

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Rev. Larry Hutchison  
Consulting Minister

3773 N. MacArthur Rd.  
Decatur, IL 62526  
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www.uufd.org

President:  
Marge Evans

Vice President:  
Rita Schwake

Past President:  
Judy Thistlethwaite

Treasurer:  
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Large:  
Mel Weinstein  
Mary Cleave  
Joyce Throneburg

UUFD Trust Board:  
Ken Robertson  
Vern Thistlethwaite  
Dave Snoeyenbos



## Upcoming Services

All Sunday services begin at 10:15 AM.

We offer religious education for children and child care for babies.

### **October 7 - "Testing Our Faith, Following the 2012 Campaign" Ray Batman**

If the campaign for President continues to build the animosity level as it has done in the last 60 days, it should be way more tense by October 7th. How does a faithful person cut through all of the hoopla and advertising to make a decision about who to vote for?

### **Oct. 14 "Deep Reverence" A Dialogue: Buddhism & UUism" Dr. Kim Hanneken & Rev. Larry Hutchison**

The idea of this service is to foster a deep reverence toward each other. We believe, with Eboo Patel, that pluralism, not prejudice is our only "sacred ground" and the best promise of America, and that pluralism challenges globalization to move us to a deeper understanding where nations, cultures, and individuals connect through our shared human nature.

*Board Meeting at noon.*

### **Oct 21 "Connected All the Way Down" Rev. Larry Hutchison with Bill Harbeck**

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life" Mary Oliver

I don't know, but as a "religious naturalist" I never cease to pursue the beautiful and the mysterious that soaks creation, diminished by any name we give it. Faith no longer matters so much as attention, celebration, wonder, and praise. A naturalist's journey with Mary Oliver.

### **October 28 "Are You a Religious Naturalist Without Knowing It?" Dr. Ursula Goodenough**

Dr. Goodenough is professor of Biology at Washington University. One of America's leading cell biologist, she is the author of a popular textbook on genetics, and the best selling book, "Sacred Depths of Nature." She has served as President of the American Society of Cell Biology and of the Institute on Religion in an age of Science. Her highly regarded book has resulted in her teaching the paradigm of Religious Naturalism and the Epic of Evolution Around the World. She has participated in Television productions on PBS and the History Channel, as well as NPR.

*There will be a potluck at 12:00 noon following the discussion.*

**All activities take place at the Fellowship, unless otherwise noted. Visitors are always welcome!**

## Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, October 3

10:00 a.m.- Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

### Wednesday, October 3

7:00 p.m. - Humanist Discussion Group

### Friday, October 5

Men's Luncheon at Benny's Grill

### Wednesday, October 10

6:00 p.m. - Women's Book Group

### Wednesday, October 10

7:00 p.m. — Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

### Friday, October 12

1:00 p.m. - Men's Luncheon at Benny's Grill

### Wednesday, October 17

10:00 a.m. - Wednesday Morning Covenant Group

### Wednesday, October 17

6:30 p.m. -Decatur Vegetarian Society

### Friday, October 19

1:00 p.m. - Men's Luncheon at Benny's Grill

### Wednesday, October 24

7:00 p.m. — Spiritual Journey Covenant Group

### Friday, October 26

1:00 p.m. - Men's Luncheon at Benny's Grill

**Humanist Group**—Humanist Discussion Group - Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Contact Dave Snoeyenbos at 865-2409.

**Women's Book Group**— Women's Book Club meets on Wednesday, October 10 at the home of Nancy Shoop for potluck and discussion of the book *Lust for Life* by Stone.

**Spiritual Journey Covenant Group**—The Spiritual Journey Covenant Group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at UUFD from 7:00-8:30. For further information contact Ron Shafer at ron.shafer52@gmail.com or 865-2527.

**Decatur Vegetarian Society (DVS)** --- The DVS group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm for a vegetarian potluck dinner, followed by a live or video presentation at 8:00 p.m. The meetings are open to the public. If you interested in participating in a potluck, please either (1) bring a vegetarian or vegan dish with a list of ingredients or (2) donate \$5. Also, you should bring your own eating utensils. Contact Mel Weinstein (763-0509) for additional information.

**UUFD Men's Group**- This group meets every Friday at Benny's Grill at 1:00 for lunch and conversation.

**Wednesday Morning Covenant Group** - This group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.



### Food Bank Sunday

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items for local food banks to the Sunday service on October 21.



**Rev. Larry Hutchison**

**Rev. Hutchison's Office Hours**

Monday day off

Tuesday 10 - 12

Wednesday 10 - 12 & 6 - 8

Thursday 10 - 12

Friday study at home

E-mail: [minister@uufd.org](mailto:minister@uufd.org)

Phone 352-949-1601 anytime Church phone 875-5442

**You, Me and Joining Our Fellowship:**

In our Fellowship, membership is a covenant relationship to "walk together" within our various belief perspectives. Walking together implies understanding a journey of building ones meaning, which is very different from adherence to a single creed. Ours is a liberal religion -- that is, a religion that keeps an open heart and mind to the religious quests and questions that people struggle with at all times and places in the greater Decatur community. We strive to build community, welcome everyone, work for justice, search for meaning and live in peace.

To become a member:

- \* Sign our Membership Book in the presence of our minister
- \* Participate in the life of our Fellowship
- \* Support our Fellowship financially

To join:

"A place that feels like home"

If you find you are in sympathy with our principles, then we invite you to sign our membership book.

There is no single right path to membership, but here is an opportunity. Come to our Orientation, Q & A Session,

Tuesday October 16 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. If interested come and learn about UUism. If you cannot make this time see me and we will arrange another time.

Peace,

Larry

## Presidents Message

From your Prez...

Hi Good Folks!

Bouquets to all who helped get the Tranquility Garden started! First that impossible-to-assemble round-the-tree bench. But you did it! Then all those bricks had to be laid; then the mulch, then the compost! Finally the first planting took place and it is beginning to look like a garden. But never fear, those empty places are waiting until spring.

Did you know we have a Committee on Ministry? It is not one of our standard committees, but according to our By Laws, members are appointed by the Board. A long and conscientious serving member of this committee, Vern Thistlethwaite, is chairman. Other members are Tim Rooney, Vicky Harbeck, and Mary Lovell, and myself as president. The Committee on Ministry serves as a channel of communication between the minister and the congregation, and also serves to support the minister in his ministry. Should you have any comments or concerns the members welcome your input.

A special welcome to the many new visitors we have enjoyed meeting and extra "cheerio" to the new participants in RE.

My best to all, Marge

## News from Religious Education



October is going to be a fun month for UUFD kids.

### **Oct 7 –**

Bigs will be with Kate Pyle – UU History and Famous UUs  
Littles will be with Lorelei Zaker –Goddess worship and Samhain

### **Oct 14 –**

Bigs will be with Kate – UU History and Famous UUs  
Littles will be with Jennifer Sekosky – Decorating pumpkins

### **Oct 21 –**

Littles & Bigs will see a presentation about Stand Up for Grace, a local initiative to help By Grace orphanage in Africa. This will help them understand the work of Unicef just in time for our Trick or Treat for Unicef the next Sunday.

### **Oct 28 –**

Littles & Bigs can wear their Halloween costumes and we will do our Trick or Treat for Unicef (bring change!). Everyone invited to bring an item that reminds them of a loved one for our Day of the Dead altar. We will have our Halloween party!

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## **Spiritual Explorations**

In October, the Spiritual Journey Covenant Group will be discussing "Spiritual Transformation in Our Personal Lives" led by Joan Brown (Wednesday, October 10th, 7:00pm) and "Does the Soul Exist?" led by Mike Kuzola (Wednesday, October 24th, 7:00 pm). In the following months, we will examine Humor & Spirituality, Music & Spirituality, the importance of a guru, and other highly profound subjects. Meetings are open to all members, friends, and guests of the Fellowship.

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## **Humanism Group to Discuss Secondary/Post-Secondary Education**

Everyone in America goes to high school. Then, in following the "American Dream" of today, kids go to college, get a Bachelor's degree, and then succeed in life. Is this how things are in Europe? What about in Asia? Australia? What about third world countries? And what is part of this degree? Does everyone need to take "Freshman Composition?" Does that really add something to the college experience? Wouldn't I be better served if I just went to a trade school? Or maybe just had one less year of college so I didn't have to take all those required liberal arts classes? For the October discussion, we will examine the different education systems of other countries and investigate the success and effectiveness of these institutions. Finally, we'll have to define what "success and effectiveness" means. How does that apply to society at large? To the individual? To the classroom? Bring your own experiences, an open mind, and an eager ear to discuss and understand education from yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

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## **Connecting with the Wisdom of the Ancients**

### **Women's Connection 2012 Fall Conference • October 19-21**

**DeKoven Retreat Center • 600 - 21st Street, Racine, WI 53403**

Join us the weekend of **October 19-21** for our annual Women's Connection Fall Conference! This year we will be meeting at a great new Retreat location - the DeKoven Center in Racine, Wisconsin. The Center is within walking distance of Lake Michigan.

The Keynote speaker will be **Geri Schrab** who will speak on "Accessing Ancient Wisdom through Rock Art." Her ideas stem from the knowledge that a woman's body is a macrocosm of Mother Earth's body and that respect for the Earth and respect for woman goes hand in hand. Geri Schrab is an artist who has traveled throughout North America to explore ancient sacred sites. She states "The focus of my art-work is the study of petroglyphs and pictographs which are images pecked, carved and painted on rock surfaces by the ancient indigenous people of North America. I have found that although the style and execution of the original rock art images may vary from area to area, there is an underlying unity. This ancient unity echoes our common heart and essential connection to Mother Earth."

In the year 2012, we think about renewal and honoring our past and what it can teach us. In the fall of the year we join together and connect to gather inner warmth for the winter to come. Want to **CONNECT** with other like minded women? See old friends and make new ones.

### **Join us!**

We will offer hands on workshops and meditative ones. We look forward to seeing you!

Registration at [www.uuwomensconnection.org/retreats/](http://www.uuwomensconnection.org/retreats/)

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur

October 2012



## Fellowship Mission

**In a nurturing environment of openness, mutual respect, and friendship, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur is a welcoming, diverse congregation. We share values and seek to celebrate life and support one another in our inward and outward searches for spiritual meaning, provide a liberal religious presence, and strive for compassion and justice in our community and our world.**

## October Birthdays

Chelso Frescura	Oct. 16
Marge Evans	Oct. 28

*Want to see your name on the birthday list?  
Send e-mail to [newsletter@uufd.org](mailto:newsletter@uufd.org)*



**minister@uufd.org (Rev. Larry Hutchison)  
president@uufd.org (Marge Evans)  
vicepresident@uufd.org (Rita Schwake)  
treasurer@uufd.org (Mark Sorensen)  
secretary@uufd.org (Barb Hannon)  
programs@uufd.org (Rita Schwake)  
newsletter@uufd.org (Kathy Kline and Terry Ankrom)**