

Thoughts from the President...

This past month, your Board of Trustees discussed several topics that are of long-range importance to our church family. Among those were:

- our congregational commitment to the Making the Most of Our Money outreach program to Palatine Township residents who request assistance with money management and budgeting concepts;
- the current Building Countryside campaign and the puzzling reluctance of many to commit to the care and future of our community;
- current planning for the upcoming 2010-11 Stewardship campaign for our annual operating budget; and
- the need for two Sunday morning services.

We also heard reports, including those about:

- the Covenant of Right Relationship, which was introduced to us last year and will be voted upon at our next annual meeting in May;
- current plans to work with the Nominating Committee to create a Social Justice Funding Team for the purpose of research and allocation of our outreach funds;
- the generally very positive results to the questionnaire based on Mike Durall's preliminary report and recommendations to the congregation regarding our future.

The Board members are also planning to give a series of affirmations regarding each of our spiritual growth paths, including the meaning of the Countryside Community in our lives. These affirmations have begun, with Greg Sweigert's thoughts on Sanctuary, Service and Stewardship this past Sunday.

These topics are intertwined. None of them is a stand-alone idea or issue. All of them relate to our CCUU Covenant "...to strengthen the bonds of kinship, promote human dignity, and increase reverence for life's creating, sustaining and transforming power through worship, study and service." Our Covenant says "We unite..." to accomplish these things. We are a volunteer organization, with all the joys and frustrations of such an arrangement; and we are in need of much commitment by our members, both individually and in service with others, to achieve the vision of our Covenant. Our Covenant of Right Relationship says we will do this as we...

"...Speak and write openly, honestly and respectfully...."

"...Listen carefully, with an open mind and an open heart..."

"...Take responsibility for [our] speech and actions..."

"...Be sensitive to possible conflicts...be willing to work toward solutions...accepting that some differences may not be resolvable.

"...Respect...boundaries..."

"...Respect and support diversity...create a more welcoming environment.

"...Support our congregation as a safe environment for healthy relationships."

This is the time of year that we look deeply into our lives to be mindful of our blessings and our bounty. I ask that you think of the issues this church family is pondering and acting upon as you determine your commitment to Countryside in this season.

With Thanksgiving for your presence in our community, Judy Ball

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Focus Deadlines

Dec. 14, Jan. 4

Submit articles by
9 am to
ccuu@ccuu.org

The Minister's Muse

Language of the Spirit

The holidays are upon us. All around we will be pressed to buy, gorge, rush around and be good consumers of the products and services provided in our market economy. I know that we need a certain degree of steady consumption to support businesses and to just to take care of ourselves. I know that consumer spending is down and so is that index that measures consumer confidence. I sometimes wonder if it is better that these things are down and that somehow our economic well-being could be measured by something like the index of general well-being, the numbers of people getting sufficient food and having shelter. I know that Muhammad Yunus, the Nobel Laureate who developed a huge microloan model and many highly successful programs, has developed a scale for measuring just those sorts of things. But I wonder if we each can't take stock ourselves - measure ourselves and our own general personal happiness index just by asking a few questions. What would those questions be?

Let me come at this another way. I wonder if it isn't good that Americans are spending less money - perhaps we might be forced to turn inward and learn to value our non-material lives more. We may be getting there in a painful way, but the number of gifts we unwrap seems a less accurate measure of whether we had a good holiday than the number of times that we shared time with loved ones, the depth of our connections, the times we made someone happy - not with a material luxury but with a gift of the heart or of the spirit.

One of the traditions I like best at Thanksgiving is the tradition of going around the table and saying what each person is thankful for. It was great to do that when we had all the kids together. The thing I loved about doing that was that it allowed us to be real, to give word to the deeper meaning of our feast. It isn't about the food - okay maybe a little bit. But it sure isn't about the pilgrims. It is about the chance to break bread and to rejoice in being together, with people you love or people you simply care about - friends, strangers... I think we are hungry to give words to the life of the spirit, to our inner lives, to life that is dense with meaning. I think that if we are able to take the time to give words to the deep feeling we actually have at the season, we will be fed by more than the turkey or tofu and stuffing.

It is a spiritual practice and it takes time, patience and discipline to put off digging into the meal - or - by the time gifts are opened for Hanukkah or Christmas - to offer a prayer or a simple reflection. But it is worth it. It's hard to put those things into words, but it's worth the effort. We have holidays not so that we can empty the shelves at our chronically over filled shops. We have holidays so that we can be reminded of core human values and universal experiences. We may each have different ways of expressing these things, but to take the time to do it is to know ourselves and one another better.

So, while you are running around getting things ready for Thanksgiving and points beyond, take time to pause. If you can remember the love you feel for the people you are preparing the great feast for, it will make preparation more joyful. If you can ask yourself, "will this gift make the person's life better," it will give you the means to always give "the perfect gift." If you take time before each feast to give a deeper thanks, your food will be tastier. But most of all, you will find that you are being given a chance to deepen your own spiritual life simply by using the holidays to practice, to engage in your spiritual life. I hope that you can find time and space for this and that you remember, as you tumble into the holidays, that each real gift is something from the heart and the best gifts speak into the heart and soul and make life richer in ways that cannot be measured by units sold or bought. Our lives cannot be truly commodified - I wish you real value at the holidays - peace, contentment, healing, companionship, joy, and celebration.

Lay Ministry Calls

As part of the lay ministers' efforts to keep in touch with all the members of Countryside, we will be telephoning everyone over the next couple of months. We've made these calls each year to check in with you and hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to speak with a lay minister. Of course, we are available if you need to get in touch with us at any time. We look forward to a conversation with you. ...Countryside Lay Ministry Team

Congratulations

Congratulations to Judy Schader and Linsey Alexander, who were married on November 17. Their new address:

Judy Schader
Linsey Alexander
4541 W. 89th St.
Hometown, IL 60456

Farewell

We wish Ken Cowan all the best as he moves to Colorado to live with his daughter Patricia. Ken has been an active member of Countryside since 1991. Ken's new address:

798 Josilyn Ct
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Should We Be Committed?



Caring for the present, building for the future

UU's seem to love wordplay, so you might wonder how I mean that question. Is it like "should Paul and Greg be sent to the funny farm?" Some days it seems like we're pretty close to that already as we juggle exterior projects, interior projects, weather patterns, contractor bids and - oh yes - the funds on hand to pay for all the work that we need to do.

Fortunately, many generous members have responded to our "Building Countryside" campaign already - pledging over \$450,000 to pay for significant structural improvements, community outreach and to pay down our \$500,000 mortgage. Our great thanks go out to them.

Another definition of commitment is "the state of being bound emotionally or intellectually to a course of action or to another person/persons." Pledging to support this campaign (or the operating budget) is obviously a sign of one's commitment to Countryside. So far, however, only about one-third of our donor households have made pledges to the campaign. This is a troubling question and one whose answer - in our opinion - has profound implications for our future.

We called this campaign "Building Countryside" because it is more than just a bricks-and-mortar undertaking. It is a chance to put our spiritual house in order so we can concentrate on our larger mission in the world. An improved facility will let us welcome new spiritual seekers and help us deliver more clearly our message of hope and compassion. Paying down our mortgage will free up more funds in the annual budget that can be used for community outreach.

This campaign isn't just about "the building"-it's about building ourselves into the congregation that we want to be. We think that a lot more than one-third of us are committed to that. The "Building Campaign" pledging phase will end December 15. Please show your commitment by joining the other generous members who have already pledged. Our monetary goal is \$750,000 but more importantly, we hope to get 100% participation in this important congregational undertaking.

As CCUU members, "should we be committed?" We hope your answer is YES.

The Building Countryside Team: Greg Blus, Paul Sneddon, Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, Judy Ball, Laura Mandell, Richard Chay

Time and Talent Auction

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the 2009 Time and Talent Auction. We deeply appreciate the generous donations that so many members made and all of the enthusiastic bidding on the night of the event.

And many, many thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers who made the evening possible: Ava Whaley, Bridget and Erv Toth, Greg Sweigert, Pat Rochelle, Dayle Roberts, Lois and Jeff Phillips, Leslie Peet, Pat Palmer, Joyce Marks, Laura and Ken Mandell, Debbie Lee, Siri Laurin, Gary and Robin LaBedz, Tom Kuna, Rick Klein, Rick Juretic, Helen and Jim Hawthorne, John Evans, John Conneely, Dave Cohen, Damian Christianson, Richard and Cathleen Chay, Ellen Brouwer, Barb Braje, Jim Booth, Carol Bobbe, Greg Blus and Judy Ball. We also appreciate the assistance of Laurie Lantz and Colleen Vahey.

John Inkmann was the winner of the cash raffle; John contact the church office to collect your \$250!

There are three gift certificate winners who were not present at the drawing. If you have one of the following raffle ticket numbers, please contact Karen Epps for your gift certificate: 419026, 419080 or 419127

...Deeya Roberts and Karen Epps

focus

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Church Office Hours *Mon-Thurs: 9am-3pm*

Fri:9am-Noon

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RevHilaryK@ccuu.org

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RE@ccuu.org

Music Director & Pianist *Jeffrey Hamrick*

Music@ccuu.org

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.

Upcoming Worship Services

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

November 29 at 10:30am The Name of the Tree Ian W. Riddell

We take inspiration from many sources. Scripture, songs, poetry, and stories give us glimpses into the world and our place in it. Join us as we share the Bantu tale “The Name of the Tree” and explore what it tells us about commitment, history, and the spiritual quest.

Our Pulpit Guest is Ian W. Riddell, a second-year seminarian at Meadville Lombard. Before moving to Chicago, Ian was the Director of Music Ministry at James Reeb UU Congregation in Madison, Wisconsin, Artistic Director of Madison’s Perfect Harmony Men’s Chorus, and an Instructional Designer with Penn State’s World Campus.

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected will be donated to the Palatine Township Holiday Gift Program, which provides holiday gifts to local families in need.

December 6 at 9:30am Spirit Circle for All Ages Colleen Vahey

A new worship experience - 9:30-9:50am in the Sanctuary followed by breakfast & fellowship in Atherton Hall. On December 6, we will explore the anticipation of the winter holiday season and the meaning of Advent.

December 6 at 10:30am Joining Sunday Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia

December 13 at 10:30am Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia

Meet the Minister following the worship service.

December 20 at 10:30am Gifts of the Season Colleen Vahey

All-Church Service: Children and Youth will attend the service with their families. Childcare will be available in the nursery for infants and younger children.

Share-the-Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Women In Need Growing Stronger (WINGS), a local charitable organization that helps homeless and abused women and children by offering shelter, education, guidance and support. They provide safe, secure living environments, through transitional housing and emergency shelter, that allow women to go to school, work, and care for themselves and their children.

December 20 at 6:45pm Winter Solstice Service Leslie Peet

The longest night of the year and the “rebirth” of the Sun is a time for celebration with readings, music, and song. Bring a dish or drink to share for a feast after the service. Volunteer musicians are welcome. Gather in the foyer at 6:45 pm.

Thursday, December 24 at 8pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Our Christmas Eve offering will be for the Minister’s Discretionary Fund, which is used by the minister to assist those in need, both in the congregation and in the larger community.

No childcare will be available; children are welcome in the service.

December 27 at 10:30am Pulpit Guest: Matt Meyer

We welcome the return of Matt Meyer, who led us in worship the past two Decembers. He is a native of the Chicago suburbs, is a graduate of the Berklee College of Music and has studied abroad in Cuba, Ghana, and Central America. Matt has led worship for dozens of UU congregations including General Assembly. Matt is active with the UU Young Adult movement and is always seeking new and better ways to combine music, spirituality and social justice work.

Sharing the Light

You may have noticed a table in the sanctuary with tealights on it. We used it for the first time at one of our 3rd and 4th Tuesday evening worship services. Those services are short worship services that allow us to pause in the week for a time of reflection before heading into meetings or back into our busy lives. They remind us that we are here not just to do volunteer work but because we believe together in this faith and this community and therefore we volunteer. We used the candles so that people could silently light candles for their joys and sorrows. The light reflected warmly from the trays beneath the tealights and illuminated the idea that the things close to our hearts join us in our humanity and strengthen our sense of community - even when shared in silence. We’ll continue to use those candles for our evening services; they were all lit by the time we were done. The tealights are also available on Sundays so that if you have come to worship with something heavy on your heart or something in which you are rejoicing, you could kindle a flame there as well. It is yet another way that we can demonstrate that, as Emerson said, there is more kindness than is ever spoken.

Religious Education (RE) News

“Gifts of the Season” Worship Service - Dec. 20

All ages will be participating in the next intergenerational worship service, Sunday, Dec. 20! Parents, please plan to have your child/ren attend, or let your classroom teacher know soon if your family will be away that Sunday! On Dec. 6, our RE classes will be working on their roles in the service. If you are able to help with set-up, simple costumes, and/or decorations, please contact our Director of Religious Education, Colleen Vahey: cvaheyuu@gmail.com. Your help is greatly appreciated in making this a simple and meaningful service for all! Thank you!

Holiday Gift Program

The program matches families in need, with donors who provide new toys, clothing, and food to area families during the holiday season. Countryside will provide gifts for five families this holiday season. Please consider sponsoring a child or adult; we will provide gift card suggestions for the adults and gift suggestions for the children. The suggested spending guideline is \$50-75 per adult or child. To participate, please contact or sign-up during coffee hour in Atherton Hall. Please return all gifts/gift cards to church by Sunday, December 6.

Parents Night Out

Calling all parents and children! As part of our Service Day, the Coming-of-Age class invites you to enjoy a Parents Night Out, Saturday, Dec. 5, 4-7pm. Children will enjoy holiday games and activities with the youth, while parents enjoy a few hours to relax! Please drop off your completed registration form at the RE Welcome Table, or e-mail to: cvaheyuu@gmail.com by Dec. 1!

Recycling the UU World

The RE Council invites you to recycle your UU World magazine at church! We’d like to pull out the new 4-page UU Families insert to use in our RE Visitor Welcome packets. Please drop off your latest issue of the UU World in the basket at the RE Welcome table! Thank you!

Guest-at-Your Table

At the Nov. 15 worship service we learned about the many needs in our world, and one way to help, by supporting the work of the UU Service Committee (UUSC). Additional boxes and “Stories of Hope” booklets are available at the RE Welcome Table. Boxes will be collected during worship on December 20. Thank you!

RE Registration Online!

Parents, it’s vital for us to know how many young people we serve, who’s in our building, and how best to contact you! If you haven’t already completed a hard copy RE registration form, please take a minute to complete the online registration now: <http://www.ccuu.org>. From the Our Church menu on the left, select RE Registration Form to easily submit your form online. We need information for each child, infant-grade 12; thank you! Many thanks to Andy Khan and Cherita Axel for making online registration possible!

Noteworthy

Great Choir: December 6



If you would like to find out what it’s like singing with our wonderful Countryside Choir or if you would sing with us regularly but cannot commit to our weekly rehearsals, here is your opportunity - come experience the Great Choir! We’ll meet at 9 am sharp in the choir room (just off Atherton Hall) and work on hymns and a fun and not-too-challenging anthem for the morning. Just show up! We will welcome you warmly and you will, we hope, have a GREAT time. See you in choir!

Morning Song to Begin January 10

We are excited to announce Morning Song, an intergenerational music, rhythm, and movement experience! All ages are invited to join us in Atherton Hall at 9:15 a.m. on the second, third, and fourth Sundays of every month starting Jan. 10 and participate in facilitated music activities, including sing-alongs, drumming, and whatever else our creative spirit leads us to explore!

We hope that Morning Song will provide new opportunities for us to enrich our spiritual lives through music. All are welcome! Sponsored by the children’s music task force: Jeff Hamrick, Colleen Vahey, Meredith Boulet, Robin Dodds, and Melanie Schikore.

Social Action Update

Sponsor-a-Family Holiday Gift Program Update

Countryside Church has committed to provide holiday gifts for 30 individuals from low-income families in our community whose financial situations will not allow them to experience a joy-filled holiday season. The list of individuals is provided by Palatine Township. Each individual will receive a gift with a total value between \$50 and \$75 dollars. You will know the first name, age and sex of the person you are helping, along with a list of clothing needs and other suggestions for the person you sponsor. All gifts must be received by December 6. Please see Bridget Smith or look for a sign-up table in Atherton Hall.



Countryside Church UU (CCUU) to Provide Meals to New Pads Shelter

CCUU will be providing meals on the fourth Wednesday of each month to the new PADS homeless shelter at the Palatine Presbyterian Church. We will prepare and drop off meals for the approximately 25 - 30 homeless residents at the shelter. Other volunteers at the shelter will then serve the meals. Belinda Robinson is our coordinator for this endeavor. She is looking for volunteers to help prepare the meals (Third Sunday of the month after church); volunteers to donate the dry goods (pasta, etc.) needed for the meals and for volunteers to donate money to help pay for the cost of the meals. Please make your check payable to "CCUU" and write "PADS Meals" on the memo line. Your check can be placed in the social action mailbox in the church office or given to Belinda Robinson or David Cohen. Please also look for a sign up sheet and more information at the Information Island. This is a great social action activity for the family as most of the food preparation will be done at church.

Order Holiday Pecans and Support Fair Trade

The holiday season will be here before we know it, and what better way to celebrate the joys of the season than by purchasing delicious pecan candies and fair trade pecans from UUSC's partner, the Southern Alternatives Agricultural Co-operative (SAAC). You can help SAAC become an even stronger enterprise in the long run! By participating in UUSC's Holiday Fair Trade Promotion, you'll not only be enjoying fresh, delectable treats, but you'll also be giving SAAC the opportunity to improve their business practices and order fulfillment systems. Participating in this special holiday offer is easy! Go to the website http://www.uusc.org/content/holiday_pecans. If you order by December 14, you will receive your pecans by December 24.

Fair Trade Fair Huge Success

A thank you to everyone who participated in our annual Fair Trade Fair held November 8 in Atherton Hall. We sold \$726.25 in fair trade goods. Your purchases promoted fair trade and a living wage. A special thank you to Lois Strzyzewski for heading the Fair Trade Fair and for volunteering to be the leader for next year's Fair Trade Fair.

Making The Most Of Our Money Holding Focus Group

Dan Wiseman has volunteered to hold a focus group with the mentors from the 4 sessions of Making the Most of Our Money. The purpose of the focus group is to gain input for the new curriculum being written by Karen Noorani and Theresa Kenders. We hope in the near future to also do a focus group with our former clients to obtain their input about the program.

Share-the-Plate Raises \$325 for The Citizens Foundation USA (TCF, USA)

The Share-the-Plate recipient for the November 15 service was TCF, USA. Thanks to your donations, \$325 was raised for TCF, USA Foundation. Anyone who heard Karen Noorani speak during service will know that the money will be used for a good cause.

Why Should We Participate In Social Action?

"We are moved to deep humility by the knowledge that even as we are blazing new trails into an as yet uncharted future, we are following in the footsteps of a vast legacy of spiritual leaders and social change makers. The struggle for justice is as old as tyranny itself, and the longing for a world guided by love is as old as the human heart. Thank you for joining us in carrying the great dream forward through the next generation." Ocean Robbins - Co-Founder, Youth for Environmental Sanity (YES!)

Next Social Action Committee Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 15 at 7 pm in classroom # 1.

Reflections on Right Relationship

In our church community, several of our efforts have aimed at engaging conflict constructively and at helping to resolve it when it arises. Such efforts have included multiple explorations of how to communicate with compassion. We've explored in classes; in some covenant groups; in a support group, and in worship services. Our congregation also voted to form the CCRC - the Compassionate Communication for the Resolution of Conflict - panel. Anonymously, several members of our church community have sought and received counsel from this panel in an effort to manage conflict effectively.

More recently at Countryside, various groups have begun discussing Right Relationship and how best to encourage its flowering within our congregational community. One such idea was suggested to the Board, in part, by our formerly local, and still much beloved, members, Roger and Emily Ehm. This idea involved establishing a Covenant Right Relations. Other congregations have used such a covenant to describe how members expect to support one another in the church, and how they can set a positive tone for how to act in their wider community.

We on the CCRC panel feel confident that bringing such principles and dialogue to a well functioning congregation such as ours - possibly also requesting an eventual vote regarding such a covenant - would contribute something vital to our congregation's life and evolution.

During upcoming months, multiple opportunities will be offered during which members can consider and discuss how best we can encourage Right Relations within our congregation, and even in the wider world. So please stay tuned for more such opportunities!

With Compassion,
Vid Axel
Chairperson, CCRC Panel

Meet the Minister

Once a month, visitors and new folks with questions about Countryside Church and Unitarian Universalism are welcome to meet with Rev. Hilary. Join her in the sanctuary after the greeting line has finished and you have gotten a cup of coffee or tea. She looks forward to meeting you, having a chance to connect and to answer questions. Upcoming Meet the Minister: Dec 13, Jan 17, Feb 21.

Share the Warmth

Warm your spirit with song!
Warm your soul in community!
Warm your tummy with goodies!
Warm your heart by giving!

Join in a fun evening of holiday caroling and cookies on Friday, December 18 from 7-9 pm in Atherton Hall. Bring your favorite holiday cookies to share. Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be provided.

If you are able, we are asking for donations of nonperishable food items for the Palatine Township Food Pantry. Any nonperishable food item is welcome, but to see an up-to-date list of food items in particular need go to their website: www.palatinetownship.com/foodpantry. The Palatine Township Food Pantry is a source of nutrition that serves senior citizens, the disabled and low-income families and individuals, who reside in the Township, with non-perishable food on a monthly basis. Presently, the Pantry is assisting approximately 250 families a month.

Book Discussions

Book Circle

All are warmly welcome at the Book Circle discussions. Join us to discuss [A Walk Across America](#) by Peter Jenkins. We will be meeting on Sunday, December 13, at 6:30 pm in room 6.

Last Mondays Book Group

On November 30 at 7 pm in the Stokes Room to discuss [I Was Told There'd Be Cake](#) by Sloane Crosley.

Instead of reading and discussing a book in December, we will hold our annual POETRY PARTY at 6 pm on Monday, December 28 in Atherton Hall. ALL are welcome to join us! This year, we are trying to focus on light-hearted, upbeat, and/or funny poems. Bring one or more poems to read aloud, a dish to share (appetizer, dessert, or whatever you like), and bring a friend (it's a party!).

GoodSearch for Church

The church recently received a check for \$171.86 from GoodSearch. When you use GoodSearch and GoodShop and identify Countryside Church UU as the non-profit you want to support, the church earns a penny every time you search the Internet and a percentage of every purchase you make online! This is an on-going fundraiser for the church, so go to www.goodsearch.com or www.goodshop.com and try it out!

We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures.
~Thornton Wilder

Fair Trade News

Fair trade is expanding at Countryside! The bazaar has come and gone, monthly sales will still go on, and added to that is the opportunity to pre-order/pay for products. Although it is encouraged to purchase any fair trade product available at retail, there is a choice to support Countryside.

Countryside is less expensive, but less convenient. Retail is more expensive, but more convenient. For those wishing to prepay ahead and not wait for once a month, please fill out the order form. The form will not have the varieties that the monthly sale will have. All products are certified organic except couscous. If you have questions, contact Lois Strzyzewski at 847-537-3981 or likethosecrones@yahoo.com.

You will be notified when your order has come in.

NAME (please print) _____

Phone # _____

E-MAIL _____

<u>QTY</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
	COFFEE	
_____	Columbian Coffee-ground	\$7.00
_____	French Roast-ground	\$7.00
_____	Breakfast Blend-ground	\$7.00
_____	Decaf	\$8.00
	TEA	
_____	Irish Breakfast (25 tea bags)	\$3.00
_____	Green Tea (25 tea bags)	\$3.00
_____	Ceylon Chai (16 bags)	\$3.75
_____	Darjeeling Black (16 bags)	\$3.75
	COCOA	
_____	Hot Cocoa	\$6.25
_____	Unsweetened Baking Cocoa	\$6.25
	CHOCOLATE	
_____	3.5 oz bar Very Dark Chocolate-71% cocoa	\$3.50
_____	3.5 oz bar chocolate espresso bean	\$3.50
_____	2 oz bar Dark chocolate with raspberries	\$3.00
_____	2 oz choc bar dk chocolate lemon peel, Acai and orange oil	\$3.00
	FOOD	
_____	Olive Oil	\$15.00
_____	Couscous	\$3.75
_____	5-oz dried sweetened cranberries	\$4.00
_____	5-oz salted pecans	\$4.95

Turn in the form and payment to Lois Strzyzewski.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Thu 11/26	10am	Thanksgiving Tromp @ Deer Grove Forest Preserve, Lot # 5	Fri 12/11	10am	Daytime Kinship Circle
Sat 11/28	8:30am	Zen Workshop, register at www.greatplainszen.org		7pm	AFD Movies with Meaning
Sun 11/29	9am	Open Forum Discussion	Sat 12/12	8:30am	Zen Workshop, register at www.greatplainszen.org
	12pm	Rainbow Friends Meeting		TBA	Circle Suppers
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org	Sun 12/13	9am	Open Forum Discussion
Mon 11/30	7pm	Last Mondays Book Discussion		11:45am	Meet the Minister
Tue 12/1	6pm	Path to Membership Class		12pm	Green Sanctuary Meeting
	6:30pm	AFD/HCAN meeting		12pm	Movement for Fun Covenant Group
	7pm	Program Council Meeting		6:30pm	Book Circle
	7pm	Agnosticism, Humanism, Atheism Grp		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
Wed 12/2	6:30pm	Making Most of Money Ctte Mtg	Tue 12/15	7pm	RE Council Mtg
	7pm	Transmission Meditation		7pm	Worship Council
	7:30pm	Menzgroup Covenant Group	Wed 12/16	7pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thu 12/3	6pm	Pride Youth: 847-441-6191		7pm	Journey Inward
	7pm	Hatha Yoga	Thu 12/17	6pm	Pride Youth: 847-441-6191
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal		7pm	Hatha Yoga
Fri 12/4	12pm	Worklife Support Group		7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal
Sat 12/5	9am	Cakes for the Queen of Heaven	Fri 12/18	12pm	Worklife Support Group
	4-7pm	Parents Night Out (Coming of Age Service Project)		7pm	Carolling Party and Song Circle
Sun 12/6	9am	Buddhist Dharma Group	Sun 12/20	9am	Buddhist Dharma Group
	9am	Open Forum Discussion		9am	Open Forum Discussion
	9:30am	Spirit Circle for All Ages		12pm	Movement for Fun Covenant Group
	9:50am	Breakfast & Fellowship		12pm	Nominating Ctte Mtg
	12pm	COA meeting		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org	Mon 12/21	7pm	PFLAG Palatine Meeting
Mon 12/7	7pm	Living Welcoming Congregation	Tue 12/22	7pm	Membership Ctte Mtg
Tue 12/8	7pm	Tuesday Kinship Circle		7pm	Personnel Ctte Mtg
	7:30pm	Sr High Covenant Group		7:15pm	Experiencing God Covenant Group
Wed 12/9	7pm	Finance Ctte Mtg	Sun 12/27	9am	Open Forum Discussion
Thu 12/10	6pm	Pride Youth: 847-441-6191		12pm	Rainbow Friends Meeting
	7pm	Hatha Yoga		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Mon 12/28	7pm	Last Mondays Book Discussion
	7:30pm	Amnesty International Meeting			

Transmission Meditation

The Journey Inward Group will be having our first Transmission Meditation on December 2, 7 - 8:30pm in Room 6. Back in October, we had our Ageless Wisdom and Transmission Meditation talk with Joe Pelletiere. Since then, there's been a lot of interest in getting a Transmission Meditation Group started. Don't worry if you missed the talk because we will refresh everyone on the Transmission Meditation. This will become a monthly or bi-monthly event on the 1st and/or 4th Wednesday of each month if there is enough interest. We need a minimum of 3 people to have the meditation. For more information, please contact Erv Toth or Rose Schulz or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Journey-Inward-Meetup-Group>.

Winter WomanSpirit 2010**Nurturing Ourselves, Sustaining Our World**

February 26-28 at First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee. World-renowned author and activist Starhawk will be the keynote speaker and one of the workshop presenters. She will also give the sermon at three Sunday services at the church. Joyful ceremonies, juicy workshops, jangle of vendors, and more!

Find details here: www.womenandreligion.org.

Register online at www.regonline.com/WWS2010

**Hospice of Northeastern Illinois
Tree of Lights**

A celebration of light and love for all ages to remember, honor, and celebrate those who have been lights in our lives will be held on Sunday, December 6, 4 to 6 pm at the Old Courthouse Art Gallery in downtown Woodstock. For more information, call 224-770-2152 or go to www.HospiceAnswers.org

UUs for Social Justice (UUSJ)

UUSJ will meet Sunday, December 6, 2-5pm at Beverly Unitarian Church, 10244 S Longwood Dr, Chicago 60643. The program from 2-3pm will be on the Growing Divide, an interactive educational workshop which examines the changing fortunes of the different segments of America over the 30 years prior to the current recession. The business meeting from 3-5pm will include financial report, election of officers, task force reports, and more. For more info, email uusj@sbcglobal.net or phone 773-643-8061.

Countryside's Thanksgiving Tromp

On Thanksgiving Day each year, Countrysiders gather for a walk in the woods. It's a great way to celebrate the blessings of another year, commune with nature, connect with old and new friends, and express gratitude.

This year's Tromp through Deer Grove Forest Preserve will kick off at 10 am from parking lot # 5. Enter Deer Grove's main entrance off Quentin Road, 1/2 mile north of Dundee Road, turn right at the first stop sign, continue past the 2nd stop sign, and find us on the right before the road ends in a big loop. All are invited - large and small, young and old, and especially our 4-legged friends!

Return Service Requested
Time-dated Material - Prompt Delivery Requested

COUNTRYSIDE CHURCH
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