



# focus

Volume 29, No 8

September 8, 2016



## Come Sing with Us!!

You are invited to sing with the choir this year. If you like to sing and will commit to most of the rehearsals (no one has perfect attendance!!), please consider joining the choir. We are an open and welcoming group and sing in a wide variety of musical styles. Rehearsals are most Thursday evenings 7:15-9:15. Childcare can be provided if you let us know you need it. Our first rehearsal is Sept 8. And while you are at it....bring a music loving friend! If you have questions, contact Alison Vernon, 847-359-8440, ext 5 or Music.Director@ccuu.org.

## Board Meeting Date Change

The September meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Sat., Sept 24, 9-11 am. In October, we will return to our 3rd Weds of the month schedule. As stated in our By-Laws, Board meetings are open to all CCUU members.

## Ingathering is Sept 11 ~ Hope to See You!



### Water Communion at 9:00 and 11:00 am

Please remember to bring a bit of water for our *Ingathering Water Communion service on Sept. 11*. Our mingling of water is symbolic of the places where we learn and grow over the summer, from the garden hose to the ocean.

### Ingathering Finger-Food Potluck at 10:00 am

Join us as we celebrate the end of summer with a festive potluck coffee hour! It will be held between the two worship services. Those attending the 9:00 service are encouraged to stay, and those attending the 11:00 service are encouraged to come early. *Please bring finger food to share, either sweet or savory (such as appetizers, tapas, or small sandwiches). Coffee, iced tea, and lemonade will be provided.* We will need assistance with set-up and clean-up; email Laurie at [ccuu@ccuu.org](mailto:ccuu@ccuu.org), if you can help.

### Religious Education Classes Begin

**Chalice Children: Sept 11; all others: Sept 18**

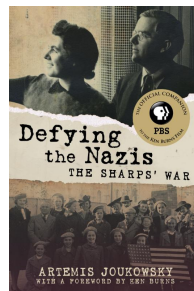
Chalice Children class (ages 2-4) will begin on Sept 11 and will be offered during both worship services. Classes for kindergarten and above will begin on Sept 18. At the 9:00 service, in addition to Nursery and Chalice Children, we will also offer Head-Heart-Hands for those in kindergarten thru' grade 6. During the 11:00 service, classes for infants through senior high will be offered. For more info, go to <http://ccuu.org/youth-4> or see page 9.

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## Ken Burns Documentary about WW II Unitarians

On Tues, Sept 20, on PBS stations nationwide, the story of Martha and Waitstill Sharp and their secret rescue missions in Nazi-occupied Europe will be told in *Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War*, a documentary by Ken Burns and Artemis Joukowsky, the Sharps' grandson. A companion book from Beacon Press is also available. Don't miss this compelling depiction of the Sharps' heroic efforts in the face of constant danger.



UUs across the country today are fighting Islamophobia and religious intolerance, modern-day reflections of the evils opposed by Waitstill and Martha Sharp. The UUA calls upon all communities of faith and conscience to join in defying religious intolerance and bigotry.

Watch the trailer at <https://uuacdn.s3.amazonaws.com/videos/defying-the-nazis-trailer.mp4>. Take action at [uua.org/sharpstory](http://uua.org/sharpstory) and follow the discussion on social media with #WeDefy and #SharpsWarPBS.

*This month, we begin our adventure into Themed Ministry & Full Week Faith. We are excited about all the possibilities ahead. Each month, we will provide an introduction to the theme for your reflection. The theme will also be woven into the weekly R.E. lessons and activities and monthly Covenant Group materials. With Full Week Faith, we will suggest ways to carry the theme and your UU faith throughout the week—practices for all ages at CCUU to try.*

*Don't treat the suggested questions or practices like "homework" or a list that needs to be covered in its entirety. Instead, pick something that "hooks" you most and let it lead you where you need to go. The goal is not to help you analyze what the theme means in the abstract, but to figure out what that particular aspect of being a part of this faith community means for you and your daily living. Which question or practice is calling to you? Which one contains "your work"? Consider it, journal about it, create art about it (and even bring that art to CCUU for display), discuss it with family or friends or with others at Countryside. Let this be a way to deepen your UU faith identity.*

## What does it mean to be a People of Covenant?

We begin with September's theme of COVENANT. Since we are a covenantal tradition, we all ought to be totally down with the idea of covenant, right? Actually, covenant is an idea that we need to revisit regularly. We're used to casual uses of the word — one person told me that their housing subdivision has a covenant, with things like how many plants you can put out front, what color the paint on your house can be, etc. A covenant is, really, more than that. It's more than an agreement or a promise. It's a solemn commitment to be together, to follow a path together, to work things out when there are problems. A covenant is a promise from the heart.

And here is the key: Unitarian Universalists are not a faith bound by a creed. The principles are not exactly a creed. We don't work things out, pledge, teach Religious Education, sing in the choir, work on Social Action Committee, Green Sanctuary, whatever else we engage in because we all believe exactly the same thing about life, the universe, and everything. We do these things because we believe in this wild, wide, and traveled path we're on together. What brings us back again and again is that we have a sense of commitment — *we are a covenantal faith.*

We say a covenant every Sunday, but our real covenant is deeper than words. Maybe you don't think much about covenant. I suspect most of us just live it. This is an opportunity to think and talk about it. The people with whom we are sharing our journey of themed ministry sent out packets of materials including some questions to ponder for the month. Here are some for your reflection:

1. What promises have you made to those who have gone before?
2. What promises have you made to those who will come after?
3. Have you kept your promises to yourself?
4. What promises have you made to Life itself? To God? To your inner voice?
5. What is the most life-giving promise you've made?
6. Many congregations recite a covenant that begins "This is our great covenant..." How might you fill this in to reflect your own relationship with yourself or with the universe? You might finish this sentence: "This is my great covenant: ..."
7. Has society ever broken its promise to you? How have you responded when you've witnessed society breaking its promises to others?

8. Some of us preempt heartbreak by leaving relationships before others have a chance to break their promises and our hearts. What is keeping you from the risk and pain of covenant?
9. Covenant calls us to work on repairing relationship and sticking in there even when it is hard. But sometimes one's covenant with self requires us to put up boundaries and know when to leave a relationship. How do you discern this?
10. If you're a member of your congregation, what promise did you make when you joined? You probably had a sense of what you'd get, but were you clear about what you promised to give?
11. Theologian James Luther Adams names the foundational covenantal nature of the universe as "the love that will not let us go." How do you experience this love? Has it kept its promise to you? How? Have you kept your promises to it?"
12. What's your question? Your question may not be listed above. As always, if the above questions don't include what the theme is asking from you, spend the month listening to your days to hear it.

## Full Week Faith

From *Tapestry of Faith: Wonderful Welcome*

*A covenant is not a definition of a relationship; it is the framework for our relating. ... This calls for a level of trust, courage and sacrifice that needs to be nurtured, renewed and affirmed on a regular basis. ... Abiding in covenant is an art form. A mutual creation.*

Talk about ...

Whether or not you have articulated them, a variety of promises form the basis of your family relationships. Give some thought to the covenants that already exist in your family. By accepting the responsibility to parent your child, you have made a set of deep promises that you act on every day. Beyond feeding, clothing and sheltering your child, the love, protection and guidance you provide are fulfillments of a covenant.

Take the time to identify for yourself, and share with your child(ren), the covenants that support the relationships in your family. What promises do children make? What promises do adults make? Engage your child(ren) in exploring how your family's covenants are a "two-way street." Your child can understand that love, for example, goes both ways.

This may be an opportunity to develop together some covenant rules just for your family. For example, if you set aside times, such as a family meal, when you do not an-

## Themed Ministry (cont'd)

swer the phone or have a television on, engage your child as a willing participant in this agreement. Together, you will covenant to treat that time in a special way, so that nothing outside interferes with your time together.

## Family Discovery

It is likely that your family's values and practices mirror some, if not all, of the Unitarian Universalist covenant expressed in the seven Principles of our faith. How do individual members of your family keep the covenant of Unitarian Universalism?

You may like to express your family's covenant or your Unitarian Universalist faith by taking a moment before shared meals for prayer or thanksgiving, and/or the lighting of a chalice or candles.

There is a UUA pamphlet in our racks called *Family Prayers*, which you might want to use as a resource. If you don't find it in the pamphlet rack, ask a staff member.

## Create Monthly Themed Art

Thank you to those who submitted Covenant artwork for the month of September! Each month, we invite congregants *of all ages* to create an original piece of art that represents what the monthly theme means to you. We will display your offerings throughout the church building, protecting anything fragile in our locked display case. Any kind of art: fiber art, ceramics or pottery, metalwork, wood-working, paintings, photography, poetry, sculpture, etc.

The last Sunday of each month, we ask you to collect your artwork from that month and to bring your **original** art which shows what the upcoming theme means to you. The next few months' schedule is listed below; see the Aug 10 *Focus* for the complete list of themes. Contact Alison Vernon or Lois Phillips with questions.

- Sept 25: Please bring HEALING art to be displayed in October (and pick up your Covenant art)
- Oct 30: Bring STORY art to be displayed in November
- Nov 27: bring PRESENCE art for December
- Dec 25 (or close to): bring *Prophecy* art for January

## Join a Soul Intentions Covenant Group

For 2016-17, CCUU's small group ministry (formerly known as Chalice Circles) will follow the monthly ministry themes, using materials from Soul Matters, a collaborative of UU churches sharing themed ministry materials. There will be readings and a variety of optional spiritual exercises to help you delve into each month's topic. We will also weave in the concept of *Mindfulness* by setting a personal intention for the month to help each of us keep the topic in mind and in practice. In addition to building connections among group members, we hope that this approach will strengthen each of us on a personal level, enrich our discussions, and bring more focused spiritual development to the covenant group experience.

If you are interested in participating, sign up in Atherton Hall at the Kinship Ministry table, or send an email to [ChaliceCircles@ccuu.org](mailto:ChaliceCircles@ccuu.org) with questions.

## Circle Supper Sign-up for Fall

It's time to sign up so that you can savor fun and varied dining with new and long-time Countryside friends and friends-to-be. The four Circle Suppers in the Fall make it easy to dine, chat, and laugh with Countryside visitors and members. Dinner dates are Saturdays: October 22, November 12, December 10, 2016; and January 14, 2017.

On one of these evenings you serve as host(ess), setting the tone, providing the entrée (simple through gourmet—you decide), and requesting an appetizer, salad, dessert, or other menu item from your guests. The other three evenings you are a guest. Dinners are kept to 8 or fewer participants, with different dining groups each month. Newcomers are guests for the first couple of suppers, then hosts later on. Singles can arrange to host together or ask to be matched for hosting.

You can sign-up at church on Sept 18 & 25, or contact Marty Farrington with any questions or to sign up.

## Sunday Morning Hospitality Teams

As we start a new church year, we are counting again on our Sunday hospitality teams to greet, usher, provide audio-visual assistance, and host coffee hours. Hospitality Teams are the friendly, welcoming face to our community! By participating on a team, you get to know other church members as well as offer warm welcome to visitors. We depend on these volunteers for our Sunday services.

Teams are scheduled for first, second, third, fourth or fifth Sundays. If you served on a hospitality team last year, thank you! If you are willing to continue this year, please sign up online for the dates between now and December that you will serve.

[www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044ea4a72fa13-sunday](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044ea4a72fa13-sunday)

If you were not on a hospitality team last year or are a new member, we welcome you to join our teams. We have easy directions about each role.

On October 2, at 10:15 (between worship services), we will have a gathering when you can meet with other team members, get answers to your questions, and complete the sign-up for our fall-winter dates.

Please join us to foster kinship and to share the ministry of Sunday hospitality!

...Tom MacTavish and Peggy Simonsen  
Kinship Ministry Coordinators  
[Kinship@ccuu.org](mailto:Kinship@ccuu.org)

## Minister's Muse

For the last month, I've been moved by this congregation — emails, handwritten cards, caring remarks at CCUU, so many have expressed condolences on the death of my father. I've felt deeply supported. Families are complicated, but I loved my father and he stood in my life in a light tender, tragic, and monumental.

I've also been lovingly supported by my Aunt JoAnn and Uncle Irving (my father's sister and her husband.) They're what I call Parents 2.0. I've always enjoyed and admired them. Recently, I got a happy call from them. At their synagogue in Wilmington, they've been honored for their many years of service. Ever since they moved there — when the Temple was very small, they've belonged.

My uncle served on the Board, served as treasurer, built up the endowment, worked on more than one capital campaign, and helped them move into the new education building that they built only a few years ago. He's the sort you want on your team - mellow, smart, self-confident while modest, fiscally competent, and funny.

My aunt told me that when they first came to the Temple, she felt unwelcome — no one greeted them. So the first thing she got involved with was greeting. People spoke about how they had felt so welcomed by her so many years ago. JoAnn said, "I didn't think anyone had noticed. Irving was doing so much." While raising twin boys, she was baking cakes and treats for the coffee hour after worship. She served on the Temple's Sisterhood. She was part of the care team. She's cooked food, raised funds, comforted the ill, and been the person that, if something needed to be done, took care of it. Now, in her mid 80's, she feels the same — when something needs to be done, she wants to do it. She just can't.

The days are over when Irv could volunteer for hours at the Temple while running his own accounting firm and serving on Wilmington City Council. JoAnn taught school and tutored in literacy programs in her free time. When she "retired" she opened a successful bookstore, started the vegetarian society of Wilmington back when they were two of the handful of vegetarians in town, and was a founder of the local co-op. These are only the things I can remember.

Do I love them with fierce pride? You bet! They're exemplars of the great generation: the generation that knew that there's no common good without common work; no sense of shared society without the people participating, hearing one another; no legacy for the future without the cakes, greetings, caring calls, extra meetings.... Thinking that no one was watching was part of the package. They thought that participating was just what you did to make it all work.

I wish more recent generations understood how much we need one another to step up — for mundane tasks and for standing on the side of love, for leading and for following. But most of us came up during the boom years — when congregations of all kinds were certain that all we needed to do was "hire someone for that." In fact, we lose something when we do that. We lose a sense of truly be

(continued...)

longing, of sharing ownership, of leaving a powerful legacy. I want members of that great generation to teach us the value of participation before they're all gone.

Then yesterday, I attended the beginning of the Religious Education Teacher Orientation. I know there are 70+ teachers — volunteers here — that make this vital program thrive. And at CCUU on Sunday, at a cluster of tables, were the great majority of them. Faces bright and eager sharing lunch, laughing, getting ready for an orientation many have sat through year after year. Getting ready happily. I realized that that spirit is not gone. The JoAnns and Irvings are here right now. They're bringing their kids, they're modeling the value of sharing the work, and they're showing the joy of it as well. For that, I am ever, increasingly, grateful and full of fierce pride.

## From Our Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE)

### *Teaching as a Spiritual Act & Practice*

This last Sunday, we held Countryside Church's Teacher Orientation for 60+ teachers. It was such a joy to witness these members' commitment to Countryside Church UU, to our values, and especially to our children and youth. They, with their whole hearts, enthusiastically accepted the call to walk with our children and youth as they grow and develop their own Unitarian Universalist identities.

During orientation, we looked at teaching as a spiritual act and practice through the Seven Principles of Teaching (adapted from *The Soul Only Avails: Teaching as a Spiritual Act* by Dr. Barry Andrews, Minister of Religious Education).

1. **Respect The Children.** Respect them to the end, but also respect yourselves. Be the companions of their thoughts, the lovers of their virtue. Let them find us so true to our own selves, that they will be true to theirs.
2. **Be True To Yourself.** By being exposed to a variety of adults, children and youth learn more about the possibilities of being human. This includes sharing your own faith and religious identity. There is no one way of being Unitarian Universalist, and children benefit from being exposed to a multiplicity of perspectives. What is important is that we embody our faith, that we are an example to children and youth of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. And when you talk with children, speak from the heart; answer for yourself as a living, breathing Unitarian Universalist.
3. **Promote Community.** One of the basic rights of children, recognized by the United Nations, is the right to a religious identity. A good community leaves no child behind—not the shy, the handicapped, the infrequent attendee, not even the disruptive or the hard-to-reach. It is in community, when we gather together in a special place, that our faith and values take on a visible shape, where our Unitarian Universalist principles are promoted and reinforced. And, truth be told, in providing a place for children and youth, we are developing a valuable sense of community for ourselves, too.

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### ***From Our DLRE (cont'd)***

4. **Make It Sacred.** The primary reason people come to churches and bring their children is to develop a spiritual life. Whatever we do as teachers needs to be performed in light of our Unitarian Universalist principles and with the intention of touching "inward springs."
5. **Cultivate Your Soul.** As much as children and youth need a spiritual life, teachers need one, too. We all lead busy, stressful lives, juggling jobs, personal needs and family obligations. Awaken and excite your slumbering souls and rediscover a sense of wonder. As we walk the spiritual path with them, they help us to remember.
6. **Grow In Your Faith.** Embrace your own identity as a Unitarian Universalist. The lessons you teach will also be the lessons that draw you closer to your Unitarian Universalist faith.
7. **Put Down Roots.** If we feel grateful for the fact that this congregation was here for us when we needed it, we must take responsibility for making it a sanctuary for others. Our work as religious educators is a vital part of the life of the congregation as a whole, and what we do for children and youth cannot be done in isolation. Therefore, I would urge all of you to take an active interest in the affairs of the overall congregation life. Make your voice heard, and be an advocate for the needs of the children and youth.

~Thank you, teachers, for your commitment to this church, to our values, and especially to our children and youth. It is going to be a spectacular year.

### ***A Special Thanks to the R.E. Council***

*Susan Conneely, Tim Reuter-Bowers, Cara Duffy, Lisa Bezella, Jeff Oremland, Laura Corrigan, Jen Alton*  
Words cannot adequately express my gratitude to this dedicated group of members at Countryside Church. They are the heart and soul of our children and youth education programs. Thank you for all you do and all you are. You are a blessing to me, this community and our children and youth, Thank you!

...Jules

### **Childcare Position Available**

Countryside Church UU seeks a qualified childcare provider for Sunday services and one or two week-nights/month. In order to promote clear lines of supervision, we seek a candidate from outside the congregation. If you know of a qualified individual, please encourage him/her to apply.

The ideal candidate will possess: experience with children ages birth-10 yrs old (especially infants, toddlers, and preschoolers); CPR and/or babysitting certification; own means of transportation. Eventual hiring would be based on successful background check. Questions, please contact Laurie Lantz, 847-359-8440 ext 1 or [ccuu@ccuu.org](mailto:ccuu@ccuu.org).

## **Board-Ministry Council Happenings**

### ***1617 Budget Revisions***

Once all bills and pledge monies were in for the 2015-16 fiscal year, the Finance committee determined that there was a surplus of \$25,000 that could be carried over to the 2016-17 budget year. The surplus was due to underspending in the areas of Building & Grounds, the Ministries, and Personnel. As promised at the Annual Meeting, the first step was to repay the operating reserve. Thanks to the generosity of several members that promised 'close-the-gap' pledges at the annual meeting, only \$10,000 was needed for that. \$1,500 was put towards additional professional expenses for the Music Director and Congregational Administrator, bringing that compensation to UUA recommended levels. \$5,000 was added to capital reserve set-aside, and the balance, \$8,500, will go towards our UUA dues. The detailed financials are all available on our CCUU website by clicking on the August BOT meeting date. Questions or concerns? Contact me at [prez@ccuu.org](mailto:prez@ccuu.org).

### ***Ministry Fair***

How can the CCUU ministries help you find what you seek at CCUU and in your life? Are you still searching, looking for fulfillment, hoping to strengthen or deepen your connection, wanting to feel needed, and valued? The Ministry Council is the hub, the collective, the nerve center of the programs -- ministries -- of Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist. Let the committees and teams of the CCUU Ministries help you find what you are looking for. While we're always looking to share our passion with others, this year's Ministry Fair will focus on how we can help YOU find your passion or find more fulfillment.

Together let's find a place where your spirit soars, where you can contribute to the environment, help others improve their lives, help the local and global community, or just join in the fun.

- If you want to help to enrich the spiritual life of the community, help to shape fulfilling worship or join the music making, stop at the Worship Ministry table.
- If you find fulfillment in helping the local community, yearn to make life better for others, believe that the earth needs our care, share your passion with the Service Ministry team.
- If you're looking to share good conversation with other open-minded folk, build friendships, or extend the welcome of community, share your spirit with the Kinship Ministry.
- If you love learning and find energy in exploring rich ideas or if you seek to define and embrace your spirituality, ask questions of the Study Ministry.
- If helping with your hands - to tend our spiritual home -- may help you feel greater belonging, share your gifts with the Foundations Ministry.

Check out the website for additional information  
<http://ccuu.org/program-committees/>.

*Let Countryside's Ministries welcome you and help you grow to reach your shining potential.*

**\*\*We return to our 2-service schedule on the Sunday following Labor Day.\*\*  
**Beginning with our Ingathering & Water Communion Service on Sept 11,**  
**we will have worship and religious education at 9:00 am & 11:00 am.****

*NOTE: Announcements begin 5 minutes prior to the start of the worship service.*

**Worship descriptions are also on the church website: <http://ccuu.org/services/>**

**Sept 11 All-Church Ingathering & Water Communion Service**

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. We will also honor the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund, used by our minister to help those in need in our congregation.

*This is a Multigenerational Service; young people in Spirit Play and above (Kdgtm & up) attend the entire service with their families. Nursery care (age 0-2) and Chalice Children class (age 2-4) will be available at both services.*

**Sept 18 Sliding Uphill or Down: The Gravity of UU History** **Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia**

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Sept 25 A Democratic Faith in Faithless Times** **Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia**

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse.

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Oct 2 Rosh Hashanah: Healing by Degrees** **Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia**

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Oct 9 Yom Kippur: At-One-Ment** **Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia**

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Faith Community Homes.

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Oct 16 Beloved Conversations** **Eileen Wiviott, Ministerial Intern**

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Oct 23 We Are What We Sing: Diversity & Hymnody** **Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed**

Join us as we welcome the return of the Rev. Dr. Morrison-Reed to our pulpit for this special and inspiring service.

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to UU Advocacy Network of Illinois.

*Young people in Kindergarten through Grade 7 attend the beginning of worship with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms. At 9:00, we have classes for infants thru' Grade 6; at 11:00, for infants thru' Sr High.*

**Oct 30 El Dia de los Muertos** **Rev. Hilary L. Krivchenia**

**Meditation & Mindfulness  
 Mini-Retreat: Sat, Sept 17**

Did you miss going to the Journeys retreat this year? Or did you go and enjoy it? Or do you just want to learn more about mindfulness and meditation? Join us in Ather-ton Hall on Saturday, September 17 for a day-long retreat. Bring a dish to share for lunch and an open mind. The tentative schedule for the day is included below—come for one session or come for the full day!

- 9-10:30 am Tai Chi with Leslie Peet
- 10:30-11:30 Mindful Communication with Vid Axel
- 11:30-12:30 Potluck Lunch; bring a dish to share
- 12:30-2:00 Yoga with Sarah Mikulski
- 2:00-3:00 Mindfulness & Meditation with Melanie Terbovic
- 3:30-5:30 Yoga & Gong Bath with Elizabeth Vesto

**Why Worship with Children?**

Worship lies at the heart of what we do as a congregation. It is the time and place where we gather together to celebrate, grieve, share, challenge, and be inspired to grow and live our best lives. Through music, movement, ritual, spoken word, and silence, we experience the heartbeat of our congregation, of our faith, of this religious movement of which we are a part.

Children learn by doing, and as religious educator John Westerhoff teaches, ultimately a religious identity is "caught" not "taught." We need to involve children in worship experiences so that they may catch the beauty, strength, and promise of our spiritual community and participate in the ongoing ministry of all its members. The youngest among us have gifts to share and need to be valued and invited to share those gifts. The experience of all of us is heightened by their presence.



**Green Sanctuary News**  
*Interfaith Walk in the Woods*  
**Sept 18 & Oct 16, 2-3:30pm**

We will meet at Deer Grove EAST Forest Preserve, far West parking lot. Enter off Dundee Road, between Quentin and Hicks. Keep turning left to the end.

We'll enjoy guided walks in the prairie as we watch the season change to autumn. Individuals and families are warmly welcome! Contact Gail, greensanctuary@ccuu.org with questions.

**Free Rain Barrels**

Some local villages have arranged with Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago to provide free rain barrels and delivery. This program is only available until Dec 31. To see if your village is included, go to <https://www.mwrdd.org/irj/portal/anonymous/rainbarrel>

**Green Team Summit: Sept 25, Noon-4pm**

You are invited to join Faith in Place and people of diverse faiths from across Illinois at The Field Museum in Chicago to learn how to take better care of the Earth!

You'll receive the tools, resources, and inspiration you need to spark meaningful change in your community. Members of our Green Team and other interested individuals are encouraged to attend to connect with other Green Teams and get new ideas of how we can take action together!

This event is free and lunch is provided. You and your family will receive free access to The Field Museum and guided tours before and after the summit - plan to arrive early or stay late! There will be eco-activities for youth ages 13+. To learn more and to register, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/GreenTeam2016](http://www.tinyurl.com/GreenTeam2016).



**Social Action News**  
*National Moral Day of Action:*  
**Mon., Sept 12**

On Sept. 12, in Springfield and at state capitols around the nation, at 11 am in every time zone, faith leaders from diverse traditions will come together to declare that it is time for a moral revolution of values. We will demand that our elected leaders and candidates move to higher ground, away from extremist politics and policies that benefit the few, and toward policies and laws that value people and the planet. For info, <http://uu-advocacy-illinois.org/>.

**Fair Trade Sale: Sept 18**

Once/month we offer fair trade products from Equal Exchange for sale. This is your chance to stock up on chocolate, coffee, tea, cocoa, olive oil, and snacks. *Our next sale will be Sunday, Sept 18.* For each pound of Equal Exchange foods that we purchase, 20 cents goes to the [UU Service Committee's Small Farmer Fund](#).

**Social Action Meeting: Oct 2, 12:15 pm**

Our first social action meeting of this church year will be Sunday, Oct 2 at 12:15 pm in classroom 1. *All who are interested in social justice work are invited to attend.* Please bring something to share for lunch.

**Countryside Animal Friends News**



**Vegan Bake Sale: Sun, Sep. 18**

We need bakers. If you can donate a baked good, please drop it off by 9:30 am in Atherton Hall. Can't bake but want to enjoy the sweets? Come join us and purchase some yummy baked goods. (Don't forget to bring a container so you can take lots home with you!) Proceeds will go toward the speaking fee for Dr. Will Tuttle (see below).

If you're not familiar with vegan baking, check your local library or bookstore for cookbooks. Vegan baking does not include dairy (butter, milk, cream cheese, etc.), eggs, or honey. There are wonderful products out there such as Earth Balance, flaxseed, applesauce, and Ener-G Egg Replacer you can use instead. Here's some helpful info from [Worldwide Vegan Bake Sale](#).

If you are able to bake or to help staff the sale tables, please email Sheryl Bass, [mystics999@aol.com](mailto:mystics999@aol.com)

**Special Speaker: Fri, Sep 23, 7 pm**

CAF invites you to hear author, pianist, and animal rights activist Dr. William Tuttle give a talk and piano concert at CCUU. All are welcome to attend. Suggested donation is \$5 or \$10 at the door.

Author of the #1 Amazon best-seller "The World Peace Diet" and recipient of The Peace Abbey's distinguished Courage of Conscience Award, he is devoted to planetary awakening through spiritual education and to spreading uplifting original music through concerts and his critically-acclaimed albums. Rev. Tuttle travels with his spouse and life partner, Madeleine, a Swiss visionary artist, providing seminars, concerts, lectures, TV & radio presentations, meditation retreats, exhibits, and individualized music and art portraits. His signed book, "The World Peace Diet," will be available for purchase, as will his wife's wildlife art and his piano music on CD.

Light refreshments will be available. We want good attendance for this event, so please invite your friends regardless of whether they attend Countryside.

**Transitions**

**Monthly Meeting: Sept 22**

*The mission of the Transitions group is to provide a forum for mature adults to explore life transitions with a supportive community during daytime hours.*



We meet monthly on the 4th Thursday. The program begins about 10:15 and is followed by a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share or if you prefer, your individual lunch. Also, if you wish, bring a friend. All are welcome. Our September program will be a panel discussion on humanism, presented by Lloyd Miller, George & Kathy Motto, and others.

**Memoir Makers: 2nd Fridays, 10 am**

Our next meeting is Fri., Sept 9 in classroom #1. In addition to sharing any new writings by members, we will continue viewing *The Art of Storytelling*.

## Movies with Meaning

### *Fri., September 9, 7 pm: Sonic Sea*

Join us in Atherton Hall to view and discuss *Sonic Sea*, a documentary about the effects of industrial and military ocean noise on whales and other marine life. It tells the story of a former US Navy officer who solved a tragic mystery and changed forever the way we understand our impact on the ocean. The film is narrated by Rachel McAdams and features Sting, in addition to the renowned ocean experts Dr. Sylvia Earle, Dr. Paul Spong, Dr. Christopher Clark and Jean-Michel Cousteau. *Sonic Sea* was produced by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Imaginary Forces in association with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and Diamond Docs. Please join us for this enlightening movie and discussion afterward.

### *Fri., Oct 7: Under the Gun*

*NOTE: in October, Movies with Meaning will be held on the 1st Friday of the month.*

## Book Discussions

### *Book Circle: October 30*

All are welcome to join us in classroom 6 on Sunday, Oct 30 to discuss The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future by Joseph Stiglitz. We gather at 6:15 and discussion begins at 6:30. We are always happy to welcome new people!

### *Last Mondays Book Group*

All are invited to join us in the Stokes Room at 7 pm for any of our upcoming discussions:

- Sept 26: Memoirs of an Imaginary Friend by Matthew Dick
- Oct 24: Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel.

*Note: in October, we are meeting the 4th Monday to avoid meeting on Halloween.*

### *2016-17 UUA Common Read*

The UUA has announced this year's Common Read: The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement Is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear by William J. Barber II with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove. UUs were electrified at General Assembly 2016 by Rev. Barber's call for building and sustaining a movement for justice for all people. The UUA Common Read selection committee believes that this is a moment for Unitarian Universalists to answer that call.

The Third Reconstruction offers helpful, practical guidance for engaging with justice movements born in response to local experiences of larger injustices. Drawing on the prophetic traditions of the Jewish and Christian scriptures, while making room for other sources of truth, the book challenges us to ground our justice work in moral dissent, even when there is no reasonable expectation of political success, and to do the hard work of coalition building in a society that is fractured and polarized.

You can order a copy from [inSpirit UU Book & Gift Shop](#). The paperback edition is due in early October.

## Poetry Series ~ 2nd Wednesdays, 7 pm

All who love poetry are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary. On Sept 14, our featured poet will be Jan Spaletto.

All readers are welcome after the featured poet's presentation; please sign in when you arrive.

## 20-30 Somethings ~ 1st & 3rd Sundays

If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us in classroom 4 after worship on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. Childcare is available during meetings. For more info, email [2030s@ccuu.org](mailto:2030s@ccuu.org).

## Atheist-Humanist-Agnostic Group

All are welcome to join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in classroom 6. On Sept 13, we will work on a group covenant and brainstorm future topics of discussion, as well as discuss any questions or issues group members have regarding AHA in general.

## QiGong ~ Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am

Join Emmett in classroom 9/10 to experience slow, gentle body movements & guided meditation. Donations to CCUU will be accepted. *Please note the time change.*

## Journey Inward ~ 3rd Weds, 7 pm

Join us in Atherton Hall. Visit [www.journey-inward.com](http://www.journey-inward.com) for more info.

## Open Forum Discussion

Forum meets each Sunday to discuss "the issues of the day" while respectfully welcoming different perspectives. We meet in classroom 5 at 8:45 am and socialize for 15 minutes before discussing the day's topic from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

To be added to the Forum email list to receive supporting materials for the discussions, contact Vid Axel, [vidaxel@axeldesigins.com](mailto:vidaxel@axeldesigins.com).

Future topics are tentative. The ones that are scheduled for the upcoming two Sundays are the least likely to change, but current events developments or other factors sometimes inspire us to switch.

- Sept 11: U.S. Job Loss—China or Robots
- Sept 18: Better Understanding Voters' Lives & Concerns
- Sept 25: Free Will
- Oct 2: The Growing Strength of Corporate Elites

## Drum Circle ~ Sat, Sept 24, 7 pm

Adults and teens are invited to join us in Atherton Hall for free-style drumming in a low key, peaceful, welcoming environment. No drumming experience necessary! Please bring your instrument(s); some limited hand percussion is available to share. For more info, visit [www.PalatineDrumCircle.com](http://www.PalatineDrumCircle.com).



## Children's R.E. Fall Program

For safety and planning purposes, we ask that ALL young people (infant – high school) be registered for religious education classes; you may obtain the registration form [here](#).

Childcare for infants – age 2 is provided during Sunday services, except Christmas Day & New Year's Day.

### 9:00 Classes

Those in Kindergarten and above will begin in worship with their families.

**Chalice Children (ages 2-4)** encourages growing self-awareness and teaches UU values with stories and celebrations from around the world, all based on our UU 7 Rainbow Principles. We use great stories, music, movement, and art to celebrate learning!

**Head, Heart, Hands (Kdgtn-grade 6)** is a multi-age story and center-based class focusing on our UU Principles. The stories teach many ingredients to living a good and faith-filled life based on equality, freedom, peace, acceptance, truth, care, and love. Centers are designed to include activities that speak to specific learning styles, personalities, and interests – using head, heart and hands.

### 11:00 Classes

Those in Kindergarten through Grade 7 will begin in worship with their families.

**Chalice Children (ages 2-4)** encourages growing self-awareness and teaches UU values with stories and celebrations from around the world, all based on our UU 7 Rainbow Principles. We use great stories, music, movement, and art to celebrate learning!

**Spirit Play (Kdgtn—grade 1)** is based on a popular Montessori-inspired class using story, movement, and art to give children an “existential toolkit” to help them explore the wonder and mystery of life, guided by our UU rainbow principles and sources.

### 11:00 Classes, cont'd

**Grades 2-4: Love Will Guide Us** ~ Young people will learn how to seek guidance in life through the lens of our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Sources, with an emphasis on love. Participants will learn that asking questions is valued in Unitarian Universalism, even as they begin to shape their own answers, and how to answer them through the wisdom from our Principles and Sources.

**Grades 5-7: Love Connects Us** ~ Young people will learn to celebrate important ways Unitarian Universalists live our faith in covenanted community. We will learn about what moves us by love, how we embrace our responsibility toward one another and the world at large. As a class, we will encourage one another's search for truth and meaning and how we are striving to be active in peace-making efforts to improve our world.

**Grades 8-9: Coming of Age** ~ The Coming of Age program guides adolescents on a yearlong journey to explore their identities, beliefs, Unitarian Universalist faith, relationships with others, and their connections to the world. In addition, each youth is paired with a trained adult mentor guiding and supporting them in the coming of age journey.

**Sr High, Grades 10-12: A Place of Wholeness** ~ Senior High Youth meet on Sunday mornings to share in community, fellowship, and love. They are involved in many youth activities throughout the year in our local area and beyond. They engage in social justice work and are a vital part of our faith community. On Sunday mornings, they will also be taking a closer look at UU faith journeys to better understand themselves in the context of Unitarian Universalism.

## Countryside LRE Library



Thanks to the generosity of many CCUU members during our Spring 2016 book drive, we now have over 1,500 adult, youth and children's books in our Religious Education Library.

Please visit the library any time and feel free to check out books by completing one of the forms provided and leave it in the Returned Books basket. Books are loaned for 3 weeks.

Our books are all recorded in our searchable Read-ware database which can be accessed on the church website: <http://ccuu.org/resource-library/>. Please use this resource to locate books by category, topic, title, etc.

## CCUU Bumper Stickers

Tracy Boland is making bumper stickers available for congregation members to purchase to help spread the word about Unitarian Universalism and CCUU. There are samples of the various designs on the tall metal cabinet on the back wall of the church office and in a blue binder on the front desk. They are \$3.50 each for sticker variety or \$4 each for magnetized variety. Place your order in the blue binder in the office or email Tracy, [tbone@speakeasy.net](mailto:tbone@speakeasy.net).



I believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist  
1025 N. Smith Street Palatine, IL

## Wellness House

Wellness House programs are *offered at no cost* and as a complement to medical treatment to help participants improve their physical and emotional well-being. To register, contact Kelli Mitchell, 630-654-5197 or [kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org](mailto:kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org).

### **Stronger Together ~ Two Support Groups**

Come together here at Countryside with other cancer patients and caregivers on the journey. The groups meet the first Wednesday of the month, 7-8 pm, in classrooms 4 & 6. One-time phone registration is required.

### **Hypnosis Group**

This program of deep hypnosis is offered at Countryside on the first Saturday of the month and is open to anyone in our geographical area who has or has had cancer in any form and to their caretaking or family members. The program is led by our community minister, Rev. Dr. Giles, and uses hypnotism to promote healing, emotional resilience, & comprehensive stress management. *Space is limited; registration required.*

### **When Breath Becomes Air: Sept 22, 7 pm**

Dr. Lucy Kalanithi will discuss her late husband's moving and profound memoir, When Breath Becomes Air. This critically acclaimed book has rocked both the medical and literary worlds with its honest and heart wrenching exploration of end of life. Further info at [www.wellnesshouse.org](http://www.wellnesshouse.org). This event is free and will be held at Wellness House. It is intended for those living with cancer and their family and friends. Register at [wellnesshouse.org](http://wellnesshouse.org) or call 630-323-5150.

### **Hot Topics in Prostate Cancer: Sept 24**

If you have been diagnosed with prostate cancer or care about someone who has, this is your opportunity to join many of the top medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and surgeons in the Chicagoland area to learn about the latest updates in prostate cancer treatment. Free Admission. For agenda and more information, visit [wellnesshouse.org](http://wellnesshouse.org). Register there or call 630-323-5150.

## MidAmerica Regional Assembly

### **Finding Our Partners—Faith in Action Save the Date: April 28-30, 2017**

Regional Assembly will be held in Oak Brook, Illinois—a relatively short drive from Palatine! It is an opportunity to gather with UUs from across our 13-state region to worship, learn, make connections. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

### **Workshop Proposals due Oct 31**

You are invited to share your knowledge, skills and experience with other UUs in the Region. We're looking for people who can help articulate the theme and congregations that have found great ways to "do church." What are you doing particularly well that you think others would benefit from hearing about? How can you help others reach out beyond the way they are to discover a new way of being? More info at [www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly/2626-ra-workshop-proposal-2017](http://www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly/2626-ra-workshop-proposal-2017).

## Standing on the Side of Love: New Podcast

SSOL announces *Fortification*: a podcast about the spiritual lives and spiritual sustenance of leaders in social justice movements. It features one-on-one conversations between Caitlin Breedlove, Campaign Director of Standing on the Side of Love, and key movement leaders and activists. The podcast launched August 30.

The first episode features Lena K. Gardner, co-founder of Black Lives Matter Minneapolis, member of the organizing collective of Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) and collaborative organizer with Standing on the Side of Love; and Rev. Sekou, racial justice advocate, cultural worker and a lead musician with Rev. Sekou & the Holy Ghost. In it, they talk about practicing "practical love," curiosity, and ongoing learning as organizers and how art and culture can and will transform our work. For more info or to listen, go to <https://soundcloud.com/fortification> or [www.standingonthesideoflove.org](http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org). Standing on the Side of Love is a campaign sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association.



## Outside Groups Held at & Open to CCUU

*There may be a participation fee or other requirements set by the group and which apply to all participants, regardless of CCUU affiliation.*

**Transcend** is a program of Youth Outlook which meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. It is a support group focusing on gender identity and is geared towards Trans youth, for 14-20 yr olds. For more info, talk to Kimberly Tilford or go to [www.youth-outlook.org](http://www.youth-outlook.org).

**Journey Transgender Support Group** is for anyone 18 or over (unless accompanied by a parent) who is transgender, gender queer, androgynous, or gender questioning; meets the 2nd & 4th Sundays. [transgender\\_journey-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:transgender_journey-subscribe@yahoo.com)

**Great Plains Zen Center** sits meditation on Sundays at 7 pm and offers monthly Intro to Zen workshops (Aug 20, Sep 10, Oct 22). For more info, go to [www.greatplainszen.org](http://www.greatplainszen.org).

**AA.** Men: Saturday, 9am; Women: Friday, 7:30pm

**Job Search Circle (JSC)** meets in Atherton Hall on Wednesdays, 9-11am. \$5/meeting. Dress code is business casual. Email: [rmonahan@improve-ization.com](mailto:rmonahan@improve-ization.com)

**Care Café**—This group is for those who are caring for a loved one with dementia or special needs while job hunting. It provides support, resources, education, and idea sharing and meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11:15 am, right after the Job Search Circle (JSC) meeting at Countryside. Open to all anyone caring for a loved one.

**Career Communicators**, a Toastmasters International Club dedicated to professional speaking. Meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7-9 pm. For more info, [www.careercommunicators.com](http://www.careercommunicators.com).

**St Hubert Job Ministry** events are non-denominational, free, open to all occupations, and held at various member churches. For info, go to <http://www.sainthubert.org/ministries/job.html>.

## Upcoming Church Meetings &amp; Events: September-October

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p><i>This calendar shows upcoming Church meetings &amp; events. All meetings and events held in the building are listed on the church website, under Events &amp; Rentals - <a href="http://www.ccuu.org/programs-and-events/calendar">http://www.ccuu.org/programs-and-events/calendar</a>. If your meeting or event is not listed, please submit a room reservation form (available in the office or on the website with the calendar) to the office.</i></p> |   |   |  |   |  |  |
| <p><b>Sept 11</b> *return to 2-svc schedule*<br/> <b>8:45 am</b> Open Forum<br/> <b>9 am</b> Ingathering &amp; Water Communion Worship Service<br/> <b>10am</b> Ingathering Finger-food Potluck<br/> <b>11am</b> Ingathering &amp; Water Communion Worship Service<br/> <b>12pm</b> Coffee/Fellowship<br/> <b>12:15pm</b> Green Sanctuary Mtg<br/> <b>12:30pm</b> Buddhist Study Group</p>   | <p><b>12</b></p>  | <p><b>13</b><br/> <b>10:30am</b> QiGong<br/> <b>7pm</b> AHA Discussion</p>                                    | <p><b>Sept 7</b><br/> <b>7pm</b> Wellness Beyond Walls cancer support &amp; caregivers groups</p> <p><b>14</b><br/> <b>10am</b> Transitions Great Books Group<br/> <b>7pm</b> Finance Cite<br/> <b>7pm</b> Poetry Series</p> | <p><b>8</b><br/> <i>Focus publication</i><br/> <b>7:15pm</b> Church Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p><b>9</b><br/> <b>10am</b> Memoir Makers<br/> <b>7pm</b> Movies with Meaning: <i>Sonic Sea</i></p> | <p><b>10</b><br/> <b>10am</b> Covenant Group Facilitator Training</p>  |
| <p><b>Sept 18</b><br/> <b>8:45 am</b> Open Forum<br/> <b>9 &amp; 11am</b> Worship &amp; Relig. Education<br/> <b>10am &amp; Noon</b> Coffee/Fellowship, Vegan Bake Sale, and Monthly Fair Trade Sale<br/> <b>12:20pm</b> 20-30 Somethings<br/> <b>1pm</b> Path to Membership class<br/> <b>2pm</b> Walk in Woods with Interfaith Green Partners</p>  | <p><b>19</b></p>  | <p><b>20</b><br/> <b>10:30am</b> QiGong<br/> <b>9pm</b> <i>Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War</i> on WTTW</p> | <p><b>21</b><br/> <b>7pm</b> Journey Inward</p>  | <p><b>22</b><br/> <b>10am</b> Transitions<br/> <b>7:15pm</b> Church Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p><b>23</b><br/> <b>7pm</b> CAF speaker: Dr Will Tuttle</p>   | <p><b>24</b><br/> <b>9am</b> Board of Trustees Mtg<br/> <b>11am</b> Ministry Council-Board joint meeting<br/> <b>7pm</b> Drum Circle</p>   |
| <p><b>Sept 25</b><br/> <b>8:45 am</b> Open Forum<br/> <b>9 &amp; 11am</b> Worship &amp; Relig. Education<br/> <b>10am &amp; Noon</b> Ministry Fair &amp; Fellowship<br/> <b>12pm</b> Coming of Age parent meeting<br/> <b>1pm</b> Path to Membership class</p>   | <p><b>26</b><br/> <b>9am</b> <i>Focus</i> deadline<br/> <b>7pm</b> Last Mondays Book Discussion</p> | <p><b>27</b><br/> <b>10:30am</b> QiGong</p>   | <p><b>28</b><br/> <b>10am</b> Transitions Great Books Group</p>  | <p><b>29</b><br/> <b>7:15pm</b> Church Choir Rehearsal</p>                              | <p><b>Sept 30</b></p>  | <p><b>Oct 1</b><br/> <b>9am:</b> UU Prison Ministry Radical Hospitality Workshop<br/> <b>10am</b> Wellness Beyond Walls hypnosis group</p> |
| <p><b>Oct 2</b><br/> <b>8:45 am</b> Open Forum<br/> <b>9 &amp; 11am</b> Worship &amp; Relig. Education<br/> <b>10am</b> Fellowship &amp; Hospitality Teams Mtg<br/> <b>10am &amp; 12pm</b> Intro to CCUU Fellowship<br/> <b>12pm</b> Coming of Age group meeting<br/> <b>12:15pm</b> Social Action Mtg<br/> <b>12:20pm</b> 20-30 Somethings</p>  | <p><b>3</b></p>   | <p><b>4</b><br/> <b>10:30am</b> QiGong<br/> <b>7pm</b> Ministry Council Mtg</p>                               | <p><b>5</b><br/> <i>Focus publication</i><br/> <b>7pm</b> Wellness Beyond Walls cancer support &amp; caregivers groups</p>   | <p><b>6</b><br/> <b>7:15pm</b> Church Choir Rehearsal</p>                               | <p><b>7</b><br/> <b>7pm</b> Movies with Meaning: <i>Under the Gun</i> (date change for October)</p>  | <p><b>Oct 8</b><br/>         Coming of Age retreat/lock-in</p>   |

# Focus

Published by Countryside Church UU

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Karen Greenland Joy Simon

Barbara Griggs Chris Smith

Kathi Hillyer Kimberly Tilford

Melanie Schikore

For assistance from Lay or Care Ministry,  
please call Ken or Rev. Hilary.

## Our Covenant

We unite to strengthen the bonds of kinship among all persons, to promote human dignity, and to increase reverence for life's creating, sustaining, and transforming power through worship, study, and service.

## Our Vision

We come together as a congregation to inspire our quests for the spiritual, ethical, and meaningful in life and to advance respect, compassion, and justice in the wider world.

## Our Mission

Countryside is seen as the growing voice and source of liberal religion in the northwest Chicago suburbs by...

- creating a place of inclusiveness, welcome, connectedness, compassion and respect
- providing for the spiritual and intellectual growth of members of all ages
- cultivating a vital future for our congregation and community through thoughtful stewardship of our financial resources and our environment
- acting on a social conscience

## Upcoming Focus Deadlines

Submit all articles by 10 am to [ccuu@ccuu.org](mailto:ccuu@ccuu.org)

- ◆ Sept 26 (to be publ Oct 5)
- ◆ Oct 24 (to be publ Thurs, Nov 3)
- ◆ Nov 28 (to be publ Dec 7)

Between *Focus* issues, written communication is via E-Updates & the *Sunday Times* insert to the Order of Worship. Submission deadline for e-updates & *Sunday Times* is Weds at 9 am.

Return Service Requested  
Time-dated Material—Prompt Delivery Requested

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