of our congregation*

*Sunday, April 19, 2009  
5 o'clock in the afternoon  
Countryside Church  
1025 N. Smith Rd, Palatine  
A reception will follow*

## Installation Celebration Dinner!

Everyone and all ages are invited to celebrate Rev. Hilary's Installation at a Community Dinner (aka potluck) on Saturday, April 18, 6 to 9 pm, in Atherton Hall. Dinner will be followed by live jazz music featuring The Buddha Poodles, composed entirely of Countryside musicians.

If your last name begins with:      Please bring:  
A-I    Salads (not pasta)  
J-S    Entrees/Soups/Stews  
T-Z    Desserts

*In honor of Hilary, vegetarian dishes  
are requested. No pasta, please.*

## focus

### Published by Countryside Church

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Church Office Hours *Mon-Thurs: 9am-2pm  
Fri:9am-Noon*

Minister *Hilary Landau Krivchenia*  
Director of Religious Education *Colleen Vahey*  
Music Director & Pianist *Jeffrey Hamrick*  
Minister Emeritus *Dr. Ruppert L. Lovely*  
Community-Based Minister *Dr. C. Scot Giles*  
Music Director Emeritus *John Denny*  
Congregational Administrator *Laurie Lantz*

### Lay Ministers

Ken Bobbe and Trudy Kleckner, Coordinators  
Richard Chay                              Joyce Swedlund  
Larry Frank                                 Kimberly Tilford  
Jane Matthews                             Dan Yokas

For assistance from our Lay or Care Ministries,  
please call Ken or Trudy.

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## Conversations at Countryside - Update on the SpICE Café

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On Saturday, March 14, about 40 people gathered in Atherton Hall for the SpICE Café -- an opportunity to talk about our successes, our challenges, and our hopes for the future. It was another step in the process of defining and designing our desired future....collaboratively and democratically. We were happy to have a mix of new members, visitors, and long-time members in the crowd.

We started by reviewing the results of a survey done not too long ago, when we began our search for a settled minister. This survey revealed a picture of Countryside, statistically speaking. Some highlights:

- There is a great diversity of spiritual beliefs among the members of Countryside
- 60% of us are baby boomers; very few are between the ages of 18 and 30 - this is a “missing generation” in our community
- Compared to national statistics, we tend to be highly educated people, working in professional fields, with about 25% retired
- Most (2/3) are married
- The majority of us come from Protestant (48%) or Catholic (31%) background
- More than 3/4 of us have been UUs for six or more years
- At least 1/3 of the population of the church have been here less than 4 years - so, we can feel free to decide to be who we want to be without worrying about who we have been

Next, the discussion turned to the **needs of the individuals who make up our community**. Participants talked about what sustains them, mentioning such things as “A community where I feel heard, and connected to others.” “Friendships and fun.” “Improving the world.” “A place that supports one another - especially now, in these difficult economic times.” “Balance - so that my spiritual needs are fulfilled even while doing the ‘work’ of the church.” “A place where I am continually learning and evolving and becoming a better citizen.”

The next couple of hours were spent on the **elements of Countryside’s long-range plan** - Spirituality, Involvement, Communications, and Education (SpICE.) We talked about our past successes, and our future opportunities and challenges. Some great ideas surfaced, and the conversation was rich — too rich to do it justice here. Here are a few highlights:

**Spirituality:** Given the diversity of spiritual beliefs, it is perhaps no surprise that our “successes” in this area run the gamut from meditation during worship to book discussion groups, and many things in between - covenant groups; music; the ‘green sanctuary’ efforts; rituals. Looking at opportunities and challenges, there are some who feel that our respect for diversity of belief can unintentionally compromise the spiritual underpinning of our community. One person observed that we have many rituals, but we are not always clear about their role in our community; perhaps there are ways to make all of us more aware of the continuity and value of these spiritual practices.

**Involvement:** Countryside’s programming is strong, and many members are very involved. Social Action, Religious Education, Covenant groups, and social activities were mentioned. There is pride about the Welcoming Congregation status we earned in the past, the Green Sanctuary status we are now seeking and the success of the “Making the Most of our Money Program” that we have conducted for Palatine Township.

Different styles of involvement make for an active community - some of us are involved in committees and programs, while others work more quietly behind the scenes, replacing a light bulb or helping out in the office.

Looking ahead, we hope to do more to reach the younger generation. As always, we hope that new programs will inspire participation from the uninvolved. Other ideas: Some suggested that we switch to a 12-month church calendar; others encouraged us to try having two worship services. There was interest in starting a brownbag “lunch and learn” on Sundays after service to allow a simple, extended Sunday at church where we might have lectures, discussions, travelogues or repeat the popular Friday night movies shown by the Adult Faith Development group.

**Communication:** This includes communication both within our community, as well as outreach beyond our walls. We’ve seen some great successes in this area in the last few years; people value tactics such as the email reminders; the ‘information island’ that is set up during coffee hour; the web site and internet communication vehicles like Facebook and Meetup.com; and news coverage. As for opportunities for the future, lots of ideas came up, including even more information on our web-site supported by more volunteers; a Countryside ‘Adopt A Highway’ effort; and trying a Café

(continued on page 5)

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## GoodSearch for Church

### GoodSearch & GoodShop Benefit Countryside

What if Countryside Church UU earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37% of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and be sure to enter 'Countryside Church UU' as the non-profit you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

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## SpICE Cafe (cont'd)

set-up in Atherton Hall to create a more inviting and friendly atmosphere for coffee hour. This idea was put into action already, and it's reported that lots of folks hung around chatting after services on Sunday!

**Education:** Education is a strong and highly valued part of life at Countryside. Successes mentioned included: improvements in the religious education curriculum; Spirit Play, Our Whole Lives and Coming of Age; sermons; and Movie Night, which continues to be valued by members as well as visitors. In the future, people observed that it is critical we are 'staffed for growth' in this area.

### Making Our Wishes, Hopes, Ideas Come True

Our afternoon came to an end with many ideas to consider - some new and some old, but each one presenting us with an opportunity to make our community ever stronger.

Over the next few months, there will be several opportunities to move this conversation ahead, and turn our talk into action. The result will be an updated long-range plan, and a shared vision for the future. We welcome your thoughts.

...Submitted by Laura Mandell, Vice-President  
of Board of Trustees

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## Calling All Gardeners!

It may still be a bit chilly outside, but the time has come to start planning our community organic garden for this season. There are six 5x20 ft. plots available. There will be a water charge for each plot, paid to the church, and all gardeners will share in common expenses. If you are interested, please contact Leslie Peet.

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## Meet the Minister

Newcomers, visitors, and the simply curious are invited to grab a cup of coffee or tea and then return to the sanctuary for a brief discussion and question & answer session with Rev. Hilary. Meet the Minister happens monthly; upcoming dates are April 5, May 3, June 7.

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## Worship CDs & Sermon Transcripts

Recordings of most of the worship services are available on CD for \$5. Order forms are in a wooden box on the counter in the church office. Transcripts of some of the sermons are available on the website under the heading "Our Church." If you prefer a printed copy, they will be available from the Book Cart.

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## Chalice Lighting

Why are we lighting the big bronze Chalice from the little glass one? Good question! Before I elaborate an answer to that, let me ask you another question. Do you know how Chalice Lighting started in the first place? Children and Youth began lighting a chalice back in the 1960s to create a sacred space for their Sunday school time. We have learned from our children and the practice has become a ritual in many UU churches.

Now, back to your first question. The little glass chalice was a gift from our Children and Youth to Rev. Hilary at her first official service with us. The Worship Council thought it would be a fitting way to honor the lovely origins of chalice lighting that we use their gift as the source of fire for our Sunday services.

Going hand-in-hand with our Children's Chalice is a newly created ritual. On Family Sundays (when our children attend the first 20 minutes of the service), the children light a Lantern from our Chalice that is then taken back to each of the classrooms to light their chalices! Isn't there a beautiful symmetry to that? Yet another circle within a circle. Aren't you glad you asked?

...Lois Phillips, on behalf of Worship Council

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*May this church be dedicated to the proposition that beneath all our differences and behind all our diversity there is a unity which makes us one and binds us forever together in spite of time and death and the space between the stars.*

~David Bumbaugh

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## Adult Faith Development (AFD) News

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### Dances of Universal Peace

All are invited to participate in “Dances of Universal Peace” to be held Sunday, March 22 at 1 pm in Atherton Hall. These are simple, meditative, circle dances that use simple movements and sacred music from the many spiritual traditions of the earth to touch the spiritual essence within oneself and recognize it in others. Marcia Heeter, who has been studying the Dances for 15 years, will lead all in this powerful experience. No musical or dance experience is needed; participation, not presentation, is the focus. Suggested donation: \$5-10 (no one turned away)

### Health Care Summit: Policy Perspectives & Personal Advocacy

Come join us for discussion of the global and local issues on health care. We will give an overview of the current policy positions and proposals being presented by the Obama administration. We will also present alternative perspectives, resources and options for citizens, ways of improving your health care choices, and how to get involved in making improvements. For more information visit <http://www.better-day.info>, or contact Hal Snyder or Dan Wiseman.

### Movies with Meaning

Join us at 7 pm on the second Friday of each month for enlightening discussion and exploration. Friday, April 10, the topic is 2012 and the Future. We will show several short video segments, breaking for discussion after each.

For further details, visit: <http://citizenstruth.info/afdfilms/>

### Common Ground Lecture

On Sunday, April 26 at 1:30 pm, Jim Kinney, Executive Director of Common Ground, will speak on “Suffering and Happiness from a Buddhist Perspective.” He is also co-editor of *Interreligious Insight: a Journal of Dialogue and Engagement*. Buddha began his very first sermon by describing the nature of human “dissatisfaction” its origins, its cessation, and the blissful end. What is often ignored is the strong Buddhist message about happiness. We will take up both aspects of human experience as we explore the existential ground of Buddhist thought. Suggested donation: \$10 to cover the cost of the session.

### Journeys Retreat - Fearlessness: The Ground We Walk On, The Path We Take

Join us on a journey led by Rev. Hilary Krivchenia to find strength, clarity and direction in disordered times. The retreat will be held at the beautiful University of St. Mary of the Lake conference center in Mundelein. You have the option of overnight accommodations or commuter rates. (See registration form for more details). We will begin on Friday, May 15, 5pm, and conclude Saturday, May 16, 4pm. Registration fees include meals and refreshments.

Please complete the registration form on page 9 and place it in the folder on the counter in the church office by April 30 - forms are also available on the AFD table in Atherton Hall. Please include a check made payable to Country-side Church. Due to our financial commitment to St. Mary’s, a partial refund is only available through April 30.

### Agnosticism, Humanism, Atheism Discussion Group

Ron Miller of Common Ground presented a six-session Lecture Series entitled The New Atheists, which is a critical view of the newer 2000-2009 atheist writers Miles Wrigley and Jim Booth attended the Series and have brought back audiotapes of the lectures. One of the tapes will be used to provide discussion material on Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00 pm in Room 6. All are invited.

### Open Forum Group

Free thought, challenging ideas, passionate debate of current events. This is open to anyone interested in stimulating conversation on the issues of the day. Join us every Sunday morning at 9:15 in Classroom 4. Contact [vid@vidaxel.net](mailto:vid@vidaxel.net).

### Book Circle

All are warmly welcome to join the current Book Circle discussion of A People’s History of the United States by Howard Zinn. We will discuss Chapter 13 through the end of the book on Sunday, March 29 at 6:30 pm in room 6.

### Last Mondays Book Discussion

Please join us at 7 pm in the Stokes Room on the last Monday of the month. On March 30, we will discuss The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo by Stieg Larsson.



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## **Social Action News - Meeting Minutes - March 15, 2009**

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Present: David Cicarelli, Juli Cicarelli, David Cohen, Nancy Cowger, Damian Christianson, Nancy Klein, Lois Strzyzewski, Sue Wendt and Miles Wrigley

### **Opening Words**

“It’s time for greatness — not for greed. It’s a time for idealism — not ideology. It is a time not just for compassionate words, but compassionate action.” Marian Wright Edelman

### **Chairman’s Report (Dave Cohen)**

Our budget has been frozen for the rest of the year due to the lower payment of pledges. The bylaws on fundraising are currently being revised. We are hopeful the revised bylaw will be more favorable for social action committee by excluding table fees, etc. SAC had previously requesting the Corn Roast as a fundraiser for the UUSC and Darfur. The board appears to be delaying a decision until they see how much is pledged for the next fiscal year. It is possible the Corn Roast will not be allowed as a social action fundraiser but instead will be used as a church internal fundraiser.

### **UUSC Report (Nancy Cowger & Nancy Klein)**

Nancy and Nancy reported on the status of having our members sign up or renew their Unitarian Universalist Service Committee memberships.

### **Congregation-Wide Social Action Project Report (David Cohen)**

Program name has been changed from “All My Money” to “Making the Most of Our Money. Nine new mentors, seven from CCUU and two from outside the church attended the mentor training session. IN addition, five mentors from previous sessions have volunteered to mentor again. We still don’t have a final number of clients for the session. The deadline has been extended to March 17.

### **March 21 Homeless night at CCUU**

R.E. is hosting homeless night. We will help where needed.

### **Fair Trade Fair (Lois Strzyzewski)**

21 persons responded to the fair trade service included in the order of worship. Based on the response it was decided to go ahead with the monthly sale of fair trade items (this will be in addition to the annual fair trade fair). Lois will help with the original order. The R.E. program offers to sell the items along with the book table. Sue Wendt will let us know if she will be the coordinator of the program.

### **UUSC Justice Sunday**

Justice Sunday Service is March 29th. This year’s theme is environmental justice. Leslie Peet will do a mini-sermon. Nancy Klein and Nancy Cowger, our two UUSC representatives, will each do a reading. Sue Wendt, Miles Wrigley and David Cohen also volunteered to do a reading, chalice lighting, etc. During the service the church will be presented with a plaque from Heifer International and a banner from the UUSC. Mile Wrigley also volunteered to work the social justice table we will set up for coffee hour.

### **TCF USA Fundraiser**

The committee voted to hold a fundraiser to benefit The Citizens Foundation USA, an organization that sets up and runs schools in Pakistan for low income boys and girls. We are going to try and sign up to work a food booth at the Arlington Heights Festival over the 4th of July weekend. Our goal is to have 36 people each volunteer to work a 3-hour shift. We hope to sign up for one day shift and two evening shifts. The finance committee has already approved the fundraiser so we just need to find a timeslot and sign up people.

### **Closing Words**

“Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.” The Talmud

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## UU Summer Camp Opportunities

In addition to the camping trip described on page 9, there are other UU summer camp experiences to take advantage of. Registration is currently happening for all of these.

### Adult Midwest UU Singles Enrichment

AMUUSE is in its 39th season as a community of single adults. Its summer camps are held in Saugatuck, Michigan June 14-19 or August 9-15. AMUUSE vacations offer the opportunity to meet new people and expand your horizons. AMUUSE is associated with Unitarian Universalism, but AMUUSE campers need not be Unitarian Universalist. Brochures are in the pamphlet rack, go to [www.AMUUSE.org](http://www.AMUUSE.org), or contact 847-816-3356 or [ssamuuse@aol.com](mailto:ssamuuse@aol.com).

### Ferry Beach

Ferry Beach, founded 1901, is a Unitarian Universalist camp and conference center on the coast of Maine. For 12 weeks every summer, Ferry Beach hosts a wide variety of 30 conferences and camps. Guests may also choose to vacation on their own. Although the focus of each week is different, the feeling of community and spiritual renewal is a constant all summer long. The program conference booklet and brochures provide detailed information and are available in the pamphlet rack across from the church office. You can also go to their website: [www.ferrybeach.org](http://www.ferrybeach.org).

### Bayside UU Family Camp

Bayside UU Family Camp is a safe, warm, nurturing village with great Unitarian Universalist fellowship held July 12-18. Enjoy a relaxing week at our Wisconsin get-away on a wide grassy hillside with large shade trees, a gorgeous view of Lake Geneva, and our own dock for fishing, sunning, swimming, and boating. Bayside is a small (65 to 85-person) family summer camp held at the Wesley Woods Conference Center in Williams Bay, WI, each year during the third week of July. Founded in 1988, Bayside Camp aims to provide a nurturing family atmosphere for singles and families of all configurations and traditions. Visit [www.yahoodrummers.com/bayside](http://www.yahoodrummers.com/bayside) for more information or to register.

### Midwest UU Summer Assembly (MUUSA)

The MUUSA has been gathering for over 60 years, building a community of sharing, support and friendship every summer. Have you ever wondered what it would be like if everyone in the world had the same commitment to open-mindedness, tolerance, concern for the planet and support for each other that UUs do? For one week each summer, we experience such a world. This will be our 2nd year at our new location, beautiful Trout Lodge in Potosi, Missouri. For more info, see the brochure in the pamphlet rack, go to [www.muusa.org](http://www.muusa.org), or talk to Countryside members who have attended Midwest Summer Assembly (Wayne Stein, the Blus family, the Klein family).

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## Send Love Letter to Salt Lake City

This year, the UUA has a unique opportunity to hang a 3x10 ft marriage equality banner on the large tower of the Salt Palace Convention Center during General Assembly in June.

Utah residents donated \$2.6 million in 2008 - more than any other state outside California - to support the passage of Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage in California. Displaying our banner will send a strong message that we are standing on the side of love.

\$6,000 alone will make this advocacy event possible, but the Salt Palace will not reserve the space until payment is in hand. We aim to make the reservation by May 1, so the time to act is now. Gifts of \$35 or more are especially helpful. Every gift of any size makes a difference! For more info or to donate online, go to <http://www.uua.org/giving/index.shtml>

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## Gathering of Midwest UUs

Central Midwest District Assembly is always a profound time of gathering with other Unitarian Universalists from five Midwestern states! It will be held April 24-26 in Waukesha, Wisc. and promises to be very engaging! The theme will be *Leadership in Times of Profound Change*. Good news: the hotel has lowered their overnight room rate to \$79/night if you reserve by April 7 - put the code CMMCMMA in the Group Code field of the online reservation form or mention it when calling. More information is on the district website, [www.cmwd-uua.org](http://www.cmwd-uua.org). You can register online at [www.regonline.com/690962](http://www.regonline.com/690962).

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## UU Niagara Experience

Join UUs from around the country in Niagara Falls, July 19-22. The UU Church of Niagara is conducting a four day UU Niagara Experience which is a lifetime opportunity to encounter the Falls up close from every perspective. Spend four days with us exploring the rich history and natural beauty around the Falls. For info, visit <http://www.uunex.net/>

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## Arlington Hts a Cool City?

Do you live in Arlington Hts and want the mayor and trustees to sign the cool cities agreement, do a carbon audit, figure a plan and implement it to reduce carbon emissions? The topic will go on the agenda in April or May; residents are needed to voice support for the agreement. For more info, contact Lois Strzyzewski.



## Upcoming Meetings and Events

A complete calendar of all events and meetings held in the building is on the website: [www.ccuu.org](http://www.ccuu.org). If your church meeting is not listed there, please fill out a room reservation form and submit it to the church office.

Wed 3/18	6:30pm	Making the Most of Our Money Ctte Mtg	Mon 3/30	7pm	Last Mondays Book Discussion Group
	7pm	Compassionate Comm. Support Group		7pm	Christianity in the Age of Ideology
Thu 3/19	6pm	Pride Youth - contact LINKS, 847-441-6191	Tue 3/31	7pm	Path to Membership Class # 1 of 3
	7pm	Thinking Scripture class	Wed 4/1	6pm	Making the Most of Our Money classes
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal		7pm	Membership Ctte Mtg
Fri 3/20	10am	Daytime Kinship Circle		7:30pm	Menzgroup Covenant Group
	7pm	Song Circle	Thu 4/2	6pm	Pride Youth - contact LINKS, 847-441-6191
Sat 3/21	8:30am	Intro Zen Workshop, <a href="http://www.greatplainszen.org">www.greatplainszen.org</a>		7pm	Thinking Scripture class
	5pm	Sleep-Out-Saturday		7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal
Sun 3/22	9:15am	Open Forum Discussion	Sun 4/5	9am	OWL (Kdgtm-1st)
	12pm	Rainbow Friends Meeting		9am	Buddhist Dharma Group
	12pm	Bellydancing Class		9:15am	Open Forum Discussion
	12pm	Movement for Fun Group		11:45am	Meet the Minister
	1pm	Universal Dances of Peace		11:30am	RE Info Fair
	7pm	Zen Meditation, <a href="http://www.greatplainszen.org">www.greatplainszen.org</a>		12pm	RE Council Mtg
Mon 3/23	7pm	Christianity in the Age of Ideology		12pm	OWL (7-9)
Tue 3/24	7pm	Personnel Ctte Mtg		4:30pm	Compassionate Communication Covenant Grp
Wed 3/25	7pm	Wednesday Kinship Circle		5pm	Passover Seder
	7pm	Worship Council Meeting		7pm	Zen Meditation, <a href="http://www.greatplainszen.org">www.greatplainszen.org</a>
Thu 3/26	6pm	Pride Youth - contact LINKS, 847-441-6191		7pm	Compassionate Communication Covenant Grp
Sat 3/28	12pm	Better Day Health Summit	<b>Upcoming Focus Deadlines</b> <b>March 30 and April 13 @ 9 am</b> Submissions can be submitted to the church office or e-mailed to <a href="mailto:ccuu@ccuu.org">ccuu@ccuu.org</a> .		
Sun 3/29	9:15am	Open Forum Discussion			
	12pm	Bellydancing Class			
	12pm	OWL (7-9)			
	6:30pm	Book Circle			
	7pm	Zen Meditation, <a href="http://www.greatplainszen.org">www.greatplainszen.org</a>			

Return Service Requested  
Time-dated Material - Prompt Delivery Requested

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**COUNTRYSIDE CHURCH**