

UUCC Community News

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

DECEMBER 2024



Sunday Worship Service 10:00am

UCC COVID UPDATE: The UCC Board of Trustees has lifted Covid restrictions in the church. The congregation can determine their own level of risk and any need to continue to wear a mask in public settings. The only exception to this will be when we have in-church speakers who may request that congregants wear a mask during their service. We will notify you ahead of time if this occurs.

December Sunday Services

Dec 1 Bittersweet Christmas Band

"The Poor Have Only Christmas"

A service on the obligation of those who have more to give freely to those who have less, especially during the holiday season of hope and renewal. The goal of this service will not be to arouse guilt, but instead to concentrate on awareness and compassion.

Dec 8 A. Anne Holcomb

"Homeless for the Holidays"

How is homelessness both a personality responsibility and a political issue? Federal and local levels of government have instituted a number of plans to end homelessness over the last 20 years. Is ending homelessness really possible?

Dec 15 Rev. Denise Tracy

"The Kindness of Christmas"

This season inspires us to do and be our best. This service will explore the kindness of the season.

Dec 22 Leanne Mull

"Holiday Memories"

We will have a fun morning of Christmas Carols and sharing of stories while we create new memories for the year ahead.

You can share your holiday memory during the service or send it to Leanne at

leannemull4@gmail.com

Dec 29 Rev. Henrietta Byrd

"Joyful, Joyful"

Please join Rev Henrietta Byrd and our own Chris Ussery for a musical celebration during this morning's service. Bring family and friends as it is sure to be a joyous occasion.

First Sunday Potluck DECEMBER 1ST after worship



At UUCC, the first Sunday of each month after worship service we share a potluck luncheon. Join us for this time of Fellowship!

UCC Connect FORUM

Sunday, Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m., "You and U.U.: Respond Now", will be held in Room 3, with a Zoom. Speaker Jakala Garba, Respond Now's Director of Outreach (to the homeless in the south suburbs), will talk about the full spectrum of Respond Now's services, capital improvements, etc. and answer questions from attendees.

Religious and Character Education

Classes for elementary school children have resumed. We offer classes on the first and third Sundays of the month using a curriculum based on the creation stories from different world religions and cultures.



Listening Hearts

Listening Hearts

December volunteers, Bev Feldt and Jodi Libretti are available as a source for listening, support and resources.



Please follow us on [Facebook](#) for UUCC event reminders.



The President's Column December 2024 by Laurene Lambertino-Urquizo



The 2024 election has now come and gone and many of us are left wondering and worrying about the future. What will the next four years bring? Will these coming repressive changes persist for the coming years? And especially, what can I do to resist and protect myself and my loved ones?

I do not think I am exaggerating the threat we may be facing. The very conservative people who will undoubtedly be in the next administration have been planning these changes for decades. They have patiently waited for the opportunity to push their agenda onto the American people and right now everything is in place to make sweeping changes. And they have told us exactly what they wanted to accomplish in Project 2025.

Unitarian Universalists are, overall, a very progressive bunch. Our congregation at UUC is particularly liberal, which is one reason many of us were initially drawn to this church. We can be proud of that fact and of our long history of service to our community. But even more, we feel a sense of camaraderie, of love and support for one another. We are fortunate for that. Many liberals will not have that solace during the coming four years. I see this as an opportunity to attract other like-minded individuals to our special church. We should look for opportunities and ways to let others know that they will be welcome to join us, especially at this time when we may lose many of the hard-fought rights that we struggled to achieve over the past decades. Again, I do not think I am exaggerating the potential threat (e.g., Roe vs. Wade).

So, the big question in everyone's mind is what can we do? I have been pondering that for the past month and I have a few ideas.

My first job after graduating from NIU was as a community organizer in Aurora, Illinois. They sent us to Midwest Academy in Chicago for organizer training, led by the legendary Chicago activist Heather Booth. Heather is known for her work in the civil rights movement and as a feminist as she founded the Jane Collective in the mid-1960s as a student at the University of Chicago, providing a clandestine network providing affordable illegal abortions for women (Watch the 2022 HBO MAX documentary, *The Janes*). The Midwest Academy has provided me with knowledge that has served me well over the years. Here is what I have come up with so far.

Our strength lies primarily in our sheer numbers, and we must organize ourselves. As much as the incoming President likes to brag that he has a "mandate" of overwhelming votes to justify the radical actions that he is about to begin to enact in two months, the fact is he does not. While he did win the popular vote, data shows that it was a

Continued

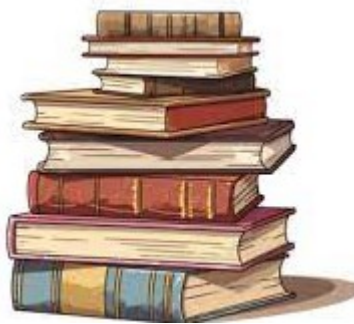
The President's Column *continued-*

much closer contest than he or his allies have been suggesting. As the post-November 5th vote counting continues, his portion has slipped below 50%. But he did win a wide majority of the electoral college (312 versus Harris' 226). (The glaring reason the Dems lost is because they could not get sufficient numbers of voters to the polls.)

I predict that we will be called upon to provide visible, in-the-street, shows of force in the coming four years to push back on radical policies, much the same as was done in 2016-2020. How and what that will be is anyone's guess, but we can safely predict that it will involve women's reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, public education, immigration, foreign policy (particularly Ukraine), and much more.

I suggest that you go online and Google this group: Indivisible South Suburban Chicago (ISSC) Community Group. They are a chapter of the larger Indivisible Illinois group (And nationwide Indivisible movement). They are on Facebook as well. You can join and receive notifications of activities and informational Zoom briefings that will help direct our actions and unite with other groups on a nationwide scale. We will need this unity and organization to get our message across in a coherent and powerful manner in the coming years.

Please note that we are not alone. There are forces out in the world that have brought these changes on a global scale. As we look back on history, we see that the pendulum of time swings back and forth from freedom to fascism. Please do not fear or despair. We are all together in this fight. I may return to this subject in the months to come. Take care.



Democracy Book Club

We would like to determine the interest in this group. We will meet or Zoom on a Tuesday evening in January *to be announced*.

Jerome Rowley is forming the DEMOCRACY BOOK CLUB as a monthly opportunity for readers to explore important authors on the subject of the DEMOCRACY. We hope to discuss books to help us be better activists and organizers. If you have an interest in joining this group, please sign up in the gathering room or contact Jerome at jerome.rowley@gmail.com

Respond Now – Call for Donation Items



Holiday Food Drive – Please bring in non-perishable holiday food items for Respond Now to distribute to needy families. They want items such as: boxed stuffing mix, corn-bread mix, canned pumpkin pie filling, canned cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, etc. Help brighten the holidays for area families.

Winter Wear Drive - Please bring in new hats, gloves, scarves, and coats for kids. Respond Now will be distributing these items to families in need. A designated box for winter wear and toys will be in the Sanctuary.



Christmas Toy Drive – Please bring new, unwrapped toys for young children or gift cards for teens. There will be a collection box in the Sanctuary for the toys. The Gift cards can be put in the donation basket on Sunday or given to Treasurer Nancy Irons. Respond Now will distribute these gifts at their annual holiday party.



North American Unitarian Association *Helping Liberal Religion Thrive*

The North American Unitarian Association (NAUA) is open to membership by individuals or organizations (such as congregations). There is no specific membership donation, it is a free-will donation system. An organization can be a member of NAUA while concurrently being a member of the UUA or any other non-profit organization. During this church year we will share with you some of the offerings of the NAUA.

Monthly Academy Program – “Liberal Religion – Is it time for hospice?” **Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. Central** Please note that you **Must Register** at <https://naunitarians.org/civicrm/event/register/?id=154&reset=1> to have the Zoom URL emailed to you.

Religious participation is plummeting. “Church” has become a bad brand. Should we resign ourselves to palliative care for our aging congregations? Can we find ways to feed the hunger for meaning and community? One thing is certain: We cannot church the way we always have and hope for different results. **Speaker:** Rev Peter Morales is the former president of the UUA. Before becoming UUA president he was senior minister at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Colorado. Jefferson was one of the UUA’s fastest growing congregations during his tenure. Before entering the ministry he was editor and publisher of a community newspaper in Oregon. He has lived abroad as a Fulbright lecturer in Spain and a Knight International Press fellow in Peru. Peter lives in Sequim, WA with his wife Phyllis.

The NAUA **third Saturday of the month, at 12:00 Noon Central Time on Dec. 21.**

The Rev. Twinkle Marie Manning will be speaking at this service with a Winter Solstice/Holiday theme.

Zoom link - <https://tinyurl.com/NAUAService>

NAUA has several small groups, called Circles. Three are on-going. A new one, which is just organizing, will focus on spirituality and last 10 to 12 session (probably once a month). It will be led by retired UU minister David Markham. When it will be scheduled is not yet know - probably decided by a poll of those who express an interest. To express an interest email circles@naunitarians.org

During this church year the UCC Board has agreed to share information about the **North American Unitarian Association (NAUA)** with our members, so that later in the church year our membership can decide if it would like to have UCC affiliate with NAUA in addition to the UUA. (There is no specific cost for such affiliation). The NAUA's bi-monthly newsletter is called the Liberal Beacon. Click on this link to download the newsletter. <https://naunitarians.org/liberal-beacon/> A sample Liberal Beacon Newsletter is in the Gathering Room.



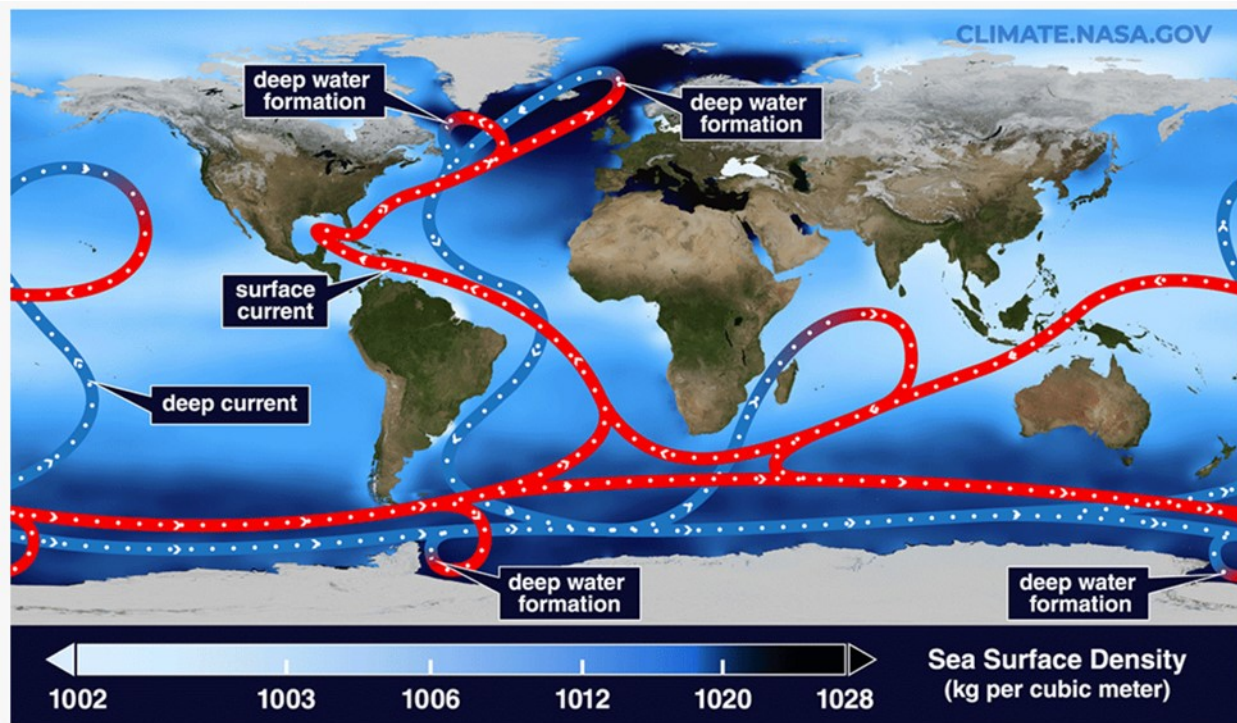
GREEN SANCTUARY BY JEFF GREEN – DECEMBER 2024



In 2016, I was finding out that our next president would be Donald Trump. Before that in the Park Forest Church, I did not know what I was going to do in my 'Care for the Earth' discussion. The previous month there was no discussion group because no one showed up. Donald Trump elected? Easy. I had 10 people show up, many who had not attended before. Now, it is happening again, leaving me disappointed in our country's direction. One clear result is that he wants to pull us out of the Paris Climate Accord. I am hoping just the same that we stay in as a country. Now that I have made my views public on our president-elect, I want to switch gears and shift to another aspect of climate.

The acronym for this aspect of climate is AMOC. Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation. <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/09022024/climate-impacts-from-collapse-of-atlantic-meridional-overturning-current-could-be-worse-than-expected/>

I enjoy the picture here that you see below, helping clarify how extensive this is across the earth's surface. I would like to have everyone pay attention to the bottom of the picture that shows the density of the seawater.



<https://climate.mit.edu/ask-mit/what-would-happen-if-atlantic-meridional-overturning-circulation-amoc-collapses-how-likely>

The idea that the AMOC is headed to collapse is very controversial, but it is clearly weakening. If the circulation collapsed, the consequences on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean would be immense—including large changes in temperature and a spike in weather-related disasters.

continued

Green Sanctuary Cont.

The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, or AMOC, is part of a "global conveyor belt" of ocean currents, exchanging cool and warm water in a path around the Atlantic Ocean.¹ The surface branch of the AMOC merges with the famous Gulf Stream, and carries warm water coming all the way from the Southern Ocean near Antarctica up to the Arctic Sea near the North Pole.

Along this journey, the waters become saltier, thanks to evaporation in the subtropics and an influx of salty waters from the Mediterranean Sea. Upon reaching the Arctic, they also get colder. Cold, salty waters are very dense and plunge to the bottom of the ocean, leaving the surface waters on the European side of the Atlantic warm. Eventually, the cold water winds its way back south to the Southern Ocean, where the westerly winds pull it back to the surface, and the process begins again.

The sinking of the denser cold salty seawater is the pump that keeps the AMOC moving. The fresher colder seawater provided by the melting ice sheet of Greenland has a possibility of slowing and maybe stopping the AMOC. The more we warm the earth, the more we bring on stopping the AMOC.

One person online is implying that this knowledge of climate and its possibility of serious issues would be used as a tool of tyranny. Hmm. With our president-elect coming up who is highly authoritarian, it is an interesting accusation. Nevertheless, we have at present a stable AMOC that is weakening according to what the scientists tell us. So, the question becomes, is this worthy of our present efforts of climate action? It is just one of the many pieces of the puzzle in the ways our climate fits together. Of course, the answer is yes to climate action. On line? LOL.

I hope this small introduction to the AMOC was informative for you. Thank you for letting me into your reading pleasure. Be safe, Happy Thanksgiving, and Merry Christmas.

ACCEPTED NOV. 20TH TO JAN. 19TH
DROP OFF AT
VILLAGE HALL



**HOLIDAY
LIGHT & TREE
RECYCLING**

CHRISTMAS TREES
ACCEPTED DEC. 26TH TO JAN. 19TH
DROP OFF AT THE
AQUA CENTER PARKING LOT



SPONSORED BY SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE & ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

To Know the Dark by Wendell Berry



To go in the dark with a light is to know the light.

To know the dark, go dark. Go without sight,
and find that the dark, too, blooms and sings,
and is traveled by dark feet and dark wings.

In our mechanized world, in which we can turn the lights on at all hours, we can forget the sweetness of the dark itself, its calm, wisdom, and mystery. "To Know the Dark" reminds us to listen also to what the dark has to teach us.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
ADVOCACY NETWORK
OF ILLINOIS

We build power among UU congregations in Illinois to accountably advocate with those who have been historically marginalized.

You can take action and sign up for [UUANI Actions of the Week](#)

A **Positivity Project** invites you to *Sounds for a Gentle Earth*, our next sound offering on Monday, December 30 from 6:30-7:30

Did you know that sound can have a deep impact on us both physically and psychologically?

Because we are made up of mostly water we are influenced by the frequencies of the noises around us.

A sound bath is a meditative practice that incorporates the playing of bowls, bells, chimes or gongs and can be easier than other meditative practices because all you have to do is listen.

(suggest early arrival to secure a gravity chair)



From Diane OConnor ~

Recently **Larry McClellan** preached an amazing sermon at UCC. Out of those attending, many applauded at the end. I strongly felt that it was a perfect time for him to share such an inspiring message. I asked him permission to have it printed to the newsletter. He said he would be honored.

“The Humanity Question” UCCPF – Nov. 17, 2024

Sermon [HERE](#)

Audio [HERE](#)

Video [HERE](#)



Excerpt:

So, think of this as a challenging spiritual exercise:

The challenge is ages old – the challenge is brand new:

What strength can I find, in myself - to see people as themselves, not as categories

This does not mean they are going to change

But it does mean that YOU seek to remain a human person.

Perhaps a modern mantra, for each of us, for all of us:

We are all here, we are all broken,

We are all different, we are all the same,

We are all beloved, we are one.

AMEN

Financial Update

Financial Update – With the approach of the end of the calendar year, it is time to consider what donations you have made. If you itemize your income tax deductions, now is the time to get your year-end donations sent in. As of January, you may request a Donation Letter documenting your UUCS donations made in 2024.

The Halloween service brought in \$231.78 for UNICEF, which has been sent. The UUA Hurricane Disaster Relief appeal brought in \$271.38 which has also been sent. The Connections Group has been collecting donations each month, and recently asked that I send their \$377 to NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of the South Suburbs. This also has been done.

The Audit Committee is being formed. We need two members of the congregation and one member of the Board to review the financial transactions from last year. Allan Lindrup has already volunteered to be the Board Representative. Are you interested in joining him for this task. This should require 2-4 meetings to go over paperwork to confirm the computer data. Please be in touch with Allan Lindrup or Treasurer, Nancy Irons.

Nancy Irons
UUCS Treasurer



Volunteer Recognitions

UUCS is a lay-led congregation; that is we do not have a minister. Members of our congregation fill the many roles of a minister. In particular, the Listening Hearts and Care Book Team are individuals who provide ministerial services to our members. Each month two volunteers serve as Listening Hearts. These are individuals you can contact if you have a personal problem or crisis. They are trained to be good listeners and will prompt you, to help you find ways to cope with your problems. The Care Book Team takes turns calling, writing to, or visiting members who have had health or family issues which make it difficult for them to come to church in-person. This group helps us stay in touch with members who may need a friendly check-in or visit. Thank you goes out to all of these volunteers who provide these caring services!!

Volunteer Opportunities!

There are many interesting tasks that need attention. Would you like to help?

Are you willing to commit to a Sunday or two each month? We need Ushers and Greeters, Zoom hosts and Sexton setup assistance. Please get involved! Contact Marilyn Ragland (mexmasrag@aol.com) for details on the Sexton team; Joyce Sligar (jsligar02@gmail.com) for Ushers and Greeters; and Jodi Libretti (jlibretti@sbcglobal.net) for the Zoom hosts.

We also need volunteers who are willing to help with setup, cleanup and to be on-hand for rentals. We need hospitable people to encourage and enable success of our rentals that help fund the church. There are also lots of opportunities to help beautify and maintain our building and grounds! Please get involved. Adopt a spot or task that you will be responsible for.

Please contact with the office (708-481-5339 or churchadmin@uucspf.org) for more information or to arrange access to the building and supplies.



Connections

by Barb Anderson



Beverly Feldt has led the choir again on two Sundays. It was a pleasure to hear!

Angela Denk will facilitate the **Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS Yule Festival on December 21st at UUCC from 6 to 9pm.** Yule Fest will feature a craft, ritual with fire (on our patio) and a potluck feast. It's open to all. Bring food. The CUUPS Samhain Ceremony brought in over 50 new families with children and (hopefully) a new member, Thomas.


	<p>YULE CELEBRATION Saturday December 21st 6:00-9:00PM</p> <p>Please join the UUCC chapter, Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS (the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans), for a Winter Solstice ritual, outdoor fire (weather permitting), shared potluck, & crafts. This is a family friendly event. All are welcome! Contact Angela Denk for more info. angelandenk@gmail.com</p>
--	--



Candy Allen-Smith and Irene van der Hoek collected some evergreens to decorate the planters and the garden they built at church. The pavers were unearthed by Chief Bob Jensen.



Connections continued



DAVE RUDOLFS' COMPLETELY CRACKED CHRISTMAS
With Special guests and a Celebration of Edgar's Place History

"Captivates his audience... Anything and everything that happens onstage or onstage during a Rudolf concert becomes his genius for 'entertainment'!"
- *Chicago Tribune*

As Heard on Dr. Demento!

Grammy Nominated - Gold Record Winner
44 Award Winning Albums
15 time NAACP Award Winner of the Year nominee

Date: Sat, Dec 7th, 7:30pm

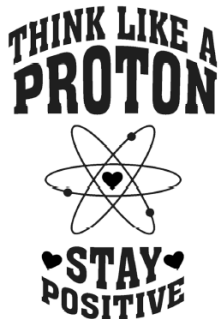
Uttarian University Community Church
70 Sycamore, Park Forest, IL
708-481-5339

Featuring Hilarious Christmas parodies from Dave's Christmas CDs Played nation wide and Tropical Christmas Tunes from his new CD "Tropical Christmas"

Dave Rudolf's- Cracked Christmas Show will be the final Edgar's Place Coffeehouse event on **Saturday, Dec. 7th at 7:30pm.** Please join us as we celebrate the 33 or so years Edgar's Place has spent presenting fine acoustic music in Chicago's southland. *Thanks to Val Birk for many years of running Edgars and Dave Rudolph for organizing everything the last few years.*
See event flier on page 12



Beth Breacher will be singing with at a free gala "Welcome Yule" holiday concert at **3 p.m. Saturday, December 7, at the St. Paul Lutheran Church**, 6201 Vollmer Road, Matteson. It is The Grande Prairie Singers' 48th season of music making.



The **POSITIVITY PROJECT** has gotten wonderful feedback from participants. They have lots of interesting plans for future meetings. Come check it out, it may just change your life.

A Positivity Project

Are you feeling overwhelmed by negative news?

Feeling like it's hard to find a bright spot in the day?

Come join folks who are sharing positive experiences and ways to see our world in a more satisfying light. Enjoy a provided soft beverage and spend a short time in meditation as we send out our most loving and healing intentions to the planet and its inhabitants.

When: 1st & 3rd Monday of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm, door open at 6

Where: UUC, 70 Sycamore Dr., Park Forest, IL

No need to reserve your space. All are welcome, come if you can.

For more information: Michele Johnson 708-748-0362

This is an independent offering, not affiliated with the church. They are our gracious host.



Dear Friends,

The last several years I have knit, donated and sold scarves for the holidays.

This begins our fund for the March International Women's Day collection for the International Convocation of UU Women. For the last several years one of the ICUUW's recipients has been a group called Providence.

Thanks to the generous donations of donors like you, the total amount that Providence has provided for various humanitarian and educational activities to support Ukrainian refugees and those internally displaced - since the onset of war - has reached 350,500 USD. Providence has set up sites for refugees in Unitarian Churches in both Transylvania and Hungary. Our funds support those impacted by Russia's invasion of Ukraine in the past year. Since this report, there has been an additional aid shipment to southern Ukraine (Odesa, Mykolaiv area), bringing the total deliveries to 20 (11 to Transcarpathia and 9 to Southern Ukraine).

We can be proud to contribute to relieve the suffering of the elderly, women and children who have fled to safety in the face of the Ukrainian War.

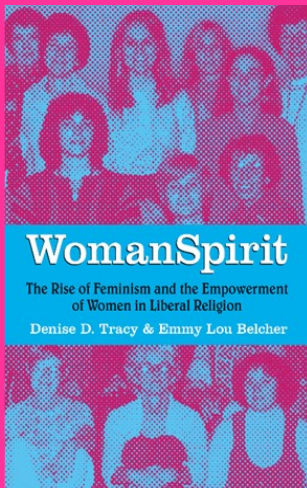
Scarves are available again and we will be celebrating International Women's Day with a special collection for the ICUUW.

Thank you. Rev Denise Tracy, Outreach Chair and member ICUUW

~~~~~ **RECOMMENDED READING** ~~~~~

The number of women serving as ministers in North American Unitarian Universalist congregations grew from less than 1% to almost 50% between 1970 and 1990. In this important book Denise Tracy and Emmy Lou Belcher tell how this change came to be.

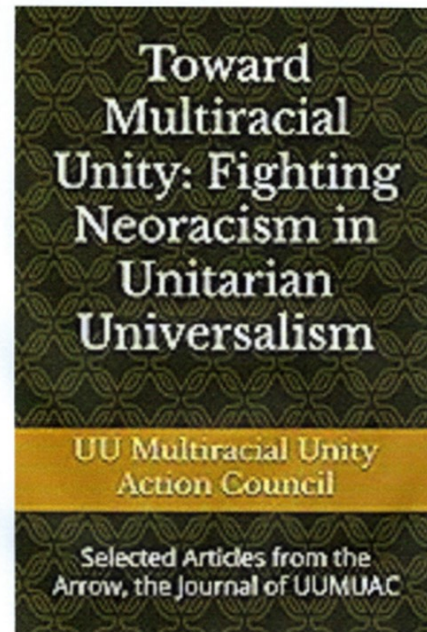
## WomanSpirit



*WomanSpirit* is a collection of twenty essays by extraordinary Unitarian Universalists who illuminate their journey of empowerment and evolution. It's a tribute to their dream of a more inclusive, equitable future—and, in doing so, reshaped the very fabric of the denomination.

Price: \$24.95 Pages: 396 Available for purchase on Amazon and InSpirit Bookstore

We believe that the way to promote multiracial unity in UU congregations, and elsewhere, is to LIVE the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism. We are dismayed to see that our Association of congregations is being taken over by an ideology of neoracism. The articles in this book will help UUs understand this issue better.



258 pages. Available from Amazon, \$15.

To order multiple copies at a discounted price, contact us: UUMUAC@gmail.com



# What's Happening at UUGC?



**Tuesday, December 3rd at 10:30 am**



This group meets the **FIRST TUESDAY of the month from 10:30am-noon** at UUGC. Do you like to knit, and want to run some thoughts across others? Do you like to crochet, but want something new and not sure where to look? Do you quilt but need somewhere quiet to really get into your craft? Whether you knit, crochet, cross stitch, needlepoint, quilt, or any other hand stitch craft that you enjoy, let's get together to craft, talk and mingle.

For more information contact **Karen Beran 708-532-6024**

## UUGC Men's Group

**Sunday, December 1st from 6:30-8p.m. via Zoom.**

Meetings are on the **FIRST SUNDAY of the month**. Meetings consist of in-depth check-ins, followed by discussion of a topic that has been selected in advance. Individuals who identify as male who have not been involved before can contact Allan Lindrup at [uusj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net) or 773-595-4921, to request the Zoom invitation and codes, which are sent out a few days in advance.

## UUGC CONNECTIONS SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

The Connections will start up again on **WEDNESDAY, December 11th at 1-2:30pm.**

We meet on the **2ND WEDNESDAY** of each month in person at the church with an option to join via Zoom. All participants will receive an email with the topic information and the Zoom link ahead of each meeting. The Connections conversations are offered as a way to get to know each other better, as we explore various topics. The topics we choose relate to our life experiences, questions, joys and challenges. Participants are free to share their thoughts and feelings, joys and struggles, as they choose. The group is there to listen, to share with and care about each other. The Connections group is NOT a therapy group. All are welcome ! If you would like to join us, please contact the facilitator, Irene van der Hoek at: Cell 708/305-4913 or email [tulip51girl@gmail.com](mailto:tulip51girl@gmail.com)



Photo by [Mohamed Nohassi](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## Buddhist Meditation

**Saturdays at 9am -10:30am**

Learn and enjoy the simple, straight-forward practice of meditation. Please join us for sitting and walking meditation in the Zen & Theravadin Buddhist traditions. This is an ongoing event led by Steve McCabe.

**Location:** Online

**Cost:** Free will offering

**Contact:** Steve McCabe [steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com](mailto:steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com)

## The Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council

UUMUAC Monthly **Third Wednesday** Worship Service at **7:00 pm Central Time**

For Zoom information, please send name, email, and congregation (if any)

to [richard3point@gmail.com](mailto:richard3point@gmail.com)

**For past services,** type "Third Wednesday UUMUAC services" in the YouTube search box.



# DAVE RUDOLFS' COMPLETELY CRACKED CHRISTMAS

With Special guests and a  
Celebration of Edgar's Place History

*"Captivates his audience. Anything and everything that happens onstage or offstage during a Rudolf concert becomes fair game for his disarming wit."*

*The Chicago Sun Times*

**As Heard on Dr Demento!**

Grammy Nominated - Gold Record Winner

44 Award Winning Albums

15 time NACA Entertainer of the Year nominee

Date: Sat, Dec 7th, 7:30pm

**Unitarian Universalist  
Community Church**

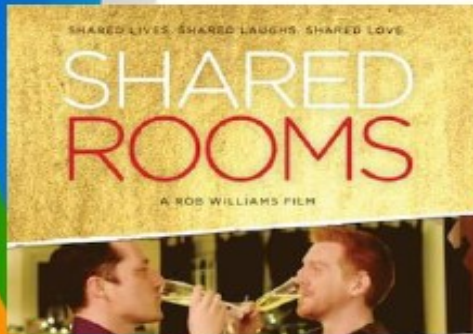
70 Sycamore, Park Forest, IL  
708-481-5339



*Featuring Hilarious Christmas parodies from Daves' Christmas CDs Played nation wide and Tropical Christmas Tunes from his new CD "Tropical Christmas"*

# RAINBOW CAFE

Rainbow Cafe will meet on Friday, December 20, 2024  
Doors to the church open around 6:30 pm. The film starts around 7:00 pm.  
Soft drinks and snacks are served.



A crowd-pleasing heartfelt drama of young love triumphant against all odds. "Beautiful Thing" is a winning combination of "My Beautiful Laundrette" and "Romeo and Juliet" and has been hailed by critics. Buoyed by an irresistible soundtrack with the music of Mama Cass and the Mamas and the Papas, "Beautiful Thing" is a winning, old-fashioned love story with a fresh and contemporary twist for anyone who ever dared to risk everything for happiness and won.

Rainbow Café is a social event that provides a welcoming and safe environment for single or partnered gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender adults, and their allies. Group is open to anyone regardless of their sexual orientation.

We meet every third Friday at 7PM to watch a LGBTQ film.

Join the discussion after the film.  
Invite friends!  
Optional - bring snacks to share.



Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
70 Sycamore Drive, Park Forest, IL 60466  
708-481-5339      uuccpf.org



**WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS**  
**IMMIGRANT LGBTQ**  
**OF COLOR WITH DISABILITIES**  
**OF ALL AND ANY FAITHS**



## YULE CELEBRATION

### Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup>

### 6:00-9:00PM

Please join the UUCC chapter, Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS (the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans), for a Winter Solstice ritual, outdoor fire (weather permitting), shared potluck, & crafts. This is a family friendly event. All are welcome! Contact Angela Denk for more info.  
[angeladenk@gmail.com](mailto:angeladenk@gmail.com)



## **Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS December meeting is on Dec. 8th**

**after the service.** In January 2025 monthly meetings will resume on the **FIRST SUNDAY of the month** at 12:30pm .

Sylvan Sanctuary CUUPS is an open, eclectic, Neo-pagan circle affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Park Forest. For more information or to join the group contact Angela at [sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com](mailto:sylvansanctuarycuups@gmail.com)

## **ATTENTION! Are you concerned about the environment?**

Join the Multi UU Church Environmental Book Club  
on **Monday, December 16th starting at 7 p.m., via Zoom**

This book club meets the **THIRD MONDAY EACH MONTH via Zoom**, starting at 7 p.m. and going to about 8:30 p.m.

The group will be discussing chapters 4 thru 6 of How to Prepare for Climate Change by David Pogue. If you would like to sample or join this book club, contact Allan Lindrup at [uusj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net) or 773-595-4921 to be sent the Zoom invite and codes.



## **A Moment in Balance weekly Yoga Classes by Karen Nielsen at UCC 70 Sycamore Dr. Park Forest**

**Monday & Thursday 9:30 – 11am**

**Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30pm**

This class is for everyone, beginner to experienced.  
No reservations needed. Drop-in fee is \$15 per class.  
Call Karen (708) 755-3577

## **Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts Way at UCC Tuesday & Thursday at 7PM AND Saturday at 9AM**

### **Details**

Rob Dillon of Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts Way invites you to join in an exploration of Japanese swordsmanship, Japan's oldest surviving martial art. The Tenshin Shoden Katori Shinto Ryu (ryu is a "school") was founded in the 15th Century!

Discover how a martial practice may become an art of peace, of self-expression, social engagement, and a "way to go" towards whole-person fitness. No experience necessary.

### **About:**



Robert W. Dillon, Jr., Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus and Founding Faculty, Department of Theatre and Dance, Holland School of Visual and Performing Arts, Southeast Missouri State University. In 2021 Rob moved to University Park, Illinois, to be closer to his adult children. There he founded Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts Way to continue his 50-year journey of martial arts study, scholarship, practice, and sharing-in-teaching.

Contact Rob at 573-579-0646 for information.



# DECEMBER 2024



| Sunday                                                                        | Monday                                                                                | Tuesday                                                                  | Wednesday                                                          | Thursday                                                                            | Friday                         | Saturday                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>10am Worship<br><b>First Sunday Potluck</b><br><br>6:30p UUC Men's Group | 2<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br>6pm Positivity Project                                        | 3<br>10:30am Stitchery Group<br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts   | 4<br><br><br>7pm Yoga                                              | 5<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br>3pm PADS team<br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts     | 6                              | 7<br>9am Online Buddhist Meditation<br><br>9am Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts<br><br>7pm Edgars Place Dave Rudolph |
| 8<br>10am Worship<br><b>11:30 am UUC FORUM</b>                                | 9<br>9:30am Yoga                                                                      | 10<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                         | 11<br><br>1p Connections Group<br><br>7pm Yoga                     | 12<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                     | 13                             | 14<br>9am Online Buddhist Meditation<br><br>9am Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                                     |
| 15<br>10am Worship                                                            | 16<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br>6pm Positivity Project<br>7pm Environmental Book Club (Zoom) | 17<br><br>7pm Board Meeting (Zoom)<br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts | 18<br><br>7pm Yoga<br><br>7pm UUMUAC <b>online</b> Worship Service | 19<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                     | 20<br><br><br>7pm Rainbow Cafe | 21<br>9am Online Buddhist Meditation<br><br>9am Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts<br><br>6pm YULE Celebration         |
| 22<br>10am Worship                                                            | 23<br>9:30am Yoga                                                                     | 24<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                         | 25<br><b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>                                       | 26<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                     | 27                             | 28<br>9am Online Buddhist Meditation<br><br>9am Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                                     |
| 29<br>10am Worship                                                            | 30<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br>6:30pm Sound Bath                                            | 31<br><br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                         | Jan 1<br><b>Happy New Year!</b><br><br>7pm Yoga                    | Jan 2<br>9:30am Yoga<br><br>3pm PADS team<br><br>7pm Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts | Jan 3                          | Jan 4<br>9am Online Buddhist Meditation<br><br>9am Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts                                  |

## Event Facilitators

|                             |                    |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Buddhist Meditation:        | Steve McCabe       | <a href="mailto:steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com">steve.mccabe6914@gmail.com</a>          |
| Yoga:                       | Karen Nielsen      | 708-755-3577 <a href="mailto:shanti-one@comcast.net">shanti-one@comcast.net</a>     |
| Rainbow Café:               | Charles Barnett    | 708-843-2005 <a href="mailto:chazbarnett@yahoo.com">chazbarnett@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Forum:                      | Allan Lindrup      | 773-595-4921 <a href="mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net">uusj@sbcglobal.net</a>             |
| UU Environmental Book Club: | Allan Lindrup      | 773-595-4921 <a href="mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net">uusj@sbcglobal.net</a>             |
| Edgar's Place:              | Dave Rudolf        | <a href="mailto:daverudolf50@gmail.com">daverudolf50@gmail.com</a>                  |
| Connections Group:          | Irene van der Hoek | 708-305-4913 <a href="mailto:tulip51girl@gmail.com">tulip51girl@gmail.com</a>       |
| Men's Group:                | Allan Lindrup      | 773-595-4921 <a href="mailto:uusj@sbcglobal.net">uusj@sbcglobal.net</a>             |
| Stitchery Group:            | Karen Beran        | 708-532-6024 <a href="mailto:greywolf2496@hotmail.com">greywolf2496@hotmail.com</a> |

Call the church office Mon. - Fri. 10:00am - 10:00pm with questions, to schedule a rental, or to make an appointment to view the building. 708-481-5339



**Church Information**

70 Sycamore Drive  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
Office Phone: 708-481-5339  
E-Mail: churchadmin@uuccpf.org  
Website: www.uuccpf.org

**(Please contact the church office for anything related to the newsletter).**

**The newsletter deadline is always the 20th of every month.**

***\*You can help save a tree and a stamp by simply picking up your newsletter or receiving it electronically via email.***



Visit us on the web @ [www.uuccpf.org](http://www.uuccpf.org)

***Unitarian Universalist  
Community Church  
70 Sycamore Drive  
Park Forest, IL 60466***