



**Social Action Coffee House
THIS Thursday, August 26 at 7pm**

Join us in Atherton Hall. This month's Coffee House will feature a speaker from Chicago Jobs with Justice (www.chicagojwj.org) and live music by Erin Blanchette, along with drinks, snacks and good conversation. Get informed and discuss the important issues of the day with friends in a relaxed atmosphere!

Countryside at Street Fest THIS Weekend

Countryside Church will be at Palatine Street Fest on Saturday August 28 & Sunday, August 29. We need volunteers to staff the booth. The booth must be staffed from 10 am-8 pm on Saturday and 11 am-6 pm on Sunday. Requirements: Must be able to chat about Countryside Church UU - and play a "kiddie game." Contact Dayle Roberts to SIGN UP for a few hours on either day.

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Palatine UU Church Goes to Two Services

You may see - or have seen - the above headline in our local papers; Kay Gredell has submitted the following press release on our behalf. See page 4 of this Focus for info on upcoming services and the new two-service schedule..

"It is with great excitement and energy that Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist is moving to include a second service on Sunday morning," say Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, minister, regarding the congregation's decision to hold two services each Sunday. Beginning on September 12, worship will begin at 9:30 am and 11:15 am and both times will include religious education classes and childcare.

Rev. Krivchenia says, "This change is a direct reflection of the increased attendance, deepened sense of service and purpose, and the ever-more-vibrant worship and creativity of the congregation at this time. As a faith that celebrates our diversities of background, story, and even belief while affirming our common interdependent fate, we are pleased to have one more weekly opportunity to worship together."

Colleen Vahey, Countryside's Director of Religious Education, says, "Our program continues to grow in depth and numbers. Many families are looking for a spiritual community to call home. We look forward to the various ways we can continue to meet the needs of families and nurture the spiritual lives of children and youth."

Fall Celebration Party

Save the date for our upcoming Fall Celebration Party, to be held at Countryside on John Lennon's birthday (Saturday October 9) from 5:30 to 10:30 pm. We'll celebrate all kinds of things, including the first anniversary of our Building Countryside Campaign. EVERYBODY is invited, including members, visitors, friends and family. There will be food, games, and fun for all ages. More info provided as we figure it out. Contact Greg Blus or Paul Sneddon at buildingdrive@ccuu.org to join the party crew!

Upcoming Focus Deadlines

September 13, October 4
Submit articles by 9 am to ccuu@ccuu.org

The Minister's Muse

Wow! It's here - time to buy the last of the school clothes, the neighborhood pool has been drained, hurricane season has arrived, schools are starting - and it's time to move to two Sunday morning services.

I'm looking forward to this. It's a time of positive change and genuine excitement. Oh - I know there are a lot of details to think about - and a lot that we all need to step up to the plate to do - have you signed up to be a greeter or usher, to make coffee, sponsor flowers in honor of someone special, thought about joining the Membership Committee or Member Integration Team? Have you made sure your kids are registered for RE? Have you come in and looked at the giant tree on the wall of Atherton Hall whose branches show all the volunteers and volunteer opportunities available at Countryside Church right now - particularly with respect to our expanded worship schedule? Have you filled out a couple of leaves?

Do you know where you'll be at 9:30 on Sunday mornings? Or at 11:15? On Sunday a member of the congregation said to me - "I'm thinking of coming to both services, because I don't want to miss a thing." I think that's great. I mean - what is it to belong to a church, if not to attend service with the larger spiritual community? There are people who want to be at services with us, but are unable to get out and get around. But for the rest of us, somehow, the act of joining together on Sunday morning is what, at its best, helps to ground our week.

Coming to church isn't an incidental part of belonging or membership - it is central. Once again I know I need to define worship, it comes from the German word "worthschippen" to shape that which is of worth. Sunday morning is worship because it's the time when the congregation covenants together, sings, spends time in silence, listening, thinking, praying, seeking, wondering, hoping, and shaping ourselves in the context of our religious lives. On Sunday, if all goes well, each person who enters is given an invitation to turn within to shape their own feelings, understanding, and spirit. On Sunday - each person is invited to co-create the beloved community; to extend a hand of friendship, support, need, creativity and warmth to strengthen the bonds of kinship. On Sunday - we are each given a chance to co-create, to shape, side by side with others, that which is of worth in our religious community. On Sunday - if all goes well - we are each invited to turn back to the world and turn our hands to shape that which is of worth in the world. In the arch of the week, worship should be a keystone - helping to steady us within a framework of principle, spirit, love, conscience, connection, and commitment.

Of course, it would be wild if everyone decided to attend both services - but to know that the desire is there is marvelous. It reminds me of a feeling that I had as a kid - well, I still have it - though not as continually sharp: I don't want to miss a thing. Of course, I'll be at both services. But, you know, if everyone did that we wouldn't have room for all the new people we are looking forward to welcoming.

Change can be exciting - but it can also provoke some anxiety. It'd be strange if there were no concerns, worries, or anxiety about the upcoming change. I urge you to come talk with me or with members of the Board or our other staff members if you are feeling unsettled. Above all I urge you to remember that this is a healthy and smart community - we are strong and we are in this together. The leadership of this congregation is positive and focused and ready and together we are continuing to shape something profound and precious - something of true worth.

All Aboard!

The Countryside Express departs Smith Station on Saturday, November 13 at 6 pm. A First Class, roundtrip ticket is reserved for you... so save the date. You definitely do not want to miss this trip.

Our destination is a balanced budget via the Time and Talent Auction with stops in Atherton Hall and the Sanctuary. You will be returning to Smith Station at approximately 10 pm after a ride of food, fun and entertainment. You will travel in comfort and style on the renown Countryside Express where sumptuous hors d'oeuvres will be served along with wine, beer and soft drinks in the Club car while you take part in the silent auction. Following this portion of your trip, you will adjourn to the Sanctuary where porters will be serving delectable desserts as you enjoy the live auction portion of the trip.

Watch for more info in *Focus*, emails, blue insert and regular mail.

Thoughts from the President

“The Mission owns the church.” This is one of the phrases I heard more than once during General Assembly this past June. One of the goals of the Board for our fall retreat this year is to create a “final first draft” of a revised mission statement to drive our work as we update our church’s By-Laws, about which you will be hearing more throughout the year. Last year we asked committees to write a vision statement, and to use that vision to create their budget requests for last winter’s budget-building process for 2010-11. We asked them to do this without any guidance from the Board in the form of a unified mission statement for the whole church. This year, we hope to provide more leadership to our committees by specifying who we are and who we aspire to become as a faith community. Thus, our Mission, not just we as individuals, will “own” our church and give us a standard by which to measure our goals and activities.

Other conversations we will be having during our retreat will focus on an evolving committee structure, which we hope will allow more people to see where to “plug into” our various ministries. These ideas are being discussed with Program Council as well, and P.C. will continue to be involved in our process following the Board’s retreat. We will also be considering how we wish to promote the concept of “integrity of membership” for new and continuing members. Briefly, this involves helping folks to find meaning and inspiration in many aspects of membership, and to aspire to grow spiritually through participation and support of our church community. To prepare for this discussion, each Board member will craft a statement reflecting how we as individuals have discovered spiritual growth through several specific aspects of our membership. Of course we will also be speaking about this year’s goals for the Board related to these topics and others.

The fall retreat is a time for the Board to grow together as a leadership body, to integrate new Board members so we become a “new” group each year. This will be a time to reflect, meditate and worship together as well as to take care of business. Our Board Covenant calls us to conduct our business respectfully and to keep our church’s Covenant in mind as we deliberate. This time together allows us to reaffirm our reasons for being in this relationship with one another, and to recommit ourselves to the vision that keeps us here.

...Judy Ball

In Community Again

We, the Membership Committee, hope you are having a great summer. September is coming fast, and we want to remind you of a special social event.

Sunday, September 12 - the first Sunday of the new church year - is the Ingathering Potluck Picnic

The Potluck Picnic is a way to be in community after a long summer; reconnect with one another; and share holiday experiences and favorite summer dishes. We will also be experiencing our first Sunday of two services so there will be much to share and discuss.

This special day begins in the sanctuary with the Ingathering services and continues after second service in Atherton Hall and weather permitting, on the grounds outside Atherton. This is an all-congregation, family event!

We are suggesting dish assignments, but feel free to make whatever you wish.

- Last name A - G please bring a dessert
- Last name H - L please bring a salad or vegetable side
- Last name M - Z please bring an entrée

Bring your dessert, side or entrée to Atherton Hall before service with written instruction for the kitchen staff which will be happy to take care of any last minute requirements.

Visitors are very welcome to join the festivities. Ingathering Sunday is a great day for meeting most of the congregation. All members make an effort to attend service the first Sunday of the church year. Countrysiders are the BEST cooks, so you are in for a treat.

focus

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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

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. Through September 5, mixed-age classes will be held during the service for infants through age 4 and Kindergarten through Grade 6; for further details, see the Summer RE article below.

Aug 29 The Broad Church in the Heartland: Unitarianism in the Midwest Rev. Krivchenia

Sep 5 Things Are Getting Worse: A Guide Rev. Dr. C. Scot Giles

This service will be a reflection on the human tendency to imagine bad things, expect bad things and assume that bad things will happen, even if they never do.

*****Two Service Schedule begins September 12*****

*****Worship Services and Religious Education will be held at 9:30am and 11:15am*****

Sep 12 All-Church Ingathering & Water Communion Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

After summer's scattering we come together and mingle water symbolic of the places where we learned and grew over the summer — from the kitchen tap to the Pacific Ocean we have been instructed and changed by our lives — let us share those lessons. Water will be available just in case you left yours at home on the counter, out in the sprinkler or back at the beach.

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

Sep 19 High Holy Days: Defining and Redefining Justice Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the morning offering will be donated to Journeys from PADS to HOPE.

Sep 26 Borders Revisited: Insights from Arizona and UU General Assembly
Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Meet the Minister after the 2nd service

Oct 3 Association Sunday: The Future of the AUA, UUA, CCUU Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Share the Plate: ALL cash collected in the offering will be donated to the UUA's Association Sunday collection.

Two Services Sunday Schedule

Beginning Sept 12, the Sunday morning schedule will be:
at 9:30

- Worship Service
- Childcare
- Religious Education Classes (see p.5 for more info)
- Open Forum Discussion in Rm 6

at 11:15

- Worship Service
- Childcare
- Multi-age Religious Education class
- Sr. High Youth Group in Rm 5

Coffee Hour will be held between the two services.

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 once she's finished the greeting line after the 2nd service - at approximately 12:15 or 12:30. Upcoming Meet the Minister dates are:

September 26
October 24 or 31 (check the next Focus)
November 21
December 19
January 23
February 20

Usher News

It's coming - yes, on September 12, we move to 2 services. Twice the services, twice the ushers. It's an easy job - just ask anyone who has done it. We will need ushers for both services. This is an ideal way to act upon our covenant - "we unite...through worship, study and service." It isn't a big commitment.

It is our hope that each and every member of Countryside will usher at least once this year. Be inspired by Jim Booth, who has volunteered to usher one Sunday a month at both services from September through June, or by Joyce Marks, who signed up for 4 Sundays in a row!

Please contact Kristin & Mark Huston.

Religious Education (RE) News

A new year of religious education and spiritual growth is just around the corner! We look forward to an especially engaging and enriching year ahead! Here are a few highlights about new elements this year:

Worship

Worship is an integral part of what we do as a spiritual community. Most Sundays, children in 1st grade and older will attend the first 20 min. of worship with their parents. Throughout the year we'll also have six intergenerational services, when all ages attend the full service. The last Sunday of each month, young people in Grades 1-6 will begin in Atherton Hall for their own worship service and Faith-in-Action experiences (see below). We look forward to these opportunities for sharing worship together.

Faith-in-Action Sundays

A new series of monthly workshops (last-Sunday-of-each-month) will provide young people in Grades 1-6 additional opportunities to engage in learning and service.

Taking-it-Home

Weekly resource pages will be sent home and e-mailed to all parents & young people in Spirit Play - 6th grade for further exploration at home

Three Units of Study

Young people in Grades 1-6 will explore 3 new units of study:

- o Fall Quarter: What it means 2BUU
- o Winter Quarter: Spiritual Practices workshops
- o Spring Quarter: Ethical Eating (one of our Green Sanctuary projects)

Creating Our Own Curriculum

We will be working with two teams of people to create our own winter and spring curriculum on Spiritual Practices (winter) and Ethical Eating (spring). This will be a series of workshop experiences to engage our young people. If you're interested in helping, please contact Colleen Vahey, Director of Religious Education: cvaheyuu@gmail.com

Summer RE - Thank you!

We have 2 more Summer Sunday School sessions:

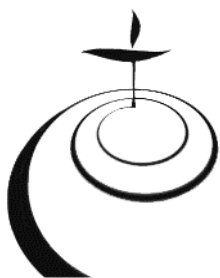
- Aug 29: Literacy & Education - collect school supplies for students in need
- Sept 5: Helping our Church Community - help organize supplies & classrooms

We extend deep appreciation to our generous and dedicated Summer RE Coordinators, Linda Berry and Jenny Tanquary, and to all our great Summer RE teachers, who taught our children about learning and service: Venus Gintowt, Juli Cicarelli, Melanie Amin, Laurie Schmidt, Melanie Schikore, Jeanie Michalec, Susan Gordon, Lisa Hagenbuch, Linda Berry and Jenny Tanquary. Many thanks also to our excellent childcare providers: Jane Berry, Carter Bryant, Collin Smith, Ciara Stanford, and Terri Rogers.

Youth Leaders

Congratulations to two youth leaders from our congregation, Anna Marshall and Elias Waddington, who attended the 3rd Annual Central Midwest District Youth Council in Naperville last month. Elias Waddington was elected to serve on the District Youth Steering Committee. Anna also attended the week-long UU Midwest Youth Leadership School. Watch for more updates about the great things these leaders and our youth are doing throughout the year!

RE Teacher Orientation



SUNDAY, August 29, 12-1:30 pm

- Meet the members of your teaching team!
- Review this year's goals & curriculum!
- Learn to access our New online Resources!
- Capture the vision for an exciting year of RE!

Lunch and Childcare provided. Please RSVP to Linda Berry, RE Council Team, or reply to your E-vite invitation!

Social Action Committee (SAC) Update



Join Immigration Reform Subcommittee

The Immigration Reform Subcommittee is gearing up to help in the push for comprehensive immigration reform. Interested in immigration reform? Then attend the immigration reform subcommittee this Wednesday, August 25 at

5:00 pm in classroom number 2. Can't make the meeting but want to help? See Damian Christianson, chairman of the committee.

Social Action Ctte Issues Microfinance Loan

SAC issued a \$1,650 microfinance loan to a farmer in Lebanon. Hazaa is 38 years old and lives in Bint Jbeil with his wife and six children. He has made a living raising sheep for the last 25 years, and has been self-employed since 1990. Hazaa applied for a microfinance loan to buy a cow. This loan will allow him to increase his income by selling milk and raising calves. He loves his work a lot and believes that it is a good source of income for taking care of his family. So far SAC has issued \$2,275 in microfinance loans. \$380 of the microfinance loans have been repaid.

Give to TCF USA for Pakistani Flood Relief

This past Sunday, we held a special plate collection to help the millions who have lost their homes, income and a source of food in Pakistan, but more help is needed. According to Pakistani authorities, as many as 20 million people are affected by the floods. The UN says six million Pakistanis desperately need emergency aid but most still have not received it. Tens of thousands of villages remain under water. There are growing health concerns for those surviving without proper shelter, food or clean drinking water, three weeks after the country's worst natural disaster began.

Please contribute to The Citizens Foundation USA (TCF USA) to help with the flood relief. TCF USA's goal is to distribute 100,000 relief packs consisting of food packages, water purification kits and basic medicines. Each relief pack will contain basic foods: flour, rice, cooking oil, lentils, salt, spices, dates, etc. - enough for a family of six for 30 days. The cost of each pack is \$30 (Pak.Rs.2,500), including the cost of transportation and distribution. TCF USA is a tax-exempt charity, with a support network of volunteer chapters across the USA. TCF USA runs over 660 schools in Pakistan and has the ability to quickly distribute the relief packs where needed. To donate, please go to www.tcfusa.org and click the button for flood relief.

August Coffee House Has Speaker

A speaker from Chicago Jobs with Justice is the featured speaker for this Thursday's (August 26) social

justice coffee house. Chicago Jobs with Justice is dedicated to building a strong and progressive labor movement that works in coalition with community, faith and student organizations to win campaigns for workers and social justice. Live music will be provided by our very own Erin Blanchette. The Social Action Coffee House is your chance to meet and discuss social action and justice in an informal environment. Please see Alan Greenland or e-mail socialaction@ccuu.org if interested in helping with the coffee house.

UUSC News

The Social Action Committee donated \$500 to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) as our commitment of at least \$1 a church member in the church budget to the UUSC. The UUSC is a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the US and around the world. Its mission and vision are guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the seven Unitarian Universalist principles that affirm the worth, dignity, and human rights of every person. A special thank you to Nancy Cowger, who is retiring as one of our two representatives of the UUSC. Nancy Klein continues as our UUSC representative. Honor both Nancys by becoming a member of the UUSC. Go to https://secure2.convio.net/uusc/site/Donation2?df_id=1220&1220.donation=form1 to join.

Making the Most of Our Money Starts Oct. 6

MMOM starts up on October 6. We need you to be a mentor or a teaching assistant. Both positions are a lot of fun and we provide all of the training. You do NOT need to know anything about finance. You DO need to want to help people. New mentors will need to attend one of the two training sessions being held Saturday September 25 at 10 am and Wednesday, September 29 at 6:30 pm. Flyers and applications are on the social action bulletin board and on the church website.

Monthly Fair Trade Table

Miles Wrigley and Bill O'Brien have taken over the monthly fair trade table. Fair trade is sold the first Sunday of each month. A big thank you to Lois Strzyzewski for all her hard work in building up our monthly fair trade table and fair trade fair.

Why Should You Participate in Social Action?

Because "if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." Isaiah 58:10

Next Meeting/E-Mail List

Our next SAC meeting is Sunday, September 19 at 12:30 pm in classroom # 1. A potluck lunch is always served. Please join us and help to make a difference. Join our social action e-mail list at http://ccuu.org/mailman/listinfo/socialactioncommittee_ccuu.org.

Getting to Know Our New Members

Mary Janes grew up in Tacoma, Washington as a Methodist, explored the charismatic Pentecostal church during her college days, had both her sons baptized in the Lutheran Church, thought she had found a church home at Church of Christ. Then through a friend, she found Countryside. Impressed by the welcoming atmosphere, she loves the fact that Unitarian Universalists strongly encourage curiosity and hard questions.

Mary received her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics at Washington State University, a program that doesn't exist anymore there. She went back to school to become a paralegal, and in June of 2007, began working for Walgreen's at their corporate headquarters in Deerfield as a senior paralegal.

She sings with three choral groups: College of DuPage Chorale, West Suburban Symphony Chorus and the M & M Gospel Chorus. She also loves to cook, knit and crochet.

Mary's sons are Alex, who is 6' 2" and a bachelor, and Matt, 6' 6" tall and married to Kristen. Mary is involved in the Social Action committee and the Coffee House, and is in charge of Games Night.

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Margaret Taylor and her husband Glenn found Countryside through their friends Cliff and Kathy Dahlgren. They are the parents of three boys, Reece, 7, Thomas, 4, and Eli, 8 months. The two older boys love "RE" and Margaret has gone through orientation to teach a class this fall.

She grew up Catholic, but she and her parents "fell away" when Margaret was in her early teens. She and Glenn researched Unitarian Universalist churches online and visited several in the area before settling on Countryside. She admits to feeling quite emotional during some services because our message so strongly speaks to her.

Margaret received her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science at Wittenburg, a small college in Ohio, and her Master's in Education at Ohio University. She then taught middle school social studies before having children. She and Glenn moved here because of Glenn's job teaching at Harper College. She loves embroidering and sewing as well as outdoor activities with her family such as swimming, skiing and sledding.

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Orish 'Rish' Kulick is a native Chicagoan, having grown up on the South Side, the oldest of three, and was raised in the Eastern Ukrainian Orthodox Christian church. When she got older, she felt it was not meeting her needs, that it

was just ceremony and that the people tended to exclude people. She feels that there are many pathways to God, no one right way and declares that she was only born once.

Rish went to Northwestern University for her undergraduate work, law school at DePaul, received a Master's Degree in Organizational Development from Loyola, and another Master's Degree in social work from the University of Chicago.

At one time, she worked for 8 years as an attorney for the State of Illinois, and found it intellectually fulfilling, but not emotionally so. She also worked for United Airlines in the Organizational Development Department doing leadership development, where she met Dan and Sharon Wiseman, who steered her here to Countryside.

At present, she works as a psychotherapist for Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Outpatient Group Practice and is now a LCWS (Licensed Clinical Social Worker). Rish loves to read, but finds she only has time for work-related material. However, she makes time to socialize with friends and especially enjoys movies. She owns a 10-year-old cat named Dante who has non-painful hip dysplasia, which, she swears, forces Dante to walk with a swagger, exactly like John Wayne.

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Belinda Draper Robinson grew up Catholic but got away from going regularly. Her daughter, Darcy, who is 12 and in 7th grade, is a member of Countryside's religious education program, and Belinda is looking forward to Darcy being a part of the Coming of Age curriculum. Belinda's first visit included the Coming of Age service and she was very impressed with it.

She earned a Bachelor's degree at Dominican University in Riverside, Illinois, with a major in literature, and worked as a reference librarian at IIT. She finds library work a family-friendly profession, and likes research. At the age of 12, she began to write poetry and has also written short fiction, but hasn't done either for a couple of years.

Belinda loves puttering in the garden and collecting unusual rocks and fossils. She is involved with Making the Most of Your Money and feels she is making a difference as she works with the children in that program.

Introducing Chalice Circles!

We invite you to be part of Countryside's Chalice Circles. Join a small, interconnected group of about 10 people meeting once a month from October to June to build community, share and explore the common themes of our lives. As a vibrant small group ministry, Chalice Circles offer a home base within our growing church community, a place to build relationships with other adults and opportunities to gain greater clarity, meaning and connection.

The Chalice Circle topics include common experiences and themes, such as gratitude, success and failure, forgiveness, and family relationships. In our busy lives, we enjoy our quick conversations at coffee hour after the Sunday service, but over time you may find even greater satisfaction with the deeper listening and sharing among familiar members of your Chalice Circle. During monthly gatherings, participants will listen to the perspectives of other members and share their own points of view as they get to know one another. Each Chalice Circle will explore the same monthly topic, with all groups moving through the same book one topic at a time, thus providing continuity of experience across the congregation.

Please join us! We would love to have you!

Look for sign-up opportunities the beginning of September; groups will start in October.

For more information, contact: Carol Sweigert or Rita DeBoer.

Christianity in An Age of Science

This class will be taught by Rem Stokes on Monday evenings at 7pm, beginning September 20 and continuing through November 15. It is a continuation of the development of parallel ideas between Christianity and the secular world. You do NOT need to have taken Rem's previous classes to participate in this class. To register, sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office or contact Rem, 847-705-0805 or rem.stokes@comcast.net.

Calling all Cooks!

The cookbook is filling out, but we still need more recipes. All you circle supper chefs, send in your culinary creations. To our soup cooks we would love your recipes as well. The more the merrier, and if you have some old favorites from our first cookbook, send those along as well! Contact Deeya Roberts.

Free Your Inner Artist . . .

. . . while raising money for Countryside!

Saturday, September 25, 5-9 pm at Thrown Elements Pottery, 260 North Evergreen, Arlington Heights

Join Countryside families at Andi and Chaz (tenor in the Countryside Choir) Ruhl's Thrown Elements Pottery Studio for an afternoon of creative fun. Let your inner artist roam free with paint-your-own (PYO) bisque items, clay hand-building or, for the experienced, wheel-throwing. 20% of all proceeds go back to Countryside.

Exercise your artistic license and create on your own (studio fees are \$9 adults/\$7 kids for PYO plus the cost of your item- prices vary), or work with wet clay and make your own form (\$25adults/\$20kids for up to 3 pounds of clay, materials and firings). Or choose one of our CCUU special projects (studio fees included):

- Pendant making-create your own chalice, peace, love or own pendants (\$20 for 5 pendants)
- Family chalice-pre-order a hand-thrown chalice (847-818-1313) and decorate with your own designs and glazing preferences (small \$35/large \$60)
- Children's chalice-pinch your own clay children's chalice (\$20)
- Seder Plate-paint your own for family celebrations (\$45)

And don't forget, your gift list . . . there are so many options for personalized gift giving while you are giving 20% back to the church!

Countryside Gardeners in Daily Herald

If you haven't already seen it, be sure to read the recent Daily Herald article about the Countryside Church gardeners. It's posted on the bulletin board across from the church office, or you can see it on the Daily Herald's website: <http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=399566>

Last Mondays Book Discussion

Please join us Monday, August 30 at 7 pm in the Stokes Room to discuss Welcome to the Monkey House by Kurt Vonnegut.

Toiletries Collection

We continue to collect unopened toiletries (shampoo, moisturizer, soap, toothpaste etc). Place donation in the blue bin which is on the floor of 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.

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!

Upcoming topics are:

August 29: On the Promiscuous Use of ‘Community’
How has the internet transformed the nature of communities? What conditions—common values, interests, religion, language, etc.—are necessary for a community to exist? Does community require a certain physical location, or can online communities adequately provide that common space? What are the benefits and drawbacks of narrowing or expanding the definition of community?

September 5: Burge Found Guilty - The Evolution of Chicago’s Torture Scandal. How could something like this happen in Chicago or any community? Who’s responsible? Could it happen again? What can be done to ensure fair practices and accountability in the criminal justice system, especially at the stage of arrest and interrogation?

NOTE: Beginning, September 12, Forum will meet from 9:15 - 10:30 am, to align with the two-service schedule. For more info, please contact the facilitators (led by Vid Axel) at ofd@ccuu.org.

Friday mUUSIC @ Countryside



1st Friday 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 Drum Circle

Stay posted for news.

3rd Friday 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.

Work Life Support Group needs your help!

Countryside’s Work Life Support Group helps those people who find themselves unemployed, underemployed, or in career transition. The Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays, 9:30 - 11 am. If you have job leads, advice or networking that can help, please contact Dan Wiseman (connect1947@att.net) or Melanie Schikore (melanie@schikore.com). We are especially interested in job placement for the following Countryside candidates:

* Recently certified Senior-level Human Resources Professional (SPHR) seeks senior level HR position. Comprehensive and successful record of Human Resources Management in fast-paced environments. Particular expertise in strategically aligning human resources programs to business goals, change management, organizational development, coaching and team building, M&A’s, diverse recruitment, employee relations, lean manufacturing implementation, market-based compensation, legal compliance and safety. Well regarded for ability to strengthen the Human Resources function in high growth and changing organizations.

* Seeking Senior Programmer, Senior Developer, or Business Analyst position. More than ten years of programming experience with Excel, VBA, Access, WebFocus, SQL, and others. Skilled in report creation, database design, project management, and technical writing. Work with computer users to determine what they need and how to best achieve that.

* Organization Development Professional seeks consulting, coaching and project work. 25+ years creating positive changes that make a difference. Demonstrated skill at improving performance, creating satisfied customers, engaging employees and developing leaders. Successful at generating results from focused project teams, collaborative strategic planning processes, facilitation of groups, compassionate coaching, and imaginative curriculum designs. Proven results in large corporations, universities, strategic business research organizations, community based non-profits, and running my own profitable business.

* Seeking Senior Logistics Analyst or Senior Transportation Analyst position. Analyze for senior management all things logistics-related, such as cost reduction strategies, delivery analyses, plant location studies, vendor selection, contracts, 3PL issues and opportunities. Create KPI and other status reports. Develop RFPs and analyze the responses.



Mentors needed for October 6 session of *Making the Most of Our Money*

In these tough economic times, would you like to help another individual or family learn better money management skills? Are you good at working one-on-one with people? We are currently looking for mentors for Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist's *Making the Most of Our Money* program. You do not need to have any background in finance or teaching to participate.

Making the Most of Our Money is a program that meets for nine weeks where volunteers like you act as a mentor to individuals who are trying to learn better money management skills and how to budget. Each class begins with teacher-led large-group instruction followed by one-on-one activities to reinforce the concepts and assist the clients in improving their financial circumstances. As mentors work with their clients, the teachers are always available for questions and assistance.

In order to be a mentor for the next session of *Making the Most of Our Money*, you need to be available on Wednesday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. from October 6, 2010 through December 8, 2010.

Interested? Come to an informational meeting and training session to learn more about the program and its components, the role of the mentor, and to get a feel for whether or not this program is a good match for your particular skills.

Please bring your completed application to the mentor informational meeting and training session on Saturday September 25, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. or the Wednesday, September 29, 2010, 6:30 p.m. informational meeting and training session. Each session will last approximately 3 hours. Snacks will be provided. The meeting will be held at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, 1025 North Smith Street, Palatine, Illinois. The church is on Smith Road between Rt. 14 (Northwest Highway) and Dundee Road. We are located west of Rt. 53.

For questions or to RSVP for a training session, email information@mostmoney.org.

Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Making the Most of Our Money Program
1025 North Smith Street
Palatine, Illinois 60067
E-mail: information@mostmoney.org

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 8/25	5pm	Outreach Funding Council Meeting	Fri 9/10	5pm	Board Retreat (off-site)
	7pm	Facilitators Chalice Circle		7pm	AFD Movies with Meaning
	7pm	SAC Immigration Reform		7pm	Sr High Lock-In
	7pm	Facilitators Chalice Circle		7:30pm	Drum Circle
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal		7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg
Thu 8/26	6pm	Pride Youth	Sat 9/11	8:30am	Intro Zen Wrkshp, www.greatplainszen.org
	7pm	Hatha Yoga		9am	Board Retreat (off-site)
	7pm	Social Action Coffee House		9am	Open Forum Discussion
Fri 8/27	7pm	Games Night	Sun 9/12	9am	Open Forum Discussion
	7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg		12:30pm	Music Ctte Mtg
Sun 8/29	9am	Forum: <i>Use of 'Community'</i>		1pm	Ingathering Potluck Lunch
	12pm	RE Teacher Orientation		2:30pm	Journey Transgender Support Group
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
Mon 8/30	7pm	Talent Auction Planning Meeting	Tue 9/14	7pm	Tuesday Evening Women's Group
	7pm	Last Mondays Book Discussion	Wed 9/15	7pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
	7pm	Living Welcoming Congregation Mtg		7:30pm	Journey Inward
Wed 9/1	7:30pm	Menzgroup Covenant Group	Thu 9/16	6pm	Pride Youth - LINKS at 847-441-6191
Thu 9/2	6pm	Pride Youth - LINKS at 847-441-6191		7pm	Hatha Yoga
	7pm	Hatha Yoga		7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal
Fri 9/3	9:30am	Worklife Support Group	Fri 9/17	9:30am	Worklife Support Group
	7:30pm	Singing Meditation		10am	Daytime Kinship Circle
	7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg		7pm	Song Circle
Sun 9/5	9am	Forum: <i>Burge Found Guilty</i>		7:30pm	AA Women's Mtg
	2:30pm	Transgender Spouse-Partner Group	Sun 9/19	9am	Open Forum Discussion
	7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org		12:30pm	Social Action Mtg
Mon 9/6	Labor Day - CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED				
Tue 9/7	7pm	Program Council Meeting		12:30pm	Music Ctte Mtg
	7pm	Agnosticism, Humanism, Atheism Grp		1pm	Afternoon on the Prairie
Thu 9/9	6pm	Pride Youth - LINKS, 847-441-6191		7pm	Zen Meditation, www.greatplainszen.org
	7pm	Hatha Yoga	Mon 9/20	7pm	PFLAG Palatine Meeting
	7pm	RE Council Meeting		7pm	Christianity in An Age of Science
	7:15pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Tue 9/21	7pm	Worship Council Meeting
	7:30pm	Amnesty International Meeting	Wed 9/22	7pm	Facilitators Chalice Circle

Understanding Gurus & Spiritual Masters

Sunday, August 29 at 7:30 pm in Atherton Hall

This is a recently-scheduled Adult Faith Development (AFD) event. In this evening of Satsang, Markus Kasunich will share film footage and discourses from Enlightened Master Louix Dor Dempriey (Bhagavan Sri Pranananda), intimate and revealing stories from his own intense and deeply-personal training. He will help to dispel the myths, misconceptions, and fears, about Gurus and their role in our ever-changing world. He will also offer his own insight and understanding about Enlightenment, unconditional love, healing, and how this ancient esoteric knowledge applies to our modern lives. Bring your questions! We invite you to a loving and respectful discussion on all facets of this topic. Attendance is by free will donation...

For more info, go to <http://www.meetup.com/Louix-Satsang-Chicago/calendar/14451196/>