

Ministerial Out and About

It's June! This year has been one of such breathtaking strides in new and positive directions that the year has flown by. I am looking forward to time with the Coming of Age Group in Boston (their service was outstanding!). Pretty soon a bunch of us will be headed off to General Assembly (it's not too late to come too!) in Minneapolis. After that, there will be a few loose ends to draw together and then I will be on study leave for July. I will be out of pocket but not out of reach in case of emergencies. The best way to reach me, in case of critical emergency, will be through either our Congregational Administrator, Laurie Lantz, during Office Hours or through the Lay Ministry co-chairs, Ken Bobbe and Trudy Kleckner. The time that I take in July helps me to research, reflect, prepare, plan, and recharge for the upcoming year. ...Hilary

Gulf Oil Disaster

Special Pre-service Worship June 6

In response to our collective concern and sorrow over the oil disaster in the Gulf, Rev. Hilary will lead a brief pre-service Worship on Sunday, June 6, at 9:30 am. This service, with time for prayer, song, and reflection, will provide one opportunity to gather in awareness of and solidarity with our challenged planet.

One Way to Help

You can help with the gulf oil disaster by talking to your local pet groomer or hair salon. Hair and used nylons can be used to make mats to help clean-up beaches or booms to help stop the spread of oil. An average salon produces at least 1 pound of hair clippings each day, which could be used to help! Visit www.MatterofTrust.org to learn how you can help. Flyers to distribute to local hair salons and pet groomers are available at Info Island.



Social Action Coffee House

Join us Thursday June 24, 7 to 10 pm in Atherton Hall for the inaugural Social Action Coffee House!

- Discussion of Social Justice Issues
- Live Music
- Films on Social Justice Issues
- Coffee and Beverages
- Snacks
- Internet Access

Whether 16 or 60, this is your place to meet and discuss social action and justice in an informal environment!

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All-Church Potluck Family Picnic June 13 after worship service

The Countryside Choir, Rainbow Friends, and the Living the Welcoming Congregation Committee are co-hosting an end of church year potluck picnic. Please bring a dish to share, and remember that heating and refrigeration space are limited. Also bring table service (plates and silverware) for your family. We will furnish drinks and ice. There will be games for the entire family, outside if weather permits or inside if it rains. Look for the picnic basket on the Information Island table with free tickets for each child to win a prize. Contact Jane Matthews with questions.

Upcoming *Focus* Deadlines

June 28, July 26, August 23, September 13
Submit articles by 9 am to ccuu@ccuu.org

The Minister's Muse

*Greatness is not a matter of circumstance.
Greatness is largely a matter of conscious choice and discipline.*
~Jim Collins, author of Good to Great

This congregation has long been better than good, and this year, Countryside made some conscious decisions to become great. The congregational meeting was a stunning example of greatness being birthed. Real questions, concerns, hopes and dreams were shared in an atmosphere of mutual respect and mindful communication. I know that questions will not go away - it is our nature as a seeking faith to ask questions. It is also our nature as a faith to evolve and grow - and that is the path that we have chosen. So I was intrigued when I read this: "Congregational leaders who embark upon change efforts develop contrasting images of the qualities they seek in their congregation and of the characteristics they hope to shed, transcend, or avoid." It was from the most recent email sent by the Alban Institute, the religious research foundation that serves congregations of all faiths. Sometimes you have to translate into Unitarian Universalist as you read something they have published - it may be in Presbyterian, Jewish, Methodist, and even our own Unitarian Universalist - but it's remarkable how much more religious groups have in common than in contrast, as we endeavor to fulfill our highest and best possibilities.

So I read on in the article by Aron, Cohen, Hoffman, and Kelman. The qualities and choices reminded me directly of the choices that Countryside is making right now - the choices that are leading us to be visionary (without abandoning our capacity to function). The authors share contrasting lists of qualities I thought you might find interesting.

Functional	Visionary
<i>Consumerism</i> : arrangements provide consumers with...services.	<i>Sacred purpose</i> : a pervasive and shared vision infuses all aspects of the congregational life.
<i>Segmentation</i> : programs stand on their own, little integration of worship, learning, caring, social action, or community building.	<i>Holistic ethos</i> : the parts are related to each other, such that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.
<i>Passivity</i> : professionals control programs; laity consumes; boards deal with marginalia.	<i>Participatory</i> : congregants, lay leaders, staff, people of all ages, engage in creating sacred community.
<i>Meaninglessness</i> : rote performance of scripted interactions, with little genuine significance or feelings of transcendent connection.	<i>Meaningful engagement</i> is achieved through repeated inspirational experiences that infuse people's lives with meaning.
<i>Resistance to change</i> : the routine is supreme, preventing diversification and serious consideration of alternative modes and structures.	<i>Innovation disposition</i> : marked by a search for Diversity, alternatives and a high tolerance for possible failure.
<i>Nonreflective leadership</i> : focuses on program and institutional arrangements rather than purpose and vision.	<i>Reflective leadership</i> : marked by careful examination of alternatives, a commitment to overarching purpose, attention to relationships, mastery of both big picture and detail, and a planful approach to change.

What I reveled in was the reality that Countryside is growing into and truly embodying a life as a visionary congregation. I am simply happy with all the good I encounter here - day-to-day, week-to-week and year-to-year. We live in extraordinary times, and it is the task of religion to call us to meet our times. Apparently, we are doing our task. We will continue to move toward greatness as long as we hold onto the core qualities that I saw at the congregational meeting - a true willingness to think as well as speak, a genuine care for the questions as well as the vision of others, respect for differences and prizing of community, and a willingness to move forward trusting one another's good will and deep commitment, and a deep faith in the finest that is at the heart of Unitarian Universalism. In that case, why settle for good?

Can I get an "Amen"?

Thoughts from the President

For those of you who were unable to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting on April 23, following is a recap of events. Also included in this report is information on the Outreach Funding Council's launch of the first "call" for donation suggestions, this year to be focused at the local level.

At the annual meeting, we elected a slate of officers and committee members to fill vacant spots on the Board of Trustees, Endowment Committee and Nominating Committee for the 2010-11 church year. We also appointed the members of the Audit Committee for the coming year.

We heard from the Second Service Planning Team, who sponsored the meeting and who entertained us with several "commercials" throughout the meeting. Thanks to that group for providing us with comic relief from the seriousness of our proceedings. We also heard from the Building Campaign Team, which is beginning its second year of leading this fund-raising campaign, as well as planning and coordinating the work being done to update our facility.

After thoughtful discussions, we voted to approve both the Covenant of Right Relationship and the 2010-11 budget. We also voted to approve the expected Building Campaign major expenditures for the coming year.

In lieu of the budget negotiations we have had in the past several years to balance the budget, the proposed budget was approved, with a gap of approximately \$15,000 between current pledges collected and the approved budget. We are doing a "second ask" of members to increase their pledges by a modest amount to help close that gap. This will allow us to go forward with the increased staff time needed to implement the second service in the fall and to fulfill the visions of the program committees who worked hard last winter to submit requests that allow them to put their visions into action. This "second ask" was made of all members, not just those present at the meeting, by way of a letter sent to those not in attendance. I ask you to carefully consider your ability to give a little more in support of our plans, and to help us go forward with renewed energy for service to our community.

Thank you to all who provided the information for this meeting, and to the congregation for its respectful and earnest consideration of the various questions that arose during our discussion of these issues. We demonstrated the power of both a democratic process and our new CORR (Covenant of Right Relationship). Thank you, too, to the Board members, who helped to make the meeting

run smoothly in all the behind-the-scenes activities needed.

AND....we are finally ready to call for ideas for the allocation of our 5% outreach funds from the Building Campaign, and for the 1% outreach funds from our newly adopted Operating Funds budget. The charter for the Outreach Funding Council, whose members will decide the future of these funds, has been approved by the Board of Trustees and includes an application form for those of you who wish to suggest organizations which reflect our seven principles and our CCUU covenant. A synopsis of the Charter is included on page 7. The full Charter and Grant Request Form is available in the church office and electronically. Please let Laurie know if you wish to have one of these documents. The deadline for submitting the first round of suggestions will be Sunday, July 4, and the OFC will meet in August to make the initial decisions for allocations. We have approximately \$12,500 from the building pledges paid to date, and this year these funds will be donated in a few large gifts to local organizations, so that the effects of our first round of giving can be significant and in our own backyard. We hope to hear from these organizations during the year to know how we have helped them fulfill their missions.

I hope you all have a wonderful, enriching summer. See you in church!

...Judy Ball

focus

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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, Sunday services are at 10:30am and childcare and religious education classes are provided for all children and youth.

June 6 True Colors Rev. Hilary Krivchenia
In Honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Transgender History and Emergence

Affirmation by Sue DeLuca, who has been a member since 1999, has worked with the youth group in the past, is current chair of Rainbow Friends and co-chair of Living the Welcoming Congregation.

All-Church Service: Children in first grade and older attend the full service with their families.

Meet the Minister: Once a month, visitors and new folks with questions about Countryside Church and Unitarian Universalism are invited to meet with Rev. Hilary in the sanctuary after the greeting line has finished and you have gotten a cup of coffee or tea. Final Meet the Minister until autumn: June 6.

June 13 Flower Communion: The Beloved Community Rev. Krivchenia

Please bring a flower or a few flowers from home to share. A Unitarian tradition begun by Norbert Capek, the Flower Communion celebrates the beauty of our diversity and our hope for continued blossoming as a community of spirit.

Affirmation by Judy Ball, who has been a member since 2000 and is our current Board President.

All-Church Service: Children in first grade and older attend the full service with their families.

All-Church Picnic after the service (details to come - sponsored by Rainbow Friends, Living the Welcoming Congregation, and the Choir)

June 20 Summer Solstice Leslie Peet

June 27 Spirituality of Music Janeane Weprin

July 4 To Be Announced (TBA) Mark Huston

July 11 The Post-Darwinian Challenge Rem Stokes

Summer Religious Education



Faith in Action: June 20-September 5

Fun mixed-age classes will be held for infants through age 4 and Kindergarten through Grade 6. If you would like to help with any of our service projects, please contact Linda Berry.

- June 20 What is Service: plant our children's give-away garden
- June 27 Hunger & Homelessness: decorate bowls to benefit Journeys from PADS to Hope
- July 11 Gulf Oil Spill: collect pet & human hair to help clean-up efforts
- July 18 Animal Welfare: make dog biscuits to benefit the Buddy Foundation
- Aug 1 Prairie Restoration: learn about native plants & how to save our prairies
- Aug 8 Care for our Planet: make art from recyclables
- Aug 15 Aging and Elders: write letters to grandparents, neighbors, church members
- Aug 22 Helping our Church Community: help organize RE supplies and classrooms
- Aug 29 Literacy & Education: collect school supplies for local students in need
- Sept 5 Promoting Justice: letter-writing campaign to advocate for change

Note: no RE classes July 4 & July 25; children will attend the full service, childcare provided.

Green Corner

Planting season at the Countryside Garden is in full bloom now that the last chance of frost has passed. Most of the plots now have transplants or seeds in place, including 3 plots set aside solely for donations to the Palatine Food Pantry. The hot weather at the end of May made it a bit of a challenge to keep the fragile new plants from drying out, but we have been keeping an eye on each others' plots, and they seem to be coming along nicely. That's one benefit of a community garden! Come up to the top of the hill at the northeast corner of the church property to visit our garden.

Friday mUUSIC @ Countryside!



Events begin at 7pm - come early to help set up!

Come make music with us!

1st Friday - June 4: Singing Meditation

Find a stillness at the end of your

hectic workweek. In our meditation, facilitated singing and silence combine to create a calming and powerful spiritual experience. Childcare will be available. For more information, go to www.singingmeditation.com or contact music director Jeff Hamrick at music@ccuu.org.

2nd Friday - June 11: Drum Circle

Come drum with us! Bring a hand percussion instrument (and an extra if you can) and feel the flow of energy and enthusiasm surround you as you drum in a group. (We will have a few extra instruments on hand for those who have none, but we can't guarantee availability.) This is a great way to release tension and nurture your primal creative spirit. For more information, contact Robin Dodds.

3rd Friday - June 18: Song Circle

Bring your instrument (or just lend your voice) and some tunes to share, and let's have fun making music! Our emphasis is on sharing the experience rather than on performing. Contact Tony Pretto for details.

Open Forum Discussion

We endeavor to discuss "the issues of the day" while respectfully welcoming different perspectives. We meet in Room 6 on Sunday mornings. We start at 9 am so we can socialize prior to discussing the day's topic. From 9:15-10:15, we discuss a current events issue. Feel free to bring your own coffee and/or snacks to share. We welcome diverse points of view!

Our tentative topic for June 6: The BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Causes, Consequences and Responsibilities. What combination of causes led to the BP Oil Spill? What consequences have ensued and are likely to yet develop? Who is responsible? What action can be taken now to minimize resulting harm? What action can be taken to prevent similar, future disasters?

Our tentative topic for June 13: ADHD-Pesticide Study: Cause for Concern or Critique? Although science is supposed to be founded on objectivity and a quest for universal truths, is scientific endeavor becoming increasingly politicized in contemporary society? Is it possible for science to be objective?

For more info, please contact the facilitators (led by Vid Axel) at ofd@ccuu.org.

Noteworthy



As our church year draws to a close, I am already looking forward—with enthusiasm and optimism—to September, when we add a second Sunday worship service. While the addition of a second service inevitably translates to more work for those of us who lead worship (the minister or pulpit guest, worship coordinators, the music director or guest pianists, the choir[s], and other invited musicians), I believe we are well positioned and well prepared to make this leap forward.

Over the summer, some members of the music committee will work with me to select anthems and other special music to support the sermon and service topics that have been chosen for next year. For the early service, we expect that the number of singers will generally be smaller (the entire Countryside Choir will not usually sing at both services), and so we will also be choosing anthems better suited to fewer voices. Rest assured, though, that I will commit myself, as always, to facilitating soulful and superior music making that satisfies musician and listener and supports our minister's message for the morning. I am very eager to begin!

The good work of the music committee this year has been crucial to our preparations for next year. I appreciate the efforts of committee, whose process of goal setting was so capably facilitated by Sheryl Skifstad, who also, as you know, so often adds her beautiful cello music to our worship. The music committee and I would like to share our mission statement and goals with the congregation, but I will save that for a future Focus issue.

For now, I just want to thank the music committee members, the "piano watering team" (Robin LaBedz and Ann Kennedy), our guest instrumentalists, the committed and supremely competent Countryside Choir, the choir officers, sound crew, office assistants (and especially Liz Whalen, who maintains a database of our music library), our administrator/song leader/pianist Laurie, and all of you have warmly supported our musical endeavors throughout this church year.

CONGRATULATIONS to Countryside flutist Julia McGehee, who has been accepted into the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra!

I feel so blessed to be part of this church family. Every Sunday morning is like coming home.

Thank you.

Jeff Hamrick

Social Action Committee (SAC) Update



Four Openings Left for Social Action Fundraiser at Arlington Heights Festival Days

We still need 4 volunteers to work the 7 to 10 pm shift at the Pizza One Booth at the Arlington Heights Festival on July 3 (the shift requires 8 persons). The money raised will be used to grant microfinance loans on Kiva.org. Please sign up on the blue sign-up sheet on the social action bulletin board or e-mail David Cohen at socialaction@ccuu.org.

Be Our Guest at the Inaugural Social Action Coffee House

Join us in Atherton Hall on Thursday June 24 for the very first Social Action Coffee House. Music, films, coffee, snacks, conversations about social justice and internet will be provided.

This is your chance to meet and discuss social action and justice in an informal environment. Please see David Cohen or e-mail socialaction@ccuu.org if you are interested in helping with the coffee house.

Immigration Reform Subcommittee Hosts Immigration Pilgrims

On May 21, CCUU hosted 40+ pilgrims on an immigration march from Chicago to Woodstock. See Miles Wrigley's article in this newsletter about the march and check out pictures on the social action bulletin board. See Damian Christianson or e-mail socialaction@ccuu.org if you would like to join the subcommittee.

PADS Volunteer and Contributor Celebration on June 27

Everyone at CCUU who helped out with the PADS meal is invited to a celebration dinner at the Presbyterian Church of Palatine, 800 E. Palatine Road, Palatine on June 27. Please R.S.V.P. by June 13 to Jay Shuler at 847-520-3195 or e-mail Jay at jlshuler@att.net if you plan to attend.

Making The Most Of Our Money Completes Its Fifth Session

Making the Most of Our Money (MMOM) completed its 5th session. Eight families completed the nine week course. Three participants had a perfect attendance record. At graduation, participants received a certificate of completion and a \$50 gift card to buy groceries.

A thank you to all who made both the children's and adult program possible: coordinator David Cohen; adult program teachers Karen Noorani and Theresa Kenders; adult mentors Marty Farrington, Lisa Hagenbuch, Mary Janes, Rish Kulick, Pat Lake, Siri Laurin, Dixie LoCicero, Joy McGhee, Hal Snyder and Kathryn Wise; children's program teachers Angela Walsh-Morris, Kathy McMichael and Belinda Draper Robinson; children's program helpers Darcy Robinson and Jessie Brown; meal providers Beth Ligouri, Alisa Pontarelli, Karen Epps, Edie Scott, Jane Matthews, Alan Greenland, Karen Greenland, Hilary Krivchenia, Mark Krivchenia, Cathleen Chay, Richard Chay, Julie Norman and Jennifer Tanquary; kitchen cleanup persons Alan Greenland, Mark Krivchenia and Nancy Cowger. And a thank you to anyone accidentally left off the above list.

During the session, 107 books were given to the children that participated in MMOM. In addition, each child decorated a piggy bank to start their own savings. The next session starts October 6. Please be a mentor, meal provider or children's program helper and help us to make a difference!

Spring Cleaning?

It's that time of year when it feels good to clean out those closets! Please bring unopened toiletries (shampoo, moisturizer, soap, toothpaste etc) to church and deposit them in the blue bin in the coat closet. Any size (from hotel samples to full-size) is welcome. All items will be donated to the Wheeling Township food pantry to add a little luxury in the lives of needy families.

Why Should You Participate in Social Action?

Because "It is from the numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance." ~Robert F. Kennedy

Next Social Action Committee Meeting

Our next meeting is Sunday, June 20 at 12 noon in classroom number 1. A potluck lunch is always served. Please join us and help to make a difference.

Outreach Funding Council (OFC)

The full Charter and Grant Request Form are available from the church office in print or electronic form. Due to technical difficulties, the grant request form is not included in this edition; the deadline for submitting a Grant Request is Sunday, July 4. Contact the office if you would like a copy.

Synopsis of OFC Charter

The members of the Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist (CCUU) desire to provide a vehicle for social outreach in order to turn our covenant and UU principals into action. To that end, the CCUU has designated certain funds to use for this outreach. The CCUU Outreach Funding Council (OFC) shall obtain input from members of the congregation, and, based on that input, and guidance from the Board of Trustees ... the OFC shall determine how the funds designated for social outreach shall be disbursed.

“Grant” means an award of money. “Social Outreach” means providing services, assistance or funding outside our congregation to improve lives within particular segments of a community, whether that community is local, regional, national or international, in our quest to promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to further the goal of a world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

At least once a year, the OFC shall announce the dollar amount of funding available and shall set a deadline for submission by any member of the congregation (including members of the OFC) ... After the deadline has passed, the OFC shall hold an open meeting to allow any member who submitted an application to make a brief presentation in support of their grant request, if they so choose.

In addition, the OFC shall solicit general input as to what outreach issues may be inspiring the congregation, or may reflect the needs of the larger community for service and justice. The goal of this activity will be to assist the Board in guiding the future directions for the OFC by learning the interests and yearnings of the congregation. General input may be solicited by an annual survey of the congregation, or by providing an alternate form at a time when Grant Requests are solicited, which allows members to describe their aspirations for future outreach efforts without making a specific grant request, or by such other methods as determined by the OFC.

Ongoing activities of the OFC shall be reported to the Board of Trustees at least quarterly. All grants awarded shall be reported to the Board in writing. Grants shall also be communicated to the congregation by being posted in the Focus newsletter. The OFC shall write an Annual Report, consistent with established practices for committees under the authority of the Board.

Countryside Hosts Pilgrimage of Hope

On Saturday, May 21 at 10 am, Countryside Church UU (CCUU) hosted 40 pilgrims of hope, who were on a 53-mile pilgrimage from Chicago to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facility at the McHenry County Jail in Woodstock. The pilgrims were seeking a comprehensive reform of immigration laws that better supports justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

On this, the second morning of their pilgrimage, twenty or more CCUU volunteers provided or served the 40 pilgrims a delicious buffet lunch. The lunch featured refried beans, Spanish rice, and two types of tamales, all of which were prepared the night before and cooked that morning in our kitchen by Melanie Schikore Andina and other volunteers. Here is a great big “Thank you!” to all the volunteers.

The most memorable and meaningful aspect of the event for the pilgrims and for the volunteers was being with the human beings that live and tell heart-wrenching stories about immigration into the U.S.A. The highlight of this was when 25 such human stories were read and associated with a cut rose. Each cut rose symbolically represented a different true story of the end of the American Dream for one immigrant in Illinois. This story telling occurred in our sanctuary where Rev Hilary welcomed and blessed the pilgrims.

News outlets covered the Pilgrimage of Hope. The supporting role of Countryside Church UU appeared in the Local Focus section of the May 23 Chicago Tribune, which published a picture of the story telling and rose ceremony taken in the sanctuary; it also appeared in the May 20 and 25 issues of the Daily Herald, the latter quoting a CCUU member.

Book Discussion Groups Book Circle

Everyone is welcome to join the Book Circle discussions. We will be meeting next on Sunday, June 6, at 6:30 pm in room 6. Our selection for that evening is Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution-and How It Can Renew America by Thomas L. Friedman.

Last Mondays Book Discussion

Please join us Monday, June 28 at 7 pm in the Stokes Room to discuss a historical fiction selection, The Heretic's Daughter by Kathleen Kent.

Respecting the Storage, Respecting the Space

by Lois K. Phillips, Aesthetics Task Force Chair

The addition of the built-in closets and beautiful new lighted display cabinet in the main hallway have afforded me the great pleasure of revamping how our storage needs are being met even as I plan for our future growth. And it all starts with respecting the space.

We have accumulated a large number of items over the years - from holiday decorations and boxes of files to old electronic equipment and supplies. I have recently been able to focus a lot more of my time on church-related issues: purging and reorganizing our decorations, file boxes, cleaning & office supplies, and electronics. Somehow new items continue to “show up!” I really appreciate it when I am asked if something would be useful to the Church before it is dropped off. Thank you to all who ask first.

Peter Walsh, organization expert for the popular TLC show “Clean Sweep” recommends purging items in storage at least once each year (good advice for home too!) to help keep areas organized and efficient. He further reports, “Generally, about 80 percent of what goes into storage never gets used.” Doesn’t that make you stop and think about what we are storing and why?

My recent work has centered on reorganizing each of the eleven designated storage areas in the main building. RE has their teachers/volunteers, and under Colleen’s leadership, they are doing a great job of managing their considerable inventory on their own. My tasks there concern color choices and “public” room arrangements.

Back to our current storage arrangement: setting a limit for the number of items that can fit into each area is key to maintaining order. For instance, if we allocate three shelves to holiday decorations and each shelf fits two bins, then six bins is the limit. Once we need a seventh bin, we’ll need to let go of some decorations before we can add more. There cannot be a seventh bin!

Safe storage is also a concern. We can keep storage areas safe by enforcing simple rules and avoiding potentially dangerous locations:

- * Materials cannot be stored closer than 18 inches below the plane or horizontal level of sprinklers. Materials stored too close to a sprinkler can block the sprinkler’s effective range.

- * Always keep the area in front of electrical boxes clear. It is important to be able to access breakers, especially in the event of a fire.

- * Storage in non-sprinkler areas should be 24 inches or more below the ceiling. This allows water to be directed over storage in the event of a fire.

- * Keep a clear path for moving safely around a storage room. Refrain from storing boxes or other items, even temporarily, in designated walkways. This is especially important in the pass-thru closet (between Atherton Hall & the Sanctuary) and the access to the roof in that closet (note the yellow paint on the floor).

In planning for the future, I’ve got to try to anticipate our storage needs. Looking 5 to 10 years down the road, let’s consider the types of activities and membership growth our community may experience and plan accordingly; where will boxes of items be stowed, how and where will tables and chairs will be stored, will we need a second outbuilding?

Respecting our building and our possessions means seeing them as our own. Taking care of them means they will last as long as possible, serving our needs and bringing us joy. I’d like you to consider this the next time you have to remove something from a room - please put it back where you found it...there is a reason it was where it was. Ideally, I’ll have maps posted for each area, showing a list of what is stored where and a Master Plan in Laurie’s capable hands for general reference. It will take me some time, but I respect our space too much not to make the time.

Thank you!

Thank you to the many people listed below who helped with Coffee Ministry Set-up and/or Clean-up this church year! As with any new endeavor, there have been pros and cons about our new method of assigning and sharing coffee hospitality each Sunday. There have been weeks when someone(s) who was assigned did not show up, putting more of a burden on those who did. Each week, we have had coffee and tea and for that, we are all very grateful! Some of the positive feedback we've received has included the statement that serving coffee is easier than originally thought, especially when a shared responsibility, and some even enjoyed meeting new people!

It is our plan to continue to share the Sunday morning coffee duties in the months to come. We will make every effort to assign each person only once every 2 years. If you would be willing to help more frequently than that or if you would be willing to be on a substitute list, please email the office (ccuu@ccuu.org).

Thank you to the following people (and anyone I've inadvertently omitted) who set up and/or cleaned up coffee hour from August 2 through June 13:

Marci & Dave Albrecht	Marty Farrington	Joyce Marks	Peggy Simonsen
Liana & Tom Allison	Joel Fisher	Ed Marquardt	Bev and Paul Sneddon
Maria and Brad Appleton	Terry & Larry Frank	Maria Martinez and Colin Tysoe	Hal Snyder
Margit Arnold	Laura Gadley	Michel & Kevin Masi	Tracey Solberg
Judy Ball	Gina Gardner	Jeani McAleer	Karen Spielman
Gayle & Larry Barr	Marty Gehler	Joy McGehee	Aldona Starkus
Peyton and Bruce Bendix	Beth Gerson	Kathleen McMichael	Lois Strzyzewski
Linda & Mike Berry	Susan & Wayne Gordon	Jeanie and Karl Michalec	Joyce Swedlund
Martha & Greg Blus	Christine Gralewski	Judy Miller	Carol and Greg Sweigert
Carol & Ken Bobbe	Kay Gredell	Rolf Mueller	Jenny Tanquary
Lisa Bohné & Mike Gilley	Maria Gregorio	Margaret & Matt Myren	Kim Tilford
Jim Booth	Dave Hagenbuch	Karen Noorani	Bridget and Erv Toth
Barb Braje	Mary Ellen Heelan	Janet Ogle	Nancy Van Broekhoven
Ellen Brouwer	Mike Howorko	Marge Olszewski	Ron Vargason
duRee Bryant	Amy and Bill Huber	Pat Palmer	Ellen Vinzani
Deb Burdsall	Kristin and Mark Huston	Leslie Peet	Tim Walsh and Dan Yokas
Donna Calwas	Wendy & Ben Ingrassia	Lois & Jeff Phillips	Sue Wendt
Cathleen & Richard Chay	Evan and John Inkmann	Ron Polomchak	Janeane Weprin
Lisa Christensen	Carol Javens	Linda and Steve Pratt	Ava Whaley & James Reynolds
Damian Christianson	Yuki and Rick Juretic	Tony Pretto	Kathi Wise
Juli Cicarelli	John Kamowski	Dina Quevedo	Sharon & Dan Wiseman
Cindy Cochran	Ann Kennedy	Trish Ramsey & Mike Konopka	Gail Wisniewski
David Cohen	Shila and Andy Khan	Deeya and Dayle Roberts	Pat and Craig Wydell
John Conneely	Nancy Klein	Pat Rochelle and Art Mayfield	Raymond Yee
Nancy Cowger	Tim Klepaczuk	Dan Rogers	
Clifton Dahlgren	Mark Krivchenia	Melanie Schikore	
Rita DeBoer	Linda & Tom Kuna	Laurie Schmidt	
Sue DeLuca	Robin and Gary LaBedz	Rose Schulz	
Nancy & Tom Dempsey	Laurie Lantz & Chris Smith	Denise and Ken Sepos	
MaryAnne O'Toole	Siri Laurin	CarolAnn Shindelar and Steve Armitage	
Miles & Jeanmarie Dwyer - Wrigley	Debbie Lee	Sheryl Skifstad & Venu Vasudevan	
Nicol Engel & David White	Beth Ligouri & Mark Stamm		
Karen Epps	Krista & Tom MacTavish		
Elaine Ezsak	Daniela Mahoney		
Kriste & Michael Fallin	Laura & Ken Mandell		

Upcoming Meetings and Events

A complete calendar of all events and meetings held in the building is on the church website (www.ccuu.org) under the "Events & Rentals" heading. If your church meeting or event is not listed there, please fill out a room reservation form (available with the calendar on the website) and submit it to the church office.

Wed 6/2	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform	Thu 6/17	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191
	7pm	Ctte on Ministry		7pm	Hatha Yoga
	7:30pm	Menzgroup Covenant Group	Fri 6/18	10am	Daytime Kinship Circle
Thu 6/3	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191		12pm	Worklife Support Group
	7pm	Hatha Yoga		7pm	Song Circle
	7:15pm	Choir Rehearsal		7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg
Fri 6/4	12pm	Worklife Support Group	Sun 6/20	9am	Open Forum Discussion
	7pm	Journey Inward Spiritual Movie Night		12pm	Social Action Mtg
	7pm	Singing Meditation		12pm	Movement for Fun Covenant Group
	7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg		12pm	Nominating Ctte Mtg
Sat 6/5	8:30am	Zen Workshop, www.greatplainszen.org		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
Sun 6/6	9am	Forum: BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill	Mon 6/21	7pm	PFLAG Palatine Meeting
	11:45am	Meet the Minister	Tue 6/22	7pm	Membership Ctte Mtg
	12pm	Music Ctte Mtg		7pm	Personnel Ctte Mtg
	1pm	Lay Ministry Retreat	Wed 6/23	UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis, MN	
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org		7pm	Facilitators Chalice Circle
Mon 6/7	7pm	Death and Dying Study Group		7pm	SAC Immigration Reform
Tue 6/8	7pm	Tuesday Kinship Circle	Thu 6/24	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191
Wed 6/9	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform		7pm	Hatha Yoga
	7pm	Finance Ctte Mtg		7pm	Social Action Coffee House
Thu 6/10	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191	Fri 6/25	7pm	Games Night
	7pm	Hatha Yoga		7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg
	7pm	Outreach Center exploratory mtg			Open Forum Discussion
	7:15pm	Choir Rehearsal			Rainbow Friends Meeting
	7:30pm	Amnesty International Meeting			Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
Fri 6/11	7pm	Drum Circle	Mon 6/28	7pm	Last Mondays Book Discussion Group
	7pm	AFD Movies with Meaning	Wed 6/30	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform
	7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg	Thu 7/1	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191
Sat 6/12	11am	possible worship-music retreat	Fri 7/2	7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg
Sun 6/13	9am	Forum: ADHD-Pesticide Study	Sun 7/4	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
	11:30am	All-Church Picnic	Tue 7/6	7pm	Program Council Meeting
	12pm	Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting	Wed 7/7	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org	Thu 7/8	6pm	Pride Youth, call LINKS, 847-441-6191
Wed 6/16	7pm	Board of Trustees Meeting		7:30pm	Amnesty International Meeting
	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform	Fri 7/9	7pm	Drum Circle
	7pm	Journey Inward		7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg

It's Pride Month!!

Once again, Countryside Church will march in the Gay Pride Parade this month. Helmed by the Rainbow Friends Group and supported by the Sr. High Youth Group, we will march through the streets of Chicago sending the message of celebration, inclusion and diversity. Historically, the churches who march are extremely well received by the parade spectators. Consider joining our group this year and taking part in one of the most memorable, exciting and important events of the year! Individuals, youth, families — come out Sunday, June 27 and help show Chicago that Countryside Church is TRULY a Welcoming Congregation. For more info, see Kim Tilford or Sue De Luca.

Chicago Area UU Council News**Edgar Gabriel & String Fusion Ensemble**

On Saturday, June 12 at 7 pm, the Unitarian Church of Evanston presents a wonderful evening of live music by String Fusion, an exciting new jazz fusion ensemble from Chicago. With former Cirque du Soleil electric violinist Edgar Gabriel at the helm, this group fuses elements of classical, rock, jazz and world music into an intelligent, entertaining, whole. A portion of ticket sales will benefit the Les Turner ALS Foundation. Advance tickets are \$20 each (\$25 at the door) and may be purchased at UCE, 1330 Ridge Ave., Evanston, by calling 847-864-1330, or by emailing to info@ucevanston.org.

Position Available at Deerfield Church

North Shore Unitarian Church is currently accepting applications for a quarter time Director of Youth Ministries. We are looking for an experienced educator interested in building a program rooted in our UU faith, service and leadership in our community and growing the spiritual lives of our teens. If you wish to apply for this position, please send your resume and cover letter or contact our Director of Religious Education, Schuyler Vogel, by email at dre@nsuc.org or by phone at 847-235-1955, or through mail at NSUC 2100 Half Day Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sowing Seeds of Gratitude: Summer WomanSpirit Retreat August 6-8

Join us for our annual retreat at Ronora Lodge and Retreat Center in Watervliet, Michigan! Workshops, woods, walking, worship and more. During this retreat, we will take a special look at the gratitude we have toward the Earth and all she provides. Looking at things for which we are grateful on a personal level, we'll share what we are comfortable sharing and learn how those around us perceive their own gratitude. We hope to see you there!

Read or download a brochure at www.womenreligion.org. There is one printed brochure available on the bulletin board across from the church office; to request one, call Gretchen at 269-369-1114. Register online with check or credit card at www.regonline.com/SWS2010. If you have questions, email Pat Reed at sws@womenreligion.org

Return Service Requested
Time-dated Material - Prompt Delivery Requested

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Unitarian Universalist
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