

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.

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 with Rev. Hilary.

April 12 Easter: Arising Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

This will be a Family Service; children ages 4 and older attend the first 20 minutes of worship, followed by crafts and activities in Atherton Hall. Childcare will be available for infants - age 3.

April 19 All-Church Earth Day Service Rev. Hilary & Colleen Vahey

This is an All-Church Service: Children and Youth will attend services with their families. Preschool-age children will go directly to their classroom, and childcare will be available in the nursery for infants and younger children.

Share the Plate:

April 26 Pulpit Guest TBA Joining Sunday

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

Celebration Rally!

April 12 immediately after service

We're having an All-Ages Celebration Rally on Sunday, April 12 immediately following the worship service! This is the official kickoff event for our Annual Pledge Drive and it's going to be a party. We'll enjoy refreshments and camaraderie as we celebrate our accomplishments and vision for the future. Members participating in the Celebration Rally will have the option of turning in their pledges early and helping to minimize the efforts of our Stewardship Ministry to meet with all members of the church.

Children are included in the celebration rally or those who wish to participate in music for the Earth Day service are invited to join Jeff Hamrick in the choir room immediately following the worship service.

*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*

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The Minister's Muse

I am amazed at the energy, vision, and talent in this congregation. There's no other way to say it. This is a congregation ready to fly - actually taking off. In this year -so rapidly passing - there have been three Better Day Summits, there will be three Common Ground Lectures, a great youth conference, an amazing Cardboard City to raise money for the homeless, the hanging of a rainbow flag, awards from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Heifer International, Palatine Township, the kick off of the Sacred Companionship Program, the Making the Most of Your Money (MTMOYF) Program strong, a visit from the Reverend Michael Dowd, a performance by the renowned Peter Mayer - and that's just the stuff I can think of. That doesn't count all the hours of teaching religious education, making worship work, doing lay ministry - but it's really the first set of stuff that I keep thinking about. This congregation really shows amazing creativity and generosity.

One of the things I appreciate the most about congregational life is that we are greater than the sum of our parts and when we join together in community and covenant we're able to do amazing things. That's what I've been watching all year. I feel inspired walking in the doors and encountering creative energy week after week and day after day.

I know that the need for a place like Countryside Church is enormous in the Northwest Suburbs. And we are doing the very things that will make us what the larger community needs. If we keep on as we are we will be a significant presence in this area. I am so excited by this. I have always hoped to serve in congregation where the dedication to the greater good is strong and where it is embodied again and again. And here I am.

This past Sunday, the worship service was led by David Cohen and a few of the people who have made the MTMOF possible. By the time that the service, which talked about the Human Right to clean water and a healthy environment, was over I could see that people had taken the service to heart and were eager to take action to address the water crisis. And it was heartening to see the awards from the UUSC and hear about the award from Palatine township for the Money Program.

This Saturday, as I sat in the dark at home for Earth Hour, I wondered how many other people were doing so - how many folks in the congregation, how many around the world? Well - I don't know. I do know that while sitting in the dark I felt deeply connected to all the people who were also sitting in the dark and who would be switching off their appliances in waves around the world.

The energy in this congregation could easily power a city - but what I am most aware of is that the energy here is more than enough to make more and more amazing things happen. I am grateful to be part of such a congregation. I am hopeful the future will find us having a greater and greater impact. As I get ready to pledge this year I know that I will raise my pledge because it is my promise to the future. I know that Countryside can do great things and only needs support to do so.

This is a big month - with the Passover Seder, Easter, the Easter, Growing our Legacy Canvass Kick Off, and the installation of the new minister. It's a great time to come to Countryside - as the minister or a member. An amazing time. I am deeply grateful to be here. And grateful that I answered the call to "Come Grow With Us!" can see that we will be growing together.

Happy April - no fooling!

Come to the Seder!

Countryside's Passover Seder will be Sun, April 5, 5 - 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.

Installation Celebration Dinner!

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

If your last name begins with:

A-I

J-S

T-Z

Please bring:

Salads (not pasta)

Entrees/Soups/Stews

Desserts

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

From the Board President

Dear Fellow Countryside Church Members,

This is my last year serving as President of the Board of Trustees here at Countryside. It's hard to believe it has been almost five years since I joined the board. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you. Being on the board has been one of the best experiences of my adult life. This has been a wonderful opportunity to learn and a truly gratifying experience for me. My only regret is not having had more time to spend on church matters on a day-to-day basis. Time has flown this year - we have made exciting changes and have had many new activities flourish.

- * We have welcomed our wonderful minister, Reverend Hilary Krivchenia, who has led excellent services and been an inspiring leader and teacher
- * Our Youth Group hosted a very successful Youth Conference for 250 UU Youth in our district
- * We've hosted fascinating lecturers from Common Ground, speakers discussing conflicts in the Middle East and a thought-provoking lecture by Reverend Michael Dowd, author of "Thank God for Evolution"
- * Our Adult Faith Development program established monthly movie nights and attracted many visitors to a series of stimulating and thought-provoking topics
- * We began hosting a series of "A Better Day" conferences focused on substantive current issues such as the environment, the economy and health care
- * On the social side we held our first New Year's Eve party here at church, began a series of Sunday potluck lunches and held our first bingo night.
- * We participated in the UU district-wide social action project on homelessness, supporting Journeys from PADS to Hope and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
- * We implemented and won an award for a money management training program for clients of Palatine Township
- * We have supported Colleen Vahey, our fabulous Director of Religious Education, as she embarked on her endeavor to become a UU Minister - Colleen has received great endorsements throughout this process, proving all over again what a talented and treasured addition she is to our congregation
- * We celebrated 5 years of inspired musical programming by our terrific music director and pianist, Jeff Hamrick
- * We expanded the hours of our Congregational Administrator, Laurie Lantz, who continues to provide stellar support of our congregation and our minister
- * We refreshed and reinforced the long term strategic

(continued on page 4)

Save the Date

For a "Balance the Budget Bowl"

Not as in Super Bowl or Rose Bowl but as in bowling!

Yes, bowling...something new and fun AND our final opportunity to close the gap between income and expenses in the current year's budget. So save Saturday, May 23 for an evening of games, food and entertainment at Brunswick Zone. And by the way...you do not need to know how to bowl. There will be a few folks on hand to give pointers to beginners. Come for the fun and camaraderie. More details in future Focus newsletters.

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.

Upcoming *Focus* Deadlines

April 13 and 27 @ 9 am

Submissions can be submitted to the church office or e-mailed to ccuu@ccuu.org.

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.

Letter from the President (cont'd)

direction using our existing SpICE framework (Spirituality, Involvement, Communication and Education)

- * Our covenant groups flourished again this year providing important connections to one another
- * We offered three Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education classes for nearly fifty young people in grades K/1, 4/5 and 7-9
- * We raised \$5,000 for the Heifer Foundation
- * We embarked on a significant initiative to become a certified Green Sanctuary
- * We had many, many hours of energetic and committed volunteers helping in every way imaginable - members who, every week, keep the music playing, the songs sung, the chalices lit, the coffee brewing, the building working, the garbage recycled, light bulbs changed, the gardens blooming, our children educated, potluck lunches organized, tables set up, tables taken down, envelopes stuffed, checking account balanced and on and on. There are so many people to thank for so much time and energy and dedication!

With so many inspiring and meaningful activities going on, it seems it should be an easy task to write a few words about why I give generously to our Countryside community - what is not so easy is putting it in just a few words.

I give generously to Countryside to ensure the health of our church and our congregation. I do this because I value what I have found here, among you, in our Countryside community. Here I have found a community of good-hearted, well-read and creative thinkers - everyday philosophers and kindred spirits. I have found a place full of people who strive to lead responsible and moral lives, a place where people are actively learning and working hard to make the world a better place. There is nowhere I would rather be than here among people like you. So I plan to generously support Countryside in the upcoming year.

With the recent economic news and the sensational headlines, it is discomfiting to ask you to give more to Countryside Church - but, as President of Countryside's Board of Trustees, one of my responsibilities is to ensure the health of our church and the health of our congregation. Despite the economic news, my lowered income and the lower value of my investments for the future, I plan to give more generously this year. I hope if you are able to, you will give generously, too.

I ask you to take this time to rise to the challenge with vision and openness and - finally, generosity. In this way, together, we can support and strengthen our congregation and the presence of Unitarian Universalism in the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago.

Respectfully, Lisa Bohne, Board President

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 and be sure to enter 'Countryside Church UU' as the non-profit you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

Fair Trade Products for sale

Starting in April, Fair Trade products will be sold along with books from the Book Cart, which our jr. high youth currently staff. Olive oil is \$20 per bottle and comes from the same supplier as the olive oil sold at the fair trade fair held in December and is a larger size. Coffee and tea will also be sold. There is a slight mark up on coffee & tea as a fundraiser for the operating budget; the prices are still reasonable for organic fair trade products. Also, we are obtaining the coffee & tea through Equal Exchange's interfaith program, so 20 cents per pound of coffee will go to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) at no cost to us. Chocolate items will be offered in the fall.

An All-Church Invite to Go Camping!

Families, Singles, Doubles - ALL are invited (dogs too) to camp July 24-26 at Maple Leaf Park in Earlville, IL. Cost per night: singles-\$15, doubles or families-\$30. Maple Leaf Park is a great place for swimming, fishing, frogging, eating, sporting, and over-all community building! There's even a REAL drive-in movie theatre in town.

The Unitarian Church of Evanston has invited us to share the small campground with them, so we can make new friends too! All-church activities include a potluck dinner Saturday night AND a beautiful Sundapick up a form in the pamphlet rack and submit it to the orange folder in the church office by APRIL 5 (fees will be collected later). Contact Margaret Myren for more info.

Annual Pledge Drive for 2009-10 Kicks Off!

The Annual Pledge Drive for 2009-10 is gearing up and will be conducted during the month of April. The theme for this stewardship campaign is: “Living Our Values, Building Our Legacy.” What does that mean to you?

Each of us has hopes and dreams for the role Countryside Church will play (or continue to play!) within our church, in our northwest suburbs, and in the rest of the world. Those hopes and dreams are talked about in meetings of church leadership, congregational events like the SpICE Café, and during our budget building meetings. They’re talked about informally with cup of coffee in hand or around a “Circle Suppers” dinner table. These hopes and dreams are reflection of our values and our vision. And the decisions we make together and actions we take together define who we are now in this time-and what our legacy will be. We’re being asked to financially support our church budget and to help this community to thrive. And we’re being asked to help each other and have faith in each other during this challenging economic period.

We each have responsibility, based on our individual means and the strength of relationship to this church community, to honor it and each other by sustaining it through sharing our treasure, time, and talents. To me, that’s what stewardship is all about. And the Stewardship Ministry is about building relationships between our members by getting to know people better while encouraging stewardship and involvement. You can give, and I promise that you will also receive.

This year, we again have Stewardship Ministers that will be assigned to meet in person with each member of the church. The exception is that all members are invited to attend an Annual Pledge Drive Celebration Rally on Sunday, April 12 after service where pledge forms could be completed and submitted, if you like. The Rally will be a festive program for all ages with cake and a program for adults and kids. Everyone who submits their pledge on April 12 will not need to meet with a Stewardship Minister unless they’d prefer to.

One important thing that you will see on the pledge form this year is a “Giving Guide” which we’re providing to help determine the recommended pledge gift. It’s been included here so that you can acquaint yourself with it prior to meeting with your assigned Stewardship Minister.

Giving Advice for 2009-10

The following chart is adapted from Fair Share Giving Guidelines developed by the UUA as a tool to determine your level of financial support based on your income and level of commitment to the church community. Find your level of income, assess your commitment level, and see a fair share level of financial support, subject to your specific circumstances.

Based on “Adjusted Gross Income” from 1040 tax form		Supporter Countryside Church is an important part of my life.			Sustainer Countryside Church is central to my life.			Visionary I am committed to both the present and future growth of Countryside Church		
		%	Monthly	Annual	%	Monthly	Annual	%	Monthly	Annual
Monthly	Annual									
\$1,000	\$12,000	2.0%	\$20	\$240	3.0%	\$30	\$360	5.0%	\$50	\$600
\$2,000	\$24,000	2.0%	\$40	\$480	3.0%	\$60	\$720	5.0%	\$100	\$1,200
\$3,000	\$36,000	2.0%	\$60	\$720	4.0%	\$120	\$1,440	5.0%	\$150	\$1,800
\$4,000	\$48,000	3.0%	\$120	\$1,440	4.0%	\$160	\$1,920	5.0%	\$200	\$2,400
\$6,000	\$72,000	3.0%	\$180	\$2,160	4.5%	\$270	\$3,240	6.0%	\$360	\$4,320
\$8,000	\$96,000	3.0%	\$240	\$2,880	5.0%	\$400	\$4,800	6.5%	\$520	\$6,240
\$10,000	\$120,000	3.5%	\$350	\$4,200	5.0%	\$500	\$6,000	6.5%	\$650	\$7,800
\$12,000	\$144,000	3.5%	\$420	\$5,040	5.0%	\$600	\$7,200	6.5%	\$780	\$9,360
\$16,000	\$192,000	4.0%	\$640	\$7,680	5.5%	\$880	\$10,560	7.0%	\$1,120	\$13,440
\$20,000	\$240,000	4.0%	\$800	\$9,600	5.5%	\$1,100	\$13,200	8.0%	\$1,600	\$19,220
\$25,000	\$300,000	5.0%	\$1,250	\$15,000	6.0%	\$1,500	\$18,000	8.0%	\$2,000	\$24,000

If you have any questions or comments about the Annual Pledge Drive or would like to become a Stewardship Minister, please contact Mike Gilley or Greg Sweigert, Annual Pledge Drive Co-Chairs.

Covenant of Right Relationship

Several weeks ago, Emily Ehm, former Countryside member and leader, sent me a copy of her church's Covenant of Right Relationship. I liked it so much I took it to Rev. Hilary and the Committee on Ministry. We decided to contact the Compassionate Conflict Resolution Committee (CCRC) and ask them to co-sponsor a movement to bring this covenant to our congregation for adoption. They agreed, and together we informed the Board of Trustees and asked for their support in this process. The Board is now studying and discussing this covenant and will soon make a decision on bringing it to the congregation for adoption at our May annual meeting.

Work is underway in the church in various committees and programs to promote use of non-violent communication. Rev. Hilary and our committees believe the time is right to bring this covenant to the entire congregation, for all of us to own and embrace this method of honoring each other in our communications—a wonderful way to guide our steps forward into our future.

The Mt. Diablo UU Church (Emily and Roger Ehm's church) has given CCUU permission to use their covenant, and the complete document follows. Please contact Lisa Bohne, duRee Bryant, Rev. Hilary, or me with any questions or concerns. ...Jane Matthews

CCUU Covenant of Right Relationship

In my relationship with the MDUUC community, and in keeping with our UU values, I will:

- Speak and write openly, honestly and respectfully, with clarity, tact and compassion.
- Listen carefully, with an open mind and an open heart, to what others say.
- Take responsibility for my speech and actions as they affect both individuals and the congregation as a whole.
- Be sensitive to possible conflicts, and be willing to work toward solutions using available resources, accepting that some differences may not be resolvable.
- Respect my own boundaries and the boundaries of others (sexual or other), and protect and support vulnerable individuals.
- Respect and support the diversity within our congregation, and work to create a more welcoming environment.
- Support our congregation as a safe environment for healthy relationships.

(Adopted by the MDUUC Congregation June 2, 2002)

Countryside Hosts Palestinian Olive Farmer

When I traveled to Israel, it was to observe "conditions on the ground" and the name of our delegation was "The Olive Harvest Delegation." That was our name because the center point of our trip was to be a visit to a Palestinian farm where we would harvest olives and then see the olives processed into oil in another town. The harvesting was wonderful, and the sense of helping out was satisfying. It was a real test to spend the night in a huge tent made of tarps strung together. The desert in the middle of winter, at night, gets quite cold. But the most powerful part of that part of the journey was meeting Daoud Nassar, the farmer. Eloquent, soft spoken, gentle-eyed, warm and wise, Daoud Nassar struck me as one of those truly remarkable people whose faith in peacemaking never wavers and whose life is designed to spread the teachings of peace - even in the middle of conflict. When I learned that he was coming to Chicago, I could only hope that I would get to see him. Amazingly, I was asked to host him and, even more amazingly, found an evening to do so. His story is deeply moving, I have witnessed its reality in person, and I am so pleased to be able to share his delightful spirit with you. Nassar will be accompanied by Mark Braverman and Bob Plitt. Bob is a retired man who was so moved by Nassar that he has been back - I think more than once - to help with the crops and with the peacemaking work. Mark Braverman has traveled to Israel and Palestine with the Fellowship of Reconciliation's Interfaith Peace-Builders delegation and has served as co-leader of the delegation (the same group with which I traveled). A press release reads: "Mark is the grandson of a fifth-generation Palestinian Jew. He has lived in Israel and has deep family roots in the region. Mark was transformed by witnessing directly the occupation of the West Bank and by his experience meeting with grassroots peace activists from the Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities in Israel and Palestine, as well as with international peace workers."

I hope that you will take one more evening in a busy month and come out to meet these three inspirational people. I am so pleased to be able to share them with you. So please mark your calendars and come hear them on April 23 at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. ...Rev.Hilary

Adult Faith Development (AFD) News

Health Care Summit

Many thanks to everyone who helped make our March 28 Health Care Summit a resounding success! We had excellent speakers and facilitators and more than 55 participants (80% of whom are people new to CCUU). We were pleased to have Rita Mullins, Mayor of Palatine, and several other community leaders participate. A Better Day was also highlighted by the Forum Organizing Project, <http://forumorganizing.org/find-forum>

For more information about the health care summit, please visit: <http://better-day.info>.

Some of the summit attendees will be participating in a rally for health care reform on April 18, 11 am - 1 pm at St. Augustine College, 1345 W. Argyle St., Chicago. The Wellness Place of Palatine is also conducting a three-part series on navigating the cost of cancer on March 31, April 28 and May 5, 6:30-8:00pm. Please contact Dan Wiseman, Adult Faith Development co-chair, for more information.

Agnosticism, Humanism, Atheism Discussion

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.

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/>

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. We will begin on Friday, May 15, 5pm, and conclude Saturday, May 16, 4pm. Registration fees include meals and refreshments.

Please pick up a registration form in the pamphlet rack or from the AFD table in Atherton Hall and place it in the folder on the counter in the church office by April 30. Please include a check made payable to Countryside Church. Due to our financial commitment to St. Mary's, a partial refund is only available through April 30.

Religious Education (RE) News

Sleep-Out-Saturday

Many thanks to the 35 participants in the March 21 Sleep-out-Saturday event, and to everyone who helped raise awareness and more than \$1000 to benefit our local Journeys from PADS to Hope. A few things we learned from Lindsey Rosales, of Journeys from PADS to Hope:

* More than one million children experience homelessness each night in the U.S.

* Since September, Journeys has seen a 40% increase in the number of people seeking help

* Journeys has 18 sites in the NW suburbs providing more than 13,000 overnight stays, and 40,000 meals each year

* The HOPE center provides much-needed counseling to nearly 800 clients each year, helping people move from homelessness to productive, independent living

Twelve area UU churches participated in this cooperative event to support local shelters. Local newspapers, the Chicago Tribune, and an upcoming issue of UU World all covered the story. There's great interest in making this an annual event, and doing much more! Thanks, again, to everyone who helped make this a valuable experience!

RE 2009-2010 - Reserve your place!

The RE Council invites you to sign up now to be a part of next year's exciting religious education program. Children and youth will be exploring world religions and digging deep into the 7th UU principle (the interdependent web of all existence) with a special unit on living sustainably rich lives. Members of the RE Council will be available this Sunday, April 5, during coffee hour to help you identify how you'd most like to be involved! Whether you're a classroom teacher, social action project leader, RE greeter or floater, we trust you'll discover that when you work with our children and youth, you often receive much more than you give! We welcome your participation and support in this important ministry of our congregation. Questions? Please contact Lisa Hagenbuch or Linda Berry, RE Council co-chairs.

Last Mondays Book Discussion

On April 27 at 7 pm in the Stokes Room, we will discuss Tepper Isn't Going Out by Calvin Trillin AND Amsterdam by Ian McEwan. Yes, 2 selections with nothing in common other than that they are works of fiction and are each approx. 200 pages long; we've been assured they're both relatively easy, quick reads and enjoyed by both women and men.

On June 1, we'll discuss The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Shaffer & Barrows.



Social Action Update

Making the Most of Our Money Program Wins Township of Palatine Service Award

On April 14 at 7:30 pm, CCUU will be presented with the Township of Palatine Service Award (TOPS) in the category of Outstanding Community Service for our work in the Making the Most of Our Money Program (formerly called All My Money). The presentation will be during the Township Annual Meeting at 721 South Quentin Road in Palatine. All persons who have participated in the program are invited to attend. This award shows that when we work together, we can make a difference!

Making the Most of Our Money Update

April 1 starts the third session of Making the Most of Our Money. We will be teaching 12 adults and 12 children this session. The program has expanded to include a client from Schaumburg Township along with clients from Palatine Township. Eight of the ten mentors are new mentors with the program. Two of the mentors are from outside the church as part of the goal of expanding the program to the community at large. We always want to provide snacks to the families. At the end of the evening we have the clients take any remaining snacks home. We still need you to sign up to bring snacks for one Wednesday session. All you need to do is drop off the snacks. We will do all of the clean up. The sign-up sheet is located on the social action bulletin board.

On July 3, We Want You, Not Your Money!

Help us raise \$420 for The Citizens Foundation, USA (TCFUSA) by serving pizza at the food tent during Arlington Heights Frontier Days Festival. Sign-up for one or both of the Friday, July 3 shifts: 11:30 am to 3 pm, 3 pm to 7 pm. Eight volunteers are need for each shift. TCFUSA is a volunteer-driven charity organization supporting education for underprivileged children in neglected communities of Pakistan. TCF schools are open to all children regardless of their race, color, creed, religion or location. Tolerance for race, religion and ethnicity is strongly inculcated in their students, who are encouraged to become open-minded, peace-loving and socially responsible members of society. So whether you always wanted to be a “carny” working a “grab joint” or just want to help make the world a better place, sign up for this “we want you, not your money” fundraiser. If all 16 slots are quickly filled, we might be able to add another shift and raise even more money for TCFUSA. Please e-mail David Cohen at DavidECohen@lawcohen.com to sign up. Be sure to list which shift you will work.

Countryside Church UU Receives UUSC Creating Justice Banner Society Award

On March 29, our church was inducted into the Creating Justice Banner Society. The Creating Justice Banner Society honors congregations with 25 - 49 percent membership in the Unitarian Universal Service Committee (UUSC). The UUSC works to advance human rights and promote social and environmental justice in the United States and around the world. This is the first time we have reached this membership level. A special thanks to Nancy Cowger and Nancy Klein, our UUSC representatives, for their hard work in reaching this goal. A special thanks is also given to you for becoming a member of the UUSC.

Why Should We Participate in Social Action?

Because Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. tells us that “every person must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”

Next Social Action Committee Meeting

All are invited to our next meeting at Noon on Sunday, April 19 in classroom 1 (the 4th/5th grade classroom). Meetings are limited to one hour. Social Action Committee meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month. Join our social action committee yahoo group at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCUU_social_action_committee.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

A complete calendar of all events and meetings held in the building is on the website: 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.

Thu 4/2	7pm	Thinking Scripture class	Sun 4/12	11:30 am	Celebration Rally
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Tue 4/14	7:30pm	Tuesday Kinship Circle
Sun 4/5	9am	OWL (Kdgtm-1st)	Wed 4/15	6pm	Making the Most of Our Money classes
	9am	Buddhist Dharma Group		6:30pm	All My Money Ctte Mtg
	9:15am	Open Forum Discussion		7pm	Compassionate Communication Support Grp
	11:45am	Meet the Minister	Thu 4/16	5:30pm	Path to Membership Class
	11:30am	RE Info Fair		7pm	Thinking Scripture class
	12pm	RE Council Mtg		7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal
	12pm	OWL (7-9)	Fri 4/17		Youth Con at Eliot Chapel
	4:30pm	Compassionate Communication Covenant Grp		10am	Daytime Kinship Circle
	5pm	Passover Seder	Sat 4/18		Youth Con at Eliot Chapel - Eliot Chapel
	7pm	Compassionate Communication Covenant Grp		6pm	Installation Celebration Potluck Dinner
Mon 4/6	7pm	Christianity in the Age of Ideology	Sun 4/19	8:30am	Artist's Way Covenant Group
Tue 4/7	7pm	Agnosticism, Humanism, Atheism Discussion		9am	OWL (Kdgtm-1st)
	7pm	Program Council Meeting		9am	Buddhist Dharma Group
Wed 4/8	6pm	Making the Most of Our Money classes		9:15am	Open Forum Discussion
	7pm	Path to Membership Class		12pm	Social Action Committee Meeting
	7pm	Finance Ctte Mtg		12pm	Nominating Ctte Mtg
Thu 4/9	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal		5pm	Installation Svc and Reception for Rev. Hilary
	7:30pm	Amnesty International Meeting	Mon 4/20	7pm	PFLAG Palatine Meeting
Fri 4/10	7pm	AFD Movies with Meaning	Tue 4/21	7pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sat 4/11	8:30am	Intro to Zen Wkshop, www.greatplainszen.org		7pm	Experiencing God Covenant Group
	8:45am	Rise Up and Call Her Name	Wed 4/22	6pm	Making the Most of Our Money classes
	TBD	Circle Suppers		7pm	Worship Council Meeting
Sun 4/12	8:30am	Conversations with God Covenant Group	Thu 4/23	7:30pm	Palestinian Christian Speaker
	9am	OWL (Kdgtm-1st)	Fri 4/24-Sun4/26		District Assembly; Waukesha WI
	9:15am	Open Forum Discussion			

Journeys 2009 Registration

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

	Shared Room (2 people/room)	Private Room (1 person/room)	Commuter (no room)
Room	\$60	\$95	n/a
Meals, Conference	\$55	\$55	\$55
Rooms & Supplies	\$55	\$55	\$55
Cost per person*	\$115	\$150	\$55

*Scholarship assistance available upon request; additional donations for AFD scholarships are appreciated

Registration request:

_____ Shared Room - If you are sharing a room with someone who is registering separately, please indicate name of that person: _____

_____ Single Room

_____ Commuter (includes all meals and activities)

**Please attach a check to this form payable to Countryside Church;
 include "Journeys" on the memo line.**

Return forms to the church office by April 30.